leader

FEBRUARY 1, 2007

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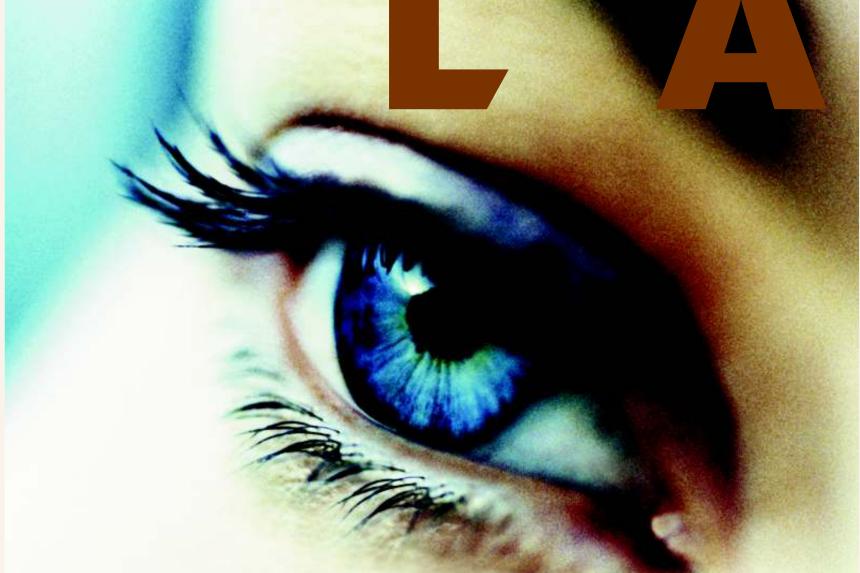
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photos because of the

glare in my glasses.

But worse. I couldn't

get out of bed or see

the clock because my

sight was 20/400

with astigmatism in

both eyes."

as a girl had to be avoided. In fact I couldn't even remember what it was like to wake up and see. When I walked into Dr. Yaghouti's office I was very nervous. But the staff put me at ease and the procedure was over in minutes. When I woke up the next day I screamed, 'I CAN SEE!' And the tears came. For the first time in 42 years I could see the clock on the wall and other things in my room. No more hassle with glasses or discomfort from

contacts. I can swim, snorkel and do anything I want with perfect sight. I thank you from the bottom of my heart."

- Michelle Stewart, San Diego

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Q: How safe is the LASIK procedure?

"I'm definitely the fearful type...so I talked to lots of people who did the procedure. My friends who did it said it was safe, and it was. Now I wish I hadn't waited so long." – Mischa Shirazi, San Diego, CA

Q: Is the surgery painful or difficult?

"I had no pain during the procedure and no discomfort or pain afterward. Best of all, I can see without my glasses or contacts. It feels great." - Greg Schwenk, San Diego, CA

Q: How soon after the process can I begin normal daily activities again? "When I came out of the surgery room I could see the hands of the clock - I was doing normal things the next day...amazing immediate results!" - Glenna T. Casey, Chula Vista, CA

Q: How long does the process take?

"You and your staff told me that it would be a ten-minute, painless procedure and that I would be able to see very close to 20/20 as soon as the next day. Sure enough, it was painless, done in minutes, and I see 20/20." - T.P. Fortin, San Diego, CA

Q: Do the effects of LASIK wear off over time?

"I had the surgery done over 8 years ago and my sight is still a perfect 20/20." - Sandra Macias, San Diego, CA

Important note from Dr. Lakhani: The effects of LASIK are permanent and do not wear off. However, a person's eye can still change internally, which is why many surgeons recommend having the procedure done after major eye changes have occurred in one's life.

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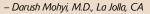
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MEET **DR. YAGHOUTI Refractive Eye Surgery** specialist from

Harvard University.



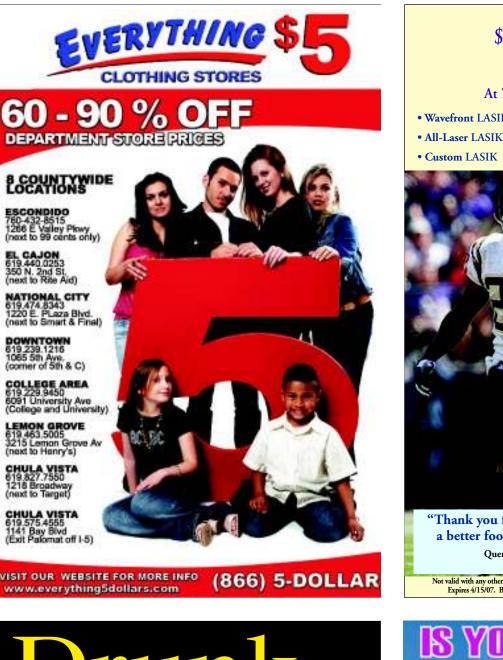
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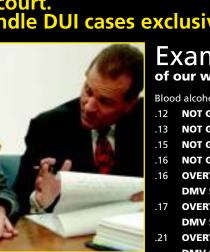
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quoth Nixon. Then came the

Watergate tapes, and "exple-

tive deleted" became the best-

known two words in the

country. Truman? The

national joke in the mid-

20th Century was this

exchange: Truman's daugh-

ter talking to her mother:

"Daddy talks about 'manure'

But Bob Kittle, editorial-

page editor for the Union-

Tribune, has virgin ears. In

a January 19 editorial, he

whined that Don McGrath,

city attorney Mike Aguirre's

top aide, had told an assis-

tant to inform opponents in

a lawsuit to engage in self-for-

nication. The message was

inadvertently sent to an oppo-

sition lawyer, who alerted

Aguirre haters, including the

U-T. McGrath's remark was

"outrageously crude," wept

Kittle, his hair standing on

end, in the editorial. McGrath

should not use "sophomoric

four-letter words" to describe

such an unnatural biologi-

cal act. Never mind that Dick

Cheney had expressed the

same sentiment in the same

words in mid-2004 on the

continued on page 8

An archive of City Lights stories can be searched on the Internet at SanDiegoReader.com

lars to a variety of

his favorite candi-

Aaron's gold The developer who's stirred controversy by building a high-rise office building smack in the flight path of Montgomery Field is a longtime



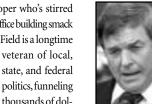
dates. On April 21, Sunroad Centrum rendering 2005, campaign

records show, Aaron Feldman, who's been doing business under the Sunroad banner for more than two decades, gave \$2100 to the campaign of GOP congressman John Campbell of Irvine, elected in a December 2005 special election. He replaced former representative Chris Cox, who had been appointed chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission. That same year, Feldman contributed \$1000 to the Democratic congressional campaign of then assemblyman Juan Vargas, who lost to incumbent Bob Filner in the June 2006 primary. But Feldman had also backed the winner, giving Filner \$2100 in March 2005. The same year, Feldman's son Uri gave \$500 to Filner and \$250 to Vargas. In May 2006, Feldman, listed as president of Sunroad Enterprises, gave Vargas another \$1000; in the election cycle before that, Feldman gave Filner \$2000 on October 1, 2004.

Feldman was also a major financial backer of ex-San Diego mayor Susan Golding's political career, including her short-lived bid for U.S. Senate. In May 1997, records show, he kicked in \$1000; Don Connors, listed as a Sunroad employee, gave \$250. Golding was responsible for cutting the deal between General Dynamics and the City that resulted in creation of the office and commercial park where the sprawling aerospace factory used to be. On November 19, 1997, the Golding-led city council unanimously approved the 232-acre development, called New Century Center, clearing the way for General Dynamics to dispose of the land. It was sold to Lennar Partners for \$80 million in July 1998, and Lennar renamed the project San Diego Spectrum. Two years later, in December 2000, Sunroad bought 40 acres of the property from Lennar. That's where Feldman's infamous office tower is now rising.

Besides Feldman's political largesse, Sunroad employs a virtual army of lobbyists to make the rounds at city hall. According to the most recent disclosure reports, they include Jeffrey Forrest, John Ponder, and Donna Jones of the law firm of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton; Barbara Lichman of the firm Chevalier, Allen & Lichman; and Mitchell Berner, a veteran of the local influencepeddling trade and top staffer to Golding when she was on the county board of supervisors in the 1980s. Other old Golding hands are now back in city government, thanks to the election of Mayor Jerry Sanders. Chief among them is Fred Sainz, the mayor's influential press aide, who was once one of Golding's top deputies.

Political silver Now that Congressman **Duncan Hunter** has entered the presidential derby, it may be instructive to take a look at just what kind of people are giving campaign cash to the county's congressional delegation, composed of Republicans Hunter, Darrell Issa, and Brian Bilbray, along with Democrats Susan Davis and Bob Filner. One might



presume that lobbyists would rank high on the list of donors, but that turns out not to be the case. According to a tally made by the website PoliticalMoneyLine, the number one group of Hunter donors during the 2006 campaign season was made up of 18

Duncan Hunter "homemakers," who gave his campaign fund a total of \$27,050. Next came 22

"retired" individuals, who kicked in \$14,385. Eight attorneys gave a total of \$6450, and 6 selfemployed "consultants" were after that, with \$5000. Number six on Hunter's list were 6"farmers," with \$4550. But these were no ordinary farmers. One was Reverge Anselmo, who has a

Darrell Issa Beverly Hills address. The Inter-

> net Movie Database says that Anselmo wrote and directed 2004's Stateside, a movie about "a rebellious teenager on leave from the Marines who falls in love with a female musician. The relationship is threatened when she develops a mental illness." Accord-Brian Bilbray ing to his bio, "Anselmo is of Ital-

ian descent, was born in Mexico and grew up in New York City and Connecticut. He is a former US Marine Corps combat veteran who fought in Beirut, Lebanon, in the 1980s." Anselmo's late father Rene made a fortune in Spanish-language television and satellite communications.

Brian Bilbray's top tier of donors was made up of retirees, who made 180 donations to his campaign, giving a total of \$116,670. But many aren't entirely retired or only fairly recently left the working world. J. Dennis Heipt of Rancho Santa Fe is down for \$2100; he's a former senior executive at SAIC, the big La Jolla-based defense contractor. Less than two years ago he left the board of Metal Storm, Ltd., an Australian defense outfit "engaged in the development of electronically initiated ballistics systems." Bilbray's second-largest group of donors was made up of 39 "homemakers." One of those was Betsy Manchester, wife of Navy Broadway Complex-developer Douglas Manchester.

The occupation of the highest-giving group of Darrell Issa donors, 29 people with a total of \$30,551, was left blank on the reporting form. Second highest were 16 retirees with \$9000.

Over on the Democratic side of the aisle, Susan Davis hit up 26 retirees for \$23,050, and 11 homemakers gave \$13,450. The occupation of 12 donors who gave \$6424 was left blank. Retirees were the biggest source of cash for the Bob Filner campaign, which collected \$101,235 from 127 from them. They included Danah Fayman, the wealthy longtime civic do-gooder (\$2900); Ben Dillingham III, ex-chief of staff to former San Diego mayor Maureen O'Connor (\$2000); and La Jolla investor Murray Galinson and wife Elaine (\$3900).

- 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.

Curses! JFK, LBJ, **Ike All Did**

By Don Bauder

t's shocking to find out: political discourse is often coarse. Consider, for example, the straitlaced, rigid James Baker. In 1981, David

Stockman, Ronald Reagan's budget director, told a financial journalist that supplyside economics was just a Trojan horse so Reagan could cut his rich friends' taxes. The remark got into print. Growled Baker, Reagan's chief of staff, to Stockman, "Your a** is in a sling." Stockman should dine with the president. "The menu is humble pie. You're going to eat every last motherf***ing spoonful of it. You're going to be the most contrite sonofab**** this world has ever seen. I want to see that sorry a** of yours dragging on the carpet."

James Baker? That stiff, flinty, circumspect lawyer? Yes. How about the kindly, avuncular Dwight Eisenhower. "I have to sign so much g*****ed paper," he complained. Lyndon Baines

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

Sports Whip the Arts

By Don Bauder

he arts community fervently hopes that if Mayor Jerry Sanders tries to redevelop the four-block Civic Center Plaza, as he men-

it has.

tioned in his state of the city speech January 11, the Civic Theatre will remain in place ---in fact, might be upgraded at some point in the future.

Early indications are that developers won't be able to aim the wrecking ball at the building, which is used for opera, ballet, musicals, classical music concerts, and the like.

First, the four-block redevelopment idea is a wacky one. The City is now paying rent at several locations to house its employees; the rationale for redevelopment is that consolidating city employ-

being spread on the White House lawn. Can't you get Johnson: "Let's be over there him to say 'fertilizer'?" Replies and smile and shake hands Bess Truman, "Do you realand thank everybody and ize how long it has taken me then just cut their d**ks off." to get him to say 'manure'?" Mercy! The beloved John F.



Bob Kittle

Kennedy could swear like a trooper and loved dirty stories, as did his queenly wife Jacqueline. In the 1960 debates, Richard Nixon upbraided Kennedy for not doing anything about Harry Truman's profanity. We have

an obligation to the children,

ees under one roof would

save money. That is dubious.

Councilmember Donna Frve

points out that the City has

many more important things

to do with what little money

opment plans go ahead. Then

the question becomes: will

the City keep its word and

not touch the Civic Theatre?

city government values the

arts. How does one make such a judgment? I went back to the

State of the City speeches since

2001. I counted the number

It depends on how much

But suppose the redevel-



of words devoted to the arts and the number devoted to athletics — almost entirely professional athletics. The results are not encouraging. Here they are:

Dick Murphy's 2001 speech: sports 280, arts 0.

Murphy's 2002 speech: sports 420, arts 3.

Murphy's 2003 speech: sports 658, arts 25. (Oh yes. In this speech, Murphy said the City was "basically sound" and noted that the Reason Public Policy Institute of California had found "San Diego to be the most efficiently run big city in California." That was "a fine tribute to City Manager Michael Uberuaga and his staff.") Hmm.

Murphy's 2004 speech: sports 464, arts 23. (Oh yes. Boasted Murphy, "At Harcontinued on page 8 6

Only Adults Commit Crimes

By Ernie Grimm

uz María Félix Figueroa, president of the Tijuana branch of Baja California's juvenile detention agency, shakes her head. She's

been asked whether she agrees with the American trend of trying as adults minors who commit serious crimes, and she winces at the idea. "No," she responds, "a minor is a minor. Even if he's 17 years and 11 months, he's still a minor. And when minors commit homicide, there's always a reason it happened, some psychological or emotional problem."

The juvenile detention facility lies seven or so miles east of downtown on the Via Rápida. One has to pass through double security gates, built of heavy iron bars and watched by guards, to enter the building. Down the hall to the left lies Félix's office, where she sits on the edge of her leather desk chair leaning her elbows on the black lacquered desk. She's dressed in a pinstriped charcoal pants suit over a hot pink sweater. Her eye shadow and lipstick match her sweater, and her dark hair hangs down over her shoulders. Eleven framed diplomas hang on the wall behind her, while to her right hangs a five-by-five-foot needlepoint illustration of a small church under which are the words (in Spanish), "Jesus says, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me'"

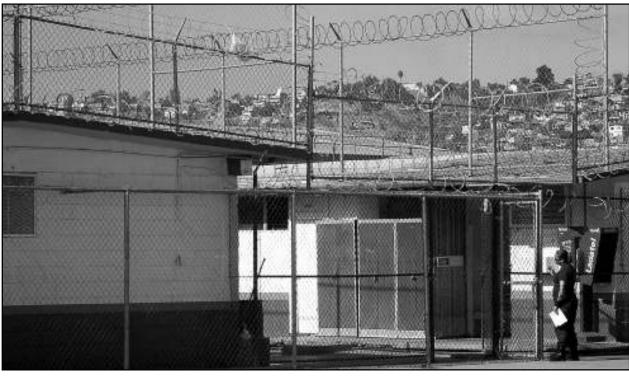
In a singsongy speaking voice, Félix explains that not only are people under 18 never tried as adults for crimes in Mexico, they're technically not capable of committing crimes at all."The Mexican penal system," she says, "only applies to adults. Legally speaking, only adults can commit crimes in Mexico."

That doesn't mean Mexican authorities look the other way when children under 18 rob, assault, murder, or perpetrate other infractions -"With children, we call them infractions, not crimes," Félix says. When police in Tijuana, Rosarito, and Tecate pick up minors for committing crimes, they bring them here, to the Consejo Tutelar para Menores Infractores, or Minor Infractors Guardianship Council. "Except the higher-risk kids," Félix says, "they go to our Tecate facility. We determine who is high-risk with a criminology test."

Once the kids are brought

Neal Obermeyer





to the consejo facility, they enter what Félix describes as "a strange legal middle ground." Because Mexican law doesn't admit of the idea of minors committing crimes, cases involving kids aren't tried in front of judges. "We are an administrative entity to promote the rehabilitation of minors," Félix says. "We are not part of the judicial or penal systems."

Yet her organization does prosecute, sentence, and incarcerate people under 18 years old. "It's a strange system, because we are judge and prosecutor at the same time. We initiate the penal process, investigate, judge them, give them a sentence, and then give them rehabilitation treatment. It's all done right here." The total number of

inmates at the facility changes almost daily. But on this late-December day, there are 257 boys and 23 girls within the walls. Félix describes the program they live through while here. "The legal process takes about two months. During those two months, the attention is mostly on education, sports, and their psychological and medical health. They're given a place to sleep and a uniform. It's a little bit military. They're given a short haircut. Our personnel who work with the children do not carry any arms or pepper spray. We have those things here, but they're under lock and key. We keep them in case there's a riot or something like that. The first thing we're trying to accomplish with the kids here is to get them to respect authority. We put a lot of emphasis on how they present themselves to the guards. The children are monitored 24 hours a day. They have a full schedule, all the way from making their beds, to showering, to taking their meals. They live in cells of four, with two bunk beds, a shower, and a toilet. And they have four lockers. The only thing that they can have in their cells is two complete changes of clothes: underwear, T-shirts, sweatpants, sweatshirt, and slip-on tennis shoes (because we don't want shoelaces). They can only have deodorant, toothpaste and brush, toilet paper, and a towel. No pens or pencils. No cards or anything like that."

Meanwhile, Félix and her coworkers investigate each case from both prosecutorial and defense standpoints. When



Luz Maria Félix Figueroa

they're done gathering evidence, they hold a hearing and pronounce sentence on the child. "The longest we can give, for very serious infractions, is 7 years. For an adult in Mexico, the sentence could be from 50 to 70 years for a homicide. For minors, 7 years maximum."

Félix continues, "Once they're sentenced, we start the rehabilitation treatment."

Whenever possible, Félix says, they try to involve parents or some family member in the treatment process."From the first moment the child has contact with the system, we take all of their family data. If it's proven that they don't have any relatives here, which happens often because the family may have crossed the border, or the child himself came

Consejo Tutelar

to cross the border and hasn't tried yet, or they tried but were deported... Or maybe they were left here with some relative, an aunt, uncle, cousin, or something, then we work to find out what relatives the



Roberto

child has in the city."

A great effort is put into locating family, Félix says, because rehabilitation is more likely to work when family is involved. "We have familytherapy programs in which the child and three direct relatives can take part in therapy as a family. And regular visits from family are important to the rehabilitation of the child."

The Consejo Tutelar's think-ing on the necessity of family involvement in the rehabilitation of minors mirrors the Reader San Diego County Probation Department's. "When the parsays department spokesman Derryl Acosta, "we will try to ¹, ²067 find another family member ⁶⁰⁷ continued on page 8 🛰

Curses!

continued from page 6 floor of the U.S. Senate to Senator Patrick J. Leahy, D-Vermont. Even the elegant John Kerry used the F-word in 2004 in relation to the Iraq War. Colin Powell called the neocons "ft**ing crazies."

CITY LIGHTS

The issue is not so much Kittle's virgin ears as what lies between them. He was playing right into Aguirre's hands and should have realized it. In early 2004, Kittle had sent an e-mail to Councilmember Scott Peters and used the words "f*** off." After Kittle's attack this year, Aguirre notified the public of the e-mail exchange in 2004 through a news release and on his website. Worse, Kittle's 2004 communications with Peters - noted in a Reader column early last year - were grossly unethical. Peters was coming to the *U*-*T* for a preelection interview. Beforehand, Kittle wanted Peters to do some favors: have the City remove telephone poles near the Kittle residence. Post signs to slow down traffic. Peters got the poles removed and got the City to assess the traffic situation. He got the U-T's backing. Such backscratching. Such a quid pro quo. So typical of the U-T and officeholders.

The next time Kittle wails and gnashes his teeth about naughty words, tell him to go...well, you know.

Whip the arts

continued from page 6

vard Business School, they taught us that the best way to motivate a large organization to implement the chief executive officer's vision is to set very specific goals and hold employees accountable. That's what I did. I set very specific goals that would promote economic prosperity and protect our quality of life." Murphy waxed on about "steady, consistent leadership that has proven to be effective during the past three years." Shortly after that speech, the City admitted that it had been plundering the pension fund and falsifying bond

prospectuses and that the massive pension deficits would lead to a tax increase or severe spending and service cuts. Murphy resigned.)

Jerry Sanders, 2006: sports 80, arts 8. (The mayor admitted that municipal government had become "a corrupt impediment to progress.")

Jerry Sanders, 2007: sports 228, arts 2. ("The state of our city is strong, perhaps one of the strongest in the nation," enthused Sanders, although he admitted that government still had to be fixed.)

Critics will say that these are invidious comparisons. Mayors Murphy and Sanders were devoting so many words to sports because there were controversies swirling around pro athletics subsidies: putting public money into finishing the ballpark, and the various proposals for keeping the Chargers in town, for example. But I disagree. I think it would have been an encouraging sign of San Diego's maturity if there had been controversies about putting public money into the arts, rather than into the pockets of billionaire sports team owners. For example, it would have been uplifting if during those years there had been raging civic controversy over putting taxpayers' money into a new arts complex — say, a building for performance of opera, ballet, musicals, classical music concerts, and the like. 🔳

Commit crimes

сіту сіднт 5

continued from page 7

that will, especially in our Breaking Cycles program, which is for kids who repeatedly get into trouble. We'll try the grandparents, an aunt or uncle, or sometimes an older sibling."

Acosta estimates that 80 to 90 percent of the kids in San Diego's system have some family involvement in their rehabilitation. Félix wishes she could say the same. Asked if most kids receive family visits, she looks crestfallen. "No. A huge percentage never receive visitors. For example, last Sunday, out of more than 250 sen*continued on page 10*



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CITY LIGHTS

Commit crimes continued from page 8

tenced inmates - the presentenced ones have visitors on Saturday - only 83 had visitors." That's 33 percent.

Asked to explain the low visitor rate, Félix answers, "One reason is the family is separated and dysfunctional. Another is that the family is just fed up with the kid constantly being here, and they abandon the child. And an unfortunate thing that happens is the family sometimes loses their sense of obligation for the child once the child is in here. They feel the state is taking care of them now. 'They're feeding them, clothing them, educating them now. Our job is done.

Roberto is a 20-year-old inmate at the consejo facility who is serving time for a homicide he committed as a teenager. (I wasn't allowed to ask him for any details about the incident. "We want to look forward," Félix explained.) Asked if he receives visitors, the fairskinned, light-eyed young man, who had been frowning nervously, smiled widely.



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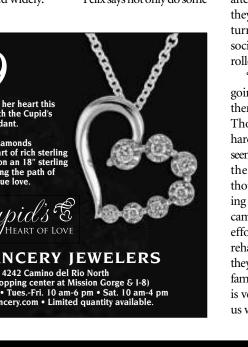
"Yes, gracias a Dios. I'm fortunate that my family comes to visit me every Sunday, and I really look forward to it every week

CITY LIGHTS

"At first," Roberto recalls, "when my parents came, we didn't have anything to say to each other, particularly my dad and I. It was just, 'Órale... Órale...'And then we would sit there trying to think of things to talk about. It was very uncomfortable. But then we started doing family therapy, all of us together. For the first time in my whole life, I saw my dad cry and I heard him tell me he loves me. Now we've gotten to know each other, and I love it when they visit."

Much as he loves his visits with his family, Roberto admits to feeling a little bit guilty when he returns to the dormitory or mess hall."I always feel great after seeing my family every Sunday," he explains, "and I want to tell all of my friends all about it. They listen, and they're happy for me. But so many of them never receive visitors, and I can see they're sad about it. Then I feel bad for being so happy."

Félix says not only do some



families not visit, they refuse to accept the child back when his term is up. "We try to tell them about the program the child has completed," she says, "but they don't want to know anything about it. They're tired of the whole situation. So we start looking for other relatives. We have agreements with institutions all around the country to help us find family members, because the majority of the kids from here, even when they were born and raised here, the majority have relatives in other states in Mexico. So we contact these relatives in other states, and sometimes they take the child under their protection."

CITY LIGHTS

When inmates are released from the Consejo Tutelar para Menores Infractores, they carry no criminal records with them — because only adults can commit crimes in Mexico. And about 30 percent, Félix estimates, have no home to go to. In that case, if the inmates are over 18, Félix and her associates steer them toward the army. "We know that the discipline of the army will be familiar and welcome to them after living here," she says. If they're under 18, the consejo turns them over to Mexico's social security agency, Desarrollo Integral de la Familia.

"Soon," Félix says, "we're going to release 50, and 10 of them have no home to go to. Those youths have worked hard and behaved well. We've seen the effort that they put into their programs. And even though they were misbehaving at their homes before they came here, they've made a big effort to get education and rehabilitate themselves while they were here. And then their families don't want them. That is very sad for them, and for us who see it."







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He's Just An Ordinary Guy

Typically, in his January 18 column regarding David Copley's yacht ("How to Avoid Taxes, Cruise European Seas," "City Lights"), Don Bauder fans the flames of class envy and victimhood at the hands of the rich. My attention caught by the picture of the yacht, I forged through Bauder's column with interest, waiting for the light to be shed on supposedly apparent, sinister law breaking. Alas, I was disappointed. Copley hadn't done anything illegal, criminal, or heinously unjust to the rest of us regular folk. But true to his color, the column was sure sold that way.

Instead, Copley did what all of us do when filing and paying our taxes: take advantage of how the current regulations and laws are set up in order to legally minimize our taxes. Are we to believe that Bauder would *not* take advantage of tax laws to finance a car with a tax-deductible home equity line of credit instead of using a non-tax-deductible auto loan? Surely I could pen a scary and sinister column targeting nonhomeowners implying how wronged they all are because Bauder might have shadily used such legal tax laws.

Andy via e-mail

A Yahoo And His Pals

I just finished reading the article from your January 18 edition featuring that "stellar" submarine sailor who calls himself "Ollie" ("I Was a Bad Sailor," Cover Story).

I was stationed on another submarine at the Point Loma Submarine Base during the same time frame. All of us chief petty officers were briefed on this international incident before our port visit to Singapore, which was not long after Ollie's visit. Make no mistake about it — this incident was a big deal with huge ramifications.

The fact that your publication would even print such an article, let alone feature it, sickens me. Did you think this young man's story was merely a funny joke? Do you people have any idea how many lives this yahoo and his pals put at risk? I doubt it. And apparently you have no clue how dangerous it is to serve on a ship that houses a nuclear reactor, electronic equipment, and enough armament to wipe out a small city. Did the fact that this same ship is deliberately submerged in salt water to depths you cannot possibly

imagine escape you? Had you considered those minor details, perhaps you would have thought twice before making this your feature article.

Two questions: Was there a point to this young man's story, other than the fact that he did what he did and got away with it for so long? Was there an apology to his former shipmates whose lives he put at risk? Let me answer these questions for you — "NO!"

You have freedom of the press. You are legally entitled to print whatever story suits your fancy. I and my former shipmates, however, who understand the serious nature of being a submarine sailor, have the legal right to take any copy of your publication we may find and toss it in the trash, which is exactly where the *San Diego Weekly Reader* belongs.

Michael Wickstrom USN, Retired La Mesa

We're Our Own Worst Enemy

I would like to thank the Reader for publishing "I Was a Bad Sailor" (Cover Story, January 18), if for no other reason than it inspired the triple dose of highly entertaining foolishness expressed in letters by Greg, Lou Cumming, and Brian Biller (January 25). As an adjunct to the writings of founders James Madison, Sam Adams, and Patrick Henry, these three letters demonstrate why the U.S. immediately should discontinued on page 68



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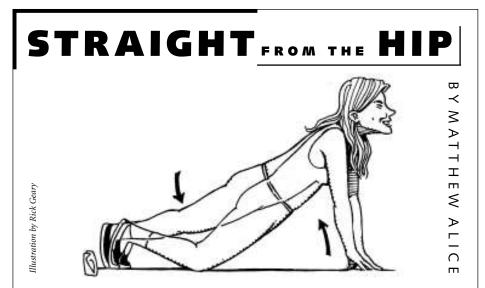


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Heymatt:

Is there any reason why women were ever told to do pushups from the knees? Is it really just a strength issue? My daughter, who is in JROTC, was told that if she did them from her feet, it would pop her ovaries. That cannot be correct. Any light you can shed on this would be great. — Ouito, via e-mail

This might be an old wives' tale mutated into an old drill sergeant's tale. Knee pushups are advised for women because most (untrained or young) women can't sustain repeated standard pushups. They don't have the strength or endurance in their triceps and pectoralis major muscles, the principal weight-movers in a standard pushup. Simple as that. If you do a pushup the right way, you need to stabilize your back with your abs and back muscles, but the strength involved is minor compared to what you need in your upper body. Exercises that isolate and build your pecs and triceps will help with pushups; repeated attempts at standard pushups if you're not strong enough will only fatigue the muscles fast and won't have any training value.

Ovaries and all the other female reproductive organs are supported by a whole network of ligaments attached to the pelvic wall. These are weakened by repeated increases in pressure within the abdomen. It's a gradual process, and pushups won't do it, though squats and lunges are more problematical. But most of the weakening comes from menopause (loss of estrogen), childbirth, repeated heavy lifting, even constipation, coughing, laughing, and sneezing. But I'd think you'd have to be a professional sneezer for this to be the only cause.

Ahem, Matt:

The word "mug." It means so many things. Why does it mean a cup and a face and to get robbed? Where did that useful word come from?

— Jeff, Escondido

Eight meanings, both nouns and verbs. And all come from one source: an old Scandinavian word meaning "drinking vessel." The word sat around meaning drinking vessel for a few hundred years until the British invented the Toby or character jug — a drinking mug formed in the shape of a man's head with three-dimensional features. So, in the 1600s, "mug" took on the added meaning of "face." Because the jug faces were male, "mug" also came to mean an ordinary guy, or maybe a fool. By the mid-1800s, when cameras came in, "mugging" meant making a face. By the turn of the century, if you got punched in the face, you were "mugged." Can't wait to see what's next.

Heymatt:

So, I was digging your column on schizophrenia, but when I read the last paragraph, I heard my own loud voice and it boomed, "Dios mio!" Matt, my buddy, in a town like San Diego, where a small but significant minority of locals pride themselves on the quality of the herbs they smoke, a lot of people need some explanation when they read this: "More and more, psychiatrists are seeing habitual smokers of the gene-tweaked, ultra-high-THC-content weed who develop similar psychoses." Can you shed a little more light on this bong-buster of a bombshell? I've, ah, got some friends who might be interested. Thanks, amigo.

— Shane, via e-mail

Uh, so — you like the idea of weed that makes you psychotic? Can't wait for that ultimate weed freak-out? To hell with couch cramp or the usual blissout. You crave the weed that makes you want to punch your roommate in the face. Well, we'll see about that.

So, what is it that, um, your friends are smoking now? Odds are, if it's common, groundgrown stuff, it has about a 5 percent THC content, maybe less. Mexican weed has been tested as high as 7 percent, Maui Wowie can run up to 10. The hundreds of types of hydroponically grown, *indica-sativa* crossbreeds that go under the general name "skunk" can have from 15 percent THC to the high 20s (laboratory tested), similar to most hash. But any weed, no matter how it's hyped, can have as little as 1 or 2 percent, based on lab tests. The level depends on growing conditions and the care taken during cultivation. The true high-THC weed is most easily available in Europe, especially England and the Netherlands, though it likely first came from the U.S. in the 1990s. The Dutch have developed and refined many hybrids. Southwestern Canada produces some of the strongest in North America.

I'm told that a lot of what's sold here as "skunk" isn't particularly high in THC. The extremes are the exception, not the rule. Your connection is a salesman, after all, especially at \$500 an ounce. And *High Times* is not a scientific journal. These THC numbers come from government and medical testing labs.

As for the weed-psychosis connection, studies (mostly from Europe) indicate that the weed might not cause the psychosis or schizophrenia; it's more likely that people with the genetic or behavioral predisposition to the diagnosis can be pushed around the corner by heavy use. Young teenagers seem to be particularly at risk because the frontal cortex of the brain is still being formed at this age, and that's the area most responsible for regulation of emotions, judgment, analysis, and planning. The jury's still out, though.

A searchable archive of past columns is available at SanDiegoReader.com **Got a question you need answered?** Send an *email* to heymatt@cts.com or *fax* to 619-231-0489 or *mail* to Matthew Alice, c/o the *Reader*, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186.

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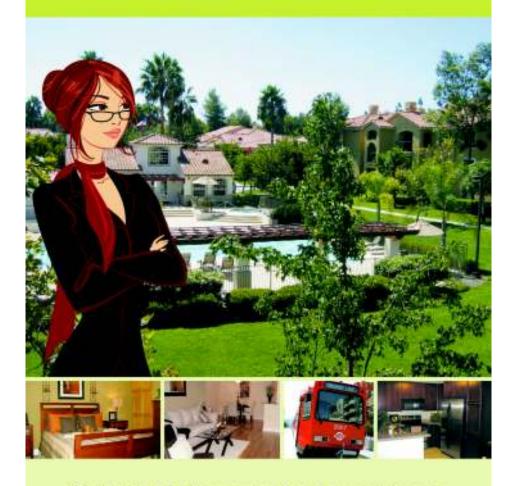
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16 San Diego Reader February 1, 2007

SportingBox By Patrick Daugherty

Super Bowl Alert

e'd better go over security for Sunday's big game. *Emergency Management* magazine tells us "more than 70 government agencies have struck alliances" in order to make a safe Super Bowl Sunday. Tens of thousands of people will be carrying guns in Miami. Of course, tens of thousands of people always carry guns in Miami, but on Super Sunday, that number will skyrocket due to the sudden insertion of an army of cops and baggage handlers.

We've got the Miami-Dade Police Department, Miami-Dade Office of Emergency Management, the federal Department of Homeland Security, Boward County Sheriffs Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, Billy Joel, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, FBI, Coast Guard, Air Force, the Alhambra High School marching band, National Guard, the Latvian embassy honor guard, and 3000 day workers hired by the NFL to run magnetometers and make coffee.

This is a Level 1 National Security Event, which means there will be the usual supply of combat aircraft, helicopters, submarines, tactical weapons teams, SWAT teams, mobile bomb labs, robots, no-fly zones, harbor closings, and bomb-sniffing dogs.

Zach Mann, a U.S. Customs and Border Protection mouthpiece, sums up this interagency effort with metaphor: "We used to be distant cousins working somewhat closely together. Now we're really like brothers and sisters, working hand in hand, to make sure that there is a secure environment for the event."

If you have loved ones in Miami, tell them to get out while they can. The sentence "Government agencies are

The sentence "Government agencies are working well together" reminds me of Katrina or the anthrax attacks in Florida after 9/11, or 9/11 for that matter. Government suits call a press conference. Seven men, two women climb onto a stage. Dead faces. Dead eyes. The first dead face introduces the other dead faces and then starts in on how well they're working together. People are dying, a great city is under water, and the number one talking point on every suit's list is how well they're working together.

I have three objections. 1. It's a lie. 2. No one cares. 3. That's what they're supposed to do.

I mention this because, while Zach is droning on about brother and sisterhood with the Bureau of Weights and Measures, the most notorious Super Bowl criminal of all time remains at large. I am referring to Janet Jackson; specifically, to Janet Jackson's right breast.

I'm sure the horror of Super Bowl XXXVIII has not been forgotten. Picture it now. Can you visualize that awful day in Houston, now three years gone? Can you bring back the festive halftime show? One hundred million Americans looking on as Justin Timberlake and Janet Jackson sing "Rock Your Body." They move and rub against each other. Then, Justin voices the tender lyric, "gonna have you naked by the end of this song," and understandably, unable to control himself for one more instant, paws at Janet's top, loosening the garment, thereby exposing Janet Jackson's right breast. Only by luck and old-world craftsmanship did Janet's nipple shield remain in place, thus sparing Americans the ultimate shame of confronting a right breast and a right nipple at the same time.

I needn't remind you that this is the breast that brought America to her knees, that launched congressional investigations, civil law suits, a rack of new laws...a walk-in closet of new regulations. This is the breast that caused Congress to work five days within the space of one week. This is the breast that put live TV on a five-second delay (Oscars, Grammys, NBC sports, *Monday Night Football*), caused CBS to put a ten-second delay on the NCAA Final Four basketball games, and caused ESPN to put a fivesecond delay on the Little League World Series.

Now, the clock ticks down to the start of Super Bowl XLI and Janet Jackson's right breast, hungry now, prowls Miami. Government agencies are working well together. No one is safe.

Prior to Super Bowl XXXVIII, Janet Jackson had reached the periphery of my consciousness, maybe, two or three times. I knew she was part of the crazy-as-batshit Michael Jackson family. I knew there was a LaToya Jackson in there, but most of the time I thought that person was Janet or Janet was her.

Turns out, Ms. Janet Jackson, 40, has won a Grammy and an Emmy. She's been nominated for a Golden Globe and an Academy Award, has received 33 Billboard Music Awards, and, according to *Forbes Magazine*, is the seventh richest woman in show business. She has an estate estimated at \$150 million.

Don't you get it, Agent Zach? Money makes her more dangerous! Where is Janet's breast today? Is it casing the salsa clubs and tanning salons of South Beach? Is it planning another attack, this time without a nipple guard? Has it linked with other breasts, all of them scheming, planning god knows what? You will be held accountable.



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SHEEP AND GOATS PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: Church of God Address: 4955 Conrad Avenue, Clairemont, 858-278-6802 Founded locally: 1949 Senior pastor: Grant Horner Congregation size: around 120 Staff size: 4 Sunday school enrollment: around 80 Annual budget: \$250,000 Weekly giving: around \$4800 Singles program: yes Dress: casual but neat Diversity: mostly Caucasian, some African-American, Hispanic, Asian American, Pacific-Islander Sunday worship: 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m. Length of reviewed service: 1 hour Website: www.clairemontchurchofgod.org

"We have a new song today," announced worship director Janet Werdowatz. "It's a new song by Chris Tomlin called, 'Made to Worship.' We were made to

worship Him — that is our first purpose of the five purposes. We're just excited to introduce this song to you this morning.

The sound system sent the music ringing out loud and sharp and clear into the cozy, inverted-ark churcha trio of vocalists, jingling acoustic guitar, tom-toms, keyboard, and electric bass. "Before the day, before the light/ Before the world revolved around the sun/ God on high stepped down into time/ And wrote the story of His love for everyone ... "Songwriter Tomlin showed up again on the final song — "How Great Is Our God" — an anthemic piece that got the congregation inspired and the guitarist so enlivened that he broke a string (then soldiered on).

After the song set, Werdowatz prayed, "Father...we just ask.

as the pastor brings your message...that we would daily surrender those things that we need to surrender in order to serve you and

love you fully Pastor Grant Horner opened his sermon with a story about a nightmare plane trip that had him saying, "God, I want to trust you to help me...but I'm kind of doubting," and God answering, "Just trust me a little bit." "Little did I know that, as I was flying ... there was a group of people here in the church, praying ... 'Dear God, help Pastor Greg get home today, but do it in a way so that there is no doubt in his mind that it was a miracle from You." The airline held up Horner's connecting flight ("They don't do that"), and he made it home.

Finances required similar trust, suggested Horner. This week's sermon dealt with financial discontent, introduced by a drama: a woman who identified herself as an "adaholic" and told the story of her worsening addiction to getting and spending. ("I would try anything - Coke ads, roadside billboards, infomercials...")

Horner argued that discontentment was "something that we can't eliminate. We will always have it in our life. I like to think of discontentment as kind of like an appetite.... We might be able to temporarily satisfy it, but before we know it, we want something bigger." Further, "we live in a culture that completely fuels it. Every day, we are bombarded by ads that say, 'You deserve this,' and 'What you have now is old; you need something new.'

"How do we manage our discontent?... How do we...have it not overtake our life?... You don't manage it by sheer willpower - by trying not to want something that you know you really want. The way to do it is ... you shift your focus." He cited Paul's letter to Timothy, wherein he warns the rich that "the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil." Paul's remedy: "Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds." Said Horner, "You intentionally become aware of the needs of those around you. That leads to a response of gen-

erosity, and that gen-

erosity is what man-

ages your discontent."

about driving a group

of affluent youngsters

through Texas and into

Mexico. "The entire

trip, all I heard was,

'I've got this CD and I

want to buy that CD,

and I want this CD

player.' They were talk-

ing about the next car

they wanted to get

We pulled into Mex-

ico, and...there was all

this poverty You could

hear a pin drop in that

van. They were look-

He told a story

Clairemont Church of God Clairemont $\star \star 1/_2$ Sermon content...... $\star \star 1/2$ delivery...... $\star \star \star ^{1/2}$ Liturgy.....★¹/₂ Music congregational ** choir★★ Architecture..... Poor to satisfactory..... ..(none) Good Very good** Excellent*** Extraordinary .. ****

ing around, and they had become aware of what other people needed. They started saying, 'I brought a whole bunch of extra clothes. Would it be okay if I just gave them away?' They became aware of a need, and that created a generosity, and you didn't hear any more talk about discontent." Then Horner posed a question: "How are you doing in

becoming aware of the needs of those around you?... Small group provides a great opportunity for accountability in this area.... A lot of us have needs in our small groups that we're not even aware of, because of our natural tendency to focus on ourselves Parents, how are you doing with helping your kids understand that the world does not revolve around them?" And then, the trust part: "When...we meet the needs of other people financially, God, in His crazy way, continues to meet our financial needs.

What happens when we die?

"My belief," said Horner, "is that the moment we die, we enter into the presence of God. We are asked to give an account of what we did with His son Jesus - did we accept Him or did we reject Him? If we accepted Him, then we get to spend all eternity with God in heaven. If we rejected Him, then we spend all of eternity separated from God."

— Matthew Lickona

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-EVE KELLY

Last summer, I spent a month on my brotherin-law's farm with the kids. They fed the goats, caught toads, fished and swam in the pond, and helped harvest vegetables from the garden. I picked endless baskets of peas and whole wheelbarrows of zucchini. There was talk of chickens one day, but for the time being, we tromped down the road to a

neighbor's place for fresh eggs, a dollar a dozen. I had never seen yolks so yellow — a yellow that flirted with orange. And such flavor. My friend Maureen is a pretty serious cook, and when I told her about those eggs, she was all a twitter. "Let's go in on chick-

ens. We'll flip to see who gets the coop." Maureen "won" the flip, and it's a good thing she did. A call to La Mesa Animal Ser-

vices told me that domesticated poultry and livestock are not allowed in La Mesa. Eddie at San Diego Animal Services, however, told me, "In the city of San Diego, you may have chickens if they are kept 50 feet from any dwelling and in a coop. You may

any dwelling and in a coop. You m keep up to 24 in a coop." East County Feed & Supply

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in Santee (619-562-2208) occasionally carries chickens. Said the clerk, "Lately, we've had a hard time getting them in, and when we do, they go real quick. We had ten in just the other day, and they're all gone. We usually get mixed-breed, but sometimes they're purebred. They come from people who just want to get rid of them — a ranch, or sometimes a school. If you want adult chickens, we have them sometimes — when people happen to bring them in. Hens are **\$8**, and roosters go for **\$5**."

Kahoots Feed & Pet Supply in Ramona (760-788-7785; *www.kahootsanimalsupplies.com*) seemed a surer bet, since they carry chickens on a regular basis (deliveries about once a week, **\$4.95** per chick; call for availability), as well as food and caging supplies. The only catch was that my potential egg sources came as baby chicks, not adult producers. And there was only an 80 percent degree of certainty that my chicks would turn out to be female. Still, I was up for the risk. Assistant manager

Adam Young explained what I would need and how to take care of my new babies. He started by saying that how many chicks I should buy depended on my setup. "If you're going to keep them in a hutch after they're grown, you might do

three to five. But if you're going to keep them outside, penned in your

yard, you can do as many as your yard allows." Young said that "the number of chicks isn't really the important thing; it's how you take care of them weather-wise. It's cold now, so inside would be preferable for chicks. But that's not realistic; most people don't want them in the house. You can get away with keeping chicks outside as long as you have a heat source on them, like an infrared light [\$8, plus \$10 for a clamp lamp]. In this kind of weather, you need it plugged in all the time. You get infrared so that the light won't disturb "Americanas and leghorns pump out eggs so fast — they start maybe two months after they're fully feathered."

their sleep patterns. They can't see it."

Besides the cold, chicks need to be protected from predators. "You want them screened off to keep away hawks or coyotes. Hutches cost anywhere from **\$80** to **\$300**, depending on the size. They've got a pullout tray for bedding you can use cedar shavings, pine pellets, or straw. You keep them in the hutch until they're fully feathered — around three months, more or less, depending on the breed — or until they outgrow it."

While they're chicks, they need a higher-protein chicken mash (**\$11.95** for a 50-pound bag) than the normal fare. "You feed them that through their juvenile period. And you give them regular water from a standard water feeder [**\$2.90** for a onequart capacity, **\$3.90** for a gallon]. It looks like a plastic dome at the top, and it leaks water into a sphere-like pool." A bowl or Tupperware dish won't quite cut it, warned Young. "You can do it, but it's not recommended. The chicks will walk in it and defe-

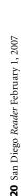
cate in it. The water feeder keeps the water cleaner and fresher for longer periods. Also, it's vital that when you first get the chicks, you introduce them to the water. Take the chick and dip its beak in the water. Otherwise, they won't put two and two together and figure out that that's where the water is. And even if prepared to lose one or two. It just happens."

Once the chicks are fully feathered, the eggs are not overly long in coming. "It's breedspecific. Americanas and leghorns pump out eggs so fast — they start maybe two months after they're fully feathered. How often they lay is also dependent on breed. Some will give a dozen a month; some will give 30. But once they start, they lay continually." Breed even determines where they prefer to lay. "You can buy a kind of hen box [**\$10–\$20**], which they'll walk into to lay their eggs, or you can put down straw."

Since Maureen wouldn't be able to just let her chickens roam free, I asked about pens. "We sell chicken pens for **\$115**. They're four feet by three feet, and they can hold six full-grown chickens. Anything bigger than that you'd want to contain with a fenced yard or something you built yourself. But you do need to cage them to protect them." Young guessed that Maureen and I

would get "five to seven years of life" — if the chickens stayed healthy. "Chickens can get eye and ear infections. They are filthy animals; poultry are disgusting. They don't have a concept of their own waste. A dog won't roll in his own poop, but a chicken will. It won't know the difference. The eye and ear infections can be treated with Terramycin [\$5.95-\$14.95]. Another thing to watch out for is mites. You'll see the mites, and if you leave them untreated, the chickens will lose feathers and get dry skin. You take care of mites with a dust [\$6.45-\$9] that you sprinkle right on the feathers."

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New Hires

Picasso said once when being interviewed that one should not be one's own connoisseur.

— Kenneth Koch

rested the pen against my chin and contemplated the list before me. Below "Interests," I'd written, "dining, travel, art, reading." In the left margin, I'd jotted, "DINKS & atheists ideal, but not necessary," and, "avid sports fans need not apply." I tapped the pen against the paper, creating a series of purple ink dots, and looked up at David. "What about occupation?" While he considered the question, I wrote, "Occupation — secondary." Then, in the margin, I added, "Conversation skills mandatory."

"Do you think we're snobs?" David asked. "Sometimes," I

"I don't want to have children right now, but if I decide later that I want a kid, I'll just get a used one." answered. "But listen, beh beh. Life is short. We're just being practical. If we're conscientious and sensible about the company we keep, we won't have to clean house as often. It's uncomfortable when we get really hot-and-bothered in the early stages of friendship just to discover three months in that a person is a flaky user or a pushy religious freak. Better to take shit slow so that when you discover stuff like that, it's still easy to back away, you know?"

David and I agree on most things, one of which is that we'd rather have no friends than incompatible friends. Before I met him, I felt the same way about romantic relationships - I would rather be single than settle for someone who is less than perfect for me. In the past few years we've jettisoned the people we've outgrown, leaving a considerable void in our wake. More vacancies were created when some friends moved and others sloughed us off. It's natural that as people grow and change, as their interests evolve, so does their circle of friends. It's great if you can grow

and change *with* your friends and loved ones, but it would be naive to assume that this is the norm. So we've spent some time shopping for a few new *compadres*.

I used to liken the task of finding new friends to dating. There was the courting period, the getting-to-know-you phase, and the dates, which were investments of time, energy, and money. But now I've chosen a more professional approach. Rather than wooing people, I'm interviewing them to fill available positions in my life — applying the same skills to screen potential new friends that I used during my brief stint as a headhunter for admins and CEOs.

When hanging out with someone new, it's important for me to keep in mind that I'm not the only one doing the interviewing. A prospective friend might want to know how the position became available. Did the previous holder of the title quit? Was she fired? What were the circumstances? Even though a candidate initially expresses an interest in a friendship position, she may decide, upon further inspection, to decline my offer.

The trick to knowing how someone will behave in a new job is to look at the patterns in her past — the frequency of coworker confrontations, the number of resolved versus outstanding conflicts, and whether or not she left positions on good terms. But the best indicator of the kind of friend someone might be is how she treats her current friends.

By unanimous decision, David and I recently rejected what at first seemed a promising "applicant." We had met Jeff at a social event. Impressed by his potential, we invited him to come over to our place one evening for the usual wine and cheese "interview" — it's important that a prospective pal get a feel for the environment before accepting an offer of friendship.

Jeff was 30 minutes late, but we don't grade on punctuality until it becomes obvious that tardiness is a trend. He brought a bottle of wine, which earned him points in the "Thoughtful" category. When presented with our offering of fine fruits, nuts, and cheeses, we casually laughed off Jeff's comment — "Honestly, I'd rather have meat."

Conversation with Jeff was a sea of mud through which we slogged, cautiously working our way around obstacles that presented themselves, such as Jeff's unwavering loyalty to Velcro and his universal aversion to women in leadership roles. Despite some of his opinions, which didn't exactly square with ours (after all, it's people's little quirks and peculiarities that add color to our lives), Jeff was still in the running. That is, until he mentioned Robert.

Robert has been his friend for many years, Jeff informed us, and he loves him like a brother. Before I could ask the usual, "How long have you known him?" or "Does



by Barbarella

he live around here?" Jeff rattled off a list of his best friend's many shortcomings. In a patronizing tone, he gave us the low-down on Robert's bad decisions dating back to the early '90s. We learned about ditzy girlfriends, moving back home, and Robert's ("poor slob just didn't know any better") recent decision to date a single mom.

Jeff mistook my expression - mouth agape in horror - for jawdropped interest in this unwarranted attack on some guy named Robert who mistakenly thinks of Jeff as his friend. Silently, I wondered, If you think so poorly of this guy, why the hell do you spend so much time with him? I'm all for shit-talking a nemesis. But a friend? To people who don't even know him? Not cool. The flag had been raised and its vibrant red cloth was billowing in our

faces.

My man and I may be

selective, as anyone who

but we are also eager. We

love to socialize and enter-

tain, but prefer to do so in

conjunction with intellec-

tual stimulation. Learning

things that change the way

new things, especially

I look at myself or the

world, is infinitely more

fun for me than discussing

why your best friend sucks.

This is why when an inter-

giddy as I was when David

called me the day after our

first date to tell me what a

ner at the house of Janet

and Andrew, a couple we

are thrilled to have as new

friends. The first time we

months ago, Janet scored a

direct hit with her humor-

ous comment, "I don't

had them over a few

Last night we had din-

great time he'd had.

view goes well, I am as

who won the game, what

was on TV last night, or

values their time should be,

want to have children right now, but if I decide later a used one."

were nibbling the exotic chocolates and berries Janet set out for dessert, I let my guard down and made a passing comment about interviewing new friends

"We knew we were being interviewed, you know," said Janet. Horrified she might think me pretentious, I pointed out that it goes both ways - that when we conduct such a meeting, David and I assume we are being screened as well.

"Right. Anyway, I really wanted the job," Janet said. "That's why I sent that 'thank you' card the next day."

I noted her playful attitude and all around good-sportiness and said, "Well, we're really glad to have you on board."

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Fun

Where the Mail.



Lori Ferguson-Costa

"It was an envelope from the bank, with four checks in it, and I was on my way to the bank."

Maria Sandstrom gets four personal checks every week from four sets of parents for watching their children.

"But then," she says, "that day, for some reason, my brain took a twist, and I ended up at the post office. I went past one of those drive-through mailboxes. And as soon as I dropped it in, I realized that I'd made a mistake."

Sandstrom had "mailed" her blank San Diego County Credit Union deposit envelope at the Carmel Mountain post office. But it was 7:00, Friday evening, and the post office was closed. "So I got up first thing the next morning," Sandstrom says, "and drove down, but they couldn't help me. They said the person wasn't there yet, and I didn't have time to wait either, so they gave me a phone number to call and said wait about two hours. So I called after two hours, and they told me they hadn't found anything yet. And they gave me another number to call. So I waited, and I called the other number, and it was a recording. My heart sank. I thought, 'This is it, nobody will get my message.' So I left my information on the answering machine, and I thought that was it. But then, about two hours later, a lady called, and she asked me to go over all the details





with her."

That night, Sandstrom decided to take the Zen route.

"I decided there was nothing more I could do," she says. "It wasn't under my control. I went about my business. I came home. I went to bed. I woke up in the morning. I did my thing. And then they called me. They told me they'd found my envelope, and I needed to come down to the post office and describe what was inside. So I showed them my ID, and I got my checks back. The very next day, I got them back."

It's Thursday morning, and we're making our slow way around the outskirts of the mailroom floor. Lori Ferguson-Costa, San Diego's loose-in-the-mail clerk, wheels a bin from green mailbox to green mailbox, stopping to empty each one. The green mailboxes bear the words "Loose Mail."

Inside the green mailboxes, various unsendable items have come to rest over the course of the night and the previous day. By this

Margaret L. Sellers Processing and Distribution Center

morning, each box contains dozens of cards, tools, toys, electronic devices, keys, and letters that have fallen out of their envelopes.

"The mail carriers and the guys working in the plant gather all this loose stuff inside these green mailboxes whenever they find it," Ferguson-Costa explains. "Like this little bundle with a rubber band on it

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probably came from a mail carrier's route, and he just got it all together and made sure it found its way to us. And then these driver's licenses probably came loose in the machinery in this room." Ferguson-Costa says the Department of Motor Vehicles sends licenses just fine; they only come loose when people mail them in envelopes.

Trailing behind Ferguson-Costa, another fellow walks along with us, name of Robert Cleveland.

That's Ferguson-Costa and Cleveland, the postal detectives for the San Diego post office.

Cleveland is the old hand, 21 years on the job. And by now he wears glasses, and his hairline has receded to the very top of his head, which suits him. Like a kingly bird, a cardinal maybe, with a kind of mask and a high crest. He's intense, athletic, smallish, and moves well in socks and sneakers. He has on shorts, a short-sleeved shirt, a watch, eyeglasses, and the blue apron of the United States postal worker.

And Cleveland is full of information.

"Mail and trash are different," he says. He has that same tone as your favorite high school teacher. "Mail is never trash. Once something enters the mail system, it becomes the responsibility of the U.S. government. Eventually, loose bulk paper does become waste mail, but at that point it gets recycled."

Cleveland is the rewrap clerk. He's been the rewrap clerk since 2001. His work is to reunite loose mail with the ongoing "mail flow."

"Rewrap is a solitary job unless I need something or unless someone else needs something,"



securing the package up,

and getting it back into

the proper mail flow so

Cleveland's rewrap

that it gets delivered."

Cleveland says. "Otherwise, I spend most of my day getting as much as I'm absolutely sure of back in its package,

<image><section-header><section-header>

RIDE – SKI – GOLF – PADDLE – KITESURF – CLIMB – SWIM – MOUNTAIN BIKE – LIVE

alcove looks out on the Spibs machine (the small parcel bundle sorter) and the FG-1 sack sorter. In the morning, he comes to work, goes to rewrap, and sees what has come in overnight. Broken parcels, busted boxes, opened letters. Then he makes his tours around the floor.

"If I've got a box with two cans of Campbell's soup in it, and there's two loose cans of Campbell's soup somewhere, then that's an easy one," he says. "Or sometimes, I've got a set of jewelry, and Lori's got a ring that matches some earrings in an opened box. That's an easy one too."

Now Ferguson-Costa chimes in.

"We got a thankyou card just last week," she says, "from someone who got their insurance papers. They wrote, 'Keep up the good work.' And I thought, 'See? We are good for something.'

"But I also have a whole photo album full of really old pictures," Ferguson-Costa goes on. "And somebody's missing that. This is something that can't be replaced. And that's kind of sad. I'm just holding on to it in the office. I have no idea where it's supposed to go."

The Margaret L. Sellers Processing and Distribution Center on Rancho Carmel Drive — San Diego's main post office — covers 662,000 square feet (15.2 acres). And most of that incredible area, the vast majority of it, in fact, is one big room. One great room, probably the biggest room you've ever seen. Standing inside the main mailroom in San Diego, if you can see past all the machinery and packages and postal equipment,





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07-0059 (02/07)

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you might just about make out the curvature of the earth.

It's big enough to play eight football games at once, but instead the room houses a few mostly silent workers and hundreds of whirring machines. They process, cancel, oversee, and sort every single item of raw collection from every single mailbox and every single mail station in over 100 zip codes - somewhere around 900,000 pieces of mail each day. That's enough post to build a cardboard and paper city way bigger than Legoland in less than a week.

Sundays and holidays are light days, to be sure, but there is no need for locks on the doors at the Margaret L. Sellers facility. The 1700 employees work 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, in three duty rotations. They use giant machines called the Green Monster, Barney, Spibs, and the Robot.

Mail comes in at the docks, gets loaded onto long conveyors and dropped into deep bins, is conveyed along its proper routes, and then gets carried out to the docks again. Yet somehow, despite this hasty circulatory activity, there is nothing but a certain easy serenity pulsing through the place.

Maybe 150 people work the mailroom this Thursday morning. But I can't see more than 2 or 3 of them at a time. And no one is sweating or yelling or rushing around frantic or anything. No one is even speaking, except for Cleveland and Ferguson-Costa. Otherwise, all you can hear is that overlying calming thrum. Down the long rows of machinery, along every sight line under the hanging lights and high ceiling, it's



orderly, slow, easy, despite 900,000 pieces of mail proceeding rapidly past me. The 11 AFC/OCRs (advanced facer canceler/optical character readers) are taking care of 13 pieces of mail per second, each. That's

46,800 pieces per hour, times 11 machines, equaling a fantastically awful lot of mail. The machines turn the letters face up, cancel them, sort them, check them for biological weapons, and then send them to automation. They can even read handwriting. Then more than 60 automation machines sort the mail by country, state, county, city, and then, if the mail is destined for San Diego, by carrier route, right down to the most efficient walk sequence.

In another corner, the FG-1 sack sorter and Spibs take care of packages using alien-looking robot arms and automated mechanical cranes dipping into bins lined up like huge cages. The purple winding

chutes of Barney and the green winding chutes of the Green Monster snake around like long angular slides in a water park.

And the mail moves along. And moves along. And moves along. And moves along.

* * *

Cleveland and Ferguson-Costa taking me to room 199A is like my grandmother taking me up to the attic, except there's way less dust.

And instead of creaky steps past family photos, we walk on concrete past forklifts, electric pallet jacks, and tow motors. We go through automation, the empty equipment area, collection mail processing (operation 010), the back dock, the postal address redirection staging area, the sack sorter area, the sack sorter dumping area, the AFC/OCR, and, finally, near the registry, we reach the "attic," the lost mail room, room 199A.

Room 199A is a small cage, say, 12 feet by 14 feet. It has a heavy door, a desk, a stool, and



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eight shelves of bins full of stuff. Right when you open the door, you notice it has that flea market slash garage sale kind of feel.

Food, jewelry, prescriptions, books, pens, DVDs, sports gear, cell phones, masks, a snow globe, toiletries, cassette tapes, pet accessories, games, auto equipment, luggage, batteries, posters, gift cards, IDs — there's an almost inexhaustible mélange of human effects — all of it intended to go somewhere else, but none of it now getting past the confines of room 199A.

Ferguson-Costa dons blue plastic gloves and a blue apron, and she starts to sort the day's loose stuff.

She opens unmarked envelopes, picks and sorts through them, and comes up with 30 to 40 personal checks, 50 to 60 driver's licenses, dozens of CDs and DVDs, money, photos, books. Over 500 loose items, by our estimates, on just an average Thursday morning in San Diego.

Percentagewise, not bad. Just 500 loose things out of 900,000 pieces of mail. But still, it's 500 loose things. In one day. That's 1000 disappointed people, give or take.

How is this possible? How can our American populace make so many mistakes? I ask Ferguson-Costa and Cleveland for their intuitions on the subject.

"Sometimes people are in a hurry," Ferguson-Costa says.

"Ignorance" is Cleveland's matter-offact take. "People don't know any better. How do you package something up so it will be delivered in good condition? It's amazing how people will put something in an envelope and just expect it to get there. They don't take their time and do it

right."

But it isn't just human error and machine error that cause loose objects to trickle their way into the mail.

"Sometimes," Ferguson-Costa says, "it

could be that when people find someone else's stuff and they don't know what else to do with it, they just drop it into the mailbox. Then it becomes our responsibility." * * *

"I should have put it in a padded envelope," Nancy Drake tells me. "But I didn't do that. So I take the blame." Nancy Drake had

sent a Visa gift card to a family friend, a gesture of thanks from Drake

and her husband for helping with some messy work on their rental house. A \$200 gift card and a thank-you note, in an envelope, from Carlsbad to Oceanside. She figured it would get to the

friend in about two days.

A week later, the friend still hadn't received it. "I called the post office," Drake says, "and they told me they couldn't do anything

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until it had gone missing for two weeks. Fourteen days. And that's 14 workdays. I called the 1-800 number, and that's what they told me."

(Incorrect! Incorrect! The phone number for the local loose-inthe-mail unit on Rancho Carmel Drive is 858-674-0561. And if you get a recording while the office is open, that's because Ferguson-Costa is running around collecting or filing loose-in-the-mail items. She'll check for messages when she gets back in and return your call.)

"So that was a long two weeks," Drake says. "More like three weeks. But after that time, I filed a form saying what I'd lost."

Then, finally, the following Monday, Drake got a phone call.

"They told me they'd found my card," she says, "and I could come down and pick it up. They had the card — no envelope, no note or anything, just the card itself. I was so thrilled to get it back. I didn't think I would."

But not all folks find what they've lost.

"I have a pretty good idea that I lost my keys close to our mailbox," Bob says. "So one of the first things I did was go to the post office to see if they had them."

Bob won't let me use his last name. "I would worry," he says. "Because if somebody did connect my house and my car with those keys..."

Bob goes on. "Anyhow, I've never lost my keys before," he says. "I have a specific routine whenever I come home. I pull the car in the garage, walk back out and check the frontdoor area to see if there's any packages, then I walk down to the mailbox and get the mail, then I bring in the garbage pails if I have to, and then I go back

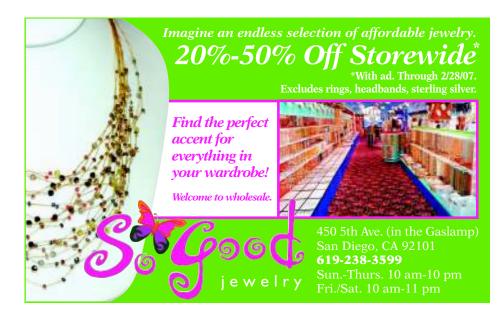
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through the garage and go in the house."

But on the day in question, somewhere between the locked mailbox (where he needed his keys) and the time that night when his wife mentioned that her garage-door opener wasn't working, Bob's keys had gone missing.

"I went out to the garage to fix the wife's opener," he says, "and I went to get my keys, and I found out, 'Hey. They're not there.' They're usually on the table in the computer room."

Bob admits that his keys might be in the house somewhere, that they may have gotten shoved into a crack or fallen behind a cushion. "The fact is, I don't really have any idea where they are," he says.

It was about a week later when Bob went to the post office.

Turns out, the post office serves as a kind of nationwide lost and found. Because that's what Good Samaritans do when they find something they don't want to keep or sell. They bestow it upon the post office.

"That's what my mail carrier told me," Bob says. "He told me if people find stuff and they don't know what to do with it, then they put it in the mailbox. And then it goes up to the main post office, and you have to look for it up there."

Then Bob asks me, "Have you been over there to that office? And seen all those keys? Isn't that unbelievable?"

The loose photographs, glasses, keys, and empty wallets at the main post office aren't kept in room 199A. They're stored separately, up near the front door, near Ferguson-Costa's desk. That way, people can sift through the boxes and look for their lost items themselves. "They didn't have my keys there the first time I checked," Bob says. "They told me sometimes it takes a while before things go through the system." But Bob hasn't

given up hope just yet.

"I'm going to go down and look for them again in a few days. We'll see." * * * How do postal detectives do their detecting? What do they do with letters that have partial addresses or illegible handwriting?

"We use all resources that are available to us," Ferguson-Costa says, "such as the Thomas guide, phone book, 411, and the Internet. If we are not sure of a zip code, we use the USPS website that is available to the public. As far as illegible handwriting, we don't have a special technique to determine what the envelope says; we just use our own abilities.

"Some items such as

packages that come into the office but do not have an address may have a contact phone number inside that we will use to contact the customer. There are some envelopes that may come in with a

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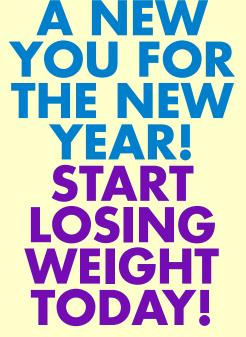
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metered strip for postage, even though the envelope isn't addressed. We send those to the business entry office to determine who mailed it. There's an account number that's listed on the postage metered strip. What we do then is return it to the customer who mailed it."

If a loose payroll check contains the full address of the employee, then Ferguson-Costa will place it into an envelope with a mailing window, put a new stamp on it, and send it on its way. If a loose personal check has only the return address of the sender, then she'll return it. "We send checks and driver's licenses out the same day that we get them," Ferguson-Costa says. "Those get priority. And they're also the easiest items to deal with, usually, because they have the addresses right on

them."

Other items, however, require other protocols. Keys and photos are held indefinitely. Medicine is kept for two months and then thrown away. Items under \$10 in value are also held for two

Used to be the job was called "inspector of dead letters." Then, 215 years into the history of the U.S. post, they changed the name to "manager of the U.S. Postal Service mail recovery program."

months and then discarded. Porn, drugs, and other contraband are sent to the postal inspectors. And the rest is stored for two months on shelves in room 199A before it's packaged up and sent to the St. Paul mail recovery

center to be auctioned.

"The shelves are marked by the month when the stuff came in," Ferguson-Costa points out. "And if we can't tell where something goes, and no one comes to look for it, then all we can do is send it to be

auctioned." Ferguson-Costa spends most of her workdays in front of her computer, filing spreadsheets of items that she's found and filing reports from people who've lost things. Whenever a new report of a lost item gets

onto her desk, she looks into her archives and sees whether the item is there. "Sometimes I remember an item specifically," she says, "and I'll know exactly where it is. And other times the computer helps me remember."

* * * Used to be the job was called "inspector of dead letters." Then, 215 years into the history of the U.S. post, they changed the name to "manager of the U.S. Postal Service mail recovery program." Doesn't exactly roll off the tongue, but I guess they figured it sounded more, well, friendly.

By the same token, from 1777 to 1992, the place where the inspector of dead letters worked had been known as the dead letter office. But then the United States Postal Service adopted the gentler, more politically correct, mail recovery center.

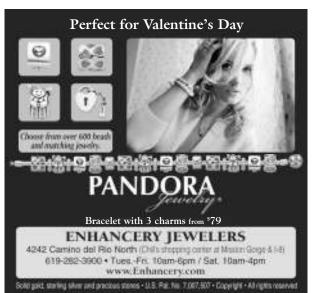




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So. Manager of mail recovery, or inspector of dead letters? Either way, the job is filled nowadays by Susan Tedrick, at her office over in Washington, DC.

Okay. Forget the cute name change. By the time it gets to Susan Tedrick, the mail is dead, isn't it?

"No," Tedrick says, "the mail isn't dead. We're looking at it with the intention of reuniting it with the person who mailed it or getting it on to its intended location. Auction is the very last resort. You have to dispose of things at some point; you can't hold on to them forever. But we do keep the more valuable stuff indefinitely, just in case someone comes looking."

Female staff

Extensive wardrobe

Harley sessions



Tedrick's office is in DC, but St. Paul, Minnesota, and Atlanta,

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"We have 75,000 square feet in Atlanta and 35,000 square feet in St. Paul," Tedrick says. "We handle both letters and parcels. We have automated equipment on the letter side of the

house that can identify if there's contents of value, like checks, money orders, cash, or anything that has a type of magnetic signature.

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They are then opened up by an employee and checked to see if it does, in fact, contain value. The only ones who can open mail are the folks in the mail recovery center and, at the local level, the clerks in the lost-in-the-mail unit." Tedrick makes an

estimation. Aside from the two recovery centers, there might be somewhere in the vicinity of 269 lost-in-themail units in the country, she thinks, since there are 269 mail-processing plants nationwide. That's 269 plants in 80 postal districts, from sea to sea. There are two plants in the Southern California district, covering four counties, and two loosein-the-mail units, one in each plant.

So the 269 or so local loose-in-the-mail units try to figure out



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where a loose item should go. After a couple of months, they pass the buck (and the loose stuff) to one of the mail recovery centers. Then after 90 days of trying to reunite the items with their owners, the center in Atlanta holds an auction for unclaimed objects.

tables at flea markets. Or, nowadays, the same ones who sell loads of stuff on eBay.

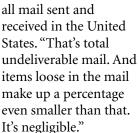
Tedrick says the auction lots begin at minimum dollar values, but they sell for as much as people are willing to bid. And sometimes it's many hundreds of dollars per bin. These are

"Anything hard, that doesn't have the flexibility of a credit card, it jams the machine, which then pushes the hard item right out of the envelope."

Tedrick tells me 200 people might show up, twice a month, to bid on things that don't get spoken for. That's 200 of the same kinds of folks who troll the beaches with metal detectors. The same individuals who sit behind fold-up

full hampers of stuff, Tedrick stresses, and you can see only the top items in any bin. The rest is "kind of exciting and a lot of guesswork." Tedrick tells me that

her office deals with only "one tenth of 1 percent," or .1 percent, of



But then she acknowledges that it isn't quite perfect. "Our mission is to search for, recover, deliver, or return undeliverable mail nationwide to guarantee customer satisfaction."

Lori Ferguson-Costa has been the loose-in-themail clerk since July 2006. Before her, Janna Dujong did the job a couple of months on a fill-in basis. But before Dujong, from 1990 to 2005, it was Joanne Gardinier.

Gardinier was a postal worker for 30 years, all told, and she almost gave both of her hands to her job. "I've had a nerve in my elbow replaced, and I have







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trigger points in both my thumbs," Gardinier says. "All that repetitive work for all those years with my hands."

On the telephone, Gardinier knows the drill. She's eager to talk. She starts telling me

about stuff she's found in the mail even before I start asking her about it. "Handcuffs and

shackles," she says. "The real thing. No packaging, no address. I called the sheriff's department, and the policeman who came to pick them up asked me, 'So where's the guy who belongs on the other end of these?' And I said, 'That's your job. I found the cuffs.' It was kind of funny." She chuckles. Then goes on to another story.

"Here's another interesting one," Gardinier says. "DEA agents had mailed a map in this tube — I guess they were scoping this house out for drugs — and the

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tube had come open in the mail, and the map fell out. So I looked at the map, and it had 'DEA' on it and this house and the address. So I couldn't send it to the house's address because I knew that

would probably blow the whole operation. So I contacted the DEA, and sure enough, they came and picked it up."

So much human error. So many people's mistakes.

But no. Gardinier paints a different picture. It isn't just people who are to blame.

"There's a lot of mail that goes through the system," Gardinier explains, "and I think people don't understand now that everything is automated. Rarely does a person now touch the mail. So packages that used to be safer a long time ago, now there's a lot of machinery that comes into play. People will send heavy things or small packages with sharp objects, and they'll send these things the cheapest rates, which isn't always a good idea because all you have to do is have one heavy parcel roll over on a little tiny one and it breaks it open. And sometimes the price difference in a small parcel like that, you're better off sending it first class."

What else might we do to lessen the chances of such mistakes? "Valuable items

should be sent registered mail," Gardinier says. "There was an urn once that was 18-karat gold and it was engraved and it was real old, and something like that should never be sent by regular mail. It should go registered, and that way it never hits automation. And there's no chance of it breaking open on a belt when it's going up. Instead, whenever anyone touches it, they have to sign for it."

And what happened to the loose urn?

"It stayed up in mail recovery for over 20 years," Gardinier says. "Unclaimed. They wouldn't auction it, of course. And we finally all got together, the folks in the post office, and



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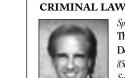
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WHAT IS CHAPTER 13 BANKRUPTCY?



we gave it a proper burial."

Did Gardinier ever get gifts or money for her detective efforts?

"We can't take anything over a \$10 value, but we'd get flowers and candy, yes. And letters. I had so many letters and compliments. There was one lady, and I was crying with this one. She was sending her last pictures of her fourmonth-old baby to her mother. The baby had passed away from sudden infant death syndrome. So those were the last photos taken of her baby. And I still get emotional when I think about it. But the pictures were lost, and we found them. I found them, and they got to her mother. In fact, they did a story on 60 Minutes about sudden infant death syndrome, and she was on it, and she said on the show how great it was that we found her pictures,

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because they were the last ones taken of her baby."

A touching story. But not the only touching story she tells.

"We had a military tag from 1826," Gardinier says. "It was an antique. And someone had put it into a regular envelope. Well, automation, and it's a quarter inch thick, so the machine thinks it's a letter and it makes a 160degree turn at a really high rate of speed. So anything hard that doesn't have the flexibility of a credit card, it jams the machine, which then pushes the hard item right out of the envelope. Well, I think somewhere back East, or wherever the military tag was going to, they got the empty envelope. Because the envelope goes on, through automation, because it still has the address. So somebody back East sent faxes out, nationwide, to lots of post offices, because it was such an antique and such a sentimental item. So we found it in San

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Diego. I found it. And it was engraved and just such an interesting item. And I was able to get it back to its owner." Gardinier reflects a moment.

"Compared to the amount of mail that comes in the building, the amount that gets lost is practically nothing." Gardinier is echoing Tedrick's claim. "But it can be so important. And how do you tell someone, 'Sorry, but yours was the one thing lost in a million'?"

She goes on, "And a

lot of stuff isn't something that was lost in the mail but something people inadvertently dropped in. Like bank deposits. Or one time, we got 26 \$100 bills. And this woman's husband told her, 'You can kiss that money goodbye. The post office is never going to give that back.' But we found her, and we got the money back to her because she had a deposit slip in the envelope. And she was

ecstatic. She said, 'You've restored our faith in the postal service.' "

Did Gardinier think of herself as a detective? "Yes," she says.

"That's pretty much what you have to be. You follow leads. You follow your instincts. You have to want to get something back to someone. You have to have good common sense, and you have to care." ■

— Geoff Bouvier

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Don Bauder takes on all comers each week on the Reader website.

Shopping

SOMEWHERE IN THE JUNGLE

'm not one of those serious shoppers who puts on their running shoes, downs a highly caffeinated beverage for extra energy, waits outside the mall until it opens, and glares at anyone ahead of me in line. Sure, I love a bargain, but the difference between the professional shoppers and me is I refuse to beat other customers over the head with my tote bag if we both grab for the same dress.

When I go shopping, I try to avoid looking for specific items because

MY MOM AND I LEAVE THE **HOUSE WEAR-**ING COMFORT-ABLE WALKING SHOES, OF COURSE, AND THEN ORDER TWO ICE-BLENDED MOCHAS. if I need a snow jacket for the upcoming ski trip, more likely than not, every store in North County will not carry a heavy enough coat or the coats will be sold out or only an extra extra large will be left on the rack or the shipment of jackets will have ended up in the Bahamas. On such occasions, when I return home without a bag in tow, the family knows to hightail it for a different room and refrain from asking, "So, did you find what you needed?" for at least 24 hours.

Perhaps my most discouraging shopping experience occurred last May, when I went out in search of the perfect pair of shoes to wear with my prom dress. I walked into a classy shoe store and asked the saleslady to please bring me the silver heel in a size five and a half, to which she replied they do not carry shoes that small; I heard the same story from other shops as well. After several hours of looking, at which point I wanted to pull out my hair and scream, I found the most gorgeous pair of shoes in my size and bought them immediately, even though they cost as much as my dress.

I love shopping — don't get me wrong — but for the sake of my sanity, I refrain from entering the mall on a regular basis.

> – Emma Seemann, Carlsbad H.S.

y brother is 22 years old. I am 18. And we are avid procrastinators. For example: Christmas.

Christmas is on the 25th of December (always has been) but my brother and I forget and are forced to go shopping within hours of the holiday. This leads to problems. One of those problems is traffic.

Parkway Plaza mall in El Cajon is an excellent place to shop for gifts. Unfortunately, my brother and I aren't the only ones holding this little piece of wisdom. So, while some celebrate by hanging stockings, my brother and I squeeze into my teal Camaro and find cramped

places to park it. The parking lot becomes a holiday horror show. When we finally find a spot, it's so far from the mall we have to use MapQuest to find our way back.

This is when the fun begins. We're not especially athletic, but I believe if every shopper were given a number to wear, then my brother and I would be considered the champions of the Christmas Shopathalon.

Moving through a mall during Christmas time is our specialty; not because of our chronic lack of preparation but because we really do care. My brother and I find pleasure in getting the perfect gifts for our relatives. Together we set off to numerous stores. JCPenney and Sears become second homes as we strive to find something special. Flipping through clothes racks and shuffling through bins. Checking one store and then checking another. Asking questions. It's what we're good at. And somewhere in the jungle of greedy shoppers and greedier store owners, there is a smidge of the Christmas spirit that appears now and then. It's somewhere between children taking pictures with Santa and the "Roll Back" prices at Wal-Mart. But



it's there. And my brother and I get to share it while resting in the food court.

In the midst of the holiday rush, it's easy to curse and complain about an unhelpful cashier. But when it's over, only the gifts and all of the thought and effort and good will that went into them remain.

> Andres Perez, Valhalla H.S.

find that the holiday season can sometimes bring out the most impatient, stubborn, and, at times, reckless side of people. To make sure my emotions did not compel me to clash with someone over taking the last medium-size jacket or purchasing the video game I had been searching for for my brother, I found my mom to be a perfect companion for these intense outings.

I enjoy the calmer part of the holidays: wrapping gifts with multi-colored paper and ribbons, decorating the tree with ornaments, and visiting a nearby street full of holidaylight displays. The shopping for the gifts tends to be a hassle. The most frustrating part of finding a gift is making sure you retrieve the

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- Interfere with sleep
- Be mistaken for medical conditions

If you are 18 or older, you may qualify to take part in a research study of an investigational medication for Generalized Anxiety Disorder.

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

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

You receive up to \$450 for your time and travel.
You receive no-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care.

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



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

Are you between the ages of 18 and 65 and finding life hard to tolerate? Has your energy and motivation to enjoy your life decreased? Do you find even simple pleasures empty?

California Clinical Trials has been assisting the pharmaceutical industry with finding medications for depression over the past 20 years. Every study conducted by California Clinical Trials is staffed by a team of skilled and experienced, caring physicians and medical professionals trained to place your comfort and well-being first.

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

- You receive up to \$500 for your participation.
- You receive no-cost study-related medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



Weight Gain

is often part of taking medications for



Schizophrenia

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

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

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

- You will receive up to \$780 for time and travel.
- You receive no-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

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



It could be restless legs.

Do you suffer from the urge to move your legs along with creeping, crawling, tingling sensations that tend to get worse towards evening? Do these symptoms tend to occur at least 3 times a week? Are you 18 years or older?

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



right size in clothing or the right version of a particular video game or film.

To make sure our energy remains high throughout the six-hour shopping spree, my mom and I leave the house wearing comfortable walking shoes, of course, and then order two ice-blended mochas from the Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf.

The mall I believe to be the best suited for Christmas shopping is Fashion Valley because it is larger and seems to convey the spirit better than the others. My least favorite mall is Grossmont Center because the population of shoppers there is nearly nonexistent, and the choices of stores is limited. Even though my family

seemed pleasantly surprised with their presents this year, many of them were nearly impossible to find, such as my brother's "Bruce Lee: Quest of the Dragon" video game. I informed each of my parents separately on what I bought for the other, and they asked for suggestions as to what to buy for the other. I did not set a budget for the gift shopping this year, but I would say that all the money spent seemed worth it on Christmas morning.

— Nichole Naoum, West Hills H.S.

s my family and I stepped out of the car into the Wal-Mart parking lot on Friday, we were dumbfounded. See, this wasn't your average Friday; this was the notorious day after Thanksgiving. It was five o'clock in the morning, and I was half awake, yet even through heavy eyelids I could see the line of people that extended past the front door of Wal-Mart. The line wrapped around the store, past Mervyn's, and down the street. Restless, I told my family that the line was too long and that I would be in Mervyn's if they wanted me. I must've been pretty convincing because immediately thereafter they followed.

Ever since I became capable of making my own money, I've bought holiday gifts for immediate family

members and close friends. So, to get the most bang out of my buck, I always carefully follow every line of text in the ads for day-after-Thanksgiving sales. I love giving gifts; the problem is, I don't always have enough money to get everybody something. Outlet malls help out a little when it comes to crunch time. They have bigger sales than the malls and have them more often. In addition, the stores cater to my family and friends, who fall into two vastly different age categories. But, even the outlet malls have some of the same problems as the regular ones: long lines, minimal staff, large crowds, and rowdy small children weaving in and out of people.

Parking is a whole other story. One is lucky to find a parking spot within ten minutes; it would be a miracle to have it be within a short walking distance to store entrances. Still, the happy faces on Christmas day make it worthwhile. After all, that's what I was shopping for in the first place. — Casey Koehly,

Monte Vista H.S. **■**

RESEARCH STUDIES

For Men and Women Who Suffer From...

Genital Herpes

A 1-year clinical research study is underway to evaluate an investigational medication for genital herpes. Approximately 22% of adults in the United States are positive for genital herpes. Genital herpes is one of the most common sexually transmitted diseases in the world. If you are a male or female suffering at least 4 episodes a year, over the age of 18 and in good health, you may be eligible.

To qualify you must:

- Have had 4 or more episodes of genital herpes in the past year (or 4 or more in the year before you started suppressive therapy in the past)
- Be a healthy adult 18 years or older

Qualified participants will receive:

- Examination and consultation with a board-certified physician
- All study-related medications, labs and cultures
- Compensation for your time and travel

The Medical Center for Clinical Research

Call **619-521-2841**

Are you overweight? Insulin resistant?

58 million people in the U.S. are overweight and the numbers are rising...

Profil Institute for Clinical Research is conducting a clinical research study to test an investigational drug in overweight people with insulin resistance. People who are overweight are more likely to be insulin resistant. This pre-diabetic condition can put you at higher risk of developing adult-onset diabetes and/or heart disease.

You can possibly help yourself and others.

Find out today if you have this condition. If you qualify, we are looking for volunteers to participate in a study lasting up to 4 weeks.

Volunteers must:

- Be overweight Not have diabetes
- Be between 18-55 years of age
- Be post-menopausal or surgically sterile, if they are women

Profil provides:

Profil

- Study-related care, at no cost
- Compensation of up to \$5,210.00 (some overnight stays required)

Contact Profil today to find out if you qualify!

For more info, call: 1-866-308-7427

E-mail: studies@profil-research.com

Profil Institute for Clinical Research 855 3rd Avenue, Suite 4400 Chula Vista, CA 91911







You're invited to see if you may qualify for a medical research study for women concerned about their decreased sexual desire. The purpose of the study is to determine the effectiveness and safety of an investigational medication for Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder (HSDD). Physicians right in your area are conducting the medical research study.

Each individual will be evaluated to determine her eligibility. If you qualify, you'll receive study medication, medical exams, and lab tests at no charge. Financial compensation for time and travel may also be available.

Medical Center for Clinical Research 619-521-2841

Do You Or Someone You Know Suffer From Migraine Headaches?

If you are:

Male or female, at least 18 years old

- Have migraine episodes lasting more than six hours
 - Able to spend one day in a hospital settingIn good general health
- Have had at least 3 migraines within the last 3 months

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN A CLINICAL RESEARCH TRIAL FOR AN INVESTIGATIONAL NEW MEDICATION.

Participants will receive free of charge:
Study-related exams
Investigational drug
Compensation for time and travel

For more information. call:

888-619-7272

SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTERS

PROFIL INSTITUTE IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS WITH TYPE 1 DIABETES



Profil Institute for Clinical Research invites you to participate in a clinical research study testing lung function with an approved inhaled insulin.

Participants must:

- be 25-65 years of age
- have a diagnosis of Type 1 diabetes for at least 1 year
- not be currently using an insulin pump
- > not have other major health problems

Profil provides:

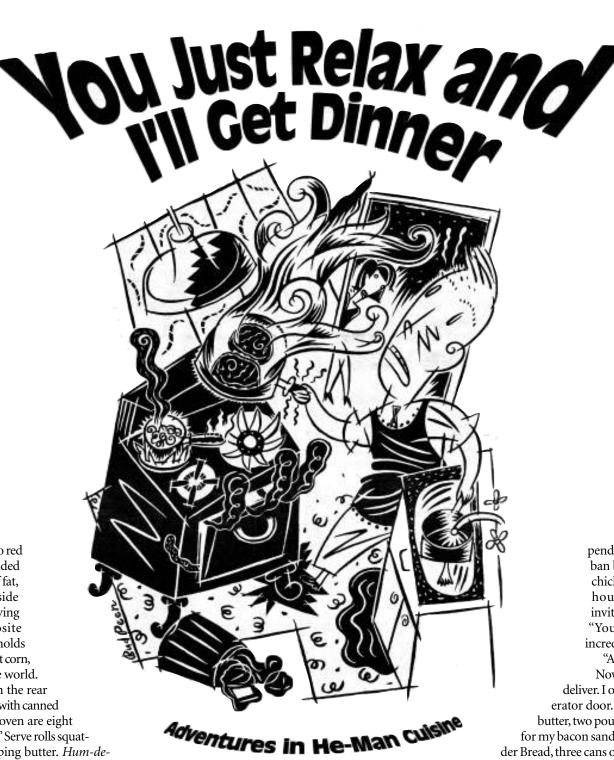
- Study-related medical care at no charge
- Compensation of up to \$550 (11 visits, no overnight stays)
- Shuttle service from the H Street trolley in Chula Vista, if needed

If interested, please call: (619) 409–1423

or e-mail: studies@profil-research.com



Profil Institute for Clinical Research 855 3rd Avenue, Suite 4400 Chula Vista, CA 91911-1350



The year is 1980. Two red steaks, each surrounded by a half-inch rim of fat, smoke and hiss inside my \$2 aluminum frying pan. On an opposite burner, a small pot holds a cup of canned sweet corn, now deep in bubble world. Behind the corn, on the rear burner, is a pot filled with canned spinach. Inside the oven are eight 12-minute Brown 'n' Serve rolls squatting on a rack dripping butter. *Hum-dehum-hum*.

All of us are busy inside a small kitchen, say 8x8 feet, on the second floor of a 70-year-old apartment building off Fifth Avenue, four blocks from downtown Hillcrest. The original apartments have been divided by thin partitioned walls, doubling the number of rental units and giving each apartment a long, narrow Quonsethut look. Heat doesn't arrive until 7:00 p.m., and that's only if Bill-the-Troll, who lives in the basement, remembers to stoke the burner, which he does about four times a week. The apartment's best feature is the 11-foot ceiling. This must have been a lovely place 40 years ago.

Tonight's meal is in honor of the fair Peggy O'Callahan. I'd met her last week at a barbecue in La Mesa. She's my age, late 30s, has full breasts, tight butt, and black hair. But what got to me was her intelligence. She's smart, funny, and indePeggy, who has not yet picked up her silverware, whispers, "Patrick." "Yes." "You're bleeding." "What?" "You're bleeding on your food." pendent. We sat on suburban back steps, gnawed on chicken, and talked for an hour. As we stood up, I invited her over for dinner. "You cook?" she asked incredulously.

"A little," I replied modestly. Now it's time to stand and deliver. I open the ancient refrigerator door. Inside are two tubs of butter, two pounds of thick-cut bacon for my bacon sandwiches, a loaf of Wonder Bread, three cans of Coors, two bottles of cheap white wine, jar of mayonnaise, jar of mustard, a cucumber, two halves of two tomatoes, a bottle of salad dressing, and one head of lettuce. I retrieve the lettuce, note that the outer foliage is slimy to the touch. No problem; I'll just rip the dead stuff off.

I reach for my 12-inch Buck hunting knife, begin to chop lettuce, finish, grab a tomato piece, begin slicing and dicing. "Shit!" I nick my finger. Blood squirts from my thumb. I pause, suck on thumb, return to work. Okay, what else do I need? I got the Lucky's blue cheese salad dressing. Check. What else? Salad bowl. I open the cupboard looking for a bowl, hmm, don't seem to have one. Again, no problem. I find and retrieve aluminum pot object, rake salad fixings off the counter into aforementioned receptacle, reach in and fluff salad with my fingers. Looks good.

Doorbell rings. I slog to the front door wear-

ing the countenance of an overworked domestic, picture perfect with soiled kitchen towel draped over one shoulder. I open the door and regard a lovely, oval face, big blue eyes, lips forming a sultry mouth, and shoulder-length black hair. An ironic, feminine voice says, "Hello."

"Glad you could make it." Miss Peggy enters the apartment garbed in a long black coat that's been left open, revealing a light turquoise dress cut at the knees. I direct Peggy down the hall into the living room, feeling for the first time like a bachelor, which is surprisingly unpleasant; until this moment I'd always felt like a hunter.

The focal point of the living room is a 10-foot yellow-and-brown couch I bought for 35 bucks. Off the far door is a tiny bedroom, the size of two queen-sized beds. Peggy takes a seat on the couch and asks, "What's that smell?"

My expression deadens. I take a big whiff. *Hmm*...I don't smell anything."What smell?"

"The one that smells like a dead rat underneath a house."

I march around the perimeter of the living room breathing deep and slow. Nothing. I return to the hallway, turn left, take an olfactory inventory of the bathroom. I'd placed a large cactus in there about a year ago, thought it would spiff the place up, notice it's dead now. The plant has turned ghost white; it's withered and missing chunks of skin. That's very odd. I examine the bathtub — it's an oldfashioned, eight-foot tuband realize that there's an enormous black ring inside the tub, and the tub's bottom is lined with black streaks. Strange. But I don't smell anything. I return to the living room and in a genuinely puzzled voice offer, "It must be the neighbors."

Peggy laughs.

Ignoring her response, I move on to the centerpiece of the evening. "Why don't we have a little dinner?"

Double doors lead to the dining room. Normally, the scarred maple dining room table is my work desk, crowded with computers and papers. I've stacked computer disks, newspapers, magazines, pens, printer ribbons, the office junk normally found on the dining room table to one side. In their place I've laid out two candles, two place mats, unmatched silverware, and two dishes I purchased on Martha's Vineyard, each

etched with a legend that reads, "Votes For Women."

Pulling out a chair for Peggy, I notice there is a rank smell, and it's coming from the kitchen. "I'll be right back," I mumble and roll over to the doorway.

THERE'S A GREASE FIRE! Blue and red fire tendrils blast upwards through the top of the oven door, extend three feet or more into the air. I hear grease snap, see thick, white smoke pump out from the stove like the chimney of a goddamn steam locomotive. SHIT! I rush over and open the oven door; a wall of fire leaps out at me and singes the hairs on my mustache, eyebrows, nostrils, and wrists. Pushing my hand through the flame, I turn off the oven, run to the sink, ratchet the tap on full, grab a pot from the window sill. Ripping the dead plant and dirt out of the pot, I place it under the tap while holding my hand beneath the container's bottom hole.

RESEARCH STUDIES

There is hope...

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

Do you have trouble falling or staying asleep?



Pacific Sleep Medicine Services is participating in a national research study of individuals who regularly have trouble falling asleep or awake and unable to get back to sleep.

Interested participants must

Be 18 - 64 years of age

-Have trouble falling or staying asleep for at least 1 month Study related care is provided at no charge, including a physical exam and investigational medication.

Qualified participants could be compensated up to \$1,350 for participation in this study

TYPE 2 DIABETES

The Power of Two

A combination medication may help lower blood sugar levels.

If you're making healthier choices but your blood sugar numbers aren't coming down, maybe it's time to consider combination therapy. A clinical research study is evaluating an investigational medication containing two previously approved medications combined into one tablet compared to an FDA-approved drug used to treat type 2 diabetes.

You may qualify if you are:

- At least 18 years of age
- Diagnosed with type 2 diabetes for at least three months
- Taking oral medication for at least two months

As a qualified participant, you will receive all study-related care, diabetes supplies and active study medication at no cost, and you may be compensated for time and travel. Insurance is not required.

Please call: 1-877-927-5337 Pacific Sleep Medicine Services

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

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

- Qualified participants receive:
- Study medication and examinations
 - Reimbursement for time and travel

Flu Season is Here!

Do you have signs and symptoms of the Flu?



Headache Fever Sore Throat Cough Fatique

If your have had these symptoms for less than 2 days, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical study testing an investigational medication for the flu.

If you would like more information, please call:

1-877-927-5337

Participants may receive medication and study related medical care at no cost. You may be compensated for travel costs.

For more information on these and other clinical studies, call (toll-free): 877-927-5337 **Pacific Sleep Medicine Services**

Bridging the paths of medicine and science.™

Nasal Symptoms



Healthy Man?

Covance needs healthy men to take part in a clinical research study.

Qualified participants must be:

- Healthy males
- Age 18 to 55 years

Participants will receive all study-related exams and investigational medication at no cost. Compensation up to \$2500 is available for time and participation.

Call Mon. - Fri. for more information.

866-818-3253

9665 Chesapeake Dr., Ste. 200 COVANCE, San Diego, CA 92123 www.testwiththebest.com

PERIODS ...Too Long?

...Too Heavy?Too Frequent?

If your periods have increased in length, gotten too heavy, or seem to be coming far too often, a research study is underway using an investigational oral medication taken daily to address one or more of these issues. If you are over 18 years of age and struggle with any of these menstrual problems you may want to consider this research study.

To possibly qualify:

- Be at least 18 years or older
- Have either heavy, long, or too frequent menstrual periods
- Not presently on oral contraception or willing to go off

Participants may receive:

- Exam and consultation by a board-certified physician
- Study-related lab studies, sonogram, and mammography (if over the age of 34)
- Compensation up to \$1150 for your time and travel

For more information, call:

619-521-2841 medical center for clinical research The pot quickly fills. I run over and throw water into the oven and repeat, and repeat, and repeat, and repeat. Peggy, standing in the doorway, asks, "Are you all right?"

"Just a little domestic mishap. Everything is fine now." I can't see all of Peggy's face for the smoke but suggest to the blurred figure, "Maybe you could open the windows in the living room." Ducking under most of the smoke, I make my way to the hall closet and retrieve my summer fan, then return to what is now a large barbecue pit, open the kitchen door that leads outside to the fire escape, plug in and turn on fan. Crouching under

the smoke again, I retrieve Brown 'n' Serve rolls from the oven. They are wet and coalblack on the outside, fiercely hot inside. I seek out my guest and find Peggy struggling to open a living room window. "Here, I can get that." Keeping my palm open, I throw a terrific right uppercut, moving the window upwards all of four inches. The next window is impossible, the third opens easily. I wheel around, experience inspiration, beam, "I tell you what, let's eat in the living room. Grab an end of the table." Peggy and I carry the dining room table into the living room and place it adjacent to the windows. I flutter about and gracefully light candles.

"You just relax and I'll get dinner." I return to the kitchen, water everywhere, smoke still billowing. No problem; I move the fan a little closer to the oven, grab a scouring pad, scrape the burnt skin off the Brown 'n' Serve rolls. Next I find a fork, remove the brownish-black steaks from the frying pan, and put them on a chipped serving plate. Raucous laughter blasts from the dining room. I carry the steaks to the table, trudge back to the kitchen, seize the pot of spinach, the pot of corn, carry them in to Peggy and deal out two heaps on two

RESEARCH STUDIES

Type 2 Diabetes Research

Dr. Robert Henry and his associates at the VA San Diego Healthcare System are looking for volunteers (both veterans and non-veterans) to take part in a research study evaluating the effects of an investigational drug not approved by the FDA being developed to treat Type 2 Diabetes.

Qualified participants will receive study-related care by board-certified providers, study-supplied drug, and a glucose meter with test strips to last the duration of the study at no cost, as well as up to \$3,570 in compensation for time and travel.

To qualify, participants must:

- Be above the age of 18Have been diagnosed with
- Type 2 Diabetes
- Not be taking medication for your Diabetes

To learn more about the study contact Catherine DeLue at:

(858) 552-8585 ext. 6740



Smoking too much pot?

WE WANT TO HELP YOU STOP!

Researchers at the Scripps Research Institute are working to develop treatments to help you quit smoking marijuana. This 12-week program involves medication.

For more information and to see if you qualify,

please call 858-784-7867

or visit **www.pearsoncenter.org** for more detailed information.



MEN: Have You Been Diagnosed With Low Testosterone (Hypogonadism)?



If you are 18-70 years young and have been treated in the past or are currently being treated for low testosterone (hypogonadism)

You may be a candidate for a research study evaluating an investigational treatment with different doses of a male hormone.

For more information, call: **Center for Urological Research** 619-460-0595



You May Be Compensated **To Help Others.**

Accelovance is seeking healthy volunteers for upcoming drug discovery research studies. Must be between 18 and 55 years old. Compensation for qualified participants ranges from \$225 to \$400 and is based on length of study, time and travel commitment.

Volunteers would be required to participate in 3 to 6 visits. Studies conducted at 5920 Friars Road, Suite 200, in San Diego. Study details available by calling us today.





Insomnia Research Study

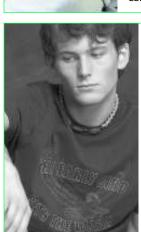
Affiliated Research Institute is currently accepting participants 18 years of age and older for an insomnia research study involving an investigational medication for the treatment of insomnia. Did vou know:

- Primary Insomnia occurs in up to 10% of adults and 25% of elderly adults · Insomnia causes significant impairment in work, social and daily functions
- We are looking for patients who:
- Are 18 years of age or older Have difficulty maintaining sleep
- Have difficulty falling back asleep once awakened
 Feel non-refreshed after sleep and tired during the day

Qualified participants will receive study-related physical exams, regarding qualification for this laboratory tests and investigational medication at no charge. Qualified

participants will also receive compensation for time and travel. See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Combined Inpatient/Outpatient



Bipolar Disorder/Manic Depression Research Study

For additional information

study, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

We are currently seeking volunteers for a clinical research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of Bipolar illness (Manic/Depression). To qualify for this study you must be at least 18 years old and currently experiencing a "manic" or "mixed" episode of your illness. Symptoms include: irritability/agitation, euphoria, sleep disturbance, racing thoughts, concentration difficulty, changes in energy level and feeling more talkative. Compensation will be provided for time and travel as part of your participation in this study. In addition, all medication and study-related medical care is offered at no cost to those who qualify.

> To learn more about this research study or to schedule an appointment with our staff, call us today: (619) 688-6565 See our website: www.ari-inc.com



Are you hiding out because of ACNE?

If you are 12 years of age or older and have acne, you may be able to participate in a clinical research study testing an investigational gel medication.

Qualified participants will receive at no cost: Skin evaluations

· An investigational gel medication for 12 weeks Reimbursement for time and travel

Come out of your shell and stop hiding...

To learn more about this research study or to schedule an appointment with our staff, call us today: (619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com



To qualify you should:

• Have acne on the face

• Be 12 years of age or older

• Be in good general health



Are you depressed?

You may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study for depression if you meet the following criteria:

- Current episode of depression not lasting more than two years

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

If you would like additional information regarding this study and are at least 18 years old, please contact:



(619) 688-6565 See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Athlete's Foot Study

Affiliated Research is currently enrolling people with visible signs of athlete's foot to participate in a research study. This study will compare an investigational generic cream to an already-marketed prescription cream and a placebo.

You may be eligible to participate if you:

- Are 12 years of age or older Can visit our office 3 times in 6 weeks
- · Have burning, itching or redness on your feet or between your toes

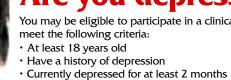
Study participants will receive:

Free foot exams
 Compensation for participation
 Study drug or placebo

For more information about this study, please contact:



(619) 688-6565 See our website: www.ari-inc.com



plates. Still at it, I retrieve the Brown 'n' Serve rolls (which, I must own, now look pretty decent) and proudly present them to my guest. I smile benignly, sit down—OOPS! Forgot the salad.

Salad is brought to the

table, wine opened and poured. I gently take my seat and with a wave of my hand say, "Dig in." Knife and fork at the ready, I hack at a piece of meat, lay on a row of salt, take a big bite, lean back, king of the manor, content with the world and all its

RESEARCH STUDIES

Troubled by excessive ANXIE

Too Shy: trouble with dating, parties, public speaking, assertiveness

Obsessive-Compulsive: anxious about dirt. checking

Too Worried: restlessness, Panic Attacks: sudden difficulty concentrating, feelings of extreme anxiety, muscle tension fear of having another attack

> For more information: 619.229.3740 or e-mail: info@sdsucuta.hotmail.com (Please mention the program.)

Center for Understanding and Treating Anxiety

http://nas.psy.sdsu.edu • San Diego State University



creatures.

Peggy, who has not yet picked up her silverware, whispers, "Patrick."

"Yes."

"You're bleeding." "What?"

"You're bleeding on your food."

Below me, on the edge of my plate, is a dark blood drop. The thick, rusty, oval blob has a different color and texture from the pool of cow blood surrounding my steak. *Hmm*, there are drops of blood on the table. *Jeez*, it's coming from my thumb, the one I cut a few minutes ago. My opposable digit is bleeding little blood drops onto my food. I try sucking again.

"Pat." "Yes."

"There's blood on the floor"

I examine the aged, nicked hardwood floor. Sure enough, a line of blood tippytoes out of the living room, through the dining room, and into the kitchen. Amazing, there's also blood on the kitchen floor.

I go over and study the kitchen's linoleum floor. Yup, there's some blood there...little pools running from the refrigerator to the counter to

I am at work before two steaks, mashed potatoes, gravy, lobster, sweet corn, chocolate pie, carrot cake, four dinner rolls, coleslaw, cranberry sauce, turkey dressing, milk, and coffee.

the doorway. I'll be damned, there's old, caked blood on the face of some cabinet drawers. Suddenly, I notice the floor is layered in dirt; it's hard to recognize the original yellow color. When did all that happen? How long has it been like that? That's very, very odd. Don't remember all that dirt and scum. Funny.

I turn around, smile, call into the living room, "How 'bout some more wine?"

I am nine years old, sitting at the yellow breakfast table in Piney Points, Texas, watching my mother work in the kitchen. She moves quickly between the sink and the stove. I see a blur of wet,

clam-white hands, a hunched back, and her mealtime grimace, the scowl she always wears when preparing food.

My mother is the toughest human being I have ever known, and of four children, I am her favorite. I know that she can command the world with her love, her powers feel that big and that strong. She is also a wretched, even a brutal, cook.

On this day, I am onethird of the way through my nine years of ham sandwiches on white bread prepared by Mom for school lunches. Breakfast is corn flakes, dinner is macaroni or steak or Spanish rice or meat loaf. My mother raised a family, always held a fulltime job, kept house, did the laundry, and moved our family from one end of this country to the other at least 20 times, following my jobjumping father. She regarded cooking as one more oppressive chore. I fully agreed.

Schizophrenia?

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

You may qualify if you are: Between the ages of 18-65 Currently being treated with Risperidone (Risperdal) And have not been hospitalized for any psychiatric reasons in the past three months.

Qualified participants will receive study drug and study related medical care at no cost as well as compensation for time and travel.

For more information or to see if you qualify,

Contact eStudySite at (619) 321-6604

Marketing Research Study Are You a Caregiver for Patients with **Alzheimer's Disease or for Someone Suffering from Memory Loss?**

If you are, you may qualify for a marketing research study. The study is approximately 45 minutes long. You will be compensated for your time.

For more information, please contact:

IAYL'''R RESEARCH • SAN DIEGO 619-308-2961 ext. 186



ORIASIS

We are conducting a research study with an investigational topical medication for psoriasis.

We need participants:

• In good general health

Qualified participants will receive:

- Examinations by a Board-Certified Dermatologist
- Study medication at no cost and no health insurance required
- Compensation for time and travel

Call us at: 858-571-6800

Convenient location in Kearny Mesa near freeways.



Or e-mail us at: psoriasis@therapeuticsresearch.com

\$

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- <u>services</u>

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- counseling/support
- events
- <u>notices</u>
- parent resources
- <u>volunteer</u>

Services

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- <u>computer</u>
- <u>financial</u>
- health/wellness
- <u>home</u>
- <u>legal</u>
- therapeutic massage
- personal
- <u>travel</u>
- wedding

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- <u>cars</u>
- trucks/suvs/vans
- classic/custom cars
- <u>rvs</u>
- auto parts
- auto services
- motorcycles

Buy/Sell/Trade

- antiques/collectibles
- appliances
- <u>boats</u>
- clothing/accessories
- bicycles
- <u>computer</u>
- <u>electronics</u>
- <u>free</u>
- <u>furniture</u>
- garage sales
- miscellaneous
- pets/supplies
- <u>photo</u>
- <u>sports</u>
- <u>tickets</u>
- <u>tools</u>
- <u>wanted/trade</u>

Musician

- available/wanted
- equipment/
- instrumentsinstruction
- services
- plug the band

Rentals

- <u>apartments/condos</u>
- <u>commercial</u>
- houses
- rentals wanted
 roommates
- vacation

Real Estate

- <u>commercial</u>
- <u>condos/townhomes</u>
- <u>financing</u>
- houses
- Iand for sale
- miscellaneous
- open houses
- <u>wanted</u>

Employment

- accounting/finance
- call centers
- career training
- <u>computer/</u>
 <u>technical</u>
- <u>customer service</u>
- domestics
- driver/delivery
- education
- <u>health care</u>
- jobs wanted/resumes
- <u>management/</u> <u>professional</u>
- miscellaneous
- <u>office/</u>
 - <u>administrative</u>
- part-time jobs
- research studies
- restaurant/ hotel/club
- <u>retail</u>
- sales/marketing
- <u>salons</u>
- <u>security</u>
- trades/labor

San Diego Reader February 1, 2007 47

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When ordered, I'd accompany my mother to the local Winn-Dixie, only rarely getting what I wanted, which was the month's hot new cereal with a toy inside the box. Returning home, I'd haul the groceries into the kitchen, then watch as my mother unpacked a dozen jumbo-sized paper bags. Next, Mom spent 45 minutes to an hour cooking gruel, then set the dining room table, called in a husband and four ungrateful children who'd wolf down her offering in ten minutes. After dinner she'd scrub-a-dub an enormous heap of dishes, pots, pans, and silverware.

Then she'd do it again the

next night, and every night thereafter, unto the last day of eternity.

It all seemed like a torturous room in hell to me. Although I had no idea what The year is 1973. I'm living in interior Alaska, starting my eighth winter in the woods. I am 29 years old, captain to a 16x24-foot, two-

Feminism means many things, but mostly it means, I'm not doing all the cooking.

I would do with my young life, I knew that cooking wasn't going to be part of it. In the meantime, I stayed away from my mother while she prepared dinner; I was afraid her job might rub off on me.

story cabin built from scrounge wood at a cost of 300 bucks. My home is near the top of Easter Dome, 30 miles west of Fairbanks, about 2500 feet up from the Tanana Valley floor and a mile walk in from the near-

RESEARCH STUDIES

Attn: Heavy Drinkers

The Scripps Research Institute is conducting 3 investigational studies associated with drinking:

- Heavy drinkers not seeking treatment
- Heavy drinkers seeking treatment
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est dirt road.

I have no running water, no electricity, no indoor plumbing. Heat comes by way of an Ashley wood stove and a Superior wood cook stove. If you were crazy enough, you could walk out my back door and hike 500 miles to the Bering Strait and not cross one highway along the way. In winter, I stand on my front porch and look 150 miles south to the Alaska Range, snow all the way. I feel like I'm on a raft in the middle of an ocean of white. I don't think about cook-

ing. Young men don't think

about cooking, they eat peanut butter sandwiches or have girlfriends cook for them. Between girlfriends or traveling or simply taking a recess from the sexual wars, I could count on one last dependable way station along the food chain: the Trans-Alaskan Pipeline.

The largest oil field in North America was discovered on the Arctic coast of Alaska in 1968. What that meant to me and my friends was 15 years of steady work. When I got broke or bored or even, on occasion, when I wanted to do the laundry—I'd drop by the union

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hall in Fairbanks, take a dispatch to Prudhoe Bay, catch a ride to the airport, fly north, and get fed, clean, and moneyed up.

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HEALTH AND BEAUTY



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"Hey, Big Dog, they don't run out of food here." Speaking is Frank

Wright, a journeyman electrician I'd worked a few jobs with over the last five years. Between us, we possess six feet of ponytail and three feet of beard. Frank is standing above me holding a cafeteria tray filled with salads and fruits, a repugnant sight. I am at work before two steaks, mashed potatoes, gravy, lob-

ster, sweet corn, chocolate pie, carrot cake, four dinner rolls, coleslaw, cranberry sauce, turkey dressing, milk, and coffee. Outside is a void of darkness. Prudhoe Bay has not seen the sun for a month, won't see it for another month. The wind is blowing 40 miles per hour, the chill factor is 110 below zero.

I am happily indulging in first-night-in-camp food behavior, to wit: stumble into a colossal dining room filled with hot, free food, take a seat, and eat as much as you can.

I shovel another chunk of steak into my mouth, calmly consider Frank's greeting, then look up and reply, "You might trust these bastards, but I don't. And Big Boy, if you don't lay off those goddamn fruits, your little wanger is going to be as worthless as the rest of your deformed ass."

There were 35 construction camps in Prudhoe Bay, and every one of them had a mess hall. Daily menus were planned to give an average male worker 3000 to 4000 calories a day. An unintended consequence of that

Weekend

Available



life: I had — how can I say this—I had a 15-year period where my cooking skills were left undeveloped.

* * *

The year is 1984. I am living in the People's Republic of Berkeley with Significant Other, Miss Katherine Friday. She's been campaigning for months, barnstorming around the apartment demanding food equality. The gauntlet has been thrown this very day. Miss Friday expects me to help with the cooking. Moreover, the wench demands that I go to the grocery store and shop. Or else.

Which brings us to this ugly moment. I am stepping through the front door of Andronico's, my countenance set to grim purpose. Andronico's is a grocery store,

the kind that doesn't carry one variety of pear, they carry 17. They don't stock five kinds of cheese, they stock 200. Andronico's sells every exotic piece of leaf, meat, cheese, fruit, and wine that a sensitive personhood could possibly desire. The store gleams; the feel is oppressive cleanliness. Uniformed employees are always in motion, cleaning floors or shelves. Workers are polite, even courteous, but the undertow is union-wage house servant, underpaid caregivers to the affluent.

I take a point position by the grocery carts. Clutched in my right hand is a list of crap, a shopping list it's called, given to me by Significant Other. S.O. is an American woman and therefore a feminist. Feminism means many things, but mostly it means, "I'm not doing all the cooking."

I consider the question of the hour one more time: "Why don't I just leave this country and go find some domestic peace?" I envision myself boarding a big jet air-

plane, see myself wave to the

camera, then intense sun-

shine, a big aloha wreath

hung around my neck. I pic-

ture a petite woman who

cooks and doesn't whine. I

arrive home to Southeast

Asian bungalow in jaunty mood and exclaim, "Hi, honey. What's for dinner?" She smiles, looks up from a stove crowded with pots of boiling liquids, and says without a trace of bitterness, "It's something special. How was

Each checkout stand has a line of shoppers ten deep. The scene appears very much like the death shoot where cattle make their last walk to glory.

your day?"

I blink my eyes under Andronico's harsh fluorescent light, dodge a shopper, savor the bungalow scene for a long moment, then let out a sigh and mumble out

loud, "No, not today." I scan the grocery list again. It's a sheet of paper filled with gobbledygook; it could be a page of chemistry equations. I don't recognize 80 percent of what is written.

This is my first trip alone to Andronico's. I have accompanied Significant Other on occasion, usually enduring five minutes before I break for the parking lot to pace and smoke.

Grocery stores are too many people in too small a space surrounded by too many unknown, foreign items. Andronico's is a highend joint, so it contains said foreign items times 20. Also, the store feels evil. I don't like the overabundance of alien food, the wretched fruits that are quadrupledecked and go on for 100 feet inside brilliant showcases. I don't like the weird, dark jars with weird, dark names, or the half-block selection of meats, the 30 different kinds of sausages, the overstocked fish counter containing alien dead sea beasts lying on ice with mouths open and unblinking black eyes staring at you. I especially don't like the people.

Humans who shop here are filled with an unpleasant expectancy, a desperate urgency akin to grabbing the last seat on the lifeboat. Self-entitled yuppies prowl the grocery store in search of the last Chateau Montelena as if their very chakras depended on it.

I dislike, particularly, the men who shop here. Their fragile figures mince around the premises. Their



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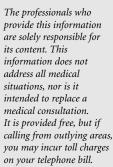
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expressions are disturbed, frantic. Every male seems to have a tiny, well-trimmed, black beard. One observes tight little male butts packed inside corduroy pants, and on their backs, spanky L.L. Bean light winter jackets.

Revolting as well is the

cash register drama. By the time a boy has grown into a man, he is familiar with women and checkout stands. A man watching the checker work retrieves his money from wallet or pocket, or secures his checkbook or credit card, and at the appro-

priate time simply hands payment over, accepts his change or signs his slip, and leaves. Bingo.

Women will stare in a bovine stupor as 150 bucks' worth of groceries are rung up, one item at a time. Finally, the bill is presented and

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

women become transfixed, frozen like a deer that's been jack-o'-lanterned. The feminine mind slowly engages. "Oh, it's the bill. It's in my hand. Now what?" The woman looks to her purse. "Do I have enough cash? Should I write a check? Where

is my checkbook? Where did I put it?" And the sink hole of a purse is hoisted onto the checkout counter while a general search is launched. For women, every time at the checkout stand is the first time. There is a zero learning curve.

Here at Andronico's, male yuppies do the female thing with a twist. After they go through the shock of being presented with a bill and realize they're going to have to pay for groceries, it's the same ordeal deciding by what form to render pay-

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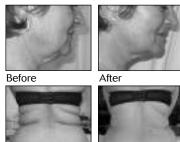
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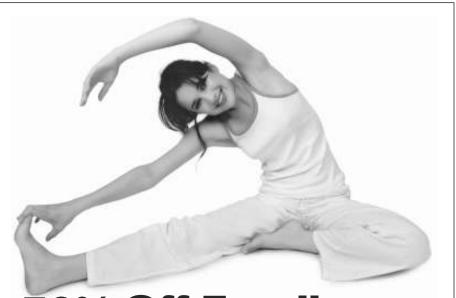
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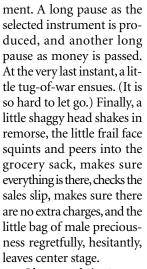
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I have made it 40 years without having to deal with this horseshit, and now it is upon me. Great balls of fire.

Might as well start. I guess you get a wheelbarrow first. I retrieve a shopping cart, gape at the grocery list again. The first item is Paté Mousse Marcey. What in the fuck is a Paté Mousse Marcey? I push my fourwheeler down aisle 7a, regard cutesy sign announcing Nalley's chili con carne with beans. I turn around, face the opposite aisle, confront Granny Smith's apple juice, see no Mousse Marcey. What else is on the list? Milk. I can get the milk. I travel the length of the store, pushing my empty cart along Andronico's far wall. I find milk — eight brands of milk, to be precise. I choose the one in the middle. Okay, what else? Lettuce. I can find lettuce. I trudge back the length of the store and face 12 kinds of lettuce, pick the one in the middle. Okay, we're making progress.

Out the corner of my eye I perceive a Kansas City cattle yard of checkout stands. Each checkout stand has a line of shoppers ten deep. The scene appears very much like the death shoot where cattle make their last walk to glory. I shudder, realize I've managed to hit Andronico's at prime time, 6:00 p.m. Everywhere, agitated yuppies dart down the aisles. One bumps into me and scurries on. They'd kill me in a heartbeat if I got between them and the celery root dijon mustard.

Like a wolf circling a herd of caribou seeking the very old, very young, or very lame — or in this case, the butter section — I circle Andronico's with my shopping cart. I find butter headquarters on the second pass; it contains 12 varieties of butter, go for the one with





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a picture of a deer on the package. Next, toilet paper and paper towels are scored. Just working away like a water buffalo.

Civilians continue to stream into the store. My heart is pounding, my palms are damp. I peer at the hated shopping list: Now what? Clabber Girl baking powder. I tramp down aisle 8b. Nothing. Try aisle 6a, 10b, 12b, and 4b. Nothing. This is not working. Next to me is an elderly lady, maybe 75 years of age, gray hair, kindly expression. I gently ask, "Pardon

me, do you know where the Clabber Girl baking powder is?" She looks up from her hunched stoop, her entire being filled with hate, spits out, "No," using a tone of voice that if she were a man I would have had to slap her. Forward. I stop the next

shopping personhood, ask politely, "Excuse me, do you know where I can find the baking power?" The woman manages a weak smile and says, "Try the baking goods section." I beam.

I clickity-clack around the store, ask a passerby for

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

directions to the baking goods section. I find it, consider this in itself a big victory for the people. Stepping away from my cart, I slowly inventory every wretched bottle and package, five shelves top to bottom, 150 feet east to west, then repeat the proce-

dure on the aisle opposite. Do not find the Clabber Girl.

Humans bustle, crisscross the store like locusts in a wheatfield. Shoppers are coming at me from the left, from the right, back and front. This is intolerable, I can't breathe, my heart is

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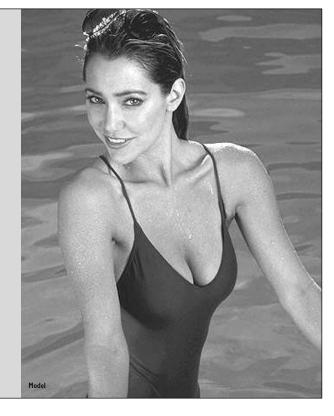
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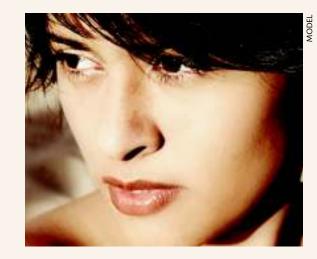
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exploding. I push my pathetic, poverty-stricken cart ---empty save for one quart of milk, one head of lettuce, six rolls of paper towels, and 12 rolls of toilet paper - to what I guess to be the vegetable section, by the potatoes, anyway. I park the food wheelbarrow, walk out the store, turn right, perambulate two blocks into a wretched Thai restaurant that also has a bar. Bill is working behind the counter. He greets me, "Yo." I return the salutation, "Hi-ya, hiya. I'll have a scotch and soda, double."

Bill serves up. Bill seems content. Bill has no bitch with me. It's quiet in here.

There is no talk of dinner duty, no grasping at kumquats, no double-step death march to the back of a 20-foot line.

After three scotch and sodas I lurch back to Andronico's. Unbelievably, the store is even more crowded. I retrieve crumbled-up shopping list from my back pocket, wander around the premises looking for my cart. After five minutes I come to the chilling conclusion that my cart has been stolen.

Back to ground zero. Manfully striding to the shopping cart corral, I obtain another wheelbarrow and retrace my steps to the toi-

let paper, paper towels, milk, and lettuce. (How do people do this every day?) I study the stained shopping list again. It still says Clabber Girl baking powder. I take a deep breath, grit my teeth, push hard down aisle 5b, turn the corner, run into a pyramid display of Stone Wheat Crackers. The pyramid crashes at my feet. Instantly have a vision of enraged shoppers stampeding down aisle 5b ready to rope me up. I bang my head on a protruding shelf while bending down to deal with Stone Wheat Crackers, manage to pick up three cartons, become too frightened to continue, quickly slink

around the corner.

Adrenaline pumping into overdrive, I leave the cart in front of the frozen peas, stalk up to a checkout line, bull my way past five huffing and puffing standees, stick my head over the counter, and ask the woman checker, "Do you know where the baking powder is?"

The checker jumps back, takes on the expression of a disturbed Rottweiler, and blurts out, "It's on aisle 7a." I turn and wade through the angry line muttering, "Gotta get Clabber Girl."

I return to my cart, wheel it real fast to 7a, actually find Clabber Girl. Huge success. The next item is Brown Cow

Farm nonfat creamy yogurt. Jog back to another checkout stand, bellow over the heads of six customers, "Where's the Brown Cow Farm nonfat creamy yogurt?"

People leaving the store stop, turn around, stare. The checker squeaks, "It's on 11b." "Thanks."

Everybody in this food emporium seems to be wearing a fright wig and an expression of revulsion. Strange. I travel to 11b, don't see the yogurt, query a nearby shopper, "You know where the Brown Cow yogurt is?" Although my voice is slurred, I possess what I believe to be a winning and warm smile. The shopper ignores me,

moves on. I step in front of the next human and bluntly demand, "Where's the yogurt? Brown Cow. Nonfat. Creamy."

The little male stops, cowers, turns, goes directly to the Brown Cow yogurt, hands me the carton. I am overwhelmed and gush, "Well, thanks, pardner."

Next on the list is organic whole-wheat vegetable elbows. I stroll over to the meat counter, ask the butcher for the location of vegetable elbows. The butcher is unhelpful. I roam the store asking humanity the essential questions of life: "Have you seen the organic vegetable elbows? Do you know



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where the vegetable elbows might be found?" Feel like I'm climbing the north slope of Mt. Whitney on crutches. I'll never get to the top; this interval will never end. What to do?

I roll the cart next to the manager's office. A man is inside, at work behind a steel desk. I tap on his glass window, wanting to make sure I'm heard, and roar, "DO NOT STEAL THIS CART! I'M COMING RIGHT BACK!" The manager freezes. I stroll through the front door and hippityhop down the block, back to Bill's. Bill brings a drink. I clasp the glass and inquire, "Do you cook?"

"TV dinners and steaks is about all." "Are you married?"

"Yeah." "She does the cooking?"

"Yeah." "How in the hell do you

manage that?" Bill's deeply lined, oval

face turns grave. "Son, there are some things you don't ask another man." As usual, Bill is right. I

stay for three drinks, play

liars' poker, break even, make my way out of the bar, and lurch two blocks back to ground zero. I enter Andronico's and instantly feel like I've been trapped inside this goddamn store for the last 72 hours.

I find my cart, which had been left undisturbed, and set myself to resume the hunt. The store manager, wearing a spunky red vest, appears in front of my cart, and gently asks,"Can I help you, sir?"

My eyes pop. Fabulous! Help is such a fine idea at times like this, and what could be more helpful than a personal shopper? "You betcha," I say while removing the torn, stained, wet shopping list from my back pocket."I need all this stuff."

The manager studies the list and says, "Why don't you just stay here for a moment and I'll get these items."

Sensible! Brilliant! Absolutely first-rate! I hand over the list and gush,"This is executive thinking! This is a great idea!" The manager leaves, and I lounge on

a 50-pound package of Purina dog food and hum "The Girl from Ipanema." In a few minutes, the manager returns with my cart, now loaded to the tits. "Here you are," he says.

I am overwhelmed with gratitude and slobber on my new friend, "I'll always shop here. I'll go nowhere else, ever, for as long as I have life on this earth. And if there is a spirit kingdom, and I am fortunate enough to become a spirit in that kingdom, I will protect this store with all my spiritual powers until even the mountains rot like snails on asphalt." I have become breathless with excitement.

The manager thanks me. With a flair I push my full cart to the only open checkout stand. Once there I encounter some difficulty as all my bills are wadded up into little balls, and it takes a bit of time to unwad each one until the sum of \$172.78 is reached. Three checkers were standing over me when I finally finished.

Paroled! I bang out the front door into the parking

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lot and notice for the first time that the moon is full and huge and the night air especially sweet. What are the non-shoppers doing, I wonder. Laughing, no doubt, probably having sex, listening to music, swimming naked in warm, blue waters. I visualize warm, blue waters as I throw nine grocery bags into my truck's cab. Suddenly, milk gushes from beneath the alarmingly large sack containing Paté Mousse Marcey.

I clench my teeth so hard I may actually be breaking a molar and scream, "DIE, YOU BASTARD!" at the paté. This is an evil, evil night. God help the next person I see.

* * *

The year is 1990; the day, Thanksgiving. I have been invited to spend the weekend with the lovely Karen. Karen is an RN and an artist who lives in a two-bedroom Coronado condo. She is 5'8", with stunning red hair that falls to the middle of her back and large, firm, delicious breasts and an upturned butt — all wrapped in lovely, soft, fair skin. I am enthralled.

Under extreme duress, I accompanied Karen to Vons late last night. Avoiding crowds, moving quick, keeping low, we purchased \$200 worth of victuals. Earlier this morning the food materials were laid out on the kitchen counter. Right now it's 11 o'clock in the morning and we are at grips with the day's task: preparing Thanksgiving dinner.

We open cans, packages, retrieve bowls, knives, mixer — it seems like everything she owns is carried into the kitchen. I am told to start dicing celery. Things appear to be going well, and I begin to think of myself as a promising pupil, imagine self as sure-fire cook, dishing up intricate meals, tossing off epicurean one-liners with a wry little chuckle.

Karen finishes with the pie dough and turns on the Cuisinart. I have unwrapped and hoisted the turkey onto the kitchen counter when the day's seminal moment arrives. Before me, a 20pound turkey lies naked on the crowded counter. I am ordered to remove the beast's guts, which are wrapped up in butcher paper and stowed inside the turkey's bellychest. I place my right hand inside the cavern, root around the gut-hole, my hands turning pink. God, it's clammy in there. Disgusting. I find and retrieve package of turkey guts. I put the guts on the counter next to the dead turkey.

A humorless voice orders, "Okay, now stuff the turkey with dressing."

I regard a white ceramic bowl half-filled with stuffing, study the clammy, white carcass, take a deep breath, direct my bare, still-pink hands to the stuffing bowl, grab a gob of cold, moist dressing, and begin to shovel it down the enormous turkey wound. This is really disgusting.

"How's it going?"

"Fine, just fine." I pick up another handful of glop from the stuffing bowl, force it into the dead turkey. This is revolting. This is like childbirth or some sadistic medical school, pick-the-wingsoff-large-insects-and-cut-

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open-their-abdomens lab class; some kind of primordial, kill the beast, hack its brains out, rip the fur from the gristle with your teeth, rub animal fat over your body and roll around in the dirt on top of intestines and blood and fat and guts and stringy flesh, and then eat it. Have vision of kitchen filled with dead carcasses; all the murdered bodies have green, rotting flesh and cold, wet, goose-pimple skins. Feel like I'm going to vomit. I mumble, "Think I'll get some air."

I wander outside, baffled. How could such a gorgeous woman, so delectable, so feminine that she makes my stomach fall a half-foot when I see her, enjoy playing with dead birds? The dismemberment and hacking away on animal flesh with such practiced, clinical ruthlessness is a frightening bit of self-revelation. I recall my father's admonition, "Son, women are dangerous aliens. Never ask why.'

And sure, it might be fun, or at least weird, to sleep with a potential ax murderer, but the bottom line remains in the same place it's always been: I have no interest in this. I have no interest in stuffing, baking, frying, toasting, making bread or soufflés or soups. I have no desire to learn this crap. I abhor fruits, I can't stand most vegetables or juices, despise salads, cooking bores the living hell out of me. Mixing different kinds of food together with bare hands and playing pattycake in the kitchen is prison, is a complete waste of my time. I hate it. I loathe it. I want to drink a dozen beers, get in my truck, and drive to Montana.

Oh, for the days when lunch was greasy bacon sandwiches, topped by a quarterinch of mayonnaise and a little lettuce. When breakfast was four eggs, a pound of sausages, home fries, biscuits, and gravy served by a slutty waitress carrying a pot of coffee in her right hand. I loved all the cans of Campbell's tomato soup, the 7-Eleven tuna sandwiches, the big bags of Fritos corn chips, cans of spinach, cans of corn, cans of beans, a half-dozen rotgut 12minute rolls and a halfpound of butter, two meals a day, two Snickers at night, and the hell with it. - Patrick Daugherty



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The Old Man's Kite

I am thinking about my old man while watching these kites fly in formation. There are lions, lizards, and long, coiling spinners, and Chinese dragon kites. There are dozens of them in the sky, competing for space, dancing around one another.

There is something different about these kites I am watching, and I don't think I like it. Nowhere is there Superman or Batman. No Wonder Woman, no Green Lantern. These kites I'm seeing are architectural wonders. They come from kite boutiques such as "High as a Kite," and "Catch the Wind," and they cost a fortune. These are not the two-stick and tissue-paper kites of my youth in San Diego. Every day my big brother and big sister and I trudged up Krenning Street, lined with stucco and wood houses, through a neighborhood named "Redwood Village," which had no redwoods and no village, to Oak Park Elementary School. On the way home, we stopped at Kipp's Variety Store to buy penny candy and ten-cent kites from Mrs. Kipp.

When I was eight, Mrs. Kipp was the oldest person I knew. She was capable of following six kids at one time, and her beady, grey eyes missed nothing. She kept the penny candy in plastic bins at the front of the store, where she could watch us. The kites were in a barrel on the floor, each kite wrapped tightly so that you could barely see which character it was.

I was a kite kid. Over and over, I fell for the sweet lure of the pristine kite, crackly and crisp, with new white string and a promise that this would be the one to break the bonds of earth and soar to heaven. Over and over, I was crushed in defeat as the latest ten-cent splurge sputtered out of control and crashed to its death.

My favorite kites were the ones picturing superheroes. *Superman* was my first choice. For my dime, I got balsa wood and tissue paper and a ball of thin, cheap string.

After opening the kite and laying the sticks out in a cross, you had to hook the little loops of the string on the four corners of the kite to the four widest points on the balsa wood cross, which had microscopic slits to receive the string. This operation required bending the longest piece of balsa wood, so that the kite would be taut on the frame. The slightest miscalculation and the stick would shatter.

And even when I got safely beyond that stage, and stood like Orville Wright on the brink of flight, my kite trailing four-and-a-half feet of bedsheet tied in ten-inch sections, my kite was good for about 15 minutes, and I knew it.

Launching was not a problem and neither was initial lift. We lived on a wide street at the edge of an East San Diego scrub canyon, and along with king

Fishing the islands cost 15 bucks, and in those days, the old man had three kids who lived to eat, and one who lost his shoes every third Saturday, and he couldn't afford it often.

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a joli a

snakes, skunks, and lizards, came a breeze blowing from the west. A sprint down the street in my JCPenney Red Stripe sneakers, with the kite trailing over my shoulder, and it was airborne. The wind crackled

against the kite's paper and lifted until it hit a power line or tree.

Every kite I ever flew on 51st Street died a horrible death, spinning out of control, descending to its resting place. I studied arithmetic

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

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and social studies at Oak Park Elementary School, and while I slaved under Mrs. Strain, my old man went to work at Safeway as a meat cutter. He took two sick days in 47 years. On his days off, he fished the Coronados,

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off the coast of San Diego. His quarry was yellowtail, known for its fight and its meat. But fishing the islands cost 15 bucks, and in those days, the old man had three kids who lived to eat, and one who lost his shoes every third Saturday, and he couldn't afford it often. The rest of the time, he was home with us kids. He saw the kite carnage again and again, and he knew how bad I felt every time I lost another kite. One day, he decided to fight back.

In the driveway sat his brand new 1959 Oldsmobile 88, which he had won in a three-for-a

buck raffle at Holy Spirit Catholic Church. The old man, a disenfranchised Lutheran at best, had stood among the Pope's faithful, where he was handed the keys to

his major prize out of the driveway, he laid out his materials. He had roll ends of 18-inch wide, white butcher paper, shiny and slick on one side, and thick butcher

My old man was working the star drag as if he had a marlin on, and the kite continued to rise.

the only brand-new car he ever owned in his life. "A guy'd have to be a damn fool to buy a brand-new car," he always said. Now, having backed

string. He had two-inchwide cellophane tape, and pieces of two-inch wooden baseboard about four and ten feet long.

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baseboard pieces out in a cross, just like my little balsa wood ones, only ten times larger. I realized he was making a giant kite and started laughing at the sight. The old man looked up and smiled. He lashed

layer of string around the wooden frame and laid white butcher paper out in strips across the frame, folding them under and taping them. It began to take the

shape of a kite. More paper, more tape, and

Somewhere around 2000 feet or so, a solo pilot in a Cessna looked out the window and saw my old man's kite.

the two lengths of baseboard together and began making the string frame that defined the shape of the kite. He stretched layer upon

soon it was ready for a tail — 30 feet of bedsheet tied in about twofoot lengths. When the old man's kite was complete, it looked like a

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For many more years than I had been alive, the old man has used his Garcia deep-sea rods and Penn reels to catch yellowtail. But now he was going to hook up on dry land and use his fishing tools to fly his kite. He must have used 50-pound test line, thick and translucent blue. He attached it to the monster kite and went to the middle of the street.

Standing in front of Guy Meister's house, he began to run down the block, and the giant kite started to rise. It hesitated, fell and rose, and then caught first one breeze, then another, and in what seemed like sec-

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

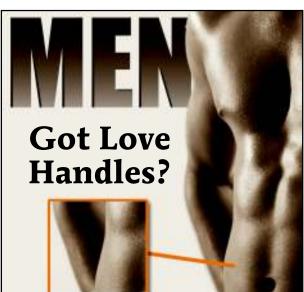


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Robert A. Shumway, M.D., F.A.C.S. 9834 Genesee Ave., Suite 225 La Jolla, CA 92037 onds, was above the level of the surrounding houses, trees, and telephone lines. The trick now would be to keep it in the air.

Penn reels have the famous "star drag," a star-shaped wheel on the side that allows you to adjust the amount of tension in order to play the fish, let him run, or reel him in hard. My old man was working the star drag as if he had a marlin on, and the kite continued to rise. It was probably 500 feet up, and it still looked immense. Its long tail whipped back and forth. He was sweating, his long-sleeved red Sunday shirt rolled up to his elbows, and his Pall Mall

Straight dangling from his lips. Sunday afternoon in

Redwood Village was quiet, and by now, word of this aeronautical featin-the-making had spread throughout the neighborhood. As fast as voices could cross chainlink fences, out they came, little kids, most of the older ones, and a few adults.

We lived in the final approach of San Diego's Lindbergh Field. The commercial flights came over our house, so low that we could see the vapor streaming from wingtips. And in between the scores of commercial planes was a stream of small Cessnas and Piper Cubs from Gillespie Field in El Cajon and from the other small airports and landing strips in North County.

I don't know how high the kite was, or how low the plane was. But somewhere around 2000 feet or so, a solo pilot in a Cessna looked out the window and saw my old man's kite. He must have thought he was seeing something that wasn't there. No one said the old man had endangered air traffic or anything like that, but the pilot radioed to the control tower that he had a giant kite at three o'clock that might bring him down.

How long it took for the radio transmissions that resulted in a San Diego cop rolling down

the street is anyone's guess. My old man had seen the pilot take evasive action, and was reeling in the kite when the police showed up. The cop said things that I don't think I ever heard. And the kite came down. Reeled in like a 22pound yellow, it put up a fight. And 20 feet from the ground, it careened into the telephone pole in front of Guy Meister's house and lodged, upside down, in the "T" at the top. My old man cut the line and let it stay there. The Gas and Electric guy never took it down, and it remained in a state of decay, paper and tape shredding off first, followed by lengths of string. What was left of the wood came clattering down at the end of winter.

— Richard Cone

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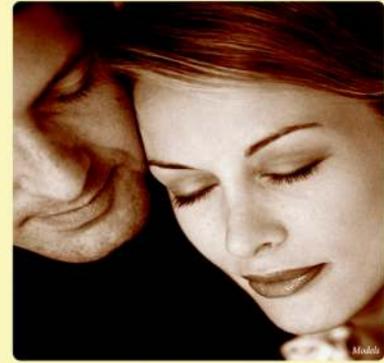


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continued from page 12

mantle its standing army as the single greatest threat to American liberty, world peace, and human decency and as the source of fiscal meltdown, mass murder, government dependency, and hatred directed at U.S. citizens. Each writer was angered by the Reader story about an irresponsible, drug-taking soldier — not because it was a lie but because it was true and because it tells us something they don't want us to know about. Let us begin

with Greg (no last name). Greg tells us, "I've been serving for the past 20 years" in the military. Note the selfserving duplicity in his use of the word "serving." I find it interesting that people who live as leeches off of the taxpayer (all government employees) can be counted on to say that they "serve" us. Never mind that we may oppose having our hard-earned money stolen by the IRS and handed over to these "servants" against our will to do things we don't want. When citizens are forced to pay for this kind of "service," it's like being kidnapped, marched into a low-grade-but-expensive retail establishment, and being told what to buy, in what quantity, and how much you will pay for stuff you don't want — and then being thanked by the cashiers for allowing them to "serve" you. So much for Greg's military "service."

Greg also complains that the story had no "happy ending or even a learned moral." Why not try this on for size? It reminds us that the U.S. military is not composed of the clean-cut boys and girls paraded around in those ridiculous advertisements that impressionable, TV-narcotized young people devour. It reminds us that military bases are plagued by rampant theft, rape, and suspicious deaths - not to mention a host of other crimes that taxpayers are not supposed to think about on April 15. Perhaps it is a reflection of the abysmal quality of military recruits, but some of us suspect it is the military culture

itself that is the problem. Is there anything less suited to surviving peacefully in a free society than a U.S. solider? Instead of earning their keep by selling their services to willing customers who pay with their own money, they are propped up by great gouts of government cash and are told what to do, say, eat (and who to kill) all day long; have all decisions made for them; and have all benefits paid by taxpayers. Much as welfare queens, military contractors, and pork-dripping NASA engineers, they are a perfect example of the kind of government dependency that a regime of nonstop collectivism and socialism can produce. The few, the proud, my a**! Unlike Greg, Lou Cum-

ming (real name?) does not attempt to use deceitful language to reveal his lack of ethics and hostility to liberty. He protests the *Reader* article because "Doing it in a Navy town makes it more egregious and is the equivalent of sticking your finger in the eye of every dedicated sailor." In other words, how dare anyone print anything that does not conform to the mindnumbing, lock-step quasicensorship that surrounds coverage of military matters in this company town? Doesn't the Reader understand that only one opinion of the military is allowed? Doesn't the Reader understand that these soldiers who live in a cloistered monoculture of obedience, are so mentally fragile that their psyches cannot possibly hold up under the strain of a difference of opinion? And if they must submit to the dumbed-down concentration-camp culture of a military base, shouldn't we do likewise? There will be uniformity of opinion here! Ein Volk, ein Reich, ein Führer!

I save the best for last. An entity that calls itself Brian Biller, Mass Communication

Specialist 2nd Class (oh, my!), tells us what it really means to be a soldier. He displays the insectlike conformity of his buddy Lou. Yet again, we are told: "As for you, San Diego Reader, this is the biggest Navy town on this coast. How dare you put such a piece of vile swill on your front page?" In other words: biggest Navy town, tiniest mind. While we naturally expect those who suffer from the embarrassment of male "conceptile" dysfunction to be shortchanged in the thought department, we sometimes pine for something, anything that does not cast shame on parrot-hood (my apologies to parrots and parakeets). But Brian doesn't stop there. In an Olympic display of buffoonery and contradiction, he leads us through the following khakispawned non sequitur. And remember, we're hearing this from a Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class!

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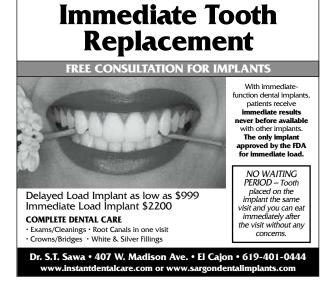
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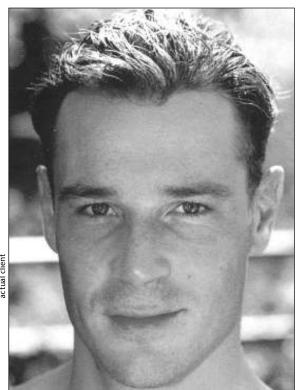
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- Then he proudly relates what he calls a "compelling sea story" of his own, one which demonstrates the ideal to which all soldiers should aspire: "I can tell you about the time in Dubai when I was still half in the bag from the night before, walking around the mall there, and a visibly pregnant woman in the full Arab garb, black dress, veil, and all walked by, and I looked at my shipmate Delgado and said, 'That's the fattest Ninja I've ever seen.'

How lucky we are that Brian Biller is on the prowl for all of those Ugly Americans. He will forever have the gratitude of Japanese Arabians. You done good, real good, Brian! For this bit of 1st-class (or is it 2nd-class?) professional mass-communications sensitivity, I'm quite certain that Brian will never be fired on the grounds of being an incompetent government employee (or am I being redundant?).

(or am I being redundant?). The incompetence of the professional U.S. military eslong ago as the War of 1812, when freebooters (private volunteer sailors) outperformed them in every way against the British at a much lower cost and were therefore outlawed because they were an embarrassing example of the truth that professional soldiers are a disgrace, a failure, and a danger to us all. We do not need professional bullies living off of the taxpayer and killing impoverished people in Vietnam, Afghanistan, or Iraq. We do not need men who are so slavishly obedient and bereft of ethics that they will not refuse to obey an immoral or illegal order or participate in a war that violates - on three counts the crimes defined by the war crimes tribunal held in Nuremberg after World War II. We do not need troops posted in 150 nations around the globe — stirring up the very resentment and hatred that came back to haunt us in the retaliatory attack of 9/11. We do not need them, but the Evil Empire, our government, does.

Lawrence M. Ludlow

via e-mail

tablishment was proven as

Fox Canyon Kids

Re "Fox Canyon. A Park? A Road?" ("City Lights," January 11). The Fox Canyon neighborhood profoundly *thanks* the *Reader* for publishing such wonderful but foreign pictures of (1) a Tijuana, Mexico, interception and (2) a Mogadishu, Somalia, street as illustrations to the article.

Since 1997, the Ontario Avenue street connection has been in our community group's "needs" agenda and the subject of constant and dedicated work by the neighborhood association. So inasmuch as the project started as a "street project," it soon after graduated to a "park and street project," a "bundle" of projects, as we knew it. As the pictures so clearly convey (count the number of children pictured), our neighborhood is in dire and desperate need of the Ontario Avenue street connection and a park. Please look at the pictures again and ask: is this the perfect location for your children to play in safety? Is it decent for the richest country in the world and for "America's Finest" to

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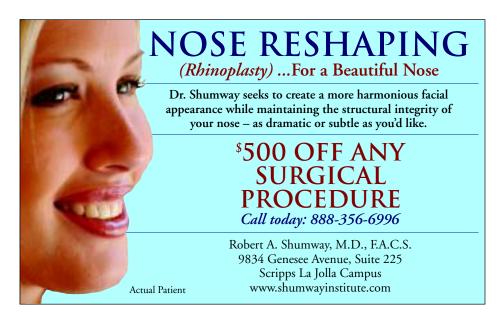
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provide such a degraded environment to its residents — which is more conducive and the perfect picture from a third world country? Are these the perfect pictures of the American dream to which we immediately expose imported refugees and overnight Americans?

It has been clearly indicated that the children of Fox Canyon are now playing in bowls of mud, drug paraphernalia, and broken

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glass from beer bottles; clouds of dust containing the sputum of disease; with graffiti as public art — for the lack of proper facilities such as a sliver of a park!

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The sleepy park board has lost its mission. Attentively, they listen to a few misinformed individuals instead of listening to the needs of the community they were appointed to serve. Instead of furiously going after ghosts and scapegoats, futile witch hunts, and seeing wrongdoing where there is none, the board should go back to the urgent business of providing adequate park facilities for needy and desperately poor and immigrant communities like Fox Canyon.

> Jose Lopez via e-mail



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Triple Word Score

Serious Scrabble in Escondido

The first year we used a Webster's dictionary," says Josephine Jones, director of literacy for the Escondido Public Library. "Everybody and their mother came up to me and said, 'Are you the director of literacy? Next year you need to use *The Official Scrabble Dictionary.*' What started out as a friendly fundraiser has become a serious competition for Scrabble players. When play starts, it gets so quiet and so intense."

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LOCAL EVENTS

On Saturday, February 3, the library will host the third annual Scrabble-thon at Emmanuel Faith Community Church. Jones has asked writer and punster Richard



nunity Church. Ind punster Richard Lederer to host the show. Last year, Joe Lizura (of NBC fame) did the honors. The event raised \$17.000.

which was used to upgrade the library's annex house (on Broadway and Second in Escondido), a space used for tutors and learners, and a language lab outfitted with a flat-screen computer and TV and instructional language tapes.

"The better players know how, in one turn, they can make two or three words," explains Jones. One word that stuck in Jones's memory after she noticed it on a player's board was *qi*. According to the fourth edition of *The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary, qi* is "the vital force that in Chinese thought is inherent in all things." Most people know *qi* by its more common spelling, *chi*. In the Scrabble dictionary, however, the only definition given for *chi* is "a Greek letter."

Serious Scrabble enthusiasts know the official two-letter-word list by heart.

Among the high-scoring two-letter words are *za* (a pizza), *xi* (another Greek letter), *jo* (a "sweetheart"), and *xu* (Vietnamese currency).

The players also value quiet and concentration. "The CEO of the San Diego Council on Literacy was announcing sponsors and telling players how much time they had left, and the players were, like, 'Uh uh. You need to tell him to shut up — we need to concentrate,'" remembers Jones.

Julie Kangas, a dentist and a lover of word games, says that despite an upsetting beginning to last year's Scrabble-thon, she is looking forward to returning this year. "Last year, I had [my own] team and I sponsored [another] team for my high school son," says Kangas. In the first round, Kangas was "pitted against" her son. "It was horrible. My first word against my own son was a seven-point bonus word [playing all seven tiles in one turn], and he just glared....

"Playing in a tournament taught me a lot about defense, and I play differently now as a result," says Kangas. In one game, after she'd placed a word horizontally, Kangas's opponent added an S to the end of it and played a word vertically — making it to the coveted red square reading "TRIPLE WORD SCORE."

To keep up her skills, Kangas practices on her Scrabble computer game and works on memorizing the two-letter-word list. Her advice to other players who enter the tournament is to use time wisely: "Last year, I was trying to make a high-point word and used up all of my time." Each game lasts only 20 minutes, and players are given 3 minutes per turn. "If you're leading toward the end of a game, you want to use up your



full 3 minutes so that there will be fewer rounds in the game."

One of the questions many Scrabble players must face is, "To trade or not to trade?" "If I have four *Is*, that means my opponent needs *Is*," says Jones. "So I hold on to them; I don't give them up. Don't start throwing stuff back in, because you don't know what you're going to get.

"It's like a philosophy of life. Play with what you've got, and let's see how good you are — instead of looking for the luck of the draw." If Jones has a poor rack, she thinks, "Instead of being mad and bitching at my opponent, I'm going to look at what I have and work it to my advantage. Then you find that something good will come along."

When it comes to opening up the board (meaning a play might set up an opponent to score big), Jones believes, "If a board is tight, you need to open it up. You've got to approach it with flexibility. Sometimes I've got to give a little to get a little. If you just go one way, people get jammed and lock themselves up, and then every word is a tragedy."

— Barbarella

Scrabble-thon (Third annual fundraiser for Escondido Public Library Literacy Services) Saturday, February 3 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Emmanuel Faith Community Church 639 E. Felicita Avenue Escondido Cost: \$30 registration for individuals, \$100 for teams of four Info: 760-747-2233 or www.escondido.org/library/literacy





Events that are underlined occur after February 8.

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

BAJA

The Comedy *El Gran Zobako en San Miguel el Chico* continues at Teatro del IMSS (Cárdenas Street and Boulevard Salinas) through January 28, at 8 p.m. Thursday–Saturday, 1 p.m. on Sunday. \$15 U.S. 011-52-664-631-0668. (TIJUANA)

Night Biking, 25k bike ride starts at 7 p.m. in front of Tijuana City

Hall in Zona Río on Thursday, February 1. 011-52-664-630-4702.

Polo Polo brings his comedy back on Friday and Saturday, February 2 and 3. Shows begin at 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. at Grand Hotel (on Boulevard Agua Caliente). Tickets: \$30, \$35 U.S. 011-52-664-681-7000. (TIJUANA)

"Abandoned, Aeroplanes, and Others," alternative rock concert planned Saturday, February 3, 9 p.m., at Box Underground (in old jai alai *frontón* on Avenida Revolución). 619-734-2333. (TIJUANA)

"A Canto y Laurel," poems by people of Tijuana and San Diego read on Thursday, February 8, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street in Zona Río). Free. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

OUTDOORS

Big Ocean Swells and wild surf conditions occurring during San Diego's winter season can leave certain area beaches partially or wholly denuded of sand. The powerful waves pull sand off the beach and move it into deeper waters offshore, leaving behind deposits of rounded cobbles where sand has been removed. During spring and

OUT & ABOUT

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summer gentle wave action returns

much of the sand, usually in time

for the arrival of summer tourists.

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jects are usually in the works, too,

whereby sand dredged from wa-

ters offshore is transported back to

The Full Moon, Thursday,

February 1, rises majestically from

the east horizon at around

5:10 p.m., only about ten minutes

before the time of sunset. Folk

names for the February full moon

include "ice moon," "storm moon," "wild moon," and

"hunger moon" - in obvious ref-

the shoreline.

(SEE FILM)



erence to less-forgiving climates than San Diego's.

Groundhog Day comes Friday, February 2. If the sleepy woodchuck sees his shadow, so the story goes, he'll hole up for another six weeks of winter cold. None of this means much in San Diego, where a February warm spell can easily push the thermometer into the 80s.

Explore Bonita and Sweetwater River area with Audubon Society birders on Saturday, February 3, 8 a.m. Seek variety of species in willows, brush in riverbed; several species of ducks are in river further along hiking trail. Meet in far northwest corner of Plaza Bonita parking area. Considerable hiking, moderately strenuous. Bring drinking water. Free. 619-692-3246. (BONITA)

Whelan Lake Bird Walk, see many different species during walk hosted by Buena Vista Audubon Society to scope out avian migrants, Saturday, February 3, starting at 8 a.m. Free. Directions: 760-941-7824. (OCEANSIDE)

Hawk Watch, visit Ramona's grasslands to witness winter migration of hawks, falcons, and eagles during outings led by Wildlife Research Institute every Saturday through February, 9 a.m.–noon. Walks led by trained biologist. Wear hiking or walking boots.

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West City Hike — this "Discover San Marcos Hike" on Saturday, February 3, features mostly flat four-mile hike at site of new Sunset Park, some of new trails under construction in west portion of city. Join group at 9 a.m. at Bradley Park (at Linda Vista Drive and Rancho Santa Fe Road). Walking shoes recommended; bring water, trail snacks. RSVP: 760-744-9000 x3508. (SAN MARCOS)

Trail-Repair Work in Paso Picacho at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park continues on Saturday, February 3, 9 a.m. Bring work shoes, gloves, hat, water, snack. Group gathers at Paso Picacho campground maintenance area behind fire department building. Free. Registration: 619-341-1746. For those 16 and older with a parent. (CUYAMACA RANCHO STATE PARK)

Guided Nature Walk, Saturday, February 3, 9:30 a.m., in Marian Bear Memorial Park (at west side of park, at Regents Road entrance). 858-581-9961. Bring binoculars, drinking water. Free. (CLAIREMONT)

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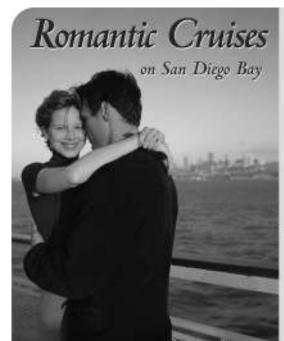
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coast live oaks during guided nature walks on Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, February 3, 4, and 7, 9:30-11 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park (One Father Junípero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

History Walk, Offshoot Tours offers hour-long history walk, blending Balboa Park history with its wealth of architectural and botanical treasures, Saturday, February 3, 10 a.m., from visitors' center, Free, 619-235-1121. (BALBOA PARK)

Help Rescue Wildlife in Trouble

with Wildlife Assist, an emergency response organization. Recruiting sessions on Saturday, February 3, 2 p.m., at Clairemont Community Service Center (behind Vons, at 4731 Clairemont Drive), Program repeats Sunday, February 4, 2 p.m., at Encinitas Community Center (1140 Oakcrest Park Drive). Free. 619-921-6044. (CLAIREMONT, ENCINITAS)

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)

Nature Hike, mountain naturalist Clint Powell leads nature hikes around Lake Cuyamaca the first Sunday of every month, including February 4, 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, February 4, 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)

DANCE

Winter Dance Concert showcasing a variety of styles presented by dance department at San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts, Thursday and Friday, February 1 and 2, 7 p.m. Senior dance productions offered Thursday and Friday, February 8 and 9. Tickets: \$6, \$7. Find campus at 2425 Dusk Drive, 619-470-0588. (PARADISE HILLS)

United States National Dance Party, West Coast swing, nightclub two-step, requests promised on Thursdays, February 1 and 8, 8 p.m., at Pattie Wells Dancetime Center (1255 West Morena Boulevard). DJ host and "roving instructor": Jane Hance. Dancing for singles and couples of all ages. \$6; first time free. 619-275-3533. (BAY PARK)

"Nomads." Middle-Eastern, Indian fusion dinner show with dance performances by Marissa, Geneveeve, Shimmy Sisters, live music by DJ Sandbag and Danvavaad, all promised Thursday, February 1, 9 p.m., at Portugalia Restaurant and Pub (4839 Newport Avenue). Cover: \$5. 619-347-9021. (OCEAN BEACH)

History's Easiest Dance? Learn the ragtime era one-step during beginner-friendly dancing on Friday, February 2, in room 207 of Casa del Prado. Open dancing follows lesson at 7:30 p.m. All ages. Partners not required. Donation: \$1. 619-583-9956. (BALBOA PARK)

Master Fiddler and Banjoist Dan Levenson and friends joined by "master of contra calling" Jeff Spero for contradance on Friday, February 2, 8 p.m., at Trinity

United Methodist Church (3030 Thorn Street). Beginners' dance workshop: 7:30 p.m. \$9. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-594-6828. (NORTH PARK)

"Luna - Dances of Love" presented by Eveoke Dance Theatre, February 2-25. Public performance offered Friday, February 2, 8 p.m., at studio of Jeffrey Lamont Brown (710 13th Street), \$40 fee includes "sumptuous soiree with the artists" after performance. Fu-



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Wear comfortable clothing and be prepared to perform big character movements.

Comedic Actors Prepare a 1 to 2 minute COMIC monologue. You will also be asked to read from a provided script. Show Hosts

Show us your great performance energy. You will be asked to read from a provided script.

Hosts that Sing and Play Guitar

Propare a 1 to 2 minute musical audition that demonstrates an ability to connect with your audience. Bring your guitar. Dancers

Prepare a 1 to 2 minute demonstration of movement skills. to music. A cassette tape/CD player will be provided. Percussionists and Guitarists

Prepare a 1 to 2 minute audition that shows proficiency in a variety of styles. Improvisational skills are a plus. Bands and Groups

Strolling groups, percussion groups, rock, pop and jazz bands, hip hop dance teams, break dancers or any family friendly act is welcome to audition.

Specialty Acts

As you a menolous juggler, magician, stilt wolker, mimo or acrobat? Prepare a 2 minute audition. Bring your equipment.

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Do you possess a critical eye for show quality? Consider a position as one of our Show Quality Leads

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- . You may audition or interview for more than one calegory. You must audition and/or interview in order to be considered for a position. Bring a resume and headshot photo. Photos, promotional kits, demos and resumes will not be returned. . You must be at least 18 years old to audition or interview.
- Limit your prepared audition to 2 minutes. · Prepared audition material must be appropriate for family audiences.
- Employment is contingent upon passing a hair and urine drug test, as well as a thorough background check.
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ture performances, reservations: 619-238-1153. (SAN DIEGO COUNTY)

Sevillanas Dance Class starts Saturday, February 3, 10 a.m., at Kava Gallery (2804 Kettner Boulevard). "Sevillanas is a partner dance in sets of four coplas danced at festive gatherings in Andalucia, Spain; this is usually the first class to be taken as an introduction to flamenco." \$60 for four classes per month. Registration: 619-846-5030. (LITTLE ITALY)

"Forces of Nature," San Diego Civic Dance Company presents 24th annual "dance collages," February 3-18, in Casa del Prado Theatre (on Village Place, off Park Boulevard). Program "uses different dance disciplines to explore the elements through dance." Recitals begin at 3 and 7 p.m. on Saturdays, 2 p.m. on Sundays. \$10. 619-702-3408. (BALBOA PARK)

Romanian Dance Workshop led by Mihai David on Saturday, February 3, at Folk Dance Center (4569 30th Street). Workshop (5:30 p.m.) followed by dance party with Romanian and other traditional/village Balkan dances (7:30 p.m.). \$7 for workshop, \$6 for dance party. 619-281-5656. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

USA Dance Party with wide variety of music, first Saturday of each month, including February 3, at Dance North County (535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 100). Lessons at 7 p.m., dancing 8–11 p.m. All ages, abilities. \$7. 760-525-5124. (ENCINITAS)

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 Grant Logan on February 4. Beginners' instruction at 6 p.m. \$8. 858-676-9731. (POWAY)

Strength Building and Toning Belly Dance class taught by Leilainia every Wednesday, starting February 7, 5:15 p.m., at Water Child Body Works (861 Hornblend Street). Mixed level. \$10-\$15. 619-884-7707 (PACIFIC BEACH)

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tain bike.

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

Balboa Park has plenty of "tame" places to walk, such as landscaped side-walks on the grassy west side, paved trails inside the San Diego Zoo, and a number of semiwild trails in canyon bottoms near the museums. But in the park's lesser-known eastern section, centered on Florida Canyon, you can find about four miles worth of relatively primitive trails for use by hikers, runners, birdwatchers, wildflower gazers, and mountain bikers.

Of course, the natural vegetation of Florida Canyon classified mostly



as coastal sage scrub but with plenty of nonnative species mixed in - may appear scruffy and desiccated by comparison with the lushly (and artificially) landscaped acres of Balboa Park proper. The aesthetic differences between the two sides of the park, however, will likely be minimized during the next three months, when the canyon

sides wear a new coat of fresh green growth, wildflowers bloom, and the breeze bears the sweet/pungent scents of black sage and California sagebrush.

The principal starting point for the Florida Canyon trail system lies just west of the Morley Field athletic complex in the northeast corner of Balboa Park. At the trailhead parking lot you'll find a native plant demonstration garden, with a short trail looping through it. Nearby, there's a grassy space for dogs to roam. South of there, a somewhat intricate network of interconnecting trails clings to both sides of a wide ravine (called Florida Canyon), the floor of which is traversed by Florida Drive. That street may someday be permanently closed to automobile traffic at its northern end, an improvement for anyone using the trails and for the wildlife that maintains a tenuous existence in this minipatch of wilderness within the city.

Fashion your own route on the trail system, which contains interconnected pieces of old roads and trails. Though most of those pathways are easy to hike, several are technically challenging for mountain bikers. Be aware that - depending on the level of trail maintenance and the amount of recent rain - the trails can quickly get overgrown with brushy vegetation.

FILM

"Confessions of a Thug" is just one film screening for fourth annual San Diego Black Film Festival, February 1–4 at Horton Plaza's United Artists Theatre. Program boasts over 30 independent films in a variety of genres (including four world premieres), panel discussions, question and answer periods with filmmakers and actors. Tickets: \$8-\$10. 619-685-7215. (DOWNTOWN)

"West Beirut," written and directed by Lebanese-born director Ziad Doueiri, tells story of Lebanon's descent into civil war through eyes of three teenagers trying to bridge gap between Beirut's Christian and Muslim communities. Film screens for free on Thursday, February 1, 7 p.m., in Little Theater at San Diego State University. Discussion led by Sandra Campbell. 619-594-7120. (SDSU)

"First Friday Film Series" convenes for "film about a program in many New York City schools" requiring ten weeks of ballroom dance for students, February 2, 6 p.m., at Santee Library (9225

Carlton Hills Boulevard, suite 17). Free, 619-448-1863, (SANTEE)

Downtown

First Friday Movies, enjoy The Wizard of Oz on February 2, 7 p.m., at Prescott Promenade (on East Main Street). Bring a blanket, chair. Free. 619-401-8858. (EL CAJON)

How About a "Twisted Modern Noir"? See Steve Anderson's Big Empty when it's featured for Film Forum at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street), Monday, February 5, 6:30 p.m. Stars Jon Favreau, Bud Cort, Joev Lauren Adams, others. Free. 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

Celebrating Life, Human Rights, and Freedom of Expression the San Diego Jewish Film Festival runs February 8-18. Program showcases nearly 50 contemporary Jewish-themed films from around

FLORIDA CANYON

Explore Balboa Park's wilder east side on foot or by moun-

Ubas

Street

MORLEY

FIELD

GOLF

COURSE

Distance from downtown San Diego: 2 miles

Hiking/biking length: 1 to 4 miles

Difficulty: Easy to moderate

Hillcrest

San

Prack

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BALBOA

PARK

world, including short-subject, documentary, feature-length films, guest artists. Titles include Ira and Abby, The Rape of Europe, What a Wonderful Place, Code Name: Bayonet, Olga, Nobody's Business, many others.

Screenings offered at AMC La Jolla 12 Theatres in La Jolla Village Square, Ultrastar Mission Valley Cinemas at Hazard Center, Ultrastar's Poway Creekside Plaza 10, and



the Wedding Guide,

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Bridal Bazaar Sunday, April 29

Del Mar Fairgrounds, 10am-5pm. More than 300 exhibitors with everything for your wedding. Info, coupons, www.bridalbazaar.com 5208 in David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center. Single tickets: \$12.50; series passes available. Reservations, showtimes: 858-362-1348. (LA JOLLA, MISSION VALLEY, POWAY)

"The Animation Show 3." described as "full-length compilation of world's best and most cuttingedge animated short films," hits Spreckels Theatre (121 Broadway) on Thursday, February 8, with screenings at 6:30 and 9 p.m. Mike Judge and animator Don Hertzfeldt "created and personally programmed" the show. Tickets: \$12.75, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (DOWNTOWN)

"Black Orpheus" by Marcel Camus presented for winter film series, Thursday, February 8, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). \$7. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

"More Than a Movie: Singin' in the Rain" - series with timeless MGM musicals convenes on February 8 and 11 at Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2891 University Avenue). Classic was directed by Stanley Donen and Gene Kelly, stars Kelly, Donald O'-Connor, Debbie Reynolds. Cinema Society's Andy Friedenberg and film historian Scott Marks introduce films; cartoons, shorts, trivia contests precede each movie. Screenings begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. \$9 general. 619-239-8836. (NORTH PARK)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: Roving Mars. "Fridays at the Fleet" promises Everest (6 p.m.) and Whales (7 p.m.) on February 2. Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

LECTURES

Views on Colonial Kitchens cooked up by Donna Derrick when Daughters of the American Revolution gather on Thursday, February 1, 10:30 a.m., at Admiral Baker Golf Club (2400 Admiral Baker Road). \$15 includes lunch. Reservations: 858-279-2677. (GRANTVILLE)

"Dolls through the Ages," master dollmaker Maria Ray speaks for History Alive series hosted by Lemon Grove Historical Society and displays examples of "dollmaker's art" on Thursday, February 1, 1:30 p.m., at H. Lee House Cultural Center (3205 Olive). \$2. 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

African-Based Women's Rights Activist Molly Melching discusses improvements in infant and maternal mortality, reduction in female genital cutting, related topics during lecture on Thursday, February 1, 4 p.m., in UCSD's Robinson Auditorium (9500 Gilman Drive). Free. 858-822-2597. (LA JOLLA)

"Mel Bochner: Drawing from Four Decades" and "Jasper Johns' Green Angel" illuminated by Nikki Oder for Insight Gallery talks on Thursday, February 1, 6 p.m.; and Sunday, February 4, 3 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. Included in regular admission. 619-696-1966, (BALBOA PARK)

Landscape Photographer Dana Neibert speaks Thursday, February 1, 6 p.m., at Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Enjoy "beautiful im-

San Diego Reader February 1, 2007 20

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OUT & ABOUT

THE MYSTERY OF MARS astronaut Sally Ride, Thursday, February 8, Warwick's Bookstore.

(SEE IN PERSON)

agery," hear "the philosophy that has allowed him to achieve rapid success." \$20 general. RSVP: 619-417-2150. (LINDA VISTA)

Del Mar TV Production Class covering "all aspects of studio production, lighting, cameras, audio," Thursday, February 1, 6:30 p.m., at 240 10th Street (at Camino del Mar). \$90. Registration: 858-481-2882. (DEL MAR)

Do Crime Victims in Mexico Find Justice? David A. Shirk, principal investigator for Justice in Mexico Initiative, speaks to Sisters in Crime on Thursday, February 1, 7 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1010 University Avenue). The Justice in Mexico Initiative is a binational research project focusing on rule of law and criminal justice in Mexico. Shirk's publications include *Slavery Without Borders: Human Trafficking in the U.S.-Mexican Context.* \$3. 760-735-9313. (HILLCREST)

"Who Owns the Past? Cultural Property and the Law" illuminated by author Kate Fitz Gibbon for docent guest lecture at San Diego Museum of Art on Friday, February 2, 10 a.m. Learn of recent changes to laws of "cultural property, heritage as they affect museums and challenge their mission to preserve, study, collect, exhibit art." \$10. 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

"What Informed Collectors Need to Know: Current Issues in Appraisal and the Latin American Art Market" presented by fine art appraiser, consultant, Latin American art and photography specialist Natasha Bonilla Martinez on Friday, February 2, 7 p.m., for Latin American Arts Committee at San Diego Museum of Art. \$10. 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

Basic Tai Chi Movements presented by master Jesse Tsao in conjunction with MiraCosta College Chinese New Year festivities, Friday, February 2, 1 p.m., in room 201 at MiraCosta College's San Elijo campus (3333 Manchester Avenue). Free. 760-795-6897. (CARDIFF)

"Artisanal Cooking: The Chefs of the Addison" presented by executive chef William Bradley and pastry chef Jack Fisher, Saturday, February 3, noon, at Macy's School of Cooking (in Mission Valley shopping center, 1555 Camino de la Reina). \$20. 888-424-3663. (MISSION VALLEY)

Create a Punched Tin Valentine when Maureen Ceccarelli hosts class in conjunction with "Heart to Heart" exhibition at Next Door Gallery (2963 Beech Street), Sunday, February 4, 3 p.m. (\$25). Make a collage Valentine on Saturday, February 3, 3 p.m. (\$30). 619-233-6679. (GOLDEN HILL)

Eva Zeisel Symposium in conjunction with current exhibit "Eva Zeisel — Extraordinary Designer Craftsman at 100," at Mingei International Museum, Sunday, February 4, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Topics include "Eva's Schramberg Years," "Russian Arts of Fire," "Eva's California Connection: Riverside Ceramics," "Eva's Extended Hallcraft Family," "Eva Bewitched and Beset by History." \$75 general. Reservations: 619-239-0003 x404. (BALBOA PARK)

Artist and Teacher Cathy Carey demonstrates "her philosophy of color" for Pastel Society of San Diego on Sunday, February 4, 2 p.m., at Mission Valley Library (2123 Fenton Parkway). Free. 619-562-5791. (MISSION VALLEY)

"What Is Functionality?" Tom Wootten, author of *The Bipolar Advantage*, explores stigma around word "functional" as it relates to bipolar and depression, Monday, February 5, 6 p.m., in Garren Auditorium at basic sciences building at UCSD (9500 Gilman Drive). Free. 760-749-5719. (LA JOLLA)

"The Jewelry of Arline Fisch: Historic References and Influences" presented by artist/jeweler Arline M. Fisch for Decorative Arts Lecture Series co-hosted by Palladian Society and Athenaeum Music and Arts Library on Monday, February 5. Lecture "will present pairs of images exposing sources for her work." Continental breakfast, 9:30 a.m.; lecture, 10 a.m., at 1008 Wall Street. \$27. Reservations: 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

"Parcheesi: Trouble for the Whole Family!" Game historian, museum curatorial assistant Wayne Saunders discusses this game hailing from India for 12 O'Clock Scholar program at San Diego Museum of Man on Monday, February 5. \$6. 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

"In the Gardens," Linda Luisi presents drawing and painting instruction, Tuesday, February 6, 10 a.m., at Quail Botanical Gardens (230 Quail Gardens Drive). Students learn landscape composition, depth, perspective, and color harmony, use their favorite media. \$50. Registration: 760-436-3036. (ENCINITAS)

"Designing with California-Friendly Plants" presented by landscape designer Jan Tubiolo, Tuesday, February 6, 6 p.m., at Cuyamaca College's Water Conservation Garden (12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West). Site analysis, measurement, plotting design, more. \$10. 619-660-0614. (EL CAJON)

Buddhist Nun Gen Kelsang Tubpa plans talk based on Geshe Kelsang Gyatso's *How to Solve Our Human Problems,* Tuesday, February 6, 7 p.m., Borders Books and Music (1072 Camino del Rio North). 619-692-3676. Free. (MISSION VALLEY)

Grey Matters Lecture Series continues when Laura Schreibman of UCSD's department of psychology addresses "The Science and Fiction of Autism: How to Tell the Difference," Wednesday, February 7, 6 p.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. Free. 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

Tour the Night Sky during "The Sky Tonight" planetarium show at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 7 p.m., Wednesday, February 7. View real sky through telescopes (weather permitting) after show. \$8.50 general. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

One Book, One San Diego, discussion of Sonia Nazario's book *Enrique's Journey: The Story of a Boy's Dangerous Odyssey to Reunite with His Mother* planned Thursday, February 8, 10 a.m., at Tierrasanta Library (4985 La Cuenta Drive). Free. 858-573-1384, 858-279-5505. (BALBOA PARK)

"John Q. Public and Citizen Jane: Private Americans in the Political Domain" explores relationship of individual American citizens to their government at federal and municipal levels, through photographs, videos, and multimedia installations. Exhibition in University Art Gallery at San Diego State University includes lectures by participating artists Luther Thie on Thursday, February 8, 4 p.m., in Art 412; and Paul Shambroom on Thursday, February 15, 4 p.m., in Art 412. Series concludes with artist Martha Rosler, Thursday, March 6, in Arts and Letters 201. Free. 619-594-5171. (SDSU)

"Word by Word," 12th annual Writer's Symposium by the Sea at Point Loma Nazarene University convenes February 21-23. "A Conversation with Anne Lamott" — author of Bird by Bird, Traveling Mercies, Operating Instructions - starts at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, February 21, in Crill Performance Hall (\$15). Weslevan scholars John Tyson, Tom Albin, Patrick Eby plan dinner and discussion of "Charles Wesley's Contribution to Our Spiritual Life," Thursday, February 22, 4-7 p.m., in Cunningham A/B (\$10).

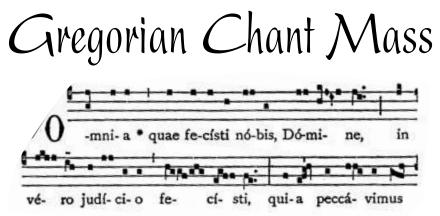
New York Metropolitan Opera bass-baritone Brad Garvin presents "A Concert of Wesley's Hymns" on February 22, 7:30 p.m., in Crill Performance Hall (\$15). Spend "An Afternoon with Eugene Peterson," author of *The Message Bible* and A Long Obedience in the Same Direction, Friday, February 23, 2 p.m., in Crill (\$15).

Find Point Loma Nazarene University at 3900 Lomaland Drive. 619-849-2997. (POINT LOMA)

IN PERSON

Jazz and Poetry Filtered Through G.F. Handel, the Beatles, and Thelonious Monk when Weathersfield Trio performs for Concert Hour series, Thursday, February 1, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-





Schola and congregational singing. Hymnals/missals provided with Latin-English pages.

Sunday, February 11, 4:00 pm

Pizza Social with singing by the Schola after Mass.

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10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. 760-744-1150 x2316. (SAN MARCOS)

Pomerado Saxophone Quartet plays Bach, Gershwin, swing and jazz favorites for First Thursday Concert in Escondido Library's Turrentine Room (239 South Kalmia Street) on February 1, 7 p.m. Free, 760-839-4329, (ESCONDIDO)

Conflicts of Religion with Science and democracy examined in local author Louis Perry's book Jefferson's Scissors. Perry visits Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue, 858-454-0347) to read from and sign books on Thursday, February 1, 7:30 p.m. Free. (LA JOLLA)

"DrumStrong," concert of traditional Japanese drums and West African djembe presented by San Diego Taiko and Sene Africa, Thursday, February 1, 7:30 p.m., at WorldBeat Center (2100 Park Boulevard). Tickets: \$8 in advance, \$10 at door, free for those under 12, 619-230-1190, (BALBOA PARK)

"Stars in Our Eyes" Talent Show hosted by La Jolla Rotary Club — boasting artists, musicians, dancers, singers and drama students from four La Jolla high schools — is Friday, February 2, 7 p.m., in Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD. Tickets: \$25 adults, \$10 students. 858-551-3226. (LA JOLLA)

Tenth Annual Theatre of the World Festival is presented at venues in Performing Arts Plaza at San Diego State University, Febru-

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ary 2 and 3. Twelve performances offered, including Sleeping Beauty by San Diego Opera Ensemble, dancing by Ho-Asogli, Stinky Cheese Man, Squawk (presented in English, Zulu), Wild Horses, workshops, book sale, art projects, "fringe festival."

Festival opens with performances on Friday at 7 p.m., continues 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets: \$6 individuals; all-day passes, \$20; family passes, \$50. 619-594-6884. (SDSU)

"All You Need Is Love." an "all-around Beatles program" is promised by Camarada for "Candlelight Concert," Friday, February 2, 7 p.m., at Botanica (2310-B Kettner Boulevard). \$50. 619-231-3702. (LITTLE ITALY)

Local Poet and Novelist Ali Liebegott reads from and signs her novel The IHOP Papers, described as "a coming-of-age story about a disgruntled IHOP waitress," Friday, February 2, 7:30 p.m., at Rubber Rose (3812 Ray Street). Donations accepted. 858-755-3115 x100. (NORTH PARK

Connections between Meals and "broad range of psychological, social, spiritual, health, and environmental problems" explored by Will Tuttle in The World Peace *Diet.* Tuttle discusses, signs books on Saturday, February 3, 2 p.m., at Kung Food (2949 Fifth Avenue). Free. 619-298-7302.

Tuttle plans appearance hosted by Last Chance for Animals and All Vegan, Tuesday, February 6, 6:30 p.m., in Coronado Room at San Diego County Health Building (3851 Rosecrans Street). Requested donation: \$3, 619-583-9522, (BANKERS HILL, SAN DIEGO)

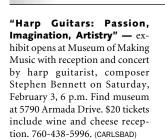
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<u>OUT & ABOUT</u>

MESMERIZING! Taiko drumming by Kodo, California Center for the Arts, Escondido,

(SEE IN PERSON)

Thursday, February 8.



2007 Darwin Birthday Concerts planned by Dr. Stephen Baird and the Opossums of Truth. Celebrate Darwin's birthday with concert on Saturday, February 3, 7:30 p.m., at First Unitarian Universalist Church (4190 Front Street). \$15 at the door. 619-298-9978.

Busy on Saturday? Enjoy "The Gospel According to Darwin" when Baird and company perform Tuesday, February 6, 7 p.m., at North Coast Repertory Theatre (987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, suite D). \$20 general. 858-481-1055.

"Darwin Birthday Concert at



UCSD," Saturday, February 10, 7:30 p.m., in Liebow Auditorium at UCSD School of Medicine (Gilman Drive), \$20, 858-481-0765. (HILLCREST, SOLANA BEACH, LA JOLLA)

Comedian Lamont Ferguson is recording his third comedy CD boasting "all-new material," Saturday, February 3, 8 p.m., at Carlsbad Village Theatre (2822 State Street). Ferguson has appeared with many top comics, has received many awards. Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at door. 760-960-0105. (CARLSBAD)

"Project CenterStage: A Teen Musical Theatre Competition" concludes with final round concert with 15 teen finalists, Saturday, February 3, 8 p.m., in David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). Host is Aaron Huniu; judges are Joey Landwehr, Hilari Scarl, Peter Kalivas, James Leo Ryan. \$20. 858-362-1348. (LA JOLLA)

Universe of Dreams, head to California Center for the Arts, Escondido for performance that "marries music to words in a way that is both compelling and beautiful in a concert of music inspired by pictures from the Hubble Space Telescope." Music is by Celtic/early music crossover group Ensemble Galilei; music provides backdrop for works by American poets, whose words are narrated by NPR's Neal Conan. Performance starts at 8 p.m. on Saturday, February 3, at 340 North Escondido Boulevard. Tickets: \$22-\$37. 760-839-4100. (ESCONDIDO

Gypsy Violin Works and "traditional favorites" promised when Roby Lakatos Ensemble performs for La Jolla Music Society, Saturday, February 3, 8 p.m., at Stephen and

Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2895 University Avenue). \$20-\$50. 858-459-3728. (NORTH PARK)

Poetry Readings planned at Poetry Bench — described as an "earthen bench built by women" - on first Sunday of the month, February 4, at noon. Free. Find bench at Quince Street and Sixth Avenue, near shuffleboard courts. 619-280-7071. (BALBOA PARK)

Zane Musa Quartet takes stage for winter jazz series on Sunday, February 4, 2 p.m., in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Free tickets issued at 1 p.m. at door. 760-602-2012. (LA COSTA)

Lillian Groag's Ladies of the Camellias, starring Rosina Reynolds and Susan Denaker, presented by Carlsbad Plavreaders, Monday, February 5, 7:30 p.m., in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane), \$5. 760-494-4699. (LA COSTA)

Poems, Stories, Fiddle Tunes Merge in performances by Ken Waldman, who takes stage in Arts 111 at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road) on Tuesday, February 6, noon. Free. 760-750-4366. (SAN MARCOS)

Poetry Unlimited Art and Music features JohnnieRenee N. Nelson, who has published five volumes of poetry, reading from her latest, Classic Kwanzaa Poems, and harpist Devora Susman, Wednesday, February 7, 5 p.m., at Florence Riford Library (7555 Draper Avenue). Open readings follow. Free. 858-552-1657. (LA JOLLA)

Spend "An Evening with Kenny Barron" when Jazz in the Park series continues on Wednesday,

Adopt a Russian Child

Please attend a free informational meeting Thursday, February 15, from 7-9 pm. (Ask about our Asian program.)



ADOPTION OPTIONS, INC. RSVP: 619-294-7772 Toll-free: 877-542-7772 www.adoption-options.org





February 7, 5:30 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. \$20. Reservations: 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK

"Celebrities on Stage," the Edwards Twins present their versions of Elton John, Barbra Streisand, Billy Joel, Bette Midler, Cher, others at Lyceum Theatre in Horton Plaza. Preview night is Wednesday, February 7, at 8 p.m. (all tickets half price). Performances begin at 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, February 8–10, with 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, February 11. Tickets: \$40 and \$50 on February 8; \$30-\$50 Friday-Sunday. 619-544-1000. (DOWNTOWN)

Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella is presented by Mira Mesa High School's performing arts department, February 8-17. Curtain rises at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 8; 2 p.m. on Saturday, February 10; and at 7 p.m. on Friday, February 9, and Thursday-Saturday, February 15-17. Find school at 10510 Reagan Road. \$8 general. 858-566-2262 x4401. (MIRA MESA)

"The Mystery of Mars" explored by astronaut and science mentor Sally Ride in her new book, which she'll read from and sign on Thursday, February 8, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

Don't Expect to See a Banjo when Livingston Taylor performs with his guitar and piano in concert for AcousticMusicSanDiego on Thursday, February 8, 7:30 p.m., at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650 Mansfield Street). \$20, \$25. 619-303-8176. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Guitarrones, Jaranas, Baja Sextos! Enjoy "An Acoustic Evening with Los Lobos" on Thursday, February 8, 8 p.m., in UCSD's Mandeville Auditorium. Expect classic Los Lobos tunes, material from new CD The Town and the City, traditional folkloric songs from Latin America. Tickets for this ArtPower concert are \$32, \$36, available at 858-534-TIXS. (LA JOLLA)

Mesmerizing! Taiko drumming by Kodo ensemble, Thursday, February 8, 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Performers dance, mime, play a variety of instruments, including massive o-daiko, a 900-pound decorated instrument carved from trunk of a single tree and played by two men. Tickets: \$41-\$56. 760-839-4100. (ESCONDIDO)

SPORTS

Super Run 2007, 26th annual Super Run with 10k run (7:30 a.m.) and 5k run/walk (7:35) are Saturday, February 3, at South Shores Park (located east of Sea World). 619-298-7400. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Ramona Express Ride, Sierra Club bicyclists head out for hilly 52-mile ride from Scripps Ranch to Poway, Highway 67 to Ramona, back via Pomerado Road on Sunday, February 4. Ride starts at 8:30 a.m. at Lake Miramar, Free. 760-479-0187. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

Backcountry Bicycling promised when Knickerbikers riders head out to Valley Center, Lilac, more on Sunday, February 4. The 80-miler starts at 8:45 a.m. at Doyle Park (8175 Regents Road). Free. 619-688-6536, (UNIVERSITY CITY)

STEFFIEN & MAR)

BIRCH NORTH PARK THEATRE

2007 USA Steinlager USA Sevens International Rugby Tournament promises competition between teams from 16 nations playing 44 matches, February 10 and 11, at Petco Park. Rugby Sevens games played on traditional-size field with only seven players per team. Matches begin at 10 a.m., with final matches beginning at 1 p.m. Tickets: \$35 general per day. 619-682-3407. (EAST VILLAGE)

"Nothing Like It Tour," Harlem Globetrotters play their brand of basketball at ipayOne Center on February 16 and 18. Games start at 7 p.m. on Friday, 4 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: \$16-\$135, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (SPORTS ARENA)

"WWE Smackdown" hits ipay-One Center on Tuesday, February 20, 6:45 p.m. Competitors include King Booker, Chris Benoit, Lashley, others. Tickets: \$21-\$51. 619-224-4171. (SPORTS ARENA)

SPECIAL

"Hidden San Diego" by native San Diego painter Monique Straub is on view Saturday, January 27-Friday, March 9, at Mission Trails Regional Park Art Gallery (One Father Junípero Serra Trail), 619-668-3280, (SAN CARLOS)

41st Annual Local Authors' Exhibit continues through February at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). 619-236-5847. (DOWNTOWN)

February Is Museum Month! Half-price admission offered at 30 area museums. Museum month passes are

free at all county Macy's stores. 619-276-0101. (SAN DIEGO COUNTY)

"The Black Cowboy: Real to Reel," exhibit "celebrates real stories of black cowboys of the Old West and celebrates the fascinating silent cowboy movies and early talkie cowboy musicals that featured an all-black cast." Catch exhibition through February in UCSD's Geisel Library (lower level, west wing). 858-534-8074. Free. (LA JOLLA)

Who Should Decide What's Taught in public schools? Bring your opinion to Other Side Coffee House (4096 30th Street) for discussion, Thursday, February 1, 7 p.m. Free, 619-421-1879, (NORTH PARK)

Best of TNT, art-making activities, artist's talks, "multimedia interventions," live music by Grand Ole Party and Aspects of Physics enjoy it all during Thursday Night Thing on Thursday, February 1, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (1001 Kettner





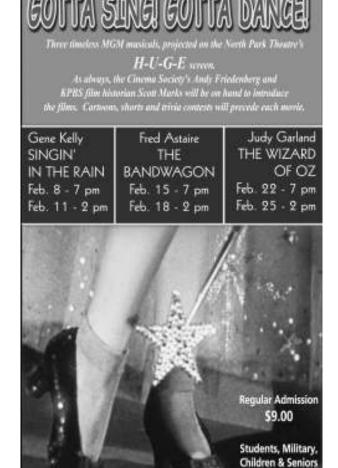
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Model Search

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Saturday, February 3 • 11:30 am & 1:30 pm Walk-ins welcome, appointments recommended.

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Boulevard). Donation: 858-454-3541. (DOWNTOWN)

58th Annual Jamboree by the Sea Square and Round Dance Festival hosted by Palomar Square-Dance Association is slated for February 2-4 at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Featured callers: Wade Driver, Mike Seastrom, Phil Farmer, Dennis Young; featured cuers: Wayne and Barbara Blackford, Neil and Lee Booth.

Hours: 6-11 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday. Fees depend upon day. 858-486-1691. (DEL MAR)

"Art Fusion," tattoo artists Rob Benavides, Bill Canales, Jackie Dunn, Al Avila, Sergio Hernandez will "collaborate live on five new art pieces to be raffled at the end of the night" on Friday, February 2, 9 p.m.-midnight, at Flying Panther Tattoos and Gallery (2323 Broadway, suite 101). Free, 619-238-5713. (GOLDEN HILL)

"Scrabble-Thon" Time! Fundraiser for Escondido Literacy Services is slated for Saturday, February 3, 9 a.m., at Emmanuel Faith Community Church (639 East Felicita Avenue). Registration for tournament for adult and high school players: 8 a.m. Fee: \$100 per team, \$30 for individuals. Author/columnist Richard Lederer opens competition. 760-747-2233. (ESCONDIDO)

Tight Hamstrings? Yoga instructor Jaruska Solyova leads



<u>OUT & ABOUT</u>

GUITARRONES, JARANAS baja sextos! Los Lobos, Thursday, February 8, UCSD's Mandeville Auditorium.

(SEE IN PERSON)



class for all levels of participants, Saturday, February 3, 10 a.m., at La Jolla Cove Bridge Club (1160 Coast Boulevard). \$25. 858-456-9964. (LA JOLLA)

Wine and Dine Through Historic Downtown with local food/wine writer and native historian Steve Dryden during tour on Saturday, February 3, noon-3 p.m., beginning at San Diego Wine and Culinary Center (200 Harbor Drive, suite



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120). Explore a new winery, brewery, local chocolates, more during leisurely three-mile walk over level terrain. \$49. Reservations: 619-300-4976. (DOWNTOWN)

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)

"On the Soul" by Aristotle comes up for consideration when Great Books Reading and Discussion Group gathers Saturday, February 3, 2 p.m., in third-floor conference room of San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Newcomers welcome. Free. 619-440-5625. (DOWNTOWN)

Celebrate the Year of the Pig with events hosted by Chinese Community Church (4998 Via Valarta). Faith discussion and firepot cooking lesson offered Saturday, February 3, 5 p.m. \$15 fee includes recipes, firepot food preparation lesson followed by

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firepot dinner. Registration: 858-578-1282.

Church hosts festivities on Chinese New Year Day, Sunday, February 18, 5:30 p.m. Organizers promise prancing lion dancers, nine-course banquet, auction. Tickets: \$35, \$100. Reservations: 858-874-4888. (TIERRASANTA)

Texas Hold 'em Poker tourna-

ment hosted by Men's Club at Temple Adat Shalom (15905 Pomerado Road), Saturday, February 3, 5 p.m. Richard Lederer, whose children Howard Lederer and Annie Duke have won major poker tournaments and attribute their success to playing card games with the family, will give a "lesson before the tournament" and divulge "how a championship poker player thinks." Tournament buy-in: \$75; fun-play buy-in: \$20. Registration: 858-693-7556, 858-451-6806. (POWAY)

"Letters to the Editor Awards Night" hosted by North County Forum, Saturday, February 3. Expect to "celebrate the best and worst of about 7000 letters printed in North County Times in 2006.' Six voice actors will read "best and

most powerful letters" to "entertain, educate, move the audience." Social at 6 p.m., program at 7 p.m. \$25. Required reservations: 760-758-2410, (VISTA)

Living History in San Pasqual,

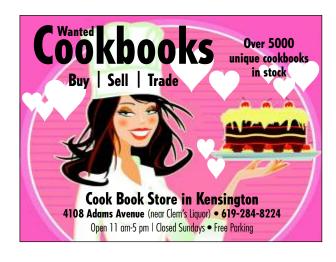
cannon-firing drills, demonstrations of crafts and skills from the 1800s, history lectures, entertainment, volunteers in period attire, and authentic food for sale during San Pasqual History Days, Sunday, February 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park (15808 San Pasqual Valley Road). Free. 760-737-2201. (ESCONDIDO)

Craft Club gathers at Japanese Friendship Garden to create unique items for sale in garden's gift shop, Monday, Februarv 5. 10 a.m. \$5. Reservations: 619-232-2721. (BALBOA PARK)

Eleventh Annual San Diego Bird Festival — celebration of birds making homes in San Diego County hosted by San Diego Audubon Society runs February 7-12. Keynote speaker is wildlife photographer and birder Kevin Karlson. Field trips, classes, workshops, vendor product displays at Marina Village Conference Center (1936 Quivira Way, Pacific Beach). Fees, reservations: 760-212-3543. (SAN DIEGO COUNTY)

"Reconceptualizing Blackness," Black History Month book discussions planned at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Lorraine Hansberry's play A Raisin in the Sun is up for discussion on Wednesday, February 7, 6:30 p.m. Free. 619-236-5816. Focus on Douglas Turner Ward's Day of Absence on February 21. (DOWNTOWN)

Volunteer on "USS Midway" after community forum on volunteer opportunities, Thursday, February 8, 6:30 p.m., at Martin Luther King Jr. Community Cen-





San Diego www.THEEDWARDSTWINS.com 8

OUT & ABOUT

A DISNEYLAND ADVENTURE hits ipayOne Center, Thursday–Sunday, February1–4.

(SEE FOR KIDS)

ter, Bayview Baptist Church (6134 Benson Avenue). No experience required; training provided for all volunteers. No "military experience necessary; women and civilians are encouraged to apply." Exhibits interpret historical and educational aspects of naval aviation, rise of carrier power. Free. 619-398 8222. (ENCANTO)

Is There Still Poverty in America, and if so, why? Bring your opinion to Other Side Coffee House (4096 30th Street) on Thursday, February 8, 7 p.m. Free. 619-421-1879. (NORTH PARK)

Witness the Gray Whale Migration during outings hosted by Birch Aquarium and San Diego Harbor Excursions daily through April 1. Scripps naturalists and assistants are on hand during cruises to search for whales, on their way to lagoons in Baja California to calve. Fee: \$27 weekdays, \$30 weekends for adults, \$15 for those 4–12. Registration: 619-234-4111.

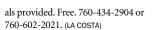
FOR KIDS

An Old Man and a Pelican lead *Pacific Tales* adventure when Old Fashioned Kite Flying Puppeteers perform at Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater through Sunday, February 4. Comic ventriloquist Lynn Trimble presents *The Valentine Show*, February 7–11. Showtimes: 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednes-day–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)

"A Disneyland Adventure" hits ipayOne Center for performances through February 4. This Disney on Ice production hosted by Mickey and Minnie Mouse considers what happens when the Incredibles take a family vacation at Disneyland.

Shows begin at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday; at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Friday; at 11 a.m., 3:30, and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday; and at 11 a.m., 3:30 p.m. (in Spanish), and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: \$15.50-\$51.50, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (SPORTS ARENA)

Tour the "2007 Juried Biennial Exhibition" and then take part in art project related to the exhibit during family open studio event on Saturday, February 3, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., in courtyard at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Art-making workshops for all ages. Materi-



Make a Masterpiece "featuring images of life above and below the ocean" during family day activities on Sunday, February 4, 11 a.m.–4 p.m., at Maritime Museum. Activity encourages children to be creative, learn about ocean. Cruise on San Diego Bay aboard *Pilot* boat is included with admission. Adults pay regular admission; children must be accompanied by adult to enter for free. Find museum at 1306 North Harbor Drive, along Embarcadero. 619-234-9153 x101. (DOWNTOWN)

"Sensory Overload," use your senses to explore artist Ernest Neto's "forest of spices" and then use Neto's work as an inspiration to create your own work of art during family day events on Sunday, February 4, 2 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (1100 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard). Artists Michael Soriano and Matt Devine lead families in workshop. Included in regular museum admission (\$6 general). 858-454-3541. (DOWNTOWN)

MUSEUMS

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

Barona Cultural Center and Museum is located at 1095 Barona Road; 619-443-7003 x2. (LAKESIDE)

California Surf Museum, "The Surfer-Shapers," on exhibit through 2006, showcases several surfers whose conceptual abilities and crafting talent radically altered surfboard design. The search has always been for lighter, faster, more maneuverable boards, from Duke Kahanamoku in early 1900s to Tom Blake in 1920s to Simon Anderson in early 1980s.

The museum features surfing artifacts and memorabilia — such as surfboards and clothing — of local legends Phil Edwards, John "L.J." Richards, and Peter Johnson, and Duke Kahanamoku. The museum is located at 223 North



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Reading

Lost City Radio



By Daniel Alarcón Harper Collins, 2007, 272 pages, \$24.95

ABOUT THE BOOK:

A nameless, timeless South American country slowly emerges from a war everyone would prefer to forget. For ten years, Norma has been the voice of consolation for a people broken by violence, while hiding her own personal loss: her husband disappeared at the end of the war. Norma's radio program is the most popular in the country, and every week the Indians in the mountains

and poor of the barrios listen as she reads the names of those who have gone missing, those whom the furiously expanding city has swallowed. Loved ones are reunited, and the lost are found.

But the life she has become accustomed to is forever changed when a young boy arrives from the jungle and provides a clue to the fate of her long-missing husband.

WHAT THE REVIEWERS SAY: Kirkus Review: "A jarring and deeply imagined novel that feels at once anonymous and very familiar.... Alarcón has mapped a whole nation and given its wartorn history real depth - an impressive feat."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Daniel Alarcón's fiction and nonfiction have been published in The New Yorker, Harper's, Virginia Quarterly Review, Salon, Eyeshot,

and elsewhere, and anthologized in Best American Non-Required Reading 2004 and 2005. He is Associate Editor of Etiqueta Negra, an award-winning monthly magazine based in his native Lima, Peru. A former Fulbright Scholar to Peru and the recipient of a Whiting Award for 2004, he lives in Oakland, California, where he is the Distinguished Visiting Writer at Mills College. His story collection. War by Candleliaht. was a finalist for the 2006 PEN/Hemingway Foundation Award.

A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR:

When I spoke with Daniel Alarcón in Oakland, he had just returned from the East Coast

where he had assisted in editing an issue of the Virginia Quarterly Review. His voice was a bit raspy from an evening of karaoke with friends prior to coming home.

"I understand you were born in Lima, but you grew up in the States. How did that happen?"

'My parents are physicians. They came originally to the United States to Johns Hopkins. Both of my sisters were born during the five or six years they were in Baltimore, then they went back to Peru from '73 to '80. I was born there.

"One of my dad's classmates ended up in Birmingham, Alabama, of all places. For four vears he bugged my dad to come and we finally decided to move there when I was three years old. So, my first real memories are of Birmingham.

"We were fortunate enough to be able to travel back to Peru every other year. To my chagrin, I even had to go to school in Peru when we visited. Summer in the States is winter down there. I was one of the pioneers of yearround schooling."

"Were you there during the time of the Shining Path?"

'Yes. I remember doing homework with my cousin by candlelight and making jokes about the next blackout and not really knowing what the hell it was about. It was like being away at summer camp. I knew too little to be scared.

"If you're in the United States and things are going very well for you, there's a certain kind of nostalgia that colors everything."

Coast Highway; 760-721-6876. (OCEANSIDE)

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

Visitors meet a shuttle bus at

WANTED - HIT & RUN

\$2,500 reward for information leading to the conviction of two males who ran into a white van 9:00 pm Friday 1/26/07 at Dog Beach in Ocean Beach (hit and run). During their getaway they hit a dog escaping.

Their car is a maroon/burgundy late-model GM/Chevy FULL-SIZE PICKUP TRUCK with damage to the right front with white paint exchange.

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Please help us get this guy off the road.

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

Coronado Museum of History and Art, "Marilyn Monroe at 80: Some Still Like It Hot!" continues through Wednesday, February 28. Exhibit includes 64 photographs, some of which have never been shown for general public, as well

as images shot by George Barris in weeks leading up to Monroe's death, such as last photograph ever taken of her entitled The Warm Up.

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

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

Gaslamp Museum of Historic San Diego, glimpse San Diego's colorful past at the museum,

Coronado School of the Arts OPEN HOUSE

Feb. 8 from 6:30-8:30 pm

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where displays highlight Wyatt Earp's San Diego days, the Peg Leg Gold Legend, the first maps and photographs of Old Town and "New Town," early military history, the naval disaster in 1923 at Point Honda, and more. Find the museum at 413 Market Street (between Fourth and Fifth Avenues). 619-237-1492. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

Heritage of the Americas Museum, more than 100 Chinese jades of the Late Neolithic (4300-2500 B.C.) through the Ming periods (A.D. 1368–1644) are included in "The Stone of Heaven: The Enduring Art of Jade Age China." From ancient times, iades in China were treasured as talismans, worn on the body either as final adornments in death or as ornaments in life. See a rare and valuable jade burial suit of the Han dynasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 221), one of only about two dozen that have been excavated in China. The suits were made of more than 2000 square and rectangular plates of jade sewn together with threads of gold, silver, or bronze (depending upon the status of the wearer). Ongoing.

The museum features art and artifacts from South and North America, concentrating on the utilitarian and decorative artistry of crafts workers from ancient cultures. The museum also features wings dedicated to natural history, archaeology, education, anthropology, and

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8

"Disney on Ice"

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The Roots Feb. 12

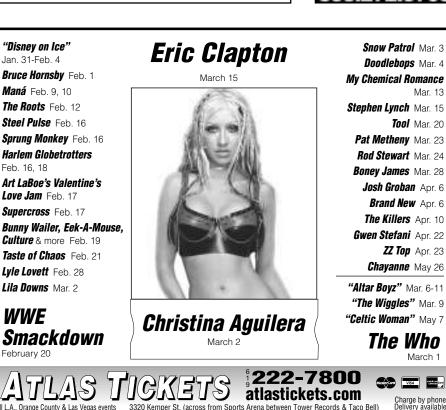
Steel Pulse Feb. 16

Harlem Globetrotters

Feb 16 18

Bruce Hornsby Feb. 1

Jan. 31-Feb. 4





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"There's something that happens with societies in the midst of conflict. There's obviously a lot of trauma, but there's also a lot of really dark black humor. It was my summer camp. The grades didn't matter. I was the star of the English class. I played soccer a lot and I tried to stay out of trouble.

"In terms of knowing what was going on, I certainly didn't until much later when I became a student of the conflict and tried to understand how these things had happened in Peru."

Where did the idea for this book begin and how did it develop?'

"If I didn't know how bad the war was, I think that my parents didn't either. I think there's something that happens with immigrants. If you're in the United States and things are going very well for you, there's a certain kind of nostalgia that colors every-

fine art. Find the museum on the

Cuyamaca College campus, 12110

Cuyamaca College Drive West.

Heritage Walk Museum, the

museum includes the restored Vic-

torian House, the city's original

Santa Fe Train Depot, a railroad car

with model train, working black-

smith shop, and a barn. Find Her-

itage Walk in Grape Dav Park, at

321 North Broadway; 760-743-

John DeWitt Historic Museum

and Library, operated by the

Alpine Historical Society, it is lo-

cated in the 1897 home/office of Dr.

Sophronia Nichols. She was the first

doctor in Alpine and the first fe-

male doctor in the East County. In-

dian artifacts from the Kingerv

family on exhibit. The museum is located at 2116 Tavern Road;

619-659-8740. (ALPINE)

8207. (ESCONDIDO)

619-670-5194. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

thing. You remember about your country the kindness of your family, the food and the music, and the places where you used to walk. The bad news that you get somehow doesn't filter in.

"In 1989, my father's brother, who was a union leader and allied with the radical left, disappeared. That's the point at which whatever illusions my family might have had about what was happening in Peru ended. My father went back to Lima, and it became a family obsession - first his obsession and then mine. In 1999, when I went back, I started asking around to try to figure out who knew what became of him. "The novel is not a factual

re-creation of his story at all. In spirit, what I wanted to write was about his generation. They were people seduced by an idea who made compromises with themselves. They allowed themselves to participate in something and to tell themselves that they actually weren't. "There's a dishonesty to

the character Rey that is tragic to me. It's self-deceit. He allowed himself to participate in a violent struggle for power, but he pretends that it isn't - that it's a game or something.

"In the case of my family, what I found was that a lot of people were still being very dishonest about what had happened and why it had happened. At that point, I was still young enough to be outraged. I look at it a little differently now. Especially when politics are involved, people of all stripes can justify a lot of dishonesty for ideological or tactical reasons. The unfortunate thing. of course, is that there are other people in the middle of that." "Were you ever able to

find out what happened to your uncle?"

"Yes, I found out. It's not dis-

book, in a way. The facts are different. I dedicated the novel to him. because his disappearance was a huge turning point in my life. There was a relationship that I had with Peru before my uncle Javier disappeared and a relationship that I had after." As I was reading the

similar to Rey's trajectory in the

novel I found myself looking forward to encountering Zahir, an interesting and compelling character. Where did he come from?"

"I know what you're saying. I also grew to really feel a lot of affection for him. He's basically a pawn in a very large game and accepts his part in the grand tragedy. He has more honesty about it than Rey, who is more educated and has more access he's from the city and is not, like Zahir, a poor man in a poor isolated part of a poor country. I respected him.

Ramona Pioneer Historical So-

ciety and Guy B. Woodward

"The real solution to terrorism is intense police work – critical, nuanced, diligent, tedious police work."

"The war in Peru that took 70,000 lives doesn't happen without people like Zahir. He's not based on anyone in particular so much as he's based on an entire class of people. Perhaps his version of things has more integrity than a lot of others." "Is the practice of *tadek* that you describe in the book

based on something in reality, or is it from your imagination?"

San Diego Aerospace Museum, the technological advancements made in aircraft propulsion over the last century are showcased in "100 Years of Aircraft Engines," including a functional reproduction of the 1903 Wright Flyer Engine; a Rolls-Royce liquid-cooled Merlin V-12 that powered the Spitfire and P-51 Mustang fighters; and a rare German Junkers Jumo 004, one of the world's first operational jet engines.

Concurrently, see "The History of Commercial Aviation in America." A new section of the exhibit celebrates the 40-year history of PSA, with original graphics, a re-creation of the airline's first ticket booth at Lindbergh Field, and uniforms and memorabilia donated by former employees. Ongoing.

"P-51 Mustang" celebrates the

"I was thinking a lot, at the time, about wartime justice. It happens in every state that deals with terrorism. The real solution to terrorism is intense police work - critical, nuanced, diligent, tedious police work, you know. The kind of brutal, clumsy, repressive, awkward response where you say, 'Just throw them all in jail and we'll sort it out later,' is certainly something that (continued on page 84)

during both World War II and Korea. The museum's Mustang is painted in the red-tail livery of the Tuskegee Airmen, who distinguished themselves flying bomber escort and ground attack missions during World War II.

The museum offers exhibits of over 65 aircraft — including an RQ-1K Predator UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) on indefinite loan from the National Museum of the United States Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, which "saw action over the Balkans in the late 1990s"; a replica of Spirit of St. Louis, a Fokker Scourge (or Fokker Eindecker E-III), a World War I Spad VII, flight deck of the USS Yorktown, and a Lockheed Blackbird spy plane - 1400 scale models, 10,000 aviation-related

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

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

Museum of Making Music, "Harp Guitars: Passion, Imagination, Artistry," showcases "over 30 extremely rare, historic, and contemporary instruments representing the creative genius of European and American guitar building tradition from the early 1800s through today." Exhibition explores how human capacity for invention led to creation of harp guitar. Closes Monday, July 30. "Howe-Orme: Forgotten Voices Remembered" is exhibit of rare and

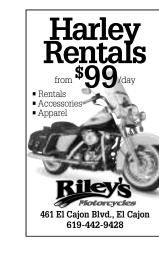
historic mandolins, mandolas, and guitars manufactured by Elias Howe Company of Boston over 100 years ago. Howe-Orme were awarded a series of patents for "the uniqueness of their functional design features and style." Through April.

The past 100 years of American music and music making are highlighted at the museum, with over 450 vintage instruments, hundreds of audio and video clips, and an interactive stage. Find the museum at 5790 Armada Drive; 760-438-5996. (CARLSBAD)

Museum is a complex of historical buildings, including the Verlaque House (the only Western adobe home of French provincial design still in existence), wagons, antique exhibits, and artifacts. There is a cowboy bunk house, women's clothing and accessories from 1700 to 1800, a ranch blacksmith shop and tack room. The Casey Tibbs Memorial Exhibit is dedicated to Tibbs, a local resident who was a world-champion rodeo rider. The Bancroft Memorial Rose Garden is on the grounds. Rare documents, historical exhibits, books, photographs, and a research library are also part of the complex.

Find it all at 645 Main Street. 760-789-7644. (RAMONA)

Named "BEST" in SD Magazine









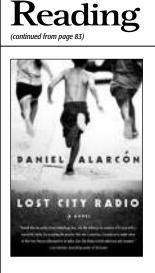






San Diego Reader February 1, 2007 8

legendary Air Force fighter used



happened in Peru. I wanted to throw out in the open how arbitrary wartime justice can be. "I was reading a book about

Haile Selassie, and it described a traditional Ethiopian system of

items, and memorabilia from Montgolfier hot-air-balloon era to Space Age, along with an International Aerospace Hall of Fame.

The museum is located in the Ford Building in the Palisades area. 619-234-8291, (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego County Sheriff's Museum, the 150-year history of the sheriff's department is highlighted at the museum, which is located "just feet away" from the original cobblestone jail site, built in 1850. The museum boasts artifacts, photographs, equipment,

justice that I ended up modeling tadek on. It's not something that existed in Peru. But, in the same way that this country that I describe in my book is not Peru, but an amalgamation of many countries and many situations and many wars, I drew freely from all kinds of sources.

"I specifically didn't want it to be Peru because I didn't want to be tied to the details of the war. I wasn't trying to write a history. There are so many ways that I think Peru is emblematic of a lot of things that are happening.

"When you talk to groups about Peru, or even in introducing the subject matter of vour book, what can you count on Americans bringing to the table in terms of background knowledge about Peruvian culture, history, and politics?"

'There's a lot you have to fill in. I think only specialists know

uniforms, and vehicles, along with

exhibits from each of the depart-

ments making up the organization

such as crime scene, K-9, court ser-

vice, detentions, crime lab, bomb

squad, and many others. Find the

museum at 2384 San Diego Av-

San Diego Electric Railway

Association, located in historic

National City Santa Fe Depot

(922 West 23rd Street), offers ex-

hibits, video displays, trolley

equipment, restored passenger car

enue; 619-260-1850, (OLD TOWN)

about the war and the political, economic, and racial background that led to the war. It's probably not even fair to ask your average American to keep all of the conflicts in the global south straight. People in the House Armed Services Committee can't even tell the difference between Shiites and Sunnis, you know.

"It's a lot to ask the average American to remember anything beyond the name, Shining Path, which is a wonderfully terrifying name that they came up with. I think Americans know about Machu Picchu and, in certain large cities, they know about ceviche and Peruvian cuisine, and that's the extent of it.

"When I talk about the war or try to place this novel in context, I try not to bring it down to a history lesson. I talk about a country divided by class, divided by race, divided by geography, where conflicts become ripe and

from National City and Otay Railroad. 619-474-4400. (NATIONAL CITY)

San Diego Model Railroad Museum, the museum celebrates American railroads with "the largest permanent operating model railroad and toy train exhibit" in North America. Four scale-model railroads of the Southwest, the "San Diego County Relief Map" exhibit, and an interactive toy train. There is a multimedia presentation on railroading, an operating railroad semaphore signal, and interpretive displays on railroads and model railroading. The museum is downstairs in the Casa de Balboa building. 619-696-0199. (BALBOA PARK)

become bloody on a generational cycle. "Last week in the Lon-

don Guardian you were identified as part of the 'literary renaissance' in Peru. What is happening there?"

"I think there's something happening, but I also think there is the realization that there's something happening. A lot of the commentary has revolved around the notion that Peruvians are finally starting to write about their war. That's not accurate.

"There have been writers dealing with the war for years. What is actually happening is that mainstream, middle-class writers from Lima are starting to write about the war. By the time the war got to Lima, it was so bad in the countryside. The inconvenience of a power outage was nothing at all compared to what was happening in the Andes. The Shining Path would come in and

San Diego Natural History

Museum, "Playing with Time,"

opening on Saturday, February 3,

"invites visitors to experiment with

high-speed photography, time-lapse

videos, natural records of change

like eroded rocks and lake cores,

and other time-shifting techniques.'

Exhibition - including Time Tools

Lab, investigation areas, "The Re-

flectory" - closes Sunday, April 29.

manent exhibit, showcases last 75

million years in Southern Califor-

nia and Baja California region, a

time known for its rich fossil record.

Highlights include life-size models

of Albertosaurus, Lambeosaurus, a

sea cow, megalodon shark, more.

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SINGLES

"Visions of the Natural World

"Fossil Mysteries," a new per-

"I wasn't trying to write

a history."

demand food and support, and if the people didn't give it to them, they'd kill them. Then the army would come in two days later and say, 'You supported Shining Path,' and they'd kill everyone that was left. The kind of literary trend that people are talking about is simply Lima finally realizing what the hell happened. "On the other hand, there

is more publication happening, which has to do with the relative stability of the Peruvian economy. There is more money left over for the arts. The magazine which I am so thrilled to be a part of, Etiqueta Negra, has not

through the Lens of the Masters," continuing through Sunday, March 11, is collaborative effort between museum and Ordover Gallery, with variety of nature-based photography. Also on view and for sale: sculpture and glass.

Winning images from Olympus BioScapes Photo Competition are on view through Monday, March 5. Olympus hosts competition to honor finest life-science still images and movies as captured through light microscopes

"Earth, Wind, and Wildfire!" continues through April, exploring powerful forces (such as fire, nature, people) shaping the landscape of Southern California. The exhibit is "designed to raise awareness of the history and inevitability of fire in Southern California's arid and diverse wildlands."

Current "giant-screen films" are An Inconvenient Truth (through April) and Ocean Oasis. 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

San Dieguito Heritage Museum, the museum offers informative displays on the North County coastal history including Native Americans, early homesteaders, and recent times, as well as photographic collections and archives. Find the museum 561 South Vulcan Avenue: 760-632-9711. (ENCINITAS)

Serra Museum, "Commemorating 75 Years: The Serra Museum" is said to "remember the events leading up to the dedication of Presidio Park and the Serra Museum" on July 16,

San Diego

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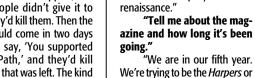
*Must present coupon for discount.

Dance Party 8 pm-1 am \$11 Admission

Dance 7-11 pm

\$11 Admission

Hottest Singles in



"We are in our fifth year. We're trying to be the Harpers or The New Yorker of South America. We focus mainly on nonfiction. We commission three or four articles a month on different topics and translate writers that wouldn't otherwise be published in Latin America. A lot of the writers who have passed through our pages are part of the movement people are talking about." - Jerry Miller

been a small player in this

1929. The exhibit includes a "visit back in time to 1929."

The museum interprets the Native American, Spanish, and Mexican periods of San Diego's history and contains Spanish Colonial furnishings, art, and artifacts. It's located at the site of the West Coast's first European settlement, 2727 Presidio Drive. 619-297-3258. (OLD TOWN)

Birch Aquarium at Scripps, an aquarium and museum under one roof, the facility is a component of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD. Look for 33 tanks containing marine life of the Pacific Northwest, the California coastline, Mexico's Sea of Cortés, and the South Pacific. One highlight is the La Jolla Kelp Tank, a two-storyhigh tank with giant kelp plants and nearly 30 species of local marine life. "Sea of Genes" offers visit "to the genomic frontier"; "Earthquake! Life on a Restless Planet" explores earthquakes and their impacts on life. "Wonders of Water" waterplay area includes three interactive stations. The Lynne and Howard Robbins Shark Reef Exhibit features a 13,000-gallon shark tank with black tip, white tip, nurse, and wobbegong sharks.

The aquarium is located at 2300 Expedition Way (off North Torrey Pines Road, south of La Jolla Shores Drive). 619-534-FISH. (LA JOLLA)

The San Diego Aircraft Carrier Museum onboard the decommissioned USS Midway is open for tours, now berthed at 910 North Harbor Drive. Exhibits include Navy jet simulators, carrier and flight deck touring, captain's sea cabin, pilot house, navigation bridge. Admission fee includes audio guide. 619-544-9600. (DOWNTOWN)

Wells Fargo History Museum,

the museum features a working agents' office staffed by guides in period costumes and contains a working telegraph for visitors to send and receive messages. Short films on California and Wells Fargo history; a gold display, part of the collection assembled by Wells Fargo agent Samuel Dorsey at the end of the 1800s; an exhibit of Concord Coach #251, a restored stagecoach built in 1867; and the Davies watch. The museum is located in the reconstructed Colorado House, at 2733 San Diego Avenue. (OLD TOWN)

SINGLES



Kitchen

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San Diego *Reader* February 1, 2007



CLASSICAL LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after Februarv 8.

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.

CLASSICAL

Jazz and Poetry Filtered Through Handel, the Beatles, and Thelonious Monk when Nancy Turetsky (flute), Lori Kirkel (cello), and Bert Turetsky (contrabass) perform for Concert Hour series, Thursday, February 1, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. 760-744-1150 x2316. (SAN MARCOS)

"All You Need Is Love," an "all-around Beatles program" is promised by Camarada for "Candlelight Concert," Friday, February 2, 7 p.m., at Botanica (2310-B Kettner Boulevard). \$50. 619-231-3702. (LITTLE ITALY)

"Three Weddings and a Funeral," medieval weddings were lavish affairs with nuptial masses, love songs, rousing dances; leading composers such as Du Fay, Binchois, Ockeghem wrote special compositions for marriages linking aristocratic families. Vocal ensemble Tapestry recreates festivities of one French and two Italian weddings. performs funeral music written in

F

Fd

Ε

honor of Gilles Binchois for San Diego Early Music Society, Friday, February 2, 8 p.m., at St. James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church (743 Prospect Street), \$20, Reservations: 619-291-8246. (LA JOLLA)

Harp Fusion — ensemble of 12 graduate student harpists from University of Arizona — plans concert of classical, religious, and romantic music, Saturday, February 3, 7:30 p.m., St. Mark's United Methodist Church (3502 Clairemont Drive). Offering. 858-273-1480. (CLAIREMONT)

Gypsy Violin Works and "traditional favorites" promised when Roby Lakatos Ensemble performs for La Jolla Music Society, Saturday, February 3, 8 p.m., at Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2895 University Avenue). \$20-\$50. 858-459-3728. (NORTH PARK)

Shostakovich's "Symphony No. 9" may be heard when San Diego Symphony and conductor David Lockington are joined by guest artist Valentin Martchev (bassoon) for "Jacobs' Masterworks" concerts February 3, 9, and 11. Program includes Haydn's "Symphony No. 85 (La reine)," "Five Sacred Trees" by Williams. Concerts begin at 8 p.m. on Saturday and Friday, 2 p.m. on Sunday, at Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). \$20-\$85. Reservations: 619-235-0804. (ESCONDIDO)

Civic Organist Carol Williams performs in Spreckels Organ Pavilion on Sunday, February 4, 2 p.m. 619-702-8138. Free. (BALBOA PARK)

Piano Music for Four Hands by Rachmaninoff, Debussy, Robert Russell, and Gershwin performed by Ron Morebello and Marion Rodewald for winter/spring concert series at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street), Sunday, February 4, 2:30 p.m. Free. 619-236-5810. (DOWNTOWN)

"Baroque Splendor," chamber music ensemble Camarada celebrates the baroque with "one of Bach's greatest concerti," the "D Minor," in concert on Sunday, February 4, 6 p.m., at Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive). Also on tap: Bach's "Suite No. 3 in C Major," selections by Vivaldi, Couperin, Telemann. \$25. 619-231-3702. (LA JOLLA)

Pianist Ian Tordella performs for mini-concert at noon on Monday, February 5, in Lyceum Theatre at Horton Plaza. Bring lunch! Free. 858-454-5872, (DOWNTOWN)

ART LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after February 8.

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

GALLERIES

Artist Josef-Peter Romer plans exhibition of paintings at Brandon Gallery to complete master of fine arts degree from Warmborough University in Ireland. Exhibit opens with reception on Saturday, February 3, 3 p.m., continues through month. Find gallery at 105 North Main Street, 760-723-1330. (FALLBROOK

"Resurrection" Group Art Show opens with reception on Saturday, February 3, 7 p.m., at Zedism Gallery (3540 Adams Avenue). Show continues through February. 619-283-1210. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

ART MUSEUMS

Mingei International Museum, "Eva Zeisel - Extraordinary Designer Craftsman at 100," draws on two large private California collections to chronicle the artist's 75-year career. By Zeisel's accounting, she's designed more than

100,000 objects for home and table. She was the first designer in this country to produce an all-white dinner service and first to teach ceramics as industrial design for mass production rather than as handcraft. Closes Sunday, June 10.

"Of Gold and Grass — 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 22.

The first university furniture design class in California was offered in 1948 by SDSU professor John Dirks, whose "elegant architectural sculptures combine various woods and acrylic." The retrospective "John Dirks, Sculptor" continues through Sunday, February 11. The Mingei is located on

square with San Diego Museum of Art. 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, "Modern American Masters," in Iacobs Building, runs through Wednesday, February 14, Exhibit features major modernist paintings by Frank Stella, Andy Warhol, Barnett Newman, Clyfford Still, and Hans Hoffmann.

Brazilian artist Ernesto Neto exhibits his largest and most intricate installation to date, on view through Sunday, May 27. Finnish video artist Eija-Liisa Ahtila presents The Hour of Prayer, a short tale about attachment and death based on the artist's own life. The material is split into four parts, story has been edited to unfold on four screens. Through Sunday, May 27.

Richard Wright, an artist from Glasgow, Scotland, created two site-specific works in Strauss Gallery of the Jacobs Building during his August and September 2006 residency at MCASD. They're on view through Sunday, September 23.

"Cerca Series: Amy Adler" and "Cerca Series: Glenn Kaino" continue through Sunday, February 4. Adler creates art fusing processes and outcomes of photography and drawing; she's exhibiting 12 largeformat pastel drawings on canvas "based on a series of photographs Adler took of a young filmmaker directing Adler as the protagonist in her film." Kaino will create installations dealing with issues of individual versus group identity and aesthetic style as a form of social commentary.

Find the museum at 1001 and 1100 Kettner Boulevard (at Broadway), directly across from the Santa Fe Railroad Depot. 858-454-3541. (DOWNTOWN)

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. "Brian Ulrich: Copia" features

14 large-scale photographs documenting shopping habits of Americans. Photographs were taken in "big-box" retail stores such as Target, Wal-Mart using medium-format film camera with waist-level viewfinder; covert vantage point allowed artist to capture "massive scale and halogen clarity of the hyper-real spaces." Closes Sunday, May 13.

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

Museum of Photographic Arts, images by contemporary artists addressing issues of narrative showcased in "Tell Me a Story: Narrative Photography Now," continuing through Sunday, May 13. Exhibition of work by Tracey Moffat, Gavin Hipkins, Pipo Nguyen-Duy, Polixeni Papapaetrou, Nikki S. Lee, Jem Southam, and others

was curated by Merry Foresta, director of Smithsonian Photography Initiative.

"Rebels and Revelers: Experimental Decades 1970s-1980s, Gifts from the Joyce and Ted Strauss Collection," showcases images by Thomas Barrow, Barbara Kasten, John Pfahl, Jo Ann Callis, Arthur Taussig, Ivan Pinkava, Barbara De-Genevieve, Leland Rice, and Ruth Thorne-Thompson, others. Exhibition highlights photography's move beyond traditional blackand-white documentary school of artists like Ansel Adams to more expressive, personalized imagery. Closes Sunday, May 6.

"Woman: A Celebration," also running through May 6, includes photographs of women by celebrated photographers such as Henri Cartier-Bresson, Ruth Orkin, August Sander, Mary Ellen Mark, Hiroshi Himaya, others.

Find the museum in the Casa de Balboa building, at 1649 El Prado. 619-238-7559. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Museum of Art,

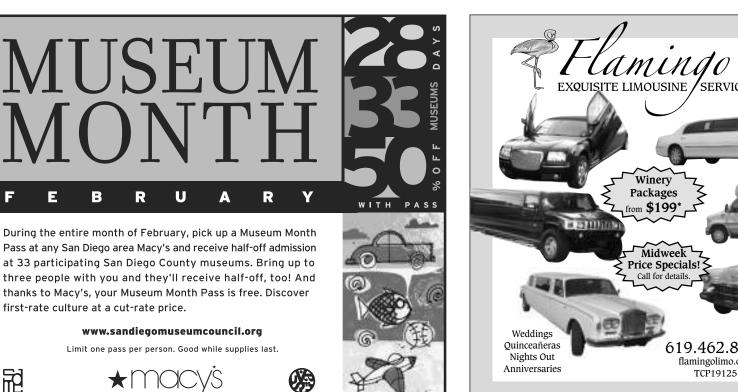
"Mel Bochner: Drawing from Four Decades" tracks continuity of the New York-based conceptual artist's various experimentations through four decades of artistic practice. Closes Sunday, March 18.

Iasper Johns' "Green Angel: The Making of a Print," also closing March 18, was donated by the artist. Along with the Green Angel etching, Johns donated "a complete set of 17 proofs" demonstrating creative process surrounding the work.

"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, permanent collection includes European old master paintings, 18thand 19th-Century American paintings, and Russian icons. Saint Bartholomew, the only Rembrandt painting on public display in San Diego, is featured. 619-239-5548. (BALBOA PARK)







Love and the Rent Boy

The play wants to be Harold Pinter-like: short, tersely written scenes, blackouts, the unspoken signifying volumes.

abriel and Chantelle have been affianced for a long time (too long, suggest some of their friends, who speculate about the delay). They have an "open relationship," which means, in their case, Chantelle has remained sexually faithful to Gabriel, while he frequents

the shadow world of Cape Town massage parlors where "happy endings" — i.e., having more than a rubdown — cost extra.

Gabriel says his dalliance is "just sex." Though Chantelle urges him to do what he needs without telling her, she sees sex as an act of love and tries to repress feelings of betrayal when he's gone who knows where. Then Chantelle begins to entertain fantasies. And Gabriel, who has been dispassionate about all his relations, makes a fatal mistake: he falls in obsessive love with teenage Chris, his favorite "rent boy."

In *Happy Endings Are Extra*, Ashraf Johaardien explores psychological boundaries in postapartheid, white South Africa. The play wants to be Harold Pinter–like: short, tersely written scenes, blackouts, the unspoken signifying volumes. But Johaardien writes like a novelist new to drama. His descriptions of scenes — how the moon hangs over Cape Town — are vivid. But his monologues overexplain the obvious (quoting his therapist, Chantelle says Gabriel "only has surface feelings," for example, and we've already seen enough ev-



idence without having to be told). And the dramatic confrontations slump from predictable dialogue.

When it looks at open relationships, and how some partners prefer a larger aperture than oth-

ers, *Happy Endings* has interest (especially when Gabriel moves from open to closed and Chantelle from closed to open). As does the question of who's in control, since all three engage in a subsurface tug of war. And

at least two of them fear an ultimate loss of control. When *Happy Endings* concludes with a sur-

prise, boffo ending — call it reverse child abuse the play leaps into melodrama, buoyed by Madame Butterfly's Puccini-drenched *hara kiri*. The ending's a kicker, but it raises nagging *M. Butterfly* questions about Gabriel's inability to make connections or see what has slowly become obvious.

Happy Endings is part of Diversionary Theatre's new play development series: "Queer Theatre — Taking Center Stage." The production values are worthy of Pinter. Scenic designer Greg Stevens has created a fluid, permeable stage. A scrim and flowing curtains allow boundaries to dissolve and spaces to merge. Mia Bane Jacobs's lighting follows suit: a penumbral world where shadows don't quite conceal and indirect lighting doesn't quite reveal.

Director Rosina Reynolds tries for nuance in a script weak on dramatic action. Characters either primp before a mirror or engage in foreplay on the couch, followed by the inevitable blackout. Not much to work with there, nor much to inhabit in the characters themselves. Claudio Raygoza does a fine, cold turn as Gabriel. Suggesting more emotional interiors than are in the writing, Raygoza teeters toward an explosion of repressed rage. Wearing Shulamit Nelson's sleek dresses, Anahid Shahrik almost makes Chantelle more a presence than just the playwright's unhappy pawn. Michael Purvis's Chris could feel his vengeance more fully, even before it arrives.

Rachel Le Vine's sound design merits special mention. *Happy Endings* aspires to opera and Greek tragedy. Whether subtle or blaring, Le Vine's insistent sounds suggest those possibilities throughout.

On Monday, January 29, the San Diego Theatre Critics Circle held its annual awards ceremony. As one moves from week to week, during the year, it's easy to lose sight of the Big

Picture. Given the high quality of the winners, and the richness of the nominees in each category (some of which ran eight to ten deep before the



Happy Endings Are Extra

Happy Endings Are Extra, by Ashraf Johaardien Diversionary Theatre, 4545 Park Boulevard, University Heights Directed by Rosina Reynolds; cast: Claudio Raygoza, Anahid Shahrik, Michael Purvis; scenic design, Greg Stevens; costumes, Shulamit Nelson; lighting, Mia Bane Jacobs; sound, Rachel Le Vine Playing through February 11; Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Matinee Sunday at 2:00 p.m. 619-220-0097

> final culling), the ceremony serves, among other things, as a reminder that the San Diego theater picture is bigger — and even better — than ever.



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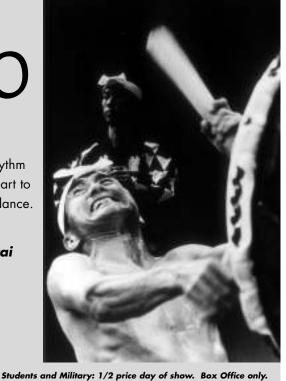


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The Center Museum is currently in turnaround. Will reopen with new exhibitions March 3, 2007. SAN DIEGO THEATRE CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD WINNERS FOR 2006

1.CHOREOGRAPHY: Kirby Ward, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, Moonlight Amphitheatre 2. ORIGINAL MUSIC FOR A PLAY: Gina Leishman, *Mother Courage and Her Children*, La Jolla Playhouse

3. SCENIC DESIGN: Andrew Hammer, *My Fair Lady*, Welk Resort Theatre; Robert Brill, *The Wiz*, La Jolla Playhouse; Michael Vaughn Sims, *A Body of Water*

4. LIGHTING DESIGN: Chris Rynne, *Lincolnesque*, Old Globe Theatre

5. SOUND DESIGN: Christopher Walker, *Titus Andronicus*, Old Globe Theatre

6. COSTUME DESIGN: Lewis Brown, *The Constant Wife*, Old Globe Theatre

7. FEATURED PERFOR-MANCE IN A MUSICAL: Rena Strober, *Dr. Zhivago*, La Jolla Playhouse; Ron Choularton, *My Fair Lady*, Cygnet Theatre; Matt Bogart, *Dr. Zhivago*, La Jolla Playhouse

8. LEAD PERFORMANCE IN A MUSICAL: Thomas Sesma, *The Times They Are A-Changin*', Old Globe Theatre; Doug Bilitch, *Urinetown*, Starlight Theatre; Sarah Sumner, *Urinetown*, Starlight Theatre; Nikki M. James, *The Wiz*, La Jolla Playhouse

9. MUSIC DIRECTION: Parmer Fuller, *Urinetown*, Starlight Theatre

10. FEATURED FEMALE PERFORMANCE IN A PLAY:

MISIERY

CAFE

DIVNER THEATEES

Katie Barrett, *Mother Courage* and Her Children, La Jolla

Playhouse 11. FEATURED MALE PER-FORMANCE IN A PLAY: Charles Janasz, *Titus Andronicus*, Old Globe Theatre; James Sutorious, *Lincolnesque*, Old Globe Theatre

12. LEADING MALE PER-FORMANCE IN A PLAY: Joshua Everett Johnson, *Copenhagen*, Cygnet Theatre; Jonathan McMurtry, *Trying*, Old Globe Theatre; T. Ryder Smith, *Lincolnesque*, Old Globe Theatre

13. LEADING FEMALE PER-FORMANCE IN A PLAY: Kandis Chappell, *Collected Stories*, North Coast Repertory Theatre; Lisa Renee Pitts, *Intimate Apparel*, San Diego Repertory Theatre; Sharon Lockwood, *Zorro in Hell*, La Jolla Playhouse 14. ENSEMBLE: *Body of Wa*-

ter, Old Globe Theatre 15. TOURING PRODUC-TION: *Doubt*, Broadway/San Diego

16. DIRECTION OF A MUSI-CAL: Brian Wells and David Brannen, Urinetown, Starlight Theatre; Des McAnuff, The Wiz, La Jolla Playhouse 17. DIRECTION OF A PLAY: Ethan McSweeney, A Body of Water, Old Globe Theatre 18. OUTSTANDING MUSI-CAL: Urinetown, Starlight Theatre; The Wiz, La Jolla Playhouse 19. OUTSTANDING DRA-

MATIC PRODUCTION: A Body of Water, Old Globe

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21. SPECIAL AWARD: Des McAnuff, La Jolla Playhouse ■



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Ace

One of the unwritten rules of theater: never let the audience get ahead of the story. If they can anticipate where you're going, you've lost them. Ace, a musical about flying and lost children and inept mothers, tells two stories, but they're the same story told twice. Fathers fly and die. Their sons grow up to be pilots. The musical depicts life-shattering events but never takes them beyond the generic — and manipulates them for easy emotions. Richard Oberacker's music's on a launching pad: rocketing into the upper registers at full volume. One number like this would be stirring ("I Know It Can Be Done," sung with Power of Positive Thinking conviction by Darren Ritchie, for example). But every song rages to uplift with epic feelings. The auditory overload's so pummeling you may not notice, in the end, that Ace has resolved almost every contradiction in the known universe. In the midst of the din, possibly because he's doing the opposite, young Noah Galvin gives a mesmerizing performance as Billy, identity-seeking foster child. Ace wants to engulf its audience. Galvin brings them in, with subtle facial expressions and minimal body language. He's genuinely confused and hurt (having to wear red Converse All-Star sneakers in 1952, when they didn't exist, would confuse ANYONE!). You'd think that a musical about the early decades of flight would have vivid theatrical representations of its subject. But when pilots take to the skies, director Stafford Arima and chore ographer Andrew Palermo ground them with unimaginative miming: running in circles, crouching and turning, pumping their hands for machine guns - like kids playing in the back yard. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, SIMON EDISON

CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH FEBRUARY 18; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUN-DAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-234-5623.

Don Quixote

The San Diego Rep's world-premiere adaptation of the Cervantes novel is wildly uneven, often tedious, silly, tonally confused, and thesis-heavy, The three-hour show feels as if it's been cut down but needs much more. Paul Magid, of the legendary Flying Karamazov Brothers, wrote the script. He pits competing dreamers against each other: Ouixote (a Christian fanatic who, were he alive today, would invade Iraq) and Cidi Hamete Benegeli, an intrusive narrator who dreams of a tolerant world. Magid's moral earnestness is the show's most moving element. But his emphasis makes Quixote too one-note. Even an actor of Peter Van Norden's considerable talents can't nudge the don beyond mere infantile

xenophobia. He's never noble. Just nuts. The Sam Woodhouse-directed production has gems: giants on stilts (some of whom Quixote slashes in a fit of madness); Willie G's Sancho Panza doing a rap number; Don Pedro's famous puppet show, performed by fruits and vegetables; the four Karamazovs juggling (and being funniest when one fumbles a club). But most scenes have a sameness Quixote turns goofy, people get hurt; Quixote, dazed, rises anew to concoct another mess - and the best parts, which revisions would probably eliminate, are the interludes. That's when the Karamazovs flv. SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH FEBRUARY 4; THURSDAY THROUGH SAT-URDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-544-1000

Dracula

Coronado Playhouse presents Bram Stoker's classic about the blood-hungry Count. James Gary Byrd directed. The production features an original score by Eric Scot Frydler.

CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, THROUGH FEBRUARY 24; THURS-DAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-435-4856.

Fiddler on the Roof

The Welk Resort Theatre stages the popular musical about tradition and Tevye, a dairyman in the Russian village of Anateulea. WELK RESORT THEATRE, THROUGH APRIL 1; TUESDAY, THROUGH APRIL 1; TUESDAY, THROUGH THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, AND SUNDAY, AT 1:45 P.M. 760-749-3448.

Happy Endings Are Extra Reviewed this issue. DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. THROUGH FEBRUARY 11; THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M., FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-220-0097.

Hay Fever

Moonlight Stage productions presents Noel Coward's stylish comedy about an ornately theatrical family, based on a visit to the home of Laurette Taylor. AVO PLAYHOUSE, 303 MAIN STREET, VISTA, THROUGH FEBRUARY 18; THURS-DAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-724-2110.

Master Harold and the Boys

619-264-3391

To commerate Black History Month, Community Actors Theatre stages Athol Fugard's awardwinning drama about the human cost of apartheid. COMMUNITY ACTORS THEATRE, 2957 54TH STREET, OAK PARK, THROUGH FEBRUARY 25; THURSDAY AT 7:00 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M.



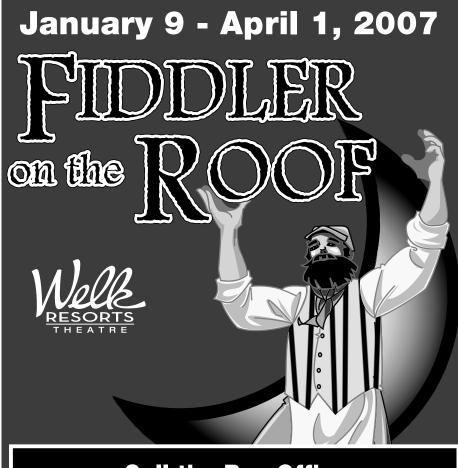
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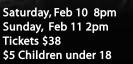
A Moon for the Misbegotten

Jonathan McMurtry's excellent performance in Eugene O'Neill's wistful tragedy resembles Mercutio in Romeo and Juliet. McMurtry plays the pugnacious Phil Hogan, crabby drunk and father of Josie and three abandoned sons. Like Mercutio, as long as McMurtry's onstage the North Coast Rep's production's funny and brimming with life. Mc-Murtry makes the other actors - especially Karla Kash's otherwise unassertive Josie — better and has great sport giving Richard Baird's T. Stedman Harder, pompous aristo, his comeuppance. But when Mc-

San Diego Civic Dance Company Forces of NATURE **Casa del Prado Theatre** Sat., Feb. 10, 17 at 3:00 pm Sat., Feb. 3, 10, 17 at 7:00 pm Sun., Feb. 4, 11, 18 at 2:00 pm All seats reserved: \$10. Π Box Office Information: 619-702-3408 San Diego Civic Dance Association, Inc. www.citydancearts.org

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Night Watch

Murtry leaves the stage for the cru-

Jamie Tyrone slowly form a pieta in

the September moonlight, the pro-

shrink and David Anthony Smith's

approach the dissipation of a man

with "one foot in the grave from

effort - one word or gesture at a

sorrow of the character based on

O'Neill's drunken, guilt-crucified

run-down, rock-strewn farm, and

Marty Burnett delivers, as do cos-

tumer Jeanne Reith's faded cottons.

Michael Paolini's consistently awk-

ward lighting, however, casts actors'

shadows on Burnett's blue sky and,

to frame a scene dramatically, jumps

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from sunshine to darkness in a jiff.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE,

brother, James Jr. O'Neill asked for a

whiskey." Smith gives a rigid, linear

time — and never captures the fluid

hale and dapper Tyrone doesn't even

cial third act, in which Josie and

duction falls flat. Kash seems to

Poway Performing Arts Company stages Lucille Fletcher's suspense thriller in which Elaine Wheeler sees dead people in an empty chair. Sherrie Coburn directed. POWPAC THEATER, 13250 POWAY ROAD (UPSTAIRS IN THE LIVELY CENTER) POWAY, THROUGH FEBRUARY 11: FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-679-8085

Opossums of Truth

The group performs its annual celebration with a musical tribute to Charles Darwin and evolution, singing humorous songs about science and rationality. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987 LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, AT 7:30 P.M. 858-481-1055, OR (TOLL FREE) 888-776-NCRT

The Secret Garden

Lamb's Players stages the theatrical adaptation of Frances Hodgson Burnett's story about an orphaned girl who discovers a locked garden at her uncle's estate. Robert Smyth directed.

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 OR-ANGE AVENUE, CORONADO, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, THROUGH MARCH 11; 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.

Steel Magnolias

New Vision Theatre stages Robert Harling's comedy-drama about life, and death, at a beauty salon in Chinquapin, Louisiana. SUNSHINE BROOKS THEATRE, 217 NORTH COAST HIGHWAY, OCEANSIDE, THROUGH FEBRUARY 4: FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUN-DAY AT 2:00 P.M. 750-529-9140.

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Full Circle Theatre Company

Applauz Theatre presents a musical stage reading of Stephen Sondheim's story of a painting, Georges Seurat's La Grande latte, come to life. APPLAUZ THEATRE, 450 FLETCHER PARKWAY, SUITE 201 (ACROSS FROM PARKWAY PLAZA MALL), EL CAJON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, THROUGH FEBRUARY 11: THURSDAY AND SUNDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-440-6714.

Jockeys Are Killing Me! Mystery Cafe Dinner Theatre presents James Pascarella and Patricia Harris-Smith's interactive "racetrack romp." It's opening weekend

Win, Place, or Die...My

at Upson Downs, and the Thoroughbred Club'll never be the same. Pascarella directed. IMPERIAL HOUSE RESTAURANT, 505 KALMIA STREET, HILLCREST, OPEN-ENDED RUN. ERIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1600.

Yellowman

"I don't want to let anyone off the hook," playwright/poet Dael Orlandersmith said in an interview. Her drama looks at "internal racism," the rift between light- and dark-skinned African-Americans, and shows that "the people who have been enslaved" have taken on "the very bias that's been done to us." Yellowman follows the lives, and love, of Alma, a large, dark woman, and Eugene, a "high yellow" (light-skinned) man. The play moves from their childhood to the promise of marriage. Throughout they encounter differences of skin that encircle, and eventually destroy, their bond. Orlandersmith writes a tough poetry that never sounds "poetic" or preachy and

weaves scenes solely from words, not stage directions. For Cygnet Theatre, talented director Esther Emery and a crack design team build visual pictures and movement from the language (Nick Fouch's set, a beige wall of corrugated tin and brick, has a wide slash across the center, within which Eric Lotze's lighting blazes South Carolina sunshine and NYC cold). Everything, including Veronica Murphy's subtle costumes and George Ye's equally subtle sounds, enhances the text. The playwright might object that Monique Gaffney and Mark Broadnax are much younger than the ages she asks for (Alma's supposed to be around 40, Eugene, 45) but couldn't object to their fine performances. Each plays several characters, vividly, and traces the growth of Alma and Eugene with exactitude. The result resembles Greek tragedy: how the sins, or in this case the prejudices, of the fathers can ruin not just the innocence, but also the very lives, of the young. Critic's pick.

CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH FEBRUARY 11; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-337-1525.

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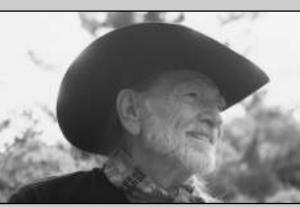
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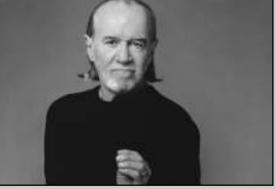
Willie Nelson FEBRUARY 21



Meat Loaf FEBRUARY 23



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Rapp vs. Rap Not long ago, Rosarito's big draw was hip-hop. Rappers and DJs drew weekend crowds to bars such as Iggy's and Papas and



Beer.

"Those places were importing these rappers from San Diego," says Adrianne Rapp, who owns a day spa in Rosarito. "Ĥip-hop brought a really, really bad element into town.... It would

attract teenagers from the United States who would come down here and do disgusting things. People would buy drugs in the streets.



I got tired of seeing half-naked

young girls drunk out of their

would be nothing to see trash

"The government is

nonexistent in Rosarito. We

don't have a whole lot of

Rapp says citizens and

leadership down here." So,

minds in front of my spa. It

everywhere on a Sunday

morning....

ROSARITO PARTIERS businesspeople convinced the bar owners to stop hiring rappers. "The anger and displeasure they got from us forced them to stop.... There

has been nothing going on at Iggy's for eight months. I think they pretty much burned themselves up in this town."

Rapp admits that Rosarito is in need of steady economic stimulus.

"I've been down here for three years, and every single year my books are down, down, down.... When a movie is being filmed [at the nearby Fox studio], the whole town is revitalized for those eight or ten months. But they haven't used it since the Russell Crowe movie [2003's Master and *Commander*]. Ensenada has tourists and cruise ships; we have nothing. The whole town is sad. Taxi drivers sit waiting in lines every weekend."

So, Rapp intends to create a cultural center/live-music venue that can host American and Mexican bands.

'We're looking to get an old bar that used to be called the Maya. It's closed now." To "test the waters," Rapp produced her first concert featuring norteño bands at El Foro (formerly the Jai Alai Palace) in Tijuana on January 20. Rapp wants to hear from bands who want to play in Rosarito (cineciak@ hotmail.com).

– Ken Leighton

A Boost from Jocko A couple of years ago, recent Torrey Pines High grad Michael Gallagher abandoned his acting aspirations and took a New York Film Academy summer course in L.A. Now 18, he has written, cast, and directed 30 short films. They didn't make any money, but his eagerness to work helped



GALLAGHER TARGETS

him to break into music videos.

"Jocko Marcellino is the drummer with ['50s oldies band] Sha Na Na. He's one of two original members. He knew me from one of my short films. He had me do a music video for Sha Na Na last year called 'The Cat in the PT

Cruiser.' Parts of it ended up being used in TV commercials for Chrysler dealerships in L.A. and a few places on the East Coast."

That venture led to a project for a local band.

"I was told that Get Back Loretta was in dire need of a music video, that they needed it immediately and there would be no money in it for me. I contacted every talented crewmember I worked with and some good actors. The video is about a guy who comes home and sees his girlfriend cheating. He becomes so enraged that he turns into a werewolf and he chases the guy down through the streets of San Diego."

Gallagher says because Get Back Loretta was happy with their video, he did receive compensation; now he's got a plan.

"My model is to create top-notch videos for people at wholesale prices. We have various packages starting at \$3000.... I searched countless websites, and the cheapest company I could find to do a music video would charge you upwards of \$20,000."

To see Gallagher's work on YouTube, enter a search for "Michaelgallagher2." – Ken Leighton Flour Power Twenty-

seven years ago today (2-1-80), eccentric punk pioneer Gary Wilson played downtown's Skeleton Club along with locals Four Eyes.

Gary Wilson had tape and stuff wrapped around him and there's flour being thrown all over during his performances," recalls Mark DeCerbo of Four Eyes. "I'm sure the crowd there that night had never seen anything like it in their lives.... Gary would run through the crowd like a maniac and out of the club and disappear. We would see



WILSON, IN HIS SNOWSTORM ERA

him back at the house after the gig, and he'd be sitting there in the dark.

Wilson had recently





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arrived in San Diego and formed a group he called the Blind Dates (whose members would also play with Four Eyes).

"Our equipment was broken down and ragged and literally held together by duct tape," recalls Wilson today. "Something caught on fire onstage; I think it was caused by a power cord from one of our amps. After our performance, there was a tremendous amount of flour all over the stage and the club's equipment. It looked like a snowstorm hit the place I can't remember being paid for the gig. The owner probably got mad at us and docked us our pay.

Gary Wilson's career was recently jumpstarted after he was found working at a local porn store by private detectives; they were employed by a record label that wanted to reissue Wilson's music.

Mark DeCerbo and Four Eyes have reunited and will appear February 8 at Lestat's. — Jay Allen Sanford

Shot Around San Diego in the summer of 2005, The Pacific and Eddy premiered last weekend at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival. Writer and director Matthew Nourse — a SD native, 1998 alum of Torrey Pines High, and graduate of UC Santa Barbara's film school — made the movie after working on the screenplay for a year.

"I was a skateboarder/ musician type growing up, so I would take the bus everywhere, always searching for

new spots to skate That's how I discovered all of the great locations that I would later use as backdrops for my film (i.e., hidden parts of Balboa Park, Sunset Cliffs, Del Mar Fair at night — the nontypical San Diego; no palm trees)." Some filming, including live music performance, was done in and around the Casbah.

Perhaps the film has been most anticipated by fans of late English lo-fi glam-rock icon Nikki Sudden. In a surprise to



SUDDEN KNEW HIS PUBS

Nourse, Sudden agreed to be flown out to SD to play the role of Silhouette.

While in San Diego, Sudden stayed at La Pensione in Little Italy, where, according to his journal, the singerguitarist wrote a song for the film and noted that the hotel was "just across the street from the Princess 'British Pub'...a place as far removed from a pub as you could ever find. I tried explaining this to one of the waitresses the other night but she couldn't understand!"

Sudden observed his July 19 birthday at the Casbah. rocking out with a pickup band of local musicians he dubbed "the Deportees." He thanked all for "my first American birthday! It was a gas...." And, it was his last; on March 26, 2006, at age 49, Sudden died of unknown





causes in New York, hours after a show and before flying back to his Berlin home.

"Sadly, we finished the film about a week after Nikki's passing," says Nourse. "His music incorporated everything that I loved in rock and pop music, from Marc Bolan to Phil Spector to Bob Dylan to noise. On set, Nikki was like this magical presence.... Nikki's role in the film is incredible and somewhat haunting. His music is featured heavily."

Nourse has been exploring a film project on the musical life of Sudden, his late brother Epic Soundtracks, and their earlier influential post-punk band Swell Maps.

– David Stampone

Rudies' Delight "The

Fabulous Rudies have been picked up to play the entire 2007 Vans Warped Tour," says singer Tom Voris. "We were the second band announced. right after Bad Religion, and we're already getting label and management offers from it ..

"They're not making us pay to play; we actually get a paycheck, and we get to keep the proceeds from anything we sell on the tour." The group will also be the tour's official "BBQ band," playing aftershow cookouts each day for

the workers and other performers. The Fabulous Rudies

formed around ten years ago, when Voris taught history at San Marcos High School.

"They were having a music festival in the gym, so I put together a group with some teenage students," he says. "Three of the current eight members remain from that original student lineup; they're all in their 20s now. Voris now teaches

economics and history full-



VORHIS: WARPED...BUT IN A GOOD WAY!

time at Oceanside's El Camino High School. "The kids say, 'I can't

believe a teacher is going on the Warped Tour.... A lot of them have bands of their own and ask for advice and for hookups.... When I first saw Jack Black in School of Rock, I said to myself, 'Man, that's my life up there on the screen.' The Fabulous Rudies

appear February 10 at Soma. — Jay Allen Sanford

Where's That Twang?...

Promising to be the country equivalent to what the Coachella music fest is to pop/rock fans, the Stagecoach Festival debuts May 5 and 6 at Empire Polo Field in Indio (the same venue as Coachella, the week after Coachella). While some wonder if the concert will appeal to country fans, promoters Goldenvoice/AEG are betting big that it will. Included among the 50 artists booked are Willie Nelson, George Strait, and Alan Jackson.

One insider claims that the Stagecoach Festival will hurt business at Coors Amphitheatre, which hosted five country headliners last

year. "I think Brooks and Dunn and Kenny Chesney are bypassing San Diego this year because they'll be at Stagecoach instead," says the insider. (Both artists have been summertime regulars at Coors: Chesney has played Coors each year since '03;

Brooks and Dunn stopped there in '05 and '06.) Of the other acts that played Coors last year, "The belief is that Rascal Flatts will play a smaller venue like Cox Arena or Sports Arena and that if Brad Paisley comes back to San Diego this year it won't be at Coors. I haven't heard what Toby Keith may do."

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

Regarding other potential country heavyweights who may play San Diego, "I heard Keith Urban might play the Sports Arena. I think Tim [McGraw] and Faith [Hill] might play Cox Arena.... Country fans tend to be adults who aren't willing to put up with the pain in the butt that Coors can be."

Coors general manager Michael Enoch says Brooks and Dunn and Chesney may decide to come to Coors after they appear at Stagecoach. "It hasn't been decided if this market is big enough [to make it a profitable venture].'

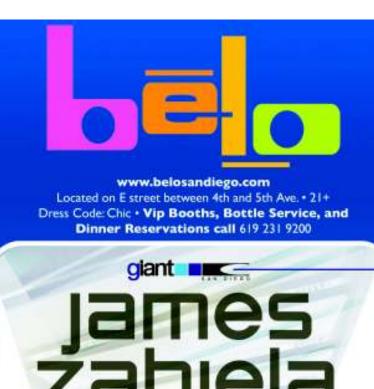
Coors Amphitheatre attendance was off by 33 percent last year; down from 241,000 tickets sold in 2005 to 160,000 in 2006. - Ken Leighton

CONTRIBUTORS

William Crain, Dave Good, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemmingson, Ken Leighton, Ryan Loyko, Derek Plank, Eric Rife, Jay Allen Sanford



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Rockabilly Dreams

"It's cool to hear the Blasters, Paladins, along with classics like Carl Perkins, Johnny Burnette."

MICHAEL HEMMINGSON

an Diego rockabilly guitarist Buzz Campbell and his band Hot Rod Lincoln released a CD last year called *Runaway Girl* (with songs titles like "Too Drunk to Drive" and "Betty Page"). Buzz also plays lead guitar for Lee Rocker's band. "Lee stole me

Rocker's band. "Lee stole me from Sha Na Na. I did that gig for three years. That was quite an experience.... "I was a kid when I first saw

the Stray Cats in 1991. I dropped out of school to play music after that show. Now I play with the [ex–Stray Cats] bass player, Lee Rocker — who needs dreams?"

TRICKIEST PROBLEM PLAYING LIVE?

"I don't have problems performing — it's where I feel most comfortable. The trickiest problem in San Diego is getting people to come out to see live music. It seems like local people don't have as much appreciation for it as they do in other parts of the country."

YOUR GUITAR?

"A 1958 Gretsch Country Club. I have it signed by some of my biggest influences: Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Dave Edmunds, all three Stray Cats, Waylon Jennings, Carl Perkins, B.B. King, Link Wray, and Scotty Moore — Elvis's original guitar man. When I met Carl Perkins many years ago, I was seeing him perform at the House of Blues in Hollywood. Lee Rocker was producing our record at the time, 1997, and invited me to see him and his group open up for Carl. After the show I went back with my guitar and met Carl. He was very nice and signed it for me. As I

was leaving, someone grabbed the neck of the guitar. I turned around to punch the guy — it was Dave Edmunds, English rocker and producer of the Stray Cats. I restrained

myself after seeing who it was and let him play it. He signed it for me as well. Good thing I didn't punch him — he made some of my favorite records."

WORST GIG?

"I once got electrocuted while doing a gig on Revolución Avenue in Tijuana. Something to do with the power — I went to sing and shocked my mouth on my mike. I thought my lip fell off."

BEST GIG?

"I opened for Brian Setzer at the Del Mar Fair on the Grandstand Stage one year. Close to 10,000 people — so they told me. Ty Cox, the drummer, and I did a quick shot of tequila just before the show, then really hit the stage hard. San Diego really supported us that night; it was really something. The band was really on that night, and the crowd was really fired up — better than sex. The tequila didn't hurt either."

BRUSH WITH THE FAMOUS?

"When I was younger, I played at Johnny M's regularly before it became the Hard Rock Cafe. Brian Setzer walked in, hung out with us all night, played, sang, danced with the regulars, and got pretty drunk. My roadie drove him back to my lousy apartment, and he spent the night on the couch. I offered him the bed, but he wouldn't take it. I woke up the next day and realized Brian was there. Talked music with him for a while. He's been a good friend to this band and especially to me."

WHAT'S IN YOUR CD PLAYER? "Right now I am

working on a new CD.

I have been playing with Lee Rocker as well as HRL for the last two years, and we are working on his new CD. So I am listening to a lot of rough tracks however, I just got satellite radio and have been listening to a lot of *Outlaw Country* [on Sirius satellite radio], hosted by San Diego's own Mojo Nixon. It's cool to hear the Blasters, Paladins, along with classics like Carl Perkins, Johnny Burnette. Noth-

Men & Women Most Creative NESDAY, FEB

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Buzz Campbell

ing gives me greater pleasure than to see that music getting some airplay again."

WHAT DID YOU DO PROM NIGHT?

"Nothing exciting. I was pretty shy in high school. I did go to prom a year after I graduated with my Mormon girlfriend. We got a hotel room for the night then got caught later. Her father wanted to kill me. If I remember correctly, it was worth it."

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THIS WEEK'S

CONCERTS

THURSDAY

Air Supply: Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Thursday, February 1, 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-659-3380.

FRIDAY

The English Beat: Belly Up Tavern Friday, February 2, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Jack's Mannequin: Soma, Friday, February 2, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Jaguares: House of Blues, Friday, February 2, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

TUESDAY

Julieta Venegas: House of Blues, Tuesday, February 6, and Wednesday, February 7, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

WEDNESDAY

Sparklehorse: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, February 7, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

UPCOMING CONCERTS

FEBRUARY

Livingston Taylor: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Thursday, February 8, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Maná: ipayOne Center, Friday, February 9, and Saturday, February 10, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-

4171. **Bob Weir:** House of Blues, Friday, February 9, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp 619-299-2583



Venice: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, February 9, and Saturday, February 10, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

The Roots: House of Blues, Monday, February 12, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Common: House of Blues, Tuesday, February 13, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583. **Pepper:** House of Blues, Wednesday,

February 14, and Thursday, February 15, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583. Todd Snider: Belly Up Tavern,

Thursday, February 15, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140. Sound Tribe Sector Nine: House of

Sound Tribe Sector Nine: House of Blues, Friday, February 16, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Bob Schneider: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, February 16, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Steel Pulse: 4th & B, Friday, February 16, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Dave Alvin: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, February 16, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

The Goo Goo Dolls: Pala Events Center, Friday, February 16, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

"Valentine's Love Jam": ipayOne Center, Saturday, February 17, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

"San Diego Brazil Carnival": 4th & B, Saturday, February 17, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Cradle of Filth: House of Blues, Sunday, February 18, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Neko Case: Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, February 18, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Pete Yorn: House of Blues, Monday, February 19, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

"Tribute to the Reggae Legends": ipayOne Center, Monday, February 19, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Gomez and **Ben Kweller:** House of Blues, Tuesday, February 20, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Robert Earl Keen: 4th & B, Tuesday, February 20, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

"Taste of Chaos" with the **Used**, **30 Seconds to Mars, Senses Fail**, and more: ipayOne Center, Wednesday, February 21, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. 619-224-4171.



Joe Walsh: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, February 21, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Willie Nelson: Pala Events Center, Wednesday, February 21, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

Cheap Trick: 4th & B, Thursday, February 22, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Elefante: House of Blues, Thursday, February 22, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Michael Franti & Spearhead: 4th & B, Friday, February 23, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Meat Loaf: Pala Events Center, Friday, February 23, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

Guttermouth: 'Canes, Saturday, February 24, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

John McEuen:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, February 24, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Rock Star Supernova: Pala Events Center, Sunday, February 25, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

lan Tyson: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Tuesday, February 27, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

"Texas Songwriters Show" with Lyle Lovett, Joe Ely, John Hiatt, and Guy Clark: Viejas Casino

DreamCatcher Show Room, Wednesday, February 28, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

MARCH

The Who: ipayOne Center, Thursday, March 1, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Christina Aguilera: ipayOne Center, Friday, March 2, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Snow Patrol: Open Air Theatre, Saturday, March 3, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

Samite: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, March 3, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Musiq: Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, March 4, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

The Dropkick Murphys: House of Blues, Monday, March 5, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Ozomatli: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, March 9, and Saturday, March 10, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.









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Robert Randolph: House of Blues, Saturday, March 10, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Razorlight: The Casbah, Saturday, March 10, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Willy Porter:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Sunday, March 11, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Richard Thompson: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, March 12, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140

My Chemical Romance: ipayOne Center, Tuesday, March 13, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

EPMD: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, March 14, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Eric Clapton and Robert Cray: ipayOne Center, Thursday, March 15, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171

Aleiandra Guzman: Pala Events Center, Thursday, March 15, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

Dave Stamey: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, March 17, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Byron Berline:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Sunday, March 18, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Tool: Cox Arena, Tuesday, March 20, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594 0429.

Badly Drawn Boy: House of Blues, Wednesday, March 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Killswitch Engage: Soma, Friday, March 23, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Rod Stewart: Cox Arena, Saturday, March 24, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

Boney James: Spreckels Theatre, Wednesday, March 28, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500.

Jeremy Camp: House of Blues, Wednesday, March 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Cowboy Mouth: Belly Up Tavern Wednesday, March 28, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.

Aterciopelados: 'Canes, Wednesday, March 28, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780

Switchfoot: Soma, Saturday, March 31, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

APRIL

Josh Groban: ipayOne Center, Friday, April 6, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Brand New: Soma, Friday, April 6 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Relient K: House of Blues, Wednesday, April 11, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Fu Manchu: The Casbah, Friday, April 13, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.



BY DAVE GOOD

I watched the film biography of Thelonious Monk recently. It is a tribute, of sorts, called Straight, No Chaser. It's built almost entirely from black-and-white footage made during a European tour decades ago and sheds little light. By the end I felt as though I knew less about the late pianist than I did in the beginning. The film's poverty of information about the enigmatic Monk drove me to scour my old recordings as if looking for something I had lost, forgotten, or overlooked. Funny thing: after such an aural immersion, you begin to think you hear Monk in every jazz pianist, whether he's there or not.

In the case of nine-time Grammy-nominated jazz pianist Kenny Barron, the Monk

The Mother Hips: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, April 14, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.

Moenia: House of Blues, Wednesday, April 18, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp 619-299-2583

Huev Lewis & the News: Pala Events Center, Friday, April 20, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

homage is intentional. In the '80s, Barron led Sphere, a Monk tribute band with Charlie Rouse, Monk's old tenor saxist. In a way, Barron was born to it. By 16, he had cut his professional jazz teeth with Philly Joe Jones. Before his 20th birthday, he was in the thick of New York City's jazz scene. He worked for James Moody and Count Basie before eventually becoming a professor. Now called one of the world's top working jazz pianists, Barron's star-studded résumé speaks little to his own sound — a delicious cocktail laced with jazz flavors from the '50s and the '60s

Thelonious Monk, by the way, was an elegant bear of a man who favored eccentric little caps and suffered from fits of what can otherwise only be called bizarre behavior. But from behind the sanctuary of his keyboard, he helped manhandle jazz into the wild new space called bebop, pounding and slapping the keys into submission. Barron treads

> 27. 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Taylor Hicks: Palomar Starlight

Richard Marx: Viejas Casino 4, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-

Fairport Convention:

more lightly, as if luring sounds out from

within the guts of a piano. You can get lost

inside of a Kenny Barron piece. Monk would

KENNY BARRON. Jazz in the Park.

San Diego Museum of Art, Wednesday,

February 7, 5:30 p.m. 619-232-7931. \$20;

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, May 11, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176

Tavern, Friday, May 18, 143 Sout





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Entertainment 7 Nights a Week!

Navajo

Thursday, February 1 • Mike Ruggirello presents **Huge Rooster & guests**

Friday & Saturday, February 2 & 3 • 9 pm **Classic Rock**

Uptown Groove

Monday, February 5 **Come Play!**

Tuesday, February 6 • Mike Ruggirello presents Huge Rooster & guests

Wednesday, February 7

Happy Hour 6-8 pm

8515 Navajo Road • 619-465-1730 (Albertsons shopping plaza at Navajo & Lake Murray)

Santee Thursday, February 1 9 pm Shame & Scandal • 10 pm The Advent Friday & Saturday, February 2 & 3 • 9 pm **Classic Rock**

erious Gu

Monday, February 5 8 pm Last in Line

Tuesday, February 6 8 pm Warsaw • 9 pm The Athiarchist 10 pm Known Enemy • 11 pm Bedpost Buzzards

> Wednesday, February 7 • 8 pm **Crimson Night**

8528 Magnolia Avenue • 619-596-8350 (Corner of Prospect & Magnolia)



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Stone Sour: House of Blues, Sunday, April 22, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583. Gwen Stefani, Akon, and Lady

Sovereign: Coors Amphitheatre inday, April 22, 2050 Entertainmen Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

David Wilcox: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, April

KENN

Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Blonde Redhead: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, April 27, 143 South Cedro

MAY

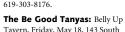
Theater, Thursday, May 3, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

DreamCatcher Show Room, Friday, May

\$10 students

BARRON

never let you do that.









Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Chayanne: ipayOne Center, Saturday, May 26, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

JUNE

Hot Tuna: House of Blues, Monday, June 25, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583



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.

Air Conditioned: Wednesdays, RockBaxx, '70s and '80s rock. Thursdays, College Night, old-skool hip-hop, '80s, and funk with DJ 1979. Fridays, oldskool disco, funk, and '80s with DJ Junior. Saturdays, Juicy, classic bootyshakin' music with Mike Czech. Sundays, guest DJ night. 4673 30th Street, North Park, 619-501-9831.

Brass Rail: Fridays, *Element*, New York and Chicago house-music journeys with DJ Ciel. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. 3796 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-298-2233.

The C Lounge: Sundays, *Liquid*, liquid funk and drum 'n' bass with residents Calculon, Knottyboy, Frizz, and more. 756 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-2838.

Club Montage: Wednesdays, *Club Thizz*, hip-hop, reggae, and drum 'n' bass. 2028 Hancock Street, San Diego. 619-294-9590.

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.

Gaslamp Tavern: Thursdays, DJs Billie Knight, Tek, and guests spin true hip-hop. Fridays and Saturdays, DJ Billie Knight spins Tavern music. Sundays, DJ Tek spins '80s. 868 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-239-3339.

Habana Restaurant: Saturdays, *Adventuras East*, salsa, merengue, and cha-cha with 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 Wallkrawler, Probable Cause, and Skyler Mic; 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. 1409 C Street (corner of 14th Street, across from City College), downtown. 619-702-6010.

Inferno Young Adult Nightclub: Fridays and Saturdays, DJ Kool T spins hip-hop, house, and reggaeton. 9 p.m. to 1:15 a.m., high school students and up. 775 Metcalf Street, Escondido. 760-741-1271.

Jack's Lounge: Fridays, *Injoy Fridays* at Jack's, deep funky house music with DJ Misha and guests. Saturdays, vocal house with DJ Sean Wilson. 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-456-8111.

Kadan: Wednesdays, *Darkwave Garden*, punk, gothic, and ethereal with DJs Bryan Pollard, Stern, and Grimderella. First Saturday of the month, *BrokenBeat Night*, live electronic, machine funk, and breaks. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. No cover. 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

The Kava Lounge: First Saturday of the month, Ascension, Robin Roth and Tom King spin the best in dark underground dance music. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. 2812 Kettner Boulevard, Middletown. 619-543-0933.

The Kensington Club: Wednesdays, Lowdown, metal to old skool to classic rock to hip-hop with DJs Buddha and SC. 9:30 p.m. 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848.

Landlord Jim's: Sundays, Sunday Soulcial, DJ Buddha serves up old soul, R&B, and positive hip-hop. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. No cover. 1546 Broadway, downtown. 619-233-9998.

Mission Valley Resort: Thursdays and Fridays, *Mambo Lounge*, salsa, bachata, and cha-cha with Da Wizzrd. 8 p.m. to midnight. 875 Hotel Circle South, Mission Valley. 619-298-8281.

Moondoggies Pacific Beach: Saturdays, hip-hop, R&B, and Top 40 hits. 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-6550.

San Diego Sports Club:

Wednesdays, *Club Pussy Galore*, Robin Roth and other female DJs spin indie rock, electropop, and '80s. Second and fourth Saturday of the month, *Club Fashion Whore*, electroclash, Brit pop, and indie dance punk with DJs Nate Soixante, Barry Weaver, Edgartronic, and more. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-299-7372.

Shooterz: Thursdays, *Club* '80s, new wave, new romantic, and punk synthpop with DJs Bryan Pollard, Sickboy, and Stern. 3815 30th Street, North Park. 619-574-0744.

Whiskey Girl: Fridays, DJ Marc Thrasher mixes music videos. Saturdays DJs Marc Thrasher and Famous Dave mix music videos. Sundays, DJ Famous



BY WILLIAM CRAIN

For his fourth album with his ever-changing band **Sparklehorse**, **Mark Linkous** was joined by, among others, Steven Drozd (Flaming Lips), Dave Fridmann (producer of the Flaming Lips and former member of Mercury Rev), Danger Mouse (much-in-demand producer and member of Gnarls Barkley), and some piano player named Tom Waits. Not a bad list of special guests. And let's not forget that album number three featured backup vocals from Nina Persson (the Cardigans) and Polly Jean Harvey. Even the nonprofessional actors in Sparklehorse videos are interesting people — "Burning Piano" features author and spoken-word artist Beth

Dave mixes music videos. Mondays, Manic Mondays, DJ Marc Thrasher mixes '80s and '90s music videos. 9 p.m.; 21 and up. 600 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-236-1616.

The Whistle Stop: First and third Saturday of the month, *Transport*, Brit rock, indie, and electroclash with DJ Gabe Vega and guests. Second and fifth Saturday of the month, *One Nation*, new wave, hip-hop, and bootleg remixes with DJs Blackstone and Atari. 2236 Fern Street (corner of 30th and Juniper), South Park. 619-284-6784.

CLUBS BY AREA

If you wish to submit a listing, call 619-235-3000, ext. 405, night or day by 5 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 760-788-1309 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the music section.

BEACHES

Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Beach. 858-488-0551. Tangier Lounge: Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., also, Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. to 11 p.m., John Cain, Jazz/Latin/international/pop standards.

The Calypso Cafe, 576 North Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-632-8252. Live blues/jazz/rock nightly. Tuesday, Lisick playing the part of a cop. If you can judge a man by the company he keeps, Linkous is doing well for himself.

That's good news, as 11 years ago Linkous almost died from a reaction to a drug combination. He was in the hospital for three months and had to use a wheelchair for a long time after. Today, he's not only apparently healthy and walking, he's also reportedly sober and making some of the best music of his career.

Dreamt for Light Years

7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., Adrienne Nims and

Mission Beach, 858-488-1780, Thursday,

Trusted, and FM Revolver. Friday, Diego

Angels, reggae. Saturday, Def in One Eye,

Loves Me, and the Taz Taylor Band, rock.

Cody's La Jolla, 8030 Girard Avenue

La Jolla. 858-459-0040. Thursday, 7 p.m.

to 9 p.m., Roy Resnikoff, light classical

/show tunes. Friday and

Dreamstreet, 2228 Bacon Street,

Ocean Beach. 619-222-8131. Music is

rock/alternative/hip-hop. Thursday,

4 p.m., Golgotha, Friday, Silverside and

Canobliss. Saturday and Wednesday, live

E Street Cafe, 128 E Street, Encinitas. 760-230-2038. Music is acoustic/folk

unless otherwise noted. Friday, 7 p.m. to

8:30 p.m., Lindsey Yung. Saturday, 6 p.m.

to 7:30 p.m., Frank Leong, 8 p.m. to

9 p.m., Veronica May. Wednesday,

7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Todd Pyke, Zen

Cardiff. 760-436-6483. Friday and

with the Blues Brokers.

The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101,

Saturday, classic rock. Sunday, blues jam

La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect

Street, La Jolla. 858-454-0771. Thursday,

6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., Barry Levich, jazz.

Cardillo, acoustic jazz-rock.

bands

Wednesday, 7 p.m., Dick Koenig, jazz

guitar. Saturday, 7 p.m., *Stefani Stevens*, jazz piano. Sunday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Joe*

Roots, the B Foundation, and Arm the

the Crowlevs, Johnny Different, Miser

'Canes, 3105 Ocean Front Walk

the Dreaming, In Every Breath, the

Spirit Wind, global jazz.

in the Belly of a Mountain, that fourth Sparklehorse album, came out last year, and it seemed designed for timelessness. Its first song, "Don't Take My Sunshine Away," references the old Jimmie Davis song "You Are My Sunshine" over a Beatles-derived guitar part. Later on the album, Linkous makes a lyrical nod to "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star"

> Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, *Rick Ross*, jazz.

The Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla. 619-453-4420. Lobby: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Dan*

SPARKLEHORSE

Family.

Papaila, solo jazz guitar. Grill: Friday and Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Mike Nelson*, solo jazz guitar.

Manhattan Restaurant, 7766 Fay Avenue, La Jolla. 858-459-0700. Friday and Saturday, the Joe Marillo Jazz Trio.

Pasquale on Prospect, 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-456-0722. Thursday, Gil Barron, Mark Fulton, James East, and PTrak Armenta, acoustic pop/rock/Latin/soul. Friday. 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Jazz 101 Band featuring Nick Fiore, John Guilino, Dave Scott, and the Cynthia Hammond. Saturday, 8:30 p.m. Mario Oliveras and Latin Spice, Latin jazz.

Porter's Pub, 500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla. 858-587-4828. Thursday, 8 p.m., *Thriving Ivory*, piano driven pop rock.

Portugalia, 4839 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach. 619-222-7678. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *Trece de la Suerte*, salsa/Latin.

710 Beach Club, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Thursday, Rock Dirty Raw. Friday, Irie Sides and Soul Ablaze, reggae. Saturday, Superunloader and Radio Memphis, rock. Sunday, hip-hop/old skool/funk. Monday, Mitch Budd. Wednesday, the Citizen Band, Psychoactive, and American Hitmen.

Shooters Bar and Grill, Radisson Hotel, 3299 Holiday Court, La Jolla. 858-453-5500. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *John Cain*, jazz/pop/Latin/standards.

over a fuzz-pop soundtrack. Check out the fan

website sparklehorse.org to see lists of Link-

ous's lyrical allusions, encompassing

everything from Shakespeare to The Addams

SPARKLEHORSE, Belly Up Tavern, Wednes-

day, February 7, 9 p.m. 858-481-8132.

Thrusters, 4633 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach. 858-483-6334. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Willovealot*, smooth jazz/R&B.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Friday, *Brain Buckit*, rock. Saturday, *the Hoodoo Blues Band*. Wednesday, *Tefflon*.

Turquoise Cafe, 873 Turquoise Street, La Jolla. 858-488-4200. Friday, 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m., *Jazzilla*. Saturday, 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m., live world jazz.

Winstons, 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-6822. Thursday, Soja, reggae. Friday, Green Lemon, Charlie Hitchcock, and Revolutionary Side Effects, rock. Saturday, Deadline Friday and Wise Monkey. Monday, the Electric Waste Band, classic rock. Tuesday, Sheila Sondergard, Helley Winson-Lee, Jordon Loder, Mike Pinto, Chuck Schiele, Laura Kubel, Julie James, and Barbara Nesbitt. Wednesday, the Chi Club and the Donkeys, rock.

DOWNTOWN

Blarney Stone Pub, 502 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8519. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, *Steve Brewer*, acoustic.

Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp), 668 Sixth Avenue, San Diego. 619-702-4200. Friday, 8 p.m., Joshua Damigo, folk. Saturday, 8 p.m., Larry Fulton, contemporary piano.











DOWNTOWN

Busalacchi's Ristorante, 3683 Fifth Avenue, San Diego. 619-298-0119. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., the New Standard Jazz Trio, straight-ahead jazz. Sunday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Cynthia Hammond, jazz.

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown, 619-232-HELL, Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted Thursday, Earl Greyhound, Silverbird, and Susan Hurtuk. Friday, the Polysics the Outline, and Rocket. Monday,



1

GUINNESS

Stellastarr, Monsters Are Waiting, and Minipop. Tuesday, Miho Hatori and Los Abandoned. Wednesday, Jucifer and Sirhan Sirhar

Croce's Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. All music is jazz unless otherwise noted. Thursday, David Patrone. Friday, Yavez. Saturday, Primo. Sunday, the Archtones. Monday, Dave Scott. Tuesday, the Shep Meyers Quartet. Wednesday, the Jorge Camberos **Ouintet**

Dick's Last Resort, 345 Fourth

Avenue, downtown. 619-231-9100. Music is rock and roll. Thursday, Blue Rockit. Friday, Private Domain. Saturday, Cousin Bud. Sunday, the Disco Pimps. Tuesday, Dregs of Sada. Wednesday, the Scott Carter Duo.

Dizzy's, 344 Seventh Avenue wn. 858-270-7467. Friday, 8 p.m.,

epicentre

all ages! all the time!!!



Pass the Drum, jazz, Saturday, Willie Jones III and His Quartet, jazz.

Dublin Square, 554 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-239-5818. Thursday, Adrienne Nims and Raggle Taggle and Glen Fischer, David Page, Floyd Fronius and Anna Carlstrom

4th & B, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343. Wednesday, the Spazmatics, rock.

G5-Georges on Fifth, 835 Fifth Avenue (between E and F Streets), downtown. 619-702-0444. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, Tom Barabas, pianist.

Gaslamp Tavern, 868 Fifth Avenue, San Diego. 619-239-3339. Tuesday, Fishbait, country, Wednesday, Mark Fisher, classic rock

Henry's Pub, 618 Fifth Avenue vn. 619-238-2389. Thursday, the Brat Pack. Friday, Good Times. Saturday, Groove Sessions. Tuesday, the Stilettos, rockabilly. Wednesday, Lady Dottie and the Diamonds, blues.

House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-299-2583. Thursday, *Electric Funeral*, metal/classic rock/rock. Friday, Jaguares, rock. Tuesday and Wednesday, Julieta Venegas, Latin.

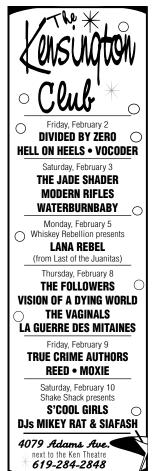
Jimmy Love's, 672 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G), downtown 619-595-0123. Thursday and Sunday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Masterpiece*, jazz/R&B. Friday, 9:45 p.m., *Pop Rocks*, '80s dance. Saturday, 9:45 p.m., *Diva Soul*, disco/Top 40. Monday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Insight, jazz, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Mystique, jazz/R&B. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Soul Revue, dance/Top 40.

Patrick's II, 428 F Street, downtown. 619-233-3077. Music is blues/soul unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Shelle Blue*. Friday, 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Shelle Blue, 9 p.m., Johnny V. Saturday, Soul Diego. Sunday, the 145th Street Deluxe Blue Band. Monday and Tuesday, Todd Wolfe Blues. Wednesday, Blue Four.

Princess Pub and Grille, 1665 India Street, Little Italy/downtown. 619-702-3021. Saturday, J.D. Boucharde, piano.

Sevilla, 555 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-5979. Club Salsa: Thursday, Primo, salsa/Latin jazz. Tuesday, Orquesta 8.8, salsa.

The Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second ntown, 619-238-1818. The Avenue, do Plaza Bar: All music is piano. Thursday and Friday, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Peter Prince of Piano, pop/jazz/standards, 7 p.m. to midnight, Fran Loskota, pop/jazz/standards. Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Karen Giorgio, pop/standards/Broadway, Monday



San Diego Reader February 1, 2007 2

Call Billy or Drew: 619-222-8131 • www.myspace.com/kidslam

through Wednesday, Peter Prince of Piano.

Whiskey Girl, 600 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-236-1616. Thursday, DaGroove, rock hits, and DJ Marc Thrasher. Friday, DJ Marc Thrasher. Saturday, DJ Marc Thrasher and DJ Famous Dave. Sunday, DJ Danimal. Monday, Manic Mondays with DJ Thrasher. Tuesday, DJ Famous Dave. Wednesday, the Stepping Feet, a Dave Matthews Band tribute, pop/rock, and DJ Famous Dave.

Xavier's Bar and Grill, 750 Fifth Avenue, San Diego. 619-233-0517. Thursday, 10 p.m., *SweetSize*, alternative/funk.

SAN DIEGO

Blarney Stone Pub, 5617 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont. 858-279-2033. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, *Chris and Harold*, Irish folk. Monday, *Pat and Joe and Alison Gill*, folk. Tuesday, Irish jam session.

Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley), 1072 Camino del Rio North, Mission Valley. 619-295-2201. Friday, 8 p.m., *Mike McGill*, folk.

Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-LIVE. Friday, Brick Bath, Unset, and Authentic Sellout, hard rock/punk. Saturday, Etched in Stone, Disaster Magnet, and Top Dog, metal. Tuesday, Pimpadelic and Miss Crazy, rock.

Claire de Lune, 2905 University Avenue, North Park. 619-688-9845. Friday, 8:30 p.m., *the Speak Easy Quartet*, '40s traditional jazz.

Epicentre, 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa. 858-271-4000. Music is rock/metal/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Building Rome in a Day, the City's Finest, the New Addiction,* and *the Flight of Athena*. Friday, *Barbie Albamis, Mindstress, Play Safe,* and *Sugarchaos.*

The Gordon Biersch Brewery, 5010 Mission Center Road, San Diego. 619-688-1120. Friday, *the Fall Guys*, folk rock.

Harry's Bar and American Grill, 4370 La Jolla Village Drive, San Diego. 858-373-1252. Friday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson Jazz Duo*.

The Imperial House, 505 Kalmia Street, San Diego. 619-234-3525. Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., *Rick Lyon*, pop standards/Top 40/variety.

JP's Pub, 10436 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Tierrasanta. 858-576-2509. Friday, 9 p.m., *the Lil' Efert Band*, classic rock.

The Lafayette Hotel, 2223 El Cajon Boulevard, University Heights. 619-296-2101. L Bar and Grill: Thursday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Keith Jacobsen*, smooth jazz saxophone.

Last Call, 4977 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-287-9505. Friday, 9 p.m., *General Lee*, Southern rock/blues.

Lestat's Coffee House, 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-282-0437. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Aaron Bowen, Derek Evans, and Willie Ames. Friday, the Blackout Party, Lindsey Cook, and Molly Jensen. Saturday, Jay Buchanon, Reeve Carney, and Trevor Davis. Monday, open mike. Wednesday, Jaime Robb, Matt Jones, and Ryan Holley.

Lucky Star Nightclub and Ballroom, 3893 54th Street, San Diego. 619-229-8228. Wednesday, 7 p.m. to

9 p.m., *the Victoria Rose Trio*, vintage jazz/swing/rock. **Martini's Bar and Grill**, 3940 Fourth Avenue, San Diego. 619-293-0232.

Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Vintage Vegas, jazz.

Medgrill, 1263 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-683-2233. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Mike Nelson*, solo jazz/Latin guitar.

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, 1310 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park. 619-276-5637. Friday, 8:30 p.m., the Ruined, Animal Style, and Black and Tan, rock. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., Run Barbara Run, the Revents, the Wastrels, and the Lucky Stiffs, rock/punk. Monday, 8 p.m., Mystery Train, blues. Tuesday, 8:30 p.m., 12 Cent, the Bedpost Buzzards, the Prey, and the Dirty Heads, rock/punk. Wednesday, 8:30 p.m., the Blackout Party, Lindsey Cook, and Ryan Howell, rock/acoustic/folk/pop.

The Ould Sod, 3373 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-6594. Friday, Gene Warren, Irish folk. Tuesday, traditional Irish jam session.

Pal Joey's, 5147 Waring Road, Allied Gardens. 619-286-7873. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m., *Rhythm Red*, classic rock.

The Prado Restaurant, 1549 El Prado, San Diego. 619-557-9441. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Adrienne Nims and Raggle Taggle*, Celtic/Irish.

Red Fox Steakhouse, 2228 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-297-1313. Thursday through Sunday, and Wednesday, *Eddie Rossi* and *Joe Soprano*, piano. Monday and Tuesday, 9 p.m., *the David Shaw Duo*.

The Rhythm Lounge, 3048 Midway Drive, San Diego. 619-224-4835. Tuesday, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Groove Policy*, acid jazz/soul.

San Diego Sports Club, 1271 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-299-7372. Music is rock/indie/alternative rock. Friday, the Blasphemous Guitars. Saturday, live bands.

Second Wind, 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos. 619-465-1730. Friday and Saturday, *Uptown Groove*, classic rock. **Sogno Di Vino**, 1607 India Street, San Diego. 619-531-8887. Sunday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Manny Cepeda*, Caribbean tropical. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Tom Boyer*, solo jazz/Latin guitar.

Soma, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-SOMA. Music is rock/alternative rock/metal. Thursday, All That Remains, Misery Signals, the Human Abstract, and Through These Eyes. Friday, Jack's Mannequin, Head Automatica, and Get Back Loretta. Saturday, the Matches, Escape the Fate, I Am Ghost, and the Higher. **Tio Leo's Lounge**, 5302 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-1462. Friday and Saturday, live bands. Tuesday, zydeco blues. Wednesday, 7 p.m., *the High Society Jazz Band*.

The Tower Bar, 4757 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-284-0158. Friday and Saturday, live music. Monday, *Lady Dottie and the Diamonds*, blues.

Tutto Mare, 4365 Executive Drive, La Jolla (Golden Triangle area). 858-597-1188. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Jaime Valle Quartet*, jazz.

Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company, 4590 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-296-0616. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, 8 p.m., Tiffany. Friday, 8 p.m., Dino, Leviticus, Billy Candler and Alpine Daze and Boogie Nights. Saturday, Joel Rafael and the Green Water District. Sunday, 4 p.m., the Celtic Ensemble. Wednesday, open mike.

Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, 3025 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-282-7040. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the B-3 Four* featuring vocalist *David Mosby*, jazz. Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Peggy Lloyd*, jazz.

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www.thekillersmusic.com get tickets a HOB.0	ALL AGES	SAM'S TOWN' and IN STORES NOW executedly.com



NORTH COUNTY

The Alley, 421 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-434-1173. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the Love Rangers, Top 40/pop.

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-9022, Thursday, 9 p.m., *Sister Hazel* and *Alex Woodard*, pop/folk/acoustic. Friday, 9 p.m., *the English Beat* and *Gadfly*, ska/reggae. Saturday, 9 p.m., *the Cat* Empire, Diverse, and Mixmaster Tim. Tuesday, the Airpushers and Audible, hip hop. Wednesday, Sparklehorse and Jesse Sykes and the Sweet Hereafter, rock.

The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe, Flower Hill Mall, I-5 at Via de la Valle. Del Mar. 858-755-3735. Friday, Primasi, Eastern European folk.

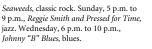
Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad), 1905 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad. 760-479-0242. Friday, 8 p.m., Patty Hall, folk/blues. Saturday, Mike Aguilar, folk

Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain), 11160 Rancho Carmel Drive, Carmel Mountain 858-618-1814. Friday, 8 p.m., *B'Dale*, acoustic folk. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Tom* Boyer, solo guitar.

Carvers, 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Friday and Saturday, the MLC Band.

Cheers, 2475 Main Street, Ramona 760-789-0270. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock/country. Tuesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Mike Gardner, acoustic rock/folk

Covote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad llage Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., the Rhythm Method, classic rock. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Roots to Rockets. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Fish and the



Game Time Tavern, 12735 Poway Road, Poway. 858-748-0015. Friday and Saturday, Full Xposure, classic rock.

Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad), 2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-6951. Friday, the Stone Senses reggae/rock/soul. Saturday, rock.

The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo, Rancho Santa Fe. 858-756-1131. Thursday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Jerry* Melnick, jazz/variety piano.

The Jumping Turtle, 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos, 760-471-7778 Thursday, live bands. Friday, the American Hitmen, 6th Day, Motus, and the Devil's Interval, rock/R&B/soul/metal. Saturday, Hostile Combover, Get Your Death On! and Red Light Runner, rock. Tuesday, MC Lars, the Skank Agents, the Suburban Legends, and Patent Pending, punk/ska/rock/pop. Wednesday, Everess the Lost, Silver Griffin, and Sink to See, alternative rock.

Mas Fina Cantina, 2780 State Street Carlsbad. 760-434-3497. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Mike Gardner*, acoustic rock/folk.

McCabe's Beach Club, 1145 South ont Street, Oceanside, 760-439 6646. Friday, 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., the California Rangers, country

Molly Malone's, 1270 Main Street, na, 760-789-9050, Saturday Rame 9 p.m., Safety Orange, rock.

North Bar Sports and Spirits, 200 West El Norte Parkway, Escondido 760-480-8228. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Mike Gardner, ac rock/folk.

Ocean House, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4131. Friday and Saturday, live bands. Tuesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., the Cradit Union, swing. Wednesday, open mike, blues.

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Album: Can You Feel It (2006) Artist: Pearl

Label: Hard 2 Kill Productions

Where available/price: www.towerrecords.com (\$13.99), Online at CDUniverse.com (\$12.99), Amazon.com (\$15.98), Spun.com (\$11.98).

Songs: 1) Intro 2) He's Mine 3) Que Nos Paso 4) Hey Baby 5) Llevamo Contigo 6) Can You Feel It 7) Cuando 8) Lovin' U 4 Days 9) I Got What He Wants 10) Tu y Yo 11) Darling Baby 12) Rendezvous 13) Sometimes 14) What Am I to Do 15) Never 16) Give It One Time 17) Outro

Band: Pearl (vocals), "Nandogg" Ayon (mixing), Differense (vocals), Boogie (vocals), MC Magic (vocals), Karim (vocals) Website: www.myspace.com/onlypearl

Pearl's music is slow R&B mixed with a little hiphop. She switches between

Rancho Bernardo Inn, 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-675-8500. El Bizcocho Restaurant:

Friday, 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., and Saturday, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., Jerry Melnick and Tom Bishop, jazz/variety.

(Lomas Santa Fe and Highway 101), Solana Beach. 858-755-9474. Friday, Wire Monkey, rock, Saturday, Dehlia Jones, rock. Wednesday, open mike.

Tom Giblin's Irish Pub and **Restaurant,** 640 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-7234. Tuesday, 7 p.m.

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Bonita Road, Bonita, 619-475-2660 Friday, 9 p.m., Jesse Davis, variety. Saturday, Stage 4 or Mikan and Friends,

The Butcher Shop, 556 Broadway, Chula Vista. 619-420-9440. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 8 p.m., Ray Correa, standards/pop/Latin



once, during "He's Mine," does she fall a little short of a high note.

Can You Feel It is an album about relationships. every part. There's fighting over a man in "He's Mine." "Lovin' U 4 Days" and "I Got What He Wants" are declarations of solid love. "What Am I to Do" and "Never" are leaving-and-not-coming-back songs. Four of the songs are in Spanish; with Pearl's R&B style, she fills a niche. These may get major airplay in Spanish-speaking markets.

The background music is competent, standard, slow hip-hop, and it's all electronic: beats, synthesized piano, and, on "Darling Baby," even a digitized voice effect. "Darling Baby," a remake of a 1996 hit by the Elgins, is the

Cafe LaMaze, 1441 Highland Avenue National City. 619-474-3222. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Sandy* Chappel and Sammy Canonizado, jazz/blues. Sunday, 8:30 p.m., Burnett Anderson, Robert Sebastian, and Scott Wallingford, jazz.

Galley at the Marina, 550 Marina Parkway, Chula Vista. 619-422-5714. Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., the Justin Brothers, rock and roll. Saturday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., live rock. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., David Hauser, acoustic Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Gary Seiler, acoustic

Hotel del Coronado, 1550 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-6611. Babcock and Story: Thursday through 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Tony Lasley, Latin jazz. Friday, 8:30 p.m., Barbara Jan and Joe Tarantino, jazz. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., Stellita and Dave Linderen. Tuesday and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Jim Gibson.

Palm Court: Thursday through Sunday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., Ray Briz. Also, Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., *Joey West.* Crown Room: Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., John Cain.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill, 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-5280. Thursday, Northstar, classic rock. Friday, Baywolf, classic rock. Saturday, the Off Beats, rock. Sunday, Jim Moore, acoustic folk. Monday, David Houser, acoustic. Tuesday, Gene Warren, Irish folk. Wednesday, Tommy Price, acoustic



Borders Books and Music (El Cajon), 159 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon 619-593-5119. Music is acoustic/folk. Friday, 7 p.m., *Steven Ybarra*, folk. Saturday, 7 p.m., *Patty Hall*, folk/blues.

best song on the album. It

could be the crossover hit that

gets her on mainstream radio.

ing Pearl and a Beyoncé is a

little voice training for Pearl

and the millions in promotion

that the latter receives from

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Pearl

Dirk's Niteclub, 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove. 619-469-6344. Friday and Saturday, Nemesis, classic rock.

Don's Cocktail Lounge, 13321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon. 619-443-2444. Friday and Saturday, *Joey and the* Stingravs, classic rock.

Fannie's Nightclub, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-698-2204. Friday, One Thread and Fuzz Huzzi, rock. Saturday, Kavena, Hungover Tomorrow the Resen ment, In Perfect Agony, and Blindheim, punk.

Renegade Inn, 14335 Old Highway 80 (half mile east from Lake Jennings turnoff), Flynn Springs. 619-561-8105. Friday and Saturday, *the Honky Tonk* Kings, country.

Second Wind, 8528 Magnolia Avenue, Santee, 619-596-8350, Friday and Saturday, Serious Guise, classic rock.

Tommy's Italian Restaurant, 1190 North Second Street, El Cajon. 619-440-2676. Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Franco Z* and Friends, swing/standards.



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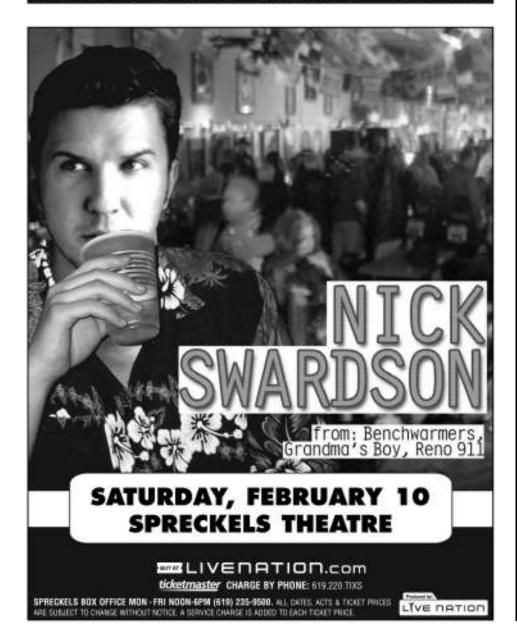
jazz. Bartending

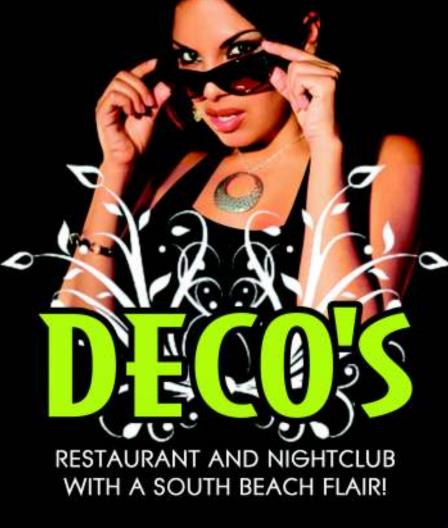
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ROCK

American Hitmen: The Jumping Turtle, 710 Beach Club Animal Style: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclu

Authentic Sellout: Brick By Brick Baywolf: McP's Irish Pub and Grill The Bedpost Buzzards: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub Black and Tan: O'Connell's Pub and

Nightclub The Blackout Party: Lestat's Coffee House, O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub Blindheim: Fannie's Nightclub The Brat Pack: Henry's Pub Brian Buckit: Tiki House Brick Bath: Brick By Brick Mitch Budd: 710 Beach Club Canobliss: Dreamstreet The Chi Club: Winstons The Citizen Band: 710 Beach Club Cousin Bud: Dick's Last Resort The Crowleys: 'Canes Deadline Friday: Winstons The Devil's Interval: The Jumping Turtle The Dirty Heads: O'Connell's Pub Disaster Magnet: Brick By Brick The Donkeys: Winstons Dregs of Sada: Dick's Last Resort Electric Funeral: House of Blues The Electric Waste Band: Winstons Etched in Stone: Brick By Brick The Fall Guys: The Gordon Biersch Brewer Fish and the Seaweeds: Coyote Bar and Grill Mark Fisher: Gaslamp Tavern FM Revolver: 'Cane Full Xposure: Game Time Tavern Fuzz Huzzi: Fannie's Nightclub General Lee: Last Call Get Your Death On !: The Jumping Turtle Green Lemon: Winstons The Higher: Soma Charlie Hitchcock: Winstons Hostile Combover: The Jumping Turtle Hungover Tomorrow: Fannie's In Perfect Agony: Fannie's Nightclub Jaguares: House of Blues Joey and the Stingrays: Don's Cocktail Lounge Dehlia Jones: Surf N'Saddle The Justin Brothers: Galley at the

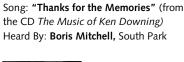
Kavena: Fannie's Nightclub The Lil' Efert Band: IP's Pub The Lucky Stiffs: O'Connell's Pub and Nightcl Miss Crazy: Brick By Brick The MLC Band: Carvers Monsters are Waiting: The Casbah



Artist: High Grass Rollers Song: "Hoedown," "Remington Road" (from the CD The Shortest Road) Heard By: Jamie Sheets, South Park



I was thinking [they sound like] Alison Krauss and Union Station, but it's a little more upbeat than that; maybe even Willie Nelson a bit. I would totally go to see them. I really liked them. What set them apart from a normal bluegrass band is the singer. He seemed more like a singer for a rock band. I could listen to them in my car, for sure.



Artist: The Jazz Project Big Band



It's kind of got that Duke Ellington/big band/Mitch Miller [sound]. It's pretty groovy. It was smooth - very relaxing. Very retro in its sound. It didn't have a modern element to it at all; it really sounded like it was lifted out of that era, which isn't necessarily bad. Saxophones are very prominent in there. [It's good music for] drinking a manhattan or a martini.

SAN DIEGO SONGS TAKE THE STREET TEST

Artist: Brittany Jones Song: "Let Me Fall" (from the CD Just Released) Heard By: Glenda Canizales, Point Loma



I liked the piano a lot. She was singing about [learning] by our mistakes and that you have to let us grow. [] would listen to that song] probably when I'm sad and really when I just maybe broke up with someone and maybe when I got really drunk the night before and I slept with someone I didn't want to and it was really disgusting. Her voice reminded me half and half of Beyoncé and Björk.

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Nemesis: Dirk's Niteclub Northstar: McP's Irish Pub and Grill The Offbeats: McP's Irish Pub and

One Thread: Fannie's Nightclub The Patent Pending: The Jumping Turtle

Grill

Pimpadelic: Brick By Brick The Prey: O'Connell's Pub and

Nightclub Tommy Price: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Private Domain: Dick's Last Resort Psychoactive: 710 Beach Club Radio Memphis: 710 Beach Club Red Light Runner: The Jumping

The Resentment: Fannie's Nightclub The Revents: O'Connell's Pub and **Revolutionary Side Effects:**

Rhythm Red: Pal Joey's

The Rhythm Method: Coyote Bar and Gri Rock Dirty Raw: 710 Beach Club Rocket: The Casbah Roots to Rockets: Coyote Bar and

Run Barbara Run: O'Connell's Pub The Ruined: O'Connell's Pub and

12 Cent: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Uptown Groove: Second Wind (San The Wastrels: O'Connell's Pub and

Wire Monkey: Surf N'Saddle

POP / TOP 40

Alpine Daze and Boogie Nights: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Compar PTrak Armenta: Pasquale on Prospect Gil Barron: Pasquale on Prospect Jesse Davis: Buon Giorno Restaurant The Disco Pimps: Dick's Last Resort Diva Soul: Jimmy Love's James East: Pasquale on Prospect Mark Fulton: Pasquale on Prospect The Good Times: Henry's Pub The Love Rangers: The Alley Rick Lyon: The Imperial House Sister Hazel: Belly Up Tavern The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love's The Stepping Feet: Whiskey Girl

The Suburban Legends: The Jumping Turtle

JAZZ / BIG BAND

Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze The Archtones: Croce's Jazz Bar The B-3 Four: Vesuvio Gourmet

Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn Ray Briz: Hotel del Coronado Sammy Canonizado: Cafe LaMaze Sandy Chappel: Cafe LaMaze The Cradit Union: Ocean House Nick Fiore: Pasquale on Prospect

Franco Z and Friends: Tommy's Italian Restaurant Karen Giorgio: The Westgate Hotel

The Groove Policy: The Rhythm

John Guilino: Pasquale on Prospect Cynthia Hammond: Busalacchi's storante, Pasquale on Prospect The High Society Jazz Band: Tio

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Unset: Brick By Brick

Serious Guise: Second Wind (Santee)





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Willie Jones III and His Quartet: Dizzy's

The Jorge Camberos Quintet: Croce's Jazz Bar Dick Koenig: Cody's La Jolla Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado Barry Levich: La Valencia Hotel Leviticus: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Stellita Lindgren: Hotel del Coronado

Dave Lindgren: Hotel del Coronado Peggy Lloyd: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant Fran Loskota: The Westgate Hotel

The Joe Marillo Jazz Trio: Manhattan Restaurant

Masterpiece: Jimmy Love's Jerry Melnick: The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, Rancho Bernardo Inn The Shep Meyers Quartet: Croce's

Jazz Bar **Mikan and Friends:** Buon Giorno Restaurant

David Mosby: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant

Mystique: Jimmy Love's Mike Nelson: Medgrill, Sogno Di Vino, The Lodge at Torrey Pines

The New Standard Jazz Trio: Busalacchi's Ristorante

Adrienne Nims and Spirit Wind: The Calypso Cafe Mario Oliveras and Latin Spice: Pasquale on Prospect Dan Papaila: The Lodge at Torrey Pines

Pass the Drum: Dizzy's Dave Patrone: Croce's Jazz Bar Peter Prince of Piano: The Westgate Hotel Primo: Sevilla, Croce's Jazz Bar The Victoria Rose Trio: Lucky Star

Nightclub and Ballroom Rick Ross: La Valencia Hotel Dave Scott: Pasquale on Prospect,

Croce's Jazz Bar Robert Sebastini: Cafe LaMaze

Reggie Smith and Pressed for Time: Coyote Bar and Grill

The Speak Easy Quartet: Claire de Lune Coffee Lounge Stage 4: Buon Giorno Restaurant Stefani Stevens: Cody's La Jolla

The Jaime Valle Quartet: Tutto Mare The Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson

Jazz Duo: Harry's Bar and American Grill Vintage Vegas: Martini's Bar and

Grill Scott Wallingford: Cafe LaMaze Willovealot: Thrusters Yavez: Croce's Jazz Bar

REGGAE / SKA

Arm the Angels: 'Canes The B Foundation: 'Canes

Diego Roots: 'Canes The English Beat: Belly Up Tavern

Irie Sides: 710 Beach Club The Skank Agents: The Jumping Turtle

Soja: Winstons

Soul Ablaze: 710 Beach Club The Stone Senses: Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad)

COUNTRY

The California Rangers: McCabe's Beach Club

Fishbait: Gaslamp Tavern The Honky Tonk Kings: Renegade

ACOUSTIC / FOLK

Willie Ames: Lestat's Coffee House B'Dale: Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mourtain)

J.D. Boucharde: Princess Pub and Grille

Aaron Bowen: Lestat's Coffee House Tom Boyer: Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain)

Steve Brewer: Blarney Stone Pub Jay Buchanan: Lestat's Coffee House Billy Candler: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Joe Cardillo: Cody's La Jolla Reeve Carney: Lestat's Coffee House The Celtic Ensemble: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Chris and Harold: Blarney Stone Pub Lindsey Cook: Lestat's Coffee House, O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Joshua Damigo: Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp)

Trevor Davis: Lestat's Coffee House Dino: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company Derek Evans: Lestat's Coffee House

Glen Fischer: Dublin Square

Floyd Fronius: Dublin Square

Mike Gardner: Cheers, North Bar Sports and Spirits, Mas Fina Cantina Allison Gill: Blarney Stone Pub

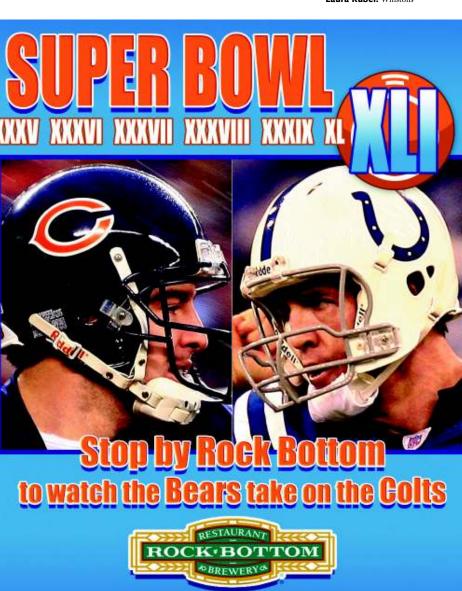
The Green Water District: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Patty Hall: Borders Books and Music (El Cajon)

David Hauser: Galley at the Marina Ryan Holley: Lestat's Coffee House David Houser: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

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Out-Exoticked

Ever wonder what modern Japanese eat when they go out to nosh, sip, and socialize after work? Izakaya Masa gives you a taste of those dishes. After a couple of meals, I can tell you that their offerings go beyond the standard Japanese-American restaurant menu of sushi, tempura, teriyaki, and noodles (although all those go into the mix) to include a vast array of small plates rarely seen here — Japanese tapas. If you love to nibble your way through lots of little dishes, this is a menu that's great fun to explore.

An izakaya is the Japanese equivalent of a Japanese tapas bar. Iz means "sitting" (on tatami mats as often as on barstools or chairs), and zakaya means "sake joint," as in "Oh, show us the way to the next sake bar...." In Japan, some izakayas are chains offering prix-fixe, all-you-can-eat (and drink) menus, with a set procession of dishes delivered for precisely two hours of happy noshing. When time's up, everybody goes home to Mama-san. (Google tells me that "Izakaya" is also a pun on "red lantern," and where the lights are red, the izakaya is the equivalent of a "meet market.") But there are also small, casual, mom 'n' pop versions of these restaurants. Izakaya Masa, where Fukuokaborn Masavoshi Tsuruta is the chef and owner, falls into that category.

At Izakaya Masa, the paper lampshades are white, not red. It's more of a duos and foursomes kind of place, located in the starving upscale enclave of Mission Hills. That area has lost a lot of restaurants due to an edifice complex that's been tearing down neighborhood eateries to put up condos. The site used to be a restaurant called Teriyaki Cowboy, which I never tried. (Some restaurant names — that and the one-time Taco Auctioneer up in Cardiff — are just a little too Dada for me.) Once you find the place at the inside corner of its L-shaped mini-mall, you enter a small room resembling a Japanese rural inn, dominated by a sushi-sake bar that displays bottles of numerous brands of sake. Couples can dine in a semicurtained area decorated with homey craft objects and menu posters in Japanese script. A second dining room, of similar decor but larger, has additional tables for two to four, but if you call ahead, they can put together enough tables to seat six or eight.

The menu includes 12 cold appetizers and 19 hot ones, along with 12 deep-fried mini-kebabs, plus a host of more standard dishes (rice bowls,



ΕW

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NAOMI WISE

noodle bowls, tempura, entrée soups, sushi, sashimi, etc.). The little dishes are the way to go if you're looking for adventure. About five appetizers will leave a twosome full and presumably happy for less than \$50, including tip, tax, and a generous half-bottle of inexpensive "crazy milk" (fizzy

unfiltered sake, served cold) or a couple of Asian beers. My partner TJ and I scouted the

place first, then invited posse regular Sam, who brought long, tall Sheila, the Aussie flying nurse — culinary high-divers all. We began with Chuke Karge cold julkfich cold. What

with Chuka Karage, cold jellyfish salad. *Whoompf!* And wow! These jellyfish are crunchier and spicier than the more familiar Hong Kong style, as hot as Sichuan style, but lightly sauced, with no greasy chili-oil residue. They wake you right up. They're salty, too — you don't taste it, you just order more beer or crazy milk. "I loved jellyfish in Hong Kong," said TJ, "but this is even better. The strands are wider and crunchier, and I'm really getting into the spiciness." "Yeah, the balance of hot and fresh seems just right," said Sam.

Agedashi tofu (deep-fried tofu in bonito broth) is a more common dish, but here it was excep-

tionally well prepared — even my tofu-spurning partner fell under its spell. "I finally get it," he said, "the texture of roasted marshmallows without the icky-sweet factor." The trembling cubes had been crusted with cornstarch, which formed a slippery

skin that slid off into the fishy broth, where it took on a gelatinous texture resembling cellophane noodles. Added to the crunch of scallion rounds, that made three distinctive comforting dich

textures in one comforting dish.

Kaki fry consists of fried oysters in a light, crumbbased batter (more like katsu than tempura), served with sides of a lemon wedge, tonkatsu sauce (soy, Worcestershire, sugar), and a Japanese tartar sauce made of Kewpie-brand mayo studded with sweet pickles. We found the combination thoroughly likable.

Don't look for flat disks when you order tako yaki, "pancakes" stuffed with octopus. These are a popular fast-food nibble around Osaka, where they're cooked on a grill resembling a muffin tin to make spherical cakes. With their light-brown surfaces, they look like dumplings — round like meatballs, and slightly sweet. The batter, a combi-

Izakaya Masa ★★½ (Good to Very Good)

928 Ft. Stockton Drive #109, Mission Hills,

619-542-1354, *www.izakayamasa.com.* **HOURS:** Tuesday–Friday 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m., 5:00–10:00 p.m.; Saturday–Sunday 5:00–10:00 p.m.

PRICES: All courses \$1.90-\$10.50, entrées slightly lower at lunch. Dinner combination box, \$12.80. Lunch bento boxes, \$7-\$13.

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: Japanese hot and cold tapas, plus rice bowls, noodles, sushi, etc. Numerous brands of sake, beer, and shochu, a few imported wines. **PICK HITS:** Chuka Karage (jellyfish salad), kaki

PICK HITS: Chuka Karage (jellyfish salad), kaki fry (oysters), agedashi tofu (fried tofu), kara-age (spicy fried chicken), lobster dynamite maki roll. **NEED TO KNOW:** Location at innermost corner of small, courtyard-shaped mall. Order using Japanese food names from menu (chef-owner speaks English, but other staff may be less proficient). No takeout.

Ratings reflect the reviewer's reaction to food, ambiance, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

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nation of rice and wheat flours, has a charmingly glutinous texture that contrasts with the chewy chopped octopus pieces, scallions, and crisped rice inside. The rounds are glazed with the house darkbrown tonkatsu sauce, then squiggled with Japanese mayo and bracingly garnished with red pickled ginger slivers, sharper than standard golden sushi ginger.

Another evening, we started with a couple of the spiffier sushi rolls. At Masa, only two of the rolls include cream cheese, so you're safe ordering eel if you don't want Philly on it. Preferring more creative ventures, we tried a "special roll" called American Dream. It wasn't quite sushi as we know it, although it looked like a regular *futo maki* (big roll, or "party roll") — until you bit into it. The filling featured tempuraed sweet shrimp (*ama ebi*), cukes, avocado chunks, tobiko or masago (roe), and semitempuraed rice (resembling northern Chi-



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"Best Thai"— 944 Magazine Editor's Choice, 2006

*** (Very good) — San Diego Reader, 2006

"Best Thai Restaurant"- San Diego CityBeat, 2004 & 2005

"If you like Thai food and haven't been to Lotus Thai lately, you may be missing out on a treat!"

— Naomi Wise, San Diego Reader, 2006

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nese "sizzling rice"). The rice was crackly, with a neutral flavor, not seasoned with sweetened vinegar like typical sushi rice.

Another roll called lobster dynamite wasn't the gratin that usually goes by that name, but a plump, overstuffed maki filled with lobster, avo, cuke, spicy mayo, and "wasabi caviar," rolled a bit too loosely (the slices fell apart when we bit into them). The flavors were engaging, the rice moister than in the American Dream roll. At a nearby table, we noticed a trio dining on a series of sushi assortments, never venturing elsewhere. My partner and I felt regretful for them. The sushi here are okav and show some imagination, but they're not in the same master class as, say, Kazumi, barely a mile east, whereas the tapas are unique.

We returned to exploring hot appetizers. House-made shrimp gyoza are unusual — in each, the rear half of a medium shrimp is surrounded by mildly seasoned minced pork and scallions enclosed in a lightly browned, pan-fried flour pot-sticker wrapper with the shrimp tail sticking out. These came with ponzu sauce and a bottle of Asian hot chili oil. (Mix the oil into the ponzu by drops, to wake the dish up — it needs it, and this will make the difference between an okay dish and an exciting one.)

Kara-age, spicy fried chicken, proved a treat. Deep-fried to a mahogany shade in a flour batter, the chicken pieces were thigh meat, moist and juicy and able to take on other flavors without forgetting their own. Evidently, they'd been marinated, since the

spice flavor went all through the meat. Less exciting was age nasu, deep-fried Japanese eggplant cut into wedges. It appeared to be baked and was served with a topping of bonito flakes. "When I have to put salt on something, you know it really needs help, TJ said, pouring on a dribble of soy sauce as a salt substitute.

We expanded our explorations into other menu areas. One intriguing possibility was a list of a dozen kushi-age, deepfried kebabs on bamboo skewers, all at \$2.50 or less. You do want to go here — interesting flavors, at a bargain price. We tried the Japanese sausage skewer, which featured a couple of thick rounds of meat. "It's a hot dog!" TJ exclaimed at first bite. "No, it's coarser-ground than that, it's a, hmm..." I contradicted. "It's like a fat breakfast sausage," said Sheila. Indeed, it resembled a breakfast link seasoned like a hot dog. The skewer came with a sweet, thick dipping sauce. If we hadn't been half full on the sushi, we'd likely have ordered more kebabs - the shiitake, the pork, and maybe the octopus or tofu.

We also tried a couple of dishes that confounded us with exoticism. Maguro their yamokake, a cold appetizer of raw tuna with grated mountain yam (which is *not* the same as "mountain potato," a.k.a. yama gobo, the crunchy daikon-like root veggie shaved into many creative sushi rolls) proved an advanced course in Japanese cuisine, maybe even a postgraduate course. Raw tuna cubes were topped with nori seaweed slivers and scallion rounds - no prob there. But underneath, the yam purée looked like cream of wheat and tasted bland, starchy, and seriously slimy. (To give you an idea of its texture without getting pornographic, one Japanese recipe website suggests okra as a

possible substitute. Back in the Edo period of Japanese history, women used puréed yam as a sexual lubricant but were forbidden to eat it. Taboo "man food," I guess.) Getting back to the bowl, at the edge is a blob of wasabi to stir in - cautiously. You need that wasabi, but a spot too much can leave you gasping. You can also stir in soy sauce. Or you can order something else. If you're curious about the white yam, you can try it in less risky fashion as one of the fried kebabs, called yama imo.

Sheila was interested in the Oka-Zuke listings - a choice of four soups with rice, garnished with seaweed, salmon, eel, or mentai - spicy cod roe. I chose the cod roe. (Can vou blame me? With fellow adventurers, how could I resist?) The broth was thin with a near-neutral flavor. Resting atop a raft of rice was a half-inch layer of cod roe, packed into a mass of gentle crunch, strong fishiness, and chili heat. "This is - uh - interesting," said Sheila. Though we passed the bowl around for second opinions, the dish won no converts. Once again, we were out-exoticked.

We finished back in the land of ease with donburi, a rice bowl topped with Katsu (cutlet). This was TJ's favorite breakfast when we were in Hawaii, where he'd always get it garnished with Spam. That's not an option here, so we chose a Katsu combo of breaded fried-pork fillet and lightly cooked egg to garnish the rice. Unfortunately, the pork was lean loin rather than juicy shoulder, cooked until rather dry. The rice and egg combination was gentle and pleasing. A bowl for lunch, and you'd be full well into the evening.

Just as with Spanish tapas, we didn't love every single dish and you may not either, but the

full array is there to play with. Whatever your palate, you'll find and vou'll never be bored. It's a whole new world of tastes out there

IN MEMORIAM: TJ BYERS (5/11/47-1/10/07)

Everything I know about Japanese food, including learning to like it, I owe to my partner TJ. In high school, he had a teenage romance with the beautiful daughter of an American GI and his Japanese Occupation-era bride. TJ's girlfriend's mother often invited him for dinner, giving him a lifelong love for her cuisine. I'd eaten sushi before we met but only learned the "inside story" by helping him make it at home — fanning the rice, carefully stirring in seasonings taste by taste, experimenting with ingredients. (A substitution of chopped nasturtium leaves from the garden, in place of unavailable shiso, was a great hit at one party.)

The Izakaya genre of restaurant was something new to us both. My partner in life, crime, and adventure, TI was delighted to try the most esoteric dishes on this and any other menu and then plunge into the Internet to furnish most of the research material supporting my articles. (Like the Clintons in the White House, the Reader truly got "two for the price of one.") In the words of our friend and eating companion Alma, "You two could finish each other's sentences. You could share a common perspective and echo each other to make a conclusion...You learned from each other and you taught each other all at the same time.

TI debriefed with me for hours on end when we returned home from a restaurant, "remembering" every detail, which

PIZZA

I wrote down quickly, before we forgot. He was the one who noticed decor, and he edited my articles before they went to the Reader's editors, suggesting lively lead paragraphs when I had writer's block (constantly), clearing out logjams of clotted "English major" prose, rearranging ideas into clearer sequences.

But there was more to his life. Part of it was rocket science. As a young engineer working for Hughes Aircraft, TJ contributed to Neil Armstrong's "one giant leap for mankind" walk on the moon. Hughes paid TJ's tuition at UCLA, but after the moonwalk, the company laid off its moonshot staff. TJ, who'd been ailing but misdiagnosed for years, was finally diagnosed with terminal Hodgkin's disease. He joined an experimental program of draconian chemotherapy and massive radiation. The experiment bought him another 35 years of life - and then death a few weeks ago by slow-acting radiation poisoning that seeded his lungs with fast-growing cancer.

In remission, he moved to Canyon Country, bought a bar, built his own house from scratch on leased government land, married his barmaid, and raised three of her children, along with a young son of his own from his first marriage. (In those days, divorced fathers rarely obtained custody, or wanted it.) He fed his family on the free-range ducks, squabs, pigs, and dairy goats that he raised lovingly on his own subsistence ranch. (What I know about organic livestock, I know firsthand from him.)

Meanwhile, he took up writing. Although his illness forced him to drop out of UCLA a couple of semesters short of a degree (taking only the hard-science

courses and skipping the language and social sciences requirements), he went on to write 12 published college-level engineering textbooks for a maior educational publisher. He also wrote for numerous technical magazines. We met after he moved to San Francisco to set up PC World's computertesting laboratory. They offered him the job of managing the lab, but he didn't want to be anybody's boss and returned to freelance work. His then-wife hated San Francisco and left it and him. Soon after, he and I transited from a long-standing friendship to become a team for his final 13 years.

One of my friends says he was a "Dickensian character." He was indeed "a character," a bit eccentric and quirky, but always true to himself. His Native American grandfather was his mentor, teaching him to speak softly, walk silently, and never hit anybody weaker than himself unless it was to save his life, or someone else's. He was confident enough of his masculinity to treat a woman well. He could build or fix anvthing, although he rarely finished the fixes before moving on to the next project. He was brilliant, messy, sweet, funny. He was truly a man.

Please forgive me for substituting this personal note in place of a chef interview. The last restaurant we went to together could not have been more appropriate to TJ's vast enthusiasms - for Japanese cuisine, for venturing into the unknown, for life itself. Reader, I never married him. (As refugees from long, troubled marriages, we didn't want to do anything that might change or jeopardize our extraordinary relationship.) But I can wish each of you no greater boon than a partnership like ours.



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The Take-Out Two Step

"Wanna bet? First bar we come to, bet we get food."

et's eat at a bar," says Hank. "No, you don't eat at a bar," I say. 'You drink.

We're in Mission Hills, at Goldfinch and Washington.

"Wanna bet? First bar we

come to, bet we get food." "If we don't, you pay for the

drinks?' "Deal...Hey, look. Over there.'

It's one of those old '50s places. River-rock wall, and smoky-blue vertical wood cladding, and a red-

and-white sign: "The Lamplighter." Clearly, all the action's inside. "Yeah, baby," Hank says as I follow him through one of those S-curve entrances. We tumble into gloom.

"Help you boys?"

A face materializes as our eyes adjust to the light. Tina. Oh wow. Beautiful. She's standing behind a red-and-black kidney-shaped bar. Gradually, you make out the other customers, men, mostly, on stools. I notice a couple of pool tables, and some karaoke equipment, plus photo collections, groups of people, happy faces, raised glasses.

We find spaces at the counter.

"How much for a Bud?" Hank asks.

"Three bucks," says Tina. "And coffee?" I ask.

"A dollar."

That perks me up.

"With refills?"

"With refills."

"Listen," says Hank. "Any chance of food?" "Sure," Tina, says. "But not from here. She reaches down under the counter and comes up with a bunch of menus."

"These are all restaurants around here. Most deliver.'

"We can eat their food here, at the bar?" says Hank.

"Sure," says Tina.

"Heh heh," says Hank. "I win."

"No way. They don't have the food here!'

Hank shakes his head and looks at Tina. "Which places do vou like?"

"Well, this ... " She selects a folded orange menu labeled City

Wok. "I like their spring rolls." Must say, the idea of eating here is appealing. The place feels cozy. It's been around since 1954, Tina says. "And always Italian-owned. First the DiSantis, and now the Sciuttos.'

She slides Hank's Bud over.

He upends it, while I check out the menus. For me, it comes down to two: City Wok, because they have plenty of \$4.95 dishes, like potstickers and spring rolls and barbecue pork, plus halfplates of things like Kung Pao chicken, chop suey, Mongolian beef, and garlic pork. Okay. These were just under six bucks. The full plates are three dollars more.

But I like the look of Fiori's too, because Fiori's has plenty of \$3.99 and \$4.99 dishes. Like, the eggplant Parmesan hot sandwich is \$4.99. Fish and chips are the same, and, hey, spaghetti with marinara or meat sauce is only \$3.99 with sourdough garlic bread, \$4.99 with salad as well.

Hmm. Hanker for that spaghetti.

But Hank ain't hankering. He's deciding. "Let's go for the Wok," he says. "I'm gonna have the spring rolls, and then Buddha's Feast."

Buddha's Feast? Oh yes. Whole bunch of vegetables steamed together. Half-plate's \$4.50, except Hank wants a full plate, \$7.50.

Tina comes over. "You're getting spring rolls? 'Cause I'll give you five bucks, and you can add an order for me."

I scan the Wok menu again. Come across a couple of house specials that I could go for: the Shanghai potato scramble ("fresh-cut potatoes, julienned red and green bell peppers, onion, and egg, stir-fried with ginger and topped with minced green onions, \$6.95"). Or barbecued freshwater eel bowl. Eel! Used to catch 'em and cook 'em over a fire when I was a kid. It's \$8.95, but..

"Shall I call?" Tina asks.

We nod. "Eel," I say. "Tell them I'll go pick it all up."

Ten minutes later I'm over at this nice, airy new Chinese place. Franchise that started in North Hollywood. I pay out Hank's money, my money, Tina's money. Comes to \$28.40. Start back with a big, steaming bag.

On the way, I spot Fiori's. I whip inside a sprawling white liquor store with black-and-white check floors and have this guy Nathan make me the \$3.99 spaghetti with meat sauce and garlic bread.

Hope the Chinese food's still hot. Fortunately, when I get back, Hank's busy yapping with a fireman. Hank helps lay out all the boxes and starts chowing. I open my spaghetti. Lordy. A round box, *stuffed*, and another bag with hot garlic bread. Pretty soon, it's a sea of plates we've got going on the counter.

Hank says his Buddha veggies are great, and I slurp on, attacking my spaghetti. But I can't handle it, not with the eel still to come. I slide half across to Hank. It won't go to waste. Today, the guy's an eating machine.

I dig in for my first plastic forkful of barbecued eel. Hmm. It's sweet, and 'specially with the skin, rich, but not fishy. Oh man, with some hot sauce, it gets really flavorful. The fried veggies in the rice help. Beautiful. This is an eel of a find.

"You guys should stick around for the karaoke," Tina's saying. "Every night. We've got 21,000 songs."

"Uh, do you have 'My Way'?" I ask.

You sing 'My Way,' I hit the highway," Hank says. "After you've paid for my drinks...right?"

Damn. The bet. "Except they didn't have the food here...but, oh, what the heck." I fork out the dough. "We'll do it your way."

The Place: The Lamplighter Cocktail Bar, 817 West Washington, Mission Hills, 619-298-3624 Type of Food: Call in your own, most places will deliver **Hours:** 6:00 a.m.-midnight, seven days

Buses: 10, 83 Nearest Bus Stop: Washington at Falcon

The Place: City Wok, 718 West Washington, Mission Hills, 619-220-8888

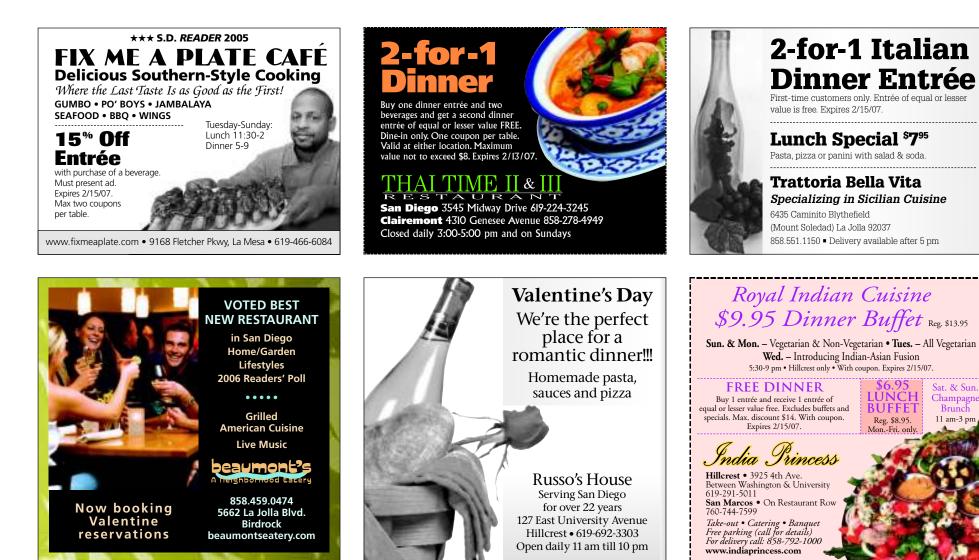
Type of Food: Chinese

Prices: Vegetable spring rolls (four), \$4.95; barbecue spare ribs (four), \$6.95; City Wok chicken, in orange sauce, \$9.95, \$6.95 for a half-plate; garlic shrimp, \$10.50 (\$6.95 half-plate); Buddha's Feast vegetable dish, \$7.50 (\$4.50); barbecue eel bowl, steamed rice, fried veggies, \$8.95

Hours: 11:30 a.m.–9:30 p.m. daily (till 10:00 p.m. Friday–Saturday)

The Place: Fiori's Pizza and Spirits, 3981 Eagle Street (at Washington), Mission Hills, 619-298-6464 Type of Food: Italian

Prices: Spaghetti, with marinara or meat sauce, garlic bread, \$3.99 (\$4.99 with salad); eggplant Parmesan hot sandwich, \$4.99; Philly-style steak, \$5.99; antipasto salad (with cheese, salami, olives), \$4.99; pizzas, \$7.99–\$20.99 Kitchen Hours: 10:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m., seven days







Strangers in Wine Land

"But they're Mexican wines, which most people haven't heard of, and that gives them a bit of cachet."

ell, of course the original interest was on the drinking side of things," says Phil Gregory, one of Baja's newer Third Wave winemakers. "I've always enjoyed wine, and I've always enjoyed drinking the

stuff in the area where it's made. Fortunately, wine very often tends to be made in beautiful parts of the world, which is another of its great attractions." Gregory, a veteran with London's Chapel Recording Studios, used to bump into those beautiful parts of the world while sailing with his wife

Eileen. "Gradually, it became obvious that all the places we were looking at with a view to having a second home to retire to were very often in or near winemaking regions." Making wine for themselves seemed the next step.

Three years ago, when they found the perfect site for their retirement villa — a 30-acre parcel in the Valle de Guadalupe — "it became obvious that that's what we should be doing. They make wonderful wine around here. There is some that is not so good, but there is a concerted effort by some of the more qualified winemakers to help the less qualified — and perhaps change the attitude of some of the more qualified who weren't making wines anywhere near as good as they could have. Especially when you consider the quality of the grapes. There are plenty of old vines that are giving really, really good grapes. They're



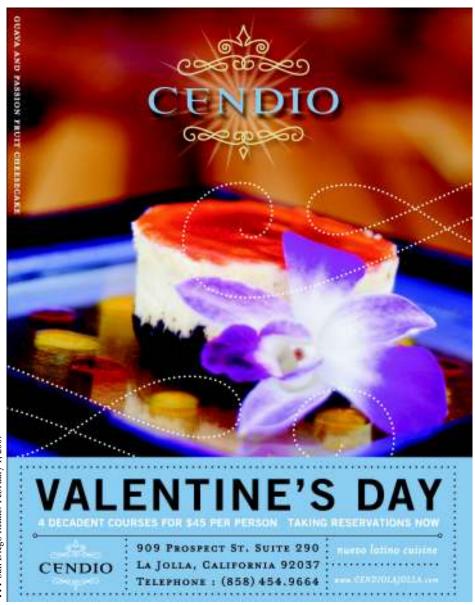
a little different from U.S. wines. A little bit stronger, often a bit more powerful." That "concerted effort" was born of a com-

That "concerted effort" was born of a communal spirit that surprised Gregory. "People tend to be quite competitive, normally. But we arrived

here and discovered this beautiful valley, and it's an extremely civilized place. There are a lot of people who are very well educated, very knowledgeable, very interesting. The community is definitely centered around winemaking and wine drinking and good food. There are a lot of so-

cial events based around wine and food. We assumed that we would just live as expatriates somewhere, just sort of hole up and read books for the rest of our lives or something. But we found ourselves dragged into this community in the middle of nowhere, and we're more active than we've ever been before. It's a lovely place to be, and there's so much to do," even on top of making wine and olive oil. So much so that the Gregorys have sold their house in L.A. and taken up full-time residence in their new home, which ended up also serving as an inn, La Villa del Valle (formerly Las Brisas del Valle).

Despite an abundance of local fruit for sale at good prices, all that land got Gregory itching to plant his own vines. Right now, he's got two and a half acres under vine, and depending on how much water he can manage to get, he plans to



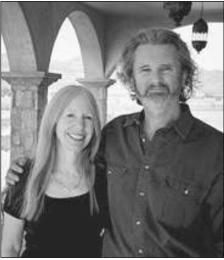
plant more. "I've got Cabernet, Syrah, Viognier, and Chardonnay, and this year, I'm going to plant a few Grenache and Tempranillo. One of the better-known vineyard managers around here, José Fernández, sort of keeps looking after us through the year. Every so often, he'll call to check on the way the plants are growing, give us advice on changing water or fertilizer. Then he gives invaluable advice at the important parts of the year — planting, pruning."

The vines are still a few years from productive maturity, but thanks to purchased fruit and a little help from his friends, his first efforts are already in the bottle. "To a certain extent, it's very easy for me. I can just take advice, buy the best grapes using that advice, and let the wine make itself." Well, not quite. When Gregory arrived, local guru (and winemaker for several ventures, including his own) Hugo D'Acosta was already running the *escualita* — the little school "where he teaches people such as myself how to make wine. The facility is right there; it's like having my own winery. Hugo is very kind, very free with his advice."

Gregory's initial effort "was purely experimental, just to make sure I could make wine. I was very pleased with the result. The Grenache has become very popular; we're working our way through it quite quickly. And the Cabernet worked out very well. This year, I changed the experiment and made eight or nine different kinds of wine, just to see the differences. I'll choose two or three to make in the future. Hopefully, it will become a more commercial venture. I never suspected I would be able to make wine in the quantities we're making it now — or the quality we're making it now."

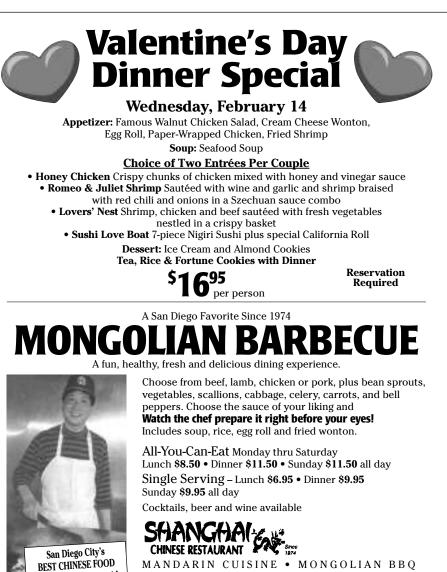
Making it commercially will be something of a tricky business, admits Gregory. "Obviously, in general, there's way too much wine through-

· Voted by AOL cityguide



Eilene and Phil Gregory

out the world. And the prices here are really quite high when compared with, say, Chilean or Australian wines, which you can buy in the U.S. for just three or four dollars. And there's an unfortunate government tax on wine produced here, which puts the price up." Further, he says, in his part of the valley, "All the wines are made in small quantities, and pretty much by hand — it ends up being expensive. So, pricewise, the wines are not very competitive. But they're Mexican wines, which most people haven't heard of, and that gives them a bit of cachet. In the past, it was quite the opposite - Mexican wines were frightening. But now, people know that it costs extra to make them here, and they're willing to experiment. There's a fairly good market. Not a huge one, but it's not like they're making millions and millions of barrels."



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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

Beach Grass Cafe 159 South Coast Highway 101 (one block south of Lo-Santa Fe), Solana Beach 858-509-0632. Formerly a branch of Parkhouse Eatery, Beach Grass has been bought by a mini-chain (with Swami's Cafe and Honey's), but still serves the original recipes. You could eat breakfast here daily and never get bored with the creative morning menuwhich includes foamy, fresh orange juice and "Beach Benedict" with eggs and house-made hollandaise on a soft, lush crab cake. Oddly, though, the "maple" syrup and "butter" spread are both mass-market blends. Lunches and dinners feature multi-ethnic "coastal cuisine," with the best results in seafood

Ishrooms

with entree

Dessert

dishes like "Moroccan crabcakes" and the fish-n-yam chips (with fine housemade tartar sauce). Vegetable accom-paniments are tasty and creative. Reservations essential for weekend breakfasts. Free parking in back via driveway to right of restaurant. Break-fast through dinner daily. Moderate to slightly expensive. — N.W. (6/05)

Besta Wan Pizza House 148 Aberdeen Drive (off the 101), Cardiff-bythe-Sea, 760-753-6707. This ever-pop ular North County restaurant which opened back in 1965 is a family operation all the way. Their thin-crust East Coast-style pizzas are famous locally. Also check for the big-pile spaghetti or lasagna specials if you just want to fill up. Open seven days, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (1/01)

Cafe Zinc 132 South Cedros (at Lomas Santa Fe), Solana Beach, 858-793-5436. The Rancho Santa Fe set like to hang out here in the garden patio with their Porsches at the curb and their shih tzus under the table (dogs are welcome). Even for non-doggie people, the California pepper trees and garden sculpture make this indooroutdoor eatery a really pleasant kick-back place (which gets its name from the zinc-top bar inside). The menu, a mixture of Italian and vegetarian, offers dishes like frittata with cucumber salsa, and baked eggplant "pizzette" (personal-size pizza) with marinara, moz-zarella, and Parmesan cheese. The vegetarian chili and the Zinc veggie burge (served on a La Brea bun) are tasty too. Open daily, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.B. (9/01)

El O'ero 564 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-753-9050. You'll feel like a guest at an intimate party eating a leisurely dinner in this small, noisy, pretty dining room. Chef Monica Szepesy offers personalized, home-style renditions of South American cuisines, including house-made bever-ages. Be sure to try the house's *chicha* orada, a tangy soft drink made from Peruvian purple corn. The fare includes numerous types of empanadas, tapas-like small plates, and full-size entrées most from the family homeland, Peru. Desserts vary nightly and can include a cloud-like tres leches cake. Vegetarian and allergy-restricted diets accommodated. Lunch and dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Reservations necessary. Moderate. - N.W. (5/04)

La Especial Norte 604 North Coast Highway 101 (at Leucadia Boulevard), Leucadia, 760-942-1040. This big, brightly lit roadhouse sports highly whimsical decor (take a look at the blue ceramic "pond" in the dining room, complete with cayman) and boasts a five-page menu, including a page of a dozen regional soups and another full page for seafood. The soups are superb — the authentic Mexico City-style chicken soup is laden with avocados chicken shreds, cilantro, and rice, and the savory eggplant soup includes airy little "croutons" of puffed *relleno* bat-ter. The fresh, interesting seafood entrées outshine the relatively ordinary renditions of the standard stuffed-tortilla variations. No wheelchair access to restrooms. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. -N.W. (5/02)

Pacifica Del Mar Del Mar Plaza, 1555 Camino Del Mar (at 15th Street), Del Mar. 858-792-1803 The chic crowd is drawn here by Pacific Rim/ California-fusion cuisine centering on seafood and organic, locally grown produce. It's quality all the way, but some nights the restaurant is a victim of its own success. The riotous overflow crowds can challenge the kitchen's capacities, not to mention diners' tender ears. (Best strategy for pleasure: Reserve for early or late on a weeknight, and ask for patio seating or Room #2.) Fun list of low-priced mini-appetizers, plus great baked oysters, seared scallops, mustard catfish, and house-cured rib eye. The award-winning wine list is half price Thursday nights, and the full bar specializes in creative martinis. "Pacifica Dine-In" offers call-in take-out for selected items. Lunch and dinner daily. Early-bird dinner discount, Pacifica Breeze Café (a level down) offers savory dishes for breakfast through late lunch daily. Expensive to very expensive. - N.W. (6/05)

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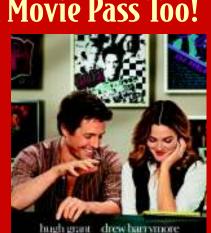
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bowl of chili con carne. Arrive early weekends. Open daily, breakfast to late lunch. In expensive. — N.W. (10/01)

Ruby's Diner 1 Pierview Way, Oceanside, 760-433-7829. One thing about Ruby's: You can build an appetite just getting there. It's at the end of the 1/3 mile-long Oceanside pier. (There's a 50-cent electric wagon, too.) Ruby's is part of a themed "forties diner" chain stretching from LAX to Scottsdale, Arizona. But it's still fun. Shiny Chevy Corvette-style red leatherette and chrome booths, white walls, portholes, old Coca-Cola signs, "Dewey-Warren" presidential buttons, and that view to Hawaii. And pretty darned good-sized servings too; try their omelets. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (11/01)

Savory 267 North El Camino Real, Encinitas, 760-634-5556. Chef-owner Pascal Vignau was executive chef of the Four Seasons Aviara when he decided he wanted his own little place. His casual strip-mall restaurant has been perpetually packed for dinner since open-ing day. Here he serves a monthly changing menu of Southern French and Mediterranean cooking spotlighting seasonal local produce. Highlights include an ultra-rich macaroni-and-ham casserole. The adventurous mainly-Cal wine list is remarkably affordable, with many choices available by half-bottles and glasses (and mod-est corkage if you BYO). Dinner reservations urged; groups larger than ten accommodated with manager's approval. High tea Saturday afternoo

Lunch Tuesday through Saturday; dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. — N.W.~(12/03)

Tom Giblin's Irish Pub 640 Grand Avenue (at Roosevelt Street), Carlsbad Village, 760-729-7234. Occupying the whole of a handsome, sprawling, block-long Elizabethan-style building, this friendly "small-townish" saloon offers some above-average pub-grub, especially the perfect, moist corned beef with firm-tender cabbage, the huge, lively salads, and the house-baked brown bread. Boxty (Irish "peasant potato pancakes, rarely found in Cali fornia) are done up rather doughy rather than crisp to serve as "wraps" for corned beef and other dishes. Live music Thursday through Saturday. 9 p.m. to midnight. A large, attractive heated patio next to the parking lot of-fers some afternoon serenity. Open daily, lunch until late. Inexpensive. N.W. (3/02)

Tony's Jacal 621 Valley Avenue (between Genevieve Street and Juanita Street), Eden Gardens, Solana Beach, 858-755-2274. Come here at night, when the mysterious low mud-brick arches with the stained glass windows make you think Old Mexico, when the Del Mar racing bar makes you think 1930s Hollywood, and the dining patio, under the 100-year-old chinaberry tree, looks straight out of Guadalajara. Back in 1946, Tony Gonzales's wife Catalina started preparing food for fellow Mexican workers. Since then, everybody from Liz Taylor to J. Edgar Hoover has passed through these portals. Try the "La Colonia" combination of just about anything with rice and beans. Turkey meat is big here, and the (real) crab quesadilla in a corn tortilla is de licious too. Cheapest: probably chicken strips with French fries. And "Jacal"? It means "shack." No lunch or dinner on

Tuesday; no lunch Sunday. Inexpen-sive. — E.B. (10/02)

Trattoria Positano (Cardiff-bythe-Sea) 2171 San Elijo Avenue (at Chesterfield), Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-632-0111. If you're tired of Italian restaurants, you'll be revitalized by this one. Original recipes, wonderful fresh fish, nightly specials, excellent lamb and pastas. Very warm atmosphere. A treasure. Reservations accepted for parties of four or more; expect a wait at prime dinner hours, especially on weekends. Lunch and dinner six days, Sundays dinner only. Upper moderate. -E.W. (6/98)

NORTH INLAND

Abbey's Real Texas BBQ 6904 Miramar Road (at Commerce Street, Miramar, behind Denny's), 858-566-5235. Newer, smaller branch at 9353 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard (at Ruffin Road), Kearny Mesa, 858-279-7427. Texas barbecue consists of meat, chicken, turkey, and links that are repeatedly mopped with a marinade and cooked in a big cast-iron smoker (rather than grilled over a fire). Here they use mesquite to barbecue the poultry quickly and the brisket ve-r-r-y slowly. In addition to the usual BBQ sides (potato salad, coleslaw, beans, etc.), they offer a Caesar salad. At the Miramar branch the room is large and unadorned but very clean. Wheelchair accessible. Same menu lunch and dinner. Open daily; continuous service for lunch and early dinner weekdays; normal dinner hours weekends. Inexpensive to low moderate. — E.W.

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 restaurantgoers). 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)

Galeon (Escondido) 503 West Mission (at Centre City), Escondido, 760-746-5951. Mexican seafood, along with the usual dishes, is featured in a bright coffee-shop atmosphere with comfortable booths, big windows, a lunch counter and a salad bar. Shrimp and langostino ("squat lobster," in fishermen's terms) are the house special-ties, and are well treated. Also consider an intense little marlin taco (squeeze some lime onto this rich, strong fish), or the savory *albondigas* soup (lime it up, too). Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive (standard dishes) to moderate (seafood). — N.W. (6/01)

Pho Hoa Hiep 9910 Mira Mesa Boulevard, #A, 858-578-1468 (also at 6947 Linda Vista Road, 858-268-8406). This pho (soup) place of the brothers Hoa and Hiep is a clean, busy eatery near hi-tech offices. It's popular at

lunch and dinner, partly because of frequent two-for-one deals. Try the #1, *Dac Biet Xe Lua*, an "extra large bowl" of soup filled with rare steak slices and well-done brisket, flank, tendon, and tripe along with mint and bean sprouts. A popular breakfast *pho* is "French bread with beef juicy cube soup." They also have rice dishes. And try the tra-ditional fruit drinks, maybe the *Xam Bo Luong*, a combination of loganberry, black dates, seaweed, and lotus seeds in syrup. Lunch, dinner daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/03)

Rancho Valencia 5921 Valencia Circle, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-759-6216 Nestled in the lush garden setting of the Rancho Valencia Resort is one of San Diego's dining gems. They adver-tise the cuisine as California-French. Whatever. Every bite from appetizer to dessert is prepared and presented to delight Californians, French people - actually, any person on the planet with taste buds. Their crab cake topped with sun-dried apricot-mango chutney was equal to the best you'd eat around Chesapeake Bay. Also, enjoy an entrée of prime mesquite-grilled steak, fresh fish, veal, lamb, or chicken. Portions are generous, as is the wine list. Casual elegant dress. Open daily, lunch and dinner; brunch Sunday. Very expensive. — S.M. (6/04)

Sand Crab Cafe 2229 Micro Place (at Opper, off Barham), Escondido, 760-480-2722. Sandy Crabbe (honest, that's his name) owns this fun, funky dive in the wilds of industrial Escondido near the San Marcos border. A visit offers the primordial, preschoolish joy of whacking crabs to pieces with mallets and eating them with your hands. (Bibs are optional.) Everybody gets into the party spirit. There's a huge à la carte list of appetizers, soups snacks, and main courses, often at bar

gain prices. Entrées include several crab-bucket combos, cooked to a wellseasoned boil with corn, potatoes, and spicy Louisiana sausage. Most of the shellfish were flash-frozen on shipboard, but they're still tasty. The melted non-butter "spread" accompanying them appeals to the area's many healthconscious residents. (Or you can BY-OButter and they'll melt it for you.) Fine tangy housemade key lime pie is a perfect finale. Beer and wine and good margaritas. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. -N.W. (5/01)

Vincent's Sirino's 113 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-745-3835. French-born chef-owner Vincent Grumel serves Gallic classics in an intimate, small-town bistro setting. This is a cuisine of rich dark sauces robing fine ingredients, such as a huge, flavorful yeal chop (no factory calf, that). Mushrooms and vegetables (from local farmers or Grumel's own garden) are the season's best and sensitively treated. Desserts are worth every calorie - save room for the spectacular Bavarian. Full bar, fine wine list. Lunch Tuesday through Friday, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Expensive. N.W. (6/01)

LA JOLLA

Great Khan's Mongolian Festi**val** 4545 La Jolla Village Drive (UTC), 858-678-0950. This is a chain that stretches almost as far as the Mongolian Empire, but that's because the idea is good. One meal, plenty of it, and guaranteed fresh because it's either frozen (curled shavings of beef, chicken, turkey, pork) or raw (veggies including cabbage, celery, broccoli, cucumber,





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green peppers, carrots, mushrooms, pineapple, water chestnuts). Stuff as much as you can into your bowl and hand it to the chef to braise on the huge hotplate, and add noodles. Bonus: gallery view of skaters or an ice hockey match while you eat. Open breakfast through dinner weekdays, earlier closing weekends. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (1/04)*

La Taverna 927 Silverado Street (at Girard Avenue), La Jolla, 858-454-0100. Reservations are a necessity at this tiny trattoria, especially if you'd prefer the relative quiet of the roofed sidewalk patio to the din of the cute but cramped dining room. Look for Italian cooking styles ranging from Tuscan, which showcases pastas with simple fresh sauces, to meatballs and red sauce. Highlights include chefowner Mary Ann Vitale's house-made Sicilian-style fennel sausage, and if the feather-light potato gnocchi is on special, just say "yes." Save room for a slice of house-made layer cake. Moderate. — N.W. (11/00)

The Pannikin Cafe 7467 Girard Avenue (at Pearl), La Jolla, 858-454-5453. Also in Del Mar and in Encinitas. Oh, sure, the inside of this converted bungalow is cool, with its woody-green tables of different heights and cool damsels with animal temp-tattoos on their arms serving you. But here at Pannikin's La Jolla outpost, the outside's the "in" spot, with its brick and earth tones and weathered timber and sixties rainbow tables. But you have to make it through the laptop-clack-ing, cell phone-blabbing crowd who use this as their garden office and Very Important Meeting spot. Musicians, grad students, and school kids also show up to munch twigs and nuts and think serious thoughts. Breakfasts are mostly steamed-egg variations, including the popular Greek eggs and a fill-ing breakfast burrito. For lunch, a mild chicken curry is a nutty treat, and "pannwiches" such as ham or tuna are fresh, generous, and worthy, though the retros among us will be looking for a salt lick all the way home. Breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. - E.B. (2/03) Piatti Ristorante 2182 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla Shores, La Jolla

858-454-1589. Whether you sit inside to enjoy the warm, rustic decor or outside under the giant ficus tree listening to the fountain, you're in for a treat at this secluded restaurant. Meals begin with crunchy corn-studded *ciabatta* and spicy balsamic dipping sauce, but don't fill up too soon: the appetizers and salads are varied and tasty. All pas-tas are house-made and served with lively, unusual sauces. Lemon-herbed rotisserie chicken, wood-fired pizzas, veal piccata, and bistecca (a grilled ribeye steak) round out the entrées. Por tions are generous, so pace yourself if you're planning to have one of their house-made desserts. Lunch and dinner weekdays; brunch and dinner Saturday and Sunday. Moderate. -S.M. (7/04)

Sadaf 613 Pearl Street (at Cuvier), La Jolla, 858-551-0643. You worry those formal fixtures and black-tux waiters, the gold-encrusted paintings, and the crisp, pink table linens all scream "expensive!" Actually, prices are easygoing, especially at lunch. After the basket of complimentary bread, try skewers of chicken or ground filet mignon with rice or salad, or *albalou polo* (rice, dried cherries, and chicken). Pistachio-and-rosewater ice cream is a great finale. Nonspecials and evening meals cost more, but at any price this is real Persian food, with typical riotous herbage and sybaritic spicing. Another branch in the Gaslamp turns into a nightclub after dinner, but the food's better at this La Jolla flagship. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (10/00)

Tutto Mare 4365 Executive Drive (at Executive Way), Golden Triangle, 858-597-1188. The modern Italian cuisine here emphasizes pasta and fresh seafood from the mesquite grill or oak-fired oven. Lunch hours roar with chic crowds from the surrounding office buildings, but the kitchen is most on its toes then, too. Pastas are mainly house-made, with fresh-tasting sauces, and substantial seafood salads are available. Entrées (whether seafood or meat) may be overcooked by the fierce wood fires, and most come with minor variations of the same lemon-butter sauce and a one-size-fits-all veggie medley. Full bar, interesting wine list, good happy hour



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nibbles. Complimentary valet parking. Call for careful directions (very hard to find). Extremely noisy. Lunch and dinner weekdays, dinner weekends. Pastas and salads moderate, entrées expensive. — N.W. (10/02)

MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

Andres' Patio Restaurant 1235 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park, 619-275-4114. This is a cozy cultural surprise on hard-to-define Morena Boulevard. The food is flavorful (and not spicy-hot like Mexican and South American dishes). A good introduction to it is *ropa vieja* ("old clothes"): shredded beef sautéed with mushrooms, green pepper, and tomatoes with everpresent rice and black beans. And the Cuban sandwich (roast pork, baked ham, and cheese) shows off the Cuban handling of pork. Other interesting dishes include *alcapuria* (pork and green plantain) and luscious, messy *yuca con mojo* (yuca root with garlic oil). Open for lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (8/01)

94th Aero Squadron 8885 Balboa Avenue, Kearny Mesa, 858-560-6771. One of San Diego's hidden jewels: there's classic American fare (stuffed pork tenderloin, farmhouse chicken) in the "Officers' mess." Happy hour is weekdays from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Fridays, the outside "Runway" grill features kebabs. The biggest attraction is the place itself. Built to mimic a WWI French farmhouse taken over by a bunch of Yankee flying aces, it has a garden full of antique planes and live ducks — and right outside, the real Montgomery airfield. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (11/00)

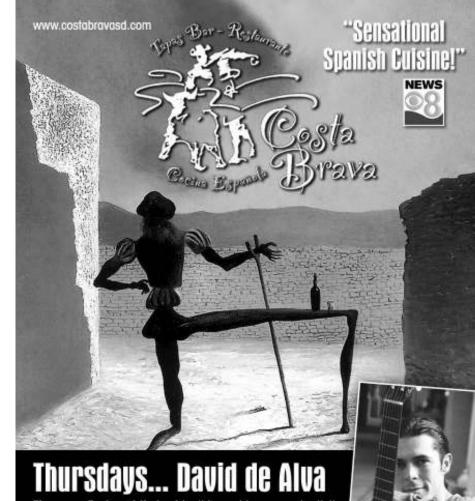
Shanghai City Restaurant 3860 Convoy Street #105 (off Balboa), Kearny Mesa, 858-278-5883. Forget he blah strip mall it hides in. This little piece of Shanghai is a jewel. It feels like one of those century-old places in San Francisco's Chinatown. A two-footlong, satin-silver arowana fish greets you as you come in. Brightly painted dragon columns support a gold dragon arch that leads you into the gold-walled dining room. Mainly, Chinese seem to come here, often eating Shanghai seafood dishes or choosing sumptuous specials like clay hot pots filled with eel and chestnuts or steamed rockfish on a big oval platter. Or, for around five dollars, you can choose lunches like Shanghai chicken, chicken chop suey, or Szechuan pork with crispy noodles, soup, steamed rice, a spring roll, and the main item. Open 10 a.m. to midnight; closed Tuesdays. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (5005)

Spice House Cafe 9035 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard (at Complex Drive, across from courthouse), 858-565-1028. When your "head feels like an old potato" and your "tongue like a button hook" (to quote Kipling), Spice House's answer is their Hangover Omelet. We don't know if it's the Ortega chilies or Jack cheese or super tangy tomato sauce, but some guys swear they feel better for eating it. Other excellent choices include Portuguese sausage with three eggs; Italian sausage frittata with ham, tomatoes, mushrooms, and thick French toast topped with strawberries and whipped cream. Open daily, breakfast and lunch, dinner nightly, with emphasis on Greek-American cuisine. Inexpensive. -E.B.(11/00)

24-Hour Valley Kitchen Family Restaurant 875 Hotel Circle South,



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Mission Valley, 619-819-1017 or 619-298-8282. Great when everything else is closed. The place feels like a Midwestern chain eatery: all carpets, darkwood walls, etched glass. Prices are a little up there, but hot French dip is great and burgers are generous. Best news may be that if you feel like breakfast at midnight, no problem. Ask for the pork chops, two eggs, hash browns, and biscuits and gravy. Chops are crumbed and buried in hash browns. Splosh on lots of applesauce, and leave room for the biscuits — their bacon-fat gravy will have you licking the plate. Bonus: You can sit here with a book and a coffee all night long if you like. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (1/04)

THE BEACHES

Bare Back Grill 4640 Mission Boule vard (at Emerald), Pacific Beach, 858-274-7117. This may be the first New Zealand food place in town, but that's not what keeps the customers coming in. It's BBG's claim that most of their meat is certified organic. The owners guarantee hormone-free beef and lamb, both from from New Zealand. So, what to eat? Burgers, burgers, burgers - all kinds - from prime NZ Angus to "Bare Li'l Lamb" burgers with wasabi dip. They also offer chicken. Decor inside is strictly Kiwi-land, from the all-black rugby shirt on the wall to the declaration of food prin-ciples. People who had given up on

hormone-treated meat are coming here for their first burger in years. Open seven days, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Inex-pensive. — E.B. (11/05)

Brazil by the Bay Restaurant and Sports Bar 3770 Hancock Street, Loma Portal, 619-692-1410. It's not by the bay, but the food is definitely by-the-book Brazilian. You know be cause the first things you see are guaraná, the Amazonian energy drink and açaï, the Amazonian palm berry energy bowl. If you're not strapped for cash, go for the popular feijoada stew, black beans cooked slowly with "six types of pork and two kinds of beef, offered Saturday and Sunday. If you don't have the dough, have what most of Brazil eats every day: the "PF," prato feito ("ready plate"). It's beef, chicken, or fish with rice and Brazilian beans End with the cheapest dessert, the wicked brigadeiro. Open seven days; closes at 8 p.m. Monday and Tuesday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (9/04)

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 gin-gered cream of carrot. Entrées include lamb loin, veal tenderloin, bouill-abaisse, and fish, with several preparation choices for chicken or filet mignon. The pan-roasted halibut is gently enhanced with a champagne beurre blanc sauce and topped with crispy braised leeks. Desserts abound, with an imported French cheese plate topping the list — along with pastries, meringues, etc., all freshly prepared inhouse. Bakery and breakfast daily; no

lunch or dinner Sunday or Monday Moderate to expensive. - S.M. (9/04) Gringo's 4474 Mission Boulevard (at Garnet Avenue), Pacific Beach, 858-490-2877. With better cooking than you'd guess from its name, this ambitious spin-off of the local Moon-doggies chain serves the sort of Mexican cuisine you might find at a seaside resort in Cabo or Puerto Vallarta skillfully prepared with good, fresh in-gredients, just a bit dumbed-down in the flavors. The chile verde, say, is beautifully seasoned, if barely picante. Given the surefire location at the hub of PB party town, the food is actually better than it needs to be. A vast list of tequilas, interesting margaritas, and a sensi ble wine list emphasizing affordable, food-friendly Chilean bottlings add to the draw for a lively young crowd that revs the decibels to a roar on weekends. Three meals daily, brunch available Sunday. Moderate. - N.W. (6/02)

The Mission Cafe and Coffee House 3795 Mission Boulevard (at San Jose Place), Mission Beach, 858-488-9060. Gourmet and Latino breakfasts served in funky surroundings. Outstanding are cinnamon French toast, blackberry-banana pancakes, and roast beef hash with rosemary potatoes and eggs. Chino-Latino lunch items. All dishes plus fabulous bread, scones, muffins, available for take-out. Open daily 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.W.*

People's Organic Foods Co-op Deli 4765 Voltaire Street, Ocean Beach, 619-224-1387. This is the land of "organic," "cruelty-free," "environ-mentally safe," "shade-grown." Vegan Country. People look either disgustingly healthy, disturbingly pasty, or just plain smug. But the food tastes pretty good. And they sell it by the pound so

you can mix and match. ëCourse, you have to learn new words, like tempeh (cultured soy which can be made to taste like anything). And dishes have a sensible momsy East Coast feel — garlic eggplant with beet root and onions, tempeh loaf, sweet squash and rice, millet spinach bake, shepherd's pie, "mango madness," tempeh sausage, steamed vegetables, vegan macaroni and cheese. Bottom line: it's guilt-free. Open seven days, breakfast, lunch, din-ner ("serious" breakfasts daily except Tuesday and Thursday). Inexpensive. - E.B. (9/03)

The Surfside 4527 Mission Boule vard (at Garnet Avenue), Pacific Beach, 858-273-2979. In the evenings, it's a 'scene" here — for good reason. You'll find fresh sushi, sashimi, and "Califor nia coastal cuisine," i.e., fun and flavorful fusion-y tapas, many of them going for half-price during weeknight happy hours. You can actually reserve for the sushi bar (it'll put you at the head of the line), where the chefs are unusually friendly. They shine on simple, pure Japanese sushi, although they make the usual "party rolls" too. Most seafood is of fine quality (except the toro, which seems to have problems). For those preferring a tapas-style sit-down meal, there's a breezy, informal dining room with large windows look-ing out on the street, plus a small private dining room for parties. At least five Japanese beers and a dozen sakes available. Reservations urged for large groups. Parking is tight; just one handcapped slot in front lot. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W. (10/02)

Sushi Ota 4529 Mission Bay Drive (at Bunker Hill Street), Pacific Beach, 858-270-5670. What becomes a legend most? At its best, this renowned sushi bar offers fish of exceptional quality, perfect tart-sweet rice, tight wraps, and disciplined creativity. These joys don't come easily. First, find the place: Driving south from Balboa, look left, and pull into the mini-mall with the large 7-11 sign (opposite Rubio's). Sit at the sushi bar to snoop on your neighbors' choices, watching for off-menu ex-travaganzas. Don't miss the *ama ebi* with crisp shrimp heads, atypically flash-baked (not batter-fried). Cooked dishes are dull except for *chawan mushi* (custard broth with gingko nuts). Alas, when Ota-san's away, his elves may play — amateurishly. Best bet: Reserve a bar seat when the master's most likely to be present. Lunch Tuesday through Friday, dinner daily. Disabled access chancy. Long, crowded waits unless ou've reserved. Moderate. N.W. (11/00)

CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

La Fachada 20 25th Street (near Commercial Street), Logan Heights, 619-236-8566. The thing about La Fachada is: You can have anything any time. The 24-hour restaurant near the trolley's 25th Street stop is Mexican but has Anglo food too -- mavbe because the cops' Central Division HQ sits across the road. Great not-quite-morning place for breakfast at, say, 3 a.m. They do a pretty good Western omelet breakfast with cheese, bell peppers, onions, and ham, bacon, or sausage They also have great Caldo Siete Mares and Vuelva a la Vida, tasty soups laden with seafood. But the best fun is in the evening up to 11 p.m., when an outdoor kitchen operates, mostly serving tacos to eat under a big white garden canopy. Open 24 hours. Inexpensive. -E.B.(6/05)

Just Fabulous Kensington 4116 Adams Avenue, Kensington, 619-584-2929. At this usually-packed café, painted in cheerful Creamsickle colors, noted owner and executive pas-try chef Beryl Ann Byrd and executive chef Marcello Alvarez offer a full menu of seasonal California-Mediterranean cuisine. At dinner, appetizers are gen-erally fun to eat but entrées can be inconsistent. Weekend brunch dishes are terrific. The primary emphasis is on desserts, of course: Byrd's pastries are of the Euro-influenced American mode - very sweet, a little heavy, a touch more sophisticated than Mom's apple pie. The pastry case doubles as a retail counter for sweets-to-go. Affordable international wine list and coffeehouse specialty beverages. Few tables, no reservations. Arrive early or late on weekends or expect to wait. No alcohol allowed at outdoor tables. Street parking only. Dinner daily, lunch Tuesday

Sunday. Moderate. — N.W. (9/04) Los Reyes 2496 Broadway (at 25th), Encanto, 619-231-0716. Smaller branch at 47th and Market. If you've ever craved those fabulous Mexican fish soups that can be such energy restorers, these strip-mall Mexican restaurants have a great one. It's Caldo 7 Mares (Seven Seas Soup) and it comes as a big bowl of savory red fish soup clunking with giant crab legs, clams, chunks of white fish, shrimp, the pink and purple suckers of octopus, and vegetables. It's also called *Vuelva a la vida:* "Return to life." On a hot day, their Cocktail Campechana (shrimp and octopus in a light, spicy tomato broth) will return you to life, too. Four brothers and one sister from Michoacan run the place. A very Michoacan dish is carnitas pork shoulders. Or try their gringo lunch deal of a bacon cheeseburger

through Friday, breakfast Saturday and

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with fries and a can of soda. The prices make this a tightwad's paradise. Three meals daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (5/03)

Phoenicia 3381 Adams Avenue (at 34th Street), Normal Heights, 619-282-4120. To find this tiny restaurant — the longest-running eatery on Adams Avenue — look for a window featuring a cedar tree (the symbol on the Lebanese flag), an American flag, and the word "Phoenicia" written in Arabic and English. The inside is cramped, but they have sidewalk tables. too. Try their baked eggplant stuffed with lamb, pine nuts, onions, and gar-lic, or the *kafta* kabob, with ground meat, parsley, onions, and pita bread The real treat is the kibbeh neyeh, raw lamb with cracked wheat, onions, and seasonings, but you'll need to call 24 hours ahead to get it. Homemade rose juice and Lebanese coffees are delicious, too, Bakery open mornings; restaurant lunch and early dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

Saigon 4455 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights, 619-284-4215 or 619-284-4288. You're in a big glass palace here. It's especially good on Sundays, when three- or four-generation Vietnamese families gather for lunch. Gaggles of waiters hover a glance away, but take your time. The menu has over 250 items on it. Default choice: *pho*, the famous, filling soup-meal of Vietnam where beef cooks in the soup. Another safe bet is stir-fried crispy or soft egg noodle with seafood and assorted vegetables. "33" Vietnamese beer is on hand to make Saigon lovers sentimental. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (1001)

Trieu Chau Restaurant 4653 University Avenue, City Heights 619-280-4204. This is as near as you'll come to eating breakfast in Phnom Penh or lunch in Vientiane. Cambodians come in the morning to talk politics and play Cambodian chess. At lunch, Laotians replace them. Maps of "Kampuchea" decorate the walls, as well as long-distance telephone ads The menu includes Chinese, Khmer, and Lao dishes. In the morning, ask for *"djak kvai coffay dok ko"* — fried bread with Cambodian coffee, the standard French-Khmer breakfast. Later in the day, you might try pan-fried noodles with broccoli and beef or shrimp and gravy ("koitiow bahat sai kho"). If in doubt, ask for Kathy, who speaks Chi-nese, Khmer, Lao — and English. Open daily, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Inexpensive. *E.B.* (11/00)

Turf Supper Club 1116 25th Street, Golden Hill, 619-234-6363. At this cozy saloon (a landmark since 1950, "re-established" in 1998), if your meat's done wrong, it's your own fault. Every night's an indoor cook-out, as patrons huddle by the communal fire-pit tend-ing their steaks (a choice of three ritzy cuts, well-marinated in garlic and olive oil), burgers, chicken breasts, or portobello mushrooms; others choose the veggie kabobs or teriyaki skewers of beef, chicken, or fish. And that's the menu. The only side dish is a simple salad - not even fries. But the meat's a treat, especially the huge, juicy Delmonico rib eve. If vou're an utterly hopeless cook, a staffer will mind your meal for you, but you'd miss half the fun. Full bar, no reservations. Weekdays dinner only; open until 2 a.m. daily. Inexpensive to barely moderate. — N.W. (4/01)

EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA

Barnes Bar-B-Que 2625 Lemon Grove Avenue, Lemon Grove 619-462-9206. Clayton Davis's sign says it all: "Let Us Bring Tha South to Ya Mouth." You can tell this is the real deal from the two heavy iron doors in the brick wall behind the counter and the big wood fires burning oak inside This is Memphis-style soul food, mild and mouth watering — and cheap. Expect dollar portions, from smothered chicken or pork, neck bones and cab-bage, to country yams, corn on the cob, and corn bread. Other lip-smacking dishes include chopped beef brisket sandwich, pork ribs or shoulder, beef ribs, red snapper, and hot links or ham — all with two sides and bread. Oh yes, they also serve catfish sandwiches and sweet potato tarts. Or you could just stand outside and smell the

smoke. Open Tuesday through Sunday, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (9/04) forehand. Then out comes this hot, crisp-shelled taco, bursting with shred-

ded lettuce, two cheeses, and inside, the most scrumptious sautéed potatoes. It

may be way cheap, but it's no way mean. Other good Mexican dishes here

include the chorizo torta or the grand garlic shrimp combo. Added bonus:

The place is new, bright, red and yellow, and sports a terrace looking out

across the valley. Open seven days, three meals. Inexpensive — *E.B.* (4/05)

The Omelette Factory 7941 Mission Gorge Road, Santee, 619-596-9686. The Factory sits in the

kind of stand-alone building you expect to see in a country town: long, an-

gled roof with a portico dressing up the

basic shed structure behind. It's a great

sprawling place that's ideal to bring the

kids for a big breakfast. You can't beat their omelets, all nineteen of them, from the Just Say Cheese (with Swiss,

Jack, Cheddar, or American), to the magnificent Factory Omelette (a build-

your-own: up to four meats, veggies, or cheeses). A Greek family has turned

this location, outside Santee, from an abandoned social hall into a regular pit

stop for half the community, it seems.

Jimmy's 6935 Mission Gorge Road (at Town Center Drive), Santee, 619-448-8994. We're at the end of the line here, the trolley's Orange Line. Feels like a safari. You walk back through the grass to the streets of San-tee. Thank goodness for this familyfriendly restaurant with good, old-fash-ioned American food. Their six-page plastic menu tells all — forget your diet and dig into the breakfast "Eggs and Cakes" (two eggs, three pancakes), the "Touchdown" (two eggs, two hotcakes, four strips of bacon or three link sausages), or the "Monte Cristo" hot sandwich (ham and turkey grilled on batter-dipped Texas toast with Swiss cheese, hot syrup, and French fries). Later in the day, the New York strip or sirloin steak with all the trimmings, and desserts like homemade cinnamon bread pudding with raisins and whipped cream. Open three meals seven days. Inexpensive. - E.B. (11/00) Los Michoacanos 8001 Mission Gorge Road, Santee, 619-449-9032. You get a lot for a little here. Order even one really cheap potato taco from Luis

For lunch, try the Factory Burger. It has two hamburger patties *plus* gyro meat, two cheeses, and onions. Breakfast and Gabriel, the owner, and you get the full treatment of tortilla chips and salsa be-+ Thai Free Entrée Buy one entrée and 2 drinks, get second entrée of equal or lesser value 2005 & free. Expires 2/15/07. Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per table. 2006! Sign On San Diego 🏖 ^s4 Martinis Friday Feb. 2 407 Camino Del Rio So., San Diego Ph: 619-297-0800 • Fax: 619-297-0299 Closed Monday www.balithaicafe.com Shrimp cocktail? Or cocktails and shrimp? HAVE BOTH AT OUR FABULOUS FESTIVAL DE LA MER, La Valencia's celebrated seafood buffet, Friday and Saturday in the ocean-view Mediterranean Room-just \$60 per person. Festival de la Mer Join us from 5 to 9pm most weekends for a staggering seafood buffet featuring the best of the local catch, timeless classics, and assortment of desserts, including our famous crème brûlée. MENU INCLUDES Swordfish Steak Assorted Salads Shrimt Seafood Bisque Lobster Tail Snow Crab New York Steak Paella Valencia Ceviche Martini Steamed Rice Petite Filet Mignon Assorted Rolled Sush iian Mahi Mahi Beurra Di easonal Vegetables Assorted Desserts Oysters on the Half Shell alencia Festival de la Mer Seafood Buffet aturdays, 5-9 pm \$60 per person (food only) SATURDAYS, 5-9 PM CALL (858) 551-3765 FOR INFORMATION

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lunch, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (4/05)

Taste of African Cuisine 5241 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-583-5788. This is one of the main gathering places for Somalis in San Diego, but they welcome others to sample their food, which is a combination of African, Italian, Arab, and Indian influences. Fish plays a big role in the diet of a country that boasts the longest coastline in Africa, but so does lamb and goat meat. Start with a *fadareshin*, a mixed plate of roasted goat meat, fried fish, basmati rice (the Indian influence), and a pile of spaghetti common since the Italians came to colonize. No meal is complete without bananas, which are mixed in with pretty much everything, especially soups. Open three meals daily. Inexpensive. - E.B. (10/05)

FAR EAST

Dulzura Cafe 16985 Highway 94 at Dulzura, 619-468-9591. Think *Grapes* of Wrath, Okies, the 1930s. Dulzura Café is the real thing, serving big, hot meals to weary westerners since 1910. The walls are cluttered with license plates, pots, brass cream-separators, corn-shuckers, horse collars, railroad lanterns, ancient egg-beaters, six-foot snake skins, deer antlers, and a seedy stuffed bobcat head. The food's for filling. Big, juicy hamburgers with lanky home-cut fries, thick slices of meat loaf, or if you arrive early, steak and eggs or a hefty Denver omelet. This is frontier food before slim spelled "success." Breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (11/00)

La Posta 32337 Old Highway 80, Pine Valley, 619-478-5600. Is the Wild West dead? Not out here. Swagger in past the rocking chairs on the wooden porch, by the "NRA meets here, every 3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m." sign, past bows and arrows, dream catchers, lariats, and brass spittoons, and swing into a chair. Now think vintage American food. Hefty anytime-breakfasts include two eggs, hash browns, biscuits, and coffee or eggs with chicken-fried steak or a bulging veggie omelet. Their sourdough cheeseburger with fries or potato salad is big, or delve into a bowl of chili. Folks hereabouts talk about that chili in low, reverent voices. For dinner, the rib eye steak or pork chops is good enough to make city folks swoon. Three meals daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (8/03)

UPTOWN & OLD TOWN

Adams Avenue Grill 2201 Adams Avenue, University Heights, 619-298-8440. The frequently changing menu tries to embrace several dis-parate styles, and can't quite get its arms around any of them. The dishes are often ambitious; a few soar, but many falter due to flaws in conception, execution, or both. Largely ho-hum wine list needs selections with enough sweetness to stand up to items featuring Asian spice — where are the Ries-lings? Still, the place seems full of happiness and friendliness; yellow and orange walls, plenty of smiles amid the bustle. Soups receive lavish attention, and sometimes live up to their billings. As to treats, the generous, marvelous lavender-infused crème brûlée makes this a dessert destination - pause to sniff a spoonful before slipping it be tween your lips. Lunch and dinner daily, breakfast weekends. Inexpensive to moderate. — A.M. (4/01)

Bread and Cie 350 University Avenue (at Fourth), Hillcrest, 619-683-9322. At least twenty breads emerge daily from this bakery's 10,000pound French stone hearth oven. Most are dense, crusty, and delicious French or Italian peasant breads, including the outstanding anise-fig and black olive loaves that are served in many top local restaurants. Scones, brownies, muffins, banana bread, and cookies are the sweet side of the house. Focaccia pizza and sandwiches (many with thick-sliced bread and rather thin fillings) are available to take out or eat on the spot — inside the café or on the sidewalk patio. Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — N.W. (6/02)

Cafe on Park 3831 Park Boulevard (at University), Hillcrest, 619-293-7275. Okay, it's trendy, from the rusty spoon-and-fork sign at the door to the PC industrial interior (concrete walls, exposed plumbing). But don't expect PC food. The plates are huge and overflowing with fodder. Breakfast scrambles are popular with add-ons such as smoked salmon, artichoke hearts, or Brie cheese. Health nuts choose the Park Porridge stuffed with apples, raisins, and honey. But the prize may be the dish that Placerville, California, miners ordered when they came down from the mountains with pockets full of gold: the Hangtown Fry — luscious marinated sautéed oysters

scrambled in eggs. Three meals Tuesday through Saturday; only breakfast and lunch Sunday and Monday (line at door on Sunday). — *E.B.* (10/01)

Cafe Pacifica 2414 San Diego Ave nue (next to Old Town graveyard), Old Town, 619-291-6666. The fare here is mainly very fresh seafood, either fusioned up and somewhat chancy, or grilled simply and reliably excellent. Among the highlights are a clean-limned clam chowder, some amusing yellowfin-stuffed wontons, crab-stuffed portobello mushrooms, and luscious mustard-crusted Oregon catfish. On the downside, Mexican pink abalone are tiny, over-breaded, and overpriced. Several good grilled meats are available for fish-scorners. Op tional valet parking \$5. Wheelchair lot and ramp behind restaurant (ask valet to direct you). Often very noisy. Serious, rather steep California wine list; full bar. Daily, dinner only. Upper moderate to expensive. N.W. (10/02)

Golden Dragon, The Asian Bistro 414 University Avenue (just east of Fourth), Hillcrest, 619-296-4119. The historic building has been freshly redecorated, keeping only the overhead sign that used to mark a one-time Chinese "dive." Now the celectic pan-Asian menu emphasizes Thai flavors — the owners and kitchen staff are Thai, including executive chef "Miss Songsri" (who put Celadon on the map), working in a more casual vein here. Don't miss "Atomic Hog's Wings" (small pork shanks) or the Louisiana fried buster crab dish named "Jumping Jarvis." The beer and wine lists are international and affordable. Lunch and dinner, serving until 3 a.m. nightly. Lunches inexpensive, dinners moderate. — N.W. (5/06)

Ichiban 1449 University Avenue (at Normal), Hillcrest, 619-299-7203. Is this Paris or Tokyo? At night, the café outside glows like a Van Gogh painting, except the customers are eating sushi and drinking green tea, not red wine. The best values are at lunch, with weekday specials like Bento combos (sushi rolls, crab, salmon, rice) and filling soups overflowing with veggies and thick *udon* noodles. Healthy? You betcha. The miso soup (with every dish) made from soy and seaweed is a great daily iodine fix. Number One that's what "*ichi-ban*" means. Open daily until 9:30 p.m., lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (11/00)

Jack and Giulio's Italian Restaurant 2391 San Diego Avenue (at Arista), Old Town, 619-294-2074. After more than four decades in business, this father (Giulio) and son (Jack) operation manages to stay fresh. The antipasto salad with its thin-cut prosciutto and salami will get your juices flowing, or try the mango salad, with fresh mango, raisins, and sweet onions. All the traditional Italian entrées like veal parmigiana and fettuccine Alfredo are there, but go for the house specialties like Spaghetti New Orleans with shrimp, crawfish, and crab meat, or the expensive scampi dishes. Broke? Get a simple Angel Hair Mediterraneo or rigatoni with meat sauce to enjoy out on the patio. Open for lunch and dinner, seven days. Moderate. -E.B. (5/04)

Khyber Pass 523 University Avenue (at Fifth Avenue), Hillcrest,

619-294-7579. The room's very modern, but Afghan cuisine is full of history, carrying echoes of both Persian and Indian foods, with even a hint of Greek (Alexander the Great conquered the region). Dinners feature kebabs, tandooris, curries, and some unique regional specialties. Flavors are exotic but oddly comfortable to the cosmopolitan palate. Among the don'tmiss items are the outstanding *aushak* (spring onion ravioli) and *mantu* (ground-meat ravioli) — both with lively yogurt sauces — and *zamordd chalow*, a spicy lamb-and-spinach stew. Save room for the sexy desserts. Can be noisy inside; small sidewalk patio. Private dining room upstairs bookable for parties. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W. (9/02)

Ono Sushi and Pacific Spice 1236 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-298-0616. If you are searching for huge portions, fresh tasty food and reasonable prices, don't overlook this colorful Japanese/Pacific Rim café. Excellent specialty rolls, entrées, appetizers. Very crowded weekends; lively young crowd. Dinners nightly; open for lunch Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.W. (11/98)

Pomegranate Russian-Geor-gian Restaurant 2302 El Cajon Boulevard (northeast corner of Louisiana), University Heights, 619-297-4007. Pomegranate's address is serendipitous, since the food of Deep-South Georgia is the Louisiana cuisine of the Slavic world — alive with fresh herbs, garlic, touches of hot pep-per. This rustic-looking restaurant is animated with antic humor (check the multilingual graffiti on the walls) and offers unique, flavor-bomb dishes. Don't miss the world-beating beefy, herb-jungle borscht (beet soup, but it's way more than that), the Lobio bean dip, and Olivier salad. The chef slowsmokes his moist barbecued beef and pork and cold-smokes whole trout, a treat as a group appetizer or summer entrée. On weekends, there's sublimely smoky shashlik (a.k.a. shish kebab) The printed menu is only a hint as to what's really cooking, and regular patrons get the best off-menu choices. So become a regular. Street parking is dire. Reservations advised for weekend dinners. Dinner nightly (service until 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday). Moderate. — N.W. (1/04)

Sushi Itto 441 Washington, Hill-crest, 619-291-6060. Don't come here looking for Japanese food. This is Mex-ican sushi, from a chain based in Mexico City that's dedicated to creating rolls for Mexican tastes. Nearly all the party rolls feature cream cheese and avocado and most include a shot of hot spice and some fake crab (surimi), too. In their own way, they're fun, so long as you're prepared to give up any puristic standards and go with the flow. But don't bother with the plain nigiri — the rice lacks classic sushi seasonings (and is often dry), and the seafood is too mediocre to be appealing in simple preparations. Rock-bot-tom prices, though. Another branch is in the Gaslamp at 409 F Street, 619-237-1037. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — N.W. (8/05)

Terra 3900 Vermont Street, Uptown Shopping Center, Hillcrest, 619-293-7088. Co-owner Jeff Ross-man, formerly in charge of the front of the house, has moved into the kitchen to serve as chef at this comfortable neighborhood spot, serving venture-some, if uneven, tropical-influenced American cooking. You can settle in a spacious southwest-tinged dining room or people-watch from a sheltered outdoor patio (with smoking permitted). Generously sized tapas can serve as appetizers or as a sustaining bite before venturing into Trader Joe's across the street. The dinner menu changes seasonally, featuring barbecue items during the summer, comforting fare in colder weather, and special dinners on all major holidays. Good wine list with several flights available, full bar with tropical cocktails (Pisco Sours, Caipirinhas, etc.). Reservations advised, especially for weekends, holidays and special events (e.g., Sunday "blues and barbecue" during the summer). Saturday and Sunday three meals, weekdays lunch and dinner. Moderate. -N.W.(6/01)







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DOWNTOWN

Athens Market 109 West F Street (between First and Front), 619-234-1955. Alex Spanos and lots of local hotshots come here for honest Greek home cookin'. Yes, it's classywhite table cloths, linen napkins — but you can fill up on just a bowl of *fakee*, owner Mary Pappas's "secret recipe" lentil soup, and an appetizer, like *spanakopita* (spinach and cheese pastry pockets). Entrées come with rice, roast potato, a vegetable, soup or salad, and French bread and butter - all at a darned good price. Oh, and don't de spise the gyro. Meat flavor's great, and it takes a football player to empty this plate. Lunch and dinner Monday through Friday, dinner only Saturday, closed Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (2/03)

Bud's Louisiana Food Shoppe 2034 Kettner Boulevard (at Grape, next to the Waterfront Bar), Little Italy, 619-239-4210. Bud Deslattes, a New Orleans native, was the original chefowner of the late Bayou Bar and Grille and the inventor of the legendary white chocolate bread pudding served there. Now he's cooking it in this cute, casual

eatery. A brief but choice menu features authentic Cajun-Creole specialties, to eat in or "to geaux." (If taking out, ask for your rice on the side. Among the treats are a fine seafood bisque, crawfish étouffée, and a "cupacupa-cupa" sampling of gumbo, jam-balaya, and red beans and rice. For lunch, check out the roast beef po' boy Some Louisiana grocery items intermittently available at retail (frozen andouille, tasso, crawfish, etc.). Parking's usually a pain but worth it. Beer and generic wine. Closed Sunday and Monday. Inexpensive. - N.W. (2/05)

Cabo Cafe & Grill 808 West Cedar (near Pacific Coast Highway), Little Italy, 619-595-1618. This miracle restaurant is run by homeless kids from the Monarch School Project next door, with a little help (okay, a lot) from Rubio's and its founder Ralph. He helped raise a million dollars to get the school and the restaurant running. Think Starbucks meets Taco Bell (oops, sorry Ralph). The place is like its kid-staff: smart, cheery (they painted all the seals and porpoise murals), with a great fountain-gurgling patio outside. Try the grilled burrito (grilled chicken or steak with guacamole, roasted salsa, sour cream, black beans, Mexican rice, and melted Jack cheese in a warm tortilla) or, as a great filler, the Cabo Mae-stro Bowl, with marinated grilled chicken or steak in a bowl with black beans, Mexican rice, cheeses, guacamole, and shredded cabbage And yes, they do make the Rubio fish taco. Daily specials. Open weekdays, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (5/02)

Candelas 416 Third Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-702-4455. Don't look for tacos here - chef Eduardo Baeza spe cializes in alta cocina, a luxurious, in ventive combination of traditional Mexican fare and French techniques. In a handsome Spanish-style dining room (romantic but rather noisy) with gracious service, the menu emphasizes seafood, including a signature dish of luscious stuffed Maine lobster. Plenty for meat lovers, too, with fine Black Angus cuts inventively garnished. But the menu and ingredients have been somewhat compromised over the years to accommodate the "Dude, where's my taco?" conventioneers. The choices are more Dude-friendly — that is, less venturesome than they might be, and execution can be uneven. In the lounge at 10 p.m. on weekends, the music cranks up and the scene goes disco (with a cover charge for non-diners; IDs checked). Reservations advised, required on weekends; slightly dressy.

Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly until 11 p.m. Interesting but expensive wine list; food expensive or higher. -N.W. (1/04)

Edgewater Grill 861 West Harbor Drive, Seaport Village, 619-232-7581. An easy walk from the Convention Center, the dining room is spacious and handsome, and the view from the crowded dining terrace is optimal (the bay, the Coronado Bridge, a park, etc.). The menu, though, is convention-centered - like a Howard Johnson's for the 21st century. The fare features middle-of-the-road faux-fusion salads, seafood, grilled steaks, pastas (most with shellfish), and individual pizzas, plus daily fin-fish dishes listed on a card in a plastic holder on the table. The lighter dishes are the most successful this is not a bad place to "graze" on appetizers and a mini-pizza when you're starved for a view. Difficult wheelchair access to terrace. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Entrées high moderate to very expensive. — N.W. (8/01)

Fat City Steakhouse 2137 Pacific Highway (at Hawthorn), Little Italy, 619-232-9303. In the Deco "pink palace" at the edge of downtown, the USDA Choice steaks (and one velvety Prime cut) are cooked over mesquite charcoal, which lends them a deli-

ciously smoky campfire flavor. Don't like beef? You can choose nicely grilled chicken, pork, or salmon; two vegan pastas; or scampi. The appetizer list is mainly trite pub grub, but the fry cook does a great job with calamari. And in fair weather, the lush garden dining patio is a little piece of Eden. Full bar, rather basic wine list. Casual ambience above-average wheelchair access from large, free parking lot. Dinner daily 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.* (12/02)

Gen Lai Sen Hakka Seafood Restaurant 1065 12th Avenue (at C Street), downtown, 619-239-5478 or 619-239-5479. Across the street from City College, you'll encounter a split personality. The good twin provides superb Hakka dishes, a style developed by a nomadic people originally from northwest China, now residents of mainly the south China coast. The bad twin dishes out gluey cornstarch-ridden stir-fries for starving students. But it's easy to tell which twin is which: The "chef recommend sizzle plates," the hot pots that taste like home cooking (best

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ordered by four or more), the greaseless fried rice, the noodles (especially "house special rice noodles"), and the whole steamed fish-of-the-day are palpable hits. And if you really want to know what the fuss about Hakka is all about, try the sizzle plate stuffed tofu these deep-fried crisp rectangles with a pork meatball inserted in each tender center resemble meat-flavored roasted marshmallows, and may just change your mind about bean curd. Open brunch through dinner daily, 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Pleasant service, very casual, mainly inexpensive. N.W. (10/01)

Las Cuatro Milpas 1857 Logan Avenue, Barrio Logan, 619-234-4460. This isn't a restaurant, it's a legend. The same Estudillo family has been serving old-fashioned Mexican food here for three generations — seventy years. Rice, beans, pork tacos (they don't serve beef), pork tamales, chorizo with eggs — that's about it. So how come they have lines outside every day? Blame a potent mixture of sentiment and the lard they refuse to abandon.

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Folks say that lard flavor is the real Mexico. Also famous: their Saturday nenudo. Warning: go easy with their deep wine-colored hot sauce. It's room rocker strength. The name? From a famous mariachi song, "The Four Cornfields." Open morning mid-afternoon, Monday to Saturday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (8/03)

Mediterranean Cafe and Lounge 1352 Fifth Avenue (between A and Ash), downtown, 619-515-2233 or 619-325-1900. Don't come early. You'll be all alone. Turn up around midnight, and you'll see just how social the Lebanese can be. Meals are spread over a couple of hours with lots of conversa-tion, probably finishing with a baklava, Turkish coffee, and a sheesha - water pipe (much cheaper by the hour here than down in the Gaslamp; best flavor: rose). They have the whole panoply of Middle Eastern and Greek food, but the best deals are probably the single lamb skewer on a roll of pita bread with hummus, tomato, lettuce, and pickles, or the meat pie on pita. Open 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., seven days. Inexpensive to moderate. -E.B. (2/06)

Osteria Panevino 722 Fifth Avenue (at G Street), Gaslamp, 619-595-7959. At this Tuscany-style Italian restaurant, the appetizers and pastas are as close to heaven as you can get, particularly the spinach ravioli and potato gnocchi, which can come with a four-cheese sauce on request. The stuffed focaccias are simply incredible, and the pizzas are well-nigh perfect. The exposed brick walls enhance the European feeling. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive, wines rather high. — *E.W.* (4/00)

Pete's Quality Meats 1742-1/2 India Street, Little Italy, 619-234-1684. Pete's Meats was just a butcher's shop until Pete's daughter and sister-in-law got the idea to set up a grill there. Now afficionados line up for Sicilian specialties like Italian-sausage sandwiches, steak sandwiches, and especially spitini - veal rolled around two cheeses onions, tomatoes, pine nuts, currants, parsley, prosciutto, and bread crumbs. Pete stuffs all of that into a hot bun with marinara sauce, sautéed peppers, and onions as packing. Nuff said? Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

Rama 327 Fourth Avenue (near K Street), Gaslamp, 619-501-8424. This

February 1, 2007

Reader]

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large, handsome restaurant is the younger brother of Celadon in Hillcrest. It's named for the king of Thailand and offers Thai cuisine fit for royalty, made with top ingredients (including Chino Farms produce). The menu includes all the popular favorites but adds authen-tic dishes rarely found locally, such as chicken and squid with flat noodles and caramelized palm sugar, and a wicked Thai version of Chinese twice-cooked pork — a fat-fest made with unsmoked bacon. Soups and curries are based on freshly made coconut cream of swoony richness. The extensive wine list, unusual in this genre, offers affordable food-friendly choices plus an interesting reserve list. Full bar. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner nightly. Moderate. — N.W. (10/04)

Rei Do Gado Churrascuria 939 Fourth Avenue (between E and Broad-way), Gaslamp, 619-702-8464. The meats just keep on coming at a Brazil-ian *rodizio:* skewer after skewer of *chur*rasco (Brazilian barbecue), a near-endless procession of rotisserie-grilled meats and poultry. At each table there's a wooden cone with one end red and the other end green. Turn the green side up to start the servers parading to your table, offering you tastes cut from long spits of salty, simply seasoned pork, poultry, ribs, sausages, and numerous cuts of beef. Turn the cone red side up to take a break from the protein parade The gargantuan spread includes a buffet in the front of the restaurant with a changeable array of alluring side dishes, salads, fruit, and such intriguing hot entrées as Brazilian oxtail stew or seafood in coconut milk, with exotic but oddly comfortable flavors. There's always a potful of feijoada, the national dish slow-cooked, meaty black beans (in a somewhat bland version, which you can liven up with a splash of hot sauce). No matter how often you eat here, you'll never have the same meal twice. Reservations advisable for weekends. Full bar (have a Caipirinha). No doggie-bags. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate (considering the food amount); prices higher on weekends. - N.W. (10/02)

Sadaf 828 Fifth Avenue (at E Street), Gaslamp, 619-338-0008. Vegetarianfriendly. Quiet and relaxed weeknights the room becomes an ear-splitting mob scene weekends (even before the restau-rant goes disco at 9:30). The hearty but sophisticated Persian fare centers on well-marinated kebabs and herb-rich stews, served with various savory rice dishes. There's excellent spinach *borani*, sieved yogurt relish with cucumbers, lamb chop kebabs, and a vibrant, sweetsour *fesenjan* (pomegranate-walnut sauce with chicken). But the Gaslamp branch's kitchen is wildly inconsistent, e.g., your fesenjan dumped on dry kebabs instead of mingling with simmered poultry. Desserts are always dreamy vater ice cream and/or pudding or *bamieh*, a delicate ladyfinger soaked in (what else?) rosewater syrup. Moderate. — N.W. (12/00)

Sevilla 555 Fourth Avenue (at Market Street), Gaslamp, 619-233-5979. (Also in Carlsbad.) This site has three faces: a crowded but civilized tapas bar for spontaneous snacking, a romantic dining room with serious Spanish entrées, and a basement nightclub dishing out assembly-line paella. The best food is upstairs. You can get tapas in the restaurant and entrées at the bar, and in either case the choices are varied, interesting, and highly cosmopolitan, executed with wonderful consistency. Be sure to look for something that includes potatoes; the humble spud gets Cinderella treat-ment here. No reservations (or wheelchairs) at tapas bar; reservations strongly recommended for dining room. Dinner daily. Moderate. N.W. (2/01)

The Westgate Gourmet Deli**catessen** Third Avenue, between Broadway and C Street, downtown, 619-557-3698. This is where you take your respectable Aunt Martha for lunch. The place reeks of gentility. Green car-pets, white linen cloths, fresh flowers, chandeliers, giant potted palms. It's part of the Westgate hotel, and looks like a grocery for the rich who just can't live without specialty olive oils and expensive wines. But prices for sand-wiches, light breakfasts, and lunches are down there with the best Market Street liquor-deli. Among the menu items offered, the best deal is the soup and halfsandwich combo, especially the Friday cioppino: a tomato-based soup filled with fish such as sea bass, shrimp, shark, lobster, and scallops. Open Monday through Friday for breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — E.B. (9/01)

SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

Cilantro Live! 315-1/2 3rd Avenue, Chula Vista, 619-827-7401. (Also at 7822 Broadway Avenue, Lemon Grove, 619-433-0678; and 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, 760-585-0136.) Look in Cristina Guzmán's kitchen: no ovens no burners. Only warmers. Her theory? Never heat food above 112 degrees or the enzymes will die. Enzymes? They're life. They give you energy and do your digestion for you. What's amazing is

how much real-looking and -tasting food she can create with raw nuts and twigs. And fruit. And especially seeds. She creates tuna wraps using sunflowerpumpkin seed pâte and burgers using flax seeds - both pretty credible and edible. Drinks? The margaritas (green apple with ginger, lime, and cinnamon) have to be good: Ms. Guzmán comes from Mexico City. Open for lunch and dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Inex-pensive. — E.B. (1/04)

Coronado Boathouse 1887 1701 Strand Way, Coronado, 619-435-0155. For a relaxing good time with lovely views and tasty food to match, put on vour aloha shirt and head over the bridge. The old Coronado Boathouse boasts a handsome, historic structure with architecture mirroring the nearby Hotel Del, plus enthusiastic servers, terrific water views, and satisfying mainstream American cooking. The herbed artichoke appetizer is wonderful, as is the very fresh macadamia-crusted halibut sauced with coconut milk. The juicy roast beef here is USDA Prime (translates to "melt in your mouth") and even the desserts offer some old favorites cooked with classy ingredients and imaginative twists. A perfect place to entertain your in-laws or hold your birthday dinner. Full bar. Dinner seven days (weekends until 1 a.m.), moderate to expensive. -N.W. (10/04)

Da Kine's Plate Lunches 1635 Sweetwater Road (at Prospect), National City, 619-477-8494. Also at 4120 Mis-Boulevard, Pacific Beach, sion 858-274-8494. You go here for your Pa-cific Island fix — hundreds of Hawaiians do, every day. You'll find Hawaiian license plates and surfboards on the walls, 'Aloha Maid" Guava Nectar, and island food. Although the kalua pig here isn't cooked in an *imu* — a hole in the ground — it sure tastes like the real thing and comes with cabbage, rice, macaroni salad, and kimchi. But beware of the haupia cake - it may cause serious addiction. Lunch and early dinner Tuesday through Sunday; closed Monday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/00)

Filipino Desserts Plus 2220-Q East Plaza Boulevard, National City, 619-479-6748; also at 8955-F Mira Mesa Boulevard (inside Seafood City), Mira Mesa, 858-271-5754. Filipinos often mix sweet and savory, so it's no surprise that this desserts place has regular dishes too, including *adobo* pork, *pancit*, and *lumpia*. *Diniguan*, a Filipino specialty, is pork made with "chocolate milk," slang for pig's blood. But the pride of the place is the desserts, from the ube halea (purple yam custard) and maja hlanca (coconut-corn combo) to the sapin sapin (multicolored layer cake)

and fried sweet saba banana on a skewer. Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. — E.B. (9/04)

Island Wok 922 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-6835. This tiny indoor-outdoor-takeaway café is a standby with locals, especially the high school crowd. It serves good Vietnamese-Chinese food, and plenty of it. The owner, Xuan, makes scrumptious fresh (not fried) Vietnamese spring rolls wrapped in rice paper with shrimp, pork, or chicken and vegetables in the middle. But most customers go for the steam-table combination plates. You always get chow mein, fried or steamed rice, and a fried spring roll to start off, and then you can add entrées like orange chicken, kung pao chicken, or sweet-and-sour pork. Closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — $\hat{E}.B.$ (12/01)

Lai Thai Restaurant 1430 E. Plaza Boulevard #E10, National City, 619-474-5546. Lai Thai started up as the lone Thai in a sea of Filipino restaurants in South Bay, but has gained a respected place under glamorous Summawadee Bubpha. Prices are so reasonable, you feel the food shouldn't come on such beautiful platters. The soups, *tom kah* (spicy coconut), and *tom yum* (hot and sour), are especially good, as is the house Lai Thai Fish (usually tilapia) in delicious panang coconut-curry sauce. But you've got to push for spiciness if you want it. Lunch deals are really cheap. Also check out the Thai art on the walls, some for sale. Open lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. -EB(3/06)

Parisi's Italian Restaurant 323 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-420-4490. This is an area where a lot of folks live in trailer parks on fixed incomes, and Parisi's has become their affordable, often daily treat. The good news is they don't just open cans. Nick and Rosemary Parisi, who opened here back in 1979, brought New Jersey traditions with them. Nick had been a butcher. His son Nick still makes his own delicious fennel-flavored sausage just as his dad taught him. Sons and daughters now run the place and still make their own spaghetti sauce, too. Other dishes in-clude the eggplant or veal Parmesan sandwich and meatballs and sauce with garlic bread. This isn't the smart, spare Gaslamp Italian, it's the old-fashioned *Moonstruck* Italian. Lunch and dinner six days, late lunch and dinner Sundays. — E.B. (4/05)

Peohe's The Landing, 1201 First Street, Coronado, 619-437-4474. This gorgeous, view-endowed restaurant offers upscale, Hawaiian-inspired fish and gargantuan steaks in a plush tropicalstyle setting with indoor waterfalls and three separate patios. Given the visual splendor, much of the food is better than it needs to be, featuring top-quality seafood prepared with care, e.g., halibut in a lush, sassy Frangelico-touched macadamia beurre blanc. A chocolate shell filled with macadamia nut ice cream may be worth the calories, too. Full bar. Reservations advised. Lunch (with limited breakfast) Monday through Saturday; brunch Sunday. Dinner nightly. Expensive. - N.W. (3/01)

Swaddee Thai 1001 C Avenue (at 10th Street), Coronado, 619-435-8110. Tourists never stray to Swadee's quiet residential location a block from the bright lights of Orange Avenue. Their loss is the locals' gain. The dining room is a quiet, lovely haven from the hustle; the service is caring and gracious. Even if the long list of Siamese specialties is merely standard, the kitchen, too, is devoted to the art of gently giving pleasure. The peanut sauce accompanying the saté, for instance, is classically balanced; the complex but soothing coconut-chicken soup can wash away all cares; and the calamari in the many seafood arrays is cleverly knife-scored to achieve sheer tenderness along with good looks. Even the jasmine rice is an exceptionally fragrant brand. Unless you specify otherwise, spicy dishes have a nice nip tuned to brave but tender *farang* tastebuds. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W. (9/00)

BAJA

From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Ti-juana; when calling in Tijuana use only the restaurant's seven-digit number.

Cien Años Calle José Maria Velazco #1407, Zona Río, Tijuana, 634-3039 or 634-7262. This lovely, comfortable, dressy-casual "destination restaurant" serves extraordinary Mexican haute cuisine, graced with a brilliant variety of sauces based on elaborations of Mexican ingredients, including tropical fruits, nuts, and above all a vast variety of chile peppers, each with its own distinctive flavor (not all of them spicy). You could eat here a dozen times and not begin to exhaust the possibilities. Just a few of the treats are mushrooms steeped in beef marrow, crocodile meat mini-tacos, pozole with crab meat, and an irresistible beef and shrimp stew. (Food critic Ruth Reichl consumed a meal of exotic Aztec delicacies, including ant roe and mezcal worms, and you can try them too when they're in season.) The wine list is de-









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voted wholly to ambitious Baja wineries; you're also welcome to BYO. Bar choices include damiana and hibiscus liqueurs. Menu and staff are bilingual. Reservations strongly advised; ask for directions. Moderate. — N.W. (1/04)

La Costa Calle Galeana #8131 (Seventh Street between Revolución and Constitución), Tijuana, 685-8494 or 685-3124. Even after four decades, fisherman-singer Adrián Pedrín Aram-buro's seafood place looks fresh, with its blue-and-white floor tiles, polished brass portholes, and varnish. Some seafood combos can be costly, but most fish and oyster dishes are reasonable. Everybody seems to go for fileted sea bass — the baked "Catalina" with mushroom cream sauce, or "Olivia," stuffed with octopus and shrimp, are really good. So are "Madrazo" oysters, with chipotle and bacon. But you can't go wrong with the less expensive whole fish plates, like the charcoal-broiled "Sarandeado" (just watch out for the bones). Each entrée comes with soup, hors d'oeurvre, salad, rice, and coffee, plus a Kahlua-based drink-dessert. Bonus: the owner's charming menu inserts. Open daily, late breakfast through dinner. Moderate to expensive. — *E.B.* (3/05)

La Fonda Baja Highway 1, Km. 59 (Alisios exit from toll-road, about halfway between Rosarito and Ensenada), 661-628-7352. It's hard to imagine a better start to the day, in any sweeter ambiance, than at La Fonda ("The Inn"), which offers Mexican and American breakfast dishes and a lavish Sunday brunch buffet with both. Arrive early for patio seating under a straw umbrella with a full-out ocean view. The billingual menu is written on chalkboards and dinner choices change nightly, featuring American and Mexican seafood entrées and deluxe meats aged in-house. Most staffers speak some English. Full bar, including Baja-grown wines. Open daily, three meals, starting about 9 a.m. Inexpensive to moderate; cash only. — N.W. (4/03)

La Leña Agua Caliente Boulevard #11191, Tijuana, 686-2920. The nicest thing about La Leña ("The Fire Log") is its view. You come off noisy, fumey, traffic-wracked Agua Caliente into this quiet, dark-wood, creamy-yellow walled room and a full view of ... countryside! Actually, a green golf course studded with trees. In the middle of Tijuana? Golfers thwack balls, giant mowers look like Star Wars creatures. So no surprise that you get country-club type eating: open-grill *charro* food for well-to-do charros. Old-style BBQ steaks, surf-andturf combos, and big slabs of Mexican-cut *filete cabreria*, which are flabby but tender. Most arrive at your table sizzling on black iron hotplates. Servings are generous (meals come with soup or salad and you get a free appetizer such as shredded beef and tortillas) if not remarkable. Or even especially Mexican — their hamburger is darned tasty. But the atmosphere is a great break from the raucous TJ we all know and (sometimes) love. Lunch and dinner daily from 11 a.m. until late. Moderate. — *E.B.* (10/04) Malecón de Puerto Nuevo Northwest edge of Puerto Nuevo; take Calle Entrada (entry road) to the ocean-front bluff, edge right, and walk about 30 feet down a steep dirt road running seaward from the street-market on the oceanside edge of town. Look for a yellow build-ing with blue trim and a terrace with umbrellas. Worth looking for. This great, honest little restaurant harks back to the original, uncommercialized "lobster village" before it got its capital letters and written menus. Open since Au-gust, 2002, it's owned by an active fisherman, who serves (as much as weather permits) fresh-caught local lobsters and genuine "daily catch" with standard sides — superb frijoles, red rice, real melted butter — and that's all. The first-course ceviche, when available, is astonishingly flavorful with fish caught that very morning; in harsher weather, a hearty, warming fish chowder substi-tutes. Breaking from Puerto Nuevo tradition, when the lobster is fresh caught it's simply split and grilled, not lard-fried first, and all the better for it. Some staffers are bilingual. Open brunch through dinner. No reservations, cash only. Low moderate. — N.W. (11/02) Manzanilla Riveroll 122 (off Lopez Mateo), Ensenada, Baja Mexico, 646-175-7073. At this art-filled, very "Euro" bistro, a pair of gifted, classically trained chef-owners are pioneering "new Mexican cuisine," creating so-phisticated combinations of superb local products and traditional Mexican flavors. Fresh-caught seafood, localgrown vegetables and mesquite smoke from the wood-burning grill are featured players on the seasonal menus; a spectacular rib-eye steak, tender and intensely beefy, is also a constant. Little wonder this has become *the* destination restaurant south of Tijuana. The menu is in Spanish, but owners Benito Molina and Solange Muris Evans speak fluent English, as do some wait staff. (The only communication problem will be the ex-otic music blasting on the sound system.) Reserve for weekends, especially during tourist seasons. Full bar featuring tequilas, Baja vintners. Wednesdav through Saturday, late lunch through dinner, until midnight. Moderate. N.W. (9/04)

Original Ortega's In Puerto Nuevo, next to Casa de la Langosta, on the first street to your left (Calle Principal) after entering town through the entry gate. Open since 1952, this is the original "Lobster Village" restaurant, and not much has changed. Eventually Ortega's grew into an octopus with multiple arms in Puerto Nuevo and Rosarito Beach, all pretty similar. The menu is longer than most, with numerous starters (in-cluding a tasty ceviche and an excellent tortilla soup), varied seafood entrées and antojitos, desserts, and even fancy coffees (including "Viagra," which features re-putedly aphrodisiac Damiana herbal liqueur). The spiny lobsters (once local but now from who-knows-where) are first fried in lard, then finished off on the grill, and served with a greasy-tasting melted "Kitchen Maid" margarine end, frijoles, rice, tortillas, and salsa Full bar, English menu, staff marginally bilingual. Moderate to high, but with low-moderate specials. No reservations, cash only. — N.W. (11/02)

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Bully's East 2401 Camino del Rio South, Mission Valley, 619-291-2665. Also at 5755 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla (858-459-2768), and 1404 Camino del Mar, Del Mar (858-755-1660). Despite the plasma TV sports screen, this place is very sixties. For example, dark, woody, plush red booths. And always crowded. Word is, they serve more prime rib with au jus and horseradish than any eatery in San Diego. The "Petite Cut" 8 ounce, their smallest, fills you plenty, with its baked potato and salad. But just once, come here with your main squeeze and order up the "full cut for two." It hangs ten over the edges. Or go bonkers and order the 32-ounce cut — just to watch your neighbors' eyes bug out. Not flush? Try the "Bully Burger," French Dip sandwich, or calamari sandwich. Lonely? Go to the horseshoe-shaped Low Bar. Lunch and dinner daily. The price ranges. — *E.B.* (2/03)

El Pollo Loco 2795 Main, Logan Heights, 619-595-0847. Additional lo-cations in Midway, Carmel Mountain, Chula Vista, El Cajon, Lemon Grove, National City, Poway, and more, This Mexican-style chicken chain offers healthier, tastier fast food. The flamebroiled poultry has crisp, richly seasoned, very salty skin; the flesh can vary from barely done to overdone, but usu-ally is just right. The bird (or any assortment of its parts) comes with sage gravy, tortillas, and a choice of side dishes that includes rich, sweet black beans, crisp and clean coleslaw, great gooey-cheesy macaroni, and passable mashed potatoes. Help yourself to salsas (there are four varieties), chopped onions, lemons, cilantro, hot peppers. But stick with the chicks - the taque ria-style choices are barely better than Taco Bell. Check for daily specials, wherein a small amount of cash will buy a huge amount of highly palatable poultry. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. - N.W. (2/03)

Popeye's Chicken & Biscuits 2333 Highland Avenue (at 24th Street), National City, 619-477-5605; 2210 E. Plaza Boulevard (at Euclid Avenue), National City, 619-470-3002; 3489 Santo Road (at Aero Drive), 858-573-0035; Metropolitan Center, 1737 Euclid Avenue (north of Federal Boulevard), Chollas Creek, 619-527-6565; and 6095 El Cajon Boulevard (at College Avenue), 619-286-3322. This is the one major national chain to cling firmly to a regional American identity: Wherever you go, if you find a Popeye's, you'll be eating Louisiana flavors. But some fla-vors travel better than others in fastfood translations: The spicy, crisp fried chicken and air-light drop biscuits are fine as can be. The étouffé (whether of chicken or crawfish, when available) is surprisingly decent. The gumbo, of-fered at some locations, is weird — flavors aren't bad, but it's more like a Creole risotto, with wet rice instead of liquid (where's the soup?). Dirty rice and jambalaya are nasty and dry. Food quality varies subtly from branch to branch, as does the attitude of the counter-persons. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive. — N.W. (2/02)

Uno Chicago Bar and Grill The 1943-born Uno chain made its mark by transforming the flat Italian piza into something a little more upstanding. Deep-dish pizzas have become one of Chicago's better-known exports. Now Uno does serious steak too, with variously sized Angus top sirloins. They come pretty much as is, but the meat itself is plenty flavorful and tender. Its expanded menu includes fajitas, ribs, shrimp scampi, and steak'n cheese burgers. Still, most lunchtime customers we saw seemed to stick to the staple: deep-dish pizzas and salads. Open daily, continuous service, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. 4465 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-483-4143; Fashion Valley Center, 619-298-1866; 5th and H, Chula Vista, 619-420-8660. — E.B. (8/01)

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Pacific Beach, Mission Beach & Ocean Beach

Atoll at the Catamaran Hotel Broken Yolk **\$2 off breakfast or lunch** Canes Free wing basket Chateau Orleans 50% off Costa Brava Free tapa for lunch French Gourmet Free dessert Great Moon Buffet 10% off total bill Gringo's \$2 off Sunday Brunch Lahaina Beach House Free breakfast Limónz Rostizados 20% off chicken or ribs 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 **<u>\$3 breakfast on the beach</u>**

La Jolla

Aurora Trattoria <u>2 for 1 dinner</u> Cafe Milano <u>Free Comedy Store tickets</u> Cendio Clay's La Jolla La Jolla Brew House <u>Free lunch or dinner entrée</u> Marrakesh <u>50% off lunch</u> Regents Pizzeria <u>Free large salad</u> Su Casa <u>20% off entire check</u>• Trattoria Bella Vita <u>2 for 1 Italian entrée</u> Vida Gourmet

North County

Big Jim's Old South Bar-B-Q **50% off entrée** Greek Village **Free saganaki** Jamroc 101 **Free island sampler** Ki's Restaurant **Free appetizer or dessert** Mikko Japanese **50% off sushi** Noodles & Company * Pho Lucky **10% off entire check** Wild Note Cafe

South Bay & Coronado

Batter Up! <u>50% off Batter Up! basket</u> Lai Thai <u>50% off entrée</u> Mariscos La Costa Azul <u>Free combo plate</u>

Uptown & North Park

A La Française Awash Ethiopian <u>1/2-price entrée</u> B Fried Rice Hob Nob Hill <u>\$2 off entrée</u> House of India <u>Free dinner</u> India Princess <u>Free dinner</u> Lips <u>50% off dinner</u> Rudford's <u>\$2 off entrée</u> San Filippo's <u>Pizza & salad \$15.45</u>

Midway, Old Town & Mission Valley

The Amigo Spot **15% off bill** Bali Thai **Free entrée** Bennigan's **\$5 off lunch or dinner** Forever Fondue **2 for 1 entrée** Lot 81 **Free appetizer** Old Town Mexican Cafe Paradise Yogurt **50 cents off a smoothie** Pizza Bella **Free wine dinner** Shanghai Chinese **\$1 off Mongolian BBQ** Tio Leo's **Dinner combos \$8.99 each** • Todai **10% off lunch or dinner**

East County & State College

Aroma Thai <u>Free entrée</u> Fix Me A Plate Cafe <u>15% off any entrée</u> Greek Town Buffet <u>50% off dinner buffet</u> Habana Cuban <u>Free appetizer</u> Lucky Star Buffet <u>50% off dinner</u> Shakey's Pizza <u>Lunch buffet \$5.15</u>

Clairemont, University City, Miramar Rd., Poway, Mira Mesa, Scripps Ranch & Kearny Mesa

Ashoka the Great **50% off lunch or dinner** Filling Station **Free appetizer** Honey's Cafe Joe's Pizza **2 large pizzas \$22** La China Pampas **Free empanada** Philadelphia Sandwich Co. **Free sandwich** Thai Cafe **\$1 off buffet**

Downtown & Point Loma

Alambres Free soup Blue Water Seafood 25% off The Boathouse 2-for-1 entrée Dae Jang Keum Korean BBQ 50% off Korean BBQ Dublin Square 15% off or free lunch Embers Grille 50% off entrée The Field Free lunch Hard Rock Café Hornblower Cruises House of Blues 20% off restaurant receipt Humphrey's Jewel Box 2 for 1 entrée Lotus Thai Cuisine Free entrée McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant Mister Tiki Mai Thai Lounge Olé Madrid 2 for 1 lunch or brunch entrée RA Sushi Rei do Gado **Rock Bottom** Samba Grill 1/2 off all-you-can-eat Brazilian feast Sevilla The Shout House St. Tropez Bakery-Bistro 10% off. Thai Time II Free fried spring rolls Visions 25% off sushi Whiskey Girl Xavier's Free appetizer

Opens in theatres February 9.

Thirteenth Month of the Year

The touches of animation are too few to have been worth the bother.

he conventional wisdom that January is a graveyard for movies can only have sprung, and spread, from the media meccas. In the hinterlands between New York and Los Angeles the trickle-down of the year-

end deluge always works to controvert the wisdom. It is unlikely we will experience a better month all year than the one that just brought us Letters from

RE ΕW DUNCAN SHEPHERD

Have you

ever made a really big mistake?

Iwo Jima, Children of Men, Notes on a Scandal, and Le Petit Lieutenant, each officially released in 2006. The trickle still goes on, if less quenchingly.

Miss Potter, the first directing job for Chris Noonan in the eleven years since Babe, is an innocuous biopic on the author and illustrator of The Tale of Peter Rabbit, not to mention protofeminist and proto-environmentalist, who braved the disparagement of gray-souled publishers ("Bunnies in jackets with brass buttons? However do you imagine such things?"), as well as the disparagement of her meddling matchmaking mother, to produce her first book at the spinsterly age of thirtytwo. The role encourages Renée

EDDIE

MURPH

she encouraged herself to behave like that. The vindication of history, while removing any tension from the proceedings, encourages the viewer to mirror the same smirk. Ewan McGregor is

Zellweger to behave a bit like a smug

chipmunk sitting on the private

knowledge of a secret stash of acorns.

Or rather, since the actress served also

as an executive producer, you could say

very game and quite charming as the damp-behind-the-ears publisher who gives her her big break and also provides hope (plus the merest wisp of tension) of a matrimonial Happily Ever After. And Bill Paterson, whom I cannot see on screen without wondering what ever became of Bill Forsyth (his director on Comfort and Joy, his best role), models a prodigious set of muttonchops. The touches of animation which bring the drawings of Beatrix Potter to life are too few to have been worth the bother, but not too few to imply dissatisfaction with, if not further disparagement of, those drawings. Must we regard her as a protoanimator, too? Note: the film, sched-

EDDIE

at the last instant, in what is becoming business-as-usual in the local movie business. So this particular drip in the trickle has been further delayed.

The Italian, positively opening at the Ken on Friday, has to do with a Russian orphan, aged six, upon whom his fellow orphans confer the nickname "Italian" as soon as he is tabbed gin. During the waiting period prior to his departure for the sunny South, he, to the disbelief and dismay of evervone around him, becomes tortured by the thought that his birth-mother would never afterward be able to find him, resolves to track her down himself, and, in furtherance of that quest, learns how to read from a gold-hearted

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PASS FOR TWO!

The film mines a vein of easy sentiment lying close to the surface and running shallow, and the kid is as cute as you can bear. Harder to do, and done to a turn by filmmaker Andrei Kravchuk, is the sketching-in of the workings of the orphanage (calling it "Dickensian," as some can't resist, would be an overstatement beyond

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FEBRUARY 9

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even the reach of Dickens himself), the hierarchy of the staff, the cracked, rusted, run-down physical plant, and the bleak, snowy, foggy, isolated setting. These things afford solid footing beneath the slush.

Smokin' Aces, Catch and Release, Blood and Chocolate are exactly the kinds of new-year releases that have given January its reputation as a graveyard. The first is your basic abomination, a callous and smarty-pants action thriller in the Tarantino mode, or better, Tarantinissimo, revolving around a horde of free-lance bounty hunters and hit persons (a lavishly pierced and tattooed heavy-metal trio, a couple of black lesbians, a scar-faced master of disguise in Mission: Impossible latex, among others) in competition to cut out the heart of a Mob-connected Vegas headliner, Buddy "Aces" Israel, now under the safeguard of the feds. Writer and director Joe Carnahan, easing up on the heel-grinding naturalism of Narc, though not on the finger-snapping tempo, is serious only about that most frivolous thing, tricking the audience at the end, and about that most mindless thing, spraying the audience with bullets and blood. The large cast includes Jeremy Piven, Ryan Reynolds, Ray Liotta, Andy Garcia, Ben Affleck, Peter Berg, Martin Campbell, Matthew Fox, and Alicia Keys, of whom none has so much as a snowball's chance.

The second — Catch and Release, that would be, in case it has already slipped your mind — is a romantic seriocomedy to do with a scheduled wedding turned funeral and the stranded bride's posthumous discovery that her intended groom had a secret big bank account and a secret small child. (They had seemed such a perfect couple: she's called Gray, he was called Grady.) If writer and director Susannah Grant had wanted, as she appears to have wanted, to steer the thing toward the Lifetime Channel, she would have been advised to hire a warmer-blooded leading lady than the fish-lipped, marble-skulled, enamel-skinned, steel-eyed Jennifer Garner. It might seem odd, at the same time, to see the indie filmmaker Kevin "Silent Bob" Smith in the cookie-cutter role of the comical tubby Best Friend, persistently plugging Celestial Seasonings teas via T-shirt, mug, quotable quotations from the boxes, and place of employment. (Just for balance, permit me to plug Numi.) Then again, once you begin to recollect his own sorties into the mainstream, be they ever so futile - Jersey Girl, Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back, Clerks II - it ought to seem significantly less odd.

The third — check back two paragraphs if you must — concerns a woman who runs with the werewolves, a young American in Bucharest, where the werewolf, or loup garoux as it is known to French-speaking Romanians, is better understood, properly revered. Any true horror fan should be open to a bit of werewolf revisionism, but this bit of it is open, in turn, only to the MTV demographic. Despite their fivemillennia reign in Romania, the present population of werewolves, apart from one pair of parental figures, and pretty hip ones at that, seems to consist solely of the sort of crowd you'd expect to encounter at the local disco. (The German director, Katja von Garnier, is familiar over here chiefly for the punk-feminist Bandits.) The heroine, a chocolatier by day, is the rebel of the pack, a resister of tradition, a quiet questioner; and she finds a kindred spirit, and a verboten beau, in a merely human American expatriate

who's researching lycanthrope lore for one of his "graphic novels." Agnes Bruckner and Hugh Dancy are a reasonably appealing couple, as youths go; but no matter how revisionist, there can be no place in a werewolf movie for a pop-song montage of cavorting lovers sunbathing in the park, drenching themselves in a public fountain, etc. The cleverest idea in the movie may be the selection of a film studio as a hiding place from werewolves, sure to be put off by the silver component in photographic processing. But then it doesn't seem quite so clever when one of the parental figures, for that very reason, picks the film studio as the first place to look.

MOVIE LISTINGS

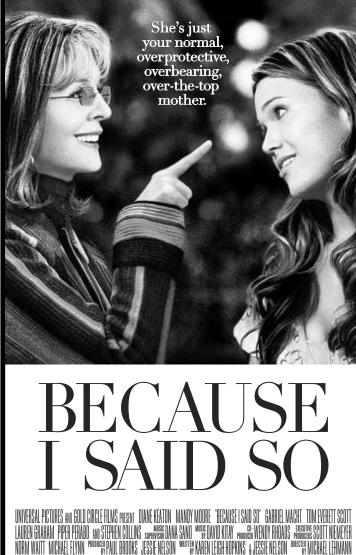
All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews sorted alphabetically, by year of release and by rating, are available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

Apocalypto — Evidently Mel Gibson is in it only for the barbarity. Scouring the globe,

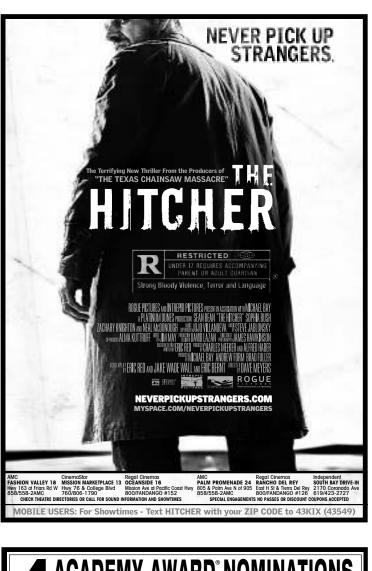
roaming the pages of history, he has alighted here on the illuminating example of the Mayan people, past their civilized peak, where a happy, peaceable, practicaljoking tribe of jungle dwellers (sample joke: the prescription of a red-hot herb as a topical fertility drug, so that the duped hubby must, in full view of the guffawing villagers, hop around buck naked and plunk down his burning loins in a water trough - wait, it gets even better - and his wife must pour a pitcher of water down her gullet) is cruelly set upon and rounded up by a storm troop of fearsome, bloodthirsty, bone-inthe-nose killjoys in search of sacrificial offerings to their god Kukulkan. A paradise, in other words, no less than turn-of-the-13th-century Scotland in Braveheart or 1stcentury Palestine in The Passion of the Christ, where Gibson may indulge his appetite for mayhem, persecution, torture, martyrdom. (The nine-tenths-naked natives enable him, further, to indulge his lesser appetite for homoerotica.) The English subtitles and the no-name cast might almost lead you to believe, were it not for the telltale slickness and the Gibsonian slomo for dramatic stress, that you're watching a product of, say, the Guatemalan New Wave or the Undiscovered Belizean Cinema. At the very least, the film should do nothing to fan the flames of Gibson's suspected and substantiated anti-Semitism. And at the next least, the last-minute ar-

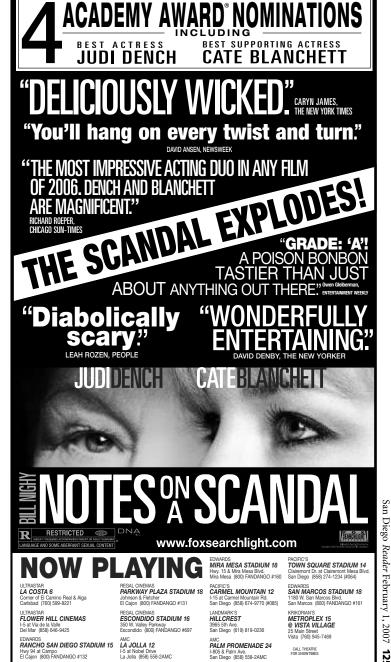
rival on the scene of Christianity is not











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openly - and politically incorrectly applauded. That might be the film's one and only instance of restraint. Rudy Youngblood, Dalia Hernandez, Jonathan Brewer, Morris Bird. 2006.

• (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14: MIS SION VALLEY 20: PALM PROMENADE 24)

Babel — Communication problems the world over. An American tourist is struck by rifle fire in Morocco, arousing erroneous worries of terrorism. An illegal-alien nanny drags along the two towheads in her care to a Mexican wedding, and runs afoul of the Border Patrol on their return. And a horny pantyless deaf-mute Japanese girl can't get a man, any man, to take an interest in her. These three storvlines are fashionably "interlocked" (anyone who can recognize the voice of Brad Pitt over the telephone will immediately know the connection between two of them), and the film strategically ends in the same place, from a different point of view, as it begins, coming full circle. The illusion of complexity, for all that, could scarcely be more transparent. Mexican director Alejandro González Iñárritu, much in the manner of his Amores Perros. achieves depth only in the way that a hero sandwich achieves it; and it achieves length — almost two and a half hours of it - in the same way as a footlong at any Subway shop. Tenuous in construction, slack and sluggish in pace, sketchy and farfetched in plot, the film does nothing to justify its epic length or its cosmic ambitions. (The Mexican storyline, particularly weak, goes nowhere until it goes bananas: a

series of decisions so bad as to forfeit all sympathy for the characters, let alone for the storyteller who compelled the characters to make the decisions.) With a somewhat calmer camera than his norm, however, the director does some nice scene-setting, some impressionistic documentation of the locales, to help realize his goal in sheer duration. With Cate Blanchett, Adriana Barraza, Gael García Bernal, Koji Yakusho, and Rinko Kikuchi. 2006.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8: GASLAMP 15: GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIS-SION VALLEY 7; PALM PROMENADE 24; POWAY 10)

Because | Said So - Relationship comedy, high-strung, low-stooping. As a meddlesome mother determined to marry off her third daughter, Diane Keaton is required to be both irritating and irresistible She half succeeds. First half of the equation only. Although not without a certain slouching charm, Mandy Moore ("Actually, I love to sing") comes in more for pity than sympathy. With Gabriel Macht, Tom Everett Scott, Lauren Graham, Piper Perabo, and Stephen Collins; directed by Michael Lehmann. 2007.

 (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 MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME NADE 24. PARKWAY PLAZA 18. POWAY 10. RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 2/2

Blood and Chocolate — Reviewed this issue. With Agnes Bruckner, Hugh Dancy,

Olivier Martinez, Bryan Dick, and Katja Riemann; directed by Katja von Garnier. ● (CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18: GASLAMP 15: MIRA MESA 18: MIS SION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Casino Royale — Taking the title from Ian Fleming's first James Bond novel, the 007 franchise approaches the opportunity of a new James Bond as the opportunity of a new beginning. The new Bond, Daniel Craig, is not just another pretty face, in fact is a pretty craggy face (Craiggy face, perhaps that should be), and it can pretty well express itself in the bargain. Granted, noises were made about a similar rollback toward reality when Timothy Dalton came on board; and even in the midst of the reign of Pierce Brosnan, noises were made about toughening up his act. These proved to be only noises. The new noises are more. The obligatory pre-credits sequence, in blackand-white and sprinkled with flashbacks, shuns spectacle in favor of blunt brutality; and the action to follow seems to be under no compulsion to "top" all previous action. While Judi Dench reprises the role of "M," Bond himself has only just been promoted to double-0 status (a new beginning for sure) and has yet to earn his boss's trust. There is no equivalent of "Q" and his cute presentation of the gadgets du jour. There is no casual bedding of "Bond girls," and the one romantic relationship (with the enigmatic, darkly eyelined Eva Green) attains an emotional weight beyond even the allthe-way-to-the-altar affair of On Her Majesty's Secret Service. The hero's lame quips and puns, meantime, have thoroughly been expunged from the script. And "I don't give a damn" is his response to the bartender's inquiry as to whether he'd like

FOR

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his vodka martini shaken or stirred. All these changes are definite improvements. And yet, and yet, and yet.... The action, even if somewhat scaled back under the one-time Bond director Martin Campbell (Goldeneye, the beginning of the Brosnan Bonds, but scarcely a new beginning), is still more than sufficiently cartoonish. The plotting is skimpy. The whole thing runs on far too long. And then there's the fundamental question: if you want to do an alternative to James Bond, why call him James Bond? Why not put him out to pasture where at his age he belongs? Mads Mikkelson, Jeffrey Wright, Giancarlo Giannini. 2006. ★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14)

Catch and Release — Reviewed this issue. With Jennifer Garner, Timothy Olyphant, Sam Jaeger, Kevin Smith, and Juliette Lewis; written and directed by Susannah Grant.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8: ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSS-MONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VAL-LEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18: POWAY 10: RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MAR-COS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Children of Men — The basic idea from a novel by P.D. James, a departure from her detective fiction - of a worldwide plague of female infertility, even though not at all original (see The Handmaid's Tale, as a prime example), remains nevertheless a potent metaphor for that science-fiction staple, the End of the World; and the film can thus sensibly refrain from hashing over the significance of a miraculous pregnancy in England, as inexplicable as the plague itself, eighteen years after its

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onset in 2008. A potent metaphor, that, for Hope, even Faith. (The young black woman's deadpan protestation of virginity is of course only her own little joke. What she is carrying is not the Second Coming of Christ so much as that of Adam. Or, as it happens, Eve.) Because the world went so fast to hell so near in the future - "Only Britain soldiers on" - the film is not overburdened with production and special effects. It shoulders just sufficient texture and detail for an illusion of reality: the unswept litter and uncollected trash in the streets, the electronic animated billboards, the pirated artworks preserved for no one's edification at the Tate Modern, the gratis government-issued suicide kits (brand name: Quietus; ad slogan: "You Decide When"), the concentration camps for illegal aliens, etc. There is really not much in the way of a story — underground dissidents squiring the expectant mother through chaotic countryside to an offshore rendezvous with a shadowy do-good organization known as the Human Project - but Clive Owen, the principal squirer, an uncommitted mercenary, has the ideal demeanor for the grimness of the mission; and the trek is nothing if not eventful, a mild word for an itinerary that includes three virtuoso action set pieces. If the camera sometimes calls attention to itself with its showboat mobility, and at one point with its blood-spattered lens, the staging of the action is always thorough and thought-out. As, for that matter, is the staging of the nonaction, in particular the hero's interplay with his exwife (Julianne Moore) and an aged flower child friend (Michael Caine), abubble with emotional undercurrents. Director Alfonso Cuarón's moderation in the use of close ups, a rarer and rarer thing these days, disdains the easy way out. With Chiwetel Ejiofor and Claire-Hope Ashitey. 2006. ★★★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON

PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 7; MIS-SION VALLEY 20)

The Departed — Martin Scorsese's career-changing turn to the overblown epic, a turn marked by Casino, would seem to be a course difficult to reverse. Kundun ... Gangs of New York ... The Aviator And now even a trashy light diversion, adapted from an average-length Hong Kong action film, will get dragged out to two and a half hours - this despite the delivery of dialogue at the machine-gun tempo of a hopped-up auctioneer (or of Scorsese's own casual conversation), and despite, too, the mere semblance of speed imparted by the free-associative cutting and the incongruous rockabilly beat of the background music, whenever the filmmaker isn't trotting out his collection of rock-and-roll oldies. The convoluted plot verges on farce: an upwardly mobile underworld spy in the Massachusetts State Police (Matt Damon, raising his eyebrows in an ostentatious show of innocence) and a downwardly mobile police spy inside the mob (Leonardo DiCaprio, giving himself away with his meat-cleaver worry line) both become involved, first as clients and then as suitors, with a Harper's Bazaar idea of a psychotherapist (Vera Farmiga, she of the prow-like cheekbones, life-raft lips, blue-lagoon eyes). Not even the take-no-prisoners crescendo of gore toward the end, jolting though some of it is, can pull the movie back from the farcical brink. And Jack Nicholson, as showy an actor as Scorsese is a director (when he's only in it for the money, anyway), plays the mob boss at a pitch barely below his Batman Joker. With Mark Wahlberg, Martin Sheen, Alec Baldwin, Ray Winstone. 2006. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8:

FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; HORTON PLAZA 14: LA JOLLA 12: MISSION VALLEY 7: MIS SION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Dreamgirls — Broadway backstage musical — not, that is to say, backstage on Broadway but backstage in Motown charting the breakthrough of R&B into the pop mainstream in the Sixties, more specifically the rise of a girl group called the Dreams (rhymes with Supremes), and at tendant heartbreaks, breakups, downfalls, and assorted other banalities. True, a musical can get away with a banal storyline if the



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music is good, but these Broadway-ized soul tunes are as insipid as they are incessant. It seems it's not easy to write another "Where Did Our Love Go?," another "Come See about Me," another "My World Is Empty without You," another "You Can't Hurry Love." And the one familiar number, the one unforgotten number, the big abandonment solo of former American Idol contestant Jennifer Hudson (big voice, big figure), screams out for earplugs if not a muzzle. Neither is it easy, evidently, to be another Aretha Franklin. Beyoncé Knowles looks glamorous enough as the Diana Ross diva who metamorphoses into disco queen Donna Summer (under the Svengalian guidance of the Berry Gordy stand-in, Jamie Foxx); and the period clothes and hairdos — something near a beehive on Eddie Murphy when we first meet him, higher and higher than Jackie Wilson are enjoyable as expected. Writer and director Bill Condon, who adapted the screen play for Chicago but whose own directing credits run to Gods and Monsters and Kinsey, shows it's not easy to be Stanley Donen. 2006.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CEN-TER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEAN-SIDE 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)

Epic Movie — Spoof of Hollywood blockbusters, with Kal Penn, Carmen Electra, and David Carradine, co-written and co-directed by Jason Friedberg and Aaron Seltzer.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Freedom Writers — Make-a-difference true story about an idealistic young English teacher at an "integrated" high school in Long Beach, where she brings peace and harmony to her fractious classroom (she appears to teach only one hour per day) and seemingly also to the community at large: the gang violence peters out dramatically as she takes the students on a field trip to the Museum of Tolerance, and distributes copies of The Diary of Anne Frank purchased out of her own pocket. The positive attitude and right-mindedness of the film, or at least the enthusiasm and resolve of Hilary Swank in the lead role, are disarming if not shaming. And Imelda Staunton puts up pitiable resistance as the rule-bound department head, a very human heavy. With Patrick Dempsey, Scott Glenn, John Benjamin Hickey, April Lee Hernandez, Deance Wyatt, Mario, and Pat Carroll; written and directed by Richard LaGravenese. 2007.

★ (CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Happy Feet — Computer-animated message movie about the pressure of conformity and (separate message) the plunder of nature, more specifically about a species of pop-song-singing penguins, into whose midst is born a "different," an aberrant, tap-dancing penguin (try, if you can, to put the pudgy trudging birds of March of the Penguins out of your mind), and about a runtier breed of Latino penguins, some menacing seabirds, a scary seal, a couple of humongous orcas, and a race of "aliens who are not computer-animated at all. The interface with these aliens near the end is moderately mind-blowing, if only from a mixed-media standpoint, but the alleged alienness of the human race would carry more rhetorical clout if the penguins hadn't all along been borrowing so freely from its

popular culture. (The natural state holds no accommodation for vintage rock-and-roll.) And you cannot feel entirely happy about a happy ending in which it's suggested that humans might show more respect for their fellow creatures on the planet if only the fellows would learn some nifty dance steps. Although the direction by live-action man George Miller has some nice touches and clever angles, the action, approximately 60mph faster than the action in his Mad Max movies, is approximately 65mph too fast. With the voices of Elijah Wood, Brittany Murphy, Robin Williams, Nicole Kidman, Hugh Jackman, Anthony LaPaglia. 2006.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; PALM PROMENADE 24)

The Hitcher — Extensive re-write of the 1986 road-movie thriller of the same name, altering but not eliminating the truck-pull pièce de résistance, the tearing of limb from limb. What emerges from the overhaul is a no-fun Spring Break for a collegiate Cute Couple harassed by a homicidal highway menace (supernatural or just supersilly?) against whom the New Mexico cops are as helpless as though they were up against the Terminator. What it tells us is nothing more than how rapidly time marches on. We now seem to have come to the point where a young filmmaker (Dave Meyers, a music-video guy) can reach back into his youth, no further than the mid-Eighties, and hold up as a screen classic such a complete pièce de crap. That very word, as it happens, issues from the car radio when a distant deejay introduces "a classic from David Soul," albeit an artifact from way back in the Seventies, "Don't Give Up on Us, Baby." Without any question this is meant as a joke, though it's hardly a bigger joke than an awestruck remake of The Hitcher. With Sean Bean, Sophia Bush, Zachary Knighton, Neal McDonough 2007.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CINERAMA 6; ESCON-DIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA CAMINO REAL; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Italian — Reviewed this issue. With Kolya Spiridonov, Denis Moiseenko, Sasha Syrotkin, and Andrei Elizarov; directed by Andrei Kravchuk. ★★ (KEN, 2/2 THROUGH 8)

The Last King of Scotland — The selfconferred 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. * (FLOWER HILL 4; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROME-

NADE 24: SAN MARCOS 18)

Letters from Iwo Jima — The second part of Clint Eastwood's Second World War diptych, the Japanese-language, Japanese-perspective counterpart to Flags of Our Fathers, an exercise in empathy whereby the filmmaker re-examines the same subject, the costly Battle of Iwo Jima, from the opposite side of the firing line. For an American production to attempt to view an American war through the eyes of the other guys - to attempt to portray the sameness, the oneness, of fighting men on whatever side - is in itself nothing new. It is, by one gauge, as old as the prototypical antiwar film, All Quiet on the Western Front, although that one, or any of its successors (A Time to Love and a Time to Die, The Blue Max, etc.), didn't attempt to do so in the other guys' native tongue. In addition to which, any number of films have attempted an internal balancing act, our side and theirs, sometimes even permitting the others to speak in their own tongues (The Young Lions, The Enemy Below, Hell in the Pacific, Tora! Tora! Tora!, etc.). More, then,



JUDITH CHRISTIN

American mezzo-soprano, "The Hostess" in San Diego Opera's *Boris Godunov*

The Australian film *Così* features mentally disturbed people attempting to perform Mozart's *Così fan tutte*. The film has all of the madness, as well as some director bashing, which every performer has had to endure in his or her career. Toni Collette stars.

Here are two movies that I never tire of: *All About Eve* and *Dinner at Eight*. These films highlight a time when studios cast the most brilliant character actors. Every bit of dialogue could be savored in the smallest of parts; and spoken by the very best character actors such as George Sanders and Thelma Ritter in *Eve*, and Marie Dressler and Wallace Beery in *Dinner at Eight*.

COSÌ (Australia) 1996, Miramax List price: \$14.98 ALL ABOUT EVE (USA) 1950, Twentieth Century Fox List price: \$14.98 DINNER AT EIGHT (USA) 1933, Warner Home Video List price: \$19.98

than in the opposing-viewpoint angle or

the foreign-language angle, the uniqueness

of Letters lies in its distinction as part of a

matched pair, an external balancing act if

you will, sharing numerous points of inter-

section with Flags while sharing no actual

cast members. (The momentous flag-rais-

more than a speck in the distance.) The sin-

gularity of Letters, paradoxically put, lies in

its complementarity. It is much more a straightforward battle film than its prede-

cessor, which was more a memory film of

battle and had as much to do with the after-

effects as with the immediate effects, filing

away the warfare as indelible mental snap-

preachier than Flags, where the filmmaker,

felt freer to let you draw your own lessons,

may have felt less necessity to show his personal "understanding." Nonetheless, it of-

fers a useful, a purposeful, a further refine-

if it runs the risk of collapse under the cu-

mulative weight of his solemnity (four and a half hours over the course of two movies),

the risk proves to have been a risk worth

taking, a risk rewarded. Ken Watanabe,

Kase, Shidou Nakamura, 2006.

Kazunari Ninomiya, Tsuyoshi Ihara, Ryo

★★★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18: FLOWER HILL 4:

HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIRA

PALM PROMENADE 24; SAN MARCOS 18)

MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; OCEANSIDE 16;

ment of his evolving views on violence. And

with firmer footing on home turf, may have

shots. Too, it comes across as a bit

ing on Mount Suribachi now rates as no

DOUG JONES

American tenor, "Simpleton" in *Boris Godunov*

What's Up, Doc? with Barbra Streisand and Ryan O'Neal is one of the best farces ever filmed. Very quick-paced and witty, with an inspired script, and with wonderful supporting players.

Waiting for Guffman is the best of the Christopher Guest films. All the actors are masters at improvisation, and this film more than the others — allows them to play off each other and really display their abilities.

Look at the cast of *Murder by Death* — every role is luxury casting: from Maggie Smith, David Niven, and Alec Guinness to Peter Falk and Truman Capote. It's a great satire on detective films and the entire "famous sleuth" genre of books and films. I wish that there were better extra features, as I would love to know more about the filming process. It must have been an experience.

WHAT' S UP, DOC? (USA) 1972, Warner Home Video List price: \$14.98 WAITING FOR GUFFMAN (USA) 1996, Turner Home Entertainment List price: \$19.98 MURDER BY DEATH (USA) 1976, Sony Pictures List price: \$24.95

Little Children - Todd Field's sophomore directing effort, following up his quietly sensationalized In the Bedroom, is less quietly sensationalized, in other words more blaringly sensationalized, and truly more sophomoric. The adaptation of a Tom Perrotta novel, complete with a snooty third-person-omniscient (i.e., know-it-all) narrator, undoubtedly tells us less about the malaise of our young middle class suburban parents today than about the jaded palates of our moviegoers and/or moviemakers. An adulterous playground liaison - between a killingly handsome Mr. Mom (Patrick Wilson, with his Newman-esque blue eyes and jutting upper lip),

LISA AGAZZI

American mezzo-soprano, "Feodor" in *Boris Godunov*

My favorite film on DVD is *Elizabeth* with Cate Blanchett. The film explores Elizabeth's transformation from a princess in love to a mature queen who sacrifices her personal happiness for the good of her people. Blanchett makes Elizabeth come to life as a strong woman.

I'm a dog lover and can appreciate how silly pet owners can get, so I adore Christopher Guest's *Best in Show*. The film resembles a documentary in that the actors speak to the camera as though being interviewed, and the camera follows them to the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. It's hilarious. Any actor can appreciate and applaud the cast's amazing improvisations.

Little Miss Sunshine displays a lot of heart as it comments on society's fascination with youth, beauty, and perfection. It humorously depicts a dysfunctional family. The message is that love for family and friends and compassion are more important than winning and being perfect.

ELIZABETH (England) 1998, Universal List price: \$14.98 *BEST IN SHOW* (USA) 2000, Warner Home Video List price: \$19.98 *LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE* (USA) 2006, Twentieth Century Fox List price: \$29.99

a graduate of law school but a flunker of the bar exam, and a latter-day Madame Bovary (Kate Winslet, the sleeker edition), who, married to a clod, champions her literary forerunner as a proto-feminist in her bookdiscussion group — cannot be considered sufficiently spicy without the added tang of a neighborhood sex offender, a vigilante excop with innocent blood on his hands, and a married Internet porn addict in secret correspondence with Slutty Kay. To have three separate male characters masturbate on screen on three separate occasions must set some sort of record. And there's not even any clear evidence of developing skills since the director's freshman effort, which really was praised too highly, perhaps too





intoxicatingly. See, for example, the flashcut fusillade of innocuous bric-a-brac at the outset. Or see the overly choreographed scene at the public swimming pool when

the sex offender's arrival in snorkel and flippers gets everyone out of the water faster than if he were a Great White accompanied by the theme from Jaws. Or see the treatment of the night-league amateur football players, through distorting wide-angle lenses, as sneering bruisers suitable for an Adam Sandler comedy. In short, see, all too ostentatiously, the director direct. With Jennifer Connelly, Jackie Earle Haley, and

The Messengers $(\mathrm{PG}\text{-}13);$ Notes on a Scandal $(\mathrm{R});$ The Pursuit of Happyness $(\mathrm{PG}\text{-}13);$

La Jolla Village 8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236) Babel (R) Fri. 1:55, 5:00, 8:05 Sat,-Sun. 10:55,

1:55, 5:00, 8:05; Letters from Iwo Jima (R)

Fri. 2:05, 5:10, 8:15 Sat.-Sun, 11:05, 2:05, 5:10.

8:15; The Painted Veil (PG-13) Fri. 1:30, 4:15,

7:00, 9:45 Sat,-Sun. 10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45; **The Queen** (PG-13) Fri. 1:45, 4:25, 7:10,

9:35 Sat,-Sun. 11:15, 1:45, 4:25, 7:10, 9:35

10733 Westview Parkway (858-635-7700)

Call theater for program information

Smokin' Aces (R)

MIRA MESA

Mira Mesa 18

Noah Emmerich. 2006. ★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; FROM 2/2)

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 acknowl-

edged, "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 competi-

MOVIE SHOWTIMES

MISSION VALLEY

Fashion Valley 18 037 Friars Road (858-558-2262) Alpha Dog (R) Fri,-Sun. (10:50) 1:35, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15; Apocalypto (R) Fri,-Sun. 12:50, 3:35, 6:50, 9:50; Because I Said So (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:50) 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:30 Fri,-Sun. (11:50) 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:30; **Blood and** Chocolate (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:15) 4:10, 9:15; Casino Royale (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. 3:55 7:00, 10:20: Catch and Release (PG-13) Fri. Sun. (10:55) 1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:55; Children of Men (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:45) 2:25, 4:55, 7:35, 10:10; The Departed (R) Fri,-Sun. (11:40) 3:15, 6:40, 10:05; **Dreamgirls** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. 12:40, 3:45, 6:45, 9:40; **Epic Movie** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (10:45) 1:00, 3:10, 5:25, 7:40, 9:50; Freedom Writers (PG-13) Fri,-Sun (10:30) 1:25, 4:30, 7:30, 10:25; Happy Feet (PG) Fri,-Sun. (10:35) 1:05; **The Hitcher** (R) Fri,-Sun. 1:50, 7:00; **Letters from Iwo Jima**

o Thumbs I

Richard Roeper and Govindini Murty, Guest Critic, EBERT & ROEPER

ENNIFER

(R) Fri,-Sun. (11:30) 2:45, 6:05, 9:20; Little Children (Not Rated) Fri,-Sun. (11:35) 3:00, 6:15, 9:30; **The Messengers** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:55) 2:20, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45; **Night at the** Museum (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:20) 2:00, 4:40, 7:25, 10:20; The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13) Fri.-Sun 12:35, 3:40, 6:35, 9:35; Smokin' Aces (R) Fri,-Sun. (10:40) 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 10:00; **Stomp the Yard** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. 12:15, 3:20, 6:10, 9:00

Mission Valley 7

GARNER

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ADULT

7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841) Babel (R) Fri,-Sun. (2:15) 7:45; Because I Said So (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00: Children of Men (R) Fri.-Sat. (4:30) 10:30 Sun. (4:30p.m); **The Departed** (R) Fri, Sun. (10:15, 1:15) 7:15; **Dreamgirls** (PG-13) Fri. (10:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00 Sat. (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00 Sun, (1:00, 4:00) 7:00; The Last King of Scotland (R) Fri,-Sat. (10:30,

1:30, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15 Sun, (10:30, 1:30, 4:15) 7:15; Letters from lwo Jima (R) Fri,-Sat. (10:45, 1:45, 4:45) 7:45, 10:45 Sun. (10:45, 1:45, 4:45) 7:45 Sun. (10:45, 1:45) 7:45 Sun. (10:45) 7:45 Sun. (10 1:45, 4:45) 7:45; Little Miss Sunshine (R) Fri,-Sat. (11:30) 5:15, 10:45 Sun. (11:30) 5:15; Smokin' Aces (R) Fri,-Sat. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45,

Mission Valley 20

1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262) Alpha Dog (R) Fri,-Sun. 4:00, 10:05; Apoca-lypto (R) Fri,-Sun. 12:45, 6:50; Babel (R) i,-Sun. 12:00, 3:10, 6:30, 9:45; Because I Said So (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:10) 12:00, 1:45, 2:35, 4:25, 5:15, 7:10, 7:55, 9:55, 10:40 Sun. (11:10) 12:00, 1:45, 2:35, 4:25, 5:15, 7:10, 7:55, 9:55; Blood and Chocolate (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. 10:20p.m.; Blood Diamond (R) Fri.-Sun. 12:15, 3:25, 6:40, 9:50; **Catch and Release** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:15) 2:05, 4:50, 7:35, 10:30 Fri,-Sun. (11:15) 2:05, 4:50, 7:35, 10:30; **Children of Men** (R) Fri,-Sun. 1:15, 4:20, 7:15, 10:00; **Constellation** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. 1:25, 4:05, 7:05, 9:40; **The Departed** (R) Fri,-Sun. 12:10, 3:30, 6:55, 10:20; Dreamgirls (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. 12:30, 3:40, 6:45, 10:10; Epic **Movie** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:00) 1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:10, 10:45 Sun. (11:00) 1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:10, 10:45 Sun. (11:00) 1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:10, 10:40; **Eragon** (PG) Fri,-Sun. 12:15, 2:45, 5:20, 7:50; **Freedom Writers** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. 1:35, 4:55, 8:00, 10:55 Sun. 1:35, 4:55, 8:00, 10:50; **The Last King of Scotland** (R) Fri. (11:05) 1:55, 4:45, 7:40, 10:50 Sat. 1:55, 4:45, 7:40, 10:50 Sun. 1:55, 4:45, 7:40, 10:35; **The Messengers** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:25) 12:05, 1:50, 2:30, 4:15, 5:05, 7:00, 7:45, 9:35, 10:25 Sun. (11:25) 12:05, 1:50, 2:30, 4:15, 5:05, 7:00, 7:45, 9:35; Night at the Museum (PG) Fri,-Sat. (11:05) 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:35 Sun. (11:05) 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:25; **The Pursuit of Happyness** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:20) 2:10, 5:10, 8:05, 11:00 Sun. (11:20) 2:10, 5:10, 8:05, 10:50; Smokin' Aces (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:00) 1:40, 4:35, 7:25, 10:15; Stomp the Yard (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. 12:20, 3:15, 6:15, 9:15

STATE UNIVERSITY

Cinerama 6

5831 University Avenue (619-287-8990) Call theater for program information Ken

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236) The Italian (PG-13)

UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas 3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)

Notes on a Scandal (R) Fri. 2:00, 4:45, 7:35, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. 11:15, 2:00, 4:45, 7:35, 10:05; **The Queen** (PG-13) Fri. 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55 Sat,-Sun. 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55; **Venus** (R) Fri. 2:05, 4:50, 7:40, 10:10 Sat,-Sun. 11:20, 2:05, 4:50, 7:40, 10:10; **Volver** (R) Fri. 1:15, 4:00, 6:50, 9:35 Sat,-Sun. 10:30, 1:15, 4:00, 6:50, 9:35

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center

1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233) Coral Reef Adventure (Not Rated) Fri. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 8:00 Sat. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00 Sun. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00; **Dolphins** (Not Rated) Sat,-Sun. 10:00a.m.; **Everest** (Not Rated) Fri. 6:00p.m.; **Roving Mars** (G) Fri. 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 9:00 Sat. 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00 Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00; Whales (Not Rated) Fri. 7:00p.m.

San Diego Natural History Museum 1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821) An Inconvenient Truth (PG) Fri,-Sun. 1:00, 3:00; Ocean Oasis (Not Rated) Fri,-Sun. 11:00, 12:00

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18 405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456) Call theater for program information

LA MESA

Grossmont Center

Grossmont Center (619-465-7100) Babel (R) Fri,-Sat. (1:45) 5:00, 8:30 Sun.

Call 444-FILM or the theater for missing information. Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL CLAIREMONT

Town Square 14

4665 Clair ont Drive (858-274-1234) Because I Said So (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:50, 2:20) 4:50, 7:10, 9:45; Blood and Chocolate (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:55) 9:55; Catch and Release (PG-13) Fri,-Sun, (11:30, 2:10) 4:45, 7:15, 10:10; The Departed (R) Fri,-Sun. (1:45) 5:05, 8:30; **Dreamgirls** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:40, 2:30) 5:25, 8:20; **Epic Movie** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:30, 2:50) 5:15, 8:10, 10:30 Sun. (12:30, 2:50) 5:15, 7:45, 9:50; **The Messengers** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:25, 3:00) 5:30, 7:55, 10:25 Sun. (12:25, 3:00) 5:30, 7:55, 10:10; Night at the Museum (PG) Fri,-Sun. (12:15, 2:40) 5:10, 7:40, 10:00; Notes on a Scandal (R) Fri,-Sun. (12:00, 2:15) 4:35, 7:25, 9:35; The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (1:50) 4:30, 7:05, 9:50; The Queen (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:35, 2:35) 5:20, 7:50, 10:15 Sun. (11:35, 2:35) 5:20, 7:50, 10:00; Smokin' Aces (R) Fri,-Sat. (11:45, 2:25) 5:00, 7:45, 10:20 Sun. (11:45, 2:25) 5:00, 7:30, 10:15; Stomp the Yard (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (1:40) 4:15, 7:00, 9:40; **Volver** (R) Fri,-Sun. (2:05) 4:40, 7:20

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400) Alpha Dog (R) Fri,-Sun. 4:30, 7:10, 9:50; Arthur and the Invisibles (Not Rated) Fri,-Sun. 4:25, 6:40, 9:30; **Babel** (R) Fri,-Sun. (2:25) 5:35, 8:40; **Blood and Chocolate** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (2:30) 5:05, 7:25, 9:45 Blood Diamond (R) Fri,-Sun, (2:20) 5:25, 8:30; Catch and Release (PG-13) Fri,-Sun (2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; Code Name: The Cleaner (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (2:50) 7:50; Déjà Vu (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. 6:50, 9:40; Dreamgirls (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (2:35) 5:30, 8:25; **Epic Movie** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (3:45) 5:55, 8:10, 10:20; Freedom Writers (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (3:35) 6:40, 9:35; The Good German (R) Fri,-Sun. (2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:05; Happily N'Ever After (PG) Fri,-Sun. (3:40) 5:45; Happy Feet (PG) Fri,-Sun. 4:20p.m.; **The Holiday** (PG-1: Fri,-Sun. 4:55, 10:00; **Night at the Museum** (PG-13) (PG) Fri,-Sun. (2:40) 5:10, 7:40, 10:10; **Primeval** (Not Rated) Fri,-Sun. 7:50, 10:05; Rocky Balboa (PG) Fri,-Sun. (2:30) 5:05, 7:30,

Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM) **Apocalypto** (R) Fri,-Sun. (12:30) 7:05; **Because I Said So** (PG-13) Fri. 7:55, 10:25, (3:00, 5:30) 12:20 Sat,-Sun. 5:30, 7:55, 10:25, (3:00) 12:20; **Borat** (R) Fri. (12:55, 3:05, 5:10) 7:25, 9:30 Sat,-Sun. (12:55, 3:05) 5:10, 7:25, 9:30; **Casino Royale** (PG-13) Fri. (12:50, 4:10) 7:15, 10:20 Sat,-Sun. (12:50) 4:10, 7:15, 10:20; **Children of Men** (R) Fri,-Sun. (1:15, 4:05) 7:10, 9:40; **The Departed** (R) Fri,-Sun. (12:25, 3:40) 6:55, 10:10; The Good Shepherd (R) Fri₂-Sun. (12:00, 3:30) 7:00, 10:30; The Last King of Scotland (R) Fri₂-Sun. (12:45, 3:35) 6:45, 9:35; Letters from Iwo Jima (R) Fri₂-Sun. (12:40, 3:45) 6:50, 10:00; Little Children (Not Rated) Fri,-Sun. (3:45) 10:05; The Messengers (PG-13) Fri. (12:05, 2:20, 4:35) 7:30, 9:50 Sat,-Sun. (12:05, 2:20) 4:35, 7:30, 9:50; The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13) Fri. (1:05, 4:15) 7:20, 10:00 Sat,-Sun. (1:05) 4:15, 7:20, 10:00; Smokin' Aces (R) Fri. (12:15, 1:00, 2:45, 3:35, 5:15) 7:10, 7:45, 9:45, 10:15 Sat,-Sun. (12:15, 1:00, 2:45, 3:35) 5:15, 7:10, 7:45, 2:45, 3:35, 5:15) 7:10, 7:45, 9:45, 10:15 Sat,-Sun. (12:15, 1:00, 2:45, 3:35) 5:15, 7:10, 7:45 9:45, 10:15, Stomp the Yard (PG-13) Fri.
 (1:10, 4:15) 7:05, 9:55 Sat,-Sun. (1:10) 4:15, 1:10, 4:15 7:05, 9:55

2007

LA JOLLA

S La Jolla 12 8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262) Because I Said So (PG-13); Catch and Re-lease (PG-13); Children of Men (R); The San **Departed** (R); **Dreamgirls** (PG-13); **Epic Movie** (PG-13); **Little Children** (Not Rated);

DEL MAR RECALANDS IT

Mar Heights

NC237

Rickway / Wat Miccam Head 302/025-8785

Sony, Na Passes Ave

LA JELLA 12

CALARY #



DOCANSIDE CINERIA 18

Pacific Ave IOS-FANDARIOS #152

oted For This Engingment. Tur Additional Information, Call Them

(1:45) 5:00, 8:10; Because I Said So (PG-13) Fri. (2:10) 4:55, 7:30, 10:00 Sat. (11:40, 2:10) 7:30, 10:00 Sun. (11:40, 2:10) 4:55, 7:30 9:55; Catch and Release (PG-13) Fri. (2:35) 5:05, 7:40, 10:10 Sat,-Sun. (11:55, 2:35) 5:05, 7:40, 10:10; Dreamgirls (PG-13) Fri. (1:00, 3:55) 7:05, 9:55 Sat. (12:45, 3:55) 7:05, 9:55 Sun. (12:45, 3:55) 7:05, 9:50; **Epic Movie** (PG-13) Fri. (2:30) 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 Sat. (12:10, 2:30) 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 Sun. (12:10, 2:30) 4:45, 7:15, 9:25; **The Messengers** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (1:10, 3:35) 5:55, 8:15, 10:20 Sun. (1:10, 3:35) 5:55, 8:00, 10:05; **Night at the Museum** (PG) Fri. (1:55) 4:40, 7:20, 9:45 Sat. (11:30, 2:00) 4:40, 7:20, 9:45 Sun. (11:30, 2:00) 4:40, 7:20 9:40; The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (1:30) 4:20, 7:00, 9:40 Sun, (1:30) 4:20, 7:00, 9:35; **Smokin' Aces** (R) Fri. (2:40) 5:20, 8:00, 10:40 Sat. (12:00, 2:40) 5:20, 8:00, 10:40 Sun. (12:00, 2:40) 5:20, 7:50, 10:20; **Stomp the** Yard (PG-13) Fri. (2:20) 5:10, 7:50, 10:25 Sat. (11:35, 2:20) 5:10, 7:50, 10:25 Sun. (11:35, 2:20) 5:10, 7:45, 10:15

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15 2951 Iamacha Road

Arthur and the Invisibles (Not Rated) Fri,-Sun. (11:50, 2:15); **Babel** (R) Fri. (4:25) 7:35, 10:50 Sat,-Sun. (4:25) 7:35, 10:50; **Because I Said So** (PG-13) Fri. (11:45, 2:15, 4:45) 7:30, 10:15 Sat,-Sun. (11:45, 2:15) 4:45, 7:30, 10:15; **Catch and Release** (PG-13) Fri. (12:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:00 Sat,-Sun. (12:15) 4:15, 7:15, 10:00; Charlotte's Web (G) Fri,-Sun. (11:40, 2:05); Children of Men (R) Fri. (4:20) 10:20 Sat,-Sun. 4:20, 10:20; **The Departed** (R) Fri,-Sun. (11:55, 3:25) 6:55, 10:25; **Dreamgirls** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (12:25, 3:30) 7:00, 10:05; **Epic Movie** (PG-13) Fri. (12:05, 2:25, 4:40) 7:50, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (12:05, 2:25) 4:40, 7:50, 10:10; Freedom Writers (PG-13) Fri. (4:50) 7:40, 10:40 Sat,-Sun. (4:50) 7:40, 10:40; **The Last King of Scotland** (R) Fri,-Sun. (12:45, 3:45) 6:45, 9:45; **The Messengers** (PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 2:30, 5:00) 8:00, 10:30 Sat,-Sun. (12:00, 2:30) 5:00, 8:00, 10:30; Night at the Museum (PG) Fri. (12:10, 4:10) 7:05, 9:55 Sat,-Sun. (12:10) 4:10, 7:05, 9:55; **The Pursuit of Happyness** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (12:50, 3:50) 6:50, 9:50; **The Queen** (PG-13) Fri. (12:05, 2:35, 5:05) 7:35, 10:25 Sat,-Sun. (12:05, 2:35) 5:05, 7:35, 10:25; Smokin' Aces (R) Fri. (11:45, 2:20, 4:55) 7:45-10:35 Sat,-Sun. (11:45, 2:20) 4:55, 7:45, 10:35; Stomp the Yard (PG-13) Fri. (12:30, 4:35) 7:55, 10:45 Sat,-Sun. (12:30) 4:35, 7:55, 10:45; Volver (R) Fri,-Sun. (12:20) 7:20

SANTEE

Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447) Because I Said So (PG-13); Freedom Writers $(PG\mathchar`embed{PG-13});$ Night at the Museum (PG); Stomp the Yard (PG-13)

SOUTH BAY CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10

Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214) **Arthur and the Invisibles** (Not Rated) Fri,-Sat. (10:00, 12:15) 5:15 Sun. (10:00, 12:15); Babel (R) Fri,-Sun, (10:45, 1:45, 4:45) 7:45, 10:45; Blood and Chocolate (PG-13) Fri,-Sat (2:45) 7:45, 10:15 Sun, 7:45, 10:15; Catch and Release (PG-13) Fri. (10:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 9:45: Dream**girls** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (10:30, 1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:30; **Epic Movie** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30; Freedom Writers (PG-13) Fri,-Sun, (10:15, 1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15; **The Messengers** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. 11:50p.m.; **Night at the Museum** (PG) Fri,-Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; Smokin' Aces (R) Fri,-Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Stomp the Yard (PG-13) Fri,-Sun, (11:00, 2:00, 4:45) 7:15, 10:00

Palm Promenade 24

770 Dennery Road (858-558-2262) Alpha Dog (R) Fri,-Sat. 12:10, 2:50, 5:25, 8:05, 10:45 Sun. 12:10, 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:25; Apoc**alypto** (R) Fri,-Sun. 1:05, 4:00, 7:05, 10:10; **Arthur and the Invisibles** (Not Rated) Fri,-Sun. (10:35) 12:45, 3:05, 5:20; **Babel** (R) Fri,-Sat. 1:20, 4:20, 7:25, 10:35 Sun. 1:20, 4:20, 7:25, 10:25; **Because I Said So** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:35) 12:15, 2:05, 2:45, 4:35, 5:20, 7:10, 7:50, 9:35, 10:20 Sun. (11:35) 12:15, 2:05, 2:45, 4:35, 5:20, 7:10, 7:50, 9:35; **Blood and Choco**late (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (10:40) 3:25, 8:15; Catch and Release (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. 12:10, 2:50, 5:25, 8:05, 10:40 Sun. 12:10, 2:50, 5:25, 8:05, 10:30; **The Departed** (R) Fri,-Sun. 12:05, 3:20, 6:30, 9:45; **Dreamgirls** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (10:35) 1:25, 4:15, 7:05, 10:10; **Epic Movie** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (10:30, 11:15) 1:00, 1:30, 3:10, 3:50, 5:15, 5:55, 7:30, 8:10, 9:45, 10:30 Sun. (10:30, 11:15) 1:00, 1:30, 3:10, 3:50, 5:15, 5:55, 7:30, 8:10, 9:45; **Freedom Writers** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (10:55) 1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:50; Happy Feet (PG) Fri,-Sun. (10:50a.m.); The

Hitcher (R) Fri,-Sat. (11:20) 1:35, 3:45, 5:50 8:10, 10:30 Sun. (11:20) 1:35, 3:45, 5:50, 8:10, 10:20; The Last King of Scotland (R) Fri, Sun. 7:35, 10:20: Letters from Iwo Jima (R) Fri,-Sun. 12:20, 3:30, 6:40, 10:00; The Messengers (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:30) 12:30, 1:55, 3:05, 4:30, 5:35, 7:00, 8:00, 9:25, 10:25 Sun. (11:30) 12:30, 1:55, 3:05, 4:30, 5:35, 7:00, 8:00, 9:25; **Night at the Museum** (PG) Fri,-Sun. (11:50) 2:20, 4:50, 7:25, 9:55; **Notes on a** Scandal (R) Fri,-Sun. (10:45) 12:55, 3:00, 5:05, 7:15, 9:30; The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:45) 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15; **The Queen** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. 12:00, 2:25, 4:55, 7:20, 9:40; **Smokin' Aces** (R) Fri,-Sun. (11:55) 2:25, 5:10, 7:40, 10:15; **Stomp the** Yard (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:25) 2:05, 4:45. 7:15, 9:55; **Volver** (R) Fri,-Sat. 12:50, 5:40, 10:45 Sun. 12:50, 5:40, 10:30

Rancho Del Rey 16 East H Street (619-216-4707)

Apocalypto (R) Fri,-Sun. 7:30, 10:35; Arthur and the Invisibles (Not Rated) Fri. (12:05, 2:40, 5:05) Sat,-Sun. (12:05, 2:40) 5:05; **Babel** (R) Fri. (12:35, 4:05) 7:15, 10:30 Sat,-Sun. (12:35) 4:05, 7:15, 10:30; Because I Said So (PG-13) Fri. (11:45, 2:15, 4:45) 7:20, 10:05 Sat,-Sun. (11:45, 2:15) 4:45, 7:20, 10:05; Blood Diamond (R) Fri,-Sun. (1:20) 10:25; Catch and Release (PG-13) Fri. (12:50, 4:50) 7:30, 10:10 Sat,-Sun. (12:50) 4:50, 7:30, 10:10; **The** Departed (R) Fri,-Sun. (12:05, 3:30) 7:00. 10:20; Dreamgirls (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (12:30, 4.10) 7.10, 10.15; Fpic Movie (PG-13) Fri (12:20, 2:55, 5:20) 8:00, 10:25 Sat,-Sun. (12:20, 2:55) 5:20, 8:00, 10:25; Freedom Writers (PG-13) Fri. (1:30, 4:40) 7:55, 10:50 Sat,-Sun. (1:30) 4:40, 7:55, 10:50; The Messengers

(PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 2:35, 5:00) 7:40, 10:45 Sat,-Sun. (12:00, 2:35) 5:00, 7:40, 10:45; **Night** at the Museum (PG) Fri,-Sun. (12:10, 4:00) 6:50, 9:45; The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (12:55, 3:55) 6:55, 9:50; **The Queen** (PG-13) Fri. (1:00, 4:15) 7:05, 9:55 Sat,-Sun. (1:00) 4:15, 7:05, 9:55; Smokin' Aces (R) Fri. (11:50, 2:25, 5:10) 7:50, 10:35 Sat,-Sun. (11:50, 2:25) 5:10, 7:50, 10:35; Stomp the **Yard** (PG-13) Fri. (1:15, 4:55) 7:45, 10:40 Sat,-Sun. (1:15) 4:55, 7:45, 10:40; **Volver** (R) Fri. (4:35) 7:35 Sat,-Sun. (4:35) 7:35

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive-In

2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727) Call theater for program information

NORTH INLAND

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Carmel Mountain 11620 Carmel Mountain Road (858-674-9770) Babel (R) Fri,-Sun. (12:30) 6:50; Because I Said So (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:05, 2:40) 5:10, 7:55, 10:25 Sun. (12:05, 2:40) 5:10, 7:55; Catch and Release (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:15, 2:55) 5:25, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (12:15, 2:55) 5:25, 8:00, **The Departed** (R) Fri,-Sat. (12:00, 3:10) 6:45, 9:55 Sun. (12:00, 3:10) 6:45; **Dreamgirls** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:50) 4:40, 7:25, 10:15 Sun. (12:50) 4:40, 7:25; **Epic Movie** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:35, 2:50) 5:20, 7:40, 10:00 Sun. (12:35, 2:50) 5:20, 7:40; **The Messengers** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:25, 2:50) 5:00, 7:20, 9:45 Sun. (12:25, 2:50) 5:00, 7:20; Night at the Museum (PG) Fri,-Sat. (12:10, 2:45) 5:05, 7:35

10:10 Sun. (12:10, 2:45) 5:05, 7:35; Notes on a Scandal (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:40, 3:00) 5:30, 7:45 10:10 Sun. (12:40, 3:00) 5:30, 7:45; **The Queen** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:20, 2:55) 5:15, 7:40, 10:05 (R) Fri,-Sat. (12:45) 4:35, 7:15, 10:05 Sun. (12:45) 4:35, 7:15; **Stomp the Yard** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:55) 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 Sun. (12:55) 4:30, 7:10; Volver (R) Fri,-Sat. (3:30) 10:20 Sun. (3:30p.m.)

ESCONDIDO

Escondido 16

350 W. Valley Parkway (760-291-0119) Call theater for program information

FALLBROOK

Galaxy 6 5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784) Because I Said So (PG-13); Catch and Re-lease (PG-13); The Departed (R); Epic Movie (PG-13); Night at the Museum (PG); The Queen (PG-13)

POWAY

Poway 10

13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423) Arthur and the Invisibles (Not Rated); Babel (R); Because I Said So (PG-13); Blood Diamond (R); Catch and Release (PG-13); The Departed (R); Dreamgirls (PG-13); Epic Movie (PG-13); The Messengers (PG-13); Night at the Museum (PG); The Queen (PG-13); Smokin' Aces (R)



They see what adults cannot. They believe what adults deny.

> And they are trying to warn us.

Messengers SCREEN GEMS AND GHOST HOUSE PICTURES AND COLUMBIA PICTURES PRISENT A BLUE STAR PICTURES PRODUCTION A PANG BROTHERS FILM 'THE MESSENGERS' Kristen Stewart dylan Medermott Penelope ann Miller and John Corbett Production Stevenses and the second of the Musif Joseph Loduca, Atteresten Nathan Kahane Joe Drake Station from the second of the se

STARTS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

DIRECTED DANNY PANG & OXIDE PANG

PACIFIC THEATRES CARMEL MOUNTAIN 12 ★ ULTRASTAR DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8 El Camino Real. Del Mar Heights 858/646-9420 l-15 at Carmel Mount 858/674-9770 #085 REGAL CINEMAS ESCONDIDO STADIUM 1 350 W. Valley Parkway 800-FANDANGO #519 CHULA VISTA 10 Broadway Betv 619/338-4214 PACIFIC THEATRES AMC FASHION VALLEY 18 Hwy. 163 at Friars Rd. West 858/558-2AMC West of College 619/287-8990 #065

MATURE THEMATIC MATERIAL, DISTURBING VIOLENCE AND TERROR

GHOST HOUSE

PACIFIC THEATRES GROSSMONT CENTER Stadium ten Grossmont Shopping Ce 619/465-7100 #069 UNITED ARTISTS HORTON PLAZA 14 475 Horton Plaza 800-FANDANGO #519 AMC LA JOLLA 12 I-5 at Nobel 858/558-2AM0

tioned 🍩

AMC REGAL CINEMAS RANCHO DEL REY 16 EDWARDS CINEMAS MIRA MESA STADIUM 18 W. of I-15 on Mira Mesa Blvd. 800-FANDANGO #160 805 & Palm Ave. 858/558-2AMC AMC **MISSION VALLEY 20** I-8 Exit Mission Center Road 858/558-2AMC POWAY 10 REGAL CINEMAS OCEANSIDE CINEMA 16 Ave Mission Ave @ Pacifi 800-FANDANGO #152

REGAL CINEMAS PARKWAY PLAZA 18 RANCHO SAN DIEGO STADIUM CINEMA 15 Hwy. 94 At Campo 800-FANDANGO #132 Parkway Plaza Maii 800-FANDANGO #131 at Community 858/646-9423

sony.com/TheMessengers

East H Street & Tierra Del Rey 800-FANDANGO #126 PACIFIC THEATRES TOWN SQUARE STADIUM 14 Clairemont Dr. at Clairmont Mesa Blvd 858/274-1234 #064 EDWARDS CINEMAS VISTA VILLAGE METROPLEX 12 1180 W. San Marcos Blvd 800-FANDANGO #161 25 Main St. 760/945-7469 Sorry, No Passes Accepted For This Engagement. For Additional Information, Call Theaters Or Check Directories. * Presented In Digital Pr

5

SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN

SAN MARCOS

San Marcos 18

1180 West San Marcos Boulevard at Old California Walk (760-471-3711) Call theater for program information

VISTA

Vista Village Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive (760-945-7469)

Because I Said So (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:00, 12:00, 1:30, 2:30, 4:00, 5:00) 6:30, 7:30, 9:00, 10:00; Blood and Chocolate (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:00, 4:35) 10:15; Catch and Release (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:30) 7:15, 10:10; The Departed (R) Fri,-Sun. (1:20) 7:00; **Dreamgirls** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (12:15, 3:40) 7:10, 10:15; **Epic Movie** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:05, 1:15, 3:20, 5:30) 7:40, 10:00; Freedom Writers (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:20, 2:10, 5:00) 7:50, 10:40; The Messengers (PG-13) Fri, Sun. (12:25, 2:50, 5:20) 7:45, 10:10; Night at the Museum (PG) Fri,-Sun. (12:00, 2:30 5:10) 7:45, 10:25; Notes on a Scandal (R) Fri,-Sun. (11:50, 2:20, 4:40) 7:05, 9:30; The **Pursuit of Happyness** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:05, 1:50, 4:40) 7:25, 10:15; **The Queen** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (12:00, 2:25, 4:50) 7:20, 9:45; Smokin' Aces (R) Fri,-Sun. (12:15, 2:50, 5:25) 8:00, 10:40; Stomp the Yard (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:30, 2:10, 4:50) 7:40, 10:25

NORTH COASTAL CARLSBAD

Plaza Camino Real

2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469) Dreamgirls (PG-13) Fri. (12:25, 3:10); Happily N'Ever After (PG) Fri. (12:30, 2:45); Night at the Museum (PG) Fri. (12:15, 3:25); **The Queen** (PG-13) Fri. (12:40, 3:15); **Three** (PG-13) Fri. (12:10, 2:35)

DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8

El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420) Babel (R) Fri,-Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:15, 10:30 Sun. (10:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:15; Because I Said So (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45; **Catch and Release** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:00, 1:45, 4:30) 7:00, 9:45 Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:30) 7:00; **The Departed** (R) Fri,-Sat. (10:15, 4:15) 10:15 Sun. (10:15, 4:15); **Epic Movie** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15; **The Messengers** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:15, 8:30; Night at the Museum (PG) Fri,-Sat. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; **The Queen** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (1:30) 7:30; **Smokin' Aces** (R) Fri,-Sat. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00

Flower Hill 4

2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425) Dreamgirls (PG-13); The Last King of Scot-land (R); Letters from Iwo Jima (R); Notes on a Scandal (R)

ENCINITAS

Encinitas 8 220 North El Camino Real (760-942-5544) Theater closed

La Paloma

471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW) Borat (R); Volver (R)

LA COSTA

La Costa 6

6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221) Babel (R) Fri,-Sun. (2:00) 7:45; Dreamgirls (PG-13) Fri. (10:15, 1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15 Sat. (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15 Sun. (1:15, 4:15) 7:15; Notes on a Scandal (R) Fri,-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:30; **The Queen** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:30) 5:00, 10:45 Sun. (11:30) 5:00; Smokin' Aces (R) Fri,-Sat. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15

OCEANSIDE

San **Mission Marketplace 13** Diego College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-806-1790) Reader Arthur and the Invisibles (Not Rated); Because I Said So (PG-13); Catch and Release (PG-13); Epic Movie (PG-13); Freedom Writers (PG-13); Happily N'Ever After (PG); Happy Feet (PG); The Hitcher (R); The Messengers (PG-13); Night at the Museum (PG); Smokin' Aces (R); Stomp the Yard (PG-13)

Oceanside 16

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tion 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 rudesounding, unpredictable bleat after the horn gets stuck. 2006. ★ (MISSION VALLEY 7)

The Messengers — American debut of Hong Kong horrormeisters, the brothers Pang, with Kristen Stewart, Dylan McDermott, and Penelope Ann Miller. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSS-MONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MIS-SION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 2/2)

Night at the Museum — Jumanji-esque jumble of special effects, in which all the exhibits at the Natural History Museum in New York City come to life after dark. This allows for a lot of, frankly an excess of, variety: Lilliputian cowboys and Roman soldiers who tie down the new night watchman like Gulliver; a mischievous monkey who pees on him, pickpockets his keys, and engages in a Three Stooges-style slapfest with him; a T-rex skeleton who wants to play fetch; a talking, bubblegum-chewing Easter Island head; Attila and some Huns;

some lions, an elephant, a zebra, a rhino, and so on. It also allows for logical mix-ups whereby, for example, the wax figure of Teddy Roosevelt knows full well he's a wax figure of our twenty-sixth President, while the wax figure of Sakajawea is regarded as the actual, taxidermized Indian maid, a boon to the tour guide who is writing a dissertation on her. Director Shawn Levy oversees one decent cinematic moment, the contrasting views of the Lilliputians letting the air out of the tires of a van at the loading dock, an action which at close range looks as if they're trying to plug a hole in the fuselage of a jetliner at 30,000 feet, while from a distance it looks as if all is calm. Mickey Rooney has a nice little role as a truculent security guard forced into retirement (addressing his replacement vari-ously as "Hotshot," "Hopscotch," "Butterscotch," etc.), and Ricky Gervais, of the British The Office, shows off his narrow range to good effect as another embarrassing boss, the high-handed museum director ("Control your young, please"). Ben Stiller, on the other hand, shows off his own narrow range at great length in the lead role, and Robin Williams (the wax Teddy) and Owen Wilson (toy cowboy) are instantaneously tiresome. With Carla Gugino, Dick Van Dyke, Bill Cobbs. Steve Coogan. 2006. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18: GALAXY 6: GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24. PARKWAY PLAZA 18. POWAY 10. RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Notes on a Scandal — Two thespian heavyweights, Cate Blanchett and Judi Dench, going toe to toe, battling to a draw. The scandal, as it comes to light, is the illicit and illegal affair of a married-with-children, thirty-something art teacher, Blanchett, and a fifteen-year-old male student (Andrew Simpson), a ripped-fromthe-headlines affair made perfectly plausible if not comprehensible. What doesn't come fully to light, except to the voyeuristic viewer, is how a self-deluding lonely old lesbian history teacher, Dench, attempts to use her knowledge of the affair to her own advantage, again perfectly plausible if not exactly politically correct. Both of the

women are individuals, not representatives, and they're played that way. The drama gets a bit overwrought toward the finish, and Philip Glass's phone-it-in musical score is no asset, but all in all a compelling effort. With Bill Nighy and Phil Davis; directed by Richard Eyre. 2006.

★★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Pan's Labyrinth — Guillermo del Toro, the migrant Mexican filmmaker, returns to the place and time of his Spanish Civil War ghost story, The Devil's Backbone, more precisely post-Civil War, mid-WWII. He centers on a preadolescent girl (wide-eyed, plump-lipped Ivana Baquero) chided by her nine-months-pregnant mother (Ariadna Gil, very intense) as too old to be still filling her head with the "nonsense" of fairy tales, especially since she has moved beneath the roof of her wicked stepfather (Sergi López, campily over the top), a Francoist martinet busily stamping out rebels in the woods, who has little tolerance for a child of another bloodline but is eager to get his leather-sheathed hands on his biological baby in his wife's womb. Much more welcoming of the little girl is the mythological faun (real or imagined?), the guardian of the off-limits garden, who identifies the newcomer straight off as the prodigal daughter of the King of the Underworld (what are the odds?). Del Toro, almost in spite of himself, is not altogether guiltless of conventional, parental, puritanical strictures against fairy tales. In his scrupulous, perhaps overscrupulous, balance of dark fantasy and brutal history tilted (politically, diplomatically) a little toward the latter, he leaves nothing to chance. He establishes the Importance of his theme through the unassailable realm of Fascists and freedom fighters, and he connects that world to the parallel universe of fairy tales in a way that can best be termed didactic, academic, studied, possibly stifling. He makes a case. He does not make magic. Far more than The Devil's Backbone, the film that keeps coming to mind, always to this one's disadvantage, is Victor Erice's Spirit of the Beehive, 1973. That one, having in common a post-Civil War backdrop and a gullible little girl, made very much the same points, together with others, and made them more subtly, more ambiguously, more poetically; made them, moreover, while Franco was still in power; and made them without recourse to special effects beyond a Halloween get-up of Frankenstein's monster. Del Toro never lets his special effects here, some of them pretty tacky and icky, take over to the same extent as in his comic-book Hollywood movies (Blade II, Hellboy), but a mere black-gloved sadist, even with an open gash on his cheek, has a hard time holding his own against an arboreal goat-god, an insectile pixie, a featureless humanoid with eyes in the palms of his hands, an obscene giant toad, a Tim Bur-

and so forth. 2006. ★ (ESCONDIDO 16; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET: PLACE 13; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SAN MARCOS 18; VISTA VILLAGE)

ton-esque airless sunless tangled landscape,

Le Petit Lieutenant — Taut, tough, gritty, realistic French policier (no background music to pump it up at any point) picks up the title character at his graduation from the police academy and doggedly follows him to his first assignment as a plainclothesman in Paris, to the receipt of his first gun, to his first corpse, first autopsy, first case, an unglamorous mugging and murder likely committed by a couple of lowlife Russian immigrants. The straight-ahead, flat-footed narrative, how ever, conceals an odd, awkward, tricky structure. Every now and then the film veers off from our eager young rookie (Jalil Lespert) onto a private detour with the soi disant "Madame Supercop" (the biggest name in the cast, Nathalie Baye, in an economically eloquent performance), a respected veteran, daughter of a "Monsieur Supercop," back on the streets after two years at a desk job while she battled alcoholism. Somewhere in the middle, right when the case takes on a new urgency, the focus switches entirely to her, with the Lit tle Lieutenant removed to the sidelines, although keeping his claim on the film's title through his significance to his replacement protagonist, just the age her son would have been had he not died of meningitis in childhood. (Not in any degree "super," Madame Cop shows herself to be all too human.) The balance, in the early stages, between these two characters could have been more deftly handled by director Xavier Beauvois, who also plays a supporting part as a Right-leaning cop; but the case itself, continuing to plow straight ahead, is satisfyingly worked out with rising stakes, rising suspense, rising emotion. The only deflation in it is the thought at the back of your mind of how unimaginable this sort of thing would be in the Hollywood of today, as opposed to the Hollywood of half a century ago. It would now need to be injected with enough extra voltage to electrocute itself. 2006. ★★ (KEN, THROUGH 2/1)

The Pursuit of Happyness — The attainment of sappyness. A hand-to-mouth San Francisco salesman — of portable bone-density scanners, an unnecessary luxury item — lands an unsalaried competitive internship at Dean Witter, but not before his wife walks out on him and their fiveyear-old son ("Did Mom leave because of me?"). The star is the amiable Will Smith, but the director is Italian, Gabriele Muccino of The Last Kiss, which might inspire certain types of filmgoers to draw analogies to the Little Man humanism of De Sica and Company. The poignance, to be sure, is commensurately unrelenting (pushing through to schmaltziness), but the only real grit is in the graininess of the digital image. And the emotional payoff — this isn't postwar Italy, after all - comes in the form of a cash jackpot. Jaden Christopher Syre Smith, Thandie Newton, Brian Howe, James Karen, Dan Castellaneta, 2006. • (ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSS-MONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16: PALM PROMENADE 24: PARK WAY PLAZA 18: RANCHO DEL REY 16: RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Queen — A spot of simulated Royalswatching, ably guided by the seasoned Stephen Frears: a satisfying, if unsurprising and unrevealing and unimaginative re-en actment of what must have gone on behind closed doors in the week after the death of Princess Di, in specific the diplomatic efforts of the newly elected Tony Blair to compel the Royal Family ("a bunch of freeloading, emotionally retarded nutters," in the view of Mrs. Blair) to behave like human beings: "Will somebody please save these people from themselves?" Helen Mirren and Michael Sheen embody Her Majesty and the Prime Minister to two T's. In support of them, James Cromwell at least looks the part of Philip, but plays only one note, and Alex Jennings is a bit short in the snout (in complete contrast to Cromwell) but is otherwise credibly dyspeptic as Charles. The plentiful humor, out of deference to history and living persons, is very mild. 2006. ★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR

HIGHLANDS 8; GALAXY 6; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; PALM PROME-NADE 24; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

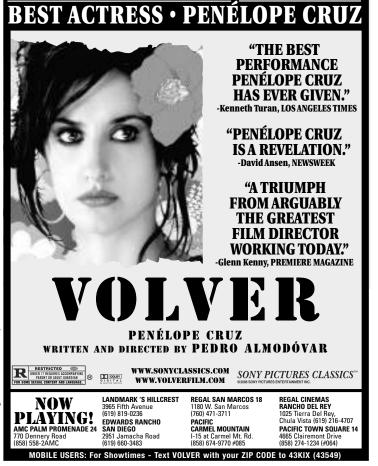
Rocky Balboa — The sixth installment in the *Rocky* series (despite the absence of a Roman numeral to remind us) comes thirty years after the first one and sixteen after the fifth. It will stand as a serviceable definition of "retarded." Written and directed by its sixty-year-old star, Sylvester Stallone, it wants nothing but to turn back the hands of time. Oh, Stallone may, in observance of auld lang syne, put his sanctified screen wife into the cold hard ground ("woman cancer"), and thus restrict Talia Shire, still listed in the credits, to youthful flashbacks. But what man, after all, with washboard abs and with veins bulging in his shoulders and biceps, could abide to be saddled with an old bag his own age? He can always get an eyelift, dip into the hair dye, put on the same hat, run up the same steps to the same music, replace the old Ugly Duckling with a younger Ugly Duckling (Geraldine Hughes, no spring chicken, but nonetheless a quarter-century his junior), and if the script says so, if wishful thinking wishes it, he can still give as good as he gets in a risible "exhibition match" against the current undefeated, but unrespected, heavyweight champ (former light-heavyweight champ, Antonio Tarver). Skill vs. Will, it's billed as, and no chance to mistake which is which. By rights, of course, Stallone ought to have taken over the Burgess Meredith role and left the fighting to, say, Hilary Swank. The glaring irony of it is that, while the onscreen Stallone is supposed to be the personification of heart and desire, the offscreen Stallone can only have been motivated by the thing that motivates his on-screen opponent and supposed opposite: lust for a big payday. Burt Young, Milo Ventimiglia. 2006. (GASLAMP 15)

Smokin' Aces — Reviewed this issue. With Jeremy Piven, Ryan Reynolds, Ray Liotta, Andy Garcia, and Ben Affleck; written and directed by Joe Carnahan. • (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDID0 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSS-MONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Venus — An abortive Pygmalion tale, written by Hanif Kureishi and directed by Roger Michell, about a septuagenarian onetime matinee idol ("You're famous?" "A little bit") who takes an interest in the hopeless would-be model and, in the meantime, ill-natured caregiver for her gay greatuncle, an old thespian crony of our Pygmalion figure. Some of the senescent sexuality has some interest in it for us, too, as we might expect from the indelicate writer of My Beautiful Laundrette, Sammy and Rosie Get Laid, My Son the Fanatic, and (also directed by Michell) The Mother. And yet, for all the outward thorniness, the film is a ball of mush at heart. Peter O'Toole, as the dried-up ham, gives a wearily bluffing performance that nevertheless seems to have won over the critics. Always prone to a heavy stress and a lurching cadence in his delivery of lines, a kind of vocal galumpher, he is now more ponderous and harder breathing by half, going for the Henry Fonda Oscar - i.e., the sympathy vote and even, around the nipped-and-tucked hollowed-out eyes especially, looking a bit like late Fonda, a shadow of his former self (a "gorgeous" glamour shot from his salad days will remind us) or more accurately a cruel caricature of his former self. It is good to note that Vanessa Redgrave as his exwife continues to age beautifully, without taking extreme measures, and that she has still got a spark, a mere five years younger than O'Toole. Jodie Whittaker, in her screen debut as the Galatea figure, makes a pebble-sized splash. 2006. ★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Volver — Almodóvar adds to his familiar sour comedy and mock melodrama the new element of an apparent apparition, a mundane ghost, a flatulent phantom, blended in with the familiar elements in uncertain tone. He shows nary a trace of the erstwhile "bad boy," nothing now but a good, good boy, devoted to mothers in particular, reverential of females in general, the Spanish George Cukor. (The cadaver in the freezer, male, is but a further sign of his respect and his awe.) The result can be recommended to the well-trained legions who are willing to meet this filmmaker seveneighths of the way. Even the foot-draggers must concede that it's deftly staged and well acted, and that Penélope Cruz, beyond acting well, shines like a star. Or more descriptively, a heavenly body. Carmen Maura, Lola Dueñas, Yohana Cobo, Blanca Portillo, 2006.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA PALOMA; PALM PROMENADE 24; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MAR-COS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)



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Ahijado incómodo

Omar Millán González Diario San Diego

El asesinato del ex jefe de la policía del distrito La Mesa, Felipe Antonio Cavada Cuevas, y la posterior ejecución del jefe del distrito Sánchez Taboada, Héctor Gaxiola Gámez, ambos ocurridos en noviembre del año pasado, son los principales vínculos en el atentado que sufriera la semana pasada Jorge Vera Ayala. El jefe de escoltas y ahiiado del alcalde de Tijuana, Jorge Hank Rhon, fue vinculado al crimen de

Cavada Cuevas. Policias municipales han revelado de forma anónima que al interior de la corporación existen dos grupos encontrados por sus propios intereses; Cavada Cuevas pertenecía a uno, mientras que Héctor Gaxiola Gámez (ejecutado) y Vera Ayala al otro grupo.

Por otra parte, la semana pasada el Ejército mexicano devolvió las más de dos mil armas que desde el 4 de enero había confiscado a la Policía Municipal de Tijuana.



Quieren trofeo

El Super Bowl XLI enfrentará la experiencia del quarterback de los Potros de Indianápolis, Payton Manning, contra la búsqueda de reivindicación del mariscal de campo de los Osos de Chicago, Rex Grossman. El partido entre los Potros y los Osos se llevará a cabo este domingo cuatro de febrero en el "Dolphins Stadium" de Miami, donde se enfrentarán dos mariscales de campo completamente

LA

diferentes buscando el mismo objetivo: el título de la liga.

Aunque ninguna de las dos escuadras era considerada favorita para llegar a la final del campeonato debido a sendas etapas de inestabilidad, ahora ambos equipos se encuentran para disputarse el codiciado Trofeo Lombarda. El juego por el campeonato de la NFL será transmitido este domingo a las 3 p.m. por el canal 8 de la cadena CBS.

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redadas

Trabajadores hispanos han dejado de asistir a sus empleos por temor a ser capturados.

región

Tan solo la semana pasada agentes de la Patrulla Fronteriza del sector de Yuma, Arizona, detuvieron a 200 inmigrantes indocumentados en una operación especial efectuada durante los últimos cinco días en el aeropuerto de McCarran, en Las Vegas (Nevada), informó un portavoz de esa agencia federal.

De los arrestados, 192 son

de origen mexicano y el resto de diversas nacionalidades, informó la Patrulla Fronteriza de Yuma en

comunicado de prensa. Más de una docena de agentes vigilaron los pasillos del quinto aeropuerto con mayor tránsito en Estados Unidos con el propósito de detectar y frenar las actividades de traficantes de indocumentados.

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No a las armas

Decenas de miles de manifestantes, entre ellos la actriz Jane Fonda y miembros en activo del Ejército, exigieron la semana pasada en Washington el final a la ocupación de Estados Unidos en Irak, en la mayor movilización nacional desde el inicio del conflicto, el 20 de mayo de 2003. También exigieron al Congreso reducir el presupuesto de la guerra.

Unos 500 mil manifestantes, según los organizadores, entre los que destacaban militares, pacifistas, legisladores y actores, se movilizaron frente al Capitolio, sede del Congreso estadounidense, bajo el lema "Unidos por la paz

y la justicia", coreando "traigan las tropas de vuelta ahora".

Las protestas se dan antes de una esperada votación en el Senado a inicios de febrero de una resolución no vinculante que condene la nueva estrategia del presidente George W. Bush en Irak, anunciada durante la rendición del sexto Informe sobre el Estado de la Unión, que incluye el envio de 21 mil 500 soldados suplementarios. A pocos metros de Jane Fonda, los activistas colocaron un ataúd cubierto con la bandera de Estados Unidos y unas botas militares, por los más de 3 mil soldados caidos en Irak.

Sin b	r
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dido tras haber salido a	8
caminar un rato.	- 3

euriosidades

San Diego

Se pierde en la Gran Manzana

Damon Mootoo, oriundo de Guyana, se estaba quedando en la casa de su hermano en Queens cuando decidió salir a dar un paseo 12 horas después de llegar a Nueva York por primera vez.

El hombre de 32 años rápidamente se desorientó y se extravió hasta ser encontrado por un samaritano que lo llevó a un hospital.

Mootoo, que sufre una leve sordera, dijo que no pidió indicaciones de cómo regresar a casa de su hermano porque tenía miedo que le deportaran y había escuchado

historias de peligros en Nueva York. Recientemente había recibido su tarjeta de residente permanente en Estados Unidos.

Michael Bharath es el samaritano que encontró a Moto en la calle, El y su esposa le hicie-

ron un emparedado y después lo llevaron a un hospital.

Mootoo había pedido agua, pero le daba vergüenza pedir comida o direcciones. Mootoo durmió en un coche abandonado y bajo un pedazo de madera en un patio.

El inmigrante se recupera satistactoriamente en el hospital de la ciudad de Nueva York, donde fue llevado por Michael Bharath y su esposa.

espectáculos



Brillan mexicanos

Gabriela Casas

Tal vez nunca nos hubiéramos imaginado que artistas mexicanos dominarian alguna vez no nada más las nominaciones más importantes del Oscar sino un buen número de ellas en una sola edición.

En días pasados el presidente de la Academia Sid Ganis y la actriz mexicana Salma Hayek, dieron a conocer a los candidatos de la 79 edición de los galardones que otorga la Academia de Ciencias y Artes Cinematográficas en Estados Unidos y, para sorpresa de todos, las películas de los directores mexicanos Alejandro González Iñárritu, Guillermo del

Toro y Alfonso Cuarón, figuraron de una manera importante y, más que nada, histórica.

Babel, El laberinto del fauno y Children of Men le han dado la vuelta al mundo en diferentes festivales internacionales de cine, desde entonces, ya escuchábamos del éxito obtenido en esos festines cinematográficos.

Para orgullo de los mexicanos por primera vez figuraban un trío de directores dispuestos a dejar una impronta en la comunidad internacional del cine. Tres directores con propuestas diferentes, más universales y poco localistas, que logran salir de lo típicamente conocido dentro del cine en México.



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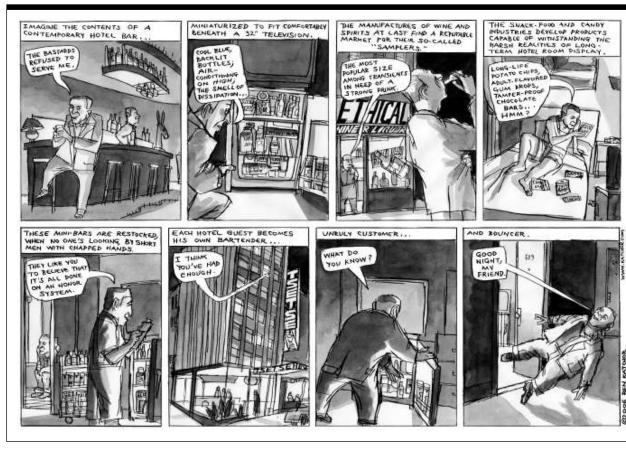
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CUSTOMER SERVICE/SALES: Outbound CUSTOMER SERVICE/SALES: Outbound Sales, Vista, 8am-5pm, \$10/hour. Out-bound Sales, Sorrento Valley, part time 3:30-8:30pm Monday-Friday, \$9/hour. Retail, San Diego Airport, 1st and 2nd shifts available, 6+ months cashiering ex-perience required, \$8/hour. Inside Sales, Sorrento Valley, electronics, technical and hardware experience required, \$13:50/hour plus commission. Outbound Lead Generator, Downtown, \$10/hour, must have good data entry and typing skills. ABCOW Staffing, 2525 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 125, San Diego, CA 92108. 800-690-8367. recruiter@abcow. com. CUSTOMER SERVICE: JOB FAIR. Wednesday, 2/7, 12noon-5pm, San Diego Convention Center, Hall C, 111 West Harbor Drive. Free admission, re-sume review, career workshops. Over 100 local employers! Professional dress requested. Register online at www. Jobina.com

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597-4000; e-mai: Statting@tristatt.com. DATA ENTRY CLERK. Service oriented, attention to detail, ability to handle dead-lines. Experience helpful. Will be respon-sible for entering quotes and premiums and other clerical duties for commercial insurance company in Del Mar. Call Ap-pleOne, 858-490-6470.

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RiversideSheriff.org. **DEPUTY SHERIFF** and Deputy Sheriff De-tentions/Courts. San Diego County Sher-iff's Department. Hiring for two types of positions; take one exam, apply for either or both Exam dates: Saturday, February 3, 2007, 6:30am arrival: Southwestern College Cafeteria, 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista CA 91910. and Wednesday, Cebruary 7, 2007, 5:30pm arrival: Sheriff's Administration Center, 9621 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego CA 92123. You must register by e-mail or phone prior to the register by e-mail or phone prior to the Ridgehaven test Only at recruit@ sdsheriff.org. Detention/Courts: \$37,901-\$58,675 annual salary, plus benefits. Must be 18 years old. Deputy Sheriff: \$47,338-\$67.714_current annual salary, \$47,338.\$67,714 current annual salary, plus benefits. U.S. citizen or applied for citizenship; 20-1/2 years old. High school graduate or G.E.D. required. Bring valid photo ID, #2 pencil and \$3 parking at Southwestern. Valid California Driver's Li-cense prior to appointment. Effective oral and written communication in English. EOE. Additional test dates: www. joinsdheriff.net. 858-974-2000.

DISPATCHERS. California Highway Patrol is now hiring Public Safety Dispatchers II. Apply now! Applications must be post-marked by March 8, 2007. For additional information and application, check www.chp.ca.gov or stop by your local CHP office. CHP is an Equal Opportunity Employer Call 96 627 3962 ployer

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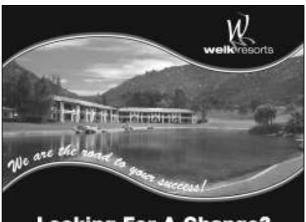
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HAIRSTYLISTS with experience and own HAIKSTYLISTS with experience and own clientel for European-style upscale Up-town salon. Can retail own products. Ben-efits. Ample parking. Good, natural lighting! Antoine, Salon Antoine, 619-277-7747 or 619-291-7747.

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Or e-mail résumé to hr@newalternatives ora

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Please include salary history.

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or fax resume to: 61-298-3948. **HOTEL.** Front Desk Agent (full-time, 2:45pm shift, hotel front desk experience preferred). Bellperson/Valet (on-call/part-time, valid driver's license, good driving record, ability to drive standard stick shift required). E-mail resume as Word attach-ment to hr@ranchovalencia.com or fax to \$88-756-0165. Apply in person: Rancho Valencia Resort & Spa, 5921 Valencia Cir-cle, Rancho Santa Fe, 92067. Please no phone calls.

HOTEL. Hyatt Regency La Jolla now hir HOTEL Hyatt Hegency La Jolla now hir-ing: Cafe Japengo Cook I, Cook III, Cook IV, Server and Sushi Chef II, Convention Services Floor Houseperson, Culinary Cooks III, Convention Services Meeting Concierge, Housekeeping Room Atten-dants, Housekeeping Houseperson, Se-curity Officer, Laundry Attendant, PBX/MIS Telephone Technician, Guest Services Concierce and Steward Excel. Services Concierge and Steward. Excel-lent benefits. AA/EOE. M/F/D/V. Please apply online: www.lajolla.hyatt.com

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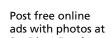
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Must have 2 years experience. Submit re-sume: ntaylor@oopsydaisy.com. LAW ENFORCEMENT. Deputy Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Detentions/Courts. San Diego County Sheriff Department. Hir-ing for two types of positions; take one exam, apply for either or both! Exam dates: Saturday, February 3, 2007, 6:30am arrival: Southwestern College Cafeteria, 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista CA 91910. and Wednesday, Febru ary 7, 2007, 5:30pm arrival: Sheriff's Ad-ministration Center, 9621 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego CA 92123. You must register by e-mail or phone prior to the Ridgehaven test Only at recruitg sdsheriff.og. Detention/Courts: \$37,901-\$58,675 annual salary, plus benefits. Must be 18 years old. Deputy Sheriff: \$47,338-\$67,714 current annual salary, plus benefits. U.S. citizen or applied for citizenship; 20-1/2 years old. High school graduate or G.E.D. required. Bring valid photo ID, #2 pencil and \$3 parking at

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Qualified individuals may send a resumé via e-mail (as a Word attachment) to: hr@ranchovalencia.com or fax to: 858-756-0165 To apply in person please obtain an application at: 5921 Valencia Circle, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067 Please, no phone calls.



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MAID SERVICES. Relax. It's done. 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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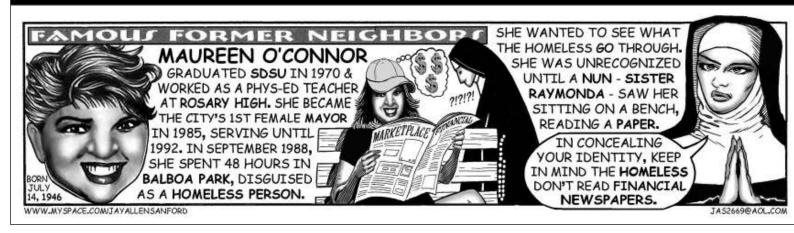
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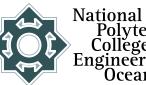


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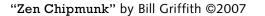
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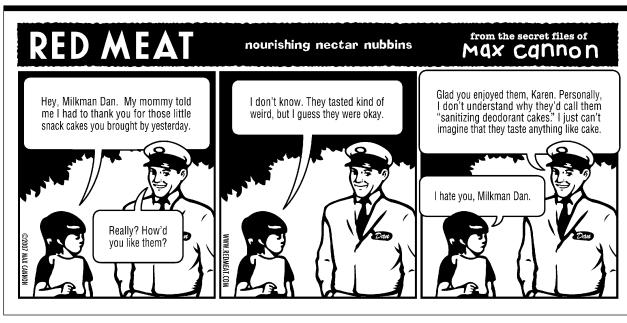
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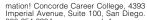
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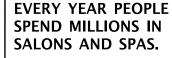
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12. Disease mentioned in the title of

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we'll have a lottery.

7. One entry per person.

our office.

vour name and address.

days following the issue date (Fax to 619-231-0489 or U.S. Mail to *Reader*

Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego,

3. All entries must be accompanied by

4. Employees of the Reader and their

immediate families are not eligible. 5. In the event of disputes or ties,

decisions of the judges will be final

and arbitrary. We've only got five prizes each week to give away, so if

there are more than five winners,

6. All answers must be entered in the

space allowed on the puzzle page.

And please, no phone calls or trips to

novel

a 1985 Gabriel Garcia Marquez

Across

- 1. "Finally!"
- 7. Neighbor of Minn.
- 11. Compaq products
- 14. Fall collection?
- 15. French play part16. "Now the truth comes out!"
- 17. A Gandhi
- 18. Promising clue
- 19. Bagel go-with 20. 1978 Gregory Peck/Laurence
- Olivier movie, with "The"
- 23. Chilean range
- 24. Where S.F. is
- 25. Like most films
- 27. Actress Arthur and others
- 28. Cut ____ (dance) 30. Mussolini money
- 31. Suffix with planet
- 32. Baskin-Robbins variety
- 35. "We ____ to please"
- 36. MGM motto opener
- 37. Tree with egg-shaped cones
- 43. Seattle hrs.
- 46. Stove or washer: Abbr.
- 47. It's just over a foot
- 48. Zeno's home
- 49. Asian pepper plant 51. The Trojans of the NCAA

52. Salad dressing holder

- 53. Karl Rove, Dick Cheney, George
- W. Bush et al. (or this puzzle's
- title)
- 56. Boater's blade
- 57. River of Tuscany
- 58. "XXX" actor Vin
- 59. Bowling target
- 60. "The O.C." viewer, usually
- 61. Word on New York license
- plates
- 62. Fourth-yr. collegians
- 63. Landscapers' supplies
- 64. Pressured, with "on"

Down

- 1. "Open sesame" speaker, in literature
- 2. Carpenter, at times
- 3. Billie Holiday's moniker
- 4. Some car rental places
- 5. They're bound to work
- 6. Despot of yore 7. Retail chain that employs over 30,000 "greeters"
- 8. Cool color
- 9. Night light?
- 10. Fragrant wood
- 11. Discreet

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INSTRUCTION



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13. Fenway team, for short	14									15		
21. One (kids game)												
22. Big name in jewelry	17	T	Т							18		
26. Newsman Rather												
29. Mama's mama	00		+-				_	04				
32. "The Family Circus" cartoonist	20							21				
Keane												
33. Actress Thurman et al.	23	T						24				
34. Ante-												
35. Shoelace tip	27							28				00
37. Smidgen	21							28				29
38. Alfresco												
39. Improvements	31					32	33			-		
40. Didn't go near												
41. Detroit basketballers					35		· ·				1	36
42. Yardstick fraction					30							30
43. Doesn't use wi-fi, say												
44. "Listen up!" 45. Was a rat	37	38	39	9				40		41	42	
45. Was a rat 48. Home to Gannon U.		1						1				
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52. It doesn't pay	1											
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1. The prize for solving the <i>Reader</i>	02		1			05	1	I I	1			04
Puzzle will be a <i>Reader</i> T-shirt.												
2. All entries in the <i>Reader</i> Puzzle contest must be received by the												
Reader by 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, five	NA	M	Ι	K	NE	W		1	υĪ	м		tion to a
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and winners of the Reader Puzzle for 1/25/07.

by David Levinson Wilk

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- There were 183 entrants
- The winners are:
- 1. Patricia McDermott, San Diego
- 2. Stella Bowers, San Diego 3. Tom Hanks, Cardiff

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PERSONAL TRAINING, weight loss, exer-cise, motivational coaching, goal achievement. Eliminate blocks to achieve ultimate health and happiness. Leslie Aaren, RN, CPT, MA. www.leslieaaren. com, laaren1@earthlink.net, 858-272-

PRESCRIPTION EYEGLASSES, \$9. Custom made to your prescription, stylish plastic or metal frame, High index, UV protection, anti-scratch lens, case, lenscloth for only \$9. Also available: rim-less, titanium, children's, bifocals, pro-gressive, suntints, ARcoating, etc. http://zennioptical.com. (AAN CAN)

TAI CHI AND QI GONG CLASSES. First Sanctuary, 4229 Park Boulevard, San Diego 92103. 619-692-1155 or www. taoistsancturary.org.

PARENT Resources

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by

caling 619-235-8200. **POST FREE ONLINE ADS** with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. See thousands of classified ads not printed here! CHILDCARE, 24/7. Mitchell Family Daycare provides quality care and nutritious meals. Drop-offs/pick-ups negotiable. All programs accepted. CPR certified. 12 years experi-ence. Licensed. mitchellfamilydaycare@ yahoo.com, 619-266-0779.

HELP OUR CHILDREN. You've consid HELP OUR CHILDREN. You've consid-ered it. Is it time to become a Foster Par-ent? 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 commit-ment. License #370602780. www. waldenfamily.org. Call Walden Family Services today. 619-584-5777.

INTERIM FOSTER PARENTS. The stay is 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 de-veloped by the Oregon Social Learning Center. A team approach to treatment. 24/7 support from expert staff. Compen-sation for a high level of commitment. Li-cense #370602780. www.waldenfamily. org. Call Walden Family Services today. 619-584-5777

MITCHELL'S LITTLE MUNCHKINS. Licrdable loving family day

care for your special little ones. 0-5 years welcome. Meals provided. CPR and First Aid Certified. Julie, 619-334-3627. PREGNANT? Considering adoption? Talk with caring people specializing in match-ing birthmothers with families nationwide. Expenses paid. Toll free 24/7, Abby's Dep True Off Advances One True Gift Adoptions, 1-866-413-6293. (AAN CAN)

WEDDING & PARTY GUIDE

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AFFAIRS OF THE HEART? Weddings from \$350. Free consultations. Also an-niversaries, birthdays, bar mitzvahs and portraits. Free 8x10 with this ad. Mind's Eye Photographies, 619-602-8253. AFFORDABLE PHOTOGRAPHY and Min-

isterial. Married couple with over 30 years experience in wedding business teams up to cover your event. www. brianhowarthphotography.com. Call Brian or Valerie: 619-583-0411. AMAZING DJs AND BANDS! San Diego Parties & Entertainment-- private, corpo-rate, weddings! Excellent DJs, fabulous bands, specialty entertainment. Reason-able prices! Call 619-444-2389 for a free

AWARD-WINNING PHOTOGRAPHER. See your wedding day unfold in DVD. On a budget? Digital photography. \$650 (5 hours). Kidnapper of Images, Beverly, 858-736-4472; 858-274-4472.

858-736-4472; 858-274-4472.
BAND, "HOT PURSUIT." Weddings; corporate, private parties. High-energy dance band featuring sax player, female vocalist. Swing, jazz, rock, R&B, country, dance hits. 760-751-1876. www. HotPursuitMusic.com.

BANQUET HALL RENTAL. Coronado Is-land and North Park. Silver Star Events. land and North Park. Silver Star Events. Call 619-425-7135. Visit http://www. silverstarhall.com/ or http://www.

fiestaelegante.com/ DISC JOCKEYS/LIVE BANDS/novelt acts. Weddings, corporate, parties. 400 bands, 10 DJs to choose from. All types of music. Affordable! Since 1973. 619-223-5732. www.mul.base.com www.musicasyoulikeit.co LARGE PARTY SPACE AVAILABLE. Full

ding, birthdays. Accommodates 150+. Buffet, full service: meals/sushi/bar. Great rates! Call Kaito Restaurant (Encinitas): 760-634-2746. **NEED A PHOTOGRAPHER FAST?** Attila

NEED A PHOTOGRAPHEN FAST? Attila Horvath photography specializes in wed-dings, civil unions, and commitment cere-monies. January and February dates available. Rates from \$200-\$1500. www.AttilaHorvathPhotography.smug-mug.com. 740-707-3829. PHOTOGRAPHY. For your most important day. All custom digital packages. Formal? Casual? B/W? Call for free consultation and early booking special. www pbdsandiego.com or Leo, 760-806-1487.

WEDDING DRESS, size 8, white, fitted bodice with white embroidered flowers and pearls, matching accessories, \$150. 619-478-9984.

WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY SPECIAL! Limited time offer, \$800, up to 4-6/hours (regular \$1200). High-resolution images, proof album, engagement photo, make-up artist available. Engel Photography, 619-819-8640. www.engelphotography.

STAGE NOTES

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by calling 619-235-8200. POST FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiedoReader.com. See thousands of

classified ads not printed he ABANDON YOUR ACTING FEARS! Actors AbAnbow Youth Ac Interpendent Actions Workshop Studios. San Diego's number 1 film/TV studiol Professional 3-camera set. Weekly in-house auditions with Holly-wood/local casting directors, producers, agents. www.actorsworkshopstudios. com; 858-587-6666.

ABILITY THROUGH TRAINING. The Robert Wald Actor's Studio focuses on moment-to-moment reality training. These classes unlock the actor's ability to work classes unick the actor's ability to work spontaneously and with the realism and intensity advocated by the industry's cre-ative legends. Beginners welcome. Thursday evening class available, 6:30pm-10:30pm or Saturday morning. Call for information. 619-542-1216.

ACTING AND SINGING WORKSHOP. Be-ginning January 20. 4-week adult work-shops. For more information, please visit www.apastudios.com, or call 619-282-1884

ALIVE ON STAGE! Point Loma Actors' Workshop. Taste the performance high! Sign up now for the most fun you'll ever have on a Monday night in Point Lomal Beginners welcome. www. pointlomaactors.com. 619-225-0044.

AUDICIONES en Espanol. Lectura Dramatizada de "Las Luminarias." Actri-ces/Actores para representar 8 person-ajes femeninos. Principiantes OK. Sabado 17 febrero, 12 del día. Encinitas, 760-942-0826.

rou-942-0826. AUDITIONS, Award-winning sketch com-edy tv show, seeks San Diego based male/female actors. Look 18-30, talent trumps experience. Saturday 2/17. Won-drous Strange Productions. 619-339-1659.

AUDITIONS-INHERIT THE WIND, February 26 and 27, 7-9m. Coronado Play-house. Director Keith Anderson. 10 men. 8 women, 2 teens, all roles open. 619-800-8882, www.coronadoplayhouse. com, maryemily@rocketmail.com.

AUDITIONS. SeaWorld. Saturday, 2/10/07, 11am-3pm. Costume Charac-ters, Comedic Actors, Show Hosts, Dancers, Bands and Groups, Performers, Backstage Professionals and more! Sea-

World Adventure Camp: 500 SeaWorld Drive, San Diego. Bring your talent to SeaWorld, be a part of the fun, the won-der and excitement. You may interview/ audition for more than one category. Bring resume and headshot photo; 18 Bring resume and headshot photo; 18 years of age; prepared audition no more than 2 minutes. Audition hotline: 619-226-3607 or visit: www. 3607 or visit: seaworldsandiegoauditions.com

AUDITIONS: Short film. Seeking actress, 20-33, fit, attractive, 5'6'-5'11', and sec-ond actress, creative, exotic, and very fit, 5'5' or taller. No pay. Call 858-518-8396 or 268 422 0011

EXTRAS, ACTORS, MODELS. \$125-\$750+/day. No experience required. All \$750+/day. No experience required. All looks needed! \$2000+ in 2 weeks. Call now. For casting calls, 1-800-270-1807 x528 and x536. (AAN CAN)

FREE MODELING PORTFOLIO Photogra-phy with makeup artist, 1-2 hours photog-raphy, make-up artist, all clothing changes, 1 free 8x10 print. Limited time! Engel Photography, 619-819-8640. www. engelphotography.com.

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

outifit changes. 36 or more photos all on CD. Zed cards available. 25 years experi-ence. Member, BBB. 8'x10'/name, \$5 each. Call Kosmicki Photography, www. mgk-shooter.com; 619-583-2229.

HIP HOP PERFORMANCE Worshop. Per form onstage for hundreds. Have fun, make new friends. Starting February 3. www.alphaomegadance.net/workshop. Information or call to register. 858-635-1211 1211

MEDIA MAKE-UP ARTISTS earn up to \$500/day for television, CD/videos, film, fashion. One week course in Los Angeles while building portfolio. Brochure, 310-364-0665. www.MediaMakeupArtists. com. (AAN CAN)

MODELING & TV COMMERCIALS. All ages for clothes ads, commercials and extras. No experience necessary. We are not a school. If you want straight talk, call 619-285-1495. 22 years in San Diego. www.ModelingandTV.com.

MODELS. Amateur models needed for photo, video, web work. Ages 18-60. All 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. Ex-cellent pay. Flexible hours. Seeking all body types/races. Open-minded a plus. Paid daily. David, 619-203-3327.

MOVIE EXTRAS, ACTORS, models! Make Full time, part time. All looks needed! 1-800-799-6215. (AAN CAN)

Sub-799-6215: (AAN CAN) SAG CONSERVATORY presents David Rogers, L.A. Taxman to actors. A must for people in the business! 1717 Morena Boulevard, 2/5/07, "30pm-10:00pm. Call: SAG hotline, 619-744-8900.

VolcEoVER WORKSHOP. Break into volceover! Taught by voice actor/author James Alburger. Learn interpretation, character voices, microphone technique, more for radio/TV. www.voiceacting.com; 88-484-0220.

Total Rejuvenation 2-Hour Facial \$95* (\$270 value) Includes: Microdermabrasion (reg. \$120), LED photo therapy (reg. \$150) + green tea facial with RG peeloff mask and facial massage SD Skin.net 7420 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. Suite 101 • 858-560-0509 *First-time clients only. WON'S ACUPRESSURE

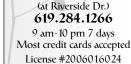
MASSAGE & STRESS RELIEF Jacuzzi 805 A **Body Shampoo** Unive itv Ave 32nd St. 3817 32nd St. (Across from Sav-on) North Park Way 619-563-5777 Open daily 9-9 Lic. #13328

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Oriental Spa



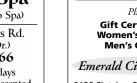
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[•]25% OFF • Foil/Full Color • Perms Facials/Waxing With this ad. Exp. 2/14/07. Plus. Gift Certificates Women's Cut \$20 Men's Cut \$15

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ANXIOUS? DEPRESSED? Relationship

issues? New Year, new outlook on life. In-dividuals, couples, children and families all welcome. Sliding fee. MFC-43174. Contact Phaedra Scoortis at 619-972-

ARE YOU MAD? Learn how to manage your anger constructively. Gain power, control, reduce conflict and improve your relationships. Classes begin soon. Mis-sion 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 con-sultation. Patricia R. Parlin, Ed.D. CHT403-250. Call 619-442-3661 or 619-504-1935.

EMOTIONAL ISSUES? PTSD, abuse, co dependence, birth trauma, relationships, professional spiritual counselor, M.A. Hu-man Behavior, 4 decades experience. Teaching Credential #020171282. www. idaretoheal.com. 619-701-4621.

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION. Relationship therapy: infidelity, sexual impul-sivity, betrayal, guilt, resentment, anger, spousal conflict, relationship building, men's issues. Matt Burgan, MFC41596. 858-75-4060 858-735-4069

FEELING STUCK? STRESSED? Experiencing crisis? Relationship issues? Ca-reer problems? Family conflicts? Grief? Molest survivor? Take back your power. Free consultation: 619-723-9244. Trish Deignan, LCSW21861.

FIND THE ULTIMATE Relationship. Are you tired of going from relationship to reyou tired of going from relationship to re-lationship and not finding happiness? Free consultations, individual coaching and seminars. www.sheilahenry.com Sheila Henry, MFT-8408. 858-450-1965. GAY/BISEXUAL MEN. Supportive indi-vidual therapy. Depression, anxiety, con-fusion, addictions, spiritual/religious issues. Married, closeted welcome. Dis-cretion, confidentiality assured. Mel Kar-men, PhD, MFC-12709. 619-296-9442.

HEALTHY ADULTS COURSE offers free preview session Wednesday, January 31. Call for other dates. Learn to heal child-hood traumas from wounds of dysfunc-tional family. Includes Thought Field Therapy for eliminating anxieties and traumas. Counseling for individuals, cou-ples enrichment and family bonding ses-sions. Sharon Goodlove, TD Jiagnostican, and Glenn Goodlove, LCSW-1450. Goodlove Counseling Cen-ter, 858-569-8975, www.goodlove-online. com. HEALTHY ADULTS COURSE offers free

MALE GROUP MEMBER NEEDED for nixed process/support group. Relation-ship difficulties, intimacy, self-esteem, childhood issues. Tuesday evenings, UTC area. Susan Jorgensen, MFT-22281, 858-622-0632.

NOTICES

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by caling 619-235-8200. **POST FREE ONLINE ADS** with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. See thousands of classified ads not printed here! A PROSPERITY MINDSET can be yours

biscover and apply spiritual principles that activate prosperity and success in your life. Call Michael or Michele. 858your life. ADDICTED to Internet pornography/sex'

Out of control? You are not alone. Cal Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12 step fellowship. PO Box 3791, San Diego 92163 or 619-685-7211 or www.slaa-san

ADDICTION PROBLEMS? Women for So briety is a non-12 step self-help program meeting Monday, Wednesday, Saturday www.womenforsobriety.org or 858-549

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS. Ge group support at San Diego Area mee ings. Adults who grew up in alcoholic other types of dysfunctional household Feel better about yourself. 619-276-6232, www.adultchildren.org.

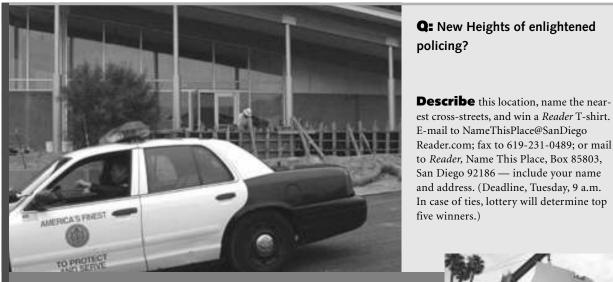
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL works for hu-man rights. Meetings: 7pm, 2nd and 4th Works Works Works Works Works Works Works Wednesdays. First Unitarian Church, 4190 Front (opposite UCSD Medical Cen-ter). Information, 858-576-3811. ATTENTION PMS SUFFERERS, Womer ages 20-45 (not on medication or birth control pills) with regular menstrual cy-cles needed for 5 month UCSD sleep and light study, 8 overnight hospital stays re-

BHAGAVAD-GITA CLASSES: Monday through Thursday 7:15-8pm. Discourse and discussion, by a Vedic scholar. Hare Krishna temple, 1030 Grand Avenue, Pa-cific Beach 92109. 858-483-2500.

clifc Beach 92 109. 000-100-2000. CANCER PREVENTION THE, Natural way, 2/15/07, 7pm-9pm Dan Harper MD at Price-Pottenger Nutrition Foundation (PPNF) in Lemon Grove \$20 (\$10) PPNF members. Limited seating 619-462-7600. **CANNABIS CONSCIOUSNESS** Collective Forming for Proposition 215 patients, caregivers. To create a shared growing space. Organic gardening classes (chemi-kills kill). Earthworm power, com-post revolution. 619-291-0983.

CARLSBAD CITY ADULT Learning program. Improve your literacy skills. Nev learners and volunteers welcome. Make a difference. Please contact 760-434-2998 CONVERSATION SALON: Topix Sex. Fur and casual talk about sex by sexologists Dr. Nick and Sayaka, February 1, Thurs-day, 7pm. Free, 412 Pennsylvania Av-enue, Hillcrest 92103. 949-280-9221. enue, Hillcrest 92103. 949-280-9221. **DIVERSITY** in the alternative press: The Academy for Alternative Journalism, es-tablished by papers like this one to pro-mote diversity in the alternative press, seeks talented journalists and students (college seniors and up) for a paid sum-mer writing program at Northwestern Uni-versity's Medill School of Journalism. The 8-week program (June 17-August 12, 2007) aims to recruit talented candidates from diverse backgrounds and train them in magazine-style feature writing. Ten participants will be chosen and paid \$3000 plus housing and travel al-\$3000 plus housing and travel al-

NAME This Place



Last week's place: (clue: Yes, but Isis it art?) "Isis," a public art sculpture on the median where Harbor Drive and Laurel Street intersect east of Lindbergh Field, Middletown. It's 42 feet tall, 63 feet long, weighs 40 tons, and includes a sawn-off ship's prow. Mark di Suvero, its creator, made it partly as a tribute to his Italian naval officer dad and partly to Isis, the Egyptian goddess of rebirth and magic. But mostly "Isis" happened because the Institute of Scrap Iron and Steel (ISIS) commissioned the piece in 1978 to mark the company's 50th anniversary. (Last week's win-ners: Bo Neece, Bill Stevens, Belisario Dimuzio, Jeff Goldberg, Christina Barreto)

> Change the system, join Coalition of Parent Support. Call 619-465-2677. DIVORCING/SEPARATING? Get guidance/support during your emotional adjust-ment. Group meets Friday, 6:30-8pm, in Allied Gardens off Waring Road. Divorce Anonymous, 619-442-1550.

Altonymitous, 619-442-1350. EARN \$100 BEFORE YOU MOVE! If you are moving soon. Call us to schedule a home interview and environmental sampling. For just 2 hours you will earn \$100. SDSU Healthy Homes Study, 619-594-0501. FACIALANTIAGING.COM or

FREE BIBLE STUDY course by mail. Nondenominational. 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 619-299-681 FREE LECTURE/MEDITATION! "What is Karma?" seminar. Do you want to change and improve your life, but don't know how? Always face the same problems? Under-chang the true merging of largem Changed. Aways lace the same problem's Orderna stand the true meaning of karma. February 10, 2pm-3:30pm, Days Inn San Diego, 543 Hotel Circle South, 92108. Reserve your seat now! www.irh-la.info, la@irh-intl.org, 310-782-7776, 626-584-0701.

FREE MEDITATION CLASSES: Mondays 7pm; Tuesdays, 7pm; Saturdays, 11:30am. www.dharmacenter.com. 5059 Newport Avenue, Suite 303, Ocean Beach, CA 92108 858-616-6308.

FREE PSYCHIC HEALING. Lecture Clinic. Free readings for new visitors. Mondays, 7:30pm, 2/5/07, by Vessa's Clairvoyant Pro-gram students. 4455 Morena Boulevard, gram students. 4455 Mor Suite #108. 858-509-7582

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lowances. For information and an applica

Iowances. For information and an applica-tion visit: www.atijournalism.org. You may also e-mail us at altacademy@ northwestern.edu. Applications must be postmarked by February 9, 2007. North-western University is an equal opportunity educator and employer. (AAN CAN)

Divorcecare and compared in the orbit of a second and a special free seminar and loving sup-port group for the broken-hearted in di-vorce, completed divorce, broken life in friendship. 4926 La Cuenta, Suite 203, Tier-rasanta. Bruce, Bruce@coastline-realestate.com or 619-461-4480.

DIVORCED AND PROBLEMS with child vis-itation, support payments, non-custodial rights, lawyers, and family law court?





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Think you won't be able to sell your property because you owe more than it's worth?

Let us show you some options.

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San Diego Reader February 1, 2007

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HERPES/HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HSV/HPV) Support group. Accurate medical information and support. Recorded message. 619-491-1194. www. SanDiegoCityHELP.org.

LEARN 141 CHL Free class, relaxed envi-ronment. South Clairemont Recreation Center, Saturday mornings, 8:30am. All are welcome. More information, http://snipurl.com/SDTaiChi.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Stop crime and vi-olence. Be a role model. Be a Guardian Angel. Free martial arts training. ftws619@yahoo.com; www. guardianangels.org; or 619-964-8099.

MOVIE BUFFS, Interested in watching movies then discussing it afterwards (like book club)? Ages 25 to mature welcome. Please call 619-850-6075 or 858-272-8727.

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS WOMEN'S Support group, meeting every third Wednes-day of the month, 6-7:30pm, beginning February 21. Cardiff by the Sea library. 2081 Newcastle Avenue, Cardiff. Contact MS society at 760-448-8400, press 1.

MS society at /60-448-8400, press 1. NATIONAL ALLIANCE on Mental Illness (NAMI) announces free family-to-family education classes. Thursday, 2/8, 6:30pm, St. David's Episcopal Church, 5050 Milton Street, San Diego 92110. www.namisandiego.org/familyfamily.html.

www.namisanoiego.org/namilytami textositamily

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Meetings

PATHWORK DISCUSSION: "The Spiritua Significance of Sexuality." February 15 Significance of Sexuality," February 15, 2007 7-9pm, 1228-1/2 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. For information call 858-259-1880.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION, "Following Through on Decisions, 'Janaury 30, 7-9pm. 3180 University Avenue, Suite 200, San Diego 92104. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. For information. 619-296-9046.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION, "Staving Or Your Path," February 27, 7-9pm. 3180 University Avenue, Suite 200, San Diego 92104. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. For information, call 619-296-

PATHWORK DISCUSSION: "The Spiritual Significance of Sexuality," February 15 2007 7-9pm, 1228-1/2 Camino Del Mar Del Mar. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. For information call 858-259 avail: 1880

PREGNANT/NEW MOMS. UCSD study women ages 20-45, not using medication or smoking, are needed for a sleep/light study. Required, 4 evaluation visits +4 overnight hospital stays, 619-543-7393.

overnight hospital stays, 619-543-7393. **PRIVATE COUNSELING.** Your journey can be clearer, more peaceful; relation-ship issues, body image, self-esteem, anger. I can help. Work toward accep-tance of yourself. Fee. 619-838-6817. Lance of yourselin, Fee, of 19-333-6617.
RECOVERY GROUPS for men and women seeking freedom from addiction/co-de-pendency. Fridays, 7pm. Celebrate re-covery, First Lutheran, 867 South Lincoln Avenue, El Cajon. 619-444-7444. www.re-coverd.uc.c.

SAN DIEGO DRUID GROVE forming. At-tention: Celtic Shamans and Tree Hug-gers. Infinite Deities Grove. RDG Proto-Grove. http://rdg.mithrilstar.org/ First grove meeting: 2/25, 3pm. Contact infinitedeities@yahoo.com.

Tascam FW-1082



Bu//alo

Guitars-

San Diego Reader February 1, 2007

28

Bros.

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SINGLES' MINGLE CLEANUP to Rock Ocean Bech on February 11, 10am-noor Singles, friends, families, couples all we come to participate and meet like-minded eco-friendly community members to take action to protect our environment. www. cleansd.org, 1-800-237-BLUE.

STOLEN. 4 aluminum patio chairs and cast iron table stolen weekend of 1/1/07. Reward leading to recovery. RW Little Company, Inc., 3923 Pacific Highway. 619-238-2750.

SURVIVORS OF INCEST Anonymous Free 12-step support groups for men and women molested as children. Call Tim, 619-282-4798; www.siawso.org.

TAI JI. OI GONG classes. Free to our com munity. Shelter Island (near art show). Every Saturday, 9-10am. 619-226-6506. TRANSFORME el presente. Lo invitamos al grupo que se esta formando para escuchar y practicar las ensenanzas de Eckhart Tolle. Encinitas. Gratis. 760-942-

TRANSFORMING the present moment. Join group forming to listen and practice Eckhart Tolle's teachings. Encinitas. Free.

TWELVE STEPS NOT working for you? Try a self-empowering, skill-building ap-proach with S.M.A.R.T. Recovery, free support groups. 858-546-1100. Support groups. 888-546-1100. VOLUNTEER CHILDBIRTH, assistants needed. UCSD Medical Center Doula Program needs women to help mothers during labor. Big commitment, lots of gratification! 619-543-6269.

VOLUNTEERS. Help stop the child abuse crisis. San Diego's abandoned/neglected children desperately need you. Become a child advocate. Information sessions Wednesdays, 3/7, 3/28 (South Bay) and 4/4. Voices for Children, 858-569-2019 or

Witters Workshop, Free. Every Mon-day, 10am-1pm, Joyce Beers Community Center. Hillcrest. Vermont Street, near University Avenue, 858-457-8477.

TRAVEL & GETAWAYS

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by calling 619-235-8200. **POST FREE ONLINE ADS** with photos at classified ads not printed here!

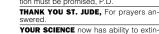
PERSONALS

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him by Mr. Litter. JURY DUTY 1/24. Saw you and thought you were my favorite bartender from Lamplighter. You said your friend goes there often. You have twin. jungleboyii@

MAY THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS. Be adored, glorified, loved and preserved, throughout the world, now and forever, sacred heart of Jesus, pray for us. Say this prayer 9-times a day for 9-days; by the 8th day, your prayer will be answered, it has never been known to fail. Publica-tion must be promised, P.D.



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BASS PLAYER WANTED for established

San Diego indie-rock band ready to gig. Check out thatdream.com/ad and call

BASSIST NEEDED. Talented, dedicated

musician. Must have equipment, studio rent, originality, heavy melodic range. My influences: Tool, Mudvayne, Snot, Illnino. Chad, 619-581-7975.

BASSIST WANTED, By established hard

rock band Bedlans Edge. Seeking dedi-cated and talented bassist, wanting star-dom. 18-21. Influences: Zeppelin, Sabbath, Hendrix. Call Dave, 760-579-

8938, bediamsedge@yahoo.com. COMPOSITOR/guitarrista con mas de 100 canciones busca baterista, bajista y planista para formar grupo de rock en es-panol. Muy profesionales de 30 o mas. Ricardo 619-284-1625.

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DRUMMER WANTED. Shuftle/blues drummer for San Diego based Stevie Ray Vaughan tribute Alan Iglesias and Cross-fire. Dedication, some touring required. Professionals only. www.alaniglesias-and-crossfire.com.crossfire@cox.net.

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satile and must love to play for fun. Call 619-518-8488.

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SAN DIEGO CHORAL CLUB accepting new members. All levels welcome. Re hearsals begin January 16, 7-8:45pm Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 137 Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1370 Euclid Avenue. www.sandiegochoralclub. org or 619-778-7002. 1370

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9611, www.hindsightrehearsal.com. **REHEARSE AT SUPERIOR SOUND** in Kearny Mesa or El Cajon. State-of-the-art rehearsal studios that offer 24-hour surveillance, soundproofing, air condi-tioning, and high ceilings. Ask about our move-in speciall Limited rooms available. Call now to reserve your space. Kearny Mesa, 858-268-4600; El Cajon, 619-447-4977.

SALSA FRIDAYS ARE BACK. Dance! Celebrate grand opening: Lucky Star Nightclub/Restaurant, 3893 54th. DJ, Live band, Rick Tumbao, 9pm. \$12 cover. Free parking. 619-229-8228.

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BANKER'S HILL, \$695 includes, cable, laundry and utilities. Room with 1/2 bath in house. Call 619-865-6699.

BAY HO/WEST CLAIREMONT, Master bedroom with French doors opening onto large balcony. \$700 includes utilities, ex-cept phone. Housekeeper every Tues-day, nonsmoker. 858-494-3440.

BAY PARK, \$650, \$100/deposit, 1/3 utilites. Seeking female to share clean, quiet, 2 bedroom house, laundry, 2 kitties, 1 small dog, Internet available, prefer no T.V. 619-275-5909. BAY PARK, CLAIREMONT, Room in 2

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CARDIFF. Small furnished \$625. Large room \$775 pius utilities and deposits. Community living, privacy. Vegetarian/ seafood kitchen, organic garden, jacuzzi, laundry. Nonsmokers. No pets 760-753-0321.

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Garth Hawk Engineer Escondido

When I was about ten years old, I was skateboarding and saw some police officers going around the corner. There was a blonde kid laying there. He had curly hair. They were standing over him. I didn't know exactly what was going on until I saw someone put a sheet over him. There wasn't any blood or anything. I think he had gotten hit by a car. It really shook me up. Later when I was 22, my aunt died. I left the house before she passed away, though. I couldn't handle it.



Charlie Imes Process server Clairemont

Many years ago, when I was 18 or 19, I was driving home in Torrance. I was on Hawthorne. I was on this wide street, and this motorcycle went between the two rows of cars. When the light changed, the bike accelerated. I heard a crunching. I looked and saw his face on my window. The pedal of his motorcycle was grinding into my car, and he wobbled and hit the curb and a few parked cars. His bike flipped, I pulled my car over and couldn't even open the door it was so damaged. The police were there quickly. They pulled off his helmet, and he was choking a bit and died. They said he was drunk and died on impact from a broken neck.



Wayne Bird Mortgage broker College Area

When I was in Vietnam for 23 months, I worked with what we called grunts. I was a corpsman. The closest thing they had to a doctor. If they got hurt, I'd give them morphine. I didn't tell them they were dying, even if I knew. You'd just medicate them to the point where they aren't in as much pain. I saw 20-plus soldiers die that I couldn't get to medevac. Sometimes I had to pick up the right body parts to send with the right person back to the States. It was horrible. I saw a lot of death in the O.R., too.



Joni Willemssen Telephone company Bay Park

My mom died of lung cancer. She was a smoker for 60 years. She lived to be 76, though. The night before, she was restless. I climbed into bed with her and held her. It was all very peaceful. It wasn't a bad thing. I could tell she was ready to go.



Ken Dunn Salesman Clairemont

Back in New Jersey, this 45-year-old guy was going up this road and lost control of his motorcycle. He hit a telephone pole and it took his head off. I was going up the hill, and I saw his helmet and the bike. It was all so crazy. The wheels on his bike were still spinning.

smoking. References. Paul or Debbie. 877-593-6275.

CHULA VISTA. \$590, all utilities included. Available now. Clean room in 2-story home in nice neighborhood. Shared bath. \$150 deposit, plus first month's rent. 619-604 6644

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CLAIREMONT. \$567.50.1 bedroom, 1 bath available 2/1 in large 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Shared parking space. Internet included in rent. \$200 deposit. 858-505-0266.

CLAIREMONT. Nice room in house with yard. Good location. Near Pacific Beach, yard. Good location. Ivear racine bode..., downtown, La Jolla. \$550/month includes utilities, \$250 deposit. Female preferred. No pets. 858-715-8221.

CLAIREMONT, \$700 share 2 bedroom 2-1/2 bath, beautifully decorated, clean Landmun, \$100 share 2 bedroom 2-1/2 bath, beautifully decorated, clean townhome. Quiet neighborhood, garage, washer/dryer. Private balcony, storage, pool. No pets/nonsmoking. 858-279-2625.

CLAIREMONT. 1 bedroom available in 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. 2 pools and hot tubs, gated. Great location. \$550, in-cludes utilities and cable. Mike, 619-384-2210.

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CLAIREMONT. \$500/month. Medium-size sunny room. Laundry/kitchen privileges. Internet/cable available. Near buses, UTC, freeways. Need first/last month's rent plus \$125. No pets. 858-274-5234. COLLEGE AREA. 3 rooms starting at \$600 available in large 2 level house. Nice area, walk to shops. Great view. Washer/dryer, wireless Internet. 858-243-1911

1911. **COLLEGE AREA.** Master bedroom, walk-in closet, private bath, \$1000. Large room, separate entrance, shared bath, \$800. 2 bedroom suite, separate en-trance, shared bath \$900. 858-759-3563. COLLEGE/DEL CERRO. 2 bedroom, bath condo with female. Large room with bath. Pool, jacuzzi. Have cat. Nonsmok-ing only. \$600, plus utilities. Toni, 858-731-3114; 619-235-2415, x30431.

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COLLEGE/ROLANDO. \$600. House: Large master bedroom, second story, pri-vate bath, deck, yard, storage, cable TV/Internet, hardwood, quiet/nice neigh-borhood, mountain views. Tavis, 619-583-capa.

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654-0146. ENCINITAS. Share 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Quiet neighborhood. Near free-way, beach. \$550 plus \$50 utilities. No pets, drugs. Available now. Won't last long. 858-525-3210.

Iong. 858-525-3210. ENCINITAS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Good-size bedroom, sliding doors to backyard. Have dog and cats. No smok-ing/drugs. \$750, 1/2 utilities. Credit Charle

Check. ENCINITAS. \$750. Downtown, near beach. 11'x13' quiet room, shared bath, walk-in closet, laundry, cable, yard, bal-cony, view. Nonsmoking. Have cat, no additional pets. 619-235-2415, x29945. ENCINITAS. \$550/month, 1/4 utilities. Room in clean, quiet modern house. Washer/dryer, cable, kitchen privileges, phone line available. Deposit. Won't last long. 760-753-1686; 619-235-2415, x30194.

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Terred. \$525, 858-481-5551. **KEARNY MESA.** \$650. Available 2/1. Room with private bath. No pets. Female preferred. Cable, Internet, laundry. Easy access to freeways. Great neighborhood. 858-842-1944; cell, 858-748-6707.

LA JOLLA, Room with private entry, block from the beach, \$900/month. On Marine Street. 858-336-7909.

cious 2800-square-foot house, all ameni-ties, canyon view, close to all. No smoking, no pets. \$625, plus deposit.

858-539-1386. **LA JOLLA/UTC.** \$675? plus utilities, share bath, deposit. 2000-square-foot home. In-ground pool, fireplace, gazebo, foun-tains, wireless Internet, off-street parking. . 858-455-9914

jacuzzis. Laundry onsite. \$850 (\$900/ garage). 858-410-5547. Jan aguy: 0004110-5047. **LA JOLLA/UTC.** \$550 \$550 deposit, 1/3 utilities. Bedroom in 4 bedroom home. Pri-vate bath. Furnished/unfurnished. Clean house, quiet neighborhood. No smok-ing/drugs. 858-554-0018.

Billy Wear

Drum instructor

Clairemont

Well, I was in the same room with a guy. It was a code blue.

In the VA hospital, he ended up dying

He had diabetes and already had

both his legs amputated. But in that period of time, being in the hospital,

it seemed after he died, a lot of peo-

ple ended up going right after him.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA BEACH. \$950/ month. Lovely, completed furnished large master bedroom with large cedar walk-in closet, Everything included. Maid service. Private entrance. Nonsmoker. 858-459-3089; 619-235-2415, x23970.

MUSIC



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KENSINGTON. \$875. Canyon view, pri-vacy plus, 2 story Tudor, pool. Bedroom/ private bath, hardwoods, 3 fireplaces, gourmet kitchen, owner travels. Extra

LA JOLLA/UNIVERSITY CITY. Share spa-cious 2800-square-foot house, all ameni-

858-539

LA JOLLA/UTC. Room in large 4 bed-room, 2-1/2 bath canyon view home. Teak bed, dresser, desk. No smoking/pets. \$575, plus utilities. Anna, 858-558-0705.

LA JOLLA/UTC. Own bedroom and bath. 350-square-foot patio. Share electric, ca-ble, Internet. Gated community. 2 pools, 2

space available to same tenant. No pets. Nonsmoking. 619-283-9600. TRUISTIDIATING: 019-203-900U. LA COSTA. Master bedroom, \$800. Huge, spacious room. Movie theaters across street. 5 minute walk to restaurants. Pool, jacuzzi, freplace. 1-car garage. Storage space. 760-672-7064. LA JOLLA VILLAGE. Via Sonoma. Room with bath in 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo, attached 2 car garage. Pool, jacuzzi, spa. \$795. 858-205-0493.

by Pete Mueller ©2007



LA MESA. \$640. Bedroom, bath available in large 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Balcony, quiet, pool, jacuzzi, laundry on site, street parking, great area. 805-757-2160.

LA MESA. \$500, utilities included. Female to share furnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath with female. Pool, jacuzzi, laundry. Own bath-room, patio. No smoking/drugs. 619-892-

LA MESA/LAKE MURRAY. \$685. Quiet. carport, private entrance and bath, se-cluded pool area. Laundry. Cable Inter-net. Utilities all included. 619-316-0407. LEMON GROVE. Sober living home. Spa-cious, newly remodeled, furnished house, \$550/month for large shared room. \$1000/month for private room. Deposit \$200. No pets/smoking. 619-263-8807.

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\$300/deposit. No smoking/pets. Male preferred. Bill, 858-518-1517. MIRA MESA, Room for rent \$475/month, \$150/deposit. References. Pool, jacuzzi, kitchen, laundry. Please leave message 858-653-0423

856-653-0423. MIRA MESA. Mira Mar College, \$550, in-cluding utilities. Large room. Clean, quiet home. Pool, security. Near stores/busses. Male. No smoking/pets/drugs. Available now. 858-359-0590.

now. 858-359-0590. **MIRA MESA.** \$500/month, includes utili-tics. \$250 deposit with first month's rent. Clean, unfurnished room. Female pre-ferred. Shared bathroom. No smoking/pets. Contact Joy, 858-349-5707

MISSION BAY. \$900. Large room avail-able in beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with bay views. Washer/dryer, dish-washer, backyard, garage. Utilities are shared. 760-835-6711.

MISSION HILLS. \$675. Room for rent in 2 bedroom, 1 bath, bright, sunny, quiet home. Gardens, laundry, partial bay view, garage, barbecue. Craig, kinde123@ hotmail.com, 619-254-4645.

MISSION HILLS. \$1285. 1/2 expenses. Private bedroom/bath/office in 2200 square foot stylish mid-century home. In-credible bay/airport views! Share entire house. Big kitchen, decks, laundry. Bob, 619-252-4236.

MISSION VALLEY/SERRA MESA. 2 rooms available, \$450 and \$500. 3 bed-room, 2 bath house, 2 living rooms, garage, laundry. No pets. Available now. 858-277-4555.

MISSION VALLEY. Share large apart-ment. La Mirage or Avion 3/1. Year lease. Credit check. Easy deposits. My living room furniture. Les, 858-414-5441. NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$750. Private home. Furnished room. Fenced yard. Nice neighborhood, centrally located. Includes

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dow, large closet. Nonsmoking, no drugs. Rent \$800, \$800 deposit. Call Danielle, 508-612-9665. NORTH PARK. \$575. Third person to join sharing nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo/duplex. Presently 2 tenants, male/ female. Near SDSU, 805, downtown. 619-

NORTH PARK. \$800/month to month con tract. Available 3/1. Room available in 2 bedroom house. Washer/dryer, newly re-modeled kitchen, parking in driveway/street. Susan, 619-549-5168. NORTH PARK. \$450. Small furnished room for rent. All utilities are included. Share bath. \$50/deposit. Good credit re-quired. No smoking. Call Steve, 619-282-6461.

OCEAN BEACH, Room available 2/15/07 in 3 bedrom condo, ocean view, 3 blocks beach. Laundry. No smoking/pets/drugs/excessive drinking. Male preferred. \$675. 619-246-8560.

OCEANSIDE \$600. Very large room in 3000-square-foot home. Paid water, trash, gardener. Available 2/15. Deposit and references. No smoking/pets. Fe-male only. 858-603-9507. OLD TOWN/MISSION HILLS. 1 bedroom.

private bath in condo. Parking, weekly maid. Great location. Nonsmoker, no pets. \$700, utilities, cable included. 619-

PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedroom, 3 bath to share with male. 2 blocks to beach. Washer/dryer in unit, parking. Available now. \$900, \$200 utilities. 858-967-0794. PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. Share

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. Share 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Own bath-room, closet space. \$750/month, \$600 security deposit, 1/2 utilities. Mike 619-665-4432, email bruin_000@yahoo.com. PACIFIC BEACH. Share 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. 2 blocks from the beach and bars. Your room 15x12, own bath-room. \$1060 plus monthly bills. 858-405-3461.

PARADISE HILLS/. 1 room available. Washer/dryer. Nonsmoker, nondrinker, no drugs, no pets. \$500. 619-470-4824. POINT LOMA. \$650. 1 bedroom with view, 1 bath. Utilities included plus satel-lite TV for bedroom. Female only. Month to month. \$200 deposit. Tina, 619-226-

POINT LOMA, 3 bedroom 3 bath, fully fur-nished condo. Unfurnished large room, private bath, walk-in closet. 2 story, wutted coilingo. ficrations vaulted ceilings, fireplace, washer/dryer, parking. No pets please. \$750/month, 619-226-1166.

POINT LOMA. 3 bedroom 3 bath, fully fur-nished condo. Unfurnished room with own bath, direct balcony access. 2 story, vaulted ceilings, fireplace, washer/dryer, parking. \$650/month. 619-226-1166. SAN CARLOS. Unfurnished room, 12x12, available in 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Share bathroom with male, \$600, 1/3 utili-ties about \$40/month. \$300 deposit. 619-957-9471.

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2985, 619-823-2985. **TIERRASANTA.** \$675/month, \$200 utilities in clean and quiet 4 bedroom house. In-cludes broadband Internet, cable, gar-dener/maid, washer/dryer, pool, fireplace. No smoking/pets. 619-920-940

9990. UNIVERSITY CITY. \$995. Private master suite in 2 bedroom condo in UTC/La Jolla Colony. Parking space. Available 3/1. info@diamondsand.com. Call Susy to view, 805-984-0990.

view, 805-984-0990. UTC, \$500/month. \$500/deposit. Quarter utilities, share bath, unfurnished room. Extended digital cable, pool, fireplace. Great location. Nonsmoking. Have dogs. No more pets. Available 2/1. 858-452-0644

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RENTALS

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San Diego Reader February 1, 2007

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BANKER'S HILL/HILLCREST. \$1095 in church 3 niLL/HILCREST. \$1095 in-cludes electricity. Nice 1 bedroom cot-tage. Hardwood floors, nice kitchen. Near all amenities. Pets negotiable. Drive by 121 Ivy and call immediately. 619-230-1234.

BAY PARK. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house overlooking Mission Bay, great views of bay, new kitchen, recessed lighting, 2 story, washer/dryer, garage. 2865 Morena Blvd. Pets OK with additional deposit. Call 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop. com.

com. BAY PARK. \$1950. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with view of Mission Bay. Attached home with view of Mission Bay. Attached 2-car garage, yard. Available now, lease. 3586 Trenton. TPPM, 858-699-3851 or 858-454-4200 x110.

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pointment. 1303 Brunner Street. Available 2/1. 858-756-5702. BONITA. Newly remodeled 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath. 2-car garage. Front/backyard. Ocean views. Fireplace. Washer/dryer. New appliances. \$2900 includes trash/landscaping. bmrbenz@aol.com, 619-917-4432.

CARDIFF. \$1900. Large 2 bedroom CARDIFF. 31900. Large 2 bedrooth ocean and park view, hardwood floors, garage, deck, yard, parking. Close to beach. Available February 1. 163 Norfolk Drive. 858-273-4812. CARDIFF. 4 bedroom, 3 bath house with garage. Washer/dryer hookups, yard. Close to freeway and beach. \$2995/month.760-753-4101.

CARLSBAD. From \$1395. 1 bedroom bungalow. Call for specials! Close to beach. Carport, fenced backyard. Washer/dryer hock-ups. \$0 down OAC! Available now. 760-729-5668.

CARLSBAD/LA COSTA. Luxurious coastal living located just above the fa-mous La Costa Resort and Spa. Newly re-modeled spacious 3 bedroom, 3 bath, all appliances, washer/dryer, fireplace, yard, garage. Available 2/1, \$2050, includes water/trash/gardener. Preston, 619-742-7776, 760-778-4244.

CHULA VISTA/Otay Ranch. \$3700. Lovely 5 bedroom, 4-1/2 bath view home. Cul-de-sac, 3850 square-feet, upgraded. Family room, loft, 3-car garage, private yard. 619-993-1758.

CHULA VISTA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house \$1495. Dishwasher, double oven, refrigerator, private deck, laundry. Some utili-ties included. No pets. Call 619-698-5686 CHULA VISTA, EASTLAKE, 3 bedroom 2

CHULA VISTA, EASTLAKE, 3 bedroom 2-1/2 bath. Fireplace, ai: conditioning. New carpet. Quiet neighborhood. 3 community pools. Lake view. Near malls. \$2000/month, 619-829-4148. CHULA VISTA. 461 Reinstra Court. 5 bed-room, 3 bath, \$2700. 1800 square feet. Yard. Section 8 OK. Excellent condition! vr@ajprop.com. A&J Property Manage-ment, 619-540-3009. CITY HEIGHTS. \$1750. 3 bedroom, 2 bath buisse in great condition. Total remodel

house in great condition. Total remodel new everything! 3527 Lemona Avenue. 2car garage, washer/dryer hookups. No pets. Call 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.

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CITY HEIGHTS, \$695. Small 1 bedroom house. Garage for extra storage. Small pet OK. Quiet, near bus. 4116 46th Street, rear house. Agent, 619-692-0234, ext-

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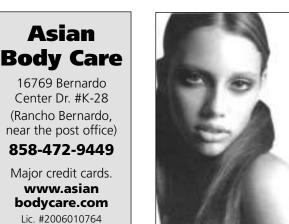
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425-0670. **CHULA VISTA.** \$1050. Half off first month! Beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Parking. Laundry. Pool. Gated. Great location. Near I-5/Costco. Pets/Section 8 consid-ered. 615 Moss Street. 619-405-7411. CHULA VISTA, EAST. \$1450. 2 bedroom 2 bath luxury townhome, gated neighbor hood. 1100 square feet, washer/dryer, air -car garage plus space. Nonsmoking. 1450. 619-421-5509.

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CITY HEIGHTS. \$975 rent. \$600 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking spot. Dining area. Dishwasher. Balcony. No pets. At 4377 Mariborough Street #5. Agent, 619-200 9815

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Call 619-296-2787. CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. De-signer 1 bedrooms from \$1050, 2 bed-rooms 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. sdreader.com/rent/ 1070.

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CANARIES can sing better than you for the momma. North County. Please call 760-724-9316. CHIHUAHUA, neutered male, about 1 year old, tiny, timid, lots of personality, not barky. Absolutely no small children. \$100. 619,466,0426

466-0426

DOGS. FOCAS is a trusted name in pet adoptions. Call for information on a variety of wonderful rescued pets. Always al-tered, microchipped, vaccinated. Most \$150 donation. 619-685-3536. **FREE BABY SHI TZU,** For loving home. Cinderella, purebred shi tzu, very lonely. She needs someone to love/care for her.

VOU? 828-490-4390 KITTEN/CAT ADOPTIONS, Spayed/ neutered, combo tested, shots, mi-crochipped. 2/3/07, 1-4pm at PetPeople, 8843 Villa La Jolla Drive, La Jolla 858-457 0026

42/-2036. KITTENS/CATS, 10 weeks+, need re-sponsible, lifetime homes. Cute, friendly, virus-tested, neutered, vaccinated, de-wormed, deflead. Tuesday/Thursday 6pm-8pm Saturday/Sunday noon-4pm. Petsmart La Jolla 8657 Villa La Jolla Drive. Fee, www.sdcats.org.

LOST CAT, Female, gray tabby, medium sized, declawed in the front, already spayed. Very friendly. Lost in San Diego Reward! Please call 215-862-1234 newhopeopenpa@aol.com.

FREE FRESHWATER FISH! *Buv 2 at greater/equal value, get 1 free.

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old, mellow but energetic, lap dog, crate trained, shots, license, \$100. 619-583-PUPPIES. American Bull Dog. ABA regis-tered, shots, de-wormed. Good disposition, protectors, great family pets. Males and females, predominantly white. \$1000. -9344. sidcottrell18@verizon.net PUPPIES. AKC mini Dachshund, piebalds, beautiful, \$700. I have 2 with long coats. Male is chocolate; female is

PUPPIES. French bulldog, 4 weeks old, AKC certified. Now accepting deposits. 858-336-4419.

TWO AKITAS NEED loving home! 5 years old, healthy, spayed, neutered. Looking for a yard to play in. Price open to good owner. \$100, 760-277-3499.

San Diego Reader February 1, 2007

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nits available. 6305 Stanley Avenue.

COLLEGE AREA/LEMON GROVE. \$695

by Carol Lay ©2007

LOST DOG in La Mesa. Please help! Lost Yorkie on 1/5/07. Escaped from Andy's Pet Salon. 9lbs., black, tan and silver Needs medication. 619-654-4491, 909

LOST YORKIE/CHIHUAHUA MIX, Reward! "Alley," lost off Alta Vista 11/15/06, 5 lbs, mostly tan, hair kinda long, collar with my number. Please help, 760-805-4788. MIN PIN male for breeding. Just shy of 2 years old, reddish brown. Would like to use him as a stud. \$500. 858-676-3460. PEKINGESE, off-white, neutered, 2 years

red dapple. Sweet, soft, gentle. 619-312-1895; 619-244-0917.

THE DINETTE SET

by Julie Larson ©2006



COLLEGE AREA/TALMADGE, \$875 Ask about move in special. Large, 2 bedroom apartment. Near all. Laundry, parking, gated, 4420 Estrella Avenue. Manager #6. 619-253-2290; 619-281-2063. COLLEGE AREA. \$750-\$775. 1 bedroom. Near shops. Laundry room. No pets. 6769 El Cajon Boulevard. Apartments in rear

. 619-464-0901 COLLEGE AREA, \$760: 1 bedroom: avail able February. \$1300: 3 bedroom, 2 bath 2 parking; available March. Amenities 4333 College Avenue. 619-287-8380.

COLLEGE AREA/TALMADGE. \$750. Nice upper 1 bedroom, air conditioning, new upper 1 bedroom, air conditioning, new carpet/paint. Walk-in closet. Quiet com-plex. On site laundry. off-street parking.

COLLEGE AREA/TALMADGE. \$725. Gor geous 1 bedroom, 1 bath with newer car-pet/vinyl. Remodeled kitchen. Quiet complex. On-site laundry. Off-street park-

COLLEGE AREA. \$1250. Light, bright 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, gated, pool, laun-dry, quiet complex, one parking. Remod-eled baths. New: stove/microwave, carpet/paint. Deposit. Cell, 714-227-0911.

COLLEGE AREA. From \$825. Remodeled 1 and 2 bedrooms. Near shopping. Pool. Air conditioning. Parking available. Laun-dry. Barbecue area. Pets considered. 3635 College Avenue. 619-582-3993. COLLEGE AREA. \$380 moves you in plus deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, large upper

unit in courtyard setting, new carpet and paint, on-site laundry, off-street parking. 4644 Soria Drive #5. 619-804-3325. 4644 Sona Drive #5, 619-604-3325.
CROWN POINT/PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bed-room, 2 bath. Views! Fireplace, patio/deck, appliances, washer/dryer. Small pet. 2050 Pacific Beach Drive. \$2450/month. 619-398-5044.

DEL MAR. 1 and 2 bedrooms starting at \$1400. Studios, \$1100. Some with ocean views! Garage, heated pool, spa, fitness center, dishwasher, microwave. Move-in special! 526 Camino Del Mar. Call Man-ager, 858-755-4721.

DEL MAR. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1995 and \$2295. Ocean 1 block! Washer/dryer/free DEL Man. 3 boundary \$2295. Ocean 1 block! Washer/dryer/tree cable. Gated, nonsmoking community, pool, spa, sauna. 201 Fourth Street. 858-481-9585; mikeatla@aol.com.

DEL MAR. From \$2200. Vacation rental 1552 Camino Del Mar #601 (almosi oceanfront). Call for seasonal rates. Some ocean views. Interior laundry. Also 3 bed-room, 2 bath detached home: 667-A Hoska Drive, \$3200; long-term lease. Other properties available. Free rental/buying information by e-mail. Pic-tures at www.SanDiegoRealtor.com. Kohn & Burke, Inc., 858-755-8580.

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. \$500 de-

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rooms from \$1500. 3 bedrooms from \$1905. Pets welcome, up to 100lbs! Ocean views! Private patio/balcony. Resort-style pool, party-size Jacuzzi Lighted tennis courts. Solana Highlands 701 South Nardo. www.solanahighlands com. Toll free: 1-888-637-8571. http://www.sdreader.com/rent/1057.

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DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. Ask about special! \$1150. Newly remodeled studio located close to Del Mar beaches, Ce-dro's Design District. Perfect for the Southern California lifestyle. Balconies/patios, pool, parking, electric-ity included. Small dogs welcome! 858-755-1466, sandpiper.rasnyder.com.

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. Ask about special! \$1550. Newly remodeled 2 bed-\$1550. Newly remodeled 2 .5 bath townhomes located to Del Mar beaches, race track. Small quaint community perfect Southern Calinia lifestyle. Pool, laundry, covered rking. 858-755-1466, solanapointe.ras-

DOWNTOWN, LITTLE ITALY. 10th floor. Bay/city lights view. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Washer/dryer. Valet parking/gym. Shopping/entertainment convenient. Shopping/entertainment

DOWNTOWN, NORTH. \$925. Large 1 bedroom, downstairs. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, coin laundry, parking, large fenced private patio. Easy freeway ac-cess. Cat OK with additional \$300 de-posit. Available now. 215 West Grape. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071, www.delsolpm.com.

DOWNTOWN. San Diego's first hip hybrid hotel, Daily, \$39, Weekly, \$215, Weekend hotel: Daily, \$39. Weekly, \$215. Weekend rates may be higher, subject to availabil-ity. Internet access in room. Near bus/trol-ley. Flat screen TVs. Gourmet eat-in kitchen. European-style detached bath-rooms. 500 West Hotel. 500 West Broad-way. 619-234-5252. Toil free: 1-888-895-0875. www.500WestHotel. com, www.sdreader.com/rent/2114. **DOWNTOWN.** Brand new rooms near City College. Single rooms with kitchenettes



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from \$130/week plus deposit (long-term). Includes utilities/cable. Quiet, secure. Shared bath/laundry. Hotel Mediter-ranean. 619-231-8656. www.hotelmed-

DOWNTOWN. Brand new! Affordable lux-ury! Large 1, 2, and 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhome apartments. Two blocks to Petco Park. Balconies/patios. \$1,239 \$1,762. Now leasing for January 2006. Lil-lian Place Apartments. 110% area median income limit. 619-668-1532, x306.

DOWNTOWN. Studios with kitchen and bath \$625-\$700 Single room with private bath, \$625-\$700. Single room with private bathroom, \$500-\$550. No smoking or pets. 10th and E Street. Hughes Managenent, 619-531-1616.

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. Cool urban loft at M2i. In heart of Ballpark district. 2 story, 2 bath heart of Ballpark district. 2 story, 2 bath with spiral staircase. 1 garage parking. Pet considered. Available now! \$1950. 1050 Island Avenue. Will consider lease with option to buy. 619-994-6218.

DOWNTOWN. Beautiful building, new fur-TV, cable. \$175, weekly. 920 Beech Street. Call 619-234-1952.

DOWNTOWN. \$1599. Luxurious, historic El Cortez. Unfurnished/furnished. 1 bed-room corner unit. Pool/spa, gym, deck, valet parking, laundry. Excellent location near everything. Pets welcomed. 858-274-3487.

2/4-3487. **DownTown.** Spectacular views! \$1370-\$4500. Studios, 1 bedroom and 2 bed-room apartments; 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhomes; Luxury 2 bedroom pent-houses! Low deposits from \$500! Bal-conies. Fireplace. Stainless appliances. Washer/dryer. Barbecue. Rooftop deck. Controlled access. Pool. Spa. Courtesy atrol. Pats. welcomed. Allegro. Toward. patrol. Pets welcome! Allegro Towers, 1455 Kettner Boulevard. 1-888-401-3692. www.sdreader.com/rent/2133.

www.sdreader.com/rent/2133. DOWNTOWN. Comfortable rooms, \$450/ up. Studios, \$650/up. Near Gaslamp Dis-trict. Very quiet and clean. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, com-munity 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. Douwtown Canaemical. furnishood

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 ser-vice, no pets, 636 C Street (between 6th and 7th). C Street Inn, Hughes Manage-ment, 619-234-4165. www.sdreader.com/ vert/2008

rent/2098. DOWNTOWN. Cozy rooms, \$450-\$625, grab these little jewels today! Very com-fortable, 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 Manage-ment, 619-239-3808. www.sdreader.com/ rent/2099.

DownTown, Gaslamp area. Move-in special, \$280. Community kitchen, shared bath, on-site laundry, vending ma-chines, 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 Col-legel \$400.\$595 per month. Weekly rates from \$1251 719 14th Street, Villa Victoria. Hughes Management, 619-231-2385.

DOWNTOWN. Furnished studios. From \$59/daily, from \$210/weekly rates! Ideal, affordable, short-term stays. Private bath-room, kitchenette, microwave, refrigeraaffordable, short-term stays. Firvace beau room, kitchenette, microwave, refrigera-tor, cable TV. Air conditioning, laundry, voice mail. High speed Internet. Food ser-vice daily. Near trolley/bus/freeway, Bal-boa Park, Gaslamp. West Park Inn, 1840 4th Avenue. www.westparkinn.com. 619-236-1600. www.sdreader.com/rent/2037.

DOWNTOWN, \$860-\$875. Beautiful stu-dios. Classic, spectacular building. Hard-wood floors. Full kitchen, bath. Murphy beds with built-ins. Laundry/storage on site. Cat friendly. 619-233-3973. www. floit.com/bilmore.htm.

DOWNTOWN, \$1500. Studio. City loft. 570 square feet. Large community patio. Washer/dryer. Security, gated. Under-ground parking, exercise room. 1050 Is-land Avenue. Call 858-490-1600, wandrrorpadies com kandrproperties.com

DOWNTOWN. \$2000/month. 1 bedroom 1 bath condo. \$1000 off first month's rent 701 Kettner Boulevard #80. Located nea the Gaslamp Quarters. Call Kathy, 619-471-1755.

DOWNTOWN. Historic 2 bedroom home on 5000 square foot corner lot. Ballpark views, walk to Gaslamp. Hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, new appliances. Washer/ dryer. Beautifully landscaped with con-trolled access parking. \$1496/month. No trolled access parking. \$1495/month. No pets. Nonsmoking. 619-549-8779.

DOWNTOWN. Bright. 1 bedroom condo. Alarm, dishwasher, washer/dryer, mi-crowave, granite. Gym, spa, recreation room. Controlled access building/park-ing. Pet considered. \$1295. 619-540-2036 ing.

DOWNTOWN. \$675. Studio, 1 bath apart-DOWNTOWN, \$6/5. Studio, 1 bath apartment, bay/ballpark views, all utilities paid, central location, controlled access building. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.
 DOWNTOWN, \$775. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, cat OK, hardwood floors, unfurnished. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

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DOWNTOWN. \$1895. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths apartment, new building in Gaslamp District, large patio, secure building, underground parking. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$1758. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths apartment, two fitness centers, heated rooftop pool/spa, spectacular bay/city views, cat-friendly. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-967 2929

DOWNTOWN. 2 bedroom, 2 bath luxury unit in Discovery! Fully furnished, granite counters and maple cabinets. Unit over-looks courtyard with balcony. \$2200/month. www.SanDiegoBestRentals. come 610.666 7269 com, 619-696-7368.

corn, 619-696-7368. DOWNTOWN. 1 bedroom, 1 bath with large windows and vaulted ceilings in Ac-qua Vista. Granite counters and large open floor plan. \$1650/month. www. SanDiegoBestRentals.com. 619-696-7368.

DOWNTOWN. 777 Lofts. \$1275-\$2195. 1 bedrooms/2 bedrooms. Ask about our move-in special! Gaslamp's hottest rental and Downtown's most popular 5th Av-enue nightlife. Small pet considered. TPPM, 619-544-0017 or stop by 777 6th Avenue at E Street

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Bright, cor ner studio, \$820. Bearclaw tub and shower. Charming, secure, quiet building with laundry. Ideal location. 1534 Front, near Beech, 619-233-7428. DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. From

\$800/month. Private bath, cable TV, mi-crowave, refrigerator. Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Efficiency apart-ments with laundry. Near trolley/bus lines, blocks from their blocks from harbor. On-site manager. Villa Caterina, 1654 Columbia Street. 619-

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP, from \$1395 Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath apa with 9 foot ceilings. All appliances, centra heat and air, controlled entry, and parking included. William Penn Building, 511 F Street. Call agent at 619-298-7232 or visit sbayproperties.com

DownTowN/EI Cortez. Gorgeous 1 bed-room condo. Posh El Cortez Building with valet parking and doorman. Unit opens up to spacious patio. \$1700. www. sandiegobestrentals.com.619-696-7368. DOWNTOWN/BANKER'S HILL. \$1700/month. 2 bedroom, 2 bath town-home. Bay views with washer/dryer. Park-ing included. Call 619-255-0526 or visit

DOWNTOWN/BANKER'S HILL. \$750

Studio in classic 1920s building. Built-ins, hide-a-bed. Drive by first, 2230 Albatross Street. Call 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. 2 bedroom, 2 full baths plus den, contempo-rary loft, top floor. 1 bedroom open/flexible. Gournet kitchen, hard-wood floors, 2 parking spaces, 1364 square-feet. West-facing, city views. \$2900/month, includes gas, water, trash, complex amenities. 619-595-3107, email mike@2010.utbashiiva.com

mike@92101urbanl DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. \$675 and

up. Studio. Clean, nonsmoking building. Hardwood and ceramic floors. Charming built-in storage. Laundry. 1-cat OK. On trolley line: 830 Park Boulevard (12th). 619-236-9117. DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. From

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. From \$675. Totally renovated. Studios and 1+ bedrooms in vintage building. Authentic hardwood floors, 10 blocks from water, authentic hardwood floors, fresh paint, new tile, appliances. Cats OK. 619-297-011

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. 2 bedparking spaces, all appliances, Coror ado Bridge view. Garden, patio area, spa \$2100. Zack, 619-948-8705

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. \$1695. New! Huge 1 bedroom. Heart of restaurant row, Petco Park, Horton Plaza plus more! Hardwood floors. 14' floor to ceiling win-dows. Washer/dryer. Pet considered. 619-921-3333.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Las Flores Ho-tel. Small, quiet. \$127/week and up. Four-week minimum. Color TV with basic cable. Refrigerator in most rooms. Se-

Cure. 619-233-6520. DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. \$1720. Loft. 920 square feet. Pets OK, parking in-cluded, on-site manager, keyless entry system, laundry facility, cable ready/high-speed Internet capability, hardwood Beerg Internet capability, hardwood floors, large closets, dishwasher, electric range/stove, refrigerator, heating/air, ex-posed duct work, high ceilings, 5 floor-to-ceiling windows/view. 619-231-1333. http://www.sdreader.com/rent/2145.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Move-in Specials. Live/Work Lots in the heart of The Gaslamp! Roof decks with barbecue. Laundry on every floor. Parking available. Seven locations Downtown. Select pets OK. Visit loft leasing office: 315 Fourth Av-enue. 619-231-1505 x12. www. trilogymanagement.com. Also visit www. screader com/rent/2064

DOWNTOWN/HARBOR VILLAGE, \$750 Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Bal-cony. Laundry. Parking. Close to base, Downtown, Coronado, NASSCO. Bay views. 2850 Main Street. 619-857-0365 DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY, \$2500, fur-

nished luxury loft with bay views, parking. Call 619-255-0526. www.sdurbanliving.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY, \$1375. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Some new appliances. 1-underground parking space. New drapes, fresh carpet. Washer/dryer. Pa-DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. \$1995. 2 **DOWNTOWN/LITTLE IIALT. \$1500.1** c bedroom, 2 bath. Luxuy condo, upstairs with balcony overlooking courtyard with pool/fountain. Washer/dryer, air condi-tioning, granite in open kitchen, great storage, underground parking, pool, ex-ercise room. Perfect downtown retreat. eet. 619-683-9274. DULZURA. \$900. Country-style living! Newly remodeled. Large 2 bedroom

Washer, dryer. Lots of room for horses, pets. Beautiful mountain views. Available now! 619-807-0359.

EAST SAN DIEGO. \$1300. Spacious 3 bedroom. 2 bath. New paint/carpet. Dishrasher. Gated parking for 2 cars. Laun-ry. 4416 47th Street #1. Agent.

EAST VILLAGE. New, large 1 bedroom, 840', 100' balcony, stainless appliances, granite counters, washer/dryer, air, parkng, gym. Water and trash paid. \$1650.

EL CAJON, \$750. 1 bedroom apartment. Clean, gated, pool, laundry, off-street parking, air conditioning, refrigerator, stove, disposal. 718 South Magnolia Av-enue. 619-312-0606.

EL CAJON. \$750. 1 bedroom spacious upstairs apartment, quiet 11-plex. Dishwasher, air, gated parking, on-site laun-dry, picnic area. Section 8 OK. 222 Lincoln/Main. 619-957-7272.

EL CAJON. Fabulous 7 Motel. Furnished rooms starting \$224 per week. Parking. Pool. Cable. Maid service. Laundry. 24 hour security. 1527 East Main Street. 619-

EL CAJON. \$750/month. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated complex. Amenities include: A/C, laundry facility, pool, park-ing, barbecue area. 619-401-0306.

ing, barbecue area. 619-401-0306. EL CAJON. Award winning community! \$870/up. Extra large 1 bedroom, 1 baths. 6-14 month leases. Ceiling fan. Linen closet. Garbage disposal. Sparkling pool. Clubhouse. Barbecues. Pets are resi-dents too, with deposit! Large dogs wel-come! Dog exercise area. Assigned parkling. Evergreen Gardens, 291 Ja-macha Road. www.sdreader.com/rent/ 2113. Call 619-442-9935. EL CAJON 1 bedroom \$700. Large 2

EL CAJON. 1 bedroom, \$700. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$800. Great amenities, air conditioning, laundry on-site, pool, recreation room, parking. Lushly land-scaped. No pets. 294 Ballantyne. 619-

EL CAJON. \$900/up. 2 bedroom, 1 and 2 stories. Amenities. Pool, park-like grounds, parking. Near town, shops, bus. 743 South Magnolia Avenue. Call 619-70 0174

EL CAJON. Duplex like a house. 2 bed-room, 1 bath, 850 square-feet. Laundry room with hookups. Large fenced yard. No pets/section 8. \$1075/month. 619-de4 EEE7

EL CAJON. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. 1-car garage, laundry hookups, 945 square feet. No pets. Available 2/8. 967 Amistad Court. Call 858-583-0182, www.

Cal-prop.com.
EL CAJON, \$795. 1 bedroom apartment.
Central air/heat. Assigned off-street park-ing with large storages available! \$699 move-in special, OAC. Se habla espanol.
Regency Apartments, 708 North Mollison Avenue. 619-579-2929.

EL CAJON, 1 bedroom, \$795, 2 bedroom, \$925. Smaller, quiet community. Patios and balconies around nice courtyard. Pool area. Near busline. Las Haciendas, 1294 North Mollison. 619-444-7934.

EL CAJON. \$700. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in quiet triplex located on Chase Avenue. Upstairs. Off street parking. Available 2/1. \$700 deposit. Kyle, 858-699-3895.

EL CAJON. \$970, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1270, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Pool. Parking. Air conditioning. No pets. Central loca-tion. 933 Peach Avenue. Call 619-447tion. 9193

EL CAJON. \$800. 2 bedroom, 1 bath Laundry, off-street parking for 2 cars. De-posit \$500. Section 8 OK. 444 Claydelle Avenue, 92020. No pets. 858-488-4534. EL CAJON. \$1100. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome, dishwasher, air conditioning, covered patio, balcony, jacuzzi. Call 619-447-7386.

EL CAJON. \$900. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, new carpet/vinyl. Vaulted ceilings, air condi-tioning, balcony. Call 619-593-0211.

EL CAJON. \$775. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, air conditioning, new carpet/vinyl, outside storage. Pool, jacuzzi. Gated community. Call 619-444-5799.

EL CAJON. \$725. 1 bedroom, spacious and clean apartment located in a small quiet complex. This unit has new paint, quiet complex. This unit has new paint, carpet and vinyl. Range, refrigerator, mi-crohood, dishwasher and air conditioning included. Easy access to I-8. Building is gated with intercom has controlled ac-cessed parking and on-site laundry. \$500 deposit and six month lease is required. Available early February 2007. Credit card check required and fee applies. Cats ok 530 Graves Avenue FL CAion Cats ok. 530 Graves Avenue, El CAjor CA 92020. Call 619-593-1935. shendershaw@hotmail.com.

EL CAJON. \$695. 1 bedroom. One of the best properties in El Cajon. Secured park-ing and gated entry. No pets. 1018 East Lexington Avenue. TPPM, 619-838-8088, www.secured.actor.com

www.eastwindsapts.com. EL CAJON. \$685, 1 bedroom. \$820, 2 bedroom. \$300 move-in special and no application fee! El Cajon's best main-tained property with beautiful courtyard and sparkling pool. No pets. 1072 East Madison Avenue. TPPM, 619-444-1614.

Madison Avenue. IPPM, 619-444-1614. www.fourwindsapts.info. EL CAJON. \$695, 1 bedroom. Luxurious property with sparkling pool. On-site parking and large floorplans. No appli-cation fee! No pets. 163 Ballantyne Street. TPPM, 619-579-6248. w tradewindsapts.info

www.tradewindsapts.into.
EL CAJON. Newly/fully remodeled 1 bed-room, 1 bath condo with pool. All new ap-pliances. Gated community, private balcony, view, laundry. \$895/month. Shawn 619-698-4473/619-315-6665.. ENCANTO. \$830. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Du-plex, private yard, 1-car garage, laundry hookups. 1144 Koe Street. Available 2/17. Call 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

Call 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com. ENCINITAS, \$899. Guest quarters, pri-vate bedroom, bath, kitchen, yard, jacuzzi. Beautiful, clean, quiet. No smok-ing/drugs/pets. Share maid/gardener. Cable/Internet. One person. 760-436-2700

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large private fenced yard. Internet, off-street parking. No dog/nonsmoking 760-419-8400, visit www.bonitahouserental.

ENCINITAS. 1 bedroom, downstairs, \$1125; 2 bedroom, upstairs, \$1350. Small complex. Assigned parking, laundry. Bright and airy. Garden setting. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. Close to shopping, free-way, Coaster. No pets/smoking. 760-929-1950.

ENCINITAS. \$895 and up. Sick of room-mates? Cozy beach trailers in quiet park. Close to beach, Coaster, restaurants and shops. 760-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. \$1050. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Huge upstairs apartment. New flooring. Parking. Laundry. Move-in special! 1428 Hermes. Call 858-571-1970. sunriseliv-

Ing.com ESCONDIDO. \$895-\$1695. Tired of apart-ment living? Beautiful 1, 2, 3, and 4 bed-room manufactured homes offer spectacular hilltop views. Full-sized washer/dryer, some small yards. Peaceful community, sorry no pets. Ask about move-in special on 3 bedroom homes! 1924 Sheridan Avenue. 760-745-1677. SECONDUD. Move in appecial. \$400.0ff 1924 Stierraan Avenue. /bu-/45-16//. ESCONDIDO. Move-in special: \$400 off first month! Upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$895. Includes parking, pool, jacuzzi, laundry room. 1960 East Grand Avenue. 760-489-6932. www.melroyproperties. com

ESCONDIDO. Spacious 1 bedrooms from \$815. Deposit \$400. 2 bedrooms from \$975. Deposit \$500. Great roommate floor plan. Pool, spa. Covered parking. Laundry. 640 West Lincoln Street. 760-489-8989.

ESCONDIDO. \$795. \$300 off 1st month's rent! 1 bedroom with private balcon/jpa-tio surrounded by lots of open space. Gated entrance, air conditioning, fire-place. Pool, spa. Small pet OK. 720 East Mission. TPPM, 760-815-6210. FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$1025 rent,

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Management, 619-697-6314. **FASHION VALLEY.** The Courtyards. \$1275. 860-square-foot 1 bedroom top floor, underground parking, resort-like: pool/spa/sauna/tennis/gym. Lease. No pets/smoking. ETS Realty, 858-560-5564. **GODEN HILL** Large 1 bedroom Crafts-man flat, first floor. Gated entry. Hard-wood floors, laundry hookups, pets on approval. 2128 E Street. \$1100. 619-702-4135.

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Quiet complex. Downstairs. Newer car-pet. Pool, spa. Cat OK. 8661 Lake Murray Blvd. #3. Agent, 619-469-7790. www. westmanproperties.com

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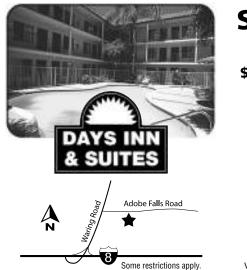
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NORTH PARK. \$875. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Move-in special! Half off the first month's rent! New carpet, full fresh paint. New vinyl flooring in bathroom. On-site laundry and a parking space. No pets. 4580 33rd Street. Call 858-571-1970 or e-mail Aledo at avaquera@sunrisemgmt.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$950. 1 bed room. Stove, refrigerator, coin laundry. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 2/20. 4534 Gresham. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1745. 2 bed PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1745. 2 bed-room, 2 1/2 bath townhome. Quiet 4 unit property. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, large private fenced patio area. fireplace, attached garage plus ex-tra space, laundry hookups. No pets. 1 block to ocean. Available 3/10. 831 Chal-cedony. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm. com

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1200. Large upstairs 1 bedroom. Remodeled, suove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, coin laundry, pool. No pets. 2 blocks to ocean. Available 3/5. 812 Tourmaline. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. No pets. Nonsmoking. Off-street parking. Garage. Laundry facilities. Year lease. 1766 Missouri Street. \$1680. \$1600 de-posit. 858-405-4737.

posit. 858-405-4737. **PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1075. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Secured building. Under-ground parking. Pool, spa. 1 cat allowed with added deposit. On-site laundry. Agent, 619-692-4121.

Agent, 619-692-4121. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1100 plus \$600 de-posit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Off-street park-ing. Close to Mission Bay. Laundry available. All utilities paid. 3487-1/2 Del Rey Street. 858-272-2889.

Net Street: 536-212-2689.
PACIFIC BEACH \$1450.2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath condo with upgraded kitchen. No pets. Available now. Cute small enclosed yard in front. Call Coldwell Banker Prop-erty Management, 858-488-2228.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2195.3 bedroom, 2 bath upper unit with fireplace in living room. 1-car garage. Laundry in unit. No pets. Available February. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management. 858-488-2209

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1300, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Spacious, clean, great closet space. \$900 deposit. Available 2/1. 1 year lease. No pets. 3911 Jewell Street. 858-270-4266.

PACIFIC BEACH/MISSION BEACH. \$2400. Bayside Walk. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Parking. View of bay. No pets. Call Cold-well Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

PACIFIC BEACH. Studio and 1 bedrooms, \$759/up. Cathedral ceilings available. New kitchen, laundry, pool, assigned parking. 2750 Figueroa Boulevard. 858-526 1000



PACIFIC BEACH. \$1050. 1 bedroom plus den, new carpet at 4467 Dawes. 1 bed-room, \$1025 at 1433 Reed Avenue. Up-stairs, laundry, parking. No pets. 6-month lease. 858-483-4553.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. \$200 off 1st month's rent! Parking, laundry. 2015 Felspar #E. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314. PACIFIC BEACH. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, fenced backyard, front yard on premises. New carpet, freshly painted No pets. 4411 Noyes Street. 619-459

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1650. Brand new condo, never lived in, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, washer/dryer, stainless appliances, wood-burning fireplace, granite. Call: 858-531-2825. E-mail: sarah@ oceanpacific-properties.com.

oceanpacific-properties.com.
PACIFIC BEACH. \$1300. Brand new, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, luxury condo, washer/dryer, stainless appliances, wood-buring fireplace, granite, Italian flooring. Call: 858-531-2825. E-mail: sarah@oceanpacific-properties.com.
PACIFIC BEACH. 4445 Fanuel Street. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1350/rent, \$675/de-posit. 5 blocks to beach or bay. Quiet, gated, garden building. No pets. 1 year lease. Available 3/1. 858-483-3221.

PACIFIC BEACH. Gorgeous, large 2 bed-room, 2 bath townhouse. Balcony, deck, laundry, walk-in closet, hardwood floors, parking Close to beach/bay parking. Close to beach/bay. \$1750/month. 858-342-2591 (message

only). PACIFIC BEACH. \$1375. 2 bedroom, 1 bath with garage, 900 square feet, build-ings around center courtyard and barbe-cues, laundry, newly renovated. 1832-1/2 Missouri Street, 858-483-2844.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. All appliances. Laundry. Fireplace. Walk in closets. 2 parking. No smoking/ pets. Available now. 2240 Garnet Av-enue. 858-272-7616.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$785. Studio, 1 bath, laundry on site, refrigerator, walk-in closet and dressing area. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-

PACIFIC BEACH. \$995. Studio, 1 bath condo, pool, laundry on site, granite countertops, spa, tennis, gym. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-or norm

PACIFIC BEACH. \$875. 1 bedroom. 1 bath apartment, refrigerator, stove, small community, centrally located to both beach and bay. Fee. Free search at www. westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1100. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath 1-car parking included, yard,

bath, 1-car parking included, yard, shared front yard. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1095. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo, pet OK, 1-car parking in-cluded, 3 blocks to bay. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1140. 1 bedroom up graded ground floor apartment in friendly gated complex. Close to beach! Dish-washer, carpet/tile, courtyard, barbecue, laundry facilities. 858-483-2504.

PACIFIC BEACH. Beautiful bay views! 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Washer/dryer hookups. Swimming pool, gymnasium on premises. Walk to beach. Available February/March. \$2200. 949-294-5814. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1695. Large 2 bed-room, 2 bath. Dishwasher, self-cleaning oven, corner unit, great views, gorgeous apartment. Ouiet atmosphere. Parking or garage available. 858-272-4398. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1165/\$1495. 1 bed com/2 berrom.pi102/91495.1 D60-room/2 bedroom apartment homes. Beautifully remodeled, dishwasher.im-ported tile, quiet gated community. Great atmosphere, lush courtyard, heated pool. Garage available. No pets. 858-272-4398.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. Studio special! Block to Sail Bay. Pool, laundry, parking. 3773-77 Haines. 858-483-9303,

PACIFIC BEACH/LA JOLLA. \$1400. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, near Iourma-line beach. Home-like, quiet, remodeled. Patio with storage. Parking. Nonsmoking. 853 Agate. 858-459-1352.

DO3 Agate. 858-459-1352. PACIFIC BEACH, \$1495. Bright 2 bed-room, 2 bath condominium. Fireplace. New paint, carpet, blinds. Pools, spas, tennis, gym, 24-hour security. Walk to shopping. No pets. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. 2 bed-room. 2 bath apartment. Half block to bay. 1-year lease. No dogs. Move-in spe-cial. \$1500/month, \$1000/deposit. Jason,

858-837-0364. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1475. 2 bedroom, near Crown Point. Charming, large, upper apartment in small 3 unit building. Pride of ownership. Large eat-in kitchen. Large bedrooms. Laundry on site. 1-year lease. Available 2/10/07. 4256 Noyes Street. In-door cat considered. John A. Reis & Co. Inc., 858-272-1348.

Inc., 858-272-1348.
PACIFIC BEACH. \$1600. 2 bedroom with 1-car garage in North Pacific Beach. Cape Cod style triplex with charm. Close to beach. All new paint and carpets. 1-year lease. No pets. 1046 Turquoise Street. John A. Reis & Co. Inc., 858-272-1249.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1495. 2 bedroom bath in small complex. Great locati bath in small complex. Great location near Crown Point. Private balcony and small storage over parking space. Laun-dry. Open Saturday, 1:30-2:30pm. 1811 Pacific Beach Drive #4. TPPM, 858-699-3851

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath in small complex. Central location near beach, bay and Garnet. Patio. 1 parking. 1423 Oliver Street. TPPM, 858 king.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 blocks to Sail Bay! Beautifully lands 2 abed 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1495. Available 2/1. 2 parking spaces. All amenities. Onsite laundry. No

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1050, 1 bedroom. Tile floors. Pet under 30bs OK with extra de-posit. Open Saturday, 11:30am-12:30pm 1671 Chalcedony Street #7. TPPM, 858-690-3851

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment in quiet complex. Spa, el-evator, parking, laundry. No pets. 1530 Chalcedony street. TPPM, 858-270-5847. PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large kitchen/nook. 2 parking. New car-pet/paint. Very clean. Easy access beaches/freeways. Pets OK. \$1450. 619-929 9706

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1395 3755 Jewell Street. Extra large 2 bed-room, 1 bath. New appliances, carpets, drapes, blinds, paint. 2 blocks to bay. Partial view. No pets. www.timcassidy. com. Cassidy, Broker, 619-275-LIST. PACIFIC BEACH. \$950. 860 Missouri #C Spacious studio. Stove and refrigerator 1-1/2 blocks to beach. All utilities paid www.timcassidy.com. Cassidy, Broker

PACIFIC BEACH, \$750. Large, very clean 1st floor studio. Quiet 8-unit complex. On-site laundry, gas stove, refrigerator. No pets. Garnet Avenue, 2100 block. \$700/deposit. 858-278-2562.

\$700/deposit. 858-278-2562.
PACIFIC BEACH. \$1195. Large 1 bedroom, newly painted, microwave, assigned parking. Near shopping center. Available now. No pets. 1663 Diamond Street #2. 858-483-5111 x10. www. rties.com

PACIFIC BEACH, Studio \$995. 60 yards to the beach! Spa/laundry on-site. No pets. 633 Missouri Street. Call for appointinformation 858-483-3335

ments or information 858-483-3335. POINT LOMA, \$1495. 1 bedroom/bath. Garage, fireplace, washer/dryer. Walk to La Playa/Kellogg's Beach. Best neighbor-hood in Point Loma! Pets OK. 619-339-3370, 619-206-5060.

POINT LOMA. \$2495/month. New 2 bed-room, 2 bath toenhouse. 2 car garage. Laundry. Pets with extra deposit. Condos Laundry. Pets with extra deposit. Condos at the bay. Available now. 619-223-5556. **POINT LOMA**, \$1350. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Balcony, top floor, view. Quiet street. Dishwasher, compactor, off-street park-ing. No pets. 4467 Valeta #9. 619-225-2372; 858-488-4919; 619-807-7277.

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POINT LOMA. \$1595. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 2-story condo at 3056 Rue D'Orleans. Fireplace, view, patio, open floor-plan. Complex has pool, spa, exercise room, tennis courts, volleyball. Available now. Call 858-583-0182. www.calprop.

POINT LOMA/OCEAN BEACH, \$950/month. Studio condo. Pergo floor-ing. Pool, tennis courts, jacuzzi. Parking for 1 car. Pets OK. Weekly rates available.

619-252-9515. **POINT LOMA**, \$1975/month. Brand new 2 bedroom, top floor condo. Den, veranda, 2-car garage. New appliances, washer/dryer, granite countertops. Close to beach. Paul, 831-277-1335.

POINT LOMA. \$100 move-in special! 1 bedroom, \$995. Laundry, parking. No pets. Call 619-523-3969.

POINT LOMA. \$2150.3 bedroom, 2 bath. Approximately 1700 square feet. Sun-deck. Washer/dryer. Central air/heat. Pool. Quiet. 2777 Nimitz Boulevard. Pet

POINT LOMA/OCEAN BEACH. 2222 Chatsworth Bivd. 2 bedroom, 1 bath hardwood floors, close to beach and free ways, laundry on site, off street parking \$1195 rent. 619-640-7530. www

Point Lom. Point LomA. 1 and 2 bedrooms from \$1085. Pool, spa and view deck. Fitness center. Media room, gated parking and community. 3950 Leland. 619-223-1390. Point LoMA. \$1195. 944 square feet, 1 bedroom apartment with coat closet and linen storage. Large walk in closet plus additional closet. Extra large living room with fantastic ocean and sunset views. Balcony, pool, saunas. Sorry, no peta bigital cable, high speed internet avail-able. Available February. It's a great place to live. 619-226-8158. bsttrr@ earthlink.net.

earthlink.net. **POINT LOMA.** Beautiful 1, 2, 3 bedrooms, \$1039-\$1599. Half-off deposit specials, OACI 3-12 leases! Pets welcome! Club-nouse. Fitness room. Business room. Ten-nis. Heated pool, spa. Convenient assigned parking. Near shopping, beaches, freeway access. Stonewood Garden Apartments, 3889 Midway Drive. Call today, 619-223-4766. MG Properties Investment Real Estate. www.sdreader. com/rent/2118.

POINT LOMA, \$1075. 2 bedroom, 1 bath nstairs apartment with hardwood floors in the living room. Laundry on site! Near Shelter Island. No pets! 3140 Macaulay Street. Call 619-222-4836 x14 alty.com

POINT LOMA. \$825. Ask about special! Studio living at its finest! Newly remod-eled inside and out. Large closet with mir-rored doors. Controlled access, parking, laundry, patio/balcony. 619-226-3171. POINT LOMA. Starting at \$1025. Newly remodeled 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Granite

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countertops. New appliances. Ce-ramic tile. Patio. Small pets OK. Move-in special! 1/2 off the 1st month's rent. 3020 Hugo Street. Call 619-987-3634.

Sunriseliving.com. POINT LOMA. \$1575. 2 bedroom, 1-12/ bath condo townhouse in small 4 unit building. Underground 1 car parking, large living room with fireplace, washer/ dryer in unit. Over 1100 square foot. In the village. Close to Marinas, Shelter Is-land, downtown airport. 1170 Locust Street. John A. Reis and Company, Inc. 858-272-1348. POINT Company. Inc.

POINT LOMA. Studios \$1000. 1 bed-rooms, 1140, 2 bedrooms, \$1500. Pool, laundry, fitness center. No dogs. 2850 Adrian Street. One month free. Call 619-

POINT LOMA. 1 block to bay! Studio, \$695. Enclosed patio, new refrigerator, ceramic tile, storage. 7-unit complex, off-street parking. No pets. 619-224-6608. **POWAY**, \$1525. 2 bedroom, 2 bath upper condo, 2-car garage. Refrigerator, mi-crowave, washer/dryer. Gated, Cape Cod

crowave, washer/drver. Gateä, Cape'Cod design. Pool, spa, clubhouse. No pets/smoking. 858-748-0065. POWAY. \$100 off first off first month! Nove-in special! \$925, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 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.

POWAY. \$1550. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 parking, patio. Call for details. Top Notch Realty Inc. 619-807-0327.

POWAY. 2 bedroom apartments. \$1125. Managers special, \$200 off 1st month's rent! Dishwasher, balcony, parking, laun-dry. No pets. 12500 Oak Knoll. 858-679-1789. RAMONA. Enjoy a quick drive home from

room apartment homes with spa and laundry facilities. Nice clean community. Start at \$850 monthly. 411 14th Street. 760-789-7490. RANCHO BERNARDO. 2 bedroom, 2

bath. 968 square feet. \$1350. Immaculate ground level condo. Slate and pergo flooring. Fireplace. Pool. Tennis courts. Gym. Available now. 17161 Alva Road. Call 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com. RANCHO BERNARDO. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2-story townhouse. 1-car garage and space. Washer/dryer. Fireplace. Pa-tio with mountain views. Deck. \$1600. Carolym, 619-035-5211 Parolyn 619-435-5211

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. 1/2 off first month! 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1275-\$1350. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1500-\$1650. Newly remodeled. Air conditioning. Pool, spa. Carport. No pets. 858-484-0744. **RENTAL WANTED,** Professional seeks low rent in exchange for housesitting/pet

care within 10 miles of UCSD. Prefer long term, quiet, private living situation, 858-622-1402.

RENTAL WANTED, House or condo preferably North County Coastal. Not to share. Nonsmoker, no drugs, no alcohol, no pet. Maximum \$1100. Female. Eve redbveggie@sbcglobal.net.

Rectivegglevesocglobal.net.
SABRE SPRINGS. New development, Savannah Terrace. 2 bedrooms plus bedroom, 2 bath. All new! Extra room can be office, den or ? Two car garage, washer/dryer, pool, tennis, concierge service, gym. This has it all! 10880 Serafina Lane. No pets. \$1950. Call 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

SAN CARLOS. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo near SDSU. Hardwood floors, new car-pet/paint, patio, pool, Jacuzzi, sauna, laundry. \$1550 plus security deposit. No pets. 619-250-4864.

pets. 619-250-4864. SAN CARLOS. 1 and 2 bedrooms next to Mission Trails Golf Course. Air condition-ing, private patios/balconies in all units, pool, spa, sauna, fitness room, No pets. Call for move-in speciall 619-460-8343.

can for move-in special: 619-460-8343. SAN CARLOS. \$1750. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo. 1652 square feet. 2-car garage. Tri-level. Common area pool/spa. No pets. At 7276 Caminito Carlotta. 619-299-4034.

299-4034. SAN CARLOS, Super special! 2 bedroom townhouses. \$1300 and up. Stove, dish-washer, garage, large patio, pool, laundry facilities. Lakewood Villa Townhomes, 8492 San Carlos Drive, San Diego. 619-

469-3585. SAN CARLOS. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Tile flooring. Parking. Laundry. Cat OK. Available now. Hyde Park Villas. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

SAN CARLOS, \$1000/month. Furnished studio. 2 large closets, Murphy bed, com-munity pool and Jacuzzi. Move-in special. 7787 Margerum #235. Agent, 619-471-

SAN DIEGO. \$605. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry, gated and parking on site. 619-640-1712. SAN DIEGO. \$579. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry and parking on site. 619-640-1712.

SAN MARCOS. 1-1/2 month free! Select units. Newly upgraded 1 bedrooms from \$1175, 2 bedrooms from \$1360. Washer/ dryer. Pet friendly! Large dogs welcome! 760-471-8599.

SANTEE. \$820, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. On-site laundry, off-street parking.No pets. 8527 Graves Avenue. 619-258-2584. SANTEE. \$995. Condo, huge 1 bedroom,

1 bath, new appliances, pool, spa, laun-dry, balcony, central air and heat, gatec pet OK. 8731 Graves Ave #21. 619-698-

SHERMAN HEIGHTS. \$695. Darling stu-SHERMAN HEIGHTS. \$695. Darling stu-dio with retro pink kitchen appliances. Garden gate entry in front porch overlook-ing flowers. Hardwood floor in bedroom. Outside storage container available. No smoking/drugs/pets. Utilities included. 619-479-8369; suestoa@sbcglobal.net. SOLANA BEACH. \$1025, deposit \$199. Senior community gated, 554. West of I-5. Courtyad setting. Close to shopping, bus routes. Minutes from Del Mar Fair Grounds end oncean Laundry elevator. Grounds and ocean. Laundry, elevator, club house with large screen TV. Com-puter on-line. No pets. Call for appoint-ment, 858-755-5995.

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SOLANA BEACH. \$3300. 3 bedroom, 3 bath furnished townhome. Newly reno-vated. Garage, patio, hot tub. Pool, ten-nis, private beach access. No smoking/ pets. Monthly. 858-442-2310.

SOUTH BAY/PARADISE HILLS. \$1350 Gorgeous 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Private pa-tio, washer/dryer hookups, park-like views, single-car garage, community pool. Available mid-February. Bill, 858-244-7560

SOUTH PARK. 3035 ky Street #3. 1 bed-room, 1 bath. \$725. Deposit \$600. New paint, carpet, floor, blinds. Laundry. 12 month lease, no pets. 858-597-6100.
 SOUTH PARK. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs. Half of 1920s style bungalow. Hardwood floors. Fireplace. Formal din-ing area with built-in hutch. Washer/dryer hookups. Garage. Cats OK. Agent, 619-234-9553. www.goldenhillpm.com.
 SPRING VALLEY, \$950. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Secure, gated building. Dish-washer, new paint/floor covering. Pool, laundry facilities, parking on site. Call Vic-tor, Agent, 619-962-8000.
 SPRING VALLEY. \$200 off move-in OAC.

tor, Agent, 6 19-962-8000. SPRING VALLEY. \$200 off move-in OAC. Spacious 2 bedrooms from \$895. Gated community. Casa Granada, 9121 Ken-wood Drive. Office hours: Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm. progressmanagement.net or call 619-698-1356.

SPRING VALLEY. 1 and 2 room suites, up to 3 beds. \$189/weekly and up. Fur-nished, laundry and pool on site. Walk to all. 858-539-9815.

all. 858-539-9815. **TALMADGE**, \$950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Lower unit in clean, gated complex. New paint, gleaming wood floors. Air condi-tioning in unit. Laundry room on site. Available 3/5/07. 4533 Contour Boulevard #4. www.cethron.com, 619-295-1100.

#4. www.cethron.com, 619-295-1100. TALMADGE, \$695. Cute 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, hardwood floors. Nice con-venient location, street parking. Laundry on site. Available 3/1/07. 4477 Euclid Av-enue. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

TALMADGE. \$675/month. 1 bedroom. New carpet and paint. Onsite laundry, close to all. Quiet complex. \$750/deposit. No pets. 619-708-1496 for appointment.

TALMADGE. \$1125. Move-in special: First month free! 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Dishwasher. On-site laundry, tandem off-street parking for 2 cars. 49th Street. 619-

TALMADGE. \$810. Large 1 bedroom. Available now. Quiet, clean, nice area. Laundry. Parking. Gated. Air condition-ing. Storage. 4544 Winona Avenue. 619-229-1406. TALMADGE/COLLEGE AREA. \$900

Move in special. Large 2 bedroom. New carpet/paint. Patio/balcony. Laundry. Parking. Security gated. Dishwasher. Quiet. 4544 Altadena Avenue. 619-265-7000

TALMADGE/COLLEGE, \$850, Spacious 2 bedroom apartment. Off street parking. Be at 4442 Winona Avenue #3 at 5pm or call 619-287-4011.

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LEAD STORY

- The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives reported in January that the country's 100 highest-paid business executives had, by 9:46 a.m. on Jan. 2, earned an amount equal to what the average Canadian would earn in all of 2007. ... The New York Times reported in December that Wall Street bonuses for 2006 were so large that one real estate broker complained at New York City's shortage of \$20 million properties; a Greenwich, Conn., Ferrari dealer complained that Ferrari hadn't manufactured enough 599 GTB Fioranos (price: about \$250,000) to fill his customers³ orders.

News That Sounds Like a Joke

 (1) Because of recent government campaigns to protect wildlife, snake charmers in India's Rajasthan state are increasingly unable to work with live snakes but nonetheless hope to continue earning tourists' money by performing the same rituals, except without snakes. (2) On New Year's Day at the South African tourist attraction of Cango Caves, an overweight visitor in the "Tunnel of Love" got stuck exiting, and she and the 23 people behind her were trapped for 12 hours until rescuers used a pulley and liquid paraffin (to grease the rocks) to extricate her.

Science on the Cutting Edge

 Don Karkos regained sight in his right eve in November after 65 years. A 1941 Navy submarine explosion had knocked him out, and doctors had told him many times that he would never see with that eye again, but Karkos, 82 (a retired horse farmer who works as a security guard at New York's Monticello Raceway), was butted in the head by a horse in November and awoke the next day with sight regained. He told the Times Herald-Record of Middletown, N.Y., in December that the blow he took from My Buddy Chimo was even harder than the one from the concussion.

Alarming Science: (1) A researcher at the

Minnesota Cancer Center reported in January finding amounts of the carcinogen NNK, most likely from tobacco smoke, in toenail clippings of smokers (and nonsmokers exposed to second-hand smoke). (2) A researcher writing in the January/February issue of Australasian Science magazine reported that the Toxoplasma gondii parasite, carried by many cats, not only can harm pregnant women (as was previously known) but also can lower the IQ of men and make women more promiscuous.

- Science Gone Too Far: A December New York Times dispatch reports that among the hottest social status symbols in Tokyo is the cute-but-bizarre dog created by inbreeding, such as a blue Chihuahua or a white dachshund. However, inbreeding also produces a high number of deformities, and to get that dachshund, for example, the litter of five contained four dogs with gross birth defects. Nonetheless, because of demand, dog inbreeding continues. ... A Nottingham University professor warned in January that farmers are now at work in the United Kingdom breeding "stress" and "hostility" out of pigs and cows to make them more obedient en route to the slaughterhouse. The professor said the goal of such breeders is to create animal "vegetables."

Leading Economic Indicators

(1) Employees at Wal-Mart's headquarters in China have set up a branch of the Communist Party, according to a December Associated Press dispatch, to go with five existing branches at individual stores (but the party said it would not interfere with Wal-Mart management). (2) Outsourcing of American jobs recently reached a new category of corporate employees: lawyers. An estimated 23,000 lawyers' jobs were lost in the U.S. last year to India, where document review and legal research can be performed at about half the cost as in America, according to a December story in the News Journal of Wilmington, Del.

- In what one reporter termed "a culture clash of near-epic proportions," Jim Buckmaster, CEO of Craigslist (the mostly free online advertising website), told a gathering of head-shaking, befuddled Wall Street analysts in December that his company had no intention of raising more money than necessary to cover expenses, much less of maximizing income (even though many analysts believe investors might pay \$1 billion or more for the company).

Least Competent Criminals

Police in Chesterfield Township, Mich., arrested Calvin Fluckes Jr., 21, in December after he tried to cash a counterfeit check for \$848 at a Wal-Mart. Fluckes was apparently oblivious of the approximately 80 uniformed police officers who were in the store for a charity event and whose cruisers Fluckes had to pass when he parked his car in the Wal-Mart lot. According to a police lieutenant, "[Fluckes] was immediately apprehended."

Marshall Byers, 28, was arrested in Everett, Wash., in December, and charged with the attempted murder of his estranged wife's boyfriend (who was treated for five knife wounds). According to prosecutors, Byers was surprised at the "attempted" charge. Allegedly, he told a detective, "What? I thought I stuck him like a pig. What do you mean, he's alive?"

Also Should Have Kept His Mouth Shut: Jeremy Lyons, 20, was arrested in Hanover Township, Pa., in October for an alleged vandalism spree, bashing car windows with a baseball bat. A local TV station had carried a story of the arrest of another person, and Lyons for some reason called the station and, laughing, told them they had the wrong man. He was arrested when the call was traced.

Signs of the Times

(1) About one-fifth of professional rodeo bull riders have given up their cowboy hats and now wear modified hockey helmets with face masks because of the prevalence of serious injuries. Said one diehard, though, "I don't wear a cow-

boy hat because I'm a bull rider. I wear a cowboy hat because I'm a cowboy." (2) London's Observer reported in November that several UNICEF offices worldwide have complained to U.N. headquarters that celebrities endorsing the charity's work have demoralized the staff because traveling celebrities are so high-maintenance when they arrive to "help" and also because some companies making donations (for example, Gucci) are owned by parent companies whose factories exploit Third World children more than the donations help.

- At least 30 Texas death-row inmates have pages on dating websites, according to a November Associated Press report, and the murderers usually describe themselves in cuddly terms. Wrote convicted cop-killer Randy Halprin, "I think I'm a pretty funny guy. I have a wacked [sic] sense of humor. I can be a big kid at heart. I'm a hopeless (and I mean hopeless) romatic [sic].' However, also in November, Calvin Bennett, 26, a suspect in two Arkansas murders, was traced by police to Rothschild, Wis., by the personal ad he had placed on a dating website, describing himself as shy and his ideal evening as "a nice romantic dinner with soft music, followed by a romantic walk or a carriage ride.'

Armed and Clumsy (all-new)

- The following people shot themselves recently after choosing to carry their gun not in a holster but in the waistband of their pants: Manranzana Grimes, 16 (Canton, Ohio, September), shot himself in the leg; a 23-year-old man (Wichita, Kan., November) shot himself in the testicles; Gregory Quinn, 49 (Lewistown, Pa., November), shot himself in the leg when removing his gun while driving; Evando Minor (Baltimore, November) shot himself in the genitals while drawing his gun to rob a taxi driver.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@Yahoo.com

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Reader February 1, 2007

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BACK WHEN

In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

As Tom Warren, the owner of Tugs in Mission Beach, said, "Everybody who lives around here who's a native probably learned how to swim at the [Mission Beach] Plunge." Warren, who has been featured in Sports Illustrated, is earnest in his praise. "I won the national championships a couple of times," he says, "but without the Plunge, I couldn't have done it."

- "THE PLUNGE," Colleen O'Connor, February 10, 1977

Twenty-Five Years Ago

I hope that Henry Fonda and Katharine Hepburn (or Hank and Kate as they are known to some of us) can continue to find acting jobs as long as they want them. But as a Fonda admirer and as a seldom — God forgive me - Hepburn admirer, I am not convinced that the first screen teaming of these two legends [On Golden Pond] is sufficient cause for critics to be lapsing into the personalities of amateur matchmakers.

— "SHALLOW WATER," Duncan Shepherd, February 4, 1982

Twenty Years Ago

I was on this plane, see, en route to Florida. Holiday with "the folks." "Smoking or nonsmoking?" I'd chosen smoking. It was a really crummy flight. Why am I using italics? This really happened. To me. A real me, not a fake, fictional, or composite me. One of the worst goddam flights of my life.

Incredibly late departure and arrival. A joke-telling pilot. Major turbulence. Talky assholes to the left and right. Lost luggage. But the worst thing about it was the smoke. Heinous, horrible cig smoke - not cigar or pipe.

- "AMONG THE CLOUDS," Richard Meltzer, February 5, 1987

Fifteen Years Ago

When Dostoyevsky wrote The Gambler at the end of the 19th Century, the gambler was already a type. Highly strung, wild-eyed, given to unaccountable superstitions, he was the most engaging antihero of them all. But gambling today is no longer the pastime of lurid literary types; it has become a gay and democratic activity, somewhat akin to mini-golf and cookery classes.

In the gray London suburb of my childhood, a proclivity for bingo was tantamount to confessing one had a colorful tropical disease or the onset of senile dementia. Who could imagine a Dostoyevsky bingo novel, a tale of obsession and despair woven around

the Texas Blackout or the Crazy Bow Tie?

But the European traveler in Southern California is taken utterly by surprise by the bingo he finds being played in the suburban townlets and the Indian reservations.

— "AN ALIEN'S ADVENTURES IN BINGOLAND," Lawrence Osborne, February 6, 1992

Ten Years Ago

Sometimes Margaret Langdon gets calls at her office at UCSD, where she's professor emeritus of linguistics, from strangers who tell her their offbeat stories about Indian languages.

Other times new acquaintances will blurt out that Indians don't speak real languages at all. "They'll tell me, 'They only grunt and groan."

For the past 30 years, Langdon has devoted her life to one of the four Indian tribes native to San Diego County, the Kumeyaay, and she has demonstrated that they speak three tongues - not dialects, but separate, sophisticated languages.

- "WHEN AN INDIAN LANGUAGE IS GONE..."

Jeannette De Wyze, January 30, 1997

Five Years Ago

I just read Duncan Shepherd's comments on the Tolkien movie in the January 24 issue of the Reader.

Reader When an Indian Language Is Gone.

San Diego Reader, January 30, 1997

Given Tolkien's cult following, I expect that Shepherd's review will garner a lot of hate mail. And I'm afraid that some of it may even come from people in the church.

In that regard, let me say that I'm a Christian conservative. So don't take the hate mail as representative.

For many people in the church — as well as outside of it — Tolkien is a guilty pleasure, and so they go overboard in finding all manner of subtextual symbolism in the work. -LETTERS: "INCLINED TO AGREE," Steve Hays,

January 31, 2002

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

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CLAIREMONT. Big yard sale. Saturday, 2/3, 8am. All must go. Lots of great stuff. 4709 Abernathy Street (behind Madison School field) School field).

EL CAJON, Garage sale. Tables, chairs, dresser miscellaneous household goods. Saturday February 3, 8am to noon. 221 Minnesota Avenue, El Cajon,

CA 92020. ENCINITAS. Moving sale. Saturday. Puma watch/sunglass samples, women's designer clothing, shoes, purses, hats, snowboards, surfboards, jewelry, cos-tumes, DVDs, books, furniture. 145 Coop Court 760, 689, 8206. Court. 760-688-8206.

GOLDEN HILL. Gigantic garage sale. Sat-urday, 2/3, 9am. 830 25th Street (in urday, 2/3, 9am. 830 25th Street (in garage and on lot next to Shell gas sta-

La Jolla, Garage sale. Friday-Sunday, 2/2-2/4, 8am. 36-years of personal pos-sessions. Large record collection, other items, furniture, sporting goods, house-hold, miscellaneouss. 5633 Soledad Mountain Road.

LEMON GROVE. Nice clothes, household. sporting. PS2 rare/popular games, movies, books. Furniture-armoires, chairs, tables. More quality items. Febru-ary 3, 2647 Grange St, 91945.

ay 5, corr Grange 3t, 51940.
POWAY. Huge garage sale. Saturday, 2(3, 7am-2:30pm. All proceeds benefit Labrador Retrievers. Hosted by Labrador Harbor. Off Ted Williams Parkway, across from Target/Outback. www. labradorharbor.org.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. Estate sale. Fri day, 2/2, 10am-2pm; Saturday, 2/3, 10am-5pm. Furniture, paintings, electron-ics. 11976 Stoney Park Drive #908, Carmel Mountain Ranch Apartments (at leffarcon)

SAN DIEGO. Garage moving sale. Satur-day, 2/3, 7:30am-12:30pm. Furniture,



MEDICINE SOLDIER

THE JOURNEY FROM KUWAIT

Iraq

TO IRAQ

We had a long flight and went right into training to confirm the sight alignment on our weapons; we watched two mandatory training videos and then waited on logistics — all after two hours' sleep and jet lag. We are upgrading the armor on our vehicles and sorting out the equipment as it comes off the boats. We were supposed to head north Tuesday, but there were complications, and now we have to wait indefinitely. I am not sure if it is just a coordination issue or if there are other issues preventing us from landing.

The camp we are at is barely big enough to hold the volume of troops here. Everything is a line, including meal time and port-a-johns. We are still living out of our backpacks, and the desert is not as exotic as one may think. Blue sky and tan sand — not too colorful. The guys are great; despite some frustration and anticipation, everyone is doing well.

After spending ten days on standby to leave our port of arrival in Kuwait and head into Iraq, I am more than ready to find a more permanent residence. In summation, here are the highlights for reasons to leave (in top-ten format):

10. Two helicopter crashes

9. 18 hours of rain in one day and a whole lot of mud8. 20 gallons of water per day per soldier for personal hygiene (not hot)

7. A 45-minute wait in line for food and 5 minutes to eat it

6. Living out of one backpack for ten days, but the backpack had to include our chemical gear, night vision device, GPS, wet and cold weather gear maps...leaving room for razor, toothbrush, socks, and underwear 5. A great three-day laundry service, but we have been on standby to leave in an hour for the past ten days (note: basic uniform allotment is four per soldier)

4. 20,000 people occupying a space designed for 12,000

3. Port-a-johns everywhere — good thing it has been 70 degrees and not 130

2. 70 people sharing the same tent (and cough) for sleeping

1. Stowing away on the back of a personnel carrier heading north by ground; the other alternative was Marine aviation (note recent crash in the news). I made it safely; well, as safe as it is here. It was a wild ride. When we crossed the border, it was like night and day between the two countries. Although Northern Kuwait is still rebuilding from the Gulf War, it is far superior to its neighbor. As we crossed, the kids and dogs came running up to the convoys to watch and wave. It was like being in a National Geographic episode, except I was holding a loaded weapon and we were riding down the road at 45 mph.

The terrain varied as far as lack of vegetation went;

some spots were all sand and some had nice trees and grasses. Mud huts and grass huts peppered the landscape, and we saw a variety of animals — cows, sheep, goats, dogs, camels. Most of the people seemed accepting of us, but it was a well-traveled route. One of the convoys veered off, and they said the mood changed. For the most part, the kids were very



friendly, waving, asking for food, and giving thumbs up. The adults watched pretty emotionlessly. We hit some "police" checkpoints that forced us to slow down. They don't wear uniforms, yet they all carry machine guns. We could not tell if they were shouting at us or to us, so we kept weapons ready and smiled and waved. On the other side, there were guys trying to peddle cigarettes and other trinkets. One guy held two cartons and said, "Two hundred." I do not know what the exchange is or if he wanted American dollars. I think they have democracy covered, and we don't need to be here. I hope he wanted two hundred of his money.

After several minor incidents, we managed to make

it to the base. We made it late Thursday; there were no lights in the streets or outside the tents or chow hall — a preventive measure against mortar attacks. We had to learn how to walk around in the dark without crashing into the concrete barriers that protect us.

As for living conditions, we have been bartering and scavenging from the Marines who are leaving. I currently have a cot, footlocker, and three cardboard boxes that are serving as my nightstand and dresser. I am using the footlocker for my desk, and it's not too bad.

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toys, stereos, TV, 700 records, tons of miscellaneous, cheap prices, everything goes. 910 La Jolla Rancho Road.

SCRIPPS RANCH. Garage sale. 10867 Caminito Alto, Saturday, 2/3/07, 7am. Bratz (dolls, cars, accessories, furniture,

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T: I gotta say, Amanda, this mac-ncheese was out of this world. I believe it came from another planet. It was outrageously tasty.

A: Why, thank ya, Mister T! Mac-n-cheese happens to be one of those foods that I find totally decadent and just absolutely love (when it's made well).

T: I grew up eating boxed macn-cheese, like, 95 percent of the time. I never had much real mac-ncheese. And when I did, it was not creamy at all.

A: I grew up with a similar macn-cheese experience. On occasion, my dad would make mac-n-cheese and throw in tomatoes and good cheddar, but it was always dry and gritty. A common outcome when you don't use the béchamel-based cheese sauce and just try to toss the macaroni with some cheese and bake it.

T: Yeah, that's the way I would have thought to do it...make some box mac-n-cheese and throw some cheddar on there or boil some macaroni and then just put cheddar on it. Either way, I'd be sucking.

A: I'm sure if you did any research before you made it, you wouldn't do that. There are tons of recipes out there.

T: If I did any research. Chances are, if I were doing this, it would be two in the morning, and I would have had a few ice-cold Natural Light beers, and I wouldn't be sensible enough to "do research."

A: Heard that! Fortunately, you have me.

T: I want more of this mac-and-

BLOG DIEGO

TITLE: What We're Eating | ADDRESS: www.whatwereeating.com AUTHOR: Amanda and Tyler | FROM: Ocean Beach | BLOGGING SINCE: July 2005 POST DATE: January 5, 2007 | POST TITLE: Orgasmic Mac-n-Cheese

cheese

A: I actually wasn't sure if you would like this one as much as previous ones, since you still aren't mushrooms' biggest fan My inspiration for this one was the earthiness found in mushrooms (and truffle oil).

T: I don't know, I like mushrooms in the right scenario...just don't want to sit around and eat them raw. But I was a massive fan of this mac-and-cheese. Like, OMG, Mandy, that was the best mac-n-cheese I've had. I give it a 4.9 out of 5. You've got mac-n-cheese nailed.

A: Damn, yo! That's a crazy high score! I was a huge fan of the dish too. Maybe not a 4.9-out-of-5 fan, but, still, I give this one a 4.75 out of 5, which happens to be a pretty damn high rating.

T: If I'm not mistaken, that's the highest score we've ever given anything on this blog.

A: Hmmm...I feel like I remember one other meal that might have scored higher, but I can't think of what it was.

T: I'm sure it had plenty of cheese in it. Cheese helps anything

get a higher score. Cheeeeese. Back to the mac-n-cheese... A: Yeah, so there is only one

thing I would do to this dish if I could afford it — use real truffle and not truffle oil! But, seeing as



how I'm currently in search of new employment, that can't really happen.

Wild Mushroom Macaroni and Three Cheeses with Truffle Oil, by Amanda

1-1/2 cups sliced crimini mushrooms, 1-1/2 cups sliced shitake mushrooms, 2 tbsp oil or bacon fat, 1-1/2 tbsp sherry vinegar, 3 tbsp butter, 3 tbsp flour, 3 cups whole milk, 4 oz. herb chèvre (crumbled), 4 oz. sharp cheddar

(shredded), 4 oz. Parmigiano Reggiano (separated into two 2-oz. piles, 1 tbsp fresh thyme leaves, 2 tsp fresh rosemary (minced), 1 tsp fresh sage (minced), 3 tbsp white truffle oil (yes, this is some rich

> mac-n-cheese), 1 tsp crushed red pepper flakes, 1/2 cup panko, 8 oz. elbow pasta, kosher salt and fresh cracked black pepper.

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Place a large pot of water over high heat and cover. Place a large sauté pan with 2 tbsp oil or lard over medium heat. Once the oil is hot, add the mushrooms to the pan and sauté for 7 to 10 minutes or until the mush-

rooms are fully cooked and slightly caramelized. Toss or stir occasionally. Season with a pinch of kosher salt and black pepper and then deglaze the pan with sherry vinegar. Allow all of the vinegar to cook out and then remove the mushrooms from the pan and set aside.

Cheese sauce: Add 3 tbsp butter to a medium-sized saucepan and place the pan over medium heat. Once all the butter is melted and hot, whisk in 3 tbsp flour. Cook the flour, whisking, for about 30 seconds, just long enough to get rid of the raw flour taste, but not long enough for the flour to start caramelizing. Add the thyme, rosemary, sage, and red pepper flakes. Continue stirring and allow the herbs to sauté for about another 30 seconds. Slowly pour in the milk while whisking continuously, so the roux and milk incorporate smoothly and there are no lumps. Allow the béchamel to come to a simmer (it won't gain its full thickness until it does), stirring occasionally.

While waiting for the sauce to come to a simmer, start the pasta. Liberally salt the pot of boiling water with a few handfuls of salt. Add the pasta to the water and cook for a minute or two less than the suggested time on the box.

Once the béchamel has reached a simmer, stir in the chèvre, cheddar, 2 oz. of Parmigiano, and truffle oil until all the cheese has melted. Turn off the heat and taste the sauce for seasoning levels. Season with salt and pepper to taste. In small mixing bowl, mix together the panko and remaining 2 oz. of Parmigiano Reggiano.

Strain the pasta once it's finished cooking. In a mixing bowl, toss the pasta, cheese sauce, and mushrooms together. Pour the macaroni and cheese into a deep glass or ceramic loaf pan and sprinkle the panko/Parmigiano mixture evenly across the top. Bake the mac-n-cheese in the upper part of the oven for about 15 to 20 minutes or until the topping is golden and the cheese sauce is bubbly. Serve hot. Enjoy!

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CHRYSLER CONCORDE, 2000. 2.7L, V6, all power, am/fm stereo cassette, air conditioning, tilt wheel, cruise con-trol, anti lock brakes. Like new 80,000 miles, \$4895. 619-447-9238. CHRYSLER PT CRUISER, 2005. Silver,

black interior. Low mileage, about 20,000. Lots of power. Just bought, 1 owner prior and I became disabled. \$14,500, 619-448-8480.

CHRYSLER PT CRUISER, 2001, auto-matic, loaded, 2008 tags, \$9000. 619-588-2280.

CHRYSLER SEBRING, black convertible, power steering, top, seat, etc., has under 64K miles and qualifies for a warranty, asking \$12,000. Take over payments. 858-232-8867.

FORD CONTOUR GL, 1997, 4 door, low miles, automatic, air conditioning, power steering, brakes, windows, locks, tilt, cruise, stereo cassette, pre-mium wheels, \$2975. 619-838-0779. FORD FOCUS WAGON, 2003, ZTW model with PZEV 3.2L OHVC engine, 145hp, 4-speed automatic with over-drive, great power for an economy car, \$10,500, 619-606-1115.

FORD MUSTANG, 1967, all original, second owner, 2 door, 3 speed, straight 6, 289, good shape inside and out, white exterior, blue interior, \$5000. 760-632-5341

F0U-532-5341.
HONDA ACCORD EX, 1999, low miles, excellent condition, only 67,500 mostly highway miles, leather, sunroof, spoiler, extended warranty (50K miles), \$10,000. 978-869-7420.

HONDA ACCORD LX, 1996, 2 door, 5 speed, fully loaded, tinted windows, keyless entry alarm, black/gray, good tires, new timing belt and oil change, \$4450. 619-321-7925.

\$4450. 619-321-7925. HONDA CIVIC \$1, 2002. Immaculate, fully loaded, nonsmoker, all power, powerful CD sound system. New tires. Keyless entry, low miles. Asking \$16,000/negotiable. Call Kevin 619-219.4448 219-4448

HONDA CIVIC, 1991, 4-door wagon, 4-wheel drive, 6 speed, 160K miles, ex-cellent condition, new tires, \$2700. 619-766-4650

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HYUNDAI ACCENT, 1998. Runs well. White, 2-door. \$1600 or best offer. 619-

INFINITI 620, 1994. champagne color, leather, 160,000 miles. 4 door, auto-matic transmission, all options, power, CD, surroof, all maintenance records, runs perfect. \$2975. 858-622-1402.

MERCEDES 280 SE, 1971. Needs work, engine runs, \$850. VW pickup, , engine runs, \$850. VW pickup, , diesel with camper, needs work, , 1973 K5 shell, full top \$350, 619-1981 \$950. 265-0121

MERCEDES 450 SEL, 1977. V-8, out of car, block, loose parts, fuel injection, A/C compressor, fan, rear engine adapter \$200 cash, 858-578-8968. MERCEDES BENZ, 1985. 1300D Tur-bodiesel. Black, leather. Power steerbodiesel. Black, leather. Power steer-ing, brakes and windows. Automatic, moonroof, CD player 258,000 miles. Drives and looks great. \$2500 858-717-3965

MERCURY SABLE WAGON, 1997 3 01 V6, fully equipped, cassette, roof rack, 3rd seat. Runs, looks and drives excel-lent, \$3150. Owner will help finance, 619-896-0779.

MG, 1976. 2 door convertible. \$2400 or best offer. 619-835-9367.

MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE SPYDER GS, 1997, convertible, well maintained, 105K original miles, green exterior, gray interior, mechanically well main-tained, 4 cylinder gas saver, \$5500. 760-632-5341.

NISSAN 240SX, 1993, red, 93,000 original miles, clean title, good condi-tion, economical on gas. 619-436-

NISSAN 240SX, 1993, rojo, 93,000 mil-las originales, titulo limpio, en muy buenas condiciones, super economico de gas. 619-436-8346.

NISSAN SENTRA SE-R, Spec V, 2002. Black, 6-speed, sport sedan. Fully loaded, A/C, all power. Keyless entry, alarm under 47,000 miles. \$9999/best/negotiable, 570-592-1464, Myka_v169@msn.com.

Myka_v169@msn.com. TOYOTA CAMRY, 1994. 4 door, V6, automatic steering with air. Power win-dows, power seat, sunroof, CD player. 90,000 miles \$3995. 619-607-7079.

TOYOTA CELICA, 1981. Convertible. Very rare, 89,000 miles, always garaged. White, automatic, 4-cylinder. Near new, 38650. Only 1,500 made that year, 858-581-6223.

year, 858-581-5223. TOYOTA CELICA, 1981, very rare con-vertible, 4 cylinder, automatic, always garaged, 89K miles, \$3600/best. Fish-ing boat, 12° fiberglass, on trailer, nice, \$375. 858-581-1869.

VOLVO 240DL, 1990. Maroon looks god in and out. Runs excellent. Regis-tered December 2007. Have smog, 4 door. Sunroof. Asking \$2300/best 619-202282 door. Sur 920-3362

PACIFIC BEACH SMOG 🗸 TEST ONLY PASS OR DON'T PAY Plus \$8.25 certificate and \$2.00 transfer fee. Most cars and light trucks. RVs call for appointment. Completion of repairs needed before retest. We will match most local competitors' coupons. Not valid with an Internet offer or other discounts. Se oulda 1741 Garnet Avenue 858-270-9253 Open 7 days \$5 off Sundays! Emoo VALUE TRANSMISSIONS & AUTO SERVICE YOUR FULL-SERVICE AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR CENTER. T/T HONDA and ACURA SPECIALISTS







Reader February 1, 2007 San Diego 8



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My new best friend, a sock puppet, wrote this week's installment of "Remote Control King." I made the sock puppet's eyes with dried jalapeños from a discarded pizza, and his mouth was created by painting on some lipstick left in my medicine cabinet by my ex-girlfriend. I get lonely sometimes.

HELLO, KIDDIES! My name is Hobnobbery McCupcakepants! I'm here to tell you all about the wonderful things on television this week. You know, television isn't just for entertainment. You can learn all about..

Hey, stop squirming, Tugboat. Excuse me, kiddies. The fat bastard whose arm ends where I begin is tugging against the restraints. Don't make me turn around and slap you until pie comes out. Wait. How did you get those ropes so tight? I mean, I'm your right arm, and I didn't do it. And you duct-taped your mouth as well. Weird. Anyway.

Okay, kids. If I crane my little socky neck up and look out the closet door, I can see a wonderful land of opportunity to learn. I can see many things, even if it is just an 8-by-10 room that Bag-of-Donuts back there rents from an old lady in a blue housecoat.

There's a greasy cardboard pizza box where my pepper peepers came from. Do you know where pizza was invented, kids? That's right: Italy. There are all sorts of wonderful travel programs on television about that disgusting place full of loud, lazy, cigarette-smoking morons who happened to stumble upon a brilliant, tasty way of stuffing more starch and fat into their noise holes.

What else can we see? Why, look at all that frayed, threadbare carpet, and those stains! Did you know that boiling ash from burnt wood along with animal fat made the first soaps? There are a lot of learning programs on TV that will tell you all about how soap is made. Although, I don't think anything is going to get that blood out. Hey, Jabba the Special, what the hell did you do right there? Nasty.

Well, kids. I can see by the enraged look in Dumptruck's eyes and the loose handcuff that it's...gaaah! Gaaah! Watch the elastic. You're going to stretch me out...gaah!

Hello. It's Ollie again, your friendly neighborhood Remote Control King. That's all the time we had for the insolent hosiery, Mr. McCupcakepants, but tune in next week when we explore why you shouldn't lick the bathtub. So long, kids.

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

CSI CBS 8:00 P.M.

I've got a cop story. I'm a hard-as-nails detective with a tender heart and a checkered past. I've made some mistakes, but always got my man. I've limited my advancement opportunities by being too tough and by not playing the office politics that could've got me promoted. My wife walked out on me because I'm married to my job. I'm on the case of a lifetime, and when it's closed I'm going to retire. Wait. No. That's every other cop show ever. My story is about an angry, cigarette-smoking, coffee-swilling meter maid and his temperamental scooter, Alexander.

THE REAL WORLD

MTV 11:00 P.M.

I learned everything I know about the construction business from '80s videos. In a jaunty

VOLVO S-80, 2005. 18,500 miles. Chrome trim, CD changer. Sunroof/moonroof, dark leather interior. Airbags, AC, alloy wheels. Power mir-

Free retest when we do repair. Plus \$8.25 certificate and \$1.50 transfer fee Vans & heavy-duty trucks extra. Cash only Must present DMV renewal notice *All prices plus tax. With this ad. Exp. 3/5/07 neckerchief and holding a pneumatic jackhammer, I was quite a sight. When I smeared hot grease all over my face and chest, it made me look tough, but my pouty lips showed my true, brooding soul. I practiced my looks in a mirror before my first day on the job. Somehow, my coworkers were confused and didn't understand the nature of hard work - even after I had set up my strobe light and spark shower in the background. Stupid real-life construction workers...don't understand anything about working hard during the week and living for the weekend.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2 THE FASHION TEAM

TVGC 5:00 P.M.

rors/windows/steering, more. \$22,500, VOLVO V70 T5, wagon, 2001. 5-cylinder.

5-speed, turbo, automatic. Leather seats Fold-down third row seat. Moonroot

OIL CHANGE \$19.95*

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Includes spark plugs. Additional parts extra.

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Most cars

Here's the thing. Listen up, a-holes. I dress simply: jeans and a decent shirt, nothing fancy or expensive. If I walk into another damned coffee shop and one of you rocket whistles with

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VW BEETLE GLS, 2005, new Beetle con-vertible, 1.8L, 22,700 miles, 17' alloy wheels, black leather interior, 6-speed automatic Tiptronic transmissi blocker, \$19,900. 858-414-0990

pants tucked into your fuzzy boots looks at me like I'm a cat with two heads, I'm going to stuff you under the table that's supporting your wiggly elbows and gliding hands, and I'm going to kick you until you revisit the mojitos and walnut pear salad you had last night.

the Bluetooth earpiece and your

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK HBO 11:00 A.M.

Vampires. Hannibal. Darth Vader.

The Terminator. I always wanted the bad guys to win. Bad guys get to wear all black and capes and masks and they get to skulk. The damned do-gooders are always running and leaping around in white pants. That's why I always identify with the bad guys. I'm not athletic, and I can't wear light-colored clothing. (I'm a messy eater.)

WORLD'S GREATEST SPORTS BLOOPERS ABC 8:00 P.M.

This really isn't what you want to watch before going out on a Saturday night. Sure, there should be something playing in the background while you're showering, ironing, and getting your shoes on, but you don't want a lot of blundering movements that end in testicular concussion. You don't want that in your head while you're navigating the social scene of a crowded bar. No bueno.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 SPACECRAFT TRAILBLAZERS: VOYAGE TO THE PLANETS AND BEYOND

SCIENCE 3:00 P.M.

When we finally start living in space, I think we're going to be terribly disappointed. Our whole lives we've built up space travel with adjectives like "trailblazing" and "beyond!" When I'm watching television in a Barcalounger from an orbiting space station for retirees, I'm sure I'll scratch my gray beard scruff and say, "Really? This is it? This is kind of like Florida without the mosquitoes."

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5 HOW I MET YOUR MOTHER CBS 8:00 P.M. Now that I'm single again, I've been watching

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SPORTS ARENA/PT. LOMA



The Andy Griffith Show

informational videos on the courtship process. According to most of my DVDs, all I need now is a boat or a pool. Then I just have to stumble upon some woman sunbathing while she thinks she's alone. (You know what I mean, alone.) All that's left is the removal of swimwear and the reclining of the white vinvl sun chair. Easy as pie. Or is it cake? Anyway, that's the kitchen scene, and I think it's reserved for advanced students. Frosting is probably tough to get out of vour hair.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 GOO GOO DOLLS LIVE QVC 6:00 P.M. Who didn't see this coming?

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7 THE ANDY GRIFFITH SHOW TVLAND 8:00 P.M.

This show was a cry for help from the rural gay community of the 1960s. Everyone portrayed was a confirmed bachelor, over 30, very well groomed, and tidy. The characters are mainly men. In fact, to watch it, you'd think marriageable females didn't live in Mayberry. There's Andy, Barney, Gomer, Goober, Otis, Ernest, and Floyd. The only woman was a caring, understanding aunt. The whistled theme song is titled The Fishin' Hole. I could go on.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8 FRANKENFISH (2004)

SCI FI 7:00 P.M.

A genetically altered fish eats human flesh. Reach for it, Sci Fi Channel. Reach. Even if it seems that you'll only push it away further with the tips of your fingers, reach for it!





VW PASSAT, 1997. V6 automatic, A/C, power windows, sunroof. Black, 140,000 miles. \$2995. 619-607-7079.

SUPER BEETLE, 1972. Black, near 1600cc engine, carburetor, battery, w SUPER BEELE, 1972. Black, hear new 1600cc engine, carburetor, battery, generator, paint, more. CA registration through 3/07. Local buyers, serious offers only. \$3000. 619-546-0840. SUVS 100-019-240-0840.
\$5001 POLICE IMPOUNDS. Cars, trucks, SUVs from \$5001 Hondas, Chevys, Jeeps, Toyotas, Nissans and more! For listings and information, call 800-495-0660, xC664.

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CHEVY ASTRO, 1997, \$7995 or \$2000 cash discount or \$1000 down drives it away. Buy here, pay here. Vin-219154. A Plus Rentals, 760-250-7055. CHEVY ROADSTER, 1927, pickup pro-ject car, hot rod, rat rod, titled, regis-tered, modern Pontiac 151 Iron Duke engine, 350 transmission, Does not run. \$3500. 619-578-1262. DODGE CARAVAN, 2001, silver, 100,000 miles, clean title. Don't need this car anymore since I just bought a brand new car. Need to sell ASAP. \$4300 negotiable. Maria, 619-921-1358.

1358. DODGE RAM 1500 SLT, 1998, 76K miles, clean title, original owner, per-fect condition, white, longbed with tool-box, power windows, doors, seats, 76K

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miles, \$9100. 760-420-3014.

"Check Engine" **Brakes Light Diagnostic** from \$**99** \$20 Per axle. Parts & labor. **Fuel Injection** Cleaning ^{\$}59⁹⁵ Clutch from **Minor Tune-up** ^{\$275} \$**49**⁹⁵ Labor. Parts extra \$80/hr. Labor rate. 360 PAT'S 5839 Mission Gorge Rd. #F • 619.528.1800 ASE Certified AC Certified

FORD EXPLORER XLT, 1999, 4x4, au tomatic, air conditioning, leather, moonroof, tinted windows, CD, rides like a nice car, 138K miles, moving, \$6100/best. Sandra, 619-216-4700. \$6100/best. Sandra, 619-216-4700. FORD EXPLORER SPORT, 1998. Black exterior, gray cloth interior, 2 door, 5 speed. Airbags, CD AM/FM stereo, A/C. Rear tinted windows. Rear wiper/defroster. Regularly serviced. Runs excellent, very dependable. Gas efficient. Power windows/steering/brakes. 133,000 miles. \$2395/best. Smogged/Regis-tered. Clean title. Please leave mes-sage 858-382-5332.

FORD EXPLORER, 1994, limited edition, loaded, 4-wheel drive, 6 cylinder. excellent condition, \$3500/best. 760-602-9370.

FORD EXPLORER, 1998, V-6, beautiful green, 4.0 SOHC engine, bower steer-ing, windows, mirrors, alloys, CD radio, cassette, CD changer, always taken care of, 619-318-0488.

FORD EXPLORER SPORT, 2002, 5speed, 87,000 miles, gold color, very nice, need to sell ASAP. \$4800 (sal-

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vage). Need money to pay mortgage. Ross. 619-519-0740.

FORD EXPLORER SPORT, 2002, 5speed, 87,000 millas, color gold, muy bonita, necesito venderla ASAP. \$4800 (salvage). Necesito dinero para mi mortgage. Ross, 619-519-0740. FORD F-250, 1974, only 77K original miles, smog exempt, \$1875. 858-622-1037.

FORD VAN. 1997. black, brand new en catalytic converters. gine, tires, brakes, catalytic converters, fully smogged. Minor vanity issues. Runs perfectly. \$5000/best. Barry, 619-

JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE, Laredo. 1996, 4x4, automatic, all power, CD 1996. 4x4, automatic, all power. CD player, towing package, alloy wheels, excellent condition. New timing belt, brakes, water pump. \$4500. 619-270-6458.

JEEP WRANGLER, 2002, silver, excellent condition, perfect summer car, black soft top, 4-wheel drive, 4 cylin-der, 69K miles, charcoal interior, bikini top, alarm, \$10,500. 858-504-0482.

NISSAN MURANO SE, 2004, all-whee

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condition, touring/towing/chrome pack-ages, 18' chrome wheels, 6 speakers, Bose, \$25,000. 619-988-0722. NISSAN PATHFINDER 4X4 XE, 1994, very clean, priced to sell, V-6, 167K very clean, priced to sell, V-6, 167K miles, 3.2L, 5-speed manual, tinted windows, cruise, Alpine CD/radio, \$3250/best. 858-259-0886.

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MGB, 1978, 1 owner title, 40K original miles, mint condition. Dylan, 520-432-3727 or 520-432-1481.

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PORSCHE 911E TARGA, 1969, beautiful classic red, great shape, drives fast and turns heads, original 2.0L engine, always garaged, upgraded wheelbase to Pirelli, 23,999. 760-586-3381.

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CLASSIC AMERICAN CLIPPER BV 1978 ASSIC AMERICAN CLIPPER RV, 1978. .5 feet. Many new features: tires, air onditioning. \$4,500 or best offer. 760condition 757-6984

FLEETWOOD FLAIR 25Y, 2000, Chevy 454 Vortec V-8 engine, 26', heating, air conditioning, kitchen, full bed, bath, solar panel, satellite dish, DVD/VCR, \$30,000. 858-571-1417

GM SOUTHWIND, 1978, 28', class A, 440 engine, 54K miles, runs great, clean title, new refrigerator, toilet, shower, all manu-als and receipts, \$5400. 619-847-5623. als and receipis, ssado. 619-847-9623. **PREVOST LIBERTY XL-1 RV,** the real deal. Presently in Yuma, Arizona. The best diesel pusher motorhome produced. 88K actual miles. \$125,000 or trades con-sidered. 619-980-0808.

sidered. b19-980-0808. TOYOTA DOLPHIN, 1981, 20', 46K origi-nal miles, 4 speed, generator, many ex-tras, fully self-contained, sleeps 5, 20mpg, runs perfectly, \$3950. 619-543-8922.



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San Diego Reader February 1, 2007 8



When you have hardware installed in your flesh, you tend to forget about it.

<u>By John Brizzolara</u>

One month into the New Year and already I'm striking out in the resolutions department: quit smoking; get a new battery installed in my pacemaker — a \$20,000 proposition with no insurance (my fault there...another dropped ball); and land a book contract. Very little gets done in the publishing business over the holidays; and January is a catch-up festival, so I didn't expect much in that area so soon but the other two are bothersome enough. I tell myself that given the lead-time between writing a column and its publication, I haven't really shot the whole month. Not yet.

Speaking of lead-time, I may well be having that Duracell installed around the end of the month. The thing started quietly beeping (exactly 16 times every 6 hours) around early November. Of course I had no idea what the sound was and kept looking around me for a tiny alarm clock I didn't know I owned. Apparently that's a signal, not unlike a smoke alarm, that the thing is going south and you have about 90 days to change the power supply. Because the thing stops does not mean that you do. It does mean that should your heart attempt some lunatic rumba, the attached defibrillator will not do its thing. Its "thing" has been described to me as having a mule kick you in the chest. This paints a graphic picture to everyone I've mentioned it to, as if we've all, at one time or another, been kicked in the chest by a mule. When you have hardware installed in your flesh, you tend to forget about it. Why dwell on it? In effect, you live in a constant state of denial. I have found this continues even when your attention has been called to it in no uncertain terms.

My electrocardiologist sighed and told me he knew there would be a problem as soon as he heard that the thing sounded off, albeit very quietly. A little, let's see, ticked off would be the term, I corrected him and said, "You mean you knew there would be a problem once you learned I no longer had insurance." His response was to ask me if I was still drinking.

"No, I quit," I told him, as if I were talking about donuts and not years of recovery, relapse, rehab, relapse again, and more moral, physical, and spiritual anguish than I have ever experienced over matters of the heart - or cancer, for that matter.

That this is on my mind, just beneath the surface of denial like a submerged reef, may not be surprising. What is, is my naïveté regarding the attitudes of medical professionals toward the uninsured in this country and the greed-fired cost of what should be routine medical maintenance.

The phenomenon of MDs as social or conversational dunces (maybe bulls in china shops is more apt more often) has been well noted and is based on the presumption that they were studying while most of us were learning to "get along" or "get over" with our fellow man. We pay them for the schoolwork and suffer their personal ineptitude; that's the deal. What amazes me is that doctors, rigorous and brilliant enough to get through med school, display not even a low animal cunning, as far as I can see, when it comes to daily human intercourse.

I do not mean my main guy, my cardiologist, who saved my life at Mercy a few years back. It would be less than genius to cast aspersions here, but I wouldn't dream of it anyway. Doctor Friedman is not only smart, funny, and even charming, the guy is a diplomat. Once while watching me wheeze alarmingly while on a treadmill, I asked him desperately, "There's something wrong, isn't there?"

Well," he nodded, "you are deconditioned." Had it been me with the clipboard, lab coat, and stethoscope, I would have said something like, "You're shot out," or "You're a flabby sack of -----." High diplomacy. Dr. F. has also not charged me for several visits, prescriptions, and various services. If you're reading this, Doctor, I know and thank you. I was not talking about you in the previous cracks.

So, the Reaper is clearing his throat in the wings, fanning himself with the program, and mixing metaphors like Enderby, the fictional, flatulent poet in Anthony Burgess's trilogy. Re-reading book II for a distracting laugh, I find one of the poet's (now bartender's) works-in-progress:



Unless to hope to hold off The unavoidable happening With that frail barricade Of week, day or hour Which melts as it is made, For time himself will bring You in his high-powered car, Rushing on to it, Whether you will or not.

High-powered car. Burgess must have had fun.

Well, I have to live. I may come in handy for my son. As for fear of death, it is largely a fear of that crushing chest pain when the heart is failing. Pressing as all of this is, getting my affairs in order begins this morning with a decision: how much to put down on my T-Mobile cell phone pay-as-you-go account. That figure, once arrived at, should give me a pretty fair reflection, a grade, as it were, on matters of faith.

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