Reader

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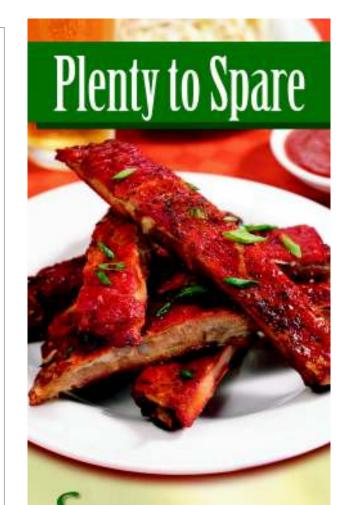


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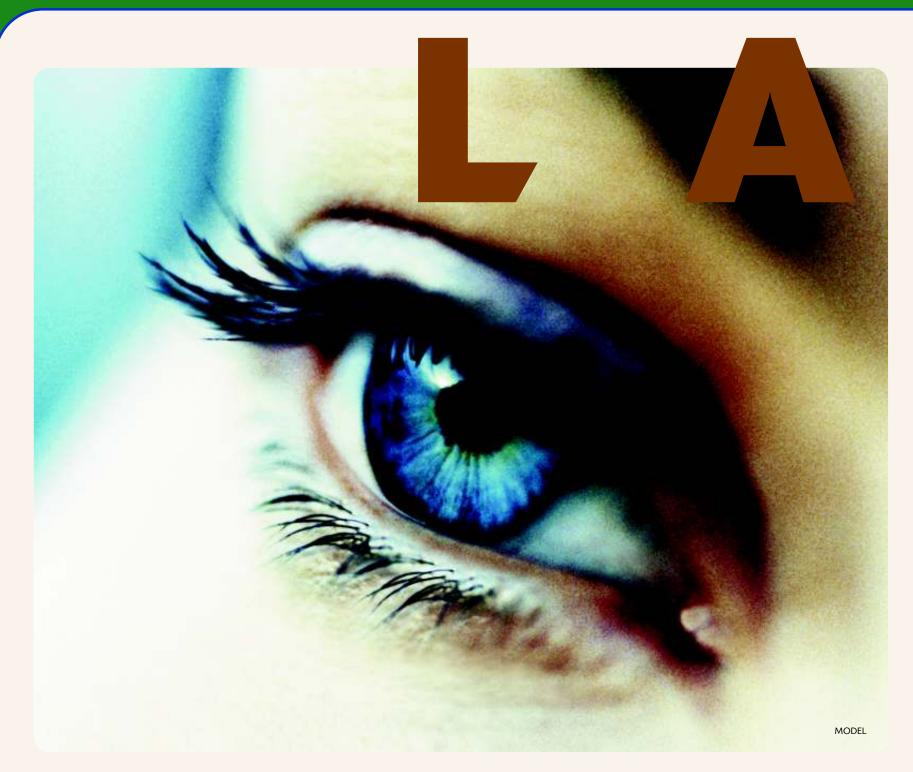
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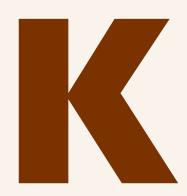
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photos because of the glare in my glasses. But worse. I couldn't get out of bed or see the clock because my sight was 20/400 with astigmatism in both eyes."

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: 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?

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Q: How long does the process take?

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

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- 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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- Darush Mohyi, M.D., La Jolla, CA



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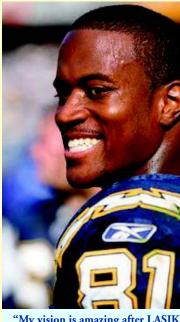
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CONTRIBUTORS

Don Bauder, Ed Bedford, Geoff Bouvier, John Brizzolara, Josh Board, Patrick Daugherty, Joe Deegan, W.S. Di Piero, Stephen Dobyns, Ernie Grimm, Mary Grimm, Lynne Houts, Juris Jurievics, Rosa Jurievics, Barbara Johnson, Ken Kuhlken, Thomas Larson Deirdre Lickona, Matthew Lickona, Thomas Lux, Bill Manson, Linda Nevin, Anthony Olivieri, Jonathar Saville, Jerry Schad, Duncan Shepherd, Jeff Smith, Leslie Venolia, Naomi Wise

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COMPUTER SYSTEMS

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

Stealthy money A subsidiary of the real estate outfit that recently recommended taking day-to-day approval of San Diego's real estate dealings away from the city council has again been tagged with campaign-reporting violations. Accord-



ing to a stipulation approved two weeks ago by the state's Fair Polit-

ical Practices Commission, Grubb & Ellis/BRE Commercial — which has offices on La Jolla Village Drive in University City — violated California's Political Reform Act. It failed to report in a timely manner a \$50,000 late contribution it made on October 28, 2004, to "Citizens for Better Healthcare-Yes on BB," backer of a successful \$496 million bond measure to upgrade hospitals and other health facilities in inland North County. Under state law, donors who give money after the campaign committee's final reporting deadline prior to an election are required to file their own separate disclosure of "late" contributions so that voters may be aware of who is giving to the cause right up to Election Day. For that lapse, Grubb & Ellis agreed to pay a \$3500 fine. The company also didn't file a required "major donor" statement with the secretary of state, listing all of the contributions it had made that year, and agreed to pay an additional \$930 for that omission.

The stipulations follow Grubb & Ellis/BRE's September agreement to pay a \$3000 fine to the City of San Diego for laundering \$900 to the



November 2005 campaign of Mayor Jerry Sanders through John Frager, the firm's chief executive. City law bars corporations from contributing to mayor and council campaigns, whether directly or via reimbursements to employees. According to a September 18, 2006, stipulation between the

company and the city's Ethics Commission, Frager made two contributions of \$300 each to the Sanders campaign — one for the primary and another for the runoff — using his corporate credit card, which was covered by the firm. His wife Kristen gave \$300 on her personal credit card, which Frager was later reimbursed for. The mayor denied having anything to do with the laundering.

As it happened, in September of last year Sanders chose another Grubb & Ellis subsidiary, Grubb & Ellis Property Solutions Worldwide, to "provide the review and analysis required to recommend improvements to the Real Estate Assets Department's organizational structure, management practices, business processes, and operations." The final report, costing about \$200,000, went before the city council's Housing and Land Use Committee February 7. It recommended that the council's involvement in the disposal of city land be limited to "batched approval," using "authority within a box." According to Grubb & Ellis, "most real estate decisions requiring Council action should be approved as part of a portfolio plan, rather than as individual transactions." It adds that "once a portfolio plan is approved, including thresholds and terms for typical transactions, [the

Real Estate Assets Department] should be free to

execute those transactions that comply with these guidelines. The appropriate focus of Council is to periodically review the guidelines and to address exceptions." Critics argue that without some kind of mandatory public airing of final sales terms and policy "exceptions," Sanders and his people may be tempted to unload city-owned land in stealthy sweetheart deals to friends and campaign contributors.

Nuts The wife of ex-Democratic state senator **Steve** Peace is no longer a member of the state's Inte-



term last month. Senate President Pro Tempore Don Perata named ex-state senator Wes Chesbro of Arcata, who had previously served on the board for eight years before getting elected to the senate in 1998, to the \$117,818a-year position. Cheryl Peace

grated Waste Management Board

following the expiration of her

was named to the board in 2003 by then-Pro Tem

John Burton, a close friend of her husband, now an advisor to Padres owner **John Moores**... Call them nuts, but last December the Barona Indian band handed out 11 "cashew tins" as "holiday gifts" to various members of the state legislature and state Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell, each



valued at \$31.59 and supplied by the Squirrel Brand

Company of McKinney, Texas.

The tribe also hosted Candy Hacegaba, a staffer for Assemblywoman Bonnie Garcia, at the Holiday Bowl game for \$40. ... Meanwhile, Sempra Energy, whose SDG&E subsidiary wants to build a big new power line through Anza-Borrego state park in the face of fierce environ-

mental protests, continued its usual round of blandishments to state officials. Biggest freeloader was Republican assemblyman Bill Emmerson of Redlands, who was treated to \$210 worth of "Tickets, Food, & Bev" at Staples Center in L.A. on December 10. On November 17, Republican Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee, vice chair of the Assembly's Utilities and Commerce Committee, and four of his staffers partook of "Food & Bev" worth \$26.25 each at Buona Tavola in San Luis Obispo. The event, according to a Sempra press release, came the day after the "Elections, Energy and Your Business' Bottom-Line" dinner November 16, sponsored by Southern California Gas Company, another big Sempra subsidiary. Besides Blakeslee, it included Dan Walters, the "syndicated Sacramento Bee columnist and political pundit" and covered "the topics of energy legislation, energy-efficiency programs that can help businesses save money, challenges and opportunities in California's energy markets, and the impact of the November elections on California."

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.

Tiny Potrero Battles County and Blackwater USA

By Don Bauder

he hamlet of Potrero in southeast San Diego County, 45 miles from the city and just 8 minutes from Tecate, is being ambushed.

The attackers are county bureaucrats marching alongside Blackwater USA, the private military contractor that nition, a course on which moving vehicles will be strafed with paintballs, a helicopter pad, several buildings, and and hillsides."

A paramilitary base hardly fits the bill. The town has 435 registered voters. Well over half have signed a petition opposing the project. Among many things, the petition notes that the 350 staff and students at the proposed Blackwater West constitute more than one-third of the current Potrero population "and will substantially increase traffic." The project is "a large commercial operation with possible future expansion that violates our character and the spirit of our general plan."



Blackwater employees hung from bridge, Fallujah, Iraq, March 2004

is getting so much bad press while being labeled one of the biggest mercenary firms in the Iraq War.

Blackwater wants to build an 824-acre training facility three miles north of Potrero. It will have 15 shooting ranges, an armory for storing ammuother military accoutrements. But Potrero's oft-stated community goal is to "maintain the existing rural lifestyle by continuing the existing pattern of residential and agricultural uses on large 40-acre lots" alongside "generally undeveloped meadows, open spaces,

Overwhelmingly, the residents fear ear-splitting noise.

The town, which has two continued on page 8



Neal Obermeyer



Creative Chaos at MiraCosta

By Bruce Kauffman

iraCosta College dean Eileen Kraskouskas was in San Francisco for a three-day conference last March when she got e-mails

and calls from the office of the MiraCosta president telling her that 2006 would be her last opportunity to "take a Golden Handshake for an enhanced retirement," according to court documents Kraskouskas filed when she brought suit against the college on January 18 in superior court in Vista.

Kraskouskas was to e-mail her answer by midnight that day, March 15, the first day of the conference being held by the California Community College Association for Occupational Education. She balked.



Eileen Kraskouskas

At MiraCosta since 1996, she had one year to go on a twoyear contract as dean of career and technical education.

About three weeks later, on April 10, Kraskouskas, back on campus, was called to a meeting with the college president, Victoria Muñoz Richart. Kraskouskas's lawsuit describes their meeting this way: Richart said to her that a so-called "Palm Scheme" had been uncovered on campus and that Kraskouskas "probably knew" that MiraCosta employees were reaping personal gain



from planting and tending palm trees on college property, using college labor and materials, and then selling the trees for profit.

Richart said there was a second problem, Kraskouskas's court papers state. In the administration's view, Kraskouskas had failed to gain enough university credit hours while on sabbatical in the fall of 2005 to meet MiraCosta's requirements. Thus, according to the court documents, the board would be asking her to reimburse the college the amount it had paid her during her semester off campus. The sum was \$56,256.

Richart, the complaint notes, put an offer on the table. The \$56,256 tab would be forgiven in exchange for Kraskouskas's giving up \$14,500 in earned vacation time. She could either take the proposal or be suspended immediately and placed on administrative leave. She could also become the subject of an investigation by an unnamed "external agency" for suspicion of fraud.

On April 13, three days after the meeting, believing she was about to be fired, Kraskouskas indicated she would accept the offer and retire early. Six days later, Kraskouskas signed a letter of resignation.

At a retirement party at a faculty member's home on



May 19, Kraskouskas told her story to colleagues. Back on campus three days later, Kraskouskas again was summoned to the president's office and told, according to her complaint, that her "false accusations" were "ruining" MiraCosta. She was then ordered to leave the campus immediately.

Kraskouskas had joined MiraCosta in 1996 as instructional dean in vocational education and applied science. Her salary, on a campus where faculty and administrators are paid some of the highest wages of any community college district in California, was then around \$73,000. In July 2005, less than a year before her resignation, she signed a twoyear contract to become dean of career and technical education with a boost in salary to \$160,000. Kraskouskas would have served ten years and become eligible for retirement benefits at the end of the school year this past June.

Eight days went by, and on May 30, the college issued a press release entitled "Mira-Costa takes action on alleged improper activities."

It began, "MiraCosta College is close to concluding an investigation into alleged fraudulent activities in the Horticulture Department.... The main focus of the investigation is an alleged shared enterprise between a college

employee and a private businessperson to sell several thousand palm trees."

The college employee, who was unnamed, had since 1998 "allowed the businessperson to store the trees on campus and used college resources to care for the trees," the press release stated. "The alleged agreement was verbal," it added, "and was never approved by the governing board, nor has there been proper accounting for the sale of trees."

The press release also noted that "documented evidence exists of a fraudulent payment to the private businessperson."

The college had discovered the problem when "a college employee came forward with allegations of these activities and subsequently filed a written complaint in February 2006."

MiraCosta had addressed the situation by "taking possession" of the more than 2000 palm trees on college property and forwarding the findings of an on-campus probe to the office of the San Diego County district attorney for investigation, the news release stated.

"While personnel issues are confidential," it went on, "the college can confirm it is taking appropriate action with those employees directly & involved in fraudulent activities and those found to have ® been negligent by allowing ₹ such activities to occur."

Founded in 1934 as Oceanside-Carlsbad Junior College, MiraCosta enrolls about 14,000 students at three campuses: the Barnard Drive campus in



Palms at MiraCosta College

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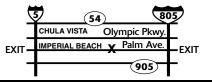
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Blackwater USA

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restaurants and a general store, has a population well below 1000. Almost 26 percent of the people live under the poverty level — more than double the national average.

The little village is definitely the underdog, because this is the first project under the County's year-old plan to halve the environmental review process. Normally, getting approvals for such a construction program would take 45 months. But San Diego County wants this one done in 20 to 22 months, unless it gets stymied along the way.

Developers have been promised faster and friendlier service by county government. Last April, at a roundtable put on by the Daily *Transcript* and the San Diego Building Industry Association, Chandra Wallar, the County's deputy chief administrative officer and general manager of Land Use and Environment Group, promised the builders, "We can get you guys on the ground more quickly." Developers, planning groups, county land-use bureaucrats, and environmentalists should "get together very early when you've just got a big chunk of raw land and say, What makes the most sense here, and how do we do it?'

Opponents of the Potrero project understand that under the law the County has an obligation to work with developers. However, there has to be public participation early on. The planning for this assault was well down the road before Potrero citizens even knew about it. "They have been trying to build support without notifying anybody here," says resident Carl Meyer. "I have proof that since May they [Blackwater] have been meeting privately with Department of Planning and Land Use personnel. They have been trying to get standards lowered" in noise, roads, and other parts of the plan. For example, county planners profess to be satisfied with Potrero's narrow, substandard roads, even though big trucks would rumble down them

Last July, Blackwater hired as a lobbyist Nikki Clay, a longtime cheerleader for corporate welfare (Chargers,

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Padres) and former president of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce. Blackwater brought on the developer-friendly environmental firm of Mooney, Jones & Stokes, along with other companies to make up their project team. The team quickly snuggled up to the County, which was not playing hard to

The Potrero public didn't

hear about the project until October 12. But before that, technical studies were "well underway," according to records on file with the County. Clay said she was communicating regularly with the supervisor's office and the office of military powerhouse Congressman Duncan Hunter, even though Potrero is not in his district. Potrero's supervisor is Dianne Jacob. The Blackwater project team proudly noted that although Jacob "has historically required secondary access," in this case "she will be in favor of only requiring primary access." After the 2003 fires, Jacob emphasized that some fire personnel couldn't get to some homes because there was no secondary road access. (Wallar says a supervisor would not make such a decision, although the board of supervisors will ultimately decide on the overall project.) On October 3, a bureaucrat and Blackwater team member visited the site to do a formal wetlands delineation. Groundwater details were worked out with two departments.

"We anticipate submittal of the formal application and technical studies at the end of October," said the Blackwater project team on September 26. "The overall project schedule is being finalized" by a county staff member along with the project team, said the Blackwater group in late September. The schedule was being finalized? Remember, the Potrero citizenry did not hear about this until October 12, more than two weeks later. And prior to the Potrero planning group meeting, the County and the project team staged a "murder board" (a military term for a tough question-and-answer session in preparation for a meeting).

Clearly, the County and the Blackwater project team were getting ahead of themselves — certainly ahead of poor Potrero.

Back in April of last year,

Wallar advised builders to get their supporters out to meetings at which their projects were being considered. That appeared to be the strategy October 12 in Potrero. Before the meeting of the local community planning group, there was barely any advance notice, says resident Barbara Chamberlain. A discussion of "Blackwater USA" was listed. "Nobody had any idea what it [Blackwater] was," and few who might have opposed it went to the meeting. But those who would favor it were out in force, and in a show of hands, it appeared there was strong backing.

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There was a second local planning group meeting in December. By then, word had gotten into the community, and some skeptics showed up. The show of hands was about evenly split, but the community planning group voted 7 to 0 to see the project proceed."We are surprised at the speed at which they [County, project group, and Potrero planning group] are going," says Chamberlain. "They are going at it so inappropriately; why are they pushing this so hard?" Two-thirds of the citizens initially in favor of the project have now signed the petition opposing it, she

Blackwater's formal application came December 20, after the second Potrero meeting. The County would like to see the environmental review process completed in 20 to 22 months from that date.

Resident Tina Brown points out that in 1995, the planning group okayed an off-road vehicle park. Citizens protested vehemently, and eventually the proposal was scrapped. It was widely believed then that a planning group member had received a finder's fee. Could this have happened again? Gordon Hammers, chairman of the current planning group, says "that's strictly forbidden," and he would take no such fee. "That's innuendo." The planning group has given the go-ahead because, among several things, Potrero may get 30 to 45 jobs from the facility. Hammers was briefed by the project group and visited the site prior to the October 12 meeting.

Duncan McFetridge of Descanso's Save Our Forests and Ranchlands says that half the property is in the Cleve-

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Blackwater USA

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land National Forest, even though it is privately owned, and the other half is in an agricultural preserve. The County's general plan "does not account for this type of plan with forest and agriculture," he says. Blackwater West also goes against the county general plan "with respect to use of the property, with respect to the density, with respect to incompatibility with the environment."

The brouhaha comes at a bad time for Blackwater USA. The head of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform wants to know why Blackwater has been paid so much for Iraq work. On February 7, the committee looked into the company on several grounds. One of its contracts with Halliburton may not be kosher, for example. The committee probed a lawsuit against Blackwater. People who lost loved ones when four employees were massacred in 2004 have charged that the company

provided the men with inadequate equipment. In its defense, Blackwater has hired famed attorney Ken Starr and sued the lawyers who filed the case. Last month, five more Blackwater employees were killed in a helicopter crash. The company's owner, Erik Prince, has given lavishly to politicians, including former representative Tom DeLay, who left Congress in a lobbying scandal, and Duncan Hunter (\$1000 in 2004).

Blackwater is one of the companies pilloried in the movie Iraq for Sale: The War Profiteers. Save Our Forests and Ranchlands will show the film March 1 at 6:30 p.m. at Descanso Town Hall.

Wallar says the abbreviated environmental process is a "win-win-win situation for the community, county staff, and the developer." Potrero and environmentalists disagree. It appears the County's new fast-track process serves developers, not the public. ■

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

Chaos at MiraCosta

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southeast Oceanside, the largest of the three with 121 hilltop acres commanding a view of the Pacific; the Community Learning Center on Mission Avenue in downtown Oceanside, a center known for helping non-native speakers become fluent in English; and the San Elijo campus, 42 acres just off Interstate 5 on Manchester Avenue in the Cardiff-by-the-Sea section of Encinitas, adjacent to the San Elijo Lagoon.

MiraCosta levies taxes based on property values in exclusive enclaves such as Fairbanks Ranch and Rancho Santa Fe, and the yield makes it one of the richest half dozen community college districts in California. The college is set this spring to officially open a new \$7.6 million horticultural education building on the Barnard Drive campus. A National Education Association survey of salaries for fulltime community college professors puts MiraCosta professors at the top of the salary

scale not only in California but in the entire United States as well. The average was reported to be \$98,611 a year.

Victoria Muñoz Richart had become MiraCosta's president in August 2004, four years after she'd opened the doors as president of Cascadia Community College in Bothell, Washington, 20 miles northeast of Seattle.

As a teacher in K-12 and college, her subjects had ranged from classical ballet to bilingual education to techniques for working with the disabled. Her charm was legendary. MiraCosta was looking for a smooth extrovert to succeed Tim Dong, who had retired in June 2004 after ten years as MiraCosta president. He'd been dean of students at the California State University at Los Angeles.

Today, people who describe themselves as friends of Mira-Costa wonder if the board of trustees knew enough of Richart's philosophy of education when they made her the unanimous choice for the presidency. She had been the subject of an item in the February 2006 issue of the academic journal Leadership Abstract titled "Victoria Muñoz Richart and Embracing Chaos." In it, Richart said that teachers must "relish chaos as a creative force" and "trust, as the new sciences prove, that order will emerge from the chaos...."

She defined a leader as one who ensures that all team members are "well informed and possess the necessary skills for meaningful participation." She believed that "the power of multiple minds" of diverse and "cross-functional" backgrounds working together promotes "learning and collaboration," as opposed to "protect and attack."

But some would wonder if President Richart had not adopted the attack mode herself.

Aside from Kraskouskas, the fallout from the Palm Scheme also snared a popular vice president for instructional services, Julie Hatoff. Hatoff was placed on administrative leave in August. She had been at MiraCosta 23 years at the time and was earning nearly \$201,000 a year. She sent a memo about it to the faculty governing body, the Academic Senate, saying she'd been given a week, until September 1, to decide whether to take a financial settlement from the college. Hatoff hired the San Diego law firm Seltzer, Caplan, McMahon and Vitek to represent her. In the third week of September, one of her attorneys met with Academic Senate members and reported that, as recently as September 6, the district attorney's office had told him that Hatoff was not the target of an investigation.

By then, in response to a Public Records Act request from the North County Times, attorneys for the college had provided the name of the businessman involved in the Palm Scheme, Jack Wackerman, a former fertilizer company official. Horticultural faculty member Alleen Texeira was

on paid leave. And in December a gender-discrimination lawsuit would name another horticultural employee, Terry Riggs, as the person who had blown the whistle on the Palm Scheme to administrators.

Meanwhile, longtime Mira-Costa supporters were beginning to speak out. Among the most vocal was Jean Moreno, an alumna who had retired from the board in 2003 after 27 years. Her viewpoint was that the Palm Scheme was largely a concocted mini-scandal that Richart was using to dispatch people she no longer wanted around.

On October 3, the board of trustees passed a resolution of support for President Richart.

But faculty leaders called for a vote of no confidence in the president. And with the election coming up, they also sought to replace an incumbent, Henry Holloway, whom they viewed as an apologist for Richart. He'd been on the board 30 years. Judy Strattan, who spent 9 years at Mira-Costa as dean of students and left in 1987 to go on to two community college presidencies, the last in Barstow, decided to challenge Holloway. The biggest fund-raiser in the campaign, she became known as the faculty candidate. She won by a 60-40 margin.

As the momentum for a no-confidence vote built, Richart responded with a November 28 two-and-a-halfpage letter to "concerned fulltime faculty." She said that allegations being circulated



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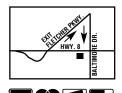
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Reader February 22, 2007

about her stemmed from a "distortion of actual events" and were based on "hearsay, rumor and misinterpretation of the facts," rendering them "untrue, and/or exaggerated to contribute to unrest."

The president said she was unable to refute many of the falsehoods because it would compromise the privacy rights of college employees. "Furthermore," she added, "the district attorney's office is now conducting the investigation of these matters and we cannot disclose any information that may affect the criminal investigation."

Two days later, the faculty revealed the results of balloting on a no-confidence resolution. Seventy-eight percent of the eligible voters had turned out. The vote was 106 to 8 for a declaration of no confidence.

Then, on January 16, 2007, at a meeting of the board of trustees, the board acknowledged that the college district had owned the palm trees all along. Item 1.3 in the board's agenda packet described the source of the trees. In 1997, a legal dispute had arisen between an Oceanside property owner and a tenant that involved, the agenda item said, quoting court documents, 'over 700 large Palm Trees, worth in excess of one million dollars' and approximately '2,400 containerized plants.' The agenda item continued, "During the course of this litigation...an oral agreement was made in February 1998 with the Horticulture Department at MiraCosta College to 'clean up the property and remove the trees and other

The board's resolution said that a "search of the agendas and minutes" from years past had revealed that trustees had never been asked to accept the donation of any trees. The recommendation was that the board do so now. It was also noted that the college had inventoried the trees in March 2006; MiraCosta had 2328 palms.

The agenda item did not address the "fraudulent payments" to the private businessman or whether any palm trees had ever been sold.

"If they didn't know how many they had," asks Jean Moreno, the former longtime boardmember, "how did they know how many were sold?"

Paul Levikow, the communications director in the

district attorney's office, said he could not confirm whether any individuals are the subject of an investigation in the Palm Scheme. "I can tell you the case has not been rejected, if I was able to acknowledge the

existence of such an investi-

gation," he said.

In other developments in the Horticulture Department, two employees, both female, have filed separate lawsuits alleging that their supervisor practiced gender discrimination in making their work

assignments. One, Emma Almendarez, named the college and several John Does as defendants in an action she filed October 6 in U.S. District Court in San Diego. She complained that her work assignments differed from

those of the men and that when she pointed this out, she was retaliated against.

The second employee, Karen Austin, who filed suit in superior court in Vista three days after Christmas, said campus officials ignored her com-

plaints. She charged that officials wanted to protect her boss, Terry Riggs, because he blew the whistle on the Palm

Riggs, now retired, did not return a call seeking comment. ■

Advertisement

"The Power that Made the Body Heals the Body!"

I want to give credit where credit is due. So perhaps a confession can help clear the air so there is no misunderstanding. Before I talk about my confession, though, let me say a few other things first.

Let me start by explaining the photo in this letter. Let's start with me. You know, when I meet people in town they usually say, "Oh yeah, I know you. You're Dr. Steve. I've seen your picture with that cute dog." Well, my dog is the one with the football. Fifteen years ago, I was finishing up a four-year tour of duty with the United States Navy. I had decided that when I was discharged I was going to become a Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff. I wanted to do

something that I thought would make a difference. About a month after being discharged, a life-changing event occurred. My wife, Jennifer (who was not my wife at the time), injured her back on the job. She's a veterinarian and was injured while restraining a large dog that did not want to be restrained. She called me and asked if I could take her to her chiropractor. She was in such bad shape that I had to literally carry her into the chiropractor's office. She was in tears, unsure if she could even work again because the pain was so bad. And she had trained a very, very long

time to become a veterinarian. Well, to make a long story short, fifteen minutes later she actually walked out of his office with almost no discomfort. At that point I completely changed direction in life and decided that Chiropractic was the way for me to go. So I decided to go to school and become one.

A few years later, after moving to San Diego, she reinjured herself. This time it seemed much worse. She saw orthopedic surgeons and neurologists, all of whom recommended surgery. I told her that if she was going to be married to a chiropractor, she had to at least consult with one before deciding on surgery. I was still in school at the time, so I got a referral from one of my instructors and away we went. She saw another chiropractor and decided on a chiropractic course of adjustments. Within a week she was back to her old self. She is able to continue her job. She can bowl, hike, lift weights, and do all the things that people with back injuries often cannot do. The dog in the picture is mine, and, yes, he receives chiropractic care. He gets chiropractic care, my wife gets chiropractic care, my son gets chiropractic care, and so does our cat!

It's funny how life works. Years ago I was carrying my soon-tobe wife into a chiropractor's office, and now I have people carried into my own office. People don't come to me just for back problems either. They come in to see me with their headaches, migraines, chronic pain, neck pain, shoulder/arm pain, whiplash from car accidents, backaches, ear infections, asthma, allergies, numbness in limbs, and athletic injuries, just to name a few.

Here's what some of my patients had to say:

"I'm sleeping better. I don't wake up at four in the morning anymore. I'm able to actually sleep in because my back doesn't hurt." - Elizabeth M.

"Dr. Steve helps our whole family feel better." - Andrea M.

"I stand straighter with chiropractic." - Frances H.

"Life is tolerable thanks to Dr. Steve's help." - Jane G.

Several times a day patients thank me for helping them with their health problems. But I can't really take the credit. My confession is that I've never healed anyone of anything. What I do is perform a specific spinal adjustment to remove nerve interference, and the body responds by *healing itself*. We remove interference to healing so that The Power that made the Body can heal the Body! We get tremendous results. It's as simple as that!



Many Americans no longer have health insurance, and those who do have found that their benefits are reduced. That's where I come in. Chiropractic actually helps you save money. Why? Studies show that many people actually pay less for their long-term overall health care expenses if they are seeing a chiropractor. Another way to save: studies show that chiropractic can double your immune capacity (your resistance) naturally and without drugs. The immune system fights colds, flus and other sicknesses. With a

higher resistance, you may not be running off to the doctor as much.

You Benefit from an Amazing Offer!

Look, it shouldn't cost you an arm and a leg to correct your health. If you mention this article by March 15, 2007, you will receive my entire New Patient Exam for \$27! That includes X-rays (if they are necessary) and examination (adjustments are not included). This exam could cost you \$150 or more elsewhere! You see, I'm not trying to seduce you to come see me with this low start-up fee only to make it up with hidden fees after that.

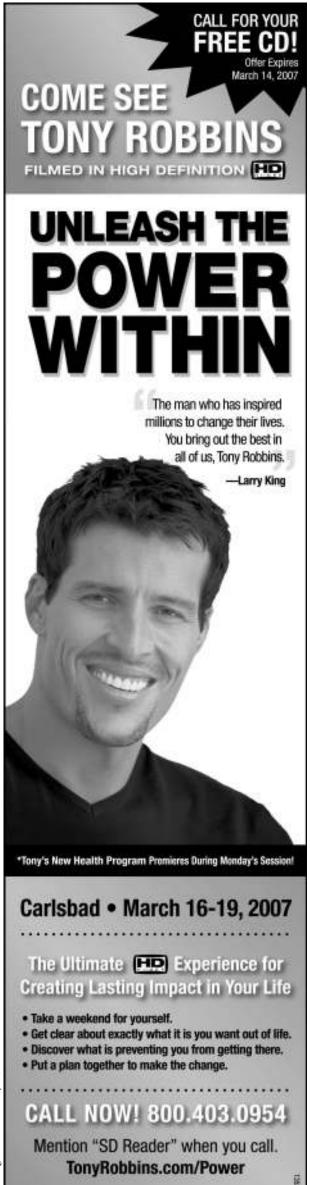
Great care at a great fee

Please, I hope that there is no misunderstanding about quality of care just because I have a lower fee. I've been entrusted to take care of tiny babies, elderly and everyone else in between. You'll get great care at a great fee. I practiced on Convoy Street in Kearny Mesa before moving to my present location, and we have been here for 7 years! My care is just as good as anyone else's; I just have that low fee to help more people who need care.

My office is both friendly and warm, and we try our best to make you feel right at home. We have a wonderful service at an exceptional fee. Our office is called HALEY FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC and it is at 4310 Genesee Ave., Suite 104 (we are across the street from Home Depot, right next to Conroy's Flowers and Supercuts, kitty corner from Hollywood Video). Our phone number is 858-974-1292. Call us today for an appointment. We can help you.

Dr. Steve Haley

P.S. When accompanied by the first, the second family member will receive this same exam for just \$17.



LETTERS

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

Healthy? Wealthy

As a vegetarian for 37 years (lacto, mostly vegan) who frequents Jimbo's, Whole Foods, Cream of the Crop, Henry's, and Trader Joe's, I found a lot of encouragement in what people said in the interviews ("Shopping List," Cover Story, February 15). Almost everyone is doing some or all of their shopping at natural food or specialty stores, buying organic produce and preparing meals at home instead of eating out a lot. Hopefully this is a valid reflection of society at large.

I want to let Woni Spotts know about two excellent sources for raw foods in San Diego. One is called Nature's First Law, based in El Cajon, and their website is rawfood.com. The other is Rancho's Natural Foods in North Park. The store is completely vegan, and they have a lot of prepared and packaged living foods. There are also three raw-food restaurants in San Diego County called Cilantro Live!, with a fourth soon to open in Hillcrest.

Health is our only real wealth.

Peter Soria Encinitas

It's The Law

As a resident of Nimitz Pointe apartments, I was adamantly dismayed at the portrayal of the property manager and the building itself ("Rape Was Just the Beginning," "City Lights," February 15). I've dealt with Vonetta Young for two years and found her to be quite reasonable. The events that took place were nothing short of a tragedy. My heart goes out to Karen Howes; that is a horrific ordeal for anyone to go through. That being said, the case has not been closed, as it is still under investigation. In this day and age, people will do anything to swindle money, and one cannot be careful enough. Ms. Young is within her legal rights, and it may sound callous, but that is the society we live in. For better or worse, legally binding agreements are there for a reason.

Name Withheld By Request

Need A Sign?

I want to thank Matthew Alice ("Straight From the Hip," February 15) for providing your readers information about the Hotel San Diego sign, which I helped to rescue off the hotel in June 2005 before the feds tore the building down. Having lived in San Diego 21 years and knowing this sign was a "beacon" that could be seen as far away as Point Loma, I didn't want to see the art deco sign implode with the building.

Thanks to funds from the Downtown Partnership, county supervisor Greg Cox, the City of San Diego, and the NTC Foundation, it has been rescued and is now stored at the former Naval Training Center in the Civic, Arts and Cultural District, awaiting restoration and a new mission.

The original plan when it was hoisted off the roof was to cut it into eight-footby-six-foot pieces, crate it up, and store it. When it was on the crane about two feet above State Street, the contractor said, "If we take it apart, it will fall apart... where do you want it?" Well, I scrambled, and thanks to Councilmember Michael Zucchet, I got a police escort to have it brought over to NTC on a flatbed past the airport on Harbor Drive. Thankfully, we have these expansive gardens behind the officer's quarters to place it. There was no building big enough here to store it.

Once restored, whether it will be sited at NTC or elsewhere in the city, I don't know. The main task at hand was to save it before it was lost to history.

If any of your readers know of anyone who would like to restore and place it somewhere, please refer them to me. I am not wedded to keeping it, just making sure it is preserved. After all, it's our city's namesake

hotel: Hotel San Diego. Alan Ziter NTC Foundation

Unfulfilled, Insecure

In response to the letter "Einstein Was Once a Kid" (February 15) — are you serious? I read this letter thinking this must be a joke. Any woman who thinks her marriage is nothing without children has an unfulfilled marriage that won't be fixed with children. If she also believes her husband would leave her at a moment's notice should a younger woman with bigger breasts come along, she is a very insecure, unhappy woman who's made a poor choice in husbands.

I applaud Barbarella for stating what so many of us are thinking — control the kids or kindly remove them from the area that we are all *sharing* — it's just common courtesy.

Jennifer S. via e-mail

Dangerous Intolerance

This letter is in response to the February 15 letter entitled "Einstein Was Once a Kid" (regarding Barbarella's article entitled "The Mouths of Babes," "Diary of a Diva," February 8).

Ms. Rockwell's letter was one of the most mean-spirited letters I have ever read. To suggest that couples who do not have children (either by choice or by circumstance) have no meaning in their lives is both ignorant and reprehensible.

One of the more vicious comments, "A person is only fooling themselves if they think a marriage without kids is a marriage," simply makes me feel concerned for the children who belong to this person.

It is people like this with no tolerance for others who are such a danger to our society. I was surprised by the admission of a graduate degree because I generally associate higher levels of education with at least some modicum of empathy, but obviously this is not the case with Ms. Rockwell. The truth, Ms. Rockwell, is that children are better with humane parents or those parents who are able to realize that their way is not the only acceptable way to live.

You sound like a very angry person. I hope your children are not bearing the brunt of this anger.

Rich Johnson via e-mail

The Definition Of Paradise

In response to "Einstein Was Once a Kid" (Letters, February 15).

Dear Ms. Rockwell, In your letter to the editor you claimed to understand Barbarella's viewpoint regarding child-free (not childless) living that she outlined in her "Diary of a Diva" column on February 8. However, in reading your letter it is painfully clear that you not only missed Barbarella's point, you actually impaled yourself on your own. You ask what keeps marriages strong and suggest that children are the only true tie that binds. You dismiss out of hand the intimacy of "good sex" but go on to state that you would be "philandering about" if you weren't married. Why not philander with your husband? After all, that's where babies come from! You also suggested that child-free couples might still consider marriage for the paltry economic advantages. But the economics of marriage are something for stay-at-home moms such as yourself to console themselves with while they languish in unhappy marriages. It is tempting here to describe in vivid detail the happy, child-free marriage my husband and I share. It is equally tempting to provide a vigorous defense for those couples who choose not to contribute another pair of dirty diapers to the landfill. In case you haven't heard it, overpopulation is a problem. Instead, I will simply leave you with a question, Ms. Rockwell: Do you know why that place Adam and Eve lived was called Paradise? Because there were no kids!

P.S.: Einstein's son was a schizophrenic.

Janet N. S. via e-mail

In Support Of Breeders

Okay, enough's enough. At first I found myself nodding my head, chuckling and agreeing with Barbarella's anti-misbehaving-children rant in the February 8 *Reader* ("Diary of a Diva"). But once the article got into the calling of heterosexual people "breeders"

(clever, I guess some think) and of kids as "its" (as in "not removing your child... and taking 'it' to your car or your home"), you cross the line. Hey now, we're the normal ones, we "breeders." And that's not derogatory, it's just plain fact. And we were all kids once, not "its" but hims or hers. Things are going too far as it is, the dehumanizing of unborn "its." You know, "fetuses" and all that pretending a child is something else.

One more thing, what about tolerance? Remember that? Tolerance of a child misbehaving or of parents so strapped with all the hard work and often sleep deprivation it takes to raise a kid or two or three? I agree, many parents are inconsiderate, but unless you've been there, take a breath or two before you criticize. Let's not stereotype all parents as some kind of superior, "look at my amazing creation" selfcentered "breeders."

Bruce Johnson via e-mail

Jeffrey Dahmer Was Once A Kid

To Ms. Rockwell (Letters, February 15), you have offended me and possibly many other persons who read the Reader with your ignorance and lack of insight in the minds of the child-free. I am child-free, and I am glad to say that my life will not be tied down by recitals, school plays, fundraisers, attitudes, tantrums, and rebellions. You say that life is meaningless if you don't have children. I'm sure Julia Child and the Brontë sisters, amongst many other childless women, would not appreciate that.

A marriage is above all else a unity of a lifelong commitment to the one you have chosen to spend that lifetime with. Couples get married because they love each other and are committed to loving each other. Kids have no factor into marriage. Statistics show that children born out of wedlock are on the rise, so obviously you don't need to be married to reproduce. So saying that a marriage without children isn't really a marriage, go talk to the ones who are childless because of medical and/or hereditary circumstances. These people only have their spouses. They will mourn and grieve over not having children, but their spouses are right there with them, comforting them and accepting the fact and will continue on with life together, because, again, that's what marriage is all about. Unity.

You say that inventors and discovers were once children. So are and were child killers, serial rapists, and murderers. You can't throw that out without admitting to the fact that the most evil people in the world were once children too

Don't you worry about the next generation paying for the Social Security of tomorrow. The child-free are a minority. There is no need to raise an alarm over a few people deciding not to have children for their own reasons that are none of anyone's business. Deciding to be child-free is a personal matter and should not be scoffed at, scorned at, nor pressured as to the reasons why by people who, if they keep throwing out the reasons why they should have children, are obviously regretting having children.

You say everyone is replaceable except a mother. I'm sure foster parents, adoptive parents, and guardians will take exception. Not to mention the fathers that you have conveniently left out. Mothers abandon their children too, so therefore if a father is replaceable, then so is the mother.

Once again on the subject of marriage, you compare a child-free marriage to a bigbreasted woman who is just shy of a divorce. Sounds like you have some insecurities that you need to work on, not writing a letter to the *Reader* about. Barbarella was writing about being child-free, not marriage, so why are you more obsessed over marriage than being child-free?

The child-free want to be child-free because having children is a life-changing experience. We don't want to give that up. Yes, you may call us selfish and self-absorbed, but remember that everyone has a life and they have the right to decide how they want to live. So if there are no children involved, then so be it.

We won't have to worry

about finding a babysitter on a Friday night if we decide to go out. We don't have to worry about taking time off work, using up our sick days to take care of a child's illness and then coming to work sick ourselves because we used them all up on kids. We don't have to worry about a child's college tuition; instead we can use the money to go on a spur-of-the-moment cruise or even start saving for retirement at an early age.

Deciding to be child-free is not an easy decision to make. It takes a long time and a lot of thought to make a major decision like this. It doesn't mean that we hate kids. We love kids, because if they start acting out, we just pass them back to their parents and go home to peace and quiet.

Megan Acerra via e-mail

With Respect

That Brandon Vera article by Ollie was fantastic ("Don't Fight Mad," Cover Story, February 8). Very detailed and, more importantly, very respectful of the sport of mixed martial arts. Props to Ollie for not mocking or treating the sport like a circus. Ollie needs to keep more Ultimate Fighting Championship profiles like that coming.

Paul via e-mail

A Friend Of Lake Murray

Thank you for the "City Lights" feature "Turnstiles for Lake Murray?" by Joe Deegan (February 8). Our mayor's effort to hold a tight budget is understandable; I am requesting his further review on this issue. I support keeping the San Diego city lakes program within the Water Department.

A disabled, retired man, I go to Lake Murray every day with my service dog. This municipally operated reservoir program is a national model; it has been a safe, tranquil, well-managed jewel in the city for my 21 years here. I consider myself among the many friends of Lake Murray.

Turnstile gates on our parks are not the answer. Parks are too valuable a resource to children, seniors, indeed, each of us. We are asking for the mayor to re-

continued on page 75

STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP



MATTHEW ALICE

~

Matt

Illustration by Rick Geary

How old is Cal Worthington? I'm 65, and I remember watching him sell cars on TV ads when I was a kid. As seen on TV lately, he looks pretty good. Or has he been cloned?

- Roy, National City

Cal and that blasting banjo music... He's got a knack for sponsoring the quietest movies ever made, I think. You might sleep through the movie, but you're not going to miss the commercial if Cal can help it. Can't tell you how many times Pa Alice has leaped up off the couch out of a sound sleep about two in the morning thinking he was being mugged by a bluegrass band.

If anybody has the bucks to pay for a clone, it's old Cal. Rich? Man, he's rich. Whew! The richest eighth-grade dropout in the world, I'd bet. And the rich always look better than you and I. It's the law. On his next birthday, according to all published biographies, Calvin Coolidge Worthington will be 87. After abandoning school and kicking around Oklahoma for a while, he was a WWII bomber pilot, won the Distinguished Flying Cross, then in the late '40s sold his first car from a space he appropriated at the curb in front of the Corpus Christi, Texas, post office. That's where Cal found out he had the ability to talk you out of your shoes, then sell them back to you.

The original Cal could have been the inspiration for "Would You Buy a Used Car from This Man?" He once groused to a judge that if he was forced to explain in detail a carbuyer's financial obligations, it would be bad for business. He cleaned up his act and started slinging metal all over California. And he's been on TV as long as there has been TV. Cal first hit the small screen in 1950. He's most famous for his dog Spot — never a dog, always something like a snake or a water buffalo. That was Cal's swipe at a competitor, a dealer whose TV ads included the family dog. A portion of the 405 freeway in Long Beach is named for Cal, which is appropriate, since that road usually looks like a big used-car lot anyway.

Heymatt:

Why does Rx mean prescription?

— Wendy, San Diego

Rx is shorthand for *recipe*, the Latin imperative meaning, "Take it!" What passed for doctors in medieval times wrote *Recipe* at the top of a page of instructions for patients. Eventually that was shortened to an R with a bar through it, maybe like a quickly written R and e.

Dear Matthew Alice:

There's a strange formation at the base of a cliff in Solana Beach, about ½-mile north of the Fletcher Cove ramp. The bluff has eroded in recent months to reveal a huge concrete-like mass of tubular structures. Is it the remnants of something man-made — an early attempt to support the bluff? The mass does have some holes in it that are about the size and shape of 2x4s, and there are circular holes in the bluff face behind it. Did some sort of sea life create the tunnel-like shapes? Was it once completely submerged?

— S. Beckman, Del Mar

We had trouble assembling a quorum for this one. Team Matthew Alice is usually up for anything that smells like beach, but the elves have gone to Florida to claim they're the father of Anna Nicole's baby. And Grandma is gaping at the Food Channel, where some big, fat guy in a chef suit is cooking wontons one by one in a laser beam. I'm not kidding. He's holding the things between his thumb and index finger, and all kinds of smoke and spit are flying off the wontons. Does Sears sell Kenmore wonton lasers? Foodies have finally come unhinged, I think. But Grandma's hooked on their shows. Watched some chocolate-cooking contest the other night, and the next day she fed us trout stacked with alternating squares of Hershey bars and fried basil, sitting in a puddle of what she called a mango and cauliflower reduction. Claimed it was all the rage in Aspen or someplace like that. We're thinking about disabling that channel before she can do any more damage.

So we were left to dial up the big brains in various departments at the City of Solana Beach and ask what's up with the concrete. And it definitely is a big pile of concrete with the fossil holes of old dissolved lumber, a kind of prehistoric rebar, I guess. The glob was poured to fill the entrance to a cave and help prevent cliff erosion. No one knows exactly when that particular artifact was created, but we were assured it predates the formation of the Coastal Commission in 1976. Nobody would ever get away with the project these days. Apparently it's just one of many long-ago attempts to keep the city from crumbling into the Pacific. Oddly enough, Fletcher Cove and the surrounding beach were created in the 1920s by Ed Fletcher and a guy with a fire hose. They washed away the cliffs until they had a little inlet and beach, probably to increase the value of some piece of property Fletcher owned.

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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SportingBox

By Patrick Daugherty

White Crane Spreads Its Wings Three Years Later

hree years ago I wrote a column about taking up the practice of tai chi and said I'd report back after a year. I did and promised an update in 12 months time. Did that too. Which brings us to the present, three years in. For readers who haven't seen the previous columns, follows is a recap.

The beginning: I have only two strong memories about martial arts. Number one, I was enrolled, if not attending, Grossmont Junior College and living in a Fifth Avenue flophouse with two other students. One roommate, Dick Allen, was a huge, violent man, who practiced karate every afternoon, then cruised downtown bars at night, got drunk, and picked fights with hapless civilians. I liked him.

The other memory is graduate school in San Francisco and walking past Huntington Park to class. In the mornings, particularly early in the morning, the park was populated by elderly Chinese practicing their tai chi. Men and women, dressed in street clothes, silently moving together like an impossibly slow-flying flock of geese.

And that's it, which is not a great deal. So, I was surprised to find myself wanting to take a tai chi class. I thought, "Can croquet and pottery be far behind?'

One year later: Yang style tai chi chuan has three sections and 108 movements. Within one or two decades I should be able to demonstrate for you the Grasp Sparrow's Tail, White Crane Spreads its Wings, Embrace Tiger Return to Mountain, Needle to the Bottom of the Sea, Wave Hands Through Clouds (9 times), and Snake Creeps Low. Please check back then.

It took ten months to get through section 1. Your mileage will vary. When I say, "get through," I mean able to slog my way from beginning to end in the grossest possible manner. I mean, rough cut, hippo-in-ballet-shoes, lurching from one foot to the next, moving twice too fast, pushing make that shoving feet, arms, and torso around in a cloddish approximation of my teacher. Ten months, one section, the shortest section.

I started going to more classes — four per week — to get over the hump. This is a good deal more regularity than I'm used to. Three of those classes are at 7 a.m., which means I get up at 5:30 a.m. on those days, and considering that sleeping in is one of the most valuable trophies a writer possesses, 5:30 a.m. says more than one might ordinarily suppose.

Two years later: I'm back to three days a week, but practice more often on off days. Turns out the world of tai chi is like the other worlds humans create. I have listened to stories about great masters and their smoking, drinking, fornicating, power grabbing, money grubbing, back stabbing — acting exactly like the rest of us. Becoming an expert in tai chi chuan doesn't make you a good person; more precisely, for some it does, for some it doesn't.

In terms of physical health and wellbeing, after a considerable investment of time and energy, I can say I feel better. Not much better, but I have more energy, more lightness, a happier mood, just enough to know it's real. An equivalent amount of time spent in a gym or on a track or on a bicycle would have returned greater physical improvements.

Three years later, the present: We finished the three sections and 108 moves on the right side. I can do them in the correct order in a gross way. We've been working on the left side for the past six months. This goes slowly. We're spending more time on breathing, balance, and moving chi. We're beginning the practice of inner tai chi. I don't have a clue.

Fellow students have become individuals. I know their stories and they know mine. Two have become friends. We have dinner together, go to concerts, take bike rides, often show up at the same events. I feel I can count on them more than I can count on friends I've known for decades.

This is what I've acquired from tai chi world since I walked through the door three years ago: Fifteen tai chi books. Two tai chi calendars. One tai chi magazine subscription. Forty-three tai chi reprints. Four tai chi DVDs. Two tai chi VCR tapes. Three Buddhist magazine subscriptions. Twenty-five Buddhist books. Two pounds fancy/smancy teas from Celadon Fine Teas. One clay teapot. One ceramic teapot. Two porcelain tea cups. Twenty pounds brown rice. One odious lump of rock candy in the shape of a sitting Buddha. One zafu. One zabuton. One tai chi ruler. Three tai chi T-shirts. One oversized writing journal. One copy of the I Ching. One set of Tao stones. One MindfulClock software program. One figurine depicting a white-bearded Chinese man finishing a Flying Diagonal. One rice cooker. One vegetable steamer. Early bed time. Early rise time.

Can croquet and pottery be far behind?

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SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: Episcopal Address: 743 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-459-

Founded locally: 1907 Senior pastor: Randal Gardner Congregation size: about 1300 Staff size: about 12 Sunday school enrollment: about 60

Annual budget: \$1.4 million Weekly giving: around \$15,500 Singles program: no

Dress: fairly dressy, lots of jackets and ties Diversity: mostly Caucasian

Sunday worship: Rite I, 7:30 a.m.; Rite II, 10 a.m. Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 20 minutes Website: www.stjamesbythesea.org

Swaths of rough white stucco surrounded the stained-glass windows at St. James by the Sea. The windows — saints above and the life of Christ below — were tastefully small, yet rendered dramatic through their depiction of deep

shadow. After that, the chief impression was the dark of mahogany: rough and blocky in the rafters of the ceiling, smooth and carved in the woodwork surrounding the Sanctuary.

(At least a third of that Sanctuary was filled by the choir, which processed with five acolytes, a verger, a fivemember altar party, Reverend Randal Gardner, and Reverend Julie Christian.) Only the honeycolored Christus Rexhung behind the altar and surmounted by an aqua canopy — broke the tone.

"O God," prayed Gardner at the Collect, who, before the passion of your...Son, revealed His glory upon the holy mountain, grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of His countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross and be changed into His likeness from glory to glory."

The mountain was Mount Tabor: the rev-

elation was the Transfiguration. But before the meditation on glory, Gardner gave a nod to the approach of Lent, the "season of penitence, for turning our lives around." When the children came forward before heading off to Sunday school, he gave them a project: "On a piece of paper...or on a computer...make the prettiest picture you can of the word 'Alleluia.' Take that word and fold it up very neatly, and put it away in a drawer someplace. Remember where you put it, so you can bring it out again on Easter — because for the next 40 days, during the whole season of Lent, we won't use that word, 'Alleluia,' in church."

The Old Testament reading described Moses's transfiguration after he received the commandments on Mount Sinai: "the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God." So astonishing was his visage that he had to wear a veil, lest the Israelites be frightened.

Moses showed up at Christ's transfiguration, along with Elijah, as noted by the hymn that followed: "With Moses and Elijah nigh/ Th'incarnate Lord holds converse high/ And from the cloud the Holy One/ Bears record to the only Son." (Just when you thought the huge sound of both organ and choir couldn't get any huger, the fourth verse rang out a powerful countermelody.)

Saint Paul took those frightened Israelites to task in the second reading: "To this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside.... When one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed."

The Gospel told the story. Jesus took Peter, James, and John up on the mountain and was transfigured: "The appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white.... A cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to Him!""

Author and artist Gertrude Mueller-Nelson gave the sermon; Gardner took a place in the congregation to listen. She began by asking, "What is the connection between the transfig-

uration and the agony in the garden? In both cases, Jesus takes the same three people with him."These three "begin to morph into types of ourselves: ordinary fellows, trying to get it. Ordinary guys who don't understand why Jesus has to suffer. They don't know how to handle mystery or the possibility of suffering or the threat of change. But transfiguration...means seeing things differently." She described iconic representations of the moment in which Christ content...... $\star \star 1/2$ delivery..... $\bigstar^1/2$ was surrounded by an Liturgy.....★★★ almond-shaped halo, formed from the overlap of two circles. "In that...overlap, traditionally, the religious experience occurs.... This is our world and heaven overlapping. This is when we resolve, for a moment, the opposites we love to cherish, where suffering and bad breaks also show us the love of God." And "once we've been knocked back and seen



St. James by the Sea

Episcopal Church

Sermon

see one another, too. Now we can go forth to love and serve the Lord."

Christ, now we can really

Music permeated the service: instrumentals, hymns sequences, and arrangements; sometimes simple, sometimes ornate. The late Larry King played the dedication concert on the church's pipe organ in 1976, and his arrangement of that Gospel text provided the Offertory Anthem. A high-drama performance from both choir and organ poured forth over taped sound effects reminiscent of old sci-fi films: keening minor chords; undulating, wandering tones. The effect was otherworldly.

What happens when we die?

"We remain engaged with life," said Gardner. "There is a transition from this body into some other kind of existence that is empowered by God's energy, God's life force. And I think we retain consciousness, or at least participate in consciousness with our unique identity intact."

- Matthew Lickona

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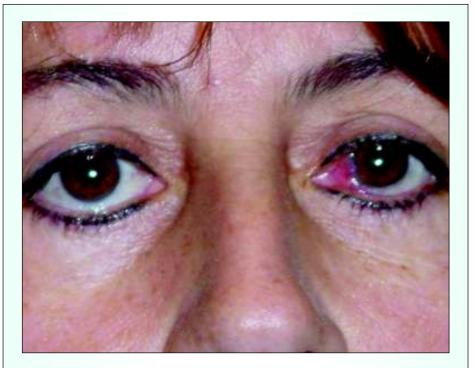
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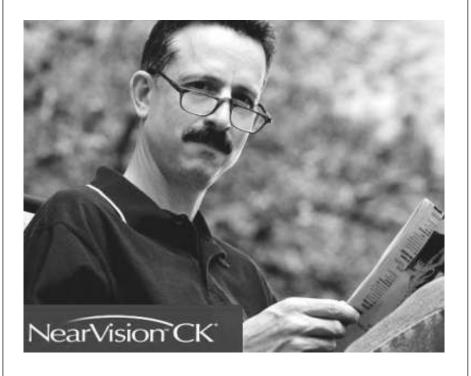
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BestBuys

-EVE KELLY

Our 15-year-old wedding ceremony VHS tape sits in the bottom drawer of my bedside table. The mini DV tape of our first child's birth and baptism lies in the inner door of my secretary desk. And a handful of nameless tapes lay scattered on top of my bureau. This is not the home of an organized memory recorder.

But one of my many resolutions for 2007 was to preserve the family's momentous occasions more securely. Last month, it was the family photos, which were moved from the peel and stick photo albums of the past decade into

leather scrapbooks. This month, I want to transfer all the home videos onto a more durable medium. I found just the man for the job in Sal

Brunetto, owner of Brunetto's Video Services (858-693-4334) in Scripps Ranch. "It was a hobby of mine that turned into a passion," said Brunetto. "When I was working in Okinawa in 1999, there was a TV station that I started to volunteer at to pass time at night, and I loved it."

In 2005, Brunetto opened his own business. "We do everything from as small as an actual tape repair all the way up to a full-blown production, like weddings and commercials. We do audio to CD conversions. A lot of lawyers come with minicassette tapes, and I put those to CD, or I clean them up because often the audio is not the greatest. We do VHS tapes, 8-millimeter tapes, mini DV tapes, and we can transfer them to DVD or VHS, though usually people want DVDs. One of our biggest conversions right now is from the tape, because a lot of their camcorders have died, and nobody wants to pay for a camcorder that is not a new digital camcorder. And we also do 8-millimeter and 16-millimeter film to DVD and

Are the 8-millimeter film and the 16millimeter film the grainy, silent home videos you see from the

mid-20th century? "Yes, most of them were," he answered, "though there are a few out there from the mid- to late '70s that did have sound on them. We do those, too, but they take longer. When

we do film without sound, we do a digital capture, frame by frame. If the film has sound, we do an analog capture because it has to play with the sound; you can't stop it frame by frame. The bad thing with film is that it is old and brittle, and it starts to crumble away. The projector we use has pressure rollers: a soft spongy roller that feeds the film in, instead of gear motors that guide the film in. So it won't tear up the film. And we use an LED ray, which is cool to the touch, so in the event that the film does stop in the

projector, it will not burn. The old-style

"After 10 to 15 years, it is recommended to look at your videos. They will actually start to fade away."

projector bulb creates a lot of heat. We have done film from all the way back to the '30s. It's pretty amazing."

With technology constantly changing, what do you recommend for customers sav ing their special-occasion videos?

"There are a couple different ways that we can do it," answered Brunetto. We can put it straight onto a hard drive, and at that point the customer can always access it and burn it to whatever the new media is at that time. The other way is to put it to DVD. They last for quite a long time."

Brunetto explained why VHS tapes will wear out. "The difference between a DVD and a tape is that a tape actually runs across a tape head when it is played. There is actual physical contact to the tape every time you play it. A DVD has just a laser light that is hitting it. So the tape will

actually wear. After 10 to 15 years, it is recommended to look at your videos. They will actually start to fade

away. I have seen 20-year-old tapes that are blurry; all the colors have bled together."

Is there anything you can do about the tape once it gets to that point?

"Well we can capture what is there," he said, "and we can some-

times do some color correction, though it is not 100 percent. We can't put back what time has taken away. That's why it is beneficial to look at your tapes and see if they are starting to degrade to the point where you can't watch them."

Brunetto's also offers a photo keepsake service. "We do a lot of photo montages: slides and pictures from special occasions like birthdays, weddings, and anniversaries. We also do memorial videos and tribute videos, and they are tearjerkers, the greatest thing around. I love doing them." Each slide, four-by-six or eightby-seven, is **95 cents** plus a set-up fee. How long does the transfer process

"If it is just one tape, it can be done literally within hours. For a rush job, I can usually do a 24-hour turnaround."

"A simple transfer, a preservation-type DVD where you put it in and it just plays from start to finish, is about \$20. The price goes up depending on editing, covers, and the wrapping. For \$30, you will get a DVD with chapter points. For film transfers, there is a setup fee of \$20, the DVD cost of \$30, and then a per-foot charge of 14 cents. The three-inch, 8-millimeter films are basically 50-foot reels, so the per-foot charge comes to about \$7."

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- 1. VHS tapes
- 2. Film reel



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bv Barbarella

Horror in Clairemont

There are no good girls gone wrong, just bad girls found

— Mae West

en and I sat on the bench in the entryway to the theater. We rested our backs against a poster for a new adapted comic-book flick starring Nicholas Cage. For a Friday night, the place was desolate. Then again, it was

Flasks are so
convenient, so
functional, how is
it that I don't own
one? Luckily, Jen
had several to
choose from, and a
fully stocked
liquor cabinet.

only 4 p.m.

I elbowed Jen and, with wild eyes, called her attention to a group of ladies walking in the door. Their pitch-black, canary-yellow, and carrot-orange hair soared high above their heads (I suspected Aqua-Net), their lips were hot pink, and their eyelids were a striking sky blue. I had no doubt that if I was to shout, "Gladys, Ethel, Marge!" at least one of them, smacking gum in her mouth, would trot on over and say, "What can I do ya for, hon?"

Clairemont was alien to me, but I welcomed the change. I'd grown accustomed to the cookie-cutter, tits-on-a-stick bimbettes of Fashion Valley who are forever remaking themselves into clones of Hollywood's Miss Moron of the Moment. This theater couldn't have been more than five miles from Fashion Valley, but it felt as though I'd been plucked from Anywhere, Southern California, and dropped into Bowling Alley, Middle America.

Jen chose the theater because of its proximity to her house, which is where we'd agreed to meet before the movie. Because her man can't handle horror (a predicament to which I can relate — David won't even watch *Scary Movie*, which is

only a spoof of the genre), Jen asked me to join her in watching some freaky looking film called *The Messengers*, about a paranormal-sensing kid. The preview on *rottentomatoes.com* looked unimpressive at best, but because of the hotness factor of Dylan McDermott and the amusement potential of the hokey dialogue, I accepted her invitation with enthusiasm.

The flasks were Jen's idea. Leave it to a redhead to add a dash of naughty spice to an otherwise innocent brunette excursion. I chastised myself for not having thought of it first, even though alcohol has only recently replaced more adventurous substances as my drug of choice. Flasks are so convenient, so functional, how is it that I don't own one? Luckily, Jen had several to choose from, and a fully stocked liquor cabinet.

Jen selected two shiny silver canisters and produced a funnel from a kitchen cabinet. When she asked me to choose my poison, I stared dumbly at the vast selection. I know drinks by their bar names only, things like "cosmopolitan" and "chocolate monkey." I don't know what goes *in* them because I never have to *make* them. I recognized the Maker's Mark bottle because that's the one David gets each year and fills (he would say "infuses") with vanilla beans, caramelized figs, and cinnamon. All I know about the beverage is that it's not vodka. Jen saw me eyeing the label, grabbed the bottle, and began funneling. "This will be great with

coke," she said. My ears perked up for a moment but then I realized she was talking about the soda. *Probably for the best*, I thought. *I hate it when people talk during movies*.

For the second flask, I chose Baileys Irish Cream, a fallback in case I didn't like the movie-theater cocktail Jen had planned for the other stuff. I often have a glass of Baileys on the rocks while flying, so I knew it would be safe to drink straight (by "safe," I mean it wouldn't make me gag or hack as most anything hard on its own tends to do).

"We won't have to worry about spending lotsa money on stale popcorn, because..." I said, digging around in my purse. "I packed us a nut sack!" I lifted a large Ziploc baggie filled with roasted almonds and peanuts and let out a high-pitched cackle. Jen smiled crookedly and lifted her eyebrows as if to say, "Are we 12?"

I never let on that I agree with David when he says I'm uptight, but I do. I mean, I am. Uptight, that is. It didn't matter that it was early on a weekday, or that the show we were going to see appeared only as a faint blip on the buzz radar — it was opening day, so I *needed* to be there at least an hour early. Jen and I nestled into our seats (well, she seemed to nestle, while I made sure none of my exposed skin came into contact with the contaminated fabric on the seat or armrests).

Jen had never been to a movie with me before, so I felt compelled to share my





Personal Pre-Show Countdown. "See, we have 45 minutes before the movie starts. So in 20, no, in 25...actually, 20 is best because then I'll want to go again before the previews, which should be in another 10 after that, but anyway, I'm going to go to the bathroom in 20 minutes, and then again 10 minutes before the movie. Okay?" Jen eyed me warily, as if she was Sigourney Weaver, and I was a dark room from which she expected an alien monster to suddenly appear, shrieking and gnashing its fangs. Then she reached into her bag and retrieved a flask.

"Ah, good idea," I said, pining for normalcy. There were only four other people in the theater, and they were five rows in front of us. Still, I bit the inside of my cheek in apprehen-

sion while Jen poured some of the not-vodka into my soda. When the flask disappeared again, my sigh of relief was so loud that two of the people in front turned around. I took a sip. It tasted like spicy cinnamon soda. "Aw, man, this is totally going to throw off my pee schedule," I grumbled. Jen smiled politely, as if she knew exactly what I meant

Minutes before the

movie began, a gaggle of girls filled the first two rows, giggling and chattering on their cell phones. When the title sequence rolled, the phones were still glowing. Just as I'd suspected, despite my pre-pees, a quarter of my drink and a light buzz into the movie, I had to go. Coincidentally, my bladder and the other patrons' patience for the noisy, fidgety girls up front

reached their capacity at the same time — I'm not the only one who had to

Someone had already made a preemptive complaint before the film rolled and the girls had been warned. On my way to the restroom, I flagged down a theater employee and said, "Yo, theater 14, chicks up front won't shut it." By the time I returned to my seat, they were gone, and loudly whispered "Thank you's" came from every direction. I snuck out the flask of Baileys, took a swig, and made myself as comfortable as I could while still keeping a safe distance from the germ-infested seat beneath me.

"Man, that movie sucked," I said as we exited the theater. Before we made it as far as the main entrance, we bumped into

two little old ladies.

"Do you know what this movie is about?" asked the one with blue hair. She gestured at the marquees, which was scrolling "Pursuit of Happyness."

"I think it's a Will Smith movie," I said. "Something about a guy true story, I read it in a

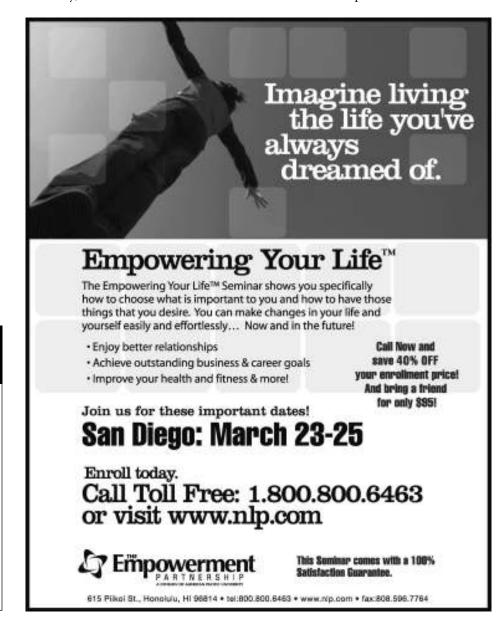
magazine — who was, like, homeless or something and had a kid, but he perseveres and prevails. I haven't seen it, but I heard it's good."

"What do you think, Trudy?" Blue Hair asked her blonde buddy. "How about this one next?"

"Sure, why not?" I turned and whis-

pered to Jen, "Oh, my God, they're theater hopping! I bet they've been here all day doing a movie marathon on the same

Jen watched the ladies disappear into the darkness and said, "I wonder what they've got in those big purses." ■





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You'll Never Find a Bet t



At night, the exterior of Kearny Mesa Bowl is not inviting. Set toward the back of a big parking lot on the south side of Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, about a block west of Convoy, the bowling alley occupies a white box of a building, adorned only by blocky neon letters: KM in powder blue, and BOWL in a shade of sapphire so dark it's almost menacing. The parkinglot lights do little to illuminate the façade, and the interior, visible through the small set of glass doors, looks dim.

Opened in 1976, this is one of two bowling alleys left in the city of San Diego. (The other is Mira Mesa Lanes, owned by the same partnership.) To longtime local bowlers, the statistic is heartbreaking. As recently as the early '80s, they could choose among 30 to 40 facilities countywide and find plenty of companionship at each. The San Diego Women's Bowling Association in 1986 counted 26,000 members, and about 40,000 men belonged to a separate group. Thousands of junior bowlers composed yet a third organization. But today a total of only 8500 individuals belong to the one entity — the United States Bowling Congress — into which the previous three have merged.

You might expect the interior of the Kearny Mesa facility on an average Thursday night to be bleak. At the entrance the glass is tinted, cloaking the activity inside. But open one of the doors and a bright,

"If you move to a new t

ter Pal than a Bowler



Brunswick Recreation Center, Chula Vista

noisy scene is revealed, clusters of players congregating at the head of every one of the 40 gleaming lanes, a couple of hundred bowlers in all. Johnny Humble, the general manager of the Kearny Mesa and Mira Mesa facilities, says that his lanes are full every Thursday night from six to nine — as well as every other night of the workweek. "I'm sold out till May. I have no [open] lanes. People call every night, looking for lanes, and we have to tell 'em to try at nine o'clock." Even then, league players fill some of the lanes. Big chunks of the weekends are sold out, too.

I met Humble at the center in November to talk about bowling in San Diego. Humble, 41, was born in Pomona, the youngest of five. When he was 3, he told me, his mother let him watch her play with her ladies' bowling league. "The next week she got a babysitter for me. All my brothers and sisters were in school." When

the sitter wasn't watching, Humble slipped out and found his way back to the bowling center, a journey of a mile or so. "I walked over a major street. When I found where she was bowling, I just sat down behind her lane. It took her about ten minutes to notice me."

Soon the tyke was heading for the bowling center even when his mother wasn't there. "The guys at the desk would call the police, who would come get me. They'd take me home." But Johnny would return, and the bowling center personnel began to let him throw a lightweight ball. "They'd give me a soda. Call my mom, and she'd come get me." When he was five, Humble's family moved to Escondido, and his mother, an accountant, began working at Palomar Lanes, cattycorner from Escondido Bowl across Centre City Parkway. Today Humble shakes his head at the thought of this abundance. The town had

36,000 people, yet supported two thriving bowling alleys, cheek by jowl. Humble was competing in leagues by the time he was five or six, and throughout grade school and high school he excelled at the sport. He still does. He reached into a drawer, pulling out a box that contained a silver ring, set with a large red stone and a solitary diamond, his latest prize for bowling a perfect 300-point game. "You can get one [ring] per calendar year." Humble's won so many he's lost count.

There was a time when he was young, Humble said, when he thought of becoming a professional bowler. But pros travel all the time, and they don't make that much money, and "it takes balls to be out there." Furthermore, Humble always found a way to make money from bowling within San Diego County. When he was 12, he began keeping score for the adults at Palomar Bowl. (This was before there

town, go join a league. You'll have 15 friends in a matter of 15 weeks."

were machines to automate that task.) He cleaned the bathrooms and delivered ice and filled vending machines and put balls back on racks. He emptied trash. At 13½, he got a work permit that allowed him to do this legally. "They said I could work 16 hours a week. We stretched that out as much as possible." Sometimes he ditched high school to hang out with the five full-time mechanics who serviced Palomar's pin-setting machines. He and his mother finally quit the center in a dispute with the management, and after high school, Humble worked in construction. But the jobs dried up in the early '90s, and he decided on a whim to stop in at North County Lanes, the bowling center on Nordahl Drive and Highway 78 that had opened around 1986. "I walked in, and everybody said, 'Johnny! How you

been?' When you're in bowling, you know everybody." He went to work on the desk that afternoon and soon became the night manager, a post he held until North County Lanes closed in May 1996.

At that point, one of the big bowling companies wanted to send Humble to China to install centers there. He got his passport and immunizations, but before he could depart, someone at Kearny Mesa Bowl called to offer him a job as assistant manager. Humble took it, and in 1999 he became the general manager. The industry was struggling; close to 25 centers had closed over the preceding 25 years.

Humble says that lots of lanes at Kearny Mesa Bowl were empty when he first worked there, but he threw himself into cultivating business from bowling leagues. "I'm very old-



Johnny Humble

fashioned with my structure," he confessed. He grew up in a universe where the majority of bowlers were playing in leagues, and he prefers

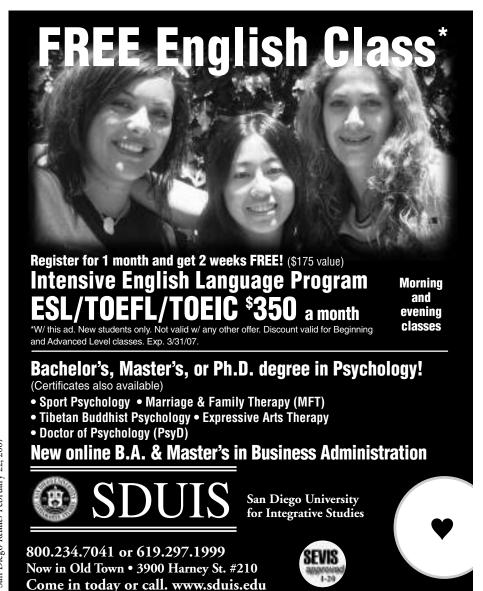
running an institution where that's still the case. "It's structured. It's formulated. You know what you're getting every night." Moreover, you get to know the players. Humble can tick off a list of wildly diverse professions among his league regulars: a demolition expert, a jury commissioner, car dealers, scientists. "The networking capability is incredible."

By 2001 Humble had filled all the Kearny Mesa center's lanes with league players during the prime evening hours. Demand for the lanes from leagues intensified in the wake of the August 2005 closure of Sunset Bowl in Clairemont. Humble was able to accommodate some of the folks who had been playing there, but a lot of them had to quit for lack of a place to play. "It's a shame," Humble says. "People bowling together for 25-30 years, closer than family."

From the end of World War II through 1965, bowling leagues enjoyed a different story. Growth was explosive. "At the peak, in the mid-

1960s, 8 percent of all American men and nearly 5 percent of all American women were members of bowling teams," writes Robert D. Putnam in his bestselling book Bowling Alone. But from the late 1960s through the 1970s, league membership stagnated, and between 1980 and 1993, it plunged by more than 40 percent, according to bowling industry data. Writing in 2000, Putnam noted, "If the steady decline in league bowling were to continue at the pace of the last 15 years, league bowling would vanish entirely within the first decade of the new century."

I couldn't find a single bowler in San Diego County who had heard of *Bowling Alone*. That's not surprising. Putnam is a political scientist at Harvard University, and his book really isn't about bowling. Rather it reports on the dramatic





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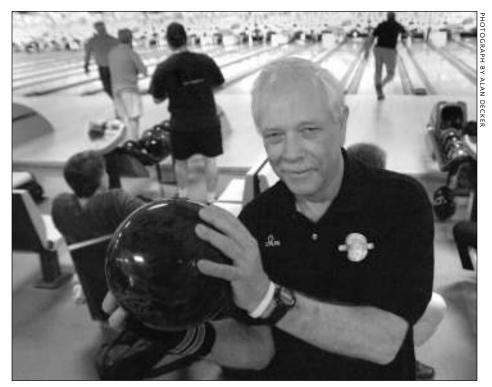


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decline in participation in all manner of community groups and social activities in America since the 1960s. While we were dropping off our bowling teams, we also began to lose appetite for a host of things once woven into the fabric of American life: voting and working on political campaigns, attending PTA and Elk's Lodge gatherings, playing cards and having friends over, even going to church and dining together with our immediate family members. None of these activities is yet extinct, but the graphs in Putnam's book have an eerie and depressing similarity. Whether illustrating participation in blood drives or union membership or belonging to a bowling team, you see a rise in activity through the first half of the century. Then in the '70s and '80s, the numbers take a nosedive.

The problem with disengaging from all



Jim Fox

these social activities, according to Putnam, is that they have a value that goes beyond any specific pastime. Doing things in the company of others — be it stuffing envelopes for a candidate or dancing tango every Tuesday — creates connections that make both

individuals and groups happier and more productive. Data "from diverse surveys" suggest that up to half of all Americans find their jobs through social networks. People also find pals to help them when they move and sympathetic ears. Social ties "foster

sturdy norms of reciprocity," Putnam argues. "I'll do this for you now, in the expectation that you (or perhaps someone else) will return the favor." They also "facilitate gossip and other valuable ways of cultivating reputation — an essential foundation for

trust in a complex society."

Even health and hap-

piness correlate strongly with social ties, Putnam asserts. More than a dozen studies in the United States, Scandinavia, and Japan have shown that socially disconnected people are between two and five times more likely to die from all causes, compared with matched individuals who have close ties with family, friends, and the community. "As a rough rule of thumb, if you belong to no groups but decide to join one, you cut your risk of dying over the next year in half." The findings for happiness are no less dramatic. Putnam writes, "The single most common finding from a half century's research on the correlates of life satisfaction, not only in the United States but around the world, is that happiness is best predicted by the breadth and depth of

one's social connections."

I can't tell you if the members of the PIA League are any healthier than the folks who spend their Thursday evenings sitting home and watching Ugly Betty. But they do seem like happy people, particularly Chuck Shock, one of Kearny Mesa Bowl's regulars. "You want to know what makes bowlers tick?" he asked. "Competition! Fun! It's like any sports program. People get to enjoying what they do and love the people they're around and just have fun."

Shock wears his gray hair so short it's just shy of baldness. That and the smoothness of his skin give him a baby-faced appearance that belies his 70 years. He's been bowling for 53 of them. From his earliest experiences back in Anderson, Indiana, he felt passionate about the sport. "Because you're with people that you know, people you

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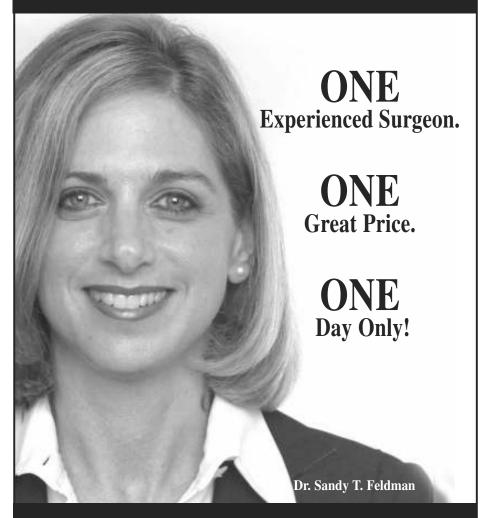


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Shock kept going through 22 years in the Navy, a career that took him all over the world. "I bowled in Japan. I bowled in Korea. I bowled in Hong Kong and Singapore." When he retired, he worked as a civil servant in the Navy headquarters building at the foot of Broadway, serving as paymaster for the western United States. During those years, there were periods when he was bowling three nights a week, even though his wife hates the game. "With a passion!" he said, amused. "She thinks bowling is like watching paint dry." Shock's wife did share his affection for the people he bowled with, so she'd drop in to chitchat.



Kearny Mesa Bowl

"There were some ladies bowling with us, and she'd have a drink with 'em and socialize. It's very social." She also enjoys traveling with Shock to bowling tournaments. "We've gone to the nationals 23 years in a row," he boasted. "It's held in different cities every year. We're going to Reno this year. Next year we go to Las Vegas. Then after that, we go to Albuquerque, New Mexico, then to Wichita, Kansas." The state tournament,

held in cities all over California, has lured them for every one of the last 15 or 20 years.

Shock gradually cut back on the number of bowling leagues he belonged to, but not because he lost his appetite for bowling. "I'm getting to the age where the knees give out. The back gives out. The arm gives out." He joined his one remaining league, the PIA, about 15 years ago. A printer by the name of Tommy Burnett started it in the early '60s as a way for local printers to have fun together (PIA stands for Printers International Association). But over the years, plenty of nonprinters have been admitted to its ranks.

Bowling leagues fall into two general categories: scratch and handicap. The best bowlers compete against each other in the former, and they must have a minimum average score to participate. The prize money doled out at the end of each season can bring each of the win-

ning team members several thousand dollars, and hence the games are more serious. "The people are there to have fun also," one scratch-league player told me. But they do it with a bit of tension and stress in the mix.

In contrast, handicap leagues encourage a more lighthearted atmosphere. Players of widely varying abilities can compete against each other through the use of scoring systems that compensate for the differences in ability. Shock says the PIA has been a handicap league all the years he's been involved with it. "With a scratch league, they're in it for the money," he explained. "Whereas in the handicap league, most players bowl to have fun."







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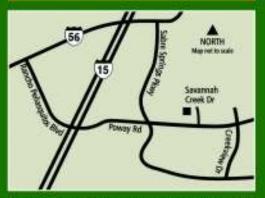
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Shock didn't know if the PIA ever required its members to wear team shirts, once a fixture of the bowling scene. "Sponsors used to buy your shirt. You'd get fined a quarter if you didn't wear it." But that practice disappeared 20 to 25 years ago. I talked with Shock on several occasions, but the first time I met him, he was wearing a cheery Hawaiian print, brown slacks, and a snappy-looking pair of white Dexter bowling shoes.

"Oops, gotta bowl," he excused himself, hustling to pick up his ball and send it flying down the polished corridor. Colliding with the pins, the ball produced the explosion of sound you hear every few seconds in a busy bowling alley, as rhythmic as surf crashing on the shore. There's a violence in those bursts of clattering pins that gives the place an edgy energy, more hyperactive

The bowlers are always in flux, moving up to take their turns, then withdrawing to watch their teammates and chat or to take a pull from their beer bottles or buy raffle tickets or snack on jalapeño-stuffed olives or whatever else someone has brought in for the evening. The bowling centers sell food, too. At Kearny Mesa, you can buy onion rings and nachos and cheese sticks, deep-fried mushrooms and curly fries, and fish and chips, and corn dogs, and half a dozen different types of sandwiches. But Shock never buys that stuff. He doesn't like to bowl on a full stomach. "Instead I eat about 3:30 in the afternoon," he

than any cocktail party.

Bowling does provide a mild form of exercise, and bowlers are always striving to meet personal goals. Shock, for instance, has bowled a perfect game twice in

practice sessions, but he's never scored a 300 during a league game, and he'd love to do that. Then his name would be inscribed on a plaque, like one of the hundreds hanging above the lanes. "I'd also like to get an 800 series. That's averaging 267 a game for three games."

But it's neither the exercise nor the competition that has kept him in the sport over the years. "It's the camaraderie," he said. "You get to know people, and you want to come back and visit." Between turns, Shock often walks down the lanes, greeting not only the fellows in his own league but also the members of the Thirsty Nites, who fill up lanes 15 to 32, and the gay Rainbow League bowlers, men and women both, who play in the 14 lanes at the far end of the building. "Or they'll come down here and talk to us," Shock said. "Bowling is very

interactive. We talk about everything." One night, he was sporting a prominent white bandage on the top of his head, and people asked him about it. "They did a biopsy two weeks ago and found out that I've got a basal cell cancer." A more reliably cheerful topic of conversation was kids. "Like Steve Crawford, the dark-headed guy standing over there." Shock pointed him out. "He adopted a little girl about five years ago. Every time I come in, I ask him how she's doing." For the most part, the guys in the PIA get along like brothers. "There's one or two people that every once in a while will cuss and say the wrong thing at the wrong time. Then they'll look at me, 'cause I'm the secretary." Shock warns them in his genial fashion not to do it again. Hard feelings seldom result. In tough times, the team members provide each other with

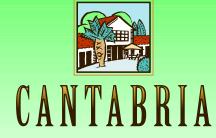


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moral support. "We'll get a card and everyone will sign it for a sick person. For a death, we'll go to the funeral. It's a strong relationship."

Shock's explanation for the decline in bowling is simple: economics. He cites the closure of Sunset Bowl in Clairemont as a prime example of the kind of pressure working against the sport. "They were offered \$32 million for the land." How could anyone turn that down? Furthermore, as bowling alleys closed, the cost of playing at the surviving centers climbed. "It's expensive. Like here, it's \$20 a night." (Half of that goes to the bowling center, while the other half feeds the league's prize fund.) "Back 15 to 20 years ago, it was \$5 or \$7 a night. That makes a difference."

Shock dashed off to bowl again, and I got to talking with Jim Fox, a youthful 63-year-old with a trim white mus-



tache and a ready smile. Bowling isn't his only sport. He also bicycles 60 to 70 miles a week, a habit he's had since he was in his 20s. His introduction to bowling came about the same time. He'd just gotten out of

the Army and went with a couple of friends one night to play a few games at University Lanes (not far from San Diego State). "I enjoyed the heck out of it, and I realized I was pretty good at it," he recalled. For a

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while, he bowled with family members and friends on an occasional basis, but then he put his name on a waiting list to join a league. "I wanted to get better, and I knew that on a team, everybody would be pushing me, and that would make me bowl better. When you get on a team, you want to do your best."

About 15 or 20 years ago, Fox joined the PIA league, even though he isn't a printer. (He works as a purchasing agent for a machine shop.) He'd been involved with lots of leagues over the years — as many as five at a time. "It almost got to the point where it was too much. So now, this year, I'm only bowling four, although I'm also subbing in a couple other leagues." He was a good enough bowler that most teams welcomed his presence, and that felt good too.

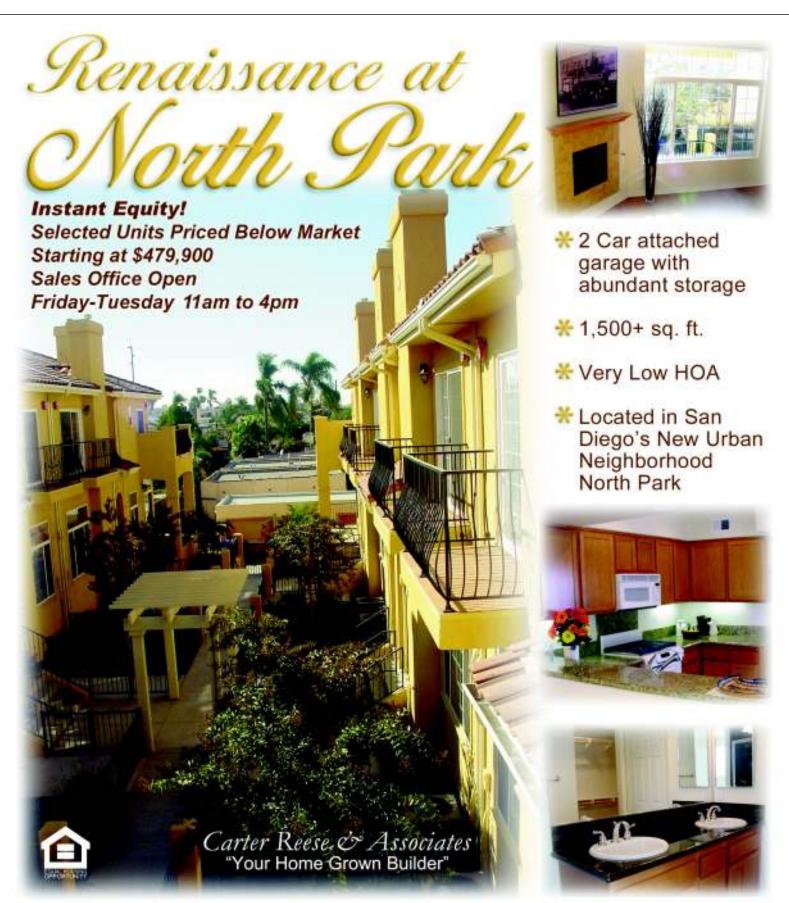
Fox's average falls within the 200 to 215 range — good enough to participate in a Friday night scratch league. He enjoyed the competition there, but for him, as for Shock, the interpersonal pleasures of the sport are paramount. "The people are so cool," he says. "Everybody's here, doing the same thing, and that's what makes it so nice. Good bowler, bad bowler. It doesn't matter. You're all here for the same thing. You're having a good time. You're relaxing, just enjoying things. Having a couple of beers."

To a surprising extent, being involved with bowling made San Diego feel like a small town. "You see everybody everywhere," Fox said. "You go to the grocery store, and there's someone from the league. So you ask them how they did the other night." Sometimes he does things with teammates outside the bowling arena. "Like, we'll go out and have a nice dinner together or something."

Fox ran off to bowl. When he returned, he said, "We talk about everything. Like Gil here." He motioned to another friendly-looking fellow standing nearby. "A few years ago, he went to the Padres' Fantasy

Baseball camp. Tonight, he brought the pictures he took there, and he was showing them to me. There's a lot of things that happen in between the time you're actually rolling the ball. It's not all bowling."

"That's right," Gil vonMueller concurred. By the end of a season, you're likely to know not just everyone playing in your league but the players in the other leagues as well. Most leagues play for more than 30 weeks a year. "So you say hi to someone one night, and maybe you get into a conversation. That's one thing about bowlers. They're very friendly people. You see 'em week in and week out, and you just become sociable with them. You get to know what their occupation is and what they like to do in their spare time, when they're not bowling." When you click with someone, you might do other things together, "go out to a



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baseball game or play cards or something. You become friends."

VonMueller speaks from the perspective of 46 years spent around bowling alleys. Like Humble, he was three the first time he got his hands on a bowling ball. "I was too small even to wear bowling shoes. I bowled in my socks. They gave me a sixpound ball, and I used two hands to throw it." His mother, father, and older brother all were bowlers.

He was crazy about the pastime and participated in junior leagues throughout his years at Marston Junior High School and Clairemont High, "Then I started bowling a lot of amateur tournaments around California and in other places around the country. I never made a full living at it. It was only part-time," something he did for the extra cash and the competitive rush.

Weekdays, he worked as a sales representative for Frito-Lay. "I did that for about ten years." Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings he bowled with different San Diego leagues, then he'd take off every Friday seven out of ten times on average, over the course of around 100 games.)

He met his wife through one of the bowling leagues, but the marriage didn't last, and von-Mueller says his lust for bowling also began to

The game had advantages over golf, while still satisfying her urge to compete. Bowling costs a fraction of the price and demands less time. "Golf in San Diego is so time-consuming because the pace of play is so slow."

night to travel to a tournament. Named San Diego Bowler of the Year in 1988–1989 and 1991–1992, vonMueller at his peak boasted an average of 231 points. (To achieve that number, you have to throw strikes

abate around ten years ago. Today he only plays on Thursday nights with the PIA league. "Just don't have the interest or the time like I used to." Now he golfs on Wednesday nights. During the summer, he often attends



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baseball games, and he serves as a Little League umpire. One of his bowling-team members has a daughter who's a cheerleader at Helix High School, so sometimes he catches those football games.

VonMueller can't imagine ever abandoning bowling altogether. "It's been with me almost all of my life." He could look to his mother's example. Now 73, she's still an active bowler. Von-Mueller suggested that she'd be a good person to talk to, if I wanted a bet-

ter sense of what bowling had been like at its zenith in San Diego.

I found Doris von-Mueller at the Kearny Mesa center on a Tuesday a little after noon. Each week, that's when her team Who Wants to Know plays in the Joe Norris Classic Trio League. As a general rule, you have to be 55 or older to join this league (they do make exceptions occasionally and admit younger family members), which was started in 1976 by Norris, a legendary local bowler.

(Norris was still competing when he died in 2001 at the age of 93. Among other things, he broke the record for knocking down more pins than anyone in the history of bowling, a record that still stands today.) After two years of operating as a scratch league, the players switched to a handicapping system that Andy Gagliano, who helped Norris found the league, boasts is "the best system developed in any league. It makes everybody competitive, and that's the whole point."

Every week each player competes against his or her own current average. "So say you're a 150 and I'm a 200. We go to compete. I shoot 188 — 12 points under my average. You shoot a 160, ten pins over your average. You win! It's the most over or the least under. If you shoot 145 and you're only 5 points under (versus my 12 points under), you still win. So every week, if the bowlers bowl good and their averages go up, the next week, they gotta bowl a little harder."











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I found Doris, a trim woman with deep-set brown eyes, fluffy blonde hair, and a long nose, playing on Lane 19. She introduced me to her two teammates, 83-yearold Ruby Stephens and Ruby's 60-year-old

daughter, Pam Drumel. Doris traces their interconnection back more than 50 years. "On February 23, 1956, I was in Sharp Hospital, having my first son. And Ruby's sister Billy was in the same hospital. She had

given birth the day before to a girl."

Despite their simultaneous entry into motherhood, the two women didn't really become acquainted until several years later, when they were both bowling at the

old Clairemont Bowl. "We got to talking about family and kids one day, and come to find out, we were both in the same hospital on the same day. Her Terry was bowled on a Thursday, and I think my Jim was bowled on a

"Do you mean they were 'born'?" I asked.

"Yeah," Doris said, still not catching her slip of the tongue.

Doris and Billy became close friends. "I always call her my sin sis-

ter, because we used to go to Vegas all the time," Doris said. She got to know Ruby, because Ruby would watch her sister play when Billy was one of the city's top women bowlers in the 1970s. Ruby's daughter Pam started bowling in the early '60s, when she was 17, "and I got to know her too. She and I belonged to the Western Women Professional Bowlers back in the '70s. We used to bowl quite a bit together."

Doris's introduction

to ten-pin bowling came in 1952, when she and her husband were just married. She was from North Carolina, he from San Diego. When they moved here, "I was over 2000 miles from home. Did not have any friends. Did not know anybody. Starting out in life. What are you going to do for entertainment, with limited income?" Doris had taken a crack at "duck pins" in her youth ("that's with the little ball and the real short. squatty fat pins"), and she was happy to turn to San Diego's bowling alleys for entertainment. Games were cheap only 15 or 25 cents apiece. "We started going to Tower Bowl and Hillcrest Bowl, and we got to meet people. We found out that other couples showed up on the same Saturdays at the same place. And by seeing them at the bowls, of course you start talking, and then if there was a waiting list and you couldn't get a lane, sometimes you would share. That would make the evening go a little bit longer." She smiled. "And your money not so fast be gone."

Within a year or two, "I was working at Sears on Cleveland Avenue, and they posted on the bulletin board that they were going to start a league. They wanted the departments to put people in." Doris was game, although her first night

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The attorneys and law firms who provide this information are solely responsible for its content This information does not address all legal situation nor is it intended to replace legal counsel. It is provided free, although if calling from outlying areas you may incur toll charges on your telephone bill. on a team was disastrous. "I picked up the ball, dropped it on the opposing team captain's foot, and broke her toe. Put her out." She wasn't much good at getting the ball to connect with pins, though. "I think I only averaged around 103 that year. On the bottom of the totem pole!"

But she improved, and in 1959 she went to work in the business office of Tower Bowl at 628 Broadway downtown, across from the Santa Fe Depot. In 1962, she moved to Aztec Bowl, at 30th and El Cajon Boulevard. She joined the women's bowling association and began volunteering. Money poured into the local industry back in those years. From Poway down to the border and the ocean out to the town of Boulevard, the three dozen or so locations "ranged from maybe 8 lanes to 12, 24, on up to the big 60-lane bowls. La Jolla had a little 6- or 8-lane bowl built back in the 1950s." The bigger centers competed with each other at installing crowd-pleasing amenities. "Tower Bowl had a high bar, and behind it were six to eight rows of theater seating, where spectators could sit and watch people bowl." The seats at Comanche Bowl in La Mesa climbed almost all the way to the ceiling. It was common for bowling alleys to be open around the clock. "We used to have night-owl leagues, when Solar, Rohr, and Convair were going, and those people got off work at midnight or later."

Although Doris became the paid secretary for the women's bowling association in 1971, she never ranked among the city's highest-scoring women bowlers. She was a "fairly decent" player, she allowed. "I would just be old steady Eddie. To get the strikes was not my way of playing the game. But I could make the spares." At her peak, she averaged 185.

On the day I watched her, she was playing in the 150- to 160-point range. "Come on, Doris! Bring it in!" her octogenarian teammate called out as Doris hurried off to bowl her last frame of the third game. Ruby explained to me that she herself hadn't started bowling till she was 40, when her husband retired from his job as a fireman and strong-armed her into joining a league. He died in 1990, and Ruby might have abandoned the

game, but Joe Norris, the founder of the Tuesday noon league, prevailed upon her to join a team. She was placed in a group with a veteran bowler she'd never met before, and three years later they were married. Heart problems have since forced her second husband to stop playing, but he still drops in from time to time to watch the action. "Hi, Ed!" Doris greeted him warmly as he approached the area where his wife's team was playing. "How are you? You come down to watch the old ladies bowl?"

Despite the decrease in bowling leagues, joining one isn't that different today from when Doris and Ruby first started playing. Each of the remaining bowling centers has a league coordinator who maintains a waiting list for individuals who want to get involved with a team. The wait is "usually not bad," says Woody Parcells, adding that it's not uncommon to find a spot for a newcomer within a week or two.

Parcells is the coordinator at Kearny Mesa Bowl. He says putting teams together is a little like being a matchmaker. "I don't just grab people and say, 'You're with them.' I've got to look at them. I don't want a hard-core drinker in with someone who's in their 70s. I try my best, and then I always try to see if they're gelling. If not, I'll move them around." It's miserable to be on a team where the teammates don't feel comfortable conversing, Parcells said. "Especially when you know you've got 33 weeks to bowl."

It was only four years

ago that Parcells himself walked into a San Diego bowling center for the first time. How that happened "was weird," he recalled. He and a group of friends were out one night at a happy hour, "and someone said, 'Hey, let's go bowling.' "They drove to Sunset Bowl but found there was a 45-minute wait, and someone suggested trying Kearny Mesa. "I'd never

been here before." In fact, the only time Parcells had ever bowled was in sixth grade, back in Connecticut. "But I walked in, looked around, got a lane, and I've been here ever since." He laughed at the possible implication that he never actually leaves the center.

Parcells says he and his buddies returned every Monday and soon "talked Johnny [Hum-

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only lasted a couple of months, but by the end of that time, Parcells had improved his average from less than 100 to about 130. (It's close to 200 today.) Humble invited him to join a

Sunday league, and two years ago, he hired Parcells to be the league coordinator.

"Woody is really good," Sharon Schendel told me. A member of the Thirsty Nights

league, the 39-year-old Schendel moved to San Diego in 1996 to do postdoctoral work in biochemistry at the Burnham Institute. She grew up in Indiana and had bowled a bit there,

but never seriously. "Golf was my main sport."

When a cousin of hers who had also grown up in the Midwest suggested six years ago that Schendel and four other women friends form a

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with a league, the scientist jumped at the opportunity. "I'd always wanted to do league bowling. And all of us thought it would be a cool way to see each other." Schendel quickly found that the game had advantages over golf, while still satisfying her urge to compete. Bowling costs a fraction of the price and demands less time. "Golf in San Diego is so timeconsuming, because the pace of play is so slow. This takes three hours, and it's a lot of fun. It's amazing. Plus, I really enjoy the people. And they're people I wouldn't

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have met otherwise."

Her original women's group only lasted for one season. One of the women was a flight attendant, and she had trouble making the weekly games. "So we picked up a male coworker of one of the girls on the team." Eventually, that man and Schendel were the only ones who wanted to continue. "We knew another team that had lost two people, so we wound up getting together. That was a really fun team for a couple of years, and then they kind of drifted off." Last year, Parcells directed Schendel to her current team, and she

enjoyed that group so much that she's continued with it this season. Schendel told me she'd thought about trying to form a team composed entirely of scientists. "But part of the problem would be that bowling requires a commitment to be at the same place every week for 33 weeks or whatever." She thought it might be hard to get her colleagues to sign on for that.

The need for commitment is the biggest factor behind the decline in league bowling, as Bill Rossman sees it. "To be in a league, you've got to commit to somewhere between 16 and 32





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weeks." Yet there are so many other activities competing for people's time.

Now 40, Rossman has worked at Parkway Bowl for almost a quarter of a century, serving as the manager for more than nine years. His facility is far and away the largest in all of San Diego County, with 68 bowling lanes. (No center in California has more, Rossman says.) Furthermore, patrons' choices are not limited to bowling. They can also play billiards at one of 17 tables or engage in laser tag with more than a dozen other combatants or feed their coins into slot machines and video games. Kids can frolic in a huge indoor amusement center that includes a carousel and little roller coaster. It's a model

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(multiple activities and profit centers under one roof) that some bowling-industry observers see as the wave of the future. That's ironic, considering that Parkway Bowl was built between 1958 and 1960 (Rossman isn't sure of the exact date), and in some ways it looks its age. Although the interior is attractive and well maintained, the façade is classic Googie design, with a huge orange isosceles triangle framing the entryway. The Mexican restaurant inside the center was remodeled in the early 1980s to be configured like a fast-food outlet. But the geometric pattern on the carpet, the blue swirls on the Formica countertops, and the chrome-edged tables all conjure up the spirit of a time when bouffants and ducktails were the reigning hairstyles.

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Does Your Pain Medication Make You Too Tired To Function?

Many chronic illnesses require strong pain medications that can make you tired and fatigued. If your current medication helps your pain but leaves you unable to function, you may qualify for a research study of an investigational medication designed to help pain patients function better on their current pain treatment.

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 \$300 for your participation.
- You receive no-cost research study medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.
- We provide transportation.



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Anxiety

doesn't just stress your mind.



We know it can...

- Decrease your immune response Decrease your physical and mental functioning
- Increase fats in the bloodstream 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.



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Research Study for Chronic Constipation

Chronic Constipation?

We are conducting a clinical research study for men and women who suffer from Chronic Constipation. Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age, have fewer than 3 bowel movements per week, and be able to complete a daily phone questionnaire during the study participation. All office visits, medical evaluations, and study medication or placebo related to this study will be provided at no cost to participants.

For more information on this research study or to find out if you may be eligible, please contact:

Medical Associates Research Group 858-277-7177



Do You Get **Anxious**in Social Situations?

Do you:

- Get very **NERVOUS** around people?
- **FEAR** being the center of attention?
- AVOID going to social events and meeting new people?

If you answered **YES** to any of the above, you may be eligible to participate in an experimental research study comparing several study drug options for social phobia. Medical assessment and clinical care are provided.

For more information, please call

1-877-UCSD-SHY (1-877-827-3749)

Or e-mail: veryshy@ucsd.edu

as they were in the '50s. "We typically average about 42 to 45 games per bed a day. That's twice the national average." Strong programs for women in the mornings and seniors in the afternoons help account for that. A mixture of leagues fill up the 6:00-9:00 p.m. hours every night of the week. In all, the center claims about 3000 players in about 45 leagues. "That's down from 15 years ago." But at the same time, the number of "open bowlers" has grown to counteract the drop in league bowlers. Rossman credits part of the increase to the banning of smoking, which occurred at all the county's bowling centers

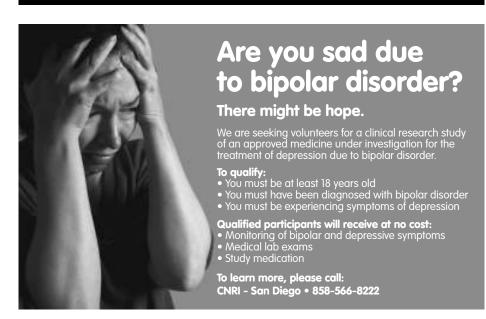
at the same time that restaurants and bars had to toss their ashtrays. Open bowling also requires less commitsocial aspects of bowling have, if anything, grown more important over the past 15 years. "I see a lot more people talking and

"The Gen X kids need to be entertained. They're sitting all day in front of video games that blow up at them with lights and bells and whistles. There's constant immediate gratification. We have to give them bang for the buck."

ment. "You can kind of come in when you want to"

At the same time, Rossman thinks that the communicating and interacting and wanting to bowl for those reasons. With softball, it's hard to do that. With

RESEARCH STUDIES





Smoking too much pot?

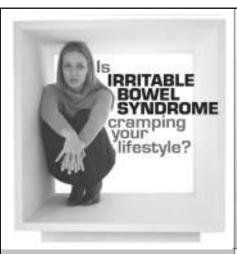
WE WANT TO HELP YOU STOP!

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.





If you are experiencing

lower abdominal pain and constipation,

you may be eligible for this medical research study.

Lady Indocessing by Guinting Tex. 112(007) 00

It's estimated that at some point during their lives, as many as 1 in 5 Americans have symptoms of **Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)**— a chronic gastrointestinal disorder which can include constipation, diarrhea, abdominal pain or discomfort, cramping and bloating.

Many women have a constitution-associated form of IBS, known as IBS-C. IBS-C is characterized by constitution or infrequent bowel movements and may include other common IBS symptoms such as lower abdominal pain and bloating.

Today, local doctors are conducting a medical research study evaluating the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medicine, called Renzapride, to see if it helps relieve the symptoms of IBS-C in women.

To pre-qualify for this study, you must:

- . be a woman between the ages of 18 and 65;
- regularly have less than 3 bowel movements per week;
- regularly have abdominal pain or discumfort.

Qualified perticipants will receive a study-related medical evaluation and investigational medicine at no cost. Reimbursement for time and travel may also be provided.

or more information on this local study, please contact

dical Associates Research Group 858-277-7717

Research Studies Offered by **Medical Center for Clinical Research**



Has a decrease in sexual between you?



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

Have You Had A Recent Abnormal Pap Test or Been **Diagnosed With High-Risk HPV?**

If so, you may qualify for a medical research study of an investigational gel for the treatment of cervical high-risk HPV.

We are currently recruiting women who are:

- Between the ages of 18 and 45
- Premenopausal
- Willing to take an acceptable form of birth control

Medical Center for Clinical Research Call 619-521-2841

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

FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH

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

Medical Center for Clinical Research

619-521-2841

hockey, you're moving. You don't get to stand and visit." The same goes for movies or a play. But bowling allows plenty of opportunity for catching up. "It just happens to be the activity they're doing while they're socializing."

"The socializing is huge," concurred Johnny Humble (Kearny Mesa Bowl's general manager). "If you move to a new town, go join a league. You'll have 15 friends in a matter of 15 weeks. That's the way it is. It's a community." Humble agrees with Rossman that

competition from other entertainment choices has siphoned members away from that community. "There's so much to do. The freeways are wide open in the evenings. You can get from Escondido to Chula Vista in 45 minutes. You got choices of movies. the malls, the arcades, the Boomers!, the casinos. I could walk into a casino right now and see, like, 100 ex-bowlers. Seriously. 'Hey, Bob, how come you ain't bowling?' 'Can't afford it.' "Humble rolled his eyes.

He also points a finger, however, at a factor that looms large in *Bowling Alone* author

"It is as though the post-war generations were exposed to some anticivic X-ray that permanently and increasingly rendered them less likely to connect with the community."

Putnam's analysis of why so many Americans no longer participate in

ten percent of the total decline of American civic involvement. Suburban-

once-ubiquitous social

time and money pres-

sures for no more than

activities. Putnam blames

ization, commuting, and sprawl account for another ten percent. But up to half the overall decline is attributable to what he calls "generational change." This has occurred as the highly involved and socially connected generation born between 1910 and 1940 has been succeeded by its Baby Boom children and Generation X grandchildren. Putnam writes: "It is as though the post-war generations were exposed to some anti-civic X-ray that permanently and increasingly rendered them less likely to connect with the community."

Putnam suspects that the effects of television constitute part of that hypothetical X-ray. While TV claims time from almost all Americans and thus may contribute up to 25 percent of the overall civic decline, Putnam points out that Baby Boomers and Generation X-ers are the first Americans to experience television virtually from birth. Putnam theorizes that the psychological effects of

RESEARCH STUDIES

Bothered by Arthritis? Concerned about Heart Disease?

We are conducting a research study of 3 approved medications commonly used to treat pain due to osteoarthritis (OA) or rheumatoid arthritis (RA) in people who also have or are at high risk for heart disease.

Qualified participants will receive study-related medical care, regular study check-ups and study medication at no charge.

To qualify you must:

- Be 18 years of age or older
- Have had osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis for at least 6 months
- Have been prescribed regular medication for your pain for at least 6 months
- Have or be at high risk for heart disease, which includes a history of heart attack, stroke or diabetes

For more information, please call: 858-277-7177

Medical Associates Research Group

You may also log onto www.ArthritisHeartTrial.com for more information about this study.





Women Needed to Participate in Domestic Violence Research Study

Who can participate?

- Women between the ages of 18 and 60 and
- Are recently out of a domestic violence situation

What is involved?

Once we determine that you qualify for this study (via phone interview), you will be asked to participate in the following:

- An In-Person Interview (2 hours)
- Neuropsychological Testing (2 hours)
- Individual Domestic Violence Therapy (10 ½-hour sessions)
- 2 fMRI Scans (3 hours each)

You will receive free individual psychotherapy and up to \$400 for your participation.

When will this take place?

Each appointment will be made to accommodate your schedule, Monday thru Friday 9 am to 5 pm.

If interested, please contact:

Shada Cissell, MSW, at: (619) 400.5204



Missing Something?



Have you noticed a decrease in sexual desire? You may qualify for a medical research study for women suffering from HSDD (Hypoactive Sexual Disorder), a common form of sexual dysfunction. We are looking for healthy pre-menopausal women over the age of 18. If interested, call:

Center for Urological Research • 619-460-0595

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 18
- Have 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





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.

619.291.2845

Feeling Depressed?

Ask us about the SAPPHIRE Trial.



This research study is evaluating the effectiveness and safety of an investigational drug compared to placebo for the treatment of **DEPRESSION** in adults.

Call today to learn more about the **SAPPHIRE Trial** if you:

- Are at least 66 years of age
- Have been feeling depressed for at least
 4 weeks but no more than 1 year

Additional criteria will be assessed to determine your eligibility for this study. All qualified participants will receive study drug or placebo and study-related exams at no cost.

To learn more about the **SAPPHIRE Trial**, call:

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



Quitting smoking is one of the most important things you will ever do.

- · You are likely to live longer and better.
- · Quitting will lower your chance of having a heart attack, stroke, or cancer.
- The people you live with, especially your children, will be healthier.
 - You will have extra money to spend on things other than cigarettes

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a 26-week clinical trial on an investigational medication that may help participants quit smoking and maintain smoking cessation. To qualify for this research study, you must be at least 18 years old and smoke, on average, 10 cigarettes per day for at least the last 2 months. If you qualify for this study, all research medication and study-related care will be provided at no cost to you. You will receive brief smoking cessation counseling to help you succeed in your efforts to stop smoking. In addition, compensation will be provided for travel reimbursement.

For additional information regarding qualification for this study, please contact:

(619) 308-0440 See our website: www.ari-inc.com





Combined Inpatient/Outpatient

Bipolar Disorder/Manic Depression Research Study

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





Is your schizophrenia medication making you heavy?

If you have been diagnosed with schizophrenia and would like to participate in a study that monitors weight, you might consider participating in a medical research study that is studying an investigational drug for schizophrenia.

You may qualify if you are:

- Diagnosed with schizophrenia Between 18 and 65 years old
- · Have taken Zyprexa (Olanzapine) or Risperdal (Risperidone) for the past 3 months
- Have not been hospitalized for schizophrenia in the past 3 months

Those who qualify will receive study-related procedures, such as physical exams, laboratory tests and study medication.

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 depressed?

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

- · At least 18 years old
- · Have a history of depression
- Currently depressed for at least 2 months
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ 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





We are looking for men and women diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder.

Volunteers at least 18 years of age are needed to participate in a clinical research study testing the safety and effectiveness of a marketed drug for the treatment of Bipolar Disorder, also known as Manic Depression. Patients suffering from Bipolar Disorder must be currently experiencing a major depressive, mixed, or manic episode. All necessary office visits, medical evaluations, and study drug will be provided at no cost to qualified patients.

For more information about this study, please contact:

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



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last 3 to 9 months. \$8 per unit for first area, \$6 **per unit** second area, **\$5.16 per unit** third area introductory price. Results may vary.

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Robert F. Sterner, Jr., MD Harvard 1978/UCI A 1982 Serving San Diego Since 1984

Attn: Heavy Drinkers

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

• Heavy drinkers not seeking treatment

• Heavy drinkers seeking treatment

• Drinkers with depression seeking treatment



For more information and to find out if you can earn compensation for participating in one of these studies, contact:

(858) 784-7867 (STOP)





UCSD Research Study on ANXIETY

Do you suffer from these symptoms?

- · Worried, nervous, on edge
- Difficulty sleeping
- Tense, keyed up, restless
- Unable to concentrate, agitated

The UCSD Psychopharmacology Research Initiatives Center of Excellence is conducting a research study of the effects of an investigational drug, not approved by the FDA, versus a placebo (sugar pill) on Generalized Anxiety Disorder.

Participants will be compensated for time and travel.

To find out if you may qualify and how to participate call 1-866-UC-PRICE(1-866-827-7423) today for more information. UCSD



World War II upon older adults account for much of the generational divide; shared adversity and a heightened sense of patriotism forged an extraordinary sense of community among those who experienced the war

Although he hadn't heard of Putnam or his theories, Humble echoed the political science professor's conclusions. "One or two generations before me, things were very team-oriented. People my parents' age, they'd been through



world wars together. They were all on the same page. They did everything together." In contrast, "The younger generations are all about me, myself, and I. If they want to go bowling, they're gonna go bowling three times a year, and they're gonna pick their night, and they're gonna go with their buddies." That's what Putnam's talking about when he uses the phrase "bowling alone."

Humble thinks there are signs that the culture is approaching another generational shift. "The newer, younger generations — the kids of today — they're showing tendencies to be teamoriented again. That's the way it's starting to shape up." Grade-school kids in particular seem more team-oriented, "which is good for our industry, and I don't see where it could be bad for anything. Yeah, a lot of them

are playing team sports again. Even the homeschooled ones come in and bowl for their PE activities, and they're making up teams." In the Midwest, high school bowling has undergone a huge resurgence. If I wanted to learn more about this, Humble suggested I talk with John

No one in San Diego

has given more thought and energy to encouraging young people to become bowlers than Balla. Now 45, he's a commanding figure who wears a bushy salt-andpepper goatee and black wire-rimmed glasses. His voice is husky, and his face is florid. Although his parents bowled, and Balla started to play himself at 12, participating in both leagues and tournaments through college, bowling was never the exclusive center of his universe. He played a number of sports and

RESEARCH STUDIES

Frustrated with Type 2 Diabetes?

Are you taking metformin/glucophage, exercising and eating healthy? If you are doing everything right to control your Diabetes... And your blood sugar level is still too high, we may have an option for you. Local physicians are conducting a research study of a new investigational medication for Type 2 Diabetes. If you qualify, you will receive all study-related care and medication [at no cost].

For more information, please call: 619-229-3909 **San Diego Sports Medicine and Family Health Center** 6699 Alvarado Road #2100 • San Diego

Donating plasma and blood is rewarding!

Earn up to \$190 a month in cash and save lives!

Requirements: 18+ years of age • Photo ID and proof of Social Security number • Proof of current address (ID, utility/household bill, rental agreement, third-party correspondence, etc.)

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SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER

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Are you:

- 18 years of age or older? History of insomnia for at least 4 weeks?
 - Having difficulty staying asleep? In good general health?
 - Sleeping less than 6.5 hours at least 4 nights per week?

Synergy Clinical Research is looking for volunteers for a medical research study of an investigational medication for insomnia.

Qualified participants may receive investigational medication, study-related physical exams and compensation for time and travel.

If interested, please call: 1-888-619-7272

Worry Too Much?

If you worry excessively, can't relax; have persistent anxiety, tension, nervousness; have difficulty sleeping, concentrating, worrying about how you'll deal with each day; or upset stomach and muscle tension, you may have Generalized Anxiety Disorder.

You may qualify for a no-charge medical research study to test an investigational medication for the treatment of anxiety. All inquiries are confidential and no insurance is requested. Study-related evaluations, blood test, study-related pills and exams are at no cost and you will be compensated for visit, travel and expenses.

For information or appointment, call the study coordinator, James Goldberg, Ph.D., at:

619-327-0155

Depression Research Study

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

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

Call: 1-888-619-7272

Alzheimer's

Clinical Research Trial

- Do you have a family member diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease?
 - Have they become more confused?
 - · Do they require closer supervision?
 - Does their condition seem to be getting worse?

If so, then your loved one may qualify for a clinical research trial. All study-related visits, investigational medication and study-related care will be provided at no cost to qualified study participants or caregivers. If you are a caregiver of someone at least 50 years of age who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease, then you may want to find out about this study.

For more information, call: **1-888-619-7272**

We're trying to get a leg-up on Osteoarthritis

You may be able to help...

If you or someone you know has pain from Osteoarthritis of the Knee, we are currently seeking men and women to participate in an important clinical research study.



Call Synergy Research: 1-888-619-7272 www.arthritisoftheknee.com



BIPOLAR DISORDER

Mania

- Racing thoughts
- Increased activity
- Decreased sleep
- Increased spending

Depression

- Sadness
- Lack energy
- Difficulty concentrating
- Feel restless or irritable

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

Some qualifications are:

- > Aged 18-65 years
- Non substance/alcohol dependent
- ➤ Using reliable contraceptive
- > Not pregnant or lactating
- ➤ Non diabetic

For more information, please call: **1-888-619-7272**

planned to become a history teacher. When he changed his mind and decided to coach high school and college volleyball, he figured that working mornings and nights in the bowling

industry would allow him to take off afternoons for his coaching. For most of 1988 through 2003, Balla worked at bowling centers in Orange County. Then Humble hired him to manage the Mira Mesa facility.

Although the address for Mira Mesa Lanes is on Mira Mesa Boulevard, it doesn't face the main street. Balla says he meets people who

have lived in the community for 20 years without realizing that the bowling center is there. It was failing when he arrived, and he had ideas for how to change that. "That's what I do," he said with a

shrug. "I go in and revitalize bowling centers. To use a horrible cliché, I think outside the box." It seems to have worked. Since his hire, the Mira Mesa's annual revenue has increased by more

than 80 percent. "We've quadrupled the number of junior bowlers we have here," Balla says.

One thing Balla has concentrated on is luring young people to the center during the 9:00-midnight slot. It's hard to market that time period to league players, he says. "Many people have to get up early for work. They don't want to stay out that late." But high school and college students often stay up till midnight. So Balla slashed prices to a level he hoped a young audience might find irresistible. "On Monday nights, you can come in and get a lane for three hours for four people and bowl for \$24. Each person on average is paying \$6 a person — which is less than a movie. It's less than miniature golf. And we play music." Other weekday nights, the center offers similar deals. On weekends, disco-style colored lights supplant the bright fluorescents. "We have to do things completely differently from the way we did them 15 years ago," Balla said. "The Gen X kids need to be entertained. They're sitting all day in front of video games that blow up at them with lights and bells and whistles. There's constant immediate gratification. We have to give them bang

for the buck." Balla says the result has been that all 44 lanes are now full every night of the week between 9:00 p.m. and midnight. The young people come in around eight to wait for spaces. "It's like a reservation system. We get some very large groups from UCSD and San Diego State coming in early. And they come in week after week."

Balla has also slashed prices during the daytime hours. "My fixed costs were constant. My labor, my lighting, my electricity — everything was fixed. We were

RESEARCH STUDIES

There is hope...

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

Do you have trouble falling 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.



Frustrated with Type 2 Diabetes?

Are you taking metformin/glucophage, exercising and eating healthy? If you are doing everything right to control your diabetes...

And your blood sugar level is still too high, we may have an option

Local physicians are conducting a research study of an investigational medication for Type 2 Diabetes.

If you qualify, you will receive all study-related care and medication

Qualified participants could be compensated for time and travel.

Are You Still

Experiencing Pain Even Though Your Shingles Have Healed?

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

Qualified participants receive:

- · Study medication and examinations
- · Reimbursement for time and travel

Flu Season is Here!

Do you have signs and symptoms of the Flu?



Headache Fever Sore Throat Cough **Nasal Symptoms** Fatigue

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.

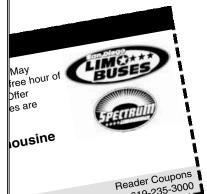
For more information on these and other clinical studies, call (toll-free):

877-927-5337

Pacific Sleep Medicine Services

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ht shows at 8 pm and 9:30 pm. The best Central, Leno, Letterman and more. See ut classes tool

Reader Coupons 619-235-3000

ssary! Most cars. Must present certificate and \$2 DMV. Offer 8, 2007. Expiration dates are eek of each month.

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10% off designer vintage clothing and accessories We have hundreds of the most beautiful handpicked

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8055 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Ste. 103-B (next to Burger King between 805 & 163) 858.560.0325 • 858.560.5081 charging \$14 an hour and \$3 for shoes. And we were averaging \$100 a day. It wasn't even covering my payroll." Now pretty much everything the Mira Mesa center offers during the daytime costs a dollar — games, shoes, hot dogs, sodas, draft beers. "I'm building the traffic," Balla said. "I'm building the bodies. And we're averaging between 400 and 450 games" during those hours. "They're only a dollar a game. But that's 400 percent better than what we were doing."

Among those new daytime players are a growing number of schoolchildren. For the past three years, Balla's had a busload of Torrey Pines High School students arriving at his center two or three times each week, in order to meet their state requirements for physical education. "They come in. They get their shoes and

bowling balls. Program their own names. One teacher takes roll, and they're out there bowling. If you asked any PE teacher if he or she could imagine having one teacher for 90 students, with everything under control and 100 percent participation every day, with the exception of injuries, they would laugh at you. But it happens here every time."

He's had less luck with convincing nearby Mira Mesa High to offer its students a similar option. Balla says he understands the caution. Schools "think of me as the big, bad businessman trying to sell something to their children." What they're overlooking is that "not every child wants to participate in your status quo physical education program. Either they don't feel comfortable dressing out, or they're obese or out of shape or something else. This gives them an alternative." He has persuaded two nearby elementary schools and a middle school to establish bowling clubs at his center, and he's optimistic that student business will continue to build over time.

If only five to seven percent of the kids showing up for Balla's "Monday Madness" and "Wacky Wednesdays" move on to join bowling leagues, "We'll be successful." The leagues of the future may not look quite like the ones that flourished in the 1960s (and continue to attract true die-hards). Committing one night a week for 30-some weeks is too daunting for most folks. "But if we create leagues that are 14 or 15 weeks long, as are most adult leagues in softball and basketball," those will have a good chance of succeeding, Balla pre-

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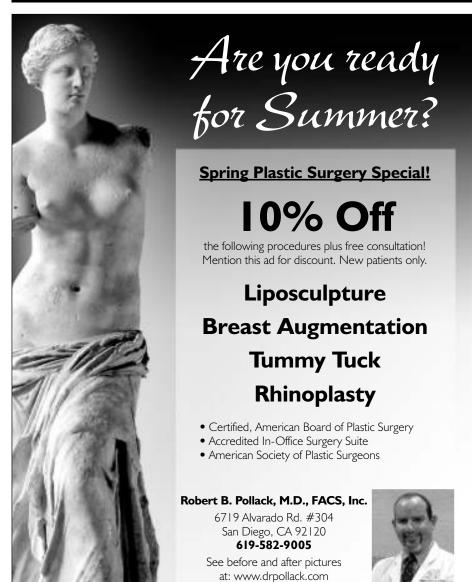
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Changing that is "all about pricing and entertainment," Balla says. "Bowling is something everyone can do together. Everyone can

participate at the same level. It's not a matter of who's fastest. It's not generally who throws the ball the hardest. I've got a 350-pound person who can bowl as well as the twig who weighs 98 pounds. This is the only arena in which they can be equal." And if they get to chatting with each other and feeling, as a result, that the world is not such a lonely place, well, maybe that's worth at least as much as winning a flashy silver ring. ■

— Jeannette De Wyze

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GOOD.

s I sit here typing, I'm a little distraught by the unkempt state of my hair and my unmade face. It's because I haven't been out all day because I'm grounded. I'm grounded because I lied.

While my mother was at work, I was out on a school night with a boy. If she found out that I had gone on a date in the middle of

finals week, I knew my liver would be chopped.

At 9:30, we were having fun. My mom wouldn't be home until 10. Then, the vibrating phone in my jacket gave me a feeling akin to a college rejection letter or finding out that Mr. Rogers died; my heart sank.

"Where are you?" my mom asked.

"Rite Aid, picking up some stuff for school."

"Be back home. Soon."

"Okay. Bye, Mom!"

I breathed a sigh of relief, and my mind was clear as I drove home. She bought it! Wrong! I walked in the door, prepared to lie again about the location of the stuff I bought at Rite Aid (pencils for school — left them in the car for the morning). I was jolted by the calm tone of voice my mother had when she spoke the words every teenager dreads hearing: "Sit down."

She smiled in a way only a mother can while she told me that if I was going to lie to her, I'd better not tell her that I'm at a place that she just happens to be at; she was at Rite Aid when she called me!

So, here I sit, wallowing in my punishment. Have I learned a lesson? Not really. I'll lie again because we all do. I just won't lie to my mom because moms are the experts of fact and fiction when it comes to their children.

— Amanda Cormier, Westview H.S. t was getting close to the end of the school year, and grades were coming down to the wire. That made it that much more painful when I heard there was a "book talk" assignment due that I had forgotten about.

A book talk entails your teacher asking you a few questions about a book you read. Some teachers wouldn't know the difference if you told them *The Fellowship of the Ring* is about a jewelry company, but my teacher was good; she dug deep into your book and found obscure details to ask you about. You would know it if you read it; if you didn't read, you didn't have much of a chance.

I'd probably read twice as much as any other kid in that class that year, but I'd completely forgot about this assignment and was only about 100 pages through a novel that had around 800 pages. I wasn't going to jeopardize my grade of a semester's worth of hard work by failing this assignment, but I couldn't finish the book without overdosing on coffee. I decided I'd just go for it, unfinished, and hopefully pass.

I got the first couple questions right because they were from what I'd read, but I had no idea about the rest of them. I struggled to make up answers, which I could tell she didn't buy. Eventually, she asked me if I had read the book and I said, "Oh, yes," as though I was shocked at the question.

After failing miserably, the next day the teacher said she would give me the grade anyway because I had read enough earlier in the semester. She didn't seem angry that I had lied, but I sensed disappointment. Shame overcame me, and it occurred to me that I probably would have gotten the same grade if I had not tried to lie.

— Kevin Morton, El Capitan H.S.

hen I was younger, my family and I went to visit relatives in Alabama. During that trip, my mother bought my sister this funny little Native American drill apparatus. It had an arrowhead on one end of a stick and a



wooden disc that was attached to the top of the stick with leather straps. When you wound up the disc and then let it go, the arrowhead would drill small holes through soft materials. I was so envious of my sister getting this funny toy that I wanted one too, but my mother told me I was too young.

That wasn't a good enough reason for me. When we got back to San Diego, I picked up this little drill and had to find something soft to drill through: a book from the library. As soon as I made that first hole, I knew I had done something wrong. I closed the book, put the drill away, and acted like nothing happened. Problem was, as soon as the library book was turned in, I was confronted. They asked me if I had put the hole through the pages. I lied.

Eventually, I figured out that all the adults and my sister knew that the only person who would have done it was me, so I'fessed up. I was embarrassed that they had caught me, embarrassed that I probably disappointed my mother, embarrassed that my sister probably thought I was just a stupid little sister.

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— Laurel Popplewell, Madison H.S.

ost of the time, I try to make my friends happy with compliments or jokes. Every once in a while, though, I feel compelled to lie to make a person feel better.

On one occasion, a friend of mine at school was passing around her notebook to the people gathered at our usual lunch spot. I could feel the dread of having to read a poem by a friend I didn't want to hurt. No, I do not want to read your poem, I thought. I do not want to give you a rave review like everyone else is, I do not want anything to do with lit-

erary criticism right now...I just want to eat my lunch in

"Rachel, will you read my new poem?" she asked.

"Sure," I said, and before I could stop myself, my eyes were looking at the poem. My worst fears were realized: the poem was poorly written, contained grammatical and spelling errors, and had no logical structure. I couldn't tell it was a poem. Was I being too harsh? Was I being a snob who didn't recognize the unorthodox form? It was possible. I just didn't like the poem.

"Do you like it?" the girl asked eagerly. I looked up into her face.

"Yeah."

She walked away, smiling.

My friend sitting next to me looked at me and could tell I had lied. She'd read the poem, too.

"It wasn't that good," she said.

"I know."

And yet, we had both lied. Should we have told her our true feelings and offered some advice? I wish I knew because even though I made her happy, I possibly gave her a sense of confidence as a poet.

Rachel Oliver, Madison H.S.

s much as I hate admitting it, I have ed. I don't believe

anyone has to lie in order to get by in life, but everyone does it.

When I was 15 and 16, I dated a guy who amounted to nothing more than bad news. At first, I had permission to go out with him because there existed no reason for me not to. As the relationship continued, I discovered things about him that proved he had skewed morals, and he didn't care about himself or others. At the time, I didn't understand that if someone can't love himself, it is impossible for him to love anybody else. I thought he cared about me, even though he did drugs, cheated, and stole. My mother found out about his actions and finally put her foot down. She told me he was going to change me if I kept seeing him, so I was refused permission to see him any longer.

I still dated him. I deceived my parents by asking to go places with friends, knowing he would be there. It got to the point where I was always scared whenever my mother talked to me. My paranoia proved I was acting in a deceitful manner. I altered my words and actions to make her believe I was innocent. She trusted me (though her trust grew weaker and weaker), and for months I was someone else.

I remember this guy telling me he would go to

church with me (to appease my mother) if I would start telling "white lies" in order to see him more. I said no, but I had already begun lying. I justified all that I did and made myself believe that I was not lying, just twisting the

After a period of my mom not trusting me at all and always on the lookout for dishonesty, it was over. I discontinued my relationship and was punished by my own guilt. I finally told my mom the truth. I was grounded for a little while, but it had nowhere near the effect that my conscience had on me.

> – Alexis Sebring, Carlsbad H.S. ■

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The year is 1858. The Butterfield Overland Mail Stage, crossing twice a week through the backcountry of San Diego County, is part of the Great Southern Overland Stage Route. For those aboard the eastbound stage, it's time to grit their teeth: they're about to enter the Colorado desert — hellish heat, bad water, sand



dunes making every turn backbreaking work. For the sand-blasted passengers of the westbound coach, this arroyo at Agua Caliente spells the gateway to relief: water, greenery, solid ground, the beginning of the end of their journey.

Marjorie Reed backs away from examining this painting — her painting — of two coaches meeting. Sitting in the sunny portico of the Butterfield Ranch Cafe, part of an oasis along the Great Southern Overland Route of 1849, she beams with pride — not just for this painting, but a lifetime devoted to stagecoaches, this road, a grand adventure in the American saga.

"I've been painting Butterfield stagecoaches for 60 years," she says. "I've had four husbands, but this love has been with me longer than any of them. And I've traveled every inch of the Great Southern Route, from Tipton, Missouri, through Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, right up here through San Diego County and on to San Francisco."

And she has five books about stagecoaches, illustrated with her paintings and text, to prove it.

At first glance she seems a frail little woman: 80 years old, 75 pounds, hardly filling her white blouse and slacks. But you notice the eyes. Blue. Open. Bright. She looks up with those eyes and says, "Don't let's just sit here and talk about it. Want to go see it? Grab your hat!"

Ten minutes along the road, we're standing on the edge of a high pass overlooking a valley of rocks and sand and mesquite bushes. Fading off towards the far Imperial Valley desert floor is Vallecito Valley. Wind blasts silently up and over this pass, nearly blow-

I ve been painting Butterfield stagecoaches for 60 years. I ve had four husbands, but this love has been with me longer than any of them.

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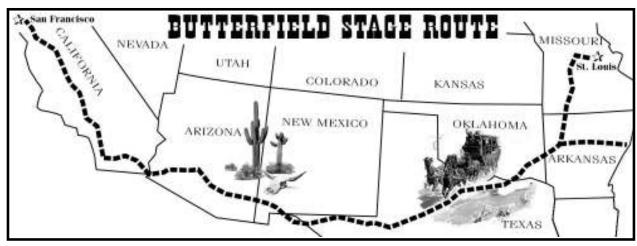
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ing Marjorie off her feet, which she negotiates with little skips.

"I first walked through this valley in 1937," she shouts. "See that ditch winding down through the old rocks there?" She points, wind flapping the sleeves of her blouse. "That was the old Butterfield Stage Route. A track, really. If you were standing here in 1858 at the right time, you'd see one of their coaches and six horses coming up the valley in a cloud of dust. As they got near the final climb down there, you'd hear the rattle of the harness, the rumble of the wheels, the shouts of the driver, the snorts of the horses. They'd be getting up speed to make the slope."

We stand there, imagining coaches roaring up this ridge, horses shining with sweat, muscles bulging, their driver sitting up high



Route from 1858 to 1861

on the right side of the buckboard, cracking the horses' backs with his six sets of reins. The guard rides shotgun to his left, his rifle cradled in his arms. Passengers gawk out the window, the great triangular canvas box for the mail and baggage bouncing around on its straps behind the coach body... "Gaaarn! GIT!" In

the silence I can see the damned thing rattling up towards us along a track through the valley floor's bushes. In fact, a meandering dust-track looks as if it may have been the road....

"Is that it?" I shout.

"No," says Marjorie. "That's a horse trail the parks people have cleared recently. It's changed a little in 150 years. Let's go see the stage station at Vallecito. That really gives you a feeling for what the stage years were like. I've painted it hundreds of times."

And she skips down the road like a kid.

The Butterfield stagecoach era lasted four years, from

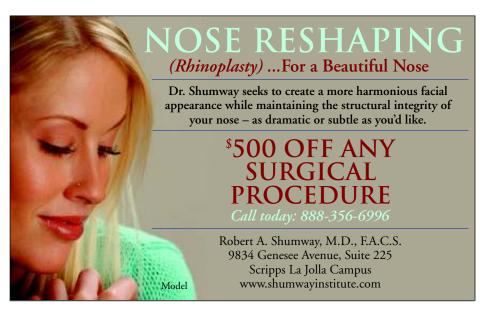
1858 to 1861. It came just before the railroad, and like the railroad, it marked the end of the Wild West, while embodying the very heart of it. Transcontinental stage lines just preceded the Civil War and almost garnered San Diego a direct connection to the East.

Almost. Ironically the steam

train's development back east made the Butterfield Overland Mail possible out west. By the mid-19th-Century in the Atlantic states, steam trains were taking over horse-drawn stage lines. Stagecoach drivers were retiring. At the same time, the New Frontier was opening up west of St. Louis. A race was heating up to create a mail link with the growing cities on the West Coast. It would be years before an east-west railroad could be built, but Congressmen from the West wanted those links, and they wanted them now.

John Butterfield, a good friend of newly elected President Buchanan, watched his eastern stage lines evaporate. He sold the president on the virtues of financing a Great Southern Mail Stage Route to the West, and he put out the call to "all his boys"—the drivers — to join him in

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a great enterprise.

Butterfield had no trouble gathering his drivers, and they had no problem corralling 2000 horses and mules to spread along the stage route. But selling the concept of a southern route to Congress was another matter. It was a question of politics: ever since the Gold Rush of '49, the North wanted the most direct access (west along the 40th parallel) to prosperous San Francisco. The Southern state senators wanted the route to go along the 30th parallel — well south — so they'd have access to Pacific ports, while avoiding Northern states. If they broke with the Union, a link through the South could mean securing California for the Confederacy.

Compromise won out: the route would start at the railhead of Tipton, just west of St. Louis, Missouri, but it would plunge down to the Mexican border and beyond, then scoop up through California to San Francisco. That way — via Fort Smith in Arkansas; El Paso, Texas; and Fort Yuma in Arizona —



the route avoided crossing the Continental Divide and meeting winter snows. Water and grass were said to be good enough year-round through this southern scooproute — at least as far as the Colorado Desert and the California mountains.

Those mountain ranges destroyed San Diego's hopes of joining the grand stagecoach scheme. The northsouth amphitheater of mountains ringing San Diego made it easier for the stages to enter the county through the south, exit to the north, and make for Los Angeles and 'Frisco. A competing stage line, started by 28-year-old Californian James E. Birch and backed by Southern senators, ran from San Antonio, Texas, to San Diego, California. The problem was getting to LA and on to San Francisco. In Birch's plan,

that section would be negotiated by steamship. The idea never flew. In Northern California, Birch's San Antonio-San Diego service was derided as the line that ran from "nowhere to nowhere."

The US Postmaster General awarded the great east-west overland mail contract to John Butterfield, whose stages were up and running in no time. He built or acquired 250 coaches, hired 2000 employees and as many horses and mules, and formed relays of men, coaches, and animals at 140 stages across the continent—including six in San Diego County's backcountry: Carrizo Creek, Palm Spring, Vallecito, San Felipe Ranch, Warner's Ranch, and Oak Grove.

Beginning on the 16th of September 1858, Butterfield's coaches traveled twice a week in both directions, roaring through the 2800-mile route, the distance between Moscow and Peking.

On that first trip, the only through-passenger from St. Louis to San Francisco was a young journalist, Waterman L. Ormsby, of the New York Herald. A new father, the 23-year-old Ormsby often longed to be home in New York with his wife and child. Yet he loved adventure. His dispatches became the hot item in the Herald, as readers followed him through every stagestop. Never again would his career live up to this early moment of glory.

"I could not but be impressed with the fact that [I] was the only member of the press who witnessed the deposit of the first mail bag, en route for San Francisco overland.... There were only two small bags...so that in case of accident to the wagons the mail can be thrown across a mule and proceed on its destination."

As we drive down paved S-2 towards Vallecito, I think of Ormsby's diary entry just after passing the first stage post in San Diego County, Carrizo Creek (which we can't visit because it's part of a Navy bombing range). Ormsby was entering San Diego County after 18 buttbumping days and 100 horseand-crew-change stages; after crossing one of the toughest parts of the route, the Colorado desert.

"An emigrant train had just passed, and we met numbers of cattle which had been abandoned as being too weak to travel;

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there they stood, almost living skeletons, gradually dying of thirst, with water within a few miles of them. I could almost imagine they looked supplicatingly at us and begged us for just one single drop. Some were standing, others lying, and others just gasping in the agonies of death — a sight almost enough to sicken the stoutest heart. The loss to emigrant trains, especially large ones, is very great from this cause.

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"Vallecito, or Little Valley, is a beautiful green spot — a perfect oasis in the desert; it is about five miles square, surrounded by rugged timberless hills, and the green bushes and grass and hard road are a most refreshing relief from the sandy sameness of the desert. There are a number of springs, some of them salt. There is but one ranche [sic], where we changed horses. The sand sparkles in the sun with large quantities of mica, which the uninitiated often mistake for gold dust, as it much resembles the precious metal in color. We found, here, part of Mr. Foreman's emigrant train, which from thirty-three wagons had dwindled down to seven, with but a tithe of the cattle with which they started."

One hundred thirty-seven years later, our little party bounces up the same hillock, with the Vallecito stage station sitting on its low summit, looking for all the world as it did to Ormsby in 1858,

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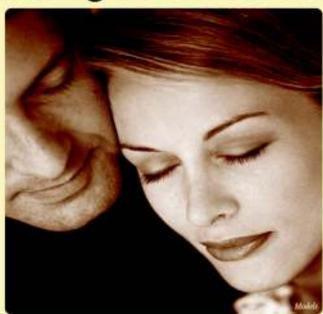




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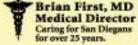
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thanks largely to a local rancher named Campbell, who rebuilt the crumbling adobe in 1934. I'm looking at Marjorie's painting of Vallecito in 1858, in the book that first made me aware of her, The Butterfield Overland Stage in California. I've brought it with us to match past and present. In this painting, blue uniformed, red bandanna'd US Cavalry soldiers relax on the trunk of an old mesquite tree while their horses rest in the shade. In the background, boneweary genteel folk are walking from one of the red Butterfield coaches, entering the adobe.

The old mesquite tree is still there. Its 20-foot branches lean on sand for support. "This is what they called the Home Station," says Bill Daley, the volunteer parks man who's met us here. 'Good meals were served here. Supplies came from Palomar Mountain. Beef stew, venison, sauerkraut, bread, butter.... Many stage posts had nothing; you were expected to pack much of your own food, but not here."

Stages roaring in would spot the warm glow of the lanterns through adobe windows. It became a legendary sight among travelers. It meant the long desert hell was over; at last they were in the California of their dreams.

We wander inside. The huge original fireplace still stands, straw still sticking out of the old adobe (why hasn't some goat nibbled these things off?). The plank above the fireplace must've been a natural place to plonk a tankard and a plate.

"I often used to come down here and paint," says Marjorie. "I'd come trekking down here in my old 1929 Model-A Ford with my husky dog Boy, and we went all over the desert. Down to Agua Caliente just south of here, all deep sand. I had to let a lot of the air out of my tires. I was the only one around here.

"Agua Caliente was the most beautiful place. The water had come in and made basins in the ground. And can you believe? Hot water in one pool and beside it cold water on the other. So you

had hot and cold water running all the time! My private campground! Except for an old prospector; he'd be there camping with his burro sometimes. And he'd have a fire started and he gave me the history of the area. That's partly what got me interested in all this. That was a very choice piece of my life."

What also got her interested was a strange experience not far out of Pomona.

"I was studying with Iack Wilkinson Smith [a famous Western artist from Alhambra]. He often gave lessons to the children of friends, but mostly he turned them over to me. So I had one little girl, and I went out on the old dirt road around Pomona, and I was painting stagecoaches then, in my own way, and this little girl was sitting beside me with her little sketchbox, and I was painting with my easel. And there was a road going 'round with a curve here, and the mountains in the background. It was a real nice place. So I pictured a stagecoach coming 'round

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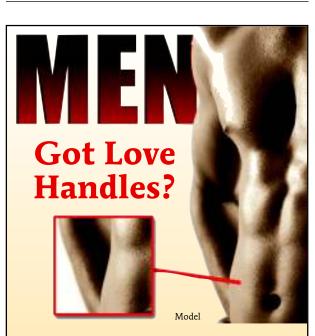
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kind of shivered, and I whisthe curve. "I said to her, Dorothy,

you may not want to put a stagecoach in, but you can do anything you want. You can put in a man on a horse, but I'm going to do a stagecoach and you can watch me.' So I got the stagecoach in, I got the dog in, I got the painting done. I started to put my stuff away, and all of a sudden, around the curve, came...a stagecoach! I couldn't believe it. My eyes

had been glued there, and I

pered, 'Dorothy, do vou see a stagecoach coming around that curve?'

'Yes,' she said.

"So I wasn't crazy. Here came this beautiful Concord coach — beautiful! And an elderly man driving, and he pulled up right beside us at the side of the road. I can still see him wrapping the reins around the brake, jumping off, and he came down and he looked at my painting and he says, 'That's a

horrible stagecoach! That's an old English stagecoach. That's not a Butterfield coach!'

"This was Captain William Banning. Son of the famous stagecoach driver Phineas Banning, the one that had the stage line to San Pedro and Wilmington in the older days. He said, 'I've got my barns, with all these beautiful stagecoaches. I'll give you permission to come, and all my stagecoaches are in this barn and the horses. And you can spend all the time you want using them for models. I want you to do a good stagecoach.' "

Not long after, Marjorie embarked on a 20-year

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odyssey following the trail of the most famous trail of all, the Butterfield, and painting it from one end to the other.

But Vallecito has always been her favorite. "In the '30s, I'd come up here and walk up there along the old road through this valley. Oh, I'd find little tiny kids' shoes — I think they were from the Mormon Battalion, probably — all kinds of oddments. I kept them for a long time — pieces of stagecoaches, old rusty hinges. I've still got the hinges. And here at Vallecito, oh! This was where I got my prize. I camped with my dog here, and I saw this something on the ground. I said,

'That looks funny.' And I picked it up and it was a little crucifix made out of a bullet, with a hole to hang a chain. I still have that. That was right here by the station. I wonder who had held on to that as they crossed the desert."

We're standing under the porch, looking down towards a clump of springfed mesquite trees, very green against the dun-colored hills. Bill Daley points to them. "If you looked outside, back then, you might have seen three, four hundred covered wagons here, resting up, [while everybody bought] supplies after their big crossing of the desert. That's why James Lassitor built this stage

station. James Ruler Lassitor. He built it of salt grass sods and operated it as a stage depot and resupply place for immigrants from the East coming in. He made his money from sales of supplies, food, equipment. The immigrants were desperate for food and repairs. He prospered."

Some of them were just plain desperate. I wander through the dark storeroom to the kitchen and bedroom area. "This is where the Lady in White came off one of the stages," says Bill. "She was looking very frail, sick from the bad food and the stress of traveling — day, night, day — without respite. The horses were changed,

the drivers were changed, but the passengers just had to keep going, night and day, stage to stage. But she couldn't get back into the stage."

Legend has it that the Lady in White lay down in here, where I'm standing, in this dark little adobe alcove off the kitchen. Soon, she expired, right on this dirt floor. In her white dress they found papers and the name of her betrothed, a gold prospector who'd apparently made money up in the gold fields. She was on her way to Sacramento to be married.

According to Bill, the Lady in White was buried in the cemetery, down at the bottom of the slope, beside one of two bandits who used to haunt the road between here and Yuma. "Four miles east of here," says Bill, "they robbed a wagon and buried \$65,000 in \$50 gold coins. One bandit was killed, the other skedaddled. People come around here with metal detectors looking for that gold. Some say it's in a cave on the mountainside. It's never been found."

I ask him — I have to if the lady's ghost wanders here. "Well, I'll tell you the one thing that does happen, and this is straight: Sometimes when I'm alone, I'll hear a horse's snort, like they do when they've exerted themselves. I'll go outside, and there'll be nothing there.

As usual. Some say they hear coach wheels, but the horse's snort, that's all I hear. When you're alone, that does make the hair stand on the back of your neck."

Correspondent Ormsby was amazed Butterfield managed to get the whole rickety apparatus created in the first place — and held together over such distances.

> "Considering that the contract was signed just a year before the route went into operation; that an exploring party had to be sent over the road to lay out the details of the line; that over 100 wagons had to

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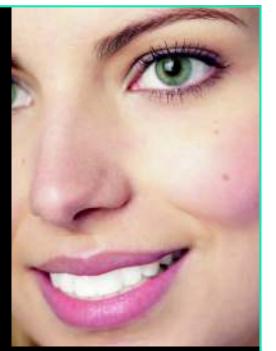


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be built, nearly 1500 horses and mules bought and stationed, corrals and station houses built, men employed — the work appears to be superhuman."

One aspect of stagecoach life that didn't impress Ormsby was the bandit. He wanted the government to step in.

"As I have frequently mentioned, the route needs thorough military pro-

tection. There are many places where a few resolute men could rifle the stage at will and possess themselves of a valuable mail. Instead of posting large bodies of men in comfortable quarters in populated districts, the government might advantageously distribute them along the route, where they might serve the double purpose of keeping the Indians in check and protecting the mail from

desperate white men, who are none the less to be feared...."

John Butterfield, of course, was most worried about the mail. This was, after all, a mail contract. "Conductors should never lose sight of the mails for a moment," his written rules ordered employees. "You will be particular to see that the mails are protected from the wet, and kept from injury of every kind while in your possession.... A good look-out should be kept for Indians. No intercourse should be had with them, but let them alone; by no means annoy or wrong them. At all times an efficient guard should be kept, and such guard should be always ready for any emergency."

His other enemy was time.

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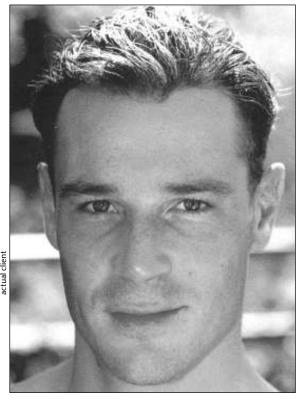


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We've left Vallecito and popped into Marjorie's home in the valley, an idyllic wood cabin under a pepper tree not 50 yards from the old Butterfield road. She shows me the lead cross and other souvenirs from the coaching days and sits me down next to a cowboy mannequin wearing an expensive Stetson. The cabin is also where she paints. One magnificent oil of a stage leaving Taos Mission in the snow at night dominates her main room's wall. "It's God who paints," she insists. "Not me. I just hold the brush. He's very quick with the brush."

Her brush puts life and fire and motion into the horses and the coaches and the landscapes she paints. Some works are said to be worth \$10,000 to \$15,000, but she refuses to sell any for more or less than \$500. "I don't like money," she says. "It does bad things to people."

Then we're off again, zooming up through two valleys. San Diego's backcountry stage route is like a long, genteel staircase, leading uphill towards Palomar and Volcan mountains. At least one of the valleys used to be a lake until earthquakes ruptured its walls. Now we're at the head of Earthquake Valley (its name was recently changed to Shelter Valley), walking up another dry arroyo, this one surrounded by great crags of rocks. We arrive at a 20-foot drop of smooth concave stone, a spectacular waterfall during a storm. "How would a stagecoach get through this?" I ask Marjorie.

"Look at the rocks down there," she says. "Those were rocks blasted away by my fourth husband for the county. But he wasn't the first."

The first Anglos here were the Mormon Battalion, which came through in 1847. Their wagons stuck in this steep canyon, too nar-

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row for passage. A Lieutenant-Colonel Cooke saw the problem, took off his coat, rolled up his sleeves, grabbed a pick, and ordered his men to "set to." They hacked away at the overhanging rocks, widening the path by a foot, up the four and a half miles to the top of the pass.

Eleven years later, New York Herald correspondent Waterman Ormsby was impressed, as his stage squeezed up between the rocks along the creek bed. His report read:

> "Twenty-eight miles from Vallecito, our road...proceeds through a very narrow pass — the most wonderful on the route. It appears to have been the bed of a fierce torrent, but

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3707 Nobel Court 858.455.5006 www.salonnobel.com cut through the solid rocks with the regularity of a deep cut for a railroad, and perpendicularly up the steep sides of the narrow pass the jagged rocks tower, apparently ready to fall and crush all beneath them. Our progress through this portion of the road was quite slow, necessarily, and it required all [the driver] Mr. [Warren] Hall's skill to guide our team and wagon safely through the pass, for in some places there was hardly an inch to spare. It is the most wonderful natural road I ever saw or heard of: one of the drivers, however, thought the journey rather dull and declared that, if God ever pronounced this part of the earth good, it was more than ever man did...."

it was now dry. The chan-

nel appears to have been

For Ormsby it held special significance. Box Canyon was the last barrier between desiccated desert roads and the lush California landscape he'd heard about. Right above Box Canyon lay San Felipe Valley, a place of farms and trees — and good roads.

"To me [Box Canyon] seemed a special dispensation of Providence to make us the more appreciate the beautiful road which lay just beyond, for, just as we came up from the rugged pass, we struck a beautiful hard road which would rival [New York City's] Third Avenue in its palmiest days.

"It seemed to infuse new life into ourselves and animals, and I felt as if I could at that moment turn back and cheerfully retraverse the dreary journey which I had passed, in consideration of this little patch of good road. It led directly across the bed of a large lake, now dry, but which in forcing an outlet had evidently cut the deep pass through which we had just come. We were now fairly out of the desert, and from this point on until we reach San Francisco — a distance of over seven hundred miles the route is through a series of fertile valleys, abounding in fruits and agricultural productions, compared with which the gold fields of the state sink into insignificance. In the valley of San Felipe we saw

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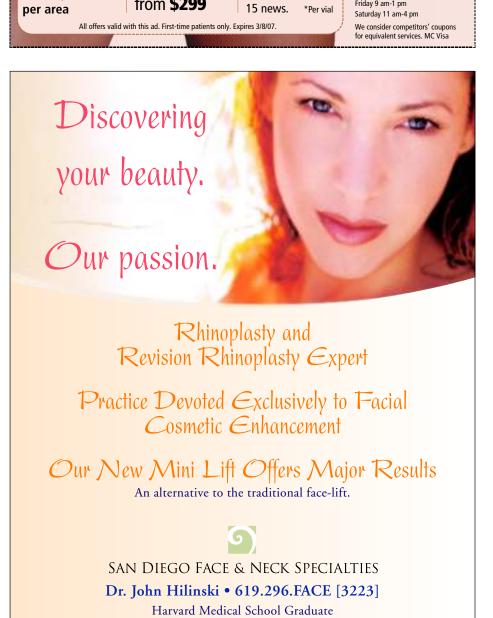
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a number of prosperous Indian ranches, where they raise corn and melons and live much like white folks...."

By three o'clock, Marjorie has directed us to the top of the next valley, driven us off-road across wild dry fields to the base of another pile of rocks. I'm fool enough to complain about the bumps. "You think this is bad! What do you think it was like for the immigrants for three weeks!" she exclaims.

Ormsby was understated on the issue.

"For much of the distance

the traveller has to rough it in the roughest manner. From Red River to El Paso there are few accommodations for eating, beyond what are afforded by the company stations and their own employees. In time, arrangements will be made to supply good meals at these points. The first travellers will find it convenient to carry with them as much durable food as possible. As for sleeping, most of the wagons are arranged so that the backs of the seats let down and form a bed the length of the vehicle. When the stage is full, the passengers must take turns at sleeping. Perhaps the jolting will be found disagreeable at first, but a few nights without sleeping will obviate that difficulty, and soon the jolting will be as little of a disturbance as the rocking of a cradle to a sucking babe. For my part, I found no difficulty in sleeping over the roughest roads, and I have no doubt that anyone else will learn quite as quickly. A bounce of the wagon, which makes one's head strike the top, bottom or sides, will be equally disregarded, and 'nature's sweet restorer' found as welcome on the hard bottom of the wagon as in the downy beds of the St. Nicholas [a New York hotel]. White pants and kid gloves had better be discarded by most passengers."

Ahead of me, Marjorie is loping up the slope, over rocks, through an arroyo, whooping and shouting. "I can't believe this! This is Foot and Walker Pass, but





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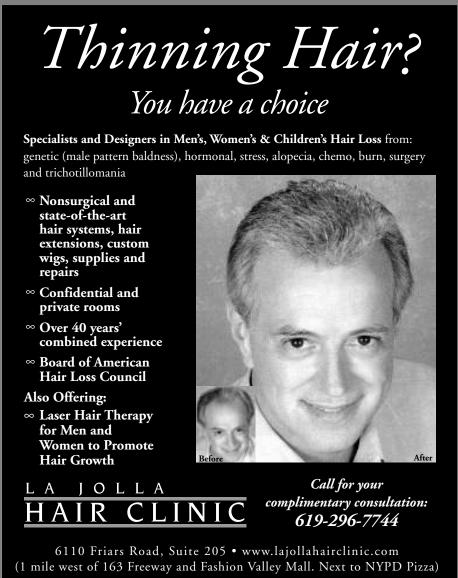
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look what's happened to the road!" Her slim figure is silhouetted against rocks and sky as I gasp after her. "In 60 years! This used to be flat across this gully, now it's turned into chasm. I guess the rain got into the wagon wheel tracks and started digging."

The climb was called Foot and Walker Pass because it's the steepest bit of road this stagecoach has to negotiate. Not just six strong horses pulling, but everybody has to get out and push to get the coach up the slope.

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in the thought, puffing along behind Marjorie, that folks back then were puffing away as I was, sweating over these same boulders — except they had a driver at the top twitching his whip, waiting for them to get back on board and not spoil his timetable.

"Remember, boys," John Butterfield always exhorted his drivers. "Nothing on God's earth must stop the US mail!" Mail for Butterfield was where the contract money came. Passengers were second priority.

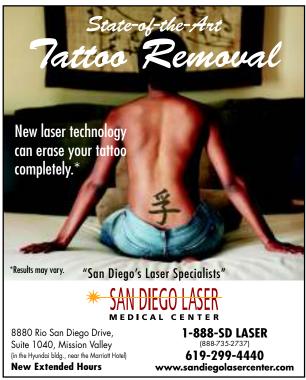
By the time I reach the top, Marjorie's standing like an alert prairie dog on a top rock, surveying the next valley. I take several lungfuls, then open up her book to page 17, where a red coach-

and-six are shown coming over this exact spot (except her coach is coming the other way, downhill). You can almost hear the horses snorting, the brakes screeching. The rocks, the emptiness, the golden shine of distant Mount Volcan in the afternoon sunlight; this sight, for the Mormons, Ormsby, for us, really hasn't changed.

It's getting towards twilight as we pull into "one of the most welcome and most famous of the stopping places on the old southern immigrant trail," Warner's Ranch. Marjorie's painting, on page 16, shows a coach-and-four galloping up to a large, wellkept colonial adobe cottage.

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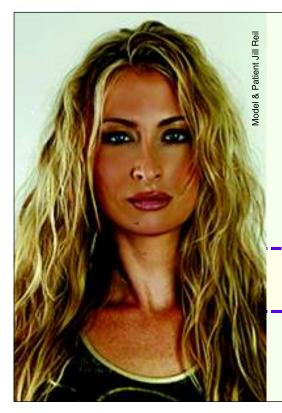
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- **5** After surgery



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supplies," reads another text.

No longer. The old adobe is still standing, but only just. It leans into pine trees near a corral and a ranch employee's house. The famous porch, where folks gathered, drank a pint, chatted, and stretched their legs, slopes dizzily downhill. J.J. Warner, an American who'd become a Mexican citizen and was deeded this 44,000acre spread by the Mexican government, did good business here. It was the crossroads for those breaching through the hills to go south to San Diego. "The present owners," says Marjorie, unhappy as she looks at the wreck. "They could do more. They have a huge and prosperous ranch. All that money! This was one of the most important stops. They put cowboys in it for a while. That helped wreck it. Now it's just falling down. And yet it is an important part of our history!"

Another ten miles up the road, we see just what could be done at Warners. The last Butterfield Stage stop in San Diego County,

Oak Grove, was the division chief's headquarters. The long, low-porched adobe has been restored in recent years — partly by Marjorie, although not to her satisfaction. It's still lovely, with porches protecting the adobe all around the long building.

"But this is what you have to see," Marjorie says. Crawling through a gap in the fence, she walks down a slope, clinging to the hurricane fencing, then runs down a loose earth abutment. I follow, watching for snakes, rocks, stakes, and end up

running blind down the flat and almost into - a stagecoach.

It's as if I've stepped into an ancient pachyderm burial ground. Dozens of hooped covered wagons. Two or three stagecoaches wobble on wheels, their cabins leaning crazily. In the gloom of dusk, the scene looks surreal, Disneylike. The shiny stagecoach station alongside skeletons of another age, lying like elephant carcasses beneath the century-old live oaks.

"Don't look at the new

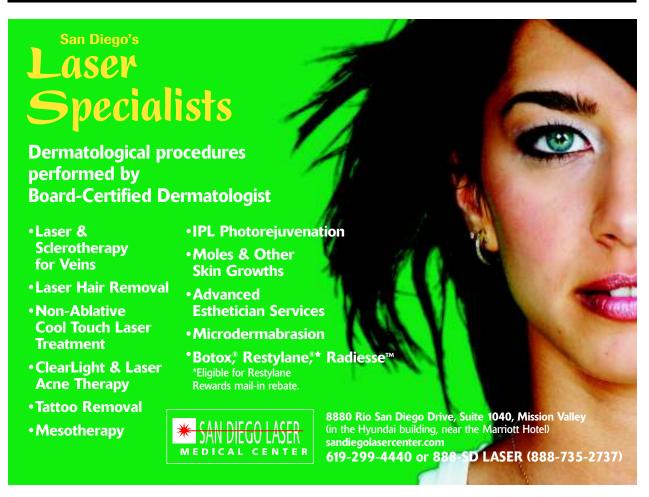
coaches," says Marjorie. "They're not real. See? Plywood. These are just nostalgic versions." She doesn't even give them a look. She can't stand Hollywood. Forty years ago, Disney offered her a job drawing Mickey Mouse. She went for two days but hated the regimentation, the formula art they wanted her to do. She's been out on the road ever since. Still, the covered wagons do look real, and somehow in the gathering night, they punctuate the voyage.

San Diego never made it into the stagecoach era: too difficult for coaches to climb over the mountains and into the little border port. The much-derided "Jackass Trail" was the mail connection in those days, a mule-trip over Oriflamme Pass beyond Cuyamaca reservoir, connecting with stages at Vallecito. Marjorie wouldn't even stop at the turnoff, south of Box Canyon.

Even the Butterfield turned out to be an interim measure. That compromise in Congress, awarding the mail-carrying rights to Butterfield's southern route, eventually became untenable — not because of nature or Indians, but because Americans started killing each other: the Civil War. You couldn't start off north and go south anymore.

The nail in the coffin was the railroads. No amount of horses could match them. The last coach came through in 1861, as, once again, San Diego waited with naive excitement at the promise of a railroad connection back East. And again, the mountains won. The gaps east of Los Angeles guaranteed that southern city would become the great western terminus. San Diego slumped back into its small-port disappointment — a disappointment that might've saved it from becoming what







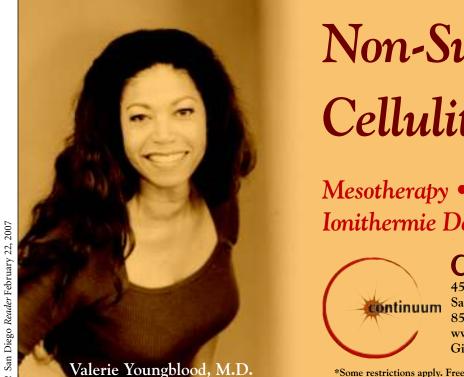
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As for Ormsby, his arrival aboard that very first Butterfield Overland Mail stagecoach in the outskirts of San Francisco became one long celebration.

> "The villagers gathered around, asking all sorts of questions.

> 'Have you got the States mail?'

'What's the news from the States?'

'Is the cable working yet?'

'Have you got any through passengers?

'Only the correspondent from the Herald!'

'Why, then, we shall hear about it.'

'How did you like your trip, sir?'

'Very well.'

'How did you manage to sleep?'

'What, slept in the wagons?' 'Did you ride day and night?'

'Well, I declare, I should think you would be tired.'

'Have plenty to eat?' 'What, beans and jerked beef?'

'Glad to hear you say they'd have better soon.'

'Meet any Injuns?'

'None at all, eh?'

'Well, that's some comfort.' 'How long have you been?'

'Left St. Louis on the 16th of September.'

'Well, that beats all stage ridin".

'Going to come through twice a week, eh?'

'Well, that is good now,

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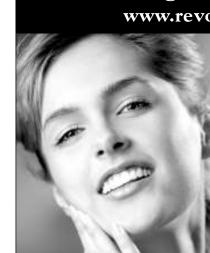
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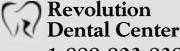
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Lali Reddy, M.D. Cosmetic Medicine Clinic www.non-surgical-lift.com • 858-272-7546 ain't it?'
'How's the line on the other end?'
'Slow, eh?'

'Of course, all the States people are slow.'

'Let 'em come out here and see a little life.'
'Here we do live — live fast, too.'"

The first Butterfield stage roared up to the stage office in San Francisco, "our driver giving a shrill blast of his horn and a flourish of triumph for the arrival of the first overland mail in San Francisco from St. Louis.... But the mails must be delivered, and in a jiffy we were at the post office door, blowing the horn, howling and shouting for somebody to come and take the overland mail."

Finally at half past 7:00 a.m. on Sunday October 10, 23 days, 23 and a half hours from the time John Butterfield had placed the bags in the coach at St. Louis, another man took the mail bags from the coach. "And I had the satisfaction of knowing that the correspondent of the *New York*

Herald had kept his promise and gone through with the first mail — the sole passenger and the only one who had ever made the trip across the plains in less than 50 days," writes Ormsby.

Once he got to San Francisco, Ormsby's derriere no doubt persuaded him to return to New York by ship, via Cape Horn. But his dispatches showed a man of spunk and curiosity, with a prophetic eye to the future.

"A wall will be erected along the [Mexican] frontier, on the line of which settlements will grow, and beyond which the bloodthirsty Indians will not be allowed to pass," he wrote, en route, as if to assure future xenophobes.

As to the future of communications, his foresight was uncanny. "I looked forward in my imagination to the time when, instead of a wagon road to the Pacific, we should have a railroad; and when, instead of having to wait over 40 days for an answer from San Francisco, a delay of as many minutes will be looked upon as a

gross imposition, and of as many seconds as 'doing from fair to middling.'"

It's almost dark. Marjorie has to get back to her cabin. There's roadrunners to be fed. Quail to be protected. Deer to leave food for. "You know what else I did, after my last husband died?" she says as she leads the climb up the fence-line to the car. "I went to the Holy Land. Eleven times! I lived with the Bedouin. I have a hundred paintings of them..."

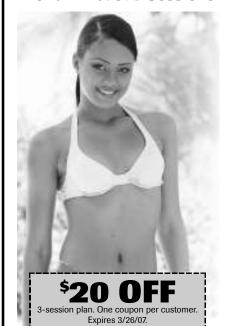
While she's in Middle Eastern desert, I'm still in California's...around 1858, looking at the old stage station, wishing the lanterns were lit, a huge pot of stew bubbling inside. I wanted Warren Hall, the coachdriver, inside smoking his pipe, primed to tell tales of handling six horses up Foot and Walker Pass, letting loose a few yarns about life on the road — when the road really was a road — for those ready to rip up old lives to start anew. Now that would make a helluva story.■

— Bill Manson

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LETTERS

visit his prior decision. Meanwhile, I can say volunteers will come forward to help keep Lake Murray open to all.

> James Magner via e-mail

It Ain't Broke, Don't

Re the "City Lights" story on the Water Department versus Park and Rec ("Turnstiles for Lake Murray," February 8). As a longtime user of Lake Murray, I fully concur with Jim Brown's assessment of the problem, and I vote to keep jurisdiction with the Water Department. They have always done a great job of maintenance for all to benefit from, and this is complemented with the volunteer leadership of Mayor Barbara Cleves with the Friends of Lake Murray keeping the lake area clean of debris, trash, fishing line, etc., that greatly benefits the multitude of wildlife that live at the lake. In closing, it is my opinion that Lake Murray is a reservoir. The Water Department should have absolute authority and control over the city and county lakes, including the water and the surrounding boundaries, including the land.

> Robert Powell via e-mail

What's Wrong With You People?

Why did City Lakes change concession stands from people leasing stands ("Turnstiles for Lake Murray?" "City Lights," February 8)? Did they think they were going to make lots of money? Since Jim Brown left, all the lakes ate s**t. What the f**k is wrong with you City Lakes people? You spent all the money on yourselves.

Rick Parsons via e-mail

Tribute To A Guru

I'm a faithful Reader reader, and there was a sleeper with Naomi Wise (Restaurant Review, "In Memoriam," February 1). Instead of her chef rundown, she ran down one of her long-term guru friends. A fine obituary if I've ever read one.

And February 8, John Brizzolara in his "T.G.I.F."



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column, his tribute to his father was, I thought, unbelievably tastefully done. I really admire the writ-

ing on both pieces. Ledterman Normal Heights

Been Reading Bin Laden

Regarding Lawrence M. Ludlow and his letter to the editor "We're Our Own Worst Enemy" (February 1). My reaction for your emphasizing of your utter hatred for the military and your quote: "The incompetence of the professional U.S. military establishment...professional soldiers are a disgrace, a failure, and a danger to us all." Your complete disregard and ignorance of the history of the world and the place America and its military has had in saving all people from the domination of Stalin, Hitler, and Japan (when we were threatened) is an indication of your sick, slanted hatred of the military. Your closing comment that "We do not need troops...around the globe - stirring up the very resentment and hatred that came back to haunt us in the retaliatory attack of 9/11" sounds like it's right out of the bin Laden book of propaganda and avoids the obvious that radical Islam hates us not because of our troops but for centuries as a result of our being regarded as infidels. Your unrealistic line, "We do not need them [the troops]" is a classic example of stupidity and ignorance that without them you would be speaking Arabic and in danger of having your hatefilled head separated from

> Jerry Gross via e-mail

An Editorial Surprise

your body.

While I am not a Reader subscriber, I happened to pick up an issue and read about the Lost Boys of Sudan ("We Have to Tell the Story," January 25) and was totally captivated by the story and the excellent writing!! Guess I never expected to find such articles in the Reader, so I wanted to express my thanks and appreciation, and I will no doubt pick up issues of the Reader again. Keep up the good work!

J. Huscher via e-mail

A History Of Violations

This letter is in response to the article "Code Dogs Hound the Plank" ("City Lights," January 25). More than two years ago, I served as the interim city manager of the City of Imperial Beach. I am very familiar with the city's approach to code enforcement.

In the article, the Reader takes the City of Imperial Beach and code enforcement officer David Garcias to task for harassing Mr. Al Winkelman, owner of the Plank. The author of the article failed to note, however, that Mr. Winkelman has a long history of building and fire code violations, not only in his place of business but also in rental properties he owns in Imperial Beach.

The city council held public hearings concerning Mr. Winkelman's rental property, which was in violation of numerous fire and building code laws. Only after threat of a monetary fine and legal action did Mr. Winkelman reluctantly comply with these important safety laws.

The city council of Imperial Beach has adopted very strict laws and policies in an effort to upgrade the overall condition of residential and commercial property within the city. The code enforcement officer, David Garcias, is following the direction of those who adopted the law. My experience with Mr. Garcias convinced me that he is an ethical, honest public employee who is doing the job he was hired to do. He is not making new laws to suit his own purposes.

Fire codes and building codes were enacted to ensure the safety of residents and visitors to Imperial Beach. These uniform codes are adopted by virtually every city in California. The difference in Imperial Beach is that the city council is committed to enforcing these laws to protect citizens and to improve property values in the city. Mr. Winkelman needs to make the same commitment to his customers and tenants.

> Lauren Wasserman via e-mail

Facts In The USSR

In response to Scott Pactor's question "Does anyone not miss the old USSR?" ("Lists," by Jay Allen Sanford, January 25, in which Pactor listed Communism and Maoism as his top two favorite 20thcentury political movements): I'm sure the 20 million (conservative estimate) killed during the entire history of the Soviet Union (1917-1991) do not miss the old USSR. These 20 million were killed through civil war and as the result of official government policies that resulted in deaths from famine, executions, and labor camps.

As for Maoism, "Great art, great iconography": iconography denotes the use of symbols in a painting to make clear the significance of what it depicts. The iconic portrait of Mao as benevolent leader does not make clear that during his reign as the leader of the People's Republic of China (1949-1976), a conservative estimate of 40 million were murdered by executions, labor camps, and the policies of his "Great Leap Forward" and "Cultural Revolution."

Since Mr. Pactor, by his answers, seems to favor style over substance (by never letting facts get in the way of being cool), I decided to throw in a few facts as well as nominate some of my favorite 20th-century political movements. In addition to the American civil rights movement, which he listed, what about Poland's Solidarity, which led to elected overthrow of Soviet rule? Gandhi's civil disobedience campaign, which led to England's giving up rule in India? Nelson Mandela's African National Congress and the anti-apartheid movement, which led to the end of white rule in South Africa? You get the picture, Mr. Pactor? I'm advocating substance over style. I'm talking about movements for the masses, not movements against the masses.

Gabriel Fernandez via e-mail

Up in Smoke

Chaparral and Fire, Myth and Reality

n many things in life, we have a tendency to go one way or the other, and not much in between," says Richard Halsey, director of the California Chaparral Institute. "Once, fire was all bad. Now, everything needs to burn in order to keep it healthy.

Halsey, a biologist and ecologist, has been invited to speak about the facts and myths of San Diego's native chaparral at the San Diego Audubon Society's general meeting on Friday,

LOCAL **EVENTS** February 23. One myth he will cover is that chaparral (the dense, native plant

community that blankets most Southern Californian hillsides) is to blame for fire devastation. "Fire size here is all about wind and weather conditions," he explains. "You don't get big fires when you don't have Santa Ana wind conditions, and you have big fires when you do. It doesn't matter what kind of fuel it's burning through; as long as there's a wind pushing it, it's going to keep going. In the Cedar Fire, it jumped Interstate 15 and went into the Miramar Air Base. It went all the way to just before it got to the 805 and dropped dead out in very dense, 50- to 60-year-old chaparral. According to conventional wisdom, things burned that shouldn't have burned, and things that didn't burn should have burned.'

A popular misconception is that the Native Americans regularly burned chaparral in order to keep it healthy. "Chaparral is not very good, economically speaking, for crops or grazing cattle. What the Indians would do is burn [the land] to typeconvert it, or turn it into something more economically viable for them." Halsey insists that, contrary to public opinion, chaparral does not need fire to remain healthy. 'I often ask, 'Do you have fire insurance?' When a person says, 'Of course,' then I say, 'Clearly you're adapted to burn then, and we'll have to burn you out every 30 years,' and they balk. It's not that [chaparral] wants to burn — it's that evolution has created organisms that have adapted to survive naturally occurring fires." For example, fires ignited by lightning.



No homes or lives were lost in 1889 in a fire that burned 800,000 acres in Orange County. In the Cedar Fire of 2003 (which burned approximately 273,000 acres), 2232 homes were destroyed and 14 people were



Chaparral-covered mountain

killed. Halsey says planning commissions, not chaparral, are to blame. "Scripps Ranch lost 300-plus homes, and the main reason those houses were lost were shake-shingle roofs [made of cedar wood]. Embers from the wild lands [which can travel by wind for up to one mile landed on the roofs in the morning and the houses caught fire. There weren't enough fire engines, so they ended up burning by the afternoon. It's unbelievable how many of those residents pleaded with the city to put the houses back in the same way, with shake-shingle roofs.'

Halsey believes many homes and lives would be saved if firefighters were placed at the "end of the line" of the permitting process. He gives an example of a poorly placed home that five firefighters lost their lives trying to protect in the Esperanza fire of October 2006. "Despite what those people could have done to make the place fire-safe, right below that house was a steep canyon, and fire came blasting up the canyon. There was almost an instantaneous ignition of the area surrounding the house." The home was located in a "fire corridor," which is "an area that gets repeatedly burned; when fire runs through this area, nothing can stop it." One such fire corridor is the area between the El Capitan reservoir and Harbison Canyon. "There are homes there that are getting rebuilt today," says Halsey.

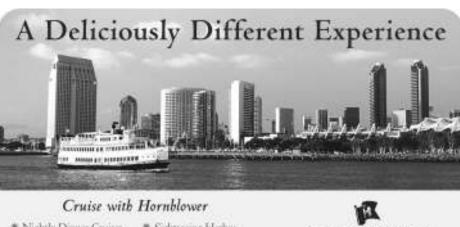
If people insist on placing their homes

in high fire-risk areas, Halsey suggests they place giant red signs notifying firefighters not to proceed past a certain point, for the firefighters' safety. "But people don't want to hear that. When fire chief [Jeff] Bowman told folks in Tierrasanta, years before the Cedar Fire, 'When a fire comes here, I only have so many engines. We're just not going to be able to get to a lot of houses, and we're going to have to let them burn,' everybody gasped. Everybody wants their house saved."

Years before the Cedar Fire, Halsey says, residents were warned of the high fire risk, and obtaining fire insurance was difficult. "Was it their fault? No, it was the fault of the city planning commission that allowed those buildings. If you wanted to design a community to burn down, it would be Scripps Ranch."

Chaparral Ecology and Fire Recovery with Richard Halsev Friday, February 23 7 p.m. **Tecolote Nature Center Tecolote Road (end of the road** heading east from Sea World Drive exit) **Tecolote Canyon Cost: Free** Info: 619-682-7200 or

sandiegoaudubon.org/events.htm



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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

Events that are underlined occur after March 1.

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

"Three Concepts" — Jaime Delfi, John Dillemuth, and Los Animistas exhibit assemblages, sculptures, mixed media, and installation in show opening with reception on Thursday, February 22, 7 p.m., at Galería H&H (Avenida Estéban Cantú 2651, Colonia Dávila). 011-52-664-900-6133. Closes Saturday, April 14. (TIJUANA)

"Mexico and U.S.A. International Rivers" — Marco Antonio Samaniego López discusses his new book, Thursday, February 22, 7 p.m., in Reading Room at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río, 011-52-664-687-9636). Free. (TIJUANA)

"Spanish Gala," classical music played by Orchestra of Baja California with guitar soloist Roberto Limón, Thursday, February 22, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina

OUT & ABOUT

THE MARK OF ZORRO

Saturday, February 24, MiraCosta College.

(SEE FILM)



Street, in Zona Río). Tickets: \$15 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Bike Circuit Ride slated for Sunday, February 25, 9 a.m., at Tercera Etapa, in Zona Río. 011-52-664-630-4233. (TIJUANA)

Mountain-Biking state championships competition continues at

Rancho Bustamante with 11k ride at 10 a.m. on Sunday, February 25. 011-52-664-684-2959. (PLAYAS DE TIJUANA)

Eighth Annual Festival of New Wine and Mollusks is Sunday, February 25, noon–5 p.m., in Salón Rojo and Patio Bugambilia

of the Riviera Cultural Center (Boulevard Costero). Taste newly made Baja California wines, savor oyster, clam, mussel dishes prepared by seafood producers and local restaurants. \$15 tickets include food and wine samples. 011-52-646-178-3136 or 011-52-646-178-3038. [ENSENADA]

Africa en el Cuerpo with Wyoma, five-day workshop on African dance rhythms for all levels of dancers and teachers starts Monday, February 26, 7 p.m., at Salon Kimbara (8th Street #530 between Pio Pico and Quintana Roo). Wyoma, who was choreographer for Kenyan Theater during European tour, founded Tudhaneni Dance project in Namibia. \$250 U.S. 011-52-664-625-1386. (TIJUANA)

Chamber Music Promised when Orchestra of Baja California Ensemble takes stage on Wednesday, February 28, 7 p.m., at Multiforo ICBC, Zona Río. \$5 U.S. 011-52-664-684-8609. (IJUANA)

"Mrs. President," Gonzalo Vega takes stage again, Thursday, March 1, 7 and 9:30 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). Tickets: \$35 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (IJIUANA)

OUTDOORS

Hummingbirds are swarming over San Diego County's back-yard gardens, scrub-covered coastal hill-sides, and the warm Anza-Borrego Desert. Red monkey flower is a favorite source of nectar near the coast, while red-blossomed chuparosa and ocotillo normally play the same role in the desert. Keep an eye out for the male humming-bird's mating "dance," which involves soaring ascents followed by dramatic downward dives.

Lupines, whose spiky, purple (sometimes yellow) flower clusters adorn grassy areas and disturbed









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ture hike, Saturday, February 24, starting at 8:30 a.m. at Kumeyaay Lake campground entry station (Two Father Junípero Serra Trail). Free, 619-668-3281, (SAN CARLOS)

Trekking the Refuges, view migratory waterfowl and wildflowers of Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge during outing hosted by Chula Vista Nature Center, Saturday, February 24, 8:30 a.m. Free. Required reservations: 619-409-5903. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Audubon Society Bird Walk planned in Tecolote Canyon on Saturday, February 24, 9 a.m., at Tecolote Nature Center (5180 Tecolote Road). Free. Bring binoculars and drinking water. 858-581-9944. (CLAIREMONT)

Hawkwatch, visit Ramona's grasslands to witness winter migration of hawks, falcons, and eagles during outing led by Wildlife Research Institute. Final walk of season is Saturday, February 24, 9 a.m.-noon. Walks led by trained biologist. Wear hiking or walking boots. Bring binoculars or spotting scopes if you have them. Outings begin at Wildlife Research Institute headquarters, 18030 Highland Valley Road (near Rangeland). Free. 760-789-3992. Heavy rain cancels. (RAMONA)

Love the Outdoors? Become a docent at Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve after sevenweek training course beginning Saturday, February 24, 9 a.m. at Tijuana Estuary visitors' center (301 Caspian Way). Materials fee. Registration: 619-575-3614. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Trail Repair Work in Paso Picacho at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park continues on Saturday, February 24, 9 a.m. Bring work shoes, gloves, hat, water, snack. Group gathers at Paso Picacho campground maintenance area behind fire department building. Free. Registration: 619-669-1697. For those 16 and older with a parent. (CUYAMACA RANCHO STATE PARK)

See San Diego Sunflowers during guided nature walks on Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, February 24, 25, and 28, 9:30-11 a.m., in

Romantic Mountain Getaway!

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Baja Gray Whale Adventures

Experience gray whales face-to-face within their protected breeding grounds, San Ignacio Lagoon. Discovery Adventures offers 4-7 day guided tours to this remote sanctuary over Spring Break. Contact www.discoadventures.com. 978-853-7290.

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Bizarre Trees, cacti, and succulents star when Offshoot Tours hosts its monthly hour-long guided stroll through desert garden, Saturday, February 24, 10 a.m., starting at Balboa Park's visitors' center. Free. 619-235-1122. (BALBOA PARK)

Remove Ice Plant and invasive species during service project hosted by REI and YMCA Camp Surf, Saturday, February 24, 10 a.m. Stay after project for optional activities, dinner, overnight camping on beach or in onsite cabins. Free. Find YMCA Camp Surf at 106 Carnation Avenue. Registration: 858-279-4400 or 619-591-4924. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

El Cuervo Adobe History Hike

slated for Sunday, February 25, 3 p.m. Hike out into west end of Peñasquitos Canyon for close-up look at ruins of adobe, discuss controversy about who built it and when, about Francisco and Diego Alvarado (the probable builders). Short side hike to Norwood Brown's old corral to discuss cattle grazing in preserve. Meet at 4206 Sorrento Valley Boulevard. 858-484-3219.

San Diego River Walk hosted by Walkabout, Sunday, February 25. Outing over flat, paved surfaces promising views of river starts at 3 p.m. at Mission Valley trolley stop (behind Sammy's Woodfired Pizza, 1620 Camino de la Reina). Free. 619-231-7463. (MISSION VALLEY)

DANCE

Ragtime Variations of Two-Step

featured for beginner-friendly dance on Friday, February 23, in room 207 A GUIDE TO UNEXPECTED SAN DIEGO AND BEYOND | BY JERRY SCHAD

ROAM-()-RAMA

The Main Divide of the Santa Ana Mountains follows a significant Southern California watershed division, and also quite closely marks the Orange/Riverside county line. On the divide, you can often spot both the Pacific Ocean and the 10,000-foot-plus summits of the interior San Bernardino and San Jacinto mountains.

The most pleasant, if not the shortest, way to hike or mountain bike up to the Main Divide from the east is by way of Indian Truck Trail, which passes through Cleveland National Forest territory. Open intermittently to motor-vehicle traffic, the unpaved truck trail features easy grades throughout, considerable



View east from Main Divide Road

les throughout, considerable shade during the winter months, and consistently good views. Hikers and mountain bikers have it all to themselves whenever the vehicle gate at the bottom end is closed and locked — typically when winter storms render the roadway unsafe for cars or trucks.

Trivial as a traffic artery, the Indian Truck Trail nevertheless merits its own name

on a full interchange with Interstate 15. The Indian Truck Trail exit ramps are 11 miles south of Corona and 8 miles north of Lake Elsinore.

Once you exit I-15, proceed 0.1 mile west to a T-intersection with Campbell Ranch Road. Turn right and go 0.4 mile to Mayhew Canyon Road on the left. Follow Mayhew Canyon Road 0.4 mile west into the Sycamore Creek hous-

ing development, which is taking shape on the left. Signs installed by the developer direct drivers south through the construction zone toward Indian Truck Trail. You reach the Cleveland National Forest boundary at a point 0.8 mile south of Mayhew Canyon Road. Once inside the forest boundary, there's parking space along the old Indian Truck Trail roadway. Don't forget to post a National Forest Adventure Pass on your parked car.

On foot or by bike, ascend gradually for about 0.4 mile and come to a road fork. A private road into a Korean church camp bears left; you stay right on the Indian Truck Trail. A vehicle gate, which may or may not be locked shut for autos, lies just ahead.

Your ascent quickens as Indian Truck Trail curls up the divide between Indian and Mayhew canyons. After about three miles in the sun, Indian Truck Trail makes a decided switch to the cool, north side of the ridge. Ferns grow in profusion along the shady road cuts, and the spreading limbs of live oaks and big-cone Douglas firs frame a beautiful view of the Temescal Valley and the San Bernardino Mountains.

After about five miles, Indian Truck Trail traverses somewhat drier

slopes, mantled with dense growths of manzanita and ceanothus and dotted with Coulter pines. In the final two switchback legs, the road climbs to a saddle, joining (at about 6.5 miles) Main Divide Road. Here you can look southwest toward the hills of southem Orange County and the coastline. On clear winter afternoons the glimmer of sunlight on the ocean's surface is breathtaking.

You've climbed about 2600 feet of elevation from

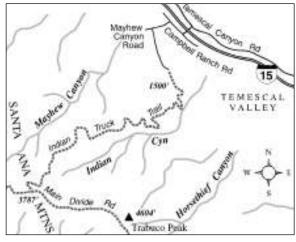
the edge of the housing development, and your return trip is downhill virtually the whole way.

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

INDIAN TRUCK TRAIL

Climb half a vertical mile up the east flank of the Santa Ana Mountains near Lake Elsinore.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 90 miles Hiking/biking length: 13 miles round trip Difficulty: Strenuous



of Casa del Prado. Lesson at 7:30 p.m. followed by open dancing. All ages. Partners not required. Donation: \$1. 619-583-9956. (BALBOA PARK)

All Things Swing Dance Party with music by Charles Burton's

live band, workshops, dancing, performances, games, on Saturday, February 24, at Dance North County (535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 100). Intermediate workshop (7:15 p.m.); beginners' class

(8:30 p.m.), open dancing 8:30-midnight. "Smooth moves" workshop planned. Dance only: \$13; additional fee for lessons. 619-291-3775. (ENCINITAS)

"Realms of the Heart," spring dance concerts with modern, hiphop, tap, martial arts-fusion, bellydance, "organic modern," jazz dancing, continue through March 4 at Applauz Theatre (450

Fletcher Parkway, suite 201). Performances begin at 2 and 7 p.m. on Saturdays, 2 p.m. on Sundays. \$10. 619-440-6714. (EL CAJON) Rockin' Family Sock Hop slated

Rockin' Family Sock Hop slated for Saturday, February 24, 6–8:30 p.m., at East Valley Community Center (2245 East Valley Parkway). Dress in costume for dancing, games, "rock and roll fun." Tickets: \$3, free for those two and younger. 760-839-4382. (ESCONDIDO)

Serbian and Bulgarian Dance Workshop by visiting Balkan dance instructor, musician, and vocalist Daniela Ivanova, Saturday, February 24, 7 p.m., at Folk Dance Center (4569 30th Street). Dances taught intermediate to advanced levels. Fees: \$7–\$15. 619-281-5656.

Contradance to music by Hey Wire, calling by Martha Wild, Saturday, February 24, 8 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church (3030 Thorn Street). Beginners' dance workshop: 7:30 p.m. \$7. Wear soft-soled shoes. Bring food/beverages to share for optional potluck supper at 6:30. 619-594-6828. (NORTH PARK)

"Invitation to the Dance: Dances of Time" presented by Jean Isaacs San Diego Dance Theater in collaboration with Grossmont College Orchestra Women's Choral and Afro-Cuban Ensemble, Sunday, February 25, 3 and 7 p.m., at East County Performing Arts Center (210 East Main Street). Program includes Romeos and Juliets. Tickets: \$14, \$16, \$18. 619-440-2277. (EL CAJON)

English Country Dancing takes place every Sunday, 6–9 p.m., at Jean Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road). Ellen, Chris, and Terri are callers on February 25. Beginners' instruction at 6 p.m. \$8. 858-676-9731. (POWAY)

Bellydancing by Mujeres de la Luna, with live music by Middle-Earth Ensemble, Sunday, February 25, 8 p.m., at Turquoise Cafe Bar Europa (873 Turquoise Street). No cover. 858-488-4200.

Get Your Groove On! Latest dance steps taught by instructor/dancer Prince on Thursdays at Dancing Unlimited (4569 30th Street). Beginners at 7–8 p.m., intermediate/advanced 8–9 p.m. \$10 per class, \$35 for four. \$58-635-1211. (NORTH PARK)

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

To place your ad in the Wedding Guide, call 619-235-9797 (on the Web at San Diego Reader.com/wedding)

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FILM

Surrealist Luis Buñuel's movie *The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie* (1972) is presented for winter film series, Thursday, February 22, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). \$7.858-454-3541.

"More Than a Movie," this series of timeless MGM musicals takes place at Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2891 University Avenue). Catch *The Wizard of Oz* on February 22 and 25. Cinema Society's Andy







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*Must purchase \$70 video (\$195 total cost). Weekdays only. Add \$20 for weekend jumps. 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)

The French Film Apres Vous (2005) screens for International Film Series at MiraCosta College on Friday, February 23. See film at 1 p.m. in room 201 at MiraCosta's San Elijo campus (3333 Manchester Avenue). Film also screens at 7 p.m. in room 3601 on campus at One Barnard Drive. 760-795-6612. Free. English subtitles. (CARDIFF, OCEANSIDE)

"Chasing Dora" by Wes Brown and T.J. Barrack is "story of three California surfers who decided to bring to life an epic challenge presented by one of surfing's most enigmatic characters, Mickey Dora." Surf Aid International benefit screenings start at 7 and 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 24, at La Paloma Theatre (471 South Coast Highway 101). \$10. 760-436-7469. (ENCINITAS)

"The Mark of Zorro" (1920) screens with live music by pianist, silent film expert Philip Carli, February 24, 7:30 p.m., in room 204 at MiraCosta's San Elijo campus (3333 Manchester Avenue). Carli shares information, anecdotes about the film starring Douglas Fairbanks, original piano accompaniment. Free. 760-795-6613. (CARDIFF)

The Documentary From a Silk Cocoon presents experiences of a young Kibei couple "who responded to the loss of their civil liberties by renouncing their American citizenship during their World War II internment." Film screens for Sunday Matinee, 2 p.m. on February 25, at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Members of Japanese Historical Society moderate following discussion. Free, 619-236-5800, (DOWNTOWN)

"The Black Cowboy on the Silver Screen," tribute to silent cowboy films and early cowboy talkie musicals featuring all-black casts planned Sunday, February 25, 4 p.m., in Seuss Room of UCSD's Geisel Library. Live music by Teeny Tiny Pit Orchestra for Silent Films. Free. 858-534-8074.

Fourth Annual French and Francophone Film Festival boasts six French films screened in 35mm in double bills, thematically united. Festival begins Monday, February 26, with *La Petite Jerusalem (Little Jerusalem*, 2005) at 5 p.m., followed at 7 p.m. by 2005 Cannes winner *L'Enfant (The Child*, 2005).

Take in La Mer Monte (When the Sea Rises, 2004) on Wednesday, February 28, 5 p.m. De battre mon coeur s'est arrêté (The Beat My Heart Skipped, 2005), follows at 7 p.m.

On Thursday March 1, 5 p.m., see Les Temps qui changent (Changing Times, 2006). Festival closes with Nathalie (2004) at 7 p.m.

All films have English subtitles. Screenings take place in Montezuma Hall of Aztec Center at San Diego State University. Free. 619-594-5111. (SDSU)

Bohdan Slama's *Something Like Happiness* screens for Film Forum on Monday, February 26, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). In Czech with En-



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Calendar Local Events

glish subtitles. Free. 619-236-5800.

Marilyn Monroe Films show-cased during ongoing film series hosted by Carlsbad Library, with *The Misfits* (1961) on Wednesday, February 28. Screenings begin at 6 p.m. in Schulman Auditorium (1775 Dove Lane). Free. 760-602-2026. (LA COSTA)

Alfred Hitchcock's 1954 Thriller Rear Window, starring Jimmy Stewart and Grace Kelly, screens Thursday, March 1, 7 p.m., at Museum of Photographic Arts. \$10. 619-696-1969. (BALBOA PARK)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: Hurricane on the Bayou, Roving Mars, Coral Reef Adventure. "Fridays at the Fleet" promises Wild California (6 p.m.) and Island of the Sharks (7 p.m.) on February 23. Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

LECTURES

"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 Paul Shambroom on Thursday, February 15, 4 p.m., in Art 412. Series concludes with artist Martha Rosler, Tuesday, March 6, 7:30 p.m., in Arts and Letters 201. Free. 619-594-5171. (SDSU)

"Forgery in Japanese Art" presented by Howard Link, consultant to James A. Michener Collection at Honolulu Academy of Arts, for Asian Arts Council at San Diego Museum of Art. Link will focus on Japanese woodblock prints on Thursday, February 22, 1 p.m. \$10 general. 619-543-9810.

"Word by Word," 12th annual Writer's Symposium by the Sea at Point Loma Nazarene University continues through February 23. Wesleyan 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,

OUT & ABOUT

THE BLACK COWBOY

on the Silver Screen, Geisel Library, Sunday, February 25.

(SEE FILM)



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)

"Chaparral, Wrentits, and Grizzlies: A Different Way to See San Diego" offered by biologist Richard Halsey when Audubon Society meets on Friday, February 23, 7 p.m. at Tecolote Nature Center (5180 Tecolote Road). Is chaparral responsible for our re-

cent wildfire damage? Free. 619-682-7200. (CLAIREMONT)

"Anza-Borrego's Sister Park in Mongolia" showcased when Mark Jorgensen presents powerpoint lecture for Sierra Club on Friday, February 23, 7:30 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (3900 Vermont Street). Jorgensen is superintendent of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Free. 619-585-3773. (HILLCREST)

"Mabuhay Conference, Fiesta: A Celebration of Filipino Family Values" is Saturday, February 24, 8 a.m.–5:30 p.m., at University of San Diego's University Center (5998 Alcala Park), Panels covering Filipino language, popular religiosity, Christian and Islam religions, family traditions, along with Filipino martial arts, ancient musical instruments, folk dances. \$10.619-260-8724 or 858-245-0043. (LINDA VISTA)

"Xeriscape: Beautiful Landscape on a Low-Water Budget" presented by landscape designer Jan Tubiolo, Saturday, February 24, 9:30 a.m., in Cuyamaca College's Water Conservation Garden (12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West). \$13. Reservations: 619-660-0614. (EL CAJON)

Beautify Your Yard and Garden after worm composting workshop, Saturday, February 24, 10 a.m., at Agua Hedionda Lagoon Discovery Center (1580 Cannon Road). Free. Registration: 760-436-7986 x216.

Novelist Leslie Larson (*Slip-stream*) plans workshop entitled, "The Long Haul: Writing the Novel" on Saturday, February 24, 10 a.m.–5 p.m., at the Semi-Permanent Inkspot (710 13th Street, suite 210). \$72 general. 858-484-6394. (DOWNTOWN)

Bookbinding — traditional style of four-hole stub binding taught Saturday, February 24, 10:30 a.m., at Japanese Friendship Garden. Participants make cover, assemble and bind a book. All materials pro-

vided. \$50 general. Reservations: 619-232-2721. (BALBOA PARK)

California's First Assembly Floor Leader to be both female and African-American is Karen Bass, who speaks Saturday, February 24, 1 p.m., at College-Rolando Library (6600 Montezuma Road). Free. 619-533-3902. (COLLEGE AREA)

"Mobilization and Celebration," American Civil Liberties Union plans membership conference and four civil liberties workshops, Saturday, February 24, 3–7:30 p.m., at California Western School of Law (225 Cedar Street). Keynote address by political rights activist/actor Mike Farrell (B.J. Hunnicutt on M*A*S*H); discussions on immigrants' rights, presidential abuse of power, privacy rights, others. \$35. Registration: 619-232-2121 or

619-871-7444. (DOWNTOWN)

"Book Publishing 1-2-3" presented by book editor Laurie Gibson, Sunday, February 25, 3 p.m., at Mission Valley Library (2123 Fenton Parkway). Gain a "behind-the-scenes" look at three major steps (acquisitions, editorial, production) manuscripts go through at a publishing house. Free. 858-635-1350. (MISSION VALLEY)

"Earth Warming and Extinction" explored by Thomas English for Association for Rational Inquiry, Sunday, February 25, 7 p.m., in Joyce Beers Community



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oupon must be presented at gate. Not valid with other offers. Expires April 1, 2007 whale-reader Center (1230 Vermont Street). Free. 619-421-5844. (HILLCREST)

"American Ceramics," John Digesare, San Diego Museum of Art registrar for exhibitions, talks about American ceramics, including Arts and Crafts and Studio movements for SDMA's North County chapter, Monday, February 26, 9:30 a.m., at St. Peter's Episcopal Church (334 14th Street). Free for first-time guests. 619-696-1969. (DEL MAR)

"Travels to Sri Lanka and the State of Tamil Nadu, India, with AWIU" presented by Kathleen Roche-Tansey — who shares photographs, experiences of her recent trip as member of American Women for International Understanding during 12 O'Clock Scholar program at San Diego Museum of Man on Monday, February 26. \$8. 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

Artist Arie A. Galles based his large-scale drawing suite Fourteen Stations on aerial photographs of infamous Nazi concentration camps. Galles discusses his documentary work giving "personal testimony to the history that touched him as a Jewish child living in Poland after World War II's during lecture on Monday, February 26, 2:30 p.m., in Arts 240 at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). Free. 760-750-4366. (SAN MARCOS)

"How to Listen to Jazz 3: Latin Jazz" presented Monday, February 26, at San Diego Museum of Art. Discover difference "between Brazilian and Afro-Cuban Latin jazz...hear examples of bossa nova, samba, salsa, mambo, with commentary and performances" by pianist Bill Cunliffe, drummer Duncan Moore, bassist Ed Friedland, drummer Tommy Aros. \$20 nonmembers. 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Literary Agent Sally van Haitsma of Castiglia Literary Agency is featured speaker at writers' salon hosted by San Diego Writers, Ink, Monday, February 26, 7 p.m. "Participants are encouraged to bring their interest in and passion for the craft, along with a sweet or savory treat to share." Free salon begins at 7 p.m. at the Semi-Permanent Inkspot (710 13th Street, suite 210). 858-484-6394. (DOWNTOWN)

Refresher and Beginning Genealogy course offered by North San Diego County Genealogical Society begins on Monday, February 26, 7 p.m., at Cole Library (1250 Carlsbad Village Drive). Course runs six consecutive Mondays. Free. Attend any or all sessions. 760-434-2931. (CARLSBAD)

Internet and Software Resources, tools for songwriters based on her book Song Sheets to Software — A Guide to Print Music, Software, and Web Sites for Musicians presented by Liz Axford for San Diego Nashville Songwriters Association. Workshop starts at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 26, at Piano Press Studio (1425 Ocean Avenue #6). Bring song(s) for critique session on CD or cued tape, or play live; bring 10–15 copies of typed lyric sheets. Nonmembers may attend two meetings at no charge, then pay \$10.619-884-1401.

"Forensic Genealogy, Part 2: The Database Detective" is topic when Colleen Fitzpatrick addresses North San Diego County Genealogical Society. Participants learn to extract information from names, dates, addresses to find patterns that will "put flesh onto the bare bones of your ancestors" on Tuesday, February 27, 10 a.m., in Carlsbad City Council Chambers (1200 Carlsbad Village Drive). 760-630-5720. Free. (CARLSBAD)

"Mulch, Compost, Fertilizer," landscape designer/master composter Jan Tubiolo illuminates these garden-enhancing essentials, Tuesday, February 27, 6 p.m., at Cuyamaca College's Water Conservation Garden (12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West). \$10. Reservations: 619-660-0614. (EL CAJON)

Local History of the Religious Right explored by Pat Akers when Atheist Coalition gathers on Tuesday, February 27, 6:30 p.m., at North Park Recreation Center (4044 Idaho Street). Free. 619-342-7388. (NORTH PARK)

"An Insider's Guide to Paris" presented by travel experts Kevin Brown and Tamara Smith for Hostelling International, Tuesday, February 27, 7 p.m., at Le Travel Store (745 Fourth Avenue). Get skinny on city's hidden jewels, "must-see places," accommodations, entertainment. Free. Required reservations: 619-544-0005. (DOWNTOWN)

"Introduction to Screenwriting and Playwriting" — six-week course offered through San Diego Writers, Ink, and taught by Jacqueline Goldfinger commences Tuesday, February 27, 7 p.m., at the Semi-Permanent Inkspot (710 13th Street, suite 210). Class introduces writers to basic tools of professional screenwriters, playwrights. Writers will leave class with first ten pages of their script, outline of entire script. Fee: \$144 nonmembers. 858-484-6394 (DOWNTOWN)

"Apocalypto or Apoplecto: Maya Archaeology at SDSU and 'According to Mel'" presented by Joseph W. Ball of SDSU's department of anthropology on Tuesday, February 27, for San Diego County Archaeological Society. Ball will discuss recent release of motion picture Apocalypto and present his findings on the 2002-2005 archaeological investigations at the lost capital city of Acanmul, a Classic Period Maya center in Yucatan Peninsula. Free. Talk starts at 7:30 p.m. at Los Peñasquitos Ranch Adobe (12122 Canyonside Park Drive). 858-538-0935. (RANCHO PENASOUITOS)

"Legends of Broadway and Other Tales" divulged by Bruno Leone during three-part series starting Tuesday, February 27, 7:30 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). The pianist, humorist, storyteller combines "piano artistry, humor, and a wealth of captivating narratives and fascinating anecdotes about the lives and times of America's leading composers and lyricists." Fee: \$45 for series, \$17 for individual event. Reservations: 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

Japanese Flower Arranging taught during demonstration/workshop by Rumi Rice of Sogetsu School of Ikebana when Ikebana International meets on Wednesday, February 28, 10 a.m., in room 101 of Casa del Prado. \$10.760-728-5586.

Western Buddhist Nun Gen Kelsang Tubpa presents talk based on *How to Solve Our Human Problems* by Geshe Kelsang Gyatso on Wednesday, February 28, 6:30 p.m., at La Jolla Library (7555 Draper Avenue). Free. 800-965-5056. (LA JOLLA)

"Snowshoeing 101," class focusing on gear, places to go, and initial skills required set for Wednesday, February 28, 7 p.m., at REI (5556 Copley Drive). Free. 858-279-4400. (KEARNY MESA)

"Cradle of a Nation: A Story of Colonial Virginia" is story of author Diane Johnson's fifth great-grandfather, William Daingerfield, and Davy, his companion and slave from 1718 to 1759. Johnson discusses her book for Daughters of the American Revolution, Thursday, March 1, 10:30 a.m., at Admiral Baker Golf Clubhouse (2400 Admiral Baker Road). \$15 fee includes lunch. Reservations: 858-279-2677. (GRANTVILLE)

The Major Leftist Party in Mexico (PRD) was founded by Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas Solórzano in 1989. Cárdenas presents his views of Mexico's political system, the Left, and the country's future on Thursday, March 1, 6:30 p.m., in Hojel Hall of the Americas Auditorium, Institute of the Americas, UCSD. Free. Requested reservations: 858-453-5560. Lecture delivered in English. (LA JOLLA)

Curator Jeffrey Grove plans gallery talk examining "Morris Louis Now: An American Master Revisited," Thursday, March 1, 6:30 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (1100 Kettner Boulevard). \$5.858-454-3541.

Clairemont Town Council convenes on Thursday, March 1, to hear speakers from the DART and CAPP programs (CAPP program enforces noise-abatement issues, primarily from "party houses";









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DART targets nuisance bars, businesses, homes). Speaker from San Diego Police Department will discuss graffiti issues in Clairemont. Meeting starts at 7 p.m. in cafeteria at Clairemont High School (4150 Ute Dr.). Free. 858-831-9555. (CLAIREMONT)

He Catches a Lot of Colds! Gregory Thompson, director of forensic services for San Diego Sheriff's Department, created Sheriff's Cold Case Forensic Team to examine unsolved homicides. Thompson — who oversees 60 forensic scientists and field evidence technicians - addresses Sisters in Crime on Thursday, March 1, 7 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1010 University Avenue). \$3. 858-748-6842. (HILLCREST)

"Edward S. Curtis and Horse Capture," George Horse Capture — great-grandson of Horse Capture, who was photographed by Edward S. Curtis at beginning of 20th Century - explores "contemporary Native American perspective on the photographer and his methods," Sunday, March 11, 1 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Man. \$15. Reservations: 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

IN PERSON

Agogo, the Afro-Cuban/Brazilian drum and dance ensemble directed by Patricann Mead and Silfredo La O Vigo performs for Concert Hour series, Thursday, February 22, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission

free public talk

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How to Solve

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Road). Free. 760-744-1150 x2316. (SAN MARCOS)

"The Skin of Our Teeth" — in which playwright Thornton Wilder "condenses the history of the world into three acts" - is next production for 19 theater-arts students at Coronado School of the Arts, Thursday-Saturday, February 22, 23, 24 (and March 2 and 3), 7 p.m. Find campus at 650D Avenue. Tickets start at \$15. 619-522-8969, (CORONADO)

Japan Policy Research Institute president Chalmers Johnson discusses and signs Nemesis: The Last Days of the American Republic, Thursday, February 22, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Free, 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

"(Re)Generation" — theatrical production blending taiko drumming with storytelling, spoken word, music, hip-hop choreography, video multimedia, and dance promised when TaikoProject performs for ArtPower series on Thursday, February 22, 8 p.m., in UCSD's Mandeville Auditorium. Tickets: \$30, \$34, available at 858-534-TIXS. (LA JOLLA)

Comedian Paula Poundstone in concert, Thursday, February 22, 8 p.m., in San Diego State University's Montezuma Hall. Tickets: \$33, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (SDSU)

"The Water Coolers" revue offers "look at life in everyday corporate America" through sketch comedy, original music, "new takes on old songs," February 22-25 at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Curtain rises at 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. \$37. 760-839-4100. (ESCONDIDO)

"Frank, Sammy, and Dean: The Rat Pack Tribute" hits stage



OUT & ABOUT

(SEE IN PERSON)

March 1.



at Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre (5469 Casino Way), February 22-25. Show begins at 8 p.m. Thursday, 7 and 9:30 p.m. on Friday, 4 and 8 p.m. on Saturday, 4 p.m. on Sunday. \$30. 619-659-3380. (DEHESA)

16th Annual San Diego Jazz Party boasting 16 mainstream musicians performing in various combinations, February 23-25 at Del Mar Hilton Hotel (15575 Jimmy Durante Boulevard). Jazz starts with session on Friday, 7:30 p.m.; sessions run 10:30 a.m.-noon, 1-5 p.m., and 7-11 p.m. on Saturday; 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sunday. Details: 858-453-0846, (DEL MAR)

Latin Jazz Concert with music by Coral MacFarland Thuet and San Diego Latin Jazz Group, Friday, February 23, 7 p.m., at Seaside Center for Spiritual Living (1613 Lake Drive). \$20 tickets include wine and cheese reception. Reservations: 760-753-5786 x810. (ENCINITAS)

San Diego City College Professor Iim Miller reads from his new book. Drift, Friday, February 23, 7 p.m., at D.G. Wills Books (7461 Girard Avenue). Free, 858-456-1800, (LA JOLLA)

Novelist Leslie Larson reads from and signs her book Slipstream, Friday, February 23, 7 p.m., at the Semi-Permanent Inkspot (710 13th Street suite 210). Free. 858-484-6394. (DOWNTOWN)

Dallas Brass plays "everything from classical to jazz and swing' in concert, Friday, February 23, 7:30 p.m., in Crill Performance Hall at Point Loma Nazarene University (3900 Lomaland Drive). \$15, 619-849-2325, (POINT LOMA)

The "Messenger Group" X Clan plans concert Friday, February 23, 8 p.m., at WorldBeat Center (2100 Park Boulevard). Mission for X Clan: "freedom and upliftment in the face of racial tension and indigenous genocide.' Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at door, 619-230-1190, (BALBOA PARK)

Comedy Hypnotist Don Spencer performs Saturday, February 24, 8 p.m., at Carlsbad Village Theatre (2822 State Street). Expect audience participation. Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$19 at door, 760-720-2460 (CARLSBAD)

Shades of Blue in concert, Saturday, February 24, 1 p.m., at Museum of Making Music (5790 Armada Drive). \$15. Reservations: 760-438-5996. (CARLSBAD)

The Cosmos, a 14-member male vocal ensemble, performs with "a dozen other local professional and amateur musicians," Saturday, February 24, 6:30 p.m., at Calvary Lutheran Church (424 Via de la Valle). Tickets: \$25 per person or \$50 per family, benefiting Resounding Joy, Inc. 866-800-0197. (SOLANA BEACH)

The Psalmist Hour convenes for performances by crooner Kenny Turner, producer and musician Chris Swann, singer-songwriter Stasia Conger, lyricist Judah Israel on Saturday, February 24, 7 p.m., at Arts and Entertainment Center (3026 University Avenue). Openmike opportunities. Emcee is Danny-Boy. \$10. 866-815-6550. (NORTH PARK)

Mandolin Virtuosos Mike Marshall and Hamilton de Holanda perform for AcousticMusic-SanDiego, Thursday, March 1 (\$18, \$22). Marshall is master of mandolin, guitar, violin; Brazilian musician de Holanda "transcends cultural frontiers." Mandolin concert follows performances by Nitty Gritty Dirt Band co-founder John McEuen on Saturday, February 24 (\$18, \$22), and Ian Tyson on Tuesday, February 27 (\$35). Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650 Mansfield Street). 619-303-8176. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Chronicling American People and Culture — singer-songwriter John Stewart in concert hosted by San Diego Folk Heritage on Saturday, February 24, 7:30 p.m., at San Dieguito United Methodist Church (170 Calle Magdalena). \$18, 858-566-4040, (ENCINITAS)

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University of San Diego (5998 Al-

calá Park). Suitable for adults, chil-

dren over 12. \$10. 619-298-6363.

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calizations, and storytelling as a

catalyst for social change and spir-

(LINDA VISTA)

"Comics That Kill 13" — laughs provided by Tim Mars, Danielle Stewart, Nick Hoff, Jason Bang, others, Saturday, February 24, 9 p.m. at Milano Coffee Company (8685 Rio San Diego Drive, suite B). \$6. 619-263-3335. Not suitable for those under 14. (MISSION VALLEY)

The Hinges improv comedy troupe promises "dangerous, improvised sketch comedy," Saturday, February 24, 10:30 p.m., at 6th @ Penn Theater (3704 6th Avenue). Tickets: \$8 in advance, \$10 at door. 619-414-7723. (HILLCREST)

Novelist and Parade magazine editor Janice Kaplan signs, discusses her debut mystery, Looks to Die For, Sunday, February 25, 2 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Kaplan joined by Disney Studio publicist, mystery author R.T. Jordan signing Remains to Be Scene. Free. 858-268-4747. (CLAIREMONT)

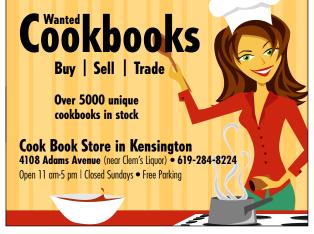
24th Anniversary Concert planned by Coastal Communities Concert Band, Sunday, February 25, 2:30 p.m., at Carlsbad Community Church (3175 Harding Street). Guest is trombone soloist Bille Tole, director of Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra. Program includes classical, popular band literature. \$15 general. 760-436-6137. (CARLSBAD)

Sunday Seizure Comedy stand-up show featuring Erik Knowles, Drizz, Cate Gary, the Trained Killers, others, Sunday, February 25, 8 p.m., at Honey Bee Hive (1409 C Street). No cover. 619-702-6010. (DOWNTOWN)

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Reading

Survival of the Sickest: A Medical Maverick Discovers Why We Need Disease



By Dr. Sharon Moalem, with Jonathan

William Morrow, 2007, 267 pages,

FROM THE BOOK JACKET:

A fresh and engaging examination of our physiological history reveals how many of our diseases actually helped our ancestors survive environmental crises. When the option is a long life with a disease or a short one without it, evolution usually opts for

WHAT THE CRITICS SAY:

"Moalem's approach to these questions is solidly rooted in evolutionary theory, and he capably demonstrates that each disease confers a selective advantage to individuals who carry either one or two alleles for inherited diseases.... his light style makes for easy reading for readers new to this subject." - Publishers Weekly

"A lively and enthusiastic treatise" - Kirkus Reviews

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Sharon Moalem holds a doctorate in physiology and neurogenetics and evolutionary biology. He is finishing his medical training to become a doctor. He hopes

both to practice medicine and conduct further research.

Jonathan Prince was a Clinton White House adviser and speechwriter.

A CONVERSATION WITH THE **AUTHOR:**

Pop quiz: Can a person rust to death? Can wearing sunglasses lead to more sunburn than you'd have without them? Is it true many Asians can't tolerate alcohol? The answer is yes to all of the above, as Sharon Moalem explains in his book, on the Today Show and anywhere else that will have him where he can discuss his passionate investigations into things medical. I manage to get him one on one in his Little Italy apartment in New York

"Your thinking seems to involve a tremendous number of cross associations. Has your brain always been wired that way?

"Yes, ever since I was a little child.'

"Your regular reading must include some strange periodicals and books."

"What I like to do is to find a book on a topic I know nothing about. This makes for a very strange library that I've amassed over the years. Likewise, with magazines, I'm drawn to the ones I've never encountered

by a general about strategies in the Middle Fast conflicts, for instance, which gave me the idea of applying modern warfare techniques to the workings of certain infectious diseases. The principles must be universal, I thought, because they are about survival. How armies fight, or individuals sometimes struggle against one another. has parallels in the microscopic world. There are certain bacteria, for example, that when they sense their time is over and they're going to be overwhelmed by the body's forces, they commit suicide essentially,

before. I was just reading a book

(continued on page 86)

"The wood frog suggests that diabetes may have helped early European residents to endure the sudden cold of a small ice age."

from his new book entitled 22, described as "collection of eclectic poems about love," for Drunk Poet's Society, Monday, February 26, 6 p.m., at Winston's (1921 Bacon Street). 619-222-6822, (OCEAN BEACH)

Vocal Jazz Ensemble of Point Loma Nazarene University performs for chamber concert series on Monday, February 26, 7:30 p.m., at Chula Vista Library (365 F Street). Free. 619-691-5069. (CHULA VISTA)

Illuminating Views on Culture and Politics! Frank Rich is longtime theater critic and current oped columnist for the New York Times, whose essays "reflect a deft understanding of the intersection of art, entertainment, and news. Rich shares his opinions and discusses his book The Greatest Story Ever Sold, Monday, February 26, 8 p.m., in Price Center Ballroom at UCSD. These ArtPower tickets are \$32, \$36, available at 858-534-TIXS. (LA JOLLA)

Open-Mike Poetry Reading, Monday, February 26, 8 p.m., at Twiggs Tea and Coffee (4590 Park Boulevard). Free. 619-296-0616. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

San Diego Poetry Slam continues Monday, February 26, 8:30 p.m., at Voz Alta (1544 Broadway). \$5 to compete, donation for spectators. 619-239-3872.

Award-Winning Local Novelist

T. Jefferson Parker holds launch party for his new crime novel, Storm Runners, Tuesday, February 27, 7 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard; 858-268-4747). Free. (CLAIREMONT)

Author Don Winslow reads from, signs The Winter of Frankie Machine, Tuesday, February 27, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

Ladies' Night Out Comedy **Show** (men optional) — female Los Angeles comics perform at La Jolla Brew House (7536 Fay Avenue), Tuesday, February 27, 8 p.m. Cover: \$5. 858-550-8088.

UCSD's Gospel Choir in concert, Tuesday, February 27, 8 p.m., in Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD. \$8 general. 858-534-3230.

"An Evening in Africa," Ugandan Orphans Choir performs Tuesday, February 27, 7 p.m., at St. James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church (743 Prospect Street). SDSU African studies professor Shirley Weber will address role of U.S. in "New Africa." Free. Reservations: 858-642-6770. (LA JOLLA)

UCSD Sociology Professor and author Bennetta Jules-Rosette discusses and signs her forthcoming book, Josephine Baker in Art and Life: The Icon and the Image, Wednesday, February 28, 12:30 p.m., at UCSD Bookstore (9500 Gilman Drive). Free. 858-534-3149. (LA JOLLA)

Hugh C. Hyde Living Writers Series features poet (and Reader writer) Geoff Bouvier reading from his work, Wednesday, February 28, 7 p.m., in room 2203 of Malcolm A. Love Library at San Diego State University. Bouvier's first book, Living Room, was selected as 2005 American Poetry Review/Honickman Prize. Free. 619-594-5318. (SDSU)

Storyswap — tell a short personal story, folk tale, tall tale, or literary tale, Wednesday, February 28, 7 p.m., at Barnes and Noble Bookstore (10775 Westview Parkway). Story must be suitable for family audience. Free. 858-484-

1325. (MIRA MESA)

"Pretty, Funny Women" including Lisa Sundstedt, (the fabulous) Vicki Barbolak, Shawn Pelofsky, Heather McDonald, Jody Ferdig, Natasha Leggero take stage Wednesday, February 28, 8:30 p.m., at Comedy Store (916 Pearl Street). Cover: \$15. 858-454-9176. (LA JOLLA)

Initial Conditions jazz trio with David Borgo (saxophone), Duncan Moore (drums), Gunnar Biggs (contrabass) performs for Concert Hour series, Thursday, March 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)

Latin Guitarist Tony Ybarra v Son Moreno play for First Thursday Concert in Escondido Library's Turrentine Room (239 South Kalmia Street) on March 1, 7 p.m. Free. 760-839-4329. (ESCONDIDO)

Comedian George Carlin takes stage on Thursday, March 1, 7:30 p.m., at Pala Casino (11154 Highway 76). Tickets: \$60, \$70, \$80, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (PALA)

Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author Jane Smiley reads from and signs her latest book, Ten Days in the Hills, Wednesday, March 7, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). 858-454-

SPORTS

0347, Free, (LA JOLLA)

To the Lighthouse, join San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders for ride on Coronado ferry and to Point Loma lighthouse on Saturday, February 24. The 47-mile, flat ride starts at 8:45 a.m. at J Street boat launch parking lot (I-5 to J Street). Free. 619-255-4194.

Fourth Annual 5K Walk for Life benefiting Cardiovascular Disease Foundation is Sunday, February 25, starting at 9 a.m. at Magee Park (258 Beech Avenue).

Day-of-event registration at 8 a.m. \$25. 760-730-1471. (CARLSBAD)

Alpine Express, take a 43-mile bicycle journey to Breadbasket restaurant in Alpine for lunch with Sierra Club cyclists on Sunday, February 25. "Lots of uphills on the way there." Ride with steep grade and brisk pace starts at 8:30 a.m. at Mission Trails Regional Park visitors' center (One Father Junípero Serra Trail). Bring money for lunch. 858-565-7262.

Fallbrook — Best Art Town?

Visit the burg, included in John Villani's 100 Best Art Towns in America (2006), with Knickerbiker bicyclists on Sunday, February 25. Fifty-miler starts at 9 a.m. on paved bike path at Oceanside Harbor (east of railroad track, through tunnel), heads up into Fallbrook for lunch at Dominic's Deli before return. 619-255-2890. (OCEANSIDE)

"Clash at Clairemont," PacSun and Mission Valley YMCA unleash new "PSX" vert ramp at Krause Family Bike and Skate Park (3401 Clairemont Drive), Saturday, March 10, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Donated by ESPN's X-Games, "PSX" is





Reading

they blow up. And when they do that they release toxic enzymes - kind of like a suicide bomber - intended to kill your cells. They want to go down

fighting."

"It's their last shot at you." "Yeah."

"I've read that microbial life that's invaded you and replicating waits until it reaches critical mass, then it signals back and forth, one to the other, to launch the assault. Is this true?"

"Of course. It's fascinating. The microbe doesn't launch into

battle until it's got enough troops massed."

"And is this true of viruses?"

"Yes, though in a slightly different way. Viruses are a lot more about guerrilla warfare and terrorism - insurgency. They're sneaky. They will wait until the body's defenses are down before they launch an attack. The virus detects that the immune system is depressed and then it will launch its assault. It lurks, waiting for the exact right

"But this implies that

they're sentient beings, these

inert chemical entities. Which

challenges the conventional

"So if we could figure out

"To some degree they are aware, and yes, it challenges the definition of life completely."

"What are frogsicles?"

Sharon Moalem laughs heartily. "Frozen frogs. There's an amazing amphibian, the wood frog. It has an astonishing ability to freeze solid every winter. It's brain stops; its heart stops. And it does this by becoming diabetic. Its sugar levels spike a hundred times normal when it senses the cold taking hold. The increased sugar acts like a natural antifreeze. The wood frog manages itself into a frozen, suspended state, then reverses this after the winter and resurrects, comes back to life."

how to freeze human organs without damaging the tissues, we could preserve them for transplants"

"Exactly. The wood frog suggests that diabetes may have helped early European residents to endure the sudden cold of a small ice age.

"And like a good many discoveries in science, this one was also accidental."

"Yeah. Dr. Ken Storey, a researcher, discovered this when he inadvertently froze his wood frogs solid in the trunk of his car. He just forgot them there. I wish I could have been a fly on the wall when he brought them into his lab to dissect the dead frogs, only to have them jumping around "People with my condition mostly survived the bubonic plague and passed it on to their children. That's the theory."

as they thawed out."

9964. (LA JOLLA)

'Your grandfather liked to donate blood quite regularly. Did the medical mystery around your grandfather lead you into this work?"

"Definitely. And to ques-

tion how doctors come up with their diagnoses and why particular illnesses exist. My grandfather was doing something that simply made him feel better, made his aches go away - giving up some of his blood. If he'd told a

"largest outdoor vert ramp on West Coast." Expect to see athletes including Tony Hawk, Mat Hoffman, Andy Macdonald, Jamie Bestwick, Bucky Lasek, Kevin Robinson, others, music by Agent Orange. \$10 admission fee includes food, demonstrations, entertainment. 619-279-9254. (CLAIREMONT)

SPECIAL

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

"The Writer's Muse: L. Frank Baum and the Hotel del Coronado" commemorates one of the Hotel Del's most celebrated guests. Baum wintered at Del beginning in 1904 and penned several of his Oz books during his stays. Exhibit with "rarely viewed items" on loan from Baum's family continues through Wednesday, February 28, in donor corridor of San Diego State University's Love Library (5500 Campanile Drive). Free. 619-594-6791. (SDSU)

41st Annual Local Authors' Exhibit honoring 222 writers continues through February at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). 619-236-5847. (DOWNTOWN)

Culture and Cocktails, docentled tours of "Annie Leibovitz: A Photographer's Life" planned for events on Thursday, February 22, 6 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. Music by DJ Sergio, food, guest portraits "set in chic vignettes" by Design Within Reach.

86 San Diego Reader February 22, 2007

Tickets: \$10, available through Ticketmaster. (BALBOA PARK)

definitions of life, no?'

Does the Liberal Press Exist Today? Discuss! P&R Discussion group gathers at Other Side Coffee House (4096 30th Street) on Thursday, February 22, 7 p.m. Free. 619-421-1879. (NORTH PARK)

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)

Sail on an America's Cup Yacht at 11 a.m. on weekends through February 25, departing from "A' dock at San Diego Marriott Marina. The America sailing adventures head out in search of migrating whales. \$75 for adults, \$37.50 for those 12 and younger. Reservations: 800-644-3454, (DOWNTOWN)

"Black to the Beginning: It's Not a Game" is theme for 15th annual Kuumba Fest, February 23-25, at Lyceum Theater in Horton Plaza. Friday boasts "family night of positive images, awards, and pageantry celebrating our creativity"; African-American art exhibit (6 p.m.); royal court processional (7:30 p.m.); performance of Dajahn Blevins' play Black in Time (9:10 p.m.). \$20.

Saturday boasts educational

workshops (10 a.m.), health and culture marketplace (10:30 a.m.), Act Like You Know by Dajahn Blevins (1 p.m., \$5), hip-hop dance and step competition at (3 p.m., \$12), Taste of San Diego Soul (5 p.m., \$5), poetry slam (6 p.m., \$12), "Late Night Live at the Lyceum" (9 p.m., \$15).

Sunday: African-American marketplace (1 p.m.), Debi Mason's "Keys to the Kingdom" (2 p.m., \$10), Soul of a Desert Traveler by Simone Edwards (4 p.m., \$10), fashion show (6 p.m., free), and finale gospel celebration (6:30 p.m., \$15).

Friday day pass: \$20; Saturday day pass: \$35; Sunday day pass: \$30; all-festival pass: \$8. Tickets: 619-544-1000. (DOWNTOWN)

Doggie Café hosted by San Diego Humane Society, Friday, February 23, 6 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). Bring friendly, onleash dogs to socialize with other canines. Trainers offer training tips on keeping dogs calm, civilized around distractions. Donation: \$10. Reservations: 619-299-7012 x2230. (LINDA VISTA)

"Everyday Edisons" Casting Call, Saturday, February 24, 7 a.m.-1 p.m., at College of Extended Studies at San Diego State University. Audition for new PBS series Everyday Edisons, which features amateur inventors. Helpful, but not required: prototypes, sketches, pictures. Those selected for further consideration will be escorted to KPBS's television studio for filming before a final panel of judges. Free. 704-369-7352.

Dog Days, Silver Bay Kennel Club of San Diego's AKC All-Breed Dog Shows, Saturday and Sunday, February 24 and 25, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Terrific fun to watch. Agility trials, vendors. No unentered dogs are allowed on show grounds. Free. 619-588-0507.

California Open Wildlife Art Festival is February 24 and 25, in Balboa Park Club. Artist of the year is San Diego artist Sandra Jordan. Fine art exhibits, carving competition. Show hours: 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. Donation: \$5 for weekend, children under 12 free. 760-945-8442. (BALBOA PARK)

Celebrate Year of the Boar (year 4705) during Chinese New Year Food and Cultural Faire hosted by San Diego Chinese Center on February 24 and 25. Enjoy lucky lion and dragon dancing, Chinese acrobats, Asian Story Theater, children's activities, live entertainment, Asian cuisine, martial arts performances, cultural exhibits, lantern parade. Fair runs 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sunday, at Third Avenue at J Street. Free admission. 619-234.7844 (GASLAMP OUARTER)

Heritage Festival and Parade multicultural event begins with parade on Euclid Avenue (ending before Market Street at the Euclid Medical Center) at 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 24. Festival continues through 4 p.m. at Market Creek Plaza (near corner of Euclid Avenue and Market Street). Celebrity autograph signings, entertainment, vendors, food, kids' zone, band competition. Free admission. 619-262-0334. (EAST SAN DIEGO)

"Meditation and Mantras for Happiness" is theme for chanting workshop by Jaruska Solyova "to soften your heart, clear the mind, and uplift your spirit." Class starts on Saturday, February 24, 10 a.m., at La Jolla Cove Bridge Club (1160 Coast Boulevard). \$30 in advance, \$40 at door. 858-456-

Inaugural Feminist Art Space event, Saturday, February 24, 4-6 p.m., at 2323 Broadway, suite 107. "Find out how to unite your creativity with spirituality, ecology, and equal rights" - expect music, visual art, and poetry. Guests may participate in a number of "quilt stations" to construct a square to be sewn into a collaborative, commemorative quilt. Free. 619-233-7963. (GOLDEN HILL)

Windmill Bridal Faire, Sunday, February 25, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at Windmill (890 Palomar Airport Road). Vendors, fashion shows, cake tastings, location ideas, flowers. \$7. 760-295-9005. (CARLSBAD)

2007 Spotlight Home Tour sponsored by Lemon Grove Historical Society boasts four renovated ranch homes and gardens dating from 1929. Tour runs 1-5 p.m. on Sunday, February 25, starting at H. Lee House Cultural Center (3205 Olive). Tickets: \$12 in advance, \$15 at door. 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

"Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature" continues with a look at Cynthia Ozick's Puttermesser Papers, Sunday, February 25, 1 p.m., in 201 West Commons at San Diego State University. Discussion led by Harley Henning. Program hosted by San Diego County Library and four community partners. Free. 858-694-2484.

New Artwork by Sally Taylor and Charlotte Lewis goes on exhibit with reception on Sunday, February 25, 1 p.m., at Rancho Bernardo Winery (13330 Paseo del Verano Norte). Free. 858-673-0388. Exhibit continues through Thursday, March 1. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Bark in the Park, civic organist Carol Williams hosts fundraising concert for San Diego Humane Society on Sunday, February 25, 2 p.m., in Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Bring your pet for the pet parade. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Just Desserts, bring a homemade dessert sample and its recipe to Ikea for dessert competition, Tuesday, February 27, 6 p.m. Winning entries selected on basis of originality, flavor, overall appearance. Free entry. Prizes awarded at 7 p.m.; grand prize is \$250 Ikea gift card. 619-563-4532. (MISSION VALLEY)

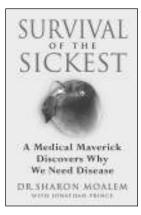
TNT Gets Kitschy! Enjoy a "showcase of all things postwar American chic" during Thursday Night Thing on March 1, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (1001 Kettner Boulevard). Dress in vintage attire, take part in "vintage-inspired paint-by-number activities," see go-go dancers and retro visuals provided by DJs Gage and Sergio, live jazz music by Todd Davidson's Club 33, more. Donation: \$3. 858-454-3541. (DOWNTOWN)

Understanding Politics in Mexico today is tackled by P&R Discussion group, Thursday, March 1, 7 p.m., at Other Side Coffee House (4096 30th Street). Free. 619-421-1879. (NORTH PARK)









doctor that, the doctor would've laughed at him."

"He suffered from a dangerous accumulation of iron: hemochromatosis."

Marine Mammal and Whale-Watching day trip to Coronado Islands, Sunday, March 4, 10 a.m.—3 p.m. Adventure boasts marine biologist guide, chance to view sea lions, harbor seals, elephant seals, sea birds, dolphins, migrating gray whales. Tickets: \$65 adults, \$55 students, \$50 kids 13 and under, benefiting local marine wildlife conservation campaigns. Reservations: 858-538-8721.

FOR KIDS

Tots and Tales interactive story time for preschoolers with animal stories, crafts, live animals on Thursday, February 22, 10:30 a.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). Donation: \$2 per child. Required reservations: 619-243-3432. (LINDA VISTA)

"The Little Engine That Could" hits stage with Big Joe Productions through Sunday, February 25, in Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. Comic ventriloquist Lynn Trimble presents *Pinocchio*, February 28–March 4.

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

"Wolfie," conductor/violinist Nuvi Mehta leads Mainly Mozart family series concert, Saturday, February 24, 1 p.m., at Inn at Rancho Santa Fe (5951 Linea del Ciela). Mehta is joined by violinist Andrés Cárdenes and pianist Anton Nel for Mozart's "Sonata in A" and "Serenade No. 7 in D (Haffner)." Performance accompanied by stories of this child prodigy "who would become the world's first independent agent." Tickets: \$35 child, adult admitted free with purchase of child's tickets. 619-239-0100. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

planned through June for those from kindergarten through 12th grade at La Colonia Community Center (715 Valley Avenue). Series two is Saturday, February 24, 2:30 p.m. Points awarded at each tournament, with overall winners determined after June 23 competition. Preregistration is \$27 per tournament, or \$140 for all six

Round-Robin Chess Tournaments

Explore "Asian Empires" during family festival on Sunday, February 25, noon—4 p.m., at San

tournaments; space-available day-

of-tournament fee is \$30.760-721-

4400. (SOLANA BEACH)

"Yes, he was rusting to death. Too much iron damages organs. When he came down with Alzheimer's later, I thought there could be a link with the excessive iron in his body."

"You were 15."

"Yes. I went to college, studied biology, then neurogenetics.
And after two years of research, the connection was made — a genetic association."

"Is it a rare condition?"

"No, common, one of the most common genetic disorders in descendants of Western Europeans. Including me."

"So why the disease?"

"It was probably a protection against a worse illness: the plague. People with my condition

Diego Museum of Art. Celebrate

Lunar New Year by exploring

demonstrations of ancient art

techniques, enjoy live entertain-

ment, art projects. Free. 619-232-

"Racing to the Rainbow

Live!" The Wiggles hit the stage in

Cox Arena at San Diego State Uni-

versity on Friday, March 9, at 3

and 6:30 p.m. The Wiggling in-

cludes Captain Feathersword,

Dorothy the Dinosaur, Henry the

Octopus, Wiggly Dancers, others.

Tickets: \$18-\$35, available

through Ticketmaster (619-220-

"Pirates Don't Change Diapers,"

author and illustrator David Shan-

non reads and signs his new book,

a companion to How I Became a

Pirate, Thursday, March 15, 4 p.m.,

at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue), 858-454-0347, Free.

MUSEUMS

Chula Vista Heritage Museum

the museum features glimpses of

Chula Vista's past; exhibits feature

lemon packing crate labels, pho-

tographs of downtown Chula

Vista, doors and adobe blocks

from the original Star newspaper

building, and relics from the Otav

Watch Company. Find the museum at 360 Third Avenue.

Creation Museum, a museum

contrasting the evolution and cre-

ation world views is found at

10946 Woodside Avenue North.

For more information, call

Gemological Institute of

America Museum, permanent

exhibits include displays depicting

science and art of gemstones and

history, lore and cultural signifi-

cance of jewelry. Find the GIA at

5345 Armada Drive. Required

reservations: 800-421-7250 x4116.

George White and Anna Gunn

Marston House, historic home

sits on five acres of landscaped

grounds with a formal English Ro-

mantic garden. Built for civic

leader and department store

founder George Marston and his

family by San Diego architects

William Hebbard and Irving Gill,

the Marston house design is in

keeping with the early 20th-Cen-

tury American Arts and Crafts pe-

riod, emphasizing simplicity, func-

tion, and natural materials. The

619-448-0900 x231. (SANTEE)

619-420-6916, (CHULA VISTA)

7931. (BALBOA PARK)

TIXS). (SDSU)

Asia's cultural traditions -

mostly survived the bubonic plague and passed it on to their children. That's the theory. People with hemochromatosis lock away iron and their bodies think they don't have enough and absorb more continuously. Iron helps almost all bacteria, fungi, and protozoa multiply. Parasites hunt us for our iron. Cancer cells thrive on it. Systems suffering with hemochromatosis mislead these organisms into believing the iron isn't there, or isn't available. So the plague passes them up. Similarly, males have more iron than women and so male plague victims outnumber female victims two to one."

"What is it that microorganisms use iron for?"

museum is located at 3525 Seventh Avenue; 619-298-3142. (HILLCREST)

J.A. Cooley Museum, an eclectic collection of items — including displays on phonographs, clocks, electric trains, and 20 other types of collections — is featured at the museum. The current featured attraction is an "Industrial Product Collection," with examples of the historical progression of auto technology from 1886–1915, "some classics and a concept car." Find the museum at 4233 Park Boulevard; 619-296-3112. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Park, old adobe buildings were once vacation retreat and working rancho of actor Leo Carrillo. Tours on Saturdays (11 a.m., 1 p.m.) and Sundays (noon, 2 p.m.). Find Rancho de los Quiotes at 6200 Flying LC Lane. 760-476-1042. (CARLSBAD)

Marine Corps Recruit Depot Museum, housed in a historic building, the museum features five permanent galleries with artifacts, uniforms, vehicles, weapons, and photographs depicting Marine Corps history. The museum is located in Building 26 at MCRD, just inside Gate 4, off Pacific Highway. 619-524-6038. (DOWNTOWN)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, why does every body produce "mushy, oozy, crusty, scaly, and stinky gunk"? Find out in "Grossology: The (Impolite) Science of the Human Body." Exhibition uses animatronics and imaginative exhibits to explore ways a body's biology does what it needs to do to keep us healthy. Closes Sunday, April 29.

"Origins in Space: Spin-Offs in Science and Technology" chronicles scientific accomplishments and technological spin-offs resulting from NASA missions. How have these discoveries entered our every-day lives?

Ongoing exhibitions include "More Than Meets the Eye"

Lucky 7 Match

SPEED DATING

Wednesday, February 28
Ages 24-34, 33-45 & 45-57

Thursday, March 15
Ages 28-38, 37-49 & 48-62
Both at 30-TWO Downtown
Check-in 7 pm, event 7:30 pm
Advance registration required.

UPCOMING EVENTS
Fondue Party: Thurs. 2/22
Rock N' Bowl: Sat. 3/10

Singles & Sushi: Wed 3/21

See website for details.

www.lucky7match.com (619) 890-7117 (through May), "Aging for All Ages," "San Diego Science Showcase," "Kid City" (for preschoolers), "The Best of Symmetry and Signals," and "TryScience!" "Comet Impact" is theme for motion simulator ride. Films are shown daily in the IMAX

"For all their basic chem-

ical functions, just as we do. It's

wonderfully useful in speeding

up reactions. In fact, it's very

rare for an organism not to use

iron. It's what separates friendly

bacteria from ones that want

you dead. Friendly bacteria tend

not to need iron. Like those in

yogurt, which use cobalt and

manganese, for instance. Almost

everything that is pathogenic,

toxic to humans, needs iron.

These organisms mine us for

organisms.... Were the sym-

biotic relationships between

microorganisms the beginning

of specialized tissues? Of us?

Was that the point at which

"About these friendly

our iron.

San Diego Automotive Museum, more than 80 automobiles and motorcycles from horseless carriages to future prototypes are included in the museum's permanent collection. Find the museum near the Starlight Bowl. 619-231-2886. (BALBOA PARK)

theater. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Hall of Champions, ongoing exhibits include "Bird Watching — Tony Hawk in Flight," "Surfing in San Diego," exhibits of baseball card art, fencing, local rugby history. The museum — dedicated to promoting, recognizing, and preserving athletic achievement — is located at 2131 Pan American Plaza. 619-234-2544. (BALBOA PARK)

Museum of San Diego History, career of local artist is highlighted in



"Parasites hunt us for our iron. Cancer cells thrive on it."

Nature had a Eureka moment, when life — complicated life — came into being?"

"Let me think about that,"
Sharon says, and there is a long
pause. "I'm not sure we'll ever
know, given the nature of the
complexity. It's hard to reverse
engineer and work out. The problem is, the fossil record doesn't
preserve tissue. Unless we come
across something that's so prim-

itive, or life on another planet that can help us understand how life arose here...We're still missing crucial points of the story. In high school and university we were taught we got two sets of genes from our parents, yet Ethiopians, for instance, will have 13 copies of a particular gene. How? We just don't know how Creation unfolded on this planet." — Juris Jurjevics

"Belle Baranceau: The Artist at Work." Baranceau was "one of the foremost expressionist painters of the 1920s and 1930s" who moved to San Diego in 1933 and received assignments from the WPA. Two of her murals are still in their original locations at Balboa Park Club and La Jolla post office. Exhibit provides broad overview of her career, look at her creative process. Through Tuesday, May 29.

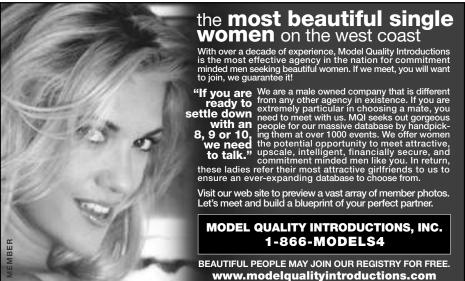
"Nikkei Youth Culture: Past, Present, Future" includes photographs, documents, school yearbooks, military medals, clothing to illustrate children's and teenagers' activities from early 1900s to present day. Exhibit includes look at experiences of Japanese-American youths living in World War II internment camps. Through Mon-

day, March 5. The museum is located in the Casa de Balboa building; 619-232-6203. (BALBOA PARK)

San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park commemorates the clash (on December 6, 1846) during the Mexican War between the U.S. Dragoons, bolstered by sailors and volunteers from San Diego, and California militia. Narrated slide-show screens throughout the day, telling the story of the war in Mexico and California. Self-guided tour recounts the events of the battle and profiles the leaders of the forces and also describes the lives of the Indians indigenous to the valley. The museum is found at 15808 San Pasqual Valley Road. 760-737-2201. (ESCONDIDO)

SINGLES





San Diego Reader February 22, 2007

Events that are underlined occur after March 1.

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

Symphonic Sounds in Sacred Spaces, the San Diego Young Artists Symphony Orchestra performs Mozart's "Magic Flute Overture," "Jupiter" from "The Planets" by Holst, "Symphony No. 5" by Tchaikovsky, and "Serenade for Strings" by Dvořák for ongoing series. Concerts offered at 3 p.m.

on Sunday, February 11, for "Music at the Madeleine" series at St. Mary Magdalene Church (1945 Illion Street) and Sunday, March 18, 4 p.m., at San Carlos United Methodist Church (6554 Cowles Mountain Road). Offering. 619-235-8067. (BAY PARK, LA MESA)

Thursday Night Lite, San Diego Symphony plays Dvořák's "Symphony No. 7" and the Sibelius "Violin Concerto in D" for series, Thursday, February 22, 7:30 p.m., at Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Tickets: \$15-\$58. Reservations: 619-235-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

"Roots and Rhizomes: 75 Years of Percussion Music" - percussionists, composers, teachers, researchers gather for performances, seminars, and panels, Friday and Saturday, February 23 and 24 at UCSD. Featured guests will include Vanessa Tomlinson, Taiko Project, Robert Esler, Allen Offe, Fritz Hauser, Julio Estrada, Christopher Shultis, Bernard Wulff, and Percussion Group Cincinnati exploring "the past, present, and future of the art of percussion."

On both days, Warren Lecture Hall studio A is site for free miniconcerts at 5 p.m., followed by concerts at 8 p.m. (\$8 general). 858-534-TIXS. (LA JOLLA)

Piano Trios by Beethoven and Ravel may be heard when Silvergate Trio — violinist Felix Olschofka, cellist Thomas Stauffer,

and pianist Cynthia Darby — performs Friday, February 23, 7:30 p.m., at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of San Dieguito (1036 Solana Drive). \$12. 858-755-7353.

Busy on Friday? Trio also appears Sunday, February 25, 4 p.m., in Music 113 at San Diego State University, Free, 619-594-6020. (SOLANA BEACH, SDSU)

Mainly Mozart Spotlight Series continues with all-Mozart concerts, February 23-25. Andrés Cárdenes (violin) and Anton Nel (piano) will perform many violin sonatas by Mozart, Concerts begin at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday at Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive); \$42. Sunday's concert starts at 6:30 p.m. at Inn at Rancho Santa Fe (5951 Linea del Ciela); \$50. Reservations: 619-239-0100. (LA JOLLA, RANCHO SANTA FE)

"Samson and Delilah" by Camille Saint-Saëns is current production for San Diego Opera. "Samson and Delilah is based on the biblical tale and tells the story of the Hebrew warrior Samson as he rallies the Israelites to revolt against the Philistines who have enslaved them." Cast includes mezzo-soprano Denyce Graves (making her company debut), American tenor Clifton Forbis, American baritone Greer Grimsley. Conductor is Karen Keltner, director is Lotfi Mansouri. Sung in French with English translations above stage.

Performances at 8 p.m. on Fri-

day, February 23; 2 p.m. on Sunday, February 25. Tickets: \$27-\$182. See the opera at San Diego Civic Theatre, 202 C Street. Reservations: 619-533-7000, (DOWNTOWN)

"Wolfie," conductor/violinist Nuvi Mehta leads Mainly Mozart family series concert, Saturday, February 24, 1 p.m., at Inn at Rancho Santa Fe (5951 Linea del Ciela). Mehta is joined by violinist Andrés Cárdenes and pianist Anton Nel for Mozart's "Sonata in A" and "Serenade No. 7 in D (Haffner)." Performance accompanied by stories of this child prodigy "who would become the world's first independent agent." Tickets: \$35 child, adult admitted free with purchase of child's tickets. 619-239-0100. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

Classical Music Promised when classical guitarist Randy Pile performs Saturday, February 24, 2 p.m., at La Jolla Library (7555 Draper Avenue). Pianist Allessio Averone plans concert on Sunday, February 25, 2 p.m. Free. 858-552-1657. (LA JOLLA)

Stravinsky's "Scherzo à la Russe," Dvořák's "Symphony No. 7," the Sibelius "Violin Concerto in D" may be heard when San Diego Symphony is joined by violinist Sergey Khachatryan in performance on Saturday, February 24, 8 p.m., at Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Tickets: \$20-\$85. Reservations: 619-235-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

Bark in the Park, civic organist Carol Williams hosts fundraising concert for San Diego Humane Society on Sunday, February 25, 2 p.m., in Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Bring your pet for the pet parade. Free, 619-702-8138, (BALBOA PARK)

The Trio Licenza presents "Beethoven's Complete Piano Trios, Part I, Opus I," Sunday, February 25, 2 p.m., in French Parlor of Founders Hall, University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Concert is offered in commemoration of 180th anniversary of composer's death, \$10 general. 619-260-4171. (LINDA VISTA)

The La Jolla Trio performs classical music for mini-concert at noon on Monday, February 26, at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Free. 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

ART LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur

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

"Ten Decisions," exhibition of work by Jeff Yeomans continues through Sunday, March 18, at San Diego Art Institute Museum of the Living Artist. Juror Perry Vasquez selected "Outstanding Visual Artists" for exhibition. Meet artists at reception, Friday, February 23, 6 p.m. 619-236-0011. (BALBOA PARK)

"Scenes from a Receding Past," recent prints by Patricia Patterson may be seen through March at Quint Contemporary Art (7739 Fay Lane). Meet Patterson whose work is said to deal with ordinary things - during reception in her honor, Friday, February 23, 6 p.m. 858-454-3409. (LA JOLLA)

"Enchantment." 25 new oil paintings by Concetta K. Antico go on view with reception, Saturday, February 24, 6 p.m., at Salon of Art Studio (902 Fort Stockton Drive). 619-733-5944. (MISSION HILLS)

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David Copperfield Feb. 24, 25

Lyle Lovett Feb. 28

The Who Mar. 1 Lila Downs Mar. 2

Snow Patrol Mar. 3

Doodlebops Mar. 4

Julio Iglesias Mar. 11 Patty Griffin Mar. 11

My Chemical Romance Mar. 13 Stephen Lynch Mar. 15

Steve Lawrence/Eydie Gorme

Joe Satriani Mar. 20 The Whispers Mar. 23

Earth, Wind & Fire

Christina Aquilera





Gwen Stefani

Rod Stewart Mar. 24

Boney James Mar. 28

Wayne Brady Mar. 30

Josh Groban Apr. 6

Brand New Apr. 6

The Killers Apr. 10

Montgomery Gentry Apr. 14

Chicago Apr. 15 Ricky Martin Apr. 22

ZZ Top Apr. 23 Fall Out Boy Apr. 28

Chayanne May 26 Keith Urban June 10

Mexico vs. Venezuela Feb. 28

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- THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 15 & 29 TIFERETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE (SAN CARLOS)
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New Members Exhibition with work in variety of media continues through Sunday, February 25, at La Jolla Art Association Village Gallery (7932 Ivanhoe Avenue). Meet artists during closing reception at 2 p.m. on 25th. 858-459-1196. (LA JOLLA)

"Going 4 Baroque," artist Erik Brandt has exhibit opening with reception, Monday, February 26, 5 p.m., in Keller Art Gallery at Point Loma Nazarene University (3900 Lomaland Drive). 619-849-2200. (POINT LOMA)

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

Mingei International Museum

- North County, "Paper Transformed," exhibition made up of "Crowning Glory — From Paper Bag Hats by Moses" and "Origami — The Art of Paper Folding" from Mingei's permanent collection continues through Saturday, July 21. For "Crowning Glory," Moses created more than 250 hats from paper bags contributed by merchants in his Hawaiian neighborhood. "Origami" boasts nearly 100 examples of traditional and contemporary paper folding; exhibition honors acclaimed local paper folder, author, teacher Florence Temko. Find the museum at 155 West Grand Avenue. 760-735-3355. (ESCONDIDO)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, "Morris Louis Now: An American Master Revisited" offers a "critical reexamination of this influential painter's legacy." Exhibit boasts 27 canvases produced from 1951–1962, with examples from three significant bodies of Louis's work. Artist is said to have "played an essential role in shaping postwar American art." Closes Sunday, May 6.

Brazilian artist Ernesto Neto exhibits his largest and most intricate installation to date. 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.

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, "TRANS-actions: 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.

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)

Oceanside Museum of Art, "Jusour wa Kusour: The Work of Doris Bittar, 1989–2007" continues through Sunday, April 1. The title translates as "A Bridge and a Chasm" — solo exhibition featuring paintings, photographs expressing Bittar's reflections on cultural landscape of Middle East and her family's history in the region. She was born in Baghdad to Lebanese parents, and

she spent her childhood in outskirts of Beirut. Find museum at 704 Pier View Way. 760-721-2787. (OCEANSIDE)

San Diego Museum of Art,

"Annie Leibovitz: A Photographer's Life, 1990–2005" features approximately 200 photographs by Leibovitz, including family photographs and portraits of public figures such as Colin Powell, Nicole Kidman, Brad Pitt, Merce Cunningham, Bill Clinton. Photographs provide glimpse into range of subjects captured by Leibovitz. Exhibition encompasses

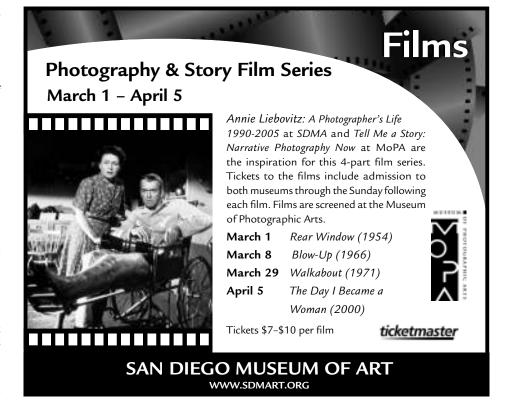
work Leibovitz made on assignment as a professional photographer, personal photographs of her family and close friends. Closes Sunday, April 22.

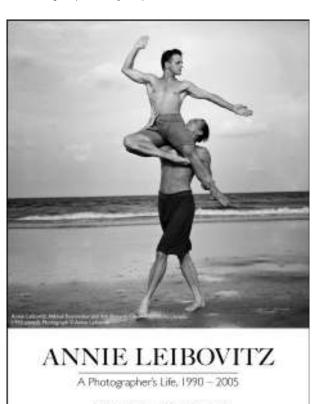
"Mel Bochner: Drawing from Four Decades" tracks continuity of the New York-based conceptual artist's various experimentations through four decades of artistic practice. Closes Sunday, March 18.

Jasper 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.

"Tastes in Asian Art," continuing through Sunday, May 20, introduces new and rarely exhibited works, exploring "diverse tastes of different social groups" — the imperial ruling class, scholars, warriors, common people, features separate section devoted to religious art, section dedicated to Persian art.

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





February 10 - April 22, 2007

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No Pigeonhole "The rap scene has started to get like karaoke," says Richard Gendron. "We did that for a while, but we were limited

different sort of rap group presents other limitations.

"Most clubs that do have a stage big enough for a band don't like the stigma associated with hip-hop, says drummer Lee Williams. Gendron says his band got a gig next week because his sister, MC Plain Jane, invited the band to open for her.



because we had to write our lyrics to these [prerecorded] beats." With partner Mike

Miller acknowledges that his band is stereotyped: "Just because we have MCs doesn't



KNOWN BY NOTHING KNOWS NO POLKA

Miller, Gendron are the rap duo Waste of Wits.

Now, the pair is part of the six-man fusion group called Known by Nothing. The band merges jazz, folk, metal, and punk with hiphop. The two rappers and DJ are backed by three musicians who handle drums, keyboards, accordion, bass, steel drums, lap steel guitar, trumpet, and sax. However, being in a

mean we are gangster rappers. Just because we have an accordion doesn't mean we play polka. We play so many types of music, it would be impossible for someone to try and pigeonhole us in a scene."

Known by Nothing will give out free copies of their eight-song CD when they play at the Honey Bee Hive on March 2.

– Ken Leighton

Out to Pasture The day after the Grammy awards, the KUSS (95.7 FM) morning team of Tony and Kris talked about the

previous day's on-air stunt: urinating into adult diapers. They didn't play any Dixie Chicks music, even though the



decision:

Darrel Goodin says the

band's exclusion from his

station's playlist is a business

"When you have ten

ZAMFIR AND DIXIE CHICKS SNUBBED BY KSON

group had just become the first in 13 years to win awards for best record, best song, and best album (plus best country album).

Tony and Kris (who drove a bulldozer over Dixie Chicks CDs in 2003, after the band criticized George W. Bush) complained that their station didn't receive a promotional copy of the Taking the Long Way album because the Dixie Chicks hate the country-music establishment.

Also boycotting the Chicks was KSON (97.3 and

92.1 FM). "The Grammys wouldn't recognize a country record if it hit them on the head," says KSON program director John Marks. "Zamfir

and Slim Whitman sell millions [of discs] too, but that doesn't mean I'm going to play them. Sales are one indicator, but that does not necessarily point to a demand for airplay.

KSON general manager

women sitting in a room discussing country music and you ask them should [KSON] be playing the Dixie Chicks and not one person says 'yes,' the question becomes answered for you. We've had music tests with hundreds of people. When our focus groups tell us we

should play the Dixie Chicks,

we will play them."

- Ken Leighton

Electric Wiggles On January 13, a group of San Diego indie rockers,



THE REAL-DEAL WIGGLES

including guitarist Dylan Martinez (Rookie Card), drummer Mike Kamoo (the Stereotypes), keyboardist Kelly Duley (the Kite Flying Society), and bassist Justin Bryant (Static Halo)

performed a back-yard show dedicated to the music of the Wiggles, an Australian quartet that performs kidfriendly music.

Though a survey of local toy retailers found that only Toys "R" Us carries Wiggles products, the band has become so popular that Six Flags Great America will open new areas of its theme parks — called Wiggles Worlds — beginning in May.

"I was inspired to do this for my one-year-old son's

birthday," explains Martinez. "[The Wiggles] are a lot cooler than most music groups that do this sort of thing. They are the Beatles of the kids' world.'

DEBAJO DEL PROMEDIO ESCAPES TOUGH PLACE In the hardcore scene, if a band sounds too happy, that can be a problem. People will throw bottles of soda at you, or they will call you names. Like, they will scream in your

Mexico City," says

Tiiuana.

singer/guitarist Irving Lugo,

who estimates that there are

now over 100 punk bands in

Lugo's Tijuana-based

played TI venues such as the

Palace), and the Hard Rock

tough place for rock bands.

"Tijuana is considered a

three-piece punk band

Debajo del Promedio has

Boa bar, El Foro (Jai Alai

Tijuana. But, "Norteño is still the king of music in

"We've been trying for five years [to get a stateside show]," says Lugo. "We didn't know anybody in San Diego." Lugo credits his manager for arranging Debajo del Promedio's first U.S. gig at the House of Blues (March 1).

face 'fag.' We don't write too

much about love...

"Yes, he's been a good manager for Debajo," says Helu, vocalist for TJ powerpop/glam band Rodeo Drive. "He started helping us out too. We were going to work with him, but he wanted 20 percent for five years. That

Once word got out, the group ended up performing for a dozen children and their families in a Bonita back yard. The four musicians opted against naming their group but did dress up in their characters' signature primary colors. One big difference between the originators and the sound-alikes is their use of electric instruments.

"We are fully amplified and include a full drum set,' says Martinez. "But because of the audience we're playing for, we make sure it's not loud.... It would be nice to do it again."

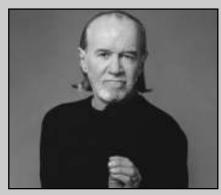
— Bart Mendoza

Tijuana Brash "Punk rock is really starting to get big in Mexico, especially in





Rockstar Supernova FEBRUARY 25



George Carlin
MARCH 1



Chiang Ye-Heng MARCH 4



Alejandra Guzmán MARCH 15



Regis Philbin
MARCH 25



Boz Scaggs APRIL 14



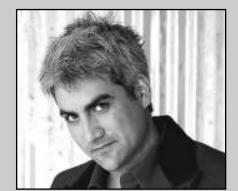
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was too much."

Side note: Though Rodeo Drive's next gig (March 18) is at Soma, they won't be playing on this side of the border. "There is a Soma down here on Paseo de los Héroes," says Helu. "It holds about 1000. It's all ages, but you can drink if you're 18.' Len Paul, owner of San Diego's Soma, says he's unaffiliated with the Tijuana venue.

- Ken Leighton

The Shatman Cruiseth

"With the resurgence of Bill Shatner's acting career, there's been a lot of interest

in his music," says Dan Lederman, a.k.a. ShatMan, the One-Man Shatner Tribute Band. "I started doing karaoke shows to discs of music that Shatner has covered, the really well-known stuff like 'Lucy in the Sky' and 'Rocket Man'.... I didn't try to copy his look until I wore a Star Trek uniform at the Lamplighter — one of the original Velcro jerseys but a little too small — and the crowd went insane for it. Now I have the loose-fitting toupee,

ShatMan still cruises local karaoke nights ("Gay bars like me, but they think I'm a butch girl"), though he says his MySpace page has yielded well-paying corporate

too.

and private gigs.

"They wanted me to do two one-hour sets at a sci-fi convention in Atlanta, so I expanded the repertoire to include stuff Shatner never recorded but should have, like [the Beach Boys'] 'Good Vibrations'.... I overenunciated all the doo-wahs and shoo-wahs in Shatspeak." The gig paid \$2000 plus travel and hotel expenses.

Lederman says he's looked into talent agencies specializing in celebrity impersonators, but "most of them aren't looking for strictly musical acts. They want you to walk around and take pictures with people, and I don't look much like Shatner up close [and] I can only impersonate him when I'm singing."

– Jay Allen Sanford

Shirking Off the Blues

"The women's room has only one commode in it, and the



LALAMA REVAMPS O'CONNELL'S room has a locking door," says Lorrie Merriman, coowner of O'Connell's in Bay

Park. "Two women and a hot topic of discussion can tie it up all night.' So, "the landlord is

letting us expand into the unit next door," says Rick LaLama, the other co-owner. "It used to be a hair salon. We're going to tear down a wall and make the club bigger. We're also going to put in a new stage, make the dance floor larger, fix the women's room, improve the sound system and lighting, and make it more conducive to [hosting] live music in general."

LaLama and Merriman (husband and wife) purchased O'Connell's in January 2005.

"My original thought was to keep the blues- and coverband format they had," says LaLama, "but then we started doing original-rock showcases and more alternative-style music.... We lost our regulars, of course, but now I am actually having fun with the place.

– Edwin Decker

Reinventing Girl For 14 years, Stacey Ellis was the lead singer for San Diego threesome Ellis. The band, including her husband Brett Ellis on guitars and Mike

McFarland on drums, had its share of ego clashes. Yet, their second album, Barstool Perspective released in 2004, garnered the attention of guitarist Steve Vai, P.O.D. guitarist Marcus Curiel, and

ERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: ZOMBIE LOUNGE

was never released. Stacey and Brett divorced after the band split up. Stacey moved to Los Angeles to pursue a solo career. There, Billy Sheehan showed her methods of producing a solo

WHY DO



ELLIS'S NEW ALBUM TO BE DIGESTIBLE

CREATIVELY

former Deep Purple vocalist/bassist Glenn Hughes.

When Ellis finished their third album, Vai put it on his Favored Nations label and distributed the album in Japan. Stacey Ellis became the sole female on a roster of musicians that included Stu Hamm, Billy Sheehan, and Eric Johnson, After Ellis finished their fourth album, the band called it quits due to intense feuding. The album

album. Though she was no longer on Vai's label, he gave her free access to his studio to record her solo album (Reinventing Girl). Vai has subsequently given Stacey the opportunity to sing background vocals on a song from his last solo album and used her voice for a prerecorded introduction at his 2006 4th and B concert. Stacey lent background vocals to a song on the Accident Experiment album

and for one of their concert intros.

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

EXPRESS

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Stacey says her solo album — still in production — is a shift from the multiple influences that made her former band's songs too elaborate for the public to digest.

- Stefanie Howell

Top Five Gems from recent posts on the San Diego Musicians webpage at craigslist.org:

CD artwork...can provide samples on speculum.'

"Metal guitarist looking to form or join group...not into Cookie Monster sounding vocals."

"Death metal tuba...looking to increase my tuba resumé experience."

"Every day that goes by without a gig, [I] get closer to killing everyone in my neighborhood."

We don't suck...if you suck, try out for the Locust."

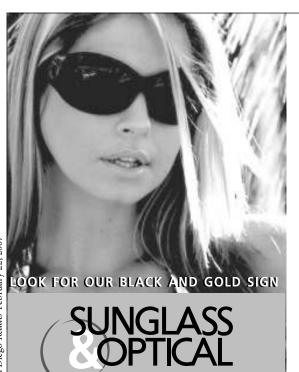
– Jay Allen Sanford

CONTRIBUTORS

William Crain, Dave Good, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemmingson, Ken Leighton, Ryan Loyko, Derek Plank, Eric Rife, Jay Allen Sanford

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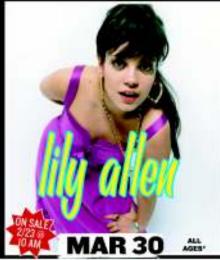
Kearny Mesa

San Diego *Reader* February 22, 2007

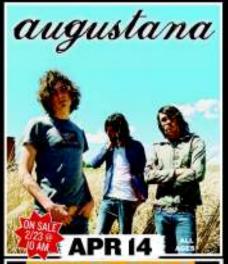


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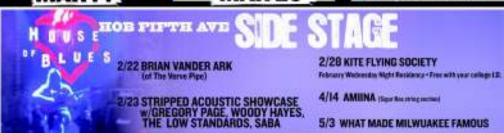






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Local with a Label

"Sometimes I wish I lived in the '60s when it was all about peace, love, and understanding."

ristan Prettyman is a rare breed among San Diego's growing crop of acoustic crooners — she's signed to a major label. Virgin Records released twentythree in August 2005, followed by a ten-month national tour with

ex-boyfriend Jason Mraz. She was 23 years old. The title of the album is a reference to the "23 enigma" from Robert Anton Wilson's Cosmic Trigger (and now the subject of a new Jim Carrey film).

YOUR NUMBER-ONE GUITAR?

"My Taylor 714ce. Bob Borbonus and the whole

gang over at Taylor have been there for me since

day one. I got the 714ce right after I turned 21.

"For some reason, I seem to have really shitty

shows at Maxwell's in Hoboken, New Jersey.

I'm pretty sure anyone that came to either of

the two shows I played there thinks I'm a really

big bitch, diva, unprofessional musician, and

professional complainer. Not that there is any-

thing wrong with the place, but both times I

played, people were talking through my whole

set. It was really loud, I got really upset, and I

felt the need to say something. It could just be

It's been my go-to guitar for everything."

WORST GIG?

that it's Jersey, though."

INTERVIEW MICHAEL HEMMINGSON

BEST GIG?

"I was on tour with Ben Taylor about a year ago, and we ended the tour in San Diego at the House of Blues. I headlined that night, and I remember being totally blown away. It was pretty much sold

out and totally silent the whole show. It was me and my friend Jen Lowe on percussion. I remember it sounding like butter onstage.'

WHAT'S IN YOUR CD PLAYER?

"The Shins, Wincing the Night Away. It's pretty much the dopest album ever. I got Cold War Kids and the Whitest Boy Alive up in the mix too."

BRUSH WITH THE FAMOUS?

"I met Ashley Simpson at the G Love show up in L.A. the other night, and then we went to this club, Hyde, afterwards, where I watched Ken Paves fix Jessica Simpson's hair and dance real up close and against her all night. Christina Aguilera was there, too — she was cute as a button. None of them talked to me. I want to be, like, 'Wow, y'all look so different off paper!' I don't really get that whole lifestyle. I was there for about ten minutes when I pretty much realized that I didn't belong there. I grew up in San Diego, man — we go surfing and to the Saloon, we don't go to clubs with paparazzi waiting outside.'



Tristan Prettyman

WHAT DID YOU DO PROM NIGHT?

"The only thing I remember is my fabulous date, Greg. I can't remember much else. I didn't attend many high school events. I do remember eating a pot brownie and going to grad night. That was fun."

FAVORITE SAN DIEGO HANGOUT?

"I love this sushi place in Solana Beach, Masuo's. I must eat there three or four nights a week. The Uncle Sheppie roll is to die for. I spend a lot of time at the Belly Up, too. That place feels like home to me.'

WHERE DO YOU SEE MUSIC GOING IN THE **NEXT 20 YEARS?**

"Sometimes I wish I lived in the '60s when it was all about peace, love, and understanding. I just hope I can keep playing music and continue to tour. Touring is the way to go, or, you know, having a reality show or something. There's so many ways to just get it quick. I don't want to give in so easily. I've always tried to be patient and remember to follow my path. I want to be remembered for something more than just having a hit single or a pretty face." ■











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CONCERTS

SanDiegoReader.com

THIS WEEK'S CONCERTS

THURSDAY

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.

FRIDAY

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.

SATURDAY

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.

SUNDAY

Rock Star Supernova: Pala Events Center, Sunday, February 25, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

MONDAY

Sebadoh: The Casbah, Monday, February 26, 2501 Kettner Boulevard. San Diego. 619-232-4355.

TUESDAY lan Tyson: AcousticMusicSanDiego Tuesday, February 27, 4650 Mansfield

Music videos for all concerts now or

WEDNESDAY

"Texas Songwriters Show" with Lyle Lovett, Joe Ely, John Hiatt, and Guy Clark: Viejas Casino

Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

DreamCatcher Show Room, Wednesday, February 28, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

UPCOMING CONCERTS

MARCH

The Who: ipayOne Center, Thursday, March 1, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Christina Aguilera: ipayOne Center, Friday, March 2, 3500 Spo Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Lila Downs: 4th & B, Friday, March 2, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

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.

The Dropkick Murphys: House of Blues, Monday, March 5, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583. Ky-Mani Marley: Belly Up Tavern,

Γuesday, March 6, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 Musiq: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday,

Solana Beach, 858-481-8140, Ozomatli: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, March 9, and Saturday, March 10, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach.

858-481-8140.

Robert Randolph: House of Blues, Saturday, March 10, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Willy Porter:

Diego. 619-232-4355.

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Sunday, March 11, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Razorlight: The Casbah, Saturday, March 10, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San

Patty Griffin: 4th & B, Sunday, March 11, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Richard Thompson: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, March 12, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-

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 Crav: ipayOne Center, Thursday, March 15, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Alejandra Guzman: Pala Events Center, Thursday, March 15, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, March 15, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Dave Stamey: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, March 17, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Clipse: Belly Up Tayern, Saturday, March 17, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

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.

G3: Copley Symphony Hall, Tuesday, March 20, 1245 Seventh Avenue downtown. 619-235-0804.

Badly Drawn Boy: House of Blues, Wednesday, March 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.



Kris Delmhorst:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Wednesday, March 21, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Killswitch Engage: Soma, Friday, March 23, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

The Whispers: Spreckels Theatre, Friday, March 23, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500.

Rod Stewart: Cox Arena, Saturday, March 24, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

"Hip-Hoppalooza" with DJ Quik, the Kneehighs, and Bone Thugs-N-Harmony: RIMAC Arena, Saturday, March 24, UCSD campus, La Jolla. 858-534-8497.

Earth, Wind, and Fire: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Sunday, March 25, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine 619-445-5400.

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.

Unwritten Law: 4th & B, Friday, March 30, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Switchfoot: Soma, Saturday, March 31, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Sevendust: House of Blues, Saturday. March 31, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

APRIL

Static X and **Otep:** House of Blues, Sunday, April 1, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

TV on the Radio: Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, April 1, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

The Ataris: House of Blues, Monday, April 2, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

John Legend and Corrine Bailey Rae: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Wednesday, April 4, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

Rickie Lee Jones: 4th & B, Thursday, April 5, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

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.

De La Soul: 'Canes, Friday, April 6, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Geoff Muldaur

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, April 7, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

The Killers: RIMAC Arena, Tuesday, April 10, UCSD campus, La Jolla. 858-534-8497

Saves the Day and Say Anything: Soma, Tuesday, April 10, 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.

Toots & the Maytals: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, April 13, and Saturday, April 14, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

The Mother Hips: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, April 14, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Montgomery Gentry: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Saturday, April 14, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Boz Scaggs: Pala Events Center, Saturday, April 14, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

Chicago: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Sunday, April 15, 5005 Willows Road. Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Jedi Mind Tricks: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, April 16, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.

Moenia: House of Blues, Wednesday, April 18, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Huey Lewis & the News: Pala Events Center, Friday, April 20, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

Stone Sour: House of Blues, Sunday, April 22, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Gwen Stefani, Akon, and Lady Sovereign: Coors Amphitheatre, Sunday, April 22, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Sunday, April 22, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171. **ZZ Top:** Viejas Casino Concerts in the

Park, Monday, April 23, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Brian McKnight: Spreckels Theatre, Tuesday, April 24, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500.

Mute Math: House of Blues, Thursday, April 26, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583. **Arcade Fire:** Spreckels Theatre, Thursday, April 26, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500.

David Wilcox:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, April 27, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Blonde Redhead: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, April 27, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Fall Out Boy and +44: Coors Amphitheatre, Sunday, April 29, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600. **ZZ Top:** Palomar Starlight Theater, Sunday, April 29, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

Ghostface Killah: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, April 30, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

f

Damien Rice: Spreckels Theatre, Tuesday, May 1, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500.

Taylor Hicks: Palomar Starlight Theater, Wednesday, May 2, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580. **Melissa Ferrick:** The Casbah, Thursday, May 3, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Richard Marx: Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room, Friday, May 4, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Vienna Teng:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Sunday, May 6, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Fairport Convention:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, May 11, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.



Calendar CONCERTS

The Be Good Tanyas: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, May 18, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-

Chayanne: ipayOne Center, Saturday, May 26, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

JUNE

The Charlie Daniels Band: Paloman Starlight Theater, Thursday, June 7, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala.

Keith Urban: ipayOne Center, Sunday, June 10, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Hot Tuna: House of Blues, Monday, June 25, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp 619-299-2583.

AUGUST

Heart: Palomar Starlight Theater, Friday, August 31, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.



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, *RockBoxx*, '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 booty-shakin' 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.

Club Montage: Wednesdays, Club Thizz, hip-hop, reggae, and drum 'n' bass. Sundays, first floor, Klub Retro, nu wave, synth-pop, and new romantic; second floor, Underworld, industrial, gothic, and darkwave. 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. DIs Billie Knight, Tek, and guests spin true hip-hop, Fridays and Saturdays, DI 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.



BY WILLIAM CRAIN

If we're going to have a '90s rock revival and we are — we can't really do it without Sebadoh, and the original trio of Eric Gaffney, Lou Barlow, and Jason Loewenstein has reunited. Begun in the late '80s as a home-recording project by Gaffney and Dinosaur Jr. bassist Barlow, Sebadoh epitomized the indie rock of the era in many ways. If you were a fan, you loved Sebadoh's lo-fi sound, mix of strummy acoustic and dissonant electric guitars, stylistic diversity, self-referential sense of humor, and heartfelt sentiment. If you weren't a fan, you scoffed at their sloppy recordings, lack of

stylistic focus, and the unrelenting self-absorption shown in the lyrics.

I was a fan, but I think I understand now where the non-fans were coming from. I once played Sebadoh's "Soul and Fire" for an adult English as a Second Language class, and the students burst out laughing when they heard Barlow's voice. I realized then that there was a lot you had to be willing to swallow before vou could love Sebadoh. On the early albums, you have to put up with occasional tedious noise experiments,

and on practically every Sebadoh album, you have to put up with Barlow's obsessive chronicling of the ups and downs of his relationship with the woman who would become his wife and his anger with Dinosaur Jr. leader J Mascis.

Interestingly, Barlow recently joined



Mascis in a reunion of Dinosaur Jr.'s original lineup. I guess time and well-paid reunion tours heal all wounds. We'll have to see how Sebadoh's music has stood up to time.

SEBADOH. The Casbah. Monday. February 26, 8:30 p.m. 619-232-4355. \$15.

Inferno Young Adult Nightclub:

Fridays and Saturdays, DJ Kool T spins Top 40, techno, and '80s. 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

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.

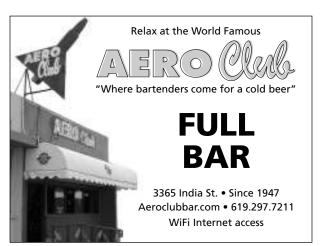
San Diego Sports Club: Wednesdays, *Club Pussy Galore*, Robin Roth and other female DJs spin indie rock, electropop, and '80s. Second and fourth Saturday of the month, *Club* Fashion Whore, electroclash, Brit pop, and indie dance punk with DJs Nate Soixante, Barry Weaver, Edgartronic, and Avenue, Hillcrest. 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.

Whiskey Girl: Fridays, DJ Marc Thrasher mixes music videos. Saturdays, DJs Marc Thrasher and Famous Dave mix music videos. Sundays, DJ Famous 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







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CLUBS BY AREA

If you wish to submit a listing, call 619-235-3000, ext. 405, night or day by 5 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 760-788-1309 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the music section.

BEACHES

Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Beach 858-488-0551. Tangier Lounge: Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., also, Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., and Wednesday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., John Cain, jazz/Latin/international/pop standards.

Bar Leucadian, 1542 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia. 760-753-2094. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock.

The Calypso Cafe, 576 North Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-632-8252. Thursday, Mike Tiernan, acoustic. Friday, Jeff Moore and Billy Thompso blues. Saturday, Triple Shot, blues Sunday, the Rick Ross Trio, jazz. Monday, Blue Largo, blues/jazz. Tuesday, Jack Tempchin, folk. Wednesday, Maldonado,

'Canes, 3105 Ocean Front Walk. Mission Beach. 858-488-1780. Thursday, Me and Heath, the High Rolling Loners, and Development of Souls. Friday, Those Dang Robinsons, Rebelution, Kareya, and a Conscious Few. Saturday, Guttermouth, Dogmatic, and Non-Prophet. Wednesday, Safety Orange, Wahbah, Finback, and Dirty Madame.

Clay's, atop the Hotel La Jolla, 7955 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla. 858-459-0541. Live jazz.

Cody's La Jolla, 8030 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-459-0040. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Roy Resnikoff, light classical piano/show tunes. Friday and

Wednesday, 7 p.m., *Dick Koenig*, jazz guitar. Saturday, 7 p.m., *Stefani Stevens*, iazz piano, Sunday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Ioe Cardillo, acoustic jazz-rock.

Dreamstreet, 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-8131. Music is rock/alternative/metal. Thursday, Altered Time and Six Reasons. Friday, the Leperkhanz, Lexington, the Burning of Rome, and Way Side Loop. Saturday, Trisula, Magnolia Black, and Calabria Wednesday, Longstay and James Drive

Hennessey's Tavern (PB), 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 858-483-8847. Thursday, Skelpin, traditional Irish music. Friday, Daily Dose. Saturday, the Fligorags. Sunday, Mike-n-Jeremy.

The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-6483. Friday and Saturday, Serious Guise, classic rock, Sunday, the Blues Brokers, blues jam.

La Scala, 1101 Scott Street, Point Loma. 619-224-2272. Friday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., jazz. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., piano bar.

La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-454-0771. Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Barry Levich*, jazz. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, Rick Ross, jazz.

Leana Bistro and French Pastry Cafe, 5550 La Jolla Boulevard. 858-454-9094. Saturday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Will Faeber and Greg Pardue, smooth jazz.

Manhattan Restaurant, 7766 Fav Avenue, La Jolla. 858-459-0700. Friday and Saturday, the Ioe Marillo Iazz Trio.

Moondoggies, 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-6550.

Ortega's Tamaleria, 4993 Niagra ie, Ocean Beach. 619-222-1722. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 7 p.m., John Tafolla and Friends, variety.

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



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

MASTERPIECE

6:15-10:45 PM

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

POP ROCKS

9:45 PM-1:30 AM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Diva Soul

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

Masterpiece

6:15-10:45 PM

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

Diva Soul

9:45 PM-1:30 AM

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

POP ROCKS

9:45 PM-1:30 AM

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SUNDAY, FEB. 25 & MAR. 4

MASTERPIECE

6:30-11 PM

Monday, Feb. 26 & Mar. 5

Insight

6:30-11 PM

TUESDAY, FEB. 27 & MAR. 6 Mystique (Element of Soul) Jazz/Funk/R&B

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28 & MAR. 7

The Soul Revue 6:30-11 PM

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San Diego Reader February 22.

alendar **CLUBS**

BEACHES

710 Beach Club, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Thursday, Opus Dei, In Every Breath, and Born Tonight, rock. Friday, Thicker Than Thieves, and Strive Roots, rock/reggae Saturday, Gadfly, the Devastators, and

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

High Tide, reggae. Wednesday, Silence Betrayed, Flash Bang, and the Warden.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-9734, Friday, Sara Petite, folk. Saturday, live music Wednesday, Tic Tac Toast, rock,

Tower Two Beach Cafe, 5083 Santa Monica Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-223-4059. Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., live musi-

Turquoise Cafe, 873 Turquo 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, live bands, Johnny Cash Tribute. Friday Elijah Emanuel and the Revelations, reggae. Saturday, Raq. Monday, the Electric Waste Band, rock. Tuesday, the Wastrels, In Perfect Agony, and Downspell, rock. Wednesday, Hope Road and Syrup, rock.

DOWNTOWN

Blarney Stone Pub, 502 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8519. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and

Borders Books and Music

Diego. 619-702-4200. Friday, 8 p.m., Hargo, folk. Saturday, 8 p.m., Jamie Crawford, folk,

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown, 619-232-HELL, Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Isis, Jesu, and Oxbow. Friday, The Prayers, Emery Byrd, the Muslim: and Skull Kontrol. Saturday, OM, Earthless, and the Long and Short of It. Monday, Sebadoh and the Bent Moustache. Tuesday, Autotonic and Low vs. Diamond. Wednesday, Ghostland

Croce's Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. All music is iazz unless otherwise noted. Thursday, David Patrone. Friday, Yavez. Saturday, Primo. Sunday, the Archtones. Monday. Dave Scott. Tuesday, the Shep Meyers Quartet. Wednesday, Fuzzy and the

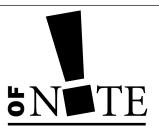
Dakota Grill and Spirits, 901 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-234-5554. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., also, Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., Jimmy Lavello, pop piano.

Dick's Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-9100. Music is rock and roll. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Scott Carter Duo, rock Friday, 8 p.m., Private Domain. Saturday 8 p.m., Straight Six. Sunday, Tuesday, Dreggs of Sada. Wednesday, Private in, unplugged.

Dizzy's, 344 Seventh Avenue, wn, 858-270-7467, Thursday 8 p.m., the Cross Border Trio, jazz. Friday, 8 p.m., Kristen Korb and Her Trio, jazz. urday, 8 p.m., Peter Sprague, jazz.

Dublin Square, 554 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-239-5818. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 9 p.m. to midnight, Cullan's Hounds, Irish folk, Monday, 8:30 p.m., Sharon Hazel Township, acoustic rock.

4th & B, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343. Thursday, Cheap Trick and Trash Daddy. Friday, Michael Franti and Spearhead, rock/hip-hop/reggae, and Delta Nove, jazz/pop.



BY DAVE GOOD

I call Ian Tyson at his ranch in Canada after listening to "Ambler Saddle" off his first new CD in six years, Songs from the Gravel Road. I ask him if he's ever ridden rodeo or if the song is a work of the imagination. He says he's ridden. I tell him I was touched by the memoir of a crusty cowboy taking a youngster to the rodeo. Tyson stops me. "That is not what that song is about," he says. "It's a first-person account told from the point of view of a saddle. It's about the asses that have been in that saddle. And historically, it's accurate.'

He pauses to let that sink in, "I'm glad you liked the music," he says, "even though you haven't got a fuckin' clue as to what the

song is actually about." I feel like an idiot. I want to tell him that maybe I was distracted by the whooping he does during the song, but I say nothing.

By definition, cowboy

folk music is a sentimental stew of simple chords and even simpler sentiments. Tyson, cowriter of such classics as "Four Strong Winds," knows this better than most but violates his contract with the genre by funking it up with spoken word and jazz sax and trumpet. In a word, he makes dull music interest-

ing. But the themes on "Gravel Road" remain true to form, and I have zero patience for songs that make the past seem like golden mush. I push him a little hard on this, and the interview becomes contentious, or at least I think so — I'm only getting every other word due to the bad cell connection with Alberta.

My final image of Tyson is of a man who



seems to care little whether or not I approve of his music, and I like that. I ask him if there's much demand for cowboy music anymore. "You'd be surprised," he says, his inflection genuine. "You'd be surprised.

IAN TYSON. AcousticMusicSanDiego. Tuesday, February 27, 8:30 p.m. 619-303-8176, \$35,

Gaslamp Tavern, 868 Fifth Avenue, San Diego. 619-239-3339. Tuesday, Fishbait, country. Wednesday, Mark Fisher, classic 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.

Henry's Pub, 618 Fifth Avenue, wn, 619-238-2389, Thursday, the Brat Pack. Friday, Good Times. Saturday, Groove Sessions, Tuesday, the Stilettos. rockabilly. Wednesday, Lady Dottie and the Diamonds, blues.

Jimmy Love's, 672 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G), downto 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/dance. Monday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Insight, jazz. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Mystique, jazz/R&B. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Soul Revue, dance/Top 40.

Martini Ranch, 528 F Street, downtown. 619-235-6100. Thursday, 9 p.m., Modern Day Moonshine. es/soul/rock/reggae.

Ole Madrid, 755 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-557-0146, Friday, Diego Brown, rap/hip-hop/Latin.

Patrick's II. 428 F Street, downtown. 619-233-3077. Music is blues/soul unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Tell Mama. Friday, the 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band. Saturday, the Bill Magee Blues Band, Sunday, Harmonica Red, Monday Dave Camp. Tuesday, the Bayou Brothers. Wednesday, Blue Largo

Princess Pub and Grille, 1665 India Street, Little Italy/downtown, 619-702-3021. Saturday, J.D. Boucharde, piano

Rock Bottom, 401 G Street, Gaslamp pop/rock/disco/dance.

Samba Grill, 514 Horton Plaza, Gaslamp. 619-236-1000. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Edo Brazil*, Brazilian jazz.

Sevilla, 555 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-5979. Club Salsa: Thursday, Primo, Latin/salsa. Tuesday, Walter II y Rumbaney, salsa.

The Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue, downtown. 619-238-1818. The 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 through Wednesday, Peter Prince of

Worldbeat Center, 2100 Park Boulevard, Balboa Park, 619-230-1190. Friday, 8 p.m., X Clan and Deep Rooted **SAN DIEGO**

AcousticMusicSanDiego, 4650 Mansfield Street, San Diego. 619-303-8176. Music is acoustic/folk. Saturday, John McEuen. Tuesday, Ian Tyson.

The Alibi, 1403 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-295-0881. Live rock/indie/alternative

Blarney Stone Pub, 5617 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont. 858-279-2033. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, *Chris* and Harold, Irish folk, Monday, Pat and Joe and Allison Gill, folk. Tuesday, Irish

Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley), 1072 Camino del Rio North, Mission Valley. 619-295-2201. Friday, 8 p.m., Tom Boyer, folk.

Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Avenue, Bay Park, 619-275-LIVE. Music is heavy rock/metal/punk/rockabilly. Thursday, Talented Tenth, Parker Edison, the Number Man, and Six Inch Man. Friday L.A. Guns, Sledd, and Fuzz Huzzi. Saturday, Run Run Run, Buddy Akai, and the Acceptance. Wednesday, Comes with the Fall, Program the Dead, and the

Claire de Lune, 2905 University Avenue, North Park. 619-688-9845. Live

Epicentre, 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa. 858-271-4000. Music is rock/metal/alternative Saturday Matt Wertz, Stephen Kellogg, and Jon McLaughlin, Tuesday, State Radio, the New Amsterdams, and Street to Nowhere. Wednesday, John Reuben and Jayce.

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Classic Rock

6 One 9

Monday, February 26 Come Play!

Tuesday, February 27 • Mike Ruggirello presents

Huge Rooster & guests

Wednesday, February 28

Happy Hour 6-8 pm

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Santee

Thursday, February 22

Call Club

Friday & Saturday, February 23 &24 • 9 pm Classic Rock



Uptown Groove

Monday, February 26 **Come Play**

Tuesday, February 27

Call Club

Special Event: March 1 • Santee Wednesday, February 28 Iron Maidens **Call Club**

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The Gordon Biersch Brewery, 5010 Mission Center Road, San Diego 619-688-1120. Friday, Stranger, reggae

Harry's Bar and American Grill. 4370 La Jolla Village Drive, San Diego. 858-373-1252, Friday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. the Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson Jazz Duo

Hot Monkey Love Cafe, 6875 El 4113. Thursday, jazz. Friday and Saturday live bands. Sunday, salsa.

Humphrey's, Half Moon Inn, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-224-3577. Backstage Lounge: Thursday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Federal Funk, funk/R&B. Friday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Julio de la Huerta, flamenco guitar, 9:30 p.m., Makai, dance/disco Saturday, 9:30 p.m. Roy Rogers and the Delta Kings, blues. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Jose Molina Serrano, 8 p.m., Fattburger, smooth jazz. Monday, 7 p.m. to midnight, Sheila Sondergard, acoustic

Tuesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, the Glen

Fisher Trio, straight-ahead jazz. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, the Soul Persuaders, blues.

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

The Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848. Music is rock/alternative/metal. Friday, Fifty on Their Heels and Zerox. Saturday, Get Your Death On, Juan Peso, and Who Rides the Tiger.

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

Last Call, 4977 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-287-9505. Saturday, 9:30 p.m., Raven White, new romantic/gothic/'80s.

Lestat's Coffee House, 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-282-0437. Thursday, Brett Bixby, Josh Damigo, Melissa Larkin, and Michele Lewis,





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PARKER EDISON THE NUMBER MAN **SIX INCH MAN**

<u>⊕tix</u> Friday, February 23

L.A. GUNS **SLEDD • FUZZ HUZZI**

Ctix Saturday, February 24

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Wednesday, February 28

COMES WITH THE FALL eaturing new singer of Alice In Chains)

PROGRAM THE DEAD THE MATERIAL

Thursday, March 1

IDLEMINE DISALTO

AWAITING SAMSARA

BACK FROM ASHES FRACTURE POINT ETCHED IN RED ONE INCH PUNCH

Sunday, March 4

THE SMALL HOURS

Thursday, March 8

HITMAN **JOHNNY BLAZE** 3RD DEGREE • E.O.S.

Friday, March 9

NEEDLE MOUTH LESSON IN PAIN AUDKIK SHALLOW POINT

Sunday, March 11

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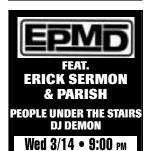




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3/22 Marc Ford • 3/31 Jewmongous – Comedy Show! 4/11 Yovee, Transfer, Buckfast Superbee & Goodbye Eliot • 4/16 Guru's Jazzmatazz 4/17 Dan Hicks & His Hot Licks w/John Hammond • 4/19 Pepper - on sale 2/23 @ noon! 4/25 Sean Lennon - on sale 2/22 @ noon! • 5/9 Asleep At The Wheel • 5/22 Brother Ali - on sale 2/23 @ noon!

Sondre Lerche w/Willy Mason & Thomas Dybdahl

3/24 The Radiators 3/25 KSON presents Flynnville Train

Flynnville Train 3/26 Brett Dennen 3/27 Hoodoo Gurus

3/28 Cowboy Mouth w/Pat McGee 3/29 Lyrics Born & The Coup

JJ Grey & Motro
Atomic Punks
Son Volt
Dark Star Orchestra
The Frames
Hal Ketchum 4/12 & 13

SWINGIN' HAPPY HOURS

2/23 CANDYE KANE • 3/2 ATOMIC GROOVE

3/9 BUICK WILSON • 3/16 BIG RIG DELUXE

SALSA SUNDAYS: 2/25 & 3/4

.& 13 Toots & The Maytals –
Two Nights!
4/14 The Mother Hips

3/30 JJ Grey & Mofro 3/31 Atomic Punks

4/15 The Michael Tiernan Trio & Sven-Erik Seaholm Dual Album Release Party! 3 pm

4/15 Jedi Mind Tricks w/Sean Price & Grayskul 9 pm 4/18 Groundation

4/18 Groundation
4/21 Boogie Nights–Metal Snake!
4/22 Earth Day Blues Festival w/Tommy Castro
& Charlie Musselwhite

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Don Carlos RJD2 w/Pigeon John 5/10 5/13

5/18 The Be Good Tanyas 6/12 Leon Russell 6/17 Johnny Winter 6/21 Iris DeMent

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Sondre Lerche & Brett Dennon.

alendar

SAN DIEGO

acoustic/folk. Friday, the Lovely Disorder and the Tragic Tantrum Caberet. Saturday, the Dukes of Haggard, country, and *Tommy Edwards*, rock. Sunday, *J. Turtle*. Monday, open mike. Wednesday, Alex Depue and the Citizen

Martini's Bar and Grill, 3940 Fourth Avenue, San Diego. 619-293-0232. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Vintage

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub.

1310 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park. 619-276-5637. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Friday, 9 p.m..

U.S. Drag, Roxy Monoxide, and Royal Campaign, rock/punk/alternative/pop Saturday, the Bigfellas, Riboflavin, Tefflon, and Mary Grasso. Monday, 8 p.m., Mystery Train, blues. Tuesday, 8:30 p.m., Shea's Rebellion, Tomorrow's Cry, and Defect of Character.

rock/punk/alternative. Wednesday, 8:30 p.m., the Dead Pigeons, 2012am, the Hot Box, and the Continental Kings, rock/alternative/experimental.

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, Lil' Efert, 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,

Prego Ristorante, 1370 Frazee Road (Hazard Center), Mission Valley. 619-294-4700. Monday, the Jaime Valle/Rob Thorsen Jazz Duo

Redfox Steakhouse, 2228 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-297-1313. Thursday through Sunday, and Wednesday, the Ed Repisi Duo. Monday

and Tuesday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., Shawline

Rosie O'Grady's, 3402 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-7666 Friday and Saturday, live rock.

San Diego Sports Club, 1271 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-299-7372. Music is rock/indie/alternative rock. Friday, Pete Stewart, This Life on Mars, and Mike Flynn. Wednesday, the Republic of Letters and the Infants.

Scolari's Office, 3936 30th Street, San Diego. 619-296-3546. Live rock/alternative.

Second Wind, 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos. 619-465-1730. Friday and Saturday, 60ne9, classic rock.

Sham Rocks Shack, 7059 El Cajon Boulevard (half block east of 70th Street), College Area. 619-463-2263. Friday and Saturday, live bands.

Soma, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-SOMA. Music is rock/metal/alternative/punk. Thursday Pallida Mors, the Final Burden, the 25th Hour, Impending Doom, Oblige, and Imperil. Friday, Mursic, Daredevil Jane, Transfer, the Flux Theory, and the Absens. Saturday, the Faceless, Light This City, Antagonist, and Carniflex. Sunday, Dinosaur Party.

Tio Leo's, 10787 Camino Ruiz, Mira Mesa, 858-695-1461, Saturday, Masterpiece, jazz/R&B.

Tio Leo's Lounge, 5302 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-1462. Friday, *the Fremonts*, blues. Saturday, live music. Tuesday, zydeco blues. Wednesday, 7 p.m., the High Society Jazz Band.

The Tower Bar, 4757 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-284-0158. Friday, the Downs Family and the Screamin' Yeehaws, hard rock. 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., Jessie Lockwood, Will Buis



Album: Illusion (2006) Artist: The Fijis Label: Fatdog Studios

Where available/price: Live shows (\$15) Songs: 1) Illusion 2) Shut Up 3) Still Rainin' 4) Best of Me 5) Machine 6) Sometimes 7) Crosstown Traffic 8) Hoochie Koochie 9) Runaway 10) Mary

Band: Michael Bucciarelli (guitar, vocals), Matty Gillan (drums, percussion, keyboard, vocals), Rafael Navarro (drums, percussion, keyboard, vocals), Nico Pompeo (bass, vocals)

Website: www.thefijis.com

Nothing is surprising about *Illusion;* it's rock and roll that spans several disciplines. The first track sounds heavy metal. "Shut

Tommy Edwards, and Tim Pahlen.

Larkin, Chris Torres, and Jane Doe.

Sunday, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., the Celtic

Tim Mudd.

Friday, John Estep, Stasia Conger, Sender,

Paul Jacobsen, Roy Ruiz, and Clayton. Saturday, 8 p.m., Molly Jensen, Melissa

Ensemble. Wednesday, open mike with

Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant.

619-282-7040. Thursday, 7 p.m. to

7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Peggy Lloyd, jazz.

NORTH COUNTY

The Alley, 421 Grand Avenue,

Carlsbad, 760-434-1173, Thursday,

3025 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park.

10 p.m., the B-3 Four featuring vocalist David Mosby, jazz. Friday and Saturday,

Whistle Stop Bar, 2236 Fern Street,

San Diego. 619-284-6784. Friday, 9 p.m., Genius of Soul, hip-hop/soul jazz.

Up" is an angsty teen declaration of independence with fast, blues-based guitar and drums along the lines of the White Stripes. "Sometimes"

Friday, and Saturday, the Love Rangers,

Top 40/pop.

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-9022. Thursday, 8 p.m., Dave Mason, rock, and John Mayall, blues. Friday, 9 p.m., the Aggrolites, the Hi-Lites, and the Creepy Creeps, ska/rock. Saturday, 9 p.m., the B-Side Players and Casa de Calacas. Latin/jazz. Sunday, 8 p.m., *Primo*, salsa. Monday, 7 p.m., the Cash Kings and Hot Rod Lincoln, country/rockabilly. Wednesday, Staring at the Sun recordrelease party with *Berkley Hart* and *Scott Wilson*, acoustic/modern rock/alternative.

Boar Cross'n, 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-2989. Thursday, hiphop. Friday and Saturday, live classic

BEST SEATS

samples from Southern California pop punk with rap-

ping...as in nu metal. The only surprise is when you check the CD liner and notice from the band photo that the Fijis are teenagers.

The band is talented. Bucciarelli can finger the chords lightning quick, and the drums and percussion are top-notch. There are some rough edges. At times, the vocals sound off-key and like a straining James Hetfield impersonation. Lyrics in "Machine" are sophomoric: "Maybe someday they'll build a machine that gets rid of hate, gets rid of mean," But what do you expect? They are sophomores...in high school.

Obvious influences include Nirvana and Hendrix. I'd like

The Fiiis

to see where these talented guys end up in a few years. If they find inspiration from non-mainstream sources and find a distinctive sound, they could grow to national level or greater success.

TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD REVIEWED, PLEASE MAIL

IT TO: Music Editor, Hometown CDs, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803

The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe, Flower Hill Mall, I-5 at Via de la Valle Del Mar. 858-755-3735. Friday, 8 p.m., Billy Watson, blues.

(Carlsbad), 1905 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad. 760-479-0242. Friday, 8 p.m., Mike McGill, folk. Saturday, 8 p.m., Lee Tyler Post, acoustic rock.

Borders Books and Music

Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain), 11160 Rancho Carmel Drive, Carmel Mountain. 858-618-1814. Friday, 8 p.m., Jim Earp, acoustic folk. Saturday, 8 p.m., Javid,

Carvers, 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Friday and Saturday, Night Shift, classic rock.

Coyote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad

Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., the Citizen Band, rock, Friday, the Sons of Bordertown, rock/blues/funk. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., blues jam. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Bruce Cameron,

Del Dios Bar and Grill, 20154 Lake Drive, Escondido. 760-489-4800. Friday, Grand Canyon Sundown, country/blues/folk rock. Saturday, Joe Rathburn, island sounds/pop rock Sunday, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., *Ruby and the Red Hots*, blues.

Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad), 2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-6951. Friday, the Bill Magee Blues Band. Saturday, Lizard Fish, rock.

The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo, Rancho Santa Fe. 858-756-1131. Thursday, Tuesday, and

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NORTH COUNTY

Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Jerry Melnick, jazz/variety piano

The Jumping Turtle, 1660 Capalina is rock/alternative/metal unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Verona Skies, Lazarus Ghost Frequency, and Grave for Two. Friday, Clockwork, Pain, Damien Grinnz IQ, Bassem G, Mr. Sneeks, and D-Koi, rap/hip-hop. Saturday, Infinitum Obscure, Deathevokation, Winterthrall, and the Leather Nun. Sunday, Inhale, Mike Pinto, Doctors Never Die, and Irie I. Wednesday, Livid, 1 Enemy 3, and Sonic

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 Tremont Street, Oceanside. 760-439-6646. Friday, 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., the California Rangers, country.

North Bar Sports and Spirits, 200 West El Norte Parkway, Escondid 760-480-8228. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Mike Gardner, acousti rock/folk.

Ocean House, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, 760-729-4131, Friday, 9 p.m., the Band in Black, country Saturday, Shady Grev, rock, Tuesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., the Cradit Union, swing. Wednesday, open mike, blues.

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.

Squid Joe's, 850 Tamarack Avenue Carlsbad. 760-729-4996. Friday, the Mess, garage rock/indie.

Surf N'Saddle, 123 West Plaza Street (Lomas Santa Fe and Highway 101), Solana Beach, 858-755-9474, Thursday Patrick Ryan, acoustic. Friday, the Hideaways, rock. Saturday, Lifelike, rock. Wednesday, 9 p.m., open mike.

Tom Giblin's Irish Pub and Restaurant, 640 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-7234. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Adrienne Nims and Raggle Taggle, Irish dance cabaret.

SAN DIEGO SPORTS CLUB

2007

San Diego Reader February 22,

8

SOUTH BAY/CORONADO

Buon Giorno Restaurant, 4110 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

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

Caffe Salotto #1, 2240 Otay Lakes Road, EastLake Village. 619-421-8674 Friday, 8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., the Paul Ingram Trio, 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,

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 Jamerson and Joe Tarantino, jazz. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., Stellita and Dave Lindgren. 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.

Island Sports and Spirits, 104 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-3456. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., live music.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill, 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435 5280. Music is acoustic/folk. Thursday. Saturday, and Wednesday, 4-Way Street Friday, Harmony Road. Sunday, Tommy Price. Monday, Steve Brewer. Tuesday.

EAST COUNTY

Borders Books and Music (El **Cajon),** 159 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon. 619-593-5119. Friday, 7 p.m., *Maybe* Tonight, acoustic/folk. Saturday, 7 p.m., Monte McIntyre, acoustic.

De Oro Mine Co., 9924 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-464-3351. Friday, 9 p.m., Zone 4, rock.

as i hear it

Artist: Thicker than Thieves Song: "Rise Up" (from the CD Thru

Thick and Thin) Heard By: Jeremy Scott, Golden Hill



It was definitely reggae mixed with metal, but I can't compare them to any other band that I've heard. The production is basically all I liked about it. They're obviously trying to do something different. [I would listen to this song if I am] stranded in the desert with no water and my camel just died and my American flag is my last bit of sustenance and I've eaten it and I'm crawling through the desert and I'm almost going to die.

SAN DIEGO SONGS TAKE THE STREET TEST

Artist: Grape St. Blues

Song: "Ice Age" (from their self-titled CD) Heard By: Keith Milgaten, Sherman



I would compare it to Aeson Rock or Slug from Atmosphere. It's very descriptive, and there was a story definitely told in the song. I felt like the scratching on the chorus was cool, but there was a sample that was super loud of a woman singing [that] I felt was a little overbearing. I do like a lot of hiphop beats myself, and I'm pretty critical of a lot of stuff I hear, but I actually really enjoyed that track. [I would listen to that song while] probably smoking weed in a basement.

Artist: Miz Mandy

Song: "Yours" (from the CD In the

Mix)

Heard By: Mike Jenkins, Pacific Beach



I can't tell you that I'm personally a fan, but I would say it sounds something like the Pussycat Dolls and 2ge+her's bastard stepchild. The rhyme scheme was pretty good but altogether not something I'd want to hear. She keeps using the same expression in French. I honestly don't listen to anything that sounds anything like that. I guess it would be okay for a dance club.

TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD HEARD, PLEASE MAIL IT TO:

Music Editor, As I Hear It, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803

Dirk's Niteclub, 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove. 619-469-6344. Friday and Saturday, Full Xposure, classic rock.

Don's Cocktail Lounge, 13321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon. 619-443-2444. Friday and Saturday, Benchmark,

Downtown Cafe, 182 East Main Street, El Cajon. 619-440-5687. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., *Chet Cannon and the* nittee, blues.

Fannie's Nightclub, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-698-2204. Friday, hip-hop. Saturday, live rock.

Golden Acorn Casino, 1800 Golden Acorn Way, Campo. 866-794-6244. Friday, 9 p.m., Robin Henkel, blues/jazz.

P'S P

16 BEERS ON TAP!

Renegade Inn, 14335 Old Highway 80 (half mile east from Lake Jennings turnoff), Flynn Springs. 619-561-8105. Friday and Saturday, Whiskey Ridge,

Second Wind, 8528 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-596-8350. Friday and Saturday, Uptown Groove, classic

Sixty 7 Bar and Grill, 10109 Maine Avenue, Lakeside. 619-561-6767. Friday, 9 p.m., Antee Mac, Living Hell, Renegade ne War Orphans, and On-Key, rap/hiphop.

Tommy's Italian Restaurant, 1190 North Second Street, El Cajon. 619-440-2676. Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Franco Zand Friends, swing/standards.

Wagon Wheel, 8861 Magnolia country music.



ALTERNATIVE

The Absens: Soma

The Acceptance: Brick By Brick

Antagonis: Soma

The Bent Moustache: The Casbah Burning of the Masses: Soma

ICENTRE

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Sat., February 24 • \$10/\$12 HOB presents Matt Wertz • Stephen Kellogg

Jon McLaughlin

Tues., February 27 • \$10

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Fri., March 2 • \$12

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Fri., March 23 • \$14

son David Concerts presents

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Calabria: Dreamstreet Carnifex: Soma

Comes with Fall: Brick By Brick

Deathevokation: The Jumping Turtle Defect of Character: O'Connell's

Development of Souls: 'Canes

Dinosaur Party: Soma

Doctors Never Die: The Jumping

Downspell: Winstons

Earthless: The Casbah

The Faceless: Some

Fifty on Their Heels: The

The Final Burden: Soma

Get Your Death On: The Kensington

Ghost Frequency: The Jumping

Ghostland Observatory: The

Grave for Two: The Jumping Turtle

The High Rolling Loners: 'Canes

Hope Road: Winstons

Impending Doom: Soma

Imperil: Soma

In Perfect Agony: Winstons

The Infants: San Diego Sports Club Infinitum Obscure: The Jumping

Inhale: The Jumping Turtle

Isis: The Casbah

Jesu: The Casbah

Kemistry: 'Canes

Knights of the Abyss: Soma

L.A. Guns: Brick By Brick

The Leather Nun: The Jumping

The Leperkhanz: Dreamstreet

The Long and Short of It: The

The Lovely Disorder: Lestat's Coffee

Low vs. Diamond: The Casbah Magnolia Black: Dreamstreet The Material: Brick By Brick

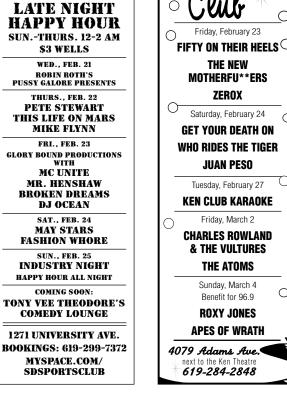
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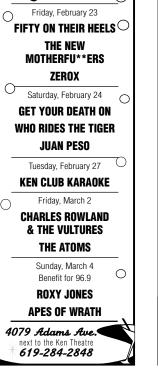
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Parker Edison: Brick By Brick Mike Pinto: The Jumping Turtle The Pravers: The Casbah Program the Dead: Brick By Brick

The Republic of Letters: San Diego

Riboflavin: O'Connell's Pub and

Sebadoh: The Cashah

Shea's Rebellion: O'Connell's Pub

The Six Inch Man: Brick By Brick Sonic Ritual: The Jumping Turtle

Street to Nowhere: Epicentre

Syrup: Winstons

Talented Tenth: Brick By Brick This Life on Mars: San Diego Sports

Tomorrow's Cry: O'Connell's Pub

The Tragic Tantrum Caberet:

Tricula: Dreamstreet The 25th Hour: Soma

Verona Skies: The Jumping Turtle

The Wastrels: Winstons Raven White: Last Call

Who Rides the Tiger: The

Winterthrall: The Jumping Turtle Zerox: The Kensington Club

ROCK

Altered Time: Dreamstreet Benchmark: Don's Cocktail Lounge The Bigfellas: O'Connell's Pub and

Nightclub Born Tonight: 710 Beach Club

The Brat Pack: Henry's Pub

The Burning of Rome: Dreamstreet Cheap Trick: 4th & B

The Citizen Band: Coyote Bar and Grill, Lestat's Coffee House

The Continental Kings: O'Connell's

The Creepy Creeps: Belly Up Tavern Daredevil Jane: Soma

The Dead Pigeons: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Dirty Madame: 'Canes The Disco Pimps: Dick's Last Resort

Dogmatic: 'Canes

The Downs Family: Tower Bar Dreggs of Sada: Dick's Last Resort The Dukes of Haggard: Lestat's

The Electric Waste Band: Winstons

Emery Byrd: The Casbah

Finback: 'Canes Mark Fisher: Gaslamp Tavern

The Flux Theory: Soma

Mike Flynn: San Diego Sports Club Michael Franti and Spearhead:

Full Xposure: Dirk's Niteclub

Mike Gardner: North Bar Sports and Spirits, Mas Fina Cantina

Guttermouth: 'Canes

The Hideaways: Surf N'Saddle

The Hot Box: O'Connell's Pub and In Every Breath: 710 Beach Club

James Drive: Dreamstreet

Jayce: Epicentre

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SYRUP!

UPCOMING:

3/2: KUSH BLOOD FIYAH

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3/1: PARTICLE

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THURSDAY, MARCH 1

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SATURDAY, MARCH 3

KEMISTRY

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

STRANGER

TWILIGHT CIRCUS

ROOTS COVENANT

TRIBE OF KINGS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

AMAGE

(Metallica

Tribute)

Rebelution

THE EXIES

THOSE DANG

ROBINSONS

KAREYA

MONSTERS

OF ROCK

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

ME AND HEATH HIGH ROLLING LONERS DEVELOPMENT **OF SOULS**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

ELLIGEFENT & 'Canes present GULLERMOULE

NON PROPHET • DOGMATIC

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

EBIG GOOD OFOVIDE INTENTIONS

FOUR MINUTES TILL MIDNIGHT

FRIDAY, MARCH 9



· UNSET **ONE THEORY**

FRIDAY, MARCH 16



(Dave Matthews **Band Experience) STEPPING** FEET

DAZED & CONFUSED (Led Zeppelin Tribute)

SATURDAY, MARCH 24



Delmundo presents

NATI RUTS

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

JUMPING JACK FLASH

(Rolling Stones Tribute)

FRIDAY, APRIL 6

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

ild Child

DE LA

(Doors Tribute)

ATERCIOPELADOS



THE MAYAN **KINGS**

FRIDAY, MARCH 30

THRIVING IVORY ARM THE ANGELS **KEMISTRY • FONO**

THURSDAY, APRIL 5



SATURDAY, APRIL 7

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2007

Calendar

ROCK

The Justin Brothers: Galley at the

Stephan Kellogg: Epicentre Lexington: Dreamstreet Lifelike: Surf N'Saddle Lil' Efert: Pal Joev's The Livid: The Jumping Turtle

Lizard Fish: Hennessey's Tavern

Longstay: Dreamstreet Jon McLaughlin: Epicentre Dave Mason: Belly Up Tavern Mike-n-Jeremy: Hennessey's Tavern

Night Shift: Carvers Non-Prophet: 'Canes OPM: 710 Beach Club Opus Dei: 710 Beach Club

Private Domain: Dick's Last Resort John Reuben: Epicentre

Roxy Monoxide: O'Connell's Pub

Royal Campaign: O'Connell's Pub

Safety Orange: 'Canes

The Screamin' Yeehaws: Tower Bar

Serious Guise: The Kraken Shady Grev: Ocean House 6one9: Second Wind (San Carlos)

Six Reasons: Dreamstreet The Sons of Bordertown: Coyote

Peter Stewart: San Diego Sports Club

The Stilettos: Henry's Pub

TANGO DANCING

Wednesday • February 28

HIGH SOCIETY

JAZZ BAND

DINNER SHOW

21 & Up • For Info: 619/542/1462

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TBA TBA 3/2:

Tic Tac Toast: Tiki House Transfer: Soma Trash Daddv: 4th & B

Straight Six: Dick's Last Resort

2012am: O'Connell's Pub and Uptown Groove: Second Wind

U.S. Drag: O'Connell's Pub and

Wahbah: 'Canes

Way Side Loop: Dreamstreet Matt Wertz: Epicentre Scott Wilson: Belly Up Tavern

Zone 4: De Oro Mine Co. **POP / TOP 40**

PTrak Armenta: Pasquale on Prospect Gil Barron: Pasquale on Prospect Jesse Davis: Buon Giorno Restaurant Diva Soul: Iimmy Love's

James East: Pasquale on Prospect Mark Fulton: Pasquale on Prospect The Good Times: Henry's Pub Jimmy Lavello: Dakota Grill and

The Love Rangers: The Alley Rick Lyon: The Imperial House

Makai: Humphrev's

Joe Rathburn: Del Dios Bar and Grill The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love's

JAZZ / BIG BAND

Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze The Archtones: Croce's Jazz Bar Rav Briz: Hotel del Coronado

The B-Side Players: Belly Up Tavern

The B-3 Four: Vesuvio Gourmet

KARAOKE

Thursday • March 1

OH! RIDGE

21 & Up • For Info: **858/695/1461**

Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn Bruce Cameron: Covote Bar and Grill Sammy Canonizado: Cafe LaMaze



Michael Franti & Spearhead, February 23, 4th & B

Sandy Chappel: Cafe LaMaze The Cradit Union: Ocean House

The Cross Border Trio: Dizzy's Delta Nove: 4th & B

Edo Brazil: Samba Grill

Will Faeber: Leana Bistro and French Pastry Cafe

Fattburger: Humphrey's Nick Fiore: Pasquale on Prospect

The Glen Fisher Trio: Humphrey's

Franco Z and Friends: Tommy's

Karen Giorgio: The Westgate Hotel John Guilino: Pasquale on Prospect Cynthia Hammond: Pasquale on

The High Society Jazz Band: ${
m Tio}$

The Paul Ingram Trio: Caffe Salotto

Insight: Jimmy Love's

Keith Jacobsen: Lafavette Hotel

Barbara Jamerson: Hotel del

Jazzilla: Turquoise Cafe

The Jazz 101 Band: Pasquale on

Dick Koenig: Cody's La Jolla

Kristin Korb and Her Trio: Dizzy's

Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado Barry Levich: La Valencia Hotel

Dave and Stellita Lindgren: Hotel

Peggy Lloyd: Vesuvio Gourmet

Fran Loskota: The Westgate Hotel

The Joe Marillo Jazz Trio:

Masterpiece: Tio Leo's (Mira Mesa),

Jerry Melnick: The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, Rancho Bernardo Inn The Shep Meyers Quartet: Croce's

Mikan and Friends: Buon Giorno

Jose Molina Serrano: Humphrey's

David Mosby: Vesuvio Gourmet

Mystique: Jimmy Love's

Mario Oliveras and Latin Spice:

Greg Pardue: Leana Bistro and French

Dave Patrone: Croce's Jazz Bar

Peter Prince of Piano: The

Primo: Sevilla, Croce's Jazz Bar, Belly Up Tavern

Rick Ross: La Valencia Hotel

The Rick Ross Trio: The Calypso

Dave Scott: Pasquale on Prospect,

Robert Sebastini: Cafe LaMaze

Peter Sprague: Dizzy's

Stage 4: Buon Giorno Restaurant

The Devastators: 710 Beach Club Elijah Emanuel and the

The Aggrolites: Belly Up Tavern

Stefani Stevens: Cody's La Jolla

The Jaime Valle Quartet: Tutto

The Jaime Valle/Rob Thorsen

Scott Wallingford: Cafe LaMaze

Jazz Duo: Prego Ristorante Vintage Vegas: Martini's Bar and

Yavez: Croce's Jazz Bar

REGGAE / SKA

The Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson Jazz Duo: Harry's Bar and Ar

evelations: Wins

Gadfly: 710 Beach Club High Tide: 710 Beach Club

The Hi-Lites: Belly Up Tavern

The Irie I: The Jumping Turtle Stranger: The Gordon Biersch Brewery

Strive Roots: 710 Beach Club Thicker Than Thieves: 710 Beach

COUNTRY

The Band in Black: Ocean House

The California Rangers: McCabe's

The Cash Kings: Belly Up Tavern

Fishbait: Gaslamp Tavern

Grand Canyon Sundown: Del Dios

Hot Rod Lincoln: Belly Up Tavern

Whiskey Ridge: Renegade Inn

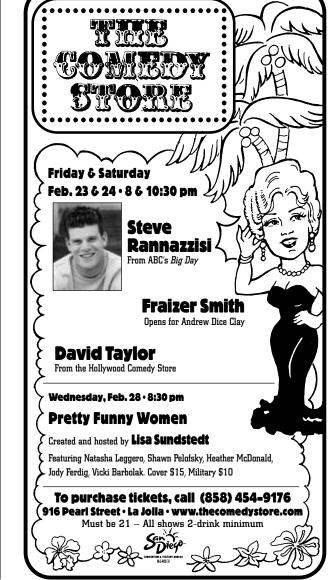
ACOUSTIC / FOLK

Berkley Hart: Belly Up Tavern Brett Bixby: Lestat's Coffee House

J.D. Boucharde: Princess Pub and

Tom Boyer: Borders Books and Music





Online Club **Coupons!**

The following nightclubs have valuable coupons in the Music Section of the Reader's website. o indicates North County.

The Aero Club Free WiFi

Boar Cross'n 2 for 1 cover

Brick By Brick 2 for 1 admission

CA Express VIP Card Free card

Club Montage 2 for 1 cover

Comedy Co-op Free tickets

In Cahoots 2 for 1 cover

Lucky 7 Match \$5 off speed dating

Martini Ranch Free appetizers

Patricks II 2 for 1 cover

San Diego Sports Club Buy any drink, 2nd drink \$1

710 Beach Club 2 for 1 cover

Second Wind Navajo No cover

Tio Leo's Lounge \$1 off club admission

SanDiegoReader.com



February 22 | Thurs., 8:00pm | Mandeville Auditorium TAIKOPROJECT

The ensemble's work balances the traditions and rich history of American taiko drumming with a contemporary edge. (re)generation is a state-of- the-art theatrical production that blends taiko with storytelling, spoken word, music, hip hop choreography, video multi-media and dance. TICKETS: \$34/\$30.

February 24 | Sat., 8:00pm | Mandeville Auditorium **URBAN BUSH WOMEN**

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Thursday, Feb. 22 8~pm \bullet Funk and R&B Tribute to James Brown Featuring Ron Nelson

Federal Funk

Friday, Feb. 23 6 pm • Flamenco Guitar

Julio de la Huerta

9:30 pm • Dance & Disco

Makai



Saturday, Feb. 24 9:30 pm • Blues

Rou Rogers

Delta Kings



Sunday, Feb. 25 8 pm • Smooth Jazz

Fattburger

Wednesday, Feb. 28 8 pm • Funk, Soul & Dance

7 om • Jazz

The Soul Persuaders

Glen Fisher Trio

Tuesday, Feb. 27

UPCOMING SHOWS

Thursday, March 8 Devon Allman Honey Tribe

Saturday, March 10

Chris Duarte Thursday, March 15

Les Dudek

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Guitar/Vocalist - Sat. 1-5 pm Kai Brown in the Beach Bar

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Calendar **BANDS**

ACOUSTIC / FOLK

Steve Brewer: Blarney Stone Pub, McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Will Buis: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Joe Cardillo: Cody's La Iolla

The Scott Carter Duo: Dick's Last

The Celtic Ensemble: Twiggs Tea

Chris and Harold: Blarney Stone Pub

Clayton: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Stasia Conger: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Jamie Crawford: Borders Books and Cullan's Hounds: Dublin Square

Daily Dose: Hennessey's Tavern (PB) Josh Damigo: Lestat's Coffee House

The Fligorags: Hennessey's Tavern

4-Way Street: McP's Irish Pub and

Mary Grasso: O'Connell's Pub and

Allison Gill: Blarney Stone Pub

Alex Depue: Lestat's Coffee House David Hauser: Galley at the Marina Jane Doe: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Julio de la Huerta: Humphrey's J. Turtle: Lestat's Coffee House

Jim Earp: Borders Books and Music Paul Jacobsen: Twiggs Tea and Tommy Edwards: Twiggs Tea and

Coffee Company, Lestat's Coffee House Javid: Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain) John Estep: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Molly Jensen: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Hargo: Borders Books and Music

Harmony Road: McP's Irish Pub and

Taylor Harvey: McP's Irish Pub and

Melissa Larkin: Lestat's Coffee

House, Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company Michele Lewis: Lestat's Coffee House

Jessie Lockwood: Twiggs Tea and

John McEuen:

AcousticMusicSanDiego

Mike McGill: Borders Books and

Monte McIntyre: Borders Books and

Maybe Tonite: Borders Books and

Adrienne Nims and Raggle Taggle: The Prado Restaurant, Tom Giblin's Irish Pub and Restaurant

Pat and Joe: Blarney Stone Pub Sara Petite: Tiki House

Tim Phalen: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Lee Tyler Post: Borders Books and

Tommy Price: McP's Irish Pub and

Roy Ruiz: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Patrick Ryan: Surf N'Saddle

Gary Seiler: Galley at the Marina Sender: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Skelpin: Hennessey's Tavern (PB)

Shelila Sondergard: Humphrey's Jack Tempchin: The Calypso Cafe



Sharon Hazel Township: Dublin lan Tvson: AcousticMusicSanDiego

Mike Tiernan: The Calypso Cafe

Chris Torres: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Gene Warren: The Ould Sod

BLUES / SOUL

Antee Mac: Sixty 7 Bar and Grill

Bassem G: The Jumping Turtle The Bayou Brothers: Patrick's II

Blue Largo: The Calypso Cafe,

The Blues Brokers: The Kraken

Dave Camp: Patrick's II Chet Cannon and the Committee: Downtown Cafe

Clockwork: The Jumping Turtle

Deep Rooted: World Beat Center Diego Brown: Ole Madrid

D-Koi: The Jumping Turtle Federal Funk: Humphrey's

The Fremonts: Tio Leo's Lounge

Fuzzy and the Bluesmen: Croce's

Genius of Soul: Whistle Stop Bar Damien Grinnz: The Jumping Turtle

Harmonica Red: Patrick's II Robin Henkel: Golden Acorn Casino

IQ: The Jumping Turtle Lady Dottie and the Diamonds:

Henry's Pub, Tower Bar

Living Hell: Sixty 7 Bar and Grill The Bill Magee Blues Band: Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad), Patrick's

John Mavall: Belly Up Tavern

Mr. Sneeks: The Jumping Turtle Modern Day Moonshine: Martini

Jeff Moore: The Calypso Cafe

Mystery Train: O'Connell's Pub and

The 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band: Patrick's II

On-Key: Sixty 7 Bar and Grill Pain: The Jumping Turtle

Renegade: Sixty 7 Bar and Grill

Roy Rogers and the Delta Kings:

Ruby and the Red Hots: Del Dios

The Soul Persuaders: Humphrey's Tell Mama: Patrick's II

Billy Thompson: The Calypso Cafe

Triple Shot: The Calypso Cafe The War Orphans: Sixty 7 Bar and

Billy Watson: The Book

X Clan: World Beat Center

EVERYTHING ELSE

Tom Barabas: G5-Georges on Fifth John Cain: Shooters Bar and Grill. Bahia Resort Hotel, Hotel del Coronado

Casa de Calacas: Belly Up Tavern

A Conscious Few: 'Canes

Ray Correa: The Butcher Shop Jim Gibson: Hotel del Coronado

Kareya: 'Canes

Maldonado: The Calypso Cafe Rebelution: 'Canes

The Ed Repisi Duo: Redfox

Roy Resnikoff: Cody's La Jolla Shawline Expression: Redfox

John Tafolla: Ortega's Tamaleria Tefflon: O'Connell's Pub and

Those Dang Robinsons: 'Canes

Walter II v Rumbanev: Sevilla

Joey West: Hotel del Coronado

FRIDAY 3/2

Flatline

Discord

Aghori

Briegade









Crasher

NACHO BOWL

by Josh Board

Super Bowl halftime approached, I headed off to another party. I had two more to catch. The first, which the host dubbed the "Nacho Bowl," was in North Park. He said there would be various cheeses on tables throughout the house. I drove to North Park with this on my mind and saliva dripping down my chin.

As I walked into the garage, I saw ten people watching Prince — I hadn't missed any of the second half. Noticing the tiny TV, I said, "This has got to be the smallest TV the Super Bowl is being watched on." Someone responded, "It has Prince in his actual size."

The garage had a section of desserts and another section set up with a taco bar. I walked inside to the kitchen from where I saw a big-screen TV. Someone asked me what I thought of Prince. "Nothing says manly football like Prince." A few people laughed, and I asked, "Why didn't he incorporate the team logos into his symbol?" Someone



too much like the Saints logo."

My date, more interested in food than football, said, "There's a lot of cheese here. It makes me constipated, though." A guy named Mike said, "They don't call it a block of cheese for nothing."

Top: Crowd in the kitchen, waiting to munch on cheese; Bottom left: Poker was played long after the Super Bowl ended; Bottom right: This couple spent more time looking at each other than the Super Bowl

the mistake, however, of earlier saying that, in her country, she used to eat grasshoppers. The crowd was now

"Nothing says manly football like

There is a debate over people mixing cheesecake with brownies. One woman said it was disgusting. She had made

throwing that in her face.

Since there was no room to sit at the big screen, I was stuck in the garage. I asked a

woman if I could sit next to her on the washing machine. "It's a public washing machine." I overheard Mike tell someone that his friend bought a ticket to the Super Bowl. "The guy paid four grand." Someone said, "To sit in the rain?" Mike responded, "Well, it's 75-degree rain. But, he wanted to go to some of the parties. Things were so crowded, it was 45 minutes just to get into different parking structures."

Since I had money on the Colts, I didn't want to miss any of the game. I wouldn't be going to the next party until it ended. The Colts covered the spread, and I was happy, less rushed, as we headed to the third party. I figured the Poway party would still be going, since they were playing Texas Hold 'Em.

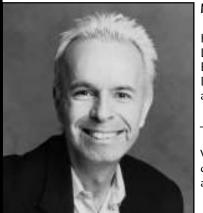
When we got to Poway, several people were still there. I saw two Navy guys smoking on the patio. One was wearing a Brian Urlacher Bears jersey, and his haircut looked a lot like Urlacher's. We talked about the game. He was upset, and when his cell phone rang, he cursed into it and hung up. I said, "That sucks. Your team loses, and your friends call you to give you crap." He said, "Yeah. I know."

Back inside at the Texas Hold 'Em game, A.J. gave me a glass of punch. It was strong, but tasty. I asked what was in it. He laughed, "What isn't in it? We have everything but the sink. There's Bacardi Vanilla, Mandarin Citron, Bombay Sap-

Prince. Why didn't he incorporate the team logos into his symbol?"



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Sweet and Sour, orange
juice, cranberry juice, ginger ale." He may have
listed a few other things; I
couldn't keep track. He
had a bunch of footballs
against the wall, which I
thought he put out for the
theme of the party. As I
got a closer look, I saw
they were autographed. He
told me he knew someone
who worked with the
Chargers.

I talked to a blonde who was a police dis-

patcher in Apple Valley. She told me that their number is similar to a Mexican restaurant and that when callers get the wrong number, she takes their orders. She said her job can be stressful but that she loved it.

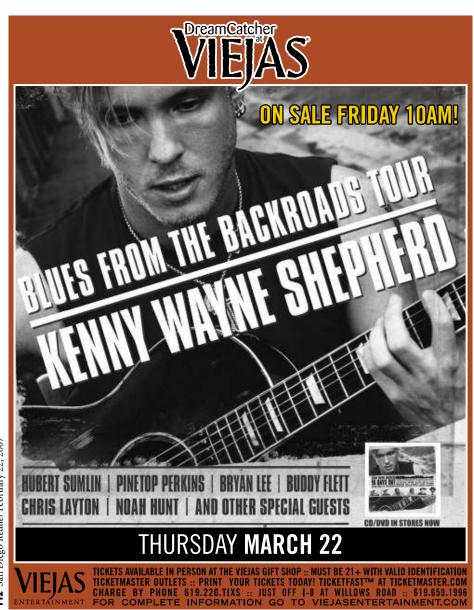
I talked to another woman going through a divorce. Her husband cheated on her with a woman who beat her up in a bar on her 30th birthday. The police dispatcher was telling her all the laws involved in restraining orders and what happens in various court cases that were similar to hers.

The Bears fan left with his head down. I said, "It could be worse. You could be a Chargers fan " =

Crash your party? Call 619-235-3000 x421 and leave an invitation for Josh Board.

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com









Good German

People often ask me, "Where should I go for a gala brunch that doesn't cost a fortune?" I mumble, "Aaagh, I don't do mornings." And when they ask where to get good home-style German food, the response might be, "Uhh, wangle a dinner invitation?" Now, Chef Axel European Bistro provides a practical answer to both questions.

The Lynnester and Samurai Jim had reported glowingly on Chef Axel's brunches, so a few Sundays later I dragged myself out of bed at some ungodly hour for the trek to La Mesa. (The restaurant is about seven minutes from downtown on 94; take the Massachusetts Avenue exit.)

Before chef Axel took over the restaurant, it was another German eatery, Old Country Restaurant, with good food but cluttered cuckooclock-cozy ambience, with German waitresses in low-cut, push-up dirndl dresses tiptoeing around a deli counter that bisected the room, and shelves of specialty foods imported from the Heimland. You wouldn't recognize it now. It's spare and modern, with well-spaced unclothed tables, white walls hung with modern paintings by German artist Alex Gockel, and miniature planters growing what looks like grass. The deli counter has been pushed to the back wall, and those one-time shelves stacked with instant spaetzle mixes have been banished. The effervescent waiter doesn't wear a dirndl — the Bavarian costume party is

The hostess (and chef's wife), Helen, greeted Lynne like an old friend. "It's good that you reserved," she said. "Last Sunday, we were so full we had to turn away 28 people!" The brunch is an all-you-can-eat buffet, offering a wide selection of European noshes (many of them from the dinner menu) — but no regular American breakfast foods, so don't expect eggs, waffles, hotcakes, et al.

Once you're settled, the waiter (a sometime chef named Rhys, pronounced "Reese") brings beverages — coffee, tea, champagne, mimosas, and/or straight OJ. The champagne isn't expensive, but it's quite drinkable — certainly better than the plonk sipped at gallery openings.

One central table holds a heated soup tureen and salads, while chafing dishes for hot entrées and sides occupy another table by the window, with desserts in a corner.

The soup, served hot, is a beautiful, creamy



REV

NAOMI WISE

potato soup with diced spuds, sliced carrots, and bits of Danish bacon, to which you can add croutons, if you like. It's simultaneously hearty and refined. Try it, and then try to resist filling up on - there's plenty more to sample. From the sal-

ads, don't miss the cucumber and dill mixture, a refreshing complement to the heavier entrées. You'll also find potato salad (Lynne's favorite); mixed greens flecked with

feta cheese in a sweet vinaigrette; slices of pale winter tomatoes topped with fresh mozzarella and herbs, and a cold-cut plate that includes German prosciutto (which pairs neatly with the tomato-cheese combo). The sliced breads run to substantial, full-flavored selections like German rye. If you want to make yourself a deli sandwich, the mustards, both grainy and smooth, are over on the hot-dish table.

The covered chafing dishes hold two trays apiece, each with a different item. Some of the contents survive the constant low heat better than others. To my surprise, the schnitzel (pan-fried pork cutlets) not only survived but triumphed -

perhaps because they get snapped up so quickly, they're constantly replaced with fresh batches. The meat was tender and moist, the breading savory, topped with slim slices of lemon. I've never been a great schnitzel fan, but given such an ex-

pert version, I began to develop a

Another happy surprise was the excellence of the Hungarian goulash. Every German restaurant

I've ever been to attempts this specialty, and most fail miserably — apparently insensible to the (un-German) piquancy of the Hungarian culinary soul. (Strike up the sobbing violins.) Chef Axel is the exception. His sauce is the distinctive rusty red-orange that bespeaks a generous hand with paprika — and it's genuine Hungarian paprika rather than America's bland coloring agent of the same name. The mixture is thick and rich with the sweetness of cooked-down onions, and the slow-simmered meat is fork-tender.

Another bin holds a medley of sausage pieces, next to a pile of home fries. (I found the latter dry both at brunch and at a subsequent dinner. More

Chef Axel European Bistro ★★★ (Verv Good)

7097 University Avenue (at 70th Street), La Mesa, 619-460-7942, www.chefaxel.com.

HOURS: Lunch Wednesday-Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; dinner Wednesday-Saturday, 4:00-8:00 p.m.; Sunday brunch, 10:30 a.m.-2:30

PRICES: Sunday Champagne brunch buffet, \$16; lunches, \$8–\$12; dinner appetizers, \$4–\$9;

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: Seasonal German and European food "from scratch." Rare German beers, bottled and tap. International wine list emphasizing German whites, affordable, nearly all available by the glass, including Trockenbeerenauslese. Corkage \$15.

PICK HITS: Creamy potato soup; Bavarian veal sausage; noodle gratin; Hungarian goulash; schnitzel; sauerkraut; "salad garnish"; cheesecake. **NEED TO KNOW:** Reservations vital for Sunday brunch, recommended for dinner parties of more than four. Go for dinner as early as possible for best selection and freshness. May be loud at brunch.

Ratings reflect the reviewer's reaction to food, ambience, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

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about the sausages later.) Unless you arrive at the start of brunch, or keep an eye out for the arrival of a fresh batch, one entrée should perhaps be saved to order at dinner: chicken breast slices in mushroom cream sauce were desiccated by the chafing dish, while Lynne and Jim reported that, at their first brunch, the chicken had been luscious. The supple spaetzle (small, fresh curly noodles) in the adjoining tray were obviously "made from scratch.

Several of the chafing bins hold brunch-only items. Penne carbonara with plenty of Parmesan were simple and delicious. You might want to put them on a separate salad plate so they won't be run over by sauces from other entrées.

Buy six

fresh-baked

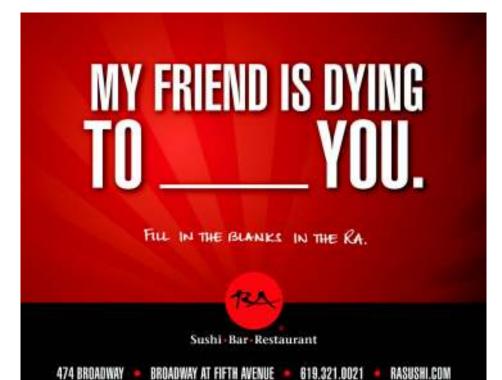
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Fricadellen are miniature meat loaves. Lynne and Jim loved them. I was lukewarm — a matter of taste and of how full I was getting. This is a lot of food to encounter before noon for someone working the vampire shift.

If your mommy told you, "Eat your vegetables or you won't get dessert," there's a bin with her name on it, labeled "Vegetables." One tray held succulent sautéed mushrooms. Its evil twin contained a veggie medley wilting in the chafing dish. My table spurned the latter. But the chef buys veggies daily from the excellent little farmer's market next door, so don't avoid them at dinner.

Since we'd looked at the veggies, we deserved desserts. Jim came back from the sweets table with three to share. The superstar was the cheesecake — rich, dense, creamy, not oversweet, lightly streaked with cherry syrup — a fat bomb, maybe, but not a sugar bomb. ("I'm not a believer in very sweet desserts," says the chef. "That's not the European way. Less frou-frou is better food.") When waiter Rhys saw the strudel on our table, he burst into a paean: "Today, the chef really got the strudel!" he exulted. "It's awesome." But I have to admit that none of my posse has eaten enough strudel to judge its awesomeness. This one has the typical layers of chewy pastry, sprinkled on top with powdered sugar and filled with apples and walnuts. The sweets array also includes warm and sexy cherries jubilee, a good choice for lighter eaters (they're not oversweetened either), and — a brunch-only item giant wedges of dark chocolate cake with a light but moist crumb.

We returned for dinner

around 7:00 p.m. on a midweek evening, which is rather late for a restaurant that closes at 8:00. A baby-boomer birthday party of eight was already in place in the dining room, Rhys taking photos as they toasted; chef Axel, a big, friendly guy, stood by smiling. These boomers didn't boom - it was a quiet, civilized party with never a raised voice, bless 'em - but they'd already ordered the kitchen's entire remaining supply of the sauerbraten and the braised beef roulades that we had our mouths set for. (I hope they enjoyed *our* dinners.)

The potato soup is different from the brunch version," said Lynne. "It's so...busy." It was the same soup, but denser, because this late in the evening it had cooked down, thickening the liquid, and the croutons had been added in the kitchen. "I like this one even better," said Jim. "Really thick and creamy, and the croutons are perfect — crisp but not so hard they break your teeth." Lynne's from northern Michigan, and the split-pea soup was more to her liking. It was thick and earthy, dotted with bits of delicate Danish bacon and more croutons — real Midwestern wintertime Mom food. Jim and I both thought it needed something to add more pizzazz, perhaps a smokier artisanal American bacon.

Finding that Burgundian classic, escargots, on a German menu was a surprise. The snails were plentiful (at least a dozen) and skillfully baked to universally tender morsels. The herb butter bathing them was lavish in quantity, but we all yearned for a whole lot more garlic in the mix. If you love "the stinking rose" on your snails, ask for extra garlic.

When we couldn't get the beef dishes we wanted, Rhys recommended that we try the "decadent" gratin of housemade spaetzle with Black Forest ham, mushrooms, and Swiss cheese. I'd secretly wanted it all

along. "German restaurants are no place for Atkins dieters," said Jim when it arrived in all its gooey glory. "South Beach dieters either," I murmured, lusting for the carbo-bomb indulgence. It proved decadent indeed. But when you eat with foodies, there's always debate. The onions were cooked quickly at high heat, leaving them crisp-edged and assertive. Jim thought they interfered with the orgy of soft richness, while I welcomed the contrast of their crunchy texture against the pillow of soft pasta.

The menu highlights sausages and schnitzel as house specialties. The sausage plate (just \$13) offers any two sausages from a large array, including two sides of your choice. We chose a fresh bratwurst and a fabulous Bavarian veal sausage (bockwurst). Bockwurst has a subtle flavor and a nearly creamy texture that seduced us all, especially when dipped in the spicy whole-grain mustard served in a ramekin. "Usually I hate white sausages," said Lynne. "I won't even taste them. They look too much like tofu dogs." "Yeah," said Jim. "Somebody once brought tofu dogs to a barbecue I was at...worst thing I ever tasted in my life." "But these — oh!" said Lynne. "Changed my mind...about white sausages. Not about tofu dogs."

Oddly, that evening's schnitzel (which we ordered "hunter style," in mushroom cream sauce) was dryer and less engaging than the brunch version. Schnitzel depends on split-second timing, and in this small kitchen, a single line-cook works at dinner. I guess the huge party that arrived before us probably consumed most of her energy and attention, along with all the beef. One schnitzel variation I'd love to try next time (for the goo minus some carbs) is called "gratin," with a topping of ham and melted Swiss cheese.

Among the sides, "Salad

Garnish" combines bites of German potato salad, home fries, the lively cuke-dill salad, beet slices, and a slim half-slice of cottony tomato. I think the sauerkraut must be very good, too, since I hate sauerkraut but actually enjoyed two forkfuls of it. ("Sauerkraut is not supposed to be so sour and vinegary, the way you Americans serve it with hot dogs," the chef told me later. "The more you cook it, the milder it gets, and we cook it several times with prosciutto and bacon before we serve it.") It's soft and not too sauer, and both my friends took to it readily. Red cabbage and "vegetables" are additional side-dish possibilities - we'd have ordered cabbage as an extra side (\$3) had we thought of it.

Jim enjoyed a rare German beer, while Lynne and I began with glasses of the reliable Rodney Strong Sauvignon Blanc. (If you want to try a German white, the basic lingo is: Kabinetts are dry, Spätleses are fruity-dry, and Ausleses are on the sweet side.) Then we both followed the waiter's recommendation of a German Pinot Noir (Affentaler, from Baden — the chef's original neighborhood), served chilled. A well-aged Côte de Nuits it was not. Young and a bit bumptious, it was an interesting venture, but next time I'll probably go with a Spätlese and then a California Syrah.

At dinner, the cheesecake came with the cherries jubilee, and both it and the strudel had side-poufs of unsweetened whipped cream, which Lynne spooned up straight, emitting sighs of pleasure. I spooned it on top of my decaf to create Viennese-style kaffe mit schlag. Along with the sweets, we passed around a \$5 shot of Trockenbeerenauslese, Germany's version of France's Sauternes dessert wine. (It's intensely sweet, so a little goes a long way.) Even if you can't pronounce it, just point at it on the list — it's a treat worth stammering for. It felt like a rare privilege — the chance to sip this heavenly nectar in a little mom-and-pop in La Mesa. Obviously, chef Axel cares about the important things in life.

ABOUT CHEF AXEL

Axel Dirolf has worked all over the world. He comes from Köln, near the French border (famous for the nearby Baden-Baden spa), which is considered one of Germany's top culinary and wine-growing areas. Even as a child he knew he was headed for the kitchen. "At the age of 12, I cooked my family's Sunday lunch, which is the biggest meal of the week," he says. "At 14, I starting studying my vocation in local kitchens, and by 16, I pretty much earned my money for high school in those kitchens. Then I got offered a nice scholarship for the apprenticeship program in one of the local restaurants, and I did my three years of college and apprenticeship that way.

"Right away after graduation, I worked for the Hilton Corporation.... In St. Moritz in Switzerland [a luxury ski-resort area] I did three winter seasons at Kulm Hotel, a pretty famous hotel, while I did summer seasons at the Corfou Palace Hotel in Greece [another jet-set destination]. I then got an offer from the King Faisal Foundation to work in Rivadh at the Al Khozama Hotel — its name means 'the flower of the desert' — in Saudi Arabia. We pretty much supplied food and catering services to all the royal family. We made about one million dollars a month, and vou don't sell alcohol over there so you can imagine the luxury of the food.

"Then I went to work for the Sheikh of Qatar for three years, and I met my wife, who's from San Diego. Her parents were working overseas they're Filipino but she grew up here. We went back to

Switzerland, where eventually I served as the executive chef for the Olympic Training Center in Zurich. We came to San Diego when I was hired by Lufthansa as global quality manager, based here. Eventually I opened my own catering business and meanwhile taught cooking at the San Diego Art Institute. Then, about two and a half years ago, I was looking for a new commercial kitchen for my catering, and I discovered this little place here in La Mesa. Afterwards, I found out that this place has been German under various owners for over 40 years — there's a pretty big German community around here.

"I wanted to see if I could represent Germany a little bit more the modern way, the way the food is today. All over Europe, we're extremely healthconscious about what we're eating now. Germany's food is 85 percent organic, especially after the mad-cow scare. Turkey and other poultry are replacing a lot of the red meats. Europe in general and Germany in particular have become the front-runners in clean and healthy food. And I'm trying to do the same thing in the wine and beer lists, to bring in a modern consciousness. I've avoided things like St. Pauli Girl and Liebfraumilch. I'm trying to include beers that you can't find everywhere. And the wine list is serious, too, with things you don't commonly see — we have some really good Spätleses...

"Our menu is small; however, it's all fresh. It's very seasonal. I change it sometimes weekly, sometimes monthly. For instance, coming now toward the warmer time of year, at lunch I'm going to make a schnitzel salad, and a chicken salad sandwich. We always have a fresh fish — not frozen — at lunch and dinner. And I'm looking into getting organic chicken. It is not only healthier, it tastes much better, more like European chickens."







Green Feast

These guys are the first missionaries of post-fat America.

ED BEDFORD

his is the story of a conversion. See, truth is, I've never really dug salads, 'specially in winter. Point one, it's a cold day, and who wants to eat salad on a cold day? Point two: childhood. My mom always made me eat every last lousy leaf of salad be-

fore I got any more meatloaf and mash. The cruelty! Like eating lawnmower clippings. But salad was the price you paid to get actual food.

So I'm still carrying a heavy mental burden when I pass by this little walk-in on F Street, sandwiched — as you might say between Inhale, the smoke place,

and Nail Care and Spa. "Salad Style," the sign says. "Restore Your Body." It does nothing *but* salads. I have to laugh. Us meat 'n' potato Diegans are gonna buy this? I don't think so.

Except, inside the tiny storefront, it's packed.

Guess I should take a look.

First thing you notice is that this is not a wispylooking vegan crowd. We're talking business people, kids with boards, East Village condocrats. Actually, seven's a crowd in this space. Must be about 12 feet wide and 30 long. Two little mosaic-inlaid wroughtiron tables make up the eating area (plus a couple of tables outside), but most of that 30 feet is the kitchen. Two men and a woman back there fluff up salad leaves and chop nuts and twigs on cutting boards.

A big poster showing nine salads fills most of the left wall. Specials are written on a small blackboard. Today's are "BBQ Chicken Ranch Wrap" (\$9.50) and "Seafood chowder" (\$3.50 or \$5.00). Hmm. Doesn't sound too salady.

A couple comes to the counter.

"You guys order online?" says the gal in a black-

and-white striped apron.

They nod.

"Be just a couple of minutes." "What would you like?" she

I order up a small seafood chowder as a stopgap. Bound to be in a cup, but whatever.

I manage to snaffle the wall table. I must say, those color pix make the salads look totally scrumbo. And I see most have some protein added, like meat, fish, tofu. "Scott's grilled skirt steak" shows an arty pile of salad of "organic greens, oven-dried tomatoes, cremini mushrooms, hearts of palm, crumbled blue cheese" with red slabs of meat all over it. Yes, love those cremini 'shrooms. Smoky, earthy flavor. That'll set you back \$10.50. Gotta expect it: the downtown premium. This is the new East Village. But, hey, you can have it as a wrap for a dollar less. Likewise with most of the salads. The ahi tuna and tomato salad has chick-pea bruschetta and marinated olives (\$10.50), the soba noodle, vegetable, and chicken salad has veggies, peanuts, and a ginger-sesame dressing (\$9.50). The Mexican (\$11.00) sounds good and cheesy and black bean-rich, and, wow, when it comes to looks, the Totally Vegan (\$7.50), with its goldy-brown volcano of quinoa ("the Mother of Grain") and snowsummit tofu slabs, should be hanging in a gallery. I also like the look of the Moroccan couscous salad, and Maryjo's Chicken Caesar (with romaine, avocado, corn, palm hearts, and cotija cheese)

'That's the one I'm getting," says the latest guy at the counter. "Maryjo's Chicken Caesar. Awesome." He's already ordered online, too. Name's Omed. A programmer from Red Door, a big-deal website-creating outfit nearby. "We did these guys' website. It was a good trade. Salads for websites! You should hear our board meetings. Everybody's munching on salads.'

One of the guys, Scott, of the grilled skirt-steaksalad fame, brings out my seafood chowder. And guess what? It's not in a cup; it's in a beautiful little soup plate. With a nice, heavy silver spoon. I start in. Oh. Wow. This is not just delish, it's sumptuous. A beautiful combo of flavors, with chunks of different fish filling every dip of the spoon. I ask for some bread and get angle-cut baguette slices to dip. Perfecto.

Decided on a salad?"

This is the gal. Maryjo. She and Scott are partners here.

"What would go with this?"

"Moroccan, maybe. You won't get a clash of fishes, at least.'

I nod. "Moroccan it is."

While I'm waiting, Maryjo and Scott tell me

how they met working at that high-class restaurant on Laurel Street — Laurel — back in 2001. Then Maryjo got an invitation to help run a restaurant in a tiny mountain village called Santa Maria in southern Italy. Pretty soon, Scott joined her. "We brought a bit of American zip and ingenuity," says Scott, "but we also learned. Everything came fresh each day. And local. They got their cheeses from the farms outside the village, their cream, their yogurts. Nothing was mass-produced, like here.'

So they returned home inspired with the idea of "fresh" and started making inventive salad dishes at farmers' markets in places like Hillcrest. "People loved it. It took off. We knew we had an idea," says Maryjo.

Scott brings out my Moroccan. Jeez. Great. And what's great about it — apart from the flavors of the organic greens, asparagus, black currants, feta, and toasted almonds — is the tart lemon vinaigrette. Just gives it all a kick. Look at me now, Ma! I'm eating vegetarian!

And in a blinding flash, I get what's happening here. These guys are the first missionaries of post-fat America. Whereas it's always been meat 'n' taters with a side of salad, here, it's salad with a side of meat 'n' taters. Maybe we're heading for a tipping point. Becoming herbivores again.

Must say, nuts and twigs never tasted better. ■

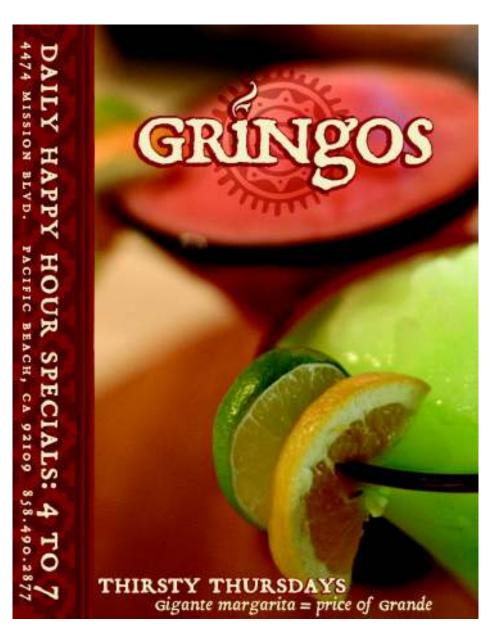
The Place: Salad Style, 807 F Street, 619-255-6731

Type of Food: Salads, wraps **Prices:** Morning Glory fruit salad (with yogurt, granola, honey), \$6.50; Scott's grilled-skirt-steak salad, \$10.50 (\$9.50 as a wrap); ahi tuna and tomato salad (with chick-pea bruschetta), \$10.50; soba noodle, vegetable, and chicken salad, \$9.50; Mexican salad, \$11.00; Totally Vegan salad (with quinoa, tofu, chick peas), \$7.50; Moroccan couscous salad, \$8.50; soup of the day, e.g. seafood chowder, \$3.50, \$5.00

Hours: 10:00 a.m.-6.00 p.m., Monday-Friday; closed weekends

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Buyers and Cellars

"It's valuable to see the date integrated — if every time you log in there's a gauge saying, 'Everything's A-OK.' "

hris Womack was curious. He had just finished a monster remodel in his University Heights home: "The house was a single level on a hill, so we cut into the hill and had a level kind of below grade. We put a garage in part

of it and had some area left over, so I put a wine cellar in. About four years ago, I went to Australia and spent four or five days wine tasting down there in Adelaide and the Barossa Valley. I started really enjoying Shiraz, started learning more about wine," and started collecting. A mechanical

engineer by education and a consumer-electronics designer by profession, he designed the 600-bottle cellar himself. Once it was complete, "I had a little thermometer in there, but I really wanted to know how the temperature was doing over time, throughout the year. As the ground temperature changed, did it really work? I was a dorky engineer, and I liked that kind of stuff."

In this case, "Did it really work?" meant, "Did the cellar keep the wine cool and damp?" I don't know of any sort of rigorous academic study of the matter, but tradition and experience tell us that wine is best cellared under those conditions generally, around 57 degrees Fahrenheit and 70 percent humidity. (A lack of vibration is also good; vibration stirs up sediment that has fallen

out of the wine.) Too cold, and the chemical processes that transform young wine into old will grind to a halt. Too hot, and the wine starts tasting cooked, spent. Too dry, and the corks dry out, weakening the seal. Too wet, and the labels

get moldy — bad for resale value.

Womack began searching the market for an easy-to-use product that would keep a log over time of both temperature and humidity. When he didn't find one, he set out to make his own, "really as a hobby." After a couple of years, however, the hobby started

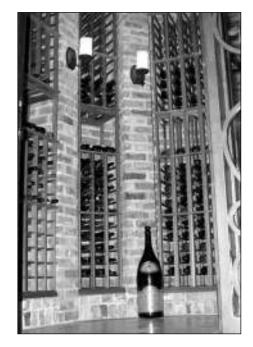
to look like a potential business. Womack brought in friends to help with the project — creating a product — the Cellar Sensor — which would gather information, store it, and display it online for the user. "There's a base station, and it plugs into your router to send data up to our servers. Then we have a little battery-powered sensor that goes in the cellar. If you have a huge cellar, with zones at different temperatures for red and white wines, you just buy more sensors.' The device then records the data for each sensor and sends it along. Finally, at the end of last year, "I took on an equity investor to get us to the next buying inventory, marketing, all that."

Marketing a cellar watchdog can be a tricky business. First, "It's kind of a boring product. If

your cellar is doing everything it should, it just kind of sits there. It's like your home security system." To combat this, Womack has been working to "build partnerships with people who have...online software. If you keep your wine inventory and your tasting notes online with somebody like Cellartracker or Vinfolio, it might make sense to couple that information with your temperature and humidity record. It's more valuable to see the data integrated — if every time you log in or post a tasting note, there's a little gauge saying, 'Everything's A-OK.' "That would tie www.cellarcentral.com into general cellar management. Womack also hopes to connect with the social aspect of the online wine world, setting up the company as a "kind of community...where you can upload photos of your cellar. People build cellars" — at least in part — "because it looks cool." The website will let you show it off, and talk about it, too. "I think there's enough discussion that goes on, people building cellars, looking for wine-cellar products."

Second tricky bit: nobody likes bad news. "I'm amazed," says Womack. "People will spend \$100,000 to build a cellar, and then they may have \$500,000 worth of wine in there, and they'll never check it out. A lot of people have a thermometer, but they look at it once a day. They see a snapshot, not the whole trend. We have a lot of data, and it's really interesting to see. Cooling systems really do cycle a lot more than the users

Womack collected his data by going to 25 local collectors and offering them the unit free of charge. "I have a local client — I guess he has 5000 bottles, most of it California Cabernet from the '90s through the '00s. We put the thing in his cellar, and his cellar was 65 degrees. He said, 'There's something wrong with your sensor.' His cooling unit said that the cellar was only 57 de-



grees. It was a good study for me — I took two weeks with engineering instrumentation to validate the sensor. We turned down his cooling unit, and it pulled down the temperature to 56 in two weeks. Another thing — his cooling unit is in the middle of his cellar, and right in front of it, the temperature goes from around 53 to 60 about four times a day. Near the corners, the temperature was more steady. He was really sad but still glad to find out."

Small wonder, then, that Womack thinks cellar-cooler manufacturers "are either going to really like us or really hate us." Cellar Chillers



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Inc. might like to hear that Cellar Central gives it a gold star, but what if the sensor picks up problems the customer might not have known about otherwise?

The professional cellar world, which makes a business out of caring for other people's wine, might be similarly resistant. As Womack notes, "There are about 150 wine-storage facilities in the U.S. right now, and less than 10 percent of them actually publish or share their performance data with their clients. We want to put our system in every wine storage facility, so that there is a third person, an unbiased company that holds the data and can guarantee it. I just feel like it's an absolute necessity. I mean, I wouldn't store my wines in a place that wasn't at least as good as my own cellar." It sounds like a sensible enough idea. But still, a wine storage facility might be hesitant to take on a product that lets someone else observe its performance — unless the customer demands it. "That's why we're going after private collectors first, to get some traction, get the market established."

In Womack's happiest dreams, collectors would eventually create a groundswell of demand for a cellar guarantee, one provided through the company's cellar certification. "You put in our hardware — have our sensor in your cellar — and after 30 days, we'll give you a certificate saying that the hardware measures to a certain degree of accuracy to a measured standard and that there is an historical record of the temperature and humidity. If you're a storage facility, and you want to show that to your customers, it certifies that the facility hasn't tampered with the data. We believe that as more facilities do that and more collectors do that, it will become more of a branded certification. We want to become the trusted brand."

Besides providing peace of mind to collectors interested in storing their product under optimal conditions, Womack suggests that such a brand could provide added value. "If I took all my wine to Zachy's or Christie's for auction today and said, 'I have this report about temperature and humidity in my cellar,' I think they would look at it and go, 'Good for you - so what? We inspect all of our wine. We might be able to get a little bit of a premium for that, but not much." But if it began to matter to auction buyers — if the Cellar Central certification began to provide assurance the way "cellared at the Chateau" provides assurance — well, then. It's one less thing to place under the old caveat emptor. "Ideally, in my grand world, if somebody put a lot of wine on WineBid or WineCommune, they could have a link in there that went right to the temperature and humidity profile. They could say, 'Here's what my cellar looks like. Here's how I take care of my wine." ■

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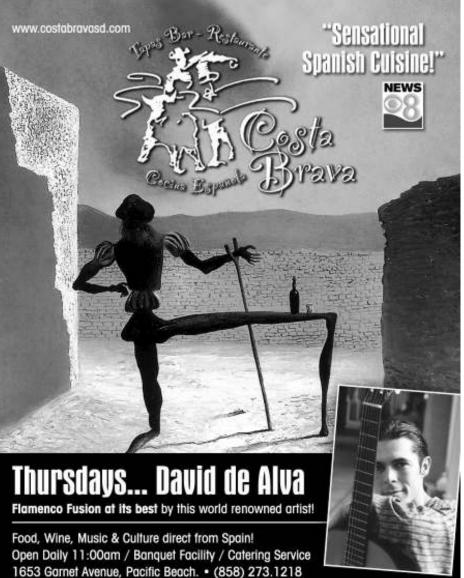
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Calendar RESTAURANTS

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

Bubby's Gelato 937 South Coast Highway 101, Lumberyard Shopping Center, Encinitas, 760-436-3563. This tiny storefront does only a few things (sandwiches, gelati, and sorbet), but does them exceedingly well. The "gourmet sandwiches" really do live up to their designation, with intriguing Mediterranean combinations (artichoke hearts, black olives, grilled eggplant, Gorgonzola are among the choice of ingredients) on soft, round Italian bread. (Or you can just get a tuna melt if that's your flavor.) Gelati are about twice as rich as Häagen-Dazs, and feature an ever-changing array of bold flavors, e.g., vanilla rosewater and chocolate cinnamon. Open daily 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., closes later on Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — N.W. (10/01)

Fidel's Carlsbad 3003 Carlsbad Boulevard (at Carlsbad Village Drive), Carlsbad, 760-729-0903. It's not upscale modern Mex — no cumin-infused, mango-corn salsa on Fidel's menu but who gives a flyin' fajita when you can

San Diego Reader February 22,

order just about any traditional SoCal-Mexican dish and know it's gonna be good? Whether you try the chicken-andrice soup with fresh cilantro and avocado chunks, fluffy *chile rellenos*, a crab enchilada, *carne asada* with all the trimmings, or a lonely à la carte chicken burito, you're going to be a happy camper. Add a reliable margarita or a beer and you're set at this popular North County mainstay. Open seven days a week for lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — S.M. (12/03)

Firenze 162 South Rancho Santa Fe Road (at Manchester), West Village Center, Encinitas, 760-944-9000. This big, beautiful, gracious restaurant (located in the same mall as Harvest Ranch Market, just north of Rancho Santa Fe) offers both a handsome interior and a romantic fire-lit patio. The well-spaced tables are laden with huge portions of accomplished, multiregional Italian cuisine and reasonably priced Italian and California wines (with 1/2-price wines Monday nights). Vegetarians will rejoice in the two dozen meatless selections. Lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday, dinner only on Sunday. High moderate. — N.W. (11/01)

Hill Street Coffee House 524 South Coast Highway 101, Oceanside, 760-966-0985. Organic in Oceanside, Really! Look for the sign: "Organic Restaurant and Espresso Bar" in front of a restored yellow-and-white Victorian house from O'side's past. All their meats, poultry, fish, and veggies are organic and the menu is full of healthy dishes: tofu/spinach breakfast scramble, frittata espinaca ("Greek eggs"), and pain perdu (for us peasants that's French toast) with fresh fruit and syrups. Some vegan items. After 11 a.m., try their Cajun chicken. Open daily, breakfast to dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

I Trulli Trattoria 830 South Coast Highway 101 (between G and H streets), Encinitas, 760-943-6800. An enduring hit in Encinitas (where there's no shortage of Italian restaurants), I Trulli serves modern Italian food with fashionable new ingredients. The menu, subtitled "Nouvelle Italian Cuisine," resembles the somewhat ambitious, generically "northern Italian" bills of fare that you encounter all over Hillcrest and the Gaslamp. (It is, in fact, a sister restaurant to Hillcrest's Arriverderci.) The signifiers of seriousness are the pink pepercorns, goat cheese, sun-dried tomatoes, and light cream sauces that

coexist with the more traditional mozzarella-tomato sauce arrays. Best bets are the daily specials, which offer the greatest chance for fresh ingredients and creativity. Busy, cramped, painfully loud inside. Street patio next to highway is also noisy. Reserve for dinner on weekends or expect an hour's wait. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W. (11/01)

Johnny Manana's 308 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, 760-721-9999. Local teachers hang out at this green- white-and red-tiled place because it's such good value. Most dishes are Mexican. There's a Caribbean chocolatey, black bean, paprika, curry-in-the-rice thing going on. Pescado Veracruz (fish marinated in lime juice and garlic with rice, beans, and green salad) is good. The roasted chicken is delicious. The Big Breakfast Burrito Special (eggs, onions, beans, cheese, and potatoes, wrapped in a large flour tortilla) is muy popular, but then so is J.M.'s Great All-American Cheeseburger. Open daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/01)

Osteria del Pescatore 1201 Camino Del Mar (at 12th Street), Del Mar, S58-509-9293. The restaurant's name means "Fisherman's Hostelry," and you'll find expert, courteous service and well-crafted seasonal Italian fare here with a strong emphasis on zesty fresh seafood. Go straight to the single-spaced page-long list of daily specials for the most exciting dishes, including spaghetti a cartoccio (baked in parchment paper) and lobster risotto. But save room for dessert, especially if the day's offerings include torta alla nanna, a rose-scented nut confection. Parking behind restaurant (turn east on 12th Street); heated dining patio available. Interesting international wine list. Reservations advised. Lunch Tuesday through Saturday; dinner nightly. High moderate to expensive. — N.W. (5/05)

Pacific Coast Grill 437 South Coast Highway 101 (Beachwalk Plaza), Solana Beach, 858-794-4632. The grill features a free-form menu of Pacific Rim cuisine featuring fine ingredients and integrating Mexican, Hawaiian, and Asian flavors into So-Cal comfort cooking. Try the green salad with vibrant cranberry vinaigrette, the "Bag of Bones" (house-smoked pork ribs), the brick-roasted free-range chicken, and whatever fruit creation is on the dessert menu. Busy and noisy; reservations urged for weekend dinners and all summer. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Full bar. Moderate to expensive. — N.W. (6/05)

Red Tracton's 550 Via de la Valle, Del Mar, 858-755-6600. Even though you know you're a half mile from the Pacific Ocean and across the street from the Del Mar Racetrack, one step inside Red Tracton's dining room sends you reeling back in time to an upscale, dimly lit, maroon-and-gilt restaurant of 1960s Chicago. The only thing missing is the scent of cigars. Food portions are enormous: The lobster sandwich (a touch heavy on the mayo) easily packs a half pound of lobster (available at lunch on Fridays). The selection is generous: steaks, prime rib, seafood, chicken, and pork — all expertly prepared and served in record time. On days when you don't give a rip about the Surgeon General's latest warnings, run to Red Tracton's and indulge your All-American appetite. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner nightly. Expensive. — S.M. (3/04)

Spices Thai Cafe 3810 Valley Centre Drive, Piazza Carmel Shopping Center, Del Mar (east of Carmel Valley turn-off), 858-259-0889; 6785 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-552-8845; 16441 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-674-4665. Superb Thai restaurant that's not only elegant but whose food contains no MSG and very little fat. The seafood dishes rate highly. Among other delicacies are duck and frog legs. Put Spices Thai Café at the top of your list. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.W.

Tomiko 87 Encinitas Boulevard (at Best Western, just west of 1-5), Encinitas, 760-633-3587. In a lovely setting overlooking Moonlight Bay you can enjoy Japanese and Pacific Rim fusion cooking and sushi in a serene but lively dining room. When the sushi bar is free from the weekend rush, the quality can be amazing: stunningly fresh *uni*, worldbeating silky *toro*. The sushi-master also keeps an eye on the restaurant's seafood purchases, so they meet exacting standards. Appetizers such as "salmon tower tartare" and "drunken black cod" are rewarding, as are the simple, excellent fusion-tinged seafood entrées. Reserve for weekends, especially for sushi bar. Dinner nightly. Moderate. — *N.W.* (3/02)

Tuscan Sun Italian Deli 1070 North El Camino Real, Encinitas, 760-633-4546. A town abounding in Italian restaurants ought to have a great Italian deli, and it does. You'll find domestic and imported deli meats and cheeses, fresh-baked breads and focaccia, marinated veggies, and a wealth of gourmet products from Italy. The specialty is the "Caprese" (tomatoes-plus) sandwich on focaccia bread with a variety of fillings, best served grilled and dressed with pesto. The eat-in/take-out menu includes pizza, pasta, salads, and a host of sandwiches. Open daily. — N.W. (8/03)

NORTH INLAND

Ashoka the Great 9474 Black Mountain Road (off Miramar Road), Mira Mesa, 858-695-9749. Seek out this splendid Indian restaurant. The setting is lovely, the service excellent, and the food first-rate. Don't overlook the tandoori dishes. Numerous selections are available for vegetarians. An all-you-can-eat lunch buffet is served daily. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.W.*

Athens Market Cafe 11640 Carmel Mountain Road, Suite 124, near Pacific Theatres, Carmel Mountain Plaza, 858-675-2225. At this offshoot of Mary Pappas's downtown Athens Market, sister Vickie's food is just as good. If you want a big start, order the *saganaki*, a cheese appetizer that comes flaming to your table. And you can't lose with mezedakia, a big oval sampler of dolmades (stuffed grape leaves), lokaniko (a delicious Greek sausage), spanakopita (spinach in filo pastry), tomatoes, cucumbers, tzatziki dip, hummus, feta cheese, and olives. But come for the lamb. İt's wonderfully flavorful, skewered in the souvlaki entrée (which comes with beans and rice) or as lamb chops. Moussaka (baked eggplant, zucchini, and ground beef) goes down well too.
Or what's wrong with a simple plate of feta cheese, kalamata olives, and a glass of Greek red? Open daily, 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate. – E.B. (1/06)

Bamboo Hut Black Mountain Village, 9172 Mira Mesa Boulevard (one driveway west of Black Mountain Road), Mira Mesa, 858-348-0414. You'll find a taste of Hawaii in a strip mall in a neighborhood that's all-mall. The bright little "hut" has bamboo chairs, a bamboo ceiling, bare floors, and unclothed tables, with a sushi counter next to a tiny kitchen with a roaring gas grill. A large lattice awning offers outdoor seating a few steps from the door. The quality of the food is all over the map, though —

this is not the place to try your first Spam sushi. The seafood sushi is good, though, including a fine Rainbow Roll with really sweet crab; the more creative rolls run to cream cheese and hot sauce. "Local food" choices include a tasty ahi poké and excellent chicken katsu; the kalbi short ribs are tough, though. Plate lunches include one to three entrées (priced accordingly) with steamed or mildly garlic-flavored rice, macaroni salad, and green salad with bright orange dressing à la Kraft French. Be sure they deliver what you ordered; there may be slipups. Open seven days, lunch and dinner. Very inexpensive. — N.W. (8/03)

Bistro 221 221 East Grand Avenue (near Kalmia), Escondido, 760-737-7398. This genteel bistro with comfortable chairs and linen-covered tables inside and a shaded patio on the sidewalk — is especially tasty at lunch, with its sophisticated quesadillas and a classic burger and fries cooked your way. At dinner simple starters shine, including a "blonde" Florida version of gumbo and Maryland crab cakes with minimal filler. The dinner entrées are also the best, including beef tournedos with Gorgonzola and grouper caught just off the Florida shores. A "Louisiana" bread pudding is moister (hence more pleasing) than most of its namesakes. No wheelchair access for re-strooms. Free parking behind restaurant. Ordinary wine list. Lunch and dinner Tuesday through Friday; dinner Saturday. Lunch moderate: dinner moderate to high. — N.W. (10/04)

La Tapatia 340 West Grand Avenue. Escondido, 760-747-8282. Take a walk on the mild side at this family-owned favorite, in business since the 1930s. You'll find standard Mexican fare in a comfortable dining room or, in good weather, a lovely, arbor-like stone-walled patio. The most celebrated dish is the 'cheese crisp," a large tostada covered one-third in ground beef, one-third in beef chunks, and one-third in beans, with cheese, avocado puree, and sour cream over all. Many preparations (grilled seafoods, etc.) are healthy, and veggies taste fresh. Seasonings are rather de-tuned, but there's a saltshaker and a lively salsa on the table. Open daily, three meals. Moderate. — *N.W.* (5/01)

The Place: El Parque 2659 Reche Road, Fallbrook, 760-731-2775. Just think Little Red Riding Hood — this is Grandma's place. Okay, it's not a little old, thatched cottage — it's a cream-











painted metal shed with a gazebo in front. But it is in the Live Oak woods, and you can sink your teeth into some pretty fair Mexican food here, sitting alongside an interesting bunch of agricultural workers and maybe some ruby miners. Good combination plates include the tostada and beef taco, and burrito and enchilada. The time to be here is Sunday morning, when those aggies pour in here for the *menudo*, cooked in a three-foothigh pot. Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (12/04)

The Wayside Cafe 507 South Main Avenue, Fallbrook, 760-723-9633. Locals love meeting and eating in this long low-porched building — partly because it all just feels small-town America. The place used to be Mahrs' Service Station. You can even sit in the old Lube Bay to eat. Count on generous servings, especially the mountain-piles of red-skinned home-fries as a side at breakfast. Open for breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (12/01)

LA JOLLA

Barbarella 2171 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla Shores, 858-454-7373. This popular restaurant sits nestled in an English garden just blocks from the beach. You can dine amidst the flora at street-side tables, in the enclosed patio, or in the small dining room. Once you're seated, the friendly staff provides fresh-out-of-the-oven sourdough wheat bread to nibble on. The menu changes daily, offering fresh fish, steak chicken, pastas, soups, and pizzas, all cooked with a twist of imagination that delivers on the flavor. For instance: pizza topped with smoked salmon, crème fraîche, chives, and fried capers Or delicate Alaskan halibut served over creamed spring onions with a watercress salad. If a fresh fruit crêpe happens to be on the dessert menu, leap on it! Open for lunch and dinner daily.
— S.M. (4/04)

Daily's Restaurant 8915 Towne Centre Drive, La Jolla, 858-453-1112. The idea is brilliant: Just serve food that's really, really good for your customers. Low fat, low calorie, low sodium. Brainchild of cardiac surgeon Pat O. Daily. So what's the problem? It's the "B" word. Bland. Not that they don't fight heroically to make all the

dishes interesting, but lots of items have that lentil-y, bean-y feel. Or naked salad-y. Or steam-up-your nose veggie. Among the more interesting choices is the Cajun chicken with black beans and brown rice with cayenne-paprika in the spices. The most popular lunch order, the buffalo burger, has a little gamy aftertaste — but that just proves it is the legendarily lean prairie beast. Nice outside seating in Restaurant Row, except you've gotta resist the smells from the more wicked eateries that aren't on the same crusade. Inexpensive. Three meals, Monday through Friday; open until 4 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday. — E.B. (1/06)

The Marine Room 2000 Spindrift Drive (off Torrey Pines Road), La Jolla 858-459-7222. High cuisine, high adventure, high seas - at only moderately high prices. With chef Bernard Guillas as top toque, the Marine Room has become the quintessential great San Diego restaurant. The exhilarating coastal view meets Cal-French-Pacific Rim cuisine that's as exuberantly out-front as the waves whacking the windows. Guillas's oceanic culinary inventiveness with ultra-fresh, exotic ingredients makes every visit a voyage of discovery, and preparations are so elaborate that each listing on his precise menu reads like a whole tasting dinner. Reservations requested; slightly dressy but not stuffy. Easiest route: Make a right from westbound Torrey Pines onto Roseland or Viking and go left on St. Louis, which runs into Spindrift. Wheelchair ramp to the left of front door. Noisy when crowded. Dinner nightly, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Expensive. — *N.W.* (9/02)

Michele Coulon Pastries 7556-D Fay Avenue (across the street from Vons parking lot), La Jolla, 858-456-5098. The daughter of Don Coulon (retired chef-owner of The Belgian Lion restaurant) presides at this delightful little café/bakery. (Look for it behind the octagonal sandwich shop that fronts its mini-mall.) Every ingredient is fresh and of top quality. Cakes are light, moist, rich, and available as wholes, slices, and even "miniatures," plus you can choose tarts, chocolates, ice creams, and breakfast pastries. Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Moderate. — N.W. (5/02)

Nine-Ten Restaurant Grande Colonial Hotel, 910 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-964-5400. Chef Jason Knibb's level of craftsmanship shows a culinary sophistication that would be at home in San Francisco or New York. You'll find adventurous, seasonal cuisine emphasizing "market fresh" local produce (much of it organic or sustainably raised), naturally raised meats, and wild seafood. It's not just the food that's fresh — the ideas are, too, and the flavor-matches are flawless. The wine list is superb, and new personnel in the front of the house have brought up the standard of service. Validated valet parking, full bar. Reservations urged. Open daily, three meals. Expensive. — N.W. (10/05)

Sante Ristorante 7811 Herschel Avenue, La Jolla, 858-454-1315. The name is Italian for "saint," and the Northern Italian/regional cooking shines here, especially the fish and seafood dishes. Fresh seafood specials are available every night, in addition to those on the menu. Excellent pasta with mushrooms, ravioli with quail, and lamb chops. Separate room for bar; separate private dining room. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner nightly. Enclosed patio for lunch. Not to be missed. Moderate (pastas) to expensive. — E.W. (4/99)

MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

King's Fish House 825 Camino de la Reina (west of Mission Center Drive), Mission Valley, 619-574-1230. To find King's in the mega-mall, go slightly west of Koo Koo Roo and follow the line of cars to the free valet parking. It's a chain, but it's a classy chain, offering fish and seafoods of a quality that's well above average, including crustaceans from a live tank and a half-dozen varieties of pristine oysters. Generously-sized en-trées come with soup or salad (including a Caesar that's above suspicion) and two hefty side dishes. The vast menu of American-style preparations changes daily to reflect the fresh catch, and includes some rotating regional special-ties (e.g., New Orleans, Hawaii, New England). Don't miss the prawn pot-sticker appetizer, if available, and for dessert, the miraculously light bread pudding. The atmosphere is good-timey (with two patios and a barroom as well as a dining room), the service is enthusiastic, and the management will accommodate special requests if you call ahead. Kiddie menu available. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W. (5/02)

The Philadelphia Sandwich Co.

3904 Convoy Street (south of Othello), Kearny Mesa, 858-571-0888. This classic luncheonette is a monument to Philly culture, including sports pennants, historic photos, and colorful mummers' costumes. The menu is equally devoted to the city's cuisine, especially its two great cult sandwiches: the hoagie and the cheese steak. The mixed-meat hoagie is way more than a hero — its flavor array is similar to (and just as intense as) a New Orleans muffulletta. As for the cheese steak, it starts with steak strips, onions and your choice of cheese, and expands from there. Philly natives may like the simple version with Cheez Whiz, but the luscious "Everything" with provolone is more likely to seduce the innocent. "Philly fries" (with garlic) are the right go-with. The menu also offers Pennsylvania-packaged foods ("Philadelphia Scrapple" to go, Tastykakes, Wise potato chips) to nostalgic émigrés. Lunch to early dinner nightly. Inexpensive. — N.W. (10/04)

San Tong Palace 4690 Convoy Street (between Engineer and Balboa), Kearny Mesa, 858-571-6837. This unassuming, strip-mall restaurant is easy to overlook, but once found, impossible to resist. San Tong's hybrid Korean-Chinese menu draws from these regions' tastiest styles. The Rainbow Salad demonstrates this combination deliciously, and San Tong's dumplings are outstanding. The seafood dumplings are especially remarkable. For the adventurous, I recommend the jellyfish salad, a novel treat for westerners. At San Tong Palace, curious appetites are rewarded well. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — M.N. (499)

Seau's Mission Valley Center mall, 1640 Camino del Rio North (next to Robinsons-May), Mission Valley, 619-291-7328. Footballer Junior Seau contributes more to San Diego than just sacks. His extravagant multivenue sports pub is major league fun — a real-life reincarnation of some 1960s McLuhanite media art show, with 70 video screens (ranging from large-normal to giant HDTV) running sportscasts and a professional DJ on high, periodically spinning cool sounds over muted talking heads. The menu offers mainstream

"something for everyone" choices, including pizza, hefty but so-so burgers, some elementary sushi, all-American entrées, and Seau's family recipe of Samoan teriyaki "plate lunch." Above all, there's pub grub. The chicken wings are pretty good, and you can get all three sauces (Buffalo, BBQ, and Asian) on one order. Perfect hangout for mismatched couples with one sports fan and one fashionista (the latter can head for Nordstrom and Saks discount outlets nearby). On game days, patrons are allowed just one game in the dining room (\$15 minimum), but you can linger from wake-up to closing on the patio or in the bar. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W. (1/03)

Tofu House 4646 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-576-6433. This stylish little eatery is proof positive that our city has matured for its specialty ethnic foods. Tofu House is a Korean restaurant serving up specialty tofu dishes. Flavorful, healthy foods. I highly recommend the *soontofu* soups (beef, pork, seafood, or mushroom) with raw egg drop you drop yourself and a side of tasty fresh kimchi. Deliver yourself from sorrowfully generic foreign food—Tofu House serves vivid ethnic food. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *M.N.* (2/99)

THE BEACHES

Cafe Athena Pacific Mall, 1846 Garnet Avenue (at Lamont), Pacific Beach, 858-274-1140. With a more upscale, eye-catching decor and a longer and more serious menu than most Greek cafés, this is a popular destination, so be sure to reserve for dinner or you'll risk a long wait. The choices include good soups and appetizers (except for a subpar taramasalata), outstanding mousaka, above-average gyros, and interesting, unusual desserts. There's plenty for vegetarians. Rather noisy when crowded. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W. (3/02)

Cantina Panaderia 966 Felspar Street (at Cass), Pacific Beach, 858-272-8400. This cheerful café instantly became a gathering spot for many PB-ites, including the forsaken population of adults. Chef-owner Isabel Cruz, who calls herself "Food Girl," has imported much of her Mission Cafe menu of Latin-Asian-sorta-health-food

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to the beach. A self-confessed "lazy cook," she focuses on wholesomeness rather than authenticity. Breakfast and lunch are the main meals here and include competent eggs, luscious scrambled eggs, huge sandwiches, and weighty slabs of coconut French toast. Competent Latin-style dishes include tamales with airy masa. Devotees of Southeast Asian cuisines, however, may be disappointed by the simplistic stabs in that direction. If your dish is too mild, house sauces (chili oil, salsa, chipotle sauce, etc.) are available on request. Beer and wine. Small, free front parking lot; pay lot across the street at west end of the block. Three meals daily; closed 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W. (10/04)

Costa Brava 1653 Garnet Avenue (at Jewel), Pacific Beach, 858-273-1218. Cordial owner-host Javier Gonzalez opened this charming restaurant so that local Spaniards would have a place to gather with an authentic atmosphere of home, and indeed, the "Euro" atmosphere and late hours give a truly Iberian feel. The lively garlic-rich dishes here include a wide array of tasty tapas and, among the entrées, a paella that's made to order (sized to serve two or four; call ahead for larger groups). Patio seating in good weather. Parking lot and wheelchair access via the alley behind the restaurant. Open daily 11 a.m. to midnight, with bargain prices at Sunday brunch. Reservations advised for weekend evenings. Moderate. — N.W. (2/02)

The Fishery 5040 Cass Street, Pacific Beach, 858-272-9985. Pacific Shellfish Seafood Company founder Judd Brown got his start as a commercial fisherman. He doesn't fish anymore, but he does









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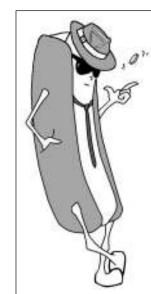
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everything else — supplying product to top-tier restaurants, retailing glistening specimens to hungry shoppers and serving patrons who want to dine in amid icy-blue walls and gorgeous trophy fish. The Fishery's menu is equally extensive, covering SoCal basics (excellent mahi-mahi burrito), lunchtime standards (sandwiches, fine maltdredged fish and chips), sushi, and an ambitious lineup of dinnertime entrées, some of them whimsically creative (tortilla-encrusted Mexican black bass). If ambition occasionally outstrips execution, an obsession with freshness helps compensate, and you get the sense that things are getting better all the time. The wine list is relatively inexpensive and carefully selected. Casual atmosphere. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. — A.M. (12/03)

Humphrey's by the Bay 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island, 619-224-3577. Most diners at this resort/concert venue restaurant eat at the prix fixe pre-show dinners because they

guarantee good seats for the concerts at the next-door ampitheatre. But better food emerges once the music-mavens leave the premises. The kitchen features fine seafood, juicy meats, and prime steaks with seasonal veggie garnishes. Preparations are pleasing but in no way startling — it's a hotel restaurant, after all. Reserve for show-nights or to snare a window table with a gorgeous marina view. Free parking when there's no concert, valet parking when there is. Dining room pleasantly quiet. Open daily breakfast through dinner; brunch buffet Sunday. Pre-show prix fixe upper moderate, à la carte expensive/very expensive. — N.W. (2/06)

Kabuki Sushi Restaurant 4475 Mission Boulevard (entrance on Garnet), Pacific Beach, 858-270-1986. This place has a unique system of delivering tempting dishes to you via boats floating along a mini-canal that surrounds the sushi bar. You take food off and pay according to the plate size. The sushi chefs — they can be a show in themselves — have the usual panoply of sushi, sashimi, nigiri. The dragon rolls (crab, shrimp tempura, eel, avocado) and spider roll (soft-shelled crab) are tasty too. It's young and crowded here — is that because you don't have to sweat the menu, just grab what you like off the boat and chew? Open for lunch and dinner Tuesday to Saturday; dinner only Sunday; closed Monday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (1/04)

Kaiserhof 2253 Sunset Cliffs Boule vard, Ocean Beach, 619-224-0606. Even on weeknights, crowds fill this restaurant and biergarten, chowing down on hefty, hearty German cooking in a festive atmosphere. Flavors are authentic, but can be monotonous due to the kitchen's reliance on commercial products (especially a heavy-flavored beef base that makes all the sauces taste alike). Good schnitzels, potato pancakes. The excellent apple strudel is the only dessert made in-house. Reservations advised, especially for patio seating. Full bar. Lunch Friday through nday, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. — N.W. (6/02)

CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

El Comal 2822 Imperial Avenue, Grant Hill, 619-239-7101. (Other location at Broadway, 619-420-3811.) No border compromises here — just great home-cooking from Michoacan, Guerrero, Jalisco, and Oaxaca, prepared by Luz Herrera Ibarra, a biology teacher from Acapulco. Try the warache (cactus slices with carne asada, frijoles, cheese, and onions) or the mulita carne adobada (pork, melted cheese, and

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guacamole inside two tortillas) and have a glass of nuez (a refreshing walnut drink). Chula Vista location has *parrillada* meats. Breakfast through dinner until 8:30 p.m. Inexpensive. E.B. (11/00)

Lefty's Chicago Pizzeria 3448 30th Street (at Myrtle), North Park, 619-295-1720. An eight-pound pizza? That's what Lefty claims his "king of all pizzas" weighs at his often-crowded lite corner pizzeria. Truth is, you can't help but be drawn, especially at night, to the little ribbon of lights framing the sidewalk canopy with its tables and benches. Lefty is determined to bring "the real Chicago" to San Diego. So of course we're talking deep-dish pizzas, as well as some thin and crispy. But the ultimate is his "stuffed" pizza, a 14-inch, eight-pound monster that needs one hour's "make and bake" time. They also do Chicago hot dogs, char burgers, beautiful spicy fries, juicy Italian beef au jus sandwiches, and a decent "Lefty's carbonara" (spaghetti, eggs, bacon, Parmesan, and cream). Open lunch and dinner six days, closed Mondays. — E.B. (5/05)

Old World Restaurant 3930 30th Street, North Park, 619-238-0568. This is a delight for anyone who loves Northern European food. Their "Great Grilled Grueben" — homemade corned beef on rye with Swiss cheese, sauerkraut, Thousand Island dressing, and mustard is, as they say, "gemÉtlich." Also, try the sausage platter: grilled bratwurst, kielbasa, sauerkraut, potato salad, spicy

mustard, and rye bread. Open for breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. -EB (8/01)

Red Sea Restaurant 4717 University Avenue (at Euclid), City Heights, 619-285-9722. You'll find richly seasoned (and potentially very spicy) Ethiopian cuisine, served communally on a tray lined with a porous pancake, *in-jera*, which looks like an edible dish towel and serves as both an edible spoon and an edible tablecloth. (Use pieces of it to scoop up morsels in your right hand.) The meat combination platter here isn't nearly as exciting as several of the specialties. The kitfo (spicy beef tartare) is very good, the *gored-gored* (meat cubes in spicy butter) is excellent; both are cooked (or not cooked) to your order. and seasoned to your specifications (if you say "hot," expect fire). Vegetables are fine, too; the yellow split peas, especially, sing with flavor. Restrooms not wheelchair-accessible. Vegetarian friendly. Can be noisy on weekend evenings. Open daily. Very inexpensive.

— N.W. (12/00)

Sister Pee Wee's Soul Food 2971-1/2 Imperial Avenue, Grant Hill, 619-236-0470. One of the oldest, best soul food cafés in the county, but get there early (it closes at 6 p.m.). Sister Pee Wee says her lunch and dinner menu depends on what she feels like cooking that day — you might find big pork ribs with mashed red-skin potatoes, black-eyed peas, collard greens and two-inchthick corn bread, or Southern-fried chicken, or catfish fillet with all the trimmings. Sister's special is chitlins and cat-fish. (Call ahead about the availability of chitlins.) Breakfast includes eggs, bacon, ham, sausages, and hominy grits. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/01)

Tazablanca 3946 Illinois (north of University, two blocks east of 30th Street), North Park, 619-294-8292. This warm-colored, lively café offers the homey, tropical food of Cuba and some pan-Latin appetizers cooked with Cuban styling. The fried calamari is light, the papa rellena (stuffed potato) is lively, the lechón (marinated roast pork) is moist and flavorful, and the vibrant chicken fricassee with capers is irresistible. All entrées come with a salad, and the tequila-lime dressing is especially fresh tasting. Reservations for groups of six or more. Park behind the restaurant (via Grimm and the alley) or in Lumberjacks's lot. Live band plays Thursday through Saturday evenings and is quieter

than the ambient music when there's no band. Patio seating in fair weather. Dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Full bar including *mojitos*, Mexican beers, mainstream wines, and Latin soft drinks. Moderate. — N.W. (1/06)

Uncle Joe's Pizzeria 4591 El Caion Boulevard, Talmadge, 619-584-2535. The owner's a retired Navy medic, one of the first women to serve in the Middle East combat zone. She's named sandwiches for career stops, like "The Recruit Training Center, Orlando, Florida' (chicken breast, bacon, avocado, provolone cheese, spinach, tomato, and onion) or "North Island Dental Clinic" (turkey, ham, bacon). But try a main dish like eggplant Parmesan or chicken with sautéed mushrooms. Or a massive chunk of lasagna, plus bread and salad. Coffee? You get a huge French-style press-the-coffee-down affair. Your big decision: eat out on the flower-strewn boulevard patio or inside among black leather easy-chairs and a giant screen? Open for lunch and dinner daily until 10 p.m. (until midnight Friday and Saturday). Inexpensive. — E.B. (6/06)

EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA

Greek Town 345 West Main Street, El Cajon, 619-441-9708. Just another Greek buffet? Well, ves. Your choices are standard: gyros meat, spanakopita, moussaka, dolmades. And the decor is the usual blue and white with Greek island posters. But it's the customers who give it an exotic feel, speaking languages from Russian to Greek to Somali. And if you're hungry, this all-you-can-eat deal is great. Have gyros meat, but also try the chicken souvlaki (grilled lemon chicken), or start with the excellent dolmades (grape leaves wrapped around beef and rice). The leaves' tangy taste and the lemony sauce inside get your juices running. Don't for-get salad...or the dessert table (how could you leave without baklava?). Open for lunch and dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (1/04)

Grossmont Student Center Cafeteria Grossmont College, 8800 Grossmont College Drive, El Cajon, 619-644-7000. This is no UCSD, with its dozen food franchises and Persian and Somali food tents on campus. Gross-mont's single cafeteria (open to the public) is big, echoey, and sticks to standard-issue food like crumb-coated chicken katsu, cheeseburgers, burritos, and really, really cheap pizzas. Breakfast? How about a sausage and tater tot burrito? Health fans do have a plentiful salad bar. It's quite an experience, sharing lunch with local and foreign students, looking over the rolling hills to El Cajon - like being at an international finishing school in, well, Switzerland. Open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Thursday; till 2 p.m. Friday, Closed weekends, Inexpensive,

Mario's de la Mesa 8425 La Mesa Boulevard (at Grant), La Mesa, 619-461-9390. The man on the *burro* (seen on the restaurant's sign and menu) holds two flags, those of Mexico and the U.S.A. — very appropriate. Few dishes (except maybe the *menudo*) will push the paler palate too far in any direction, but gosh-all, everything is so darn tasty. Tamales are a house special: rich, pillowy clouds of cornmeal surrounding richer shredded pork scattered with raisins for a smidgeon of sweetness. Pork also gets loving treatment in the carnitas rojas, big chunks browned to the barest crisp, which falls away to melting ten-



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derness. Great marinade (cumin?) on the carne asada; intense flavor and buttery richness on the "machaca sonora style" (dry-roasted shredded beef). Beans are so light as to seem whipped; rice is studded with peas and spicy carrots. Service is fast and friendly. Breakfast and lunch Sunday and Monday; three meals Tuesday through Saturday. Inexpensive.
— A.M. (7/01)

Ranas.Com 9683 Campo Road, Suite A, Spring Valley, 619-589-1792. With 33 Mexican restaurants in the area, this Mexico City eatery has got to be good. It's a cheery place with lime green walls and orange accents. Cooking from the capital tends to be less bitingly hot than some northern food, with unexpected taste combos, like pollo en salsa de cacahuate (an almost Thai-tasting chicken in peanut sauce which comes with rice, beans, and tortilla). Or try the delicious pelangoches, a mess of bacon, pork, pineapple, mushrooms, bell peppers, onions, and cheese. Aztec huarache (cactus with potato, cheese, lettuce, sour cream, and salsa) is also easy to love. Inexpensive. — E.B. (9/04)

Woodstock's Pizza 6145 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area, 619-265-0999. It's a college pizza joint, but the fare rates well above standard beer ballast. For that matter, the beers — Karl Strauss and Wyder's Ciders (along with the usual Coors Light and Bud) — aren't exactly chug-suds. Crusts — white or sweetly robust whole wheat — are pressed, tossed, and then folded over at the edge producing a spongy, crunch-crusted rim. The mozzarella is rich, gooey whole-milk; the marinara sauce is dark and spicy; and the toppings are fresh, hearty standouts. Watching your weight? Two low-fat combos (half the cheese) are available. Inexpensive. — A.M. (4/02)

FAR EAST

The Hideout Steakhouse and Sa**loon** 27413 Highway 76, Santa Ysabel, 760-782-3656. If you're a Harley-Davidson weekend warrior, this is for you: an old dark timbered roadhouse peeking out of the trees, with its own spring-fed water wheel, 3000 feet up the mountains. Back in the thirties, Hollywood celebs (Roy Rogers, Alfalfa, et al.) used to hang out here on huntin' and fishin' trips Now, bike enthusiasts make it their weekend day-trip destination. It still has

a 1920s fireplace roaring at one end, a big pot-belly stove at the other, a honkytonk upright piano, and a forty-foot-long oakwood bar. Cheeseburgers are the default dish. Available are a "Texas-sized baked potato," vegetables, salad, and squaw bread. Open Saturday and Sunday only. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (5/02)

Owl Cafe 674 Main Street (between 6th and 7th), El Centro, 760-336-0298. This classic American café is over 50 years old and still serves good rib-stick-ing food morning, noon, or night. Try breakfast special #1: pancakes, two eggs, and two bacon strips. For lunch, the French dip sandwich, Full-plate dinners — and they are full — include roast beef and chicken-fried steak. Open Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. (bar until 2 a.m.); Saturday, bar only. Closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (8/01)

UPTOWN & OLD TOWN

Alex's Brown Bag 2550 Fifth Avenue (at Laurel), Suite 171, uptown, 619-231-2912. The reborn Alex's (now in the Mr. A's building) is rightly famous for its "Original Philadelphia cheese steak sandwich" (with fried bell peppers, onions, mushrooms, and mozzarella). The owners say what makes their sandwiches so special is that they have the meat trucked in from cheese steak central, South Philly itself. Other Italian-American goodies include the Italian Stallion (Genoa salami, capocolla prosciutto, and mortadella sausage meat), eggplant parmigiana with hot garlic bread, grilled pastrami, and cheese on rye. Open for breakfast, lunch, and just-after-work dinner weekdays. — E.B. (9/01)

Busalacchi's Ristorante 3683 Fifth Avenue (at Pennsylvania), uptown, 619-298-0119. Remember Olympia Dukakis in Moonstruck retreating for comfort to her local trattoria? Busalacchi's has that settled, warm feel, but it's more interesting. Multi-levels create nooks and crannies for liaisons dangereuses, or there's the streetside casual level. Niche fountains and faux marble columns make it feel old-fashioned. Being Sicilian, they have plenty of the tomato-sauce-dominated dishes (like torta di melanzana, eggplant layered with mozzarella). But also try the excellent calamari niccata, a calamari "steak'

bathed in butter, mushrooms, lemon capers, and white wine. Simple but delish Or salads like insalata di fileto with filet mignon, goat cheese, walnuts, eggs, and arugula. And hey, if you want to keep the budget intact, nothing wrong with spaghetti della casa. Lunch Monday through Friday; dinner nightly. Moderate to expensive. — E.B. (2/04)

Extraordinary Desserts 1430 Union Street (at Ash), Little Italy, 619-294-7001; 2929 Fifth Avenue, uptown, 619-294-2132. Patrons looking for a quiet dessert still cling to the original charming cottage near Balboa Park. Those wanting more of a meal head for the newer Little Italy location, a vast, noisy space with industrial-chic decor and a menu of eclectic small plates mezze spreads, bruschettas, sandwiches, and cheese plates. Flavors tend to be intense; some creations (such as a baconcured salmon sandwich and *pantelleria*, a celery-date spread) are wonderful, others are exhausting even in small portions. Both locations offer pastry cases full of desserts that live up to "extraordinary," to eat on-site or to take home. Chef-owner Karen Krasne incorporates flavors inspired by the global reach of her travels, from the cooking schools of Paris to the rice fields of Bali. The white cakes are food for angels. Wines (including champagnes), beers, fruit elixirs. Vegetarian-friendly menu. Both locations are open seven days, three meals, closing at 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and at midnight on weekends. Moderate. -N.W. (2/05)

Gulf Coast Grill 4130 Park Boulevard (between University and El Cajon), Hill-crest, 619-295-2244. The Gulf's faux-rustic, woodsy dining rooms and patio are great hangouts if you like a restaurant with a noisy party atmosphere. The menu focuses on the cuisine of the South and Southwest, with an emphasis on Louisiana and a heavy hand on the salt shaker. The kitchen does best with the straight Southern dishes, turning out divine fried soft-shelled crabs, airy hush puppies, and delicious little corn muffins. If you're deeply familiar with Cajun-Creole flavors, though, don't look for pure authenticity — you'll do better with jambalaya, étouffée, or the lunchtime oyster po' boy than with the soulless gumbo or the misconceived red beans and rice. Heated, smoker-friendly front patio. Wheelchair elevator to restrooms next to stairs. Free parking lot left of the door. Full bar. Lunch Monday through Saturday, brunch Sunday, dinner nightly (early closing Sunday). Moderate to slightly expensive. -N.W. (4/03)

Harney Sushi 3964 Harney Street (off Congress), Old Town, 619-295-3272. This friendly little spot on a side street serves as a secret haven of pretty-good sushi just a few steps from Old Town's nonstop tacos and margaritas. You can also get sashimi, Japanese appetizers, and a few mixed-ethnicity entrées (noodles, pasta, teriyaki, tempura) made with seafood or chicken breast. Beef is served. but numerous dishes are vegetarian. Good sake list. Sound system runs loud inside; patio dining available in warm weather. Reservations for sushi bar accepted but not necessarily honored. Open weekdays for lunch, dinner nightly until midnight, with a DJ Tuesday through Saturday. Sushi prices lower than most, entrées inexpensive to moderate. — N.W. (4/03)

Joe's New York-Style Deli Royal Food Mart, 3401 First Avenue (at Upas), Banker's Hill, 619-295-7666. You enter a time machine: A cavernous concretefloored deli that dates back to 1902, with a high ceiling, acorn-shaped hanging lights, and a big old-fashioned cooler-counter packed with cheeses, hams, and sausage meat. Old display cases carry olives, pâté, Ryvitas. A sawed-off wooden barrel bulges with Hungarian wines. Go for wraps, jumbo hot dogs with sauerkraut, or East Coast-generous sand-wiches like corned beef, dry Genoa salami, cotto salami, bologna, or liverwurst. That Boars Head liverwurst is da bomb. Caesar salad with chicken or a cup of tortellini soup are good light alternatives. Open breakfast through early dinner daily. — *E.B.* (4/05)

Lotus Thai 3761 Sixth Avenue (at Robinson), Hillcrest, 619-299-8272. Also at 906 Market (at Ninth Avenue), downtown, 619-595-0115. This restaurant has taken a giant step up from standard Thai eateries. Most of the menu consists of the usual dishes, but each branch also offers a selection of chef's specialties. Some of these are more authentic; others are more creative than the norm. The chefs are from northern Thailand, and something in their cooking hints of their region — a certain zestiness, a love of strong citruses and fresh herbs that speaks of the Ping River and the hills of Chiang Mai. Well-chosen, affordable wine list, Asian and American beers, and cocktails based on *soju* (Asian lower-proof rice liquor), including a yummy

rambutan cosmo. Noisy when crowded Reservations recommended for Hillcrest on weekends. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Low moderate. — N.W. (4/06)

Prado House of Hospitality, Balboa Park, 619-557-9441. In a magical space at the heart of Balboa Park, Prado features cute neo-Nouveau decor and a something-for-everyone menu of American-Mexican-Italian-with-Asiantouches cuisine. The food brings few sur-prises, but is flavorful and served in huge portions. Top choices include meaty crab cakes and an astonishingly tender, slow-roasted pork loin. A meringuebased banana tres leches cake is everyone's favorite dessert. The bar makes a nice stop during a museum-crawl and offers ethereal fried ovsters and a range of gussied-up margaritas. Keep an eye out for special prix fixe dinners that include tickets to museum exhibitions. Dinner reservations vital. Vast interior can be noisy, but heated, umbrella-topped terrace tables are quiet and scenic. Moderate to a little expensive, with reasonable wine list. N.W. (12/00)

Rannoush 3890 Fifth Avenue (south of University), Hillcrest, 619-325-1360. The full menu of Lebanese-Jordanian cuisine runs from *mezze* (tapas) to house-made sausages and kebabs to desserts — and includes fabulous falafel that's actually good enough to eat (especially the stuffed version). At this petite, pretty place with Scheherazade decor, all the cooking is from scratch - no nasty instant falafel mix or any other shortcuts, and you can really taste the difference. Other great dishes include vegetarian kebbeh, soujok sausages, and shrimp kebabs. Desserts include exotic ice creams in sexy flavors like cardamom and honey-lavender. Wines and beers include food-friendly imports from Lebanon. Open daily, lunch 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. — (3/06)

Saffron Noodles and Sate 3737 India Street, South Mission Hills, 619-574-7737. It's the smell of the spicy chicken grilling that will get you every time. Whatever the recipe is - and Su-Mei Yu, the owner and celebrated cook-book author, says it's from the Isaan, Thailand's ethnic Lao Northeast — it catches your nose. We're talking "boxing arena grilled chicken," after the place where she smelled its spicy cooking aromas while growing up in Bangkok. You have a choice of five sauces to go with the chicken, from peanut to sweet pepper. Also try the noodle soups, like Tom Yam with shrimp: sinus-clearing, delicious, and surprisingly filling. The food here is real, fresh, genuine Thai cuisine with Chinese echoes — like Su-Mei Yu herself. Middle-class San Diego se have adopted her eatery, despite the fact you're in a pretty stark gray-and-white room with views of I-5. Open for lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. -

Zocalo Grill 2444 San Diego Avenue (a block north of Old Town Cemetery), Old Town, 619-298-9840. This casual, festive spin-off of the Brigantine chain features "Pacific coastal cuisine," an eclectic international hodgepodge with a faint Mexican accent and "something for everyone." And some of those some things are delicious - a stacked salad of shrimp and avocados, or coconutshrimp kebabs emerging from a pineap-ple, or a huge, beautifully grilled spiny lobster with avocado salsa. Appetizers are discounted at happy hour, and you can make a whole dinner out of substantial "tapas" sized for sharing. The heated, semi-roofed outdoor terrace encourages al fresco dining year-round. Full bar with creative margaritas, eight draft beers, and California wines including Brigantine's own custom blends at good prices. Wheelchair lift in back, ramp at south side of terrace. Reservations strongly advised for weekends. Open daily, lunch through dinner. Moderate. — N.W. (10/02)

DOWNTOWN

Bandar Fine Persian Cuisine 825 and 837 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-238-0101. In a comfortable setting, the Persian menu offers just a "pick hits list" of popular dishes culled from this fabled cuisine, but the cooking is first rate, featuring fine ingredients prepared with care, skill, and healthfulness. The "Bandar Special" entrée combo lets you choose any two kebabs (chicken, game hen, or beef), beautifully marinated and cooked to your order. Entrées featuring rice with poultry are elaborate and re-fined, spiked with tangy barberries, sour cherries, or lentils and dates. The list of Persian desserts now includes Persian ice cream, a rose-scented exotic treat. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W. (1/04)

Broadway Pizza 1008 Broadway (at Tenth Street), downtown, 619-232-6264.











Thursdays at 5:00 pm







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Reservations, purchase

Begins at 5 pm.



nior Center and City College, offers nononsense Italian-American food. And they're not skimpy: from a pizza slice to barbecue beef sandwiches to a Louisianastyle sausage link sub, portions are generous. If you want a hearty dinner, try the whole slab of beef ribs, with veggies, garlic bread, and salad. Unfortunately, the quality has dropped; the formerly fine pizza, for instance, is now marred by oily, low-grade mozzarella and not-so-great optional deli-meat toppings. But the main thing is, while the rest of downtown snores, they're still open, from 10 a.m. to to 3 a.m., seven days. And they'll even deliver to nearby neighborhoods. Inexpensive. — N.W. (9/03)

China Too 916 Fifth Avenue (near E Street), Gaslamp, 619-239-4283 or 619-239-1456. Don't blink or you'll miss this Gaslamp bargain. The menu claims "New York-Style Fine Chinese Cuisine Would you settle for decent Brooklynor Bronx-style eat-in/take-out? Here you're getting cheap-but-good Chinese fare for the price of a cup of soup nearby. Lunch specials (with soup, two egg rolls, rice) include green pepper steak with onions, kung pao hot chicken, beef broccoli, shrimp with veggies — all made with no MSG and minimal cornstarch. The owner's last place was in New York, where customers ranged from Kofi Annan to Robin Leach. Chef Chen even has some of his old dishes here, on a page of multi-regional "chef specialties" (#90 to #107 on the menu). But what really

makes this a "New York-ish" spot will bring joy to hungry mouths all over the restaurant-starved stretch east and south of Balboa Park: free delivery from I-8 to Harbor Drive, from Pacific Highway to 805 or even farther. Open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; closed Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (3/06)

Downtown Johnny Brown's 1220 Third Avenue (in the Community Concourse at Third and B), downtown 619-232-8414. Walk up through the Community Concourse past the ship fountain and bingo! — downtown's answer to a European sidewalk café. Place has a generous patio of chairs and umbrellas. All green and white. You get two types here: sport-minded types (a dozen TV screens, Chargers, Padres, Aztecs banners inside), and city government workers. Burgers are good, but try the breast of chicken burger with soup of the day or fries. Chicken's grilled, edgeburnt, spicy. Soup's bobbing with fresh-cut vegetables. Also, salads: taco or vest Chicken. What's best: sitting outside and watching people — not traffic — bustle by. — E.B. (4/03)

The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant 544 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-232-9840. This spirited, colorful saloon, physically transported whole-hog from the Ould Sod, offers delicious Irish music live most nights, and also attempts serious Irish cooking — with some successes. Try the lovely herb-rich Irish stew, or the boxty, potato crêpes rolled around your choice from a variety of fillings (salmon, beef, etc.). Or start the day here with a huge, carnivorous Irish breakfast. Open daily. Low moderate. — N.W. (4/01)

Greystone 658 Fifth Avenue (at G Street), Gaslamp, 619-232-0225. The

Italian steakhouse fare here centers on dry-aged prime beef, game meats (including exceptionally tender bison), lob-ster, and pastas as the main draws, with indifferent starters and desserts. An impressive wine list offers rewarding California and Italian bottlings at \$35 to \$50, but roars up to the stratosphere of firstgrowth Bordeaux, super-Tuscans and scandalously overpriced Napa reds. Bossy, sometimes-abrasive waiters push higher-priced choices. Patrons are "suits" with deep expense-account pockets, loudly talking business or enjoying raucous office parties in a testosterone-high atmosphere. Wheelchair access to the street patio and bar area only (dining rooms are up or downstairs). Reservations urged, but may not be honored promptly. Dinner nightly. Extremely expensive.

Monsoon Exotic Cuisine of India

729 Fourth Avenue (off G Street), Gaslamp, 619-234-5555. The younger sister to Hillcrest's Bombay Exotic Cuisine shares the same chefs and serves much the same standard repertory of "Northern Indian cuisine made easy," with a few tropical additions vaguely inspired by Southern flavors. Curries are indistinct from each other and run to the mild side, no matter what you specify. Breads are good; tandooris disappointingly soft-surfaced. A room-dividing fountain recreates the roar of the namesake tropical downpour. Add a lively dinner crowd and it's a (Gunga) din. Solid wine list, some Indian beers, full bar specializing in sweet cocktails, Open daily. Inexpensive buffet lunches; moderate à la carte dinners until 11 p.m. — N.W. (10/04)

Mr. Tiki's Mai Tai Lounge 801 Fifth Avenue (at F Street), Gaslamp,

 $619\mbox{-}233\mbox{-}1183.$ If you loved Trader Vic's (or can remember it, anyway), you may be amused at the revival of the genre here. Check out the "grass skirt" decor with huge tiki gods and the vaguely "islander" cuisine featuring, in addition, Asian fusion items, elementary sushi, and the occasional sprint into fusioncuisine seafood. But, as you might guess, the greatest creativity in the house goes into the silly umbrella cocktails, and those are mainly delish. Age 21 and over after 9 p.m. (even with parents). Dinner nightly. Cocktails until 11 p.m., weekends until 1 a.m. Moderate. -N.W. (10/04)

Panda Inn 506 Horton Plaza (top

floor), downtown, 619-233-7800. Behind all the Panda Express fast-food stops is the smaller, more serious Panda Inn chain which originated many of the now-familiar dishes of semi-American-ized "Mandarin" cuisine (they claim to have invented orange chicken, and their version is vastly better than those at the 99-cent joints). Salt-and-pepper shrimp, tofu with eggplant, and meatball casserole with Chinese cabbage are among the more authentic choices. Preparations here are generally clean and greaseless with well-balanced flavors; spicy dishes are moderately hot unless you request otherwise. It's not the spot for high adventure, but it does offer dishes for all tastes. Moderate-priced banquet menus make this a good choice for family gatherings. Full bar. Validated parking in Horton Plaza garage; heated patio seat-ing in dry weather. Lunch and dinner daily. Lunches inexpensive, dinner moderate. — N.W. (1/06)

Po Pazzo 1917 India Street (at Grape), Little Italy, 619-238-1917. The restaurant's name means "a little crazy," but owner Joe Busalacchi was crazy like a fox to open the first seriously swanky eatery in Little Italy. The decor resembles the set of a Manhattan supper club in a black-and-white movie, right down to the gray color scheme and curvy booths. Music plays loudly (with a live pianist Thursday through Saturday), keeping the en-ergy and noise levels high. You almost expect to see Frankie and Dino at the next table. The USDA Prime steaks are flash-roasted in a special oven at 1700 degrees (in the style of Ruth's Chris), and if they're a little chewy, they're also flavorful — especially the "Sicilian steak." But the pasta dishes are even better, and the veggies accompanying the entrées often outshine the proteins — the kitchen is still Italian at heart and the fundamental things apply. Full bar. Lunch and dinner weekdays, dinner only weekends. Reservations advised. Expensive. -

Samba Grill 510 Fourth Avenue (Horton Plaza, top level), Gaslamp, 619-236-1000. This huge restaurant serves Brazilian food and Brazilian spirit. The format is a rodizio - waiters circulate through the room with tall swords, impaling an ever-changing assortment of grilled meats (highly salted and cooked well done, but zesty nonetheless). On the side is a vast buffet of additional Brazilian entrées, vegetables, and salads. The staff are charmers, but make sure to ask for appetizer and dessert menus and the 100-bottle wine list if the server forgets to offer. Full bar includes authentic, irresistable Brazilian caipirinha lime cocktails, made by a roving "caipirinha girl." Exciting *capoeira* (martial arts-dance) performances Saturday nights on patio, about 6 p.m. Live band inside follows on weekends. Lunch and dinner daily, until 11 p.m. weekends. \$35 buys a more-than-full meal. Half price for kiddies; reduced price for buffet food only; extra cost for a special "gaucho feast" that includes additional meats. plus wild game choices upon request. N.W. (6/06)

Sluggers by the Ball Park 1219 Market Street (at Park), downtown, 619-546-5973. Not your typical hot dog stand. Sluggers café is all glass, steel, cinder block, and new. This eatery catches much of the Padres business, selling Vienna-brand beef hot dogs and Polish sausages. "Served Chicago-Style" — meaning, the dog's topped with tomato wedges, mustard, pickle, relish, onions, and peppers, all, they say, on a steamed poppy-seed bun from Chicago. Other goodies from the Windy City include the Comiskey Park Pole (a charbroiled Polish sausage dog) and the Italian Stallion (charbroiled Italian sausage in bun). Place is still a little cinder blocky but a good rendezvous for a brewski and a dog after work. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (3/05)

Top of the Market 750 North Harbor Drive, downtown, 619-234-4867. The upper-crust upper floor of the downtown Fish Market (see Multiple Locations listing) has largely the same food as the downstairs, plus a few luxury items (e.g., abalone) and occasionally some creative appetizer specials. Prices are about 25% higher for identical items, in exchange for a slightly elevated view and a dressier, white-tablecloth setting that's almost "formal" by San Diego standards — flip-flops and tank tops aren't allowed on men, and collared shirts (e.g., polos) are suggested at dinner. That doesn't mean that the atmosphere is quietly gracious — the room's just as huge, packed, and raucous as the lower realms, even on the terrace. Reserve, and expect a short wait anyway. El-

Restaurant Coupons and Menus SanDiegoReader.com

Restaurants listed without coupon offers have only menus online. Restaurants with • have multiple locations. See online menu or coupon for all locations.

Pacific Beach, Mission Beach & Ocean Beach

Atoll at the Catamaran Hotel

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 \$3 breakfast on the beach

Aurora Trattoria 2 for 1 dinner Cafe Milano Free Comedy Store tickets

Clav's La Iolla

La Jolla Brew House Free lunch or dinner entrée

Marrakesh 50% off lunch

Regents Pizzeria Free large salad

Su Casa 20% off entire check•

Trattoria Bella Vita 2 for 1 Italian entrée 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

South Bay & Coronado

Batter Up! 50% off Batter Up! basket Lai Thai **50% off entrée** Mariscos La Costa Azul Free combo plate

Uptown & North Park

A La Française

Awash Ethiopian 1/2-price entrée

B Fried Rice

Hob Nob Hill **\$2 off entrée**

House of India **Free dinner**

India Princess Free dinner

Lips 50% off dinner

Rudford's \$2 off entrée

San Filippo's Pizza & salad \$15.45

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 Free entrée Fix Me A Plate Cafe 15% off any entrée Greek Town Buffet **50% off dinner buffet** Habana Cuban Free appetizer Lucky Star Buffet 50% off dinner Shakey's Pizza Lunch buffet \$5.15

Clairemont, University City, Miramar Rd., Poway, Mira Mesa, Scripps Ranch & Kearny Mesa

Ashoka the Great 50% off lunch or dinner

D'Amato's Italian Restaurant

Filling Station **Free appetizer** Honey's Cafe

Joe's Pizza 2 large pizzas \$20.99

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

lewel 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

Samba Grill 1/2 off all-you-can-eat Brazilian feast

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

SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

El Dorado 311 Palomar (at 3rd Avenue), Chula Vista, 426-4545. The food of Peru is arguably the zestiest in South America, and Chula Vista's growing Peruvian community expects authenticity El Dorado is there for them. The papa relleno is pure bliss — a little football of creamy mashed potatoes, lightly fried around a filling of ground beef, olives, and raisins. Seco de cabrito features young goat in a complex, herbed stew exploding with cilantro. Peruvian ceviche is lively and garnished with chancho, ed hominy-corn kernels. Alas, here in the far north, the cuisine's fire is tuned way down for the kiddies — but there's always hot sauce. Reflecting the local population, half the menu here is Mexican — not tacos but more serious dinner dishes, especially seafood, carried out with above-average flair. Breakfast and dinner daily, lunch weekdays. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W. (10/04)

The Family House of Pancakes 562 Broadway (across from Chula Vista Center), Chula Vista, 619-425-5133 This is a great place for three things: your family, your kids, and your appetite. The restaurant is famous for its "Grandma's" buckwheat pancakes, its banana-pecan pancake, and its rolled pancakes, oozing with berries and topped with cream and powdered sugar. Just try and survive their 8-12 egg omelet! Other good bets include a deluxe burger with French fries, tomatoes, and house sauce, and a grilled tuna sandwich with fries. Breakfast/lunch only, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

Island Pasta 1202 Orange Avenue (at Loma Street), Coronado, 619-435-4545. This unassuming, spill-out-on-the-street restaurant somehow got it right. Simple tables on the sidewalk, daily made-onthe-premises semolina pasta, most dishes costing in the single digits. A simple fettuccine Alfredo is a pleasure al fresco with a glass of wine, sparkling against the fresh flowers on the table, watching Coronado's world go by. One — and vegetarian — special to ask for is the verdure pasta, a combo of artichoke hearts, spinach, capers, mushrooms, onions, and olives over spaghet

Mary J's Cafe 1930 Cleveland Avenue, National City, 619-477-6645 or 619-477-5306. Mary I and her café have been around for 40 years and about the only thing to change is the prices. This is the real National City. The regulars start piling in at 5 a.m. Mary always has specials going, but check the big board menu above the stove too. One of their most popular items is the Trucker's Breakfast (three eggs, ham, bacon or sausage, home fries, and toast), or steak and eggs with hash browns and toast. Mary's son Vic, the morning cook, always gives you more than enough. For lunch or early dinner, try the meat loaf with mixed veggies, boiled potatoes covered with gravy, toast, and soup or salad. Or chicken-fried steak with all the fixings. Also hefty: cheeseburgers or tuna melts (with fries plus soda included in the price) and that old American favorite, a fried egg sandwich with chips Open 4:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (6/02)

tini. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpen-

sive. — E.B. (10/01)

Miguel's Cocina 1351 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-437-4237. Also 2912 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island, 619-224-2401, and 970 Eastlake Parkway, Chula Vista, 619-656-2822. Cached inside the courtyard of a "Spanish Colonial" mini-mall, Miguel's breezy trellised patio draws a dense dinner crowd from the nearby Del. The prime-time wait for a table may be worth it if you're in a gringo-Mex mood, especially if you've got kids in tow. Although the cooking is blandly pleasant (even the guacamole is under-seasoned), it's surprisingly painstaking. Soups are built on fine stocks, salads can be vibrant, and seafood is treated so tenderly that the numerous shellfish-stuffed tortilla concoctions (shrimp enchiladas, lobster burritos) are vely luscious. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — N.W. (9/00)

BAJA

From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; when calling in Tijuana use only the restaurant's seven-digit number.

Chiki Jai Avenida Revolución #1388 (at 8th), Zona Centro, Tijuana, 685-4955. Eat here and you're surrounded by ghosts: Errol Flynn, John

Huston, Rita Hayworth, Anthony Quinn, Ava Gardner, and, they say, Ernest Hemingway, who all ate — and drank vino tinto — here. Plus the great stars of boxing and bullfighting. But mainly it was a haven for Spanish jai alai players desperate for Old Country food. This is one of Tijuana's great historic eateries, its tale written on the walls. Old border photos, Don Quixote art, fighting bull ranchos' brands, and a matador's framed green cape with his blood still on it. The food's all Spanish. so paella is big (with soup, salad, French bread, and bleu cheese), but also try the baby eel appetizers, chorizo (pork sausages), bacalao (cod fish) a la Vizcaina, trout with olive oil and garlic, and Gallican octopus. Open daily. In-expensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (5/02) El Nido Boulevard Benito Juárez #67

(1-1/2 blocks north of Hotel Festival Plaza), Rosarito Beach, Baja, 661-612-1430. Head south if you're looking for a great dry-aged, mesquitebroiled steak at a bargain price — but don't stop there. Try the house specialty, quail with garlic sauce (codorniz al mojo de ajo), or venison, especially the savory machaca de venado (strips of meat with peppers, onions, and tomatoes). Both are locally raised on the restaurant's own ranches, and may be united in a brilliant breakfast of quail eggs with deer *machaca*. Seafood and surf-and-turf variations are tasty, too. The restaurant's name means "the nest" and the amusing indoor-outdoor decor is a sort of multiroom aviary with birds singing, chirping, and fluttering all over. Full bar. If sensitive to smoke, don't sit next to the mesquite-burning hearth on the roofed patio. Dressy-casual. Bilingual staff and menu. Open daily, early morning to late evening. Mostly moderate; cash only. -

Fonda Roberto's Avenida Cuahutémoc #2800 (at Agua Caliente Boulevard, next to CESUN Universidad), Tijuana, 686-4687. How often do you get to eat something totally new? Like huazontle, the Aztecs' ϊ¿Ωred spinachi;Ω? Roberto's presents it as an egg-covered mass of baby sprigs wrapped around a sausage of Monterrey cheese, all swimming in a chocolatey mole sauce. You haul the huazontle branches through your teeth to de-seed them, just as Montezuma did 500 years ago. This is the fascination of Roberto Reyes's eatery. It's a tribute to his home state of Puebla in the heartland of Mexico. Cactus plays a big part: $Dedos\ Montezuma\ ("i; \Omega Montezuma's$ fingersi; Ω) is cactus stuffed with steak: torta de camaron seco is a shrimp patty topped with cactus; cecina Oaxaqueña is cured meat with cactus salad. But there're also steaks, mole poblano (chocolatey chicken with seven different chiles), and the delicious chile en nogada (chile pepper stuffed with beef, fruits, and nuts — fried in egg and covered with creamy nut sauce). Nice dining room too - built around a fountain. Open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; closed Monday. Moderate. — E.B. (2/05)

La Diferencia Avenida Sánchez Taboada 10611-A, Zona Río, Tiiuana, 634-3346 or 634-7078. Mexican haute cuisine, with inventive combinations of traditional flavors. The creative menu reframes the old dishes and devises new ones. Wine list centers on Baja wineries (Monte Xanic and Cetto) at reasonable prices. Secure, free valet parking next to exterior courtyard. Menu is in Spanish (in a hard-to-read font), but some staffers speak some English. The restaurant is often noisy, even louder when mariachis play. Smoking permitted. Wheelchair access marginal. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — N.W. (1/02)

Los Pelícanos Calle de Cedro 115 #45 (west of Juarez), Rosarito Beach, Baja, 661-612-0445 or 661-612-1757. This hotel dining room is El Nido's lit-tle (and less gifted) sister, with a shorter menu and perhaps less careful cooking. It serves good steaks and surf-andturf in a handsome room and, at lunch. on a pretty ocean-view terrace. To find it, look for large sign on west side of Juarez, north of the tourist hub, directing you to the site. One winding flight up to the restaurant, no elevator. Bilingual staff and menu. Full bar. Open daily, three meals. Moderate; cash only. — N.W. (4/03)

Mariscos el Locochón Popotla fishing village, five minutes south of Rosarito Beach (non-toll road), dirt road next to Fox studios. There are smarter places to eat, like Puerto Nuevo. Even in Popotla, most other eateries look more like, well, eateries. The thing about Pedro Garcia Barcelo and El Locochón is that they are what they are. His fishermen friends hand him fish straight off the boats, he sells them on a table in the sand, and if you so desire, he'll toss one into a pan of oil on a wood fire, fry a couple of corn

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Mercado Sobre Ruedas (From Tijuana, on toll road, take first Rosar ito exit; turn left at third traffic light then an immediate right onto Colonia Lucio Blanco.) Don't miss this huge flea market that materializes every Sunday (from morning until mid-afternoon) a couple of miles north of the tourist part of town. Its dozens of foodbooths offer a vast variety of local treats, ranging from barbecued mutton (borrego) to savory Jalisco-style goat stew (birria de chivo) to all manner of tacos, made-to-order hotcakes with syrup, "Mexican hamburgers," and Sno-Kones (don't worry about the ice; by law, it has to be made with purified water). The food is totally authentic, cooked to Mexican tastes, and it's a carnival for the mouth. Many vendors speak some English. Rock-bottom prices; cash only. — N.W. (4/03)

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Anthony's Fish Grotto 1360 North Harbor Drive (at Ash Street), downtown, 619-232-5103; 215 West Bay Boulevard, Chula Vista, 619-425-4200 9530 Murray Drive, La Mesa, 619-463-0368. You're going to get a sore neck at the downtown flagship of this local chain, splitting your time between your meal, your partner, and the harbor scene outside. If you don't want over-complicated food, Anthony's obliges. Fish and chips is still the simplest and the best. Or Mama's Platter, cod combined with batter-fried calamari, shrimp, oysters, scallops, and clam strips. Anthony's has been up and running for six decades now, with the buying power to get the pick of the catch. The menu offers 18 different seasonal fish to choose from, plus — if you've got the bread — delicious lobster dishes (in season) like lobster thermidor with a creamy, winey sauce. Try to be there at sunset when the water-sky show will do its darndest to distract you. No reservations. Open daily, lunch through dinner. Moderate. — EB (12/05)

The Fish Market 750 North Harbon Drive, downtown, 619-232-3474. There's something fishy about these crowded, noisy, ever-multiplying restaurants — namely, mesquite-grilled, skewered, steamed, or pankofried seafood, plus piscine chowders, pastas, and salads. Preparations are generally simple and consistent among locations. All the raw seafood is processed at the chain's Northern Califor-nia facilities, so when the menu refers to a "local" species it merely means it's from somewhere in the Pacific. Small retail fish market in the downtown branch offers slightly fresher products than at most supermarkets. Identical products and dishes are served in the dining room, the oyster bar, and at Top of the Market. But the sushi bar is emphatically the top Fish Market venue, with just-right rice, pristine seafood, and expert preparation. The "Ichiban Hamachi" (also available in the dining rooms) is outstanding — and for a sexy treat, share a pair of "Honeymoon Oysters" with your honey. No reservations, but the space is vast so waits are brief. Restaurant open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. Also in Del Mar at 640 Via de la Valle, 858-755-2277; mini-branch near Fashion Valley, 2401 Fenton Parkway, 619-280-2277. — N.W. (9/01)

Il Fornaio 1333 First Street, Coronado, 619-437-4911. Also at Del Mar Plaza, 1555 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar, 858-755-8876. Il Fornaio's defensive architecture walls it off from the Great Unwashed — the tourists wandering around Coronado's Old Ferry Landing — but it's worth breaching if only to get your teeth into their to-die-for bread. "Il fornaio" means "the baker," after all. Beyond bread, we're talking rustic-feeling, herbal, ultra-fresh sal-ads, and everyday Italian dishes ranging from sfilating con histerchina (thin grilled steak on a baguette with creamy dijon and salad) to a giant mesquite-grilled 22-ounce bistecca alla fiorentina, with lots of vegetarian and pasta dishes in between. A simple penne alla sorrentina — pasta tubes with a tomato, mozzarella, and basil sauce — is charming. Pizza puttanesca is heaven too, if you're into anchovies. Interesting regional menus from different provinces of Italy pop up during the first two weeks of each month. Most staffers seem mind-blowingly knowledgeable. Moderate. — E.B. (1/02)







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Sisters and Salesmen

"There're plenty of good sane reasons to shoot another person."

n Beth Henley's Crimes of the Heart, Doc's young son Scott is going to the dentist for the first time. And just about everyone else in Hazlehurst, Mississippi, is having the adult equivalent.

Lenny MaGrath turns 30 today: her face is 'getting all pinched up" and her

hair's falling out. If it weren't for these horrors, she'd be brokenhearted that lightning struck and killed her favorite horse, Billy Boy, last night. Plus, no one's remembered her birth-

day, a crime to her heart; and, her grandfather had another stroke and has "blood vessels popping in his brain." Oh, almost forgot: Lenny's youngest sister Babe gutshot her husband Zachary because she didn't like his looks.

When Meg, the middle MaGrath sister back from a failed singing career in Hollywood and a stint in the loony bin, hears what Babe did, she says, "There're plenty of good sane reasons to shoot another person, and I'm sure that Babe had

As so often happens in Crimes, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1981, Henley will state a bizarre fact — like when the MaGraths' mother committed suicide, she hung herself and her favorite cat — and you think hoo-wee! *Loco* in the gazebo. Then Henley offers an explanation, and things make a kind of sense. Babe, for example, was subject to violent spousal abuse (Crimes was one of the first plays to tackle this subject head-on). That doesn't justify shooting

Zachary, but it certainly calls for a firm response.

Usually after an explanation, however, Henley complicates matters. Babe, for example, is jealous that, when her mother hung the cat, she got "national coverage," while Babe only got lo-

cal attention.

New Village Arts is running Crimes in repertory with Anton Chekhov's Three Sisters, and the parallels are striking: Crimes — to

borrow a headline Bill Owens wrote for the Reader years ago - is "Southern fried Chekhov." Henley's three sisters hold nothing back. A pop-culture injunction of the early '80s was "get in touch with your feelings." And the sisters do, with all of them, no matter how giddy or grotesque.

Crimes comes at you like waves, in sets of three. The play's quirky rhythms, arias of feeling, and sudden, Chekhovian silences make it tricky to stage. To the credit of director Dana Case, and a top-notch New Village Arts cast, you aren't aware of difficulties; you watch life - sometimes zany, sometimes tragic, often funny — just brim over.

As the MaGraths, Kristianne Kurner, Jessica John, and Amanda Sitton craft completely different women, who are sisters nonetheless. Kurner's Lenny is an abandoned ship. Meg, whom John expertly keeps just this side of a whirlwind, tells her to be her own woman: "Have some parties. Go out with strange men." Sitton does impressive work as Babe, as innocent as she is



Crimes of the Heart, by Beth Henley

New Village Arts, the Studio Space at Jazzercise, 2460 Impala Drive, Carlsbad

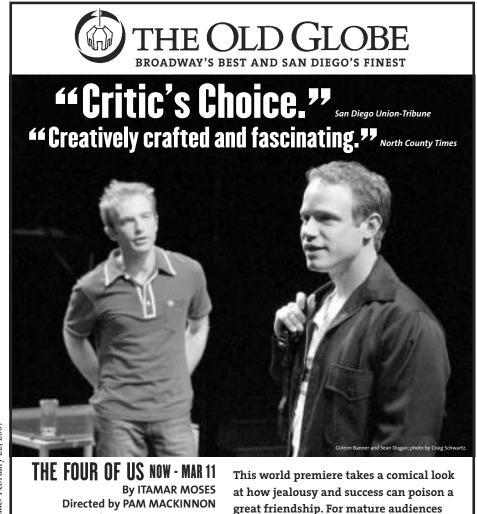
Directed by Dana Case; cast: Kristianne Kurner, Wendy Waddell, Francis Gercke, Jessica John, Amanda Sitton, Darren Scott; scenic design, Kristianne Kurner; costumes, Jessica John; lighting, Eric Lotze; sound, Adam Brick Playing through March 18; runs in repertory with Anton Chekhov's Three Sisters. 760-433-3245.

Glengarry Glen Ross, by David Mamet

6th@Penn Theatre, 3704 Sixth Avenue, Hillcrest

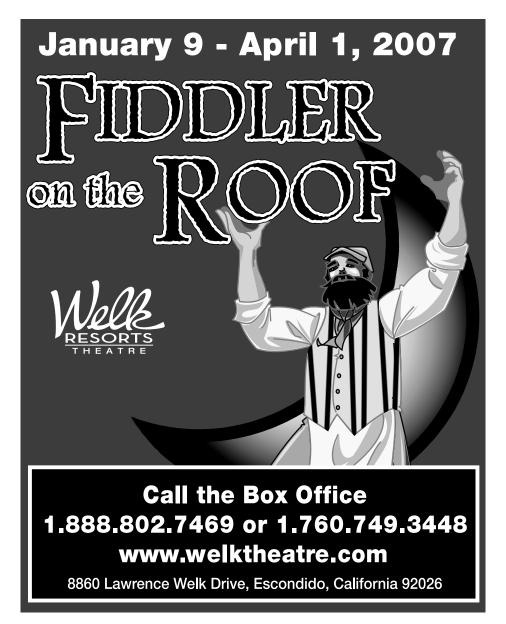
Directed by Jerry Pilato; cast: Jonathan Dunn-Rankin, Ash Fulk, Dale Morris, Haig Koshkarian, Jonathan orges, B.J. Peterson; scenic design, Morris; lighting, Mitchell Simkovski

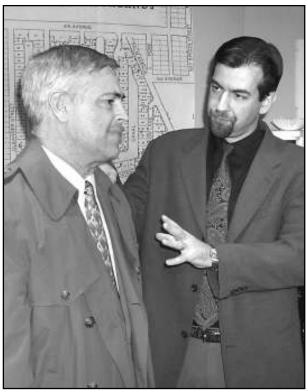
Playing through March 18; Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Matinee Sunday at 2:00 p.m.



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Cassius Carter Centre Stage





Joey Georges, Jonathan Sachs in Glenngarry Glen Ross

gothic. Performing on a humble, lived-in set (and wearing appropriately drab, often tasteless, costumes), the trio builds wonderful emotional swirls.

The production boasts able supporting efforts by Francis Gercke as soft-spoken Doc (he isn't a doctor, just wanted to be, until Meg made him get up close and personal with Hurricane Camille); Wendy Waddell as meddling cousin Chick (imagine the opposite of a caregiver); and Daren Scott as neophyte lawyer Barnette Lloyd, fixated on a lifelong vendetta and an undying, at least to him, pound-cake moment with Babe.

I always thought a useful question for an actor studying a role would be: how would my character describe heaven? In Crimes, Babe envisions angelic choirs, sure. "But I imagine they have high, scary voices and little gold pointed fingers that are as sharp as blades, and you don't want to meet 'em all alone."

Babe and her sisters are hemmed in from all sides. And though they won't get all their wishes — there aren't any pies in that Hazlehurst sky - they may be graced with what Robert Frost called "a momentary stay against confusion.'

Willy Loman wouldn't last ten seconds with this crowd. The real estate salesmen in David Mamet's Glengarry Glen Ross don't die, like Willy, and maybe that's their curse. They exist in a Darwinian pressure-cooker: the goal is selling "highland" property in Florida, and the slimiest, not the fittest, survive — for a while. These guys are so desensitized that savage, four-letter slurs just bounce off them, as if the words were understated truths they've known all along.

6th@Penn's production has some suspect choices: the weaker characters are just that but should be fighting for something too. Nonetheless, this is one of the theater's best

efforts in years. Jonathan Dunn-Rankin's Shelly "the Machine" Levine and Jonathan Sachs's Ricky Roma bookend the piece as the once and current alpha male: Levine desperately crawling back into the light; slick Roma certain of his MVP status. And Dale Morris excels as Dave Moss, a frothing pit bull who chews up and spits out the two-locale set Morris designed.

The salesman's motto is ABC, "always be closing." At one point, Glengarry will sell you a bill of goods, proving one of Mamet's key points that sales pitches come in all kinds, and don't think you're immune. ■

THEATER LISTINGS

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

Brooklyn Boy

Eric Weiss got his wish. His novel made #11 on the bestseller list. Yet everything else in his crumbling world proves the old adage: be careful what you wish for. Unlike the famous Erich "Houdini" Weiss, Eric's no escape artist. He can't flee his Brooklyn neighborhood and Jewish roots any more than he can escape finding his authentic voice. You can anticipate Brooklyn Boy's click-your-heelsthree-times ending practically from the get-go. But Donald Margulies's comedy-drama is more about the journey than the destination. And in six richly crafted, temperamentally different scenes. Margulies turns what could be stereotyped characters into living, suffering, and at times funny human beings. More often than not, the San Diego Rep's actors accomplish the task. By the end of scene two, for example, Matthew Henerson has taken Eric's childhood friend Ira through the zodiac of emotions. Deborah Van Valkenburgh does the cycle with two women: Eric's depressed exwife Nina and ersatz Hollywood producer Melanie (who wants to take the Jewish ethnicity out of Eric's script). On opening night, James Newcomb got a lot of Eric, but there was much more to inhabit (especially the through-line, from passive/reactive to assertive). As Tyler Shaw, allegedly shallow Hollywood star, Andrew Kennedy does a neat Margulies flip: when he plays the fictional Eric, Tyler becomes real. Christy Yael does another one as firsttime groupie Alison. In a play that excels with mature dramaturgy, Alison confidently claims that "fiction is, like, so over. Worth a try.

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH MARCH 4: WEDNESDAY THROUGH SAT-URDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-544-1000

Crimes of the Heart

Reviewed this issue. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, STUDIO SPACE AT JAZZERCIZE, 2460 IMPALA DRIVE, CARLSBAD, THROUGH MARCH 18 (NOTE: CRIMES OF THE HEART WILL RUN IN REPERTORY WITH ANTON CHEKHOV'S THREE SISTERS); THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-433-3245.

Do Geese See God?

As part of its "Queer Theatre: Taking Center Stage" play development program, Diversionary presents a staged reading of J.D. Eames's drama about Topher, a lover of words whose life is altered by a speech impairment. Esther Emery directed. DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, THROUGH FEBRUARY 26; SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. MONDAY AT 7:30 P.M. 619-220-0097.

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.

The Farnsworth Invention

La Jolla Playhouse's Page to Stage New Play Development Program presents a workshop production of Aaron Sorkin's drama about Philo T. Farnsworth, the invention of television, and the legal battle between Farnsworth and David Sarnoff of RCA ("one of the great tragic examples of legal and industrial force combining to crush a rightful patent owner"). Des McAnuff directed. POTIKER THEATRE, LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, UCSD THEATRE DISTRICT, THROUGH MARCH 25; TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY AT 7:30 P.M. THURSDAY THROUGH SAT-URDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUN-DAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-550-1010.

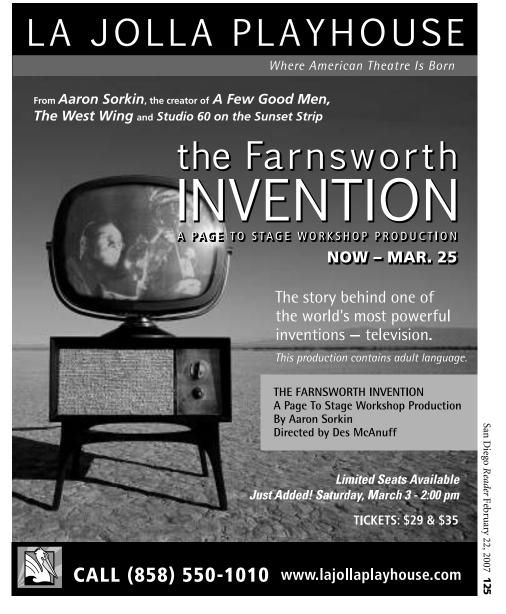
Fiddler on the Roof

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, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AND SUNDAY AT 1:45 P.M. 760-749-3448

The Four of Us

A sketchy tale told in a jazzy manner. David and Ben were aspiring





writers. Then Ben's novel wins the lottery: agape reviews, foreign translations, film rights. Success doesn't change him; it changes David. A lot. Playwright Itamar Moses borrows from Tom Stop pard's The Real Thing (some scenes are "real," but which ones?) and from Harold Pinter's Betrayal, which moves backward in time. In nonlinear leaps, Moses displays a technical virtuosity that shows why he's been hailed as one of America's top young authors. Were the story told in a more straightforward manner, however, and if the actors at the Cassius Carter weren't so watchable, interest might wane. Performing on a black floor with a patent leather shine, and aided by two scene changers (who watch the proceedings and might be the early Ben and David), Sean Dugan and Gideon Banner resemble a savvy comedy team, or halves of the same psyche. Dugan's David is scattered, lacking confidence, always overflowing (and a mite over-the-top at that). Banner's self-contained Ben veers toward inscrutability (serious inscrutability: it would have helped to know what his novel was about, since both Ben and David often function more as rhetorical figures, as parts of a pattern, than characters). Under Pam MacKinnon's smart, unfussy direction, the duo deftly combines different acting styles: Banner suggests; Dugan italicizes.

Worth a try.

CASSIUS CARTER CENTRE STAGE, SI-MON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PER-FORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH MARCH 11: SUNDAY, TUES-DAY AND WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 P M THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-234-5623.

Glengary Glen Ross

issue.@dates:6th@Penn Theatre, 3704 Sixth Avenue, Hillcrest, through March 25; Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Matinee Sunday at 2:00 p.m. 619-688-9210.

Good Breeding

UCSD Theatre and Dance presents the world premiere of Robert O'Hara's adaptation of the Oresteia, which "turns the house of Atreus upside down in an erotic exploration" of Aeschylus's and Euripides' dramas. O'Hara directed.

MANDELL WEISS THEATRE, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO, THROUGH FEBRUARY 24: THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SAT-URDAY, FEBRUARY 24, AT 2:00 P.M. 858-534-4542.

In the Beginning

SDSU School of Theatre, Television, and Film presents the musical, book by David Hahn, music and lyrics by Maury Yeston, that gives the first five books of the Old Testament a "good-natured ribbing." EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE, SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY, THROUGH FEBRU-ARY 25: THURSDAY THROUGH SATUR-DAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-594-6365

Jesus Christ Superstar

California Center for the Arts, Escondido, presents a touring version of the popular Andrew Lloyd Webber/Tim Rice musical based on the last days of Jesus. CALIFORNIA CENTER FOR THE ARTS. ES CONDIDO, 340 NORTH ESCONDIDO BOULEVARD, THROUGH FEBRUARY 25; SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUN-DAY AT 2:00 P.M. 800-988-4253.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding

Joey and Maria tie the knot in "not-so-ordinary interactive dinner HOLIDAY INN ON THE BAY, 1355 NORTH HARBOR DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, OPEN-

ENDED RUN. FOR DAYS AND TIMES CALL 800-944-5639

Life Is a Dream

South Coast Repertory Theatre presents Nilo Cruz's new adaptation of Pedro Calderón de la Barca's 17th-Century reverie about a banished prince and enigmas within enigmas. Kate Whoriskey

SOUTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, SEGERSTROM STAGE, FOLINO THEATRE CENTER, 655 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, COSTA MESA, THROUGH MARCH 11: SUNDAY AND TUESDAY AT 7:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:30 P.M. 714-708-5555.

Ma Rainey's Black Bottom

Due to popular demand, The San Diego Black Ensemble and Cygnet Theatre reprise their staged reading of August Wilson's popular drama.

CITY HEIGHTS PERFORMANCE ANNEX, 3795 FAIRMOUNT AVENUE, CITY HEIGHTS, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, AT 2:00 P.M. 619-641-6123.

Master Harold and the Boys

To commemorate Black History Month, Community Actors Theatre stages Athol Fugard's award-

winning 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. 619-264-3391.

National Comedy Theatre

Improvisational comedy, making up funny stuff on the spot, is difficult enough. Years ago, however, Keith Johnstone thought it'd be more exciting if done competitively. He got the idea from pro wrestling ("where Terrible Turks mangled defrocked priests, while mums and dads yelled insults and grannies waved their handbags"). National Comedy Theatre, an offshoot of Johnstone's TheatreSports (artistic director Gary Kramer says the two compare like "rugby and American football"), resembles an athletic event more than an improv. Teams wear uniforms and compete on ActroTurf. The night I caught the show, three San Diego comedians played a challenge match against players from the San Jose franchise. Using suggestions from the audience, they played "Emotional Sympathy," "Shakespeare," "Blind Line," and "Freeze Tag," with judges awarding points to the best scenes. Klunkers and groaners got booed; quick wit rewarded (one of the most refreshing parts of the contest: people acknowledge failure, abundantly, then forget it). It made for a lively, often quite funny, evening. And Gary Kramer is one talented comedian.

Worth a try.

MAROUIS THEATER, 3717 INDIA STREET. MISSION HILLS, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRI-DAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-295-4999

The Poway Center for the Performing Arts hosts an adaptation of the George Orwell novel by the Los Angeles-based Actors Gang. Tim Robbins directed. POWAY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING

ARTS, 15498 ESPOLA ROAD, POWAY. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, AT 8:00 P.M. 858-748-0505.

The Odd Couple

Vista's Broadway Theatre opens its 2007 season with the popular Neil Simon comedy about bipolar apartment-mates. Randall Hickman directed.

BROADWAY THEATRE, 340 EAST BROAD-WAY (DIRECTLY BEHIND THE AVO PLAY-HOUSE), VISTA, THROUGH MARCH 25: THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-806-7905

Readings of August Wilson's Plays: Joe Turner's Come and Gone

The San Diego Black Ensemble and Cygnet Theatre could do for the late August Wilson what "Grassroots Greeks" did for ancient Greek drama in San Diego. The companies present a series of staged readings of one of the American theater's rarely performed but most important playwrights. Twice winner of the Pulitzer Prize (for Fences in 1987 and The Piano Lesson in 1990), Wilson wrote a cycle of dramas that probe the African-American experience through the decades of the 20th Century (he concentrated, he said, on the "largest idea that confronted blacks in each decade"). The readings will also be staged at the Performance Annex in City Heights and other locations. The series will culminate in a week-long staged reading festival of all the plays at Cygnet in June 2007. Next offering: Floyd Gaffney directs Joe Turner's Come and Gone. Worth a try.

CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH MAY 8: JOE TURNER'S COME AND GONE, MONDAY AND TUESDAY. MARCH 5 AND 6, AT 7:30 P.M. FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF READINGS AND LO-CATIONS, CALL 619-337-1525, X3.

San Diego Theatresports: The FunHouse

A cross between improvisational comedy and Family Feud. Improv, making up a funny scene as you go along, is tough enough. Add competitive scene making, with the audience awarding points to the winning team. Purists might balk at the odiousness of comparisons used in this format, but the "game show" on Fridays - is a hoot. The 90-minute evening offers different bits. The show I caught had "Team Sports" — two pairs of players competed, taking suggestions from the audience; and "Gorilla Theatre" five directors invented scenes, using the other four as actors. The winner got a banana, the loser a "forfeit" (other formats include "Micetro" and "Improv Survivors"). Some attempts went nowhere (I repeat: improv is tough; I did it in my, as hindsight reveals, callow youth). Others made amazing twists and turns. The group makes the hits much more frequent than the misses. Their guru, Keith Johnstone, wrote one of the very best books I've ever read about making theater. And they put his pearls to good use. Their motto: "Remember, when it's not funny, it's art."

Worth a try.

THE FUNHOUSE, 6822 EL CAJON BOULE-VARD (BETWEEN 68TH AND 69TH), COL-LEGE AREA, FRIDAY AT 7:45 P.M. SAT-

URDAY AT 7:45 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M.

The Secret Garden

There's "something wrong inside" Misselthwaite Manor, where the midnight wind goes "wuthering." Everything, not just Master Archibald's large garden, is walled off. Nothing dares to bloom. Francis Hodgson Burnett's 1911 novel joins a survivor, young Mary Lennox, with imaginary invalid Colin; they circumvent the rules of their elders and banish gloom. Lamb's Players' production, of the musical adaptation, begins and ends with Deborah Gilmour Smyth's bell-clear singing voice, like a radiant candle in darkness, inviting us to "Come to My Garden." Smyth sets a tone of enchantment that makes it easier to overlook a somewhat lumpy book (and what feels like four "11th hour" numbers when the climax beckons). Strong voices run throughout the cast: David S. Humphrey's hunchbacked Archibald, Randall Dodge's quasivillainous Neville, and Mike Buckley's Albert. That's the same Mike Buckley who designs sets for Lamb's and has done a beautiful job here - pointed gothic windows, roseate, see-through screens (which allow the play's chorus of "Dreamers," who may be ghosts, to waft in and out). As has Nathan Pierson's evanescent, gobo-rich lighting, Jeanne Reith's costumes, and a sharp five-piece band. Director Robert Smyth gives the evening a gentle flow (having scene-changers often exit down steps centerstage is a brilliant idea; like the ghosts, they just disappear). Smyth also had the smarts to encourage a leavening effect: to prevent the evening from becoming too breathless, young performers Allie Trimm (Mary) and Austyn Myers (Colin) play bickering brats. Worth a try.

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 OR-ANGE AVENUE, CORONADO, THROUGH MARCH 11; TUESDAY THROUGH THURS-DAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATUR-DAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 4:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-437-0600.

The Sopranos' Last Supper

Dillstar Productions presents an evening with the notorious Baritone family: "gambling, dinner, dancing, and good old mobster fun "

HOLIDAY INN ON THE BAY, 1355 NORTH HARBOR DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, OPEN-ENDED RUN; SELECTED SATURDAYS AT 7:30 P.M. 800-944-5639

The Three Sisters

New Village Arts' opening night performance of Anton Chekhov's masterpiece had a "maybe in a week or two" feel about it. Some





parts - especially the trio of sisters, played by Kristianne Kurner (Olga), Jessica John (Masha), and Amanda Sitton (Irina) — were outstanding. But the production, and much of the acting, lacked nuance and dimension, and at times verged on shrill: Wendy Waddell's Natasha — who restores order on the Prozorov estate, although it's the wrong order - shouldn't be just a onenote shrew; John Garcia's Solyonv and Tom Zohar's Andrei both too monotonal; other roles cling to a single trait. Francis Gercke's direction adds imaginative touches, as when everyone suddenly breaks into song around the piano, but lacks fluidity. Brian Friel's translation is lively, but he built it around long confessional monologues that lag the pace of scenes. Characters talk as if they took a class in Existentialism ("absurd," "essence vs. existence"); they explain feelings even subtexts — rather than show them, and italicize the obvious: "stultifying," "hemorrhaging." The three-hour production has an appealing look: turn-of-thecentury costumes and uniforms

(John), richly detailed set (Kurner), faux-candlelight effects (Eric Lotze), and boasts a splendid cameo by Ron Choularton: Doctor Chebutykin, drunk, lambastes his inadequacies. Worth a try.

STUDIO SPACE AT JAZZERCISE INC., 2460 IMPALA DRIVE, CARLSBAD, THROUGH MARCH 18. (NOTE: THE THREE SISTERS RUNS IN REPERTORY WITH CRIMES OF THE HEART; FOR SPECIFIC DAYS AND TIMES, CALL 760-433-3245.)

Triple Espresso: A Highly Caffeinated Comedy

Hugh Butternutt's done his lounge act at the Triple Espresso Coffeehouse 20 years to the day. While patrons sip a house blend — "Grape," "Scandinavian Blizzard," or "Mokoko Cocoa Mocha" — Hugh plays '70s tunes on the piano. He and his companions, here to celebrate Hugh's anniversary, got stuck in the '70s. The trio used to be Maxwell, Butternutt, and Bean, a comedy group that never went far. They're "losers," they admit, but not "ordinary" ones. And, hey, their reunion could help them face searing issues from

their mediocre pasts. A formulaic story line? Ŷep. Straight from *Forever Plaid*. There's also the Forever Plaid problem: the three comedians are far too talented to play inept characters. One's a whiz at the piano. Another's a first-rate mime, and the third's a crackerjack magician. The trio is so talented, when the plot has them complain of difficulties to overcome, you wish they'd quit trumping up the pseudo-drama and get on with this highly entertaining, if lightweight show. (Note: the original cast members have been replaced.)

Worth a try.

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVENUE, GASLAMP QUARTER, OPEN-ENDED RUN: WEDNESDAY AND THURS-DAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SATURDAY AT 5:00 AND 8:00 P.M. SUN DAY AT 3:00 P M AND 7:00 P M 619-234-9583.

The Uneasy Chair

North Coast Repertory Theatre presents Evan Smith's comedy about an "illogical," 19th century relationship. Brendon Fox directed. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE

987 LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, THROUGH MARCH 25; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUN-DAY AT 7:00 P M MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-481-1055.

Two for the Seesaw

Scripps Ranch Theatre stages William Gibson's tale of lonely souls who meet in 1950s Manhattan: an "uptight Midwesterner" and "an impulsive product of the Bronx.'

LEGLER BENBOUGH THEATRE, 10455 POMERADO ROAD, SCRIPPS RANCH, THROUGH MARCH 10: FRIDAY AND SAT-URDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-578-7728.

Win, Place, or Die...My Jockeys Are Killing Me!

Mystery Cafe Dinner Theatre presents James Pascarella and Patricia Harris-Smith's interactive "racetrack romp." It's opening weekend at Upson Downs, and the Thoroughbred Club'll never be the same. Pascarella directed. IMPERIAL HOUSE RESTAURANT, 505 KALMIA STREET, HILLCREST, OPEN-ENDED RUN: FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1600

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www.asianamericanrep.org

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590 Palm Canyon Dr., Borrego Springs (760) 767-4275 www.bspac.us

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California Center For The Arts

ndido Blvd., Escon (760) 839-4100 www.artcenter.org

Carlsbad Village Theatre

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(619) 264-3391 .communityactorstheatre.com

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10 E. Main St., El Cajon

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Pine Hills Lodge 2960 La Posada Way, Julian (760) 765-1100 www.pinehillslodge.com

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Casa Del Prado Theatre, Balboa Park (619) 239-8355

w.iuniortheatre.com San Diego Opera ., Downtown

(619) 232-7636 www.sdopera.com San Diego Repertory Theatre 79 Horton Plaza, Downtown

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2425 Dusk Dr., Paradise Hills
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San Diego State University Don Powell Theatre and Experimental Theater (619) 594-6884 http://theatre.sdsu.edu/

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Star Theatre 402 North Coast Highway, Oceanside (760) 721-9983 www.startheater.org

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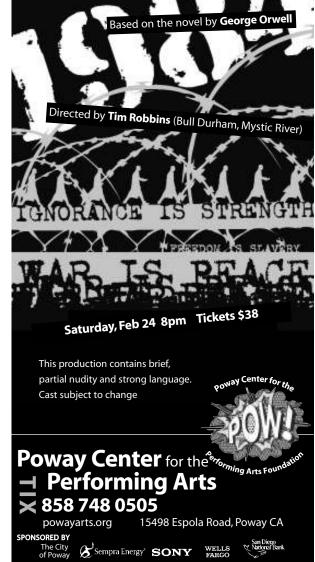
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LA SEMANA EN ESPAÑOL

san diego



Acosan a hispanos

América Barceló

Diario San Diego

Actualmente ser ciudadano americano no representa ninguna seguridad de que los agentes de migración van a respetar sus derechos, sobre todo si usted es de origen hispano,

Tal es el caso de Benjamín Zazueta, que fue víctima de la prepotencia y abusos que reinan entre los agentes del Buró de Aduanas e Inmigración (ICE), y oficiales de los Centros de Detenciones de Inmigración (CCA).

Zazueta fue injustamente llevado al CCA después de salir de una carcel federal el pasado 30 de enero tras purgar una condena de 90 días por haber transportado personas sin papeles legales,

Aunque Zazueta tenía documentos que
comprobaban su ciudadanía americana de
nacimiento, el hispano
fue detenido, burlado y
hasta extorsionado por
los agentes.

deportes



No viene

Oswaldo Sánchez, portero de la selección mexicana y del Santos Laguna, necesitará de seis a ocho semanas para sanar de la luxación del hombro izquierdo sufrida el domingo pasado en el Torneo Clausura 2007 del fútbol mexicano.

La lesión de Sánchez, de 33 años y mundialista en Alemania 2006, lo dejará fuera de la convocatoria de la selección mexicana para el amistoso del próximo 28 de febrero contra Venezuela a jugarse en el estadio Qualcomm de San Diego, California.

Sánchez se lastimó el hombro en el partido del domingo pasado contra los Tecos de la Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara que terminó empatado a un gol.

El portero tuvo que salir del campo para ser llevado a un hospital, donde se confirmó una luxación en el hombro izquierdo. espectáculos



Voces de éxito

Diario San Diego

Después de adjudicarse el primer lugar de audiencia con el mejor programa radiofónico matutino, los populares personajes la Chula y el Chon de la estación La Invasora 99.7 FM siguen su vida modestamente.

Ambos personajes aseguraron que la popularidad y el éxito no se les ha subido a la cabeza. Los experimentados locutores señalaron que llegar a la cúspide significa más responsabilidad y compromiso con su público. Después de estar más de cinco años al aire el show de 'La Chula' y 'El Chon' fue reconocido recientemente como el programa hispano de radio más escuchado en San Diego durante tres meses consecutivos.

De acuerdo a los locutores, el éxito se debe a la formula que la empresa Uniradio emprendió comenzando una nueva etapa en el programa de radio dando un giro de frescura con más participación de la audiencia.







Mucho ritmo

Eleazar López

Diario San Diego

La gira mundial de Ricky Martin 'Blanco y Negro Tour' pisara suelo sandieguino en el Ipay One Center el martes 22 de abril.

Con todo un espectăculo de más de una hora
y media, Ricky Martin
inició su gira en su país
natal Puerto Rico, en
donde dejó un gran sabor de boca al interpretar lo último de su disco
'Unplugged' ante más de
60 mil asistentes en cuatro fabulosas noches, sobresaliendo 'Tu recuerdo' al lado de la cantante
española La Mari.

"Blanco y Negro Tour fue creado como un festejo multicultural con una ilación de repertorio que se complementa con montaje escénico, coreografias a cargo de ocho experimentados bailarines, una banda compuesta por nueve músicos y dos coristas en perfecta armonía para que el cantante, como eje central del espectáculo, ofrezca su mejor música", explicaron sus promotores a través de un comunicado de prensa.

'Blanco y Negro Tour' se estará presentando en más ciudades de Estados Unidos así como en la República Dominicana y la gira se extenderá a distintos países de Centro y Sur América entre los que se encuentran México, Costa Rica y Panamá.

Traiciono Schottenheimer a San Diego S Hacas uno recursto co pio pas Carpotro (a samo) (a samo) (b samo) (c samo)

Sorprende salida

Abraham Nudelstejer

opinión

Diario San Diego

En un principio no sonaba coherente que los Cargadores de San Diego despidieran a Marty Schottenheimer como su entrenador en jefe.

Después de haber llevado al conjunto sandieguino a conseguir su mejor marca en la historia con 14 juegos ganados y dos perdidos no era lógico que la organización dejara ir al veterano estratega pero las cosas cambiaron radicalmente.

Después de que Schottenheimer fue ratificado como entrenador de San Diego para la temporada 2007 las cosas comenzaron a pudrirse dentro de la institución.

Se suponia que Schottenheimer debería de haber retenido a todos sus entrenadores asistentes para darle continuidad al programa que estableció hace cinco temporadas.

Pero en movimientos muy sospechosos, Schottenheimer dejó ir a dos entrenadores asistentes y a su coordinador ofensivo, Cam Cameron, que se convirtió en entrenador en jefe de los Delfines de Miami.

Esta situación propició una mayor tensión, de la ya existente, entre el gerente general del club, A.J Smith, y Marty Schottenheimer.

En esta semana los Cargadores anunciaron que Norv Turner será el próximo entrenador en jefe del equipo de San Diego. En la mira

Mienten policías

Muchas dudas rodean la muerte de Noé Rojas, el joven de 16 años que fue baleado por oficiales de la policía de San Diego el pasado sábado 10 de febrero.

El hermano y primos de la victima denunciaron que existen contradicciones en la versión de los policías que dispararon varias veces contra el adolescente mexicano.

Según informes oficiales Rojas fue balaceado por desobedecer ordenes cuando violó una señal de transito.

Familiares de la víctima, denunciaron que existen varias anomalías en el esclarecimiento de la muerte del adolescente, ya que la policía se ha limitado a dar información falsa sobre lo que realmente sucedió.

De acuerdo a los Rojas, la policía ni siquiera autorizó al hermano de Noel identificar el cuerpo sin vida.

Las autoridades tampoco les entregaron las pertenencias del joven ni les han dado explicaciones sobre como sucedieron los hechos la noche cuando el adolescente fue acribillado por los oficiales.

Los familiares de la víctima dicen que la policía sólo informó lo que les conviene y están escondiendo por alguna razón lo que realmente pasó.

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Moonstruck

Jim Carrey's ability to "stretch" himself has proven to be strictly physical.

DUNCAN SHEPHERD

ven if you knew nothing else about it, the title alone of *The Astronaut Farmer* would prevent you from getting sucked in by the opening image, a silhouette of a horse-

back rider on the crest of a hill at sunrise, an evocation of a complete screen mythology and a prompt of happy

moviegoing memories. The full light of day, alas, reveals an absurdist vision of a mounted spaceman, a "space cowboy" as he will mandatorily be labelled on the television news, or more prosaically a Texas rancher named Farmer, who has clung to his dream of space travel long after he dropped out of the NASA training program — "If we don't have our dreams, we have nothing" — and accordingly has hocked the ranch in order to build a private rocket ship in the barn. Though his family unconcernedly humors him, and his neighbors shake their heads ("He's more of an astro-nut if you ask me"), and the feds finally step in to trample the dream, the character is clearly intended to be an inspiration rather than a caution, a neo-Capra Little Man played with holy-fool earnestness by Billy Bob Thornton, albeit without the personal magnetism

of a Jimmy Stewart or a Gary Cooper, in fact with a reptilian repellence distinctly his own.

That notwithstanding, he's a much squarer creation — he, and the movie

around him — than we've grown accustomed to expect from the filmmaking team of the twin Polish

brothers, Michael and Mark, of Twin Falls Idaho and Jackpot and Northfork. The mainstream insistently beckons. And these certified oddballs, while ostensibly lionizing an oddball, do so in suits and ties. The surprise launch of the rocket only an hour and a quarter into the movie is surprising indeed, and quite spectacular in its haywire way, but this is followed swiftly by the depressing realization that that was but a false climax and that we must start building all over again to a new climax, and an utterly predictable one. Through it all, the dark rich imagery of the Polishes' regular cinematographer, M. David Mullen, is good to look at, so much better, to be specific, than the digital video of Jackpot. Good to look at, too, is that model of mature femininity, Virginia Madsen, in the subordinate role of the subordinate wife. Her post-Sideways comeback



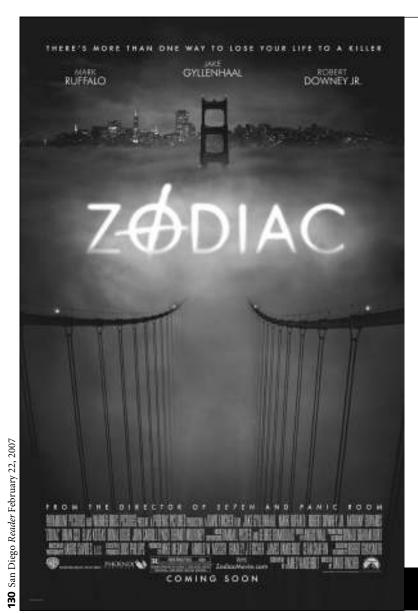
The Number 23

seems so far to mean simply that she has been more seen, not heard.

The Number 23 is a numerological thriller that puts a lot of ingenuity into ferreting out that combination of digits. It begins on February 3 (i.e., 2/3), flashes back to December 23, points out elsewhere that the numerals in 9/11/2001 add up to twenty-three (you might get fourteen or 2021, but try

again), that 230 people died on TWA Flight 800, that each parent contributes twenty-three chromosomes to the DNA of a child, and on and on. (Releasing the movie on February 23 took a bit of ingenuity, too. Not much.) A full-blown obsession along these lines gets going when a chance chain of events leads the protagonist to a novel that bears the same name as the movie.

An animal-control officer, compelled to work overtime by a grudge-holding boss, and bitten by a dog in the result, is late for a date with his wife, who whiles away the time in a used-book store (prophetically called A Novel Fate) and purchases for him the aforesaid novel, a slender, self-published softback in pica type, under the screaming pseudonym of Topsy



WIN A MOVIE PASS FOR TWO!

Z-DIAC

To enter, visit the *Reader* website and click on "contests." <u>SanDiegoReader.com</u>

Deadline to enter is Friday, February 23, at 1:00 pm. Limit one entry per person. No purchase necessary.

This film is rated R for strong sexual content, some violence, language and drug use. No one under 17 will be admitted without parent/guardian. Legal ID required. Limit one pass per person. Seating is not guaranteed. Good while supplies last.

Opens in theaters Friday, March 2.



Calendar MOVIES

Kretts. The protagonist then starts to notice strange parallels between his own life and the plot of the novel, a pastiche of the hard-boiled crime thriller, re-enacted on screen in lurid installments, the protagonist of the movie doubling as the protagonist of the novel, enveloped in desaturated colors, computerized landscapes, every known device of heightening the artificiality.

The hero's obsession, aside from any display of bad taste on his part, takes him irreversibly down a path of increasing ridiculousness (he determines the novelist is a real-life murderer and that he himself is the man to bring him to justice), and director Joel Schumacher fails to achieve a sufficiently persuasive tone to cover for it. Not the least of his problems is his lead actor, Jim Carrey, the Plastic Man whose ability to "stretch" himself has proven to be strictly physical. Which is to say, he shows more elasticity in an Ace Ventura comedy than in The Truman Show or The Majestic or Man on the Moon or Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind. (Virginia Madsen is here again the hapless, helpless wife, although at least in the re-enactments of the novel she gets to revive some of the femme-fatale vamping of her heyday.) The professional prohibition against "plot spoilers" - once the movie reaches its height of ridiculousness — is probably its best defense against the critic, who may have to content himself with pointing out, as just the tip of the iceberg, such a minor glitch as allowing the same dog



Bridge to Terabithia

who bites the hero at the outset to turn up again in a flashback fifteen years earlier.

Ghost Rider, yet another Marvel Comic turned unmarvelous movie, concerns an Evel Knievel motorcycle daredevil (Nicolas Cage, with a black divot of a hairpiece) who has sold his soul to Mephistopheles (a bouffant Peter Fonda), though he flees his responsibilities as "the Devil's bounty hunter" and continues to pursue his chosen vocation. One of his stunts has

him jumping the length of a football field over churning helicopter blades, "from field goal to field goal." No fewer than three different people employ that expression — "from field goal to field goal" — and you can only wonder why none of these actors, or else, in consideration of the collaborative nature of the medium, one of the producers, or the assistant director, or the script girl, or the best boy, or somebody, couldn't have spoken up to the writer and director, Mark Steven

Johnson, and said, "Mark Steven, I'm not the writer here, but you know, they're really not called field goals, they're called goalposts." Not that that would have fixed the movie. It starts off with one of those patience-taxing prologues which keeps you waiting twenty minutes for the star to appear, and which offers in his place a youthful incarnation that looks nothing like him. (At least the love interest is given a mole on her cheek to match that of Eva Mendes.) Even after that, the star

tends to disappear whenever the action, so to speak, heats up, his head to be replaced at such times by a flaming skull (ooohhh!). And the action itself is of course not only cartoonish but a literal cartoon. The general effect is soporific — despite the fact that the Son of Satan (Wes Bentley), whose touch turns men to ash, is out to conquer the world — and the only counter to that effect is the ticklesome effect of the lame-brained dialogue.

Bridge to Terabithia, from the children's book by Katherine Paterson, brings together two junior-high pariahs, a picked-on "artistic" farmboy, solitary brother of four sisters, and a new girl next door, imaginative daughter of two novelists, and sends them off into a woodsy fantasyland of their own making, across the creek on a rope swing. Happily — just as a change from the likes of Pan's Labyrinth and The Chronicles of Narnia - it's always clear that the fantasyland is only a fantasy, but that won't protect it from unsightly computer-generated giant trolls, jumbo flying squirrels, armored dragonflies, etc. And even though these are pretty well contained — in time as well as space — the sandpapery surface of the image is a constant irritant. (Director Gabor Csupo, an animation man whose credits run from early Simpsons to feature-length Rugrats, is making his live-action debut.) All of this is almost worth putting up with for the brave bit of struggle, late in the day, with issues of male infidelity (sure, the boy knows who his best friend is, but he nonetheless cannot harness a crush on his comely music teacher, Zooey Deschanel), guilt, loss, remorse. The struggle doesn't last long, but it's painful.



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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.

Alpha Dog — Another occasion to be shocked, *shocked*, at the behavior of America's youth, specifically drug-dealing middle-class SoCal white kids who have embraced a black gangsta ethic ("Chill out, dog"). A true-crime wallow, with the names changed to protect the exploiters; long-drawn-out; overacted like mad. Emile Hirsch, Justin Timberlake, Anton Yelchin, Ben Foster, Shawn Hatosy, Bruce Willis, and, donning a latex fat suit for the epilogue, Sharon Stone; written and directed by Nick Cassavetes. 2007.

• (GASLAMP 15)

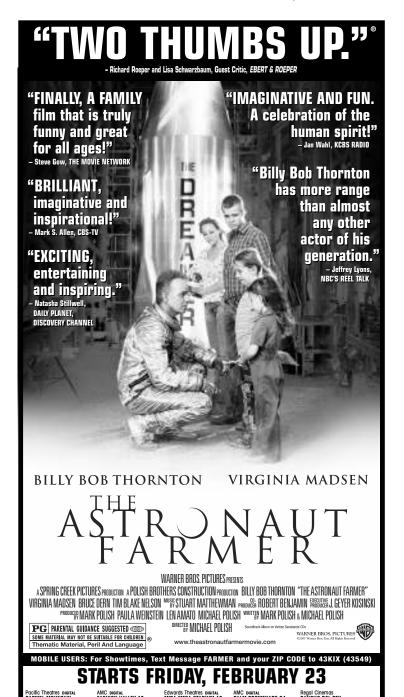
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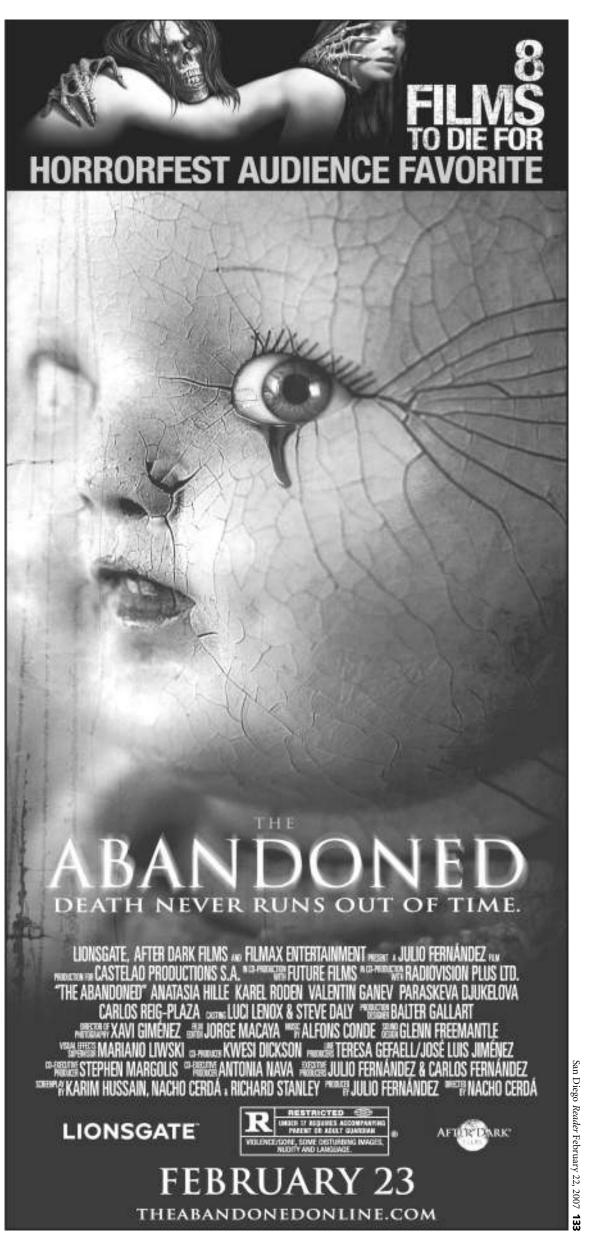
Amazing Grace — Michael Apted's historical drama on the anti-slavery movement in early 19th-century England, with Ioan Gruffudd as William Wilberforce. (ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; SAN MARCOS 18; FROM 2/23)

The Astronaut Farmer — Reviewed this issue. With Billy Bob Thornton, Virginia Madsen, Tim Blake Nelson, Bruce Dern, and J.K. Simmons; directed by Michael Polish.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 2/23)

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.

★ (GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MISSION VALLEY 20)

The Beat That My Heart Skipped -

Jacques Audiard's dishevelled remake of Fingers improves on James Toback's allthumbs rendition. Not hard to do. The unglittering star, Romain Duris, is ugly handsome in the Belmondo mold, his teeth barely fitting into his mouth; and he manages to make the protagonist — a man torn between a life of petty crime and a life of classical piano, between the influences of his father and mother, between the masculine and the feminine - seem as sympathetic as he is ridiculous. Not easy to do. With Niels Arestrup, Jonathan Zaccaï, Aure Atika, and Emmanuelle Devos. 2004.

★ (SDSU, MONTEZUMA HALL, 2/26, 7 P.M.)

Because I 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; GROSS-MONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10: RANCHO DEL REY 16: RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Becket — Histrionic history lesson, with Richard Burton and Peter O'Toole showing their stuff, or stuffing their show, as the Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Becket

and His Royal Majesty Henry II, respectively, once inseparable friends, driven apart by the demands of their posts. On the tongues of these actors, talkiness becomes talkier. With John Gielgud, Donald Wolfit, Sian Phillips; based on the stage play by Jean Anouilh; directed by Peter Glenville, 1964.

● (KEN, THROUGH 2/22)

Breach — With his follow-up to Shattered Glass, director Billy Ray has made a good start on a pet theme, the human, or peculiarly American, proclivity for deceit. The first, you will recall, told the factual story of the fabricating journalist, Stephen Glass, of The New Republic. This second tells the factual story of the dissembling FBI double agent, Robert Hanssen, the bureau's selfstyled expert on the Soviets and secret bedfellow of them, the architect of "the worst breach in the history of U.S. intelligence," in the intemperate words of the colleague commissioned to seal the breach. The factuality cuts two ways. It curbs the extravagances of the James Bond branch of espionage capers, but it also curbs the excitement, the thrills. With the traitor's arrest a foregone conclusion (a preludial clip of John Ashcroft on television provides reassurance rather than, more usually for a member of the Bush administration, an invitation to hiss), the film becomes more a character study than a cloak-and-dagger operation; and because of the nature of the character - a devout and ostentatious

Catholic (lapsed Lutheran), a vigilant paranoid, a humorless megalomaniac, a pompous pontificator, a private pervert it devolves into an accumulation of oddities and crotchets, inescapably more mirthful than suspenseful. We can never really understand the man, but we can revel in him. Chris Cooper, Ryan Phillippe, Laura Linney, Kathleen Quinlan, Gary Cole, Dennis Haysbert. 2007.

★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSS MONT CENTER: LA COSTA 6: LA JOLLA 12: MIRA MESA 18; 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)

Breaking and Entering — Filmmaker Anthony Minghella rounds up a cast from past Anthony Minghella films, Jude Law from Cold Mountain and The Talented Mr. Ripley, Ray Winstone from Cold Mountain only, Juliette Binoche from The English Patient, Juliet Stevenson from Truly Madly Deeply, plus new recruits Robin Wright Penn and, in an entertaining turn as an immigrant streetwalker, Vera Farmiga, all of whom are cosseted in a closeup-happy style and flattered in nice, soft, gentle lighting (by Benoît Delhomme). The plot centers around an affluent but alienated and abstracted urban developer, married, with an autistic, gymnastic child, and headquar-

tered in an insufficiently gentrified section of Kings Cross, where his swanky offices are repeatedly burgled. (The break-in technique, which points a misleading finger at an inside job, is quite an eye-opener.) When, however, he independently tracks down the culprit, he finds himself willing to overlook the crime in order to get a closer look at the criminal's mother, a beautiful sad-eyed war widow from Sarajevo. In the hands of the late author of The Talented Mr. Ripley, Patricia Highsmith, this situation would doubtless have generated strong suspense and sticky psychology. In the hands of Anthony Minghella, who wrote the screenplay himself, it mainly generates stylish angst. 2007.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18, THROUGH 2/22)

Bridge to Terabithia — Reviewed this issue. With Josh Hutcherson, AnnaSophia Robb, Robert Patrick, and Zooey Deschanel; directed by Gabor Csupo.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 7: MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Catch and Release — 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. 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. With Timothy Olyphant, Sam Jaeger, and Juliette Lewis. 2007.

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 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

countryside to an offshore rendezvous with

a shadowy do-good organization known as

the Human Project — but Clive Owen, the

principal squirer, an uncommitted merce-

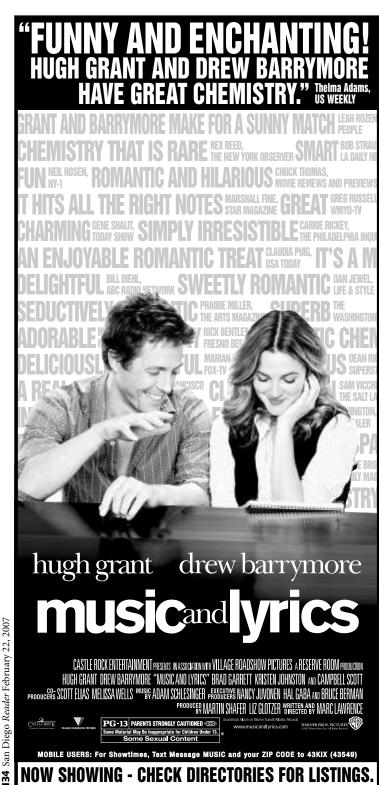
nary, has the ideal demeanor for the grim-

ness of the mission; and the trek is nothing

if not eventful, a mild word for an itinerary

the expectant mother through chaotic

(GASLAMP 15)



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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 flowerchild 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)

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. ★ (MISSION VALLEY 20)

The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie — Luis Buñuel's pleasant reminder that, at age 72, he is still on the watch. If the student revolutionaries seem a bit stiff and out of place, the drug-smuggling South American ambassador and the Catholic Bishop and the loyal maid and the various dreamers seem extremely comfy. The gags are spun out with considerable languor and redundancy, and they mostly tire out before the finish. But it's all quite involving for Buñuelian insiders; for others it may be inconsequential or incomprehensible. Very suave, very well-heeled, very bourgeois even. The cast, very fashionable, includes Fernando Rey, Stephane Audran, Bulle Ogier, Delphine Seyrig, and best of the bunch, Paul Frankeur, 1972.

★★★ (MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART SAN DIEGO, 2/22, 7 P.M.)

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 attendant heartbreaks, breakups, downfalls, and assorted other banalities. True, a musical can get away with a banal storyline if the 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 screenplay for Chicago but whose own directing credits run to Gods and Monsters and Kinsey, shows it's not easy to be Stanley Donen.

• (FASHION VALLEY 18; LA JOLLA 12)

L'Enfant — The Dardenne brothers of Belgium, Jean-Pierre and Luc, have become dependable providers of coarse-grained slices of lower-class life, thicker in credibility than in captivation, but still thicker than most films in both. The title of this one, which translates as The Child, would seem to refer not so much to the illegitimate blue-bundled newborn as to his callow young father (Jérémie Renier, the juvenile lead in the Dardennes' La Promesse ten years earlier, and a player in their Rosetta and The Son in the interim), a panhandler, a petty thief, a sometime street person ("Only fuckers work") whose outstanding trait is his short-sightedness. His girlfriend's stay in the maternity ward proves to have been a golden opportunity for him to sublet their apartment to total strangers and never mind when mother and baby come home. (We find this out in step with the bewildered girlfriend, the screen debut of Déborah François, who, typical of a Dardenne discovery, scarcely appears to be acting, simply being.) The young couple smooth out this first bump, and although there is no evidence of a deep connection between them, their animalistic roughhousing, their romping in the open air, their tussle over control of the car radio (the intolerable, to him, Blue Danube waltz is the only music in the movie), paint a family portrait of chimplike contentment. The next bump is bigger. Entrusted to take the baby for a solo stroll in the park, the new father gets the bright idea of selling the infant on the black market (ever the child, ever the chimp, he busies himself, while waiting to be disburdened of his son, making muddy footprints on a convenient wall), and he neglects to anticipate the mother's reaction until he next sees her: "I thought we'd have another." This turn of events would be shocking if not for the Dardennes' sublime ability (shared with their eminent compatriot, Georges Simenon) to remain unshocked by anything human. To find the principal character animalistic, not just in his idea of fun (carving ripples in the river with a handy metal rod) but also in his freedom from introspection, is not to find him subhuman. It is merely, and fearlessly, to broaden the view of the human spectrum. Watching him smooth out this bigger bump calls upon the sorts of emotions aroused by the broken-winged bird and the three-legged dog. 2005. ★★★ (SDSU, MONTEZUMA

HALL, 2/28, 7 P.M.)

Factory Girl — Morbid remembrance of the blip-like rise and fall of Edie Sedgwick, tricked out with pseudodocumentary gimmicks by the sometime documentarist George Hickenlooper. Andy Warhol, well mimicked by Guy Pearce, is not hard to make into a compelling figure. But Sedgwick - elevator heiress, socialite, art groupie, temporary "it" girl, drug addict, castoff, burnout — is a harder sell. (Sienna Miller would have an easier time of it if she were playing, as she seems capable of playing, Natalie Wood or even Mimsy Farmer.) Bob Dylan, the only living member of this triangle, is neutered by pseudonym. Hayden Christensen, Jimmy Fallon, Shawn Hatosy, Illeana Douglas, 2007.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FLOWER HILL 4; HOR-TON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20)

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 dramati-



PARIS ADKINS

Hip-hop history, culture, and dance facilitator, and choreographer of an African-American modern-jazz dance company

Trading Places, starring Eddie Murphy and Dan Aykroyd, tackles the notion of success based on racial hierarchy. Two rich white men try to prove that it's actually dominated by power and politics. They switch the lifestyles of a rich white male with a homeless black male to see if both can do the same

Money is, unfortunately, the biggest concern in black America, so it's important to show Super Fly, which illustrates making money the street way. It also lives within a culture of hope for blacks by suggesting that one can leave the drug world and better oneself.

In Set It Off, black women experience the environmental hazards of police brutality, hunger, and dead-end jobs while trying to invest in a future away from that home. They decide to strike out against the male-dominated world and the white supremacist rules that contain it.

TRADING PLACES (USA) 1983, **Paramount** List price: \$9.98 SUPER FLY (USA) 1972, Warner List price: \$14.96 SET IT OFF (USA) 1996, New Line List price: \$12.98

NEIL KENDRICKS

Artist, filmmaker, and film curator for Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego

Recently, I've revisited the Criterion Collection for films. Marcel Camus's Black Orpheus remains an exquisite mood piece. With its vibrant bossa nova music underscoring the characters' raw emotions, you have no choice but to surrender to its mythic tale of love and loss.

Likewise, Buñuel's *Belle de* Jour (screening at MCASD on March 8) and Criterion's gorgeous transfer of The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie never fail to seduce as Buñuel's imagery erupts with a trancelike momentum, allowing dream logic and the irrational to run rampant. I'm such a fan that I'm screening The Discreet Charm at MCASD on the late surrealist's birthday, February 22.

Since *Lost* is dependent on seeing it in sequence, it's more pleasurable to watch on DVD. This beautifully written allegory disguised as an adventure story is rich in subtext and offers a much-needed antidote to banal TV shows.

BLACK ORPHEUS (Brazil) 1959, Criterion Collection List price: \$29.95 THE DISCREET CHARM OF THE BOURGEOISIE (France) 1972, Criterion Collection List price: \$39.95 BELLE DE JOUR (France) 1967, Miramax

List price: \$19.99 LOST: SEASON TWO (USA) 2005,

List price: \$59.99 (six discs)

Buena Vista

LYNN WHITEHOUSE

Supervisor history/ information/interlibrary loan-it, San Diego Public Library

My first choice for Black History Month would be Abolition: Broken Promises. For most African Americans, the end of slavery did little to improve their lives in post-Civil War America. Northerners and Southerners refused to accept them as equals and often looked the other way when their rights were abused. Abolition: Broken Promises presents a grim picture of the black experience after slavery as seen through the eyes of those who experi-

My other choice is Street Fight, which covers the turbulent campaign of two African-American candidates running for mayor of Newark: Cory Booker, a 32-year-old Rhodes Scholar/Yale Law graduate and Sharpe James, the four-term incumbent twice his age. This insider's chronicle is riveting, delivering a dramatic account of youthful energy and ideals running headlong into old-guard machine politics and racial demagoguery.

ABOLITION: BROKEN PROMISES (England) 1992, Films for the **Humanities and Sciences** List price: \$129.95 STREET FIGHT (USA) 2005, Netflix List price: \$24.95

cally 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.

★ (GASLAMP 15)

Ghost Rider — Reviewed this issue. With Nicolas Cage, Eva Mendes, Wes Bentley, Peter Fonda, and Donal Logue; written and directed by Mark Stephen Johnson.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 7: MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN

MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Hannibal Rising — Soft on cannibalism. But after all, Hannibal Lecter has made a lot of money for Hollywood, a powerful argument for clemency. Mostly boring and senseless, the prequel to The Silence of the Lambs (and Hannibal and Red Dragon) busies itself with mitigating circumstances Surely any reasonable man can understand why another man — a WWII orphan grown up - would want to eat the men who ate his little sister, especially if they were Nazi collaborators at the time and white slavers now. The French actor Gaspard Ulliel makes a poor substitute for Anthony Hopkins, though he just might make the grade as a sub for Crispin Glover. With Gong Li, Rhys Ifans, and Dominic West; directed by Peter Webber. 2007.

• (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASH-ION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24: PARKWAY PLAZA 18: RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18: TOWN SOUARE 14)

Happy Feet — Computer-animated message movie about the pressure of confor-

mity 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.) 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, Brit-

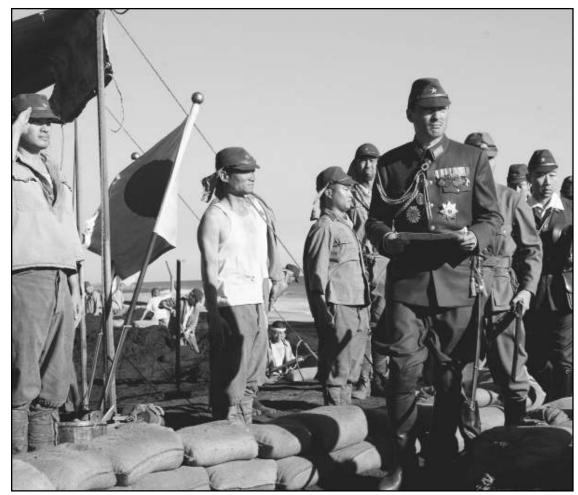
tany Murphy, Robin Williams, Nicole Kidman, Hugh Jackman, Anthony LaPaglia. 2006.

★ (GASLAMP 15; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13)

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 20)

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. În 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, 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 intersection with Flags while sharing no actual cast members. (The momentous flag-raising on Mount Suribachi now rates as no more than a speck in the distance.) The singularity of Letters, paradoxically put, lies in its complementarity. It is much more a straightforward battle film than its predecessor, which was more a memory film of



Letters from Iwo Iima

battle and had as much to do with the aftereffects as with the immediate effects, filing away the warfare as indelible mental snap shots. Too, it comes across as a bit preachier than Flags, where the filmmaker, with firmer footing on home turf, may have felt freer to let you draw your own lessons, may have felt less necessity to show his personal "understanding." Nonetheless, it offers a useful, a purposeful, a further refinement of his evolving views on violence. And if it runs the risk of collapse under the cumulative 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, Kazunari Ninomiya, Tsuyoshi Ihara, Ryo Kase, Shidou Nakamura. 2006.

★★★★ (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18: HORTON PLAZA 14: LA JOLLA VIL-

LAGE; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; OCEANSIDE 16; SAN MARCOS 18)

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 middleclass 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 eves and jutting upper lip), a graduate of law school but a flunker of the bar exam, and a latter-day Madame Boyary (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 Noah Emmerich. 2006.

★ (LA JOLLA 12)

The Lives of Others — The bad old days of the Berlin Wall and the Big Brother tactics of the GDR secret police, the Stasi. The case in point: a Party pooh-bah has the hots for a celebrated stage actress and, to clear the way, orders some dirt dug up on her playwright boyfriend, an apparently loyal socialist of spotless reputation despite his openly subversive friends and despite, too, his openly snooty manner. Ulrich Tukur, so memorable as the conscience-stricken Nazi of Amen, is good again in the less complex and less sympathetic role of the bureaucratic brownnoser who heads up the investigation. But the better role and better performance belong to another Ulrich, last name Mühe, coincidentally the conscienceless Doctor Mengele of Amen, now playing the relentless bullet-headed interrogator charged to carry out the dirty work, taking it all in (including the indiscretions of the higher-ups), giving nothing away, keeping his opinions to himself, eventually keeping his findings to himself as well, crawling a long way out on a limb. Martina Gedeck and Sebastian Koch as actress and playwright have some complexity, too, to complement and compromise their outward artiness. Watching it all unfold is more than passably interesting, if not particularly to look at (nauseously green), and even though the run-on epilogue is rather cumbersome. The new-name filmmaker bears a name befitting the monocle-brandishing antagonist in a Viennese operetta, Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck, 2006.

★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

The Messengers — Hollywood directorial debut of the Hong Kong twin brothers, Danny and Oxide Pang. Routine hauntedhouse hijinks, unrelenting and undiscriminating, at a "run-down" farmhouse (to say the least) in North Dakota, with a flock of crows flown in from Bodega Bay out of Hitchcock's The Birds. Kristen Stewart, Dylan McDermott, Penelope Ann Miller, John Corbett. 2007.

• (CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18: GROSSMONT CENTER: HORTON PLAZA 14; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-

MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Call 444-FILM or the theater for missing information. Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL

CLAIREMONT

Town Square 14

4665 Clairemont Drive (858-274-1234) **The Abandoned** (R) Fri,-Sat. (12:30, 2:50) 5:20, 7:55, 10:20 Sun. (12:30, 2:50) 5:20, 7:55, 10:00; The Astronaut Farmer (PG) Fri,-Sat. (11:40, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (11:40, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45, 10:05; **Because I Said So** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:40) 4:40, 10:05 Sun. (11:40) 4:40, 9:55; Breach (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. 82 (2.35) 5:05, 7:40, 10:10 Sun. (12:05, 2:35) 5:05, 7:40, 10:05, **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG) Fri,-Sat. (11:30, 12:15, 2:00, 2:45) 4:30, 2:10, 7:40, 7:45, 2:20, 2:45, 2 (12:05, 2:35) 5:05, 7:40, 10:10 Sun. (12:05, 5:10, 7:00, 7:35, 9:20, 9:50 Sun. (11:30, 12:15, 2:00, 2:45) 4:30, 5:10, 7:00, 7:35, 9:20; **Daddy's** Little Girls (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. 5:35, 7:50, 9:55; Ghost Rider (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:50, 12:25, 2:15, 2:55) 4:45, 5:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:45, 10:25 Sun. (11:50, 12:25, 2:15, 2:55) 4:45, 5:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:45; **Music and Lyrics** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:35, 2:05) 4:25, 7:20, 9:40; **Night at** Sun. (11:35, 2:05) 4:205, 7:205, 7:205, 7:205, 8:305 **50** the Museum (PG) Fri. (11:40, 2:30) Sat. ☐ (11:40) Sun. (11:45, 2:30); Norbit (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (12:10, 2:20) 4:35, 7:05, 9:25; **The Number 23** (R) Fri,-Sun. (12:00, 2:25) 4:50, **%** 7:10, 9:35; **Pan's Labyrinth** (R) Fri,-Sun.

(1:55) 7:25: The Oueen (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:55, 2:10) 5:00, 7:50, 10:00; **Reno 911!**: Miami (R) Fri,-Sun. (12:20, 2:40) 5:25, 7:30,

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400) **The Abandoned** (R) Fri,-Sun. (2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:00; **Alpha Dog** (R) Fri,-Sun. (1:50) 4:40, 7:35, 10:25; Babel (R) Fri, Sun. (1:40) 4:50, 8:00; **Blood Diamond** (R) Fri,-Sun. (3:40) 7:05, 10:20; **Breach** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (1:45) 4:15, 7:00, 9:45; **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG) Fri. (2:30, 3:30) 4:55, 5:50, 7:15, 8:15, 9:40 Sat. (2:30, 3:30) 4:55, 5:50, 8:15, 9:50 Su (2:30, 3:30) 4:55, 5:50, 7:15, 8:15, 9:40; Catch and Release (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. 7:40, 10:10; Dreamgirls (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (1:35) 4:25, 7:20, 10:15; **Epic Movie** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (2:55) 5:30, 7:55, 10:10; Freedom Writers PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (1:50) 4:35, 7:25, 10:25; Ghost Rider (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (2:00, 3:00) 4:45, 5:45, 7:30, 8:20, 10:05; **Happy Feet** (PG) Fri,-Sun. (2:15) 5:00; **Night at the Museum** (PG) Fri,-Sun. (2:35) 5:10, 7:50, 10:20; **The** Number 23 (R) Fri,-Sun, (1:30, 3:35) 5:55 8:10, 10:30; Wild Hogs (PG-13) Sat. 7:15.

Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM) Call theater for program information

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262)

Amazing Grace (PG): The Astronaut Farmer (PG); Because I Said So (PG-13); Breach (PG-13): Bridge to Terabithia (PG): Dream girls (PG-13); Ghost Rider (PG-13); Little Children (Not Rated); Music and Lyrics (PG-13); Norbit (PG-13); Notes on a Scandal (R); The Number 23 (R); Pan's Labyrinth (R); Reno 911!: Miami (R)

La Jolla Village

8879 Villa La Iolla Drive (619-819-0236) Babel (R); Letters from Iwo Jima (R); The Lives of Others (R): The Painted Veil (PG-13); The Queen (PG-13)

MIRA MESA

Mira Mesa 18

10733 Westview Parkway (858-635-7700) Call theater for program information

MISSION VALLEY

Fashion Valley 18

7037 Friars Road (858-558-2262) Amazing Grace (PG); The Astronaut Farmer (PG); Because I Said So (PG-13); Breach (PG-13); Bridge to Terabithia (PG); Children of Men (R); Daddy's Little Girls (PG-13); Dreamgirls (PG-13); Ghost Rider (PG-13); Hannibal Rising (R); Letters from Iwo Jima (R); The Messengers (PG-13); Music and Lyrics (PG-13); Night at the Museum (PG); Norbit (PG-13); The Number 23 (R); Reno 911!: Miami (R); Smokin' Aces

Mission Valley 7 7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841) **Breach** (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; **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG) 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; **Factory Girl** (R) Fri,-Sat. (10:15, 12:30, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30 Sun. (10:15, 12:30); **Ghost Rider** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:00, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (12:00, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45; Letters from Iwo Jima (R) Fri,-Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:15 Sun. (10:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00; Music and Lyrics (PG-13) 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 Number 23 (R) 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

Mission Valley 20

1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262) The Abandoned (R); The Astronaut Farmer (PG); Babel (R); Breach (PG-13); Bridge to Terabithia (PG); The Departed (R); Epic Movie (PG-13); Factory Girl (R); Ghost Rider (PG-13); Hannibal Rising (R); The Last King of Scotland (R); The Messengers (PG-13); Night at the Museum (PG); Norbit (PG-13); The Number 23 (R); The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13); Reno 911!: Miami (R); Smokin' Aces (R)

STATE UNIVERSITY

Cinerama 6

5831 University Avenue (619-287-8990) Call theater for program information

Ken

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236) **Becket**

UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236) Notes on a Scandal (R); Pan's Labyrinth (R); The Queen (PG-13); Venus (R); Volver

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center

1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233) Coral Reef Adventure (Not Rated) Fri. 1:00, 5:00, 9:00 Sat. 11:00, 1:00, 5:00, 7:00 Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 5:00; **Dolphins** (Not Rated) Sat,-Sun. (10:00); **Hurricane on the Bayou** (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; **Island of the Sharks** (Not Rated) Fri. 7:00; Roving Mars (G) Fri,-Sun. 3:00; Wild California (NR) Fri. 6:00.

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 PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24: PARKWAY PLAZA 18: RANCHO DEL REY 16: RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15: SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN)

Music and Lyrics — Enough laughs in the first few minutes to sustain two or three average screen comedies: a music-video parody of the signature tune of a British bubblegum group of the Eighties — "Pop Goes My Heart" by Pop!, from beginning

to end — with Hugh Grant shimmying, shaking, and pogosticking in a long-hair wig. Cut to the present, when he's "a happy has-been," finished with songwriting ("It's so time-consuming"), content to re-do the oldies for class reunions, amusement parks, whoever will have him. But then the world's hottest female soloist (a dimpled blond newcomer named Haley Bennett), a Madonna-esque amalgam of Eastern religions and Western decadence, commissions

him to write her a song on spec - she's indebted to Pop! for helping her through her parents' split at age seven — and he begins an impromptu collaboration, and romance, with his temporary plant-waterer, Drew Barrymore. These are two actors with polished acts, and they both seem to be playing up to their own fan clubs rather than each other. The energy falls off right around the midpoint, but writer-director Marc Lawrence has his own sort of polish, and

the image maintains a constant sheen. With Brad Garrett, Campbell Scott. 2007. ** (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ES-

CONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18: FLOWER HILL 4; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; HOR-TON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24: PARKWAY PLAZA 18: PLAZA CAMINO REAL; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MAR

COS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

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

LA MESA

Grossmont Center

ont Center (619-465-7100) Call theater for program information

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15

Call theater for program information

SANTEE

Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447) Because I Said So (PG-13) Fri,-Sun.; Ghost Rider (PG-13) Fri,-Sun.; The Messengers (PG-13) Fri,-Sun.; Music and Lyrics (PG-13)

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10

Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)
The Astronaut Farmer (PG) Fri,-Sun. (11:15, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00, 9:30; **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG) Fri,-Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45; **Daddy's Little Girls** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:30, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45; **Epic Movie** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:15, 4:15) 6:30, 10:45; **Ghost Rider** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **The Messengers** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (10:30, 1:00, 3:15) 5:30, 7:45, 10:00; **Music and Lyrics** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (12:00, 2:30) 5:00, 7:45, 10:15; **Night at** the Museum (PG) Fri,-Sun. (1:30) 8:30; Norbit (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; The Number 23 (R) Fri,-Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30; **Reno** 911!: Miami (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:00, 2:30, 4:45) 7:15, 9:30

Palm Promenade 24

770 Dennery Road (858-558-2262) Call theater for program information

Rancho Del Rey 16

East H Street (619-216-4707)
Call theater for program information

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) The Astronaut Farmer (PG) Fri,-Sat. (12:05, 2:35) 5:00, 7:25, 9:55 Sun. (12:05, 2:35) 5:00, 7:25; **Breach** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:30) 4:30, 7:30, 10:20 Sun. (12:30) 4:30, 7:30; **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG) Fri,-Sat. (12:00, 2:35) 5:00, 7:15, 9:45 Sun. (12:00, 2:35) 5:00, 7:15; **Daddy's Little Girls** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:10, 2:45) 5:10, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (12:10, 2:45) 5:10, 7:45; **Factory Girl** (R) Fri,-Sat. (12:25, 2:30) 4:55, 7:10, 10:00 Sun. (12:25, 2:30) 4:55, 7:10; **Ghost Rider** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:15, 2:55) 5:25, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (12:15, 2:55) 5:25, 8:00; Music and Lyrics (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:35, 2:50) 5:05, 7:35, 9:50 Sun. (12:35, 2:50) 5:05, 7:35; **Norbit** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:40, 3:10) 5:30, 8:05, 10:30 Sun. (12:40, 3:10) 5:30, 8:05; **Notes on a Scandal** (R) Fri,-Sat. (12:50, 3:00) 5:20, 7:50, 10:10 Sun. (12:50, 3:00) 5:20, 7:50; **The Number 23** (R) Fri,-Sun. (12:45, 3:05) 5:20; **The Queen** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:55, 3:15) 5:35, 7:55, 10:20 Sun. (12:55, 3:15) 5:35, 7:55; Reno 911!: Miami (R) Fri,-Sat. (1:00, 3:05) 5:25, 8:05, 10:25 Sun. (1:00, 3:05) 5:25,

ESCONDIDO

350 W. Valley Parkway (760-291-0119) Call theater for program information

FALLBROOK

5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784) **Breach** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:15, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (12:15, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; Bridge to Terabithia (PG) Fri,-Sat. (11:00,

1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15; Ghost Rider (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:30, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (12:30, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; Little Robots: In the Big Show () Sat,-Sun. (10:30); Music and Lyrics (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:15, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00, 9:30 Sun. (11:15, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00; **The Number 23** (R) Fri,-Sat. (12:45, 3:00) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 Sun. (12:45, 3:00) 5:15, 7:30; **Reno 911!: Miami** (R) Fri,-Sat. (11:30, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (11:30, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30

POWAY

Poway 10

13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)

The Astronaut Farmer (PG) Fri,-Sat. (11:15, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00, 9:30 Sun (11:15, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00; **Because I Said So** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:30, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (11:30, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30; **Breach** (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; **Bridge to** Terabithia (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 5:15,

7:30; Daddy's Little Girls (PG-13) Fri. (10:15. 12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sat. (10:15, 12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 10:15 Sun. (10:15, 12:30); Ghost Rider (PG-13) 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; Music and Lyrics (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:45, 2:15, 4:45) 7:15, 10:00 Sun. (11:45, 2:15, 4:45) 7:15; **Norbit** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:00, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00, 10:45 Sun. (12:00, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00; **The Number 23** (R) Fri,-Sat. (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Sun. (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30; Reno 911!: Miami (R) 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

SAN MARCOS

San Marcos 18

1180 West San Marcos Boulevard at Old California Walk (760-471-3711) Call theater for program information

THE YEAR'S BIGGEST

VISTA

Vista Village

Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive (760-945-7469)

The Astronaut Farmer (PG) Fri,-Sun. (11:15, 2:00, 4:35) 7:20, 10:00; Because I Said So (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (2:15) 7:05; Breach (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:30, 2:10, 4:50) 7:25, 10:05; Bridge to Terabithia (PG) Fri. (11:30, 12:15, 2:00, 2:45, 4:25, 5:05) 6:50, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00 Sat. (11:30, 12:15, 2:00, 2:45, 4:25, 5:05) 6:50, 9:30, 10:00 Sun. (11:30, 12:10, 2:00, 2:50, 4:25, 5:05) 6:50, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00; Daddy's Little Girls (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (11:50, 4:40) 9:35; **Ghost** Rider (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:10, 12:00, 1:45 2:40, 4:25, 5:20) 7:10, 8:05, 9:50, 10:40; Hannibal Rising (R) Fri,-Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:30) 7:15, 10:25; The Messengers (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30, 5:50) 8:10, 10:30 Sun. (12:00, 5:50) 8:10, 10:30; **Music and Lyrics** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (12:00, 2:30, 5:00) 7:35, 10:00; Night at the Museum (PG) Fri,-Sun (11:20, 2:10); Norbit (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (12:15,

2:45, 5:15) 7:45, 10:20; The Number 23 (R) Fri,-Sun. (12:05, 2:30, 5:00) 7:40, 10:05; **Reno** 911!: Miami (R) Fri,-Sun. (11:00, 1:05, 3:15, 4:45, 5:30) 7:00, 7:50, 9:15, 10:15

NORTH COASTAL

CARLSBAD

Plaza Camino Real

2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469) Bridge to Terabithia (PG) Fri,-Sat. (11:45, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00, 9:15 Sun. (11:45, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00; Ghost Rider (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:05, 2:30, 5:00) 7:30, 10:00 Sun. (12:05, 2:30, 5:00) 7:30; Music and Lyrics (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:55, 2:15, 4:45) 7:15; **Norbit** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:20, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:05 Sun. (12:20, 2:45) 5:15,

DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8

El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)

The Astronaut Farmer (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:00. 1:45, 4:15) 7:00, 9:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:15) 7:00; **Because I Said So** (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45; Breach (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; **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG) Fri,-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 5:15, 7:30; Ghost Rider (PG-13) 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; Letters from Iwo Jima (R) Fri,-Sat. (1:15) 7:15, 10:30 Sun. (1:15) 7:15; Night at the Museum (PG) Fri,-Sun. (10:30, 4:30); Norbit (PG-13) Fri. (11:30, 2:00, 4:45) 7:30, 10:15 Sat. (11:30, 2:00, 4:45) 10:15 Sun. (11:30, 2:00, 4:45) 7:30; Reno 911!: Miami (R) Fri,-Sat. (11:15, 1:30, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (11:15, 1:30, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Sat. 7:30

Flower Hill 4

2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425) Factory Girl (R); The Last King of Scotland (R); Music and Lyrics (PG-13); The Number 23 (R); Venus (R)

ENCINITAS

La Paloma

471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW)

LA COSTA

La Costa 6

6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)

Because I Said So (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (12:00, 2:30) 5:00, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (12:00, 2:30) 5:00, 7:45; **Breach** (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; Bridge to Terabithia (PG) 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; **Ghost Rider** (PG-13) 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; Music and Lyrics (PG-13) Fri,-Sat. (11:30, 2:15, 4:45) 7:15, 10:00 Sun. (11:30, 2:15, 4:45) 7:15; **Reno 911!: Miami** (R) Fri,-Sat. (11:15, 1:30, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (11:15)

OCEANSIDE

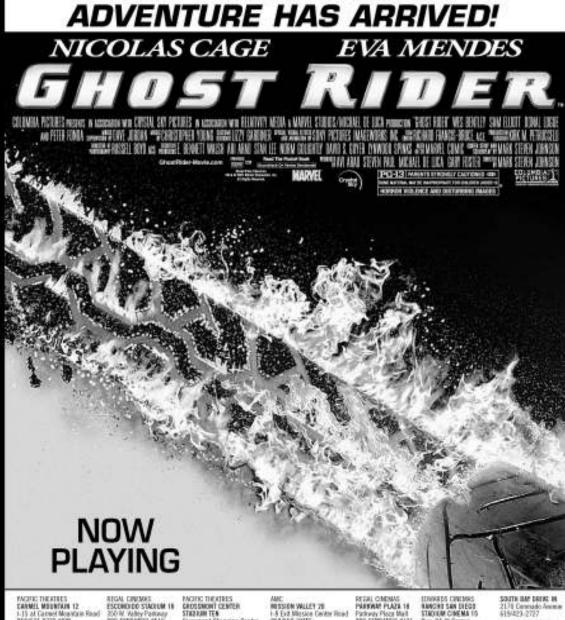
Mission Marketplace 13

College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-806-1790)

The Abandoned (R); The Astronaut Farmer (PG); Bridge to Terabithia (PG); Daddy's Little Girls (PG-13); Ghost Rider (PG-13); Happy Feet (PG); The Messengers (PG-13); Music and Lyrics (PG-13); Norbit (PG-13); The Number 23 (R); The Queen (PG-13); Reno 911!: Miami (R)

Oceanside 16

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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 variously 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; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MIRA MESA 18; MIS-SION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24: PARKWAY PLAZA 18: RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MAR-COS 18: TOWN SOUARE 14)

Norbit — Screamingly unfunny comedy featuring Eddie Murphy in a dual role as a lisping four-eyed nerd and his fat browbeating wife, wearing walrus-weight latex. Eek! With Thandie Newton, Eddie Griffin, Terry Crews, Marlon Wayans, and Cuba Gooding, Jr.; directed by Brian Robbins, 2007.

• (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCON-DIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER: HORTON PLAZA 14: LA JOLLA 12: MIRA MESA CINEMAS; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15: SAN MARCOS CINEMAS: 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.

★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

The Number 23 — Reviewed this issue. With Jim Carrey, Virginia Madsen, Logan Lerman, and Danny Huston; directed by Joel Schumacher.

• (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18: MISSION MARKETPLACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24: PARKWAY PLAZA 18: POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE: FROM 2/23)

The Painted Veil — Somerset

Maugham's middlebrow brew of sin and redemption among colonial Brits in mid-Twenties China, where a brave bacteriologist but vindictive cuckold (Edward Norton) drags his faithless spouse (Naomi Watts) into the midst of a cholera outbreak in the backcountry. The spiritual growth of the flighty wife ("When love and duty are one," counsels the Mother Superior at the local orphanage, "then grace is within you") will restore sufficient happiness to the union, not long before its tragic end, that the husband can stop plastering down his hair and go fluffy. Directed by John Curran (We Don't Live Here Anymore, also featuring Watts), this follows after at least two other screen treatments of the novel - the better known of which is one of the lesser Garbo vehicles - and, for all its location shooting and its air of "independence," it's still stiff and stuffy. Much of that is intrinsic to the original author, and some of it's imported through the stagy British accents of the stars. With Liev Schreiber, Toby Jones, and Diana Rigg. 2006.

• (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Pan's Labvrinth — 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 Under world (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 Burton-esque airless sunless tangled landscape. and so forth. 2006.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; PALM PROMENADE 24; TOWN SOUARE 14)

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

• (MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

The Queen — A spot of simulated Royalswatching, ably guided by the seasoned Stephen Frears: a satisfying, if unsurprising and unrevealing and unimaginative re-enactment of what must have gone on behind closed doors in the week after the death of Princess Di, in specific the diplomatic efforts of the newly elected Tony Blair to compel the Royal Family ("a bunch of freeloading, emotionally retarded nutters," in the view of Mrs. Blair) to behave like human beings: "Will somebody please save 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: HILLCREST CINEMAS: LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Reno 911!: Miami — Big-screen treatment of the Comedy Central series, starring and directed by Ben Garant, with Mary Birdsong, Kerri Kenney, Cecric Yarbrough, Thomas Lennon. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: CIN-ERAMA 6: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8: ESCON-DIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; 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; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 2/23)

Smokin' Aces — Callous and smartypants 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.

• (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MIS-SION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

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 harderbreathing 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 ex-wife 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.

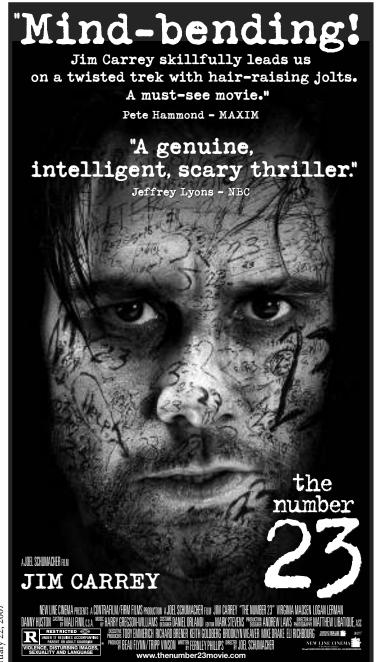
★ (FLOWER HILL 4, FROM 2/23; HILLCREST CIN-

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 seven-eighths 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.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA PALOMA)

The Wizard of Oz — If the screen version of Frank L. Baum's sanitary children's story is indelibly stamped, scene by scene, in more Americans' memories than any other movie, it's just because of the pounding into our brains that this movie has been allowed year after year on TV, and not because, because, because, because of the wonderful things it does. The trip from Kansas to Oz, from Dust Bowl to Dreamland, from black-and-white to somewhere over the rainbow, doesn't really get off the ground on imagination's wings, but is held down on the MGM backlot, beneath tons of costumes and cosmetics and paint. Judy Garland, Bert Lahr, Ray Bolger, Frank Morgan; directed by Victor Fleming. 1939.

★ (BIRCH NORTH PARK, 2/22, 7 P.M., AND 2/25, 2 P.M.)



February 22, 2007 Reader San Diego

AMC LA JOLLA 12

AMC MISSION VALLEY 20

CINEMASTAR MISSION MARKETPLACE 13

EDWARDS MIRA MESA STADIUM 18

STARTS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

KRIKORIAN METROPLEX AT VISTA VILLAGE

PACIFIC GASLAMP STADIUM 15

PACIFIC GROSSMONT CENTER STADIUM 10

REGAL ESCONDIDO STADIUM 16 REGAL OCEANSIDE STADIUM 16 REGAL PARKWAY PLAZA STADIUM 18 REGAL RANCHO DEL REY STADIUM 16 ULTRASTAR CHULA VISTA 10 ULTRASTAR ULTRASTAR MISSION VALLEY CINEMAS ULTRASTAR POWAY 10

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AIRLINE ATTENDANTS, SkyWest Airlines We're growing in '07! Enjoy full benefits plus world-wide travel! Group Interview 5pm March 7 and March 22 at Holiday Inn Bayside, 4875 North Harbor Drive San Diego, CA. Event details at www.

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San Diego Reader February 22, 2007

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BIOCKIEEPER. Hillcrest property management company seeks full time book-keeper with Yardi experience. Good pay and benefits. Fax resume to 619-299-2611; e-mail: propkid@aol.com or come to 930 West Washington Street, Suite 11, San Diego, CA 92103. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

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BOOKKEEPER/RECEPTIONIST. Parttime, flexible hours. Will do background check. Quickbooks required. Office in Mi-ramar area. Fax resume to 858-693-0762.

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CAREGIVER. Provide assistance to adults with developmental disabilities. Apply: Home of Guiding Hands, 1825 Gillespie Way #200, El Cajon, CA, 92020, on-line: www.guidinghands.org, call: 619-938-3057.

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CHILD CARE COUNSELORS. Work with SED youth in several residential treatment facilities in East County. BA/BS preferred. Competitive salary, benefits, EOE. Part time and full time positions available. Fax resume Aftr. Sloux, 619-443-6009 or email to hr@newalternatives.org.

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CONSTRUCTION/REMODEL. Local home remodeling company is seeking experienced/skilled electricians, plumbers, drywallers and laborers. Interested applicants please fax resume to 619-946-4364 or call 619-271-5864.

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DELIVERY/DRIVER (NURSERY). Fulltime weekdays. Outdoor plant knowledge a must. Clean DMV record required. Nursery off 56 and Carmel Valley Road. Telephone: 858-755-3159. Fax: 858-755-3119.

3119.

DEPUTY SHERIFF and Deputy Sheriff Detentions/Courts. San Diego County Sheriffs Department. Hiring for two types of positions; take one exam, apply for either or both! Exam dates: Wednesday March 7, 2007, 2007, 5:30pm arrival: Sheriffs Administration Center, 9621 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego CA 92123 or Saturday, March 17, 2007, 7:30am arrival. Southwestern College Cafeteria, 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista CA 91910. You must register by e-mail or phone prior to Lakes Road, Chula vista CA 9191U 70 must 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, plus benefits. U.S. citizen or applied fo

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DETAILER/YACHTS. Buff and wax in local San Diego marinas, full-time, experience with automotive detailing a minimum, reliable vehicle required, will transport equipment. 619-944-0741.

DISPATCHER, VAN DRIVER. Dispatcher DISPATCHER, VAN DRIVER. Dispatcher: Seeking dependable self-starter with good organizational skills. Also Wheelchair Van Drivers. Knowledge of San Diego County required. Start training immediately! MedFleet Ambulance, 347 Kurtz Street, San Diego, 92110. 619-222-2244. Apply: www.medfleetambulance.com.

DOG GROOMER. Experience required for well established grooming shop in Lake-side. Must be highly qualified all breed groomer. Full time. Call 619-562-0710, 619-672-1318 or 619-441-1919.

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com. Toll free, 888-320-PETS (7387).

DRIVER, VENDING ROUTE. Full time. Experienced preferred or will train. Bring clean DMV. Good pay plus benefits, company vehicle. Apply Monday-Friday: 7988 Stromesa Court, San Diego.

DRIVER. San Diego area. Monday through Friday, 12-4pm. Wage plus mileage =\$55/day. Must have newer model 4-door economy car. Call: 951-698-1969 between 8am-5pm.

DRIVER. Tow truck. Full time. Experienced preferred but will train. South Bay

area. Clean DMV. Background checks required. Salary plus commission and benefits. 619-543-8951. seveltow@aol.com.

etits. 619-543-8951. seveltow@aol.com. DRIVER/CHAUFFEUR: It is very important that all applicants have a professional appearance, general knowledge of San Diego County, be able to work unpredictable hours, be over 25 and have a clean driving record. We prefer someone with a services industry background and will provide training to the right applicant. Call 619-585-0920.

DRIVER/LEGAL MESSENGER. Great op portunity in busy, growing litigation sup-port service. We will train an enthusiastic team player. Good driving record. \$8.75 to start, company car. Full time. 619-298-2385.

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train. 619-839-34uu.

DRIVERS WANTED. Requires valid CA driver's license, current H-6 DMV printout and good, safe driving skills. Hourly/commission/tips. Call 619-591-0303 or fax results and control of the control of mission/tips. Call 619-591-0303 or fax resume to 619-591-0300. Xpress Shuttle, 1065 Bay Boulevard, Suite B, Chula Vista,

DRIVERS, DELIVERY. Sleep Train Mat-tress Centers. Over 21, clean DMV, back-ground check. Good customer service. Days, nights, weekends. Mira Mesa. Full-time, \$12-\$16/hour, great benefits. 858-602-6346.

DRIVERS, TOW TRUCK. Full-time. All shifts. No experience required. Top pay/benefits. Requires 21+ years, clean driving record, background/drug screen. 3140 Moore Street (92110). Old Town area. 619-523-5062.

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x0.

DRIVERS. Delivery service seeking drivers class A or B for local deliveries, full time. Experience a plus. Also, drivers with own pickup and shell or van for full and part time delivery routes. Clean DMV. Excellent benefits. Apply in person: 5985 Pacific Center Boulevard #210, San Diego, 92121 or call 800-743-1139.

DRIVERS. Must have Class B license with passenger endorsement and at least 6 months experience. Fixed route, Monday-Friday, 31-40 hours/week with benefits. Call 619-287-0628.

DRIVERS. Restaurant delivery service, 9am-2pm. No experience necessary. Get cash daily. Apply today, start tomorrow! Need car, insurance, decent DMV. Call DDI, 888-334-9675.

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DRIVERS with own vehicle for messenger company. Pickup truck a plus. \$100+/day potential. Weekdays, weekends, days, and nights available. Apply at 750 Con-voy Court Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm.

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91950, or call 619-4/7-8002.

ELECTRICIANS: California State Certified Only, Full-time with benefits. 3 years residential experience, work truck, tools and drug test are required. Fax resume to 619-448-7774 or e-mail to jamar@

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS: Immediate openings! All shifts available. Experienced, start at \$10. MedFleet Ambulance, 3479 Kurtz Street, San Diego, 92110. 619-222-2244. Apply: www.

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ESTHETICIAN/FRONT DESK/HAIRSTYLIST. North County, full-time. Weekends a must! Earth Salon & Spa, AVEDA Lifestyle Salon, 7130 Avenida Encinas #104, Carlsbad. Eric, 760-519-1832. Or e-mail resume: savy44@

ESTHETICIAN/HAIRSTYLIST Booth rentals. Looking for motivated members for boutique salon. Stop by with resume: Salon Mirror Mirror, 148 South Solana 542-5096. EVENT/GAME STAFF. Fun working envi-ronment! Interactive game rental com-pany hiring staff for corporate parties and events. Will train. Very flexible schedule. Heavy lifting may be required. \$9-\$10/hour to start. Fill out application and for more information: www.partypals.com/ job html

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FIELD SERVICE REPS (Cable Installers). Cox Communications. Install, disconnect, reconnect video/cable products and ser-

vices at residential customers' homes. Starting pay is \$13.50. Apply online, Job #20077: www.cox com/covers FINANCIAL SERVICES MARKETING. Rapidly expanding financial services marketing company seeks local sales representatives. Ideal candidate will be

otivated, honest, outgoing, en-epreurial, and 4 yars of college or equivalent. Call our office and leave message (or Fax) 24 hours: 877-286-5339. FITNESS CENTERS hiring Management Trainees, Personal Trainers and Group Exercise Instructors. Part/full time. Belief IFI Fitness Centers. Clairemont, 858-483-9294; Mira Mesa location, 858-549-3456.

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FLEET TECHNICIAN. Cox Communications. Performs routine preventative maintenance and repair tasks including PM inspections, oil changes, transmission services, brake and tire replacement for all Cox vehicles. Apply online, Job #19342: www.cox.com/coxcareer.

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Assist teachers in group- and community-based instruction for developmentally disabled adults. Implement behavioral management programs. 30 hours/week.

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SALARY: \$34,028.80-\$43,430.40 ANNUALLY Safety Retirement - Sworn Officers 3% at age 50. Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply

> **Test Date:** March 10, 2007, 8 am

Montgomery Middle School 2470 Ulric Street • San Diego, CA 92111 Maximum 85 applicants. Applications available at the test site.

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Fine Dining (Suites, In-Seat & Clubs) Sat., Feb. 24, 10 am-4 pm **Western Metals Building located across from Marriott**

Qualified applicants should have fine dining food service background but will train the right individuals.

Positions available include Bartenders, Barbacks, Club Servers, In-Seat Servers, In-Seat Runners, Suite Runners, Cooks (event-only & pre-event), Food Preps (event-only & pre-event), Buffet Chefs, Portable Attendants, Club Cashiers, Hosts/Hostesses, Catering Attendants

Non-Union: Level Supervisors Also, Special Event Personnel (Check-in, Event Receptionist)

Concessions, Retail & Warehouse Mon., Feb. 26, 4-7 pm & Sat., Mar. 3, 10 am-4 pm **Western Metals Building located across from Marriott**

Qualified applicants should have food service or retail background but will train the right individuals.

Positions available include:

Stand Leaders, Stand Attendants, Stand Cashiers, Event Porters, Day Porters, Food Preps, Cooks, Vending Commissaries Leaders, Vending Commissaries Workers, Food & Beverage Vendors*, Retail Vendors*, Team Store Clerks, Program Vendors*

Non-Union: Level Supervisors, Warehouse Supervisors Also, Special Event Personnel (Check-in, Event Receptionist)

- Most positions require that you be 18 years of age or older. *You may be 16 years of age for these positions. Applicants under the age of 18 must have a parent or legal guardian present.
- Must be able to work Padres home games, including playoffs.
 - We will be conducting on-site interviewing. Please dress in appropriate interview attire (no ieans. sneakers, sandals, T-shirts, etc.).
 - DNC Sportservice requires pre-employment drug testing and criminal background checks.

EOE/D/V/M/F



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We are looking for experienced, confident and friendly Beauty Advisors to join our team!

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make the difference. Call Securitas, the make the difference. Call Securitas, the largest, most respected security company in the world! Countywide positions available. Medical/dental/vision and 401(k), excellent working environment, free uniforms. San Diego: 619-641-0049; San Marcos (North County): 760-591-3733; Temecula: 951-676-3954. EOE/dwafee.

FRONT DESK SUPERVISOR. Great op portunity for energetic person who enjoys working with the public. Take charge personality, hotel experience necessary. Pay and health benefits with possible housing. Fax or mail: California Suites Hotel, 5415 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, 92117. 858-560-8237.

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views, 858-277-2029.

GROCERY. Whole Foods Market, La Jolla is now hiring: Customer Service and Meat Team Members, Specialty Wine Buyer, Prepared Foods Chefs, Cooks and Dishwashers; Bakery Associate Team Leader and Bakery/Coffee Specialist. All shifts. Medical, dental, vision, 401(k). Apply online: www.wholefoods.com or at 8825 Villa La Jolla Drive, La Jolla 92037. 858-642-6700.

GROCERY/NATURAL FOODS. Now hiring or Del Mar/Carmel Valley, Carlsbad and Escondido! Hiring for Closing MOD Carlsbad and Escondido), Produce Clerks (Carlsbad and Del Mar) and Vita-nins Specialists (Del Mar). \$9-\$16.50 per hour. Great environment, competitive pay, bonus and benefits! Jimbo's Naturally! 12853 El Camino Real, Del Mar. Fax: 858-793-7732. hr@jimbos.com.

GROCERY: Butcher/Meat Clerk. Full and part time, experience required for Poway area. Call: 858-513-0509: Apply: Bisher Meats of Poway, 14051 Midland Road, Poway, CA 92064.

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GUITAR PRODUCTION trainees. Guitar Production Trainees (both shifts), day shift \$9/hour. Night shift \$10.13/hour. Software Developer. Excellent benefits after 90 days. Job description details: Employment Hotline, 619-596-5299 x800. Fax resume to 619-258-4345. www.taylorguitars.com.

HAIR DESIGNERS. Busy Gaslamp salon seeking both renters. Walk-ins availablel Great urban loft environment, convenient parking. Move-in incentives. 619-231-7588.

7588.

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HAIRSTYLIST, Manicurist and Esthetician. Move in special. Booth rental. Newly remodeled, garden terrace. Beautiful La Jolla Shores and Del Mar salons. Towel service, beverages. 858-245-9093.

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HAIRSTYLIST/ESTHETICIAN. Booth rentals. Looking for motivated members for boutique salon. Stop by with resume: Salon Mirror Mirror, 148 South Solana Hills Drive, Solana Beach CA 92075. 858-

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HEALTH CARE AGENCY Housekeeper, Apply after 2/8/07. County of San Diego. Recruitment #07703501. \$23,920-\$29,037/annually. Sanitize/maintain cleanliness of assigned work area. Minimum 1 year verifiable paid custodial and/or housekeeping experience in commercial/institutional/hospital facility. Lift 50-70 pounds. California Class C driver's license. Read/write/speak English. Background check. EOE. Applications available online: http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov. Department of Human Resources, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 207, San Diego CA 92101. Fax: 619-557-4030. Information: 619-236-2191.

tion: 619-236-2191. **HEALTH CARE:** Attentive Home Care has immediate assignments for Live-in Caregivers, CNAs, HHAs and hourly Caregivers-part time or full time. 3 years experience and CA ID or driver's license, experience and CA ID or driver's license, Social Security card required. Fingeprint and TB test a plus. Flexible schedules. Overtime for holidays. Health insurance and employer-matched 401(k) benefits available. Call for an interview in North County or San Diego: 760-434-4393 or 619-231-0151. *North County applicants, please mention where you're calling from.

HEALTHCARE/CAREGIVERS. North County needs light housekeeping, meal preparation, transportation assisting se-niors in their homes. Requires: caring, compassionate, dependable, reliable vehicle/clean DMV. Flexible hours, competi-

HEALTHCARE: RNs, LVNs, AIDES. Join La Jolla Nurses! Looking for Home Health Aides, ongoing assignments. Also per diem work—you pick the days, hours and shifts! Competitive pay rates, excellent work assignments. Employee-owned agency—you receive shares of company stock free! State-licensed home health agency. Medical, dental and vision benefits; 401(k) plan, referral bonus. La Jolla Nurses HomeCare, 858-454-9339.

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205, Encinitas, CA 92024.

HOSPITALITY. Belmont Village is hiring! Receptionist/Concierge. Part time position available every other weekend. Fun job! Greet visitors and provide assistance to residents. Answer switchboard. Assist residents with transportation requests Good phone and customer service skills a must. To apply, call our toll-free job hotline: 1-800-483-2098. Belmont Village Sabre Springs, 13075 Evening Creek Drive, San Diego, CA 92128. EOE.

HOSPITALITY. Senior resort retirement community seeking: Janitor, full time in-

nustriality. Senior resort retirement community seeking: Janitor, full time including weekends, \$8.25-\$8.50/hour. Gardener/Landscaper, full time, 88.50/hour. WaitStaff, Busser, full time days. Apply: Wesley Palms, 2404 Loring Street, Pacific Beach 92109. Donna, 858-581-8569.

Inn now hiring Guest Service Agents with good communication skills and a desire to give great customer service. Experience a plus. Competitive wages. Fax resume to 619-294-8070 or apply in person Monday-Friday, 10am-3pm: 3402 Park Boulevard, San Diego CA 92103.

HOTEL GUEST SERVICES Assistant Man-HOTEL GUEST SERVICES Assistant Man-ager. Extensive hospitality experience, fa-miliar with various aspects of hotel operations including reservations, front desk, concierge services and aspects of customer service for an upscale clientele. Resumes via e-mail preferred (as Word attachment) to hr@ranchovalencia.com or fax to 858-756-0165. Applications available at 5921 Valencia Circle, Rancho Santa Fe CA 92067. No phone calls please. EOE, drug-free workplace.

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HOTEL POSITIONS. The Handlery Hotel and Resort is hiring for service oriented positions. We have competitive pay and excellent benefits. Please apply to: 950 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA, 92108 or fax resume to: 619-298-3948.

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HOTEL. Be a part of a winning team where we take care of our guests and yours. Loews Coronado Bay Resort & Spa is: 2006 Best Place to Work SD Magazine & SHRM Best Employer. We're hiring Accounts Payable Clerk, Security Officer, Restaurant Server, Host/Hostess, Guest Service Agent, Cook I, Room/Turndown Attendant, Doorperson, Bellperson, Cashier. Loews Coronado Bay Resort, HR Department, 4000 Coronado Bay Road, Coronado, CA 92118. lcbhr@loewshotels.com. Fax 619-628-5442. Jobline: 619-424-4480. www.Loewshotels.com. DFWP/EOE.

DFWP/EOE.

HOTEL. Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines hiring:
Restaurant Servers (full, part time/oncall), Coffee Bar Attendant, Room Service. Night Audit, Bell Person,
Housekeeping, Assistant to Director of Finance, Security, Painter, Door Attendant.
Apply/person: Monday-Tuesday, 9am12pm, Wednesday-Thursday, 1pm-4pm,
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male participants must: Be Caucasian or African American, be 18 to 35 years of age, be able to do moderate exercise at warm temperatures for 3 hours, be willing to have blood samples taken, not have chronic medical illnesses, not be pregnant. If eligible, participants will receive: Payment for completion of study. This study will take about 8 hours on 1 day. Study will take place at: Athletes Edge Sports Conditioning Facility, 1211 Liberty Way, Vista, CA 92081. For additional information, please contact PhiloMetron: 858-201-4349.

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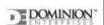
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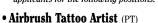
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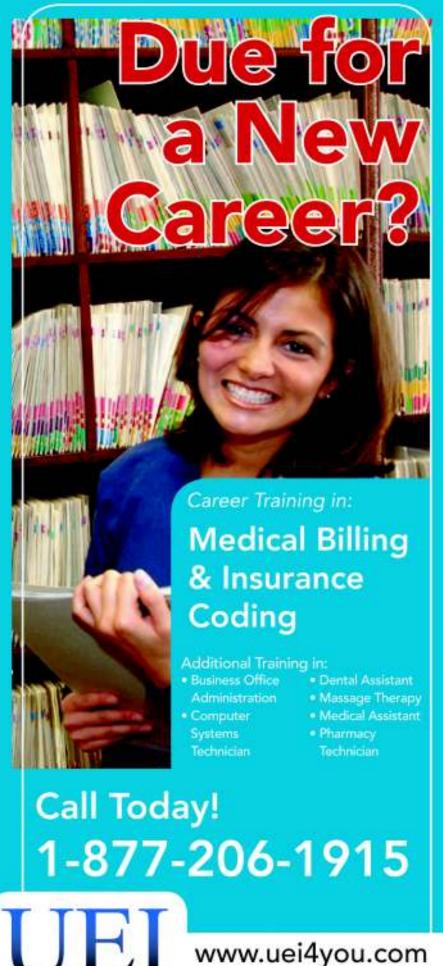
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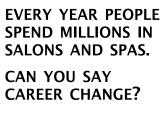
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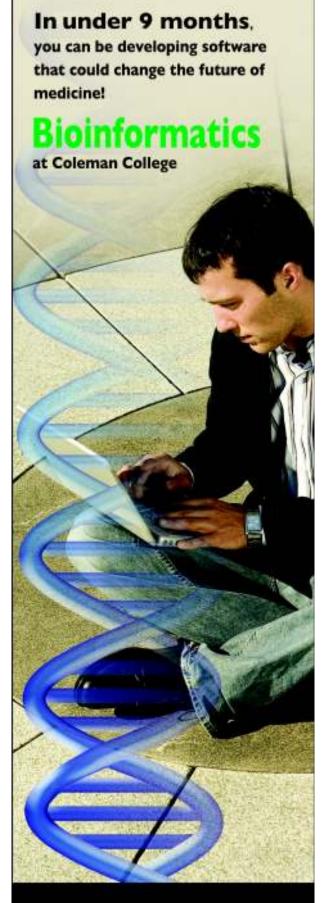


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- 1. "Ben-
- 4. Kind of chip
- 9. Alpha's opposite
- 14. Enzyme suffix
- 15. God to 1.2 billion
- 16. Dot on a computer screen17. Spears' "_____ Slave 4 U"18. Book jacket writing

- 19. "Be silent," on a score
- 20. Chili ingredient
- Today
- 24. Golden rule preposition
- 25. Notorious movie motel
- 27. Like election night, in close
- 34. Having a lumpy surface
- 35. Singer Tori
- 36. Agent's 10%, say
- 39. Restrains
- 43. Come to a close
- 44. Honolulu's island
- 46. Baseball starting lineup, e.g.
- 48. Most computers feature it
- 54. Movie light
- 55. Amendment abolishing slavery
- 57. "Who to argue? 59. Function of each set of circles
- in this puzzle's grid 64. "Rocky" score composer
- 66. In a lather
- 67. One in France
- 68. Big name in cell phones
- 69. Snoop
- 70. Raggedy
- 71. Characters in the 1973 horror flick "Sssssss"
- 72. Kind of question
- 73. Spider-Man creator Stan

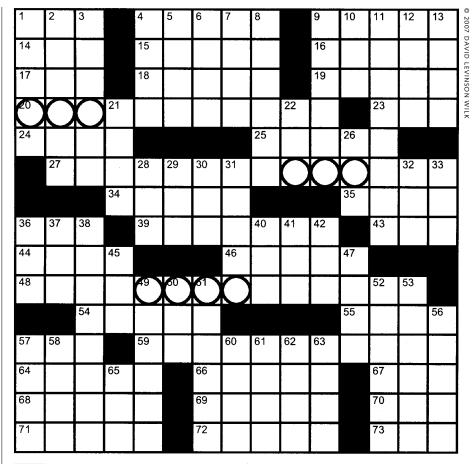
Down

- 1. Three-line work
- 2. 50 State Quarters sponsor
- 3. Entertain before sleep
- 4. Area, for short 5. Join (with)
- 6. Iron, e.g.7. Aesop's also-ran 8. "Wow!"
- 9. Decides one will
- 10. Hamm in cleats
- 11. "Pardon"
- 12. Disco's Bee
- 13. Utah ski resort
- 21. Midday
- 22. RFK Stadium player
- 26. Airport info

- 28. It. is there
- 29. Homer's dad
- 30. Solo HR result
- 31. Thigpen of "Where in the World Is Carmen Sandiego?"
- 32. Chaney of horror films
- 33. 1960s hits?
- 36. au vin
- 37. Detroit org.
- 38. "Lola" band
- 40. Dim sum sauce
- 41. Bach's "Mass _ Minor" 42. Film colleague of Morpheus and Trinity
- 45. Modern form of address
- 47. Judd Hirsch sitcom
- 49. They connect to the knees
- 50. Thumbs-up vote
- 51. Cold war mole
- 52. Wedding, for one 53. Warbling Warwick
- 56. Cara of "Fame" fame
- 57. Stridex target
- 58. Bossy sounds?
- 60. Yesteryear
- 61. Spring times 62. Start the bidding
- 63. Singer/songwriter Laura
- 65. Dead heat

RULES OF THE GAME

- 1. The prize for solving the Reader Puzzle will be a Reader T-shirt.
- 2. All entries in the Reader Puzzle contest must be received by the Reader by 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, five days following the issue date (Fax to 619-231-0489 or U.S. Mail to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803).
- 3. All entries must be accompanied by your name and address.
- 4. Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.
- 5. In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and arbitrary. We've only got five prizes each week to give away, so if there are more than five winners,
- we'll have a lottery.
 6. All answers must be entered in the space allowed on the puzzle page. And please, no phone calls or trips to our office
- 7. One entry per person.





Solution to and winners of the Reader Puzzle for 2/15/07.

There were 73 entrants The winners are:

- 1. Sonny Shaw, Santee
- 2. Laurence Alfobell, San Diego
- 3. Brian Schnabel, San Diego 4. Richard Hutchings, Santee
- 5. Leslie Chase, San Diego

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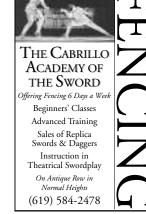
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AUDITION: Picnic by William Inge. Palomar College, March 6, 7pm. Howard Brubeck Theatre. A sexy, Pulitzer Prizewinning romance directed by Dana winning romance directed by Dana Case. Prepare a short monologue or read from script. Info: 760-744-1150, x2453, rperforms.com.

www.paiomarperforms.com.
AUDITIONS FOR Tenor/baritone/bass.
Classical vocal ensemble. Sight-reading a plus. Weekday, holiday season, and occasional evening performances.
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ary 26 and 27, 7-9pm. Coronado Playhouse. Director Keith Anderson. 10 men, 8 women, 2 teens, all roles open. 619-890-9882, www.coronadoplayhouse.com, maryemily@rocketmail.com. AUDITIONS. Olive Tree Players. Mission Valley. One-act plays. Men/women, 18+ welcome. 2111 Camino del Rio South. Thursday, 2/22, 6:30pm; Tuesday, 2/27, 6:30pm. rknrobz@hotmail.com; 858-380-8937.

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AUDITIONS: Short film. Seeking actress, 20-33, fit, attractive, 5'6"-5'11"; and second actress, creative, exotic, very fit, 5'5" and taller. No pay. Call 858-518-8396 or 858-483-9011.

EXTRAS, ACTORS, MODELS. \$125 \$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)

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JOAN KROC THEATER, Facility opened up a drama class. No charge. Tuesday 1:30-3:30pm. 619-466-2194.

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)

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619-285-1495. 22 years in San Diego. www.ModelingandTV.com. MODELS. Amateur models needed for photo, video, web work. Ages 18-60. All types. No experience necessary. Cash paid. Professional setting. Call Jenn,

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POWPAC, POWAY'S COMMUNITY The ater. Auditions for Ray Cooney's hilarious British farce, "Caught in the Net." Two men 35-45, two women 35-45, Monday/Tuesday March 12-13, 7pm, 13240 Payay Page

SKETCH COMEDY writers needed for

show in April. Stipend. 619-647-4958.

VOICEOVER WORKSHOP. Break into voiceover! Taught by voice actor/author James Alburger. Learn interpretation, character voices, microphone technique, more for radio/TV. www.voiceacting.com; 858-484-0220.

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ransuyker.ntml. 6 19-269-839.

COUPLES WORKSHOP. Participants will learn how to sustain a committed relationship. Topics will include: Communication, Conflict Resolution, Intimacy. Friday 3/30 6-9pm, Saturday 3/31 9am-5pm. Sally LeBoy, MFT#14768. 619-685-5975.

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.

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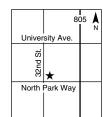
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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL works for human rights. Meetings: 7pm, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. First Unitarian Church, 4190 Front (opposite UCSD Medical Center). Information, 858-576-3811.

war. Meet at noon at Ladera Street and Sunset Cliffs Boulevard. February 23, 2007.

ANXIOUS? DEPRESSED? Recovery Inc., self-help mental health meetings since 1937. Many suffer from nervous symptoms, fears. Voluntary offering, www.recovery-inc.org or 619-275-0364.

ATTENTION MORMONS: I'm interested in your church and have some important questions. Please e-mail me and tell me how to reach you. Thanks, Keith. ldsquestions@yahoo.com

through Thursday 7:15-8pm. Discours and discussion, by a Vedic scholar Hare Krishna temple, 1030 Grand Av enue, Pacific Beach 92109. 858-483-2500.

CANNABIS PATIENTS ACT. (Association Cannabis Therapeutics.) Nonprofit. Seeks caregiver/patients with questions about co-operatives, obtaining medicine, growing guidelines. Proposition 215, guidelines, crystal methamphetimine kills! 619-528-0907.

CENTERING PRAYER, Join us each Thursday 7-8:30pm. Fellowship. Re-freshments. 619-295-4148

DIVORECARE meets every Sunday at 9am. A special free seminar and loving support group for the broken-hearted in divorce, completed divorce, broken life in friendship. 4926 La Cuenta, Suite 203, Tierrasanta. Bruce, Bruce@coastline-realestate.com or 619-461-4480.

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DONATE that automobile, boat, RV, etc. to Ronald McDonald House Charities-San Diego, receive tax deduction and possibly a partial cash payment! Call toll-free, 866-244-8464.

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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.

HERPES/HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HSV/HPV) Support group. Accurate medical information and support Recorded message. 619-491-1194 www.SanDiegoCityHELP.org.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Stop crime and violence. Be a role model. Be a Guardian Angel. Free martial arts training. ftws619@yahoo.com or www. guardianangels.org or 619-964-8099.

MOVIE BUFFS, Interested in watching movies then discussing it afterwards (like book clubs)? Ages 25 to mature welcome. Please call 619-850-6075 or 858-272-8727.

NATIVE COUNCIL PROGRESS, Incorpo-

Free 12-step meeting for people with OCD. Mondays, 6-7pm, Department of Health Services Complex, 3851 Rose-crans Street, Mission Room, San Diego.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION. "Winner or Loser?" 1228-1/2 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar, March 15, 8-9pm. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. Information, 858-250.1996.

259-1880.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION. "Staying On 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-

9046.

PREGNANT WOMEN, Needed for an email survey. Must be pregnant for the first time, recovered from diagnosed eating disorder. Compensated with \$20/gift card Toys'R'Us. Edrecovery@yahoo.com

PRIVATE COUNSELING. Your journey can be clearer, more peaceful; relationship issues, body image, self-esteem, anger. I can help. Work toward acceptance of yourself. Fee. 619-838-6817.

SAN DIEGO DRUID GROVE forming. Attention: Celtic Shamans and Tree Huggers. Infinite Deities Grove. RDG Proto-Grove. http://rdg.mithrilstar.org/First grove meeting: 2/25, 3pm. Contact infinitedeities@yahoo.com.

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 ree 12-step support group for men and women molested as children. Call Tim,

THE SAN DIEGO CASHFLOW, 101/202 meetup. Meet other local fans of financial board game Cashflow 101, Robert Kiyosaki. Also discuss Donald Trump, http://cashflow.meetup.com/217/.

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

NAME This Place



Last week's place: (clue: What a dive, comrade) Inside *B-39*, a Soviet attack submarine moored at the Maritime Museum's pier, 1492 North Harbor Drive, downtown. The 300-foot sub, launch near Leningrad in 1974, was essentially an upscaled WW2 German U-boat. *B-39* spent her life shadowing U.S. warships in the Pacific, including the carrier USS *Midway*, now her near-neighbor in retirement. (Last week's winners: J. Welker, Nicolaz Portillo, Dennis Butterworth, John Thompson, Vincent Cuseo)

Clue: I'd moo if Iowa you

Describe this location, name the nearest cross-streets, and win a Reader T-shirt. E-mail to NameThisPlace@SanDiego Reader.com; fax to 619-231-0489; or mail to Reader, Name This Place, Box 85803, San Diego 92186 — include your name and address. (Deadline, Tuesday, 9 a.m. In case of ties, lottery will determine top five winners.)

Eckhart Tolle's teachings. Encinitas. Free. 760-942-0826.

TWELVE STEPS NOT working for you? Try a self-empowering, skill-building approach with S.M.A.R.T. Recovery, free support groups. 858-546-1100.

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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 viet tweet speakurpers.

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Center. Hillcrest. Vermont Street, near University Avenue, 858-457-8477.

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FEMALE DUO PARTNER WANTED. Travel

Between 24-32 years. Must travel and pay studio rent. Contact Kingnacho1@

GUITARIST AND DRUMMER Wanted willing to rehearse once a week. We play instrumental surf music and various styles. Demo in progress. Ruben, 619-405-3910. handbell Ringers and 19-405-3910. Handbell Ringers wanted, beginning to experienced, to ring in volunteer choirs in Escondido. Rehearsals on Wednesday evenings. Play monthly for Sunday morning services. 760-745-5100 x19.

KEYBOARD PLAYER WANTED. Fo

BAND DRUMMER NEEDED. Need vocals, bass and drums. Need strong female vocals. Check out myspace.com/ienband.

DRUMMER WANTED for emerging band performing blues-influenced originals and covers. Must be reliable, com versatile, and must love to play for fun. Call 619-518-8488.

FEMALE SINGER WANTED. Abigails Attice is searching for female backup singer who can take some lead. Work and have fun. We are professionals. 619-454-3500.

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aol.com; Myspace.com/thebionicrap-per7; 619-606-6817.

KEYBOARD PLAYER/GUITARIST wanted for UFO tribute. All other musicians are lined up and rehearsing. Switch off between guitar and keys like Paul Raymond. 619-445-5146.



hitter, willing to tour. Influences: Foo Fighters, Rocket From The Crypt, Nir-vana, QOTSA, The Burning Brides. www. myspace.com/vivainstereo; 619-220-6844. **SERRATED** seeking singer and bassist. Go to www.myspace.com/serrated. Need

coming, so are the shows. Get ready now 858-451-8474.

PRODUCER, seeks Ska, World Beat, Latin/Jazz bands/musicians. Composer needs copyists, violinists, pianist, winds. Contemporary "lvesy" works, www. myspace.com/mindcontrolsalsa. 619-529 poor.

ROCK DRUMMER NEEDED. Must be hard

confidence, stage presence, drive, own transportation, rehearsal rent, quality equipment, rehearse 3/week. serrated24@yahoo.com or 619-561-1247. SINGER WANTED (Christian), 20-33 years, for original heavy melodic main-stream rock band. Passion and God filled only. 619-920-7237.

THE HOME WRECKERS need a drummer. Rehearse Saturday mornings in Temec-ula. Classic rock, AC/DC, Aerosmith, Bad Company, ZZ Top. Experienced drum-mer, weekend gigs. 858-254-1909.

VOCALIST WANTED. Wahbah, electro-progressive acoustic/electric band look-ing to replace female vocalist. Check www.myspace.com/wahbahmusic or www.wahbahmusic.com for songs and information. 619-225-7859.

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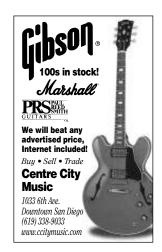
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crowave, refrigerator, toaster oven, laundry, cable, utilities. \$500, \$500 deposit smoking/drugs. 619-531-1637.

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1/5 SDGE. New carpet. Laundry, dish TV Roadrunner. No pets, smoke, drugs Need references. First month/deposi \$450. Available March 3. Call 858-270-1436.

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CLAIREMONT, \$685 includes utilities \$350/deposit, for room/private bathroom in beautiful 2 bedroom duplex, washer/dryer/dishwasher, big kitchen, backyard. Near Clairemont Square, 858-581-6629.

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Nelly, b 19-30/-3911.

CLAIREMONT, \$650/month, utilities in-cluded. Room for rent in 3 bedroom house, right next to Mesa College. Satel-lite TV, cable modem, laundry on-site. 619-454-3735.

CLAIREMONT. 1 bedroom in large 4-bed-room house. Near shopping/freeways, bus line. Large backyard. All utilities in-cluded. \$500/\$250 deposit. No pets. Sh-

eryl, 858-715-8221.

CLAIREMONT. \$475/month. Room for rent in spacious home. Quite neighborhood. Giant backyard, fireplace, nearby hiking trails, washer/dryer, utilities split 5 ways. Share bathroom with male. References required. Available now. 858-243-3103 or negarize express.

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Large room in remodeled home, new kitchen. Great location, close to I-5, bay, shops, bus line. Female only. No pets. 858,540,2107

COLLEGE/DEL CERRO, 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with female. Large room with bath. Pool, jacuzzi. Have cat. Nonsmoking only. \$600, plus utilities. Toni, 858-731-3114; 619-235-2415, x30431.

EAST COUNTY, \$395. Pet OK. Private entrance, fishing and hot springs, quiet. 40 miles east on I-8. 619-387-6647.

EL CAJON, \$575. Share house, fireplace garage, quiet location. New floors/paint

garage, quiet location. New floors/paint laundry. Easy freeway access. 1 adult female. Nonsmoking. Have cat. 1/2 utilities

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749-1116. EL CAJON. \$430. Share 2 bedroom apartment with male and pug. No smoking, drugs or alcohol. Bus and trolley close. Washington and Magnolia. 619-368-3516; bobhope@mail.com.

3516; bobnope@mail.com.

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ENCINITAS, Newly remodeled Encinitas home, 3 miles from beach. No pets no smoking. Female preferred. \$480 utilities included, 760-436-7136.

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CARDIFF, \$700 plus deposit. Includes utilities, private bathroom. Furnished/unfurnished, beautiful two-story spacious home, near ocean. Fireplace, pool, laundry, storage. Nonsmokers/drugs. I have two pugs and cat. 619-407-1798.

CARDIFF, \$775/month, includes utilities. Share lovely 3 bedroom home. Beautiful ocean view, no pets. Available now. Call Katie 760-634-8433.

CARDIFF. Room for rent. Looking for female only to share our 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath condo. No smoking, no additional pets. \$550, plus deposit. 858-205-4488.

pets. 3530, pius deposit. 856-205-4488.

CARDIFF. Small furnished \$625. Large rom \$775 plus utilities and deposits. Community living, privacy. Vegetarian/ seafood kitchen, organic garden, jacuzzi, laundry. Nonsmokers. No pets 760-753-7321

0321.

CARLSBAD, Room for rent with private bath. Available March 1. Near beach. Pool, jacuzzi, tennis, cable. Nonsmoker preferred. No pets. \$\$575/month plus \$75 utilities, 760-931-6680.

CARLSBAD, \$650 includes utilities ceaning service, high-speed wireless Internet, personal TV cable. Home on hill spectacular view. Full privileges. Nonsmoking female only apply. Lori, 760-492-4652

CARLSBAD. \$550. Large sunny room in 4 bedroom, 3 bath home. Garage parking. Female only. Available now. No pets/ smoking. References. Paul or Debbie,

CARLSBAD. \$900. Office, bedroom (16'x14'), and private bath. Back yard/view, fireplace, sauna, home theater, high-speed laternet argane park. ater, high-speed Internet, garage park ing. No smoking/pets. Available now

CARLSBAD. \$695. Female, beautiful warm 4 bedroom home. Includes ocean view, utilities, pool, housekeeper. Beach close. No drugs, alcohol, pets. Linda 760-720 2015.

CARMEL VALLEY. \$675 plus deposit, util ities included. Room with private bath ir quiet house. Female preferred. Cat considered, no dogs. 619-708-2091.

CHULA VISTA, \$550. New spacious quiet private home. Near Southwestern. Kitchen, washer/dryer privileges. Wireless connection. No smoking/drugs/pets. Female only. Hablo espanol 619-347-2115.

CHULA VISTA, OTAY RANCH, Female looking for female roommate. Share 2 bedroom 2 bath apartment. Washer/dryer inside. No pets/smoking. \$650/month, \$50/deposit, 619-993-1368.

\$50/deposit, 619-993-1368.

CHULA VISTA. Share beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, partially furnished, pool, spa, gym, gated.
Overlooking park. \$200/deposit,
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CHULA VISTA. Furnished private bedroom and bath near Southwest College. \$650/month. Nonsmoker, no pets. 619-271-1031 or 619-726-2777.

CHULA VISTA. \$450 includes utilities. Spacious room in large home. Furnished or unfurnished. TV, cable, wireless in room. Semiprivate bath. Jacuzzi, kitchen privileges. English/Spanish spoken. Some cleaning provided. No smoking/drugs. 619-884-8384; 619-426-4974.

CHULA VISTA/SOUTH. 92154. \$450 plus CHULA VISTA/SOUTH. 92154. \$450 plus \$100 deposit, utilities included. Furnished/cable TV. House. Shared bathroom/kitchen. Male only, nonsmoker. No drugs/pets. 619-602-1824.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$550/month, utilities included. Room is fully furnished with own separate bathroom and reserved parking space. No drugs/alcohol. David, 619-463-1270 or tel@cox.net.

CITY HEIGHTS. Spacious room in heauti-

CITY HEIGHTS, Spacious room in beautiful home, \$600/month plus utilities. Includes cable, Internet, phone, washer/dryer. Jacuzzi, garden, big back-yard, fireplace. Pets OK. Available now, 619-282-2553.

619-262-2553.

CLAIREMONT. 4 bedroom, 3 bath house backyard, cable, Internet. Own bedroom/bathroom. \$750, 1/2 utilities of \$800, utilities included Local inquiries only. Female preferred. 619-807-2852.

CLAIREMONT. \$500, plus deposit, 1/3 utilities. Clean, quiet, 3 bedroom, 1 bath house on canyon. Washer/dryer, cable.

PICTURE STORY

Photograph from the San Diego Historical Society



Tortheast view of the San Diego River, where it drains into the Pacific (undated photo). The cluster of bungalows on the south bank of the river is in Ocean Beach. Though a jetty had been built to help prevent winter flooding in Ocean Beach by 1965, that year the city council voted to urge Congress for funds to extend the jetty by 1570

feet. The project was approved.

In 1970, when the Army Corps of Engineers began work on another jetty a few hundred yards south of the extension project, Ocean Beach citizens mobilized and stopped construction. One of their arguments was that it would damage the river jetty's surf break.

— by Robert Mizrachi

garden setting. \$550/month, 1/3 SDG&E, \$600 security deposit. Near beach/shop-ping. Nonsmoking only. 760-944-7059. **ENCINITAS.** \$575, plus 1/2 utilities. Share 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Ample parking, tennis courts, large pool, washer/dryer in apartment. Great grounds. Pat, 760-635-3600; 619-235-2415, x25892.

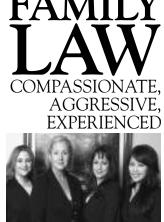
ENCINITAS. \$550/month, 1/4 utilities Room in clean, quiet modern house Washer/dryer, cable, kitchen privileges

line available. Deposit. Won't last 760-753-1686; 619-235-2415,

ENCINITAS/LA COSTA, \$595. Room in 4

No smoking/pets. Vegetarian kitchen. Fe-male preferred, 760-931-7878. **HILLCREST.** Female to share 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment with female. Spacious room, own bathroom and parking spot. \$600/month, \$600 deposit. No pets. 619-

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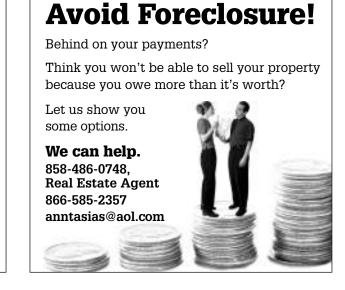
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LA COSTA, \$895. Large master bedroom, private bath in beautiful 4 bedroom home, walk-in closet, great yard. Vegetarian kitchen. Female preferred. No smoking/pets. 760-931-7878.

LA COSTA. Master bedroom, \$800. Huge, spacious room. Movie theaters across street. 5 minute walk to restaurants. Pool, jacuzzi, fireplace. 1-car garage. Storage space. 760-672-7064.

space. 76U-672-7064.

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LA JOLLA, \$750. 2 bedroom 2 bath includes utilities. Gym, 2 pools, 2 jacuzzis. Quiet. Male preferred. Paul 858-449-9930.

993U.

LA JOLLA. \$950. Garden studio room. Private entrance, bath, and deck. Share upstairs kitchen, living room, ocean view deck. Male preferred. Call Betty, 858-792-0529.

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A JOLLA. \$600. Small private bedroom with deck, share bathroom with 1. Share kitchen, living room, ocean view deck with 3. Female preferred. Betty, 858-792-0520.

LA JOLLA. \$1200. Poolside 1 bedroom/ bath. Granite counters, stainless steel ap-pliances, gym. jacuzzi, theater, Internet, washer/dryer, gated parking. Close to UCSD. \$1200. 619-948-4880.

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Ingurugs. 505-504-0018.

A JOLLA/UTC. \$780. Female looking to share newly renovated, luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bath with female roommate. Canyon views, walk-in closet. Have cat. 619-888-9454.

619-888-9454.

LA MESA. \$450. Room in quiet older home with new carpeting, easy parking, laundry. Pets possible. Large shared closet. Say phone slowly/clearly, 619-235-2415, x22959.

Free Classifieds!

LA MESA. \$460, \$250 deposit. Male and female seeking third person for large, furnished bedroom. Washer/dryer. Utilities included. Share bathroom. No smoking, alcohol, pets. Nice neighborhood. 619-465.6746.

LA MESA. \$650, plus deposit. Master bedroom with balcony and big closet. Next to I-8 freeway, near SDSU. Pool, spa. No smoking/drugs. 619-318-3330.

LA MESA. \$500. Furnished. Close to lake and mountains, shopping, bus line. Includes Internet, refrigerator, microwave, TV, laundry, all amenities. Deposit. Nonsmoking. Lila, 619-469-3468.

smoking. Lila, 619-469-3468.

LA MESA. \$500, plus deposit. Room in quiet neighborhood. Private entrance, shared bath, secluded pool. Laundry, kitchen privileges. Available immediately Month to month. 619-315-5631; 619-466

LA MESA. \$480. Room with view and private entrance in beautiful shared quiet house. Mirrored closet doors, hardwood floor. Washer/dryer. Month to month. Linda, 949-701-3200.

LINDA, 949-701-3200.

LA MESA. 2 rooms at \$475 each in home. Share bathroom. Utilities, laundry, DSL, kitchen privileges. Near SDSU. No pets/smoking. \$100 deposit. Alice, 619-469-1570.

LA MESA/LAKE MURRAY. \$685. Quiet, carport, private entrance and bath, se cluded pool area. Laundry. Cable Internet. Utilities all included. 619-316-0407.

LINDA VISTA, \$480. Three bedroom

LINDA VISTA. \$480. Three bedroom home, ocean view, central, tropical yard, quiet, new carpet/marble, laundry, \$300/deposit. No smoking/pets. Male preferred. Bill, 858-518-1517.

LINDA VISTA. \$500 plus 1/2 utilities. Seeking male for large, fully furnished, clean apartment with patio. Near bases, Mesa, USD. Nonsmoker, no pets. Richard, 858-505-0262.

MIRA MESA. \$500. Share house, pool jacuzzi, deck, cable, wireless Internet.

jacuzzi, deck, cable, wireless Internet, washer/dryer. Female only. No pets. 858-549-3197.

MIRA MESA/MIRAMAR. \$500. Bedroom in 1-story house. Available 3/1. Includes everything from cable, RoadRunner, washing machine, electric bill, local phone. Male only. 858-635-9127.

MISSION HILLS. \$675. Room for rent in beautiful 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. View of bay. Garden, laundry, barbecue,

arage. Minutes to downtown. Craig,

MISSION VALLEY. \$560. Deposit and utilities. Share 2 bedroom condo with nonsmoking female and cats. Bedroom unfurnished, call for details. Available now. 619-823-8488; 619-583-1329; 619-

MISSION VALLEY, Own room and bath, plus garage, washer/dryer, dishwasher, fireplace, balcony. Near USD. \$675 plus 1/2 utilities and cable. No pets/smoking.

NATIONAL CITY. \$400. Share 3 bedroom new house near freeway, very clean, washer/dryer. No smoking inside, cat OK. Near Bonita Mall. Female preferred. 619-966-9645.

NATIONAL CITY. 2 rooms for rent. 1 large bedroom beautifully furnished, \$650. 1 bedroom with own bathroom, \$500. Utilities included. Near freeways. Quiet street. 858-864-2295.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Great location. Furnished room. Above Mission Valley. Between Adams/El Cajon Boulevard. \$550, utilities \$35, first/last. No drugs, alcohol, pets, smoking. 619-281-8987

NORTH PARK. \$700. Fully furnished condo, security gated, landscaped, quiet. Close to all. Own private bedroom and bathroom, nice jacuzzi, shower. Have cat. Gera, 858-232-5542.

NORTH PARK. \$500, includes utilities, ca-ble, laundry, \$400 deposit. Small room. Share large house. Seeking female shar-ing bathroom with female. No pets/smok-ing. 619-284-9399.

OAK PARK, Comfortable 2 bedroom 1 OAK PARK. Coffiloriable 2 bearoun, bath house. Unfurnished bedroom, private entrance, off-street parking, washer/dryer, dishwasher. No pets/smoking. \$510/month or lease. 619-987-7383.

OCEAN BEACH/POINT LOMA. \$650 plus cious, custom, coed house with 4. Hilltop ocean views. Hardwood floors. No smok-ers/pets. Available 3/5/07. 619-223-8497.

OCEAN BEACH, Room and 1/2 with bath, private entry, female share 4 bedroom private entry, female share 4 bedroom house with same, 2 blocks beach. No smokers/pets. \$650. Landlord, 619-222-

OCEAN BEACH, Room available 3/01/07, in 3 bedroom condo, ocean view, 3 blocks beach. Laundry. Somoking/jets/drugs/kozcessive drinking. Male preferred. \$675. 619-246-8560.

OCEANSIDE, \$600 plus utilities. Female preferred. No pets, no drugs. Share four bedroom 2-1/2 bath house. bedroom 2-1/2 bath house. Washer/dryer. Contact Lisa 760-685-

OCEANSIDE. \$750, utilities included, \$300 deposit. Master bedroom with pri-\$300 deposit. Master bedroom with private bath in 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Hardwood floors, fireplace, appliances, garage. Available 3/1. 760-521-1947.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$735 rent, \$400 deposit, utilities \$100/110.htm each. Share spectacular townhouse with 2 males and 1 female. Nice room. Male preferred. 858-448-0939.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 rooms available 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath luxury townhouse. Short run beach/bay. Nice, come take look. No pets/smokers. \$875. 858-274-

PACIFIC BEACH, \$710 2 rooms available, includes utilities. Private entrance, quiet 1/3 acre estate, 1200-square-foot wing. Pool, Internet, cable. Panoramic, fireworks, ocean, Mexico views. 619-750-

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$865/ month, plus utilities, deposit. Roommate wanted for great condo. Very close to bay. Available between 2/15-3/1. Ask for Jeremy, 858-922-7445.

POINT LOMA. Male to share 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. \$725/month, 1/2 utilities, \$350 deposit. No pets/smoking. Own bathroom/phone. Available 3/1. 619-200-0175; 619-226-0355

POINT LOMA/OCEAN BEACH. \$700 proresisonal woman only. Private, fully furnished, luxurious room with great ocean view in newer home. Microwave, refrigerator, TV, laundry. Available 2/20. Nonsmoking, no drugs/alcohol/pets. 619-226-4010.

POINT LOMA. \$675. Room available in private home, all amenities. Includes utilities, Internet except phone. No smoking/pets. Credit check. References. Serious applicants. 610-290-290-5

perious applicants. 619-269-6626.

POINT LOMA, 3 bedroom 3 bath, fully furnished condo. Unfurnished large room, private bath, walk-in closet. 2 story, vaulted ceilings, fireplace, washer/dryer, parking. No pets please. \$750/month, 619-226-1166.

RANCHO BERNARDO. \$445, 1/3 utilities. close. Condo situated on golf course.

Male only. Martin, 858-592-6830; 619-

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RANCHO PENASQUITOS. \$600. Master bedroom available in 4 bedroom, house. Includes utilities, electricity

RANCHO PENASQUITOS, Furnished large bedroom, private bathroom in 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Cable. Non-smoker/pets. \$550, utilities \$50. Available

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SAN MARCOS. \$550. Share large luxurious sunny home. DishNetwork/utilities included. CSUSM/Palomar. Fireplace.

SAN MARCOS. \$575, utilities included. Private entry to furnished bedroom with bath shared. Male preferred. No pets, drugs, alcohol, smoking. \$300 deposit refundable. 760-591-4155; dsmith620@

closet, private bath, garage space. In-cludes utilities. No smoking/pets. Close to UCSM. \$650/month, \$300 security. 760-745-0482; 619-235-2415, x31596.

house, share bathroom, kitchen, laundry and utilties, \$600/month. Nice neighborhood. Prefer female. 619-921-3733.

SPRING VALLEY. 2 furnished rooms (\$500/\$400), \$200 deposit. Utilities/cable included. Near Jamacha Road and Grand Avenue. No smoking, pets, drugs, Internet. Male preferred. 619-917-2033.

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washer/dryer, cable, wireless Internet. Near I-15, 56. 858-232-9943.

February 26. Prefer female. 858-484-

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ous sunny norme. Distilled Work of CSUSM/Palomar. Fireplace. Jacuzzi. No smoking/pets. Photos online. 858-361-5500.

SAN MARCOS. Unfurnished room, extra

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Reader February 22,



Mike Morrison General contractor El Cajon

Well, I've always had it. The style changes. Sometimes it was a beard or just a mustache. For some people, it depends on their bone structure and the face of the person on how they look with facial air. Some look good, some don't My wife said I have good facial bones. When I shave though, I look too much like her father, which freaks her out.



Brenda De La Cruz Legal secretary Rancho Bernardo

T find it attractive, as long as it doesn't come out of their nose. I guess with facial hair, that goes for their ears, too. The mustache has to be trimmed up, too. I'm not a beard gal. Just mustaches. Goatees aren't bad. Other than that, no. I hate handlebar mustaches. They are so disgusting, aren't they?



Yvonne Roswita

Accounting

Santee

 \mathbf{Y} eah, I like it. As long as it's neat and clean; not scruffy and like sandpaper. I don't like the five o'clock shadow. The goatee look is okay. I don't really like the mountain-man look, where the hair is everywhere. I don't like the handlebar business I like bikes. I ride a motorcycle. But I don't like the handlebar mustache



Victoria Butler

Sales manager

Linda Vista

As long as I don't have to touch it for kiss it, I like it. My husband doesn't have it. He had a beard before, but when he goes to [military] reserves, he has to shave it off. Some times it takes him weeks just to grow a little tiny mustache. But I think physical appearance isn't all that important. It's what's inside a person that counts.



Chuck Muhlbach

Newspaper printer Phoenix

 \mathbf{Y} ou'd probably have to ask my wife. I like it. I think she does, too. It's fun for Christmas. A few kids thought I was Santa Claus when I showed up at a party. I've had my beard since 1974. I've been grow ing facial hair since the '60s. My parents never liked it and were always telling me to shave it. I never did. I would trim it up for jobs. Once I'd get the job, I'd let it grow out more. In past relationships, it's never been a problem.



Yen Quach Writer

San Diego

When they have the beard that feels like sandpaper on your face and it leaves a rash, I hate that. Sometimes you tell them that, and they rub it on your stomach to be mean. At first, facial hair can be okay. If it's well groomed, I guess. Longer beards I don't like. I think they died with the era. I've never dated a guy that had a really long beard. I prefer a clean-shaven look.

RENTALS

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2883.

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ment, 619-540-3009.

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CLAIREMONT. 3843 Mt. Blackburn. Nice home. Great area! 4 bedroom, 2 bath, \$2300. Garage. Washer, dryer. Pool. Beautiful! vr@ajprop.com. A&J Property Management, 619-540-3009.

CLAIREMONT/BAY PARK. \$1475. 2 bed room, 2 bath. View of Bay. Lease. Open Saturday 2:30-3:30pm. 3615 Ethan Allen. TPPM, 858-699-3851 or 858-454-4200

COLLEGE AREA. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath house, \$1900/month, water/trash included. Fireplace, renovated kitchen, hardwood floors, huge fenced back yard, barbecue gazebo, 2-car garage. 4326 56th Street. 619-804-7002, 619-200-8716.

COLLEGE AREA. Darling 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Charming decor, hardwood floors. Spacious kitchen, large family room, fireplace. Gorgeous yard, garden terrace,



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COLLEGE AREA, \$2400. 6 bedroom, 3 bath, 2-story home near SDSU. Beautifu wood floors, fireplace, carpeted bedrooms, washer/dryer hookups. Available 3/15/07. 4922 Cresita. www.cethron.com

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COLLEGE AREA/ROLANDO. 2 bedroom 1 bath, 1150-square-root rouse. Farm, room, fenced backyard, 2-car garage quiet, close to all. No pets. \$1500. A&F Realty, 619-425-4555.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1995. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath with hardwood floors and tile, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, washer and dryer, air conditioner, fire-place. www.utopiamanagement.com. 858-598-1111 x193.

ocean, downtown, Coronado islands/bridge. Private 3 bedroom, 2 bath, plus loft. Cathedral ceilings, all appliances, washer/dryer, breakfast bar, built-in coffee maker, fireplace, central air/heat, balcony. Patio, fenced backyard, garage. \$2400/month. Vernon, 619-944-2663. COLLEGE GROVE. Magnificent views

room, 1 bath home, covered pation garage, large yard, near SDSU, security lighting, monthly or lease. Small pet OK

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Snopping. Vernon, 619-583-0486.

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AVAILABLE THUM. 40 18 52/10. 858-598-5013.

DOWNTOWN. \$1350. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath house, flexible lease, carpet and tile floors, 1-car gated parking. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath house in Little Italy, unfurnished, street parking, small deck. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-

EAST SAN DIEGO. \$2600. Beautiful remodeled home. 4 bedroom, 3 bath. New stainless steel appliances, cabana, pool. Great for entertaining! Near all. Pets OK. 619-277-2526.

619-277-2526.

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619-468-3988.

ENCINITAS. \$3000. Beautiful new 3 bedroom plus bonus room, 2.5 bath. Small beach community. Hardwood floors, stainless appliances, washer/dryer, mounted plasma TV. Rebekah, 760-803-5323.

ESCONDIDO, LAKE HODGES. 2 bedroom 1 bath, private with yard, \$1250/month. Call 760-753-6864.

ESCONDIDO. \$2075/month. 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 3-car garage. Immaculate condition, upgraded, top of hill. Beautiful Emerald Heights gated community. Clubhouse, gym, pool. Available 4/15. 858-761-1540.

ESCONDIDO. \$895-\$1695. Tired of apartment 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. **ESCONDIDO.** Move-in special, \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, patio, fireplace, laundry hookups, fenced yards, fruit trees, near shops. 252 West 7th Avenue. 858-395-4596, agent.

ESCONDIDO. Southwest Del Dios, Shady Ridge. \$2500/month. Beautifully maintained, wood and carpet floors, patio, deck with view, large kitchen, family room, fireplace. 2-car garage, gardener included, pet on approval. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

GOLDEN HILL, 3 bedroom 1 bath cottage, yard and off-street parking. Cats ok Close to Downtown and transportation. \$1500. Available 3/01/07. 858-755-0339.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1595. 1920s classic bungalow. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, including utilities. Formal dining room with bay windows. Hardwood floors. Fireplace. Large laundry room. Small fenced yard. www. goldhenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

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5423.

HILLCREST, \$1295. 1 bedroom cottage. Totally remodeled. All new appliances, fixtures, and cabinets. Hardwood floors, private yard, near busline to downtown. 3304-1/2 Reynard Way. Agent, 619-298-7232, www.sbayproperties.com.

7232, www.sbayproperties.com.

HILLCREST, \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath rear house. Nice floor plan, extra closet space, air conditioning, dishwasher, laundry onsite. Cat UK. Available 3/15. 3714

Park Boulevard #2. 619-295-1100, www.

cethron.com.

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9000.

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KENSINGTON, \$2795. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house on large corner lot. Hardwood floors, plantation shutters, crown molding/baseboards, custom paint. Renovated kitchen and bathrooms. Central heat/air conditioning. Separate laundry room with Maytag washer/dryer. 2-car garage with workbench and ample storage. Private patio, hide-away back yard, gazebo. Gardener included. 4848 Kensington Drive. 619-683-8974 ve. 619-683-9274.

KENSINGTON, 3 bedroom, 1 bath. New paint, hardwood floors, formal dining room with built-ins, large kitchen with breakfast nook, off-street parking. Gardener, water included. Walk to Village. 4774 Edgeware Road. \$1895/month. 619-683-9274.

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490-3211.

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LA MESA. \$1500/month. Cozy 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Beautiful hardwood floors, new paint inside/out. 2-car garage. New lawn. \$2000 deposit. 3504 Foursome Drive. 619-729-7426.

LA MESA. \$1050. 1 bedroom in historical house in the village. Large, hardwood floors, utilities paid. Great view. 8085 Pasadena #2. AMI Property management. 619-697-6314.

ment. 619-697-6314.

LA MESA. \$1700. Nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Hardwood floors. Beautiful patio. Good-sized backyard. Washer/dryer hook-ups. Central location, close to I-8 and I-94. 619-504-6862.

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LEMON GROVE. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with huge master. Large yard, gardener included. 2-car garage. Washer/dryer hook-ups. No pets. \$1845. Available now. 7646 Viewcrest Drive. 858-583w.cal-prop.com.

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Viewtiest Drive. CCPin, 619-296-6699.

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3/1/07. 619-462-4310. MISSION HILLS, 1930s canyon home, split level, overlooking canyon. 3 bedroom 2 bath, beautiful home with bonus room downstairs. Hardwood floors \$2900/month. 4175 Arden Way. 619-574-

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NEWPORT BEACH. Luxury Newport Peninsula Point. Completely remodeled! 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Additional granny 1410/ffice. 2-car garage. Laundry. Pets OK. New appliances. Lease. \$3850. Pri-vate beach, marina, tennis. Justin/Des-tiny, 949-675-4630.

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NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$1350. Mission style 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors, fire-place, fenced yard, off-street parking. 4428 36th Street. Available 3/1. Call Jose 610 699 6299.

NORTH PARK. \$2100. 5 bedroom, 2 bath home on cul-de-sac with view. No pets! Small yard. No garage. 2125 Jacot Lane, near Juniper dip. 619-701-1490.

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NORTH PARK. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage, fenced patio, close to all. Laundry. Pets OK. 3357 30th Street. AMI Prop-Management, 619-697-6314.

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house. Completely remodeled! Hard wood flooring. Parking. Yard; pets ok 2882 Polk Avenue. 619-590-0555.

2882 Polik Avenue. 619-590-0555.

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NORTH PARK. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, \$1500. New paint, carpet, bathroom, fenced yard. 3862 37th Street. Available March 1. Agent, 619-260-1368. View at http://www.sevillemgmt.com.

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OCEAN BEACH. \$1895. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house, garage. Great location, nice unit. 1676 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

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PACIFIC BEACH. Thomas Avenue. 2 bedroom house, wood floors. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. Washer/dryer, water, trash included. Pets OK. \$1895. Available now.

PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house in Crown Point. 2-story, high ceil-ings, 1-car garage plus driveway. Laun-dry on-site. No pets. Available now. 3922 Shasta. 858-483-3534 or 858-583-0182,

PACIFIC BEACH. 4 bedroom, 2 bath. 2175 Grand Avenue. New carpet, full bed and bath separate from main house. 3 parking spaces, washer/dryer, fireplace, dishwasher, large deck. Landscaping in-cluded. \$2800. Pets OK. 858-483-3534 or 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com

PACIFIC BEACH, EAST. \$1695. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house with 3 units in rear. Stove, refrigerator, coin laundry, driveway parking. Shared patio area. Water/gar-dener paid. No pets. Available now. 4475 Bond. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2169 Thomas Avenue Washer/dryer hookups, parking. Pet OK on approval. Call 858-490-1600, kandr-

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1350. 3 bedrooms, and the bouse main house in front, 2 units in back, near transportation/buses. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath 2-story house, bay views. Quiet neighborhood. 2-car garage, fenced yard, balcony, patio. Appliances included. Fireplace. Lease. Nonsmoking. \$2650. 858-454-0422. PACIFIC BEACH. \$3200. 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 2522 square feet. Garage. 2 fireplaces. Deck. Office. Laundry. No pets. At 2476 La Marque Street. 619-299-

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POINT LOMA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1-car garage, central heat, refrigerator, washer/dryer, yard, fruit trees. Nonsmok-ing. Pets negotiable. \$2575. Available ing. Pets negotiable. \$2575. Available now. 858-456-5235. pointlrental@hotmail.

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POWAY/Old Town, Midland Road, \$1495. 2 bedroom, 2 bath upper with large balcony, park view, 2-car garage, custom interior, all appliances, walk-in closet. Close to major shopping. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

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POWAY/Olive Hills/Olive Meadows
Drive, \$2580. 5 bedroom, 3 bath upgraded home. Pool and gardener included. 2 car garage, large family room,
fireplace, dining room. Pet on approval.
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POWAY/Vineland Hills, \$2700. Month to
month lease OK. Small pet OK. 3-car
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POWAY Green Valley Del Norte.
\$3300/month. Move-in special by 3/1 half
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Beautiful upgrades. Wood and carpets,
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RAMONA. Beautiful, remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Amazing views. Fireplace.
All new appliances. 1.76 acres. Lushly landscaped. Horse shelter. Dog run. Seasonal stream. \$2350. 858-518-1770.

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RANCHO PENASQUITOS. 9572 Paseo Temporada. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 1593 square feet. 2-car garage. Large yard. Pet OK. \$1850. Available now. James, Prudential Dunn Realtors, 619-807-5478.

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RANCHO SAN DIEGO. \$1750 rent. Single level 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. 2-car garage, yard, tile floors, laundry, air conditioning, spa, fireplace. No pets. 1540 Greencrest Court. 619-299-8515.

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SAN MARCOS. 822 Wild Lilac Circle. Immaculate condition. View home. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. \$1995. Npets/smoking. Available 3/1. Open house Saturday, 2/24, 1-3pm. 760-809-8963.

SAN MARCOS/Santa Fe Hills. \$2595. Move-in special \$500 off with 6-month lease, \$1000 off with 1-year lease. Avenida Abeja 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath plus den. Custom upgrades, granite floors/counters, 2600 estimated squarefeet, large back yard. Small pet OK. Gardener, extra storage, 2-car garage, high tech hook-ups, top of the line appliances. Short term or long term, rent amount varies, call agent for details. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

SANTEE. \$1950. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath house. Pet friendly. 2-car garage, fenced yard, washer/dryer hookups. 9148 Northcote Road. Available 3/14. 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

SANTEE. 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2200 square feet. Travertine floors. Central air. Enclosed patio. Jacuzzi room. Boat/RV storage-full electric. Pets OK. \$2000. 619-820-4319

SPRING VALLEY. \$1500. Deposit \$1000. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house, extra room. Garage. Near freeways, shopping center. Big patio. Laundry hookups. 1214 Elkelton. 619-584-5900.

SPRING VALLEY. 1/2 off first month! 9928 Buena Vista Drive. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$825. Section 8 OK. Excellent area! vr@ajprop.com. A&J Property Management, 619-220-4840.

TALMADGE, \$1650. 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom house. Hardwood floors, vintage kitchen, great patio, fenced yard, washer/dryer, gardening service included, garage. 4444 50th Street. 619-683-9274 or 619-846-1740. Please do not disturb occupants.

TIERRASANTA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Furnished \$2300; unfurnished, negotiable. Quiet street. Remodeled, 2-car garage, patio, fenced backyard. Gardener included. Pet OK upon approval. 858-452-

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, hardwood floors throughout, fire-place, front porch, front and backyard, landscaping. Small pet OK, \$1675. 1618 Meade Avenue. 619-757-8384.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1550. 2 bedroom duplex. Fireplace, hardwood, dining room with hutch. Small yard. Laundry hook-ups. No pets. 4502 Campus. www.rowlandrealty.com, Rowland Realty, 619-223-1621.

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BANKER'S HILL. 1818 6th Avenue. \$850. Studio. Gated, laundry on-site, street parking. Call 619-232-1450, kandrproper-

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enue #201. 619-300-9487.

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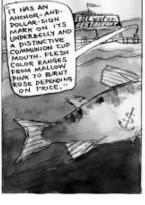






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Woodgrove. Agent 858-755-1135. rentals@team-scuba.com.

CARDIFF. \$1800. 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. West of 1-5. No pets. 760-436-8144.

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minutes away from beach. \$1475/up. 760-753-4101.

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1000 square foot 2 bedroom apartment,top floor lagoon view!. No pets/smoking. 699 Eaton Street. 760-967-8121.

8121.

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Lower 1 bedroom duplex. Garage available for \$75. No pets. At 4329 or 4331-1/2 41st Street. Agent, 619-299-8515.

CITY HEIGHTS. Cute 1 bedroom cottage, \$825. Centrally located between I-805, I-15, I-8 and 94 Freeway. Close to Balboa Park and Mission Valley. 3822 Wightman Street. 619-231-2727.

Street. 619-231-2727.

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585-1146. www.sdreader.com/rent/ 1070.
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CLAIREMONT. Lower 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. New carpet, paint. Nice unit. Community pool. \$1050/month. 4104 Mount Alifan Place #C. 619-574-8038.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath with view of bay. Dishwasher, pool, laundry, off-street parking. Cat OK. \$1245. 2920 Clairemont Drive. 619-276-5937.

CLAIREMONT. Large 2 bedroom apartment. Ceiling fan. Gated property, assigned parking. Laundry facilities. Pool. Call 619-296-2787.

Call 619-296-2787.

CLAIREMONT, \$1250. Large 2 bedroom duplex. Nicely landscaped, quiet complex. Washer/gas dryer hookups. Patio, garage. No pets. 3338 Clairemont Drive. 858-278-2562. Don't disturb tenants.

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COLLEGE AREA. \$1350. Move in special 1 month free. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, security, underground parking, year lease, 4742 Seminole Drive. Call 619-469-0031.

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0057; 619-871-6909. **COLLEGE AREA.** \$1195, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$850, 1 bedroom. \$250 off 1st month! Quiet, nice grounds, air conditioning, off-street parking, laundry. Monday-Friday, 9-2: 619-287-9890, 619-407-1535.

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COLLEGE AREA. Gigantic 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Half month free rent! Fireplace. Gated patio. Laundry. Garage available. No pets. Nonsmoker. 5940 Streamview #1. \$1120. 619-251-0030.

COLLEGE AREA. \$900. 1 bedrooms. Fire-place. Central heat/air. Microwave, dish-washer. Balcony. Gated. Intercom entry. 4828 Art Street. Agent, 619-298-7724.

COLLEGE AREA. \$925. 5502 Adelaide Avenue. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Large apart-ment. Carpet, laundry room. Ample park-ing, not assigned. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

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CROWN POINT. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. No pets. Nonsmoking. Off-street parking. Fireplace. Dishwasher. Laundry. Year lease. 4012 Morrell Street, #8. \$1920. \$1500 deposit. 858-405-4737.

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sauna. 201 Fourth Street. 858-481-9585; mikeatla@aol.com. **DEL MAR.** From \$2200. Vacation rental: 1552 Camino Del Mar #601 (almost oceanfront). Call for seasonal rates. Some ocean views. Interior laundry. Also 3 bedrom, 2 bath detached home: 667-A Hoska Drive, \$3200; long-term lease. Other properties available. Free rental/buying information by e-mail. Pictures at www.SanDiegoRealtor.com. Kohn & Burke, Inc., 858-755-8580. **DEL MAR.** Private 3, bedroom 2-1/2 bath

DEL MAR. Private 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome west of I-5. New carpet and , 2-car garage. No pets. \$2100/ n. 2752 Caminito Eldorado. Broker,

858-481-8185, www. IheLaskers.com. **DEL MaR/SOLANA BEACH.** \$500 deposits! 1 bedrooms from \$1295. 2 bedrooms from \$1500. 3 bedrooms from \$1940. 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.

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DOWNTOWN, NORTH. \$895-\$950. Large posit. Available now. 215 West Grape DSPM, Broker, 858-270-2071, www.

DOWNTOWN, EAST VILLAGE. Lowest priced! 2 bedroom 1 bath. 1-block Petco. Ceiling-floor windows, gym, washer/dryer. Metrome. Available 3/01/07. \$1745/month, \$1745/deposit. Owner/agent, 858-538-9100.

Owner/agent, 858-538-9100.

DOWNTOWN. San Diego's first hip hybrid hotel. Daily, \$39. Weekly, \$215. Weekend totel. Daily, \$39. Weekly, \$215. Weekend totel. Daily, \$39. Weekly, \$215. Weekend totel. Sourmet eat-in kitchen. European-style detached bathrooms. 500 West Hotel. 500 West Broadway. 619-234-5252. Toll free: 1-888-895-0875. www.500WestHotel.com.www.sdeader.com/ert/2114.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. February move-in special! Only \$675/month for 6 months! Utilities included! Monday-Friday months! Utilities included! Monday-Friday 8am-6pm, Saturday 8am-3pm. Near Petco Park, bus/trolley. Fully furnished. Bay/ballpark views. Underground parking. Air conditioning. Laundry. Internet. Clubhouse/library. Income qualify! Island Village. 1245 Market Street. For details, 1-800-351-0613. www.sdreader.com/rent/2070.

trict. Very quiet and clean. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, community kitchen, shared bathrooms. Near shopping, restaurants, movie theatres and Horton Plaza. No pets. Arlington

sdreader.com/rent/2097.

DOWNTOWN. Economical furnished rooms, \$400-\$500, best price, save money. Conveniently located on C Street tolley line, near restaurants, free cable TV, shared bathrooms, on-site laundry facilities, vending machines, elevator service, no pets, 636 C Street (between 6th and 7th). C Street Inn, Hughes Management, 619-234-4165. www.sdreader.com/rent/2098.

rent/2098.

DOWNTOWN. Cozy rooms, \$450-\$625, grab these little jewels today! Very comfortable, convenient location, historic building near C Street trolley. Choice of shared or private bathrooms. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator, no pets. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B, Hughes Management, 619-239-3808. www.sdreader.com/rent/2099.

rent/2099.

DOWNTOWN. Gaslamp area. Move-in special, \$280. Community kitchen, shared bath, on-site laundry, vending machines, no pets, Star Hotel, \$22 7th Avenue. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

DOWNTOWN. Outstanding furnished rooms, \$400-\$500. Heart of Gaslamp. Shared bathrooms. Community kitchen. Free cable TV. No pets. 843 4th Avenue. Windsor Hotel. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

DOWNTOWN. Attractive rooms. Shared bath. Utilities included! Near City Col-lege! \$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, \$59/daily, from \$210/weekly rates! Ideal, affordable, short-term stays. Private bathaffordable, short-term stays. Private bath-rhoom, 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. \$850-\$875. Beautiful stu-dios. Classic, spectacular building. Hard-wood floors. Full kitchen, bath. Murphy beds with built-ins. Laundry/storage on

beds with built-ins. Laundry/storage on site. Cat friendly. 619-233-3973. www. floit.com/biltmore.htm.

DOWNTOWN. Brand new rooms near City College. Single rooms with kitchenettes from \$150/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 luxury! Large 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. Two blocks to Petco Park. Balconies/pa-tics. \$1239-1584. Now leasing for Febru-ary 2007. Lillian Place Apartments. 110% area median income limit. 619-231-7585. DOWNTOWN. Studios with kitchen and bath, \$625-\$700. Single room with private bathroom, \$500-\$550. No smoking or pets. 10th and E Street. Hughes Management, 619-531-1616.

DOWNTOWN. 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. \$1599. Luxurious, historic El Cortez. Unfurnished/furnished. 1 bedroom corner unit. Pool/spa, gym, deck, valet parking, laundry. Excellent location near everything. Pets welcomed. 858-274-3487.

DOWNTOWN. 2 bedroom, 2 bath luxury unit in Discovery! Fully furnished, granite counters and maple cabinets. Unit overlooks courtyard with balcom, \$2200/month. www.SanDiegoBestRentals.com, 619-696-7368.

DOWNTOWN, 1 bedroom, 1 bath with large windows and vaulted ceilings in Acqua Vista. Granite counters and large open floor plan. \$1650/month. www. SanDiegoBestRentals.com. 619-696-7368.

DOWNTOWN. Acqua Vista. 1401 West Beech #1401. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Luxury corner unit. Stainless steel appliances, granite counter tops, heated pool, Jacuzzi, valet parking, exercise room,

ads with photos at

SanDiegoReader.com

com. 619-640-7530.

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 controlled access parking. \$1395/month. No pets. Nonsmoking. 619-549-8779.

DOWNTOWN. Beautiful building, new furnished rooms. Refrigerator, microwave, TV, cable. \$175, weekly. 920 Beech Street. Call 619-234-1952.

DOWNTOWN. \$850. Beautiful, large studio near Cal Western School of Law. Secure building. All utilities (water, power garbage) an additional \$110/month. Park ng optional (\$75/month). 702-521-6602.

DOWNTOWN. \$1225. Sharp 1 bedroom condo on Cortez Hill with balcony, pool condo on Correz mil with balcony, pec., washer/dryer in unit. Underground parking. Nonsmoking. Call agent, 619-303-DOWNTOWN. 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom

Victorian 4-plex. New everything! Close to Petco Park. 321 20th Street. \$1195/month, \$1000/deposit. Section 8 OK. Small pet. Bob, 619-760-6055.

DOWNTOWN. \$675. 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. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, flexible lease, close to Balboa Park, great downtown location. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-

DOWNTOWN. \$1895. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath condo, luxury condo in Little Italy district, pool, balcony, central air, exercise room. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.

DOWNTOWN, \$750, studio, Beautiful view or only rights: Quiet complex, gated parking, remote entry, laundry on premises. No pets. 1830 Market Street. 619-405-RENT(7368). of city lights! Quiet complex, gated park

RENT(7368).

DOWNTOWN. Bright, 1 bedroom condo.
Alarm, dishwasher, washer/dryer, microwave, granite. Gym, spa, recreation room. Controlled access building/parking. Pet considered. \$1295. 619-540-

DOWNTOWN. 777 Lofts. \$1375-\$1650. 1 bedrooms lofts. Ask about our move-in specia!! Gaslamp's hottest rental lofts located in the heart of restaurant row and Downtown's most popular 5th Avenue nightlife. Small pet considered. TPPM, 619-544-0017 or stop by 777 6th Avenue at F Street.

at F street.

DOWNTOWN. \$1200. 1 bedroom condo.

550 feet. Well-maintained, gated complex. Patio. Secure parking. Laundry.
Lasy access to I-94, downtown, Balboa

Park. Near 30th/Broadway. 858-472-

DOWNTOWN, \$1695. Studio/loft in The **DOWNTOWN.** \$1695. Studio/loft in The Atria. Lovely downtown living! Stackable washer/dryer. Dishwasher, all stainless steel appliances. Brand new development within walking distance to Petco Park and the convention center. Underground parking, amazing view! Must see! Call Sunrise Management at 858-751-6336. 120 Island Avenue. sunriseliving.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$1475. 1 bedroom condo. Washer/dryer, balcony, 24-hour gym, 9th floor overlooking pool/spa. 1 parking space. Pets OK. Lease/deposit. 619-252-9515.

9515.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. From \$800/month. Private bath, cable TV, microwave, refrigerator. Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Efficiency apartments with laundry. Near trolley/bus lines, blocks from harbor. On-site manager. Villa Caterina, 1654 Columbia Street. 619-232-3400.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. from \$1395 Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment with 9 foot ceilings. All appliances, central heat and air, controlled entry, and parking included. William Penn Building, 511 F Street. Call agent at 619-298-7232 or visit www.sbayproperties.com.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. From \$700-\$800. Live in unique urban mini lofts, located between Petco Park and Horton Plaza. Approximately 250 square feet, 12-foot ceilings, exposed brick, wood floors. Paid: cable/electric/water. Includes refrigerator and microwave. High speed internet available via Cox or SBC. On-site laundry, barbecue deck, bike racks. Im-

peccable renovation. Historic Beau-manor, 927 6th Avenue, at 6th and "E" Streets. No pets. To view: www.sdreader. com/rent/2127. Call Michael, 619-232-1517.

DOWNTOWN/City College area. \$1000/month. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Se-cured parking. Great location! No pets. 1065 15th. Move-in Special! Open Satur-day, 1-4pm. Terri, 619-247-0028.

DOWNTOWN/Little Italy. Contemporary, 2 bedroom 2 bath loft/condo combo. \$2500/month, includes gas, water, garbage, and complex amenities. Call 619-595-3107 or email mike@ 92101urbanliving.com.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Bright quiet studio, \$820. 1 bedroom \$1020. Bearclaw tub with shower. Charming, secure, quiet building with laundry. Ideal location. 1534 Front, near Beech. 619-233-7428

bedroom, 1 bath condo, granite counters, stainless appliances, balcony, gym, theater. Petco Park view from sky box. Penny Realty, 858-272-3900. DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. \$2350. Fur-

nished 2 bedroom, 2 bath top flo condo, stainless appliances, microwad dishwasher, washer/dryer, wood floors parking. Penny Realty, 858-272-3900.

DOWNTOWN/BANKER'S HILL. \$1700/month. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhome. Bay views with washer/dryer. Parking included. Call 619-255-0526 or visit www.sdurhankivinc.om

Studio in classic 1920s building. Built-ins, hide-a-bed. Drive by first, 2230 Albatross Street. Call 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.

DOWNTOWN/Ballpark. Watch the Padres play from this brand new Park Terrace 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Large balcony, water views, granite counters, direct ball park views and more! \$1750. www. SanDiegoBestRentals.com, 619-696-

DOWNTOWN/CORTEZ HILL, \$785. Studio. Limited access building, charming, quiet, residential neighborhood. Utilities paid. On-site laundry. No pets. EOH. 619-299-8746.

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. 619-297-9011.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. \$1500/month. 1 bedroom, walk-in closet. New carpet, Travertine, granite, black appliances. Secure building. Underground parking. Washer/dryer, balcony. Walk to ballpark. 619-269-1140.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. \$1500. Loft. 920 square feet. Pets OK, parking available, on-site manager, keyless entry system, laundry facility, cable ready/high-speed Internet capability, hardwood floors, large closets, dishwasher, electric range/stove, refrigerator, heating/air, exposed 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 Lofts in the heart of The Gaslamp! Roof decks with barbecuc Laundry on every floor. Parking available. Seven locations Downtown. Select pets OK. Visit loft leasing office: 315 Fourth Avenue. 619-231-1505 x12. www. trilogymanagement.com. Also visit www.sdreader.com/rent/2064.

sdreader.com/rent/2064.

DOWNTOWN/HARBOR VILLAGE. \$750.
Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Balcony. Laundry. Parking. Close to base,
Downtown, Coronado, NASSCO. Bay
views. 2850 Main Street. 619-857-0365.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. 2 bedroom 2 bath, Acqua Vista luxury condo, sunny with city lights view, balcony, washer/dryer, gym, rooftop pool. \$1925. Rebecca 858-245-9963. DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY, 2 bedroom

DUMNIUM/LITTLE ITALY. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, top-of-the-line La Vita condo with gorgeous bay views, 2 balconies, fire-place, custom paint and moldings and unique touches throughout. \$2800/month. www.SanDiegoBestRentals.com, 619-696-7368.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath lower apartment with patio New carpet, paint. Very nice unit! 2427 Kettner, \$1100/month. Manager, 619

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. \$1895. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Luxury condo, upstairs with balcony overlooking courtyard with pool/fountain. Washer/dryer, air conditioning, granite in open kitchen, great storage, underground parking, pool, ex-





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DULZURA. \$900. Country-style living! Newly remodeled. Large 2 bedroom. Washer, dryer. Lots of room for horses, pets. Beautiful mountain views. Available

EAST SAN DIEGO. \$1300. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath. New paint/carpet. Dishwasher. Gated parking for 2 cars. Laun-dry. 4416 47th Street #1. Agent,

619-298-7/24.

EL CAJON, \$750. 1 bedroom apartment.
Clean, gated, pool, laundry, off-street parking, air conditioning, refrigerator, stove, disposal. 718 South Magnolia Avenue. 619-312-0606.

EL CAJON, \$850. 2 bedroom. 1 hath Laundry, parking. Apartment completely reconditioned. New carpets, new paint. 444 Claydelle Avenue, 92020. No pets. Available 3/1/07. 858-488-4534.

EL CAJON, GRANITE HILLS. \$975. 2 bed-1-1/2 baths, view, dishwasher, air ioning, pool. Cat welcome. Call

EL CAJON, Near La Mesa \$975 Spa EL CAJUN. Near La Mesa. \$975. Spa-cious 2 bedroom, 2 bath upper with bal-cony plus large deck. Ceramic tile and carpet. Extremely quiet area. Pool, air conditioning. 862 South Mollison (at Mer-ritt). Shown by appointment, Broker, 619-548-4599.

EL CAJON. Fabulous 7 Motel. Furnished rooms starting \$224 per week. Parking. Pool. Cable. Maid service. Laundry. 24 hour security. 1527 East Main Street. 619-442-0457.

EL CAJON. \$750, half off 1st month. 1 bedroom spacious apartment, quiet 11-plex. Dishwasher, air, parking, on-site laundry. Section 8 OK. 222 Lincoln/Main. 619-957-7272.

619-957-7272.

EL CAJON. \$1175. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 1-car garage, laundry hookups, 945 square feet. No pets. 967 Amistad Court. Call 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

EL CAJON. \$795. 1 bedroom apartment. Central air/heat. Assigned off-sitreet parking with large storages available! \$699 move-in special, OAC. Se habla espanol. Regency Apartments, 708 North Mollison Avenue. 619-579-2929.

EL CAJON. Large, upper 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Central air. \$950/month. 1344 Oakdale. 619-574-8038.

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. One of the best properties in El Cajon. Secured parking and gated entry. No pets. 1018 East Lexington Avenue. TPPM, 619-838-8088, www.eastwindsants.com

EL CAJON. \$685, 1 bedroom. \$820, 2 bedroom. El Cajon's best maintained property with beautiful courtyard and sparkling pool. No pets. \$300 movenis special! 1072 East Madison Avenue. TPPM, 619-444-1614. www.

EL CAJON. \$695, 1 bedroom. Luxurious property with sparkling pool. On-site parking and large floorplans. No application fee! No pets. 163 Ballantyne Street. TPPM, 619-579-6248. www.tradewindsapts.info.

EL CAJON. \$1150. 3 bedroom upper with very large deck. Ceramic tile floors in very large deck. Ceramic tile floors in kitchen and dining room. Extra parking. Lots of grass and trees! 260 Lloyd Street. Shown by appointment, call Broker, 619-

EL CAJON, \$899. Nicer 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, balcony, dishwasher, central air/heat, on-site laundry, off-street parking. 241 East Bradley. Available now. Chris, 619-504-4995.

Chris, 619-504-4995.

EL CAJON. 2 bedrooms starting \$825.

Single level and two level apartments available. Great location with on site parking and laundry. 432/441 Dominguez Way. TPPM, 858-850-9722.

EL CAJON. 1 bedroom, \$700. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$800. Great amenities, peuroun, 1 Dath, \$800. Great amenities, air conditioning, laundry on-site, pool, recreation room, parking. Lushly land-scaped. No pets. 294 Ballantyne. 619-440-3044.

EL CAJON. \$970, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1270, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Pool. Parking. Air conditioning. No pets. Central location. 933 Peach Avenue. Call 619-447-9193.

EL CAJON. \$900. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, new carpet/vinyl. Vaulted ceilings, air condi-tioning, balcony. Call 619-593-0211.

EL CAJON. Duplex-like house. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 850 square-feet. Laundry hookups. Fenced yard, RV/boat storage. No Section 8. No pets. \$1075/month. 619-

ENCANTO, SOUTH, 6434 Akins Avenue #508.2 bedroom, 1 bath corner down-stairs condo. Gated community, off-street parking, laundry room on-site. Right next to trolly. Available 3/1. \$1400 rent. 619-640-7530, www.sdforrent.com.

ENCINITAS. \$1195. Newer, spacious 1 bedroom.

Internet/water/trash/landscaping. Offstreet parking. Huge walk-in closet with
washer/dryer. Large yard.
Nonsmoking/dogs. www.
bonitahouserental.com. 760-419-8400.

Bonitanouserental.com. 760-419-8400.

ENCINTAS. \$500 off second month with 6 or 12 month lease! \$300 deposit special! 1 bedrooms from \$1200. 2 bedrooms from \$1400. Pool, spa. Balconyl patio. Dishwasher. Ceiling fan. Large closets. Fireplace. Courtyard. Laundry fa. cility. Assigned parking. Cat-friendly. Seacrest Apartments, 117 Rosebay Drive. Toll free: 888-631-7121. www. sdreader.com/rent/2146.

ENCINITAS. \$995 and up. Sick of roommates? Cozy beach trailers in quiet park. Close to beach, Coaster, restaurants and shops. 760-753-4101.

FAMOUS FORMER NEIGHBORS

FAMOUS FORMER NEIGHB WALTER "WALLY" SCHIRRA WAS ONE OF THE FIRST U.S. ASTRONAUTS. HE'S THE ONLY MAN TO HAVE FLOWN IN THE MERCURY, GEMINI AND THE **APOLLO** SPACE PROGRAMS, PUT TING IN 295 HOURS IN SPACE. HE AND HIS WIFE JOSEPHINE HAVE A HOUSE IN RANCHO SANTA FE. HE'S A TRUSTEE AT SCRIPPS AQUARIUM ... WWW.MYSPACE.COM/JAYALLENSANFORD

ENCINITAS. Luxurious living 2 bedroom 1.5 bath. \$2295. Newly remodeled du plex. Granite, marble, washer/dryer, large yard. 2 blocks from beach! Small dog OK. Lease. 760-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. \$1900. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath across from beach. Parking. Hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings. Laundry. Available now. 1047 3rd Street. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

83

YEARS

OLD

ESCONDIDO. \$500 off first month! OAC, 12 month lease. 1 bedrooms from \$925. 2 bedrooms from \$1075. Patio/balcony. Air conditioning/heat. Dishwasher. Vaulted ceilings. Walk-in closets. Pool, spa. Bar-becues. Fitness center. Laundry facility. Assigned parking. Pets welcome! Felicita Creek, 301 West Vermont Avenue. Toll free: 888-626-6857. www.sdreader.com/

rent/2147.

ESCONDIDO. \$895-\$1695. Tired of apartment living? Beautiful 1, 2, 3, and 4 bedroom 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.

ESCONDIDO. \$795. \$300 off first month's rent! 1 bedroom with private balconylpatio surrounded by lots of open space. Gated entrance, air conditioning, fire-place. Pool, spa. Small pet OK. 720 East Mission. TPPM, 760-815-6210.

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. 760-489-9899. ESCONDIDO. \$795. \$300 off first month's

489-9999.

FASHION VALLEY. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Mission Bay view! Move-in Special: Half off first month's rent with 6-month lease. Near USD. All appliances, patio. Available 2/10. \$1695, water/trash included. 858-717-6003. www.belvueterrace.com.

FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$1200 rent \$600 deposit. OAC. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Laundry room. No pets. 1340 Eureka Street #24. 619-298-5820.

Street #24. 619-298-5820.

FASHION VALLEY/USD, \$1150 rent \$600 deposit OAC. 2 bedroom 2 bath townhouse, 2 parking spots. Bonus den sity unit. Laundry, walk to USD. No pets at 5550 Mildred Street #13, 619-291

FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$1200 rent, \$600 deposit, OAC. 2 bedroom, 2 bath fourplex, upper unit. Granite counters. 2 parking spots. No pets. At 1357 Brunner Street, 610-208 5920

FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$950 rent. \$600 deposit OAC. 2 bedroom 1 Dath appearment. Walk to USD, parking, bonus density unit. No pets, at 5550 Mildred St #6. 619-291-1755.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1525. 2 bedroom FASHION VALLEY, \$1525. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, garage, storage, pool, 1000 square feet, patio, washer/dryer. Overlooking golf course, Mission Greens 6737 Friars Road #206. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

FASHION VALLEY, Townhouse, \$1650. Large 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, fireplace, 2-car garage with 8'x10' storage room, washer/dryer. Nonsmoking. 5803 Riley Street. 858-459-3531

FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$1500. 2 bed room, 2 bath condo. 2-car garage. Nice home, quiet area. 6616 Canyon Rim Court

FLETCHER HILLS. \$1060-\$1805. Spa cious 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms. Peaceful community. Gym, club room, luscious landscaping, heated pool. Near shopping/freeways. 2675 Fletcher Parkway. 619-469-2344.

GOLDEN HILL, Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath \$775/\$850. Hardwood floors. Great neighborhood, laundry on site. Available now. No dogs. 2412 E Street. 619-857-

GOLDEN HILL, \$675. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Quiet complex. Must Be Income-Qualified! Secured off-street parking. No pets. 2787 "E". Open Saturday/Sunday, 1-4pm. Marty, 619-237-5402.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$1075. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Recently re-modeled, tiled living room, kitchen, hall-way/bath. Freshly painted. Pool. On site laundry. 1714 Grove Street #17. 619-962-

GOLDEN HILL, \$900. Spacious 2 bed-room 1 bath, park view. New carpet/paint, off-street parking, laundry room. 4-unit complex. 2715 A Street. 619-234-2844,

619-807-3653.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$825.
Charming studio cottage. Newly refinished hardwood floors. Full kitchen/bath.
Small, private yard. Utilities included.
Cats OK. www.goldhenhillpm.com.
Agent, 619-234-9553.

GOLDEN HILL/DOWNTOWN. Fantastic city views! 1 and 2 bedroom flats and two bedroom townhomes. \$1105-\$1670. Controlled access entry. Bright, beautiful floorplans. Central air/heat. Microwave. Washer/dryer. Sunny rooftop deck. Barbecue areas. Spa. Parking garage. Pet friendly! Golden Pacific, 1015-19th Street. friendly! Golden Facine, 1010 1-800-433-6156. www.pacific www.sdreader.com/rent/2028.

GOLDEN HILL. \$850. 1 bedroom duplex cottage. Kitchen, bath, living room, back patio. Gated complex. Available now. Call 619-303-6585.

619-303-6585.

GOLDEN HILL. One bedroom, includes utilities, high speed Internet. Private, bright, flagstone floor, yard, deck, view, easy street parking, 8825 plus deposit. Call Linda, 619-696-7070.

GOLDEN HILL. \$875. 2 bedroom, 1 bath.
New paint. Very clean. Single story complex. Laundry on site. No pets. 2810
Broadway. Move-in special! Manager,

619-929-8127.

GOLDEN HILL. \$825. 1 bedroom. Gated entry and parking, laundry, dishwasher. 3013 C Street. 619-546-9852.

GOLDEN HILL. \$850. 1 bedroom third floor condo. Gated. Berber carpet. Lots of light. Off-street parking. Laundry room. Cat OK. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

619-234-9553.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 2 bath.
Berber carpet. Off-street parking. Laundry on site. Storage. Dining area. Balcony. Cats OK. www.goldhenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

Agent, 619-234-9553. **GOLDEN HILL/DOWNTOWN.** 1 bedroom, \$835 includes utilities. Historical building, hardwood floors, decorator colors, view. On-site laundry, near bus line. Cat OK with deposit. 619-231-8723.

GOLDEN HILL. \$850. Huge 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Cat friendly. Close to Downtown. Off-street parking. Open house, Saturday 2:00-3:00pm. 2637-1/2 C Street. Call 858-

967-7330.

GOLDEN HILL. Newly remodeled 1 bedroom historic Victorian flat. Secured entry. High ceilings. Wood floors. Yard. Laundy. \$899. 2449 G Street. 619-236-1186.

HILLOREST, \$1200. Great location in the heart of Hillcrest! Spacious 1 bedroom, freshly painted, clean. Laundry facilities, pool, jacuzzi, assigned parking. Cat OK. Available. 619-435-8550.

AVAIIADIE. 019-435-8550.

HILLCREST, \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Great location! Secure parking. No pets. Spanish style complex. 3520 1st Avenue. Move-in Special! Open Saturday, 1-4pm. Kathy, 619-299-6610.

Nathy, 619-299-6610. HILLCREST, \$1000. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, lower. Nice garden apartment with carpet and tiled floors. Clean gated complex. Walk to famous San Diego Zoo and Baboa Park. Cat OK. 3634 Park Boulevard #3634. Available 3/10. www.cethron.com, 610.006 41000

619-295-1100.

HILLCREST. \$1500/month including utilities. Very large 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, wood floors, carpet and tile. Dishwasher. On-site laundry. Views! 3977 Georgia. 619-962-1887.

HILLCREST. \$875. Utilities included. Studio. Very large, separate kitchen, wood floors, cathedral ceilings, lots of charm. On site laundry. 3977-1/2 Georgia Street. 619-962-1887.

HILLCREST. Large 1 bedroom apartment, 1-car garage, great location near Balboa Park, 2930 5th Avenue. No pets. \$975. 619-508-1513.

HILLCREST, \$825 includes utilities. Quiet studio. Very private. Hardwood floors, walk-in closet, off-street parking. No pets. Lease. 3762 Georgia Street. 619-295-1710.

HILLCREST. Spacious 1 and 2 bed-rooms! Berber carpet, fireplace, spa, gym, intercom, elevator. Sorry, no pets. 4134 4th Avenue. See photos at www. WexfordLiving.com. 619-299-0047.

HILLCREST. \$1375. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath rear duplex. All appliances. Garage. A must-see. Patio area. Call for appointment. 3752 Dove Street. Available now. Boone Property Management, 858-274-6856. www.booneproperties.com.

HILLCREST. \$700. Unfurnished studio, large corner unit. Murphy bed, hardwood floors, private kitchen and bath. Laundry. Clean, quiet, secure. No pets. Near bus line. 619-295-5525.

HILLCREST. 1400+ square feet, 2 bed-room, 1 bath. Living room, dining room den, hardwood floors. Available March 1. \$1500. Call Stan, 619-294-2428.

HILLCREST. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 3835 Third Avenue. 800 square feet, hardwood floors, laundry on site, parking. Walk to all! Available 3/9.858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

HILLCREST. \$930. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upper corner unit. Parking, laundry. 1274.5 Essex Street. Available now. No pets. 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

HILLCREST. \$595/month. Cozy studio with welcoming garden gazebo. Hardwood floors and comfy living/bedroom area. Small kitchen and bathroom. Central courtyard for barbecuing. 1270-1/2 Robinson. Call 619-293-7426.

Hobinson. Call 619-293-7426.

HILLCREST, \$835. 1 bedroom. Charming, old, old, old Spanish-style duplex. Stove, refrigerator. Nice shared lawn area. Cat K with additional \$300 deposit. Available now. 3759 Fourth Avenue. Del Sol Property Management. Broker, 858-270-2071. www.delsolpm.com.

HILLCREST, \$1395. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Stove refrigerator. 2 private pa-

cottage. Stove, refrigerator, 2 private patios, large garage, coin laundry, new carpet. Convenient location. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available now. 3935-1/2 Centre. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.

deisolpm.com.

HILLCREST. \$1225-\$1595. Large 2 bedrooms and 3 bedrooms available with
new carpet and paint. Refrigerator, stove,
on-site laundry. 1617 Brookes Avenue.
619-291-5555. www.utopiamanagement.

HILLCREST. Top-floor 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in 4-story building, views, Pergo, air conditioning, 2 parking. Walk to Balboa Park, restaurants, shops. \$1550. Nancy, 619-548-4395.

HILLOREST. \$1150.3807 Park Boulevard. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Lovely cottage. Behind 'Numbers.' Fenced. Front and back decks. Laundry room shared with tenants. Street parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

atty, p.19-291-6686.

HILLCREST, \$1150, 1807 University Avenue, behind the Crypt. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Great cottage! Breakfast nook, hardwood floors, laundry room, street parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

HILLCREST. \$800. 3820 Georgia Street between Robinson and University. 1 bed-room, 1 bath, downstairs. Carpet, laundry

room, one assigned parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

...AND A DIRECTOR

MUSEUM, WHICH

HAS A SCHIRRA

DISPLAY THAT

SPACESUIT.

SPEAKER, HE EARNS

\$13,500. HE WAS

PLAYED IN THE FILM

THE RIGHT STUFF ...

INCLUDES HIS

AT THE AEROSPACE

HILLCREST. \$600. 3843 Park Boulevard. Studio. Second floor. Separate bathroom and kitchen. Laundry room, street parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6886

hillCREST. \$775. 1 bedroom. Brand new paint and carpet! Bottom floor unit. Laundry onsite. No pets. 4272-78 Cam-pus Avenue. Agent, 619-521-2058. HILLCREST. \$825/month, \$825 deposit. Quiet 1 bedroom in caryon with laundry

Quiet 1 bedroom in canyon with laundry and parking. 4544 Maryland Street, #10. 619-466-8153.

619-466-8153.

**MILLCREST. Senior building. 62 and up/disabled. \$995/month. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated community. Elevator, recreation room. Underground parking. Pet welcome. Call 619-294-4146.

HILLCREST. \$800. Studio. Great Hillcrest area. Walk to year. Walk to Hill Crest Walk to All. Hardwood floors, full kitchen and bath. 3855 Front Street. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

httLCREST. \$975. Available for your consideration is this classic 1920s studio in pristine condition. Unit was painstakingly restored to its 1920s vintage splendor. All hardwood floors were refinished. The kitchen/bath ceramic tile was replaced as pristingly. kitchen/bath ceramic tile was replaced as original. Features a separate kitchen area with built-in dining booth. Full-size gas range with micro hood. Walk-in closet with built-in dresser. Built-in Murphy bed, french doors. Full size bathroom with ceramic tile shower enclosure. Dual ceiling fans in the living area. 2 entrances. Very private, shares no common walls with the other studio. Replicating the originality was our goal with this unit and I believe it was accomplished. Don't miss this opportunity to live in one of Hillcrest's premier apartment complexes. Cat OK. Security deposit \$700. One year lease required. 3750 4th Avenue. Call Scott, 619-846-

HILLCREST. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 1 bath plus den in fourplex. Upstairs unit in front, private patio, laundry, new carpet, new paint. 3716 Vermont Street. CCPM, 619-

HILLCREST. \$1000. 1 bedroom, 1 bath townhouse, 2 levels, balcony, Parking, Close to shopping. 4039 Brant Street. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

zyo-b699.

HILLCREST. 1/2 off first month! \$1125, 1
bedroom. \$1375, 2 bedroom. Tiled
kitchen. New carpet. Downstairs. Ceiling
fan, microwave. Gated entry. Parking.
Laundry. No pets. 3914 Centre. 619-2947044.

HILLCREST. Studio, \$815. 1 bedroom, \$945. Great location, quiet area. Off-street parking, laundry. Cat OK. 4166 4th Avenue. 619-298-7868. www.rasnyder.

HILLCREST. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2

HILLCREST. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Immaculate apartment in quiet, professionally managed complex. Barbecue patio. Coin laundry. Off-street parking. Near Henry's Marketplace. No pets. 4225 Georgia Street. TPPM, 619-299-1004.
HILLCREST. \$975, 1 bedroom. Vintage, upstairs apartment in '30s Spanish-style, small complex, lots of charm. Gorgeous ceilling beams. Excellent location! Walk to stores. No pets. Street parking only. 643 Pennsylvania Avenue. TPPM, 619-296-8802.

HILLCREST. Small 1 bedroom. Great location. Walking distance to shopping, restaurants, Balboa Park and much more. Small, quiet complex with laundry facilities. Small, full grown pets on approval. 619-296-2787.

hillCrest. Senior complex. 55+ living! \$815. 1 bedroom apartments. Gated community. Convenient location. Near nospitals, restaurants, shopping. No pets. Hillcrest Palms, 4042 Albatross Street. 619-574-0784.

CENTRAL

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by

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AQUARIUM SALE at Octopus's Garden.
20H aquarium \$20; 29 for \$29; 40R \$40.
Even a 60E is just \$60. Other tank specials also. Lots of healthy saltwater fish and beautiful corals. Protein skimmers. Lighting systems, pumps, decorations and supplies at low prices at Octopus's and supplies at low prices at Octopus's Garden. Noon-9pm, 7 days. Call 858-576-7449.

AQUARIUM, 65 gallon, fully set up, freshwater, cabinet/hood, pine, lights, heater, gravel, stones, fish, more, ready to go, bring your buckets, \$475/best. Gary, leave message, evenings best, 760-753-

AQUARIUMS AND PONDS! Freshwater/ saltwater fish. Extensive reef animals. 9000 square feet. Low warehouse prices! Expertise not found in Southern California Expertise not found in Southern Californic cookie-cutre stores! Aquatic Warehouse. 5466 Complex Street #204, San Diego. Behind Superior Courthouse, off Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. www. aquaticwarehouse.com. Daily, 10am-7pm. Saturday, 10am-6pm. Surday, 11am-6pm. 858-467-9297.

BARK IN THE PARK, Sunday, February 25, 2007, 2pm, Spreckels Organ Pavilion Balboa Park. Concert and pet parade benefiting the Humane Society, http://www.serve.com/sosorgan/, 619-702-8138.

BENGAL LEOPARD BOY, exotic rosetted our silver bullet, TICA registered, parents on board. Please come and see. Vista, North. 760-724-9316.

BIRD CAGE, Cockatoo cage, ringstand playgym, macaw-size carrier. \$100. 619 BUY/SELL/TRADE reptiles, amphibians, turtles, tortoises, snakes, lizards. Largest reptile selection in Southern California Voted #1 in San Diego. Pet Kingdom, 619

CANARIES can sing better than you for the momma. North County. Please call 760-724-9316. CAT LOVERS WANTED. Help save lives and give rescued cats/kittens a change

and give rescued cats/kittens a change by caring for them in your home until the are ready for adoption. All medical ex penses are covered. You provide food, lit-ter, and love. Can you help them? Please call The Rescue House at 760-591-1211. CHIHUAHUA, 1-1/2 years old, neutered,

tiny. Personality plus, not a barker. Needs stable adults only home. Smooth coat, tan \$100. 619-583-5122. COCKATIELS Beautiful, healthy, friendly mating pair. Yellow orange cheek pied, grey white pearly. Sunny, cookie. Includes beautiful cage, toys extras \$175. Will not separate 619-295-2551.

DOG KENNEL CRATE with pad, PetMate Deluxe, new, 36"x24", \$100. 858-274-

DOGS. FOCAS is a trusted name in pet adoptions. Call for information on a variety of wonderful rescued pets. Always altered, microchipped, vaccinated. Most \$150 donation. 619-685-3536.

GERMAN SHEPHERDS, pure AKC males, white, absolutely awesome, \$600 to good home only. 760-749-8091.

nome only. 76U-749-8091.

PIT BULL PUPPIES For sale. American red nose, chocolate colors, 1 light with dark muzzle, and 1 all black. \$250 with shots. Call Aaron 619-602-1078.

POODLE, Neutered, 14 pounds, 2 years. Mellow, not barky. Likes other dogs. Needs some housebreaking work, \$150. 619-466-0426.

619-466-0426 619-466-0426. PuPPIES. American Bull Dog. ABA registered, shots, de-wormed. Good disposition, protectors, great family pets. Males and females, predominantly white. \$800, 951-652-9344. sidcottrell18@verizon.net.

PUPPIES. French bulldog, 4 weeks old AKC certified. Now accepting deposits 858-336-4419.

PUREBRED MINIATURE DACHSHUNDS, Long-haired. 2 male \$500/each, 2 female \$750/each. 7 weeks. Dam is CKC registered. Sire is AKC registered. Serious inquiries only. 619-808-1964.

TOY RAT TERRIER PUPPIES, UKC, black



San Diego Reader February 22, 2007

HILLCREST/BANKER'S HILL. 1, 2 bed-rooms from \$1040. Low deposits! Pool, sauna, jacuzzi. Clubhouse, fitness center, billiard lounge. Laundry room. Off-street parking. 111 West Pennsylvania Avenue. 619-298-3225.

HILLCREST/UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$895. Spacious, upstairs 1 bedroom apartment in 1920s, Spanish 6-unit com-plex. High ceilings, crown molding, hard-wood floors, ceramic tile kitchen/bath

HILLCREST/UPTOWN. \$725. All utilities paid. Studio. Historic art-deco building on quiet street. New carpet and paint. Murphy bed. Laundry. Casa Properties, 619-297-1942.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. 2 bed-room, 2 bath with small background plus front patio. Lots of closets! Ceramic tile and carpet. Locked lobby with intercom. 3836 Front Street. Shown by appoint-ment: Broker, 619-548-4599.

ment: Broker, 619-548-4999.

**MILLCREST/NORTH PARK. \$795 includes utilities, 500-square-foot studio available 3/1, 109 University. \$895, large 2 bedroom, laundry, parking, 4141

Wabash. No pets, 1-year lease. 619-286-

IMPERIAL BEACH. Steps to beach! 2 bedroom, 1-1/2+ bath condo, 1-car bedroom, 1-1/2+ bath condo, 1-car garage. All appliances, 2-story, fenced patio. \$1395/month. Lease. Agent, Bill, 619-575-1674.

IMPERIAL BEACH, \$1295-\$1395 Newly remodeled 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 to 2 bath condos. Steps to beach. Heated pool, views. All appliances. 1111 Seacoast. Agent Bill, 619-575-1674.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$1700, plus security deposit. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Re-modeled, new paint, flooring, fixtures and window treatments. Private yard. Laundry facility. 760-534-2066.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$795, large 1 bedroom. \$200 off first month! Laundry. Courtyard. Carpet. Gated. Storage. \$600 deposit. No pets. 750 11th Street. 619-423-4610.

423-46 10. KEARNY MESA. 1 bedrooms/2 bedrooms from \$885. Centrally located at I-805 and Highway 163. Pool, spa, laundry, microwave, parking. Vista Capri North apartments. 3277 Berger Avenue. 858-560-6067, www.rasnyder.com.

KEARNY MESA. \$1495. Gorgeous and new 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo! Granite counters, upgraded carpeting, dark maple finish cabinets, stainless steel appliances! Washer/dryer included! Garage available. 858-598-1111 x190, www.

KENSINGTON. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Split level with hardwood floors, 1-car garage, laundry on-site, 800 square feet. Available 3/8. Cat OK. 4150 Hilldale. 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

KENSINGTON. 4506 Kensington Drive. 2 bedroom. 1 bath downstairs unit with

garage, private yard. Beautiful area. \$1400 rent. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs unit. Laundry on-site, off-street parking. \$900 rent. www.sdforrent.com, 619-640-

LA JOLLA Racquet Club. \$1400. Large luxury 1 bedroom condo. Upgrades. Near La Jolla Shores. Tennis, pool, sauna, Jacuzzi, gym. secured parking. No pets. 858-451-6185.

LA JOLLA Village, \$1500. Split level: living, kitchen, balcony below; bedroom, bath, walk-in closet above. In-unit laun-dry. Gated entry, garage parking. Her-schel Street. Jeff, 760-522-8735.

schel Street. Jeff, 760-522-6735.

LA JOLLA. \$825. Studio, refrigerator, washer/dryer, off street parking. Near Windansea and village. No pets. Nonsmoking. Agent, 858-456-3211.

LA JOLLA. \$2250. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Patio with view of the ocean. Walk to beach. Garage, washer/dryer hookups, dishwasher. 7005 La Jolla Boulevard #2. Call 858-490-1600, kandrproperties.com.

LA JOLLA. Studio. Amazing location. One block to Starbucks, beach and bus. Prospect Street. Kitchen with appliances. Walk-in closet, laundry. \$1195-\$1450, includes utilities. 858-336-0252.

LA JOLLA. \$1050. Studio, 1 bath apartment, pool, laundry on site, close to UCSD/beach and shopping centers. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com.

LA JOLLA. \$1295. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, pet OK, flexible lease, pool, fitness center, salon and spa. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-

LA JOLLA. \$1390. 2 bedroom, 1.75 baths apartment, pool, laundry on site, close to UCSD/beach and shopping centers. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com.

LA JOLLA. \$1025. Studio in the village. Garden setting. New windows. Laundry room. 7555 Herschel Avenue. 858-459-1102.

bath. Immaculate garden-style complex in central village location. Walk to beach and shops. Fireplace, 2 parking spaces. Lease. No pets. 7601 Eads Avenue. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

TPPM, 858-699-3851.

A JOLLA. \$1595.1 bedroom. Fabulous apartment in La Jolla Village. Close to beach, restaurants, shops. Fully remodeled kitchen and bathroom. Travertine floors, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances. No pets. 333 Prospect Street. TPPM, 858-459-8242.

IFPM, 858-499-8242. **LA JOLLA/UCSD.** \$1695. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with attached garage. Hardwood floors. High ceilings. 2 decks. Pool, jacuzzi. Tennis. No pets/smoking. Available 3/5. Diane, 760-815-5349.

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$1700. 2 bedroom 2 bath. Near UCSD, shopping. Newly up graded, quiet poolside condo. Near car

port parking, laundry room. Nonsmoking. Cat OK. 619-261-6927.

LA MESA, \$1350. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Fireplace, balcony, washer/dryer in unit. Parking. A must see! Available now. 4847 Parks Avenue #2. 619-295www.cethron.com.

LA MESA, \$1025. Nice 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, 2-story townhome. New carpet, 2 parking spaces, laundry. Available 2/27/07. Will consider small pet. 4261 Lowell Street #3. 619-295-1100. www.

cettron.com.

LA MESA. \$925, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, balcony; \$1125, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upper, balcony; \$1175, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, downstairs, yard. 619-697-3285. For photo, floor plans, map and directions, see website: www.sdreader.com/ rent/ 1035

1035.

LA MESA. \$925. 1 bedroom. Hardwood floors or carpet, new appliances, freshly painted. Laundry facilities. Garage available. Small pets OK. Section 8 OK. Available now. Call Tony, 619-316-3473.

LA MESA. \$910, 1 bedroom, \$450 deposit. Carport space. Storage. Laundry. Pool. Gated. No pets. Available now. 619-698-7926. villaknollsapts.com.

LA MESA. \$1250 rent, \$800 deposit.
OAC. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath town-house. Duplex. New carpet. No pets.
4857 Jessie Street (at El Cajon Boule-vard). 619-299-8515.

vara). 619-299-8515.

LA MESA. \$200 off first month's rent. OAC. 1 bedrooms from \$795. 2 bedrooms from \$950. Great location with beautiful interior courtyard, off-street parking, pool and laundry room. Chevy Chase Apartments, 3742 Fairway Drive.

619-698-3467.

A MESA. \$925 includes utilities. 1 bed-room, 1 bath downstairs apartment in gated hillside home. New paint, laminate flooring, shared laundry, on-street park-ing, patio. Agent, 619-463-2971.

Ing. patto. Agent., 619-403-2971.

LA MESA, \$1500. Townhome, newer spacious 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath with huge 2 car attached garage. In-unit laundry, vaulted ceilings, skylights, private patio. 619-260-1991.

LA MESA. \$925, 1 bedroom. Award winning community for beautiful landscaping. Pool and spa. Great location. No pets. 5500 Morro Way. TPPM, 619-884-7900, www.villageaptslamesa.com.

LA MESA. \$895. Charming 1950s 1 bed-room apartment located in the heart of the room apartment located in the heart of the Village. Located on the first level of a small quiet complex this unit will take you back to a simpler way of life. The unit still retains its original kitchen countertops and cabinets. All the original interior doors and many other classic features. New ceiling fans in the bedroom and living room. Property has on-site laundy and is close to many shops and restaurants. Low deposit of \$500. 6-month lease required. Sorry, no pets allowed. 8437 LA Mesa Boulevard. Please call Scott between 9am-5pm, 619-846-6615.

LA MESA. \$965, 2 bedroom. \$350 off first month! Upstairs. Garage. Garden court-

LA MESA. \$910, 1 bedroom. \$1210/up, 2 bedroom. Across Grossmont Center, trolley and Costco. Quiet, spacious units. Resort living pools. Mellmanor Apartments. 8750 Mellmanor Drive. Call 619-461-1940.

LA MESA. \$1050/month. 2 bedroom, 2 bath upstairs. Appliances. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. Easy freeway access. Near SDSU. No pets. Jessie Apartments, 4853 Jessie Avenue, La Mesa, CA. 91941. Call Bob Cota Realty, 619-465-9934.

LA MESA. \$1525. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, oak cabinets, upgraded appliances, washer/dryer, air conditioning, large patio, barbecue area, pool, spa, gated, near trolley. Pets negotiable. 8220 Vincetta Drive #4. 619-804-3325.

LA MESA. 1 bedroom, \$695. 2 bedroom, \$995. First month's rent: \$300 off. Pool, parking, laundry. Open house Saturday and Sunday, 3-5pm. Street. Call 619-466-

LA MESA. 1 bedrooms, \$890/up. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse, \$1190. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1425. 2-car carport. Spacious apartments. Near Grossmont Center. Great neighborhood. Convenient to all! 5545 Morro Way. Available. 619-985-3500.

LA MESA. 2 bedrooms, \$995/up. Move-in special, OAC. Great location. Spacious. Air conditioning. Gated complex. Laundry. Tenant parking. No pets. Lease. 619-303-4969.

303-4969.

LA MESA. Huge 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1250. Private fenced yard, air conditioning, covered parking. Available now. 5434 Lake Murray Boulevard. Agent, 619-260-1368. View at www.sevillemgmt.com.

LA MESA. Move-in special! Good credit equals half off first month. \$900 security deposit. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Water included. Pool, parking, laundry. 7629 Normal Avenue. 619-303-0895.

Normal Avenue. 619-303-0895.

LA MESA. Move-in special, \$200 off first month. \$925/month. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs. Pool and saunas. Off-street parking. On-site laundry facilities. Close to downtown La Mesa, trolley, shops, schools and freeways. Cats welcome upon approval. Available now. Crestview Apartments, 4515 3rd Street. Call on-site manager, 619-469-5010 or Bob Cota Realty, 619-465-9934.

LA MESA. Section 8 welcome! \$945/month, water included. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Pool, parking, laundry. 7633 Normal Avenue. 619-303-0895.

LA MESA. Studios and 1 bedrooms in secluded, hillside complex. All appliances, air conditioning, private patios/balconies in all units. No pets. Call for specials! 619

LA MESA. Starting \$1445/up. 2 bedroom, luxury apartments, fireplace, laundry hookups, patio/balcony, pool, spa, garage parking. 5519 Lake Murray Boulevard. For pricing, 619-698-7600.

LA MESA/CASA DE ORO. 3 bedroom, 2 baths, from \$1325! 2 bedrooms from \$1075! 1 bedrooms from \$895. Elegant, sculptured courtyards with flower gardens, fountains, gas lamps, park benches. Charming, New Orleans ambiance. Huge patios/balconies. Gated access and gated parking. Small pet OK. 3903 Conrad Drive. Call 866-894-6343.

LA MESA/LAKE MURRAY, \$1295. Avail LA MESA/LAKE MURRAY. \$1295. Available for your consideration is this beautiful 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment located in one of La Mesa's most popular areas. Recent major renovations to this unit included all new ceramic tile kitchen countertops and Italian ceramic tile floors with granite accents. All new decorative interior doors. Crown mouldings, all new fixtures. Appliances upgraded as needed. All new carpet, new baseboards and new All new carpet, new baseboards and new window treatments. Master bedroom has a walk-in closet with built-in organizer. Mirrored closet doors in the other bedroom. Painted in designer colors. Range, micro hood, refrigerator, dishwasher and disconditional visits and other parts. air conditioning included. Off-street park-ing and on-site laundry. Cat OK. 1 year lease required. \$850 deposit. Credit check fee \$30.5543 Shasta Lane at Lake Murray Boulevard. For more details call 619-725-3648. To schedule a showing 619-725-3648. Io schedule a showing call the resident manager, 619-460-9107. LAKESIDE. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Quiet location. Private laundry and park-ing. Recent remodel. Great neighbor-hood. View. Paid utilities (less cable.) 800

square feet. Nonsmoking. No pets. \$1100.619-405-6159. LAKESIDE. Mobile home, 55+ community, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$825/month on approved credit. Includes pool and club-619-443-3600.

nouse. 619-443-3600.

LAKESIDE. \$975/month. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. \$1325. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Appliances. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. Easy freeway access. Near schools and shopping. Dogs welcome upon approval. Woodglen Apartments, 12905 Mapleview Street, Lakeside, CA. 92040. Call manager Brandi at 619-390-9753.

LEMON GROVE, \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Nice, spacious, upstairs unit, close to all. Laundry available. Street parking. Available now. Move-in Special \$300 off 1st month's rent on approved credit. 3320 Vista Avenue #8. 619-295-1100. www.

new large condo! \$1400/month. Walk-in closets, granite, stainless. Private patio, community pool. 3565 Grove Street #139,

per duplex with balcony, in-unit washer/dryer. Quiet street. No pets/smok-ing. \$1050. Available now. 2726 Drew

Lane. 619-464-1023. **LEMON GROVE.** \$975. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Extra storage. Assigned parking. Large backyard. Walking distance to trol-ley. Close to freeways and shopping. Pet negotiable. 619-465-4434.

LEUCADIA. \$1600. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Laundry on site. Patio. Parking. Cat OK. Available now. 243 East Glaucus Street #E. More Property Management,

EUCADA. Studio with separate bed-room, bath, kitchen. Rustic-like, wood in-terior. Convenienty located. Beach/ freeway close. Private parking. \$1000/ month. Call 760-944-7331.

LINDA VISTA. \$685. Studio, utilities included. Laundry, gated parking. \$400 deposit. No pets. Astro Vista Apartments, 2249 Ulric Street. Call Monday-Friday for ent. 858-565-6400.

LINDA VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. First month's rent: \$795. Call 619-249-9585.

month s rent: \$/95. Call 619-249-9565.

LINDA VISTA. \$1000. Upper and lower 2 bedroom apartments available. Recently remodeled, one with patio and one with balcony. Parking. 6752 Kelly Street. Agent, 619-281-4698.

Agent, 619-281-4098.

LOGAN HEIGHTS. \$725. 1 bedroom, upstairs end unit. New paint. Very clean! Parking and laundry onsite. 430 South Willie James Jones. \$300 off first month's rent! Agent, 619-283-2144.

Fentt Agent, 619-283-2144.

LOGAN HEIGHTS. Large studio, separate kitchen, walk-in closet, new paint/carpet/flooring, private-- behind home, off-street parking. \$800, utilities included. A&P Realty 619-425-4555.

MIRA MESA. Up to 1-1/2 month's free rent! \$0 deposit! Studio from \$1140. 1 bedrooms from \$1285. 2 bedrooms from \$1436, Pets welcome. 5 pools, spas. Cov-ered parking. Central air/heat. Fitness conter. Patics/balconion 4. center. Patios/balconies. 4 laundry rooms. Gas barbecues. Dishwasher. Gables Summerset, 11102 Caminito Al-varez. 1-888-610-2836. www.sdreader.

MIRA MESA. \$1350. Large (over 900 square feet), very clean 2 bedroom, 2 bath, second-level condo in treesy "Heritage at Concord Square." Just north of Mira Mesa Blvd. and east of Camino Ruiz. Popular "suites" floorplan. Gas range, re-frigerator, dishwasher, stacked washer/ dryer, air conditioning, large private patio

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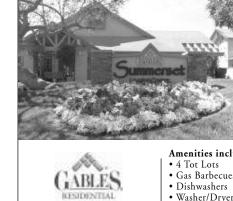
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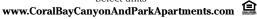
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Gorgeous Flirt

It was the summer before my second year at the University of Arizona when I learned that Christine was graduating Coronado High School and was to attend the U of A. Christine was what my friends and I called a "trinket," a gorgeous flirt with a perfect body who was at all the best parties. She was highly sought after but unattainable and unapproachable to most. I saw her on the beach one afternoon and introduced myself, though we kind of "knew" each other from passing each other in the hallways. I told her I'd be glad to show her around, to get her squared away at the university and around town. Figured it was the nice thing to do, especially since she was the girlfriend of one of my best friends, John.

I lived in a prime off-campus location directly across the street from the university with two of my friends from my freshman year. Christine lived in the dorms, walking distance from our house. Like many college sophomores, partying was our first priority. While most other campus parties served Coors, we would buy expensive kegs of Heineken and ask for donations. Our attendees were so impressed

with our quality beer that they gave generously. We actually made money on several occasions.

Christine came to most all our parties, which would go late into the night — too late for her to walk home safely. "You can sleep here," I would tell her, and I was always careful to keep my distance. "She's off limits," I'd say to myself. "She's my best friend's girl, and I have a girlfriend at home." Christine was okay with that, knowing that she was in the company of her boyfriend's best friend. We slept in the same bed several times, paying strict attention to the imaginary line drawn down the middle. 'That's your side; this is mine. Goodnight."

It was the third or fourth sleepover when we woke up to find ourselves face to face. Our good intentions were forgotten. We rolled around for hours that night. That was all it took — I was in love, full tilt, all the way. I suppose I had been before that, but our new physical experience confirmed it. But it was difficult for us. "This isn't right," we both thought. "We both have someone back home. What happened to our discipline?" Nonetheless, we were inseparable from September to December. We had so much fun together. Christine got along great with all my friends, and I was crazy in love. Over my love for Christine I was prepared to break it off with my girlfriend and lose one of my best friends.

The semester was coming to a close. Christmas break approached. We'd both be going back to Coronado to spend the holidays with our loved ones. That's when she dumped me. "I love John," she said. "We can't tell anyone what

we've done." I was crushed. I felt sick to my stomach. How could she not be in love with me like I was with her? How could she turn off the feelings I knew she had?

It took the entire next semester to get over Christine. We hung out a bit, but it wasn't the same. Years later, John mentioned something to me about trust. I'm not sure how he found out.

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LEAD STORY

- Steaks from Waygu cattle in western Australia (noted for their marbling) were already revered by gourmets worldwide, but recently an exporter went a step further: The choice grains fed the cattle are now being soaked in a 2004 cabernet merlot, according to a January dispatch from Sydney in London's Sunday Telegraph. "Our biggest problem is going to be meeting demand," said the managing director of Margaret River Premium Meat Exports, even though the best cuts of steak might run the equivalent of about \$90. Plans are to feed each cow a liter's worth of wine daily during its last 60 days.

Yikes!

- Doctors Gone Bad: (1) The British General Dental Council found David Quelch guilty in January of professional misconduct for pulling two teeth of a patient, against her will, without anesthesia, because she had complained about previous treatments. He allegedly said, "That'll teach you..." (2) However, the patient at Romania's Panduri Urology Hospital was not at fault (according to United Press International, from a January story in Bucharest's Sunday Telegram) when surgeon Naum Ciomu lost his temper at his own sloppiness and chopped off a 36-yearold man's penis. Ciomu later admitted that he had overreacted. Nonetheless, the Romanian doctors' union complained that Ciomu's fine (the equivalent of about \$190,000) was unwarranted.

"The world's most dangerous road," according to a November BBC News dispatch, is a 50-mile stretch of winding, mountain-hugging cliff three miles above sea level, running from La Paz, Bolivia, to the country's Yungas region. At least 200 people a year reportedly die on the road, which is about ten feet wide with no railing and frequent confrontations when wide-load vehicles meet from opposite directions. Furthermore, bad Andes Mountain storms wash away parts of what road does exist. Bolivians frequently pray to the goddess Pachamama for safe passage.

• (1) Transgendered patient Gina Tilley filed a lawsuit late last year against New York City plastic surgeon David Ostad (who has been cited by state medical authorities 11 times and sued 14 times), complaining that her 2004 saline breast implants had shifted to her armpits. (2) After the fire alarm at the Sea Life Centre in Weymouth, England sounded one night in December, it was attributed to a diet of brussels sprouts fed to a turtle. Marine biologist Sarah Leaney explained that the turtle's resulting flatulence probably created bubbles that raised the water level enough to trigger the alarm.

News That Sounds Like a Joke

 Settling the Gender Wars: (1) German cancer researchers, writing in a January journal article, reported that any exercise helped ward off breast cancer in pre-menopausal women but that housework-type exercise worked for all women and was superior to job-based or leisurebased exercise. (2) A female chimpanzee, Judy, escaped at the Little Rock (Ark.) Zoo in January and, as she moved about, was observed entering a bathroom, grabbing a brush, and cleaning a toilet. She also wrung out a sponge and cleaned off a refrigerator, according to an Associated

- Florida senator Gary Siplin was convicted in August of grand theft for paying employees state funds to work on his reelection campaign, but according to senate rules, he retains his office while his case is on appeal. The first bill Siplin introduced for the new legislative session in January would make it easier under state law for convicted felons to have their voting rights restored. The Mexican government is scheduled to consider a proposal from its states' migrant assistance offices to hand out satellite-tracking devices to its citizens who plan to emigrate illegally to the United States, so that they can be located in case of emergency after crossing the border. Skeptics, according to a January report in the San Antonio Express-News, wondered how vigorously the U.S. Border Patrol would assist in rescues.

People Different From Us

- (1) The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services issued a warning in January to residents of the city of Ringwood that they should limit their intake of squirrel to no more than twice a week (children once a month). A toxic waste dump is nearby. (2) Dan Gulley Jr., 70, and David Brooks Jr., 62, fought in January in Atmore, Ala., and according to police, Gulley pulled out a gun and shot Brooks. The two were arguing over how tall the late singer James Brown was.

Least Competent Criminals

 (1) According to police in Hartselle, Ala., Daniel Brown, 22, wore a ski mask to hide his identity from his grandfather when he staged a home invasion-robbery in January, but when he burst in, he yelled, "I need your money, and I mean it, Pa-Paw." When arrested, Brown denied that he was the man behind the mask. (2) Glenn Vickers, 53, allegedly intoxicated, tailgated a driver in January on Interstate 64 that happened to be Kanawha County, W.Va., sheriff Mike Rutherford in an unmarked car. After jockeying behind Rutherford for a while, Vickers peeled off at an exit, flipped Rutherford the finger, and immediately crashed into a guardrail.

Recurring Themes

 "I was six when I first became aware of my desire to lose my legs," wrote "Susan Smith" in London's Guardian in January. "The image I have of myself has always been one without legs.' "News of the Weird" has reported several times on people with "body identity integrity disorder" (apotemnophilia), which leads them to remove one or more limbs (or men their scrota). The worst part, said "Smith," was having to kill her leg, by freezing it in dry ice for at least four hours (she tried twice before it succumbed to an infection), because surgeons cannot ethically amputate a healthy limb. (A 1998 "News of the Weird" story involved a de-licensed San Diego surgeon who illegally removed limbs of needy men.)

The Continuing Crisis

 Unsavvy: In 2003, Bryn Mawr College student Janet Lee had apparently not watched enough movies or television to understand that drug smugglers often use condoms (swallowed by human "mules") to get cocaine and heroin into the country. Lee attempted to board an airliner with several flour-filled condoms that she said her classmates and she employed to squeeze as stress relievers and said she was astonished to be arrested at the Philadelphia airport and jailed for three weeks until the lab could verify that the substance was flour. In January 2007, the city of Philadelphia agreed to pay her \$180,000 to settle her lawsuit for her wrongful detention.

· Britain's National Phobics Society said in November it would launch a campaign to help the estimated four million people in the U.K. who are fearful of using public restrooms. According to the NPS, in serious cases, sufferers intentionally avoid liquids and deprive themselves of good jobs because the workplace restroom situation is unsatisfactory. "It's certainly no laughing matter," said a spokesman.

Texas judge Keith Dean, recently defeated for reelection, decided as he was cleaning out his desk in December that he would order the release of a man that he sentenced to life in prison in 1990. Tyrone Brown was 17 when he committed a \$2 robbery, and Dean put him on probation but changed it to life in prison when Brown shortly afterward tested positive for marijuana. The Dallas Morning News reported in 2006 that Dean had failed to additionally punish a murderer who had tested positive for cocaine several times after his release on probation.)

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In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

I PROCLAIM MYSELF chess champion of Solana Beach. Anybody wishing to challenge this claim may do so in a nine game match. Call George.

JANNIE, I love you babe, and I always will, and I can only hope to touch your heart with tenderness and fill it with love.

EVERY LIVING room should have at least one Periodic Table! The Cartoon Fel.

-CLASSIFIEDS, February 24, 1977

Twenty-Five Years Ago

Las Colinas Women's Detention Center is located just off Mission Gorge Road in the flatlands of Santee.

As I slouched into one of the plastic chairs I noticed that all of them were pitted with cigarette burns. The inmate I was waiting to see was my 19-year-old sister Linda.

She had called me a few days before this visit. She had just run out on the \$3000 bail that our mother and stepfather had paid to a bondsman to release her from jail in December of 1980, three months prior to her sentencing date for check forgery.

—"LITTLE SISTER, BIG TROUBLE," Renee Prince, February 25, 1982

Twenty Years Ago

The Zendik Farm Arts Cooperative is a hippie Utopia that occupies seventy-five acres of land in the East County mountain town of Boulevard.

Until recently, the Zendiks have kept to themselves. Founded in 1969 by Wulf Zendik, a former beat poet, jazz drummer, and stunt pilot, the commune currently consists of thirty-five members who live in tents, trailers, and sheds that they fixed up or constructed from scratch. Their music and art are improvisational; their children are reared communally instead of by their parents.

—CITY LIGHTS: "THE ZENDIKS," Thomas K. Arnold, February 26, 1987

Fifteen Years Ago

The Magic of the Mt. Soledad Cross Can Now Be Yours!

For centuries, or a generation anyway, hordes of tourists and bored commuters have glanced at the legendary Cross of Mt. Soledad and wondered what it all meant.

We're sure you'll want a sliver of this mysterious thing to pass on to your grandchildren. Each piece measures 1" by 1/16" and is accompanied by a notarized Certificate of Authenticity. Slivers are available either plain

(\$25 each/12 for \$275) or permanently encased in two-inch Lucite cube (\$50/12 for \$550). —ADVERTISEMENT, February 27, 1992

Ten Years Ago

Very little that I write about the new Wolfgang Puck Café in Mission Valley will have any impact on its future. Why? Because Puck is a superstar among restaurateurs. His first Los Angeles restaurant, Spago, brought him instant fame with its clientele of movie and television hotshots.

Puck is a true charmer. Several years ago he came to San Diego to publicize a video of his Spago recipes. He was staying at a Sheraton hotel, but because I couldn't reach it easily, he checked into the La Valencia in La Jolla. Even as recently as January 16, when we did a phone interview, he took his time, never rushed me, and in spite of the continuous roar from his café, he answered my questions attentively.

—"LIKE A SPORTS BAR WITH CONFETTI,"

Eleanor Widmer, February 20, 1997

Five Years Ago

Eighth District San Diego city councilman Ralph Inzunza, running for re-election next The Magic of the Mt. Soledad Cross Can Now Be Yours! Art was supply to the final

San Diego Reader, February 27, 1992

month, has been repeatedly wined and dined by some of the Union-Tribune's top reporters and columnists, according to his recently filed financial disclosure report. Last May 3, Inzunza reports, he was treated to a \$21 lunch by reporter Caitlin Rother. On May 22, he had another \$21 lunch with reporter Jennifer Vigil. Then in July, he sat down to another \$21 lunch courtesy of the *U-T* with editorial writer Bob Kittle. In August, it was a \$21 lunch with real estate writer Roger Showley, and in September, he had a \$17 lunch with columnist Neil Morgan.

—CITY LIGHTS: "LUNCH BUNCH." Matt Potter. February 21, 2002

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

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APPLIANCES

Miscellaneous items, plants, and antique armoire. 1111 Dunset Cliffs Boulevard.

SCRIPPS RANCH. StoneBridge Community garage sale. March 17, 7am-5pm. Directions/information: www.

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Attention: Honda/Acura Owners

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Jerry Sample, Jr. (General Manager) is an ASE Master Technician who is also Acura/Honda factory-trained. With well over a decade of experience, including several years working as a top mechanic at a well-known local Acura dealers you can be assured of top-notch quality service. Jerry takes pride in what he does. His diagnostic skills are well-known throughout the industry. Often when customers are unable to achieve satisfaction elsewhere, they are directed to Jerry for an analysis. He thrives on a good challenge. Jerry will also take the time to explain to customers what he believes the problem is and how he would go about fixing it.

Greenlight Honda Acura Care prides itself on quality and service. We are proud to have more than 1,000 customers in San Diego and surrounding areas. The loyalty of our customers attests to Jerry and his crew's integrity.

Bryan Bettencourt (Service Technician) also has many years of experience in the automotive business including audio and communications. Bryan is the "go-to" guy for all your electrical needs. He complements lerry in every way. Together, lerry, Bryan and their team are a formidable group of technicians, ensuring that you walk away a satisfied customer. Some repair shops take shortcuts and often cover up problems with a temporary fix. We know...we fix their mistakes!

Bottom line: We do it right the FIRST time! Our standard is to use factory parts and perform quality work...just at

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SLEEP MONSTER

As a traditional guardsman, I have to live a dual life and with the consequences of doing so. Going from a normal work week to drill weekend is not so bad, but coming back to civilian life is a bit more difficult, especially while maintaining the same standards as active-duty, full-time military. The expectation is one weekend a month and two weeks a year, but I lost track of the lunch hours I had given up on my civilian job to prepare for weekends, or the hours driving to and from training meetings, or the extra hours at work to squeeze in a workout.

On active duty, traditional guardsmen see more dualism. Some days we find ourselves fighting the "kinetic war," where we have been sent to guard equipment in the open desert for extended periods of time, prepare to defend the camp against local tensions, travel on convoys around our sector, and participate in combat patrols, raids, and door-to-door searches. Other days, we are fighting the "popular war," talking to people downtown, handing out goodies to the kids, or assessing the conditions of the roads and schools where we are trying to rebuild and stabilize the infrastructure of the area. Although both missions are important, it is hard to make that switch on our posture and aggression level. Considering we could get hurt in either situation, it takes attentive soldiers and leaders to know the difference. If we are too aggressive on our "peacekeeping" missions, we could upset the local sentiment, and our support will backslide. If we are too complacent on our tactical missions, an attack would be devastating. The heat factor does not help; taking off our helmets or body armor for a minute to get fresh air or fight the sleep monster would be detrimental not only to individuals but to the whole group. The temperature is 120 to 140 during the day, and we find we get chills during the 80- to 90-degree nights.

The area we are in made the news. There was a bombing directed at a mosque in one of the closest towns to our camp. There was speculation that it was an al Qaeda-related attack, but the insurgents were trying to blame us to discourage relations between the local communities and us. There are many political things going on here. The struggle between Sunni and Shia, local politics, and all the corruption make me think of the mob. Here we have the opportunity to see the full spectrum of modern war. In one area, teams are out rebuilding schools while others teams are meeting with mayors and governors. Meanwhile, down the road, American and Iraqi soldiers are chasing and catching bomb makers. Some of these insurgents get to live and see the detainee center and some do not.

Outside camp there are always things going on and changing. We have had more opportunities to touch the lives of the children as we bring food and toys. It is always bittersweet to see the joy in the children's eyes when we give them something, and moments later they are begging for more while they hide and horde

their other gifts.

We also face an adaptive enemy. They stick with the same techniques until they stop working, and then they try something new. It is amazing how many ways there are to make bombs out of common things, never mind the continually surfacing "forgotten munitions" that the insurgents find, build, or the local farmer



"finds" in his backyard while preparing his crops. It is impressive to see the changes in the neighborhoods. Some areas had electricity for only two hours a day; there were no streetlights, and there was rotting trash and carcasses everywhere. Now they are paving the roads, there are functioning dumpsters, and streetlights illuminate the neighborhoods all night.

It is interesting to overhear meetings and discussions about where to spend money to improve the towns. How do you choose what is more important: sanitation, emergency services, or public education? Another complication is we do not want to make the decision; we want the Iraqi government to decide while we prepare to facilitate.

Unfortunately, as happy as they are for our help and money, there are still people

here that do not want us around and want to harm us. There are those who say the insurgents are here because the military is here. Others say Arabs from other Islamic countries are causing the trouble because they are afraid the Muslim community will be weakened by

American influence. I feel there is a delicate balance rebuilding this country. If we do not do it right, we could end up with a welfare state or the infrastructure could crumble like a house of cards. Either way, we will be blamed. Still, I must remain optimistic and focus on the little good that I can do and not be overwhelmed by the global politics.

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San Diego Reader February 22, 2007





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BOZAK B-211 speakers, \$50. Bozak and Utah speaker components, good prices.

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SYLVANIA TV, 27" with remote, made in 2003. Very good condition \$75 619-444-

TV, Toshiba 27", 1995, price negotiable.

VCR PLUS, Panasonic, PV-4561-1995, needs repair, price negotiable. 619-298-4777.

27" HITACHI TV, 3 video inputs, stereo speakers, programmable remote. Perfect condition \$85. 858-546-1083.

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BED A DISCOUNT store. Mattress World in Hillcrest sells new beds at warehouse pricing lower than regular stores. Student specials, fast delivery or pickup, national brands. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Mattress World, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. Check www. sandiegobeds.com or email to: info@davisworld.com. Call: 619-260-8000.

BED FRAME, metal. Fits different size beds Can be easily taken apart to be transported in a car. \$20. 858-277-3065.

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CONCRETE PATIO TABLE, seats 6, high grade, your choice of tile installed, all weather \$300. Credit cards accepted. 760-250-7055.

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DESK, \$275. Entertainment center, knotty pine \$195. Sofa table \$125. Decorative chest \$125. Trek Hybrid 8-speed bike, \$295. Nordic Track, incline treadmill \$1200. 858-270-5562, 858-229-4143.

DINING TABLE GLASS, High end contemporary, heavy 3/4 inch glass 3-1/2 x 6 foot \$650, gloss black x shape base, 858-272-4866.

DRESSER with mirror, antique tiger oak, 44'x21', excellent condition, \$500. Coffee table, dark wood, with drawer, like new, 30'x50', \$175. 858-274-6785.

DRESSER, almost new, 3 drawers 60°x46°x15°, side door, \$45/best. 619-426-3714.

DRESSER, Ikea Malm, 5 drawer, medium brown, assembled, only \$129. 858-673-1666. **END TABLES,** pecan wood, with drawer and storage, set for \$50. 619-466-8663.

storage, set for \$50. 6 19-406-4060.

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, Shelf, wood, 70°Lx64"Hx18"D, open, adjustable, assemble \$75. Chair, cushioned, 4 casters, oak \$45. Table lamps, brass \$20. 858-688-2136.

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MATTRESS BOX PILLOWTOP SET. New in plastic with warranty. Queen \$169. King \$239. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. Call 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.

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602-06/9.

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**RETRO DRESSER, Laminate white, six drawers. 60°long x30-1/2″high x18°wide. Detachable mirror, 2 laminate white night stands, 2 drawers each, 20°high x26-3/4′wide, \$200. 619-339-8638.

SECTIONAL, 3-piece leather Natuzzi, shell color, contemporary European style, excellent condition, \$600/set. Pacific Beach, 858-581-2305.

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SOFA SLEEPER, pine large desk/bookcase excellent condition, loose cushion, gray tar-color, queen size, \$100. Desk, Mexican style, 3 drawers on top, \$100. 619-501-2968.

SOFA, sectional. Oversized, brown leather/Microfiber with chaise lounge on right side. Asking \$1600, will take \$1400 if picked up by this weekend. Mark, 858-525-5221.

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Jid/broken/damaged OK. F amount to you. Free test on

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FLOOR LAMP, 5', matching table lamp great condition, \$50. Wall unit, 17x60x72"

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cox.net, 858-401-2370.

GENERATOR, General 5500 wheelhouse. 4 outlets at 120. 1 at 140. 5 gallon removable tank. 20 minutes run time only. List \$699. Sell \$550, 619-596-1585.

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The Starbucks lady was friendly, too friendly. She kept asking me how I was and what I was doing in San Diego, and I kept giving her information like an idiot, and so she kept inquiring and all I could think was "I don't care! Give me my coffee and shut up." I sat down with my coffee, glad not to be talking to anyone, and the lady at the table across from me chimes in, "So you just moved to San Diego? I moved here a few months ago myself." Dammit! I said something polite enough to affirm her but empty enough to end the conversation.

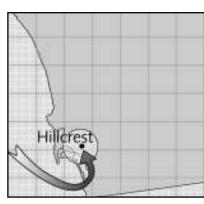
I sat down and looked busy — pulling out my laptop and getting settled. She went on to inform me that she moved here to attend law school, which surprised me because she must have been in her late 50s, and I tried very hard not to blurt out the fact that she might be dead before she even graduated. She was pretty weird. Very erratic and unorganized....

BLOG

TITLE: Little Bohemian | ADDRESS: http://blog.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=blog.
ListAll&friendID=12030916&MyToken=249b5feo-0017-4489-8af1-469d3fdb4198ML
AUTHOR: Little Bohemian | FROM: Hillcrest | BLOGGING SINCE: April 2006
POST DATE: January 21, 2007 | POST TITLE: San Diego Part I

She'll make a great lawyer if she makes it through.

I'm looking at her right now, actually. She's eating one of those ridiculously priced sandwiches they sell here, which if you wait long enough, they'll give you at the end of the night; I went home with, like, 12 one night, knowing full well I'd never eat any of them, but I can never say no to something free. It's in my blood. My family trained me to be a scavenger. Even as I packed for this trip...move...I keep calling it a trip, but it's not, it's a move and I just can't wrap my mind around it. Anyway, as I packed for my extended trip, my mother and aunt went behind me, digging through my trash, picking out things that could still be used. They were saving teal-colored make-up from the early '70s, which will immediately be thrown into a drawer full of unused teal-colored make-up and random pieces of I don't even know what that I'm sure will be of use in the future for some unknown but dire, specific purpose. "We'd better keep this because if I attend a hookers and



trannies party, even though I haven't been out of the house in 20 years, I might need it!"

I don't want to go back to the apartment. Because then I'll have to admit that this is now my new home. This is where I will be coming back to when I leave Starbucks from now on. Right now,

at Starbucks, I feel like where I should be. I don't feel like that at the apartment. It doesn't feel like my life. It feels like I'm stuffing myself into someone else's life and trying to feel at home there,

but it's unnatural. I'm hoping this feeling passes with time. It doesn't feel like this place will ever feel like home. It doesn't feel like it's mine. There is a comfort and confidence that comes with owning your city. I wasn't crazy about Fresno, but it was mine. The people were mine and the places were mine. It's all very egocentric, but true.

These people aren't mine.
I don't like them; I want
them to leave. I want them to be
more like me so I can feel better.
They feel different; they almost
feel dirtier. Which is a terrible
thing to say because I'm sure
they're very clean, most of them.
But the thing is, they are different,
and I tend to think people that
are different from me are almost

inhuman, like they live in a totally different part of the world that doesn't teach the basic human laws of cleanliness and behavior.

I'm a little pissed at God right now. With no real reason to be, either. I think God likes it when we're mad at Him because it makes our relationship with Him more real, more relevant. God doesn't want us to mindlessly and obligatorily follow Him. He wants a relationship and that means fights. It means disagreeing and sometimes not talking, on both parts. It means messing up and falling but mostly it means letting Him love us when we do. That's the hardest part of being in a relationship with Jesus, to me: accepting His love when all my existence tells me I either don't need it or don't deserve it. I know that will be a lifelong struggle for me, which sucks because feeling unlovable is just about the worst feeling I can think of. I think at the heart of every issue is the issue of love and whether or not we are experiencing it.

I have to go soon, back to my not-home. Maybe I could just move into Starbucks. That probably violates some kind of code, but I could be like the girl on that movie that lived in Wal-Mart and had her baby there and ultimately got married there.... I could get married at Starbucks. I don't think they'd let me, though.

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wheelchair, ironing board, Oriental dolls, rowing exerciser, 16' trailer, self-contained, tub/shower, sleeps 6, 1965 Kencraft 858-270-0565

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PERFUME BOTTLE Collection, 16 minia tures of famous brands \$25, 858-453-1648 PLANT SALE, 5 gallon avocado, pomegranate \$15-\$20/each. 1 gallon boysenberry \$3-\$5/each. El Cajon 619-447-

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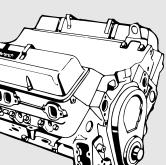
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AUDI A4 1.8T, 2002, low mileage, with warranty, sports package, 33K miles, 4-year extended warranty, dolphin gray, light gray leatherette interior, alloy wheels, \$17,900. 619-886-3941.

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BMW, 235C8, 2004. Only 34,960 miles. Under warranty. Automatic, steptronic, premium package. Black leather. Sunroof, heated seats, airbags. Single CD Harmon Kardon stereo. \$26,495, 858-220-6785.

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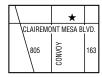
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AT SOME POINT, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DIG UP MISTER ROGERS'S BODY. I know

it's not a pretty business, but there it is: little kids are turning up at the morgue in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. Oh, some people say never mind that the kids have been sucked dry of their blood through two small puncture wounds in their necks; people say, never mind that the pattern of croaked kiddies radiates outward from the Rogers' family crypt in concentric circles like ripples on a pond. Those people are fools to ignore the warning signs.

Mister Rogers is a vampire. There, I've said it, and I'm not going to take it back. There are no such things as vampires, you say? Vampires are mythical creatures from storybooks? Well, let's just look at the facts, and you can decide.

Fact 1: As I've already noted, the cracker-crunchers are kicking over in record numbers around Mister Rogers's entombed body. What's interesting here is not that there are dead people being found by the sack-full, but dead kids. If it were only dead adults, I'd point my

Fact 2: Fibers from decayed canvas shoes, dungarees, and cardigan sweaters have been found on bushes and rocks in the vicinity of each body, presumably unraveled during a struggle. Some of the threads from the cardigans bear an interesting truth on the subject, since the particular color of dye on those threads has not been used in production since 1972.

Fact 3: This one isn't pretty. No, it isn't pretty at all, so I'll tread delicately on this subject and say only that some of the kids have been...turned into puppets, if you can imagine such a thing. Give it a second, it'll come to you. One such macabre scene was found 100 yards from the Rogers' crypt. A circle of formerly lively children, all *puppets* now, sitting with their faces contorted into smiling, laughing death masks. Their hands strung up to surrounding trees, in apparent joyous revelation, using puppetry wire! And between them, running through the band of puppet children, were trolley tracks constructed from errant twigs stripped of their foliage. Although, no makeshift trolley has been found.

I don't know what dark forces have possessed the venerable children's television host. I don't want to guess. I don't know why he led a life of service to the wretched carpet-rats only to ransack their little bodies and souls in his death.

I don't want to guess.

What I do know is Mister Rogers is a goddamn vampire. And he must be stopped.

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

THE INSIDER

CBS 7:30 P.M.

In the latest turn of Britney's long spiral downward, she's sheared the greasy rodent that sits atop her neck and, on a spree of bad decisionmaking, got two more tattoos on her hips: a pink heart and a pair of lips. When Natalie Portman shaved her head for a role, it was cute and fashionable. When Enus the Toothy Millionaire Bumpkin-ess does it, it's a sign of chemical psychosis. It's only a matter of time before she's arrested in a mobile-home raid outside of Santee, and I, for one, am breathless with anticipation.

LARRY KING LIVE

Anna Nicole's lifeless Jell-O mold has been in the news lately. I watch the news, or rather read it on screen, at the gym. I do that thing where I try to trick myself as to how long I've been running by avoiding the little digital timer on the treadmill. Now that Smith's hideous visage has been plastered all over television for weeks, I have nowhere to look except my shoes. I don't want to be in a state of physical strain and be bombarded by that pale, red ring-lipped, clown face. You can't unsee things, and those things make it into your nightmares, don't they?

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT

CBS 7:00 P.M.

There. I've gotten my compulsory celebrity gossip out of the way. I've hit quota. I should be good until some other vaguely talented "superstar" plucks her eye out with a spoon or encourages a mustache in order to join a mariachi band. I need a shower.

SATURDAY, **FEBRUARY 24**

ROBOT BOY

TOON 10:30 A.M.

I've begun my transformation. My pinkie had become kinked and broken in a bicycle accident. Without medical insurance, I had to take on the responsibility of my own care, and besides, modern medicine is nowhere near where it should be in regards to robotic limb repair. Now, operated by cable, I have a mechanical little finger on my left hand that I made

out of an old telescoping reading lamp and air conditioner power pump. If I had thought about it, I would've soldered my house key on to the end because as it stands now, the cyborg finger doesn't fit in my pocket, and when I have a handful of groceries I can't open my door without setting everything down. But it's a start. Oh, yes. It's a start.

RUSH HOUR

COMEDY 8:00 P.M.

What happened to Chris Tucker? He hasn't done a damn thing since he was jumping around in an Armani suit with Jackie Chan. Was Tucker caught with "one of those kinds" of ladies? And when I say "ladies" I mean "ladies," as in, she had awfully thick wrists and a patch of hair sprouting just below her Adam's apple. You know...happened to that other fellah. Wink wink. A little bit of this and that. Click click. His Rolodex card gets burnt in the stainless steel trashcan of every movie producer's office in Hollywood.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

THELMA & LOUISE

ENCORE 11:15 A.M.

My mom made me watch this as a kid. She also made me drink milk so I wouldn't have osteoporosis later in life, and she thought I had lupus when I was 13. Around that time, she also kept asking me if that "special time when a girl becomes a woman" had begun. Even though I'm a boy, it was no surprise when "it" finally did happen. I mean, there I was in tap class, wearing a unitard no less. How embarrassing.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

GANG OF ROSES (2003)

BET 8:00 P.M.



Rizarre Foods With Andrew Zimmern

Somehow, Macy Gray and Bobby Brown are involved with the dealings of a female gang. Although there's no predicting the future, I'm pretty certain I won't look back from my deathbed to February 26, 2007 as the day I missed this movie, aired with commercials, on the Black Entertainment Network. You never know for sure. But I'm confident.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

BIZARRE FOODS WITH ANDREW ZIMMERN TRAVEL 7:00 P.M.

I'm going to pitch a helpful, how-to show to the Travel Channel. It's called "Scoring Drugs with Anthony Olivieri." Even though I've been poisoned twice in the Orient, I've also had some pretty good E and coke in my mitts when I was in Europe. Drop me in any city in the world, and I'll be high within the hour. Bring the cameras along. It'll be fun. You know, for college kids who are "trying to find themselves" and a little sip of GHB in Spain. That sort of thing.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

REAL WORLD XVIII CATCH-UP SPECIAL MTV 9:00 P.M.

Finally. I've been waiting so long. I really want to know how DJ, Justin, Josh, Amber, Nicole, and Tiffany are doing. I mean, they were the Real World XVIII cast. How could I not be riveted...stunned by their every move? It's not often that one encounters this caliber of performance, and I've been dying to hear how they're doing. Or. Hmmm. I think I'll do my dishes that night instead.

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A 5TH GRADER? FOX 9:00 P.M.

I don't need to be. I can kick his ass.

belts, hoses, radiator, brakes, tuneup, etc. More, \$2300 619-443-7308.

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This is a fun Friday-night exercise if, say, you are a lonely loser with no life.

<u>By John Brizzolara</u>

A longtime friend of mine — a professor in Tacoma who worked with me at Hunter's Books in La Jolla when he was going for his PhD and his divorce at the same time — recently e-mailed me a question. "List," he asked me, "the ten most influential books in your life. please." Influential, not best, and I took the request literally and typed, "These books influenced my behavior, attitudes, style, etc. I'm not saying they should have, just that they did." On the fiction side appeared The Long Goodbye, by Raymond Chandler. Immediately following that novel was The Last Good Kiss, by James Crumley: "Essentially the same story," I added, "by Crumley's own admission." I had re-read each of them at least once, and that is an indulgence I've kept to under a dozen titles in fiction.

While I would surely love to see a film version of The Last Good Kiss, it hasn't been done. Robert Altman, however, directed The Long Goodbye, or an Altman- and early-1970s-informed facsimile featuring Elliot Gould as Philip Marlowe. As fans of the character know. Humphrey Bogart was Marlowe; Robert Mitchum was Marlowe, too; and James Garner in The Little Sister. We'll allow this more slowly, but allow it we will. (Fans of the character might be considered quieter, less gaudy versions of Star Trek fans.) Robert Montgomery. Dick Powell. No and no. Elliot Gould? Hell, no.

This Friday night I have the VHS of Altman's The Long Goodbye from Kensington Video and, of course, the book in my lap. If you've ever said, "The book was better than the movie," this is a fun Friday-night exercise if, say, you are a lonely loser with no life.

The 1973 film, written by Leigh Brackett (who, along with William Faulkner, wrote the screenplay for The Big Sleep, Chandler's first novel, and later, The Empire Strikes Back), opens with Marlowe/Gould being awakened by his cat. The long opening scene involves Marlowe buying cat food, chain-smoking, and talking to himself, repeating, "It's okay with me."

Chandler's opening scene involves Marlowe picking up a drunk but polite Englishman named Terry Lennox (eventually appearing in the film played by ex-Yankee pitcher Jim Bouton), taking him home, sobering him up, and getting him temporarily on his feet. In the movie, Gould drives Bouton to Mexico.

In both versions, Lennox's wife turns up dead (a good phrase), and Lennox is the prime suspect. Marlowe doesn't buy it. Meanwhile, Marlowe gets hooked up with some rich, former neighbors of Lennox; alcoholic writer Roger Wade, played perfectly by Sterling Hayden, and his wife, played by Nina van Pallandt. While the long opening cat food scene is maybe Altman's way of introducing Marlowe's "character," it was done in three pages in the book and, while amusing, can't compare with, say, Paul Newman establishing his private eye's character in Harper (William Goldman screenplay) by simply recycling yesterday's

The music by John Williams features a theme song co-written with Johnny Mercer that becomes something of a cameo character itself as it appears in different guises from scene to scene: Mercer is crooning the boozy, noirish lament on Marlowe's car radio. Marlowe gets out, enters the grocery store, and there is a Muzak version of the same song. At a Mexican funeral there is a kind of mariachi dirge version of it, etc. I picked up my electric guitar and figured out the dozen or so signature notes and put together a heartbreaking yet rousing blues instrumental version not unlike Ronny Montrose's treatment of Town Without Pity, but where was I?

The fun scenes are with Hayden, a man probably close to Chandler's heart, in theory anyway. Wade was probably a self-portrait of a kind, and Hayden was a serious writer himself, a drinker and a man who exuded boozy, macho romanticism.

You can spot the current governor of California toward the end in a nonspeaking part: a thug who takes off his shirt when the bad guy (an actor who bears an uncanny resemblance to author Richard Price) orders him and Elliot Gould to get naked.

Gould's Marlowe says "fuck" and "motherfucker" and at the end shoots Lennox/Bouton in cold blood. While happy to see Bouton go, Marlowe only shot a man once in seven novels and that was in The Big Sleep. Chandler never had



him do it again. Marlowe had language and didn't resort to obscenities. Gould resembles Marlowe possibly in that neither are convincing as cold-blooded killers. But other than this, Gould as Marlowe? Hell, no.

Did I ruin the end? Not me. It's okay with me, but Marlowe wouldn't buy it. Altman did a ballsy thing, and the movie stands as a unique document of the '70s, maybe; but hey, Ridley Scott, do a Blade Runner on this with your friend Russell Crowe

Playing Roger Ebert-meets-Jacques Barzun (Wait a minute. Forget him. Barzun suggested once that Marlowe enjoyed getting beat up by cops a little too much, or something like it) or, say, playing Wilfred Sheed by oneself on a Friday night is terrific fun, and I recommend it. Invite the neighbors, let the kids play too, impress your date. The movie has to go back to Kensington, but the novel will remain on the shelf, and the apartment will echo with the mournful strains of my soulful Epiphone.

The long goodbye...it happens every day...even as she smiles a quick hello, you let her go." A great cornball paean to self-pity I like to hum to myself with my collar to the Santa Ana's, cigarette locked between my determined lips, squinting at some torrid tomato who wasn't born when the movie was made and 20 years after the book was published.

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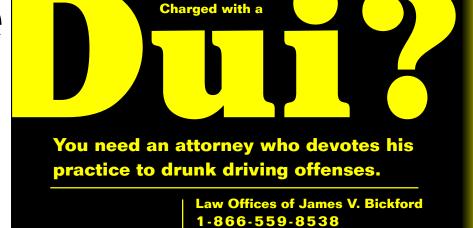
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