



SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

Reader

The Nothing That Is Not There And The Nothing That Is

The narrow opening of the mud cave was nothing but a slot in the rock, barely wide enough for my shoulders. If you didn't know it was there, you'd never know it was there.

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The Nothing That Is Not There

The beauty of the Carrizo Badlands.

By Geoff Bouvier **Cover**

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**Like a party out of a movie —
dancers, tacos, and piercings.
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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 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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— Mischa Shirazi, San Diego, CA

Q: Is the surgery painful or difficult?

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

— Greg Schwenk, San Diego, CA

Q: How soon after the process can I begin normal daily activities again?

"When I came out of the surgery room I could see the hands of the clock – I was doing normal things the next day...amazing immediate results!"

— Glenna T. Casey, Chula Vista, CA

Q: How long does the process take?

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

— T.P. Fortin, San Diego, CA

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

"I had the surgery done over 8 years ago and my sight is still a perfect 20/20."

— Sandra Macias, San Diego, CA

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— Darush Mohyi, M.D., La Jolla, CA



MEET DR. YAGHOUTI
Refractive Eye Surgery specialist from Harvard University.



MEET DR. LAKHANI
Refractive Eye Surgery specialist from UCSD Medical Center.



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

Ring around the truth For decades, legions of executives, editors, and reporters of once-mighty Copley Newspapers have trooped out to the firm's posh Casa del Zorro resort near Borrego Springs for the annual "Ring of Truth" awards honoring employees for their ostensibly superior journalism. But for Copley insiders, 2007's corporate backlash, held earlier this month, was sadly different.



"Ring of Truth" logo

Seven of the shrinking chain's remaining eight papers are on the block to pay off the late **Helen Copley's** estate taxes, leaving son **David** with the *Union-Tribune* as his sole media property. Based on the paucity of prizes given to the *U-T* in this year's contest — judged by faculty of the Donald W. Reynolds School of Journalism at the University of Nevada in Reno — there may not be much of a reason to continue the tradition once the sell-off is complete.

In times past, the *U-T*, Copley's mother ship, touted its awards in large, prominently featured stories, but not this year. On the other hand, the *Torrance Daily Breeze*, recently unloaded by Copley to the Hearst Corporation, bragged to readers that "six reporters shared first place in the news category for a series of stories about a sewage spill in Manhattan Beach" and that a sportswriter took another first for "a series of articles analyzing the drop in participation of black baseball players." The *Peoria (IL) Journal Star* won first in best enterprise reporting for "revealing the high incidence of lead poisoning in Peoria." Its editorial writer also placed first. Over in Springfield, the *State Journal-Register* noted that its coverage of a spate of tornados received a Special Award of Honor for Meritorious Service, "an award that is not given each year."

The *U-T's* relatively few prizes were mostly for stories that had largely been covered first and arguably better by others. The paper won second place for "best news story" for a report by **Matt Hall** about how there was "developing controversy about the financing of the San Diego Padres' Petco Park." **Leslie Wolf Branscomb** and **Tanya Sierra** were finalists for "an investigation of deplorable conditions in real estate owned by a local politician." That would be **Nick Inzunza**, former National City mayor and brother of ex-San Diego city councilman and convicted Cheetahs defendant **Ralph**, whose collection of slum properties was first disclosed here back in 2003.



Nick Inzunza

Mike Lee got a nod as "finalist" for "a series of reports on environmental issues." **John Wilkens** came in first for best feature with his write-up of a San Diego family's Polynesian sailing trip gone awry. In business reporting, **Penni Crabtree** claimed second prize for "a story about allergy-free kittens." **Robert Krier** picked up a first in the "best series of headlines" division for "a collection of feature headlines." And **K.C. Alfred** came

in second for best sports photograph, "for the photograph of a fumbled football and lost helmet."

The *U-T* did manage to prevail in the "Awards of Valor" category. **Elizabeth Fitzsimons**, **Bruce Lieberman**, and **Sherri Pineda** got a prize for "dedication in organizing an event to benefit the health of a fellow employee's child," and **Diana Baier** received one for "dedication in organizing a fundraiser to finance a memorial bench for a fellow employee." **Cole Tuttle** of the *Peoria Journal Star* was also recognized for "kindness and responsibility in stopping his car to assist an elderly woman who had fallen."

Regency row Padres owner **John Moores** is a member of the board of regents of the University of California. So is fellow Rancho Santa Fe denizen **Gerry Parsky**. Moores contributed heavily to Democratic governor **Gray Davis** before and after being named to the coveted post in 1999. Parsky is a big fund-raiser for those of the GOP persuasion, including **George W. Bush** and ex-governor **Pete Wilson**, who made him a regent. Then there is **Warren Hellman**, who isn't a regent but has plenty of clout within the massive statewide university system. He's a Cal grad, an heir to the Levi Strauss fortune, and father of **Frances**, former UCSD physics professor now at Berkeley who was married to UC president **Bob Dynes**



John Moores

until their divorce last year. The same year Moores became a regent, he and Dynes joined the board of La Jolla's Leap Wireless; Dynes said Moores recommended him. Dynes endorsed a public subsidy for the downtown ballpark; Moores lobbied hard for Dynes, then chancellor of UCSD, to become university president.

Moores and Hellman did business together as well: JMI Equity, a Moores-owned investment firm, partnered with Hellman's firm, Hellman & Friedman, in buying Blackbaud, Inc., a South Carolina maker of accounting software geared to nonprofit organizations. Moores and Hellman also teamed up to purchase Mitchell International, a San Diego outfit that peddles data to the car insurance claims business.

Now Mitchell is being sold, and the new buyer is none other than Gerry Parsky and his Beverly Hills-based Aurora Capital Group. According to a release from Mitchell, Aurora is being joined in the deal by the General Electric Pension Trust. That isn't the only Hellman-Parsky connection of recent note. Last week the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported that Parsky, just appointed by Governor **Arnold Schwarzenegger** to a panel studying ways to cut public pension costs, handles \$150 million in investments for CalPERS, the state employee retirement fund. Also on the panel is **Matt Berger**, a senior advisor at Hellman & Friedman, which runs \$600 million of the fund's loose change.

— 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.

Speak No Evil?

By Don Bauder

Forgive us our debts? For more than three years, William (Bill) Newsome, a member of San Diego's widely publicized Community Bible Church, has peppered the pastors and elders with questions about the church's debt and financial entanglements. He has not received the documents he requested. The church rebuts that he didn't attend the meet-

was suspended from the Mira Mesa church, partly for describing a letter by the head pastor as "crap." At one point, a church official called the cops on him. Newsome recently confessed that his department was inappropriate. But he is



Bill Newsome



Barry Minkow

ings at which members got the information he seeks. Some ambiguous communications suggest the church may have financial strains, but officials say it's in good fiscal shape; its only problem is that it doesn't have the funds to expand as quickly as desired.

Late last year, Newsome

barred from contacting the head pastor, according to the pastor's lawyer, and congregation members are told not to talk to Newsome. The ice may thaw after meetings next week, but Newsome still wants answers to his financial questions.

In his confession late last

month, Newsome acknowledged his own "spirit of bitterness" and "envy." Maybe that is one key to this imbroglio: both Newsome and the church's senior pastor, Barry Minkow, have become known for fraud busting. Minkow is one of the nation's most celebrated fraud busters — and fraud concocters. He is revered in the press and appears on TV programs such as *60 Minutes*.

Minkow's life is a made-for-TV story. While still a teenager, he created a multimillion-dollar stock market fraud, *ZZZZ Best*, supposedly a carpet-cleaning firm. Actually, *ZZZZ Best* was cleaning out stockholders and Wall Street gurus while hoodwinking accountants and regulators. Ninety percent of the sales were phony. In 1987, at age 23, Minkow was sentenced to 25 years in prison. While there, he converted to Christianity and got two divinity degrees. He was sprung in 7 years. In 1997 he became senior pastor at Community Bible Church. He spends about 40 percent of his time on Fraud Discovery Institute, a for-profit operation that smells out white-collar crime. When sentenced, he was supposed to pay victims \$26 million. But the judge who sentenced him later proclaimed that Minkow has uncovered hundreds of millions of dollars

continued on page 8

Bauder Talks!

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Neal Obermeyer



Don't Park in Our Park

By Joe Deegan

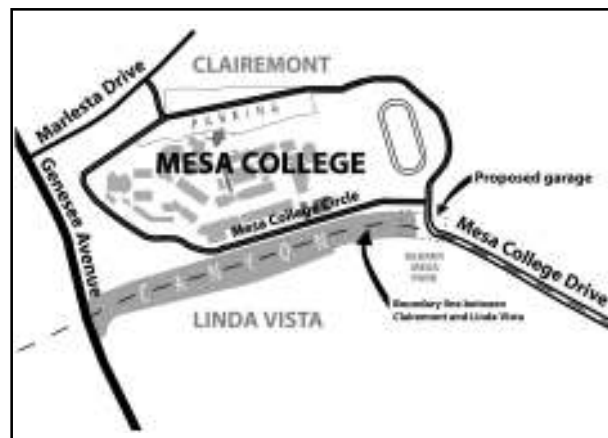
Where do you suppose San Diego Mesa College, which lies in Clairemont on its southern edge, will build a huge garage to solve its student parking problems? Why, largely on Linda Vista canyon land, of course, at the southeastern corner of the campus. This is the story of one San Diego planning group trying to retain control of its territory.

The Linda Vista Community Planning Committee first heard about the parking structure at its July 26, 2004 meeting. According to the meeting's minutes, members listened to discussion of "road realignment," "handicap access, shuttles, [and] traffic." But it was not immediately evident that the garage would be built partly in Linda Vista.

“Environmental engineer” Dave Potter and several college officials presented the parking structure that night as part of the Mesa College Master Plan. In his presentation, Potter told Linda Vista something the community considered startling news. In 1999, the San Diego City Council had rejected any future possibility that Mesa College Drive, which currently dead-ends at the southeastern entrance to the campus, might be extended to Genesee Avenue. Both the Clairemont and Linda Vista planning

groups had long wanted to keep open an option to extend the street to relieve area traffic. On Linda Vista Road, between its intersections with Genesee and Balboa Avenue, there is no other thoroughfare leading west.

Several days after the meeting, in a July 29, 2004 e-mail to Linda Vista planning committee chairman Ed Cramer,



Potter wrote: "I was surprised by members asking that the [garage] project be designed to accommodate a future extension of Mesa College Drive. This issue was put to rest on January 19, 1999, when the City Council adopted a Resolution deleting the exten-

sion of Mesa College Drive from the Linda Vista Community Plan.”

How did Linda Vista not know about a crucial provision being deleted from its community plan? Wayne Bamford, a member of the planning committee, says he's been told that representatives from Linda Vista were present at a discussion of the issue shortly before the city council deleted the road extension. "But nobody ever names who the representatives were," Bamford tells me, "and there is no record I can find of any of our people being there." Barbara Warden, Linda Vista's councilmember at the time, introduced the deletion measure during the 1999 city council meeting. "You practically

have to read city council agenda items every week to make sure your neighborhood isn't going to be affected," exclaims Bamford.

At its September 2004 meeting, the Linda Vista planning committee began discussing ways to get the Mesa College Drive extension back into its community plan. "It's not that we wanted to start building a road over to Genesee right away, or ever to build one," says Bamford, "but to keep that as an option for Linda Vista in case residents get trapped by traffic problems, say, 50 years from now."

In the meantime, Mesa College was working hard on its parking-garage plans. On April 22, 2005, seeking community comment, the college sent a draft “mitigated negative declaration” for the Mesa College Master Plan to city officials and community leaders. The draft made the first official reference to eliminating the last block of Mesa College Drive. The San Diego

Community College District would then buy that land plus a portion of the canyon to the west, totaling 2.58 acres, for the garage project site. And the draft stated, "Mesa College and the proposed areas of expansion are located in the Clairemont Mesa Community Plan."

On July 8, 2005, Helene Deisher of the San Diego Development Services Department e-mailed an engineering company working on the parking-garage plans with a telling instruction. "It has come to my attention," she wrote, "that [the garage] project is actually within two different community plan areas.... I am forwarding the last set of plans to the Linda Vista Community Planning Committee. Since they were inadvertently left out, I would recommend you follow up with the group chair to be placed on the agenda and receive a recommendation from them"

Mesa College's architects, Delawie Wilkes Rodrigues Barker, responded immediately. On July 10 they sent to Linda Vista the latest version of the plans for the parking garage. Among the documents in the packet was a January 5, 2005 letter from Damon Shamu, Mesa's assistant chancellor for facilities management, to Lane MacKenzie of the San Diego Real Estate Assets Department. The letter requested that the city sell the college the vacated block of Mesa College Drive and canyon land to the west. But the packet contained no acknowledgement that much of the project would sit on Linda Vista territory.

At their monthly meeting in August 2005, the Linda Vista planners voted against the Mesa College Drive vacation. And in place of a city land sale to the college, they urged that Linda Vista canyon land that might be affected by the proposed parking structure be preserved as open space.

Wayne Bamford, of the Linda Vista planning committee, tells me that “after summer, and for a long time, we didn’t hear anything more about the garage.” The following spring, 2006, however, Mesa College put out a binder, with maps and diagrams,




Lot 8, north Mesa College

explaining in the greatest detail yet the parking-structure plan. It now appeared that Mesa College wanted to run a road into the canyon to reach the lowest level of the garage. The canyon-level entrance would complement a main driveway into the garage at street level.

Bamford found in the binder a mysterious one-page letter to the San Diego Community College District's Facilities Management Department. It appeared on letterhead of Park and Recreation's Community Parks Division I. But the letter had no signature. The wording in the letter that caught Bamford's attention was the following: "Community Parks Division I does not object to the Community College District's request for permission to perform the necessary grading at the Kearny Mesa Community Park in order to accommodate the proposed parking-structure construction at Mesa College." Appar-

ently Mesa College had approached the city about grading a portion of the Kearny Mesa Community Park, which lies in Linda Vista on its boundary with the college and Clairemont. The grading would allow the lower-entrance road to descend the canyon wall to the west of a vacated Mesa College Drive.

“Kearny Mesa Park is Linda Vista’s best park,” says Bamford. “It’s the only one in our community that Park and Recreation really keeps up. Kids use it constantly. When the National Guard Armory on Mesa College Drive gets ready to ship soldiers off to Iraq, their families are given a huge going-away picnic in the park.” Bamford, who sits on the Linda Vista Community Parks Council, began questioning Park and Recreation officials about how much damage would befall Kearny Mesa Community Park. “None of them would tell me anything,” says Bamford. But in a

continued on page 10 



Shade trees, south side of Mesa College

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CITY LIGHTS

Speak no evil?

continued from page 6

in fraud. He no longer has to cough up, although he is still paying off \$7 million he owes Union Bank, partly from what he makes on speeches, training seminars, and books.

Newsome has had his time in the spotlight too, but only locally. In late 2004, Newsome, then a lawyer with 22 years in the city attorney's office, informed local law enforcement that during the Casey Gwinn regime, attorneys were billing the Water Department for work that was not related to that entity. It was one more piece of evidence that the City was plundering Water and Wastewater to bolster the general fund. Shortly after this revelation, Newsome was fired. He went to small-claims court with a whistleblower suit. His antagonists in the city attorney's

CITY LIGHTS

office said that "I was nuts and/or dangerous," says Newsome. That wasn't proved in court, and he was awarded \$5000 but was not reinstated in his job. He is still protesting the firing and at age 51 is not employed.

Newsome has three major concerns. The first is about debt. On October 17 of last year, Senior Pastor Minkow wrote church members, explaining that the congregation had approved \$500,000 in debt for multi-venue equipment so that services can be shown at remote locations via video. Minkow implored members to "help us eliminate the debt and become obedient in the area of tithing." In closing, he alluded to "this critical time in our church's history." Newsome's response in an e-mail to another member: "crap." Newsome has since tried unsuccessfully to get

CITY LIGHTS

details on the interest rate and maturity of the loan and how much has been paid off.

Second, Newsome has questions about Minkow's for-profit enterprise (Fraud Discovery Institute) being located on the premises of the nonprofit church. He asks if the institute properly reimburses the church for the space, equipment, and labor. In effect, members' tax-free donations may be subsidizing a profit-making enterprise. He has taken his concerns to the Internal Revenue Service but has no idea if it will do anything. Newsome worries that Fraud Discovery Institute will be sued, "and the first thing a lawyer will do is look for assets — look for a codefendant, and there is no question it will be the church."

Third, Newsome frowns on a \$100,000 gift that Fraud Discovery Institute received late last year; it should have gone to the church, Newsome believes.

"We're at a critical point in our church history but not a

CITY LIGHTS

critical financial situation," says Tony Nevarez, an elder who is in charge of finances. "The critical situation is our ability to expand," as membership continues to burgeon (up 1000 percent to 1400 adults since 1997).

The church isn't talking officially, but it appears that about one-third of that debt has been paid off. The Elder Board hired a law firm to study the lease and labor relationship of the institute and the church. It is "nothing more than that of landlord and tenant. Everything is on the up-and-up," says William Bramley, Minkow's lawyer. The institute has a \$1 million policy covering errors and omissions. "Coverage meets or exceeds" coverage for similar institutions and is sufficient, says Bill Ritman, the church's insurance agent. However, Minkow concedes that it is "plausible" that lawyers could name the church as a codefendant, causing trouble.

The \$100,000 gift came from someone who, like Minkow, is an ex-con, and it was specifically directed to the institute and disclosed to the congregation.

Two years ago, Newsome wrote the Federal Bureau of Investigation complaining that Fraud Discovery Institute was not properly licensed. Peter H. Norell, special agent, replied that according to the California Department of Corporations, Minkow "is operating within their licensing requirements." In an interview, Norell says, "Barry has been a tremendous asset to the bureau in detecting and reporting fraud cases."

Newsome has subjected Minkow to "brutal insults," says Jim Robeson, executive pastor of the church. "There is not one church in San Diego that would tolerate the kind of disrespect and abuse Mr. Bill Newsome has levied against Pastor Barry."

"It's okay for him [Newsome] to come back to the church, but it's not okay to be obstreperous," says Bramley.

But the church has lost some credibility in slapping Newsome. In late January, Newsome wanted to bring a forensic accountant and an investigator to the church's annual meeting. But the two were not members, and only members can attend. There was a confrontation; New-

continued on page 10

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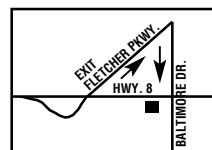
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Speak no evil?

continued from page 8

some was told he was no longer a member as of that moment, and the church called the cops. "Tell the police they don't have to come; I'm leaving," Newsome recalls saying, although a patrol car did show up. The next day, he was officially put on church discipline. "You are no longer welcomed or allowed at [the church]," wrote Nevarez, citing Newsome's negative attitude. His calling the senior pastor's letter "crap" was a factor.

In another communication, Nevarez charged that Newsome was "slandering and not honoring Pastor Barry." Quoting Bible verses, Nevarez explained, "It is unbiblical to cause someone to think less of another person," even if the statement is 100 percent true. This is dubious doctrine, particularly since Minkow, Nevarez, Robeson, and Bramley have all criticized Newsome in interviews with me, and Minkow is in the business of exposing

crooks, of whom he rightfully speaks ill. In his defense, Newsome cites numerous Bible verses in which someone is getting reamed out, often by a holy person.

When he was first scolded for his language, Newsome's alibi was that "crap" was a modern word for the biblical "dung." Now that he has confessed that his approach was sinful, he's not making the distinction. ■

Don't park in our park

continued from page 7

serendipitous conversation with a city arborist, Bamford heard that the grading for the garage likely would destroy 12 "beautiful" sycamore and eucalyptus trees on the park's northern edge.

On May 13, 2006, Mesa College published a mitigated negative declaration for the garage project. Individual contractors and most organizations are required to produce an environmental impact report to alert the city to negative effects their projects might produce; mitigated neg-

ative declarations, which the city must authorize, then describe how the damages caused by a construction project will be offset. But the San Diego Community College District is permitted by California law to authorize its own negative declaration. "That's fine if the college stays in its own confines," says Bamford, "but that's not what's happening."

Assisting Mesa College with its mitigated negative declaration and other planning issues was David Potter and Associates. Potter, now retired from a decades-long career in the city's planning department, wore several other crucial hats during his work for the college. He was chairman of the Community Planners Committee (the umbrella organization for all of San Diego's planning groups), president of the Clairemont Mesa Planning Committee, and a member of the Tecolote Canyon Citizen Advisory Committee, which threw influential support in favor of the college garage. (The structure will sit in the tip of a "finger" canyon off Tecolote Canyon,

to the east of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.) In addition, Potter served on Councilwoman Donna Frye's "transition team" during her 2005 run for mayor. (Both Linda Vista and Clairemont lie in the councilwoman's District 6.) Shortly after the election, Frye nominated Potter for membership on the San Diego Planning Commission. The city council did not appoint Potter. "Nevertheless," Wayne Bamford tells me, "the nature and number of Potter's voluntary positions, along with his being a consultant for the college, create the appearance of a conflict of interest, to say the least."

The planning commission considered Mesa College's parking structure at a July 13, 2006 meeting. The commission instructed the college to hold meetings with the Linda Vista Community Planning Committee to discuss the project and to consider alternatives.

In August, Mesa College hosted four "workshops" for the community. During the workshops, Linda Vista presented an on-campus alternative site for the parking structure that the college eventually rejected. "We hoped for some compromise," says Bamford, "but they weren't listening. In my opinion, they viewed the workshops as a forum simply to explain to us their plans. Throughout the several years of planning, they never once asked for our recommendations." Ron Tomcek, Bamford's colleague in the Linda Vista planning group, tells me that in one workshop he characterized the college's plans as involving a "land grab." To that, he says, the community college district's chancellor, Constance Carroll, "reacted with great indig-

nation." When the workshops were over, the Linda Vista Community Planning Committee voted 13 to 0 to reject the parking-structure project. The previous January the Clairemont Mesa Planning Committee had voted 12 to 0 in favor.

The San Diego Planning Commission considered the garage plan again at its September 14 meeting. Commissioner Carolyn Chase blasted the project. "It's not a smart-growth approach, and it's not consistent with a city of villages." The plan "sets a very bad precedent," she said, for institutions to solve a problem "outside" their own spaces in the city "rather than figuring out how to infill and be more efficient on your own site. And you [the college] have gone to sell a deal to Clairemont... and completely ignored the concerns of Linda Vista. Instead of dividing the two communities, why didn't you have them unite on an alternative? And Mesa College is not maximizing its own parking space.... It's wrong to plan for peak periods. I learned a long time ago that you don't plan a church's parking lot for Easter Sunday morning nor a shopping center's for the Christmas rush," said Chase.

The rest of the commission was more sympathetic. Before voting to recommend the garage project to the city council, however, it obtained a promise from Chancellor Carroll that Mesa College wouldn't later come back for more city land to solve other campus problems.

At the January 8 city council meeting, Donna Frye made the motion to accept Mesa College's parking-garage project. "When I was first elected," she said, "one of the biggest

issues I had to deal with immediately was the parking problem in Clairemont on Marlesta Drive and people coming home from work, and they could not park in front of their homes." Marlesta Drive leads from Genesee Avenue to the northwest entrance to Mesa College. Overflow Mesa College students taking the parking spaces in the neighborhood were causing the problem. To deal with it, many residents have been paying the city to park in front of their own homes, noted Frye. "So [what is before the council] is a parking issue, and it's been a parking issue for a very long time," she said.

The councilwoman then proceeded to condition her motion on several benefits the college should offer to Linda Vista. Those included giving some college open space to Linda Vista to replace what the community is losing to the garage, an environmental education program for Linda Vista kids, and removing non-native trees from existing Linda Vista open space. But Frye conceded that Linda Vista is likely to experience greater traffic problems of its own as a result of the new parking garage.

Wayne Bamford believes that "Clairemont's Marlesta Drive residents may come to realize they've been sold a bill of goods, that the new garage on our side won't reduce the problems with students parking in their neighborhoods." Since students have to buy a permit to park on campus, says Bamford, they will still try to find free parking off campus. "One solution we tried to suggest was putting the garage closer to that corner of the campus. But the college wasn't listening." ■

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Comments from Reader Website

"The Well-Traveled Tomato"

Published March 7

Posted by Bill Rosen on 03/8/07 @ 3:56 p.m.

Is there any topic that Tom Larson cannot turn into a great story? I just "ate up" "The Well-Traveled Tomato".

300, Movie Review

Published March 7

Posted by john on 03/9/07 @ 6:59 a.m.

hello there my name is john and i would just like to say that we are fans of you sir, but we have a simple request to give this movie 4 stars so that our class may visit this extrodinary movie and also gain a knowlege of the spartans culture

Blurt

Published March 7

Posted by cat dirt on 03/7/07 @ 4:41 p.m.

how much do i love your new comments feature? awesome. i think the idea that major labels will be developing new bands is um... dead. bands are going to have creative management that brings them to the point where a major label will distribute their record. bands will continue to emerge, but managemet will be increasigly important, and the labels will be like, bascially, distribution and mass media promotion.

Remote Control King

Published March 7

Posted by poetgirl on 03/7/07 @ 6:15 p.m.

I had a really bad beginning to my week. (Looks like traffic court is in my future, but the bench warrant for my arrest in Vegas for THAT ticket went away, Thank God!) Then this arrived to save me. Not ev-

everyone can seamlessly reference Tom Robbins in such a slick, funny as hell manner. (Eva Longoria's shiny lipstick, indeed!) But it was the Everybody Loves Raymond segment that really got me. Ollie rocks.

Posted by Rev. Ezekial Ham on 03/8/07 @ 6:33 a.m. "Ollie", if that is your real name. Spreading depravity is going to bring the hammer of the Lord down on your head. Your head being the nail. The nail the Hammer of the Lord hits. OK? There is no place in San Diego for smut like this, ship your devilish wares to the brothels of Tijuana where it will be appreciated. Because there are prostitutes and drug dealers there. OK?

T.G.I.F.

Published March 7

Posted by Mark Martin on 03/9/07 @ 5:43 a.m.

Hi John...I am in DC right now, and saw your column. Isn't it funny — the way Kafka meant "funny"— that the IRS is being all macho over you, and there are tons of well tanned and relaxed tax thieves drinking pina coladas in the Grand Cayman Islands. Hope you are well, friend. Drop me a line soon.

Diary of a Diva

Published March 7

Posted by smokyjoe on 03/10/07 @ 11:25 p.m.

A couple of weeks ago you took a pretty serious beating from a "troubled person" in my book, so I thought it was the appropriate time to finally write and tell you how great I think your writing is and I look forward to it every week. Keep up the great work. Your guy is a lucky fellow...

Sporting Box

Published March 7

Posted by pbridge on 03/11/07 @ 3:46 p.m.

That's all you have to say? "It looked different than a \$500 Trek, but I can't explain how"? A number of the "mom and pop" builders (your term) exhibiting at that show were well-recognized masters of their trade, but it was a poster of a bomber that hooked you? If you went to, let's say, a Picasso show, or a show on architecture, I wonder what would "hook"

you — the Harley parked out front, or maybe the tile work in the men's room? I'm baffled that you would waste your time visiting, and then writing about, a show devoted to a specialized (pun sort-of intended) and narrow subject, a subject which you don't understand, and obviously have no interest in. I can only guess that the deadline for your column kind'a sneaked up on you.

Letters to the Editor Published March 7

Posted by T.H. on 03/11/07 @ 9:51 p.m.

I didn't realize I'd create such controversy amongst all your myspace friends. No, it wasn't a lot of detective work. Just a few clicks. I remember reading somewhere that people send in letters when they are angry, so it struck me as odd that ollie and barbarella always got positive letters. So on a hunch I checked it out. And I was correct. That's all. I found it funny. If you guys enjoy her columns, and her blogs, and now what looks like another avenue for her to write about her self, cool. Enjoy. I've got better things to do.

Crasher

Published March 1

Posted by Wannabe Ho(e) on 03/5/07 @ 10:41 p.m.

As a girl, I like the infrequent chances to dress like a ho. Why do you think we like Halloween? It's one day where it's OK (an expected) to dress skanky. I could be a cat, or a naughty cat. A naughty cat is so much more fun. A golf/ho party sounds like so much fun. There is the conservative golf side, and the fun ho/skank side. I wish I could have been at that party. The way it was written made it sound so fun!!

"Make Room for FIDO," City Lights

Published February 28

Posted by Friend of Fiesta Island on 03/6/07 @ 8:39 p.m.

Fiesta Island is still raw and natural. That's the great thing about it. Why make extinct such a beautiful, natural environment. Money and politics before the city's best interest, how typical. Who is planning on

continued on page 70

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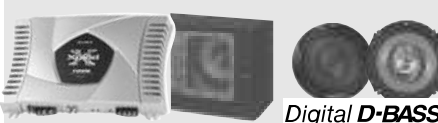
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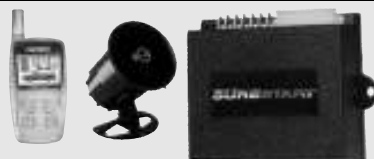
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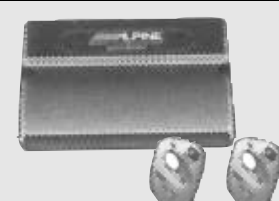


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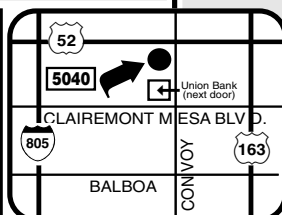


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Illustration by Rick Geary



Heymatt:

What can you do to get rid of hiccups? Must be something....

— Mary, via e-mail

They've made headlines lately. Too bad for Florida teenager Jennifer Mee; her 15 minutes of fame were wasted on a three-week case of hiccups. Guess anybody can make the news these days. So, if you have a bunion like a potato or a bald spot shaped like Norway, news crews will be on your doorstep shortly. And Team Matthew Alice has messed around with the subject of hiccups at least twice before. But we've finally found a morsel of information that should put an end to the hiccup discussion forever. Be careful what you ask for. You might get it.

Apparently, since the last time we checked, medical science has discovered the secret to getting rid of hiccups. It was such a breakthrough, it actually won a prize. An IgNobel Prize for 2006 from the prestigious and wacky Annals of Improbable Research, a Harvard-based group that puts the fun back in fundamental science. Always on top of the real and really ridiculous from labs around the world.

Two doctors, one in Tennessee and one in Israel, shared the IgNobel Prize in medicine for discovering that the most reliable cure for hiccups is a maneuver called the digital rectal massage ("digital" as in "fingers," not hardware). Did the Tennessee doc look at his twitchy patient and say to himself, "Hmmm, maybe if I stick my fingers up his butt...."? We don't want to know.

Because hiccups are basically out-of-control vagus-nerve signals, anything that interrupts the cascade of overstimulation will put an end to the hicking. Vagus nerve irritating you? Irritate it back. How do you get at your vagus nerve easily? Through your butt. The doctor didn't offer any details on the fine points of technique. Lucky for Jennifer, hers stopped all by themselves. Or maybe she heard what the doctors were planning to do and she freaked herself out of it.

I hope that does it for all future hiccup questions. Grandma's already sealed up the file and is setting it on fire in the barbecue grill. That leaves us a little space to recommend that any of you cube boobs who need some diversion in the afternoon should bookmark *improbable.com*, the website for the Annals. Otherwise, you'll miss must-read articles about automatic squirrel-ejecting bird feeders; ultrasonic velocity in cheddar cheese; "Mental Decrepitude on the U.S. Supreme Court: The Historical Case for a 28th Amendment" (from the *University of Chicago Law Review*); a U.S. patent issued last year for a cucumber sandwich; a surprising comparison of apples and oranges from NASA's Ames research center; and a study by Harvard's department of comparative zoology of why so many things taste like chicken.

Dear Matthew Alice:

Now that my wife is pregnant with our first child, I have the responsibility of doing the dishes a little more often while she naps. One thing I keep noticing is no matter how many times the dishwasher runs with the heated dry cycle, plates, glasses, and pots all come out dry, while anything plastic such as Tupperware lids, plastic cups, water bottles (and soon baby bottles too?) are still wet at the end of a cycle. I've seen this in just about any dishwasher I've encountered. Why is this?

— A San Diego native now residing in Seattle

Blame it all on a dark star. A dark federal government star. The Energy Star program, the Environmental Protection Agency's attempt to muscle manufacturers into making energy-saving appliances. Guidelines for dishwashers virtually guarantee that plastics won't dry; though, even with old energy-eating dishwashers, they don't dry well anyway. Efficient drying depends on three things. The rinse water has to be very hot, at least 120 degrees; the heat-dry element has to get really hot; and the dishes themselves must be able to conduct heat.

We checked with two appliance wizards who were pretty sick of explaining this to a damp public. Got basically the same info from both. By EPA standards, Energy Star dishwashers can't draw enough current to make our hot tap water much hotter than it already is. The heat-dry mechanism can't draw enough current to dry everything completely. And plastic doesn't absorb heat well; a hot plate or fork helps evaporate dampness from itself, thus boosting the machine's drying power.

Solutions? Our experts say you can turn up the temp on your household water heater (a waste of energy and a scalding danger in, say, your shower); waste even more energy by extending the washer's drying time (which might not help anyway); or add a rinse agent to each wash (to make water slide off dishes more efficiently), though that really won't help much with plastics. Neither repairman was enthusiastic about the results you'll get. In the end, their advice was the same as all advice for dealing with a government program. Shrug your shoulders, sigh, have a beer, and live with it.

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

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



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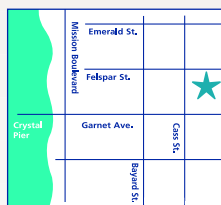


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SportingBox

By Patrick Daugherty

March Madness Preview

It's NCAA Tournament time again, a three-week basketball pageant that comes around every March to remind us what a national playoff looks like. The NCAA lists 326 colleges as playing Division I basketball. Sixty-five teams are invited to their tournament — 20 percent of the total — which is a shocking display of evenhandedness. For me, the best part of the tournament is watching a small college beat a top-20 team. They won't win the tournament — this is real life — and they're competing against corporate universities, but small colleges can go far enough into the tournament to give the rest of us a good ride. With that hope in mind, and since no San Diego team was invited, I've been going through the brackets looking for somebody to root for.

Didn't take long to settle on Oral Roberts University (ORU). Oral Roberts is the 14th seed in the East Region and will play the 3rd seed, Washington State, Thursday in Sacramento. I like this game as an upset.

ORU plays in the unknown Mid-Continent Conference alongside IUPUI, UMKC, and Centenary. Forget that and so what. What is interesting is that Oral Roberts beat Kansas at Kansas last November. The Final USA Today/ESPN Men's Basketball Coaches' Poll has Kansas ranked number 2 in the nation. They're the number 1 seed in the West Region, and Oral Roberts beat them at their place. Of course, that was four months ago. Then, ORU beat Seton Hall 76-74. But, Seton Hall had a lousy year. I probably should mention that ORU lost to Georgetown, Arkansas, and BYU. On the other hand, they stomped Panhandle State 91-41. Looks like a wash to me.

Oral Roberts has two players who could start on any team. Senior Caleb Green is a 6'8" forward. He's a three-time conference Player of the Year and holds the record for rebounds (1181) and career points (2490). He's averaged 20.8 points per game for the past two years.

Senior Ken Tutt is a 6'1" guard, has been Mid-Continent Tournament MVP, two-time conference first team selection, and so on. ORU's coach is Scott Sutton. He's young (36) and hungry. He's the son of Eddie Sutton, who coached Oklahoma State for 16 years, and the brother of Sean Sutton, who inherited the Oklahoma State coaching position from Dad.

In terms of overview, I know zip about Oral Roberts University. I knew the founder was an evangelist from the "give me your money" branch of Christianity. The founder once threatened that God would take him home if his followers did not pony up 8 million dollars pronto. I liked the direct, specific nature of his blackmail, but never asked the essential question: "What's up with ORU?"

Well, according to *U.S. News & World Report's* 2007 America's Best Colleges report, Oral Roberts University is ranked as the 51st best in the "Universities-Master's (West)" category, ten positions behind San Jose State. San Diego State University is ranked in the "National Universities, fourth tier" category, whatever that means. Part of what it means is that SDSU is not listed in the top 124 schools in "National Universities," which puts it behind New Jersey Institute of Technology (124), University of San Diego (105), and University of California San Diego (38). Still, SDSU made it into the National Universities fourth tier...although, sadly, the four tier is so lame, so far down the food chain, that colleges are listed alphabetically rather than by rank.

Okay, here is your Oral Roberts University primer: It was founded in 1963. It is a charismatic Christian university located in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Undergraduate student body numbers 3349. Tuition, fees, room and board will run you a substantial \$23,730 per year. They have an endowment of \$0 and operate on the semester system. The university offers 61 undergraduate majors, 14 master's programs, and two doctoral degrees. ORU's largest majors are business administration, mass media communications, and pastoral Christian ministry.

The school's website has a page with an "Ethnicity Table," which, I assume, measures undergraduate students. The White, non-Hispanic slice of the pie is 60 percent. Black, non-Hispanic is 20 percent, which is 19 percent higher than I would have guessed. Hispanic, by the way, is 4 percent. Female students are 58 percent of the total. Males are 42 percent. And a hell of a basketball team.

One last thing. In 1974, when Oral Roberts University had a student population of — what do you think, 600? — they made it to the NCAA Tournament and played their way to the final eight.

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Louisville	5 ½	Stanford	Washington State	6 ½	Oral Roberts
Butler	1	Old Dominion	Georgetown	16 ½	Belmont
Texas A&M	13 ½	Pennsylvania	Vanderbilt	3 ½	G. Washington
Ohio State	22	C. Connecticut	Duke	6 ½	V. Commonwealth
Michigan State	1 ½	Marquette	UCLA	19 ½	Weber State
North Carolina	26 ½	Eastern KY	Xavier	1 ½	BYU
Pittsburgh	9 ½	Wright State	Indiana	1 ½	Gonzaga
Friday					
Virginia	8	Albany	Georgia Tech	1 ½	UNLV
Memphis	18	North Texas	Notre Dame	4	Winthrop
Tennessee	7	Long Beach	Wisconsin	13 ½	Texas A&M
Nevada	1	Creighton	Oregon	9	Miami (Ohio)
Virginia Tech	2 ½	Illinois	Arizona	2	Purdue
Texas	9	NM State	S. Illinois	7	Holy Cross
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SHEEP AND GOATS

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Senior pastor: a plurality of elders
Congregation size: about 320
Staff size: 4
Sunday school enrollment: about 25
Annual budget: about \$340,000
Weekly giving: about \$6500
Singles program: no
Dress: casual
Diversity: majority Caucasian, some Asian-American, some Hispanic
Sunday worship: 10:30 a.m. at Mission Valley location; 7 p.m. at Faith Presbyterian Church, 5075 Campanile Drive, College Area
Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 50 minutes
Website: www.kaleochurch.com

Instead of preshow trivia, the onscreen slideshow at the former movie theater showed Kaleo Church's announcements. (Like the preshow trivia, they proved difficult to ignore.) "We partner with Abandoned But Precious ministries, which serves orphans in India." "Apologetics meeting, El Torito in Mission Valley." But mostly, ads for in-home study groups: La Mesa, Tierrasanta, Santee, College Area. "Join us for a time of fellowship and discussion about this week's sermon. Bring your questions and comments." A woman reminded the congregation about an ice-cream fundraiser at Cold Stone Creamery, with 20 percent of the proceeds going to build churches in Mexico. "I think it's really great — eat your ice cream, build a church."

The band featured piano, tambourine, and electric violin playing behind frequently shambling melodies, resulting in a modern, alt-country sound. That, contrasted with the archaic syntax of the song lyrics — themselves appearing over an artful, weathered-wood background — produced a downright funksome effect: new-school aesthetics, old-school religiosity. "O to grace how great a debtor/ Daily I'm constrained to be/ Let that grace now like a fetter/ Bind my wandering heart to thee." Grace was one theme of the service; the Holy Spirit was another, and it showed up in the sung psalm: "Take not thy Holy Spirit from me; restore unto me the joy of thy salvation." The song-leader then led the congregation in confession: "Merciful God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and far too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips are afraid to name and our hearts can no longer bear.... Set us free from a past we can't change, and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image." Preaching Elder David Fairchild offered a prayer thanking God for His grace and asking for the Spirit, "that there would be two conversions — not only of those who do not know Christ, but also of those who follow Christ. That there

would be a movement in this church..." He took as his text Acts chapter two: Peter's response to the wondering crowd — some "amazed," some "perplexed," some "mocking" — after Pentecost. Fairchild called Peter's words "the first sermon...preached to a waiting world," that gave "the essential core message of Christianity.... Jesus Christ lived, He died, He rose from the dead, He's exalted at the right hand of God, and anyone that turns from sin and trusts in Him is given salvation — forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit.... The cry of every Christian through history has been to consistently and continually be replenished and renewed and refreshed by the Gospel of God's grace." Today, said Fairchild, we live in a "post-Christian...Christ-haunted culture that is no longer perplexed." How to preach to such a culture? "In our culture, we do not have a very high view of preaching.... It's very hard for you to pay attention. I think it's ADD; it's certainly not me." (That got a big laugh.)

But preaching the Gospel, he said, was essential and more important than telling stories and teasing out meanings and lessons. "The Gospel is news about what Jesus has done; it is not advice about how to live. Why? Because we are saved by grace. News is about something that is done; teaching is about something you do. If my role is to teach you about what to do, then what I'm saying is that you can be saved by following my teaching." Christianity, argued Fairchild, is unique among world religions in that it is not about following a teaching, but about believing in particular historical events concerning Jesus. "We're saved by grace, by something that's been done for you." If not, "that puts you on the hook: earn your own salvation. If Jesus Christ did not live, then we are in grave, grave trouble."

Once the Spirit is received, "what happens? People begin to speak. What does it mean to be Spirit-filled people? It means to bring the Gospel to the world.... You were saved by grace. That means anybody can be saved.... We will no longer sit back and allow the city to rot and die when we have the words of life, have been fed by the bread of life, have been wished with the living water, filled with the Spirit of God to be citizens of the kingdom...showing off the splendor of God. Do you see? That's a little different message from, 'Come to Jesus and He'll fix your problems.'"

What happens when we die? Fairchild referred back to his sermon, saying, "If a man dies, and he has not trusted in Christ's righteousness — has not placed his faith in Christ — then he is separated from God for eternity. And it's not only 'not in the presence of God,' but also consciously, eternally suffering torment away from God."

— Matthew Lickona

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com



DAVID FAIRCHILD

Kaleo Church Mission Valley
★★½

Sermon	
content.....	★★★
delivery.....	★★★½
Liturgy	★★★
Music	
congregational.....	★★½
band.....	★★½
Snacks	no snacks
Architecture	★★½
Friendliness	★★½
Poor to satisfactory.....	(none)
Good.....	★
Very good.....	★★
Excellent.....	★★★
Extraordinary.....	★★★★

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—EVE KELLY

I hadn't heard from my high school chum Laura in years, but it didn't take more than 20 minutes of catching up on the phone to discover that we still had a lot in common. In particular, back pain. "Bodies fall apart," she stated. "That's just what happens when you get older."

"And spend all day chasing, carrying, and caring for kids," I reminded her.

"Either way," she answered.

Her chiropractor had suggested the possibility of arch supports, or orthotics. "You're the shopping lady," said Laura. "Why don't you find something out for both of us?"

Dr. Jack Reingold is a podiatrist. He's also the owner of the Active Foot Store in UTC (858-453-5057). "We're often born with less-than-ideal body function," said Reingold, "and over a lifetime, we put great demands on our bodies. People may have certain postures or foot shapes that aren't ideal for certain activities, ranging from shopping to standing at work to running a marathon. So when our bodies don't cooperate with our desires for function, we need to function better."

That's where an orthotic comes in. "It's a very broad term. I've had patients who went into their garages, took out chunks of rubber and slabs of felt, and fabricated wedges that changed the function of their feet. There's that, and there's a custom, individually molded, very scientifically measured, vacuum-pressed device." All that customization is crucial, said Reingold. "Sometimes, the wrong orthotic can cause problems. It requires a little bit of detective work to find out what's needed."

Reingold begins by administering "a biomechanical exam. We try to figure out where the pain is. Is it a specific muscle or an arthritic joint? Do you have nerve entrapment or is the problem structural? If it's a structural problem, then, due to the way you walk, you're putting abnormal stress on your body, and your body is reacting. We watch the way you walk or stand, and we look at the wear patterns in your shoes."

If your problem is minor, you might get off cheap. "Sometimes, we suggest an over-the-counter arch support; you can get them in most sporting-goods stores. The Active Foot Store has them — \$30 innersoles. We also talk to the person about proper shoe gear. Nike makes zillions of models, and each has its own characteristics. I can say, 'You need a shoe with a deeper toe box,' or, 'One with more heel stability.' Things like that. But I might say that you would really benefit from a truly custom, functional orthotic." (He compares it to buying reading glasses in a drugstore versus getting custom eyeglasses.)

In that case, Reingold starts measuring. "I use a tractograph to measure things like rotation in your foot to your heel. Then I take an impression of your foot; it can be done in plaster, in foam, or electronically with a laser scanner." Electronic imaging is still fairly rare, but Reingold believes it's the wave of the future. "Instead of wrapping plaster around the foot

"I've had patients who went into their garages, took out chunks of rubber and slabs of felt, and fabricated wedges that changed the function of their feet."

and making a statue from the mold, I take a digitalized laser impression with 20,000 pixel points of shape in about eight seconds. Then I go to a mill, where they carve a block of either paraffin or wood into a statue of the foot."

The manner of the impression depends on the patient. "For a diabetic, or someone who is a bit older, I might take a semi-weight-bearing impression in a foam box. There, we're doing more skin protection. For a marathon runner, where we want to control tremendous forces on the foot, I might do a plaster impression with no weight bearing or do it electronically. The key is to capture the contour of the foot in a certain position, adjusted, and with all the joints lined up. Then you can make the orthotic around the foot just the way you want it. If somebody has a short heel cord, like a toe-walker, I may want to put a little lift in the back to change the stress."

The particular condition of the foot also determines the material used. "I have to match the person, the shoe, the function, and the pathology. I think about which part of the foot I want to control, how much the person weighs, and the type of shoes they're going to wear — will the orthotic be for a dress shoe or an athletic shoe? I pick from a combination of semi-rigid thermal plastic and graphite materials — both are

heat sensitive and moldable. Once the outer shell is made, I decide on a cover. If you're a runner and you just want support, you may not need anything more than a vinyl strip. If you have an issue with shock absorption, a soft cover would be best."

Orthotics from the Active Foot Store take around ten days to make and cost \$299 a pair. "I wanted to bring the science and ethics of medicine to retail. In a podiatrist's office, custom-made orthotics can run \$400 to \$600. When you come to the store, you're not necessarily seeing me. You could be seeing my trained staff — they're all certified pedorthists. They've gone to school and taken exams. And I'm always there to troubleshoot and give backup advice. The idea is that you don't necessarily have to have a doctor to put an orthotic in a shoe; you just need somebody who can look at you and say 'I think we can get you to walk better.' However, we do a lot of health screenings where we end up telling people they need to seek other medical care. If they have tendinitis, they have more than just a shoe issue."

Reingold estimated that orthotics last about three to five years, depending on body weight and activity. He keeps the mold on file and offers a \$50 discount on a second pair. "I suggest that people start with one pair for their walking shoes. Then people can come back and say, 'I love these, and I need a pair for my dress shoes.'"

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1. Jack Reingold
2. Orthotic inserts



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by Barbarella

Unsolicited Advice

"Do-so" is more important than "say-so."

— Pete Seeger

After introducing myself to a few people at a recent event, one guy said, "I know you — you write that diary advice column for the *Reader!* Hey, those questions aren't real, right? You, like, write 'em yourself and then answer 'em, huh?"

I wanted to be agreeable and nod but found myself shaking my head left to right. "I don't know what you're talking about, man. I don't give advice; sometimes I just suggest what I think is appropriate behavior for specific situations." Unable to handle the disap-

pointed look on the guy's face, I added, "But I totally know what you're talking about and I agree — some of those questions seem bogus."

I once wrote to an advice columnist. I asked him whether or not it was appropriate for me to help "out" a coworker. I explained in my letter how obvious it was that this buddy of mine was gay but

that he had yet to accept himself as such. I withheld my buddy's recent comment over lunch — "If you're drunk and you kiss a guy down there, it doesn't count." — but I made it clear that I had "good reason" to believe what I did and admirable intentions to help my acquaintance live a more rewarding, true-to-himself kind of life.

Several months later, I stopped checking for an answer. I realized it was silly to wait around for someone to tell me what to do. I knew the scene, I knew the players (and for which team they played), and I was quite capable of directing myself. I contemplated my options and decided to do absolutely nothing. *It's not your dog*, I advised myself. *You are not*

responsible for his choices, only yours. If pretending he's a straight man helps him sleep at night, who are you to intervene? You already have a life to live — why don't you focus your attention on that instead of fretting over whether or not your buddy is fulfilling his, uh, destiny.

I wondered what kind of credentials one might need in order to advise others. A degree in psychology? Nah, knowing *why* people do things isn't the same as knowing what people *should* do. My father says, "Every marriage and family counselor is fucked up," which is what drives them to study psychology in the first place. Dad thinks the only way a person can earn a reputation for sagacity is by displaying empirical evidence. That is, the only people qualified to give advice in a certain area are those people who have had personal success in that same area.

According to the criteria above, I feel I am competent to hand out tips on how to make a relationship rewarding. Why? Because I am one half of a mutually beneficial, healthy, communicative, and exciting relationship going on five years. Instead of going through the whole question-and-answer charade, I'll give pointers using recent, real-life examples of how my man and I resolve conflicts and keep our partnership scintillating.

Don't let snaps escalate into arguments. Yesterday I was having great diffi-

culty trying to peel a hard-boiled egg. When David suggested I run water over it, I spit out something along the lines of, "What the hell do you know, anyway?" Then I returned my gaze to the task at hand, hurling follow-up expletives at the egg. David could have snapped back. He could have told me to shut up or suggest I relocate my problem egg to some unnamed orifice. But he didn't. Instead, in a soft voice, he asked, "What's bothering you? It's not like you to get so worked up over an egg." People are not usually angry for the reasons they think they are. I was stressed about something else and taking it out on the egg and then David, who got in the line of fire. It takes one person to snap. It takes two to squabble. By never taking vented frustrations personally, we are able to catch and squash 99 percent of potential arguments before they begin.

Focus on what *you* can do for *him* (or her). If you do things with the idea of making your partner's life easier and more delightful, chances are your partner will want to do the same for you. This kind of thing is contagious. Last week, David surprised me with a bouquet of sun-yellow tulips. Because he has shown me how good it feels, I want him to experience the pleasure of being thought of — this can be shown in small deeds, like cleaning up the house or leaving little love notes in unexpected places; or bigger deeds, like finding

Don't get stuck in a rut. Routines can offer comfort, but if followed too closely for too long, they can become stifling.

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for him the perfect gift or surprising him with an evening out (or in).

Keep finances out of it! Many relationships end because of disagreements over money. To avoid the big financial fight that plagues most couples, David and I keep separate checking accounts. As long as we are each fulfilling our responsibility to make our agreed-upon contributions to joint expenses, then how we choose to spend the rest of our money is our own damn business. If David opts to drive a beat-up car and spend wads of cash on artwork, it's not my deal. If I want to splurge by charging an Armani sweater to one of my cards, he doesn't bat a lash. My bills are paid. So are his. End of story. If you happen to be in a relationship in which it is agreed that one partner will stay at home to raise the kids or clean house, then the income should be divided equally, and you should still keep separate accounts. A stay-at-home spouse should not have to ask permission to buy a treat, just as the breadwinning half of the partnership should not have to wonder where all the money from the paycheck is going.

Don't get stuck in a rut. Routines can offer comfort, but if followed too closely for too long, they can become stifling. David and I like to shake things up; we might take an afternoon to relax in Balboa Park or sign up for a wine-tasting dinner. We thrive when experiencing new things together, whether it's a new land (like Japan) or a hip new restaurant in our neighborhood (like Café One Three). If dining out is not in the budget of those separate accounts, breaking out an old board game for a night of cozy fun or slipping into something less comfortable for a night of playing naughty games in another part of the house works equally well.

Don't keep score. David said he'd clean the

toilet — a month ago. I was tempted to tap him on the shoulder and "remind" him about his promise and then thought better of it. After all, David's been working day and night to prepare prints for his show at Bartram Gallery in La Jolla. I realized that instead of adding to his stress-load, I could reallocate five minutes of net-surfing time and clean *our* toilet myself. I reminded myself that we're on the same team.

After cleaning said receptacle, I had an urge to report my accomplishment. Again, I refrained from following my baser instincts. In so many words, I'd only be saying, "Hey, I did what you were supposed to and now you owe me one." This would

be nagging and keeping score, like giving a gift and "accidentally" forgetting to remove the price tag. So I let it go. When David noticed the sparkling porcelain (knowing I must have donned a wet suit and gas mask in order to tackle a chore I find vile), he was surprised and delighted, and gushed his thanks.

"I know you've been really stressed, beh beh, so I just did it. No big deal, I had the time," I said, thus communicating my thoughtfulness and love, and eliciting in him the desire to return the favor. Committing an act of consideration is like throwing a boomerang of positive attention — if you throw it right, it comes right back. ■



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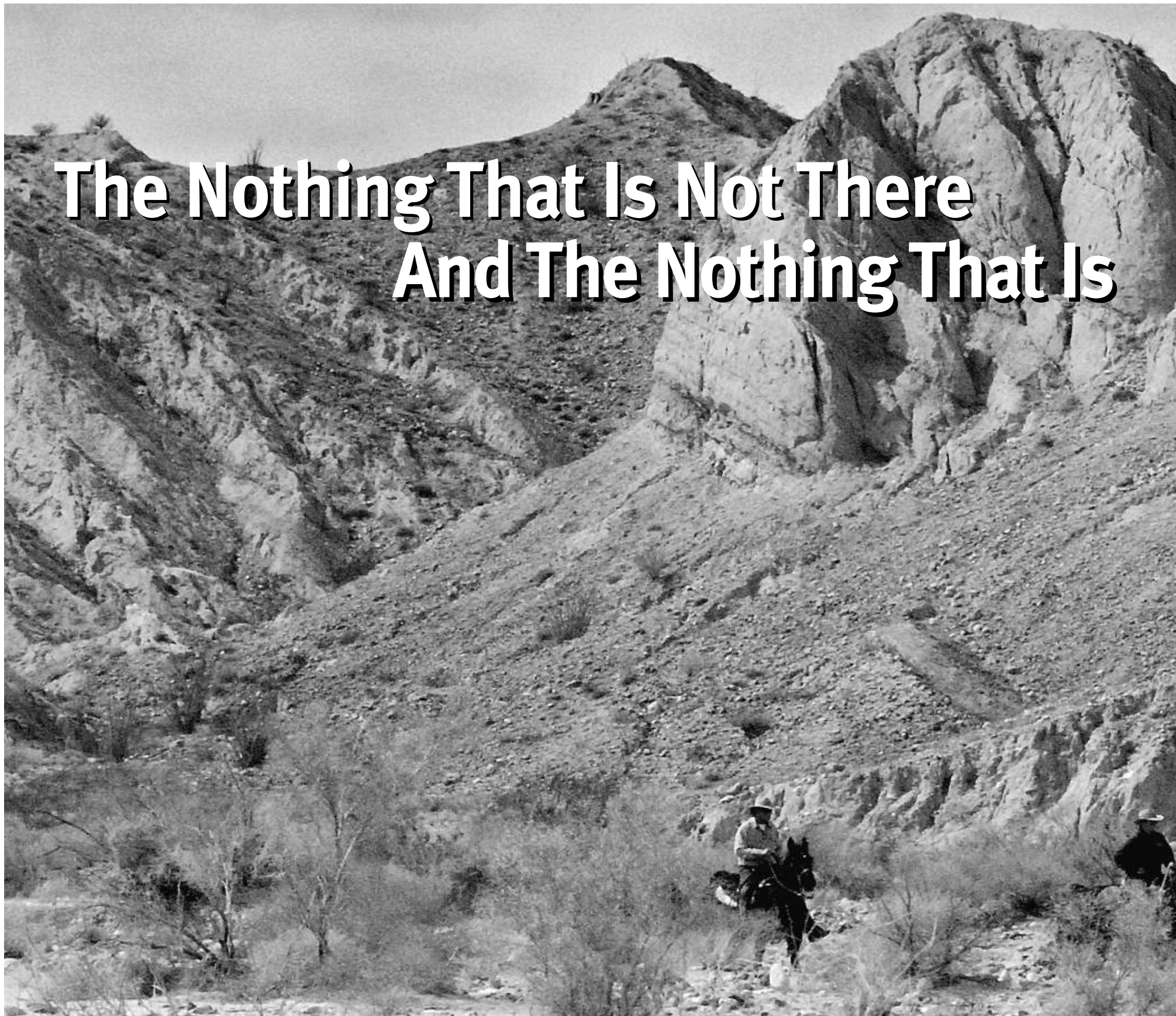
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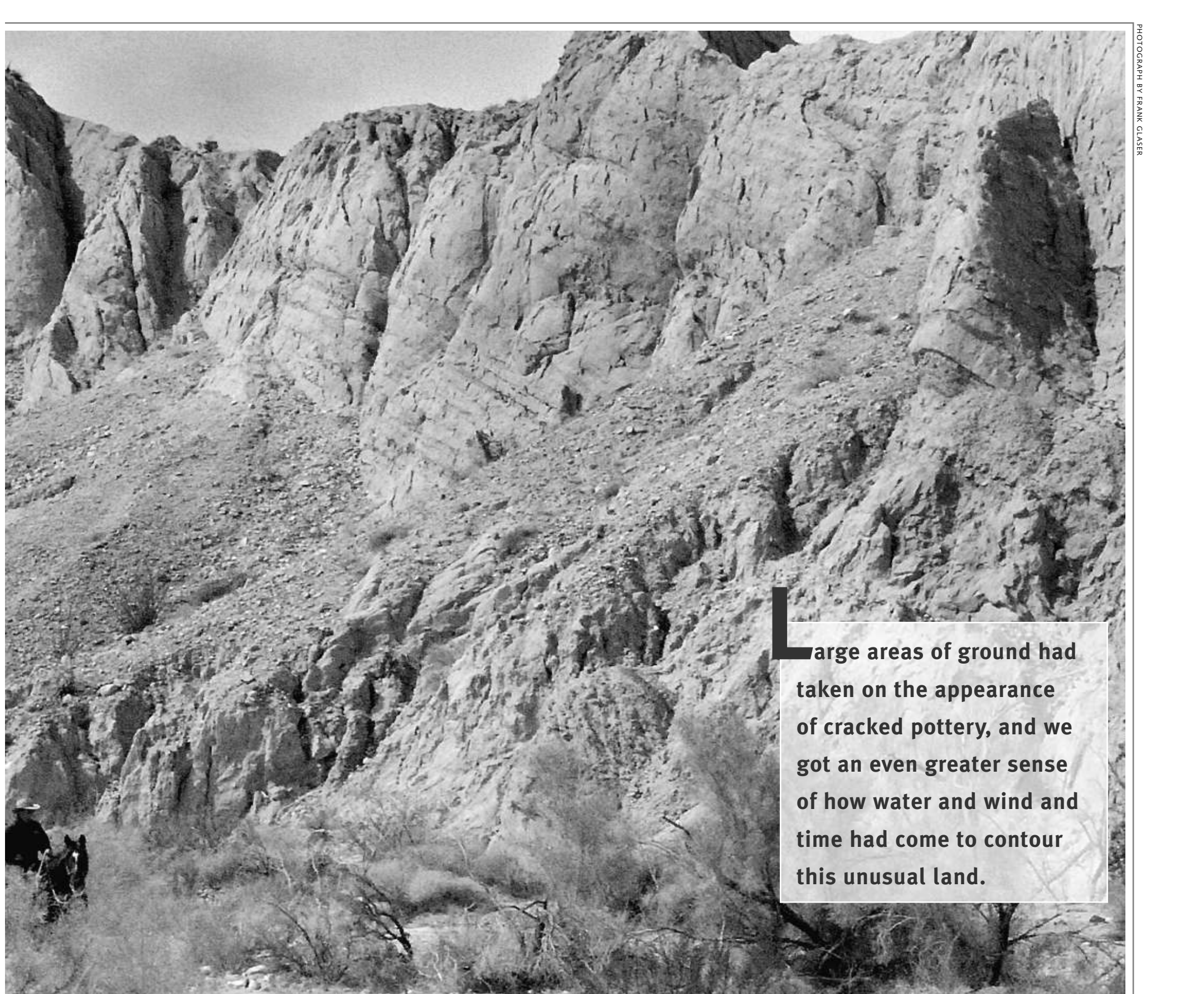
e’re going into *that*?” I said.

It was deep, and dark, and after five steps, you couldn’t see a thing. I used my hands and shuffled at a turtle’s pace.

The walls were uneven in the tight passage. You had to shimmy sideways. I leaned

over right, then left, with either elbow propping me on smooth rock shelves as I crept, and I put my free hand up in front of my face, to protect myself, just in case.

Edging ahead, I could see no difference between having my eyes closed or opened,



Large areas of ground had taken on the appearance of cracked pottery, and we got an even greater sense of how water and wind and time had come to contour this unusual land.

so I decided to close them. The cave hooked left, swung back right, and the whole time, the bumpy, irregular walls were no more than a few feet apart.

I kept feeling as though I'd lose my balance in the darkness. But the close walls

wouldn't let me fall. The air had turned cool, quiet, still.

At least I wasn't alone. My companions — one person in front and one in back — and I kept up almost constant conversation, partially out of fear, and partially

because it was useful to rely on echolocation to orient ourselves.

"This is how bats find their way around," the man in front of me said, "by listening to their voices bouncing off the dark surfaces around them."

"Mm-hmm," I answered, more to test this theory than to agree with it.

"It's immediately much cooler," the man in front said. "And of course our eyes are dazzled. But I will tell you that at some point, we will see the light at the end of the tunnel." His tone conveyed palpable excitement.

But the woman behind us was growing exponentially uncomfortable in the claustrophobic dark. "I'm going to turn back now," she said finally, with distinct exasperation.

Only then we heard the call, just a few feet ahead. "I can see light!" It had taken about three minutes to negotiate the dozens of feet of the wavy, constricted cave.

We'd emerged into a chamber, 40 feet high and as wide as a big garden shed, with a cut in the rock near the roof where a light shaft went to the opposite wall. In the faint glow, I was beginning to make out shades, some shapes, my own hands in front of my face. My companions, for the most part,



PHOTOGRAPH BY FRANK GLASER

View from Badlands Overlook

remained invisible.

"The unofficial name for this place is Plunge Pool Cave," the man said. I could start to see the white of his shirt.

This was the bottom of a dry waterfall. It was easy to imagine, instead of a shaft of light up there, a water jet coursing through and down to us.

We chatted as our eyes

adjusted. "The dark-adaptation process in our eyes isn't completed until something like an hour after the light's gone," the man told us. "We use a different set of cells in our retinas at night, the ones that are only sensitive to black and white, the rod cells. So once the cones, which detect color, stop activating, our eyes are able to sense more in the darkness."

This man was a photographer who specialized in photographs taken in darkness. Which was only one of his many related talents. In fact, the person who'd led me into this cave was undoubtedly one of the premier natural scientists in San Diego, Jerry Schad. The woman, whose tone had turned faintly more confident in the wider, slightly

brighter space — "We should have brought a flashlight" — was Schad's friend, Chong Yim.

But Schad had taught us not to rely on our eyes. Nature reached us through senses other than our eyes.

To appreciate the essence of the great outdoors, perhaps the only thing better than going alone is to go with a great out-

doorsman. And Jerry Schad's credentials as a hiker, biker, photographer, naturalist, and scientist are definitely great. Schad is the first person to write recreation guidebooks for the most ecologically diverse county in the United States, San Diego County. By last count, he's published 12 guidebooks, including the popular *Afoot and Afield in San Diego County*, and three other volumes about wilderness basics, physical science, and the California deserts. Schad, who is 57 but looks at least ten years younger, also teaches college courses in astronomy, serves as the head of the physical sciences department at Mesa College, and, as I alluded to earlier, has gained some measure of fame as a nature and astronomy photographer.

I was no more than two hours from my living room, but I was standing in a dark cave with a master outdoorsman and his friend, and we were talking about light and sound and...

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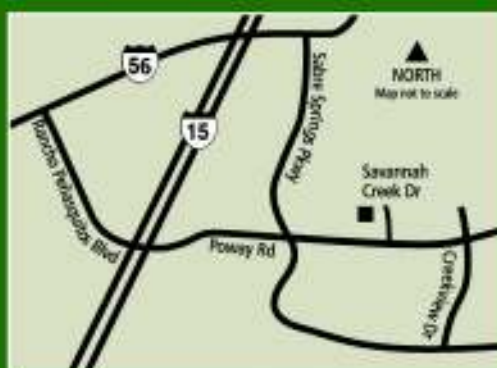
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deemphasize the existence of these mud caves," Schad told us. "They've collapsed quite a bit over the years, so the word is that they're not really safe."

Um-hmm. The perfect thing to tell people after leading them into a cave. But Schad was the expert, and he didn't sound worried.

After a few minutes, we headed back to the light of day.

Outside, it was 75 degrees, about 4:00 p.m., a November early evening. The three of us had driven over a mile up Arroyo Tapiado, north of Vallecito Creek, in the heart of the Carrizo Badlands of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, gone into a mud cave, and lived to tell about it.

"To me, this is one of the many really outstanding places in San Diego County," Schad said.

The 4200 square miles of our county boast an extraordinary biodiversity — marine, sandy beach, saltwater marsh, freshwater marsh, lakeside, sage-

scrub, chaparral, riparian woodland, oak woodland, mountain meadow, mountain forest, spiny desert, alkali desert — all within short driving distance.

Almost a quarter of San Diego County — nearly 1000 square miles — is taken up by the desolate terrains of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park.

The name "Anza-Borrego" came from Juan Bautista de Anza — the first European to pioneer a route through the Southern California desert — and the Spanish word for sheep — for the bighorn sheep that live here. The park dates back to the 1930s, when a group of nature lovers petitioned the state government to protect a swath of desert between Mexico in the south, Riverside County in the north, Imperial County in the east, and the Laguna Mountains to the west.

Anza-Borrego is a spot that Jerry Schad had visited eight to ten times per year since the early 1970s — 300 times in all? — to do



PHOTOGRAPH BY FRANK GLASER

View of mud cave openings

fieldwork, check on trailheads, and add new trips to his guidebooks. He also regularly takes his astronomy classes out to Anza-Borrego to set up telescopes and look at the heavens.

Schad fell for the beauty

of the desert when he went camping in Anza-Borrego with friends from grad school. "It happened to be one of those years with just enough rainfall," he said. "And the place was exploding in wildflowers. Entire

slopes filled with desert poppies. Color everywhere. I was absolutely amazed. But what clinched it for me on that first trip was this. We came around the corner, and this is on the Borrego Palm Canyon Nature Trail, and right in the crease of the canyon up ahead was all this bright green color. And I realized they were palm trees. I just couldn't believe that vivid color and lushness in the middle of the desert. I got hooked at that moment."

The energy of our company had converted completely after the experience in the tight, dark mud cave. There was an air among us now like the buzz of excited carnivalgoers after the roller-coaster. Our voices sounded different. Steps felt lighter. We were ready for anything. Perhaps Chong and I had gotten hooked on the desert now too.

But the trip didn't necessarily begin that way.

I mean, it was the desert. What was there to see and do that would be worth the

heat of the desert?

The first time Schad saw the California desert, driving through the western Mojave, he wasn't impressed. "It was just sort of this ugly, flat, colorless, hot expanse of nothing."

The American poet Wallace Stevens, in one of his most famous poems, wrote about attuning our minds to nature. When nature and man become single-minded, Stevens stated, we might behold "nothing that is not there and the nothing that is."

At the eastern Anza-Borrego park boundary on S2 (the Imperial Highway), which is also the county line, and which is also an immigration checkpoint, a small stone obelisk rises by the side of the road.

The original bronze plaque in the obelisk was stolen long ago. In 1998, local sculptor Nina Karavasiles made a new plaque out of graphite. "This is the desert. There is nothing out here. Nothing."

As we passed the park

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boundary, discussing the nothing, and the other nothings, Schad told me that I was going to be seeing the desert in its most dried-out state. "Which is kind of good," he said, "because one of the things that's nice about the badlands is that it's so incredibly stark, so maybe you don't want to go there when there are wildflowers."

The starker the better, I thought. If the desert's true color was to have no colors, then I was happy to see it like that. The nothing at its most nothing-like.

Three miles past the obelisk, the badlands gradually came into view.

They were hills, but as you approached them, you looked down on them from the flatter country above. From the rim of the "breaks," as a descent into the badlands is called, you saw a land that was bumpy and gray—a convoluted, lumpy quilt—the hallmark of severe erosion.

Another mile or so down the lonely paved stretch of the Imperial Highway, the badlands tumbled to the horizon on both sides. Smoke trees, ocotillos, and cactus dotted the rockiness here and there, but mostly it was hills and grayness for miles and miles in every direction, until the Coyote Mountains rose about 2000 feet out of a blue-silver haze in the eastern distance and the Jacumba Mountain peaks punctuated the west.

Incidentally, "badlands" was never an official geographical designation for a landscape. Instead, the word commonly referred to uninhabitable terrain that was difficult to pass through and bore no practical value to humans. The term originates from dual origins: the Lakota called the topography of the Dakota Badlands "*mako sica*," literally "bad lands," and French trappers named it "*les mauvaises terres à traverser*," which means "the bad lands to cross."

Said Schad, "The badlands are a maze. The washes wind around and wind around, and it's like a maze or puzzle. But generally you can't get lost too much

because all you have to do is follow the drainage."

Two areas of badlands lie in the eastern portions of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. The Carrizo Badlands, where we were, stretch south of Route 78, and the Borrego Badlands extend

north of the highway.

We'd turned off S2 at the Carrizo Badlands Overlook to park and have a look.

"I just love this really stark stuff," Schad said; "what some people might regard as 'ugly' I think is just

beautiful."

Indeed, one man's ugly nothing for another person could be really something.

Several ocotillos clutched skyward like bare spindly fingers. Schad told me that ocotillos send out leaves

and flowers up to seven times a year, depending on rainfall. (Our whole time in Anza-Borrego, I saw well over a hundred ocotillos, but only five ocotillos with flowers. More precisely, I saw five ocotillos that each had a single flower hang-

ing forlornly from the tip of a fingerlike branch. Each flower looked almost like a dangling red sock. Two of the five had vigorous hummingbirds fluttering at them.) "The ocotillos are so defiant of their environment," Schad said. "I'm

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going to survive!' That's what they're saying.

"One of the things you get a sense of as you enter this area is you don't see the works of humankind," said Schad. "All you see is nature. You could have been out hiking centuries ago, and when we go out hiking today, we'll see exactly the same thing. So when you're talking about towers as tall as high-rises going right through one of the most spacious parks in the nation..." And his voice trailed off in seeming disbelief.

Schad was talking about the Sunrise Powerlink, San Diego Gas & Electric's proposed 150-mile power line "to connect energy sources in the Imperial Valley to San Diego County." The utility says the line would ensure that the region will have enough power in the

coming decade. But its 155-foot towers would also scar the desert wilderness.

Back in the car, we made our way a few hundred feet past the Carrizo Badlands Overlook. It was a right turn down into Canyon Sin Nombre ("Canyon Without a Name"), nothing but a sandy, rocky dirt path hemmed alternately by gentle 30-foot-high hills and 30-foot cliffs.

Schad drove a Honda CR-V with four-wheel drive on demand, and this spot was where the four-wheeling began.

If you're driving through Anza-Borrego, you're either on one of the main roads or you're bouncing and sliding along a wash. In desert parlance, a wash is a dry creek bed. Washes are full of rocks of all sizes, ridges of hard mud, and



Mud cave opening

resolute stands of desert foliage. It's easy to picture water running through a wash. Everything about a wash indicates rushing water: sinuous forms, loose deposits of rocky material, lines of strata in the cliff walls. But most of the time there's no water in Anza-Borrego washes. They're more like the negatives of rivers — to employ a photography metaphor — which will be used in future rainstorms to develop ephemeral streams.

"This is a road that passenger cars aren't advised on," Schad said, as we bumped down into the canyon. "The wheels might slip, and we might have a hard time getting back up out of here. And there are some pretty rough sections up here for a passenger car. It may even be challenging for this one."

And if we did get stuck?

Schad laughed. "I've got Auto Club."

A single raven flapped past us in silence, pastel sky behind it. The Honda bounced and crawled through Canyon Sin Nombre.

A kangaroo rat skittered among the rocks. When I pointed it out, Schad told me we'd probably see plenty of those, as well as lizards, jackrabbits, and maybe kit foxes and coyotes. We passed a half-green mesquite shrub and clutches of small plants covered in yellow flowers, desert marigolds. The biggest plant we saw, aside from the palm trees I'll mention later — a desert willow — was no more than 20 feet high and wide, with a trunk as big around as my ankle.

But the most common plants, which is to say there were more than a few of



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them thriving here and there among the rocks and sand, were the smoke trees. Seen in backlight, smoke trees did appear like puffs of smoke. But up close, these bushy wisps were thorny and sharp.

The most extravagant display, though, wasn't provided by plants but by rocks. Desert varnish forms on many desert rocks, adding to the colors of the landscape. A chemical change involving oxygen, iron, and manganese, which occurs over the course of hundreds or thousands of years, causes many desert rocks to acquire reddish and brownish hues. In essence, the rocks are rusting in the relentless sun.

"This canyon is probably the single most amazing geologic showplace maybe in the whole county," Schad said. "There's so much here for people who study rocks. Right now we're in what used to be a streambed, and you can tell that because of the basal conglomerate layer in the rock." Schad pointed to a line of strata in the rock as we drove slowly past. "And above that, there's the less-pocked layers of finer silt where the water once brought it along."

Geologically, what's going on in Anza-Borrego is complicated. But the simplified story is, the San Jacinto Fault wandered into the area and mixed everything up. As a result, you can see every kind of rock there — sedimentary, metamorphic, and igneous — all interspersed, ground together, and folded by the motions of a massive seismic fault.

The squiggly lines of strata laced the sides of many hills. But then, in certain areas, the hills looked more like piles of mud. And other places, the mud was cracked like dried pottery. And the types of hills — mudlike, rocky, stratified, even bone-like — clustered together by category. In the badlands, you wouldn't often see a mud hill next to a rocky one, or lined hills next to smooth ones, for instance.

"This terrain seems so static," Schad said. "You know, it seems absolutely

frozen. But then it obviously changes, and it changes in fits and starts, great catastrophes, like floods and earthquakes, that happen in short time periods, and then it just sits there and vegetation slowly grows."

The rocks reiterated

Schad's tale, jutting and waving and speaking of momentary violence followed by long periods of peace.

If Anza-Borrego were an artist, then rain was her paintbrush.

I wondered just how

often water might flow in these sandy washes, and Schad told me that it was likely for at least a little water to flow in most washes every single year. "It doesn't take much rain to start a small flood out here," he said. "I came out here one time,

years ago, just because I wanted to see water flowing in the desert, and I walked about ten miles on the rims of the canyons, and I could see brownish, turbid water churning through these canyons. And small sections of the sides

of the canyons were sloughing off and falling into the water. Because everything is kind of muddy and silty out here."

But the water in Anza-Borrego never stays around for long. In wine-making and distilling, they call the

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amount of liquid lost during the aging process “the angel’s share.” In the desert, the angels take the water back quickly. What rain there is in Anza-Borrego falls from December through March. Those are the winter rains, the fairly meager smatterings that manage to get over the mountains, which extract most of the moisture from Pacific storms. Anza-Borrego lies within what’s called the “rain shadow” of the mountains.

The rainfall in the desert reaches 12 inches some years, but most of the time it hovers around 6½, according to Michael Rodriques at the park’s visitors’ center. The



PHOTOGRAPH BY JERRY SCHAD

Comet Hyakutake from Big Mud Cave

amount and timing of these winter rains determines when and how many desert wildflowers sprout. Soak-

ing rains and nice sunshine can lead to a profusion of colorful flowers by April — desert lilies, agave, palo

verde, brittlebush, indigo bush, creosote bush, senna, and cactus flowers.

By June, though, the

place is scorching. Hundred-degree days. Hardly any plants are blooming. Smoke trees, for instance, may keep their mottled gray-purple clusters until June.

In July and August, sometimes there is hot and humid weather, because the moisture coming from the Gulf of California, or even the Gulf of Mexico, sweeps across the desert and piles up against the mountains creating thunderclouds and sometimes thunderstorms. But the storms are usually spotty. They dispense heavy rains but often only in tiny areas. The precipitation from summer storms usually adds less than an inch to the total annual rainfall.

By late September, the summer storming is over. “I think October is a great month out here,” Schad said as we drove. “It’s one of the least popular months. It’s quite hot and dry, but the nights cool off, and as long as you stay out of the sun during the middle of the day, the rest of the time is nice.”

November is a more benign version of October, and in December and January, Anza-Borrego gets those intermittent winter rainstorms, but a lot of days late and early in the year are crisp and clear, 70 degrees in the daytime, 40 at night.

It was 2:44 in the afternoon. As the sunlight

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descended behind the Jacumba Mountains, the desert suddenly seemed like a stage, with a spotlight shining on it. This was a much more flattering light than the brutal post-noon-day sun had provided.

Crawling northeastward, up Canyon Sin Nombre, we'd covered about two miles in 12 minutes. But at last we'd reached the spot that Schad was looking for, one of his favorite slot canyons.

Something I was beginning to realize—and which would become clearer as we saw more—these nameless places, in a slowly shifting landscape, with similar-looking landmarks, might be all but impossible to find without a guide like Schad to show them to you.

"I first wrote about this particular canyon in the first edition of my *Backcountry Roads and Trails* book," Schad said.

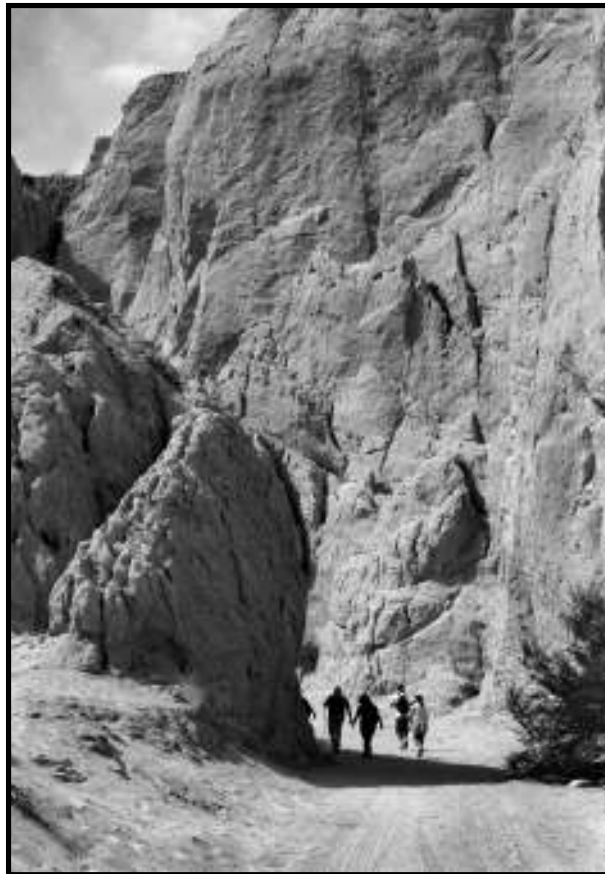
At the mouth of the slot canyon, the hills had taken on a gothic appearance. The mud had dripped and dribbled and re-formed to the point that there were medieval touches everywhere—ribs and spires and columns, buttresses, arches, and hardened mud outcroppings that looked like gargoyles on a vampire's castle. We found some bat guano at the base of a small cliff, adding to the gothic theme.

"We're going in there," Schad said excitedly, indicating an opening between two rock faces, and then we parked. The cliffs here were 40, maybe 50 feet high. We were in the middle of the sandy path that was Canyon Sin Nombre, parked next to a five-foot-high smoke tree.

"This isn't a true cave," Schad said, "just a slot in the rocks."

We grabbed some water and set out across the soft sand.

"There's kind of a hardness to this desert landscape," Schad said. "But there's a softness too. For example, how soft the sand is as you're walking along it. The rocks are angular in some places, but they're not



PHOTOGRAPH BY FRANK GLASER

all that jagged. And this warm weather, to me, this is very inviting. It's a very comfortable place. Even though, for some people, I know it's menacing and sinister. And the best thing, really, is how close this is to San Diego. We didn't even have to rush out here, and here we are. We even took our time."

Everything about that moment in that place seemed to agree with Schad's words. We'd left after noon and lingered over what to bring. And just a couple of hours later, it felt as though we'd arrived on another planet, where the breezes were sultry, the landscape was beautiful, and nothing commonplace could follow.

"I have a picture of the

moon from over that ocotillo right there," Schad said at one point. And later he'd take us to find a particular overhead slot—what he called an "aperture"—an angular opening in the rocks above us that framed a geometrically interesting swatch of sky.

We passed between two rock cliffs, and the space got tighter and tighter. No roof capped off the slot, so although it was often as constricting as the mud cave would eventually be, at least we could see where we were going. I asked Schad if this winding thin canyon had a name. "Nope," he said. "No name. A no-name canyon off the Canyon with No Name."

We laughed. Schad

pointed out a bluish and many-lined rock among the monotone grayness. It looked as out of place as a street sign or a palm tree in the desert. "This is from a different mountain range," Schad said. "Carried down here probably thousands of years ago and left here."

Most of the stone we saw was either smooth and flowing, like the water that shaped it, or dotted and cracked, like the sun that also did its part. For this reason, you could easily tell where rocks had broken and fallen. The piles of new-fall stood out. Seeing what the fallen stuff looked like, you didn't want to stop walking as you passed under the brittle arches and overhangs.

We turned around and snaked our way back out of the tight canyon.

Back in the car, the three of us headed out of Canyon Sin Nombre, slowly over the sand and loose stone, about another half-mile to a crossing of paths, a spot where a canyon, a creek, and an arroyo formed what looked more or less like a big sandy field with some rocks and low trees in it.

"This crossing is called a 'braided wash,'" Schad said.

Official signs had been hammered into the ground at this spot, though they were easy to miss. Canyon Sin Nombre. Carrizo Creek. Vallecito Creek. We headed more or less straight up Vallecito Creek, though this "creek" might more properly be titled a "wash" or a dry arroyo. Soon we passed

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Instead of veering to see it, we turned off Vallecito Creek up Arroyo Tapado and headed for the mud caves.

“That was fun, huh?”
 “Yes. That was amazing.”
 We walked another
 hundred yards or so up the
 arroyo and headed fear-



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After a long trek, over a mile, in and back out through the collapsed cave, we headed to the car and backtracked a mile to the mouth of the canyon section of Arroyo Tapiado, where there was plenty of space to park on firm sand. "Let's make camp," Schad said. It was 5:10 p.m. The temperature had already dipped into the high 60s.

After a meal of salad, soup, and fettuccine Alfredo with tuna, the stars came on all around us and the



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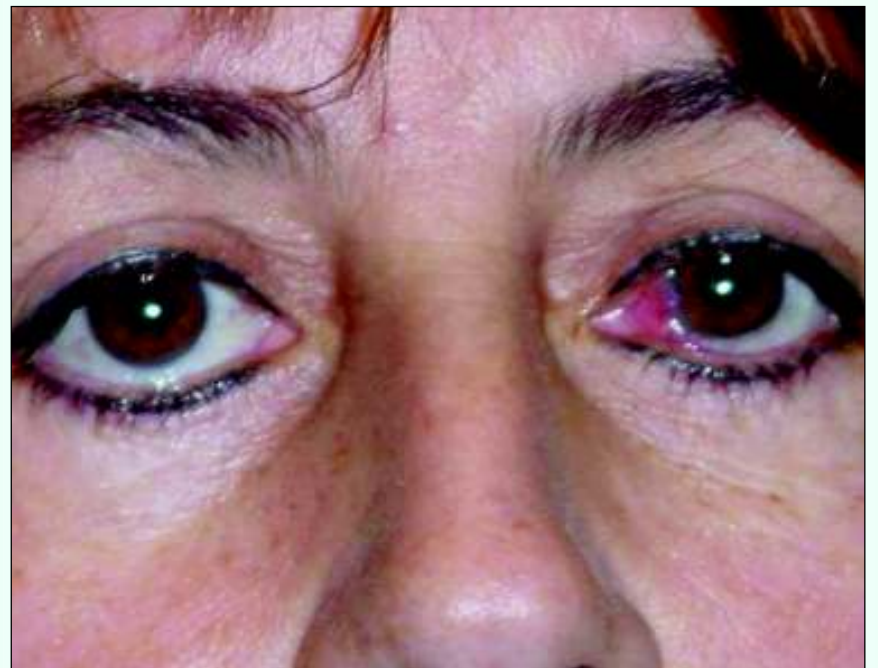
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temperature dropped. Schad the astronomer announced that it was time for our lesson in the heavens.

By 6:20, the sky was a mass of stars. So many of them. They looked like spilled glitterdust or snowflakes getting ready to

fall. And right down the center of the sky, looking like nothing so much as a spinal cord, the Milky Way Galaxy stood forth bright and clear.

"In recent years, they've come out with green lasers," Schad said. "Have you seen

one? They're really good as pointers."

And then Schad turned on his green laser. The beam looked light-years long. It seemed as though Schad could touch the stars with it. "Okay," he began, "let's start with something ter-

restrial. Light pollution. For example, I can see you. And if we didn't have light pollution we'd see a lot more stars."

I couldn't imagine seeing more stars.

"Over there, we have the lights of San Diego,"

Schad said. He didn't need his laser to point out the domelike glow to the southwest that backlit the peaks of the ten-miles-distant In-Ko-Pah Mountains. "And looking a little more that way," he said, turning south, "Tijuana and Tecate are

contributing more and more."

Turning back north, past San Diego's ominous glow, he said, "And then you can see, where it gets a little darker, that's Camp Pendleton. And then there's Los Angeles. We're a long ways away from L.A., about a hundred miles, but you can still see its light. And then there's Coachella Valley and Palm Springs. And over here, under the eastern sky, there's a pretty big dome of light. That's Imperial Valley and Mexicali, about 40 miles distant."

Schad had turned us fully around, 360 degrees, and almost every stretch of the horizon was eerily backlit by the lamps and bulbs of cities.

"I consider this light pollution to be like a noose," Schad said. "And it's tightening and tightening and tightening. If I could have brought you out here in 1972, when I first saw this place, San Diego was like that," and Schad pointed at the considerably dimmer Mexicali glow, "and L.A. was a similar thing. So it's gotten a lot worse. And it affects the sky up to about 45 degrees. And it's not quite as dark as it used to be at the zenith."

Then Schad delivered a crash course in astronomy. His green laser touched and traced the summer triangle and the Northern Cross and all the visible zodiacal constellations. He told stories relating to many of them. "This is like my Astronomy 109 class," Schad said, at one point. Schad was a good teacher, and his excitement when it came to the heavens was infectious.

Schad pointed out the Andromeda Galaxy — "That's the farthest you've ever looked at with your eyes," Schad said — and he talked about photographing the heavens, and he described how star time relates to earth time and moon time and sun time. As he talked, the stars seemed less like some imaginary video game with battles and alien races and more like the beautiful, stately, well-measured backdrop for

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every human action. We talked stars for over an hour, and we probably could have talked more.

"The thing about the sky," Schad said, as he finished his star lesson, "unlike this badland landscape that shows its changes in fits and starts, the sky is mostly incredibly regular. It's just running like a clock."

By now, it was 7:30 p.m., and getting chillier, and Schad had an idea about going for a night hike. When I mentioned to him that I'd never heard of night hiking, Schad said there was really no such thing. It was something he just liked to do.

"It's more of a black-and-white experience," he said. "Landscapes are really quite beautiful when the moon shines on them." And then it made sense to me how an astronomer might cultivate an appreciation for hiking at night. "I've seen Venus so bright at night that it cast a discernible shadow," he said.

There was hardly any breeze, but you could feel the night air moving. We kept passing through warmer and cooler pockets of it. One moment, I'd feel chilly, and the next I was quite warm. "The cold night air is displacing the warm stuff," Schad said. "And it's moving down through these canyons just like flowing water would."

Hiking down the washes by starlight, winding and curving, it was easy to imagine being water.

Schad led us back up Arroyo Tapiado in the dark, and after about a mile, using flashlights intermittently, we found the entrance to another slot canyon.

This canyon had many cavelike features and covered areas, though most of it had collapsed. The path coiled and twisted up through 30-foot rock and mud walls, and a narrow river of stars followed us in the dark sky. We used flashlights most of the time, although we'd turn them off at times too, to appreciate the natural light. The darkness provided an intimacy with the landscape. You had to touch

the walls more and feel the ground. I began to form an impression of the sun as a kind of boisterous, loud child, flooding everything with heat and light and making it difficult to see the details of things. At night,

the subtlety of the badlands stood out.

We followed the canyon/cave for almost a mile and then turned around and followed it back down. Despite the fluctuations in temperature, it was getting

colder. But walking had made us warm.

By 9:15, after about a two-mile walk, we were back at camp and more than ready for bed. There was a faint smell of wood smoke, probably from the campers

we'd seen up near the mud caves. I crawled into my sleeping bag next to a tiny yellow-flowered bush as moonlight crept across the valley. The only sound was the periodic plaintive roar of distant planes.

I fell asleep almost immediately, although I woke up several times during the night. Twice I heard coyotes' yips and barks a long way off.

I awoke at 5:45 a.m. The temperature had fallen

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.



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

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 at no cost.

Qualified participants could be compensated for time and travel.



Do you think you have the flu?

You may qualify for a clinical research trial of a new investigative drug for the treatment of influenza.

To qualify, you must be 18 years of age or older, and have experienced a combination of the following symptoms within the last 48 hours:

- ◆ Fever of 100.4°
- ◆ Cough, sore throat or stuffy nose
- ◆ Headache, fatigue
- ◆ Sweating/chills

Qualified candidates will receive a medical exam, laboratory tests, and study medication at no charge. Participants could receive up to \$300 for time and travel.

Insomnia Sleepless Nights Exhausted Days



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

To qualify for participation in this study, you must:

- Be 18-64 years of age
- Have had trouble falling and staying asleep for more than 3 months

Study participation includes, at no charge:

- Study visits with a medical professional
- Investigational study drug
- Study procedures and tests

Qualified participants could receive compensation for incidental costs and travel.

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

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to just above 50 degrees. High pink cirrus clouds streaked against the gradually bluing sky. The waning gibbous moon was a chalk smudge. There was no sun yet, although orange sunlight was visible on the western peaks of the In-Ko-

Pah Mountains in the morning silence.

We sipped white tea, munched red grapes, and gradually broke camp.

By 6:30 we were on our way as a single raven cawed overhead.

"This is the kind of

lighting I love," Schad said, referring to the soft pre-sun glow. "All the colors are muted now. Pastel shades. Olive green. Beige. Rust. Everything just stands out. Like a painting."

On the way up out of Vallecito Creek, we saw a street sign standing on a rocky hill. That's right. A street sign. Hollywood and Vine. "Somebody put that there years ago," Schad said, chuckling. "The most glamorous street corner in L.A. Looks pretty out of place here, doesn't it?"

Out of place, yes. But it wasn't the most out-of-place thing I was going to see that day.

We drove another three miles, up out of the Carizzo Badlands, and got back on S2, the Imperial Highway, near the trailers and homesteads of Canebrake Township. Jackrabbits

bounded among the agave plants, scurrying away from the car at high speeds.

We headed northwest through Earthquake Valley, through the Yaqui Pass, about 40 miles, and then another 15 to 20 miles northeast through Borrego Springs. Then we turned due east on S22, the Borrego-Salton Seaway, and went the last 7 miles into the Borrego Badlands.

At 8:15, we reached the Arroyo Salado turnoff and headed south down the sandy wash toward our next hike. Behind us, the highest peaks in the area, the Santa Rosa Mountains, jutted down out of Riverside County. We weren't more than ten miles west of the Salton Sea.

Again, it was slow going. It took us about half an hour to drive three miles.

Schad's plan was to

show us the only 23 palm trees standing in the Borrego Badlands. The 23 trees were growing in three small oases, in groups of 17 and 5, and then a single tree standing alone. We would drive to the largest stand of palms, park the car, and then walk a wide loop to see the others.

Seventeen Palms Oasis was a string of high trees, all about 30 to 40 feet tall. Crabgrass and smoke trees grew among the palms. The sound of fronds clacking in a breeze added to the buzz of a stray insect and the passing of a high plane. It wasn't yet 9:00 a.m., but already the temperature had climbed near 80 degrees. The sun was relentless.

Around us, scaly, crumbly mud hills were covered with small, loose rocks. It looked a lot like the moon, with little vegetation, except

for this unexpected stand of high, green trees. "There's water near the surface here," Schad said.

And then he related how this oasis was once a meeting place for miners and other desert travelers. "They'd leave each other water and messages here," he said. And to commemorate that, there was still a barrel wedged between two of the palms, with a bunch of notepads in it.

At Schad's behest, we "tanked up," drinking multiple bottles of water. And then he led us across the rocky waste, through the nothing that was there, using his topographical map. There was no path. He stopped once to point out the color of the setting moon. "The moon's about this color," he said, and he kicked at a blue-grayish rock with his foot. "If you took a picture of the moon, it would have about the same exposure value as this rock."

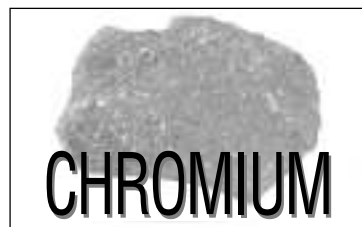
Multiple animal tracks laced the sandier areas among the hard mud and loose rocks. Every so often, a jackrabbit would start up and dash off at high speed. We also saw networks of kangaroo rat tunnels but no kangaroo rats. Dragonflies throttled back and forth over a small stand of evenly placed creosote bushes.

I kept getting pestered by a horsefly who must have

RESEARCH STUDIES

Feeling Anxious?

Ask us about the CHROMIUM Trial.



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

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

- Are at least 66 years of age
- Have been informed by your doctor that you have generalized anxiety disorder (GAD)

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 **CHROMIUM Trial**, call:

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HEALTHY MALE STUDY

If you are a healthy man between the ages of 18 and 60 years old, you may be able to participate in a Healthy Male research study.

You must:

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- Have a Normal Sperm Count

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- Do you experience anxiety, depression, severe mood swings and irritability one week prior to your menstruation?
- Do these symptoms impair your functioning in day-to-day activities?

Dr. Steven R. Drosman is conducting a research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder, or Severe PMS.

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

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We know it can...

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



Weight Gain is often part of taking medications for Schizophrenia

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

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- You will receive up to \$780 for time and travel.
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I fall asleep, but once I wake up... I am up!

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- 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. For more information, please call:

CNRI-San Diego **858-566-8222**

thought I was a horse. By then, I might have smelled like one.

We walked over uneven ground for a half mile or so, and then, entirely without warning, the ground dropped away. It was a sharp sliding drop, a "break" into the badlands, down about a hundred feet. In front of us, we could see for miles — miles and miles of roiling eroded land. Juts and lines and swipes of brownish

land. All the way to a slight mist in the distance and the buttes and peaks of the Pinyon and Fish Creek mountains.

We found Five Palms and drank more water. The trees were arranged in the side of a barren hill in such a way that they looked like two adult palms watching over their clustered children.

But our final stop was going to be Una Palma, One Palm, a single tree, alone in

the desert badlands.

As we walked and wound around and up and down, I could tell that a trail was part of the nothing that was *not* there. Although we weren't lost, per se, just meandering. Schad kept getting our bearings, using his map and the blistering sun. But it wasn't easy going. Not at all.

Somewhere between the palms, in the nothing, Chong found what Schad had called a "concretion." He'd explained to us how, over the years, sand would gather and collect and form some pretty strangely shaped rocks. "I've found concretions in the shapes of many letters of the alphabet," Schad had told us. "S, T, U, Y, and even an O, once." But I didn't really understand what Schad was talking about until Chong found her hilarious concretion. It was a gray stone almost a foot long, and it looked exactly like a pickle with a nipple. I found out later that there's a website dedicated to these concretions,

RESEARCH STUDIES

Has a decrease in **sexual desire** come between you and your partner?

Information About an Important Women's Health Research Study

A research study is underway for pre-menopausal women who are concerned about their decreased sexual desire. The study will help evaluate an investigational drug for a condition called Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder (HSDD). HSDD is the most common form of female sexual dysfunction. It is characterized by decreased thoughts or desire for sex.

You may qualify if:

- You are a pre-menopausal woman over the age of 18
- You have experienced a decrease in your sexual desire
- You are using a medically approved form of birth control or are surgically sterile

If you would like more information or think you may qualify, please call UCSD Prevention Studies at: **858-534-0950**

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COVANCE

Study 206576

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- Diagnosed with Type I Diabetes
- Otherwise healthy

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Profil

Institute for Clinical Research

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Research Studies Offered by Medical Center for Clinical Research



Has a
decrease in
**sexual
desire**
come
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**

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Call **619-521-2841**



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**Call Sun.-Fri. for more information:
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<http://home.att.net/~amcimages/dunn.html>

The land looked like elephant skin. Gypsum sparkled from some of the hillsides. It was bury-a-body desolate. Eventually, we saw two motorcyclists zoom past, but otherwise it was just us and the land and the sun. My mind was becoming desert-tuned.

Wallace Stevens wrote another poem, his final published poem, in fact, about a single palm tree. "Of Mere Being" dealt with "the palm at the end of the mind." In Stevens's poem, the desert was a "bronze decor." And there was a bird in the branches of the tree, singing a song, and its "fire-fangled feathers dangle down."

As I thought about this, all of a sudden, there it was,

off in the distance, peeking above the textured hills. The green corolla of a single palm tree.

It was over 80 degrees, 10:05 a.m.

I wondered if I'd see a phainopepla bird up there singing its *wurp* and *wheeda-lay*. Instead, the tree stood alone, but its own fire-fangled fronds did dangle down.

We made our way over to the base of Una Palma. It was bizarre to see a 50-foot tree thriving in such treelessness. How did it get rooted? It rose up out of a packed mud slope. And why hadn't any of its own seeds found purchase anywhere?

I believe I can safely say that until you've seen one palm, you haven't seen them all.

The land had a meditatively interesting sameness — sinuous repetitions, easy on the eyes and suggestive to the mind. The sun pounded down, but the breeze had turned to wind. Felt good.

All around us, six million years' worth of fossils were emerging from the eroding ground and becoming slowly visible. Animals were furrowing for their food. And here was this one tree standing alone, as out of place as I was.

"What a lonely guy," Schad observed. "All by himself out here in the sun and dirt."

I'd been noticing that Jerry Schad used very little hyperbole in his speech. "No need," he said. "Nature speaks for itself." ■

— Geoff Bouvier

RESEARCH STUDIES

Are you **one** of the **17 million** people in America who currently have **diabetes**?

If you have type 2 diabetes...

Or, if you have experienced symptoms such as increased thirst, increased urination, increased appetite, and fatigue, and a diagnosis is confirmed by your doctor...

You may be eligible to...participate in a clinical research study for a potential study drug for diabetes that is not approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

You may be eligible if:

- You have been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes
- You are between 18 and 75 years of age
- You are not currently being treated with insulin



For more information, please call: **858-552-8585 extension 7328**

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Patients willing to allow others to observe their procedure and to assist us with the implant program in this way will be offered greatly reduced fees.

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If you are experiencing lower abdominal pain and constipation, you may be eligible for this medical research study.

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 constipation-associated form of IBS, known as **IBS-C**. IBS-C is characterized by constipation 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 Rlenzapride, 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 discomfort.

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

For more information on this local study, please contact:

Medical Associates Research Group
858-277-7177

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EDUCATION
RESEARCH



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Scripps Clinic

HEPATITIS C

Have you been diagnosed with hepatitis C and not yet been treated?

We are conducting a clinical trial with investigational treatments for people with hepatitis C

To be eligible you must:

- Not have been treated with interferon for hepatitis C
- Not have recent drug use or alcohol abuse

Other restrictions will apply.

If you qualify for a study, you will receive study medication, lab work and study related physician visits at no cost.

For more information, please call
(858)554-6952

Attention:



Men and Women Age 55+



You May Qualify for a Medical
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Participants will receive all study-related exams and investigational medication at no cost. Compensation up to \$1300 is available for time and participation. This study involves overnight stays.

Call Mon. - Fri. for more information.

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San Diego, CA 92123

www.TestWithTheBest.com Study 207608

COVANCE

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DEPRESSION
SCHIZOPHRENIA**



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

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

**Clinical
Research Center**
SHARP Mesa Vista
Hospital

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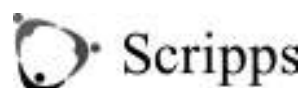
Restless legs keeping you awake at night?

A clinical study is being conducted in your area to research an investigational treatment for Restless Legs Syndrome (RLS). Eligible participants will be compensated for time and travel.

You may be eligible to participate if you are 18 years or older and experience the following symptoms **at least 3 times a week**:

- Creeping, crawling, tingling sensations in your legs
- Compelling urges to move your legs for relief
- Unpleasant sensations in your legs that get worse at night

Call today for more information.



1-866-394-7365



Rise and Shine
Restless Legs Syndrome Study

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obese participants
to take part in a
clinical research
study.**



Qualified participants must be:

- Overweight or obese males or females
- Age 18 to 65 years
- Able to participate in overnight stays

Participants will receive all study-related exams and investigational medication at no cost. Compensation up to \$1150 is available for time and travel.

Call Sun. - Fri. for more information.

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DELICIOUSLY DIVINE DOWNFALL

With a shortage of money and time, fast food is popular with people my age. Now that I can drive and am a senior, I find myself spending less and less time at home. When I'm not home for the family meals, I find it tempting to stop by the local McDonald's.

Going to McDonald's was always a treat growing up. I loved getting the kids' meals with the little toy (that always ended up in the trash once I got home) and running around in the playground area. I think McDonald's was every kid's favorite hangout...besides Chuck E. Cheese, of course.

In the past five years, about the only thing I've eaten at McDonald's has been their yogurt parfaits. After seeing *Supersize Me* and reading articles about the amount of saturated fat piled into fast food, I have avoided these places as much as possible. My friends often laugh at my health consciousness, and I often get, "Why do you care?" The truth is, I don't enjoy eating fast food because I feel better and have more energy when I eat healthier.

I enjoy fast food, just not the traditional burger fried in grease. I like Subway sandwiches, Panera's soup bowls, and other more healthy options. The extra dollar or two is worth the difference of fat between a Big Mac and a Subway sandwich.

—Bryanna Schwartz,
Westview H.S.

I try hard to stay away from the *bad* fast food, not fast food altogether. I try to eat healthily during the week — lots of water and fruit when it's available — but, come the weekend or a busy school night spent running errands, I will indulge in some sort of fast food. My preference for fast food is In-N-Out.

It's funny how In-N-Out is loved by all types of people. Go into the In-N-Out by the Sports Arena around 7 p.m. and you'll see it full of scenesters, hardcore kids, and all other sorts of hip teenagers grabbing a quick bite before a show at the nearby Soma. Check out the In-N-Out off Balboa near the 163 from noon to 3 p.m., and it's full of students out of school, portly businessmen, cops, EMTs, and firemen. The Pacific Beach In-N-Out always seems to have young kids in it, no matter what time of day. The Mission Valley In-N-Out is usually full with customers from nearby malls and young and hip, slick-suited professionals not quite ready to move on to "grown up" food.

Everyone treats themselves to fast food once in a while, despite all the hullabaloo about trans fats and cholesterol. Just like everything else in life, occasionally a hamburger and fries are fine.

If I'm feeling a little more exotic, but still equally cheap, I'll eat at El Cotixan, a Clairemont favorite. Countless students risk detention and leave campus to make a quick run to El Cotixan. If I feel like gorging myself, I will stop by El Co (the taco shop's nickname) and pick up some carne asada fries: french fries topped with carne asada, sour cream, cheese, guacamole, and pico de gallo...surely, the deliciously divine downfall of mankind.

—Laurel Popplewell,
Madison H.S.

It amazes me how much of a part fast food is to some people's diets. I have never been much of a fast-food person; 850 calories and 50 grams of fat in one hamburger doesn't sound appealing to me. I guess that's part of the reason why I don't



eat a lot of fast food — a nagging conscience that won't allow me to clog my arteries. Many Americans don't completely understand what fast food can do to one's health and physique; they haven't been exposed to the full truth or have been brought up in a house where fast food was served two meals a day.

That's not to say that I don't eat any fast food because that is far from the truth. I mean, I'm busy and I have a 16-year-old's wallet, so the positive aspects of a quick drive-through run are too much to resist sometimes.

However, when I do succumb to a quick meal, you can bet that it won't be at Burger King, Taco Bell, or good ol' Mickey D's. The greased-up burgers overflowing with mayonnaise make me nauseous just thinking about them.

If I want some Mexican food (which I want pretty often), Taco Bell is dead last on my list. Instead, I'll usually order a chicken salad or something similar at a Wendy's or a Jack in the Box or maybe some real Mexican food (or at least more real than Taco Bell).

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RESEARCH STUDIES



UCSD Research Study on **ANXIETY**

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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:

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(Must be within 3 days of first symptoms.)

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Athlete's Foot Study

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

You may be eligible to participate if you:

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

Study participants will receive:

- Free foot exams
- Compensation for participation
- Study drug or placebo

For more information about this study,
please contact:

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com



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
- 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:

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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.

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Or, I'll go for the king of them all and head to In-N-Out for a nice double-double, protein style, with some fries. Nothing compares to their ingeniously simple menu.

— Kevin Morton,
El Capitan H.S.

For most of my life, I had an attitude about fast-food workers that was similar to the rest of society's: innocent, slightly stupid, and with fairly boring lives. My attitude changed after I went to work at Jack in the Box last September.

At work, I got splattered

by hot oil, shake mix, and strawberry syrup, and everything beeped. It was some of the most difficult work I've ever done in my life. It took an enormous amount of stamina to get through an eight-hour day. But that's not the point.

I didn't expect to make friends. For the first couple of weeks, I remained quiet and practiced a bit of Spanish with my coworkers. After I got the hang of things, I started talking a bit more. I am so glad that I did.

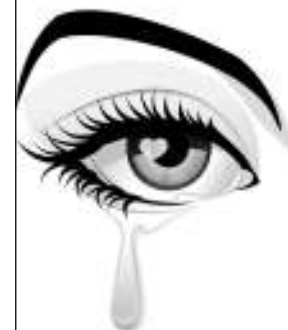
Most people don't see Miguel, but he cooks their chicken strips. He's in his

mid-70s, but he still dances around to Shakira while he's mopping. Sometimes he'll bring in a bag full of pastries and hide them in the back, where they're eaten during slow periods. When the store is empty, Miguel sings; it's usually the first couple bars of the same song, an Andrea Bocelli-esque Catholic hymn. I also met a neurotic chain-smoker, a pregnant woman who worked six or more hours a day; a rap-loving, chubby 31-year-old who proclaimed his *amor* for me on a daily basis; an obnoxious shift leader who would bust out

RESEARCH STUDIES

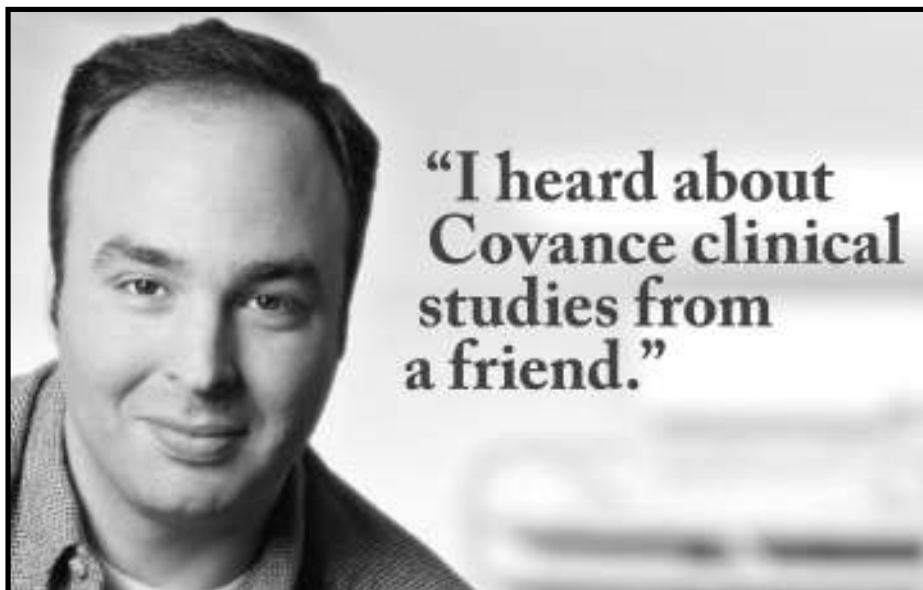


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- Healthy Men and Women
- Age 18 to 55
- Non-tobacco users
- Willing to stay at Covance for up to 33 nights and make 1 outpatient visit

Participants will receive all study-related exams and investigational medication at no cost. Participants may receive compensation from \$4300 to \$6500 for time and participation based on the number of overnight stays required.

Call Sun. - Fri. for more information.
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Study 207565



Healthy Female?

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

To qualify you must be:

- A healthy woman
- Age 18 to 45
- Currently taking birth control pills
- Able to take part in overnight stays
- A non-smoker

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into rousing renditions of "Sexy Back."

The people I met were flawed and real. They were different, smart, and trying to make it. Although I no longer work there, I miss my fast-food job at times. I'm sorry that it had to take ten years for me to realize the humanity of fast-food workers, but I now have the life-long friends and oil stains to prove it.

— Amanda Cormier,
Westview H.S.

My favorite fast-food restaurant is In-N-Out, and I have been an In-N-Out snob for some time. My family has always eaten little fast

food, but when we did it was pretty much only In-N-Out.

These days my love of quality burgers has not lessened, so I still frequent In-N-Out. My favorite meal is a double-double with grilled onions, and it has yet to disappoint. My burger is always fresh and — most shocking — what you get looks like the pictures they use in advertisements.

Aside from In-N-Out, my fast-food consumption is minimal. No other burger joint comes close, so the only other fast food I eat is California burritos from Señor Koteehas, a Mexican restaurant near my house. Their burritos are another one of those things I can never seem

to get enough of; they are massive, cheap, and satisfying. (For those who do not know the delicacy that is a California burrito, it is a carne asada burrito with french fries inside.)

As far as not-so-satisfying fast food goes, McDonald's has never done anything for me. Come to think of it, McDonald's does do something for me — it paints a vivid image in my mind of what the food in prison must be like. I don't know about you, but if I'm clogging my arteries, it had better taste amazing. I cannot think of any reason to eat at Mickey D's.

— Grant Barba,
La Jolla H.S. ■

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CONTENTMENT-BY-THE-SEA

Cardiff

Not one but two signs on San Elijo Avenue inform visitors — and locals — that they’ve arrived in Cardiff. The first and more prominent stands before a group of low-lying palms, the fronds cut back gracefully from the sign’s façade. “Cardiff by the Sea,” boasts the sign in bold script, “Founded 1911.” On it, a wave turns, creating the surfer’s perfect tube, flanked by pink primroses. A moon hangs over the *d*, ambiguous in that it could be rising or setting, greeting morning or evening traveler alike.

The other, much older sign is tucked behind succulents, part of a narrow park that separates two blocks of San Elijo Avenue from the train tracks and traffic on South Coast Highway 101. Made by local schoolchildren, the sign is weathered, its edges scalloped from wear or amateur carpentry, the letters carved into the wood and stained an off blue. It is pockmarked and slightly makeshift.

And therein lies the dichotomy that characterizes Cardiff-by-the-Sea, or Cardiff for short. The town is a mix

of old and young, natives and newcomers, residents and visitors. Graying men with ZZ Top beards duck in and out of Beach City Burrito as gaggles of high school girls in dark makeup chat in the parking lot, boys looking on. Granola couples traipse across the Coaster tracks from the San Elijo State Beach campground to grab what they need from the Seaside Market or 7-Eleven, bikes slung across their shoulders, as wet-suited locals pass them by on their way to the beach, surfboards under their arms. Barefoot

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preteens sit outside the Starbucks, decked out in skater couture, clutching their cell phones, as a homeless man in Coke-bottle glasses sits under the shopping center directory, babbling to himself. Even the residences, closely spaced, bear striking differences. Boxy, pastel-colored seaside cottages sit beside three-story concrete postmodern manses featuring turrets and sweeping entrances. Glass brick abounds on one corner, clapboard on the other. Everyone seems to have a place in Cardiff. It's a laid-back kind of town.

In the four-block business district on the east side of San Elijo Avenue, any and all needs can be met, be they a new body piercing or a quart of milk. East of the avenue on a steep hill leading heavenwards is the residential area of Cardiff. Narrow backcountry roads wind as the altitude increases, the beach visible as a strip of blue, dotted with palms and the bobbing heads of



Homes near Chesterfield Drive

PHOTOGRAPH BY FRANK GLASER

surfers. The air is cool, the smell of salt and kelp rising up from the ocean.

The Cardiff story starts in Ohio, as Irene Kratzer details on the Cardiff Chamber of Commerce website. According

to Kratzer, the Mackinnon family — Mom, Dad, and three little ones — caught the western bug in 1875 and set their sights on California. Though not credited as the founders of Cardiff, the Mackinnons

were the first white folks to settle the land, setting up a farm, orchard, and school on their 600 acres.

Not so hot on their heels came a Bostonian named J. Frank Cullen, a painter by trade, who

showed up in 1910 fresh from the East Coast. A year after his arrival, his artistic desires waned and he turned to a more lucrative field: real estate. Sensing the allure of a seaside town, he bought the Mackinnons' farm and got to work selling off parcels. And the name? At his wife's behest, Cullen dubbed it Cardiff for Mrs. Cullen's home in Wales, and he named the streets after British towns: Edinburgh Avenue, Dublin Drive, Manchester Avenue. Kratzer speculates that some years later a German musician named Victor Kremer may have added "by-the-Sea" to the name, taking it from the song "By the Beautiful Sea."

However small, Cardiff-by-the-Sea has everything a resident might need. The town boasts a dentist, a slew of chiropractors, several restaurants ranging in price and menu selection, a gourmet supermarket, a surf shop, a tattoo parlor, two bars, and a Starbucks.

Cardiff has its own zip code, 92007, unlike the other four towns that make up Encinitas. "We incorporated 20 years ago," explains Barbara Cobb, president of the Cardiff Town Council, as she leans against the pool table in her home. "See, we were all under the county, which means if we wanted to talk to an elected official, we had to go downtown. And so we decided to incorporate, which is not easy. I say it lightly, but it took a lot. There was Cardiff, Leucadia, New Encinitas, Old Encinitas, and Olivenhain. There were five communities. We incorporated together, and the name that seemed to be acceptable was Encinitas, as long as we each kept our own identity. And we've done pretty much that.

"We each have a town council," Cobb continues, meaning one for each community, "but we work on a lot of the same projects because we're lobbying the council to do

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things for our individual cities that we want them to do.” The Cardiff Town Council is “a voice for the residents of Cardiff” inasmuch as its six directors speak in front of the Encinitas City Council on issues that Cardiff residents feel need addressing.

Teresa Barth, a long-time Cardiff resident, is a newly elected member of the Encinitas City Council. Her win came as a double triumph. “Cardiff hasn’t had a member of their community on city council for some time,” says Barth. Barth, whose family has a history of involvement in local politics, retired from her job at the Del Mar Racetrack three years ago. With a grassroots campaign that cost her a good 30 grand less than that of her best-funded competitor, she and her family — not to mention the town — were surprised at her victory.

The Cardiff Town Council was formed in 1977 by a fierce Cardiff activist named Pat Rudolph, who was, for her efforts, nicknamed “Mother Cardiff.” Such a champion of the town was she that once, enraged by a cut in city council funds for Cardiff, she threatened to sit atop the town’s flagpole in protest, which, with the aid of a cherry picker, she did for about 15 minutes. At the time, she was nearing retirement age.

Barbara Cobb, the current town council president, spends much of her time keeping everyone up to date. “Membership consists of about 500 people, so I answer to them,” Cobb says. “I put out a newsletter. I try to do one every other month, but I also have everybody on e-mail so that when the city sends out notices — and they do it all the time; they send us notices for the Planning Commission projects or anything that’s happening — I just forward them on to the membership so they know what’s going on.”

Since the Mother Cardiff days, the town council has been instrumental in getting Cardiff recognition. One of their biggest efforts, to have “Cardiff-by-the-Sea” listed



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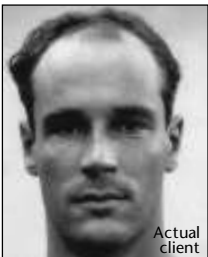
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under the Birmingham Drive exit sign on Interstate 5, which required lobbying and negotiating with Caltrans, ended in triumph.

While the town council champions residential issues, the chamber of commerce has focused its efforts on community events that generate revenue for the town, especially the schools. "For ten years, we put on the Hansen-Machado Surf Classic," says Barth. "We did it as a community fund-raiser. Some funds went to the chamber to do other things, but also we would give money to the San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy, to Surfrider Foundation. We sold chili at the Halloween carnival and things like that, which made us more of a 'Main Street' than a chamber of commerce."

Cardiff is still working to start its own Main Street program, a nationwide approach to rejuvenate traditional business districts. "It's about



VG Donut

enhancing the community as it is," Barth explains. "It's not a redevelopment idea where, you know, you level everything and start over. Things do change, like the Seaside Market area renovated and changed the façade, and it's much more

contemporary than it used to be, but the essence of the shopping center is still there. It's still a grocery store. It's still a community-based retail area, and Main Street programs work on that theory."

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to keep Cardiff the way it always has been — with a bit of a facelift — there's still more than a murmur of discord. Rick Mildner, owner of Seaside Upholstery ("since 1973"), has been in town for 31 years, ever since he "set [his] Volkswagen van right across the street," on Chesterfield Drive, just off the main drag of San Elijo Avenue. "They're tearing down all the old houses and putting up new ones," he laments. "The quaint little Cardiff community is turning into the Newport Beach-wannabe, look-alike community, you know? 'Cause people are coming here now, like, in droves." His building is one of the oldest in Cardiff. The shop walls are covered with posters and photos and trinkets accumulated over the years, many of them documenting life and times in Cardiff. Most of them feature surfers. Yellowing flyers advertise local events; a Dick Dale concert advertisement peeks out from

Cardiff	
Demographics:	Average Climate:
Population (of 92007):	Rainfall:14.4" annually
Male:50.6%	Temp Average Low:42.2°(Jan.)
Female:49.4%	Temp Average High:84.6° (July)
Caucasian:88.7%	
African American:0.91%	Common Plant Life:
Asian:3.04%	Ice plant, beach sand verben, beach evening
Latino:15.79%	primrose, coast wooly-heads, Nutall's lotus, desert
Married:44.22%	arrow weed, pickleweed, saltgrass, alkali heath,
Single:33.79%	Southwestern spiny rush, salty Susan, salty dod-
Average Income (per capita):\$36,439	der, Torrey pine, coast prickly pear, lemonade
Average Income (household):\$68,147	berry, coastal sagebrush, Del Mar manzanita
Real Estate Values:	Boundaries:
Apartment rent:\$1158	North:Santa Fe Drive
Median home sales (Jan. 2007):\$1,090,000	East:Lake Drive/Manchester Avenue
	West:Pacific Ocean
	South:San Elijo Lagoon

behind a mounted fish head. "They build all these houses, but they still have the same sewer system," he points out. "They're building millions of houses. What's gonna happen in the first earthquake? The water...it's a desert, you know? How much can they be allowed to build

before they figure out the sewage and all this stuff and stop polluting the ocean with all the newcomers? It was polluted when there was just a handful of people, and now it's really worse." He shakes his head. "They're sure building and knocking down everything, and they're wrecking what they

came for." Others agree. "Now it's just crowds of people out there," remarks Billy, a local musician, cradling his guitar in one hand as he points across the parking lot toward the ocean. He and his friends have gathered at VG Donut, a local hangout on San Elijo Avenue, to jam, which they

do between conversations. Lisa (not her real name), an old friend of Billy's who has stopped by VG on her way home, nods in agreement. "They should spray and neuter," she says with a wicked smile, then softens. "Cardiff was a great place to grow up," she says. "VG was open all night, and we'd come down here — we'd all be stoned — and buy doughnuts. Anytime. Day or night. It was grand." She deepens her voice and branches into a faux-English accent. "It was grand," she repeats.

Billy continues where she left off, walking his own memory lane. "That park wasn't even there," he says, indicating the strip of planted greenery separating the town from Highway 101. "We could just walk our surfboards right straight down to 85-60s, and there was nobody out there." Billy has been in Cardiff since 1964, or "before the freeway," as he says. Mildner defines his tenure in Cardiff the same way. "When they first built

it, we were wondering, 'Why'd they build this thing? We don't need this big freeway!' " he exclaims, then pauses. "We used to skateboard on it in the middle of the night, when they were building it," he says, with a laugh, remembering. After Interstate 5 was finished, the population increased. "They started taking away our dirt roads and our freedom," he laments, explaining that the land was eaten up by outsiders. "Before, we could go everywhere," he says, "nobody cared 'cause we all knew each other. Now it's more like, 'Oh, who are you?' you know? 'What do you mean, who am I? I've been here forever. Who are you?' You know?" He sighs. "It's different now. There's money."

Mildner remembers the days when he could see the water from the back window of his upholstery shop. "When I got here, it was nothing but dirt," he explains, "everywhere. So I used to be able to look out

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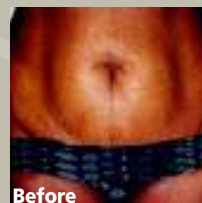
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from this back table and watch my friends surf South Peak. I used to be able to see the surf right there. And I could identify my friends by their styles of surfing and I'd go, 'Oh, Mark DeCotes is out, I gotta get out there, man!' " Darryld Kitaen, owner of the Good Morning gift shop, a trinket-filled hang-out that evokes a '60s-era generation gone by, says, "Everything and everybody has changed. The

ocean's still there. That's about the only thing that hasn't changed too much."

By and large, though, there is little visible — or verbal — tension between locals and newcomers. "I don't get mad easy," says Mildner. "I just go with the flow." He leans back, hands on his worktable. "You can't pick the newcomers out of the herd anymore. There's almost more of them than locals. There are more new people, peo-

ple coming in the last 5 to 10 years, than people who have been here over 20. So, you know, you just gotta... They don't bother me; I don't bother them. Just go with the flow."

Kate Smith, manager of the Cardiff-by-the-Sea Surf Shop, which is adjacent to Mildner's upholstery shop — so close that they have conversations through Mildner's open front door — enjoys the dichotomy of old and new. Originally from South Carolina and with a telltale drawl in her voice, Smith moved with her husband to Leucadia six months ago. "I think that's one of

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the most interesting things that's happening in North County," Smith says, sitting behind a glass counter full of stickers and surf wax, "the fact that the old-school guys with a bunch of character are living right next door to really wealthy people. And everybody seems to be getting along quite well. I mean, just because you have money doesn't mean you're a yuppie snoot. And just 'cause you don't doesn't mean you... So I'm really impressed with it. There's just this all-around love-of-the-ocean,

local feel, which is cool."

Along with its hey-how-ya-doin' beach-town atmosphere, Cardiff possesses an air of insular

ing up in the inner city, there was so much going on, my parents didn't have a clue," she says. "I mean, they couldn't keep track of

"I tell 'em, if you don't get a college degree, you can't afford to live here. You can grow up here, but you're gonna have to move somewhere else."

safety. Isabelle Caudle, a pro skateboarding mother of two, wouldn't raise her kids anywhere else. "Grow-

what you were doing, and here, I think, it's easier to be a family." A Chicago native, Caudle moved to California to attend school and has stayed ever since. "San Diego's very appealing," she says, "especially, you know, when it's 60 below in Chicago with the wind chill."

Flanked by her 16-year-old son, Russell, and his 17-year-old friends, Andy and Evan, Caudle is the ultimate cool mom in her "Ladies Longboard Classic" sweatshirt and wide-set skate shoes. The camaraderie between her and Russell is apparent. Russell doesn't affect the

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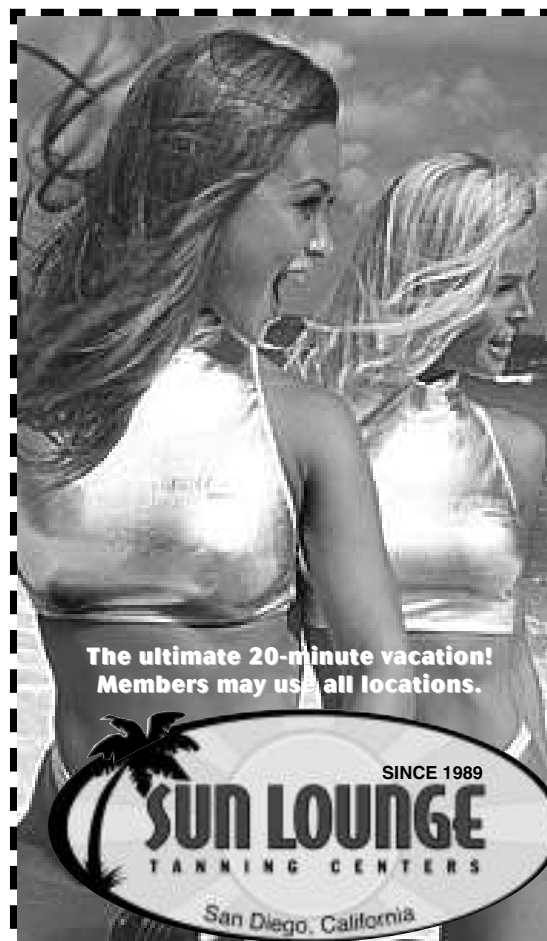
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generic Bored Teenager look so many boys his age have perfected; his face is open and smiling. “Straight-A student,” Caudle boasts, patting him on the back; he grins, shrugging it off.

His friends are equally easygoing, trading high fives with Caudle and joshing gently among themselves. Evan is originally from Northern California, while Andy hails from Boston — “The East Coast is like the other side of the world,” comments Evan — and both attend the local alternative high

school with Russell. Both boys relocated when their fathers landed jobs in the area and have assimilated flawlessly, adopting the slang and the manner of their native

boys the hemp necklaces that poke out from under their shirt collars. Kitaen sings their praises. “There are two major things these young guys here in Cardiff are into that maybe the

“You can skate when the surf’s bad, and when the surf’s good, you can surf.”

contemporaries.

Kitaen at Good Morning knows Russell, Evan, and Andy by name and no doubt sold the

decade before them wasn’t,” he says from his seat behind a makeshift counter laden with goods, “and that’s sharing and caring.” And where does that attitude come from?

“Maybe it’s the surf breaks that are more low-key,” Caudle muses, “but it just doesn’t seem so arrogant here. It seems just more humble. A humble place to live. We have a nice lifestyle instead of sitting on the sofa going, ‘Damn, where’s the party?’ ”

The kids don’t need a party; they have the ocean as their own personal backyard. Surfing is so ingrained in them that

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they greet each other with a rapid-fire query of "got waves today?" or some close derivative. Even though there are "parties and stuff," according to Evan and Andy, they make it clear that the young people in Cardiff would

sooner surf than do anything else. Jon Peck, manager of Patagonia's first surf store, which happens to be on Cardiff's main drag, learned to surf at age 5. "My dad surfed," he says, by way of explanation. "He

was a sailor and pretty much just a waterman kind of guy." Peck, 26, moved to California from Connecticut when he was 3 or 4, first to Carmel Valley and then to Cardiff. Like Andy and Evan, his family relocated when his

father found a job out West. "I just love being in the ocean and doing anything," he says, "from diving to swimming to paddling." He, like many die-hard surfing residents, laments the demise of the Hansen-Machado Surf

Classic, which was halted due to increased state fees for the exclusive use of the beach. The first ever Roxy Jam Cardiff, held in September and sponsored by Quiksilver's female-focused sister company, didn't mend the loss. "The

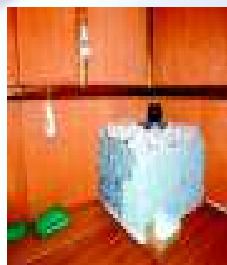
Machado contest was such a fixture of the community for so long," says Peck, "so when that wasn't going to happen, people got kinda bummed. And then to have just a women's event, some of the men felt kind of excluded from having a

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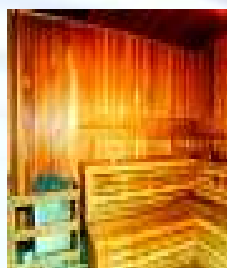
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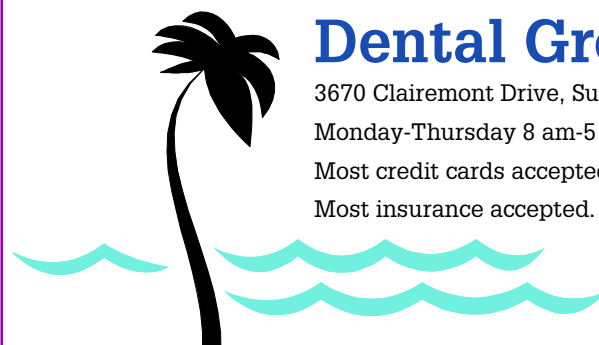
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big contest that they'd had every year." Despite the setback for the pro-surfing set, soul surfing put Cardiff on the map, and a surfing town it remains.

Of course, there are days when there are no waves. When it's flat, blown out, or just plain bad, kids skate. Grown-ups, too, get in on the fun. Caudle has her own skat-

ing team, the Downhill Divas, and runs a skate club for the students at El Camino High, where she teaches geometry. She's also involved with a national association of skateboarding moms, a group that promotes not only older (read: over the age of 30) women in the sport but families as well. "We never get bored,

'cause we board a lot," she quips, and Russell echoes her, "You can skate when the surf's bad, and when the surf's good, you can surf," he says simply, "so you have the option of doing either two." Evan chimes in. "I don't even have, like, television," he says. Andy agrees. "I don't watch TV," he says. "I just go in the ocean a lot."

While Cardiff life may be unfettered, even newcomers are feeling differences, especially in housing prices. "It's crazy," Caudle says. "If you're not a millionaire, you can't really buy." Andy affirms that. "I moved here when my house was, like, \$300,000," he says, "and now [ten years later] it's, like, \$700,000." Caudle puts an

arm around her son. "I tell 'em, if you don't get a college degree, you can't afford to live here," she says. "You can grow up here, but you're gonna have to move somewhere else. We can raise our children, but if they're not professionals, where are they gonna..." she trails off, thinking, then continues, "'cause even rental properties here are expensive."

But is anyone leaving? Selling high and getting out? Too fed up with the changes to stay? Lisa, though her house is worth an estimated \$1.5 million, isn't parting with her property. Kitaen, too, seems content. "Yeah, times have changed," he says, "but there's always somebody who's making it a little better or doing something a little better than the rest of them."

Mildner wouldn't think of

leaving. "Where would I go?" he asks, with a grin.

Smith recalls something Mildner said a while back during one of their through-the-door chats. "I was talking about the good old days one day, and I was, like, 'Man, you've been here for 30 years, you must have seen so many awesome things,' and he was, like, 'No, these are the good old days. This is it.' He's somebody who's been around here for a long time and watched a lot of change. So for him to take it with that kind of attitude shows that things are going well," Smith says. Though Caudle enjoys visiting her hometown, she's always relieved to land back in Cardiff. "Chicago rocks 24/7," she says. "Here, it's sleepy. But you know what? Sleep is good for you. You'll live longer." ■

— Rosa Jurjevic

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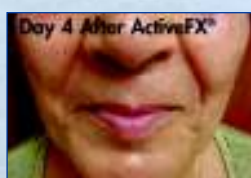
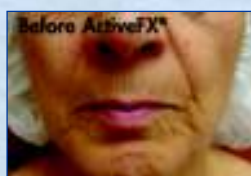
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LETTERS

continued from page 12

paying for this? When the city can't afford to support basic infrastructure, to have people spending time thinking about this is wrong. Maybe the city should be spending it's time, money and resources deciding how to fix the sewer system. Oh, they already did that-raise rates. How about working on keeping police from going to other cities. But I guess working on developing another park is more important. WAKE UP those who manage our city. This isn't rocket science. The city can't afford to develop or maintain a new park. It's not needed. Why reinvent something that already exists so many other places. Do the right thing San Diego - Do NOT develop

Fiesta Island and loose this beautiful sanctuary.

Posted by Fiesta Island Dog Owner on 03/8/07 @ 8:57 a.m.

It's hard not to be cynical about this development plan. Between my home in La Jolla and Fiesta Island, there are miles of landscaped parkland and waterfront areas around Mission Bay - most of which sits used, except for maybe a dozen days per year. Yet someone perceives a need to develop more? How about the wise heads who run the city wait till the land they've already developed is being made use of before developing more? Leave Fiesta as it is, it's one of the few unspoiled jewels of San Diego. And it's a wonderful place for dogs and their owners to relax. I strongly encourage readers to visit Fiesta, especially on a sunny weekend morning, and experience the joys of walking on undeveloped land, watching dogs and their owners exercise happily.

Posted by John Oliver on 03/8/07 @ 9:31 a.m.

This "redevelopment" plan has nothing to do with "space utilization" and everything to do with pouring millions of dollars into the coffers of the wealthy developers who run San Diego politics. San Diego is full of developed parks and beaches for ocean use, children, etc. We simply don't need any more, nor can we afford it... whether the cost is \$200 million, \$300 million, or \$400 million, the city coffers are deeply in the red as it is. The City has no business spending hundreds of millions of dollars

to develop a park that nobody (other than the developers who stand to profit) wants developed. At the first public planning meeting, public response was overwhelming... "Leave the Island alone. It's fine just the way it is".

Posted by YB on 03/8/07 @ 11:03 a.m.

Until the city can fully staff and maintain the parks and recreation centers that are currently developed, no money could be spent on developing Fiesta Island. Parks are like campgrounds in that some people like fully developed campgrounds so they have all the hookups for the moter-home, while others prefer primitive camping leaving all of lifes conviences at home. Fiesta Island is a WONDERFUL PRIMITIVE PARK. I think it should be left alone, not just for the dogs but for EVERYONE.

Straight From the Hip Published February 21

Posted by Tubewatcher on 03/7/07 @ 5:47 p.m.

I enjoyed your mini-bio on Cal Worthington. However, in the interest of complete correctness, it was not the dealer (owner) Ralph Williams that Cal was spoofing, but Ralph's general manager, Chic Lambert, and his dog, Storm (a large white shepherd). By the way, Ralph Williams was so famous in his day that he made a guest appearance on *The Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson. — A fellow watcher of late-night movies in the '60s

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Diary of a Diva

Published February 21

Posted by morgan on
03/5/07 @ 6:14 p.m.

i can't put my finger on the source of my infatuation for barbarella's columns. her writing style and witty anecdotes at once thrill /annoy/ and irk at the same time. she reminds me of my sister, myself, the literary snob at the local bookstore/ the rebel that smokes pot in the school bathroom/ and the intelligent woman with impeccable taste that only shops at the "right places". i feel that we San Diegans are quite lucky to have this hilarious writer to ourselves.

Five Times Better

Re "The Well-Traveled Tomato" (Cover Story, March 7). Great article, and the content is something I think many people should know about.

A small correction: you mentioned that the Hillcrest Farmers Market "only has 7 farmers" in the beginning of the part regarding the Hillcrest Market. We actually have an average of 30 to 32 fully legitimate, certified farmers at our market on a weekly basis. Of the 30 certified farmers we had selling at the Hillcrest Market last week, 22 are growing their product in San Diego County.

David Larson
Market Organizer
Hillcrest Farmers Market

Public Money, Local Votes

Re Matt Potter's "City Lights," March 1, "Behind the Curtain."

The crying need for clean elections, those without special-interest money and lobbyists' pressure, is so very apparent in San Diego's city and county electoral races that one would think the public has had enough.

Public financing of elections is catching on all over the country, for example in Maine, Arizona, and North Carolina. But more importantly, the local elections would be so much more in the public interest, not that of the chamber of commerce types working from outside the city and county.

Is there anyone or any group out there, Matt, who would be interested in starting a local movement

ViP

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for public financing of San Diego's local elections?

Dick Jones
Kensington

Wee Folk, Big Bombs
Re "Wee Folks Get Caught" ("City Lights," March 8). To Don Bauder: Wee folk just hope you know that the number-one reason we do not want to pay taxes is because of where the money goes. For bombs, not wee folks.

Name Withheld

Ramble On

Thank you for publishing the idiotic ramblings of reader Mimi Kotner (Letters, March 1). Anti-Semites spread their manure pretending it is historical truth. The extent of the stupidity, untruths, and self-hate of this Mimi is amusing and very edifying.

I left the Democratic Party because it is infested

with too many Mimis such as the head Mimi, Ji-mimi Carter. Please publish more of her ranting because exposing the stupidity of anti-Semites is a very good deed indeed.

Albert Reingewirtz
University City

Don't Confuse Me With Facts

Mimi Kotner (Letters, March 1) made some good points until she let her intolerance and hatred be made known with her spurious and stupid comments about Israel. Israel is not an apartheid state, as this obviously uneducated woman stated.

There are Israelis of every ethnic and cultural background, and there is much more religious pluralism than in any Muslim nation. How many churches are in Saudi Arabia? Arabic is an

official language in Israel. How many Arab or Muslim states can state that Hebrew would be made an official language if the Jews who were expelled from their homes were allowed to return?

Land grabbing? Sure take your meds. Maybe they should take the Sinai back and Gaza too. It amazes me how people like her ignore political and historical facts while trying to be progressive. True progressives are tolerant in both actions and words. This is just another example of a left-wing nut job that is in love with terrorists. If I am correct, it is the Palestinians who target women and children as a tactic. I don't read much about Israelis blowing themselves up in mosques. It was Arafat who turned down the Barak proposal. Of course facts can't win

over hatred.

The ignorance of people like Kotner is only surpassed by their love of murderers and lack of knowledge. Attitudes like hers are why peace is so elusive.

Michael Fuentes
via e-mail

Wild Horses

What a great article, "The Wild Horses of Coyote Creek" by Steve Sorensen (Feature Story, March 1). It was touching and tender, and he worked hard to find the horses, but they are best left to themselves.

E. King
via e-mail

Story Strikes Home

Man, did this article bring back memories ("You'll Never Find a Better Pal Than a Bowler," Cover Story, February 22). I am

now 78 years old, and because of an arm injury, I no longer can bowl. I relate very well to Johnny Humble's life as a youngster. I, too, grew up in a bowling environment. My father and mother bowled in leagues. I kept score for \$1. Ten members gave me ten cents each.

The bowling alleys listed in the article — Comanche, Hillcrest, Tower Bowl, Aztec Bowl — should have included the Academy Lanes at 15th and E Street.

In the mid-'40s, I was on the original junior all-star team. We traveled throughout Southern California. Teammates were Ken Hubbard, Corky Wagner, Gary Ford, Ray Strauss, Jim Quartiano, Dick Down, and myself, Dick Hanson. The name of Doris Von Mueller, what a sweetheart she was. My wife bowled with her in league play. We

also enjoyed the Midnight Bowling for Dollars at the Aztec Bowl.

Great story. Thanks for the memory.

Dick Hanson

Peaceful Kingdom

Thank you, Don Bauder, and the *Reader* for "Tiny Potrero Battles County and Blackwater, USA" ("City Lights," February 22).

And a battle it is! One we hope will bring to light the outside forces which threaten our rural character.

Potrero is a peaceful kingdom where many of the populace are retirees. Many others commute daily to their jobs in the city, content to know when they return to their homes it is quiet and the air is unpolluted.

Potrero is not a *Reader* distribution point, so when this issue was printed, we

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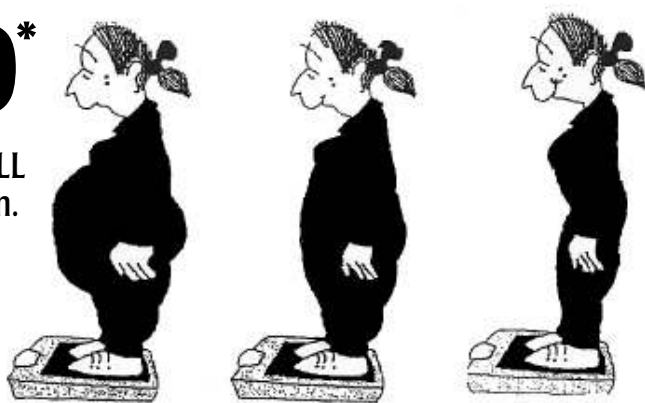
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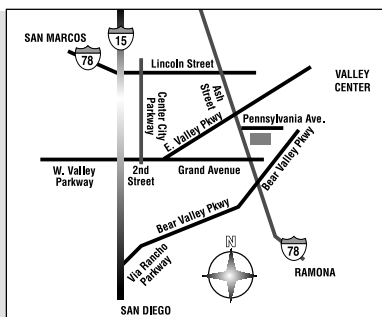
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brought up 20 or so copies to distribute to the store and library so as to inform and enlighten some of the residents about Don Bauder's honest insight about Blackwater.

Elenore Stephens
Potrero

Short, Sweet

I really enjoyed that article about the stagecoach ("Hoo-Ahhhh!") Feature Story, February 22). I'd like to find out where I can see the paintings of this woman, Marjorie Reed. I thought that was great, instead of some of these people with diarrhea of the mouth who write letters with these great big long explanations of what they think about your articles.

Norman Polakowski
Lemon Grove

Bill Manson replies: Marjorie Reed died in 1996, but the best places in San Diego to see her art are the Valley Center History Museum, 29200 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center, telephone 760-749-2993 (permanent exhibit of Reed; see www.valleycenterhistory.org/exhibits.html) and La Casa del Zorro resort hotel, Borrego Springs Road and Yaqui Pass Road, Borrego Springs, telephone 760-767-5323.

The best expert on Reed's art is probably Gary Fillmore at his Blue Coyote Gallery, 6145 E. Cave Creek Road, Cave Creek AZ 85331-8581, telephone 480-488-2334, www.bluecoyotegallery.com. He has many of her originals for sale.

Can't Argue With A Standing O

Mr. Smith: I recently saw a performance of *Ace*, after which I read your poorly written and sophomoric review ("In a Tailspin," Theater Review, January 25). I was compelled to write you and present another perspective. It is entirely possible, I realize, that you are uninterested in any opinion other than yours, which was so acridly manifested in your January 25 review.

Your arrogance and disdain for this performance was evident in your statement "*Ace* has resolved almost every contradiction in the known universe." Not exactly. The performance does not seek to resolve anything; it does, however, draw its audience into the human dynamics reflective of loss, hope, strength, weakness, and despair — all of which are exacerbated by the chaos of war, disrupted lives, and absentee parents.

Your review is laced with sarcasm and thinly veils your unexplained anger. You trivialize the painful dynamics of the families involved, their losses, and the effects on subsequent generations.

One of the strengths of this performance is its simplicity — an element which you so abundantly criticized. In this musical, the audience is not distracted by a flashy, glitzy, overcrowded, embellished set, and, as such, it can easily focus on the story plot and the performance.

You are obviously out of touch with the audience and their response to this

play. Equally, you are oblivious to the talent of the performers. Simply stated, your review does not do this play justice and speaks volumes about your lack of understanding and appreciation for a fine performance.

On the night I saw this play, there was a standing ovation.

Enough said.

Name Withheld
via e-mail

Ross's Rangers

Now I'm hooked on reading John Brizzolara's column ("T.G.I.F."). A friend of David Ross's put together Brizzolara's first story ("He Loves the People No One Wants," October 5, 2006) about David and the letters to the editor that came in. Very impressive. With so many people asking how they can help, it occurred to me that the phone number Bob Schmidt arranged with Grand Central could be given to those people, organizations, etc., that would really like to do something and not just talk about it. That number is 619-330-5681. David can access any calls and messages. I get them on my computer screen, and the service from Grand Central stores them for life. Getting just this number out so people can actually help would be great.

I also thought that the big focus on the veterans issues, neglect, improper care, disparity between what the VA is reporting and the Department of Defense, etc., etc., that David is so heavily involved with the vets downtown and is getting no help. Even the guy in charge of the VA tent won't even call him back to authorize David giving these guys water. The water coming in there is foul, nasty smelling, and once again, David is only trying to give them a clean, simple bottle of water. Perhaps taking just this segment of the people he's trying to help is so timely that it will shake loose some kind of help somewhere. David does not have anyone's okay to give these guys water, and where's the VA's role in helping here? USO, anybody? Shame on somebody.

Linda Long

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Words and Music

Gilbert and Sullivan to the Rescue

Iolanthe is pulled together last minute," says J. Sherwood Montgomery, artistic director for Lyric Opera San Diego. "I had to find a stage set and a set of costumes and cast it, partially using people who had already been under contract to us for *Fiddler on the Roof*."

General director of Lyric Opera Leon Natker was poised to perform in *Fiddler on the Roof* as the beloved character Tevye. In December 2006 the rights to produce the show were withdrawn nationwide for the next two years. "One of the major producers, Music Theater International, planned a

national tour," says Natker. "They have megabucks and can say, 'Hold all the rights, nobody else can do this.'"

The board for Lyric Opera voted in January to produce Gilbert and Sullivan's *Iolanthe* instead. "There were about half a dozen people I had to call and say, 'Gee, we're not doing *Fiddler*, and *Iolanthe* isn't your type of show,'" says Natker. "*Iolanthe* is an operetta, and you need a wider vocal range and different style of performing."

Natker will be directing rather than performing in the show. "It's a very specialized style, doing Gilbert and Sullivan. You really have to develop the skill of being able to spit out words and sing at the same time — it's enunciating and speaking really, really fast. Gilbert and Sullivan is sort of 19th-century rap."

"Priya Palekar, who is

going to play the role of Phyllis in *Iolanthe*, was going to play Hodel in *Fiddler*," says Montgomery. "She's a soprano and was perfectly capable of doing it." Palekar was already under contract for *Fiddler on the Roof*, and when Montgomery told her she had the "vocal chops" to play Phyllis, she accepted the change without hesitation. In the operetta, Phyllis is the young woman with whom Strephon (half man, half fairy) falls in love. Strephon will be played by Christopher Johnstone. According to Montgomery, this "attractive young baritone" was "penciled in" to make his debut later in the season.

"We're planning five years in advance," stresses Montgomery. "In this particular case, there was no pure, unadulterated set for *Iolanthe* out there that we could rent whole, so I was forced to go to a series of rental houses to pull together a show." The Cleveland Opera recently hired Malabar, a theater costume company, to construct a

"lavish set" of costumes for their production of *Iolanthe*. Lyric Opera is the second company to rent them. Total production cost for a

Lyric Opera show is about \$150,000.

To construct a set, Montgomery obtained pieces from rental companies across North America. "When you have to do it that fast, you're calling them as a favor." He called Grosh Scenic Rentals in Hollywood, a company that once employed Montgomery as a scenic artist. "They called me back and



said, 'There's a drop we just found that has a House of Parliament on it.' Most people will think this was a set designed for *Iolanthe*. Who knows what these pieces were [originally] made for."

The artists have approximately six weeks to prepare for their performance. "[Usually] we get materials to [artists] as much as two years in advance, especially for operatic pieces," Montgomery explains. Johnstone learned in the first week of March that he'd be playing Strephon and is currently working to memorize his role. "The rest of the people probably had the scores the second week of January," he says.

Montgomery will be playing Lord Chancellor in the three-week-long production. "The character is the Gilbert and Sullivan comic character, the one who usually has a patter song, which is a song that has a lot of words in it." In *Iolanthe* that song is the "Nightmare Song," a solo aria of around 1000 words that must be articulated in three and a half minutes. "I try to breathe at the beginning, and then I don't think about it. It's like

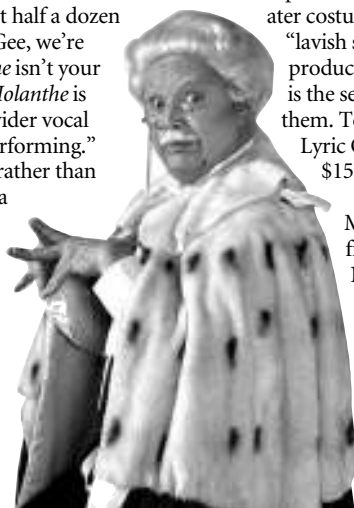
a roller coaster, just go and if anything happens, you're dead."

According to Montgomery, Gilbert referred to the memorization of this number as "a great party turn," and it was the only act Gilbert was known to perform himself. The first line is, "When you're lying awake with a dismal headache and repose is tabooed by anxiety, I conceive you may use any language you choose, to indulge in without impropriety."

— Barbarella

Lyric Opera San Diego presents Gilbert and Sullivan's *Iolanthe* Opens Friday, March 23 7:30 p.m.

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

Events that are underlined occur after March 22.

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

"La Novela Como Fin," Elmer Mendoza lectures Thursday, March 15, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). Free. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Cuatro Para Tango, César Olguín and his bandoneon hit stage at Teatro Benito Juárez on Thursday, March 15, 8 p.m. 011-52-646-177-1195.

Busy on Thursday? Olguín also plans performance on Friday, March 16, 8 p.m., at Multiforo ICBC, in Zona Río. 011-52-664-607-5163. (ENSENADA, TIJUANA)

Pop Music by Lu at Balak in Zona Río, Thursday, March 15, 8 p.m. 011-52-664-682-9222. (TIJUANA)

Los Panchos perform Friday, March 16, 8 p.m., at Camino Real Hotel in Zona Río. Tickets: \$30 U.S. 011-52-664-633-4000. (TIJUANA)

An Arabian Extravaganza with dancing and music by Isis, Ana Goebel, Norma Michel, Kate Ashley is planned Friday, March 16, 8 p.m., at Casa de la Cultura (Avenida París #5, in Colonia Altamira). 011-52-664-687-2604. (ROSARITO BEACH)

"La Bohème" presented by Opera de Tijuana at 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 17, at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). Tickets: \$20, \$30 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Sonora Santanera, Saturday, March 17, 7:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m., at Mezzanine (Avenida Insurgentes #17017). 011-52-664-621-3934. (TIJUANA)

The Chansons Tour — French songs by Elsa Gelly and David Richard, Saturday, March 17, 9 p.m., at El Lugar del Nopal (Privada 5 de Mayo #1320). \$20 tickets include dinner. 011-52-664-685-1264. (TIJUANA)

Circuit Bike Ride, Sunday, March 18, 9 a.m., at 3a Etapa in Zona Río. 011-52-664-630-4233. (TIJUANA)

"Carmina Burana" performed by Danubio Percussion with Vienna Orchestra and Slovakia Collegium Technicum Choir on Monday and Tuesday, March 19 and 20, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and

OUT & ABOUT

SURFING LATINO STYLE

San Diego Latino Film Festival, Sunday, March 18, UltraStar Mission Valley Cinemas.

(SEE FILM)



Mina Street, Zona Río). Tickets: \$65, \$80 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Ensenada Artist Alfonso Arámula unveils his new sculptures of Sancho Panza and his burro Rucio, joining his existing sculptures of Don Quijote and his horse Rocinante, found at Esquina de la Democracia (Avenida Guadalupe and Calle 2), Wednesday, March 21. Inaugural street party with live music and poetry readings starts at 2 p.m. Free. 011-52-646-149-3866. (ENSENADA)

Alejandro Casona's Play *Prohibido Suicidarse en Primavera* continues its run on Wednesday March 21, 4 and 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). Tickets: \$10, \$25, \$30 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

The Comedy *Por Que Los Hombrs Aman a las Cabronas* may be seen on Wednesday and Thursday, March 21 and 22, at 7 and 9:30 p.m., at Centro Cultural Ti-

juana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street). 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Bach Festival planned by Orchestra of Baja California, Thursday, March 22, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). \$15 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Acclaimed Mexican Guitarist Nicho Hinojosa in concert, Thursday, March 22, 8:30 p.m., at Restaurant Mango Mango (Avenida Lopez Mateos and Avenida Ruiz). Tickets: \$20, \$25. Proceeds benefit Cruz Roja Mexicana. 011-52-646-178-3883. (ENSENADA)

OUTDOORS

African Daisies are bursting into bloom around San Diego, especially along the freeway embankments. The name refers to a wide variety of species belonging to the genres *Arctotis*, *Dimorphotheca*,

and *Osteospermum*, with flowers ranging in color from yellow, orange, and white to purple. These hardy ground covers require little water except when in active growth and help to hold soil in place during heavy rains.

Happy 30th Anniversary! Walkabout celebrates 30 years with "recreation" of very first walk offered. Join group for moderate-minus walk on Thursday, March 15, 4:30 p.m., in parking lot at Bali Hai Restaurant (2230 Shelter Island Drive). Stroll hidden path along secluded section of coastline, climb slopes of Point Loma. Free. 619-231-7463. (SHELTER ISLAND)

Highest Tide this month, +5.9 feet, occurs at 8:34 a.m. on Saturday, March 17. The two extreme-low tides are -1.1 feet at 2:33 p.m. on Friday, March 16, and -1.2 feet at 3:05 p.m. on Saturday, March 17. Both low-tide episodes are perfect occasions for tidepool discoveries along the rocky stretches of San Diego County's coastline.

Workout Among Wildflowers when naturalist Don Parnell leads of-ten-strenuous 14-mile hike over trails in Daley Ranch, Saturday, March 17. The 6.5-hour hike includes lunch stop, two short breaks, starts at 8:30 a.m. in main parking lot on La Honda Drive. Free. Requested reservations: 760-839-4680. Bring water. (ESCONDIDO)

Bring Your Horse and join San Diego County Parks docent Joaquin Aganza for ride into Hell-hole Canyon Open-Space Preserve, Saturday, March 17. Saddle up in staging area (19324 Santee Lane) by 9 a.m. Free. Reservations: 760-749-5320. (VALLEY CENTER)

The First Hike of the Season up Volcan Mountain is planned by Ranger James — who will discuss fauna and flora of mountain — Saturday, March 17, 9 a.m. Moderately difficult, five-mile round-trip hike. Wear sturdy shoes, bring water. Directions to trailhead: 760-765-4098. Admission is free; parking is \$3. (JULIAN)

Trail Repair Work in Paso Picacho continues in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park on Saturday, March 17, 9 a.m. Bring work shoes, gloves, hat, water, snack. Group gathers at Paso Picacho campground maintenance area behind fire department building. Free. Registration: 858-278-3280. (CUYAMACA RANCHO STATE PARK)

The Wearing of the Green! Trail guides in green shirts lead interpretive walks through green foliage on Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, March 17, 18, and 21, 9:30–11 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park (One Father Junípero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

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Friends of Rose Creek beckon volunteers for variety of work in native plant garden, Saturday, March 17, 10 a.m.–noon, behind Rose Creek Cottage (2525 Garnet Avenue). Weed, water, plant native species. Bring work or gardening gloves, water. 858-405-7503. Free. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Tree Time, Offshoot Tours offers hour-long guided tour highlighting various Balboa Park trees Saturday, March 17, 10 a.m., starting at visitors' center. Free. 619-235-1122. (BALBOA PARK)

Bird Walk hosted by Friends of Famosa Slough, Saturday, March 17. Easy walk with variety of birds and views of salt marsh habitat starts at 1 p.m. at first bench on Famosa Boulevard, south of intersection with West Point Loma Boulevard. Free. 619-224-4591. (POINT LOMA)

Get Outside and Celebrate Spring during easy docent-led walk, Saturday, March 17, starting

at 2 p.m. at Batiquitos Lagoon nature center (7380 Gabbiano Lane). Free. 760-931-0800. (CARLSBAD)

Wildlife Baby Season Is Here! Join Wildlife Assist and learn how to help rescue orphans and other wildlife in distress. One-hour information session starts at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 17, at Escondido Library (239 South Kalmia Street). Free. 619-921-6044. (ESCONDIDO)

Star Party, Mike Dietz of San Diego Astronomy Association leads journey through the night sky during program on Saturday, March 17, 6:30 p.m., at Lake Jennings County Park (10108 Bass Road). All-night viewing on association's telescopes at park playground. Admission is free, parking is \$3. 858-565-3600. (LAKESIDE)

Explore Sweetwater River Gorge with Canyoneers during easy hike on Sunday, March 18, 9 a.m.–noon. Venture through extensive river woodland among willow and cottonwood trees, enjoy view of historic

iron bridge. Free. Directions: 619-255-0203. (EAST SAN DIEGO)

Heights and Flights of Fancy, take a live, moderate-plus-paced 2.5-hour adventure over hilly terrain around Fairbanks Ranch with Walkabout explorers on Sunday, March 18. Walk starts at corner of San Dieguito Road and Rancho Diegueño Road (near traffic signal just outside Del Rayo Village Center). Free. 619-231-7463. (DEL MAR)

Explore the Beauty of Clevenger Canyon on strenuous guided hike hosted by San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy, Sunday, March 18, 1 p.m. Learn about nature of chaparral vegetation community, enjoy views of San Pasqual Valley. Bring water, sun protection. Free. Required reservations: 858-755-6956. (ESCONDIDO)

"Safe Sex in the Garden and Plant Identification" is topic for Buena Vista Native Plant Club on Sunday, March 18. Learn facts about urban pollen producers, discuss "good" and "bad" plants, walk around garden to identify blooms and seeds. Club gathers at 2 p.m. at Buena Vista Nature Center (2202 South Coast Highway). Expert and novice gardeners interested in learning about working with native plants are invited. Free. 760-439-2473. (OCEANSIDE)

Vernal Equinox on Tuesday, March 20, at 5:07 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time heralds the beginning of the spring season for Earth's northern hemisphere. For San Diegans and all others in the Pacific time zone, this presents a perfect excuse to throw an after-work "equinox party." At the instant of vernal equinox, the sun lies in the plane of Earth's equator. As a consequence, days and nights are of equal length (12 hours each) everywhere on our planet. Another consequence is that the sun rises due east along the horizon and sets due west. During the next three months, as the sun shines more and more directly on our hemisphere, daylight hours will lengthen and the rise and set positions of the sun will gradually shift toward the northeast and northwest, respectively.

The Slender Waxing Crescent Moon makes its first easily observable appearance in the western sky during twilight Tuesday, March 20 — the evening of the vernal equinox. Because the zodiac stands at a steep angle relative to the west horizon this time of year, the young crescent moon hovers almost directly over the setting or recently set sun and so appears as a "smile" almost perfectly aligned with the horizon. The brilliant, pure-white pinpoint of light above the moon Tuesday evening (and below the moon on the next evening) is the planet Venus, which will grace our western sky every clear evening until midsummer.

Nature Cruises to Los Coronados Islands offered by San Diego Harbor Excursions, Thursdays–Sundays through May 20. Look for whales, dolphins, seals, sea lions, elephant seal rookeries, up to 80 varieties of birds, other marine life. Tours feature a professional guide. Fee: \$50 general, \$40 children. 619-234-4111.

DANCE

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

Dancing Unlimited (4569 30th Street). Beginners at 7–8 p.m., intermediate/advanced 8–9 p.m. \$10 per class, \$35 for four. 858-635-1211. (NORTH PARK)

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)

Bellydance Showcase with Eleo, Jessenia, Lucia, Mira, music by John Bilezikjian and friends, Thursday, March 15, 8 p.m., Claire de Lune Coffeehouse (2906 University Avenue). \$5. 619-688-9845. (NORTH PARK)

Bohemian National Polka, Part Three highlights beginner-friendly dancing on Friday, March 16, in room 207 of Casa del Prado. Open dancing follows lesson at 7:30 p.m. All ages. Partners not required. Donation: \$1. 619-583-9956. (BALBOA PARK)

Israeli Dance Lessons taught by Loui Tucker, Saturday, March 17, 3–5 p.m., followed by dinner

(reservations required, \$8), dance party (\$5), in Balboa Park Club (off Presidents Way). 858-459-1336. (BALBOA PARK)

USA Dance Party with wide variety of music, third Saturday of each month, including March 17, at Cheek2Cheek (909 Grand Avenue, suite 3). Lessons at 7 p.m., dancing 8 to 11 p.m. All ages, abilities. \$7. 760-525-5124. (PACIFIC BEACH)

English Country Dancing takes place every Sunday, 6–9 p.m., at Jean Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road). Callers are Ellen and Terri on March 18. \$6. 858-676-9731. (POWAY)

Bring Your Own Hankies — sticks provided — for Morris dancing featuring instruction in Fieldtown and Adderbury traditions, Tuesday, March 20, 7:30 p.m., at War Memorial Building (3325 Zoo Drive). Free. 858-689-8947. (BALBOA PARK)

Dance Studio Hour presented by students in MiraCosta College's dance classes, Thursday, March 22, 7:30 p.m., in room 204 at San Elijo campus (3333 Manchester Avenue). Informal show promises dance in variety of styles. Free. 760-795-6815. (CARBIDF)

Mambo Lounge, dance to salsa music, as well as some bachata, merengue, cha-cha, Thursdays and Fridays, in Mission Room at Mis-

OUT & ABOUT

BOLLYWOOD PLAYBACK maestro Hariharan, Sunday, March 18, Neurosciences Institute.

(SEE IN PERSON)



sion Valley Resort Hotel (875 Hotel Circle South). Dance lessons at 8 p.m., followed by open dancing 9 p.m.–midnight. \$7. 858-735-4159. (MISSION VALLEY)

FILM

"Surfing Latino Style" is featured on Sunday, March 18, 2:30 p.m., as part of San Diego Latino Film Festival, closing on March 18 at UltraStar's Mission Valley Cinemas at Hazard Center (7510 Hazard Center Drive). Pro-

gram boasts more than 185 films from Mexico, Cuba, Chile, Colombia, Peru, Guatemala, Brazil, Bolivia, Argentina, Spain, U.S.; Latin animation; Youth Visions screenings; Cine Gay Showcase with theme of family life; Nick Jr.'s explorer Dora and her cousin Diego appear Sunday, March 18, 11 a.m., for program of Nick-elodeon shorts. Also planned: workshops, "guest director" series, concerts.

Tickets: \$9 general for screenings, \$5–\$30 for concerts, parties. Showtimes, details: 619-230-1938. (MISSION VALLEY)

"Life Is Beautiful," UCSD professor Pasquale Verdicchio introduces the Academy Award-winning film and leads discussion following screening, Thursday, March 15, 7 p.m., at House of Italy (across from Spreckels Organ Pavilion). Film stars Roberto Be-

nigni, who won Oscar for his role. Free. 858-831-1717. (BALBOA PARK)

The Documentary Invisible Children screens Friday, March 16, 7 p.m., at Seaside Center for Spiritual Living (1613 Lake Street). Filmmakers from El Cajon went to Africa, returned with this documentary about Ugandan boys who resist kidnapping and conscription into the army. Expect updated footage, question and answer period, ways for audiences to assist. Free. 760-753-5786 x848. (ENCINITAS)

"La Bestia Nel Cuore," C. Comencini's 2006 drama screens — in Italian with English subtitles — for Italian Film Festival on Friday, March 16, 7 p.m., at Italian Community Center (1669 Columbia Street). \$2. 619-237-0601.

"Frankenstein Meets the Space Monster," this 1965 gem screens for Mars Move Night hosted by Mars Society, Friday, March 16, 7 p.m., in studio 106 of Art Union Building (2323 Broadway). Free. 619-723-3456. Popcorn provided; "bring snacks or drinks to share." (GOLDEN HILL)

"Recalling a Buddha: Memories of His Holiness Karmapa XVI" screens Friday, March 16, 7:30 p.m., at Shambhala Meditation Center (3139 University Avenue; enter around back of building off Herman). Story of "this modern-day Buddha looks at his enlightened qualities and frames them within the historical context of Buddhism's migration to the West." Donation. 619-865-5194. (NORTH PARK)

"Looking At: Jazz, America's Art Form," series gets underway with "New Orleans and the Origins of Jazz." Partial screening of

the Ken Burns film *Jazz: Episode 1: Gumbo, Beginnings to 1917*, Sunday, March 18, 2 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5810. (DOWNTOWN)

Sarah Watt's "Earthy Australian" Film *Look Both Ways* is featured for Film Forum at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street), Monday, March 19, 6:30 p.m. Free. 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

Lunafest, film festival "dedicated to promoting awareness about women's issues, highlighting women filmmakers, and bringing women together in their communities" screens Wednesday, March 21, 6 p.m., in Arts 240 at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). Films range from animated shorts to fictional drama, cover variety of topics. \$15.

Reception follows at 8 p.m. at Grappa Restaurant (328 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). \$30 for film, reception. Required reservations: 858-405-3434. (SAN MARCOS)

Oscar-Nominated Films showcased during ongoing Carlsbad Library film series, featuring *Flags of Our Fathers*, Wednesday, March 21, 6 p.m., in Schulman Auditorium (1775 Dove Lane). Free. 760-602-2026. (LA COSTA)

"Peaceable Kingdom" is screened, offering "life-changing vision of a peaceful world that is well within our reach" — with vegan snacks on offer — Wednesday, March 21, 6 p.m., at Tierrasanta Library (4985 La Cuenta Drive). Discussion follows. Requested donation: \$5. 619-723-7048. (TIERRASANTA)

"The Secret," a film "everyone...from Oprah to Larry King" has been talking about, screens

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Josh Groban Apr. 6
Brand New Apr. 6
The Killers Apr. 10
Chicago Apr. 15
Five For Fighting Apr. 20
Ricky Martin Apr. 22
ZZ Top Apr. 23
Brian McKnight Apr. 24
Megadeth Apr. 26
Arcade Fire Apr. 26
Ron White Apr. 27
Fall Out Boy Apr. 28
Damien Rice May 1

Eric Clapton

March 15



Gwen Stefani

April 22

Tool May 2
Richard Marx May 4
Kathy Griffin May 5
Vince Gill May 11
Harry Connick Jr. May 17
Chayanne May 26
Manu Chao June 5
Keith Urban June 10
John Mayer June 12
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Wednesdays, March 21 and 28, 7 p.m., at Vision Center for Spiritual Living (11260 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Offering. 619-303-6609. (TIERRASANTA)

“Illusion,” starring Kirk Douglas as a legendary Hollywood director who receives a deathbed visitation “from a ghostlike character from his past,” screens Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m., at Unity Center (8999 Activity Road). Informal concert by Canadian singer/guitarist Christopher Barran (6 p.m.). \$10. 858-452-2255. (MIRAMAR)

Banff Mountain Film Festival returns for 31st edition, screening Thursday, March 22, at La Paloma Theatre (471 South Coast Highway 101; 760-436-7469). San Diego Natural History Museum hosts festival — with different films each night — Friday–Sunday, March 23–25. Featured films include: *Anomaly*, *The Best of Jo*, *Cayesh* — *The Calling*, *Fatima’s Hand*, *Kids Who Rip*, *Conflict Tiger*, *Yes to the No*, many others. Screenings begin at 7 p.m. Tickets: \$10 in advance, \$12 at door. 619-255-0203. (ENCINITAS, BALBOA PARK)

Nicholas Roeg’s Classic Film *Walkabout* (1971) exploring “modern man’s estrangement from nature with picturesque and startling images of the Australian outback” screens for winter film series, Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). \$7. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: *Hurricane on the Bayou*, *Coral Reef Adventure*. “Fridays at the Fleet” showcases *To the Limit* (6 p.m.) and *Yellowstone* (7 p.m.) on March 16. Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

LECTURES

“India’s Neglected Styles: South Indian Painting” examined by Robert J. Del Bonta for Meet the Masters programs at San Diego Museum of Art on Thursday, March 15. Del Bonta is an independent scholar specializing in south Asia. Lectures begin at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. \$12. Reservations: 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

West Coast Responses to Global Warming examined by Oregon governor Ted Kulongoski, Thursday, March 15, 12:30 p.m., in UCSD’s IR/PS Robinson Auditorium. How can scientific knowledge be put to use developing sound environmental policy? 858-534-0491. Free. (LA JOLLA)

Artists from *Il trovatore* participate in Artists’ Round Table — offering look at music, characters, behind-the-scenes work — hosted by San Diego Opera, Thursday, March 15, 5:30 p.m., in Beverly Sills Salon of Civic Theatre (202 C Street). Free. 619-232-7636. (DOWNTOWN)

Love to Hike with Your Dog? Dog-friendly hikes revealed by Donna Lawrence, author of *Leave Only Paw Prints: Dog Hikes in San Diego County*, Thursday, March 15, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). Learn about mountain trails, desert roads, from back-country chaparral to county, city regional parks. \$10. No dogs. Registration: 619-243-3424. (LINDA VISTA)

Kyoto Laureate Symposium Lecture presented by artist, designer Issey Miyake, Friday, March 16, 3:30 p.m., in Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Miyake will demonstrate his contribution to development of clothing; he fuses Eastern and Western cultures. Free. Required advance reservations: 619-260-4231. (LINDA VISTA)

San Elijo Lagoon Lecture Series — marking 20th anniversary of San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy — continues with look at “Environmental and Cultural Impacts of Ancient Shell Fish Harvests” presented by MiraCosta instructor Betsy Pain on Friday, March 16, 7 p.m., in room 201 at MiraCosta’s San Elijo campus (3333 Manchester Avenue). Free. 760-436-3944. (CARDIFF)

He Hiked 800 Kilometers of La Ruta Quijote in La Mancha region of Spain while reading Cervantes’s *Don Quijote de la Mancha* in the original Spanish, and on Friday, March 16, MiraCosta English instructor John Kirwan will present slide-illustrated talk on his adventures. Free lecture, 7:30 p.m., in library at MiraCosta College (One Barnard Drive). 760-795-6613. (OCEANSIDE)

Ancient Folk Art, Ukrainian *pysanky* (Easter egg decorating) workshops offered Saturdays, March 17 and 24, 9 a.m.–noon, at St. Mary Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Church (9558 Campo Road). Participants will complete two *pysanky* using wax-resist process with beeswax, dyes, *kistka* (writing tool) by end of three-hour session. \$30 fee per class includes materials. Required reservations: 619-742-2720. (SPRING VALLEY)

“Genealogy Blogging — Soapbox or Service?” It’s topic when Randy Seaver speaks for Computer Genealogy Society of San Diego on Saturday, March 17. Talk follows session on digital photographs. Meeting begins at 9 a.m., in Robinson Auditorium at UCSD (off Pangea Drive). Free. 858-278-4519. (LA JOLLA)

Japanese Garden Design Seminar planned by Ken Siers on principles and techniques of Japanese garden design, March 17 and 18, 9 a.m.–3 p.m., at Japanese Friendship Garden. For professional garden designers and those

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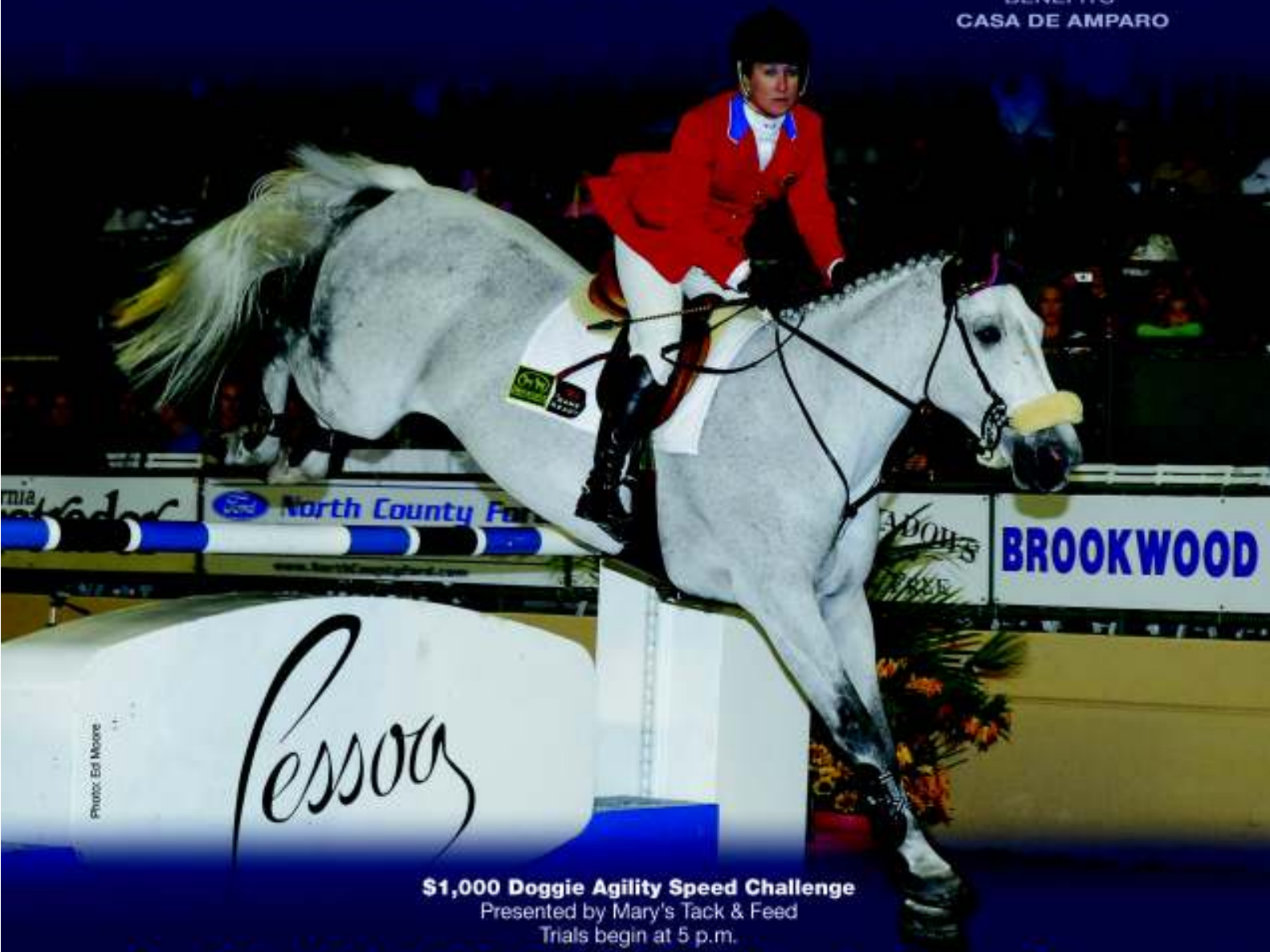
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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

wishing to enhance understanding of Japanese art, culture.

Saturday's class examines history, principles of Japanese garden design; Sunday's class covers application of these design principles into landscape. Anyone may enroll in Saturday class only; those taking Sunday class must also attend Saturday class. Fee: Saturday only \$50, both days \$90 (fees include lunch). Registration: 619-232-2721. (BALBOA PARK)

"Personal Vision of Landscape,"

lecture and book signing by photographer Philipp Scholz Rittermann, Saturday, March 17, 9 a.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. Photographer "will show a cross-section of his work, spanning urban and industrial work at night, traditional black-and-white natural landscapes, panoramic sequences, and photos from his most recent series, Dioramas." \$8 general. 619-255-0203. (BALBOA PARK)

"Flowering Plants for Drought-Tolerant Gardens"

explored when landscape designer Pamela Homfelt presents lecture, garden tour on Saturday, March 17, 9:30-11 a.m., at City of San Diego Ridgehaven Building (9601 Ridgehaven Court). Learn to identify plants, landscaping methods, more. Free. 858-492-5036. (KEARNY MESA)

"Working with Nonprofits:

Maximum Design/Minimum Budgets" is topic when Jean Zagrodnik and Linda Glaze of Zagrodnik + Thomas Architects speak for Friends of San Diego Architecture on Saturday, March 17. Slide-illustrated talk starts at 9:30 a.m. at NewSchool of Architecture (1249 F Street). Donation: \$5. 619-224-8584. (DOWNTOWN)

Isn't it Romantic?

Romance Writers of America gather on Saturday, March 17, to hear agent Sally Van Haitisma divulge "What Agents Want from Authors"; Debra Holland focuses on "Writing from the Male POV" in afternoon. Session runs 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Handlery Hotel and Resort (950 Hotel Circle North). \$30. 619-741-9114. (MISSION VALLEY)

"Crab-Ology" —

this "primer on crab" features Renh Simonian, Phillips Crab, and chef Alexandria Melchio, Saturday, March 17, noon, at Macy's School of Cooking (in Mission Valley shopping center, 1555 Camino de la Reina). Reservations: 866-388-2665. (MISSION VALLEY)

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

The Los Santos-Trans Preserve loop hike on the Santa Rosa Plateau near Temecula traverses open meadows, grassy hillsides, and shady glens presided over by oversized specimens of Engelmann oaks. You'll enjoy superb views throughout, plus excellent opportunities for bird and wildlife watching. Note that in deference to the local wildlife, pets are not allowed on the trail.

To get there, exit Interstate 15 at Clinton Keith Road in Murrieta, north a few miles from Temecula. Drive south on Clinton Keith Road. Note the turnoff for the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve visitor center, five miles from I-15. Continue (without making any turns but following the curves of the roadway) to the Hidden Valley trailhead on the left, 1.5 miles from the visitor center.



Trans Preserve Trail

From the trailhead walk south, uphill, using the wide, unpaved Hidden Valley Road, which is closed to car traffic. After only 0.2 mile, make a right on the narrow Los Santos Trail. This delightfully primitive path crookedly ascends some bald hillsides, gains a ridgetop, and passes a resting bench just south of a 2084-foot knoll. From this overlook point, the bulk of the reserve's sensu-

ously rolling terrain lies in full view. Perhaps this is the ideal spot to break out your high-powered binoculars to scan for deer in the meadows below and to track raptors gliding in the sky above.

Beyond the overlook, the Los Santos Trail drops into an upper tributary of Cole Creek and bends left to follow the tributary's tiny (and usually dry) brook. After just 0.1 mile, the path ahead assumes the proportions of a dirt road and continues southeast to join Hidden Valley Road. Don't miss the sign on the right, which directs you onto the sharply ascending, again delightfully primitive, south branch of the Los Santos Trail.

You climb to the rim of an oak-dotted plateau, a northward extension of the nearby Mesa de Colorado. Underfoot, there are small outcrops of basalt, a dark-colored volcanic rock. Basalt underlies the entire plateau, and its tough, erosion-resistant character is responsible for the plateau's elevated position. The softer, marine sedimentary rocks associated with the terrain behind you have eroded to form all those sensuously rolling hills and valleys.

Los Santos Trail continues south, dipping into and out of a shady ravine, then enters Mesa de Colorado proper, where you arrive at a junction with the Vernal Pool Trail. You've now come 2.4 miles, exactly halfway around the loop.

Turn left on the Vernal Pool Trail, proceed 0.3 mile, and turn left on the Trans Preserve Trail. (Note that one of the largest vernal pools in California lies just ahead on the Vernal Pool Trail; don't miss it if you haven't seen it before.)

"JPL Update" offered Saturday, March 17, 1 p.m., at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center. Jay Lavine, NASA/JPL Solar System Ambassador shares latest news about many of NASA's spacecraft. What secrets have been revealed by Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter? What is it teaching us about our sister planet? See latest images, new findings from two Mars Exploration Rovers. Included in regular admission. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

"Home Compost Workshop"

planned by master composters, Saturday, March 17, 1 p.m., in Cuyamaca College's Water Con-

servation Garden (12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West). Free. 619-660-0614. (EL CAJON)

"The Executive Branch of Government's Power and Its Effect on Citizens" explored by retired judge Victor E. Ramirez when San Diego Independent Scholars gather on Saturday, March 17, 1:30 p.m., in room 111A of Chancellor's Complex at UCSD. Free. 619-224-5664. (LA JOLLA)

"Introduction to Knotting," fiber artist Carol Lang presents class in "age-old technique of knotting" on Sunday, March 18, noon-5 p.m., at Oceanside Mu-

seum of Art School of Art (219 North Coast Highway). Class explores sculptural form using simple knots. For all levels of experience. \$90 fee includes materials. Registration: 760-721-2787. (OCEANSIDE)

"The Coronado Island UFO Incident" illuminated by field investigator, paranormal researcher, author Preston Dennett, when Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) meets Sunday, March 18, 6 p.m., at Sizzler (3755 Murphy Canyon Road). Free. 760-763-2456. (MISSION VALLEY)

"Sculpture in San Diego" explored by docent and teacher of contemporary art Mary Kay Gard-

ner, Monday, March 19, for North County chapter of San Diego Museum of Art. Talk starts at 9:30 a.m. at St. Peter's Episcopal Church (334 14th Street). Free for first-time guests. 619-232-7931. (DEL MAR)

ner, Monday, March 19, for North County chapter of San Diego Museum of Art. Talk starts at 9:30 a.m. at St. Peter's Episcopal Church (334 14th Street). Free for first-time guests. 619-232-7931. (DEL MAR)

Trail. Turn left and complete the remaining half mile to Hidden Valley Trailhead.

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

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Learn About Guiseppe Verdi's Opera *Il trovatore* when USD music instructor Ron Shaheen presents multimedia lecture on Monday, March 19, 7 p.m., at First Unitarian Universalist Church (4190 Front Street). Donation: \$2.25. 619-298-9978. (HILLCREST)

"Israel — The Challenge of a 'New' Middle East," professor Jacob Goldberg presents three-part lecture series, March 19-21, 7:30 p.m., at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). "Domestic Israeli Politics in Turmoil" covered on Monday; "Between Hezbollah and Hamas: Towards Settlement or Escalation" covered on Tuesday; and Wednesday promises "Under the Shadow of a Nuclear Iran: Israel's Challenges in a 'New Middle East.'" Admission is \$12 per talk, or \$30 for series. 858-362-1348. (LA JOLLA)

Examine *Il trovatore* by Verdi during opera preview examining music, drama, and history of upcoming San Diego Opera production, Monday, March 19, 7:30 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Speaker is pianist, composer Nicolas Reveles, education director at San Diego Opera. \$8. 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

"Computer-Aided Wildflower Species Identification" examined by Ken Bowles when California Native Plant Society meets on Tuesday, March 20, 7:30 p.m., in Casa del Prado room 104 or 101. Free. 619-685-7321. (BALBOA PARK)

"911 Emergency Preparedness" is subject when representatives from San Diego Medical Services Enterprise make presentation Wednesday, March 21, 10:30 a.m., at Encinitas Community Center (1140 Oakcrest Park Drive). What happens during 911 calls? How should your home be prepared? Free. 619-533-4338. (ENCINITAS)

"Editing for and Working with Different Generations" is topic when "workplace specialist" Maggi Payment speaks for SD/PEN Editors Network, Wednesday, March 21, 6:30 p.m., in Clairemont Community Room (4731 Clairemont Drive). Free. 858-451-3266. (CLAIREMONT)

"Mexico-The United States: Transborder Families and Transnational Families" presented by SDSU professor Norma Ojeda, Wednesday, March 21, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Lecture in conjunction

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"Mi Corazón Escondido (My Hidden Heart)" discussed by artist David Avalos during gallery talk, Thursday, March 22, 5:30 p.m., at California Center for the Arts Museum, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Included in gallery admission. 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

Chicago-Based Artist Brian Ulrich plans art talk at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street) on Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m. Assistant curator Lucia Sanromán will lead conversation with artist about his work currently on view in museum's galleries. Included in museum admission. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

"Lessons I Learned from the Duke" related by surfer Paul Strauch, Thursday, March 22. Strauch, winner of 1963 Peru International, developed his freestyle surfing skills under guidance of Duke Kahanamoku (a.k.a. the father of modern surfing). Free. Lecture begins at 7 p.m. in Manchester Auditorium at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). 619-260-4682. (LINDA VISTA)

San Diego Home Gardening Seminar offered by Master Gardener Association, University of California Cooperative Extension, Saturday, April 14, 7:45 a.m.-4:20 p.m., at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Classes cover myriad topics, including "The Good Bugs and the Bad Bugs in the Garden and Landscape," "All About Lemon Balm," "Taking the Mystery Out of Landscape Garden Design," "Training Young Trees for Structure and Form," "Bulbs for Southern California," many, many more. \$40. Registration: 858-694-2860. (LINDA VISTA)

Master Paper Folder Robert Lang — recently profiled by Susan Orlean in *The New Yorker* — will fold a "monumental structure" on Saturday, April 14, 9 a.m., at Mingei International Museum — North County (155 West Grand Avenue). Included in regular admission.

Lang presents "From Flapping Birds to Space Telescopes: The Modern Art of Origami" at 1:30 p.m. on 14th. \$35 fee includes morning demonstration. Events are in conjunction with exhibit "Paper Transformed." Reservations: 760-735-3355. (ESCONDIDO)

IN PERSON

From Paris, Improving Musicians Le Quan Ninh (percussion) and Frederic Blondy (piano) perform for Concert Hour series, Thursday, March 15, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. 760-744-1150 x2316. (SAN MARCOS)

Alejandra Guzman in Concert, Thursday, March 15, 7:30 p.m., Pala Casino (11154 Highway 76). Tickets start at \$45, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (PALA)

First Annual Oceanside Jazz Festival, hosted by Frequency (newly formed MiraCosta College vocal jazz ensemble) with performances by jazz choirs at Palomar College, Cypress College, Grossmont and Southwestern Colleges, and Epicenter from Cal State Northridge, Thursday, March 15,

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

7:30 p.m., in MiraCosta College Theatre (One Barnard Drive). \$10 general. 760-795-6815. (OCEANSIDE)

Politically Incorrect Tunes and Standup by Stephen Lynch — whose credits include three CDs, a Comedy Central special, Tony Award nomination for acting in *The Wedding Singer* on Broadway — Thursday, March 15, 8 p.m., at Spreckels Theatre (121 Broadway). Lynch will perform “new songs and old favorites.” \$29.50. 619-235-9500. (DOWNTOWN)

The “Concert King of the Philippines,” Martin Nievera in concert, Thursday and Friday, March 15 and 16, 8 p.m., at Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre (5469 Casino Way). Also performing: Jenevi. Tickets: \$50, \$75. 619-659-3380. (DEHESA)

“Big Brown: The Untold Story of UPS” divulged by author and UPS retiree Greg Niemann, who discusses and signs books on Fri-

day, March 16, 6 p.m., at Barnes and Noble Bookstore (Otay Ranch Town Center, 2015 Birch Road). Niemann is also author of *Baja Fever*, *Baja Legends* and *Palm Springs Legends*. Free. 619-216-5344. (CHULA VISTA)

Thriller Author David Morrell visits Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard) to discuss time capsules, video games, *Scavenger*, Friday, March 16, 7 p.m. Free. 858-268-4747. (CLAIREMONT)

Bestselling Author Frances Mayes reads, signs her new book *A Year in the World*, Friday, March 16, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Among her books: *Under the Tuscan Sun*, *Bella Tuscany*. 858-454-0347. Free. (LA JOLLA)

Dublin's Irish Cabaret, celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Noel V. Ginnity and his company of 20 singers, dancers, musicians hailing from Dublin, Ireland, on Friday, March 16, 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Program boasts comedy of Ginnity, tenor Paul Hennessy, soprano Emer Harnett, music of Pat Marnane Band with uilleann piper Tommy Keane, Irish Step Dancers. Tickets: \$20–\$35. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

OUT & ABOUT

VIOLINIST SARAH CHANG
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Hall.

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“Not Your Average Spoken-Word Show!” The T.M.I. (Too Much Information) queer and feminist performance and open-mike series continues Friday, March 16, featuring author/visual artist Debra Di Blasi (*The Jiri Chronicles and Other Fictions*), filmmaker/author Hilary Goldberg (*In the Spotlight*). Also: five-minute readings; sign up to read and perform original work. Show starts at 8 p.m. at Rubber Rose (3812 Ray Street). Requested do-

nation: \$5–\$7. 619-396-7673. (NORTH PARK)

All Styles Welcome during open-mike nights, every Friday, 9–10:30 p.m., at Egyptian Tea Room (4644 College Avenue). All ages. Free. 619-265-7287. (COLLEGE)

Not For the Faint of Heart! Rich Ferguson, Edwin Decker, Cecil Hayduke plan “raucous spoken word” event, Friday, March 16, 9 p.m., at Voz Alta (1544 Broadway). \$6–\$8. 619-239-3872 (EAST VILLAGE)

Heali'i's Polynesian Revue — expect live entertainment, islander food, vendors, crafts, and Heali'i's Polynesian Revue floor show with guest artists and bands, preview dance lesson in new studio, Saturday, March 17, 11 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Find Heali'i's at 6749 Top Gun Street. Floor show is free; “minimal” cost for food, craft, dance lesson. 858-455-9711. (MIRA MESA)

SDSU's Jazz Orchestra is joined by saxophonist Peter Christlieb, an original member of Doc Severinsen's *Tonight Show* band, for concert on Saturday, March 17, 2 p.m., in Smith Recital Hall at San Diego State University. \$12 general. 619-594-1696. (SDSU)

Broadcaster, Author, Actress, TV talk-show host, and SDSU adjunct professor Kathi Diamant discusses her book, *Kafka's Last Love*, Saturday, March 17, 3 p.m., at Kensington/Normal Heights Library (4121 Adams Avenue). Diamant will chronicle how she came to write the book, experiences that resulted. Admission free. Requested reservations: 619-533-3974. (KENSINGTON)

“25 Years of Gospel Music” celebrated with reunion concert by Eddie Baltrip and Fulfillment, Saturday, March 17, 6 p.m., at Metro Church (8691 Echo Drive). Expect to hear “hits off their albums from

the past 25 years.” Free. 866-815-6550. (LA MESA)

Dave Stamey in Concert for AcousticMusicSanDiego on Saturday, March 17 (\$15, \$20), followed by Byron Berline on Sunday, March 18 (\$15, \$20). Kris Delmhurst takes stage on Wednesday, March 21 (\$15, \$20). Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650 Mansfield Street). 619-303-8176. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Poetry Reading by San Diego poet Steve Garber, Saturday, March 17, 7:30 p.m., at Shambhala Meditation Center (3139 University Avenue, enter from rear of building off Herman Street). Donation. 619-865-5194. (NORTH PARK)

The Father of Family Tales? Master storyteller Donald Davis returns for Storytellers of San Diego, Saturday, March 17, 7:30 p.m., in Manchester Conference Center, University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Davis is steeped in the oral tradition from his upbringing in Appalachia. Suitable for adults, children over 12. \$10. 619-298-6363. (LINDA VISTA)

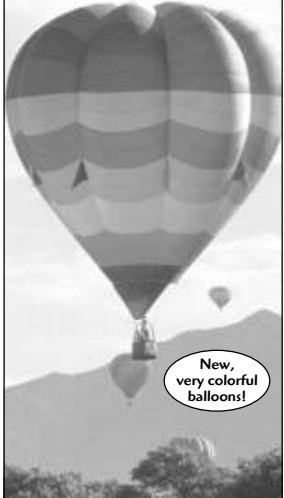
Max Raabe and the Palast Orchester perform for jazz series hosted by La Jolla Music Society, Saturday, March 17, 8 p.m., at Stephen and Mary Birch North

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Park Theatre (2895 University Avenue). German-born Raabe and 12-piece orchestra perform favorites from “Great American Songbook and Weimar Republic.” Tickets: \$20–\$50. Reservations: 858-459-3728. (LA JOLLA)

West Coast Funnies, stand-up comedian Jeremy Hotz performs on Saturday, March 17, 8 p.m., with opener Taylor Williamson, emcee Kurt Swann, Pearl Street Players, at Carlsbad Village Theatre (2822 State Street). \$20 at door. 760-960-0105 or 909-929-3586. (CARLSBAD)

Shambhala Arts Festival includes Native American flute performance by Evren Ozan, Saturday, March 17, 8 p.m. Donations accepted. Shambhala Meditation Center, 3139 University Avenue (enter around back of building off Herman). 619-865-5194. (NORTH PARK)

Playwright Janet S. Tiger discusses her play, *Renny’s Story*, described as “true story of survival during the Holocaust,” Sunday, March 18, 10 a.m., at Ohr Shalom Synagogue (2512 Third Avenue at Laurel). Kimberly Kaplan, star of *Renny’s Story*, will present excerpt of play. Free. 619-231-1456. (DOWNTOWN)

Give Way performs for World Music Series, Sunday, March 18, 1 p.m., at Julian Library (1850 Highway 78). Free. 760-765-0370. (JULIAN)

Second Avenue Klezmer Ensemble plays “joyous, foot-stomping music” at Scripps Miramar Ranch Library (10301 Scripps Lake Drive) for Pleasure of Your Company music series, Sunday, March 18, 2:30 p.m. Group performs melodies of Eastern Europe, American Yiddish Theatre, Jewish Spain. Donation. 858-538-8158. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

Sunset Poets gather for reading by featured poet Jack Webb; until his recent retirement, he was assistant news editor for *Union-Tribune*, is main organizer of Border Voices Poetry Fair. Event begins at 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 18, at Flying Bridge Restaurant (1105 North Coast Highway). Open-mike readings follow. Free. 760-758-2410. (OCEANSIDE)

Bollywood Playback Maestro Hariharan, accompanied by Indian “singing sensation” Chandreyee and live orchestra from Bollywood, in concert presented by Raag and Taal Academy of San Diego, Sunday, March 18, 4:30 p.m., at Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive). Evening promises “Bollywood film songs, *geets*, and *ghazals*.” General admission: \$30, \$15 for children under 12. 858-578-2705, 858-254-2366, 858-342-5783. (LA JOLLA)

“Japanese Lounge Night” with artists including Ptrak, Akiko/Firebird 999, Alberto de Almar, Ritsuya Hamano, and Hiroko Sato is Sunday, March 18, 7 p.m., at WorldBeat Cultural Center (2100 Park Boulevard). \$10. 619-230-1190. (BALBOA PARK)

Sunday Seizure Comedy stand-up show featuring Sarah Blevins, Naveed Mahbub, Jason Bang, James Silverman, Mindy Sheldon, Tara Walden, Sunday, March 18, 8 p.m., at Honey Bee Hive (1409 C Street). Free. 619-702-6010. (DOWNTOWN)

French Guitarist/Composer Roland Dyens plans concert, Mon-

day, March 19, 7:30 p.m., at Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive). Dyens is said to begin each concert “with an original improvisational piece.” \$20. 760-479-1827. (LA JOLLA)

Bestselling Author Robert Crais reads, signs *The Watchman*, Tuesday, March 20, 1:30 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, 858-268-4747). Free.

Crais also appears on 20th at 7:30 p.m., at Warwick’s Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-454-0347. (CLAIREMONT, LA JOLLA)

Mystery Author Craig Johnson signs, discusses *Kindness Goes Unpunished*, Wednesday, March 21, 7 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Free. 858-268-4747. (CLAIREMONT)

“Urban Cowboy: The Musical” hits stage on Wednesday, March 21, 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Tickets: \$25–\$40. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

What If Everybody Read the Same Book, say, *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros? And what if Cisneros herself presented a lecture and book signing on Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard)? Great! 760-839-4601. Free. (ESCONDIDO)

“The Accidental Mind: How Brain Evolution Has Given Us Love, Memory, Dreams, and God” discussed by author and neuroscientist David Linden, Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m., for Brain-Mind Series at Book Works in Flower Hill

Promenade (2670 Via de la Valle). Book offers “compelling explanation of how the brain’s serendipitous evolution has resulted in nothing short of our humanity.” Free. 858-755-3735. (DEL MAR)

“Purlie” is presented March 22–24 (and March 29–31), at San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts (2425 Dusk Drive). Performances begin at 7 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays, 2 p.m. on Saturdays. \$10 general. 619-470-0588. (PARADISE HILLS)

Author and North County Times columnist Tom Morrow discusses his new book, *For Love of Their Country*, Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m., at Cole Library (1250 Carlsbad Village Drive). Free. 760-434-2870. (CARLSBAD)

Three-Time Pulitzer Prize Playwright Edward Albee discusses his new book, *Stretching My Mind*, Sunday, April 8, 3 p.m., at D.G. Wills Book (7461 Girard Avenue). Book collects Albee’s writings on theater, literature, political and cultural battlegrounds. Free. 858-456-1800. (LA JOLLA)

SPORTS

Dressage Affair runs Thursday–Sunday, March 15–18, 8 a.m.–5 p.m., at Del Mar Horsepark (14550 El Camino Real). Free admission, parking. 858-518-4128. (DEL MAR)

Tough Enough? SoCal Scorpions are holding open tryouts for their Women’s Professional Football League team, Saturdays, March 17 and March 24. Details: 877-717-8464.

27th Annual St. Patrick’s Day 10K Run, 2- and 4-mile fun run/walks, Saturday, March 17, 7:30 a.m., in Mission Bay Park. Registration: 6 a.m. south of Hilton Hotel (on East Mission Bay Drive). 619-298-7400. (MISSION BAY)

Signature I County Horse Show, Sunday and Monday, March 18 and 19, 8 a.m.–5 p.m., at Del Mar Horsepark (14550 El Camino Real). Free. 760-753-0431. (DEL MAR)

Spring Classic Quarter Horse Show, Sunday and Monday, March 18 and 19, 8 a.m.–5 p.m., at Del Mar Horsepark (14550 El Camino Real). Free. 760-794-1171. (DEL MAR)

Lap around the Big Bay with Knickerbikers on Sunday, March 18. Bicyclists start 25-miler at 9 a.m. at County Administration Building (Hawthorne and Harbor Drive). Bring money for lunch, ferry fare from Coronado back to start. 858-279-9863. (DOWNTOWN)

Palomar South Grade Express, triple/compact crank recommended for 40-mile bicycle ride hosted by Sierra Club cyclists on Sunday, March 18. Join riders for ride with steep grades, peppy pace at 9 a.m. at Bates Nut Farm (15954 Woods Valley Road). Descend Rincon and begin grueling 7-mile climb; lunch at Mother’s, then back downhill. 858-974-4871. (VALLEY CENTER)

Palms Classic Horse Show at Del Mar Fairgrounds, March 21–25, beginning at 8 a.m. each day. Highlight events are at 5 and 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Dog agility speed challenge, Saturday, March 24, 7 p.m. Details: 949-496-4064. (DEL MAR)

Del Mar Criterium Series, Swami’s Cycling and Raceplan Coaching and Racing sponsor “community-oriented event centered around fast-paced cycling” at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Races take place on Wednesday, March 28, 2–6 p.m.; and Saturday, April 7, 8:30 a.m.–3:50 p.m. Vendor booths, skill-building classes “for racing and riding,” more. Free admission for spectators; fees to compete. 858-755-1161. (DEL MAR)

The 34th Annual San Diego Crew Classic — with over 3400 rowers from across U.S. competing — is Saturday, March 31, and Sunday, April 1, at Crown Point Shores. Competition starts at 7 a.m. both mornings. Admission: \$7 per day, \$10 parking. Free viewing is possible from vantage points around bay. 858-225-0300. (MISSION BAY)

SPECIAL

Mutt Mingle for St. Patrick’s Day at Muttropolis stores, Thursday, March 15, 5–7 p.m. Bring your own breed! Mutt mingling, trainer from West Coast K9 Training and Pawtopia Training, dog treats, human refreshments. Find shops at 227 South Cedros Avenue (858-755-3647) and 7755 Girard Avenue (858-459-9663). Free. (SOLANA BEACH, LA JOLLA)

The World Trade Organization and free trade...will they lead to more peaceful world? You decide, discuss with P&R Discussion group, Thursday, March 15, 7 p.m., at Other Side Coffee House (4096 30th Street). Free. 619-421-1879. (NORTH PARK)

“Bordering Beauty,” *CityBeat* hosts party on Friday, March 16, 7–11 p.m., at Cream (4496 Park Boulevard). Art show with work by San Diego and Tijuana artists, live electronics and visuals by Borders Collapse Sound System, Sewn Together (described as “man-nequin-display installation”). 619-281-7526. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Canstruction! During fourth annual Canstruction competition, 13 architecture and engineering firms attempted to “create giant works of sculptural art, made entirely out of canned and packaged foods.” Designs in past have included giant panda bears, a Shamu likeness, a full-scale kitchen; they typically use between 2000 and 7000 canned good items. Public viewing of structures is 10 a.m.–4 p.m., March 17–24, at New School of Architecture (1249 F Street). Admission: one can of food; organizers hope to collect 50,000 pounds of food for local charities. 619-235-4100. (DOWNTOWN)

Rubber Stamp, Scrapbook, Bead, and Jewelry Expo, Saturday and Sunday, March 17 and 18, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Admission: \$7 for one-day, \$9 two days, free for those eight and younger. 480-288-5800 (DEL MAR)

Geothermal Energy Discovery, tour south Salton Sea power facility, learn how geothermal power generation helps meet energy needs during trip hosted by San Diego Natural History Museum, Saturday, March 17, 7:30 a.m.–6 p.m. See features of Imperial Valley testifying to powerful Earth-changing forces that can create mud pots, volcanic glass hills, deep-fault



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Lacey Baldwin Smith

By Lacey Baldwin Smith
Academy Chicago Publishers, 2006,
275 pages, \$17.95

ABOUT THE BOOK:

No people have engendered quite so much acclaim or earned so much censure as the English: extolled as the Athenians of modern times, yet hammered for their self-satisfaction and hypocrisy. But their history has been a spectacular one.

Spiced with dozens of hilarious cartoons from *Punch* and other publications, *English History* will be a welcome and amusing tour of a land that has always fascinated Americans — Anglophiles and Anglophobes alike.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Lacey Baldwin Smith is Professor Emeritus of History at Northwestern University and author of a number of histories and biographies, including *Henry VIII: The Mask of Royalty*; *Elizabeth Tudor: Portrait of a Queen*; *Treason in Tudor England, Politics and Paranoia*; and *Fools, Martyrs, Traitors: The Story of Martyrdom in the Western World*, among others. He lives with his wife, Jean, in Illinois and Vermont. They have two daughters.

A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR:

I phoned Mr. Smith at his home while Chicago was experiencing a tempest of thunder, rain, hail, and sleet.

“What drew you to history?”

“I only went to college for two years before the Second World War started. I wanted to go into law, into politics, and into government. I then spent three years in the military — most of that time out in India. By the time I got back it was perfectly clear what I wanted to do and that was to become a historian.

“My father was an art historian at Princeton. Early rebellion made it impossible for me to think of becoming anything like a historian, but by the time the war was over I had changed my mind.”

“Why English history?”

“English history was some-

thing of an accident. Back in those days you went to graduate school in history. You didn’t go to graduate school in American history or English history or Chinese history. I was simply trained as a historian to cover any field.

“I was going to do my doctoral dissertation with Gordon Craig in German history, focusing on Austro-Hungarian foreign policy between 1900 and 1914. I started in on that, and my German was pretty good in those days, but then I discovered I couldn’t complete the dissertation unless I learned Hungarian. I don’t know whether you know anything about Hungarian or not, but it is the worst language on earth to learn because it’s

related to nothing at all. I tried to learn Hungarian, but after two weeks I decided life was too short, so I gave it up.

“Again, back in those days you were not in any way limited, so I went to my second favorite professor who happened to be in Renaissance and Reformation and English history, and I did a doctoral dissertation under his guidance.

“I learned very little of English history in graduate school. The first time I was hired was at MIT. I taught a course in the Humanities Department on European culture. It consisted of four sections: Periclean Athens, France of the High Middle Ages, Tudor England, and the age of Louis

“That is absolute heresy. If I said that to the history department, I’d be run out of town on a rail. It is, nevertheless, true.”

troughs and rifts. \$74 fee includes van transportation. Registration: 619-255-0203. (SALTON SEA)

California-Friendly Plant Sale, Saturday, March 17, 9 a.m.–3 p.m., at Cuyamaca College’s Water Conservation Garden (12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West). Plants, pottery, compost bins, worm castings on offer. Free admission. 619-660-0614. (EL CAJON)

The 27th Annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade is Saturday, March 17. The parade — themed “Celebrating the Culinary Arts” — promises floats, marching bands, Irish step dancers, Irish bands, and more. Steps off at 11 a.m. at Fifth Avenue and Juniper Street, proceeds up Fifth to Upas, finishes at Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street.

Family festival at Sixth Avenue and Laurel: Celtic Heritage Village, Irish music and dancing, food, craft booths, kids’ area, skateboard demonstrations, more (until 5:30 p.m.). Free. 858-268-9111. (BALBOA PARK)

The 39th Annual Ikebana International spring show is Saturday and Sunday, March 17 and 18, 11 a.m.–4 p.m., in room 101 of Casa del Prado. Approximately 50 arrangements created by teachers and students on display. Japanese culture show on Sunday. Free. 760-728-5586. (BALBOA PARK)

Psychic Fair and Metaphysical Conference, Saturday and Sunday, March 17 and 18, noon–

6 p.m., at Alexandra’s BookStore (3545 Midway Drive, suite G). Alexandra Andrews makes “Predictions for 2007 and Beyond” on Sunday. Tarot, palmistry, numerology, other psychic arts featured. \$20 per reading. 619-298-3422. (SPORTS ARENA)

“One Book, One San Diego” —

Sonia Nazario’s book *Enrique’s Journey: The Story of a Boy’s Dangerous Odyssey to Reunite with His Mother* subject for discussion led by USD Spanish professor Ruben Murillo — in Spanish — at Beckwourth Library (721 San Pasqual Street) on Saturday, March 17, 1 p.m. Free. 619-527-3404.

Elaine Elliot (from USD’s Center for Community Service Learning) and USD ethnic studies student Angie Marquez lead discussion on Monday, March 19, 6:30 p.m., at Linda Vista Library (2160 Ulric Street). Free. 858-573-1399. (LOGAN HEIGHTS, LINDA VISTA)

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

A Selection from E.O. Wilson’s *Consilience* is topic for Great Books Reading and Discussion Group on

Saturday, March 17, 2 p.m., in third-floor conference room of San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Newcomers welcome. Free. 619-440-5625. (DOWNTOWN)

ShamRock 2007 is Saturday, March 17, 2 p.m.–midnight, on F Street (between Fifth and Seventh Avenues) and on Sixth Avenue (between G and E Streets); main entrance is at Sixth Avenue and G Street. Live music by Young Dubliners, Down’s Family, NRG, others; Irish dancing, food, and drinks. \$25. 619-233-5008. 21 and older. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

St. Patrick’s Day in Norway?

Sons of Norway Lodge hosts St. Patrick’s Day celebrations on Saturday, March 17, with social (3 p.m.), entertainment (4 p.m.), dinner (5 p.m.). Irish bagpipers, Norwegian fiddlers and folk dancers, brief history of St. Patrick and Norwegians in Ireland. \$22 general. Space availability, reservations: 858-229-0586. Find Sons of Norway at 2006 East Vista Way. (VISTA)

The 28th Annual St. Patrick’s Day open reading of Irish poetry and prose is Saturday, March 17, 7 p.m., at D.G. Wills Books (7461 Girard Avenue). Read your favorite passages from Joyce, Yeats, Swift, Shaw, Wilde, others. As always, “Messrs. Guinness and Harp will officiate the proceedings.” Free. 858-456-1800. (LA JOLLA)

Stamp-Collecting Show, stamp and cover dealers offer wares, Sunday, March 18, 10 a.m.–4 p.m., at Al Bahr Shrine Temple (5440 Kearny Mesa Road). Free. 619-218-7835. (KEARNY MESA)

Eighth Annual Men’s Cook Off, Sunday, March 18, noon–3 p.m., at Christ United Presbyterian Church (3025 Fir Street). Desserts, meats, salads, soups will be provided. Requested donation: \$8 general, \$3 for children under 12. 619-239-2346. (GOLDEN HILL)

Marston Ladies of the House

Tours offered in honor of Women’s History Month, Sundays, March 18 and 25, 1 p.m. Tours focus on women of Marston family, their accomplishments, goals, dreams. \$8 general. Find Marston House at 3525 Seventh Avenue. 619-232-6203 x129. (HILLCREST)

House of México hosts lawn program at International Cottages, Sunday, March 18, 2 p.m. Free. 619-234-0739. (BALBOA PARK)

Fred Hall’s Fishing Tackle, Boat, and Travel Show runs March 21–25 at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Expect to see boats, all manner of fishing gear, vendors’ booths, and seminars. Hours: 1–9 p.m. Wednesday–Friday, 10 a.m.–9 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Sunday. Tickets: \$12 general, free for those under 15. 805-389-3339. (DEL MAR)

Create Handmade Blankets for those in need, third Wednesday of each month, including March 21, 3–5 p.m., at Knitting by the Beach (616 Stevens Avenue, suite B). Volunteers crochet or knit a 7” x 9” rectangle using their leftover worsted weight yarn; sections are joined, donated to local Salvation Army. Free. 858-509-9276. (SOLANA BEACH)

Have a Story to Tell? San Diego Public Library’s digital community storytelling station remains available through June. Gather reminiscences of your neighborhood, memories of interesting jobs, tales of special interests and activities, to record San Diego history as told by general public. Find library at 820 E Street. Requirements, reservations: 619-236-5821 or 619-230-1938. (DOWNTOWN)

Artful Readings, join fellow readers for discussion of Princeton philosophy professor Kwame Anthony Appiah’s *Cosmopolitanism: Ethics in a World of Strangers*, Thursday, March 22, 6 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. Free. 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

Can You Be Moral without God? Enlighten others in P&R Discussion group, Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m., at Other Side Coffee House (4096 30th Street). Free. 619-421-1879. (NORTH PARK)

Ranunculus Rainbows, the Flower Fields with nearly 50 acres of giant ranunculus flowers are blooming again, open for tours through Sunday, May 13. Visitors may stroll pathways through fields 9 a.m.–6 p.m. daily. Admission: \$9 general, \$8 seniors, \$5 for children 3–10. Exit I-5 at Palomar Airport Road, head east for two blocks, turn left on Paseo del Norte Road. 760-431-0352. (CARLSBAD)

“Grunion Greeters, Unite!” Pepperdine University’s Grunion Greeter Project allows volunteers to help researchers and experience grunion runs. Participants moni-

tor local beaches, collecting basic information for about two hours during grunion runs, April through early June. Greeters select nights and beaches to monitor. Volunteers (18 and over) must attend a training workshop prior to spawning season, Wednesday, March 28, 6:30 p.m., at Birch Aquarium-Museum (2300 Expedition Way). Free. RSVP required by March 22. 619-733-0725. (LA JOLLA)

Herb Festival and Tomatomania!

Eleventh annual festival and spring plant sale, Saturday and Sunday, March 31 and April 1, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., at Quail Botanical Gardens (230 Quail Gardens Drive). Lectures, demonstrations, herb walks, herbal products on offer. \$10 general. 760-436-3036. (ENCINITAS)

Easyriders Bike Show Tour

2007 hits San Diego Convention Center (111 West Harbor Drive) on Saturday, March 31, 10 a.m.–10 p.m. Over 100 custom v-twin motorcycles compete for honors; live music, fashion show, more. Admission: \$16 general, \$7 for those 6–12. 800-962-9857. (DOWNTOWN)

FOR KIDS

“Ireland Rules! St. Patrick’s Day Shows” presented by Big Joe Productions through Sunday, March 18, at Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. The Old-Fashioned Kite Flying Puppeteers present *Pele’s Pail*, March 21–25.

Showtimes: 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday–Friday; 11 a.m., 1, and

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XIV. I was hired not only to teach the undergraduates the section on Tudor England, but also to teach all of these philosophers, music professors, and others because they were the ones teaching this course. It was taught by the entire Humanities Department. So that was when I really learned about Tudor England.

"That got me interested in Henry VIII, and that's where my major focus has been ever since."

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"Tell me what you mean when you say that, 'History is not what happened in the past, but what today is worth remembering about the past.'"

"That is absolute heresy. If

I said that to the History Department, I'd be run out of town on a rail. It is, nevertheless, true — though professional historians will never admit it. We are interested in the past always in relationship to the present.

"There are schools of history, mostly connected with post-modern literature, which maintain that there is no such thing as history. It's all a figment of the modern imagination. Their belief is that as we read these documents, we read ourselves back into them.

"There are, basically, two schools of historical thinking. There are the 'lumpers' and then there are those who deal with the minutiae of history. The great lumpers of history (and Karl Marx, I guess, is the greatest example) see history as a continuous theme and flow, wherein everything is interconnected with everything else. That thinking is out of fashion at the moment. Now we deal with the particular.

As a consequence, it's very difficult for modern historians to perceive the forest for the trees.

"The number of history students has dropped because modern-day historians don't like to give survey courses. They like to give courses on their own little bailiwick. Undergraduates aren't interested in that. They're turning to majors in psychology or political science or in sociology. Sociologists still tend to be lumpers. They see the broad picture."

I comment to Mr. Smith that it feels, today, as if we have developed a *National Enquirer* view of history.

"That's true. The more scandals there are, the more interest there is. So long as they are important to the theme and they dramatize the theme, they do become a necessary part of history."

"My *National Enquirer* mind wants to know if the story of the demise of Edward II is true."

"You mean the story of the funnel and the red hot poker stuck up his anus? All I can say to you is that story is well documented. That doesn't mean it's necessarily true, but the story itself goes back to the 13th and 14th centuries. We don't know if it actually happened, but it is as well documented as most other stories in English history. It makes considerable sense, though. His body had to be displayed, and it had to be displayed in a way to make it look as if he died a natural death."

"Whose reign remains the most intriguing to you?"

"Without a doubt, it's Henry VIII. But that's because I know more about Henry VIII. I wrote a book on him entitled *The Mask of Royalty*. It was a psychological study of the man in terms of the standards of his own age, without imposing 20th-century psychology back on him.

"I spent a lot of time, for instance, on the concept of honor

"In England they have a queen that stands above politics, who sees no evil, hears no evil, and speaks no evil. That may be the saving grace of the monarchy."

that pervades the culture of the period. I also focused on the importance of war at the time. Warfare throughout the medieval period was part of the culture in which you displayed your honor and courage and loyalty. It goes back to old Anglo-Saxon times and those heroic tales of Beowulf, where you displayed your true mettle. It's a warriors' code that lasted all the way down through the 16th Century. Henry VIII felt

his wars were of the greatest importance."

"The relationship of king to subject has fluctuated through the ages. What do you think future generations will come to know about the present queen and her reign?"

"Elizabeth is not going to be terribly memorable except for the fact that she reigned for so long. Very little happened dur-

(continued on page 86)

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)

"Pirates Don't Change Diapers,"

author and illustrator David Shannon 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. (LA JOLLA)

The Musical *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* is presented by J*Company Youth Theatre through March 25 at David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre, Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). Music by Alan Menken, lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice, book by Linda Woolverton. Show features 68 children. Tickets: \$12.50 children, \$16.50 adults. Show times, reservations: 858-362-1348. (LA JOLLA)

Louis Sachar's *Sideways Stories from Wayside School* is current production for actors and crew of San Diego Junior Theatre, continuing through March 18 in Casa del Prado Theater. Expect the unexpected! For all ages. Curtain rises at 7 p.m. on Friday; 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Performance on March 17 is ASL interpreted. Tickets: \$8-\$13. Reservations: 619-239-8355. (BALBOA PARK)

"To Kill a Mockingbird," meet courageous Scout and her friends in 1932 small-town Alabama in next production for San Diego Junior Theatre South Bay, March 16-25. Directed by Desha Crownover and Glynn Bedington, based on Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning book. Recommended for those 13 and older.

Performances begin at 7 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. on Sundays at Theatre on Third (250 3rd Avenue). Tickets: \$10 adults, \$5 youths. 619-239-8355. (CHULA VISTA)

The Musical *Snoopy!* presented by Pacific Children's Theatre, March 16-18, at Mission Hills United Church of Christ (4070 Jackdaw Street). Performances begin at 7 p.m. on Friday, 4 p.m. on Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tick-

ets: \$10 adults, \$8 kids. 619-920-2838. (MISSION HILLS)

Explore the Human Body

when Reuben H. Fleet Science Center hosts family science day, Saturday, March 17, noon-3 p.m. Participants "make a free science experiment" to take home. Included in regular admission. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

St. Patrick's Day Fun promised on Saturday, March 17, 1-6 p.m., at Ecke YMCA Gymnastics Center (6100 Avenida Encinas). Carnival with games for all ages, demonstrations and tours of gymnastics facilities by Seawind Gymnastics Team. Participants may play on gymnastics equipment; coaches and competitive gymnasts will assist with equipment. Admission is free; activity tickets are 50 cents each. 760-804-8170. (CARLSBAD)

Animal Tales Told, and crafts and animals are part of fun on Sunday, March 18, 1 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). Donation: \$2. Reservations: 619-243-3432. (LINDA VISTA)

"Jazz Junction," Classics for Kids season closes with musical celebration by Classics Philharmonic orchestra and guests on Sunday, March 18, 2 p.m., at Salvation Army Kroc Community Center Performing Arts Theatre (6845 University Avenue). Program includes Gunther Schuller's "Journey into Jazz," more. Tickets: \$11-\$22. Reservations: 619-435-9111. (ROLANDO)

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"St. Patrick's Day Concert —

A Celtic Celebration" promised during family festival concert presented by San Diego Symphony, conductor Matthew Garbutt, and many guests, Sunday, March 18. Symphony is joined by traditional Irish performers including Maranna McCloskey, the Brian Baynes Band, Bracken School of Irish Dance, uilleann piper Eric Rigler (known for his work on *Titanic* soundtrack). Tickets: \$12, \$22. Concert begins at 2 p.m. in Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Reservations: 619-235-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

Kids' Day Train, one-hour vintage train experience for children offered at Campo Railroad Museum at 10 a.m. on third Tuesday of each month, including March 20. Find the depot on Highway 94 at Forrest Gate Road. Tickets: \$15 general, \$5 for those 6-12, free for kids 5 and younger. Required reservations: 619-465-7776. (CAMPO)

MUSEUMS

Bancroft Ranch House Museum

houses indigenous Indian artifacts and memorabilia of early settlers in the area, run by the Spring Valley Historical Society. The home, built in 1863, was registered as a National Historic Landmark in 1962 and is on a spot where Kumeyaay Indians camped more than 1000 years ago beside the spring that later gave the area its name. The museum is found

at 9050 Memory Lane; 619-469-1480. (SPRING VALLEY)

Barona Cultural Center and Museum

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

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

The museum features surfing artifacts and memorabilia — such as surfboards and clothing — of local legends Phil Edwards, John "L.J." Richards, and Peter Johnson, and Duke Kahanamoku. The museum is located at 223 North Coast Highway; 760-721-6876. (OCEANSIDE)

Chula Vista Nature Center

an interactive living museum devoted to the endangered Southern California coastal wetlands, located in Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. Visitors can use a Bioscanner to view animals macroscopically, use a Wentzscope for views of microscopic organisms found in the "Sweetwater Soup," and interact with computerized videos exploring how tides affect the bay in the "Moons, Tides, and the San Diego Bay" exhibit. Pet sharks and rays in the David A. Wergeland Shark and Ray Experience, see burrowing owls and migratory birds, and en-

joy the xerophytic gardens.

Visitors meet a shuttle bus at the Bayfront E Street Trolley Station or at the center's parking lot at the foot of E Street and Bay Boulevard. 619-409-5903. (CHULA VISTA)

Coronado Museum of History and Art

ongoing exhibits explore the overall history of Coronado, Navy and Army, Tent City, and the Hotel del Coronado. Find the museum at 1100 Orange Avenue. 619-435-7242. (CORONADO)

Flying Leatherneck Museum

dedicated to the Marine Corps who provided air support, from the propeller-driven fighters and bombers of the 1940s to the modern jets and helicopters currently in use. Static displays of a variety of aircraft are included, along with equipment, insignia, paintings and photographs, scale models, and a research library. The museum is located in building T-2002, at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. 858-693-1723.

Gaslamp Museum of Historic San Diego

glimpse San Diego's colorful past at the museum, where displays highlight Wyatt Earp's San Diego days, the Peg Leg Gold Legend, the first maps and photographs of Old Town and "New Town," early military history, the naval disaster in 1923 at Point Honda, and more. Find the museum at 413 Market Street (between Fourth and Fifth Avenues). 619-237-1492. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

Heritage of the Americas Museum

more than 100 Chinese jades of the Late Neolithic

(4300-2500 B.C.) through the Ming periods (A.D. 1368-1644) are included in "The Stone of Heaven: The Enduring Art of Jade Age China." From ancient times, jades in China were treasured as talismans, worn on the body either as final adornments in death or as ornaments in life. See a rare and valuable jade burial suit of the Han dynasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 221), one of only about two dozen that have been excavated in China. The suits were made of more than 2000 square and rectangular plates of jade sewn together with threads of gold, silver, or bronze (depending upon the status of the wearer). Ongoing.

The museum features art and artifacts from South and North America, concentrating on the utilitarian and decorative artistry of crafts workers from ancient cultures. The museum also features wings dedicated to natural history, archaeology, education, anthropology, and fine art. Find the museum on the Cuyamaca College campus, 12110 Cuyamaca College Drive West. 619-670-5194. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Heritage Walk Museum

the museum includes the restored Victorian House, the city's original Santa Fe Train Depot, a railroad car with model train, working blacksmith shop, and a barn. Find Heritage Walk in Grape Day Park, at 321 North Broadway; 760-743-8207. (ESCONDIDO)

John DeWitt Historic Museum and Library

operated by the Alpine Historical Society, it is located in the 1897 home/office of Dr. Sophronia Nichols. She was the

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Reading

(continued from page 85)



ing her reign, excepting the decline of the empire."

"And that begs the obvious next question. Can the monarchy survive much longer?"

"Like the Dutch monarchy, the Norwegian monarchy, and the

Swedish monarchy, the English monarchy is very useful. As the kings and queens of England have lost political power, they have gained stature as being kind of necessary to the political system.

"Our political system combines the head of state with the head of the political party. This causes a lot of trouble. Bush becomes both a symbol for the United States and, at the same time, he is the political power of the state. In France they have a president that is divided from the premier. In Italy they have the same thing. In England they have a queen that stands above politics, who sees no evil, hears no evil, and speaks no evil. That may be the saving grace of the monarchy. It has a thousand years of history and tradition standing behind it and at the same time is a very useful institution.

"You do hear every once in awhile that it's a very expensive institution and that perhaps it

isn't worth it. There are questions, from time to time, about why they maintain this archaic system. The fact is, it attracts an immense number of tourists, and that is very important to the economy of Great Britain. We wouldn't have Buckingham Palace and the changing of the guards, we wouldn't have the queen's official birthday, and we wouldn't have all the drama of the past. And that is terribly important, particularly now that Great Britain has dropped to a second-rate power. The one thing the queen has is a perfectly marvelous history, and it's very useful to them, and they are well aware of this."

"Contrary to evidence one might see in current political events, do you think we learn from history, or learn well from history?"

"I'm not sure we learn from history, but, my goodness...Take for instance what's happening in old Yugoslavia, in what is today Serbia, Bosnia, and Croatia. The

importance of history there is terrifying, because they remember the atrocities of a thousand years ago.

"The same thing is true in Iraq, which is still essentially a tribal society. They remember...and remember the need for vengeance for atrocities that took place five or ten generations back. Historic memory is a terribly important thing.

"Whether we learn from it, I don't know. That all depends on whether you're an optimist or a pessimist."

"For a man who has been retired for a number of years, you sound very busy."

"I had time on my hands, being retired. I didn't have to prove anything. I wasn't bucking for promotion or trying to get tenure, so I could afford to write a book that had nothing to do with tenure or promotion. It's history as entertainment.

"When I was teaching English history in the survey

"If you read this book, you'll discover it is aimed at the tourist."

course, I always wanted, but could never find, a short history of England. I'm one of the culprits myself. I have written a four-volume history of England — well, I wrote one of the volumes and was general editor for the other three. All told, you're talking about 1300 or 1400 pages. It's simply too much reading.

"I was forever being asked to recommend a short history of England in preparation for going over there for the first time. If you read this book, you'll discover it is aimed at the tourist. The location of monuments and that sort of thing are all in there. In fact, one of the early titles that I played around with was some-

thing like *All You Need to Know about English History while Flying between O'Hare and Heathrow*. It can be read in a period of six or seven hours.

"The final reason I got interested in the book was that it just so happened that my parents collected and bound copies of *Punch* magazine. I inherited about 40 volumes, covering a vast amount of the 20th Century. This is where I got the idea of using *Punch* illustrations rather than portraits of elder statesmen and pictures of cathedrals. I thought that cartoons that showed off the idiocies of English history would be a marvelous plus."

—Jerry Miller

first doctor in Alpine and the first female doctor in the East County. Indian artifacts from the Kingery family on exhibit. The museum is located at 2116 Tavern Road; 619-659-8740. (ALPINE)

La Mesa Depot Museum, located in a restored 1894 wooden train station, exhibits include original telegraph and telephone equipment, pot-bellied coal stove, period furniture. The adjacent freight train display features 1923 steam locomotive, 1957 refrigerator car, 1941 caboose. Find the museum at La Mesa Boulevard and Spring Street. 619-465-7776. (LA MESA)

Magee House Museum, built in 1887 and surrounded by rose gardens, the site includes "one of the last barns still standing in Carlsbad." Docent and self-guided tours of historic house and gardens. Find Magee House at 258 Beech Street; 760-434-9189. (CARLSBAD)

Museum of Making Music, "Harp Guitars: Passion, Imagination, Artistry," showcases "over 30 extremely rare, historic, and contemporary instruments representing the creative genius of European and American guitar building tradition from the early 1800s through today." Exhibition ex-

plores how human capacity for invention led to creation of harp guitar. Closes Monday, July 30.

"Howe-Orme: Forgotten Voices Remembered" is exhibit of rare and historic mandolins, mandolas, and guitars manufactured by Elias Howe Company of Boston over 100 years ago. Howe-Orme were awarded a series of patents for "the uniqueness of their functional design features and style." Through April.

The past 100 years of American music and music making are highlighted at the museum, with over 450 vintage instruments, hundreds of audio and video clips, and an interactive stage. Find the museum at 5790 Armada Drive; 760-438-5996. (CARLSBAD)

San Diego Aerospace Museum, the technological advancements made in aircraft propulsion over the last century are showcased in "100 Years of Aircraft Engines," including a functional reproduction of the 1903 Wright Flyer Engine; a Rolls-Royce liquid-cooled Merlin V-12 that powered the *Spitfire* and P-51 *Mustang* fighters; and a rare German Junkers *Jumo 004*, one of the world's first operational jet engines.

Concurrently, see "The History of Commercial Aviation in America." A new section of the exhibit celebrates the 40-year history of

PSA, with original graphics, a recreation of the airline's first ticket booth at Lindbergh Field, and uniforms and memorabilia donated by former employees. Ongoing.

"P-51 *Mustang*" celebrates the legendary Air Force fighter used during both World War II and Korea. The museum's *Mustang* is painted in the red-tail livery of the Tuskegee Airmen, who distinguished themselves flying bomber escort and ground attack missions during World War II.

The museum offers exhibits of over 65 aircraft — including an RQ-1K Predator UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) on indefinite loan from the National Museum of the United States Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, which "saw action over the Balkans in the late 1990s"; a replica of Spirit of St. Louis, a Fokker Scourge (or Fokker Eindecker E-III), a World War I Spad VII, flight deck of the USS *Yorktown*, and a Lockheed Blackbird spy plane — 1400 scale models, 10,000 aviation-related items, and memorabilia from Montgolfier hot-air-balloon era to Space Age, along with an International Aerospace Hall of Fame.

The museum is located in the Ford Building in the Palisades area. 619-234-8291. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego County Sheriff's Museum, the 150-year history of the sheriff's department is highlighted at the museum, which is lo-

cated "just feet away" from the original cobblestone jail site, built in 1850. The museum boasts artifacts, photographs, equipment, uniforms, and vehicles, along with exhibits from each of the departments making up the organization such as crime scene, K-9, court service, detentions, crime lab, bomb squad, and many others. Find the museum at 2384 San Diego Avenue; 619-260-1850. (OLD TOWN)

San Diego Electric Railway Association, located in historic National City Santa Fe Depot (922 West 23rd Street), offers exhibits, video displays, trolley equipment, restored passenger car from National City and Otay Railroad. 619-474-4400. (NATIONAL CITY)

San Diego Natural History Museum, "Playing with Time" is an exhibit inviting "visitors to experiment with high-speed photography, time-lapse videos, natural records of change like eroded rocks and lake cores, and other time-shifting techniques." Exhibition — including Time Tools Lab, investigation areas, "The Reflection" — closes Sunday, April 29.

The permanent exhibit "Fossil Mysteries" showcases last 75 million years in Southern California and Baja California region, a time known for its rich fossil record. Highlights include life-size models of *Albertosaurus*, *Lambeosaurus*, a sea cow, megalodon shark, more.

"Visions of the Natural World through the Lens of the Masters," continuing through May, is collaborative effort between museum and Ordovery Gallery, with variety of nature-based photography. "Philipp Scholz Rittermann: A Personal Vision of Landscape" continues through Sunday, April 29. Also on view and for sale: sculpture and glass.

"Earth, Wind, and Wildfire!" continues through March, exploring powerful forces (such as fire, nature, people) shaping the landscape of Southern California. The exhibit is "designed to raise awareness of the history and inevitability of fire in Southern California's arid and diverse wildlands."

Current "giant-screen films" are *An Inconvenient Truth* (through April) and *Ocean Oasis*. 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

San Dieguito Heritage Museum, the museum offers informative displays on the North County coastal history including Native Americans, early homesteaders, and recent times, as well as photographic collections and archives. Find the museum 561 South Vulcan Avenue; 760-632-9711. (ENCINITAS)

Serra Museum, "Commemorating 75 Years: The Serra Museum" is said to "remember the events leading up to the dedication of Presidio Park and the Serra Museum" on July 16, 1929. The exhibit includes a "visit back in time to 1929."

The museum interprets the Native American, Spanish, and Mexican periods of San Diego's

history and contains Spanish Colonial furnishings, art, and artifacts. It's located at the site of the West Coast's first European settlement, 2727 Presidio Drive. 619-297-3258. (OLD TOWN)

Birch Aquarium at Scripps, an aquarium and museum under one roof, the facility is a component of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD. Look for 33 tanks containing marine life of the Pacific Northwest, the California coastline, Mexico's Sea of Cortés, and the South Pacific. One highlight is the La Jolla Kelp Tank, a two-story-high tank with giant kelp plants and nearly 30 species of local marine life. "Sea of Genes" offers visit "to the genomic frontier"; "Earthquake! Life on a Restless Planet" explores earthquakes and their impacts on life. "Wonders of Water" waterplay area includes three interactive stations. The Lynne and Howard Robbins Shark Reef Exhibit features a 13,000-gallon shark tank with black tip, white tip, nurse, and wobegong sharks.

The aquarium is located at 2300 Expedition Way (off North Torrey Pines Road, south of La Jolla Shores Drive). 619-534-FISH. (LA JOLLA)

The San Diego Aircraft Carrier Museum onboard the decommissioned USS *Midway* is open for tours, now berthed at 910 North Harbor Drive. Exhibits include Navy jet simulators, carrier and flight deck touring, captain's sea cabin, pilot house, navigation bridge. Admission fee includes audio guide. 619-544-9600. (DOWNTOWN)

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Calendar

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Events that are underlined occur after March 22.

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

“The Mask in the Mirror,” original chamber opera by Richard Thompson performed by School of Music and Dance faculty and students in conjunction with the National Black Studies Conference, Thursday, March 15, 7:30 p.m., in Music 113 at San Diego State University. Story follows failed marriage between African-American poet Paul Laurence and novelist Alice Ruth Moore. Free. 619-594-6020. (SDSU)

Music of George Frideric Handel showcased by organists Alicia McMillan, Suzanne Shick, and Robert Plimpton, soprano Sylvia Wen, and chamber orchestra for pipe organ concert cohosted by American Guild of Organists on Friday, March 16, 7:30 p.m., at First Church of Christ Scientist (8262 Allison Avenue). Free. 619-442-8201. (LA MESA)

“St. Patrick’s Day Concerts — Celtic Celebrations” promised during Winter Pops concerts presented by San Diego Symphony, conductor Matthew Garbutt, and many guests, March 16–18. Concerts promise performances by Brian Baynes Band, Maranna McCloskey (vocalist), John Christian Edward (vocalist), Wanda Law (Irish fiddle), Eric Rigler (*uilleann* pipes, Irish whistle), Mick Ward (narrator), Bracken School of Irish Dance. Concerts begin at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday (\$20–\$45), and at 2 p.m. for family festival on Sunday (\$12, \$22), in Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Reservations: 619-235-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

“Imported from Italy,” La Riche and Company showcases baroque music by Scarlatti, Vivaldi, and others in concert hosted by San Diego Early Music Society. “Ensemble is named for François La Riche, the great French oboist whose playing influenced Purcell, Handel, Vivaldi, Bach,” others. Preconcert lecture at 7:15 p.m., followed by concert at 8 p.m. on Friday, March 16, at St. James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church (743 Prospect Street). \$20. Reservations: 619-291-8246. (LA JOLLA)

The Laurentian Singers of St. Lawrence University in New York plan concert boasting works by de Wert, Monteverdi, Schütz, Schubert, Clara Schumann, Brahms, Steven Sametz, Frank Ticheli, spirituals, arrangements of songs by Beatles and U2. Concert begins at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 17, at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church

(890 Balour Drive). 760-753-3017. Free. (ENCINITAS)

“Isn’t It Romantic?” MiraCosta College’s North Coast Concert Choral and Chamber Choral in concerts with Dvořák’s “Te Deum” and the Brahms “Schicksalslied” and “Liebeslieder Waltzes,” March 17 and 18. Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday, in MiraCosta College Theatre (One Barnard Drive). \$10 general. 760-795-6815. (OCEANSIDE)

The Brahms “Symphony No. 1” may be heard when Palomar Symphony Orchestra takes stage in Howard Brubeck Theatre at Palomar College on March 17 and 18. Find campus at 1140 West Mission Road. Concerts begin at 8 p.m. on Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. \$12 general. 760-744-1150 x2453. (SAN MARCOS)

“Blue Cathedral and Two Heroes,” David Aks leads La Jolla Symphony and Chorus in concerts on March 17 and 18. Program features Beethoven’s “Egmont Overture,” “Piano Concerto No. 1 in F-Sharp Minor” by Rachmaninoff, Higdon’s “Blue Cathedral,” and Hindemith’s “Mathis der Maler.” Concerts begin at 8 p.m. on Saturday, 3 p.m. on Sunday in UCSD’s Mandeville Auditorium. \$26 general. 858-534-4637. (LA JOLLA)

Lutenist and Guitarist Richard Glenn performs with members of Harmonia Baroque for Old Masters of Music and Art series at San Diego Museum of Art, Sunday, March 18, 2 p.m. Included in museum admission. 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Spirituals Festival 2007 hosted by African American Music Foundation and Spreckels Organ Society, Sunday, March 18, 2 p.m., in Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Michael Morgan and guests will take stage. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Samuel Barber’s “Sonata for Cello and Piano” and works by other American composers may be heard when Edith Orloff (piano), Roger Wilkie (violin), and John Walz (cello) perform for Lake San Marcos Chamber Music Society. Concert is Sunday, March 18, 2:30 p.m., in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). \$24. 760-726-1524 or 760-630-4360. (LA COSTA)

Redlands Symphony Orchestra plans concert for Fallbrook Music Society on Sunday, March 18. Listen for selections by Nielsen, Vaughan Williams, Berlioz at 3 p.m. at Bob Burton Center (2400 South Stage Coach Lane). \$35. Reservations: 760-451-8644. (FALLBROOK)

A Chamber Orchestra of students from San Diego Young Artists Symphony Orchestra performs Sunday, March 18, 4 p.m., at San Carlos United Methodist Church (6554 Cowles Mountain Road). Offering. 619-235-8067. (SAN CARLOS)

“May I Have This Dance?” Guitarist Fred Benedetti and flutist Beth Ross-Buckley perform music “from the baroque to tango,” Sunday, March 18, 4 p.m., at St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church (16275 Pomerado Road). \$10 adults, \$5 for those 12 and younger. 858-487-2159. (POWAY)

“The Spiritual and Satirical Sides of Johann Sebastian Bach” explored by Solana Intimate Ensemble during concert on Sunday, March 18, at Galerie d’Art International (320 South Cedros Avenue, suite 500). Soprano Stephanie Sabin, tenor Tom Oberjat, baritone William Nolan, Cliff Thrasher (cello), Timothy Todd Simmons (keyboard) will perform. Tickets: \$17 in advance, \$20 at door. Reception at 4:30 p.m., concert at 5 p.m., cocktails at 6:30 p.m. Recommended reservations: 858-793-0316. (SOLANA BEACH)

Classical Violinist Sarah Chang performs for La Jolla Music Society’s Celebrity Series, Sunday, March 18, 7 p.m., at Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Program includes Beethoven’s “Kreutzer” Sonata, “Violin Sonata No. 2” by Prokofiev, premiere of Richard Danielpour’s “River of Light,” in memory of Isaac Stern. Tickets: \$25–\$75. Reservations: 858-459-3728. (DOWNTOWN)

Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra is joined in concert by pianist Leon Fleisher at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard), Sunday, March 18, 7 p.m. Program includes Boccherini’s “Symphony in D Minor,” “String Symphony B Minor” by Mendelssohn, and a

piece by Mozart. Tickets: \$30–\$45. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

“The Old and New World: Mexican and German Baroque: Side by Side” presented by Bach Collegium San Diego, on Sunday, March 18, 7 p.m., at Saint Paul’s Cathedral (2728 Sixth Avenue). Program includes Sumaya’s “Missa a 8 con 2 violines” and “Lamentations of Jeremiah,” Capillas’s “Lamentations of Jeremiah,” “Salve Regina” by Händel, and Bach’s “Motet: Der Geist hilft unsrer Schwachheit.” Preconcert lecture by Marilou Kratzenstein (6 p.m.). Admission: \$20 general. 619-298-7261. (HILLCREST)

Ancient Chinese Songs promised when Shanghai String Quartet performs for Barbara and William Karatz chamber concert series on Sunday, March 18, 7:30 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). \$35. Reservations: 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

Mini-Concert with cellist Erin Breen and pianist Ines Irawati at noon on Monday, March 19, in Lyceum Theatre at Horton Plaza. Free. Bring lunch! 858-454-5872. (DOWNTOWN)

Pianist Sara Buechner performs Tuesday, March 20, 7:30 p.m., in Crill Performance Hall at Point Loma Nazarene University (3900 Lomaland Drive). \$15 general. 619-849-2325. (POINT LOMA)

The New Music Ensemble C-Squared plans concert on Wednesday, March 21, 7:30 p.m., in French Parlor, Founders Hall at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Lisa Cella (flute), Franklin Cox (cello) present “stimulating concert of contemporary works.” \$10 general. 619-260-7653. (LINDA VISTA)

ART LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after March 22.

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

“Hothouse,” exhibition of work by Eleanor Miller, Nancy Sansom Reynolds, Will Robinson, and Barbara Rogers continues through Sunday, April 1, at Susan Street Fine Art Gallery (415 South Cedros Avenue). Meet artists during reception on

Thursday, March 15, 6 p.m. 858-793-4442. (SOLANA BEACH)

“A Sound and Light Show,” Wendell Kling’s sculptural light-projection machines transform Kruglak Gallery “into an environment of animated kaleidoscopic fantasy” beginning with reception on Thursday, March 15, 6 p.m. Find MiraCosta College’s Kruglak Gallery in student center at One Barnard Drive, 760-795-6657. Closes Thursday, April 12. (OCEANSIDE)

Semi-Impressionistic Oil Paintings by Diana Levitt go on exhibit with reception on Friday, March 16, 4 p.m., at Gallery Savarese (386 North Coast Highway 101; 760-505-0063). Continues through Sunday, April 15. (LEUCADIA)



TALENT UPDATE

18-year-old **Chloe Goodrum** from Mira Mesa recently landed the opportunity to walk the runway at New York’s Fashion Week and a photo shoot for **Macy’s**, all in her first month!

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San Diego Reader March 15, 2007 87

Calendar

ART

"Whirl," new paintings by Los Angeles artist Michael Reafsnider gathered in exhibition opening with reception on Friday, March 16, 5 p.m., at R.B. Stevenson Gallery (7661 Girard Avenue, suite 201). 858-459-3917. Through Saturday, April 28. (LA JOLLA)

"Shiny Things and Other Fun Stuff," exhibit of recent work by Cindy Clarke-Sepucha opens with reception on Friday, March 16, 6 p.m., at Borrelli Space Gallery (4411 Park Boulevard). 619-410-3907. Closes Sunday, April 15. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

New Work by Marie Najera opens with reception on Friday March 16, 6 p.m., at 640 West Beech Street #2C. Exhibition continues through March. 619-929-2892. (LITTLE ITALY)

"Paradise, Saved, Residual, and Windows" — selections from these series by photographer J. John Priola on view beginning with reception on Friday, March 16, 6 p.m., at Joseph Bel-lows Gallery (7661 Girard Avenue). 858-456-5620. Through Saturday, April 28. (LA JOLLA)

"Undressed," group art show "sharing, showing, exposing, disrobing," opens with reception on Saturday, March 17, 3 p.m., at Abstrax Art Gallery (2109 El Cajon Boulevard). 619-296-4799. Closes Saturday, April 21. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

"28 Days," Laura Lokken's senior exhibition opens with recep-

tion on Monday, March 19, 5 p.m., in Keller Art Gallery at Point Loma Nazarene University (3900 Lomaland Drive). Through Friday, March 23. 619-849-2396. (POINT LOMA)

ART MUSEUMS

California Center for the Arts Museum, "Translucent Visions: Frederic Whitaker and Eileen Monaghan Whitaker — A Retrospective in Watercolor" examines, "through a selection of more than 130 watercolors, the variety of subjects these artists explored over the years." Paintings include landscapes, cityscapes, animal studies, figurative genre, fruit and floral still-lives, Mexico.

"Personal Connections: An Intimate Portrait of Frederic Whitaker and Eileen Monaghan Whitaker" boasts "selection of personal photographs taken from the collection of Frederic Whitaker and Eileen Monaghan Whitaker," documenting life and times of these American watercolor artists.

Printmaking is a creative process known for its abundance of materials, processes available creating a wide range of effects; it is "in a constant state of renewal, experimentation, and innovation." Select artists from San Diego & North County Printmakers have work on view in "Following the Paper Trail: Exploring the Art of Contemporary Printmaking," highlighting different techniques, styles. On view: collection of lithography, monoprints, etchings, collographs, intaglios, aquatints, linocuts, and woodblock prints.

"Mi Corazón Escondido (My

Hidden Heart)" by David Avalos focuses on life in contemporary Escondido. Avalos worked in collaboration with county artists, poets, activists, and residents to transform everyday objects into art works suitable for chapels, flea markets, museum galleries.

All of these exhibitions close on Wednesday, July 4. The museum is located at 340 North Escondido Boulevard; 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

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 re-examination 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 post-war 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.

"Cerca Series: Héctor Zamora," on view through Sunday, May 6, includes site-specific installation by Mexico City-based artist. Zamora's piece, entitled *Specular Reflexions*, consists of "application of two layers of two-way

mirror film on all 16 gallery windows, creating a surface that functions both inside the Museum as well as outside the gallery."

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, "TRANsactions: Contemporary Latin American and Latino Art" — closing on Sunday, May 13 — features approximately 50 works by 48 artists from museum's permanent collection. Showcased pieces demonstrate "diversity and hybridity of contemporary Latin American art," with artists working across media and between disciplines.

Concurrently, see site-specific installation by Milwaukee-based Argentinean artist Santiago Cu-cullu. His art juxtaposes images of progressive, historical figures and events with his personal experiences. This piece engages the architecture and oceanfront site of museum.

"Brian Ulrich: Copia" features 14 large-scale photographs documenting shopping habits of Americans. Photographs were taken in "big-box" retail stores such as Target, Wal-Mart using medium-format film camera with waist-level viewfinder; covert vantage point allowed artist to capture "massive

scale and halogen clarity of the hyper-real spaces." Closes Sunday, May 13.

Find the museum at 700 Prospect Street. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Museum of Photographic Arts, images by contemporary artists addressing issues of narrative showcased in "Tell Me a Story: Narrative Photography Now," continuing through Sunday, May 13. Exhibition of work by Tracey Mof-fat, Gavin Hipkins, Pip Nguyen-Duy, Polixeni Papapaeou, 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 black-and-white documentary school of artists like Ansel Adams to more expressive, personalized imagery. Closes Sunday, May 6.

"Woman: A Celebration," also running through May 6, includes photographs of women by celebrated photographers such as Henri Cartier-Bresson, Ruth Orkin, August Sander, Mary Ellen Mark, Hiroshi Himaya, others.

Find the museum in the Casa de Balboa building, at 1649 El Prado. 619-238-7559. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Museum of Art, "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)

Timken Museum of Art, permanent collection includes European old master paintings, 18th- and 19th-Century American paintings, and Russian icons. *Saint Bartholomew*, the only Rembrandt painting on public display in San Diego, is featured. 619-239-5548. (BALBOA PARK)

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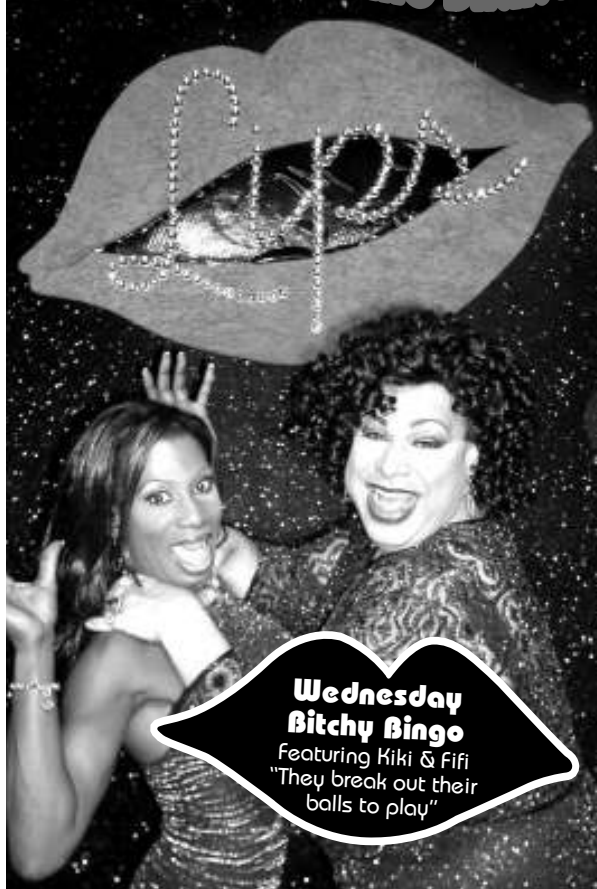
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4/30 **Ghostface Killah**

5/9 **Asleep At The Wheel**
5/10 **Don Carlos**
5/13 **RJD2 w/Pigeon John**
5/18 **The Be Good Tanyas**
5/22 **Brother Ali**
5/25 **Common Sense**
6/12 **Leon Russell**
6/17 **Johnny Winter**
6/21 **Iris DeMent**
7/15 **Seu Jorge**

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Calendar

MUSIC SCENE

The Reader offers \$25 for news tips published in *Blurt*. Call us at 619-235-3000, ext. 456, or e-mail your tip to blurt@sdreader.com

Indier Than Thou The San Diego Indie Music Fest was held March 3 on seven stages located in North Park. Seventy artists played, but

blurt

the inside track

guitarist/singer/drummer Jordan Thomas says he isn't so sure about the "indie" label.

"It is a word that people throw around a lot in order to grab people's attention, but it doesn't necessarily hold any water," says Thomas, half of a "power duo" named Tropical Depression. "It seems like it was put on by a bunch of managers and agents who got together and put something together, not the artists in this community."

So, less than 50 yards from a Music Fest stage, Tropical Depression and three other bands put on a free show at Planet Rooth Studios, an art gallery.

"They charged \$23 admission," says Gustav Rooth. "What is 'indie' about that?" Rooth organizes the free monthly Ray at Night event (an art walk that incorporates musicians and performance artists).

Thomas says the Music Fest's "...spirit was good, but

the consensus of local artists was that nobody has ever heard of any act on the bill."

Music Fest organizer Esta Browning explains, " 'Indie' just means these artists are not signed on a major label; that they are making it on their own." She says most of the artists "were local or regional, from Long Beach or

of the Opera, Hedwig and the Angry Inch, and The Rocky Horror Picture Show when he plays live. His influences were clear to North County film director Carly Starr Brullo Niles, who discovered Romak on MySpace. She cast him as one of the two leads in *Numb*, a film set in 1983 that covers the simultaneous declines of the punk and "new romantic" scenes. Romak plays the glammed-out hero, and Aimee Allen plays the punk lead. The cast includes Unwritten Law singer Scott Russo, Matt Hensley (Flogging Molly), George Anthony (Battalion of Saints), and DJs Robin Roth and Mike Halloran.

Last year, Romak and the Space Pirates were mentioned in *Blender* magazine's "Weird Band Alert!" section.

"People have hidden their kids from me," says Romak. "When I worked in customer service, people treated me like shit. People call me 'freak' or 'faggot.' People have thrown things at me."

It's Not Easy Being Romak

"This is not an act," says Romak, 19. "I wear full makeup every day." As the androgynous lead singer of Romak and the Space Pirates, Romak says he is more about action-hero fantasy than cross-dressing. "I consider myself to be very much a man. I'm more of a clown or a silent-film star. I'm very influenced by classic horror movies."

Romak refers to *Phantom*

He says a record deal with a small independent label is pending; until then he needs a job.

"I was thinking of being a stripper. If you dance for women, you have to be a Chippendale dancer, and I'm not that. If you dance for men at a club, I'm afraid one of them will follow me back to my place and kill me. I promised my mother I would not do that."

Romak and the Space Pirates appear Saturday at Scolari's Office.

— Ken Leighton

Female Trouble After Candye Kane recorded a version of the theme song to John Waters's 1974 trash-classic film *Female Trouble*, she sent the famed director an advance copy, hoping he might enjoy it. He didn't.

"When inquired about where to pay royalties," says an exasperated Kane, "I received instead a cease-and-desist letter notifying me that I was infringing on John Waters's rights and would be sued in ten days if I didn't destroy the masters!"

Though Kane has had no direct contact with

friend) since 1998. She had to confirm with his attorneys — who are affiliated with the same law firm that represents Kane — that the song had been pulled from her upcoming *Guitar'd and Feathered* album.

During the legal maneuvering, Kane discovered that the song is not solely a Waters composition; his lyrics were set to a preexisting tune — "Black Velvet Soul," written by original Jefferson Airplane bassist Bob Harvey. Though Harvey endorsed the recording, she opted to scrap "Female Trouble" anyway.

"I didn't want to take the chance," Kane says. "Mr. Waters has way more money than this single mom." With Harvey, Kane has since co-written a song to replace "Female Trouble"; more collaborations are on the horizon.

Kane, a longtime Waters fan, is mystified by his rejection.

"I have always imagined, as have many of my fans, that he would wholeheartedly embrace me and my work. Since I often say I am a black drag queen trapped in a white woman's body, it would seem that I would be a perfect match for John Waters."

In a recent *Baltimore Sun* article, Waters addressed the issue with the following quote: "She never asked... permission, and you don't get permission by writing new lyrics and changing the whole thing."

— Bart Mendoza

Kiss Him, He's Irish (and White) Local rapper Brendan B tried to set up a show a couple of weeks ago.

"I call up one [San Diego]

venue, and the guy goes, 'You know, we really don't do rap music.' I'm trying to book this show for the 17th, St. Patrick's Day, so the way he found out I was white was I told him I was Irish. So, right away [he said], 'Oh, you're white. Okay. Well, maybe



BRENDAN B TAKES A STAND

we'll do it. We just don't want to bring the wrong crowd in here.' And I was, like, 'What do you mean by that?' And he's, like, 'Your normal rap crowd, people that like rap music.' Right away I was, like, 'Forget this. I don't want to do a show there if this is the way you're gonna be.'

B says the club wanted an audience that "tipped well" and didn't want to deal with the "problems" associated with the rap crowd. Fights are often associated with rap shows, but B says incidents at rap shows are fewer than the media and club owners may lead one to believe.

"Just because we're rappers doesn't mean we're



ROMAK, FLANKED BY SPACE PIRATES

Waters, she has sent her albums to his home address (acquired through a musician

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APRIL 14



Huey Lewis & The News
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APRIL 22



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MAY 4



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MAY 6



Dick Fox's Golden Boys
Frankie Avalon, Fabian, Bobby Rydel
MAY 12

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Calendar
MUSIC SCENEblurt
continued

talking about killing people or talking about jewelry.... It sucks that we can't do shows because commercial rap is like that."

Brendan cites Dreamstreet's Thursday-night hip-hop, the Honey Bee-Hive's Saturday-night hip-hop, and 'Canes as the area's best bets for the rap crowd.

Brendan B, Apoc, the Green Brothers, and Mood Swangz play Dreamstreet on Saturday, March 17.

— Dryw Keltz

They Never Had the Good Hair

Playground Slap didn't sound like the other local bands during their 1982-'88 run.



PLAYGROUND SLAP (BACK IN THE DAY)

"We had punk and jazz and psychedelic and funk, but back then everything was called new wave," says guitarist Marcelo Radulovich, one of three original members of Playground Slap who have reformed the band.

"We were compared to the Talking Heads. For a while we were called New Romantic.... We never had the good hair. It wasn't very poofy.... We opened for Midnight Oil at Montezuma Hall. Their lead singer was a bald, spooky-looking dude who was a freaking dick to us....

"We played with Ministry at the Spirit [now Brick by Brick]. I don't remember that night, except that I was 19 or 20. I had to wait outside while the rest of the band could go in....

"Back in the day it was so much harder to make a basic recording. Basic studio rates were outrageous. We had 15 hours in the studio to record our [1985] record. We pressed 500 [vinyl] copies. But we had no money to promote it. It kind of just sat around."

Radulovich says Playground Slap musicians have stayed close to music. Radulovich writes and records his own solo material. Bassist David Ybarra has

played with the Cloud Merchants, the Wild Truth, and Carlos Olmeda. Keyboardist Ray BeZonia is a sound tech for the Del Mar Fairgrounds.

"We have encountered so much bullshit about age,"

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JAY ALLEN SANFORD



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continues Radulovich. "It's like the young bands have all the power, which is total bullshit. But it's like old blues players. You love them because they lived it."

Playground Slap performs Sunday at the Casbah.

— Ken Leighton

Chick Tunes Big in PB

"The Longboard Grill wanted to introduce live-band karaoke to San Diego," says bassist Rob Renovales, whose group Pickford's Party plays the PB venue's "Rock Out Karaoke" each Wednesday.

"We knew a bunch of covers already, so it was just a matter of integrating the video lyric screens, tightening up old tunes, and learning some new ones. The crowd has been very roller coaster-like. One night we're packed and 20 singers are signed up before we strike the first note. Other times, we have to start the night off by singing a few on our own.

"Our biggest challenge has been the female songs; we didn't know any — why would we? — and we had to learn a substantial amount of chick tunes in order to keep the girls coming up onstage. The majority of participants are girls, either alone or with a group. We play Pat Benatar,

Blondie, Lisa Loeb, Courtney Love, Tracy Bonham, Joan Jett, and Gwen Stefani.

"Guys always want us to play Johnny Cash, Jimmy Buffet, and Garth Brooks, much to our dismay. Sadly, the stuff we learned — like, Foo Fighters, STP, Chili Peppers, Pearl Jam, and Poison — gets picked very seldom. The exception is Billy Idol. Guys love belting out 'Rebel Yell.'"

— Jay Allen Sanford

All He Is Saying... "The tour is about inspiring people to make space in their own hearts for peace," says Carlsbad musician Jerry Leggett, who is touring the U.S. in a yellow teardrop-shaped trailer he calls the Peace Bubble.

"I just set up the [trailer] awning, plug in my amp, and play," says Leggett. "I go to parks, schools, city halls, military bases, public squares, and especially beaches and churches." Leggett, an ordained minister (currently practicing Buddhism), served at Pilgrim United Church in Carlsbad from 1992 until 1995.

For the Peace Bubble tour, Leggett plays solo sets of covers and peace-themed originals; he then videotapes

interviews with attendees. He asks them two questions: "Is peace possible?" and "What would a more peaceful world look like?"

"I've recorded around 600

kind of makes the second question pointless."

Leggett took off last year with an \$8000 grant from the United Church of Christ, for which he performs at their



LEGGETT, ON THE BUBBLE

interviews so far," he says of his tape archive, some of which is playable at peacebubble.org. "I'm looking for insight into different worlds than mine." He says many interviews dead-end quickly. "Many people say they don't think peace is possible. I played outside the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame recently [in Cleveland, Ohio], and that's what more than half the people said. That

places of worship along his route. He says he has no other sponsors and is living in the Peace Bubble, subsisting on one meal a day and passing the hat at each stop.

— 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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Jeremy Camp

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Sevenmiletour

MAR 31 ALL AGES



STATIC X

APR 1



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APR 7



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Up for Air

"I wish Morrison's liberation and his legacy weren't so tied up in dope."

When 16-year-old guitarist Ted Friedman founded the Gravedigger V in his parents' garage in the early '80s, little did he know it would become one of San Diego's most influential bands.

"We didn't feel too legendary at the time," he says, recalling one ignoble gig in particular. "We played in the basement of Greenwich Village West, on Fifth in the Gaslamp. The rescue mission was right across the street at the time. The basement was brick with dirt floors. Sounded great down there, but the dirt got all over everything. Everyone had brown snot coming out their noses by the time they came up for air."

Friedman's later band, the Morlocks (with Gravedigger singer Leighton Koizumi, who once faked his own death), is nearly as revered, though he says, "All the respect didn't kick in until after we split. When we got interviewed by *BAM* magazine, our pics were taken with the guys from Jefferson Airplane, and we played to thousands of people that day, but I still had to take the bus home. When we played a festival at the polo grounds in Golden Gate Park, our drummer Mark [Mullen] would kick his drums over at the end of every set. The sound guys freaked out and grabbed him by his hair and pulled him offstage. Bizarre, having your drummer bounced from his own band's show."

"Once, at the Swedish-American Hall, there were a bunch of skins that tried to start some shit. We had a bunch of older biker dudes that had taken over being security. These old guys kicked the snot out of the skins. Some of them wore chains as belts, so they just whipped them off and were totally trashing the skinheads."

Ted Friedman has been performing on the local open-mike circuit, often found playing at Le-stat's on Mondays.

CAN YOU DESCRIBE YOUR MUSIC?

"I don't know, sometimes it's just poetry in motion. I'm pretty new at the acoustic singer/songwriter gig, so I'm not willing to pin it down into genres."

LISTS JAY ALLEN SANFORD

WHAT'S IN YOUR MUSIC PLAYER?

1. Van Morrison, *Astral Weeks* ("Favorite lyric: 'With your folded arms and history books, you glance into the eyes of Madame George.'")
2. *The Best of Three Dog Night* ("Favorite lyric: 'I can tell my brother about the flowers in his eyes, on the road to Shambala.'")
3. T. Rex, *The Slider* ("Favorite lyric: 'I'm just a man, I understand the wind, and all the things that make the children cry.'")
4. The Rolling Stones, *Exile on Main Street* ("Favorite lyric: 'There's a fever in the funk house now.'")
5. Tim Mudd, *When You've Got Nothing Else* ("Who'd have thunk a man so pale could be so soulful? One of the best local artists out there.")

DESERT ISLAND DVDs?

1. Andy Warhol's *Trash* ("Because sometimes people just treat you like trash. Plus, it's timeless, it speaks so much about our culture, like all of Warhol's work.")
2. *The Tenant* ("By Roman Polanski. Just spooky, chilling, and disturbing, which is why I like it.")
3. *Performance* ("Mick Jagger is great in this film.")
4. *Quadrophenia* ("I know how it feels, son, because it runs in the family.")
5. *Valley Girl* ("Mostly for that scene with the Plimsouls doing 'A Million Miles Away.'")

BAND YOU'D MOST LIKE TO SEE REUNITE?

"Thirteenth Floor Elevators."



Ted Friedman

LETTERMAN OR LENO?

"Letterman, because he had that character Brother Theodore on the show a lot."

WORST COVER SONGS?

1. "Woodstock," Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young ("It just can't touch Joni Mitchell's version, and [this] gets so much more airplay. Why? It blows, and you can't make out the words.")
2. "Big Yellow Taxi," Counting Crows ("Covering Joni Mitchell is always lame. Just play the original, please.")
3. "Sweet Jane," Cowboy Junkies ("Why take a Lou Reed classic and turn it into a dirge of a loser like this? Do they call that art? 'Maybe, if we play it really slow and sing really monotone, someone will think we are really cool junkies.'")
4. "Bang a Gong (Get It On)," Power Station ("Would it kill you to just give Marc Bolan some airplay and his proper place in rock and roll history? Why bludgeon our finer sensibilities with this cheap knockoff?")

5. "Wild Night," John Cougar Mellencamp ("A Van Morrison song...good thing I wasn't armed at the time, or I may have ended it all.")

FAVORITE TV SHOW?

"*The Banana Splits* makes me want to jump up and down on the bed."

DID JIM MORRISON AND ELVIS FAKE THEIR DEATHS LIKE LEIGHTON KOIZUMI?

"I wish Morrison's liberation and his legacy weren't so tied up in dope. I guess the same could be said about the King, who died on the throne. I am a huge conspiracy nut, but I have to say I think both of them are dead."

FINISH THIS SENTENCE: "HEY, OZZY..."

"...stop blowing up my voice mail, man. Please, give it a rest." ■

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Calendar CONCERTS

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THIS WEEK'S CONCERTS

THURSDAY

Eric Clapton and Robert Cray: 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.

FRIDAY

Enanitos Verdes: House of Blues, Friday, March 16, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

SATURDAY

Dave Stamey: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, March 17, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Clipse: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, March 17, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

SUNDAY

Byron Berline: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Sunday, March 18, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

WEDNESDAY

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.

UPCOMING CONCERTS

MARCH

Kenny Wayne Shepherd: Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room, Thursday, March 22, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

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.

Pierre Bensusan: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Monday, March 26, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

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.

Lily Allen: House of Blues, Friday, March 30, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

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 Corinne 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.

Molotov: House of Blues, Sunday, April 8, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

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.

Toots & the Maytals: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, April 12, and Friday, April 13, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Fu Manchu: The Casbah, Friday, April 13, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Fonseca: House of Blues, Friday, April 13, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

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.

moe.: 4th & B, Saturday, April 14, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Chicago: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Sunday, April 15, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

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.

Five for Fighting: 4th & B, Friday, April 20, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Jet: House of Blues, Friday, April 20, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

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.



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Calendar CONCERTS

Engelbert Humperdinck: Pala Events Center, Sunday, April 22, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

Ricky Martin: ipayOne Center, 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, Wednesday, April 25, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500.

Sean Lennon: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, April 25, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Stephen Marley: House of Blues, Wednesday, April 25, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.



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Knock-Out • EPZ Ricerokit • Noiz Captain Squeegie and The Soap Suds

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Fri., March 23 • \$14
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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.

Heaven and Hell, Megadeth, and Machine Head: Coors Amphitheatre, Thursday, April 26, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

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.

Regina Spektor: House of Blues, Sunday, April 29, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Ghostface Killah: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, April 30, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

MAY

Damien Rice: Spreckels Theatre, Tuesday, May 1, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500.

Nas: 4th & B, Wednesday, May 2, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

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.

The Yonder Mountain String Band: House of Blues, Friday, May 4, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Taylor Hicks: Palomar Starlight Theater, Sunday, May 6, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

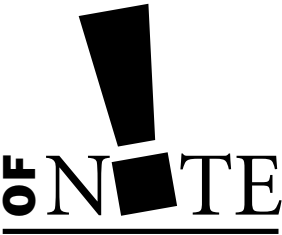
Vienna Teng: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Sunday, May 6, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

The Black Rebel Motorcycle Club: House of Blues, Sunday, May 6, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Fairport Convention: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, May 11, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Harry Connick Jr.: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Thursday, May 17, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

The Be Good Tanyas: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, May 18, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.



BY DAVE GOOD

With a publicist's help, I have been tracking **George Clinton's** current tour progress across the country, one hotel at a time. But no one ever answers his room phone, even when e-mails say that he's waiting for my call. It goes on like this for weeks, hotel to hotel, city to city. Finally, I give up. Then the publicist e-mails me a new number and says Clinton's finally ready to talk. The phone rings, but it's in a pizza joint somewhere in the Midwest. I ask if there is an African-American man with a gray beard and wild hair the color of crayons eating there. The answer is no.

That's too bad. If I could have gotten Clinton to a phone, I would have asked him to tell me about the pitiful decline of the funk.

Berkley Hart: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, May 19, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Tish Hinojosa: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, May 25, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Chayanne: ipayOne Center, Saturday, May 26, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Queensrÿche: 4th & B, Saturday, May 26, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

JUNE

Manu Chao: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Tuesday, June 5, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

The Charlie Daniels Band: Palomar Starlight Theater, Thursday, June 7, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

The Charlie Daniels Band and The Marshall Tucker Band: Coors Amphitheatre, Friday, June 8, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Keith Urban: ipayOne Center, Sunday, June 10, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Alejandro Sanz: Cox Arena, Wednesday, June 13, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

It seems to have slipped through the fingers of all but a few black performers and has instead become the playground of some white jam bands.

Parliament, Funkadelic, and the P-Funk Allstars are three different groups, and George Clinton's been in all of them. There isn't a single one of his albums that isn't worth owning. They all belong on the same high shelf as James Brown's *Live at the Apollo*. Same groove, different vibe. Clinton has been in the game since 1955 with the Parliaments, a black vocal group that charted in 1967 but whose sound did not foretell what was coming.

After their demise, Clinton's music took a hard cosmic left turn as if he began chewing blotter acid on a regular basis. He bent music to his own will and in the '70s created a theater of blackness and funkiness with its own language, spectacular costumes, and the best instrumentalists that his money



GEORGE CLINTON

could buy. Clinton fashioned himself into a dreadlocked Isaac Hayes with a mock spaceship for a pulpit. He preached not jive but "one nation under the funk," and from the beginning, there was an audience ready to go there with him.

GEORGE CLINTON, Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, March 15, 8 p.m. 858-481-8140. \$40.

Calendar CLUBS

DANCE

If you would like to include your DJ event, e-mail sellis@nethere.com or submit a listing online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the music section. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. The listings are free.

Air Conditioned: Wednesdays, *RockBoxx*, '70s and '80s rock. Thursdays, *College Night*, old-skool hip-hop, '80s, and funk with DJ 1979. Fridays, old-skool 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. 619-233-2838.

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.

Dino's: Fridays, *Therapy*, industrial, gothic, and darkwave with DJs Bryan Pollard and guest. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. 3929 30th Street, North Park. 619-291-3466.

The Flame: Second and fifth Saturday of the month, *Sabbat*, gothic, industrial, and dark '80s with DJs Robin Roth, Adam Atom, and Diskdroid. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. 3780 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest. 619-295-4163.

Gaslamp Tavern: Thursdays, DJs Billie Knight, Tek, and guests spin true hip-hop. Fridays and Saturdays, DJ Billie Knight spins Tavern music. Sundays, DJ Tek spins '80s. 868 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-239-3339.

Habana Restaurant: Saturdays, *Adventuras East*, salsa, merengue, and cha-cha with David Garcia and David Suave. 10 p.m. 7777 University Avenue, La Mesa. 619-713-2011.

Honey Bee Hive: Wednesdays, *Mixtape Sessions*, underground hip-hop, downtempo, and breakbeat with DJ Ricky Wrecks and Mada; 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursdays, *Deep*, drum 'n' bass with DJs Walkrawler, Probable Cause, and Skyler Mic; 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Second Saturday of the month, classic and underground hip-hop, funk, and breaks with DJs Frantik, Thumbprint, and Pnutz. 1409 C Street (corner of 14th Street, across from City College), downtown. 619-702-6010.

Entertainment 7 Nights a Week!

Navajo

Thursday, March 15 • Mike Ruggirello presents

Huge Rooster & Guests

Friday & Saturday, March 16 & 17 • 9 pm



Classic Rock
Serious Guise

Monday, March 19

Come Play!

Tuesday, March 20 • Mike Ruggirello presents

Huge Rooster & Guests

Wednesday, March 21

Happy Hour 6-8 pm

8515 Navajo Road • 619-465-1730

(Albertsons shopping plaza at Navajo & Lake Murray)

Originals Band Bookings: Call club

Santee

Thursday, March 15

8 pm Hugh Gaskins Band

Friday & Saturday, March 16 & 17 • 9 pm



Classic Rock
Nemesis

Sunday, March 18

8 pm **Sixth Day** • 9 pm **Fight the Fear** • 10 pm **Motus**

Tuesday, March 20

Call Club

Wednesday, March 21

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FRIDAY 03.23

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SATURDAY 03.24

DAVE AUDE

THURSDAY 03.29

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Runway Fashion Show by C-Star
Live Photo-Shoot by Elite Wear
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FRIDAY 03.30

**MISS LISA
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SCHOOLGIRL PARTY**

SATURDAY 03.31

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Calendar CLUBS

DANCE

(continued)

Hot Monkey Love Cafe: Saturdays, *Candy Shop Young Adult Nightclub*, DJ'd hip-hop, R&B, dirty South, and live music. 8 p.m. 6875 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area. 619-469-4113.

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.

Lucky Star Nightclub: Fridays, DJ Salsero Mayor spins salsa, merengue, and

reggaeton. 9 p.m. 3893 54th Street (at University), San Diego. 619-229-8228.

Mission Valley Resort: Thursdays and Fridays, *Mambo Lounge*, salsa, bachata, and cha-cha with Da Wizzrd. 8 p.m. to midnight. 875 Hotel Circle South, Mission Valley. 619-298-8281.

Moondoggies Pacific Beach: Saturdays, hip-hop, R&B, and Top 40 hits. 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-6550.

Riley's Sports Bar: First Friday of the month, *Sin Factory*, fetish, gothic, and industrial. 2901 Nimitz Boulevard, Point Loma. 619-255-8635.

San Diego Sports Club: Wednesdays, *Club Pussy Galore*, Robin Roth and other female DJs spin indie rock, electropop, and '80s. Second and fourth Saturday of the month, *Club Fashion Whore*, electroclash, Brit pop, and indie dance punk with DJs Nate Soixante, Barry Weaver, Edgartronic, and more. Third Saturday of the month, *Club de Sade*, gothic, industrial, and fetish with DJs Darkman and Creep. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-299-7372.

Shooterz: Thursdays, *Club '80s*, new wave, new romantic, and punk synthpop with DJs Bryan Pollard, Sickboy, and Stern. 3815 30th Street, North Park. 619-574-0744.

South Park Bar & Grill: Fridays, disco, funk, and electro with DJs Riddles and Rudy Palos. 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. 1946 Fern Street, South Park. 619-696-0096.

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 wave, hip-hop, and bootleg remixes with DJs Blackstone and Atari. 2236 Fern Street (corner of 30th and Juniper), South Park. 619-284-6784.

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Calendar CLUBS

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, *the Drowning Men*, rock.
Saturday, *Custard Pie*, classic rock.

The Calypso Cafe, 576 North Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-632-8252. Thursday, *Crash Carter*, pop/soul/rock. Friday, *Jeff Moore* and *Dean Smith*, blues. Saturday, *Uplift*, reggae. Sunday, *Candye Kane*, blues. Monday, *Cactus Twang*, roadhouse rock. Tuesday, *Jack Tempchin*, folk Wednesday, *Uplift*, reggae.

'Canes, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780. Music is rock/alternative/metal unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Black Market Hearts*, *Johnny Different*, *Foil*, and *the Crowleys*. Friday, *the Stepping Feet* and *Dazed and Confused*. Saturday, *Stranger*, *Twilight Circus*, *Roots Covenant*, and *the Tribe of Kings*, reggae.

Ché Café, UCSD Campus, 9500 Gilman Drive, Student Center B-0323C, La Jolla. 858-534-2311. Music is alternative/rock. Saturday, 8 p.m., *!Society!*, *the Vision of a Dying World*, *Treasure Mammal*, and *Red Feathers*. Monday, 9 p.m., *Jade Shader* and *Facing New York*. Wednesday, *the Lanterns*, *the Headlights*, and *Page France*.

Clay's, atop the Hotel La Jolla, 7955 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla. 858-459-0541. Live jazz.

Del Mar Plaza, 1555 Camino del Mar, Del Mar. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., *Keith Jacobsen*, smooth jazz saxophone.

Dreamstreet, 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-8131. Thursday, *Urban Legend* and *Get Down 3*, hip-hop. Friday, *Ellaydee*, *Day One*, and *the Dateless Losers*, hip-hop. Saturday, *the Green Brothers*, APOC, *Brendan B.*, *Mood Swang*, *J. Downs*, and *RDG*, hip-hop/rock.

E Street Cafe, 128 E Street, Encinitas. 760-230-2038. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Joseph Angelastro*, jazz. Friday, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., *Peter Hall*, 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Rusty Jones*. Saturday, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., *Brenda Panneton*, 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *the Nate Donnis Trio*.

Hennessey's Tavern (PB), 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 858-483-8847. Friday, *Ron's Garage*, classic rock. Saturday, call club for information.

The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-6483. Thursday, *Frankie D. and the Funk-Natra Band*. Friday, *Plato Soul*, rock/soul. Saturday, *West of 5*, classic/modern rock. Sunday, *the Blues Brokers*, blues jam.



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Still Into Silhouettes
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SAT. MAR 17
Reeve Oliver
The Strangers Six
Take The City • Paradise Hills
Atlas Of The
lonely mattress salesmen

MON. MAR 19
SECONDHAND SERENADE
MONTY ARE I
PHIL BENSON
WE ARE THE FURY
8:12 - 7PM - TM - HOB

WED. MAR 21
PANIC DIVISION
Kids In The Way
DESOLE - STEP STEVIE STEP

THURS. MAR 22
NODES OF RANVIER
MEANS - WAGES OF WAR
25 TA LIFE
LIFE OR DEATH
X SOUNDING BLOOD X

SUN. MAR 25
The Teeniest Weir
Schoolyard Heroes
Uzili Jane • Sound The Alarm

WED. MAR 28
gymclassheroes
RX BANDITS
P.O.S K-OS
8:12 - 8:30 - LUNATIKS.COM

THURS. MAR 29
WINDS OF PLAGUE
XDEATHSTARX
HIS IRATE LIFE
THE MIDAS TOUCH
IMPERIL

SAT. MAR 31
switchfoot
COPELAND
SAT. APR 7
UNDERNEATH THE GUN
BURNING THE MASSES
CARNIFEX - TERRORSPELL
DUMPS OF THE KUMATAI
MESSAGE IN BLOOD
ENDS WITH AN ENEMY

TUES. APR 10
SAVES THE DAY
SAY ANYTHING

THURS. APR 12
Chino
FRI. APR 13

COMEBACK
DESLODY KID
SAT. APR 14
AMBER PACIFIC
JUST BURNER - MONTY ARE I
POWERSPACE

THURS. APR 19
EIGHTEEN VISIONS
SAT. APR 21
NEW BEDOUIN
SOUNDCLASH
The Oohlas

FRI. MAY 4
poison the well
FEAR BEFORE THE MARCH OF FLAMES
TUES. MAY 8
BRIGHT EYES
ONSALE: 3/17
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Calendar CLUBS

BEACHES

(continued)

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.

The Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla. 619-453-4420. Lobby: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Dan Papaila*, solo jazz guitar.
Grill: Friday and Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Mike Nelson*, solo jazz guitar.

Pasquale on Prospect, 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-456-0722. Thursday, *Gil Barron, Mark Fulton, James East*, and *PTrak Armenta*, acoustic pop/rock/Latin/soul. Friday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Jazz 101 Band* featuring *Nick Fiore, John Guilino, Dave Scott*, and *Cynthia Hammond*. Saturday, 8:30 p.m. *Mario Oliveras and Latin Spice*, Latin jazz.

710 Beach Club, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Thursday, *Yesterday's Papers and Lexington*. Friday, *Gadfly, Mike Pinto and the Mashers*, and *Social Green*, reggae. Saturday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Mitch Budd*, acoustic, 9 p.m., *Flock of 80's*, pop/rock. Wednesday, *Lulia Othmer, Mary Grasso*, and *the Citizen Band*, acoustic/folk/rock.

Thrusters, 4633 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach. 858-483-6334. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Willovealot*, smooth jazz/R&B.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Thursday, 9:30 p.m., *Sharon Hazel Township*, acoustic rock. Friday, call club for information. Saturday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Brain Buckit*, rock, 9 p.m., *Funky Pox*.

Tower Two Beach Cafe, 5083 Santa Monica Avenue, Ocean Beach. 619-223-4059. Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., live music.

Turquoise Cafe, 873 Turquoise Street, La Jolla. 858-488-4200. Friday, 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m., *Jazzilla*. Saturday, 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m., live world jazz.

Winstons, 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-6822. Thursday, *Particle*, rock. Friday, *Moonshine Still*, rock. Saturday, *Banyan and Soul Camp*, jazz/experimental/punk/rock. Monday, *the Electric Waste Band*, classic rock. Tuesday, *the Herry Perry Band, Mike Pinto and the Mashers*, and *Soul Ablaze*, reggae. Wednesday, *Maganiista and the Rafter Band*, rock.

DOWNTOWN

Blarney Stone Pub, 502 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8519. Friday and Saturday, *Steve Brewer*, acoustic.

Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp), 668 Sixth Avenue, San Diego. 619-702-4200. Friday, 8 p.m., *B'Dale*, acoustic folk. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Steven Ybarra*, acoustic pop.

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-232-HELL. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Autolux, Wires on Fire*, and *Japanese Sunday*. Friday, *Jivewire* and *One Nation under a Groove*. Saturday,

NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

What has happened to American rock supremacy? We've outsourced our mastery of anthemic indie rock to the Canadians. The English have an edge in the sharp-young-lads niche. The Scots are still doing quite well for themselves in the collegiate market. The French have a solid foothold when it comes to dinner-party pop. And the Scandinavians practically own melodic indie pop these days.

Yes, we've still got the Shins and what-not, but any new American band with an independent spirit and a flair for old-fashioned arrangements and melody now has to compete against the likes of (to name just a few) Sweden's José González and Jens Lek-

man and Norway's Kings of Convenience and **Sondre Lerche**.

Lerche may be the most threatening of all. He's barely 25 and disconcertingly skinny, good-looking, and talented. He's been a huge star in his native land since he was a teenager, eclipsing even his local heroes, a-ha.

After a couple of albums of smart, Starbucks-ready pop and brief foray into faux jazz, Lerche's new album, *Phantom Punch*, is a rock album, and a hell of a good one. After touring as opening act for Elvis Costello, Lerche decided to let his band, Faces Down, show off their chops, and it rises to the occasion much like the young Attractions. Nearly every song has the kind of brainy, angsty, overcaffeinated tension that we haven't heard done right since *This Year's Model*. Costello may never invite Lerche on tour again, lest he be



SONDRE LERCHE

upstaged. Costello will be fine, but I'm worried about our talented young Americans. How are they supposed to compete with Lerche?

SONDRE LERCHE, Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, March 20, 8 p.m. 858-481-8140. \$16.

the Sweet and Tender Hooligans and the Viewmasters. Sunday, *Leslie and the Lys and the Playground Slap*. Monday, *Goldrush, Electric Soft Parade, Ryan Ferguson*, and *the Blackout Party*. Tuesday, *the Apples in Stereo, Caspar and the Cookies*, and *the Explorer's Club*. Wednesday, *Elvis Perkins and Let's Go Sailing*.

Club Montage, 2028 Hancock Street, Balboa Park. 619-294-9590.

Croce's Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. All music is jazz unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *David Patrone*. Friday, *Yavez*. Saturday, *Primo*. Sunday, *Fuzzy and the Bluesmen*. Monday, *Dave Scott*. Tuesday, *the Shep Meyers Quartet*. Wednesday, *Fuzzy and the Bluesmen*.

Dick's Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-9100. Music is rock and roll. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Blue Rockit*. Friday, 8 p.m.,

Straight Six. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Inside Out*. Sunday, *the Disco Pimps*. Tuesday, *Dregs of Sada*. Wednesday, *Private Domain*, unplugged.

Dizzy's, 344 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 858-270-7467. Friday, 8 p.m., *Fred Benedetti and George Svoboda*, classical guitar.

Dublin Square, 554 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-239-5818. Saturday, 9 p.m. to midnight, and Sunday, 1 p.m. to

4 p.m., *Adrienne Nims and Raggle Taggle*, Celtic/Irish.

The Field, 544 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-232-9840. Music is traditional Irish music. Thursday and Tuesday, *Eamon Carroll*, Irish folk. Friday, 9:30 p.m., *the Jackeens*. Sunday, 5:30 p.m., Irish music. Saturday, *the Carly Hennessey Band*. Wednesday, *Ashley Matte*.

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Saturday, March 17 • ST. PATRICK'S DAY	
3:30-8 pm Shelle Blue	9 pm-1:30 am Bill Magee Blues

Sunday, Mar. 18 Chet Cannon & The Committee	Monday, Mar. 19 Blues Invaders	Tuesday, Mar. 20 Len Rainey & The Midnight Players	Wednesday, Mar. 21 L.A. Jones
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<p>FRIDAY • MARCH 16</p> <p>JIVEWIRE/ONE NATION</p> <p>UNDER A GROOVE</p> <p>DJs ATARI, BLACKSTONE, T-MONEY</p> <p>IN THE ATARI LOUNGE</p> <p>BUNNY & COBRA</p>	<p>MONDAY • MARCH 19</p> <p>ANTI-MONDAY LEAGUE • FREE SHOW!</p> <p>GOLDRUSH</p> <p>ELECTRIC SOFT PARADE</p> <p>RYAN FERGUSON</p> <p>THE BLACKOUT PARTY</p>	<p>SATURDAY, MARCH 24</p> <p>GARY WILSON</p> <p>KILL ME TOMORROW</p> <p>MAX FIELDS</p>
<p>SATURDAY • MARCH 17</p> <p>SWEET & TENDER HOOLIGANS</p> <p>THE VIEWMASTERS</p>	<p>TUESDAY • MARCH 20</p> <p>APPLES IN STEREO</p> <p>CASPAR & THE COOKIES</p> <p>EXPLORERS CLUB</p>	<p>SUNDAY, MARCH 25</p> <p>CALLA</p>
<p>SUNDAY • MARCH 18</p> <p>LESLEY & THE LYS</p> <p>PLAYGROUND SLAP</p> <p>ADDIQUIT</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY • MARCH 21</p> <p>ELVIS PERKINS</p> <p>LET'S GO SAILING</p>	<p>MONDAY • MARCH 26</p> <p>ANTI-MONDAY LEAGUE</p> <p>BUDDY AKAI</p> <p>CHOW NASTY</p> <p>THE BURNING OF ROME</p> <p>NURSES</p> <p>SHELLSHAG</p>
	<p>THURSDAY • MARCH 22</p> <p>HEARTACHES</p> <p>THE DEPARTED</p>	<p>THURSDAY • MARCH 29</p> <p>THE VISUAL UNDERGROUND</p> <p>FILM/MUSIC/ART</p>

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UPCOMING:
3/23: **WEST INDIAN GIRL**
3/24: **VEGETATION**
3/30: **DELTA NOVE**
3/31: **DIVIDED BY ZERO**

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4th & B, 345 B Street, downtown.
619-231-4343.

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,
downtown. 619-238-2389. Thursday, *the*
Brat Pack. Friday, *Good Times*. Saturday,
Groove Sessions. Tuesday, *the Stiletto*,
rockabilly. Wednesday, *Lady Dottie and*
the Diamonds, blues.

House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue,
downtown. 619-299-2583. Friday, *Los*
Enanitos Verdes. Tuesday, *the Early*
November, *the Rocket Summer*, *Melee*,
and *Verdict*. Wednesday, *Badly Drawn*
Boy and *Adem and Lissie*.

Jimmy Love's, 672 Fifth Avenue
(corner of Fifth and G), downtown.
619-595-0123. Thursday and Sunday,
6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Masterpiece*,
jazz/R&B. Friday, 9:45 p.m., *the*
Reaganomics, '80s dance. Saturday,
9:45 p.m., live disco/pop/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, live
band. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *Modern Day*
Moonshine, rock/reggae/soul/blues.

Patrick's II, 428 F Street, downtown.
619-233-3077. Music is blues/soul unless
otherwise noted. Thursday, *Blue Four*.
Friday, 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Blue Four*,
9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., *Buick Wilson*.
Saturday, 3:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Shelle Blue*,
9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., *Bill Magee Blues*.
Sunday, *Chet Cannon*. Monday, *Blues*
Invaders. Tuesday, *Len Rainey and the*
Midnight Players. Wednesday, *L.A. Jones*.

Princess Pub and Grille, 1665 India
Street, Little Italy/downtown. 619-702-
3021. Saturday, *J.D. Boucharde*, piano.

Rock Bottom, 401 G Street, Gaslamp.
619-231-7000. Live
pop/rock/disco/dance.

Sevilla, 555 Fourth Avenue, downtown.
619-233-5979. Club Salsa: Thursday,
Walter II y Rumbaney, salsa. Tuesday, *Asi*
Son, salsa.

The Shout House, 655 Fourth
Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-231-6700. Rock
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The Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second
Avenue, downtown. 619-238-1818.
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SATURDAY, MARCH 17

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TWILIGHT CIRCUS
ROOTS COVENANT
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FRIDAY, MARCH 23

B-SIDE PLAYERS
with **DIRTY HEADS**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

ATERCIOPELADOS
THE MAYAN KINGS

FRIDAY, MARCH 30

THRIVING IVORY
ARM THE ANGELS
KEMISTRY

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

ANNA TROY

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

SUN DIEGO presents
SPRING BREAK YOSELF
EARTHLESS
THE HEARTACHES

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

Cash'd Out
Johnny Cash
Tribute

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

SEEDLESS
4/20 PARTY



FRIDAY, MARCH 16

(Dave Matthews
Band Experience)
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DAZED & CONFUSED
(Led Zeppelin Tribute)

THURSDAY, MARCH 22

BORN TONIGHT
MUZZLE
IN EVERY BREATH
THE CATHEDRALS

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

Tainted Love (80's
Tribute)
DJ BAO

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

NATIRUTS
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SATURDAY, MARCH 31

Wild Child
(Doors Tribute)
JUMPING JACK FLASH
(Rolling Stones Tribute)

FRIDAY, APRIL 6

DE LA SOUL

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

NATURAL VIBRATIONS
THE DEVASTATORS
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SATURDAY, APRIL 14

JUST LIKE PRIEST
(Judas Priest Tribute)

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Calendar CLUBS

DOWNTOWN

(continued)

Piano or Kevin McCulley, pop/jazz/standards.

Worldbeat Center, 2100 Park Boulevard, Balboa Park. 619-230-1190. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Elijah Emanuel and the Revelations*, reggae.

SAN DIEGO

AcousticMusicSanDiego, 4650 Mansfield Street, San Diego. 619-303-8176. Saturday, *Dave Stamey*, country. Sunday, *Byron Berline*, bluegrass. Wednesday, *Kris Delmhorst*, folk.

The Aero Club, 3365 India Street, San Diego. 619-297-7211.

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, *Tony Cummins*, Irish folk. Monday, *Pat and Joe and Allison Gill*, folk. Tuesday, Irish jam session.

Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley), 1072 Camino del Rio North, Mission Valley. 619-295-2201. Friday, 8 p.m., *Winterhawk*, acoustic.

Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-LIVE. Music is heavy rock/metal/punk/rockabilly. Thursday, *Elefant Army*, *Love Handle*, *Front Yard*, and *Whole Hog*. Friday, *Alfonso Espriella*, *Hijos de la Malinche*, *Castillo*, and *Psycho*. Saturday, *Ellerman*, *the Pricks*, *Grade 8*, and *Dante's Boneyard*. Wednesday, *Rob Crow*.

Claire de Lune, 2905 University Avenue, North Park. 619-688-9845. Live music.

Epicentre, 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa. 858-271-4000. Friday, *the Locust*, *the Daughters*, and *Cattle Decapitation*, hard rock/death metal.

Etta's Place, 6179 University Avenue (at College and University). 619-582-6730. Live rock/swing.

The Gordon Biersch Brewery, 5010 Mission Center Road, San Diego. 619-688-1120. Friday, *Blue Rockit*, blues/rock.

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*.

Humphrey's, Half Moon Inn, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-224-3577. Backstage Lounge: Thursday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Les Dudek*, guitar. Friday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Electric Soul*, 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., *Rising Star*, disco/dance. Saturday, 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m., *Savoy Brown*, blues rock. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and 5 p.m., *Reggie Smith*, smooth jazz. Monday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Chet Cannon*, blues jam. Tuesday, 6 p.m., *Viva Santana*, Latin rock. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Full Effect*, R&B.

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.

In Cahoots, 5373 Mission Center Road, Mission Valley. 619-291-8635.

JP's Pub, 10436 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Tierrasanta. 858-576-2509. Friday, 9 p.m., *the Scavengers*, classic rock.

The Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848. Music is rock/alternative. Friday, *the Screamin' Yeehaws*, *the Whiskey Dicks*, and *Perfect Agony*. Saturday, *the Blackout Party*, *Demasiado*, and *the Jury*.

>hometown CDs

BY OLLIE



Album: *Unum* (2006)

Artist: Broken View

Label: self-released

Where available/price: Online at www.brokenview.com or at a live show for \$10.

Songs: 1) I Find 2) Better than Yesterday 3) And We All 4) Everything I Could Be 5) Given to You 6) World We Live In 7) Beautiful Day 8) Watching for the World to End 9) Running Back to Me 10) When's It Gonna End 11) Drowned

Band: Mickie Arnett (guitar, vocals), Grant Gebler (bass), Mike Devine (guitar), Mark Anthony (drums)

Website: www.brokenview.com

Nobody in the band is terrible, but none of them are talented enough to quit their day jobs. They describe themselves as “not

flashy but solid,” and I’ll give them that; the musicians all interplay well, everyone is on cue and in key.

Broken View write their

own music, but I wouldn’t confuse it with being “original”; the lyrics are personal in a way that is so common as to be mundane. From “Given to You”: “Tell me why/ do I hang on to you. Yeah, I try/ but it just ain’t no use.” Add in a rhythm guitar, lead guitar, drums, and bass. Sound familiar? That’s because they are every bar band in every bar in every city you’ve ever been to.

For garage hobbyists, they aren’t bad. They aren’t revolutionizing music, and I think they’re okay with that. Front man Mickie Arnett describes his beginning in the music industry with “I had picked up a guitar and realized I could murder a few Jimmy Buffet songs. I got the urge to head out to the local bars



Broken View

and see if anyone would buy me a drink to shut up.”

Birthday parties need bands too. Hell, I’ll sit there, listen to them, and have some cake and beer.

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

Train, blues. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *the Tygers of Wrath* and *the Unit Breed*, alternative/punk/progressive. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *Straight Trippin'* and *Shame and Scandal*, ska/reggae/jazz.

The Ould Sod, 3373 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-6594. Friday, *Sara Petite*, folk. Tuesday, traditional Irish jam session.

Pal Joey's, 5147 Waring Road, Allied Gardens. 619-286-7873. Friday and Saturday, classic rock/swing.

The Prado Restaurant, 1549 El Prado, San Diego. 619-557-9441.

Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Adrienne Nims* and *Raggle Taggle*, Celtic/Irish.

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 p.m., *Shawline Expression*.

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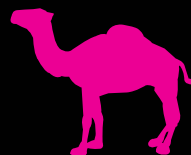
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Calendar

CLUBS

SAN DIEGO
(continued)

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. Live bands.

Scolari's Office, 3936 30th Street, San Diego. 619-296-3546. Saturday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., *Black Patterns from Saturn*, *RoMak*, *the Space Pirates*, and *Squidido*, alternative rock.

Second Wind, 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos. 619-465-1730. Friday and Saturday, *Serious Guise*, classic rock.

Sogno Di Vino, 1607 India Street, San Diego. 619-531-8887. Wednesday, 7 p.m.

to 10 p.m., *Mike Nelson*, solo jazz/Latin guitar.

Soma, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-SOMA. Music is rock/metal/alternative/punk. Friday, *Gwen Stacy*, *Once Nothing*, *In Fear and Faith*, *Stiletto Silhouette*, *Cease to Break*, and *Loralyn*. Saturday, *Reeve Oliver*, *the Stranger's Six*, *Take the City*, *Paradise Hills*, *Atlas of Id*, and *Lonely Mattress Salesman*. Monday, *Secondhand Serenade*, *Monty Are I*, *Phil Benson*, and *We Are the Fury*. Wednesday, *the Panic Division*, *Kids in the Way*, *Desole*, and *Step Stevie Step*.

Terra, on Vermont, one block north of University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-293-7088. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Robin Henkel*, blues/funky jazz.

Tio Leo's, 10787 Camino Ruiz, Mira Mesa. 858-695-1461. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Robin Henkel Band*, blues/swing.

The Tower Bar, 4757 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-284-0158. Music

is rock/punk/power pop. Saturday, *the Creepy Creeps* and *the Widows*.

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.

Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, 3025 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-282-7040. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the B-3 Four* featuring vocalist *David Mosby*, jazz. Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Peggy Lloyd*, jazz.

NORTH COUNTY

The Alley, 421 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-434-1173. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, *the Love Rangers*, Top 40/pop.

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022. Thursday, 9 p.m., *George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic*. Friday, 9 p.m., *the Abyssinians*, *the Reggae Angels*, and *Psydecar*, reggae. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Clipse*, *Them Jeans*, and *MC Flow*. Sunday, 9 p.m., *J.B. Beverly and the Wayward Drifters*, *Mex*, and *Full Boar*, country. Tuesday, *Sondre Lerche*, *Willy Mason*, and *Thomas Dybdahl*.

Boar Cross'n, 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-2989. Thursday, hip-hop. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock.

The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe, Flower Hill Mall, I-5 at Via de la Valle, Del Mar. 858-755-3735. Friday, 8 p.m., live jazz/blues/folk.

Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad), 1905 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad. 760-479-0242. Friday, 8 p.m., *Patty Hall*, folk. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Aaron Bowen*, folk.

Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain), 11160 Rancho Carmel Drive, Carmel Mountain. 858-618-1814. Friday, 8 p.m., *Simeon Flick*, folk/jazz/alternative/pop. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Tiamo*, folk.

Carvers, 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Friday and Saturday, *Laguna*, classic rock.

The Cask and Cleaver Restaurant, 3757 South Mission Road, Fallbrook. 760-728-2818. Friday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the North County Cowboys*, country.

Cheers, 2475 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-0270. Friday, *Southbound Johnny*, country. Saturday, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Mike Gardner*, 9 p.m., *Southbound Johnny*. Tuesday, *Mike Gardner*, acoustic.

Coyote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Wombats*, rock. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., live band. Saturday, 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., and 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *the New Breed Band*, pop/jazz. Saturday, 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., *the Fabulous Woodies*, rock, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Jerome Dawson*, jazz.

Del Dios Bar and Grill, 20154 Lake Drive, Escondido. 760-489-4800. Friday, *the Sons of Bordertown*, rock/folk/blues. Saturday, *the Railheads*, classic rock.

The Flying Bridge, 1105 North Coast Highway, Oceanside. 760-722-1151. Sunday, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Z-Bop*, jazz.

Game Time Tavern, 12735 Poway Road, Poway. 858-748-0015. Friday, 5

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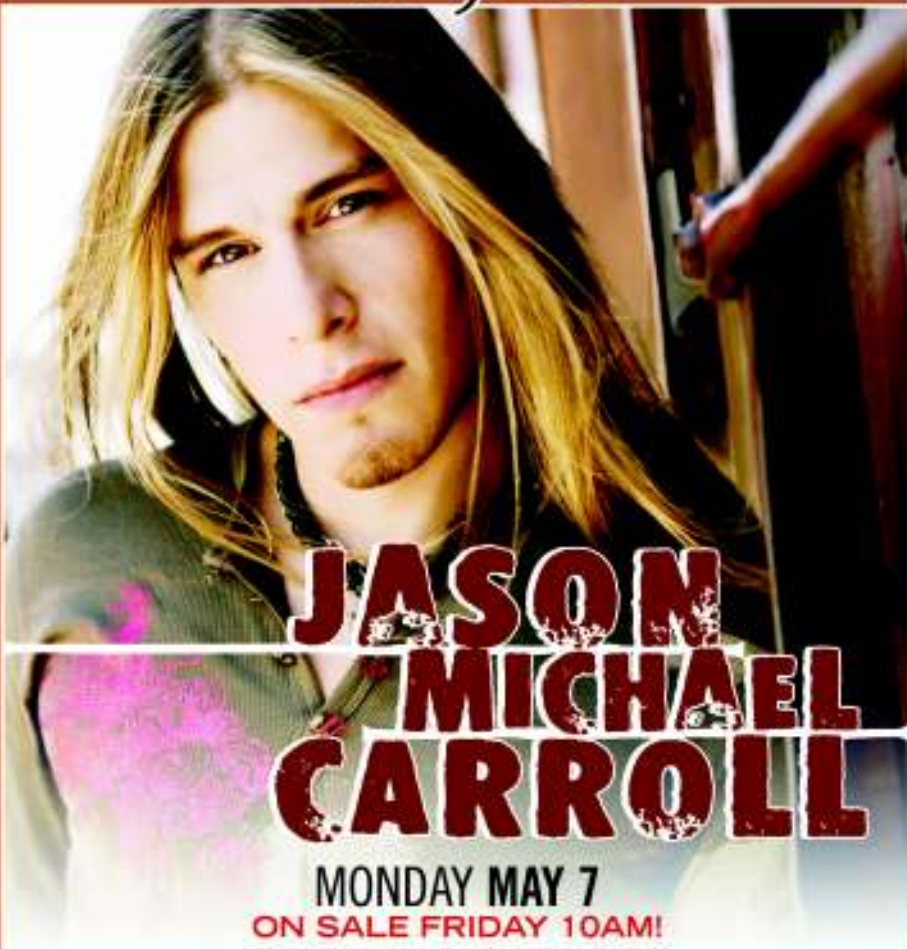
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Calendar CLUBS

NORTH COUNTY

(continued)

Miles High, rock. Saturday, 6one9, classic rock.

Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad), 2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-6951. Friday and Saturday, live bands.

The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo, Rancho Santa Fe. 858-756-1131. Thursday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Jerry Melnick*, jazz/variety piano.

Jamroc 101 Caribbean Grill, 101 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-436-3162. Saturday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Flounders*, beach rock.

The Jumping Turtle, 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos. 760-471-7778. Music is rock/alternative/metal unless otherwise noted. Thursday, 7:30 p.m., *Lion's Paw*, reggae. Friday, 8 p.m., *Avarice*, a *District of Evolution*, and *Indigo*. Saturday, call club for information. Sunday, *Kings to You*, *the Wrongs*, *Feint*, *Sweet and Lowdown*, and *the Armada*. Wednesday, *Bandcamp*, *Peter Adams* and *the Nocturnal Collective*, *the Roadside Coyotes*, and *the Silent Treatment*.

La Costa Blue Fire Grill, 2100 Costa Del Mar Road, Carlsbad. 760-929-6306. Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Adrienne Nims*, *Hector Maldonado*, and *Enrique Platas*, Latin jazz.

Le Papaguyo, 1002 North Highway 101, Leucadia. 760-944-8252. Friday, 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Flounders*, beach rock.

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.

Molly Malone's, 1270 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-9050. Friday, *the Travelin' Band*. Saturday, *Safety Orange*, rock/alternative/punk.

Ocean House, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4131. Friday, *DaGroove*, rock. Saturday, *Boogie Nights*, dance. Tuesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Credit 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.

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Thursday, March 22

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Saturday, March 24

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AMERIKAN MADE
HARDSLUG
DUST 'N' BONES
(Guns 'N' Roses tribute)

Sunday, March 25

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FIGHT THE FEAR
THE EVERGREENS

Wednesday, March 28

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PETE STEWART
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Thursday, March 29

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Calendar

BANDS

ALTERNATIVE

(continued)
Page France: Ché Café
The Panic Division: Soma
Paradise Hills: Soma
Perfect Agony: The Kensington Club
The Playground Slap: The Casbah
The Pricks: Brick By Brick
Red Feathers: Ché Café
Reeve Oliver: Soma
RoMak: Scolari's Office
The Roadside Coyotes: The Jumping Turtle
Royal Campaign: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
Safety Orange: Molly Malone's
The Screamin' Yeehaws: The Kensington Club
Secondhand Serenade: Soma
Silent Treatment: The Jumping Turtle
!Society!: Ché Café
The Space Pirates: Scolari's Office
Squidido: Scolari's Office
Gwen Stacy: Soma
Step Stevie Step: Soma
Stiletto Silhouette: Soma
The Stranger's Six: Soma
Superunloader: Lestat's Coffee House
Sweet and Lowdown: The Jumping Turtle
The Sweet and Tender Hooligans: The Casbah
Take the City: Soma
Treasure Mammal: Ché Café

The Tygers of Wrath: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
The Unit Breed: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
U.S. Drag: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
The Viewmasters: The Casbah
The Vision of a Dying World: Ché Café
The Wagon: Surf N'Saddle
We Are the Fury: Soma
The Whiskey Dicks: The Kensington Club
The Widows: Tower Bar
The Wronski Feint: The Jumping Turtle
Yesterday's Papers: 710 Beach Club

ROCK

Anberlin: House of Blues
Bayside: House of Blues
Bigfellas: Surf N'Saddle
Brain Buckit: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, Tiki House
The Brat Pack: Henry's Pub
Cactus Twang: The Calypso Cafe
The Citizen Band: 710 Beach Club
Custard Pie: Bar Leucadian
DaGroove: Ocean House
Dazed and Confused: 'Canes
The Disco Pimps: Dick's Last Resort
Dog Boy: House of Blues
Dregs of Sada: Dick's Last Resort
The Drowning Men: Bar Leucadian
Electric Soft Parade: The Casbah
The Electric Waste Band: Winstons
Ellerman: Brick By Brick
Evans: De Oro Mine Co.
The Expendables: House of Blues

as i hear it

BY BRIAN CARVER

Artist: Tapwater
Song: "Where's the Asteroid" (from the CD *Shift*)
Heard By: Erin Cherry, Point Loma



Erin

When they went into the chorus, it reminded me a little bit of Phish. I thought the lyrics were good and it was uplifting. I read a lot of poetry, so I listen pretty intently to lyrics. The lyrics were just about life — describing life and living it — so that kind of set it apart where it just seemed authentic. I actually thought [it would be good music for] a group setting — maybe at the beach or even working out. It's pretty chill; it's not melancholy in any way.

Artist: Sean Thompson
Song: "You Start Your Own Fires" (from the CD *Burma*)
Heard By: Andrew Conrad, North Park



Andrew

I think the guy probably cut his teeth songwriting-wise on Bob Dylan. It had that kind of jaunty acoustic strumming, but other than that, I can't really place it. His voice was pretty unique. Obviously, it's a lot of his soul in that song and things that have happened to him. It makes me a little jealous. I used to write songs, and I would've been really happy to write one like that. [It would go well with] lying on the floor in the middle of the afternoon with whatever vice you've got — your drug of choice.

Artist: Matthew Blake
Song: "Don't Let Go" (from the CD *Back as Far as We Can Go*)
Heard By: Mark Severance, North Park



Mark

[It reminds me of] James Blunt, and I kept thinking of Nickel Creek—kind of harmonies; it's really pretty and it's quiet. The guitar solo was really nice. I wouldn't buy it. I guess I could say what I didn't like about it [is it's] like songs about your "soul." It's like listening to poetry at a poetry reading — I can't stand that shit. Keep it to yourself. If you had it in a six-disc changer and the six discs were for when she comes over after dinner and you're moving into the old sex romp — that's the cigarette-after-sex song.

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

The Fabulous Woodies: Coyote Bar and Grill
Ryan Ferguson: The Casbah
Mark Fisher: Gaslamp Tavern
Flock of 80's: 710 Beach Club

Foil: 'Canes
Front Yard: Brick By Brick
Funky Pox: Tiki House
Goldrush: The Casbah

The Taylor Harvey Band: Don's Cocktail Lounge
Inside Out: Dick's Last Resort
Japanese Sunday: The Casbah
Joey and the Stingrays: Downtown Cafe

The Justin Brothers: Galley at the Marina
Laguna: Carvers
The Travis Larson Band: Lestat's Coffee House
Lexington: 710 Beach Club

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Lulia Othmer: 710 Beach Club
Particle: Winstons
Elvis Perkins: The Casbah
Private Domain: Dick’s Last Resort
The Rafter Band: Winstons
The Railheads: Del Dios Bar and Grill
Robert Randolph and the Family Band: House of Blues
RDG: Dreamstreet
Ron’s Garage: Hennessey’s Tavern (PB), Island Sports and Spirits
Savoy Brown: Humphrey’s
The Scavengers: JP’s Pub
Serious Guise: Second Wind (San Carlos)
Ryan Shaw: House of Blues
Gone9: Game Time Tavern
The Sons of Bordertown: Del Dios Bar and Grill
The Stepping Feet: ’Canes
The Stiletto’s: Island Sports and Spirits, Henry’s Pub, McP’s Irish Pub and Grill
Straight Six: Dick’s Last Resort
TNT: Dirk’s Niteclub
The Travlin’ Band: Molly Malone’s
Viva Santana: Humphrey’s
West of 5: The Kraken
Whole Hog: Brick By Brick
Wires on Fire: The Casbah
The Wombats: Coyote Bar and Grill

POP / TOP 40

PTrak Armenta: Pasquale on Prospect
Gil Barron: Pasquale on Prospect
Crash Carter: The Calypso Cafe
Frankie D. and the Funk-Natra Band: The Kraken
Jesse Davis: Buon Giorno Restaurant
James East: Pasquale on Prospect
Mark Fulton: Pasquale on Prospect
The Good Times: Henry’s Pub
The Love Rangers: The Alley
Rick Lyon: The Imperial House
The New Breed Band: Coyote Bar and Grill
Rising Star: Humphrey’s
The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love’s

JAZZ / BIG BAND

Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze
Banyan: Winstons
Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn
Ray Briz: Hotel del Coronado
The B-3 Four: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant
Sammy Canonizado: Cafe LaMaze
Sandy Chappel: Cafe LaMaze
The Cradit Union: Ocean House
Jerome Dawson: Coyote Bar and Grill
Nick Fiore: Pasquale on Prospect
From K to Z: Tommy’s Italian Restaurant
Jim Gibson: Hotel del Coronado
John Guilino: Pasquale on Prospect
Cynthia Hammond: Pasquale on Prospect
Insight: Jimmy Love’s
Keith Jacobsen: Lafayette Hotel, Del Mar Plaza
Barbara Jamerson: Hotel del Coronado
The Jazz 101 Band: Pasquale on Prospect
Jazzilla: Turquoise Cafe

Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado
Barry Levich: La Valencia Hotel
Stellita Lindgren: Hotel del Coronado
Dave Lindgren: Hotel del Coronado
Peggy Lloyd: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant
Hector Maldonado: La Costa Blue Fire Grill
Masterpiece: Jimmy Love’s
Kevin McCulley: The Westgate Hotel

Jerry Melnick: The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, Rancho Bernardo Inn
The Shep Meyers Quartet: Croce’s Jazz Bar
Mikan and Friends: Buon Giorno Restaurant
David Mosby: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant
Mystique: Jimmy Love’s
Mike Nelson: Sogno Di Vino, The Lodge at Torrey Pines

Adrienne Nims: La Costa Blue Fire Grill
Mario Oliveras and Latin Spice: Pasquale on Prospect
Dan Papaila: The Lodge at Torrey Pines
Dave Patrone: Croce’s Jazz Bar
Peter Prince of Piano: The Westgate Hotel
Enrique Platas: La Costa Blue Fire Grill
Primo: Croce’s Jazz Bar

The Victoria Rose Trio: Lucky Star Nightclub and Ballroom
Rick Ross: La Valencia Hotel
Dave Scott: Pasquale on Prospect, Croce’s Jazz Bar
Robert Sebastini: Cafe LaMaze
Reggie Smith: Humphrey’s
Stage 4: Buon Giorno Restaurant
The Jaime Valle Quartet: Tutto Mare

The Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson Jazz Duo: Harry’s Bar and American Grill
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The Herry Perry Band: Winstons

Psydecar: Belly Up Tavern

The Reggae Angels: Belly Up Tavern

Roots Covenant: 'Canes

Shame and Scandal: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Social Green: 710 Beach Club

Soul Ablaze: Winstons

Straight Trippin': O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Stranger: 'Canes

The Tribe of Kings: 'Canes

Twilight Circus: 'Canes

Uplift: The Calypso Cafe

COUNTRY

J.B. Beverly and the Wayward Drifters: Belly Up Tavern

The California Rangers: McCabe's Beach Club

Ronny Corbin and the Pirate Radio Show: Wagon Wheel

Fishbait: Gaslamp Tavern

Full Boar: Belly Up Tavern

The Honky Tonk Kings: Renegade Inn

Mex: Belly Up Tavern

The North County Cowboys: The Cask and Cleaver Restaurant

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PIERCING PARTY

by Josh Board

have you ever seen a party in a movie and wondered why the parties you go to are never as cool? Well, I went to a bash in Clairemont that was as cool as one of those movie parties.

While passing the KyXy/Free FM station on my way to the Clairemont home, I saw a car had run off the road. The car belonged to a person who was going to the same party I was going to. The guy who owned the Saab told me his sob story. "I hit the curb...I missed my turn, and it just sort of popped the tire. Then a neighbor called the cops." His friend added that they had had a beer earlier in the evening and didn't appreciate cops showing up.

There was a security guard at the back-yard gate who was checking names against a guest list. "This keeps people from crashing the party," he said. I had heard about this party from an old high-school friend who knows the person who throws this party every year. Security had to hunt the guy down to get



the okay to let me in. The security guard told me he was an off-duty cop. "If the cops show up to break the party up because of the noise, does it help to have you here?" I asked him. "Yeah, usually it does. I can talk them into leaving us alone." As I walked to the party from where I parked, around 9

"Free booze turns people into rude bastards!"

p.m., I had heard the noise from three blocks away, and I saw two houses with people looking out their windows...probably wondering



about the noise.

Several tiki torches glowed in the back yard. A bar was set up by the pool. Across from the bar, someone was stuffing carne

asada tacos for whoever wanted one. There was a stage with go-go dancers on either side of the DJ.

Though there was a long



Top left: Guy having a nipple pierced;
Top right: these women had signs they flashed at people;
Bottom left: woman preparing for piercing



line at the bar, it moved fast. The three bartenders knew what they were doing. When a few guys cut in line, a woman behind me said, "Free booze turns people into rude bastards!" I noticed the guys didn't tip their bartender, while the woman to my left tipped a bartender \$20. A guy started hitting on a girl behind me, and after he said a few things and walked away, she looked at me and said, "He realized I wouldn't sleep with him, so he

moved on."

Most of the crowd had Hawaiian shirts on, which fit the poolside atmosphere. There were two women in the Jacuzzi, but nobody went in the pool until one guy pushed his friend in. A woman said, "I'll keep you company," took her shirt off, and jumped in. (Calm down, guys, she had a bathing suit on under her clothes.) Those two were the only people in the pool...along with several rubber ducks that lit up the water.

The guys throwing the party were well prepared. Towels were stacked beside the pool and Jacuzzi. Alcohol and food were free, but they asked that you keep your cup. When I tried to walk into the house through the back door, two big security guys grabbed me and said, "Only women are allowed inside." I watched as two go-go dancers inside were wiping themselves down with towels. Another girl was let inside to use the bathroom. The guys had to use the two Port-a-Potties that were at the other end of the spacious back yard.

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There was an ice luge set up, and as women poured alcohol down it, I came to the conclusion that they were wasting a lot of booze. It dribbled from their faces and went down their shirts as they giggled. The person pouring the booze never knows when to stop, and half of it ends up on the ground or choking the drinker. I mentioned this to someone who said, "That's half of the fun!"

There were two older guys at the party who didn't seem to fit in with the rest of the crowd. One of them said to me, "There are a lot of big girls here." I wasn't sure why he said that. There were a few, I guess, but so what?

His friend reminded me of Art Donovan, the football Hall-of-Famer. He was standing by the go-go dancers. I said, "You have the best seat in the house."

They were playing "The Humpty Dance," and I asked the guy if he liked the music. He said, "No!" A woman came over and told me she was his daughter.

A guy noticed that I was taking notes and asked, "Are you the party crasher?" I told him that I was, and he said, "No way! How did you get in with such tight security?" I said, "I jumped over that fence back there." He got excited about that and ran to tell his girlfriend. I didn't have the heart to admit that I knew someone who knew someone and talked my way in.

The most unusual attraction at the party was the body-piercing booth, where you could have had any part of your body pierced for free. I asked how much it usually costs and was told \$50. I asked a woman in line, who looked to be about 50, what she was going to have pierced. She told me her nipple. I saw a guy lying on what looked like an operating table, while his wife told him to breathe slowly. The guy told her to shut up. I said, "Is he having a baby or something?" The wife repeated, "It will be less painful if you breathe prop-

erly." He, too, was having a nipple pierced, which I found, at this party, anyway, to be the body part of choice for piercing.

I met one of the party hosts who told me, "Each year we like to add something.... This year, it was the dancers, tacos, and the piercing. We had to go through a lot of hoops, because they don't like to do it when people are drunk or drinking."

When I talked with someone who had just had his belly button pierced, he said, "They told me your blood is thinner when you are drinking. They clamped down on me, and that hurt. The needle feels like a burning sensation. It's a little painful."

I heard the crowd at the piercing booth roar and

looked over to see a woman who had taken her shirt off in preparation for a piercing.

I heard splashing and saw a guy had pushed his girlfriend into the pool. She was laughing as she swam to the edge.

As I was leaving, a guy showed me his bloody elbow. I asked, "Did you try to get your elbow pierced?" He laughed and said, "My damn niece...she dragged me across the dance floor! This is what happened." ■

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Spirit, Unrestrained

"A woman of pleasure leans on things. This suggests that she might be...toppled."

In Amy Freed's *Restoration Comedy*, Amanda's married to a philanderer named, appropriately, Loveless. He ran off to the Continent and, for a decade, celebrated "the diversity of God's creation."

Hearing she died, Loveless returns to England. But she's still alive and has remained as patient as Griselda, as true as Penelope at the loom. To win Loveless back, however, Amanda decides to become the consummate libertine. At the Old Globe, her education in the wiles of dalliance is one of the funniest scenes in recent memory.

H.L. Mencken defined Puritanism as "the haunting fear that somewhere, somehow, someone is enjoying himself." The Restoration era sprang from the repressive Puritanism of Oliver Cromwell like an arrow from a bow. Caralyn Kozlowski's Amanda embraces the new liberation — and may be one of the world's quickest studies. She stands too stiff, her teacher and secret admirer Worth (Peter Frechette) tells her: "A woman of pleasure leans on things. This suggests that she might be...toppled." As Amanda warms to de-regulation, Kozlowski does a swift, hilarious thaw.

Kozlowski has the smarts, talent, and comic timing not only for Restoration comedy and Shakespeare (I'd love to have seen her *Rosalind*) but also for the plays of Amy Freed. Her plays *The Beard of Avon*, *Safe in Hell*, and *Freedomland* combine thought, history, and humor in fresh,

inventive ways. In *Restoration*, for example, she makes intelligence feel bawdy and — no mean feat — the bawdy, intelligent. Freed also teaches acting and, unlike many who practice her craft, knows how to write for actors. The Old Globe

recently named Amy Freed playwright-in-residence. Hear! Hear!!

Restoration combines Colly Cibber's *Love's Last Shift* (1696), which has a happy ending, with

John Vanbrugh's hastily composed riposte, *The Relapse*, which doesn't. Act One of *Restoration* rounds with a sense of completion (and is one tough act to follow); Act Two, having to tie countless loose ends — including a trio of love trysts — tends to sprawl. But no matter: by then the production's buoyant energy builds to a resonant conclusion.

Much of that energy emanates from Marco Barricelli. He gives Loveless a baritone voice so expansive you'd swear he's miked (he isn't) and a Lust Writ Large swagger. Like the cast in general, Barricelli conveys the joy of playing someone who's the opposite of neurotic: sensually and verbally free, unafraid, or ashamed, to be alive.

(Historically, the Restoration only lasted around thirty years, from 1662, when Charles II issued an edict allowing women to appear on a stage for the first time, to 1700-ish; the Age of Reason lurked around the corner to squelch enthusiasms with lockstep rigor.)

Restoration is both an homage to, and a par-



Christa Scott-Reed, Marco Barricelli in *Restoration Comedy*

Restoration Comedy, by Amy Freed

Old Globe Theatre, Simon Edison Centre for the Performing Arts, Balboa Park

Directed by John Rando; cast: Marco Barricelli, John Keating, Peter Frechette, Kimberly Scott, Caralyn Kozlowski, Amelia McClain, Danny Scheie, Kate Turnbull, Chip Brookes, Michael Izquierdo, Chris Bresky, Jonathan McMurtry, Cara Greene, Rhett Henkel, Aaron Misakian, Summer Shirey, Christa Scott-Reed; scenic design, Ralph Funicello; costumes, Robert Blackman; lighting, York Kennedy; sound, Paul Peterson; original music, Michael Roth

Playing through April 8; Sunday, Tuesday, 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.

ody of, the period. Freed includes many an anachronism, and the Globe production adds more. For the seduction scene between Amanda and Loveless (in which he "cuckolds himself"), the Rolling Stones sing "Start Me Up"; when Lord

Foppington (scene-stealing Danny Scheie in a lion's-man wig and several of Robert Blackman's majestic costumes) chooses new clothes, director John Rando adds a gratuitous, but funny, Chippendales fashion show. At first the anachronisms

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irk, as if the production (and Rando has done this before) has to apologize for its subject and pad it with shtick. But soon they make sense as modern correlatives for the play's un-repressed spirit.

Restoration theater was more interested in sensuality and wit than in scenic designs, which slid flats on a proscenium. Ralph Funicello's set begins with this principle. A thick rose-colored curtain, cupids floating above, opens on a traditional Restoration look. But then Funicello layers in flats and drops and creates three-dimensional depths (including a sweeping panorama of London). Like the production, and the play, the set celebrates diversity.

NEWS BRIEF from Preston Turegano: It looks as if it's back to square one in the state parks department's effort to find a Theatre in Old Town operator.

Mark Anderson — owner of Insta-Theatre Inc., based in Encinitas — says his negotiations with the California state parks department recently came to "an impasse" over which entity (Insta-Theatre or the state) would have control over intellectual property rights and how many shows might run simultaneously at the Theatre in Old Town.

"I never had any experience negotiating with the state," Anderson said. "I was ignorant about a lot of things, but I think the state was, too, especially about how shows are produced."

Last spring, the state began soliciting bids from individuals or companies seeking a ten-year Theatre in Old Town concession. Since 1992, Miracle Theatre Productions had operated the 248-seat venue on a month-to-month basis. Miracle had been paying the state \$1000 a month in rent and 10 percent of merchandise and food and beverage sales at the theater. During 2004–05, the 10 percent cut resulted in the state receiving \$48,933 from Miracle.

State law requires state park concessions to be put out to bid periodically. In 2005, the procedure led to Diane Powers's Bazaar del Mundo's departure from Old Town State Park after more than 30 years as a park concessionaire. Bazaar del Mundo shops are still in the Old Town area, and the Casa de Pico restaurant (once within the Bazaar's Old Town State Park grounds) moved to Grossmont Center in La Mesa. At one time, the state was receiving more than \$2 million a year as a result of Bazaar del Mundo's Old Town presence.

Insta-Theatre's contract was to have commenced in January. Anderson has been in the entertainment business for 23 years. His production of the comedy *Crazy Love* had extended runs in Tulsa, Oklahoma; Alexandria, Virginia; and at the Carlsbad Village Theatre in North County. Extended runs were Miracle's specialty, including such musical revues as *Forever*

Plaid, Forbidden Broadway, and *Too Old for the Chorus, but Not Too Old to Be a Star*.

The state parks department was looking for a concessionaire who would present plays about Old Town between 1820 and 1870. Anderson said he was prepared to stage a minstrel show at the Theatre in Old Town with performers who own their intellectual property in regard to the American musical genre that was popular in the 1800s.

"The state wanted intellectual property ownership," Anderson said. "That could not happen. The state also wants to decide when a show ends its run. If I put on a show that wasn't a hit, I'd be stuck with it, losing money."

A new Theatre in Old Town operator was also going to have to make physical improvements, such as accessibility in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, a new roof, carpeting, electrical upgrades and landscaping maintenance outside the facility. Built in 1979, the theater is barnlike and void of elegant features.

"Unfortunately, Insta-Theatre Inc. refused to sign the contract after it was awarded," said Donna Renner, California State Parks Coast District concession specialist. "This was a huge disappointment all around. We are now inviting the previous participants, one by one, to engage in negotiations. If we are able to engage in negotiation, we will re-bid."

Although the parks department last year received just one bid for the theater concession, three companies participated in a pre-bid question-and-answer process. Besides Insta-Theatre, Cygnet Theatre (currently in the Rolando/College area) and Miziker Entertainment Group (of Burbank, Calif.) were the other Q&A participants.

Anderson said he spent about \$30,000 in application

and legal fees, equipment purchases, and miscellaneous items to secure the theater concession that was awarded in January.

The parks department also approached Miracle, but it declined to get involved, Renner said. Miracle is moving to Encinitas to build a playhouse at the Encinitas Ranch Town Center.

If contract negotiations don't start by the end of March, the state will consider renting out the Theatre in Old Town for special events during a six-month rebid process, Renner added. ■

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

The Adoption Project: Triad
Mo'ololo Performing Arts Company presents Kimber Lee's "mosaic" about the complexity of adoption seen through the eyes of three women. Seema Sueko directed.
CENTRO CULTURAL DE LA RAZA, 2125 PARK BOULEVARD, BALBOA PARK, SATURDAY, MARCH 17, THROUGH APRIL 1; WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. 619-342-7395.

Au Revoir, Cyrano
Vanguard Productions presents the world premiere of Robert Landis's comedy, based on Edmond Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac*. Landis directed.
WESTMINSTER THEATRE, 3598 TALBOT STREET (CORNER OF TALBOT AND CANON), POINT LOMA, THROUGH APRIL 1; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. 619-224-6263.

Because of Cain
Community Actors Theatre stages the world premiere of Earl Hamil-



Crimes of the Heart

ton Jr.'s drama about "truths, lies, friendship, and revealing secrets."
COMMUNITY ACTORS THEATRE, 2957 54TH STREET, OAK PARK, THROUGH APRIL 15; THURSDAY AT 7:00 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. 619-264-3391.

Cabaret
Patio Playhouse stages Kander and Ebb's popular musical about the Kit Kat Club, decadence, and the rise of the Third Reich. Deborah Zimmer directed.
PATIO PLAYHOUSE, 201 EAST GRAND AVENUE, SUITE 1D, ESCONDIDO, THROUGH APRIL 1; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-746-6669.

Company
Poway Performing Arts Company presents Stephen Sondheim's musical about Robert. On his 35th birthday, he contemplates his confirmed bachelorhood.
POWAY PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY, 13250 POWAY ROAD, POWAY, THROUGH APRIL 1; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-679-8085.

Crimes of the Heart
Think you've got a lock on suffering? Think no one can scale your pinnacle of pain? Meet the McGrath sisters. A permanent cloud, maybe even a hurricane, storms on their every move. They, in turn, hold nothing back. A pop culture

injunction of the early '80s (*Crimes* won the Pulitzer Prize in 1981) was "get in touch with your feelings." And the sisters do: with *all* of them, no matter how giddy or grotesque. Beth Henley's comedy-drama comes at you like waves, in sets of three. For New Village Arts, director Dana Case and a top-notch cast turn the play's quirky rhythms and sudden, Chekhovian silences into pluses: you watch life — sometimes zany, sometimes tragic, often funny — just brim over. As the three McGraths, Kristiane 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 Lenny to be her own woman:

"Have some parties. Go out with strange men." Sitton's impressive as young Babe, as innocent as she is gothic (Babe shot her husband, Zachary, because she didn't like his looks). Performing on a humble, lived-in set, wearing appropriately drab costumes, and aided by a solid supporting cast, the trio builds arias of feeling. The McGrath sisters are hemmed in from all sides. And though they won't get all their wishes — there are no pies in that Hazlehurst, Mississippi, sky — they may be graced with what Robert Frost called "a momentary stay against confusion."
Critic's pick.

NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, STUDIO SPACE AT JAZZERCIZE, 2460 IMPALA DRIVE, CARLSBAD, THROUGH MARCH 18 (NOTE: *CRIMES OF THE HEART* RUNS IN

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Calendar

THEATER

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.

Driving Miss Daisy

Theatre 40 stages Alfred Uhry's Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy-drama about an unlikely friendship of 25 years.

POWAY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, 15498 ESPOLA ROAD, POWAY, SATURDAY, MARCH 17, AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY, MARCH 18, AT 2:00 P.M. 858-748-0505.

Electricidad

SDSU presents Luis Alfaro's adaptation of Sophocles' *Electra*: "a young girl struggles with endless amounts of death and tragedy in her family."

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY, THROUGH MARCH 18; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-594-6884.

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 SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 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 Anatevka.

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.

Glengarry Glen Ross

Willy Loman wouldn't last ten seconds with this crowd. The real estate salesmen in David Mamet's comedy-drama don't die, like Willy, and maybe that's their curse. They exist in a Darwinian pressure-cooker and 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 company'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 from the slime 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. Uncredited period costumes define status by shirt color, or the lack. Another smart choice: 6th@Penn brought former San Diegan Bryan Bevell back to dramatize (would he were here to stay). The salesmen's motto is



Glengarry Glen Ross

ABC, "always be closing." At one point *Glengarry* will sell you a bill of goods, and you'll buy, proving one of Mamet's key points: sales pitches come in all kinds, and don't think you're immune. **Critic's pick.**

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.

The Graduate

OnStage Playhouse presents Terry Johnson's adaptation of the Calder Willingham and a Buck Henry movie script, based on Charles Webb's novel. Daniel Zisko directed.

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVENUE, CHULA VISTA, THROUGH APRIL 7; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT

8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-422-7787.

If The Shoe Fits

Coronado Playhouse stages Matt Thompson's farce about an allegedly foolproof murder. Thompson directed.

CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO, THROUGH APRIL 8; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-435-4856.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding

Joey and Maria tie the knot in "not-so-ordinary interactive dinner theater." HOLIDAY INN ON THE BAY, 1355 NORTH HARBOR DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, OPEN-ENDED RUN. FOR DAYS AND TIMES CALL 800-944-5639.

Marat/Sade

The Old Globe/University of San Diego graduate theater program presents Peter Weiss's monumental drama: the Marquis de Sade stages a play, about the assassination of Jean-Paul Marat, performed by asylum inmates. Sabin Epstein and Robert Barry directed. UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO, STUDIO THEATRE, THROUGH MARCH 23; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. 619-260-2727.

The Matchmaker

In Thornton Wilder's comedy, source of the musical *Hello, Dolly!*, it's as if everyone is a balloon, filled with repressed emotions. A trip from Yonkers to Manhattan sets feelings free (for example: Cornelius Hackl is 33; he wants to have an adventure that will include "kissing a girl"). Cygnet Theatre's gifted director Sean Murray has done a retro-staging; instead of locating a period play now, he does the reverse: he puts *Matchmaker* in its period, the 1880s, scenic designer Sean Fanning creates a wondrous music hall set (with striking, one-point perspective drops for each act), and the actors perform in a broad 1880s style. This is how *they* would have done it. And most of Murray's cast has a lark, especially Sean Cox (doing bowler hat tricks, sporty vaudevillian moves, and even a spit-take, as Cornelius Hackl) and Amy Biedel (who shines as Mrs. Irene Molloy, a milliner out for just one adventure). Jason Connors and Rachel Van Wormer team with Cox and Biedel and create rollicking, high-speed farce. On opening night, the leads didn't match this energy: Sandy Ellis-Troy got much of Dolly Levi but had yet to internalize the famous matchmaker completely, and David Gallagher's odd Horace Vandergelder seemed in a different

play, doing pseudo-W.C. Fields takes and straining to be an endearing villain. One shouldn't take Jeanne Reith's costume designs or Eric Lotze's lighting for granted, but it's easy to: their work is so consistently apt. As Malachai Stack, Antonio "T.J." Johnson stops the show with one of Thornton Wilder's great soliloquies: while all around him run amok from convention, Stack urges the audience to nurse only one vice at a time.

Worth a try.

CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH APRIL 8; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-337-1525, X3.

Mud

Maria Irene Fornes's grim tale unfolds like a series of snapshots. Each marks a change: risings and fallings more volatile than the stock market. Mae and Lloyd live on a farm, of some sort. To make ends meet, she irons clothes; he's sick (but won't go to the clinic without his hatchet — so he doesn't). Mae wants an education, wants to "have value." Enter thoughtful Henry. Unlike primitive Lloyd, spiritual Henry makes Mae feel she has "something inside" her brain. You can see a clash coming (a rifle leans against the wall, stage left, throughout the intermissionless drama). But Fornes, one of the most inventive playwrights of our time, spins and turns the tensions, making the outcome both inevitable and surprising. Fornes has a knack for making the mundane suddenly special. At one point, the gift of lipstick becomes almost miraculous (Fornes sees males as troublemakers, either of the body or the mind; now surely there are decent men in the world — okay, maybe not in this state or this hemisphere, but somewhere...). Ion Theatre has given this bleak play a smart, minimalist staging. Claudio Raygoza (the brute Lloyd), Glenn Paris (kindly Henry), and especially a stark, pummeled, but hopeful Julie Sachs, make the subtexts, what isn't said, more eloquent than the dialogue. Raygoza's lighting includes ghostly blue-grays for the freeze-frames that conclude each scene: faces stare, often in horror.

Worth a try.

ACADEMY OF THE PERFORMING ARTS, 4580-B ALVARADO CANYON ROAD, MISSION VALLEY, THROUGH MARCH 25; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. 619-374-6894.

National Comedy Theatre

Improvisational comedy, making up funny stuff on the spot, is difficult enough. Years ago, however, Keith Johnstone thought it'd be

more exciting if done competitively. He got the idea from pro wrestling ("where Terrible Turks mangled defrocked priests, while mums and dads yelled insults and grannies waved their handbags"). National Comedy Theatre, an offshoot of Johnstone's TheatreSports (artistic director Gary Kramer says the two compare like "rugby and American football"), resembles an athletic event more than an improv. Teams wear uniforms and compete on ActroTurf. The night I caught the show, three San Diego comedians played a challenge match against players from the San Jose franchise. Using suggestions from the audience, they played "Emotional Sympathy," "Shakespeare," "Blind Line," and "Freeze Tag," with judges awarding points to the best scenes. Klunkers and groaners got booed; quick wit rewarded (one of the most refreshing parts of the contest: people acknowledge failure, abundantly, then forget it). It made for a lively, often quite funny, evening. And Gary Kramer is one talented comedian.

Worth a try.

MARQUIS THEATER, 3717 INDIA STREET, MISSION HILLS, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-295-4999.

The Odd Couple

Kinney Productions presents Neil Simon's longest-running Broadway show about mismatched roommates: the slob and the neat-freak. Scott Kinney directed. Dinner-theater packages available. BORREGO SPRINGS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, 590 PALM CANYON DRIVE, BORREGO SPRINGS, SATURDAY, MARCH 17, THROUGH MARCH 31; WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, FRIDAY, MARCH 23, SATURDAY, MARCH 24, TUESDAY, MARCH 27, FRIDAY, MARCH 30, AND SATURDAY, MARCH 31, AT 7:30 P.M. 760-765-1688.

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 BROADWAY (DIRECTLY BEHIND THE AVO PLAYHOUSE), VISTA, THROUGH MARCH 25; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-806-7905.

The Piano Teacher

South Coast Repertory Theatre offers Jlia Cho's drama about a retired piano teacher, Mrs. K, haunted by an event long ago: why did students stop coming to her? Kate Whoriskey directed. SOUTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, JULIANNE ARGYROS STAGE, 655 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, COSTA MESA, FRIDAY, MARCH 16, THROUGH APRIL 1; TUESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 7:45 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 714-708-5555.

Readings of August Wilson's Plays: The Piano Lesson

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



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Catalyn Kozowski and Marco Bannicelli; photo by Craig Schwartz.

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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: *The Piano Lesson*. **Worth a try.**

CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH MAY 8; *THE PIANO LESSON*, TUESDAY, MAY 8, WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, AND TUESDAY, MAY 15 (SPACE TBA) AT 7:30 P.M. FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF READINGS AND LOCATIONS, CALL 619-337-1525, X3.

Restoration Comedy

Reviewed this issue. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH APRIL 8; SUNDAY, TUESDAY, 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.

San Diego Theatresports: The FunHouse

A cross between improvisational comedy and *Family Feud*. Improv, making up a funny scene as you go along, is tough enough. Add competitive scene making, with the audience awarding points to the winning team. Purists might balk at the odiousness of comparisons used in this format, but the “game show” — on Fridays — is a hoot. The 90-minute evening offers different bits. The show I caught had “Team Sports” — two pairs of players competed, taking suggestions from the audience; and “Gorilla Theatre” — five directors invented scenes, using the other four as actors. The winner got a banana, the loser a “forfeit” (other formats include “Micetro” and “Improv Survivors”). Some attempts went nowhere (I repeat: improv is tough; I did it in my, as hindsight reveals, callow youth). Others made amazing twists and turns. The group makes the hits much more frequent than the misses. Their guru, Keith Johnstone, wrote one of the very best books I’ve ever read about making theater. And they put his pearls to good use. Their motto: “Remember, when it’s not funny, it’s art.”

Worth a try.

THE FUNHOUSE, 6822 EL CAJON BOULEVARD (BETWEEN 68TH AND 69TH), COLLEGE AREA, FRIDAY AT 7:45 P.M. SATURDAY AT 7:45 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-465-7469.

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.

Taking Flight

The San Diego Repertory Theatre stages Adriana Sevan’s comedy-drama about her “finding the goddess within, while dedicating her life to saving her best friend.” Giovanni Sardelli directed. SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, LYCEUM SPACE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, SUNDAY, MARCH 18, THROUGH APRIL 1; WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 6129-544-1000.

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 one-note shrew; John Garcia’s Solyony 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-the-century 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? Yep. Straight from *Forever Plaid*. There’s also the *Forever Plaid* problem: the three comedians are far too talented to play inept characters. One’s a whiz at the piano. Another’s a first-rate mime, and the third’s a crackerjack magician. The trio is so talented, when the plot has them complain of difficulties to overcome, you wish they’d quit trumping up the pseudo-drama and get on with this highly entertaining, if lightweight show. (Note: the original cast members have been replaced.)

Worth a try.

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVENUE, GASLAMP QUARTER, OPEN-ENDED RUN; WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SATURDAY AT 5:00 AND 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M. 619-234-9583.

The Uneasy Chair

Captain Josiah Wickett tells us he’s found a “cool and distant intimacy” at the boarding house at #15 Telfair Circle. But the Captain, like his landlady, Miss Amelia Pickles, talks more clearly in asides to the audience — of Evan Smith’s Victorian comedy — than he does to the onstage characters. Most of the two marital boondoggles that follow stem from literate people unable or afraid to articulate feelings, so they back into situations that direct assertion could have avoided. Of course, those few occasions when they do get them into even more grief. *The Uneasy Chair* is lengthy (and the third act *really* recalls Robert Anderson’s absurdist *I’m*



The Matchmaker

Herbert). A sparkling performance by Lynne Griffin, as Amelia, and frequent, often hilarious, cameos by Craig Huisenga (at one point playing a barrister arguing both sides at a trial) give the North

Coast production comic appeal. Rhianna Bashore and Christopher M. Williams do capable work as Alexandra and John, who escape wedlock though married (the playwright has dim views,

at best, of the institution). I think I caught Robert Grossman, a talented actor, on an off-night; as the Captain he sputtered many lines and threw director Brendon Fox’s stopwatch-precise timing off.

THEATER DIRECTORY

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www.dinnertheater.net

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Laguna Playhouse

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La Jolla Playhouse

Mandell Weiss Center, UCSD
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www.lajollaplayhouse.com

La Jolla Stage Company

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National Comedy Theatre

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3710 Del

Chasing Game

A certain mystique developed around the Tractor Room from the day it opened. Perhaps it arose from the black velvet curtains inside the entry door, shielding the interior from prying eyes, or maybe it was the playfully old-fashioned masculine decor, with dark, button-dotted leather under dim lighting and an antlered stag's head over the bar. (The owners picked it up at a garage sale.) The menu proclaims the restaurant as the "Home of Bourbon and Meat." Yup, it's a double masquerade — it's not just dressed up as a Montana hunting lodge, it's also playing a speakeasy — even though it's perfectly legal and you don't need a password to get in. (A reservation is more apropos.) Sam Spade oughta be here, but he's tied up in Frisco, chasing a black bird and a bad redhead.

Under the same ownership as nearby Hash House A Go Go (Johnny Rivera and chef-owner Andy Beardslee), the restaurant took over the space vacated by Rice Jones when the rent shot up beyond reason. Tractor instantly began pulling in bushels of Hillcrest hipcats of all genders and legal ages. The night we went, the bar was packed with zaftig blondes and a few skinny Elisha Cook types, mainly paired or grouped like with like. Younger couples sat at the small tables near the bar, while larger groups and the older half of the crowd (including our gang) were seated on leather banquettes against the far wall. Contrary to early rumors, I saw nobody dressed to the nines — fours to high sixes were more like it.

What drew me was a menu featuring game meats, including elk, bison, boar, and venison, all at pretty reasonable prices given their premium wholesale costs. I like game meats for their intense tastes and healthfulness, free from the chemical cocktails that make domestic animals fatten up fast at the price of flavor. I once wrote a meat-and-game cookbook that had to be delivered to the editor meat-by-meat. The only chapter that was any fun to write was the game chapter. (Well, the offal wasn't bad either.)

Given the owners' bent for heartland cuisine, I couldn't have chosen better dinner companions than the Lynnester and her mom, Mary Ann, rebel gourmets from northern Michigan. In their still-woodsy small town, the local motto is: "I killed it, honey, you cook it." And Lynne's cuddle, Samurai Jim, has a wild side of his own.

Since the Tractor pushes "honest cocktails," we



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

began with a round of hooch. To our surprise, there were no sugar-bombs. (You're definitely not in the Gaslamp anymore.) My Ramos Fizz was the driest I've ever sampled, while Jim's "Prohibition Punch" was clean and refreshing, similar to the grown-up Plantation Punches of un-touristy Port of Spain. The Peach Bellinis that both Lynne and Mary Ann enjoyed were equally adult.

Our game hunt began with the appetizers. Crispy Elk Sausage Ravioli offered large, thin-enough pasta squares with crisped edges, stuffed with dryish ground elk meat and swathed with what seemed to be a cream sauce based on meat stock and spiked with tomatoes — as far as we could tell in the Stygian darkness (it's surprising how much harder it is to identify flavors when you can barely see your food). The elk could've passed for lean ground round, with no distinctive wild flavor. Given the nonexorbitant price (\$10), I guessed, correctly, that it was free-range farmed elk from New Zealand.

Wild boar and mashed potato spring rolls are sized for a hungry grizzly bear. The meat doesn't taste noticeably different from well-raised, well-stewed domestic organic pork. (The restaurant owners couldn't tell me whether the boar was ac-

tual European wild boar, aka *cingale*, ancestor of domestic pigs, or — like most "boar" sold in the U.S. — the feral descendants of escaped domestic razorback hogs brought over by the Spanish. They think it's the latter. Their meat wholesaler buys it from a game ranch in Texas.) The rolls were plated over chopped salad, a welcome blast of greenery in this fleshy feast.

Smoked salmon and rock shrimp cakes were so dry that we wouldn't have been able to guess what seafood they were made of. Mary Ann liked the toasted ciabatta under the cakes and the horseradish-cream streaks across the plate. But Jim found the chewy ciabatta literally hard going. "Ouch, my teeth are getting a divorce from my mouth," he quipped.

Fried shrimp cocktail bears the menu notation "IT'S GOT BOOZE!" Well, yes. You get two breadcrumb-battered, medium-size fried shrimp atop a layer of thick, acidic roasted-tomato sauce, which blankets a tall bed of ice. Alongside is a jigger of Blue Skyy vodka with spicy chipotle sauce lurking at the bottom. It's up to you to decide what to do with the BOOZE! When the dish made its way to me (third out of four), I tried a bite of the remaining prawn and then poured vodka on the rest of it,

The Tractor Room ★★ (Good)

3687 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-543-1007,
www.tractorroom.com

HOURS: Dinner: Wednesday–Thursday 5:30 p.m.–closing (about midnight); Friday–Saturday 5:30 p.m.–1:00 a.m.; Sunday–Monday 5:00 p.m.–midnight. Weekend brunch Saturday–Sunday 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

PRICES: Dinner: Soups, salads, appetizers, \$4–\$15; mains, \$14.50–\$34; sides, \$5; desserts, \$9.

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: American "meat and potatoes" including some game meats. International wine list of moderate length, strongest on Rhones and Syrahs, fair markups, a few options by the glass. Huge list of cocktails and hard liquors.

PICK HITS: Wild boar or buffalo stew; salmon; Prime bone-in rib-eye; acorn squash; heavy-cream mashed potatoes and gravy.

NEED TO KNOW: Staircase to dining room; wheelchair lift (painted to blend in) to left of staircase. Heated, roofed smoking patio above street level. Valet parking. Big portions, including most appetizers and salads. Reservations urged.

Ratings reflect the reviewer's reaction to food, ambience, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

Go to SanDiegoReader.com to find hundreds of past reviews.

which gave it more flavor and enlivened the heavy sauce. But the dish seemed pointless — 12 bucks for two shrimp and a hot shot?

A couple next to us were eating the two salads the menu offers. One of them tackled a large head of Bibb lettuce stuffed with blobs of Maytag blue cheese. "Glad I didn't order that," said Mary Ann. "I'd be intimidated." The other had the heart of romaine, of equal size but horizontally arranged, with Thousand Island dressing. "That one looks almost as scary," said Lynne.

There are two "signature" game meat stews — the same stew with nothing changed but the meat. They're served in cast-iron skillets, in which they've

REVIEW NAOMI WISE

"Best Thai" — *944 Magazine* Editor's Choice, 2006

★★★ (Very good) — *San Diego Reader*, 2006

"Best Thai Restaurant" — *San Diego CityBeat*, 2004 & 2005

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— Naomi Wise, *San Diego Reader*, 2006



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been heated to blistering. One version offers wild boar in tender lumps that taste like good pork. The other has buffalo, with tougher, stringy meat and shreds on top, the mother lode of larger pieces hiding under the veggies and nuggets of smoky bacon. The vegetative components consist of fingerling carrots, tiny round potatoes, diced winter squash, pearl onions, and English gooseberries in their husks. These last look like golden cherry or grape tomatoes in papery coats, like those on fresh tomatillos. Their flavor is acidic and tomatolike as well. But take away the refinements (like the gooseberries and upscale carrots) and you'd have a standard hunter-style buffalo stew of the Prairie states — the sort of recipe you find in older "I Shot It, You Cook It" game cookbooks. Alongside comes another "signature" dish, black-skillet cornbread, which is normal Southern-style cornbread, neither sweet nor fluffy but hearty.

At this point we were beginning to realize how the Tractor Room can serve game at reasonable prices: They're using cuts from the toughest, least costly pieces (front shoulders, legs, etc.). Long, slow wet-cooking (stews, braises) or grinding the meat are reasonable solutions to wringing some

tenderness from the hardest-working muscles on the animal. There are no game steaks or roasts on this menu — dry-cooking only suits tender cuts (ribs, loins) from the high-priced lazy muscles "high on the hog" (or on the bison). Unfortunately, just as all cats look gray in the dark, stewed meats generally end up tasting more like "meat stew" than like themselves.

"In northern Michigan, the local hunters bring home venison and cook it badly," said Mary Ann as she looked over the menu. "I never want to eat another venison chili." So we passed on the venison meat loaf, which is, after all, just a solid version of venison chili (minus some spices).

Instead, we tried the chipotle-charred tomato pork ribs, which Lynne remembered seeing celebrated in a review or food blog. The pig meat tasted boiled (or simmered) before its final turn on the grill, while the sauce was hot, heavy, coarsely spiced, and — oh, just forget it. Some people obviously like it, but none of us did.

English gooseberries reappeared as a glaze for a salmon fillet, nicely done to our order of "please, not overcooked!" As a sauce, the gooseberries were true to their tart nature, and since the same berries garnished all our other entrées (even the

ribs), they'd already cheapened themselves with their promiscuity. Given the careful cooking of the salmon, I'd bet on the kitchen doing a fine job on its most expensive entrée, a USDA Prime rib-eye steak.

A side of a baked acorn squash half, its cavity aswim in bacon-maple butter, was delightful (even if the squash was on the older, pulpy side). The bacon was excellent. "Be a great breakfast!" said Jim. Another side dubbed "heavy cream mashed potatoes and fresh batch gravy" was pure comfort food, right down to the bits of potato skin in the mash.

After the meat-heavy dinner, we couldn't bring ourselves to order any of the weighty-sounding desserts (e.g., fudge with a side of peanut butter cookies). We noticed that the sextet of bearded, flannel-clad "bears" at the table to our right also passed on the sweets, as did the salad-eating ladies to our left. Maybe they knew something we didn't.

The staff is attentive and pleasant, but some may need more training on wines, e.g., opening and pouring those rich young reds (so suited to the menu) a little before they're needed, to let them breathe away their up-front tannins. Luckily, it took as long for the stews to cool to eating temperature as it did for our big,

plummy Rhone to open up in the glass.

Whether or not you'll like the Tractor Room is a matter of personal taste. Its website's claim of "Honest Cocktails and Meats" is truthful (unless you count that silly shrimp cocktail), but the style of cooking is simple, hearty, midwestern meat 'n' potatoes fare. (When even a spring roll contains mashed potatoes, you know it's not a California palate designing the menu.) The food reminded me at every turn of a slightly glorified version of the college dining hall where I waitressed in Ann Arbor (back before anybody ever thought of serving sushi to college kids). And although Lynne and Mary Ann come from that same milieu, they've rebelled against its manly culinary ethos. Very few dishes here gave us any joy beyond that of a full belly. "Would you come back here?" I asked my companions. "Never," said Lynne. "Nah," said Jim. "No, these dishes are mainly about size, not really about quality or pleasure," said Mary Ann. In my younger years, I encountered a few gentlemen who fit that description — they didn't get second tries either.

ABOUT THE TRACTOR ROOM

The co-owners of the Tractor Room are Johnny Rivera (who deals with the "front of the

house") and chef Andy Beardslee. Beardslee, who floats between Hash House A Go Go and the Tractor Room, did not respond by deadline to numerous messages left for him, so I spoke with Rivera.

"It's important to us that, if we're gonna do game meat, we're gonna do it as best as we can — no hormones, free-range," he said. "We're trying to get fresh rabbit, never frozen, for rabbit stew. A lot of people won't want us to serve rabbit, but at the end of the day, it's still a free country, isn't it? And we're about to start serving Maple Leaf duck."

The heart of the concept of the Tractor Room was in serving clean, hormone-free meats, especially game. "Restaurants in the past had a hard time trying to get organic, free-range meats. The general consumer has driven this truck in the right direction, so that companies will carry it. It's not that difficult to find free-range products with no hormones added now — but eight, ten years ago, you'd almost be laughed out of the butcher's. We're not trying to wear it on our sleeve but we're just saying, 'We enjoy this, come on in.'"

"Basically, we wanted a hunting lodge on Fifth — Manhattan meets Montana. We wanted to evoke a time when things were simpler in

people's minds, before we knew not to smoke, not to drink — so we serve bourbon and meats. The pictures on the wall are like a union hall of swankiness. We don't have to overconceptualize, it's just something we dig personally. We had a hard time finding a place that's dark enough inside. I think there's been a bastardization of bars. That's why we don't have televisions. Why should you have TVs? Your whole experience should be of conversation, of the essence of the cocktail — that's the whole point. We're not trying to be the new Bouchon, the new Thomas Keller. We're just trying to have a place where you go, 'Hey, I feel comfortable here, I don't need a \$400 bottle of Skyy (which sells for \$22 in the drugstores) to rent my table.' Unfortunately — or I guess, fortunately — we've become packed as a result.

"Andy is from Millford, Indiana. You can really see his Indiana background in our brunch. He studied at Cambridge Culinary Arts School in Boston and worked in Boston for about ten years before he came out here. I'm a Southern California boy. The bottom line is, there are some American ethics we put together here that maybe are a little idealistic. The gentlemen at the bar wear ties — and combat boots." ■



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A Farmhouse in Qualcommland

“You walked all the way from the Coaster? Try the Ironman sandwich.”

It’s a ways off,” warns Officer Butts. He’s shouting. We’re trying to communicate across the railroad tracks at Sorrento Valley Coaster station. These tracks you don’t cross. Amtrak trains hurtle through at, like, 80 mph.

I figured Officer Butts would know where the yellow farmhouse is. Hank and I spotted it when we were here last week, smack in the middle of San Diego’s Silicon Valley.

“Yessir, I’d say a good mile,” Officer Butts shouts, “but worth it. Gr-r-reat food. Good luck!”

Whew. He’s right about the mile. Country mile, I’d say. I walk and walk, between glossy, glassy offices and the sanitized factories of Qualcomm. Then, time travel! From out of the ancient past, a clapboard farmhouse, yellow, two stories, in a large garden filled with pepper trees, fountains, tables, chairs, benches, old farm wagons — and a red English phone box.

There’s no inside eating. Just people lined up outside an order window.

“You walked all the way from the Coaster?” says this guy who’s also talking into an ear-miked cell phone. “Try ‘The Ironman’ sandwich.”

Think he’s talking to me. I check the wall menu. Ooh. I see they have a \$2.75 soup of the

day. Today’s is tomato bisque. “I’ll start with that,” I tell the woman in the window.

“Sorry. We’re out,” she says.

Okay. How about that Ironman sandwich? “Grilled chicken breast, fresh avocado, Swiss cheese,

honey-mustard dressing, tomato, and sprouts on sourdough bread, \$6.35.” Sounds good. Actually, all 18 deli sandwiches do. On the other hand, a mandarin salad with grilled chicken is only 64 cents more. Or, hey: rotisserie chicken — a half chicken with side salad, mashed potato, and garlic bread. Same price.

“Uh, I’ll have the half chicken,” I say.

“Sorry, out of that too,” says the lady. Maryam. She and her husband own the place. “You need to come earlier, before the lunch-hour rush.”

Ho-kay. Now we’re looking at chicken strips and fries for \$6.35. Or a chicken kebob with grilled tomato and white rice or a salad, also \$6.50. I skip pizzas and look for pastas, like spaghetti with marinara or meat sauce for \$5.35 — that’s a deal — or with meatballs, or homemade lasagna for \$6.35.

But it’s the very last item that captures my heart and my dinero: the chicken tequila fettuccini. Probably top dollar on the menu at \$7.50. But what the heck. In a mad moment I add some \$1.60 fries on the side.

“To drink?” says Maryam.



“Coffee?”

“We don’t do coffee, but if Lily has any at her place, I’ll give you one free.”

Wow. Turns out Lily has another piece of the house, Lily’s Closet Café, where she sells smoothies and the like. (Around the other side, next to a small surf shop, is yet another eatery, Caliente Mexican Food. All sprouting out of this same old house.)

So I pay my money and head into the courtyard behind the red phone box. Nice. You sit under an arbor, among ferns. An artist has painted murals of plants and kids on the yellow walls. Birds twitter in the trees.

A woman roars up in her Mini Cooper, orders a “Sorrento’s Choice” sandwich (turkey breast, cream cheese, sunflower seeds, tomato, sprouts, and mayo on whole wheat, \$5.85), and roars off. Everybody who comes seems to be, well, highly caffeinated and Sorrento Valley cool.

Maryam brings out my tequila fettuccini and, yes! A tall coffee. The fettuccini comes in a round aluminum box, with a cardboard lid you lever off to a puff of steam. But the food’s the real thing. Green pasta, red and green peppers, spinach, cilantro, grilled onions, and sinful golden creamy sauce. I honestly can’t taste any tequila, and for me it needs a good shake of salt, but then, suddenly,

this becomes a killer meal. The flavor kicks from the sautéed onions and peppers are beautiful. This ain’t sandwich-shop stuff. It’s sophisticated cooking.

And too much for me to handle, ‘specially with the fries on the side. And the garlic bun. But I try, chowing away in this sweet little courtyard, marveling at how an old house could have survived the Sorrento Valley ‘dozers.

Kiu, Maryam’s husband, says the house was built in 1922. He doesn’t know the history, but it had to have started off as a farmhouse. They took over four years ago, when the place was just a deli.

“Maryam and I come from a background of fine dining. We had Bollicine (“Little Bubbles”) in La Jolla. An Italian restaurant. This is different. It’s mainly lunches, but we insist on starting from scratch every day with fresh food, just as we did at Bollicine.”

Kiu and Maryam arrived here from Iran 30 years ago. “We have Iranian friends tell us that this reminds them of the mountain resort cafés near Tehran,” Kiu says. “You should see it here in summer. People eating all through these gardens, the fountain going, the lines at lunchtime. It’s quite a scene.”

I have to ask Maryam to pack up half the fettuccini. I’m full. Plus, got a Coaster to catch, and that country mile to walk.

And I gotta have time to thank Officer Butts. ■

The Place: Corner House Cafe & Pizzeria, 11815 Sorrento Valley Road, Sorrento Valley, 858-755-3183

Type of Food: American, Mediterranean, pizza

Prices: Soup of the day, e.g. tomato bisque, \$2.75; sandwiches (either \$5.85 or \$6.35) include the Ironman (grilled chicken breast, avocado, Swiss cheese, honey-mustard dressing) and Sorrento’s Choice (turkey breast, cream cheese, sunflower seeds, tomato, sprouts); mandarin salad with grilled chicken, \$6.99; rotisserie chicken (half chicken, side salad, mashed potato, garlic bread), \$6.99; chicken kebob, grilled tomato, rice or salad, \$6.50; pizzas from \$5.99–\$13.99; spaghetti with meatballs, \$5.99; chicken tequila fettuccini, \$7.50

Hours: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday–Friday; 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., Saturdays; closed Sundays

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Up with Rosé

"Lancers was developed to appeal to American military servicemen toward the end of World War II."

Jeff Morgan is, among other things, an adjunct instructor at the Rudd Center for Professional Wine Studies, part of the Culinary Institute of America's Napa Valley branch. His course is titled "Career Discoveries," and it's easy to see why. "I occupy kind of an unusual niche in our industry," explains Morgan — by which he means that, when it comes to wine, he's delved into a great many niches.

"I started as a producer, working as a cellar rat in Long Island. I helped make some really good wines, and that caught the attention of *Wine Spectator*. Then I started writing about wine for a local newspaper. I built a portfolio and parlayed that into a position as a stringer for the *New York Times*, with a specialization in agriculture. The people from *Wine Spectator* saw my byline in the *Times*." That led to freelance work, then a regular gig, and finally, a stint as the magazine's West Coast editor. "I covered the California wine scene, and I was also part of the tasting panel." After seven years, he decided he'd said what he had to say about wine — an opinion he has since retracted — and took a job with the gourmet grocery chain Dean & DeLuca in Napa Valley. "That's when I started making wine again."

Pink wine, no less. Lots of oenophiles can cite a visit to Europe somewhere along their way, usually near the beginning. Morgan spent nearly a

decade in the south of France and the surrounding area, including "a 1987 gig as bandleader at the Grand Casino in Monte Carlo." Pink wine is king in those parts, and by the time he made the jump to Long Island, Morgan was thoroughly

besotted. His winery project, created in partnership with Daniel Moore, is called SoloRosa — "the only winery in the entire New World that was founded with a dedication to Rosé... Nobody else is that stupid."

Stupid because, even as recently as 2001, rosé in America was still struggling to distance itself from its rep as sweet stuff, wine for people who like soda but want a buzz. Morgan's book *Rosé* pins the blame on Portugal and war: a marketing man at Lancers says that "Lancers was developed to appeal to American military servicemen toward the end of World War II. It was thought that the soldiers who had discovered wine in Europe would still want something easy to drink that was semisweet and with bubbles — like Coca-Cola.... By 1964, Lancers was selling 400,000 cases annually and had become the nation's number-one wine import."

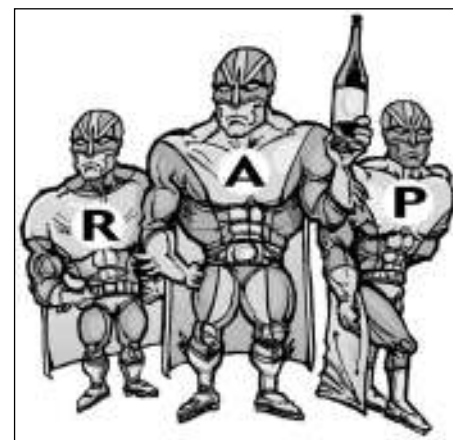
Mateus followed suit. As a result, when wine drinkers decided to get all sophisticated and start thinking about the way dry wines paired with savory foods, pink wine was quickly abandoned.

And even after rosé began its recent, rather mysterious comeback, says Morgan, it had to do

battle with "the image that rosé is one kind of wine, one that's worth about eight to ten dollars. There's no one kind of white wine, and no one kind of red wine, and there's obviously no one kind of rosé." In Morgan's case, that means a California bottling at around \$15, and a couple of reserves clocking in at \$28. The French Laundry got what he was getting at and began stocking his Rosé of Syrah, but generally, "Restaurants are still slow to figure it out. Most don't even have a rosé section. They stick the one or two rosés that they do have in either the red or white section. It's definitely a retail phenomenon." (Speaking of retail phenomena, the book recounts a visit to an Aix-en-Provence grocery store that carried "more than 250 different labels" of rosé. The image makes it easier to understand his frustration.)

The book, which I first noticed for sale a couple of years back on the elegant wall of the downtown Extraordinary Desserts, probably helped some. "It was my publisher's idea. I've written a number of other cookbooks, including *The Dean & DeLuca Food & Wine Cookbook*, and, with my wife, *The Working Parents' Cookbook*. My publisher at Chronicle Books had been drinking SoloRosa for several years, and he said, 'Hey, we love this wine. Why don't you write a book about rosé?' The best thing about the book, I think, is that it touts rosé as a great food accompaniment, and we have 15 great recipes in it to help you enjoy your favorite rosés." (Recipes range from onion pizza to pasta with pesto to a chicken couscous.)

Finally, Morgan took a page from ZAP and the Rhone Rangers: if you want to champion a wine, you need an advocacy group. With his partner Daniel Moore and Carol Shelton — a winemaker perhaps best known for her Zinfandels — he founded RAP: Rosé Avengers and Producers. "We're avenging the wrong done to rosé. For the



last three years, we've done pinkouts in San Francisco and New York. We usually have about 150 rosé producers pouring. We'll have over 500 people at each one, and we've always got a waiting list. It's something that is growing. We even did one in winter, to remind people that rosé is not good just in summer."

Now, he's back in the writing game, with a column in *Wine Enthusiast*, and has made his varied experience into its own product via a wine consulting service. And through Covenant, the high-end Cab he makes with Leslie Rudd of Rudd wines, he's setting out to do for Kosher wines what SoloRosa helped do for pink. "I'm not kosher myself, but I like to fight for the underdog. It's more interesting. Five years ago, Leslie Rudd and I were doing a fundraiser for the local synagogue up in Napa. I'm pouring my SoloRosa, and he's pouring his Rudd Cabernet, and he looked at me and said, 'Jeff, how come kosher wines are so terrible?'" The unfortunate practice of pasteurization accounts for some of it, but not everyone pas-



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teurizes. Says Morgan, “I don’t know why it is. It’s an irony — the Jews have a very long connection to wine in their culture. Wine is a very important part of their ritual. The Jews were making great wines back when the Greeks and Romans were making great wines. Somehow, they lost the path when they were wandering around Europe. But I think they’re coming back.” ■

RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The Reader’s Guide to Restaurants are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Barbara David, Ambrose Martin, Shari McCullough, Max Nash, Eleanor Widmer, Naomi Wise). Each issue contains only a fraction of over 500 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at SanDiegoReader.com. Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a mid-range entrée. Inexpensive: below \$10; moderate: \$10 to \$19; expensive: \$20 to \$24; very expensive: more than \$25. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.

NORTH COASTAL

Americana 1454 Camino Del Mar (southwest corner at 15th Street), Del Mar, 858-794-6838. Housed in a historic building, this casual breakfast/lunch joint turns into a serious dinner house at nightfall. The cooking represents the American melting pot, featuring world-wide flavors. Mornings, along with flawless eggs Benedict and utopian waffles, you can get a “Roman breakfast” of prosciutto, mozzarella, and fried egg on English muffin. At dinner, don’t miss the lamb chop and eggplant appetizer or the duck breast with fig sauce. During summer, some of the veggies come from chef-owner Randy Gruber’s home garden; the French fries (which don’t come from his garden) are world class. To finish, a banana *tarte tatin* shouldn’t be resisted. Thoughtful, reasonable wine list. Breakfast (until 3 p.m.) and lunch daily, dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Kids’ menu available. Breakfast and lunch inexpensive to moderate; dinner moderate to expensive. — *A.M. (1/05)*

Big Jim’s Old South Barbecue 190 North Coast Highway 101 (two blocks north of Encinitas Boulevard), Encinitas, 760-635-1166. At this outstanding barbecue, you can “Put Some South in Yo’ Mouth!” The smoking-

wood is mellow hickory, and each type of meat (sublime “pulled pork,” smoky skewered shrimp, huge pork ribs, chicken, beef ribs, steak) gets individualized treatment, including a tangy Alabama-style mustard sauce for pork and chicken. (Beef gets the more familiar tomatoey Texas-style sauce.) You don’t eat meat? The ever-expanding menu now includes a delicious, spicy blackened grilled salmon steak. Side dishes are superb: Don’t miss the thick, smoky-sweet Brunswick stew (you’ll not find its like anywhere on this coast), exemplary hush puppies, corn muffins with honey butter, well-balanced slaw...oh, just taste everything you can fit under your belt. Lunch and dinner daily. Low moderate. — *N.W. (6/05)*

The Bird House Grill 250 North Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-944-2882. A great place to check out real Turkish cuisine. The inside has a fine collection of blue-and-white wall plates and blue glass eyes to ward off evil spirits. Try the house specialty, Iskender Kebab (ground meat kebab, rice, tomato sauce, and house-grown yogurt) — “Iskender” means “Alexander.” Or the Kofte plate (ground meat kebab, rice, salad, pita, and *tzatziki* sauce). The shepherd’s salad is a traditional dish brimming with fresh tomatoes, cucumbers, onions, parsley, oil, and lemon. Good healthy Mediterranean diet. Even the baklavas are less gloopy. Open Monday to Saturday, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/04)*

Calypso Cafe 576 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia, 760-632-8252. This “Calypso” has nothing to do with Caribbean music (or food), despite its tropical tiki-hut decor. The cuisine is French, ranging from old warhorses like onion soup and *coq au vin* to newfangled Gallo-Cal-Italian-Pacific Rim hyphenates. The traditional dishes are generally the most successful. Mussels are the house specialty, and their rapid turnover here ensures freshness. Although there’s nothing revolutionary coming from this kitchen, the cooking is generally agreeable. Dinner nightly, reservations advised. Upper moderate. — *N.W. (9/01)*

Cuvee 2334 Carmel Valley Road, Del Mar, 858-259-5878. Seasonal California-Mediterranean cuisine, bolder and more complex than at the original, now-closed La Jolla branch. Cuisine is designed to accompany an interesting, affordable wine list. A reserve list includes fancier choices, still at minimal markups. Corkage fee for BYO is \$10, but waived on Tuesdays. Reservations urged. Lunch weekdays, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. — *N.W. (12/04)*

El Callejon Restaurant Moonlight Plaza, 345 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-634-2793. This is a Mexican restaurant with a difference: Instead of the standard boring border foods and combo plates, it offers a long menu of genuine, zesty mainland dishes, some with original spins on traditional themes. Shrimp *zarandeados* with a rich sauce of chilies and beef in cilantro sauce are some of the delights. There’s even a *parrillada* (mixed grill) to serve two. The atmosphere offers more pleasures. At lunchtime, the dining room seems like a serene hacienda. Evenings the restaurant may turn into a rollicking community center, where

multi-generational families and groups of friends fill the dining rooms and spill onto the sizable patio hidden in back. Mariachi band on Fridays and Saturdays. — *N.W. (9/06)*

Jamroc 101 101 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-436-3162. At this former site of D.B. Hacker’s, you can still get great fish’n’chips — but the Brit batter now gets its lift from Jamaica’s Red Stripe beer, mon. The shack by the tracks now sports bright tropical designs on its back-patio walls, and the fare is casual Jamaican (plus a couple of Cajun dishes). Check out the bargain-priced samplers which include luscious soft-fried plantains and splendid patties (empanadas to you and me) with a choice of beef, curry chicken, or veggies. The spicing of the jerks and curry entrées are down-tuned to suit tourist tastes, but the table bottle of Walkerswood Scotch Bonnet Hot Sauce can kick that right up. Don’t miss the fresh coconut water, served out of a young Thai coconut. Soca, ska, and (clean) reggae set the mood, and there’s live steel pan weekend evenings. Beer, wine, Bigga soft drinks. Open Sunday through Wednesday until 8 p.m., Thursday through Saturday until 9 p.m. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (4/05)*

Knockout Pizza 2959 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, 760-434-4468. It’s New York pizza only here. They make the pies with traditional thin, crisp crusts and toppings like pepperoni, meatball, garlic, and “whitestone” (mozzarella, Parmesan, ricotta, garlic, and spinach). Maybe their best is the “Bronx Special,” an assortment of pepperoni, sausage, onions, olives, mushrooms, pepper and garlic. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/02)*

Paul’s Place 3671 Mission Avenue (at El Camino Real), Oceanside, 760-721-0124. This restaurant looks like a McDonald’s or Wendy’s (the building used to be a franchise) and the food comes fast, but it’s no chain. The menu strikes a balance between American and Greek fare. The baked Greek half-chicken, the spiced grilled chicken sliced up on a salad with pita bread, and the gyros (all at earthy prices) mix with all-American three-egg breakfast specials with home fries. Lunch offers include meaty hamburgers, gyros with fries, or a surprisingly tasty turkey-burger. Open seven days for lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/01)*

Santa Fe BBQ Company 1505 Encinitas Boulevard, Encinitas, 760-632-5227. Santa Fe’s exterior may look like a chain restaurant (the site used to be a Pat and Oscar’s), but there’s original food here — Texas-style barbecue, slowly smoked over green oak in a giant enclosed pit-smoker. It’s not the North County’s smokiest “Q” (nor the moistest, either), but it’s good, especially the tender beef brisket and beef ribs with a pleasing red Texas-style sweet sauce. (Remember, Texans love cattle — not pigs so much — so the pork items are lesser lights.) Side dishes include good, clean coleslaw (not too sugary) and thick, meaty beans. Order at the counter, and they’ll bring your food to you to eat inside, outside, or to take home. Child friendly, with video games and a kiddie menu. Sports fans can watch the game on large plasma both indoors and on the dining patio. Beer and wine available. Open daily,

lunch and dinner. Easy parking. Moderate. — *N.W. (8/06)*

Tip Top Meats 6118 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad, 760-438-2620. This geranium-splashed blue-and-white Bavarian chalet is more than a butcher’s shop. It’s a combination butcher-deli-diner. Enter through the bulging deli and listen for the shouts and clatter of serving ladies. Look for the “*Es ist Wunderbar!*” sign over the counter. Try German and American dishes like Big John’s all-you-can-eat bacon, pork-link sausage, bratwurst, or ham breakfast with three eggs, home fries, and toast. Or the sausage plate: bratwurst, knackwurst, and smoked Polish with German potato salad and traditional stuffed cabbage. Owner Big John is a heavyweight Olympic boxer from the former East Germany with an M.A. in meat sciences. Generous portions abound. Friday through Sunday after 4 p.m., he roasts his famous prime rib dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Vigilucci’s 505 South Coast Highway 101 (at D Street), Encinitas, 760-942-7332. In the Land of 10,000 Trattorias, this is one of the most popular — and for good reason. The restaurant’s motto, “a little piece of Italy,” is actually accurate. Freshness, simplicity, and savvy seasoning — that’s Italian. The pastas are luscious (try the comforting cannelloni with an unusual stewed meat stuffing) and the flavorful entrées come with honest fresh vegetables. The staff is bouncy and jokey, the wines are mainly affordable, and spirits run high. Of course it’s crowded, so reserve to avoid a long, hungry wait. Other locations include Vigilucci Cucina in Carlsbad, Vigilucci’s Pizzeria in Leucadia, and Vigilucci’s Seafood and Steakhouse in Carlsbad. — *N.W. (10/01)*

NORTH INLAND

A Delight of France 126 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-746-2644. This authentic French bakery is one of the best in the region, offering daily baked authentic baguettes, brioches, quiches, and croissants, including a luscious almond croissant studded with nuts and laced with sweet almond paste. They claim to use all-organic ingredients, even the eggs, and locally grown produce. For a hearty breakfast, you can choose omelets, frittatas, French toast, and eggs. Lunch dishes include several savory tarts, a French deli plate, crêpes, salads, and sandwiches. And ooh la la, there are dessert pastries, too. Open for brunch/lunch and pre-dinner snacks Tuesday through Saturday; lunch/brunch only on Sunday. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (5/05)*

Bolsa Vietnamese Restaurant 9225 Mira Mesa Boulevard #118 (behind Wendy’s), 858-693-3663. “The name ‘Bolsa’ isn’t Vietnamese,” says Kim Trang. “It’s Spanish for ‘bag.’” She’s playing on words here: Trang once owned *Pho Bolsa* on University Avenue, and every Vietnamese knows *pho bo* is Vietnam’s most popular quick meal, a beef rice noodle soup. At this location, Trang still makes excellent *pho bo*, but she has 122 other items as well, including fried catfish with ginger fish sauce, healthy (non-fried) Vietnamese

spring rolls, or egg rolls with lettuce and mint in which to wrap them (sprinkled with *nuoc mam*, Vietnamese fish sauce). We’re talking family-style cooking. Come once and Trang will remember you and everything you ate — even if it was just *pho bo*. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (2/03)*

Golden Egg Omelet House 316 West Mission Avenue (at Escondido Boulevard), Escondido, 760-489-6420. This breakfast-lunch treasure-house is vast but cute, its brick walls and open beams festooned with knickknacks (all for sale). This is *the* place on Sunday mornings, when three generations bond over great, generous breakfasts. Omelets are perfect — light, thin crêpe-like eggs wrapped around tall mounds of elaborate fillings. Thick waffles can be topped with fresh seasonal fruit. And then there are eggs, hash, crêpes, humongous burgers, and sandwiches. The potato casseroles, with a choice of a dozen fillings, are as huge in flavor as they are in size. Whatever you choose will carry you through until dinner. Reservations on weekends. In back of a mall. Easiest entry from Mission is at SDGE driveway; do not pass McDonald’s. Good handicap access; sturdy high-chairs; low-salt cooking. Open daily, breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (9/03)*

Hunan 16719 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-8131. This casual family restaurant serves the cuisines of two spicy Chinese provinces, Szechuan and Hunan — each with its own dedicated chef — but both chefs tone the spice way down to a suburban American comfort level. If you don’t already know the difference between these neighboring cuisines, you’re unlikely to learn them here. But you can have an enjoyable meal: Tea-smoked duck, eggplant Hunan-style, and shredded potatoes with pickled vegetables are the outstanding dishes. If you’re planning on a multicourse feast, order your meal a few dishes at a time or everything will be served at once; the staff is accommodating but limited-English. Over 20 vegan entrées. Full bar, Chinese beers, generic wines. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (8/04)*

Madras Cafe 9484 Black Mountain Road, Mira Mesa, 858-695-6229. In the same strip mall as Ashoka the Great, this family-friendly café features the savory vegetarian cuisine of South India. It’s distinctly different from the standard North Indian menus, centering on numerous varieties of stuffed pancakes — from thin, crisp (and irresistible) crêpe-like *dosais* stuffed with vegetable curry to lacy rice-flour *aapams* drenched in coconut milk to hefty, frittata-like *uttapams*. (Try the latter with the delicious, not-too-spicy chile-onion stuffing.) Puffy *poori* bread and tamarind rice are spectacular. Order your dishes in the sequence you hope to eat them — that’s usually how they come out of the kitchen. And don’t expect hovering “Raj”-style service — it’s just not the Tamil way. Seasoning is generally mild, to accommodate kiddies; spicy sauces are on the table. No alcohol. Open Tuesday through Sunday with buffet lunches and à la carte dinners. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (1/03)*

Pearl Chinese Cuisine 11666 Avena Place (at Webb Park), Rancho

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Bernardo, 858-487-3388. At Emerald Restaurant’s younger, prettier suburban sister, you’ll find modern Hong Kong-style Chinese cuisine, including both familiar and exotic dishes. Day-times are for dim sum (Chinese tapas), served daily until 3 p.m., plus champagne dim sum brunches on weekends. Along with standard items, the choices here leap to the latest Pacific creations, some rarely found this side of the ocean, including irresistible Shanghai soup dumplings. Dinners range from folk food to showy “gold cup” dishes. For a taste treat and visual hoot, try the sea bass with pine nuts, sculpted to resemble a dish sponge. International wine list at modest markups complements the cooking. Full bar. Frying done in salad (not peanut) oil. Reservations advised. Lunch and dinner on weekdays; three meals on weekends. Moderate, with some expensive specialties. — *N.W. (8/04)*

LA JOLLA

A.R. Valentien The Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, 858-777-6635. A superb choice for a splurge: Chef Jeff Jackson cooks up a daily changing menu of California cuisine emphasizing the natural flavors of peak, in-season produce and top-quality well-raised meats and wild seafood. Not only is the food delicious and quietly inventive, but it’s relatively healthy, with less fat, salt, and “bad carbs” than at most restaurants. Note that all dishes on the “chef tasting” dinner are also available solo. The setting (a “country inn” on a golf course) is beautiful, the warren of dining rooms quiet and romantic unless packed. Validated valet parking, free self-parking; full bar with steeply priced wines, moderate-price cocktails. Reservations essential for weekend and holiday dinners. Open three meals daily. Very expensive. — *N.W. (12/05)*

Brockton Villa 1235 Coast Boulevard, La Jolla, 858-454-7393. Pretty and romantic, this sprawling cottage perches above La Jolla Cove and offers heated terraces as well as semi-enclosed tables indoors to admire the view. The culinary masterpiece is “Coast Toast,” served until noon — the French toast of your happiest dreams, puffy and airy with a lovely orange flavor. (And the coffee is excellent.) Lunchtime features sandwiches on flavorful Bread & Cie breads while dinner runs to San Diego international-eclectic cookery that can be hit-or-miss. Affordable wines and



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corkage. Steep stairs to all dining areas. All nearby pay parking is uphill in a garage under Trattoria Acqua or up on Prospect. Unisex restroom. Open three meals Tuesday through Sunday; breakfast/lunch Monday. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (3/04)*

The Cheese Shop 2165 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla, 858-459-3921. Used to be the Cheese Shop had 100 varieties of cheese from all over. No more. "The cheese trade is dead," says owner Phil Schutz. They still have all-cheese sandwiches with mixes of provolone, Monterey Jack, Cheddar, Swiss, Muenster, Danish Havarti, or Norwegian Jarlsberg. But today this small, busy café is more famous for its "overstuffed" meat sandwiches. The leg of lamb, top round beef, and roast pork loin are all spit-roasted right beside you as you walk in, to waken your taste buds. Cheeses like crumbled Greek Mizithra add tang to the taste. If you're into salami and ham, try the foot-long. Inexpensive. Other location: 427 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-232-2303, open daily breakfast to late lunch, with delivery to downtown addresses. — *E.B. (10/01)*

Harry's Coffee Shop 7545 Girard Avenue (at Pearl), La Jolla, 858-454-7381. When Harry Rudolph II opened Harry's back in 1960, his idea was simple: to create a down-home eatery and soda fountain where all La Jolla — rich, poor, Brahmins, and gardeners — could mix and meet with plenty of good eats. Everyone from Joan Kroc to Junior Seau to Brooke Shields has been spotted here, along with regular folks who've been coming in for three decades. Now Harry III reigns quietly among a dozen whirling dervish waitresses at lunch. The big ham steak and eggs is a favorite breakfast, as is the simple, rich "Hot Creamy Oatmeal" with strawberries. Pecan pancakes and thin, crisp waffles ring true to many Easterners (though Harry offers thick Belgian-style waffles, too), and for lunch, turkey burgers and the bacon-loaded British Burger are popular. At the counter, the banter between been-here-forever waitresses and customers sounds like family life. Nice sidewalk patio, too. Breakfast and lunch daily. Long lines on weekends. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (2/03)*

La Jolla Brew House 7536 Fay Avenue, La Jolla, 858-456-6279. Don't expect to see the beach. Do expect to taste some good beers made right here and good solid food, such as the prime rib sandwich (which goes great with their Irish Stout) or the roasted potato. Or maybe best of all, the buffalo burger — big, hefty, and low on cholesterol. You'd call this a family, multi-generational sports bar eatery. Nice mix. It's La Jolla, so it's not dirt cheap, but the guys here seem really interested in making interesting brews and good food to accompany them. Open for dinner seven days; lunch and dinner weekends. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (1/04)*

Marrakesh 634 Pearl Street (at Draper), La Jolla, 858-454-2500. The North African fare of Morocco is like no other in the world — influenced by Arab cuisines, but more intense and sheerly hedonistic. At our sole Moroccan restaurant, the fare is arranged into a nightly five-course prix fixe feast, with superb lentil soup (*harira*), a salad plate, *bastilla* (a chicken-filled filo pie), an entrée, and finally mint tea poured from on high to accompany almond baklava perfumed with orange-flower water. The setting and service are dramatic — tented ceilings, low banquette seating at carved round tables, belly-dancing interludes, servers in fezzes. (You're the Sheik of Araby.) A short list of entrées (a maximum of two choices per table, to be shared) features fine chicken (or lamb) with olives and preserved lemons; moist, fatless duck; lamb with couscous; and rather dry fish. You can request the dreamy lamb with honey, an extravaganza that includes fruits, almonds, sesame, and cinnamon. Lunch and dinner daily; reserve for weekends. Moderate. — *N.W. (4/01)*

Trattoria Acqua 1298 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-0709. This popular restaurant has charming decor, with arched doorways dividing a warren of white-painted, high-ceilinged rooms and terraces arranged around a tiled, heated courtyard. The seasonally changing menu could be called "avant-garde Italian," a style that more than pushes the Italian envelope with as-

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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

sorted international influences. The food can be divine — or dismaying. Given Acqua's "destination restaurant" status, there's a surprising air of bean-counting that manifests itself in oddly lightweight silverware, waiters unclear about proper wine service, and, at times, tired veggies. Desserts, though, are superb. Full bar with extensive, wide-ranging wine list that includes half bottles as well as choices by the glass. Walk-ins accepted but weekend reservations advised. Restaurant is two floors down from Prospect, with validated parking in underground garage on Coast Boulevard. Elevator access from both directions (Acqua's stop is the first floor). Lunch or brunch and dinner seven days. Moderate (pastas) to very expensive. — *N.W. (11/04)*

MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

Aladdin's Cafe 5420 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Clairemont, 858-573-0000; Uptown Shopping Center, 1220 Cleveland Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-574-1111. These cafés offer a bright, clean atmosphere for bright and clean, if rather generic, Middle Eastern favorites (hummus, tabbouleh, kebabs, *shawerma*, etc.), plus imaginative Levantine-flavored pizzas and salads. There are ample choices for vegetarians. Both locations offer beer and wine. Hillcrest's owners offer a more Lebanese cuisine. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (11/00)*

Bale French Sandwich Shop 4879 University Avenue (at 49th Street), City Heights, 619-283-4352. Ann Nguyen started this back in 1980, and her prices haven't changed — they're incredibly low. But the taste of her sandwiches is up there in French-Vietnamese heaven. The Vietnamese are special at this: they do French better than the French — with some spicy Asian touches. The BBQ Pork French sandwich delivers the immediate taste of cilantro, garlicky mayonnaise, sweet barbecue sauce, carrots, onions, cu-

cumber, and lashings of sliced pork, with the occasional heat of a green jalapeño. But above all, it's that crunch of bread — fresh, feathery, and very French — that makes this hard to beat. Add dessert of homemade banana shrimp cake and — *voilà!* Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/02)*

Dumpling Inn 4619 Convoy Street #F, Kearny Mesa, 858-268-9638. Hole-in-the-wall? Yes. But what a hole-in-the-wall. For those who love the Far East and its food, finding the Dumpling Inn is a little revelation. It's located in the busy Jasmine/Korean Market Center among Oriental herbalists, man-size-vase shops, even feng shui experts. The Inn itself is tiny but charming. Long hanging lanterns, decorative strings of scarlet and gold firecrackers, Chinese flutes, and even the odd conical straw hat. The food is serious but not expensive. Dishes like ten fish and green chive dumplings, spicy stir-fried three-ingredient *lo mein* (thick noodles, jumbo shrimp, calamari, and chicken plus hot red peppers) are challenging and exciting, as is the Dumpling Dinner (including hot-and-sour soup, cold cuts, shredded pork bun, pot-stickers, shrimp and pork dumplings). Don't miss their divine jellyfish salad — crunchy-tender, bright and spicy (but not too) — you'd be hard-pressed to find its like outside of Hong Kong. Open 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., closed Monday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/02)*

East Buffet 8998 Miramar Road, Miramar, 858-566-1888. Curly-haired stone lions greet you outside one of the grander dining halls in the county. "The biggest buffet of San Diego" claims the menu, with "over 200 items daily." Start at the Mongolian grill. Pick your raw prawns, chicken, pork, beef, *satays*, and hand the plate-load to the Iron Chef. He'll stir-cook them on the hotplate for you. You'll need hiking boots to cover the endless rows of steaming chafing dishes. Must-eat: the fresh sashimi, like salmon and tuna — mouth-wateringly scrumptious. And try the chicken feet (they taste a bit like cow tongue, or brains). Open daily, brunch through dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (4/05)*

Lightnin' Jacks BBQ Clairemont Town Square, 4705-H Clairemont Drive (near movieplex), Clairemont, 858-270-8227. Clean, cute, and a little

self-conscious, this barbecue has black-and-white Western pictures on the walls and some seating on barstools with metal "saddles" (more comfortable than they look). The barbecue mechanism is a Texas-style pit smoker burning sweet hickory. The meats that emerge from it aren't the smokiest, but they're tasty enough. Pork ribs are tender and moist, and beef brisket carries enough smoke flavor to pass muster in Texas; other meat choices are less successful. The tomatoey sauce is pleasant but ordinary. A fried catfish plate makes a flavorful alternative (but beware the cat sandwich, awash in hot sauce). Hush puppies and sweet potato fries are the most savory sides. Check your take-out bag to make sure you're getting what you ordered, as youthful staff is easily flustered. Kiddie plates available. Draft beer and wine available. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (1/05)*

Sunrise Buffet 3860 Convoy #121, Kearny Mesa, 858-715-1608. "Oysters are here!" It's what everyone here waits for. Apart from the usual array of meats, fish, shellfish, and novelties like stuffed mushrooms, stuffed clams, dragon rolls (cucumber, avocado, asparagus), and *mochi* (sticky rice cake), these plates of raw oysters in their big shells are one of the big draws. This buffet restaurant is smaller than many, but it still looks like a mega-McDonald's eating barn inside, except for a sky-blue-lit ceiling recess "heaven." Like McDonald's, it attracts lots of families, maybe because it's not just all-you-can-eat, but all-you-can-drink, too — included in the price. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (4/05)*

THE BEACHES

Bare Back Grill 4640 Mission Boulevard (at Emerald), Pacific Beach, 858-274-7117. This may be the first New Zealand food place in town, but that's not what keeps the customers coming in. It's BBG's claim that most of their meat is certified organic. The owners guarantee hormone-free beef and lamb, both from New Zealand. So, what to eat? Burgers, burgers, burgers — all kinds — from prime NZ Angus to "Bare Li'l Lamb" burgers with wasabi dip. They also offer chicken. Decor inside is strictly Kiwi-

land, from the all-black rugby shirt on the wall to the declaration of food principles. People who had given up on hormone-treated meat are coming here for their first burger in years. Open seven days, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/05)*

C-Level 880 Harbor Island Drive, Harbor Island, 619-298-6802. California-Mediterranean comfort food with a Southern "Low Country" accent from Chef Deborah Scott; same menu lunch and dinner. Alas, the restaurant's name also gives away its grade — the food's okay but not spectacular, although the gorgeous heated patio at the edge of the bay does plenty to sweeten the pot. Your visiting aunt will swoon over the view and enjoy the food. Vast wine list with plenty by the glass, wide range of prices but some steep markups; good beer list. Full bar with creative cocktails. Ample free parking. No reservations except for large parties. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (5/06)*

Fairouz Cafe And Gallery 3166 Midway Drive, Loma Portal, 619-225-0308. Seek out this family-owned-and-operated restaurant for wonderful Lebanese and Greek food. The owner, a noted artist, displays his paintings on the dining room walls. The extensive menu offers excellent lamb, stuffed grape leaves, and a wide selection of exotic vegetarian meals. Copious all-you-can-eat buffet available at lunch or dinner in addition to the regular menu. Given 24 hours, this café will prepare an astonishing Lebanese feast at low cost. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *E.W.*

Great Moon Buffet 1840 Garnet Avenue (Pacific Plaza 2 shopping center), Pacific Beach, 858-273-6868. This is one of the classier Chinese all-you-can-eat buffets in town. They boast a glittering chandelier hanging in the octagonal entrance, plus "over 150 items daily." Certainly they have great surf-n-turf, like prime rib and jumbo shrimp or mayonnaise mussels. Or Japanese charcoal-grilled eel with sesame seeds on rice (*unagi-zushi*). It tastes salty yet caramel-y too. Eelicious. Or Chinese baked crab meat on crab shell. Add crab legs, and maybe some roast duck. Cramming? Feast today, fast tomorrow. Dessert fruits include loquats, pineapple, peach, longan. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (4/05)*

Karinya Thai & Vegetarian Cuisine 4475 Mission Boulevard (Sea-Coast Square), Pacific Beach, 858-270-5050. Think of the movie *The Beach*, with a bunch of Leo DiCaprio look-alikes getting off on the coconut curries like *gang ped*, *panang*, and *kang kari*. Or noodle dishes like the famous *pad thai*. But they're in the right place: Karinya remains true to its Thai origins. The *tom yum kung* (hot and sour shrimp soup) is a meal in itself. Steaming away with its fierce little charcoal fire at your table, the hot pot holds plenty of shrimp, and you can taste the essential mushrooms, lemon grass, ginger, lime juice, cilantro, and of course *nam pla*, Thai fish sauce. A nice counterpart to the hots of the soup are the Fresh Spring Rolls, filled with tofu and vegetables and mint. Another sizzler: *pad talay*, a sauté pan full of mussels, shrimp, squid, and other seafood in a great spicy sauce. The recipe's from Koh Samed, an island like the one featured in *The Beach*. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (2/03)*

Ranchos Cocina 1830 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, Ocean Beach, 619-226-7619. Also at 3910 30th Street (at University Avenue), North Park, 619-574-1288. At both locations of this delightful mini-chain you'll find healthy, creative Mexican and vegetarian cuisine in cheerful, tropical-style settings burgeoning with plant life and craft objects. A big plus: zero attitude. You don't have to be vegi-virtuous to enjoy full-flavored combinations that are as creative as they are wholesome. Try anything with lobster or calamari steak — in fact, all the seafood here is pristine. Try, even, an *antojito* stuffed with beef — it's stewed, not ground. And sample something with the house-made mole sauce of a zillion ingredients. Actually, try...anything. (Well, the chicken breast is as dry here as everywhere else. Try anything else.) Open daily breakfast through dinner. No reservations, but call ahead for large parties. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (6/01)*

Rum Jungle Smoothies and Deli 4150 Mission Boulevard #153, Promenade Mall, Pacific Beach, 858-273-2227. Why do Brazilians have more fun? *Açaí* (ah-saa-ee). Why do Brazilians settle in PB? Maybe it's because Rum Jungle Smoothies serves up *açaí*, the flesh of a Brazilian palm nut, for breakfast. The dark purple mush comes from the *açaí* palms that grow around the Amazon River delta. Rum

Jungle adds granola, banana, strawberries, blueberries, mango pieces, and honey to make a surprisingly filling breakfast. Of course this bright little place has lots of other smoothies, too, along with sandwiches. But the *açaí* power fruit bowl is what keeps them coming back. Open until 6 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (1/04)*

Sportsmen's Seafoods 1617 Quivira Road, Mission Beach, 619-224-3551. Fifty years ago this restaurant-fish market was a tuna cannery, part of San Diego's late-lamented fishing industry. The same Sicilian family still owns it, and still knows everything about fish and how to cook it. The menu is devoted to the "fruits of the sea" and includes a wonderful seafood platter (shrimp, squid, clams, fish, fries, and salad). And, of course, a crispy-crunchy fish-and-chips platter. Eat outside on deck, contemplating the small ships on the bay. They buy seasonal catch from local fishboats and also sell it at their attached retail market. They're famous for smoking fish for the fishermen. Open daily, lunch/early dinner. Retail market closed Monday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

World Famous 711 Pacific Beach Drive, Pacific Beach, 858-272-3100. World Famous is as on-the-beach as it gets, right on PB's boardwalk. It has a covered porch, a side-slung patio, and low-slung ceilings, so everything feels intimate. You sit at varnished inlaid wooden tables with lots of diagonal timbering and sexy blue lighting. It's often crowded and laugh-loud noisy. Who's gonna be food-picky here? You, when you're paying twenty-some bucks for a steak or a piece of mako shark. On the other hand, the prime rib, surf-n-turf, and tournedos will fill you fine. If you want to beat the big prices, try the beach burger or a seared ahi Caesar salad. The view is free. Breakfast and lunch inexpensive; dinners moderate to expensive. Open daily. — *E.B. (1/04)*

CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

Batter Up! Market Creek Plaza, 342 Euclid Avenue (at Market Street), Diamond District, 619-262-3333. Chef-owner Mel Johnson was one of the founders of the Gaslamp's late, great

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Juke Joint Café. The food he serves at Batter Up! is less ambitious (so far) — but talent will tell. The food at this friendly, casual sports bar (about ten minutes from Petco via the 94) may be “pub grub,” but the cooking is serious. Fried fish, fried shrimp, thick sandwiches, and juicy Certified Angus burgers with creative dressings are well above the norm. Free parking in large lot patrolled by security guards. First timers should request sauces (especially the house hot sauce) on the side until you know whether you like them. Fairly noisy inside (depending on what’s on TV); quiet patio outside. Beer and wine license pending. Open daily, lunch and dinner, with early closing Sundays. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (6/06)*

Elaine’s Coffee Shoppe 1212 South 43rd Street, Southcrest, 619-264-6525. When Su Cha Yang took over Elaine’s a quarter century ago, this was one tough part of town. No problem. Su had survived the Korean war and Vietnam before she came here. Now, with Southcrest looking up, she is famous for her fun and her food. Most customers are regulars — judges, ministers, teachers among them — and they don’t want change. So Elaine’s remains a bright, genuine 1970s-style breakfast-all-day coffee shop. Breakfast: try the ham, bacon, mushroom “Hunter” omelet. Lunch: the pork chop plate is a great filler. Su Cha Yang also cooks dishes for vegetarian, Muslim, and Korean customers. Breakfast and lunch six days; closed Tuesdays. — *E.B. (5/06)*

Hawthorn’s Restaurant Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre, 2895 University (near 29th Street), North Park, 619-544-0940. When this long-standing Banker’s Hill restaurant moved to spiffy (if quite noisy) new digs here, the change proved positive in every way. Menu choices are now fewer but better, with superior ingredients including varied and seasonal locally grown vegetables matched to the individual entrées. The kitchen now does more from scratch, and you can taste all these improvements on the plate. The fare is Mediterranean-American with Mexican touches. Most desserts outsourced. Wide-ranging wine list, full bar, corkage a reasonable \$15. Reservations recommended, especially on weekends. Expensive. — *N.W. (8/06)*

Heaven Sent Desserts 3001 University Avenue (at 30th Street, across from Union Bank), North Park, 619-793-4758. The developing district around the North Park Theatre desperately needed a bakery, and Heaven Sent arrived. They produce a full range of desserts, from breakfast pastries to cookies, tarts, pies, custards, and on through fancy cakes (the Tres Leches is especially good). The style is midwestern American, solid rather than ethereal. To drink: coffee, espresso, teas, hot chocolate, Italian sodas, and fruit juice. Open daily breakfast until after-dinner, past 11 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.—> — *N.W. (6/06)*

Jyoti-Bihanga 3351 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-282-4116. Oh sure, you’ll be watching Sri Chinmoy, the Bengali guru, on TV juggling, declaring Geneva International Airport a “Peace Blossom,” or boarding his Italian “*Treno della Pace*.” Plus, his books, his portraits, his paintings, and his chant-songs surround you. Apart from that, not only is this heavenly blue-domed restaurant run by his students peaceful, but the fresher-than-fresh Bengali-tinged health food is delicious. Their chutney-topped “Neatloaf” bursts with nutty, intriguing flavors. Even the accompanying mashed potato and gravy tastes different. Also delish: Brahma Burrito, “Infinite Blue” (interesting brown rice salad with bleu cheese dressing), and the Shiva Wrap (tofu and fresh veggies with a well-integrated curry flavor). On cold days, start with a steaming sweet pea soup. Monday through Saturday lunch and dinner (no dinner Wednesday); Sunday occasional brunch only. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/01)*

Kensington Grill 4055 Adams Avenue, Kensington, 619-281-4014. This spiffy spot in an old, staid neighborhood proves change can be good, delivering intelligent, inventive cuisine. Preparations follow the convention of contrasts in sophisticated cuisine — sweet vs. salty, soft vs. crunchy, hot vs. cold. Kensington Grill proves a talented, hardworking kitchen. Open for dinner nightly. Moderate. — *M.N. (8/99)*

Phuong Trang Vietnamese Seafood Restaurant 5296 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-582-0603. Original branch at 4170 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-6750. Tired of putting up with the crowds at the popular Convoy Street restaurant? Go east, where you’ll find the same menu without the hassles. The fare centers on Vietnamese “people’s food” emphasizing numerous genres of noodle soups, but there are a handful of more elegant house specialties — including the extraordinary “Special Sauce” Dungeness crab from the live tank. (The sauce is tangy tamarind.) Call ahead to order steamed or grilled live-tank catfish. Reservations and credit cards accepted, both branches. Vietnamese beers including “33”; just two generic wines. Also bring a pad and write down the numbers of your orders to give the waiter, as staffers speak little English. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate (higher for live-tank seafood). — *N.W. (3/04)*

Zensei 3396 30th Street (at Upas), North Park, 619-546-6171. This much-welcomed neighborhood restaurant in a restaurant-starved neighborhood offers a changing menu of sushi, fusion appetizers, and Japanese entrées emphasizing noodle dishes. The sushi is the main draw. It’s well made and based on seafood from the same fishmonger used by Ota and Nobu. The “party rolls” (such as “stuffed tomato” and “honeymooners”) may not be original, but they’re delicious fun. Free parking behind restaurant (enter by alley on Upas east of Jack in the Box lot). Reservations advised for Friday/Saturday evenings, accepted for two or more at sushi bar, four or more at tables. Japanese and American beers, sakes, and wines. Lunch and dinner daily. — *N.W. (1/05)*

EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA

Cafe Zia 6686 El Cajon Boulevard (at Montezuma), College Area, 619-337-3937. South Asia meets Mexico! Khaled Zia had the brilliant idea of combining wraps with chicken and South Asia’s great gift to the world: chutney — mango chutney, papaya chutney, peach, apple, even a serrano chili pepper chutney. The combo works with them all. As soon as you smell the chicken strips hissing away on the grills, you’re hooked. Then when they come smothered in peach or mango chutney, or cooling yogurt, along with sweet-sauced potatoes, what can you do? Do

as half of San Diego State does: just say yes. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/01)*

Chef Taka 7520 El Cajon Boulevard (at Parks), Mesa Plaza, La Mesa, 619-463-0231. This is indeed the same chef Satate Taka who co-founded Taka in the Gaslamp, and then Octopus Garden. In July 2003 he moved his kitchen to La Mesa where he now cooks his inventive Japanese-based fusion cuisine with French, Mexican, and Chinese touches. Try the dreamy soft-shell crab with “salsa cream aioli,” the tender tempura, or the traditional Teishoku dinner. Taka generally presides at the sushi bar. The staff is small so for the best cooking and service, dine on a weeknight and make an evening of it — weekends can be hectic. For a bubbly treat try chilled Nigori (unfiltered) sake, served in the traditional manner in an overflowing square wooden cup. Open six days for dinner; closed Monday. Happy hour bargains nightly; regular prices moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (3/04)*

Downtown Cafe 182 East Main Street, El Cajon, 619-440-5687. Surprise! Not far from Magnolia and Main, a French-style sidewalk café. The successful “Por Favor” eateries’ owner launched this as a kind of Mexican patio restaurant, but serving gringo food. And it works, maybe because of reasonable prices for baby-back pork ribs, giant burritos, or Louisiana Chicken strips. Or even the veggie burger. But it’s partly where you dine: out on the patio. The place has lots of ancient doors and wrought iron-and-wood window frames, laced with creepers. Inside is a beautiful long bar with a counter on the street and chess sets so you can play and watch the world go by. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (5/03)*

Tyler’s Taste of Texas 576 North Second Street, El Cajon, 619-444-9295. Unfussy home cooking. Some dishes outshine others. The slab of smoky ham steak that comes with the first-rate breakfast is in itself enough to rouse the sleepiest appetite. Expertly sautéed onions and mushrooms lend flavor to fried potatoes and omelets, respectively, while pebbly-smooth hash and gingery sweet potato pancakes give the lineup character. For lunch and dinner, the Texas menu features Texas-style barbecue (chicken, beef, pork, and sausage) that’s sufficiently smoky, but a little un-

even in texture. The barbecue beef is reliable and the sweetish sauce shows well on the chicken. Pleasant surprises: a substantial, peppery cormmeal crust on the tender catfish and the fried green tomatoes, and the rich stock in the vegetable soup. All-you-can-eat catfish Wednesdays and Fridays. Open 24 hours. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *A.M. (2/02)*

FAR EAST

Alpine Inn 2225 Alpine Boulevard, Alpine, 619-445-5172. Beef lover’s heaven. Also, try the house special, the Texas burger, ground in-house and served on a Kaiser roll with steak fries. Dark interior with large booths. Very crowded for dinner on Sunday. Lunch and dinner (with inexpensive early-bird dinner) Monday through Saturday; brunch and dinner Sunday. Moderate to expensive. — *E.W.*

Pablito’s of the Desert 590 Palm Canyon Drive (in The Center, #8), Borrego Springs, 760-767-5753. Pablito’s claims “Authentic Mexican Cuisine, patio dining, and great tequila margaritas.” Well, the gorgeous patio is open when the weather is favorable, and the cuisine runs to gringo favorites in the Mexican mode (lots of combo platters), but the flavors are honest and pleasing. The most authentic dishes come from the “Specialties” section of the menu, including a good *chile verde* (pork in green chile sauce), numerous varieties of enchiladas, and several flavors of *chilaquiles*. Full bar, including sangria, margaritas, Mexican beers. Closed in the summer; other seasons, open for lunch and dinner (with a break between), Wednesday through Sunday. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W. (4/03)*

Ramon’s Smokehouse BBQ 1730 Alpine Boulevard, Suite 110, Alpine, 619-445-1008. The smell of mesquite wood burning under fresh-cut beef rib is beyond resistance. The secret Texas recipe draws crowds. Go Sunday morning, especially, when chefs in maroon aprons dance around the fat-spitting fire, disappearing into the clouds of fragrant smoke to flip the racks of beef and pork ribs. In good weather you can eat out back next to an authentic chuck wagon. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*



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prime rib special
with buffet
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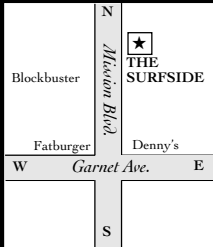
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Calendar
RESTAURANTS

UPTOWN &
OLD TOWN

Bamboo Bistro 3882 Fourth Avenue (at University), Hillcrest, 619-299-9727. How many American chefs do you know who actually went to Asia and learned by working in traditional restaurant kitchens of Vietnam, Indonesia, India? Chef Alexandria did. The result is her Asian Fusion Cuisine. The Bistro is huddled in the corner of a strip mall, but you can still eat under exotic umbrella lampshades (inside) or tropical palapas (outside). The food is fresh, original, and often tasty. Dishes to try include Chinese Chopstick salad (shredded chicken, fried rice noodles, mandarin oranges, toasted almonds), Indo-Chinese burrito with steak (beef, rice noodles covered with a sesame and lime sauce), Drunken Noodles (chicken, steak, shrimp, salmon, or tofu), and Sea Salad (glass noodles, wild salmon, greens). Lunch and dinner six days, closed Sundays. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/05)*

Brians' American Eatery 1451 Washington Street (near Lincoln), Hillcrest, 619-296-8268. Also at 828 Sixth Avenue, Gaslamp. Note the apostrophe: Not one but two Brians have taken over what had been Topsy's, a venerable coffeehouse/eatery for 40 years. They've done a good job of cleaning it up without gutting the fifties roadhouse character. It's open all night on weekends, and late night is quite a scene. But for a lot of people, breakfast is the thing. The Brians' eight-ounce charbroiled top sirloin steak with eggs and country potatoes is a great Saturday morning treat. Or the "Hey Ricky!!," an omelet with chorizo, avocado, green chilies, onions, and cheese. Or ask for their off-menu breakfast special — it's always cheaper. Another good thing: coffee comes by the thermos-full. Three meals until 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday; open 24 hours from early Friday morning until Sunday evening. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/02)*

Celadon Royalty Thai Restaurant 540 University Avenue (near Sixth), Hillcrest, 619-297-8424. The menu was originally devised by a chef who cooked for the Siamese royal family. Some dishes taste luxurious, and all the dishes taste authentic — and carefully prepared. The regular entrées offer a choice of sauces (red curry, green curry, etc.) with your choice of protein, but go straight to the Chef's Specialty items on the menu to find the best and rarest. Stuffed chicken wings are extraordinary, seafood soup *talay* is fabulous, and among the entrées, don't miss *choo chee duck* or the Queen of Thailand's favorite, pineapple fried rice. Lunch Monday through Friday, dinner nightly. — *N.W. (5/05)*

City Delicatessen 535 University Avenue (at Sixth), Hillcrest, 619-295-2747. Some folk come for the Jewish food (chicken-in-the-pot, brisket of beef, chopped liver), others to soak in the art-deco covers — the cornucopia of fruit above the entrance, the mustard yellow walls, the black-and-white checker tile, or the flower bunches of red, blue, green, and yellow lamps. And then some come for both:

the stuffed cabbage roll (with ground beef and rice inside) is a glowering red ball with maroon, oniony, sweet-and-sour raisin sauce to die for, set off by green parsley and bright orange slices. Scandalously delicious. Downside? Our pastrami sandwich tasted dry and chewy by comparison. But City Deli is less strictly Jewish (they have bacon on their breakfast menu) and more of an everyday New York-style eatery. Wait staff are good-humored, and the Seeburg Wall-o-Matic tableside jukeboxes actually work. Bring plenty of quarters. Breakfast all day; early-bird dinner specials; late-night dining. Open from 7 a.m. till midnight; until 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (5/03)*

European Market & Deli 4135 Park Boulevard (north of El Cajon Boulevard), Hillcrest, 619-298-8661. Basically a Greek deli, but charming, especially if you're into patios. Inside has painted grapes, hanging copper pans, and framed pictures of Paris cafés. The most popular dish is the lemon-roasted chicken, but if you love lamb, Paul's Special, with potatoes, salad, and pita — Fridays and Saturdays only — is the way to go. (They do offer lamb sandwiches daily.) Other good dishes include the Veggie Diabolou pita sandwich (hot and spicy), the ground beef moussaka plate (eggplant, potatoes, and béchamel sauce), Greek chicken soup and, of course, gyros. But go just to play bon vivant on the patio. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, till 5:30 p.m. Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (1/05)*

Hong Kong Restaurant 3871 Fourth Avenue (at University), Hillcrest, 619-291-9449. Where to get a good Chinese meal after midnight? This restaurant (next to Column One's statues and fountain shop) serves meals till 2:30 a.m. Inside is typical Asian decor, including black-and-white Chinese brush paintings and carved cherry wood chairs. Their huge menu offers traditional Szechwan and Mandarin fare. The fried, pork-filled wontons on raw cabbage are delish, especially spiced with fiery Chinese mustard. The Singapore Style Rice Noodles (not often featured in Chinese restaurants) are tanged with curry, and excellent, as is the Kung Pao chicken. Also look at egg drop soup, pork chow mein, shrimp with lobster sauce, and scallion ginger chicken. Service is super quick. Lunch and dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/05)*

Kemo Sabe 3958 Fifth Avenue (off University Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-220-6802. Audacity is Chef Debo-rah Scott's culinary signature. In her cooking, Southeast Asia meets the Southwest, with Japanese touches and towering heaps of garnishes. All the edible frou-frou decorating the appetizers can wear you out, but most entrées are more focused and friendly. Good choices include a starter of mussels in a seductive *chipotle* cream sauce, and entrées of spicy, sweet-sour layered "jerk" chicken or the signature "Skirts On Fire," a miraculously tender grilled skirt steak imbued with a *picante* marinade. Desserts by Sharon Bristol follow the house style — sky-high, ornate, complex. Casual atmosphere, very noisy. Heated patio. Dinner served daily. Reservations strongly advised. Prices moderate. — *N.W. (11/00)*

La Posta de Acapulco's Taco Shop 3980 Third Avenue (at Washington), Hillcrest, 619-295-8982. (Also in Lakeside and Spring Valley.) People have been coming to this orange-and-white drive-through-without-cars for

20 years. One of the main reasons is the *carne asada* burritos. Rich-tasting, fresh, generous. Folks sit around the outside benches right next to Washington Street, oblivious to the traffic. Also much loved here are the *chile verde* and the quesadilla with *carne asada*. For breakfast, think chorizo burrito. And for value, just to fill you up, you can't beat the bean tostada. You can drink *horchata*, a rice drink, or *jamaica*, made from hibiscus flower, to complete the picture. Open 24 hours in Hillcrest. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (1/04)*

Phil's BBQ 4030 Goldfinch Street, Mission Hills, 619-688-0559. Check the lines around Phil's any lunchtime. Although Phil grills his BBQ (rather than slow-smoking it), he must be doing something right. He is: That sweet, rich rib sauce he invented is one thing. The fall-off-the-bone pork and beef is another. The sweet baked beans a third. Plus, the restaurant is a rabbit-warren that grew, but it's kid-friendly, has open wash-basins for your greasy mitts, and has paper towel rolls at every table. Ribs can be expensive, but a quarter-rib (four bones) will fill you fine. A great second-best is the BBQ sandwich with char-grilled pork shoulder. Remember: you'll get pork unless you specify beef. Open for lunch and dinner; closed Monday. New location at 3750 Sports Arena Boulevard, Sports Arena, 619-226-6333. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (3/06)*

Saigon on Fifth 3900 Fifth Avenue (on University), Hillcrest, 619-220-8828. This is the rare local Vietnamese restaurant that emphasizes the urban, French-influenced cuisine

of colonial-era Saigon and Huế, rather than the ubiquitous *pho* noodle soups of the North. The list of house specialties includes many entrées you won't find elsewhere in San Diego, among them a smoked oyster omelet and a unique version of coconut shrimp served in the coconut shell. Many dishes here include honey, so the Boon (spicy noodle salad) deserves its name — a refreshing break from the sweetness. Well-chosen, reasonable wine lists suits the food, as does the serene decor. Validated underground parking just north of the bank. Open daily, lunch and dinner until midnight. Low moderate. — *N.W. (6/06)*

Sausage King 811 W. Washington Street, Mission Hills, 619-297-4301. Not too many delicatessens in the county still make their own sausages, luncheon meats, and jerky. But the German couple who runs this place does. They make an unbelievable 34 different sausages and luncheon meats, plus 10 different smoked meats like turkey, beef, Westphalian ham, Black Forest ham, and even bacon. For lunch they will make you a really cheap bun-sandwich filled with anything from home-made liverwurst to blood sausages to salami. Two would really fill you up. As with the nearby cheese shop (see Venissimo), the Starbucks at Falcon and Washington is a good place to chow down this unique sausage experience. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/06)*

Taste of Szechuan 670 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-1668. Friendly staff serves up standard Szechuan Mandarin fare at this archetypical Chinese restaurant. Szechuan Garlic Shrimp is number one on the list of twelve House Specialties for good reason. This tangy dish of crispy, deep-fried shrimp is one of their best. Not often seen on the menus of strip mall Chinese restaurants, the

Szechuan Orange Fish is also recommended, but don't be misled by the "hot & spicy" star next to this item. As with any of their "spicy" offerings, the heat in this dish barely registers. Spice lovers should ask for an extra kick. The Toffee Banana and Toffee Apple desserts may tempt you, but unless you have a dentist on-call, it's best to pass on these super-sticky sweets. Inexpensive lunch specials. Open late until midnight Monday through Thursday, until 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday, and until 10 p.m. on Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *B.D. (6/05)*

Venissimo Cheese 754 W. Washington, Mission Hills, 619-491-0708. Just don't ask for Velveeta here. Everything else, they've got: sixty-plus varieties of cheese, most from Europe. But a meal? Yes. You can get a baguette-style sandwich stuffed with cow cheese, sheep cheese, goat cheese, fruity, moldy, runny, stinky, any cheese in the house, same price, around five bucks. Even *Boschetto* cheese, with truffles in it, which sells at around \$30 per pound, or Napoleon's favorite, stinky *Epoisses Berthaut*, or the beautifully tangy *Schloss*. Plus you get grapes or a pear to go with the sandwich. Where to eat it? Starbucks, a few doors down, usually doesn't mind. Coffee, bread, interesting cheese, fruit — it's the perfect combo. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/06)*

DOWNTOWN

Alambres Mexican Grill 756 Fifth Avenue (near F), Gaslamp, 619-233-2838. Surprise: this place strives to be inexpensive, like a Mexico City café-bar, where you hang out to watch soccer or talk over the night at two in the morning. They keep the kitchen open till the wee hours. Breakfasts are decent workaday deals, like the burrito stuffed with chorizo, spuds, and eggs. Try the interesting *chicharon de queso* that looks like a foot-long golden scroll, and watch for the impulse-cooked teaser plates like *cebollitas*, small grilled onions in "Maggie's sauce." Specialty is the namesake Alambres Mexico City-style taco, usually meat or fish plus bell peppers, onions, and bacon. Open 8 a.m. to 2 a.m. daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/06)*

Bay Cafe 1050 North Harbor Drive, downtown, 619-595-1083. If you're hungry at the city ferry landing, you can eat in the bare-bones interior or take your tray upstairs to a handsome bayview terrace (with no wheelchair access). After a chilly crossing, try the enjoyable New England-style clam chowder, which is milky, clean, and not over-thickened, with tender clams and tiny diced potatoes. The menu features breakfast dishes, burgers, sandwiches (all served with generic fries), variations on fish and chips including prawns, plus some entrée salads. The burgers are genuinely "have it your way" — for a few extra cents each, the kitchen will add extra ingredients (Jack or Cheddar, mushrooms, grilled onions, bacon, jalapeño). Open daily, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (8/01)*

Dakota Grill and Spirits 901 Fifth Avenue (at E Street), Gaslamp, 619-234-5554. The name may hint at cowboy cooking, but look for simple mid-American comfort food at one of the many local eateries under the Cohn Restaurant Group aegis. A typical entrée includes a hunk of red (or "the other white") meat cooked on a wood-

fired grill, smeared with a precooked sauce that, for better or worse, first meets its mate on the plate. Meat-avoiders will find fish and poultry dishes, too. Tasty taters but dull veggies come with most entrées. Desserts run to fruity favorites like cobbles, crisps, and upside-down cake. Treats from the wide-ranging beverage list include three-glass wine flights in four styles of wine, and a pleasant house brew, Dakota Pale Ale, that suits the food. The two-floor restaurant offers big plush booths, tall windowed walls, and a piano player gliding from rinky-dink 1950s pop to Fats Waller stylings and Ellingtonian riffs. Valet parking. Full bar. Lunch weekdays; dinner nightly. High moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (9/04)*

Darband Fifth Avenue Grill 1556 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-230-1001. Darband is named after an exotic mountain resort north of Tehran. Quite a contrast to this sloping office-and-car-park strip of Fifth. Lunchtimes, office workers fill the tables. Evenings feel more, well, Persian. It's mostly men, some playing backgammon, talking, arguing, laughing. With all the Farsi flying round, it feels like a local café back in Tehran. Food is good, fresh, regular Persian. "Khoresh Bademjan" is a tasty baby eggplant and beef stew. "Barg" is a safe bet, too — marinated beef tenderloin with rice. So is the vegetarian plate, though the veggie wrap's cheaper. Of course, kabobs star, as do yogurt-y, cucumber-y, minty flavors. Open lunch and dinner; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (4/06)*

DeMedici 815 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-702-7228. This lovely, cream-and-sepia dining room evokes an Italian Renaissance villa, while its sidewalk patio offers a prime pageant of Gaslamp follies. Either way, you'll enjoy exceptional service — attentive but utterly unobtrusive — and a menu centered on succulent pastas and refined seafood dishes. The nightly specials and the waiter's recommendations for the freshest catch will lead you to the evening's best entrées. Fish dishes are exquisite, and anything with calamari (fresh local catch) is worth ordering; Atlantic shellfish, though, tend to be a tad overcooked. Reserve, and dress on the spiffier side — some Hollywood celebs hang their Borsalinos here, upping the clothing curve. Dinner 5 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. weekdays, 5 p.m. to midnight weekends. Valet parking available. Moderate (simpler pastas) to very expensive. — *N.W. (8/01)*

Dublin Square 554 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-239-5818. The entire pub was hand-crafted in Waterford, shipped over, and installed (by Irish craftsmen) in the Gaslamp. The exterior indeed resembles a real (but very new) Dublin pub; the interior has authentically dim lighting and spirited Irish music, including live bands (acoustic but loud) during happy hours and some evenings. If you're looking for food, too, there's a fine corned beef and cabbage, resembling the corned beef of Katz's Deli on the Lower East Side — it's that wee touch o' the garlic that does the trick. Other choices include Guinness beef stew, shepherd's pie (made with ground beef), steaks, lamb medallion, fish and chips, and grilled fish, plus standard pub grub. Lunch and dinner (including Irish breakfast anytime) daily. Moderate. — *N.W. (3/02)*

Kansas City Barbecue 610 West Market Street (at Harbor Drive), downtown, 619-231-9680. Scrupu-

tious smells waft across the tracks at the Seaport Village trolley stop — barbecued pork and beef. And yeah, this is the joint where Tom Cruise and Kelly McGillis did their "sleazy bar scene" in *Top Gun*. And it is kinda sleazy, especially in the shadowy horseshoe bar, with memorabilia like hanging bras, Czech license plates, and stickers ("Grow Your Own Dope: Plant A Man"). The beef and pork ribs (or rib tips or chicken breast) are worth it. They're cooked over an oak-fueled fire. Nice long happy hour (3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at bar only) has great food/grub deals. Open daily, lunch until late, serving until 1 a.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (3/01)*

Max New York Steakhouse and Seafood 827 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-235-8500. As steakhouses go, Max is a good value, offering huge portions of fine, gently raised near-organic meat, cooked to order and offered at relatively gentle prices. You don't even have to pay extra for your veggies. For beef, there's full-flavored naturally raised Angus or butter-tender Kobe-style Wagyu beef from New Zealand. Or you can choose a giant rack of lamb, so tender it should be called "Certified Angus." Sauces tend to be pedestrian; request them on the side. The classic steakhouse appetizers are done with some smart twists. Superb international wine list at below-average markups, including plenty by the glass. Full bar. Valet parking, or inexpensive lot via alley two doors north. Open nightly, until midnight on weekends. Upper moderate to very expensive. — *N.W. (3/04)*

Morton's of Chicago 285 J Street (between Second and Third), Gaslamp, 619-696-3369. This famous Chicago steakhouse is swanky, in a manly way: dark, clubby, luxurious, and louche. You go to Morton's for great steak. Their midwestern grain-fed beef is aged and meticulously grilled to your specifications. You can get a one-and-a-half or three-pound porterhouse, which will be juicy, marbled with flavorful fat. You can also get good fish at Morton's. The big, golden salmon fillet flakes to the fork and is moist, sweet, buttery. The pricey à la carte sides are either bad or mediocre. The Morton's Hot Chocolate Cake is exceptional. But go for the steak. Expensive. — *M.N. (9/99)*

Puerto la Boca 2060 India Street (at Hawthorn), Little Italy, 619-234-4900. Argentines love their beef and they love it lean and wholesome — free-range and grass fed. That's what you'll find at this uncompromisingly authentic outpost of Buenos Aires cuisine. The great national entrée is the mixed grill (*parillada*) for two or more — a massive meatarama featuring numerous grilled cuts of marinated beef, chicken, and sausages. Start with luscious beef or corn empanadas or, if you're feeling hungry and adventurous, *matambre* (rolled beef galantine). Not a steak lover? Try the shrimp "la boca." Don't eat meat? There are vegetarian pastas and pizzas. Gnocchi (*ñoquis*) are served only on the 29th of each month. International, affordable choice of wines, plus Latin and U.S. beers. Full bar. Patio dining. Lunch and dinner daily. — *N.W. (8/05)*

Rainwater's on Kettner 1202 Kettner Boulevard (at B Street), Little Italy, 619-233-5757. You *could* order the fish, the chicken, or even the lamb, but odds are you're here because you want steak, prepared by people who respect your enthusiasm and offer prime beef in multiple cuts. And you're here because Rainwater's is venerable and local. You

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can dine old-style and enjoy it — warm cornbread fingers, a fine loose-packed crab cake, a crisp, watery wedge of iceberg lettuce under a blue cheese blanket. As for the beef, New York strip takes the day. You actually have to chew it — it ain't filet — but every chomp gives up scads of flavor. Order a side of greaseless, firm-bodied onion rings and wash it down with something from the exhaustive (and expensive) wine list. Lunch Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m.; dinner daily. Very expensive. — *A.M. (6/03)*

Sally's on the Water Manchester Grand Hyatt, 1 Market Place (Market and Harbor Drive, adjacent to Seaport Village), downtown, 619-358-6740. On an isolated "island" between the Hyatt and Seaport Village, in fair weather you'll catch great marina views from the terrace. Under inventive young French chef Fabrice Tissier, the fare is California-French with a summery Provençal accent and an accent on seafood. Don't miss the exquisite crab cakes or the classic bouillabaisse. If you'd like to know what the chef can do when he isn't limited by the tastes of hotel diners, with 72 hours to a week's notice you can book "The Chef's Table" inside the kitchen for six to twelve people and collaborate with him on a custom menu. Sally's interior is hard-edged modern and can be noisy. Full bar, good mainly California wine list. Validated parking in hotel garage. Call for wheelchair-access directions. Lunch and dinner daily. Expensive. — *N.W. (10/04)*

Sidebar Deli California Western School of Law, corner of Second and Cedar, downtown, 619-525-1444. The motto of this place is "Every day's a good day, but some days are better than others." It certainly applies to the Sidebar, just because the daily specials can be gone in a flash. Students have fought class actions to secure lunch specials like spaghetti and meatballs with garlic bread. Of course there are always breakfast burritos, breakfast sandwiches like bacon or sausage and cheese, French Dip sandwiches, or California wraps. Open to the public, breakfast and lunch, weekdays. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/05)*

Stingaree 454 Sixth Avenue (between J and K), Gaslamp, 619-544-0867. This huge restaurant has a nightclub on the mezzanine and an outdoor lounge on the roof. The

Mediterranean food by chef Antonio Friscia comes in three plate sizes — little, medium, and large. It's a built-in invitation to graze and share if you want to keep it light before you go dancing. The fare features premium, naturally raised meats, wild fish, and local organic vegetables. The rich international wine list is steep, but there's plenty by the glass; full bar. Friday and Saturday nights, dinner is a three- or four-course prix fixe only (your choices from the à la carte menu), but that gets you free entry into the club. Reservations advisable, urged for weekends. Dinner Tuesday through Sunday; rooftop noshing on Sunday afternoons. Dinners very expensive. — *N.W. (8/06)*

Strip Club 340 Fifth Avenue (at J Street), Gaslamp, 619-231-3140. This grill-your-own steak joint is a homage to Golden Hill's Turf Supper Club — but if Turf is a low-budget indie cult film, Strip Club is the Gaslamp's big, brassy, high-budget Hollywood remake (even though prices, like those of movie tickets, are roughly the same). It's loud and handsome, and if the USDA Choice steaks (available in numerous cuts) are not quite as flavorful as Turf's, they're still good enough for the price — and you can take them up a notch with numerous spice blends and sauces on hand at each gas grill. Other choices include burgers, chicken breast, ahi tuna steak, and meat or seafood kabobs (the shrimp is particularly good, with peppers, onions, and meaty hunks of portobello mushroom). Entrées come with salad and puffy, cook-it-yourself garlic bread, resembling hamburger buns with giantiasis. Six veg and starch side dishes (including two types of gluey mashed potatoes) are available at extra cost; desserts are commercial ice cream novelties. Casual, no reservations, street-patio dining available. Over 21 only, no minors even with adult accompaniment. Diners nightly, open until midnight Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (11/02)*

Tesoro 548 Fifth Avenue (between Island and Market), Gaslamp, 619-234-5670. Sharp modern decor meets contemporary Mexican resort-style cuisine. Highlights include appetizers of *panuchos de cochinita* (souful Yucatan-style pork and black bean mini-tostadas) and *tarta de rajás*, puff-pastry layers covered with strips of poblano chile and melted Oaxaca cheese in cream. Chicken in black Oax-

acan mole sauce is an interesting, authentic entrée, and filet mignon in a sauce of *jamaica* (hibiscus flowers) is luscious. Unfortunately, few entrées include any veggies or starches, and since flavors are intense, the mouth yearns for relief. Side dishes (costing extra) are largely limited to rice, good beans, house-made tortillas, chiles. Full bar, including specialty tequila and beer drinks, Baja wines. Elevator available to mezzanine dining room and basement nightclub levels. Smart-casual dress, spiffy on weekends. Open daily, lunch and dinner. High moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (4/05)*

SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

1500 Ocean Hotel Del Coronado, 1500 Ocean Avenue, Coronado, 619-522-8490. A lovely indoor-outdoor dining venue replaces the venerable walled-in Prince of Wales at the Del. Now the food is breezier, too — Jason Schaefer (formerly of Laurel) cooks up refined "California coastal cuisine" with French and Asian influences, constructed with the beautiful luxury ingredients of each season. There's everything to like, from the patio with a beach view to the comfortable atmosphere that's dressy but not stiff. The wine list is awesome — rather steep but no gouging, including reasonably mature top quaffs from France. Validated parking. Request assistance with handicapped access (stairs) when calling to reserve. Dinner nightly. Expensive. — *N.W. (7/06)*

Asian Noodles Bay Plaza Shopping Center, 1430 East Plaza Boulevard, Suite E-12, National City, 619-477-5390. You've got to be a noodle fan to be into this. It's an outpost of the venerable Ma Mon Luk family's Filipino restaurant empire. Mr. Ma went to Manila from China nearly a century ago and introduced the idea of egg noodles in a chicken soup (instead of rice noodles). His now-famous soup (with beef or chicken these days) came to be called MaMi, (Mr. Ma's "Mi" — noodles). Yes, MaMi's a little bland, but it's filling, and their *siopao* (stuffed steam buns) make a good accompaniment. Most interesting is another invention Ma Mon Luk claims: sweet

spaghetti. Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (3/06)*

Bistro D'Asia 1301 Orange Avenue (at B Avenue), Coronado, 619-437-6677. The relaxing restaurant attached to the hardy "Lizard Lounge" serves gentled-down dishes from all over East Asia. Among the tastiest are delicate lemon shrimps, vegetarian "monk's curry," and ice creams from Mootown Creamery. Peking Duck is accorded the full service, with a wait-ress garnishing the table's first round of delicate "flower buns" with crackly duck skin, scallions, and hoisin sauce. Lizard Lounge next door now houses a sushi bar as well as a liquor bar. Reserve for weekend dinners. Street parking. Well-chosen wine list. Lunch and dinner daily. — *N.W. (11/04)*

China Super Buffet 3007 Highland Avenue #9, National City, 619-336-9989. This buffet promises "over 100 items daily." Yellow-gloved girls constantly rove the rows checking, stirring, wiping. A lot of the stuff is very good, like the marinated baby octopuses that look like large blushing spiders, or the mussels in their shells, bubbling golden on top with melted cheese, and of course, roast beef au jus. If you must be healthy, they have groaning salad bars and adequate sushi. It's an incredible value. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (4/05)*

Giant Pizza King 600 Palm Avenue (at Rainbow), Imperial Beach, 619-423-7601. If pizza size matters to you, try on these nine-inch-wide, foot-long, loaded pizza slices. They can flop, but they can't fail. For alternatives, the fish and chips dish is pretty generous, they make a large lasagna with garlic bread and salad, and the half-pound shrimp combo, fries, and salad is good value. You're near enough here to the beach to get supplies for sunset "green flash" parties — this is a full-on Italian take-out eatery with ham or turkey subs, spaghetti with meatballs, half-pound burgers, and more. Open daily, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/05)*

Lizard Lounge 1301 Orange Avenue (at B), Coronado, 619-437-6677. This venerable saloon, a Navy old-timers' favorite since the era when lounge lizards in leisure suits stalked the earth, now houses a good little sushi bar at one end of its spirits bar. The rice is well-seasoned, the seafood tastes sparkling-fresh, and each *nigiri* is given

its own individual garnish (e.g., lemon with the *hamachi* roll). Most of the inside-out party rolls are variations of the California roll formula, with the same center of sweet crab and avocado, but there's also a lively mango-albacore roll, featuring tempura shrimp, avocado, and *ponzu*. For best seats and peaceful eating, come early; the bar fills fast and the room can get downright rowdy as the night rolls on. Street parking. Lunch/dinner daily. Moderate. — *N.W. (11/04)*

Lydia's Cafe and Nightclub 1628 Palm Avenue, San Diego, 619-429-3603. This easygoing dancing/eatery has a faithful following that goes back to 1957. But before you dance, eat! Check out the *birria en su jugo* (goat in its juices) with beans, rice, and tortillas, or enjoy filling snacks like *taquitos*, *cucaracha* (a corn tortilla stuffed with ham, cheese, and sour cream), or the snack Lydia says she invented: *botanas* (beans, pork, and melted cheese over corn chips). Open daily, three meals. (Call ahead for availability of the *birria*.) Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

McP's Irish Pub & Grill 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-5280. With a crowd ranging from Navy retirees to chic singles barely of drinking age, the perpetual party on McP's patio is nurtured by above-average Irish-Mexican-American pub grub (burgers, potato skins, nachos, etc.). The Irish fare includes a pleasing Mulligan stew served in a hollowed bread-loaf and an absolutely fabulous corned beef and cabbage plate with tender, thick slices surrounding cabbage so young and sweet it ought to be carded. Good soups, too. Open daily, standard pub hours. (Breakfast Sunday during football season.) Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W. (4/01)*

Village Club Card Room 429 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-425-3333. Yes, it's mostly poker players, but anybody can come in and order a meal. And here's the thing: first-time visitors get their meal free. Really. Players or nonplayers. Of course, the idea is to keep players' bellies full so they can return to the game, so even second-timers get a deal with down-home comfort-dishes like grilled chicken breast sandwich, spaghetti with meatballs and garlic bread, or garlic shrimp with fried rice and egg, plus Chinese dishes including Kung Pao beef or

chicken, Mongolian beef, and a good wonton soup with noodles. Open 24 hours. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (1/04)*

BAJA

From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; when calling in Tijuana use only the restaurant's seven-digit number.

Big Boy Restaurant Agua Caliente Boulevard #9892 (across the street from the old bullring), Tijuana, 686-3788. Besides having excellent Mexican-American food, this Big Boy knock-off draws some of the most interesting people in Tijuana — journalists, lawyers, cattle ranchers, politicians, Baja's heavy hitters. Day or night, Big Boy is always busy. Gringo food's no problem. Breakfast includes eggs, bacon, sausage, chorizo or ham, plus hash browns or frijoles, toast, juice, and endless coffee. Nobody will object if you sit sipping the free refills till the moon comes up. But you won't — you'll crack and order more when you smell the popular, macho "royal" hamburger, with two beef patties, smoked ham, onions, lettuce, tomatoes, fries, and salad. Or the chicken breast marinated in tequila with cilantro, guacamole, and beans. Open 24/7. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Café la Especial Avenida Revolución #718 (down the market steps), Tijuana, 685-6654. Café la Especial was once a great favorite of American aficionados of Tijuana's bullfights at the old downtown Plaza de Toros. Summer Sundays, fans would crowd into the café to chow down before the fights or rush back afterwards for a few drinks and a hearty meal. Inside, little has changed, not even the 50-50 locals-to-gringos ratio. Food is standard Mexican/American border fare, from tacos and tamales to *carne asada* and *bistek ranchero*, from cactus and eggs to steak and eggs. But the atmosphere is the real draw: the low ceiling, varnished wood, black furniture with flowers painted up and down the legs and portraits on the backs, and lots of murals of Mexico on the walls. Owner Humberto Brambila's aunt Justina started it all, he says, in 1948, with the steamed taco stand upstairs. That's still going too. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (5/02)*

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El Faro de Mazatlán Boulevard Sánchez Taboada #9542, Plaza Financiera, Zona Río, Tijuana, 684-8882, 684-8883, or 684-2236. We're talking safe, reliable, middle-class fish-fare here. The "Lighthouse of Mazatlán" is bright, blue, and white with smart varnished wood furniture and delivers fish, lobster, oyster, squid, and shrimp dishes that are easy to like. Generous free appetizers include marlin ceviche, fried fish, and fish albóndigas soup. The interesting part is in trying dishes like the sea snail salad. (After a few closed-eye bites, it's delicious — like eating a sliced clam. It's great in a Caesar.) Look for original ways with octopus, *pez espada* (swordfish) and others. One of the simplest, best dishes: the cabicucho (Mexican sea bass), char-broiled but moist and really better without its ranchero sauce. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *E.B. (6/05)*

El Rodeo Boulevard Salinas #1647, Tijuana, 686-5640. This 30-year-old steak haven sits on traffic-drowned Salinas, but climb onto its porch and you're at some Sonoran desert rancho, saguaro cacti and all. Inside it's dark wood and brick, wagon wheels, lariats, rifles, longhorns, and generous amounts of cattle-ranch food. Entrée price includes a delicious soup of roast beef juices, beans cooked in their own juices, a quesadilla, a salad, two *botana* (snack) plates, of, say, vinegary veggies and potatoes, and a beef liver medley, flour tortillas, chips, and hot sauce. You can get any

cut of steak you want. *A parrillada* — BBQ dish — gives you marinated beef rib, *carne asada*, and barbecued chicken, all sizzling on a rancho-style metal table-top grill that glows with hot coals. Best part: the roasted spring onions splayed across the meat. Dessert and coffee also included. Good place for a party. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. — *E.B. (5/05)*

La Escondida Santa Monica #1 (in Fraccionamiento Las Palmas), Tijuana, 681-4458. This hidden ("*escondida*") mansion has been a restaurant for three decades. The terrazzo and garden overlooking the Tijuana River valley make breakfast and dinners a treat. House specialties are more interesting than the regular fare. Try the seafood casserole (*cacerola de mariscos*), the *tambor* (a dish of layered beef, cheese, and pork), or the roasted baby Monterey goat ("*cabrito tatemado*"). Desserts include the house *especial*, mango and ice cream with *rompope* (Mexican egg nog), and *crepas de cajeta con nieve*, crêpes with walnuts, green pistachio ice cream, and "burnt milk" caramel sauce — the nearest thing to liquid fudge this side of paradise. On weekends the place rocks with parties and live music. The big downside: It's hard to find. Take Agua Caliente Boulevard one half mile past the racetrack, turn right at Las Palmas, then left at the Rey del Pollo sign. The La Escondida entrance sign is in red neon at the road's end. Open daily for breakfast, lunch, dinner. Moderate. — *E.B. (1/05)*

La Vuelta Avenida Revolución #8210 (above 11th), Tijuana, 685-7309. Bring your lover here and hide away in one of the cuddly *carretitas* — nooks. Even if traffic is ghastly at "the turn" ("*la vuelta*") where RevoluciÃn hooks left, you forget all that inside this vestige of Olde Tijuana, with balcony seating, resident

mariachis, and food and drink all day and night. Dive into a *combinacion mexicana* (chile relleno, taco, and enchilada) or *carne asada* served in an *olla de barro*, an earthenware pot from Guadalajara. Even the gringo-sounding *filete mignon* with mushroom sauce somehow comes out Mexican. Most Mexicans actually turn up about 1 a.m., after their own parties, to be serenaded by the excellent ten-piece mariachi band. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (6/03)*

Restaurante Don Quijote Hotel El Conquistador (ground floor), 10750 Boulevard Agua Caliente, Tijuana, 681-7955. This tribute to the great windmill tilter himself serves as breakfast, lunch, and dinner anchor for the town's truest colonial Mexican *posada* (inn). It's a world of glowing stained-glass windows, heavy doors, and black wrought iron. You expect Zorro himself to come clattering out from the shadows on his horse. The food is standard middle-class Mexican fare, but between quail dishes and enchiladas, creations like cheese-stuffed shrimp wrapped in bacon pop out. Nicest surprise? *Sopa Azteca*, with tortilla strips, grated cheese, chopped dark red chiles, and avocado. Inexpensive to moderate. Open three meals, seven days. — *E.B. (2/06)*

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Buca di Beppo 705 Sixth Avenue (at G Street), Gaslamp, 619-233-7272. Also at 10749 Westview Parkway, Mira Mesa, 858-536-2822; 1921 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad, 760-479-2533. People come here to celebrate, in party

droves, by gobbling huge plates of "themed" Italian. Bucca di Beppo ("Joe's Cellar") is a mighty national chain — but it works. Downtown's rabbit-warren of low-ceilinged dining rooms is plastered with Italian photos (check out Sophia Loren, transfixed by Jane Mansfield's breasts) and crowded with customers chowing down from portions large enough to feed two or more. Try the *penne arrabiata* with its spicy sausage or the popular chicken parmigiana. Standard stuff, but what the heck — you're having fun. Don't leave without conquering the mountainous, wicked Bella Festa, two huge balls of ice cream on double chocolate cakes running with sambuca sauce, caramel, and nuts on an 18-inch plate. Open for lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (12/05)*

California Pizza Kitchen 3363 Nobel Drive, La Jolla Village Square, La Jolla, 858-457-4222. Also at Beachwalk Plaza, 437 South Coast Highway 101, Suite 601, Solana Beach, 858-793-0999; Carmel Mountain Plaza, 11602 Carmel Mountain Road, Carmel Mountain, 858-675-4424; and Fashion Valley Mall (second level), Suite 901, 7007 Friars Road, Mission Valley, 619-298-4078. Two Beverly Hills lawyers started this chain in 1985 to exploit "the premium pizza segment." Some 150 restaurants later, guess it worked. The place is all shiny chrome, glass, etched palm trees, golden wood and black furniture, and two pizza ovens with real logs burning inside. The Original BBQ chicken pizza, the chain's first hit, is still their top seller. It has barbecue sauce, smoked Gouda and mozzarella cheeses, BBQ chicken, red onions, and cilantro. The BBQ chicken chopped salad is good too, as is the jambalaya. If you've

got a sweet tooth, but are embarrassed to order "Hawaiian" pizza, try the pear and Gorgonzola. It has caramelized pears, caramelized onions, Gorgonzola and other cheeses, and hazelnuts. At night, the Nobel Drive branch features a view of the shining Mormon cathedral. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (2/03)*

Joe's Crab Shack 7610 Hazard Center Drive, Mission Valley, 619-574-8617; 4325 Ocean Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-274-3474; 525 E. Harbor Drive, downtown, 619-233-7391; 314 Harbor Drive, South Oceanside, 760-722-1345. Joe's is silly with crab-shack ambience (campy nautical paraphernalia on down to souvenir gimme caps), but the food's not bad. You can choose buckets of steamed, barbecued, or garlic crab (of various subspecies), or go for fried or grilled seafood or steaks, or salads. Grown-ups may prefer the patio to the rockin', raucous interior. Full bar, not much wine. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W. (5/01)*

The Original Pancake House 3906 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-1740. Starve yourself for eight hours, then come in here and order up an Apple Pancake — a foot-wide, batter-filled, five-egg paradise pelted with slices from two Granny Smith apples and baked till it puffs up like a golden mini-superdome. Cinnamon cinches it. The German Pancake, or its kid brother, the Dutch Baby, are good oven-baked alternatives, as is the really, really filling mushroom omelet, which comes with three pancakes. Oh, and the Eggs Michael: sausage patties and poached eggs lost somewhere under a mushroom-sherry sauce. The whole atmosphere — striped gold-and-

cream wallpaper, dainty cups, shelves of ceramic dogs — feels like it's the Fifties and your granny took you here when you were five. Okay, it's a nationwide franchise, but it's a comfy franchise, from Oregon. All-day breakfast only, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. Other locations at 14905 Pomerado Road, Poway, 858-679-0186; 160 South Rancho Santa Fe Road, Encinitas, 760-943-1939; 435 South Melrose Drive, Vista, 760-758-3441. — *E.B. (4/02)*

Ruth's Chris Steak House 11582 El Camino Real (at Arroyo Sorrento), Sorrento Hills, 858-755-1454. Flash-cooked steaks from the finest wet-aged, corn-fed USDA Prime, seasoned with salt, pepper, butter, and parsley, are the hallmark of this 95-location chain. If you aren't a salt offender, ask the kitchen to use a lighter touch. All side dishes are à la carte but come in portions large enough to feed two. The broiled tomatoes, caramelized with a touch of sugar, are a delight, and potatoes are offered in eight guises. A pecan-topped sweet potato casserole, although delicious, would be better as dessert. Non-beef-eaters can choose from numerous luxurious seafood dishes, a cheese-stuffed chicken breast, grilled portobello mushrooms, and six salads. Award-winning wine list is steep but serious, with an average bottle price of \$70 but reasonable markups and wines over \$100 offered at retail price. The main room harbors a fabulous view of the ocean if you arrive before sunset, but it's noisy — tables upstairs are quieter. Dinner nightly; lunch Friday only. Also downtown, with equally stunning views, at 1355 North Harbor Drive, 619-233-1422. Very expensive. — *B.D. (5/05)*

Restaurant Coupons and Menus

SanDiegoReader.com

Restaurants listed without coupon offers have only menus online. Restaurants with • have multiple locations. See online menu or coupon for all locations.

Pacific Beach, Mission Beach & Ocean Beach

Atoll at the Catamaran Hotel
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**

La Jolla

Cafe Milano **Free Comedy Store tickets**
Cendio
Clay's La Jolla
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**
Calypso **Free appetizer**
Greek Village **Free saganaki**
Jamroc 101 **Free island sampler**
Ki's Restaurant **Free appetizer or dessert**
Mikko Japanese **50% off sushi**
Noodles & Company •
Pho Lucky **10% off entire check**
Wild Note Cafe

South Bay & Coronado

Lai Thai **50% off entrée**
Mariscos La Costa Azul **Free combo plate**
Mea Kwan Thai **20% off entrée**

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

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**
Windy City Beef **1/2 off menu item**

Clairemont, University City, Miramar Rd., Poway, Mira Mesa, Scripps Ranch & Kearny Mesa

Ashoka the Great **50% off lunch or dinner**
D'Amatos Pizza **Italian dinner for two \$29.95**
Filling Station **Free appetizer**
Honey's Cafe
Joe's Pizza **2 large pizzas \$20.99**
La China
Pampas **Free empanada**
Philadelphia Sandwich Co. **Free sandwich**
Thai Cafe **\$1 off buffet**

Downtown & Point Loma

Blue Water Seafood **25% off**
The Boathouse **2-for-1 entrée**
Dublin Square **15% off or free lunch**
Embers Grille **50% off entrée**
The Field **Free lunch**
Hard Rock Café •
Hornblower Cruises
House of Blues **20% off restaurant receipt**
Humphrey's
Jewel Box **2 for 1 entrée**
Lotus Thai Cuisine **Free entrée**
McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant
Mister Tiki Mai Thai Lounge
Olé Madrid **2 for 1 lunch or brunch entrée**
RA Sushi
Rei do Gado
Rock Bottom
Samba Grill **1/2 off all-you-can-eat Brazilian feast**
Sevilla
The Shout House
St. Tropez Bakery-Bistro **10% off**•
Thai Time II **Free fried spring rolls**
Visions **25% off sushi**
Whiskey Girl
Xavier's **Free appetizer**

Paris in the Springtime

The level of culture in the film offers the American moviegoer a rare refuge and respite.

Danièle Thompson, writer, director, is on her way to becoming a dependable purveyor of the *pièce bien faite*, the well-made play in the lineage of Scribe and Sardou, or to adapt the term to her own medium, the well-made photoplay, solidly constructed, smoothly finished, superficially engaging. Her latest such effort, following on *La Bûche* and *Jet Lag*, and opening on Friday at Landmark's La Jolla Village, is *Avenue Montaigne* (in the original French, *Fauteuils d'Orchestre*, literally *Orchestra Seats*), a comedy of discontent, a comedy of attempted self-transformation, a light entertainment with darker undertones.

The way station for three principal intertwined plotlines, on the titular swanky boulevard in the 8th Arrondissement of Paris, is the Bar des Théâtres, a "microcosm" composed of the coming-and-going artists, musicians, and theater people, as well as the man on the street, and a place of

employment for a waifish newcomer from the provinces (Cécile de France, full of goofy charm if a trifle too conscious of it), the first female employee in this bastion of Old World tradition.

One of her customers, the center of one of the three plotlines, is a bipolar actress (Valérie Lemercier, a gifted comedienne but slightly deficient in glamour) who, despite her enormous popularity on a prime-time soap and her current involvement in a campy stage revival of Georges Feydeau, longs to do something more serious: "Any news from Alain Resnais?" Most pressingly, she longs to play Simone de Beauvoir in a film in preparation by a visiting American "indie" director (a bilingual Sydney Pollack), although, for all her desperate supplication, she can't keep to herself her own strong opinions on the writer's relationship with Jean-Paul Sartre. Another customer, at the center of another plotline, is an accomplished concert pianist (the soulful yet sinewy Albert Dupontel),



Avenue Montaigne

in rehearsal for Beethoven's "Emperor" concerto, but in rebellion against the next six years of concert commitments, which is to say in rebellion against his manager-wife (the no less soulful but significantly softer Laura Morante). Another, at the center of the third, is a widowed art collector (the familiar face, since New Wave days, of Claude Brasseur) who

plans to sell off his Braque, his Brancusi, his Modigliani, his Léger, his entire collection, in one fell swoop, and share the wealth with his gold-digging new mistress, the former lover, unbeknownst to him, of his own son (the filmmaker's own son, Christopher Thompson, and her collaborator on the script). Also at a crossroads is the linking character of the theater

conciierge (the single-named Dani) on the brink of retirement, a whisky-voiced old broad who, in a possible tribute to the aforementioned Alain Resnais, or at least to his multi-plotline lip-sync musical, *Same Old Song*, goes around mouthing the words of the male vocalists in her ever-present headset, chiefly Gilbert Bécaud, to humorously discordant effect.

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All three of the plotlines, in a frankly corny contrivance, come to a head on the same evening: opening night of the Feydeau play, the night of the Beethoven concert, the night of the art auction. And because it's a comedy in the commonest sense, the discontent in each case works its way around to a positive change, a bit too neatly for the film's own good. If Thompson does not exactly lack the courage of her convictions, she certainly lacks the courage of Resnais's convictions, even in as light a frolic as his *Same Old Song*. Still, the level of culture in the film, the level of civilization, offers the American moviegoer a rare refuge and respite. Only the French (and maybe, sometimes, to some degree, Woody Allen) could be at such ease, in a completely commercial divertissement, with the specters of Beauvoir, Brancusi, Beethoven, Bécaud, Feydeau, Resnais, and the rest. Nowhere else could a sight gag set its sights so high: a tableau of our waifish waitress seated in a row

alongside five auditioning actors done up in the guise of Jean-Paul Sartre.

300, like *Sin City*, takes its material from a "graphic novel" by Frank Miller, and in turn it takes from the film treatment of that one — or to be more precise, director Zack Snyder takes from director Robert Rodriguez — the same, or similar, unnatural light, "virtual" backgrounds, coarse-grained surface, drained color, cadaverous complexions, etc. The same look applied to the same source will obviously not possess the same originality. *Sin City*, to make a fine distinction, was in black-and-white, sort of, almost, whereas *300* is almost, sort of, in color; but still. (*Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow*, without any inspiration from Frank Miller, was an even earlier trailblazer.) The material here is of course quite different, a comic-book retelling of the Battle of Thermopylae, 480 B.C., in which a modest company of Spartan warriors lowered the odds against "the most massive army ever assembled" by funnelling the Persian invaders into the narrow pass known as the Hot Gates. Western democracy, if you please, versus Middle East tyranny, as

relevant to our own times as any Bushian gas about "evildoers" and "WMDs."

But there is actual, ancient history behind it, too, and accordingly some remedial teaching to be done. "Only the hard and the strong may call themselves Spartans," elucidates the knowing narrator, adding, for the benefit of note-takers or woolgatherers, "Only the hard. Only the strong." (Okay. Got it.) Spartan women, meanwhile, are as accommodating and accepting as the groupies in a heavy-metal rock video: "Come back with your shield," King Leonidas's wife urges him at his send-off, "or on it." Which would be a neat piece of rhetoric if the first half of the conjunction were something that someone might ever say. (Come back with my shield? And if I should lose it or break it, don't bother coming back at all?) The ensuing gory demonstration of Spartan hardness and strength usefully sums up a juvenile view of manliness — a fantasia of battle scars and washboard stomachs and growling-tiger voices and monstrous adversaries and video-game combat with slow-motion highlights — and the best to be said of it is that no one will mistake it for history; that the his-

tory, unlike the three hundred, will come through the ordeal without a scratch. Or to say the same thing another way, the artistic impact of it is altogether soft and weak. Altogether soft. Altogether weak.

News flash: *Miss Potter* to open on neither the 23rd nor the 30th, as calculated last week (or rather, re-re-calculated), but on the 16th, this very Friday, next door to *Avenue Montaigne* at the La Jolla Village. Anyone care?

The San Diego Latino Film Festival rolls on through Sunday at the UltraStar Mission Valley. One gauge of its escalating success in recent years is that freeloading journalists such as myself are now strongly encouraged to request DVD screeners of any films they wish to see and not take up valuable seats at the public showings. I understand perfectly. But I know of no nicer compliment to pay the festival than to say that I prefer to see its films at the festival, in the company of other festivalgoers, rather than in my living room. Of the handful of films I've attended as of this writing, without once taking away anyone's seat, here's my

broad generalization: people, places, a camera. Everything you need in order to have a movie. Just the basics. Things you do not need would include CGI, desaturated color, A-list stars, a mountain of production, a high concept, a pandemic ad campaign, a weekend box-office report. Every once in a while you need to get away from all that. In fact, as often as possible. ■

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.

Amazing Grace — An old-school screen biography (or hagiography) of the English abolitionist, William Wilberforce, who spearheaded the anti-slavery movement in Parliament from the late 18th Century to the early 19th, a long, slow struggle against the forces of entrenched economics. On the virtuous side of every issue — in favor of free education, opposed to animal cruelty — and an eligible bachelor to boot (and in Welsh actor Ioan Gruffudd, a broodingly handsome one), he is obviously a man we should be better acquainted with, and in that sense the movie performs a public service. The higher sense in which a movie may perform a public service, however, is by being a good movie; and a right-minded one about such a clear-cut and long-established right is apt to lack a little something in tension. To have dramatized this story in, say, 1807 would have been a different matter. From two centuries' distance, it plays as not so much a drama as a ceremony, a consecration, appropriately culminating in an on-screen standing ovation, followed by an editorial eulogy, followed by a sitting ovation. Under the experienced directorial hand of Michael Apted, the movie is well dressed and well decorated and well acted (Michael Gambon, Ciarán Hinds, Albert Finney, Bill Paterson, Rufus Sewell, Romola Garai, Benedict Cumberbatch), and yet the "artfully" faded image looks all too literally like the ashes of time. 2007.

★ (ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; SAN MARCOS 18)

The Astronaut Farmer — Even if you knew nothing else about it, the title alone would prevent you from getting sucked in by the film's opening image, a silhouette of a horseback 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 repulsion 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. Virginia Madsen, Tim Blake Nelson, Bruce Dern,

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J.K. Simmons. 2007.
★ (HORTON PLAZA 14; POWAY 10)

Avenue Montaigne — Reviewed this issue. With Cécile de France, Valérie Lemercier, Albert Dupontel, Claude Brasseur, and Christopher Thompson; written and directed by Danièle Thompson. ★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 3/16)

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.
● (FASHION VALLEY 18)

Black Snake Moan — Writer-director Craig Brewer wriggles at the far edge of the socially acceptable, and he does so with some of the fearlessness of the exploitation filmmakers of the Sixties and Seventies: the

title itself distinctly echoes *Blacksnake*, the contribution of Russ Meyer, “King of the Nudies,” to the racial discourse. Except that today the fearlessness faces tougher scrutiny, not the friendly reception of a specialized audience in a fragmented market, at the corner of the public eye, but right out in plain view, smack in the middle of the mainstream. That would seem to demand an even greater fearlessness, if the filmmaker didn’t exercise some self-restraint, draw back from the edge, hedge his bets. The central image of the film (and, in a demurer version, its poster) is that of a battered and bruised young white woman

in crop top and cotton bikini panties, chained at the waist on a thirty-foot tether, in the cabin of an old Southern black man, an ex-bluesman with gold teeth and the dome of Disney’s Uncle Remus. But please don’t misunderstand. It’s for her own good: “I aim to cure you of your wickedness.” The film takes its own sweet time to show how she ended up, in her clad-only condition, bloody eye, bloody nose, bloody lip, at the side of the road in front of that cabin; and it doesn’t blanch at the seamy details in the life of this desanitized Daisy Mae, this archetypal Town Slut. When the two paths have finally crossed, there’s no need to ask

why a black man of that generation would not immediately call the police. Instead, he does what he sees as the Christian thing, nursing her back to health himself; and the chain around her waist is but a logical, if innovative and provocative, extension. The film can thus indulge, practically guilt-free, in assorted bondage imagery (to say nothing of inverted slavery imagery), and it is littered with suggestive poses suitable for the cover of a *Torrid* Paperback, more than enough of these for the Complete Works of Erskine Caldwell. Despite the depth and warmth of the relationships, despite, too, the palpable pity for the emotionally and

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intellectually handicapped, and despite the reverent, and on one occasion rowdy, celebration of the Southern blues tradition, the film never really transcends its trashiness. It wallows in it. With gusto. Samuel L. Jackson, Christina Ricci, Justin Timberlake. 2007.

★★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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 self-styled expert on the Soviets and secret bed-fellow 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; GASLAMP 15; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Bridge to Terabithia — The children's story 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 woody 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 sandpaper 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



Bridge to Terabithia

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, Zoey Deschanel), guilt, loss, remorse. The struggle doesn't last long, but it's painful. Josh Hutcherson, AnnaSophia Robb, Robert Patrick. 2007. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Days of Glory — Filmmaker Rachid Bouchareb, of Algerian descent, has a point to make about the debt of the French to the North African volunteers who, despite second-class treatment, helped liberate their "motherland" from Nazi occupation, a debt

ignored at the time and still today. He makes the point frequently and clearly ("We're changing the destiny of France. Things must change for us, too"), but seldom entertainingly, depending overmuch upon current social and economic inequities to add piquancy to the routine troop maneuvers, on and off the battlefield. He exercises tighter control only once the Arabs have been whittled down to a final four, trying to hold on to an Alsatian village till the arrival of reinforcements. All throughout, Patrick Blossier's cinematography is exemplary, keeping the wide-screen image clean and tidy while working in near-monochrome, normally a slippery slope into mud and mush. Jamel Debbouze, Samy Naceri, Roschdy Zem, Sami Bouajila, Bernard Blancan. 2006. ★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, THROUGH 3/15)

Dead Silence — Ventriloquism chiller with Ryan Kwanten, Amber Valletta, and Donnie Wahlberg, directed by James Wan. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR

HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 3/16)

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. 2006. ● (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12)

Ghost Rider — Yet another Marvel Comic turned unmarvelous movie, about an Evel Knievel motorcycle daredevil (Nicolas Cage, with a black divot of a hair-piece) 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

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Johnson, and said, “Mark Steven, I’m not the writer here, but you know, they’re really not called field goals, they’re called goal-posts.” 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 tickle-some effect of the lame-brained dialogue. 2007.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

God Grew Tired of Us — Christopher Quinn’s documentary on the Lost Boys of Sudan, refugees of the civil war there, a few of whom are followed to the United States where they attempt to make a new home. A vast subject, covered skimmingly yet intimately: the eating of a pat of butter as if it were cheese, the hesitant first steps on an escalator, and so on. (Thoughts of *Borat* might sometimes come to mind.) The English subtitles for accented English are as much a distraction as a help. Narrated by Nicole Kidman. 2006.

★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, THROUGH 3/15)

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.

● (PALM PROMENADE 24)

The Host — South Korean creature feature, a tad overlong and a bit wavery in tone, yet very well made on the whole, and especially well made in its computer-animated creature, a two-legged, amphibious, carnivorous, whale-scale fish, with a toothy Venus-flytrap mouth. (Blame it on the Americans, Scott Wilson specifically, dumping toxic chemicals from a U.S. Army base into the Han River.) The first sight of the beast, hanging batlike from the underside of a bridge, is as real as unreal can be; and director Joon-ho Bong mixes up a marvelous variety of views of the thing, far enough in the squinty distance to defy belief, and close as an express subway hurtling past the platform a few feet in front of your face. The shot of the beast vomiting up a pile of bones in its sewer lair is a certifiable highlight. There are curious touches of pratfall comedy, from which the fish itself is not immune, slipping and rolling on unsteady land legs. And the narrow focus on one family’s search for a carried-off little girl (there’s scant evidence of a widespread hunt for the monster) threatens the movie continually with sentimentality, and at the end, when all surviving family members must get in on the act, threatens it with silliness. You might wish you could take the movie a little more seriously, but you can be quite content to take it playfully. Kang-ho Song, Hae-il Park, Doo-na Bae, A-sung Ko. 2006.

★★★ (KEN)

I Think I Love My Wife — Romantic

comedy based on Eric Rohmer’s *Chloë in the Afternoon*, directed and co-written by, as well as starring, Chris Rock.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 3/16)

The Last King of Scotland — The self-conferred title of Ugandan strongman, and madman, Idi Amin Dada, a facile role for Forest Whitaker, who pitches into it with gusto. The true central character, however, is a fictitious young Scottish doctor (James McAvoy), the President’s personal physician, “closest advisor,” illicit lover of Wife Number Three, and all-around trivial distraction. With Kerry Washington, Gillian Anderson, Simon McBurney; directed by Kevin Macdonald. 2006.

★ (HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; 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. In addition to which, any number of films have attempted an internal balancing act, our side and theirs, sometimes even permitting the others to speak in their own tongues (*The Young Lions*, *The Enemy Below*, *Hell in the Pacific*, *Tora! Tora! Tora!*, etc.). More, then, 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 battle and had as much to do with the aftereffects as with the immediate effects, filing away the warfare as indelible mental snapshots. 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.

★★★★ (HORTON PLAZA 14)

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

SEEN ON DVD

LIBBY LEBEAU

Library Technician, Vista Branch
San Diego County Library.

I consider myself quirky and therefore love a good quirky movie. *American Splendor* is the quirky biography of Harvey Pekar, a comic-book writer, so there were quirks galore. It stars Paul Giamatti, whom I always like.

Me and You and Everyone We Know is a quirky love story. I could not stop thinking about this movie after I first saw it. The characters really captivated me. Now the director, Miranda July, really has my attention.

Amélie gives us a peek inside the quirky world of the main character, Amélie. It is the perfect feel-good movie and will probably make you laugh out loud. Audrey Tautou is fabulous. This is the movie I put on when I’m having a bad day.

AMERICAN SPLENDOR (USA)

2003, HBO Video

List price: \$14.98

ME AND YOU AND EVERYONE

WE KNOW (USA/England) 2005, MGM

List price: \$24.96

AMELIE (France) 2001, Miramax

List Price: \$19.99

ANNE MURPHY

Library Technician, Vista Branch
San Diego County Library.

Wordplay is a great movie for people who enjoy solving crossword puzzles. It allowed me to enter the inner reaches of the crossword world. You’ll meet Will Shortz, Merl Reagle, and Trip Payne, from the puzzle-making world; be introduced to the top solvers in the annual championship in Connecticut; and see the exciting conclusion of that competition. A fun documentary — how rare that is!

The Illusionist has so many different aspects that appeal to me and it succeeded in each. It’s a story set in the 19th Century about a young man (Edward Norton) perfecting his skills as an illusionist/magician. It’s a story of his enduring love for a duchess (Jessica Biel), and the film presents it as a mystery that a police inspector (Paul Giamatti) is investigating. This movie quite simply enchanted me.

WORDPLAY (USA) 2006,

IFC Films

List price: \$24.95

THE ILLUSIONIST (USA) 2006,

Twentieth Century Fox

List price: \$29.99

RENEE HANSON

Library Technician, Vista Branch
San Diego County Library

I remember it was a cold day. I was ten and school was canceled for the day. That was the first time I saw an Alfred Hitchcock film. In retrospect, it was the perfect day to see one of his movies. He’s a master director! The Hitchcock experience was unlike anything else I had encountered up to that point.

My favorite Hitchcock movie is *Rear Window*. He makes you feel like you’re in the room with Grace Kelly and James Stewart. Little details are captured perfectly: the swish of Kelly’s lavish dresses or the close-ups between the two stars. You feel like you’re in the apartment with them the whole time. *Rear Window* as well as Hitchcock’s classic *Vertigo* are on DVD and available at the Vista Branch Library. Or better yet, come see them on the big screen at the Vista Branch Library. Our Hitchcock film series runs the third Sunday of the month.

REAR WINDOW (USA) 1954,

Universal

List price: \$19.98

VERTIGO (USA) 1958, Universal

List price: \$19.98

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.

★★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

The Messengers — Hollywood directorial debut of the Hong Kong twin brothers, Danny and Oxide Pang. Routine haunted-house hijinks, unrelenting and indiscriminating, 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.

● (HORTON PLAZA 14; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Miss Potter — First directing job for Chris Noonan in the eleven years since *Babe*, an innocuous biopic on the author and illustrator of *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, not to mention proto-feminist and proto-environmentalist, who braved the disparagement of gray-souled publishers (“Bun-

nies in jackets with brass buttons? However do you imagine such things?”), as well as the disparagement of her meddling match-making mother, to produce her first book at the spinsterly age of thirty-two. The role encourages Renée Zellweger to behave a bit like a smug chipmunk sitting on the private knowledge of a secret stash of acorns. Or rather, since the actress served also as an executive producer, you could say she encouraged *herself* to behave like that. The vindication of history, while removing any tension from the proceedings, encourages the viewer to mirror the same smirk. Ewan McGregor is very game and quite charming as the damp-behind-the-ears publisher who gives her her big break and also provides hope (plus the merest wisp of tension) of a matrimonial Happily Ever After. And Bill Paterson, as the Potter paterfamilias, models a prodigious set of mutton-chops. The touches of animation which

bring the drawings of Beatrix Potter to life are too few to have been worth the bother, but not too few to imply dissatisfaction with, if not further disparagement of, those drawings. Must we regard her as a proto-animator, too? With Emily Watson and Barbara Flynn. 2006.


★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 3/16)

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

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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; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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 watch-



Miss Potter

man like Gulliver; a mischievous monkey who pees on him, pickpockets his keys, and engages in a Three Stooges-style slapfest with him; a T-rex skeleton who wants to play fetch; a talking, bubblegum-chewing Easter Island head; Attila and some Huns; some lions, an elephant, a zebra, a rhino, and so on. It also allows for logical mix-ups

whereby, for example, the wax figure of Teddy Roosevelt knows full well he’s a wax figure of our twenty-sixth President, while the wax figure of Sakajawea is regarded as the actual, taxidermized Indian maid, a boon to the tour guide who is writing a dissertation on her. Director Shawn Levy oversees one decent cinematic moment, the

contrasting views of the Lilliputians letting the air out of the tires of a van at the loading dock, an action which at close range looks as if they’re trying to plug a hole in the fuselage of a jetliner at 30,000 feet, while from a distance it looks as if all is calm. Mickey Rooney has a nice little role as a truculent security guard forced into re-

tirement (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.

★ (GASLAMP 15)

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; CINERAMA 6; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS CINEMAS; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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,

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Gaslamp 15
701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400)
300 (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:15, 2:00, 3:00) 4:45, 5:45, 7:30, 8:30, 10:15; **Black Snake Moan** (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:05) 4:40, 7:35, 10:30; **Blood Diamond** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 3:25) 7:00, 10:05; **Breach** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 2:35) 5:05, 7:40, 10:20; **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:25) 4:50, 7:15, 9:40; **Dead Silence** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:55, 3:20) 5:55, 8:15, 10:35; **Ghost Rider** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:45) 4:35, 7:20, 10:00; **I Think I Love My Wife** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:50, 3:15) 5:40, 8:10, 10:35; **Notes on a Scandal** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:25, 2:50) 5:15, 7:40, 10:05; **The Number 23** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:40, 3:05) 5:30, 7:55, 10:25; **Premonition** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 2:55) 5:20, 7:45, 10:10; **Tortilla Heaven** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:25) 4:50, 7:15, 9:40; **Zodiac** (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:00, 2:45) 4:30, 6:15, 8:00, 9:45

Horton Plaza 14
Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)
Amazing Grace (PG) Fri.-Sun. (1:00, 3:40)

6:45, 9:30; **The Astronaut Farmer** (PG) Fri. (12:15, 2:40, 5:05) 7:40, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 2:40) 5:05, 7:40, 10:10; **Daddy’s Little Girls** (PG-13) Fri. (12:55, 3:30, 5:45) 8:05, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (12:55, 3:30) 5:45, 8:05, 10:20; **Hannibal Rising** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 3:25) 6:35, 9:45; **The Last King of Scotland** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:40, 3:35) 6:40, 9:25; **Letters from Iwo Jima** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:35, 3:45) 6:50, 9:55; **The Messengers** (PG-13) Fri. (12:05, 2:20, 4:35) 7:05, 9:20 Sat.-Sun. (12:05, 2:20) 4:35, 7:05, 9:20; **Music and Lyrics** (PG-13) Fri. (12:50, 3:10, 5:35) 8:00, 10:25 Sat.-Sun. (12:50, 3:10) 5:35, 8:00, 10:25; **Norbit** (PG-13) Fri. (12:10, 2:35, 5:00) 7:25, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (12:10, 2:35) 5:00, 7:25, 9:50; **Reno 911!: Miami** (R) Fri. (1:05, 3:15, 5:30) 7:35, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (1:05, 3:15) 5:30, 7:35, 9:40; **Smokin’ Aces** (R) Fri. (12:05, 2:45, 5:15) 7:45, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (12:05, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; **The Ultimate Gift** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 3:20) 6:55, 9:45; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 12:45, 2:30, 3:05, 4:50, 5:25) 7:15, 7:45, 9:35, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 12:45, 2:30, 3:05) 4:50, 5:25, 7:15, 7:45, 9:35, 10:05

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12
8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262)
300 (R); **Amazing Grace** (PG); **Black Snake Moan** (R); **Breach** (PG-13); **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG); **Dreamgirls** (PG-13); **I Think I Love My Wife** (R); **Music and Lyrics** (PG-13); **The Number 23** (R); **Premonition** (PG-13); **Wild Hogs** (PG-13); **Zodiac** (R)

La Jolla Village
8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)
Avenue Montaigne (PG-13) Fri. 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. 11:10, 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50; **The Last King of Scotland** (R) Fri. 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. 10:50, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45; **The Lives of Others** (R) Fri. 2:00, 5:00, 8:10 Sat.-Sun. 11:00, 2:00, 5:00, 8:10; **Miss Potter** (PG) Fri. 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. 11:20, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30

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)
300 (R); **Amazing Grace** (PG); **Because I Said So** (PG-13); **Black Snake Moan** (R); **Breach** (PG-13); **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG); **Dead Silence** (R); **Dreamgirls** (PG-13); **Ghost Rider** (PG-13); **I Think I Love My Wife** (R); **Music and Lyrics** (PG-13); **Norbit** (PG-13); **The Number 23** (R); **Premonition** (PG-13); **The Ultimate Gift** (PG); **Wild Hogs**

(PG-13); **Zodiac** (R)

Mission Valley 7
7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)
300 (R); **Premonition** (PG-13); **Wild Hogs** (PG-13); **San Diego Latino Film Festival**

Mission Valley 20
1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262)
300 (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 11:40) 12:40, 1:20, 2:00, 3:35, 4:15, 4:55, 6:30, 7:10, 7:50, 9:30, 10:10, 10:50 Sun. (11:00, 11:40) 12:40, 1:20, 2:00, 3:35, 4:15, 4:55, 6:30, 7:10, 7:50, 9:30, 10:10; **Black Snake Moan** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:25, 4:20, 7:15, 10:05; **Breach** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 1:30, 4:20, 7:30, 10:15; **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:10) 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20 Sun. 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20; **Dead Silence** (R) Fri.-Sun. 12:30, 3:00, 5:35, 8:00, 10:40; **Ghost Rider** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 12:05, 2:50, 5:30, 8:15, 11:00 Sun. 12:05, 2:50, 5:30, 8:10, 10:45; **I Think I Love My Wife** (R) Fri. (11:20) 12:15, 1:40, 2:40, 4:25, 5:10, 7:00, 7:45, 9:45, 10:35 Sat. (11:10) 12:15, 1:40, 2:40, 4:25, 5:10, 7:00, 7:45, 9:45, 10:35 Sun. (11:10) 12:15, 1:40, 2:40, 4:25, 5:10, 7:00, 7:45, 9:45; **The Last King of Scotland** (R) Fri.-Sun. 6:55, 9:50; **Music and Lyrics** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 2:30, 5:00, 7:35, 10:20; **Norbit** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 1:45, 4:40, 7:25, 9:55; **The Number 23** (R) Fri.-Sun. 12:20, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55, 10:30; **Premonition** (PG-13) Fri. (11:00) 12:10, 1:00, 2:45, 3:30, 5:20, 8:05, 10:00, 10:45 Sat. (11:25) 12:10, 1:55, 2:45, 4:35, 5:20, 7:20, 8:05, 10:00; **Reno 911!: Miami** (R) Fri.-Sat. 4:30, 10:55 Sun. 4:30, 10:35; **The Ultimate Gift** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 1:15, 4:05; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 1:05, 4:00, 6:50, 9:35 Fri.-Sun. (11:15) 1:05, 1:50, 4:00, 4:45, 6:50, 7:40, 9:35, 10:25; **Zodiac** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:05) 12:50, 2:35, 6:05, 7:05, 9:40

STATE UNIVERSITY

Cinerama 6
5831 University Avenue (619-287-8990)
Call theater for program information

Ken

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)
The Host (R) Fri. 4:15, 7:00, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45

UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas
3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)
Glastonbury (R) Fri.-Sun. 9:45p.m.; **The Lives of Others** (R) Fri. 1:55, 5:00, 8:00 Sat.-Sun. 10:55, 1:55, 5:00, 8:00; **Pan’s Labyrinth** (R) Fri. 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. 10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:55; **The Queen** (PG-13) Fri. 1:45, 4:30, 7:20 Sat.-Sun. 11:25, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20; **Starter for 10** (PG-13) Fri. 4:00, 9:35 Sat.-Sun. 11:05, 4:00, 9:35; **Tears of the Black**

Tiger (Not Rated) Fri. 2:05, 4:45, 7:30, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. 11:15, 2:05, 4:45, 7:30, 10:05; **Volver** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:15, 6:50

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center
1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)
Coral Reef Adventure (Not Rated) Fri. 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 9:00 Sat. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00 Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00; **Dolphins** (Not Rated) Sat.-Sun. 10:00a.m.; **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

San Diego Natural History Museum
1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821)
An Inconvenient Truth (PG) Fri.-Sun. 1:00, 3:00; **Ocean Oasis** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. 11:00, 12:00

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18
405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)
Call theater for program information

LA MESA

Grossmont Center
Grossmont Center (619-465-7100)
300 (R) Fri. (1:30, 2:25) 4:15, 5:15, 7:00, 8:00, 9:45, 10:45 Sat. (11:40, 1:00, 2:25, 3:55) 5:15, 7:00, 8:00, 9:45, 10:45 Sun. (11:40, 1:00, 2:25, 3:55) 5:15, 7:00, 8:00, 9:45, 10:35; **Breach** (PG-13) Fri. (2:50) 5:25, 8:10, 10:40 Sat. (12:35, 3:10) 5:40, 8:10, 10:40 Sun. (12:35) 5:40, 8:05, 10:30; **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG) Fri. (2:15) 4:40, 7:15, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (11:55, 2:15) 4:40, 7:15, 9:30; **Dead Silence** (R) Fri. (1:15, 3:30) 5:50, 8:15, 10:25 Sat. (12:50, 3:20) 5:50, 8:15, 10:25 Sun. (12:50, 3:20) 5:50, 8:15, 10:20; **Ghost Rider** (PG-13) Fri. (2:35) 5:10, 7:40, 10:10 Sat. (12:00, 2:35) 5:10, 7:40, 10:10 Sun. (12:00, 2:35) 5:10, 7:40, 10:05; **Music and Lyrics** (PG-13) Fri. (2:30) 4:55, 7:25, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (12:10, 2:30) 4:55, 7:25, 9:40; **Premonition** (PG-13) Fri. (2:55) 5:20, 7:45, 10:05 Sat. (12:30, 2:55) 5:20, 7:45, 10:05 Sun. (12:30, 2:55) 5:20, 7:45, 10:00; **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Sun. (3:10p.m.); **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri. (1:55) 4:45, 7:30, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. (11:30, 2:05) 4:45, 7:30, 9:55; **Zodiac** (R) Fri. (3:25) 7:10, 10:30 Sat. (11:50, 3:25) 7:10, 10:30 Sun. (11:50, 3:45) 7:55

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15
2951 Jamacha Road
300 (R) Fri. (11:30, 12:00, 1:00, 2:15, 3:15, 4:15, 5:10) 6:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:30, 10:15, 10:45 Sat.-Sun. (11:30, 12:00, 1:00, 2:15, 3:15) 4:15, 5:10, 6:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:30, 10:15, 10:45; **Amaz-**

ing Grace (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 3:00) 6:45, 9:40; **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG) Fri. (11:35, 2:10, 4:35) 7:05, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (11:35, 2:10) 4:35, 7:05, 9:50; **Dead Silence** (R) Fri. (12:30, 3:10, 5:30) 8:10, 10:35 Sat.-Sun. (12:30, 3:10) 5:30, 8:10, 10:35; **Ghost Rider** (PG-13) Fri. (11:40, 2:25, 5:20) 8:05, 10:50 Sat.-Sun. (11:40, 2:25) 5:20, 8:05, 10:50; **I Think I Love My Wife** (R) Fri. (11:50, 2:20, 4:50) 7:20, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. (11:50, 2:20) 4:50, 7:20, 9:55; **Music and Lyrics** (PG-13) Fri. (11:55, 2:35, 5:00) 7:25, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. (11:55, 2:35) 5:00, 7:25, 10:05; **Norbit** (PG-13) Fri. (12:45, 4:20) 7:50, 10:25 Sat.-Sun. (12:45) 4:20, 7:50, 10:25; **The Number 23** (R) Fri. (2:30, 5:05) 10:40 Sat. (2:30) 5:05, 10:40 Sun. (2:30) 10:40; **Premonition** (PG-13) Fri. (11:30, 12:15, 2:00, 2:45, 4:30, 5:15) 7:00, 7:45, 9:45, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (11:30, 12:15, 2:00, 2:45) 4:30, 5:15, 7:00, 7:45, 9:45, 10:30; **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Sun. (4:30p.m.); **The Ultimate Gift** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:40) 7:40; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri. (11:45, 2:20, 4:55) 7:30, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. (11:45, 2:20) 4:55, 7:30, 10:00; **Zodiac** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:35, 3:05) 6:50, 10:20

SANTEE

Santee Drive In
10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)
300 (R) Fri.-Sun.; **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG) Fri.-Sun.; **Ghost Rider** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10
Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)
300 (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 11:30, 1:15, 2:30, 4:00) 5:15, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 10:45; **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:15, 12:30, 2:45) 5:00, 7:30, 9:45; **Ghost Rider** (PG-13) Fri. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sat.-Sun. (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **I Think I Love My Wife** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:30, 3:45) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45; **Norbit** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 2:00, 4:30) 7:15, 10:00; **Premonition** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **Strawberry Shortcake: Berry Blossom Festival** (G) Sat.-Sun. (10:30); **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15

Palm Promenade 24
770 Denmery Road (858-558-2262)
300 (R) Fri. (10:35, 11:30) 12:35, 1:30, 2:20, 3:30, 4:25, 5:15, 6:25, 7:20, 8:10, 9:15, 10:15, 11:00, 12:00 Sat. (10:35, 11:30) 12:35, 1:30, 2:20, 3:30, 4:25, 5:15, 6:25, 7:20, 8:10, 9:15, 10:15, 11:00 Sun. (10:35, 11:30) 12:35, 1:30, 2:20, 3:30, 4:25, 5:15, 6:2; **Amazing Grace** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 2:25, 7:45; **Black Snake Moan** (R) Fri.-Sun. 2:10, 7:05; **Breach** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:25) 1:55, 4:30, 7:05, 9:45; **Bridge to**

SANDIEGOREADER.COM
Calendar
MOVIES

“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*. With Virginia Madsen, Logan Lerman, Danny Huston. 2007.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Pan’s Labyrinth — Guillermo del Toro, the migrant Mexican filmmaker, returns to the place and time of his Spanish Civil War ghost story, *The Devil’s Backbone*, more precisely post-Civil War, mid-WWII. He centers on a preadolescent girl (wide-eyed, plump-lipped Ivana Baquero) chided by her nine-months-pregnant mother (Ariadna Gil, very intense) as too old to be still filling her head with the “nonsense” of fairy tales, especially since she has moved beneath the roof of her wicked stepfather (Sergi López, campily over the top), a Francoist martinet busily stamping out rebels in the woods, who has little tolerance for a child of another bloodline but is eager to get his leather-sheathed hands on his biological baby in his wife’s womb. Much more welcoming of the little girl is the mythological faun (real or imagined?), the guardian of the off-limits garden, who identifies the newcomer straight off as the prodigal daughter of the King of the Underworld (what are the odds?). Del Toro, almost in spite of himself, is not altogether guiltless of conventional, parental, puritanical strictures against fairy tales. In his scrupulous, perhaps overscrupulous, balance of dark fantasy and brutal history, tilted (politically, diplomatically) a little toward the latter, he leaves nothing to chance. He establishes the Importance of his theme through the unassailable realm of Fascists and freedom fighters, and he connects that world to the parallel universe of fairy tales in a way that can best be termed didactic, academic, studied, possibly stifling. He makes a case. He does not make magic. Far more than *The Devil’s Backbone*, the film that keeps coming to mind, always to this one’s disadvantage, is Victor Erice’s *Spirit of the Beehive*, 1973. That one, having in common a post-Civil War backdrop and a gullible little girl, made very much the same points, together with others, and made them more subtly, more ambiguously, more poetically; made them, moreover, while Franco was still in power; and made them without recourse to special effects beyond a Halloween get-up of Frankenstein’s monster. Del Toro never lets his special effects here, some of them pretty tacky and



300

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 PALOMA; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Premonition — Supernatural thriller with Sandra Bullock, Julian McMahon, and Peter Stormare, directed by Mennan Yapo. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 3/16)

The Queen — A spot of simulated Royals-watching, ably guided by the seasoned Stephen Frears: a satisfying, if unsurprising and unrevealing and unimaginative reenactment of what must have gone on behind closed doors in the week after the death of Princess Di, in specific the diplomatic efforts of the newly elected Tony Blair to compel the Royal Family (“a bunch of 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.

★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Rebel without a Cause — Nicholas Ray’s studious, textbook illustration of adolescent alienation as it was understood in the 1950s. The mixed-up kids (James Dean, Sal Mineo, and Natalie Wood, the last-named turning in a fine, tense, sensual sixteen-year-old performance) are treated with a social worker’s tolerance, while their insensitive parents, to be repaid in kind, are treated very insensitively — Jim Backus dressed in a ruffled apron, William Hopper wiping off a lipstick smooch from his “glamorpus” daughter, etc. 1955.

★★★ (MISSION VALLEY 7, 3/17, NOON)

Reno 911!: Miami — Big-screen blowup of Comedy Central’s latter-day Keystone Kops, in an ill-fitting mockumentary format. The cheap, bleached, digital image is fully worthy of the crude humor. With Robert Ben Garant, Thomas Lennon, Kerri Kenney-Silver, Wendi McLendon-Covey, Niecy Nash, Cedric Yarbrough, Carlos Alazraqui, Mary Birdsong, Nick Swardson, Paul Rudd, and an unbilled cameo by Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson; directed by Garant. 2007.

● (HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Roma — Morass of unrelated Fellini production numbers, each one overlong and overstuffed in itself, including an engrossing one about wartime brothels, a brilliantly sustained crescendo about the pileup of incoming city traffic, a predictable stomach-turning scene of endless eating, an obligatory anti-clerical skit having to do with an ecclesiastical fashion show. The images by Giuseppe Rotunno — immaculate, crystalline, otherworldly — are so impressive that it almost seems a shame that Fellini flips through them like a blackjack dealer. 1972.

★★★ (MISSION VALLEY 7, 3/18, 3:30 P.M.)

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. 2007.

● (HORTON PLAZA 14)

Starter for 10 — Cheerily nostalgic college comedy, set in mid-Eighties England, built around an exceptionally endearing hero (James McAvoy), a Bristol University quiz kid thirsty for knowledge, torn in his affections between a Victoria’s Secret-pretty blond Drama major and a J. Crew-pretty Jewish political activist. Choices, choices. Alice Eve, Rebecca Hall, Dominic Cooper, Benedict Cumberbatch, Catherine Tate; directed by Tom Vaughan. 2006.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Tears of the Black Tiger — Thai “Western” starring Chartchai Ngamsan, written and directed by Wisit Sasanatieng. (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 3/16)

300 — Reviewed this issue. With Gerard Butler, Lena Headey, David Wenham, and Dominic West; directed by Zack Snyder.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA CAMINO REAL; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Tortilla Heaven — Ethnic comedy with José Zúñiga, Miguel Sandoval, George Lopez, and Olivia Hussey, directed by Judy Hecht Dumontet. (CHULA VISTA 10; GASLAMP 15; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; PALM PROMENADE 24; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 3/16)

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. 2006.

★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Wild Hogs — Middle-age-crazy road comedy about four Cincinnati suburbanites who head out for Los Angeles on their recreational choppers, hoping to reclaim their freedom as well as their manhood, coping along the way with weak prostates, a gay cop (horrors!), an angry bull, and an angrier gang of pseudonymous Hell’s Angels. None of the four is crazier than the matchmaking chemist who put together as bosom buddies Tim Allen, Martin Lawrence, John Travolta, and William H. Macy, respectively bearing the imprint of the TV sitcom, the comedy club, the Hollywood mainstream, and the idiosyncratic “indie.” Their common bond on this occasion boils down to their evident interest in a paycheck and their evident uninterest in whatever they have to do for it. Travolta works cheerfully, and Macy works hard. Fans of the latter in particular can safely take a pass. Fans of Allen and Lawrence, on the other hand, will be better prepared for the level of entertainment. The belly-crawling level. With Marisa Tomei, Ray Liotta, M.C. Gainey, and John C. McGinley; directed by Walt Becker. 2007.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM 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)

Zodiac — The big question that hovers over this movie is not, Who’s the Zodiac Killer? Nor is it, How did he elude capture? Nor, What ever became of him? None of the above. The big question is, Why does a movie about him have to be two hours and forty-five minutes long? Without a doubt, the movie has a subject of interest, the unsolved serial murders that gripped the Bay Area throughout the Seventies, and it has also an angle of interest, the differing degrees of obsession with the case on the part of a team of homicide detectives (Mark Ruffalo, Anthony Edwards, unsuitably lightweight and skittish, both), a substance-abusing crime reporter on the *San Francisco Chronicle* (Robert Downey, Jr., smirkingly typecast), and a moonlighting political cartoonist on the same paper (Jake Gyllenhaal, suitably lightweight), and it has finally, as the cherry on top, a person of interest, if you will, a demure Chloë Sevigny in the evolving role, over the years, of the cartoonist’s blind date, steady girlfriend, wife, and ex-wife. (Neglect of Chloë Sevigny earns him top honors for obsession.) Nevertheless, two and three-quarters hours are a lot of time to spend on red tape, red herrings, dead ends. To be sure, the movie puts forth a theory as to the killer’s identity, or rather, it puts forth the theory of the true-crime best-seller written by the aforesaid cartoonist, Robert Graysmith, who mouths a catch phrase which might well be the movie’s own: “Just because you can’t prove it, doesn’t mean it’s not true.” David Fincher, the director previously of *Seven* and *The Game* and *Fight Club* and *Panic Room*, relishes a couple of the killings, as well as one near-miss, in a way that seems to violate the point of view of the movie; but he has thinned out his customary pea-soup atmospherics, and toned down his trendy stylistics, and gone very light on the period detail (a few pairs of sideburns here or there, not a squiggle of psychedelia nor a whiff of flower power), giving the case a creeping and creepy timelessness. These were wise choices. A movie this lengthy did not need to be any thicker. 2007.

★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

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Caso difícil

América Barceló

Diario San Diego

El juicio que se le sigue en San Diego a Francisco Javier Arellano, "El Tigriño", es considerado el más importante, complicado y costoso en la Unión Americana, según fiscales, abogados y magistrados involucrados en el caso.

Adicionalmente, el capo del cártel de Tijuana fue comparado en importancia con Osama Bin Laden, el hombre más buscado por EU.

Para el magistrado que preside el caso del Tigriño, este es el proceso penal

más importante del país y por ello ha dado un cheque en blanco a la defensa del acusado para resolverlo lo antes posible.

"No creo que haya un caso más importante ahora en el país, el público espera que se de un fallo lo antes posible y eso es lo que pretendo hacer", dijo el juez Larry Burns.

Para expertos litigantes la atención sobre "El Tigriño" sólo puede ser superada por Bin Laden, porque este es el mayor proceso penal de la nación, y el más relevante en la historia de San Diego.

espectáculos



Lluvia de famosos

Con excelentes producciones, cineastas y lluvia de luminarias, arrancó el 14 Festival de Cine Latino en San Diego.

En el umbral de una fuerte consolidación como uno de los eventos latinos más importantes de la región, el festival se prepara para romper récords de entrada, presentación de películas y estrellas.

Como era de esperarse cientos de personas abarrotaron las salas y pasillos de los cinemas

UltraStar Mission Valley de Hazard Center, donde este fin de semana se dieron citas luminarias del espectáculo de varios países latinoamericanos.

Con pie derecho abrió el festival presentando a productores, directora y elenco de la cinta "Tortilla Heaven", quienes compartieron sus experiencias de esta mágica película.

En la premier de la cinta la legendaria actriz Lupe Ontiveros hizo su aparición.

deportes



Le tiran a Hugo

La prensa deportiva hondureña destacó que el técnico de la selección mexicana, Hugo Sánchez, debe "cuidarse las espaldas" cuando le toque enfrentar a Honduras en la Copa Oro en junio próximo.

"Cuidate la espalda Hugo..." tituló el diario El Heraldo su sección deportiva al referirse al partido que disputarán el 10 de junio México, dirigido por Sánchez, y Honduras, conducido por el colombiano Reinaldo Rueda.

Honduras quedó sembrada en el grupo donde está México para la fase inicial

por la Copa de Oro, situación que es calificada de "terrible" por la prensa hondureña.

El torneo se jugará del 6 al 24 de junio en Estados Unidos, y Honduras integra el llamado "grupo de la muerte", donde según la prensa local enfrentará otro "mal trago" ante México y Panamá.

"México es el padre de la competencia", es otro de los títulos de los diarios y advierten que el Tri ha sido cuatro veces campeón de la Copa de Oro que este año se jugará en diversas ciudades de la Unión Americana.

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Fallan pagos

Diario San Diego

Mucho hemos escuchado sobre el grave problema que prestamistas "subprime" o de préstamos de alto riesgo están causando en la economía de Estados Unidos.

¿Pero en realidad que es lo que pasa?

Veamos, un prestamista "subprime" es aquella agencia que provee préstamos a personas que tienen un crédito bajo o un historial de pago muy corto.

Por lo tanto este prestatario no califica para un préstamo con intereses bajos y sin muchas condiciones.

Ciertas compañías están dispuestas a tomar el riesgo con el prestatario y le dan el dinero con un interés más alto, con varias condiciones de pago, y penalida-

des por pagar el préstamo anticipadamente.

Sin embargo aunque esto suena como un mal préstamo, para muchas personas esto ha sido lo que le ha dado la oportunidad de comprar una casa.

El problema ahora es que muchos prestatarios están fallando en sus pagos y las compañías que han proveído estos préstamos están dándose a la quiebra.

Esta situación está causando un problema en la banca porque muchos de estos prestamistas utilizan fondos de compañías bancarias que tienen que cumplir con ciertas metas financieras. Cuando los prestatarios fallan en sus pagos estas metas no se alcanzan y entonces el banco retira sus fondos.



Buen material

Eleazar López

Diario San Diego

Sin perder los pies del piso y manteniendo su calidad artística, Jorge Drexler presenta su nuevo material discográfico en el cual vuela sus emociones y sentimientos ante este mundo cambiante.

Con ocho discos que le han dado una gran reputación, el músico nacido en Montevideo, Uruguay, ha demostrado que es de esos artistas que no necesitan de canciones y ritmos repetitivos para lograr la atención de las masas.

Su calidad musical sobresale porque sabe utilizar a la perfección ritmos y estilos diversos que le han ido creando su personalidad musical.

"12 segundos de oscuridad es un disco hecho en un momento importante

de mi carrera, quería dejar claro que hago los discos por cuestiones personales que por cuestiones mediáticas", explicó Drexler.

Este es un disco que no está pensado para sonar en la radio una y otra vez, sino para escucharlo y reflexionar, pensar o evocar algún recuerdo con su música.

¿El ganar el Oscar te hizo cambiar como persona?

"Mi trabajo tiene varios aspectos, uno mediático, uno de ganar dinero, laboral, otro artístico y otro personal. El personal tiene que ver con el hecho de que yo no sólo escribo canciones para hacer arte sino porque es una herramienta personal, con los premios lo único que cambia es el aspecto mediático y el laboral. Mis aspectos personales no los cambian los premios".



Estalla polémica

De acuerdo al reporte de un periódico local, la Cámara de Comercio Hispana de San Diego (SDHCC) está atravesando una crisis financiera por los malos manejos de la directora actual de esa organización.

El ex tesorero de la SDHCC, Thomas Saiz, quien renunció a su cargo el pasado mes de enero, envió un memorando al consejo directivo informando de los graves problemas por la supuesta mala administración de los últimos dos años.

Un informe presentado por Saiz a directivos muestra que en el 2004 la Cámara contaba con 239 mil dólares en reservas, para junio del 2006 las cifras bajaron drásticamente a 38 mil y para enero de este año habían tres mil 500 dólares.

Después de las reveladoras declaraciones del ex funcionario, la presidenta de la Cámara, Linda Caballero Merritt, emitió un comunicado donde desmintió los argumentos publicados en un diario local.

En un informe la funcionaria rechazó los alegatos de Saiz sobre la insolvencia financiera de la institución que ella dirige.

Caballero Merritt aseguró que son falsas las acusaciones en su contra sobre la violación de su contrato de trabajo donde se le imputa recibir pagos extras en comisiones.

El ex fundador y presidente de la SDHCC, Jesse Navarro, admitió que es preocupante lo que se dice de la organización en estos momentos.

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CAREER FAIR! South Bay Career Fair, Saturday, March 24, 10am-1pm: City of Chula Vista City Hall courtyard, 276 Fourth Avenue, Chula Vista 91910. Employers include San Diego Zoo, Sea-World, Knotts Soak City, YMCA, UCSD, Mission Federal Credit Union, Border Patrol U.S. Customs. Door prizes, raffles, more! Andy McMillin will be on site to sign autographs! Coldwell Banker Royal Re-

alty will be giving away a PS3. Sponsors include Amerifund and RE/MAX Associates. Call Cleve, City of Chula Vista, for details: 619-585-5743.

CAREGIVER, CNA, HHA live-ins and hourly. We need San Diego County-wide, immediate openings. Drivers with insurance and non-drivers. You need 1 year experience and California identification or driver's license, social security card. Full/part time. Call Avalon Home Care, Inc., 760-730-3955.

CAREGIVER, live-in female caregiver position available. 86-year-old father. Walk, continence problems. Good humored. 3 blocks from beach. Mostly evenings, except weekends. No drugs/smoking. Bill 619-222-7772.

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.

CAREGIVERS. \$11/hour live-out, \$110/day live-in. All San Diego areas. Must have own car, experience and be able to pass criminal background check. Lifting required. Constant Companions Home Care, 858-722-9352.

CAREGIVERS. Beautiful assisted living and dementia facility in Poway is seeking Caregivers. All shifts including 48 hours. Benefits, bonuses. Must be kind and caring! Call 858-674-1255 x205.

CAREGIVERS. Full/part time. 24-hour live-ins. Male/female. 1+ year experience, vehicle required. Caregivers, Companions, HHAs, CNAs--call ComForcare Senior Services! Leave contact info/brief experience: 619-944-3327.

CAREGIVERS. Home Instead Senior Care needs cheerful, dependable people to help seniors stay at home with our non-medical home care services. Competitive pay/training. Flexible hours. Great benefits. Central/East: 619-460-6222. South Bay/Coastal: 858-277-3722.

CAREGIVERS. Immediate openings: Hourly, Live-in, Nights. Cheerful, compassionate Companions/HHAs/CNAs to assist seniors in-home. Minimum 1-year experience. Premium pay/bonuses/benefits. 24-hour office support. Flexible assignments. Age Advantage, 619-660-8881.

CAREGIVERS. No experience, will train. Full time/part time, PM shift and weekends. Apply in person at Sunrise Assisted Living At La Costa (license #374601134), 7020 Manzanita Street, Carlsbad, CA 92011. 760-930-0060.

CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS. Minimum 1 year experience non-medical home care for seniors. Valid California Driver's License. Serving Santee/La Mesa/Del Cerro/San Carlos. Maureen, 619-749-7525.

CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS. Visiting Angels, America's Choice in Homecare. Now hiring compassionate, caring Caregivers/Companions. Requires minimum 1 year experience in non-medical home care for seniors and valid CA driver's license. Serving Poway, Rancho Penasquitos, Scripps Ranch and Mira Mesa

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CAREGIVERS: LIVE-IN CAREGIVERS, are you ready to earn more this year? Join our team. We will assist with transportation, no car necessary. 24-hour shifts, sleep time and meal periods. \$120 per day. Eligibility employment requirements. Top pay, flexible shifts 24/7, health benefits available, 401(k), production bonus and rewards for good work. Comfort Keepers, 2006 Workplace Excellence Medallion Award SDSHRM, San Diego: 619-795-6036. San Marcos: 760-598-3400.

CAREGIVERS needed immediately. 1 year experience. All shifts available. Hourly and live in. Call Assertive Home-care Services, 3774 Grove Street, Suite K-2, Lemon Grove, 619-466-6890.

CARPET CLEANER TECHNICIANS. \$500 Sign-on Bonus! \$500 Referral Bonus! Stanley Steemer, San Diego's #1 carpet and upholstery cleaner, is hiring now, full or part time! No experience necessary! Full-time \$8-\$17/hour earning potential. Great benefits for full-time employees. Training and supplies provided. Company gym and free breakfast every morning. Also hiring Warehouse Personnel and Stockers. Hurry, come in to apply and interview today! Human Resources, 9655 Via Excelencia, San Diego, CA 92126. (Exit Miramar Road West off I-15, turn right on Kearny Villa, right on Candida and head down the hill.) Questions? 858-271-9988 x162 or x160. EOE. Drug/smoke-free environment.

CASHIER. Burns Drugs in La Jolla is seeking a Cashier for their Retail Department. Must be dependable and a team player. Apply in person: 7824 Girard Avenue, La Jolla, CA, 92037 or fax resume to: 858-459-9521.

CASHIER/BOOTH/TRAFFIC Director. Fun and rewarding jobs at Viejas Casino! Flexible schedule and advancement opportunities! \$8/hour. Apply at www.sunsetparking.com or call 760-753-4004 x333.

CLASSROOM AIDES. Work with developmentally disabled children in nonpublic school. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista, La Mesa. Monday-Friday, 7:30am-1pm. \$8.92/hour to start. EOE. www.vistahill.org. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax resume: 619-281-0453. EOE. Apply weekdays, 9am-4pm: Stein Education Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

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\$500 SIGN-ON BONUS!

\$500 REFERRAL BONUS!

NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED! IMMEDIATE OPENINGS!


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Full-time \$8-\$17/hour earning potential.
Great benefits for full-time employees. Training and supplies provided.
Company gym and free breakfast every morning.

Don't miss this opportunity to join a respected and growing company!

Hurry! Come in to apply and interview today!
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(Exit Miramar Road west off I-15. Turn right on Kearny Villa, right on Candida and head down the hill.)
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CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER I

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- 21 years old • Good physical condition • No illicit drug usage
- U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen
- No felony convictions • High school diploma or GED

SALARY: \$34,028.80-\$43,430.40 ANNUALLY
Safety Retirement - Sworn Officers 3% at age 50.
Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply

Test Date:
April 14, 2007, 8 am
Montgomery Middle School
2470 Ulric Street • San Diego, CA 92111
Maximum 85 applicants. Applications available at the test site.
For additional information, contact the department's
Jobline: 858-514-8558
www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation



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No appointment necessary.

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Exam Dates:

March 21, 2007

5:30 pm Arrival

or March 22, 2007

12:30 pm Arrival

Sheriff's Administration Center
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Registration by e-mail or phone is required
prior to the Ridgehaven tests **ONLY.**
recruit@sdsheriff.org

March 24, 2007

7:30 am Arrival

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Bring valid photo ID.

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San Diego, CA 92109



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by Max Cannon ©2007


RED MEAT

pocket-sized humor inhaler

from the secret files of
Max Cannon


Ted, are you going to sit in that tub all day?

If I have to, Sweetheart...yes.




It isn't easy to train a squad of crawfish to disarm an underwater explosive device.

Explosive...?!



Relax. I'm using an alarm clock taped to a pack of hot dogs as a simulation.

However, they seem more interested in eating whatever's between my toes.



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COMFORT SALES PROFESSIONAL. Heat, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Sales Professional wanted by ARS of San Diego. ARS offers great benefits and a drug-free work environment. CSL#791820. To apply, please call Kevin at: 858-677-5455, x113; or e-mail: KKellington@ars.com.

COMMUNITY JOB COACH (minimum 1 year of experience) and Instructors. Make a difference. Rewarding careers available working with developmentally disabled adults in our Day Program Centers. We offer: flexible schedules, 30-35 hours/week, daytime hours, Monday-Friday and excellent benefits and paid training. Criminal record clearance, California drivers license and drug test required. EOE. Apply in person: 9575 Aero Drive, San Diego. Phone: 858-571-0881, fax: 858-571-1350 or visit: www.arc-sd.com.

COMMUNITY TRAINING Specialist/Job Coach. \$9/house to start. To assist developmentally disabled adults in the community. Behavioral and instructional programs. Implement schedules. 32.5 hours/week. Benefits. E-mail: [\[vistahill.org\]\(http://vistahill.org\). Fax resume: 619-281-0453. Apply weekdays, 9am-4pm, Stein Education Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.](mailto:steinjobs@</p></div><div data-bbox=)

CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICE. Earn while you learn! Associated Builders and Contractors of San Diego has immediate openings in its Sheet Metal Apprentice Training Program. High school diploma or GED and drug test required. No experience necessary. Great wages, paid training, health benefits. EOE. M/F. www.abcsd.org. To apply, call Monday-Friday, 858-513-4700.

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applicants please fax resume to 619-946-4364 or call 619-271-5864.

CONSTRUCTION: Project Managers, Service Technicians, Installers. Seeking motivated, organized people experienced with design, blueprints, A/V systems installation. Benefits offered. Send resume: dplotkin@audioassociates.com; fax 619-461-9469. EOE.

CONTRACT DENTIST. Part time, for The GEO Group, Western Region Detention Facility, San Diego. Must have lived legally in USA for the last 5 years, be currently legally eligible to work in USA. Pre-employment physical, drug screening, background investigation, other employment conditions required. The GEO Group provides \$3.01/hour in lieu of benefits. Group health coverage available. EOE. M/F/D/V. www.theGEOgroupinc.com. Send resume to: HR, 220 West C Street, San Diego 92101. Fax: 619-232-9224. Call 619-232-9221.

COPY CLERK. \$11/hour. UTC. Copy center experience preferred. Intermediate-level Excel, able to lift 50 lbs., track inventory. Apply: www.atworkstaffing.com or call: 619-234-WORK (9675).

CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY PROBATION Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Date: April 14, 2007, 8am, Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. Must be 21 years, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or becoming a citizen. Pass criminal/personal background investigation. No felony convictions. High school diploma/GED. \$34,028-\$43,430/year. www.sdcourty.ca.gov/probation. Jobline: 858-514-8558.

COSMETOLOGY INSTRUCTORS. Creative? Inspiring? Join our team of career-focused professionals. Estheticians, Cosmetologist, HHP/Massage Therapist and Manicurist positions available. California licensed. Paid training, day and evening schedules. Salary plus benefits. 3 years combined school and work experience required. Call Patricia: 858-748-1490.

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CUSTOMER SERVICE. Part time. Work for financial company. Poway area. Flexible schedule. 6 months experience. MS Office required. High school diploma/GED required. Apply: Tristaff Group, 6336 Greenwich Drive #100, San Diego, 92122. 858-597-4000.

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Sea World

Knotts Soak City

YMCA

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Carlsbad	760.729.8916	e-mail: carlsbad@volt.com
San Marcos	760.471.0800	e-mail: sanmarcos@volt.com



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DEPUTY SHERIFF and Deputy Sheriff Detentions/Courts. San Diego County Sheriff's Department. Hiring for two types of positions; take one exam, apply for either or both! Exam dates: Saturday, March 17, 2007, 7:30am arrival: Southwestern College Cafeteria, 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista CA 91910 or Wednesday, March 21, 2007, 5:30pm arrival: Sheriff's Administration Center, 9621 Ridgeway Court, San Diego CA 92123. You must register by e-mail or phone prior to the Ridgeway 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 for citizenship; 20-1/2 years old. High school graduate or G.E.D. required. Bring valid photo ID and \$3 parking at Southwestern. Valid California Driver's License prior to appointment. Effective oral and written communication in English. EOE. Additional test dates: www.joinSDSHERIFF.net. 858-974-2000.

DOCK ATTENDANT, part time/full time. Refuel boats in San Diego Harbor. No experience necessary, training on site. Looking for someone with good customer service skills. Boating knowledge helpful. \$9-\$12/hour DOE. Call Colin or Kevin at 619-291-6443.

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DRIVER/SIGN INSTALLER. Tuesday-Saturday, \$450/week. Truck provided, able to drive stick shift, clean DMV, benefits, drug test. Apply at Champion Signs, 7835 Wilkerson Court, San Diego, 92111. 858-751-2900 x116.

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Are you an outgoing, enthusiastic and driven salesperson? Do you thrive in a fast-paced, dynamic environment and want the opportunity to increase your earnings by achieving your professional goals?

Belcorp has over 35 years of experience in the beauty industry with over \$700M in annual revenue. Our product line **L'Bel Paris** consists of high-quality skin care, cosmetics and fragrances made in France.

Belcorp is growing rapidly in the U.S. and is looking for Area Sales Managers throughout **San Diego County** and **Orange County** with the ambition, business acumen and creativity to achieve sales objectives campaign by campaign.

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- Communicate product and program information to sales force on a timely basis
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Qualifications:

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- Field sales/service experience
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- Bilingual (English/Spanish) skills are a plus
- College degree or AA desirable

Belcorp, U.S.A. offers a competitive base salary, bonus opportunities, car allowance and a comprehensive benefits package. This is a full-time job, not a multi-level marketing job.



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DRIVERS WANTED. Requires valid CA driver's license, current H-6 DMV printout and good, safe driving skills. Hourly/commission/tips. Call 619-591-0303 or fax resume to 619-591-0300. Xpress Shuttle, 1065 Bay Boulevard, Suite B, Chula Vista, CA 91911.

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DRIVERS. Dominion Distribution is looking for part-time Drivers to deliver free publications on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. You must have a truck, van or SUV and be currently insured. Call Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm, 858-279-3137 x243.

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS: Immediate openings! All shifts available. MedFleet Ambulance, 3479 Kurtz Street, San Diego, 92110. 619-222-2244. Apply: www.medfleetambulance.com.

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN. Digital experience, Electronics, minimum 5 years; \$20/hour, depending on experience. Test Technician: experience required. Electronics Assemblers: Component ID experience required. MDI offers paid holidays after 520 hours and vacation bonuses after 2000 hours. MDI Staffing. San Diego: 8316 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, #204; fax 858-277-5621. Call 858-277-5680.

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN. Digital experience, Electronics, minimum 5 years; \$20/hour, depending on experience. Test Technician: experience required. MDI offers paid holidays after 520 hours and vacation bonuses after 2000 hours. MDI Staffing. San Diego: 8316 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, #204; fax 858-277-5621. Call 858-277-5680.

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GROCERY. Whole Foods Market, La Jolla is now hiring: Customer Service Team Members including Seafood Team Grocery Team Members and Wine Specialist. Team Leadership, including Bakery Associate and Nutrition Associate Team Leader. 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! Hiring for Closing MOD (Carlsbad), Receiver/MOD (Del Mar), Produce Clerks (Del Mar) and Cashiers (Del Mar and Carlsbad). \$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. www.jimbos.com.

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HAIRDRESSERS needed for salon in Hillcrest. Part time and full time available. Booth rental. Free parking. Call Judy, 619-291-1190.

HAIRSTYLIST, MANICURIST. Opportunity for commission or booth rent in Hillcrest and in Solana Beach. Looking for motivated, professional Stylist and Manicurist. 619-298-6104.

HAIRSTYLIST. 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. 858-342-5096.

HAIRSTYLIST. Highly motivated full-time stylist needed for Coronado salon. Days and weekends. Call Denise at 619-733-3875.

HAIRSTYLIST. New music inspired salon loaded with San Diego based Enjoy Line. We are easy going; seeking professionals to join the party! Located in Pacific Beach. Booth rent: \$200/weekly. Great sales incentives and lots more! Let's talk! Contact Monique, 619-865-0926.

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Or e-mail résumé to: hr@newalternatives.org



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HAIRSTYLISTS/MANICURISTS. Large booths. Part/full time. Full-time rental-\$140 weekly. Ask about our moving allowance. Great place to move your clients. Free reception/phone/towels. 100% retail. Golden Touch, near Fashion Valley. 619-972-7744.

HAIRSTYLISTS Booth rental or commission and Esthetician (with clientele) needed. Tranquil, upscale, resort atmosphere in UTC area salon. Parking available for clients. Great environment. 858-922-3787.

HAIRSTYLISTS needed at salon on Garnet in Pacific Beach. Fun, funky environment! Experience and clientele preferred. Commission-based pay. Lots of walk-ins! Call 858-581-2393.

HEALTH SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR. Full time, for The GEO Group, Western Region Detention Facility, San Diego. Must have lived legally in USA for the last 5 years, be currently legally eligible to work in USA. Pre-employment physical, drug screening, background investigation, other employment conditions required. The GEO Group provides \$3.01/hour in lieu of benefits. Group health coverage available. EOE. M/F/D/V. www.theGEOgroupinc.com. Send resume to: HR, 220 West C Street, San Diego 92101. Fax: 619-232-9224. Call 619-232-9221.

HEALTH/FITNESS SPECIALIST. Corporate position, part time. Available late July. \$15+ per hour. Certifications, computer skills and customer service experience required. Call 619-209-2800 x1.

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.

HOME HEALTHCARE. MGW Health Systems, Inc, now hiring RNS, LVNs. Home Health experience preferred for Physical Therapist, Occupational Therapist, Speech Therapist, and CHHA positions. Bilingual Spanish/English a plus. EOE. Please fax resume to Director of Nursing: 858-573-8917 or call 858-573-6837.

HOSPITALITY. Senior resort retirement community seeking: Host and Lead Server, full time, up to \$9/hour, 1+ year experience required; Gardener, full time, \$8.50/hour, must speak English; CNAs/Caregivers. Apply: Wesley Palms, 2404 Loring Street, Pacific Beach 92109. Donna, 858-581-8569.

HOTEL CONCIERGE. Part-time, weekends required. Attention to detail, computer knowledge, professional appearance and a sophisticated phone manner required. Knowledge of Rancho Santa Fe and Del Mar areas is helpful. Submit resume (as Word attachment) to hr@ranchovalencia.com. Resumes via e-mail preferred, but may fax to 858-756-0165. No phone calls, please. www.ranchovalencia.com.

HOTEL FRONT DESK. Hourly pay, benefits, bonuses! Fun/historic property, great location. Customer service required. Apply El Cordova Hotel, 1351 Orange, Coronado. Fax: 619-209-4718. elcordovahotel@gmail.com.

HOTEL HIRING FAIR: IVY HOTEL. "Indulgence. Served Graciously." Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street, San Diego Ca 92101. Monday and Tuesday, March 19 and 20, 9:00am-8:00pm. Butlers, Housekeeping, Culinary, Nightclub, Restaurant, Retail, UltraLounge, Catering, Valet & Bell, Front Desk, Accounting, Security, Dish Washer/Stewards, Room Service, Seamstress/Uniform Attendant, Banquets, Sales, Night Manager, VIP Services, Reservation Sales, etc.

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JOB COACHES. Community-oriented, Center for Independent Achievement is seeking dependable individuals in East County. 1:4 group ratio maximum. \$8.50-\$9.50/hour. Annual raises. Bonuses for exceptional performance. Benefits with full-time. pficareer@yahoo.com. Call 619-440-6802, or fax 619-440-6864.

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LAW ENFORCEMENT. Deputy Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Detentions/Courts. San Diego County Sheriff's Department. Hiring for two types of positions; take one exam, apply for either or both! Exam dates: Saturday, March 17, 2007, 7:30am arrival: Southwestern College Cafeteria, 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista CA 91910 or Wednesday, March 21, 2007, 5:30pm arrival: Sheriff's Administration Center, 9621 Ridgeway Court, San Diego CA 92123. You 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 for citizenship; 20-1/2 years old. High school graduate or G.E.D. required. Bring valid photo ID and \$3 parking at Southwestern. Valid California Driver's License prior to appointment. Effective oral and written communication in English. EOE. Additional test dates: www.joinSDSHERIFF.net. 858-974-2000.

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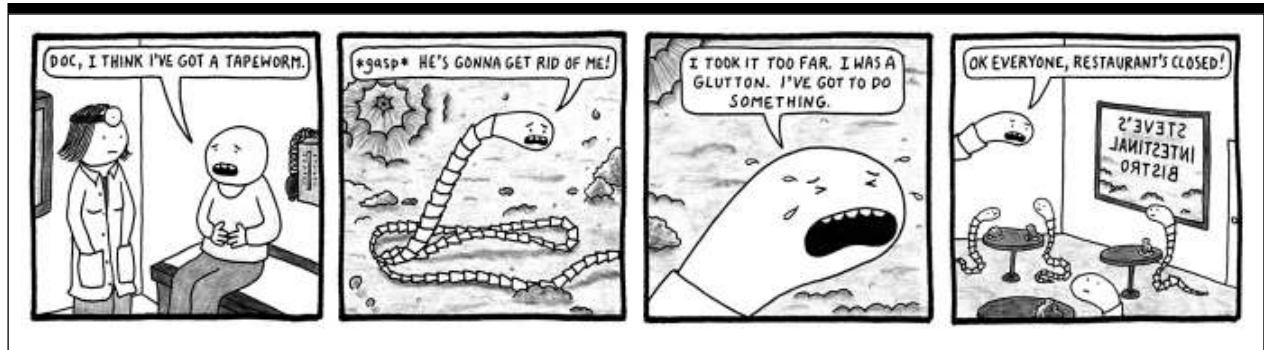
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PROBATION CAREERS. Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Date: April 14, 2007, 8am, Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. Must be 21 years, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or becoming a citizen. Pass criminal and personal background investigation. No felony convictions. High school diploma or GED. \$34,028-\$43,430/year. www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation. Jobline: 858-514-8558.



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SECURITY GUARD. Free Guard Card training class. Call 619-757-8043.

SECURITY GUARDS. Shield Security has immediate openings, full and part time. Higher paid Rover positions are available. Assistance in guard card. Career advancement opportunities. Profit sharing. Employee-paid medical and dental. If you have no criminal convictions, and have a high school diploma or GED, a good work history, phone and transportation, apply in person: 2144 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. Equal Opportunity Employer. Call 619-497-5485.

SECURITY GUARDS. With East-Tech Private Security. \$8-\$12/hour depending on North County. Armed and unarmed positions. You need guard card. Call Andrew Allen for an interview: 760-433-9477. www.easttechsecurity.com.

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SECURITY. Bald Eagle Security hiring licensed Security Officers. Full/part time. Downtown San Diego locations only. No car or cell phone required. Guard Card required. Must be able to work flexible hours, mostly swing and graveyard plus every weekend. Background check. EEO/Drug free. 619-230-0022. baldeaglesec@sbcglobal.net.

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SOCIAL SERVICES. Promising Futures, Inc., is hiring reliable, caring individuals to work with the developmentally disabled in East County and Ramona. Part-and full-time positions. \$8-\$10/hour plus benefits. Overtime opportunities available. plicareer@yahoo.com. Fax resume: 619-440-6864. Call 619-440-6802.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Provide support for adults with developmental disabilities in North Park and College areas. Days, weekends, evening shifts available. \$9.50 per hour, DOE. Please Josh at 760-429-8270.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Work with developmentally disabled children and adults. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista or La Mesa. Monday-Friday, 27-32 hours/week. Start \$8.92/hour. EOE. www.vistahill.org. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax resume: 619-281-0453. Apply weekdays, 9am-4pm, Stein Education Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

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Jerry Griffin
Sales
La Jolla

At my previous job, I told my boss that going to Mexico to surf makes me nervous because of the police down there. She ends up telling me and a few other employees about a time she's crossing the border and pulling out ID and that she had cocaine between her license and a credit card. We all just looked at each other in shock.



T.J. Muro
Account Executive
La Jolla

At one job I had, it wasn't what she said but what she did. She chugged a beer with her cleavage. Obviously, it wasn't at work, but at a bar afterwards. We were all drinking, and she put a beer between her breasts and threw her head back and drank it. Actually, thinking back, it was a morale booster.



John Cocktoasten
Dancer
La Jolla

Back in Jersey City, it was like the movie *Boiler Room*. This short guy had a Napoleon complex going. The craziest thing he told me was "Show up late again, and you're fuckin' fired!" Then, five minutes later, he's buddy-buddy with me. He tried to sound like a tough guy and cursing.



Janette Villasenor
Military
Kearny Mesa

At a previous job, my boss was this 70-year-old lady. After she hired me she said, "Make sure you use a condom, because I won't give you time off for baby leave or anything." My jaw dropped. I was in shock. All I could respond with was "Okay."



J. Garcia
Manager
Clairemont

I had a boss that said, "Do you play baseball?" I said I didn't and asked why. She said, "Because I'd like to see you in those tights!" I just thought, "I think my break's over now" and left the room. I didn't want her to fire me or anything. She said a lot of weird things. She was young and attractive. But I was dating somebody at the time.



Eric Stone
Teacher
Pacific Beach

I was an office manager. The boss thought I was Italian. And I was hiring new employees. He could see them through the window. He said, "Don't hire any of those three niggers. I don't want them working for me. And those Mexicans. You can hire them, because they work for less." I told him I was Mexican. He had this blank stare on his face. The guy looked like Santa Claus but acted like Sam Kinison. I was friends with his son and told him the story. I ended up quitting a month later.

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THE READER PUZZLE

by David Levinson Wilk

Across

- 1. Guitar effect
- 5. Alternative to stairs
- 9. Certain community centers
- 14. Father-daughter boxers
- 15. Purposes
- 16. One who holds the key?
- 17. Do body work of a sort
- 18. Nike rival
- 19. Hodgepodes
- 20. Deceive
- 23. Old capital of Romania
- 24. "Put ____ Happy Face"
- 25. "American Psycho" author
- 33. Herbert of "The Pink Panther Strikes Again"
- 34. Something lent or bent, in a phrase
- 35. Ogle
- 36. Politico Hutchinson and others
- 38. Flower part
- 40. Dust Bowl refugee
- 41. "The best ____ to come!"
- 43. Pillar of Native American society?
- 45. Sci-fi talent
- 46. Breaks records, as the Dow Jones
- 49. Justice Dept. division
- 50. John's costar in "Say Anything ..."
- 51. Permanent (or what you've literally done by answering 20-, 25- and 46-Across)
- 58. Draws back (from)
- 59. Bad marks in high school, maybe
- 60. "King Kong" actress Fay
- 61. "Miss America" judging criterion
- 62. 15-ball cluster
- 63. Storybook monster
- 64. Helpers: Abbr.
- 65. Like arson evidence
- 66. Jiffs

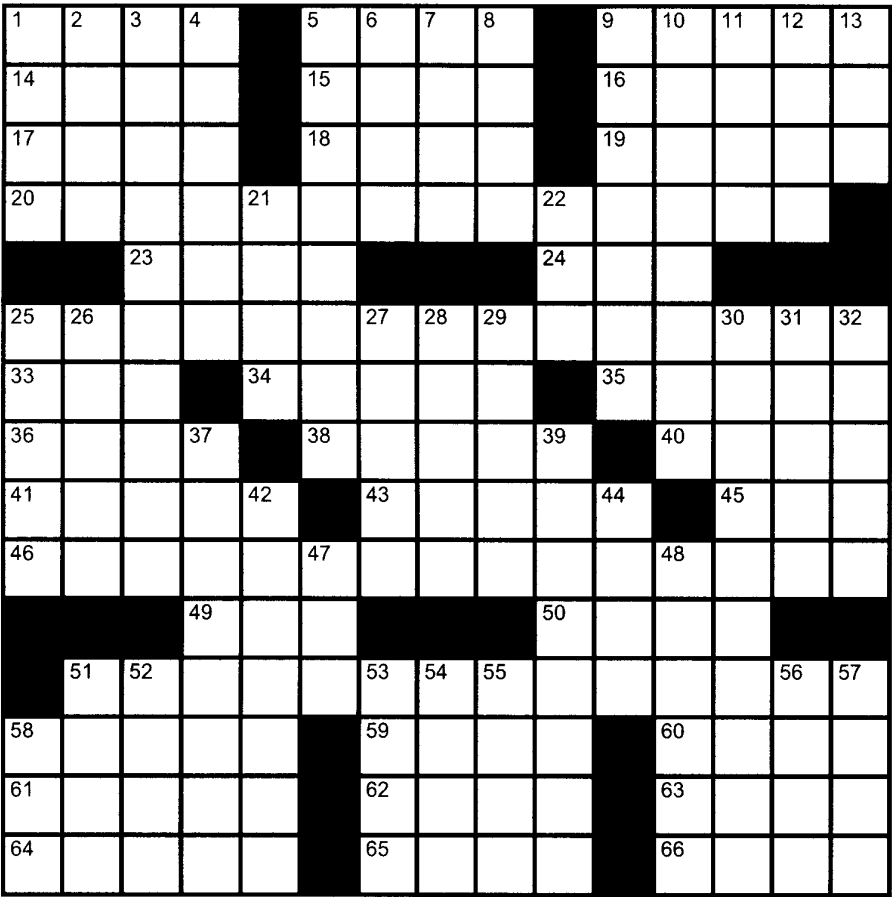
Down

- 1. Get bent out of shape
- 2. Matty or Felipe or baseball
- 3. #24 who played in 24 All Star Games
- 4. Comparable to a pancake
- 5. Thugs
- 6. China setting
- 7. Diner of "Alice"
- 8. Pre-coll. exam
- 9. Actress De Carlo and others
- 10. High guy?
- 11. Sister of Erato
- 12. 2005 Theron film " ____ Flux"
- 13. Blvd. crossers

- 21. Enjoying a cruise
- 22. Suffix with ball or buff
- 25. "The ____ Witch Project"
- 26. Martini's partner in vermouth
- 27. Deal with
- 28. Hit lightly, as a window
- 29. Use a soapbox
- 30. French and Indian War battle site
- 31. Like Riverdance dancers
- 32. Oozes
- 37. Most flea-bitten
- 39. In 1999, she said "I know I will never have an affair with a married man again"
- 42. African pests
- 44. Conductance units
- 47. Tit for ____
- 48. Paired up
- 51. " ____ on first?"
- 52. "How the Other Half Lives" author Jacob
- 53. Pound of verse
- 54. Long and Vardalos
- 55. Rash reaction?
- 56. 49-Across employee
- 57. Ogles
- 58. Vacation location

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.



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Solution to and winners of the Reader Puzzle for 3/8/07.

There were 83 entrants.

The winners are:

- 1. Larry Klages, San Diego
- 2. Dan Schick, Oceanside
- 3. Carolyn Dalton, Escondido
- 4. Tom Moore, San Diego
- 5. Michele Lindner, Santee

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NAME This Place



Last week’s place: (clue: “Geranium George” and Kate planted this) Century-old California live oak tree in front of the Marston House, 3525 Seventh Avenue. In 1905, George Marston, one of modern San Diego’s founding fathers, finished his arts and crafts, Japanese-influenced, 8500-square-foot house on four acres of park-like gardens. Marston, labeled “Geranium George” by industrialists because of his preference for parks over smokestack industries, probably helped the famed public gardener Kate Sessions press this seedling into the earth in 1906. (Last week’s winners: Bob Hyde, Gabriel Torres, Kenneth McBride, Janet Brady, Marvin Powell)

Clue: Ah, the Mighty Quin. After 120 years, still going strong

Describe this location, name the nearest cross-streets, and win a Reader T-shirt. E-mail to NameThisPlace@SanDiegoReader.com; fax to 619-231-0489; or mail to Reader, Name This Place, Box 85803, San Diego 92186 — include your name and address. (Deadline, Tuesday, 9 a.m. In case of ties, lottery will determine top five winners.)



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ABILITY THROUGH TRAINING. The Robert Wald Actor's Studio focuses on moment-to-moment reality training. These classes unlock the actor's ability to work spontaneously and with the realism and intensity advocated by the industry's creative legends. Beginners welcome. Thursday evening class available, 6:30pm-10:30pm or Saturday morning. Call for information. 619-542-1216.

ACTING CLASSES. Instructor Monty, accomplished actor and father of Hollywood star Alicia Silverstone (Clueless, etc.) will introduce class members to scene study, cold reading, auditions, improv, commercials, monologues. Get ready for public speaking and job improvement, or just have fun. Classes held in Del Mar, Solana Beach, Rancho Santa Fe. Days only, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday. Call for information. 858-759-7881.

ACTORS with dance experience needed to perform with band (www.romanholidaymusic.com). Some dances choreographed, others (waltz, polka) aren't. Send picture, resume, and information. romanholidaymusic@hotmail.com or 619-226-3153.

ALIVE ON STAGE! Point Loma Actor's Workshop. Taste the performance high! Most fun you'll ever have on Monday night in Point Loma. Beginners welcome. 619-225-0044. www.Pointlomaactors.com. Next session starts March 26th!

AMATEUR MALE MODELS. Fun, attractive, ages 18-30 for print/film shoot. Immediate work. Cash paid, day of audition. Call or send photos to: studio1825@aol.com. 619-808-1159.

AUDICIONES EN ESPANOL. Lectura dramatizada de "Las Luminarias." Actrices/Actores para representar 8 personajes femeninos. Principiantes OK. Sabado 10 Manzo, 12 del dia. 760-942-0826. Encinitas.

AUDITIONS. SeaWorld. Saturday, 3/24/07, 11am-3pm. Be part of the fun! Costume Characters, Comedic Actors, Show Hosts, Electric Guitarists, Hosts who sing and play guitar, Percussionists, Bands and Groups, Performers, Specialty Acts, Backstage and Technical Professionals and more! SeaWorld Adventure Camp: 500 SeaWorld Drive, San Diego. Bring your talent to SeaWorld, experience the wonder and excitement. You may interview/audition for more than one category. Bring resume and headshot photo; 18 years of age; prepared audition no

more than 2 minutes. EOE. Audition Hotline: 619-226-3607 or visit: www.SeaWorldSanDiegoAuditions.com.

AUDITIONS. "The Runner Stumbles." 2 women, college age and 20s-30s. Stipend, GB Productions. 619-220-8663.

BECAUSE OF CAIN. Community Actors Theatre. Director Jennie Hamilton. Running March 15-April 15. Thursdays, 7pm. Friday/Saturday, 8pm. Sunday, 3pm. \$14 donation. www.communityactorstheatre.com. 619-264-3391.

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 x536. (AAN CAN)

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IMPROVISATION THEATRE WORKSHOP. Weekly classes. Thursday, 4/5, 7:45-9:45pm. Twigg's Coffeehouse, 4590 Park Boulevard. Arnm, 858-243-6464; Jon, 619-252-8883; or tightropeimprov@gmail.com.

MALE MODELS WANTED. We are seeking attractive men, 18-25, for Internet, video and print work. No experience necessary! Earn up to \$2,000 per day! For more information, call Rose at 714-997-6497. www.hancockcasting.com.

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POWPAC, POWAY'S COMMUNITY Theater. Auditions for "Hot Flashes," 4/02/07, 7pm at 13250 Poway Road. Cast read through 4/03/07. Performance dates May 13, 14, 15, 7pm.

SCREEN ACTORS GUILD Conservatory presents "Acting for Kids": 3/17/07, 10am-4pm. 5150 Kearny Mesa Road. Audition/improv tips. Actor Lorenzo Rodriguez educates attendees on young performers issues. SAG Hotline: 619-744-8900.

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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FEELING STUCK? STRESSED? Experiencing crisis? Relationship issues? Career problems? Family conflicts? Grief? Molest survivor? Take back your power. Free consultation: 619-723-9244. Trish Deignan, LCSW#12861.

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MALE GROUP MEMBER NEEDED for mixed process/support group. Relationship difficulties, intimacy, self-esteem, childhood issues. Tuesday evenings, UTC area. Insurance accepted. Susan Jorgensen, MFT-22281, 858-622-0632.

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WRITERS WORKSHOP. Free. Every Monday, 10am-1pm. Joyce Beers Community Center. Hillcrest. Vermont Street, near University Avenue, 858-457-8477.

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DARLINGS BLESSED is your spirit that my eyes may gaze upon thee. You with no words to speak to harm me. Beauty old glory.

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HGS: 3/16/07, thirty months and one day ago, little did I realize how close I would be to 102, thanks to you. TYS Michale. IRDLY 24/7/forever.

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BASSIST WANTED. Original collaborative alternative, hard, rock sound with kick and hop. Seeking groove, melody, ears for song, ambition. www.myspace.com/AEPNIA; AEPNIA@gmail.com or 619-851-8130.

DRUMMER NEEDED by Death On Mars. Everything else will fall into place once the right person is found. www.myspace.com/deathonmars or 760-470-2954.

DRUMMER SOUGHT, 20 something. Established act starting project, to roll in rock/punk influenced direction. Practice in former recording studio. Have played top clubs, bgh888@gmail.com.

DRUMMER WANTED, Full time to play like Alex Van Halen-double bass. Only for active, drummers/pros. Submit 10 second videos, photos/myspace/references to ha5150@msn.com.

DRUMMER WANTED for emerging band performing blues-influenced originals and covers. Must be reliable, committed, versatile, and must love to play for fun. Call 619-518-8488.

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FEMALE VOICES WANTED, Alto, for groovy ensemble for music lovers. Call 858-558-2139.

FRONT PERSON NEEDED for death metal. Go to myspace.com/somossandiego and then call Shaun, 619-417-4751.

GOSPEL CHOIR PROJECT sought with 15-20 vocalists and live band. Contemporary and traditional pieces plus originals. Rehearsal once a week, 7-9pm. Julie, 858-531-4197 or Gospelpjproject@gmail.com.

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RHYTHM GUITARIST, Singer, song-writer. Seeking drummer, bass player, lead guitarist to form Rock-n-Roll band. Original material. Rehearsal space needed. Hal 619-223-1639.

ROCK DRUMMER NEEDED. Must be hard hitter, willing to tour. Influences: Foo Fighters, Rocket From The Crypt, Nirvana, QOTSA, The Burning Brides. www.myspace.com/vivainstereo; 619-220-6844.

SAN DIEGO'S UNDISPUTED Kings of Hip Hop's Crunksta Dirty Souk recorded at King's Ransom Studios. AduB N Lil' Chase. Profile: www.myspace.com/731LC; www.myspace.com/thebionicrapper7; BionicRapper@aol.com.

SEEKING FEMALE VOCALIST., Fun Working band with promo-pack, pro equipment, rehearsal studio. Songs from No Doubt to Jett. Must be reliable and dedicated. Dan 858-204-3658.

SERRATED seeking singer and bassist. Go to www.myspace.com/serrated. Need confidence, stage presence, drive, own transportation, rehearsal rent, quality equipment, rehearse 3/week. serrated24@yahoo.com or 619-561-1247.

SINGER WANTED (Christian), 20-30 years old for original main stream, new punk, new metal alternative rock band. Must be experienced, passionate, God centered. 619-920-7237.

SINGERS. Ladies all ages wanted for women's chorus. Have fun singing variety of songs in 4 part harmony (a cappella). Performances throughout community. Mondays 7pm, La Mesa 619-464-3727.

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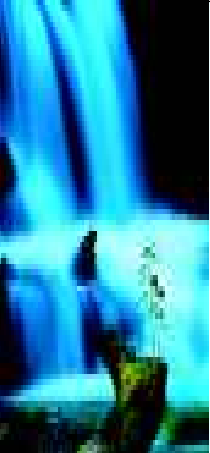
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MISSION BAY. Office Suite, 328 square feet at \$1.20. Next to I-5. Easy access. Free parking. Near shopping center. Available now. 2445 Morena Boulevard #211. Juno, 619-275-3455.

BANKER'S HILL. \$175, single garage. Dry storage only. 2149 2nd Avenue. 619-660-0523; 619-334-7791.

NORTH PARK. 4500-square-foot and 1700-square-foot loft apartment offices available immediately. \$4500/month and \$2000/month respectively. 619-574-0315.

OCEAN BEACH. \$650/month. One large room, for office or storage. 300 square-feet. Available now. 4230 Voltaire, Suite #5. 619-225-8200, ext. 10 or 619-318-8737.

HILLCREST OFFICE SPACE. \$1500. About 1000 square feet with large balcony, private bathroom. 5 rooms total. 3960 Park Boulevard, suite #A, near University. Eric, 858-259-4483.

NORTH PARK OFFICE SPACE available from 315-1130 square feet at only \$1 per square foot. 3930 Oregon Street. www.utopiamanagement.com, 619-291-5555.

GOLDEN HILL. Garage for rent, \$100/month, \$100 deposit. Approximate 1 car garage available for storage only. 2808-10 Broadway. Manager, 619-929-8127.

HILLCREST OFFICE for professional, commercial or massage use. Beautiful Hillcrest building, 4015 Park Boulevard. Great value, best rates in town. \$450. Larry, 619-889-4389, e-mail AAmerican@gmail.com.

GASLAMP ART SPACE! \$150 and up. High ceilings, tall windows. Gallery venue for shows. Uniquely affordable. 100-600 square feet. 402 Market. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x102.

PACIFIC BEACH. Office space, \$850. 520 square feet, second floor office, 2 rooms, ample parking. Easy access. 4455 Lamont Street. 858-270-4492, x203.

POWAY. \$1500. Light industrial space with roll up door, 1200 square feet. Pomerado Business Park. Includes electric, waste, water, alarm and landscape. Paule, 858-679-9442. pjoubbran@stringmasters.com.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Single garage. Dry storage only. \$175. Alabama Street. 619-660-0523;c 619-334-7791.

RENTALS HOUSES

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by calling 619-235-8200.

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ALLIED GARDENS. \$1700. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. Call for details, Top Notch Realty Inc. 619-807-0327.

BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN. Charming 2 bedroom. Large living room, fireplace, formal dining room. Air conditioning, hardwood floors, garage, laundry. No pets. \$1600. 858-695-1931.

BANKER'S HILL. Elegant cottage. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stainless steel appliances. Hardwood floors, granite counters, crown molding, private laundry. Partial view. Pets welcome! Street parking only. \$1700. 2119 2nd Avenue. 619-221-9191.

BAY PARK/CLAIREMONT. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with bonus room. Floors are hardwood and carpet. 2-story with peek view. No pets. 2606 Hartford Street. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

BONITA. Newly remodeled 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath. 2-car garage. Front/backyard. Ocean views. Fireplace. Washer/dryer. New appliances. \$2900 includes

trash/landscaping. bmrbenz@aol.com, 619-917-4322.

BONITA. Ocean view, pool, 4 bedroom, 3 full baths, newly remodeled, 1/2 acre, huge front/backyards, exercise room, 2-car garage. \$2300. farrah.inc@netzero.com; 858-829-2161.

CARDIFF. 4 bedroom, 3 bath house with garage. Washer/dryer hookups, yard. Close to freeway and beach. \$2750/month. 760-753-4101.

CARLSBAD. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath, family room, fireplace. Walk to beach. Great area. \$2100/month. Double garage. Fenced yard. Near Interstate 5. 760-603-1220.

CASA DE ORO. \$1600. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex, lower level. Attractive landscaping. Washer/dryer, refrigerator. Extra parking. Walk to all. No pets. 619-981-4100.

CHULA VISTA/Otay Ranch. \$3400. Lovely 5 bedroom plus loft, 4-1/2 bath view home. Cul-de-sac, 3850 square-feet, upgraded, 3-car. Community pool. Long term. 619-993-1758.

CHULA VISTA. \$2475. Huge 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 2400 square feet. Sunbow community. Private pool/spa/waterfall. Air conditioning. Fireplace. Cul-de-sac street. 2-car garage. Pets considered. At 617 Sipes Circle, 619-339-4025.

CHULA VISTA/EASTLAKE Greens. \$1875/month. House, 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, air conditioning, fireplace, double garage, pool, tennis, golf. Pets OK. 1159 Calle Tesoro. 619-253-8786.

CHULA VISTA. 461 Reinstara Court. 5 bedroom, 3 bath, \$2300. 1800 square feet. Yard. Section 8 OK. Excellent condition! vr@aiprop.com. A&J Property Management, 888-483-9925.

CHULA VISTA. \$1500. Very nice 3 bedroom, 1 bath home on beautiful tree-lined street. Fireplace, air conditioning, carport and private patio. 160 Brightwood Avenue. TPPM, 619-420-8161.

CHULA VISTA. \$2475. 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom. Garage with washer/dryer. Clean. Fireplace. On quarter acre. View. Pets OK. Nonsmoker. Between I-5 and I-805. \$1325. 760-484-2474.

CHULA VISTA. \$1895. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath house. Beautiful 2 story, family room, all appliances, 2-car garage, washer/dryer hookups, near lake. Cat negotiable. 2000 Waterbury. 619-698-6911.

CHULA VISTA. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, \$2300. 1288 Stanislaus Drive. Beautiful, 1950 square feet. Washer, dryer, garage. A must see! vr@aiprop.com. A&J Property Management, 888-240-8894.

CHULA VISTA, OTAY RANCH. 2 story house, 2067 square feet, 5 bedroom, 3-1/2 bath, 2 car garage, view, security. Good neighborhood. Near everything. \$2200/month. 619-206-8458.

SERVICES DIRECTORY 619-235-8200

HOME

AIR CONDITIONING

Amsco Services

Air conditioning & heating. Commercial/residential. Sales, service, repair since 1988. Lic#527141. For prompt service, call 858-488-8667. Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover accepted!

AUTOMOTIVE

We Do It! Aloha!

Trying to ship, sell, search for parts, get car back on the road? Let us make that happen. 866-294-0162, Makali'i Transport!

BATHROOMS

Tubs Refinished

Refinish your old, worn-out bathtubs/sinks to look like new! Fiberglass and porcelain. All work guaranteed. Lic-560438. Bathtubs & Sinks Refinishing Company. 619-464-5141.

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Spray On Tub Liner

Designed especially for the handicapped. Super tough. Lifetime warranty. Credit cards accepted. Free estimates! Call Ramforce Hi Tech Coatings, 619-255-3528.

BUILDING PLANS

Custom Design

Plans, permits for additions, remodels, second stories, TI's, passive/active solar design, granny units, aging in place. 619-223-0436.

CARPETS

Special! \$13 A Room

\$29 Sofas! Superior Carpet/Upholstery Cleaning. Spot treatment, steam clean and spin-dry. 25 years experience. 100% satisfaction guarantee. JPC Cleaning, 619-322-3673.

U.S. Carpet Care

2 rooms/hall \$59. Call us first! Professional truck mounted carpet/upholstery/tile. Absolutely no hidden charges. Clean guaranteed. Since 1989. 619-298-9106.

4 Rooms, \$55

7 rooms, \$90 (\$12.86/room). Sofas, \$30. Owner operated, experienced, satisfaction guaranteed. See the difference at JbsCleanCarpets.com or call JB's, 619-302-8970.

CHILD CARE

Preschool

Clairemont Academy Kids enrolling now. Infant center now open! Preschool focusing on phonics, math, science, art, music. School age care with activities available. 619-665-7878.

CLEANING

Professional Cleaning

We are ready to clean your vacant or occupied house. Starting at \$45. Monday-Saturday. Call now for appointment, 619-757-5871 or fax 619-425-8243.

Affordable Starting at \$30

Housecleaners! We'll beat any price! Cheapest prices in town. 20 years experience. Residential/commercial. Windows. Move-ins, move-outs. Free estimates. Se habla espanol. Licensed. Insured. Bonded. 24 hour service. 619-871-0254.

Dust Bunnies?

Personalized service by experienced professionals. Move-outs, spring cleans, vacation homes, remodeling cleanup, small offices, residential. Phone quotes! Art of Clean Agency, 858-270-5558; 619-276-5558.

Attention Movers!

Specializing in move-in/move-out cleanings. We clean until it shines! We do windows! Free estimates! BBB member. Liza's Cleaning, 619-482-2254, 619-864-0210.

CONSTRUCTION

Contractor

Termite, fungus, dry-rot repair specialists. Decks, patio covers, home improvements. 15 years experience. Lic#614165. Prompt response. BBB member. Call Michael Hardy now! Cell 619-787-7082.

CONTRACTORS

Roof Repair Expert

Home improvements/HVAC/room additions/patio decking/balconies/roof repairs/all types/pressure washing/restoration of tile roofs. Bonded. Lic#701057. 619-665-0547.

Contractor

All phases of remodeling (baths, kitchens, windows, doors, drywall, tile, framing, plumbing, electrical, etc.). Lic#744569. Call JAG Remodeling for free estimate! 619-296-0994.

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General Contractor -Remodels, Repairs, New Construction. Experienced, honest, and reliable. CCL#-B886441. Call KC Construction, 619-846-8762.

General Contractor

Quality remodeling, room additions, new construction. 30 years experience. We show up on time, and we perform! Scott Jennings Construction, Inc.Lic-491906. 858-676-1987.

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Professional crown molding installation. Materials can be provided. Baseboards, wainscot, painting. 10 years experience. Mention Reader ad-10% off! Free estimate! 619-606-7623.

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Got Doors?

We specialize in doors! Interior, exterior, new construction or replacement. Allied Contracting, local contractor with 20+ years experience. Please call 619-795-2930. No job too small.

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All your electrical needs. Fast and friendly service. Commercial/residential. Service upgrades, remodels, troubleshooting, ceiling fans, can lights. Satisfaction guaranteed. Lic#100809. 619-818-9726.

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Best quality work at reasonable prices. For a free estimate or consultation, on all your electrical needs, please call 858-354-7255. Lic#752010.

Amazing Electrician!

No job too small, no problem too big. 30 years experience. Emergency/trouble calls: commercial/residential. Custom, remodel or new construction. Lic#869373. 760-579-8060.

Free Electrical

Estimates. Excellent service. Guaranteed work. On time at your convenience, 24 hours/day. Electrical license #115325. Phone: 619-822-4375.

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Wood, chain link, iron, guard rail, trash enclosures, barricades, welding. New, repair, installing. Lic#804726. California Fence Company, 619-422-2642; californiafence@hotmail.com.

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Manufacturing and services. Patterns, molds, repairs, Corvettes, boats, etc. Over 25 years experience. 619-562-7880, cell-619-847-7782.

FURNITURE REPAIR

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40+ years! Pro mobile repair serving your needs: sofa beds, recliners, upholstery, wood touch up, assembly, foam replacement. www.furndoc.com. 619-395-0755. North County, 858-248-3014.

GLASS AND MIRROR

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doors. Mirror doors. Patio doors. Windows and screens. Textured glass. Heavy glass to 3/4" thick. Install/repair/sales. Lic-471954. Jeff, 858-576-4321.

HANDYMAN

Marcello Handyman

Kitchen/bath remodeling, ceramic design, tile, paint, plumbing. No job is too small! 20 years experience. Reliable. References. Free estimate! North County. 858-603-0354.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1600. Beautiful 3 bedroom house, views of downtown! Hardwood floors, remodeled kitchen/ bathroom. Quiet neighborhood. Available 4/1. washer/dryer. 2624 Baily Avenue. 619-341-4599.

CLAIREMONT. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry on site. Back house. 3 parking spaces. Jacuzzi in yard. Pet on approval. 6 month lease. \$1400. 4355 Clairemont Drive. Available for viewing by appointment. Call 858-490-1600.

CLAIREMONT. 3843 Mt. Blackburn. Nice home. Great area! 4 bedroom, 2 bath, \$2300. Garage. Washer, dryer. Pool. Beautiful! vr@aiprop.com. A&J Property Management, 888-483-9925.

COLLEGE AREA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. \$1875/month. 4920 Art Street. All appliances, 2-car garage, hardwood floors, private yard. Walk to all. Available 3/1. 760-603-0057.

COLLEGE AREA. Beautiful house on quiet cul-de-sac. 3 bedroom, 2 bath remodeled kitchen, Energy Efficient windows, central air, hardwood floors, 2-car garage, plus 2-car covered carport, \$1725/month. Agent, 619-328-1823.

COLLEGE. \$2400. 6 bedroom, 3 bath, 2-story home near SDSU. Beautiful wood floors, fireplace, carpeted bedrooms, washer/dryer hookups. Available 3/15/07. 4922 Cresita. www.cethron.com, 619-295-1100.

COLLEGE. \$1495 plus deposit. 3 bedroom, 1 bath home, covered patio, garage, large yard, near SDSU, security lighting, monthly or lease. Small pet OK. 619-618-9442.

COLLEGE/ROLANDO. \$1595. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Attached 2-car garage with washer/dryer. Fireplace, patio. Month-to-month. 6220 Tarragona. Agent, 619-463-2971. Do not disturb tenant.

COLLEGE/TALMADGE. \$1700. Super clean 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Appliances, hardwood, on-site laundry, water/gardener paid. No Section 8/pets/smoking. Available now. 4518 52nd. 858-538-5013.

EL CAJON. \$1695. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house in Granite Hills area. Private road, new carpet, new paint, 2-car garage. 1665 North 2nd Street. Available now. 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

EL CAJON. 4 bedroom, 4 bath house. Pets OK! New refrigerator. Gas stove. Washer/dryer. Storage shed. 2-car garage. Large fenced yard. \$2100. 619-729-7759.

EL CAJON/JAMUL. \$1200. Live under the oaks! Beautiful custom upgrades. Newly renovated 2 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home. Very private location on property. 619-468-3988.

ENCINITAS. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath model home, study/loft with built-ins, 3 miles beach. 2-car garage, patio/backyard, washer/dryer. \$2100. 1246 Cambria Way. 760-436-5168.

ENCINITAS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 2-car garage, washer/dryer hookups. Fire-place, large kitchen, gas stove. Clean, freshly painted. Huge backyard. Pets OK. \$1995. 760-274-5707.

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. Move-in special, \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, patio, fireplace, laundry hookups, fenced yards, hardwood floors, new paint. 252 West 7th Avenue. 858-395-4596. Agent.

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 3/22. 858-761-1540.

ESCONDIDO. \$2500/month. Stunning 3 bedroom, 3 bath. 3025 estimated square footage. Available furnished. 2-car garage. Fireplace. No pets. 10617 Carla Court. Call agent, 619-471-1739.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1495. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Garage. Large yard. Washer/dryer hookups. Pets OK. Available now. 619-374-4545.

GOLDEN HILL. Large studio. \$795 includes utilities. Garden setting. Floor to ceiling windows! Wood floors. Off-street parking. 2930 C Street. Laundry on site. 619-559-5423.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1400. Must see-you'll love it! Quaint 3 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Yard. One off-street parking. Near Downtown/transportation. Cats OK. Available. 858-755-0339.

HILLCREST. \$1095. 1 bedroom cottage. Freshly painted, hardwood floors, washer/dryer hook-ups, private yard. Cat OK. Bus line to downtown. 3302-1/2 Reynard Way. Agent, 619-298-7232. www.sbayproperties.com.

HILLCREST. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath rear house. Nice floor plan, extra closet space, air conditioning, dishwasher, laundry onsite. Cat OK. Available now. 3714 Park Boulevard #2. 619-295-1100, www.cethron.com.

HILLCREST. \$1195. 1 bedroom gorgeous studio with hardwood floors throughout, electric fireplace, French doors open to bed area. Overlooking Pennsylvania Avenue. Walk to San Diego Zoo or Balboa Park. This is one-of-a-kind San Francisco-style apartment. Drive by 1237 Pennsylvania Avenue, then call 619-447-6556.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$875. Quiet, large, 2-story, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, balcony, high ceilings, appliances. Private granny flat with nice yard. Must see. Call Robert, 619-424-9832.

IMPERIAL BEACH. Spacious 4 bedroom, 3 bath house with large backyard. Washer and dryer included. 1164 Ivy. Dogs OK. \$1695/month. 619-301-8654.

KENSINGTON. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1800 square-feet. Classic Tudor with hardwood floors, fireplace, formal dining room. Large master bath with stand-alone tub, separate shower, laundry room with washer/dryer. Sunny kitchen with vintage stove, detached garage/storage, fenced yard with deck includes gardener. 4649 Biona Drive. \$2895/month. 619-683-9274, 619-846-6140.

KENSINGTON. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Beautiful custom home with hardwood floors, original fireplace, formal dining room opens to large gourmet kitchen, island with cook-top, sub-zero. Master suite with French doors, and step down large master bath, walk-in closet. Laundry room with newer washer/dryer. Courtyard with Solito tile and grass. Gardener weekly. 2-car dry-walled garage with extra storage. 5036 Marlborough Drive. \$2995/month. 619-683-9274, 619-846-6140.

LA COSTA. \$2000. 3 bedroom, 2 bath twin home. 2 car garage. Fireplace. Cul-de-sac. Security. No smoking/pets. Single level. 2 car garage. 760-942-8040.

LA JOLLA. House, 3 bedroom, 2 bath on the lane. Fireplace, laundry, tile floors. Patio/yard/barbecue. 1-car garage. Appointment only. No smoke/pets. \$2675. 858-454-3140.

LA JOLLA. Just reduced \$3995! 4 bedroom, 3 bath. Large 3018 Square foot house. Split-level, on cul-de-sac. Bright with skylights. 2 fireplaces, 2 masters. Formal dining room. Available now. Pets OK. 7770 Roseland Place. Call 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

LA JOLLA. \$2395. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths house, close to shopping, theaters, beaches. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

LA JOLLA. \$7925/or best offer. Brand new 4 bedroom, 3-1/2 bath, fireplace, hardwood floors, 3800 square feet, patio, yard, garage. Near La Jolla Village and the Shores. 7157 Country Club Drive. 858-405-4308 or 858-436-4318.

LA MESA. \$1400. 2 bedroom 1 bath duplex near trolley and shopping. Pets OK. Private fenced yard. Large recently re-modeled duplex with patio and garage. 619-264-1085, mdmiller@cts.com or http://www.slugsite.us/quarry/3902quarry.htm.

LEMON GROVE. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with huge master. Large yard, gardener included. 2-car garage. Washer/dryer hook-ups. No pets. Available now. 7646 Viewcrest Drive. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

LEMON GROVE. Move-in special: \$400 off first month's rent and flexible deposit OAC. \$1795. 3 bedroom, 2 bath plus large room/basement, 2 levels, 2-car garage, completely refurbished, fire-

place, yard, balcony, washer/dryer. No pets. 7671 Viewcrest Drive. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

LEMON GROVE. \$1495. 2 bedroom 1 bath house. Charming home, 1 car garage. Wood, tile floors, covered patio, landscaper included. Pet under 35 lbs. on approval. 1942 Eldora. Agent 858-560-1178.

LINDA VISTA. Large, 3 bedroom 1 bath, near USD. 2 level, tiled, deck with view. Large fenced yard. Handyman preferred, utilities paid. \$1800. 630-739-4159.

LINDA VISTA. \$2195. 4 bedroom, 2 bath home, large eat-in kitchen with new appliances, skylight, 2 fireplaces and large backyard with covered patio. 2 car garage. 4048 Cosmo Street. Agent, 619-741-0045.

MIRA MESA. \$1400. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. 1-car garage, large lot. Refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, washer/dryer hookups. Pets OK. 11183 Acaso Way. 858-592-2130.

MISSION VALLEY. Rancho Mission Road #3. \$1895. Cerro De Alcala complex. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1500 square-feet. Wood floors, all appliances, 1-car garage, 1 space, patio. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

MT. HELIX. Granny house. Fantastic view. Refurbished, 4 rooms and bath. \$1300 includes utilities. Deposit \$1000. New furnace, dual pane windows. No children/pets. 619-466-8659.

NEWPORT BEACH. Luxury Newport Peninsula Point. Completely remodeled! 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Additional granny flat/office. 2 car garage. Laundry. Pets OK. New appliances. Lease. \$3850. Private beach, marina, tennis. Justin/Des-tiny, 949-675-4630.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1025. 1 bedroom, 1 bath house. North of Adams Avenue. Small yard. Parking. No pets! Call Agent, 619-461-5800.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1400. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house. Small yard, washer/dryer hookups. 4426 33rd. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. North of Adams, \$925. Lovely 1 bedroom house. Recently remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, beige carpet. Large storage shed. No pets. 619-280-5177.

NORTH PARK. \$2100. 5 bedroom, 2 bath home on cul-de-sac. View. No pets! Small yard. No garage. 2125 Jacot Lane, near Juniper dip. 619-607-2665, 619-701-1490.

NORTH PARK. \$1600. Charming 2 bedroom, optional third bedroom/office/den, 1 bath bungalow. Hardwood floors, fenced yard, side patio. Pet negotiable. Richard Wood, 619-347-9866.

NORTH PARK. \$925. Charming 1 bedroom cottage. Dining room. Near Morley Field. Hardwood floors. 1930s-style

fenced courtyard. Cat OK. 3366 Grim Avenue. 619-692-0732, 619-857-1187.

NORTH PARK. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 750 square feet, fireplace, patio. Off-street parking. Water paid. Pets on approval. 4161 Texas Street. 858-483-2844.

NORTH PARK. A must see! \$1650. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 1-car garage. Hardwood floors. Laundry room with washer/dryer hookups. Gardener included. Close to Balboa Park. Sorry, no pets. To make appointment, 619-692-4121.

NORTH PARK. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, \$1425. New paint, carpet, bathroom, fenced yard. 3862 37th Street. Available now. Agent, 619-260-1368. View at http://www.sevilemgt.com.

NORTH PARK. Huge studio: Free laundry/ utilities; cat(s), covered private patio, parking, opening skylights, fans, counter-top/bar, giant closet; quiet/secure; 30th/ Redwood: \$815. 858-546-8214.

NORTH PARK. \$1050. Charming 1 bedroom cottage, quiet residential area. Near Gregory/Thorn. Ceramic tile, carpet, mini-blinds, private fenced yard. Available April 1. 760-754-3143.

NORTH PARK. \$1600. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Garage. Large backyard; pets OKok. New appliances and kitchen cabinets. Washer/dryer. Central air. Broker, 619-286-4250.

NORTH PARK. Craftsman style 2 bedroom, 1 bath house with wood floors, fireplace, separate formal dining room, large kitchen and spacious, landscaped backyard. \$2000/month. www.SanDiegoBestRentals.com, 619-696-7368.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1795. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house, garage. Great location, nice unit. Close to beach. 1676 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

OCEAN BEACH. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house. Fenced yard, washer/dryer, dishwasher, Pergo/new carpet, 1-car parking. Pets OK. 1 block to beach! \$1950. 619-252-9515.

OCEAN BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Near beach. Ocean view. New carpet/paint. Large deck. Washer/dryer. Available now. No pets. 4554 Muir. \$1750. 619-316-9515.

OCEANSIDE. \$1600. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. 1200 square-feet. Granite countertops, new carpet, fenced front yard. Walk to beach! No pets/smoking. Minimum 6-month lease. 760-745-7018.

OCEANSIDE. HUD! Must sell! 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Only \$1500/month! (5% down, 20 years @8%) Buy now! For listings, 1-800-690-3990 x3151.

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/NORTH. \$2895. 3-1/2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, 2 blocks ocean. Wood, carpet. Large patio, porch. New gas stove, dishwasher, refrigerator. Yard, laundry, off-street parking. No pets. 867 Missouri. 619-275-2610.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTHWEST. \$1595. Private, close to ocean, charming 2 bedroom house, yard, sunny patio, carport, stacked washer/dryer, shed. Near Tour-maine/Mission Boulevard. 858-483-9009.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. Immaculate 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors, granite kitchen, large private yards, gardener, washer/dryer. 1068 Agate Street. Available 4/1. \$2150/month. 650-636-3554.

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. 619-299-4034.

PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Laundry room. Newly painted. 2 blocks to Pacific Plaza Shopping. 1524 Hornblend. Call to see. Boone Properties, 858-274-6856.

PACIFIC BEACH. Charming and bright 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Minutes to bay/beach. Fenced yard. Dishwasher, microwave, ceiling fans, washer/dryer hookups, gardener. \$2400/month. 858-273-3233.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2300. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house, stove, refrigerator, washer/ dryer. 1 year lease, near Missouri and Jewell. No pets. Michael. 858-597-6100 ext.321.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, 2-1/2 blocks to beach, yard, parking and storage. \$1900. 954 Thomas Avnue. Call 858-273-4812.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2395. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house in Crown Point. 2-story, high ceilings, 1-car garage plus driveway. Laundry on-site. No pets. Available now. 3922 Shasta. 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house. \$2075. Newly remodeled hardwood floors, granite counters, gardener included. 2660 Figueroa Boulevard. Available 4/7. 858-483-3534, www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2169 Thomas Avenue. \$2200. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath house. Washer/dryer hookups, parking. Pet OK on approval. Call 858-490-1600, kandrproperties.com.

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On the Tunies production line (undated photo). San Diego businessman C. Arnholt Smith bought some local canneries in 1948. In a 1992 interview, he told the *Reader*: “One guy who worked for us got the bright idea of making hot dogs out of tuna for the Catholic trade. They were called Tunies. They tasted and looked just exactly like a hot dog. Actually tasted better than a hot dog, I think. The poor guy worked his brains out perfecting that. They were in the store, but they just didn’t seem to take over.”

— by Robert Mizrachi

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1695. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 1-car garage. Private, fenced yard. Hardwood floors. Beach 10 blocks. No pets. Available now. 4530 Ingraham. 858-273-0344.

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CHULA VISTA. \$1050. One week free! Beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Parking. Laundry. Pool. Gated. Great location. Near I-5/Costco. Pets/Section 8 considered. 615 Moss Street. 619-405-7411.

CHULA VISTA. Starting \$855, including garage, large 1 bedroom apartments. Walk-in closets, laundry on site. Pool, jacuzzi, gas grill, park-like setting. 619-425-0670.

CHULA VISTA. Large 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, \$1050. Pool, jacuzzi, laundry on site. Gated community, assigned parking. Newly renovated units. No pets. Available now. 619-426-1381. www.melroyproperties.com.

CHULA VISTA. \$625. Studio apartment near downtown. Fresh paint, new carpet. Full kitchen. Off-street parking. 266-A Landis Avenue. Good credit/preferences required. Agent, 619-585-7035.

CHULA VISTA. \$200 off first month's rent! 2 bedroom, 1 bath townhome, \$1250. New paint, gated, backyard, gated, laundry, parking, pool. Section 8 OK. Available 3/25. Office open weekdays 6pm-7:30pm; Saturdays 10am-1pm. 210 Quintard Street. Se habla espanol. 619-422-5062.

CHULA VISTA. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Gated, central air/heat, dishwasher, balcony, laundry, off-street parking. Section 8 OK. No pets. \$1125. Deposit \$800. 619-425-6511.

CHULA VISTA. \$750/month. \$150 deposit. 1 bedroom, fully furnished. 2 blocks from Chula Vista Center. Off-street parking. Laundry room. Lots of trees. 521 Park Way. Office open daily (near Fifth and G). 619-420-5084.

CHULA VISTA. Move-in special! 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$795 per month with 1 year lease and \$825 per month with 6 month lease. Utilities included. Pool. Laundry. New carpet. 540 Flower Street. sunriseliving.com. Call 619-425-5451.

CHULA VISTA. 1 bedrooms and 2 bedrooms from \$975. Newly remodeled inside and out. Small complex. New carpet. On-site laundry, parking. 196 Guava. 619-427-6960.

CHULA VISTA. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Newly remodeled. Pool. Laundry. Parking. Lush landscaping. 270 Fig Avenue. Call 619-425-2966. sunriseliving.com.

CHULA VISTA. \$1750/month. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo located in the Spinaker Point Community. 723 Anchor Cove, San Diego 92154. Call Kathy to see. 619-471-1755.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$825 rent. \$600 deposit. OAC. Huge 1 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Tile floors. Underground parking. Laundry room. No pets. 4241 47th Street #C. 619-299-8515.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$925 rent. \$600 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking spot. Dining area. Dishwasher. Balcony. No pets. At 4377 Marlborough Street #5. Agent, 619-299-8515.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$650 rent. \$600 deposit. Lower 1 bedroom duplex. Garage available for \$75. No pets. At 4331-1/2 41st Street. Agent, 619-299-8515.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$800. \$99 move-in special. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 parking, on-site laundry. Move in today! Hablamos espanol. Penny Realty, 619-263-0455.

Free Classifieds!

Post free online ads with photos at SanDiegoReader.com

CITY HEIGHTS. Townhouse with patio, 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath \$1250, carport, washer/dryer hookups, 1000 square feet. Available now. 5322 Caminito Mindy. 858-583-0182; www.cal-prop.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1450/month. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath end unit, quiet cul-de-sac, views. Great floorplan, Pergo flooring. New appliances, washer/dryer, parking. Near SDSU. 619-838-8954.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$800. \$800 deposit. Brand new 1 bedroom 1 bath. 1 parking space. Onsite laundry. No pets. Available immediately. 4113 43rd Street. 858-274-4122.

CITY HEIGHTS. Townhome in Azalea Park. 2 spacious bedrooms. 1-1/2 bath (recently remodeled). Brand new carpet. Huge kitchen. Washer/dryer. Over 1100 square feet. \$1325. 619-971-0588.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$600/month, nice studio. \$750/month, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1585, large 3 bedroom, 2 bath plus den with garage, new tile and paint, balcony, on-site laundry room, near shopping centers, freeway, great location, 4202 47th Street. Available now. 619-701-1221.

CITY HEIGHTS. Cute 1 bedroom cottage, \$825. Centrally located between I-805, I-15, I-8 and 94 Freeways. Close to Balboa Park and Mission Valley. 3822 Wightman Street. 619-231-2727.

CLAIREMONT/KEARNY MESA. Wexford Manor. Large 1 and 2 bedrooms in beautiful complex with pool, spa, laundry, air conditioning, dishwasher. Sorry, no pets. \$995-\$1295. www.WexfordLiving.com. 7870 Stalmer Street. 858-277-4843.

CLAIREMONT. 1 bedrooms, \$950 and up. 2 bedrooms, from \$1200 and up. Looking for clean, quiet and peaceful? All bedrooms big enough for king size beds. Walk to all your needs. Patios and garages available. 619-276-3222. For photo, floor plans, directions, see website: www.sdreader.com/rent/1028.

CLAIREMONT. From \$850. 1 bedroom, senior complex. Courtyard. Clean and quiet. On bus line. Laundry. No pets. By appointment only. Call 858-735-5587.

CLAIREMONT. \$1500. 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Gated. Quiet. Clean. Spacious. Pool. Parking. Near shopping, beach. No pets. 5550 Balboa Arms Drive, 858-279-6420.

CLAIREMONT. \$1300/month. Large and beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 1 parking space inside complex. Pool, jacuzzi. Nice, convenient location. 1-year lease, \$1300/deposit. Call 619-300-9498.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Newly remodeled 1 bedroom apartments starting at \$999. 2 bedrooms from \$1230. Dishwasher, space-saving microwave. Tennis, basketball. Theatre, pool, gym. Weekly Yoga classes! Pets welcome, \$300 pet deposit. Monday-Saturday, 9am-6pm, Sunday, 10am-5pm. Coral Bay Park, 3309 Cowley Way. www.CoralBayCanyonAndParkApartments.com. Toll free: 1-877-585-1146. www.sdreader.com/rent/1070.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Reduce rent and up to 1 month free! Designer 1 bedroom starting \$999, 2 bedrooms starting \$1230. Pets welcome (deposit required). Microwave, dishwashers. Fitness center. Cool breezes, Olympic size pool, tennis, basketball, movie theatre. Coral Bay Canyon, 3309 Cowley Way. Toll free: 1-877-585-1146. www.CoralBayCanyonAndParkApartments.com. www.sdreader.com/rent/1031.

CLAIREMONT. \$1595. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Immaculate, totally upgraded with beautiful hardwood floors, granite counters, stainless steel appliances, lots of closet space, patio, pool, laundry. Available now. 6666 Beadnell Way. 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

CLAIREMONT. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1050. Spacious entry level, bay view, pool. No pets. 3672 Clairemont Drive. Available now. 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

CLAIREMONT. Large 2 bedroom apartment. Ceiling fan. Gated property, assigned parking. Laundry facilities. Pool. Call 619-296-2787.

CLAIREMONT. \$1225 plus deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Indoor kitten OK. Balcony, wood burning fireplace, icemaker. Carport. Laundry room. 858-569-8607; 858-699-4033.

CLAIREMONT. \$1200. 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.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1195, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$850, 1 bedroom. \$250 off 1st month! Quiet, nice grounds, A/C, off-street parking, laundry. Monday-Friday, 9-2: 619-287-9890, 619-407-1535.

COLLEGE AREA. 55+, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, senior unit. \$725/month, \$500/deposit. 650 square-feet, vaulted ceilings, washer/dryer, A/C, dishwasher, patio, courtyard. Move-in special! www.innorenterprises.com. 619-368-9410.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1095-\$1195. 2 bedroom, 2 baths. Balcony/patio. Gas stove, microwave. Central heating. Dishwasher. Washer/dryer hook-ups. Gated. Pet on approval. Near all/golf course. 619-285-3822.

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.

COLLEGE AREA. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Large rooms. Enclosed patio. New carpets. Water and gardener paid. Sorry, no pets. \$1795. 858-505-9227, 858-774-2419.

COLLEGE AREA. 1 bedroom starting \$825! Great floorplans! Walking distance to campus! Gated entry. Pool. Barbecue picnic areas. Laundry. Parking. Near

busline. On-site management/main-tenance. Cat friendly. 6, 9, 12-month leases. Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm, Saturday 10am-4pm. Aztec Pacific Apartments, 6663 Montezuma Road. Toll free: 1-800-433-6120. aztecpacific_pacificliving@crossfiremail.com. www.pacificliving.com, www.sdreader.com/rent/1042.

COLLEGE AREA. \$850. Cute 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage, 650 square feet, off-street parking, hardwood floors, large private backyard. Call 619-873-0222.

COLLEGE AREA. \$760: 1 bedroom. \$1300: 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 2 parking. Available now. Amenities. 4333 College Avenue. 619-287-8380.

COLLEGE AREA. From \$825. Remodeled 1 and 2 bedrooms. Near shopping. Pool. Air conditioning. Parking available. Laundry. Barbecue area. Pets considered. 3635 College Avenue. 619-582-3993.

COLLEGE AREA. \$725. 5502 Adelaide Avenue. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Carpet, new stove, backyard, laundry room. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

COLLEGE AREA. Spacious 1 bedroom from \$825. Pool, on-site laundry room, off street parking. No pets. 6305 Stanley Avenue. 619-952-3516 or email to: stanleyaveapartments@yahoo.com.

COLLEGE AREA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, ground floor unit with wood floors. Carport, washer/dryer in unit. No pets. Available now. \$1275. 6955 Alvarado Road. Call 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

COLLEGE AREA. \$895. Large 1 bedroom in quiet gated community, new paint/carpet, pool, laundry. Near shopping, restaurants, bus. Cat OK. 4666 63rd Street. 619-286-1376.

COLLEGE AREA. \$850. Move-in special! 1 bedrooms. Fireplace. Central heat/air. Microwave, dishwasher. Balcony. Gated. Intercom entry. 4828 Art Street. Agent, 619-298-7724.

COLLEGE AREA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Conversion. \$895. 1 parking space, laundry on site. Available now. 4425 50th Street. 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1050. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath townhouse-style apartment. Small, quiet complex. On-site parking. Laundry facility. No pets. Call agent for additional information and viewing opportunities. 4546 54th Street #1. Allen Real Property Services. 619-698-1400.

COLLEGE AREA. Gigantic 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Garage. Fireplace. Gated patio. On-site laundry. No pets. Nonsmoker. Bad credit OK! 5940 Streamview #1. \$1130. 619-251-0030.

COLLEGE AREA. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 1/2 off first month's rent! Spacious. Courtyard setting. New carpet, paint. On-site laundry, parking. 4644 Soria Drive. 619-804-3325.

COLLEGE AREA. 2 bedroom house \$1495. Charming home, bonus room, canyon view. Washer/dryer, air conditioning, gardener, covered patio. 1/2 month free with lease. Agent, 619-296-3189.

COLLEGE AREA. \$820. 1 bedroom. Pool, air conditioning, on-site laundry. Assigned parking. Gated complex. 1 cat OK, no dogs. 4601 63rd Street. 619-229-9248.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1650. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome. Gated community. Fireplace. Lots of storage. Balcony off master bedroom and living room. 858-598-1111 x192. utopiamgmt.com.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. New wood floor. Stone tile in kitchen/bath. Granite countertops. Stainless appliances. Custom paint. 858-598-1111 x192. utopiamgmt.com.

COLLEGE/ROLANDO. \$1020. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Total remodel with granite counters, stainless steel appliances, pool, parking. 4860 Rolando Court. Available 3/10. 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

COLLEGE/SDSU. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, close to all, small intimate building, on-site laundry, off-street parking. \$995. 4635 62nd Street. Chris, 619-504-4995.

COLLEGE/TALMADGE. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage behind 4518 52nd Street. Stove, refrigerator, on-site laundry. \$750/month, water paid. \$500/deposit. Available 4/1. No pets. 858-538-5013.

CROWN POINT. Near Bay. Charming, spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Fireplace. Newly remodeled. New carpet. Bright, airy! Laundry on site. Cat OK. 3778 Shasta Street, #A, corner of Crown Point Drive. \$1295. Agent, 858-581-9397.

CROWN POINT. 2 bedroom, 2 bath with many upgrades! \$1525. Ask about special! Block to Sail Bay. Pool, laundry, parking. 3773-77 Haines. 858-483-9303, casariviera.rasnyder.com.

DEL CERRO. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath condo, lower unit, small patio, hardwood floors, parking. 5483 Adobe Falls Road #8. CCFM, 619-296-6699.

DEL MAR. 1 and 2 bedrooms. Some with ocean views! Garage, heated pool, spa, fitness center, dishwasher, microwave. 526 Camino Del Mar. Move-in special! Call Manager, 858-755-4721.

DEL MAR. Beach condo with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Walking distance to beach. Recently remodeled. Hardwood floors. Patio. Partial ocean view. Excellent condition. \$1900. 623-521-8034.

DEL MAR. From \$2200. Vacation rental: 1552 Camino Del Mar #601 (almost oceanfront). Call for seasonal rates. Some ocean views. Interior laundry. Also 3 bedroom, 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 townhome west of I-5. New carpet and paint, 2-car garage. No pets. \$2000/month. 2752 Caminito Eldorado. Broker, 858-481-8185. www.TheLaskers.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. http://www.sdreader.com/rent/1057.

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. Ask about special! \$1150. Newly remodeled studio located close to Del Mar beaches, Cedro's Design District. Perfect for the Southern California lifestyle. Balconies/patios, pool, parking. Electricity included. Medium dogs welcome! 858-755-1466, sandpiper.rasnyder.com.

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. Ask about special! \$1275. Newly remodeled 1 bedroom located close to Del Mar beaches, race track. Small quaint community perfect Southern California lifestyle. Pool, laundry, covered parking. 858-755-1466, solanapointe.rasnyder.com.

DOWNTOWN, EAST VILLAGE. 1/2-1 month free, 6-12 month lease! Low deposits! Studios, 1, 2, 3 bedrooms from \$1000. Near Petco Park, Gaslamp! Rooftop terrace. Controlled access. Washer/dryer. Microwave. Patio/balcony. Walk-in closet. Air conditioning. Fitness center. Pets welcome. Entrada, 453 13th Street. Toll free: 1-888-809-1966. www.sdreader.com/rent/2102.

DOWNTOWN. San Diego's first hip hybrid hotel. Daily, \$39. Weekly, \$215. Weekend rates may be higher, subject to availability. Internet access in room. Near bus/trolley. Flat screen TVs. Gourmet eat-in kitchen. European-style detached bathrooms. 500 West Hotel, 500 West Broadway. 619-234-5252. Toll free: 1-888-895-0875. www.500WestHotel.com, www.sdreader.com/rent/2114.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. March move-in special! Only \$675/month for 6 months! Utilities included! Monday-Friday 8am-6pm, Saturday 8am-3pm. Near Petco Park, bus/trolley. Fully furnished. Bay/ballpark views. Underground parking. Air conditioning. Laundry. Internet. Clubhouse/library. Income qualify! Island Village, 1245 Market Street. For details, 1-800-351-0613. www.sdreader.com/rent/2070.

DOWNTOWN. Beautiful building, new furnished rooms. Refrigerator, microwave, TV, cable, \$175, weekly. 920 Beech Street. Call 619-234-1952.

DOWNTOWN. Comfortable rooms, \$450/ up. Studios, \$650/ up. Near Gaslamp District. Very quiet and clean. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, community kitchen, shared bathrooms. Near shopping, restaurants, movie theatres and Horton Plaza. No pets. Arlington Apartments, 701 7th Avenue. Hughes Management. 619-231-2385. www.sdreader.com/rent/2097.

DOWNTOWN. Cozy rooms, \$450-\$625, grab these little jewels today! Very comfortable, convenient location, historic building near C Street trolley. Choice of shared or private bathrooms. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator, no pets. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B, Hughes Manage-

ment, 619-239-3808. www.sdreader.com/rent/2099.

DOWNTOWN. Economical furnished rooms, \$400-\$500, best price, save money. Conveniently located on C Street trolley line, near restaurants, free cable TV, shared bathrooms, on-site laundry facilities, vending machines, elevator service, no pets, 636 C Street (between 6th and 7th). C Street Inn, Hughes Management, 619-234-4165. www.sdreader.com/rent/2098.

DOWNTOWN. Gaslamp area. Move-in special, \$280. Community kitchen, shared bath, on-site laundry, vending machines, no pets, Star Hotel, 522 7th Avenue. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

DOWNTOWN. Outstanding furnished rooms, \$400-\$500. Heart of Gaslamp. Shared bathrooms. Community kitchen. Free cable TV. No pets. 843 4th Avenue. Windsor Hotel. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

DOWNTOWN. Attractive rooms. Shared bath. Utilities included! Near City College! \$400-\$595 per month. Weekly rates from \$125! 719 14th Street, Villa Victoria. Hughes Management, 619-231-2385.

DOWNTOWN. Furnished studios. From \$59/daily, from \$210/weekly rates! Ideal, affordable, short-term stays. Private bathroom, kitchenette, microwave, refrigerator, cable TV. Air conditioning, laundry, voice mail. High speed Internet. Food service daily. Near trolley/bus/freeway, Balboa Park, Gaslamp. West Park Inn, 1840 4th Avenue. www.westparkinn.com. 619-236-1600. www.sdreader.com/rent/2037.

DOWNTOWN. New condo, pets OK, Large 1 bedroom, lots of natural light, panoramic views, granite counters, washer/dryer. Gym, secure building, underground parking. \$1395. Located at 1480 Broadway. 602-697-9323.

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 Mediterranean. 619-231-8656. www.hotelmed-sd.com.

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, 619-239-1639 x103.

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. Aqua 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, washer/dryer in unit. Spectacular views. Available now. \$2500 rent. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

DOWNTOWN. \$750. Studio. Stove, refrigerator, carpet. All utilities included. Laundry, street parking. No pets. Close to Balboa Park. 1758 6th Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724.

DOWNTOWN. New 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 2 parking, near Petco Park. Laundry hook-up. Fireplace. 5th floor, balcony. Tile/wood floors. Marble/granite. 619-291-1190.

DOWNTOWN. \$825-\$850. Beautiful studios. Classic, spectacular building. Hardwood floors. Full kitchen, bath. Murphy beds with built-ins. Laundry/storage on site. Cat-friendly. 619-233-3973. www.floirt.com/biltmore.htm.

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. \$1995. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath condo, fabulous high-end unit, just one block from Petco Park and trolley stops. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, cat OK with deposit, laundry on site, central location. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$2569. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths apartment, pet OK, flexible lease, pool and Jacuzzi, game room, 24-hour gym. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. Lincoln Hotel, 536 Fifth Avenue. Furnished studios from \$271 to \$316/month. Utilities included. Income qualify. No pets. lincolnhotel@baronegalasso.com or Call 619-702-9205.

DOWNTOWN. Brand new! Affordable luxury! Large 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. Two blocks to Petco Park. Balconies/patios, \$1239-1584. Now leasing for March 2007. Lillian Place Apartments. 110% area median income limit. 619-231-7585.

DOWNTOWN. 777 Lofts. \$1375-\$2495. 1 & 2 bedroom lofts. Ask about our move-in special! Gaslamp's hottest rental lofts located in the heart of restaurant row and Downtown's most popular 5th Avenue nightlife. Small pet considered. TTPM, 619-544-0017 or stop by 777 6th Avenue at F Street.

DOWNTOWN. 1 bedroom, 2 full baths. \$1900. 2-story condo in M21. Small dog or cat OK with additional security deposit. 1050 Island Avenue #107. 619-793-4010.

DOWNTOWN. \$1650. 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 619-557-8335. 120 Island Avenue. sunriseliving.com.

DOWNTOWN. 701 Kettner Boulevard #80. \$1900/month. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1000 off first month's rent. Located near Gaslamp Quarter. Call Agent, Kathy, to see, 619-471-1755.

DOWNTOWN. 1 bedroom, 1 bath plus balcony located on the 5th floor of Palermo. Great Little Italy location. \$1550/month. www.SanDiegoBestRentals.com. 619-696-7368.</

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. \$2100. 1 month free. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo, granite counters, stainless appliances, balcony, gym, theater. Petco Park view. Penny Realty, 858-490-4102.

DOWNTOWN/Marina District. \$2700. Renaissance. Luxurious 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, bay view, 7th floor. All amenities, concierge, parking, washer/dryer, storage, pool, gym. 619-813-0458.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP, from \$1295. 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/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/GASLAMP. Las Flores Hotel. Small, quiet, \$127/week and up. Four-week minimum. Color TV with basic cable. Refrigerator in most rooms. Secure. 619-235-6820.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Move-in Specials. Live/Work Lofts in the heart of the Gaslamp! Roof decks with barbecue. Laundry on every floor. Parking available. Seven locations Downtown. Select pets OK. Visit loft leasing office: 315 Fourth Avenue. 619-231-1505 x12. www.trilogymanagement.com. Also visit www.sreader.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. \$1800/month. Furnished 1 bedroom loft overlooking San Diego harbor. Available April 1. Call 619-255-0526 or visit www.surbanliving.com.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, \$1700. Laundry. Underground parking available. Income restricted. Call for details. Available now. 1528 India Street. 619-236-9353.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. 1501 Front Street #432. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1700. Gorgeous! Washer, dryer, balcony, pool. Great area! Open Sunday, 2pm-3pm. vr@aiprop.com. Call for access code. A&J Property Management, 888-483-9925.

DULZURA. \$900. Country-style living! Newly remodeled. Large 2 bedroom. Washer, dryer. Lots of room for horses, pets. Beautiful mountain views. Available now! 619-807-0359.

EAST VILLAGE. Studios, furnished/unfurnished, washer/dryer, all appliances. Air conditioning, balcony, fitness center, controlled access, underground parking. \$1400/month. 875 G Street. Broker 858-551-4124.

EL CAJON. \$750. Nice, cozy 1 bedroom. New carpet, refrigerator, A/C. Barbecue area, pool, laundry, parking, gated. 718 South Magnolia. Ask about move-in special! 619-312-0606.

EL CAJON, GRANITE HILLS. \$975. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 baths, view, dishwasher, air conditioning, pool. Cat welcome. Call 619-447-2552.

EL CAJON. Near La Mesa. \$950. Move-In Special! Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath up-

per with balcony plus large deck. Ceramic tile and carpet. Extremely quiet area. Pool, air conditioning. 862 South Mollison (at Merritt). Shown by appointment. Broker, 619-548-4599.

EL CAJON. 1 bedroom. \$700. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$800. Great amenities, air conditioning, laundry on-site, pool, recreation room, parking. Lushly landscaped. No pets. 294 Ballantyne. 619-440-3044.

EL CAJON. Duplex-like house. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 850 square-feet. Laundry hookups. Fenced yard, RV/boat storage. No Section 8. No pets. \$975/month. 619-464-5557.

EL CAJON. \$900/up. 2 bedroom, 1 and 2 stories. Amenities. Pool, park-like grounds, parking. Near town, shops, bus. 743 South Magnolia Avenue. Call 619-579-0174.

EL CAJON. Fabulous 7 Motel. Furnished rooms starting \$224 per week. Parking. Pool. Cable. Maid service. Laundry. 219-hour security. 1527 East Main Street. 619-442-0457.

EL CAJON. \$1250-\$1350. Condo style living. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome. Laundry hookups, central heat/air, quiet, gated, private patio. Lush garden, 8 unit complex away from busy streets. No pets. Military discount! 858-353-6112.

EL CAJON. \$750, half off 1st month. 1 bedroom spacious apartment, quiet 11-plex. Dishwasher, air, parking, on-site laundry. Section 8 OK. 222 Lincoln/Main. 619-733-6466.

EL CAJON. \$795. 1 bedroom apartment. Central air/heat. Assigned off-street parking with large storages available! \$699 move-in special, OAC. Se habla espanol. Regency Apartments, 708 North Mollison Avenue. 619-579-2929.

EL CAJON. \$200 off first month! 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome, \$1070. Freshly painted. New appliances, carpet. Patio. Small gated community. Laundry facilities. Pool. No pets. 1397 East Washington. 619-593-6602. stratfordarmsapts.com.

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. \$685, 1 bedroom. \$835, 2 bedroom. El Cajon's best maintained property with beautiful courtyard and sparkling pool. No pets. \$300 move-in special! 1072 East Madison Avenue. TPPM, 619-444-1614. www.fourwindsapts.info.

EL CAJON. \$695, 1 bedroom in fabulous pool/courtyard complex. Super clean apartments. No pets. 314 Wisconsin. TPPM, 619-742-7600. www.palmetates.info.

EL CAJON. \$695, 1 bedroom. Super clean apartments with pool/courtyard. No pets. 234 West Park Avenue. TPPM, 619-850-9722. www.palmtowers.com.

EL CAJON. \$900, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, new carpet/vinyl. Vaulted ceilings, air conditioning, balcony. Call 619-593-0211.

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.

EL CAJON. Spacious 2 bedrooms' from \$825. Move-in for just \$875! Single level and two level apartments available. Great location with on site parking and laundry.

432/441 Dominguez Way. TPPM, 858-850-9722.

ENCINITAS. Tiny efficiency cottage with sleeping loft. Small yard, storage shed, covered patio. Quiet country setting. Share bathroom. \$550, utilities included. No pets/smoking. 760-943-7193.

ENCINITAS. \$500 off second month with 6 or 12 month lease! \$300 deposit special! 1 bedrooms from \$1200, 2 bedrooms from \$1400. Pool, spa. Balcony/patio. Dishwasher. Ceiling fan. Large closets. Fireplace. Courtyard. Laundry facility. Assigned parking. Cat-friendly. Seacrest Apartments, 117 Rosebay Drive. Toll free: 888-631-7121. www.sreader.com/rent/1216.

ENCINITAS. \$895 and up. Sick of room-mates? Cozy beach trailers in quiet park. Close to beach, Coaster, restaurants and shops. 760-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. Luxurious living 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. \$2295. Newly remodeled duplex. Granite, marble, washer/dryer, large yard. 2 blocks from beach! Small dog OK. Lease. 760-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. \$1145, 1 bedroom. Small complex. Assigned parking, laundry. Bright and airy. Patio or balcony. Garden setting. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. Close to shopping, freeway, Coaster. No pets/smoking. 760-929-1950.

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. \$1400. Unique, private, remodeled 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Garage. Washer/dryer. Refrigerator. New carpet/paint/tile. Pool/spa. Air. Pets considered. 949-439-9445, 858-518-1255.

ESCONDIDO. Call for specials! Spacious 1 bedrooms from \$815, deposit \$400. 2 bedrooms from \$975, deposit \$500. Great floor plan. Pool, spa. Covered parking. Laundry. 640 West Lincoln Street. 760-489-8989.

ESCONDIDO. \$795. \$300 off first month's rent! 1 bedroom with private balcony/patio surrounded by lots of open space. Gated entrance, air conditioning, fireplace. Pool, spa. Small pet OK. 720 East Mission. TPPM, 760-815-6210.

ESCONDIDO. Move-in special: 1/2 off first month's rent! 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$795. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$995. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, \$1040. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1055. All remodeled, new paint, new carpet, new vinyl in kitchen. Pool, on-site laundry, off-street parking. Clubhouse, balcony. 1960 East Grand Avenue. 760-489-6932. www.melroyproperties.com.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1095. Large 1 bedroom condo. Walk-in closet. Cable. Air conditioning. Pool, spa, tennis, recreation room. No pets. Available April. 619-294-4690.

FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$1200 rent, \$600 deposit. OAC. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Laundry room. No pets. 1340 Eureka Street #24. 619-298-5820.

FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$1150 rent, \$600 deposit OAC. 2 bedroom 2 bath townhouse, 2 parking spots. Bonus density unit. Laundry, walk to USD. No pets, at 5550 Mildred Street #13, 619-291-1755.

FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$1000 rent, \$600 deposit OAC. 2 bedroom 1 bath apartment. Walk to USD, parking. No pets, at 5550 Mildred St #1. 619-291-1755.

FASHION VALLEY Townhouse. \$1495. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Gourmet kitchen. Fireplace. Skylights. Washer/dryer. Patio. Parking. No pets. Lease. 5610 Mildred Street, #C. 858-454-6874.

FASHION VALLEY. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 678 square feet. Extra storage area, mirror closets, walk-in closet, on-site laundry. No pets. Eureka Street. Agent, 619-692-4121.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1525. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. garage, storage, pool, 1000 square feet, patio, washer/dryer. Over-looking golf course, Mission Greens. 6737 Friars Road #206. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

FASHION VALLEY. City Scene, with canyon view, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, resort-style living, completely remodeled, all amenities, \$1900/month, \$1900 deposit. Available immediately. 858-945-5542.

FASHION VALLEY. \$875 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. 1 bedroom. Parking. Laundry. Walk to USD. No pets. At 1330 Eureka Street #17. 619-298-5820.

GASLAMP/Downtown lofts! From \$700-\$800. 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. Impeccable renovation. Historic Beu-manor, 927 6th Avenue, at 6th and "E" Streets. No pets. To view: www.sreader.com/rent/2127. Call Michael, 619-232-1517.

GOLDEN HILL, Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath \$795/\$850. Hardwood floors. Great neighborhood, laundry on site. Available now. No dogs. 2412 E Street. 619-857-3706.

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. 1-800-433-6156. www.pacificliving.com. www.sreader.com/rent/2028.

GOLDEN HILL. \$950. Large 1 bedroom. Refrigerator, stove, microwave, window treatments. Quiet 8-plex. Washer/dryer on site. 2 car parking spaces. Security deposit of \$950. Cat OK. 2646 A Street. 619-233-4848.

GOLDEN HILL. \$850. Adorable 1 bedroom cottage-style duplex. Hardwood floors. Tiled kitchen and bath. Lots of windows. Small dining area. Laundry on site. Cats OK. www.goldnenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$800. Charming studio cottage. Newly refinished hardwood floors. Full kitchen/bath. Small, private yard. Utilities included. Cats OK. www.goldnenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1150. Half off first month! 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Great views! Historic building. Private entrance. Decorative fireplace. Modern kitchen. Hardwood floors. Patio. Off-street parking. No pets. 1 year lease. www.goldnenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

GOLDEN HILL. Victorian-type mansion. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, hardwood floors, 1700 square feet, leaded glass windows, wood fireplace mantel, 1000-square-foot backyard, all red brick, koi pond, raised planters. \$1400. 858-353-9191.

GOLDEN HILL. \$910. One bedroom apartment in small garden complex. Hardwood floors. Remodeled bath/kitchen. Dishwasher. Full-size washer/dryer in unit. Cat OK. 619-234-5355.

GOLDEN HILL/DOWNTOWN. Ugly but goodie! 1 bedroom, \$750. Cute inside! New flooring-- hardwood look. Your patience during remodeling means low rent! Some parking available. Pet OK with deposit. 619-231-8723.

GOLDEN HILL. \$850. Huge 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Cat friendly. Close to Downtown. Off-street parking. 2637-1/2 C Street. Call 858-967-7330. sunrisesliving.com.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$1075. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Recently remodeled, tiled living room, kitchen, hallway/bath. Freshly painted. Pool. On-site laundry. 1714 Grove Street #17. 619-962-1887.

GOLDEN HILL. \$825. 1 bedroom. Gated entry and parking, laundry, dishwasher. No pets. 3013 C Street. 619-546-9852.

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. Newly remodeled 1 bedroom historic Victorian flat, \$799. Secured entry. High ceilings. Wood floors. Yard. Laundry. 2449 G Street. 619-236-1186.

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.

HILLCREST. \$895. 1 bedroom unfurnished apartment. Hardwood floors, parking. Close to all. No pets. 4030 3rd Avenue. 619-295-6005. agent.

HILLCREST. Spacious 1 and 2 bedrooms! Berber carpet, fireplace, spa, gym, intercom, elevator. Sorry, no pets. 4134 4th Avenue. See photos at www.WexfordLiving.com. 619-299-0047.

HILLCREST. \$1250. View 2 bedroom. Spacious, new carpet, paint. Small gated courtyard. Laundry parking. Cat OK. Month deposit. Open Sundays 2-4pm. 4009 Georgia Street. 619-255-5614.

HILLCREST. \$1200. 1 bedroom apartment. Parking. Laundry facilities. Dishwasher, stove, refrigerator. Full bath with

tile. Pool/jacuzzi. Cat preferred. 619-435-8550.

HILLCREST. 1/2 off first month! \$1125, 1 bedroom. \$1350, 2 bedroom. Tiled kitchen. New carpet. Downstairs. Ceiling fan, microwave. Gated entry. Parking. Laundry. No pets. 3914 Centre. 619-294-7044.

HILLCREST. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Gated community. Quiet, tranquil area. Underground secure parking. On-site laundry. Beautiful landscaping. Available 3/12. 445 West University Avenue. 619-225-1260.

HILLCREST. \$895 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. 1 bedroom, plus extra room (Dining room, office). No pets, at 3831 First Avenue #6. 619-299-8515.

HILLCREST. \$895 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. 1 bedroom. Parking spot. New carpet. Laundry room. No pets. At 4030 Front Street #9. 619-299-8515.

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. Coral Ridge condo. 3790 Florida Street #AG02. Studio-secured community, washer/dryer in unit, pets on approval, balcony, parking, \$1000 rent. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

HILLCREST. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Heart of uptown, across from DMV, pet on approval, secured underground parking, laundry on site. \$1295 rent, www.sdforrent.com, 619-640-7530.

HILLCREST. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Over 1020 square feet! Balcony. Canyon view. Pool. Laundry. Parking space. Small pet on approval. 4053 8th Avenue. 619-297-0269.

HILLCREST. \$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.

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. Spacious 2 bedrooms from \$1395. Upper units with many upgrades. Lots of storage space, on-site laundry, off-street parking. No pets. 1247 Robinson Avenue. 619-460-8011.

HILLCREST. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment upstairs. 3835 Third Avenue. 800 square feet, hardwood floors, laundry on-site, parking. Walk to all! Available now. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

HILLCREST. \$930. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upper corner unit. lots of light. Parking, laundry. 1274.5 Essex Street. Available now. No pets. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

HILLCREST. \$795. 1 bedroom apartment, gated large unit, laundry. Close to all. 4450 Cleveland #3. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

HILLCREST. \$945. Large 1 bedroom, upstairs unit of duplex. All utilities paid. Cat OK. Off-street parking, small garden area, charming and quiet. 4265 Maryland Street. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

HILLCREST. Small 1 bedroom duplex. Great location. Walking distance to shopping, restaurants, Balboa Park and much more. Small, quiet complex with laundry facilities. 619-296-2787.

HILLCREST. \$850. Large studio, lower back unit, hardwood floors, bath/sauna, community patio with barbecue, free laundry. Utilities included. Close to all. 3722 Vermont Street. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

HILLCREST. Move-in special: 1/2 off first month's rent! Studio, \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$925 and \$995. 2 bedroom, 1 baths, \$1150 and \$1375. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1450. Pool, canyon view. Close to all. Rec room. Vacancies open to view. Sleepy Hollow Apartments. 4201 Sixth Avenue. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

HILLCREST. \$1425. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs front unit. Private porch. Community patio with barbecue. Free laundry, new carpet, new paint. 3716 Vermont Street. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

HILLCREST. \$895 and \$950 pristine studios. Come and enjoy Hillcrest living at its best in the beautifully remodeled Park Towers building. Our studio units have gone through an extensive remodel in excess of \$20K. Full ceramic tile counter tops. Maple cabinets, Bar top dining area, range and refrigerator included. Italian ceramic tile floors with granite accents. Crown moldings, ceiling fan, lots of closet space and fully tiled bathroom. All new fixtures and window treatments. Property features a pool, gated access with intercom. Some off street parking available and on-site laundry. \$700 deposit and one year lease required. Available mid April 2007. 3563 Sixth Avenue at Upas. Call manager at 619-542-0377. scott@hendershawandassociates.com.

HILLCREST. Senior class. 55+ living! \$850. 1 bedroom apartments. Gated community. Convenient location. Near hospitals, restaurants, shopping. No pets. Hillcrest Palms, 4042 Albatross Street. 619-574-0784.

HILLCREST. \$1345. 2 bedroom, 1 bath 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.delsolpm.com.

HILLCREST. \$950. 1 bedroom; upstairs, remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Coin laundry. No parking. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 4/15/07. 3730 First Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

HILLCREST. \$775. Studio. Great Hillcrest area. Walk to all. Hardwood floors, full kitchen and bath. 3855 Front Street. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

HILLCREST. 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. 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.

HILLCREST. \$1150. 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. Studio, \$815. 1 bedroom, \$945. Great location, quiet area. Off-street parking, laundry. Cat OK. 4166 4th Avenue. 619-298-7868. www.rasnydr.com.

HILLCREST. Spacious floor plans. Rents starting at \$950/month. Underground parking, garage, excellent location. Please call 619-299-8952.

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. 1/2 off first month's rent! Open house on Saturday, 11:00am-12:00pm. \$1325. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. New carpet. Fresh paint. Parking. Coin laundry. Controlled access. Air conditioning. Balcony. Elevator. No pets. 4043 First Avenue. Call 858-571-1970.

HILLCREST/NORTH PARK. \$795 studio, \$895 1 bedroom, includes utilities, 109 University, \$895, large 2 bedroom, laundry, parking, 4141 Wabash. No pets, 1-year lease. 619-286-8487.

HILLCREST/BANKER'S HILL. 1, 2 bedrooms 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/MISSION HILLS. Charming, 1 bedroom duplex in quiet complex. New appliances. Hardwood floors throughout. \$925. Nonsmoking. No pets. 4054 Front Street. 619-501-0093.

HILLCREST/UPTOWN. \$695. Studio. All utilities paid. Air conditioning. Historic art-deco building on quiet street. New carpet, paint. Murphy bed. Laundry. Casa Properties, 619-297-1942.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$1300. 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. 1-car garage. Laundry hookups. Pets on approval. Available

PET CENTRAL

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AQUARIUM SALE at Octopus's Garden. 20H aquarium \$20; 29 for \$29; 40R \$40. Even a 60E is just \$60. Other tank specials also. Lots of healthy saltwater fish and beautiful corals. Protein skimmers. Lighting systems, pumps, decorations and supplies at low prices at Octopus's Garden. Noon-9pm, 7 days. Call 858-576-7449.

AQUARIUM. Saltwater reef 60 gallon tank with wood stand. Fish, live rock, invertebrates, protein skimmer, fillers/jets included. Must see. Cost \$1700. Sacrifice \$800. 858-272-2049.

AQUARIUM, 65-gallon TruVu, fresh water setup, cabinet/hood, pine, lights, heater, etc., fish too. \$475/best. 760-753-8824.

AQUARIUMS AND PONDS! Freshwater/ saltwater fish. Extensive reef animals. 9000 square feet. Low warehouse prices! Expertise not found in Southern California cookie-cutter stores! Aquatic Warehouse. 5466 Complex Street #204, San Diego. Behind Superior Courthouse, off Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. www.aquaticwarehouse.com. Daily, 10am-7pm. Saturday, 10

now. 1-year lease. 1017 Ninth Street. 619-469-0031.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$995. Beautiful 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Spacious, sunny upstairs apartment. New paint/sink/refrigerator, walk-in closet. Off-street parking, laundry. Attractive small complex. 809 9th Street. 619-429-0498.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$815, large 1 bedroom, \$600 deposit. \$200 off first month! Gated. Storage. No pets. 750 11th Street. 619-423-4610.

IMPERIAL BEACH. Steps to beach! 2 bedroom, 1-1/2+ bath condo, 1-car garage. All appliances, 2-story, fenced patio. \$1295/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 \$825, utilities; gas, electricity, trash, water, all included. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, new carpet and paint. Clean, quiet, secure. Ready now. Laundry on-site. 1135 Hollister #10. If you can find a better deal; then rent it. Call Jeff 619-804-1044.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$1450. Two beautiful townhomes on the beach. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Fireplace. Refrigerator. Stove. Small yard. Pet? Laundry facilities on premises. Off-street parking. Available now. 1064 Ocean Lane. Call 619-424-9233.

IMPERIAL BEACH. All new 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo, close to beach, secured parking, dishwasher, stainless appliances. \$1350. 263 Dahlia Avenue. No pets. 619-820-0003.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$1475/month. Top floor. Ocean views, unfurnished, 676 Seacoast-north of Palm Avenue. Beautiful large 1 bedroom. All redone, granite countertops, stainless appliances. Available soon. Call 619-840-6683.

KEARNY MESA. \$1450. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Available now. Granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances, washer and dryer, 1-car garage plus parking. www.utopiamanagement.com, 858-598-1111.

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, vistacaprinorth.rasnyder.com.

KENSINGTON. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Very large, clean, quiet, laundry on site. No pets. \$400 deposit. Near park. 4598 39th Street. 619-283-3280.

KENSINGTON. Charming, 1920s studio. Partially furnished. Tile floors. Fenced yard, patio. Garden setting. Laundry, \$750. Available 4/1. Call 619-686-6411 to schedule a viewing.

KENSINGTON. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, beautiful unit, off street parking, pets on approval, laundry on site. 4502 Kensington Drive. \$1195 rent. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

KENSINGTON, SOUTH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$895. Upstairs corner unit, laundry on site. 4386 Copeland Avenue. Available 3/23. 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

KENSINGTON. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking and laundry. By Bank of America and Whole Foods. Open beam vaulted ceilings. Available 4/1/07. 3820 8th Avenue #4. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

LA COSTA, \$1595. Panoramic ocean view! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, upstairs. Washer/dryer, fireplace. Gym, pool, spa. Pet considered, no smoking. Available 3/17. Garry, 760-672-1192.

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1200. Vaulted ceilings. Cats OK with deposit, no dogs. Assigned parking. Quiet community. Move-in special! Gunney, 760-943-7590.

LA JOLLA Racquet Club. Large 1 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath with fireplace, near pool-side. Minutes from UCSD. \$1650/month. Mike Stalsby, agent, 858-344-1033.

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LA JOLLA SHORES. \$1500. Large 1 bedroom. New paint/carpet. Laundry facilities. Block/beach. Quiet 9-unit complex. Patio. No pets. Deposit. Available now. 858-456-7954.

LA JOLLA VILLAGE. From \$975, pool, laundry, elevator. Walk to La Jolla Cove and business district. No pets. 858-459-8254, www.casalindaapartments.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. \$1900. 2 bedroom plus den, 2 bath, 2 parking, 1400 square feet, one level. Near UCSD. Granite counters, stainless steel appliances. Cat OK. Available 4/1. 8860 Villa La Jolla. 858-793-7754.

LA JOLLA. \$1800/month. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Lovely first-floor garden type condo. Completely remodeled. Pool, spa, gym. Convenient to all. No pets. 1-year lease. 858-454-1694.

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. 619-367-3333.

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. 619-367-3333.

LA JOLLA. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, close to beach. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

LA JOLLA. \$1845-\$1945. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, available now. Immaculate garden-style complex in central village location. Walk to beach and shops. Fireplace, 2 parking spaces. Lease. No pets. Open Saturday, 1-2pm. 7601 Eads Avenue. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

LA JOLLA/UTC. 6-14 month leases. \$200-\$950. All 1 bedrooms from \$1210. 2 bedrooms from \$1600. \$300-\$450 deposits! Pets welcome. Pools, spas. Fitness center. Patio/balcony. Fireplace. Dishwasher. Storage. Washer/dryer. Parking. Near UCSD, shopping, restaurants. Daily, 9am-6pm. Mirada at La Jolla Colony. 7568 Charmant Drive. 1-888-243-5507. www.sdreader.com/rent/2156.

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$1195. Studio in heart of UTC. Washer/dryer in unit. New carpet, new paint. Patio. Newer refrigerator. Covered parking, storage. Over 600 square feet. Complex has pool. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

LA MESA, \$1250. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Fireplace, balcony, washer/dryer in unit. Parking. A must see! Available now. Pets on approval. 4847 Parks Avenue #12. 619-295-1100, www.cethron.com.

LA MESA. \$925 includes utilities. Secluded hillside 1 bedroom granny flat. 2 tiled tiered patios (1 covered). Laminate flooring, shared laundry. Indoor cat OK. Agent, 619-463-2971.

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.

LA MESA. \$910, 1 bedroom, \$450 deposit, available now. \$760, studio, \$350 deposit, available 4/6. Carport space. Storage. Laundry. Pool. Gated. No pets. 619-698-7926. villaknollsapts.com.

LA MESA. \$1250 rent, \$800 deposit. OAC. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse. Duplex. New carpet. No pets. 4857 Jessie Street (at El Cajon Boulevard). 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.

LA MESA. \$840. Village area. 1 bedroom, Upper unit with many great upgrades. On-site laundry, off street parking. Ask about move-in special. Available now! 619-838-0386 or 619-460-8011.

LA MESA. \$775. 1 bedroom house in the village, washer/dryer hookup, view. Close to all. 8065 Lemon Avenue. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

LA MESA. \$925. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, near College. Clean, quiet, ready to be moved into. Section 8 OK. If you can find one better, rent it. 7240 El Cajon Boulevard, 70th Street. Call Rachael 619-804-1044.

LA MESA. \$875. 1 bedroom, classic 1950s 1 bedroom apartment located in the heart of the village of La Mesa is this charming classic 1950s apartment. Located in the first level of 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 unique features. New ceiling fans in the bedroom and living room. Property has on-site laundry and is close to many shops and restaurants. Low deposit: \$500. Sorry, no pets allowed. Please call between 9am-5pm. Call Scott at 619-846-6615. scott@hendershawandassociates.com.

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. \$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. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 1/2 off first month's rent! Carport. Washer/dryer. Air conditioning. Patio, barbecue area, pool, spa, gated, near trolley. Pets negotiable. 8220 Vincetta Drive. 619-804-3325.

LA MESA. 1 bedroom, \$850. 2 bedroom, \$1250. Spacious. Cul-de-sac, balcony, air conditioning. Pool/deck. Parking. Elevator. No pets. Lease. 8211 Vincetta Drive. 619-303-4969. 619-465-9849.

LA MESA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$925/month. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1150/month. Upstairs. Pool and saunas. Off-street parking. On-site laundry facilities. Close to downtown La Mesa, trolley, shops and freeways. Cats welcome upon approval. Available now. Crestview Apartments, 4515 3rd Street. Call on-site manager, 619-743-5192 or Bob Cota Realty, 619-465-9934.

LA MESA. 1 bedrooms, \$890/up. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1425. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse, \$1190. 2-car carport. Spacious apartments. Near Grossmont Center. Great neighborhood. Convenient to all! 5545 Morro Way. Available. 619-985-3500.

LA MESA. 2 bedrooms, \$1025. Move-in special, OAC. Great location. Spacious. Air conditioning. Gated complex. Laundry. Tenant parking. No pets. Lease. 619-303-4969.

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.sevilegmt.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.

LA MESA. North of I-8 near Costco: 1 bedroom, \$930 and 2 bedroom, \$1375. Large, sunny, extra storage. Central air conditioning. Remodeled. Off-street parking or garage available. Upstairs unit. Totally remodeled with hard tile, new carpet, freshly painted. Patio/balcony area carpeted and includes a storage closet. Call Barbara, 619-589-0802. sandiegoapartments.com.

LA MESA/MOUNT HELIX. Studio with sleeping alcove, fits king size bed. Private, serene. No smoking/pets. \$950, including utilities. 619-251-4197.

LA MESA. \$975. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, downstairs unit. Fenced yard. Off-street parking. Air conditioning. Appliances included. New: carpet/paint. Section 8 OK. 619-449-6153.

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. Townhome. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, security gate, near Highway 94, quiet, private. \$1100/month. \$500 move-in special. 619-460-7149.

LA MESA. The Woodbridge Apartments. "600 off move in special!" Spacious 2 bedroom and 3 bedroom available. Full size washer/dryer. Fully equipped kitchens. Private patio/balcony. Pool and jacuzzi. Carports. Near shops. Wood burning fireplaces. *Water/sewer fees may not be included. *Limited offer, on approved credit, see manager for details! 10874 Calle Verde, La Mesa, CA 91914. 619-670-1402. Visit us on our website at www.sdrenter.com.

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 ambience. Huge patios/balconies. Gated access and gated parking. Small pet OK. 3903 Conrad Drive. Call 866-894-6343. www.sdreader.com/rent/1017.

LA MESA/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 inte-

rior doors. Crown mouldings, all new fixtures. Appliances upgraded as needed. 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 air conditioning included. Off-street parking 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 call the resident manager, 619-460-9107. scott@hendershawandassociates.com

LA MESA/MOUNT HELIX. Studio with sleeping alcove, fits king size bed. Private, serene. No smoking/pets. \$950, including utilities. 619-251-4197.

LA MESA. \$975. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, downstairs unit. Fenced yard. Off-street parking. Air conditioning. Appliances included. New: carpet/paint. Section 8 OK. 619-449-6153.

LA MESA. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, \$975/month. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1325. Appliances. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. Easy freeway access. Near shopping. Dogs welcome upon approval. Woodglen Apartments, 12905 Mapleview Street. Call manager Brandi at 619-390-9753.

LA MESA. For rent: Mobile home, 55+ community, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$777/month. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$797/month. Pool, clubhouse. Available now. 619-443-3600.

LA MESA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Quiet location. Private laundry and parking. Recent remodel. Great neighborhood. View. Paid utilities (less cable). 800 square feet. \$1100. 8510 Amato. 619-405-6159.

LEMON GROVE. \$975. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Extra storage. Assigned parking. Large backyard. Walking distance to trolley. Close to freeways and shopping. Pet negotiable. 619-465-4434.

LEMON GROVE. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. All new large condo! \$1295/month. Walk-in closets, granite, stainless. Private patio, community pool. 3565 Grove Street #139, 619-574-8038.

LEMON GROVE. Rents starting at \$850/month. Great community. Pool, laundry

on site. Close to shopping. Please call 619-464-0416.

LEUCADIA. Beachwalk. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upstairs. West of 101. Carport, gated complex. Community pool, spa, laundry. 133-D West Glaucos. Leasing Unlimited 760-436-7273.

LEUCADIA. \$1500. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Laundry on site. Patio. Parking. Cat OK. Available now. 243 East Glaucus Street #F. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

LINDA VISTA. \$685. Studio, utilities included. Laundry, gated parking. \$400 deposit. No pets. Astro Vista Apartments, 2249 Ulric Street. Call Monday-Friday for appointment. 858-565-6400.

LINDA VISTA. \$950. New 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage behind house, quiet neighborhood. Refrigerator, microwave, cabinets, wood floors, paint, vertical blinds. Cat OK. Daniel, 619-606-2043.

LINDA VISTA. Save on gas, move to central San Diego! 2 bedroom, 1 bath townhouse with backyard, \$995. Single level 2 bedroom, \$1045. Deposit \$900. Hardwood floors, assigned parking. 6 month lease. No pets. Office at 2451 Ulric Street. 858-278-3610.

LINDA VISTA. \$1300. 3 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Big fenced yard. New kitchen and bathroom. Laundry hookups. No pets. 858-755-5598.

LINDA VISTA. \$1100. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. New kitchen and bathroom. \$1100 security deposit. No pets. 6515 Kelly Street. 858-755-5598.

LINDA VISTA. \$300 off 1st month. \$900 rent. Upper and lower 2 bedroom apartments, recently remodeled, with patio/balcony. Parking. 6752 Kelly Street. Agent, 619-281-4698.

LINDA VISTA. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Downstairs condo. Yard and private entrance. New carpet. Mirrored closet doors. Dining area. Cats OK. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

LINDA VISTA. \$995. 2-story townhouse, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, Pets considered. Laundry and parking onsite. 6506-10 Kelly Street. Agent, 619-279-2183.

LOGAN HEIGHTS. Remodeled. \$775. 1 bedroom. (Deposit \$400.) \$875, 2 bedroom apartments. (Deposit \$500.) New appliances. Minutes from downtown. 3150 Valley Avenue. No pets. 619-584-5900.

LOGAN HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, off street parking, gated community and parking area, no pets. Section 8 OK. \$750 rent. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

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.

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MIRA MESA. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Charming upper unit, stove, refrigerator, near park and stores. Off-street parking, on-site laundry. 8777 Mira Mesa Boulevard. 619-804-3325.

MISSION BAY, EAST. \$810 rent. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. \$500 deposit. Laundry. Assigned parking. Cat OK. Close to I-5. 1450 Morena Boulevard. Call 619-890-4340.

MISSION BEACH. \$1795. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Steps to beach. Parking. Partial utilities included. New paint/floor tile/bathrooms. 1 year lease. No dogs. 858-488-1759.

MISSION BEACH. \$1250. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Steps to beach. Upstairs unit with garage, deck, laundry on-site. 731 Santa Barbara Place. Available now. 858-483-3534 or 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION BEACH. \$1395. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upgraded apartment. Steps from the beach. Upgraded. Available 4/2. 1 year lease. No pets. 715 Sunset Court. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION BEACH. \$1200. Cute 1 bedroom cottage, steps to beach and bay. 1-parking. New carpet, paint, and blinds. Available now. Westbourne Company Realtors, 858-488-4800.

MISSION BEACH. \$850. Adorable, downstairs studio. Includes utilities, parking. Laundry facility. Appliances. Steps to sand. Across from Catamaran hotel. 760 Wavecrest Court. 858-272-9547.

MISSION BEACH. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$945. Upstairs unit, 1 block to beach. 3592 Mission Boulevard. Available 4/7. No pets. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION BEACH. \$875. Studio, 1 bath apartment, partially furnished, month-to-month lease. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

MISSION BEACH, SOUTH. \$2550. Large 3 bedroom, 3 bath townhome. Bay view. Steps to Bay. 2-car garage. Dishwasher. Laundry hookups. 822 San Gabriel Place. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

MISSION BEACH. \$800, utilities paid. Studio, downstairs. Tile throughout, off-street parking. 1 block to beach and bay. 1-year lease. No pets. Available April 1. 619-224-7655.

MISSION BEACH. \$2400. Beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhome. Ocean/bay views, steps to sand, fireplace, 2-car garage. No pets. Available 4/4. Kevin, 949-510-6201.

MISSION BEACH. \$1795. Steps to beach! 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Garage space. Open floorplan and loft. New carpets and paint. Deck. Fireplace. Dishwasher. Laundry. 735 Santa Clara Place. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

MISSION HILLS/NORTH Historical, residential area. Half off first month on immediate move-in. \$1125 2 bedroom. Quiet, canyon view, close to all. No pets. 619-298-6436.

MISSION HILLS/HILLCREST. Lofts: 2 weeks free! 1 bedrooms: 1/2 off first month, Crane floor! Lofts, 1, 2 bedrooms from \$1580. Underground parking. Crown moldings. Vaulted ceilings. Fireplaces. Walk-in closets. Washer/dryer. Internet. Elevator. Gym. Great location! Cats welcome. Mission Hills Commons, 4021 Falcon Street. missionhills@propemail.com. 888-404-7952. www.sdreader.com/rent/2032.

MISSION HILLS. \$1200/up. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Laundry. Parking. Pets OK. La Paloma Apartments. Open daily, 1-5pm. 3911 Dove. 619-297-1134.

MISSION HILLS. Panoramic water views! 1 bedroom and 2 bedroom available, small complex. New paint/carpet, hardwoods, dishwasher, off-street parking, laundry. Pet OK. \$1295/\$1595. 1008 West Spruce. 619-200-8767, 619-435-2362.

MISSION HILLS. Move-in special! Studio. Balcony, stainless appliances, two mirrored closets, assigned gated parking. Near Little Italy/I-5. 2850 Reynard Way. 858-277-3410.

MISSION HILLS. Luxury 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome. Fantastic bay, ocean, city views. 2 fireplaces, 2 decks, 2-car garage. All appliances. Available 4/1. \$1975. 619-241-2442.

MISSION HILLS. \$1595. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath condo. All stainless steel appliances. Balcony with views of bay. 2 parking spots. Laundry. Xlarent.com 619-683-7638.

MISSION HILLS. \$750/up. Studio. Move-in special! Hardwood floors. Murphy bed. Intercom entry. Some utilities included. No pets. 630 West Washington. Agent, 619-298-7724.

MISSION HILLS. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Garage, new carpet, laundry. View! 719 Torrance. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

MISSION HILLS. \$2050. 2 bedroom, 2 bath plus den. Main floor of house. Fireplace, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer/dryer. 3521 Kite Street. Small pet considered. Available 4/1. 1 year lease. 2 car garage. 619-523-2355.

MISSION HILLS/HILLCREST. \$795. Sunny, charming, upper 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Great location. Cat OK. 858-273-6429.

MISSION HILLS. \$1250. 2 bedroom 2 bath in attractive, controlled-access building, near UCSD Medical Center. No pets. 4066 Albatross Street. TPPM, 619-692-1837.

MISSION HILLS. \$1450. 3 bedroom, 2 bath in attractive controlled-access building, near UCSD Medical Center. No pets. 4066 Albatross Street. TPPM, 619-692-1837.

MISSION HILLS, SOUTH. 2-1/2 bedroom, 2 bath, hardwood floors and carpet, family room, 1400 square feet. Washer/dryer. Community backyard. \$1425/month. 619-994-1362 or 619-255-3003.

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MISSION VALLEY. \$1350. Move-in special. 2 bedroom condo. Park-like setting, pool, gym, spa, tennis. Shopping/trolley close. Pets OK. 10797 San Diego Mission Road. 619-980-6076.

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MISSION VALLEY. \$1450. Luxury 1 bedroom condo. Granite, stainless steel appliances, washer/dryer. Fitness center,

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MISSION VALLEY/TALMADGE/Kensington. 1 bedroom, 2 bedrooms and 3 bedrooms, \$995-\$1685. Spacious apartment homes include: microwave, dishwasher, balcony/patio. Gated community with tropical landscape, pool, spa, sauna and fitness center. Underground parking. Pet friendly! Mission Pacific. 4454 44th Street. 1-800-372-9146. missionpacific.pacificliving@crossfiremail.com. www.pacificliving.com.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1350. 1 bedroom, 1+ bath, new carpet and paint, new dishwasher. Across from Trolley and 24-Hour Fitness. Close to everything! 619-670-6420.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1499. Best unit in Mission Ridge. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Top floor, 2 covered parking. Vaulted ceiling, balcony, washer/dryer, huge pool, tennis, gym. 10300 Caminito Cuervo, #69. 619-435-9028, 619-981-6263.

MISSION VALLEY. Park Villa. Studio, \$850. Free basic cable. Close to all freeways. On-site laundry. Pool. Sorry, no pets. Available now. Agent, 619-692-4121.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1400. Large 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath condo near Qualcomm and Highway 5. Newly remodeled, fridge, dishwasher, master bedroom has vaulted ceilings and large closet, community pools, spa and gym. 3454 Castle Glen Drive #138. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400, www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1395. Quiet 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in "The Bluffs" community near mall and Highway 163. Dishwasher, stove, refrigerator, renovated kitchen, water and cable paid, 1 underground garage parking space plus 1 assigned space, community pool, spa, clubhouse and tennis courts. 6406 Friars Road #124. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400, www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

MISSION VALLEY. Large 1 bedroom condo, fireplace, large private patio, washer/dryer. Great central location. Covered parking. Pool, spa, weight room. 619-296-2787.

MISSION VALLEY/The Lido. river view. Spectacular 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Luxury upgrades, stainless appliances, patio. Pools, spa, gym. No pets/smoking. 714-689-8821, 714-454-6614.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condominium. Designer paint colors. Upgraded carpets and tile. Fireplace, 9-foot ceilings. Gym, spa, pool, view! 2 parking. 580 Camino de la Reina. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

MISSION VALLEY, EAST. 2 bedroom downstairs condo. \$1350. Granite. Patio. Washer/dryer in unit. Pool. Available now. 7707 Marguerite Avenue #116. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

MISSION VALLEY. \$885. Large 1 bedroom condo. No pets. Nonsmoking. Parking, balcony, dishwasher, carpet. Nice. Quiet. Pool, gym. 1605 Hotel Circle South #B204. Juno, 619-275-3455.

MISSION VALLEY. Sunny 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath upgraded 2-story townhome. Pergo floors, vaulted ceilings, fireplace, laundry. Great complex, streams, waterfalls, pool/spa, workout. \$1525/month. 619-804-4269.

MISSION VALLEY. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Deluxe condo located in River Colony! Hardwood floors, new appliances, fireplace, great community amenities!! Close to freeways and shopping! You'll love it! \$1595/month. 858-598-1111 x190, www.utiapmanagement.com.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Pool, spa, clubhouse, tennis, central air, balcony. Parking. Laundry. No pets. 6151 Rancho Mission Road. 619-231-2727 x233.

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MISSION VALLEY. \$975 includes water/trash/cable. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Pool/jacuzzi/sauna, gym, basketball/tennis, security. Very quiet complex. After 6pm, 619-585-0130.

MORLEY FIELD. 2 bedroom, 2 bath house, street parking, close to Albertson's grocery and bus stop, tile floors, washer/dryer in unit, pets on approval. \$1800 rent. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

MT. HELIX. \$1200 rent. 1 bedroom, 1 bath house with den, large deck, washer/dryer hookup. Off street parking, pets on approval, close to freeway, yet still secluded with lots of nature and trees. 9640 Plimpton Road. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

NATIONAL CITY. \$775. Upper 1 bedroom with garage and on-site laundry. 1740 East 4th Street. 619-281-4698.

NATIONAL CITY. \$725/month. 1 bedroom fully furnished. Low \$150 deposit. No SDGE deposit or hookup required. 624 East 24th Street. Office open daily. 619-474-3787.

NORMAL EIGHTS. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, charming upper unit with appliances, new carpet and paint. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. 2605 Madison Avenue. 619-804-3325.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1100. Duplex, 2 bedrooms plus den. New carpet, refrigerator, stove, fenced yard. No garage. No pets. 3415-1/2 Adams. \$800/deposit. 619-795-2104.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom \$775, 4263 42nd Street. 2 bedroom \$975, 4133 37th Street. Very nice, on-site laundry. No pets. 760-672-0425.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs. New paint, new carpet, gated complex, laundry on-site. Available now. 4580 39th Street, #4584. www.cethron.com, 619-295-1100.

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NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$600. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage apartment. Living room, kitchen, bathroom. 3171 Adams Avenue. \$500 deposit. Laundry available. No pets. Conveniently located. 619-584-5900.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$775. 1 bedroom with new carpet and paint. Close to shops. 4655 33rd Street #1. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$795. Nice 1 bedroom apartment. Upstairs, garage, newer carpet. Close to shopping and freeways. No pets. 4642 30th Street. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$950. Deposit \$700. Upstairs 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. New carpet, paint. Blinds. Limited parking. Refrigerator, stove. No pets. 4681 35th Street #4. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$800. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet/vinyl. Cats welcome. Community barbecue area. Gated complex. Off-street parking. Available now. 4664 34th Street. 619-255-1472.

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NORMAL HEIGHTS. 4774 33rd Street #5. \$875/month; deposit \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Dishwasher, air, washer/dryer. Off-street parking. No pets. Cassidy. Broker, 619-275-LIST. www.tmcassidy.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1265. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, ground level, behind house. Garden setting. Shared washer/dryer. Storage, air conditioning, 2 parking spots. Chuck, 619-817-1972.

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NORTH PARK. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. 2 parking spaces. Washer/dryer hook-ups. 6 month lease. \$2200. Available for viewing by appointment only. 4651 30th Street. 858-490-1600. kandrproperties.com.

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NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$850 rent. 2 bedroom, 1 bath \$1100 rent. Gated complex, off street parking, laundry on site, no pets. www.sdforrent.com. 3112 30th Street. 619-640-7530.

NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs unit, laundry on site, off street parking,

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NORTH PARK. \$835. Nice 1 bedroom apartment. Small, quiet complex. Upstairs, skylight, gated entry, patio, storage. No pets. 4045 Mississippi Street. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

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NORTH PARK. \$300 off first month's rent! 1 bedroom, \$725. Small complex, gated, laundry, parking. No pets. 4128 Wabash Avenue. 619-281-0579. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. \$975. 2 bedroom, 2 bath downstairs unit with parking and laundry. No pets! 4146 Swift Street #4. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

NORTH PARK. \$895. 1 bedroom, just north of Morley Field. Downstairs. Fireplace. Private patio. Dishwasher. Air conditioner. Gated. Cats OK. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

NORTH PARK. \$795. Large 1 bedroom. Completely remodeled. Off-street parking. Upstairs unit. No pets. 4065 Swift. 619-284-4804.

NORTH PARK. 3 bedroom, 2 bath upstairs unit. 4070 Iowa Street. \$1300. No pets. Assigned parking. Laundry on site. Available 3/21. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

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NORTH PARK. \$1150. 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.

NORTH PARK. \$800. 1 bedroom, large uper in gated building, new paint, carpets, close to recreation center and transportation. No pets. 1 year lease. 3975 Idaho Street at University Avenue. John A. Reis and Co., Inc. 858-272-1348.

NORTH PARK. \$700 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. 1 bedroom duplex. Hardwood floors. No pets. at 3817 Villa Terrace. 619-299-8515.

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NORTH PARK/HILLCREST. \$1100. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Cat friendly. Custom design and paint. Parking, laundry. Gated. 3918 Mississippi Street. Call 858-751-6336. sunriseliving.com.

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NORTH PARK/UNIVERSITY Heights. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1250. New paint, blinds. Hardwood floors. Off-street parking. Laundry. Second floor. Common area barbecue. Storage available. Small pet OK. Terry, 619-778-2830.

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OCEAN BEACH. \$1285. 2 bedrooms, 2 bath apartment, month-to-month lease, parking included, laundry on site. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

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OCEAN BEACH. \$950. 1 bedroom, ground floor unit in gated complex. Steps to sand, upgraded unit. Front location with partial view. No pets. 1 year lease. 5058-1/2 Santa Monica Avenue. John A. Reis and Co., Inc. 858-272-1348.

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OCEANSIDE. \$1495. 2 bedroom 2 bath (dual masters) apartment. Fireplace, upgraded kitchen/baths, granite, Pergo, tile. Pool, spa, barbecue, laundry, gated. Cat OK. 760-439-5728. www.casavistaapartments.com.

OCEANSIDE. \$1150. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Back unit over garage. Tiled floors. Laundry. Garage. 1312 South Pacific Street #E and #F. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

OCEANSIDE. \$1300. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 1200 square feet. 1-car garage;

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San Diego Reader March 15, 2007 181



The Honest Guy

Within five minutes of meeting Stan (not his real name), I was head over heels for him. He was ten years my senior and had that confidence that can come with an age advantage and, as I later decided, a narcissistic personality disorder. The kind of confidence that was like a sucker punch to the face, blinding me to all his faults that were lurking in the periphery.

We met through online dating. Our first date was over coffee, and it went so well that we went right on to dinner. Throughout dinner he filled me with all the compliments that this simple girl from Iowa had always longed to hear: "You are such a beautiful woman," "You're so smart...I'm not surprised you were an honor student," "I love how you hold your neck at an angle when you laugh like that." Before we parted, he wrapped his arm around my waist and gave me a kiss that made my feet melt. I stumbled back to my car. I was smitten.

From the second date to the second month of our relationship we had a passionate romance. I stayed in his house at least two

nights a week, sometimes three. Weekend mornings were long and lazy, days filled with fun and adventure and nights filled with passion. But my gut kept screaming at me about something, and I didn't know what it was until I asked him what he wanted out of life. That's when he laid it all out.

"I've got to be honest with you," he said. "If you think I'm ever going to marry you, I'm not. I know that you don't have a weight problem, but obesity runs in your family, and I wouldn't want that for my children. Also, your income level is not attractive at all. My ex-wife was making six figures, and I won't even consider marrying someone who doesn't make at least that much."

Instead of laughing in his face and leaving without looking back, I

asked if he was breaking up with me. "No, we can still hang out until I find someone else." The worst part is, I stayed with this man for a while longer. For the next six weeks I cried every night and pretended every day at work that I wasn't in a major depression. I would see him on occasion, and he would tell me about the other women he was dating. I figured he wasn't being dishonest so it didn't really matter that he was seeing other people — as if honesty made this situation okay.

Eventually he found a girl who wore a size six, made six figures, and enjoyed hearing him talk about himself as much as I did in the beginning. It took months for the sting of it all to leave me. In the end, I wasn't mad at him. I was mad at myself. I let him treat me that

way. I was so desperate for affection and human interaction that I let him treat me like crap just to get some semblance of either. With that realization, I made a promise to myself to never allow someone to treat me like that again. That was three years ago, and I've kept my promise.

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POINT LOMA. \$100+ move-in special! Newly renovated 1 bedroom. Parking, laundry. No pets. \$1025. Call 619-523-3969.

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POINT LOMA. \$875. Large 1 bedroom upstairs apartment, laundry, off-street parking. Available now. 2120 Worden Street. Call 619-222-6786.

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POINT LOMA. \$1250. 2 bedroom, large unit in small 5 unit complex. Front ground floor unit. Near Marinas, downtown and airport. Large eat-in kitchen in the village. 3114-1/2 Dickens at Locust Street. No pets. 1 year lease. John A. Reis and Co., Inc. 858-272-1348.

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LEAD STORY

— Mount Diablo High School (Concord, Calif.) students met in racial groups in February to prepare for upcoming statewide tests, to motivate them to improve their race’s “team” score from the year before. Principal Bev Hansen defended the strategy of dividing whites, blacks, Hispanics, and Asians, pointing out both its previous successes (increases of from 46 points for whites to 80 points for Hispanics) and its ability to motivate by positive ethnicity (rather than allowing intergroup taunting over scores to fester).

Leading Economic Indicators

— The Money Drop: Germany saw a birth boom during the first days of the new year, attributed mainly to the government’s child-bearing incentives (bonuses of up to the equivalent of \$33,000, leading mothers to attempt to delay December delivery until the law kicked in on Jan. 1). Meanwhile, in the United States, according to a December *New York Times* feature, an estimated 6 percent of the annual 70,000 babies scheduled to be born the first week of January were once again induced early, for late-December delivery, to take advantage of tax breaks worth at least \$4000 per child.

— On Feb. 10, at the luxurious Lebua hotel in Bangkok, organizers brought in six master chefs from around the world to prepare the most exquisite dinner they could imagine for the 40 specially invited international gourmets, who dropped in to dine for \$25,000 a person. Among the fare: Perigord truffles, “tartare of Kobe beef with imperial Beluga caviar and Belon oysters,” crème brûlée of foie gras and ten of the best wines of the 20th Century, including 1961 Château Palmer.

— Zimbabwe’s hyperinflation rate reached 1593 percent in January (the dollars that bought a brick house with pool and tennis court in 1990 would today buy a single brick), but that did not stop President Robert Mugabe from celebrating his 83rd birthday on Feb. 24 at a party estimated to cost the equivalent of about \$1.2 million. In early February, the government attempted to

halt inflation by passing a law declaring it illegal.

Science on the Cutting Edge

— An international team of biblical scholars learned recently that the sect thought to have been responsible for the Dead Sea Scrolls (the Essenes) became extinct because they were too modest about their toilet habits. According to a November report in London’s *Independent*, the researchers found evidence of heavy fecal bacteria in a secluded area (which was also a graveyard) and deduced from the scrolls that the Essenes rejected defecating in the open (which would have allowed sunlight to kill the bacteria).

— A January National Geographic TV special revisited an underreported Cold War struggle between Soviet and U.S. scientists rushing to perform head transplants. Russian Vladimir Demikhov, working in secret in the 1950s, grafted the head and upper body of a puppy onto the neck of a large mastiff (and both reportedly bemusedly tolerated the other for the four days that the “puppy” lived). American Robert White of Cleveland, Ohio, reportedly transplanted a dog’s brain into another dog’s neck and noted which characteristics transferred with the brain (until the dog died days afterward). When word got out about White’s 1970 rhesus monkey head transplant, the public outcry forced his lab to close.

Sweet Justice!

— The Royal Bank of Scotland, like other banks in the U.K., is widely criticized for charging onerous fees to customers who make mistakes on their account, such as overdrafts or late payments (levying charges of many times the actual costs of handling the mistakes). Customer Declan Purcell of East London sued the bank over the excessive fees and won a default judgment when the bank failed to respond. Armed with a court order entitling him to the equivalent of \$6600, Purcell led bailiffs into a Royal Bank branch lobby in January to seize four computers, two fax machines, and cash.

— Denver International Airport was reputed to

be an “all-weather” facility that would operate seamlessly in a blizzard, but when it failed during the January snowstorms (closed for 45 hours), an embarrassed airport spokesman, Chuck Cannon, admitted he’d like “to choke the person who came up with [the ‘all-weather’] term.” The Associated Press then discovered a 1992 interview with Chuck Cannon, bragging to reporters about his new “all-weather” airport.

Civilization in Decline

— Tennessee’s death-row-execution procedures came under attack in February when critics realized they were a hodgepodge of lethal-injection rules intermingled with old electric-chair protocol. Lethal injection now requires shaving an inmate’s head and having a fire extinguisher ready. ... Also in February, at a hearing investigating Florida’s botched December execution of Angel Diaz, a special commission concluded that the executioner should have rechecked whether the IV line was in the vein, instead of (as he did) continuing to push the resisting chemicals into the arm. The only qualification to be appointed a Florida executioner is that one be at least 18 years old.

Bright People, Dark Sides

— Dr. Hugh Tilson, 67, an award-winning public-health researcher at the University of North Carolina, was arrested in January in a men’s room at the Atlanta airport and charged with public indecency. ... Also in January, Lord Justice Richards, 56 (and one of Britain’s most senior judges), was arrested for allegedly exposing himself to a woman on a train. ... And in February, William French Anderson, a world-renowned geneticist, 70 (and runner-up as *Time* magazine Man of the Year in 1995), was sentenced in Los Angeles to 14 years in prison for molesting an employee’s daughter for four years beginning at age ten. Said Anderson, according to court records, “Something in me was just evil.”

Least Competent Criminals

— (1) Clenzo Thompson, 45, was arrested in New York City in January after allegedly rob-

bing the same Commerce Bank branch twice in three days. The first robbery ended when the chemical dye in the money bag exploded and spooked him, and he apparently failed to learn from that, in that the second robbery’s money bag also exploded. Three years earlier, Thompson had been caught after a bank robbery because he dropped his ID on the bank floor. (2) Michael J. DeWitt, 39, was arrested for DUI in Fort Wayne, Ind., in February after he drove erratically into the parking lot of an Indiana State Police station early in the morning and told officers that he was there “to get a room.” (A Holiday Inn was next door.) Police later said they matched DeWitt’s Hummer to the vehicle that minutes earlier had collided with a car nearby and left the scene.

Recurring Themes

— The U.S. Navy announced in February that it is planning to use 30 trained dolphins and sea lions for port security in Puget Sound near Seattle. Dolphins’ sonar ability makes them excellent at detecting swimmers, and they are being trained to signal via a beacon when encountering one. According to an Associated Press dispatch, sea lions can carry special cuffs in their mouths and are being trained to clamp the cuff around a swimmer’s leg.

Undignified Deaths

— (1) A 47-year-old registered sex offender died of a heart attack in Palm Beach County, Fla., in January; his body was found, nude, in front of his home computer on which he had been viewing pornography. (2) Another 47-year-old man was killed late at night, in February in Belle River, Ontario, when his snowmobile collided with a tree stump embedded in Lake St. Clair; the man had been waging a notorious, three-year campaign to have the stump removed from the lake because of the danger it posed to nighttime snowmobilers.

Send your *Weird News* to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com

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SCRIPPS RANCH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse. 2-car garage! Large eat-in kitchen, new paint/carpet/tile. All appliances. Washer/dryer. \$1750. Gina. 619-370-2921.

SCRIPPS RANCH, \$1400/month plus deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. New carpet, fireplace, washer/dryer, 2-car

garage. Pool, jacuzzi. Available now. No pets. Sean, 858-736-6289.

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SHERMAN HEIGHTS. \$550. Studio. \$300 deposit. 3 minutes to Petco Park and downtown. Easy access to bus, trolley. No pets. 2419 Market Street. 619-584-5900.

SHERMAN HEIGHTS. 532 21st Street #6. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$670. Free utilities! Section 8 OK, \$395 deposit. vr@ajprop.

com. A&J Property Management, 619-540-3009.

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SOLANA BEACH. Move-in special! \$1025. Deposit \$199. \$300 off first month's rent! OAC. Senior community gated, 55+ in beautiful Solana Beach. West of I-5. Courtyard setting. Close to shopping, bus routes. Minutes from Del Mar Fair grounds and ocean. Laundry, elevator, club house

with large screen TV. Computer on-line. No pets. 858-755-5995.

SOLANA BEACH. \$1200. Attached guest suite-1 bedroom, 1 bath. Whitewater ocean view! Totally furnished. Kitchenette. Nonsmoking/pets. Available now. Louise Abbott Real Estate, 858-755-8046.

SOLANA BEACH. \$1990. 2 bedrooms (each with balcony), plus loft, 1.5 bath, 2-story duplex, fireplace, large enclosed yard, 2-car garage, quiet cul-de-sac near beach. 858-481-4010.

SOUTH PARK. \$850. Elegant studio, views. French doors, marble countertops, tile/carpet/separate rooms, Wilding walled, new stove, microwave, refrigerator. Koi pond. Serenity, privacy. 858-603-8828.

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TALMADGE/KENSINGTON. Charming 2 bedroom, 2 bath cottage with den, \$1395. Washer/dryer. Fully equipped kitchen. Access to pool/fitness. Cats/small dogs OK. 619-282-1191.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Bright and airy upstairs unit. Laundry onsite. Available now. Cats OK. 4569-A North Street. www.cethron.com, 619-295-1100.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1100. Off-street parking. Small dog OK. 4522 Utah Street. 619-873-0222.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1125. Move-In Special! 1 bedroom apartment with 1-car garage. Hardwood floors. Eat-in kitchen with ceramic tile. Rear unit over garage. 4517 Georgia Street. By appointment, Broker, 619-548-4599.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$925. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 1/2 off first month, OAC. On-site laundry. Near freeways. Sorry, no pets.

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Pull computer trouble codes and provide a written description.

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Restores headlight lens to near-new luster! Our 3-step process can remove the yellow, rock-chipped surface and restore the clear sheen that will help the nighttime vision that you once had.

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2 wheels. Includes front toe adjustment. Not valid at Encinitas location.

\$39⁹⁵

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Includes up to 5 qts. 10W-30 oil, new oil filter, and maintenance inspection.

\$13⁹⁵ Basic

Most vehicles

Oil Change

Includes up to 5 qts. 5W-30 or 5W-20 motor oil, top-off fluids (excludes brake fluid), and maintenance inspection.

\$19⁹⁵ Premium

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318-A N. El Camino Real

★ **Point Loma/Sports Arena • 619-226-7822**
3425 Midway Dr. (Behind Shell station)
Kearny Mesa • 858-569-1111
8027 Balboa Ave. (Between 163 & 805)

★ Open Sunday 9 am-3 pm
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5780 Autoport Mall (805 and Miramar Rd.)
858.558.8808 - Ask for Luis!
www.Transmission-Pros.com

4458-4464 Louisiana Street. Agent, 619-692-4121.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$825. Upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs unit. Light and bright, 4671 Utah Street. Available now. Call 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$825. Upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath unit in small complex. Laundry on-site. Walk to restaurants and shops. Available now. 4512 Georgia Street. No pets. Call 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$675. Small 1 bedroom cottage. Neutered indoor cat OK. 4482 Georgia Street, #7 at back of property. Good credit/references required. Agent, 619-585-7035.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upper unit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$925. Covered parking, laundry on site. Sorry, no pets. Available for viewing by appointment only. www.kandrpproperties.com. Call 858-490-1600 or 619-255-4944.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse, upstairs unit. Gated community, balcony, parking, fire-place, washer and dryer, vaulted ceilings, storage. Pet considered. 4525 Oregon Street #5. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1595-\$1695. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Upstairs/downstairs units available. Washer/dryer, central air/heat, fireplace, vaulted ceilings, great storage, new paint. 1 and 2-car garages. Units available, March. 4666 Utah. 619-683-9274.

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AMAZING! Room for everything! Almost 1 acre, newer home, 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Family room, fireplace, RV Parking. Call Agent Kelly, 619-562-6999. Priced \$599,000-\$620,000.

BANKER'S HILL, Quiet townhouse, 3 bedrooms, 2-1/2 bathrooms, 3 terraces. New kitchen. Views. Fireplace. Individual laundry. Near Balboa Park, restaurants, I-5/I-8/Highway 163. \$499,990/owner, mdarchives@hotmail.com.

CARLSBAD. 4 bedroom, 3 bath, foreclosure only \$290,000! Must sell fast! More homes available! For listings, 1-800-690-3990 xS150.-

CHULA VISTA, 2 bedroom 1 bath mobile home, senior park. 1000 square feet. All appliances included. Home taxes under \$40/year, \$600/space rent month. \$110,000/owner, 619-216-3897.

CHULA VISTA 4 bedroom, 2 bath, top of the hill. Ocean views. Private drive. 2-car garage with workroom. Near Hilltop High School. \$459,000. 858-270-2822.

CITY HEIGHTS. 16 units. Condo conversion. 1 and 2 bedroom, starting high \$150,000. Call Top Notch 619-807-0327.

CITY HEIGHTS FIXER. Attention: first-time buyers! Easy financing available. Modern 3 bedroom house. 2-car garage. Great price, way under market value. Se habla espanol. Agent Jack, 619-962-8963.

CLAIREMONT, \$95,000 reduced! 5 bedroom 3 bath, 2000 square foot house. Mother/daughter or income \$850/month. 10,000 square foot flat lot. Cul-de-sac views. Flexible terms/financing, rent to own. \$569,000/owner. No agents please. 858-279-4487.

CLAIREMONT WEST, OPEN HOUSE. 3/24-25, Saturday-Sunday, noon-4pm. 4117 Caflur, 92117. Newly remodeled house, 3 bedroom, bonus room, pool, brand-new kitchen/landscaping. \$689,500. Agent/owner, 619-757-0603.

COLLEGE AREA. Beautiful home by owner. Appraised \$550,000, asking \$525,000. 3 bedroom, 2 bath large rooms, enclosed patio, large yard, new carpets, hardwood. 858-505-9227; 858-774-2419.

COLLEGE AREA. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house, close to SDSU. 1 bedroom rental in back. Detached garage. Large covered patio. By home owner and landlord! \$549,000/owner. 619-393-1992.

COLLEGE AREA. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house, close to SDSU. 1 bedroom rental in back. Detached garage. Large covered patio. By home owner and landlord! \$539,900/owner. 619-932-1992.

COLLEGE AREA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car-garage house, fireplace, washer/dryer. Large fenced yard, view, quiet neighborhood, excellent condition. \$450,000. By owner, 619-238-8707.

COUNTRY LIVING, YET Convenient to all! Alpine, CA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Over 1/2 acre. Gardener's paradise. New granite counters, views of mountains and hills. Enormous enclosed sunroom. \$625,000-\$650,000. Call agent, 619-977-4777.

EL CAJON, Mobile home senior park 55+., \$25,000/best/owner. 2 bedroom 1 bath. Refurbished. Carport. Air conditioning, washer/dryer in unit. Low rent. Death forces sale. 858-581-9151.

EL CAJON. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2050' square home, 3-car garage, RV parking. Gated courtyard. Circular driveway. \$629,000. RE/MAX, Bill Howland, 619-980-2455.

ESCONDIDO. 3 bedroom, 2 bath on quiet cul-de-sac. Large 10,000 square foot lot close to Orange Glen High School. 2-car garage. \$445,000. Call 858-270-2822.

ESCONDIDO. Instant equity. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 1800 square feet, 2 story, built 1990. Cul-de-sac. \$450,000. Owner, Brian, weekdays, 8am-6pm, 858-831-2138; after 6pm/weekends, 858-405-0441.

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BACK WHEN

In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

The taste and price — and the *romance* — of kiwis have generated one of the biggest agricultural fads to strike California in years, with San Diego County moving into the forefront.

[Tom] Round and his wife sank their savings into expanding their half-acre of Paradise Mountain to seven-and-a-half acres, on which they planted three acres of kiwifruit back in 1975.

Janice Weem discusses her plants. “We knew it was hard to grow, but I don’t think we realized just *how* hard it would be to do it yourself.”

—“**JUICY FRUIT**,” Jeannette De Wyze, March 17, 1977

Twenty-Five Years Ago

Newsline publisher Larry Remer last week informed his readers that “due to the exigencies of the present economy,” the formerly free weekly paper will now cost twenty-five cents per copy. Those who’ve followed *Newsline*’s tortuous financial plight say Remer should have blamed the “exigencies of the real estate market,” since the left-wing paper’s financial angel, developer Harvey Furgatch, makes his millions building houses.

—**THE INSIDE STORY**, Paul Krueger, March 18, 1982

Twenty Years Ago

For the last two weeks, I have had to bite my tongue as I read letters commenting on “A Deer in the Crosshairs.” The letters all came from basically the same angle. “That savage murderer! How could he kill such a harmless, beautiful animal in cold blood!” Their objections are so strong for the killing of one deer, yet thousands of cattle (harmless and more sedentary than deer) are slaughtered daily to provide meat for omnivorous Americans.

—LETTERS: “**MEAT FOR THOUGHT**,” Robert Fairfax, March 19, 1987

Fifteen Years Ago

I don’t know why we expanded like this. I guess I’m a damn fool and like to work and create things — things that made the community. We had to have jobs, industry. San Diego, as a city, it wasn’t like Pittsburgh and Pittsburgh Steel. In the early days, the only thing we really had here was seafood and the Navy. The rest of it had to be hustled from the outside.

For instance, U.S. National Bank financed Ryan Aeronautical company. When Ryan wound up their training of aviators after the war, they didn’t know what the hell to do,

so they started making metal caskets. Then they bought a company called Navion that made small planes. We made a hell of a big loan to them to buy that company.

Ryan Aeronautical never would have made it except for our little bank. We started loaning to Ryan when he had nothing but a pair of pliers in his pocket.

—“**MR. SAN DIEGO**,” C. Arnholt Smith with Neal Matthews and Linda Nevin, March 19, 1992

Ten Years Ago

Three months after he cohosted a “birthday party” fundraiser for City Councilwoman Valerie Stallings’s 1998 reelection campaign, veteran San Diego concert promoter Bill Silva has been given what critics are calling a sweetheart deal to produce rock shows on city-owned land in Mission Bay Park.

“Bill Silva has obviously negotiated a great deal for his company,” says David Swift, San Diego area manager for Avalon Attractions, the Los Angeles-based concert-promoting company that is Silva’s chief rival in the local market.

—CITY LIGHTS: “**WE TRY TO CREATE A HEALTHY BUSINESS CLIMATE**,” Thomas K. Arnold, March 13, 1997



San Diego Reader, March 17, 1977

Five Years Ago

Jailed mob boss John Gotti’s daughter Victoria speaks out about the Danielle Van Dam murder case in a recent column for the *New York Post*: “What puzzles me as a mom is how could the child’s disappearance not have been discovered until the following morning. When I return home after any night out, even before I go into my own room to kick off those ankle-breaking strappy pumps I wear, I hobble into each child’s room and conduct what I call a ‘bed check.’”

—CITY LIGHTS: “**GODMOTHER**,” Matt Potter, March 14, 2002

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LA MESA. \$950,000. 4 bedroom, 3-1/2 bath home, 3987 square feet with bonus room. Incredible views! Spacious/elegant. Exceptional craftsmanship. Call Ted for appointment, 619-300-2358.

MIRA MESA. \$315,000-\$350,000. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse with good size yard. Best buy. Call Top Notch 619-807-0327.

MIRA MESA. Large home, quiet neighborhood. 5 bedroom, 3 bath, 2255 square feet. Completely remodeled. \$598,000. Open house: Sunday, 1-4pm, 8646 Lynx Road. owners.com/AWT2027.

PEORIA, ARIZONA. Great view. Tile, stucco, 1350 square feet, 2-car garage, 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, high ceilings, breakfast bar, big corner lot. \$273,500-\$279,500. 623-444-8170.

RAMONA. 2 adjoining lots, 19.82 acres. South lot 4 bedroom, 2.75 bath,

\$859,900/owner. North lot, newer manufactured home, \$659,900/owner. \$1,299,000/all. Between Ramona/Santa Ysabel. 817-808-8000.

REPO/FIXER. 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2-car garage, 1479 square-feet, built in 1984. 10% under market. As is, my loss is your gain, lease option? \$399,000, 295 Winewood, San Diego 92114. Owner/broker, 858-277-1232.

ROSARITO, BAJA MEXICO, 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom beach home. 24/7 security. Gated community. Mobile. Top condition. Fireplace, barbecue, patio, 1 block beach, \$45,000/best/owner, 619-341-3120.

SANTEE DOUBLEWIDE. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Lovely, 3 parking spaces, 2 sheds, full awnings, roof-lifetime warranty. Space rent, \$307/month. \$84,800. Call Robert/Agent, 619-328-0844.

SANTEE. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 2-car garage, jacuzzi, nice green lawn, up-

graded windows, and more. \$385,000. By owner, 619-890-9117.

SANTEE. 4 bedroom. Family room. Updated kitchen, new stove, dishwasher, microwave. Central air/heat, covered patio, 2-car garage. \$515,000. RE/MAX, Bill Howland, 619-980-2455.

SERRA MESA, 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath remodeled townhouse. Let’s make a deal before I go into foreclosure! Short sale! 7716 Nightingale Way. \$445,000/owner. 714-420-8200, www.nightingaleway.com.

SOMETHING SPECIAL! Mint 3 bedroom, 2 bath Santee house. California Room in-ground spa, fountain, gorgeous pool, large lot. Granite counters, fireplace. \$465,000. No agents. Agent, Kelly, 619-562-6999.

TALMADGE. Beautiful bungalow on canyon rim on tree-lined street. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, large refurbished kitchen, sky-lit bath, oak hardwood floors, built-ins, \$655,000. 619-295-5797.

TEMECULA. 2-3 bedroom home. Great neighborhood. Little or money down. Private. Close to all. Seller will help with closing costs. Why delay? Agent, 951-813-9791.

VISTA, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1/3 acre. Remodeled tile and crown moulding throughout, beautiful quiet Vista location, \$478,000/owner, 760-945-1269.

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ing! Buyers' Specialist! www.ElizabethSellsSanDiego.com. 619-788-2720.

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BEGINNING INVESTORS. 4 units in Fallbrook. Live in front unit and rent out 3, or rent all 4 units. Located in the center Fallbrook Village and priced less than average home. \$575,000. Call agent, 619-977-4777.

CARMEL VALLEY. Foreclosure, 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Move-in ready. Granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, washer/dryer, community

pool/tennis. \$364,900. Negotiate offer. Agent, 619-392-3801.

DEL MAR. Lovely, sunny 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.

DOWNTOWN. Views of the city from 11th floor unit with floor to ceiling windows, granite, stainless! \$389,000-\$415,000. 425 West Beech Street #1151. Ascent, Cheryl, 858-229-2843.

HILLCREST Condo only \$195K, North Park fixer \$439K and Mission Hills Spanish beauty \$695K. Income property under \$400,000. www.ListWithTheBest.com. Stephanie Murphy, 619-246-8230.

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LA JOLLA. Sunny, lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.

LAKESIDE. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, granite countertops, marble floors, new appliances, carpet, air conditioning, pool, balcony, storage, garage. Fishing, horses, hiking, lake. \$219,000. higarden@aol.com, 619-944-6245.

LEMON GROVE. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, rare opportunity, \$359,000. 2nd floor unit with high ceilings, 1088 square feet, 3 reserved parking spots, granite, fitness. 619-339-2018.

LITTLY ITALY/DOWNTOWN. Large 1 bedroom loft. Very quiet. Huge kitchen, granite, stainless appliances. Workout room, jacuzzi, rooftop deck, view. \$679,900. Mark Kaye, Broker, 858-748-5500.

MISSION VALLEY, SOUTH. 1 bedroom. \$215,000/owner. Balcony, air conditioning, some upgrades. Excellent location. Easy access to all freeways. Excellent amenities in complex. Garage parking. 619-291-5293.

POWAY. \$458,000-\$480,000. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse. Quiet, convenient to all. New paint, new carpet. Large yard. Move-in ready! Details, call Top Notch Realty, 858-715-0688.

RANCHO BERNARDO. Nice 2 bedroom 2 bath condo. Private. Golf view. Upgrades. \$379,000, owner to owner. Hablo Espanol. 858-335-5401.

UTC AREA. Sunny, lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.

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CASH IN 3 DAYS! We buy houses! Relocating? Divorce? Foreclosure? Bankruptcy? Selling? No problem too big! Referrals with closing-\$500 cash bonus! Call anytime! 619-825-9341.

COMMERCIAL LOTS (TWO). Sports Arena area. Retail, commercial, mixed use. Live/Work. Selling both: \$1,098,000. Separately: 3939 Western, \$499,000; 3945 Western, \$599,000. Bob Devlin, 619-549-2023.

EL CAJON. Clean 14x44' mobile home, 2004. Need to sell fast. Owner considering financing. Corner lot. Vaulted ceiling, skylight. \$54,950. Private parking. 619-444-7059 or 619-618-9442.

ENSENADA/BAJA CALIFORNIA, 3 acres in wine country Guadalupe Valley, 011-52-646-553109.

ESCONDIDO. Virtual giveaway! 1999 Palm Harbor mobile home in family park. Great floorplan. Oversized family room, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, kitchen with expanded cabinetry. Enjoy the sacrifice price for one very fine home. \$85,000. Dorothy, Anthony Real Estate, 760-743-0057 x25.

FIXERS AND FORECLOSURES. afreefixerslist.com. afree4closureslist.com. firsttimehousebuyer.net. This is a free service. 619-871-7867, agent.

FOR SALE BY OWNER. 4-units with large owner's unit. 11 units with large 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Trade for your home/units. Owner/agent: Lisa, 760-505-3141.

FORECLOSURES AND DEFAULTS. Huge increase in daily volume! Daily reports. 30-50 new properties daily throughout San Diego County. All loans

researched. Call 800-664-2567; www.CountyRecordsResearch.com.

FORECLOSURES/SHORT SALES. Financing available. Great deals! Pre-foreclosure homes and condos for sale. Buy them before the bank does! Call Agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.

GLEN ABBEY MEMORIAL Park cemetery plots, \$2000 in block 5. \$3500 in block 41. Call 619-583-5189 or 619-203-9465.

HOTEL OWNER WANTS TO BUY property anywhere. Small houses, big houses, condos, apartments, commercial, vacant land. Call 619-204-0610.

JAMUL. 40 acres, 20 A zoning, 2 old goldmines surrounded by BLM land. 2/3 of 1 hilltop with 50-degree slope. Very secluded. \$200,000/best. 702-631-3995.

MOBILE HOME. Own your own land and mobile home, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Senior community. HOA: \$130. Near grocery store, drug store, McDonalds, more. 760-295-3514.

MOUNTAIN HOME, ARKANSAS. Two properties, 17.5 acres commercial land, 280 acres pristine woodlands with creek. For sale by owner 870-425-2425, mbacheri@yahoo.com, hsalz@qwest.net.

STOP FORECLOSURE NOW! www.stopforeclosurepredators.com or call 866-428-9249 or 619-564-8785. Selling may not be your only option! No equity, no problem-we can help.

WE BUY HOUSES FAST! Local investor can lease, take over your payments or pay cash at fair market value. 24 hour toll free number, 877-800-5593.

WE BUY HOUSES! Any condition, any situation. No fees, fair market value. 760-730-9850, Agent/contractor.

ZERO DOWN ALL AREAS or cash out for any reason. Credit scores to 300. Foreclo-

sure, bankruptcy OK. No out-of-pocket costs. Loans available. Ron, 408-461-0406. www.wenecalloanow.com.

1% MORTGAGE PAYMENT Wow! Lower your mortgage payments. Consolidate debt. Cut payments by 70%! Everyone approved! Honest financial expert Robert, 619-980-9509. Call me now. www.clearmybills.com.

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POST FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. See thousands of classified ads not printed here!

AIRLINE TICKET, roundtrip anywhere Southwest flies, last minute reservations OK, some blackout days, \$340. Andy, 858-518-3582.

OPERA TICKETS, half price, 2 tickets (\$304) for \$152. Il Trovatore, Friday, March 30, 8pm. Great seats. 858-755-5553.

SPORTS

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by calling 619-235-8200.

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BACKPACKING, Golite Hex 3/nest ultralight tent, \$150. Big Agnes down bag, 15 degree, \$75. Both excellent, more stuff. 619-415-3153.

SMOG CHECK

\$15⁹⁵

Free retest when we do repair.
Plus \$8.25 certificate and \$1.50 transfer fee.
Vans & heavy-duty trucks extra. Cash only.
Must present DMV renewal notice.

*All prices plus tax. With this ad. Exp. 4/16/07.

OIL CHANGE \$19.95*

Most cars. Includes up to 5 qts. and new filter. Cash only.

BASIC TUNE-UP:

4-CYL. \$25/6-CYL. \$35/8-CYL. \$45*

Includes spark plugs. Additional parts extra. Most cars.

TIMING BELT SPECIAL \$95*

Includes parts & labor. Most 4-cyl. cars.

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Front & rear. Turn rotors, drums, new pads, lining. Most cars, 4WD extra.

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Tint, Alarm or CD Player

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*Tint includes back 3 windows. Most cars. Cannot be combined with other offers.

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Car Audio, Video, Security and Graphics Specialists

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NOW HIRING ELECTRONIC & TINT SPECIALISTS

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Starting at

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\$80/hr. Labor rate.

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Factory Scheduled Service

•15K **\$59⁹⁵** •30K **\$99⁹⁵** •60K/90K **\$139⁹⁵**

15K or 30K may not require all services or parts listed.

- Install new spark plugs
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- Check radiator & hoses
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- Road-test vehicle

Premium plugs extra. Most 4-cyl. cars and light trucks. Some trucks and 4x4s slightly higher.

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Most cars.

Plus parts. A/C extra. Most cars. All vehicles welcome. Call for a quote for your vehicle.

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AS LOW AS

PLUS LABOR

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(With appointment, please)

Computerized Alignment

\$39⁹⁵

Thrust Angle

4-Wheel Alignment \$49⁹⁵

Set toes to specs.

Most cars. Shims & cams extra.

Free brake inspection!

BRAKE SPECIAL \$79⁹⁵

From

Replace pads or shoes, inspect hardware, inspect rotor & drums, inspect hydraulics. Non-slip rotors, semi-metallic pads & premium pads extra. 4x4s, light trucks & 4-wheel disc extra. Lifetime warranty available.

Prices subject to change without notice. Must present coupon at time of service.

Monday-Friday 8 am-6 pm • Saturday 8 am-5 pm

Call for details. Please call for an appointment.



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(619) 223-2248

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(Midway & Rosecrans, next to Discount Tire)

Complete Axles

\$89⁹⁵

AS LOW AS

Lifetime warranty.

Plus labor. Most cars.

Maintenance Tune-up

\$34⁹⁵

AS LOW AS

Install plugs.

Premium plugs extra.

Call for details.

Most cars & light trucks.

New Clutch

\$239

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Rear-wheel drive.

Front-wheel drive,

light trucks & 4x4 extra.

Parts & Labor

Shock & Strut Special

BUY THREE, GET THE FOURTH

FREE

KYB MONROE

Attention: Honda/Acura Owners

For those of you not familiar with our automotive repair shop, we'd like to introduce ourselves. We are a family-owned and -operated general auto repair business. Our goal is simple: provide top-quality service and good, honest auto repair. We have no interest in selling you items/services you don't really need. We simply believe in telling you like it is and you tell us what you want done. Although our name suggests only Honda and Acura repairs, we are a general full-service repair shop specializing in Hondas and Acuras.

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 dealership, 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 Jerry in every way. Together, Jerry, Bryan and their team are a formidable group of technicians, ensuring that you walk away a satisfied customer. Some repair shops take shortcuts and often cover up problems with a temporary fix. We know...we fix their mistakes!

Bottom line: **We do it right the FIRST time! Our standard is to use factory parts and perform quality work...just at a more reasonable cost.**

We look forward to meeting you and having the opportunity to do business with you. Stop by and check us out, give us a call or an e-mail. Be sure and visit our website for valuable discount coupons.

30K • 60K • 90K FACTORY SERVICE

Includes:

- Change spark plugs
- Maintenance tune-up
- Drain & refill radiator
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- Inspect suspension
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- Check & tighten all belts
- Free 38-point inspection

\$189⁹⁵

4-cyl.

\$209.95

5-cyl. & 6-cyl.

Most cars. Platinum plugs extra. With coupon. Plus hazardous waste fee.

FREE Code Check

(Is your "check engine" light on?)

Alignment

\$59⁹⁵

4-wheel

7,500 • 22,500 • 37,500 FACTORY SERVICE

Includes:

- Oil change
- Tire rotation
- Factory-recommended inspections

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15K • 45K • 75K FACTORY SERVICE

Includes:

- Oil change
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A website worth looking at: **GreenlightHonda.com**



HELEN LEGGATT

Canterbury, New Zealand

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

I remember pressing my nose against the window as we flew over the Southern Alps of the South Island of New Zealand for the first time. “Ah, yes, this is just as I imagined it would be,” I sighed. But it didn’t *hit* me. Perhaps I had to land first.

The free-flowing, glistening, efficient airport bolstered my ideals, and as I flung open the doors and sucked in a lung of fresh New Zealand air, I expected it to hit me there and then. But it didn't.

The taxi took us through suburbs stuffed to the gills with mock-Tudor mansions and roman-pillared monstrosities. Confusion set in. What were humungous concrete castles with grass verges for gardens and six-foot fences for outlooks doing in NZ? Who dares to be so ostentatious in Godzone at the expense of infinite views and space? This isn't the 1950s British backwater we'd been dreaming of, where society was classless, driving courteous, and money an afterthought.

What hit me there and then wasn't the feeling of "arriving home" that we'd been so keen to experience and which others before us had described, but the realization that we'd been so focused on the similarities to the UK that we'd become oblivious to the differences, which are so much more evident once your feet hit the ground.

A few left and right turns through wide, tree-lined streets and suddenly “The Palms” spreads before us. It’s a concrete shopping mecca with more parking spaces than there are cars in the entire South Island. We pass it by, and the road follows

a river on which rowers and kayakers skim. Ah, yes, this is more like it.

A bridge and a blink later, and the scenery switches. Concrete houses give way to weather-beaten wooden shacks with corrugated iron fences and pit-bull-chewed sofas on the lawn. Something begins to hit me, but it isn't the feeling of home.

Onwards we drive, past the oxidation ponds and, finally, a chance to approve of the scenery once more. We marvel at the blueness of the sea, the architecture of the hill-hugging homes, and the beauty of the snow-tipped mountain ranges on the horizon. Something flutters in my chest. Not home. Not at all like home. New Zealand — that mix of history and future, wealth and make-do, sun and snow — is not little Britain. You know, it never did hit me. It never will. Thank goodness for that!

At the least, the language in New Zealand would be familiar, wouldn't it?

I'm a terrible mimic,
especially when inebriated.
I'm sure people think I am

taking the “pus.” They may well speak English here, but, as with American and Australian, it has its nuances and it’s worth swatting up on the local lingo.

Why? Because it's simply not clever to tell your new Kiwi mates that you'll be there rooting for the local rugby team on Sunday. Believe me, it doesn't mean you'll be faithfully support-



ing them.

And if someone says they come from “Waikikamukau,” you’ll look a bit of a “sook” if you ask for directions! Go on, repeat it back...slowly.

Unless you get it sussd
and know your ourmate
from your marmite, your
fields from your paddocks,

and you've discovered that a "pug" isn't a dog and a "pig" is for hanging clothes, you'll find yourself staring blankly at someone who, while seeming to speak English, appears to be making no sense at all.

Not content with mixing up the vowels, they're tripping us up by chopping up words — they go to watch a “fil-um” and get “show-un” to their seats.

But it doesn't take long before things are "sweet as" or your "me too" turns into "same." And the day you find yourself saying "yeah, no," you may as well go get your citizenship!

It's nice to know that the Kiwis also recognize the lan-

guage differences, and in true Kiwi inventiveness, can swing it to their advantage, as per the graffiti found in an NZ sports stadium: “New Zealand Sucks,” to which some bright spark had added “Australia Nil.”

*www.britintheboonies.
blogspot.com*

FANTASY BASEBALL CLUB. We need players. Fun, free tryouts March 20, 2007. 619-517-5781.

GOLF CLUBS. 2 drivers, 2 woods, 2 hybrids, 7 irons, 4 wedges, putter, bag, cart, practice devices, many balls, other items, great condition, \$250. 619-462-5522.

HOCKEY EQUIPMENT, CMM ice hockey skates, size 8 \$25. Koho goalie glove

\$40. Koho hockey gloves 13" \$20. Biltrite shin guards \$20. CMM helmet with cage \$30. 858-481-8360.

KAYAK SALE AND DEMO DAY. March 31st and April 1st. Try over 100 models from Necky, Ocean Kayak, Old Town, Wilderness Systems, Valley Canoe, Current Designs, Seda, all in one place. Save 5% to 30% on kayaks purchased at the event. \$15 event entry fee applied to purchase.

chase. Great deals on used kayaks and accessory packages, too. Visit www.southwestkayaksymposium.com or call Aqua Adventures Kayak Center, 619-523-9577 for details. Held at Campland On The Bay, 2211 Pacific Beach Drive.

KAYAK SALE. Used: sit-in models, \$195, Perception \$250, New Wave \$350, Chinook \$595, sit-on models, 8 foot 6" \$275, Surf \$350, Cobra Strike \$375, XL \$395.

Fish 'n' Dive \$595, Marauder \$595, Tandems \$595 to \$795. Paddles from \$39 to \$120. San Diego Sailing Center, 858-488-0651. For photos, visit www.kavaksforsale.com.

KAYAK SPECIALS! Start the year off right. Buy two Scramblers for \$999 or a Malibu-2 Tandem Kayak Package for only \$639! Allen's Kayaks, 858-488-5599, www.hikebikekayak.com.

KAYAK, 13'6", sit-in with all accessories, \$225. Several scuba tanks, \$20-\$65. Diving weights and belts, half cost (.75/lb). 858-272-3006.

KAYAK, Sea Eagle Inflatable, 2 person, popular 330. With pump, cushions, paddles. Pre-season special \$299/best. Call after 2pm. Evenings 858-274-5229.

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Complete Auto Repair, Body and Paint

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Oil Change	30/60/90/120K Miles	Axle	Brakes
\$10.99 Reg. \$14.99. Most cars. Plus \$2 oil disposal fee. 6-cyl. & more extra.	\$169 Most cars. Tune-up, transmission service, radiator service, safety inspection. Platinum plugs and timing belt extra.	\$95 Parts and labor. New or rebuilt. Most cars.	\$95 Parts and labor included for most cars. Machine rotors.
Minor Service	Buy 3 Struts, Get 1 Free	Transmission Flush	Transmission Rebuild
\$79 Most cars. Oil change, flush coolant, clean air filter, inspect fluids and belts, adjust brakes, and rotate tires.	Lifetime warranty Includes free alignment.	\$75 + \$2 disposal fee. 6-cyl. and more extra. Special fluids extra if needed.	\$100 Off Most cars. Plus labor.
Alignment 4-Wheel	Paint Special #1	Paint Special #2	Paint Special #3
\$39⁹⁹ Most cars.	\$299 1-Year Warranty Reg. \$399. Chemical wax removal, machine for adhesion sanding, precise masking, high solid paint, 2 coats. Trucks/vans higher. Limited colors.	\$399 2-Year Warranty Reg. \$499. Chemical wax removal, machine for adhesion sanding, precise masking, high solid paint, 2 coats. Trucks/vans higher. Limited colors.	\$599 4-Year Warranty. Reg. \$699. Chemical wax removal, machine for adhesion sanding, precise masking, high solid paint, 2 coats, integrated clear coats. Trucks/vans higher. Limited colors.

3 locations • Offers expire 4-5-07.

Midway
3112 Midway Drive
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**Kearny Villa
Auto Repair**
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Suite 107 • 858-693-4445

**Kearny Villa
Body, Paint & Collision**
9545 Kearny Villa Road
Suite 107 • 858-693-4445

M-F 8:00 am-7:00 pm, Sat. 8:00 am-5:00 pm, Sunday by appointment only



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Gas & Automotive

Lowest Prices...Highest Quality of Workmanship

3804 Ingraham St., San Diego (At La Playa by Crest Liquor) **858-866-0230**



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\$16⁷⁵

+ \$8.25 cert. & \$2 V.I.D.

Most vehicles.
Trucks, vans
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Limited time offer.
Must bring DMV
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Cooling System Special!

\$39⁹⁵

only
Includes: flush radiator and up to one gallon of coolant. Special coolant extra.
Most vehicles.

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from
Includes: throwout bearing, pilot bearing, bushings, disk, clutch cover.
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Service includes:

- Maintenance tune-up
- Oil & filter change
- Lube chassis
- Radiator coolant change
- Air filter replacement
- Fuel injector cleaning
- Check brakes & suspension

\$179⁹⁵

from 4-cyl.
Most vehicles to 1995.

Tune-ups

4-cyl. **\$29.95** • 6-cyl. **\$35.95**

8-cyl. **\$44.95**

Free Oil Change with Tune-up!

Includes: new plugs, inspection of ignition wires, distributor cap, rotor & carburetor. Oil filter extra.
Most vehicles to 1995. Platinum plugs extra.

Lube & Oil Filter

\$19⁹⁵

from
Up to 5 qts. oil.
Most vehicles to 1995.

ALL COUPONS LIMITED TIME OFFER.

LONGBOARD, Sector 9 Gravity #38-44-46, ridden once, still in box, no scratches, \$75. Bob, 760-270-4314.

MEN'S SLOW PITCH LEAGUE starts in March. Golden Hill Recreation Center. Monday and Wednesday evenings. Teams and individuals welcome. 619-417-5999.

SAILBOAT, CAL 25, Molded keel, reputable racer/cruiser, sleep 5, very good sails, 7.5HP Honda 4 strokes outboard, located at Fiddler's Cove military marina, \$2990/best, 619-200-2618.

SAILBOAT, Catalina 27, outboard, fiberglass, excellent boat, nice sailor, lots of extras, needs haul, engine work and TLC, only \$4950. 858-272-4866.

SAILBOATS, 26', all new sails, no hull damages, sleeps 5, trailer, 12' extra wide, no damage, \$495. Surfboard, \$75. 858-350-3727.

SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL. Team needs players. I have 4 teams, men's and co-ed. All positions. Fun league. 619-295-0385.

SNOWBOARD GEAR BLOWOUT SALE 50% off! Save on new snowboards from \$90. New boots from \$35. New bindings from \$40. Jackets start at \$55 and pants from \$30. Gloves from \$7.50. Trade in your used sports gear and save even more. Play It Again Sports, Pacific Beach, Tierrasanta, College Area. 858-490-0222, www.playitagainsd.com.

SOFTBALL LEAGUE starts in March, Imperial Beach Recreation Center. Monday-men's, Wednesday-coed. 619-628-1385.

SOFTBALL PLAYERS. Sponsor needs a team. Slow pitch. 619-517-5791.

SURFBOARD, 9 feet tri-fin, 5 years old, one ding professionally repaired, with boardbag and leash \$100. 858-359-0278.

SURFBOARDS, 7'6" Windansea, excellent condition \$325. 7'2" John swallow tail, good condition \$275/best. Jim 760-277-4090.

TENNIS LEAGUE. Intermediate to advanced skill levels. Join the year round fun at the #1 League in San Diego. Leagues starting now. 858-794-1800; www.tennisleague.com.

TREADMILL, Weslo Cadence, with pulse monitoring and adjustable speeds, barely used since purchased 3 years ago, \$130. sheryl_crowlan@hotmail.com or 619-297-5286.

VAVI brings fun to San Diego through over 25 different types of adult, coed sports leagues, fitness/dance classes and social events. Join over 15,000 members and see what is offered at: www.govavi.com.

Free Classifieds!

Post free online ads with photos at SanDiegoReader.com

WET SUIT BOOTIES, O'Neill, size 10, ankle high, 3MM. Perfect condition \$15. 858-486-0933.

WET SUIT FOR CATAMARAN, Men's O'Neill Farmer Johns, large, 3mm \$50, and men's breeze breaker jacket, a set, medium, 3MM \$25. Perfect condition. 858-486-0933.

WET SUIT, Kabbani, Spring, short sleeves and legs. Men's medium large 3MM. Perfect condition \$30. 858-486-0933.

WET SUIT, O'Neill semi-dry medium full length YKK rear shoulder zipper. O'Neill medium with hood full length 5/4 mil YKK rear shoulder zipper, \$40 each. 858-292-9597.

Photo

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NIKON CAMERA LENS, 18mm to 200mm, VR lens, \$900, Nikon 28mm to 135mm lens, \$250, Canon 35mm Elan 7E, nondigital camera with Tamron 28mm to 300mm and 28mm to 50mm lens included \$500. All items are new. 619-261-4876.

NIKON N2000, manual, 35mm camera, strap, 1.5 frame/second film advance, good condition, \$150. Nikkor 50mm 2.8f/stop lens, with infra-red filter, \$60. 858-578-8433.

PHOTO EMPORIUM. Buy, sell, trade. Saturday May 5, 9am to 1pm, Photo Plaza, Grossmont College. Prizes! Free admission. Tables \$20. Information and reservations. 619-644-7277.

PHOTOGRAPHY BOOKS, excellent condition, 16 Life Library of Photography. 10 Kodak Library of Creative Photography, 10 Peterson, \$50. Pacific Beach, 858-273-3801.

TELEPHOTO LENS, 650mm. Superb lens, ideal for sports/surf/wildlife photography. Travel case included. James 760-729-7170 or 619-733-0830.

Computers

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COMPUTER CIRCULATION CENTER. Buy, sell, trade. Laptops, PCs. Repairs, upgrades, virus/spyware removal. 24-48 hour turnaround. 9350 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, San Diego 92123. Call 858-573-0411.

COMPUTER HELP? One-on-one, fast, friendly, reliable. Repairs, upgrades, training, cable/DSL, networks. On-site or drop-off, \$35/hour. Also, music recording. 858-735-6680.

COMPUTER PRINTER, color, still in the box, never used, \$50. Computer Internet keyboard, still in box, never used, \$15. 619-466-8663.

COMPUTERS, 2 computer towers, for parts \$15/both. Monitor, 16 inch \$15. Printer \$10. Computer chair \$5. Keyboard \$4. Laptop carrier \$15. Escondido 760-685-8291.

E-MACHINE, monitor, keyboard, speakers, \$80. 619-276-1966.

LAPTOP BLOWOUT. FREE Diagnostic. Laptops starting from \$298 for ACER, Dell, IBM, Toshiba and more. Laptop/projector rentals-\$25/\$75. 3 locations! Going fast, call now: 1-888-861-8347.

PENTIUM COMPUTER, Windows XP, Internet ready, with color printer, \$100. 619-200-9368.

TOTAL COMPUTER. Commercial service. We do everything. Installation, set-up, training, repair, networking, telephones, wiring, upgrades. \$20 in-home diagnostics. 619-941-1809; cell, 619-607-0221.

Bicycles

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CANNONDALE PROPHET 1000 mountain bike, fantastic suspension and high quality components, approximately 200 miles off-road use, excellent condition, \$1850. 858-342-3393.

DIAMONDBACK mountain bike, aluminum frame, shocks on front fork and seatpost, dark green, rear rack, large handlebar ditty bag, excellent condition, \$250. 858-569-6947.

PARTS. Rolf Vector front wheel, \$35. New coda titanium seat, \$20. Aerolite pedals, \$35. Sakae 30.2mm seat post, \$15. New Continental road tire, \$12, more. 760-942-5692.

UNIQUE BIKE, Collectible Schwinn mountain/road bike, tall frame, 12 speed, modern features, \$99. Other bikes available. 619-298-8942.

Wanted / Trade

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BLOG DIEGO

TITLE: Dating Is Warfare | ADDRESS: <http://datingiswarfare.blogspot.com>
AUTHOR: Dating Trooper | FROM: Hillcrest | BLOGGING SINCE: February 2007
POST DATE: February 21, 2007 | POST TITLE: "Based on my tarot card reading..."

I think you will agree... That's not a promising way to begin any sentence. Despite this, I found myself starting a recent journal entry that way. (Yes, I save my true, inner ramblings, in an illegible, serial-killer scrawl, within the pages of my bedside journal.) I knew as I was writing it that it sounded ridiculous, but I also was aware that what was to follow these silly words was something powerful that could change my life: Based on my tarot card reading, I am going to have to get a lot more strategic in my dating life.

Duh. Any dumbass could have — or should have — thought of this already, *without* the aid of a tarot-card-reading friend. Nevertheless, that is how I apparently needed to figure it out.

I've been going at this husband-searching thing so half-assed. I've been focusing on what I *don't* have or am not getting instead of setting a goal for what I want and then strategizing how to get it.

So now comes the scariest question: "What the hell *do* I want?" Here is the list to date (no pun intended):

1. To find love and get married.

Note the "find love" part. I already know I won't settle for the "get married" part without the "find love" part.

2. Have at least one child.

3. The guy has to be at least my height (5'9"), and even that's pushing it.

OK. So these first three are absolutely nonnegotiable. The remainder of the list is where I'm struggling. How much of a deal breaker is the rest of it?

4. Must have a solid and proven group of friends. No loners.

5. Must have a college degree. Wildly successful businessmen with demonstrated ability to accomplish long-term goals are the only exception.

6. Financially stable. Note: not rich, but able to manage money and make more than me (that's not *that* hard, is it?). Home and/or condo ownership is a plus.

7. Likes animals and is not opposed to owning at least one cat and one dog, simultaneously.

8. Does not want more than two kids. That's my max (imposed by my clearly understood patience level and low tolerance for noise, and my biological clock).

9. Does not play video games on a regular basis. If he owns an Xbox or anything like it, he must demonstrate to me that he

only takes it out when one specific friend from back East comes to visit. (Extra points if he can't resist a stand-up Galaga machine, though).

10. Has *at least one* of the follow-



ing qualities (but by no means no more than two): organized, plans ahead, good time-manager, efficient, energetic, punctual.

11. As for religion, he can fall into *only* the following categories: Jewish (no more than Reformed, or maybe a very liberal Conservative); agnostic; spiritual but not religious; atheist but doesn't think people who do believe in God are

stupid; Christian by birth but doesn't really think Jesus Christ is the son of God; Buddhist; Taoist; any nature-based religion. Basically, if you think Jesus is the Savior or are a Mormon, Muslim, or Satanist, you're not my dream guy. But God bless ya.

There are still a few areas where I haven't made up my mind. These are:

(a) Ethnicity — I suppose *white-ish* (define that, someone?), but just because this would mean we might be able to avoid a lot of hot-button issues that are hard enough even when you aren't married to each other.

But would I turn down a great man because of it? No way. So I guess this is not a deal breaker but a yellow caution light.

(b) Owns a motorcycle and is very passionate about it. I wouldn't or couldn't make a guy give up one of his passions just because I can't handle the 99 percent certainty he'll get into an accident.

- (c) Wants to ultimately end up settled somewhere god-awful. Like Floribama.
- (d) Workaholic — When I'm with him, he's fantastic, and he earns a ton of money for us to potentially spend. But he never gets any time to spend it.
- (e) Has terrible fashion sense and is resistant to suggestions. At the very least he needs to have cool taste in shoes.
- (f) Has children. I think that is a BIG "it depends," but I might be able to qualify it by saying he can only have one kid, be on good terms with the ex, and be a good father. No "Oh, yeah, I have a kid, but he's hardly ever around, so don't worry about it." Yes, I have heard that before, and it is NOT a plus.
- (g) Family problems. Do I really have a right to go there? Well, I think I can qualify again here: has a messed up family and doesn't know it or doesn't know how to handle it.
- (h) Thinks therapy is absolutely a joke and huge waste of time and money.

So that's as far as I've gotten.

Perhaps you've learned surprising new things about me (like I'm a racist, materialistic, baby-hungry wench? Hopefully not). Or maybe you learned something about yourself. Or maybe you're just thanking God you are off the market and don't have to think about this shit anymore. Either way, I will try to consult this list along the way to make sure I'm staying true to my word.

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CHULA VISTA. Multifamily garage sale. Saturday/Sunday, 3/17-3/18, 8am. Electronics, furniture, treadmill, appliances, and more. 562 Vista Miranda (91910).

ENCINITAS. Construction garage sale. Saturday, 3/17. Hand tools, ladders, materials, 12" radial arm, 6" joiner. 2023 Shady Tree Lane.

LA JOLLA. Preuss school PTA annual rummage sale. March 24, 2007, 11am. Proceeds from sale benefit the Athletic Booster Club. 9500 Gilman Drive, 92093.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Yard sale. Saturday, 3/17, 7am-1pm. Household items, decorator pieces, clothing, electronics, cordless phone, coffeemaker, mattress, nightstands, books, door. 3423 North Mountain View Drive.

PACIFIC BEACH. Garage sale. Saturday, 3/24, 7-11am. Various items including color TV, computer, home photography lab, more. 812 Chalcedony Street.

SAN YSIDRO. Block party super garage sale. Come join the neighborhood. Satur-

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MICROWAVE, large Amana, programmable, with touchpad, instructions and cookbook included, \$65. 619-424-6647.

OVEN, built in, electric, black GE Truetemp, very clean, used only 3 years, remodeling, 30"Wx27"H, includes manual, \$150. Vista, 760-941-0541.

ROTISSERIE/ROASTER for countertop, holds 2 chickens or 1 large roast, barely used, \$80. 619-424-6647.

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VACUUM, Eureka Maxima, bagged, new, with box and warranty, model 4750A, up-right with 4 extra genuine Eureka bags (\$6.99 value), \$55. 619-801-0222.

WASHER/DRYER SETS: Both pieces from \$250. Refrigerator, 2 doors, \$145. 1-year warranty. Leon's Appliances Pick-Up and Delivery. Repairs. Can deliver free. 619-702-3270.

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HITACHI 27" TV, First \$50 takes it. Needs to be used with a cable box or DVD tuner with AV inputs/outputs. Erik, 619-890-5880.

HOME THEATER RECEIVER, Sherwood Newcastle 5.1 Dolby/DTS 100W/channel, phono input, universal remote, excellent condition, \$175. 858-274-6785.

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COUCH, Ashley, 4 months old, includes large pillows. Cost \$525, asking \$175/best. Pacific Beach, Cedar Shores apartments. Call for apartment number, 858-273-7211.

CREDENZA, vintage storage piece, honey toned wood, 31"Hx36"Lx18"D, 2 shelves, \$100. 619-424-6647.

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SOFA SLEEPER, pine large desk/bookcase, excellent condition, loose cushion, gray tan color, queen size, \$100. Desk, Mexican style, 3 drawers on top, \$100. 619-501-2968.

SOFA SLEEPER, Lane, excellent condition, 4 years old, innerspring mattress, includes pillow. \$250/best. 760-747-8750.

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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BACKPACK, "Lowe" contour 4 in., frame green 5500 cubic inches. \$220 new, like new selling for \$75. 619-447-4117.

BEDS A PILLOWTOP MATTRESS Box Set. New in plastic with warranty. Queen \$169. King \$239. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.

BEDSPREAD, hand crocheted, queen, 4" squares with classic white with pink rose in center, over 40 years old, never used, collector's item, \$499. Simon, 619-447-5991.

BOOKSTORE CREDIT Of \$150 Hillcrest area. Good for all used books. 25% off new books. Sell \$80, credit goes in your name. 619-295-2551.

BURIAL PLOT, Double depth, at beautiful Glenn Abbey Memorial Park in Bonita. Appraised at \$8100. Will sacrifice for \$6000/best. Leave message, will return calls, 619-253-0556.

CANOPY, 12x10, never been taken out of the box, \$50. Lakeside area, 619-977-9044.

CARPENTRY TOOLS. Sanders, drills, nail guns, plate joiner, and templates. Quality tools. 760-941-9371.

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CEMENT BENCH, \$79. Grape vine design. 760-787-9392.

CHAFING DISH, large, silver plated and refurbished at a cost of \$100. Unusually ornate with lion's head and feet, gorgeous, \$450. Jane, 858-349-7614.

CRAFTSMAN TOOL SET. (Including 3 box rollaway) includes all tools for brakes, electrical, engine, body entire set unused. Receipts for \$11,000. Accepting \$5995. Call 619-934-7724.

DOG COLLAR, bark control, cost \$70, only \$35. Pasta maker, electric, 24 dies, never used, \$35. Vintage senior jacket, 1955, from St. Augustine, \$50. 619-282-9581.

DRILL PRESS, Craftsman, \$250. 619-424-6647.

FARMERS ALMANACS, 1809-2007. 89 almanacs, each sealed in a pvc-free sleeve. Sold as a total collection. \$220. 858-273-2165.

FLAG POLE, white, 21'H, 2-3/8" diameter, galvanized, new with all accessories, except flag, \$230 installed. Steve, 858-279-0492.

FOLDABLE TRAILER, 4x8 feet, with plywood deck. 12" wheels. Spare included. Same trailer sells as kit at Harbor Freight for \$250. Mine assembled \$300.

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FULL PACKAGE CEMETERY Plot for sale. 619-466-5326.

GLASS SHOWER DOORS with chrome trim and frame, glass is obscured, 1/4" thick, excellent condition. \$150. 619-426-9319.

GOOD PRICES, Men's figure skates 11-2/3. Leather jacket, ladies' large. Derby hat. Microwave oven large, movie memorabilia. Aluminum walker. Various magazines. Cowboy boots. 619-420-1028.

JVC SVHS VCR, HRS8000OU, remote manual \$100. Canton speakers, 40hm, small, German made, \$50. 8 foot light fixture for 4 tubes \$25. Cordless phones \$5. 8am-9pm 619-291-0830.

MINERAL COLLECTION. Cabs, slabs, cutting rough, crystals. Knife collection, old Kershaws, Shrade IXLs, Henckels, others. Maui Jim sunglasses, like new, very high quality, \$60. 619-260-8482.

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MOVING SALE, Dresser/night stand has 2 deep drawers \$15. Vacuum upright bagless \$15. Sony TV \$15. 2 wrought iron end tables \$25. 760-685-8291.

MOVING SALE. Refrigerator, washer/dryer, stove, office, dishwasher, microwave, TVs/stands, VCR, stereo/speakers, couch, recliners, lamps, beds, bookcases, dinette/chairs, games, dresser, neon signs. 619-670-7821.

MOVING SALE. Vacuum, Singer 7.5 Poweramp, \$35. Curl bar with 110lbs., \$25. Dartboard, \$5. Bamboo fencing, 30', \$10. Chairs, \$5 each. 619-303-9279.

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ON HIS 35TH BIRTHDAY, MY BUDDY MIKE WANTED to “lift weights, cook meat, drink beer, and watch the Ultimate Fighting Championship.”

Oh, thank God, I told him. For a month, I'd been art sissying around town. I needed a break from pinching tiny clear plastic cups of wine and sitting through avant-garde, absurdist, conceptual performances where naked people dressed only in bear masks attempted unsuccessfully to make toast. A day of cooking, drinking, and pushing iron around a garage (you know, for fun) would provide escape like a day at a spa.

When we finish lifting and straighten up Mike's gym, we hobble to the back yard to grill the carne asada and gulp our first of many Mexican beers.

“I'm closer to 40 than 30,” Mike says. “It's official. I'm getting old.”

“That's all right,” I tell him. “We'll watch Randy Couture knock the stupid out of Tim Sylvia tonight.”

Randy Couture retired from fighting a few years back. Mike and I hope he'll do well against the “unbeatable” current heavyweight champ, Tim Sylvia, but it's not looking good for him. Randy is 43 years old, and he's lost a few steps.

Mike and I stuff our faces with greasy tacos and the empty brown Pacifico bottles start to line up neatly like a battalion of soldiers on his countertop. More guests arrive for Mike's birthday party. An Oreo cake is drunkenly plowed through, and we discuss Randy's chances in the fight.

“He's old.”

“He's tough, though.”

“I hope he doesn't get embarrassed.”

The girls go off to another room to do girl stuff and leave the guys to order the fight and sit through the preliminary matches. When it's Randy and Tim's turn to fight for the heavy-weight belt, we settle down to watch. A lot's riding on this fight.

The fight begins. Randy Couture strides across the ring, throws a flurry of combinations and *BANG!* a meaty right hand from old man Randy sends the giant Tim Sylvia rolling to his back.

A couch, barstool, and ottoman in Mike's front room are immediately evacuated, and six men from 15 to 35 years old spring through the air in a spray of chips, salsa, and beer.

“Beat him!”

“Break his legs!”

“Push his brains out his ear hole!”

After five rounds of fierce, snarling, and bloody pummeling, Randy Couture's hand is raised in victory.

“That is what you get!” Mike yells. “That is what you get when you mess with an old man!”

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

This week's television reviews will be done by transcribing text-message conversations I've had throughout the week.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15

DEADLIEST CATCH
DISCOVERY 10:00 A.M.
Me: I'm in line at Vons behind the ugliest wig in America. It is glorious. Looks like she was standing behind a jet engine when a cat was thrown through the front.
Ron: Meow!
Me: I'm going to touch it.
Ron: Careful.
Me: Something bit my finger.
Ron: You know what they say about curiosity and jet engines.

SMALLVILLE
WB 8:00 P.M.

Me: Midgican.
Ron: Midgican?
Me: Midget Mexican riding his bike on 35th and University.
Me: Crap! Almost ran him over! Get out of the damn road!
Ron: Oh no. Ride Midgican! Ride like the wind!
Me: Don't you root for him. He blew the red light.
Ron: But he's so cute.
Me: And daring. He's the littlest BMXer with the biggest heart.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16
GOOD MORNING AMERICA
ABC 7:00 A.M.
Me: Gyeah!
Ron: ?
Me: Almost got in an accident.
Ron: Are you drunk?

Me: Not really.
Ron: That's good.
Me: She was putting on makeup and talking on her phone.
Ron: You're drunk and texting me.
Me: Morning traffic is terrifying, that's for sure.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17
FOX NEWS LIVE
FOX NEWS 11:00 A.M.
Ron: (noise) Dwooooop! Giant noggin floats around corner. Scowl.
Me: I remember that. I wonder what she's up to.
Ron: Harassing some other poor customer. Not bringing them the sandwiches they ordered.
Me: For a waitress who looks like an extra-large lollipop on an extra-skinny stick, she was mean.
Ron: They should send her to war. Follow that huge melon, boys!
Me: Clown lipstick. The smell of cigarettes. Incriminating crumbs. You can't handle the truth!

TECH NOW!
NBC 6:00 P.M.
Ron: Que onda? Want to get coffee?
Me: Can't. Just got back from the gym. Going to work. I'm late. Showering.
Ron: Showering. With your phone?
Me: My computer is too bulky and there's no place to set it in here.
Ron: Sometimes I just shouldn't ask.
Me: You don't want to know what I was doing with my iPod only minutes ago.
Ron: You're right, I don't!

SUNDAY, MARCH 18
WILD AMERICA
WB 2:00 P.M.
Me: I'm a praying mantis. My serrated claws are held together and I'm turning my head to stare at hookers on El Cajon with my big eye.
Ron: Well, hello, ladies.
Me: Green. Beak.
Ron: Watch out. She'll kill you after mating.
Me: And take my stereo to a pawnshop. It's a jungle out here.

MONDAY, MARCH 19
GLOBE TREKKER
TRAVEL 4:00 P.M.
Ron: Wiener in a sling. Boardwalk. Pacific Beach.
Me: Gross.
Ron: No. Not gross. A wiener dog in one of those wheelie medical things that keep his hind legs off the ground. It's cool. He can still walk around.
Me: Oh, I thought you'd been descended upon by a group of immodest Italian tourists.
Ron: Buon giorno!



Deadliest Catch

Me: (Italian accent.) I am but a European wiener dog in a wheeled sling. Do you have a cigarette?
Ron: It would explain his tiny scooter and huge sunglasses.

TUESDAY, MARCH 20
HOME IMPROVEMENT
TBS 3:00 P.M.
Me: I've found something at Target.
Ron: A bag? A pot of gold? A bag of gold pot? I need more details.
Me: It's certainly not my self-respect.
Ron: Have you tried the housewares section?
Me: I think I need to go to Home Depot.
Ron: They really do have everything. Ask the angry pierced girl in the orange vest for your dignity.
Me: (Quiet. Longingly.) And a small barbecue.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21
LAW AND ORDER: SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT
USA 8:00 P.M.
Me: Hey! I just saw you drive by.
Ron: Oh, yeah? Where was I?
Me: 5th and Robinson.
Ron: What were you doing there? Besides stalking me.
Me: Buying gloves and a stun gun. Wait. Never mind. Go about your business.
Ron: I'm alerting the police.
Me: I'm clipping words from magazines and arranging them into a letter.
Ron: I smell glue and chloroform.
Me: Shh. Don't struggle.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22
MODERN MARVELS
HISTORY 7:00 P.M.
Me: I just got the number of a hot chick.
Ron: That's totally what the guy who invented text messaging had in mind.
Me: Screw international business. New millen-nium correspondence is really for the oldest show in town.
Ron: Cavemen with Bluetooth.
Me: A digital club. Ten cents per word. Fire good.

MOWER, electric, nice, \$65. Anchor, 50lbs., \$55. Cactus, 8'H, \$25. 200lbs. of dumbbells, \$65. Suzuki 2hp outboard, unused, \$350. Camp equipment, \$35. 858-581-1869.

OFF ROAD TIRES, 18" and 21" two each \$5/each. Wedding dress, hat, shoes, size 8, \$100/all. TV and TV stand, oak finish \$35/all. Glass top table \$25. 858-277-7197.

PALAPA, \$750. 760-787-9392.

PIANO, spinet, \$150. Pickup, \$650. 4 tires/rims, \$100. Car seat, \$25. Kid's toys. Truck rack, side steps, \$50 each. Pool, pumps, filters, more. 619-660-8491.

PLANT POTS, Plastic, mostly 1 gallon, approximately 70, \$15/all. 10 Tomatoe cages \$4/all. Escondido 760-685-8291.

RADIAL ARM SAW and stand, Craftsman, includes extra blades, \$200. 619-424-6647.

RECORD PLAYER, 33, 45, 78 records, cherrywood, 14", 17", 16", like new, \$40. Plants, beautiful succulents, \$1-\$5 each. 619-283-0397.

ROUTER with 7 carbide cutters, \$75. De-walt skill saw, 18 volt, 2 batteries with flood light, \$100. 619-449-8069.

SCOOTER FOR DISABLED, Activa Trans-porter, dark blue color, 36"x36"x19", with charger, basket, lightweight. Good condition. \$450. 619-444-7282.

TOOLS. Cordless drill, 12-bolt Black & Decker, extra battery, \$35. Table saw, 10" Craftsman belt drive, nice base with power strip, \$200. 858-272-4866.

TRAIN SET, Thomas, gently used, includes train table, train storage box, 50 cars, 132 track pieces, plus roadhouse and 18 other accessories, \$300. 619-280-6941.

TYPEWRITER, Remington, manual, new ribbon, \$25. TV remotes, \$5. Featherlite

weed eater, gas, \$35. Sells as is. Bar stool with footrest, 24"H, \$10. Scooters, \$5. Luggage, \$9. 619-583-3751.

VERTICAL BLINDS, vanes only, heavy light-blocking fabric, dusty rose color, 3 sets, \$40/set or \$100 for 3. 619-424-6647.

WAISTCOAT, ladies' small, black suede leather, embroidered yoke, \$25. Manicure set, tortoise-shell handles, leather case, English, new, \$40. Oil painting, landscape, 12x16", \$25. 619-434-2028.

WHEELCHAIR, Manual Zippy by Quickie folds for transport \$300, 619-429-4557.

WORMS. Redworm, nature's fertilizer, 1 bucket \$40. Guarantee 1000+ worms. Lisa 619-449-7875.

MOTORCYCLES

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by calling 619-235-8200.

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HARLEY DAVIDSON FXDL, 2003, 100th Anniversary, silver and black, low miles, super clean. \$12,700. Vin-303301. A Plus Rentals, 760-250-7055.

HONDA CBR 1000RR, 2005, 4500 miles, moving, must sell, super fast, never raced, stunted or crashed, garage kept, clear title, runs perfectly, \$8500. 619-804-1335.

MOTORCYCLE REPAIRS! We come to you. Service done at your home/office. Tune-ups, oil changes, brakes, much more. Honda, Kawasaki, Suzuki, Yamaha.

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RC CARS, 2006, 5 of them. Make offer. 619-934-0473.

YAMAHA ROYAL STAR, red, leather saddlebags, 2400 miles, windshield, pipes, all extras, originally \$19,000, asking \$10,000/best. Nick, 619-277-3200.

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AUDI QUATRO 100, beautiful, you won't find a nicer car, beautifully maintained, wood paneling, 5 cylinder, sharp looking, computerized climate control, sun-roof, power, \$2500. 858-531-7418.

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BMW 325 IT, 2003, station wagon, immaculate, regularly serviced, 4 new Michelin tires, silver, black interior, 6 cylinder, 2.5 liter engine, automatic, \$23,950. 619-546-6565; 619-507-1238.

BMW 328i, 1998, silver, 4 door, automatic, V-6, AM/FM, 6-CD changer, sunroof, leather, power everything, new tires, almost new brakes, runs beautifully, \$7000. 619-813-3113.

BMW 525i, 2002, 5 series, 4 door, extended warranty, premium package, sport package, park distance control, rear sun shade, 66,000 miles, \$20,500. debbie.malovic@cox.net; 619-589-0393.

BMW 740iL, 116K miles, gold, V-8, automatic, power everything, 5-CD changer, wired for XM radio, excellent condition, must sell, \$7900. 619-993-2213.

CHEVY AVEO HATCHBACK, 2005, 15,000 miles. Teflon coated paint, automatic transmission, 28-35 mpg. New registration, transferrable warranties. All standard features. Asking \$8000/best. 858-761-1424.

ELECTRIC CAR, 2002, GEMe2. White, 2 seater, 400 miles. Like new, trunk, doors, heated seats. Street legal, golf course friendly \$4800/as is, 619-435-8123.

FORD CONTOUR GL, 1997, 4 door, low miles, automatic, air conditioning. Power steering, brakes, windows, locks, tilt cruise. Stereo, cassette. Premium wheels, \$2975, 619-838-0779.

FORD FOCUS, 2007. Silver, Hatchback PZEV, 3 door. Manual, 4000 miles. 3 year/36,000 mile warranty. A/C, alarm, CD player, Solar tinted glass. \$12,990, 858-405-3342.

FORD MUSTANG LX, 1991. Automatic, all power. Second owner, 92,000 miles. Engine/transmission recently serviced, new belts, hoses, radiator, brakes, tuneup, etc. More, \$2300 619-443-7308.

FORD MUSTANG, 2002. V6. nonsmoker. GT fog lamps. Clean title. Tags until November 2007. 79,000 miles. Alloy wheels, airconditioning, tinted windows, CD. 1FACP40412F117625, \$6850, 619-434-6421.

FORD SHELBY COBRA, 2007. 85 miles, nothing wrong, husband just went out on a limb and got in trouble (per wife). Must sell. \$59,999. 619-271-0972.

GT40 KIT CAR, rare replica of a 1967 with new 1915cc engine, built by Paradise VW in San Marcos. Fun to drive. \$15,000/best. 760-583-0514.

HONDA ACCORD LX, 2004. 38,500 miles. Auto, silver with charcoal interior. CD player, power windows/door, alarm. Perfect condition. Must sell! \$17,000 619-302-1022.

HONDA ACCORD EX, 1996, wagon, new paint and timing belt, upper/lower seals, crank balancer, water pump, radiator, upper/lower hoses, air conditioning, CD, power windows. 619-795-7383.

HONDAS FROM \$500. Police impounds and tax repos. Cars, trucks, SUVs. Many makes and models! For listings, 800-495-0660 x2180.

HYUNDAI XG350, 2004, must sell, luxury liner, full power, full leather, way too many features to list, new tires, relationship issue forces sale, \$12,500. 619-806-1380.

JAGUAR XJS COUPE. 1994. 6 cylinder, 99,000 miles. Dark green, AC. Leather, AM/FM. Excellent condition. Well serviced. New tires. All options. Garaged, \$9000, 858-729-5020.

MAZDA 626 ES, 2001. V6. Only 48,000 miles! Second owner. All paperwork. New tires. Leather, power everything, moonroof, Bose surround system, sporty suspension. \$7750, 404-272-9108.

MAZDA MPV, 1995. V6, automatic steering, air, power windows, one owner, really

sharp! All original. 100,000 miles. 619-607-7079.

MAZDA PROTEGE LX, 2002, silver, 90K miles, excellent condition, sunroof, air conditioning, power windows, keyless entry, spoiler, Altezcas, \$6999. 619-212-0284.

MERCEDES 280 SE, 1971. Needs work, engine runs. \$850. 619-733-5089.

MERCEDES 450 SEL, 1977. V-8, out of car, block, loose parts, fuel injection, A/C compressor, fan, rear engine adapter \$200 cash, 858-578-8968.

MERCEDES-BENZ CLK-320, 2002, 6 cylinder, leather, sunroof, automatic stick, all power, new tires, just serviced, AMG custom wheels, \$24,900/best. Excellent condition. 619-572-3835.

MERCEDES-BENZ E320, 1994, sedan, all records, 130K freeway miles, new 2006 paint, new air conditioning, cruise, ABS, power steering, AM/FM stereo CD, \$4850. 619-886-3629.

MERCEDES-BENZ 300 CD, 1982, classic turbo diesel, runs strong, sleek, 2-door model, rare collector's edition straight body, power windows, sunroof, original paint, needs work, \$3850. 858-272-4866.

MERCURY SABLE, 1997, silver with silver interior, 97K miles, power everything, recently rebuilt engine, new battery, runs great! \$3000/best. 858-270-3024.

MERCURY SABLE WAGON, 1997. 3.0L, V6, fully equipped, cassette, roof rack, 3rd seat. Runs, looks and drives excellent, \$3150. Owner will help finance, 619-896-0779.

MINI COOPER, Dark blue, black interior. Garage kept. Has manufacturers warranty! Air bags. Cold air conditioning. Custom polished 17 inch rims. Tinted windows. Nonsmoker. Registered until November 07. \$3975, 619-309-6167.

OLDS TORONADO, 1970, fully restorable, classic front-drive muscle car with excellent 455 engine and transmission, needs bodywork, paint, interior, 2-door coupe, driveable. \$2950. 619-729-3106.

PLYMOUTH GRAND VOYAGER SE, 1990, runs excellently, smogs great, very reliable transportation, comfortable, roomy, rebuilt transmission, many newer parts, as is, \$1100. Tom, 619-579-0078.

PONTIAC GRAND AM SE, 1998, 3.1 liter, V-6, automatic, approximately 137K miles, recent tires with less than 3K miles, asking \$2000/best. Angela, 619-757-8374.

PONTIAC GRAND AM, 1993, burgundy, 4-door sedan, garaged, 90K miles, automatic, AM/FM cassette, air conditioning, cruise, tilt, as is, engine needs work, \$700. 619-255-9969.

PORSCHE BOXSTER, Convertible, 2003. Only 12,500 miles! White, blue interior. Factory warranty, 18" Carrera wheels, on-board computer, leather, more. Original owner, garaged. \$32,500, 858-527-1158.

PRIVATE PARTY WILL PAY cash for cars running or not, lost title O.K., 858-481-1873.

SAAB 9.5, 1999. 4 cylinder turbo. Great gas mileage. Power everything. Dark green, tan leather. Heated/air conditioned

seats. 91,000 miles. Well maintained. \$7200. 858-449-4466.

SAAB 900S, 1996. Loaded. Auto, all power, heated seats, leather, sunroof. New battery, new tires. Good condition \$2200. Call 858-794-4844.

TOYOTA CAMRY, 1991, 4 door, automatic, 4 cylinder, air conditioning, power windows, Viper alarm, CD, good gas mileage, nice, clean, dependable car, \$1600. 619-399-8950.

TOYOTA CELICA, 1996. Convertible. Looks, runs, drives like new. New timing belt, water pump, ABS. Auto, 2 airbags. Red/black interior, 97,000 miles. Leather. \$6900/best. 858-658-0998.

TOYOTA SIENNA, 2001, one owner, garaged, power everything, very good condition, 125K mostly highway miles, \$7000/best. Rancho Penasquitos, 858-484-9280.

VOLVO 960, 1995, very good condition, white with gray leather interior, power windows, sunroof, 6-disc changer, 114K miles, new fuel pump and brakes, \$2750. 619-866-1610.

VW JETTA GLS, 2004. 1.8 turbo wagon, great performance, reliability, overall practicality, original owner, 53,700 miles, 5-speed automatic, sport package, heated seats, stereo, \$12,500/best. 617-285-0085.

VW RABBIT DIESEL, 1981, 5 speed, 4 door, hatchback, 45mpg. New motor, fuel pump, clutch, brakes, paint, seats. Six cars to own. Sacrifice \$2700, 858-454-1422.

VW SUPER BEETLE, 1972, classic, sweet deal, excellent condition, black, original, 53K miles, near new 1600cc engine, carburetor, battery, generator, paint, more. \$2750. 619-546-0840.

VW, 1967, beauty, 1600 high performance engine (just rebuilt), new paint and upholstery, immaculate tan interior and exterior, garage kept, excellent mechanical condition, \$6900. 619-995-3372.

\$500! POLICE IMPOUNDS. Cars, trucks, SUVs from \$500! Hondas, Chevys, Jeeps, Toyotas, Nissans and more! For listings and information, call 800-495-0660, xC664.

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T.G.I.F.

I think I was angry with my friend for getting old.

By John Brizzolara

A friend from Los Angeles visited the other day. We hadn't seen each other for nearly ten years. Now, any ten years are significant in a human life, but the ten years I missed with M. were those between his mid-50s and mid-60s. This is a time of life that some of the most ingeniously cruel jokes are played on us. M. missed my mid-40s to mid-50s; and I got a chance to see, with him, a possible variation on what I might expect on this patch of road ahead.

Weight is always a variable, so I won't count that. And I'm not concerned with hair loss either. But just walking down Adams Avenue proved to be an example of what I mean. M., a guy who used to make me feel like a total dipstick because I wouldn't join him on the court for a game of B-ball at the Hollywood YMCA, was now asking me to slow my pace on the way to a pizza joint. I was walking too fast. Just a few short years ago, I was walking with a cane, and I was forced to sit down somewhere, anywhere, every block and a half. This was a result of my heart failing and my thyroid crapping out — probably after being drowned with whiskey repeatedly.

Another thing. I've heard it said that "we all become parodies of ourselves eventually," and I thought this was sagely stuff when I was younger; but there are so many qualifying exceptions that it has

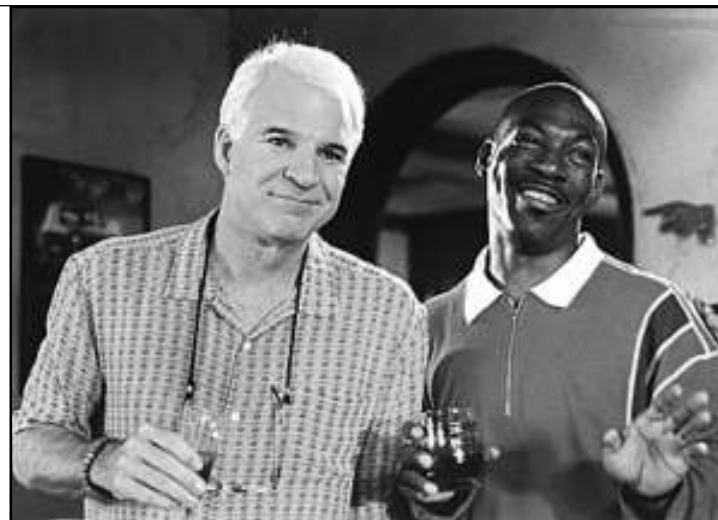
become, to me, meaningless as a generality. But to become a parody of something you have despised or said you despised for years, now that's interesting.

I took M. to hear a friend of mine speak, a guy who works in the ghetto and, although white, has picked up a lot of ghetto mannerisms as a matter of course. Over pizza that night, M. said, "I can't believe that guy acting like a black person. I was shocked. Shocked!" And at first I thought he was riffing on Claude Raines learning that there was gambling at Rick's Café Americain in *Casablanca*; but M. was serious. Absolutely serious. Just the idea that my old lefty friend could be shocked by anything was enough to make me look at him askance, as it were; but I was overcome with the conviction that he was objecting to my friend's implicit endorsement of black/street behavior. This was coming from a man who used to shoot hoops in Harlem with Quincy Troupe.

I think I was angry with my friend for getting old, or at least for succumbing to obvious pitfalls like intolerance. That may well be because I've allowed it to happen to me in more than a few areas of life. I've become less patient with what I call the Militantly Stupid, like those who don't have the common sense to stick their heads out the window and acknowledge global warming or allow the possibility that man might be responsible for it. Why? I don't get it. Old age does come with the fringe benefit of no longer suffering fools gladly but not the luxury of becoming one of them. "There's no fool..." etc.

Among the things I suspect are lying in wait for me in the not-too-distant future is what I'll call the Day of the Locust Factor, after Nathaneal West's novel. In this story of Homer Simpson (yeah, that's where Matt Groening must have gotten that tag) there is the idea that immigrants to California ultimately feel they've been horribly cheated out of something, like the American Dream or the California Dream. My borrowing from West has to do with chronology and not geography. It is, again, very American and very Californian — having achieved what (pretty much anywhere else) might be considered an elder status, you find that status has transmogrified itself into having a kind of rug pulled out from under you, relegating you (one) to the status of a doddering joke.

My friend, after a long career in Hollywood, feels this sharply. In that town, as Steve Martin had it in one of his movies, *Bowfinger*, "They can smell 50 on you." My friend, ten years ago, would go through figurative barrels of metaphorical social deodorant in order to disguise the odor of 50. I am proud of my old



Steve Martin and Eddie Murphy in *Bowfinger*

friend in that he no longer takes any measures in this direction whatsoever.

I have not yet formulated any philosophy of old age for myself. I never thought I would have to, of course, but the same could have been said for middle age and even most of adulthood. When I do come up with some sort of credo or desideratum, it will likely have to do with the same things I have valued all along; things like avoiding mediocrity (near impossible) and pretension (a little easier) and adhering to a personal code of honesty that involves a kind of Catch-22: honesty is the last pretension. A cynical thought but not a dishonest one.

One more element, previously of no concern whatever, now rears its head, and it has to do with dignity. First, I'll have to define it and then consider ways to introduce it into a life where it has been conspicuously lacking for almost six decades. I am confident that once I'm within range of that particular brass ring, reaching across the grave for it, in a sense, I'll only have to look down to spot the banana peel.

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