

SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

VOLUME 36 / NUMBER 14
APRIL 5, 2007

Reader

Is the Sun In Your Eyes or Are You Just Avoiding Me?

Story begins on page 24



Band at I-5 Rest Stop Escapes CHP Bust – See Blur

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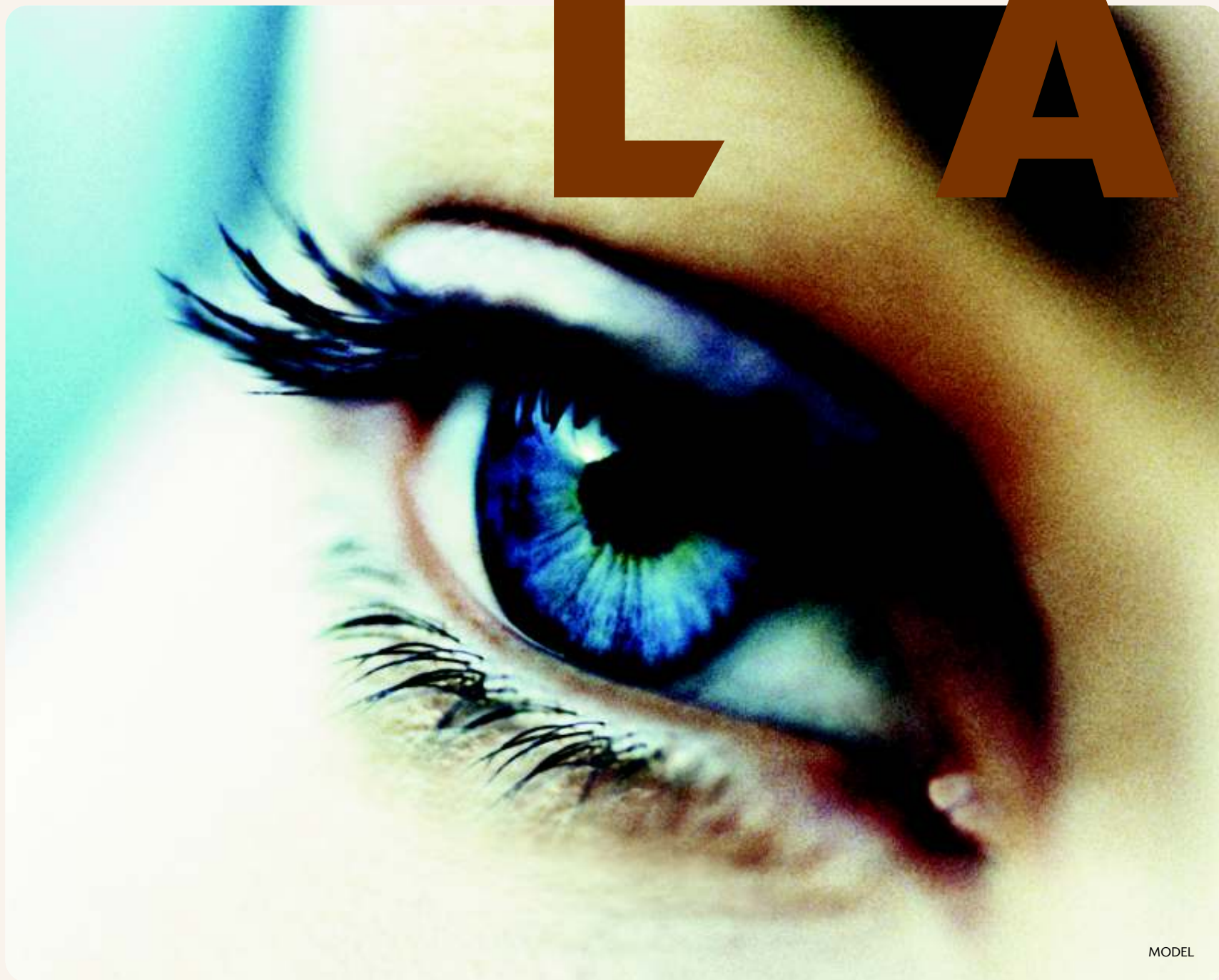
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"I always hated photos because of the glare in my glasses. But worse, I couldn't get out of bed or see the clock because my sight was 20/400 with astigmatism in both eyes."

remember what it was like to wake up and see. When I walked into Dr. Yaghouti's office I was very nervous. But the staff put me at ease and the procedure was over in minutes. When I woke up the next day I screamed, 'I CAN SEE!' And the tears came. For the first time in 42 years I could see the clock on the wall and other things in my room. No more hassle with glasses or discomfort from contacts. I can swim, snorkel and do anything I want with perfect sight. I thank you from the bottom of my heart."

— Michelle Stewart, San Diego

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— 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?

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— T.P. Fortin, San Diego, CA

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

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

— Sandra Macias, San Diego, CA

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

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— Darush Mohyi, M.D., La Jolla, CA



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Congresswoman not left behind

San Diego Democratic congresswoman **Susan Davis** has turned up on a list of lucky lawmakers who went on a five-day winter getaway to balmy San Juan, Puerto Rico, this February thanks to the Aspen Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based think tank that sponsors legislative junkets to attractive destinations like beach resorts and European castles. Aspen shelled out \$7036 for Davis and her husband to attend its No Child Left Behind conference, along with colleagues including Indiana Republican senator **Richard Lugar** and California Democratic congressman **George Miller**, from February 20 through 25. Aspen, a nonprofit corporation that says it's "dedicated to fostering enlightened leadership and open-minded dialogue," doesn't directly lobby the legislators but is financially backed by organizations that do, including the Confederation of Indian Industry, which cosponsors Aspen Institute India.

This isn't the first time Davis and her spouse have received freebies from Aspen; last August, the couple spent five days in Kraków, Poland, at a "U.S.-Russia-Europe Relations" conference worth \$4630. And last May, they went to Punta Mita, a posh resort near Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, for a "U.S. policy in Latin America" meeting costing \$3175 for lodging and \$2025 for meals.

Meanwhile, GOP congressman **Darrell Issa** stuck closer to home, getting a \$1302 free ticket, including food, travel, and lodging, to attend the Heritage Foundation's "conservative policy conference" in Baltimore with his wife on February 1 and 2. Issa, who is on the House Select Intelligence Committee, is the only member of the local congressional delegation who has traveled at public expense since last November. He was in Europe from November 28 through December 2, costing taxpayers \$9499. On December 13 he left for two days in Europe at a cost of \$11,116.

Emergency dining Financial disclosure statements for city and county public servants were due Monday of this week, and as usual they revealed that many local officials are not above accepting free meals and other gratuities. Take San Diego chief of police **William Lansdowne**, who reports getting banquet fees paid by the National Conflict Resolution Center, a "non-profit dispute resolution provider" (\$150); the Union of Pan Asian Communities, a "human care services provider" (\$200); the Chicano Federation, a "service provider for the Chicano Community" (\$200); the Gaslamp Quarter Association, which "promotes business" in the Gaslamp Quarter (\$100); and Friends of Balboa Park, "preserving Balboa Park for future generations" (\$55). San Diego fire chief **Tracy Jarman** reported two tickets to the *San Diego Business Journal's* October "recognition din-

ner" held in her honor (\$180). She also got two tickets, which she valued at \$60, from city councilman **Kevin Faulconer** to watch a Padres play-off game in the Petco Park city box, as well as admission to the Family Justice Center gala held on the USS *Midway* (\$150).

James Dunford, the medical director for San Diego's Emergency Medical Services, who also is employed as a professor of clinical medicine and surgery at UCSD's med school, bagged a bunch of freebies as well. From the San Diego Medical Services Enterprise, which describes itself as "a public/private partnership between the City of San Diego and Rural/Metro Ambulance Corporation," providing "9-1-1 medical response" for the city and county, Dunford got two tickets to the opera in February worth \$260. He also enjoyed a January dinner worth \$75 paid for by ZOLL Medical Corporation of Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

ZOLL makes heart defibrillators and other devices used in emergency resuscitation, including the ResQPOD, an "impedance threshold device" soon to be tested in San Diego County as part of a federally funded research trial conducted by UCSD for the Seattle, Washington-based Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium. ResQPODs are intended to boost survival rates among cardiac-arrest patients by enhancing the effect of chest compressions during CPR.

E-mails retrieved from the City under the California Public Records Act have revealed that an extensive effort by Dunford to persuade Mayor **Jerry Sanders** to allow deployment of similar devices on San Diego emergency rigs as part of the ROC trial here was rebuffed last fall. Other medically related companies kicking in for Dunford included Cubist Pharmaceuticals with a \$50 meal; Genentech with a \$50 dinner lecture; Philips Medical Systems with a \$20 business lunch; Merck & Co. with a \$50 dinner lecture; Novo Nordisk with a \$40 meal; "ESP BioPharma" with a \$50 meal; and Eli Lilly with a \$60 dinner lecture. In addition, city hall lobbyist **Adrian Kwiatkowski** gave Dunford a \$50 "ticket to attend President Carter lecture," and Kwiatkowski's company, the Monger Company, chipped in with a \$40 ticket to a "lunch with the editors" sponsored by KPBS.

Besides his dual role as the city's medical director and a UCSD professor, Dunford also served as a "medical expert consultant" for NORCAL Mutual Insurance Company of San Francisco, receiving between \$1001 and \$10,000; he made the same range consulting for the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Oakland.

— 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.



Susan Davis



Darrell Issa



James Dunford



Adrian Kwiatkowski

U-T and Police Lie About Aguirre

By Don Bauder

Last week, members of the mainstream media believed they were covering a story about a search warrant issued by the city

attorney's office and approved by a judge but blocked by the police chief. The chief has broken the law, but I will get into that in paragraphs below. The real story is that this incident was a smokescreen in the

"lusted after" the Montgomery land.

"For years they have been trying to turn Montgomery Field into a city of villages. That is no secret," harrumphs Councilmember Donna Frye.



Mike Aguirre



William Lansdowne



Montgomery Field

biggest land grab in San Diego history.

Developers — with the covert assistance of city government — are attempting to seize Montgomery Field for housing tracts. It's a stealth campaign that dates back at least four years, with the likes of Sol Price, Malin Burnham, the chamber of commerce, and former city manager, now developer Jack McGrory pushing for it. James Waring, the City's land czar, has mentioned in at least two meetings that he has such intentions, and in one of those meetings he said that he, as a developer,

There are environmentally sensitive lands at Montgomery that should make this land grab legally impossible, but that won't stop San Diego: its Incest Perpetuation League does all kinds of extralegal things on behalf of developers.

Let me explain. The biggest enemy of the San Diego taxpayer is incest — specifically, the incestuous relationships between real estate developers and elected officials, bureaucrats, law enforcement, the judiciary, and the *Union-Tribune*. The Incest Perpetuation League is a group of business, political, judiciary, and

media insiders that tries to thwart any inquiry into the incest at the heart of San Diego's corruption. Scratch any corporate welfare scam — ballpark, Naval Training Center, almost any shopping center or redevelopment project — and you'll find incest and its perpetrators in the center of the action, helping to shovel public money to private interests, often their own.

The attempt by Sunroad Enterprises to complete a building in defiance of federal aviation laws is just one step in the stealth Montgomery land grab. The fact that Tom Story, Sunroad's vice president of development, oversaw development for the City of San Diego for almost 20 years is symbolic of the incest so jealously cultivated by the developer-dominated establishment.

Sunroad is building a 12-story, 190-foot building, called Sunroad Centrum I, near Montgomery Field. The company plans to build two even taller high-rises, 14 and 20 stories, in the same vicinity. All of these structures violate the Federal Aviation Administration's height restriction for buildings near airports. In April of last year, the federal aviation regulator informed Sunroad that a Centrum I structure above 160 feet would create a hazard.

But the building remains 190 feet. Sunroad says it is following the guidance of the City's Development Services Department. Surprised? Between 1989 and 2000, Story was deputy planning director, overseeing development activities for the City. Then he became senior policy advisor to former mayor Dick Murphy. This put Story in charge of land-use decisions for Murphy. Then Story became Murphy's chief of staff. Murphy resigned in spring of 2005. In the second half of 2005, Story left and shortly joined Sunroad. This was the year Sunroad applied for the permit to build Centrum I.

The city attorney, backed by the Federal Aviation Administration, the California Department of Transportation,

continued on page 10

Bauder Talks!
Go to www.sdrreader.com



Down by the Levee

By Joe Deegan

Ocean Beach real estate broker David Stebbins is like a man standing in the front row at a theater: when viewers behind him ask him to sit down, he yells, "I paid for this seat; I can do what I want." Such is the view of Randy Berkman, a community activist who keeps an eye on controversial land-use deals in San Diego.

Stebbins owns a one-story, 1250-square-foot duplex on West Point Loma Boulevard behind Dog Beach. He wants to replace it with a three-story,

filed an appeal of the decision to the city council. He will be joined by co-appellant Randy Berkman.

An important feature of Stebbins's plan is 800 square feet of parking he wants to build underneath his new house. To do it, he will have to dig seven feet below the area's 100-year floodplain. When Berkman first heard about the parking plan, he wondered, "How did this get through [the San Diego Development Services Department's] first plan check? Well, in a sense, it didn't," he tells me as we sit on a concrete park bench behind the Stebbins duplex. "Someone from the City was on the ball and said, 'You're deviating from the municipal code here.'"

That was in 2004. By late 2005, Stebbins figured he could answer any objections the City might have. On October 26 he wrote to development services' Laila Iskandar stating, "The flood zone I am in was created, I believe, prior to the levee; this levee now protects my property from floods which, if you look at the map, come not from the ocean, but from the [San Diego] River. Flood-

ing, if any, would be low velocity and shallow due to protection of the levee.... During the last horrific winter, the parking lot in back of my property stayed dry as a bone." Stebbins went on to offer spending "the money to flood-proof the basement according to your/an engineer's instructions...." He eventually proposed a system to seal the basement and pump out any water that gets into it.

"I am only building a 1750-square-foot house," contin-

ued Stebbins. "If I must park above ground, this would reduce an already modest house (by anyone's standards) to a tiny house.... The result would be just another boxy, drab house."

"With all due respect, sooner or later the City must realize that this valuable land cannot be allowed to remain a sort of Beach Ghetto. The parking is currently all done in the setbacks. Half the tenants have constructed illegal ocean view decks. All of the properties on my block are eyesores."

Stebbins went on to cite several other property owners on the block who support his plan. "They have all expressed [interest in] doing the same thing if I can prove it is doable.... Consequently, once the ball is rolling, there should be an incremental change in the block. Just because I am the first and will 'stick out' does not mean that I do not conform to the [precise plan]. It just means I am the first!"

The reasoning about being "the first" may not come off as rational, but it was important for Stebbins to counter the Ocean Beach Precise Plan with an argument of some kind. The plan dates to the 1970s and makes several points

that are relevant to the Stebbins project. First, it demands that new construction be "compatible with the bulk and scale of the neighborhood." Stebbins's three stories, situated in the middle of the block, would not fit in with the low-lying, one-story cottages that make up the rest of the block. Second, the precise plan seeks to "maintain the existing residential character of Ocean Beach as exemplified by a mixture of small-scale residential building types and styles." And third, the precise plan insists "that views available from elevated areas and those adjacent to the beaches and ocean be preserved and enhanced wherever possible."

In wrapping up his letter to planner Laila Iskandar, Stebbins pleaded, "I am asking for a little flexibility on the part of you and your staff. I live and work in Ocean Beach. It would be a great hardship for me to have to move somewhere else in order to live in a bigger house."

On November 4, 2005, Iskandar wrote Stebbins back to say that "City staff cannot support the request for... underground parking for the project site." Iskandar cited "the 100 Year Floodplain zone" and said it was incom-

patible with "construction below grade in these circumstances." In order for Stebbins to have his project approved, she wrote, he would have to conform to San Diego Municipal Code requirements regarding a "Special Flood Hazard Area." That would mean "the lowest floor, including basement, [would have to be] elevated at least 2 feet above the base flood elevation" rather than seven feet below as in Stebbins's plan.

But Stebbins pressed on, and eventually Laila Iskandar became the City's manager for the project. "I'm not exactly sure when — what day — staff changed their mind on this," Randy Berkman tells me. In another situation, the case of the Pacific Coast Office Building in Mission Valley, Berkman remembers the City reversing course — and then sending out what he calls "a good-news letter." After stopping the project from going forward, a city planner e-mailed the property owner's consultant saying, "Good news! We have decided you don't need to go through the plan amendment process." But, says Berkman, "I haven't seen in the documents any such good-news notification for Stebbins."

continued on page 11



Randy Berkman

1750-square-foot single-family residence that he says he will live in. The new house will block the ocean view of James Landry, who lives across the street in a third-floor condominium. On March 1, the San Diego Planning Commission unanimously approved Stebbins's plans. Landry has



Stebbins's West Point Loma Boulevard property

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Lie about Aguirre

continued from page 7

ment of Transportation, and other groups interested in safety, has sued Sunroad, which has countersued.

In 2002, San Diego enacted an ethics ordinance that bars a city official, upon leaving government, from influencing former staff underlings or coworkers for one year. On March 21, the city attorney's office filed an affidavit to search

Story's office. It was approved by superior court judge George "Woody" Clarke. It is a well-researched document — one of the better search warrant affidavits I have seen.

A search warrant has to show probable cause that a crime has been committed; it is not designed to make the case. This one is so thorough that it almost makes the case. It shows that several times in early and middle 2006, Story both directly and indirectly contacted city development

employees on behalf of Centrum I.

As soon as the search warrant was completed, the Incest Perpetuation League went to work frantically. Police Chief William Lansdowne refused to serve the warrant, proclaiming it "legally insufficient." California's penal code section 1523 says that a search warrant is an *order* in writing *commanding* a peace officer to carry out a search. David S. Law, associate professor at the University of San Diego

law school, says the police can refuse to carry out a warrant that, say, "totally and obviously fails to specify who/what/where is to be searched."

That hardly applies to the city attorney's warrant. "Judge Woody Clarke is an experienced scholar in criminal law, and if he authorizes a search warrant, legally it should be served," says Ed Miller, former district attorney and U.S. attorney. Enough said.

Immediately after Lansdowne refused to do his duty, the *Union-Tribune* editorial page — always eager to distort the truth on behalf of developers and the Incest Perpetuation League — lauded Lansdowne's dubious action and denounced City Attorney Mike Aguirre for orchestrating a "smear" against Sunroad. Smear? Aguirre was trying to squelch discussion of the warrant. It was Lansdowne

and the *U-T* that revealed the matter publicly, probably to prejudice the city attorney's case.

State law says that a peace officer who "willfully discloses the fact of the warrant prior to execution for the purpose of preventing the search or seizure" should go to state prison for up to a year.

Last Thursday, the *U-T* got the search warrant unsealed. And it continued on its thoroughly disingenuous mission. The news story about the document had no mention of the material clearly showing Story's contacts with the City. Then the newspaper wrote still another editorial personally attacking Aguirre. And the *U-T*'s editorial page permitted Lansdowne to write a childish, emotional, dishonest op-ed screed of his own. Lansdowne enlisted support of two other ineffective members of law enforcement: Dis-

trict Attorney Bonnie Dumanis and Sheriff Bill Kolen-der — two charter members of the Incest Perpetuation League who have tried to stop Aguirre's reform attempts before.

Mayor Jerry Sanders, who received \$3600 from Sunroad people in 2005, denounced Aguirre. But a big question remains: Did Lansdowne contact Sanders on March 21, before he refused to serve the search warrant? Aguirre says that he did. Sanders's spokesman insists that he didn't. I have extremely good reasons to believe that Aguirre is the one telling the truth. Unfortunately, Aguirre does not intend to pursue this aspect further by putting both Sanders and Lansdowne under oath.

The city council hurriedly passed a measure barring Aguirre from filing a lawsuit without council support. The Incest Perpetuation League has been lobbying for such a bill for a long time. The measure was sponsored by Councilmember Ben Hueso, who raked in \$1750 from Sunroad people last December alone.

There are several conclusions to be drawn from this sorry episode. First, city government will go to any lengths to permit a developer to defy aviation safety regulations, or almost any regulations. No surprise there. Developers run city government. Second, if the Sunroad building stays at its current height, the Federal Aviation Administration may have no choice but to close Montgomery Field. Since the



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airport has been receiving federal funds for decades, it would normally be almost impossible for San Diego to close it. But those two extra floors on the Sunroad building may force the federal government's hand. You can see the Incest Perpetuation League straining to weep, feigning unhappiness: "Oh goodness, oh dear. Now what shall we do with that land? I guess we'll have to develop it. Oh pooh and bother." Third, this is all prelude to the 2008 campaign against Aguirre, if he chooses to run for reelection. No matter what he says or does, it will be completely distorted by the Incest Perpetuation League and its tool, the *Union-Tribune*. ■

Down by the levee

continued from page 8

On February 8 of this year, project manager Iskandar presented the Stebbins residence to the Planning Commission. She told commissioners everything about the plan but did not mention the reasoning she had given Stebbins a year and a half earlier as a deal breaker. "It's the same game they play," says Berkman. "If you don't tell the public that this has any legal problems, then the project will get approved. Not to tell the public, that's what gets me."

Why did Stebbins finally get a go-ahead?

"Good question, and I

haven't quite figured it out," says Berkman. "You can only speculate. But when we present our appeal to the city council, all I will have to do is quote. The best comments about why this project shouldn't go forward have already come from the applicant and city staff. Our appeal now says, 'It is not understood why they changed their minds from a formerly valid assessment of the situation.'" Berkman wants to ask Iskandar, "Why are you now disagreeing with yourself?"

The City may even have attempted to mislead the Planning Commission regarding Federal Emergency Management Agency requirements. In her presentation to the com-

mission, Iskandar cited the agency's Technical Bulletin 3-93 in support of Stebbins's project. The same bulletin is mentioned in the project permits and environmental document. "But the City never mentioned the bulletin's title," says Berkman. "When I tracked it down I saw why. The bulletin is called 'Non-Residential Floodproofing — Requirements and Certification for Buildings Located in Special Flood Hazard Areas.' It allows for some commercial underground parking in floodplains but doesn't say anything about residential. Then you find Bulletin 6-93, which explicitly says that FEMA prohibits underground parking at a residence in a floodplain.

"In addition, FEMA requires that a project not be a public nuisance. Well, the geotechnical consultant is saying that when they dewater — take the water out from underneath the site to build the underground parking — that it is likely to cause settling of the adjacent residences." Berkman admits that the federal agency does allow certain deviations from its code, but they are so strict he does not see how Stebbins would qualify. "One deviation would be for extreme hardship," says Berkman. "I don't see Stebbins's complaint that he would have to move if he can't build his dream house as an 'extreme' situation."

Then there is the matter of blocking other residents'

ocean views. Berkman wonders if the City could be opening itself to an inverse condemnation lawsuit if it approves a project that causes neighbors to sustain property value losses. He asks, "What if a lawyer could say, 'Look, you're going against the municipal code and the community plan. As a result, you're diminishing property values across the street, and we have a real estate appraiser willing to put that in writing?'"

And Stebbins has already acknowledged that the neighbors on the block want to follow him if he proves his project is "doable." "I am the first," he said. How many lawsuits might he trigger in the process? ■

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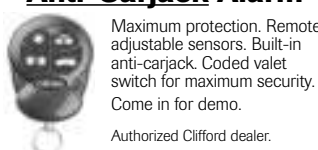
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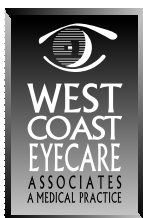
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LETTERS

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

Comments from Reader Website

Blurt

Published March 28

Posted by Snot Monkey Love on 03/28/07, 1:16 p.m.
Even if everyone is patted down during a show, you can always put a joint behind your ear or a bag in your shoe. Patting someone down is never going to keep pot out of people's pockets. I've been to all ages concerts where people sneakily are smoking weed, and they didn't cancel shows there because of it. In fact that is a lame reason for disallowing rap shows. On the other hand rap music is awful; it's just people monotonally shouting about mostly unintelligent stuff over some generic bass boom. I thought it would have died out a long time ago, but people still wanna be gangstas and rap music is their medium for them to live the life as a G. I can say I blame the owner for not wanting the rap listenin' type at her/his club, cause they definately aren't the most pleasant people.

Posted by Nanker Phelge on 03/28/07, 2:52 p.m.
Only in San Diego. In many a New York rock club you smell someone smoking weed and nobody cares. it surely does not make the news. oh, San Diego...

Posted by yvonne on 04/11/07, 12:47 p.m.
about the pot at hot monkey love...back when Street Scene was actually a festival of the downtown streets, people smoked weed at the reggae events...no big deal. San Diego is too uptight for anything different.

Reply by Josh Board: Another thing Yvonne, regarding the pot...I've met and interviewed Alma, when she ran the old Hot

Monkey. Her young daughters are often in the club, as well as other kids. It's not like some concert downtown. I remember watching George Clinton, and someone next to me had a huge joint, and security looked the other way. It was 21 and up, too. But you know what? If musicians want venues to perform rap, they should respect the rules, whether that means no pot, guns, fighting, etc. It isn't hard to relegate the pot, partying, women, and everything else, to the parties back at your crib, and keep the performance at the club. PEACE OUT.

Reply by Stefanie Howell:
Yvonne, kids still need to be protected so I don't consider it unreasonable or uptight that Hot Monkey Love wants to prohibit weed smoking. It's not a bar after all, it's an all age venue.

City Lights, by Don Bauder Published March 28

Posted by Aguirre Admirer on 03/30/07, 1:53 p.m.
Thanks to Don Bauder for reminding us that City Attorney Mike Aguirre — unlike Casey Gwinn, his disgracefully underprepared predecessor and lackey to the powerful insiders who run this town — actually uses his intelligence, the law and his office to promote the public good. The long knives are out for Aguirre these days — straw-man Mayor Sanders, brittle Union-Tribune editorial page editor Bob Kittle, do-as-she's-told District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis, renegade police chief Bill Lansdowne, dotty Sheriff Bill Kolender, and, waiting in the wings, ambitious Aguirre-replacement-wannabees Scott Peters and, yes, even Alan Bersin. Citizens look to the Reader's City Lights to remind us what is really going on in this "ethically challenged" town and why we need elected officials as honest and tough as Mike Aguirre to fight for what is right.

Reply by Don Bauder:
Yes. Gwinn, Sanders, Kittle, Dumanis, Lansdowne, Kolender, Peters, Bersin are all friends of the corrupt San Diego. The Superior Court also sides generally with corruption.

City Lights, by Matt Potter Published March 28

Posted by shizzyfinn on

03/29/07, 7:13 p.m.

Jack McGrory?! Argh! I thought Mr. Chargers Ticket Deal was just a Spanos lackey (didn't McGrory work for the Chargers after he left City Hall?). Maybe these millionaire sports team owners throw bones to each others' inside men as a professional courtesy. Or maybe McGrory had something to offer Moores, too.

Posted by Starchild on 03/30/07, 5:39 p.m.

Sure wish there were a few voices like Rider's at City Hall. His ideas are a rare voice of sanity and fiscal common sense that desperately need to be heeded by the political establishment if the people are not to be saddled with ruinous taxes and debts, and failing services. Keep giving 'em hell, Richard!

Picture Story Published March 28

Posted by Jim Newland on 03/29/07, 8:36 p.m.

Robert, This has an interesting story. By the way, there is no "Rolando Hill." This is old Chollas Heights, today known as Darnall, but when this photo was taken it was about to become Redwood Village an early Post War entry level Tract house neighborhood. Its the burned out shell of the 1931 (burned in 1934 with the night watchman inside) hotel above the Bellevue Center (today's University Square shopping center). The hotel owners fell into financial trouble and it mysteriously burned in 1934. I haven't had time to follow up on the resolution of, and if, it was a "crime" or accident. The notes on the backs of the SDHS photos are notoriously inaccurate re: the Rolando reference. There are two 1930s photos of the ruins in the archives as well. The hotel was never finished before the fire. Jim Newland Rolando/College History Project

Reply by Robert Mizrachi:
Yes! this is the story I was never going to find, so thank you, Jim. About comments written on the back of Historical Society prints, good intent is behind them all. That there was a smidge of a story to go on enabled us to publish the photo. And, now that you took a minute to tell the whole, true story

continued on page 71

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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP

BY MATTHEW ALICE



Illustration by Rick Geary

Matt:

Back in the mid-1970s I lived in San Diego. While I was there I discovered the Home Grown albums that were produced yearly by radio station KGB. I purchased one every year until I was forced to move away. Now I live on the East Coast and I lost my collection of LPs in a flood back in '94. Since then I have been trying to find copies of those old albums, alas, without success. Does anyone out there deal in those old "antiques"? Has anyone put them on CD?

— Rich, back East

Matt:

Has anyone that you know of ever recorded the collection of Home Grown albums on cassette or ?? who might make them available to me?

— Rene Eustis, Darby, MT

Hi Matt:

I'm looking for the Home Grown album collection (KGB). Do you have any idea how I can find them?

— Garth, via e-mail

These questions are only a tiny sample. When you people get an idea in your heads, you just won't let it go, will you? Grandma had to throw away about 20 pairs of her favorite sensible shoes to make room in her closet for all the whining letters and e-mails we've received over the years about those danged *Home Grown* albums. If you're not a San Diego OG — the series was a KGB promotion, with proceeds to charity, that featured original songs about local subjects by local musicians. Anyone could submit a tape, and the best made it to vinyl. A very young Cameron Crowe wrote the liner notes in 1974. Each year's release was hotly anticipated by rock and rollers, and the series is San Diego memorabilia at its best.

Now that those old rock and rollers have ponied on into the nostalgia zone — remembering San Diego in the '70s as the last good years the town had — *Home Grown* is back on our minds. I've avoided the subject because my answer would have been the usual...check old vinyl stores; try eBay/other online sources; no, I don't know anyone with taped copies, and even if I did I wouldn't want to be the contact point for the wanton distribution of copyrighted material (sorry, pirates, art ain't free for the taking). But something's in the wind. We're not exactly sure what's up, but the deep-cover squad of the Smarter Than You Are Intelligence Committee here at Alice Enterprises has heard whispers about rumors about unsourced stories that suggest our *Home Grown* jones might be satisfied. Sometime. Not soon. But sometime. Call KGB and all they'll say is, "Great googa mooga shugah bugah!" Catchy, but not helpful.

We're not in the business of spreading false hope. We just decided it was time to put the *Home Grown* question down for its afternoon nap until we can come up with more. We hope this noninformation will send you all into further confusion and longing for the old days. "To serve and reject," that's our motto.

Hey, Matt:

I burn a lot of Nag Champa incense in my apartment, and I'm wondering just what sort of toxic chemicals I am inhaling. Has incense ever been linked to lung cancer or other serious illness? And what exactly is "Nag Champa"?

— Another Matt, Hillcrest

In the grand toxic scheme of things, incense hardly registers on the meter. A stick of Nag Champa vs. the tailpipe of an old diesel truck climbing a hill? Hah. Of course, if the air in your house is so thick you need fog lights to find the bathroom, well, common sense has to tell you your lungs, sinuses, et al., are taking a beating. We'll assume you're a two-, three-stick-a-day guy living in something bigger than a refrigerator carton. You're not helping your lungs much, but there are many more cancer risks in the larger environment. Do Buddhist monks, old Deadheads have lots of lung cancer? Medical science is strangely silent.

Incense — at least the good stuff — is just ground-up spices or wood bark or herbs, flowers, whatever the fragrance is, stuck together with tree sap. So snorting incense smoke is like loitering around a brush fire. If you burn that Midnight Musk or Strawberry Delight stuff, well, there are artificial fragrance chemicals in most of them, which is why they smell like a cheap hooker in flames.

If the smoke doesn't irritate your nose or eye, well, perhaps the spiritual value will offset any small health risk. And by the way, when people say they're "allergic" to smoke (incense, tobacco, whatever), well, they're not. At least not by the strict medical definition of an allergy. There is no protein component in smoke, and protein is necessary to cause an allergic reaction. Smoke is just an irritant, not an allergen.

As for your favorite irritant, "Nag Champa" is Hindi, with a Sanskrit origin, according to my experts. "Champa" is a local name for the tropical flower we call shell ginger. "Nag" is more of a problem. It literally means "cobra" but has other layers of meaning in different contexts. Here it probably means "breath" or "spirit." Ginger flower cobra breath, I'd call it.

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

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



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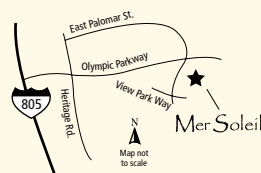


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SportingBox

By Patrick Daugherty

One of a Kind

April. Masters time again. Tiger Woods time again. Mr. Eldrick Woods has been around for a while — turned pro in 1996 and won his first Masters in '97 — so we can call him a regular. It's no stretch to say he's the best golfer born of woman, and barring bad luck, he'll own the major golf records in due time. He owns quite a few already.

You don't have the time to read all his awards, so the following will give you an idea of their depth because each award listed represents a year's worth of being best in that category.

Woods has been on the PGA Tour for ten years and is eight-time PGA Tour Player of the Year, seven-time PGA Tour money winner, seven-time Byron Nelson Award winner (lowest adjusted scoring average for the year), nine-time Mark H. McCormack Award winner (world golf rankings), and four-time Associated Press Male Athlete of the Year. His amateur stats are just as impressive.

I've watched him play for years, still amazed at the shots he routinely makes and how mercilessly, sadistically he crushes opponents, particularly during the last round. He is the greatest frontrunner in sports. Along the way, I have come to understand that Tiger plays another game and he's as good at it as he is at golf.

I'm referring to the media game. Woods is Best of Breed. Michael Jordan was a pro media handler, but you could see his edges once in awhile: the gambling, the ego, the inhuman competitiveness. Lance Armstrong was a pro media handler (controlled his message, never created a controversy about himself) but you could see his hardness, his self-centeredness.

Handling the media is tough to do if you're well known; harder if you're a star, supremely difficult if you're a world celebrity. On that level you become prey. Every day, somebody from the tabloids or *New York Times* or *Entertainment Tonight* wants to interview you. Every moment in public is a moment someone wants something from you: an autograph, a photograph, money, business partnership, friendship, endorsement, charity appearance, sex, conversation...you name it. You get up, get ready, walk into the world and are greeted by a tsunami of other people's greed. Shysters, swindlers, hustlers, crazies are coming at you. It's ceaseless; they never seem to tire. How long would you last until you said something stupid?

Have you noticed that everything you've read about Tiger Woods — every interview you've heard or seen — sounds as if his dialogue was written by an advertising agency? There's no meat on the bones of his words; everything has been combed and brushed so it won't offend any consumer. Follows are some representative Tiger quotes: "Amazing thing is, I love golf more than ever." "I mean, as an athlete, as a competitor, you have to have that belief in yourself." "I'm trying as hard as I can, and sometimes things don't go your way, and that's the way things go."

Don't get me wrong. I admire Woods' media skills. He's the one on the high wire. One slip, one stupid comment, and his words will be sent around the world and then trotted out from time to time for the rest of his life.

The thing is, we don't know much about him. Don't know his fault lines or the places where he's funny.

There is something weird about Tiger. He's way too wholesome. Normally, you'd expect a kid who had a crazy father (or, to put this in a kinder way, a kid whose father had him playing competitive golf at the *age of two*) to wind up hating dear old dad. If not that, at least the kid would rebel against the bastard and come back to him when he's 30. Tiger didn't; he loved his dad all the way through, and that's not normal.

Also, he has a beautiful wife. She's a blonde and a foreigner. She comes from the foreign country of Sweden. That should be an opening for the press. But, no, he has managed to keep his private life private. Tiger married in 2004 at the age of 28. One would expect that he did not enter into marriage as a virgin. But, no ex-girlfriend has tried her hand at the tabloid, talk TV, ghostwritten book freak show. Or boyhood chum. Or college roommate.

No mistakes. He doesn't make mistakes in a news conference or interviews. No mistakes, no controversy, no ruffled feathers. Can any other athlete say that?

According to *Forbes Magazine*, Woods made \$87 million last year. I don't think he's being overpaid. *Golf Digest* says Woods will become a billionaire sometime in 2010. Fine with me, although I wouldn't mind knowing something about who he is.

Maybe there is one clue. I'd guess that a guy who names his 155-foot, three-story, \$22-million-dollar yacht *Privacy* is trying to tell us something.

The Vegas Line

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Retief Goosen	18 to 1
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Mike Weir	30 to 1
David Toms	40 to 1
Jose Maria Olazabal	40 to 1
Stewart Cink	45 to 1
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K.J. Choi	50 to 1
Fred Couples	60 to 1
Scott Verplank	60 to 1
Justin Leonard	70 to 1
Field (All Others)	4 to 1

Player	Odds
Phil Mickelson	6 to 1
Jim Furyk	15 to 1
Vijay Singh	15 to 1
Adam Scott	20 to 1
Chris Dimarco	30 to 1
Geoff Ogilvy	35 to 1
Davis Love III	40 to 1
Padraig Harrington	40 to 1
Trevor Immelman	45 to 1
Chad Campbell	50 to 1
David Howell	50 to 1
Stuart Appleby	50 to 1
Robert Allenby	60 to 1
Charles Howell III	70 to 1
Miguel Jimenez	70 to 1

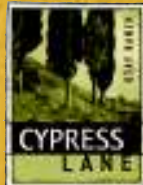
The Sporting Box solicits your comments via the Internet: sportbox@ix.netcom.com.

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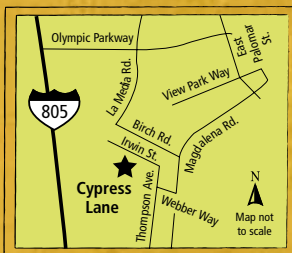
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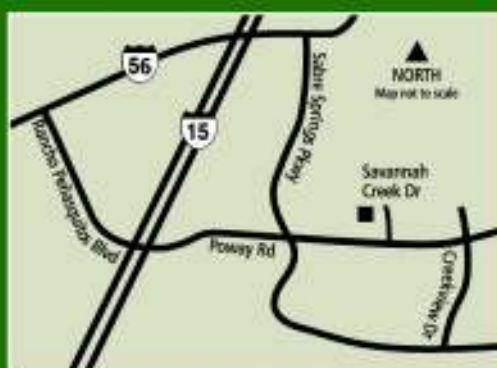
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SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches
Address: The Center, 3909 Centre Street, Hillcrest, 619-521-2222

Founded locally: 1970

Senior pastor: John Gill (interim pastor)

Congregation size: 300

Staff size: 7

Sunday school enrollment: 12

Annual budget: under \$400,000

Weekly giving: around \$7500

Singles program: no

Dress: semiformal to casual

Diversity: majority Caucasian, but diverse

Sunday worship: 9 a.m., 11 a.m. (special service times at Easter: 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m.)

Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 10 minutes

Website: www.mccsd.org

"I was at Shadow Mountain for 17 years, from the time I was 19," said Metropolitan Community Church congregant (and choir member) Kelly Holmes when I spoke with him. "I was gay the whole time. Eventually, I said, 'I can't do this. I need to be congruent in all areas of my life.'" So, he came here. "It really freaked me out at first. That's a very dramatic way of putting it, but I say it because it was hard for me to figure out how to put God and my sexuality together."

MCC holds its services in the barrel-roofed, butter-yellow (trimmed with pistachio and terra cotta) auditorium at The Center in Hillcrest. Black banners lined the walls, bearing faux-stained-glass images of crowns, doves, butterflies, and other Christian symbols, each accompanied by phrases rendered in artful gold lettering: "The Heart of Worship," "Love of my Soul," "Draw Me Close to You," etc. Risers stood in front of the stage; on the stage stood altars both high and low, draped in heavy red fabric trimmed with gold. On the altars: a book on a stand, candles, a chalice, a cloth cover for the ciborium — all the elements for Mass. And above it all, white lilies — traditionally associated with the upcoming celebration of Easter — framed by great fans of palm fronds, denoting the day's celebration of Palm Sunday.

"We have come to this place to open ourselves to your power," prayed Lyn Malone. "Help us to hear again familiar words...that they might be written anew in our hearts." With that, the choir, bearing palms and singing, processed in and mounted the risers. "As Christ came into Jerusalem so many years ago," prayed Pastor John Gill, "so may Christ come into our heart, mind, soul, and spirit today." Then the choir took over, presenting "The Sacrifice," a "sermon in music" on the Passion of Jesus.

"Unchanging/ Eternal/ Forever, you will be/ Unending/ Immortal/ Messiah king of kings," boomed the choir over the taped music of horns, strings, and dramatic percussion. The song was a long way from the intimate, personal expressions of spirituality that had come before.

This was music about Heavenly Glory — theatrical, powerful, full of tight harmonies, frequent modulations, and dramatic resolutions.

Choir members portraying various figures from the Passion cried out: "He is the God in the flesh!" "The king of Israel!" "He is my Lord!" Only Caiaphas demurred, sneering, "He was not a prophet, even if they called him one." But he was overridden: "The same God who delivered our people out of Egypt, and has been faithful to us this day! His love never changes!" And that led to the next song: "Great is your faithfulness/ You never change/ You never fail, O God..."

The Passion narrative played out without a narrator; instead, we heard comments from the familiar figures: the centurion ("This is not just a man"); Pilate ("I had no choice!"); and Peter ("I can't believe that I denied knowing Him"). The choir served as backup for solos about the Last Supper, the Crucifixion, and grace (the last a show-stopping number that

brought a rain of applause). They also performed as the People, singing praises to Jesus as he entered Jerusalem, then calling for His crucifixion, then repenting and gathering steam with "Nothing but the Blood of Jesus" before exploding into the finale: "Jesus! You're my master and my king/ Jesus! You're my lord, my everything/ Jesus! It's your blood that made me clean/ Alleluia! Alleluia!"

But before the final song, a menacing bassoon kicked in for Caiaphas's explanation of his importance in presiding over Passover: "Our salvation depended on the blood of an unblemished lamb. We reenact this every year.... That's why we were in such a hurry to end our problem with Jesus: I had to slay the lamb." Jesus' mother Mary drove it home: "This year...the chief priest didn't just reenact the delivery of

God's people; he was the instrument of their delivery. I believe he was used by God to sacrifice...my son Jesus, so that we could be saved for all time."

After the choir had left the risers, Lyn Malone and Lee Bowman ascended to the altar to lead an informal Communion service. They didn't uncover the ciborium, etc., but simply lifted the bread and cup during the (slightly adjusted) words of consecration: "Take this and eat it; this is my being," and "Take and drink of this cup...for this is my life, given for you." "O loving, forgiving Father God," said Malone, "we pray for these elements to become for us those things which we need them to be." "This Palm Sunday and every Sunday," said Bowman, "we offer an open Communion. That means that these gifts of wafer and juice are open and available to everyone — just like God."

What happens when we die?

"Life eternal," said Gill.

— Matthew Lickona



JOHN GILL

**Metropolitan Community Church
Hillcrest**

★★½

Sermon

content★★

delivery★★★

Liturgy.....★★★

Music

congregational★★

band.....★★★½

Snacks.....★★

Architecture.....★★

Friendliness.....★★★

Poor to satisfactory.....(none)

Good★

Very good.....★★

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Extraordinary★★★★

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—EVE KELLY

The Irish soda bread wriggled inside the lifeless Saran Wrap. The van rounded a corner and the bread pan slid to the edge of the seat, nearly toppling but for my last-minute grab. “Is there a plastic wrap that works?” I muttered to myself. The battle between plastic wrap and me has been going for years. Is it my wrapping technique, or is it the fact that I always buy the generic brands? Or does all cling wrap stink?

I started with the usual phone chain of those in the know, or, more accurately, those whom I know. It turned out that plastic wrap is a hot-button issue. All the ladies I called had an opinion on it.

Longtime pal Bernice offered a suggestion. “Glad works [Cling Wrap, \$3.79 for 200 sq. feet at Vons], but the generic brands usually do not stick,” she said.

Chum Erica seconded Bernice’s Glad position. “I only use Glad because even with the name brands, some are better than others. It’s not like with tin foil where any brand will work. But Glad does work. I have read that you are not supposed to cover food with plastic wrap and put it in the microwave to reheat it. There is a danger of the plastic leaching off into the food. So we don’t use plastic wrap for that now.”

My old friend Sarah commiserated with the static-less wrap dilemma. “There are definitely some brands that don’t stick at all; they just lay flat on top of the bowl. But I usually wrap the entire bowl, top and bottom, in wrap until the two edges touch each other. Or I do a layer in one direction and then a layer in the other direction so that the container has been completely covered. It uses up a ton, though. I never actually read the directions, so it would be interesting to see how they say you are supposed to wrap it,” she added.

“I am a huge fan of Costco’s Kirkland Plastic wrap [\$9.99 for 3000 sq. feet],” stated sis Nancy. “It’s restaurant quality, bulk amount, clings to anything, and it has a cutter on it like the closure of a Ziploc bag. So convenient. I don’t belong to Costco anymore, and I miss that wrap terribly.”

Impressed with her fervor, I made a note to swing by Costco and check out the precious wrap.

“I don’t even buy it,” answered my other sis, Meg. “It’s too expensive. I use tin foil if absolutely necessary; otherwise, a bread bag suffices. That’s what Mom did.”

I laughed at the memory and Meg’s...thriftiness. Mom reused bread bags for storing food in the fridge and

“The quality of the wrap means less to me than the box and the cutter.”

wrapping the sandwiches for our school lunches. Every day at lunch, while the other girls removed white-bread sandwiches from Ziploc bags, I would reach into my brown paper bag, extricate the sandwich from the embarrassing bread bag, and then remove it from the brown bag.

My friend Margaret shared my dissatisfaction for plastic wrap but for a different reason: “They all stink,” she complained. “The deciding factor for me is a good cutter and the wrap has to stay in the box. The quality of the wrap means less to me than the box and the cutter. If it comes out of the box, the box gets lost; it’s near useless. The Costco wrap comes in a heavy box, so when you pull out the wrap, the roll stays in the box. And it comes with a no-sharp-edge cutter, so it is not hazardous for my kids to use.”

Another friend of mine, Shawn, loves Glad Press’n Seal (\$4.19 for 70 sq. feet at Vons). “It sticks way better,” she said. “I don’t know why, but it does. Go get some and try it out.”

I bought some and then contacted Glad spokesperson Cammie Nguyen about the Press’n Seal product. “What gives Glad Press’n Seal wrap its sealing qualities is it uses Griptex, a proprietary gripping technology. Think of the textured surface of Glad Press’n Seal wrap as having thousands of tiny hills and valleys. Only when you apply pressure do the valleys seal to the desired location. The sealing actually works with the help of the primary ingredients typically found in chewing gum — an old idea now applied to wrap. These ingredients have been approved by the FDA for over 35 years and are frequently used for labels found on fruits and vegetables. According to the FDA, small amounts of such ingredients in food do not pose any health risk.

“While other wraps cling,” Nguyen continued, “Glad Press’n Seal wrap actually seals to surfaces including plastic, paper, wood, metal, Styrofoam containers, and glass. It’s the first sealable plastic wrap.”

And the worry of plastic leaching into the food?

“The concern over heating plastics and migration stems from the use of chemical additives [known as plasticizers] in plastics made of polyvinyl chloride [PVC]. Glad does not use any PVC plastics in its products. Glad wraps are safe to use in the microwave.”

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

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Pay bills

Reconsider job

Beg to be rehired

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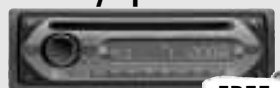
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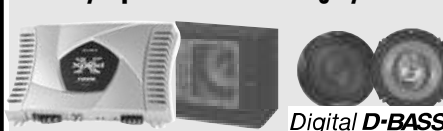
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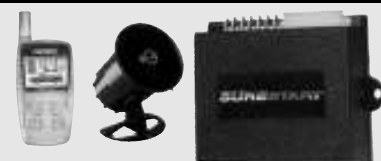
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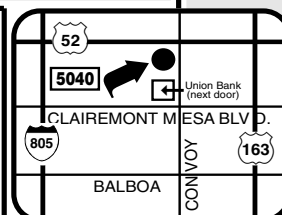


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Sanity is a small price to pay for happiness.
— Marabeth Madsen

It had only been a clump of clay, a pebble-sized bit of hardened scraggy earth the color of cement; but once wedged in the soft fleshy nook between my third and fourth toe, it was a seed of pure evil, planted there by Lucifer. I hobbled, cursing, to a chair, on which I managed to pitch my ass while simultaneously lifting my foot to my face. I seized the offending bit of plaster

I seized the offending bit of plaster with two fingers and chucked it across the room, or at least I tried to make it that far — its insignificant weight offered only enough momentum to allow it to fly a few feet before landing on the paper below with a *thwap* that was, in the end, unsatisfactory.

with two fingers and chucked it across the room, or at least I tried to make it that far — its insignificant weight offered only enough momentum to allow it to fly a few feet before landing on the paper below with a *thwap* that was, in the end, unsatisfactory.

A muscle I never knew I had, located near the top of my left cheekbone where it meets the bottom of my eye socket, began to twitch. Having been pushed so slowly, and in such small

increments, I had not realized how close I'd come to the vast chasm of insanity until I was perched on its verge, staring desperately into its depths.

"Are you okay?" It took a moment for the words to penetrate the cocoon in which I was suffocating. "Hey, *Barb*. Are you all right?"

No, I thought. "Yes," I said.

David eyed me cautiously. "You sure? You look like you're about to, I don't know, freak out or something."

"I'm fine, really," I insisted.

"Then why are you doing that?"

"What?"

"Why are you fiddling with that stuff on the table? Why are you touching

everything with each of your fingers? You're OCD-ing, aren't you," accused David. I've told him a thousand times that I'm not "obsessive-compulsive," but he likes to point out my little rituals, those things I do that help me to feel like I have some semblance of control — repetitive, symmetrical movements that I am convinced might somehow rid me of negative emotions.

"I need to get out of here," I said. "Now."

Our place had only been under siege for two weeks, but it felt like two years. Months ago, when the plans were made, I agreed with David that if we were going to get it done, we should get it all done at once — to experience a greater inconvenience for a few weeks instead of intermittent nuisances spanning several months. Once the crew arrived with all of their equipment, however, I questioned the logic.

The first day, furniture was moved away from the walls and covered with its emptied drawers, stacks of books, and artwork. All of this was covered with a Saran-Wrappy thin plastic. Brown paper was taped to the floor in almost every room, canvas was draped on the stairs, and pretty soon, dust from the sanding covered the kitchen counters and every surface reachable by air.

Home improvement is like plastic

surgery, only not quite as shallow. The home is a temple, one's sanctuary; David and I have elicited the help of professionals to make ours look more like we want it to, knowing full well how uncomfortable the process might be. Okay, maybe not "full well."

"Where are you going?" David asked. I was grabbing my keys, purse, a sweater, trying to force myself to breathe more slowly to avoid hyperventilating.

"I don't know," I muttered. "Somewhere. Anywhere."

"Can I go with you?" I nodded, and David followed me out the door.

Once in the car, David asked me if I wanted him to drive. "No!" I snapped a little too quickly. I made it down the block to Balboa Park before I stopped trying to hold back an anguished grunt, the uttering of which triggered a torrent of tears, the physical form of frustration that had been welling up for weeks. I hazarded a glimpse at David. The contours of his face were ever changing under the artificial illumination of headlights and street lamps, but there was no mistaking his befuddled expression.

Nothing was being forced on us. Each member of the four women and one man crew from Ox & Olive (a local painting and faux-finish company) was friendly and considerate. They were doing exactly what we'd asked them, what we were *paying* them to do. Still, having people in your



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home — whether they are guests or temporary employees — feels intrusive after a while. In our case, intrusions are magnified by the fact that David and I both work from home. David's office was covered in plastic, his five computers unplugged for the unknown duration of the project. Rather than freaking out, he busied himself in the kitchen, preparing gourmet lunches for the crew. My office may have been left untouched, but it was packed with more crap than a waste-treatment plant, which only exacerbated the overwhelming sense of disarray and lack of control I felt.


David was patient and quiet as I drove aimlessly up and down the streets of downtown, toggling between muttered curses and sobs, until I ended up at Laurel Restaurant & Bar. "A drink," I said. "What we need — what I need — is a drink. And something tasty."

We chose corner seats and did our best to suppress the persistent coughs we'd each been suffering, a leftover symptom of the cold we'd been trading back and forth for weeks. After I'd had a few sips of a crisp and fruity *viognier*, and after I'd nibbled from a decadent artisanal cheese board, I inhaled deeply, let the air out slowly, and said, "Now I know why crazy people hoard shit." David waited as I savored another sip of wine. "You know," I explained, "your environment outside is a reflection of what's going on inside. Crazy people create an environment of chaos and disorder to reflect their inner turmoil and confusion. Their 'inner' forces them to create their 'outer.'" David raised his brows, encouraging me to get to some kind of point. "What I'm trying to say is...I'm beginning to *feel* like our place *looks*."

David took a moment to enjoy his lycheetini.

After applying caramelized onions to a slice of gorgonzola-covered baguette, his gaze found my face. His lips opened as if to say something and then closed, as though he couldn't locate the words he needed. Finally, his face lit up as though illuminated by a bulb from above. With a voice full of spirit and conviction, he said, "Our place is going to look *awesome*."

I smiled at this sudden display of charming enthusiasm. I felt the tightness of my cheeks rise and my lips turn up in amusement and I realized that it had been a while since I'd donned such an oversized grin. It was contagious. Soon, David and I were staring at each other with stupid, love-drunk expressions, like two geeks who just got their hands on a pre-release bootleg of *Lord of the Rings 4*. "Yeah," I agreed, raising my glass in a toast. "It's gonna look *fucking great*." ■



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Is the Sun In Your

A black and white collage centered around a woman with long dark hair, wearing a dark top, large earrings, a ring, and a bracelet. She has her finger in her mouth and is looking upwards. The background is filled with various cutouts of people in summer settings: a man with a camera and hat at the top left; a man with large round glasses below him; a man with binoculars to the right; a muscular man in sunglasses on a lifeguard stand above a child with binoculars; a man with goggles on the far right; a smiling man in a hat below the lifeguard; a young girl in overalls in front of the woman; a small dog peeking from behind her; and a muscular shirtless man on the bottom right. The entire scene is set against a light gray background with a decorative scalloped border at the top.



Eyes or Are You Just Avoiding Me?

HERE'S MY THEORY: I've noticed this weird "no look" policy that San Diego girls and young women — and even some San Diego boys and young men — seem to have. You pass them on the street, sit across from them at a café, and it's not just that they don't look at you. They *actively* don't look, which gives them a weirdly defiant focus, like novice actors trying not to acknowledge the audience or camera.

I recently returned from a trip to New York and New England, and there, even in the cities, strangers would look up for a moment and meet my eye: a momentary acknowledging, a disinterested assessment, not intimidated, without attitude, and then back to business. Usually, the eye contact would last for under a second, perhaps accompanied by a facial expression, often a kind of neutral half-smile with no effusive feeling. After a few days of this common decency, I began to sense a camaraderie with the people around me.

Back here in San Diego, I tried to establish the same sort of eye contact: long enough for recognition, shorter than an invitation, wherein some fleeting form of human respect might occur. I wasn't even try-

ing to be friendly, not exactly — I didn't want to smile or say hello. And I wasn't being too overt or assertive: I know it's not polite to stare. But I found the responsive moments to be few and far between.

Was it arrogance? Fear? Bad attitude? A different sense of manners? Or was my observation altogether wrong? Was my test group — me, and me alone — too narrow for an accurate sociology experiment?

Garan Smith, 41, lives in Golden Hill. Five years in San Diego, from Michigan.

"There is a very wide lack of eye contact in San Diego. What I see overall is a general fear, especially from the

women here. They seem reticent toward giving eye contact unless they've scanned you from somewhere far away, and they're able to pretty much size you up and determine either that you're

safe, or that you're weak and she can take you, or whether there might be some interest on her part.

"It's very different between here and Michigan. In San Diego, being a tourist town, most people get to pretend that they're



Garan Smith

not going through the nitty-gritty aspects of life. In Michigan, in general, you're talking about people who are socially and economically a little further down the ladder, and those types of people are more keen to look right into your eyes. They are accustomed to dealing with a more contrasting situation, and that gives them greater character. The lack of the ability to look into another person's eyes has a lot to do with your lack of strength, your own lack of virtue or confidence. San Diego doesn't have that many contrasts of age, color, socioeconomic class, and, say, not even the contrast of seasonal living — living with those types of contrasts is the thing that gives you character. Getting used to those contrasts can give you a sense that you can embrace the world about you and, in doing so, embrace people from eye to eye."

Danielle Berkley, 31, lives in Hillcrest. Two years in San Diego, from New Jersey.

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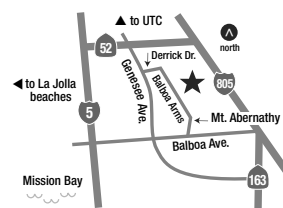
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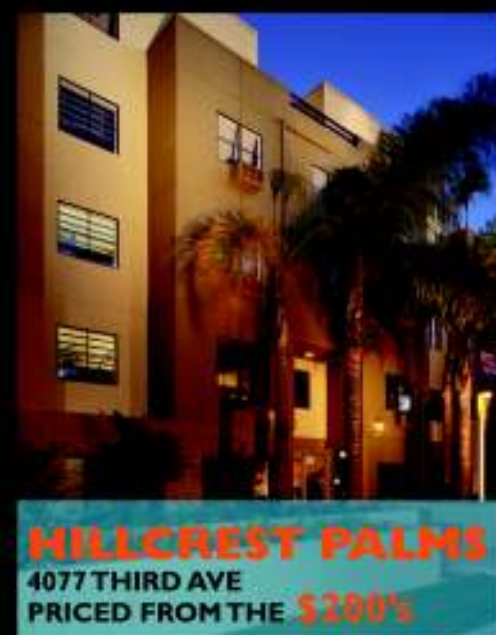
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Danielle Berkley

from any city back East. That hustle and bustle. But I think on the East Coast you're bred to respect people and shake hands. You look people in the eye, and you talk to them. You don't know how many people I meet out here who comment that I have such a strong handshake. Men say that to me. And I'm, like, 'Well, you should have a stronger handshake, man.'

"But it's funny out here. If a guy's looking all over the place, and he's kind of looking at me, too, and then he's going to wait for me to

look back at him, to see if I'm interested, then it's such a stupid game we have to play. It's really not like that back East. People will just walk up to you if they want to talk to you.

"So I have this whole hypothesis about it.

"I've met a lot of people who were born and raised here. And most of them have never left here. And that's really interesting to me. I'm not saying this isn't a great life, but there's a whole world that I would like to go see. So these people live in this paradise here, but it's an illusion. And it all has to do with the weather. You don't have to adjust to something greater than yourself, like, four times a year, like you did with the seasons back on the East Coast. Here, you can be as narcissistic as

you want, because the weather's always consistent. The people take care of themselves and think about themselves more, and they don't have to acclimate, literally, to anything greater than themselves. And everybody looks really great here, but that's kind of the problem. So there's all this self-absorption and arrogance, and then insecurity, too, because are you really as hot as you think you are? And then nobody really looks at anybody. Welcome to San Diego!"

Acacia Collins, 19, lives in City Heights. Grew up in San Diego.

"I've noticed that people in general don't really look you in the eye in San Diego. I really notice it in a customer-service situation, because I work in retail, and I'm supposed to make eye con-



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Acacia Collins

blood — and I was dressed in really cute tight jeans and a white tank top, and everyone else there was dressed in black with studs and piercings. So I was like the blond person in the white shirt, and every-

one else was looking at me like, 'Huh?' So I was a little bit less comfortable making eye contact with these people, because the situation was intimidating. I was different from everyone else.

"I've noticed the guys in San Diego seem a little intimidated, too. I don't know if they think the girls are out of their league or what. But sometimes I'll make eye contact with a guy, and you know

he's checking you out, but he won't come up to initiate conversation. It's really weird. Even if you maintain eye contact for a couple of seconds, and it keeps happening, that person won't even come up

and initiate conversation with you. And that's weird. Maybe I'm intimidating to them. I don't know."

Sandie Zuniga, 25, lives in Bonita. From San Diego, just moved

tact with the customer and establish that connection, but it's really hard to do sometimes. People will kind of fiddle with something and get all nervous and not look at you. I mean, I've been to Canada, and people are really friendly there, and it seemed like, compared to here, up in Vancouver, everyone looked you in the eye.

"Something else I've noticed is you have to dress the part in San Diego — you have to wear the uniform. Otherwise, people treat you differently. There are so many scenes here. That's just kind of the thing, like, 'What's your scene,' you know?

"If you go to the beach, and you're totally dressed like you're going to Fashion Valley — like Cheese-cake Factory, with your blond hair all styled, and perfectly manicured, and pink and light blue — people aren't really going to give you the eye-contact thing. They're just kind of, like, 'What are they doing here?' You know? But when I come out with my ripped jeans and my old T-shirt and my hair's all messy and I'm in my flip-flops, I think people on the beach are more likely to feel comfortable approaching me.

"I mean, a really good example was when I went to a Gwar show downtown — they're like heavy metal with puppets, and they spray the crowd with

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back from Michigan after going away to college.

"Usually, I say, 'Hi,' and I smile as people go by. I think it's normal to make some friendly acknowledgment. But in certain other settings, it might be different. If I thought a guy was checking me out, and I wasn't really interested, then I probably would avoid looking back at him. Or like now — I'm sitting here studying, and I'm more involved in what I'm



Sandie Zuniga

doing, so I might be less receptive to eye contact.

"But I would say that most people around here are generally pretty friendly. If you're walking down

the street or standing in line or doing something in an open social situation, people will smile back, and you can have that moment of 'Hey, what's up' and acknowledging each other.

"So I do generally smile and acknowledge people who walk by, although I certainly don't go around checking people out and doing the whole 'Hey, smile, checking you out' thing. I think if a guy is blatantly checking me out and doing it in a way that's not just friendly and considerate, then I would be a little more standoffish. And I would say, in general, if I'm in a situation where I don't want to be hit on, then I'm not going to be as inviting."

Marilyn Haidri, 21, lives in Hillcrest. Three years in San Diego, from



Marilyn Haidri

Northern California.

"I usually never make eye contact. I'm usually pretty shy. Passing by people in the street, I always look at their knees. I always thought I was unusual because I have so much trouble with eye contact. I've been trying to work on this. I even tell my friends to sit across the table and stare at me and see how I do with it.

"I feel badly that I'm so scared of eye contact, but it's just so intimate. Eyes are very expressive, and I feel that when I look at someone, maybe they can read a little bit of what's going on in my head. It's a scary thing to do.

"I'd be really embarrassed if a guy was looking at me. And I'd only check out a guy if I was pretty sure he wasn't looking back.

"One thing I've noticed about eye contact in San Diego is on the college campuses, no one looks at each other. It's like everyone's in their own little bubble. You're isolated moving through a crowd. You glance, and everyone's staring straight ahead, either over everyone's head or down at their knees like I do. I've been on a lot of campuses around town, and it's more or less the same at all of them."

Michael Marchand, 23, lives in Pacific Beach. Six years in San Diego, from Ukiah, California.

"I might try to



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establish eye contact with a girl. Depends whether I'm interested in her or not. Probably I'd exchange just general pleasantries, a smile, a nod, a slight wave. Real brief. Just fleeting glances up and down. But never a

straight stare-down. For instance, now I'm eating a bagel, and perhaps I'd take a bite and just kind of look around. Take a glance until perhaps the glance is received back in my direction.

"More often than

not, I think eye contact is returned. Perhaps not in a provocative sense, but usually just kind of like a pleasant 'hey.' I think people here in San Diego do that, in general. Not as much as where I grew up, but Ukiah was tiny,

and everyone knew everybody, so there weren't a lot of random people. But I also lived in Spain for a year, and I would say San Diegans are generally more pleasant when it comes to general niceties such as just saying, 'Hey,

what's up.' More than Europeans, and I lived in San Francisco for a year, too, and I'd say more than San Francisco as well. San Diego just seems to be a little warmer than the Bay Area or Madrid.

"But I've also been

pry to being ignored or not looked at by girls in this town, although I can't say that I've been damaged by it, but I'm definitely aware of it. And it makes you feel a little slighted, like, what's the problem with just

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- Straightforward in San Diego

Dear Straightforward:

I'm going to be elusive here, as is my nature. What exactly does "free" mean, anyway? I believe it was Plato who said, "No man can be free unless he leaves all his material possessions behind with his servants and sends for them later." That kind of puts things into perspective, doesn't it?

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being friendly? If I don't know someone, then I try to be as cordial as I can be, as a rule. I do feel that I'm



Michael Marchand

more apt to be friendly and responsive to slight gestures than others are, and it kind of bugs me. I've seen a lot of that 'committed/not-responding' stuff, and it makes me wonder. I like people, but it seems a lot of people don't, and they prefer isolation, which is an attitude I'm not used to."

Megan Donahue, 25, lives in La Jolla. Two years in San Diego, from Santa Barbara.

"If a guy's checking me out, I usually won't look back at him. I mean, it depends. Is he staring? If he's staring, I might look over at him a few times. But it depends on who I'm with, it depends on

who he is, what he looks like, whether or not I'm attracted to him, whether or not he seems creepy. Mostly, I guess it depends on how safe I feel in the situation. Because if you make eye contact with somebody, it's like

sending them a signal, like you're interested in talking with them. "In Europe, if you make eye contact with somebody, or if you smile as you pass them on the street, they think you're crazy. Normally when I'm out for

a run or something, if I pass somebody, I'll try to make eye contact and maybe smile or just be, like, 'Hi, how's it going,' you know, just something casual. But in Europe, they respond very differently than they do here.

And I noticed that mostly in the big cities, like Prague and Bernau. "But people in San Diego are friendlier, I think. They'll say, 'Good morning,' or 'How's it going,' I think people here return eye

contact, in general. "I lived in New York for a while, and my impression was that people there are far less likely to look you in the eye or be friendly. And I think a lot of it is, in small towns or small communities with

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Megan Donahue

more of a communal feel, people are more likely to be friendly to strangers, and make eye contact, and strike

up a conversation with someone they don't know. Whereas in New York people are very focused on what they have to do. Because you pass so many people every day, you kind of have to make your own way through everything. So they're very focused on what they're doing and less likely to take a moment and talk to someone. So I think there's more

of a correlation between eye contact in large cities versus small towns than there is with East Coast versus West Coast."

Regan Lau, 26, lives in Pacific Beach. Two years in San Diego, from Long Island, New York.

"I'd probably glance back at a guy who's looking at me, kind of to let him know that I know that he's looking at me, and then I probably wouldn't think about it



Regan Lau

again. If we make eye contact, I'd probably have more of a curious look on my face, and I'd try to see if he looked angry or happy, or cute, I guess. But it depends on my situa-

tion. For example, right now I'm in this café to just eat a salad and go. I'm not looking to meet anyone. In a bar, it's different. It's more of a social setting. I'm out there to talk to people and meet people. I might even initiate eye contact in that situation.

"But I feel like I always look at people and give them a smile. I feel like sometimes in grocery stores, or wherever, I'm just constantly looking at

everybody who passes by and I'm doing the smile. And sometimes I laugh at myself after every single time I do it, because I'm just constantly doing it. Smiling and glancing. And I think most of the time people are receptive to it. Mostly older people are more receptive, I guess. Usually younger women are the least receptive. Maybe they're just more self-conscious, thinking I'm looking at them for a different

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reason than I am.

"But I guess I can be less receptive in certain situations, too. If someone's face doesn't have an expression, and they're just looking at me as we're walking by, and they're not smiling or looking overly welcoming, then I can be, like, 'What was that?' Because it's more up for interpretation."

Sara Nguyen, 29, lives in Pacific Beach, and grew up in San Diego.

"If someone's looking at me, then before I look back at them — before I look them in the eye — I try to get a sense of what the look is like. If they're leering, then I'm not going to talk to that person. But if they have a nice demeanor, a nice



Sara Nguyen

energy about them, then maybe they're just interested in your culture, or your necklace, or what you're wearing. I travel a lot, so I'll be wearing things that are different, so I can see why people are looking sometimes. But I don't automatically think, 'Oh, they want to sleep with me.'

"I usually return eye contact to let the person know that I know they're looking. I don't want to be a bitch about it.

"But I've noticed that a lot of girls in this area, in Pacific Beach, don't return eye contact. I think it's because of the culture of PB. The people that live here are younger — more college

students — and a lot of the time younger girls don't want to be hit on. When, in reality, sometimes, people just want to be friendly. They want to talk to you and have a conversation. So it really depends, I

think, on where a girl is in her life stage, whether she wants to interact with someone who's looking at her. I'm seeing a lot more families in PB, but the scene is very much drinking, young, don't

bother me, I'm here to have fun, if you're not hot I don't want to talk to you — that kind of atmosphere.

"Most people from my culture, from Vietnam, don't hold eye contact. It would be

considered disrespectful to do that. I think living here and being from another culture, I really have acculturated to this society. I wouldn't say I've conformed.

"I really assess each

situation on an individual basis. I don't do anything just because. Like, for example, you walked out here, gave me eye contact, and I gave you the eye contact back. Not because I was interested, or you

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were interested, or whatever — it was because I was acknowledging you. It was a sign of respecting you, and you looking, period.

“I have to admit that I don’t really look at a lot of the younger guys. It’s really the energy that they put out. If you’re a guy that’s a showoff and looks arrogant, I’m not going to want to even look at you. I mean, I’d rather have a conversation with a nice guy who’s funny versus somebody who’s hot. I went through a phase when I was younger where I was going to clubs a lot, only looking at certain guys, and really being a bitch sometimes, too. You know, getting free drinks as much as I could. But again, that’s

a phase. You go through it, and then you’re done with it. And you learn from it. You learn that not everybody wants to sleep with you. I mean, you’re not that hot all the time. People aren’t that interested in you all the time. You know? It’s better to be humble and take people at their face value and just see them the way they are.”

Aurora Sanchez, 23, lives in National City. Twelve years in San Diego, grew up in Tijuana.

“In general, people get sometimes intimidated when people make eye contact. Like myself, I might get a little neurotic or paranoid if somebody makes eye contact with me, just because it forces me to look at the



Aurora Sanchez

other person, and I wonder what they want.

“Although I think people in San Diego do make eye contact because they’re friendly and they want to meet people. But in Tijuana, where I’m from, it’s more like, ‘Why are you looking at me?’ Almost like a judgmental thing.

“I’ve changed since I’ve been here, though, and I don’t mind eye contact as much. I try to smile at people when we look at each other. I

try to be friendly. Because I think San Diego is a pretty friendly place.”

Tiffany Jobbagy, 23, lives in Chula Vista. Five months in San Diego, grew up in Connecticut.

“I go by first impressions a lot, so if someone’s looking at me, and it seems like some weird guy who I feel uncomfortable about, then I won’t give eye contact. Or, if I feel like a guy is looking at me just to pick me up, and he’s looking at me for the wrong intentions, then I don’t return eye contact. I return eye contact mostly when I think someone else’s look has good intentions. If someone’s just saying ‘hi’ and being nice, then I’ll return eye contact back. But if it’s for the wrong reasons, then I avoid it.

“For the most part, I think eye contact is important, and it says a



Tiffany Jobbagy

lot about who you are as a person. And I think that people who have good communication skills have good eye contact, because they’re secure.

“I do find that there are times when you can sense somebody’s security right away just based on the way that they approach you, based on the way they interact with you. And I do find that there are times when I’ll have a conversation with somebody, and you can tell that they’re uncomfortable because they won’t look at you. But I wouldn’t say that I’ve noticed any eye-contact trend in San Diego ver-

sus New England.

“I don’t check out guys. I’m old school that way, old-fashioned. I guess I wait for the guys to check me out, if they’re going to. The guys who do give me eye contact, or who give me that little glimmer of, like, ‘I’m interested,’ I most of the time don’t return it back, because I get bad vibes easily. I think I might come off as arrogant or bitchy, but it’s because I’m a to-myself, mind-my-business type of person. But if I’m approached and someone interacts with me, then I’m good. I’m good to go. I’m open to that. But I think initially people might get the wrong vibe from me.”

Chi Essary, 31, lives in University Heights. Four years in San Diego, grew up in Oregon.

“It’s a little more feminist in Oregon,



Chi Essary

where I’m from. The feminism is really kind of in-your-face. So the men were even less likely to make eye contact with you there than they are here. When I came here, I

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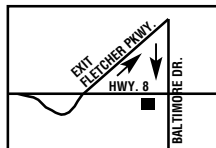
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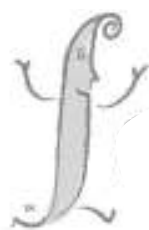


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was, like, ‘Wow, the men will actually talk to you and make eye contact.’ Because the thing was, the women could be very rude to men up in Oregon. Very rude. It was like it was an affront to women to approach them. You had to be careful to treat them like complete equals. So if you approached a woman, then it was a sexual thing, and you were a male chauvinist pig. Or something like that. I never really agreed with much of that. But I saw a lot of it.

“Like, one time, at Reed College, which is this bastion of extreme feminism, these two guys were walking out of the student union, and one of the guys held the door open for this girl, and she called him a rapist. Can you believe that? So I kind of grew up in an area where you weren’t supposed to acknowledge that a woman was a woman and a man was a man, and by being flirtatious and approaching a woman, you were being the dominant one, and it had to all happen more organically. And when I talked about that with my girlfriends, they would say that it was so hard to actually meet a guy, because it couldn’t look like he was trying to come on to you at all. You could only meet through friends or accidents.

“So here, in San Diego, it’s a lot more laid back than that. But I’m shy, in general. So when a guy tries to make eye contact with me, I look down. So then of course he’s not going to come talk to me because I look down. And my friends always tease me about that.”

Richard Essary, 30, lives in Pacific Beach. Six years in San Diego, grew up in Oregon.

“I think a woman will size a man up, and a man will size a woman up, for their other features — for

their economic features, their biological features — before they will allow themselves to make eye contact. I know I do. And it might take less than half a second, that first glance. You take in the

whole organism, and then, if you approve, your lower brain stem’s going to tell you, ‘Look away,’ or it’s going to tell you, ‘Keep your eyes there.’

“But after that moment, after I estab-

lish eye contact, I think I become more the exception than the rule in San Diego, because I lived in Brazil for over two years, and in Brazil, a man has to be a lot more aggressive than he necessarily

does in California. In Brazil, if a woman makes eye contact with a man, it’s a lot more of a signal than if a woman does the same thing in California. In Brazil, she’s telling you to come over here and

Advertisement

“The Power that Made the Body Heals the Body!”

Dear Friend,

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

Let me start by explaining the photo in this letter. Let's start with me. You know, when I meet people in town they usually say, "*Oh yeah, I know you. You're Dr. Steve. I've seen your picture with that cute dog.*" Well, my dog is the one with the football. Fifteen years ago, I was finishing up a four-year tour of duty with the United States Navy. I had decided that when I was discharged I was going to become a Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff. I wanted to do something that I thought would make a difference. About a month after being discharged, a life-changing event occurred. My wife, Jennifer (who was not my wife at the time), injured her back on the job. She's a veterinarian and was injured while restraining a large dog that did not want to be restrained. She called me and asked if I could take her to her chiropractor. She was in such bad shape that I had to literally carry her into the chiropractor's office. She was in tears, unsure if she could even work again because the pain was so bad. And she had trained a very, very long time to become a veterinarian. Well, to make a long story short, fifteen minutes later she actually walked out of his office with almost no discomfort. At that point I completely changed direction in life and decided that Chiropractic was the way for me to go. So I decided to go to school and become one.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

You Benefit from an Amazing Offer!

Look, it shouldn't cost you an arm and a leg to correct your health. If you mention this article by April 30, 2007, you will receive my entire **New Patient Exam for \$27!** That includes X-rays (if they are necessary) and examination (adjustments are not included). This exam could cost you \$150 or more elsewhere! You see, *I'm not trying to seduce you to come see me with this low start-up fee only to make it up with hidden fees after that.*

Great care at a great fee

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

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

Dr. Steve Haley

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

DO YOU HAVE TYPE 2 DIABETES?

If the answer is yes, Profil Institute for Clinical Research invites you to participate in a clinical research study testing an investigational medication for people with Type 2 diabetes.

You may qualify for this study if you:

- ❖ are age 25 or older
- ❖ have Type 2 diabetes and are using oral medication or diet and exercise to control your diabetes, but not taking insulin

Study-related medical care provided at no charge.

Compensation up to \$2,880 (some overnight stays required).

Please call our office for more information and to see if you qualify:

(619) 788-9216
or e-mail: studies@profil-research.com
Profil Institute for Clinical Research
855 3rd Ave., Ste. 4400
Chula Vista, CA 91911

Profil

talk to me right now, or else you're going to lose me because your friend is sitting right next to you. So, if I get eye contact, and I'm inter-



Richard Essayy

ested, the first thing I'll do is head over there out of good old-fashioned Darwinist survival. And I still do that here in San Diego, which is often one of the reasons why I end

up with girlfriends from other places."

Natasha Vayner, 25, lives in Normal Heights. Seven years in San Diego, grew up in Lithuania.

"I've always thought it was just part of American culture not to make eye contact. I think people in the Russian-speaking world, in general, make more eye contact.

"Actually, I really realized how little eye contact there is here after I went to Argentina. I do tango dancing, and that's why I went there. In Argentina, there's this custom that you don't walk up to someone



Natasha Vayner

and ask them to dance. If you walk up and ask them, they will say, 'No,' even if they want to dance with you. Because the way it's done — I guess to protect the very fragile male ego — is that a man and a woman make eye contact, all the way from across the room, and the man will initiate the eye contact, and if the woman looks

RESEARCH STUDIES

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:

- Not have any Major Medical and Psychological illnesses
- Be free of Drug or Alcohol abuse
- Have a Normal Sperm Count

If you qualify, all study related care is at no cost, including exams by a board certified physician and lab tests. You may receive up to \$1,600.00 (Sixteen Hundred Dollars) in financial compensation for time and travel.



CALL
619.299.6500



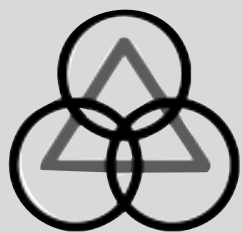
Decrease in Desire?

Have you noticed a decrease in sexual desire? You may qualify for a medical research study for women suffering from HSDD (Hypoactive Sexual Disorder), a common form of sexual dysfunction.

We are looking for healthy pre-menopausal women over the age of 18.

If interested call:

Center for Urological Research
619-460-0595



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Do you have trouble sleeping?

Are you:

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

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

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

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

Worry Too Much?

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

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

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

619-327-0155

Depression Research Study

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

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

Call: **1-888-619-7272**

Alzheimer's Clinical Research Trial

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

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

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

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

You may be able to help...

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



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



BIPOLAR DISORDER

Mania

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

Depression

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

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

Some qualifications are:

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

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

Listen to "Tomorrow's Health Today Show" on CASH 1700 AM Radio every Saturday morning from 11 am to 12 noon, sponsored by Synergy Clinical Research Center.



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**

straight at him for over two seconds or so, and the man nods, that means they've accepted each other's dance. And, for the first week I was there, I didn't have one dance. Because, for one thing, it was very difficult for me to just look right into a stranger's eyes like that. And I didn't realize how little eye contact we have here — even though I thought that I look at people when I talk to them — but I didn't realize how uncomfortable I've become with eye contact just from living in this culture.

"So since I've come back here, I've really noticed how shy everyone seems. I also lived in the International House on the UCSD campus, and I picked up the habit of looking people in the eye from

the international students. The international students look people in the eye a lot more when they talk.

"There's a funny phrase you have here, in this country, which is something I never heard while growing up in Lithuania. You say, 'It's rude to stare.' And I think people carry that into their adult life."

Lawrence Adams, 38, lives in Hillcrest. Five years in San Diego, from Miami, Florida.

"I think I do look people in the eye. I think I look more people in the eye more often than most people will look back at me. But I'm from back East. I lived in Miami a long time, but I'm originally from DC, so I think it's maybe more of a city thing, where people



Lawrence Adams

kind of acknowledge you and keep moving. But I haven't really noticed too much of that out here.

"In fact, it's funny — I was just talking about this a few weeks ago with a friend of mine. It seems to me that people out here are easily intimidated. Now, I'm coming from the perspective where I'm from even bigger cities than this one, and I'm used to seeing a lot of people on the street, and I'm not really afraid of the guy walking by me. But out

Smoking too much pot?

WE WANT TO HELP YOU STOP!

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

For more information and to see if you qualify,

please call **858-784-7867**

or visit **www.pearsoncenter.org**

for more detailed information.



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 6449**

The Center for Metabolic Research at the VA San Diego Healthcare System

RESEARCH STUDIES

SCHIZOPHRENIA SCHIZOAFFECTIVE BIPOLAR DISORDER MAJOR DEPRESSION

We may currently or in the future have inpatient and outpatient research studies involving investigational medications for the conditions listed above.

Qualified candidates will be reimbursed for time and transportation (\$50 for each inpatient hospital day and up to \$100 for each outpatient visit).

For more information, call: **858-566-8222**

The California Neuropsychopharmacology Clinical Research Institute, LLC
"CNRI, LLC"



Seeking Patients for a Research Study for Type 2 Diabetes

Dr. Robert R. Henry and his associates at the VA Medical Center are looking for Type 2 diabetic volunteers to take part in a research study to determine if the use of different glucose meters significantly lowers HbA1c.

Participants Will: ■ Attend eight study visits ■ Be randomly assigned to one of two glucose meters

Inclusion Criteria: ■ 18 years or older ■ Have been diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes for at least 3 months but no more than 15 years ■ Have a stable regimen for at least 3 months ■ No history of anemia, serious chronic disease, or severe hypoglycemia ■ No use of insulin

Qualified participants will be compensated for participation up to \$200.

Recruitment Period: 2/2007 to 6/15/2007.

To see if you qualify or to learn more about the study, please contact:

Karla Martinez at (858) 552-8585 ext. 6155 ■ E-mail: karla.martinez1@va.gov
OR Catherine DeLue at ext. 6740

We believe we can help.

Well-known pharmaceutical companies are conducting important research studies for a limited number of qualified participants.



Depression

**steals more
than your mood.
It robs you
of life's pleasures.**

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

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

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

- You receive up to \$450 for your participation.
- You receive no-cost research study medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



I fall asleep, but once I wake up... I am up!

- Restless sleep disturbs the normal rhythms of the body.
- When sleep difficulties become a regular problem it can affect your health.
- If you wake up in the middle of the night and can't go back to sleep, you are not getting a full night of sleep.

If you have chronic problems returning to sleep after waking up in the middle of the night, you may qualify for a research study in our state-of-the-art sleep clinic and receive an investigational medication for poor sleep.

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

Qualified participants:

- Will receive up to \$2300 for time and travel.
- Receive no-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



Anxiety

**doesn't just stress
your mind.**

We know it can...

- Decrease your immune response • Decrease your physical and mental functioning
- Increase fats in the bloodstream • Interfere with sleep
- Be mistaken for medical conditions

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

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

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

- You receive up to \$450 for your time and travel.
- You receive no-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

Weight Gain is often part of taking medications for Schizophrenia



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

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

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

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

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BIPOLAR DISORDER 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 Department at (858) 694-8350.**

SHARP Mesa Vista
Hospital

MV35A ©2006 SHC

here, I think it's a little different.

"A funny example was in '04, World Series time, in PB Bar and Grill, with a friend of mine — you know, BoSox playing the Cardinals, and I'm a BoSox fan — and I said something and a guy overheard me, and he said, 'Oh, you guys are from the East Coast,' and I turned around and I said, 'Yeah!' And I didn't know how loud I was talking, but this guy just kind of reeled back, and I felt almost like I had to apologize to him. And it kind of works to my detriment, because I often don't notice that I'm offending people out here, even when I'm

just talking and being myself. But then when I pick up on it on occasion, you know, when I get that feeling, then I catch myself restraining myself, and all the while I'm thinking, 'What the hell am I doing this for?' You know, it's not like I hit somebody. Maybe I barely said something offensive. But folks in this town seem to take offense real easily. And that carries over into the lack of eye contact, too, of course. The folks here seem to be intimidated by some really silly-ass things."

Leslie Burkholder, 27, lives in North Park. Two years in San Diego,



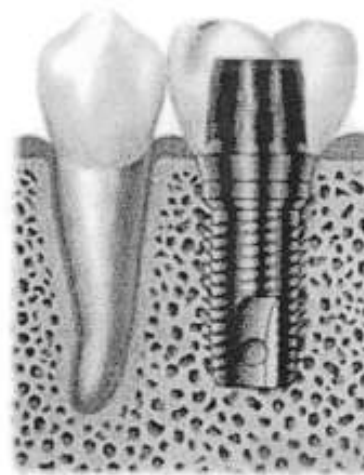
Leslie Burkholder

from Iowa.

"I've noticed that I've actually stopped looking people in the eye as much since I moved out here from Iowa. I think people out here are more preoccupied with themselves versus thinking about other people.

"But I think it's more small place versus big place than San Diego versus Iowa.

RESEARCH STUDIES



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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:

(858) 784-7867 (STOP)



Qualified participants must be:

- Healthy Men and Women
- Age 18 to 65
- Non-tobacco users
- Willing to stay at Covance for 8 nights

**Call Sun. - Fri. for more
information.
866-818-3253**

Participants will receive all study-related exams and investigational medication at no cost. Participants may receive compensation up to \$2000 for time and participation.

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Study 207552

There's just so many people here, I think you'd wear yourself out by acknowledging everybody. Here in San Diego — and I guess it's true in any bigger city — you have less opportunity to build a community. I think you'll see better eye contact in places like a church, or in your workplace, but in general, in the city, there's just too many people, and it's not a real community feeling. I think with so many people, it's kind of hard to keep up your old habits of talking to everybody. I think I'm still pretty friendly, but I'm starting to lose that a little bit, living in a big place."

Karina Frost, 18, lives in Chula Vista. Grew up in San Diego.

"I think people, over the years, have just gotten less and less friendly. They're afraid to show even the slightest interest or recognition. Maybe it's just because I'm a young adult now, and when I was a kid, people weren't as afraid to look



Karina Frost

me in the eye. Or maybe it's because I look a certain way now. I mean, I used to have my septum pierced, and people wouldn't really look at me. I dressed the same, but I had a ring right in the center of my nose, and people seemed really put off by that. I'd see them kind of stare, and then they'd talk to me differently — not so friendly, not so direct.

"But I don't feel awkward with eye contact the way a lot of people seem to. I like to acknowledge people, like, 'Oh, that person's alive. Hello.' You know, I

take the trolley every day, so I look at strangers and talk to strangers a lot, and I don't have any problem with it. Even today, there was a man walk-

ing around at the trolley station with a petition, and people were shrugging him off. But when he looked at me, I looked at him and smiled. And then he

asked me to sign it, and I did.

"But maybe I have a lot more patience with people because I'm so young. Maybe I'll get over that as I get older,

but I hope I'm always friendly and patient with people I don't know, people who want to make a human connection." ■

— Geoff Bouvier

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 wake up, and have trouble falling back to sleep?

A research study is being conducted to evaluate a medication in an investigational use for insomnia.

If you are 18 years of age or older and experience difficulty staying asleep, you may be eligible to participate in this study.

Qualified participants will receive study drug and study-related physician visits at no cost and could be compensated up to \$400 for time and travel.



Frustrated with Type 2 Diabetes?

Are you taking metformin/glucofage, exercising and eating healthy?

If you are doing everything right to control your diabetes...

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

Local physicians are conducting a research study of 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.



Do you have Narcolepsy?

If you have Narcolepsy, we know how difficult it can be for you to stay awake during the day, to concentrate at work, to stay alert while driving, or just enjoy time with your family.

Pacific Sleep Medicine is testing a new investigational drug to treat the symptoms of Narcolepsy. If you are 18-55 years of age, you may be eligible to participate in this clinical study.

Qualified participants will receive study-related care and study medication at no cost. Participants will be compensated for time and travel.

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

877-927-5337

Pacific Sleep Medicine Services

Bridging the paths of medicine and science.™

Starting at State

A former SDSU professor recalls his lessons

PHOTOGRAPH BY FRANK GLASER



Hepner Hall's bell tower, San Diego State University

It was the New Year, 1944, in a small liberal arts college, isolated in Iowa. I had been married for three weeks, but except for the upbeat mood engendered by this beautiful event, felt miserably stranded within those ivied walls, where most of the male students had been drafted for combat in the Pacific theater, and I was narrowly rejected as “4-F.” Suddenly I was delivered the following telegram:

YOUR NAME MENTIONED AS PROMISING CANDIDATE FOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF WAR RESEARCH. SAN DIEGO. ORIGINAL FUNCTION TO ASSIST NAVY FILING CLASSIFIED MATERIAL. WOULD APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY INTRODUCE YOU TO DIRECTORS AND CONSIDER PROSPECTS. AIRFARE MET.

T Norman Johnson
(Personnel Director)

I had never heard of this organization and didn't know what this was all about, but I took the plane at once and, to my elation and dismay, was forthwith hired at a rank two notches above my academic rating at the college where I was feeling so useless.

Unfortunately, to recount why

and how this happened, as with so many “How-I-Came-to-California” yarns, will be almost certain to forfeit trust in my veracity and thus in the rest of my story. Nevertheless, it is the unsomber truth and might make a rather interesting symbol of my adopted land (I was a recently naturalized Britisher) at that point in its surging history. The personnel director in question was at a cocktail party at Camp Callan, where he got into conversation with a man to whom, years earlier in graduate school, I had chanced to introduce the blind date who became his wife. Apparently the conversation went something like this:

“Too bad you're in the Army. We sure could use you on Point Loma to file the A/S [antisubmarine] documentation.”

“Now you tell me,” says my

friend, and then (God bless him), “but failing me, I know just your man.”

“That right?”

“Fellow teaching English in Iowa.”

“English! That's not so good. We're looking for a scientist who will understand how pings find U-boats through the thermal structure of the ocean.”

“Well, he's a versatile type. [This *not* markedly veracious.] I really think he'd fit.”

There were some more grumbles about my occupation, but in the spirit of the party my name and address were written, with “Eng” as shorthand for my profession, before proceeding to further martinis. The next morning, feeling the effects, no doubt, our personnel director pulled out that scrap of paper from

his pocket and said (you guessed it), "My God, I found me an engineer!" There was a war on. Superfluous foot-dragging was frowned on from above. The telegram went out.

By the time that the war effort had no further use for us, I had taken more than a passing fancy to San Diego. I knew that here was where I would like to teach but was informed by an academic type on the enormous staff that masterminded the sinking of German submarines, "We only have about one college in San Diego — little better than a teacher's college, really. I can't imagine an Oxford man wanting to teach there." Nevertheless, I promptly borrowed a car and drove out to the campus. First I poked about in the college library, which I suppose now is going up a million books but which at the time contained — well, a lot fewer. But in my field, that little library wasn't at all bad, and I have found that a college is about as good as its library. Taking unction from the stories of how Ronald Coleman and David Niven marched up, sight unseen,

to Hollywood producers with a "Here I am, I have come," I marched up to the president's office and knocked on the door.

The president was Walter Hepner, a small, brisk, efficient man with no pretensions to scholarship, who was facing a sudden tripling of his enrollment with the impending demobilization. Without further ado, I introduced myself, stating my credentials and my ambition to teach in his English department as an associate professor. "Well, that would be your rank, of course," said he, and then, giving me the steady stare with which executives size up a likely prospect,



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Bipolar?

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For more information about this study, please contact:

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Anxiety Study

Signs and Symptoms:

- Experiencing persistent worry?
- Feeling restless, irritable, or tense?
- Having difficulty sleeping?
- Having difficulty concentrating?

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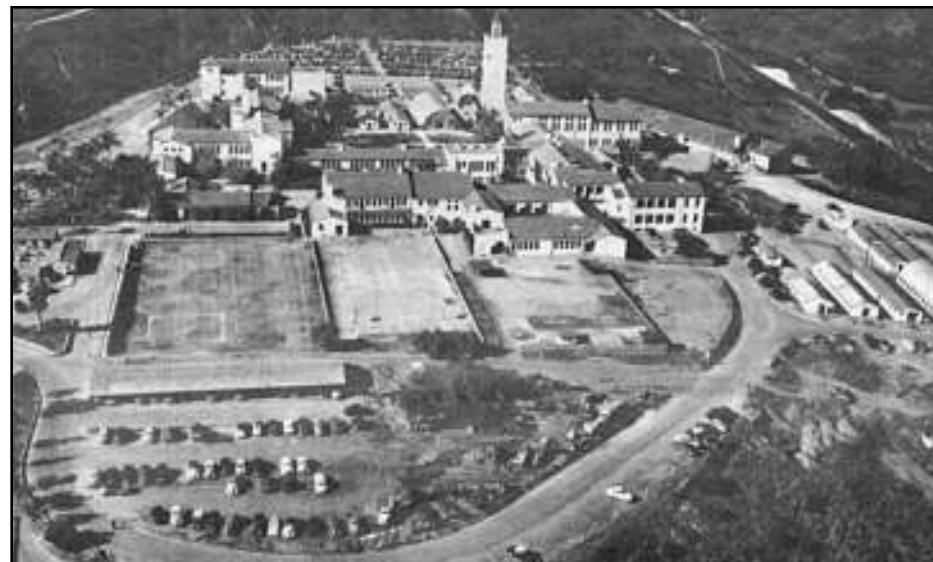


"What is your principal interest, Dr. Theobald?"

I said, "Poetry and religion, in that order."

I have since thought that, had I been sitting in the president's seat, I would at this point have terminated the interview with a polite remark and the firm decision not to hire me — on the ground that I was probably a hot-eyed Evangelical of some sort, "with a right to his views," but not a very promising vehicle of great poetry. Instead, he picked up his desk phone and asked his secretary to dial the current chairman of the English department, who not having yet secured his doctorate, was administering the department at a lower rank than the one to which I had announced myself as aspiring.

"I have a man here," he said, "who is interested in poetry. Don't we already have



San Diego State campus, 1948

a man interested in poetry?" I didn't, of course, hear the answer to this staggering question. The next thing I knew, I was being advised to visit the professor to whom the president had addressed it. I must have been as good as hired, for when I reached

the professor's house, I was to be slapped on the back and told, "I want you to understand that this is no bush league!" I thought quickly, "Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Berkeley, San Diego State — *major league*."

Thinking back on my

superior smile, I say, "What a snob!" Yet that would be the dead opposite of how I really felt about my appointment. Doubtless for most of the wrong reasons, from the very first I loved the place.

Let it be an emblem of the growth of our cities that

in those days I would make the twelve and a half miles to class (portal to portal, that is, from our Linda Vista front door to the prof's rostrum) punctually in 15 minutes, although the Mission Valley road, which followed the old riverbed through sleepy farmland, had only one lane each way; and now that it has four or five, I would have to allow twice that time, especially if I wished to avoid another citation.

And how *was* the latest cloister in which I was to instruct the rising generation in completing their sentence fragments and to seek, in the upper division, to install the heady stuff of English poetry? Well, it must have been the sunniest, sprightliest cloister in the world of learning. The immense sense of freedom, compared with everything I had known, was lucent, pervasive, and cen-

trifugal. To begin with, few students were in residence. They converged and distributed themselves from too far afield every day to build the sort of "traditions" which for me tended to become so oppressive at the liberal arts colleges with which I had been associated. Decisive for any ethos here prevailing were newness, size of enrollment, rapidity of growth, liberated mixture of the sexes, and in general, absence of reverential idols of the tribe. There was little or no airless breath of authority down our necks or pressure to promote college spirit, or even expectation to hold us to a curriculum, though always among the students there was somewhere to be found an appetite for whatever splendor of books our own enthusiasm could impart. Whatever college spirit may have been kindled by sport

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one might term "before and after Coryell." Fraternities and sororities existed, but unobtrusively and deprived of the sort of humiliating initiation ceremonies with which I had been familiarized at Amherst College. For the college as a whole, a sense of status was growing, all right, but it rarely made itself heard and, if and when it did, would be more likely to find expression in a casual mention that our labs were better than at USC, and "When do you suppose we are going to be called the university we are?" Strange paradox that seven years of Oxford should have left me with so little relish for the shadow of antiquity and so much for the exhilaration of a future whose richest oriel were the windowless arches of the sky.

One felt it as a hairy venture that in the first place they put the college down among those canyons at all, to interrupt the dialogue of meadowlarks; and a bonus that they plastered its walls gleaming white and crowned its roofs with glowing Spanish tile and installed the tintinnabulary mission bells

in the library tower. When I joined the college, the steepest canyon resounded with the frogs' *brek-ek-ekokoax* that Aristophanes's public thought the most musical of sounds, as Chaucer thought cockcrow was. The campus was swollen with unborn life. When I entered my classrooms, this pregnancy knocked and waved like the perfume of orange blossoms around their groves in May.

The college was being built about my ears. Con-

sider that the year before my appointment the enrollment numbered 2000, and that with the return of the war veterans in 1946, it was 5000. The faculty more than doubled that year, the English department itself going from a complement of 9 to 21, so that in the frenzy of hiring they became overextended and had to let some go at the end of the year, including one distinguished lady whom they subsequently hired back to show there was no ill

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feeling.

For quite a while the existing facilities were inadequate to accommodate the enrollments that elected our classes, and the overflow was perforce crowded into Quonset huts. For some reason I derived the greatest joy from these makeshift classrooms. There was a fixed understanding with my students that what we were doing could survive the competing racket of either the bulldozers or the riveters, but that when they both came together, the class would be held outside on the grass. I would secretly hanker for this double condition, even though I did not deceive myself that I would then hold



Walter Hepner

their attention against the passing girls or boys or even the sky. But I remember it wasn't at all a bad class, half of them lingering after the end of the period, and one of them asleep in the clover, with her skirts seriously deranged but deftly adjusted



Ted Block

by a friend.

Another time I fell into disgrace with a colleague whose class met on the other side of the exiguous partition that separated the two classrooms in the same Quonset hut. My colleague was a very young instructor, newly



Malcolm Love

appointed, who apparently liked to conduct his class in such a hubbub that we couldn't get on with ours. One of my students had been in the Navy, knew the Morse code, and hammered on the wall at my suggestion: Q-U-I-E-T, and then the same

message twice again. It worked, but as I say, made me less popular with the colleague, till I apologized and he confessed that he was having difficulty with his students, who themselves, I am sure, preferred a more orderly procedure. (I'm afraid I make them seem more like high school than college students, and perhaps a greater number than in the East bore this resemblance, though it has been my observation that the quotient of real stars remains pretty steady, whether it is Oxford or Amherst or San Diego State.)

My "office" too, after the first year and for some years thereafter, was nothing but one of ten desks, staggered

in two rows of five in a larger Quonset hut, where I believe that some of us were "conferred with" by students in distinctly greater numbers than when we came to have an office to ourselves. If a wasp wandered in from outside, someone bothered by it would chase it out or swat it, but the sempiternal summer would still wander in.

Privacy, of course, there never was. Once when I was chairman of the department and already raised to full professor's rank (which unaccountably happened after only three years), I provoked the displeasure of the professor who was the department lush (alas! long since lurched from among us) and at the

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same time the most popular lecturer by far. In assigning periods when our courses should be held, it had seemed to me that I should attempt to provide for better-balanced enrollments by assigning this Shakespeare section to a less popular period, and the rival section of a graver professor to a period with an a priori assurance of brisker trade. It was lucky that one day when I walked in with the wasps, our hut was empty except for one other colleague and one student, for I was attacked by the tiddly Shakespeare professor, both fists swinging. I got my briefcase up between us and did some fast footwork, whilst I am sorry to say I was laughing like a fool. By the time that the divisional chairman had been alerted to the violence resulting from my well-intentioned programming and had reached our "office" to take whatever policy action seemed to be called for, my frazzled colleague had recovered from his tantrum and was ensorceling his class in another part of the campus.

But why would a scene

so ludicrously un-Oxonian intrigue me enough to bring it up at this distance? Partly, perhaps, because as chairman, my small share of status being by now more than all I wanted, if any personal dignity was imperiled, it certainly wasn't the sort that mattered to me. I really cared only about the teaching, and to that I'm sure I sacrificed too much, including the "productive scholarship" which at most colleges gives rise to "publish or perish," but which here was subordinated to "busy work," especially lecturing or performing for the town and sitting on committees — this last an area in which I should be congratulated on my artful dodging. Not counting "Lectures and Assemblies" (my self-chosen challenge and cross), only once do I recall having failed to take successful avoiding action when tapped for committee work. This was when I yielded with what must have been transparent reluctance to hollow pleas that "the college needed me" on the curriculum committee. What a farce! A standard

procedure was for departments to propose new courses, not because these courses were justified by the advance of any theory of education that I recollect, but in order to provide a pretext for promoting additional hiring and hence enhanced strength of "personnel" in departments predictably even more competitive than rival business magnates scrambling for contracts. Well, just in case it might be supposed that there existed a thoughtful, operative conception of educational ends and means residing in any controlling authority at San Diego State, such as either of two college presidents under whom I served there, I should hasten to dispel this illusion. To a lesser degree only than their successors, those two presidents were themselves the servants or instruments of the budget-disbursing characters in Sacramento. This budget was never subject to *ideas*, in anything resembling the Platonic sense, but only to the best-compromised accommodation to the ever-swelling student enrollment,

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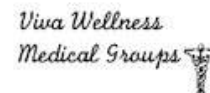
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with a view to mollifying the minimum demands of the community. It was strictly the lower pragmatism that activated our “Ed.” The first of my two presidents, the one who had grabbed the telephone to inquire of the English department chairman if we didn’t “already have a man interested in poetry,” came to us from having been the secondary school inspector. He was selected for his administrative ability and confessed only to uneasiness with the world of academes, a discomfort with which, as a poet, I found it easy to sympathize. At faculty meetings he would administer avuncular homilies on absence from our offices during the period we were expected to assign for conferring with our students (“Now, ladies and gentlemen, you know that is not the sort of thing your children would expect of you”). He was very much a “straight shooter” who took sides against his own politically conservative instincts by persistently refusing to fire a member of the faculty for whose blood the

town patriots were thirsting, because that member was unwilling to sign the absurd “loyalty oath” required of us during that McCarthy era and in fact had raised suspicions of being (whisper it not in Gath) a card-carrying Communist, whose periodic trips to the USSR were quite possibly funded by the party.

My second president, Malcolm Love, must be given the credit for the only occasion during the 24 years I taught at this college when a president attempted to address the student body, and the odds are at least even that this was by my provocation. This president and I were entitled to a better basis of exchange than our previous encounter, which had been occasioned by my frustrated attempt to restore the position of a brilliant colleague who had run afoul of the head of his own department, music. This colleague was a pianist, composer, and musicologist, with a bit of glitter for the students. He was certainly one of the most articulate and engaging mem-

bers of the faculty. The head of the department in question had probably been given cause to take umbrage at my friend’s sharp wit and inclination to lead. My own opinion of the disgruntled chairman’s abilities may well have been more obscured than illumined by his contribution to an interdepartmental course which I had helped to set up, called Aesthetics 138. This was to be conducted as a triangular symposium by the chairmen of the English, art, and music departments. The intention of this colloquium was to draw a large number of students together into a consideration of the principles which underlie all three arts; but the course soon became more two-way than three, for whilst the fine painter and teacher who chaired the art department was stimulating enough with his “chalk talks” and our dialogue for the class to overhear, the third member who was to have joined the symposium and whose instrument was the trumpet, on the rare occasions when he showed up, con-

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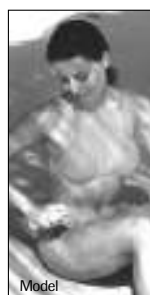
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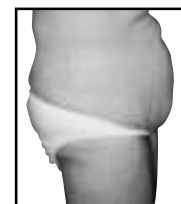
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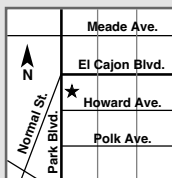
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finied himself to expositions of the *embouchure*, which failed to open up, and I mean the discussions then failed. I feel urged to go into the affair of the music department a little, not because I have pretended to be a music critic, or even because it is a fair exhibit of the prevalent departmental frictions in our colleges (over which we draw curtains), but also, and chiefly, because it happens to involve two issues about which I still feel keenly: first, the enhancing of intellectual and spiritual leadership by our college presidents; and second, the seizing of every opportunity for cultural crossfertilization, as contrasted with the preemptive compartmentalization of our disciplines. The latter ideal I may have been first to worry at so, not only by occasionally exchanging classes with cooperative colleagues in my own department, but also within the Romance languages department, and even once by getting into the raised eyebrows department with a talk on "Physics and Poetry" in the

chem lab! It is an ideal which leads directly to my third cup of tea: the desirability, to put it mildly, of voices being heard on the campus of eminent men and women from the great world outside. But let this last go for a moment.

When my gifted friend was to be let go, I first took up the matter with the faculty grievance committee, the chairman of which was also something of a friend, to be informed by him, however, that this bright boy who was to be released had "queered his own pitch," as they say in cricket, by allowing himself to include in a letter of apology this unfortunate sentence: "I have been at fault, but face it, the wrong man is in charge of the music department!" This took me, through the aggrieved professor himself (useless, of course, but I gave it the old college try), to an appointment with the president, who being new to the place, felt understandably something less than secure, but who disappointed me with a model exhibition of the steel hand in the velvet glove. Aside from

mentioning in a small, flat voice that, unlike the department chairman, my friend lacked tenure, he remained very silent, allowing me to step out of line with the remark that if we jerked this young man it would be a pity, since he was plainly one of our all-too-few stars, whilst his boss would be unlikely to last another two years anyway. This wouldn't have been so bad if it hadn't been so correct.

So Malcolm Love had been given no reason to feel responsive when, a while later, I wrote him a letter suggesting, in a style as low-key as possible, that the student body would appreciate hearing in convocation from their president, and that an occasional gesture of manifest inspiration from one as highly respected as himself might make a difference to the spirit of the campus. A week after I mailed the letter, I was witness to a rather poignant interlude. I was strolling down the cloister which bordered the campus quadrangle when I heard a familiar voice. It was the president,

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speaking with the slight lisp which he mistook for an impediment, into a mic which had been hooked up in the center of the quad. He was addressing the students earnestly, modestly as always, somewhat evasively; but the event not having been announced, and he lacking the sort of public force which I have come to associate with hollow executive types, only a miserable smattering of students were pausing briefly to listen before proceeding about their own affairs — probably to their next class. If this had indeed been the sad outcome of my letter, I had forgotten all about it when I received a handwritten answer from the president, thanking me for “the spirit of my letter” and saying that he had never been able to feel that it belonged to his powers to provide inspiration to the student body.

This was a distinctly different president from Hepner, who got himself saddled with the sobriquet “Hepner’s Folly” by buying up a lot of land around the college canyons at a time

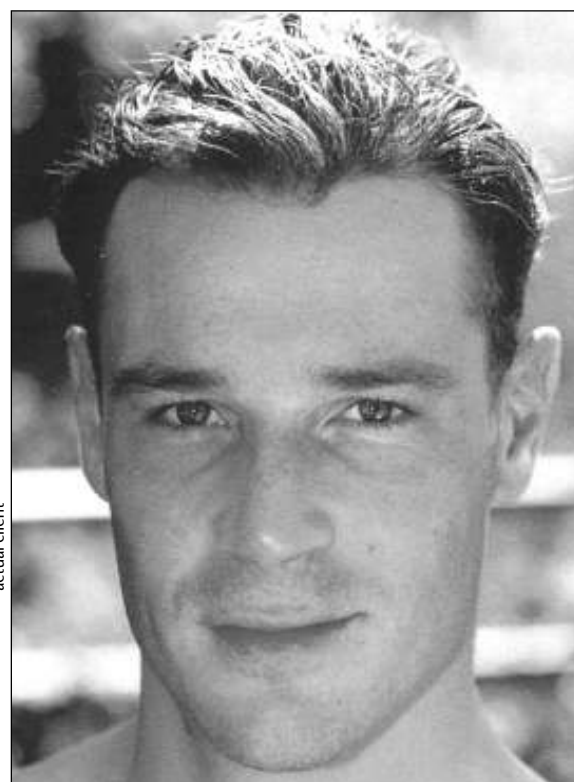
when he had the vision to be quixotic about what we might become. The enrollment having grown by a thousand, give or take, every year since I was hired, until now, when the plant has put a stop to expansion, the present result is that students jostle each other on the sidewalks and in the more populous classes, whilst to visit “the commons” at almost any time of the day is to risk a serious manic condition from the mingled din of “rapping” and whatever rock-and-roll ensemble is having its fun. It’s hard for the old affections to endure; and although these for me have never extended to sectarianism in any of its forms, I have been made wistful by the campus’s small chapel, in addition to its cathedral, where at any time, on the analogy of the United Nations meditation room, a few individuals are offered an opportunity for silence. I am convinced that this makes quite a difference for the quietness on their campus.

Ah, opportunity! Love was a lovely guy who evi-

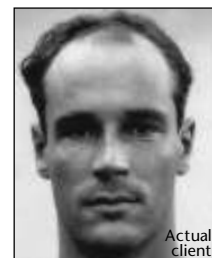
dently followed the Confucian maxim of ruling without ruling, but...oh, well, I should talk. Had I been more manipulative with opportunity myself, I might have turned my membership of that curriculum committee to some use, instead of which their meetings were to me occasions of acute frustration. These meetings were held at 2:00 p.m. or soon after lunch, when because I seldom retire before 2:00 a.m., I am very apt to be immoderately sleepy if bored. To show what a keen committee member I was, I shall recall the occasion when, having dozed off, I suddenly woke to find it difficult to believe what I thought I was hearing. What seemed to be under discussion was the addition, not of a new course, but of a separate department as an extension of the department of business management, to wit, a department of real estate salesmanship! If I had been less indecently anxious to vindicate my absent alertness, I would have kept still; but whatever philosophy of education I was

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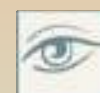
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blessed with was also being trodden on, and I heard myself, with heavy-footed irony and all the solemnity I could muster, proposing the further addition of a department of car salesmanship. I think I may have hoped to antagonize somebody but only succeeded in being antagonized, as I walked out of the meeting in a smoldering mood because my faintly fatuous sally was greeted with friendly, tolerant laughter. "Just another licensed jester, lightening the occasion with a bit of harmless fun."

Of my own courses, including those which might have got off the ground, better say nothing, unless of the creative writing, especially at the graduate level, now a considerable empire. That, if I say so, I did see off from ground zero and in fact chaired the first of our master's candidates in it! am still bemused that one day, less from vanity than avoidance of torpor, I asked a student who had taken four of my courses (poor fellow), had safely graduated, and become a friend, "Which did you think went best?" He stared at me as if wondering what could be the matter with me, before replying, "Well, but the 260, of course." This was the creative writing seminar, where it never seemed to me that I did any teaching at all, seldom could claim an assist in getting anyone published, and mostly let them teach each other by the "devil's advocate" method, according to which the first student to criticize a story or poem (the course never confined itself to a genre) would get around the wincing sensitivity we all feel about what we write by the anticipated obligation to be negative or else decline, till the next or the next, of whom some reservation was also first expected. This way we got around the feebly automatic, "I think that was good"; and however sour that first minus, others could and did almost invariably step in to heal the wounds. Or I suppose I would tend to redress the balance. This way we learned to estimate as well as make.

As regards subject matter and treatment, I had no difficulty in describing myself as "shock-proof," with no holds barred on what was submitted, only stipulating that nothing could be read aloud which might legiti-

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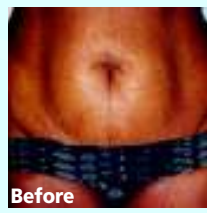
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mately give offense. In this connection I remember once when the laugh was on me. It was after the first meeting of the class, when students were milling around my desk with questions about what they might write, etc., and me no doubt milking the

process, that I noticed a small, middle-age, distinctly homely lady hanging back and twice shaking her head when I turned to her, presumably because she was waiting for the crowd to take off. Finally she was the only one left. She looked me in the eye and

said, "I wish to write about sex." I said, "Fine. Any particular aspect of this large subject?" "Oh, every aspect. There is no aspect with which I am unfamiliar." I hastened to suppress any surprise at this comprehensive claim and just said, "Well, go ahead,"

at the same time mentioning the house rules about audio sharing. It turned out to be one time when the material scarcely lent itself to the overt, consisting as it did invariably of very specific and detailed run-downs of dates with sailors picked

up at singles bars. The writing was on a steady B-minus level, neither bad nor very interesting. It was rather late in the semester, however, before it transpired that her disclosures had circulated the class, with their written comments added to mine,

and that the criticisms which gave evidence of the most exact experience, as well as color, had been written by a young woman who in appearance might have doubled for one of Fra Angelico's seraphs.

But outside the ups and downs of the teaching itself, vicissitudes which could be pretty harrowing to anyone who feels keenly enough the gap between what he believes he has to say and the manifested longing to hear it, for me the roughest road was accession to the chairmanship. As far as the basic administrative implications were concerned (chairing department meetings, interviewing candidates for positions in the department, assigning courses and class hours, if possible without fraying feelings, etc.), it wasn't too difficult to camouflage one's shortcomings and even to pretend not to be bored. Besides, one could schedule one's own classes, and if there was an unexpectedly heavy freshman influx (as there always was), one could feel oneself at the center of a giant web of power by going home, calling up four or five really bright boys and girls of exceptional personal charm who needed the money, and offering them work as teaching assistants. Imagine such a thing today, when there are likely to be at least 20 bureaucratically approved applicants for every such vacancy!

But it was only when something like a disciplinary function was involved that the chairmanship shoe really

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pinched. To be instructed, for instance, by the senior members of the department to advise a member about far-too-soft grading, without, on the one hand compromising standards, but on the other without having ad hoc knowledge of the partic-

ular springs of compassion that may have moved him/her to adjust the grade — this was excruciating. Besides, there had to come the time when rumors circulated widely enough of how that alcoholic darling of the students had not met his classes

for a couple of weeks, so that the chairman was expected to do something about it.

The last time I had seen our bewitching maverick was when I gave him a hand over a puddle in one our rare Californian rainstorms. As he leaned on me he said, "Hold-

ing on to the ropes, John." And now here I was, with vague intentions of keeping his course from becoming unstuck, making my way toward "Fine Arts 7," with an admitted enrollment considerably above the seating capacity of 200. I found the students waiting, waiting, as ever heretofore, for the appearance of their idol, who did not appear; for it would seem that once they've decided in our favor, our worst faults break helpless against their remorseless forgiveness. They sat regarding me, not without signs of resentment, as representing a branch of officialdom intent upon making difficulties for the class, as was quite remote from my intention.

Having introduced myself and somehow contrived to fill in the period and fetch a couple of laughs with gossip about Shakespeare's London, I inquired as disarmingly as

possible about what seemed to be the assignment. This produced a baffled stare, until finally it was allowed that the next play to be treated might be *Richard III*. "Fine!" I said, "*Richard III* let it be. Either your professor will be here, or somebody else to pinch hit" (knowing well who this afflicted surrogate would have to be). This is not a particularly easy play to "treat" on short notice; just to get all that York-Lancaster pedigree straightened out is no small chore, and aside from the course which Craig Noel asked me to give downtown as part of what he felt would be needed to get the city interested enough to start summer Shakespeare programs, I had had no official traffic with the Bard. But through the night previous, I went to work on the play and, more than usually loaded with notes, made my way to Fine Arts 7, on purpose a bit late, against the possibility

that the right professor might show. As I came within earshot I heard the well-known tones, punctuated by the unmistakable mannerisms and interrupted by gales of affectionate laughter. I had worked so hard on my lecture that I felt entitled to be the understudy who sneaked up to eavesdrop a little in the wings, where I distinguished the following sentence: "And I climbed out of my bed of pain to rescue you from that seducer — Theobald!" (Prolonged laughter, as I sneaked off to congratulate myself rather sourly on having threatened that stardom enough to get it back on the wagon — for about three weeks.)

To what green altar of higher learning, then, had I come? To none. Throughout most of the years I taught at San Diego State College (and after 1965, University), years during which the department increased so rapidly to over 50 when I retired in 1969, there were not enough upper-level scholars of note belonging to my department. There was Ted Block (Chaucer and Milton, an impressive spread). There was George Sanderlin (Medieval and Spenser). Both were my friends, and Ted a close one. I often wish we could have had a couple more like the courtly Andy Wright of UCSD, who could tell a wider world what "the Immortal Jane" Austen and Henry Fielding were really like. Only a minute fraction of undergraduates know anything about their teachers' scholarly attainments, and

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fewer still give a damn. What “goes” is about 60 percent entertainment, or play to the gallery; 20 percent grading laxity (the “snap”); 10 percent personal charm; and 3 percent (generously) erudition, or knowing more and more about less and less. Meanwhile, a truly wise man, regardless of academic perks, would have to be an uncomfortable accident.

If they dedicated a room to Ted Block when dead (the lounge in the library), they named the new Humanities Building after Jack Adams while he was and is very much

alive — as a large strip of the Wessex counties was called “the Hardy country” long before Hardy died, and in both cases rightly so. As a department, much of our cementing and comfortable consorting should be credited to the more-than-Confucian guidance of Jack as chairman of the humanities division and originally linchpin of the old English department. He is a sparkling hobbit, with a small, pudgy frame of perennially juvenile mien, who took me out to lunch the first day after I was hired and gave me all the avuncular advice I needed (I would have called it paternal, except that he outspokenly disdained the idea of progeny). He had a curious way of repeating, sotto voce, the last phrase of a sentence and of humming, in a subdued but soaring tremolo, the arias of his favorite operas between sen-

tences. Thus, on the occasion of the lunch, it was, “You taught before in Iowa and Massachusetts? The students won’t work as hard for you here (for you here), but if you don’t bother them too much, some of them will get around to doing a bit of work” (snatch of an aria from Gounod’s *Faust*).

In my first year, before the Quonset huts, I shared a small office with Jack and two other members of the English department, and a desk with him. I knew that my inveterate untidiness must have been a sore trial to him, he being something of a “neat freak,” but he was an extremely good sport about it and would be apt to negotiate an exceptionally intricate coloratura passage from *The Barber of Seville*, while deftly subduing and setting to one side my wild mountain of themes in

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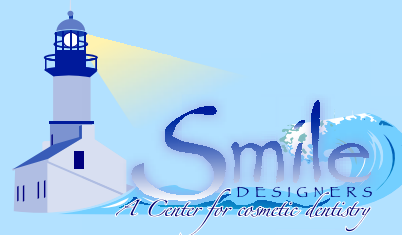
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process of being graded.

Later on I shared a fair-size office just with John Monteverde, who taught Shakespeare and the Eighteenth Century with a Socratic flair, and had a simple method with his own desk. He would allow the clutter to reach desperate proportions and only then give it a careful shove sideways from a bare island in the middle, so that the older, more hopefully over-the-hill accumulation would fall on the floor to be swept

up by the janitor in the morning. His method with student plagiarism — a rather general nuisance — was also in marked contrast to Jack's. My officemate's desk and mine were placed against opposite walls, chairs back to back, thus enabling us with modified success to ignore each other's procedures. A mutual blackout was not always practicable, however, and on one occasion there was forced upon my attention the following

exchange between himself and a blonde with self-confident charms:

"Now, Miss _____, I note an indifference to customary acknowledgements in your theme."

"I don't know what you mean."

"Well, it is customary to footnote your sources, you know."

(The tinny little voice getting tinnier) "I still don't know what you're talking about."

"Miss _____, here is a paragraph that you wrote about the play within the play, and here the identical paragraph in Dover Wilson's *Essential Shakespeare*."

"Well!" (flouncing offended from the room) "You can't blame a girl for trying!"

This time we simultaneously swiveled our chairs around and gaped at each other with a wild surmise.

Jack's response to this old abuse, on the other hand, was completely characteristic. On one of the rare occasions when for some reason his avoiding action of me at the desk had broken down, a young man knocked at the door to ask Jack about his theme. I was alerted to the incipient drama by a certain intensified tremolo in the "Depuis longtemps j'habitais" from Charpentier's *Louise*, finally drifting into a sort of tremolo rendering, very high, of: "It wasn't your theme (hmm-hmm-hmmm). It is no longer mine. I sent it back to the *Farmer's Almanac* with a C-minus, about right for their style."

I encountered the same problem, of course, and always proceeded on the assumption that life was too short for me to be sleuthing in the library, let alone perusing *The*

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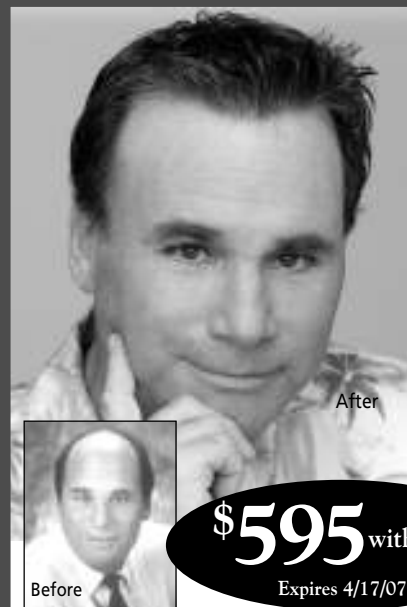
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Farmer's Almanac, for evidence of theft and grand larceny. I recall how once there was an unusually beautiful girl who, although virtually illiterate, and perhaps in part because of her beauty (which, unlike some of our coeds, however, she never swung as a weapon), had survived to appear in my upper-division course, where a term paper was required. She sat next to an older woman who took a maternal interest in her and offered to look over her paper. The girl, whose name was Eve, was properly grateful but quite put out, I was told, when her helpful friend said, "But Eve, you can't present this paper to Dr. Theobald."

"Why not?"

"Well, because you didn't write it."

And she, in high dudgeon, "I typed it!"

But returning to Jack Adams, as the college grew and he became chairman of the humanities division, with numerous departments

under his supervision, his wise forbearance and magical humor remodeled my previous conception of academic authority — perhaps I should say "of authority." This luminary, for whom the building is named, was in his rotund royalty the subtlest, kindest, fairest, best behaved of all the masters I have known (always excepting President Nielson of Smith College). I would have taken a sizable salary cut to see Jack's offbeat administrative principedom expand to the presidency, except that he was far too bright to be tempted by any such idea. And anyway, I take it back, for if this had happened he would not have been my immediate treasured boss, tapping his head as we sat smiling across his desk at each other tolerantly and he saying, "These mystics, you know, John, there is always something making them unhappy!" But along with this mutually benevolent indulgence of the difference

between the way we looked at things, I would like to claim that between the two of us (he as chairman of humanities, me likewise of the sadly underfunded lectures and assemblies committee), there was one direction in which we moved together — namely, helping to enable fresh winds from the greater world outside to infuse our campus. Thus, while his own literary enthusiasms may not have extended much beyond Henry James and Thomas Mann (not a bad reach at that), still it was he who brought the Nobel Prize winner to San Diego State and himself gave a fine public lecture to introduce Mann's works to the students. They called a special convocation for the great man, canceled lectures, and held it in the gymnasium, the only indoor auditorium capable of seating everyone; but since his German accent was totally unintelligible, it would have been better if they had distributed a printed version of

his lecture, had him appear at the rostrum and say, "Heah ich ahm. Tomas Mann himself. Tak gut look," and dismissed the throng.

This signal event was followed in succeeding years by visits from such as Martin Luther King (who arrived 40 minutes late but nobody was sorry to have waited) and the Jagat Guru Shankaracharya, Saivite Pope of southern India, a tiny man with a vanishing voice, for whom my last-moment emergency was to find a chair without leather (animal skin) and a mic that would make audible his dying message of world peace beyond the first row. Then there was Clement Attlee, successor as prime minister to Churchill, a quietly distinguished statesman, unfairly remembered for Churchill's description of him as a "sheep in sheep's clothing," but remembered on our campus for his reply in the men's changing room of the same gym to the young member of the English

department who had to introduce him and who, nervously groping backstage for interim small talk, apologized for "what must seem to you, sir, rather a strange green room." "Yes, smell of old socks!" And then, of course, JFK as our commencement speaker, with his cool, unread mastery of facts and figures, in what was, I believe, his last public address before the assassination. And however incongruous it may seem to some in such company, I would want to include the late Alan Watts, for whom my machinations to get him hired in our religious studies department unfortunately tripped on his crushing reply to the question posed by an influential dean, who had the forlorn intention of causing embarrassment in reverse.

Yes, admittedly, as time went on, we were not immune to lapses of the sort which I associate with the dead hand of the past, seeking as always to fasten on

this insistently burgeoning institution of ours. But whenever I come back to the question of why I have been happier there than at Oxford or Amherst or Queens (in Ontario) or Trinity (Hartford) or Grinnell, Iowa — all of them more "ancient seats of learning" — always the answer is, not that life in Southern California is so placid and floral, nor my promotion so rapid, nor the students so exuberant, though relatively unaffected by the political fever of the time, nor even that the twin vastnesses of sea and desert are always there to exalt us. Nor, as I huddle up this finish into "a loose adieu," am I about to undertake an anatomy of happiness. Only say this: The legend on my alma mater's shield reads *Dominus Illuminatio Mea*: The Lord is my light. That was the light of Oxford, a light of the past. What I always felt at San Diego State is the light of the future. ■

— John Theobald

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LETTERS

continued from page 12

I'm feeling quite satisfied. I will print your story and leave it with the Society folks...and if you can help them out in any other ways (got a spare million?) it's likely they'd be willing to put a knowledgeable guy like you to work.

Diary of a Diva Published March 28

Posted by Mrs. Professor Ransom of The Silent Planet on 03/29/07, 10:44 a.m.

Hi Barbarella, It is always a comfort to read your column. I now know tha I am in the process of knowing myself. It's a beautiful concept, specially the way you present it with the well-balanced relationships. What is comforting is that it is true, that once discovering yourself you can then make sound judgements and find true compatibility in friends and partners. I also find myself agreeing with your philosophies in life. I admire your quick wit, analo-

gies, metaphors, and descriptive details.

Reply by Barbarella: Mrs. P.R.o.t.S.P., thank you for the kind sentiments! Once, years ago, I asked myself, "What would I want to do tonight if my friends weren't a factor?" and I had no answer. It was the moment I realized that I had no idea who I was, or who I wanted to be. Living your life without over-compromising yourself is a topic I'm going to examine in a future column, because I deal with it over and over again....

Posted by Chanel Bouvier on 03/29/07, 1:04 p.m.

How you always seem to pick on topics that are so current in my life is baffling. I only wish you the best of luck with your new posse. Growing up I had more male friends to female friends because I just felt more comfortable with them (no competing). As an adult I finally found the confidence to have female friends. I recently had a falling out with a co-worker/friend

(who I thought was more friend then co-worker) and though we have since made amends, that entire experience was so foreign to me because I had never stopped being friends with someone due to an "incident". Relationships fade away, grow apart (and up) I know but I didn't like "breaking-up". Women are tricky and maybe it's more the women you work with that can be risky. I do value the ones I know are true but it takes me a long time to let new ones into my "inner-circle"...and it's slim-pickin's when I'm surrounded by "mommies"...guys think there are no "good single women" try finding "good child-free women".

Reply by Barbarella: Chanel, I hear you. I think on some level, every woman wants to have good and healthy relationships with other women. But you can't have healthy unless you have mutual respect. And I can't say I'm bummed that none of my new lady friends have young children.

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Movies
Published March 28
Posted by mike on 03/28/07, 12:40 p.m.
 Regarding that Top Ten list — I wonder if that is for the year, or ever. (In other words, how much effort should one put in to track down some old copy?) I would assume the former (that is, not so much effort) but I can't find the movie anywhere here: alumnus.caltech.edu/~ejohnson/critics/cahiers.html. So color me intrigued. Aside from that, this article struck me as a dizzying whirlpool of obscurity; in those last two paragraphs, just about the only name I recognized

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was that of the Black Emmanuelle. (I guess that reveals my perspective on this.) Still, I am more than happy to indulge. But that Susan Sontag memory? A little too much indulgence, Mr. Shepherd. A little too much.

Off the Cuff
Published March 28
Posted by yvonne on 04/1/07, 12:50 p.m.
 josh: please ask some black, hispanic, and asian folks Off the Cuff questions.

Reply by Josh Board:
 Well Yvonne, two things. Just yesterday, I asked a black guy and two Hispanics the question and they answered. It will be featured in a few weeks. The second thing is this. I sometimes ask people, and they don't want to answer. I sometimes ask people, like this heavy set African-American woman last week. Then when I wanted to take her photo, she said,

"You're crazy! You're not taking my picture!" Therefore, I couldn't use her answer. Sometimes I ask 20 people, before I even get the 6 I use. Sometimes my friends say "Why are they all guys and no hot chicks?" I don't think about those things. What I want most are creative answers, long answers, variety, and most important...people willing to let me photograph them!!!!!!!

Cover Story
Published March 21
Posted by Readerwriter's Fan on 03/30/07, 2:27 p.m.
 Thank you, Matt Potter, for this story and its predecessor on the blood substitute called Polyheme. It is scary enough to imagine oneself or a loved one in a terrible accident, without imagining that helper paramedics may be running an unproved experiment on accident victims without informed consent. And it is also disturbing to imagine UCSD's

Medical Center being complicit in clinical "trials" of for-profit substances, using hapless citizenry (in the poorest areas of town) as guinea pigs. Emergency medical services should employ only best-medical-practice measures on injured people in the field. UCSD should cease its involvement with iffy emergency procedures and stop its stonewalling secrecy when queried by the press about what they are up to. Fortunately City of San Diego residents, no such experiments will be permitted. As for folks in other parts of the County, good luck.

Movies
Published March 21
Posted by Dana J on 03/26/07, 11:19 a.m.

This is a strange review of a great dramatization of a key human rights event in the history of man. The movie echoes the problems we have today with a government taking stands contrary to the common good for the enrichment of a privileged few. The acting was superb, the sets were phenomenal, the ambience of the period was achieved and the story compelling. This should be recommended to today's youth and to everyone and to give this a 1 star rating and then criticize it is a great disservice to your readers and seriously compromises the integrity of the critic.

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Gone Fishing

The State of Our Lakes

If the water level is low, the fish are more concentrated, but only for a short period of time," says Tim Douglass, assistant reservoir keeper for Lake Hodges, which is currently 76 percent full. "Right before the rains [in 2005] came, the fishing was considered slow here. After the rains, we came up 50 feet in one month, and it was still slow. Now that the reservoir's maintained its level, we've had a second solid spawn of bass."

The fishing season began in February and runs through October. Water levels at some of the county's lakes and reservoirs have been drastically reduced as a result of scant precipitation, evaporation, and drafting (the process of

drawing water out of the lake for purposes of filtration). This condition, according to lakes program supervisor Nelson Manville, "might mean better fishing, but, environmentally, it would be better if [the reservoirs] were more full; the fish would be healthier, less stressed, and there would be more fish for people long term. When Lake Murray gets drawn down, the fish are bumping into each other."

El Capitan, located on the San Diego River east of Lakeside, is the county's largest reservoir, with a capacity of 112,807 acre-feet, 1562 surface acres, and a depth of 197 feet. An acre-foot is equivalent to 325,851 gallons. "Right now, it's storing 39,148 acre-feet [less than 35 percent of capacity], and it changes every week — we're drafting 9.5 million gallons a day and lost 204 acre-feet in one week. That

changed our gauge by .29 of a foot, or three to four inches. In a big reservoir, you start talking a foot gone, and that's a hell of a lot of water."

The Lake Murray Reservoir, located near La Mesa, has a maximum depth of 95 feet. In the early 1990s, the reservoir was drawn "20 to 30 feet at a time" in order to eradicate the invasive *Hydrilla verticillata* weed. This weed grows an inch a day and infests and destroys freshwater ecosystems by covering the surface of a lake or river and blocking sunlight from native aquatic plants. It can also alter water chemistry and oxygen levels. "When we finished drafting in 1993, we had 30 feet left," says Manville.

Theresa Deaett says the water level doesn't seem to affect her fishing at Lake Cuyamaca. "The biggest differences I notice are during a full moon — the fish have light and eat all night long. When they're not hungry in the daytime, the catch goes down," she says, adding that water temperature and barometric pressure changes also influence the fish. The small lake has 110 surface acres and an average depth of 10 feet. "You could fit 40 to 50 Lake Cuyamacas into El Capitan," says Manville.

Manville prefers higher elevations and more surface area for fishing and stresses the long-term benefits of higher levels. "When the levels are too low, there's no growth of aquatic weeds, which give baby fish something to hide in. When fish are able to spread out, they grow better. Every fish grows in relation to the size of what it's in. The bigger a lake is, the better the fishery will do."



In addition to working at Lake Hodges, Douglass is a sea captain on large fishing boats. "The lake is more of a controlled environment," says Douglass. "You don't have swells, and there's more shoreline, so if you have a problem, you can get to a shoreline quickly. Lighter equipment is less expensive. A saltwater rod is stiffer and heavier and starts at \$70. A freshwater rod can be as low as \$9.99." Douglass prefers the variety, taste, and fight of fish in the ocean but knows that many anglers prefer freshwater fish, like bass, trout, crappie, and catfish. "Certain people love to catch a certain kind of fish, and that's all."

Between 2003 and 2004, Lake Hodges was at 17 percent water capacity. "This affected fishing," says reservoir keeper Conway Bowman. "It was strictly shore fishing. People couldn't launch their boats. The lake was only in the main basin." The only boats allowed on the water during that time were "car-top" boats, or those that could be strapped to a car, like a kayak or small aluminum boat.

Many lakes have reported growth in the size of fish in the past decade, which may be due to the growing trend of "catch and release" rather than "catch and keep." According to Bowman, Lake Hodges sells about 200 permits a day, and a good catch number is 800 to 1000 bass. In March of last year, the world record for largest bass caught was broken when Carlsbad resident Mac Weakley caught a 25-pounder at Dixon Lake in Escondido. The fish was released back into the lake.

"If someone catches a large female largemouth bass, from 12 to 20 pounds, and keeps it, a lot of bass anglers look down on that person," says Bowman. "That large bass is going to lay a lot of eggs, carrying on the life span of the next generation of bass."

— Barbarella

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Ska, Punk, and Rock promised when Kung Fu Monkeys, Tokadiscos, Wisecracker, and other bands perform Sunday, April 8, 8 p.m., at El Foro, Jai Alai Palace (on Avenida Revolución). \$. 619-734-2333. (TIJUANA)

"Father Kino in Sonora and Baja California" is subject for lec-

ture by Enrique Velazco, Wednesday, April 11, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). Free. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

"Political Jokes in Mexico," Samuel Schmidt discusses his new book, Thursday, April 12, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). 011-52-664-687-9636. Free. (TIJUANA)

Pato Banton, los Pericos, los Cafres, Sargento García, others in concert, Thursday, April 12, 8 p.m., at El Foro, Jai Alai Palace (on Avenida Revolución). 011-52-664-685-8676. (TIJUANA)

OUTDOORS

A Dry Rainfall Season this year on top of scant precipitation for the past two years is resulting in ever-lower water levels in some of the county's reservoirs. The large-capacity El Capitan Reservoir near Lakeside stands at 35 percent full, while the spacious Lake Morena near Campo has only 20 percent of its capacity. Some fishermen seem happy though. Less water may mean more fish in a smaller pond, and that makes for easier catches.

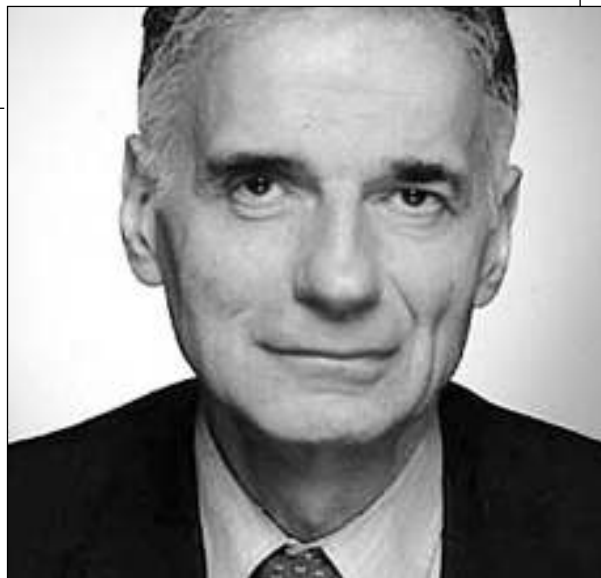
Orchid Trees, now at their flamboyant best in front yards and

OUT & ABOUT

AN UNREASONABLE MAN

A documentary about Ralph Nader at San Diego's downtown library, Saturday, April 7.

(SEE FILM)



public spaces throughout the city, are showing off their large, orchid-like flowers in shades of pink, purple, and maroon. Orchid trees thrive in areas with a mild winter climate, hence their popularity in Hawaii, Southern California, and Arizona.

Snakes, encouraged by recent warm temperatures, are emerging from burrows and rock crevices to

hunt for prey throughout the county's lower-elevation hillsides and canyons. Gopher snakes, garter snakes, king snakes, rosy boas (all harmless), and three varieties of rattlesnakes — red diamond, speckled, and Southern Pacific rattlesnakes (all venomous) — have been sighted. Close encounters with rattlesnakes are not uncommon wherever residential properties abut undeveloped

land—a common situation throughout San Diego County.

The Annual Green-to-Golden Transition of San Diego's wild grasslands typically starts during early April — though this year the green phase hasn't been very profound due to a lack of heavy rains. North-facing hillsides and canyon slopes retain the green color longer, as they are less exposed to

drying sunshine. Locally, most of the wild grasses are naturalized (nonnative) annuals, the seeds of which were introduced along with hay and other grains brought in by the Spaniards during the 18th and 19th Centuries. Some of the mountain meadows harbor remnant native grasses, which remain more or less green almost the year round. These rare native grasslands can be found in certain parts of Cuyamaca Rancho State Park and more widely distributed at the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve in the Santa Ana Mountains west of Temecula.

Early Spring Migrants are possible sightings, along with Pacific-slope flycatchers, when Audubon Society birders head to Blue Sky Ecological Reserve, Saturday, April 7. Meet at parking lot at 8 a.m.; find reserve on Espola Road, one-half mile north of Lake Poway Road. Considerable hiking of a moderately strenuous nature over level ground. Free. 619-692-3246. (POWAY)

Tracking Walks for beginners and intermediates hosted by San Diego Tracking Team, Saturday, April 7, 8 a.m., at Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Adobe Ranch House (take Canyonside Park Drive off Black Mountain Road, follow signs to ranch house). Learn to track animals, discover their environments. Wear shoes that are

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good in mud. Free. 858-484-3219. (RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

Whelan Lake Bird Walk, see many different species during walk hosted by Buena Vista Audubon Society to scope out avian migrants, Saturday, April 7, 8 a.m. Free. Directions: 760-941-7824. (OCEANSIDE)

Explore Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve with Canyoners hikers on Saturday, April 7. Both hikes start at 9 a.m.; the easy hike ends at 11:30 a.m.; longer hike continues into open chaparral to gorge for view of Santa Margarita River and concludes at 2 p.m. Bring lunch and water for longer hike. Free. Directions: 619-255-0203. (FALLBROOK)

Explore Twin Oaks Valley and Walnut Grove Park during “Discover San Marcos Hike” on Saturday, April 7. Easy four-mile hike over mostly flat trails starts on new bridge and trail south of Walnut

Grove Park and Mulberry/Richland trails. Join group in Walnut Grove Park (at Sycamore and Olive Drive). Walking shoes recommended; bring water, trail snacks. RSVP: 760-744-9000 x3508. (SAN MARCOS)

Take the Inaugural Hike into Santa Ysabel Preserve with Ranger James, Saturday, April 7, 9 a.m. Learn history and future during walk along portion of Coast to Crest Trail and Santa Ysabel Creek. Parking: \$3. Find preserve on Farmer Road (one mile north of Volcan Mountain Preserve). 760-765-4098. (JULIAN)

Lizards and Tigers and Monkeys — Oh My! Trail guides point out tiger swallowtail butterflies, monkeyflowers, and lizards during guided walks, Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, April 7, 8, and 11, 9:30 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park (One Father Junípero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

History Walk, Offshoot Tours offers hour-long history walk, blending Balboa Park history with its wealth of architectural and botanical treasures, Saturday, April 7, 10 a.m., from visitors’ center. Free. 619-235-1122. (BALBOA PARK)

Stargazing in the San Pasqual Valley, Saturday, April 7, at San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park (16666 San Pasqual Valley Road). Oceanside Photo and Telescope co-hosts event, geared for beginners, which begins at 6 p.m., concludes around 11 p.m., weather permitting. 760-737-2698 or 619-884-5527. Free. (ESCONDIDO)

California Native Plant Society leads walk on first Sunday of each month, including April 8, 9 a.m., from Tecolote Nature Center (5180 Tecolote Road). Free. 858-581-9961. (CLAIREMONT)

Explore Silverwood Sanctuary, which was burned extensively during 2003 wildfires, during guided walks offered by reservation on Sundays, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. (619-682-7200). Sanctuary is located at 13003 Wildcat Canyon Road (five miles from Ashwood-Mapleview turn). Free. (LAKESIDE)

DANCE

“Viennese Waltz: Intro to Basics II” featured for beginner-friendly dance on Friday, April 6, in room 207 of Casa del Prado. Lesson at 7:30 p.m. followed by open dancing. All ages. Partners not required. Donation: \$1. 619-583-9956. (BALBOA PARK)

Ranting Banshee makes music, Steve Barlow calls for contradance, Friday, April 6, 8 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church (3030 Thorn Street). Beginners’ dance workshop: 7:30 p.m. \$7. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-594-6828. (NORTH PARK)


Latin Salsa Dance Party! Dancing with the Pros Ballroom Academy hosts party every Friday night, beginning April 6, 8–10 p.m., at Dance North County (535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 100). Free. 760-612-1680. (ENCINITAS)

Master Your Swing! Workshop-style class meets Saturday, April 7, 1–2:30 p.m. (and every Saturday), at Dance North County (535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 100). Fee: \$15 per session, \$45 for all four meetings, \$60 if you partner up. 760-942-2374. (ENCINITAS)

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

Sunday Zapateado, Ballet Folklórico en Aztlán performs dances from different states of Mexico each month at Centro Cultural de la Raza (2125 Park Boulevard). Take in dances from Nuevo Leon on Sunday, April 8, 2 p.m. Free. 619-235-6135. (BALBOA PARK)

Guest Caller Colin Hume performs his tasks to live music for English country dancing, Sunday, April 8, 6–9 p.m., at Jean Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road). \$8. 858-676-9731. (POWAY)




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Photo by Matt Lewis.

San Diego Reader April 5, 2007 75

Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

Basic Bellydancing Moves taught Wednesdays starting April 11, 5:30 p.m., at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). \$40 for four-class series. 858-362-1340. (LA JOLLA)

Get Your Groove On! Latest dance steps taught by instructor/dancer Prince on Thursdays at Dancing Unlimited (4569 30th Street). Beginners at 7-8 p.m., intermediate/advanced 8-9 p.m. \$10 per class, \$35 for four. 858-635-1211. (NORTH PARK)

FILM

The Brazilian Film *Saudade do Futuro* (2003) follows migration of workers from northeastern Brazil to São Paulo, causing resurgence of musical style *forró*. Screening begins at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 5, at UCSD's Institute of the Americas (10111 North Torrey

Pines Road). Free. 858-453-5560. (LA JOLLA)

The Iranian Film *The Day I Became a Woman* (2000) screens for winter film series, Thursday, April 5, 7 p.m., at Museum of Photographic Arts. \$10. 619-696-1969. (BALBOA PARK)

"The Milagro Beanfield War" screens Thursday, April 5, 7 p.m., in Little Theatre at San Diego State University. Sarah Elkind of SDSU's history department leads discussion of California's water wars, water resource developments through American history. Free. 619-594-8369. (SDSU)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: *The Alps: Giants of Nature*, *Hurricane on the Bayou*, *Coral Reef Adventure*. "Fridays at the Fleet" showcases *Dolphins* (6 p.m.), *Mysteries of Egypt* (7 p.m.), *The Alps* (8 p.m.), and *Hurricane on the Bayou* (9 p.m.), on April 6. Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

First Friday Movies! Enjoy *Shrek* on April 6, 7 p.m., on Prescott Promenade. Bundle up and picnic. Free. 619-401-8858. (EL CAJON)

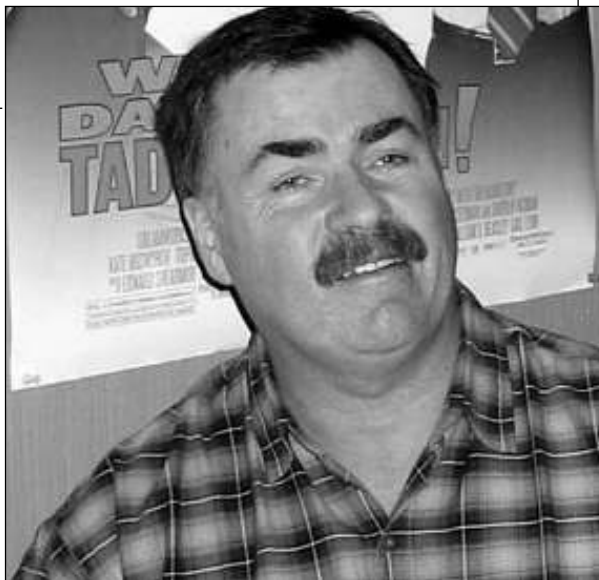
"An Unreasonable Man," documentary on Ralph Nader screens for Green Party, Saturday, April 7, 12:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Li-

OUT & ABOUT

"BEL'OCCHIO —

Finding and Gardening with Your Beautiful Eye." Horticulturist Thomas Hobbs, Monday, April 9, Surfside Race Place.

(SEE LECTURES)



brary (820 E Street). Donations accepted. 619-295-6000. (DOWNTOWN)

"Mirrormask" — Dave McKean's 2005 film screens for Film Forum at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street) on Monday, April 9, 6:30 p.m. Free. 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

"Power of Ten," brief film examining "relative size of things in the universe and the effect of adding another zero" screens for Ocean Beach Grassroots Organization and San Diego Activist at Voltaire Street Space (4862 Voltaire Street) on Monday, April 9, 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker

Jim Bell explains how San Diego/Tijuana region "can eliminate its contribution to global warming by becoming renewable energy self-sufficient." Free. 619-225-1083. (OCEAN BEACH)

Carlsbad Reads Together Films, see *The Pianist* on Wednes-

day, April 11, in conjunction with community reading of Elie Wiesel's *Night*. Discussion led by newspaper columnist Anny Zivot-sky. Program begins at 6 p.m. in Carlsbad Library's Schulman Auditorium (1775 Dove Lane). Free. 760-602-2026. (LA COSTA)

The Documentary *Sentenced Home* tells story of three young Cambodian-American men facing deportation after 9/11. Catch this film during screening hosted by Volunteer San Diego on Wednesday, April 11, 6:15 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Discussion follows. Free. 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

"Mississippi Triangle," described as a film chronicling "complex interethnic relations in the Mississippi Delta," may be seen on Wednesday, April 11, 7 p.m., at Weingart/City Heights Library Performance Annex (3795 Fairmount Avenue). Documentary presents "portrait of life...where Chinese, African-Americans, and whites live in a complex world of cotton, labor, and racial conflict." Free. 619-641-6103. (CITY HEIGHTS)

Alan Parker's Trippy 1982 Flick *Pink Floyd — The Wall* screens for spring film series, Thursday, April 12, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700

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Prospect Street). \$7. 858-454-3541. (BALBOA PARK, LA JOLLA)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: *The Alps: Giants of Nature, Hurricane on the Bayou, Reef Adventure*. “Fridays at the Fleet” showcases *Dolphins* (6 p.m.) and *Mysteries of Egypt* (7 p.m.) on April 6. Ticket prices and show-times: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

“Letters from Iwo Jima” Screenwriter Iris Yamashita will be on hand for screening and discussion of the film, Friday, April 20, 6:30 p.m., in room 3601 of MiraCosta College (One Barnard Drive). Free. 760-757-2121 x7757. (OCEANSIDE)

LECTURES

The Dead Sea Scrolls soon to be exhibited at San Diego Natural History Museum will be illuminated by Delle Willett of the museum when Daughters of the American Revolution meet, Thursday, April 5, 10:30 a.m., at Admiral Baker Golf Clubhouse (2400 Admiral Baker Road). \$15 fee includes lunch. Reservations: 858-279-2677. (GRANTVILLE)

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

“Civil Liberties and the War on Terrorism” examined by the Right Honorable Geoff Hoon, a member of Parliament since 1992 and Britain’s Minister for Europe, Thursday, April 5, 6 p.m., in Price Center Ballroom at UCSD. Panel discussion follows. Free. 858-534-1704 or 858-534-3120. (LA JOLLA)

Explore 14,000-Foot Peaks of the Eastern Sierra and Mt. Whitney during program hosted by Sierra Wilderness Seminars and REI Adventures, Thursday, April 5, 7 p.m., at REI (5556 Copley Drive). Learn of routes, gear, obtaining permits, when to go, more. Free. 858-279-4400. (KEARNY MESA)

What Would James Bond Purchase if he could shop at Spy and Security Store? Manager Jesse Saucedo plans show and tell of available gadgets when Sisters in Crime gather on Thursday, April 5, 7 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1010 University Avenue). \$3. 858-748-6842. (HILLCREST)

What’s Up on Fiesta Island? Redevelopment plans will be discussed during Clairemont Town Council meeting on Thursday, April 5, 7 p.m., in Clairemont High School cafeteria (4150 Ute). Free. 858-831-9555. (CLAIREMONT)

Commedia Dell’Arte (Italian masked comedy) workshop presented Friday, April 6, 6–9 p.m., and Saturday, April 7, 1–5 p.m. and 6–9 p.m. \$100. Class offered at Sophia Isadora Academy of Circus Arts, 4241 Park Boulevard. 619-543-0911. (NORTH PARK)

Learn to Create a Vision Statement of what your future will look like when local author Lee Silber illuminates ways to “Turn Your Goals Into a Slide-Show” by using modern technology, Saturday, April 7, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., at Morena Village Conference Center (1936 Quivira Way). \$39. Re-

quired reservations: 858-488-4249. (MISSION BAY)

“Global Desert Outlook” presented by Exequiel Ezcurra for “Desert Skies” lecture series hosted by Anza-Borrego Institute on Saturday, April 7, 7:30 p.m., at Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center. Learn about evolutionary roots of biological diversity in desert, changing environments, more. \$10. 760-767-0446. (BORREGO SPRINGS)

“Projecting the Holocaust into the Present: The Changing Focus of Contemporary Holocaust Cinema” explored by SDSU Jewish studies professor Lawrence Baron, Sunday, April 8, 2 p.m., at Temple Adat Shalom (15905 Pomerado Road). Free. 858-451-1200. (POWAY)

See the “Weave a Real Peace Slide Show” when Palomar Handweavers’ Guild meets Monday, April 9, 9:30 a.m., at Trinity Episcopal Church (845 Chestnut

Street). WARP is an “organization dedicated to empowering women and communities-in-need around the world through textile arts.” Free. 760-533-5857. (ESCONDIDO)

Acrylic Painting demonstration planned by artist Vanessa Leman for East County Art Association on Monday, April 9, 10 a.m., at Rancho San Diego Library (11555 Via Rancho). 619-579-9406. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

“Podcasting — A New Way to Communicate” presented by Jason Knill, president of Pod the Globe Productions, Monday, April 9, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-238-6630. (DOWNTOWN)

“The Future Stewards of Our Planet,” learn about research work by Scripps Fellowships students when they make three short presentations for “Perspectives on Ocean Science” series, Monday,

April 9, 6:30 p.m., at Birch Aquarium at Scripps (2300 Expedition Way). \$8. Reservations: 858-534-5771. (LA JOLLA)

“Bel’Occhio’ — Finding and Gardening with Your Beautiful Eye” is subject when horticulturist Thomas Hobbs speaks for San Diego Historical Society, Monday, April 9, 7 p.m., in Surfside Race Place at Del Mar Fairgrounds. “What inspiration can be found in things like architectural form, fa-

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

mous European gardens, natural rock formations, and even discarded items?" \$18 general. Reservations: 760-730-3268. (DEL MAR)

Learn About Alban Berg's Opera *Wozzeck* when USD music instructor Ron Shaheen presents multimedia lecture on Monday, April 9, 7 p.m., at First Unitarian Universalist Church (4190 Front Street). Donation: \$2.25. 619-298-9978. (HILLCREST)

Examine *Wozzeck* by Alban Berg during opera preview examining music, drama, and history of upcoming San Diego Opera production, Monday, April 9, 7:30 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Speaker is pianist, composer Nicolas Revelles, education director at San Diego Opera. \$8. 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

"Finding Your New England Ancestors" via New England Historic and Genealogical Society's website explained by genealogy librarian Mary Van Orsdol at Computer-Oriented Genealogy Group meeting on Tuesday, April 10, 1 p.m., in Carlsbad City Council Chambers (1200 Carlsbad Village Drive). Free admission. Access to

site is free at Genealogy Division of Cole Library. 760-630-5720. (CARLSBAD)

Culinary Classes led by Chef Jen at Mission Hills High School (1 Mission Hills Court). Nine-week session begins Tuesday, April 10, 5:30-9 p.m. Expect to learn basic cooking techniques, foods from around world. \$35. 760-752-1272. (SAN MARCOS)

"Global Climate Change: Perspectives and Solutions" — lecture series continues look at "Climate, Air Pollution, and Human Health" presented by UCSD's Kim Prather, Tuesday, April 10, 6:30 p.m. Air pollution impacts our daily lives, affecting human health and impacting the climate. Free. 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

Whitney Bound? Mt. Whitney expert and guide Kurt Wedberg offers tips and suggestions for gear, various approaches, during talks April 10-12 at local Adventure 16 stores. "Mt. Whitney Clinic Part II" is offered Tuesday at 4620 Alvarado Canyon Road (619-283-2374), Wednesday at 143 South Cedros (858-755-7662), and Thursday at 2002 South Coast Highway 101 (760-966-1700). 7 p.m. Free. (MISSION GORGE, SOLANA BEACH, OCEANSIDE)

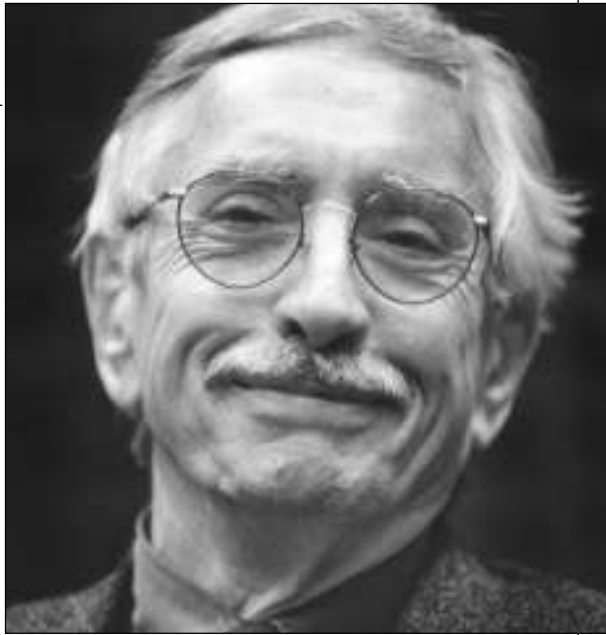
"Bird Brains — Pretty Darn Smart," lecture by Harvey Karten of UCSD's Department of Neuro-

OUT & ABOUT

EDWARD ALBEE

Three-time Pulitzer Prize playwright at D.G. Wills Books, Sunday, April 8.

(SEE IN PERSON)



sciences, Wednesday, April 11, 6 p.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. How do birds process sensory information? What region of brain in birds is similar to mammalian cortex? Free. 858-534-5635. (BALBOA PARK)

"How to Live Happily Ever After with Your Dog" presented Wednesday, April 11, 6 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). Housetraining, socialization, calmness, nutrition, communication, more. \$35. Reservations: 619-299-7012 x2247. (LINDA VISTA)

Known for His Analyses of Race and Anti-Racism, politics, foreign policy, feminism — author Robert Jensen speaks Wednesday, April 11, 6 p.m., Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Interview format session,

followed by question and answer period for audience. Free. 619-236-6420. (LINDA VISTA)

"Dazzling Drawing Demos" by six Southern California Cartoonists Society "crack caricature artists" promised during meeting on Wednesday, April 11, in lunch lounge at San Diego Blood Bank (440 Upas Street). \$2. Potluck details: 619-921-1936. (HILLCREST)

"Micro Urbanisms" — Giacomo Castagnola, a principal of Germen architecture studio in Tijuana, presents lecture on Wednesday, April 11, 6:30 p.m., at

NewSchool of Architecture (1249 F Street). Free. 619-235-4100 x107. (DOWNTOWN)

"Navigating with National Geographic," learn to use a GPS with the right maps when Honor Fredlund of *National Geographic* presents step-by-step demonstration, Thursday, April 12, 7 p.m., at REI (5556 Copley Drive). Expect simple trip-planning exercise, tips. Attendees "Basic Map and GPS Skills" booklet. Free. 858-279-4400. (KEARNY MESA)

"Art, Architecture, and Ecology: New Collaborations for Changing Environments" is theme for ongoing "Dialogues in Art and Architecture" series at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library. Speaker on Thursday, April 12, 7:30 p.m., is New York-based artist Agnes Denes — best known for her 1982 environmental piece entitled *Wheatfield — A Confrontation* in which she planted and harvested a two-acre wheat field in downtown Manhattan to address "human values and misplaced priorities." Find Athenaeum at 1008 Wall Street, 858-454-5872. Free. (LA JOLLA)

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.

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Brian McKnight Apr. 25
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Arcade Fire Apr. 26
Pepe Aguilar Apr. 27
Fall Out Boy Apr. 28
Damien Rice May 1
Tool May 2, 3
Kathy Griffin May 5
Vince Gill May 11
Modest Mouse May 14
Harry Connick Jr. May 17
Christina Aguilera May 21
Stevie Nicks May 23

Padres Opening Day

April 6 and 2007 season

Chayanne May 26
Morrissey June 3
Manu Chao June 5
Charlie Daniels June 8
Vicente Fernandez June 9
Keith Urban June 10
John Mayer June 12
Alejandro Sanz June 13
Kenny Loggins June 15
B-52s June 22
Paulina Rubio June 26
LeAnn Rimes June 27
Alison Krauss June 28
Brad Paisley June 29
The Fray July 17
Toby Keith Sept. 9
Rascal Flatts Sept. 15
Brooks & Dunn/Alan Jackson Oct. 14
"Celtic Woman" May 7
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April 6

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(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)

Flintknapping Workshop planned April 14, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., during Second Saturday Archaeology Day program at San Diego Archaeological Center (16666 San Pasqual Valley Road). Archaeologist Timothy Gross shares collection of replicated lithic tools, discusses ancient stone tools in center’s collection, leads workshop. Bring sack lunch, gloves, eye protection. \$35. Reservations: 760-291-0370. (ESCONDIDO)

Oath Betrayed. Survivors of Torture International host tenth anniversary event, Saturday, April 21, 6:30 p.m., at University of San Diego’s Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice (5998 Alcalá Park). Steven Miles discusses his book *Oath Betrayed* and role of medical professionals in times of war; discussion, book signing, reception with chocolate and cabaret. \$50. Reservations: 619-278-2400. (LINDA VISTA)

IN PERSON

Reliving the Civil War, actor Geoff DeCaesari performs as a rank-and-file soldier in costume with artifacts for Lemon Grove Historical Society on Thursday, April 5, 1:30 p.m., at H. Lee House Cultural Center (3205 Olive). \$2. 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

Poet Juliana Spahr, author of *This Connection of Everyone with Lungs* and other books, plans reading hosted by CSU San Marcos Community and World Literary Series, Thursday, April 5, 7 p.m., in Grand Salon (room 113) of M. Gordon Clarke Field House at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). Reading is free, parking is not. 760-750-8077. (SAN MARCOS)

Wayras plays music from Peru, the Andes for First Thursday Concert in Escondido Library’s Turentine Room (239 South Kalmia Street) on April 5, 7 p.m. Free. 760-839-4329. (ESCONDIDO)

World-Beat Music and Dance, Damaru performs with guests Sene Africa, bellydancing by Shalimar, African dance by Suzanne Forbes, Thursday, April 5, 8 p.m., at Claire de Lune Coffeehouse (2906 University Avenue). \$5. 619-688-9845. (NORTH PARK)


Pilipino Culture Nights, April 6 and 7, in Arts 240 at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). Traditional dancing, food, student video, more. Celebrations start at 6 p.m. on Friday, 1 and 6 p.m. on Saturday. Free. 760-750-4366. (SAN MARCOS)

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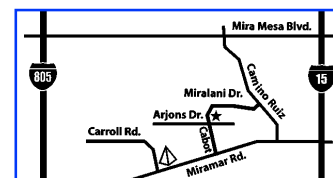
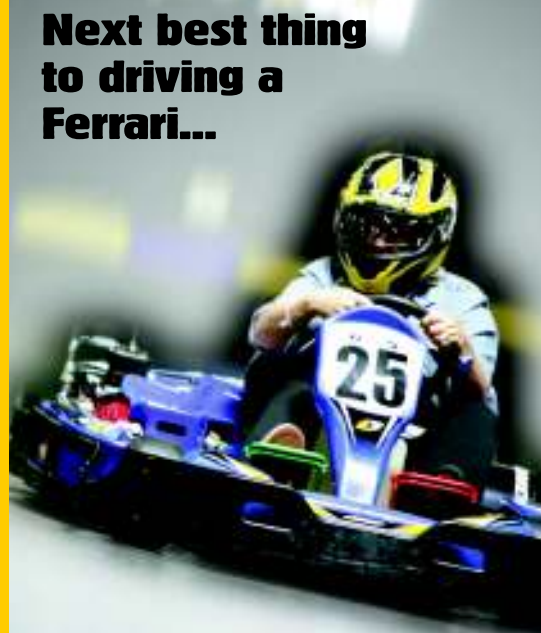
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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

Eighth Annual Spring Harmonica Festival is Saturday, April 7, 11:30 a.m.–6 p.m., in Harry Griffen Park Amphitheater (9550 Mildred Street). Program boasts Al Blake of Hollywood Blue Flames, Billy Watson, West of Memphis, Mark “da harp” Buckich, Baja Blues Boys, Harp Fest All-Star Volunteer Band, many others. Free concert is benefits Girls Club of San Diego Learning About Music program. 619-401-8846. (LA MESA)

Volunteer Appreciation concert with music by TapWater, Saturday, April 7, 3 p.m., at Mission Trails Regional Park visitors’ center (One Father Junipero Serra Trail). Free concert celebrates “hardworking volunteers that make our hiking, climbing, biking, and relaxation...possible.” 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

“Antarctic Explorations in Music,” musician and adventurer Henry Kaiser tells “his musical tale of diving in Antarctica” during multimedia concert, Saturday, April 7, 7 p.m., at Museum of Making Music (5790 Armada Drive). \$10. Reservations: 760-438-5996. (CARLSBAD)

Geoff Muldaur in Concert for AcousticMusicSanDiego on Saturday, April 7, 7:30 p.m., at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650 Mansfield Street). Tickets: \$15, \$20. 619-303-8176. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Comedy Zone presents Shawn Halpin and James Sibley, Saturday, April 7, 9 p.m., at 4th & B (345 B Street). \$5. 619-299-2583. (DOWNTOWN)

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

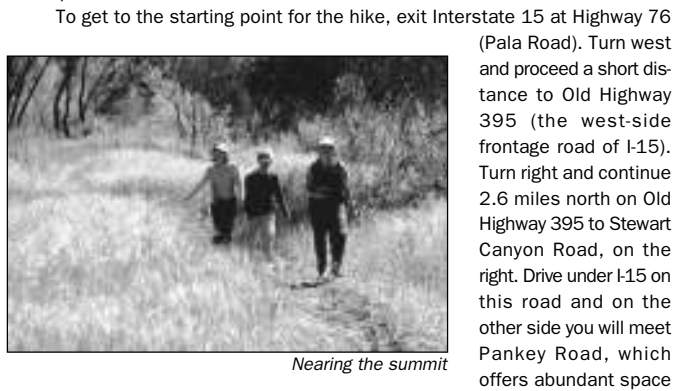
Open-Mike Poetry Readings, Monday, April 9, 8 p.m., Twiggs Tea and Coffee (4590 Park Boulevard). Free. 619-296-0616. (NORTH PARK)

San Diego Poetry Slam goes off again at Voz Alta, Monday, April 9, 8:30 p.m. Watch and judge San Diego’s “most entertaining poets.” Competitors: \$5. Voz Alta, 1544 Broadway, 619-239-3872. (EAST VILLAGE)

Open-Mike Poetry Night hosted by local poet, author Bruce Stephens, Tuesday, April 10, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick’s Bookstore

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

The dark west flank of Monserate Mountain rises abruptly alongside Interstate 15, its chaparral-coated surface relatively uncut by roads and graded residential lots. The Fallbrook Land Conservancy has established its largest preserve here, the 340-acre Monserate Mountain Preserve. The hike to the 1567-foot high point on the mountain could be considered a chore, but optimistically (it’s easy to be optimistic if you hike on a clear, cool day) the experience combines some heart-pounding exercise with a spacious and panoramic view at the top.



Nearing the summit

To get to the starting point for the hike, exit Interstate 15 at Highway 76 (Pala Road). Turn west and proceed a short distance to Old Highway 395 (the west-side frontage road of I-15). Turn right and continue 2.6 miles north on Old Highway 395 to Stewart Canyon Road, on the right. Drive under I-15 on this road and on the other side you will meet Pankey Road, which offers abundant space for parking. The Monserate Mountain trailhead, marked with a small signpost, is immediately to the right (south) of the intersection.

From the trailhead, the rough and sometimes severely eroded trail wastes little distance — except for a couple of zigzags — in ascending the mountain’s steep west slope. The white noise of traffic on the freeway fades as you climb, perhaps becoming no louder than your own heavy breathing. At 0.8 mile and 650 feet higher you reach a disused, one-lane paved road. Turn left and swing north on the deteriorating remnants of this road. After another 0.1 mile, pavement ends; just veer right on the dirt trail ahead. Lettered signposts clearly lead the way north and then east. Ignore two side paths on the left, and climb around a switchback to a saddle just below the Monserate Mountain summit. There, a ridge-running trail contours south toward a large water tank on the ridge, while the trail to the summit heads upward and east for about 100 yards to the high point, which is about 1200 feet above where you started your hike.

On the summit itself, an eastern view is revealed for the first time: Agua Tibia Mountain (an arm of the Palomar Mountains) rises boldly from lesser hills and valleys — the latter often draped in a vaporous haze. To the north spreads the typical Fallbrook mosaic of scattered houses and avocado-draped hillsides. In the west a couple of miles away, the reflective surface of a reservoir atop a ridge mirrors the color of the sky behind it (an aqueduct serving San

Diego County passes nearby, so the reality of a ridgetop lake is not so peculiar). Visible beyond the lake on clearer days is the arc of the ocean, blue here or silvery there, depending on the sun angle.

This article contains information about a publicly owned recreation or wilderness area. Trails and path-

ways 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.

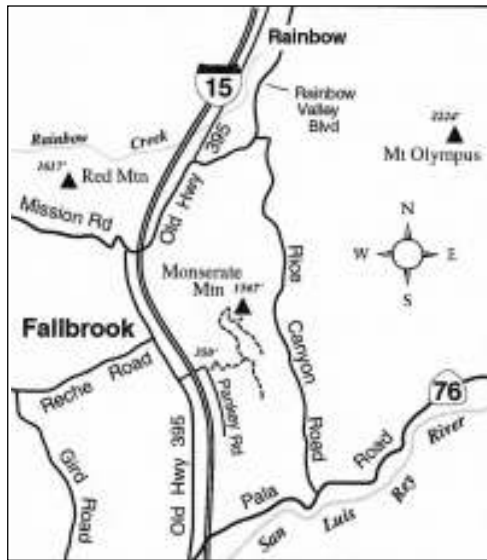
MONSERATE MOUNTAIN

Climb to a 1567-foot summit east of Fallbrook and enjoy an ocean-to-mountain panorama.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 50 miles

Length: 3.8 miles round trip

Difficulty: Moderately strenuous



(7812 Girard Avenue). Sign-ups are first-come, first served; readings limited to five minutes. Free. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

“4x4,” Sushi Performance and Visual Art’s performance series continues Tuesday, April 10, 8 p.m., at Bluefoot Bar and Lounge (3404 30th Street). Participants present new or in-progress works in “alternative, casual social setting”; all pieces low-tech, limited to ten minutes, performed on 4’ x 4’ stage. Suggested donation: \$5. 619-235-8466. (NORTH PARK)

David “Fathead” Newman performs for KSDS-Jazz 88’s Jazz Live series, Tuesday, April 10, 8 p.m., in Saville Theatre at City College (14th and C streets). \$10. 619-388-3037. Concert may be heard broadcast live on KSDS, 88.3 FM. (DOWNTOWN)

Classical Ragas Ensemble presents music “of the court tradition of North India,” Tuesday, April 10, noon, in Arts 111 at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). Free. 760-750-4366. (SAN MARCOS)

Southern California Author Taylor Wilshire speaks about her first novel, *The What-If Guy*, Wednesday, April 11, 6:30 p.m., at La Jolla Library (7555 Draper Avenue). Free. 858-552-1657. (LA JOLLA)

Schmalts Klezmer Ensemble performs for family music program, Wednesday, April 11, 7 p.m., at Carmel Valley Library (3919 Townsgate Drive). Enjoy free program of Yiddish, Hebrew, klezmer music. 858-552-1668. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Bestselling Author Anchee Min reads from and signs *The Last Em-*

press, Friday, April 13, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick’s Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). This book is sequel to *Empress Orchid*. Free. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

“The Great Radio Broadcast of 1935,” Scott Paulson and his musical cohorts present their “imaginary but period-authentic” live radio broadcast for First Unitarian Universalist Concert Series. Guests include opera singer Martha Jane Weaver, singing cowboy Chris Tonelli, drummer Bobby Werner. Jazz-blues singer Jeannie Cheatham will perform, interviewed onstage by *Union-Tribune* music critic George Varga. Program boasts two radio dramas: “Phantom of the Organ Pavilion” and “The Missing Mummy at the Museum of Man.” Fun begins at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 14, at First Unitarian Universalist

Church (4190 Front Street). \$12. 619-298-4580. (HILLCREST)

Baseball Hall of Famer Cal Ripken Jr. will sign *Get in the Game*, *The Longest Season* (a children’s title), and *Parenting Young Athletes the Ripken Way*, Saturday, April 21, 12:30 p.m., at Warwick’s Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

“The Ultra Marathon Man” himself, Dean Karnazes, visits Warwick’s Bookstore to sign books on Saturday, April 21, 7 p.m. Find shop at 7812 Girard Avenue, 858-454-0347. Free. (LA JOLLA)

Legendary Virtuoso Sitarist, composer, teacher Ravi Shankar — renowned for his work bringing Indian music to West — plans concert on Friday, April 27, 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido

Boulevard). Tickets: \$50–\$65. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

SPORTS

57th Annual Lions Invitational High School Baseball Tournament takes place Thursday, April 5, 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m., in Carroll B. Land Stadium at Point Loma Nazarene University (3900 Lomaland Drive). Free. 858-272-7054. (POINT LOMA)

San Diego Padres are in San Francisco to play against the Giants on Thursday, April 5, 7:15 p.m. The first home game of the season is Friday, April 6, 7:05 p.m., against Colorado Rockies, in Petco Park. Home games continue against Rockies on April 7 and 8, at 7:05 p.m. on Saturday and 1:05 p.m. on Sunday. Home series continues with games against Giants at 7:05 p.m. Monday–Wednesday, April 9–11. Tickets: \$8–\$67. 619-795-5005. (EAST VILLAGE)

Signature II County Horse Show, Friday and Saturday, April 6 and 7, 8 a.m.–5 p.m., at Del Mar Horsepark (14550 El Camino Real). Free. 760-753-0431. (DEL MAR)

Professional Boxing, Friday, April 6, 7 p.m., at 4th and B (345 B Street). Main event features former lightweight champ Damian Fuller versus San Diego contender Jairo Ramirez. Card includes six bouts; boxers include Lawson Baker, Fabrizio Bergamini, Heather Donoho, Lamar Hirne, Lester Gomez. Tickets for this Cystic Fibrosis Foundation benefit: \$41 general, \$79 reserved stage, \$89 reserved floor, \$99 box seating, \$125 ringside. 858-689-4196. (DOWNTOWN)

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. Final races take place on 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)

El Camino Ramble, meet up with San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders for 50-mile outing on Saturday, April 7, 8:45 a.m., at Doyle Park (8175 Regents Road). Free. 619-562-2882. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Escondido to Bonsall and Back! Gather at 9 a.m. in parking lot at Mervyn’s (on 9th Street) for 35-mile bicycle ride with Knickerbikers on Saturday, April 7. Enjoy back roads, spring flowers. Free. 760-747-8622. (ESCONDIDO)

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Walk/Run Club, trainer-led community fitness group, open to anyone healthy enough for physical activity, meets every Saturday, 11:30 a.m., at Webb Park. The 45-minute routine begins with stretching, includes brisk walk or run, calisthenics. Free. 858-451-6051. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

IRB North American 4 Rugby Tournament, Saturday, April 7, 1 p.m., in Qualcomm Stadium. The USA Hawks take on USA Falcons; afterwards, Old Mission Beach Athletic Club meets up with Belmont Shores team. \$10. 303-539-0300 x129. (MISSION VALLEY)

Route 56 Express Ride, join Sierra Club bicyclists for ride with rolling hills and brisk pace, Sunday, April 8. The 45-miler starts at 8:30 a.m. at northeast corner of Linda Vista Road and Via Las Cumbres (in parking lot of San Diego County Office of Education), heads north to Route 56 and back along coast. Leader celebrates 60th birthday with cake and ice cream after ride. Free. 858-565-7262. (LINDA VISTA)

Tuesday Night Bicycle Racing Season continues with racing at 6:30 p.m. at San Diego Velodrome (2221 Morley Field Drive). Free for spectators. 619-573-4953. (BALBOA PARK)

SPECIAL

“Sho, Kami, and Mizuhiki... Calligraphy, Paper, and ‘Paper Ribbon,’ ” exhibition of work by Japanese artists Kyoko Otani-Koen, Hiroko Tanino, and Mihoko Hamada opens on Monday, April 2, in exhibit house at Japanese Friendship Garden. 619-232-2721. Closes Monday, April 30. (BALBOA PARK)

“God as Nature: Spinoza, Einstein, and Lao-Tzu” is subject when P&R Discussion group meets Thursday, April 5, 7 p.m., at Other Side Coffee House (4096

30th Street). Free. 619-421-1879. (NORTH PARK)

Walk the Line Where Art and Architectural Space Collide! Thursday Night Thing slated for April 5 is inspired by work of Cerca Series artist Héctor Zamora, who will be on hand to speak about his work. Guests may participate “in a spectrum of space-altering activities,” including art activity by local sculptor/print-maker Bill Pierce, see massive drawing machines provided by students from Woodbury University’s School of Architecture, enjoy live music. Party starts at 7 p.m. at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (1001 Kettner Boulevard). Donation: \$3. 858-454-3541. (DOWNTOWN)

Southern California Plumeria Society Cutting Sale, Saturday and Sunday, April 7 and 8, 10 a.m.–4 p.m., in Casa del Prado room 101. Cuttings for sale, planting tips from experts. Admission: free. 760-451-1472. (BALBOA PARK)

Three Generations of Master Winemakers, Mick Dragoo (owner of Belle Marie Winery, Chateau Dragoo), Napa Valley winemaker Justin Dragoo, master winemaker Lum Eisenman will pour “their best pre-release wines,” Saturday, April 7, 2–4 p.m., at Belle Marie Winery (26312 Mesa Rock Road). Also on tap: cordials from Paradise Distillery. \$10. 760-796-7557. (ESCONDIDO)

Music, Live Art, Live Screen-print Clothing Design! Field Trip Productions hosts events, Saturday, April 7, 9 p.m.–2 a.m., at Beauty Bar (4746 El Cajon Boulevard). Live painting by Matt Dove, Ian Morris; screenprinting by Honor Industries; music by Buddy Akai, more. \$6. 619-516-4746. (SAN DIEGO)

House of India presents songs and dances for lawn program at International Cottages, Sunday,

April 8, 2 p.m. Free. 619-234-0739. (BALBOA PARK)

Cajon Classic Cruise Car Shows take place every Wednesday, April 11–August 29, 5–8 p.m., on East Main Street. Different themes each week. Free. 619-401-8858. (EL CAJON)

Fifth Annual International Fair promises performances and demonstrations by Tam Tam African Drummers, Pakaraguan Kulintang Ensemble; international fashion show; food such as German bratwurst, udon noodles, Greek salad, Mexican taquitos, more. Find fun on Thursday, April 12, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., in University Hall Plaza at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). Free. 760-750-8821. (SAN MARCOS)

Is the Enlightenment Alive Today? Present your viewpoint to P&R Discussion group, Thursday, April 12, 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)

“Beyond the Batter’s Box: The Hall of Fame Life of Tony Gwynn” continues through Friday, September 7, in Special Collections Reading Room and Donor Hall of San Diego State University’s Love Library (5500 Campanile Drive). Exhibition in honor of Gwynn’s election to National Baseball Hall of Fame boasts 17 cases of items belonging to Gwynn, including personal scrapbooks dating back to his high school years, photographs, and SDSU memorabilia; his origi-



Easter

Holy Thursday

April 5, 7:30 p.m., Rev. Elbert Kim, Holy Communion, Draping of the Cross. The Contemporary Singers and Youth Choir.

Good Friday

April 6, 12:10, Rev. Mary Allman-Boyle, The Chancel Choir and Vocal Quartet. Organ meditation begins 11:45. Musical vignette on Bach's St. Matthew Passion.

Easter Vigil Prayer Pilgrimage

April 7, between 7:30 and 9 p.m., self-guided interactive journey, all ages.

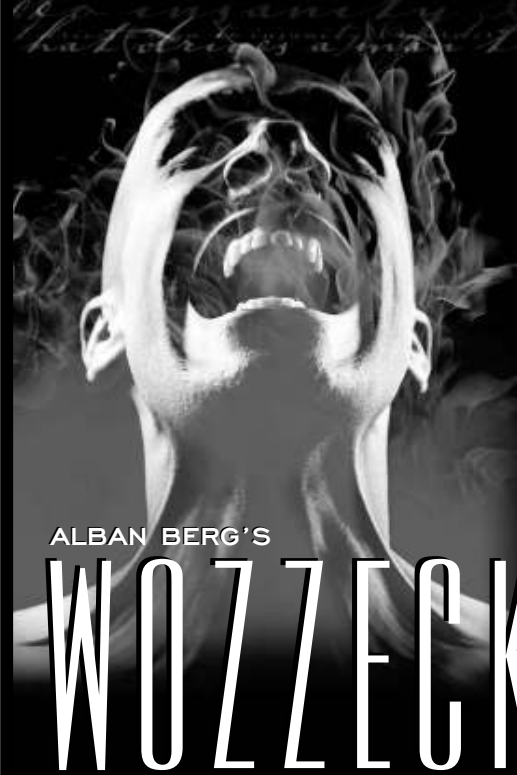
Easter Sunday

April 8, 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m., Dr. Jim Standiford, The Chancel Choir, Organ, Brass Quartet, Timpani and Handbells. The Water's Edge contemporary service at 9:30 in The Cove with Rev. Molly Vetter.

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

nal Padres contract, baseball cards, baseballs signed by each of 18 members of the 3000 Hit Club (such as Willie Mays, Hank Aaron, Rod Carew), more. Free. 619-594-6791. (SDSU)

16th Annual Walk on Water Competition, held every year to promote field of engineering and its importance to society, is Saturday and Sunday, April 21 and 22, starting at 10 a.m. both days, in sports center pool at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Participants are from colleges, high schools; they must consider buoyancy, stability, propulsion. Free. 619-260-7558. (LINDA VISTA)

The Art of the Garden, self-guided tour of public and private gardens in and around Carlsbad, Sunday, April 22, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Tour includes garden of Ingrid Rose, City of Carlsbad Sculpture Garden, Agua Hedionda Lagoon Discovery Garden, more. Tickets: \$30 in advance, \$35 at door. Reservations: 760-434-6216. (CARLSBAD)

ArtWalk 2007, more than 400 artists featured at 23rd annual festival, set for Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29, noon–6 p.m., along 16 blocks from Beech Street to Fir Street in Little Italy. Art in range of media for sale, children's activities, music. Free admission. 619-615-1090. (LITTLE ITALY)

FOR KIDS

"King Midas" performed by Big Joe Productions through Sunday, April 8, in Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. Next up: *Fun with Fables* by comic ventriloquist Lynn Trimble, April 11–15.

Showtimes: 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday–Friday; 11 a.m., 1 and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Find theater near Aerospace Museum. Admission: \$3 for children, \$4 seniors, \$5 general. 619-544-9203. (BALBOA PARK)

"Spring EGGstravaganza," family fun with marine animals and their eggs, Monday–Saturday, April 2–7, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., at Birch Aquarium-Museum (2300 Expedition Way). "Meet egg-laying marine animals and their eggs, including squids, fishes, and sharks." Participants may create shark egg craft, hear stories. Prize-filled egg hunt throughout aquarium-museum, 9 a.m. on 7th. Included in regular admission. 858-534-7336. (LA JOLLA)

Easter Egg Hunt Festival, Saturday, April 7, 10 a.m.–1 p.m., at Ecke Sports Park (278 Saxony Road). Crafts for kids, party jumps, face painting, egg hunting (with start times based on age). Free. 760-633-2740. (ENCINITAS)

Every Child Plays is motto for United States Youth Volleyball League, with teams meeting Tuesdays, 6–7 p.m. and Saturdays, 9–10 a.m., at North Clairemont Recreation Center (4421 Bannock Avenue). Season begins Tuesday, April 10. Focus is on teaching basic skills of volleyball to children

between 7–14. Fees, registration: 888-988-7985. (CLAIREMONT)

Debut Author Deborah J. Copeland discusses, signs her "teen novel" *The Kids at Latimar High*, Wednesday, April 11, 6 p.m., in Oceanside Library community rooms (330 North Coast Highway). Free. 760-435-5580. (OCEANSIDE)

Poetry Workshop for Teens led by local poet Karen Kenyon, Monday, April 16, 6:30 p.m., at North Clairemont Library (4616 Clairemont Drive). Participants will "learn the basics," write haiku poems. Registration: 858-581-9931. (CLAIREMONT)

MUSEUMS

Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum, the museum locates, collects, documents, and preserves historical gas-, steam-, and horse-powered equipment related to agriculture and the general development of America. The collection is made up of equipment used in lumbering, mining, oil drilling, and construction industries. Blacksmith and wheelwright shop, country kitchen and parlor, steam-operated saw mill, and 1/3-scale train. Find the museum at 2040 North Santa Fe Avenue. 760-941-1791. (VISTA)

Bonita Museum and Cultural Center, the museum highlights the history of the Sweetwater Valley from the mid-1800s, with historical photographs; artifacts, tools, and farming implements; the district's 1953 fire engine; and bound copies back to the 1930s

April Is Autism Awareness Month
and we want to raise awareness, as well as \$100,000 to send some special children with autism to Camp I CAN!

 **Saturday, April 14** 
6-11 pm
San Diego Air & Space Museum
Balboa Park

You're invited to get in the mood to go All Out for Autism! Join us for a special 1940s-inspired evening with creative cocktails, the French Gourmet's delicious food, a lively big band, swing dancers, fabulous door prizes, exciting raffles (plasma TV and Hawaiian vacation!) and more. Come prepared for a fun-filled, high-energy event benefiting a great cause: Camp I CAN!

ALL OUT for Autism

\$85 for Individual
\$250 for Premier Level
\$1,500 for 10-person VIP Table

For more information, call the San Diego County chapter of the Autism Society of America at: 619.806.0119 or visit: www.sd-autism.org

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of the *Chula Vista Star News*. Find the museum at 4355 Bonita Road; 619-267-5141. (BONITA)

Campo Railroad Museum, showcasing more than 130 years of American railroad history and technology through static and operating exhibits, the museum includes cabooses, steam and diesel locomotives, track motorcars, 1880s “Jim Crow” segregated passenger cars.

Interpretive 1.5-hour train rides offered each weekend (11 a.m., 2:30 p.m.) over portion of the San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway. Find the depot on Highway 94 at Forrest Gate Road. 619-465-7776. (CAMPO)

Chinese Historical Society and Museum, see artifacts from San Diego’s Chinese and Chinese-American history, culture, and art. Current museum artifacts include a 1920s warlord’s bed, exhibits on Chinese foot-binding and Chinese-American veterans. The museum is in a building originally built in 1927 for the Chinese Mission. Adjacent to the building is an Asian garden with koi pond and waterfall. Find the museum at 404 Third Avenue (at J Street). 619-338-9888. (EAST VILLAGE)

Chula Vista Heritage Museum the museum features glimpses of Chula Vista’s past; exhibits feature lemon packing crate labels, photographs of downtown Chula Vista, doors and adobe blocks from the original *Star* newspaper building, and relics from the Otay Watch Company. Find the museum at 360 Third Avenue. 619-420-6916. (CHULA VISTA)

Creation Museum, a museum contrasting the evolution and creation world views is found at 10946 Woodside Avenue North. For more information, call 619-448-0900 x231. (SANTEE)

Gemological Institute of America Museum, permanent exhibits include displays depicting science and art of gemstones and history, lore and cultural significance of jewelry. Find the GIA at 5345 Armada Drive. Required reservations: 800-421-7250 x4116. (CARLSBAD)

George White and Anna Gunn Marston House, historic home sits on five acres of landscaped grounds with a formal English Romantic garden. Built for civic leader and department store founder George Marston and his family by San Diego architects William Hebbard and Irving Gill, the Marston house design is in keeping with the early 20th-Century American Arts and Crafts period, emphasizing simplicity,

function, and natural materials. The museum is located at 3525 Seventh Avenue; 619-298-3142. (HILLCREST)

Heritage Museum, an interpretive wall, replicas of the early post office and general store, and a school room are part of this museum. A mural painted by Michael Strong depicts six periods of Poway’s past. Find the museum in Old Poway Park, at 14134 Midland Road; 858-679-8587. (POWAY)

House of Pacific Relations, International Cottages are open every Sunday, noon–4 p.m., presenting history and traditions of 30 ethnic groups. On fourth Tuesday of each month, *Children Around the World* videos screened in Hall of Nations, select cottages open. 619-538-4069. (BALBOA PARK)

J.A. Cooley Museum, an eclectic collection of items — including displays on phonographs, clocks, electric trains, and 20 other types of collections — is featured at the museum. The current featured attraction is an “Industrial Product Collection,” with examples of the historical progression of auto technology from 1886–1915, “some classics and a concept car.” Find the museum at 4233 Park Boulevard; 619-296-3112. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park, old adobe buildings were once vacation retreat and working rancho of actor Leo Carrillo. Tours on Saturdays (11 a.m., 1 p.m.) and Sundays (noon, 2 p.m.). Find Rancho de los Quiotes at 6200 Flying LC Lane. 760-476-1042. (CARLSBAD)

Marine Corps Recruit Depot Museum, housed in a historic building, the museum features five permanent galleries with artifacts, uniforms, vehicles, weapons, and photographs depicting Marine Corps history. The museum is located in Building 26 at MCRD, just inside Gate 4, off Pacific Highway. 619-524-6038. (DOWNTOWN)

Parsonage Museum of Lemon Grove, “The Sonka Centennial, 1907-2007” commemorates immigrant German-Austrian family that fostered growth of modern Lemon Grove, laid cornerstone of its postagricultural economy with a successful general store. Exhibition recreates part of store, replete with horse collars, cheroots, textiles, feed, canned goods, and more. Through December. Find the museum at 3185 Olive Street; 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, why does every body produce “mushy, oozy, crusty, scaly, and stinky gunk”? Find out in “Grossology: The (Impolite) Science of the Human Body.” Exhibition uses animatronics and imaginative exhibits to explore ways a body’s biology does what it needs to do to keep us healthy. Closes Sunday, April 29.

“Origins in Space: Spin-Offs in Science and Technology” chronicles scientific accomplishments and technological spin-offs resulting from NASA missions. How have these discoveries entered our everyday lives?

Ongoing exhibitions include “More Than Meets the Eye” (through May), “Aging for All Ages,” “San Diego Science Showcase,” “Kid City” (for preschoolers), “The Best of Symmetry and Signals,” and “TryScience!” “Comet Impact” is theme for motion simulator ride. Films are shown daily in the IMAX theater. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Archaeological Center, “A Letter from the Ocean Hotel: Victorian Lady Traveler’s Adventures in San Diego, 1888” includes glassware, dishes, bottles, personal items dating from late 1880s that were excavated from a block in East Village area downtown in 2002.

The museum is dedicated to “curation of archaeological projects and sharing them with the public.” Find center at 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road; 760-291-0370. (ESCONDIDO)

San Diego Automotive Museum, “Law Enforcement Vehicles” star through Sunday, May 27. Show highlights last century of law enforcement in San Diego County. Vehicles represented include vintage paddy wagon, 1941 cruiser from Ocean-side Police Department, 1951 Studebaker police car used in several *Batman* movies, more. More than 80 automobiles and motorcycles from horseless carriages to future prototypes are included in the museum’s permanent collection. Find the museum near the Starlight Bowl. 619-231-2886. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Hall of Champions, ongoing exhibits include “Bird Watching — Tony Hawk in Flight,” “Surfing in San Diego,” exhibits of baseball card art, fencing, local rugby history. The museum — dedicated to promoting, recognizing, and preserving athletic achievement — is located at

2131 Pan American Plaza. 619-234-2544. (BALBOA PARK)

Museum of San Diego History, career of local artist is highlighted in “Belle Baranceau: The Artist at Work.” Baranceau was “one of the foremost expressionist painters of the 1920s and 1930s” who moved to San Diego in 1933 and received assignments from the WPA. Two of her murals are still in their original locations at Balboa Park Club and La Jolla post office. Exhibit provides broad overview of her career, look at her creative process. Through Tuesday, May 29.

The museum is located in the Casa de Balboa building; 619-232-6203. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Maritime Museum, “San Diego’s Navy,” based upon book by same name written by Bruce Linder, is said to be “the only comprehensive exhibit depicting the extraordinary contribution the Navy has made to the history of the San Diego region.”

The museum features permanent exhibits documenting the history of San Diego’s waterfront and the building of the West Coast by sea, the old San Diego-Coronado ferryboats, the tuna fishing industry, and the military. The museum fleet consists of the 1863 bark *Star of India*, the 1898 San Francisco ferryboat *Berkeley*, and the 1904 Scottish steam yacht *Medea*. The H.M.S. *Surprise*, used in film *Master and Commander*, is permanently on exhibit; see artifacts, costumes, props used in making of the flick. Also open for touring: a B-39 Soviet attack submarine, among the largest con-

ventionally powered submarines ever built. This Project 641/Fox-trot class diesel-electric submarine was designed to track U.S. and NATO warships throughout the Earth’s oceans. There are also nautical exhibits, ship carpenters, model building, ships in bottles, woodcarvers, and a complete research library.

The museum is located at 1306 North Harbor Drive, along the Embarcadero at corner of North Harbor Drive and Ash Street; 619-234-9153. (DOWNTOWN)

San Diego Museum of Man, “Edward S. Curtis Refocused” offers Native American insight into Curtis’s photo documentation of their lives. Curtis is famous for his photographs of recreated scenes of traditional life and ceremony, for portraits of tribe members wearing historic garments. Exhibition features prints of his photogravures taken in locations throughout U.S. and Canada and examines some controversial elements of Curtis’s work, techniques he used.

Permanent anthropology exhibit “Footsteps through Time: Four Million Years of Human Evolution” features “more than a hundred touchable replicas of early humans, primates, and futuristic cyborgs (part human, part machine).” 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Tug Boat Museum, a 100-foot retired Korean War-era tug boat built in 1951 is open for tours at museum. Boat is docked along Harbor Drive, be-

tween Grape Street and Broadway. 619-200-7417. (DOWNTOWN)

San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park commemorates the clash (on December 6, 1846) during the Mexican War between the U.S. Dragoons, bolstered by sailors and volunteers from San Diego, and California militia. Narrated slide-show screens throughout the day, telling the story of the war in Mexico and California. Self-guided tour recounts the events of the battle and profiles the leaders of the forces and also describes the lives of the Indians indigenous to the valley. The museum is found at 15808 San Pasqual Valley Road. 760-737-2201. (ESCONDIDO)

Valley Center History Museum, the museum features an educational exhibition centered around a California grizzly bear, described as “the only one on view in San Diego.” Also on exhibit: model of an 1862 settler’s cabin, collection of Indian baskets, and aerospace display. Find the museum at 29200 Cole Grade Road. 760-749-2993. (VALLEY CENTER)

William Heath Davis House Museum, said to be the oldest surviving structure in the new town area of downtown San Diego, the house is a well-preserved example of a pre-framed lumber “salt box” family home shipped from the East Coast to California by boat around Cape Horn in 1850. Find the museum at 410 Island Avenue (at Fourth Avenue); 619-233-4692. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

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Calendar

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Events that are underlined occur after April 12.

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

“Musical Paintings,” Indonesian-born pianist Ines Irawati “explores the inspiration behind the music of Mozart, Liszt, and Vine” in Concert Hour lecture/recital, Thursday, April 5, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. 760-744-1150 x2316. (SAN MARCOS)

Franz Joseph Haydn’s “Seven Last Words” for string quartet, may be heard when the Stringendo Quartet performs Friday, April 6, noon, at Resurrection Lutheran Church (1111 5th Street). Quartet members: Joyce Shepard (violin),

Shirley Weaver (violin), Janet Mathews (viola), Marjorie Hart (cello). Donations appreciated. 619-435-1000. (CORONADO)

Haydn’s “Seven Last Words of Our Savior on the Cross” presented by Pacific Academy of Ecclesiastical Music (PACEM) in version for a quartet of vocal soloists with string quartet, as part of Good Friday Meditation, Friday, April 6, noon, at Saint Paul’s Cathedral (2728 Sixth Avenue). The piece, said to be Haydn’s personal favorite, will be sung in German; vocal soloists include soprano Anne Whattoff, alto Victoria Heins-Shaw, tenor Martin Green, baritone Philip Larson. Offering. 619-298-7261. (MIDDLETOWN)

Gershwin Salutes promised during Winter Pops concerts by San Diego Symphony, conductor Marvin Hamlisch, pianist Kevin Cole, and vocalist Christiane Noll. Listen for Gershwin favorites including Cole’s definitive performance of “Rhapsody in Blue.” Concerts begin at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, April 6 and 7, in Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Tickets: \$20–\$65. Reservations: 619-235-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

Sitar Master Kartik Seshadri, who studied with Ravi Shankar, is joined by Arup Chattopadhyay (tabla) to present “concert of Indian ragas spontaneously selected for the mood of the evening,” Friday, April 6, 8 p.m., Mandeville Auditorium, UCSD. \$8 general. 858-534-3229. (LA JOLLA)

Introduction to Classical Music Recital planned by young violinists, cellists, pianists, and winds from California Institute of Mu-

sic, Saturday, April 7, 5 p.m., at Carmel Valley Library (3919 Townsgate Drive). Free. 858-259-5508. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Higher Vision Choir plans premiere concert with blend of traditional and spiritual Easter music, Sunday, April 8, 10 a.m., at Vision Center for Spiritual Living (11260 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Performers include Kristi Peterson, Darryl Thompson. Offering. 619-303-6609. (TIERRASANTA)

Civic Organist Carol Williams performs in Spreckels Organ Pavilion, Sunday, April 8, 2 p.m. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Pianist Alexander Wasserman presents concert dedicated to memory of Glenna Hazleton for mini-concert at noon on Monday, April 9, at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Free. 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

Palomar Chamber Singers and Palomar Women’s Chorus appear for Concert Hour performance, Thursday, April 12, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. 760-744-1150 x2316. (SAN MARCOS)

Percussionist Gregory Stuart plans two-part concert on Thursday, April 12, in UCSD’s Warren Music Studio A (on Matthews Lane). At 6 p.m., listen to CD playback of his performance of Michael Pisaro’s “Unrhymed Chord.” John Cage’s “Four4” may be heard at 8 p.m. Free. 858-534-3229. (LA JOLLA)

ART LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after April 12.

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

MFA Students of UCSD’s Graduate Visual Arts Department have open house on Friday, April 6, 2–8 p.m., in Visual Arts Facility (off Gilman Drive). 858-534-2862. (LA JOLLA)

“April Showers,” juried show of 90 water-media paintings opens with reception on Friday, April 6, 5 p.m., in San Diego Watercolor Society’s new Showcase Gallery at NTC Promenade (2825 Dewey Road, suite 105). Juror: Carol Thomason. 619-794-0240. Closes Saturday, April 28. (POINT LOMA)

“Curiosity Often Leads to Trouble: A Tribute to Alice in Wonderland” — exhibition boasting work by over 50 artists from across country who have “sewn, pasted, fired, and painted their visual delights” opens with reception

on Friday, April 6, 6 p.m., at Art of Framing Gallery (3333 Adams Avenue, 619-563-9770). Through April. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

“Seedling,” new works by Heather McCalla and Vincent Robles may be seen in Flor y Canto Gallery of School of Art, Design Art and History at San Diego State University after opening reception, Saturday, April 7, 6 p.m. 619-594-6511. Closes Thursday, April 12. (SDSU)

“A Rich Fantasy Life,” exhibition of new paintings by New York artist Ryan McGinness opens with reception on Saturday, April 7, 6 p.m., at Quint Contemporary Art (7739 Fay Lane). “McGinness’s work consists of an amalgam of icons and symbols.” Continues through Saturday, May 19. 858-454-3409. (LA JOLLA)

“The Timber Collection” exhibit by Varian Designs opens with reception on Saturday, April 7, 6 p.m., in Everett Gee Jackson at San Diego State University. Show features “five signature pieces made from recycled 19th-century hand-hewn wooden structural beams, machine-sawed materials, laser-cut steel.” 619-594-6511. (SDSU)

“The Zedition Show” with “zedist” compositions by Dave Miles, Mary Fleener, Nic McGregor, James Chen, Ricardo Zelaya, Delane, Tanya VanParys, Yuransky opens with reception on Saturday, April 7, 7 p.m., at Zedism Gallery (3540 Adams Avenue). 619-283-1210. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Senior Exhibition by Jessica L. Dille may be seen Tuesday–Friday, April 10–13, in Keller Art Gallery at Point Loma Nazarene University (3900 Lomaland Drive). Reception for artist is Wednesday, April 11, 6 p.m. 619-849-2200. (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 col-

laboration 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 — 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 Cuicullu. His art juxtaposes images of progressive, historical figures and

events with his personal experiences. This piece engages the architecture and oceanfront site of museum.

“Brian Ulrich: Copia” features 14 large-scale photographs documenting shopping habits of Americans. Photographs were taken in “big-box” retail stores such as Target, Wal-Mart using medium-format film camera with waist-level viewfinder; covert vantage point allowed artist to capture “massive scale and halogen clarity of the hyper-real spaces.” Closes Sunday, May 13.

Find the museum at 700 Prospect Street. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Museum of Photographic Arts, images by contemporary artists addressing issues of narrative showcased in “Tell Me a Story: Narrative Photography Now,” continuing through Sunday, May 13. Exhibition of work by Tracey Moffat, Gavin Hipkins, 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 DeGenevieve, 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.

“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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A Photographer's Life, 1990 – 2005

February 10 – April 22, 2007

Embark on a remarkable journey through the work of one of the world's most celebrated photographers, Annie Leibovitz. This collection of nearly 200 indelible images juxtaposes Leibovitz's legendary photos of public figures with intimate glimpses into her private life.

This exhibition is organized by the Brooklyn Museum and sponsored by American Express.

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Just Call Me D.J.

"The make-up people said, 'Don't talk to him; don't look at him; he fires women all the time.'"

One actor speaks. The other listens. They talk back and forth through a scene. But D.J. Sullivan's teaching a class on "overlapping dialogue," where the actors should jump on each other's lines. For Sullivan, the scene did not go well.

"Hold it," she says, rising from her chair with a firm smile. "You're too *polite* to each other. Offstage, you interrupt people all the time. Then you do a scene and ping-pong: I speak; now you speak. Be less polite! And don't worry. People will hear what you're both saying. They're used to it from real life."

The actors try again, intruding here and there. The exchanges acquire jagged edges. The scene comes to life.

"Very good!" Sullivan smiles. "So much dialogue is delivered abstract and stiff," she tells the class. "Once you get a feel for it, you'll love overlapping."

And D.J. Sullivan loves teaching actors. She's been doing it for 40 years in San Diego: four decades of ongoing classes.

A working actor in movies, TV, commercials, theater, she didn't see teaching in her life-script in the fall of 1967. Then she got a phone call on a rainy Saturday. "I don't know who you are," said Don Ward of San Diego Junior Theatre. "Pat [McCune, a SDJT teacher] recommended you. Could you come here right now — and bring some plays?"

Sullivan sped down rain-slick streets. When she reached the Puppet Theatre in Balboa Park, half the students had scattered. She had those that remained read scenes. After class, Ward told her it was the teacher's second no-show. His son

Kirby was in the class and liked Sullivan. "The job's yours if you want it."

Sullivan took it, convinced "this isn't going to last."

She taught at Junior Theatre for 17 years. In 1977 she opened the D.J. Sullivan Workshop, which is still going strong. She can't estimate how many students she's had — "I don't think in terms of numbers" — but it's easily several thousand. Like many who grew up before television, Sullivan listens to it, as to a radio, while doing other things. She'll hear a voice that sounds familiar, look up, and recognize a former student. "Not a day goes by when I don't see one on TV."

Or a local stage. At New Village Arts's recent *Crimes of the Heart*, Sullivan's students included Jessica John, Amanda Sifton, and Daren Scott (who, as an 11-year-old, lied about his age so he could attend Junior Theatre's 14–17 age group; Sullivan thought, "This kid wants to learn" and admitted him). Her pupils, former and current — and adamantly loyal — insist that she brings two qualities to her work: she's an inspiring teacher and has a lifetime of experiences as an actor. She knows, in other words, how it feels to be auditioner #476 on a Friday afternoon in L.A.

INTERVIEW JEFF SMITH

She played a woman seeking a birth certificate in the famous "Who Shot J.R.?" episode of *Dallas*. Since the ending was so hush-hush (they filmed three different versions), Sullivan had to sign a paper promising she wouldn't tell.

She played Robert Blake's landlady in *Baretta*, which ranks as her least favorite acting experience: "The make-up people said, 'Don't talk to him; don't look at him; he fires women all the time.'"

She did all four *Attack of the Killer Tomato* movies. Sullivan always has students write down what they want in life ("people are afraid to put their fantasy into words, but it focuses their goals"). While on the *Tomatoes* set, she asked a young, shaggy George Clooney what he wanted.

"Be a star," he said.

"But you haven't done the work!" She told Clooney to cut his hair, dress better, put lifts in his shoes, and get a good agent. He landed a role on *E.R.* — they worked from 4:30 a.m. "till past sundown" — and paid his dues in full.

Sullivan's motto: "Don't ask me if you don't want to know." A 19-year-old wondered how long it'd take her to make him a star. He assumed not long, since he deemed himself a quick study,

and acting "looks so easy."

"You've got the wrong class, bub."

"A lot of actors don't understand persistence," she says. "Anthony Hopkins reads a script at least 150 times before he decides to do it."

Years ago, Joe Sedelmier, the #1 commercial director in America, was auditioning for a Yamaha shoot in L.A. — a national ad, with major resid-



D.J. Sullivan

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Calendar

THEATER

uals. Sullivan, who never missed an audition in 30 years, did a prepared piece and drove back to San Diego in pouring rain, for a 5:00 p.m. audition. Near San Juan Capistrano, the rain became a deluge. She could barely see the road. Up ahead, a car swerved into another. Both slammed into Sullivan's. As the three cars spun across lanes of oncoming traffic, two more smashed them from behind.

Soaking wet, Sullivan got to a phone and called her agent in San Diego: "There's no way I'll get there on time."

"Thank God it's you! Sedelmier wants a callback *this afternoon*."

Somehow, Sullivan got back to L.A. But she was way behind schedule and soaked through and through. The director, famous for being hard-nosed, said, "You're late."

"Yes," Sullivan replied, remembering — as she always tells her students — to stay positive: "I was held up at another audition."

"No, she wasn't," said the casting woman. "She was in a five-car crash. Her agent just called."

"That true?"

"Yes, but you wouldn't have believed it."

He walked away. Sullivan stood on her mark, dripping, for a long time. Finally, and again being positive, she asked, "What day do I shoot?"

She got the job. Sedelmier said he cast her not only for her persistence but also because she wasn't "Rodeo Drive." Most people who auditioned tried to be too sophisticated, he said, "and I needed a meat and potato girl."

Though a committed vegetarian, the phrase clarified something: "That's how I've always seen myself. I'm a character woman. I'm not cool. That's for the young. I've always felt like an earth person. Meat and potatoes —and very Irish. Sedelmier was right."

When teaching, Sullivan gives students as much as she thinks they can handle. "Some-

times it's too much; sometimes they surprise me."

In the late '70s a 15-year-old kid came to her class. "He was so cute all the girls were after him. But this upset him, because they took his study-time." The student was Christian Hoff, original cast member of the La Jolla Playhouse's *Jersey Boys*.

From the start, Sullivan saw an "inner energy" in Hoff, "a passion so strong it jumps out at you." He kept asking for more scene-work, harder and harder tasks. He was her student for three years. She loved it when he'd say, "I can't do this scene."

"I say, sure you can. Take it apart. Check the Guideposts [the 12-stage process devised by Sullivan's best friend, Michael Shurtleff]. When they say they can't — that's when they grow."

Sullivan calls Hoff's inner energy the "X-factor. You can tell who has it." Brian Stokes Mitchell, one of the first African Americans to attend Junior Theatre, enrolled when he was 14. The Broadway star, whom the *New York Times* recently called "the Last Leading Man," "had incredibly good looks but no idea how much talent he had. The X-factor: I saw him and knew."

Not all of her students aspire to stardom. Some take classes to land better parts in community theater. Another was too shy to talk to his employees. Then there's the married couple that loved each other but fought all the time. Sullivan pondered and pondered — got an idea. "Let's try this before you see a psychiatrist." She gave them scenes from *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* "If you're going to scream and yell at each other, do it in a constructive way!"

Sullivan never liked her first two names — "just D.J., thank you" — but says she has never, even for a single day, hated what she does. But she admits to times when she was stumped. Years ago she got a call from a high school drama teacher who had a student she couldn't help: "See what you can do."

"Most teenagers are frisky," says Sullivan. "Annette was the shyest, quietest person I'd ever

seen." She'd sit in a corner, "a little thing" huddled up, too embarrassed to stand before the group. "I could sense she was listening and had a strong commitment but needed her to start doing something."

So Sullivan had her arrive before class. They'd talk. When students came in, she fled to the corner. For a student's growth, real teachers, as opposed to self-proclaimed prophets or time-servers, recognize they're part of a larger, ongoing process. Thus after several months, when Annette's father called, wondering what to do, Sullivan recommended sending her to William Ball at ACT in San Francisco. "If anyone can get through that shell, it's him."

It happened in an instant. During a scene she told herself, "Oh hell, I'll just do it."

"When she finally broke through the dam," Ball told Sullivan, "it was phenomenal." Annette Bening was born.

Bening won a Screen Actors Guild award for *American Beauty*. Sullivan, a member of the national SAG board for 30 years, was at the ceremony. She reminded — okay, *ordered* — Bening to thank William Ball in her acceptance speech. Which Bening did.

A friend with Sullivan at the ceremony, who knew the Bening story, became perplexed. Here's this kid hunched in a corner, not participating at all. "Why didn't you just toss..."

"Because," Sullivan jumped in, "you never give up on a student!" ■

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.

Artist Medley Night

For one night only, Teatro ALTO presents its second annual student-run talent show, including singing, monologues, skits, paintings, and band performances. SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY, EXPERI-



The Matchmaker

MENTAL THEATRE, FRIDAY, APRIL 6, AT 8:00 P.M. 760-455-8755.

Because of Cain

Community Actors Theatre stages the world premiere of Earl Hamilton 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.

Enchanted April

Lamb's Players Theatre stages Matthew Barber's adaptation (of the Elizabeth von Arnim novel) about four disillusioned strangers, a villa in Italy, and a "fresh discovery of themselves." Deborah Gilmour Smyth directed. LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVENUE, CORONADO, FRIDAY, APRIL 6, THROUGH MAY 13; TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 4:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-437-0600.

The Graduate

OnStage Playhouse presents Terry Johnson's adaptation of the Calder Willingham/Buck Henry movie. Daniel Zisko directed. ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVENUE, CHULA VISTA, THROUGH APRIL 7; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-422-7787.

The Heliopause

As part of its "Resilience of the Spirit: Human Rights Festival 2007," 6th@Penn Theatre stages Eric Henry Sanders's drama about the 1994 atrocities in Rwanda and a Hutu man seeking redemption and forgiveness from his neighbor. 6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST, SUNDAY, APRIL 8, THROUGH APRIL 24; SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MONDAY THROUGH WEDNESDAY AT 7:30 P.M. *THE HELIOPAUSE* RUNS IN REPERTORY WITH CHARLENE PENNER'S DANCE PIECE, *BACKBONE: A PERSONAL STORY OF TRIUMPH*. FOR PERFORMANCE DAYS, CALL 619-688-9210.

Hold Please

The Old Globe Theatre stages Annie Weisman's comedy about two generations of corporate secretaries "battling their bosses, technology, and each other." Kirsten Brandt directed. CASSIUS CARTER CENTRE STAGE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THURSDAY, APRIL 5, THROUGH MAY 6; SUNDAY, TUESDAY, AND WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 P.M. THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATUR-

DAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-234-5623.

How I Learned to Drive

Lynx Performance Theatre stages Paula Vogel's drama about Li'l Bit and her Uncle Peck, who "crosses the line between fantasy and behavior." Al Germani directed. LYNX PERFORMANCE THEATRE SPACE, 2653-R ARIANE DRIVE, ROSE CANYON, THROUGH MAY 6; FRIDAY AT 9:00 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-889-3190.

How the Other Half Loves

New Vision Theatre Company presents Alan Ayckbourn's comedy, set in a single living room, with double furnishings — and two relationships. SUNSHINE BROOKS THEATRE, 217 NORTH COAST HIGHWAY, OCEANSIDE, THROUGH APRIL 15; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 714-401-0362.

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 DATES AND TIMES CALL 800-944-5639.

The Long Christmas Ride Home: A Puppet Play with Actors

Paula Vogel's drama starts as a Christmas card, painted by Norman Rockwell with sentiments by Hallmark. A family from the Washington D.C. suburbs drives through snow to Grandma's for the holiday. But it's a long ride, dysfunction permeating every mile, and the life-threatening ride home's even longer. Vogel requires Bunraku puppets for the three children, and a live soundscape. The play's at its best when most experimental. Without these elements, the story's pretty bare — and predictable, especially three similar monologues that stereotype the spurned children-as-adults — though the ending outmystifies Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* (in Wilder, Emily gets to come back and have a look; in *Long Christmas*

Drive, Stephen comes back and makes a difference). Diversionary's production is quite watchable, though. The puppets, from the Puppetry Center of San Diego, at times manipulated by the actors who play them as adults, are expressive: the psychologically abused children function as prologues to the clobbered people they become. As is Andrew Jacobs's music, from a flute to an oilcan tympani. John Rosen and Dana Hooley fare well as Narrator/Man and Narrator/Woman, the parents who seethe lava just below the surface (he complains that "I can't breathe in this family" but inhales most of the available air). David F. Weiner's minimalist set includes white sheets like puffy snowdrifts.

Worth a try.

DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, THROUGH APRIL 15; THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-220-0097.

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 vaudevillean 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,

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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.

Menopause the Musical

The San Diego Rep hosts a production of Jeanie Linders' musical about "the change." Songs include "I Heard It Through the Grapevine," "You'll No Longer See 39," and a remake of the disco tune "Stayin' Alive" called "Stayin' Awake."

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH AUGUST 26; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE WEDNESDAY AT 2:00 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. 619-544-1000.

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.

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 "Grass-roots Greeks" did for ancient Greek drama in San Diego. The companies present a series of staged readings of one of the American theater's rarely performed but most important playwrights. Twice winner of the Pulitzer Prize (for *Fences* in 1987 and *The Piano Lesson* in 1990), Wilson wrote a cycle of dramas that probe the African-American experience through the decades of the 20th Century (he concentrated, he said, on the "largest idea that confronted blacks in each decade"). The readings will also be staged at the Performance Annex in City Heights and other locations. The series will culminate in a week-long staged reading festival of all the plays at Cygnet in June 2007. Next offering: *The Piano Lesson*. **Worth a try.**

CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH MAY 8; 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.

Renny's Story

Janet S. Tiger's play concerns a young Jewish woman in Warsaw who hid from the Nazis disguised as a Catholic farm girl, but what happened to her son Joseph? OHR SHALOM SYNAGOGUE, 2512 THIRD AVENUE (AT LAUREL), MIDTOWN, SUNDAY, APRIL 8, AT 2:00 P.M. SATURDAY, APRIL 21, AT 8:15 P.M. 619-231-1456.

Restoration Comedy

When Amanda's philandering husband, Loveless, returns to England after a decade celebrating "the diversity of God's creation" on the Continent, she decides to win him back by becoming just like him. At the Old Globe, performed by Carolyn Kozlowski, Amanda's education in the wiles of dalliance is one of the funniest scenes in recent memory. Amy Freed's *Restoration Comedy* combines Colly Cibber's *Love's Last Shift* (1696), which has a happy ending (if you believe Loveless will remain faithful) with John Vanbrugh's hastily composed riposte *The Relapse* (which didn't). Act One's so full of schemes and wit it's a tough act to follow; Act Two has to tie many loose ends, including a trio of love trysts, and tends to sprawl. The production has buoyant energy, fueled by Marco Barricelli's lust-addled Loveless and Danny Scheie's scene-stealing Lord Foppington, in a lion's-mane wig and several of Robert Blackman's majestic costumes. *Restoration* is both a homage to, and a parody of, the period. Freed includes many an anachronism, and the Globe production adds more (including the Rolling Stones singing "Start Me Up"). Some anachronisms irk (a gratuitous, but funny, Chippendale fashion show), as if the production — and director John Rando has done this before — has to apologize for its subject and pad it with shtick. But most make sense as modern correlatives for the play and the Restoration Era's unrepressed spirit.

Worth a try.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH APRIL 8; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-234-5623.

Ricky Dean and the Doo Wop Girls

The Broadway Theater presents the musical about the reunion of a doo-wop group, only Ricky's nowhere to be found. Randall Hickman directed. BROADWAY THEATER, 340 EAST BROADWAY, VISTA, THROUGH MAY 6; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-806-7905.

Sailor's Song

New Village Arts presents John Patrick Shanley's comedy-drama. Rich seeks "something that puts me on the other side, with the people who know why they're alive." Kristianne Kurner directed. Robin Christ choreographed. NEW VILLAGE ARTS, 2460 IMPALA DRIVE, CARLSBAD, SATURDAY, APRIL 7, THROUGH APRIL 29; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-433-3245.

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.

Smokey Joe's Cafe

The Welk Resort Theatre presents the musical theater revue based on the songs of Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller (among them: "Jailhouse Rock," "Poison Ivy," "Stand by Me," and "Why Do Fools Fall in Love?"). Sha Newman directed. WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK VILLAGE DRIVE, ESCONDIDO, THROUGH MAY 20; TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 1:45 P.M. 760-749-8501.

The Sopranos' Last Supper

Dillstar Productions presents an evening with the notorious Baritone family: "gambling, dinner, dancing, and good old mobster fun." HOLIDAY INN ON THE BAY, 1355 NORTH HARBOR DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, OPEN-ENDED RUN; SELECTED SATURDAYS AT 7:30 P.M. 800-944-5639.

The Treatment

Moxie Theatre stages the West Coast premiere of Eve Ensler's drama about a traumatized soldier, home from war, seeking treatment from a military doctor. Delicia Turner Sonnenberg directed. LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, SATURDAY, APRIL 7, THROUGH APRIL 29. THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M.

THEATER DIRECTORY

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2650 Truxtum Road, Suite 203
Liberty Station
(619) 224-3600 www.actorsalliance.com

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28 Horton Plaza, Downtown
(619) 497-5000
www.sandiegoperforms.com

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(888) 568-2278
www.asianamericanrep.org

Beacon Theatre
(760) 724-8218
www.beacontheatresd.com

Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center
590 Palm Canyon Dr., Borrego Springs
(760) 767-4275 www.bspac.us

The Broadway Theatre
340 East Broadway, Vista
(760) 806-7905
www.premiereforkids.com

California Center For The Arts
340 N. Escondido Blvd., Escondido
(760) 839-4100 www.artcenter.org

Carlsbad Village Theatre
2822 State St., Carlsbad
(760) 729-0089
www.carlsbadvillagetheatre.com

Centro Cultural De La Raza
2004 Park Blvd., Balboa Park
(619) 235-6135 www.centroraza.com

Christian Community Theater
1545 Pioneer Way, El Cajon
(619) 588-0206 www.expaclive.com

Civic Theatre
3rd & B, Downtown
(858) 570-1100 www.sdccc.org

Clairemont Community Players
Holmes Elementary
4902 Mt. Ararat, Clairemont
(858) 560-5114

Community Actors Theatre
2957 54th St., State College
(619) 264-3391
www.communityactorstheatre.com

Copley Symphony Hall
750 B St., Downtown
(619) 235-0804
www.sandiegosymphony.com

Coronado Playhouse
1835 Strand Way, Coronado
(619) 435-4856
www.coronadoplayhouse.com

Cygnnet Theatre Company
6663 El Cajon Blvd., Ste. N, College Area
(619) 337-1525 www.cygnnettheatre.com

Diversionary Theatre
4545 Park Blvd., Normal Heights
(619) 220-0097 www.diversionary.org

East County Performing Arts Center
210 E. Main St., El Cajon
(619) 440-2277 www.ecpac.com

Educational Cultural Complex Theater
4343 Ocean View Blvd., Southeast
(619) 527-5256

Evooke Dance Theatre
644 7th Ave., Downtown
(619) 238-1153 www.evooke.org

The Fault Line Theatre
3152 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest
(619) 692-3382 www.faultlineprod.com

Fern Street Circus
(619) 235-9756 www.fernstreetcircus.org

The Fritz Theatre
(619) 233-7505 www.fritztheatre.com

Grossmont College
Stagehouse Theatre, El Cajon
(619) 644-7234
http://grossmont.gcccd.cc.ca.us/

The Hispanic Theatre Of San Diego
(858) 278-6139

H.I.T. Productions Dinner Theater
Shirley's Kitchen, 7868 El Cajon Blvd.
La Mesa (619) 561-8673
(619) 561-8673 www.dinnertheater.net

Horton Grand Theatre
444 Fourth Ave., Downtown
(619) 234-9583

Ion Theatre
(619) 374-6894 www.iontheatre.com

Iris Theater
4580-B Alvarado Canyon Rd.
(619) 271-4144 www.iris theater.org

Laguna Playhouse
606 Laguna Canyon Rd., Laguna Beach
(949) 497-2787

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National Comedy Theatre
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www.nationalcomedy.com

MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M.
619-544-1000.

Triple Espresso: A Highly Caffeinated Comedy

Hugh Butternutt's done his lounge act at the Triple Espresso Coffeehouse 20 years to the day. While patrons sip a house blend — "Grape," "Scandinavian Blizzard," or "Mokoko Cocoa Mocha" — Hugh plays '70s tunes on the piano. He and his companions, here to celebrate Hugh's anniversary, got stuck in the '70s. The trio used to be Maxwell, Butternutt, and Bean, a comedy group that never went far. They're "losers," they admit, but not "ordinary" ones. And, hey, their reunion could help them face searing issues from their mediocre pasts. A formulaic story line? Yep. Straight from *Forever Plaid*. There's also the *Forever Plaid* problem: the three comedians are far too talented to play inept characters. One's a whiz at the piano. Another's a first-rate mime, and the third's a crackerjack magician. The trio is so talented, when the plot has them complain of difficulties to overcome, you wish they'd quit trumping up the pseudo-drama and get on with this highly entertaining, if lightweight show. (Note: the original cast members have been replaced.)

Worth a try.

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVENUE, GASLAMP QUARTER, OPEN-ENDED RUN; WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SATURDAY AT 5:00 AND 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M. 619-234-9583.

My Wandering Boy

South Coast Repertory Theatre stages the world premiere of July Marie Myatt's drama about the search for Emmett: he's missing, and his boots were found on a homeless man. Bill Rauch directed. SOUTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, SEGERSTROM STAGE, 655 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, COSTA MESA, FRIDAY, APRIL 6, THROUGH MAY 6; WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. TUESDAY AND SUNDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:30 P.M. 714-708-5555.

Win, Place, or Die...My Jockeys Are Killing Me!

Mystery Cafe Dinner Theatre presents James Pascarella and Patricia Harris-Smith's interactive "race-track romp." It's opening weekend at Upson Downs, and the Thoroughbred Club'll never be the same. Pascarella directed. IMPERIAL HOUSE RESTAURANT, 505 KALMIA STREET, HILLCREST, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1600.

Scripps Ranch Theatre
10455 Pomerado Rd., Scripps Ranch
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www.scrippsranchtheatre.org

6th @ Penn Theater
3704 6th Ave., Hillcrest
(619) 688-9210 www.sixthatpenn.com

San Diego Black Ensemble Theatre
(619) 280-5650

Sledgehammer Theatre
(619) 544-1484 www.sledgehammer.org

Southwestern College
900 Otay Lakes Rd., Chula Vista
(619) 482-6367 www.swc.cca.us

The Spreckels Theatre
121 Broadway, Downtown
(619) 235-9500

Star Theatre
402 North Coast Highway, Oceanside
(760) 721-9983 www.startheater.org

Starlight Musical Theatre
Starlight Bowl, Balboa Park
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www.starlighttheatre.org

Sullivan Players
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Teatro Mascara Magica
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www.theatreinoldtown.com

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Vantage Theatre
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Welk Resort Theatre
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www.welkresort.com/sandiego

The Wild Parrot Players Community Theatre
Point Loma United Methodist Church
1984 Sunset Cliffs, Ocean Beach
(619) 269-6946

Women's Repertory Theatre
(619) 282-3277
www.womensrep.org

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

Mound of Flesh One recent Monday, Rock 105.3 DJ "B.C." (Brian Christopher) described on-air partner Clint August's face as "an ugly

the suspect. Photo lineups are being used to help identify the suspect who would face a charge of felony battery. Information is welcomed (619-956-4000).

— Ken Leighton

Crosstown Traffic Last Wednesday morning, Morning Riot played for

"I was looking right at people's faces," says singer/guitarist Tony All. "They had expressions of shock and surprise, but they were all smiles. It felt way better than playing a regular show."

Before they played, the band hung large signs ("Wake Up and Live," "The Human Spirit Is Alive," and "Look Ahead This One's for You") on overpass bridges north of the rest stop.

"We wanted to send out a positive message to people in the middle of their normal, everyday routine that the human spirit was still alive," says drummer Josh Arend.

After three songs, the band packed up and left.

"Someone e-mailed our MySpace page and said they

"We didn't know what would happen. That's why we used our old equipment in case anything got confiscated."

CHP public affairs officer Tom Kerns confirms that a traffic alert had been issued and that officers were en route.

"That [rest stop] area is not meant for that activity," says Kerns. "It's meant for people to stop and take a photo or rest for a few minutes. They would have been required to get a permit to do that."

Kerns says the band's equipment would have been confiscated only if they had stayed after being told to disperse.

Morning Riot appears April 13 at the Leucadian.

— Ken Leighton

improvements they can make to their performances," says Sound Guy Dave, who works the mixing board at the 710 Beach Club and the Ken Club. Some excerpts from his list of band do's and don'ts:

"Don't overplay the drums. If there are mikes on the drum kit, you don't have to beat it like a dirty rug."

"Don't jabber relentlessly between songs.... [People] don't care that you wrote this song because you were depressed about that dude [or] chick that did you wrong last year."

"Do sound check at solo volume. We set our input gains to the highest volume we're ever going to get from you and mix from there."

"Do be respectful of the house equipment, or be immediately willing to pay for what you break."

Regarding breakage, he says, "DJs are so notorious for blowing up boards, amps, and speakers that our last installation included a compressor with a key-lock to limit the signal to the most the system can handle safely. The factory manual for the compressor even uses the term 'overzealous DJs.'"

Another danger of volume abuse, he notes, is municipal intervention. "If the cops show up from an outside complaint and the soundperson can't turn you down, the club gets a fine — starting at \$1200 in San Diego — and equipment can be confiscated. We had one of our mixing boards taken by the cops for 30 days one time."

— Jay Allen Sanford

How Are the Kids? In 1981, hardcore punk band Minor Threat's "Straight Edge" song presented the idea of living drug-free. The song



EDGE'S SPEARHEAD (MINOR THREAT)

became the impetus for a subculture that advocated abstinence from promiscuous sex, alcohol, and recreational drugs. Today, the straight-edge philosophy for some includes shunning cigarettes, caffeine, and promoting vegetarianism and veganism.

"It was introduced to me in the early '90s, and I simply embraced it," says Zak, 32. "I loved the music, I never drank, never smoked, never did drugs. I'm now married with three kids, I consider myself somewhat successful in family, career, and life.... To be honest, I don't look up to many individuals or bands. Obviously I admire individuals who have paved the way for this movement to exist.... It's hard to say if straight edge is becoming mainstream or not. My instant reaction would be to say yes."

Eighteen-year-old Amber says, "It's really nice to have friends that support you and don't question your reasons behind not doing drugs, smoking, or drinking.... For a while, it seemed like it was

blurt

the inside track

purple mound of flesh"; August had been attacked two nights earlier in a Santee restaurant.

"This guy was totally drunk," says a bystander of the March 24 assault that took place at Casa Picante. "Clint was sitting at the bar. This guy walks up to Clint, and Clint says to him, 'Your drink smells really good. What are you drinking?' The guy just gives him a look and walks away. Then he comes around again, taps Clint on the shoulder, and the guy hits Clint in the face. Clint was shocked, but he didn't fall over.... Everyone was shocked. The place went quiet. The guy was dragged out by his friends into a car and they tore out. The cops came and took a report."

August, who spent the night in the hospital, may require reconstructive surgery because his cheekbone was fractured near a sinus cavity. He did not work last week. A sheriff's deputy says investigators have "a really good lead" on the identity of

southbound I-5 commuters at the Manchester Viewpoint rest



MORNING RIOT DOESN'T WAIT FOR CHP

stop east of Cardiff. With their equipment powered by a rented generator, the band put on a show 12 feet away from traffic.

saw on the Sigalert Web page that there was a visual and audio hazard and that CHP was en route," says Arend.

Note to Overzealous DJs "I've been asked by many musicians how they were onstage and what

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Sunday, June 3 • 7:30



Lucinda Williams
Tuesday, June 5 • 7:30



Lindsey Buckingham
Monday, June 11 • 7:30



Blues Traveler
Sunday, July 8 • 7:30



Pink Martini
Monday & Tuesday
Sept. 17 & 18 • 8:00

MAY

Loreena McKennitt
Friday, May 11 **SOLD OUT**

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Thursday, May 17 • 7:30

Al Green
Friday, May 18 • 8:00

Boyz II Men
Thursday, May 24 • 8:00

Erykah Badu
Friday, May 25 • 8:00

Generation Hawaii Tour featuring
Amy Hanaiali'i / Kaukahi & Keli'i Kaneali'i
Saturday, May 26 • 7:00

Lisa Gerrard
Wednesday, May 30 • 8:00

JUNE

Gregg Allman & Friends
Sunday, June 3 • 7:30

Indigo Girls
Monday, June 4 • 7:30

Lucinda Williams
Tuesday, June 5 • 7:30

Mary Chapin Carpenter
Sunday, June 10 • 7:30

Lindsey Buckingham
Monday, June 11 • 7:30

Al Jarreau / George Benson
Thursday, June 14 • 7:00

Alan Parsons Live Project
Thursday, June 21 • 8:00

Don Rickles / Joan Rivers
Friday, June 22 • 7:30

Jonny Lang
Saturday, June 23 • 7:30

Michael McDonald
Sunday, June 24 • 7:30

Steve Winwood
Wednesday, June 27 • 8:00

JULY

Dana Carvey
Friday, July 6 • 8:00

Blues Traveler
Sunday, July 8 • 7:30

Queen Latifah: The Music of Dana Owens
Tuesday, July 10 • 8:00

Ani DiFranco
Wednesday, July 11 • 7:30

Dennis DeYoung: The Music of Styx
Friday, July 13 • 7:30

Beach Boys
Sunday, July 15 • 7:30

Cowboy Junkies / Joan Osbourne
Tuesday, July 17 • 7:00

Boz Scaggs
Wednesday, July 18 • 7:30

'70s Soul Jam featuring **The Stylistics, Chi-Lites, Main Ingredient** featuring **Cuba Gooding Sr., Harold Melvin's Blue Notes and Delfonics** Hosted by **Jimmie "JJ" Walker**
Thursday, July 19 • 7:00

Paul Rodriguez
Friday, June 20 • 8:00

Dickey Betts with special guest **Shooter Jennings**
Sunday, July 22 • 7:30

John Hiatt / Shawn Colvin
Tuesday, July 24 • 7:00

Lyle Lovett / k.d. lang
Wednesday, July 25 • 7:00

Bob Weir & RatDog / Keller Williams
Friday, July 27 • 6:00

Hootie & The Blowfish
Sunday, July 29 • 7:30

Tears For Fears
Monday, July 30 • 8:00

Larry Carlton & Robben Ford
Tuesday, July 31 • 7:30

AUGUST

MusiQ Soulchild
Friday, August 3 • 7:30

Huey Lewis & The News
Sunday, August 5 • 7:30

Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra
Sunday, August 12 • 7:30

Keb' Mo' / The Robert Cray Band
Tuesday & Wednesday
August 14 & 15 • 7:00

Jim Gaffigan
Thursday, August 16 • 7:30

Dave Koz & Friends
Friday, August 17 • 7:30

India.Arie
Sunday, August 19 • 7:30

Dave Brubeck Quartet
Monday, August 20 • 7:30

HIPPIEFEST: A Concert for Peace and Love with **The Turtles** featuring **Flo & Eddie, Felix Cavaliere's Rascals, The Zombies** featuring **Colin Blunstone & Rod Argent, Mountain** featuring **Leslie West & Corkey Laing, Mitch Ryder, Badfinger** featuring **Joey Molland** and **Country Joe McDonald**
Tuesday, August 21 • 6:30

UB40
Wednesday, August 22 • 7:30

Creedence Clearwater Revisited
Thursday, August 30 • 8:00

SEPT.

Cecilio & Kapono
Sunday, Sept. 2 • 7:30

B.B. King / Etta James & Her Roots Band
Tuesday, Sept. 4 • 7:00

Temptations / Four Tops
Thursday, Sept. 6 • 7:30

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy
Friday, Sept. 7 • 8:00

Heart featuring **Ann & Nancy Wilson**
Sunday, Sept. 9 • 7:30

Doobie Brothers
Monday, Sept. 10 • 7:30

Pink Martini
Monday & Tuesday,
Sept. 17 & 18 • 8:00

America
Wednesday, Sept. 19 • 7:30

Kenny G
Wednesday, Sept. 26 • 8:00

Trisha Yearwood
Thursday, Sept. 27 • 7:30

Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons
Friday & Saturday,
Sept. 28 & 29 • 8:00

OCTOBER

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Friday, October 5 • 7:00

Steve Tyrell
Sunday, October 7 • 7:30

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Calendar
MUSIC SCENEblurt
continued

becoming more mainstream. There are plenty of 'scene kids' that put Xs on their hands and act like they're sXe [straight edge], but later you see them smoking at a show.... It's frustrating that people claim it for social status."

Zak says, "Being straight edge and tattoos go hand in hand, for some reason. I think it has something to do with the fact that people who consider themselves straight edge are fairly proud of the way they live. I have one tattoo on my lower-middle back. It's an image ripped from the album cover of an old Cleveland-based straight-edge band named Confront. The picture is of a person raising his fists in the air and he has Xs on his fists. Across the tattoo it says, 'One Life, Drug Free.'"

Amber says, "I don't have any tattoos, but I have two planned. The first one is 'sXe' on the inside of my lower lip. It'd represent the idea that I don't want poison in my body, so I'm not going to smoke or drink. And I plan to have an X on my back. That represents me being edge and also the fact that I need to stay grounded in my life and remember who I am."

— Stefanie Howell

Download Pie for All

Royalty Share says it helps bands get paid by tracking digital music sales through services such as iTunes, Rhapsody, and Napster.

"As labels shift more of their revenue to online outlets, ringtones, traditional downloads, and subscriptions,

it brings up a whole bunch of different issues about who gets paid how much and when," according to CEO Bob Kohn, whose locally based MP3 download service eMusic.com was sold in 2001 for \$24 million.

When Cheap Trick and the Allman Brothers filed a lawsuit against Sony last year (alleging the label owed royalties for digital sales), Kohn's firm provided the sales data.

"For every 70 cents Sony makes per download on iTunes, the artists were only getting four and a half cents," says Kohn.

Royalty Share's fee for a customizable Web page set up to report online digital sales is 1.5 percent of the revenue processed.

— Jay Allen Sanford



PHOTOGRAPH BY RONNIE HUGHES PHOTO.COM

Black Naugahyde Chapel

"There have been wedding receptions at the Casbah, but apparently this is the first actual wedding ceremony performed there," says Rookie Card singer/guitarist Adam Gimbel. Last month, with Lady Dottie and the Diamonds as the wedding band, Gimbel officiated the nuptials for Roger and Sara Morrison at the Kettner Boulevard club.

"I'm not a real rabbi, but the city allows you to have a temporary license to be a deputy marriage

commissioner and perform weddings."

Roger plays with Gimbel in his side band Blasphemous

ROGER AND SARA MORRISON

Guitars; Sara is with the San Diego Derby Dolls ("Karma Electra").

"Roger and Sara's vows were beautiful," says Gimbel, "and I had to make a mockery by pretending to take a cell-phone call from my mom right as I was about to introduce the newly married couple.... A woman who does Roller Derby and a man who has played in crazy rock-and-roll bands for years wouldn't choose to get married at the Casbah if they didn't want a fun wedding."

Blasphemous Guitars

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: DOWNTOWN

JAY ALLEN SANFORD



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appear April 7 at San Diego Sports Club.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Ripe Fruit Dwight Arnold says no one can top his cache of rock-star interviews. During his days at KSM/Palomar College (1980-'82), 91X (1983-'93), and the Flash 92.5 (1993-'1995), Arnold interviewed touring artists on his *Backstage Pass* show.

"I could do a whole show on dead guys. I got all three of the [dead] Ramones. I got Peter Tosh, but his accent makes him so hard to understand. I interviewed Michael Hutchence from INXS three different times. He was a super-sweet guy.

"Maybe my most valuable interview was Kurt Cobain. I think I have the only taped interview he did in San Diego. He was very quiet and reserved. We recorded it right after *Nevermind* came out. They were playing at Iguanas [in Tijuana] that night....

"I may have the last interview that [Blind Melon front man] Shannon Hoon did. He died two weeks later. It was a total shock because

when he was with us he talked about how he was off drugs, that he was into his newborn kid, his songwriting, and building furniture. He said everything was great."

Because Arnold retained the rights to all his shows, he



SHANNON HOON PROVIDED TOTAL SHOCK

can re-air them as he pleases. All-talk station Free FM (103.7) has allowed him to resume *Backstage Pass* on Sundays at 6 p.m. The show will feature interviews with new artists and snippets from his archived interviews.

Arnold says he has 1000 interviews, including XTC's Andy Partridge, the B-52s, David Johansen, Sting, Depeche Mode, Billy Idol, Eddie Vedder, the Red Hot Chili Peppers, and Duran Duran.

"When I interviewed Lou Reed, he had just finished his rehab from heroin. You could tell he was struggling. We had to quit after only 12 minutes. He clearly had the shakes.... Once, when I interviewed Lenny Kravitz, [ex-wife] Lisa Bonet came into the studio and threw a diaper against the wall. She was mad he wasn't changing the baby's diapers."

Arnold says he has to cook his tapes to get them to play.

"Most everything was on ten-inch reel-to-reel tapes. They absorb moisture. I bought a dehumidifier that you use for fruit. You cook them at 130 degrees for four hours — it doesn't hurt the tapes — then you dub them on CD."

The Kooks appear on *Backstage Pass* this Sunday.

— Ken Leighton

CONTRIBUTORS

William Crain, Dave Good, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemmingson, Ken Leighton, Ryan Loyko, Derek Plank, Eric Rife, Jay Allen Sanford



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molotov
APR 8

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APR 11

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APR 12

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APR 19

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J.R. CONCO
APR 25

MUTEMATH
APR 26

DJ QUIK
APR 27

KUMBA ALTA
APR 28

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MAY 2

Cypress Hill
MAY 3

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Don't Ditch Choir

"I'm hoping someone will invent a device that plays every instrument imaginable."

Freshman year in high school, I signed up for choir thinking it would be an easy class to ditch," says San Diego composer Cathryn Beeks. "Instead I ended up figuring out that I wanted to be a singer. I pretty much lived for music from that point on, and in 1992 I left my hometown of Lancaster, California, in a motor home — to make it to the big time. The crazy adventures and experiences I had along the way are the songs I still sing today."

One recent song is called "Keep Walking," which Cathryn wrote "as a tribute to the people who train all year to walk 60 miles in the Breast Cancer Three-Day Walk. I asked a friend of mine who is walking in this year's event to give me updates on her training and progress so I could share it with my Listen Local list subscribers," Beeks says. "She agreed and surprised me by starting Team Listen Local and inviting others to join and walk with her. Besides the physical part of the event, walkers must raise \$2200 and have health insurance."

Information on the Breast Cancer Three Day Walk can be found at *ListenLocalsd.com*, a website that Beeks is a partner in, or at *the3day.org*. Beeks also hosts the Listen Local Mixer at Desi 'n' Friends in Point Loma every other Tuesday with open mike and guest artists.

TRICKIEST PROBLEM PLAYING LIVE?

"I have a seven-piece band, so just getting everyone there at the same time is often tricky, hence 'the Ordeal.' Once we've assembled and assessed the sound situation, we're usually good to go. Because we have three vocalists, sax, and mandolin, in addition to our standard instruments, sometimes we have to play completely unplugged. Luckily, my band is laid back and professional enough to roll with whatever gets tossed at us."

BEST GIG?

"Just performed at the Belly Up as a backing vocalist for Deadline Friday's CD-release concert. The music was brilliant, sound was killer, the drinks were flowing, and Marc Ford played with us."

WORST GIG?

"Weddings."

"END OF THE WORLD" CDs?

1. The Listen Local Cookbook CD Compilation, Vol. I. "Contains 20 of my favorite songs of 20 of my favorite local releases. It is rad."
2. Steph Johnson, *Genesee Avenue*. "I hear tons of great voices every night, but Steph J's voice is medicine to me."
3. Deadline Friday, *Days Gone*. "This CD will be

the soundtrack of many good times to come."
4. Greta Gaines, *It Was Hot*. "Call it 'hick-hop' or whatever you like...Greta has been inspiring me for a decade or more. Great songwriting, killer voice, powerful snowboarding queen."
5. Christopher Dallman, *Race the Light*. "Has everything you'll ever need."

EARLIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY?

"My parents, dancing in the kitchen."

WHAT DID YOU DO FROM NIGHT?

"The standard '80s thing: Pre-party at someone's house, then 20 of us in a limo headed to the cheesy hotel banquet room. I did have on a swanky beaded gown that was way ahead of its time."

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"Pro billiards."

WHERE DO YOU SEE MUSIC GOING IN THE 21st CENTURY?

"I'm hoping someone will invent a device that plays every instrument imaginable. You strap it


to your head and make sounds by moving specific body parts. The people who are really good at it will be amazing to behold. Others not so accomplished will not only sound lame, they'll look ridiculous, too." ■



Cathryn Beeks

PHOTOGRAPH BY DAN CHUSID

MODEST MOUSE

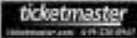



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THURSDAY JULY 26



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Calendar

CONCERTS

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THIS WEEK'S CONCERTS

THURSDAY

Rickie Lee Jones: 4th & B, Thursday, April 5, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

FRIDAY

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.

SATURDAY

Geoff Muldaur: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, April 7, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

SUNDAY

Molotov: House of Blues, Sunday, April 8, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

TUESDAY

Saves the Day and **Say Anything:** Soma, Tuesday, April 10, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

WEDNESDAY

Relient K: House of Blues, Wednesday, April 11, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

UPCOMING CONCERTS

APRIL

Toots & the Maytals: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, April 12, and Friday, April 13, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

The Shins: Soma, Thursday, April 12, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

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.

Eek-A-Mouse: House of Blues, Thursday, April 19, 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.

Barrington Levy: 'Canes, Friday, April 20, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

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.

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.

Ice Cube: 'Canes, Tuesday, April 24, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

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.

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 with **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.

Pepe Aguilar: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, April 27, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Fall Out Boy and **+44:** Coors Amphitheatre, Saturday, April 28, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

The Kumbia Allstarz: House of Blues, Saturday, April 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

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: Open Air Theatre, Tuesday, May 1, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

Nas: 4th & B, Wednesday, May 2, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Tool: Cox Arena, Wednesday, May 2, and Thursday, May 3, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

Melissa Ferrick: The Casbah, Thursday, May 3, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Cypress Hill: House of Blues, Thursday, May 3, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

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.

Black Rebel Motorcycle Club: House of Blues, Sunday, May 6, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Jason Michael Carroll: Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room, Monday, May 7, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Celtic Women: Copley Symphony Hall, Monday, May 7, 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-235-0804.

Bright Eyes: Soma, Tuesday, May 8, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Wolfmother: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Tuesday, May 8, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

J Mascis: The Casbah, Thursday, May 10, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Fairport Convention: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, May 11, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Loreena McKennitt: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Friday, May 11, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Particlc: 'Canes, Saturday, May 12, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Joss Stone: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Saturday, May 12, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Modest Mouse: Cox Arena, Monday, May 14, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

Harry Connick Jr.: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Thursday, May 17, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Buddy Guy: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, May 17, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Be Good Tanyas: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, May 18, 143 South



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NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

Listening to *Set List*, the 2004 live album from the **Frames**, can be an off-putting experience for an American. Great song after great song goes by, each one sounding as if it could have been a big hit on U.S. radio — or at least U.S. college radio — and yet you probably haven’t heard any of them. Still, you can hear the large audience singing along with every line. Who are these people, and where did they learn these songs?

Formed in Dublin, Ireland, the Frames put out their first album 15 years ago, and they’ve been one of the most popular bands in their home country ever since. So far the

Frames haven’t had much luck in the United States. That’s a shame. The Frames will, from time to time, play a ballad, or throw in some fiddle, banjo, or screeching guitar feedback, but they specialize in a kind of anthemic rock that seems designed for American arenas. Their charismatic front man **Glen Hansard** has a gift for straightforward lyrics and has a beautiful voice that can go from aching longing to falsetto joy in a heartbeat. It’s similar to that of Coldplay’s Chris Martin, but more manly and less hammy. On top of that, Hansard is already a familiar face stateside: He played the guitarist in the popular 1991 movie *The Commitments*.

As *Set List* amply demonstrates, the Frames are at their best in a live setting. For the new album, *The Cost*, the band tried to

capture the same spirit by recording everything live in the studio. If you want to hear someone singing along, you’ll have to do it yourself. And you might.

THE FRAMES, Belly Up Tavern, Friday, April 6, 9 p.m. 858-481-8140. \$15.



THE FRAMES

Susan Tedeschi and **Derek Trucks:** 4th & B, Wednesday, June 13, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

The Wailers: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Thursday, June 14, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Al Jarreau and **George Benson:** Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, June 14, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Kenny Loggins: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Friday, June 15, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Issac Delgado y Su Orquesta: 4th & B, Friday, June 15, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

The Alan Parsons Live Project: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, June 21, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The B-52’s: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, June 22, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Jonny Lang: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Saturday, June 23, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Michael McDonald: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, June 24, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Hot Tuna: House of Blues, Monday, June 25, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Paulina Rubio: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Tuesday, June 26, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Cyndi Lauper, Erasure, and Debbie Harry: Open Air Theatre, Wednesday, June 27, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

LeAnn Rimes: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Wednesday, June 27, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Steve Winwood: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, June 27, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The All-American Rejects: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Thursday, June 28, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Alison Krauss: ipayOne Center, Thursday, June 28, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

JULY

The Moody Blues: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Monday, July 2, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Blues Traveler: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, July 8, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Tuesday, July 10, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Ani DiFranco: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, July 11, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Beach Boys: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, July 15, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Fray, Gomez, and Eisley: Coors Amphitheatre, Tuesday, July 17, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

The Cowboy Junkies and **Joan Osborne:** Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, July 17, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Boz Scaggs: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, July 18, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

John Hiatt and **Shawn Colvin:** Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, July 24, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Lyle Lovett and **k.d. lang:** Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, July 25, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Lynyrd Skynyrd: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Thursday, July 26, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Montgomery Gentry: Palomar Starlight Theater, Friday, July 27, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

Bob Weir and **Keller Williams:** Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, July 27, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Al Green: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, May 18, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Christina Aguilera: San Diego Civic Theatre, Monday, May 21, Third Avenue and B Street, 619-570-1100.

Stevie Nicks and **Chris Isaak:** Coors Amphitheatre, Wednesday, May 23, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Boyz II Men: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, May 24, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Tish Hinojosa: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, May 25, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Erykah Badu: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, May 25, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

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.

Pretty Girls Make Graves and **Kill Me Tomorrow:** The Casbah, Thursday, May 31, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

JUNE

Morrissey: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Sunday, June 3, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

Gregg Allman: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, June 3, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Indigo Girls: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Monday, June 4, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Manu Chao: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Tuesday, June 5, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

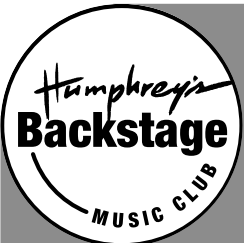
Lucinda Williams: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, June 5, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

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: Coors Amphitheatre, Friday, June 8, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Vicente Fernandez: Coors Amphitheatre, Saturday, June 9, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

The Raveonettes: The Casbah, Saturday, June 9, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.



www.humphreysbythebay.com

Thursday, April 5
8 pm • Fingerstyle Guitar

Adrian Legg



Friday, April 6
9:30 pm • Beach Rock

Karl Marx Band



Saturday, April 7
9:30 pm
Dance & Disco

Makai



Sunday, April 8
8 pm • Latin Guitar Jazz

Jose Molina Serrano
with Host **Tayari & DJ John Phillips**



Monday, April 9
7 pm • Chicago Blues

Bill Magee

Tuesday, April 10
8 pm • Smooth Jazz Guitarist

Hank Easton

Wednesday, April 11
8 pm • Classic Rock

Rockola

UPCOMING SHOWS

Friday, April 20
The Steeley Damned



Sunday, April 22
Crosby Loggins



Thursday, April 26
Mark Hummel & The Blues Survivors



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SHEA STRATTON

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Monday, April 9
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SIR SPLENDID
DREAMTIGER
A BEAUTIFUL NOISE

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Wednesday, April 11
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DROID • THE BLOODSUIT
IN PERFECT AGONY

Friday, April 13
Sikworld presents
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WAY COOL JR
SPLITFINGER
HELL ON HEELS
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KIM DEVINE • JAC
JORDAN REIMER
HOT ROD HARRIS
MARIE HADDAD
JOSH WRIGHT

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LYNAM • PARMALEE
MINUS HALO
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Saturday, May 26

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Calendar CONCERTS

Maximo Park: The Casbah, Saturday, July 28, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Hootie & the Blowfish: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, July 29, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Tears for Fears: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Monday, July 30, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

AUGUST

Clay Aiken: Palomar Starlight Theater, Friday, August 3, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

Huey Lewis & the News: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, August 5, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, August 12, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Colin Hay: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, August 16, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Los Lonely Boys: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Saturday, August 18, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

India.Arie: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, August 19, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Gipsy Kings: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Wednesday, August 22, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

UB40: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, August 22, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Creedence Clearwater Revisited: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, August 30, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Heart: Palomar Starlight Theater, Friday, August 31, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

SEPTEMBER

Cecilio & Kapono: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, September 2, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

B.B. King and Etta James: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, September 4, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Temptations and the Four Tops: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, September 6, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Friday, September 7, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Heart: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, September 9, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Doobie Brothers: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Monday, September 10, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

America: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, September 19, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Michael Bolton: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Monday, September 24, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Kenny G: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, September 26, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Trisha Yearwood: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, September 27, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

OCTOBER

Air Supply and Christopher Cross: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Friday, October 5, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Steve Tyrell: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, October 7, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

Surf rock was a '60s fad that started in Southern California. If you spent your teenage years on the beach here back then, you know how the culture of surf rock infiltrated its way into almost every aspect of your life, from clothes to language to hairstyles. Duane Eddy may have recorded the first popular surf-rock instrumental, but you can blame the traditional sounds of tom-toms and that unusual double-picking twangy guitar on Dick Dale, a Beirut-born Southern Californian. Capitol Records called Dale the "King of the Surf Guitar." Indeed, Dale's suggestions may have influenced the sound of the amplifiers that were being developed at the time by the Henry Ford of guitars, Leo Fender.

Whatever the inspiration, those amps (and guitars) that came out of Fender's Fuller-

ton factory became a music-industry standard for decades. Especially among surf rockers, who divide into three camps: all-instrumental bands like the Ventures or the Surfaris, vocal groups of which the Beach Boys ranked supreme, and hot rodders like Jan and Dean or the Rip Chords. By 1963, surf rock was a national craze. The next year it was stopped dead in its tracks by the British Invasion. Hairstyles, lingo, and fashions changed accordingly.

Like any durable genre, however, surf rock goes through periods of interest. Until recently, **Los Straitjackets** fit into the instrumental mold. Now vocals have been added to the mix — cheesy vocals, sung in hatchet Spanish. Call them a novelty act, but they are a tight band, masters of vintage surf rock even though they live far from any beach, in Nashville. Everything else about Los Straitjackets is out to lunch, including their choreography and frequent



LOS STRAITJACKETS

tour mates like Kaiser George or the Pontani Sisters. Limited to almost cultish success in the States, the Jackets have a huge following in Spain and in Mexico, which I'd like to think is due more to their chops than their trademark Mexican wrestling masks.

LOS STRAITJACKETS, The Casbah, Wednesday, April 11, 8:30 p.m. 619-232-4355. \$15.

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 Walkkrawler, Probable Cause, and Skyler Mic; 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Second Saturday



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April 22 | Sun., 8:00pm | Mandeville Auditorium

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APRIL 20



Engelbert Humperdinck
APRIL 22



ZZ Top
APRIL 29



Bill Engvall
MAY 4



Taylor Hicks
MAY 6



Dick Fox's Golden Boys
Frankie Avalon, Fabian, Bobby Rydel
MAY 12



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JUNE 7



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Clay Aiken
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SEPTEMBER 28

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Calendar CLUBS

DANCE

(continued)

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.

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.

San Diego Sports Club: Wednesdays, *Club Pussy Galore*, Robin Roth and other female DJs spin indie rock, electropop, and '80s. First Friday of the month, *Sin Factory*, fetish, gothic, and industrial. 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.



Album: *50 Miles from Nowhere* (2006)

Artist: Brian Jay and the Barn Burners

Label: self-released

Where available/price: Online at myspace.com/brianjaymusic for \$11.97 and CDBaby.com for \$11.97; \$10 at live shows.

Songs: 1) The Devil Drives a Hot Rod 2) 1-2-3 Let's Go 3) 8 Beers Too Many 4) Lightning Love 5) Pretty Little Gal 6) Crazy Jealous Man 7) An Apology 8) Foolish Living 9) Now She's Gone 10) My Baby's Crazy

Band: Brian Jay (vocals, guitar), Victor Rojas (guitar), Kevin Stewart (bass)

Website: myspace.com/brianjaymusic

It's a bold maneuver to put together a trio without a drummer. At a show, I talked to the band and Brian said, "We had drum-

>hometown CDs

BY OLLIE

mers. We've tried 'em, but when we practiced without 'em we figured out we were better off." He's right; Kevin Stewart's way of slapping out

the rhythm on his standup bass provides plenty of beat.

The band rocks in a Sun Records-style of rockabilly and honky-tonk. They would fit right in with Elvis, Johnny Cash, or Jerry Lee Lewis... except for their much-rowdier lyrics. Brian doesn't shy away from the grit. The themes are rockabilly standards: love lost, boozing, and cars. But a '50s audience might not approve of Brian saying that the devil drives a hot rod '39 with leopard-print seats (while "God drives a DeSoto with two-tone turquoise paint"). He refers to himself as a "drunken stupid bastard" on "Foolish Living." In "8 Beers Too Many," he tells of his wife "bitching" and pulling a knife on him.

I wouldn't call Brian Jay



Brian Jay and the Last Call Boys

and the Last Call Boys a novelty act. They're three talented guys who play old-fashioned rockin' honky-tonk the way it was meant to be played.

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BEACHES

Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Beach.

858-488-0551. Tangier Lounge: Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., also, Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., and Wednesday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *John Cain*, jazz/Latin/international/pop standards.

Bar Leucadian, 1542 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia. 760-753-2094. Friday and Saturday, live rock and blues.

The Calypso Cafe, 576 North Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-632-8252. Thursday, *Billy Watson*, blues. Friday, *Jeff Moore* and *Dean Smith*, blues. Saturday, *Fuerte*, salsa. Sunday, *the John Bennett Trio*. Monday, *the Flounders*, acoustic. Tuesday, *Jack Tempchin*, folk. Wednesday, *Uplift*, reggae.

'Canes, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780. Music is

rock/alternative/indie/pop. Thursday, 8 p.m., *the Yardbirds* and *Anna Troy*. Friday, 8 p.m., *De La Soul*, *KRS-One*, *Split Finger*, and *Heaterville*. Saturday, *the Heartaches* and *Earthless*. Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Lonely Mattress Salesman*, *Satori*, *Safety Orange*, and *Aqua Tribe*.

Ché Café, UCSD Campus, 9500 Gilman Drive, Student Center B-0323C, La Jolla. 858-534-2311. Music is alternative/rock/punk. Friday, *Squidlo*, *Enter Telescope*, and *Da Vurms*. Saturday, *the Paper Orchestra*, *the Blanket Truth*, *Watercolor Paintings*, and *Anthony Junior*.

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 p.m., *Keith Jacobsen*, smooth jazz saxophone.

Dreamstreet, 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-8131. Friday, *Mad Visions*, *Kastlevania*, *Comfortable Creeps*, *Styles Free*, and *Build*, hip-hop. Saturday, heavy-metal bands. Wednesday, call club for information.

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., *Daphne Denniston*, 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Aaron Kimball*. Saturday, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., *Rob Mahl*, 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *the Bigfellas*, alternative rock.

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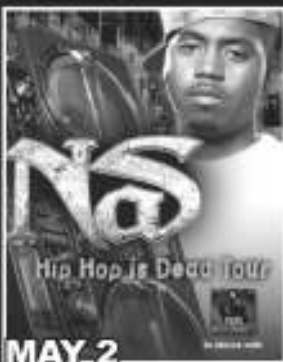
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6/12 **Leon Russell**

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Calendar CLUBS

BEACHES

(continued)

Kaito, 1476 Encinitas Boulevard, Encinitas. 760-634-2746. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Ian Corbet* and *Andy Linz*, jazz.

The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-6483. Thursday, *Jeff Moore* and *the Witchdoctors*, blues. Friday, *Rockandy*, rock. Saturday, *the Blues Invaders*. Sunday, *the Blues Brokers*, blues jam.

La Scala, 1101 Scott Street, Point Loma. 619-224-2272. Friday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., jazz. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., piano bar.

La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-454-0771. Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Barry Levich*, jazz. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, *Rick Ross*, jazz.

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.

Ortega's Blue Parrot, 4993 Niagra Avenue, Suite 103, Ocean Beach. 619-222-1722. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 7 p.m., *John Tafolla* and *Friends*, variety.

Pasquale on Prospect, 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-456-0722. Thursday, *Gil Barron*, *Mark Fulton*, *James East*, and *PTrak Armenta*, acoustic pop/rock/Latin/soul. Friday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Jazz 101 Band* featuring *Nick Fiore*, *John Guilino*, *Dave Scott*, and *the Cynthia Hammond*. Saturday, 8:30 p.m. *Mario Oliveras* and *Latin Spice*, Latin jazz.

710 Beach Club, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Music is rock/indie/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *a Conscious Few*, *Strive Roots*, and *Broke on Friday*. Friday, 9 p.m., *Kemistry*, *Day of the Butcher*, and *Pete Stewart* and *the Plastic Saviors*. Saturday, *Gadfly*, *High Tide*, *the Continental Kings*, and *Isaac Johnson*, reggae. Wednesday, *Six Inch Man*, *the West Indies*, *Juice Produce*, and *Aethetic*.

Shooters Bar and Grill, Radisson Hotel, 3299 Holiday Court, La Jolla. 858-453-5500. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to

11 p.m., *John Cain*, jazz/pop/Latin/standards.

Thrusters, 4633 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach. 858-483-6334. Saturday, 7 p.m., *Modern Day Moonshine*, rock/reggae/soul/blues.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Friday, *Brain Buckit*, rock. Saturday, *the Band in Black*, country. Wednesday, *Bluespring*, rock.

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, *the Pnuma Trio*, electronica/jam band. Friday, *Alfred Howard* and *the K23 Orchestra* and *Brian Haas*, jazz. Saturday, *Agua Dulce*, Latin jazz. Monday, *the Electric Waste Band*, classic rock. Tuesday, *Royal Krown* and *the Mayan Kings*, reggae.

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., *Korrie Paliutto*, folk. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Terry Matsuoka*, pop.

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-232-HELL. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *the Thermals*, *Wet Confetti*, and *Them Hills*. Friday, *Brandi Carlile* and *Gibb Droll*. Saturday, *Ken Andrews*, *Firstwavehello*, and *the Color Turning*. Sunday, *Captured by Robots* and *Sultry Savage Burlesque*. Monday, *Bumbklaat*, *Archons*, *Daddy Black*, and *the Leather Nun*. Tuesday, *Maps* and *Atlases* and *the Nurses*. Wednesday, *Los Straitjackets*, *Big Sandy* and *the Fly-Rite Boys*, and *Thee Corsairs*.

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, *Sue Palmer*. Friday, *Yavez*. Saturday, *Primo*. Sunday, *Fuzzy* and *the Bluesmen*. Monday, *Dave Scott*. Tuesday, *the Shep Meyers Quartet*. Wednesday, *Fuzzy* and *the Bluesmen* or *Sue Palmer*.

Dick's Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-9100. Music is rock and roll. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, live bands. Sunday, *the Disco Pimps*. Tuesday, *Dregs* of *Sada*. Wednesday, *Private Domain*, unplugged.

as i hear it

BY BRIAN CARVER

Artist: **Non-Prophet**

Song: **"Letting Go"** (from the CD *The Catalyst*)

Heard By: **Rich Waterman**, Downtown



Rich

They almost sound kind of blink-182-ish. There's another group — I saw their video six months ago and they're very much like them...My Chemical Romance. To me, it kind of sounded like a boy band with guitars. It felt very unstructured in a way — very repetitive. I got through three minutes, but it felt like I'd been listening to it for five. I could see a slightly watered-down version of it being sung by someone like Kelly Clarkson for when she's reinventing herself...again. It's not a bad song — I don't want to sit here and diss it or anything; it is what it is.

Artist: **General Lee**

Song: **"Rockin' Till I'm Gone"** (from the CD *Rough, Rugged & Raw*)

Heard By: **Angel Lopez**, Imperial Beach



Angel

I'd say it had a little Metallica feel to it. The first thing that popped into my head was "Enter Sandman." I liked that the lyrics were something that everyone can sing along to — which is good because I don't listen to that kind of music, but it was still enjoyable to me. I think it'd be kind of a cool concert to go to. What I really liked was the guitar solo; I was ready to take off the headphones because I got the general feel [of the song], but when I heard the guitarist I wanted to listen to the rest.

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Music Editor, As I Hear It, San Diego *Reader*, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803

rockabilly. Wednesday, *Lady Dottie* and *the Diamonds*, blues.

House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-299-2583. Saturday, *Super Diamond*. Sunday, *Molotov*. Wednesday, *Relient K*.

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 and Saturday, 9:45 p.m., *Reaganomics*, '80s dance. Monday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Insight*, jazz. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Mystique*, jazz/R&B. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Soul Revue*, dance/Top 40.

Martini Ranch, 528 F Street, downtown. 619-235-6100. Thursday, live band.

Patrick's II, 428 F Street, downtown. 619-233-3077. Music is blues/soul unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Bill Magee Blues*. Friday, 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Tell Mama*, 9 p.m., *the Buick Wilson Band*. Saturday, *the Fremonts*. Sunday, *Shelle Blue*. Monday, *Blue Four*. Tuesday, *Dave Camp Blues*. Wednesday, *Tell Mama*.

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, *Salsa Caliente*, salsa. Tuesday, *Walter II y Rumbaney*.

The Shout House, 655 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-231-6700. Rock and roll sing-along dueling pianos.

U.S. Grant Hotel, 326 Broadway, downtown. 800-237-5029. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Paper Moon*, acoustic Latin jazz.

The Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue, downtown. 619-238-1818. The Plaza Bar: Happy Hour, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Thursday and Monday, *Peter Price of Piano*. Tuesday and Wednesday, *Kevin McCully*, piano.

Evening Entertainment: Thursday and Friday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Fran Loskota*, pop/jazz. Saturday, 7 p.m. to midnight, *Karen Giorgio*, cabaret. Sunday and Monday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Julio De La Huerta*, Latin. Tuesday and Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Faith Page*, international/standards.

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Calendar CLUBS

SAN DIEGO

AcousticMusicSanDiego, 4650 Mansfield Street, San Diego. 619-303-8176. Saturday, *Geoff Muldaur*, acoustic.

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.

American Legion Post 310, 465 47th Street, San Diego. 619-264-1919. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Willovealot*, smooth jazz/funk.

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., *Javid*, acoustic/flamenco.

Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-LIVE. Music is rock/metal/alternative. Thursday, *Endris* and *Negative Filter*. Friday, *Vocoder*, *the Anomaly*, and *Shea Stratton*. Sunday, *the Choptops*, *the Strikers*, *Whole Hog*, and *Those Rock'n Bullets*. Monday, *Woven Hand*, *Sir Splendid*, *Dreamtiger*, and *a Beautiful Noise*.

Epicentre, 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa. 858-271-4000. Music is rock/metal/punk. Friday, *Man Man* and guests. Saturday, *Fred Jones*, *Longstay*, *Thieves and Liars*, and *Evangeline*. Tuesday, *Ted Leo* and *the Pharmacists* and *Love of Diagrams*.

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. Live blues/rock.



The Yardbirds, April 5, 'Canes

Harry's Bar and American Grill, 4370 La Jolla Village Drive, San Diego. 858-373-1252. Friday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson Jazz Duo*.

Hot Monkey Love Cafe, 6875 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-469-4113. Thursday, jazz. Friday, *the Flux Theory*, alternative rock. Saturday live bands. Sunday, salsa. Monday, tango. Tuesday, hip-hop. Wednesday, swing.

Humphrey's, Half Moon Inn, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-224-3577. Backstage Lounge: Thursday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Adrian Legg*, acoustic. Friday, 9:30 p.m., *the Karl Marx Band* and *Podunk Nowhere*. Saturday, 9:30 p.m., *Makai*, disco/dance. Sunday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., *Barbara Jamerson*, jazz, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Jose Molina Serrano*, jazz. Monday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Bill Magee*. Tuesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Hank Easton*. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Rockola*, classic rock.

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.

The Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848. Music is rock/metal/punk. Friday, *Vinyl Radio*, *the Muslims*, *Roman Spring*, and *the Sundelles*. Saturday, *the Highlights* and *Manganista*.

Lestat's Coffee House, 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-282-0437. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Steve Poltz*. Friday, *Robin Henkel*, blues. Saturday, *Matt the Electrician* and *Tom Freund*. Sunday, *Beth Preston* and *Natalia Zuckerman*. Wednesday, *Miggs* and *Thompson*.

Lucky Star Nightclub and Ballroom, 3893 54th Street, San Diego. 619-229-8228. Friday, 9 p.m., *Orquesta Rico Tumbao*, salsa. Wednesday, 7 p.m.

to 9 p.m., *the Victoria Rose Trio*, vintage jazz/swing/rock.

Martini's Bar and Grill, 3940 Fourth Avenue, San Diego. 619-293-0232. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Vintage Vegas* or *Z-Bop*, jazz.

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, 1310 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park. 619-276-5637. Music is rock/alternative rock/indie unless otherwise noted. Friday, 8 p.m., *Arroyo*, *Johnny Different*, *Leopold and His Fiction*. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Superunloader* and *the Chad Farran Band*. Tuesday, 8:30 p.m., *Writer*, *Blood on the Tracks*, and *D.S. Yancey*. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *Stratosphere*.

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, live classic rock/blues/swing.

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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*.

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. Thursday, *Transfer, Music for Animals*, and *Soular*.

Scolari's Office, 3936 30th Street, San Diego. 619-296-3546. Live rock/alternative bands.

Second Wind, 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos. 619-465-1730. Friday and Saturday, *Uptown Groove*, classic rock.

Sogno Di Vino, 1607 India Street, San Diego. 619-531-8887. 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, 7 p.m., *Brand New*, *Kevin Devine*, and the *Manchester Orchestra*. Saturday, *Underneath the Gun*, *Burning the Masses*, *Carnifex*, *Terrorspell*, the *Dukes of Kumatai*, *Message in Blood*, and *Ends with Enemy*. Tuesday, *Saves the Day*, *Say Anything*, *John Ralston*, and the *Almost*.

Tio Leo's, 10787 Camino Ruiz, Mira Mesa. 858-695-1461. Saturday, *Side Jobz*, rock.

Tio Leo's Lounge, 5302 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-1462. Friday, *Monroe Ave*, *Zindu*, the *Donnis Trio*, and *Tim and the 23's*. Saturday, *Big Rig Deluxe*, rockabilly. Tuesday, zydeco blues. Wednesday, 7 p.m., the *High Society Jazz Band*.

The Tower Bar, 4757 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-284-0158. Friday and Saturday, live rock/punk/power pop. Monday, *Lady Dottie and the Diamonds*, blues. Tuesday, garage/surf/punk/soul music.

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

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022. Thursday, 9 p.m., the *Dark Star Orchestra*, rock. Friday, 9 p.m., the *Frames* and *Dynamite Walls*, rock/indie/alternative. Saturday, 9 p.m., *80s Heat*, dance. Sunday, *Mew and Oh No! Oh My!* Tuesday, the *Drowning Men*, the *Jade Shader*, and *Silverbird*, rock/alternative/indie. Wednesday, *Transfer*, *Buckfast Superbee*, *bill*, and *Goodbye Elliott*, rock.

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., *Billy Watson and the Silver Strings Submarine Band*, blues/jazz.

Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad), 1905 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad. 760-479-0242. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Steven Ybarra*, acoustic pop.

Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain), 11160 Rancho Carmel Drive, Carmel Mountain. 858-618-1814. Friday, 8 p.m., *Jason Robinson*, folk. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Rebecca Caldwell*, folk.

Carvers, 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Friday and Saturday, the *MLC Band*, classic rock.

The Cask and Cleaver Restaurant, 3757 South Mission Road, Fallbrook. 760-728-2818. Friday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., the *Hank Show*, alternative country.

Cheers, 2475 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-0270. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock.

Coyote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., the *Rhythim Method*, classic rock. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Len Rainey and the Midnight Players*, swinging blues. Saturday, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., *C.C. and David*, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Fish and the Seaweeds*, classic rock. Sunday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., the *Blues Pharaohs*, swing blues, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Mark Lessman*, jazz. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Red Lane*, rock/blues.

Del Dios Bar and Grill, 20154 Lake Drive, Escondido. 760-489-4800. Friday, *Peter Sprague*, acoustic jazz. Saturday, the *Blues Lite Special*, blues.

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 and Saturday, 9 p.m., *Full Xposure*, classic rock.

The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo, Rancho Santa Fe. 858-756-1131. Thursday, Tuesday, and

Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Jerry Melnick*, jazz/variety piano.

The Jumping Turtle, 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos. 760-741-7778. Music is rock/metal/alternative/punk. Thursday, *Off Track*, *Entice*, *Silver Griffin*, and *Pensive*. Friday, *Sight Unscene*, *Aghori*, *Etched in Red*, and *Medius*. Saturday, *Dr. Know*, the *Detours*, *Authentic Sellouts*, the *Resentments*, *Teenage Corpses*, and *Union 13*. Sunday, *Lonely Mattress Salesman*, *Music for Animals*, and *Blood on the Tracks*. Monday, the *Commission*, *L.V. McCree*, the *U.P.*, *RCA*, and the *Illust*. Wednesday, the *Midwinters* and *Signature Escape*.

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, *Crunchberry*, rock. Saturday, *Strive Roots*, rock/reggae.

Ocean House, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4131. Friday and Saturday, live rock. Sunday, live jazz. 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.

Surf N'Saddle, 123 West Plaza Street (Lomas Santa Fe and Highway 101), Solana Beach. 858-755-9474. Friday and Saturday, live rock/alternative bands. Wednesday, open mike.

Tom Giblein's Irish Pub and Restaurant, 640 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-7234. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Adrienne Nims and Raggle Taggle*, Irish dance cabaret.

The 2007 San Diego County Fair Presents Summer Concert Series

Shows listed below are FREE with Fair admission unless otherwise noted.
A limited number of reserved seats are available for free shows.

JUNE 26
Earth, Wind and Fire
R & B • PAID SHOW • DINNER PACKAGE

JUNE 27
LeAnn Rimes
COUNTRY • PAID SHOW

JUNE 28
All-American Rejects
ALTERNATIVE ROCK/POP • PAID SHOW

JUNE 9
Reggae Festival
FEATURING:
Steel Pulse, Third World & Boom Shaka
Presented by Newscastle Ale

JUNE 10
Lupillo Rivera
HISPANIC
Presented by Cerveza Tecate & Telemundo 33

JUNE 13
"Weird Al" Yankovic
COMEDY
DINNER PACKAGE

JUNE 14
The Wailers
REGGAE

JUNE 15
Kenny Loggins
CLASSIC POP
DINNER PACKAGE

JUNE 16
REO Speedwagon
DINNER PACKAGE

JUNE 20
John Michael Montgomery
COUNTRY

JUNE 22
Joan Jett and the Blackhearts
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
Dellyrots

JUNE 23
Gospel Festival
FEATURING:
Fred Hammond

June 8 through July 4
(closed June 11-12, 18-19 and 25)

This is a partial listing. Check our website for more entertainment listings.

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Calendar CLUBS

SOUTH BAY/CORONADO

Buon Giorno Restaurant, 4110 Bonita Road, Bonita. 619-475-2660. Friday, 9 p.m., *Jesse Davis*, variety. Saturday, *Stage 4* or *Mikan and Friends*, jazz.

The Butcher Shop, 556 Broadway, Chula Vista. 619-420-9440. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Ray Correa*, standards/pop/Latin.

Cafe LaMaze, 1441 Highland Avenue, National City. 619-474-3222. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Sandy Chappel* and *Sammy Canonizado*, jazz/blues. Sunday, 8:30 p.m., *Burnett Anderson*, *Robert Sebastian*, and *Scott Wallingford*, jazz.

Galley at the Marina, 550 Marina Parkway, Chula Vista. 619-422-5714. Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Justin Brothers*, rock and roll. Saturday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., live rock. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *David Hauser*, acoustic. Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Gary Seiler*, acoustic.

Hotel del Coronado, 1550 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-6611. Babcock and Story: Thursday through 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Tony Lasley*, Latin jazz. Friday, 8:30 p.m., *Barbara Jamerson* and *Joe Tarantino*, jazz. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Stellita* and *Dave Lindgren*. Tuesday and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Jim Gibson*.

Palm Court: Thursday through Sunday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Ray Briz*. Also, Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., *Joey West*. Crown Room: Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., *John Cain*.

Island Sports and Spirits, 104 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-3456. Friday, *Aaron Bryth*, acoustic. Saturday, *Ron's Garage*, classic rock.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill, 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-5280. Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday, 4-Way Street, classic rock. Friday, *the*

*Stiletto*s, rockabilly. Monday, *Tommy Price*, acoustic. Tuesday, *Gene Warren*, Irish folk. Wednesday, *Laguna*, classic rock.

EAST COUNTY

Borders Books and Music (El Cajon), 159 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon. 619-593-5119. Saturday, 7 p.m., *Kim Devine*, folk.

Dirk's Niteclub, 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove. 619-469-6344. Friday and Saturday, *Nemesis*, classic rock.

Don's Cocktail Lounge, 13321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon. 619-443-2444. Friday and Saturday, *Joey and the Stingrays*, classic rock.

Fannie's Nightclub, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-698-2204. Friday, *the Spot*, hip-hop. Saturday, *Daemos*, *Shadowlit*, *Inner Fury*, and *Under the Stone*, metal.

Mulveny's Wagon Wheel, 8861 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-448-8550. Friday and Saturday, *Sundance*, country.

Renegade Inn, 14335 Old Highway 80 (half mile east from Lake Jennings turnoff), Flynn Springs. 619-561-8105. Friday and Saturday, live country music.

Second Wind, 8528 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-596-8350. Thursday, *gone9*, classic rock.

Calendar BANDS

ALTERNATIVE

Acethethic: 710 Beach Club

Aghori: The Jumping Turtle

The Almost: Soma

Ken Andrews: The Casbah

The Anomaly: Brick By Brick

Anthony Junior: Ché Café

Aqua Tribe: 'Canes

Archons: The Casbah

Authentic Sellout: The Jumping Turtle

A Beautiful Noise: Brick By Brick

Big Sandy and the Fly-Rite Boys: The Casbah

The Bigfellas: E Street Cafe

bill: Belly Up Tavern

The Blanket Truth: Ché Café

Blood on the Tracks: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, The Jumping Turtle

Brand New: Soma

Broke on Friday: 710 Beach Club

Bruckfast Superbee: Belly Up Tavern

Bumbklaat: The Casbah

Burning the Masses: Soma

Captured by Robots: The Casbah

Carnifex: Soma

The Color Turning: The Casbah

A Conscious Few: 710 Beach Club

Da Vurms: Ché Café

Daddy Black: The Casbah

Daemos: Fannie's Nightclub

The Detours: The Jumping Turtle

Dr. Know: The Jumping Turtle

Dreamtiger: Brick By Brick

The Dukes of Kamatai: Soma

Dynamite Walls: Belly Up Tavern

Earthless: 'Canes

Endris: Brick By Brick

Ends with Enemy: Soma

Enter Telescope: Ché Café

Entice: The Jumping Turtle

Etched in Red: The Jumping Turtle

Evangeline: Epicentre

Firstwavehello: The Casbah

The Flux Theory: Hot Monkey Love Cafe

The Heartaches: 'Canes

The Highlights: The Kensington Club

The Jade Shader: Belly Up Tavern

Johnny Different: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Kemistry: 710 Beach Club

The Leather Nun: The Casbah

Ted Leo and the Pharmacists: Epicentre

Leopold and His Fiction: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Lonely Mattress Salesman: 'Canes, The Jumping Turtle

Longstay: Epicentre

Los Straitjackets: The Casbah

Love of Diagrams: Epicentre

Man Man: Epicentre

The Manchester Orchestra: Soma

Manganista: The Kensington Club

Maps and Atlases: The Casbah

Medius: The Jumping Turtle

Message in Blood: Soma

Mew: Belly Up Tavern

The Midwinters: The Jumping Turtle

Music for Animals: San Diego Sports Club, The Jumping Turtle

The Muslims: The Kensington Club

Negative Filter: Brick By Brick

The Nurses: The Casbah

Off Track: The Jumping Turtle

Oh! No, Oh My!: Belly Up Tavern

The Paper Orchestra: Ché Café

Pensive: The Jumping Turtle

John Ralston: Soma

The Resentments: The Jumping Turtle

Safety Orange: 'Canes

Satori: 'Canes

Saves the Day: Soma

Say Anything: Soma

Sight Unscene: The Jumping Turtle

Signature Escape: The Jumping Turtle

Silver Griffin: The Jumping Turtle

Silverbird: Belly Up Tavern

Six Inch Man: 710 Beach Club

Squiddo: Ché Café

Pete Stewart and the Plastic Saviors: 710 Beach Club

Sultry Savage Burlesque: The Casbah

The Sundelles: The Kensington Club

Superunloader: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Teenage Corpses: The Jumping Turtle

Thee Corsairs: The Casbah

Them Hills: The Casbah

The Thermals: The Casbah

Thieves and Liars: Epicentre

Underneath the Gun: Soma

Union 13: The Jumping Turtle

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THURSDAY, APRIL 12
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FRIDAY, APRIL 13
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FRIDAY - 6-7pm
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Calendar

BANDS

ALTERNATIVE

(continued)

Vinyl Radio: The Kensington Club

Vocoder: Brick By Brick

Watercolor Paintings: Ché Café

The West Indies: 710 Beach Club

Wet Confetti: The Casbah

Woven Hand: Brick By Brick

Writer: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

ROCK

Arroyo: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Bluespring: Tiki House

Brain Buckit: Tiki House

The Brat Pack: Henry's Pub

C.C. and David: Coyote Bar and Grill

The Choptops: Brick By Brick

The Credit Union: Ocean House

Crunchberry: Molly Malone's

The Dark Star Orchestra: Belly Up Tavern

Day of the Butcher: 710 Beach Club

Dazed and Confused: Dick's Last Resort

Kevin Devine: Soma

The Disco Pimps: Dick's Last Resort

The Donnis Trio: Tio Leo's Lounge

Dregs of Sada: Dick's Last Resort

The Drowning Men: Belly Up Tavern

The Electric Waste Band: Winstons

The Chad Farran Band: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Fish and the Seaweeds: Coyote Bar and Grill

4-Way Street: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

The Frames: Belly Up Tavern

Full Xposure: Game Time Tavern

Goodbye Elliott: Belly Up Tavern

Heateville: 'Canes

Inner Fury: Fannie's Nightclub

Joey and the Stingrays: Don's Cocktail Lounge

Fred Jones: Epicentre

Rickie Lee Jones: 4th & B

Juice Produce: 710 Beach Club

The Justin Brothers: Galley at the Marina

Laguna: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Red Lane: Coyote Bar and Grill

The MLC Band: Carvers

The Karl Marx Band: Humphrey's

Molotov: House of Blues

Monroe Ave: Tio Leo's Lounge

Nemesis: Dirk's Niteclub

The Pnuma Trio: Winstons

Relient K: House of Blues

The Rhythm Method: Coyote Bar and Grill

Rockandy: The Kraken

Rockola: Humphrey's

Roman Spring: The Kensington Club

Ron's Garage: Island Sports and Spirits

Shadowlit: Fannie's Nightclub

Side Jobz: Tio Leo's (Mira Mesa)

Sir Splendid: Brick By Brick

Gone9: Second Wind (Santee)

Soular: San Diego Sports Club

The Stiletto's: Henry's Pub, McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Stratosphere: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Shea Stratton: Brick By Brick

The Strikers: Brick By Brick

Super Diamond: House of Blues

Those Rock'n Bullets: Brick By Brick

Tim and the 23's: Tio Leo's Lounge

Transfer: San Diego Sports Club, Belly Up Tavern

Under the Stone: Fannie's Nightclub

Uptown Groove: Second Wind (San Carlos)

Whole Hog: Brick By Brick

D.S. Yancey: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

The Yarbbirds: 'Canes

POP / TOP 40

PTrak Armenta: Pasquale on Prospect

Gil Barron: Pasquale on Prospect

Brandi Carlile: The Casbah

Jesse Davis: Buon Giornò Restaurant

James East: Pasquale on Prospect

Mark Fulton: Pasquale on Prospect

The Good Times: Henry's Pub

Rick Lyon: The Imperial House

Makai: Humphrey's

The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love's

JAZZ / BIG BAND

Agua Dulce: Winstons

Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze

The B-3 Four: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant

The John Bennett Trio: The Calypso Cafe

Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn

Ray Briz: Hotel del Coronado

Sammy Canonizado: Cafe LaMaze

Sandy Chappel: Cafe LaMaze

Ian Corbet: Kaito

Hank Easton: Humphrey's

Nick Fiore: Pasquale on Prospect

Jim Gibson: Hotel del Coronado

John Guilino: Pasquale on Prospect

Brian Haas: Winstons

Cynthia Hammond: Pasquale on Prospect

The High Society Jazz Band: Tio Leo's Lounge

Alfred Howard and the K23 Orchestra: Winstons

Insight: Jimmy Love's

Keith Jacobsen: Del Mar Plaza

Barbara Jamerson: Humphrey's, Hotel del Coronado

The Jazz 101 Band: Pasquale on Prospect

Jazzilla: Turquoise Cafe

Fran Laskota: The Westgate Hotel

Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado

Mark Lessman: Coyote Bar and Grill

Barry Levich: La Valencia Hotel

Stellita and Dave Lindgren: Hotel del Coronado

Andy Linz: Kaito

Peggy Lloyd: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant

Bob Magnusson: Dizzy's

Masterpiece: Jimmy Love's

Kevin McCully: 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 Giornò Restaurant

Jose Molina Serrano: Humphrey's

David Mosby: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant

Mystique: Jimmy Love's

Mike Nelson: Sogno Di Vino, The Lodge at Torrey Pines

Mario Oliveras and Latin Spice: Pasquale on Prospect

Sue Palmer: Croce's Jazz Bar

Padres Opening Day

April 6 and 2007 season



Josh Groban

April 6

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Charlie Daniels June 8

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Keith Urban June 10

John Mayer June 12

Alejandro Sanz June 13

Kenny Loggins June 15

B-52s June 22

Paulina Rubio June 26

LeAnn Rimes June 27

Alison Krauss June 28

Brad Paisley June 29

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Peter Prince of Piano: The Westgate Hotel

Jim Plank: Dizzy's

Primo: Croce's Jazz Bar

Rick Ross: La Valencia Hotel

Rob Schneiderman: Dizzy's

Dave Scott: Pasquale on Prospect, Croce's Jazz Bar

Robert Sebastini: Cafe LaMaze

Peter Sprague: Del Dios Bar and Grill, Dizzy'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

The Jaime Valley/Rob Thorsen Jazz Duo: Prego Ristorante

The Victoria Rose Trio: Lucky Star Nightclub and Ballroom

Vintage Vegas: Martini's Bar and Grill

Scott Wallingford: Cafe LaMaze

Willlovealot: American Legion Post 310

Yavez: Croce's Jazz Bar

Z-Bop: The Flying Bridge

REGGAE / SKA

The Continental Kings: 710 Beach Club

Gadfly: 710 Beach Club

High Tide: 710 Beach Club

Isaac Johnson: 710 Beach Club

The Mayan Kings: Winstons

Royal Krown: Winstons

Split Finger: 'Canes

Strive Roots: Molly Malone's, 710 Beach Club

Uplift: The Calypso Cafe

COUNTRY

The Band in Black: Tiki House

Big Rig Deluxe: Tio Leo's Lounge

The California Rangers: McCabe's Beach Club

The Hank Show: The Cask and Cleaver Restaurant

Sundance: Mulvaney's Wagon Wheel

ACOUSTIC / FOLK

Joseph Angelastro: E Street Cafe

J.D. Boucharde: Princess Pub and Grille

Steve Brewer: Blarney Stone Pub

Aaron Bryth: Island Sports and Spirits

Rebecca Caldwell: Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain)

Chris and Harold: Blarney Stone Pub

Daphne Denniston: E Street Cafe

Kim Devine: Borders Books and Music (El Cajon)

Gibb Droll: The Casbah

The Flounders: The Calypso Cafe

Tom Freund: Lestat's Coffee House

Allison Gill: Blarney Stone Pub

Shawn Halpin: 4th & B

David Hauser: Galley at the Marina

Javid: Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley)

Aaron Kimball: E Street Cafe

Adrian Legg: Humphrey's

Rob Mahl: E Street Cafe

Terry Matsuoka: Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp)

Matt the Electrician: Lestat's Coffee House

Geoff Muldaur: AcousticMusicSanDiego

Adrienne Nims and Raggle Taggle: Tom Giblin's Irish Pub and Restaurant, the Prado Restaurant

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San Diego Reader April 5, 2007 111

BROWSER BASH

by Josh Board

I often am invited to parties where a gate code is required. As I stood outside the gates to the million-dollar homes inside San Elijo Hills, I remembered that Lynn had given me her cell phone number. I called her for the code, got in, and found my way to the house. It was a gathering hosted by a woman named Joni who is a clothing rep. She organizes these parties and invites a few hundred people over to sell them brand-name clothing at reduced prices. When I told a friend about this, he said, "Think of all the women you'll meet there." I said, "You think the women are going there to meet guys? It's going to be like a shark feeding frenzy." I was right.

A girl who looked like Denise Richards and worked for the sales team introduced herself. She asked me if I'd like a glass of wine. When she came back with the white wine, she asked me my waist size and if there were specific jeans I was looking for. I told her that I was just looking around.

She left me to my wine and



went to help a few female browsers. I'd arrived late in the afternoon and was told that the sales party was more crowded earlier. When I found Lynn, she confirmed this. I met a few of Lynn's friends out by the swimming pool. By their banter, they sounded a lot like the cast of



sure why Joni does these clothing sales because they seem like a lot of work. Someone said, "That's how rich people get rich.



Top: Lynn, second from left;
Bottom left: Joni and Eric;
Bottom right: The former UCLA student

a pair of jeans. The Denise Richards girl offered to help me. When I asked her about herself, she said that she's a former UCLA student who recently moved back to San Diego. She said, "I'm Mormon, and my parents went to BYU. I think they wanted me to go there, too." I told her that my friend moved to Salt Lake City for work and that when I went to visit him I noticed that all of the restaurants there offered "fry sauce" with french fries. "Yeah," she

laughed, "it's a mixture of ketchup and mayo. It's all the rage there."

She told me that if she decides to go back to school, she's thinking of becoming a lawyer.

I saw an attractive woman in her 50s looking at pants, while the man she was with waited by the front door. My cell phone rang and I went outside to take the call. The guy by the door was agitated and told the woman, "I'll be waiting at the car!" When I finished my call, I noticed that the woman was still browsing. I said to her, "I can't find anything here that's slimming on me. Everything I try on makes my ass look big." She looked at me as if I were nuts.

I grabbed another glass of wine and went back outside to talk with Lynn, but she was getting ready to leave.

She introduced me to Joni, who ran these clothing parties. As she was giving me a tour of her huge house, one of the young girls that was helping her out was getting ready to leave. Joni said, "Pick yourself out an

"These aren't great deals she is giving us. I was thinking I'd leave here with bags and bags of clothes."

Sex and the City.

Lynn told me that she thought Joni owned more than 40 houses and that she wasn't

They make money in all kinds of ways."

I finished my wine and told Lynn that I was going to look for

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Crasher

outfit for helping me out today." The girl ran down the hall thrilled.



21 and up with ID

THURSDAYS
KARAOKE

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ARROYO LEOPOLD AND HIS FICTION (S.F.)
JOHNNY DIFFERENT

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Lynn told me that she met Joni at a coffee shop and that Joni had been married to a Steelers player. Lynn also told me that a kerosene lamp explosion

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No Cover

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Good Friday
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The Falling Game • Milka
Trisula • The Cathedrals

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had killed her husband and son and left Joni with burn scars.

When Joni and I did talk, we were interrupted so many times that I got confused by her life story. She told me that she was a cheerleader at Ohio State and that her husband was killed by a drunk driver that hit him head-on after a 48-mile police chase. When I asked her if he was a football player for the Steelers, she said he was a baseball player.

I met her current boyfriend, a tall, blonde guy who lives next door. I was told they met through church. When we were interrupted again (she had to take care of some business), I told her that I'd look around a little more.

Someone at the party pulled me aside and said, "Were you talking to Joni? She can be real nice. But I don't understand her. These clothes aren't so cheap. These aren't great deals she is giving us. I was thinking I'd leave here with bags and bags of clothes. Well, I'd probably buy more if I just went to the outlet stores."

Joni found me again and grabbed my hands. I looked down and noticed that her hands were scarred from the burns. She said,

"Eric doesn't want to get me a ring until we find a graft of skin for my hands." Joni then went over to help someone who was looking at jewelry. I wanted to ask her about skin grafts. I wondered if finding a skin graft was difficult. Money didn't seem to be an issue.

Someone asked me if I wanted another glass of wine, but I asked for a bottled water. I saw a few guys in a back room. One said, "This is where the real party is." I saw a few bowls of chips and pretzels. One guy said to me, "I think they met when he was still married to someone else. What if he's just into her for the money? I mean, I think she bought him the house he lives in next door. That's weird."

I said, "Hey, women have done that to men for ages. Look at Anna Nicole Smith marrying that old guy. Or any of Donald Trump's wives. But, Joni is a smart woman, and they both look happy to me. Why speculate as to why they're happy?"■

Crash your party? Call 619-235-3000 x421 and leave an invitation for Josh Board.

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com



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Tradition Time

Passover has just passed, and in my mind's ear I heard Tevye singing "Tradition!" and I thought of Jewish holiday foods. I've brunchd at Milton's in Del Mar and lunched at the late Herschel's in Encinitas — so it was high time I hit the 800-pound gorilla of the local delis, D.Z. Akin's. Founded in 1980, it's reputedly the best — and a glimpse at the menu online confirmed that the range of foods is the closest in town to a New York deli.

What brought D.Z.'s to mind was a news report: A long-time part-time staffer was recently hit with a catastrophic illness, and the owners (Debi and Zvika Akins) and staff have rallied around him like family — contributing regularly to help with living expenses during a long recuperation and throwing a benefit dinner earlier this month to help with medical costs. So having a meal at D.Z. right now is more than a fress (stuffing oneself), it may also be a *mitzvah* (a blessing or good deed).

Oddly, I probably know less about Yiddish cuisine than, say, about Chinese or French or Mexican. A century ago, my Russian-Jewish immigrant grandparents sold pickles out of barrels on the sidewalks of the Lower East Side. They couldn't afford to rent a storefront, so they stood outside in all weathers, minding toddler Aunt Irma, as Grandma swelled with Aunt Alice. Rarely could my grandmother take enough time off to teach her daughters to cook. Aunt Irma, the eldest, learned to make a few traditional dishes from scratch for the Sabbath dinner, but even then, the family seldom had the wherewithal for a festive meal.

So my mother developed an ambivalent relationship with Jewish cuisine. It was her comfort food, but it also carried the bitter taste of childhood poverty. She might snack on a bowl of Manischewitz borscht or a bite of bottled gefilte fish, but she didn't know how to "cook Jewish" — nor did she want to know. (She did make chicken soup — "Jewish penicillin" — but always with noodles, defeated in her few attempts at tricky matzo balls and labor-intensive *kreplach*, a.k.a. Jewish ravioli.) She favored the simplest American food — broiled protein, boiled veggies — and later, TV dinners. So my exposure to Yiddish cuisine was largely through wonderful (if only occasional) Sunday morning breakfast



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

noshes: silky "belly lox," bony little smoked chubs, or sometimes a fat smoked whitefish (smoked cod and sturgeon were beyond our budget) and chopped liver from the deli; fresh bagels and rye bread from the bakery; and the sacred Sunday *New York Times* from the newsstand, to be devoured with gusto equal to that inspired by the noshes. I tasted traditional Yiddish dinners mainly at the larger gatherings of my father's side of the family, where Aunt Frieda wouldn't come out of the kitchen to eat with the rest of us until her perfect roast chicken — the inevitable culmination of a parade of delicious starter courses — was done to her standards.

Since I'm better versed in purchased Sunday brunches than home-cooked Sabbath dinners, I called on Marty and Dave, fellow ex-New Yorkers who are more knowledgeable about the cuisine. They live near D.Z. Akin's, have eaten there many times, and could guide me through a small-print, multipage menu only slightly thinner than the Torah (the two thick scrolls of holy writ).

We showed up early in the week, a good

move, because it's easier to find parking and get a table without a wait. The deli/restaurant is a long building that dominates its little strip-mall. Inside it's vast, with a deli-bakery-souvenir shop at the front door, then brightly lighted large dining rooms with padded booths and photos of local celebs on the walls. Each table holds a vat of cucumber pickles in a mild brine. Ranging in age from fresh-made crisp ones to older ones suffused with brine, there's a pickle in there to suit every taste, and for free.

The menu starts with breakfasts, then lists about 100 sandwiches and burgers, then soups and salads, with side dishes and smoked-fish plates popping up at various points, and concluding with dinner entrées, desserts, and fountain beverages. Dave and Marty knew I wanted to order the classic Jewish Sunday brunch specialties (which they serve all day), even if it was dinnertime. "They make a very good *matzo brei* [pronounced MAH-tsuh bry] here," said Dave, seductively. "Believe it or not, I don't actually know what that is," I said. "Well," said Marty,

REVIEW NAOMI WISE

D.Z. Akin's Bakery and Delicatessen ★★★ (Very Good)

6930 Alvarado Road (in Alvarado Plaza), off 70th Street/Lake Murray Road, San Diego, 619-265-0218, www.dzakinsdeli.com

HOURS: Sunday–Thursday 7:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m., Friday–Saturday until 10:00 p.m.

PRICES: Appetizers, \$5–\$14; sandwiches, \$7–\$15; salads, salad platters, and smoked-fish platters, \$5–\$23; dinners (with soup or salad, sides), \$12–\$26; sides, soups, small salads, \$3–\$6; breakfast dishes, \$5–\$14 (higher for smoked-fish platters serving two or more). Kiddie plates available at all meals.

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: European-Jewish specialties, including deli meats and smoked fish, house-baked breads and pastries, traditional Jewish-American dinner entrées, overstuffed sandwiches, and American and Jewish breakfasts. A few acceptable wines by the bottle (all under \$30), only plonk by the glass. Fountain drinks, sodas, some domestic and imported beers.

PICK HITS: Matzo ball soup; chopped liver; Rumanian skirt steak; "ethnic sampler platter"; *kasha varnishkes* (vegetable side); cheese blintzes; smoked fish of choice. Marty and Dave recommend *matzo brei* (breakfast pancakes), latkes, roast chicken.

NEED TO KNOW: Not kosher. Free parking, but patience needed at busy lot. No reservations except for holiday dinners and large groups; expect a wait at busy times (e.g., any weekend meal). Plenty for lacto-vegetarians, some substantial vegan choices from side dishes and salads. Portions huge, \$2 to split entrées.

Ratings reflect the reviewer's reaction to food, ambiance, 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.

"you soak some matzos in a little water just until they soften. Not soggy. Then you wring out the water in a strainer and mix the crumbs with beaten eggs and fry it like pancakes." "You can make it savory or sweet — add onions or sugar or salami, whatever you like," said Dave. "Oh!"



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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

I said. “It’s Jewish *chilaquiles*, with matzo instead of tortillas, and hold the chiles.” “That’s right,” said the Latino waiter, listening in with amusement. “Which makes them, without chiles, just... ‘killahs.’”

I steeled myself to ordering dinner food instead of brunch noshes, feeling duty-bound to try some serious cooking to review. I could pick up bagels, smoked fish, and chopped liver from the front-room deli case on my way out for the next few days’ breakfasts. Most dinner entrées come with soup or salad (unless you order à la carte to save a buck), plus all the rye bread you can eat, served with a week’s worth of something that looks like whipped butter but tastes more like unsweetened whipped cream. Dave began with matzo ball soup. It is just one big ball (as in the racy old World War II song about Hitler’s endowments), the size of a baseball, but airy and delicious — if you like matzo balls. That is, they are rather bland dumplings, and maybe you have to grow up with them. Inept cooks who precisely follow the recipe on the back of the matzo meal box produce horrible, hard cannonballs that hit your stomach with a thud. But D.Z. knows the secret, which is to separate out

the whites from the yolks and beat them to a high foam, so the dumplings come out light enough to, um, float your balls. (I think they may also use club soda for aeration, as many Ethiopians do when making *injera* pancakes in cool climates, where the batter doesn’t ferment enough to puff.) And the chicken soup is very good, tasting just like Aunt Frieda’s, with plenty of carrot pieces (which add sweetness to the broth). My only gripe is that, unless you specify, they also put in noodles, which just get in the way. You can also have the soup with *kreplach* (beef-filled pasta pockets) or with all three garnishes.

Marty ordered the exotic sweet-sour cabbage soup, which is tomatoey and pungent, probably a culinary contribution of Hungarian Jews, who are known for their love of tangy, complex flavors. It’s a more intense version of the sauce that bedecked my stuffed cabbage, the centerpiece of the “ethnic sampler plate” I ordered for my dinner.

The sampler doesn’t come with a soup but showcases several classic Ashkenazi (Eastern European) Jewish dishes. The stuffed cabbage (filled with dense ground beef, with much less rice in the mixture than typical versions) has a light, sweet-tart sauce punctuated with raisins. The interesting sides include *kasha varnishkes* — a combination of bowtie (farfel) pasta and buckwheat groats

cereal. Unlike my mom’s weird, evil-smelling attempts at the dish, the buckwheat is mild and pleasant, and the combination is more than the sum of its parts. *Kishkes* literally means “guts,” that is, cleaned beef intestines (cow chitlins) stuffed like sausages with a ground vegetable mixture. In D.Z.’s modern version, the chitlins are long-gone, so you have simple cylinders of dense ground veggies, the equivalent of sausage patties, as opposed to actual sausages. The rusty color of the mixture announces the prevalence of carrots. The *kishkes* come with a touch of Uncle Sam, an accompanying all-American beef gravy. “I love the *kishkes*,” said Marty, so I guess they must be authentic. (I can take ’em or leave ’em. Strikes me as sophisticated baby food — but I did like the gravy.)

Finally, on the sampler, a great big potato knish — a thin, buttery pastry shell stuffed with coarse-mashed potatoes. The Knish King of America is a little storefront on Manhattan’s East Houston Street (pronounced House-ton) that’s been at the same spot since about 1493, called Yone Schimmel’s. I’ve eaten Yone Schimmel’s knishes, and D.Z. Akin’s knishes are not Yone Schimmel’s. However, they’re a good try, better than most. A little heavy, maybe (well, all knishes are heavy), and a tad dry, but recognizably a knish and not some horrible Americanized thing with too-thick

pastry or (God forbid!) a low-fat filling. The waiter offered sour cream to go with it — not traditional, but I thought I’d try it — and he brought a bowl containing a good half-pint.

Marty was tempted by fond memories of D.Z.’s “honey-fried chicken,” wondering aloud how this item ever landed on a Jewish deli menu. A possible answer: Miami Beach in the ’50s. “When I was six,” I recalled, “we spent the summer there. Not far from our hotel in South Beach was a little restaurant that specialized in ‘Chicken in a Basket’ — delicious batter-fried chicken with honey syrup to pour over it. It was incredibly popular with the zillions of New York Jews who vacationed in Miami, especially the kiddies.” And that may be how Southern fried chicken converted to Judaism.

Marty was also tempted by the roast chicken, which is probably just like Aunt Frieda’s holiday dinner entrée. (“It’s very good here,” Marty said.) But mindful of her diet, she ordered the chicken breast cutlet (sized like the sainted Anna Nicole Smith). You wouldn’t mistake it for what Italy does with cutlets. Barely breaded, the flesh was dry, although aided by *goyish*, delicious, flour-thickened chicken gravy. (I don’t think Jews make gravy, except for Thanksgiving.)

Dave chose Romanian skirt steak, a specialty he remembered from Sammy’s Rumanian, a famed old-time steakhouse

on the Lower East Side. It was a rich, tender piece of beef, medium-rare to Dave’s order, smothered with sliced mushrooms and onions. “It really surprises me how close they come to Sammy’s version,” he said. Tasting it — delicious! — I could see how Sammy’s endured for about a millennium, even as the neighborhood went Puerto Rican, then yuppie, till the last old Jew was gone and Sammy’s packed it in.

For dessert, we split a pair of cheese blintzes, served in traditional style with sour cream and applesauce on the side. The blintzes — slightly thick crêpes — were rolled around barely sweetened coarse-grained Russian-style pot cheese. (Not cottage cheese! Not ricotta! Not creamy! According to my ex-mother-in-law, who showed me how to make ’em, nothing but pure, lean, tangy pot cheese will do.) We marveled and reveled at D.Z.’s ability to find this increasingly rare Old World cheese. The house-made applesauce was extremely sweet, but of course the blintzes aren’t. That’s how it should be — tradition!

On my way out, I made a long, slow stop at the deli counter and bakery for the next day’s breakfast and lunch-dinner.

The first question: The bagel. Here, I know what I’m talking about. A proper fresh-made New York bagel requires good, rigorous chewing in the morn-

ing (makes your jaws strong). Twelve to 18 hours later, it must be halved and toasted to be edible. By its 36th hour of existence, it has turned into an inedible petrified torus that can only be halved by placing it in a vise-grip and attacking it with a power-saw (which no real Jew owns). You don’t need “cement overshoes” to dispose of a Bugsy Siegel, a Meyer Lansky, a Moe Green — just tie a dozen two-day-old New York bagels to a Jewish gangster’s ankles and fill his pockets with my mom’s matzo balls, and he’ll sink like a stone. Please use the East River; we’re trying to clean up the Hudson.

Here on the West Coast, people seem to think bagels should be soft, a little firm outside, but puffy enough inside to be suitable for after-services snacks in a Unitarian church. That is all wrong. D.Z.’s bagels, although slightly too soft initially, were only about eight hours behind schedule in the proper staling and petrifying process — about halfway between New York and Gentile bagels. The “belly lox” was tender, flavorful, a bit strong-tasting, but out here I usually buy Scottish cold-smoked salmon in preference to Lasco packaged mediocrity, so I’m out of practice with New York lox flavors.

Chubs (small, heavily smoked whitefish) and chopped liver — taste just like home. The challah — a brioche-like egg bread — is heavy and chewy but has reasonably good flavor — yeasty and a little sweet. (Bread & Cie turns out an even better, lighter version on Fridays.) I also took home a sandwich of corned beef, pastrami, and tongue on rye. It was so huge, it furnished three days of “writing night” dinners, but I can’t say it thrilled me. The meats didn’t knock me out, and I couldn’t find any tongue, not that it mattered. I already knew it wasn’t gonna be a Katz’s Deli sandwich (a few doors down from Yone Schimmel’s), originators of the devastating slogan “Send a Salami to Your Boy in the Army.” For one thing, the servers at D.Z.’s were much too nice. In a real New York deli like Katz’s, you pay a steep price for tongue, but they give you plenty of lip for nothing. ■

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Breakfast with Ghosts

Soon she's telling us about the fight she had trying to cuff this giant fellow she was arresting.

Funny how things work out. Here I am in El Cajon, standing in a brisk morning breeze, waiting on Hank. It's eightish. I'm peckish. We'd had this idea. An Iraqi breakfast! El Cajon's where most Chaldeans live, right? And Hank knew the perfect spot: Ali Baba's on Main.

Natch, not having wheels, I arrived first, aboard the #815 bus. Marched up to the elaborate entrance...Aaargh!

"Closed," said the sign.

Damnit. Too early. Find a pay phone. Call Hank. "No Iraqi brekky, dude. Not yet, anyway."

Hank makes an executive decision. "OK, well, we'll do it next week. Gotta go."

Jeez. Just like that. The guy's brutal. And now I'm stuck on the brink of starvation in the wilds of Big Box City.

I hike three blocks toward the single "Breakfast" sign in sight, only to find that the small print says "Saturdays and Sundays." That's when I turn down Magnolia and come across a real treasure in a little park. It has a white gazebo and this brown, olde-worlde clapboard house. "Knox House Museum 1876," it says. Turns out it's the last remnant of Amaziah Knox's hotel, which he built here where the mountain road from Julian met the valley road to San Diego, today's Magnolia and Main.

"In 1875, the bustling commerce of ore wagons, stage coaches, and other traffic of the times passed this spot to and from...San Diego and the Julian Gold Mines," reads a plaque. I like the whole historical feel here, because, honestly, usually when you think of El Cajon, you think wide, soulless, heat-cracked streets and car dealerships, period. But here you can imagine, well, lots of ghosts.

At the north end of this parklet I spot another li'l ol' brown building. This one huddles under a big ol' Canary Island palm.

"Somewhere Else Coffeehouse & Bookstore," says the sign on its wall.

Hey, maybe I can get breakfast here. The inside looks newly renovated, in an old-fashioned sort of way. Also, talk about ghosts — something rings familiar. I see a little counter with maybe four stools, plus a sitting room with tables, soft chairs, and sofas surrounded by book-laden white shelves. Cool. It's all fresh-painted in browns, whites, with a terracotta tile floor, and carpet in the sitting room.

"Hi!" says this merry-faced

woman. "I'm Carol."

"Hi," says this other gal, coming out from the kitchen. "I'm Maria."

Hey, now! Good vibes already. I hoist myself onto one of the stools. I recognize something about the close-quarter intimacy...but don't have time to rack the memory banks, because from the get-go we're yakking. Carol is a ball of energy. When she's not here, she runs a snack cart for kids at sports practices and writes family-fun-safety books like *I Know Where My Kids Are*. She comes here to help out Maria, the buddy she met at writing class.

Maria's an ex-cop. Used to work with the Harbor Police.

A blackboard on the wall says they have a zillion coffees and some breakfast items. Not a lot but enough.

I ask for a large coffee (\$2.00) and check out the possibilities. They have toasted bagels. They have them with butter (\$1.50), cream cheese (\$1.85), peanut butter (\$2.50), and — the best-sounding one — tomato and avocado (\$3.00). A breakfast scramble with eggs, tomatoes, mushrooms, and cheese is a pretty modest \$3.50. The breakfast burrito (a wrapped scramble with guacamole and salsa) is \$4.50. A panini (that same

scramble grilled between two slices of bread) is \$5.00. French toast or pancakes cost around five bucks, depending on how many slices you want. They also have sandwiches for around \$6.00 and a \$4.50 salad.

I go for the French toast, because it sounds the most filling. While Maria's making it, I wander around, thinking about all those cattle-drovers and gold-diggers who must have milled around right about here, 130 years ago. I see art on the walls. Wow. Brilliantly colored pictures made from actual pheasant feathers by a brilliantly named guy, Thoroughgood Wellbee.

Then I sit down to my six-piece French toast and three sausages. I'm still imagining the *rattle-rattle* of the stagecoach and the clop and snort of horses, teamsters yelling at their mule trains, miners clanking their picks and pans, drovers cracking whips at their mooing cattle, right here at — who knew? — Magnolia and Main, the, uh, main gathering point between San Diego and Gold Rush Julian.

But it's no gold rush for Maria. "I've got to make this business work," she says, a little desperately. "I have three kids aged between two and five to raise."

That's when I remember. I was here a few years ago when "B" (Bezuwork), the Ethiopian woman, also a single mom with kids, ran this place with Ethiopian food. She was a character.

"She worked hard for quite a few years, but her family was growing," says Maria. "She had to give it up."

Maria gave up police work for this. And yes, you can see she misses the rush of adrenaline. Soon she's telling us about the fight she had trying to cuff



Maria

this giant fellow she was arresting. The picture of her riding his back like a jockey has us shaking with laughter. I tell her to start writing books like that other San Diego ex-cop, Joseph Wambaugh (remember *Lines and Shadows*?).

That's the thing about Maria's place. The coffee's great, and she does her level best to create interesting food in her microkitchen. But it's the company, and the conversation, and the one-on-one atmosphere that makes Somewhere Else something else again.

Thanks, Hank. I owe you, buddy. ■

The Place: Somewhere Else Coffeehouse & Bookstore, 330 North Magnolia Avenue, El Cajon. 619-441-0480

Type of Food: American

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— Jay McInerney, "How to Impress Your Sommelier, Part One," in *A Hedonist in the Cellar*.

Case in point: Damon Goldstein and his wife Sabrina Bochen opened Truly Fine Wine, an import/distribution/retail operation specializing in German wines, back in December of '06. After their grand opening, they celebrated by repairing to the 3rd Corner for dinner. Recalls Damon, "One of their wine buyers came up and sat next to me, and he said, 'I'm so excited to meet you. Do you have Charta Rieslings?' I looked at him and said, 'How do you know what that is?' Charta is an association of wineries in the Rheingau that create a dry, structured, food-pairing wine. It's more floral in bouquet, with more candied fruits on the palate, but still with wonderful acidity." I'd never heard of Charta before speaking with Damon — and I'm a big fan of Riesling — but the sommelier knew.

The trick is making sure everybody else knows as well. Damon is enamored enough of his product that he's able to ask, "How can there not be

a market for this?" but sensible enough to admit that "the big unknown for us going into this was how the public, the wine-drinking community, was going to perceive us." Still, he has reason for hope: "The U.S. is fast becoming the largest im-

porter of Riesling. Imports are up 28 percent in — I want to say in just the last 12 months." And numbers aside, there's always his own experience.

"I met my wife in 1998 — a 'love at first sight' kind of thing. She's German, and she was here in San Diego for three weeks. Two

weeks later, I was in Germany. I was graduating college, and I said, 'I am in love and I am going to see this girl.' I spent two weeks over there — got to meet her family — and she took me through German wine country. The first tasting was at this small estate in the Rheinhessen; the cellar master was a 90-year-old woman. She took us into her home and tasted us through these wines, and my wife was translating, and I was sitting on the edge of my seat, thinking, 'Oh, my God. I've never had anything like this.' I came back with half a dozen Rieslings. On special occasions, when friends were over for dinner, I'd open one and watch the expressions on their faces. My wife and I married six years ago, and we've kept on traveling back and forth — six bottles turned into two cases, and there was always more interest. I got to watch the excitement build; I got Chardon-

nay drinkers who had no idea of what a real Riesling was. They drank their first glass and they were converted. Friends were asking for this stuff. We knew there was a market for these wines."

Damon had been running a restaurant franchise company with his brother — six Cold Stone Creameries and two Quizno's — and he was burnt out. "You have to know your food cost, or you're subject to 'shrinkage' " — the mysterious disappearance of delicious inventory. "I was working 100-hour weeks, and we had the gamut of awful things happen — armed robberies, assaults." After four years, they decided to sell. "My wife said, 'You've had a little bit of a capital event. What do you want to do with your life?' " It took a while, but eventually, he figured it out: "I wanted to spend more time with her family over in Europe and work with a business model I could embrace, something we could both get into that had some growth opportunity." Hello, Truly Fine Wine. "It just sort of snowballed. I drank a lot of good wine, ate in good restaurants. I wouldn't say that I knew a ton about wine — I've learned a lot in the past year. I look at wine as a lifelong process. It's like golf — you can never get that good at it, you just practice and practice and practice."

Selling the company bought Damon time, which is what he needed to make a startup work. To gain a foothold in an already-niche market, "We wanted to work with lesser-known estates, ones that weren't yet exported to the U.S." That meant research outside of the usual (read: English-language) channels — a job made easier by having a German-speaking spouse. "We'd be on the Internet from six until midnight, reading. We contacted 50 estates. Then we went to Germany and visited 20 of them. Of those 20, we selected 8 to work with initially. And from those 8 estates, we probably tried 200 wines in two and a half weeks." That's what comes of working with pro-



Damon Goldstein and Sabrina Bochen

ducers who can take one varietal — Riesling — and render it in a host of different styles. "Have you tried my Kabinett Fineherb? What about the Spätlese trocken? The Charta? Ah, and here are my dessert Rieslings..."

During their visit, they narrowed the 200 wines to 65. Then they asked for samples to be sent here. "We went through everything, over and over again — we had neighbors come over, we had wine people come over, we had people who knew nothing about wine come over. We'd do a 15-Kabinett tasting, narrow it down to 8, then go buy every Kabinett we could find in town and put those up against ours. That's how we ended up with our initial 35 wines" — running the gamut from Kabinett to Trockenbeerenauslese

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in weight, from bone-dry to raisin-sweet in sugar content, from Riesling to Huxelrebe to Spätburgunder (German Pinot Noir) in varietal. “I have a couple of producers who do traditional, double-fermentation Sekt (sparkling wine), but I thought, ‘What’s the market for German sparkling wine going to be?’ In our first three months of operating, I got asked for it every other day. And I’ve had tons of requests for Gewürztraminer. Once you get going, you can get feedback and make adjustments.”

Initial feedback has been positive. “My wife worked with Sieman’s, and one of their VPs was this amazing German guy. He came in with his wife — they’re German to the core — and they tried the Bles-Ferber Spätlese Trocken and this Hans Lang Spätburgunder. They looked at each other, and this huge smile came cross their faces. They said, ‘You don’t know what this means to us; we can’t find wines like this here.’ They bought a case of each. I didn’t know how dry Spätleses were going to be perceived, but people love it, they love the mouthfeel. We’re bringing in three more on the next order.” The less experienced, meanwhile, are opting for the Bles-Ferber Piesporter Gärtchen. “People who want something a little bit sweeter cling to it. If they’re used to a buttery Chardonnay, this has some of that creamy character.” ■

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

A Little Moore Coffee Shop
1030 North Highway 101, Leucadia,

760-753-8228. How did this place slip by unnoticed for so long? Inside, with its low ceiling and snaky counter, it could be out of an Early California movie. The specials are named after recent local characters: “The Billy” is an omelet with ham, avocado, and cheese, plus home fries or hash browns (or cottage cheese or rice). “The Cindy” is two French toast with two eggs and spuds. A plate of grilled veggies and chicken or beef on a mountain of rice is “The Pablo.” It’s standard but generous fare, a formula that’s kept the place humming since at least the 1950s. Breakfast and lunch, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (1/06)

Azafran 1001 South Coast Highway 101 (at West Street), Oceanside, 760-435-0005. This place just feels Cuban, with its echoey inside, bongos, washed orange walls, and giant Cuban jazz mural. We’re talking Caribbean-style food, not hot by Mexican standards. Most delicious intro: traditional Cuban pressed sandwiches, hot-pressed to mix the juices of, say, smoked ham, roast pork, cheese, mustard, pickles (“Cubano #2”), or roast pork (*lechón*) with a *mojo* (garlicky-citrus) sauce that makes it juicy. The bread, baked right here, is news in itself — crunchy and sometimes sweet (ask for *medianoche*). You get a lot, but don’t leave without trying a plattain dish or the cheese flan. Or a cup of Cuban coffee. Lunch Friday through Sunday, dinner daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (3/04)

Beach House 2530 South Coast Highway 101 (at Lomas Santa Fe), Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-753-1321. This beautiful restaurant, with its breezy seafront patio, is a branch of an upscale beach mini-chain (others are in Dana Point and Laguna Beach). Its main menu features steaks, seafood, and some “Continental” warhorses (lobster thermidor, etc.) that are best avoided. The view is even more spectacular from the upstairs “Top of the House” which features pub grub and fish in a light-house-like setting. On Sundays, local families flock in for the moderately priced à la carte champagne brunch featuring the standard dishes of the genre plus some less-successful fancied-up ones, with endless Freixenet champagne (Wyclef is its house champagne, though). Whatever the meal, stay simple here — burgers, steak, unfussy eggs — and enjoy the atmosphere. Reserve for a view table or outdoor seating at Sunday brunch. Full bar but few wines. \$2 valet parking. Restrooms accessible by elevator, may be tight fit for wider wheelchairs. Daily brunch/lunch and dinner. “Top of the House” serves until 9:30 p.m. in winter and until 11 p.m. in summer. “Early bird” cut-price dinners daily. Brunch moderate, dinner moderate to very expensive. — N.W. (7/03)

Charlie’s by the Sea 2565 South Coast Highway 101, Cardiff-by-the-Sea (a long block south of the spotlight), 760-942-1300. This seaside spot offers a blissful patio right on the breakwater and a terrific, authentic Boston-style clam chowder to match the view — it’s light, creamy, and loaded with clams, unpeeled red potato chunks, and bits of honey-cured bacon. The kitchen’s good with simple dishes, including fresh raw oysters and the lively “Bayou Burger” with Cajun seasonings and well-made

spicy fries. The dinner menu includes more ambitious items, but the weekly main event here is Sunday brunch, with a menu of standard brunch dishes at affordable prices, featuring endless re-fills of champagne. (Hint: Veuve Clicquot it’s not.) Huge wine list, full bar. Free valet parking. Brunch reservations advisable. Monday through Saturday, lunch and dinner; Sunday, brunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. — N.W. (9/03)

Kim’s Restaurant 745 First Street, Lumberyard Shopping Center #103, Encinitas, 760-942-4816. Both Vietnamese and Chinese dishes are offered in a calm atmosphere with quick, pleasant service. The menu lists 265 items, including many Vietnamese house specialties, 28 seafood dishes, and a whopping 45 vegetarian/vegan dishes, many made with *seitan* (mock poultry). The seafood isn’t necessarily fresh catch — some shellfish is evidently obtained frozen, scallops are phosphate-preserved, and the reasonably priced abalone dishes involve slightly chewy, rehydrated dried abalone from Asia. On the other hand, portions are enormous, and the cooking is careful and tasty, although some flavors have evidently been adapted to American palates and ingredients. Open Tuesday through Sunday, continuous service lunch and dinner; closed Monday. Moderate. — N.W. (10/01)

Le Bambou Del Mar Village, 2634 Del Mar Heights Road (turn north on Mango), Del Mar Heights, 858-259-8138. No mere “pho joint,” this lovely restaurant serves the sophisticated Vietnamese cuisine of pre-war Saigon — and the owners’ daughters serve it in the flower-bedecked dining room with grace, intelligence, and evident pleasure in teaching westerners about the cuisine. Appetizers (most of them designed for rolling with fresh herbs in lettuce leaves and eating with your hands) are varied and of superb quality. Few restaurants here do the royal delicacy of “ground shrimp on sugar cane” so well. Most of the house specialty entrées are equally accomplished. Lacqué duck, sautéed shrimps or scallops in tamarind sauce, and “Star of the Sea” curry are outstanding. The gently priced wine list abounds in the fruity whites that go so well with this cuisine, while beer-quaffers can enjoy Vietnam’s own “33” brand. Lunch Tuesday through Friday, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Low moderate. — N.W. (6/05)

Meritage 897 South Coast Highway 101, Lumberyard Shopping Center, Encinitas, 760-634-3350. Chef-owner Susan Sbicca creates pristine California Cuisine here, highlighting fresh (and usually organic) local produce. A few pick hits are direct imports from her Sbicca down the coast — the irresistible lobster-shrimp bisque is pure Del Mar deluxe. But some simpler dishes cleverly complete themselves as you eat them. It’s a fun way to eat, engaging the mind along with the palate. The setting is family-friendly (only well-mannered kids come here) with a handsome, airy dining room and charming patio. Wide-ranging wine list, plenty by the glass and even some half-bottles. No corkage on Tuesday; Monday and Wednesday all bottles half price. Reservations advisable. Lunch and dinner daily, bar menu ongoing.

Moderate to slightly expensive. — N.W. (7/03)

Nobu Japanese Restaurant 315 South Coast Highway 101 (near Dahlia Drive), Solana Beach, 858-755-7787. No, this isn’t the famous fusion-food Nobu of NY, LA, and branches located wherever the money is. Our Nobu has been in the sushi business ten years longer than his namesake, and what he creates is classic non-fusion Japanese sushi and sashimi, with well-seasoned rice, freshly toasted seaweed wrappings, and fresh, fresh seafood. If you’re in the mood for a different sort of grazing, you can settle at a table or booth to nibble on a score of appetizers, including a fine monkfish paté and enchanting *chawan mushi* (egg custard) soup served super hot in the cup it was baked in. The Japanese entrées are standard fare, with plenty for vegetarians. It’s all comfortable, casual, and kid-friendly, with gracious sushi chefs. Nobu himself usually works the bar Friday through Sunday nights. Dinner daily; open weekends until 11 p.m. Large free lot behind restaurant (via Sierra Street, a block west). Mostly moderate; some delicacies expensive. — N.W. (5/05)

Oceanside Cafe 1938 South Coast Highway, Oceanside, 760-722-7337. This little place is as “mom and pop” as they get. “Hi honey. You going to have the usual?” That’s Shannon. They do lunch, with good burgers, but breakfast’s what a lot of folks come for. “Dieter’s Downfall,” a three-egg omelet stuffed with ham, bacon, sausage, tomato, Jack, and Cheddar, is wicked. Two other things to try: the “Sausage of the Week” is made next door at the Red and White Market (anything from bockwurst to French apple-chicken sausage). And the dieter’s real downfall comes with their carrot cake or double chocolate cake — rich, moist, and fresh out of their oven every morning. Breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/03)

101 Cafe 631 South Coast Highway 101, Oceanside, 760-722-5220. This is the oldest li’l eating establishment in Oceanside. Cooks have been flipping burgers here since 1928. The café is named after Route 101, the Pacific Highway. Old-timers remember when everyone from truck drivers to movie stars would stop for a bite before heading on to San Diego and Tijuana. Try the ABC (avocado, bacon, and cheese) Omelet, the 101 Original Cheeseburger with its “secret sauce,” chicken fried steaks with eggs and, of course, the Great Depression dish: biscuits with gravy and home fries. Open daily, three meals until midnight. Inexpensive. — E.B. (3/01)

Samurai Japanese Restaurant Lomas Santa Fe Plaza, Garden Section, 979 Lomas Santa Fe Drive (one block east of I-5), Solana Beach, 858-481-0032. Set in a suburban mall, Samurai is rumored to have the longest sushi bar in California — 50 feet, stretching around 2 walls — with up to 12 chefs. The pure Japanese sushi is made from never-frozen seafood, and the visual side of the art isn’t neglected: The friendly chefs take care to make their compositions look as beautiful as they taste. There’s also a spirit of “something extra” — e.g., not just free *edamame* to nibble, but the *ama ebi* often includes a delicious miso soup made with extra shrimp heads. Addi-

tional dining choices include standard Japanese fare in the pretty dining room, *kaiseki* (prix fixe) dinners in the Tatami Room (for groups of four to fourteen, advance reservations required), or grilled items in the Teppan Room (two people minimum, reservations required). Open weekdays for lunch; dinner served nightly. For sushi, best to arrive early or lateish, as it gets crowded at prime time. Mostly moderate; *kaiseki* and some *teppan* items expensive. — N.W. (5/05)

Sbicca American Bistro 215 15th Street, Del Mar, 858-481-1001. Though characterized as an “American Bistro,” Chef Susan Sbicca (“speeka”) also reveals Asian and Mexican influences in her creative menu. Set in a one-time private home a block from the Del Mar coast, this lively restaurant boasts five dining rooms, including one downstairs with a fireplace and a “wine room” upstairs for private parties. In fair weather, the outdoor rooftop patio is the best seat in the house. The menu changes seasonally, though a few perennial favorites remain. The rich, deeply flavored lobster-shrimp bisque with overtones of sweet butter pastry is worth a return visit. A thick maple-roasted pork prime rib with vanilla-scented sweet potatoes and bourbon chantilly sauce is a house favorite, although not quite as exquisite as the soup. Monday nights feature \$5 martinis; on Tuesdays and Thursdays, all bottles of wine from the fine Californiacentric wine list are 50% off. No corkage fee on Wednesday. Crowded during racing season. Lunch and dinner daily. Expensive. — B.D. (5/05)

Swami’s Cafe 1163 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-944-0612. No coincidence it’s near the famous surf break and the Self-Realization Fellowship compound. You gotta love the very Encinitas vegetarian-spiritual-surfer origins. You eat surrounded by gurgling fountains, wind chimes, wheat grass racks, a rainbow-colored wind sock, and the manager’s 1969 surfer van. There are plenty of standard dishes, like eggs Benedict or black bean burrito, but the big emphasis is health. Try the protein veggie wrap, with avocado, feta cheese, tofu, and mole, or the Indian curry with tofu. Open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (3/04)

NORTH INLAND

Bernard’O Restaurant 12457 Rancho Bernardo Road, Rancho Bernardo Village Shopping Center, 858-487-7171. Ambiance excels here at one of the prettiest restaurants in the county. High ceilings, tall arched windows, rose-cream walls, fireplaces, and charming Gallic paintings make for an eye-fel. Adding to the charm, a harpist plays show tunes on Sundays, and a guitarist performs on Thursdays. The cuisine mingles French classics (for example, mussels with *frites*,) with daily specials offering seasonal Cal-Mediterranean cooking. These dishes seem a little less adventurous than in days of yore, but this is still a place for a gracious meal in a superb surrounding. Lunch Wednesday through Friday, dinner nightly. Expensive. — N.W. (6/04)

Cabana Cove Harrah’s Rincon Casino, Valley Center, 877-777-2457. This fun eatery brings Pacific Beach to Valley Center with its cheerful (make that gorgeous) surfer decor and a menu of classy surfer grub. With glass walls looking out on the mountains and on

two curvy swimming pools, this is the only restaurant in the casino to offer views of the outer world. The eclectic menu, from “surfing spots around the world,” includes wonderful, smoky pork as both a taco and an entrée, plus pristine seafood choices. Full bar, creative cocktails. Breakfast Monday through Friday; lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — N.W. (4/05)

The French Market Grille 15717 Bernardo Heights Parkway, San Diego, 858-485-8055. Ambience is served in generous portions at this romantic establishment with elegant indoor dining or a charming garden setting. The wine list has over 50 selections, including several available by the glass, and the varied menu offers Gallic dishes of duck, lamb, fish, veal, frog legs, and more. Most dishes are served with the usual French cuisine sauces, but if you’re dieting, they’ll gladly omit sauce. Ingredients and execution of the entrées can be inconsistent (e.g., some nights the fish is overcooked or the meat is tough, other nights they’re fine) but the crab-cake appetizer is always outstanding. Save room for dessert, especially the excellent crème brûlée. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Moderate. — S.M. (11/03)

Hernandez’ Hide-Away 19320 Lake Drive (off Del Dios Highway), Escondido, 760-746-1444. The founder of Hernandez’ claims he invented the margarita at his previous restaurant in Bird Rock. True or not, the margaritas (rocks, not slush-ee) are terrific, on a par with Baja’s best. The food, though, is detuned for gringos, with a standard menu of Cal-Mex specialties. Even the guacamole is under-seasoned, but if you like this sort of thing, a pleasant “enchilada pie” is as good as any Midwestern mom’s. The huge bargain-priced brunch on Saturday and Sunday brings in the crowds; reservations urged for weekends to save a long wait. The exterior patio sports a big, funny mural, and the interior is carved into several rooms (helps keep the noise down) camped up with cute “Old West” cantina decor. Weekend brunch; lunch and dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W. (7/04)

Jimbo’s, Naturally! 12853 El Camino Real, Carmel Valley, 858-793-7755 (also in Escondido and Carlsbad). Jimbo — and there is a real Jimbo — started out selling healthy eating with the famous OB Co-op. Now he has these organic palaces of his own. Inside the Carmel Valley branch, it’s high ceilings and lots of color — yellow, purple, white — with all the ducts and pipes exposed like in a giant submarine. The deli bulges with cheese, hams, burritos, wraps, and an elaborate salad bar. At the juice counter they grind carrots and wheat grass and organic coffee. A “hot case” counter offers all kinds of ricey, tabbouleh-type preparations. Best deals are usually the daily specials. Try Seitan stew (a high-protein, low-fat meat substitute) or Shelton’s Jerk Turkey in Fig Sauce, served with organic mashed potatoes, gravy, and steamed vegetables. — E.B. (10/04)

Mille Fleurs 6009 Paseo Delicias, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-756-3085. One of the area’s top destination restaurants, Bertrand Hug’s beautiful room with beautiful food draws “the beautiful people” — Hollywood honchos, high-end high school graduation parties, and a steady influx of rarefied Rancho Santa Fe residents flaunting huge twinkling rocks. The daily-changing menu sports first-rate modern French cuisine (with a few German touches) by long-time

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Sat. 4:00-10:00 pm • Sun. 2:00-9:00 pm

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chef Martin Woesle. Order at will — everything's flawless. The menu's most exciting on weeknights, when crowds are sparser and the the kitchen has time to stretch. The wine list is fabulous but exorbitant even at the bottom. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Reservations recommended. Very, very expensive. — *N.W. (5/01)*

Onami Japanese Restaurant 240 East Via Rancho Parkway, North County Fair, Escondido, 760-738-7522. This Japanese buffet offers everything from miso soup and sukiyaki to a host of salads, including several variations of *sumomono* (cucumber salad). Then there are teriyakis, sashimis, and a plethora of sushi rolls. Among the winners are the California roll with *masago*, tempura shrimp roll, guacamole roll, and Philadelphia roll. Skip the dry egg rolls and head for the corn crab cakes, teriyaki chicken, tempura shrimp, and veggies. Desserts offer fresh fruits, bite-size cake options, and go-back-for-seconds green tea ice cream. The food is fresh, the presentation artful, and the staff friendly and efficient. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Expensive. — *S.M. (8/04)*

Wine Sellar and Brasserie 9550 Waples Street #115, Mira Mesa, 858-450-9557. The French-continental food is a delight to the palate. Lunch on Saturday served by itself or in conjunction with wine tasting. Regular lunch and dinner Thursday and Friday. Reservations recommended for Saturday wine tasting. Call for directions. — *E.W.*

LA JOLLA

Cafe Japengo The Aventine, 8960 University Center Lane, La Jolla, 858-450-3355. Here Bentleys and Beamers far outnumber Buicks. Inside is contemporary with an Asian flair, complete with kimono stands and bamboo forests. Sushi is the specialty, and it's above average, although the sushi bar chefs aren't very friendly, and the seasoned rice tastes quite salty. The highly prized fatty tuna (*toro*) and flying fish *roe tobiko* are offered when available. Otherwise, they may be replaced by smelt *roe, masago*, which may be a minor disappointment. However, the *uni* (sea urchin roe) is pristine. If you appreciate subtlety, try the egg-omelet sushi (*tamago*), a delightful mixture of eggs, sake, and mirin. Creative party rolls are especially popular here, including the amusing Tootsie Roll — sweet and spicy, crunchy and spongy, with fried soft shell crab topped with grilled shitake mushrooms, avocado, and a sake marinade. Entrées are often a letdown, but diners may be satisfied to make a meal from appetizers like the Char Su Duck Salad with goat cheese, candied pecans, and pomegranate vinaigrette; Duck Wontons with coriander pesto and *ponzu* sauce; and an excellent kimchi martini. No reservations for the sushi bar; arrive early for prompt seating. Lunch weekdays only; sushi bar opens at 5 p.m.; dinner begins at 6 p.m. Very expensive. — *B.D. (10/05)*

Cliff Hanger Cafe Torrey Pines Gliderport, 2800 Torrey Pines Scenic Drive, La Jolla, 858-452-9858. "You should never leave the ground on an

empty stomach," says the sign near the cliff, which is where this café hangs. What is it like to be at the Café at the End of the World? You sit, munch, and watch men becoming birdmen, jumping off the cliff beside you. The view of the Pacific Ocean is spectacular. But, hey, grub's good too. Try the Launch (a breakfast burrito with scrambled eggs, bacon, cheese, onions, bell peppers, and salsa). Also great and grilled right there: generous half-pound hamburgers. Open daily for breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (1/06)*

Roppongi 875 Prospect Street (at Fay), La Jolla, 858-551-5252. The hard part is deciding whether to sit in the drop-dead gorgeous interior or to people-watch on the large, heated street patio. Then you have to decide what to eat from the long Euro-Asian fusion menu, with its vast choice of tapas and sushi options, as well as entrées. At lunch there are several imaginative sandwiches and appetizers. Reservations highly recommended at dinner. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Some tapas and sushi rolls are inexpensive, but if you enjoy grazing the bill can mount quickly. Entrées are expensive. — *N.W. (3/04)*

Roy's 8670 Genesee Avenue, Costa Verde Center (across from UTC), La Jolla, 858-455-1616. Our own noisy outpost of top Hawaii chef Roy Yamaguchi's ever-expanding chain has elements of both "top chef" and "chain" about it. Decoding Roy's Rules of Ordering can make the difference between a mediocre dinner and a very happy meal: 1. Steer clear of combination platters — the same dishes come off much better when ordered separately; 2. You can get any element of a combo by asking for it; 3. Don't waste your palate (or money) on weak umbrella drinks when the wine list is brilliant. The menu changes daily, but some frequent tasty choices are pot stickers, *lumpia* "Kahana," or chocolate soufflé. Special dietary requests accommodated, including vegetarian meals. Reserve, and hope for a table far from the raucous bar. Open nightly. Very expensive. — *N.W. (4/01)*

Sky Room Top floor of La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-0771. (Closed for renovations, set to reopen mid-April.) The stunning ocean view offers three essentials for a memorable evening: privacy, intimacy, and the ability to talk without the interruption of noise. The food is a feast to the eyes as well as the palate. Best bets: abalone and scallop steak appetizer, the daily soup, diver scallops, and lobster. Dinner only, with two seatings on weekends. Very expensive. — *E.W. (10/99)*

MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

Bali Thai Café 407 South Camino del Rio South (dead end, west of Auto Circle and Mission Center Road), San Diego, 619-297-0800. Expect the unexpected! This tiny, unique restaurant splits its menu between three nations with chefs from Indonesia and Thailand and a chef-owner from Suriname, a former Dutch colony (like Indone-sia) in South America. The Thai menu is standard, although the *tom kha koong*

(shrimp in coconut milk soup) is outstandingly authentic (don't eat the stuff at the bottom of the bowl!), while the richly tropical Indonesian dishes are so rare locally that culinary adventurers will want to explore such delights as "seafood delight roll," corn fritters, the soothing *soto ayam* (the Indonesian version of chicken-noodle comfort soup), Balinese fish filet, and the spicy *sambal goring* (shrimp in chili sauce), among others. Short but smart wine list, beer, sake. Easy evening parking. Heated, roofed patio. Large portions. Reserve for weeknights, no reservations accepted for weekends. Tuesday through Sunday, lunch and dinner. Low moderate. — *N.W. (4/06)*

Emerald Chinese Seafood Restaurant Pacific Gateway Plaza, 3709 Convoy Street (at Aero Drive), 1st floor, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-6888. Arguably the best Chinese restaurant in the county, here's where local Asians (of all nations) go for both casual family dinners and special feasts of Hong Kong specialties. When you dig in, you'll know why. Menu (trilingual in Chinese, Vietnamese, and English) emphasizes seafood and gourmet delicacies of the South China coast, plus lunchtime dim sum carts daily. The staff is bilingual and crisply helpful, and the specialties are well worth exploring. Reservations accepted for all meals, including weekend dim sum brunches. Few dishes include MSG; diners can request none in made-to-order dishes. Live fish tanks, full bar, serviceable wine list. Mainly moderate, with moderate splurges like live fish and Peking duck easily balanced by inexpensive down-home dishes (unless you insist on shark fin or bird's nest). Open daily from lunch until midnight or later. — *N.W. (9/02)*

Korea House 4620 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-560-0080. Korea House offers floor seating or a table if you want to barbecue your own food. The menu offers fine "down-home" Korean food, such as traditional *mandoo* (beef) dumplings, and *yookhiwe*, a steak tartare worth risking. Make a meal from enormous appetizers like *gul bosam* (raw oysters, pork, and cabbage leaves). Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *M.N. (9/98)*

94th Aero Squadron 8885 Balboa Avenue, Kearny Mesa, 858-560-6771. One of San Diego's hidden jewels: there's classic American fare (stuffed pork tenderloin, farmhouse chicken) in the "Officers' mess." Happy hour is weekdays from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Fridays, the outside "Runway" grill features kebabs. The biggest attraction is the place itself. Built to mimic a WWI French farmhouse taken over by a bunch of Yankee flying aces, it has a garden full of antique planes and live ducks — and right outside, the real Montgomery airfield. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Nijiya Market 3860 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-268-3821. If you're not willing to sacrifice quality for convenience when eating fast food, try this Japanese market in Kearny Mesa. Nijiya Market offers prepared box lunches, or *bento*, that are pretty to look at, appetizing, and a real bargain. I suggest, however, passing by Nijiya's steam trays and heat lamps and going straight to the coolers, where you'll find delicious chicken cutlets, fresh sushi, and

chilled noodles, as well as dessert delicacies like sweet bread roll filled with sweet bean paste. Inexpensive. — *M.N. (8/99)*

Pampas Argentine Grill 8690 Aero Drive (at Montgomery Field), Kearny Mesa, 858-278-5971. The Argentine specialties feature grilled grass-fed beef, including a somewhat Americanized version of the *gauchos'* great *parillada mixta* (mixed grill), with a great chorizo but minus any exotic organs. The naturally raised meats are lower fat and lower cholesterol than feed-lot beef but are salted heavily in the kitchen unless you request otherwise. Specify rare or medium-rare, unless you really like brown cardboard. Lighter fare includes free-range chicken and fresh, well-treated seafood. Beef empanadas are a tasty, authentic starter. Potatoes (fries and mashed) are splendid, salads are exuberant. The full bar features Chilean and Argentine beverages with many affordable South American wines by the glass. Park in lot at restaurant's front door, not the back-door lot. Lunch (mainly sandwiches) on weekdays. Dinner nightly. Entertainment (harp) Friday through Sunday. Closed Monday. Moderate. — *N.W. (4/02)*

THE BEACHES

Baleen Paradise Point Resort, 1404 Vacation Road (off Ingraham Street), Mission Bay, 858-490-6364. Take a quick trip to chic Miami at the local branch of Florida's famed new resort restaurant. Whimsical tropical decor features a monkey motif (carved in the chandeliers, peeking from the paintings) and mambos play on the speakers. But the unlisted prices for chilled shellfish may make a monkey of you unless you ask before you buy. The menu features high-quality seafood and land creatures in refined renditions including gorgeous lobster bisque, herbed sea bass, and a hunk of free-range veal. Servers are charmers. The wine list is long and rather steep at the bottom end with better values farther up the range. Reservations recom-

mended. Very expensive. — *N.W. (12/00)*

The Bar-B-Que House 5025 Newport Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-4311. OB's piling in, and for good reason: the chicken and ribs are smoked on an oakwood fire, then char-broiled. Beef, pork, and ham spend eight to ten hours in the smoker. Of course, they have pork ribs. A good-value combo is the Southern-Style sandwich — beef, pork, ham, or chicken with coleslaw inside, along with a sauce that's just right: sweet, tangy, spicy. Most original idea? A BBQ burrito with meat, baked beans, coleslaw, and sauce wrapped in a flour tortilla. Expanded menu includes gyros. Open seven days, breakfast through dinner; till 9:30 p.m. weeknights; 10:30 p.m. weekends. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (3/04)*

Island Prime 880 Harbor Island Drive, Harbor Island, 619-298-6802. Deborah (Kemo Sabe) Scott is the chef and co-owner (with the Cohn Restaurant Group, owners of many San Diego restaurants) at this high-end steakhouse with a bay view. The steaks and roast beefs are delicious, as you'd expect, but also enjoy creative appetizers and sides like shaved corn with black truffle and a seared ahi stack. Salt runs freely, and the excellent international wine list runs high. Do reserve; free parking. Open daily, dinner only. Very expensive. — *N.W. (5/06)*

Kono's 704 Garnet Avenue (on the boardwalk), Pacific Beach, 858-483-1669. This inside-outside café is your prototypical California surfer hangout. It's cream and green with maroon canvas window canopies, red-painted make-believe shutters, and three surfboards sprouting through the roof. On weekends, lines of tourists come looking for their California fix. But Kono's is known among locals, too, for generous breakfasts. Check out their PBS: Pancakes, Bacon and Scrambled eggs. Or the breakfast sandwich with eggs, bacon, cheese, and tomato on a toasted English muffin. Or the CB Burger (chicken breast, green chili, and pica sauce). Best time: foggy mornings. Chow down on their patio on the pier while you enjoy a birds-eye view of

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surfers appearing out of the mists below. Breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/00)*

Mardi Gras Cafe 3185 Midway Drive (near Rosecrans and East Street, in mini-mall with a 7-11, across the street from Godfather Pizza), Loma Portal, 619-223-5501. The Creole cooking at this café/grocery, to eat in, take out, or have catered for your next party, is sound and tasty, if deliberately underseasoned (just add salt and hot sauce to taste). You can also buy the real and rare ingredients from the freezer, deli case, and grocery shelves, including Cajun *tasso* (spiced ham), *boudin blanc* (rice sausage), and crawfish sausage when it's in season. Daily brunch through early dinner. No alcohol, everything available for takeout. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (2/01)*

MZM Seacoast Bistro 875 Seacoast Drive, Imperial Beach, 619-424-5800. If you can make it past the bland exterior, you'll discover a well-disguised classy joint inside. A harbinger of a new I.B.? Interior is all peach-colored walls, trendy blue scone wall lights, tweedy booths, and photos of owners Marek and Zofia Migdalski with people like President Bush, Lloyd Bentsen, Sam Donaldson, and Joan Kroc. Migdalski is a recognized private chef who has decided to put I.B. on the gastronomic map. Breakfast, available Saturday and Sunday, tends to be simple but sophisticated, like frittata with



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Calendar RESTAURANTS

Polish sausage, prime rib steak and eggs, or scrambled eggs with smoked salmon. Burgers at lunch are often lamb sirloin. Dinner can be anything, including filet mignon or flatiron steak. Reservations recommended. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (6/04)

Sapporo Japanese Restaurant 5049 Newport Avenue (by the pier), Ocean Beach, 619-222-6686. It's small, but Sapporo has big deals, particularly the lunch specials that usually give you a miso soup, salad, and a combo such as chicken teriyaki and California rolls and white rice — all presented like a piece of performance art. Other specials include *yaki soba* (stir-fried sautéed chicken, vegetables, and noodles) and *champion* noodle soup (*udon* noodles, scallops, shrimp, vegetables), and the value-packed Chicken Bowl — a big plate of sliced chicken, broccoli, other vegetables, and a swag of rice. Dinner daily, lunch daily except Monday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (9/01)

CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

Antique Row Cafe 3002 Adams Avenue (at 30th Street), Normal Heights, 619-282-9750. (Also in Lemon Grove.) Antique-land's favorite eatery is a serious exhibit in its own right, especially if you're into sports memorabilia. Look for signed photos of Mickey Mantle, Ted Williams, and Joe DiMaggio (all googly-eyed with Marilyn) on the walls. The word for the food: generous. All-day breakfast dishes include "The Works" omelet, stuffed with bacon, sausage, ham, bell peppers, onions, tomatoes, and cheese bulging over a big oval plate along with skins-on breakfast potatoes. "Philly Steak Heaven" (you choose: steak, ham, or turkey) is one of the more popular lunchtime dishes. Open daily, 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (10/01)

Asia Cafe 4710 Market Street (at 47th Street), Chollas View, 619-527-1917. May be Asian San Diego's best-kept secret. You have to look behind the smog shop at this all-Laotian shopping center to find it. The menu's Southeast Asian, but the owner — and most of the conversation around you — is Lao. Lao dishes include the famous *larb-kai* (chicken salad with hot peppers, lemon grass, and sticky rice). Good regional alternatives: *bamee* (egg noodle) roasted pork soup, Crying Tiger (ground beef salad with vegetables), and *lard nar* (seafood, beef, or pork with sloppy wide noodles and vegetables). Closed Tuesday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (10/01)

Magnolias Market Creek Square, 342 Euclid (off Market), Lincoln Park, 619-262-6005. If you're looking for an authentic Louisiana-style feast, this is the best place in town. Bessie Johnson (of the once-famed Bessie's Garret) is back in business, and mouths are rejoicing. At her handsome, spacious restaurant, you'll find generous hospitality, huge portions, and a long, delicious menu of Cajun, Creole, and soul food specialties. The fried chicken is beyond compare, the jambalaya well-nigh perfect, and the BBQ shrimp, crawfish bisque, and étouffée are splendid. Great side dishes include candied sweet potatoes and cornbread dressing. No takeout (except leftovers). Full bar. Lunch and dinner six days; closed Mondays. Low moderate. — *N.W.* (2/05)

Mama's Bakery and Lebanese Deli 4237 Alabama Street, North Park, 619-688-0717. You'll remember this lovely little place for two reasons. One, the atmosphere: It's a tiny kitchen attached to an old red-and-green wooden house, with tables and green umbrellas on the sloping sidewalk and also inside a shelter of bougainvillea, green canvas, metal mesh, and white brick. Two, their *saji*. It's a round Lebanese oven of ancient design which cooks the delicious flat bread (also called *saji*) that goes with pretty much everything, including baba ghanoush ("sweet daddy" eggplant dip) and *fool madamas* (fava and garbanzo bean stew). Gotta-haves

include beef *shawerma* wrap or falafel wrap and a meat pie unlike any you've had before. A lovely bonus: fresh Lebanese baklava and a little pot of thick, sweet, black Arabic coffee. Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday to Friday, weekends until 4 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (12/05)

Pizzeria Luigi 1137 25th Stet (at C Street), Golden Hill, 619-233-3309. They claim to make real New York pizza in this tiny storefront and they're not lying. One of the owners is from Brooklyn and his origins are written all over the pies. The sauce tastes right and the crusts are thin enough that you can fold a slice into a "V" to eat on the run, New Yorker style. But it's better to take home a whole pie with your choice of toppings (or a stromboli or calzone) and enjoy it at leisure. Inexpensive. — *N.W.* (7/04)

Sang Dao 4212 National Avenue, Logan Heights, 619-263-0914. Laos has an exotic Shangri-La thing about it, yet the large family that runs this eatery will tell you Lao food is quite plain and simple: vegetables, freshwater fish, chicken, pork, occasional beef, sticky rice, and noodles. But taste their delicious spicy catfish and you're right back at exotic. Thai basil, garlic, and most of all, the gingery *galanga*, a.k.a. "Laos root," help make it unfishy. Other must-trys: BBQ beef, *som yum* (papaya salad), and especially the spicy salad with minced meat called *larb* — closest thing to the national dish. The surroundings here may be homey, but not the excellent cuisine. "Sang Dao"? It means "Star Light." Open 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. six days, closed Monday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (3/04)

Tioli's Crazy Burger 4201 30th Street (at Howard, across from Vons), North Park, 619-282-6044. Cheap eats can be great eats when made by people who care — like charming owner "Wolfie" and European-trained chef Lothar. The place looks like a dive, but inside you'll find creative, made-to-order burgers from beef to buffalo, gator, and ostrich (delicious!), and even fish and veggies — each with its own individualized seasonings and sauce, plus salads and flavorful German-style bratwursts. Even the turkey burger is juicy here. Try the house-made "Texas" beans and the house-made mustard and chipotle ketchup. Specialty and regular beers; affordable wines. Parking lot behind restaurant on Howard. Restroom is not wheelchair accessible. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W.* (5/06)

Vagabond Kitchen 2310 30th Street (Fern at Juniper), South Park, 619-255-4373 or 619-255-1035. Seasonal "world food" filtered through a Gallic sensibility, plus worldwide wines and tropical cocktails. Menu changes often, but don't miss the classic *moules-frites* or the deep-flavored Peruvian *seco de carne* meat stew. The tiny, painfully noisy dining room, decorated with exotic souvenirs of the owners' global travels, is perpetually SRO, so dinner reservations are a must for any night. Evening crowd of hip South Park locals; lunch crowd dressed for success. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — *N.W.* (7/06)

EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA

Brothers Family Restaurant 5150 Waring Road (at Orcutt Avenue), Allied Gardens, 619-287-0880. Yes, it looks boring on the outside. Brick, reflective glass. But go in and you're surrounded by brothers: John and Bobby Kennedy, Hugh Grant and his brother Jamie, the Wright Brothers, the Blues Brothers, the Brothers Rico. They're there because this place used to be run by three brothers. Good old-fashioned cholesterol city rules here with no apologies, and the locals appreciate it. It's like a *Cheers* for eating. All the staples are served: country-fried steak and eggs, pork chops with eggs, Grandma Jennie's pancakes with ham, bacon, and sausage — even hefty beef or tuna or turkey sandwiches with soup. Open seven days for breakfast and lunch, with early dinner Wednesday to Friday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (11/04)

Charley's Famous Hamburgers and Kebobs 8312 Broadway (at Sweetwater Road), Lemon Grove,

619-460-2690. When you spot an old red-and-white gas station that looks like a café, don't hesitate. That's Charley's. The palm and ficus trees have replaced the gas pumps and a fountain now gurgles where the air hoses used to be. The menu is a long list of hamburgers, as well as hot dogs, sandwiches, and kebobs. Mostly take-out, but you can dine out at their picnic tables under bougainvillea. Open daily, three meals. — *E.B.* (12/01)

D.Z. Akin's 6930 Alvarado Road, Alvarado Plaza, College Area, 619-265-0218. Surely the best Jewish delicatessen in San Diego. Soups are wonderful, and so are the 110 sandwiches, especially the corned beef. The *knishes* and chopped liver easily rival Mother's. Excellent breakfasts and outstanding, fully stocked bakery. Open daily, breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.W.*

Fix Me a Plate Cafe 9168 Fletcher Parkway (next to Souplantation), La Mesa, 619-466-6084. Chef-owner Jimmy Pomier was executive chef at the great Juke Joint Cafe, and now he's got his own place to serve up whopping portions of authentic Cajun and Louisiana-style soul food. His oyster po' boy is (as France's Michelin Guide might say) "worth a detour," as good as it gets this far away. His gumbo is eccentric; his deep-fried chicken gizzards with aioli are fun. His delicious étouffés are among the highlights of the long menu (on which not all dishes are available all the time). Skimpy wine and beer selection, and BYOB is strictly forbidden, but the lemonade is okay. Lunch and dinner Tuesday through Sunday (with break between on weekends). Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.* (2/06)

4.0 Deli Aztec Shopping Center, 5844 Montezuma Road, 619-281-4040. This low-ceilinged, dark, student sandwich hangout gets the frat house crowd, lurking them in with draft beers and big Buds that go for a song. Pitchers too, if you buy sandwiches with them, and the sandwiches are no dull lunch-counter fare. Try the Montezuma, a toasted sub with grilled chicken cutlets, chorizo, Monterey Jack, and a "kick-butt southwestern dressing." Or Grilled Rivas, named after a much-loved Colombian who worked here: grilled turkey, Monterey Jack, grilled onions, and peppers. Check specials like the Buffalo Bleu, with grilled roast beef, bacon, red onions, bleu cheese, and Tabasco. The owners had a full-scale deli in New York, so this range is no surprise. Open daily, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (3/04)

Jasmine Bistro Westfield Plaza, 315 Parkway Plaza (at Fletcher and the 67 Freeway), El Cajon, 619-588-8228. A gleaming little architectural jewel surrounded by the big white boxes of its mall, Jasmine Bistro is a spin-off of the well-known Jasmine Hong Kong Seafood Restaurant on Convoy. By day, the fare centers on fresh, expertly made Chinese dim sum (elaborate finger-food) offered both by cart and by menu. At night, with a reservation, a fresh crew of multiethnic chefs step in to cook up a Pan-Asian panoply, so if you're in the mood for Mandarin and your date wants Thai, no problem. Unfortunately, eaters in this suburban milieu won't stand for too much authenticity, so sophisticated diners may find the fare a little dumbed-down. Mainly California wine list suggests wine pairings for the food; numerous Asian beers, fruity drinks. Reserve for weekend dinners. Daily brunch/lunch through early dinner (until 9 p.m.). Mainly moderate (except for some special entrées). — *N.W.* (5/04)

FAR EAST

Kountry Kitchen 826 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-3200. Thank goodness the Kountry Kitchen's still around. They still open at 5 a.m. for the farmers and anyone else who's up then. The Italian Sausage Breakfast is truly delicious: a fat pale-brown sausage with a rich, sharp, livery flavor, along with eggs and hash browns. Up there, too, is the Cowpoke Country Special, a buttermilk short stack with eggs and sausages or bacon. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (5/02)

La Casa Del Zorro Borrego Springs Drive (five miles south of Palm Canyon

Drive at Yaqui Pass Road), Borrego Springs, 760-767-5323. La Casa Del Zorro is Borrego Springs' most renowned and ambitious restaurant, set in a deluxe resort five miles south of town. (Drive through the parking lots until you reach the fenced swimming pool; the restaurant's small, dimly marked door is just to the left.) The menu offers elaborate seafood appetizers (out here in the desert) and entrées with fine, subtle sauces, fresh veggies from nearer the coast, and rather mild-flavored, exquisitely tender meats, evidently chosen to be gentle to the denures of the duffers. Desserts are few and very sweet. Full bar; great (but pricey) wine list. Reserve for weekend evenings. Open daily. Very expensive. — *N.W.* (4/03)

The Olde Homestead Fudge Factory The Center, 590 Palm Canyon Drive (north side of the street), Borrego Springs, 760-767-7782. The Fudge Factory's greatest dish is not what it's named for, and some of its pick hits aren't fudge, either. Of the 24 flavors of housemade fudge, barely a half dozen are available on any given day. The chocolate walnut is especially delicious, but the real masterpiece when in season is the "date shake" — a cold quaff that's ambrosial on a hot afternoon. Then, too, this is one of the few spots in town with an espresso machine. Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., closed Monday. Inexpensive. — *N.W.* (4/03)

UPTOWN & OLD TOWN

Arrividerci Italian Restaurant 3845 Fourth Street, Hillcrest, 619-299-6282. However you picture an idealized Italian restaurant — sprawling café on the strada or little cozy corner as in *Moonstruck* — somehow Arrividerci is it. The straight-from-Rome look of the crowded sidewalk deck and yellow-and-white-awning helps. The menu is a big yet familiar regional potpourri. Reliable standards include *vittello bel monte* (veal in a brandy cream sauce with tomatoes), "straw and hay" (*paglio e fieno al pesto*), pale yellow-and-green pasta with string beans and pine nuts in a delicious pesto sauce, or shellfish pasta dishes like linguine *mediterraneo*, with clams, mussels, and big garlicky shrimp. Part of the fun is bumping chairs. Think dining car on a narrow-gauge railroad — you're that close to the next table. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — *E.B.* (7/04)

Berta's Latin American Restaurant 3928 Twiggs Street (at Congress, diagonal to Rockin' Baja Lobster), Old Town, 619-295-2343. Sampling the whole range of little-known cuisines from Guatemala down to Patagonia, Berta's lengthy menu reads like a culinary "pick hits" list of each country's best flavors, typically rendered with expertise and verve. Some outstanding dishes include sweet-savory Chilean *pastel de choclo* (a casserole of beef, chicken, and corn pudding) from Berta's homeland, spicy ceviche and subtle *seco de cordero* (ciderus-flavored lamb stew) from Peru, earthy Guatemalan *chilemal* (cilantro-laden pork stew), aromatic beef curry from Trinidad, and a sensuous *vatapa* (seafood in coconut sauce) from Brazil's African-influenced Bahia coast. Vegetarians will find many meat-and-fowl-free options. Open for lunch and dinner; closed Monday. Moderate. — *N.W.* (4/01)

California Cuisine 1027 University (between Tenth Avenue and Vermont), Hillcrest, 619-543-0790. Tod Atcheson is now the chef of this long-lived neighborhood restaurant. Following house tradition, the menu is printed daily and the dishes are chosen according to the harvest and catch of the moment. Still, you can usually count on finding a relatively authentic Caesar salad, a huge and exuberantly garnished bourbon-brined Neiman Ranch pork chop, and irresistible grilled Asian barbecued jumbo shrimp. A summertime special of fresh corn and mussel bisque shouldn't be missed if it's on the menu. There's some day-to-day inconsistency, but a preponderance of deliciousness. Save room for pastry chef Lauren Huffman's outstanding, adventurous desserts. Comfortable atmosphere, but interior gets loud when busy. A heated garden patio surrounding a fountain offers romantic al fresco feasting. Din-

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ner nightly. Moderate to expensive. — N.W. (9/04)

Crest Cafe 425 Robinson Avenue (at Fifth Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-295-2510. "Hearty Homemade Comfort Food" is the boast, and this small retro-deco café backs it up. Cecelia and her dad, Luis Moreno, took over this place back in 1985. Some staff have been here since the start. Loyal customers get their photos and names on an honor roll that fills one wall. Lots of lazy ceiling fans, long, hanging blue lights, and art. "Matisse in Morocco," Salvador Dali, Frida Kahlo. Consider momsy dishes like Sloppy Joes, honey-glazed pork chops, or the healthy Vegetable Steam Basket. And don't turn down their 11 different kinds of burgers, including the Fresh Salmon Burger, the OuiOui Burger ("aged bleu cheese crumbled under melted jack cheese") or the wicked, spicy Butter Burger (half a pound of lean ground beef stuffed with garlic, tarragon, basil, parsley butter, topped with cheese, garlic-paprika-cayenne-cumin mayo and more butter). Best of all, late hours: open 7 a.m. to midnight, seven days. Dinner at 11 is no problem. How rare is that in San Diego? Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/02)

Indian Princess 3925 Fourth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-5011. You walk in through a gold-and-red entrance. Inside it's all cream cloth-covered tables, vases with fresh flowers, teak chairs that look like giant cellos, silver art objects. This is classy. The deal here is to catch the daily lunch buffet, 20 items of interesting and fresh-tasting Northern Indian dishes like tandoori chicken or chicken *tikki masala*, *navratan korma* (veggies with nuts in cream sauce), or *keema muttar* (minced lamb curry with spices and peas). All for an un princely sum (dinner is more expensive). Don't miss the wonderful tamarind chutney. Inexpensive (buffet), moderate to expensive (à la carte dinners). — E.B. (1/06)

Kazumi Sushi 3975 Fifth Avenue (at Washington), Suite 120, Hillcrest, 619-682-4054. A simple neighborhood sushi bar offering imaginative rolls, each one so distinctively seasoned that there's no need to mar the pretty fish-scapes with wasabi dip. The fish is super-fresh and includes salmon that Kazumi-san cold-smokes himself. For a family-style dinner, "The Ultimate Boat" (serving two or more) is an encyclopedia of Japanese specialties, a huge platter of sushi, *gyoza*, assorted appetizers, yakitori, teriyaki, and terrific tempura. Need comfort food? The tempura also graces the top of a satisfying bowl of *nabeyaki udon* (noodle soup) with an onion-sweet broth. With just a small staff of family members in the kitchen and house, expect a wait for food at busy times. Dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W. (10/00)

Kung Food Express Cafe 2949 Fifth Avenue (at Quince), uptown, 619-298-7302. These guys really try to be green. They have a "100-percent plant-based menu," give their food waste to farmers to compost, and even try to use biodegradable cutlery, plates, and bowls. They have a "live" food section (meaning raw, so enzymes survive), plus vegan and vegetarian items. One great-looking lunch offering is the collar wrap, a big green collard leaf wrapped around a mix of cashews, agave, agave nectar, alfalfa, cilantro, mango, red cabbage, and avocado. Also good are the dishes using steamed quinoa — the Incas' mother grain — plus curried veggies, and beans with Soyriso. Nice courtyard with native grasses, climbing vines, white umbrellas. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (6/06)

The Mission 2801 University Avenue, North Park, 619-220-8992 (also in Mission Beach and East Village). "Urban assault food for a revolutionary people," say the wait staff's black T-shirts. But the food here is less revolutionary than halfway between health-nut and greasy spoon. Still, their "conscientious cuisine" is generous, good-looking, and intelligent, if a little middle-class timid. Breakfasts are big here. The delicious chicken-apple sausage and eggs comes on a foot-wide plate loaded with unskinned rosemary potatoes, scrambled eggs, and scrumptious baked-on-the-spot rosemary bread. Pancakes and French cinnamon toast are popular staples, as is the Zen Breakfast (scrambled egg whites, braised tofu, brown rice, with veggies).



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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

The roast beef hash can be chewy. Check out the “Chino-Latino” dishes (lunch only) like the mild-but-still-delicious ginger sesame tofu with brown rice and peanut sauce, which comes with a plethora of jicama-type veggies. The interior has an arty, post-industrial, coffee house feel. Open daily, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (4/05)*

Ortega's, A Mexican Bistro 141 University Avenue (at Third Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-692-4200. Owned by a member of the Ortega family, the Puerto Nuevo lobster pioneers, this is the Baja restaurant group's first north-of-the-border venture. You'll find Baja-style cuisine featuring seafood and grilled foods, with a focus on lobster. Unlike the typical Ortega's, the lobster isn't deep-fried before grilling — an improvement in tenderness and flavor. Of course, the crustacean's best in season (October to February). Fish ceviche makes a good starter course. Other choices include small tacos, steaks, kebabs, etc., plus the standard Puerto Nuevo side dishes — stewed (not refried) beans, and an oddly bland guacamole fixed tableside. Full bar; fun margaritas including almond and pomegranate variations. Reservations recommended for weekends. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Mainly moderate (lobsters and Kobe skirt steak expensive). — *N.W. (8/05)*

Picasso Spanish Restaurant 3923 Fourth Avenue (near University Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-294-3061. Interesting Spanish tapas and entrées are served in a small, modern, art-filled room that draws a casual neighborhood crowd. The regional style is Basque, from Northern Spain, but these aren't the tiny *pinxos* of that area — in fact, these bites are larger than usual, sized generously for two eaters. Some top tapas include chicken-stuffed *empanadillas*, baby eels in garlic sauce, stuffed greenlip mussels, and

an outstanding paella (available as both a tapa and entrée). Moderate. — *N.W. (6/01)*

Soltan Banoo Persian Eatery & Tearoom 4646 Park Boulevard (at Adams Avenue), University Heights, 619-298-2801. It's colorful, small, and intimate. This two-room café pulsates with multicolored cloths, midnight blue cushions, Aladdin-shaped pitchers and samovars. What you're eating is basically Persian health food — most Persian fare is healthy food anyway. Try the pomegranate soup, made of spinach with lentils, beans, wheat, and pomegranate juice, or the strawberry tabbouleh salad. Lamb is often a part of dishes. *Ghourmeh sabzi* is a lamb stew. *Koufteh-Berenji* is a ball of basmati rice with lamb, eggs, onions, and plums. The selection of teas includes Caspian, decaffeinated peach, and a few others. Lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/02)*

Whole Foods Market 711 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-294-2800. For vegetarians on the go, Whole Foods' prepared food section will feed you better — and faster — than any vegetarian restaurant in town. Outstanding selections include the green chili and cheese polenta, the Emerald Mushrooms salad, and especially the *farofa* salad — it's like American stuffing, but it's couscous studded with almonds, fat raisins, thin strips of scrambled egg, and bits of carrot and bell pepper. Whole Foods' vegetarian meals will tempt any meat-eater with their delicious originality. La Jolla branch at 8825 Villa La Jolla Drive, 858-642-6700. Inexpensive to moderate. — *M.N. (4/99)*

DOWNTOWN

Acqua Al 2 322 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-230-0382. Despite its monicker, this isn't a seafood trattoria, but a near-fishless branch of a restaurant in Florence that won success by eschewing the standard Florentine menu while maintaining Tuscan purity of style. Chef-owner Martin Gon-

zales trained there and serves as charming host of the local outpost. Best bets are the vegetarian pasta and rice dishes made with aromatic porcini mushrooms. The tasting of five pastas may sound tempting, but they're chef's choice — and he tends to choose the dull ones. “Tastings” of salads, cheeses, and desserts are also offered. Mains are mainly rather plain. Lunch weekdays, dinner daily. Moderate (pasta) to expensive. — *N.W. (11/00)*

Anthony's Fishette 1360 North Harbor Drive (at Ash), downtown, 619-232-2175. At the baby brother of Anthony's Grotto and Star of the Sea, the good news is you pay a fraction of the price, and you get to sit outside over the water. The chowder — New England or Fisherman — is fresh, thick, tasty. A meal. Their old fashioned fish-n-chips or Baja squid steak sandwich are great fillers too. Also good: “hand battered treasures,” like catfish strips, swordfish, oysters, crab claws, and clam nuggets. Breakfast served during summer only. Open for lunch and dinner seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (2/06)*

Buon Appetito 1609 India Street, Little Italy, 619-238-9880. At the chic, art-filled fourth branch of a chain that started with Hillcrest's Arrividerci, the bill of fare combines the pick hits of the mother-ship and of Encinitas cousin-restaurant I Trulli. The menu calls the cuisine “Nouvelle Italian,” blending traditional and trendy Mediterranean ingredients. Seasonal specials change monthly. Most appetizers and pastas are fine (entrées often less so), but the kitchen can be hasty, turning out hard-centered risotto or burnt seafood. Winners include antipasto, quail with lentils, and wine-braised rabbit in the style of the Italian Alps. Desserts are mainly weighty. Wine list is an affordable treat, highlighting mysterious Italian grape varieties from small-scale bottlers; the adept staff can help you choose one to match your order. Euro-pop plays loudly inside; noise-sensitive may prefer patio tables. Lunch and dinner daily (with break between); open until 11 p.m. on weekends. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (5/04)*

Buster's Beach House and Longboard Bar 807 West Harbor

Drive, East Plaza, Seaport Village, 619-233-4300. There really was a Buster, a surfer who traveled the world working in restaurants. Baja, Oahu, Fiji, Naples, Ocho Rios, Phuket — you name it, there's a dish from each of those waters, and every one of them ethnically incorrect. The menu's actually an international anthology of surfer-bar grub — and like Waimea Bay's waves, it has huge ups and downs. Skip the greasy “Short Board” pupu platter and risky daily fish special and go for the well-seasoned crab cakes, fish tacos, spicy “paella” (more like jam-balaya), or pizza. The surfy, fun decor and breezy patio easily compensate for some of the spiciest service in town; a full bar offers a great beer list and decent umbrella drinks. To snag a patio table, reserve it and make sure they write it down. Three hours validated parking, kid-friendly, plenty for vegetarians. Open three meals daily. Prices cover the waterfront. — *N.W. (7/03)*

Chopahn Authentic Afghan Cuisine 750 Sixth Avenue (near F Street), Gaslamp, 619-236-9236. Authentic Afghan cuisine resembles Indian and Persian food but is singularly itself: the spicing is exotic but the flavors are clear and unimuddled. It emphasizes grilled-to-order marinated meats (especially lamb), stews, and well-seasoned rice dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (*aushak*), leek or meat turnovers (*bulanee*), and battered vegetables (*pakawra*). The grilled salmon is excellent, and don't miss the side dish of sweet pumpkin topped with yogurt and meat sauce (*kadu*). Plenty for vegetarians, too. Interesting, affordable wine list; Mexican and domestic beers. Small patio. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Moderate. — *N.W. (8/05)*

City Pizzeria 1125 Sixth Avenue (between B and C), downtown, 619-531-0955. There's a cultural war going on here. “City” has a New York attitude — just listen to the guys in the kitchen grabbing dough, flailing it around, yakking, joking. But the dough has been a West Coast family's secret for 75 years. Try the “Ranch Chicken” pie with garlic chicken, basil, and ranch dressing, or the BBQ chicken with pineapple, red onion, BBQ sauce, and mozzarella. (Of course, no self-respecting New York pizzeria would ever consider serving such moonbeamish left coast toppings — not even if they were in New Jersey.) If those don't tempt you, there are eleven other “specialty pies” every day. Open daily till 10 p.m., 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/04)*

Confidential 901 Fourth Avenue (at E), Gaslamp, 619-696-8888. Chris Walsh, whose “small plates” many fondly remember from California Cuisine and W Cafe, hits his stride here with a menu of creative international grazing foods, from one-bite nibbles to small entrées and mini-burgers. Unexpected, ultramodern techniques and combinations of ingredients make a trip through the menu an adventure in flavors and textures. This is truly eating for fun. Wide-ranging wine list with something for everyone; pricey creative cocktails. Eat early (or upstairs) if you prefer quiet; music (and patrons) grow louder later as “sceney” crowd comes in to drink. Many dishes on the sweet side. Reservations strongly advised for weekends and to ensure handicapped-accessible seating. Kitchen open Tuesday through Saturday, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. (bar until about 2 a.m.). Wide range of prices, but many small bites do add up. — *N.W. (6/06)*

Croce's Restaurant and Jazz Bar 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-233-4355. “Live music is complimentary with purchase of a dinner entrée” at this restaurant and bar run by Ingrid Croce in honor of her late husband, Jim. Appetizers that mix flavors — like the baked Brie and honey-roasted garlic served with mixed greens and a Grand Marnier berry compote — are delicious. But despite creative dishes, like New Zealand sea bass with a pomegranate-macadamia crust, few entrées rise above the level of average Gaslamp fare. Simple is best here — the rich and creamy shrimp *carbonara* fettuccine with Italian pancetta, Kalamata olives, and basil in a white garlic cream sauce. For dessert, try the flourless chocolate cake with roasted walnuts and pecans served with Tahitian vanilla bean gelato and Verona chocolate sauce. The menu is

seasonal. Sit by the window for great people-watching or retire to the bar if you prefer live jazz. Open nightly for dining and music (breakfast and lunch Saturday and Sunday). Expensive. — *B.D. (10/05)*

Crudo Restaurant 1953 India Street (at Grape), Little Italy, 619-398-2974. *Crudo* refers to the Italian version of sushi, but that's not on the menu at this flashy eatery-cum-nightclub, a partnership between Italian restaurateur Joe Busalacchi and disco maven Mike Viscuso. Nope, the raw fish here is Japanese-fusion sushi and sashimi, with some excellent, creative “party rolls” (like the Green Hornet and the Crudo roll) and a delightful, shareable sashimi “plateau” — a mini-encyclopedia of fish and garnishes. Fusiony appetizers, noodle or rice bowls, and baroque, high-end entrées fill out the list. Having a bite before the disco opens buys free entry to the lounge. Short wine list at high markups; numerous sakes (mainly by-the-bottle only) at high-to-ridiculous markups; full bar. Want quiet? The dining patio in front is sheltered and serene. Disco Wednesday through Saturday night. Dinner nightly. “Bowls” and simple sushi inexpensive, otherwise very expensive. — *N.W. (4/06)*

Dussini Mediterranean Bistro 275 Fifth Avenue (at K), Gaslamp, 619-233-4323. The one-time Old Spaghetti Factory has been remade into a more ambitious eatery. It's still huge — way too big to be called a bistro. It rambles over three floors, with a lounge and pool hall on the top. The menu dabbles with the cuisines of southern Europe: Provence, Italy, Spain. The cooking is uneven, night to night and plate to plate. A pleasing linguica and kale soup represents Portugal, while a tasty, reasonably authentic bouillabaisse flirts with southern France. Pastas and steak are also reliably good, but the house specialty paella is made with orzo pasta instead of rice — not the best idea. The wine list is a joy, with plenty of choices at all price ranges, and the corkage policy (first two bottles get in free) is remarkably liberal. Elevator access to top-floor restrooms. Reservations recommended for weekend dinners. Lunch and dinner daily. Expensive. — *N.W. (3/06)*

House Of Blues Restaurant 1055 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-299-2583. Best thing HOB did was *not* tear down Woolworth's old sidewalk canopy. Now it shelters their streetside café, where you can just do coffee and people watch, or get into their Southern-inspired cuisine. This is a classy joint, with heavy flatware, big

white cloth napkins, and solid china plates and cups. Can a fellow on a tight budget afford to eat here? Yes and no. Meaning, for a song you will find great chicken gumbo mixing it up with andouille (Cajun) sausage and okra in traditional brown roux with French bread, or skillet-baked rosemary cornbread with maple butter, or their delicious sweet potato fries. But you'll need bigger notes to finance the all-beef Blues Burger with cheese and fries or the luscious baby back ribs with mashed sweet potatoes. Value dessert? The white chocolate-banana bread pudding with Jack Daniel's crème anglaise, whipped cream, and a “caramel halo” will have you singing with the angels — not the blues. Open daily, 10 a.m. to midnight. Moderate to expensive. — *E.B. (11/05)*

LG's Prime Steakhouse 789 Sixth Avenue (at F Street), downtown, 619-239-7899. The atmosphere at this chain steakhouse is a little less “old boys' club” than most of its kind — it's quiet and luxurious, but not especially formal. All the beef is aged on the premises, and the star cut is the superb dry-aged “Jewel in the Crown” Porterhouse, with much beefier flavor than wet-aged meat. Meats are heavily salted unless you request otherwise; sauces taste a little pre-fab. The Caesar salad is made at the table to your tastes. “Escargots alfredo” is fun as an indulgent starter. Everything's à la carte, with good creamed spinach among the sides. Great, if pricey, wine list, but the top reds are barely over retail prices. Full bar. Valet parking at Fifth and F. Reservations recommended. Open for dinner 365 days a year. Very expensive. — *N.W. (8/05)*

McCormick & Schmick's Omni Hotel, 675 L Street (at Sixth Avenue), downtown, 619-645-6545. This ever-expanding chain from the Pacific Northwest may be the Starbucks of fish. Most of the dishes are still the corporate specialties, pleasing rather than exciting. The daily changing menu features about 30 varieties of fresh seafood, delivered daily in over 50 preparations, plus a handful of poultry and meat dishes. The long, interesting, mainly reasonable wine list is printed on back of the daily menu. Restaurant is often busy at lunch and packed for early dinners during Petco home-game nights, so reserve when the team's in town. A heated terrace is mainly used during lunch and game nights. Full bar, with \$2 pub grub menu during weeknight happy hour, 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Open daily, three meals to 11 p.m. Lunch moderate; dinner moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (10/05)*



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www.BrazilbytheHill.com

Patty's Fruitland 1789 National Avenue (at Beardsley), Barrio Logan, 619-239-3085. Patty used to sell fresh fruit drinks outside a church in Guajalato. In 1994 she came to America and married Jose. "Why can't we sell fruit drinks in America?" she wondered. Now they've opened a place where you can get combos like the *pico de gallo* (rooster's beak) with lots of fresh-sliced fruit and raw veggies (jicama, cucumber), all dusted with cayenne pepper. They've expanded to non-fruit (roast beef and other sandwiches, shrimp tostadas, hot dogs), but the fruit and juices define the place. The most tempting: fruit salad with cottage cheese, granola, and honey. Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.B. (3/04)

Pokez Mexican Restaurant and Vegetarian Cuisine 947 E Street (at Tenth Avenue), downtown, 619-702-7160. Rafael — his buddies call him Rafa — started this cool student/artist hangout years ago when he was 18. Lunchtime business people come here. Evenings, seems like it's all Rafa's friends: people from downtown, Golden Hill, City College. The food is mostly Mexican vegetarian (though he's got meaty things like chicken or steak ranchero or sautéed chicken fajitas). Tip well: the servers volunteer and share the take from the gravy pot. Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; weekends 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. — E.B. (12/01)

RA Sushi 474 Broadway (at Fifth), downtown, 619-321-0021. Big and splashy, this Arizona-based chain restaurant tries to create a high-energy party atmosphere with loudish music and louder "Oriental" decor. Its grazing menu features sushi, sashimi, and hosts of Asian-oid appetizers, plus a few substantial noodle dishes and entrées. The food's a mixture of the dire and the delicious — old, pulpy *edamame* versus magnificent miso soup, delicate dilled salmon and desiccated *katsu*. The sushi rice is well seasoned, but the products are inconsistent from hour to hour and roll to roll, depending on how long ago the seafood was defrosted and how recently the rice was cooked. You take your chances, but it's fun anyway. Numerous Asian beers and sakes, affordable wines, full bar specializing in fancy cocktails. Those with fading eyesight may need a penlight to read the menu. Daily, lunch through dinner, to 11 p.m. Bar open to 2 a.m. Moderate. — N.W. (5/04)

Red Pearl Kitchen 440 J Street (between Fourth and Fifth), Gaslamp, 619-231-1100. An anthology of favorite Asian dishes creatively interpreted for American palates, with touches of fusion and some original dishes. Plenty of appetizers, but main dishes tend to be tastier, including a delicious Cambodian-influenced short rib and pumpkin hot pot — when it's in season. Great veggie side dishes. Sophisticated international wine list priced on the high

side (few under \$30); short on choices by the glass. Full bar. Surroundings are chic. Reservations advised. Sound level painfully loud most nights. Open daily, dinner. High moderate. — N.W. (4/06)

Vincenzo Ristorante Italiano 1702 India Street, Little Italy, 619-702-6181. The specialty at this tourist favorite is Sicilian seafood. The cooking is competent, but the restaurant's fishmonger settles for ordinary quality (as does the produce provider). The meat jobber does a better job, providing succulent veal that the chef grills expertly, and the Italian sausages (from Pete's Meats, up the block) are the zestiest in town. The restaurant's hard-surfaced interior is so noisy you'll hear every conversation but your own; reserve for the sidewalk patio for a quieter evening. Open lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Moderate. — N.W. (8/01)

SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

The Barbecue Pit 920 East Plaza Boulevard, National City, 619-477-2244. Outside, it reminds you of a barn; inside, a meeting hall. Rustic timber, knotty pine, a set of Texas longhorns on one wall and an eight-point buck head on the other. People have been coming here all their lives. Two cousins started this back in 1947 at 1413 Market, downtown. Now their grandkids run this and its sister restaurant in Fletcher Hills. They still burn oak, and sell lots of the (still-cheap) beef or pork ribs, with two sides and a bun. But maybe the best deal is the ham or link sandwich. Lunch and dinner; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (1/06)

Bino's European Coffees and Crepes 1120 Adella Avenue (just off Orange Avenue), Coronado, 619-522-0612. This little round-the-corner café (south of the Post Office)

has to be good: it's a favorite retreat for local chefs. Bino bakes his own breads and croissants daily and creates great crunchy sandwiches. Try the Brie Fantasy (chicken breast, roasted marinated peppers, double cream Brie cheese) or the roast beef and jack cheese. Even the veggie sandwich squishes with luscious eggplant, and the crêpes are delicious and filling too. Bino's wife is Austrian and makes great Viennese-style coffee. Open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, to 8 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

Galley at the Marina 550 Marina Parkway, Chula Vista, 619-422-5714. This is a great place to relax, take in the view, and decide which yacht you're gonna buy when you win the lotto. It's run by Fran Muncey, widow of Bill Muncey, San Diego's greatest speedboat-racing champion. The tasty, bargain-priced happy hour specials (3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday) make a visit worth the trip west of I-5: have a 1/2-pound hamburger with French fries, chicken Caesar salad with sourdough toast, or a filet mignon steak plate with steak fries. Next morning, catch the breakfast favorite: biscuits and sausage gravy with eggs. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

Point-Point Joint 916 East Eighth Street, National City, 619-474-2866. You're in Little Manila here, heartland of San Diego's Filipino community. So the food has to be authentic. Your problem's going to be choosing. Dozens of dishes with mysterious meats and veggies. You can play safe and choose, say, chicken barbecue on a bamboo spit, chicken *adobo*, or *longaniza* sausage. But you should seek out less familiar choices, too. *Kare-kare* (yam, peanut butter sauce with beef and tripe) is delicious, and so is *dinuguan*, pork in pork blood, also known as "chocolate meat." Want healthy? There's *monggo* (mung beans) with bitter melon leaves, or point to a pile of split, deep-fried fish — *daing na ban-*



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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

gus, vinegar-soaked milk fish, said to be popular with old men with high blood pressure. Lunch, dinner seven days; breakfast Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (8/03)*

Primavera Ristorante 932 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-0454. A handsome dining room is the setting for classic fine Italian cooking of many regions, and with creative nightly specials. Stuffed pastas are made in-house and rolled thin, gnocchi are expertly crafted, and entrées are, for a change, more interesting than the appetizers. The *osso buco* is outstanding, as is a frequent summertime special of white king salmon. Choose the simplest desserts, as the fancy ones are outsourced (and heavy). Three parking slots behind restaurant, or scuffle for street parking. Fine service. Romantic ambiance early and late in the evening but often raucous with loud parties at prime dinner time. Dinner nightly until 10:30 p.m. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (5/05)*

Rhinoceros 1166 Orange Avenue (at Loma Avenue), Coronado, 619-435-2121. This bright, hectic bistro next door to the Lamb's Players Theatre draws pre-theatre crowds as well as locals—and that may be a problem, since the rushed pace of service doesn't abate even after the playgoers have departed. Perhaps that's why there are few appetizer choices (as though to discourage diners from spending extra time at the table). You may even be charged a "split plate" fee for sharing a first course despite ordering individual entrées. Meat and fish choices are simply prepared with ingredients of ordinary quality and generic veggie accompaniments. Why, then, is Rhino so popular? Pasta (and nothing but pasta) is the answer—that's where the kitchen shines. Very noisy when crowded; street tables are slightly quieter despite heavy traffic. Lunch and dinner daily. Reservations advised for weekends and pre-show dinners. Moderate (pastas) to expensive. — *N.W. (7/01)*

Vahida's Healthy Choice Chula Vista Weekly Farmers Market, Center Street (between 3rd and Del Mar Street), 619-962-9925. Vahida calls her

food Greek, but actually it's Bosnian, like her. Not that there's a huge difference. The great thing here is the market experience itself, munching away with people jostling, food smells wafting, maybe musicians plucking. Try the very Bosnian beef sausage plate. Light, flaky pastry curls around the meat but doesn't cover it. These *Burck* or *Chevapchichi* are made like the sausages of the city of Skopje, except for some potatoes and onion added. Also good: Vahida's eggplant sandwich, chicken sandwich, and gyro plate. Operates 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Thursdays (call for hours at other locations). Inexpensive. — *E.B. (6/06)*

Zorba's Family Restaurant 100 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-422-8853. We haven't got to plate-breaking yet, but Greek dancing is alive and well at Zorba's on Fridays and Saturdays. That includes the *zembekikos*, where the dancer picks a glass of ouzo off the floor with his mouth and drinks it. The rest of the week? Families fill this place. They're here for the buffet, spooning up the *spanakopita* (spinach in deliciously flaky pastry), *dolmathes*, (ground beef and rice rolled in grape leaves), moussaka (eggplant, zucchini, and ground beef), and lamb. Try dividing your meal into three: first visit the salad section. Grab their real, strong-tasting olives, tabbouleh, hummus, onions, lettuce, and pita bread. Return for the heavies, the lamb and beef dishes. Then leave room for baklava and other desserts. It may not be the gourmet's method, but there's no better way to fill a belly. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (2/03)*

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.

El Rincón del Oso Mercado Hidalgo, Calle Victoria #47, Río District, Tijuana. Eating goat is an acquired taste. This little market restaurant is a good place to start acquiring. It serves kid for breakfast that's surprisingly easy on the taste buds. The best part is scooping the juices and the meat into a hot corn tortilla, adding cilantro, lime, grated onions, and a splash of salsa, and chomping in. It's meaty, slightly rich,

almost gamey, like deer or buffalo, except the juices round out that gamey aftertaste. Come early morning for the best kid and the best market scenes. Open seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/01)*

El Taurino Steak House Sixth Street #7531 (three blocks west of Revolución), Tijuana, 685-7075. Looking for the home of the foot-long steak? At this old-line surf-n-turf eatery a (real) wall-mounted bull's head lunges at you; his severed ears and tail hang beside him. But anchors and portholes and *barcas* (boats) stuccoed on the white and green walls also emphasize the menu's "surf" side. It's all very forties. Fine linens, lifer waiters, and unchanged but good food—like marinated grilled quail, shrimp *al ajillo* (cooked in oil, garlic, and chili), and fish steamed *empapelado* (in parchment paper). A must-try is the signature *cabreria* steak, a thin but foot-long slab with guacamole, beans, onions, jalapeño, tortillas, and soup or salad. On second thought, the *media* (half) *cabreria* should be enough for most. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — *E.B. (9/04)*

La Petite Café Avenida Constitución #720-Q, in Foreign Club Passage off Revolución between 3rd and 4th (beside Maxim's), Tijuana, 688-2171. You're in a side eddy here from the storm of Revolución among Olmec sculptures, Aztec calendars, trees, and amazing quiet. It's standard *casera* (homestyle) food: Spanish chicken with rice and beans, pork chops in green sauce, red enchiladas, steak ranchero, liver-and-onion stew, *chicharrón* (crisp fried pork rind) in a red sauce, and of course *carne asada*, but cooked well and priced amazingly low. Check the generous five-item-plus-coffee breakfast special. Three meals, all-day breakfast and lunches, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (8/03)*

Lonchería La Poca Lucha Municipal Market, Avenida Niños Héroes #105, Tijuana. Venturing to the far end of Tijuana's *Mercado Municipal* is like entering a scene from *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*. Shafts of sun penetrate the dark of an incredible kitchen of great black iron stoves and giant steaming pots, and hoods gathering into black pipes that snake up and out through the roof. But what a welcome! As you walk through the *mercado*, ladies bounce up, enticing you away to their eateries. Hang in there till you reach *Lonchería La Poca Lucha*,

"The Small Struggle Lunch Place." Ask for *carne de puerco* (pork), *chiles rellenos*, *bistek ranchero*, or *higado al gusto* (liver), all around \$3. *Pescado frito* (fried fish), *milanesa con papas* (veal with fries), *pollo frito* (fried chicken), and *carne asada* are slightly more. Price includes soup, steaming hot corn tortillas, and a soda. Open seven days, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Salón Azteca Rosarito Beach Hotel, south end of Boulevard Benito Juárez, Rosarito, 661-612-1111. This fabled old hotel's all-you-can-eat Sunday brunch buffet offers a great excuse to check out the gorgeous architecture and meet other travelers in town. To reach the buffet, go to the left behind the registration desk to the Salón Azteca, walk in, grab a plate, and start dishing up your breakfast from the long line of cafeteria-like bins filled with *gringo*, *gringo-Mex*, real Mexican (*menudo*), and international specialties. Expect to tip if you want something from the omelet or carving station. Next, plunk down at a table where a waiter will arrive to serve you juice and endless cups of decent coffee. Casual dress. Secure parking in hotel lot for a small extra charge. Three meals daily; brunch Sunday. Somewhat expensive for the area; Visa and MasterCard accepted. — *N.W. (4/03)*

Saverio's Restaurant Mediterraneo Boulevard Sánchez Taboada #3151 (at Escuadrón 201 Street), Zona Río, Tijuana, 686-6442. Javier Plascencia Huerta wanted to open an Italian restaurant and says he eventually "got interested in what Baja California has to offer." The result: an Italian *palazzo* offering an interesting and changing fusion of Mediterranean-Baja food with dishes like roasted baby octopus, local oysters cooked on the mesquite grill, mesquite-grilled quail from Ensenada's valley of Guadalupe, mussels cultivated in Baja farms, and a delicious rack of lamb raised in the local San Vicente valley. The restaurant even grows its own herbs. Dish presentation is pure art. One of the tastiest: roast duck breast in a guava sauce with a little burrito of candied leg meat. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — *E.B. (8/04)*

Super Antojitos 4th Street #1810 (between Constitución and Niños Héroes), Tijuana, 685-5070. Sr. Lechuga's restaurant has been around for 40 years, for good reason. Early mornings, people line up for breakfast. You enter a sort of heaven: arches, hid-

den lighting, glass chandeliers, even a statue of the Virgin Mary. The breakfast special, called *mole poblano*, includes two eggs, enchilada *de mole*, rice, beans, and bread or tortillas. The delicious *mole*, Sr. Lechuga's own, contains raisins, avocado, plantain, almonds, peanuts, thyme, and cilantro. Plus, you're drinking Sr. Lechuga's own coffee. He grows it down south. *Super antojitos* means super snacks, so search out the *pastes*—pastries stuffed with *mole*, cheese, or ground meat and potatoes. Also delicious: pork rind *gorditas*. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (3/20)*

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Chipotle 734 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-209-3688; 11 other locations in San Diego County. Hard to believe: This chain that McDonald's acquired cleaves firmly to the original vision of the chef who founded it: naturally raised tender meats in authentic marinades made on-premises—it's quality all the way, and way better than most local "Berto's" (which often use cheap meat marinated by their meat-jobbers). The fresh-grilled *carne asada* is splendid, the *carnitas* outstanding. And it's "have it your way" with a wealth of choices as to what you get—burritos, tacos, bowls, fajitas—and what goes into it. You can eat indoors or outside (or take-out), drink margaritas, beer, or soft drinks, and park for free (if a slot's open). Open 10:45 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Rock-bottom prices. — *N.W. (10/05)*

Karl Strauss Brewery Restaurant 1157 Columbia Street, downtown, 619-234-2739. One-time Pabst brewmeister Karl Strauss heads his own brewery and a bunch of brewery restaurants bearing his name, so you can't help but be a little wary of an over-slick operation. But at least at downtown's ivy-covered brick drink and eatery, the food's honest, tasty, and sleek, not slick. And Karl's beers are still interesting. Go for honest-but-beautiful dishes like his "Hump Day" meatloaf (Wednesday only), which comes looking like a Magic Mountain. Beer influence is everywhere. Filet mignon has an Amber Lager glaze. Ribs boast a Red Trolley Ale barbecue sauce. It can get pricey; try to hit happy hour. Lunch and din-

ner daily. Moderate. Other branches at 9675 Scranton Road, Sorrento Mesa, 858-587-2739; 5801 Armada Drive, Carlsbad, 760-431-2739; 1044 Wall Street, La Jolla, 858-551-2739. — *E.B. (11/03)*

The Living Room Coffeehouse 5900 El Cajon Boulevard (at 59th Street), College Area, 619-286-8434. With deep-draft couches, Persian carpets, pictures on the wall, chunky wooden tables, and a tree-shaded patio, this Swiss-owned café is a student hang-out with a lively notice board, a rental computer, and good cheap breakfast food in huge quantities. Try "The Works" omelet, with bacon, ham, onions, tomatoes, pepper, cheese on top, potatoes, fruit, and bread. Open daily, three meals, until late at night. Inexpensive. Additional locations in Point Loma, La Jolla, National City, and Otay Mesa. — *E.B. (10/00)*

P. F. Chang's China Bistro 4540 La Jolla Village Drive (near Executive Way, across from UTC), 858-458-9007; 7077 Friars Road, Fashion Valley, 619-260-8484. Okay, you're looking at the haunches of a giant horse right outside your corner window, and there don't seem to be any actual Chinese people among the wait staff. But this busy mall-Chinese chain (130-plus restaurants) has a certain cool. Those reproduction Chin Dynasty horses are really something, as are the bits of the Great Wall and the terra cotta soldiers scattered inside. The food? The spicy ground chicken and eggplant was too salty for our taste, the "Sichuan from the Sea" shrimp too sweet, and the Cantonese roasted duck not that exciting. Yet there are jewels, if one searches for them. And—not that it's at all Chinese—the massive "Great Wall of Chocolate" dessert will knock you over. Lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *E.B. (11/06)*

Star Of India 3860 Valley Centre Drive, Del Mar, 858-792-1111. Also at 423 F Street, Gaslamp, 619-234-8000. It's the lunch buffet that can lead you by the nose into Indian (and here, specifically *Punjabi*) food. Pick among specialties like vegetable *pakora*—a bunch of veggies dipped in chickpea batter and fried—or a nice mess of eggplant with potatoes, chicken curry *masala*, and maybe the first cooked spinach you ever loved, *palak paneer*. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (11/01)*



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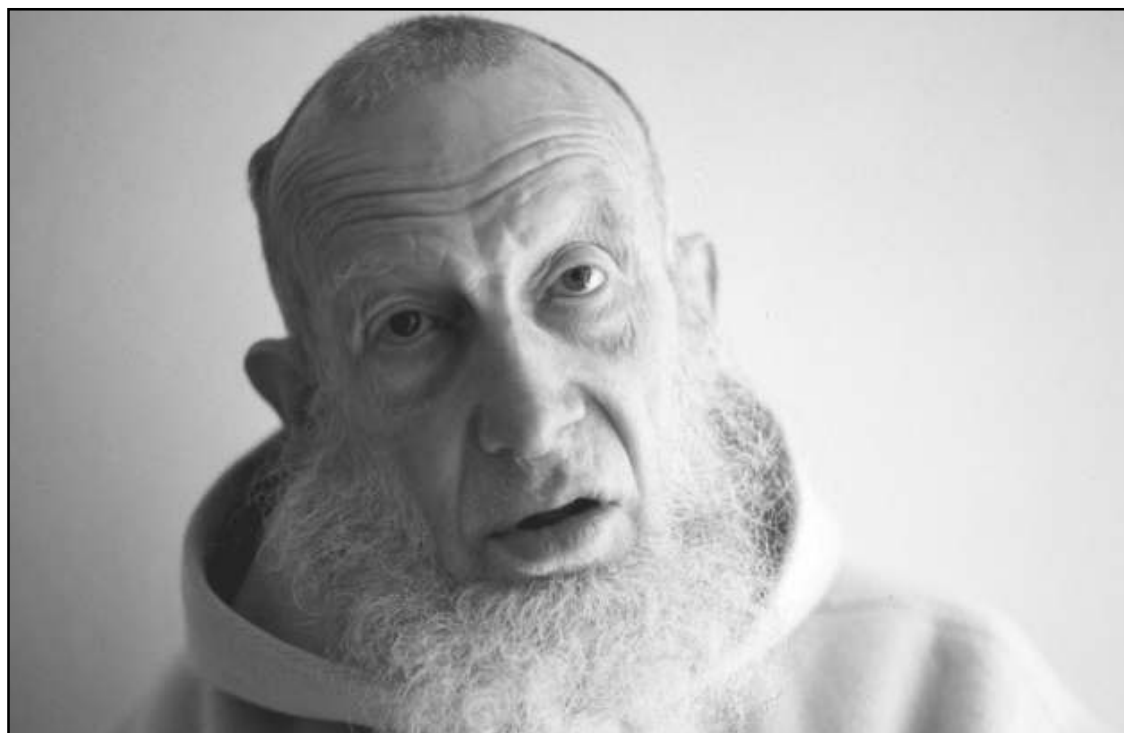
Forget 300. That's a crib toy, a musical mobile, a distraction, a pacifier. 300 is for babies. The film that will test your Spartan hardihood goes by the name of *Into Great Silence*, Philip Grönning's nearly three-hour documentary on a Carthusian monastery in the French Alps, covering a space of time from winter to winter. (Since the German filmmaker, a one-man crew, spent but five months in the monastery, one must presume a bit of editing-room illusionism at work.) Evocative rather than instructive, lyrical rather than factual, it offers precious little in the way of verbal communication of any type: the formulaic speech of a vow-taking ceremony; a solo monk's breaking of silence when feeding the cats and trying to get them to play with a ghastly blue teddy bear (the cats do not appear to appreciate the disruption); an out-of-doors procedural powwow on the policy of pre-meal hand washing; an exuberant unbuttoning of lips during a sledding expedition in the new-fallen snow; a

brief formal interview with an old blind monk; the periodic printed scripture on screen; no narration whatsoever. Nor is there any music beyond the men's a cappella chant,

for strictly liturgical purposes, and the occasional unmelodic bells. Yet the film is rich in sound, all the more

vivid for its isolation: the creak of a wooden prayer bench, the snick of scissors in the tailor shop, the buzz of the electric hair clippers, the rasp of a hand-saw converting logs into firewood. The passing jets over this otherworldly refuge are blessedly out of earshot.

The film, to a degree that should not seem so rare in films, has to do with observing: the elegant austerity of the external architecture, in harmonious tones of gray-blue and ivory; the soothing rhythms of the dark interiors; the pattern of light and shade on the grain of wood; the glisten of melting, dripping, trickling ice. Your thoughts as well might often roam to the art museum: the chiaroscuro on the folds of a monk's robe bringing to mind Zurbarán, the cool white sheets

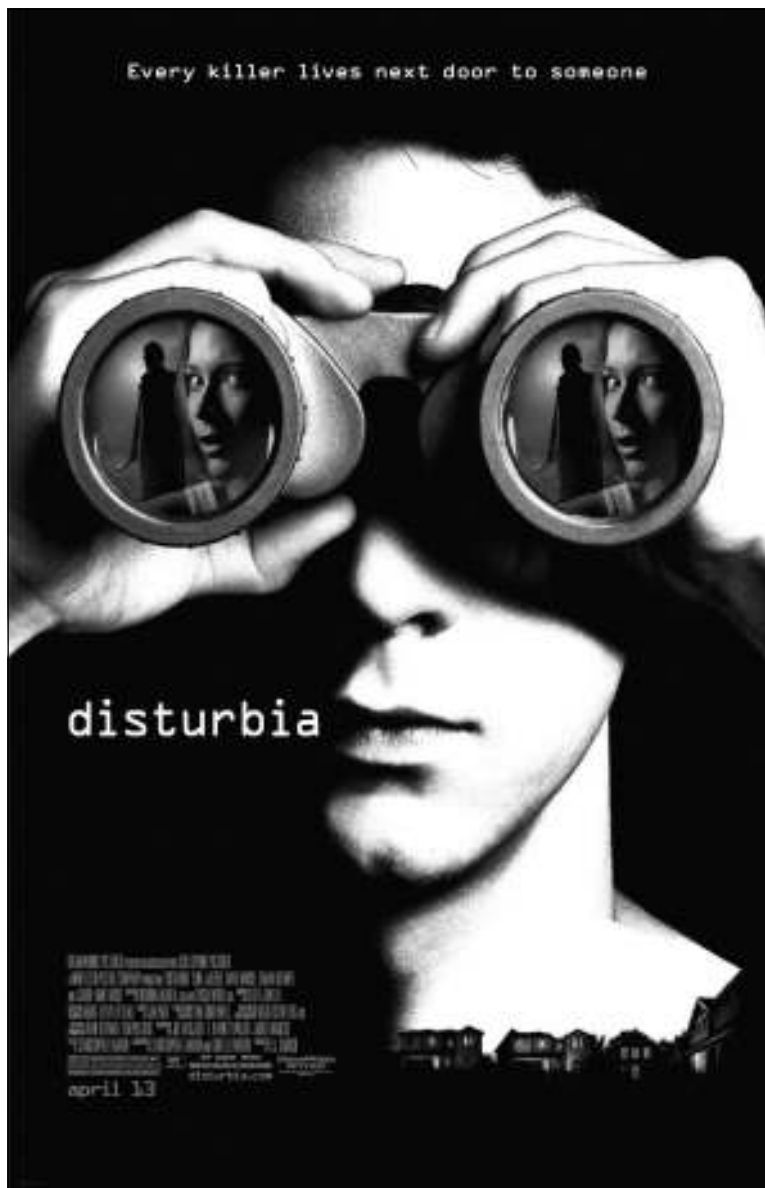


Into Great Silence

of light bringing to mind Vermeer, the dim warm pools of it bringing to mind Rembrandt, the splashes of pointillism bringing to mind Seurat. Except, in this last instance anyhow, the medium of film is not quite like that of painting, and when you're looking at Seurat you are not thinking about technical or budgetary limitations in the way you might think of

them when looking at a bad video transfer, a bad 35mm blowup, cheap film stock, insufficient lighting. Grönning, in the intermittent grainy images that look to be plagued by clouds of dust or locusts, is probably trying to give an idea of *seeing more deeply* along the lines of the French Impressionists. For me, at least, those images did not work. And the time-lapse skies seemed

to me hackneyed. But if the visual quality could be termed uneven, this can only be on purpose and by design. Clearly, the filmmaker is capable of seeing clearly. The breathlessly held shot of wind-ruffled treetops, undercut by the drifting sounds of bells and an electric saw, is worthy of Hou Hsiao-hsien. And the visual effervescence of a rain shower develops into



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Calendar

MOVIES

a sustained high point, practically a plateau. Singly, the shots, the scenes, do not last long, do not drag. But they mount up. And up and up and up. A labor of love, with the accent on labor, this one-of-a-kind documentary is marked not so much by any great technical facility or stylistic flair as by its fundamental tact and restraint, a respect for its subject, not quite a reverence.

Character interest is minimal. We do not really get to "know" any of the monks, although, in individual portraits interspersed throughout, we get to look straight into the eyes of each of them, who endure the examination with differing degrees of forbearance and comfort. These men are most often observed in solitary activities, reflective of their daily regimen: praying, reading, gardening, preparing or delivering or consuming food, and so on. We see a lot of the old bearded monk, and it's always easy to pick out the young novice from Africa, but

there is no narrative thread. No one dies. No one quits. No one gets expelled. Nothing "happens." The film in a sense is irreducible: impossible to encapsulate, impossible to summarize. Could it not, though, have been reduced in length? Possibly. Slightly. But who's to say by how much? Gröning was granted — and he grants us in turn — a privileged view inside a private world, and it is not a world for the tourist on a tight schedule. It is a world for life. (Permission to film in the monastery, so we're informed at the final curtain, came to Gröning sixteen years after his initial request.) Our guide has not attempted to make that world palatable to the idle bystander, has not attempted unduly to process it and package it. The queue of people who will want access to it is bound to be miles shorter than a queue for the private world of, let's say, the football locker room or the rock-group tour bus. But whomever this film is for, however few they may be, they are lucky to have it and lucky to find it. (For the following week at the Ken, continuing as the cinematic hot spot after a week of *Mafioso* and three weeks of *The Host*.) The gravest danger in the length of the thing is the tempta-

tion, by the end of it, to flatter yourself that you've become one of the boys, that you've grown "close." Even at almost three hours, it is still only a glimpse.

* * *

Meanwhile... down in the valley... the valley so low....

Meet the Robinsons is a dizzying Disney computer cartoon in 3-D. The startling spatial effects, technically unimpeachable, really do add another dimension. But maybe another dimension is not what's wanted when you are already juggling a mind-tangling time machine, a domestic nuthouse descended from *You Can't Take It with You*, a Victorian villain of Neanderthal intellect, a displaced dinosaur, a tipped hat to surrealism (Magritte's bowler), an *homage* to HAL 9000 in *2001*, and more. It's all a bit much. Make that, more than a bit. The motto and moral of the movie — "Keep moving forward" — will be revealed in the printed epilogue to have come straight from the mouth of Uncle Walt himself, a sweet piece of lip service.

The Lookout is a respectable directing debut by the veteran screenwriter of *The Interpreter*, *Minority*

Report, *Out of Sight*, *Get Shorty*, *Malice*, etc., Scott Frank. Suffering brain damage in a car wreck four years earlier, still having trouble with his memory and his "sequencing" and his "disinhibition," writing memos to himself like the protagonist of *Memento*, holding down a dead-end job as the night custodian in a podunk Kansas bank, and replaying past glories on the high-school hockey rink with a "urinal puck" and a floor mop, the shaky young hero is preyed upon by a vamp-for-hire (stage name: Luvlee Lemons) at the bidding of a mangy gang of bank robbers. The only apparent obstacle in their way is the affable deputy who, like clockwork, stops by on his rounds with a box of donuts, and whose wife is ready to give birth any minute. (What odds would you take on *him* making it through alive?) Not overly contrived or clever, just sufficiently; no extraneous action to tide you over till hell breaks loose; well acted by Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Jeff Daniels (as a wise and witty blind man), Matthew Goode, Isla Fisher, Bruce McGill, pretty much everyone.

First Snow is another directing debut by a screenwriter, albeit one with

fewer credits to his name, Mark Fergus, about the futile struggle against fate of an unnecessarily unsympathetic hero, a fast-talking flooring salesman who wants to transition to jukeboxes. Belabored, unbelievable, but sizzingly photographed in the Southwest desert by Eric Edwards, and played with strong conviction by Guy Pearce, Piper Perabo, William Fichtner, Rick Gonzalez, Jackie Burroughs, and especially, as an unshowy roadside fortune-teller, J.K. Simmons. Almost in spite of itself it works up some nice paranoid suspense, stopping short of the hammy climax.

The Hoax, directed by Lasse Hallström, spins a tall tale about a tall tale, the bogus "authorized autobiography" of Howard Hughes, peddled by Clifford Irving to McGraw-Hill in the early Seventies. Richard Gere, as the hungering writer ("The middle of my life is at hand. I don't have a couch"), has some funny bits imitating Hughes's speech patterns from tapes of his appearance before the U.S. Senate, as you might recall from *The Aviator*. And the richly embroidered account of how the charade was set in motion, and then kept in motion even as it began to disintegrate, will serve as either

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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.

★ (HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12)

Are We Done Yet? — Comedy sequel with Ice Cube, Nia Long, and John C. McGinley, directed by Steve Carr. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSS-MONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Avenue Montaigne — From French writer-director Danièle Thompson, 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. All three plotlines, in a frankly corny contrivance, come to a head on the same evening; 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. 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, bandying about the names of Simone de Beauvoir, Brancusi, Braque, Beethoven, Feydeau, Resnais, et al. 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. With Valérie Lemercier, Albert Dupontel, Laura Morante, Claude Brasseur,



Blades of Glory

Christopher Thompson (the filmmaker's son and her collaborator on the script), and a bilingual Sydney Pollack. 2006. ★★★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 4/6; LA JOLLA VILLAGE, THROUGH 4/5)

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 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. ★★★★★ (GASLAMP 15)

Blades of Glory — Competitive figure skating gets the Will Ferrell treatment: rough and rude. Banned for life from the

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men’s division, two bitter rivals (the macho Ferrell, the femme Jon Heder) return to the ice through a loophole as the first-ever male pair. The main source of humor is your presumed nervousness about homosexuality. Which is to say, it’s not as amusing as it is insulting. With Will Arnett, Amy Poehler, Jenna Fischer, Craig T. Nelson, and William Fichtner; co-directed by Will Speck and Josh Gordon. 2007.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; 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; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

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 Lin-



Firehouse Dog

ney, Kathleen Quinlan, Gary Cole, Dennis Haysbert. 2007.

★★ (GASLAMP 15)

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 woodsy fantasyland of their own making, across the creek on a rope swing. Happily — just as a change from the likes of *Pan’s Labyrinth* and *The Chronicles of Narnia* — it’s always clear that the fantasyland is only a fantasy, but that won’t protect it from unsightly computer-generated giant trolls, jumbo flying squirrels, armored dragonflies, etc. And even though these are pretty well contained — in time as well as space — the 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 for the brave bit of struggle, late in the day,

with issues of male infidelity (sure, the boy knows who his best friend is, but he nonetheless cannot harness a crush on his comely music teacher, Zooey Deschanel), guilt, loss, remorse. The struggle doesn’t last long, but it’s painful. Josh Hutcherson, AnnaSophia Robb, Robert Patrick. 2007.

★ (GASLAMP 15)

Firehouse Dog — Inane canine comedy about a screen star called Rexxx — no, not a bestial porn star, but the big-budget action star of *Jurassic Bark* and *The Fast and the Furriest* — who discovers his true vocation as a firefighting mascot. The human emotions and human villainy are a touch heavy, but they don’t weigh down the pooch, particularly in his all-out dashes to the rescue. With Josh Hutcherson, Bruce Greenwood, Bill Nunn, and Dash Mihok; directed by Todd Holland. 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 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)

First Snow — Reviewed this issue. With Guy Pearce, Piper Perabo, William Fichtner, and J.K. Simmons; written and di-

rected by Mark Fergus.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 4/6)

Grindhouse — Two movies in one, directed by Quentin Tarantino and Robert Rodriguez respectively, with Kurt Russell, Rose McGowan, Freddy Rodriguez. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 4/6)

The Hoax — Reviewed this issue. With Richard Gere, Alfred Molina, Marcia Gay Harden, Hope Davis, and Stanley Tucci; directed by Lasse Hallstrom.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; SAN MARCOS 18; FROM 4/6)

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.

★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Into Great Silence — Reviewed this issue. With the monks of the Grande Chartreuse monastery; photographed, edited, written, produced, and directed by Philip Gröning.

★★★★ (KEN, 4/6 THROUGH 12)

I Think I Love My Wife — Into a complacent marriage comes temptation, the wet-lipped Kerry Washington, a Platonic old friend with vertiginous décolletage. Chris Rock is the star, albeit no actor, and he’s also the director and co-writer, nominally inspired by the last of Eric Rohmer’s “Six Moral Tales,” *Chloe in the Afternoon*, 1972. (The “Fin” in place of “The End” is perhaps the strongest evidence.) The first-person narration, however, sets the tone closer to a stand-up routine: “Going to the Auto Show and looking at the minivans was like going to the strip club and looking at the deejay,” rat-a-tat. And even as the torrent of voice-over tapers off, whatever is left on screen seems mere illustration of a comic monologue, mere visual embellishment. Somehow the toil of “dramatic reenactment” takes the edge off the individual voice, dulls it. Gina Torres, Steve Buscemi, Edward Herrmann. 2007.

★ (GASLAMP 15)

Journey from the Fall — Writer and director Ham Tran’s tale of postwar Vietnam, starring Kieu Chinh and Long Nguyen. (HORTON PLAZA 14, FROM 4/6)

The Last Mimzy — Kid-friendly end-of-the-world science fiction (adult-tolerant) revolving around a Seattle brother and sister who find a toybox from the future, and inside it a flop-eared stuffed bunny by the name of Mimzy. The founder and studio head of New Line Cinema, Bob Shaye, trusted himself to direct his first film, and the inexperience shows. It does not, however, completely conceal a good idea about time travel and good visual use of Buddhist mandalas. The bunny is an eyesore. Chris O’Neil, Rhiannon Leigh Wryn, Joely Richardson, Timothy Hutton, Michael Clarke Duncan. 2007.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; 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; VISTA VILLAGE)

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 Mühle, coincidentally the conscienceless Doctor Mengele of *Amen*, now playing

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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. ★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

The Lookout — Reviewed this issue. With Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Jeff Daniels, Matthew Goode, and Isla Fisher; written and directed by Scott Frank. ★★ (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; VISTA VILLAGE)

Mafioso — Alberto Lattuada’s “Family” film. It tells of a toplofty foreman at a Fiat factory in Milan, portrayed by that Italian national icon, Alberto Sordi (Fellini’s *The White Sheik* and *I Vitelloni*, most prestigiously), whose balloon-like ego, perilously puffed up and easily pricked, stretches well across the border between comedy and drama, a necessary range for the present role. On an overdue vacation to his native Sicily, to introduce to his kith and kin his fashionable northern wife and their two small daughters, he’s entrusted by his boss to hand-deliver a “valuable” package to the local Mafia lord, Don Vincenzo, an errand which will precipitate a crisis of identity: Is he now more northern or still more southern? (The family’s embraces at their reunion could hardly be more violently passionate had their soccer club just won the European Cup.) The entire plot, spiralling downward from domestic comedy and social satire to underworld nightmare, might be described as an analysis of the distinctive, the unique, the ineradicable Sicilian character. That it manages this without pretension, and without pedantry, is a mark of its subtlety. The documentary-style credits sequence in Milan (Lattuada’s hometown) briefly reaffirms the filmmaker’s neo-realist credentials, and throughout he sets a leisurely pace that enables him, even in the lighter early stages, to pile up circumstantial little verisimilitudes that will smooth the transition to darkness. And no matter how far the film veers from the documentary style, it remains a document, one for the time capsule. Some of the material is pretty routine (the unibrow and mustache on the hero’s spinsterly sister or her unemployed dowry-hungry fiancé), but Lattuada’s handling of it is never less than adept and often quite inspired. The hero’s journey to the New World inside a shipping crate, capped off by the neck-snapping vertical urban vistas that await him on his arrival, is really wonderful. With Norma Bengell. 1962. ★★★★★ (KEN, THROUGH 4/5)

Meet the Robinsons — Reviewed this issue. With the voices of Daniel Hansen, Jordan Fry, Wesley Singerman, and Harold Williams; directed by Stephen Anderson. ★ (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; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Mirromask — Inexpensive fantasy, but excessive nonetheless, about a Brit teenager, the daughter of circus people, who works out her relationship with her Mum in a dense, dark, vague dreamscape, self-consciously littered with visual allu-

sions to Bosch, Ernst, Dali, Miro, et al. Stephanie Leonidas, Gina McKee, Jason Barry; written by Neil Gaiman; “designed and directed by” (so reads the credit) Dave McKean. 2005. ● (SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY, 4/9, 6:30 P.M.)

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 (“Bunnies 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)

Music and Lyrics — Enough laughs in the first few minutes to sustain two or three average screen comedies: a music-video parody of the signature tune of a British bubblegum group of the Eighties — “Pop Goes My Heart” by Pop!, from beginning to end — with Hugh Grant shimmying, shaking, and pogosticking in a long-hair wig. Cut to the present, when he’s “a happy has-been,” finished with songwriting (“It’s so time-consuming”), content to re-do the oldies for class reunions, amusement parks, whoever will have him. But then the world’s hottest female soloist (a dimpled blond newcomer named Haley Bennett), a Madonna-esque amalgam of Eastern religions and Western decadence, commissions him to write her a song on spec — she’s indebted to Pop! for helping her through her parents’ split at age seven — and he begins an impromptu collaboration, and romance, with his temporary plant-waterer, Drew Barrymore. These are two actors with polished acts, and they both seem to be playing up to their own fan clubs rather than each other. The energy falls off right around the midpoint, but writer-director Marc Lawrence has his own sort of polish, and the image maintains a constant sheen. With Brad Garrett, Campbell Scott. 2007. ★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14)

The Namesake — Soggy, slobby family saga, adapted from the novel by Jhumpa Lahiri, spanning from Calcutta 1977 to New York City present day, and for the title figure, christened Gogol after the 19th-century Russian writer, spanning from mere gleam-in-the-eye to aspiring architect, engagement-breaker, husband and then cuckold. The passage of time, so effortless on the page, is rather a strain on the cast, although Irrfan Khan and Tabu as the father and mother handle it better than the young and younger actors who, at different times, play the protagonist and his eventual bride. All of the main characters are decently individualized, but the meat-and-potatoes theme, or possibly curry-and-rice theme, of Indian traditionalism vs. progressivism, especially as regards choosing a mate, drags them into the commonplace. Director Mira Nair has trod this ground before, in *Monsoon Wedding*, with a livelier step. Kal Penn, Jacinda Barrett, Zuleikha Robinson. 2007. ★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

SEEN ON
DVD

GRANT BARRETT

Co-host, KPBS’ *A Way with Words*, www.doubletongued.org

Kettledrums haven’t a character worth respecting. They’re the tension builders in rubber alien films and the footsteps of small armies in backlot wars where the drums are as subtle as a car horn and as thrilling as sounds out of a sewer grate. However, in David Lean’s reworking of T.E. Lawrence’s writings, the drums! Oh, the drums! A nice contrast to stretches of desert and Peter O’Toole’s Jack Benny–like femininity. Two scenes call me back to this movie: the filthy Lawrence’s “go pound sand” insistence of taking a drink in the officer’s mess, and, inexplicably, the boredom with an office job that drives him to the desert. In a film this long, couldn’t we have had a few minutes of Lawrence reading Burton by candlelight? Speaking a Bedouin dialect once in awhile? In any case, a renter. If you get a chance to see it outdoors, do so. Bring water. Hut-hut!

LAWRENCE OF ARABIA: LIMITED EDITION (England) 1962,

Sony Pictures

List price: \$39.95

ERIC BERMAN

Political reporter and puzzle guy for KPBS’ *A Way with Words*

There are funnier movies, but *Fast Times at Ridgemont High* just might have the best DVD commentary track ever released. Director Amy Heckerling and writer Cameron Crowe get so caught up in reminiscing that they’re still chatting nine full minutes after the last credits roll.

Martin Scorsese winning his Oscar for *The Departed* is like Einstein winning the Nobel for his high school science project. His gangster epic to see remains *Goodfellas*, which puts Scorsese on the turf he knows best, finding the mesmerizing side of thugs and wiseguys. When Ray Liotta runs errands while convinced he’s being followed, you can practically feel him sweating.

The Candidate feels even more timely and perceptive now than it did 35 years ago, charting a senatorial candidate’s slide from straight-talking newcomer to homogenized, sound-biting prisoner of the consultants. Be sure to check out the late Peter Boyle as Redford’s top strategist.

FAST TIMES AT RIDGEMONT HIGH (USA) 1982, Universal

List price: \$14.98

GOODFELLAS (USA) 1990, Warner Home Video

List price: \$26.98

THE CANDIDATE (USA) 1972, Warner Home Video

List price: \$19.98

MARTHA BARNETTE

Co-host, KPBS’ *A Way with Words*, www.kpbs.org

Word Wars is a documentary about the world of competitive Scrabble featuring the 2002 championship here in San Diego. It’s cleverly presented, often hilarious, and a little disturbing — a sort of cross between *Spellbound* and *Wordplay*, but much funnier than the latter. You’ll learn several new words that should come in handy for future Scrabble games, including “jerrid,” a kind of wooden javelin.

Prefer entomology to etymology? Then try *Microcosmos*, a mesmerizing celebration of some of the planet’s tiniest creatures. Before he did *Winged Migration*, Jacques Perrin produced this bug’s-eye view of beetles, wasps, flies, and of course, its slo-mo showstopper: an unforgettable scene of hot snail humping. I’ll never eat escargot again!

Speaking of critters, I’m always a sucker for Christopher Guest’s snarky ensemble comedies, especially his mockumentary, *Best in Show*, about just how wacky dog owners can be.

WORD WARS: THE TILES AND TRIBULATIONS ON THE SCRABBLE GAME CIRCUIT (USA) 2003, Anchor Bay

List price: \$19.98

MICROCOSMOS (France) 1996, Miramax

List price: \$19.99

BEST IN SHOW (USA) 2000, Warner Home Video

List price: \$19.98

down a path of increasing ridiculousness (he determines the novelist is a real-life murderer and that he himself is the man to bring him to justice), and director Joel Schumacher fails to achieve a sufficiently persuasive tone to cover for it. Not the least of his problems is his lead actor, Jim Carrey, the Plastic Man whose ability to “stretch” himself has proven to be strictly physical. Which is to say, he shows more elasticity in an Ace Ventura comedy than in *The Truman Show* or *The Majestic* or *Man on the Moon* or *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*. With Virginia Madsen, Logan Lerman, Danny Huston. 2007. ● (GASLAMP 15)

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 guillible 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 be-

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yond a Halloween get-up of Frankenstein’s monster. Del Toro never lets his special effects here, some of them pretty tacky and icky, take over to the same extent as in his comic-book Hollywood movies (*Blade II*, *Hellboy*), but a mere black-gloved sadist, even with an open gash on his cheek, has a hard time holding his own against an arbo-real goat-god, an insectile pixie, a feature-less 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)

Premonition — Time-tripping thriller wherein a normal, average, earthbound housewife and mother, whose parenting skills seem to consist solely of addressing her two daughters as “Baby,” wakes up on alternate days to find that her husband is dead, not yet dead, again dead, not yet dead, and so forth. “Something,” she intu-its, “is seriously fucked up with this situa-tion.” At one point, she attempts to sort out the scrambled events on a hand-drawn calen-dar grid, but this doesn’t clear up all con-fusion. Key question: will her advance knowledge of the fatal car crash allow her somehow to prevent it? Next question: will her additional knowledge of her husband’s amorous dalliance at the office prevent her from *wanting* to prevent it? Your curiosity may be aroused (if never satisfied), but just as likely it may not. One potential imped-iment is Sandra Bullock’s strange sedation, and another is director Mennan Yapo’s preference for romantic goop over psychi-c tingle. Julian McMahon, Nia Long, Kate Nelligan, Amber Valletta, Peter Stormare. 2007.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CINERAMA 6; ESCON-DIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VAL-LEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24;

PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RAN-CHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Pride — Sports pep fest, or pap fest, cen-tered around the new employee at the ob-solete rec center, a former college athlete who whips the young neighborhood layabouts into a competitive swim team, and rewrites the acronym PDR from Philadelphia Department of Recreation to “Pride, Determination, Resilience.” Ter-rence Howard, playing a real man named Jim Ellis, pitches the message very hard, but the rah-rah roteness teaches nothing so much as embarrassment. With Bernie Mac, Kimberly Elise, and Tom Arnold; directed by Sunu Goner. 2007.

● (GASLAMP 15)

Puccini for Beginners — Equal-oppor-tunity romantic triangle in which a love-’em-and-lose-’em lesbian (slash opera buff slash one-time novelist), on the rebound from her latest desertion, hooks up with a heterosexual male philosophy professor from Columbia University and simultane-ously (out of all the people in New York City!) with his on-and-off girlfriend, all three of whom are in blissful ignorance of the connection. The digital image places the shenanigans behind a dirty windshield, but then again no amount of Windex and el-bow grease could make writer-director Maria Maggenti (*The Incredibly True Ad-venture of Two Girls in Love*) look like a Preston Sturges. A brighter image would not brighten the dialogue. Even the most avid rooting interest in Elizabeth Reaser (smart, pretty, talented, modest, human) is doomed to despondence. With Justin Kirk, Getchen Mol, Julianne Nicholson. 2007.

● (HILLCREST CINEMAS, THROUGH 4/5)

The Queen — A spot of simulated Royals-watching, ably guided by the seasoned Stephen Frears: a satisfying, if unsurprising and unrevealing and unimaginative re-en-actment of what must have gone on behind closed doors in the week after the death of Princess Di, in specific the diplomatic ef-forts 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 hu-man beings: “Will somebody please save these people from themselves?” Helen Mir-ren 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 dys-peptic as Charles. The plentiful humor, out of deference to history and living persons, is very mild. 2006.

★★ (LA PALOMA)

The Reaping — Supernatural thriller with Hilary Swank, David Morrissey, Idris Elba, and Stephen Rea, directed by Stephen Hopkins. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ESCON-DIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Reign over Me — Adam Sandler drama, maybe “dramedy,” definitely not comedy, stretching the comedian in the role of a 9/11 widower with PTSD, an impudent ex-cuse for him to act like a Problem Child, hanging his Dylan-haired head, ignoring direct questions, immersing himself in video games, hiding inside his headphones, banging on a set of drums, throwing public tantrums, distracting attention from the more involving troubles and better per-formance of Don Cheadle as an old dental-school roommate, all to the purpose of putting off the dreaded moment of “open-ing up” and turning on the waterworks. Writer-director Mike Binder, intent on not making the struggle easy, succeeds in mak-ing it tedious. With Jada Pinkett Smith, Saf-bur Burrows, Liv Tyler. 2007.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASH-ION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT

CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VAL-LEY 7; 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 VIL-LAGE)

Shooter — A new Rambo for a new mil-lennium. Marine Gunnery Sergeant Bob Lee Swagger (a compact, tense, stoic, unswaggering Mark Wahlberg), already abandoned once in the field in Ethiopia, is lured out of mountaintop retirement osten-sibly to use his sniper know-how to foil a plot to assassinate the President but in real-ity to be fitted for a frame. The film, slickly fashioned by Antoine Fuqua, feeds off con-tradictory pieties of post-9/11: the righ-teousness of the fighting man (Support Our Troops) and the rottenness of the govern-ment (Bring Our Troops Home). “Don’t really like the President much,” the taciturn hero volunteers, and then broadening the political point, “Didn’t like the one before him much, either.” (Grunts, good; Com-manders-in-Chief, bad.) The frightening ef-ficiency, nay, invincibility, of the fighting man is liable to rally less consensus; and as our One-Man Army mows down more foes than you’ve got fingers and toes, he taxes your credulity if not your patience: two busy hours, action-packed, -crammed, -laden, -clogged. Still, there’s sufficient pause for good character bits from Levon Helm as a bluegrass gunsmith and Ned Beatty as a Senatorial slimeball, and there’s strong steady support from Michael Peña as a disarmed and disgraced FBI rookie who doggedly stays on the hunt and, alone among his colleagues, gets a clue. Danny Glover, Kate Mara, Elias Koteas. 2007.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home — The plot this time, which finds our crew in a Klingon vessel (the Enterprise having been blown, as you will remember if you were not traumatized into amnesia, to smithereens) heading earthward toward a court-martial, and with the “reborn” Spock back at his post, shows no decline in the ability to pose tantalizing questions and problems. A gigantic probe, looking some-thing like a greasy railroad spike with an all-white soccer ball rotating in a shaft of light at its tip, is in a trajectory toward Earth, mysteriously incapacitating any star-ships in its path and sapping Earth’s energy immediately upon entry into the atmo-sphere. Tantalizing questions so far: How does it do this? And why? What is it? And where from? And what does whatever it is want? One partial answer or mere clue: it has been transmitting an inscrutable mes-sage to the world’s oceans, which our heroes, well back in the trail of the probe and thus still with full power at their dis-posal, manage to decode when filtered through the density of the oceans as the call of the humpback whale. Hmm. But this only gives us another problem: here in the 23rd Century there are no longer any humpback whales to talk to. And just a glimmer of a possible solution: to travel back in time (“We’ve done it before,” as viewers of the TV series will attest) to the late 20th Century, say about 1986, and fetch a couple of specimens back to the fu-ture to respond to the probe. Not all the enumerated questions are to be answered satisfactorily or at all. But they are tantaliz-ing all the same. And Greenpeace, among others, will be well satisfied without satis-factory answers. The movie is doing the proper duty of science fiction in revising our perspective to envisage the humpback whale as the hypothetical center of the uni-verse; and, on top of its pertinence to con-temporary ecological issues, its marginal comments on the foulness of the spoken language in our time and on the quality of public health care (“Don’t leave him,” the impassioned “Bones” McCoy pleads to his admiral on behalf of a shipmate about to be wheeled into surgery in present-day San

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Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)
Amazing Grace (PG); **Are We Done Yet?** (PG); **Blades of Glory** (PG-13); **The Hills Have Eyes II** (R); **Journey from the Fall** (R); **The Last Mimzy** (PG); **Meet the Robinsons** (G); **Music and Lyrics** (PG-13); **Reign over Me** (R); **Shooter** (R); **TMNT** (PG); **Wild Hogs** (PG-13)

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262)
Amazing Grace (PG); **Are We Done Yet?** (PG); **Blades of Glory** (PG-13); **Firehouse Dog** (PG); **Grindhouse** (R); **The Lookout** (R); **Meet the Robinsons** (G); **Premonition** (PG-13); **The Reaping** (R); **Reign over Me** (R); **Shooter** (R); **300** (R)

La Jolla Village

8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)
The Hoax (R) Fri. 1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. 11:10, 1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55; **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. 1:40, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. 11:20, 1:40, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30; **The Namesake** (PG-13) Fri. 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. 10:50, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45; **Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home** (PG) Sat. 11:55

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)
Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:40) 2:20, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40; **Blades of Glory** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:45) 12:30, 2:15, 3:00, 4:45, 5:30, 7:10, 8:00, 9:45, 10:35; **Firehouse Dog** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:35) 1:25, 4:05, 6:40, 9:30; **Grindhouse** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:50) 2:55, 6:05, 7:25, 10:10, 10:55; **The Hills Have Eyes II** (R) Fri.-Sat. 7:05, 9:35; **The Hoax** (R) Fri.-Sat. 12:45, 3:35; **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri.-Sat. 1:50, 4:25; **The Lookout** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:40) 1:05, 3:40; **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 11:30) 1:10, 2:10, 3:50, 4:50, 6:30, 7:35, 9:00, 10:00; **Music and Lyrics** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 12:55, 7:45, 10:05; **Premoni-tion** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:25) 1:50, 4:20, 6:45, 9:20; **The Reaping** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:20) 1:55, 4:40, 7:20, 10:15; **Reign over Me** (R) Fri.-Sat. 1:00, 4:10, 7:00; **Shooter** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:45)

1:35, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30; **300** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:30) 1:30, 4:35, 7:40, 10:40 Fri.-Sat. (10:30) 1:30, 4:35, 7:40, 10:40; **TMNT** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:00) 1:15, 3:30, 5:55, 8:10, 10:25; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:10) 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:25; **Zodiac** (R) Fri.-Sat. 3:15, 6:25, 9:50

Mission Valley 7

7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)
Blades of Glory (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (10:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15; **Firehouse Dog** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; **Grindhouse** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 3:00) 7:00, 10:45 Sun. (11:00, 3:00) 7:00; **Jakers! Wish Upon a Story** (G) Sat.-Sun. (10:30a.m.); **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; **The Reaping** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45; **Reign over Me** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:00) 10:30 Sun. (10:00); **Shooter** (R) Fri. (10:30, 1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15 Sat. (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15 Sun. (1:15, 4:15) 7:15; **300** (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:45, 4:30) 7:30

Mission Valley 20

1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262)
Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri.-Sat. 12:05, 2:40, 5:25, 8:00, 10:35 Fri.-Sat. (11:10) 12:05, 1:40, 2:40, 4:25, 5:25, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30 Sun. 12:05, 2:40, 5:25, 8:00; **Blades of Glory** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:35) 12:30, 2:05, 3:05, 4:35, 5:40, 7:15, 8:15, 9:45, 10:45 Sun. (11:35) 12:30, 2:05, 3:05, 4:35, 5:40, 7:15, 8:15, 9:45; **Dead Silence** (R) Fri.-Sat. 8:20, 10:50 Sun. 8:10, 10:35; **Firehouse Dog** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 12:50, 3:45, 6:45, 9:35; **Grindhouse** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 11:30) 12:45, 2:35, 3:30, 5:00, 6:50, 7:35, 9:15, 10:20, 11:05 Sun. (11:00, 11:30) 12:45, 2:35, 3:30, 5:00, 6:50, 7:35, 9:15, 10:20; **The Hills Have Eyes II** (R) Fri.-Sun. 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 7:45, 10:15; **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri.-Sat. 12:20, 3:00, 5:45 Sun. 12:20, 3:00, 5:35; **The Lookout** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:35, 4:20, 7:20; **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sat. (11:05, 11:50) 1:50, 2:30, 4:30, 5:20, 7:10, 8:05, 10:40 Sun. (11:50) 2:30, 5:20, 8:05, 9:55; **Pre-**

monition (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 10:00p.m.; **The Reaping** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:25) 2:20, 5:05, 7:40, 10:25; **Reign over Me** (R) Fri.-Sun. 3:20, 7:05; **Shooter** (R) Fri.-Sat. 1:30, 4:40, 7:50, 11:00 Sun. 1:30, 4:40, 7:45, 10:40; **300** (R) Fri.-Sat. 12:10, 1:00, 3:15, 4:15, 6:30, 7:25, 9:40, 10:30 Sun. 12:10, 1:00, 3:15, 4:15, 6:30, 7:25, 9:40; **TMNT** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:45) 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 9:50; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 10:05

STATE UNIVERSITY

Cinerama 6

5831 University Avenue (619-287-8990)
Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:10, 2:35) 5:10, 7:05, 9:15; **Grindhouse** (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:00) 5:00, 9:00; **The Hills Have Eyes II** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:50, 3:00) 5:15, 7:35, 9:45; **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:20) 4:40, 7:00, 9:20; **The Reaping** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:45, 3:10) 5:30, 8:00, 10:10; **300** (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:20, 3:55) 7:15, 9:50

Ken

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)
Into Great Silence (Not Rated)

UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)
Avenue Montaigne (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 1:40, 7:10; **First Snow** (R) Fri. 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. 11:25, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 9:50; **The Host** (R) Fri. 4:25, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. 10:55, 4:25, 9:55; **The Lives of Others** (R) Fri. 2:10, 5:05, 8:00 Sat.-Sun. 11:15, 2:10, 5:05, 8:00; **The Namesake** (PG-13) Fri. 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. 10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45; **Pan’s Labyrinth** (R) Fri. 1:50, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. 11:05, 1:50, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center

1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)
Alps (No Rating) 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; **Coral Reef Adventure** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. 10:00, 3:00; **Dolphins** (Not Rated) Fri. 6:00p.m.; **Hurricane on the Bayou** (Not Rated) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 5:00, 9:00 Sat.-

Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 5:00, 7:00; **Mysteries of Egypt** (Not Rated) Fri. 7:00

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)
Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri.-Sun. 12:00, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45; **Blades of Glory** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 12:30, 2:55, 5:20, 7:45, 10:25 Sun. 12:30, 2:55, 5:20, 7:45, 10:20; **Firehouse Dog** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 11:45, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35; **Grindhouse** (R) Fri.-Sun. 11:55, 3:55, 8:30; **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sun. 11:30, 2:15, 4:35, 7:00, 9:30; **The Reaping** (R) Fri.-Sat. 11:35, 2:35, 5:15, 7:55, 10:40 Sun. 11:35, 2:05, 4:40, 7:55, 10:10; **Shooter** (R) Fri.-Sat. 12:55, 3:50, 7:25, 10:15 Sun. 12:55, 3:45, 7:25, 10:15; **300** (R) Fri.-Sat. 12:05, 2:40, 5:25, 8:00, 10:35 Sun. 12:05, 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25; **TMNT** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 12:15, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:55; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 12:20, 2:50, 5:30, 8:10, 10:30 Sun. 12:20, 2:55, 5:30, 8:10, 10:30

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15

2951 Jamacha Road
Call theater for program information

SANTEE

Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)
Firehouse Dog (PG); **Meet the Robinsons** (G); **TMNT** (PG); **Wild Hogs** (PG-13)

Francisco, “in the hands of 20th-century medicine!”) raise the social consciousness of the movie to the top ten percent or so of contemporary cinema — although not, thankfully, all the way to the soapbox of the ninety-ninth percentile. William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy, Catherine Hicks; directed by Nimoy. 1986.

★★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, 4/7 MIDNIGHT)

300 — Like *Sin City*, this 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.) 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



Meet the Robinsons

that no one will mistake it for history; that the history, 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. With Gerard Butler, Lena Headey, David Wenham, Dominic West. 2007.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCON-DIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MIS-SION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARK-WAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

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 uninter-est in whatever they have to do for it. Tra-

volta 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; ESCONDIDO 16; FASH-ION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Zodiac — The big question that hovers over this movie is not, Who’s the Zodiac

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10

Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)

Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:45, 1:00, 3:30) 6:00, 8:30, 10:45; **Blades of Glory** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30; **Firehouse Dog** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **Grindhouse** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 12:15, 3:00, 4:00) 7:00, 8:00, 10:45; **The Hills Have Eyes II** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:45, 4:00) 10:00; **Jakers! Wish Upon a Story** (G) Sat.-Sun. (10:30a.m.); **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 1:00, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30; **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 11:30, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30) 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30; **The Reaping** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:15, 12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; **TMNT** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45

Palm Promenade 24

770 Denney Road (858-558-2262)

Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:35) 12:20, 1:05, 2:45, 3:25, 5:10, 5:50, 7:30, 8:15, 9:55, 10:40 Sun. (10:35) 12:20, 1:05, 2:45, 3:25, 5:10, 5:50, 7:30, 8:15, 9:55; **Blades of Glory** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:25) 12:10, 1:45, 2:25, 4:50, 5:35, 7:10, 7:55, 9:30, 10:10, 11:50 Sun. (11:25) 12:10, 1:45, 2:25, 4:50, 5:35, 7:10, 7:55, 9:30, 10:10; **Dead Silence** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:50) 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:10, 10:20; **Firehouse Dog** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:50) 2:20, 4:55, 7:40, 10:15; **Grindhouse** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:00) 12:05, 1:00, 3:00, 4:05, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 11:00, 12:00 Sun. (11:00) 12:05, 1:00, 3:00, 4:05, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:30; **The Hills Have Eyes II** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:40) 12:55, 3:10, 5:25, 7:45, 10:00; **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:50) 2:10, 4:35, 7:05, 9:30; **The Lookout** (R) Fri.-Sun. 8:10, 10:25; **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sat. (11:10) 12:15, 1:30, 2:50, 4:15, 5:20, 6:40, 7:50, 9:10, 10:20, 11:35 Fri.-Sun. (11:45) 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40 Sun. (11:10) 12:15, 1:30, 2:50, 4:15, 5:20, 6:40, 7:50, 9:10, 10:20; **Norbit** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:30) 12:55, 3:15, 5:40; **Premonation** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:25) 12:45, 3:05, 5:25, 7:40, 10:05; **The Reaping** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:00) 12:15, 2:30, 4:55, 7:25, 9:50; **Reign over Me** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:45) 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:05; **Shooter** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:05) 1:50, 4:40, 7:35, 10:25; **300** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:55,

11:35) 1:35, 2:20, 4:20, 5:05, 7:05, 7:45, 9:45, 10:30 Sun. (10:55, 11:35) 1:35, 2:20, 4:20, 5:05, 7:05, 7:45, 9:45; **TMNT** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:35, 11:15) 12:50, 1:25, 3:00, 3:40, 5:15, 5:55, 7:20, 8:05, 9:35, 10:10, 11:45 Sun. (10:35, 11:15) 12:50, 1:25, 3:00, 3:40, 5:15, 5:55, 7:20, 8:05, 9:35, 10:10; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:05) 12:30, 2:55, 5:15, 7:35, 10:00

Rancho Del Rey 16

East H Street (619-216-4707)

Call theater for program information

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive-In

2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727)

Call theater for program information

NORTH INLAND

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Carmel Mountain

11620 Carmel Mountain Road (858-674-9770)

Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri.-Sat. (12:25, 2:50) 5:00, 7:20, 9:50 Sun. (12:25, 2:50) 5:00, 7:20; **Blades of Glory** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:55, 3:15) 5:40, 8:05, 10:30 Sun. (12:55, 3:15) 5:40, 8:05; **Firehouse Dog** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (12:15, 2:55) 5:25, 7:55, 10:25 Sun. (12:15, 2:55) 5:25, 7:55; **Grindhouse** (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:10) 4:15, 8:10 Sun. (3:00) 7:00; **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 2:30) 5:05; **The Lookout** (R) Fri.-Sat. 7:35, 10:05 Sun. 7:35p.m.; **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sat. (12:00, 2:35) 5:10, 7:50, 10:20 Sun. (12:00, 2:35) 5:10, 7:50; **Premonation** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:50, 3:10) 5:35, 8:00, 10:15 Sun. (12:50, 3:10) 5:35, 8:00; **The Reaping** (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:20, 2:45) 5:15, 7:40, 10:10 Sun. (12:20, 2:45) 5:15, 7:40; **Shooter** (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:35) 4:20, 7:10, 10:00 Sun. (12:35) 4:20, 7:10; **300** (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:40) 4:30, 7:15, 9:55 Sun. (12:40) 4:30, 7:15; **TMNT** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (12:30, 2:40) 4:50, 7:05, 9:45 Sun. (12:30, 2:40) 4:50, 7:05; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:45, 3:05) 5:30, 8:00, 10:25 Sun. (12:45, 3:05) 5:30, 8:00

ESCONDIDO

Escondido 16

350 W. Valley Parkway (760-291-0119)

Call theater for program information

FALLBROOK

Galaxy 6

5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784)

Blades of Glory (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15; **Firehouse Dog** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; **Grindhouse** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 3:00) 7:00, 10:45 Sun. (11:15, 3:00) 7:00; **Jakers! Wish Upon a Story** (G) Sat. (10:30a.m.); **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sat. (12:15, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (12:15, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; **The Reaping** (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:30, 3:15) 5:30, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (12:30, 3:15) 5:30, 7:45; **Shooter** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:45, 4:45) 7:30, 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:45) 7:30

POWAY

Poway 10

13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)

Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (11:15, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30; **Blades of Glory** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (11:00, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15; **Firehouse Dog** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; **Grindhouse** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 3:00) 7:00, 10:45 Sun. (11:00, 3:00) 7:00; **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 11:30, 12:30, 2:00, 4:30, 3:00) 5:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:45, 10:30 Sun. (10:00, 11:30, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30) 5:30, 7:15, 8:00; **The Reaping** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 1:00, 3:30) 6:00, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (10:30, 1:00, 3:30) 6:00, 8:30; **Shooter** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 2:15) 5:00, 7:45, 10:45 Sun. (11:00, 2:15) 5:00, 7:45; **300** (R) Fri.-Sat. 7:30, 10:30 Sun. 7:30p.m.; **TMNT** (PG) Fri. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 5:15 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 2:30) 5:15; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 4:45, 7:15

SAN MARCOS

San Marcos 18

1180 West San Marcos Boulevard at Old California Walk (760-471-3711)

Call theater for program information

VISTA

Vista Village

Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive (760-945-7469)

Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:25, 2:45, 5:05) 7:25, 9:45; **Blades of Glory** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:05, 12:15, 1:25, 2:35, 3:45, 4:55) 6:10, 7:15, 8:25, 9:35, 10:45; **Fire-house Dog** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 11:50, 1:30, 2:20, 4:00, 4:50) 7:20, 9:50; **Grindhouse** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:30, 3:30) 6:30, 7:30, 10:30, 11:30 Sun. (11:30, 3:30) 6:30, 7:30, 10:30; **The Hills Have Eyes II** (R) Fri.-Sun. 8:00, 10:15; **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 3:00, 5:30); **The Lookout** (R) Fri.-Sun. 10:00p.m.; **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 12:00, 1:45, 2:30, 4:15, 5:00) 6:50, 7:35, 9:15; **Premoni-tion** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (1:45) 7:10; **The Reaping** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 2:50, 5:20) 7:50, 10:30; **Reign over Me** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 4:10) 9:40; **Shooter** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:50, 4:50) 7:45, 10:40; **300** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 2:00, 4:50) 7:40, 10:30; **TMNT** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:15, 4:35) 7:00, 9:20; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:25, 1:50, 4:30) 7:05, 9:35

NORTH COASTAL

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Plaza Camino Real

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Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:05, 3:10) 5:20, 7:30, 9:35; **Blades of Glory** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:10, 1:15, 3:25) 5:35, 7:45, 9:50; **Grindhouse** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 4:00) 8:00; **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sun. (11:45, 2:10, 4:35) 7:00, 9:15

DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8

El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)

Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45, 10:00; **Blades of Glory** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30; **Firehouse Dog** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **Grindhouse** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 3:00) 7:00, 10:45; **Jakers! Wish Upon a Story** (G) Sat.-Sun. (10:30); **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 1:00, 3:30) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45; **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **Shooter** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15; **300** (R) Fri.-Sun. 7:30, 10:30; **TMNT** (PG) Fri. (10:15, 12:30, 2:45) 5:15 Sat.-Sun. (12:30, 2:45) 5:15

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 un-solved serial murders that gripped the Bay Area throughout the Seventies, and it has also an angle of interest, the differing de-grees 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.) Nev-ertheless, two and three-quarters hours are a lot of time to spend on red tape, red her-rings, 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.

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The Hoax (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; **The Namesake** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 9:45 Sun. (10:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00; **Premonation** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 4:30); **The Reaping** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; **Reign over Me** (R) Fri.-Sat. (1:30) 7:30, 10:15 Sun. (1:30) 7:30

ENCINITAS

La Paloma

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Pan’s Labyrinth (R); **The Queen** (PG-13)

LA COSTA

La Costa 6

6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)

Blades of Glory (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **Grindhouse** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 3:00) 7:00, 10:45; **Jakers! Wish Upon a Story** (G) Sat.-Sun. (10:30a.m.); **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15; **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **Reign over Me** (R) Fri.-Sun. 7:45, 10:30; **Shooter** (R) Fri. (10:30, 1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15; **300** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:30) 7:30, 10:30

OCEANSIDE

Mission Marketplace 13

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Blades of Glory (PG-13); **The Hills Have Eyes II** (R); **The Last Mimzy** (PG); **The Lookout** (R); **Meet the Robinsons** (G); **Premonation** (PG-13); **Pride** (PG); **Shooter** (R); **300** (R); **TMNT** (PG); **Wild Hogs** (PG-13)

Oceanside 16

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LA SEMANA EN ESPAÑOL

región



Ataca la 'migra'

América Barceló

Diario San Diego

Terror, angustia y miedo ronda en las comunidades migrantes de San Diego ante las redadas que llevan a cabo agentes de inmigración.

Con engaños la "migra" ha irrumpido en los hogares para arrestar a personas indocumentadas y con eso violar derechos civiles de familias.

"Ya no estamos a salvo en ningún lugar, no salimos por miedo y ahora no tenemos seguridad en nuestra propia casa", cla-

mó Graciela García, víctima de las redadas.

Decenas de familias migrantes han sido separadas cuando agentes de la Oficina de Inmigración y Seguridad Fronteriza (ICE, por sus siglas en inglés) con mentiras, prepotencia e intimidación, entran a las casas en busca de indocumentados.

Defensores de derechos civiles acusaron las tácticas como discriminatorias porque los inmigrantes, en su mayoría hispanos, son blanco de agentes por su apariencia física.

espectáculos



Gran show

Servicios Diario San Diego

Shamu Stadium se convirtió en un gran espacio para conciertos, ya que su estrella Shamu protagoniza su propio espectáculo de rock'n roll con luces impactantes y potentes tonadas.

"Shamu Rocks" es ya un viaje musical de 20 minutos a través de impresionantes parajes naturales. Y todo esto se ve a través de los ojos de la ballena asesina más famosa del mundo.

El espectáculo nocturno, es una de las nuevas presentaciones de la ballena en Sea World, mismo que debutó el 31 de marzo y vuelve para las noches de verano.

El show de Shamu muestra imágenes sorprendentes en cuatro pantallas que se mueven y giran, además capturan el estremecedor viaje de Shamu a través de los lugares de recreo de las ballenas asesinas en todo el planeta.

deportes



Satisfecho Hugo

El director técnico de la Selección de México, Hugo Sánchez, destacó la actitud y el orgullo mostrado por sus jugadores en la voltereta contra el conjunto de Ecuador y que fue la tercera victoria consecutiva del tricolor azteca.

Sin embargo, Sánchez no sólo analizó el 4-2 sobre los ecuatorianos, sino la victoria contra Paraguay de 2-1; dos rivales con el estilo de juego clásico sudamericano y que se verá en la próxima Copa América de Venezuela 2007.

"Me gustó el orgullo, la actitud y el corazón que mostraron estos guerreros aztecos, más porque sabían que se tiene en mente esa lista previa a la Copa América. Me gustaron esas ganas y ese deseo de salvar la situación."

"Lo que no me gustó fue que hubo imprecisiones en algunas partes fallamos más de lo habitual y en el aspecto técnico los mexicanos son muy buenos, no me gusta que tengan equivocaciones técnicas en los pases", comentó Hugo.

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No retenes

Diario San Diego

Ante un aumento de la presencia policiaca en la mayoría de las ciudades y comunidades del Condado, grupos activistas protestaron en la llamada "Esquina de la Resistencia".

Miembros de las comunidades de Barrio Logan y el Sureste de San Diego acudieron el pasado sábado 31 de marzo a demandar un alto a los retenes de policía que ha dejado a cientos de migrantes sin medio de transporte para ir a sus trabajos y escuelas.

Actualmente el número de retenes de revisión de tráfico aparece en varias comunidades del Condado de San Diego, donde policía mu-

nicipal y alguaciles del Condado verifican que los conductores tengan documentos en regla para poder transportarse en un automóvil.

Para asegurar que en las calles de la ciudad y comunidades se respeten las leyes estatales de tránsito, corporaciones policiacas han incrementado operativos al verificar que conductores tengan licencias de manejo.

En Chula Vista, se han obtenido recursos estatales para llevar a cabo programas de control vehicular y de tráfico.

En una semana decomisaron 37 autos de personas que no tenían licencia de manejo y se multaron a 57 personas.



Gusta melodrama

Omar Millán González

Diario San Diego

La obra teatral "Aventurera" presentó de nuevo una historia archiconocida, una Edith González que no logra ser más sensual que una bailarina profesional de 'table dance' y una Carmen Salinas que repite su personaje dentro y fuera de la ficción de "La Corcholata".

Su orquesta en vivo no se distingue de otras orquestas de su tipo en el país y su media docena de galanes de televisión tienen más presencia que actuación.

¿Por qué entonces su éxito? ¿Cómo es posible que durante una década la gente haya llenado los teatros y salones donde se ha presentado? ¿Por qué el fenómeno?

Sus presentaciones en Tijuana la semana pasada tuvo la misma convocatoria que sus anteriores: El salón principal del Grand Hotel en Tijuana casi a su máxima capacidad en cada una de sus cuatro funciones.

El público aplaudió y festejó con complacencia y sin aburrimiento la obra, pero eso no impide tratar de desmenuzarla y analizar su singular éxito por tanto tiempo.

La obra tiene un cuadro de buenos actores que van desde Ernesto Gómez Cruz, Juan Ferrara, Carmen Salinas y Edith González; y otros nombres que la televisión los ha convertido en personalidades, como Jorge Salinas y el luchador "Latin Lover", entre otros.



Aseguran poder

Servicios Diario San Diego

Padres de San Diego y el primera base Adrián González llegaron a un acuerdo multi anual por cuatro temporadas hasta el 2010 con opción del club para el 2011.

"Adrián se ha establecido como uno de los mejores jóvenes jugadores en las mayores y es parte importante de nuestro club.

"Nos emociona que estará en el uniforme de Padres por muchos años no sólo por la clase de jugador que es, sino por la clase de persona que es", dijo el vice presidente ejecutivo y gerente general Kevin Towers, quien hizo el anuncio el pasado domingo.

González, de 24 años,

bateó para .304 (173 hits en 570 turnos) con 38 dobles, 24 homeruns, 82 carreras producidas y 83 carreras anotadas en 156 juegos para San Diego en el 2006 y fue nombrado el jugador más valioso del equipo.

Lideró el club en muchas categorías como promedio de bateo, hits dobles, cuadrangulares y slugging (.500). En cuatro juegos de playoffs de serie divisional contra Cardenales de San Luis.

Del 17 de mayo al 9 de junio del 2006 pegó de imparable en una cantidad récord personal para él, 17 juegos consecutivos, la racha más larga para un jugador de Padres desde 1999.

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AUTO TECHNICIANS. AAMCO Transmissions is now hiring General Auto Technicians. Full time positions. Benefits available. Apply: 3905 Convooy Street, San Diego, or call Rudy 858-565-8125.

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CAMP LEADERS. Looking for a fun summer job? The Magdalena Ecke Family YMCA is hiring Camp Unit Leaders. Contact Kate, 760-942-9622, x1008 or e-mail: kornaca@ymca.org.

CAMP LEADERS: YMCA. Now hiring at YMCAs throughout the county: Day Camp Leaders, Day Camp Unit Leaders, Swim Instructors, Lifeguards, Bus Drivers. More fun outdoors! More friends! More hands-on experiences! More opportunities for career growth! More ways to develop your spirit, mind and body! More nights and weekends off! Call 858-292-YMCA (9622).

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CAREGIVERS/SAN MARCOS/VISTA Escondido! North County needs qualified, compassionate Caregivers. CNAs: Come work 1-on-1 with seniors in their homes. Competitive salary, benefits, flexible. Paid training. Apply 9am-4pm: In-Home Care, 135 West Mission Avenue, #109, Escondido (92025); 760-740-9932.

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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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DATABASE EDITOR. Work with manufacturer catalogs & price lists to maintain/update both product & price data for electrical/plumbing distributors. High-level detail orientation/strong computer skills required. Carmel Mountain Ranch area. Approximately \$12.50/hour. Full-time temporary position. Reply with resume: Shirley_Vaughn@TradeService.com.

DELI COUNTER CLERK. Experienced. Full-time and part-time positions available. D.Z. Akin's, 6930 Alvarado Road, San Diego, 92120. 619-265-0218.

DELI WORKER/DRIVER needed for catering facility in Vista in North County. Monday-Friday. \$8/hour plus tips. E-mail: rudy@applespice.com, or call: Apple Spice Junction, 760-599-0999.

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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 April 7, 2007, 7:30am arrival, Southwestern College Cafeteria, 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista CA, 91910 or Thursday, April 12, 2007, 12:30pm arrival, Sheriff's Administration Center, 9621 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego CA 92123. Registration by email or phone is required for the Ridgehaven test ONLY at: recruit@sdsheeriff.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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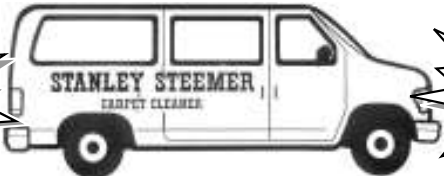
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April 14, 2007 • 8 am

San Diego Regional Public Safety Training Institute
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April 18, 2007 • 6 pm

City Concourse Building
202 C Street • San Diego, CA 92101

April 20, 2007 • 8 am

Balboa Park Club Ballroom
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ELECTRONIC ASSEMBLERS and Test Technicians. Component ID experience required for Electronic Assemblers position. 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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GYMNASTICS SPECIALIST. City of Chula Vista. \$14.09-\$17.12/hour. Organize, promote, supervise, instruct various tumbling and gymnastics classes for children four years of age and older. EOE. Please visit our website for more information. www.chulavista.ca.gov. 619-691-5096.

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HAIR SALON. Dearinger, voted Best Salon by San Diego Magazine 2005 and 2006. Expanding and creating new shifts! Guaranteed base salary plus commissions for Cutters, Colorists and New Talent! Paid training program with fast-track training for experienced applicants. Medical, dental, chiropractic, acupuncture, 401(k). For more information, log on to dearinger.com and click on "Careers." E-mail resume to mark@dearinger.com or fax 619-595-0438.

HAIRDRESSERS needed for salon in Hillcrest. Part time and full time available. Booth rental. Free parking. Call Judy, 619-291-1190.

HAIRSTYLIST, experienced, with clients needed for a new salon at Downtown La

Jolla. Booth rent. Call 11am-4pm, daily, 858-456-0051.

HAIRSTYLIST. Booth rental. 5000+ square-foot upscale salon and day spa, great location, towel service/back bar, front desk support, walk-ins, lowest rent in Mission Valley. Call direct for information: 619-890-2020.

HAIRSTYLIST. Children's hairstylist wanted for Children's Salon in La Jolla. Many clients eagerly awaiting you! Experience with children preferred. Please call 858-551-5161.

HAIRSTYLIST. New Urban Chic Salon, Point Loma, looking for Stylist. Good location. Owner with established clientele. Must see: 2145 Poinsettia Drive. Contact Lynnel, 619-379-1542.

HAIRSTYLIST. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring a Hairstylist. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm: San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

HAIRSTYLIST/MANICURIST. Move-in incentive. Part or full time. Hairstylists: Booth rental \$150/week; Manicurist \$120/week or commission with some clientele. Friendly, 40-year established salon in Kensington. Parking, insurance, commission on products. Call Marissa, 619-666-7707.

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- **Ice Cream Attendant** (PT)
- **Outdoor BBQ Cook** (FT)
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HAIRSTYLISTS. Motivated Hairstylists for busy salons in Poway, Carmel Mountain, Scripps Ranch, and Rancho Bernardo. Full/part time available. Health insurance provided. Call 858-336-7860.

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HAIRSTYLISTS/MANICURISTS. Booth rentals available in upscale salon in Casa De Oro/Spring Valley. Plenty of parking. Great environment. For more information, call Kim: 619-589-9262.

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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 screen-

ing, 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.

HEALTHCARE/CAREGIVERS. North County needs light housekeeping, meal preparation, transportation assisting seniors in their homes. Requires: caring, compassionate, dependable, reliable vehicle/clean DMV. Flexible hours, competitive/weekly pay. Apply weekdays, 8:30am-4:30pm. Right at Home. 858-451-7844. E-mail: employment@rahencinitas.com.

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LOBBY AMBASSADORS/SECURITY Guards. San Diego and North County opportunities with Universal! \$300 hiring bonus with guard card. Apply: Universal Protection Services, Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm, 7380 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, #206, San Diego, CA 92111. www.universalpro.com. 858-874-4493.

LVN. The GEO Group, Western Region Detention Facility, San Diego seeks qualified Licensed Vocational Nurses (full-time), \$19.80/hour. Must have lived legally in USA for the last 5 years, be cur-

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MACHINE ADJUSTER. Solo Cup Company has immediate openings for Adjuster. All shifts needed. Company will train. Experience with basic hand tools and a mechanical background necessary. Solo Cup Company offers an excellent benefit package including 401(k) savings plan with company match, exceptional medical and dental plans, paid vacation and holidays. Apply in person: 1160 Vernon Way, El Cajon, CA, 92020, or fax resume: 619-448-0820. EOE/AA. Drug-free workplace.

MACHINE OPERATOR, entry-level, \$9.50+/hour. Also hiring Packaging Clerks. North County opening. 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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MARKET RESEARCH ANALYST. Establish research methods/prep market feasibility analyses. B.S. Business Administration, Marketing, Economics or International Business plus 2 years experience. Send resumes: HOIST Fitness Systems, Inc., 9900 Empire Street, San Diego CA 92126.

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NAIL TECHNICIAN. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring a Nail Technician. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm: San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

NURSES PACU/OR, SCRUB TECHS. Part-time, per diem. No weekends/holidays. Privately-owned surgical suite, La Jolla. Prefer plastics experience. RNs: CA-licensed, ACLS. Fax resume: 858-458-1550.

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PAID VOLUNTEERS needed for Hydration Status Study. PhiloMetron Inc., is conducting a research study to test a device to monitor hydration status. Male or female participants must: Be Caucasian or African American, be 18 to 35 years of age, be able to do moderate exercise at warm temperatures for 3 hours, be willing to have blood samples taken, not have chronic medical illnesses, not be pregnant. If eligible, participants will receive: Payment for completion of study. This study will take about 8 hours on 1 day. Study will take place at: Athletes Edge Sports Conditioning Facility, 1211 Liberty Way, Vista, CA 92081. For additional information, please call Jeff, 858-487-1600.

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PARKING SUPERVISOR. Five Star Parking seeking full time, evening and weekend position. Must have supervisory experience and be proficient in Microsoft Office. Salary depends on experience Call 619-238-8800 or e-mail recruitersd@fivestartparking.com.

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PORTFOLIO ACQUISITION Manager. RevCare, Inc., a subsidiary of EquiCare Capital, is a leader in Healthcare Receivables Management. We are currently expanding our operations and seek strong communicators for our San Marcos and Cypress, CA facilities. Competitive base pay plus incentives, comprehensive medical, dental and vision, paid time off 401K and flexible schedules. Drug, criminal, identity and employment backgrounds checked. Please reference Job Code JG and Reader and e-mail your resume to: jobs@revcare.com or fax to: Maria Forteza at 760-304-7509 or Mary Hard at

760-304-7514. www.equicarecapital.com.

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PRESCHOOL TEACHER. Christian, NAEYC-accredited preschool has an immediate opening for a morning Teacher, hours from 8:30am to 12:30pm Monday-Friday. Must have AA or BA degree in Early Childhood Education, plus classroom experience and curriculum development. Salary ranges from \$12-\$18/hour commensurate with education and experience. Call Betty at 858-454-2677, fax your resume to 858-454-6642, or e-mail to bettyh@jlpres.org.

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.

PROJECT COORDINATOR. To \$40K. Downtown. Temp-to-hire opportunity for a landscape architecture firm. Must be proficient with MS Office and organized. Apply: www.atworkstaffing.com or call: 619-234-WORK (9675).

PROPERTY MANAGER. On-site manager for 82 unit complex in Hillcrest. Fax resume to 619-299-2611. Come by 930 West Washington Street, suite #11 or e-mail resume to propkid@aol.com.

PROPERTY MANAGER for busy property management company. Fax resume to 619-299-2611. Come by 930 West Washington Street, Suite #11 or e-mail resume to propkid@aol.com.

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RECEPTIONIST. Must be fluent in English and Spanish. Full time position, \$12.08/hour. Provides reception/switchboard/clerical function requiring contact with the public. The GEO Group, Inc., Western Region Detention Facility, San Diego. Qualified applicants must have lived legally in the U.S.A. for the last 5

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RECEPTIONIST. RevCare, Inc., a subsidiary of EquiCare Capital, is a leader in Healthcare Receivables Management. We are currently expanding our operations and seek strong communicators for our San Marcos and Cypress, CA facilities. Competitive base pay plus incentives, comprehensive medical, dental and vision, paid time off 401K and flexible schedules. Drug, criminal, identity and employment backgrounds checked. Please reference Job Code JG and Reader and e-mail your resume to: jobs@revcare.com or fax to: Maria Forteza at 760-304-7509 or Mary Hard at 760-304-7514. www.equicarecapital.com.

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RESORT/BARBACK. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring a Barback. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm; San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

RESORT/GIFT SHOP ATTENDANT. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring a Gift Shop Attendant. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm; San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

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RESTAURANT. Front counter help/Barista. Some experience required. Part-time early morning shift. Cafe 1021, near Scripps Poway Parkway. Call Marissa, 858-513-3890.

RESTAURANT. Now hiring! Cooks (Del Mar) and Deli Clerks (Del Mar and Carlsbad) needed. See ad under "Grocery/Natural Foods." Jimbo's Naturally!

RESTAURANT/BUSSER. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring a Restaurant Busser. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm; San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

RESTAURANT/FOOD SERVER. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring Food Servers. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm; San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

RESTAURANT/GREETER. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring Restaurant Greeter. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm; San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

RESTAURANT/KITCHEN SUPERVISOR. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring a Kitchen Supervisor. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm; San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

RESTAURANT/DELI Sandwich Shop in La Mesa seeks multi-task assistant. Full-time. Long term benefits. Salary plus tips. Call 619-318-0187 for interview.

RESTAURANT/JOB FAIR. April 11, 2007, 10am-12pm. Daphne's Greek Cafe is growing throughout the western United States. We are currently hiring for all positions. Interviews will be held on-site: 5643 Alton Parkway, Irvine, CA 92618.

RESTAURANT/SANDWICH SHOP. Extremely busy. La Jolla Shores. People skills, multi-tasking, fast-paced environment. Starts \$8/hour plus tips. Flexible hours. Call before 11am, Kim/Phil, 858-459-3921.

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RESTAURANT: RANCHO VALENCIA. Servers, part-time, fine dining experience required, wine knowledge preferred. Bussers, part-time, fine dining experience required. Host/Hostess, 3-4 daytime shifts per week, fine dining experience required, server experience helpful. Resumes via e-mail preferred, hr@ranchovalencia.com. Or apply in person: 5921 Valencia Circle, Rancho Santa Fe. No phone calls please. EOE.

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RETAIL PHARMACY TECHNICIAN. Monday-Friday, 10am-6pm, no nights or weekends. Need minimum 2 years retail pharmacy experience. Above average salary and benefits. UTC area. Call 760-835-0720.

RETAIL SALES ASSOCIATE. Full-or part-time position. Mission Valley. Good opportunity. Flexible hours. Reliable. 4242 Camino Del Rio North, #14. Fax resume: 619-281-1304. Call 619-281-1717 or 619-549-4690.

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SALES REPRESENTATIVES. Auto Trader is seeking Telephone Sales and Customer Service Reps for in our San Diego and Vista offices. Part time. EEOC/drug testing. Call for details. 858-654-3300.

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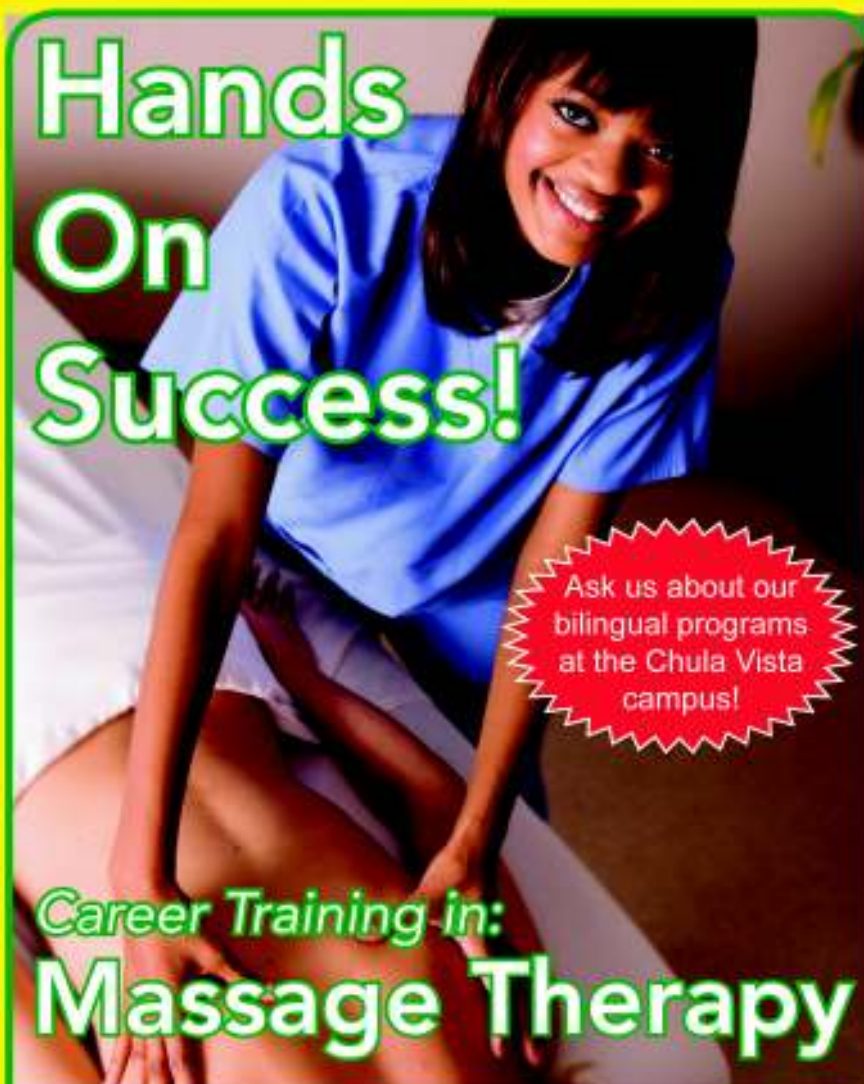


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SECURITY OFFICER. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring Security Officers. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm: San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

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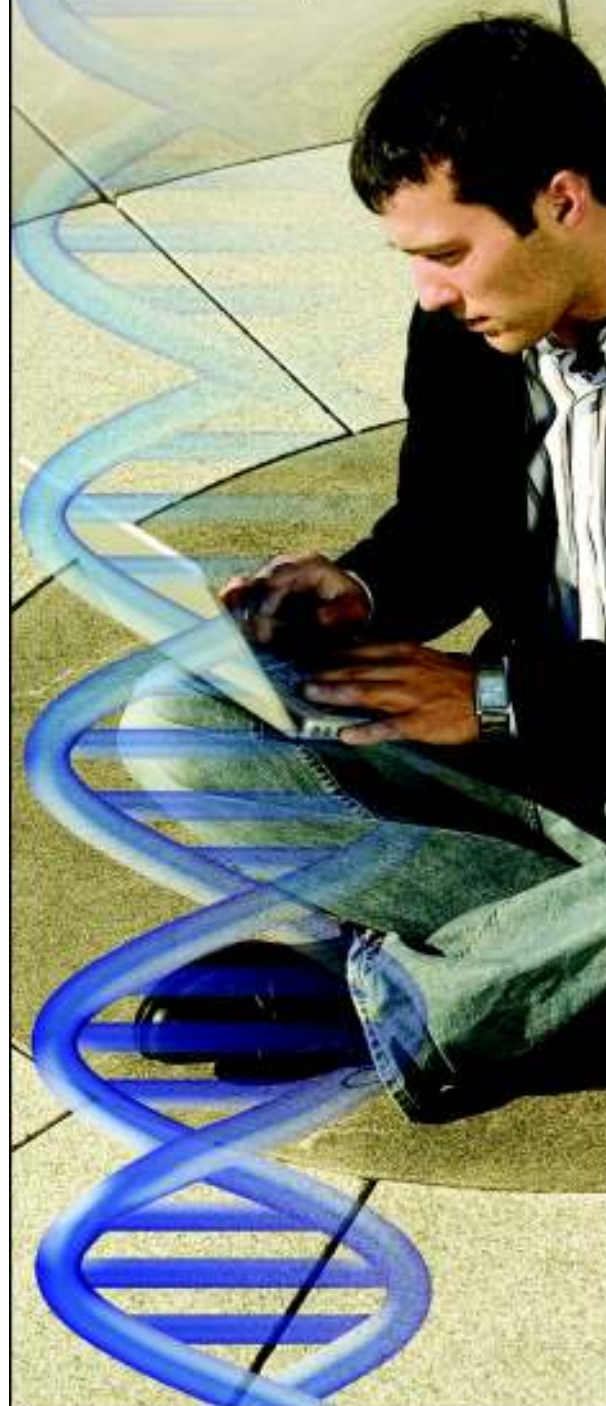
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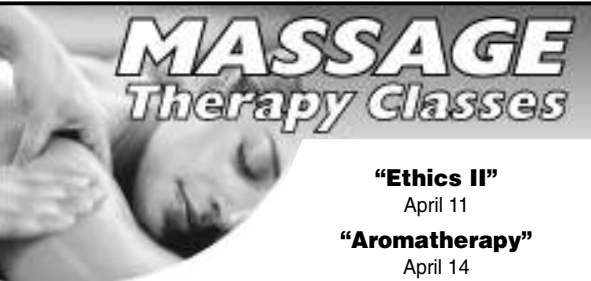
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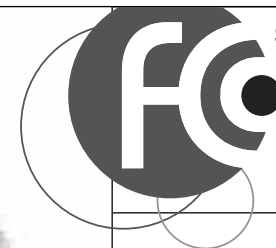
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Across

- 1. Actress Pinkett Smith
- 5. Purchases
- 11. Magazine since 1952
- 14. Underground treasures
- 15. "Eek!" follower, perhaps
- 16. Hot time in Cannes
- 17. Person who's got the flight stuff?
- 19. Only Canadian major league team, on scoreboards
- 20. Civil Rights icon Parks
- 21. Cara of "Fame"
- 23. Some T-shirt designs
- 27. Bottom half?
- 29. Hotel restriction
- 30. H.S. prom attendees
- 31. "You are" in Spain
- 32. "SNL" alumna Cheri
- 33. Geek
- 35. Both its reach and sound is alluded to by 17-, 27-, 49- and 55-Across
- 40. ____ once
- 41. Points in the kitchen
- 43. Don't merely close
- 47. Prefix with Asian
- 48. 1994 Julia Sweeney comedy
- 49. Amuses
- 51. Hour-long plays, perhaps
- 52. Major blood conveyor
- 53. Egg on
- 54. Car in a '60s song title
- 55. Seasonal acting gig
- 62. Sci-fi figures
- 63. Last
- 64. "Get outta here!"
- 65. " ____ Kapital"
- 66. Some fertile regions
- 67. Honorifics for attys.

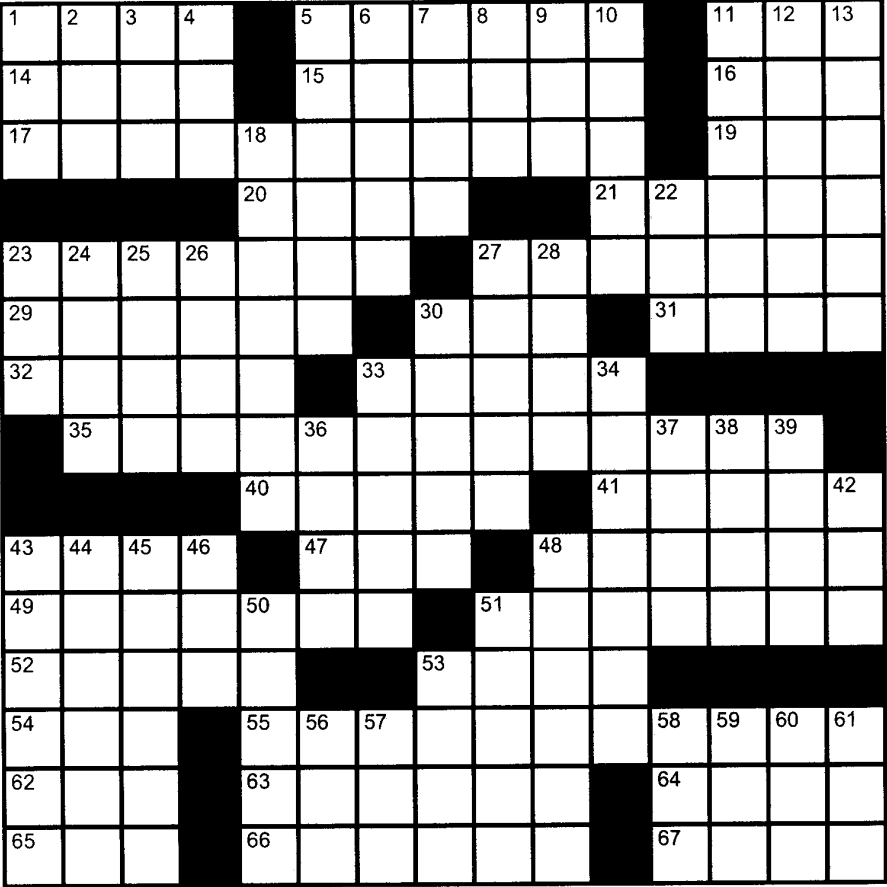
Down

- 1. Put down quickly in writing
- 2. George's former press secretary
- 3. Universal Human Rights mo.
- 4. "Try me!"
- 5. They're waved in concert halls
- 6. New Eng. campus
- 7. Lotus position discipline
- 8. Trial lawyer's advice
- 9. Org. for Annapolis grads
- 10. "Le ____ Prince"
- 11. One in a shower
- 12. Right away
- 13. Shortstop Jeter and others
- 18. Steamy stuff
- 22. MapQuest request: Abbr.
- 23. Daughter of Cadmus
- 24. Univ. military program
- 25. Autobahn auto
- 26. "I, Claudius" role

- 27. Sportscaster Musberger
- 28. Marked down, most likely
- 30. Give one's word
- 33. It's barely passing
- 34. Flatters, with "up"
- 36. Swiss cubist Paul
- 37. Phoebe portrayer on "Friends"
- 38. Ignoring modern sensibilities, for short
- 39. Essential part
- 42. Bourbon and Wall: Abbr.
- 43. Produced on Broadway
- 44. Ray of "GoodFellas"
- 45. First word in crossword puzzles?
- 46. Shopping ctr.
- 48. Toughens
- 50. Performed some modern surgery
- 51. La Scala performance
- 53. Steamy stuff
- 56. Arles article
- 57. Year in the reign of Ivan the Terrible
- 58. Mao ____-tung
- 59. Sounds of surprise
- 60. ____ au vin
- 61. Feats of Clay, in brief

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 3/29/07.

There were 115 entrants. The winners are:

- 1. William Grey, Lemon Grove
- 2. Olivia Paoletti, San Diego
- 3. Joy Wigdahl, El Cajon
- 4. David Weim, San Diego
- 5. Malva Gillespie, Ramona

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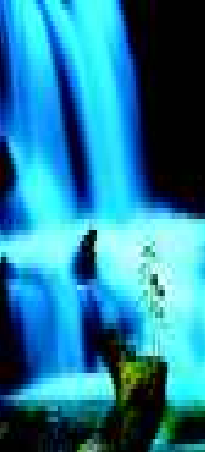
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ACTING CLASSES. Instructor Monty, accomplished actor and father of Hollywood star Alicia Silverstone (Clueless, etc.) will introduce class members to scene study, cold reading, auditions, improv, commercials, monologues. Get ready for public speaking 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.

ACTING CLASS. Cold readings, improv, scene studies, for all ages. Free at The Joan Kroc Facility. Day classes, call first, 619-466-2194.

AGENTS' NIGHT. 12th Annual 4/30. See all legitimate San Diego agents. Ask questions. Bring pictures. Very limited seating. Union/nonunion. Professional Entertainers Alliance. 619-260-0163. AgentsNight@cox.net.

AUDICIONES EN ESPAÑOL. Lectura dramatizada de "Las Luminarias." Actrices/Actores para representar 8 personajes femeninos. Principiantes OK. Sabado 21 April, 1pm. Cardiff by the Sea Public Library community room. 760-942-0826. Encinitas.

AUDITIONS, Christian Youth Theater "Secret Garden." Auditions 4/13/07, 4:30-8:30pm Green Valley Church, 11501 Rancho Bernardo Road. Guys/girls 8-18, prepare 1-minute song with tape, 800-696-1929.

IMPROVISATION THEATRE WORKSHOP. Weekly classes. Thursday, 4/5, 7:45-9:45pm. Twigg's Coffeehouse, 4590 Park Boulevard. Arnim, 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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ANXIOUS? DEPRESSED? Relationship issues? New Year, new outlook on life. Individuals, couples, children and families all welcome. Sliding fee. MFC-43174. Contact Phaedra Scoortis at 619-972-0209.

ARE YOU MAD? Learn how to manage your anger constructively. Gain power, control, reduce conflict and improve your relationships. Classes begin soon. Mission Valley. Jay Schneider, LCSW. Lic. 9573. www.manageangerdaily.com. 858-538-5587.

CLINICAL HYPNOTHERAPY. "What the mind can conceive, the body can achieve." All issues addressed. Free consultation. Patricia R. Parlin, Ed.D. CHT403-250. Call 619-442-3661 or 619-504-1935.

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COUPLES WORKSHOP. Participants will learn how to sustain a committed relationship. Topics will include: Communication, Conflict Resolution, Intimacy. Saturday, 4/21 9am-5pm. Sally LeBoy, MFT#14768. 619-685-5975.

DO YOU RESPOND WELL TO Direct Therapy Approach? Are you ready to make a life change? Call Lilac Harris (MFT 43461) Marriage/Family Therapist, 619-241-6006.

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, LCSW21861.

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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.

HEALTHY ADULTS COURSE offers free preview evening. Call to arrange your complimentary introduction. Learn to heal childhood traumas from wounds of dysfunctional family. Includes Thought Field Therapy for eliminating anxieties and traumas. Counseling for individuals, couples enrichment and family bonding sessions. Sharon Goodlove, TFT Diagnostician, and Glenn Goodlove, LCSW-1450. Goodlove Counseling Center, 858-569-8975, www.goodlove-online.com.

NOTICES

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ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS. Get group support at San Diego Area meetings. Adults who grew up in alcoholic, other types of dysfunctional households. Feel better about yourself. 619-276-6232, www.adulthoodchildren.org.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL works for human rights. Meetings: 7pm, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. First Unitarian Church, 4190 Front (opposite UCSD Medical Center). Information, 858-576-3811.

ANXIOUS? DEPRESSED? Recovery, Inc., self-help mental health meetings since 1937. Many suffer from nervous symptoms, fears. Voluntary offering. www.recovery-inc.org or 619-275-0364.

ART SHOW. March 17, 3-6pm. "Undressed." Sharing, showing, exposing, disrobing, au naturel art. Abstrax Art Gallery, 2109 El Cajon Boulevard. Continues until 4/20. www.abstraxarts.com.

BOSS HOOPS MEN'S Basketball league, accepting new teams for April. Fees \$475/per team. Includes 10 games and playoffs. Sign before 4/01/07, receive \$50/off. Bosshoops@yahoo.com, 480-332-5687.

CANNABIS PATIENTS ACT (Association Cannabis Therapeutics). Nonprofit. Seeking patients with questions about local guidelines. Proposition 215, doctors, 24 indoor plants, pound, evaluations. Free! edzepp@yahoo.com or 619-528-0907.

CENTERING PRAYER. Join us each Thursday, 7-8:30pm. Fellowship. Refreshments. 2540 San Diego Avenue, Old Town. 619-295-4148.

DIVORCECARE meets every Sunday at 9am at 4926 La Cuenta Suite 203-A, Tiersanta. Special Free support group for those divorcing, divorced, or broken live in relationship. 4926 La Cuenta, Suite 203, Tiersanta. Bruce, Bruce@coastline-realestate.com or 619-461-4480.

DIVORCED WITH PROBLEMS of child visitation, support payments, non-custodial rights, lawyers, and family law court? Change the system, join Coalition of Parent Support. Call 619-465-2677.

DONATE that automobile, boat, RV, etc. to Ronald McDonald House Charities-San Diego, receive tax deduction and possibly a partial cash payment! Call toll-free, 866-244-8464.

EARN \$100 BEFORE YOU MOVE! If you are moving soon. Call us to schedule a home interview and environmental sampling. For just 2 hours you will earn \$100. SDSU Healthy Homes Study, 619-594-0501.

EMOTIONS ANONYMOUS, 7pm Wednesday, College area. A 12-step program for managing anger, fear, obsession, etc. No fee. Voluntary donation suggested. 619-27-5391.

FREE COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS! "How to Start a Business" for people with disabilities. Thursday, 4/26, 9am-12noon, at 3524 30th Street, San Diego, CA 92104. Contact at FHCSDD: Deborah Hamilton (debbien@fhcsd.org). Bus stop: corner of 30th and Capps Street, Bus #2. Sponsored by Able-Disabled Advocacy. To register: Cindy Lennon, 619-231-5990 x315 to reserve your spot.

FREE PSYCHIC HEALING. Lecture Clinic. Free readings for new visitors. Mondays, 7:30pm, by Vessa's Clairvoyant Program students. 4455 Morena Boulevard, Suite #108. 858-509-7582.

HERPES/HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS. (HSV/HPV) Support group. Accurate medical information and support. Recorded message. 619-491-1194. www.SanDiegoCityHELP.org.

MOVIE BUFFS, Interested in watching movies then discussing it afterwards (like book clubs)? Ages 25 to mature welcome. Please call 619-850-6075 or 858-272-8727.

NATIVE COUNCIL PROGRESS, Incorporated, non-profit, supports the repatriation of Mexican Indian immigrants. 4000+ dead. Derechas para los migrantes sin papeles! Amnesty, yes! Wall? No! sancho69ya@yahoo.com.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. Working to build the community through product services and education. Accepting donations from corporations, private parties,

and institutions. Please contact The Gift Foundation at 760-917-5055 for more information.

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE Anonymous. Free 12-step meeting for people with OCD. Mondays, 6-7pm, Department of Health Services Complex, 3851 Rosecrans Street, Mission Room, San Diego. 619-757-6603.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Meetings daily. www.oasandiego.org or 619-521-2538.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION. April 19. "Do You Love Too Much Or Too Little?" 1228-1/2 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar, 7-9pm. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. Information, 858-259-1880.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION. "Finding the Stories we tell ourselves" April 24, 7-9pm. 3180 University Avenue, Suite 200, San Diego 92104. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. For information, call 619-296-9046.

PRIVATE COUNSELING. Your journey can be clearer, more peaceful; relationship issues, body image, self-esteem, anger. I can help. Work toward acceptance of yourself. Fee. 619-838-6817.

SAN DIEGO STAR WARS SOCIETY, Not-for-profit club, of individuals who enjoy Star Wars. Chance to socialize/engage in activities. Monthly meetings/events. Free. SanDiegoStarWars@gmail.com, www.SanDiegoStarWars.com.

SURVIVORS OF INCEST Anonymous. Free 12-step support group for men and women molested as children. Call Tim, 619-992-8344, www.slawso.org.

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TRAVEL/MAKE MONEY! Free event Friday-Saturday, April 27-28, 500 Hotel Circle North. Be an online travel agent and get websites like these: www.thesandiegotravel.com, www.thesandiegotravel.net. 619-640-6306.

VALUABLE INFORMATION. www.11winners.com. www.elevenwinners.com. Yes! www.11Winners.com. (AAN CAN)

VOLUNTEER CHILDBIRTH Assistants needed. UCSD Medical Center's Doula Program needs women to help mothers during labor. Big commitment, lots of gratification! 619-543-6269.

VOLUNTEERS. Help stop the child abuse crisis. San Diego's abandoned/neglected children desperately need you. Become a child advocate. Information sessions: Wednesday, 5/2, 5/16 and 6/6. Call Voices for Children, 858-569-2019 or visit www.speakupnow.org.

WRITERS (2) looking for "Chicken Soup" type pet stories for new Book & Toon series with photos if possible. 858-693-3939; claudia@writersetc.com or piedpiper@newsblaze.com.

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D.M.: Miss you "big time." Shy and awkward poor white girl.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE Neighborhood on E Street and 10th Avenue on 3/27/07 at 3:03 who rushed to help. Especially to the man in the white shirt and black tie who climbed up on the car that rolled over in the crash to save the man from the wreck. Amazing. I want you to know how wonderful and heroic you are. It was so beautiful and I am happy to be alive. Thank you. Diethert.

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BASS PLAYER WANTED for working tribute band with day job, full time, travel some time. Please send photos, e-mail, file music, details of past. 619-253-6909.

BASS PLAYER with experience wanted for Non-Prophet, serious punk band. Playing shows around town, touring soon. Influences: Bad Religion, Lagwagon, Strung Out. www.myspace.com/nonprophetband. 619-277-4244.

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 WANTED, Lay it down hard ala Tommy Lee, pro gear, years of performing. For '80s new wave hard rock cover band. 619-322-1006, www.directlinkentertainment.com/radiostar.

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FEMALE SINGER NEEDED, 30+, in working club band before. For working club band, "Roc Kandy", from No Doubt-Guns-N-Roses, 3-4/nights/month. Email photo/resume, www.rockandyband.com.

GUITARIST AVAILABLE, highly experienced, for gigs immediately. Formerly lead guitarist for Righteous Brothers band. Seeking classic rock, classic R&B or blues. Gear, transportation, vocals. 760-591-9171.

GUITARIST/KEYS needed for hip-hop/funk band local group. Influences: The Roots, Atmosphere, Incubus, Brother Ali. Must be reliable, serious. Rehearse

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Eric Einhorn
Marketing
San Carlos

Ed Wood. It was awful. It was probably 40 minutes into it. And it's the only movie I've ever walked out of. I mean, it was about a B movie producer. How good could it be? I was with a buddy of mine. He didn't mind us leaving. I think we were the only ones in the theater. I'm a Johnny Depp fan, too. I was disappointed.



Mary McDonald
Retired teacher
Mission Hills

Out of Africa. It was more because of my husband. I'll blame it on him. He was getting bored. Well, okay, we both were. Oh, I also walked out of the movie *Lipstick*. It was just awful. But now, so many people say *Out of Africa* is their favorite movie. Maybe we should've stayed and watched it.



Gary Pluth
Hypnotherapist
University Heights

The Incredibles, but not because it was bad. I just got a phone call. The last bad movie, well, it was probably *The Lost Boys*. I was religious at the time. My girlfriend and I...well, the movie just seemed scandalous to us then. We got up and left after about 20 minutes. We didn't care for the themes, and it was a little too violent.



Janelle Dill
Photographer
Escondido

About Schmidt. My husband and I were just bored out of our minds. We left about 20 minutes into it. I think that's the only movie we've ever left. We've rented movies that we stopped watching, like *Brothers Grimm* or *New World*. A movie has to be pretty bad for us to shut it off.



Scott Whiteside
Car dealership
Costa Mesa

Dude, Where's My Car? I think I left after 11 minutes. It just wasn't funny. I was with other people that wanted to see it. Recently I saw *Children of Men*. I got halfway into it before I left. It was so slow to set up, and it was predictable. I finally gave up on it. I'm usually into action-adventures or epics.



Eric Russell
University faculty
Davis

Galaxy Quest. I got to the 20-minute mark, and I didn't want to stay. I ended up seeing it later, and it was all right. Usually I won't leave a theater if a movie is bad; I'll just fall asleep...like I did during *The Bachelor*. I do that during any Renée Zellweger movie. At home, it's easier: you're on the couch, you have wine...it takes the edge off a bad movie.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$2150. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with 2-car garage, very large eat-in kitchen, utility room with hookups, close to beaches. Small pet considered with additional deposit. 1715 Grand Avenue at Jewell. John A. Reis & Co. Inc., 858-272-1348.

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PARADISE HILLS. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath house, 2-car garage, fenced yard, new carpet/floors, paint etc. \$1895. Year lease! Agent Bill, 619-575-1674.

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SPRING VALLEY. 4 recamaras, 3 banos, semi-remodelada casa, ventanas nuevas, cocina nueva, pintura nueva y mucho mas. \$2000. Hable hoy, Adriana Moran, 619-921-1010.

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TALMADGE, 2 bedroom 1 bath house, huge grassy backyard. Comes with all appliances, wood floors, gardener, 1 car detached garage. Must see. \$1575. Call 858-663-6664.

TALMADGE, \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom house. Hardwood floors, vintage kitchen, great patio, fenced yard, washer/dryer, gardening service included, garage. 4444 50th Street. 619-683-9274 or 619-846-1740.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, Cute Spanish style 1 bedroom duplex, \$875. Shiny wood floors, on-site laundry facilities. References required. 619-660-0523, 619-992-7791.

UTC, Newly renovated townhouse, 3 bedroom 1.5 bath. Washer/dryer, refrigerator. Stop by open house on 4/7 11am-2pm. 9536 Easter Way 92121. \$2045. 925-719-5909, jerry3061@yahoo.com

VALLEY CENTER. Woods Valley, \$4000. Over 4500 square feet. 4-car garage. On cul-de-sac. Brand new, move in anytime. Nonsmoking. No pets. Call for details, Top Notch Realty, Inc., 858-715-0688.

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NAME This Place



Last week's place: (clue: What Euneva in what Ytic?) Street sign for Lanoitan Avenue near Lincoln Acres School (2200 Lanoitan Avenue) in National City. How desperate can street-namers get? This must be the prime example: "National" spelled backward. (Last week's winners: Charlene Ranger, Julie Goulet, Paul Sandbo, Frederick Martinez)

Q: Old heart of the new park?

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.)



BALBOA PARK/East. Forest-like setting, private, near zoo. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Balcony, vaulted ceiling, carport, gated, laundry, storage. No pets. \$1350/month. 619-299-1530.

BALBOA PARK, EAST. Classic 1 bedroom, totally restored. Wood floors. Elegant, large full bath. Private yard. Parking. 2034 30th Street. \$899. 619-236-1186.

BANKER'S HILL. \$1750. Rooftop garden 1 bedroom apartment. Huge private deck. Balboa Park views. 536 Maple. www.palomarapts.com; Call Leo, 619-231-4495.

BANKER'S HILL. Furnished studios, starting at \$710; 1 bedrooms, \$775 and up. Close to park and downtown. Some utilities paid. Laundry facilities. No pets. 619-234-7572.

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BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN. Studio, \$750. On-site laundry. Close to I-5. 236 Kalmia. No pets. Call 619-234-0236.

BANKER'S HILL. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors, laundry on-site. Classic 1920s building. Cat OK. Available 4/14. 2230 Albattross Street. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN. \$1150. 1 bedroom. 127 West Fir. Hardwood floors, built-in china cabinet, harbor view, laundry on premises, off-street parking. Close to Little Italy. 619-232-9201.

BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN. Bay view, spacious, sunny, gated, clean 2 bedroom, dining room, bonus room, balcony, tile, carpet, custom colors, dual pane windows. \$1395. 858-775-8770.

BANKER'S HILL. Nice 1 bedroom \$875. 1822 3rd Avenue. Gated, and parking. Close to Downtown. Near Balboa Park. 619-660-0523, 619-992-7791.

BANKER'S HILL. \$1025. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors, Deck. Extra storage. Laundry. 2066 4th Avenue. 619-683-7638, Xilarent.com.

BANKER'S HILL. \$1675. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Amazing huge apartment home. View. Dishwasher. Walk-in closets. Wet bar. Underground parking. Controlled access. Fabulous location. Rooftop deck. 140 West Kalmia. La Prima Apartments. Call 619-235-0342.

BANKER'S HILL. 1818 6th Avenue. \$850. Studio. Gated, laundry on-site, street

parking. Call 619-232-1450, kandriproper@com.

BANKER'S HILL. \$725. Studio apartment, large, laundry, close to all. 2027 Front Street #6. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

BANKER'S HILL. \$875. Large 1 bedroom apartment. View. New carpet, laundry. Great location. 112 Grape Street. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Granite counters, slate tiles in bathroom, wood floors, Downtown/harbor views. \$1195. 614 West Laurel. 619-993-3971.

BANKER'S HILL. Pets welcome! 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs unit, private entry, coin laundry. Close to Downtown. \$1275/ month. 2529 1st Avenue. 619-990-4628.

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BANKER'S HILL/HILLCREST. \$1000. 1 bedroom; \$1200, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, coin laundry. Nice, shared brick courtyard. Entry system. Cat OK with \$300 deposit. Available now. 3502 First. Michael, 619-296-1918, mtcerda@pacbell.net. www.delsolpm.com.

BANKER'S HILL. Studio, \$750. Upstairs, classic Spanish building, old World charm. Harbor views, laundry, parking. Available now. 2003 Second Avenue. Agent, 619-260-1368. View at <http://www.sevillamgmt.com>.

BANKERS HILL. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Charming gated complex in the heart of Bankers Hill. Wood floors, ceiling fans, patio, on-site laundry. Cats OK. 1932 3rd Avenue. 619-804-3325.

BANKERS HILL. \$1395. Charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath, close to Little Italy. 314 West Hawthorn. Agent, 858-560-1178.

BAY HO. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 1-3/4 bath townhome. 1,000 square feet. Every April SDG&E free! 1-parking. Great complex! Views. Pool/spa. Laundry onsite. 619-218-1133.

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CAREDIFF. Park Place duplex. All new. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, refrigerator, dryer, garage, yard, pool. Ocean view. No pets. \$2200/month plus security. 760-753-1844.

CARLSBAD. New construction, 1 bedroom, beautiful, private. Near all. All new appliances, washer/dryer, storage, yard, garage. Available 5/01/07. \$1400/month. Leave message 760-729-7402, 760-845-6974.

CARLSBAD, VILLAGE. \$1275. Like new! Luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Near beach, Coaster. Gated community. Microwave. Laundry on-site. Covered parking. Available 5/15/07. 760-720-0849, 619-302-2156.

CARLSBAD. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, downstairs, 2-car parking, Jacuzzi. \$1300. Convenient location. Near beach. Available now. Call 760-943-7590.

CARLSBAD. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in La Costa, adjacent to Stagecoach Park in the gated community of La Costa Hills Condominiums. Fireplace, washer/dryer/refrigerator! Tennis court, pool, spa, fitness center. \$1395. www.twhmc.com. 858-675-0200.

CARLSBAD. \$2950. New, 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2-story townhome, beach/downtown 1 block. Spa, gym, stainless appliances, fireplace, washer/dryer, 2-car garage. 760-728-0596. 760-468-3978.

CARLSBAD. \$1350-\$1425. 2 bedroom, 2 bath unit. Controlled access in a beautiful courtyard setting with parking, coin laundry. No pets please. 3515 Roosevelt. Call Irma at 760-715-7103. sunriseliving.com.

CARLSBAD. \$1050. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath apartment, month-to-month lease, new carpets, refrigerator, stove, microwave, central heat. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

CARLSBAD/LA COSTA. \$1345. Large, luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bath in beautiful gar-

den complex with views over La Costa golf course. Fireplace, washer/dryer, air conditioning, pool, spa, sauna. 2391 Caringa Way. Alicante views. TPPM, 760-431-7575.

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CASA DE ORO. Mount Helix. 1 bedrooms starting at \$850. 2 bedrooms starting at \$1025. Park/garden-like settings. Pool. Spa. Close to all shopping. Cats welcomed with deposit. Conrad Villas Apartments. 3917 Conrad Drive. Visit our website: www.progressmanagement.net or call 619-697-6323.

CASA DE ORO. Half off first month! \$1050, 2 bedroom. \$1300, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Spacious. Laundry, balconies, pool. Available now. Military accepted. Espanol. 619-857-0365.

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CHULA VISTA. Move-in special! \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Newly remodeled. Pool. Laundry. Parking. Lush landscaping. 270 Fig Avenue. Call 619-425-2966. sunriseliving.com.

CHULA VISTA. \$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. \$625. Studio apartment near downtown. Fresh paint, new carpet. Full kitchen. Off-street parking. 266-A Landis Avenue. Good credit/references required. Agent, 619-585-7035.

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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.

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CITY HEIGHTS. \$795. Large 1 bedroom, electricity included. Off-street parking, onsite laundry. Available now. Indoor cats considered. Se Habla Espanol. 619-516-2591.

CITY HEIGHTS. Upper 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, \$875/month, deposit \$650. Secure, convenient. Laundry. Nonsmoking, no pets. Available now. 619-521-2050.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$680/month includes electricity and water. Nice studio. Tile floor, fireplace, on-site laundry room, near shopping centers, freeway, bus station, great location. Sorry, no pets. 4270 47th Street. 619-701-1221.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$750. 1 bedroom. Available now. Upper, large, quiet, gated, laundry, reserved parking. No pets. 619-276-5520.

CITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1250, 1 bedroom, \$825. Pool, parking, laundry, patio, dishwasher. Air conditioning. Gated parking. \$200 off first month. 4366 Menlo. 619-284-1045. www.melroyproperties.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1175/month. 813 estimated square footage. \$500 off first month's rent. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 1607 Pentecost Way #4. Call Agent, 619-471-1755.

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\$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 photos, floor plans, directions, see website: www.sdreader.com/rent/1028.

CLAIREMONT. From \$845. 1 bedroom, senior complex. Courtyard. Clean and quiet. On bus line. Laundry. No pets. By appointment only. Call 858-735-5587.

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. Toll free: 1-877-585-1146. www.sdreader.com/rent/1031.

CLAIREMONT. \$885, 1 bedroom. Patio. Pool. Laundry. Off-street parking. No pets. 7322 Mesa College Drive. 858-279-6299.

CLAIREMONT/BAY PARK. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex with garage. Yard. Pet negotiable. Available approximately 4/15. 4181 Chippewa Court. More Property Management, 858-483-8201.

CLAIREMONT. \$1195. Large 2 bedroom duplex. 1-car garage. No pets. Nonsmoking. Appliances. Paint/carpet. Large fenced yard. Clean. 3230 Jemez Drive. Juno. 619-275-3455.

CLAIREMONT. 3942 Mt. Ainsworth Avenue. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, \$2400. 1311 square feet. Garage. Big yard. Washer, dryer. No pets. vr@aajprop.com. A&J Property Management, 888-483-9925.

CLAIREMONT. Newly remodeled "Spanish Villa." 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Spanish tile, 1-covered parking. Pools. Laundry. Nonsmoking/pets. \$1600. 4134 Mt. Alifan, #A. 619-861-4133.

COLLEGE AREA. 1 bedroom starting \$875 with 12 month lease! Great floorplans! Walking distance to campus! Gated entry. Pool. Barbecue picnic areas. Laundry. Parking. Near busline. On-site management/maintenance. Cat friendly. 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. \$1195, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$850, 1 bedroom. \$250 off 1st month! Quiet grounds, air conditioning, off-street parking, laundry. Monday-Friday, 9-2. 619-287-9890, 619-407-1535.

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. Half month free! Gigantic 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Garage available. Fireplace. Huge private patio. Laundry. No pets. Nonsmoker. 5940 Streamview Drive. \$1200. 619-251-0030.

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. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo conversion, beautiful setting. \$895. 1 parking space, laundry on site. Available now. 4425 50th Street. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

COLLEGE AREA/TALMADGE. \$725. Nice 1 bedroom. Upstairs, large room, new carpet, coin laundry. Quiet building. Cat OK. 4438 Menlo Avenue #4. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

COLLEGE AREA. Spacious 1 bedroom from \$825. Pool, on-site laundry room, off street parking. No pets. 6305 Stanley Avenue. 619-952-3516; 619-460-8011 or email to: stanleyaveapartments@yahoo.com.

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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. \$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 AREA. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in Aspens. Dual master bedrooms. New carpet. Custom paint. Washer/dryer in unit. Pool and spa. 858-598-1111 x192. utopiamgmt.com.

COLLEGE/ROLANDO. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Total remodel with granite counters, stainless steel appliances, pool, parking. 4860 Rolando Court. Pets ok. 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.

CROWN POINT Villas, \$1600. 1 bedroom condo, upstairs overlooking bay. All appliances. Gym, sauna, pool, jacuzzi, barbecue. Secure building, parking, washer/dryer. Available 4/1. 619-957-5297.

CROWN POINT. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. No pets. Nonsmoking. Off-street parking. Fireplace. Dishwasher. Laundry. Year lease. 4012 Morrell Street, #8. \$1920. \$1500 deposit. 858-405-4737.

CROWN POINT. \$1625. Spacious first floor! Like your own apartment. Large living area with hardwood floors. Large bathroom, Jacuzzi, bay view. No pets/smoking. 619-459-8443.

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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. Fee rental/buying information by e-mail. Pictures at www.SanDiegoRealtor.com. Kohn & Burke, Inc., 858-755-8580.

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>.

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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.

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DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. April move-in special! Only \$675/month for 12 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. 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. \$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.floft.com/biltmore.htm.

DOWNTOWN. Lincoln Hotel, 536 Fifth Avenue. Furnished studios from \$271 to \$316/month. Utilities included. Income qualify. No pets. lincolnhotel@baronegalasso.com or Call 619-702-2720.

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DOWNTOWN. \$1490. Luxury 1 bedroom condo with all amenities and contemporary design. Great views. 730 square feet. Parking. Gym. Private laundry. Pets OK. www.coastwayrealty.com. 858-442-8195.

DOWNTOWN. Comfortable rooms, \$450/up. Studios, \$650/up. Near Gaslamp District. Very quiet and clean. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, community kitchen, shared bathrooms. Near shopping, restaurants, movie theatres and Horton Plaza. No pets. Arlington Apartments, 701 7th Avenue. Hughes Management. 619-231-2385. www.sdreader.com/rent/2097.

DOWNTOWN. Cozy rooms, \$450-\$625, grab these little jewels today! Very comfortable, convenient location, historic building near C Street trolley. Choice of shared or private bathrooms. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator, no pets. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B, Hughes Management. 619-239-3808. www.sdreader.com/rent/2099.

DOWNTOWN. Economical furnished rooms, \$400-\$500, best price, save money. Conveniently located on C Street trolley line, near restaurants, free cable TV, shared bathrooms, on-site laundry facilities, vending machines, elevator service, no pets, 636 C Street (between 6th

and 7th). C Street Inn, Hughes Management, 619-234-4165. www.sdreader.com/rent/2098.

DOWNTOWN. Gaslamp area. Move-in special, \$280. Community kitchen, shared bath, on-site laundry, vending machines, no pets. Star Hotel, 522 7th Avenue. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

DOWNTOWN. Outstanding furnished rooms, \$400-\$500. Heart of Gaslamp. Shared bathrooms. Community kitchen. Free cable TV. No pets. 843 4th Avenue. Windsor Hotel. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

DOWNTOWN. Attractive rooms. Shared bath. Utilities included! Near City College! \$400-\$595 per month. Weekly rates from \$125! 719 14th Street, Villa Victoria. Hughes Management, 619-231-2385.

DOWNTOWN. 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. Aqua Vista. 425 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. \$2300 rent. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

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. \$875. Studio, 1 bath apartment, pet OK, walking distance to Balboa Park. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$2000. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath apartment, pool, two spas, a fitness center, and barbecue grills. 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. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, cat OK with deposit, laundry on site, central location. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

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DOWNTOWN. 2 bedroom, 2 bath large and bright Park Boulevard East unit in great East Village/Ball Park location! Living area with travertine floors throughout! \$2400/month. www.SanDiegoBestRentals.com. 619-696-7368.

DOWNTOWN. Beautiful building, new furnished rooms. Refrigerator, microwave, TV, cable. \$175, weekly. 920 Beech Street. Call 619-234-1952.

DOWNTOWN. 777 Lofts. \$1375-\$2295. 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. TPPM, 619-544-0017 or stop by 777 6th Avenue at F Street.

DOWNTOWN. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo at The Grande, 28th floor, 2 parking. Pool, spa, rec room. No pets. \$3300/month plus HOA fees. 858-218-5769.

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.

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Photograph from the San Diego Historical Society



Harry V. Lawson tattoos a human in 1941. In an interview, Lawson said, “Renewed interest in tattooing, which is world-wide, is due to the war in Europe.” Japan bombed Pearl Harbor nine months later.

The article went on, “...Army and Navy authorities have put

their collective foot down, insisting that stenciled figures be properly clothed.... Seaman Sam and his colleagues nevertheless are revisiting tattoo shops to have craftsmen erase all traces of nudity by adding a skirt or dress.”

— by Robert Mizrachi

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DOWNTOWN/Marina, \$1505. Beautiful 1 bedroom penthouse apartment with harbor view. 2 balconies, vaulted ceiling, new carpet/paint, parking. Rooftop pool, jacuzzi, gym. 858-761-8764.

DOWNTOWN/Marina District, \$1500. 1 bedroom Park Row condo. Large sunny patio, security, gated, underground parking. Beautiful gardens, fountains. Pool, spa, laundry. Excellent location. 619-624-0671.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Contemporary, 2 bedroom 2 bath loft/condo combo. \$2500/month, includes gas, water, garbage, and complex amenities. Call 619-595-3107 or email mike@92101urbanliving.com.

DOWNTOWN/Ballpark. Brand new Park Terrace 1 bedroom, 1 bath with extra large balcony and beautiful bay and city views! Granite counters, storage, in great East Village location. \$1750/month. www.SanDiegoBestRentals.com. 619-696-7368.

DOWNTOWN/Marina District, \$1500. 1 bedroom Park Row condo. Large sunny patio, security, gated, underground parking. Beautiful gardens, fountains. Pool, spa, laundry. Excellent location. 619-624-0671.

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DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. \$1400. Loft. 920 square feet. Pets OK, parking available, on-site manager, keyless entry system, laundry facility, cable ready/ high-speed Internet capability, hardwood floors, large closets, dishwasher, electric range/stove, refrigerator, heating/air, exposed duct work, high ceilings, floor-to-ceiling windows. 1023 Fourth Avenue. 619-231-1333. <http://www.sdreader.com/rent/2145>.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Move-in Specials. Live/Work Lofts in the heart of The Gaslamp! Roof decks with barbecue. Laundry on every floor. Parking available. Seven locations Downtown. Select pets OK. Visit loft leasing office: 315 Fourth Avenue. 619-231-1505 x12. www.trilogymanagement.com. Also visit www.sdreader.com/rent/2064.

DOWNTOWN/GOLDEN HILL. \$795. Large studio, cottage-type. Good neighborhood. Deck, storage, tiled. Washer/dryer. New appliances. Cat OK. 942 23rd St. 619-994-0449.

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DOWNTOWN/HARBOR VILLAGE. Move-in special! \$750. Unique 1 bedroom. 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.sdurbanliving.com.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. \$1100/month. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment home. Private patio. Laundry. Parking. 2424-1/2 India. Manager. 619-696-9628.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Bright 1 bedroom, 1 bath in Palermo in the heart of Little Italy. Granite counters, large balcony, lots of storage and great community amenities. \$1550. www.SanDiegoBestRentals.com. 619-696-7368.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath Acqua Vista condo with private enclosed huge patio! Granite counters, valet parking, community pool and spa. \$1850/month. www.SanDiegoBestRentals.com. 619-696-7368.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, \$1240, 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, \$1700. Laundry. Underground parking available. Income restricted. Call for details. 1528 India. 619-236-9353.

DOWNTOWN/SOUTH HARBOR. Penthouse studio. Bay/ocean view. Utilities paid. Wood floors. 599. 940 South 26th Street. 619-559-5423.

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.

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tio. Washer/dryer. Off-street parking. Water/gardener included. No pets. Agent, 619-234-9553.

EASTLAKE/CHULA VISTA. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo, 1 car garage, washer/dryer in unit, upper unit, new carpet and refrigerator, pool. 723 Eastshore Terrace #60. Agent, 858-560-1178.

EL CAJON. \$750. 1 bedroom. New carpet, refrigerator, air conditioning. Barbecue, pool, laundry, parking, gated. 718 South Magnolia. Ask about move-in special! Section 8 OK. 619-312-0606.

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EL CAJON. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated community, laundry. \$900/month. Section 8 OK. 1/2 off move-in special! Chris. 619-590-1834.

EL CAJON. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, granite counters, stainless steel appliances, fireplace, pool, fitness room. 830 Broadway. Available now. No pets. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

EL CAJON. 1 bedroom, \$795. 2 bedroom, \$925. Smaller, quiet community. Patios, balconies around nice courtyard. Pool area. Near bus line. Las Haciendas, 1294 North Mollison. 619-444-7934.

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. Large 2 bedroom townhomes, \$1025. Private backyards. Assigned covered parking. Storage. Washer/dryer hook-ups (select units). Pet friendly. 325 East Bradley Avenue. 619-449-2004.

EL CAJON. \$725. Spacious 1 bedroom apartment located in a small quiet complex. This unit has new paint, carpet and vinyl recently replaced. Range, refrigerator, microhond, dishwasher and air conditioning included. Easy access to I-8. Building is gated with intercom has controlled accessed parking and on-site

laundry. \$500 deposit and six month lease is required. Available now. Credit card check required and fee applies. Cats OK. 530 Graves Avenue, El Cajon CA 92020. Call 619-593-1935. scott@hendershawandassociates.com.

EL CAJON. Cajon Villas. \$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.

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EL CAJON. \$900. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, new carpet/vinyl. Vaulted ceilings, air conditioning, balcony. Call 619-593-0211.

ENCINITAS. \$845 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. \$2195. Newly remodeled duplex. Granite, marble, washer/dryer, large yard, 2 blocks from beach! Small dog OK. Lease. 760-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. \$1625. 2 bedroom, 1 bath with small yard. Washer/dryer in unit, newer appliances, storage, townhouse layout. Blocks to beach!! 1457 North Vulcan. Call Lori at 858-967-1107.

ENCINITAS. \$1400. Spacious condo, 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, balcony off master overlooks greenbelt. Small backyard. Community laundry, pool, assigned parking. No pets. 760-753-0165.

ENCINITAS. Treat yourself to this elegantly furnished 1 bedroom at Moonlight Beach. Walk to shops, restaurants, and coaster. Gourmet kitchen, washer/dryer, dishes, linens. \$2495/month. 760-753-4101.

ESCONDIDO. \$1400. Unique, private, remodeled 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Garage. Washer/dryer. Refrigerator. New carpet/paint/tile. Pool/spa. Air. Pets considered. 619-439-9445, 858-518-1255.

ESCONDIDO. \$895-\$1695. Tired of apartment living? Beautiful 1, 2, 3, and 4 bed-

room manufactured homes offer spectacular hilltop views. Full-sized washer/dryer, some small yards. Peaceful community, sorry no pets. Ask about move-in special on 3 bedroom homes! 1924 Sheridan Avenue. 760-745-1677.

ESCONDIDO. Call for specials! Spacious 1 bedrooms from \$815, deposit \$400. 2 bedrooms from \$975, deposit \$500. Great floor plan. Pool, spa. Covered parking. Laundry. Cats are welcome. 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. TTPM, 760-815-6210.

ESCONDIDO. 1 bedroom, \$795. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1050. Pool, jacuzzi, fitness, air conditioning, barbecue, 2 parking. Open house Sunday, 12-4pm, 1960 East Grand. 760-489-6932. www.melroyproperties.com.

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/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. \$1400. Large 2 bedroom 1-1/2 bath, beautifully remodeled townhouse triplex, in unit laundry. Parking for 2 cars, granite counters. No pets, at 1333 Brunner Street #A. 619-299-4034.

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/USD. \$1250 rent, \$600 deposit OAC. Large 2 bedroom 2 bath, townhouse-style apartment. Underground parking for 2 cars. Laundry room. No pets, at 5550 Mildred Street #22. 619-291-1755.

FASHION VALLEY, WEST. \$1150. Charming 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Spacious with fireplace. Near beach and trolley. Available 5/1. 760-822-9899.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1195. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Walk in closets, granite kitchen, ceramic floors and baths. Newer carpets. Available now. 5828 Riley. 619-277-6868.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1495. 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. \$1600/month. The Courtyards condo. 2 bedroom, 2 bath top floor end-corner unit. Views! Fully remodeled, fireplace, balconies, washer/dryer, pool, spa, tennis. 619-278-5520.

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 Beaumanor, 927 6th Avenue, at 6th and "E" Streets. No pets. To view: www.sdreader.com/rent/2127. Call Michael, 619-232-1517.

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/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. \$675. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Quiet complex. Must Be Income-Qualified! Secured off-street parking. No pets. 2787 "E". Open Saturday/Sunday, 4-4pm. Marty, 619-237-5402.

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. 1/2 off first month's rent! Fantastic views! 1, 2 bedroom flats; two bedroom townhomes from \$1105-\$1670. Controlled access. Bright, beautiful floorplans. Central air/heat. Microwave. Washer/dryer. Sunny rooftop deck. Barbecue areas. Parking garage. Pet friendly! Golden Pacific, 1015 19th Street. 1-800-433-6156. goldenpacific_pacificliving@crossfiremail.com. pacificliving.com. www.sdreader.com/rent/2028.

GOLDEN HILL. \$995. Upper 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. New carpet, flooring, paint. Balcony, dishwasher, underground parking. Available 4/7/07. 3093 C Street #12. 619-222-9308.

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.goldhenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

GOLDEN HILL. \$975. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment centrally located. 2658 E Street. Small pet OK, parking, laundry on-site. Available 4/14. Call 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$875. Large 1 bedroom, recently remodeled apartment. New appliances, pool, on-site

laundry, quiet neighborhood. Available immediately. Pet OK. 619-962-1887.

GOLDEN HILL. \$850. Huge 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Cat friendly. Close to Downtown. Off-street parking. 2637-1/2 C Street. Call 858-571-1970. sunriseliving.com.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1225. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. 2 minutes from downtown. Contemporary setting, large upstairs outside patio. Wood flooring. 1 garage. Laundry facility. 619-247-7327.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1050. 1 bedroom with office. Downstairs portion of Golden Hill mansion. Private entry. Large patio. Berber carpet. Cats OK. www.goldhenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

GOLDEN HILL. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Wood floors. Lots of windows. Fenced yard. Year lease. 3347 B Street. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x2.

GOLDEN HILL. 3 bedroom apartment. Gorgeous historic building. 1500 square feet. Maple floors. Balconies. Washer/dryer. 12 foot ceilings. No pets. \$1800. 619-847-6402.

GOLDEN HILL. Move-in special! \$795/month. Upper 1 bedroom with private balcony. 2045 K Street #6. 619-574-8038.

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. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs, gated, laundry onsite. Walk to famous San Diego Zoo! Available 4/10/07. 3634 Park Boulevard #3642-1/2. 619-295-1100. www.cethon.com.

HILLCREST. \$895. 1 bedroom unfurnished apartment. Hardwood floors, parking. Close to all. No pets. 4030 3rd Avenue. 619-295-6005, agent.

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. 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. 1 bedroom, \$1350 (\$1000/deposit). Remodeled, gated entry, parking garage with 1 space. Pool, fitness room on-site. Available 4/15/07. 8th Avenue between University/Washington. 619-795-8566.

HILLCREST. \$1275. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Quiet, gated, fireplace. All appliances, washer/dryer hookups, private garage. Cats OK. Nonsmoking. 4048 Alabama Street. Available early May. 619-269-5237.

HILLCREST. Hillcrest Palms. New 1 bedroom available now. All redone granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, maple wood cabinetry, community courtyard with water-wall, gated covered parking. \$1375/month. Month-to-month ok. 4077 3rd Avenue. Anna Marie, 619-504-7123.

HILLCREST. Hillcrest Place. Large, new 1 bedroom, \$1495/month. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1795/month. Month-to-month ok. Available now! Beautifully remodeled with pool, barbecue, in unit washer/dryer, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, maple wood cabinetry, community courtyard with water-wall, gated covered parking. Entertainment lounge featuring a pool table, flat screen TVs and bar. 1030 Robinson Avenue. Anna Marie, 619-504-7123.

HILLCREST. \$1350. 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. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Granite, stainless, tile, crown molding, more. 2-car garage. On-site laundry. \$1875. Agent Darline, 619-654-1611.

HILLCREST. \$1395. Spacious 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. New carpet. Upper units with many upgrades. Lots of storage space, on-site laundry, off-street parking. No pets. 1247 Robinson Avenue. 619-460-8011.

HILLCREST. 1/2 off first month! \$1125. 1 bedroom. \$1275. 2 bedroom. Tiled kitchen. New carpet. Downstairs. Ceiling

fan, microwave. Gated entry. Parking. Laundry. No pets. 3914 Centre. 619-294-7044.

HILLCREST. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$995. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1395. Private, quiet complex. Clean. Off-street parking. Laundry. No pets. 3588 First Avenue. www.timcassidy.com. Cassidy, broker, 619-275-1512.

HILLCREST. \$795. 1 bedroom apartment, gated large unit, laundry. Close to all. 4450 Cleveland #4. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

HILLCREST. From \$1450, 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments. 3511 6th Avenue. Near park. Spacious. Lots of storage. New carpet/paint. Secured building. No pets. 619-220-2360.

HILLCREST. Studio apartment in the heart of Hillcrest. Walk to restaurants, shopping, Balboa Park and more. Small quiet complex with laundry facilities. Small pets upon approval. 619-296-2787.

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. Hillcrest Palms. Senior complex. 55+ living! \$850. 1 bedroom apartments. Gated community. Convenient location. Near hospitals, restaurants, shopping. No pets. 4042 Albatross Street. 619-574-0784.

HILLCREST. \$200 off by 4/15. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 1020+ square feet! Balcony. Canyon view. Pool. Laundry. Parking. Pet friendly! 4053 8th Avenue. 619-297-0269.

HILLCREST. Gorgeous single level 2 bedroom, 2 bath in Villa Portofino in great location with 10-foot ceilings, fireplace, granite, 2 parking spaces. \$1875/month. www.SanDiegoBestRentals.com. 619-696-7368.

HILLCREST. Move-in special: 1/2 off first month's rent OAC and 6 month lease signing! Studio, \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$925. 2 bedroom, 1 baths, \$1150 and \$1375. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1450. Pool, canyon view. Close to all. Rec room. Cat OK. Sleepy Hollow Apartments. 4201 Sixth Avenue. 619-298-1059.

HILLCREST. \$850. Large studio, lower back unit, hardwood floors, bath/sauna, community patio with barbecue, free laundry. Utilities included. Close to all. Pet considered. 3722 Vermont Street. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

HILLCREST. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, \$1100. Small complex; downstairs, new tile, carpet and stove, travertine countertops; on-site laundry; garage parking included. Cat OK. Close to all. Deposit \$1100. 3827 Herbert Street #3. 619-997-4554.

HILLCREST. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, vaulted ceilings, fireplace, dishwasher, on-site laundry. 975 square feet. Gated building. 1-car garage. 4094 Georgia #5. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

HILLCREST. \$1045. Immaculate 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large kitchen, dishwasher. Centrally located. Parking, laundry. No pets. 316 Pennsylvania #10. TTPM, 619-296-8802.

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.

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HILLCREST. \$1100. 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. 1 bedroom, \$945. Great location, quiet area. Off-street parking, laundry. Cat OK. 4166 4th Avenue. 619-298-7868. www.rasnyder.com.

HILLCREST. \$725. Studio. Spacious and secluded lower unit with appliances, off-street parking, heart of Hillcrest, blocks to Balboa Park. 340 University Place #B. 619-804-3325.

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. \$1350. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath unit in gated garden setting. Appliances, washer/dryer, large patio, new paint. Cat OK. Underground parking. Blocks to Balboa Park. 4155 Georgia Street #101. 619-297-7662.

HILLCREST. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Beautiful cottage behind "Numbers." Carpet. New kitchen. New appliances. Breakfast nook. Fenced. Laundry room shared with tenants. Street parking. No pets. 3819 Park Boulevard. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

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/NORTH PARK. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage style townhome with garage. 1930s vintage with lots of charm, freshly painted inside and out, refinished hardwood floors. 800 square feet, walk to Hillcrest amenities. Pet OK. 3744 Florida at Robinson. Open daylight. 619-239-4846.

HILLCREST/UPTOWN. Lovely, light 1 bedroom apartment near Uptown shopping, freeways. 2 large patios, shade trees. Secured entry. Laundry. Parking. \$850. Available 4/15/07. Agent, 619-299-2469.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$995. Beautiful 2 bedroom, upstairs in attractive small tree-filled complex. Spacious, sunny, immaculate. New paint/sink/refrigerator, walk-in closet. Off-street parking, laundry. 809 9th Street. 619-429-0498.

IMPERIAL BEACH. Ocean views! Large, new 1 bedroom at the beach. 676 Seacoast, north of Palm Avenue. \$1395. All redone granite countertops, stainless appliances. Available now! Will go fast, call now! Anna Marie, 619-504-7123.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$815, large 1 bedroom, \$600 deposit. \$200 off first month! New carpet. Gated. Storage. No pets. 750 11th Street. 619-423-4610.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$1495. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse. 2-car garage, washer/dryer hookups. 987 Calla. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$1295-\$1495. 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. Beautiful 2 bedroom townhomes on the beach, \$1450. 1 bedroom, \$995. Fireplace. Refrigerator. Stove. Small yard. Pet? Laundry facilities on premises. Off-street parking. Available now. 1064 Ocean Lane. Call 619-424-9233.

IMPERIAL BEACH. From \$750. Beautiful, spacious, and great location. Many apartments available. Ready to rent! For more information, call Lee Mather Company Realtors at 619-878-1995.

POINT LOMA. \$875. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs unit with laundry. Near Shelter Island. No pets! 3130 Ingelow Street. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

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.

KEARNY MESA. \$1995. Beautiful, 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome. Refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, washer/dryer, air conditioner, fireplace. 2-car garage. 858-598-1111 x193. www.utopiamanagement.com.

KENSINGTON. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, entry level unit with large bedrooms, linen storage, parking and laundry on-site. No pets. 4656 Edgeware Road. Available 4/14. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

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. \$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. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1100 square feet. Secluded, gated three house complex. Fireplace, stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer. Sunset view, 2 carport spaces. Tiny pet OK. Available now. \$1595. 4617 Kensington Drive #2. 619-280-1800 or 619-283-6463.

LA COSTA. \$1595. Panoramic ocean view! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, upstairs. Washer/dryer, fireplace. Gym, pool, spa. Pet considered, no smoking. Available now. Gary, 760-672-1192.

LA COSTA. Adorable 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments and townhomes starting from \$1275-\$1400 All units include fully equipped kitchen, washer/dryer, assigned parking or garages and tons of living space! Deposit is only \$700 and we are now offering the first month free!!!

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Quiet coastal living at a reasonable cost! 760-944-6201 for an appointment. www.utopiamanagement.com.

LA JOLLA, VILLAGE. From \$975. Pool, laundry, elevator. Walk to La Jolla Cove and business district. No pets. 858-459-8254.

LA JOLLA/UCSD. \$500 off first month! 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Near shops. Balcony. Garden window. Laundry. No pets. \$1465. 8849 Villa La Jolla Drive. 858-457-4509.

LA JOLLA. Studio. Amazing location. One block to Starbucks, beach and bus. Prospect Street. Kitchen with appliances. Walk-in closet, laundry. \$1195-\$1450, includes utilities. 858-336-0252.

LA JOLLA. New! \$1995. 2 bedroom plus 2 bath condo in "Regents La Jolla" spectacular new community, many amenities including pool, theater, exercise room and much more! 9293 Regents Road, no pets. 1128 square feet, huge patio. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

LA JOLLA. 2 bedroom, partially furnished. Huge master bedroom. Walk-in closet. Washer/dryer. Private 2-car garage. Pools, jacuzzis. \$1600. Available through July. 858-539-6324.

LA JOLLA. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, close to beach. 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. \$1095. 1 bedroom. Downtown Village location. Walk to shops, restaurants and beaches. Open Saturday 11:30am-12:30pm. 7735 Fay Avenue. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

LA JOLLA. \$1595. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, remodeled, downstairs. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Private patio. Garage. Close to Windansea Beach. No pets. Available 4/25/07. 6229 La Jolla Boulevard. Del Sol Property Management. Call broker, 858-270-2071. www.delsolpm.com.

LA JOLLA. \$1795-\$1875. 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, 10-11am. 7601 Eads Avenue. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

LA JOLLA. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Garage/1 parking. No pets. Fireplace. Washer/dryer. Patio. Pool/jacuzzi.

7974 Caminito Dia #3. Juno, 619-275-3455.

LA JOLLA/UTC. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Fresh paint, patio, balcony, washer/dryer, wood floors. Garage, community pool. Near freeways, mall, library. \$1300/month. 760-484-8858, 619-733-4579.

LA JOLLA/UTC. Newly remodeled 1 bedroom, patio, washer/dryer. Underground parking. Pool, spa, fitness center. Pets OK. Near UCSD. Available now. \$1295. Call 310-920-5341.

LA MESA. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath lower level condo. air conditioning, dishwasher, laundry onsite. Pool, barbecue, cable. Freeway/shopping close. Parking/storage. Great condition. No pets/smoking. References. 619-977-1448.

LA MESA. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartments. Clean. Close to trolley and Grossmont Center. Laundry. Assigned parking. Cat OK. Section 8 OK. 619-469-3735. www.floot.com.

LA MESA. \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, balcony; \$1125. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upper, balcony; \$1175. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, downstairs, yard. 619-697-3285. For photo, floor plans, map and directions, see website: www.sreader.com/ rent/1035.

LA MESA. \$1025. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. New everything. Great location, spacious, air conditioning, laundry and parking on-site. Easy access to freeway. Move In Special! Available 4/10/07. Cat OK. 4763 Jessie Avenue #11. 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com.

LA MESA. \$200 off move-in! \$910, 1 bedroom, \$450 deposit. \$760, studio, \$350 deposit. Carport. Storage. Laundry. Pet. Gated. No pets. 619-698-7926. villaknoll-sapts.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! 619-838-0366 or 619-460-8011.

LA MESA. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Washer/dryer. Fenced yard. 825

square feet. 2 parking spaces. Pets OK. 3983 King Street. Agent, 619-298-7724.

LA MESA. \$925. 1 bedroom. Located in the heart of La Mesa is this charming classic 1950s apartment. Located on the upper level of a small complex, this unit will take you back to the simpler way of life. Current upgrades to the unit will be new paint in designer colors, new bathroom vanity, and fixtures. Original hardwood floors will be refinished as new. All new door hardware and updated light fixtures and ceiling fan in the bathroom. Property has on-site laundry and is close to many shops and restaurants. Sorry, no pets allowed. Available mid-late April 2007. 8447 La Mesa Boulevard. Please call between 9am to 5pm. Call Scott at 619-846-6615. scott@hendershawandassociates.com.

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. 8437-41 La Mesa Boulevard at University Avenue. Call Scott at 619-846-6615. scott@hendershawandassociates.com.

LA MESA. \$200 off first month! 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. \$910. 1 bedroom. Mellmanor Apartments. Across Grossmont Center, trolley and Costco. Quiet, spacious units. Resort living pools. 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. \$715. 1 bedroom. Well-maintained property with meandering courtyard. Quiet and private. 4444 Parks Avenue. TPPM, 619-463-3882, www.villaparks.info.

LA MESA. \$925 and \$950. 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. 1 bedrooms in secluded, hillside complex. All appliances, air conditioning, private patios/balconies in all units. No pets. Call for specials! 619-462-1940.

LA MESA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1/2 off 1st month's rent! In the heart of the village! Very large living room and bedrooms, nice view, pool, barbecue area, parking, available now! \$1250. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

LA MESA. Huge 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1250. Also, upstairs unit \$1200. Private fenced yard, air conditioning, covered parking. Available now. 5434 Lake Murray Boulevard. Agent, 619-260-1368. View at www.sevillengmt.com.

LA MESA. Starting \$1395/up. 2 bedroom, luxury apartments, fireplace, laundry hookups, patio/balcony, pool, spa, underground parking. 5519 Lake Murray Boulevard. No dogs. 619-698-7600; 619-518-0960.

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. Villa Morocco. 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/CASA DE ORO. 3 bedroom, 2 baths, from \$1325! 2 bedrooms from \$1075! 1 bedrooms from \$895. Elegant, sculptured courtyards with flower gardens, fountains, gas lamps, park benches. Charming, New Orleans ambiance. Huge patios/balconies. Gated access and gated parking. Small pet OK. 3903 Conrad Drive. Call 866-894-6343. www.sreader.com/rent/1017.

LA MESA/LAKE MURRAY. \$1275. Available for your consideration is this beautiful 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment located in one of La Mesa's most popular areas. Recent major renovations to this unit included all new ceramic tile kitchen countertops and Italian ceramic tile floors with

granite accents. All new decorative interior doors. Crown mouldings, all new fixtures. Appliances upgraded as needed. All new carpet, new baseboards and new 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

LAKESIDE for rent. Cottage/mobile home, 55+ community, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$777/month. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$797/month. Pool, clubhouse. Available now. 619-443-3600.

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LEUCADIA. Beachwalk. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upstairs, West of 101. Carport, gated complex. Community pool, spa, laundry, 133-D West Glauco. Leasing Unlimited 760-436-7273.

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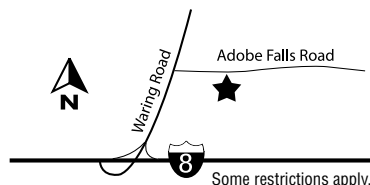
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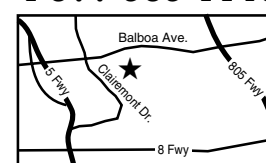
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NORMAL HEIGHTS. Studios. \$695-\$725. Nice, quiet complex. 3237 Collier Avenue. Call 858-490-1600 or 619-640-8834. kandrproperties.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$650/up. Studio. Completely remodeled. Gas, water, trash paid. New cabinets. Ceramic tile floors. Laundry. No pets. 3359 Madison Avenue. www.SeeTheUnit.com. Agent, 619-298-7724.

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Okay, here's a bad date: I met this guy at a frat party right when I moved to Philadelphia for college. As in, right when I moved to the West Philly ghetto from the middle-upper-class suburbs of NJ where I grew up under the constant surveillance of my repressive parents.

So there I am, assuming this dude is a Penn student like me, and I decide to go out with him the next day. He picks me up in his vehicle — “car” would be an overstatement — and hands me a shoebox with the trashiest pair of stiletto boots I'd ever seen up to that point and tells me to change into them, which I do, to indulge him.

As we drive west, deeper and deeper into West Philly, I start to wonder if this guy really is a Penn student. This hunch becomes a definite assessment when he starts lamenting about the “three strikes” law because he's two down since he recently got out of jail for aggravated assault for the second time.

At this point we're at some diner, deep in the hood, and I've long since decided that I

Do What Ya Gotta Do

need to stay on his good side for the sake of survival. I'm nodding along in agreement to everything he says, all the while imagining how my parents will deal with my death as well as their incompetence as parents for ever having let their moronic daughter out of their sight.

“Date-from-hell” finishes his grilled cheese sandwich, hands me the bill (no joke), and next thing I know we're driving to his house — “crack house” is more like it. He gets out of the car and proceeds to the door, like I'm supposed to follow him. My common sense has finally kicked in, and I decide that if I must die tonight, it will not be in a crack house.

I remain on the sidewalk and tell him that I want to go home. He shoots a look at me and goes inside.

That's it. There I am — a moronic white girl with the life experience of a wombat, standing alone in front of a crack house in the West Philly ghetto at 2 a.m. Then, like I'm in a movie, a Cadillac slowly rolls up, stops in front of me, and the window begins to go down. As my life flashes before my eyes, “date-from-hell” emerges from the crack house and tells me he'll drive me home.

Nothing could have made me happier at this point than to jump right back into crackhead-convict's car. What's more, he actually did drive me home. Granted, I had to make him believe that I only wanted to go back to my place because I had a big new bed and a stash of “toys” that I wanted to break in. I did what I had to do.

We got back to campus, and as

we're walking to the freshmen dorms I crossed my fingers and prayed that the security guard for the dorm was awake for a change. My prayers were answered — guests weren't permitted after 3 a.m., and I had just made the cut-off. All's well that ends well, except I never did get my damn shoes back.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$2100. 1759 Reed Avenue #1. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, parking, washer/dryer. No pets. Call 858-490-1600, kandrproperties.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Spacious, clean, great closet space. \$900 deposit. Available now. 1 year lease. No pets. 3911 Jewell Street. 858-270-4266.

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POINT LOMA. \$750. Large downstairs studios available! Laundry on-site. Great location. No pets. 3612 Kemper Court #4, #7. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificreality.com.

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POINT LOMA. \$1800. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse, beautiful, quiet community. End unit. All new carpet/paint/countertops. Washer/dryer. Covered parking. Pool. 619-894-1223.

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LEAD STORY

— The West Tennessee Detention Facility (Mason, Tenn.) made a video pitch for California inmates, hoping some would volunteer to be outsourced under that state’s program to relieve overcrowding. The hard-timers should come east, the video urged, because of West Tennessee’s “larger and cleaner jail cells, 79 TV channels, including ESPN, views of peaceful cow pastures, and...the ‘Dorm of the Week’ [with its inmates] staying up all night, watching a movie and eating cheeseburgers or pizza,” according to a March description in Nashville’s *Tennessean*. “You’re not a number here,” said one inmate. “You come here, it’s personalized.” (California’s outsourcing program is facing a lawsuit from the prison guards’ union, anxious about job loss.)

The Continuing Crisis

— Retired German farmer Karl Szmolinsky told reporters in January that he had agreed to visit North Korea in April to give tips on how he managed to breed huge rabbits (around 20 to 25 pounds), which he believes the Koreans view as one answer to their hunger crisis. He has already sent a sampler of 12 monster rabbits, which should produce 60 offspring a year, with one providing “a filling meal for eight people,” he told *Der Spiegel*.
— Walter C. Stevens, 81, thought he had buried his allegedly disreputable past, but an underground water problem at his former residence in Sierra Vista, Ariz., brought it back. When an area in the yard flooded, a plastic bag emerged, containing videotapes that the FBI now says Stevens had made in the 1970s and 1980s of himself having sex with underage girls in Japan, South Korea and Thailand.

Yikes!

— A group of “extremist” rabbis (the Sanhedrin, about 70 in number) announced in February that they want Judaism to resume the centuries-ago practice of including animal sacrifices in services and that resumption should start, for his-

torical reasons, in the Jerusalem compound of Temple Mount (but known primarily now as Islam’s Al Aqsa Mosque). According to the rabbi, sacrifice (especially of sheep) was a centerpiece of services in the Old City, but they acknowledge that it is unrealistic to expect current Muslim officials to tolerate the practice.
— U.S. Justice Department statistics released in January show that inmates in state prisons (between ages 15 and 64) die at a rate of about 20 percent less than people of that age in the general population. Black inmates, especially, appear to suffer lower mortality behind prison walls, where the death rate is less than half what it is on the outside.

News That Sounds Like a Joke

— Alabama state officials announced in February that they had identified more than \$438,000 in abuses of the financial aid program at Bishop State Community College in Mobile, including \$87,000 in athletic scholarships awarded to 42 relatives of employees (and others) who played no sports. Included was one employee’s 67-year-old disabled grandmother, who received scholarships in three sports (but was unable to use them, in that she passed away shortly after the paperwork came through).
— According to a *Beijing Youth Daily* report distributed by Reuters news service in February, an unidentified Chinese businessman posted an online job offer for a “substitute” mistress. That is, in order to save his marriage, he had agreed to allow his wife to beat up his mistress and thus needed a stand-in to absorb the whipping, to spare the real mistress. He offered the equivalent of about \$400 per ten minutes of pain.

People in Need of Adult Supervision

— (1) Gary Galleberg, a former vice mayor of Naples, Fla., pleaded guilty to battery in February for spitting on the table of restaurant diners whose offense had been to ask Galleberg, twice, to convince his small daughter to stop banging on the window next to their table. (2) Serbian anes-

thesiologist Spasoje Radulovic and surgeon Dragan Vukanic had an “all-out” fight in a Belgrade hospital’s operating room in February. They punched and slapped each other while an assistant surgeon was forced to finish the operation. The nature of the dispute was not disclosed, according to a Reuters report.

Fetishes on Parade

— (1) In Omaha, Neb., in February, Kevin Oliver, 36, was convicted of criminal impersonation for tricking two women into giving him urine samples by convincing them, falsely, that he was a recruiter for T-Mobile and needed the samples to complete their employment applications. (2) In a February Internet global survey of fetishism, researchers from Italy’s University of Bologna concluded that feet (and shoes) were the world’s most popular objects of desire, followed at a distance by underwear and “body fluids.” Neither genitals nor breasts nor legs nor buttocks were selected by more than 4 percent of those surveyed, and two people indicated a thing for pace-makers.

Least Competent Criminals

— Crooks Who Need More Time in the Gym: (1) A 60-year-old woman turned on a 19-year-old man who had tried to hijack her car in Frisco, Texas, in February, and shot him with his own gun. (2) A petite clerk in her 20s followed on foot the man who snatched her store’s cash drawer in Hamilton, Ontario, in February; she confronted him and snatched it back. The man made another try for the cash drawer, but in a tug-of-war, the clerk again prevailed. (3) Four American senior citizens on a cruise, on a stopover in Limón, Costa Rica, fought off a band of young muggers in February. One senior (age 70) killed one of the thugs (age 20) with his hands, according to an Associated Press report.

Update

— The New York City children’s services agency took away former “breatharian” David Jubb’s

20-month-old son in February after Jubb refused to let physicians treat the boy’s fractured ankle. As mentioned previously in “News of the Weird,” breatharians believe that humans can subsist primarily on air and sunlight. Jubb said he has evolved since those days and now eats (very little), and he drinks his own urine. He acknowledged that his child’s diet is absent the generally recommended nutritional building blocks for infants, according to a *New York Post* report.

No Longer Weird

— Adding to the list of stories that were formerly weird but which now occur with such frequency that they must be retired from circulation: (79) The punk who tries to outrun police, only to be caught because his baggy jeans slip down and trip him, as happened to Chad Mercer, 20, in Wilmington, Del., in February, as he fled from traffic-violation and gun-possession charges. ... (80) Criminal entrepreneurs who brag about their enterprises on websites; such as Bennie Rangel, 26, of Georgetown, Texas, who posted details of his cocaine business, along with a photo of himself fondling money (which led to a March sentencing of 70 years in prison).

Undignified Deaths

— (1) In Pittsburgh in February, Antwon Williams, 45, who police said was in the act of consummating a drug sale, reached into a customer’s car to prevent him from driving away without paying but got stuck in the window, and as the customer sped down the street, Williams’s body was severed cleanly in two by a utility pole. (2) The South Carolina Public Safety Department reported in January that 122 pedestrians were killed on the state’s roads in 2006, but “almost one-third,” according to an Associated Press analysis, weren’t actually “pedestrians” but people “lying illegally in [the] road.”

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@Yahoo.com

inside. 1537 Rosecrans Street, #E. 619-224-0306.

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POINT LOMA. \$825. 1 bedroom apartment. Includes covered parking, stove, refrigerator, patio in rear, laundry on site. Very attractive efficiency unit in quiet fourplex. Must see to appreciate! 4313 Montalvo Street. To view, call Jack: 619-222-2644.

POINT LOMA. \$1250. 2 bedroom, large unit in small 5-unit building, front ground level unit. Eat-in kitchen, all new paint. In

the village. No pets. 1-year lease required. 3114-1/2 Dickens at Locust. John A. Reis & Co. Inc., 858-272-1348.

POINT LOMA. Spacious studios, 1 bedrooms. Garage, pool, fitness, laundry. Studio \$1000, 1 bedroom \$1140. Free month rent. Easy freeway access, shopping. 619-523-4325.

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POINT LOMA. Spacious 1 bedroom condo, upstairs corner. 2 parking. Newly remodeled. New carpet and flooring. Ten-

nis, workout rooms, saunas, pool, jacuzzi, barbecue. \$1200. 619-307-9910.

POINT LOMA. \$200 off first month's rent! \$1295. Charming, upper 2 bedroom, 2 bath unit new carpet and paint, dishwasher, balcony, walk-in closet, parking. 3140 Midway Drive, #302. 619-379-2896.

POINT LOMA. \$1595. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Large unit with private patios, appliances, washer/dryer, 1-car garage, new carpet/paint, fireplace. Call OK. 3782 Tenynson Street #2. 619-804-3325.

POINT LOMA. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2-car attached carport, 1850 square feet, washer/dryer, new appliances, commu-

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POWAY. \$1550. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 parking, patio. Call for details. Section 8 welcome. Top Notch Realty Inc. 619-807-0327.

POWAY. \$925/month. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1075. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Nice. Air conditioning. Appliances. On-site laundry facilities. Pool and barbecue areas. Assigned off-street parking. Near shopping. Pomerado Gardens, 12330 Ninth Street. Call on-site manager, Blanca, 858-486-4834 or 858-254-4837.

POWAY. 1 bedrooms from \$895. Off-street parking, laundry. Near shopping. No pets. 12529 Oak Knoll. 858-486-0109.

POWAY. From \$950. 2 and 3 bedroom apartments. Beautiful courtyard, pool, dishwasher, patio or balcony, parking, laundry. No pets. 12510 Oak Knoll. 858-748-9090 or 858-626-4742.

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less steel appliances, washer/dryer in unit. Beautiful park-like complex. 17199 West Bernardo Drive. Available 5/15. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

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San Diego Reader April 5, 2007 177

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Jerry Sample, Jr. (General Manager) is an ASE Master Technician who is also **Acura/Honda factory-trained**. With well over a decade of experience, including several years working as a top mechanic at a well-known local Acura 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.

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Bryan Bettencourt (Service Technician) also has many years of experience in the automotive business including audio and communications. Bryan is the "go-to" guy for all your electrical needs. He complements Jerry in every way. Together, Jerry, Bryan and their team are a formidable group of technicians, ensuring that you walk away a satisfied customer. Some repair shops take shortcuts and often cover up problems with a temporary fix. We know...we fix their mistakes!

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A website worth looking at: **GreenlightHonda.com**

BACK WHEN

In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

Courthouse records show that at least three senior staffers at the *Union-Tribune*, who hold high editorial posts, have had moving violations dismissed or reduced by Judge Nottbusch.

The incident that sparked the D.A.'s investigation was outlined in the March 22 *Union* and *Tribune*. The story detailed how *Tribune* reporter M.J. Lagies, who had been examining ticket-fixing, was filing a complaint against *Union* reporter Homer Glance for trying to obtain police records showing the arrest of Lagies on a drunk-driving charge.

—“PRESS PASSES,” *Paul Krueger and Bill Ritter*,
April 7, 1977

Twenty-Five Years Ago

One of the commonest forms of condescension toward movies is the perception of them as occupying the same intellectual class as kindergartners. Thus, any hint of awareness, sensitivity, acuity, or maturity on their part, even if the actual amount of these substances is no more than would be taken for granted in anyone regarded as a peer, is treated as a great stride forward and as an occasion for much paternalistic head-patting.

—“ATTITUDE PROBLEMS,” *Duncan Shepherd*,
April 8, 1982

Twenty Years Ago

“Fatty, Fatty, two-by-four/ Couldn’t get through the bathroom door...”

Although I was an easy kid to make fun of, a natural target of cruel ridicule children master at an early age, I did not understand it at the time. When, many years later, I came to realize the ridicule for what it was — a normal consequence of false but popular social values that have taken a far greater toll than my mere self-esteem — it was too late to make much of a difference.

—“SO, WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?”
Bob McPhail, April 9, 1987

Fifteen Years Ago

Just how closely Richard Silberman is tied to Jerry Brown and Susan Golding is shown by FBI wiretap logs introduced during Silberman’s trial two years ago. The taps into the San Diego offices of Yuba Natural Resources, Silberman’s gold-mining venture, picked up thousands of conversations during February, March, and April of 1989, a time when Silberman was married to Golding.

In addition to conversations with mobster Chris Petti, indicted along with Silberman in the money-laundering scam, phone logs show calls from Jerry Brown himself, who called Silberman to discuss unspecified business.

ness. “Jerry Brown asking for Dick — not in,” reads a log entry from March 24, 1989.

—CITY LIGHTS: “THE SILBERMAN FACTOR,”
Jamie Reno, April 9, 1992

Ten Years Ago

Ring up another victory for Audrey Geisel in her battle to protect the copyrights of late husband Ted Geisel, a.k.a. Dr. Seuss. Since Geisel’s death three years ago, the La Jolla widow has been merchandising Seuss characters to everything from female boxer shorts to TV specials on Turner Network Television. But beware those who don’t fork over multimillion-dollar rights fees. Latest example: Michael Viner and his Hollywood-based Dove Books, which last year put out an O.J. Simpson parody entitled *The Cat NOT in the Hat*. Geisel’s lawyers at the downtown firm of Gray, Cary launched an immediate salvo against the project and convinced San Diego federal judge Napoleon Jones to block sales of the book.

—CITY LIGHTS: “CAT IN THE MONEY,” *Matt Potter*,
April 3, 1997

Five Years Ago

[A]fter reading his review of *E.T., the Extra-Terrestrial* I can hold my tongue and fingers no more. Duncan, I wholeheartedly and unservedly concur!



San Diego Reader, April 9, 1987

Sitting in the Loma Theater those nearly 20 years ago, surrounded by a miasma of sniffles and moist eyes, I found myself moved to neither tears nor laughs, only irritation. Irritation at Spielberg’s attempt to bludgeon my mind to death. Irritation at the way the film took a being from another planet, whose intelligence and technology obviously far surpassed our own — and reduced him to some dour little boy’s plaything.

—LETTERS: “YES, DUNCAN!” *Ed Felstein*, April 4, 2002

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$825. Upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath unit. Light and bright, 4671 Utah Street. Available now. Call 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs. Lots of sun, parking and laundry on-site. 4615 Hamilton Street. Available 4/21. No pets. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in Victorian house. Renovated/vintage, clawfoot bathtub, park-like setting, walking distance to shops. Cat OK. Available now. 619-977-8433.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$895. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet. Freshly painted. On-site laundry. Sorry, no pets. 4458-4464 Louisiana Street. Agent, 619-692-4121.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upper unit. Covered parking, laundry on site. Sorry, no pets. Available for viewing by appointment only. www.kandrproperties.com. Call 858-490-1600 or 619-255-4944.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1375. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, upstairs unit. Gated community, balcony, parking, fireplace, washer and dryer, vaulted ceilings, stor-

age. 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. 4666 Utah Street. 619-683-9274.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$695. Studio, lower unit, charming complex, on-site laundry, near park. Patio, gated, easy freeway access. 4550 Louisiana Street #17B. 619-804-3325.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 1 bath seniors' community or disabled community apartments. \$695, move-in special: 1/2 off first month's rent, with \$200 security deposit on approved credit.

Upper and lower units available, on-site laundry, in gated community, close to bus lines. Small pets OK! 4086 Swift Avenue. Agent, 858-560-1178.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, parking, on-site laundry. Great location. 4443 Campus Avenue #3. Agent, 858-560-1178.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$765. For your consideration is this classic 1950s studio apartment in a quiet small complex. Recent upgrades to the unit included new carpet and vinyl. New baseboards, blinds

and bathroom fixtures. This unit retains its entire original tile in the kitchen and bath, which is done in contrasting colors, very art deco. Built-in Murphy bed with bookcase, small desk and chest of drawers. Full size refrigerator and stove. Beautifully landscaped courtyard. On-site laundry. \$500 deposit and a lease are required. Sorry, no dogs. Cats ok. Located in the heart of the Adams Avenue Antique Row. 4773 Utah Street, San Diego, CA 92116. Call between 9am and 7pm. Call Scott, 619-846-6615 or 619-725-3648. scott@hendershawandassociates.com

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Single level unit, appliances, new

carpet/paint, on-site laundry, off-street parking. Courtyard setting. No pets. 4452 Louisiana Street #3. 619-804-3325.

USD/LINDA VISTA. \$530. Small, private studio (in mobile home). Quiet. Small patio. Pool, jacuzzi. Nonsmoker. No pets. Share utilities. Free cable. 619-251-0030.

UTC. \$1190. 1 bedroom apartment. Kitchen, full bath, Remodeled. New appliances, pool, Jacuzzi. No pets. 858-405-6234.

VALENCIA PARK. \$725. Remodeled 1 bedroom 1 bath apartment. Gated property. Laundry. Parking. Close to transit station. Xlarent.com. 619-683-7638.

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KICKBOXING'S FINE PRINT

Thinking over my years, there've been a few things that I regret doing. For instance, that night I drank 11 beers in one sitting — it seemed like a good idea. I later threw up all over myself while walking across town in too-small cowboy boots (it was Halloween). But there is one mistake I made that eclipses almost all others. The irony is that I thought I was doing myself a favor at the time.

I'm talking, of course, about the kickboxing classes that I signed up for. My dad was the one who lured me in. He had noted my interest in the weight-training class at high school and suggested I do something other than sit on the couch and watch movies. He employed my neighbor to accompany me to SLO Kickboxing. This was right around the peak of kickboxing's newfound popularity and Chuck Liddell — a local wrestling star who became an ultimate fighting competitor — had recently opened a gym.

The first session was promising. My neighbor and I kicked around a bag, passed a medicine ball back and forth, jumped rope, and generally got our heartbeats up, all while listening to Lauryn Hill sing about "*that thing, that thing, that thiiiiiiiiing.*"

While I did enjoy the vigorous exercise, I was more interested in John, the 300-pound Hawaiian instructor of our class. He began the session with an impromptu demonstration of the best way to break an opponent's shin at the urging of a skinny man in a sleeveless "No Fear" shirt. Apparently "No Fear" had gotten into a drunken brawl the previous weekend and had exhibited some fear after being beaten up. John showed signs of trepidation as he dusted off the old chestnut "no one wins a fight," but after the guy said that he heard John had a mean kick, John got into particulars. To my surprise, John included the rest of the class in his explanation of the best way to end a fight before it starts. I figured walking away would be the best method, but SLO Kickboxing taught something altogether different.

The lesson left me tired but enthused. My interest in the people who hung out at a kickboxing gym, combined with my desire to be physically fit, somehow altered my brain chemicals. With nary a consideration for the future, I signed a contract agreeing to pay \$50 a month for a year's use of the gym's facilities. After welcoming me to the fold, I was given a set of leather boxing gloves and a T-shirt with SLO Kickboxing's logo on the back.

My interest waned after the first session. The boxing gloves didn't move from their place in my closet, and as the months wore on, a large amount of dust began to envelop them.

One day, in a fit of inspiration, I decided to drive over to SLO Kickboxing and use their weight room. On the way there, I listened to the song "Me and the Major" by Belle and Sebastian. As I pulled into the parking lot, Stuart Murdoch's voice was drowned out by the sounds of POWER 106, the local R&B station, being blasted from inside the gym. I was out of my element.

After nodding hello to the instructor at the front door, I went to the weight room and started to use the leg press. After a few minutes, my muscles began to burn and tense up. As I

watched the steel of the weights move up and down, I asked myself, "What am I doing here?" I didn't have an answer. The girl grunting like Monica Selles on every kick was only mildly entertaining, and the R&B that I had once found ironic was now plain annoying. I gathered up my dusty gloves and left.

But I was not free of



SLO Kickboxing. Every month my bank statement showed a \$50 deduction in their name. After telling my dad about the problem, we looked at the fine print of the contract I had signed. We entertained the idea of feigning a broken leg. The plan was that I would hobble into the gym on crutches, all apologies, and ask for the remainder of the time on my contract to be terminated. But it was futile. Further reading of the fine print foiled our plan. They may have been meatheads, but their contract was airtight.

A year passed. And then on the month that I was to finally break free of the financial shackles they had placed upon me, SLO Kickboxing showed up on my bank statement yet again. I went down to talk to them about it.

Appropriately enough, the person I aired my grievances to was John. He was incredibly personable at first.

I began to feel bad for judging him, and myself, so harshly. John was making me believe that I had it in me to get fit, to lift weights three times a week, to listen to bad music, and, yes, break some shins if need be. But then his mood turned sour. I hit him with the question of

how they could charge me dues after my yearlong agreement had expired. He pulled out a copy of the contract and, in lawyerly terms, directed me to the clause that said SLO would automatically roll over my membership if it was not cancelled.

I threw out the shirt but for some reason can't seem to part with the gloves. They sit in my darkened closet, a dusty reminder of one of the biggest mistakes I ever made.

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BLOG DIEGO

Maybe I'm just naive. Maybe I just like Rich Baiocco. And maybe, just maybe, San Diego does have an arts community. Maybe, just maybe, you have to open your eyes and look around. It's there. Like winter in San Diego, its subtle, but it's there.

If you don't know what I'm talking about, check out the interview with UCSD's Lit professor/poet Eileen Myles (she's ready to move to L.A. because San Diego isn't enough for her) at <http://www.sdcitybeat.com/article.php?id=5298>. Then check local writer Rich Baiocco's response at Blog San Diego: http://www.blogsandiego.com/san_diego_scene.html.

Excerpt: "Any artist worth his or her salt in San Diego knows you need to get over yourself in this town. Yes, we're isolated. Yes, we're alienated. Get over it. Where does one get off expecting anyone to care that you wrote a poem, or painted some canvases, or your band has a demo? You need to make the scene."

On the resistance she's received teaching challenging texts at UCSD, Myles says, "I came here rewarded for being who I am, and this is my reward?" Big deal, you published a book. You think it stops there? Hit the pavement; press the flesh; do a reading at the Che Café. That's your audience. UCSD has some talented artists on both sides of the desk, but it also has a lot of big buildings and big books for those

artists to hide away in, and really, academia is so far removed from having an impact on any sort of San Diego arts "scene" that it's laughable. Sure they'll dangle a cushy professor job in front of you, and maybe a sense of entitlement, but a poet's commitment is a lifelong struggle to stay relevant amidst one's surroundings.

So, I put it to Blog San Diego readers. Is there art in San Diego? Can you be an on the edge, over the edge, standing on the ledge artist in San Diego?

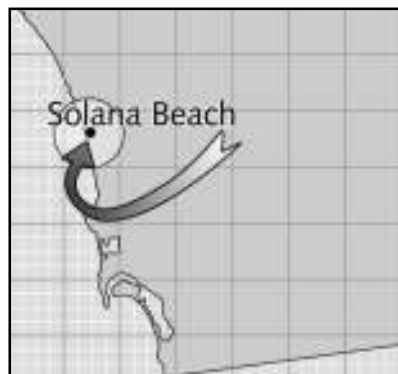
Responses (edited for length):

Barclay: Christ, I used to hear this "no culture" shit all the time from my ex (who was an artist living in the arts mecca of San Francisco/Oakland). It's simply not true. Myles just isn't looking....

How about checking out Ray at Night, or Kettner Nights? What about the Fashion Whore fashion shows...and spoken word and poetry readings down at SDVAG or SDAI? What about all the local

music at the Ken Club, Casbah, Blind Melons (now Club 710), Dream Street, Honey Beehive, and Belly Up?

And regarding the conservatism — yeah, overall, SD's



a pretty conservative town. But so what? I'm socially liberal, but I'd rather not live in a homogeny of thought. There's all sorts down here. That's good. Dissonance helps an arts community. If you want your art to make a difference, do you honestly want to display it only to those who already agree with you? Do you have to be in the majority?

And is she honestly trying to tell me that L.A. has a less superficial arts community? Really? Aren't the artists generally in L.A. because they're looking to "make it big"?

Doesn't that speak well of the SD artists who have been and continue to make art — who do it because they have a passion for their chosen form, despite the minimal chances of "making it big" down here?

Scott Barbour: I didn't read Myles's article because I was too busy shopping for sunscreen and volleyball shorts, but I'm sure I'd be mad if I'd read it.

San Diego has lots of art.

We have those funny tree-like sculptures by the *Star of India* and that mural of the whales downtown and other culturally significant stuff I can't think of right now because I'm too busy checking the beach and surf report.

Do we have an art scene? Of course we do. I've seen guys down by the beach who paint watercolors of the beach and they look just like the beach. Totally cutting edge.

Stack: Perhaps if Miss Myles put down the *New York Times* (I suspect its coverage of the San Diego arts scene is somewhat thin) and picked up a local newspaper (like the one in which her interview appeared), she would find that there are poetry readings, open-mic nights, concerts, galleries, theatres, museums, street performers, poets, painters, musicians, and on and on and on right here in sunny little San Diego. Heck, she doesn't even need to pick up a newspaper. All she has to do is take a little walk. She'll see all kinds of art. The powerful hands jabbing toward the sky on the Martin Luther King Junior Promenade. The always-changing public sculpture on the Embarcadero. The tall-ship-inspired architecture of the Convention Center. The Third & Penn and Diversionary theatres. Artwalk. Organ concerts. Music at Lestat's. Prose and poetry readings at Claire de Lune. This doesn't constitute a thriving arts community?

Then again, I find it odd that Miss Myles was shocked when her students challenged her reading selections. Since edgy hipsters challenge the mainstream, isn't it fair that the mainstream challenge them back? For that matter, perhaps the students aren't the mainstream and Miss Myles isn't so edgy and hip. Face it: swimming out of a small pond like Greenwich Village into a big sea like the rest of the world does wonders to shrink a fish's size.

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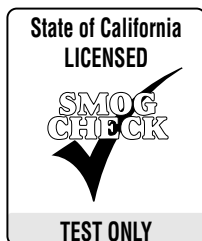
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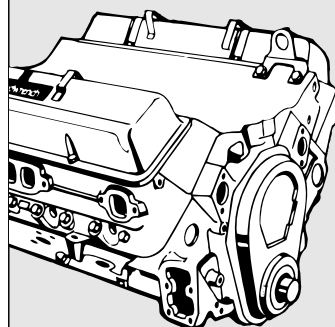
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T.G.I.F.

“Men are more full of testosterone and death.”

By John Brizzolara

Longtime driver for San Diego Cab Ellen Rae has her own anagram for Friday and that is P.O.E.T.S. day. This was tossed off to her in parting from a British fare like a verbal tip (one hopes there was money involved as well) after she said to him, “Thank God it’s Friday.”

“It’s P.O.E.T.S. day, love. And a merry one to you.” (I’m improvising on second-hand dialogue, making it merrier and adding “love”).

“Oh, is it really?” Ellen inquired sincerely. “Is that an English thing?”

The old chap straightened his cravat, adjusted his monocle, tapped his straw-boater with his cane, and around a pinch of snuff, wheezed, “Neeyaw...not at all. Simply: Piss Off Early, Tomorrow’s Saturday.”

“You’re from New York, Ellen?”

“From Laawwnngguh Island. I started driving in 1978, when I was a little kid,” and she laughs at her arithmetic. “This is the only place I would do this. Back East you work indoors. And when I came out here I was a bank teller for Security Pacific, and it was so beautiful that I thought, I’m not going back in. I was always good at teaching people to drive; and I was looking at the classifieds and happened to see, “Yellow Cab needs drivers.” I went down there and I immediately took to it; I was born to do this. My daughter calls me a mobile missionary. I help little old ladies get undressed in the doctor’s office, and I help carry groceries up steps. I took a couple this morning to Scripps — you know, where they have the cataract part? — and helped them there.

“I find that I’m good with people. Being a first-born helps. Out of

four. When my dad used to leave the house in the morning he would say, ‘You are not to upset your mother.’ So I learned not to do that and to take care of older people. When I was a kid you were allowed to drive at 16 on a junior license; and I was dating a guy who had a car near the high school, ‘cause his job was near there. I used to cut school and take his car and go joy riding with my friends. I think I have gypsy blood in me.

“My dad always had a car, and we would travel cross-country for recreation. We would go up to Albany and down to Washington, DC. When I was a baby, they said I always had a very comfortable feeling in the car. And my dad didn’t have car seats in back, so they took a top drawer out of a chest of drawers and put it back there to drive me around.”

“Is there anything else you’d rather do or can imagine yourself doing?” I ask her.

“If I hadn’t become a driver, I would have become a brain surgeon. Just kidding. It would have been something involving driving cars.

“When we go on vacation I’m always the one to drive. With my husband I drive, with my sister I drive. I don’t like long distances. Like, I would never consider these long-distance truck routes that they do. Never. I don’t even like to drive to Las Vegas. I’m not a gambler; I don’t even buy lottery tickets, never have.”

Rae talks of some of her regulars. One, for example, who lived “in the weeds.” “Every month this guy, Jack, would call me when he got his disability check and we’d get a new portable radio because his old one would get stolen, or a new sleeping bag. The rats would eat his sleeping bag. He’d tell me he’d wake up and there would be this rat there. His life was just chaos, I felt. I said to him, ‘Jack why don’t you save your \$700 a month, double up with someone else, and get yourself a little studio.’ Well, he said, ‘I don’t want anyone telling me what to do.’ He had been a lifeguard in San Diego. He had a family and a surf shop in Encinitas. One day he paid me to take him up to Encinitas to look for his son. I said, ‘What’s the address, what’s the phone number?’ He said, ‘Just get me up there, we’ll find him.’ Well, we never did find him.

“Every month he’d pawn his good luck charm, his Swiss Army knife, until one day I said to him, ‘Jack, why don’t you leave it with me?’ And I gave him the \$10. When his girlfriend got arrested and she was in Las Colinas, we would stop downtown and put money in her account so she could have money for cigarettes or drugs or whatever she needed money for. He’d get a new pair of shoes every month, and that was his life. He would drink in the cab while I was driving around. On the first day of the month about two years ago, when I didn’t hear from him, I knew where his friends hung out in Mission Beach, behind the Hyatt Islandia — these do-gooders like to come and feed these lazy bums. I know some of them have mental problems but they usually bring it on themselves with the drugs and the alcohol. Jack would go over to his marijuana con-



Ellen Rae

nection at the Jack-in-the-Box by the roller coaster over there, and I knew his friends and I asked around. He overdosed on pills and vodka and they found his body at his campsite on Sea World Drive.”

As for Ellen Rae’s age, she says, “I was born in ’39. Mentally I’m 18; chronologically — don’t know. Politics? That’s a sensitive subject. I used to be Republican, strictly. Now I’m starting to flip-flop about a lot of stuff. The guy I live with was 28 years in the Navy — ‘haze gray to the marrow of his bones,’ as they say. You know, like the paint on the sides of naval ships. From living with him, I took on a lot of opinions about stronger defense and military, but I don’t really agree now since this Bush thing. Now I’m convinced there are some very greedy, selfish people who are making out at the expense of youngsters. And I don’t really feel like we should have to fill all these holes in these dikes in these countries. The Mid-East? We’ll never resolve that. The mentality is so foreign to us. I also feel very strongly that more women should be in power, because women bring life into the world and men are more full of testosterone and death. I will support Hillary. Even though she may have done some Tricky Dick stuff with her husband, I feel that women are more likely to look for resolution. It’s our nature. I don’t look for conflict; I don’t look for the fights.

“I once read, ‘The goal in life is the absence of conflict,’ and that’s pretty much my mantra.”

Ellen Rae works Mondays and Wednesdays. Sadly, she is off on Fridays.

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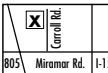
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