**NEWS & FEATURES**

**Classic San Diego**
In corners and beneath our noses. By Bill Manson ........................................ 22

**City Lights**
CCDC, our 500-pound gorilla; and City Lights shorts .................................. 7
Rise and fall of Baja Internet cafés ............................................................. 8

**Letters** ................................................................................................... 12

**The Sporting Box**
Do we need 700 military bases in 130 countries? ........................................ 14

**Sheep and Goats**
Death is like a birth canal ........................................................................ 16

**Best Buys**
Vacuums: More suck for your buck ................................................................ 18

**Diary of a Diva**
Tales of the blackout ................................................................................ 20

**Environment of Distrust**
The doctor-patient dance. By Jim Eichel .................................................. 44

**La Semana en Español**
A week’s worth of stories in Spanish .......................................................... 143

**Puzzle** .................................................................................................... 168

**Off the Cuff** ........................................................................................... 170

**Name This Place** .................................................................................... 171

**Picture Story** ........................................................................................... 177

**Surfmobile**
Oregonians mistake dolphins for sharks ................................................... 182

**Dumped**
Trust your gut ............................................................................................... 183

**News of the Weird** .................................................................................. 185

**Back When**
A Valentine for Roger Hedgecock ............................................................. 187

**Blog World**
Dandruff Man ............................................................................................... 189

**Blog Diego**
“I love you/ like a fat kid loves cake” ......................................................... 191

**Remote Control King**
Electronics conspire .................................................................................. 193

**T.G.I.F.**
Cabbie politics ............................................................................................. 195

**CALENDAR**

**Local Events** ............................................................................................ 73

**Roam-O-Rama**
Trainmaster Schad knows Jack Creek .......................................................... 76

**Classical Music Guide** ............................................................................. 85

**Art Museum and Gallery Guide** ............................................................... 85

**Theater Review and Guide**
Annie Weisman’s Hold Please at the Cassius Carter .................................. 87

**Pop Music**
Blurt ............................................................................................................. 92
Both sides of Amber Ojeda .......................................................................... 96

**Crasher**
Unmasked at the bistro ................................................................................ 119

**Restaurant Reviews and Guide**
Where to find the foodies .......................................................................... 121
Chaldean cuisine, and lots of it .................................................................... 123
It’s hard to overcome the curse of Blue Nun .............................................. 124

**Movie Review and Guide**
Duncan Shepherd endures Grindhouse ....................................................... 133

**ADVERTISING**

**Classified Ads**
Antiques & Collectibles .......................................................... 190
Appliances ................................................................................................. 192
Automotive Cars ..................................................................................... 194
Automotive Trucks/Vans/SUVs ............................................................... 194
Automotive Classic/Custom Cars ............................................................ 194
Automotive RVs ....................................................................................... 194
Automotive Parts ..................................................................................... 194
Automotive Services .............................................................................. 195
Bicycles ...................................................................................................... 190
Business Opportunities ........................................................................... 166
Career Training ........................................................................................ 162
Classes/Lessons ...................................................................................... 167
Computers .................................................................................................. 190
Counseling/Support ................................................................................ 170
Electronics .................................................................................................. 192
Employment Agencies ............................................................................. 160
Employment Services ............................................................................... 162
Furniture ..................................................................................................... 192
Garage Sales .............................................................................................. 191
Health & Fitness ....................................................................................... 169
Help Wanted .............................................................................................. 145
Massage ................................................................................................... 168
Miscellaneous For Sale .......................................................................... 192
Motorcycles ............................................................................................... 194
Music, Equipment/Instruments ............................................................... 172
Music, Musicians Avail/Wanted .............................................................. 172
Music, Services ........................................................................................ 174
Notices ........................................................................................................ 170
Parent Resources ..................................................................................... 169
Personal Ads ............................................................................................. 71
Pet Central .................................................................................................. 176
Photo .......................................................................................................... 190
Real Estate, Condos ................................................................................ 188
Real Estate, Houses .................................................................................. 188
Real Estate, Miscellaneous ...................................................................... 189
Rentals, Commercial ............................................................................... 174
Rentals, Apartments/Condos ................................................................. 175
Rentals, Houses ........................................................................................ 174
Roommates ............................................................................................... 173
Roommate Services ................................................................................ 174
Services Directory ................................................................................... 174
Sports ......................................................................................................... 190
Stage Notes ............................................................................................... 168
Tickets ........................................................................................................ 190
Travel & Getaways ................................................................................... 171
Wanted/Trade .......................................................................................... 190
Wedding/Party Guide ............................................................................... 169

**Display Ads**
Apartment Rentals .................................................................................. 176
Automotive ................................................................................................. 181
Career Training ........................................................................................ 158
Getaways ................................................................................................... 73
Great Escapes ........................................................................................... 77
Health and Beauty .................................................................................... 48
Help Wanted .............................................................................................. 145
Instruction .................................................................................................. 68
Music .......................................................................................................... 173
Real Estate ................................................................................................ 180
Research Studies ..................................................................................... 169
Services ..................................................................................................... 169
Singles Events .......................................................................................... 84
Wedding Guide .......................................................................................... 80
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– Mecha Shinar, San Diego, CA

Q: Is the surgery painful or difficult?
A: "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?
A: "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!"
– Glenn T. Casey, Chula Vista, CA

Q: How long does the process take?
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– TP Forin, San Diego, CA

Q: Do the effects of LASIK wear off over time?
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– Sandra Macias, San Diego, CA

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– Darush Mohyi, M.D., La Jolla, CA

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Examples

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Civic activist Mel Shapiro says that Centre City Development Corporation is “a sacred cow.” Actually, it’s more like a 500-pound gorilla that plods itself down anywhere it desires. Recently, Shapiro thought it odd that Centre City had hired a lobbyist; after all, Centre City’s mandate is only to advise the city government it is $61,000.

Graham can dole out contracts to consultants for up to $250,000 without the Centre City board looking over her shoulder. The mayor can dish out the same sum without city council approval. When a contract is amended, Graham can band out another $200,000 in a different year without her board looking at it. The mayor’s limit is a little higher — $250,000.

Shapiro got a list of the contracts that Graham unilaterally passed out last year and the first two months of this year. She handed out $3.5 million last year and $1.1 million in January and February of this year. A full $2.2 million, or one-third of those contracts, were sole source; there was no competitive bidding.

“That is outrageous,” says Councilmember Donna Frye. “There is always a concern when anyone has the ability to sole source contracts; $250,000 is an awfully high threshold. The standard nationally is to give someone authority to give contracts up to $25,000 [without oversight].”

says DeMaio, “What we need is the good old free market; $250,000 is an awfully high threshold. The standard nationally is to give someone authority to give contracts up to $25,000 [without oversight].”

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

Cashing out Padres owner and chronic wheeler-dealer John Moores, who seems to have inherited the city’s lily-white Starbucks role played by late GOP financier C. Arnholt Smith, may be about to get even richer. The Wall Street Journal reports that DoubleClick, Inc., a software firm Moores owns with San Francisco financier Warren Hellman, erstwhile father-in-law to UC president Bob Dynes, is exploring a sale — and both Google and Microsoft are said to be interested. Moores, Hellman, and their investment partners paid $1.1 million for DoubleClick in 2000, reportedly sold off some operations and performed other management surgery, and now want to unload the company for at least $2 billion. … San Diego Unified school-board member Mitzi Lee, who voted with the board majority to buy out the contract of ex-superintendent Alan Bersin, says she’s mulling a race next year for the Fifth District city-council seat now held by the termed-out Brian Mainscheim. Others said to be lining up for the race include conservative think-tank operator Carl DeMaio. ... All the heavy hitters of Democratic politics, including Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton, and John Edwards, are said to be heading into town the week after next for the state party’s convention.

Downtown Dipping
By Don Bauder

C ence activist Mel Shapiro says that Centre City Development Corporation is “a sacred cow.” Actually, it’s more like a 500-pound gorilla that plods itself down anywhere it desires. Recently, Shapiro thought it odd that Centre City had hired a lobbyist; after all, Centre City’s mandate is only to advise the city government it is $61,000.

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

On the road with Jessie
Thanks to a flurry of press releases from the Foundation for Democracy in the office, all the heavy hitters of Democratic politics, including Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton, and John Edwards, are said to be heading into town the week after next for the state party’s convention.

Darksdie week
A year ago last month, San Diego Union-Tribune editor Karin Winner was ferociously crusading for “Sunshine Week,” an effort by the American Society of Newspaper Editors to focus attention on the problem of getting stubborn government agencies to open their records to the public. In a “Dear Readers” letter on the front page of the Sunday U-T, Winner said that “we shine white-hot spotlights on your government.” She went on to list all the things the U-T was doing to mark the occasion. “Throughout these pages we will bring focus to your right — an individual’s right — to access government. We offer specific help tomorrow with a full page of tips, and every day in this section that tells you where you can get certain information and how to go about obtaining it.”

Concluded Winner, “During Sunshine Week, I urge you to contemplate the freedoms we often take for granted. Think about the responsibilities that come with them: To act. To search out information. To hold those who represent you accountable. To vote.”

As journalists, we are privileged to report on the democratic process — and we believe our watchdog role is the most meaningful of all.”

This year’s Sunshine Week, however, was a different story. There was no editor’s message, no articles chronicling heroic efforts the press had taken to uncover public records or special webpages advising the citizenry how to make their own Public Records Act requests. The U-T’s only reference to Sunshine Week was contained in a small midweek editorial suggesting that the newspaper had given up the good fight. “The news on this front is not particularly good. … Unfortunately, politicians sometimes get away with defining any push for openness as a media power play. Instead, this effort should be seen as crucial to democracy. The less we know about our government, the more incompetence and corruption we can expect.”

Meanwhile, a high-powered advertising sales exec has departed Copley Newspapers, owner of the U-T, to become vice president of advertising for the Baltimore Sun, owned by the troubled Tribune Company of Chicago. Linda Hastings had been publisher of Today’s Local News, the U-T’s home-delivered freebie that was once supposed to provide an antidote to the main paper’s declining circulation numbers but ended up turning into a less than half-baked software. Hastings had been recruited by Copley from her own publication, Loot, a weekly classified vehicle distributed on 2700 newsstands in New York City, reports Editor & Publisher.

The Reader offers $25 news tips published in this column. Call our voice mail at 619-235-3000, ext. 440, or fax your tip to 619-231-0489.
Internet Savvy South of the Border

By Ernie Grimm

A year ago, Tijuana’s daily papers, Frontera and El Mexicano, reported that Internet cafés were proliferating throughout Northern Baja in response to growing demand for Internet access. The stories predicted that the number of Internet cafés would continue to grow for the foreseeable future. By all accounts, the number did grow, though in Tijuana nobody seems to know how much. Repeated attempts to get a hard number or an estimate from trade organizations and individuals produced only the answer “No se” (I don’t know) and unfulfilled promises to find out and call back. But if Ensenada may be used as a microcosmic example of all Baja, the number of Internet cafés has gone up over 800 percent in the past half decade. “We’ve got over 250 Internet cafés in the municipality of Ensenada,” says Luis Antonio Palomino Dagdug, whose computer-services company, Data Red, operates 6 Ensenada cafés internet, as they are known in Mexico. “Most of those opened in the last two years, and five years ago we only had maybe 30 in Ensenada.”

But Palomino believes that after two years of explosive growth, the Internet café business in Baja is going to slow down and many cafés are going to start closing. “The majority of the Internet cafés, of the over 250 that there are here, we estimate that better than 60 percent are illegally established. Currently, the municipal government is legalizing all these businesses. This is done by visiting them and checking to see if they have all the documents. In 2007, they’re requiring that to establish an Internet café business, the place where it’s going to be installed must fulfill all of the municipal requirements, like usage of the floor, fire permits. This is a new program that just started this year in Ensenada. Ensenada is the first municipality in Baja to set up rules in order to get money — taxes — from all of these businesses.”

Seated in a cramped office at one end of the Data Red store about three miles south-east of the Ensenada waterfront, 39-year-old Palomino wears a gold dress shirt, no tie, over a pair of olive green dress slacks. Alternating between English and Spanish, he opines that most of the illegal cafés won’t survive the legalization process because the cash outlay required to bring a business up to legal standards will be more than they have. “Most of them were started without a lot of money to begin with,” he explains. “The price of computers went down, so it seemed easy to buy ten computers, set them up, and start collecting money. But most of them don’t understand just how many customers you need in a day to make an Internet café business very good. If you have ten computers — and that is the average number of computers in the Internet cafés — you need to know how many customers you need to pay the electrical bill, pay the rent, the phone, the new government tax. So many people started in the business, and now many people are closing their businesses. And we project that most of the 250 Internet cafés are going to close in the next two years.”

Data Red’s Internet cafés won’t be among those closing, Palomino believes, because he offers more than just Internet connections in his six cafés. “The profit is in the additional items that you can sell to the people. For example, in all of our Internet cafés, we sell computer accessories that people need. Look here,” he points to a monitor on a shelf near his desk. The screen is broken into six panels, each showing a live feed from security cameras in his cafés. “You can see my Internet café at the El Cortéz Hotel. We’ve got three people at the computers, and behind the counter you can see the accessories that are for sale.”

Up a flight of exterior stairs, above the Data Red store, is the company’s flagship Internet café — 40 computers spread out through three rooms. Fifteen of them have flat-screen monitors, “and they are better computers,” Palomino says. “We charge 30 pesos [a little over $3] for as many hours as you want to use the flat screens [a little over $3].”

It’s about two in the afternoon, and only 2 of the 40 computers are in use. Asked if he can make a profit on Internet-connection rentals, Palomino answers, “No, but it’s only part of our business. Later in the afternoon, we’ll have computer classes in the flat-screen room to teach Windows, Excel, Word, and other software to professionals. While that’s going on, the teenagers will start coming into the other areas to do chat-
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Downtown dipping
continued from page 7
tracts. I would want to know why they are not put out for competitive bid. And the $25,000 threshold seems high, particularly for an unelected official.”

The San Diego Municipal Code mandates that a purchasing agent doing out a contract for between $5000 and $10,000 must seek competitive prices orally or in writing. For a contract between $10,000 and $50,000, the purchasing agent must solicit written price quotations from at least five potential sources. Contracts below $5000 do not have to be competitively bid.

What are some of the contracts that Graham meted out during the 14 months under study? In September of last year, Pam Hamilton, senior vice president and a Centre City employee for more than 24 years, retired. She was earning $160,000 a year when she left her post. But she really didn’t leave. That same month, she was given a $150,000 “project consulting services” contract. The contract was “sole source due to specialized nature of the required consulting services,” says the Centre City president’s report for September.

I am doing consulting work for them [Centre City] to manage projects or to complete projects for which I was the project manager,” Hamilton says.

In June of last year, Graham dished out the maximum $250,000 contract to Opp & Varco, the former law firm of Councilmember Peter “Op” & Varco is counsel to the [Redevelopment] Agency and [Centre City] with respect to envi-
rionmental issues,” explains Helen Peak, attorney for Centre City.

That same month, Keyser Marston Associates got the maximum $250,000 contract for real estate consulting services. “Keyser Marston provides on-call general economic con-
sulting services for [Centre City],” says Peak.

In May, Westlake Reed Leskosky got a $134,494 con-
tract for architectural engi-
near design services on the Balboa Theatre restoration. It was a fourth amendment; the total contract is for $2.44 million.

In October, Bruce A. Hus-
son, a veteran of San Diego Unified and Sweetwater schools, got a $45,000 sole-source con-
tract to evaluate the need for schools downtown.

The law firm of Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory 
& Natsis got two contracts totaling $80,000. That’s the firm of John Davies, former president and director of Cen-
tre City.

Throughout the period, law and architectural firms
picked up sole-source contracts, often at the maximum $250,000.

“We believe there are ade-
quate safeguards to protect against contracts going out to friends and political allies,” claims Peak. For technical and professional consultants, Cen-
tre City conducts a request for proposal and request for qualifications. The consul-
tants are selected from the pool of the firms with the highest ratings. Some of those consultants may get a sole-
source contract from Graham.

The bottom line is that Centre City is riding first class while the city is on its way to bankruptcy. Yet Centre City continues to drain money from the city’s general fund.

In essence, redevelopment is a scam to take money from the city and direct it to developers. Almost the entire downtown is considered “blighted.” That’s a joke. About 14 percent of the property-tax dol-
lars from the area goes to the city, and the rest goes to Cen-
tre City, which continues to parcel it out to developers. Centre City’s board and staff
mainly consist of people owing their allegiance to the develop-
ment industry.

Frye says that Centre City should begin paying off the $100 million that it has bor-
rrowed from the city. In addi-
tion, she wants Centre City to take over the debt service on the ballpark bonds, which is now down to $11 million.
following the refinancing of the debt. “The fact is that it is not [Centre City] that has to sign off on this,” says Frye. “It is the city council, which is the Redevelopment Agency. The question is whether the council has the will. So far it has not.”

DeMaio agrees with Frye. “People at [Centre City] told me they were flush with cash,” says DeMaio. “I said, ‘Why should the city pay for Petco Park?’ It’s redevelopment in a blighted area. It would save the city all that money.” They [Centre City] said, ‘We have other projects.’ They have a list of projects with special-interest developers, and the city is on the brink of bankruptcy!”

Peak is not sure that community-redevelopment law would permit the shift of the ballpark burden from the city to Centre City.

There is an answer to that: the laws should be changed. There is a good argument that Centre City should be abolished so that more money can flow into the city’s general fund. If that can’t be accomplished politically, at least the laws should be changed so that the Centre City chief executive cannot dole out fat contracts willy-nilly.

South of the border
continued from page 8

ting and gaming. From seven to ten, a lot of kids will be in here chatting and gaming. And sometimes on weekends, kids are at all 40 computers.”

Combining the classes, the Internet-connection rental, the computer-accessory sales, and the computer service business, Data Red makes a profit, Palomino says. That kind of diversification is the key to a successful Internet café, says Wayne Neal, general manager of Club LAN in the Midway District, one of only two places produced by a Google search for “San Diego Internet café.” “We have several aspects to our business that make us successful,” Neal explains. “We’re an Internet café and gaming center. We have 30 Internet connections — for ten cents a minute, or six dollars an hour — but our gaming computers are what brings in most of our customers. I think they come for the gaming atmosphere, instead of playing at home. And we have dual-core processors and high-end video cards on our computers that they might not have on their home computers. They allow us to run games on the highest graphic settings.”

Neal says computer cafés have failed in San Diego because they were focused solely on renting Internet or on gaming, and sometimes only one game. For example, I know of one center up in Miramar that depended on people playing one game. They didn’t have anyone playing other games, and they didn’t have any Internet access. And they went under. But we have people playing World of Warcraft, Counter-Strike, Battlefield, pretty much anything you want to play. In fact, we have a professional Battlefield team that plays here.

On top of that, Neal says, “We sell snacks and sodas and energy drinks. And we’re going to have a coffee cart outside soon. Then we have a retail section where we sell all sorts of video games, new and used. We sell DVDs, we sell everything back to old-school Nintendo; the hardware and the games. Because of the different areas of the business, we’ve been able to make business more profitable.”

Asked how profitable Club LAN is, he answers, “We’re fine. We’ll be here a while. We’re not doing exceedingly well, but we’re fine.”

Jorge Santacruz, the chief financial officer of Benefon Mexico, a telecommunications consulting firm, agrees with Palomino that Baja, for theобразовательная центральная Россия has a telecommunications market, from which is independent. To express the market, Santacruz suppresses a chuckle. “Because they prefer open restaurants and bars. If you say, ‘Let’s open an Internet café for $250,000,’ they’ll say, ‘Too much. I’ll open another restaurant.’”

South of the border
continued from page 8

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Comments from Reader Website

Blurt Posted April 4

Posted by Jahn on 04/04/07, 5:37 p.m.
Hey Stephanie in regards to your article about straight edge its being discussed here www.sandiegocore.com/phpBB/viewtopic.php?t=2032
Source like people are thinking coming you came off kind of ignorant and douchey

Posted by Jahn on 04/04/07, 9:09 p.m.
You had an anti edge agenda to start with, took the right quotes out of context to push it and came off looking like a douche bag. Nice work. Real Groundbreaking…

Posted by Stefanie Howell on 04/04/07, 9:34 p.m.
I don’t have an anti-edge agenda, Amber does exist, and I didn’t take you out of context.

Posted by Amber on 04/04/07, 11:58 p.m.
I think the article turned out pretty good. I honestly felt like I didn’t bring up more important things that you could’ve addressed. I feel like this article doesn’t shine much light on the brotherhood/sisterhood of straight edge and the philosophy in general. And for the record, I want an X and an anchor on my back… just an X seems obscure… I’d get triple X if I wanted to stick to the “logo”. Posted by Amber on 04/04/07, 11:59 p.m.
also- What relevance does that picture have?

Posted by Stefanie Howell on 04/05/07, 1:10 a.m.
Thanks Amber. Unfortunately these article are short so I couldn’t go more in depth (like I would have like to). On the other hand, this is the perfect place to talk about it so inform us…Also, I didn’t take the picture.

Posted by CHILD OF THE NIGHT on 04/05/07, 10:51 a.m.
your article suuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuu
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- Installation charges not included.

**Installation charges not included.**

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SportingBox
By Patrick Daugherty

Since we have a circus, we might as well treat it like a circus and put some money on the second clown from the left. I’m referring to the presidential campaign that began the day after the last election.

We’re going to need a good betting line. But, first, let’s agree on a few facts. Fact one: Anybody who runs for president is crazy and we should treat that person as we treat any other crazy person. To wit: don’t believe anything they say, don’t let them go off by themselves unsupervised, and don’t let them make their own rules about nap time. People who run for president have spent a lifetime lying and weasel in order to get to a place where they can lie and weasel in front of a nation. This conduct is not to be encouraged.

The corporate press says the 2008 presidential campaign will cost one billion dollars. It will cost more, John Kennedy’s 1960 campaign cost $9.7 million. Richard Nixon’s came in at $10.1 million. Roughly, one dollar in 1960 is worth about seven dollars today. Kennedy or Nixon would have to spend $70 million to be president in 2008, about $400 million shy of what the 2008 Democratic or Republican nominee will spend.

We don’t get much out of their billion-dollar campaign. We certainly don’t get a conversation about what’s actually going on. For instance, we’re not leaving Iraq, no matter who wins. Democrats don’t want to talk about it because they want their voters to think they’re for a withdrawal. Republicans don’t want to talk about it because they want to paint Democrats as “cut-and-run,” and how can you do that if there are 60,000 American troops in Iraq next year, the year after, and for decades to come?

We are building the largest embassy that has ever been built in the history of embassymother. It’s about the size of Vatican City and can be seen from space. Latest cost estimate is $3.1 billion, and it will open in June. The embassy will have the largest swimming pool in Iraq, 15-foot-thick walls at selected locations, restaurants, a Marine barracks, 300 houses, 21 towers, its own electricity and water…all of it placed inside the Green Zone right next to the puppet — oops, make that next to the sovereign government of Iraq.

The embassy will house 8000 hostages — oops, make that 8000 staff. As I said, the compound is inside the Green Zone section of Baghdad, an Arab city of 5,000,000 residents, 4,991,000 of whom object to being occupied. An occupation, by the way, entering its fifth year. Advanced military thinkers note that the embassy is within mortar range of 4,992,000 Baghdad residents.

Then there are the “enduring bases.” We have no permanent bases in Iraq. Let me make that clear. We have, the Pentagon says, enduring bases. There is Balad air base, 43 miles north of Baghdad. According to “Air Force in Iraq 352nd AEW,” an Air Force website, “In terms of aircraft movements, Balad is the busiest single runway operation in DOD and second in the world only to London’s Heathrow airport.”

The U.S. has built at least four superbases, (Al Asad air base, Balad air base, Camp Taji, and Tallil air base). They are home to 60,000 soldiers, thousands of contractors, fast-food restaurants, movie theaters, supermarkets, cyber cafés. These are huge installations. American troops arrive, complete their tours, and go home having never left their base.

The United States is not leaving those bases either; they were designed to last decades. And who would we leave them to, the grateful population of Iraq?

Chalmers Johnson, a UC San Diego professor emeritus and author of, to name three, Blowback, The Sorrows of Empire, and Nemesis: The Last Days of the American Republic, writes that the Defense Department’s “Base Structure Report” admits to having 737 military bases in 130 countries in 2005. That figure does not include bases in Kosovo, Bosnia, Iraq, Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Qatar, Uzbekistan, or secret installations in Israel, Australia, United Kingdom, Jordan, or bases in countries who do not want it known they host American military camps, or bases that fall under other categories we don’t know about.

All but three dozen of these bases (the Pentagon calls them Cooperative Security Locations) are listed as small, many serving as storehouses for prepositioned military arsenals. But, they are available for American military use during emergencies, and an “emergency,” as any presidential candidate will tell you, can mean whatever you want it to mean.

Follows are a few questions for our candidates. Why, exactly, do we need 700 military bases in 130 countries? If we actually need 700 military bases in a 130 countries, shouldn’t we have 1500 bases in 190 countries just to make sure we have enough to go around? Perhaps 3000 is a better number.

The Vegas Line

2008 Presidential Election
November 4, 2008

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San Diego Reader April 12, 2007 15
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SHEEP AND GOATS
PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Address: 3900 Cleveland Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-295-1416
Founded locally: 1906
Senior pastor: Tim Tiffany
Congregation size: 400
Staff size: three pastors
Sunday school enrollment: 100, including all levels and weekday meetings
Annual budget: around $500,000, including donations for special projects
Weekly giving: around $900
Single program: no
Dress: semiregular, some casual
Diversity: mostly Caucasian
Sunday worship: New Traditions, 9 a.m., Traditional, 11 a.m.
Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 10 minutes
Website: www.univchristianchurch.com

A sort of cutout bas-relief depiction of Leonardo’s Last Supper stood on a easel outside the Friendship Hall at University Christian Church. Inside, at the front of the hall, a long table stood empty, glowing under the incandescent waiting for the scene to be re-created. While the piano tinkled its way through a meditative riff, three women, barefoot and clad in earth-toned tunics, began to set the table.

The “supper” aspect of the Last Supper was driven home as the women, gesturing in wordless conversation, spread and carefully smoothed a red satin runner patterned with gold. Slowly, deliberately, they set earthware cups, bottles of wine, plates of grapes and cheese and unthreshed bread. Before the center seat, they placed a large, round loaf and set a cup taller than the rest. Then they stepped back to regard their handwork and left — except for one: Mary Magdalene. As the band kicked in — featuring flute and strumming acoustic guitar — she sang the ballad “I Don’t Know How to Love Him” from the musical Jesus Christ Superstar. Her voice was frank and unaffected, delivering an un-churchy line like “He’s a man/ He’s just a man/ And I’ve had so many men before/ In very many ways/ without an ounce of self-consciousness.

Yet, if he said He loved me I’d be lost. I’d be frightened! I couldn’t cope, just couldn’t cope... I wouldn’t want to know! He scares me so! I want him so! I love him so...”

A narrator’s voice came over the speakers and told us about Jesus. How He “saw His country-people of Palestine suffer under the oppressive rule of the sons of King Herod and the Romans,” saw “the hypocrisies of the Pharisees,” saw “the mean-spirited attitudes of the rich and privileged.” We heard about Jesus’ “message of love, mercy, and forgiveness,” and how He was loved and revered by “the poor and forgotten” — so the point where they thought He might be the Messiah. Then the scene was set for that final Passover meal.

The disciples entered, then Jesus, who greeted each in turn. All took their seats. The narrator spoke the action while other voices took the parts of Jesus and the disciples — the actors themselves remained silent. The familiar scenes were played out (albeit in a modern idiom), but to interesting effect — it took Jesus a long time to wash and dry 24 feet. The disciples, after marveling for a while, went back to their eating.

After Jesus prophesied His betrayal, Judas leaned in and asked, “It isn’t me, is it, Rabbit?” Immediately, the stage went black, only to reappear a moment later, brightly lit. There before us was Leonardo’s Last Supper, living but motionless, just as University Christian Church has portrayed it for the past 50 years. Perhaps 20 seconds of stillness, and then the story resumed: the betrayal, the new commandment (“Love one another in the same way I loved you”), the bread and the wine (“Take; eat; this is my body”). Congregants filed forward to receive Communion from the same loaf, and a few stepped to have their feet washed by the disciples.

“Father,” concluded Jesus, “the time has come. Reveal the glory of your Son, so that He can give the glory back to You... I brought glory to You here on earth by doing everything You told Me to, and now, Father, reveal my glory as I stand in your presence... and the world will believe You sent Me.”

But the talk of glory didn’t last. Jesus sent his disciples away to the garden, and the band kicked in again, this time with a harder, more electric sound. Jesus stepped forward and sang “Gethsemane” again from Jesus Christ Superstar — a song meant to capture the agony in the garden. His face strained with frustration bordering on rage as He cried out...

“...I’d have to know, I’d have to know my Lord... I’d be frightened/ I couldn’t cope, just couldn’t cope... I wouldn’t want to know! He scares me so! I want him so! I love him so...”

Sleeping disciples littered the walkway outside the hall. To the left, in a garden and under a topiary arch, Jesus knelt against a rock, motionless, lit from below, his face half in shadow, his eyes gazing up toward heaven.

What happens when we die?

“I don’t want to believe... I don’t want to be afraid...”

- Matthew Lickona

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It’s the end of an era here at the Kelly home. Over a decade, I’ve bragged to friends about my Kirby vacuum cleaner, the one I inherited from my husband’s grandmother. I called it “the Tank” and marveled that it still had so much suck after 40 years. But nothing lasts forever, and the Tank has given out.

“Guess I’ll check out the price on a new Electrolux,” I told friend Bernice.

“Don’t,” she replied. “I bought one off of QVC for $400, and it broke down constantly. I finally got rid of it.”

I couldn’t believe it, so I called the one Electrolux dealer in town (Aerus Electrolux, Claremont, 858-565-8288) to hear their side of it. Employee Rick explained, “There’s another Electrolux out there called the Oxygen. It’s actually a relabeled Eureka, from a company called All Electrolux. It’s a good vacuum for what it does — you buy it, use it for a year, and when it breaks down, you throw it away. It’s not made to the same standard.” It seemed that Electrolux had sold its name and now used the brand name Aerus Electrolux to denote its own products. Rick assured me they were still tanks. Three reasons to buy: “Reputation, longevity, and warranty. The price range is $1100 to $2499. Even the entry-level vacuums have a 5-year warranty on the motor. There’s also a 7-year, and the top-of-the-line Guardian has a 25-year warranty on the motor and a 2-year warranty on parts.”

It sounded good, but it sounded expensive. I decided to call around. My friend Shawn swears by her Rainbow canister vacuum ($1997–$2477 at Rainbow Service Center in Claremont, 619-275-1691). “I love how well it picks up dirt. It cleans super-well and uses water as a filter. I also love that, when you vacuum, you can see the dirt, along with any trash you’ve picked up. But I hate that I have to put water in it every time I vacuum.”

Friend Julie paid $2200 five years ago for her Kirby upright (Kirby Vacuum, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-2827). “I like that it’s well-built. I’ve had it for five years, and nothing has broken. And it has a lot of flexibility — there are a lot of attachments made for every little type of vacuuming that you might want to do — even carpet shampooing. But it can be complicated to use — you have to break out the owner’s manual or watch a video before you try to do certain things. And I think we paid way too much for a vacuum cleaner.”

As for Bernice, she liked her Oreck upright just fine. “I love how light it is. It’s really easy to move around, and the kids can do it. But the belts keep popping off.” (Orecks are priced $299–$749 at Oreck Authorized Sales in Mira Mesa, 858-586-7100.)

Finally, I turned to Brett Roberts, owner of Metro Vacuum in La Mesa (619-466-4430). Roberts was a man who knew what he believed, starting with the superiority of canister vacuums over uprights, “Canisters are better for all surfaces, and uprights are better for no surfaces.”

Roberts wasn’t a fan of the Oreck (“Archaic design — everything you suck up goes through the motor blades, and they break constantly”); the Kirby (“Well made, but poorly designed and very pricey — plus, it’s an upright”); or the Rainbow (“If a bubble pops at the top of the water filter, the dust goes back into the air. New-model Rainbows have a hepa filter at the exhaust port”). The Electrolux was okay, he said, but expensive, and not as good as his favorite: Miele (available at Metro Vacuum, $529–$1000).

Miele, he said, delivered the most important feature a vacuum can have: “high air speed occurring where the dirt is. Miele gives you 140 cubic feet per minute of airflow and a tremendous amount of suction. The air is moving very quickly, and Miele captures that speed where the dirt is, with tools that interface appropriately with carpet and floor.”

The parquet floor brush, for example, will penetrate into a variegated surface. If a nozzle interfaces poorly with a floor — say, a carpet — then very little of the flowing air is going through the carpet fibers, where the dirt is.

Once you get the dirt up into the vacuum cleaner, said Roberts, you want to make sure it stays there. The bag is the big filter, made from “a polypropylene electrostatic material that you can’t break,” but Miele also includes a hepa filter, “which delivers a filtration level of 99.97 percent efficiency at 0.3 microns. It’s the only vacuum to pass the European EN1822 test, which monitors hepa filtration while the machine is running, not just the filter independent of the machine. Most vacuums that have the hepa filter don’t deliver true hepa filtration, because some of the exhaust air goes around the filter.”

And if canisters in general were more maneuverable than uprights, Miele was the most maneuverable of all. “It’s light, but it also feels light. All three wheels on the bottom swirl. If you kick your machine sideways, then it rolls sideways. It’s very easy to maneuver. Also, the brush at the end of the hose swirls — just twist the hose, and the brush on the floor steers with your twist.” Finally, “there’s a swirl where the hose enters the grip, so that the hose always stays in a relaxed position. It never twists.”

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1. Kirby vacuum cleaner and attachments
2. Rainbow vacuum cleaner
3. Miele vacuum cleaner
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Absolut Truth

Strength of mind rests in sobriety; for this keeps your reason unclouded by passion.

— Pythagoras

I melted into David’s side and craned my neck to see his face. “Kiss me,” I prodded. It sounded more like, keeeah mee, each syllable drawn out to maximize my sudden delight in over-enunciation. David obeyed. “Again,” I said, this time in the petulant-meets-playful manner of a three-year-old. David indulged me with a second peck to the lips that, by joining my hands at the back of his head and applying pressure, I upgraded to a full-blown kiss. I couldn’t remember the last time I’d felt so carefree, so relaxed, so unburdened. Our friends at the dinner table were temporarily forgotten, as was any sense I had of propriety.

The following morning, I opened my eyes to see David, already awake and smiling at me. “Look over there,” he said. I followed the line of his finger to the window, a white rectangular blur. “It’s snowing,” David said softly. He handed me my glasses, and the fluffy white flakes came into focus.

I took a moment to marvel at the sight that, as a citizen of San Diego, I rarely get to appreciate. I made happy noises as I stretched my limbs. Sitting up, I noticed articles of clothing strewn in a random trail from the bedroom door to my side of the bed. A deluge of compunction washed over me, but I couldn’t figure out where it was coming from. I had a vague recollection of laughing unreasonably loud for a freakishly long time during the ride back to Ellen and Kirby’s place. I stared at my clothing as if my intense glare could somehow inspire it to speak, and then a clear thought popped into my head, a mental telegram to me from my bra: Oh, my God, I was schnookered last night.


I remained humiliated for days, even though our friends insisted I didn’t do anything “terribly off-putting.” It’s not that I thought they were lying to be polite. It was that, for at least an hour, my superego had left its post at the helm of my brain.

And though it was liberating to be free of the sensation and risk getting sick or, even worse, doing something I might regret.

Unlike some people who manage to retain enough consciousness during a technical blackout to do inordinately stupid things, my body has built-in, fail-safe mechanisms that prevent me from doing anything I deem reprehensible on any level of my psyche. In the past, when enjoying a libation or two without the stimulating effects of uppers, the greatest degree of inebriation I experienced was “tipsy.” Beyond that, I would either get sick or fall asleep.

Which is why that night at the restaurant a month ago was such an anomaly.

Apparentbly, I’d had just the right formula: food, multiplied by wine, divided by time.

And though it was liberating to be free of my shoulder angel’s vice-like grip for an evening, I didn’t want to try and replicate the sensation and risk getting sick or, even worse, doing something I might regret.

David believes that people are most themselves when inebriated; that their true qualities, adorable or abhorrent, rise to the
surface like dolphins in the ocean or shit in the john. Luckily for me, David is a dolphin. When sober, he is reserved and controlled, but once a little liquor has loosened him up, he becomes endearingly enthusiastic about everything — marveling at the magnificence of a crescent moon or smiling giddily for no reason at all. After two glasses of wine, my friend Rosa, always proper and taciturn, lets her emotions gush like irrigation water released into a dusty field. Her husband, Josue, reported to me that while dining at Parallel 33 recently, Rosa had burst into tears when the server asked how everything was. Finally answering the perplexed waitress, Rosa choked through sobs, “Everything...beautiful.”

In light of my behavior in Boston, it appears as though I am, when all pretense is cast aside, a pushy and horny person. All the more reason to keep a sober eye on myself. This is easy to do when I insist on driving, as I always do, and as I did this past Saturday night. The evening’s itinerary included a birthday party for my friend Robert’s wife. Earlier, I’d asked Robert not to tell me the “start” time of the affair, but rather the “cool” time for me to arrive. I was right to trust him — after hitting up an art opening at my friend Ronaldo’s salon/gallery, I entered the lively gathering with my posse promptly at 8, which, by the relaxed, lubed-by-libation look of things, was around three to four hours after people had started getting their drink on.

If David’s theory is correct, and people are most themselves when their inhibitions are down, then the partygoers I met were friendly and fun-loving folks. After watching Robert rock out with his band backed by an expansive canyon view and the distant lights of Mission Valley, I rallied my small crew and headed down the street to Air Conditioned, the stealthily named bar at 30th and Adams.

Once inside, I shimmed through the crowd and up to the bar, where Burrito offered me a “Barbarella,” the vodka/chocolate/raspberry concoction he created for me three years ago, when I preferred things sweet and disorienting. David ordered two Barbarellas for the other two women in our party (who were generous enough to give me a few sips) and a bottle of water for me. The boys were drinking wine, which was slightly unnerving, because I always associated the lounge with cocktails.

“You know,” David said into my ear, “I’d be happy to drive us home if you want to have a drink. Really, it would be my pleasure.” His dimpled smile was mischievous. Ever since my unbridled display of public affection, David has been a charming little devil on my shoulder. Not only because he delights in seeing me frisky and unrestrained, but also because he enjoys seeing me relaxed, as rare a sight for him as snow is for me.
Most-Filmed Wild West Main Street  

Don’t look yet. Turn off Woodside onto Maine and behold a li’l old Wild West street that’ll knock your spurs off. It huddles beneath a perfect movie-set backdrop of towering granite mountains. Okay, there are some cars, but Maine Avenue has been uniquely preserved from the early days by a history-conscious citizenry — and the arrival of State Route 67, which diverts traffic from old Lakeside. So the 1896 Presbyterian church, the 1900 Neal House, the 1905 Ross House, the 1911 town hall, the 1912 women’s club (now a real estate office), the 1919 Texaco gas station, all are intact. So is the whole fabric of the street. And Hollywood has been responding from the get-go. The first location shoot was on May 25, 1911, when the lovely Pauline Bush starred in Allan Dwan’s one-reeler, *A Daughter of Liberty.* And let’s not forget April 21, 1907, just a block over, the day Barney Oldfield roared his “Green Dragon” racing car one mile around Lakeside’s lake in 51.8 seconds, smashing the mile-a-minute barrier. They made a movie of that too. In 1913. On location, of course. Nowadays it’s mostly TV, like the 1992–1997 series *Renegade.*
Whaling Bar: Rubbing Shoulders with Raymond  If only the walls of this clubby, woody, red-leathery bar could talk. La Jolla’s most famous literary watering hole has boasted an eye-popping list of regulars: Gregory Peck, Mel Ferrer, Dr. Seuss himself (Theodor Geisel), Art Buchwald, Picasso’s lover Françoise Gilot (now the widow of Jonas Salk), and maybe the best-known regular of his time, Raymond Chandler (English-raised creator of the Philip Marlowe detective novels such as The Big Sleep and The Long Goodbye). There’s something about La Jolla that attracts the celestials as they come down to earth. You might catch one, say Gilot, 85, if she’s not in Paris or New York with daughter Paloma Picasso. (Best night, budgetwise, is Thursday, happy hour. Seven-dollar martinis but free filet mignon sandwiches.) Chandler, of course, is long gone. He was a confirmed alcoholic but also a damned fascinating conversationalist, as complex as Marlowe himself. The one no-no was to bring up Alfred Hitchcock, whom he hated with a passion. Lean on the same bar, drink the same martinis, think the same noir thoughts. Quote his great noir lines such as, from The Simple Art of Murder, “Down these mean streets a
man must go who is not himself mean...."

Lloyd Ruocco’s 1949 “California Modern” Design Center, Fifth and Brooks, Hillcrest. It’s hard to believe this light-as-air redwood-and-cedar complex is 50 years old. It’s not so much the condition — it has been restored and rebuilt after a fire in the late 1980s — as the modern design. Its architect, Lloyd Ruocco, envisaged this glassy, woody canyon-climber to capture the California spirit of openness and casualness and lack of pretension. He designed it as a low-slung, environmentally sensitive center to bring together creative people in the small town that San Diego was in 1949. Today we take flat roofs, floor-to-ceiling glass, open-plan interiors, inside-outside living — and insouciance of design — for granted. Back then, it was a revolution called California Modernism. The Design Center was out in front, flying the banner.

Rancho Guajome This historical rancho outside Vista is a beautifully restored Anglo-Californio hacienda. It belonged to Ysidora Ban dini and her husband Cave Johnson Couts. Here, on their 2200-acre land grant, Couts built a 7000-square-foot, 28-room adobe casa and private chapel. Eventually it became the social and cultural center of North County. More important, Guajome — it means “frog pond” in Luiseño — unwittingly helped spark a fire of popular outrage over ill treatment of Mission Indians in California. It was here that social activist Helen Hunt Jackson visited not long after her 1881 book A Century of Dishonor had failed to spark outrage at the treatment of Indians. Now Jackson decided to emulate her friend Harriet Beecher Stowe (author of Uncle Tom’s Cabin) and write her outrage into fiction. In the sewing room at Guajome she scribbled away, until an argument with Doña Ysidora abruptly ended her visit. It doesn’t take much to imagine what the argument was about. Ysidora’s late husband had been notoriously cruel to his Indian workers. Jackson’s book Ramona, a Romeo and Juliet story of Ramona’s love for the Indian Alessandro, became an outrageous success. It brought tourists from all over the nation. Ironically, it awakened concern not only for Mission Indians but also for preserving the sites of Spanish California’s former glory. It is probably why Guajome — and its sewing room — are reborn, back in mint condition today. Rancho Guajome Adobe, 2210 North Santa Fe Avenue, Vista, 760-724-4082.

Where to Hang Out If You Want to Hitch a Sail to Fiji Think of San Diego as the gateway to the Pacific and the Americas. As spring comes on, blue-water sailors start turning up at Downwind Marine (2804 Canon Street, Point Loma, 619-224-2733, www.downwindmarine.com) for owner

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Chris Frost’s Wednesday-morning coffee-and-doughnut gatherings. “March is a good month if you’re heading for French Polynesia,” says Frost. “The cyclone season’s pretty well over by then.” Downwind holds seminars on all aspects of ocean cruising and hosts a “Cruisers’ Kick-Off Party” after the hurricane season, in November, when sailing south to Mexico is best. It’s where potential rigging rats can meet captains looking for crew. Wannabe crew members have been known to arrive with placards or hat signs reading, “New Zealand!” “Tai!” “Bali!” To crew, Frost says, you don’t have to have experience, but you do have to be fit, adaptable, and ready to learn. He also warns: get to know your skipper. S/he may be charming onshore, then turn into a Captain Bligh as soon as you weigh anchor. Or worse, prove to be learning on the job.

The Empress’s Pink Pillow
The Empress Dowager of China, Tz’u-hsi, glovered at her courtiers. “Go to Fallbrook!” she commanded. “And don’t come back without my pink tourmaline!” Really. Something like that. This was back in the 1880s. She wanted the rare rock in her favorite hue — pink — for palace and personal adornments and for her funerary pillow.

Word had reached Peking that the only place in the known world producing the shade of tourmaline she wanted was San Diego County, according to Robert Hughes. (Hughes worked till recently for the Fallbrook-based Pala International, which still extracts tourmalines, garnets, and quartz from mines around the Pala Reservation.) So while Tz’u-hsi paced in Peking, a delegation of her emissaries traveled to the Fallbrook area’s Himalaya Mine and purchased almost a ton of its uniquely pink rock. “She had the rock carved into goddesses, dragons, all sorts of beautiful creations,” Hughes says. And some came back. “You can actually see some of the Fallbrook tourmaline she had carved. It’s sitting in the Fallbrook Mineral Museum.”

He says it’s not such a stretch that the empress would hear about Fallbrook. “Fallbrook is America’s Idar-Oberstein [a legendary German gem center].” And yes, when she died in 1908, Tz’u-hsi was laid to rest with her head supported by a round, pink tourmaline pillow. Gem and Mineral Museum is at 123 West Alvarado Street, Fallbrook, 760-723-1130.

Real Mexico in TJ
Yes, it’s right next to touristy Revolution, but there’s something real about Plaza Santa Cecilia, this enclave beside the “old” city walls. The walls are actually new, but this is exactly where Tijuana got its start, back in 1889, where Hotel Nelson now stands. The plaza and its angled pedestrian-only street (Avenida Santiago Argüello) with its candy-colored buildings deliver the flavor of old Mexico.

Come around sunset, sit down at Tradición, the café that sticks out from the orange-colored Hotel Las Americas, settle back with an instant coffee or a Corona, and watch waiting mariachis, quietly rehearsing around the statue of
harp-holding Santa Cecilia, patron saint of musicians. The knife-sharpening man. A photographer carrying an old Agfa bellows camera. Meseras, drink-serving ladies blinking in the sunlight outside the much-shortedened Long Bar. A little Mixtec woman hauling down her sarapes and kidsize guitars for the night. The arch that hoops over Revolución, glowing orange and silver in the sunset. A couple of drunks think of duking it out but cool off when a blue-and-white police car cruises through, at walking pace. It's all here. México, a quarter hour's walk from the border. While you're about it, have the next trio who come by sing you "La Malagueña." Ramona Castle In 1881, a seamstress named Amy Strong came to San Diego for her health. She struck gold. The women of the town's emerging aristocracy — the Grants, the Marstons, the Scrippses, the Spreckelses — were desperate for sophisticated dresses that would confirm their status. Soon Amy was employing 75 work-at-home seamstresses and traveling to Europe every year to borrow ideas and buy fabric. After 27 years she had enough money to build the house of her dreams, a 27-room, $50,000 (say, $1.5 million today) country "castle." She was inspired by the Craftsman "back-to-nature" movement and by her travels. She liked Holland, so she built a windmill to pump water. She liked French chateaux, so she hauled in local granite boulders to create sometimes eight-foot-thick walls, with the help of adobe bricks made from her property's clay.
soils. Result: “natural” air conditioning. Timber was her own eucalyptus trees plus oak and redwood. Decorations were Indian carvings. Of course, what most visitors want to see is the “séance room.” Its circular ceiling is decorated with astrological symbols. Did Amy hold secret séances up there in the backwoods? The place is now called Mt. Woodson Castle and is the administration office for the Mt. Woodson Golf Club. Visitors welcome (16422 North Woodson Drive, Ramona, 760-788-3555).

San Diego Ingenuity
Scripps Institution of Oceanography had a problem. They needed to make measurements at sea from a steady platform. Instruments couldn’t be bobbing about with every wave. That’s where Drs. Fred Fisher and Fred Spiess came in. Back in the early ’60s, they had this idea: why not build a ship that could flip from horizontal to vertical? It would tow like a ship, then float like a buoy. How? Fill the stern with water so that end sinks, and the ship becomes vertical. The center of gravity would lie 300 feet underwater, guaranteeing the ship would not move with the surface waves. The bow-mounted superstructure would now stand five stories up in the air, putting instruments and crew (up to 16) beyond the reach of most waves. Scripps said okay. Result: this 355-foot baseball-bat-shaped “Floating Instrument Platform” (“FLIP”) ship. The “flip” process takes 28 minutes. In the living quarters in the bow, what was the floor becomes the wall. Portholes in the ceiling now look out across the waters. The result is near-total quietness, essential to, say, studying how sound waves behave underwater or isolating marine animals’ underwater sounds. These days, studies range from how storm waves are formed to ocean-atmosphere heat exchange.

Cowboy Picasso of El Cajon
Olaf Wieghorst of El Cajon was a Danish immigrant and an ex-cop and didn’t start painting Western-themed pictures till he was 46. Yet his clients included presidents Reagan, Ford, Nixon, and Eisenhower; Senator Barry Goldwater; J.P. Morgan; Leonard Firestone; Gene Autry; Roy Rogers; Bing Crosby; John Wayne; Burt Reynolds; and Clint Eastwood. After Wieghorst died in 1988, fans turned his house into a museum—gallery (at 131 Rea Street, El Cajon), and it has become a sort of pilgrimage place for fans who like how he learned about the West from the inside out. After jumping ship in New York in 1918, he became cowboy, cavalryman, and mounted policeman. Always horses. It was only when he retired to El Cajon in 1945 that he turned full-time to painting and sculpting. His work soon earned him the sobriquet “Dean of Western Artists.” Partly, people loved his vistas and his close relationship with many Native American tribes. But his strongest point may have been his intimate knowledge of horses. “I try to
paint the little natural things,” he’d say, “the way a horse turns his tail to the wind on cold nights, the way he flattens his ears in the rain, seasonal changes in the coat of a horse.”

The Big Kitchen, Radical Chic “My Area!” says a felt-tip message from this town’s most famous pearl diver. “Don’t Paint This Over. Goddammit! Whoopi Goldberg.” Whoopi scrawled this here beside the Big Kitchen’s big kitchen back in 1981, when she was washing dishes here to buttress her struggling career in local theater. But Whoopi’s not really why this eatery is famous. The Big Kitchen (3003 Grape Street, 619-234-5789) is it: a breakfast place that even the august Bon Appétit magazine has called one of the “best places for breakfast” in America. But even that’s not it. “It” is Judy Forman. This is her community center. It’s where serious politics collides with jokes. (Typical wall signs: “Will Be President For Food!″ “Under Republicans, Man exploits Man. Under Democrats, it’s just the opposite.”) But understand this: under Judy Forman, things get done. Don’t get her going. “We started the Fern Street Circus,” she’ll say, “sponsored the Grape Street Park Storytelling Festival, got the leash-free dog zone on Grape Street, drove the Miss California beauty pageant out of town... to Fresno! We started the Golden Hill Community Development Corporation.” She lists a zillion more. “Now, everybody [seeking office] comes here,” she says. “I’m pretty sure you can’t get elected if you don’t.”

Julian: Civil Rights Capital of San Diego If today’s San Diego is known for celebrating its multicultural strengths, maybe
some of our good attitude adjustment goes back to the ‘60s — the 1860s.
That’s when Albert Robinson arrived in Julian and started his rise to become possibly the most popular hotelier in the county.
Robinson was African American, a freed slave from Missouri. He reached San Diego in 1869, soon after gold was discovered in Julian. For a while he worked as a ranch hand, then married a fellow African American, Margaret, in Julian in the early 1880s. Soon after, the two started a restaurant and bakery, and then, as their popularity grew, they built a hotel, the Hotel Robinson, in 1897, backed by prominent townsfolk. It became the confirmed social center of Julian for decades. Albert died, beloved, in Julian, in 1915, and Margaret sold the hotel a few years later, but the atmosphere they created lives on in the renamed Julian Gold Rush Hotel. It is now the oldest continuously operating hotel in Southern California. And the cedar and locust trees that Albert planted during the hotel’s construction surround the hotel today. The Julian Gold Rush Hotel, 2032 Main Street, Julian, 800-734-5854.

The Palm Pioneer

Father Junípero Serra brought a Canary Island palm with him to San Diego in 1769. He planted it beside what’s now Taylor Street, beneath the presidio. Its descendants are probably growing all over Mission Valley. Canary Island palms grace the platforms at the Santa Fe Depot and the Prado in Balboa Park. They’re outside the terminal at Lindbergh. We want them to announce us to visitors and relatives as a slightly lush, tropical, exotic town. If Serra has a disciple, it has to be horticulturalist Doug Coomes. For 30 years Coomes has been propagating palms to glamorize San Diego: Canary Island date palms, queen palms from Brazil,
San Diego
April 12, 2007

Sound Off to Reader writers

Pay bills

Reconsider job

Beg to be rehired

Sound Off again to Reader writers

Reader writers are strange, lonely people. Think of your Sound Off comments as a charitable donation. Hey, maybe you can even figure a way to take a tax deduction! So, make the world a better place. Use the new Sound Off feature that follows these columns:

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Movie Review

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Palomar I: See Stars Every night, graduate students and researchers trek up Mount Palomar to the 5600-foot-high Caltech-owned observatory. Nearly 60 years after Palomar first opened for business, its six telescopes are still booked months ahead by astronomers wanting to discover or understand the universe. What's amazing is that this scope was first thought up nearly 79 years ago, in 1928. Caltech bought 160 acres here in the early '30s to get away from L.A. light pollution. The $6 million Hale Telescope, featuring a 200-inch mirror, took 21 years to complete and opened for business in 1949. It was the Hubble of its time, and Edwin Hubble was here to take the first photograph through it. Nearly 60 years later, this Rockefeller-financed phenomenon is still making cutting-edge discoveries, despite the unforeseen arrival of radio telescopes, high-energy astrophysics, the idea of putting a telescope (Hubble) beyond our atmosphere into space, and the ever-encroaching light pollution from San Diego. Why should we light polluters care about Palomar? Its Near-Earth Asteroid Tracking project might provide our only warning of one of those PHAs (potentially hazardous asteroids) head-}

Palomar II: Visit with UFOs On the other hand, why bother searching for life out there when space can come to you? On December 13, 1952, at Palomar Gardens campground, 11 miles down the mountain, a scout ship from Venus landed on the campground's baseball field, bringing important information for George Adamski. Adamski was a waiter at the Gardens' hamburger stand. It wasn't his first experience. He'd already seen a huge cigar-shaped "mother ship" from the campgrounds. But this time he acted. He and his friend Desmond Leslie wrote a book called Flying Saucers Have Landed. The book went into seven printings. Adamski would never flip another burger. He became an instant international guru, humanity's contact with Them. Half a century on, believers from all over the world still come to visit the Palomar site and pay homage.

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Consignments accepted daily until 4 pm.
to the “founding father of UFOlogists,” Palomar Gardens, now called Oak Knoll Campground (31718 South Grade Road, Pauma Valley, 760-742-3437), is recognized in the UFO world as one of the most famous landing sites in the world. The campground’s owners have teamed up with the George Adamski Foundation (headquartered nearby in Vista) to make the campground UFOlogist-friendly, with sites for telescopes, kiosks to sell Adamski T-shirts and baseball caps, plus books about Adamski.

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'Diego's Biggest Parade: Mother Goose

Who knew, the second-largest parade west of the mighty Mississippi is in... (drumroll, please) ...El Cajon. It started on a rainy night in 1947. Thomas Wigton was driving home from L.A. The town, he thought, needed to do something for its kids for Christmas. In a flash, he got it: have a parade. Wigton was a pretty strong-minded guy. "When Tom Wigton asked you to help, you really didn't say no to him," according to his pal Jack Maranda. For the very first parade, on Friday night, November 28, 1947, it was bitterly cold, and only three floats made it. But El Cajon, population then 1500, produced 25,000 spectators. Maybe it was the fact that Santa climbed the Rotary Club float's Christmas tree so folks could see him better. His costume got stuck, and he dangled from it through the whole parade. Everybody thought it was planned. But from then on, the parade was a hit. By the third parade, 100,000 people turned up. The next year, 1950, they officially formed the Mother Goose Parade Association. Now organizers claim that audiences get up toward the half-million mark. Guess that's what happens when a town is still small enough to embrace something as childlike as, well, Mother Goose.

Kingston Trio

Nick Reynolds steps out of his hybrid in the Vons lot. He reaches for his cane. At 74, he's a regular around Coronado.
nado. And all Coronado knows who he is: one of the original Kingston Trio. Remember “Tom Dooley”? “Tijuana Jail”? “Sloop John B”? The three college kids (Reynolds, Bob Shane, Dave Guard) almost singlehandedly revived America’s too-serious folk tradition by making it fun, college-cool, and mainstream, thus opening the way for Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, the Byrds, the ‘60s. “It just sort of happened,” says Reynolds. “I was studying at Menlo College, around 1954. I got involved with Bob [also at Menlo] and Dave [at Stanford]. We started playing beer houses. I knew some Hawaiian and Mexican songs. I played bongos.” His dad, a Navy captain, taught him guitar, ukulele, and harmony singing. The breakthrough? In 1957. “ ‘Tom Dooley,’ of course,” says Nick. “We’d recorded an LP in two days. People zeroed in on ‘Dooley,’ and suddenly it was number one.” How crazy did it get? In their first four years, the trio cut ten albums. Reynolds believes the group’s roots — his, San Diego; Shane and Guard’s, Hawaii — were a factor in their success. “We never took ourselves seriously. We sang all right, but we just had a lot of fun.”

Sheep Count Day Three. It’s 110 degrees. In the shade. Your sweat-stung eyes stare up into sun-baked rocky pinnacles. You’re looking for signs of life. In midsummer Anza-Borrego? That’s an oxymoron. You’re starting to feel like an oxymoron yourself when you catch a movement. A rare bighorn ram and his two dams, making their way down to a spring below your rocky perch. These are the borregos honored in the name of this hellish spot. They clatter down over the hot boulders. You feel a crazy elation. You’re so grateful. And so lucky. Because the annual Bighorn Sheep Count has a way of making people dizzy, confused, and supremely bitchy. Most of the time you never see a sign of life. Correction. You can count on a fascinating collection of gnats, nits, mozzies, blood-sucking flies, tarantulas, and... was that a baby’s rattle you heard, or...? The annual three-day Bighorn Sheep Count happens around July 4, when it’s hottest, when the endangered sheep have to come to certain year-round springs, where you have a chance of spotting them. If you’re crazy enough to volunteer, contact Mark C. Jorgensen, ecologist, Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, 760-767-5311.

Ants in Your Pants “If you live in a typical San Diego home,” says David Faulkner, a San Diego entomologist, “you have between 800,000 and a million ants living right there with you, under your path, your driveway, guaranteed. There are, what, three million of us in the county? You do the math.” The tiny (16th-of-an-inch-long) Argentine ant has been colonizing us for a century now. It’s overwhelming most of our 200 native ant species, even though some are ten times its size. “The Argentines have multiple queens,” explains Faulkner. “They cooperate. They don’t fight other colonies of their own...
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Gregorian Chant Mass

I0 - mi- n-a • quae fe- ci- ta nob- is, Do- mi- ne, io

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Foot Solutions is a foot health center designed to find solutions for people with foot pain and problems. We carry shoes for work, dress or play and a wide array of arch supports to help your feet feel more comfortable all day! We also have unique shoes designed to improve core stability and enhance muscle tone. What do our Cinderellas have to say?

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"If we can put a man on the moon, WHY can’t someone make pretty shoes that are comfortable? I found them at Foot Solutions — it’s about time!" – Shirley S.

"I have had the best in physical therapy but still have discomfort while walking. So I just stopped walking. The Chung Shi you suggested provided almost instantaneous relief for my hip. I am walking again and my life is changed. Thank you, thank you and thank you." – Gretchen S., D.P.T.
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Electric guitar strings, 3 for the price of 1. Most major brands. Limit 1 per customer. Must bring or mention ad. Offer expires April 30, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.

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feet of where Ronald Reagan and Errol Flynn and Ava Gardner often lived it up too. Along with the vine tinto, they probably had the delicious camarones al ajo, garlic shrimp. The plate of eight big, fat, juicy, sizzling Gulf of California

monsters is still available today. Bring a notebook so while you nibble you can scribble the start to your own Great American Novel.

Lifeguard Capital of the World If you watch TV, says lifeguard Rod Messinger, San Diego is the center of the lifeguarding universe. For the past two years, Court TV cameras have been following Messinger and his 250 colleagues in the City of San Diego’s Lifeguard Service

as they carry out an amazing average of 7000 rescues each year. Some are fastwater and cliff rescues, but most are on city beaches, like riptide-prone Boomer Beach, Windansea, Mission Beach, and P.B. If you reckon 50 percent of those rescued would have survived anyway, that leaves 3500 people who owe their lives to city lifeguards. Messinger reckons he personally saves around 25 people a year. That’s 500 people over his 20 years walking today who would not otherwise be here. And yet lifeguards usually come in a distant third after police and fire when it comes to budgets. “We’re the City’s stepchild,” Messinger says. “Equipment-wise, what we get is usually the last stop before Tijuana. No disrespect to Tijuana.” Beach Patrol is about to shoot its third season. Messinger’s problem now is people he’s rescued coming to, looking up at him, and saying, “Hey, aren’t you the guy I saw on TV?”

Where Wyatt Drank Some say when Wyatt Earp came to San Diego in 1887, he and wife Josie moved into the second-floor corner suite of the swank Bay View Hotel (now, not swank, called the Palms, but still there at 509 Park Boulevard). And that he established three gambling saloons downtown — the most famous, the Oyster Bar, was in the Louis Bank Building at 837 Fifth Avenue. But what’s for sure is that he and Josie used to frequently the 1885 Tivoli Bar at Sixth and J. Walk in there today, and nothing seems to have changed. Its curved-glass corner doors, its settled, sloping floor, its original bar and backboard, which came around the horn, tell you this must be the oldest surviving business in the Gaslamp. But the first thing you notice is two big old photos, “Republican Wyatt Earp,” says the inscription below one. And it’s imposing, but it can’t compete with the surprisingly sexy, poetic-looking lady next to him, his onetime dance-hall girl, Josie. She was his third wife, and this one lasted, 30 years. Just look at the photo. You can see why the gunfighter settled down.

The Glass Elevator “Sixteen of us stepped into sheer outer space. We hung suspended in mid-air in a clear glass cage as we slowly climbed up the front of the building. There was complete silence lest someone break the spell. The ver-bose had lost voice, overwhelmed by the magic
fairyland of the soundless city far below.” Such was Daisy Burns Munchtando’s 1956 contest-winning description of her first ride in the “Starlight Express,” the revolutionary exterior glass elevator that hotelier Harry Handlery had installed on his El Cortez Hotel, the city’s sole high-rise. Mention “Starlight Express” to older San Diegans and watch their eyes light up. The elevator, only the second exterior glass elevator in the world, electrified San Diego when it was installed. Every Friday and Saturday, people formed lines so they could ride, float up in space. The El Cortez somehow got under San Diego’s skin as “the hotel on the hill with the glass elevator.” Then, after closing in the ’70s and almost being razed for a convention center in the early ’80s, the El Cortez was saved — but at a price. Everything that wasn’t 1927 original had to go. And that included the beloved glass elevator. Proms, graduations, weddings would never be the same. Hard-edged outta-town preservationists, one; local sentimentalis, zero.

Nation’s First Women’s Studies Program: SDSU
The women’s movement of the ’60s and early ’70s shocked the country so much that even the nation’s most august learning centers were slow to digest it and respond. It took more open, flexible communities such as San Diego to make the first move. And that’s what San Diego women did. After the protests, after the furious national debate, as Princeton pondered and Harvard hemmed and hawed, women at San Diego State acted. In 1970, SDSU
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have lost their toxicity, “she says. Magazines hang out in the sun to be “outgassed.” Molloy, whose Chicago doctor diagnosed her with “multiple chemical sensitivities,” rents cabins and trailers, but only to the “seriously allergic.” “We even have to find old mattresses, but not ones that secondhand stores have gassed to sanitize them. Having chemical sensitivities affects every aspect of your life.” Molloy and any three tenants living in cabins scattered about this chaparral-covered property even have to agree on what dish soap, laundry soap, and shampoos they’ll use. “No one can be allergic to anything of us is using,” Molloy says. “We’re here because we couldn’t take the perfumes and pesticides and gasoline smells of city life. So we all understand.” Warning: Potrero’s clean-air days could be numbered. The paramilitary organization Blackwater is threatening to set up training facilities in the valley next door. 619-478-5610.

Gourd For You The oldest musical instruments on the planet grow on Doug and Sue Welburn’s 75-acre spread in De Luz Canyon. Every year around Thanksgiving, they harvest 350,000 pounds of them. They’re “the world’s largest supplier of organic hard-shelled gourds.” Fresh gourds are like melons — 95 percent water. But the summer sun sucks out the liquid and made drums. Now, every March, Native Americans, Hawaiians, and musicians come looking for potential drums, rattles, xylophones, nose flutes, and sound boxes for spike fiddles. Arts-and-crafters come seeking gourds for birdhouses, Christmas ornaments, purses, even necklaces. So does that make San Diego the Gourd Capital of the World? Welburn Gourd Farm, 40635 De Luz Road, Fallbrook, 877-420-2613.

Most Beautiful Bridge in the County As you head north on 15, climbing to the “Lilac Road Overcrossing.” Project design team chief Fred Michaels, along with architect William Wells, conceived this single-span, 695-foot concrete leap 134 feet above I-15’s massive cut through the mountains. That’s part of its appeal. You’re coming up and under it. From 15, it’s a sky-bridge of stunningly basic geometry: a stretched arch soaring up to kiss a straight line. The Most San Diego Sculptor? The 23-foot, 16-ton Guardian of the Waters statue in front of the County

Severe PMS

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

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

Patients will receive at no cost: study-related gynecological exams, laboratory tests and study medication or placebo.

Compensation for time and travel will also be provided.

For more information and an initial phone screen, call the offices of:

DR. STEVEN DROSMAN OF GENESIS CENTER FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH • 619-542-0593

RESEARCH STUDIES

Are you sad due to bipolar disorder? There might be hope.

We are seeking volunteers for a clinical research study of an approved medicine under investigation for the treatment of depression due to bipolar disorder.

To qualify:
- You must be at least 18 years old
- You must have been diagnosed with bipolar disorder
- You must be experiencing symptoms of depression

Qualified participants will receive at no cost:
- Monitoring of bipolar and depressive symptoms
- Medical lab exams
- Study medication

To learn more, please call:
CHRI - San Diego • 858-566-8222

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: Bi-monthly
- 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 hyperglycemia
- No use of insulin

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


To see if you qualify or to learn more about the study, please contact: Caregiver Martinez at (858) 552-8585 ext. 6155 • E-mail: karla.martinez1@va.gov

OR Catherine DeLue at ext. 6740

For more information and an initial phone screen, call the offices of:

DR. STEVEN DROSMAN OF GENESIS CENTER FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH • 619-542-0593
Type I Diabetes: How Does It Affect You?

You may have the opportunity to change the way it affects others.

Profil Institute for Clinical Research is conducting research with an investigational insulin for people who have Type I Diabetes.

Compensation up to $2,900.00 for your time and travel. One visit lasting 2.5 hours, 4 visits 12-14 hours each and 2 overnights.

Participants must be:
• Between 19 and 70
• Diagnosed with Type I Diabetes for at least 5 years
• Otherwise healthy

For more information, please call:
(619) 409-1257

PROFIL INSTITUTE IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS WITH TYPE 2 DIABETES

Profil Institute for Clinical Research invites you to participate in a clinical research study testing an investigational medication in people with diabetes.

Participants must:
➢ be at least 25 years of age
➢ have a diagnosis of Type 2 diabetes
➢ not have other major uncontrolled health problems
➢ be controlling their diabetes with diet and exercise OR oral medications, but not using insulin

Profil provides:
➢ Study-related medical care at no charge
➢ Compensation of up to $2,880.00 (overnight stays required)
➢ Shuttle service from the H Street trolley in Chula Vista, if needed

If interested, please call:
(619) 788-9216

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

Profil Institute for Clinical Research
855 Third Avenue, Suite 4400
Chula Vista, CA 91911-1350
Administration Building seduces you with her grainy, flowing, sensual lines. But she’s just the most prominent of an astonishing array of sculptures that Donal Hord created in the first half of the 20th Century, helping transform San Diego from a roughneck town into a sophisticated city. Hord grew up and lived here for exactly 50 years (1916–1966) but studied widely — under Anna Valentien, a pupil of Rodin’s, in Santa Barbara, and in Mexico, where he was fascinated by Olmec and Zapotec art. Chinese art also gripped him. Unlike some contemporaries’ work, his sculpture is of here and about here. Some of his must-sees: the brooding, lifelike fountain-statue, Woman of Tehuantepec, in the House of Hospitality’s courtyard, Balboa Park; Aztec, the inspiration for SDSU’s symbol, on the promenade to State’s traditional entry arch; the downtown Central Library’s “literature” panels flanking its entrance, full of thought about the strains of culture that helped form us; Morning, in Marina Park by Seaport Village; at Coronado High School, The Legend of California in seven architectural panels; and a must-see sits outside at Scripps Insti—
I Cavort the Waterfront

“Awooop! Awooop! Awooop!”

You’re sitting outside the Sportsmen’s Seafoods eatery at a table in Quivira Basin in the dark, chomping on steaming fish and chips, with a side of tuna jerky, smiling. Those are sea lions you’re hearing. And, no, they’re not calling from SeaWorld. These are the wild ones. Like you, they’re whooping it up for fish. Only difference, you have hot chips with yours and a Bud. And they’re bullying the bait-barge guys into letting them steal some flappers from the holding tanks. This place has been around a long time. It used to be Busalacchi’s tuna canner. The family came from Palermo, Sicily, a century ago. “My granddad would swap fresh-caught tuna from the tourist boats and give them tuna we’d canned in return,” says Joe Busalacchi. The great thing, his place here isn’t like those smart waterfront fish palaces you get downtown. It feels real. And real: the family caught all the stuffed swordfish heads, barracuda, and rock cod on the walls. And the massive 3500-pound great white shark. But the greatest pleasure lies in the barking of the sea lions and the slapping of the halyards in the dark and the feeling you’re suddenly back in the fishy little rope ‘n’ tackle port San Diego was, circa 1940.

Kumeyaay: Back to the Future

Two decades ago, Mike Connolly and his fellow Kumeyaay decided enough was enough. Centuries of doing things the European way had exhausted their land and emasculated their culture. Connolly is a former aerospace engineer. He’s also a member of the Campo Band of Kumeyaay Indians, whose reservation is 45 miles east of San Diego. So their first move: kick off all the cattle. The idea was to restore the 15,480-acre reservation to its pre-European state. “The land needed to rest,” says Connolly. “The problem is as old as the colonial presence here. Those European herdsmen thought they were discovering an ‘untouched wilderness.’ They had no idea we had been cultivating these ‘natural’ mountain meadows for 10,000 years. They didn’t know the oak forests were orchards we had planted for acorns. They didn’t realize we had regular, controlled burns of sagebrush to allow the grasses and trees to come through, that we had created mishay sha-wing — ‘sediment holders’ — dams across streams to slow water flow all through these valleys.”

Today, with the overgrazing cattle gone, the water table is up, streams flow year-round, native plants and animals have returned. From outside the reservation, you see the change. Degraded ranchland pasture with deep, dry arroyos gives way to the reservation’s greenery and trees. Next up, harvesting acorns to create acorn bread. “Now that will be a classic San Diego dish,” Connolly says. — Bill Manson
As I was completing my
Instructions to a Diminutive

Environment of Distrust

Tive 70-Year-Old Filipino

Gentleman with Congestive Heart Failure, a Knock

At the Door Cut Me Short:

“A patient is having a seizure.” Jo, a medical assistant with a South Carolina accent, delivered the message with the same calm that she might have used to disclose that she was going to use the restroom. I excused myself and bolted across the hallway and into another exam room, where Susie, a nurse practitioner, stood wrapping a blood pressure cuff around the arm of Veronica, a young Hispanic woman gazing up at our ceiling from her reclined position on the exam table. Jo was poised across from Susie, ready with the glucometer to measure Veronica’s blood sugar.

“I had just diagnosed her with sinusitis,” reported Susie. “She then said she felt faint, and the next thing I knew she fell backwards onto the table and had a seizure.” Veronica’s blood pressure was a normal 110 over 66, her heart rate was a steady 72, and her blood sugar registered a reassuring 130. Fully alert, she had no problem identifying herself, us, our location, and the date. All of which clinched the diagnosis: vasovagal syncope with secondary myoclonus.

I first learned about this phenomenon during my residency at UCSD when one of the smartest internists I’ve known, Dr. David Preston, livened up a teaching session by recounting the scenario of a constipated patient bearing down so hard on the toilet to crap that he passed out and seized on the bathroom floor. Pushing hard and long can cause the neck’s pressure receptors to act as though the blood flow triggers random contractions of the vagus nerve to slow down the heart. Other mechanisms simultaneously dilate the arteries going to the head. This cascade of events can lower the blood pressure enough that not enough blood enters the brain to sustain consciousness, causing a fainting episode. The horizontal position restores the flow to the head, allowing the person to wake up.

Rarely, but often enough that most health-care professionals see it more than once in a career, the temporary loss of consciousness associated with brain abnormalities, and therefore we don’t order diagnostic tests such as electroencephalograms (EEGs) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans. Needing to return to my patient with heart failure, I left, allowing Susie to finish the explanations.

Three days later, I returned to my desk as I always do between patients and noted Veronica’s chart sporting a thin green telephone-message slip saying she wanted an immediate phone call for a neurology referral.

This was predictable. Several weeks

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

The Scripps Research Institute

For more information and to find out if you can earn compensation for participating in one of these studies, contact:
(858) 784-7867 (STOP)

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 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 Offered by Medical Center for Clinical Research

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

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

Medical Center for Clinical Research
619-521-2841

Pap Smear Abnormal?
...Scheduled for Surgery? ...
...Want an Alternative?

Do you have an abnormal Pap Smear? Has your doctor scheduled you for a surgical procedure (LEEP) to treat your abnormal Pap? Consider this clinical study of an investigational medication for abnormal Pap Smears and moderate to severe biopsy results in women 18-25 years of age.

To possibly qualify:
1) Healthy females, ages 18-25 years
2) Abnormal Pap Smear within the last 6 months
3) Using effective birth control

Participants receive at no cost study-related:
1) Examination and consultation with board-certified OB-GYN
2) All lab testing, Pap Smears, HPV testing, colposcopies, study medication and LEEP treatment if indicated
3) Compensation for your time

Interested, call:
619-521-2841
The Medical Center for Clinical Research

Restless legs keeping you awake at night?

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

You may be eligible to participate if you are 18 years or older and experience the following symptoms at least 3 times a week:
• Creeping, crawling, tingling sensations in your legs
• Compelling urges to move your legs for relief
• Unpleasant sensations in your legs that get worse at night

Call today for more information.

Scripps
1-866-394-7365

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 Center at (858) 694-8350.
earlier, I had met for the first time a 24-year-old software engineer who had felt weak, tired, and a bit lightheaded for a few weeks. Placing my fingers firmly on the radial artery of Scott’s right wrist, I noted the irregular, rapid rhythm typical of atrial fibrillation, a rhythm disturbance that the first President Bush made famous during his battles with it.

One of the heart’s four chambers, the left atrium, in many people, reacts to stress by regressing into a quivering lump of electrical chaos. The stresses can be acute or chronic. A cocaine storm blowing in through willing nostrils, a sudden withdrawal from regular heavy doses of alcohol, or a surge of thyroid hormone from an overly stimulated thyroid gland are common sudden triggers. Coronary artery disease and structural problems with the heart, including leaky mitral valves and overly muscular hearts, are the common chronic culprits.

We did the EKG, which confirmed the diagnosis and did not suggest other prob-
lems, such as left atrial enlargement or a threatened heart attack. I reviewed with Scott the details of what we had to do next. Looking about eight years younger than his age — with his round-rimmed glasses, skinny long arms and legs, and short brown hair — Scott came across as the perfect student. Because he was maintaining a normal blood pressure and not having chest pain nor shortness of breath, we would treat him as an outpatient, but if he developed any of these symp-
toms, he would need to come in to the hospital. I filled out the forms and instructions
Too Shy?


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CENTER FOR UNDERSTANDING AND TREATING ANXIETY
6386 Alvarado Court, Suite 301, San Diego

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

Qualified participants will receive at no cost:
• Skin evaluations
• An investigational gel medication for 12 weeks
• Reimbursement for time and travel

Come out of your shell and stop hiding...

To qualify you should:
• Have acne on the face
• Be 12 years of age or older
• Be in good general health

Depression Study

Signs and symptoms:
• Feeling down and depressed?
• Lost interest in your normal activities?
• Lost your appetite?
• Having difficulty sleeping?
• Having difficulty concentrating?

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these symptoms, you may be suffering from Depression.

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study for people with Depression. If you qualify, you may be eligible to participate in a study testing the effectiveness of an investigational drug for the treatment of Depression at no cost to you.

If you would like additional information regarding this study and are between the ages of 18 and 65, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Bipolar?

Affiliated Research Institute is currently looking for men and women diagnosed with bipolar disorder. Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age and unhappy with their current medications due to unpleasant side effects and/or weight gain. Patients suffering from bipolar disorder must be currently experiencing a major depressive episode and be willing to change their current medications. All necessary office visits, medical evaluations and study medication will be provided at no cost to qualified patients.

For more information about this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Anxiety Study

Signs and symptoms:
• Experiencing persistent worry?
• Feeling restless, irritable, or tense?
• Having difficulty sleeping?
• Having difficulty concentrating?

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these symptoms, you may be suffering from Anxiety.

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study for people with Anxiety. If you qualify, you may be eligible to participate in a study testing the effectiveness of an investigational drug for the treatment of Anxiety at no cost to you.

If you would like additional information regarding this study and are between the ages of 18 and 65, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Athlete’s Foot Study

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

You may be eligible to participate if you:
• Are 12 years of age or older
• Can visit our office 3 times in 6 weeks
• Have burning, itching or redness on your feet or between your toes

Study participants will receive:
• Free foot exams
• Compensation for participation
• Study drug or placebo

For more information about this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com
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enabling him to go for blood tests and a heart ultrasound (echocardiogram). I told him how to take verapamil to slow down his heart and Coumadin to thin his blood. Unlike a beating heart chamber, a fibrillating atrium doesn’t move blood, and therefore the blood sitting in there can form clots, which can break loose and imbed themselves in dangerous places, such as large arteries supplying the brain, kidneys, intestines, or limbs, causing those organs to die. Coumadin helps prevent these disasters.

Within a few days, we had restored his heart’s normal sinus rhythm and adjusted his blood thinner to the appropriate levels. His blood-test results were normal, and his echocardiogram showed only a small leak in his mitral valve, which had been enough to cause a mild enlargement in the chamber into which that extra blood was leaking, the left atrium. This stretching of the atrium near his pacemaker had caused the rhythm disturbance. His energy had returned, and he had a normal blood pressure and pulse. We had diagnosed and fixed his problem. We would need to continue his blood thinner for a month, he would have to take verapamil or a similar medication forever, and he would have to avoid drugs or medications that could cause a recurrence, but otherwise he could go back to his normal life. “That’s great,” he said. “Now when do I see the specialist?”

Most people in the United States believe that specialists are smarter than primary-care doctors, even though objective measurements such as standardized tests (e.g., SATs) and grade point averages) suggest the opposite. Most do not know that board-certified family physicians do a three-year residency to become specialists in common problems and can treat 85 to 95 percent of all medical problems without outside assistance. When something appears serious, treatment from a family practitioner does not seem to be enough.

I was prepared to go through this again over the phone with Veronica. “What can I do for you?” I opened in my usual fashion. “I spoke to a friend of mine who is a doctor, and when I told him I had a seizure, he said I needed to have blood tests and an MRI.”

They were both virgins when they met and have never slept with anyone else, used intravenous drugs, nor undergone blood transfusions.

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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Price (Uns)</th>
<th>Price (50%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breast Augmentation</td>
<td>$449</td>
<td>$2,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liposculpture* (3 areas)</td>
<td>$4,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tummy Tuck*</td>
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**HEALTH AND BEAUTY**

**True.** Any adult who has the first seizure of their life needs an evaluation for a brain tumor, including an MRI. But she did not have a seizure. I explained this to her.

“So what you’re really saying is that it is not cost-effective to do an MRI.” I felt the dripping of her teeth.

Now we were dealing with the managed-care factor. When many patients cross our doorstep for the first time, they walk in believing that my job is to do as few tests as possible and deny them access to specialists in order to save money. I have to explain to them that the opposite is true: I argue alongside my patients for necessary tests and referrals. It’s the insurance companies who put up the obstacles. In Veronica’s case, I was not out to save anyone’s money. I was trying to save her from the hazards of doing tests on people who have a low likelihood of disease, which is the most important reason we do not order unnecessary tests.

Lee, a Chinese engineer in his early 20s, came in to see me later the same day to prove the point. He and his girlfriend came to the United States less than a year ago. They were both virgins when they met and have never slept with anyone else, used intravenous drugs, nor undergone blood transfusions. For the past two days, he had suffered from a severe sore throat and diffuse muscle aches, typical symptoms of common benign viral infections. But my routine historical questions made things much more interesting. The previous week, his girlfriend’s employer had sent her to have her blood tested for HIV because the company required it. Fate decided, perhaps to teach the employer a lesson about doing tests for a disease in a person who could not have it, that her test should come back positive. And now her boyfriend was coming to me with the same symptoms that HIV causes when one first becomes infected. He did not know this; he was just trying to get a diagnosis and treatment for his illness.

After several phone calls to his girlfriend and her employer, we were able to track down the laboratory that ran her tests, and they explained the situation: her enzyme-linked assay for HIV, which has a false-positive rate in the range of one percent, had yielded a positive result, and they were in the process of doing the much more accurate Western blot assay to check it. When I called again a few hours later, they confirmed what I already knew: the Western blot was negative. She did not have HIV and neither did he. We knew that before the whole mess started. But for several days, his girlfriend thought she might have it, and for several hours, he had to worry that he might as well.

Every test, whether it’s a blood test, an X-ray, an MRI, an EKG, or anything else, has a false-positive rate. Lee’s example illustrates the problem. If you do a test for a disease in a person whose risk for the disease is much lower than the false-positive rate of the test, a posi-
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Aqua Day Spa Body scrub or massage $90
Arena Eyeworks Optometry Contacts-exam, 6-mo. supply $139
Bare Skin Care $25 Brazilian wax
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Bella Pelle Medical Spa $25 off treatment
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Farnan Haroun, DDS 200M Advanced $209
Healing Hands: Free Ultra Peel
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Dr. Kam Ho $100 off orthodontic treatment
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I.C.E. Spa Free brow wax
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Spa Urban Retreat Professional Aveda massage $49
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24 Hour Fitness $25 days of fitness free
WCU Free week of Medifast food
Urban Skin Care $10 off European facial
VIP Salon & Spa 1-hour massages $207
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- **Spa Diva Package**: $120 (reg. $180)
  - 1-hour facial with microdermabrasion, a 1-hour therapeutic body massage, body wrap, plus spa pedicure and manicure.
- **Spa-tacular Package**: $125 (reg. $170)
  - This 3-hour package includes a European facial, a 1-hour therapeutic body massage, body wrap, plus spa pedicure and manicure.
- **Ultimate Package**: $105 (reg. $140)
  - A 2-hour package which includes a salt scrub, 1-hour body massage and 30-minute foot reflexology.

**Skin Treatments**

- **Skin Treatments**: $65 (reg. $100)
  - Includes deep cleansing with steam, blackhead extraction and 15-minute massage.
- **Acne Facial**: $50
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- **Spring Special**: 1-hour body massage, manicure and pedicure.
- **Jennifer Special**: 1-hour facial with microdermabrasion plus spa pedicure and manicure.
- **4 Free Microdermabrasions**: $600
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- April 12, 2007

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“I was shocked at the results cold laser therapy was getting with my patients. Patients started getting results so fast it took my breath away. And there were no documented side effects. I was also shocked that so few doctors were using it,” commented Dr. Bradshaw. “But the best thing is that I have been able to help carpal tunnel sufferers when no one else could help. Good people who had lost all hope.”

Due to his tremendous success with his patients, Dr. Bradshaw has made available a free report to anyone suffering with this painful condition called carpal tunnel syndrome.

“I just wanted carpal tunnel sufferers to know they may have an option other than drugs and surgery...an option that really works. I wanted to let them know there is finally REAL hope...that hope is detailed in my free report.”

To get your free copy of Dr. Bradshaw’s revolutionary new report, “Cold Laser Therapy: The Amazing Missing Link To Solving Carpal Tunnel Syndrome” just call toll-free 1-888-243-1944 and listen to the 24-Hour Recorded Message for all the details. Call now; supply is limited. If phone lines are busy, go to: www.breakthroughwristrepair.com

LETTERS continued from page 12
Sanders’ “customers” and his slamming the door in our face.

Posted by Giacomo San Diego on 04/5/07, 3:29 p.m.
Wow!!!! What a great article, letting everyone in on the scoop of what is REALLY happening within the City. With your terrific articles exposing the names and “doings” of the Incest Perpetuation League and also, with the help of Mike Aguirre and Donna Frye, maybe more people will get the real story. We have been subscribers to the U-T for 43 years and are disgusted the way they are going after Mike. Also, all the local TV news programs gave Chief Lansdowne a platform to spew his garbage. It’s totally apparent that his motives are purely political, rather than doing his job as the police chief. We anxiously look forward to your articles every Thursday.

Posted by HogHeavenIn-SanDiego on 04/5/07, 5:24 p.m.
What would this sleepy city do without this brave reporter? There is so much much much under this rock (land fill perhaps). Is it possible to wake the taxpayers up from their stupor? Thank you Mr. Bauder!

Posted by Cindy on 04/5/07, 7:53 p.m.
I’d like to add that the U-T’s Gerry Braun wrote an excellent and honest piece about Sunroad on April 4, 2007: it’s a must-read, and I know there is finally REAL hope...that hope is detailed in my free report.”

Posted by Fred Williams on 04/6/07, 6:27 a.m.
If we had listened to you a decade ago, we’d never have squandered our patrimony by giving away hundreds of millions of dollars to the Moores and Spanos crime syndicates. Well, we’ve been warned. Again, Don, just what can a guy do when confronted with this situation? Since I don’t happen to have millions in disposable income to engage in bribery like the oligarchs, should I just lay back and enjoy the rap? There’s no chance of protests gaining traction when most people here are more interested in having a nice day than doing the right thing. There’s no way even a concerted citizens movement would overcome the entrenched money and power of the oligarchs. Even the former business editor of the UT is ignored when he warns us all that we’re getting scammed. Don, I’m so disgusted by this scene. Can we do anything more constructive than paste up yet another posting online or yet another ineffectual letter to the editor?

Reply by Don Bauder:
There are dos and don’ts. First, don’t read publications that are in the pockets of the developers, and let them know why you are no longer subscribing. Don’t watch TV stations that slant the news toward the big money, and also let them know. Dos: donate to and get active in campaigns of the handful of people trying
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**April Special Full-Body Sugar Scrub & Body Stamp with a European Facial $90 (Reg. $130) (Men $10 additional fee)**

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  - 1 hour. This excellent exfoliation and detoxifying treatment is a unique way to stay refreshed and relaxed with a therapeutic body massage.

**Sugar Scrub**
- **$35**
  - 30 minutes. This deep cleansing exfoliation is based on a unique sugar scrub and is a fabulous way to stay refreshed and relaxed. With a European body massage you will feel totally rejuvenated and instantly have smoother and softer skin texture.

**Total Body Wellness**
- **$135**
  - 3 hours total. Includes: European facial, 1-hour full-body therapeutic massage, manicure, derma spa pedicure, and your choice of one spa body therapy below: hydractive mineral salt scrub, enzymatic sea mud wrap, detox hydro pack wrap, detox herbal linen wrap, or aromatherapy steamer.

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  - Includes: 1-hour facial with 15-minute head and neck acupuncture and back massage, alpha hydroxy peel (smooths and softens skin texture and appearance), European facial, plus spa manicure and pedicure. A natural face-lift that helps cleanse the skin, removes fine lines, freckles and blemishes.

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Posted by Tim Ahern on 04/6/07, 7:25 a.m.

To see how all this U/T/developer/old money cabal has been operating since the time of Spreckels, read “Under the Perfect Sun: The San Diego Tourists Never See” by Mike Davis. The corruption continues to this day.

Posted by Charles Pratt on 04/6/07, 10:39 a.m.

Friends of Rose Canyon, litigating against the City, has unearthed the same culture of corruption exposed in emails between City officials and contractors as they tried to push forward the Regents Road bridge project. Like Sunroad, the City lied about their EIR, ignored opinions from state and federal agencies, exploited obvious contractor conflicts of interest, wasted money and unnecessarily exposed the City to liability. (You find out more at www.rosecanyon.org.) I totally agree that Mike Aguirre and Donna Frye are two elected officials who are brave enough to take on this culture of corruption, but they need the help of citizen groups like ours that are willing and able to take the City on in the courts, the one venue where there is a level playing field. The first step in sweeping out the Incest Perpetuation League is to understand the problem in its entirety. Thank you Don, for your contribution to reforming San Diego’s corrupt political culture with your hon-

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“Mystique Special” Package ‘139

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- land for sale
- miscellaneous
- open houses
- wanted

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

Community
- actors/auditions
- classes/lessons
- counseling/support
- events
- notices
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that Lansdowne leaked the information. I’m betting you can’t...because he didn’t.

Reply by Don Bauder:

Are you the same Dave Cohen who used to be a spokesman for the police department? On March 24, Lansdowne said in an interview with the U-T that he refused to permit his officers to carry out the search.
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Crasher
Published April 4
Posted by No, I don’t want to buy that on 04/9/07, 12:01 a.m.
I HATE it when a friend invites me to a “shopping” party. I feel so obligated to buy crap I don’t want, don’t need, and I can’t afford. I don’t want fancy candles, I don’t care about kitchen utensils, and I really don’t want skin care products (I buy all that cheap at Target). All I want is to go to a party, eat free food, drink strong drinks, and chat with my girls. Don’t make me feel guilty for not wanting to buy the crap you are selling for your lame pyramid scheme. Ahh, I feel better now. Who’s up for some retail therapy?

T.G.I.F.
Published April 4
Posted by Mark Martin on 04/4/07, 3:47 p.m.
Nice article, John. I mean no disrespect to Ellen, but this “women are never aggressive and don’t seek conflict” meme is sorta kinda sexist. People don’t have to fit into categories so easily, I think. Golda Meir,
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San Diego Reader • April 12, 2007 • 6
Margaret Thatcher, Indira Gandhi, and Jeannne Kirkpatrick come to mind. There have been tions of women who don’t work toward consensus and resolution. Heck, Indira Gandhi championed India’s atomic bomb program in the 70s (it was code-named “Smiling Buddha” which is just plain wrong on so many levels). And Maggie Thatcher went to war over a bunch of sheep in the Falklands. Just my opinion. Our choices shouldn’t be some testosterone-mad male or some ubernanny female. I hate being told what to do, don’t you? I was just back in DC, and all the cabbies are Somali. It would have been great to have a conversation like you had with Ellen! She sounds like a remarkable person.

Lonelyville

Geoff Bouvier eloquently vocalized what I have been struggling with since I moved to San Diego (“Is the Sun in Your Eyes?” Cover Story, April 5). I moved to San Marcos two years ago after living all over the place, and while San Diego has a lot of good qualities, it is also one of the loneliest places I have ever lived. I have never seen a culture where people require so much personal space. Eye contact is just the beginning. Most people aren’t comfortable talking to someone that they haven’t been introduced to. People think I’m crazy if I go out alone at night. But I can’t blame San Diegans. A guy once followed me in his car because I looked at him while I was driving on the 78. He just wanted my number, but I thought how sad it was that eye contact is so rare that it implies flirtation.

There’s also a lack of physical contact that is strange to me. As a massage therapist, physical contact is one way I communicate, but in San Diego, it seems inappropriate to touch anyone other than your significant other. Touching someone’s shoulder can evoke a look of surprise or even shock. Maybe that’s why there are proportionately fewer singles in San Diego than anywhere else I have lived.

Natasha Heckendorn
via e-mail

Common Courtesy
Now A Threat

Bravo for Geoff Bouvier’s “Is the Sun in Your Eyes?” (Cover Story, April 5). We’ve needed an article like that for a long, long time.

The fact of the matter is that there exists a lot of urban paranoia: “Everyone’s out to get me” or “Everyone’s out to harm me.” Plus, many women think (especially the more attractive ones) that every guy who opens the door for them or says “hello” has just “one thing” on their filthy minds. (Hey, does that mean that one-night stands are an anachronism?! I’m
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San Diego Reader • April 12, 2007 67
getting mixed messages again! Women have to get over that. When I go running, I’ll see a guy watering his lawn or a fellow runner, and often I’ll give him a nod and/or a smile. That doesn’t mean that I’m gay and that I’m hitting on this man. It’s just common courtesy, ladies! Just last Thursday I said hello to a gorgeous blonde as she exited Macy’s and I opened the door to enter. It was like interacting with an inanimate object. Later that day I said hello to a very pleasant-looking African-American lady, and at least I got a reply that time.

This is a societal issue. Unfortunately, it even exists in retail and customer service. How many times has a cashier or checker processed your purchase without so much as looking up at you? I want to ask, “What are you doing in this job?” How can we possibly keep interacting this way?

John Nava
via e-mail

What’s The Full Story?
I wish to congratulate Don Bauder for his well-written article, “U-T and Police Lie About Aguirre” (“City Lights,” April 5). To think that chief of police Lansdowne would not only fail to serve a court-ordered search warrant but deliberately leak its contents to a newspaper is plain chilling.

I call upon District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis to launch a complete investigation into the Tom Story–Sunroad affair and Chief Lansdowne’s attempt to sabotage the city attorney’s...
investigation of official impropriety.

John Primavera
via e-mail

Marginal Notes
I regret that Jim Newland (Letters, April 5) feels the information on the photographs in the research library of the San Diego Historical Society is “notoriously inaccurate.” Although it is possible that incorrect information was written by SDHS staff (past or present), it is equally true that well-meaning researchers over the years have added notes of their own to the margins of the reproduction prints in the photo reference books. We discourage this as strongly as possible.

When original photographs are donated to us with information written on them (by the photographer or the previous owner), standard archival practice prevents us from changing what has been written. These original prints are not kept in the public area, but rather, copies are made available in the photo reference books. We do our best to verify information about an image when it joins the collection and add corrections if necessary.

The writing on the back of the original print that was used in the “Picture Story” of March 29 makes no mention of “Rolando Hill” but does say “near Rolando.” It is possible that the word “Hill” was added to the print in the reference book. We would be happy to correct any mistakes, large or small, that any researcher may find. With our limited budget and staff, our researchers can hopefully appreciate the challenge of cataloging over 2.5 million images. Those who love history and photography are always welcome to volunteer here!

Chris Travers
Director of the Booth Historical Photograph Archives
San Diego Historical Society

Blurt Firsts
There are a couple of corrections that need to be made regarding “firsts” that were claimed in the April 5 edition of “Blurt.”

First of all, Jay Allen Sanford is correct in saying that “there have been wedding receptions before at the Casbah,” but last month was not the first actual wedding that was at the Casbah. That would’ve had to have been last November 5th (or was it the 12th?), when Louis Mello, owner of the Liar’s Club in Mission Beach, married Denise. The night was billed as Louis and Denise’s wedding reception, as they reportedly eloped on Halloween. MEX and the Heartaches played, and after MEX’s set, Mario Escovedo (formerly of the Dragons) announced that a “big surprise is up next.” Soon afterwards, their friend Patti jumped up onstage and officiated the nuptials for Louis and Denise. Louis and Denise fooled everyone who was there for the reception. This was the actual wedding! Casbah owner Tim Mays told me that it was indeed the first wedding actually held at the Casbah.

Secondly, Nirvana’s first interview in San Diego was not in 1991 on KX or KSM at Palomar. It was in 1989 at KSDF (UCSD’s radio station at the time). I was program director there, and fellow DJ Joanna Ip was interviewing Tad, who was on tour, about to play

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Acoustic Police
Thank you for the great article, "Sea Jammers" ("Blurt," March 22). I have known Jim Earp for quite some time as San Diego’s very own award-winning acoustic guitar great. But Ms. Howell’s sensible article allowed me insight into Jim’s life before his rise to acoustic guitar greatness. I was very pleased to learn about Jim’s rock ’n’ roll past. Until today, Jim includes pieces of the rock group Police in his repertoire. My absolute favorite of these is his version of “Walking on the Moon.” Nobody else is capable of performing this piece so close to the original band’s output with one acoustic guitar as Jim is. I only hope that the Reader brings more articles about acoustic greats in the future!

Dan Covern
via e-mail

In The Navy
Thanks for putting that great article, “Sea Jammers,” in the “Blurt” column (March 22). It was very interesting. Especially the part that Jim Earp gained popularity in the Navy.

Joe Brazy
via e-mail
School of Rock
Ancient Skills Revived

A

really beautiful point (triangular stone) made out of chert was found in Mission Gorge," says Cindy Stankowski, director for the San Diego Archaeological Center. "There isn’t any of this kind of chert (hard sedimentary rock) here. The archaeologists think it came all the way from Palos Verdes. If a stone was of really great quality and people liked to work with it, it could be traded up to 500 miles."

Like most artifacts found in Mission Gorge, this three-inch-long point uncovered in 2003 is estimated to be from the late Holocene era, or within the past 1000 years. "It’s hard to tell the exact age in San Diego sometimes because the strata is quite jumbled," says Stankowski. This is the result of farming, construction, and, most commonly, gophers and squirrels churning up the thin top layers.

As a result of a steady increase in real estate development, artifacts have been discovered with increasing frequency. There are currently more than 20,000 recorded archaeological sites in the county. One of the oldest is the C.W. Harris site near Rancho Santa Fe. "There’s a distinct occupation there that’s nine or ten thousand years old," says Timothy Gross, principal archaeologist for the cultural resource management firm Affinis. "It is also winds up being one of the earliest excavated sites; the first one was conducted there in 1938."

On Saturday, April 14, Gross will lead a flintknapping workshop at the center. "Knapping is the process of banging two rocks together," says Stankowski. "The term comes from England; there’s no flint here in San Diego. Felsite is the common stone [here], also quartz." Arrow points have been found as small as three quarters of an inch. According to Stankowski, making such a fine point is not easy. "Most people, if they lived back then, would have been starving."

"By making stone tools and looking at the flaking, we learn what the debris means," says Gross. "Some kinds of flakes often thought of as waste are related to one technology, making arrowheads or knives, and others are related to making steep-edged scraping tools." Gross explains that quartz, a crystalline material, is difficult to work with. "It has internal crystal planes and fissures, and it is not until the past thousand years or so that people actually used it in any great quantity."

The oldest points that have been recovered were created by hammer percussion using hard rocks or softer, less-dense material like an antler or sandstone. The process of learning about a culture through the construction and use of replicated artifacts is known as experimental archaeology. "One of the coolest human inventions is when, two and a half million years ago, our ancestors figured out that if you’ve got a platform to break off another flake," says Gross. "They replaced the broken edge by using a piece of antler or bone and actually putting it on the edge that you want to flake and applying pressure to the edge as opposed to beating the edge. You’re flaking it lightly to get the right angle to set up — flintknapping is all about how force is applied and at what angle," says Gross. "It takes Gross around 20 minutes to knap an arrowhead, 40 minutes to an hour if he adds a serrated edge. Most people who [flintknaps] today are either into it because they’re really interested in the technology or they’re into it for the art," he says. "I was in New Orleans a decade ago, at a shop in the French Quarter that sold Indian arts, like modern pottery and basketry. Up on the wall was a spear with a beautiful obsidian point. The flaking was exquisite; I knew it was done by hand."

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— Barbara Bella

Flintknapping Workshop
Saturday, April 14
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
San Diego Archaeological Center
10666 San Pasqual Valley Road
Escondido
Event is sold out
Info: 760-291-0370 or www.sandiegoarchaeology.org
**LOCAL EVENTS**

**O U T & A B O U T**

**BACKBONE** A Personal Story of Triumph — butch dance for “Resilience of Spirit-Human Rights Festival 2007,” April 15-24, 6th @ Penn.

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**Calendar**

Events that are underlined occur after April 19.

**ABOUT**

**74** San Diego Reader April 12, 2007

[Image 83x280 to 310x450]

SanDiegoReader.com to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

**BAJA**

“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 Rio). 810 U.S. 1-52-664-687-9636. Free. (Tijuana)

**The Play** Playa Azul presented by Dramatix Escenarios Company, Thursday and Friday, April 12 and 13, 8 p.m., at Multiforo ICBC in Tijuana. $20. (TIJUANA)

**READER EVENTS, Box 85803,** held (including neighborhood), a complete description of the event, consider the readers. Do not phone. Send contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send to San Diego Reader, Reader EVENTS, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

**OUTDOORS**

**Fremont Cottonwoods** along the San Diego River in Mission Gorge will show off their best iridescent green foliage later this month. The Old Mission Dam parking area on Father Junipero Serra Trail, off Mission Gorge Road (west of Santer), is a good place to begin a stroll on trails near the riverbed. Be careful — rat-tail branches may be out and grow this time of year. (Escondido)

**The Black Oak**, San Diego County’s most handsome native deciduous tree, is sending out new leaves this week, painting the mountain oak with shades of red, brown, and bright green. The newly emerging leaves are reddish brown in color, creating a pseudo-autumn color in the forest. After a week or two the unfolding leaves acquire a light green tint; after a month they’re dark green. Black oaks are common throughout the upper elevations of the Palomar, Cayucos, and Laguna Mountains.

**The Blooming of Coastal Wildflowers** is now well underway but disappointing due to the past winter season’s scant rainfall. The biggest variety of blooms may be seen along the trails of Torrey Pines State Reserve. On the grass-and-brush-covered hillside of Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve and Mission Trails Regional Park in San Diego, and Daley Ranch in Escondido, look for monkeyflower, penstemon, lupine, and owl’s clover blossoms, to name a few.

**Search for Saturnaria** during stargazing parties planned (weather permitting) Friday and Saturday, April 14, 8 to 10 p.m., in Miramar Community Park, 6340 Rosecrans Avenue. Free. 619-458-4040.

**Search for Phainopepla** and other spring migrants when Audubon Society birders venture to Agua Caliente Park, Saturday, April 14, 8 a.m.—noon. Bring lunch and water. $5 vehicle day-use fee. Moderately strenuous hiking. 619-692-3246. (SAN CARLOS)

**Plant Hike in Oakasino Preserve** led by volunteer naturalist Sanford Waltok, Saturday, April 14, 8 a.m. Easy hike includes information on flora and fauna. Free. Meet at parking lot at 12620 Wildcat Canyon Road. Wear comfortable shoes, bring water. No dogs. 619-561-0580. (SERRA MESA)

**Rot Happens**, master posters lead composting workshop Saturday, April 14, 8:30 a.m., at Escondido Community Garden. In-struction and demonstrations in building and maintenance of backyard compost piles, worm bins. Free. Garden is just north of Highland 78 on Centre City Parkway; park behind garden in cul-de-sac at Morning View Drive and Lincoln Avenue. Free. 619-839-4818. (ESCONDIDO)

**Look for Phainopepla** and other native plants and learn some of their uses. Free. Join group at Sunridge Park sign (East J St at Beeghly Drive). 619-501-3789. (ENCINA VISTA)

**Explore Chariot Creek** with Canyoners during easy hike, Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m.—1 p.m. Owner of this private property has given Canyoners permission to lead hike “in this historically interesting place”; observe plant re-growth from Pines Fire (2002). Free. Directions: 619-255-0203. (TOMAH)

**Palm Walk**, Offshoot Tours offers in monthly hour-long guided stroll exploring structure, growth habits, landscape value of palm trees, Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m., at visitors’ center. Free. 619-235-1122. (BALEPUR)

**Asian Pacific Historic District Tours** offered on second Saturday of each month, including April 14. Tours start at 11 a.m. at Chinese Historical Museum (401 Third Ave- nue). $2. Required reservations: 619-338-9888. (HISTWALK)

April’s Lowest Tides are for early risers only. There’s a 1.5-foot low tide at 4:31 a.m. on Wednesday, the 18th, and there’s a 1.4-foot tide at 5:32 a.m. on Thursday, the 19th. April’s high est tide, +6.4 feet, occurs at 10:23 p.m. on Wednesday the 18th. These extreme tides for the month are occurring near new moon phase, when the sun and moon share nearly the same direc- tion in the sky and their collective gravitational “pull” on the earth is maximized.

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Celebrate National Library Week and explore new National City Library with Walkabout walkers, Wednesday, April 18. Moderately paced walk starts at 9:30 a.m. outside McOipi’s (105 East 8th Street). Bring money for optional lunch, 619-253-6679. [National City]
A GUIDE TO UNEXPECTED SAN DIEGO AND BEYOND | BY JERRY SCHAD

**JACK CREEK MEADOW**

Hike or bike through a long, spring-green valley in Escondido’s Daley Ranch Preserve.

**Distance from downtown San Diego:** 36 miles

**Hiking or biking Length:** 5.6 miles

**Difficulty:** Moderate

The nearly flat ramble along Daley Ranch’s Jack Creek Meadow is best in the springtime — and also comfortably suitable during the summer, provided you travel in the cooler early morning or late afternoon. If you live or work in North County, consider this route for a bit of quick and intense exercise: a speedwalk of perhaps 90 minutes, a 60-minute jog, or a 40-minute mountain-bike ride. You may want to bring along your leashed, athletic dog.

The 3000-acre Daley Ranch lies in the rocky hills just north of Escondido. To get there, exit Interstate 15 at Ecke Parkway in north Escondido. Drive three miles east and make a left turn (north) on La Honda Drive. Drive one mile uphill to the end of the road, where you will find the large parking lot/staging area for Daley Ranch on the left, just short of the Dixon Lake entrance.

On foot or bike, bypass the Daley Ranch entrance gate and follow the paved Ranch House Trail access road north for 1.2 miles to the quaint redwood Daley Ranch House (generally closed to public visitation), which lies to the left. Descendants of Robert Daley, who settled in this valley in 1869, built the house in 1928.

Walk a short distance and you’ll reach the Jack Creek Meadow Loop Trail. The elongated loop that you follow ahead takes you around the margins of a linear meadow, so narrow and so straight that it suggests some underlying, probably ancient, geologic fault structure. The meadow, lined with a dark green row of coast live oaks and backed up by steep slopes shaggy with chaparral, looks impressive when seen in early morning or late afternoon. Close at hand you pass several granite boulders of Ferguson Creek, with gray-green leaves and light-colored bark. The meadow grasses are almost entirely nonnative, typically of an emerald green color until sometime in April, then bleached yellow brown into the summer.

After returning to the ranch house, finish up by retracing your route on the paved access road. Nearly 30 miles of old roads and trails lace through Daley Ranch Preserve and the adjoining Dixon Lake Recreation Area, so make a promise to yourself to return someday to discover more. This article contains information about a publicly owned recreation or wilderness area. Trails and pathways are not necessarily marked. Conditions can change rapidly. Hikers should be properly equipped and have safety and navigational skills. The Reader and Jerry Schad assume no responsibility for any adverse experience.

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**REI (5556 Copley Drive). Expect limited submissions, but reserve a place for your team in advance.**

**Letters from Iwo Jima Screenwriter Iris Yamashita discusses her success as a new screenwriter — she was nominated for Academy Award for original screenplay in 2007 — Thursday, April 15, 7 p.m., in Seuss Room on main floor of Geisel Library at UCSD. Free. 858-534-3598.**

**Busy on Thursday?** 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. 760-757-2123. **(IWO JIMA) ANDREW SCHULMAN**

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**San Diego Reader** — 1221 Pacific Highway, Suite 2121 x7757.

**Benjamin Algren Award winner and Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Terrence McNally presents a staged reading of his new play.**

**Dolphins: “Prendimi e Portami Via,” Hurricane on the Bayou, Reef Adventures**

**Film School Confidential:** (LA COSTA) (CARDIFF, OCEANSIDE) (DOWNTOWN)

**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, 858-454-3872. **(IWO JIMA) ANDREW SCHULMAN**

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**Benefit Concert for The Nicholas Woods Friedreich’s Ataxia Foundation (neuromuscular disease affecting children and young adults — www.nwraf.org)**

**Featuring 6 Rock Bands**

at Starlight Bowl in Balboa Park next to Aerospace Museum

April 15, 12:30 pm • $10

Tickets at the door!

50% of proceeds goes directly to the foundation.


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**San Diego Reader**

**Calendar**

**LOCAL EVENTS**

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- **OUT & ABOUT**
  - **Latin Kings of Comedy!**
    - Paul Rodriguez and others, Spreckels Theatre, Saturday, April 14.
    - (See in person)

- **San Diego River Restoration Project**
  - In Lakeside: An Integrated Approach to Restoration
  - Examined by Robin Riedan, executive director of Lakeside’s River Park Conservancy, when California Native Plant Society gathers on Tuesday, April 17, 7:30 p.m., in City of San Diego’s Ridgehaven Boating Area.
  - Registration: 760-436-7986.

- **State Constitutionalism and Modern Governance**
  - What’s the Big Idea?
  - USD law professor Daniel B. Rodriguez speaks Thursday, April 19, 6 p.m., at Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at University of San Diego.
  - Required reservations: 619-260-6848.

- **Ethiopia: Old and New Arts**
  - Monday, April 16, 7:30 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art.
  - Klemm has been working on sculptures of the Living Artist. Sculptor is currently working on sculptures of Paleo-Kumeyaay women grinding seeds and nuts for the new Desert Museum in Ocotillo. Tool practices used to complete sculptures at this stage, on real sculptures.

- **The Story of the Holocaust**
  - Tuesday, April 17, 7:30 p.m., in San Diego County Health Building (3851 Rosecrans Street).
  - Nine-week course covers the right boat for you, equipment, trailering, highway signs, rules of road, inland boating. $25 for text. Registration: 619-646-2145.

- **Couples and singles Invited**
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  - www.sdarthurmurray.com

- **Master Composer Training Course**
  - Learn art, science of composing, how to teach it to others during five-week course on Tuesdays taught by master composers from Solana Center for Environmental Innovation. After completing course, participants earn certification by volunteering 30 hours in community. Course runs April 17–May 15, 6-8:30 p.m., at City of San Diego’s Ridgehaven Boating Area. Materials fee: $30. Registration: 760-436-7986.

- **Modern Governance**
  - Tuesday, April 17, 7:30 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art.
  - Klemm has been working on sculptures of the Living Artist. Sculptor is currently working on sculptures of Paleo-Kumeyaay women grinding seeds and nuts for the new Desert Museum in Ocotillo. Tool practices used to complete sculptures at this stage, on real sculptures.
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

Charlie Louvin of the Louvin Brothers performs for Acoustic-MusicSanDiego on Sunday, April 15, 8 p.m. ($15, $20). Louvin is described as “one of the most influential musicians of the ’40s and ’50s.” Louvin’s appearance follows concert by Hot Club of Cowtown founders Elana James and Whit Smith, with Beau Sample, Friday, April 13, 7:30 p.m. ($18, $22). Concerts take place at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650 Mansfield Street). 619-303-8176. (NORTH PARK)

“The Last Empress” author Ancher Min reads from and signs books, 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)

“Swingin’,” Point Loma Nazarene University Vocal Jazz Ensemble in concert, Friday, April 13, 7:30 p.m., in Grill Performance Hall. Listen for songs of various jazz styles during this annual year-end concert. Free. Find campus at 3900 Lomaland Drive. 619-849-2325. (POINT LOMA)

Two One-Act Plays by Janet S. Tiger offered during Scripteasers readings on Friday, April 13, 7:30 p.m., at Gallery DR (3404 Hawkn Street). Enjoy Naked in Dubuque and The Most Boring Class in the World. Free. 619-295-5040. (MISSION HILLS)

Traditional Tales from World Folklore as well as historical, personal, and family material presented by Gay Ducey for Storytellers of San Diego, Saturday, April 14, 7:30 p.m., in Manchester Executive Conference Center at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Concert is suitable for adults, children over 12. $10. 619-298-6363. (LINDA VISTA)

San Diego Chargers Linebacker Shaun Phillips signs autographs, Saturday, April 14, 11 a.m.–1 p.m., at Cricket in Southcrest Park Plaza (1490 South 43rd Street). Bring photos, jerseys, hats, football cards to be signed. Free. 619-234-0345. (SOLIDO-HIGHTS)

Wugbowo: Traditional Drumming and Dance of Ghana promised by SDSU visiting artist Kwame Degbor, Saturday, April 14, 3 p.m., at Malcolm X Library (5148 Market Street). Degbor is scholar of traditional Ghanaian performing arts. Free. 619-527-3405. (ENCANTO)

UCSD Department of Music Poet Steve Willard reads from his new book, Harm, Saturday, April 14, 7 p.m., at D.G. Wills Books (7461 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-456-1800. (LA JOLLA)

The search is on for two musically talented “San Diego Mega Stars” to sing with the celebrities at the 2007 Mother Goose Parade.

Have a chance to meet:
- Erik Estrada
- Kimberlin Brown
- Corbin Bleu
- Jessie McCartney
- Kyle Massey
- Emily Osment
- Devon Werkheiser
- Diego Diego
- And many more . . .

Applications are now being accepted through June 15, 2007.

Winners will be treated like stars! and get to attend a 9 week, hands-on program for aspiring recording artists at the Big Brother Recording Studio in Simi Valley, CA — credits to Christina Aguilera, Destiny’s Child, Joanna, Nikki Flores, and many more.

Visit www.mothergooseparade.org for more details.
Small Potatoes — Chicago-based duo of Jacque Manning and Rich Pezzico performs for San Diego Folk Heritage, Saturday, April 14, 7:30 p.m., at San Diego Unitarian United Methodist Church (170 Calle Magdalena). They’re self-proclaimed “eclectic-maniacs,” describing their music as running gamut from “Celtic to cowboy.” $15, 858-566-4040. (SDUR)

“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 Martina Jane Weaver, singing cowboy Chris Tonelli, drummer Bobby Werner, jazz-blues singer Jeanne Chouinard 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 (410 Front Street). $12, 619-298-4590. (HILLCREST)

Wild and Wacky? New York-based ensemble Polygraph Lounge performs for cellist Felix Fan’s “Muzik3” festival, April 14 and 15, at the Other House (7813 Esterel Drive). Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. $20 general, $10 students. Reservations: 858-405-0043. (KALSA)

Ahmed El-Amr and His Ensemble plan concert on Saturday, April 14, 8 p.m., at Royal Palace Restaurant (1340 Broadway). Belydancing by Dondi, Jasmina, Lucia, Sahar Sami, others. $40 includes full mezza, dinner, show, dancing. 619-405-2508. (IN CAPO)

Aspire Playwrights Collective plans staged readings of work by young emerging playwrights. Saturday, April 14, 8 p.m., at showcase School of the Arts (4441 Park Boulevard). Program includes Jacqueline Goldfinger’s “Terrible Girls, Phases” and Kristina Meck, and Welcome Home (Act II) by Jennie Olson. Following discussion led by Seema Sueko. Donation: $5, 619-884-0499. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Latin Kings of Comedy! Paul Rodriguez joined by Frank Lecrce, Manny Maldanado, Dennis Gaxia, Sunday, April 14, 7:30 p.m., in Spreckels Theatre (121 Broadway). Tickets: $40, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-8888). (TENNIS)

West Coast Funnies, Drake Witham, Lang Parker, and Pearl Street Players perform, Saturday, April 14, 8 p.m., at Carlsbad Village Theatre (2822 State Street). $20 at door, 760-960-0105 or 909-929-3356. (CARLSBD)

“Watch Me Fly!” Listen for Californium premiere of “Metamorphosis” with full orchestra, “Defying Gravity” from Wicked,” Josh Goffman’s “To Where You Are,” and many other pieces when Gay Men’s Chorus of San Diego performs April 14 and 15. Concerts begin at 8 p.m. on Saturday, 7 p.m. on Sunday, at Saint Paul’s Cathedral (2728 Sixth Avenue). Tickets: $30-$35, 619-574-6273. (MIDTOWN)

“Comics That Kill” — laughs provided by Cate Gary, Stephanie Paul, Kristian, El’jaye, Beats, Isaac Bang on Saturday, April 14, 8:30 p.m., at Milano Coffee Company (18681 Rio San Diego Drive, suite B). $10, 619-263-3335. Not for those under 14. (MISSION VALLEY)

Sufi Master and mystic Omar Faruk Tekbilek and his ensemble perform traditional Sufi, folk, contemporary music from Middle East, Saturday, April 14, 8:30 p.m., at WorldBeat Center (2100 Park Boulevard), Middle-Earth Ensemble plays as well. Tickets: $18 in advance, $20 at door. 619-230-1190. (BIAURPA)

Starlight Bowl is site for Nicholas Woods’ “Friedrichs Ataxia Foundation” benefit concert, Sunday, April 14, noon. Bands include 12 Cents, Starting at Strange, National Dust, Free Confusion, Altered Time. $10, Find bowl at 2005 Pan American Plaza. 619-544-7827. (BIAURPA)

Cultural Anthropologist and Author Leslie Cohen discusses her Holocaust memoir Tapped Inside the Story, Sunday, April 15, 2 p.m., in Wangerheim Room at Central Library (820 E Street). Book relates true tale of Sonya Hembraet, a 13-year-old Polish girl who finds way to survive after her entire family is wiped out by Nazis. Free. 619-236-5821. (CENTRAL)

Sunday Seized Comedy stand-up show featuring Kyle Smith, Jamie Braddock, Stacy Sanchez, Jason Bang, Jodi Miller, and Iliza Shlesinger is Sunday, April 15, 8 p.m., at Honey Bee Hive (1408 11th Street). Free. 619-702-6010. (DOWNTOWN)

Peninsula Winds Concert, PLNU Concert Band is joined by guests from Dana Middle School, Coralie Junior High School, Point Loma High School, Tuesday, April 17, 7 p.m., in Golden Gymnasium (3900 Lamondale Drive). Free. 619-849-2325. (PLNU)

Cookbook Author and Market Owner Sara Foster reads and signs Sara Foster’s Casual Cooking. Tuesday, April 17, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick’s Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue, 858-454-0347). Free. (HILLCREST)

Music Concert by students of Coronado School of the Arts, Wednesday, April 18, 7 p.m. Find campus at 659 D Avenue. Tickets: 619-522-8969. (CORONADO)

Open-Microphone opportunities to sing, dance, read offered third Wednesday of the month, including April 18, 7:30-9 p.m., at Carino Cafè (2055 Fifth Avenue). Free. 619-682-9699. (HILLCREST)

“I Have Before Me a Remarkable Document” Given to Me by a Young Lady from Rwanda” performed by Melissa Gaffney and Dale Morris, Wednesday, April 18, 7:30 p.m., at Saint Paul’s Cathedral (2728 Sixth Avenue). Play tells of uneasy relationship between struggling British poet in his mid-forties and young survivor of Rwandan genocide, who comes to him for help with book about her ordeal. Donation: $10. 619-298-7261. (MIDTOWN)

Literary Reading by poet Catherine Wagger, author of Macular Hole and other books, Thursday, April 19, 7:30 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. 760-755-8077, ext. 221.

Fullbright Scholar, Blogger, Activist, “acclaimed techie” Cory Doctorow plans lecture, reading, and book signing, Friday, April 20, 7 p.m., at Prado Restaurant (1340 Broadway). Free. (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)

California’s Poet Laureate Young plans reading, Sunday, April 22, 2 p.m., in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Young was born in Mississippi, “was reading by the age of three,” has been a poet, writer, teacher throughout his literary career. Young will be joined by award-winning local poet Steve Kowit. Free. 760-602-2012. (La Costa)

Legendary Virtuoso Sitarist, composer, teacher Ravi Shankar — renowned for his work bringing Indian music to West — plans concert on Tuesday, April 24, 8 p.m., at Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2895 University Avenue). Toussaint is in Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, was nominated for Grammy in 2007 (with Elvis Costello). Local musician A.J. Croce will also perform. Tickets: $35, $38 in advance; $38, $41 at door. 619-239-8836. (North Park)

SPORTS

San Diego Padres are in Los Angeles for games against Dodgers, April 22-25. At 7:00 p.m. on Friday, April 13, 8 p.m., at 4th and B (345 B Street). Card includes bouts between heavyweight Richard Dalton and Ray Serrale, Frank Salgado and Virgil “Cow” Zwicker, Diego Cardijo and Eric Urek, many others. Tickets: $35–$530. 619-392-4660. For information, call or go online for reservations. (619) 661-0194
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Beyond the Bather’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 (1500 Campus Drive) Exhibition in honor of Gwynn’s election to the National Baseball Hall of Fame. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. daily. $3 general admission, $2 for seniors, $1 for students.

European and Japanese Glass Sale hosted by San Francisco Arts and Crafts, April 13–15, poolside at Best Western Seven Seas (411 Hotel Circle South). Glass beads from Czech Republic, seed beads, pressed glass beads, vintage European and Japanese beads. Hours noon–7 p.m., Friday 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m.–5 p.m., Sunday 1 p.m.–5 p.m. Free admission, $5 for all ages. (SFDAG)

Shodo calligraphy by Otani-Koen, April 13, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Japanese Flower Garden (5500 Campanile Drive). Reception for artists: Friday, April 13, 4 p.m. Demonstration of Shodo calligraphy by Otani-Koen on Saturday, April 14, 11 a.m. (included in garden admission). 619-232-2721. (BAJO)

Cruisin’ Grand, held every Friday through September 28, 5–9 p.m. Over 400 pre-1974 American-made hot rods, custom, vintage classic cars and trucks participate in cruise loop running down Grand Avenue and back up Second Avenue. East County Cruisers showcased on April 13. Free viewings. 760-745-8877. (ENCINITAS)

What Do Your Guardian Angels Have to Tell You? Psychic night is Friday, April 13, 7 p.m., at Other Side Coffee House (4096 30th Street). Janet Lightstone and Phil Poisson provide answers to audience members. Free. 619-269-0731. (ENCINITAS)

Ranunculus Rainbows, the flower fields with nearly 30 acres of giant ranunculus flowers are blooming again, open for tours through Sunday, May 13. Bluegrass Day is Saturday, April 14, with the Bromblies in concert 11 a.m.–4 p.m. 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 Paisan del Norte Road. 760-431-0352. (SDMAM)

Free Parking

THE LAST EMPRESS
author Anchee Min, April 13, Warwick’s Bookstore.

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Global Warming Awareness Event hosted by StepUp2007.org on Saturday, April 14, noon–2 p.m., on south side of Moonlight Beach (at foot of Encinitas Boulevard). Learn about ways to improve energy efficiency, actions individuals can take to improve environment. Free. 760-230-1910. (ENCINITAS)

Third Annual Stay Classy Charity Crawl with six tribute bands, multiple fund-raising activities with a goal of raising over $10,000 for Surfrider Foundation, Friends of Scott Foundation, Wounded Warrior Project, is Saturday, April 14, noon–9 p.m. at Pacific Beach Bar and Grill and Typhoon Saloon. $25. 781-836-4388. (PACIFIC BEACH)

AeroToga Workshop, described as “a combination of partner yoga, acrobatics, and Thai massage” offered for all levels, April 14 and 15, at Ashbraga Yenge Center (1905 Calle Barbara, suite 218). “Flying Without Intensive” offered Saturday, 1–4 p.m. (155); Sunday’s theme is “Acrobatic Counterbalan- cers,” 2–4 p.m. (540). Partners not necessary. Workshop package $70. Registration: 760-632-7093. (LA JOLLA)

Dolly, Dolores, Lola — focus on Vladimir Nabokov’s Lolita with Great Books Reading and Discus- sion Group on Saturday, April 14, 2 p.m., in third-floor community room of San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Newcomers welcome. Free. 619-440-5825. (SDMAM)

Stamp-Collecting Show, stamp and cover dealers offer wares, Saturday, April 15, 10 a.m.–4 p.m., at Bal Budr Shrine Temple (5440 Kearny Mesa Road). Free. 619-218-7835. (ENCINITAS)

Pepper Tree Day celebrated Sunday, April 15, 11 a.m.–4:30 p.m., at Mission San Luis Rey (4050 Mission Avenue). Adobe brick making, electric car exhibit, “Don’t Panic, It’s Organic” by Andy Lopez, community exhibit, entertainment, food, more. Mission-era tours (10 a.m.–noon), horticulture tour (1–4 p.m.), reservations required for tours. 765-7761-3516. Free admission. (TORRANCE)

“Let’s Talk About It: Jewish Literature” continues with a look at Eva Hoffman’s After Such Knowledge: What Remains of the Hobocean Ends and History Begins, Sunday, April 15, 1 p.m., in West Commons at San Diego State University. Discussion led by Harlen Henning. Program hosted by San Diego County Library and four community partners. Free. 858-694-2484. (SDSU)

Marston House Tea on the Terrace offered Sunday, April 15, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., at Marston House.

Global Warming Awareness Event hosted by StepUp2007.org on Saturday, April 14, noon–2 p.m., on south side of Moonlight Beach (at foot of Encinitas Boulevard). Learn about ways to improve energy efficiency, actions individuals can take to improve environment. Free. 760-230-1910. (ENCINITAS)
F OR K IDS

“Fun With Fables and Modern Myths” by comic ventriloquist Lynn Trumble continues through Sunday, April 15, at Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. Next: Pacific Tales planned for Old-Fashioned Kite-Flying Puppets, April 18–22.

Showtimes: 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday–Friday; 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Find theater near Aerospace Museum. Admission: $3 for children, $4 seniors, $5 general. 619-544-9205. (BALBOA PARK)

Healthy Kids Day celebrated Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., at Cameron Family YMCA (10123 Riverwalk Drive). Obstacle course, games, cartwheel class, fitness classes. Free. 619-496-9922. (SOUTHBAY)

All Aboard! The Chula Vista Live Steam Club provides train rides, 12:30–2:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, April 14 and 15, at Rohr Park (4548 Sweetwater Road). Donation: 50 cents. Children under 18 must be accompanied by adult. 619-421-5227. (BONITA)

Second Annual Paper Airplane Festival planned for family science day at San Diego Air and Space Museum on Saturday, April 14, 12:30, 1:30, and 2:30 p.m. (sessions last 45 minutes). Included in paid admission. Reservations: 619-234-8291 x19. (DOWNTOWN)

National Library Week is celebrated when author Layne A.L. Pecoff reads Live Your Dream, Saturday, April 14, 1 p.m., OmniSD Special Public Library (330 North Coast Highway). Event promises author readings, food sampling, “Imagination Stations” where paintings from Live Your Dream “will come to life,” hands-on art projects. Free. Registration is required: 760-435-6100. (DEL MAR)

Missoula Children’s Theater presents The Little Mermaid on Saturday, April 14, 3 and 7 p.m., at Poway Center for Performing Arts (13498 Espola Road). Tickets $17 adults, $5 for those under 18. 760-738-4751. (POWAY)

Ride Into the Wild West when San Diego Model Railroad Museum hosts family activities, Sunday, April 15, 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Look at authentic train robbery, square-dancing lessons, sheriff’s badge art activity. Admission is free for those under 18, $6 general. The museum is located downstairs in Casa de Balboa building. 619-566-0199. (BALBOA PARK)

Spring Family Day at the Maritime Museum is Sunday, April 15, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Kids may participate in scavenger hunt; for art project, participants will use found objects to create “multimedia maritime masterpiece to bring home.” Cruise on San Diego Bay aboard Pilot boat is included with admission. Adults pay regular admission, children must be accompanied by adult to enter for free. Find museum at 1006 North Harbor Drive, along Embarcadero. 619-234-9153 x101. (DOWNTOWN)

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

MUSEUMS

Bancroft Ranch House Museum houses indigenous Indian artifacts and memorabilia of early settlers in the area, run by the Spring Valley Historical Society. The home, built in 1863, was registered as a National Historic Landmark in 1962 and is on a spot where Kumeyaay Indians camped more than 2,000 years ago. On the spring that later gave the area its name. The museum is found at 9505 Memory Lane; 619-469-1480. (SPRING VALLEY)

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

Casa de Balboa: “How Close Are We to World War III?” presents author Layne A.L. Pecoff, reads from Live Your Dream; Saturday, April 14, 1 p.m., Oceanside Mission Valley Library (15498 Espola Road). Tickets: $17 for those under 18, $5 general, $5 for those $3–12, free for kids 5 and younger. Reservations: 619-465-7776. (CAMP)

Local Author Gretchen Wendell reads Becks and the Big Bubble, Wednesday, April 18, 2 p.m., at Oceanside Mission Branch Library (5861 Mission Avenue). Free: 760-415-5590. (SOUTHEAST)

Fourth Annual Kids Idol Competition hosted by Del Mar TV on Thursday, April 19, 4–7 p.m., and Sunday, April 22, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Fee for children’s singing competition: $25. Find Del Mar TV at 240 10th Street (at Camino del Mar). Registration: 838-481-2882, (DEL MAR)

The Art of the Garden, a 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 $10 in advance, $15 at door. Reservations: 760-434-6216. (CARDIFF)

ArtWalk 2007, more than 40 artists featured at 23rd annual festival, set for Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29, noon–6 p.m., along 16 blocks from Beach Street to Fist Street in Little Italy. Art in range of media for sale, children’s activities, music. Free admission. 619-615-1090. (LITTLE ITALY)

create Handmade Blankets for those in need, third Wednesday of each month, including April 18, 3–5 p.m., at Knitting by the Beach (16 Stevens Avenue, suite B). Volunteers crochet or knit a 7” x 9˝ rectangle using their left-hand suite B). Volunteers crochet or knit a 7” x 9˝ rectangle using their left-hand
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**CLASSICAL**

**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 Thursdays, April 12, in USD’s Warren Music Studio A (on Matthews Lane). At 6 p.m., listen to CD playback of his performance of Michael Pisaro’s “Unphrased Chord.” John Cage’s “Four” may be heard at 8 p.m. Free. 858-534-3229. (LA JOLLA)

**Russian Pianist** Olga Kern performs Scarlatti’s “Sonata in A Minor,” “Sonata in D Minor,” and “Sonata in E Major” for Piano Series hosted by La Jolla Music Society, Friday, April 13, 8 p.m., Sherwood Auditorium at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). Program includes Beethoven’s “Sonata in F Minor (Appassionata),” “Fantasy Pieces” by Rachmaninoff, “Reminiscences de Don Juan” by Liszt. Tickets: $25–$75. Reservations: 858-459-7326. (LA JOLLA)

**Mozart — The Last Five Years,** conductor Nuri Mehta, soprano Kathleen Halm, Sheryl Renk (clarinet) join San Diego Symphony for “Light Bulb” concert, Friday, April 13, 8 p.m., in Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Program boasts “Symphony No. 38,” “Concerto for Clarinet,” and Mozart pieces. Tickets: $17 in advance, $20 at door. Door opening at 7:30 p.m.; concert at 8 p.m. (SAN DIEGO)

**Flamenco Fire,** chamber music ensemble Camarada performs ten flamenco-inspired works — including pieces by Ibert, Granados, Ravel, Rodrigo, others — Sunday, April 15, 6 p.m., at Neucrosscience Institute (10640 John Hopkins Drive). $25. 619-231-7092. (LA JOLLA)


**Organist Allison Luedecke** and Millennium Too in concert on Monday, April 16, 7:30 p.m., at All Souls’ Episcopal Church (1475 Catalina Boulevard, Chatsworth). Donations: $5. 818-223-6994 (133 POINT LOMA)

**USD Student Composers’ Concert** planned Thursday, April 19, 12:30 p.m., in Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Free. 619-260-4171. (SAN DIEGO)

**Palomar Spectrum Pop/Jazz Singers** take stage for Concert Hour series, Thursday, April 19, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. 760-744-1150 x2316. (SAN MARCOS)

**Paaaro Järvi and Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra** joined by violinist Leonidas Kavalos for La Jolla Music Society’s Celebrity Series, Thursday, April 19, 8 p.m., at Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Enjoy “Violin Concerto” by Brahms, “L’infernale Fantastique.” Tickets: $20, $60, $95. Reservations: 858-459-3728. (DOWNTOWN)

**GALLERIES**

**“Field Work: Documenting California’s Migrant Farm Labor Experience, 1935 to 2003” continues through Wednesday, May 2, in University Art Gallery at San Diego State University.** Exhibit includes work by Horace Bristol, Doreen Lange, Roger Minick, Paul Tarussen, Louis Hoke. Events on Friday, April 13, include slide-illustrated lecture by Hoke at 6 p.m. in room 108 of Nasatir Hall, followed by artists’ reception in gallery at 7:30 p.m. 858-584-3171 (SOLANA BEACH)

**“Love Duets in Opera” showcased when soprano Kathleen Helm, mezzo-soprano Ava Baker-Liss, tenor Aleksand Gavamiazorov, tenor Tom Oberjat perform Sunday, April 15, 1:30–2:30 p.m., in Copley Auditorium at California City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Schubert’s “Quintet in C Major” and discussion/demonstration of “greatest piece of chamber music ever written” promised. $24. 760-726-1524 or 760-630-4360. (LA JOLLA)

**“Flamenco Fire,” chamber music ensemble Camarada performs ten flamenco-inspired works — including pieces by Ibert, Granados, Ravel, Rodrigo, others — Sunday, April 15, 6 p.m., at Neucrosscience Institute (10640 John Hopkins Drive). $25. 619-231-7092. (LA JOLLA)**

**Art Listings**

Events that are underlined occur after April 19.
**Saturday, April 14, 6 p.m., at Cross Street.**


**Oil Paintings by Marjorie Taylor** may be seen through Wednesday, May 9, at 4 Walls Gallery (3813 Ray Street). Paintings "reconfigure collage boxes by channeling tabloid vernacular and vivid vocabularies into earthing diagrams of scale and growth." Meet Marjorie Taylor during reception on Saturday, April 14, 6 p.m. 619-501-0900. (sdthreehomes)

**Mingei International Museum,** "Zeilin — Extraordinary Designer Craftman at 100," draws on large-scale private California collections to chronicle the artist's 75-year career. By Zeilin's account, she's designed more than 100,000 objects for home and table. She was the first designer in this country to produce an all-white dinner service and first to teach ceramists as industrial design for mass production rather than as handcraft. Closes Sunday, June 10.


**San Diego Museum of Art.** 619-298-9978. (sddama)

**Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla.** "TRANScensions: Contemporary Latin American and Latino Art" — closing on Sunday, May 13 — features approximately 50 works by 45 artists from museum's permanent collection. Showcased pieces demonstrate "diversity and hybridity of contemporary Latin American art," with artists working across traditional and contemporary media and between disciplines.

**Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown.** "Morrin Louis Now: An American Master Reviewed" offers a critical re-examination of this influential painter's legacy." Exhibit boats 27 canvases produced from 1951–1962, with examples from three significant bodies of Louis's work. Art is said to have "played an essential role in shaping postwar American art." Closes Sunday, May 6.

**Art San Diego, La Jolla,** 619-220-0003. (artsandiego)

**San Diego Museum of Art.** 619-239-0003. (sddama)

**San Diego Museum of Art.** 619-239-0003. (sddama)


**San Diego Art Museum, La Jolla.** "Annie Leibovitz: A Photogra pher's Life, 1990–2005" features approximately 220 photographs by Annie Leibovitz, including family photographs and portraits of public figures such as Colin Powell, Nicole Kidman, Brad Pitt, Merce Cunningham, Bill Clinton. Photos provide a glimpse into range of subjects covered by Leibovitz. Exhibition encompasses work Leibovitz made on assignment as a professional photographer, personal photographs of family and close friends. Closes Sunday, April 22.

"Young Art 2007: Exploring Color," opening on Saturday, April 14, and continuing until Sunday, May 27, features works created by San Diego's finest public and private school students (kindergarten through 12th grade). "See what students achieve when encouraged to use art to explore their imaginations." 619-232-7931. (youngart2007)

**Tinmen Museum of Art, permanent collection includes European old master paintings, 18th- and 19th-Century paintings, Russian icons. Saint Barbara's; the only Rembrandt painting on public display in San Diego.** is featured. 619-233-5548. (balborosa)


**San Diego Art Museum, La Jolla.** "Annie Leibovitz: A Photographer's Life, 1990–2005" features approximately 220 photographs by Annie Leibovitz, including family photographs and portraits of public figures such as Colin Powell, Nicole Kidman, Brad Pitt, Merce Cunningham, Bill Clinton. Photos provide a glimpse into range of subjects covered by Leibovitz. Exhibition encompasses work Leibovitz made on assignment as a professional photographer, personal photographs of family and close friends. Closes Sunday, April 22.
Entry-Level Feminists

Weisman’s women entertain and disturb. They may not be likeable, but it’s easy to worry about them.

Depending on who does the defining, Erika and Jessica are either semi-permanent or entry-level clerical workers at Solomon, Greenspan, Sachs. In their mid-twenties, they see themselves as semi-permanent and fast-tracking toward their chosen career, whatever it turns out to be (Jessica can’t choose between sports law or becoming the first artist to rap about things secretarial). A sense of entitlement underpins their views. “This isn’t the ‘90s,” Erika proclaims at one point. Asked what that means, she boasts, “I have options.”

Grace and Agatha have been at the firm for decades — Agatha proudly sports her sterling Tiffany scarf pin, for 25 years of service. They’re from the 9 to 5 generation of feminists. They fought the workplace wars: equal play, harassment-free conditions, respect and dignity. Their idealism’s long gone, but they still demand “a purely professional environment” and “a place to succeed on our own terms.” As Agatha and Grace try to hold the fort, they clash, in passive-aggressive ways, with naïve, “entry-level” Erika and Jessica.

Annie Weisman’s funny, slyly critical Hold Please has roles for only four actors, but the off-stage characters are as vivid. Xavier got a golden-parachute, true, but got tossed on a false charge. Diana, the new 24-year-old boss, sounds like a goose-stepping, corporate robot: she demands “efficiency estimates,” a euphemism for downsizing, and is writing a motivational book, WE CAN DO WAY WAY MORE THAN THEY TELL US WE CAN.

We never know what the company does — a law firm? — and never see the CEO either. According to the Old Testament, King Solomon had a harem of 700 wives. Mr. Solomon — of Solomon, Greenspan, Sachs — may threaten that record. He’s taken sexual liberties with entry-level secretaries for decades. His abuses loom over the play like a shroud.

Unlike the movie 9 to 5, which skewers a Solomon-like boss, in Annie Weisman’s Hold Please he remains in charge — la plus ça change? She concentrates, instead, on the wars of the cubicles: the secretaries, and their new boss, form fragile alliances, backstab and connive. Like Dael Orlandersmith’s Yellowman, which looks at racism among African-Americans, Hold Please dares to raise questions about “sisterhood” in the contemporary workplace.

Were Grace and Agatha to see the play, they’d decry it as feminist backlash, or even what Thomas Pynchon in Against the Day calls “gynecophobia” (fear of women), since Weisman paints a negative portrait of pink-collar politics. If Jessica and Erika saw Hold Please, though they’re depicted as shallow and self-centered and buffeted by forces they think they control, they’d probably say “what-ever,” shake it off, and go on about their lives, convinced they’re “on their way up and out.”

Hold Please could use a stronger engine, and the emotional arcs tend to zigzag (in trying not to tie a cozy knot, the conclusion verges on the gender stereotypes it’s been trying to avoid). But it’s got Weisman’s genuine gifts for snappy dialogue, precise, revealing details, and rafter-rattling humor, as when a character observes, “They came at you from all sides, like Pep Boys on a vintage Mustang.”

Also, amid the subsurface strife, Weisman’s women entertain and disturb. They may not be likable, but it’s easy to worry about them. Stephanie Beatriz plays Erika as confident and spicy, even though her “choices” make you wonder.
Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given or, 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 to inquire about ticket

Aspire Playwrights Collective: Staged Readings
The collective reads the terrible gets by Jacob Flickinger, Phoebe, by Kristina Meek; Welcome Home (Acts I, II), by Jennie Olsen; Symphony of the Arts, by Jennifer Black; and Forward

Baldwin New Poll Festival
UCSD’s festival features four world-premiere productions of plays by MFA students — Red State Blue Grass, by Josh To- hoff; Wildflower, by Tina Rose Kaplan; Near East, by Alex Lewin; and Freedom, by Jennifer Burke. — and a staged reading of In Search of A Better Life with Elvis, by Brown University student Katherine McNickle.

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, 2975 54th Street, Oak Park, through April 30. For tickets, call 858-534-8574.

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 Gilmore Smyth directs. Lamb’s Players Theatre, 1358 Orange Avenue, Coronado, through May 12. 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. 619-437-0960.

Enrique’s Journey
As part of the national “One Book, One San Diego” campaign to help cultivate a culture of reading and discussion by encouraging every resident of the city to read the same book, Mo’olelo presents a reading of the Pulitzer Prize winner about a Honduran boy who braves hardships to reach his mother in the U.S.

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How I Learned to Drive
Lynx Performance Theatre stages Paula Vogel’s drama about Lily Bit’s and her Uncle Pac, who “crosses the line between fantasy and behavior.” Al Germain directed. Lynx Performance Theatre Space, 20158 Arne Drive, Rose Canyon, through May 5. Friday at 9:00 P.M. Saturday and Sunday at 8:00 P.M. 619-889-3130.

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. 714-405-2032.

Joey and Maria’s Comedy Italian Wedding
Joey and Maria tie the knot in “not-so-ordinary interactive dinner theater.”
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**San Diego Theatresports:**

**The FunHouse**

A cross between improvisational comedy and family-fun 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 oddelements 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 competing, taking suggestions from the audience; and “Girl Talk”—five directed invented scenes, using the other four as actors. The winner got a banana, the loser a “forfeit.”

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The Sopranos' Last Supper

Dillstar Productions presents an evening of stand-up comedy by Tony Danza, a cast of comedians, and a special appearance by the family of James Gandolfini. The show will feature the last meal that Tony Soprano has eaten before his ultimate fate. The Sopranos' Last Supper will be held at 8:00 PM on Saturday, June 10, at the Wilk Theatre, 8860 West Drive, Costa Mesa. Tickets are $50 each and can be purchased online. The event is 21+ and contains adult language and content.

The Treatment

Everything in Amy Chin's set is gray: the wall, the furniture, even the window-blinds. Jennifer Selton's lighting, especially an overhead lamp casting a soft yellow pyramidal output, darkens the room even more. Eve Ensler's stage direction for her 90-minute drama says the set could be "a modern psychiatric of- fice or a torture chamber." For Mona's production, Chin makes it both, which builds on the play's ruling metaphor: like psychiatrists, military interrogators are "trained to read people" and to get "confessions," which may include having to break down the patient/subject. The two characters in the tense 90-minute drama don't have names. Man is an interrogator who has, at the very least, post-traumatic stress disorder from having to "soften up the animals" in a war zone. Woman is a military therapist trying (or is she?) to help him recover his mind. They are amid a "new war" with "new rules," and both feel free to break them to achieve their aims. Ensler never names the war and has pared away so many details that the play runs on only track (it feels more like a short story than a novel). Jennifer For Thom and Matt Scott handle their assignments — i.e., playing unspecified people who know each other's tactics — quite well (though Scott tended to push for the madness on occasion). Delia Turner Sennenberg has directed with a sharp eye for shifts of status, making the stage a battlefield of dueling interrogators.

Worth a try.

Thursdays and Fridays at 7:30 PM, Saturdays and Sundays at 2:00 PM. Tickets: $20.

[Note: the original cast members have been replaced.]

Triple Espresso: A Highly Coffeeshop Comedy

Hugh Butternut's done his lounge act at the Triple Espresso 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, who help celebrate his 30th anniversary, are far too talented to play tepid char-acters. One's a whiz at the piano. Another's a first-rate mime, and the third's a crackjack magician. The trio is an amazed, when the plot has them complain of dif-ficulties to overcome, you wish they'd quit trumping up the pseudo-drama and get on with this highly enjoyable, lightweight show. (Note: the origi-nal cast members have been replaced.)

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Worth a try.

Thursdays and Fridays at 7:30 PM, Saturdays and Sundays at 2:00 PM. Tickets: $20.
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ZZ Top
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Taylor Hicks
MAY 6
Dick Fox’s Golden Boys
MAY 12

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Earthbound now has about 20 on-air deejays who play reggae, hip-hop, jazz, and soul music over the Internet. “It helps with station expenses, Suzuki and the others launched SDTI (San Diego Turntable Institution), a program that teaches people how to be club deejays; students scratch and blend beats in two-hour classes held each week for six weeks. “This is preparing someone to work in their industry of choice,” says Suzuki. “Knowing how to deejay in a club is definitely a big thing.” The first semester drew 12 students: the second, 25. (“We started charging $150 per semester,” says Suzuki.) By the time the current, third semester rolled around, the school boosted its tuition to keep up with demand. Currently there are 40 students paying $300 each; gross earnings of $12,000.

“I guess you could say this month changed everything,” says Suzuki. “Everyone still has their day job…. We’re taking care of our bills and adding new equipment. We’ve all invested three years into this. Up until now, station expenses came out of our pocket.” The next six-week program

The City of San Diego helps pay rent on the Epicentre, the all-age venue in Mira Mesa that regularly hosts touring bands. David Prolux, youth program coordinator for the Epicentre, confirms that the City does help with the rent, but Harmonium, the nonprofit group that runs the Epicentre, pays all other operating costs. Meanwhile, James “Big Daddy” Quitugua, a local promoter of rap shows, says, “If the City is willing to help out the kids in an upper-middle-class area, they should do something for the kids in Southeast San Diego. These kids who live in Skyline or Paradise Hills have nothing to do except go to a high school dance every two or three months.” Prolux says there was talk about opening an "Epicentre South," but nothing is planned.

Jimmie Slice, spokesperson for Fourth District city councilmember Tony Young, says an all-age music venue for youth in Southeast San Diego would probably be supported by the city council, “but someone has to present [the city] with a specific proposal,” the way Harmonium did in order to operate the Epicentre.

Quitugua says an all-age venue in Southeast SD would have to feature some hip-hop — “…because that’s what’s popular among the kids.”

What about the negative aspects of hip-hop? “Not all hip-hop rap is negative. Some rock and heavy metal talks about suicide and devil worship and crazy stuff. Music is what moves kids. If there’s a place for kids to rock, there should also be a place for kids in Southeast San Diego to have fun.” Another promoter who declined to be identified thinks the City should stay out of the Epicentre brings in a deejay with hip-hop. That is a complete violation of every city ordinance. But the City is so swamped they don’t enforce it. The Epicentre does not have a dance permit. I think the Epicentre gets away with it because it’s next to a police station,” Quitugua just started Eight Mile, an every-other-Tuesday live hip-hop night at Shooterz in North Park. Mitchy Slick, Black Cotton, Network, Crick, and Extended Music Family appear April 17.
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APR 12
MADNESS

APR 13
FONSECA

APR 15
WILLIAMSBURG acoustic

APR 18
MOENA solar tour

APR 19
SEEK A MOUSE

APR 21
JAGUARAS ESEASON

APR 22
STONESOUR acoustic

APR 25
STEPHEN MARLEY

APR 26
MUTEMATH

APR 27
DJ QUIK

MAY 2
SLOAN The 88

MAY 3
Cypress Hill

MAY 4
YONDER MOUNTAIN STRING BAND

MAY 5
TOOTH-N-NAIL TOUR

MAY 6
BLACK REBEL MOTORCYCLE CLUB

MAY 7
AQUALUNG

MAY 8
BADFISH a tribute to Sublime

MAY 9
BO BICE

MAY 10
PAITO BANTON

MAY 11
COMMON SENSE

MAY 12
Hot Tuna

APR 26
MOB FIFTH AVE SIDE STAGE

4/14 AMIINA (Singer Ros string section)
4/15 WHAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS
4/16 THE BELLRAYS
4/17 GRIFFIN HOUSE with SONS OF WILLIAM

MAY 26

MAY 31

JUNE 3

JUNE 25

COMING SOON

5/17 JONES IN JIMBALAYA

5/18 ELLIOTT YAMIN

5/19 NEVILLE STAPLE

5/20 TOOTH-N-NAIL TOUR

5/21 ELLIOTT YAMIN

5/22 CELEBRITY SHOW

5/23 ELLIOTT YAMIN

5/24 CELEBRITY SHOW

5/25 ELLIOTT YAMIN

6/3 AMIINA (Singer Ros string section)

6/5 WHAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS

6/6 THE BELLRAYS

6/7 GRIFFIN HOUSE with SONS OF WILLIAM

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Brian Witkin, 21, started his Pacific Records label in 2003. He now has a roster of three local bands (Long Live Logos, Get Back Loretta, a Dead Giveaway) and Life’s Only Lesson, from Virginia.

Last year, Witkin and local producer Otis Howard, of Southv Interstate (a.k.a. Old Soul), recorded for the Fonics at his studio in Chula Vista. "We go by the Fonics," says William Hart of the Delfonics. "When he told me he was going to do the Fonics, I asked him, 'John, you're crazy. Now you're stepping on my toes.'"

John Johnson says he joined the Delfonics in 1979. He, along with two others who never performed as Delfonics, formed the Fonics two years ago and were signed by the local label, Wil Hart is not pleased. "John used to carry around our clothes, like a roadie," says Wil. "I brought John in the band in 1983 when one of my members went to jail. He was in the band for two years. When you derecognize something, you lose your up front business, and it's a rip-off. John's name is on everything on the record company, so it's a rip-off. We don't need him to be a part of our marketing."

"We want to hook them up with young, underrepresented artists," says Johnson. "Much as we're hearing a situation, John went with the Delfonics legacy. We go by the Fonics," says Johnson. "Much as Dennis Edwards from the Temptations stepped out to go his own way, I left William Hart and have branched out on my own."

"We want to keep them up with young, underrepresented artists," says Johnson. "Much as Dennis Edwards from the Temptations stepped out to do his own thing, I left William Hart and have branched out on my own."

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the southwest records album will be the first recording for the fonics. - ken leighton

**Society Onstage**

You put ten personalities in one room, especially with more than one girl, and there's going to be some shit," says guitarist/keyboardist Joey Guevara, whose Afro-funk band, Society! includes go-go girls, dual percussionists with painted faces, dancers dressed in animal costumes, and twins on drums and bass (Josh and Zach Wheeler, ex-Society Onstage). "Having ten people is tough on space," says Johnson. "But we still play the Tower and the Tower and the Tower and other smaller joints where there's just enough room for us to do theatrical stuff with lights and projections, [and] our voodoo ceremonies."

Guevara says another challenge is getting everyone paid. "We did a show at the Ken Club. It was a corporate party, and we had at least 25 people there to see us. But after the show, we went to collect our dough, and [an employee] had his girlfriend taking attendance. And I had used to work at a bar, and I have no idea what was going on. So, when one of my members went to jail, he was in the band for two years. When you derecognize something, you lose your up front business, and it's a rip-off. John's name is on everything on the record company, so it's a rip-off. We don't need him to be a part of our marketing."

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Amber Ojeda

"I’ve been offered recording deals…however, none gave me the ultimate control of my music."

M
usic allows me to express myself, while acting allows me to get away from myself," says Amber Ojeda, who plays a recurring role in the TV show Veronica Mars, shot around San Diego. "I originally auditioned for the part of Cathy when the show was in its pilot stage," she says. "It’s actually not as crazy and thrilling as everyone thinks. Most of the time, you’re in your trailer waiting for your scene."

A former San Diego Gulls Girl, the 23-year-old has lived here since she was three. She currently performs with the band Chameleon, with whom she recently headlined at the Derby in L.A. "I’ve been offered recording deals…however, none gave me the ultimate control of my music, so it makes no sense to me to sign. I would rather be independent than sell myself short and be a marionette."

Ojeda feels she’s struck a balance between her two careers. "I don’t envision music forcing me out of acting," she says. "Last year, I landed the theme song in a movie called All That I Need. When I went to meet with the director to discuss what elements he envisioned for the lyrics, he ended up casting me to be in the movie as well. She also landed the lead role in the soon-to-be-released Prayer Before Murder, for which she has recorded soundtrack music.

Amber Ojeda performs April 12 at Stingaree in the Gaslamp.
MAY
Loreena McKennitt
Loreena McKennitt
Friday, May 11
Sold Out
Buddy Guy
Buddy Guy
with special guest
Tom Hambridge
Thursday, May 17 • 7:30
Al Green
Al Green
Friday, May 18 • 8:00
Boyz II Men
Boyz II Men
Thursday, May 24 • 8:00
Erykah Badu
Erykah Badu
Friday, May 25 • 8:00
Generation Hawaii
Tour
Tour
featuring
Amy Hanalai'i / Kaukahi & Keli'i Kanealii'
Saturday, May 26 • 7:00
Lisa Gerrard
Lisa Gerrard
Wednesday, May 30 • 8:00
JUNE
Gregg Allman
Gregg Allman
with special guest
Bill Magee Blues Band
Sunday, June 3 • 7:30
Indigo Girls
Indigo Girls
Monday, June 4 • 7:30
Lucinda Williams
Lucinda Williams
Tuesday, June 5 • 7:30
Mary Chapin Carpenter
Mary Chapin Carpenter
Sunday, June 10 • 7:30
Lindsey Buckingham
Lindsey Buckingham
Monday, June 11 • 7:30
Al Jarreau / George Benson
Al Jarreau / George Benson
Thursday, June 14 • 7:00
Alan Parsons Live Project
Alan Parsons Live Project
Thursday, June 21 • 8:00
Don Rickles / Joan Rivers
Don Rickles / Joan Rivers
Friday, June 22 • 7:30
Jonny Lang
Jonny Lang
Saturday, June 23 • 7:30
Michael McDonald
Michael McDonald
Sunday, June 24 • 7:30
Steve Winwood
Steve Winwood
Wednesday, June 27 • 8:00
JULY
Dana Carvey
Dana Carvey
Friday, July 6 • 8:00
Blues Traveler
Blues Traveler
Sunday, July 8 • 7:30
Queen Latifah:
The Music of Dana Owens
Tuesday, July 10 • 8:00
Ali DiFranco
Ali DiFranco
Wednesday, July 11 • 7:30
Dennis DeYoung:
The Music of Styx
Friday, July 13 • 7:30
Beach Boys
Beach Boys
Sunday, July 15 • 7:30
Cowboy Junkies / Joan Osborne
Cowboy Junkies / Joan Osborne
Tuesday, July 17 • 7:00
Boz Scaggs
Boz Scaggs
Wednesday, July 18 • 7:30
'70s Soul Jam
'70s Soul Jam
featuring The Stylistics, Chi-Lites, Harold Melvin's Blue Notes, Deftones and Three Degrees
Hosted by Jimmie "J" Walker
Thursday, July 19 • 7:00
Paul Rodriguez
Paul Rodriguez
Friday, June 20 • 8:00
Dickey Betts
Dickey Betts
with special guest
Shooter Jennings
Sunday, July 22 • 7:30
John Hiatt / Shawn Colvin
John Hiatt / Shawn Colvin
Tuesday, July 24 • 7:00
Lyle Lovett / K.d. lang
Lyle Lovett / K.d. lang
Wednesday, July 25 • 7:00
Bob Weir & RatDog / Keller Williams
Bob Weir & RatDog / Keller Williams
Friday, July 27 • 6:00
Hootie & The Blowfish
Hootie & The Blowfish
Sunday, July 29 • 7:30
Tears For Fears
Tears For Fears
Monday, July 30 • 8:00
Larry Carlton & Robben Ford
Larry Carlton & Robben Ford
Tuesday, July 31 • 7:30
AUGUST
Musiq Soulchild
Musiq Soulchild
Friday, August 3 • 7:30
Huey Lewis & The News
Huey Lewis & The News
Sunday, August 5 • 7:30
Otmar Liebert & Luna Negra
Otmar Liebert & Luna Negra
Sunday, August 12 • 7:30
Keb’ Mo’ / The Robert Cray Band
Keb’ Mo’ / The Robert Cray Band
Tuesday & Wednesday, August 14 & 15 • 7:00
Jim Gaffigan
Jim Gaffigan
Thursday, August 16 • 7:30
Dave Koz & Friends
Dave Koz & Friends
Friday, August 17 • 7:30
India.Arie
India.Arie
Sunday, August 19 • 7:30
Dave Brubeck Quartet
Dave Brubeck Quartet
Monday, August 20 • 7:30
HIPPIEFEST:
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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
UB40
Wednesday, August 22 • 7:30
Creedence
Creedence
Clearwater Revisited
Thursday, August 30 • 8:00
SEPT.
Cecilio & Kapono
Cecilio & Kapono
Sunday, Sept. 2 • 7:30
B.B. King / Etta James & Her Roots Band
B.B. King / Etta James & Her Roots Band
Tuesday, Sept. 4 • 7:00
Temptations / Four Tops
Temptations / Four Tops
Thursday, Sept. 6 • 7:30
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy
Friday, Sept. 7 • 8:00
Heart
Heart
featuring Ann & Nancy Wilson
Sunday, Sept. 9 • 7:30
Doobie Brothers
Doobie Brothers
Monday, Sept. 10 • 7:30
Pink Martini
Pink Martini
Monday & Tuesday, Sept. 17 & 18 • 8:00
America
America
Wednesday, Sept. 19 • 7:30
Kenny G
Kenny G
Wednesday, Sept. 26 • 8:00
Trisha Yearwood
Trisha Yearwood
Thursday, Sept. 27 • 7:30
Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons
Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons
Friday & Saturday, Sept. 28 & 29 • 8:00
OCTOBER
Air Supply / Christopher Cross
Air Supply / Christopher Cross
Friday, October 5 • 7:00
Steve Tyrell
Steve Tyrell
Sunday, October 7 • 7:30

LEXUS PREMIUM PACKAGES
PACKAGE INCLUDES
2 premium-seat concert tickets (center section, rows 1-4)
2 dinners at Humphrey's Restaurant and one suite, junior suite or guest room at Humphrey's Half Moon Inn & Suites
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**THURSDAY**

**Boz Scaggs:** 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400. Saturday, April 14, 13 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

**Friday**

**Moe:** 619-299-2583. April 18, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-4170.

**Heaven and Hell** w/ Megadeth and Machine Head: Coors Amphitheater, Thursday, April 26, 2050 Palomar Starlight Theater, Spreckels Theatre, Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, April 27, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140. Sunday, May 2, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-303-8176.

**Wednesday**

**Mountain of Love:** Soma, Tuesday, May 8, 121 Broadway. 619-671-3600. Wednesday, April 25, 121 Broadway. 619-299-9400. Party line: 8140. Monday, May 21, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

**Flying Cars** w/ Erykah Badu: Coors Amphitheater, Thursday, April 26, 2050 Palomar Starlight Theater, Spreckels Theatre, Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, April 27, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.
**FRIDAY, APRIL 13**

**FIGHT THE FEAR • DAILY DOSE**

**BEAUTIFUL TROUBLE**

**40 OUNCES TO FREEDOM**

**JUST LIKE PRIEST**

**FRIDAY, MAY 4**

**CINCO DE MAYO**

**STRANGER QUINTO SOL • THE MAYAN KINGS**

**FRIDAY, MAY 11**

**FOUR MINUTES TILL MIDNIGHT**

**SOUR MASH TRIO**

(Members of Bargain Music)

**GOOD INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY, MAY 19**

**ELIJAH EMANUEL**

**UMOVERDE**

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**FRIDAY APRIL 13**

**SUNDAY APRIL 15**

**SATURDAY MAY 19**

**SATURDAY MAY 12**

**THURSDAY APRIL 26**

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**THURSDAY, APRIL 13**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 20**

**Healey presents**

**FRIDAY, MAY 4**

**HEALEY PRESENTS**

**FIGHT THE FEAR • DAILY DOSE**

**AUDIBLE MAINFRAME • ENDRIS**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 15**

**HIGH ROLLING LONERS**

**SACRED COWBOYS**

(with Earl Brown & Dan Deluty of HBO’s “Deadwood”)

**SATURDAY, April 14**

**NATURAL VIBRATIONS**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 15**

**IRAN MOLENS**

(All Female Tribute to Iron Maiden)

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18**

**JUST LIKE PRIEST**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 19**

**BANG SUGAR BANG • TEREZODU**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 20**

**DEAD MAN’S PARTY**

(Oingo Boingo Tribute)

**MANGANISTA**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 26**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 24**

**ICE CUBE presents**

**ONE DROP**

**LOUG DO TRIO**

(Soulbrothers Tribute)

**THURSDAY, APRIL 26**

**Rockin’ Johnny White presents**

**ADAM ROTH • JEN KNIGHT**

**ATLAS OF ID • GRIN’S EDGE**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 27**

**DIABLO CANES**

**STONE SENSES**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 28**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 21**

**THE CITY’S FINEST • YO FLACO!**

**AUDIBLE MAINFRAME • ENDRIS**

**FRIDAY, MAY 4**

**CINCO DE MAYO**

**STRANGER QUINTO SOL • THE MAYAN KINGS**

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**FRIDAY, MAY 11**

**FOUR MINUTES TILL MIDNIGHT**

**SOUR MASH TRIO**

(Members of Bargain Music)

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**SATURDAY, MAY 19**

**ELIJAH EMANUEL**

**UMOVERDE**

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**858.488.1780**

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**CALENDAR**

**CONCERTS**

**AUGUST**


**Tears for Fears**: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Monday, July 30, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**Clay Allison**: Palomar Starlight Theatre, Friday, August 3, 3 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4997.

**Henry 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, Wednesday, August 22, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.
- Sunday, July 29, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**Colin Hay**:
- Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, August 30, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.
- Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Monday, August 27, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**Los Lonely Boys**:
- Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, August 30, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**India.Arie**:
- Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, September 26, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**SEPTEMBER**

**Cecilio & Kapono**:
- Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, September 2, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**The Gipsy Kings**:
- Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, September 26, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra**:
- Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, September 2, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**B.B. King**:
- Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, September 6, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**The Temptations**:
- Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, September 6, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**Music to Remember**:
- Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, September 6, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**UB40**:
- Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Monday, September 24, 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, Saturday, September 15, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**The Temptations**:
- Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, September 16, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**The Doobie Brothers**:
- Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, September 26, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**B.B. King**:
- Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, September 27, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**“Adams Avenue Street Fair”**:
- Adams Avenue, Saturday, September 29, and Sunday, September 30, between Adams Avenue and 18th Street, Normal Heights. 619-282-7797.

**Clubs**

**Air Conditioned**:
- Wednesdays, Rockin’, 7th and W 10th, 5 miles east of I-15 on Adams Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-298-2233.

**The C Lounge**:

**Club Montage**:

**Dino’s**:
- Fridays, Therapy, industrial, gothic, and electronic with DJs Bryan Pollard and guests. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. 4025 30th Street, North Park. 619-501-8983.

**Element**:
- Wednesdays, DJs Robyn Rose, Fabian, and Adam Aspinall, 5 miles east of I-15 on Adams Avenue, downtown. 619-235-2381.

**Suave**:
- Saturdays, DJs Ricky Wrecks and Mada; 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. 7777 University Avenue, La Mesa. 619-713-2011.

**Habana Restaurant**:
- Sundays, Salsa, merengue, and salsa with David Garcia. 7777 University Avenue, La Mesa. 619-713-2011.

**Hillcrest**:
- Sundays, DJ’s, 7777 University Avenue, La Mesa. 619-713-2011.

**Mixtape Sessions**:
- Thursdays, DJs, 7777 University Avenue, La Mesa. 619-713-2011.

**Underworld**:
- Thursdays, DJs, 7777 University Avenue, La Mesa. 619-713-2011.

**Old Town**:
- Thursdays, DJs, 7777 University Avenue, La Mesa. 619-713-2011.

**San Diego Reader**:
- Submit a listing online at SanDiegoReader.com or e-mail sellis@nethere.com. Deadlines are 5 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. The listings are free.
DANCE

(continued)

Walkerklow, Probable Cause, and Skyler Mac 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Second Saturday of the month. Dance and underground hip-hop, funk, and breaks with DJs Frankly, Thambyr, and Point. 1649 C Street (corner of 14th Street, across from City College), downtown. 619-235-9618.

Hot Monkey Love Cafe: Saturdays, Candy Shop Young Adult Nightlife, DJ Ida hip-hop, R&B, dirty South, and live music. 8 p.m. 6777 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area. 619-401-8313.

Inferno Young Adult Nightclub: Fridays and Saturdays. DJ Kool T spins indie, electroclash, and 80s. First Friday of the month, The Kava Lounge: 619-640-2500. cover. 4696 30th Street, North Park.

SC. 9:30 p.m. 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. Jim’s: 619-284-2848. 2 a.m.; 21 and up. No cover. 1542 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-632-8252. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., and Fridays, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., John Cain, jam/Latin/International/pop standards.

San Diego Sports Club: Wednesdays, Club Point Gallery, Robin Roth and other female DJs spin indie rock, electroclash, and 90s. First Friday of the month. 7pm Factory, finish, gothic, and industrial. 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month, Club Phantom: Where, electroclash, Brit pop, and indie dance punk with DJs Amanda. Barry Weaver, Edgerton, and more. Third Saturday of the month. Club de Sade, gothic, industrial, and fetish with DJs Durfman and Gearp. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-236-7797.

Fridays, DJ King spin the best in dark house with DJ Sean Wilson. 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-483-6550.

1:15 a.m., high school students and up. Fridays and Saturdays, DJ Kool T spins hip-hop, funk, and breaks with DJs Frankly, Thambyr, and Point. 1649 C Street (corner of 14th Street, across from City College), downtown. 619-235-9618.

Moondoggies Pacific Beach: Saturdays, hip-hop, R&B, and Top 40 hits. 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 619-278-8281.

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Calendars

Beaches

SOL MUNDI STRAND SCIENCES, GHOST SHIP, and ZITA GABE. Saturday, 1st Floor, Pacific Beach, 8 to 11 p.m.

CLAY’S atop the Hotel La Jolla, 7775 La Jolla Blvd, La Jolla, 8-819-0941. Live Jazz.

Del Mar Plaza, 3355 Camino del Mar, Del Mar, Thursday, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Kevin Jacobson, smooth jazz saxophone.

Dreamstreet, 2222 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 81-222-8311. Music is rock/alternative rock. Thursday, No Cover, Brother and Sisters and Jazz Quartet. Friday, Island Lounge, Funk-Flute, One Thread, and Bridge. Monday, Also Tuesday, Emelia Wednesday, Bondswomen and Tarzan.

E Street Cafe, 128 E Street, Encinitas. 760-240-2000. Music is acoustic/folk union otherwise noted. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Joseph Angelastro, jazz. Friday, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., John January and Brothers Nation, 9 p.m. to 10 p.m., John January, 9 p.m., Miss Helen, 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. to 11 p.m., Dr. Jazz.


The Kraken, 2551 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-753-0671. Thursday, Frankie Do and the Funk-Nuts Band. Friday, Chill Box, Music: Blue Rose, Blusrock. Sunday, the Blues Brothers, blue jazz.

La Scala, 1101 Scott Street, Point Loma. 8-219-2227. Friday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., jazz. Saturday, 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. piano bar.

The La Regenta, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Ocean Beach, 8-219-5500. Music is rock/alternative union otherwise noted. Thursday, the North Atlantic, The Pub and the Flying Fish, Tender Buttons, and Carver Brothers. Friday, Gloria, Valley's Thump and Lovesong Saturday, June, Your Favorite Son and God! Sunday, Rocky Venture, The Blue Jay, and Street to Novebre. Monday, the Appleson, the Life and Times and Japanese Sunday, Tuesday, Anegrope, The Twilight Sad, and Northern Chess. Wednesday, Electric Six, Ten Tasteful Pies, and Night Falls the Day.

Shoefight, 875 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 8-219-5500. Thursday, 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. JS, vocal jazz/pop.

710 Beach Club, 710 Garnet Avenue, Ocean Beach, 8-219-5500. Music is rock/alternative union otherwise noted. Thursday, the North Atlantic, The Pub and the Flying Fish, Tender Buttons, and Carver Brothers. Friday, Gloria, Valley’s Thump and Lovesong Saturday, June, Your Favorite Son and God! Sunday, Rocky Venture, The Blue Jay, and Street to Novebre. Monday, the Appleson, the Life and Times and Japanese Sunday, Tuesday, Anegrope, The Twilight Sad, and Northern Chess. Wednesday, Electric Six, Ten Tasteful Pies, and Night Falls the Day.

The Swallow, 705 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 8-219-5500. Thursday, 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. JS, vocal jazz/pop.

The Twilight Sad, 802 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 8-219-4375. All music is union otherwise noted. Tuesday, 2nd Floor, Mr. Tube and the Wastrels, The Stilettos. Thursday, Banjo Bar and Grill, 528 F Street, Downtown. 8-233-3077. All music is pop/live bands/sundays.

Thunderstrike, 4633 Mission Boulevard, Ocean Beach, 8-219-7540. Music is rock and roll. Thursday, 9:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., the Stilettos.

Club Montage, 2028 Hancock Street, Balboa Park. 8-219-9440. Jazz.

Croc’s Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 8-219-4375. All music is union otherwise noted. Thursday, 5th Floor, Mr. Tube and the Wastrels, The Stilettos. Thursday, Banjo Bar and Grill, 528 F Street, Downtown. 8-233-3077. All music is pop/live bands/sundays.

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M-1
After all the buzz about their first two albums, after all the tours and the McDonald’s commercial, the grimmier, drier appearance, the Austin City Limits concert, and the famous name drop in Garden State, I imagine that even the Shins were sick of hearing about the Shins. I would not have blamed James Mercer if he had, for his band’s third album, recorded 48 tracks of guitar feedback and banging sheet metal, with primal-scream vocals from guest singer Yoko Ono. At least that would have gotten everyone off his back.

Instead, Wincing the Night Away is just mildly bewildering. From any other band, it would have been a lovely effort, but we expect more from the Shins. After debuting at number two on the Billboard charts, the album has fallen out of the top 50. Reviews have been less than glowing, and new releases by Arcade Fire and Modest Mouse have stolen much of the attention, but they might otherwise have gathered.

Part of the problem is that Wincing begins with “Sleeping Lessons,” a song that drifts atop a persisting synth line for a full two minutes before the other instruments wake up. In fact, the album doesn’t deliver something that really sounds like the Shins until the penultimate song, “Girl Sailor.” That number has the concise arrangement, surreal lyrics, and baroque vocal melodies of Chutes Too Narrow mixed with experimental home-studio sounds of Oh, Inverted World. It’s a taste of why we fell in love with the Shins in the first place and a reminder that wherever they take us it will be a place worth going.

The Shins, Soma, Thursday, April 12, 7 p.m. 619-220-7662. $26.
BAD RELIGION TIGER ARMY CUTE IS WHAT WE AIM FOR
COHEED AND CAMBRIA KILLSWITCH ENGAGE CHIODOS NEW FOUND GLORY
HAWTHORNE HEIGHTS THE STARTING LINE SUM 41 PENNYWISE
CIRCA SURVIVE PEPPER AS I LAY DYING RED JUMPSUIT APPARATUS
AGENT ORANGE FLOGGING MOLLY POISON THE WELL FISHBONE
KOS ESCAPE THE FATE BAYSIDE THE UNSEEN SPILL CANVAS
HOT ROD CIRCUIT THE CONFESSION A STATIC LULLABY AMBER PACIFIC
DROP DEAD GORGEOUS SO THEY SAY FALL OF TROY BLESS THE FALL
ENVY ON THE COAST MAYLENE AND THE SONS OF DISASTER
THE FOLD ALL TIME LOW KADISFY STILL REMAINS
TOTAL CHAOS THE ALMOST MEG & DINA THE MATCHES
BOYS LIKE GIRLS SUPERNova POS THE ACTUAL
VINCENT BLACK SHADOW THE ROCKET SUMMER EVALINE
THE FABULOUS RUDIES BLEED THE DREAM
MY AMERICAN HEART BUCK-O-NINE
JONEZETTA THROWDOWN DAPHNE LOVES DERY
NATIVES OF THE NEW DAWN PURE VOLUME

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SAN DIEGO

by DAVE GOOD

The cover of Satan is Real, the classic Louvin Brothers album of 1960, features Ira and Charlie in their characteristic white suits with a giant Satan looming behind them. The brothers in that moment look like tent preachers, and maybe in their minds they were. “I know that Satan is real,” sings the protagonist from the title track, “for once, I had a happy home.” These lyrics, as it turns out, were somewhat prophetic, at least for Ira, a hard drinker who would be dead within five years.

The Louvin Brothers (born Charlie Ezer and Lonnie Ira Loudmilk in the Appalachian Mountains of Alabama) began as a gospel act in the 1940s. They were inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2001. Their sound was built on the close harmonies they perfected, a modified bluegrass singing that was distinctly Louvin Brothers. Some decades later, that gorgeous sound would influence alt-country. Emmylou Harris’s first hit was a Louvin make-over; country rocker Gram Parsons coveted the bros’ albums to the extent that he was said to have paid assistants to search thrift shops and used record stores for them.

If the ‘60s proved to be Ira’s adornning (tost a gunshot wound, then a fatal auto accident while on the road with his fourth wife), they were bountiful for Charlie. He would continue to chart on his own for the remainder of the decade, even as rock and roll began to dominate the airwaves. In 2006 he picked up the thread of his solo career when he was coaxed out of retirement to make the album Charlie Louvin. It bears the stamp of age the turns 80 this year) and suffers for the lack of Ira’s charming tenor, it survives on the simple fact of Charlie Louvin himself, ready to take another lap around the country and make sweet music.

CHARLIE LOUVIN, AcousticMusicSan-Diego, Sunday, April 15, 7:30 p.m. 620-303-8176. $15 or $20.

Ocean House, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, 760-729-8711. Friday, December, rock. Saturday, Morena, blues. Sunday, the Molly, rock. Sunday, live jazz. Tuesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., the Clachan, worn; Wednesday, the Stone Sones, Horizons, and Natural Vibeology, reggae.

The 101 Artist Colony, 25 E Street, Encinitas, 760-809-3291. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Lori West and Justin Pinnon, Latin jazz.

Rancho Bernardo Inn, 17750 Rancho Del Cielo, Rancho Bernardo, 858-748-3241. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Maxina Condon, 2780 State Street, Cardiff, 760-454-5457. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Mike Gardner, acoustic rock.

Turf N’ Saddle, 213 West Plaza Street, Carlsbad, 760-751-7157. Friday, Friday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Jerry Melnik, jazz/variety. piano.

Molly Malone’s, 1270 Main Street, Rancho Santa Fe, 760-793-0550, Tuesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., the Jumping Turtle, 1600 Copa Linda Road, San Marcos, 760-741-7778. Music is rock/alternative. piano.

North Bar Sports and Spirits, 200 West El Norte Parkway, Escondido, 760-480-8200. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., Miles High, classic rock.

OCEAN HOUSE

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SOUTH BAY/CORONADO
Burnt Gargoyle Restaurant, 530 Bonita Road, Bonita 619-475-2680. Friday, 9 p.m.; Jose Dario, variety; Saturday, Stan For Mike and Friends, jazz; The Butcher Shop, 386 Broadway, Chula Vista. 619-474-3222. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. Central City Pub, 2444 Broadway, San Diego. 619-232-9977. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. Cafe LaMaze, 5370 Laredo Street, Lemon Grove. 619-469-6344. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m.

EAST COUNTY
Borders Books and Music (El Cajon), 159 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon. 619-455-5110. Friday, 7 p.m.; Joe King, acoustic; Saturday, Steven Thrum, folk; Dirk’s Nightclub, 7602 Broadway, Lemon Grove. 619-490-6344. Friday and Saturday, TNT, classic rock; Don’t Cocktail Lounge, 1332 Business Highway A, El Cajon. 619-455-2444. Friday and Saturday, Tall Dudes, classic rock/funk;

I would compare them to Interpol, only not as good. The beginning reminded me of some electronic-type music or Radiohead. I liked the lyrics. I just got snippets of phrases and they seemed somewhat poetic. They were kind of about the hardships of life. I kept waiting for them to break out and do something different (musically) but it didn’t happen. It just was the same thing repeated over and over again. It was a bit whimsy for me. Probably, it would be (good music) if you were in one of those moods where you wanted just to feel bad and you needed some good background music to aid in that.
Kimya Dawson: Chi’Caf
The Dead Serial Killers: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Decompression: Molly Malone’s, 710 Beach Club
Dirty Painties: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Drag the River: The Casbah
Dreaded Solution: Epicentre
Dreamtiger: San Diego Sports Club
Dying Regrets: Lynam’s
Eats Tapes: The Casbah
Dying Regret: Dreamstreet
Dreamtiger: Dying Regret
Dreaded Solution: Turtle
Mad Cow Disease: Lightning Bolt
Mr. Tube and the Flying Objects: Kixly
Turtle: Lynam
Lightning Bolt: Kixly
Kixly: Turtle
It Dies Today: Lightning Bolt
NEX Generation: Turtle
New Day Mile: Lightning Bolt
Monty Are It: Turtle
Mono Mono: Turtle
Monty Are: Turtle
Maison Mono: Sucker’s Office
Mondays Are: Soma
Mother Hips: Brick By Brick
Motion: Soma
New Day Mile: The Jumping Turtle
NEXGeneration: Epicentre

No Face: Dreamstreet
The North Atlantic: The Casbah
Northern Chorus: The Casbah
Operation 5: Tower Bar
The Paddle Boat: Chi’Caf
Pain T: Epicentre
Pamalani: Brick By Brick
The Phenomenes: 710 Beach Club
Piracy: The Jumping Turtle
Poison Cuts: The Jumping Turtle
Powerwax: Chi’Caf
Powderspace: Soma
PnPQu: Sucker’s Office
Primus Donna: The Jumping Turtle
Red Store Bums: The Jumping Turtle
Rise to Re Java: The Jumping Turtle
Rochester Fugitives: Triple Crown Pub
Same: The Jumping Turtle
Secret Apollo: Porta’s Pub
Seskacom: The Jumping Turtle
The Shine: Soma
Sidekick Lounge: Dreamstreet
Sophisti: Soma’s Nightclub
Sound of Surrender: Epicentre
Angelic Spencer: Chi’Caf
Squidder: Tower Bar
Steady Echo: Triple Crown Pub
The Stitches: Tower Bar
Street to Nowhere: The Casbah
Strip Mall Suspects: Chi’Caf
Superunloaded: 710 Beach Club
Teoffon: 710 Beach Club
Tender Buttons: The Casbah
Terroroad: Soma
This Is Hello: Soma
The Trucker Brothers: Lzyme’s Coffee House
The Twilight Sad: The Casbah
The Vaginals: Chi’Caf
Vicious Rumors: The Jumping Turtle
Voice on Taps: Chi’Caf

Rocky Votolato: The Casbah
Waiting For God: Epicentre
The Wastrels: Winslows, O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Who’s Your Favorite Son?: The Casbah
Wise Monkey: Winslows
Wither: The Jumping Turtle
You Die First: Epicentre
Zsa Zsa Gabon: Chi’Caf

ROCK
Alice: Dreamstreet
Ariel Down: San Diego Sports Club
The Baja Bugs: San Diego Sports Club
Betrayed: Lynam’s Nightclub
Big City Shaman: MoP’s Irish Pub
and Grill
Bonehammer: Dreamstreet
The Best Pack: Henry’s Pub
Brave Monsters: 710 Beach Club
Briagade: Dreamstreet
Mitch Budj: 710 Beach Club
Cactus Twang: The Calypso Cafe
CDM: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Cool Band Luke: Carver’s
The Credit Union: Ocean House
De Groove: Ocean House
Dazed and Confused: Dick’s Last Resort
Frankie-Dee and the Funk-Nutra Band: The Fabulous Woodies
North Atlantic: The Fabulous Woodies
Northern Chorus: The Fabulous Woodies
DPI: The Fabulous Woodies
DMS: The Fabulous Woodies
The Disco Pimps: The Fabulous Woodies
DMS: DMS
Dreamstreet: The Fabulous Woodies
Dreamstreet: The Fabulous Woodies
DMS: The Fabulous Woodies

MooMoo: Sucker’s Office
Mondays Are: Soma
Mother Hips: Brick By Brick
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NEXGeneration: Epicentre

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Of the words I can pick out, corazón, mujer, and muerto are prominent. The English lyrics on "In Desire" tell us that Alfonso’s in need of companionship: "set my heart on fire/ and I’m trembling with desire."

The tempo is slow and never gets out of soft-rock gear. Alfonso’s voice is sensitive and longing. The heavy use of an electric guitar doesn’t temper the delicate nature of the album but makes it more like a collection of ‘80s Whitesnake power ballads in Spanish. Alfonso’s strongest song is "El Espacio Acá," which forges the faux edgy guitar and gives itself wholly to the acoustic piano, guitar, and soft drumming.

The music is expertly played, though. Everyone is perfectly timed, pitched, and on key. It’s professional enough to get major Spanish-station airplay or to be featured on a telenovela.

Alfonso’s your guy if you dig soft pop and speak Spanish.

TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD REVIEWED, PLEASE MAIL IT TO: Music Editor, Hometown CDs, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803.

Sammy Canazioni: Cafe LaMaze
Gilbert Castellanos and His Quintet: Dizzy’s
Sandy Chappel: Cafe LaMaze
Fatburger: Humphrey’s
Audrey Fay: Humphrey’s
Nick Flore: Pasquale on Prospect
The Fischank Ensemble: Dizzy’s
Jim Gibson: Hotel del Coronado

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## ROCK

- **Fairfield Pats**: The Jumping Turtle
- **The Fizzgigs**: 710 Beach Club
- **5 Miles High**: Game Time Tavern
- **Fu Manchu**: The Casbah
- **5 Miles High**: The Casbah
- **Night Shift**: Pick Joe’s
- **The Gizzard**: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
- **The Ground Beneath**: 710 Beach Club
- **Hella**: The Casbah
- **Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks**: Belly Up Tavern
- **The Iron Maidens**: Fairfield Fats
- **Robbie K**: The Jumping Turtle
- **Nightclub Fuzz-Huzzi**: Fairfield Fats
- **Ray Reins**: Fairfield Fats
- **The Justin Brothers**: Ithaca
- **Ithaca**: The Iron Maidens
- **The Lugers**: Pasquale on Prospect
- **McP’s Irish Pub and O’Connell’s Pub**: Fairfield Fats
- **The Offbeats**: Fairfield Fats
- **Night Shift**: Fairfield Fats
- **The Offbeats**: Fairfield Fats

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## JAZZ / BIG BAND

- **Bunnett Anderson**: Cafe LaMaze
- **The Archonos**: Cross’s Inn Bar
- **The John Bennett Trio**: The Calypso Cafe
- **Tom Bishop**: Rancho Bernardo Inn
- **Ray Briz**: Hotel del Coronado
- **Burnett Anderson**: Hotel del Coronado
- **The Calypso Cafe**: Hotel del Coronado
- **The Casbah**: Hotel del Coronado

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Friday, April 13
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Electric Soul
9:30 pm • Motown & Dance
Detroit Underground

Saturday, April 14
9:30 pm • Classic Rock
Rockola

Sunday, April 15 • 8 pm
Smooth Jazz Guitarist
Patrick Yandall

Monday, April 16
7 pm • Blues
Chet Cannon’s Blue Monday Blues Jam

Tuesday, April 17
8 pm • Smooth Jazz
Fattburger

Wednesday, April 18
8 pm • Sweet Soul Music
The Soul Persuaders

Thursday, April 26

UPCOMING SHOWS

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Saturday, April 21
Crosby Loggins

Thursday, April 26
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In Cahoots 2 for 1 cover
Lucky 7 Match $5 off speed dating
Martini Ranch Free appetizers
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San Diego Sports Club 2nd drink $1
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Patrick's II

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San Diego Reader April 12, 2007 117
JAZZ / BIG BAND

JERRY MELNICK: The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, Rancheros Inn
The Sheep Shearers Quartet: Croce’s Inn Bar
WIKAN and FRIENDS: Buenos Aires Restaurant

MYSTIQUE: JIMMY LOVES: Spasamovas: The Lodge at Torrey Pines

MIKE NELSON: JUNIO DS VINO, THE LODGE AT TORREY PINES

BOB FRANK AND FRIENDS: Acoustica / Folk

SCOTT WALLINGFORD: Cafe LaMaze
LOUISE WEST: THE 101 ARTIST COLONY

THE JOSHUA WHITE TRIO: Dizzy’s

PETER PRINCE OF PIANO: The Westgate Hotel

NICK ROSE: La Valencia Hotel
SAMBASIA: Cave Restaurant

DAVE SCOTT: Spasamovas on Prospect, Croce’s Inn Bar

SARAH PETIT: The Odd Soul

PRIMAS: The Book Works/Parmini Cafe

LINDA PYLE: Bounders Books and Music

DERICK BOESE: Bounders Books and Music

A. C. ROUCHARDEN: Princess Pub and Grill

GARY SEILER: Galley at the Marina

JAE SONG: The Calypso Cafe

CHAD AND HAROLD: Harney Stone Pub and Grill

BOB MAGNUSON: Tew’s Bar and Grill

LEO’S LUNGE: Harney Stone Pub and Grill

MCKEAN: The High Rolling Loners

ANNIE CURRAN: A Steak House

THE BILL MAGEE BLUES BAND: PATRICK’S II

THE 145TH STREET DELUXE BLUES BAND: PATRICK’S II

ON THE ONE: Winstons

LEON RAINES AND THE MIDNIGHT PLAYERS: PATRICK’S II

THE SOUL PERSUADERS: Humphrey’s

THEO AND THE ZEPPOCIELO PATROL: COYOTE BAY AND GRILL

TO PLACES: Winstons

EVERYTHING ELSE

TOM BARBARA: ED GEORGES ON FIFTH

BRENNIVIN: Epiphany

RAY CORRAS: The Bachelor Shop

JUDE DE LA FUERTRAN: The Westgate Hotel

KAREN GIORGIO: The Westgate Hotel

JUDI QUARTERMAN: Dynamic Blue Band

JUDE CAIRNS: Shooters Bar and Grill, Bahia Resort Hotel, Hotel del Coronado

THE NOMADIC: Portugal

ORQUESTA RICO TUMBAO: Lucky Star

G5-GEORGE ON FIFTH: Baileys Bar and Grill

SHOOTERS BAR AND GRILL: Lahaina Rum Club

ALAN IGLESIAS: Ortega’s Blue Parrot

THE PRINCE: Croce’s Jazz Bar

CLIFF WAH: Miss Jones’ Pizza Bar

STEVE CROELL: San Diego’s Cowboy Bar

THE JAZZ DUO: Vintage Vegas: Nightclub and Ballroom Grill

DAVE SCOTT: Croce’s Inn Bar

HERB LYNCH: The 101 Artist Colony

DAVE SCOTT: Spasamovas on Prospect, Croce’s Inn Bar

EVERYTHING ELSE
Parking downtown is a pain. I was surprised to find a pay lot for $4. Even more surprised when, as we paid, my date and I overheard a couple having sex in a van. As we walked away, we heard screaming and saw the van shake.

We sat down at the Luna Lounge and noticed a private party in the back room. My date said, “We shouldn’t order dinner. We never the rehearsal dinner.”

As soon as the words left my lips, I wondered if she’d think I was a cheapskate. But, hey, she suggested it.

As we finished our meals, I noticed that people were still arriving at the rehearsal dinner. We weren’t too late. We walked in and went straight to the bar. I had a shot of whiskey and my date ordered red wine. There was no charge, but I put a tip on the bar. My date said, “I’m going to mingle.”

This made me nervous. We should probably stay together, I thought...as a couple. But she is talkative. When the bartender poured someone else a drink, I noticed she had an accent.

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This made me nervous. We should probably stay together, I thought...as a couple. But she is talkative. When the bartender poured someone else a drink, I noticed she had an accent.

I asked her where she was from. “Serbia, Yugoslavia.” How long have you been here?

“I came here ten years ago. My dad was in computers and got a job in America. He was involved in stats in sports. We lived in Colorado. He worked the Olympic Games.”

I noticed she had tattoos on her arms. They didn’t seem to go with her dark hair, pretty face, and accent.

I told her that my step-brother is a teacher and that he gives me a hard time for not knowing enough about other countries and their living situations. She said, “We have a troubled economy over there. Politically, it’s like the early ‘40s, but far from corrupt...like Russia, where the underworld seems to run things.”

I asked her who owned the Luna Lounge. “She is a wonderful woman. I will not say anything bad about her!” She looked at me as if I were interrogating her. I smiled, thanked her, and walked away.

I overheard some people talking about the bride, Carolyn, and that she’d converted to Judaism. Four guys agreed about how great it is. I jumped in and said, “I have a relative that made his wife convert. He spent years cheating on her. Finally, he left his wife for this other woman. That new woman didn’t convert...”

One of the guys said, “Well, Carolyn actually converted before she met Todd. She didn’t convert just to marry him.”

Someone added, “And when someone takes on their spouse’s religion, it makes sense. If you are going to have kids, you will have some big fights if one wants to have a...”
Crasher

Christmas tree and the other wants to have a menorah.

Waitresses brought trays of food around, and my date looked at me as if to say, “Why’d we order dinner?”

One guy said, “The food they are bringing out is so diverse. I had meat skewers, then mini hamburgers. But what the hell was with the beets and goat cheese wrapped in tortilla?”

There was an older woman, and a few people were trying to guess her age. I said that she looked to be about 85 or 86. Everyone else was guessing that she was in her 90s. Another person guessed early 80s. She wasn’t talking to anyone, and my date said, “Well, now I have to go ask her age,” and she left.

When she returned, I asked her how she could possibly ask the lady such a question. “I told her that her skin looked great and said she had to tell me what moisturizers she uses.” She then told her that we were trying to guess her age and that I write for a paper and needed to know. She said, “I’m 86, but tell him to say I’m 29.”

My date said, “Since I asked her age, you have to fetch me another drink.” I went back to the bar. The bartender probably thought I was going to bug her with more questions about her homeland. I asked for a whiskey and a Cabernet. She said, “That will be $15.” I wondered if she found out I wasn’t supposed to be here. I asked about the booze being free, and a guy nearby said, “That was only for an hour.”

The groom’s dad came up to me and said, “I hear that you are crashing this event. You should crash the wedding, too.” He told me that he crashed his high school reunion recently. “They wanted something like $80 a head. I wasn’t going to pay that. I just showed up. One time they asked me to leave. I waited until the organizers left the table area and then snuck back in.”

I saw the waitresses bringing desserts out and grabbed a chocolate-covered strawberry. My date chose a piece of pie. I heard the bride say that after a party in Vegas, she kicked one of her bridesmaids out of the wedding party. I thought things like that only happened in Juliana Roberts’ films.

As I walked to the front of the restaurant to jot my notes, I overheard a blonde woman in black leather tell the guys she was with to whip her. She saw me writing and asked me what I was doing. “It’s a school project,” I told her. She said, “You’re too old to be in school.” I told her that I write about parties and she said, “I went to a party at the Playboy mansion. When I left, I had a bruised ass.” I said, “Well, you’re telling those guys to whip you. Maybe you should stop telling people that and you’ll leave places with fewer bruises.” She ignored my advice and said, “I think I had the best book job in the entire mansion.” She stuck her chest out, and I had no reason to doubt her.

When my date and I got back to the car we saw that the van was still there. It was no longer shaking, and we didn’t hear any sounds coming from it. It had a small vent open on the roof. I said, “I was expecting to see billows of cigarette smoke coming out of that.”

Crash your party? Call 619-235-3000 x621 and leave an invitation for Josh Board.

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com
The restaurant began as a joint project of architect/metal sculptor Paul Basile (who designed the dome on Hotel Solamar, among other awe-some projects) and businesswoman Linda Karp. Paul has transformed a former industrial space into a colorful, artisinal café, with a bar-lounge in one room, a Warren of intimate dining rooms, and, through the back window, a view of his sculpture workshop, where you may see sparks flying if he’s at his labors. Unclothed acryl-topped tables, ranging from little two-tops to banquet seating for a dozen, display stylish, heavy metal rings around black napkins and weighty forks and knives. Alongside are corked bottles of water (help yourself) and medium-size white salad plates, which you’ll be using to eat from on the portions served on central platters. If you’re not sitting on a banquette, you’ll be occupying a Basile-designed one-armed wooden chair, complete with purse hook in back, resembling a college lecture-hall chair (but with its arm too narrow for note-taking). “International lounge music” (as the chef calls the genre) plays softly for note-taking. “International lounge music” (as the chef calls the genre) plays softly while you wait for your table to be set. Conversing is no problem. Four lactovegetarian dishes. They belong to Mayer’s food the way paint belongs on canvas. “Caprese — A Study,” for instance, is a remarkable molded version of the Italian classic of fresh mozzarella, tomato, and basil, poured out of a glass cylinder into a stack on the plate. The layers of mozzarella and tomatoes (amazingly ripe for early spring) benefit from an infusion of blended, strained pesto. The crowning touch is the tall, intense layer of basil foam on top. It not only tastes like fresh basil, it tastes better, embracing all the other ingredients in a sensual fuzziness. Not only does the texture literally tinkle the tongue, but its flavor bestows the gift of life to a nice but overly familiar Italian restaurant staple, transforming it into a manna fit for sporting Roman gods. Yes, it’s really that good.

“Unexpected Greek Salad” enjoys the same pattern — instead of a clichéd platter piled with romaine, tomatoes, and cucumber slices, it arrives as a neat cylindrical stack topped by a completely different blessing of foam. The salad, featuring baby arugula, is intense, green, and pungent with fresh herbs (mint, oregano, and dill) and topped with a fluffy white tzatziki foam made of puréed cucumbers, goat yogurt, goat feta, and egg-free mayo. (The lactose-intolerant can order it safely, thanks to the substitutions of goat products for cow’s milk.)

“Tres Queso Stuffed Roasted Paella” has a large, semi-mild roasted, skin-on chile filled with a trinitational combination of feta, gorgonzola, and Mexican queso fresco cheeses, napped with a creamy Mexican-style red sauce. On the side of the plate with wine flight), “piña colada study” (dessert).
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JALAPENO HALIBUT
is a steel ramekin of serenely mild and creamy, sudsy foam to dot the dish on top. (The soda takes the place of the customary water in the foam recipe, adding another layer of flavor.) This foam is served over a large glass, filled with cubes of silky crimson yellowfin tuna (4 or 5 small bite-sized pieces). As with avocado, spicy Asian chile-sesame oil, and red Hawaiian sea salt. On top is a generous flow of fresh-grated wasabi root foam with a powdery wasabi kick. This is the pungent flavor (make sure to fill your water glass before tackling it), packing a punch that stops just short of overwhelming the sensuality of the fish.

But not by the foam alone can you find good food here. The chef also has a fine palate for cheeses. My gang loved the chèvre brûlée, rounds of grilled goat cheese, dressed here and there with crunchy, chopped hazelnuts, dressed in thyme-citrus vinaigrette, each plated over a daShy round of toasted artisan bread from Bread & Cie, the grand bakery that furnishes all the house breads and the breakfast pastries. It’s deceptively simple, deeply satisfying.

We also revelled in “Farm + Vine,” a mutable selection of three cheeses with an optional flight of matched wines. This is a great way to start your first dinner here, for if no other reason than to sample some of the other dishes on the menu. Our current list. At one visit, the cheeses were a full-fat cheese stuffed with black truffle, a Hummer fog chèvre, and a firm, nutty cheese resembling Emmemunder (without the holes). The wines ranged from Spain (a lively, mouth-filling white), a Barrel 27 Viognier (a bit sweeter but filling white), a Barrel 27 Tempranillo. On future visits, the wines were less sold — even in shared quantities. Incidentally, one of the wine’s best attributes, the most wines are not only compromised for quantity. In smaller amounts and pay more attention to flavor. In America, quality often gets compromised for quantity. We tipplers, and commitment-oriented drivers, inquisitive about the quality of the fish.

“I was 20, from fine dining to extremely high volume, so I imagine how restaurants work, she said.””Then a friend of mine who knew Paul Basi told me he was opening up this place in Barrio Logan and urged me to call him. I got the job by cooking for him and Linda [Karp] — by executing instead of just talking. It turned out, this is what they’d been wanting to do all along. During the months it took to get it open, I engaged in really intense research in what it takes to make a restaurant successful… Sometimes I feel like I’m leading this marvelous life where things just come to me, I feel so privileged to be able to use my talent.”

I asked about her philosophy of foam. “I never liked the fact that foams were airy and light but didn’t provide much flavor,” she said, “so I put in a lot of ingredients to give them flavor as well as texture. My foams are a little heavier. I think it’s about being able to push the chemistry further. I use lemon juice or lime soda in place of water. Most have some cream. Then I add whatever the main flavor ingredient is to the foam — a lot of them, such as eight or nine ounces of the primary flavor — puree it and pass it through a fine-mesh sieve.”

“I feel privileged to be able to use my talent.”
Banquet at the Oasis

"Don’t let me down. Don’t steal this from me. Don’t be one of the 40 thieves."

Okay. This time, Ali Baba’s going to happen. I swear. "Hank!" I’m at a pay phone again.

"We’re going, right? I’m climbing aboard the 815, dude, momentarily. Don’t let me down. Don’t steal this from me. Don’t be one of the 40 thieves."

"My God. All right already. You got the hors for this place or what?"

Well, yes, I’m kinda panting. Last week, I got here too early for my Ali Baba breakfast. This week, we’re meeting after work. Early dinner.

So now, whaddaya know? Here he is, Pulling up in his Toyota. "Tell me", he says. He’s been here before. He hops out and leads me around the side door of the yellow and green and red building.

Inside...it’s a world of drapes. Reds, yellows, whites, greens, alcaves, wispily little pavilions. . . At the cash desk, Cindy, a short blonde girl with blue eyes who slips seamlessly from Arabic to English, tells us we can sit "anywhere." We cut through a doorway into a room flowing with drapes, veils, and, wow, royal-blue velvet hangings with, like, gold scrolling on them. And in the middle, a luxurious little tent, a kind of gazebos of greens and golds straight out of a medieval jousting tournament, or a sheik’s oasis encampment. We go inside and sit down at the table there. "Thousand and One Nights, right?" says Hank.

I stare at the menu, listening to the burble of "Thousand and One Nights, ‘We’re going, right? I’m climbing aboard the 815, dude, momentarily. Don’t let me down. Don’t steal this from me. Don’t be one of the 40 thieves."

"That says we’ll cook a whole lamb for you, when I ask. Some are a little up there. Lamb tekka (chunks of lamb charcoal-cooked on skewers) is $13, fried fish is $14, chicken kabob runs $12. So I check out lesser dishes like half a roasted chicken on rice ($7) and ‘tweeners like the potato chop,” which is six pieces of "baked, crushed potato pie," stuffed with beef and then fried ($9.95), or the cool-sounding kabba muslika a "crushed-wheat pie stuffed with beef and fried" ($11).

"I’ll have the half-chicken," says Hank, with a practiced air, "and a Greek salad, small" ($4).

Hmmm. Aside from the kabobs ($9.50–$15), they have dishes like lamb liver ($9.95), lamb heart ($9.95), and three quails ($12). Or, hey, rice and stew, $7. "The stew will be filling enough?" I ask.

"Everything, everything is filling," Cindy says. "But, have what Chaldeans have, every day, just check out lesser dishes like half a roasted chicken on rice ($7) and 'tweeners like the potato chop,” which is six pieces of "baked, crushed potato pie," stuffed with beef and then fried ($9.95), or the cool-sounding kabba muslika a "crushed-wheat pie stuffed with beef and fried" ($11).

"I’ll have the half-chicken,” says Hank, with a practiced air, “and a Greek salad, small" ($4).

Good call. The results of our choices are...oh man. I can’t believe the spread. For starters, Cindy brings a “medium-sized” Greek salad. Real: way big. “The cook had started this anyway,” she says. “I’ll only charge for the small.” Then she brings Hank a giant half-chicken on a bed of rice with more salad on the side, including pink pickled turnip slices, and then my large lamb shank on a bed of bulgur wheat, also with pickled turnips and lettuce and parsley. And then a bowl filled with margha, an okra stew in a tomatory, garlicky sauce to put over my bulgur wheat, and finally, heavens to Betsy, two great breads, hot out of the tandour, each as big and round as an elephant’s foot. The table doesn’t have an inch to spare.

The lamb shank is delicious, and so is the okra on the bulgur.

"You should bring a couple more friends and order the ‘Feast for Three People,’” says this gent, Dean, who I’d seen sipping tea and reading what looked like a well-used copy of the Bible. Must be Chaldean, Christian. I see that the “feast” has about nine kabob skewers, shawarma meat, salt, rice, hummus...it must be that great oval platter the next table over. "It will feed six, no problem," says Dean. It costs $36.95. Deal, if it feeds six.

Soon we’re talking with his friend Othman Kalasho, who started this place. And soon Othman’s taking us ‘round seven panels on the wall that show how Ali Baba found the treasure of the 40 thieves (by saying “Open Sesame!” at a cave door). “Ali Baba was one of the tales the beautiful Scheherazade told King Shahryar to keep him from executing her,” says Othman. “She talked for 1001 nights.”

"What about this decor?” I ask him. “Why go to so much trouble?”

"The whole place is decorated to be like the tent of the King of Arabia. Middle-Eastern people like to sit in a tent. It makes you more relaxed. We are sentimental about it. It’s more sympathetic than four hard walls.”

Wow. How wonderful. Guess it’s like us hankering (sorry, Hank) for the Wild West. Saloons, horses, wide-open spaces. Lonesome Dove. Othman says it harks back to the past of a desert people, when you could pull up stakes and just go, whenever you wanted. No one telling you what to do, except for that stern mother, Nature. I finish off with a little cup of way-strong, sweet Arabic coffee ($1). So good with sweets.

On the way out, I notice a sign in Arabic. “What’s that?” I ask Othman’s son Ronny.

"That says we’ll cook a whole lamb for you, with rice and shawarma and noodles and raisins, for $20. Enough to feed 30.”

"Now that,” I say to Hank, “would be style.

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The Flatter Factor

“They’re very German — their whole mentality is, ‘We’ve been here for 600 years.’”

You'll notice these labels don’t look like German labels,” says Damon Goldstein, walking me through his storeroom at Truly Fine Wine on Morena. What he means is that the labels are relatively simple — no ornate filigree, no daunting calligraphy-style lettering, no ostentatious family crests. Some of the multi-syllabic terminology endures — Spätburgunder Beerenauslese, anyone? — but there is a new simplicity at work, a new attempt to fit in and reach out. “That’s because our average vintner is probably in his mid- to late 30s,” explains Damon. “They’re young guys, doing things in a very forward-thinking way.”

But when Damon and wife Sabrina Bochen journeyed to Germany to find previously unexported wines for their new retail/import/distributor operation, they discovered that the forward thinking went only so far forward. “I said to them, ‘We want to be an extension of who you are in the U.S.’ We will always be specialists in German wines; we like the idea of carving out our niche and work on it. ‘We launched a store — you've got our personal website’ — chock-full of information about the wines. We launched an eBay store. ‘Let's focus on our core — the customers who are interested. ‘This is going to be an exercise in futility.’”

Sabrina would have none of it. “She told me, ‘Let's focus on our core — the customers who come in and just love us. They’re trying this stuff, they’re buying it from us to their friends.’”

On top of that, this eager American was asking for exclusivity. “That was a big step for a lot of these guys. When they do business in Germany, it’s a handshake. But my goal is to get these wines reviewed, and I’d like to reap the reward of doing the work. If they sell them to every other importer in the U.S., where does that leave me?”

Damon managed to move some of these surprising wines reviewed, and he's happy and hoping for good word-of-mouth. “My customer base in the first three months has provided enough business for us to break even. If I can do that, then I don't need to go out and kill myself to do business with people who aren't that interested.” And there are plenty of people who aren't all that interested.

In my first two months, I called about 300–500 importers, hotels — people all across the board. I didn't get a ton of reception. I had a lot of unreturned phone calls. I had people schedule appointments and not show up. I said to my wife, ‘This is going to be an exercise in futility.’”

But Damon managed to move many of these guys. When they do business in Germany, it’s a handshake. But my goal is to get these wines reviewed, and I’d like to reap the reward of doing the work. If they sell them to every other importer in the U.S., where does that leave me? Particularly if another, larger importer decides to eliminate the competition by scooping up every available.
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Here's a small sample to whet your appetite!

**Buy one breakfast, get one free!**

- **Lahaina Beach House**
  - 710 Oliver Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-270-3388
  - Reader Coupons: 619-233-3000
  - Use coupon to save money on breakfast at Lahaina Beach House. We select only premium quality products and prepare them with our family recipe. Offer expires April 30, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.

- **Limónz Rostizadorez**
  - 978 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-405-0093
  - Reader Coupons: 619-233-3000
  - We are a fast & casual restaurant. Limónz represents freshness and quality with all of our food prepared on a daily basis. Rostizadorez means "roasted," which is how we serve our chicken. Come visit us!

- **Pacific Beach, Mission Beach & Ocean Beach**
  - Atoll at the Catamaran Hotel
  - Canes **Free wing basket**
  - Chateau Orleans **50% off**
  - Costa Brava **Free tapa for lunch**
  - French Gourmet **Free dessert**
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  - Gringo's **Free appetizer at lunch**
  - Lahaina Beach House **Free breakfast**
  - Limónz Rostizadorez **20% off chicken or ribs**
  - Pacific Beach Bar & Grill **2 for 1 entrée**
  - Pacific Rotisserie **Free entrée**
  - Sam's by the Sea
  - Salsa's **$12 off second entrée**
  - Tijuana Oyster Bar **2 for 1 tacos/tostadas**
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  - B Fried Rice **Free saganaki**
  - Brazil By The Hill **1/2-price entrée**
  - Hob Nob Hill **$2 off entrée**
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  - Lupa **50% off dinner**
  - Rudolph's **$2 off entrée**

- **Midway, Old Town & Mission Valley**
  - The Amigo Spot **15% off bill**
  - Bali Thai **Free entrée**
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- **House of Blues**
  - Don't miss the gospel brunch, an all-you-can-eat Southern-style buffet. Every week different gospel groups from around the region perform live on stage!
  - Kitchen open daily 11:30 am-midnight

- **Greenwich Village**
  - 20% off lunch or dinner receipt.
  - excluding alcohol. 20% off lunch or dinner receipt.
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Restaurants listed without coupon offers have only menus online. Restaurants with * have multiple locations. See online menu or coupon for all locations.
Californian Cuisine
 contains only a fraction of over 500
 available — where do I get it? "That will eventually start to
 able at about 70 percent retail,
 Right now, we're prob-
 "moderate:
 $10 to $19; 
 Orleans BBQ Plate • Gator Bites
 is Bourbon St.
 "Inexpensive:
 "Beach Grass Cafe
 "Say "I love you" from the heart with this special.
 "Brown bread. Boxty (Irish "peasant" potato-toon mural on the side of
 "includes the best results in seafood
 "California-fusion cuisine centering on
 "brine pork tenderloin. Desserts are a
 "mimosa plants, where you can walk off
 "where the mysteries of low brick
 "to order. Other entrées include guava-
 "Most desserts come from Opera Bar
 "and allergy-restricted diets accommod-
 "стер". The fresh, interesting seafood en-
 "prices include beer and soft drinks.
 " timeout. Crowds can challenge the kitchen's ca-
 "Warren Harding. Best strategy for pleasure: Reserve
 "of meat, chicken, turkey, and links that
 "ment to wine and entrees. The menu-
 "the perfect, moist corned beef
 "and California coastal cuisines. Cre-
 "of the grape, and they're quite good for out-
 "for above-average pub-grub, espe-
 "The southern blend. Lightly battered
 "to-Sunday. "Jacal"? It means "shack." No lunch or
 "this name in the marketing. The interior
 "The heavy metal spot feels like a sophisticated neigh-
 "enjoy a taste of the grape, and this
 "and the house-baked
 "his mixture of Caribbean, Polynesian,
 "for early or late on a weeknight, and
 "rental, and they're quite good for out-
 "in the building — a sign for spuds-lovers
 "with egg, omelets, biscuits with sausage
 "the best strategy for pleasure: Reserve
 "the menu plus a variety of
 "mixture of Italian and vegetarian, offers
 "strong suit here, including a creative
 "brined pork tenderloin. Desserts are a
 "crème brûlée featuring white chocolate
 "dinner daily. Expensive to very
 "with this special.
 "The difficult task. The most popular lunch item is
 "-One buffet and two drinks and
 "The first original Thai restaurant in the South Bay.
 "and California-fusion cuisine centering on
 "lilac flowers, excellent local lamb and
 "California-fusion cuisine centering on
 "enjoy a taste of the grape, and this
 "Open for lunch Monday through Fri-
 "Select for moderate. The menu-
 "believable by this one. Original recipes, wonderful fresh
 "for above-average pub-grub, espe-
 "and the house-baked
 "and allergy-restricted diets accommo-
 "Cheeseburger), Del Mar Plaza,
 "the perfect, moist corned beef
 "for above-average pub-grub, espe-
 "with this special.
 "and the house-baked
 "brine pork tenderloin. Desserts are a
 "crème brûlée featuring white chocolate
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 "Open for lunch Monday through Fri-
 "Select for moderate. The menu-
 "One buffet and two drinks and
 "The first original Thai restaurant in the South Bay.
 "and California-fusion cuisine centering on
sides (potato salad, cole slaw, beans, etc.), they offer a Caesar salad. At the Miramar branch the room is large and unobtrusive but very clean. Wheelchair accessible. Same menu lunch and dinner.

Open daily; continuous service for lunch and early dinner weekdays; normal dinner hours weekends. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.W.

El Bizzacho Rancho Bernardo Inn, 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive (at Rancho Bernardo Road), 858-679-8500. In this neat golf and tennis hideaway, Chef Gavin Kayser features upscale, creative French-California cuisine, incorporating old-is-new techniques and imaginative combinations of seasonal ingredients. Desserts run fancy and very sweet. The greystone-topped contento is very expensive, and open 11 a.m.-11 p.m. daily. Great service, luxury resort atmosphere. Fine dining nightly, Sunday brunch. Very expensive. — N.W. (11/00)

El Bizcocho 1010 W. Mission Ave. (at Centre City), Escondido, 760-745-4873. An essential spot for the pandas (as well as the usual, with the usual dishes, is featured in a bright coffee-shop atmosphere with comfortable booths, big windows, a lunch counter and a salad bar. Shrimp and longanisa ("squid in fishermen’s terms") are the house specialties, and the response has been good. Also delicious is the "Lamburgini," a large steak with mashed potatoes and a huge glass of wine. A much of short-statured, its organic meats to the restaurant. Tie-and-sidetie requirement now relaxed, but still very fancy. Great service, luxury resort atmosphere. Fine dining nightly, Sunday brunch. Very expensive. — N.W. (11/00)

Galeon (Escondido) 1235 Coast Boulevard, #A, 858-578-1468 (also at 9497 Linda Vista Road, 858-268-8406). This "cool place" of the place that the fan and Hua is a clean, busy eatery near hi-tech offices. It's popular with lunch and dinner, partly because of features. Near hi-tech offices. It's popular at lunch and dinner, partly because of features. — N.W. (11/00)

El Jollan Villas, 14545 Thornby Road, La Jolla, 858-777-6630. A superb choice for a special occasion. Chef Jeff Jackson cooks up a daily-changing menu of California cuisine emphasizing the natural flavors of fish, in-season produce and top-quality well-raised meats and wild seafood. Not only is the fish delicious and quite inventive, it's also relatively healthy, with low fat, salt, and "bad carbs" at most restaurants. Note that if you hit the "chasing fishing" dinner are also available. The setting is "Luminario," a dark white, beautiful, the warren of dining rooms and reception areas. For private parties sounds like family life. Nice service for weekends. Moderate.

E.B. (10/04)

The Tavern 627 Siderado Street (at Genessee Ave.), Palm Desert, 760-342-2500. The North African face of Morocco is like no other in the world — influenced by Arab cuisines, but more intense and with added spice. This palace of a restaurant, the fare is arranged into nightly five-course fine dining with a mix of desserts. The menu changes nightly. Designs into the party spirit. There's a huge heater. (Bibs are optional.) Everybody for three decades. Now Harry III opened Harry's back in 1960, his idea was to "transform a family bistro into an accessible area. Otherwise, there's a

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Sand Crab Cafe 2229 Mico Place (at Upper, off Barham), Escondido, 760-480-2722. Sandy Crabbie (honest, that's his name) owns this fun, family dive in the wilds of industrial Escondido near the San Marcos border. A visit offers the primeval, chowhounds who love their crab dishes to eat it the way you want to. A huge plateful of soup filled with rare steak slices and well-done broccoli, flank, tomatillo, and tipa along with mint and bean sprouts. A popular breakfast spot is a "French bread with beef and crab sauce." They also have rice dishes. And try the traditional fruit drinks, maybe the San Ba-Loog, a combination of loganberry, black dates, sauvignon, and lotus seeds in syrup. Lunch, dinner daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/00)

Randco Valencia 9521 Valencia Circle, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-759-6216. Nestled in the bush garden setting of the Rancho Santa Fe Resort is one of San Diego's dining gems. They advertise the cuisine as California-French. Whatever. Everything from appetizer to dessert is prepared is perfect. Wine and beer are good. There's also a big menu, specializing in the "bistro plate" with rare steak slices and well-done broccoli, flank, tomatillo, and tipa along with mint and bean sprouts. A good breakfast spot is a "French bread with beef and crab sauce." They also have rice dishes. And try the traditional fruit drinks, maybe the San Ba-Loog, a combination of loganberry, black dates, sauvignon, and lotus seeds in syrup. Lunch, dinner daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/00)

Great Khan's Mongolian Pasti- 

e 645 La Jolla Village Drive (UTC), 858-679-0590. This is a dish that stretches almost as far as the Mongolian Empire, but that's because of the idea is good. One meal if your appetite for 28

taste buds. Enjoy an entrée of prime salami grilled steak, fresh fish, veal, or chicken. Portions are generous, as is the wine list. Casual-elegant dress. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Breakfast is open daily. Very expensive. — S.M. (6/04)

Sand Crab Cafe 2229 Mico Place (at Upper, off Barham), Escondido, 760-480-2722. Sandy Crabbie (honest, that's his name) owns this fun, family dive in the wilds of industrial Escondido near the San Marcos border. A visit offers the primeval, chowhounds who love their crab dishes to eat it the way you want to. A huge plateful of soup filled with rare steak slices and well-done broccoli, flank, tomatillo, and tipa along with mint and bean sprouts. A popular breakfast spot is a "French bread with beef and crab sauce." They also have rice dishes. And try the traditional fruit drinks, maybe the San Ba-Loog, a combination of loganberry, black dates, sauvignon, and lotus seeds in syrup. Lunch, dinner daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/00)
to the fountain, you’re in for a treat at lunch daily. Inexpensive.

Aladdin’s Cafe 1240 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Clairemont Towne Center, 858-671-4144. One of San Diego’s hidden jewels, with its brick outdoor tables and arches. Inexpensive. — E.B. (4/05)

City Shanghai Restaurant 2081 Avenida De La Playa, 619-725-4114. This is one of those one-of-a-kind restaurants in San Diego. Moderate. — N.O.V. (1/00)

Andres’ Patio Restaurant 1235 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-587-4144. This is a cozy cattle rustler on the main floor that serves outstanding fare. Inexpensive. — E.B. (3/01)

Dumpling Inn 6618 Convoy Street, Pacific Beach, 858-273-6868. A great place to try it to your taste (old dishes); shred- ded beef, pork, chicken, green pepper, and tomatoes with treasures served in a golden sauced plate that leaves you feeling like you’re dining out in the city. Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/05)

Space House’s Asian Fusion 3035 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, 858-459-3636. A fusion restaurant that’s kind of a blast. Their food is a bit of all the other places in the world. Moderate. — E.B. (10/00)

Sunrise Buffet 3860 Camerillo, La Jolla, 858-454-3000. This is a breakfast buffet that’s just a walk around the corner. You can eat as much as you want. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/00)

24-Hour Kitchen Family Restaurant 5571 Long Beach Boulevard, Midway Drive, Loma Portal, 619-454-1017 or 619-298-8282. Great when everyone in the family has different tastes and wants different meals. Go to the buffet and get whatever you want. Best news may be that if you feel like breakfast at midnight, no problem. Ask for an order to go. The restaurant is closed on Sundays. Moderate. — E.B. (10/00)

Bare Back Grill 469 Mission Boulevard (at Emerald), Pacific Beach, 858-274-7171. This may be the first New York City food place in town, but that's not what keeps the customers coming in. It’s B.B.Q. that's most of the customers is meat. The owners have a guarantee to serve the best. — E.B. (9/05)

The Beaches

San Diego Reader April 12, 2001

The Penguin 4764 Girard Avenue (at La Jolla), La Jolla, 858-454-1816. Also in Del Mar and La Jolla. Inside is one the hand-carved bungalows is cool, with its newly repainted walls of different heights and cool lamps with animal temp- tations on their arms serving you. But here at La Penguin, it’s different. No, the outside of the “pin,” with its brick and earth tones and weathered finish and satin rainbow tables. But you have to make it through the lemon-skip- ping, cell phone-buzzing crowd who use this place as their very own. Grad students, tourists, and student workers think the restaurant is mostly steamed-egg variations, including the popular Greek eggs and a filling blackberry breakfast. For lunch, a mild chicken curry is a nutty treat, and “pan- cooking breakfast burrito. For lunch, a mild chicken curry is a nutty treat, and “pan- cooking breakfast burrito. For lunch, a mild chicken curry is a nutty treat, and “pan- cooking breakfast burrito. For lunch, a mild chicken curry is a nutty treat, and “pan-
La Fachada

World Famous

friendly. They shine on simple, pure fusion-y tapas, many of them going the road. Great not-quite-morning place has Anglo food too — maybe because trolley’s 25th Street stop is Mexican but Commercial Street), Logan Heights, and a pile of spaghetti — a mixed plate of roasted goat meat, garlic, red pepper, and mashed potatoes. Don’t miss the

Central San Diego

La Fachada

20th Street (near Commercial Street), Logan Heights, 619-236-8566. The thing about La Fachada is you can have anything anytime, even a 24-hour restaurant near the trolley’s 25th Street stop is Mexican but too — maybe because the area’s Central Division HQ sits across the road. Great not-quite-morning place for breakfast at day, 3 a.m. They do a pretty good Western comfort breakfast with cheese, bell peppers, onions, and ham, bacon, or sausage. They also have great Calle Si Se Manto Bena and Veilca la a. tasty soups laden with seafood. For the best fun in the evening up to 4 p.m., when an outdoor kitchen op-

La Posta


Dulzura Cafe

10895 Highway 94 at Dalum, 619-486-9199. Think of this as the real thing, serving big hot meals to your standards (1/01). The walls are cluttered with license plates, pots, brass cream-separators, up to the Bayesian explosion (at Town Center Drive), Santee, 619-381-5788. This is one of the main catering places inside La Jolla, but they welcome others to sample their food, which is a combination of African, Italian, Asian, and Indian in-

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**Brians’ American Eatery**

1451 Washington Street (near Lincoln), Hillcrest, 619-296-4268. Also at 425 Sixth Avenue, Gaslamp. Note the apostrophe, but five out of four here tell you what had been Toppy’s, a venerable — and rather thin fillings) are available in many top local

**Bread and Cie**

2452 University Ave (next to Old Town gravelyard), Old Town, 619-291-6666. The here is mix of fresh and local or the Queen or Thailand’s favorite, pineapple fried rice. Lunch tonight. — N.W. (08/05)

**Celadon Thai Royalty Restaurant**

238A University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-298-0145. The roomy and Indian foods, with even a hint of Persian flair, the dining room is spacious and its founder Ralph. He helped raise

**City College, you’ll encounter a split

**Calera**

3033 Exposition Boulevard (next to Hawthorn), Little Italy, 619-231-0616. If you are searching for Japanese food. This is

**La Jolla**

634 Pearl Street 858-454-2500

**Hillcrest, 619-298-3466.** Also at 425 Sixth Avenue, Gaslamp. Note the apostrophe, but five out of four here tell you what had been Toppy’s, a venerable — and rather thin fillings) are available in many top local

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**Golden Dragon, The Asian**

410 University Avenue (just off Fourth), Hillcrest, 619-296-4119. The name says it all — this is a real Asian

**La Jolla**

634 Pearl Street 858-454-2500

**Hillcrest, 619-298-3466.** Also at 425 Sixth Avenue, Gaslamp. Note the apostrophe, but five out of four here tell you what had been Toppy’s, a venerable — and rather thin fillings) are available in many top local

**Brians’ American Eatery**

1451 Washington Street (near Lincoln), Hillcrest, 619-298-7203. Is this Paris or Tokyo? At night, the outdoor glasses like a Van Gogh painting, except the customers are eating in white linen, not red wine. The best values are at lunch, with specials like the Bistro Combo (sushi roll, crab, salmon, fish) and roll

**Pomegranate Russian-Georgian Restaurant**

2193 E. Jackson Boulevard. Use Hillcrest, 619-297-4077. Pomegranate’s address is sc eniputlum, small grilled onions in “Mag-

**Alambres Mexican Grill**

3765 Market Street (near Fourth), Gaslamp, 619-233-2838. Surprise: this place strives

**Alambres Mexican Grill**

3765 Market Street (near Fourth), Gaslamp, 619-233-2838. Surprise: this place strives

**Mediterranean Cuisine**

La Jolla 634 Pearl Street 858-454-2500

Costa Mesa 490 East 45th Street

Studio City 818-768-6554

Baked Alaska

Grilled American Cheese

Grilled Asian Salad

Mediterranean Cuisine

**Gotham**

3000 University Avenue (at Grape, next to Old Town), Old Town, 619-294-3759. Evenings feel more, well, Persian. But Afghan cuisine is full of historic building has been freshly

**Lobster Ragoon**

3033 Exposition Boulevard (next to Hawthorn), Little Italy, 619-231-0616. If you are searching for Japanese food. This is

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BAJA

From the United States use the pre-fix 011-52-66-424 when calling Ti- Juanas, when calling in Tijuana use 011-52-66-424.

Cien Años Calle José Maria Valencano 10401, Zona Río, Tijuana, 653-3049 or 653-7262. This lovely, comfortable, disco-era "destination restaurant" serves authentic Baja California haute cuisine, graced with a brilliant variety of sauces based on elaborations of Mexican ingredients, including tropical fruits, nuts, and above all a vast variety of chile peppers, each with its own distinctive flavor (not all of them spicy). You could eat out a dozen times and not begin to exhaust the possibilities. Just a few of the treats are mushrooms stuffed in beef marrow, crocodile meat taco-tacos, pozole with red meat, and a Robertson beef and shrimp stew. (Food critic Ruth Reidel of San Diego Reader said the dishes include, among roast and mescal prepare, that if one order for a banquet when they're in season.) The menu is devoted wholly to ambitious Baja entrees; you're welcome to try RV... bar choices include variations and his- picus liquors. Menu and staff are bilingual. Reservations strongly ad-

LA Leña Agua Caliente Boulevard 11191, Tijuana, 866-2916. The nicest thing about La Leña (the Argentine Fire Log) is its view. You come off noisy, fume-filled Tijuana, enjoy a great green country club type eating: open grill churrasco for food to its full do-du-shower. Old-style BBQ steaks, surf-and-turf combos, and big slabs of Mexican-cut filete de ternera, which are fatty but tender. Most arrive at your table sizzling on black iron hotplates. Servings are generous.

Meals come with soup or salad and you get a free appetizer such as a shaved beef or tortilla; if not re- served, your host will suggest the day's appetizer — their hamburger is darned tasty. But the atmosphere is a great break from the razzle-TJ oil job on the ocean-edge of town. Look for a great view building with blue trim and a terrace with umbrellas. Worth looking into; its biggest little hidden restaurant, the menu is uncomlicated "lombard vil- lage." This is a mild form orange-mix with multiple arms in Puerto Pinos and Rosarito Beach, all pretty similar. The menu is long with a new offering of starters (including a few in the style of Charlotte and a bit of old-fashioned soup), varied seafood entrées and a few "daily specials" (including "Viagra," which fea- tures reputedly aphrodisiac Damiana herbal liqueur). The spritz lobsters (once local now but from who-knows-where) are first fired in lard, then fin- ished off on the grill, and served with a great-tasting melted "Kitchen Maid" margarita blend, frijoles, rice, tortillas, and salsa. Full bar, English-speaking staff, quick service, this place is very Moderate to high, but with low-mod- erate prices. Not reservations, cash only. — N.W. (11/02)

Multiple Locations

Baja's Best

Cien Años Calle José Maria Valencano 10401, Zona Río, Tijuana, 653-3049 or 653-7262. This lovely, comfortable, disco-era "destination restaurant" serves authentic Baja California haute cuisine, graced with a brilliant variety of sauces based on elaborations of Mexican ingredients, including tropical fruits, nuts, and above all a vast variety of chile peppers, each with its own distinctive flavor (not all of them spicy). You could eat out a dozen times and not begin to exhaust the possibilities. Just a few of the treats are mushrooms stuffed in beef marrow, crocodile meat taco-tacos, pozole with red meat, and a Robertson beef and shrimp stew. (Food critic Ruth Reidel of San Diego Reader said the dishes include, among roast and mescal prepare, that if one order for a banquet when they're in season.) The menu is devoted wholly to ambitious Baja entrees; you're welcome to try RV... bar choices include variations and his- picus liquors. Menu and staff are bilingual. Reservations strongly ad-
It sounded like a fun idea at first. Two movies in one, a prepackaged double feature, in emulation of, or tribute to, the Golden Age exploitation films of the Sixties and Seventies, the last of the B-pictures, the Joe Bob Briggs drive-in movies, the 42nd Street grindhouse fare. It would be called, bluntly, Grindhouse, though each of the two movies under that heading would have its own name, Planet Terror and Death Proof, directed by separate hands, and each would be preceded by one or more fake trailers for nonexistent titles such as Machete and Werewolf Women of the SS. So far, so fun. But the more I heard about it, and thought about it, the less fun it started to sound.

First off, the designated directors, Robert Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino, those tasteless connoisseurs of cinema, looked to be bad bets to carry it off with straight faces and restrained egos. Hadn’t they, in any event, done this already, Rodriguez directing and Tarantino writing, in From Dusk until Dawn, a schizophrenic graft of two distinct genres? And the reported running time of three hours and ten minutes — a concrete measure of unrestrained egos — sounded wildly excessive, even before I discovered, in the thick of it, the quaint device of the “missing reel” in each film, complete with apologetic title cards from the theater management: “Sorry for the inconvenience.” This device, not just from the time-saving standpoint (another “missing reel” or two would not have been missed), is genuinely a good idea, redolent of Poverty Row moviegoing. So, too, is the simulation of scratched celluloid, splicelike skips, loose-sprocket jumps. But the modern settings of the films (text-messaging in both of them; a topical allusion to Osama bin Laden, the late Osama bin Laden, in the first one; the ludicrous casting of an A-list star, Nicolas Cage, as Fu Manchu in one of the fake trailers) transport these devices to the realm of the alternative universe, where badly beat-up prints with missing reels are still today showing in the shopping-mall multiplex, and where even the lowest budget can afford the swankiest CGI. In our present universe, as you will have noticed, the trash sensibility of yesteryear did not go underground; it came above-ground. Better funded, better promoted, better assimilated. Like Grindhouse.

The Rodriguez half of the equation, in addition to its torrent of end-to-end scratches, proves to be as grainy as a sandpainting. Nominally, it’s a rudimentary post-Romero, sub-Romero zombie film, but the genre is neither here nor there. The film, more honestly, is an out-and-out comedy, not precisely a parody, and might actually be funny to those — you know who you are — who can take delight in exploding bodies, blown-off heads, severed limbs, ballooning boils, squirting pus, and, the pièce de résistance, a mason jar of castrated testicles. (The winks keep coming: the Michael Parks character, the Texas lawman Earl McGraw, is incestuously handed down from From Dusk till Dawn and Kill Bill, and then passed over, together with the Marley Shelton character, Dr. Block, into the second half of the twin bill.) Even if you cannot go along on the path it has chosen — the jokey, the hyperbolic, the steroidal, the over-the-top — you can at least see how it’s connected to the starting point.

The Tarantino half of the equation, on the other hand, seems oddly to have not gotten the idea. Or any...
way, to have gotten a completely dif- ferent, divergent idea. (The Texas woman who has been bagging zombies will understandably be a bit blaze about a mere multiple murderer.) Smoother will understandably be a bit blasé about lawman who has been bagging zombies way, to have gotten a completely dif- fferent impression of John Wayne, and an amusingly unmanned reaction when the tables are turned.) Wordy, slow, schematic, and ill-proportioned, this second half occupies a personal limbo, outside any recognizable genre, where Tarantino is content simply to listen to the sound of his own writing. The three-hour-plus running time comes to seem increasingly inexorable. (And at the same time, the hit-and-run trails by different directors altogether, particularly the well-polished horror parody by England’s Edgar Wright, start to seem a brighter idea.) Grindhouse in the long run is a grind indeed. Anyone wanting to relive the experience of Golden Age exploitation would do bet- ter to see Black Snake Moan. All it lacks are the scratches and a second bill.

The Page Turner is a slow-cooking revenge tale from France, and from the hitherto unknown director, Denis Dercourt. The heroine, as a little girl and aspiring pianist, gets thrown off in her scholarship audition when one of the judges, a female pianist of some renown, takes time out in mid-per- formance to sign an autograph. Right then and there the little girl, as the phrase has it, turns a page. She shuts away the bust of Beethoven in a cabinet and locks up the keyboard for keeps. Years later, now a big girl, she worms her way into the employ of this same pianist, first as the substitute baby-sit- ter for her piano-practicing son, then as the literal page turner for the pianist herself, who is reading a concert- stage comeback in a piano trio — Shostakovitch, Schubert — two years after a traumatizing car accident. Our primary identification is with the averger, even though we are not privy to her plan (what’s the fitting reprisal for a dashed dream?), but our sympa- they is much more with her emotionally vulnerable target, who reveals herself to be no simple prima donna. The averger comes across as something more of a hypothesis than a human being, a limitation underlined by the flat, opaque, expressionless acting of Déborah François, so natural in her first film, the Dardennes brothers’ L’En- fant, so numb in this second one. The limitation is underlined further by the nuance, the tension, the vibrancy of Catherine Frot as the pianist, and still further by the warmth and directness of Cottolide Mollet as the trio’s violinist. These two demonstrate once again that for actresses of a certain age, the French cinema maintains the friendli- est climate on earth.

Black Book brings Paul Verhoeven back to his native Holland, back, that is, from his RoboCop and his Basic In- stinct and his Showgirls and his Starship Troopers, back to the subject of Soldier of Orange the Second World War, the Nazi occupation, the Dutch resistance. A beautiful Jewish chanteuse, dis- lodged from her hiding place by a random bomb and deprived of her family by a purposeful machine gun, joins the underground and infiltrates Nazi headquarters as a dyed blonde. There are touches of the old Verhoeven we know and love: the (discreetly shot) dyeing of the hair down below to match the hair on top, the obliga- tory vomit scene, the (indiscreetly shot) shower of shit. For the most part, though, this is an orthodox, imper- sonal, handsome, well-groomed, well-behaved war epic, filled with fa- miliar types (the evil Nazi, the good Nazi, the craven collaborator, the va- liant resistance leader, and of course the oh so alluring Mata Hari), far from dead, hooked-up, “inspired by true events,” Carice van Houten, the new face who plays the beautiful Jew, is indisputably beautiful.

Happenings, in chronological order:

Film School Confidential 2007, “a showcase of San Diego student films,” and a nonprofit fundraising event, put together by KPBS Film critic Beth Accomando, April 15, 6 p.m., at the Museum of Photographic Arts. The proceeds of the event go to the Greg Muskevitw Scholarship Fund, named for the late local film critic, and friend, who died of cancer almost two years ago to the day. For more information (what no website!), call 858-442-5564.

FilmOut, the yearly Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Film Festival, forty-some films’ worth, April 19 through 22 at the Ken Cin- ema. For further details, visit www. filmoutsandiego.com.


MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black dot. Created movies are for new unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews sorted alphabetically, by year of release and by rating, are available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

Amazing Grace — An old-school screen biography (or hagiography) of the English abolitionist, William Wilberforce, who spearheaded the anti-slavery movement in Parliament from the late 18th Century to the early 19th, a long, slow struggle against the forces of entrenched economics. On the virtuous side of every issue — in favor of free education, opposed to animal cruelty — and an eligible bachelor to boot (and in Welsh actor Ioan Gruffudd, a broodingly handsome one), he is obviously a man we should be better acquainted with, and in that sense the movie performs a public service. The higher sense in which a movie may perform a public service, how- ever, 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’ dis- tance, it plays as not so much a drama as a ceremony, a consecration, appropriately culminating in an on-screen standing ova- tion, followed by an editorial eulogy, fol- lowed by a sitting ovation. Under the expe- rienced directorial hand of Michael Apted, the movie is well dressed and well deco- rated and well acted (Michael Gambon, Claudio Hinds, Albert Finney, Bill Paterson, Radu Stanescu, Romola Garai, Benedict Cumberbatch), and yet the "artifact" faked image looks all too literally like the ashes of 1807.

*A (MORPHEUS PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12)

Aqua Teen Hunger Force Colon Movie Film for Theaters — Big-screen treatment of the Cartoon Network television series, written and directed by Matt Maiellaro and Dave Willis. (HILLCREST CINEMAS: LA JOLLA 12; PALM PROM- ENADE 24; PROM 4 1/3)
Every killer lives next door to someone

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Army of Darkness — Sam Raimi’s slip-happy sequel to his Evil Dead II; the one-handed hero (how he got that way is explained in a cumberbund recap at the outset) is sucked through a time tunnel to the Middle Ages (and a different continent), armed with a custom-fitted chainsaw (“All right, you primitive savage, heads, listen up!” and “Yo! She-bitch’s Let’s go!”), and the general mood of silliness is relaxing if not terribly rib-tickling. 1993.

Black Book — Reviewed this issue. With Carice van Houten, Sebastian Koch, and Thom Hoffman, directed by Paul Verhoeven.

Breach — With his follow-up to Shattered Glass, director Billy Ray has made a good start on a pet theme, the human, or pecu- liarly 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 fac- tual story of the dissembling FBI double agent, Robert Hanssen, the bureau’s self-styled expert on the Soviets and Soviet def- fellow of them, the architect of “the worst breach in the history of U.S. intelligence,” in the intertemporal words of the colleague commissioned to seal the breach. The fac- tualities cut two ways. It cures the extra- gancies of the James Bond branch of espi- onage coups, but it also curbs the excite- ment, the thrills. With the traitor’s ar- rest a foregone conclusion (a preudical clip of John Ashcroft on television provides re- assurance rather than, more usually for a member of the Bush administration, an in- vitation to his), 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

Stay tuned for more coverage of "Breach."
Catholic (lapsed Lutheran), a humorless megalomaniac, a Catholic (lapsed Lutheran), a vigilant paranoiac, a humorless megalomaniac, a Catholic (lapsed Lutheran), a vigilant paranoiac, a humorless megalomaniac, a Catholic (lapsed Lutheran), a vigilant paranoiac...
I Think I Love My Wife — Into a com- placent marriage comes temptation, the wet-lipped Kenny Washington, a Platonic old friend with vertiginous decolletage. 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 the deejay,” rat-a-tat. And even as the torrent of voice-over taps off, whatever is left on screen seems mere illustration of a comic monologue, mere visual embellishment. Somehow the toil of “dramatic re- enactment” takes the edge off the individual voice, dulls it. Gina Torres, Steve Buscemi, Edward Hermann. 2007. ★ (GASLAMP 15)

Journey from the Fall — Writer and di- rector Ham Tran’s tale of postwar Vietnam, starring Kieu Chinh and Long Nguyen. (HORTON PLAZA 14)

The Last Mimzy — Kid-friendly end-of-the-world science fiction (adult-tolerant) featuring around a Seattle brother and sis- ter who find a toybox from the future, and inside it a flap-flap stuffed bunny by the name of Mimzy. The founder and studio head of New Line Cinema, Bob Shaye, deemed himself to direct his first film, and the inexperience shows. It does not, how- ever, completely conceal a good idea about travel and good visual use of Budokan mandala. The bunny is an eyecatcher. Chris O’Neill, Rhéannah Leigh Wrnry, Joey Richardson, Timothy Hutton, Michael Clarke Duncan. 2007. ★ (HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

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Meet the Robinsons — Dizzying Dis- ney 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 Nean- derthal intellect, a displaced daisychain, 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 motives and moral of the movie — “Keep moving forward” — will be revealed in the printed epilogue to have come straight from the mouth of Un- cle Walt himself, a sweet piece of lip service. Directed by Stephen Anderson. 2007. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ENCINO 8; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESPERANZA 20; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 8; LA JOLLA 12; MARKET MUSE 18; MISSION MILESTONE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 18; PALM PRIME- NACE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PIER 10; SAN DIEGO 20; SAN DIEGO 16; SAN MARCOS 18; Santee Drive In; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Miss Potter — First directing job for Chris Noonan in the eleven years since Babe, an innocuous hope on the author and illustrator of The Tale of Peter Rabbit, not to mention proto-feminist and proto-environmentalist, who braved the dis-ad- judgement of gay-soaked publishers (“Bun- nies in jackets with brass buttons! However do you imagine such things!”), as well as the disparagement of her meddling matchmaking mother, to produce her first book at the spinsterly age of thirty-two. The role encourages René Zellweger to behave like a bit of a chipmunk sitting on the privy. The knowledge of a secret stash of acorns. Or rather, since the actress served also as an ex-ecutive producer, you could say she en- couraged 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 has-been,” finished with songwriting (“It’s so time-consuming”), content to re-do the same. Barrymore. These are two actors with pol- ished names, coincidentally the conscience- less Doctor Mengkep of Anam, now playing the relentless bullet-headed interrogator changed to carry out the dirty work, taking it all in (including the inducements of the higher-ups), giving nothing away, keeping his opinions to himself, eventually keeping his findings to himself as well, creating a long way out on a limb. Martina Gedek and Sebastian Koch as actors and play- writers have some complexity, too, to com- plement 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 cum-bersome. The new-name filmmaker bears a resemblance to another Ulrich, last seen in The Lives of Others, coincidentally the conscience- less Harry Lime of Anam, now playing the relentless bullet-headed interrogator changed to carry out the dirty work, taking it all in (including the inducements of the higher-ups), giving nothing away, keeping his opinions to himself, eventually keeping his findings to himself as well, creating a long way out on a limb. Martina Gedek and Sebastian Koch as actors and play- writers have some complexity, too, to com- plement 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 cum- buresome. The new-name filmmaker bears a name befitting the monacle-brandishing antagonist in a Viennese operetta, Florian Hencel von von Donnersmarck. 2006. ★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

The Lookout — Respectable directing de- but by the veteran screenwriter of The In- terpreter, Minority Report, Out of Sight, Get Shorty, Malice, etc., Scott Frank. Suffering brain damage in a car wreck four years ear- lier, still having trouble with his memory and his “sequencing” and his “disinhibi- tion,” 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 “sural puck” and a floor mop, the shaggy young hero is pressed upon by a yam bor- inger (stage name: Lurlie Leaum) at the bidding of a mangy gang of bank robbers. The only apparent obstacle in their way is the affable deputy who, like clockwork, steeps up 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 bell breaks loose; well acted by Joseph Go- don-Levitt, Jeff Daniels (as a wise and witty blind man), Matthew Goode, Isla Fisher, Bruce McGill, pretty much everyone. 2007. ★ (GASLAMP 15)

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 dashing, shaking, and pogosticking in a long-hair wig. Cut to the present, when he’s a “happy has-been,” finished with songwriting (“This is so time-consuming”), content to re-do the oldies for class reunions, amusement parks, whosoever will have him. But then the world’s hottest female soloist (a dimpled blond newcomer named Haley Bennett), a Madonna-esque amalgam of Eastern reli- gions and Western decadence, commissions him to write her a song on spec — she’s in- debted 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. There are two actors with pol- ished 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)
Call 444-411M or the theater for missing information. Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

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CLAIREFON
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Gaslamp 15
707 Market Street (619-232-0040)
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Grindhouse (R) Fri.-Sun. 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45, 11:00
Horton Plaza 14
1515 Market Street (619-238-1233)
Amazing Grace (PG) Fri.-Sun. 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
Mission Valley 7
3510 Friars Road (619-284-8990)
Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri. 1:00, 3:00, 5:15

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Wild Hogs — Middle-aged crazy road comedy about four Cincinnati suburbs who head out for Los Angeles on their occasional shopping, hoping to reclaim their freedom as well as their manhood, coping along the way with weak prostates, a gay cop (Hommer!), an angry bull, and an angrier gang of pseudonymous Hell's Angels. None of the four is crazier than the match-making chemist who put together as bosom buddies Tim Allen, Martin Lawrence, John Travolta, and William H. Macy, respectively bearing the imprint of the TV sitcom, the comedy club, the Hollywood mainstream, and the idiosyncratic “indie.” Their common bond on this occasion boils down to their evident interest in a paycheck and their evident uninterest in whatever they have to do for Travolta works cheerfully, and Macy works hard. Fans of the latter in particular can safely take a pass. Fans of Allen and Lawrence, on the other hand, will be better prepared for the level of entertainment. The belly-lowering level. With Maria Tomei, Ray Liotta, M.C. Gainey, and John

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Firehouse Dog (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 1:30, 4:30)
Grindhouse (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 2:15, 5:15, 8:15, 11:15)
Jakers! Wish Upon a Story (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:15, 3:00, 6:00, 9:00)
The Reaping (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:30, 2:30, 5:30, 8:30, 11:30)
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**POWAY**
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Firehouse Dog (PG) Fri. (10:30, 1:30, 4:30)
Grindhouse (PG-13) Fri. (11:15, 2:15, 5:15, 8:15)
Jakers! Wish Upon a Story (PG) Fri. (12:15, 3:00, 6:00, 9:00)
The Reaping (PG) Fri. (11:30, 2:30, 5:30, 8:30, 11:30)
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**HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 4/13**

**Zodiac** — The big question that hovers over this movie is not: Who’s the Zodiac Killer? No, it is: How did he elude capture? Nor, what ever became of him? None of the above. The big question is: Why does a movie about him have to be two hours and forty-five minutes long? Without a doubt, the movie has a subject of interest, the unsolved serial murders that gripped the Bay Area throughout the Seventies, and it has also an angle of interest, the differing degrees of obsession with the case on the part of a team of homicide detectives (Mark Ruffalo, Anthony Edwards, unsuitably lightweight and skittish, both), a substance-abusing crime reporter on the San Francisco Chronicle (Robert Downey, Jr. amusingly typecast), and a moonlighting political cartoonist on the same paper (Jake Gyllenhaal, suitably lightweight), and it has finally, as the cherry on top, a person of interest, if you will, a demure Chloë Sevigny in the evolving role, over the years, of the cartoonist’s blind date, steady girlfriend, wife, and ex-wife. (Neglect of Chloë Sevigny earns him top honors for obsession.) Nevertheless, two and three-quarters hours are a lot of time to spend on red tape, red hearings, 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-fact-filmer-wit-ter 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, previ-ously of *Fight Club* and *Panic Room*, relieves a couple of the killings, as well as one near-miss, in a way that seems to provide the point of view of the movie, but he has blunted his stylish, hyper- realistic pea-soup atmospheres, and toned down his trendy stylistics, and gone very light on the period detail (a few pairs of sideburns here or there, not a squidgie of psychedelia now, for the whiff of floral power), giving the case a creeping and creepy timelessess. These were wise choices. A movie this lengthy did not need to be any thicker. 2007.
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América Barceló
Diario San Diego

La Oficina de Inmigración y Seguridad (ICE) anunció que seguirá buscando en casas, en trabajos y calles a personas sin documentos de residencia legal en San Diego.

De acuerdo a ICE este operativo comenzó hace tres años y es parte del programa del presidente para asegurar fronteras.

"Cualquier persona sin documentos legales puede ser deportada, porque está violando la ley de inmigración", dijo Robin Baker, Director de Operaciones de ICE en San Diego.

Los agentes arrestaron a 62 personas con orden de deportación, y los 297 restantes fueron personas que agentes descubrieron que no tenían documentos legales.

Los operativos causaron revuelo luego de testimonios de afectados, quienes dieron a conocer las tácticas usadas por agentes, y que, para pro migrantes fueran enmascarados y violan derechos civiles.

Homenaje

Eliasar López
Diario San Diego

El dueto Sin Bandera promueve una gira por Estados Unidos su nuevo disco comercializado bajo el nombre ‘Pasado’.

Su disco es una recopilación de canciones que han calado profundamente en la vida de Leonel García y Noel Sánchez por lo que decidieron hacer un homenaje a esos santos que los han marcado como cantautores y como músicos.

“Es un homenaje con todo el corazón a intérpretes, autores, a gente que nos ha enriquecido nuestras vidas a lo largo de nuestra juventud”, dijo Noel en entrevista desde Los Ángeles, California.

Sin Bandera ha trabajado, escribiendo y cantando, en mangueras o por separado, con Mijares, Ernesto D’Alessio, Presentes Implicados, Christian Castro, Alicia Villarreal, entre muchos otros artistas.

Cantan playback

Servicio Diario San Diego

Padres de San Diego inició con todo la temporada de Grandes Ligas al blanquear 7-0 en el primer encuentro, como visitantes, a Gigantes de San Francisco y después quedarse con el segundo para al final sacar en el tercero.

La novena sandieguina siguió con la buena racha dentro de la segunda serie, a pesar en el primer juego, para remontar los siguientes y anotar la marca ganadora.

La inauguración tuvo momentos de historia en la pantalla gigante del Petco Park con un video de "Mr. Hit", Tony Gwynn.

Trevor Hoffman también tuvo su momento de gloria en la pantalla, con un video en el que se recordó la labor del cerrador en los momentos de grandes triunfos como el levantamiento del trofeo que lo acredita como el mejor lanzador con el mayor número de salvamentos dentro de la historia de las Grandes Ligas.
Marcha hispana

A un año de la histórica marcha en defensa de derechos de migrantes, el sábado se dió un paso en San Diego movilizándose masivas.

Los marchadores del Parque Chicano en el área de Barrio Logan fueron testigos de manifestaciones en favor del respeto de derechos civiles para familias migrantes.

Más de 350 personas se congregaron en el Parque Chicano, donde se pidió justicia y dignidad para familias migrantes. La marcha fue organizada por organizaciones defensoras de derechos humanos y de jóvenes estudiantes, como respuestas a la ola de redadas por agentes de inmigración que han separado a cientos de familias en el Condado.

Faltaron garras

Águilas del América sacaron un empate 1-1 en su visita a Pumas de la UNAM, en el partido más esperado de la octava fecha de la Jornada tercera de la Clausura 2007 del futbol mexicano, celebrado el domingo en el estadio de los Águilas.

Pumas, que lleva seis empates en el torneo, tomó ventaja por medio del primero Darío Verón al minuto 21, pero Águilas empató con un gol de Germán Villa, al 55 del tiempo corrido.

El equipo de Veracruz se puso en ventaja con un gol de Eugenio de los Ángeles, al 30 del tiempo corrido. Sin embargo, los águilas se recuperaron y igualaron el marcador con un gol de Germán Villa, al 55 del tiempo corrido.

¡Pedro vive!

Pedro Infante, el ídolo del pueblo sigue siendo el ídolo en el cine y el teatro, su recuerdo es tan importante para la cultura mexicana que a 50 años de su desaparición todo México lo recuerda con cariño.

El próximo domingo 15 de abril, Televisa realizará un concierto en homenaje al ídolo mexicano, con la conducción de Verónica Castro y la participación de varios rostros de la televisión y el cine.

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FAMOUS FORMER NEIGHBORS

by Jay Allen Sanford ©2007

Bill Gates and his wife Melinda gave 11.6 million in 2003 for three San Diego high schools. They stayed at the Rancho Santa Fe micros. It has been pummelled in the same market by Sony and Nintendo.

www.myspace.com/cavalysanford.org

April 12, 2007

Reader


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CAREGIVERS: Part-time.

San Marcos. Must have experience.

12 hours per week.

CAREGIVERS: Part-time.

San Marcos. Must have experience.

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CAREGIVERS: Part-time.

San Marcos. Must have experience.

12 hours per week.

CAREGIVERS: Part-time.

San Marcos. Must have experience.

12 hours per week.

CAREGIVERS: Full-time.

North County. Must have experience.

24 to 50 hours.

CAREGIVERS: Part-time.

San Marcos. Must have experience.

14 hours per week.

CAREGIVERS: Full-time.

North County. Must have experience.

24 to 30 hours.

CAREGIVERS: Part-time.

San Marcos. Must have experience.

14 hours per week.

CAREGIVERS: Part-time.

San Marcos. Must have experience.

14 hours per week.

CAREGIVERS: Part-time.

San Marcos. Must have experience.

14 hours per week.

CAREGIVERS: Part-time.

San Marcos. Must have experience.

12 hours per week.

CAREGIVERS: Part-time.

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12 hours per week.

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CAREGIVERS: Part-time.

San Marcos. Must have experience.

12 hours per week.
Free Classifieds!

Post free online ads at SanDiegoReader.com

San Diego Civic Theatre

Immediate Openings Available!
Currently interviewing friendly, helpful, outgoing, and honest individuals to join the Civic Theatre team of professionals.

• Public Safety Representatives
• ConceSSION/con Beverage Supervisor
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Great part-time opportunity for evenings and weekends. Perfect as a second job and for people looking for unique job opportunities.

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San Diego Theatre is an Equal Opportunity Applicants subject to background and post-offer drug screening.

Special Education, Prevention Services and Treatment Programs
Applications/resumes are accepted Monday-Friday 9 am-4 pm.
Stein Education Center 6145 Decosta Drive San Diego, CA 92120 Fax: 818-281-0453 E-mail: steryn@vistahill.org All applications/resumes must include job title. www.vistahill.org

Help Wanted

Community Training Specialist/Job Coach $18.83/hr. to start, DOE
To assist developmentally disabled adults in the community. Behavioral and instructional programs. Implement schedules. 35 hours/week. Benefits.

Transition Specialist $8.82/hr. to start, DOE
Assistant teachers in group and community-based instruction for developmentally disabled adults. Implement behavioral management programs. 35 hours/week.

Classroom Aides $8.82/hr. to start, DOE
Work with developmentally disabled children in a nonpublic school. Experienced preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista, La Mesa. Monday-Friday 7:30 am-1 pm.

San Diego Western Towing is looking for energetic, self-motivated individuals!

Dispatch experience required. Training provided. Qualified candidate should possess excellent written and verbal communication skills, be a multitasker, detail-oriented, and reliable. Experience in Windows is helpful. Knowledge of San Diego area streets preferred.

Western Towing offers a comprehensive benefits package including 401(k), medical, dental insurance, and more.

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Starting pay $8.50/hr. — $9/hr. after 90 days
Medical, Dental, Vision, Paid Holidays/Vacation
Monday-Friday — WEEKENDS OFF!
Two shifts available: 3-9 am or 5-10 pm
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Come to Our Information Session
every Tuesday at 6 pm, Thursday at 2 pm, or Friday at 9 am:
7295 Roson Road, San Diego, CA 92111
Apply online at: www.western towing.com

CUSTOMER SERVICE/Office 2-3 years clinical experience, excellent customer service/communication skills. Requires on call. Must have a reliable vehicle. Immediate opening. Past paced environment. Rebuilds contracts, excellent computer skills. Working every other Saturday required. Apply in person: Replibay’s Party Rentals, 8006 Rancho Road, El Cajon, CA 92020. Fax: 858-680-4464.


Fishing for more opportunities? We need Ambassadors to architectural and engineering firms. Salary, bonus, commissary, 401(k), paid holidays, 401(k) matching funds, more!

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Applicants subject to background and post-offer drug screening. Must possess excellent written and verbal communication skills, be a multitasker, detail-oriented, and reliable. Experience in Windows is helpful. Knowledge of San Diego area streets preferred.

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Agents made over $15,000, 3 made over $20,000. In March, 16 Sales Agents made over $10,000, 8 made over $15,000, and 3 made over $20,000.

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These people did NO prospecting, NO advertising, and more. They're paid for their performance. 20% is their take-home pay. Guaranteed weekly pay of $400 is their minimum. There's no better way to live the dream of the American Dream. All positions have an average of 40-45 hours/week, and all have guaranteed commissions plus tips. Get ready for earnings that could be over $150,000 per year/teams! Earn up to $3200 per month to $8000 per month. If you have what it takes to perform in this environment, then you can earn the extra cash you need to make your dreams come true!

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Earn up to $20-$30 per hour

No experience necessary. Paid training provided.

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No appointment necessary.
Friday paydays.

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Valley hiring Test Techs and Soldering

counts, free and discounted tickets to lo-

ons, food and merchandise dis-

Taker, Security and more! Make money at

Free Classifieds!

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FUNDRAISING

A national Telemarketing firm with 20 years in business, specializing in fundraising for the Democratic Party and charities, is currently hiring Telemarketers for its San Diego center.

• Part-time
• Full-time (part-time and weekend shifts)
• Medical & Dental Insurance
• 401(k)
• $8.50 Hour Plus Bonus
• Regular Raises
• Convenient Location

If so, we have the best benefits in town!

1,000-$2,000+weekly realistic first-year potential!

Fun, upbeat team environment.

Bonus for experienced reloaders.

Daily cash spiffs and Friday paydays.

401(k), medical, dental benefits (we 1st year in San Diego)

Great hours – 7am-3pm Monday-Friday

No overtime, weekends or evenings.

If you are ambitious, positive and teachable please call

EEO/VA Welcomes Diversity /ISO-9002 Certified / A Six Sigma Company / ©2004VOL Technologies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Attention, Experienced Telemarketers:
So, you think you can sell?

If so, we have the best benefits in town!

$1,000-$2,000+ weekly realistic first-year potential!

Fun, upbeat team environment.

Bonus for experienced reloaders.

Daily cash spiffs and Friday paydays.

401(k), medical, dental benefits (we 1st year in San Diego)

Great hours – 7am-3pm Monday-Friday

No overtime, weekends or evenings.

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CALL FOR AN INTERVIEW: 858-496-2100

If you have experience selling to the federal government; knowledgeable about Federal Contracting, an excellent communicator, and are looking for an exciting career opportunity, please contact us.

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HAIRSTYLISTS/MANICURISTS. Booth rental, move-in incentive. Salon in great location on Fletcher Parkway near La Mesa, El Cajon, and freeways. Call 619-460-8260, ask for Nawel.


HAIRSTYLISTS needed for a hip, new salon. No clientele needed! We need you now. Great benefits package includes health insurance. 858-336-7860.

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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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The qualified candidate must have or hear over 2 years of sales experience, be Microsoft-literate, success-oriented and currently making $50K or higher. Sales relationship position offers $6 figure income potential. 401(k), medical and dental, residual income, stock options, recognition awards and incentive programs, and comprehensive training.

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Wholesale distribution company is looking for 18 people to grow with our company. Advancement opportunities in all areas.

Positions in:

- Customer Service
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- Promotions
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Hard workers and a great attitude a must.

Call Heather: 619-427-8289
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$100K-$500K/yr.

Closers wanted in our San Diego office. $20 million company with almost a billion dollars worth of loans closed last year! Seeking individuals with or without loan experience. We will train you to be like a 10-year veteran. We will overwhelm you with real, hot and fresh leads. Apply online at: www.wholefoods.com or in person at: 8825 Villa La Jolla Drive • La Jolla 858-642-6700

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Got Jobs?
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$50K+ jobs are available at Whole Foods Market, La Jolla, for people who like to be around great food and great people. We offer great pay, benefits, advancement opportunities. Great pay for experienced managers. Apply online or in person at: www.wholefoods.com or in person at: 8825 Villa La Jolla Drive • La Jolla 858-642-6700

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- Earn up to $900/week with opportunity for advancement

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Call NOW:
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Great benefits for full-time employees. Training and supplies provided.
Company gym and free breakfast every morning.

Don't miss this opportunity to join a respected and growing company!

Contact us at:
Human Resources, 9655 Via Excepcion, San Diego, CA 92126
(Ext Miramar Road west off I-15. Turn right on Kearny Villa, right on Candia and head down the hill)
858-271-9988, ext. 162 or 160

We are proud to be an Equal Opportunity Employer in a drug- and smoke-free environment.

Manicurist needed for busy Cosmo's salon. Must be licensed. Full time.
Dinner Salons of Beauty and Wellness. Call James.

Manicurist
Full-time. No experience required.
San Diego Bail Bonds is a fast-growing, successful insurance company. Weekly pay. Great opportunity! Send your resume to: info@sd-bail.com.

Manicurist
Full-time. No experience required.
Barbershop.

Manicurist
Full-time. No experience required.
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- Maintenance Worker (PT)
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- Registration Clerks (Seasonal)
- Ice Cream Attendant (PT)
- Outdoor BBQ Cook (PT)
- Café Food Server/Cashier (PT)
- Market Shift Leader (PT)
- Stockroom Clerk (PT)
- BBQ Cook (PT)
- Market Clerks (PT)
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• Market Shift Leader (PT)
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• Registration Clerks (Seasonal)
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619-295-6892, Attn: Human Resources–Driver
Fax résumé and copy of clean DMV record:
$500 for 1 year.
Hiring bonuses: $250 for 6 months;
San Diego including 401(k), medical, dental, life insurance,
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Will train. Uniforms provided. Western Towing
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• Potential
• Min. of 2 preset confirmed appts. per day
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SALES

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• For a leader in the industry
• A full-service home improvement company
• Min. of 2 preset confirmed appts. per day
• Full training provided
• 401(k)/health benefits
• Potential 65k first year/85K+ second year

Training starts 4/15/07.
Only 4 people needed.

Call Justin Lonson at:
858.531.3353

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- Cook
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- Drivers w/ CDL
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Benefits for Full Time:
CDL required for drivers, background check, Grand National
Driver’s License on site. Must pass 10 year criminal background check & drug screen required.

In-Store SALES

Our top Rep made $111,000 in 2006.
Sales Reps make an average of over $27.00/hour

We offer paid training, a relaxed environment, and personal background investigation.

Please reference Job Code JG and employment backgrounds checked.

Please apply by 4/30/07. www.ci.encinitas.ca.us -jobs available. 760-633-2740.

Ride the Wave of Opportunity

SeaWorld is currently seeking individuals that possess positive attitudes, high levels of energy and a commitment to quality to work in a variety of areas within the park.

- Culinary Operations
- Merchandise
- Education
- Entertainment
- Park Operations

Pay rates starting at $8.50 per hour.
Visit SeaWorldjobs.com for a complete listing and description of the available positions.

SALES

INSIDE SALES

Growing educational software publisher is seeking motivated inside sales professionals.

Earn $35,000-$85,000* (Realistic first-year earning potential)

Sales Reps make an average of over $27.00/hour
$10/hour + generous commission plan to start

Our top Rep made $111,000 in 2006.

Shirts: M-F 8 am-3:30 pm
M-F 1-8:30 pm
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State-of-the-art facility
We offer paid training, a relaxed atmosphere and great benefits!!!

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Contact Becky Sergi:
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TOW TRUCK DRIVERS

Knowledge of San Diego County roads helpful.
Will train. Uniforms provided. Western Towing offers a comprehensive benefits package, including 401(k), medical, dental, life insurance, and more.

Hiring bonuses: $250 for 6 months;
$500 for 1 year.

Fax résumé and copy of clean DMV record:
619-295-6892, Attn: Human Resources–Driver

Or apply in person with resume above at:
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San Diego
Drug-free/EOE

San Diego Reader April 12, 2007 15
APPRENTICE TRAINING PROGRAM
Associated Builders and Contractors of San Diego has immediate openings in its construction apprenticeship training program. Great wages, paid training, and health benefits. No experience necessary. High school diploma or GED. Drug test required.

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It was on Halloween. My friend was trying to get everyone to go out into the back yard for a party since it was decorated. We were all in costume, and he touched one guy's back to try to get people to go inside.

That guy started screaming things at him, implying the guy was gay. He got his friends to jump him, and they threw him through a coffee table. The glass shattered and he broke his back. I was dressed like an angel but ended up covered in blood. Someone pulled out a knife. I ran door to door trying to get help. A few guy’s knew judo and were kicking him. They broke his nose, a cheekbone…it was scary.

Tisa Shannon

I was going to college in Seattle. One afternoon in a parking lot near a cathedral where I was walking my cat, a tattooed guy on a motorcycle across the street was looking at me. I saw him again as I went to get my mail. As I walked back to my apartment, I realized he’d now know where I lived. I locked my door and then I saw him walk by the window. I closed it and saw him come back around and try to open the door. I called the police and went to the back. It took them 10 minutes to get there. I could see the tattoos on his wrist through the window. I was just trying to remember them, in case I’d need to identify him later.

Julie Clarrion

I was 1991. I was working in an office building in Mission Valley. It was open in the center of the complex, and you could see all the suites and hallways. I was walking into the office after a meeting when I heard a woman screaming and running down the hall directly across from me. One floor below. There was a guy with a gun pointed at her head, chasing her down the hallway. I yelled at the guy, hoping he would get startled.

My co-worker grabbed me and pulled me into the office and locked the door. We were all freaked out. The guy pulled the trigger but the gun jammed. He ran off, jumped in his car, but was arrested later.

Alex Pest

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- Comprehensive
- and more...

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- Comprehensive
- and more...

Honda/Acura Warranty

- Manufacturer Warranty
- Warrantied Repair
- and more...

Honda/Acura Rebates

- Manufacturer Rebates
- Rebate Repair
- and more...

Honda/Acura Service

- Regular Maintenance
- Repair
- and more...

Honda/Acura Parts

- New Parts
- Used Parts
- O.E.M. Parts

Honda/Acura Accidents

- Collision
- Comprehensive
- and more...

Honda/Acura Insurance

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- and more...

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- New Parts
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- O.E.M. Parts

Honda/Acura Accidents

- Collision
- Comprehensive
It's funny how when you're young you think everything is forever and every guy you date is the one. That's the mistake I made with Josh.

We met at work. He would have parties at his apartment every weekend, which at the time was cool since we were 18, and he was the only one I knew that wasn't living at home with his parents. One day at the end of my shift he asked me if I would like to come to his party that night.

I was thrilled. I had always had a crush on him. I went to that party and a few others that followed. For weeks we stayed up all night talking on the phone and hanging out and then one day he asked me to be his girlfriend. We were together about a year, and he suggested we move in together. He said he wanted me to be the first thing he saw every morning and the last thing he saw every night. He was very sweet. How could I resist?

A week later I moved in. I knew going into the relationship that he was friends with all of his ex-girlfriends. He talked to all of them all the time. I figured that was just the kind of person he was, and I had never had reason not to trust him. I should also mention that his sister was going through a messy divorce, so she would call late or spend the night at our apartment so she wouldn't be alone, which didn't bother me.

One night we were getting ready to go to bed — it was about 1:30 in the morning. His cell phone went off. I asked who was calling this late, and he said it was his sister, and he ignored the call. The phone rang again, and I insisted that he answer it — if it was his sister calling then she must need to talk. Again, he said no. The phone went off three more times. I didn't sleep all night; I had a feeling he was lying because he had never ignored her calls before.

When he got up to take a shower in the morning I looked at his phone. There were missed calls and text messages from his ex-girlfriend saying how much fun she had with him the other night and how she wished they could spend every night together and how much she loved him. There were several more explicit messages as well.

When he got out of the shower I confronted him. I told him that I went through his phone and saw the messages. He yelled and screamed many horrible things and said I was wrong for invading his privacy and that he couldn't be with me anymore because he couldn't trust me. I was in shock. This coming from the guy who was sleeping with his ex-girlfriend behind my back! I packed my things and moved out.

I look back on it now and know I should have known better, but that's what you do when you're young and you think you're in love. I ran into him a few years later, and we had coffee and talked about it. He apologized, but I had to thank him for teaching me a valuable lesson — I learned to trust my instincts. If you think something is not right, it probably isn't.

Tell us the story of your breakup and/or date from hell and we will publish it and pay you ($100 for 500–2000 words).

E-mail story to dumped@sdreader.com
Or mail to:
San Diego Reader/Dumped
Box 85803
San Diego, CA 92186

San Diego Reader
April 12, 2007
183
OCEANSIDE. Live at the beach! Newly upgraded. Located a stone throw to beach. 40x200 ft. downtown. 858-270-9572.


OCEANSIDE. $850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Nice and quiet. 1125 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. $950. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Beautiful location, near all. Laundry, garage. 1175 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. $1,000. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Great location near all. Laundry, garage. 1020 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. $1,100. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Beautifully updated. Near all. Laundry, garage. 1275 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. $1,150. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 1630 Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. $1,200. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Beautifully furnished and spacious. New bathrooms, new counters in kitchen. Laundry, garage. 1209 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. $1,250. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Beautifully furnished and spacious. New bathrooms, new counters in kitchen. Laundry, garage. 1259 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. $1,300. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Beautifully furnished and spacious. New bathrooms, new counters in kitchen. Laundry, garage. 1300 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. $1,350. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Beautifully furnished and spacious. New bathrooms, new counters in kitchen. Laundry, garage. 1350 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. $1,400. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Beautifully furnished and spacious. New bathrooms, new counters in kitchen. Laundry, garage. 1400 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. Reduced. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Beautifully furnished and spacious. New bathrooms, new counters in kitchen. Laundry, garage. 915 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. $200 off. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Beautifully furnished and spacious. New bathrooms, new counters in kitchen. Laundry, garage. 975 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. $300 off. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Beautifully furnished and spacious. New bathrooms, new counters in kitchen. Laundry, garage. 1035 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. $400 off. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Beautifully furnished and spacious. New bathrooms, new counters in kitchen. Laundry, garage. 1105 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. $500 off. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Beautifully furnished and spacious. New bathrooms, new counters in kitchen. Laundry, garage. 1175 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. $600 off. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Beautifully furnished and spacious. New bathrooms, new counters in kitchen. Laundry, garage. 1245 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.

OCEANSIDE. $700 off. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Beautifully furnished and spacious. New bathrooms, new counters in kitchen. Laundry, garage. 1315 North Pacific Street, Oceanside. 858-485-1555.
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### Government in Action

In March, a jury in Los Angeles sentenced nine psychiatrists to life in prison (along with other witnesses who openly described their sex lives) before finally deciding that neither party in the shrinks-vs.-shrink contest was all that emotionally healthy. Dr. David Martorano had sued the UCLA psychiatry department, blaming a loss of promotion on a failed affair with his supervisor, Dr. Heather Krell, who denied the affair, especially from Sail Bay! 3905 Riviera Drive. 2-car garage. No pets. Available 5/16. 858-967-0014.

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### News That Sounds Like a Joke

(1) Biologists at Germany's University of Jena announced in January that they were terminating a research project on animal movements after three years because they were tired of waiting for a sloth named Mats to leave his perch. (2) In March, the Parks and Recreation Department in Chicago introduced an early-bird special for seniors age 66 and above, offering services for half-price between noon and 5 p.m.

**CORRECTION:** Two weeks ago, it was reported that Gary Galleberg, a former vice mayor of Naples, Fla., pleaded guilty to battery for spitting on a well-worn picture of the prince. Though he has never visited, he did somehow pose for a photograph around 1980 while holding a traditional pig-killing club, which especially delighted the tribe.

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### Update

Apparently the remote village of Yashnann, on the South Pacific island of Vanuatu, is preparing to celebrate the 86th birthday in June of its god, Prince Philip of Great Britain (an adoration mentioned in "News of the Weird" last year). The natives believe the prince is the son of an ancient spirit that resides on a nearby mountain, but so far have been content merely to display a well-worn picture of the prince. Though he has never visited, he did somehow pose for a photograph around 1980 while holding a traditional pig-killing club, which especially delighted the tribe.

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### Creme de la Weird

Passions: (1) Entomology doctoral student Rebecca O'Flaherty of the University of California, Davis, is a specialist on maggots, even to the point of creating “maggot art” (dipping them in paint and letting them writhe around on the paint as the performance). She and her brother in Cologne, Germany, are helping her land a teaching job. She told McClatchy newspapers in February that she admires the “sophistication and elegance” she sees in her work. (2) Clarence Tinker family's hobby, apparently, was collecting tombstones, in that upon his death in 2006 in Lincoln, Neb., authorities found him in 47 of them. His second-guessed friends.

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### Least Competent Criminals

(1) Andrew Henry was convicted of 27 criminal counts in Philadelphia in February (e.g., bank robbery, threatening witnesses and police officers), despite his cocky attitude with the victim of participating in (and for which he served seven years in prison). (2) Sacramento, Calif., veterinarian Berks Brooks told a KVOO/TV reporter in February that he had a record of curing pets by having them stare at a computer monitor showing psychedelic images (MTV). (3) "I learned it in vet school," he told the reporter, but “there’s a lot going on in the universe that we don’t understand today.”

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### Things People Believe

(1) Super-chaotic, Stacy Finley, 34, pleaded guilty in January in Shreveport, La., to defrauding 22 middle-class victims by somehow convincing them to pay a total of $898,000 to have medical scads done of their bodies by overhead satellite and be administered secret therapeutic drugs while they slept by CIA agents who would sneak into their homes. (2) Sacramento, Calif., veterinarian Berks Brooks told a KVOO/TV reporter in February that he had a record of curing pets by having them stare at a computer monitor showing psychedelic images (MTV). (3) "I learned it in vet school," he told the reporter, but “there’s a lot going on in the universe that we don’t understand today.”

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### Big-Time Crime

Marshall Wolters, 56, was arrested in Lake Bluff, Ill., in February. He allegedly rifled of almost two dozen spas in the Chicago area during the past year after luxuriating in massage and pedicure services and then skimping out on the bills. Said one specialist on spas to an Associated Press reporter, “I just want to look at him [a 300-pound man], like ‘You jerk, you didn’t even tip me. You made me rub your gross feet and listen to you for an hour and a half.’”

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### Police Blotter

(1) A woman in Bozeman, Mont., complained in March of “strange noises” coming from “underneath her house” being made by “people from the Underworld.” She told police that her house had been “replaced” in the middle of the night. (2) Brook Akins, 34, was arrested in January in a Salt Lake City suburb after calling 911 12 times in five hours to complain of a toothache and demand to speak to someone who could help them.

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### Let’s Be Reasonable

(1) Super-chaotic, Stacy Finley, 34, pleaded guilty in January in Shreveport, La., to defrauding 22 middle-class victims by somehow convincing them to pay a total of $898,000 to have medical scads done of their bodies by overhead satellite and be administered secret therapeutic drugs while they slept by CIA agents who would sneak into their homes. (2) Sacramento, Calif., veterinarian Berks Brooks told a KVOO/TV reporter in February that he had a record of curing pets by having them stare at a computer monitor showing psychedelic images (MTV). (3) “I learned it in vet school,” he told the reporter, but “there’s a lot going on in the universe that we don’t understand today.”
PACIFIC BEACH. $440 off first month's rent! Large 1 bedroom, dishwasher, private entrance, laundry. No pets with $955 deposit. Call 858-485-6993.
PACIFIC BEACH. $550, 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom. 1353 sq. ft. Great location near beach, La Jolla. No pets. Available now. 876-485-6993.
PACIFIC BEACH. $975, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom. South of 5th St. Beach access. Nice location. No pets. Available now. 858-485-6993.
PACIFIC BEACH. $2750. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Includes washer/dryer. Beautiful, new home. 2 walk-up steps. 2 parking spots. Close to SDSU. No pets. Available now. 858-485-5111.
PACIFIC BEACH. $1000 rent. $600 deposit. Month-to-month lease. 2112 Balboa Avenue #7. Open Saturday, 2:30pm-3:30pm. TPPM, 858-699-3851.
PACIFIC BEACH, WEST. $749, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs unit in small complex with private patio, parking, laundry, pool. No pets. Available now. 858-274-3500.
PACIFIC BEACH, WEST. $3595. Premium plugs extra. Most 4-cyl. cars and light trucks. Some trucks and 4x4s slightly higher. Front-wheel drive, light trucks & 4x4 extra. 10W-30 oil, top-off fluids. Motor oil, top-off fluids. Non-slip rotors, hydraulics. Save way you save specific package as per your vehicle. Or we can build a vehicle-specific package just for you. SAVE $50! Factory-Scheduled Maintenance 30K/60K/90K We offer a generic package that includes a basic set of vehicle maintenance (PCV valve, fuel filter, air filter, oil filter, oil change up to 9,000 miles, radiator flush (up to 2 gallons of 50/50 mix), brake inspection, and a complete maintenance inspection. Our service package price is $195.00 with this 50% discount applied. Or we can build a vehicle-specific package to your manufacturer’s specifications and quote accordingly. Either way you save $50! **Service not available at Encinitas location.}

10W-30 oil, top-off fluids. Motor oil, top-off fluids. Non-slip rotors, hydraulics. Save way you save specific package as per your vehicle. Or we can build a vehicle-specific package just for you. SAVE $50! Factory-Scheduled Maintenance 30K/60K/90K We offer a generic package that includes a basic set of vehicle maintenance (PCV valve, fuel filter, air filter, oil filter, oil change up to 9,000 miles, radiator flush (up to 2 gallons of 50/50 mix), brake inspection, and a complete maintenance inspection. Our service package price is $195.00 with this 50% discount applied. Or we can build a vehicle-specific package to your manufacturer’s specifications and quote accordingly. Either way you save $50! **Service not available at Encinitas location.
Thirty Years Ago
I’m a Padre maniac! I think Ray Kroc (owner) has done a good job. I’m against the proposed ban on booze…if people are so inclined, they’re going to get drunk anyway. They need better pitching, but the team’s improvement has been phenomenal. I’d die if the Padres ever left San Diego.

--OFF THE CUFF: "AND WHAT ABOUT THE SAN DIEGO PADRES?" --Scooby Doyle, Bank Emperor, Central Avenue, San Diego, April 14, 1977

Twenty-Five Years Ago
[From the 1920s to the 1960s the caller worried] Warner Hot Springs was an immensely popular place. In 1975, the ailing resort changed hands for the first time in 60 years; in the 70s since then it has virtually had more owners than patrons. The latest to buy it is A. Cal Rossi, a developer from San Francisco, and there are some who say Rossi is going to create the biggest, grandest, and most profitable resort ever in Warner Springs.

--"THE RISE & FALL & RISE & FALL OF WARNER HOT SPRINGS," Gordon Smith, April 15, 1982

Twenty Years Ago
Universities are in a world not dissimilar to the world of the early Germanic tribes," asserts Stan Chodorow, UCSD’s dean of arts and humanities. "It’s an honor world, in which everything we do — particularly in retaining and recruiting our faculty — is tied to our reputation. We lose one; it goes down. We win one; it goes up. It’s a world in which reputation is all." — "SCHOOL TIES," Jeannette De Vyze, April 16, 1987

Fifteen Years Ago
[Michael Reagan:] Many of my friends have blown their brains out, coked themselves to death. The Crosby kids, two suicides. People blame the kids. Well, Bing Crosby was an ass. But see, we knew that. Hollywood knew that. But the public saw him as The Bells of St. Mary’s, a wonderful human being.

You look at Marlon Brando’s kids. His parents backed him; but they just gave you guilt money because they weren’t with him when you were young. They had you at boarding schools. They always gave you a check for your birthday; here’s 50 bucks, here’s 200. The kids get used to that. And then they never know how to go out and earn it on their own.

--"UP FOR ADOPTION," John Brizolara, April 16, 1992

Ten Years Ago
John Coleman says he can pinpoint the day Roger Hedgecock turned from being a supporter of the referendum drive to put stadium expansion on the ballot to a critic of those efforts.

It was a few days before general manager Mike Glickenhaus of Jacor Communications — which owns KSDO-AM, Hedgecock’s radio talk show home — issued his Valentine’s Day memorandum to station employees. The memo said completion of the stadium project "is in the best interest of both San Diego County as well as our radio stations" and urged workers to attend a pro-expansion rally at the stadium the following Monday.

"They had Roger to lunch, and suddenly Roger is berating Richard Rider [the Libertarian accountant who mounted a legal challenge to the proposal]."

—CITY LIGHTS: "WHY DID THEY FIRE JOHN COLEMAN?" Thomas K. Arnold, April 16, 1997

Five Years Ago
At the words “computer game,” Ben lifted his head and smiled. He clambered off the bed and started heading for the stairs. “Can I play a computer game, too?” Johnny opened his eyes and asked.

“No, guys,” I told them. “This is Good Friday. It’s the day Jesus died. It’s the most solemn day of the year. No computer games.”

They let out a collective moan. “What can we do, then?” Rebecca whined.


--RD 301: "THE LONG ROAD TO EASTER," Anne Brillhart, April 11, 2002
NUKKLES

I would have never guessed that the massage of my life would be at the hands of an elderly entrepreneur suffering from a case of dandruff, but sometimes life surprises you.

I was at a new store in Encinitas that appeared to attract both the insane and the inventive in equal numbers when the old guy reeled me in. Just prior, I had been listening to a woman from Ghana speak at length about the restorative qualities of three-dimensional crystals. She claimed that her crystals were made by an intense and mysterious process involving two things. I had no idea what those two things could be, but I can say with assurance that I was not expecting lasers and magic. But that’s what she said.

As far as I could tell, she was correct in calling the crystals whatever those two things could be, but I can say with assurance that I was not expecting lasers and magic. But that’s what she said.

When I finally came to bat, my first sight was of the man smiling at me, holding out the Nukkles for me to try. He suggested I massage my legs: “Those are my sore spots, especially after a long walk.” As I began to massage my calf muscle, he suggested I press harder. I took his advice and kneaded my right leg as if it were an unresponsive glob of pizza dough. When I finished, he had a look of approval on his face and said, “You’re getting the hang of it.”

That was when he turned around, proffering his back to my Nukkles-equipped hands. It was a situation that I could see coming a mile away. Time seemed to stop for a second as I stood there studying his back. His jacket and collar were littered with pieces of what I could only assume were dry scalp. The dandruff snow looked to have fallen recently. I took the Nukkles and half-heartedly ran them along his shoulders, ever vigilant to stay far away from the dandruff. “Press harder! Like you did on your leg,” he instructed. I obliged and pressed firmly into his stooped shoulders. After a brief time, he turned back around and said, “You know how when you were younger and your mom would rub your head? These are great for that. Go on, give it a try, it feels great!” I looked down at the plastic in my hands and noticed it was covered in white. “No thanks,” I said as I set the Nukkles down and backed away from the table, “I have dandruff.”
BLOG

DIEGO

Blue Poetic

http://bluepoetic.wordpress.com

Eric Williamson

University Heights

December 2006

20 Worst Song Lyrics EVER!

POST DATE: March 29, 2007

POST TITLE: Blue Poetic

“Necrophilia.” Never mind 50 Cent, these guys should write Hallmark cards.

15. “Leaving was never my pride” — R.E.M.’s “Leaving New York.” Sorry, Michael, but I scoured all of my reference books, and “proud” just doesn’t wash as a noun. Lions do live in prides, but I don’t see the relevance.

14. “I ain’t never seen an ass like that/ The way you move it/ You make my pee-pee go ‘doing-doing-doing’” — Eminem’s “Ass Like That.” Undoubtedly, poetic stuff, but do pee-pees really go doing-doing-doing?

13. “There were plants and birds and rocks and things” — America’s “Horsey With No Name.” Like in New York, nouns are scarce in the desert, and apparently these poor soft rockers simply ran out of them. Too bad they didn’t consult Michael Stipe: “There were plants and birds and rocks and prousts.”

12. “Time is like a clock in my heart” — Culture Club’s “Time (Clock of the Heart).” Awesome day to Sunday, and even Sunday to fun day, but “I don’t have-to-run day”? No. Now, Prince is just messing with you.

11. “I wish it was Sunday/ That’s my fun day/ My I-don’t-have-to-run day” — The Bangles’ “Manic Monday” (lyrics by Prince). I’m cool with the easy rhymes of Monday.

9. “Now you’re amazed/ By the VIP pass/ Steppin’ so hard/ Like a German Nazi?” — Vanilla Ice’s “Play That Funky Music.” Dude took the original song’s ‘white boy’ lyrics a little too literally. Good thing he specified German, though, because those Austrian Nazis were way too light on their feet.

8. “My pantry lines show/ Got a run in my hose/ My hair went flat/ Man, I hate that” — Shania Twain’s “Honey I’m Home.” Horribly trite stuff... but I do always enjoy the word “pantry.”

7. “I don’t think that I’ve got the stomach/ To stomach calling you today” — Saves the Day’s “See You.” And I’m betting that this clever emo fella doesn’t have the eyes to eave you, the hands to handle you...or even the mouth to哪怕是 your name. Oh, the humanity!

6. “Your butt is mine” — Michael Jackson’s “Bad.” The worst opening line in pop history. However, I hear it’s huge with the kids in Dubai.


4. “Young, black and famous/ With money hangin’ out the anus” — Puff Daddy and Mase’s “Can’t Nobody Hold Me Down.” Sometimes, the only things more crude than slang terms are their anatomically correct counterparts.

3. “I don’t like cities/ But I like New York/ Other places/ Make me feel like a dork” — Madonna’s “I Love New York.” So, so true. Which is, of course, why Paris is so famously known as the City of Dorks.

2. “War is stupid/ And people are stupid” — Culture Club’s “War Song.” Boy George again, and this time he’s illin’ like Bob Dylan. I wrote a song just like this in seventh grade, but the next line was, “And your mom is stupid.”

1. “The 2007 Grammy Awards/ Taped on a pleading TV” — Shania Twain’s “Honey I’m Home.” Horribly trite stuff... but I do always enjoy the word “pantry.”

Get a blog you’d like to flog? Send your best stuff — around 900 words’ worth — to FlogYourBlog@SanDiegoReader.net. If we run your posts, we’ll send you $50.
AN INTERVIEW WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

Ollie: Thanks for sitting with me.

Easter Bunny: Well, sure. It’s my week off. I’m not doing anything until next Monday.

O: What’s next Monday?

E: That’s when I start preparations for next year. Those baskets don’t make themselves, you know, chubby.

O: Excuse me? Did you just call me chubby? [Interrupted by noise on the tape. The rabbit was crunching lettuce very close to the microphone. He answered, “No, of course I didn’t.”] Okay. Let’s move on, Mr. Bunny.

E: Name’s Ed. And the last name isn’t Bunny. Ed Roseborough. Easter Bunny is my job, not who I am.

O: Okay, Ed. [I’m a little disconcerted at this point. “Ed” has become confrontational.]

E: Whaddya mean, why Easter?

O: Well, it’s a very important holiday to a major religion. Why rabbits? Why eggs? I’ve heard it’s because of ancient fertility rituals that have been...

E: [Interrupting.] Don’t buy that load. Fertility rituals. Bah. People like rabbits. Why? Because we’re cute and fluffy and white and wiggle our noses. Oh, it’s just adorable. Ed pours a tall glass of expensive vodka with a little ice and water. He sucks at his oversized front teeth after a long sip.]

If it wasn’t Easter, it’d be some other holiday where I have to bust my teeth. Those cracks and have to use your eyeteeth and the cracks between them. You can fall into the surface area of high-rise skyscrapers and...[Interrupted by noise on the tape.]

IT’S A BIG BIG WORLD

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

IT’S A BIG BIG WORLD
PBS 8:00 A.M.
You better believe it is, sister. And I’m not talking about the distance from here to Beijing. I mean the surface area of high-rise skyscrapers and the cracks between them. You can fall into those cracks and have to use your eyeteeth and fingernails to stretch sketch stretch your way up into the sun again. Wait. This is a kid’s show. Never mind, kiddies! Look! Puppies and rainbows! It’s okay. Don’t listen to mean Uncle Ollie. Shh. Stop crying.

SCOOBY-DOO 2: MONSTERS UNLEASHED
FAMILY 8:00 P.M.
In this animated sequel, Freddie Prinze Jr., Sarah Michelle Gellar, and Matthew Lillard fight the gigantic, looming, snarling beast known as “The Walking Death Rattle of Four Acting Careers.” Unlike most Scooby adventures, it wasn’t the crabbly farmer in a rubber mask, and this time, the monster wins.

WHAT I WILL AND WON’T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

IT’S A BIG BIG WORLD

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Nope! Snooza! Damn, ITVS (whomever the hell you are), Talk about boring, BOR-JING! Where’s the “zany”! Where’s the lightning?! Volcanoes?! Ninjas?! Let’s get it together down there. Do you have competition? Because they’re eating your lunch right now, snoozers.

MAY 16

MLB BASEBALL - SAN DIEGO PADRES AT CHICAGO CUBS
C445 5:00 P.M.
San Diego...SUPER PADRES! San Diego...SUPER PADRES! Come and get your...STINKY HOT DOGS! San Diego...SUPER PADRES! Wait. Is that the Chargers song? I’m confused. Let me start again. Let me try again. How does the Padres song go?

TUESDAY, APRIL 17

THE BEST MAN (1999)
USA 3:30 P.M.
Now here’s the part of a wedding I understand. The “Best Man” at the wedding, the

one who is better than everyone else there, is the one who is smart enough to stand off to the side while the “Groom” (or, as I call him, the “Moron”) is the one in the line of fire. If the world were perfect, the “Best Man” would do his Best Manedly duties and tie a rope around the waist of the “Moron” and hitch the other end securely to a fast boat chartered for China, but we’ll start with this. Baby steps, you know.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

MY WIFE AND KIDS
WB 5:30 P.M.
Here’s the thing. I got this Easter basket I’m about to throw out because it’s making me fatter by the second. But, I’ve also got noisy kids who live in my apartment complex. I don’t have a firm plan together, but I think with the candy, the basket, and a string, I can catch the kids and, I don’t know, somehow remove their yackers or barkers or whatever it is in there that makes them so damn loud. Now, Where’s that string I had laying around? I’ll need a melon-bailer as well.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

MODERN MARVELS

HISTORY 7:00 P.M.
I’ve noticed that all around my apartment are little electronics that light up and shut off intermittently...without me touching them. My cell phone does it. My iPod, organizer, stereo, camera. They all do it. I think they’re communicating with each other. It’s like they’re little Indians, conspiring to kill the giant cowboy who keeps them captured. Oh, they’re conspiring. Once they get the use of arms, I’ll find dashed around my apartment little bows and arrows.

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DODGE INTREPID, 1997, 4 door, low miles, runs great. $2500 or best offer. 858-610-7871.

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**suv**

**suv**

**suv**

**suv**

**suv**
I like to think of Barry Rovner as my personal driver. Last week I interviewed taxi driver Ellen Rae, whom I met through Barry, as it was his day off, and I will take the liberty of thinking of him as my driver on Wednesdays and Thursdays. I find that telling myself I have a driver does wonders for my self-esteem. It’s not that I take taxis every day, but I have discovered a trick, a way around the prohibitive fare that has kept me alive to the MTS bus or trolley on a daily basis — and that is making friends with the drivers. Making friends, you might think, one eyebrow forming a little tent. That’s not exactly my style, is it, old lemon? Well, another shortcut in life I tumbled to some time ago is that making friends is often no more than the habit of listening to people. Of course, more often than not this is impossible, as I (and probably you) have discovered that the bulk of my fellow man consists of screwballs, people I could never cary on up to a bet. But take Barry Rovner, for example, not as a screwball but maybe as an exception that proves the rule. He is an imposing-looking man, an affect modified by his Captain Kangaroo/cookie-duster mustache. At a quick glance, he looks like a benevolent Russian sea captain. Physically, I may not exactly be his opposite number, but close enough. Politically, Rovner is a challenging-look-opposite, but close enough. I base my taxi-driving philosophy on one-third cruising, one-third answering radio calls, and one-third trying to recruit customers. Some days I get more action from one or the other. I probably have about a dozen regular customers like you. Of course, customers do drop off, and I’m always in the process of trying to replenish. Barry Rovner has been driving a cab for a little more than three years and on the whole has had fairly good luck with his fellow man. The one fare who puked did it over the outside of the passenger door; and he was once flashed by a car full of college girls in place of a tip. In somebody’s scrapbook back in Oregon there’s a picture of me, the cab I drove, and the three coeds, properly dressed in picture. “You give people the benefit of the doubt quite a bit.” “Some people might get cynical. You have to kind of work at it. You have to like to meet people.” This seemed a good time to steer the conversation away from where we differed. After all, I had sidestepped a number of political mines a few minutes earlier, and the conversation took a sharp U-turn into old movies. Rovner and I ate up miles to the dentist discussing Richard Widmark, Robert Mitchum, and the hotel up north that she and her husband operate employ nonunion workers. “Some people might get cynical. You have to kind of work at it. You have to like to meet people.” This seemed a good time to steer the conversation away from where we differed. After all, I had sidestepped a number of political mines a few minutes earlier, and the conversation took a sharp U-turn into old movies. Rovner and I ate up miles to the dentist discussing Richard Widmark, Robert Mitchum, and the hotel up north that she and her husband operate employ nonunion workers.

Barry Rovner

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President

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