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The Answer Man
Law office queen bee will Connie Chung you. See Page 157

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Grounded The City’s ambitious behind-the-scenes quest to build a municipal Wi-Fi network is virtually moribund, according to a slew of e-mails obtained from city hall last week under the state’s public records act. The saga began on May 22 of last year with a meeting between City Councilman Scott Peters and Betsy Kinsley, his chief of staff, and Stephen Salinger, director of business development for EarthLink Municipal Networks, an Atlanta-based outfit that has negotiated contracts to build wireless systems in Philadelphia and San Francisco, among other big cities. In an e-mail to Kinsley sent after the meeting, Salinger described the market for his company’s services as “a feeding frenzy! To reinforce that perception, I’m in Detroit today. Tomorrow? New Orleans. Friday? San Francisco. It is crazy. It would be great to see San Diego move in this direction.”

But two days later, Lisa Briggs, a $95,000-a-year “policy advisor” to Mayor Jerry Sanders, weighed in: “I need to offer a bit of caution here,” the former SDG&E public affairs manager wrote. “We will need to talk to someone who has direct experience in negotiating these kinds of deals. I’m not sure the city has that expertise on the pay roll at this time.” Kris Michell, the mayor’s deputy chief operating officer for community and legislative services, also offered an opinion: “I have strong concerns about the process.” In spite of those reservations, by last summer Matt McGarvey, the City’s chief of information technology, seemed to be plowing ahead on the proposal. Ostensibly the City source, but no other documents have emerged to characterize the progress of the process. “In spite of those reservations, by last month I’ve been getting a bit cautious here,” McGarvey wrote to Kinsley sent after the meeting, Salinger sent out a news release via Business Wire touting two of her newest clients, who shared a bit part as a newborn baby on the last episode of Will & Grace. “The newcomer is both 18-month-old Sophia and her identical sister Elana Campellone from Orange County, Calif.,” the release said. “Although the twins aren’t on the red carpet yet, the May 18 finale of ‘Will & Grace’ will be on DVD May 30. Hopefully we’ll be seeing more of them soon.” It added, “Debra Messing. TV’s Grace, gushed over the twins on the set and over the three days of rehearsal and taping in front of a live audience. It concluded, “It’s easy to see why the city of San Diego is interested in scheduling a new lead negotiator, Ms. Kauanui’s company, Jet Set Babies, sent their arrival to the set and over the three days of the behind the scenes quest to build a municipal Wi-Fi system, sent to Matt later today a non-binding offer. “Specifically, they have a new lead negotiator, Ms. Beverly McIntosh, who will be residing in San Diego for these discussions as well as their attorney who will fly out from Atlanta to meet with our team.”

But by then, McGarvey’s ardor had somehow cooled. “My schedule is pretty rough,” he e-mailed Jaffe the same day. “I also need to update you on my conversations with Kris Michell regarding the EarthLink deal.” He provided no other details. Since then, according to a source at city hall, there has been virtually no movement on the proposal. Ostensibly the deal is still on the table and McGarvey is talking to EarthLink on the phone, according to a City source, but no other documents have emerged to characterize the progress of the negotiations or the mayor’s current Wi-Fi policy, if one even exists.
Development on a Slippery Slope

By Joe Deegan

Community height limits for buildings in San Diego will face another test this summer when the San Diego City Council revisits plans for the Pacific Coast Office Building in Mission Valley. At issue is the 150-foot elevation contour line established by the Mission Valley Community Plan to protect the valley’s southern edge from construction creeping up the hillside. In Mission Valley below Normal Heights, plastic surgeon and developer Robert Pollack wants his building to rise close to 200 feet above sea level. And the City’s City’s Valley Community Plan to establish by the Mission Valley. At issue is the 150-foot elevation on Mission Valley hillside would have severe harmful effects. The most important are visual, environmental, and those related to safety. Opponents of the Pacific Coast Office Building are citing all three. In regard to safety, they recall the 1985 fire that burned up Mission Valley hillsides into Normal Heights. A cigarette tossed into the brush high on the hillsides could ignite another dangerous fire. Too much brush clearing at around the 200-foot level, however, would threaten the habitat of native coastal sage scrub. In 1989, when then-Councilwoman Judy McCarty defended the hillsides during a city council meeting, she probably had the visual impacts in mind. “The Mission Valley slopes,” she said, “are the most important slopes in the city, except for some of those on the coast in La Jolla. If we are to protect anything in this city, it has to be the slopes in Mission Valley.” Whatever decision the city council makes, the approval process is pioneering a brand-new approach. Should developers worry? Never before has the city council remanded a construction project to the planning commission, What the council will now have to decide is whether the planning commission followed its instructions. The City’s Development Services Department has written a fifth mitigated negative declaration for the Pacific Coast Office Building to satisfy both the planning commission and the council. Here’s how the department, on the declaration’s first page, phrased its understanding of the situation. “City Council directed [Devel-opment Services] staff to provide additional information in the document regarding the various project designs that had been considered by the applicant.” According to community activist Randy Berkman, this reading does not accurately state the city council’s wishes. Minutes of the May 17 city council meeting show that its decision was to “remand the matter to the previous decision maker with direction to review the alternatives to reduce the impacts.” Councilwoman Donna Frye made the motion that the council passed. According to a transcript of the meeting, Frye said she wanted consideration of “alternatives provided by the applicant...and further environmental analysis that includes some alternatives, some other projects, and [discussion of] each one of those alternatives... What I asked for was an analysis of alternatives to reduce the impacts to the open space [in Mission Valley] above the 150-foot elevation.... The purpose of [this] is to provide clear direction for [the owner] so [he] can comply and have some knowledge of what is being asked instead of again sending him into limbo.”

As Berkman sees it, Councilwoman Frye wanted a consideration of new alternatives, whereas what the planning commission looked at in its second hearing were “the various project designs that had [already] been considered by the applicant.” “That’s letting him take a second bite out of the apple,” Berkman tells me. “The designs so far considered have already been rejected.” “The Development Services summary of the city council demand is a clear distortion. But that’s consistent with their approach since this project was first proposed. Why,” Berkman asks me, “do you think there have been five mitigated negative declarations written for the project so far? They keep coming back and trying to force it through.” Berkman cites earlier distortions of the Mission Valley Community Plan that are still in the fifth mitigated negative declaration. They suggest that small developments above the 150-foot elevation are allowed at the base of the southern hillside, despite the plan’s forbidding all such ventures. In an April 16 e-mail to Jim Waring, the City’s head of land use and economic development, Berkman wrote, “I know you are not to blame for the repeated misquotes [sic] and misstatements regarding this project. However, I think it is time for you to separate yourself and the Mayor from these serious false statements of [Department of Development Services] staff.” Nevertheless, suspicions that the approval process was being orchestrated behind the scenes prompted Berkman to file a California Public Records Act request for City e-mails and documents relating to the Pacific Coast Office Building. He received no documents or sets of meeting minutes but plenty of e-mails, one of which he describes as a “bombshell.” On May 3, the City’s Pacific Coast project manager Patrick Hooper wrote to property owner and building developer Robert Pollack, saying, “Yes, the [mitigated negative declaration] is final as of today but you may want to speak with Bob Vacchi [one of Pollack’s attorneys] about the status of the document. I informed him this morning that the city attorney determined...that the staff did not follow Council direction and that the document and project should not be considered by the Planning Commission. The [city attorney] feels that [Frye’s] motion [approved at the September 26, 2006, City Council meeting] included specific direction to analyze a reduced impact alter-

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Justice continued from page 6

to his lengthy resume, that Moores’s personal lawyer, Charles La Bella, hired law firm Latham & Watkins to concoct. The idea was to try to save Moores’s career in 2002, after the scandal had broken up bankruptcy.

At a hearing in February in the ongoing criminal case, one of Gardner’s attorneys, Reid Fiegel, said, “One of the issues that has not really been discussed much in the motions, generally, is the involvement of Mr. Moores and his counsel in the government’s investigation. … We would want to make sure that we were permitted to inquire as to whether government agents have attempted to prepare the case, and to make charging decisions, and make inferences and things like that consistent with what we believe happened here, which is that John Moores, who is the person who sold nearly $700 million worth of stock and whose personal counsel [La Bella] was involved in representing Peregrine in the internal investigation, had an influence in the way this case was brought and the way the witnesses have been prepared.”

In a column that appeared in the Reader March 22, Eugene Iredale, attorney for one of the criminal defendants, said that the government’s case was based on the Latham & Watkins attempted whitewash. Matthew Gless, former Peregrine chief financial officer who has pleaded guilty in the case, even said the report was an attempt to get the board off the hook. Gless, like most board members and top executives, was close to Moores. In the early stages of the case, Iredale did what he said he would do: he began asking witnesses about Moores’s involvement. (Moores was on the Peregrine premises; the company boasted that it was run by the “office of the chairman” — Moores and colleagues. Civil suits charge that Moores essentially ran the board.)

On April 19, the U.S. Attorney’s Office requested that the court ban any cross-examination of witnesses on “investment decisions and actions taken by members of the Board of Directors, and specifically John Moores, without first making an offer of proof of how much evidence is inconsistent with the guilt of other defendants.” The government argued that Iredale in his opening statement “referred to John Moores and other members of the board of directors several times.” Then Iredale asked the first witness about Moores. The government complained about Iredale’s “references to John Moores in the press” and attached the Reader article to its complaint. U.S. District Court Judge Thomas Whelan granted the government’s request.

Iredale did not return multiple telephone calls to inquire about the matter.

Robert Grimes, local criminal defense attorney, has published a regular blog on the Los Angeles County Bar Association website at www.glame.com. Five witnesses were barred from testifying after it was learned they had looked at the blog. One was Gless. One of the jurors, who seemed most receptive to the defense case, was dropped because he had allegedly read the blog.

The blog did not report anything on the judge’s decision to bar discussion of board actions and Moores during cross-examinations. I called and e-mailed Grimes for an explanation but got no response. Grimes has admitted he is being paid by a law firm involved in the civil litigation but won’t say which one it is.

What, then, was the board talked about throughout the Peregrine hoax? On April 14, 1999, it was informed that the company was adopting a hyper-aggressive accounting method by which a sale would be rung up when software was sold to a reseller, even if that reseller had no commitment from a buyer. Legitimately, a sale should only be recorded when the product is actually purchased by an end user. But the board was told it had to use the uncastable method if it wanted to match Wall Street quarterly sales expectations. On January 18 of 2000, Gardner told the board that the amount of such reseller transactions — instead of actual sales — “makes our auditors uncomfortable.” At the same meeting, Gard-
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Justice

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Gardner told the board, “Due to several highly publicized incidents at other companies (Informix, Network Associates, HBOC), the rules are tightening and practices are being re-examined.” All three of those companies had gotten into trouble with the Securities and Exchange Commission for doing what Peregrine got caught doing: making side agreements and secret payments to distributors and backdating contracts to be able to record fictitious sales. Could anything have been more sophisticated in software accounting?

In October of 2001, a Peregrine salesman sent an e-mail to Gardner and Moores, complaining that there was “no justification to book revenue when no product has been ordered” and “there is little likelihood of payment.” Peregrine’s revenue recognition policy was “unethical, immoral, and unconscionable,” he complained. The salesman was fired.

Gardner told the board that the company had to grant “extraordinary terms” to record sales in a previous quarter, thus was “borrowing from the future” to match Wall Street’s expectations. And no one on the board suspected that the company was backdating contracts and making side deals to record revenue fraudulently. Come now. The board’s audit committee was repeatedly told about suspicious deals to hype sales, as well as the accounting firm’s ongoing unhappiness.

But the public only heard how the company was growing fantastically — until the end, and by then, the insiders had dumped shares massively. All this evidence should make a slam dunk in civil suits. Not in San Diego. Judges can keep such cases from ever getting to the jury. Superior Court Judge Joan Lewis in 2005 ruled that one suit against Peregrine insiders had to be heard in fraud-friendly Delaware. That was overturned by the appellate court; then Lewis lost all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. Just recently, she found another pretext to throw out the case: ignoring decades of bankruptcy court precedents, she decided that state courts couldn’t hear cases with more than 50 shareholders seeking redress. “We believe the ruling is in error,” says San Francisco attorney Robert Friese, who was appointed to press the case by the bankruptcy court. “We are hopeful the appellate court will give us the kind of ruling it did last time.”

Another egregious case is in U.S. District Court. Judge Roger Benitez gutted it, despite the overwhelming evidence. That is on appeal, too.

Slippery slope

continued from page 7

staff planned to go ahead with the planning commission review even if they failed to convince the city attorney’s office to change its position. But change it they must have, for no word of the city attorney view reached Berkman, who spoke against Pacific Coast at the May 17 planning commission meeting. “While I am pleased,” Berkman tells me, “that the city attorney agreed with us, I am disappointed with the city attorney’s office to change its position. But change it they must have, for no word of the city attorney view reached Berkman, who spoke against Pacific Coast at the May 17 planning commission meeting. “While I am pleased,” Berkman tells me, “that the city attorney agreed with us, I am disappointed with the council’s direction allowed the planning commission to “reconsider its [first] decision, but does not preclude the option of returning the same project as the best alternative. Specific language that would preclude use of the same project was not used.” Besides, according to the California Environmental Quality Act, “Only the adequacy of the environmental document is being evaluated and city council is not granted the authority to rule on the merits of the project itself.” But, asks Berkman, “If that were the case, then what use is an appeal? Nobody would ever file one.”

Berkman proposes that the Pacific Coast Office Building project be renamed. “Son of Sunroad” fits in the following way,” he writes me. “The building is too tall for the location. If it started at the 111-foot elevation it would be compliant at 130 feet, since it’s 39 feet tall. However, since it extends to the 200-foot line, it is 50 feet above what is legal. Hence [its violation] is 30 feet higher than the Sunroad 20-foot height violation [for its office building near Montgomery Field]. While there are no airplane hazards, the public is likewise getting shafted due to the open space encroachment… Another similarity: despite being told to revise plans, the landowner persists with the same plans — in defiance of city council direction. One positive difference: this [project] has not broken ground.”

This summer, the city council will hear another appeal of the planning commission’s decision to approve the Pacific Coast Office Building. This time the University Heights Planning Committee and Friends of San Diego will join the four original appellants.
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Letters

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

Sounds Familiar

The San Diego bootlegger article (“Confessions of a Bootlegger,” Cover Story, July 5) was fascinating, great stuff. A few years ago the Reader did a much shorter article on a San Diego bootlegger and some of his stories sound similar. Was this the same bootlegger in both articles?

Pat Wilson
via e-mail

Reality-Free Living

I feel sad every time I read “Diary of a Diva.” It used to be quaint/cute/funny to be high maintenance and live out an American life deliciously free of intrusions from harsh reality (i.e., I don’t even know where my trash goes! I just throw it down a chute never to encounter it again!), that attitude has gotten really old. And embarrassing. When we are going to stop coddling these people and reassuring them that they’re funny? I felt as if I had read every single word in “Roughing It” before, in any random article from Glamour or one of those airline magazines.

Being on Martha’s Vineyard means you don’t care where the nearest Nordstrom is. You don’t measure time in days, you are lucky enough to forget time altogether. Not many people get to experience that kind of luxury, the stuff Fitzgerald wrote about, not the cheap version that is peddled at the three nearest shopping malls. Barbararella wants me to believe that the best things in life are modern conveniences, places where I can buy more things, and a slick sushi restaurant in walking distance from my home. Columns should be reserved for creative thought, not shameless advertisement for living in urban San Diego. She dropped it at least 12 brand or retail names, and not in any sort of ironic way like Ellis did in American Psycho. Oh, and for someone so tragically hip, she should know that they’re “peep toe” shoes, not “peek a toe.”

Sahar Kamali
via e-mail

Brush Mileage

Just when I had given up hope that the media had any interest in the extremely talented and experienced working artists in San Diego, you came up with a cover story (“How to Paint a Portrait,” June 28) to knock my socks off! David Darrow is obviously a fine portrait painter. He has paid his dues through an excellent art education and what we often call “brush mileage.” Hundreds of hours of sketching and painting. Author Geoff Bouvier should take his portrait out of the closet and hang it with pride for coming up with a unique slant on a story about one of our best local artists.

Diane Kalt
via e-mail

Perfect Picture

Your June 28 lead story, “How to Paint a Portrait,” was wonderful. Not only did we learn about artist David Darrow, but we see the process through the eyes of the model/writer, Geoff Bouvier. In addition, the series of progressions through sketches and to the finished portrait, as shown in photographs, is very worthwhile. It’s a terrific piece! A wonderful painter and a good writer/model.

Jack Nelson
Uptown

Put It Out There

Suggestion/request for the article in June 28 Reader by Ed Hujsak (“San Diego’s Missiles,” Feature Story): Can you put that on the Reader website? As a former General Dynamics employee, I would e-mail that all over the country to past colleagues who would love to see that story. It would be widely circulated.

Name Withheld by Request
via e-mail

Nothing’s Changed In 60 years

I came to San Diego in 1947, and the first thing I heard about was the illegal deal the mayor was involved in with the taxi drivers. Today the court building in San Diego bears his name. I had paid attention to how the city council was being run and found out that it was not on the up and up; that they also were doing crooked deals. The years have passed, but the mayor and city council are still involved in nefarious deals with contractors, etc. I wish it were possible to make the Reader’s “City Lights” required reading for all the people of San Diego.

Norman Polakowski
via e-mail

Dedicated To You

Hey, can you add a “tribute” band selection to your bands info? There are more and more of us playing in San Diego now. Thank you so much! Love the Reader!

Annie Heller
via e-mail

Comments from Reader Website

Cover Story
Published July 5
Posted by pete on 07/05/07, 9:14 p.m.
Very interesting article…That’s in a row for Jay Allen Sanford and Son!! I used to bring in a crappy cassette recorder to shows and did some ghetto taping. Then came the internet…Here’s a great link for tons (over 40,000) free shows: www.archive.org/details/etree Also, for the computer savvy, I would check out these additional links for a lot of great shows that you can get for free if you know how to use Bit Torrent. bt.eetree.org/www.thetradersden.org/Lots ofPink Floyd at the link below…www.yeeshikal.com/forum/index.php Hope this brings some enjoyment to some people…

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Ask The Bankers Pen

The Bankers Pen holds a bunch of stodgy bankers who generally oppose the beliefs of WaMu, especially the WaMu Free Checking account. Their advice column and their new talk show “Chattin’ With the Pen” run nationwide.

Dear Bankers Pen:

Now that WaMu lets customers sign up for the WaMu Free Checking account online with no paperwork, I’m thinking about moving my account there. With other banks, is it really worth it to schlep all the way to some snooty lobby and wait in long lines just to see a guy in a suit?

- Tempted in Tacoma

Dear Tempted:

YES! YES! Oh, dear sweet Italian leather briefcases, YES! It’s worth it in spades! If you haven’t waited in a line at my bank, you haven’t experienced life, my friend! A life of marble floors! And mustiness! Now get in my bank and LIVE! And remember, no money orders for non-members.

Dear Bankers Pen:

I know I’m not alone in saying I hate everything about air travel: the busy, unorganized airports, the cramped airline seats, uncooperative employees. Is there any way to avoid all those headaches and still get where I need to go?

- Airsick in Atlanta

Dear Airsick:

If I had a million dollars for every time someone asked me for travel advice, I’d add it to my other millions immediately. Here’s my answer: join Privileged Hills Country Club. Tell the valet to have your private jet gassed and ready to go, and you can take off right from the 13th fairway. Bon voyage!
**SportingBox**

**News From The Camps**

Coming close to football. The NFL preseason kicks off in three weeks and change, so it's not too early to start collecting the best sports reporting from team training camps.

To begin, the Denver Broncos are camped at the Paul D. Bowlen Memorial Centre in Englewood, Colorado. The Englewood Herald is the newspaper of record. Follows is a featured sports story.

"Proud friends and families wearing brightly colored cut outs placed their lawn chairs to watch the U.S. National SWAT competition June 29 and 30.

"Ten teams decked in helmets, bullet-proof vests, and fatigue garb competed for the berth in the first U.S. National SWAT competition at the Highland Ranch Law Enforcement Training Facility.

"... Of the ten teams present, only four were from Colorado: Boulder County, Aurora, Teller County, and Bureau of Prison SORT, from Supermax Federal Prison in Public Douglas County sheriff's Office was not allowed to compete because they hosted."

The Baltimore Ravens host camp at McDaniel College (home of the Green Terror), in Westminster, Maryland. McDaniel College is "a private, selective college of the liberal arts and sciences offering a life-changing education to undergraduate and graduate students..." Professors are first and foremost teachers and mentors: you'll see them cheering from the sidelines of a soccer match or chatting with students over lunch in the Pub..."

Hate to interrupt this idyllic river of treasures draped around their necks. "No, this senior women's softball team didn't actually loot the United States Bullion Depository located at the famous army base south of Louisville, KY. They won gold medals by claiming a national title at the Senior Olympic Games partly because of Roger's stalwart play at first base."

The Cincinnati Bengals train at Georgetown College in Georgetown, Kentucky. The Georgetown News-Graphic leads with a photo caption, "Shelby County's Dre Farris, left, wins out a grounder as Scott County first baseman Will Pitts stretches to catch the ball Friday at Suffoletta Park."

"The Shelby County 10-year-old All-Stars scored five runs in the first inning, and won on to defeat the Scott County 10-year-old All-Stars 10-2 Friday at Suffoletta Park."

You can find the Kansas City Chiefs at University of Wisconsin-River Falls in River Falls, Wisconsin. River Falls isably served by the River Falls Journal. Keeping "River Falls" in the front of one's mind at all times, the River Falls Journal tells us, "The River Falls American Legion won three more games last week to improve to 8-2 on the season."

"The Legion traveled to Ellsworth Monday and has the rest of the week off before hosting Ellsworth this Monday, July 9, at 6 p.m. at the high school field."

When in camp, the Oakland Raiders stay at the Napa Valley Marriott in Napa Valley, California. That's the Napa Valley Marriott & Spa to you. But, since we're here, why not join the team in a Garden View Room for $209 per night? Better, why not select a Garden View room for an affordable $269, or hell, sign up for the Garden View package. For a lousy $752 per night you get your room plus "breakfast and dinner for two, couples massage, complimentary spa robes and a special gift for baby."

"No baby? So what.

The local paper for the Napa Valley Marriott & Spa is *The Napa Valley Register*. Follows is their sports report wrapped up in a man-sized sentence. "Twenty-four of the Napa Valley Swim Team’s members have qualified for Pacific Swimming’s Adam Szmidt Memorial Long Course Junior Olympics, to be held July 19-22."

The consistently despit Arizona Cardinals train at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona. Sports news is brought to you buy Flagstaff’s own Nario Hopi Observer. "Hopi High’s DeAnn Honanie won the individual state championship in the 3,200-meter run May 12 at Mesa High School in the 3A State Track and Field Championships.

"Honanie, a 17-year-old junior, said she felt great when she won. She said she pushed all her problems aside and concentrated more on what she wanted — to win the state title." (Sporting Box editorial insert, "Nice going, DeAnn.")"

Finally, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers train in Lake Buena Vista, Florida. According to Wikipedia, Lake Buena Vista is a city... "mostly known for being home to the Walt Disney World Resort. The population was 16 at the 2000 census. As of 2004, the population recorded by the U.S. Census Bureau is 15. It is one of two Florida municipalities controlled by the Walt Disney Company."

"What the hell is Walt Disney doing with two towns in Florida? On the other hand, maybe they should take a look at San Diego."

The Vegas Line can be found at sdreader.com, click on "Sporting Box."
"Is church hell for you?" asked the glossy ad in CityBeat. "You’re not alone. www.therainca.com." The text was split between an image of hymnals in a church pew and a photo of raging flames. I was curious, so I stopped by the site. First impression: "Whoa — dark and stormy." Thunder, drums, a hard-rock guitar line: "And I know/ there’s no surrender/ And I know/ there’s no retreat... Freedom freedom cries out to me...." The homepage featured a video entitled "The Death of Religion," which rolled out texts over images of churches and congregations:

"Sixty-five percent were Bible-believing Christians from the WWII generation...35% were Bible-believing Christians from the Baby Boomer generation...92% increase of non-churchgoers since 1991... We are witnessing, before our very eyes, not the death of Christianity, but the death of its religion... We are witnessing the rebirth of the next great move of God... We at The Rain believe that the church as a whole has chosen to ignore, exclude, marginalize the majority of people who are looking for a real relationship with the heavenly Father, but they have not bought into the religious façade, language, and formats trying to be imposed upon them... That’s not God, just church... I believe the greatest contributors to the new thing God is doing are those outside the shrinking Christian circle... and those who wouldn’t be caught dead in a church... We wish to stand in the gap and encourage a better relationship with your heavenly Father while revealing spiritual truth..."

The Rain is run by John Cruz in collaboration with his wife. He’s a pastor’s kid from the Midwest who got frustrated with Christian culture (the music, the worship format, etc.); he’s a former Catholic/former drug addict who experienced a miraculous healing. "She walked into church with a hangover and walked out with the Holy Spirit — her addiction completely broken," says Cruz.

Even so, Cruz thinks the spiritual winds are shifting away from that milieu. "I believe the church is shrinking because of its lack of contact with the Father," he says (the belief part is not about whether the church is shrinking, but why). "They’re not in touch with what God is doing. Religion as a whole tends to reproduce what has worked in the past rather than being reflective of what’s going on. They refuse to move forward, as if God is not doing something new and present today, and so they become detached from anything that is present today."

That goes for both medium and message. First, the medium: "I believe that the sort of site that I’m doing is kind of the future of the church. A little bit decentralized, a network of friends, a network of connections. Things online and accessible; you can go at your own pace. Not to say that personal contact isn’t necessary... I go to church on Sunday morning just so I can go to the Wednesday night small group — that’s where things happen, where you make your connections." The Rain’s MySpace page has attracted a fair number of messages from curious young people, and the site’s videos ("Good and Evil," "What If Christianity Was to Start All Over Again," etc.) are pulling decent traffic. "I’ve only been up for six weeks, and I think I’ve gotten 1500 people, and much more on repeat visits."

Next, the message: "Following Jesus is offensive — originally, it was the following of an offensive man. But people try to make religion as inoffensive as possible. They want something comfortable, something that is socially acceptable, that they don’t have to think about. Sometimes, I believe Christianity is little more than a collection of moral people, and that’s a very dangerous place... God is not big on morals to begin with. Your morals do not impress God. The heart is what impresses God. Our actions are insufficient — that’s why there is the cross. God puts people in interesting circumstances that appear to be immoral. Abraham and Isaac — this is an immoral concept from the beginning: sacrificing your own son! We’ve got the attempt of murder, but God is not as interested in that as He is in molding your heart to express what the Father is. Through that, I believe you will be moral, but it’s more than just external. Let’s get into what we call the fruits of the Spirit — love, peace, joy. When those things are produced in your life, morality is going to show up. It may not look exactly the way you want it to look — Jesus appeared to be immoral. A lot of people didn’t like his choices."

As for those ‘greatest contributors to the new thing God is doing,’ the ones who are ‘outside the shrinking Christian circle,’ Cruz points to films like Children of Men. "It was a disappointment to me, but the idea of it just gave me goose bumps. This is what’s happening in Hollywood: men will always express the desire and need for God, whether they understand it or not. That’s what I mean by God expressing Himself in pop culture — it just oozes out. In the film, the world is dying — it can’t conceive life. By ‘conceive,’ I mean conceive the life of Christ. In Scripture, when you can’t conceive, it’s sometimes a spiritual analogy for not being able to conceive the Word of God in your life to produce a right relationship." In Scripture, Elizabeth was married to Zachariah, a priest, and she was not able to conceive, because that priesthood could not conceive a human being — because through the law, life did not come about. In the movie, "they’re obsessed with finding life. When the war stopped and everybody was freaked out at the sight of the child, to me, that was the Christ child that needs to be birthed for all of us."

So far, Cruz is hopeful. "I believe God has favored it to a certain extent. Where we go, I don’t know. I’m just following the heart of God in this matter. I think change is going to happen, and San Diego is going to feel that effect."

— Matthew Lickona

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com
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—Kris Clark, 5/29/07

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“When the dogs seem to love ropes with knots at one end — they play tug-of-war with it.”

— EVE KELLY

When her third child bolted off to college, my friend Janice thought she was free of her domestic duties. She returned to the workplace — college is expensive, and a bunch of her friends had already made the jump. What she hadn’t reckoned with was Dutchess, her golden retriever. “She’s just not adjusting to me being gone,” Janice told me. “She’s started to pee on the carpet, and she’s scratched the back door something awful. She just doesn’t like being alone and coopered up, I guess, and I can sympathize.”

I was driving back from Coronado Beach when I spotted a possible solution to Janice’s canine conundrum: Camp Diggity Dogs, Doggy Daycare, Hotel & Grooming (619-702-4090; www.campdiggitydogs.com), just off Imperial Avenue. “You don’t have to bring your dog in every day,” explained owner Ted Greenberg. “If you do it two or three times a week, that gives the dog enough time to get their energy out. They’re more relaxed and sedate between visits. And it’s important for puppies — the first year of a dog’s life is when it learns to socialize. Dogs that are playful and don’t have problems are dogs that were brought to dog parks or dog beaches at a young age.”

Greenberg decided to go with the high-volume-equals-low-prices model for his facility ($21 per day or ten days for $23 per 24 hours for overnight boarding; luxury suites $45). His place is 11,000 square feet — large enough to hold 39 dogs without anybody feeling crowded. The 1,200-square-foot common room features dog beds and dog swings, while the luxury suites offer TV and people-beds. “My own dog isn’t very interested in TV,” explained Greenberg, “but some dogs are. We put on puppy videos, and a lot of the dogs respond to the barking and seeing puppies move around.”

But doggy day care does not mean hours spent in front of the screen. Greenberg is proud that 4,000 of his square feet are outdoors. “Our outdoor area was originally an asphalt parking lot. I installed half-inch green artificial turf so that their paws wouldn’t get scratched or dried up. A very soft surface when they roll on it. I also installed a small swimming pool. We recently hired four new people and they’re all very good at interacting with the dogs. If the dogs are bringing around, they’ll get them up and start playing chase, or they’ll throw balls around. The dogs seem to love ropes with knots at one end — they play tug-of-war with it.” (If owners want to see their pups in action, they can log onto the day care’s webcam and see if Fido’s running by. “It’s mounted outside. I have one dog who’s very active, jumping in and out of the pool all day. Her owner travels a lot and loves to watch her over the Internet.”

The outdoor environment also makes waste management a fairly easy routine. “I had people dig through the asphalt and put in six palm trees. The trees provide ambiance and shade, and there’s a three-foot by three-foot dirt patch around each of them. The dogs will generally gravitate toward going to the bathroom around the trees. Of course, it’s always work out that way, so two or three times a week, we spray the turf down with a mixture of Simple Green, Lysox, and D-Molish — that’s a cleaner recommended by Animal Control. It kills any bacteria. We also vacuum once a week.”

The dogs have the run of the place — there are no cages. Greenberg explained how he made the system work. “If the dogs are very friendly when they come in, I want to keep out the aggressive dogs. Some signs of aggressiveness are ear back, a tense tail pointing down. It means he’s ready to fight. If a dog’s tail is wagging and he puts the front end of his body down and stretches, he’s ready to play.”

Screening begins by bringing the dog “into a room by himself. Then I bring in a gentle, quiet, submissive dog and see how the visitor dog reacts. If he puts his head on top of the other dog’s neck, it means he wants to dominate. I’m standing right there, so if anything happens, I can grab them both. But if that first encounter goes well, I bring in a friendly but feistier dog and see if they play together. Finally, I bring in my dog. He’s a very good test, because he’s friendly and loves to play. If a dog is aggressive, my dog will growl and get ready to fight back. I probably don’t allow about one out of every eight dogs. Also, I don’t allow pit bulls. Not that I don’t like pit bulls — they can be good dogs — but if they ever did get in a fight, they could do a lot of damage.”

(While he hasn’t had any fights so far, Greenberg notes that despite the best of screenings, he “can’t promise that the dogs will never fight. But all of my people know how to break up dogs in a fight. The best way is to grab the aggressive dog by the haunches in front of the hind legs and pull them back. It gets them off balance, and they can’t generate any power to stop you. We also have a hose with a fireman’s nozzle — if we have to, we can squirt the dog in the face, and that will break it up.”)

Greenberg noted that if you can’t make it to him, he’ll come to you via Camp Diggity Dog’s van service. “We can hold up to 12 dogs — we have straps they can tie into via collar or harness so that they don’t slip and fall and bang where your feet would normally go.” Transportation rates are $8 each way within three miles; beyond three miles, call for prices.

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

1. Camp Diggity Dogs
2. Ted Greenberg
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I surveyed my surroundings, noting the worn carpet, the paint peeling from the baseboards, and the over-all J.C. Penney-ness of the greeting area, its linoleum floor crowded with buckets and shelves of makeup and body creams. A little R & R was my birthday gift to Ency, and my research had shown this to be the only spa on the island. I still had ten minutes to clear my head, made fuzzy by a transcendental rub down, before Ency would be finished with her facial. I sat on a loveseat across from two rows of lockers, waiting for refreshments to appear on the coffee table before me. One of seven doors opened, an employeé emerged, passed by in a frenetic blur, and exited through another door on the opposite side of this transitional space.

I wondered if I should have the “spa platter” delivered elsewhere, but the only other location I could think of was the pool, and the sound of shrieking children is the enemy of relaxation. And it was imperative for Ency to relax. David’s mother usually exists in a state of overextension, but for the past week she’d been spread thinner than ever, and not just figuratively — constant fretting had eroded at least ten pounds from her already petite frame. Days before our pampering appointment, her husband Robert had a stroke. I hoped the down time might distract her from her worries.

A plate of fruit and cheese was set on the table moments after Ency sat beside me, a look of near-relaxation on her massaged and moisturized face. Taking stock of the post-treatment treat that requires a day’s advance notice, I thought, So that’s why it was only ten bucks. Rather than the French St. Andre, Spanish Manchego, English Stilton, berry compote, dried apricots, and bakery-fresh baguette I’d imagined would comprise a “spa platter,” I was looking at cubes of grocery-store cheddar and pepper jack, sandwiched between prematurely harvested melons and water crackers.

This place was no Estancia (my favorite spa in La Jolla), but Ency seemed to be so close to calmness that I kept my criticisms to myself. That is, until we were offered tea. “Would you like any sugar or honey?” asked a pretty Brazilian girl.

“I’d love some honey,” I said.

She gave me an odd look and disappeared behind one of the doors. When she returned, placing a small dish on the table, she said, “Actually, we don’t have any honey — not for tea; this is the honey we use for facials. But don’t worry, it’s real honey.” She walked away, leaving me dumbfounded. After she’d vanished behind another door, I muttered, “As long as this isn’t the leftovers scraped off someone’s face,” and scooped a spoonful of the golden stuff into my little paper cup. Ency rolled her eyes and smiled in agreement.

The commotion began before I’d taken my third sip. Two women burst through another door, I muttered, “As long as this isn’t the leftovers scraped off someone’s face,” and scooped a spoonful of the golden stuff into my little paper cup. Ency rolled her eyes and smiled in agreement.

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bike to buy fresh fish down at Larsen’s, and this one’s all atwitter over the new mascot for Dunkin’ Donuts? I guessed this woman was the manager, because she had been directing others in the bedlam. I stared at her in awe as she continued, “You know how when you have a guest coming over to your home you want it to look nice?”

“I can’t help but feel slighted,” I said. The woman stopped hammering. “You obviously have no idea who I am.” I wanted her to ask, as I was dying to answer, “I’m a paying customer.” But she didn’t seem to care. Instead, she stammered out some story about how the painting had fallen earlier and how she’d been meaning to re-hang it, and now that a “special guest” would soon be arriving, it was the perfect time to take care of things she’d been meaning to do anyway. As she continued banging on the wall and babbling unapologetically, I considered the implications of her words and behavior. The message received was, “Regardless of how much money you give us, your pleasure and enjoyment are not as important to us as the pleasure and enjoyment of another paying customer, who is about to arrive.” I wouldn’t have been surprised if she handed Ency and me a few rags and asked us to take care of the bathrooms.

Ency waited outside while I dealt with a considerably confused cashier. She’d enjoyed her facial, and I had luxuriated in my massage, but the overall “experience” I’d hoped to provide her with remained an elusive idea, at least for now. The next day, Ency would take Robert to a hospital on the mainland for more tests, and David and I would join her friends at Lola’s for food and entertainment. Leslie’s cable guy had also said that Rachael Ray was expected to sing with the band. I was neither particularly excited nor particularly disinterested. I’ve never seen any of her shows, and her presence on the island had a negative effect on my spa day with Ency, but I had nothing against the sprightly cook. I doubt she made any absurd demands of the spa staff that would cause them to forego the most basic level of customer service for their other patrons. She was, like me, just another girl getting a massage.

Halfway to the car, a familiar furrow appeared on Ency’s brow, the first sign of relapse — I panicked that if I didn’t act fast, she would lose her relaxed glow and once again be consumed by worry demons. I wanted to give her something to look forward to, a vision of relaxation to come. “This was just a taste, a teaser of pampering, you know,” I said, through an optimistic grin. “The next time you come to San Diego, I’m taking you to a real spa.”

My Neighborhood

A Writing Contest

1st prize ~ $3000
2nd prize ~ $1000
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Honorable mentions ~ $100

Write a 250-1000-word story about your neighborhood (within San Diego County). Send your entry to:
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Or e-mail to:
Neighborhood.contest@gmail.com
Include your name, address, and phone contact information. (Contact information will not appear in the Reader.)

Reader writers and employees not eligible. Entries must be postmarked no later than July 15.
Yeah, it really has been 20 years — 20 years of you Alicelanders bugging us with pointless questions; 20 years of Grandma Alice bugging us to separate the lights from the darks and not eat pie in the living room; and two decades of the research elves just bugging us in general.

But, hey! This calls for a party! Noisemakers, door prizes, embarrassing games, hokey anniversary speeches, dumb hats with those cheap elastic chin straps that break right away — the whole deal! A celebration of the fact that we’ve endured this gig for so long and that most of you don’t seem to have suffered too badly as a result. You haven’t wandered into traffic or drowned in your soup from sheer amazement at the relentless brilliance of Team Matthew Alice.

When we presented the party idea, naturally, Grandma wanted none of it. Would not fall for sweet talk or an offer of new aprons. The elves took off on their skateboards to the electronics store to watch CSI: Miami on a bank of 103-inch plasma screens. Something about David Caruso peering over his glasses, with a head the size of a monster truck tire, cracks them up. With such a universal lack of interest, we had to come up with another plan.

For this to work, we’ll need some cooperation from you, the inquiring public. We provide the entertainment: a survey of some of the most memorable, ridiculous, astounding questions we’ve ever received. And you supply everything else. Food, drink, music, a very large carrot cake with cream-cheese frosting inscribed, “Matthew, You’re a God.”

So before you read any further, please assemble a roomful of your strangest pals, hang streamers and a disco ball, bring out the karaoke machine and Twister. To save money, Grandma recommends you don’t rent one of those inflatable moonwalk things; simply turn the kids loose on your king-size bed. They’ll have just as much fun. And remember, while we can’t be there in person, we are with you in spirit. Which means we can’t even drink your beer.

What a deal.
CIVICS LESSONS
4/12/01
Dear Matthew Alice:
How many bathrooms are there in the White House? In second grade, somebody told me there were 365.
— Silviano, Harborside School, downtown

Here’s a tip. Don’t look at that kid’s test paper for answers. The White House has 32 bathrooms. When the place opened in 1797, there were no bathrooms. Indoors, anyway. Thomas Jefferson added two wood-and-tin indoor commodes in 1813… White porcelain toilets weren’t even invented until the 1890s… When the White House was renovated in 1948, President Truman’s bathroom got a new seven-foot bathtub. Truman himself was only five foot eight, perhaps requiring a Secret Service lifeguard on standby. And even though we learn that the U.S. is a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, the people can’t pee at the White House. So if you plan to visit George and Laura, better go before you leave home.

7/13/95
Mighty Morphin’ Matt:
Being that next year is an election year, I ponder this question to you: Can convicted felons vote?
— N. Carcerated, Vista

When was the last time you saw a candidate detour the campaign bus to Folsom or Chino to stump for that all-important felon vote? On election day, nobody in a federal or state lockup in California will be fretting about what time the polls close… Until 1966, if you robbed a bank, let’s say, or rustled some cattle (were convicted of an “infamous crime,” according to the state constitution), California told you to take your ballot and stuff it… A court challenge in ’66 set off a decade of judicial decisions, legislative paper-shuffling, and ballot propositions. A very confusing time for the civic-minded ex-burglar. Finally, in 1976, we decided that only convicted felons still imprisoned or on parole could be barred from voting.

But let’s say our friend N. Carcerated, legally registered to vote and unsullied by a felony record, is late to English class one day. He spots a nice little Mustang in a parking lot and figures that’s the solution to his problem. But the cops pull him to the curb and take him downtown for booking. Soon enough he’s sitting in the fish tank with the rest of the day’s catch, eating dinner off a plastic tray and calling his relatives to snivel about raising bail. If none of the Carcerateds can come up with the dough, can N. legally cast a ballot? If on election day he’s not yet been convicted of appropriating the Mustang, he certainly can. Being charged with a crime isn’t a crime. Innocent until proved guilty and all that. So certain county jail residents would be eligible to vote. But it’s not a high priority. One M.A. pal, a former sheriff’s deputy, says that in six years of duty in county lockups, he never had
Anyone ask for an absentee ballot.

10/3/02
Matt:
I read somewhere that California has an official state dance, the Western Swing. Huh?
— Wondering, San Diego

Right off the top, to fend off any mail with an attitude, the official state dance of California is the West Coast Swing. Western Swing is something else entirely. Requires cowboy boots and old Bob Wills records, I think.

Whatever else ailed us in 1988, California’s elected reps quickly solved the crisis of our being one of the few danceless states. A senator sponsored a bill proposing West Coast Swing to fill the void. The bill passed 21 to 9 with a minimum of smart remarks. But in the state assembly, the square-dance lobby bought a few key legislators (lifet ime bolo tie discounts?), who held out for an amendment making square dancing California’s official folk dance. A brief floor revolt by salsa radicals came to nothing.

West Coast Swing is a Hollywood adaptation of the East Coast’s Lindy Hop (aka jive, shag, hop, jitterbug). The story goes that early movie directors, lacking wide-angle lenses, couldn’t film a dance floor full of fast-moving, athletic Lindy Hoppers. So choreographers developed a version in which the man remains more or less in one spot and moves his partner back and forth in a linear pattern. It’s less athletic, and the beat’s a little slower than the Lindy, but the footwork and other moves are fancier. For Hollywood’s purposes, it kept everybody in the frame and in focus.

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underground square-dance lobby, you might keep an eye on them. Consider that half our states claim square dancing as their official dance, and you can see their influence. They've lost only a few skirmishes with polka brigades in the upper Midwest and some well-entrenched cloggers in North Carolina.

2/27/97
Dear Matt: Saw Bill Clinton on TV signing his name to a stack of documents. There were at least a dozen pens lined up on his desk, and he used a different pen for each signature. Why?
— Deputy Director of Intelligence, Oceanside

Is the prez pilfering from the White House supply cabinet? Or maybe after a particularly satisfying bout of document signing, he sits in his prez chair with the First Feet up on the big prez desk and tries to get Bics to stick in the ceiling. Maybe he draws fake tattoos on his hand or throws pens at the First Cat, Socks. Or how about this: behind every piece of legislation are dozens of worker bees who've seen to its passage. As thanks for a job well done, the prez hands out gifts after the ceremony. So rather than throwing one pen on the floor and chuckling as everybody bites and kicks and pulls hair to get the prize, the prez uses many pens as there are worker bees, then hands them out ceremoniously with a big grinny handshake.

5/4/00
Dear Matthew Alice: Do contricts still make our license plates, or was that all a big story told to us by our mothers?
— Charlie Bingbang, San Diego

Ma Alice made a point of setting each of us kids on her knee and telling us about the birds and the bees and the cons and the plates… In fact, she wrote a song for the occasion. Ma always claimed Johnny Cash got the tune for his big prison hit the night he heard her sing this at an eight-ball tournament in Waco.

I see the cars a-comin’ Rollin’ round the bend, And each one has a license plate Attached to either end. Oh, they're struck in Fol som prison Three million plus a year.

They make them in the slammer Just like we always hear…. And since they're made at Folsom, Where time keeps draggin’ on, They get away with pay ing Criminal wages to each con…... Oh, they're stuck in Fol som prison By crooks and scalawags, So the guy who ripped your car off most likely made your brand-new tags.

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF WEARABLES 9/2/93
Dear M.A. Dude: Where are all the Reader T-shirts people win for solving the Reader Puzzle? Me and my friends have never seen anyone wearing one.
— Mark Rossi and Paul Woodburn, Ocean Beach, John Bidleman, Encinitas
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This is the question that launched our quest for the Reader T, asking lucky owners to tell us what happened to them…

If your faxes and letters could speak, they’d sound like a flock of Easter chicks. “Cheap, cheap, cheap” was a popular theme, supplemented with the occasional “flimsy” and “cheesy.” More than one miffed winner washed his or her prize only to have it transformed into a shriveled, twisted, unwearable ball of poly-cotton…. One winner said he wouldn’t wear his Reader T to the proverbial dog fight but offered no hint about what is proper attire for a dog fight….

Lots of winners admitted they wear theirs hoping people will recognize how smart they are for having solved the puzzle, though apparently people rarely do…. Lots of people were bright enough to realize that if they’d saved all the postage money they’ve spent over the years just to win one lousy T-shirt, they could have solved the family’s cash-flow problems or replaced their wardrobes several times over….

Random interesting observations: Dave High-tower from Encinitas wins the prize for acquiring his shirt in the most interesting way. He was rock climbing in Mission Gorge and found an old engine block wrapped in cotton. He cut it open, wrapped it around his torso, and slid it off his back into a smallholding bag. He took the bag home, washed it about 15 times, but only got it clean enough to wear while repairing his car. He said he wouldn’t wear it, asking lucky readers to tell us what happened to them that wears ‘em. Ma Alice’s pedigree has more felons per square inch than San Quentin. Anyway, if they slap the cuffs on you in San Diego, here’s how the underwear situation plays out. In county jail you’re issued one pair of light green briefs. No boxers allowed, since they’re considered a fashion statement on the street, and they try to avoid that kind of ‘hood thang. The county’s laundry schedule is a little confusing, but in general, you’ll wear your tighty-weenies for three or four days before they issue you another pair and collect the dirty ones. And yes, of course, you will be wearing a pair previously worn by some random perp who turned them in three days ago. When the briefs are so shredded you can’t tell a leg hole…

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San Diego Reader July 12, 2007
from a scratch hole, they’re discarded.…

8/16/90
Dear Matthew Alice:
Wandering through department stores this weekend, I saw hundreds of ugly articles of clothing on sale that no one would ever buy, no matter how low the price was. What happens to all these clothes?

— Sonny G,
Downtown

Don’t get out much, do you, Sonny. If you did, you’d realize that most of those vicious garments will be snatched off the rack and worn in public. Fashion scientists call the phenomenon “shopper’s coma,” a momentary taste blackout caused by the sight of a REDUCED FOR CLEARANCE! sign. It’s like a lost-time experience. One minute you’re idly strolling into a store, the next thing you know, you’re at home, removing from your shopping bag a half-price orange Spandex jumpsuit with a large black eagle embroidered on the back, though you have no memory of actually having bought it.

Fashion designers and retailers aren’t in the business of offering us things they’re sure we won’t buy. Little of what you see on those racks will go unsold. But if it can’t be moved there, the clothing will be bought by a jobber, who will resell it to discount stores, where they offer it to us again at even more delightful prices.… Once we get it home, if it has no good Halloween costume potential, it will next end up hanging from a bush in our front yard at a garage sale. And here we’ll eagerly, even proudly point out to browsers that it has never been worn. (“See! The price tag’s still on it!”) Who could pass up a $100 orange Spandex jumpsuit for only 75 cents? But in case they do, the suit will either (1) find its way to a charity, which means you might one day see it on TV, worn by a starring teenager in Bangladesh; or (2) it goes to Goodwill or the Salvation Army, where someone else buys it, later tries to sell it at a yard sale, then donates it back to Goodwill again, and on and on. This yard sale/Goodwill cycle is a vortex from which the jumpsuit might never be rescued. But think of all the people who’ve made a living off the ugly thing in the meantime.

8/8/02
Matthew:
Who makes those funky- looking Terminator-style shades that make everybody look like Ah-nold? Is it an odd coincidence that only senior citizens seem to be wearing them?

— Salvatore Filippone,
San Diego

So you’re bugged when you see Gramps stylin’ down the avenue in those big, bad, bad shades. Better turn this over to Grandma Alice. She’ll set you straight.

“Thank you, Matthew. As for you, young man, Mr. Filippone, wait till you get to be our age and you want to make a fashion statement. Think it’s a coincidence that there’s a Baby Gap but no Grandpa Gap? No Extremely Old Navy? Does Jimmy Choo make orthopedic shoes? We’re just handed a muumuu and a copy of Modern Maturity and shoved into a corner with a bunch of cats and a bag of knitting and an Afghan. Why does everybody think old people are crazy about fuzzy things?”

Uh, take it easy, Grandma. So what’s with those glasses he asked about?

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The glasses, Grandma —

“If Mr. Filippone

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San Diego Reader July 12, 2007

8/16/90
want to wear them over your existing glasses. As a matter of fact, all of them are designed so you can pick them up in sunglass stores or maybe from his doctor. The oversized, dark shades are designed to help with the easy part. Plenty of outrageous shops around Fifth Avenue will rent you just the right outfit and give you makeup tips too. But there’s more to this than meets the eye, so the elves skated over to Lips, the wiggy drag-and-dine at Fifth and Nutmeg. A gracious and accommodating Tootie (who does a dynamite Cher) condensed her nine years of experience for you. A drag queen’s best friend? Sez Tootie, “Big hair and duct tape, honey,” Big hair slims the appearance of a man’s larger face, neck, and shoulders. And it’s sexy. Ditto big eyelashes. Warns Tootie, “Leave the skin-tight dresses to the professionals.” Got a beer gut? A skirt and loose top is your best fashion choice. A plunging neckline also enhances the illusion of a slim face and neck and offers a chance for some naughty cleavage.

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than usual. Keep your elbows close to your body to give you graceful arm and hand gestures. And most importantly, walk by placing one foot in front of the other, not with a man’s typical wider gait. Think “matador,” not “stevedore.” That also makes your butt look cute walking away, adds Tootie coyly. “Oh, wait!” she says as we’re leaving. “How could I forget? And shave everything! Immediately!”

MOTHER NATURE, WHAT A GAL!
11/27/02
Dear Matt and Alice:

How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?
— Kelly Gleeson-Duff, San Diego

Lots. So, Kelly, how much ground would a groundhog hog if a groundhog could hog ground? (Before you answer, remember that the woodchuck and the groundhog are the same animal.) And how much sap would a sapsucker suck if a sapsucker could suck sap? (Hey, wait a minute. A sapsucker can suck sap. On a good day, maybe two or three ounces.) And how many nuts would a nuthatch hatch if…

5/18/06
Hey, Matt! Baby animals are so cute I am sad when I eat them. It’s fun to watch them play. Do hatching insects, ornhithoids, and reptilians play?
— Fireball, Hathaway Pines, CA
(a PB escapee)

We’ve sent the elves out to see if they can find a butterfly with an Xbox or a June bug with a pool cue. But we couldn’t scare up any info on playing bugs. The science guys would say this is because of their tiny life expectancies and even tinier brains. And they say this with some certainty, because play behavior is a hot biological topic.… There’s a whole academic association for the study of play (called, uh, the Association for the Study of Play), but they’re in Florida and probably specialize in primate behavior during spring break.

Unfortunately, Fireball, a lot of questions still exist about the definition, evolution, and purpose of play. But at least we can give you examples of the animals that science has annoyed in pursuit of the answers.… The octopus is the only invertebrate that has been studied for what the science guys defined as “play” behavior. The experiment involved six octopuses, an empty plastic water bottle tethered to a rock so it bobbed under the surface, and a Lego piece that was buoyant but didn’t actually float.

2/28/02
Hey, Matt: Driving by the Dolly Parton Memorial (San Onofre), I noticed the seagulls and other flying things clustered on the north dome and it’s nearly covered with guano, while the south dome has none, nothing, not one bird, not one drop of the white stuff. Why?
— R. Hendrickson, the Net

SoCal Edison’s staff biologist is definitely aware of this guano situation. Once upon a time, he

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says, all the birds congregated on reactor 1, a small, flat-topped building north of reactor 2. When workmen began dismantling number 1, the noise and activity forced the birds to move. But they only moved next door, to reactor 2. No one knows why. Perhaps they’re nostalgic for their old home and want to stay as close as possible. Perhaps reactor 3 is in a bad neighborhood.

10/24/96
Dear Matthew:

Personally, I haven’t gotten a solid eight hours since Rush Limbaugh hit the airwaves, but then neither has a bug. They space out, go sort of limp and listless, but don’t really catch Zs the way we do…. When the lights go down and the temp drops, the metabolism of bugs with day jobs slows way down, and they hide out until it warms up. Birds, reptiles, and most fish lapse into a semicomatose doze when it gets dark. Whales’ “surface sleep,” moving their flukes slowly, bobbing up and down to breathe. When a dolphin dozes, half its brain takes a break while the other half keeps it from drowning. When workmen began dismantling number 1, the noise and activity forced the birds to move. We buy and consign home electronics, tools, appliances, housefuls, estates.

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For a mainstream movie, Fox will make 3,000 copies during its first two weeks of showings. Once the studio’s squeezed out the last American moviegoer dollar, the copies go back to the studio, three are stored in a vault along with the master copy, and the rest are junked. One copy of Star Wars contains about 20,000 feet of film, so that’s 80,000 feet that end up in a warehouse. If this is typical of the industry, 32,960,000 feet (6,242 miles) of film went into storage in 1996 from 412 domestic releases. And I trust

4/24/97
Matthew:

What happens to all the copies of films after they’ve run their course? Take for instance the just-released Star Wars.

— Blhude007, the Net

We nipped at the heels of the Fox folks to see what will happen to Star Wars when it goes out of general distribution. Well, you’d think we’d asked to snoop through the studio’s accounting files or borrow the CEO’s credit card. You could hear sirens going off and steel doors clanging shut the minute the question was asked. We finally got the info by swearing our operative to absolute anonymity, since they had to lie to the Fox source in order to get it. I’m not kidding, I wish I were. Hollywood is so full of paranoid babies. For a mainstream movie, Fox will make 3,000 copies during its first two weeks of showings. Once the studio’s squeezed out the last American moviegoer dollar, the copies go back to the studio, three are stored in a vault along with the master copy, and the rest are junked. One copy of Star Wars contains about 20,000 feet of film, so that’s 80,000 feet that end up in a warehouse. If this is typical of the industry, 32,960,000 feet (6,242 miles) of film went into storage in 1996 from 412 domestic releases. And I trust

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these disclosures will not bring the entire industry crashing down around Hollywood’s paranoid-baby ears.

2/3/00
RE: Hollywood Walk of Fame
We never even got an invitation. We were ignored. Snubbed? We, who invested more than ten years of our pathetic lives in this project! In case you missed the news, our pal Harrison Ford finally got his own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Team Matthew Alice O’s should remember our biennial phone calls to the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce demanding to know how they planned to make “Indiana” Harrison’s star unique, since there has been a star for a silent-film actor named Harrison Ford in front of Musso & Frank’s Hollywood Boulevard restaurant since the mid-1950s. Confusion would reign in fandom. You might also recall the Tinseltown brush-off we got each time we called them to check on their plans. The weasels once even tried to trick us into believing that old Harrison’s star was new Harrison’s, but we set them straight, pronto.

So anyway, late in May, Harrison, his cadaverous squeeze Calista Flockhart, and the usual crowd of hangers-on gathered to dedicate his star in front of the Kodak Theater. It looks exactly like the 50-year-old star in front of Musso & Frank’s, just a little shinier and with fewer pastrami stains. We didn’t miss much of a party, though. Harrison hyped his new movie, hinted that Indiana Jones 4 was just a lunch away from being a done deal, squeezed Calista, and went home.

5/1/03
Hey, Matt:
Crime-solving reality shows use actors in the recreations who look a lot like the real criminals. Have you heard any stories in which those actors were spotted on the street and turned in, thinking they were the real perps?
— Langston, Spring Valley

Apparently, arrest is an occupational hazard for actors on America’s Most Wanted. One poor schmo was arrested twice in one week. She played a particularly evil nanny-housekeeper who forged employers’ checks and burned down their houses. According to the actress, two teenagers recognized her on the street and called the fuzz. An angry crowd gathered around her before she was hustled to the cop shop and the whole mess was straightened out. A few days later she was confronted and detained in a restaurant. AMW casts look-alikes and does its shooting at the crime scene. They contact talent agents in the area to find local actors who match the specs. When you go for the audition, better bring head shots, your AFTRA card, and a bail bondman.

1/6/00
Dear Matthew Alice:
A friend of mine swears that Sylvester Stallone was in a movie with Ingrid Bergman, before he became “Rocky.” Can this possibly be true?
— Idon’tthinkso, San Diego

A perfect question. It contains all our favorite elements: rumor, innuendo, pie-faced gullibility, and Hollywood stars. One of those queries that inspires people to fire off nasty letters claiming I make up these questions. No. Sly and Ingrid do not appear together in any film. But it shouldn’t be a total loss. Let’s play “Six Degrees of Ingrid Bergman.” Stallone was in Capone with Harry Guardino, who was in Sororco with Humphrey Bogart, who was in Casablanca with, ta-da, Ingrid Bergman. Too easy. How about Peewee Herman and Ingrid Bergman? Herman was in Mystery Men with Louise Lasser, who was in Bananas with Sylvester Stallone, who was...etc. Howard Cosell and Ingrid Bergman? He was also in Bananas, so patch together your own list.

But wait. How about Pauly Shore and Ingrid Bergman and Ingmar Bergman. Impossible, you say. Ha. Child’s play. Pauly Shore was in Bio-Dome with Patty Hearst, who was in Serial Mom with Sam Waterston, who was in Mindwalk with Liv Ullmann, who was in Autumn Sonata with Ingrid Bergman, directed by Ingmar Bergman.

10/14/04
Hey, Matt:
My boyfriend says the Jerry Springer show is fake, that the guests are really actors, not innocent trailer trash dating their sisters. Is he right? Is it fake?
— Farah Daye, the Net

Not really, Farah. Though there likely have been fakes, it’s mostly just exaggerated and fakeish. But it is hard to believe anyone would voluntarily make a network TV spectacle of him/herself, family, neighbors; or proudly demonstrate a complete lack of common sense/morals/taste/judgment; or appear so publicly mean/sleazy/stupid... etc. The producers think up the ugliest show titles they can think of, let the public know they’re looking for real folks who’ve done that particular ugly thing, then sit back and let the phone calls pour in.

Grandma doesn’t want me to tell you this, but one of the Alice clan actually appeared on The Maury Povich Show some years ago. Cousin Alice. Alice Alice. Chronologically an adult. At the time, her life was classic trash. A big Maury fan. One day she sees Maury is looking for Teen Daughters Out of Control! Hey, she thinks, I’ve got two of those. Besides, guests of the Maury show stay at some swank midtown Manhattan hotel. Alice has never been to New York. Teen Daughters Out of Control are up for it, so they call the Maury producers and run down their family situation. The details must be sordid and promising, because a few weeks later a Maury flunky shows up at Alice’s house in San Diego to chat with her and TDOC! and take
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Are You Suffering with Bipolar Disorder?
If you are 18 years or older, and you have been diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder, you may be able to participate in a new clinical research study of an investigational drug being studied for long-term use to see if it improves the condition of persons afflicted by this disorder.

• Volunteers who qualify will receive study drug and study-related medical care at no cost.
• You do not need medical insurance in order to participate.

If you are suffering from Bipolar Disorder and are having trouble managing the symptoms of this disorder, please contact Affiliated Research Institute to learn more about how you may qualify to participate in this very important research trial.

For more information about this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565 or visit us online at: www.ari-inc.com

Avoiding the Scale?
Are you:
• A Type II diabetic?
• In overall good health?
• Currently suffering from obesity?
• Between 18 and 70 years of age?
• A non-smoker for at least 3 months?
• Available for study-related visits for a year?

If you answered yes to all these questions, you may be eligible for our investigational drug research study. If eligible, you will receive medical evaluations, including blood tests and electrocardiograms, nutritional and lifestyle counseling, investigational medication treatment, and visits to the clinic at no charge.

For more information about this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565 or visit us online at: www.ari-inc.com

IS YOUR TEENAGER EXPERIENCING:
• Sadness or anger?
• Crankiness?
• Problems in school?
• Loss of interest in friends or activities?

These may be signs of depression.

PCSD-FEIGHNER RESEARCH
is conducting a research study for adolescents ages 12-17.

If your teen qualifies, he/she will receive lab tests, physical examinations and medications at no cost. A physician specializing in teen depression will see him/her at each visit.

We are conveniently located in the Mission Valley area.

For more information about this study, please call toll-free:
1-877-FOR-INFO
1-877-367-4636
Chasing Your Cholesterol?

If you’ve been diagnosed with, or you think you may have, high cholesterol, please consider the APEX study.

Local doctors are now conducting a medical research study evaluating an investigational medication for people with high cholesterol.

To take part in this study, you must:

- Be between 18 and 65 years of age
- Have elevated levels of LDL cholesterol (to be determined by the study doctor)
- Not take any cholesterol-lowering medication within the 3 months prior to screening

This study lasts approximately 48 days and involves two 2-night stays at our facility.

Participants may receive compensation for time and travel. Qualified participants will receive a study-related medical evaluation and study medication at no cost.

To learn more about this study, please call:

eStudySite
877-857-2084
Is there someplace in this world where an enormous pile of $20 bills collects to discuss the benefits of freedom? Or do I alone have invisible holes in my pockets?

— Brian Rainey, San Diego

That $20-bill problem sounds quite serious, Brian, and I'm sending over one of the elves to follow you around for a week or two. Just to pick up — well, let's say, some clues. And hey, we can definitely make more progress if you could start carrying around fifties and hundreds. We'll have your answer in a flash. As for the less interesting sock dilemma, single socks vanish to the same place the other shoe has gone to when you see its mate at the side of the road. But since nobody would want to go to a place filled with other people's old shoes and socks, we won't worry about where that is.

2/20/03
Hey, Matt:
Heard there is a Catholic saint that will help sell your home quicker and for a better price if you bury his image in the front yard, facing the house. Any more info?

— Cy, O'side

Too Shy?

Trouble with dating? Parties? Public speaking?
Always worried about what other people think of you?

Confidential help is available. You may be eligible to Receive Free Treatment with computerized therapy as part of a research program.

Call: 619-229-3740 or e-mail: SDSUCUTA@hotmail.com
http://nas.psy.sdsu.edu

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

Do You Have Body Dysmorphic Disorder?

Are you preoccupied with a defect in your physical appearance?
Spending hours a day worrying about it or looking in the mirror?
Do you groom excessively or try to camouflage your flaw?
Do you avoid having people see it?

The UCSD OCD Program is looking for people who are excessively concerned about a physical flaw to take part in a study that is providing:

• 12 weeks free medication treatment
• Brain imaging scans
• Diagnostic evaluation
• Neuropsychological evaluation

For more information, call Dr. Jennifer Sumner at: 858-534-8056

Donating plasma and blood is rewarding!

Earn up to $190 a month in cash and save lives!
Requirements: 18+ years of age • Photo ID and proof of Social Security number • Proof of current address (ID, utility/household bill, rental agreement, third-party correspondence, etc.)

Bring this ad and receive a $5 BONUS on completion of your first successful plasma donation.

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~ Specialty Antibody Programs also available ~
Type 2 Diabetes can be a life-altering disease, but we may be able to influence the way it affects the lives of future generations. Medical research is exploring investigational medications to potentially manage Diabetes.

The Profil Institute for Clinical Research

is currently conducting a clinical trial investigating an oral medication that may help lower blood sugar levels.

You may be able to participate if you:

• Have Type 2 Diabetes
• Are managing your diabetes with pills but not using insulin
• Are between the ages of 25 and 65
• Are either surgically sterile or post-menopausal if you are female

You may be compensated up to $7,100 (up to 22 overnights are required).

For more information, please call:
619-409-1244
If You Or Someone You Know Suffers From **Schizophrenia** or **Schizoaffective Disorder**

and are between the ages of 18 and 65, you or that person may be eligible to participate in a clinical research trial.

Participants will receive study-related exams and investigational drug at no charge and compensation for time and travel.

**For more information, call:**

**888-619-7272**

Synergy Clinical Research Centers

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**Periods Too Heavy?**

If your periods are too heavy, a research study is underway using 2 investigational products for women with heavy menstrual periods.

If you are over 18 years of age with regular periods and struggle with this heavy flow, you may want to consider this research study.

To possibly qualify you must:

- Be at least 18 years or older
- Have heavy but regular menstrual periods
- Not presently on oral contraception or willing to go off

Participants may receive study-related:

- Exam and consultation by a board-certified physician
- Lab studies, Pap smear and ultrasound
- Compensation up to $1200 for your time and travel

For more information call:

**619-521-2841**

Medical Center for Clinical Research

---

**Hepatitis C**

Do you have Hepatitis C for which you have not received treatment? If so, you may be eligible to participate in a research study that provides medication to study patients.

To be eligible you must:

- Be 18 years or older
- Have Hepatitis C
- Never have received treatment for Hepatitis C

Contact 858.277.7177 today!

Medical Associates Research Group

---

**Investigational Drug Study**

**If You Or Someone You Know Suffers From Schizophrenia or Schizoaffective Disorder**

Are you between the ages of 18-65 and between the ages of 18-65, you or that person may be eligible to participate in a clinical research trial.

Participants will receive study-related exams and investigational drug at no charge and compensation for time and travel.

**For more information, call:**

**888-619-7272**

Synergy Clinical Research Centers

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**TIME-WASTERS AND RANDOM BITS**

1/25/01

Matthew:

What's the deal with fast-food pricing and combos? Say you're looking at a breakfast combo at Carl's Jr., but you don't want their shitty coffee. So you say, "I'll have the radiactive egg sandwich and one of those potato pucks." They always say, "You want the combo?" I reply in the negative and then get charged more than if I took their damn wimpy brown water. Why don't they punch it up as a combo and then keep the effing cup?

— Mark Brawner, the Net

Why don't you order the combo and then throw away the effing cup? You won't drink the coffee anyway; who cares where it is when you don't drink it? Yeah, I know. That would be a waste and a cave-in to the corporate goons…

We ran this past one of Carl's Juniorettes up in Anaheim, who admitted the question had never come up before. She was amazed that you did not know a good deal when you saw one… but dutifully scoured Carl Karcher's empire for death. There will always be taxes. There will never be enough parking space. There used to be five, but recent state and federal cutbacks eliminated two of them.

---

**Research Studies**

**Hepatitis C**

Do you have Hepatitis C for which you have not received treatment? If so, you may be eligible to participate in a research study that provides medication to study patients.

To be eligible you must:

- Be 18 years or older
- Have Hepatitis C
- Never have received treatment for Hepatitis C

Contact 858.277.7177 today!

Medical Associates Research Group

---

**How do sleeping pills affect pain in the brain?**

**Insomnia Volunteers Needed!**

- Are you between the ages of 18-50?
- Do you have trouble falling or staying asleep?
- Are you NOT taking any psychiatric, analgesic or sleeping medications?

If you answered YES to all of the above, you may be eligible to participate in a research study using an FDA-approved medication or placebo (an inactive drug). We will use Magnetic Resonance Brain Imaging to obtain a picture of your brain with and without the study drug while you experience experimental pain and temperature. This is a 1-week research study. All visits, treatment, and care will be at no cost to you, and you may receive up to $275 for participation.

To receive more information, call **Elena at: 858-534-7556**
or e-mail: insomniastudy@gmail.com
Do You Have Insomnia?
Synergy Clinical Research is currently conducting a study of an investigational medication for insomnia. To be eligible to participate, you must meet the following criteria:

- 18-64 years of age
- In general good health
- History of insomnia for at least 3 months
- Have difficulty initiating and staying asleep
- Sleeping less than 6.5 hours

Qualified participants may receive at no cost investigational medicine and study-related physical exams as well as compensation for time and travel.

For more information, call: 888-619-7272

ARE YOU TOO SHY?
✓ Do you get VERY NERVOUS around people?
✓ Do you FEAR being the center of attention?
✓ Do you AVOID going to social events and meeting new people?

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

For more information, call 1-877-UCSD-SHY (1-877-827-3749) or e-mail: veryshy@ucsd.edu

Smoking too much pot?
WE WANT TO HELP YOU STOP!
Researchers at the Scripps Research Institute are working to develop treatments to help you quit smoking marijuana. This 12-week program involves medication.

For more information and to see if you qualify, please call 858-784-7867 or visit www.pearsoncenter.org for more detailed information.

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tory thing, but mostly a
marketing thing, natch.
(But not just a Carl’s Jr.
thing.) First of all, you
didn’t order a combo, so
according to the order-
taker’s loyalty oath, they
can’t ring it up as a
combo. And they offer
combs not so you’ll
drink their swill but so
you’ll buy their swill.
They really don’t care
what you do with the
swill once you get it out
of their store. The big
industrial secret to any
combo deal is that it
sells more food. Any
slight loss of profit per

27/02 Mr. Alice:
Every time I see those
full-page color ads in
Parade magazine for
“collectors’ plates” and
“collectors’ dolls” and
“collectors’ porcelain
dogs,” I wonder, who are
these collectors? Why do
people buy this stuff? A
lot of it seems to be put
out by the Franklin Mint,
which sounds pretty offi-
cial but probably doesn’t
have anything to do with
Benjamin or the federal
government.
— A. Grovestead,
San Diego

Oooohhh, all those
impossibly cute uni-
corns and gold-dipped
War of the Roses com-
memorative coins and
Elvis-better-than-he-
ever-looked plates do fly
out of the warehouse. These
Sunday-supple-
ment goods fall into
what auctioneers and
collecting professionals
call a “created market.”
Until they started adver-
tising them, you didn’t
know you wanted to col-
lect the 30-piece, limited
(but not rare) edition Sad-Eyed
Porcelain Puppy series
(each piece, six easy pay-
ments of $91.36, plus
$25 shipping and han-
dling). People collect
them because they’re
“cute,” with the hope
that someday they’ll be
worth more dough than
they paid for them.
Maybe they will, but
probably not. They have
no serious artistic value,
materials value, or his-
torical value. They’re of
interest only to another
collector of adorable or
patriotic or historic
dust-catchers, should
you be able to find one.
They’re worth whatever
that buyer is willing to
pay. And the federal gov-
ernment is to the
Franklin Mint as the
World Bank is to the
dinner mint.

10/19/89
Dear Matthew Alice:
How long and how many
licks does it take to get
to the center of a Tootsie
Roll lollipop? (Preferably
grape.)
— David Carano,
University City HS

After lick number 1850,
you’re mostly through
the grape part, down to
the Tootsie Roll. Somewhere
around number 1975, reality becomes
a little fuzzy, and you have to
concentrate so you don’t lose count. At 2120
the paper handle turns soggy and floppy, and
you have to break it off. At 2291 the remaining
gob of candy falls off what’s left of the stick,
you stop counting, and you chew the thing.
The whole process takes 37 minutes.

9/29/99
Matthew, Guru of All
Worth Knowing:
Why do clowns scare the
hell out of people?
— Dickie, downtown

From personal experi-
ence, the closest the
Alices have come was a
run-in with a ghoulish
Balboa Park face-painter
with a bad case of hor-
rorholics or something.
Scared the wits out of
the elves and actually got
Alices have come was a
ence, the closest the
hell out of people?
— Dickie, downtown

From personal experi-
ence, the closest the
Alices have come was a
run-in with a ghoulish
Balboa Park face-painter
with a bad case of hor-
rorholics or something.
Scared the wits out of
the elves and actually got

1. Leonardo da Vinci
invented the scissors.
2. Our eyes never grow
from birth, but our noses
and ears never stop grow-
ing. 3. A duck’s quack
doesn’t echo and no one
knows why. 4. The winter
of 1932 was so cold
Niagara Falls froze solid.
5. If the population of China
walked past you in a single
file, the line would never
end because of the rate
of reproduction.…..

1. Wrong, Egyptians,
3000 years ago. 2.
Wrong. Eyeballs do
grow. Slightly. 3. Maybe
they’re baffled
because — it’s not true.

Health & Beauty Guide

Free 24-hour hotline for frequently asked questions: 619-233-9797

Call anytime and enter a four-digit extension, or visit our website: SDReader.com/health

Extension 7010
Abdominoplasty/
Tummy Tuck
1. What is abdominoplasty? 2. Full v. mini v. Liposuction

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9834 Genesee Ave., Suite 311, La Jolla
866-413-2917 bolitho.md

Extension 7070
Breast Surgery

D. Glynn Bolitho, MD, PhD, FACS
9834 Genesee Ave., Suite 311, La Jolla
866-413-2917 bolitho.md

Extension 7080
Laser Eye Surgery

Farazad Seydouri, MD
Global Laser Vision Medical Center
6950 Friars Rd., Suite 100
Mission Valley
800-438-5274
globallaservision.com

Extension 7090
Hair Transplant/ Restoration

Bass Medical
Hair Restoration, Inc.
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Ste. 245, La Jolla
858-546-0960
bmr@rosscmg.com

Extension 7030
LipoSculpture

Sadrian Cosmetic Surgery Center, Inc.
9834 Genesee Ave. #500
La Jolla
858-457-1111
sadrian.cosmeticsurgery.com

Extension 7040
Cosmetic Dentistry

Dr. A. Shojima
Extreme Smile Maker
9277 Balboa Avenue
Clairmont
858-751-5733

Extension 7100
Cosmetic Dentistry

Dr. A. Shojima
Extreme Smile Maker
9277 Balboa Avenue
Clairmont
858-751-5733

Extension 7110
Tanning

Mario S. Yco, MD, FACS
477 N. El Camino Real,
Suite A-210, Encinitas
760-844-4211
facesurgery.com

Extension 7100
Face-lift

Marie S. Yco, MD, FACS
477 N. El Camino Real,
Suite A-210, Encinitas
760-844-4211
facesurgery.com

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- Jessner’s Peel
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- Cosmelan Acne
  To regulate oily and acneic skin

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- For rosacea, redness and flushing

*$50 off for first treatment for Laser Hair Removal or Facial procedures only, new patients. Must present coupon at time of procedure. No cash value. Cannot be applied retroactively to prior procedures. Some restrictions may apply. Cannot be combined with any other offers or coupons. Expires 7/28/07.
4. Make that 1936, and even then it’s not true. 5. Doubtful, given the difficulty of reproducing while walking single file.

HIGH JINKS OF THE RICH AND FAMOUS
9/28/95
Dear Matthew Alice:

Was Olivia Newton-John ever kissed by Albert Einstein?

— Milton F., Normal Heights

Usually I don’t care which way the facts fall. True, false; you’re right, you’re wrong — as long as my paycheck doesn’t bounce, it’s all the same to me. But this time I really hoped I’d dig up some stories about Einstein and the Newton-Johns picnicking by the Thames, Uncle Albert giving giggly Olivia horse rides and noogies and a friendly smooch…. Instead, nuts, I came up with nothing. Albert Einstein never kissed Olivia Newton-John. He never even met her. Personally, I’m bummed. It should have happened. It could have happened. Olivia, born in Cambridge, England, in 1948, is the…grand-daughter of Max Born, a German physicist who won a Nobel Prize in 1954. Fellow Nobelist (1921) Einstein was a friend of Max and his family. According to Einstein biographies, Max visited the Einsteins in Berlin and entertained them with his fiddle playing; Albert took some of Max’s scientific papers with him on his honeymoon. So it’s not so crazy that Einstein just maybe, somehow, might have met Max’s granddaughter and given her a friendly peck on her little toddler cheek. (Olivia was only seven when Einstein died.) But the president of Hopelessly Devoted, the ON-J fan club, says she only met her grandpa Max once and never met Einstein at all. But I’d like to believe she was thinking of them when she sang her hit “Let’s Get Physicists.”

1/19/06
Hey, Matt:

I was digging through some old books from junior high school and came across A Star Trek Catalog, and I noticed a listing of Star Trek fan clubs. One was Star Fleet Club of La Jolla with a Paul Jacobs [with a La Jolla street address] as the point of contact. Is this the same Paul Jacobs that now runs Qualcomm?  — JM, San Diego

Jeez, where’s a mole when you need one? We tried all our insider tricks to get at the source for this answer, but I guess we’re not insider enough. Which suits me fine, actually. There are other ways to crack this nut. So in the late ’70s, when this book was published, exactly where was the Jacobs family? According to a brief published bio, Dad (Irwin M.) had just finished a stint as a professor at UCSD. So where, precisely, did they live? Zap to the always-helpful public library. Look through the really old San Diego phone books. And there he is, Irwin M., at the same La Jolla address given in the Star Trek book. So, by the excruciatingly exacting standards of the Matthew Alice Center for More or Less Correct

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Information, we declare Dr. Paul Jacobs, CEO, Qualcomm, to be the former lead Trekkie of the Star Fleet Club of La Jolla. We don’t have first-hand confirmation of this, mind you. I might get a flurry of outraged memos from some suits at the big Q. If so, I’ll pass them along. But when you think about it, it’s unlikely that Paul Jacobs is the only tech exec who, as an inquiring tad, was fascinated by the Star Fleet. He was just unlucky enough to get caught at it.

5/30/02
Hey Matt: Why all the goofy names for racehorses? They’ve got names like Harlan’s Holiday, Essence of Dubai, Itselfinthechase, etc. Why not Blurry or Mr. Ed?
— Pete Collins, San Diego

Rich people make them up. It’s one of the fun things you get to do when you have a lot of money. Examples of the madcap imagination of your average millionaire. Thoroughbreds are usually named by their owners, according to a spokesfilly from the Jockey Club, where all thoroughbreds must be registered before they can race in California. There are only three rules to follow; after that, the sky’s the limit.

(1) Names can contain a maximum of 18 characters, including the spaces between names and any punctuation. As a result, Hillaryscircuspony, a recent entry at Hollywood Park, has no room for the possessive apostrophe. (2) You can’t name your horse Amalgamated Coat Hangers to get free publicity. One lady tried to register her horse as Snickers. She just thought the name was cute. No, said the Jockey Club. It’s a candy bar. (3) If you want to name your horse after a person, you have to get that person’s permission. Some names are a combination of the names of the horse’s parents or perhaps relatives of the owner. You have plenty of time to think these things up when you’re rich enough to own racehorses.

NONE OF YOUR BEESWAX!
10/24/02
Dear Matthew Alice:
Let’s get the straightest straight from the hip. Who are you? I find no Matthew Alice in the staff listing. Am I asexual? We are more than one person: Matthew and Alice! I am plagued with doubt. And don’t tell me it’s none of my business. After all, we know who Ann Landers really is. We don’t care, but we know.
— A Concerned San Diegan

And about Matthew Alice, I guess we’ll just have to say that we don’t know, but we care. Thanks. I’m touched.

2/21/02
Hey:
Are the Keebler elves related to your elves?
— Skitch, Solana Beach

The Alice elves actually tried out for that Keebler gig. Practiced for weeks, went to the audition, sang and tap danced...
Health & Beauty Coupons at SDReader.com!

Here’s a small sample to get you inspired!

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Highly skilled professionals. Choose from 25 masas or female HHP-certified therapists. Gift certificates available.
975 Hornblend, Suite B, Pacific Beach, 858-274-9898
Reader Coupons 619-295-3600

$500 off LASIK surgery

$250 per eye. Most PPOs and Vision Insurance accepted. Glasses and contact lenses on site. Must register for free consultation on www.ncelasik.com and mention this coupon. Offer expires July 31, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.
North County Laser Eye Associates
LASIK Eye Surgery, Cataract and Eyelid Surgery, Diabetic Eye Exams, Fashion Sunglass Boutique
1900 Calli Barcelona, Suite 208, Carlsbad (in the Forum), 760-830-8986
Reader Coupons 619-236-3000

$100 off Natural Gum Care Program

For qualified patients. Offer expires July 31, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.
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Center for Holistic Dentistry. Your path to a healthier smile.
4403 Manchester Avenue, Suite 208B, Encinitas, 760-632-1304
Reader Coupons 619-295-3600

Refresh body spa package $150

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Associated Barber College $9 haircut, razor shave & facial
Balance Point Massage 20% off therapeutic massage
BareSK inc $25 Brazilian wax
Beauti Salon Free haircut with purchase
Bee Tan Salon Free Magic Tan
Bella Pella Medical Spa $25 off treatment
Beyond White Teeth whitening $80 off
Brasil Skin Care La Jolla $35 Brazilian bikini was $35
Corr & Campbell Dental Insurance Dental insurance $150mo.
Carole & Deb’s Nails Free designer haircut ($25 value)
Center for Age Management $10 off any service
Chey’s Touch Massage Massage services $99
Continuum Aesthetics $250 off Voluma
Cosmetic Laser & Skin Rejuvenation Botox $9 per unit
Farhad Dena, DDS Free full mouth teeth whitening
For carved Old Town 1 hour teeth whitening $159
Decarex 6 months free
Derm Aesthetics Free medical microdermabrasion
Dental Rejuvenation & Day Spa Free massage
Dr. Campbell Medical Group $100 off hair transplant
Dimension Salon 12 off chemical services
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Dream Smile ZOOM! & teeth whitening $199
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Facial Center of La Jolla $25 off Botox
Family Dentistry Free teeth whitening
Dr. Reuben Green $200 off ZOOM! Advanced Power
Global Laser Cosmetic Free facial
Global Laser Vision Free consultation & eye exam
Glow M.D. Skin Care Free underscalp hair removal plug
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Hair by Michele $200 off hair extensions
Hair by Tempi $50 off 1st thermal relaxer
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New Tan $2 for tan
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North County Laser Eye Associates $100 off LASIK
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Pacific Dental Group $225 off crowns
Papilla Family & Cosmetic Medicine $30 off Radiance
Pawl Skin & Spa 1 hr. facial, massage or microdermabrasion $45
Pretty Kitty $30 Brazilian wax
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Real Dental Care Exam, x-rays, cleaning $49
Revelationz Free laser hair removal package
Revive Shonoularyogen experience $10
Reveil Salon & Spa $100 off 1 hour teeth whitening
Rose Canyon $50 off manicure
Rosa Med Hair Restoration $250 off 300 transplanted hairs
Salon Soleil $10 off precision haircut
S.D. Skin Care 2-hour facial $35
S.D. Wax Queen 25 Brazilian wax
Dr. Seby Contacts & exam $12
Shumway Institute $50 off Botox or Restylane
Simply Slimmer Day Spa $40 off and Fat Burner
Skin Science $50 off single hair removal
Skin Trade $10 off waxing
Silt Touch Dental 21 $249
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Wohn’s Acupressure 10% off acupuncture
World Spa 3 spa treatments $149
their little hearts out, only to lose the job to cousins in the Midwest branch of the family. True snobs who love to talk about how their ancestors came to America on a very tiny replica of the Mayflower. It's a sore

subject around here.

10/12/95

Dear Matthew Alice: I'd like to photograph you. Please entertain this request.

— A.S., San Diego

Well, I'd probably open with a little juggling — a calculator, a nectarine, and a flaming volume of the Encyclopedia Americana. Then some impressions — Plato? Aretha? The same slob dancing. Then a big fin-

ish: maybe "I Gotta Be Me."

WE SALUTE GRANDMA ALICE

3/1/01

Hey, Matt: Why do people cry when they're sad? Crying when you're sad doesn't seem to have any biological pur-

pose.

— Boo-hoo, the Net

Matthew: Why do people cry when they're happy?

— Ruth, San Diego

Nobody boo-hoos like Grandma Alice, and there's nothing like a field trip to bring science to life. C'mon. I think she's in the kitchen.
Hi, Grandma. You’ve got company.

“Oh, Matthew, who are all these people? We don’t have enough chairs. I hope you’re not expecting me to make coffee. Oh, Matthew….”


“Matthew! What —” Squeeze in, people. Plenty of room. Uh-oh. What crashed? Well, we’ll clean it up later.

“That was spaghetti sauce. For dinner tonight. Oh, Matthew!”

Okay, people. There are three kinds of tears, and chemically they’re all a little different. About 20 tear glands contribute different chemicals to the mix. The first kind of tears constantly washes over your eyeballs to keep them clean and moist. The second type is what you get when you get poked in the eye, chop an onion, break your arm, or have your ears pierced. Here, Grandma, let me demonstrate.

“What? You’re not going to poke me in the eye, are you? My ears are going to poke me in the eye, are you? My ears are already pierced! Here, Grandma. Blow your nose on this dish towel.

“Matthew, get out of my kitchen and take these people with you!”

That prolactin stuff is a hormone that’s related to physical maturation of girls and to lactation, so here’s one key to the speculation about why women cry about four times more frequently than men do. Naturally high prolactin levels can make a person more prone to weeping at the drop of a hat.

“And you’re going to be crying four times harder than I did if you don’t get out of here. Now!”

Just a sec, Grandma. So —

“Eek! What’s that smell? Smoke! Something’s on fire! Oh, Matthew! Boo-hoo-boo-hoo-hoo!”
Unforgettable

LONG-AGO SAN DIEGO

THE LEMON GROVE INCIDENT

(Part One)

In 1928, the Lemon Grove Chamber of Commerce commissioned Alberto Treganza to design a float for San Diego’s Fourth of July parade. An A.I.A. architect with a degree from Columbia University, Treganza envisioned the world’s largest lemon: 7x12 feet, 35,000 pounds, and made of plaster. Treganza’s friend, Eddie Dunn, constructed the float, which rode on a truck from the local packing house.

Jeff Treganza’s daughter, Amorita, was the first “Miss Lemon Grove” for the parade. Five handmaidens attended her, surrounded by a cornucopia of citrus from the town that boasted “the best climate on earth.”

Alberto would later design numerous National Register buildings and residences (and co-designed San Diego’s first police station, near present-day Seaport Village, with the Quaye brothers in 1938). But in 1930 he had fallen on hard times. The Great Depression struck the country. Every job mattered.

To make ends meet, Treganza’s wife, Antwonet, rose every morning before dawn to bake the bread and rolls she sold at Sonka Brothers General Merchandise Store in Lemon Grove.

In the fall of 1930, while the school board asked him to design a one-story wooden building on the northwest corner of Olive Street and North Avenue — the heart of the Mexican-American community — Treganza took the job. “He just thought it was an extra school because the district was growing,” Amorita told an interviewer decades later. “He didn’t know it would be an Americanization school.”

Called Olive Street School, or School #2 — and La Caballeriza (“the barnyard”) by the Mexican-American students who refused to attend it — the two-room, hastily built structure triggered the nation’s first successful school desegregation case in 1931.

Americanization schools began in the 1920s as classes for Mexican-American students. Usually held at night, they taught English, hygiene, civics, and, later, vocational training. Joan Moore, author of The Mexican Americans: “It was said that Latinos had a ‘language handicap’ and needed to be ‘Americanized’ before mixing with Anglo children.” Additionally, Latinos “in an integrated school would hinder the progress of white American children.”

Individual classes evolved into separate schools. By the late 1920s an estimated 80 percent of Southern California’s districts had segregated institutions. And in many integrated schools, Latinos weren’t allowed to speak Spanish, even on the playground.

Lemon Grove had Americanization classes as early as 1924. But since they were held at Lemon Grove Grammar School (LGGS), few questioned their intent.

On July 23, 1930, the all-Anglo PTA decided that the five-room, 169-student school had become overcrowded. Endorsed by the chamber of commerce, the PTA requested the school board build a separate facility for the 75 Mexican-American students just six blocks from the original.

At a special emergency meeting on August 13, the board claimed that LGGS was more than overcrowded: Mexican-American students had “morals” and “sanitary” issues. About the latter, Lemon Grove historian Donald Heyser speculated: a toilet had backed up; also, in rainy weather students had to hop from stone to stone to cross the creek, crossing the path of the Lemon Grove and Imperial Avenue. The creek may or may not have contained “effluent” from the LGGS cesspool.

Some Anglo parents complained of having to wash their children’s hair with kerosene to rid them of “head lice” they got from Mexican students. Heyser: “This must have been a good year for head lice, just as we have good years for fleas. In all my association with my Mexican friends, including visits in their homes, I never got any head lice.”

None of the stated reasons for school #2, Heyser notes, refers to learning ability or language difficulties. “They clearly indicate racial segregation based on Mexican parentage or descent.”

According to the minutes of the August 13 meeting, school board trustees “agreed to move the Mexican children to a school of their own.” Two committees formed: one to estimate costs; the other, to “determine the feeling of the Mexican population.”

The cost, including a one-acre lot and the structure, came to $3500. Eddie Dunn won the contract with the lowest bid. Whether PTA members actually consulted with the Latino community is unknown. Minutes of the meetings suggest that members assumed students sent to the new school, and their parents, wouldn’t mind at all.

Nick Cesehia, who owned a tractor and contracted agricultural jobs for Latinos, lived across the street from #2. As he watched the building go up, he said it looked more like an “old house” than new school and was smaller than the 48’ x 72’ board claimed. Even a large playground with two swings and a teeter-totter couldn’t gain favor in the neighborhood.

The Mexican-American community didn’t know it would be an Americanization school, though many began to suspect, since these were popping up across the country.

If it is one, Maria Smith Alvarez remembered a parent saying, “everything in that barn will be second hand”: the books would be outdated, the teachers less qualified than at LGGS — they would receive $80 to $100 less per year (the Latino community didn’t know that the new school would have only two teachers — for grades 1–4 and 5–8, which would lump students of various ages and abilities and further restrict their growth). La Caballeriza grew into yet another sign of three-quarters of a century.

In 1930, unemployment reached six million in the United States. Mexican-American citizens and Mexican immigrants became scapegoats for the Depression in the Southwest. Afraid that what Kenneth L. Roberts called “the brown flood of immigrants” would take jobs and welfare from Anglo citizens, President Herbert Hoover instigated a national health and beauty

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Communities such as Lemon Grove, where Mexicans congegated and lived together in little Mexico, became targets of public and official action. On December 16, 1930, the board held its regular meeting at the grammar school. Among those in attendance were Andy Anderson, president; Ed Owen and his wife Claire, who was PTA secretary; Bill Kramer of the Chamber of Commerce; and Jerome T. Greene, principal of the Lemon Grove Grammar School.

People wondered why Greene, an elegantly dressed PhD who spoke with a precise British accent, had chosen to live in such a rural community. A mystery even attached to his last name: did it have three or just two? Anderson, one of America’s early pilots, owned Lemon Grove’s first gas station — which repaired cars and airplanes. He announced that School #2 was almost completed. The board voted to open it on January 5, 1931, the first Monday after Christmas vacation. Anderson told Greene to make arrangements moving the two assigned teachers — Florence Markland and Kathryn Elliott — books, and desks. On opening day Greene would make the separation, ordering...
Latino students to walk to the new school.

Greene asked, shouldn’t the families receive “some official notice” of the change? Minutes of the meeting say: “It was decided best not to commit the Board in writing”— which suggests the board felt either that none was necessary, or that advance notice might stir resentment in the tightly knitted Latino community.

Greene, who was new to Lemon Grove and had been principal for less than a year, disobeyed orders. He asked 12-year-old Roberto Alvarez to circulate a sheet of paper among the Latino community. It didn’t announce the change. Greene obeyed that order. Instead he asked if the change took place, those students who would go to the “barnyard” should sign on one side; those who wouldn’t, the other.

Before Alvarez could take the paper around, his uncle, Ricardo Castellanos, ripped it to shreds.

Word spread. The “if” about the new school being segregated had become a “when” — and what to do? Urged by Castellanos and Juan Gonzalez, families met, groups gathered. They eventually formed El Comité de Vecinos de Lemon Grove (The Lemon Grove Neighborhood Committee) and held more formal meetings.

One reason the school strike was a success: the Latino community was accustomed to coming together. Decades of family ties and shared experiences — migrating up the Baja mining circuit, helping others find homes or employment — had bonded them. Lemon Grove offered work in orchards and agricultural fields.
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at the packing house, at a quarry in Spring Valley, and at the railroad. Robert Alvarez, Jr., "Lemon Grove resembled the towns from which migrants had come. It was a self-contained community that provided available jobs and support from kin and friends." Alvarez adds, "Across the border in the nearby towns of Tijuana, Tecate, Mexico, and Ensenada, no similar definable network developed."

Many of the families had lived in Lemon Grove for decades. Networks had formed by marriages, god-parenting, cultural events, and funerals. Creating the Neighbors Committee was a logical step. But not everyone agreed about what to do.

"The new school was funny," Maria Smith Alvarez told interviewer Paul Espinosa. "Even if it meant being with our friends, we still didn’t like it. We could tell the difference."

Americanization schools taught English. But, Latino parents argued at a neighborhood gathering, wouldn’t it be better for those with a “language handicap” to learn English among English speakers? That’s how 12-year-old Robert Alvarez became fluent. And what about Carlos Smith? He’s a Mexican American who doesn’t know Spanish — needs it translated, in fact. Will they send him to the new school?

In the 1986 docudrama The Lemon Grove Incident, that gathering is both recalled by the original students, then in their late 60s and early 70s, and recreated by actors.

“I work for the county,” a man spoke up. “If I tell my child not to go, I might get fired.”

Latinos do the work “that no one else would do,” another added. “Who will pick their lemons? Who will clean their house?”

The Depression had a new answer to those questions. Dustbowl migrants, known as “Okies,” were coming West by the thousands in jalopies and run-down trucks and taking whatever job they could find. They had lost their homes and farms and would pick lemons and “cut cots” for a pittance to survive. They’d deem a job in the packing house — its corrugated tin walls making it an oven in the summer — a blessing from on high.

On December 29, the board held a special meeting. Ceilings are unfinished, Anderson announced. Rooms need paint and more shelf space.
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THEIR LITTLE WORLD

Mission Beach

In Mission Beach, every foot of space counts. Five surf shops, four bars, a handful of restaurants, a resort hotel, a Turkish-style coffee lounge, and an amusement park all fit within its bounds, packed in and amongst the beachside homes. At North Jetty Road, the southwestern cap of Mission Beach, is a well-known locals-only surf spot; at the north end is the Catamaran Hotel, a ritzy vacation spot with suites costing up to $800 a night.

Hanging on to a true beach-town feel amid the commercialism is no easy feat, but Mission Beach keeps it real. Fourteen streets and 46 walkways cross Mission Boulevard, emptying out onto the brown mud banks of the bay on the east and the tan sand of the Pacific Ocean on the west. Scraps of blue sky peek out from between the rows of homes; clouds pass lazily overhead. Here, boxy stucco houses with tailored lawns sit next to fading wooden shacks whose gardens sprawl haphazardly across the scant patches of front yard. Towels flap on clotheslines; wet suits hang over balcony rails; surfboards lie piled on porches, still dewy from morning sessions. Paint has peeled, façades dulled, and cars rusted, but this only adds to the accessibility of the place. Neighbors congregate on the sidewalks for quick chats; people wave at each other from the windows of cars. Surfers hose down boards, talking amongst themselves; shop owners linger outside storefronts, smoking and chatting and watching the street traffic. Restaurants cater to the sweat-shirt-and-shorts crowd and more often than not have outdoor seating. Houses face the streets and walkways, few blocked from view by trees or hedges, which gives the area an open, friendly look. Few people, at first glance, appear stressed; Mission Beach is, it seems, a place to relax.

The most conspicuous feature in Mission Beach is at the busy intersection of Mission Boulevard, Ventura Place, and Mission Bay Drive. This is the home of Belmont Park, part carnival, part shopping mall, part food court. The tracks of the Giant Dipper roller coaster clack as the cars go by overhead; bored vendors stand behind stacks of overpriced wares; small children pull haggard parents toward the fray. The artificial barrel waves at the WaveHouse pound along to thumping music as kids and adults flip and shriek on their boards, flying through the spray. The smell of
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deep-frying and cooking oil wafts on the breeze as chatter from the outdoor patio spills over onto the boardwalk, where skaters and bikers weave through the slow crowd.

Throng of teenagers atop the cement seawall lining the boardwalk kick their sneakered feet against its cracking side and tease and jostle each other. Their backpacks and skateboards lie piled like sandbags below them. Bikini-clad girls giggle and jostle each other. Their eyes. Slouching, sweat-shirted boys, cans of beer in hand, alternately shrink and expand under the sun's warming rays. Surfers jet along whitewash, and skaters and bikers weave through the slow crowd.

"They have thought the distinction is made because Belmont Park neatly separates the Mission Beach sections of Mission Beach, " says Scott Crosby, who has owned a house in Mission Beach for three years. "West Mission Bay Drive, the main artery into Mission Beach, hits Mission Boulevard right there, bisecting Mission Beach," he continues. All in all, there are few differences between the two areas, though the north end has more businesses and the south end is almost all residential. "As a result of the no-through-street aspect of South Mission," says Crosby, "it's much quieter and is a bit quieter, in a way not unlike OB is, since only those who have business there venture that way."

Compared to other San Diego beach communities, Mission Beach is a baby; Pacific Beach and Coronado were well into their development stages by the time Mission Beach came into the picture. In 1914, John Spreckels and George L. Barney submitted a plan to the City of San Diego outlining their concept for the area. Spreckels wanted a resort hotel and elegant homes, and Barney jumped on board. But due to poor finances they had somewhat of a false start. The erection of a bridge between Ocean Beach and Mission Beach in 1915 put Mission Beach on the map as accessible, beautiful, and investment-worthy.

The Father of Mission Beach, as he is known, was J.M. Asher, the developer who in 1916 spearheaded Mission Beach's Tent City. Pictures from the era show neat rows of striped, circus-like tents interspersed with curious accommodations, and while not the most luxurious residences. The Redondo Court bathhouse, once an icon of what is now called the Father of Mission Beach, none of his developments still stand. Tent City was dismantled in 1922 in response to new, stricter city codes regarding temporary housing and was soon replaced by permanent residences. The Redondo Court bathhouse, once an icon of what is now referred to as Old Mission Beach, was torn down in the '50s, replaced eventually by a parking lot, and...
still later by condos.
Spreckels had better luck than Asher did; some of what he built remains. In 1925, he constructed what was then called the Mission Beach Amusement Center, hoping to increase real estate interest in Mission Beach. The result was a games carnival, a ballroom, the Plunge swimming pool, and the Giant Dipper roller coaster, which is the second-oldest coaster ride in California. But Spreckels’s structures were in for a bumpy ride; the amusement center, renamed Belmont Park in 1957, stalled out in the ’60s and ’70s, closing in December 1976.
For years it remained closed, a prime spot for transients to set up camp. The Giant Dipper caught fire twice in 1981, surviving only to fall into further ruin. The surrounding area, which is now home to Mission Beach’s prime strip of tourist shops, began to deteriorate as well. Ventura Place became shabbier and shabbier as years progressed, and it took on a seedy, dangerous air.
Shannan Renna, who bartends at the Coaster Saloon, her father’s bar on Ventura Place, remembers the mid-’80s as a difficult time for Mission Beach. “Ventura Place looked horrible back then,” Renna says, recalling the years before the eventual cleanup. “Everything was run-down, and it was just a place for transients and junkies and stuff like that.”
John Renna, according to his daughter, was largely responsible for picking the area up. “His goal was to try and clean up the street,” Shannan Renna explains, “and back then, 23 years ago, we were the first to improve the face of the buildings and make it look nicer.”
Renna’s father also championed the Giant Dipper restoration cause, helping to form the Save the Coaster Committee, which took possession of the coaster in 1982 and began raising funds to restore it. “He has a lifetime pass to go on it,” Renna says proudly. “It’s really cool.”
Threatened with demolition, the coaster had been added to the
MISSIONS AND BEACHES: A Guide to Street Names in Mission Beach

It was natural that the main thoroughfare through Mission Beach should be called Mission Boulevard. But it is in the naming of the sixty-five short east-west passageways which intersect the boulevard that the developers showed a flash of genius. As if to cement still further their tie to the historic mission, the developers took a bold approach: they named some of the east-west streets after missions, and the rest for beaches. It was as simple as that: “mission” plus “beach” equals “Mission Beach.”

Not all east-west passageways were alike. A few — thirteen on the original map, to be exact — were some twenty-four feet wide and traversable by car. Each of these was designated as a “Place,” not a “Street.” The remaining fifty-two, interspersed between the Places, were ten-foot-wide walkways, and each became a “Court.”

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Vehicular access to lots on the Courts was via unnamed east-west alleys which ran parallel to the Courts. If by today’s standards lots were small and access inadequate, it is well to remember that the beach was conceived as a summer resort only, that the automobile was still a novelty in 1914, and that the north end of the beach was intended to become an owner-occupied tent city.

Since the Places were slightly more grandiose than the Courts, it fell to their honor to be named for the missions.

With twenty-one California missions to choose from, and (in 1914) only thirteen Places, not all mission names were used. Others were abbreviated, but not to the point of losing their identity. So, from south to north, came marching a stately procession of missions, accurately arranged in south-to-north order as the real missions appeared on the map.

Thus came into being the thirteen Places named for missions, and their stepsister, Santa Rita, not of the same blood line. Then the fun began, in the naming of the Courts. The concept of “beaches” was charitably enlarged to include spas, harbors, and even islands, in order to conform to the letters of the alphabet. The Courts in Mission Beach, like streets in many other sections of the city, were named in alphabetical order. The A’s began at the south and Z was at the north. Since there were fifty-two Courts and only twenty-six alphabet letters, obviously some letters had to be used more than once. Also, some letters have a stubborn way of resisting initial use. The developers did quite well, though; they omitted only U and X.

Only two names in the “Court” series of the 1914 map defy identification as shoreline names. Embarrassingly enough, one is Aspin, the very first Court at the south end. The other Court without a watery pedigree is Vanie, V-a-n-i-t-i-e. With such self-conscious misspelling, it was probably the coined name.

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Flushing, Folkstone, Galloway, Gloucester, Harbor, and Huntington Courts, all on the 1914 map, and all sea-related, were eliminated from the 1924 map. They were in the area occupied by Belmont Park today.

prising lads designed the over the line tournament, an event that started in the '50s with only a handful of young men and a little corner of the beach. Around that same time, the same young men responsible for the tournament banded together to form the Old Mission Beach Athletic Club, more commonly known as OMBAC, a sporting organization dedicated at first to over the line and volleyball tournaments. The Old Mission Beach Athletic Club now boasts just under 500 members and runs several events, including wheelchair basketball, a surfing contest, and a horseshoe competition.

Delmar Miller was one of the original over the line players. “We decided to throw a tournament,” he says. “It got a little bit bigger, so we came...
down to the very end of the beach and started playing it down there, and it kept growing and growing, so we couldn’t play there anymore. So we went to Mariner’s Point and started playing there for a few years. And it kept growing, so finally they let us have Fiesta Island. Now, last year, we had almost 1200 teams."

Though billed as a "tournament," over the line is mainly for kicks. "Creating the tournament, " over the 1200 teams. "

It started growing, so finally they let us have Fiesta Island. Now, in the last few years, we have been at Mariner’s Point because they started to give it down there, and it kept growing and growing, so we couldn’t play there anymore."

So we threw a party and had a Cadaver division! "We’re getting so old now we have a Cadaver division!" quips Miller.

In addition to its roster of sporting activities, the Old Mission Beach Athletic Club hosts the annual Coming Out Party, a summertime bash originally held in honor of Delmar Miller’s release from a Korean POW camp in 1953. Upon his return home to Mission Beach, Miller was greeted by a flock of friends who had taken up a collection on his behalf. "They had a great big jug full of money, and they started to give it to me," Miller remembers, "and I said, ‘I don’t need any money, I haven’t been paid in two years. Why don’t we break it open and throw a great big party?’ So we threw a party and had about 100 people." Decades later, the Coming Out Party is a Mission Beach hallmark event that draws thousands. This year’s party, held on May 19 at Mariner’s Point, was sponsored by big names such as Budweiser and Viejas, a far cry from its grassroots beginning. Still, Miller is modest. "I’m not into the limelight thing," he says. "The Coming Out Party isn’t the only bash of the season. Thousands of college kids descend upon Mission Beach during spring break for a seven-day stretch of partying. MTV, which often takes its show on the road to spring-break hotspots such as Cancun and Miami, broadcast live from Mission Beach in..."
1994 and filmed its popular show *Total Request Live* from the WaveHouse in May 2006. “Spring break is pretty crazy,” says Ray Adhoot, owner and manager of Ray’s Rentals, a shop that rents surfboards, skates, and bikes. “I mean, the hooligans are on the beach doing their drinking, and it’s nuts. The cops are out in force, on horseback, ATV, motorcycle, bicycle.” Parties aside, the locals have their own watering holes: the Pen- nant and the Beachcomber on Mission Boule- vard, and the Sandbar and the Coaster Saloon on Ventura Place. “It’s cool,” Adhoot says offhandedly. “You go up here to these bars, and you see everyone you see on the streets dur- ing the day. That’s what I like about it, anyway.” The population rise in the summer months has its merits, though it means more out-of-towners. “I think that a lot of locals like the tourist season, embrace it, especially guys, ’cause there’s chicks around in the summer,” Adhoot says. “But I think everyone is definitely ready to see them go when August is ending and they’re leaving.” July 4, he says, is his busiest time, when he will often rent

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out all his equipment by phone before the crowds even arrive. “For me, I wish it could be like that all year. I’d be making a killing,” he muses. “I could retire early. But I’m ready to see them go, too.”

Only some aren’t going anywhere. More and more people with padded pockets are discovering Mission Beach. They drop thousands of dollars on vacation rentals or buy houses along the beachfront. Up and down the courts, cottages are being converted to condominiums. Skeletons of two-story houses rise above their more modest neighbors, and Dumpsters in driveways brim with debris.

Todd Bartlett, owner of the Liquid Foundation surf shop on Mission Boulevard, points out the construction sites that line the streets. “Twenty-five years ago when you went up and down all these courts, there were little shacks, little beach houses, and they were full of four and five and six kids,” he explains. “They had bunk beds and surfboards, and everybody surfed, and it was like a surfing-culture community. But over the last 10 or 12 years, they knocked down these little shacks worth $250,000 to $300,000 and then sell the land to somebody for half a million, then stick another half a million on it and build a million-dolar condo.”

He worries that the area is turning into another Newport Beach, that it’s losing its fun, laid-back beach-town vibe. “You’ve got people with really nice cars and a lot of money, and they want the beach to look a certain way,” he says. “I had to take my stickers down two weeks ago because a lady complained. Sixteen years I’ve been down here, 200 something stickers on
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my window. Nice, rich lady bought her new house, doesn’t like my shop having stickers on the windows. There’s a little law saying you can only have a certain amount of stickers on your window, so she counted my stickers, and I had to remove them. Frustrated, he lets his arms fall to his sides. “So there you go,” he says with a sigh.

“Our neighborhood is evolving,” says Susan Thorning, who has just finished a term as chair of the Mission Beach Precise Planning Board, a citizens’ advisory committee on local planning issues. “The little places, older people are dying or people in the family are selling,” she says. “They want to take advantage of the income, because the market’s started shifting, so the dynamic in the whole community is shifting.”

Thorning echoes Todd Bartlett when she explains the building boom. “You buy a piece of property, and you spend $500,000 for the land and you’re taking the house down,” she begins. “Here in the area, a house is probably $700,000 or $800,000 for a shack lot, and you’re tearing it down. So what did you just spend for the land? Seven or eight hundred thousand dollars. And then you have to build something on it. And what are you going to do, are you going to put the little cottage back? How are you going to make your money on it? “Some people are saying that they’re concerned that there are boxes going up, because people are trying to maximize building on the space,” Thorning says. “They’ll say that one developer will put up two buildings side by side, because they’ll buy two pieces of property, and the only difference is that one...
building mirrors the other, that the door is on the opposite side, but they look exactly the same. And they’re concerned about that. They want the unique nature of each property being different to be there."

While the precise planning board can do little about the style of the new buildings, ordinances have been able to duck the restriction by raising the grade — the starting point on which they plan to build — to gain a few feet. The city council is reviewing the matter.

"People are very concerned about abuse of the grade and the 30-foot height limit, because a lot of them have based their purchases of homes on some embrace that freedom, others find it problematic. The debate prompted District 2 Councilman Kevin Faulconer to form a Beach Alcohol Task Force, which had an impressive community turnout at its inaugural meeting on October 30. House parties, noise levels, bad beach behavior, and DUIDs were hot topics, along with the question of how to improve the community.

This came on the heels of a drastic turn of events in August 2006, the Mission Beach Town Council, another citizens’ advisory committee, voted 64-5 to ban alcohol on the beach altogether, something that has not been implemented by the San Diego City Council.

The town council faces strong opposition from groups like FreePB.org, an organization opposed to alcohol regulations for both Pacific Beach and Mission Beach. If the ban were to go into effect, it would, in the beach areas are the prime reason you come here. So even if you have a small postage-stamp view, you have a view.”

Another issue is alcohol, which is allowed on the beach between noon and 8:00 p.m. Mission Beach is one of several stretches of San Diego shore where waterfront drinking is allowed. While views cannot be impeded by trees, balconies, or any other structure, and buildings must not exceed 30 feet, something that’s been a topic of great debate. In some instances, builders offer some protection of what is already there. On one side of the courts, for example, the roofs of new buildings must be angled a certain way to ensure that sunlight gets into yards to help prevent mildew.

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- Over 25 years experience and highly recommended top hair specialist in Southern California

• No fee for O.R. and anesthesia, follow-up visits, medications, supplies, etc.

DeYarman Medical Group
3292 Holiday Court, Ste. 204, La Jolla
www.deyamanmedical.com
1-800-FOR-HAIR
or 858-558-4700

Before

After

according to Adhoot, “suck.” This beach would completely turn into a soft little family beach, which it’s totally not right now,” he says adamantly. “Right now it’s a young party beach, definitely. If you want the nice beach, you go to, like, La Jolla Shores or even to Del Mar, if you really don’t want alcohol at all.”

Bartlett, though he sees the merits in setting limits, concurs. “They want to claim alcohol causes problems. Well, I agree,” he says. “Every time I’ve been in trouble, I’ve been drunk.” He pauses, leaning against Liquid Foundation’s front counter. “But to take away a privilege like this from everyone, when you have thousands and thousands of people coming to the beach a day, and you get a couple of people who ruin it when they’re drunk… What they’re really doing is taking away your privileges.” He grins. “I mean, years ago, it was 24/7. You could drink on the beach all day, all night, down the boardwalk. I’d roll my skateboard down with a keg on the front and fill everybody up along the way.” He shakes his head. “They’re taking away your privilege once again. The Man,” he says sadly. “That’s what’s going to happen. All the rich lawyers want to push the laws right on through.”

But it might not be quite so bad. “There are certainly two sides on this,” says Mary Swenson, president of the town council. “There are people who want to ban alcohol on the beach; there are people who want to not have more and more rules.” It’s not all black-and-white either; while some attendees of both the town council and Beach Alcohol Task Force meetings have staunch opinions, others are willing to work it out. “There were some interesting ideas that came up at the last meeting about possible compromises, like designating areas where you can drink and where you can’t drink during certain hours,” says Swenson.

Even with the changes, some things stay the same. The Old Mission Beach Athletic Club has a permanent meeting spot, complete with bar, atop the nearby Bahia Hotel. Though it’s getting rarer, kids still live six and eight to a house, hanging their wet suits over the railings to a house, hanging their surfboards on ramshackle porches. At the Coaster Saloon, Delmar Miller relaxes on his barstool, enjoying the sea breeze rolling in off the ocean. “The people that live here are the same; nobody’s changed,” he muses, referring to his inner circle.

“From the coaster to the jetty, that’s our little world,” he laughs. “I tell my wife when I die, she can sell,” he says good-naturedly. “I’m not moving!” —Rosa Jurjevics

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The People’s Music

Arias at Galerie D’Art

Verdi was really good at not just writing the music, but making the music match what it was about,” says Timothy Todd Simmons, chorus master for the San Diego Opera. “You can listen to the melodies, listen to the intent of the singers, and understand pretty clearly what’s being said based upon the emotion in the music.” On Sunday, July 15, Simmons, a pianist, will appear as part of the Solana Intimate Ensemble in “Arias and Duets from Giuseppe Verdi.” The ensemble performs an opera concert each month at the Galerie D’Art International in Solana Beach.

“Even at the time he wrote them, [Verdi’s] songs were considered popular,” says Simmons. “His music was very much the music of the people, and [his songs] are easily recognizable — they’re not easy to sing, but they stick in your head.” Unlike his renowned counterpart Richard Wagner, Verdi rarely incorporated the chromatic technique, which is the use of scales based on nonharmonic tones. “Chromatic is much more dissonant. Most horror movie music would be considered dissonant, like the shower scene from Psycho — that kind of shrieking sound made to fit the drama. It’s music written to bring out the severe and often mental pain that is in the text and in the plot. A lot of your pop music today would be considered dissonant — almost everything that Madonna does is regular diatonic music.”

“What makes Verdi so popular? Real simply, he had a melodic gift,” says Edward Wilensky, director of media relations for the San Diego Opera. “If you’ve never seen an opera, you can still hum many of his arias because they are so melodic.” Simmons points out that operas have been sampled in cartoons, commercials, movies, and cell phones — he notes that my cell phone ringtone is from the Queen of the Night’s vengeance aria in The Magic Flute.

One need not understand Italian to glean the meaning of Verdi’s work. “The singer is not just a singer, but a singing actor,” says Wilensky. “The settings, body language, and tone all play a part in conveying the opera’s message. But it does help to know a little Spanish. If you speak Spanish, you can definitely understand what’s going on, because it’s a Latin language.”

Wilensky says that 50 years ago many more people would have understood the words to Verdi’s songs. “Opera was a little more prevalent in pop culture then. Now opera has been replaced by American Idol.” Most people recognize the tune to “La Donna e Mobile” from Verdi’s Rigoletto, but it is likely that few of them know the song is what Wilensky describes as “not the most P.C. aria out there.” The first few lines are “Woman is flighty, like a feather in the wind, she changes her voice and her mind / Always sweet, pretty face, in tears or in laughter, she is always lying.”

Popular arias by either composers include: “Con Ovor Muore” from Giacomo Puccini’s Madama Butterfly. “Habanera” from Georges Bizet’s Carmen. “Largo al factotum” from Mozart’s The Marriage of Figaro. “O Mio Babbino Caro” from Puccini’s Gianni Schicchi. “Tosca is really popular,” says Wilensky. “‘Vissi D’Arte’ — I lived for my art, I lived for love. It’s one of the most famous arias of all time. ‘Vissi D’Arte’ could pretty much do no wrong. Some operas I find a little long in some areas, but Verdi and Puccini just take off like a rocket and don’t let up.”

“Often a vocalist’s favorite piece to sing is not the most popular one. Singers like to perform things they connect with best,” says Simmons. “One that singers often like to do is called ‘Depuis le Jour’ by [Gustave] Charpentier from the opera Louise. It’s a beautiful show piece, but the opera is almost never done, so few people know the aria. For a full lyric soprano, it has great range and shows off every part of your voice.”

For local opera singer Priti Gandhi, the aria “‘Enfie, Je Suis Ici’” from Jules Massenet’s Cendrillon is ideal. “It is full of such emotional range and such vocal range that it makes it a challenge and a pleasure to sing,” she explains. Gandhi says she stops thinking about her singing technique when singing this aria. “That’s when singing is pure pleasure.”

Simmons says that ideally a performer will get lost in a character and forget about the audience. But, he adds, “Singers are a very worrisome lot, because it’s them out there — this is not a piano — if something goes wrong, they can’t blame the instruments.”

—— Barbarella

Arias and Duets from Giuseppe Verdi
Sunday, July 15
5 p.m.
Galerie D’Art International
320 South Cedros Avenue, Suite 500
Solana Beach
Cost: $20 for reserved seats, $15 at the door
Info: 858-793-0316 or www.galeriedartint.com
Baja Open International Beach Volleyball Fiesta is July 14 and 15, with professional and novice men and women’s teams competing at Playa Hermosa (one mile south of Ensenada). Tournament play begins at 11 a.m. on Saturday, 9 a.m. on Sunday. Free admission for spectators. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

French Festival with classical music, food, electronic music, dinner, entertainment planned Saturday, July 14, 6 p.m., at Alianza Francesa (Azucenas #3934 Fraccionamiento Del Prado). 011-52-664-622-1322. (TIJUANA)

Cri y la Danza: 100 Years Together,” head to Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paso de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río) for performance by Balando en Compañía Company, Sunday, July 15, 6 p.m. $15 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Popular Arts in Sonoran Desert examined in Maximiliano Muñoz’s new book, “Artesanas del Desierto Sonorense. Comentarios by Maria del Socorro Guzmán on Tuesday, July 17, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paso de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). Free. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

“Oregamos, La Comedia” performed by Dalila Polanco and Héctor Sandarti on Tuesday and Wednesday, July 17 and 18, at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paso de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Author Hilario Peña discusses new book, Los Dias de Rubi Chaque, Thursday, July 19, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

OUTDOORS

Grunion will be active again next week (Monday through Wednesday nights), roughly during the hours of 11 p.m. and 2 a.m., following the nocturnal high tide. The small, silvery grunion tend to spawn on wide, gently sloping beaches such as Silver Strand, Mission Beach, Pacific Beach, La Jolla Shores, and Del Mar. California law allows the taking of grunion in summer (except in those areas classified as ecological preserves) by those possessing a state fishing license. The grunion must be caught by the hands only and should be eaten (not wasted).

July is San Diego’s Driest Month, according to precipitation data compiled since the year 1850. Only four hundredths of an inch of rain falls on average this month, compared to almost two inches in January — the wettest month. July also marks the beginning of a new rainy season, as defined by local meteorological convention.

This Weekend’s Extreme Low Tides are for early risers only! Check out the local tidepool life without borders of other people around. Saturday, July 14, features a minus 1.4-foot tide at 4:13 a.m. On Sunday, July 15, there’s a minus 1.3-foot tide at 4:52 a.m.

Shady Strolling, trail guide-led walk to historic grinding rocks and Old Mission Dam under sycamores and willows in Mission Trails Regional Park on Saturday, July 14. Adventure starts at 8:30 p.m. at Kumeyaay campground entry station (Two Father Junipero Serra Trail). Free. 619-688-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

Check Out Cute Chicks on the Beach! Snowy plover chicks, that is. “Help protect the endangered snowy snowbird from threats such as dogs and predators,” says the Upward Bound Students Association of Baja California, Sunday, July 15. Meet at 9 a.m. at the Mission Beach area of the south end of the Mission Bay shoreline. Free. 619-420-3211. (MISSION BEACH)

July 13, 8 p.m., at Caliente Race Track (on Boulevard Agua Caliente). 011-52-664-633-7300. (TIJUANA)

Horseback Riding is up to 400 People! Next best thing to driving a Ferrari... with purchase of a race. Valid for up to 4 people.

Valid Monday-Friday, except holidays. Must present ad. Not applicable for group reservations. Limit of one free race per customer. Some restrictions apply. First time customers only. Expires 8/16/07.

One Free Race! Visit www.liveskipings.com for more information, including special deals, all or visit our customer service line:

8123 Miralani Drive (take Cabot off Miramar Rd.) 858-586-7500 miramarspeedcircuit.com

Baja Air Fest with parachutes, balloon flights, other “flying things,” Saturday, July 14, 7 a.m.-10 p.m., at Boulevard 2000 (km 23, Fraccionamiento Hacienda Las Delicias). $8 U.S. 011-52-664-681-7000. (TIJUANA)

One Free Race! with purchase of a race. Valid for up to 4 people.

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during guided nature walks on Sat-
day, Sunday, Wednesday, 
July 14, 15, and 18, 9:30 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park (One
Father Junipero Serra Trail). Free. 
619-688-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

Palm Walk. Offshoot Tours of-
sfers its monthly hour-long guided 
stroll exploring structure, growth 
habits, landscape value of palm 
trees, Saturday, July 14, 10 a.m., at 
visitors’ center. Free. 619-235-
1122. (BALDWIN PARK)

Asian Pacific Historic District 
Tours. Offered on second Saturday 
of each month, including July 14. 
Tours start at 11 a.m. at Chinese 
Historical Museum (404 Third Av-
ue). $2. Required reservations; 
check rates and book online. www.bapa.org. (DOWNTOWN)

Sky Hunters, rehabilitated live 
hawks of prey showcased during 
program, Saturday, July 14, 6 p.m., 
at William Heise County Park 
(4945 Heise Highway Road). Free. 
858-565-3600. (JULIAN)

Southern California Astronomy 
Expo Star Party begins at 7 p.m. on 
Saturday, July 14, at San Pasqual 
Battlefield State Historic Park 
(16666 San Pasqual Valley Road).
Bring your telescope; gates open at 
5 p.m. for telescope set-up. Free. 
619-844-5327. (SAN MARCOS)

What’s Biting and Where? 
“Lake Jennings Fishing University” 
convenes for instruction by Felix 
Water District lake manager Hugh 
Max, Sunday, July 15, 1 p.m., at 
Lake Jennings County Park (10108 
Bas Road). Program is free, part-
ing is $3. 858-565-3600. (JULIAN)

Learn to Protect Your Home 
when Buena Vista Native Plant 
Club hosts “a firelighter who loves 
native plants” on Sunday, July 15, 
2 p.m., at Buena Vista Nature Cen-
ter (2202 South Coast Highway). 
Watch Rick Halecy’s charpiral 
video, discuss ideas from his book 
Fire, Chaparral, and Survival in 
Southern California. $3. 
2473. (OCMESA)

History and Future of Santa Yi-
adel Preserve explored by park at-
tendant Bobbi during walk along 
portion of the Coast to Crest Trail 
and Santa Ysabel Creek on Sun-
day, July 15. Join with group at 
4 p.m. at Highway 79 staging area 
(one mile north of Santa Ysabel on 
Highway 79; east south of Santa 
Ysabel Mission). Free. 760-765-
4098. (JULIAN)

The Waxing Crescent Moon 
lies between brilliant Venus and the 
much less bright Saturn, after 
dark in the western sky on Mon-
day, July 15, 10 a.m., at Mission 
San Luis Rey (one mile north of 
Oceanside). Time: 6:48 p.m. Fees: 
$2.50 advance, $5 admission. 
619-481-1200. (OCEANSIDE)

**DANCE**

“Nomads,” live original Middle 
Eastern-flavored music by Dany-
en Nego and bellydancing by 
Shimmy Sisters, music by DJ 
Sandbag, promised Thursday, 
July 12, 9 p.m., at Portola (4839 
619-884-7707. (OCEAN BEACH)

Intro to Cross-Step Waltz Series 
offered during beginner-friendly 
dance on Friday, July 13, in room 
207 of Casa del Prado. Lesson at 7:30 p.m. 
followed by open dancing, 
8:30-9:45 p.m. All ages and abilities. 
Partners not required. Donation: $1. 
561-583-9856. (DEL MAR)

Swingin’ with the Swedes, 
Meenah and CafeSavoy Swing Pro-
ductions present Lindy hop/swing 
dance workshop at La Jolla YMCA 
Firehouse (7877 Herschel Avenue) 
on Saturday, July 14. Instructors 
include 1997 World Lindy Hop 
Champions Kenneth and Helena 
Norbelie and their 12-person 
Swedish swing troupe, “Shout ‘N’ 
Fed Up!” 

Doors open at 11:30 a.m., 
workshops take place from 12–5:30 p.m. 
Electives include Lindy hop basics and styling, 
partner Charleston, boogie-woogie, 
dsips and tricks, Lindy aerials. 
Tracked classes for dancers of all 
levels, beginning to advanced. $65. 
858-395-6060. (LA Jolla)

Bellydance and Beyond, sum-
mer introduction bellydance 
course gets underway with “quick-
start workshop,” Saturday, July 14, 
1 p.m., at Art/Dance Academy 
(1401 El Camino Real). Classes 
follow on Tuesdays, 6 p.m. $80 per session. 
Registration: 760-757-4470. 
(OCMESA)

Belly Dance Workshop taught by 
Leilainia of the Shimmy Sisters, 
Saturday, July 14, 1:30 p.m., at 
Yo-ganics (1430 University Avenue 
#201). Fee: $25 in advance, $30 at 
door. 619-294-7792. (MCLENEST)

Jeffery Broussard and the 
Creole Cowboys play for dance 
hustled by Ron Temps Social Club 
on Saturday, July 14, at War 
Memorial Building (3325 Zio 
Drive, at Park Boulevard). Dance 
lesson at 6:20; dancing from 
7–10:30 p.m. $14. 858-496-6655. 
496-6655. (SAN CARLOS)

Hustle Club Party, Saturday, 
July 14, at Dance North County 
(535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 
100). Dave Sarul leads intermedi-
ate/advanced hustle workshop, 
7–8 p.m. ($15), followed by dance 
($7). 760-803-9982. (MCLENEST)

American Latin and Ballroom 
Dance Party, Saturday, July 14, 
7:30 p.m., at Pattie Wells Dance-
time Center (1235 West Morena 
Boulevard). Dancing for singles
Calendar
LOCAL EVENTS

About
July 12, 2007

“Bellydance Super Show” with Sonia, Jayna, and drummer Isam of Bellydance Superstars performing, along with locals Sabrina, Vilia, Marela, Jesenia, and Middle-Earth Ensemble, Saturday, July 14, 8 p.m., at Greek Palace (8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Tickets: $25 in advance, $30 at door (includes dinner buffet). Reservations: 760-703-1487. (NEARBY MESA)

English Country Dancing takes place every Sunday, 6–9 p.m., at Joan Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road). Janet and Chris call on July 15. Beginners’ instruction at 6 p.m. $6. 619-236-4109. (SANTEE)

Honoring Departed Family and Couples of all ages. Fonstrot lesson at 8 p.m. $7, first time free. 619-275-3533. (PARY MARY)

San Diego Reader.com

Out & About

Films
Movies in the Park series continues with dancing penguins and Happy Feet on Thursday, July 12, at dusk, at Lindo Lake Park (9841 Vine Street). Bring picnic, blanket. Free. 619-443-4109. (SANTEE)


Parking Lot Pictures, raising Arizona is 20 years old! Catch screening of Joel and Ethan Coen’s madcap comedy with Nicholas Cage, Holly Hunter, and John Goodman on Thursday, July 12, 8 p.m., in parking lot at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). Bring a lawn chair, blanket. Free. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Enjoy Barbara Stanwyck and Fred MacMurray when Double Indemnity (1944) screen for Cinematheque in Kensington on Thursday, July 12, 6:30 p.m., at Cinema Society of Carlsbad. Convenes for Screening Upstream, starring Geoffery Rush and Judy Davis, Saturday, July 14, 2 p.m. Cinema chat begins at 1:30 p.m. in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1773 Dove Lane). Free. 760-602-2026. (LA COSTA)

The “Spooky Film” Imagination screens Friday, July 13, midnight, at Ken Cinema (4601 Adams Avenue). Screening hosted by filmmakers, director/writer Eric Leiser, composer/writer Jeffrey Leiser. Film is “about twin girls who overcome physical limitations to learn the secrets of heaven and nature.” $6. 619-285-9909. (ENCINITAS)

Cinema Society of Carlsbad convenes for Screening Upstream, starring Geoffery Rush and Judy Davis, Saturday, July 14, 2 p.m. Cinema chat begins at 1:30 p.m. in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1773 Dove Lane). Free. 760-602-2026. (LA COSTA)

Get Your Mind Off Your Troubles
During workshop on “The Secrets of Heaven and Nature,” participants will “de-sial Bookstore (3063 University Avenue). Participants will “de-
"Puppy Support Class" planned on Saturday, July 14, 1 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). Problem solving — digging, chewing, Housetraining, Nipping, barking, crying, nutrition — and puppy play. $35. Registration: 619-239-7012 x2273. (LINDA VISTA)

Memoir Writing Workshop led by author, critic, memoirist Thomas Larson, Saturday, July 14, 2 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Techniques for planning, focusing your memoir. Free. Registration: 619-236-5847. (CITY HEIGHTS)

World Champion Magician John Carney plans lecture, Saturday, July 14, 2 p.m., at Jack’s Magic Place (4275 University Avenue). Learn close-up and stage magic using objects like cards, coins, cigars. $25. 619-747-4627. (CITY HEIGHTS)

"Paul K. Feyerabend: An Appreciation" presented by Matt Brown and John Jacobson of UCSD for Humanist Fellowship, Sunday, July 15, 2 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Feyerabend is said to have made "major contributions to the philosophy of science" and been an "introspective loner." Free. 619-670-4159, 619-544-0640. (CITY HEIGHTS)

"Encounters at Indian Head — A Secret UFO Symposium" is subject for author, science writer, Skeptical Inquirer contributor Robert Sheaffer when he speaks for MUFON (Mutual UFO Network), Sunday, July 15, 6 p.m., in banquet room at Sizzler (3753 Murphy Canyon Road). Ed McBride gives brief commentary on Walter Haut Roswell Affidavit. Free. 760-753-2456. (MISSION VALLEY)

"Jewish and Christian Origins as Revealed by the Dead Sea Scrolls" illustrated by Risa Levitt Kohn, SDSU associate professor of Hebrew Bible and Judaism, Monday, July 16, 6:30 and 8 p.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. Introduction to archaeological site of Khirbet Qumran, settlement closest to caves where Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. $25. 619-235-0203. (BALBOA PARK)

Prolific Fiction Author and "successful critique group" leader Chet Cunningham speaks for San Diego Writers/Editors Guild on Monday, July 16, 7 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1230 Vermont Street). $5. 760-471-5333. (HILLCREST)

Protecting Your Identity from theft is topic at San Diego Metropolitan Credit Union (9212 Balboa Avenue). Tuesday, July 17, noon. Free. Registration: 619-278-5724. (MISSION VALLEY)

"Fighting Cancer with Your Fork" is topic for Vicki Newman, R.D., Tuesday, July 17, 1:30 p.m., at Moores UCSD Cancer Center (3855 Health Sciences Drive). Free. Reservations: 858-822-2236. (LA JOLLA)

"Photography and American Indian Identity" presented by Alexandria Harris, curator of historic media at Barona Cultural Center and Museum, on Tuesday, July 17, 7 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Man. Different genres of photography relating to American Indians and how they have shaped modern stereotypes and identity explored; view some early and recent images by Native photographers themselves. $5. 619-239-2001. (KERN VALLEY)

"One of the Greatest Cyclists of All Time"? Triathlon Club of San Diego meets to hear John Howard discuss training, proper bike fit for optimal performance, and products and tell "a few stories." Wednesday, July 18, 6 p.m., at Roadrunner Sports (5553 Copley Drive). Howard is a three-time Olympian, an Ironman world champion, holds many cycling records. Free. 858-874-2582. (NEARBY NEST)

"Greek Wine, Dark Sea" — lecture focusing on elaborate terra cotta vessels used to serve wine, along with Cretan wine and Argian savorishes, when wine expert Barbara Baxter speaks Wednesday, July 18, 7:30 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Baxter will discuss interplay between art and wine. $30. Reservations: 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

"Making the Modern" is topic when docent Mona Palmer explores major art movements of 19th- and 20th-Century Europe for Insight Gallery talks at San Diego Museum of Art on Thursday, July 19, 6 p.m. and Sunday, July 22, 3 p.m. Included in regular admission. 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

"Telepathic Communication with Animals" illuminated by Brigitte Noel, Thursday, July 19, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). Lecture aims to help "strengthen your relationship with all living creatures and will cover how intuitive communications with animals take place, when it works (and doesn’t) and why." $10. Required reservations: 619-243-3424. (LINDA VISTA)

"New American Censorship," Peter Phillips, director of Project Censored and sociology professor at Sonoma State University, speaks Wednesday, July 25, 7 p.m., at First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego (4190 Front Street). Project Censored receives between 700 and 1000 stories each year; participants review story submissions for coverage, content, reliability of sources, and national significance and select 25 for inclusion in Censored: Media Democracy in Action. Booksigning follows. Donation. 858-459-4650. (HILLCREST)
OUT & ABOUT

ISN’T IT FUNNY HOW A BEAR LIKES HONEY?
Winnie-the-Pooh in Casa del Prado Theater, through Sunday, July 15.

Crystal Vibrations Ensemble Concert,
Saturday, July 14, 7 p.m., at Willows Yoga (Lumberyard Shopping Center, 937 South Pacific Coast Highway, suite C-100). Elivia Melodey makes music on her 43 crystal singing bowls, along with Native American flutes, didgeridoo, vocals. $20. Bring blankets, pillows for “deep listening.” 760-840-0414. (CARLSBAD)

“The Living Newspaper 2007 Summer Edition” with original satires of current events is presented by Black Cat Theatre Company at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, July 13, 14, 20, and 21 at North Park Vaudeville (3201 El Cajon Boulevard). Tickets: $10, 619-645-1158. (NORTH PARK)

West Coast Funnies — comedy variety show combining sketch comedy with stand-up comedy — with Kurt Swann, starring Barry Diamond, offered Friday and Saturday, July 13 and 14, 8 p.m., at Carlsbad Village Theatre (2822 State Street). $20 at door. 619-997-3033. (CARLSBAD)

Author Karen Halligan, DVM, discusses and signs Doc Halligan’s What Every Pet Owner Should Know, Saturday, July 14, 7 p.m., at Borders Books and Music (878 Eastlake Parkway). Free. 619-482-9883. (CARLSBAD)

“This Night in the Lyric” — a benefit for San Diego Lyric Opera at the Lyric Theatre, 1500 Government Street (El Cajon). $55 (general), $50 (student). 619-285-6800. (VENTURA HILLS)

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“Comics That Kill” — comedy by Ibo Brewer, Kyle Smith, Jason Bang, Erin Schauer, Jennifer Rich, and Stacy Sanchir on Saturday, July 14, 8:30 p.m., at Milanos Coffee Company (5685 Bio San Diego Drive, suite B). Not for those under 14. $10. 619-263-3335. (MID-VALLEY)

Money for Nothing plays classic rock for La Jolla Concerts by the Sea in Scripps Park at La Jolla Cove, Sunday, July 15, 2 p.m. Free. 858-454-1600. (LA JOLLA)

Poetry Reading and book signing by Jim Moreno with musicians Doreli Fisher on keyboards and Musa Kalem on sax, Sunday, July 15, 2 p.m., at Hot Monkey Love Cafe (6873 El Cajon Boulevard, suite B). Free. 619-285-9737. (CLIFFS)

KIFM’s Jazz at the Beach concert is Sunday, July 15, 3–7:45 p.m., at Oceanview Pier Amphitheatre. For those 21 and older. 619-291-9797. (SAN DIEGO)

“Music in the Park” series continues, where Ukulemen play “hot dance music of the 70s, 80s, and 90s” on Sunday, July 15, 5 p.m., at Veterans Park (705 East Palomar Street). Free. 619-585-5862. (DOWNTOWN)

Sundays at Six, summer concert by Breez’n Variety Band, July 15, 6 p.m., at Harry Griffin Park Amphitheatre (9350 Milden Street). Free. 619-667-1300. (LA MESA)

Sunday Seizure Comedy stand-up show with Grant Cotter, Mike Vinn, Jason Bang, Brian Carter, Ron Swallow, and Gail Brimbil, Sunday, July 15, 8:30 p.m., at Honey Bee Hive (1409 C Street). For those 21 and older. $5. 619-762-6010. (CLIFTON BARKER)

Poetry of Disability — Megan Webster reads from her chapbook, Bipolar Express, as well as poems happening in the locker room, the boardroom, the arena, and the stand! Free. 858-456-1800. (CARLSBAD)

Acoustic Singer, Songwriter, recording artist Kat Parsons plans concert, Friday, July 13, 7:30 p.m., at Holy Trinity Parish (2083 Sunset Boulevard, Pacific Beach, suite B). Free. 619-285-9737. (CLIFFS)

Carlsbad Community Theater Benefit Concert is Friday, July 13, 7:30 p.m., at Carlsbad Community Cultural Arts Center (3357 Monroe Street). Performances of songs from Into the Woods, Broadway, pop, contemporary, and inspirational music. $15. 760-931-8709. (CARLSBAD)

Trace Bundy performs for AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, July 13, 7:30 p.m., at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650 Manheim Street). $15. 619-303-8176. (NORMAL HILLS)

“Bipolar Express,” performed by Black Cat Theatre Company at The Lyric Theatre (1500 Government Street, El Cajon). Sponsored by Sea in Scripps Park at La Jolla Cove. For those 21 and over. $25. 619-445-6002. (EL CAJON)

“Comics That Kill” — comedy by Ibo Brewer, Kyle Smith, Jason Bang, Erin Schauer, Jennifer Rich, and Stacy Sanchir on Saturday, July 14, 8:30 p.m., at Milano Coffee Company (5685 Bio San Diego Drive, suite B). Not for those under 14. $10. 619-263-3335. (MID-VALLEY)
of disability by other poets, Monday, July 16, 7 p.m., at Barnes and Noble Bookstore, Hazard Center (7810 Hazard Center Drive). Open reading follows. Free. 619-220-0075. (MISSION VALLEY)

**Author** Lisa Beres reads from, signs My Body, My House. Tuesday, July 17, 10:30 a.m., at Borders Books and Music (11160 Rancho Carmel Drive). Free. 858-618-1814. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

**Twilight in the Park** summer concert series continues with Coronado Big Band on Tuesday, July 17; Uncle Bob and the Earth Movers play blues on Wednesday, July 18; and Bordertown takes stage on Thursday, July 19. Con- certs run from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. in Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Free. 619-295-2201. (MISSION VALLEY)

**“Collected Poems — Alann Jack Lewis”** is subject for reading, Tuesday, July 17, 7 p.m., at Borders Books and Music (810 Hildreth Avenue). Free. 619-220-0075. (MISSION VALLEY)

**“The ‘Fro Show,”** Gayla Johnson, Tara Walden, Dr. Howard Richmond, and Joe Pelen perform for Comedy Grill on Tuesday, July 17, 8 p.m., at La Jolla Brew House (7536 Fay Avenue). Wear a ‘fro and get in free, or pay cover ($5, plus two-item minimum). 858-550-8088. (LA JOLLA)

**Green Flash Seaside Summer Concert Series** continues with performance by Eve Scol. Wednesday, July 18, 6 p.m., at Birch Aquarium-Museum (2300 Expedition Way). Aquarium docents on hand to answer questions about marine life and exhibits, food (for sale). $25. For those 21 and older. Reservations: 888-534-4109. (LA JOLLA)

**Farrell Family Jazz,** series continues with concert by Steve Wilson Quartet on Thursday, July 19, 7:30 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). $23. Reservations: 858-454-4372. (LA JOLLA)

**“How to Experience and Stay Present in Your Life”** is topic when Mariel Hemingway presents her “30-day program that teaches how looking and feeling great are just a few simple choices away.” Hemingway’s latest book, is Healthy Living from the Inside Out. Music by Peggy Lebo and Friends. Evening begins at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 20, at Seaside Center for Spiritual Living (1613 Lake Drive). Tickets: $25 in advance, $35 at door. 760-753-5786. (ESCONDIDO)

**Comic Dennis Miller** in concert, Thursday, August 2, 7:30 p.m., Pala Casino (11154 Highway 76). Tickets start at $40, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (PALA)

**SPORTS**

**Capoeira Weekends** planned Saturdays and Sundays through July 29, 9 a.m. at Knockout Fitness Club (1231 Camino Del Rio South). Brazilian martial arts classes for beginners. Free. 619-291-2131. (MISSION VALLEY)

**Tuesday Night Bicycle Racing** continues through September 4 at San Diego Velodrome (2221 Mor- ley Field Drive). Racing starts at 6:30 p.m. Free for spectators. 619-573-4953.

**San Diego Padres** meet up with Diamondbacks in Arizona, July 13–16, at 6:40 p.m. on Friday and Sat-
SPECIAL


The Demographic Transition: Guarantor of Mедіcіnе? “Explore the subject on Thursday, July 17, 5 p.m., at Other Side Coffee House (4806-30th Street). Free. 619-370-1027. (NORTH PARK)

Circus Vargas raises its big top — handmade in Milan, Italy — for performances July 12-16 at Oceanside Valley Drive-In (3480 Mission Avenue). Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. on Friday, 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, 4 p.m. on Sunday. 619-702-6010.

Women Moto road safety preparedness and swap meet, Saturday, July 14, 7 a.m.–3 p.m., at Kennedy’s Custom Cycles (3028 San Luis Rey Road). All riders welcome. Vendors, food, safety classes at noon ($10). 619-249-6560. (OCEANSIDE)

“Laughter Yoga” — you’ll laugh like you’ve never laughed before…regardless of physical condition” during class played at playground near Sixth Avenue and Spruce Street, Saturday, 9 a.m. No yoga mats, special clothing required. Free. 619-255-4622, ext. 14.

Fascinating Creepy-Crawlies including live insects, lizards, and you’ll “laugh uncontrolably…regardless of physical condition” during class played at playground near Sixth Avenue and Spruce Street, Saturday, 9 a.m. No yoga mats, special clothing required. Free. 619-255-4622, ext. 14.


Marina for San Diego Symphony Summer Pops, Thursday, July 12.

(SEE IN PERSON)
snakes. Madagascar hissing cockroaches showcased during insect festival on Saturday and Sunday, July 14 and 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at Quail Botanical Gardens (230 Quail Gardens Drive). Practice bug collecting, insect arts and crafts, taste cooked mealworm larva in various flavors. Entomologists and other bug experts answer questions. Mike Glassley brings hawks and owls for live animal demonstrations, more. $10 general, $7 seniors and students. Free for children under 12. 760-426-3036.

WITNESS Live Cannon Fire, demonstrations, period costumes, and “authentic” battles during fifth annual Civil War reenactment, July 14 and 15, at Antiques Gas and Steam Museum (2040 North Santa Fe Avenue). Camp boasts historians, entertainers, food vendors, merchants, hundreds of Civil War reenactors. Hours: 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; battles at noon and 2 p.m. $10 general, 88 seniors, $5 for kids under 12; parking is $3. 760-941-1791.

FlameOut Fire Expo 2007, Saturday, July 14, 11 a.m.–5 p.m., in parking section I at Qualcomm Stadium. More than 100 fire trucks and engines take part in parade (1 p.m.); fire and burn prevention pavilion, emergency service vendor booths, “barrage kamikaze,” firefighter obstacle course for kids, fire engine rides, puppet shows, live firefighting demonstrations, music. Food. Free. 858-541-2277.

Knitting Circles for those who already know the basics to hook up and “meet other knitters and exchange ideas,” Saturdays, 2–3 p.m., at Knitting by the Beach (616 Stevens Avenue, suite B). You’re asked to use yarns purchased in the store during session. Fee: 858-509-9276. (COMANCHE)

“Art of the Drum Solo: Bellydance Workshop” with Sonia and drummer Isam of Bellydance Superstars, Saturday, July 14, at Mission Valley YMCA (5305 Friars Road). Sonia will drill essential techniques to various Arabic rhythms and break down combinations with an emphasis in ballet movement and Egyptian styles to live drum solos by Isam. Bellydance 1–4 p.m.; drumming with Isam, 6:30–5:30. Fees: $65 advance or $70 door for dance, $20 in advance, $25 at door for drumming. 760-703-1487.

INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL • Friday, August 24 • 7:30 pm

RHYTHM IN THE PARK • Friday, August 10 • 7 p.m

OFF-ROAD and Race Cars displayed for Hot Summer Nights event in Fallbrook, Saturday, July 14, 5:30 p.m., with live music, entertainment on Main Street. Free. 760-728-6287.

Pressone FanFest planned to show off the new Polytrack on Sunday, July 15, 9 a.m., at Del Mar Thoroughbred Club. Learn about and walk on surface, which replaces old dirt track. Trainer Doug O’Neill, jockey Julie Krone, will be on hand to answer questions; mimosas and juice offered during horses’ morning workouts. Free. 858-735-1141.

Birch Aquarium at Scripps

Green Flash Concert Series

May-September 2007 6 to 9 pm

NEW!

Enjoy live music, food and drinks on our intimate, outdoor plaza overlooking the ocean.

Wednesday, July 18

EVE SELS

American music, blending country, gospel and rock ‘n’ roll

Wednesday, August 15

LEN RAINLEY & THE MIDNIGHT PLAYERS

High energy blues, jazz and rock ‘n’ roll

Wednesday, September 19

THE BIGFELLAS

Fun, funky, friendly original rock

RSVP: 858-534-4109

Ages 21 and up; 6–9 pm

Public: $20/concert

Aquarium Members: $15/concert

Walk-in Admission: $25/concert

Season rates available

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Free admission to the Marine Corps Command Museum!

Trace the history of the Marine Corps.

The MCRD Command Museum boasts an extensive and comprehensive display of Marine Corps historical items. The museum and gift shop are open to the public, free of charge. Museum visitors must show a photo ID to enter the base, but a military ID is not required.

Command Museum 619-524-6719
Mon–Sat. 8 am–4 pm, Thurs. 8 am–4:30 pm
www.mcrdhistoricalsociety.org

FOR KIDS


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Bridal Bazaar Sunday, August 19 SD Convention Center, 10am–6pm. More than 200 exhibitors with everything for your wedding. Info: www.bridalbazaar.com . 8031

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Saturday Storytelling — storyteller Harlyne Guier performs on July 14, 11 a.m., at Timken Museum of Art. Free. 619-239-5548 x1105. (BALBOA PARK)

Art-Inspired Stories for Families told Saturday, July 14, 11 a.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. “Professional storytellers will perform a variety of tales, from the Brothers Grimm to stories from Greek mythology.” Program lasts approximately 30 minutes. Included in museum admission. 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

All Aboard! The Chula Vista Live Steam Club provides train rides, 12:30–2:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, July 14 and 15, at Roht Park (4548 Sweetwater Road). Donation: 50 cents. Children under 48” must be accompanied by an adult. 619-421-5227. (GONZA)

Use a Soda Bottle, Bike Pump, and water to create and launch a high-flying aquarocket during family science day at San Diego Air and Space Museum on Saturday, July 14, 12:30, 1:30, and 2:30 p.m. (sessions last 45 minutes). Included in paid admission. Reservations: 619-234-8291 x19. (BALBOA PARK)

Animal Tales Told, and crafts and animals are part of fun on Sunday, July 15, 1 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPA (5500 Gaines Street). Donation: $3. Reservations: 619-243-3432. (LA JUNA)

“San Diego International Children’s Film Festival: Summer Session” convenes July 27–29. Festival showcases more than 60 short films from around world made for children.

Events commence at WorldBeat Center in Balboa Park at 7 p.m. on Friday, with short films for all ages, dinner, entertainment by dancers and drummers (110). WorldBeat Center hosts screenings from 10:30 a.m.–2 p.m. on Saturday, as well as animation filmmaking workshops (2:15, 3:30 p.m.) 53 general. Films will be screened from...
OUT & ABOUT

HAWAIIAN SONGS AND STORIES
Kahumoku Family Concert for AcousticMusicSanDiego, Wednesday, July 18. (SEE IN PERSON)

MUSEUMS

Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum, the museum locates, collects, documents, and preserves historical gas-, steam-, and horse-powered equipment related to agriculture and the general development of America. The collection is made up of equipment used in lumbering, mining, oil drilling, and construction industries. Blacksmith and wheelwright shop, country kitchen and parlor, steam-operated saw mill, and 1/3-scale train. Find the museum at 2040 North Santa Fe Avenue. 760-470-1791. (VISTA)

Bonita Museum and Cultural Center, “Home Grown: Japanese-Americans in the South Bay” opens with reception on Saturday, July 14, 4 p.m., and continues through Sunday, September 9. The museum highlights the history of the Sweetwater Valley from the mid-1800s, with historical photographs, artifacts, tools, and farming implements; the district’s 1853 fire engine; and bound copies back to the 1930s of the Chula Vista Star News. Find the museum at 4355 Bonita Road, 619-267-5141. (BONITA)

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

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


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

Chula Vista Heritage Museum the museum features glimpses of Chula Vista’s past, exhibits feature California photographs; artifacts, tools, history of the Sweetwater Valley through Sunday, September 9. The museum highlights the history of the Sweetwater Valley from the mid-1800s, with historical photographs, artifacts, tools, and farming implements; the district’s 1853 fire engine; and bound copies back to the 1930s of the Chula Vista Star News. Find the museum at 4355 Bonita Road, 619-267-5141. (BONITA)

COOL CRUISES!

Brunch and Dinner Cruises
• Weekend Champagne Brunch Cruises
• Nightly Sunset Dinner Cruises
• Lobster Dinner Cruises
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All games

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COOL CRUISES!

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All games

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Abortion Changed Me

“He paid for the abortion. But I am left with the pain. Will it ever go away?”

For help:
Rachel’s Hope After-Abortion Healing
Next Workshop: July 13-15, 2007
Cost $45
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DANCE for $30
for 4 weeks*

Classes Still Open

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<td>Argentine Tango</td>
<td>Latin/Ballroom* • Nightclub 2-step • Hustle</td>
<td>Jitterbug &amp; Swing*</td>
<td>Lindy Hop* • West Coast Swing</td>
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Dances — Every Thursday: West Coast Swing/Nightclub Mix
Every Saturday: Latin & Ballroom
Every Sunday: Jitterbug/Swing

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* Classes in bold with this ad, first-time student. Introductory classes.

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6:30PM BOARDING • 7:15PM CRUISING
Includes pre-show buffet, three-course dinner, murder mystery show, tax, cruise, and gratuity.
$60 PER PERSON • CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER $30

“BEST DINNER THEATRE”
—San Diego Magazine

For reservations and more information, call 619.544.1600 or visit www.mysterycafe.net


San Diego Maritime Museum, maritime art by members of the Artists Guild of the San Diego Museum of Art continues through Wednesday, October 17. Expect to see pieces reflecting "rich marine heritage and environment of San Diego," in bay and coastline.

In "San Diego's Navy," based upon book by same name written by Bruce Linder, is said to be "the only comprehensive exhibit depicting the extraordinary contributions the Navy has made to the history of the San Diego region." The museum features permanent exhibits documenting the history of San Diego's waterfront and the building of the West Coast by sea, the old San Diego-Coronado ferryboat, the tuna fishing industry, and the military. The museum fleet consists of the 1863 bark Star of India, the 1898 San Francisco ferryboat Berkeley, and the 1904 Scottish steam yacht Moera. The HMS Surprise, used in film Master and Commander, is permanently on exhibit; see artifacts, costumes, props used in making of the film. Also open for touring: A-39 Soviet attack submarine, among the largest conventionally powered submarines ever built. This Project 641/OSTrot class diesel-electric submarine was designed to track U.S. and NATO warships and submarines throughout the Earth's oceans. There are also nautical exhibits, ship carpenters, model building, ships in bottle, woodcarvers, and a complete research library.

The museum is located at 1001 North Harbor Drive, along the Embarcadero at corner of North Harbor Drive and Ash Street; 619-234-9153.

San Diego Museum of Man, "Journey to the Copper Age: Archaeology in the Holy Land" tells story of profound changes metalurgy brought to human society: birth of Mediterranean farming, creation of first temples and cemeteries, emergence of complex societies. Exhibition chronicles development of humanity in present-day Israel, Palestine, and Jordan. Highlights include photographs by National Geographic photographer Kenneth Garrett and collection of archaeological artifacts seen for first time on West Coast.

"San Diego Museum of Man, "‘San Diego’s Navy,'" is located at 1300 Into the Great Unknown Way, Balboa Park, (858) 554-1511.

In "Artists Speak: Contempo-


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Permanent anthropological ex-
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borgs (part human, part ma-
chine); 619-239-2001, ext. 2800."

San Diego Tug Boat Museum, a 100-foot retired Korean War-era tug boat built in 1951 is open for tours at museum. Boat is docked along Harbor Drive, between Grape Street and Broadway; 619-200-7417.

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

Valley Center History Museum, the museum features an educational exhibition centered around a Cali-
ifornia grizzly bear, described as "the only one on view in San Diego." Also on exhibit: models of an 1862 settle’s cabin, collection of Indian baskets, and aerospace display. Find the museum at 29200 Cole Grade Road, 760-749-2993, www.valleymuseum.com.

William Heath Davis House Museum, said to be the oldest surviving structure in the new town of San Diego. The house is a well-preserved example of a pre-framed lumber “salt box” frame structure. 760-749-2993, ext. 2800.

San Diego Natural History Museum, "Edward S. Curtis Refocused" exhibition features prints of his photographs taken in locations throughout U.S. and Canada and examines controversial elements of Curtis’s work; techniques he used.

"Art and Expression: The Legacy of Our Collections" highlights 17 key collections, relates stories of the collectors, how collections came to museum, their significance in preserving history of past generations. Objects include pottery, baskets, beadwork, jewelry, woodcarving, folk art, katsinam, bone and ivory imple-
ments, shields, textiles.

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San Diego Natural History Museum, "Edward S. Curtis Refocused" exhibition features prints of his photographs taken in locations throughout U.S. and Canada and examines controversial elements of Curtis’s work; techniques he used.

"Art and Expression: The Legacy of Our Collections" highlights 17 key collections, relates stories of the collectors, how collections came to museum, their significance in preserving history of past generations. Objects include pottery, baskets, beadwork, jewelry, woodcarving, folk art, katsinam, bone and ivory imple-
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Permanent anthropological ex-
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lution" features "more than a hun-
dred touchable replicas of early hu-
mans, primates, and futuristic cy-
borgs (part human, part ma-
chine); 619-239-2001, ext. 2800."

San Diego Tug Boat Museum, a 100-foot retired Korean War-era tug boat built in 1951 is open for tours at museum. Boat is docked along Harbor Drive, between Grape Street and Broadway; 619-200-7417.

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

Valley Center History Museum, the museum features an educational exhibition centered around a Cali-
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Art listings

Events that are underlined occur after July 20.

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

Classical

San Diego University of San Diego Chamber Music Festival continues with noon concert in University Center Foyer on Thursday, July 12; donation. Final concert takes place at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 14, at the University Center Foyer. Tickets: $20 in advance, $23 at door. Reservations: 858-793-0316. (SAN DIEGO BEACH)

Young Concert Organist (Choe) Chen takes stage for 20th annual International Summer Organ Festival on Monday, July 16, 7:30 p.m., in Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Fee: 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Come Alive! by Donal O’Connor and Vincent Marty

July 12; donation. Final concert on Sunday, July 14, at 7 p.m., in Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Fee: 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Australian artist Palla Jaroff lives in New South Wales for opening reception featuring his work on Sunday, July 13, 5 p.m., at Gallery Savarese (386 North Coast Highway, Solana Beach). Exhibition closes Thursday, August 16. (LEUCADIA)

Condensation” by Adam Belt opens with reception, Friday, July 13, 6 p.m., at Quint Contemporary Art (7739 Fay Lane). 858-348-5049. Through August 14. (LA JOLLA)

“Floral and Landscapes,” featuring Jonathan Williams and other various artists, opens with reception, Saturday, July 14, 3 p.m., at Artax Gallery (2309 El Cajon Boulevard). 619-296-4799. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

“Over All the Map,” featuring original oil paintings by Carole Mayne and Marjorie Taylor in exhibit opening with Ray at Night reception, Saturday, July 14, 6 p.m., at Taylor Studios (3825 Ray Street). 619-296-0063. (NORTH PARK)

Ray at Night, over 20 art venues showcase local art on second Saturday of each month, including July 14, Ray at Night show, at First Unitarian Universalist Church (4190 Front Street). Final concert in area is slated for Friday, July 20, 8 p.m., at Neurosciences Institute (1064 John Hopkins Drive). Admission to all concerts is by donation. 858-454-3409. (SAN DIEGO)

“Arias and Duets from Giuseppe Verdi” promoted during concert, Sunday, July 15, at Galer i e d’Art International (320 South Cedros Avenue, suite 300). soprano Karen Hull, and mezzo-soprano Ava Baker Liths, tenor Aleksandr Agamirzov, baritone William Fields, and pianist Timothy Todd Simmons take on variety of pieces. Reception at 4:30 p.m., concert at 5 p.m., cocktails at 6:30 p.m. Tickets: $20 in advance, $23 at door. Reservations: 858-793-0316. (SAN DIEGO BEACH)

ART MUSEUMS


WESTFIELD UTC 877-BODIES-5 www.BodieStickets.com W I L L I A M S S T R I P E S P l a u r i e s a n d M e d i t a t i o n s ” c o n t i n u e s t h r o u g h S a t u r d a y, S e p t e m b e r 2. L a v i n e served as a noncom- bat photographer during World War II, freelance magazine photographer in New York City in 1950s, spent 22 years as photo- grapher for Chase Manhattan Bank. “Nature and Spirit: The Photo- graphs of Ansel Adams” is also on view Friday, September 2–Sunday, September 22. -experts’ mastery in trans- lating light into an inspiring, fin- ished photograph. Find the museum in the Casa de Balboa building, at 1649 El Prado, 619-238-7359, museum.org.


San Diego Museum of Art, “Colour Images of 1960s Britain,” British art showcased in international touring exhibition drawn from the large and most comprehensive collection of Pre-Raphaelite art outside the United Kingdom,” continuing through Tuesday, July 29. “29 Dancing Dreams: The Art of the Pre-Raphaelites from the Delaware Art Museum,” boasts 130 paintings, watercolors, drawings, ceramics, jewelry, furniture from some of the most important artists of era. Highlights include Rosetti’s Water Lily and Lady Lilith, Romans and Juliet and The Dream of Sardanapalus by Ford Madox Brown, Mary Magdalene by Frederic Sandys.

“Contemporary Links 5 — Alex Arechaga: Sculp tal and Cotton” includes large-scale photo- mural based on Diego Rivera’s Hands of Dr. Mexico; a large sculpture installation involving surveil- lance cameras and projected im- age of Rivera’s Murales Michoacan; several large-scale works on paper based on art objects in museum’s Latin American collection. Closes Sun- day, October 14.

“Tastes in Asian Art,” continuing through Sunday, December 22, features over 80 new works, many of which have never been displayed before. Highlights include new subsection of sculptures of le- lians (light-skinned monks), newly restored Chinese ancestor por- traits, a screen of samurai warriors, an elaborate deck devoted to Ti- betan art featuring bronze sculp- tures, furniture, 18th-Century shrine doors.

“Lyrical Visions from Nzema’s Quartier,” continuing through Sun- day, December 16, includes more than 20 paintings created for or in- spired by Nzema’s texts, “among the most celebrated and influen- tial poetic works in all of African literature.” Paintings range in date from 15th to 20th centuries. For further information, call 619-232-7931. (SAN DIEGO)

Timken Museum of Art, permanent collection includes Euro- pean old master paintings, American and 19th-Century American paintings, and Russian icon. Saint Bartholomew, the only Roman-inspired idea on public display in San Diego, is featured. 619-239-5458. (SAN DIEGO)
Raging Romance

It’s The Rocky Horror Show, 400 years ago, minus only Riff Raff.

By the end of Shakespeare’s romance The Two Gentlemen of Verona, you wonder when the title characters will show up. Valentine and Proteus begin as best friends; inseparable — until separated. In one of the Bard’s least credible conclusions, they remain that way. But in between the title’s only half-correct. Valentine and Proteus hail from Verona, true. But they, especially Proteus, as scattered as his name implies, are far from “gentle” men.

When Valentine seeks his fortune in Milan, Proteus, in love with Julia, stays home. “He after honor hunts,” says Proteus, “I after love.” Then Proteus goes to Milan. What follows resembles A Midsummer Night’s Dream, but in reverse; instead of Puck-inspired confusions in a forest, when the country boys hit the big city, they metamorphose like characters in Ovid. Their friendship turns to rivalry, then hatred.

Proteus dumps Julia and falls for Sylvia, the Duke’s daughter, on whom Valentine dotes. Valentine and Proteus are as new unto the world as Shakespeare was to writing plays. Two Gents probably wasn’t his first, but it’s among his earliest efforts. When he came to Valentine’s dilemma, Shakespeare painted himself into a corner. But the genre, at least for Renaissance audiences, saved him. Romances abandoned the rules. Readers and playwrights expected the unlikely, be it stark coincidences or emotional leaps. People could change and change back. They could forget, even monstrous offenses like Proteus’ and forgive.

Young Shakespeare was lucky to have romances available. He could hone his craft before moving to genres demanding more rigorous emotional truth. He would return to the romance, in his later years, and resolve an even greater dilemma in A Winter’s Tale. For a director, staging Two Gents is a good news/bad news deal: you get to do the Bard, but it’s Two Gents. At the Old Globe’s outdoor stage, Matt August looks as if he’s burned for the assignment. He countrifies Verona, where cows moo, even in town, and makes the four young leads like middle-school innocents: Proteus and Julia aren’t in love; they’re onstage; headoverheels! Everything in their innocent, most likely virginal lives promises to remain unconditional forever.

Our first glimpse of Milan takes us through the looking glass into a lascivious Wonderland. Suddenly we’re in decadent Restoration England. Fabio Toblini’s red, electric aqua and sunbright yellow costumes are so bold you can almost hear them. As the Danes do for Hamlet’s stepfather, sycophants — one with a lampshade for a hat, another with hookah-tubes stemming from his waist — applaud the white-wigged, white-powder-faced Duke’s every move, even when he vomits into a silver spittoon. Partially dressed women cavort like nymphs du pave. It’s The Rocky Horror Show, 400 years ago, minus only Riff Raff. Glaring inconsistencies, you say? Sure. But Shakespeare and August may reply, it’s a romance: expect the unexpected.

And notice: the Milan we see could be real. Or it could be how a city seems to fresh country eyes. It may even be how London looked to a young Bard newly arrived from the Stratford-Upon-Avon boondies. In this strange new world, the behavior of the...
innocents makes a bit more sense, if you don’t look too closely. You will wonder how Stephanie Fieger’s appropriately adament Sylvia, even if locked in a tower, could have stayed so unlike her surroundings. And how Tom Hammond’s well-spoken, Mick Jagger-agile Duke, shrinks in the final scene — almost evaporates, in fact — giving way to young Valentine’s (likely Ryan Quinn) instant, dirily motivated emergence as the play’s moral voice.

Even as a romance, Two Gent has gaps you could drive a truck through. Surely Joy-Farmer Clary’s sparkling, giddy-for-love Julia would regard Proteus, in the end, with a discerning eye — all the more, since Corey Sorenson makes Proteus’s flip, from ardent in- nocent to “perjured, false disloyal man,” so convincing.

In such a wickle world, only the clowns (and Celeste Giulla’s earthy Lucetta) are constant. Sam Breslin-Wright comically sprints through Speed’s lines as he leads. At others, he makes it look as if the theatrically savvy pooh-poo has him in tow.

Jonathan McMurtry has a good news/bad news assignment: he gets to play old Laurence, one of Shakespeare’s most lovable clowns, but must share the spotlight with Crab the Dog. McMurtry does memorable work, especially with Laurence’s confession that he loves a tooth- less milkmaid, and adds an unforgettable touch. He’s on stage with Jackson, a dog so adept at playing front you’d swear he’s stealing scenes. McMurtry holds the lead. At times he leads. At others, he makes it look as if the theatrically savvy pooh-poo has him in tow.

Carmen

The world premiere of Carmen-set-to-pop-music is full of sound and fury, but for everything. Under Franco Dragoni’s relentless, pre- emptive-strike direction, a dropped bota bag, or skinned knee, would receive the same treatment as La Mía at the barricades. But since every moment gets staged with equal dramatic intensity, the key dramatic moments lose emphasis, and the story flattens out. In the Bizet opera and Prosper Merimee novella, Carmen is different. As the gitanella, Jamienn Valentine has the requisite fire. But so does everyone else! The music — reminiscent of early-1970s Andrew Lloyd Webber — isn’t sung. It’s shouted. Like Carmen’s unconnected, moment-to-moment view of life, each note’s a distinct blaze, backed by a 15-piece band trying desperately to sound synthesized. The production has arresting sights (moody skies, hanging cross and hanged man, smoke that crawls along the ground with choreographed precision), but many scenes take place inside an ugly, floor-to-ceiling black metal façade, as if we’re locked inside the Man in the Iron Mask’s mask. The performers have obvious talent, even when doing Assual Mode. Ryan Silberman spins José’s numbers with a rich, booming voice. The production offers every song as a show-stopper. Shimerman’s soliloquy at the end of Act One, “To Say Goodbye," in which José debates whether or not he should leave his wife for Carmen, is the genuine arti- cle. The night I caught the show, some audience members gave Silver- man and Valentine a standing ovation, which they, at least, deserved. La Jolla Playhouse, Mandell Weiss Theatre, 2305 La Jolla Village Drive, through July 22. TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY AT 7:30 P.M., FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M., SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 888-550-1010.

Espanshish

Palomar Performing Arts Carson von Son’s new play about the ongoing fusion of the Spanish and English languages. Diana Cabotto directed.

PERFORMANCE LAB (ROOM D-10), PALOMAR COLLEGE, 1140 WEST MISSION ROAD, SAN MARCOS, FRIDAY, JULY 13, THROUGH JULY 15; FRIDAY AND SATUR- DAY AT 8:00 P.M., SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-744-1150, X2453.

Hamlet

The Old Globe Theatre opens its Summer Shakespeare Festival with Shakespeare’s “problem” comedy about Princeton, a college grad who comes to New York, broke, down and finds purpose in life on the street he can afford.

SPRECKELS THEATRE, 121 BROADWAY, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH JULY 22; TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M., FRIDAY AND SUNDAY AT 4:00 P.M. 619-435-4856.

The House of Chaos

San Diego Asian American Reperti- rose Theatre and the Collective Theater Company present Velma Hasu Houston’s contemporary adaptation of the Medea myth: a female Japanese expatriate lives with her white American husband “in a bleached, segregated commu- nity outside of Los Angeles” Experimental Theatre, San Diego State University, FRIDAY, JULY 13, THROUGH JULY 29; TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND THURSDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-550-2278.

Inherit the Wind

Coramonde Playhouse presents Robert E. Lee and Jerome Lawrence’s drama, based on the 1925 Scopes “Monkey Trial,” in which Clarence Darrow and William Jennings Bryan debated evolution.

CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO, THROUGH JULY 29; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-410-4800.

Measure for Measure

The Old Globe Theatre presents Shakespeare’s “problem” comedy about the letter, versus the spirit, of the law. Paul Mullins directed.

LOWELL DAVIES FESTIVAL THEATRE, SI- MON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30; NOTE: 0447 RUNS IN REPERTORY WITH THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA AND MEASURE FOR MEASURE FOR DAYS AND TIMES CALL 619-234-5623.

JULY 12 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2

The second longest running musical play in London history features the entire company performing versions of Holly’s “Peggy Sue,” “Johnny B Goode,” “That’ll Be The Day”—and others—along with the Big Bopper’s “Chantilly Lace,” and Richie Valens’ “La Bamba.”

Welk Resorts Theatre

8860 Lawrence Welk Drive

Escondido, CA 92026

Theatre box office 1.888.802.7469

www.welktheatre.com
Menopause the Musical
The San Diego Rep hosts a production of Jeanine Linden’s musical about “the change.” Songs include “I Heard It Through the Grapevine,” “You’ll Never Leave Me,” and a remake of the disco tune “Staying Alive” called “Staying Anew.”

Lyceum Theatre, 79 Horton Plaza, Downtown, through August 28; Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 P.M. and Sunday at 2:00 P.M. (619) 544-8448.

Rashomon
North Coast Repertory Theatre presents Fay and Michael Kanin’s theatrical adaptation: an event seen from differing viewpoints. David Ellenstein directed.
North Coast Repertory Theatre, 2883 Pacific St., Pacific Beach, Thursday, July 12, through August 12; Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 P.M. and Sunday at 2:00 P.M. (858) 583-4155.

Program 8 of 6th@Penn Theatre’s festival includes Challenge Theatre play: Trust. I Have Something to Tell You, Mi Amor by Amanda Callahan; One Last Time, by Bonnie Miller Gardner, Venus, by Kim Yaged.
EthioPenn Theatre, 3714 Sixth Ave., Hillcrest, through July 25; for days and times of individual plays, call (619) 488-9210.

True West
New Village Arts’ opening-night performance of Sam Shepard’s comedy-drama got upstaged — by the company’s brand-new theater in downtown Carlsbad! When the curtain rose, the audience was already spent from appreciation (it’s a hands-on, promising space) and dedication (that such a company finally has a home). The production shows two of N’Yar’s stars. Francis Gercke and Joshua Everett play Lee and Austin, brothers so unlike you wonder which trees they fell from: resident Lee a human of slick, Austin, dressed for a Palm Springs suite, a screenwriter. Though they haven’t seen each other in five years, it takes five seconds for things to get abling. Nick Fouche’s kitchen of horrors becomes a Fontanne and Lucille crossroads of their ambitions and relative talents. Then they cross over, reversing roles, trash their mother’s house, and showing how similar a difference can be. Except for a persistent tendency to indicate with their hands, Gercke and Johnson do fine well in performances as much choreographed as directed by Kristianne Kummer. The play resembles a long, improvisational dance, and it’s a pleasure to watch Gercke and Johnson’s tandem efforts. Jack Moss and Dana Case add support as movie producer Saul and Lee and Austin’s mother (though she should be at least a shade older).” Along with being about clashing brothers and the quest for vanishing authenticity, the play’s also about the creative process, both illustrated when Lee starts dubbing for his film, defenseless Underwood typewriter with a pitching wedge.

West Side Story
West Coast Performing Arts Center, 210 East Main Street, El Cajon, Thursday, July 12, through July 28; Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 P.M. and Sunday at 2:00 P.M. (619) 432-3404.

One Nation Under Song: 200 Years of American Music
Broadway Theatre presents Randall Hickman’s musical chronicle of the U.S. from the 1800s to the present.
Broadway Theatre, 340 East Broadway, Vista, Thursday, July 12, through August 12; Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 P.M. and Sunday at 2:00 P.M. (760) 806-7100.
Campise admits he got "five-year equity" in the local show on FM 94/9. "Yes, we are trying to figure out a way to make it work," says Richard Doutre-Jones, station manager of Fox 6, which launched Fox Rox in 2002. Although Doutre-Jones says the Fox Rox name has a "five-year equity" in the local show on FM 94/9, although Doutre-Jones has not been named, insiders say former Fox Rox producer Scott Richison is likely to return in that same role. Patrick C. Sheeny, who still works full-time for Fox 6, would be part of the new crew.

Will former host Troy Johnson return? "We haven’t worked that out yet," says Doutre-Jones. Insiders say a list of potential new hosts includes Tim Pyles, host of the Sunday-night local show on FM 94/9, and producer/Rocket From the Crypt founder John Reis, who hosts a Saturday-night...
BOY SHAKIRA FREAKS OUT HASSELHOLFF

me… I might have to get a manager soon, so many people are calling.” Padilla is tight-lipped about future episodes, which have already been taped.

“We’re not even supposed to talk to reporters without permission from the producers,” he says. “They don’t want us giving anything away.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

Self-Serve

“We showed up at the Bean Bar, where five bands had a combined draw of ten people standing around,” says Four Kings singer/guitarist Drew Bent of a recent gig scheduled near the Sports Arena. “We show up with 75 of our own people and are ready to play, only to have the promoter tell us that there was a mistake and that he sent us the wrong date. This was at 9:30 p.m. He said he would compromise and put us on at 1 a.m. All of our fans and friends did not want to wait around for a 1 a.m. set on a Thursday night at an all-ages venue. We couldn’t come to a compromise with this guy, so I told him to stick it.”

The band then set up their equipment in the Jiffy Lube parking lot across the street from the Bean Bar. The band played until around midnight.

“A friend of mine is the head manager at Jiffy Lube and opened the place up for us if we could draw power,” says Bent. “The cops said they would not want us giving anything away.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

FOUR KINGS PLAY JIFFY LUBE

The confrontation at the Bean Bar to the parking lot madness, our free show ended up with a crowd of around a hundred people.”

Four Kings have not been invited back to the Bean Bar, but they appear tomorrow, July 13, at Portugalia.

Mackenzie Leighton, 19, plays standup bass (“His playing comes from his strong jazz background”) while 16-year-old Joseph Lorge plays mandolin (“He’s only played for two years”).

The band’s set list is split between upbeat originals and covers of acts such as the Traveling Wilburys and Joanna Newsom.

“Our most popular cover to date is ‘Such Great Heights’ by the Postal Service,” according to Little. “It won us our Coronado Music Festival prize.”

The Wrong Trousers are often found on weekends in Balboa Park, performing the Buggles’ “Video Killed the Radio Star” on mandolin, standup bass, and full-sized concert harp. “On our best days at Balboa Park, we make about $100,” says 17-year-old harpist Kelsea Rae Little. “Low ends for a set are about $20 to $30. It all depends on the weather and the size of the crowd.”

Park rangers distribute ten free music permits on the first Saturday of each month.

“This permit allows you priority to one spot,” says Little. “We usually set up across from the train museum.”

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The band’s set list is split between upbeat originals and covers of acts such as the Traveling Wilburys and Joanna Newsom.

“Our most popular cover to date is ‘Such Great Heights’ by the Postal Service,” according to Little. “It won us our Coronado High School talent show.”

The Wrong Trouser are recording a CD with local jazz mainstay Peter Sprague, whom they met while recording tracks for a mutual friend at his studio. Two original songs from those sessions posted on MySpace have been played around 20,000 times.

“We actually get stopped in the streets of San Diego by people who recognize us from the park, MySpace, or YouTube,” says Little. “People are nicer in person than they are on the Internet.”

Go to www.youtube.com/watch?v=VSUX9byu6NY to see their video.

— Jay Allen Sanford

CONTRIBUTORS
William Crain, Dave Good, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemmingson, Ken Lighthart, Brian Lorke, Derek Plank, Eric Rife, Jay Allen Sanford, David Stampone
SUMMER EVENTS SERIES

GRANDMASTER FLASH
THURSDAY, JULY 12TH

TOMMY LEE & DJ AERO
FRIDAY, JULY 13

PAUL Oakenfold
Friday July 20 2007

7.14 Jay - J 7.21 Ben Watt 7.27 Derrick Carter 7.28 Chris Fortier
Tickets and info available at: realvzetrailbe.com | giantclub.com | belosandiego.com

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Heart in the South

“If I remember right, it ended with after-the-show weeping and wretching.”

Singer Kitty Baudoin moved to San Diego in the summer of 1994 after spending five years in Hawaii and has lived here since then — with “many trips home to New Orleans thrown into the mix,” she says. “I love San Diego, but I have to admit that my heart is down south, my home.”

Kitty feels that her mission is to deliver the New Orleans spirit to San Diego. She was not in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina, but, she says, it “messed up my home badly. My family has lived in Louisiana for hun- dreds of years and had been through a lot of hurricanes, but this bitch did a number on us all. We all lost a lot — friends, homes filled with memories that took lots of blood, sweat, and tears to make...”

Kitty and her band, Yeah You Right, play the Ocean Beach People’s Co-Op Friday, July 13, at 5:30 p.m.

BEST GIG
“The Exotic Erotic Ball in San Francisco, be- cause it is so decadent and packed with memories that took lots of blood, sweat, and tears to make...”

WORST GIG
“I was playing at the Kennell Club in San Francisco on my birthday and had just a bit too much to drink. I think that some clothes came off, and I thought I was so fabulous! But, boy, was I wrong, and if I remember right, it ended with after-the-show weeping and wretching.”

TRICKIEST PROBLEM PLAYING LIVE
“A huge problem in San Diego, besides finding venues that will actually pay you, is getting the audience to loosen up: We all have so much going on in our lives that it takes a good set or two before people can realize that it is okay to shake their personal tambourine — hey, maybe I should give tambourines to everyone at the shows, that just might work.”

WHAT IS IN YOUR CD PLAYER?
“I listen to a lot of New Orleans-based music all the time, but now — especially because I am morphing my trio chanteuse into a totally New Orleans music band by the name of Yeah You Right — I am concentrating on a lot of New Orleans funk. Jon Cleary, the Meters, Snooks Eaglin, Professor Longhair, Allen Toussaint, the Radiators, Johnny Adams, Percy Mayfield, Elvis Costello...”

EARLIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY
“My first performance. We lived out in the country in Covington, Louisiana. We didn’t have many neighbors or other kids to play with, but I did have five sisters. My sis- ter Nancy would be the director, and my sisters Jo and Vicki and I would put on musical plays...I still borrow moves from those early performances. ‘Hit the Road, Jack’ is still on my song list.”

FAVORITE SAN DIEGO HANGOUTS?
“‘I don’t see it very much different than it is now. That there isn’t a scene, it is just so disconnected and spread out. Until the music community can really become a community and work together, I don’t see it being much different. One thing that will be interesting to see come together is the downtown develop- ment, if all the people living downtown will manage to develop something that is honest and truthful in its musical expression. They do have a chance to create a community that is full of art and music on a daily basis, not a yuppie wasteland like what the Gaslamp has become, but something that we can really be proud of.”

BRUSH WITH THE FAMOUS?
“The Stray Cats spent a leisurely evening at my home in New Orleans drinking whiskey and dangly my poor cat Barbaout of my window, muttering how much they did not like cats. They did bring him in unharmed.”

Heart in the South

“If I remember right, it ended with after-the-show weeping and wretching.”

Singer Kitty Baudoin moved to San Diego in the summer of 1994 after spending five years in Hawaii and has lived here since then — with “many trips home to New Orleans thrown into the mix,” she says. “I love San Diego, but I have to admit that my heart is down south, my home.”

Kitty feels that her mission is to deliver the New Orleans spirit to San Diego. She was not in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina, but, she says, it “messed up my home badly. My family has lived in Louisiana for hundreds of years and had been through a lot of hurricanes, but this bitch did a number on us all. We all lost a lot — friends, homes filled with memories that took lots of blood, sweat, and tears to make...”

Kitty and her band, Yeah You Right, play the Ocean Beach People’s Co-Op Friday, July 13, at 5:30 p.m.

BEST GIG
“The Exotic Erotic Ball in San Francisco, because it is so decadent and packed with thousands of crazy costume-wearing lunatics. That made me feel right at home, and I loved the band that I had back then, the Psycho Souls.”

WORST GIG
“I was playing at the Kennell Club in San Francisco on my birthday and had just a bit too much to drink. I think that some clothes came off, and I thought I was so fabulous! But, boy, was I wrong, and if I remember right, it ended with after-the-show weeping and wretching.”

TRICKIEST PROBLEM PLAYING LIVE
“A huge problem in San Diego, besides finding venues that will actually pay you, is getting the audience to loosen up: We all have so much going on in our lives that it takes a good set or two before people can realize that it is okay to shake their personal tambourine — hey, maybe I should give tambourines to everyone at the shows, that just might work.”

WHAT IS IN YOUR CD PLAYER?
“I listen to a lot of New Orleans-based music all the time, but now — especially because I am morphing my trio chanteuse into a totally New Orleans music band by the name of Yeah You Right — I am concentrating on a lot of New Orleans funk. Jon Cleary, the Meters, Snooks Eaglin, Professor Longhair, Allen Toussaint, the Radiators, Johnny Adams, Percy Mayfield, Elvis Costello...”

EARLIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY
“My first performance. We lived out in the country in Covington, Louisiana. We didn’t have many neighbors or other kids to play with, but I did have five sisters. My sister Nancy would be the director, and my sisters Jo and Vicki and I would put on musical plays...I still borrow moves from those early performances. ‘Hit the Road, Jack’ is still on my song list.”

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THURSDAY 12

Country music outlaw Willie Nelson will play SDSU’s Open Air Theatre tonight and mark his road show up to North County’s Pala Casino for a Sunday night gig. There’s more roots rock in Nelson’s repertoire these days, which includes country-fried jazz standards. Orange County’s dusty Randy Rhodes and the River Band appear to be making a second home out of San Diego, where their fan base is swelling. Tonight will be the second of three Thursday-nighters on the House of Blues’ stage. Not since Gianfranco Bus has the scene prepped Rhodes’ brand of offbeat desert Americana and roots rock. Those corners will be hawking their latest homey disc Per Peti Viva, a blend of Gram Parsons, Byrds, and the Band, pumped up by Rhodes’ keyboards, accordion, and all-weather voice…. On the HOB main stage, Pittsburgh touring mainstay Rusted Root will be warring Jimmy Buffett and also beers that have made them heirs to a million Deadheads.

FRIDAY 13

Since starting the San Diego branch of its Paul Green School of Music, singer-songwriter Mike Kenedy has become that organization’s national music director. In April, Kenedy started training local musicians (ages 7 to 18) to perform Pink Floyd’s The Wall, which they will unveil Friday and Saturday night at the Mini Mesa Epicenter. Though Kenedy does not perform with the band, the “masters” will be there to conduct, coach, and make a miniature of himself all night…. San Diego’s Chum- mer Pops Friday and Saturday night will present local flamenco venues. The Romeros at the Embarcadero… Roll by 2029 30th Street and see J John Reis has cut out the raps on his new Elephant, his new low music venue in North Park. Supposed to be opening Friday, but the vehicle’s still under construction, so no new info. Hours are advertised as 11 a.m. to 2 a.m., so cruise by on your way to catch San Diego bar band Scarlet Symphony’s Roses on Her Grave at stalwart San Diego bar, the Tower Bar.

SATURDAY 14

Bartholomew traditionalists and San Diego’s only hardcore bring-woo-pee band Diablo Dimes will be rocking Beauty Bar Saturday night. The Dimes will wrap you in tradition (from Son House to Tom Waits)…. New wave.cyborgs deliver “We accent the 6th B tonight when the Psychotic Funnies (‘Love My Way’), The Alarm (‘Old Genre’), and The Flair (‘Bad Man at Night’) will vie for the downtown stage. I’d like place of entry with a side of practices please…. Out at the beach, jaz band Cannibals, funk-rockers DMRT, and the rhythmically sensitive Mother (though, don’t expect to hear this tonight) will serve up a rock roll smorgasbord at Club’s. While on the north coast, the Belly Up will host a couple trib acts — Mommy’s Little Monsters from Huntington will do The School D thrill and be joined by L.A. Clash City Rockers.

SUNDAY 15

Still No Use For A Name after 20 years, NOTAS will pop you in the liquor when they bring their old-school ska punk and their brand new disc, The Best Songs, to the Casbah Sunday night. Those San Jose punk pranksters have the local faithful to fill a pit even on a Sunday night. Call in on Monday.

MONDAY 16

Lady Dottie and the Diamonds are on hold until next Monday at the Tower Bar. There seems to be an open door policy on who the 60-year-old Dorothy Whitman (Lady Dottie) will sing with, but they aren’t typical blues cans, their ideas from local acts such as GoGoActhut and Jazmin, giving the Diamonds’ real blues a self-described “modern twist.” UDMD are a soulful act, who bring their toast to its covers of songs by the likes of Eric James and Anetha Franklin — two singers who are night in the Alabama-bred Whitman’s wheelhouse…. Get in on the Casbah’s Anti-Monder Night. This Monday, Man- ganita, Mighty Sixty-Nine, and the Amalgamated will keep the Monday habit in check with pop rock and apply ska beats.

TUESDAY 17

San Diego, you love some greasy, drag-strip rock, and Tuesday night’s the night to get a helping, when Bartender’s Bible, the Doors Johns, and Married by Elvis to tracks at the Belly Up. Traditionally Silverbird and its San Diego songsmiths that tapped their vein in Folk Rock, Americana and dropped the band of guitar single, drum, and key plunk through the desert. Check out their Myspace site (http://www.myspace.com/silverbirdmu- sic)…. Could be a good night to check out Little Lita’s new jazz supper club Anthology and sans and wisom Kenny Ramin…. Feeling outdoorsy? Over at Humphrey’s, Circuit City’s the lure, attractions Joan Osbourne and the Cowboy Junkies will play under the summer sky, while down at Coors Amphitheatre, it’s pop-rockers The Fray, Gomez, and Isley.
DANCE (continued)

booty-shakin’ music with Mike Czech.

Sundays, guest DJ night. Mondays, House of Rep, hip-hop and funk and soul.

Tuesdays, the Ethereal, dream-pop bliss.

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Brass Rail: Second Saturday of the month, Club Fashion Whore, electro, indie, and Britpop. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. 3796 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-298-2235.

Candelas: Thursdays, Deep, deep, soulful house music. 416 Third Avenue, downtown. 619-782-4458.

Club Montage: Sundays, first floor, Klub Katta, no wave, synth-pop, and new romantic; second floor, Underworld, industrial, gothic, and darkwave. 2218 Hancock Street, San Diego. 619-298-9995.

The Plasma: Second and final Saturday of the month, Selector, gothic, industrial, and dark. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. 3500 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest. 619-293-4165.

Gaslamp Tavern: Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays, DJs Deyo and Tech spin hip-hop, 90’s, and R&B.

10 p.m. 800 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-239-5339.

Inferno Young Adult Nightclub: Fridays and Saturdays, DJ Kool T spins Top 40, techno, and 80’s. Tuesdays, DJ Deyo D spins hip-hop, R&B, and reggae. 9 p.m. 1:15 a.m., high school students and up. 775 Missouri Street, Escondido. 760-741-1271.

Kadami: First Saturday of the month, Broken Beat Night, live electronic, machine funk, and glitch hop. Sundays, Dubstep, downtempo, hip-hop, and jazz. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. No cover. 3500 Fourth Street, North Park. 619-441-2930.

The Kava Lounge: Third Saturday of the month, hip-hop, funk, and soul with DJs Thump Your and Converse. 3815 Kettner Boulevard, Midtown. 619-543-0933.

The Kensington Club: Wednesdays, Re:Do, hip-hop and R&B with DJs Buddha and SC. 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848.

Kadan: First Saturday of the month, Broken Beat Night, live electronic, machine funk, and glitch hop. Sundays, Dubstep, downtempo, hip-hop, and jazz. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

The Kava Lounge: Third Saturday of the month, hip-hop, funk, and soul with DJs Thump Your and Converse. 3815 Kettner Boulevard, Midtown. 619-543-0933.

Lucky Star Nightclub: Fridays, DJ Salerno spins salsa, merengue, bachata, and reggaeton. 9:30 p.m.; 18 and up. 3805 30th Street (at University), San Diego. 619-229-8228.

Mission Valley Resort: Thursdays and Fridays, Monte Lounge, salsa, bachata, and char-chis. 9:30 p.m. to midnight. 877 Hotel Circle South, Mission Valley. 619-298-8201.

Moondoggies Pacific Beach: Sundays, What’s Good with DJ Espana and Cazo. 9 p.m. 852 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-6550.

Shooterz: Thursdays, Club 90’s, new wave, new romantic, and punk synthpop with DJs Bryan Pollard and Sickboy. First, third, and fifth Saturday of the month, Therpy, industrial, gothic, and darkwave with DJs Bryan Pollard and guest. 3815 30th Street, North Park. 619-574-0744.
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BEACHES
Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Beach, 858-483-8851, Cafe Paco: Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Honky Tonk: 8 p.m., bluegrass, country; Sandbar: 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., rock/country.

Bar Leucadian, 5242 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia, 760-753-2094, Friday, Lee Riesing: classic rock; Saturday, Dan Baxter and Apple Seed and Old Canyon Sundown, country.

Blue Parrot, 4835 Niagara Avenue, Suite 103, Ocean Beach, 619-222-1712, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 9 p.m., John Tatulian and Friends, variety.


Cana, 1105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-486-1878, Thursday, Golden State, a SoCal tribute to the Doors, POGO, and the Republic of Letters. Friday, 9AMRE and 470 Saints to Freedom: Saturday, Joke or Mansfield, country. Sunday, One Drop, reggae: Tuesday, Cannabis on Parade, Ohyouth and Haan and the Alabees. Wednesday, the Baratians.

Dreamstreet, 2238 Race Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-8131, Thursday, Front Yard, Public Puppet, Hatched Warld, and Heavy Average, alternative rock. Friday, Eastown, the Comfortable Coupes, Skelton Crew, Taiko Clan, Styles Free, and the Mother Punkerz, funk, and Soul from East Village, acoustic. Wednesday, Auditorium Laboratory, alternative rock.

E Street Cafe, 128 E Street, Encinitas, 760-230-2300. Music in acoustic/electric rancho ornament, Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Joseph Anderman, jazz. Friday, 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m., Alana Rose, 9 p.m. to 10:15 p.m., the Nine Domino Trio, rock. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Stevie Pharis, 9 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Sal FiPule: Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Talal Faiz.

Hennessy’s Tavern (PB), 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-486-4417. Friday, the Madmen Revolution. Saturday, Road Noise, rock.

Joveanican, 4318 Cass Street, Pacific Beach, 858-483-8851. Sunday, 8 p.m., Daryl Shaw, acoustic.

Kaito, 1476 Encinitas Boulevard, Encinitas, 760-651-2748. Friday and Saturday, live music.

The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-436-6883. Thursday, the Charlie Barber Band, blues. Friday, the Hugh Cotton Band, rock/blues. Saturday, Stanley Grey, rock. Sunday, the Blues Brokers, blues, Sunday, Jeff Moore and the Watchbeaters, blues.

La Valencia Hotel, 1152 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-484-0771. Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. acoustic. Sunday and Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Bob Arce, poolside.

Leaven Bros and French Pastry Cafe, 550 La Jolla Boulevard, 858-484-9904. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Wolf Parker Band and Greg Pekora, jazz/rock.

Pasquale on Prospect, 1220 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-420-0722. Thursday, Gil Baron, Mark Fisher, James Kent, and the Tiki Tiki acoustic jam. Friday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Jazz 210 Band/Leslie Nick Joze, John Gulea, Dave Scott, and Cynthia Hammard: Saturday, 8:30 p.m., Marie Olivero and Latin Spice, Latin jazz.

Riley’s, 2001 N Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-619-6199. Friday, 9 p.m., Thomas Lee: pirate rock.

St. Tropes Bistro and Bakery, 4932 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-631-0880. Friday and Saturday, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Keith Jacobsen, smooth jazz saxophone.

710 Beach Club, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-748-7904. Thursday, Live tribute bands, reggae, and Steady Eddy, indie/pop/rock. Friday, Broken E hip-hop: Saturday, the Devastators and Geo-y, reggae: Wednesday, Concept Guitars and Mike Officer and the Melk Thieves, 4635 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach, 858-483-6334. Saturday, 8 p.m., Akedon Day Mournersock reggae/world, Mos.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-9734. Friday, 8 p.m., Leamore. Saturday, the Golden Hill Ramblers.

The Cashaw, 2001 Kettner Boulevard, 858-483-7844. Thursday, 8:30 p.m., Javanican, indie/folk.

JOAN OSBORNE

JOAN OSBORNE

DANCE

Bar Leucadian, 5242 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia, 760-753-2094, Friday, Lee Riesing: classic rock; Saturday, Dan Baxter and Apple Seed and Old Canyon Sundown, country.

Static Lounge: First Friday of the month, West Coast Mix U, drum’m, and juggle, 6:30 Broadway (between Sixth and Seventh Avenue), downtown, 619-244-1609.

Whiskey Girl: Friday and Saturdays, DJ Marc Thrasher mixes music videos. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Sundays, DJ Famous Dave mixes music videos. Mondays, Mato Mondo, DJ Marc Thrasher mixes 90’s and 90’s music videos. 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. at 480 11th Avenue, downtown, 619-236-1616.

The Whistle Stop: First and Third Saturday of the month, Transport Barrock, indie, and electrolarch with DJ Gabe Vega and guests. Second and Fifth South Park Bar & Grill: house, hip-hop, and old skool with DJs Qxx and HI Dnny D, 3327 E. Mission Avenue, Oceanside. 760-439-1190.

South Park Bar & Grill: Fridays, illusion, funk, disco, and hip-hop. DJ Riddles and Mykon King. 1901 Fern Street, South Park, 619-696-0900.

Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego Reader, 760-733-1515, SanDiegoReader.com. To Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, 760-733-1515. If you wish to submit a listing, call 619-232-5835 or email, readermusic@sandiegoreader.com. See B-Side Players live at Lou’s on Friday June 20 at 6pm

BE HERE FOR B-SIDE PLAYERS

San Diego’s own B-Side Players have just released “Fire In The Youth” to ignite your summer with Latin-grooves, reggae rhythms and an uplifting message. Catch them when they take the stage at the Belly Up Tavern on Wednesday, July 18. You can also see them live at Lou’s on Friday June 20 at 6pm. B-there.

JOAN OSBORNE

DOWNTOWN

The Cowboy Junkies also perform. JOAN OSBORNE, Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, July 17, 7 p.m. $50.
TOWER OF POWER
DAVID SANBORN
WEDNESDAY JULY 25

LYNYRD SKYNYRD
THURSDAY JULY 26

GODSMACK
SATURDAY JULY 28

CHRIS CORNELL
SATURDAY AUGUST 4

ESSENTIAL
SQUEEZE
IN CONCERT
FOUNTAINS OF WAYNE
SATURDAY AUGUST 11

LOST ONED BOYS
TOOTs & THE MAYTALS
SATURDAY AUGUST 18

GIPSY KINGS
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 22

RANDY TRAVIS
THURSDAY AUGUST 30

BILL COSBY
FRIDAY AUGUST 31

CLAY WALKER
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 20

EDDIE MONEY & LOVERBOY
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 23

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DOWNTOWN

Girly, and Pooey Bailey. Sunday, No Use for a Name, the Flitters, and Whole Wheat Bread. Monday, Mongoose, the Mighty Nec No Nerv, and the Anomolous. Tuesday, World Wide Sex, the Moduln, Dreaming Men, and Say Yard. Wednesday, Adrian Franklin, Jemmyway, and the Focus Group.

Club Montage, 2021 Hancock Street, Balboa Park. 619-294-9380.

Crowe’s Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8635. All music is jazz unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Dave Portnoy. Friday, Yvonne. Saturday, Primo. Sunday, the Archtones. Monday, Dave Scott. Tuesday, the Shop Meyers. Wednesday, Primo and the Blouson of Sue Palmer.

Dick’s Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 415-239-8130. Music is rock and roll unless otherwise noted. Thursday, the Scott Carter Duo. Friday, the Moduln. Saturday, Stagelive Six. Monday and Wednesday, Private Domain, unplugged. Tuesday, Dog at Scale.

Dublin Square, 704 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-294-5318. Thursday, 9 p.m., Melissa O’Reilly and Laying traditional Irish/jazz/Bossa Nova. Sunday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Adrienne Norns and Hailey Tough. Celibis folk.

Henry’s Pub, 610 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-239-2898. Thursday, the Beat Pack. Friday, Good Times. Saturday, Guero Sessions. Sunday, the Silletton, rockin’ and rollin’ with Wednesday, Lady Dottie and the Davenports, blues.


The Westgate Hotel, 1050 Second Avenue, downtown. 619-239-1818. The Main Bar: Thursday and Monday, 4 p.m. to 2 a.m., Peter Pupp’s Band. Tuesday and Wednesday, Kevin McCally, piano. Evening Entertainment: Thursday and Friday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., Frans Lokker, pop/jazz. Saturday, 7 p.m. to midnight, Kevin George, cabaret. Sunday and Monday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., Julio IV de la Fuente, lounge. Thursday and Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., Fair Oaks, international/standard.

San Diego


American Legion Post 310, 465 47th Street, San Diego. 619-224-1191. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Fair Oaks, smooth jazz/funk.

The Avalon, 3525 Ohio Street, San Diego. 619-586-7872. Saturday, 7 p.m., Jimmy North and Lee Kerren, rock. The Bahia Belle Cruise, the Bahia Belle, 954 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Bay. 858-539-7779. Departures 6:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock/Top 40.


The Garden Biersch Brewery, 7001 Mission Center Road, San Diego. 619-488-1120. Friday, the Devotees, reggae.

Humphrey’s, 10030 Girard Ave., La Jolla. 858-457-2222. Tuesday, 6 p.m., The Kooks. Thursday, 9 p.m., the Outlaws. Saturday, 11 p.m., the Bandit. Monday, 11 a.m., Brian White, reggae.

UPCOMING SHOWS

2241 Shelter Island Dr. • 619.224.3577

Tickets for “Upcoming Shows” available at Ticketmaster and Humphrey’s. Reserved seating for “Upcoming Shows” available with dinner. All shows are 21 years and up.
SAN DIEGO
Tuesday, 9:30 p.m., the Eva Solo Band, roadhouse rock. Wednesday, 9:30 p.m., the Earl Mars Band, beach rock.

In Cohos, 1373 Mission Center Road, Millenium Valley. 619-291-8655.

JPP’s Pub, 10054 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Tiaressa. 858-576-2500. Friday, live rock.

The Kensington Club, 1479 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2444. Live rock


Lucky Star Nightclub and Ballroom, 3847-5th Street, San Diego. 619-225-8228. Friday, 9-10 p.m., Opossum Rice, Tommies, solo.

Martini’s Bar and Grill, 3940 Fourth Avenue, San Diego. 619-253-0352. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Young Vegas, jazz.

The Ould Soul, 3573 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-6994. Friday, live music. Tuesday, traditional Irish jam session.

Pal Joey’s, 3417 Waring Road, Normal Heights. 619-284-6594. Friday, Mike’s Irish Pub, acoustic.

The Prado Restaurant, 1549 El Prado, San Diego, 619-457-9941. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Adventure Zone and Le Jazz Flat.

Reo’s O’grady’s, 1402 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-284-7666. Friday and Saturday, live rock.


Second Wind, 8533 Navajo Road, San Carlos. 619-485-1780. Friday and Saturday, Steve Wolf classic rock.

Soma, 9408 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-624-5050. Music is rock/metal/alternative/punk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Dance Gavis Dance, a Skillet Drivel, Alkaline Blck, and Sonora Friday, Carcel, White Chapel, the Parrotian, the Red fourth, Divorced, and Drit Front. Saturday, Dreamcar Party, Bremgen, Tricer. Foroke, Justin Renier, the Opportunity, and Tim.

South Park Bar and Grill, 1446 Fern Street, San Diego. 619-496-0006. Thursday, J.J. Love’s Jazz Jam. Friday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Apollo Bar and the John Relyxho Trio. Saturday, Mia Jones and the Relyxho Trio. R&B/Tap. 4/30. Saturday, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., Tim Norek and Doug Walker, modern jazz.

Tio Leo’s, 10797 Camino Ruiz, Mira Mesa. 808-68-1461. Thursday, Stars on Water, rock, Saturday, Masterpiece, jazz/R&B. Wednesday, 7-10 p.m. to 10-30 p.m., Robin Hendel, mauswriting.

Tio Leo’s Lounge, 5302 Napa Street (near Mokoma Boulevard), Bay Park, 619-562-1682. Thursday, Friday, the Red African Saturday, Lady Destiny and the Diamond, Wednesday, the High Society Jazz Band.

The Tower Bar, 4773 University Avenue, San Diego, 619-284-0158. Music is punk/rock/alternative. Friday, the Habit, Saturday, the Scene, Roy Jones, the Arts of Wrath, Tito A. Gentlmen Callers, and the Hiders.

NORTH COUNTY
The Alley, 421 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-431-1177. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the Love Rangers, dance.

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Encinitas. 760-438-2000. Thursday, the Sirens, Banding with Ashley, Friday, the Tides and Diego, Steev, and Essie. Saturday, 3 p.m., Matt Jennings, and the肃, and Peter Snow, calypso-beat/guitar influenced electronic beats. Saturday, 8 p.m., Mommy’s Little Monsters and the Club City Readers rock. Tuesday, Silverbird, Butterton’s Bible, the Divine John, and Married by In, country rock. Wednesday, 8 p.m., the 8-Stone Players, Latin jazz.

It sounds like] Rage Against the Machine but mixed with some kind of jam band/reggae/political influence. It totally had that Rage sound. The lyrics were about local activism. It sounded like something you would hear at a coffee shop spoken-word (event) or something…some dude ranting and raving on the microphone. I kind of liked the way it flowed with the vocals and the lyrics. The lyrics seemed pretty well thought out and conscious. I didn’t really like the (music), but I can see how other people would be into it. It’s something you’d hear on the beach in O.B. or something…like, while dudes play volleyball and smoke weed.

SAN DIEGO SONGS TAKE THE STREET TEST
TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD HEARD, PLEASE MAIL IT TO:
Music Editor, As I Hear It, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85083, San Diego, CA 92118-5883

BOB BARNES, Golden Hill

Sandra

Artistic Director: The K23 Orchestra
Song: “Big in El Portal” (from the CD Whisper of a Newborn Ghost)
Headed by: Rob Barnes, Golden Hill

ARTIST: Sexy-Lou featuring Nkeyz
SONG: “Throw It Up” (from the CD MMW Productions: Vol. 1)
Headed by: Kevin, Mission Hills

ARTIST: Sean Thompson
SONG: “Gems” (from the CD Surrounds)
Headed by: Kyle Magee, North Park

It just reminded me a lot of Parliament — at least, the beat did. I liked the old-skool funky feel; I liked how they were reparin’. San Diego. That’s pretty much it. It could have been a little bit more lyrical for my taste, but it’s pretty good. They were just talking about cruisin’ around in black whips with 22s…you know, your basic gangster shit. That would be a good song for cruisin’ around, barbecuing, or just playing dominoes.

It’s like really generic singer-songwriter/cooler-type music. I guess [the reminds me] of Bright Eyes. The instrumentation is high-gain guitars and it is acoustic at some points. There’s an organ effect on the keyboard. (The lyrics) sounded kind of vague to me. I didn’t really get what he was talking about, necessarily. It sounded poppy, definitely. It had a pretty rhythmic melody to it. I didn’t really like the guy’s voice. It sounded kind of off-key at some points. (The ideal activity for that song would be) sitting in your room crying or something.
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Friday, July 13

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Jimmie "JJ" Walker
Degrees.

Delfonics
Melvin's Blue Notes,

Wednesday, July 18
featuring
David Jacobs-Strain
with special guest
70's Soul Jam

Sunday, July 22
Shooter Jennings
with special guest
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Great Southern

Tuesday, July 24
Dickey Betts &
Shawn Colvin

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FRIDAY!

SUNDAY!

JUNE

70's Soul Jam
featuring The Stylistics, Chi-Lites, Harold Melvin's Blue Notes, Delfonics and Three Degrees. Hosted by Jimmie "JJ" Walker

Thursday, July 12
Boz Scaggs
with special guest David Jacobs-Strain
Wednesday, July 18
70's Soul Jam
featuring The Stylistics, Chi-Lites, Harold Melvin's Blue Notes, Delfonics and Three Degrees. Hosted by Jimmie "JJ" Walker

Tuesday, July 17
Joan Osborne / Cowboy Junkies

Tuesday, July 17
Dickey Betts & Great Southern
with special guests Shooter Jennings
Sunday, July 22 • 7:30

John Hiatt / Shawn Colvin
Tuesday, July 24 • 7:00

Lyle Lovett and his Large Band / K.d. lang
Wednesday, July 25 • 7:00

Bob Weir & RatDog / Keller Williams
Friday, July 27 • 6:00

Hootie & The Blowfish
with special guest Cowboy Mouth
Sunday, July 29 • 7:30

Tears For Fears
Monday, July 30 • 8:00

Larry Carlton & Robben Ford
with special guest Muriel Anderson’s All Star Guitar Night
Tuesday, July 31 • 7:30

August
Musiq Soulchild
with special guest Chriisette Michele
Friday, August 3 • 7:30

Huey Lewis & The News
with special guest Paul Thorn Band
Sunday, August 5 • 7:30

Ottmar Liebert
& Luna Negra
Sunday, August 12 • 7:30

Keb' Mo’ /
The Robert Cray Band
Tuesday & Wednesday
August 14 & 15 • 7:00

Jim Gaffigan
with special guest Rich Brooks
Thursday, August 16 • 7:30

Dave Koz & Friends:
At The Movies, Summer 2007 Tour
with special guests David Benoit, Phil Perry and Kelly Sweet
Friday, August 17 • 7:30

India.Arie
with special guest Anthony David
Sunday, August 19 • 7:30

Dave Brubeck Quartet
Monday, August 20 • 7:30

Hippiefest:
A Concert for Peace and Love with The Turtles featuring Flo & Eddie, Felix Cavaliere’s Rascals, The Zombies featuring Colin Blunstone & Rod Argent, Mountain featuring Leslie West & Corky Laing, Mitch Ryder, Badfinger featuring Joey Molland and Country Joe McDonald
Tuesday, August 21 • 6:30

UB40
Wednesday, August 22 • 7:30

Crowded House
with special guests
16 Frames and Liam Finn
Friday, August 24 • 7:00

Creedence Clearwater Revisited
Thursday, August 30 • 8:00

September
Cecilio & Kapono
Sunday, September 2 • 7:30

B.B. King / Etta James & Her Roots Band
Tuesday, September 4 • 7:00

Daryl Hall & John Oates
Wednesday, September 5 • 8:00

Temptations / Four Tops
Thursday, September 6 • 7:30

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy
Friday, September 7 • 8:00

Heart
featuring Ann & Nancy Wilson
Sunday, September 9 • 7:30

Doobie Brothers
with special guest Johnny "V" Vernazza
Monday, September 10 • 7:30

Foreigner
Tuesday, September 11 • 8:00

Pink Martini
Monday & Tuesday, September 17 & 18
8:00

America
Wednesday, September 19 • 7:30

Kenny G
Wednesday, September 26 • 8:00

Trisha Yearwood
Thursday, September 27 • 7:30

Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons
Friday & Saturday, September 28 & 29
8:00

October
Air Supply / Christopher Cross
Friday, October 5 • 7:00

Steve Tyrell
Sunday, October 7 • 7:30

Keali’i Reichel
Thursday & Friday, October 18 & 19 • 7:00

November
Kari Bremnes

December
Bill & Bonnie Windham

Tickets required for all ages. Dates subject to change or cancellation.

Humphrey's Half Moon Inn & Suites

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By William Crain

I once read a book about songwriting that had an interesting piece of advice. It said that when you had a recorded version of your song, you should put it on a mix tape or CD in between some of your favorites by the Beatles and the Rolling Stones. If your song doesn’t sound good in that company, the author said, you should work on it until it does. I think this is a good piece of advice if you want to encourage 95 percent of the musicians in the world to hang up the guitar and go to business school. I mean, who does measure up to the Beatles and the Stones?

On a similar note, if you’re going to play your own material in a style that’s obviously modeled on dark, post-punk music of the ’80s, it takes a lot of chutzpah also to perform a faithful cover version of a Joy Division song. All you would be doing is reminding the people in your audience that they would be better off going home and listening to Unknown Pleasures. And if the song you pick is “Love Will Tear Us Apart,” Joy Division’s best-known and most-often-covered number, you’ve got big problems.

So it’s pretty impressive when World Wide Spies take on this challenge without making complete fool of themselves. The Los Angeles band has a sound that’s just not reminiscent of Echo and the Bunnymen, the Cure, Siouxsie and the Banshees, et al., it’s practically a remix of them. Still, the battles over authenticity and originality in rock appear to be over, and the winner is “Who Cares?” By being so good at it, World Wide Spies prove they have as much of a right as anyone to play this music.

WORLD WIDE SPIES, The Casbah, Tuesday, July 17, 8:30 p.m. 619-232-4355. $6.
Navajo
8515 Navajo Road • 619-465-1730
(Abortiornos shopping plaza at Navajo & Lake Murray)
Thursday, July 12
8 pm Known Enemy
9 pm Exit Theory
10 pm Stratosphere
Friday & Saturday, July 13 & 14 • 9 pm
Classic Rock
Stone Wolf
Tuesday, July 17 • 9 pm
Shea Straton
The Handsome Devils
Upcoming: Thursday, July 19
9 pm Brawson • 10 pm Aficionado
Santee
8528 Magnolia Avenue • 619-596-8350
(Corner of Prospect & Magnolia)
Thursday, July 12 • 8 pm
Alice Cooper Band (Alice Cooper Tribute)
Friday & Saturday, July 13 & 14 • 9 pm
Classic Rock
Serious Guise
Monday, July 16 • 9 pm
Fuzz Huzzi
Wednesday, July 18 • 8 pm
Resin
Upcoming: Thursday, July 19
OU812 (Sammy Era Van Halen Tribute)
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ALTERNATIVE

The Bloody Hollies: The Casbah
Brannigan: Soma
Carnifex: Soma
Caskets on Parade: 'Canes
Dance Gavin Dance: Soma
Dante’s Boneyard: Brick By Brick
Gitanza Demons as the Crystelles: Brick By Brick
Dinosaur Party: Soma
Diskreet: Soma
The Dreaming: Brick By Brick
Drowning Men: The Casbah
Earline: Brick By Brick
Elyzium: Brick By Brick, 'Canes
Finback: Soma
FONO: 'Canes
Front Yard: Dreamstreet

Get Back Loretta: The Casbah
The Golden Hill Ramblers: The Casbah
Golden State: 'Canes
Hatchet Wound: Dreamstreet
Hector’s Revenge: Dreamstreet
Irish Front: Soma
Kastle Grey: Brick By Brick
Kenotic: Soma
Manganista: The Casbah
Missing Persons: House of Blues
The Meddling: The Casbah
Muzzle and the Absent: 'Canes
Reeve Oliver: The Casbah
The Opportunists: Soma
The Partisan: Soma
The Peacemakers: Tower Bar
Poor Robin: The Casbah
Public Puppet: Dreamstreet
The Red Death: Soma
Jordan Reimer: Soma
The Republic: Surf N’ Tackle
The Republic of Letters: 'Canes

ROCK

Backdoor Slam: House of Blues
Boneyard: Coyote Bar and Grill
The Brat Pack: Henry’s Pub
Brax: The Odd Soul
Canobliss: 'Canes
The Scott Carter Duk: Dick’s Last Resort
The Clash City Rockets: Belly Up Tavern
The Credit Union: Ocean House
The Detroit Underground: Humphrey’s
The Nate Dennis Trio: 8 Street Cafe
Drag of Sada: Dick’s Last Resort
8 Track Star: Tiki House
The Electric Waste Band: Winstons
The Flatliners: The Casbah
The Flatliners: The Casbah
The Focus Group: The Casbah

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7/16: ON THE ONE
7/20: CASHD’ OUT
7/21: STRANGER

113
Yo, DJ!

Radio Personality Meets the Star

A few years ago I was in Nashville for the annual Country Radio Seminar. At the last minute I was asked if I could go to the Hilton and do an interview with Willie. I said, “Yes!”

So, around 10:30 in the morning I walked over to the Hilton (everything’s within walking distance downtown). I went up to the penthouse suite and there were a bunch of hagard-looking dudes hanging out, most of whom were Willie’s people. Around 11 a.m. someone came out of the bedroom, looked at me and said, “Your turn.” I hopped up and headed to the bedroom. I walk in and there is Willie, who might be about an inch taller than I am, 5’3”. We sat down face to face and spent about 20 minutes just chatting. During the whole interview I kept looking over his shoulder at the bottle of Whiskey River booze sitting on his dressing table behind him. The bottle was brand new and hadn’t been opened. I mentioned that it was cool that he had his own whiskey, and he asked if I wanted to have a drink with him. Naturally, I said yes, even though it was 11 a.m. He opened the bottle, poured us both a shot, and then gave me instructions on how to properly drink the whiskey. “Sip it...don’t down it,” he said. We toasted and tipped back our shot glasses. He signed the bottle, gave me both shot glasses and a big hug. His hair smelled like weed. It was so awesome. My husband loves to take the bottle out of our booze cabinet and show it to everyone. The bottle is still about half full. I refuse to let anyone drink it because I like to think that I have some essence of Willie trapped in that bottle, and if too many folks drink from it his essence will get diluted. I got Willie in a bottle.

Seriously, I’ve interviewed every single country star, with the only exception being Johnny Cash. Willie was my favorite. It was just one of those experiences that you want to share with your grandkids one day. I mean, really, who gets to drink with Willie that early in the morning? I suspect some folks have done more than drink with Willie if they are on the road. Just listen to Bruce Robison’s song “What Would Willie Do?” and Toby Keith’s “I’ll Never Smoke Weed With Willie Again.”

If I were going to be trapped on the proverbial desert island, I’d take my husband, my kids, and Willie. You know he’s resourceful. He’d figure out a way to weave hemp into a boat and eventually we’d get it on and leave. That is after we hung out for a few weeks with him. You can see Willie Nelson Sunday, July 15, at Pala Casino.

Private Domain: Dick’s Last Resort
The Red Elvises: Tin Lizzie’s Lounge
Ron’s Garage: Hotel del Coronado, Island Sports and Spirits
The Restless Natives: Coyote Bar and Grill
The Stepping Feet: Buon Giorno Restaurant
Pink Floyd: Winneston

ROCK (continued)

40 Ounces to Freedom: Canes
Adam Franklin: The Casbah
The Taylor Harvey Band: McP’s Irish Pub and Grill
Hell Yeah!: House of Blues
Innaway: Surf n’ Saddle
Innaway: The Casbah
In Vitro: House of Blues
Jet Wash: Tiki House
Joy and the Stingrays: Downtown Cafe
Roxy Jones: Tower Bar
The Jones Revival: Island Sports and Spirits
The Karl Marx Band: Humphrey’s
Leguna: McP’s Irish Pub and Grill
Red Lane: Coyote Bar and Grill
Lee Rising: LouLouland
Los Kermes: The Avalon
The Maddox Revolutions: Humphrey’s Tavern (PB)
Material Witness: Ocean House
Marie McKean: Acoustic Music on Sand Diego
Mike Officer and the Mob: 7-10 Beach Club
Modem Day Moonshines: Martini Ranch (Gaspard), Thirsters, House of Blues
Mommy’s Little Monster: Belly Up Tavern
The Mother Funkers: Dreamstruck
Mower: Canes
The New Master Sound: Winneston
Night Shift: Pal Joey’s
Nite Hawks: Carver’s
No Use for a Name: The Casbah
Ronny North: The Avalon
Northstar: Coyote Bar and Grill
Pink Floyd: Winneston

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IRA B LISS BIG BAND JAZZ MACHINE 7/20
MOSE ALLISON 7/24 & 25
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CHUCHITO VALDES 7/29
SARA GAZAREK 7/31 & 8/1

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JAZZ / BIG BAND

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From K to Z: Tommy’s Italian Restaurant
Jim Gibson: Hotel del Coronado
John Guillino: Pasquale on Prospect
Cynthia Hammond: Pasquale on Prospect
The High Society Jazz Band: Tio Leo’s Lounge

Insight: Jimmy Love’s
Keith Jacobson: St. Tropez Bistro and Bakery
The Jazz 101 Band: Pasquale on Prospect
KD3: Winstons
The John Kopczyk Trio: South Park Bar and Grill
Fran Laskota: The Westgate Hotel
J.J. Jim’s Jazz Jam: South Park Bar and Grill
Masterpiece: The Leo’s (Mira Mesa), Jimmy Love’s
Kevin McCull: The Westgate Hotel
Jerry Melnick: The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, Ranchos Bernardo Inn
The Shep Meyers Quartet: Croce’s Jazz Bar
Mystique: Jimmy Love’s
Adrienne Nims and Le Jazz Hot: The Prado Restaurant
Adrienne Nims and Spirit Wind: Balboa Resort Hotel
Tim Nininn: South Park Bar and Grill
Nova Menco: Anthology
Mario Oliveras and Latin Spice: Pasquale on Prospect

JAZZ / BIG BAND (continued)

Sue Palmer: Croce’s Jazz Bar
Greg Purdoux: Launa Bistro and French Pastry Cafe
Dave Patron: Croce’s Jazz Bar
Peter Prince of Piano: The Westgate Hotel
Prim: Croce’s Jazz Bar, Belly Up Tavern
Kenny Rankin: Anthology
Rick Ross: La Valenciana Hotel
Sambajazo: Croce Restaurant
Dave Scott: Pasquale on Prospect, Croce’s Jazz Bar
Robert Sebstain: Cafe LaMere
Reggie Smith and Pressed for Time: Humphrey’s
Stage 4: Jason Guerras Restaurant
The Steamers: Coyote Bar and Grill
Vintage Vagab: Martin’s Bar and Grill
Doug Walker: South Park Bar and Grill
Scott Wollingford: Cafe LaMere
Willevoele: American Legion Post 13
The Wise Guys: Tommy’s Italian Restaurant
Yara: Croce’s Jazz Bar
Z-Bop: The Flying Bridge

REGGAE / SKA

The Devastators: The Gorden French Brewery, 710 Beach Club
Diego Roots: Belly Up Tavern
Gaffty: 710 Beach Club
Jams: Belly Up Tavern
Lantagen: 710 Beach Club
The Mayan Kings: Dreamstreet
The Jerry McCann Band: Coyote Bar and Grill
One Drop: Cans
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The Best: Belly Up Tavern
Solly: Belly Up Tavern
The Tribe of Kings: Belly Up Tavern
Vegitation: Winstons

COUNTRY

The Band in Black: The Cask and Charger Restaurant
Barndog’s Bible: Belly Up Tavern
Neil Blairner and Apple Seed: Bar Louie
The Bustin’ Loose Band: Mahoney’s Waggon Wheel
The DoRe: Belly Up Tavern
Grand Canyon Sundown: Bar Louie
Married by Elvis: Belly Up Tavern
Silverbird: Belly Up Tavern

ACOUSTIC / FOLK

Joseph Angelastro: E Street Cafe
Aster Phoen: E Street Cafe
Steve Brewer: Ramey Steak Pub
Tracy Bundy: AcousticMusiciansDogs
Gabrielle Chimolinsky: Leota’s Coffee House

The Scientist: Belly Up Tavern
The Tribe of Kings: Belly Up Tavern
Vegetation: Winstons

Blues / Soul

Brendon B: 710 Beach Club
The Rayo Brothers: Patrick’s Ii
Big City Shäm: McP’s Irish Pub and Grill
Blue Four: Patrick’s II
The Blues Brokers: The Kraken
The Charles Burton Band: The Kraken
Cold Mac’s: Dreamstreet
The Comfortable Crespo: Dreamstreet
Family Style: Patrick’s II
The Freemonts: Patrick’s II
Frizzy and the Bluesmen: Croce’s Jazz Bar
The Huck Gaskins Band: The Kraken

Joanie Mandenhall: Leota’s Coffee House
Adrienne Nims and Raggle Taggles: Tom Gibbons, Irish Pub and Restaurant, Dublin Square
Melanie O’Reilly: Dublin Square
Joe Price: McP’s Irish Pub and Grill
Todd Pyke: E Street Cafe
Rich from Fish Tacos: Dreamstreet
Amber Rubarth: Leota’s Coffee House
Joey Ryan: Leota’s Coffee House
Daryl Swan: Javanican
The Slater Sisters: Leota’s Coffee House
Smokeshow: Winstons
Stephen Stills: House of Blues
Gene Warren: McP’s Irish Pub and Grill
Winterhawks: McP’s Irish Pub and Music (Carmel Mountain)
Year Around the Sun: McP’s Irish Pub and Music (Carmel Mountain)

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(Click on “Classifieds” on the Home Page.)

DAMARU—World Beat Music & Dance
posted: May 29, 2007, 11:05 AM

Reply: click here

Damaru is a world beat music group from San Diego, CA that incorporates African and Middle Eastern rhythms into an incredibly energetic and danceable groove. With the addition of bass, sax, flute, guitar and vocals, Damaru has created a sound that is original and unique. While based on traditional drumming traditions, the music transcends boundaries of ancient and modern for a cross-cultural world fusion. Damaru performs throughout the Southern California area and has a self-titled CD available. With nine tracks of original arrangements, this CD is a must for anyone interested in African drumming and world beat music. Live performances can be presented in a variety of formats, from an intimate percussion ensemble to a full electric band, complete with dancers.

DAMARU appears first Thursday monthly at Claire de Lune, 2906 University Ave, North Park.

Enlarge Picture
It was getting late on a Friday night, and a woman I was with wanted to get something to eat. As we passed by Domino’s, she insisted we stop. They were closed, except for deliveries. “Don’t you have a party to go to?” she asked. “We can get food there.” Well, I had a “black and red” party the next night, but nothing the night we were out.

I suggested that we follow the pizza guy — he’d surely be going to a party — and she was game, so we tailed the red and blue.

Pizza Guy’s first stop was a bust — no party. At his second delivery, an apartment complex, he appeared lost. He circled one of the buildings several times before getting on his cell phone. For fear he was calling the cops, I took off. I didn’t want to be the one looking in my rearview mirror, followed by flashing red and blue.

The next day, it was red and black. Connie was turning 30 and would be celebrating at the Bonita Golf Club. Her party theme was black and red.

When I was in a store buying my stepdad a card, I saw a SDSU jersey I had and a Rolling Stones belt with the red lip logo as a buckle. I put on a necklace of red and black beads. I thought I would have more red and black than anyone there. I had no idea, however, how underdressed I’d be.

Connie was wearing a long white dress. She looked as if it were her wedding day. I wondered why there was no red or black on her. As I glanced around the hall, I saw guys in black tuxedos and suits with red ties. A few women wore red high heels or red dresses.

When Connie pointed out Mario Lopez who helped her put the party together, I asked, “The actor from Chula Vista?” “No,” she laughed. “Everyone always asks him that and his response is, ‘I’m the original Mario Lopez.’”

There were two DJs setting up. One was named “Ali Kutz”; the other, “DJ Rue.” A real radio DJ showed up — Xavier (the “X Man”) from 92.5 FM.

When the music started, the dance floor filled up. One Latina lady asked me why I wasn’t dancing. “Maybe you haven’t noticed, but I’m Caucasian. When we get on the dance floor, it’s never pretty.” She said, “I know someone who’s white who dances real well.” “He’s gay, isn’t he?” I joked. She thought about it a second and said, “Actually, you’re right. I think he is.”

I saw a photographer there taking pictures of everyone and realized that I’d left my camera in the car. When I went out to get it, I noticed lowriders in the parking lot.
remember how that shake
go, I probably wouldn’t
basketball days are long
And since my high school
those fancy handshakes that
relieved he didn’t do one of
himself, and as we were
Oscars.


It wasn’t until I walked
back in that I noticed they
had a red carpet, velvet
ropes, and were taking pho-
tos at the door. It was as if
we were arriving at the
Oscars.

Someone introduced
himself, and as we were
shaking hands, I was
relieved he didn’t do one of
those fancy handshakes that
always catch me off guard.
And since my high school
basketball days are long
gone, I probably wouldn’t
remember how that shake
goes (you know the one,
where it ends with your
fingertips locking with theirs).

There was a guy named
Nathan at the party who I
was told was an editor for
Lowrider Magazine. I would
have liked to talk with him,
but he constantly had a
crowd around him.

While I admired the
classy table settings, colored
napkins on white linen
cloths, I asked Connie how
much she threw down for all
of it. “It was probably
around $7,000. We had to
rent the hall and a lot of
other things.”

There were several fam-
ilies there, and while I was
taking a picture of two kids
running around, a guy who
appeared to be in his early
20s said, “Be ready with
your camera, man. When the
come off and the
lights go down, I’ll start
dancing.”

When people kept stop-
ning Connie for photos, it
reminded me of Jennifer
Lopez being chased down by
paparazzi. There were a
handful of women at this
party who looked like Lopez,
but they enjoyed the atten-
pition of the photographers. I
overheard one woman say to
her friend, “I’m glad they’ve
taken a bunch of photos of
me. At least now I didn’t get
dressed for nothing.”

Crash your party? Call
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The Perfect Setting Any Day!

Gourmet Mexican Cuisine in a Gorgeous Adobe Hacienda!

The 1.6-acre hacienda features an incredible outdoor dining patio surrounded by a lavish landscape with tropical flowers, a pond and cascading waterfall - a scenic backdrop for the perfect meal.

One authentic specialty after another duplicate the mudança's landscape with tropical flowers, a pond and cascading waterfall - a scenic backdrop for the perfect meal.

One authentic specialty after another duplicate the mudança's landscape with tropical flowers, a pond and cascading waterfall - a scenic backdrop for the perfect meal.

One authentic specialty after another duplicate the mudança's landscape with tropical flowers, a pond and cascading waterfall - a scenic backdrop for the perfect meal.

One authentic specialty after another duplicate the mudança's landscape with tropical flowers, a pond and cascading waterfall - a scenic backdrop for the perfect meal.

One authentic specialty after another duplicate the mudança's landscape with tropical flowers, a pond and cascading waterfall - a scenic backdrop for the perfect meal.
The only false note was a whole grilled fresh Royal Dorado (from Baja waters), which despite our pleas was overcooked dry. A sautéed crab was a long way to moistening it again and offered the right zesty tang to liven the lean, mild fish.

After the clean, clear flavors of our appetizers and entrees, for a change we actually looked forward to dessert. A Meyer lemon crumb cake was tart, but sparkling, with fresh blueberries. A strawberry-rhubarb panna cotta was disappointingly solid—and stolid, with a gratuitous topping of fruit gelatin. “After the panna cotta was made by Jack Fisher [now at Jack’s La Jolla],” said Lynne, “I expect it to be divinely and trembling, not this firm and pedestrian.” The best of that dessert was a garnish of ripe chopped strawberries and a petite mound of basil sorbet.

We all agreed we’d go back anytime. “The food is running a really high average,” Lynne summed up, “and you don’t have to dress up for it.” For all its spiffy decor and fairly high prices, JRDN combines the virtues of a neighborhood hangout with precise and delightful cooking that highlights every flavor and disguises none of them. The food is just right for the summer, breezy atmosphere: It’s a day at the beach.

ABOUT THE CHEF

The opening chef at JRDN was Victor Jimenez (formerly of Gringo’s, Thee Bungalow, and Gulf Coast Grill). When Victor took some time out to relax and travel (word is, he’s in India right now!), his second-in-command, David Warner, was promoted to executive chef. (This is not, needless to say, the distinguished British actor of the same name.)

“I’ve lived in San Diego for about two years, and I’ve been working at JRDN for just about a year now,” he says. “I’m from Wildwood, New Jersey, and I worked in Cape May, a very Victorian resort town. I started out washing dishes when I was 14, and when I was about 17 my cousin opened a tavern. He offered me a job and asked if I wanted to cook or wash dishes. I asked, ‘Which gets paid more?’ The cook! I started there and stayed and just fell in love with cooking. I ended up going to school in Florida at the Fort Lauderdale Art Institute of Culinary Arts, did a two-year program, and moved back to Cape May, where I worked at the Pelican Club. Then I moved to Charleston, South Carolina, and worked in the Peninsula Grill in the Planters Inn — it’s a Relais et Châteaux restaurant. After about a year I moved back to Cape May and worked at a really nice place called the Washington Inn, very well known on the East Coast, with the largest wine cellar in southern New Jersey. I worked there for two years, then moved out to San Diego. I always wanted to live out here, and finally, financially, I could. I grew up on the beach, then went to school and worked in Florida, another beach. Lynne loved the beach, so San Diego was another stepping stone.

“I worked at Kensington Grill as a sous-chef when I got here, then I moved over here as a sous-chef, got bumped up to executive sous-chef, and now I’m the chef, for about the last month. Everything’s going so far. I can’t complain. We put in new lunch and dinner menus for summer, and we’re starting tasting dinners on Sundays, and we’re going to have some wine dinners in the fall and change the menu again, keep it seasonal. I have pretty much complete freedom to change the menu; I just have to check it with the management. They said, ‘That sounds great, go with it!’ They trust me and I trust them. I’ve got really good relations with my purveyors. Crow’s Pass Farm up in Temecula is doing a great job for us. It’s really interesting being on this coast, you see a lot of different produce and fish than you do in the East.

“We try to keep it simple, take it back to the roots. I think people have been bombarded in recent years by paragraph-long menu descriptions. We want to cook foods that people can identify and keep it fresh, keep it fun, make the guests feel like they’re kids again, smelling something good in the kitchen. Especially being by the beach, we get a lot of tourists, and it gives them a chance to have a nice meal without it being scary for them. We don’t have a haphazard kitchen or walk-in — on the other hand, that helps keep our product fresher. We have fish and produce delivered daily. Nothing stays too long in this restaurant.”
The Emperor's Hand

Johnny's 72 and is most famous locally for being kissed on the cheek by Sophia Loren.

I put down to the Emperor’s fingernail. I was desperate. Seven at night, high on hunger, low on funds, and nowhere in the Gaslamp to eat—at my level anyway. Everywhere was either too expensive or too shut. No point in going home. Cupboard bare, Carla out.

I came to where ICrosses Third in Chinatown. Wheeled around the corner and whoa! A bronze statue, eight feet tall. A fine, stern old man, armed with a sword and a kind of ski-jump crown, full of life and power. Turns out it was made in China for San Diego’s Chinese community. The plaque says it’s the emperor Chin who, like, created China in 221 BC, standardized written language, the currency, weights and measures, and, oh yeah, built the Great Wall.

Quite a guy. That’s when I notice the fingerprints on his right hand have rubbed until they’re a shiny gold. People must touch them for luck. Maybe if I just rub the finger on his index finger I won’t say it was instant, like rubbing Aladdin’s lamp. But...

As I’m walking up First at G, past Horton Plaza’s back entrance, I notice this older guy wearing a private security officer badge at his belt. He has a leather lifting harness around his waist.

Somehow, I don’t think he’s a security officer. He’s dressed more for walking the Pacific Trail than the streets of San Diego.

“Welcome,” he says. “This café is so filled with love.” For a crazy moment, I wonder if he could be, like, the Emperor Chin reincarn...nah. Whatever. In a jiffy he’s gone, across the street to a 24-Hour Fitness gym where a recurrent bike is parked out in front.

Wow. I would have walked straight past the café he’s talking about—a whole big café terrace, umbrellas, tables, and all—because, except for ribbons of twinkle lights, it’s not that well lit. “Beach City Market,” says the sign above its brown, hoop-sided canopy. “Espresso, Juice Bar. Smoothies. New York Style Deli. Freshly Prepared Sushi. Gourmet Salads.” Maybe it’s the twinkle lights but it makes you think of Van Gogh’s painting. The Night Café. Arles, France, right? Now I look at it, a golden pool of light in the night. And, hey hey! It’s open till 10:00 p.m., and when I bolt in and check the menu, yeah! It’s affordable.

I’m glad to see they have a small soup and half-sandwich deal for $7.95. Of course, this is fast food. The soup pots are cardboard. The guy wraps your sandwich in butcher paper. So we’re not talking clinky plates, glowing glasses of wine. Oh well. I can afford it. That’s what counts.

I’m thinking the minestron soup and half a Londonport roast beef sandwich “flavored with port, white herbs, and spices.” Or the Deluxe, which has roast beef “coated with salt, pepper, and garlic,” plus horseradish cheddar and “pub-style horseradish.” Each goes for $6.95 as a whole sandwich on its own. I almost ask for Number 20, the vegetable sandwich, because it has grilled eggplant—love that oozy mess—roasted red pepper, roasted zucchini, Italian yellow squash, grilled Portobello mushroom, lettuce, and tomato.

But the counter guy, Sam, cuts off my fantasy. “Soup’s just off,” he says. “Most filling?” Sam says finally. “Number 19.”

“Okay,” I say. “What’s the most filling thing on the menu?”

He zings his finger up and down the list. I do my best, but nowhere. “No,” says Sam. “Horton Plaza management put it down to the Emperor’s fingernail.”

Oh come on now. Crazy. Just think of Van Gogh all the way. Geraniums and palm trees, and spiderwebs on the maypole. “Here’s to the Emperor,” I say.

“But whatever,” Sam says. “I won’t say it was instant, like rubbing Aladdin’s lamp. But...”

I chomp into my toasted triple-decker. It’s sort of like a half-pound burger sizzled right there for $5.95, or a jumbo hot dog for $3.95.

“Most filling?” Sam says finally. “Number 19.” That’s when I notice the fingertips I’d noticed that they sold wine and beer. “Can I chomp into my toasted triple-decker. It’s sort of a Dagwood sandwich, that’s how stuffed it is. Lots of tasty, thin-cut turkey on the bottom, then a mob layer of bacon, lettuce, tomato, with dill pickle on the side. It’s an honest sandwich. So mystery flavors, just nicely filling.

The place is emptying. Sam brings out a coffee and sits down. “You should see it at lunchtime,” he says. “Everybody comes. The 24-Hour Fitness people, tourists, shop employees, lawyers, politicians. The mayor comes twice a week. It’s quite a scene.”

The older guy in the lifting harness and the security badge comes back. Johnny V. “It’s like a European café, isn’t it?” he says. “The people are so warm-hearted. They let me sit for hours.” Johnny’s 72 and is most famous locally for being kissed on the cheek by Sophia Loren, for helping deprived kids, though I can’t tell if it happened here or in La Bella Italia.

I’d noticed that they sold wine and beer. “Can we drink it out here?” I ask.

“No,” says Sam. “Horton Plaza management won’t let us.”

Oh come on now. Crazy. Just think of Van Gogh. He’d never have painted his café if it only served coffee.

But whatever, I raise my cardboard coffee cup and check the menu, yeah! It’s like a half-pound burger sizzled right there for $5.95, or a jumbo hot dog for $3.95.

“I’ll be here all day,” says Sam. “Let me know if you’d like to call me in.”

He zooms his finger up and down the list. I do too. Oh man. I should come at lunchtime. That’s when they have an “outdoor grill lunch,” 11:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m., Monday–Friday. For $7.95, you can have chicken fajitas, grilled BBQ chicken, chicken kabobs, or grilled salmon, on mixed greens and rice. Or noodle dishes for $5.95, or sandwiches like a half-pound burger sizzled right there for $7.95, or a jumbo hot dog for $3.95.

With the purchase of any entrée of equal or lesser value and 2 beverages. Up to $10 value. Not valid with other offers. Only with ad. Expires 8/15/07.
Local Only

Like others before her, Gottfredson found selling San Diego wine to San Diegans a difficult business.

Teresa Gottfredson has been around the Ramona wine scene since before Bill Jenkin and Frank Karlsson got together and hatched the notion of Ramona Vintner’s Cellars — a winery operation that would source fruit from the valley’s vineyard-planting boomlet. It was love that brought her into the club — both gastronomic and romantic. “I was a graphic designer for 20 years and got burnt out on the corporate world. So I started a catering business, Trezzete’s, and my specialty was gourmet appetizers. I did a lot of cocktail parties, and I really liked to pair wines with them. I’m a good taster.” Enough clients had Ramona addresses to get Gottfredson to move her operation (and her home) from Tierrasanta. And even before she did that, she had met and started dating Jenkin.

“Bill and I had a planting party for his acre of Syrah — 500 vines. He did most of the hard labor — digging holes and such — and I did the maintenance in the vineyards. I started taking bor — digging holes and such — and I did the Syrah — 500 vines. He did most of the hard labor, and ran the tasting room” on Ramona’s main drag. Jenkin started up Pamo Valley Vineyards; Gottfredson stayed on with Karlsson, who kept the tasting room (and the label design) and renamed his winery Lenora.

Like others before her, Gottfredson found selling San Diego wine to San Diegans a difficult business. “I ran into a lot of stop signs when I tried to promote Lenora at tasting rooms down in San Diego. I didn’t like it. I thought, ‘There are some really great wines out here, and if you put them in your store, you’ll see results.’ They wouldn’t take the chance. I did get the Dos Rojos in at the Third Corner,” but other venues were still sounding the old mantra of “people want to drink Napa and Sonoma.” She noted that Salerno has had some luck (I recently spotted his wines on the shelf at Mona Lisa down in Little Italy), which may be due in part to his knack for winning medals in competition. But, in general, “A lot of people aren’t aware. They still go up to Crush.”

If you can’t get distribution, you have to rely on Internet sales and — if you’re lucky enough to have one — the tasting room. Lenora has a tasting room, but “the location is really bad. Bad parking, you can’t see it from the road, and the overhead is pretty high.” Gottfredson went out looking and found what looked like a sure thing: a cozy box of a building next to King Leo’s chocolates (and just down the road from the Orfila tasting room) in Wynola. But Karlsson didn’t want to move, and so she struck out on her own, opening Country Cellars, a tasting room featuring the wines of San Diego County.

Of course, “opening” is often a short word for a long process. Gottfredson found the building in August of last year and didn’t open until April. “I had to go to the county first, because they said there were more alcohol establishments up here than population.” (Winery owners remain a subject of contention in the backcountry; more on that in the future....) Then, the ABC required her to expand the square footage of her shop and to wall off a smallish corner up front for a tasting area. There was the matter of ADA compliance, and she had to put bars on the windows to protect against the threat of thirsty burglars. Becoming an advocate for local product was suddenly getting expensive. But she soldiered on and got a little landscaping help from William Holzhauer of Hacienda de las Rosas Winery, who planted a row of Petite Sirah vines out front as an ad for his backyard-vineyard-building venture. (Inside is rustic and woody, with redwood lattice, electric grape-lights, and consignment work from local painters.)

Then, in March, Frank Karlsson died, and Gottfredson found herself scrambling to help out her old employers as they attempted to keep the place going in its founder’s absence. She told Karlsson’s wife Kerstin that she needed to spray for powdery mildew yesterday and worked at stabilizing and bottling several Lenora wines that were ready to go. “Lum Eisenman was really helpful again,” she says, “and so was the Ramona Vintner’s Association.” While Karlsson was ailing, “We got a pruning instruction.” While Karlsson was ailing, “We got a pruning instruction.”

But open she did, and an ad on the website winesevents.com brought in a good crowd from all over. “I got a lot of response from San Diegans coming up for the weekend, and a lot of people from Orange County come and visit Julian. I’m with the Julian Chamber of Commerce and the Julian Merchant Association, and it helps that I know most of the winery owners — they want to see me succeed. ’Witch Creek’ — which runs a tasting room in Julian — ‘sends customers to me,’ and the people at the Orfila room were glad for the company. To keep things neighborly, she doesn’t carry their wines, nor those of Menghini or J. Jenk-
Bilingual coastal view meets Cal-French Pacific Rim cuisine that’s ex-uberantly out-front as the waves whacking the windows. Guillain’s oc-eanic culinary adventures include ul-ti-fresh, exotic ingredients makes ev-ery visit a voyage of discovery, and preparations so eschatological that each listing on his precise menu reads like a walk during dining. Reserve now. Call 760-775-2775. 

**NEW**

**LA JOLLA**

Barbearella 2171 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla, 858-456-7373. This pop-u-lar restaurant sits nestled in an English garden just blocks from the beaches. A walk beside the flora at street side is, in the enclosed patio, or in the small dining room. Once you’re seated, the friendly staff provides fresh fish-out-of-the-sea, and seafood. Norwegian wheat bread is baked in-house, and fed to you. Or a fresh fruit crêpe happens to be on the dessert menu, leap on it! Open for lunch and dinner daily.

The Marine Room 2000 Spinrad Drive (off Torrey Pines Road), La Jolla, 858-456-7272. No place is better known for its seafood and immensely clever combi-ver-nation, high seas — at only $22.95. The sushi-master also keeps an eye on the restaurant’s seafood purchases, and it’s a watercress salad. If a fresh fruit crêpe — N.W. 

**NORTH COASTAL**

Fidelis’ Carlsbad 300 Carlsbad Boulevard (at Carlsbad Village Drive), Carlsbad, 760-728-0990. It’s not upscale modern Mex — no cumin-infused, ramps-on-salsa on Fidel’s menu — but who else has a fiesta fatwa when you can or-der just about any traditional SoCal-Mexican food? Fidel’s seems to be posto a la masa. It’s gonna be good! Whether you try the chicken-and-choices sampler with squash blossoms, fishy cilantro, crabcakes, fish, mozzarella sticks, or on the menu can’t be served. It’s a good one. I’m sure you’ll come back. Consider the fresh fish, classic tacos, and fish & chips, all served with a twist of lemon and lime.

Tomillo 170 Encinitas Boulevard (at Coast Highway), Encinitas, 760-437-3187. In a lovely setting over-looking Moonlight Bay you can enjoy Japanese and Pacific Rim fusion cooking and sushi in a serene but lively dining room. The sushi bar is free from the weekend rush, the quality can be amaz-ing, but the fish is often not up to par. The sushi-mas chief mashes in an eye on the restaurant’s seafood purchase, so it’s not the most exciting. Appeti-vers such as “salmon toro tartare” and “unagi nigiri” are not the simple, excellent fusion-tipped seafood entrees. Reserve for weekends, especially for sushi bar. Dinner nightly. Moderate. — N.W.

**RESTAURANT LISTINGS**

The Reader’s Guide to Restaurants are recommended listings written for our readers (Ed Budolf, Barbara David, Amanda Martin, Shari McCullogh, Mira Nash, Reeser Wider, Naomi Wise). Each issue contains a fraction of over 500 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at SanDiegoReader.com. Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a mid-price meal (inclusive: $10; moderate: $10 to $19; expensive: $20 to $24 very expensive: more than $25). Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.

**SAN DIEGO**

San Diego Reader www.sandiegoreader.com

**PARKS**

**BUFFET TO-GO AVAILABLE**

Lunch includes: First Course Assorted Bacons Cooked in Beer with Imported Cheese Served with BRIE HOUSE RED Served with BRIE HOUSE RED Cost is $26 per person plus tax+gratuity. Reservations necessary: 858.465.6279 First Course Herb Crusted Prime Rib Slow Roasted with Garlic Mashed Potatoes Served with BRIE HOUSE RED Second Course California Raw Bar Green Beans, Cherry Tomatoes; Feta, Walnuts, Olive Oil and Dijon Served with PALE ALE Third Course Crabmeat Cocktail With Creamy Chive Frosting Served with HEFEWEBSEN Fourth Course Carrot Cake With Creamy Chive Frosting Served with HEFEWEBSEN All-you-can-eat buffet at lunch "Buffet items change daily; it’s a good bet the seating is good, there’s a vast selection of “rock and roll” — huge, creative party sushi. They’re fabulous, with sparkling fresh seafood and immensely clever combi-ver-nations. Try, for instance, the shrimp tempura roll, which is wrapped fresh shrimp, crab, shrimp, crab, shrimp, smoked salmon, and lobster, all served with a garden salad. The combo would be just as impressive as an appetizer to a top-Cal French restaurant. The Orange Crab is another example of invention, fresh and crunchy with veg-y...
2-for-1 Hawaiian lunch or dinner!
From home-style barbecue to scrumptious pan pizzas to hand-ground burgers, we bring you Hawaiian flavor! Buy one entrée and two drinks and get the second entrée free. Coupon expires 7/26/07.
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Pacific Mall, 1846 Garnet Avenue (at Lamont), Pacific Beach, 858-274-1140. With a more upscale, eye-catching décor and a larger and more acoustic menu than most Greek cafes, this is a popular destination, so be sure to reserve for dinner or you'll risk a long wait. The choices include good soups and appetizers (except for a sub-par moussaka), outstanding moussaka, and Seau's family recipe of Samoan stir-fry. But the luscious "Everything" with provolone is more likely to seduce the inquisitive, I recommend the jellyfish salad, a novel treat for vegetarians.

San Tong Palace
1640 Camino del Rio North (next to Robinsons-May), Mission Valley, 858-291-7328. Footballer Junior Seau contributes more to San Diego than just sacks. His extravaganza of multirace pubby bars is a veritable Eden — a real-life reincarnation of some 1980's McLuhanoid media art show, with 70 video screens (ranging from large-screen to giant HDTV) running sporting events and a professional DJ on high, periodically spinning cool sounds over muted talking heads. The menu offers mainstream and some rotating regional specialties (e.g., New Orleans, fresh catch, and includes some rotating sushi, all-American entrées, and Seau's family recipe of Samoan stir-fry. But the luscious "Everything" with provolone is more likely to seduce the inquisitive. "Philly fries" (with garlic) are a blast, but the luscious "Everything" with provolone is more likely to seduce the inquisitive. As for the sandwiches — the hoagie and the Crab Louie — they're taken from "Pulp Fiction" as seen in the beaches.

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San Diego Reader, May 12, 2007 15
San Diego restaurant. Open daily 11 a.m. to midnight, with bargain prices at Sunday brunch. Reservations advised for weekend evenings. Moderate. — N.W.

Humphrey’s by the Bay 2111 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island, 619-224-5177. Most diners at this restaurant/concert venue restaurant eat at the prix fixe do-or-die dinner because they guarantee good food for the concerts at the next-door amphitheatre. But better food emerges once the music-mavens leave the premises. The kitchen features fine seafood, juicy meats, and prime steaks with seasonal veggie garnishes. Preparations are pleasing but in no way authentic. Breakfast and lunch are the main meals here and include competent eggs, luscious scrambled eggs, huge sandwichs, and weighty slices of coconut French toast. Competent Latin-style dishes include tamales with any meat. Diners of Southeast Asian cuisines, however, may be disappointed by the simplistic stabs in that direction. If your dish is too mild, intense sauces (chili oil, sambal, chipotle sauce, etc.) are available on request. Beer and wine. Small, free front parking lot; pay lot available on request. Beer and wine. Moderate.

Lefty’s Chicago Pizzeria 3448 35th Street (at Myrtle), North Park, 619-239-7210. An eight-pound pizza! That’s what Lefty claims his “king of all pizzas” weighs at his often-crowded little corner pizzeria. Truth is, you can’t help but be drawn, especially at night, to the little ribbon of lights framing the sidewalk canopy with its tables and benches. Lefty is determined to bring “the real Chicago” to San Diego. So, for every day’s we’re talking dish, pot-in, as well as some thin and crispy. But the sauce is too mild, intense sauces (chili oil, sambal, chipotle sauce, etc.) are available on request. Beer and wine. Small, free front parking lot; pay lot available on request. Beer and wine. Moderate.
and the toppings are fresh, hearty standouts. Matching your weight? Two low-fat combos (half the cheese) are available. Inexpensive. — A.M.

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La Casa Del Zorro, Borrego Springs Drive (five miles south of Palm Canyon Drive at Yaqui Pass Road), Borrego Springs, 760-773-3232, has been doing the same thing for 25 years and still serves good rib-sticking food morning, noon, or night. Try breakfast special 9:15-11:30, two eggs, and two bacon strips. For lunch, the French dip sandwich. Full-plate dinners — and they are full — include roast beef and chicken-fried steak. Open Monday through Saturday, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Bar until 2 a.m.; Saturday, bar only. Closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.R.

**UPTOWN & OLD TOWN**

Alex’s Brown Bag 2550 Fifth Avenue (at Laurel), Suite 171, uptown, 619-231-2912. This is one of those restaurants that has been around longer than the people who frequent it. The owners say what makes their sandwiches so special is that they have the most melted-in-your-mouth meat in the area. With the addition of the French Quarter, many restaurants in the area are doing the same thing, so it’s a little difficult to decide which one is best. The owners, however, say that Alex’s is the best. — N.W.

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The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant • 344 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-232-9480. This spirited, colorful saloon, physically transported whole-log from the Old Fog, offers delicious Irish fare at reasonable prices in cozy, no-frills digs, and also atmosphere Irish cooking — with some twists. Try the lovely beer-braised Irish stew, or the hoary potato croquettes rolled around your choice from a variety of fillings (salsedo, beef, etc.). Or start the day here with a huge, carnivorous Irish breakfast. Open daily. Low moderate. — A.V.

Greenstreet • 418 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-232-0225. The Italian stove sits out here on the street-level promenade at Fifth and E Street, and also atmosphere Italian cooking — with some twists. Try the lovely beer-braised Irish stew, or the hoary potato croquettes rolled around your choice from a variety of fillings (salsedo, beef, etc.). Or start the day here with a huge, carnivorous Irish breakfast. Open daily. Low moderate. — A.V.

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Roboflop

Bumbling Autobots meet spastic teen romance.

For the past year or so, geek tem-pers have flared high over the prospect of a Michael Bay-di-rected update of The Transformers, a mid-'80s Hasbro cartoon about sentient alien robots capable of dis-guising themselves as mundane Earth ma-chines, from cars to planes to tape recorders to, um, robotic di-nosaurs. Thanks to a line of reasonably neat toys and a better-than-average-for-the-time plotline pitting the noble Autobots against the evil Decepticons, The Transformers captured the imag-ination of a generation of kids, and the several spin-off series and animated movie continued to bring new fans into thrall. Since the first live-action film version was announced, the Inter-net has been abuzz with debate over exactly how the explosion-meister di-rector of Pearl Harbor and The Island was going to screw up the franchise. Hard-core fans have bitched about the robot designs, the vehicle designs, the silly Maguflin-centric plot, and much more, but even they couldn’t have an-ticipated exactly how Transformers ruins their memories: by turning the franchise into a terrible ‘80s comedy.

The film opens with Peter Cullen (reprising his ‘80s original role as Autobot leader Optimus Prime) de-livering a cheesy voiceover about “the Allspark,” a mysterious cube of un-known provenance that gives life to worlds. Cut to modern-day Qatar, where a giant robot de-stroys an American military base and hacks into its computers in search of data on the cube, in the kind of modern action scene fans were probably most hop-ing for. And then...cut to nearly an hour of John Hughes-style teen-ro-mance goofery, as spastic twit Shia LaBoeuf flails his way through an attempted romance of Megan Fox, the hottest girl in high school. He pratfalls in front of her, blithers to-himself nervously, he gets all un-nerved as his mom asks if he’s been mastur-bating and suggests that if the word makes him uncomfortable, he could call it Special Happy Time in stead. Astonishingly, what should be a propulsive action film stumbles along in this vein through much of the rest of its length, dragging out inane jokes and excruciating humiliation routines; even when the heroic Auto-bots finally appear, they’re similarly dignity-free bumbler who spout passé catchphrases (having learned their En-glish from Earth TV, natch), accidentally stomp a rose garden (Op-timus Prime: “Oops, my bad”), and get pissed on by a Chihuahua (“That’s go-ing to rust”).

Transformers features a fair bit of action, and from time to time it stays serious long enough to get exciting. But the Transformers’ cluttered vi-sual designs and Bay’s frantic cutting frequently make it hard to tell what’s happening in a given battle until the victor shows up in the next scene. And the writers’ habit of undermin-ing nearly every significant moment with corny gags and comic robot flail- ing à la Short Circuit is practically inexplicable. At this point, no one should be expecting much from Michael Bay except fast pacing and decently choreographed explosions. With Transformers, he doesn’t even make it that far.

—Tasha Robinson

A.V. Club Rating: C-
On NBC’s series The Office, John Krasinski plays the closest thing to an audience surrogate, an apathetic paper salesman who casts conspiratorial glances at the camera, as if to say that he knows as well as we do the folly of what just happened. That cooler-than-thou attitude would grate if Krasinski weren’t so likable or if it wasn’t undercut by the irony that he’s still a weak-willed paper salesman from Scranton and thus not that much hipper than his coworkers. For these reasons, Krasinski is both perfectly cast in and completely wrong for the role of a man who casts conspiratorial glances at people in uncomfortable situations.

The apathetic paper salesman from Scranton and his unfortunate bow as a Hollywood leading man. In many ways, the comedic black hole that is Robin Williams isn’t all that different from Steve Carell’s character, a manic joke-teller who specializes in putting people in uncomfortable situations. Krasinski knows how to play off Williams — his pained looks are all too appropriate in the face of Williams’s desperate shrick — but it’s disillusionsioning to see him here because he seems too smart for this film.

Getting perhaps a bit too formidable with his romantic-comedy persona, Mandy Moore looks as if she stepped off the set of Because I Said So and onto this one without bothering to find another gear. (With her implacable rom-com cheeriness, she could be her generation’s Meg Ryan.) After Krasinski proposes to Moore, she immediately sets to work on her dream wedding, and top priority is to secure a local church, run by William’s “Reverend Frank,” for the ceremony. Before he agrees to marry a couple, Williams requires them to go through several rigorous challenges designed to test their union and strengthen their bond for the tough times ahead. And since the only open slot on his schedule is three weeks away, Moore and Krasinski are forced to take a crash course.

License to Wed’s premise isn’t too bad: Many engaged couples are required to go through religious counseling sessions before tying the knot, and it can be an awkward process, especially for those who haven’t been to church since the VCR was invented. But Williams’s sessions are more disturbing and less funny than they should be. He tries to drive a wedge between Moore and Krasinski, but he seems motivated by a weird psychosexual connection to Moore, and he comes across more as a voyeur and a sadist than William’s usual wacky-but-lovable nutjob. (As his devilish young protégé, Josh Flitter — who also did his best to spoil Nancy Drew earlier this summer — is even harder to stomach.) All poor Krasinski can do is sigh, look to the camera, and beg for deliverance.

— Scott Tobias
A.V. Club Rating: D+
Ocean’s Thirteen — Just a way station between Ocean’s Twelve (2004) and the inevitable “Ocean’s Fourteen,” this third installment in the franchise is outlandish even as fantasy, a labyrinthine revenge saga undertaken after evil lug Al Pacino doubles-crosses sweet-tempered lug Elliott Gould (part of the original crew) out of his share of a Vegas hotel-casino. George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, Don Cheadle, Bernie Mac, and Carl Reiner are all back, though Julia Roberts has taken a powder as desig- nated sex object and been replaced by a villainous Ellen Barkin, the butt of much}

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**Sandra Fezick**

TO 43 KIX (43549)

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The Inconvenient Truth — Reviewed this issue.

Daredevil — Reviewed this issue.

Sicko — Reviewed this issue.

The Incredibles — Reviewed this issue.

Once

Clay Aiken

Geoffrey Rush, Bill Nighy, and Tom Hollander team with Chow Yun-fat and a half-dozen pirate lords to bedevil sly buccaneer Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) and star-crossed lovers Orlando Bloom and Keira Knightley. Depp plays multiple versions of Sparrow, who now suffers from a split personality; his shtick is funny, but the players are all upstaged by the astonishing special effects, superior to those of earlier installments in creating a wondrous and menacing world. Gore Verbinski directed, with Naomie Harris, Stellan Skarsgard, and Keith Richards. — A.G.

Ratatouille — Brad Bird’s second collaboration with Pixar is more ambitious and meditative than his Oscar-winning The Incredibles. “Anyone can cook” is just one of the lessons of this superbly rendered CGI animation about a young rat (voiced by Patton Oswalt) who longs to work in the Paris restaurant made famous by his late idol (Brad Garrett). The novice rodent chef transcends his dad’s prejudices by training surreptitiously with a human, an inept scullery boy (Lou Romano) the rat coaches to gastronomic acclaim. Cooking tips abound, and the Proustian moment a tearful French poet was, Andre Gide said, “Victor Hugo, alas.” I feel the same way about Michael Moore. He qualifies, sometimes lamentably, as our most important political filmmaker, in part just because the media do such a poor job of delivering basic news to us. His blistering attack on the American health care system and the abuses of medical-insurance companies offers eye-opening contrasts with national health services in Canada, England, and France, and, typically, he delays appearing on-screen for some 40 minutes to keep the focus on this country’s victims. When his comic persona finally does come in, there’s something a bit irritating about him asking so many questions he already knows the answers to, sometimes paying more heed to the audience members he perceives as clueless than to the people he’s talking to (as when he asks some Cubans on the street, “Is there a doctor here in Cuba?”). But this is still essential viewing — a moving, informative, corrosive, and even sometimes hilarious call to arms. — J.R.

Spider-Man 3 — Even longer than its predecessors, 3 piles on the series’s usual comedy scenes and action sequences while adding some black slime from outer space and a few new actors (Thomas Haden Church, Topher Grace) to the more familiar faces (Tobey Maguire, Kirsten Dunst, James Franco, J.K. Simmons, Rosemary Harris). And a pile is what it feels like, especially when two superheroes ultimately join forces to defeat three supervillains. Given how bogus the movie is whenever it departs from formula, it’s not surprising that the funniest bit (in which Peter Parker becomes a disco smoothie) is stolen from the narrative as a reality TV show, with the usual joggling camera, impulsive zooms, and quick cutaways to talking-head interviews. The novelty wears off almost immediately, leaving this a real chore to watch; there’s something bizarre about low-budget spontaneity being replicated in such a labor-intensive medium. With the voices of Shia LaBeouf, Zooey Deschanel, and Jon Heder. — J.R.

Transformers — Reviewed this issue. With Shia LaBeouf, Jon Voight, and John Turturro, directed by Michael Bay.

La Vie en Rose — Marion Cotillard teases up all the available scenery in this beautiful enterprise but seems more than a little corrosive, and even sometimes hilarious.
Waitress — The late Adrienne Shelly, best known for her roles in Sleep With Me and Hal Hartley’s Trust and The Unbelievable Truth, wrote and directed half a dozen films, three of them features, but this languid, resourceful comedy drama is the first I’ve seen. Keri Russell plays a gifted pie baker and abused housewife who waits tables at a diner along with two romantically frustated coworkers (Cheryl Hines and Shelly) and unexpectedly finds herself pregnant. The film isn’t sure of itself, reaching for Holly-wood fantasies, but there’s a lot of what seems to be hard-earned wisdom here about women in bad marriages. The men tend to be either idealized (hunky Nathan Fillion, patriarchal Andy Griffith) or mon-strously geeky (Jeremy Sisto and Eddie Jemison), and Shelly clearly had fun with all of these caricatures. — J.R.

You Kill Me — John Dahl’s previous film, the crime comedy has such a goofy script (by Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely) and such an eccentric cast that it kept me curious about what would happen next. An alcoholic Polish-American hit man in Buffalo (Ben Kingsley) gets sent to San Francisco by his uncle and boss (Philip Baker Hall) to dry out. Thanks to Alco-holics Anonymous and the funeral home where he gets a job, he winds up with a weird group of people (Tea Leoni). Even if you can’t accept all the movie’s curveballs, you might still be amused. With Dennis Farina and Alison Sweeney. — J.R.
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Job Title: Assistant Resident Company
Location: San Diego, CA 92111

- For weekends. Must be kind and caring!
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**FAMOUS FORMER NEIGHBORS**
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OFF THE CUFF by Josh Board

Do you collect anything?

Andy Johnson
Nonprofit worker
Ocean Beach

I collect matchbooks. I have a few boxes full. I'm pretty proud of my collection. It's just a hobby. It's a nice reminder of where you've been, whether that's locally or some other country. I'll get matchbooks in bars, restaurants, or wherever.

Nabi Barratt
Disabled
Bakers Hill

I collect bills when I come to $1. I enjoy collecting paper money. I just started. I look at the bottom to see the imprint. It has a number there, which shows where it's from, the date, and other things. I bought one once at a garage sale for $5 that was worth $109. Right now, I only have around $30. But I'm always looking for more. Website too expensive, so I just stick to garage sales.

Gran Smith
Business owner
Tomales

T's a word collection. I collect tape with the... Is there a... I do myself... I have about 200. The ones I like best have advertising on them. I collect sports teams. I have a few, ones from the '50s and '60s. I only collect the retrievable ones.

Ian Snell
Social Worker
Ocean Beach

I collect graffiti. I've been collecting them ever since I was 8. I don't have lots of them. I just think they're a pretty cool advertising. They are unique. They're taller than me, they appear peaceful and elegant. And, they have really long necks.

Reyn Brooks
Human Resources
Ocean Beach

I collect a few things. Venetian masks. I don't have that many yet. I am always into how they looked, and now I have some on my wall. I have one on my bedroom wall specifically in Venice and carried all around there. People give them to me as gifts. I also collect anything with tropical fish. It could be cards, small things, that hang, anything.

Terry Samuel
Unemployed
Downtown

I collect cans and bottles. You can turn them in for money. I don't know why people always throw away. Maybe it's good they're because I retrieve them out of the garbage. Also, I'm helping the environment and landfills. And when I was a kid I collected dinosaurs. I had all differen sizes of them. They filled my toy box, and I had posters of them on my wall.

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Home

Bathrooms

Tubs Refinished
New or used, nice tubs and bathtubs to look like new! Fiberglass and porcelain. All parts guaranteed. Lic. 56094. Balboa & Sinks Refinishing Company. 619-644-5114.

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Special 3 Areas $39
Fridges, washers, dryers, and ceilings, repairs, additions, and repairs. All work guaranteed. Call 619-823-1990.

U.S. Carpenters Refurbish
2 rooms $50. Call at (619) 634-4466. Refinishes, auburn, walnut, burled oak. 2 rooms, $250 each. 2 rooms, $350. Call 619-239-6363.

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Summer Day Camp
Call 619-291-6686. Environments at the park. All ages, 3 years and up. Call 619-291-6686. Day camp ages 5-12. 3 field trips every week. Call 619-649-7866.

Cleaning

Attention Movers!
We clean out houses. From ranch to condo. We clean out houses, garages, attics, basements, and garages. Ultimate home cleaning. Debris removal, 25 years experience. Call 619-322-3878.

Sandra’s Cleaning

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2 rooms $50. Call at (619) 634-4466. Refinishes, auburn, walnut, burled oak. 2 rooms, $250 each. 2 rooms, $350. Call 619-239-6363.

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Call 619-291-6686. Environments at the park. All ages, 3 years and up. Call 619-291-6686. Day camp ages 5-12. 3 field trips every week. Call 619-649-7866.
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Newly remodeled 1 bedroom apartments starting at $1035* with $500 off move-in on select units. Designer 2 bedroom/bath starting at $1262* with $500 off move-in.

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- Fitness center
- Business center
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- Designer floor plans offer:
  - Italian ceramic tile*
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  - Two-tone paint
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1/2 off 1st month’s rent with immediate move-in (OAC)

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- Weekly Yoga classes
- Garages available
- Air conditioned
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Amenities:

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- Basketball courts
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FOR SALE BY OWNER:

- 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,438 sq. ft., $275,000, 1.5 miles from UTC. 858-264-6944.
- 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,200 sq. ft., $239,900, La Jolla Shores. 619-453-9100.
- 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,500 sq. ft., $289,000, Westview. 619-302-0885.
- 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,600 sq. ft., $295,000, La Jolla. 858-292-2357.

FREE MORTGAGE SEMINAR:
8/18, 6:30-9:30pm, Ramada Hotel, 1111 Camino del Rio South. Call 619-204-0610.

HOME OWNERS: Get your property appraised for free. Call 858-552-0830.

WE’LL BUY YOUR HOUSE!

- 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,800 sq. ft., 1447 Paseo Del Mar, La Jolla, $335,000. 619-458-7664.
- 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,500 sq. ft., 1941 Pacific Heights, La Jolla, $294,900. 619-454-2071.

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Free Diagnostic

- $29.95
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**Free Oil Change**

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- 30K, 60K, 90K Service

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Have any repair done with our premium parts and you will receive a LIFETIME WARRANTY on the parts and we’ll triple the labor from 1 year/12,000 miles to 3 years/36,000 miles.

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San Diego
July 12, 2007
in the Reader by
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Free 24-Mo./24K-Mile Warranty! on Transmission Rebuilds
Call for a $100 Gift Certificate
Valid for Transmission Rebuild or Engine Replacement
We repair, rebuild, or replace
• Transfer Cases • Differences • Clutches

FREE 24-Mo./24K-Mile Warranty! on Transmission Rebuilds
Call for a $100 Gift Certificate
Valid for Transmission Rebuild or Engine Replacement
We repair, rebuild, or replace
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10th Avenue. Directions call 858-294-7472.

CARMEL VALLEY, Multifamily moving sale. Saturday, 7/14, 9am. Variety items: clothes, children’s accessories, sporting equipment, etc. 12800 Carmel Creek Road, #21.

CLAINSDALE, Garage sale Saturday, 7/14, 8am-4pm. Furniture, computers, electronics, clothing, toys, books, etc. All local.

ENCINITAS, Moving sale, Saturday, 7/14, 8am-noon. 6713 Leucadia Bl, Leucadia. See ads for details.

RENEWING Moving sale, 7/14, 2pm. Tissues, cedar chest, chairs, refin- ishing couch, evening gowns, faux plants, pottery, lamps, glassware, future, 3705

12th Avenue. Directions call 858-294-7472.

CVERSATION, Moving sale, Saturday, 7/21, 9-10am. Housewares, home decor, kitchen supplies, books, party supplies, and more. 4005 Adams Ave- nue, San Diego 92116.

LA MESA, Yard sale, Saturday, 7/14 & 15am. Houseware items, lamps, furniture, baby items, games. 8641 Chevy Chase Drive

MISSION BEACH, Moving sale, Friday, 8/3-4am. Stocks available, TV, mattrses, entertain- ment center, sectional Mission Statement at 5646 Westgate Drive, #102. Call 949-524-7208 or 619-670-0200.

MISSION BEACH, Moving sale, Saturday, 8/4, 9am-4pm. Personal items, kitchen items, Genesis, modern houseware, glassware, clothes, Christmas, 4633 30th Street. 619- 977-0479.

MISSION BEACH, Moving sale, Saturday, 7/14, 8am-1pm. Display cabinet, dresser, furniture, shoes size 7, electronics, miscellaneous. 2801 Washington Street at San Luis Rey Place. Directions call 858-254-1212.

MISSION BEACH, Multifamily yard sale, Saturday, 7/14, 9am-1pm. Seasonal clothing, kids’ toys, baby items, household items, snow- shoes, area rug, furniture, books, miscellaneous. 4352 Del Monte Avenue, 8am-1pm, July 14/07, 9am-3pm. Huge neighborhood yard sale. Saturday, 7/14, 8am-1pm. Display cabinet, dresser, furniture, shoes size 7, electronics, miscellaneous. 2801 Washington Street at San Luis Rey Place. Directions call 858-254-1212.

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A LEAD STORY—Africa’s largely primitive Hadza people, down to their last 1,500 members after surviving thousands of years of disease, famine, and encroaching civilization, fear their final blow will be the recent deal that Tanzania made to turn the tribe’s prime hunting grounds over to United Arab Emirates royalty for private safari. The land comprises 2,500 acres near the Serengeti Plain, and some Hadza (who still make fire by rubbing sticks together) are resistant either to fight the “invaders” (and with poison-tipped arrows) or to migrate to towns for survival, according to a June Washington Post dispatch from Tanzania’s Yaeda Valley.

Alcohol Was Involved—Andres Vasquez, 26, of Verona, KY, initially told the 911 operator in May that someone had “thrown” his truck on top of him, but he finally admitted to the dispatcher that he was drunk, had had a one-vehicle accident, was trapped upside-down, and was in dire pain, fadding in and out for over two hours. The operators pleaded the entire time for Vasquez to just say where he was so that they could send a rescue party, but, as the Kentucky Enquirer put it, “When repeatedly asked his location, [Vasquez’s] answer was always the same: ‘I’m under the [expletive] truck.’” (He finally gave a clue and was rescued.)

Compelling Explanations—Lame: (1) Jonathan Powell, 17, was convicted in April of sexually assaulting a college student in Iowa City, Iowa, after his DNA was found in several places on her body. Powell explained the DNA by claiming that he had merely bumped into the woman incidentally when jogging and had become so “enthralled” with her that he was unable to free himself for about “45 minutes.” (2) In April, Donald Duncan Jr., 34, was convicted of invasion of privacy in Carlisle, Pa., after his wife discovered a hidden-camera video of two girls who were disrobing in a bedroom in the couple’s house. Duncan said he had set up the camera because he suspected there were ghosts in the house and wanted proof. — Lawyer Charles Curbo filed a motion in Memphis, Tenn., in June, claiming that his client, Tony Wolfe, who was convicted of murder, failed to get a fair trial due to the ineffectiveness of Wolfe’s lawyer (i.e., Curbo) because the lawyer was often too sleepy to do a good job. However, the prosecutor pointed out that part of Curbo’s strategy had been to “wear down” witnesses by “extensive cross-examination” and that it was no wonder that he was exhausted.

Tiffany Weaver pleaded guilty in April to having stolen a lawyer’s official ID and impersonating the woman in order to gain access to the jail in Baltimore so that she could visit her incarcerated boyfriend, but she denied, through her lawyer, that she and the boyfriend had sex while they were together. “There was never any sexual intercourse,” said attorney Ivan Bates.

Unclear on the Concept—(1) After the owner of a wrought-iron business in Brussels, Belgium, abruptly turned away a 53-year-old Nigerian native who had applied for a job, the local labor office declared the owner a racist. However, the man said he was just trying to protect the Nigerian from the owner’s dog. “My dog is racist,” he said. “Not me.” (2) Police in Tokyo, Japan, said in March that a man had been detained after firing a dozen rounds to a house near a 11 story condominium building next door. The man explained that he was angry that the building was blocking the sunlight he had previously enjoyed.

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For those of you who deal with our automotive repair shop, we like to introduce ourselves. We are a family-owned and -operated auto repair business. Our goal is simple: provide top-quality service and good, honest auto repair. We have no interest in selling you items/services you don’t really need. We simply believe in what he believes the problem is and how he would go about fixing it. Unable to achieve satisfaction elsewhere, they are directed to Jerry for an analysis. We do it right the first time! Our standard is to use factory parts and genuine Acura/Honda parts as required. We also try to keep them for you and sell what you want done. Although our name suggests only Honda and Acura repairs, we are a full-service repair shop specializing in Hondas and Acuras.

Jerry Sample, Jr. (General Manager) is an ASE Master Technician who is also an Acura/Honda factory-trained. With over 20 years of experience, including several years working as a top mechanic at a well-known local Acura dealership, you can be assured of top-notch quality service. Jerry takes pride in what he does. His diagnostic skills are well-known throughout the service department, and customers are unable to achieve satisfaction elsewhere. They are directed to him for an analysis. He has a good challenge understanding what he believes the problem is and how he would go about fixing it.

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Thirty Years Ago
Otto Bos, Mayor Pete Wilson’s new, young press secretary, was leaving back, telling a reporter about how he had been the head zucchini cook in Del Monte Foods in Oakland before he became a politics writer for the San Diego Union when Bob White, Wilson’s executive assistant, rushed into the office.
Finding himself face-to-face with a reporter, White looked terror-stricken. He raised a sheaf of papers in front of him and said three times, “We’re low-key here.” Then he headed for the back door of the press secretary’s office and disappeared.
The 33-year-old press secretary leaned back again and put his hands behind his head.

“Now, where was I?” He went on to recount how he had served in a M.A.S.H. unit in Vietnam and came home to protest the war in full uniform, but only once: “I got my picture taken by the FBI and everything,” he said, grinning.


Twenty-Five Years Ago
Movie reviews do not ordinarily make me laugh out loud. But Duncan Shepherd’s essay on E.T. was the wittiest and most piercing debunking of Hollywood pretension I have read in a long time. It has doubtless raised up a lynch mob of those long-fingered, green-skinned sentimentalists who hold that E.T. is One and Spielberg is His prophet. I hope Shepherd manages to elude them, since he is the best film critic writing for any publication that I receive regularly. Pauline Kael, reviewing E.T. in the New Yorker, simmered her mush to a thicker consistency than usual by calling the movie “blasé-out.”

—LETTERS “D.S. on D.S.,” David Sewell, La Jolla, July 15, 1982

Twenty Years Ago
Developer Ernie Hahn has done enough good for San Diego to be named our godfather, as far as I can figure it. And if he wants to help us again with his plans for improving the sinkhole that lies east of Gaslamp, I say, let him have at it. I’m tired of myopic doomsayers like Paul Krueger (“The Inside Story,” July 9) who denounce moves to upgrade the downtown area as a try to find profiteering under every new half laid brick.

—LETTERS “THE FILTHY SINKHOLE,” Adam Pendleton, San Diego, July 16, 1987

Fifteen Years Ago
The Son, Rick Valdez: In a lot of ways my brother and I were opposites. Steven was conventional and I was the rebel. He was the good boy, and I always questioned things. We were both severe hemophiliacs, and we’d been going to Children’s Hospital — I can’t even tell you for certain, but since the mid-60s. When we were young we were always at the hospital because we were bleeding all the time.


Ten Years Ago
Baby Rock has been a preferred nightclub for some of the super-rich exporters of illicit drugs and their hirings. A Tijuana resident cognizant of the goings-on in the border city said that the notorious Arellano Felix brothers — the second most powerful narco ring in Mexico and sought after by U.S. authorities — used to patronize Baby Rock, although the last sighting of them was two years ago. It is still a popular place for young lower-level executives of the narco trade.

—“SUN-LIT LIGHTS: "PORNO KING TIED TO T.J. HOT SPOT,” Bob Owen, July 10, 1997

Five Years Ago
A steer skeleton lay in the dry creek bed. Tom extracted a tooth from its skull and handed it to me like a picked flower. Its roots were long and brown, and desiccated they looked almost wooden. Only its crown was any bit of white. I slipped the gift into my backpack — a souvenir of square V17.

—“BIRD’S SQUARED,” Jenny Schmitt, July 11, 2002

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com
**Automotive SET**

**Discount Auto Repair**
Free 24-month/84,000-mile Warranty
Free Pick-Up with Major Repairs

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Service</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>‘Check Engine’ Light Diagnostic with repair</td>
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<td>Engine or Transmission Rebuild</td>
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**Synthetic Oil Change Special**

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**TUNE-UP**

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<td>Air filter</td>
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<td>Fuel injectors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exhaust system</td>
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- By Julie Larson ©2007

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**Ford**

- Crown Victoria.

**Mini Cooper**

- Cooper S, 2002.

**Porsche**


**Toyota**


**Honda**

- Accord EX, 1999.

**Dealership**


**Hiram**

- 1986 Chevy Corvette.

**Scion**

- xA, 2005.

**Maxwell**

- 1988 Toyota Paseo.

**Mitsubishi**

- Eclipse GSX.

**Chevrolet**

- Corvette Z06.

**Ford**

- Mustang GT.

**Fiat**

- 500L.

**Honda**

- Accord EX, 1999.

**Porsche**


**Chevrolet**

- Corvette Z06.

**Ford**

- Mustang GT.

**Mitsubishi**

- Eclipse GSX.

**Chevrolet**

- Corvette Z06.

**Ford**

- Mustang GT.

**Porsche**

Things continue to go south for our fearless hero. My roommate, Vladimir, had a bitter conflict with the landlord and was evicted from the apartment last Wednesday. Subsequently, I was also kicked out. Apparently, Vladimir never entered a contractual agreement with the landlord so he was able to kick us out with less than 24 hours notice without infringing on our tenants’ rights, which we would have been protected by if there had been a lease, contract, or some sort of Mayflower Compact. Not only did Vladimir neglect to do that, but he also never told the landlord that he was renting out one of the rooms to a third party (me), and that’s why I had to go, too — down the drain with the rest of the dirty dishwater.

I was furious with Vladimir for obvious reasons and even more upset at this faceless landlord (I had never met him at that point) for kicking us out with such little notice. I realized there was a recurring theme that resonated throughout my experiences here in Dublin, which included getting fucked over and ripped off. This time, I decided to make a stand. I was not able to collect my security deposit (which I struggled so hard to preserve by replacing that busted refrigerator) until I gave my set of keys to Vladimir, so he could be sure that I was out of the apartment and rolling on the streets. In my boldest attempt at cleverness, I duplicated the keys before handing over the originals to Vladmirnoff, told him that I had moved out, and continued to live in the apartment in secret, with all parties being none the wiser.

I knew a bitter and unpleasant confrontation was pending between me and John (the faceless landlord), so I lived in discomfort and unease every day. I was sitting atop a Powell leg, waiting anxiously for the matches. I slept in fear that night — a frontline soldier in a foxhole, afraid to make any movement that would reveal my position to the enemy. I became a 21st-century Anne Frank, living in hiding...and this is my diary. The only difference is I was not hiding from the Gestapo, but from a crass Russian and a malicious Irish landlord with phenomenal asshole wattage. I believe my crimes landlords have perpetrated against tenants over history, and they will not forget. It will be called the Michael Rheinbold Museum of Tenant Torment, and it will be open from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays with free admission upon presenting a student ID. They will learn to never hate a tenant for the rest of their lives, and they will understand the inhumanity of antitenantism. This will be my legacy.

Plus, I was simply too lazy to move out, because I had accrued an unnecessary surplus of crap in the past two months that would not be easy to schlep around on buses and through the streets. Moving house takes a good deal of initiative, which I do not possess.

On the third day, while I was enjoying an unusually sunny day in the city, the landlord became privy to my scheme. He had already placed an ad for the apartment, which he thought was vacant, and it was promptly answered by an Irish couple who was eager to move in. When he came over with the potential new tenants to view the digs, my stuff was still strewn around. He called Vladimir in a rage, who then gave him my mobile number. Once I confirmed to him that I was still living on site, he told me to “Get the fuck out of the apartment right now.” He had plenty of other four letter words for me, and none of them were “take your time.”

The City Manor Hostel located on Lower Gardiner Street is, by far, the most disgusting, dirty, dilapidated, worst-smelling hostel I’ve ever had the misfortune of being a guest in. And worst of all, it smells very bad. I know I said that twice, but it is worth reiterating.

Something is wrong here as I go back and read this. I feel I haven’t accurately expressed how frustrated I am, which just lathers up a bit more frustration. In times like this, I turn to none other than Him, my Saviour, the Son of God, the Saviour of mankind. I close my eyes and think, one grand catharsis that I don’t have a fucking apartment.

I leave Dublin with one final thought, one concrete conclusion, one grand catharsis that should have revealed itself to me on the basketball courts in elementary school, but has now been broken over my head in one big, beautiful, cresting wave of clarity: I am not a winner.

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$6,000, 1963 Mercury Comet Custom
posted: May 23, 2007, 02:10 AM

This car is my baby. ‘63 Merc Comet - classic clean vintage ride, daily driver, straight six that runs like a charm, brand-new battery, flat black car paint with white pinstriping details from the hood to the trunk, monster sound system with CD player mounted under dash, interior is flawless - white and black leather bucket seats in the front, bench in back. I have 6 original hubcaps in the huge trunk but usually leave them off unless at shows. No cancer, never been in an accident. This car has been up and back to L.A. several times and I have never once had an issue with her. I’m moving to New York in July and need a car to make it cross country and last through the winter. If you would like to check out the ride, give ‘er a drive, lemme know so we can set something up.

Location: Little Italy

No other company or person should contact this advertiser for solicitation for any product or service.
FOXY HAS MAD GAMENESS. “Gameness” is a word my friends and I pick up from a book, A Firefighter's Heart, by Sam Sheridan. It means a willingness to fight even if a dog is whipped and dragged out tired. The word came from the underground world of illegit dog fighting, but critics started using “gameness” to describe mixed martial artists, the guys on Ultimate Fighting Championships.

Once I get Foxy's conditioning up, I'm going to get her into a fight. My girlfriend would never give the go-ahead for this so I've waited until she's in Hawaii, vacationing with her best friend.

"How's Foxy?" my girl asked on the phone last night. Foxy was really on a treadmill, chasing a stuffed plushy dog hung on the wall. Mad gameness.

I've pimped Foxy with steroids, raw meat, and Gatorade since the second my girl got on the plane. Good doggie.

Foxy's on a strict regimen of jogging, eating, and beatings. Since the dog weighs less than a phone book, I kind of just roll her around, grab at her snout, and pick her legs up to swat her on the butt. I growl at her a lot to get her used to confrontation. She's chained to a laundry detergent bottle in my kitchen. Is driving a dog crazy.

"Foxy, kill!" I yell when I take her out for a walk and we pass the neighbor's yard. Tera is the neighbor's 50-pound Rottweiler. "Foxy, kill!" I yell, and Foxy jumps to Tera's fence and snaps at the big dog's feet.

So far my neighbor has turned down every opportunity to fight the two dogs. Because his damn dog is a sissy, and he knows Foxy would destroy Tera. Every day, I stand outside their gate, hold Foxy up and shout, "Let's do it! Hundred bucks says Foxy rips Tera's throat out!" Nothing. My neighbor has zero gameness.

I've got two days left before my girlfriend arrives home from her trip to Hawaii. I'm stepping up Foxy's training. In the first few days I only worked her physically, but I'm throwing in mental training. Now, at night, Foxy and I sit on the couch and watch reruns of the Ultimate Fighting Championships.

Foxy lays upside down, and I massage her tiny leg muscles and rub her belly. "See, Foxy? Randy Couture. You are Randy Couture."

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, JULY 12

SOFTBALL: 2007 TACO BELL ALL-STAR LEGENDS ESPN 10:00 A.M.

The word "legend" is being tossed out here a little too lightly. Softball legend! Another line of thinking is that when I say the word legend I'm using it incorrectly. If I say Muhammad Ali was a legend, does that really mean I think he's a middle-aged lesbian with a beer gut?

DON'T FORGET THE LYRICS!

FOX 8:30 P.M.

In a prom-dress-type situation Fox and NBC have devised essentially the same television show. NBC's is called The Singing Bee, and Fox’s offering to Wal-Mart shoppers is this steaming sack. Not since The Addams Family and The Munsters debacle have the networks been so overlapped. Who will win in the ratings game? The real answer: go outside, you're devoting entirely too much time to crap that you'll forget on your deathbed.

FRIDAY, JULY 13

GOOD EATS

FOOD 8:00 P.M.

I feel sorry for the weird salad dressings that nobody eats. Sure everyone has some ranch, thousand island? I think at night the bottles of Thousand Island hang their heads and weep a little because no one’s going to buy them in the morning.

SATURDAY, JULY 14

TOUR DE FRANCE, STAGE 7 — LIVE VS 4:30 A.M. — 8:30 A.M.

Even with living immortal Ol’ One Nut McGhee, Lance Armstrong’s "le Tour" is le boring. With him out, VS Network has about as much chance of getting people to watch as that bum in the bus stop who propositions all the passing schoolgirls with a "puppet show" from his zipper.

DRAGNET

TELEVISION 9:30 P.M.

Weird. This isn't the movie with Tom Hanks or the original series from 1967. This is a remake of the series, starring the dad from Married with Children. Apparently, in 2003 there were two seasons of this made by USA. And, you'll notice, this broadcast is in Spanish. In the first few days, I'll watch only because I've given up drugs, but still crave that What the hell is going on? feeling of complete confusion.

SUNDAY, JULY 15

BUILDING THE GREAT PYRAMID DISCOVERY 8:00 P.M.

My friend, Ron, went to Egypt last year. He hit all the sites, floated down the Nile, rode camels to the pyramids in Giza. His favorite part: There's a KFC situated about 50 yards (of course!) we get a reality TV show about it.

Hollywood doctrine the mundane going-ons of the host who is forced to hock Christmas cards to the masses in the middle of July. They'll be a bit like orphans begging for porridge, and I'll call in and tell them I'm a millionaire and I want to buy the whole lot. Then I'll hang up without giving my credit card information and laugh. Ha ha ha! Merry Christmas, suckers!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

FERRETS: THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE PBS 9:00 P.M.

Excuse me? PBS continues its devotion to esoteric interests broadcast to the masses and confusion as to why nobody watches. Ferrets. Really, PBS? Ferrets!

THURSDAY, JULY 19

UGLY BETTY

ABC 8:00 P.M.

Until Salma Hayek pulls her top off, I'm not watching. Since she's no longer affiliated with the show, ABC's chances of snatching the chubby, 31-year-old, Caucasian, North Park, hetero, alcoholic, male demographic are slipping further and further away from them.

I harvest my mud, sleep on my hay, and sing my spiritual songs of redemption, yet no one, no one, will write entertaining programming.
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Here's a small sample to get your motor running!

**$100 off engines & transmissions**
$100 off low mileage used Japanese engines and transmissions. Foreign and domestic available. Offer expires July 31, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.

Koki's General Auto Repair
 Rebuilt engines starting from $750 (most cars). Clutch job $149.95 (most cars). Parts extra.

| Acme Tinting | $30 off window tinting |
| Act 1! Window Tinting | $35 off complete window tinting |
| Adams Import | Smog check $16.95 |
| Advanced Automotive | Regular oil change $14.95 |
| Advanced Auto Tech | Catalytic converter $95 |
| ATIK | Tune-up $24.95 |
| Audio Sport | Tint 3 rear windows $50 |
| Baboaa Automotive Service | Oil change $21 |
| Chris's Auto Repair | Basic tune-up $21 |
| Cliff Brown Automotive | $10 off any service over $50 |
| Convoy Auto Repair | Tune-up $29.95 |
| DRL Automotive Center | Brakes $59.99 |
| Dent Time | 10% or $15 off dent repair |
| Discount Transmission & Axles | Free diagnostic road test |
| Eagle Motors | Smog check $19.75 |
| Factory Tire Automotive Service & Sales | Premium oil change $19.95 |
| Fairmont Smog Test Only | Smog check $29.99 |
| Five Star Customs | Window tint $199 |
| 5 Star Smog Test Only | $21.75 smog test required |
| Greenlight Honda Acura Care | $300 off factory service |
| International Auto Service | Brake service $48 plus parts |
| JRX Jesus Mufflers & Brake | 20% off custom exhaust |
| Keani Mesa Smog Check | $7 off smog check |
| Koki’s General Auto Repair | $100 off engines |
| MD Auto & Tires | Computerized alignment $34.95 |
| Mission Village Auto Care | Smog Test $30 off computerized alignment |
| Motor Machine & Supply | $50 off any engine work |
| Nexus Auto Repair | Free computer diagnostic |
| Peach Nectar | $11.00 oil change |
| Pico Toyota | $11.95 oil change |
| Precision Motors | Prestige Auto Wash & Automotive |
| Precision Motor | 2 for 1 oil change |
| Quick Smog | $12 off any Test Only |
| S.D. Downtown Harley | Free lubricant upgrade |
| San Diego Smog & Auto Repair | $70 off any service |
| San Diego Smog Test Only | Oil change $13.95 |
| San Diego Tires & Brakes | San Diego True 10% off any service |
| Santee Transmission | Service special $59.95 |
| Sea Side Classics | Smog Check $26.75 Test only smog special |
| Sea Sides Classic Tint & Smog | Sound Check $99 window tinting |
| Sea Sides Classic Tint & Smog | South Bay Tire & Auto Lift kits from $2300 |
| Speedy Auto Centers | AC service $19 plus Freon |
| Streetway Auto Sound & Security | Transmission power flush $57 |
| Suspension Plus Service Center | One free shock or strut |
| T&T Smog Test Only | $10 off service |
| Thao Automotive Smog check $16.75 |
| Transmission SCA | $100 off transmission rebuild |
| Twisted Dreams Racing | 25% off 30K/60K/90K scheduled service |
| University Transmission | Transmission power flush $57 and up |
| Value Transmission | $75 off clutch special |
| West Coast Auto Glass | $379.95 windshield replacement |
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San Diego Smog & Auto Repair

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| Reader Coupons 619-236-3000 |

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| ATIK | Tune-up $24.95 |
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Everybody makes mistakes, John. Everybody.

By John Brizzolara

Crazy up to writers at your own peril.

— Truman Capote

In human relationships, kindness and lies are worth a thousand truths.

— Graham Greene

In spring of this year I wrote about a friend (possibly a former friend now), though I disguised him pretty thoroughly, I thought. I was certain only he would recognize himself and no one else, not even his mother. I assumed (and we all know what happens when we assume) that my old amigo would probably not read it, or be able to where he lived. I don't know if his mother saw it, but guess what? I keep forgetting the stuff I write is no longer just regional journalism local to San Diego. Instead of being delighted at this sort of promotion to being a national (and international) writer again, the first thing I notice is, hey, this stuff can bite me in the ass. The man I wrote about took serious umbrage. Oh, yes.

I apologized by e-mail, as thoroughly as I could, but there is something about that type of communication that labors under some McCutheanesque effect or lack of effect I have not puzzled out. It is not just a matter of practiced usage of the English language. There may be a lack of emotional content so thorough in electronic mail that it might render any apology more ineffective than, say, a typewritten letter sent by U.S. mail.

For several days I went through a depression born of the seeming truth that I had truly torpedoed a friend, and in a cowardly way. It took time and discussion on the nature of friendship via e-mail with my friend Mark, with whom I have been friends since 1985. Mark wrote to me:

“I do think he projects you see to unto you, and I don’t think that is good. You aren’t ‘the bad boy’ type, though people sometimes see you that way... You are...” and I hesitate to quote this, but I do believe I am fundamentally decent — with minor lapses” “a decent and troubled man.”

“You cannot let go easily of [your own] past wrongs; but I have to say; people who let go of their sins too easily aren’t great people.

“Everybody makes mistakes, John. Everybody. The measure of a man is what he does about those mistakes.”

And then:

“You reached out to be my friend. You didn’t have to do that; there was no real benefit to you. You were always polite and kind to me, even as I made still more rookie mistakes. Your friendship was so very essential to me during some very, very dark times. Laughter, understanding, and just listening. You did quite a bit of that, in between the jokes and the joke [Sinatra] stories.”

“The humor was life-saving to me, because I am naturally quite morose. “I tell you all of this because having friends is very important to me, and I think you to as well.”

“Just a couple of quotes — how I love quotes! — about friendship”:

Don’t (fatter yourself) that friendship authorizes you to say disadvantageous things to your intimates. The nearer you come into relation with a person, the more necessary do tact and courtesy become. Except in cases of necessity which are rare, leave your intimates. The nearer you come into relation with a person, the more necessary do tact and courtesy become. Except in cases of necessity which are rare, leave your intimates. The nearer you come into relation with a person, the more necessary do tact and courtesy become.

— William James (1842–1910)

And Mark again:

“Friendships take work. And they do require care and feeding. And you have done those things, certainly, from my point of view. Sometimes, I think of friendships like bank accounts: a friend does something great, it is a deposit to the account. They screw up, it is a withdrawal. So the question remains, should we treat our friendships like a skinflint banker during the Depression, or like the World Bank treats Brazil? Everybody is different.”

I very well realize this reads like, “I may have screwed this one guy, but my other friend says I’m okay. And do let’s focus on what nice things he says about me.”

But one subjective fact worth mentioning is that I value Mark’s friendship more highly than that of other man and quite possibly one of the reasons is that he himself is so eloquent on the subject of friendship and it is an eloquence born of bad treatment and long nights. Had I written what I had about Mark, I would feel badly enough; and while I can’t imagine doing so, I would have to wonder what it was that brought me to it. None of Mark’s behavior has ever been egregious enough — or even close — to warrant such a thing. So I would be left pretty much with the idea that there was another agenda, an alternate actual list of grievances I was addressing in a way that smacks a little like cowardice.

One of the interesting things about the process of writing is that it is a good way to find out what you are thinking. You would think you would pretty much know beforehand, but it doesn’t really work that way. Upon re-reading the piece I had written about the injured friend, I realized I was more than a little disappointed in this man for a number of reasons going back ten years and in the end having little to do with any of the subjects at hand, which I seized upon in the column. But I had to write it first to see what it wasn’t.

My apology to him stands. I’m sorry for the way I can be, I guess. I’m sorry for all of us.

“If I were a good man I would understand the spaces between friends.”

— Roger Waters/Pink Floyd

Graham Greene

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