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Charity at home | Any doubters of Jesse Unrul's old adage that "money is the mother of politics" need only look at the 2007 endorsement questionnaire issued by the county's GOP Central Committee for city council candidates, technically elected as nonpartisans. Nothing about municipal bankruptcy or fire protection here. Instead, the party wants to know, "Who is your Campaign fundraiser? How much do you expect to raise for June '08? How much have you raised so far? How much are you willing to contribute yourself? Do you belong to one of the party's Donor Clubs? Will you actively help raise money for the party?" and last, "Have you ever been convicted of a felony?" … So-called behesting, the ethically dubious but perfectly legal practice of state and local officeholders encouraging campaign donors and other special interests to contribute to the politicians' favorite charitable cause, is drawing more scrutiny now that the state's Fair Political Practices Commission has posted disclosure records on its website. (Previously the information was available only to those who trekked up to Sacramento to sit in the agency's cramped document reading room.) Some of the causes seem more charitable than others. For example, San Diego lawyer and lobbyist Christine Frahm gave $1000 to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's 2007 inaugural committee, and Sempra Energy gave $5000 to help host the inaugural bash of Judy Chu, a State Board of Equalization member from Los Angeles. Southern California Edison and PSE&G each contributed the same. In May, on the other hand, the now-defunct downtown law firm of Lerach Coughlin Stoia Geller Rudman & Robbins gave $5000 to the Oakland School for the Arts at the behest of Attorney General Jerry Brown. Last month the firm's founder, William Lerach, pled guilty to charges relating to a conspiracy to kick back fees to clients who agreed to be lead plaintiffs in the firm's class-action lawsuits.

In March, Padres owner and multimillionaire venture capital investor John Moores gave $100,000 to the Rebuilding California Foundation at the behest of Democratic senator Don Perata. In August, Perata got Chargers owner and megamillionaire developer Alex Spanos to give $25,000 to the same cause. According to the Sacramento Bee, money from the foundation was used in part to pay for billboards thanking Perata for passing an infrastructure bond issue last year.

James Kimbrell gave $5000 to Citizens for the California Republic on the say-so of GOP senator Tom McClintock. McClintock founded the nonprofit organization earlier this year "to provide a vehicle to amplify and broadcast McClintock's commentaries and proposals to an awakening constituency throughout California," according to its website.

Working for the man | Sempra Energy spent the third quarter of this year handing out the usual raft of free food, drink, and frivolity in San Ramon and elsewhere around the state to legislators and their staffs. The utility giant also hosted a delegation of legislators and their spouses on an August junket to Puerto Nuevo, Mexico, that required the group to get $23 "work visas" from the Mexican federal government, paid for by Sempra, of course.

In Assemblywoman Anna Caballero, Nicole Parra, and Mary Salas and Senator Gloria Negrete McLeod were on the tour, which made a pit stop at the Villa Ortega restaurant, where the delegation ran up a $420 "food and beverage" tab. On September 17, Sempra paid $510.21 for a ticket, food, and beverage at the Staples Center in L.A. for Carrie Lopez, the state's director of Consumer Affairs. The same night, it laid out $340.14 for seniority mayor candidate Gloria Romero, also at Staples. On September other nights, senators Ron Calderon and Lou Correa each got $164.75 worth of hospitality at Staples. A few days later, Ricardo Lara, district manager to Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez, and three other Núñez staffers, along with three other legislative aides, went to Staples, thanks to Sempra, which reported the total cost to be $37. Meanwhile, state senator Jim Battin enjoyed a $96 one-night stay in September and a $17.50 meal at the Barona Valley Ranch Resort & Casino, courtesy of the tribe. The Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians were busy in August, providing Assemblymembers Karen Bass, Jose Solorio, Ed Hernandez, and Lori Saldaña two tickets each, worth $200, to the Del Mar track.

The tribe also hosted assemblymen Joel Anderson and Kevin de Leon along with Anderson staffer Chip Engleand at its Grove Steakhouse in Alpine at a total cost of $76.

The envelope, please | California's Office of Historic Preservation has just announced the recipients of the Governor's Historic Preservation Awards for 2007, and it happens that one of the winners is dear to the heart of the office's director, San Diego-based architect Milford Wayne Donaldson. The prize is for renovation of the Western Metal Supply Company building, part of the $450 million-plus Padres baseball stadium. "This combination of historic preservation and ballpark design is unique in California and highly unusual nationwide," reads the citation. Though the office's press release doesn't mention it, Donaldson was the project's architect.

— Matt Potter

The Reader offers $25 for new tips published in this column. Call our voice mail at 619-235-3000, ext. 440, or fax your tip to 619-231-0489.

Tech Pays | By Don Bauder

San Diego needs some good news. Here's some: high-paying tech jobs continue to proliferate. Tech should get some help from the weakening dollar, although it won't be as much as it might be. Much of San Diego's tech is research, not the making of products. A weak dollar boosts product exports. But San Diego does export intellectual property. That will be a boost.

Here are some heartening numbers, as compiled by Cells in the Mission of San Diego Association of Governments. As of the first quarter of this year (the last figures available), 6.2 percent of local business establishments were in the tech business, including biotech. That works out to 10.5 percent of the jobs and 20.2 percent of total payroll. Translation: tech jobs pay very well. And the 20.2 percent is up from 19.2 percent a year ago.

The big winner is scientific research and development which provides 24,123 jobs and $662 million of payroll (out of a county total of $18.8 billion). Next come wireless communications carriers and semiconductors with 9888 jobs and $475 million payroll, next is architectural and engineering services, 23,245 jobs and $429 million payroll. Computer systems and design are next at 15,766 jobs and $307 million payroll. Smaller categories include biotech, computers, communications equipment, semiconductors, aerospace, ship and boat building, medical equipment, software, satellite communications, data processing services, and specialized design services.

When the aerospace industry collapsed in the early 1990s, San Diego concentrated on attracting clusters of industries, including tech. "There is nothing wrong with that," says Donald Cohen, president of the Center on Policy Initiatives, but he doubts that either the City or County recruited that many companies. "Universities' synergies" were more responsible for the tech boom, says Cohen.

Agreeing is Kelly Cunningham, economist with the San Diego Institute for Policy Research. "It really goes back to the beginning of [the University of California, San Diego] and other nearby research institutions. Biotech and telecom flowed from academic research facilities, says Cunningham, noting that Irwin Mark Jacobs, co-founder of Qualcomm, was a professor of computer science and engineering at UCSD from 1966 to 1972.

"Tech has 10 percent of the jobs and 20 percent of the income — among the higher continued on page 8 continued on page 8

Negative Pulitzer? | By Don Bauder

Some comparisons are invidious. Others are ridiculous. The attempts to compare politicians' responses to the 2007 San Diego fires with the polls' performance during Hurricane Katrina two years ago are preposterous. Fox TV Blusterer Bill O'Reilly brayed that the California fires were "the opposite of Katrina." O'Reilly's kindred spirit, Geraldo Rivera, bellowed that the handling of the 2007 fires represented "the anti-Katrina." A Union-Tribune writer penned a silly piece, "Tale of Two Cities:

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

Contact Don Bauder

San Diego Proved to Be No Katrina, New Orleans. "By contrast New Orleans, San Diego's reaction was "almost a model of efficient, effective response," Baldersdy. There were 8 deaths in the 2007 fires here and 1800 from Katrina, 1200 of which were in New Orleans. There was $1 billion in damage from the local 2007 fires. Estimates for total Katrina damage range from $80 billion to $200 billion; New Orleans was the worst hit. At one point, New Orleans was 80 percent flooded. San Diego lost 1400 homes, New Orleans lost 50,000, and probably more. Some analysts believe the grossly slanted journalism here was an attempt to contrast white California Republicans with black Louisiana Democrats.

Admittedly, Louisiana government may be the nation's most corrupt and inept, but comparing two disasters of such differing kind and magnitude is outrageous. In San Diego, the local press ignored so many blunders by politicians that "the invisible spirit of Karl Rove seemed to be turning it into a campaign rally," says Mike Davis, a San Diegan who teaches environmental history at the University of California, Irvine. "If you were going to give a negative Pulitzer prize, it would be won hands down by the Union-Tribune." In truth, politicians at every level learned little from the 2002 and 2003 San Diego fires. This year there weren't enough fire stations, fire trucks, or firefighters for Rando Bernardo, where more than 300 homes were destroyed, largely without residents receiving reverse 911 calls. Indeed, more stations and firefighters are needed

continued on page 8
Kensington Terrace: Who Knew?

By Joe Deegan

Developer writes persuasion letter to the San Diego Development Services Department. What else is new? Read on.

"Today I was brought into the fold on the neighborhood uprising regarding the Kensington Terrace project," stated Jim Chatfield in an October 30 e-mail to Anne Jarque, the project's manager for the City. "As a real estate developer, one would certainly surmise that I am pro-development, which is generally true. However, upon [review], I am quite surprised to find that the City and the Kensington-Talmadge Planning Committee approved this project with such little community interaction, and [after only] performing a mitigated negative declaration. This is especially alarming given the seemingly obvious significant impact on Adams Avenue, the adjacent streets, and the neighborhood as a whole."

Chatfield, a Kensington resident, is vice president of construction for John Moores's JMI Realty, which in 1998 received rights from the City to develop Petco Park, hotels, condominiums, and retail space on 26 blocks in East Village. Local residents, artists, and small business owners fought the plan vigorously — and unsuccessfully. But redevelopment, it was said, would help remove extensive "blight" and drive out the homeless population. Then there was the counterargument. It ran: The homeless who leave downtown will flock to peripheral communities. Opinions are mixed as to whether that has finally happened.

Chatfield's e-mail continued as follows, "As I'm sure you know, Kensington residents possess a strong sense of community and pride, partially generated by our bond over a beautiful haven adjacent to a challenging area (El Cajon Boulevard) and a major interstate (I-15). By allowing the Kensington Terrace project to proceed in its present form, you jeopardize the charm, tranquility, and above all, safety of this neighborhood. Additionally, Adams Avenue could transform from a pedestrian friendly street into a region serving, transient thoroughfare."

Chatfield seems to mean "transient" in the widest sense. But the word's suggestiveness may not be accidental. A new grocery store in the Kensington Terrace project is a possibility. As things stand now, it would be one of the closest to El Cajon Boulevard in that corridor. Could pristine Kensington become strewn with abandoned shopping carts? A fear about Kensington Terrace among some local residents is that its traffic effects will include movement back and forth from the "challenging" City Heights area. To understand this, consider the history and nature of the project.

The plan is first mentioned on the agenda of the Kensington-Talmadge Planning Committee for its September 2006 meeting. At that time, the plan, by architect Allard Jansen and Associates, was "to construct 14 residential for-rent units and 28,344 square feet of commercial space on a 0.47 [acre] site." That site is the location of the Emerald gas station, at the northeast corner of Adams and Marlborough Drive. The station has long been considered out-of-place and an eyesore, a sign of Kensington blight for many neighbors.

Over ten years ago, Jansen built a small development across the street, at the northwest corner of the intersection. Starbucks, Century 21, and several upstairs apartments are housed there. Was he then planning to buy the Emerald gas station site? And does he, wonders Kensington resident Maggie McCann, "already have designs on several vacant Adams Avenue properties on the south side of the street?"

Would that, I ask, be too much in the hands of one developer? "I don't know," says McCann, "but we don't want another Hillcrest going up here in Kensington."

On November 30, 2006, the City sent a Notice of Application to all residents within 300 feet of Jansen's project. McCann tells me that then, over a series of Kensington-Talmadge Planning Committee meetings, the full nature of the project unfolded in piecemeal fashion. She tracked its mention in the committee's minutes. On December 13, 2006, another property owner, Rick Vann, announced plans to put up a "new 9-unit building plus 4000 square feet of retail" immediately east of the Emerald gas station. It would later be called Kensington Lofts. And could he get a variance from the 30-foot height limit — to 35 feet? Allard Jansen then said he would report on the status of his own plans at the next meeting. When he did so, on January 10, 2007, he happened to mention that, by the way, he would be a partner with Rick Vann in the Kensington Lofts project. And the retail space there will be 4156 square feet.

Not until the April 11 meeting...
technology and can be toxic. But for a while the tech stocks have stabilized. They still have to go up to hire and retain employees, to keep a skilled work force. Without that, tech’s ability to maintain its leadership in the world will be compromised. But will the falling dollar prop tech even further? Gin doubts it. Manufacturing was 12.8 percent of total employment in 1990. Now it’s down to 7.9 percent. “We’re good at research and development, but when it comes to making products, we’re not so good,” said Cunningham. “It’s an expensive place to make products.”

But Ross Starr, professor of economics at the University of California, San Diego, points out that “ Qualcomm gets a lot of international revenue from licensing its patents.” Revenues in nondollar currencies expand when translated into the dollar. He also points out that big pharmaceuticals such as Pfizer and Merck that have facilities here will profit from the weak dollar and perhaps plunk more money in San Diego. He says the fat salaries in tech are partly a function of high housing prices; tech firms have to pay big salaries to get the smart folks here. The same is true of universities that spawn the local tech employees and startup companies: faculty salaries have to go up to hire and retain talented personnel.

The stock market has had mortgage-related woes, but for a while the tech stocks avoided the carnage. In recent sessions, however, that has not been true. Bud Leedom of the California Stock Report says that “a lot of exciting new products” pushed the techs upward. He thinks tech stocks will pause here. The weak dollar will help overseas demand grow. San Diego biotechs Illumina and Invitrogen and defense tech Science Applications International are on his list of California’s 26 top buys. 

**Negative Pulitzer continued from page 6**

Throughout the region, there were twelve-ten percent of employees removing brushing as recommended by the former fire chief, who resigned in frustration. The governor vetoed four bills that would have boosted San Diego’s firefighting capability. Coordination on getting military firefighting planes in the air was lacking in 2007, just as in 2003. The mayor claimed in June of this year that the situation was under control, even though some were warning that this could be the worst fire year in a century. “After the 2003 Cedar Fire, there were better communications, better software, better interagency coordination—everything that didn’t cost money,” says Steve Eriq, professor of political science at the University of California, San Diego. “We still don’t have a county fire department. Voluntary departments use bake sales to finance themselves. The damage could have been minimized if there had been adequate fire departments.” Paul Harris, a library supervisor at the University of California, San Diego, was in New Orleans through Katrina, inside the Superdome for days. “Katrina is 130 times worse than here — 100 times the number killed, more than 100 times the houses destroyed,” he says, underestimating the difference. The 2007 fires were an opportunity for local pols “to put each other on the back, get great media coverage.” But that’s almost all they learned from 2003: how to control the propaganda reins.

**Kensington Terrace continued from page 7**

Kensington Terrace project requires only $87, “Gas station to remain until permit in hand,” according to

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Kensington Terrace

continued from page 8

meeting minutes. “Traffic study indicates new light needed at Kensington and Adams Avenues [a block west of the project on Adams] and a four-corner crosswalk.”

From here on, accounts differ, with Kensington-Tal-madge Planning Committee members maintaining that residents were notified of the extent of the project and out-raged residents denying it. The residents also say no meeting minutes have appeared on the committee’s website. Maggie McCann writes that “around September we resident distributed a flyer indicating that comments on the DRAFT mitigated negative declaration were due to the City by September 25.” But the City sent the draft to only a selected group of individuals and orga-nizations. Again, says McCann, “sometime in October a resi-dent distributed a flyer that there was an agenda item [for Kensington Terrace to be dis-cussed at an upcoming] Planning Commission meeting…to approve or deny the development permit for this project.”

In the meantime, e-mails began flying back and forth among concerned Kensington residents. People who have finally seen the mitigated nega-tive declaration say the project will make available 8000 square feet for a supermar-ket, 3000 for restaurant space, and 5000 for additional retail space. Many of the e-mails came to the attention of Allard Jansen, who wrote back that he would hold a public meet-ing on November 1 at the Kensington Community Church to explain his project. I listened to Jansen give a smooth presentation to the huge crowd that filled the church’s sanctuary. He touched on numerous points, among them an odd zoning division of the property; half has a 30-foot height limit and half has a 50-foot limit. Jansen said he wanted to keep the height of the building as low as possi-bile. Still, he needed 38 feet. He would stay at 38 feet, he told the audience, but if he couldn’t get a variance on one side, he would have to go to 50 feet on the other. As for following the City’s rules and commu-nity notification, he was sure everything had been done properly. Before the meeting started, a Kensington-Tal-madge Planning Commit-tee spokesperson said the night’s meeting wouldn’t have been necessary if residents would come to the meetings or become committee members. Jansen also noted that, in their e-mails, community members were throwing around an incorrect number of “average daily trips” from traffic that his project would bring into Kensington. The correct number was 1400 instead of 2400. People didn’t realize, he said, that 1000 daily trips already brought in by the gas station would have to be subtracted.

According to Maggie McCann, however, the traffic study was flawed. “Part of their calculation,” she tells me, “involved an assumption that the convenience store in the gas station is 650 square feet. But we went in and measured it at 7 feet by 11 so the number of people going into the store is not nearly what they say. And the station’s own figures show that only about 200 people go in to buy gas each day.”

“Then the study didn’t even do what they announced it would. It did not look at the whole stretch of Adams between I-15 and Aldine Drive, nor at the impacts on the streets to the north and south of Adams.” One of Jansen’s bragging points, McCann con-tinues, was that visitors to Kensington Terrace would enter from an alley in the back. Residents are now concerned,” she says, “that drivers leaving the alley will see how much traf-fic is going out to Adams and will circulate through neigh-borhood streets to leave the area. This factor alone shows that the project should be required to produce an envi-ronmental impact report.”

In his e-mail to city project manager Anne Jarque, Tim Chatfield brought up additional worries. Here is one. “The project,” he wrote, “is significantly over-parked at one space per bedroom for the residential and 2.3 per 1000 square feet of commer-cial. This leads one to believe that the developer is vying for regional serving retail and/or will eventually combine all the parking to serve a ‘big box’ retailer or grocer. In regard to the residential portion of the project… I seldom see this amount of parking even in vehicle dependent suburban projects. “If I can be of any help in finding a solution that bet-ter serves the community of Kensington,” concluded Chat-field, “I would be happy to assist.” He may get that chance. At last Thursday’s Planning Commission meet-ing, the Kensington Terrace hearing was continued for a week. And the commis-sion gave the parties home-work. Meet before you come back — and iron out some of your differences.
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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.

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The man to whom I was directed by the information desk for answers to questions about the church told me that it was founded 42 years ago; that’s where I got the 1965 date. I’m sorry this was incorrect. Apologies also for not mentioning the choir (though they certainly make an appearance in the accompanying video, available at www.sdreader.com). I sent a private e-mail to the church explaining the friendliness rating on the same day I attended the service. It was due to a single unpleasant encounter and did not reflect my experience as a whole (as indicated by the opening graf about the good things Faith Chapel does for the community). So I decided not to write about it. But I found it significant enough to merit the poor rating.

Clarification


Narc Notes

I read the cover story (20 pages’ worth) by your contributing writer Jay Allen Sanford entitled “A Year-long Trip Down Crack Street” in the November 1 Reader. However, I could not figure out why this story got front cover.

Was this the Reader’s way of supporting Red Ribbon Week? In the article, Sanford confesses to his sins and shenanigans during the time when he experimented with almost every illicit drug known to mankind. How much of this confession is true, how much is hyperbole, and how much was not disclosed the reader has no way of knowing. It was interesting to note that during this same period, Sanford continued to contribute his work to the Reader. By the way, does the Reader have an in-house drug policy?

Sanford’s catharsis sounded like the same old song sung by many a drug addict. By the time Sanford got to the end of the song or story (whew!), I was exhausted from just thinking about all the energy he expended in pursuit of drugs. And like many a drug addict, Sanford persistently focused on one objective—to score his next hit. Sanford claims he is clean now and that his life is in order. If that is true, good, and he should be commended. However, with drug addicts one never knows. It has been my experience to observe them do and say the damnest things.

I will close by saying that Sanford tries to make a case on his behalf that he was never very good at smoking crack (yet he gave it the old college try). Interesting point, which leads me to ask: Could this lack of crack-smoking proficiency on Sanford’s part have played a factor with the Peter Principle? That is, did Sanford reach his level of competence?

continued on page 70

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Hey, M.A.!

Given the following hypothetical — two identical twin brothers, Joe and Moe, marry two identical twin sisters, Jean and Jane, at double wedding ceremony. They both consummate their respective marriages on the same day. Both Jean and Jane become with child, with the same date due — will there be two identical twin cousins born to the two couples?

— Patty Duke Fan, via e-mail

Well, if the babies were conceived at the Double Tree Hotel in double beds in a narcotic haze of Oreo Double Stuff, and Joe and Moe part their hair on the same side and drive matching golf carts, and Jean and Jane are both left-handed and dress alike every day — given that hypothetical, then there’s, like, zero chance the Jeos and the Moes will have identical twin babies, let alone identical quads, if that’s what you were hoping for. As the double helix spins, their babies will be about as similar as any siblings. And no particular inclination toward twins either. You need some Patty detox.

Heymatt:

What is corn beef?

— Anonymous, via e-mail

Corn beef is nothing. But “corned” beef. Now, that’s something. “Corn” is stuff, it’s also something you can do. If you dissolve salt in water, add some spices, then throw in a hunk of beef to marinate, you are making corned beef. Long ago, a type of raw, coarse, lumpy salt was likened to corn kernels, and anything marinated in or rubbed with such salt was “corned.”

Aloha, Matt:

I just had an odd experience this morning. I heard the front screen door rattle, but the doorbell did not ring. I looked out the front window and saw two people walking back down the outside staircase to the street (an older woman and a younger woman). I opened the door and went out on the porch. They did not look back at me. Two pairs of young women appeared at the foot of our outside staircase; they may have seen me, but they did not look up at me. The whole group, plus one young man, proceeded to walk northward, looking at every front door, but not going up to most. Some of them would go up to a door, then turn around and go back to the sidewalk.

I had heard a story years back that Jehovah’s Witnesses will put a secret mark on the gate or the door of a house to tell other JW’s not to bother — the residents are irredeemable heathens. I have had a few cultists of various sorts come by in the past, but I have always told them that I’m a Buddhist and not interested.

After a while, I went out and looked for marks, but I could not find anything recognizable as other than natural scratches on concrete or on wood, either at street level or at door level or in between. Do you have any idea what secret mark the JW’s use for this purpose?

— Irredeemable Heathen in Lemon Grove

Dang, Heather, I was just getting into this story. You had a real chillier going until you veered off into that JW graffiti stuff. This could be bigger than Harry Potter. Was it a dark and stormy morning? Who were those mysterious ladies? What were they looking for? They weren’t looking for JW graffiti.

MatthewWorld is like a cross between Noah’s Ark and a circus sideshow. Never can tell who will pop up. Lucky for us, our resident Jehovah’s Witness was available. As you can imagine, she’s usually hard to locate. Anyway, she politely poo-poops your JW secret-mark theory but had little more to say about the situation. So, we’ll ask you…where did you hear the story about Witnesses marking up people’s doors? I’d call it an urban legend, but it doesn’t even qualify for that since you and the guy who told it to you are the only people who’ve heard it. What it sounds like is a combination of true stories about early-century hobos and somebody’s loopy notion of how the Witnesses operate.

Hobos and rail-riders in the first half of the 20th Century did have a method of symbolic communication among themselves as they traveled around the country. Marks would be put on rail cars, street signs, gates, doors; the intent was to help the brethren avoid houses with biting dogs or shotguns and find houses where a sad story would get you a hot meal. A connection with the Jehovah’s Witnesses? Not likely. Besides, if your door had the mark of an irredeemable heathen, you’d be just the guy they’d want to talk to. Preaching to the choir is not their goal. Anyway, we still think you have the makings of a good book.

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

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Small-college sports don’t get enough press, fans, or money. This is probably a good thing: relative poverty is a powerful tool for keeping sports as a lesser part of what a university education was meant to be. An unintended benefit of sports anonymity is increasing the odds that the star running back will graduate and know how to read his diploma. Once every long, long while somebody will come out of a small college and make it to the NFL, MLB, or NBA. That’s for the men; for the women, small-college sports is a black hole — no light escapes and no money enters.

The schools discussed below are San Diego County small colleges belonging to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), which is made up of 360-plus universities and colleges coast to coast with an occasional foray into Canada. The NAIA runs 24 “national championship events,” including football, golf, tennis, cross country, baseball, swimming, diving, wrestling, volleyball, soccer, indoor and outdoor track, and so on.

San Diego’s small colleges are competing nationwide against the best in their class, and being the best in your piece of the sports world is something to appreciate. NAIA national championships are divided by season. Here is their championship schedule for fall 2007: Men’s and Women’s Soccer (November 14–20), Men’s and Women’s Cross Country (November 17), Volleyball (November 28–December 1), Football (December 15).

Congratulations to Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU), which, besides owning one of the best-looking pieces of real estate on earth (the Pacific side of Point Loma), has a women’s volleyball team playing in the NAIA Region II Quarterfinals. They are ranked 9th in the nation. If they can get past Concordia, they’ll be going to the national tournament, played this year at Columbia College, Columbia, Missouri.

Point Loma Nazarene University is ranked 19th in the nation for Women’s Cross Country and has qualified for the Women’s Cross Country National Championship. Hawk a flight to Kenosha, Wisconsin, for Saturday, November 17.

While we’re here, congratulations to Joy Johnson, representing San Diego Christian College (located in El Cajon with 510 full-time student enrollees), who qualified for the cross-country national championship under the category “Individual Qualifiers.” Go, girl.

The big dog in NAIA women’s cross country is Simon Fraser University (British Columbia). They finished No. 1 in the Final Top 25 Poll. They started the season ranked No. 1. They were No. 1 every week of the season. Now, I understand we own Canada under the table, so I don’t object to their schools competing with our schools, but Simon Fraser has 17,000 students and Point Loma Nazarene has 1200. This is an outrage, and one is tempted to take formal title to the land mass known as “Canada” and be done with it. But, on the positive side of the scale, Simon Fraser has an impressive history with the Director’s Cup. Said cup is awarded for the best overall athletic program in the United States for NCAA Division I, Division II, Division III, and NAIA.

Simon Fraser has won the Director’s Cup four years straight, beginning in 1996–1997, and won it again in 2003–2004. Doing this well in a contest for the best athletic program in the United States is pretty darn good, but Simon Fraser tops that by owning the NAIA record for most All-Americans and most individual United States Champions. I don’t think we need bother with the paperwork, they’re already American.

Back to Point Loma Nazarene. Their women’s soccer team is ranked Number 11 in the nation in the final Top 25 poll. The NAIA women’s soccer national championship will be determined in a 20-team tournament played at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Daytona Beach, Florida). This is another reason to like small-college sports — the names. Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University has substance to it. And a bit of mystery. The PLNU Sea Lions are seeded 10th and will play 7th seed Carroll College (Helena, Montana) on Friday. Game time is 4:00 p.m. PST.

By the way, you can see this game and other NAIA Women’s Soccer National Championship games streamed at naiasoccer.org. Be warned, it costs money. Same with the Volleyball National Championship. Go to volleyballnaia.com and pony up.

Finally, let’s applaud California State University, San Marcos. Their women’s cross-country team is ranked No. 6 in the nation. Their men’s cross-country team is ranked No. 4. Women’s golf is No. 7. Men’s golf is No. 10. Not bad for a school that opened for business in 1996 in a rented space with an enrollment of 448. The Cougars didn’t have golf, cross country, or track and field until 1998. Didn’t have baseball, softball, or soccer until 2006. Scary.
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Diary of a Diva
A day in the life of a local female
By Barbarella

Surf Diego
Best waves, local beaches as told by surfers
By Ollie

Say What?
Guide to San Diego slang
By Ollie

Sheep and Goats
Weekly church review
By Matthew Lickona

Tin Fork
Best cheap eats
By Ed Bedford

As I Hear It
Local CDs get reviewed by people on the street
By Brian Carver

San Diego Reader
November 15, 2007
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This week’s postings:

Death in Tecate
Posted by Mike Hemmingson on November 7, 2007
And yet another body found in the rural hot zone…
Read more and add a comment.

Pumping Gas and Bullets
Posted by Mike Hemmingson on November 7, 2007
Man shot and killed at Exxon during San Diego’s recent shooting spree… Read more and add a comment.

Suspects Wear Masks in Halloween Homicide
Posted by Mike Hemmingson on November 7, 2007
Skyline is no safe place for trick or treating…
Read more and add a comment.

The Case of the Homicidal Twins
Posted by Mike Hemmingson on November 7, 2007
Jamel and Jamal Davis booked for shooting and killing a man in Oak Park… Read more and add a comment.

Another Arrest in Slain Sailor Case
Posted by Mike Hemmingson on November 7, 2007
Just goes to show, there is no statute of limitations on murder… Read more and add a comment.

Second San Ysidro Motel Killing This Year
Posted by Mike Hemmingson on November 7, 2007
Economy Inn is a fatal place to stay…
Read more and add a comment.

An El Cajon Murder Mystery
Posted by Mike Hemmingson on November 7, 2007
The shootings continue in East County…
Read more and add a comment.
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American Woman

by Barbarella

There is nothing wrong with America that cannot be cured by what is right with America.

— Bill Clinton

Visiting four countries over the span of five weeks led me to one astonishing revelation: I am proud to be an American. I don’t mean to insinuate, with the use of the word “astonishing,” that I am particularly surprised by my pride — as the daughter of a military man, I cannot help but choke up, my chest swelling with satisfaction for my motherland, every time I hear “Ugly”phenomenon does not only pertain to Americans.

The more time we spent abroad, the clearer it became to me that the “Ugly”phenomenon does not only pertain to Americans.

his hosts wherever he goes that swaggering bully who lays down the law, takes no prisoners, and calls it like he sees it, especially when seeing it means telling you what’s wrong with your country. Not only had I read about him, I’d seen him with my own eyes, right here in his native habitat. I didn’t want to be that guy, and I certainly didn’t want to be lumped into the same category as him. I was determined to do my part to improve my country’s grim reputation by demonstrating that not all Americans are uneducated, beer-belching, gun-toting crusaders. I ventured east on the premise that all Europeans would consider me inferior until I proved otherwise. I hadn’t considered the possibility that I would find fault in the very people I was striving to impress.

In Paris (where gratuity is factored in to the price of food), all but two of the ten waiters who served David and me were unequivocally rude, and it wasn’t because our country’s leaders voted to rename french fries “freedom fries” — Parisian servers are quite egalitarian in this regard. One evening, at a restaurant whose menu was written in both French and English, we were asked if we wanted to order an aperitif. By definition, an aperitif is an alcoholic beverage one drinks before a meal. Speaking French, David asked for a glass of Lillet, a typical French aperitif wine from Bordeaux, and I ordered a Kir Royal. Minutes later, the waiter placed my champagne and cassis mixture on the table and then set a tall glass of cold milk before David. David was humiliated, thinking he’d pronounced something wrong. When the waiter finally returned to take our order, David apologized for his miscommunication and explained that he had wanted Lillet (pronounced lee-lay), the wine, not le lait (pronounced lil-lay), which literally translates to “the milk.” The waiter rolled his eyes, said, “Oh, leeeelaaay.” Then, looking put off, he scooped up the milk and sauntered away. Having overheard the exchange, the French woman next to us offered, “He laid down the law, takes no prisoners, and calls it like he sees it, especially when seeing it means telling you what’s wrong with your country.” The woman then explained that because they can only handle so much of the poor service that is prevalent in Paris, she and her husband prefer to eat at home.

A week later, David and I took a plane from Amsterdam to Kalmar, Sweden. At the airport, we had to stand in several lines, from the ticket counter to a snack bar to security checkpoint to boarding the plane. In every case, regardless of how fast or slow a line was moving, the person behind me would stand uncomfortably close. The first time, at the ticket counter, I wrote it off as an isolated incident. To mark my territory and stake out my personal space, I placed my hands on my hips and turned sideways, so that my elbow nudged the trespasser. But it didn’t work. The woman continued to inch closer, until I could feel her coat against my leg, her arm on my elbow. The second time, at the snack bar, I was bolder. When a teenager’s head appeared over my shoulder, and I could feel his breath on my face, I stepped back, right up against him, hopping the milk. The waiter rolled his eyes, said, “Oh, leeeelaaay.” Then, looking put off, he scooped up the milk and sauntered away. Having overheard the exchange, the French woman next to us offered, “He knew what you meant. Milk is not an aperitif.” “Yes,” her husband agreed, “He was doing this on purpose.” The woman then explained that because they can only handle so much of the poor service that is prevalent in Paris, she and her husband prefer to eat at home.

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compartment, an older woman actually leaned on me. I poked at David’s shoulder, and when he turned his head, I said, “Do these people have no concept of personal space! Jesus!”

When we arrived in Sweden and began to deplane, I watched as an old man several rows ahead attempted to enter the aisle. But no one would let him in — I looked on in outrage as passenger after passenger pushed past, ignoring the elderly man’s attempts to enter the flow of foot traffic. When David and I made it to the man’s row, we stopped, defying the pushing throng behind us, and let the poor guy enter the aisle. Later, I told David, “I find it hard to believe that so many people are deliberately discourteous, so I can only conclude that Scandinavians are an oblivious bunch.”

“You know,” David said, “that would never happen in America. As loud and rambunctious as we may appear to many cultures, as much as we may accidentally offend, I think most Americans are generous and kindhearted, and it would never take ten rows of people before one would let an old guy pass.”

The more time we spent abroad, the clearer it became to me that the “Ugly” phenomenon does not only pertain to Americans — I saw Ugly Brits, Ugly Frenchmen, Ugly Swedes, and more. In every city, I encountered at least one person who impressed me and at least one who offended. All along, I’d been trying to be a good American, when all I really had to do in order to make a good impression, all anyone in the world needs to do, is to try to be a good person.

While sitting on the plane from Frankfurt to San Francisco, David and I reminisced about our trip: the mops of Florence, canals of Venice, vineyards of Provence, fashion of Paris, darkness of Amsterdam, strangeness of Sweden, bustle of Rome, and beauty of Trevi. We’d visited old friends and made new ones; we’d shopped and dined; we’d placed our hands on the Coliseum, the Louvre, and a blooming olive tree that had been planted 150 years before the Mayans laid the first stone for their temple. “That was a lot to see in such a short time,” I said. David scowled into the empty seat between us and I put my head on his shoulder. “What was your favorite part?”

He answered without hesitation: “Eating baguettes in Paris.” I slapped his leg in mock offense, as if he’d flubbed the answer to my trick girl question. David laughed, a nervous, almost embarrassed laugh, at the truthfulness of his answer. He put his arm around me and I closed my eyes, instantly soothed. David stroked my hair while I made happy noises. We stayed like that for a few moments, and then, waking me from a brief doze, he asked, “Yours?”

“Too many to choose from,” I sighed. “The whole trip was amazing. Exciting. Fabulous.” Before I slipped back into slumber, I added, “Yeah, it was cool, I’d go back, beh beh...but there’s no place like home.”

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Sometimes, the chef would call my room and ask if I wanted chicken or tuna, oatmeal or dry cereal.
Deep-Fried Quesadillas

Everything was just out of reach as I lay on my left side in a bed at Tijuana’s newest and most modern hospital. I had to sit up or lie down only on my left side because of a stinking wound the size of a pack of cigarettes on my lower right back. The pain was exquisite — a merciless, unrelenting pain that kept me awake at night, that made it difficult to move, that sent the muscles in my buttocks into periodic spasm.

It was now late August of 2007, and for the third time in a month, I was tethered to an IV line pumping three different powerful antibiotics into my veins. The hospital room was top-of-the-line, designed with patient comfort in mind: individual climate control, cable television, local- and long-distance calling at the touch of a finger, high-speed Internet access so I could connect my laptop, a reading lamp, an in-room programmable safe, and a spacious private bathroom. Twice a day custodians swept, mopped the floor, emptied the garbage, and left new towels and little hotel-sized bars of soap.

What looked like hardwood flooring was really just a laminate floor covering; on two sides, large squares on the walls stood out in relief, giving them a sculpted look; an abstract Southwestern print in shades of orange, red clay, and dirt brown hung on the west-facing wall, the northern exposure featured high windows the width of the wall, and if I opened the eggshell-colored aluminum blinds, I could see the “Torre de los Médicos” (Doctors’ Office Tower), a ten-story, terra-
Deadly dogs they are: wrapped in bacon, served with mayonnaise, mustard, grilled onions, catsup, and hot, diced serrano chiles.

cottage structure suggestive of older Mexican architecture but with modern lines.

When the hospital opened in December 2005, at a cost of $70 million, many Tijuana doctors moved their practices to the tower. The hospital is situated on Avenida Paseo de los Héroes, a tree-lined boulevard in Tijuana’s Rio Zone, directly across the street from a T.G.I. Friday’s restaurant. Two blocks away is a Sam’s Club and the immensely popular Ocean City Chinese Buffet. A few blocks up a hill on Boulevard Salinas are other American franchises: McDonald’s, Burger King, Carl’s Jr., Smart & Final, Bob’s Big Boy. In the last ten years, such franchises have sprung up from one end of the city to the other — Office Depots, Costco warehouse stores, Ace Hardware, Home Depot, Kentucky Fried Chicken — although a few, like Wendy’s and Jack in the Box, folded after a few years.

Despite all this free trade, Tijuana maintains its Mexican identity. Some of the tastiest food in the city comes from thousands of mom-and-pop businesses, and so it is in El Mirador, a few miles from the beach. My neighbor Beatriz operates a little restaurant from the patio of her home on weekends. Beatriz, who lives with her twin sister, a son, and a tenant who rents a room from her, sells pozole, menudo, and other traditional Mexican fare. My favorite — now off limits by doctor’s order — is a distinctive version of quesadillas, made with corn tortillas filled with cheese, onions, lettuce, and tomato, then deep-fried. An order of three costs $2. During the day, a food cart selling tacos a vapor (steamed tacos) sits in front of Beatriz’s home; at nightfall, until about midnight, another family sets up a portable taco stand, and the aroma of tacos de carne asada fills the neighborhood. Up and down Boulevard El Mirador are variations on the theme: more taco stands; food carts featuring hot corn on the cob; a fellow who stands outside a neighborhood grocery from 8:00–midnight most days, selling homemade tamales from two big aluminum pots; a neighbor lady who irons clothes at her shop for 50 cents an item, next door to a dentist’s office run by her daughter. Another neighbor’s son runs a charbroiled hamburger stand from 3:00–11:00 p.m. in front of the family home, where his widowed father, Don Raúl, rents out three added-on apartments. Two blocks away, a lady who looks to be in her 60s runs a nighttime hotdog stand. And deadly dogs they are, fatty Rosarito-brand hot dogs, wrapped in bacon and grilled, served with mayonnaise, mustard, grilled onions, catsup, and, unless the customer specifies other-
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Osvaldo was a young male nurse, maybe 28 years old, from Sinaloa, a state along Mexico’s central coast best known for the resort city of Mazatlan — and for its marijuana crop, drug-trafficking, and *narcocorridos*, a kind of folk music glorifying the life of drug smugglers. Osvaldo had come to Tijuana for the same reason as Bertha — to work. He wore too much cologne and was fastidious about his uniform. It was precisely pressed and fit him as if tailor-made, which, with his close-cropped haircut, gave him a vaguely military look. For some reason, all the male nurses wore white pants and lime-colored smocks, while the women wore white skirts and light-blue blouses. Nurses’ aides wore a navy-blue uniform. “I wish I were home,” Osvaldo told me. “But there is no work here, and even if you can find work, it does not pay anywhere near what they pay here in Tijuana.

There is a lot more opportunity here, more than anywhere else in Mexico.” Osvaldo often used late-night visits to my room to review messages on his cellular phone. He seemed to get a lot of calls.

Denorah, an older nurse’s aide, probably in her early 60s, was the friendliest of all those who attended me. Just below the windows that faced the garden was a narrow sofa with foam cushions covered in a rough, faintly blue fabric. In other rooms, family members of patients used the sofa to sleep on so they could remain at the side of their hospitalized loved one. I had no loved ones geographically close enough to take advantage of the sofa and suspected the nurses had tried to fill in as best they could. Besides, I had discouraged friends in Tijuana from visiting — it was an affront to my pride for anyone to see me in such a pathetic and helpless state. Denorah would sit on the sofa and talk to me for 30 minutes every day. She had short, straight black hair and hard, angular Indian features that defined a mournful face suggesting she had long led a tough life. She would hold my hand, caress my head, and tell me, “Pobrecito. Everything is going to be okay.” Sometimes she patted me in much the same way you might pat a dog — but I enjoyed the attention, was comforted by it. Denorah was from Oaxaca, a southern Mexican state that in recent months has been torn apart by political unrest — massive
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demonstrations, strikes by teachers and government employees, riots over rising tortilla prices, shootouts between the government and radical leftists. She worried about her family back home, she said, hinting that she sided with the leftists: “In the U.S., you have rights. In Oaxaca, no. You never know what is going to happen to you. People think Tijuana is bad, but it is nothing compared to Oaxaca. The rich stay rich and the poor suffer, and suffer more.” But, said Denora, she had her hands full now in Tijuana, where she, her husband, and her family of eight children had moved seven years ago. No looking back now, she said. Tijuana was her home.

Nurse Gladys was a prim young woman in her mid-30s with a slightly officious air. Unlike the other nurses, she did not readily volunteer what medicine she was administering — something I always asked when someone was about to inject something into my veins. “Medicine ordered by your doctor,” she said condescendingly, tapping my hand two or three times as if admonishing a child. (When I mentioned this to Dr. Zúñiga during one of his visits, he added this note to his standing orders: “Allow patient to ask questions. Allow patient to express himself.”) Gladys had an hourglass figure and was quite a looker, if you could get past her austere nurse-patient relationship. She seemed more like the kind of nurse you might encounter in an American hospital — strictly business, little time for chitchat. Either that, or she just didn’t like this difficult gringo patient, full of questions, presuming to know as much about medicine as she did. When I complained of feeling as if I

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were in jail, she told me, a dash of contempt flavoring her voice: “You may feel like you are in a cage, but this cage you are in is a golden one — still a cage, but golden. And soon you will be out of it.”

All of the nurses seemed surprised that I spoke Spanish fluently, and they were curious as to why a gringo would choose to live in Tijuana. They attended to many gringos, most in Tijuana for weight-reducing surgery, which costs about a third as much as it would in the U.S. Very few spoke Spanish, and those who did spoke it poorly. Tijuana bariatric surgeons offer attractive packages to Americans: patients are greeted at Lindbergh Field by an English-speaking escort who drives them to a five-star hotel in Tijuana, where they spend their first and last days — with three days in the hospital sandwiched in between — all for $9000–$12,000. I had learned the language by osmosis over 16 years spent in relative contentment as an expatriate in Tijuana. During that time, I had lived in virtually every area of the city — from $12-a-night hotels, where you had to sign for your toilet paper at check-in and return it to the desk before checking out, to high-density Mexican public housing in the crime-ridden dusty hills on the eastern outskirts of town, and now, in a pleasant, safe, middle-class neighborhood. Like many emigrants to the city, my living situation had improved as my economic situation improved. In the lean, early years, there were days I struggled to come up with enough money to feed myself. Like my Mexican counterparts, I came to rely primarily on panaderías — the fresh bakeries that dot the city. Two freshly baked bolillos — small loaves of French bread with origins in the brief French occupation of Mexico — cost less than a dollar. And, unlike in the U.S., sandwich meats did not come prepackaged. Customers can order as little or as much ham or bologna as they desire, purchase one hot dog or eight, two strips of bacon or a quarter kilo. The system made it easy to eat on an austere budget, though the diet was not always a healthy one. As a result of the time I had spent in Tijuana, my speech was littered with expressions picked up on the street, with turns of phrase not taught in language schools, some bordering on the vulgar. I am by no means a perfect speaker of Spanish; I still screw up verb tenses and personal pronouns and trip over trilled r’s or multiple vowel sounds. Still, the nurses seemed charmed by my command of the language and said it made their job easier. It enabled them to quiz me: Why had I moved to Tijuana? Had I married a Mexican woman? Did I want to? Where was my family? What kind of work did I do? With good reason, many people who live in
Tijuana harbor dark suspicions about gringos in their midst—not so much so in places like Rosarito Beach, where an estimated 15,000 Americans live in pricey beach-front condominiums—but in the everyday neighborhoods of the city. I know from firsthand experience that many of my compatriots in Tijuana come to the city with bad motives: pedophiles taking advantage of the huge income differential to buy sexual favors from minors; SSI pensioners “disabled” by alcoholism, who pass their days and nights in cheap bars drinking beer at less than a buck a bottle; lawbreakers on the lam from justice; and con men of all varieties. I, too, had come to look upon other gringos with suspicion and disdain. I had spoken to many of them Internet sex sites offering “paid escorts,” or nabbed with huge supplies of Valium or other illicit drugs. I still remembered a photo in El Mexicano, one of the city’s four daily newspapers, of two drunken old gringos sitting hand-cuffed on the porch of a house in Playas with two huge marijuana plants growing openly in pots in the background. A neighbor had called police. And consider this September 8 posting on craigslist Tijuana: “Important note to owners/managers. Always check references thoroughly when renting to Americans. Why are they in Tijuana if they are not of retirement age? Why would a ‘professional person’ cross the border to work? Check their car registrations, their driver’s licenses, their visa status. Beware especially when people tell you how wonderful they are. Talk to at least one of their former neighbors. Helpful reminder from someone who knows the pitfalls of not checking ruthlessly.”

At the hospital, the food cart from the kitchen would arrive on the brightly waxed third floor five times a day. Everything had the look of being maintained by someone’s crazy, obesive aunt, who would not let children sit on her living-room furniture, covered in plastic, for fear of an inadvertent spill. Hospital Angeles took its food service seriously. A crisply uniformed worker would carry the food into the room, flanked by two administrative types carrying clipboards and dressed in blue skirts, navy jackets, and white blouses. The worker who placed the food on my table always had a bright smile, and she lifted the aluminum cover over the plate with a flourish, as if serving someone in a five-star restaurant. There was real silverware and food plated on white china with the hospital logo. “Look,” the server would say, pointing to each item, “chicken breasts with garlic, peeled pear with strawberry sauce, rice with corn, yogurt with fresh fruit, and decaffeinated coffee.” She made eye contact, looking for signs that I was happy with the fare. Meanwhile, the two administrative types stood by, ready to take notes: “Patient allergic to shellfish. Patient prefers whole-wheat bread to tortillas.” At every meal I was informed that I could send the food back if it did not suit me or return it to the kitchen for reheating if it were not warm enough. Sometimes, the chef would call my room and ask if I wanted chicken or tuna, oatmeal or dry cereal. Did I need more coffee? These little food presentation dramas became something to look forward to each day and helped me keep track of time: breakfast at around 8; midmorning snack (Special K cereal or tuna) at 10:30; the biggest, most filling meal of the day at 1:00 p.m.—a creamy soup; a well-prepared snack (Special K cereal or tuna, oatmeal) at 3:30; and a light spread at 5:00 p.m., another snack—a fruit salad, sometimes a ham-and-cheese or a tuna sandwich with nonfat, artificially sweetened yogurt and strawberries on the side.

Zúñiga’s office was equipped like any other first-class cardiologist’s office anywhere in the world.
than what we’d agreed upon before I was admitted, and, angry, I picked up the phone and called the cardiologist’s office. Maria Elena, a buzzy, saucy, and a-little-too-familiar receptionist who knew me well, answered. I said, “I just got the bill from your boss, and it is absurd! If he thinks I’m going to pay him $4500 in fees for a week in the hospital, he’s crazy. That’s more than $600 a day, and for what? All he does is stop by for 20 minutes twice a day. That’s more than the hospital is charging me for room, board, nursing care, and medicine. You tell him I am really angry and I want to talk to him right away!” Maria Elena sighed heavily. She had been in the middle of this before and knew better than to take sides. “Okay,” she said, “I will tell the doctor to call you. Right now he is with a patient.”

Within 15 minutes the phone in room 319 rang. Caller ID showed it was a call from the cardiologist’s office. I picked up the phone, ready for a fight. “Yes,” I said. “What do you want?” Dr. Zúñiga was on the other end, also itching for a fight. “Look,” he said, “that’s what I charge. I am expensive. You want the best, you have to pay for it. And if you don’t pay me, I won’t sign a release to leave the hospital.”

Many Americans hospitalized in Mexico, especially those who don’t live here but who have encountered some medical misfortune during a visit, have bitterly complained about this aspect of Mexican medicine: if you don’t pay your bill, you can’t leave. There have been repeated news accounts about gringos held in hospitals under police guard until their hospital bills are paid in full. But I wasn’t some tourist unfamiliar with the way things work in Mexico. I decided to call Zúñiga's bluff. “Listen,” I told the doctor, “I’ll pull this damn IV out of my own arm and walk out of here. Call the police if you want, put me in jail. Go ahead. But you will not screw me over. You told me $3000, and now you want $4500! Forget it.”

Dr. Zúñiga quickly adopted a different tone, lowering his voice and speaking more slowly. “All right, all right. Listen, I will come by later this evening and we can talk about this. Calm down. This is very bad for your blood pressure and heart — these damn fits you have. You create hurricanes in a glass of water! I will be by later, and don’t worry. We can work this out.”

About an hour later, a nurse came to my room with an off-schedule injection. “What is that?” I asked. “Something to calm your nerves,” she said. That evening, around 7 p.m. Dr. Zúñiga, a short, balding fellow wearing blue jeans, a white shirt with the first three buttons open, and brown shoes styled after cowboy boots came to visit my angry patient. Over the hours since our phone conversation I had strengthened my resolve.
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Researchers in your area are studying an investigational medication that may provide pain relief and reduce your risk of gastric ulcers. You may qualify to enroll if you:

➜ Have a condition requiring daily non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) therapy for at least six months
➜ Are between the ages of 18 and 49 with a history of an uncomplicated ulcer within the last five years, or are over age 50 (history of ulcers not required)

Qualified participants will receive all study-related medical care and diagnostic testing at no cost, and may be compensated for their time and travel.

To find out if you qualify, call:
Medical Associates Research Group
858-277-7177

Tired of the weight? A Type II diabetic?

Are you:
• A Type II diabetic?
• Between 18 and 70 years of age?
• In overall good health?
• Currently suffering from obesity?

If you answered yes to all these questions and are available for study-related visits for a year, you may be eligible for our investigational drug research study. If eligible, you will receive medical evaluations, including blood tests and electrocardiograms, nutritional 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

Sadness, low energy, trouble sleeping, can’t concentrate...
Depression – have your symptoms returned?

Clinical research study for adults with depression.
If you or someone you know is:
• 18-55 years of age
• Currently experiencing a depressive episode and have a history of recurrent depression
You may be eligible to participate in this clinical research study.
Qualified study participants will receive:
• A comprehensive medical evaluation as it relates to the study
• Supervised care by medical professionals during the study
• Study medication at no cost
Compensation for time and travel and an aftercare program may be provided.

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

Is your Schizophrenia medication making you heavy?

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

You may qualify if you are:
• Diagnosed with schizophrenia
• Between 18 and 65 years old
• Currently taking antipsychotic medication
• Have been hospitalized for schizophrenia in the past 3 months

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

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

Do you constantly worry? Every day?

Do you feel nervous, tense, or “on edge” most of the time? Do you have trouble sitting still or is it impossible for you to simply relax? Are you having trouble sleeping? If so, you may be suffering from Generalized Anxiety Disorder. Affiliated Research Institute in Mission Valley is currently seeking adults between the ages of 18 and 64 who have been diagnosed with or are experiencing symptoms of Generalized Anxiety Disorder to participate in a research study of an investigational medication. Participants will receive all study drugs and study-related medical care at no cost. Health insurance is not needed to participate. So, if anxiety is getting in the way of a full life for you or someone you love, please visit our website or call.

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

Are you SAD due to bipolar disorder?

Then there might be hope.

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

TO QUALIFY:
• You must be at least 18 years old
• You must have been diagnosed with bipolar disorder
• You must be experiencing symptoms of depression

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE AT NO COST:
• Monitoring of bipolar and depressive symptoms
• Medical and lab exams
• Study medication

TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE CALL:
NCCR
North County Clinical Research
760-639-4378
strangulated hernia, and removal of my gallbladder.

My illnesses seemed endless — kidney stones, urinary tract infections, postsurgical blood clots that traveled to my lungs, the need to breathe pure oxygen 24 hours a day — and, on several occasions, I was ready to throw in the towel and let God take me, by passive suicide, by doing nothing. At least I would be able to prepare myself for judgment before I died. I figured that might be preferable to a sudden, unexpected death, during which I would die more likely than not in mortal sin, with really bad prospects for eternity. But I was able to endure, thanks to the good counsel of friends who shared my faith, who helped me put my suffering into perspective, to see that it had meaning and purpose. Most of all, that it was important and beneficial.

It was after the kidney surgery that I had begun to have problems with my back. I had lost several pints of blood during the surgery and, according to Dr. Zúñiga, my heart stopped beating and my blood pressure fell to zero. “My balls were in my throat,” Dr. Zúñiga would later tell me. But Zúñiga, again assisted by Dr. Aubanel, was able to save me, though what was supposed to be an hour and a half in surgery turned into nearly five hours, and I required multiple blood transfusions. “Now you really do have Mexican blood running through your veins,” Zúñiga later joked. But two days after the surgery, I began to experience a stinging, burning pain in my lower right back. Tiny blisters formed in rows, and a large, angry red patch appeared. Diagnosis: herpes zoster, a reactivation of the chicken pox virus that had lain dormant in my nerves since childhood. Eventually, the blisters burst and the skin seemed to heal, but the angry red remained, and the stinging, scalding, stabbing pain got worse over time, to the point that I became consumed by it. It seemed ironic that, after so many more serious surgeries, a little viral infection was causing me more pain than I had ever experienced in my 56 years on earth. Dr. Zúñiga threw everything he knew at the problem, sent me to dermatologists and pain management specialists, but the problem grew worse, until finally a foul-smelling wound about the size of a deck of cards appeared, seeping green-and-black liquid into my clothing. The smell lingered in any room I entered, a stench of raw sewage or rotting meat. It took a long time, but a diagnosis was ultimately arrived at: the herpes virus had opened up the skin, and, during my recent stay at Excel, I had contracted a hospital-borne “super bug,” resistant to most antibiotics. My current stay at Hospital Angeles was the third time I had undergone a series of intravenous antibiotics, based on a culture of the wound. Surgeons had suggested cutting the whole mess out and applying a skin graft, but Zúñiga was against it: “This is very painful surgery with a very long recuperation — maybe three or four months —
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November 15, 2007
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Subjects are now enrolling for a clinical research study on insomnia at the Wetlin Research facility. To find if you pre-qualify, please read the information below:

Trouble sleeping through the night?
Insomnia is a condition where you might:
• Wake up frequently during the night
• Awaken during the night but usually fall back to sleep
• Wake up too early in the morning without being able to fall back to sleep
• Experience distress as a result of nighttime symptoms, or report problems with daytime fatigue or impairment.

Those who have trouble sleeping through the night may qualify to participate in an insomnia study of an investigational medication to see if it improves quality of sleep.
You must be between 18-64 years of age to participate.
People who qualify to participate in this study will receive at no cost investigational medication and medical care associated with the study, including lab work, ECG and physical exams.

If you are interested in participating in this clinical study, please call Wetlin Research at 619-583-1954, ext. 17, to schedule a screening visit.

Do you have an eye infection?
The Division of Ophthalmology at Scripps Clinic Torrey Pines is testing an investigational eyedrop for the treatment of bacterial conjunctivitis (also known as an eye infection or "pink eye").

Participants must:
• Be 1 year of age or older.
• Have an eye infection (pink eye) with redness and mucous discharge in the eye for less than 4 days.

If eligible, patients will receive at no cost:
• Eye examinations.
• Investigational medication.
• Payment for participation.

To learn more, contact the Study Coordinator at:
(858)554-9611
Scripps Clinic

Do you have psoriasis?
If you are age 18 or older and have moderate to severe psoriasis, you may be eligible to participate in a new research study testing an experimental drug for psoriasis.
Please call or e-mail MedDerm Associates to see if you qualify.

Do you want clear skin?
You may be qualified to participate in a research study at MedDerm Associates.

For more information, call MedDerm at: (619) 542-0013 or visit our website at: www.medderm.net

BOTOX® as low as $5.16/unit
BOTOX injections take as little as 15 minutes and last 3 to 9 months. $6 per unit for first area, $5 per unit second area, $5.16 per unit third area.
Introductory price (25 units per area).
Results may vary.
Call 619-543-1061

Lose Weight as low as $10/day
We have new and innovative medications and regimens to help you lose weight without depleting your body of the nutrients it needs and help you feel satisfied. Biomedical hormones, lifestyle and nutrition training and vitamin B-12 injections are important contributors to your well-being and helpful in increasing your energy, heightening your metabolism and feeding your nervous system. Let Dr. Sterner develop an individualized program just for you.
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For Recorded Information Call 24 Hours:
619-442-4215 or Office:
619-543-1061

Do You Suffer from Excessive Shyness?
Have you experienced intense fear of being embarrassed or evaluated negatively by others in a variety of social and performance situations such as:

Meeting new people?
Talking in front of a group?
Going to parties?
Interacting with those you are attracted to?
Dealing with authority figures?
Eating or writing in front of others?

You may be eligible for a research study at UCSD Department of Psychiatry.

If you are 18 years of age or older, and are interested in this research program, please call:
1-877-UCSD-SHY (1-877-827-3749)
or e-mail: veryshy@ucsd.edu

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Do You Want Clear Skin?
You may be qualified to participate in a research study at MedDerm Associates.

Do you have an eye infection?
The Division of Ophthalmology at Scripps Clinic Torrey Pines is testing an investigational eyedrop for the treatment of bacterial conjunctivitis (also known as an eye infection or “pink eye”).

Participants must:
• Be 1 year of age or older.
• Have an eye infection (pink eye) with redness and mucous discharge in the eye for less than 4 days.

If eligible, patients will receive at no cost:
• Eye examinations.
• Investigational medication.
• Payment for participation.

To learn more, contact the Study Coordinator at:
(858)554-9611
Scripps Clinic

Do you have psoriasis?
If you are age 18 or older and have moderate to severe psoriasis, you may be eligible to participate in a new research study testing an experimental drug for psoriasis.
Please call or e-mail MedDerm Associates to see if you qualify.

Do you want clear skin?
You may be qualified to participate in a research study at MedDerm Associates.

For more information, call MedDerm at: (619) 542-0013 or visit our website at: www.medderm.net
Is Acute Mania Due to Bipolar Disorder Throwing Your Life Out of Balance?

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

TO QUALIFY:
- You must be at least 18 years of age
- You must have been diagnosed with bipolar disorder
- You must be experiencing symptoms of acute mania

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE, AT NO COST:
- Monitoring of bipolar and acute mania symptoms
- Study-related medical and lab exams
- Study medication

PLEASE CALL TO LEARN MORE!
SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTERS
888-619-7272

OPOID-INDUCED CONSTIPATION
BRINGING YOUR LIFE TO A STANDSTILL?

GET MOVING AND JOIN OUR OIC RESEARCH STUDY
Our clinic is conducting a research study to evaluate an investigational treatment, injected daily, compared to placebo (inactive substance), for Opioid-Induced Constipation (OIC) in men and women with chronic, non-cancer related pain.

You may be able to participate if you are:
- At least 18 years old
- Have a history of chronic non-cancerous pain
- Currently taking an opioid pain medication
- Have constipation due to taking an opioid pain medication

Study participation lasts approximately 16 weeks and includes 4 study clinic visits and at least 1 telephone call to assess any side effects. All study-related office visits, medical evaluations, and investigational medication or placebo will be provided to qualified study participants at no cost.

PACIFIC SLEEP MEDICINE SERVICES
For more information on these and other clinical studies, call toll free
1.866.410.6767

ARE YOU TAKING AMBIEN®?

Pacific Sleep Medicine is currently participating in a national clinical research study of an investigational use for an approved prescription sleep medication.

If you are interested in participating in this new clinical study, you must be:
- Undergoing treatment for at least 3 months
- Currently using Ambien® at least 4 nights per week
- Must be willing to discontinue Ambien® (after signing an informed consent document)

Study-related medical exams, laboratory tests and study medication are provided at no cost. Qualified participants will be compensated for time and travel.

Too Shy?
Trouble with dating? Parties? Public speaking?
Starting conversations? Speaking to authority figures?
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.
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http://nas psy.sdsu.edu
CENTER FOR UNDERSTANDING AND TREATING ANXIETY
6386 Alvarado Court, Suite 301, San Diego

Anxiety?
If you are troubled by worries, tenseness, difficulty sleeping or concentrating, you may be eligible for
✓ Anxious/Worried?
✓ Difficulty Sleeping?
✓ Restless/Tense?
✓ Difficulty Concentrating?

New Research Offered For People with Hepatitis B

Hepatitis B-positive volunteers are needed to participate in a new research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of Hepatitis B.

You may be a candidate if you have:
- Chronic infection with Hepatitis B
- No prior treatment for Hepatitis B
- Are otherwise in good health
- Are HIV negative

All study-related care is at no cost if you qualify, including doctor visits, lab tests, and study medication.

Call: 858.277.7177

This study is being conducted by: Medical Associates Research Group
An alliance of physicians devoted to the finest patient care through state-of-the-art research.


**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

For more information call:

619-521-2841
Medical Center for Clinical Research

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**Neck or lower back pain?**

Arm or leg pain • Numbness
Cramping • Weakness

**Tired of nothing working?** Chiropractic, physical therapy, acupuncture, pain medication, muscle relaxers

**Bulging Disc**

- Disc Herniation
- Degenerative disc
- Sciatica
- Spinal stenosis
- Facet syndrome

**Complimentary consultation & evaluation!**

See if you are a candidate for this new innovative treatment! Call for details. Offer expires 11/28/07.

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Spinal Decompression Computerized Therapy creates a vacuum effect to facilitate the transfer of fluids, nutrients and oxygen herniation back inside the disc.

Learn the importance of treating the cause of the problem, not just the symptoms. FDA approved! As seen on channel 6!

See us first for your second opinion! Call today – limited appointments available!

We accept Workers’ Comp.

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**Do you have small, red, rough spots on your face or scalp?**

You may be suffering from Actinic Keratoses or precancerous lesions. If you are at least 18 years of age, you may be eligible for a clinical research study.

You may qualify if you have: 4 or more red, rough and/or scaly spots or lesions on your face or scalp.

**Please call University Clinical Trials at (619) 202-0173, to see if you qualify for this study.**

Qualified participants will receive study related medical exams, and investigational medications at no cost. Compensation for time and travel may be provided.

Medical insurance is not required for study participation.

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**A Typical Stoner**

Mary, 65, is a retired Teacher and grandmother.

She’s suffering from Chronic Arthritis.

She’s a regular user of medical marijuana. Marijuana use decreases swelling and pain, and can be used topically on arthritis joints for immediate relief. Mary still gets stiff, but medical marijuana makes her days easier, and allows her to keep up with her grandchildren on the playground.

Mary never thought she was the type of person who would use marijuana as medicine, until she did - and realized that

**Marijuana Works.**

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Our physicians are participating in research to determine if the investigational use of a natural product made of five traditional Chinese herbs can reduce or cure menstrual pain and cramping. The medical term for this condition is dysmenorrhea. Clinical studies in China have demonstrated the product effective in treating dysmenorrhea. Millions of Chinese women have used it for years without any serious side effects. Unlike other therapies to treat menstrual pain, this product works by treating the cause of the pain. If you have experienced dysmenorrhea in the last two months, you may qualify. Participants will receive all study-related care, including physical exams, lab tests and study medication.

Call to learn more:
Medical Center for Clinical Research
William D. Koltun, M.D.
(619) 521-2841
Mission Valley
The First Step is Your Call

Miss Restful Sleep?

Do you or a loved one struggle with going to sleep or staying asleep? If so, you should know about a research study for an investigational drug to treat the symptoms associated with insomnia.

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS MUST:
- Be 18 and older
- Have difficulty falling asleep over the past month

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE:
- All study-related medical exams, laboratory test, and study drug at no cost
- Up to $1,500 in compensation for time and effort

Are you a night owl?

Do you go to bed at a late hour? If so, you should know about a research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of Delayed Sleep Phase Syndrome (DSPS).

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS MUST:
- Be 18 and older
- Go to bed later than you would like

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE:
- All study-related care, exams and study drug at no charge
- Compensation for time and travel

Constipation

Straining All The Time...Doesn’t Matter What I Eat

A 9-week clinical trial for men and women between 18 and 75 years of age who struggle with the discomfort and straining associated with chronic constipation is underway. An oral investigational medication is being studied to evaluate the safety, tolerability and effectiveness in adult subjects with chronic constipation.

To possibly qualify:
- Male or female, between 18 and 75 years of age
- Have a history of chronic constipation (fewer than 3 bowel movements per week) for at least 6 months
- No history of abdominal surgery or abnormal EKG

Participants may receive at no cost:
- Study-related exam and consultation with a board-certified specialist
- Study-related labs, EKG and study medications
- Compensation for your time and travel

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

“...Doesn’t Matter What I Eat”

Qualified participants must be:
- Healthy Men and Women
- Age 18 to 65
- Able to participate in overnight stays

Participants will receive all study-related exams and investigational medication at no cost. Participants may receive compensation up to $2,400 for time and participation.

Call Sun. - Fri. for more information.
Acupuncture arrived. I could hear the doctor pull my chart out of the box on the exam room door and leaf through it before entering, satisfied, apparently, with the CliffsNotes version of my medical history. “What can I do for you today?” was the usual query from the doctor, who spent maybe 15 minutes — 20 minutes max — with me.

By contrast, an office visit to Dr. Zúñiga lasted from one to two hours. Once buzzed into the doctor’s office — for some reason I had to press an intercom button and be cleared for entry first as the doctor watched from a closed-circuit camera in his office to give the thumbs up or thumbs down — the doctor’s staff greeted me by my first name, and they were always solicitous of how I was feeling. Before any tests or exams, Dr. Zúñiga always spent about 20 minutes catching up on my life: How was work? Romance? Home life? Any interesting new projects? Dr. Zúñiga would also share a little of his life — problems his kids were having in school, discussions of Mexican and American politics, border traffic, the latest headlines. Then he got to the medical problems, checked my vital signs, and performed whatever diagnostic testing I needed. On one or two occasions I needed emergency, after-hours diagnostic tests, a CAT scan or an MRI, and Dr. Zúñiga always accompanied me. Zúñiga was attentive to details other doctors might forget: if I was told to fast before coming to my appointment for blood tests, Zúñiga told me to fast before coming to my appointment for blood tests.

Thinning Hair?
You have a choice

Specialists and Designers in Men’s, Women’s & Children’s Hair Loss from:

- Genetic (male pattern baldness), hormonal, stress, alopecia, chemo, burn, surgery and trichotillomania
- Nonsurgical and state-of-the-art hair systems, hair extensions, custom wigs, supplies and repairs
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  - Laser Hair Therapy for Men and Women to Promote Hair Growth

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Cosmetic Procedures

Microdermabrasion with Free Rejuvenation Facial for $235

Choose One Signature Facial Below for $85
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- Age Smart Facial
- Ageless Lift Facial
- Acne Facial
- Slimming Facial
- Microcurrent Facial

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- Increases collagen & elastin
- Red younity of wrinkles, lines and fulex, age spots, pores, sun damage, dilated capillaries and rosacea

Lymphatic Drainage Facial $85
- Computerized treatment that rejuvenates and cleanses from the inside out. Excellent for face swelling and bags under the eyes. Rejuvenation for dry, aging, wrinkled skin, sunspots and erythrosis (red spots). We can reshape any part of the body for slimming. Immediate results!

Spa Treatments

Head to Toe $145
- 3-3 1/2 hours. Package includes:
  - European facial
  - Complete 1-hour therapeutic body massage
  - Manicure & Pedi-spa
  - Choice of any body spa treatment

  1) Hydromix mineral salt scrub
  2) Enzymatic sea mud wrap
  3) Detox herbal linen wrap

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Microdermabrasion

PCA Chemical Peel
- Purchase 5 PCA treatments and receive 7th treatment free. Treats the following conditions:
  - Wrinkles
  - Sun damage
  - Hyperpigmentation
  - Acne

- $85 per treatment

Deep Cleansing Facial $65
- Begin with face mapping.
  - Include steam, prep scrub & extraction
  - Face, head, neck & shoulder massage
  - Customized mask to refine & repair skin

FREE 15-min. back massage or Hydroxy Acid Peel

Summer Package $110
- European facial, facial massage including head and neck acupuncture, back facial with 15-minute back massage, and body dress wrap.

Mini Face-Lift $85 (reg. $110)
- New, advanced nonsurgical technique. Enhances skin tone. Noticeable results after one application! Recommended 2 to 3 times a week for at least 3-4 weeks.

Deluxe Back Facial $85
- Consists of chromatric and electrical currents with skin products. Great for acne, course, sun-damaged and deep-clogged skin. Includes glycolic acid peel.

Acupuncture

Acupuncture Face-lift Special $85
- Eliminate fine lines, reduce deep wrinkles
- Tone muscles of face to lift drooping eyelids and firm cheeks
- Tightens pores of skin
- Reduce or eliminate “smile lines”
- Eliminate “frowned brow”

Laser treatment feeling peaceful, softened and restestricted. Recommended 10 biweekly sessions.

Acupuncture to Rid Stress Special $45
- Help anxiety or worry about the holiday season? Acupuncture effectively and safely eliminates stress hormones from the body, leaving you feeling relaxed and able to enjoy the holiday season with no worries. Recommended 2-4 weekly sessions.

Cupping Therapy for Detox Special $85
- Experience the ancient art of cupping to ease muscle tension and release waste stored in the muscles. With full-body massage or mini-acupuncture treatment. Steam room available.

Acupuncture for Face-lift or Menopause Treatment
- Relieves hot flashes! With 1-hour body massage $130.

Suffering from Gout?
- New! Try acupuncture combined with cupping therapy to help manage the symptoms of gout. Reduces uric acid and pain from blood. Special $85 Covered by most insurance.

Perfect Retreat $90
- Begin with a 30-minute hydroactive mineral salt scrub. Relax with a 60-minute relaxation body massage. Steam room available.

Energy Balancing Plan $85
- 45-minute reflexology foot massage
- 30-minute head, neck, acupressure, and back massage
- Pedi-spa included

Jan Marini Age Intervention Eyelash 20% off
- Helps develop fuller, thicker lashes naturally.

April 2007
San Diego Reader
at a tiny cafeteria two floors below his office. It was a slow, thorough, deliberate kind of medicine that Dr. Zúñiga practiced. The doctor called it “clinically based medicine.” He said American doctors focused too much on the abstract — on textbook theories and impersonal tests. Zúñiga said he preferred making his medical decisions based on a broader collection of facts — his “clinical judgment,” developed over many years of seeing many patients.

Mexico Has the Same Standard of Care as the U.S.

So it was always vexing to Dr. Zúñiga when I would return from one of those visits to the U.S. with concerns of one kind or another put into my head by American doctors: that the medicines I was taking could have serious side effects; that a particular surgical procedure was too serious to have done in Tijuana. “The chances of side effects are minimal,” he told me. “Yes, there could be side effects. That’s why I keep tabs on your status with blood studies. But the chances are very small against the help to you. I think these American doctors worry too much about being sued. Sure, there could be serious side effects. These are powerful medicines. But you could also leave my office and be run over by a bus. You have about the same chances of having a serious complication.”

As for having complicated and dangerous surgery in Tijuana, Zúñiga fumed, “You get the same standard of care here as there,” he said. “Only it costs about half as much.” Then he would recite a litany of places where he had studied in the U.S. over the years, pulling out certificates and diplomas from the Cleveland Clinic, the Mayo Clinic, a heart-specialty hospital in Texas, and international cardiology conferences in Paris, Madrid, and Amsterdam. In fact, in the years I had been seeing Zúñiga, the doctor was always traveling to one conference or another to update his skills. And he had U.S. contacts to vouch for him. Before the renal angioplasty, when I was balking at having the procedure, Zúñiga put me online with a doctor from the Cleveland Clinic who reassured me that my “malignant hypertension” would destroy my kidney and ruin my heart, that the surgery was necessary. When I told him that a U.S. surgeon had insisted that the only way to treat the wound on my back was by radical surgery, Zúñiga responded, “Of course he thinks surgery is the way to go. He is a surgeon. That is what surgeons do — surgery.”

But any surgeon would need clearance from a cardiologist first because “such surgery could kill you.” Zúñiga was not without his detractors, although, as it turned out, the reasons some doctors did not like Zúñiga had little to do with medicine and more to do with longstanding grudges, nurtured for years because of some perceived slight. On the advice of a priest friend, I had sought a second opinion before my kid-

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HRMTH AND BEAUTY
not as if Raquel did not have her hands full already. She was taking care of her elderly mother, who lived with her, and babysat her granddaughter while her daughter studied at Southwestern College. (‘A big waste of time,” her father had once confided to me of his daughter’s studies. “But what can I do? I’m outnumbered three-to-one by the women.”)

Back Home… in Tijuana
Other neighbors — the same ones who every Christmas brought me gifts of food and wine, matched Raquel’s kindness. The young wife of a fellow who lived in an apartment above an ice-cream store around the corner and sold water heaters for a living also had stopped by to ask if I needed anything, as did the 86-year-old matriarch of the extended family next door. That was another feature of this neighborhood I liked a lot — the big Mexican families all living together. All around me, families of grandmas and grandpas, their children and their grandchildren all live together in the family home. Everyone knows everyone, and suspicious strangers are quickly noted. Once, a friend had come to visit me around 11:00 p.m., but I was away. The friend decided to wait and fell asleep in his car in front of my home. Raquel called the police. More recently, I had fallen asleep midafternoon and left the front door standing open. I was awakened by Beatriz from across the street, who came to my door shouting, “Robert! Robert! Are you okay?”

In the ensuing days, perhaps six other neighbors had tapped at my gate, inquiring about my well-being. A young barber and his wife strolled by with their two children, a boy of one, a girl in first grade. They agreed to take turns cleansing my wound and changing my bandages three times a day. It was not a totally altruistic gesture, I knew. I pay them $35 a week for their help — not much to me, but for them, a way to put food on the table. They are careful, honest, considerate, and punctual. And I did not have to make repeat trips to the hospital every day for the service, so it was a good deal as far as I was concerned. The latest round of antibiotics did seem to be working. The wound had shrunk and was less painful, the foul smell was gone, and it was leaking only a straw-colored liquid, which Dr. Zúñiga said was a good sign. Lots of pink, new tissue was growing in where before had been an open sore. Zúñiga called off the hyperbaric chamber for the time being, waiting to see what course the illness would take. Although the final outcome still remains uncertain, I am getting better. But best of all, I am back home.

— Robert McPhail
Del Cerro, which is Spanish for “of the hill,” is located just off I-8 at College Avenue. Turn north onto College and there it is, welcoming visitors and residents alike with a small cement sign. Just past the sign is Del Cerro Boulevard, both a main drag and a median-divided residential street. Along this road are a one-block business district, Temple Emanu-El synagogue, Phoebe Hearst Elementary School, and a hidden park and community pool.

The Del Cerro community began in the late ’50s, when Jackson Scott, the first developer to come to the area, purchased the flatland south of the hill and began to build houses, most of which remain today.

“My grandparents were working with the developers here when they were first cutting these lots in ’57,” says Teri Hill, who now owns her family’s real estate business, Hill and Hill Realty. Jackson Scott put up houses here and there and sold scattered lots to other developers.

“They didn’t build like they do now,” Hill says. “They didn’t build those big tracts together, and that’s why everything looks very custom here. It’s a very custom neighborhood.”

The first houses, mostly moderate-sized single-stories, were built along horseshoe-shaped streets like Ashland and Meredith, many of them coming off Del Cerro Boulevard. As Hill says, each house is different. Some are wood, some stucco, others faced with brick or stone. They’re well tended and clean, driveways sporting new and old cars, campers and motorboats. Cacti rise high in front gardens, Seussian

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trees and small palms along with them; lawns are tidy, sometimes bordered with stones or fences. The owners of these houses are mixed, some younger families that have moved to the area within the last ten years, while many houses are still occupied by the people who purchased them when they were first built.

"I would say that Del Cerro, number one, has a very low turnover rate," says Hill. "People are buying here to stay. If they do leave their house in a few years, they’re usually buying up or buying down in the same neighborhood. But it used to be much older, because a lot of people, the original owners, bought in the ’50s and have passed away, and younger families are moving in. There are a lot more kids than there used to be, a lot of younger buyers."

Up on the hill, homes are bigger. They hug the slope as they stair-step up the mountain, decks looking out over the city. A few have fenced off this hillside land, edging it with tiny gardens. Many are single-story ranch-style homes, and all boast well-tended front yards, however small they may be. "Most of the homes on the hill tend to be 3000 square feet and up," says Hill, "and they have pretty nice views, so the prices can easily be double from down at the lower parts."

While the hill houses are custom homes, there are a few tracts in Del Cerro Heights, on the west side of the hill, guarded from unwanted visitors by automatic gates. These homes are tall, white affairs, standing side by side but on slightly different levels, roofs outfitted in terra-cotta tile. Palms rise to differing heights; hedges and trees are kept impeccably clipped.

It’s up here in the Highlands, as the hill is known, that the turnover rate is a bit higher, Hill says. "Down in the lower parts, since they are simple, one-level homes, the people stayed until they passed away," she explains. "But up on the hill, some of them may have built their home in the late ’60s, early ’70s, and when their kids went to college, they ended up selling it and..."
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moving to something one level."

Young families are buying all over Del Cerro, both at the base of the hill and toward the top, says Hill. With Grossmont and Alvarado hospitals so close, some are doctors with spouses and children. The close-knit feel is what brings many of them in.

“Del Cerro has a lot of the trappings of a small community,” says Clyde Van Arsdall, owner of 3 Squares gourmet bistro, which, along with Windmill Farms grocery store, is located in the shopping center on Del Cerro Boulevard. “It was always a nice neighborhood, but a lot of those people that established this as a nicer neighborhood years ago have retired and are on fixed incomes, so the neighborhood is changing from older to younger as we sit here.”

Van Arsdall moved to Del Cerro, where his wife was raised, from Coronado and has had his business in Del Cerro for three and a half years. He has a five-year-old son and “one on the way,” who, he tells me, is due in a week.

“Being a business owner here I see young couples coming to the neighborhood constantly that are coming here for the first time,” he says, “and our presence here is sort of a work in progress. Our price points and the kinds of food that we offer are geared toward a more affluent, younger crowd. The older people in the neighborhood don’t get us as much as the younger people. People come in and say, ‘Oh, this place reminds me of some place you might see back East or in San Francisco.’ The older people come in here and say, ‘Eight dollars for a sandwich? That’s ridiculous,’ you know?”

But the times are changing, as more and more homes have been built up in the Highlands.

Donna Dose, a resident of the area since 1957 and manager of Del Cerro Park, remembers when her children had the run of the land, riding their bikes from her back yard three miles north to the foot of Cowles Mountain, now part of Mission Trails Regional Park. “There were no houses,” she remembers, “there...
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project, to be completed in stages, was originally proposed as a 540-unit complex at the end of Adobe Falls Road, which winds down the hill in the western section of Del Cerro, across College Avenue from the Highlands.

The Adobe Falls project became a topic of debate, with the Del Cerro Action Council leading a campaign, called Save Del Cerro, against it.

“Del Cerro’s principal concerns arise from the fact that the only ingress and egress for the large Adobe Falls Apartment/Townhome complex will run through the Del Cerro community,” reads the Save Del Cerro website. “This will add thousands of cars every day on quiet, winding residential streets (some of which are currently cul-de-sacs) and which can only enter the community by passing between two elementary schools.”

The support for Save Del Cerro is considerable, including several state senators and assemblymembers. In October 2005, the Del Cerro Action Council, Alvarado Hospital, and the City of San Diego each filed lawsuits, later consolidated, against the California State University trustees under the California Environmental Quality Act. There have been some victories. In September 2006, after a California Supreme Court decision on a case concerning a different campus, the university decided to decertify its Adobe Falls environmental impact report. In addition, the Del Cerro Action Council has had its attorneys’ fees covered in full. But this fight is far from over. The Save Del Cerro website reports that SDSU has put forth a new master plan and environmental impact report, proposing 48 units to be accessed from Mill Peak Road, up the hill, and 124 units to be built at the end of Adobe Falls Road, or a greater number if an alternative road can be developed.

While residents may suffer as a result of Adobe Falls development, local businesses will likely see a rise in consumer traffic. Van Arsdall, as both a resident and a business owner, sees both sides. “As someone who lives on Del Cerro Boulevard, I’m not really thrilled about the San Diego State project going in, because it means more cars going down my street,” he says. “However, as a business owner, I’ve got to say that it’s a nice prospect having somebody come in here that would be new to the community. It’s going to be condo-style living, and the new residents might utilize my shop, so I try to put a
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good spin on it as well.”

Impending Adobe Falls condos aside, Del Cerro remains a small community, family-oriented and safe. The Chevron gas station, on the corner of College and Del Cerro Boulevard, has been passed from father to son to grandson. Del Cerro Liquor and Robert’s Coiffures of Del Cerro have been in the area for decades. Other businesses have not lasted so long. Before the popular Windmill Farms, there had been a slew of failed grocery stores.

“There have been so many businesses that come and go, come and go, come and go,” says Baton, who rattles off a list of what has passed through: a five-and-dime, a video store, a jewelery, a bank, and a TV repair shop.

But one landmark has outlasted them all; this is Del Cerro Park and, with it, the Del Cerro pool. Hidden

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Gastric Bypass Surgery Informational Seminar
Time: 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Date: Monday, November 19, 2007
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behind a thicket of cacti, the private four-acre park stretches down a small hill to a couple of tennis courts, shaded cabanas, and the pool.

The pool is one of the oldest structures in Del Cerro. The land was given to the community by one of the early developers in the late ‘50s under the condition that it would be returned if Del Cerro residents could not raise the money to build the pool. Everyone swung into action. Dose, who has been the manager of the pool for the past ten years, remembers when it was still in its planning stages. “A group of men went door-to-door and asked people if they would be willing to donate, I believe it was $250 then, which was a lot more money than it is today,” she says, “and that’s the way it began.”

For the next 23 years, everything went well until, in the early ‘80s, the pool came under fire.

“In 1983, we received a letter that this property was no longer ours and that we had so long to leave,” Dose recalls.

It happened like this, says Dose: when the developer who had initially given the community the pool site to a Jewish Community Center in the area. The center rapidly informed the pool caretakers, Del Cerro Park’s board of directors, that they had very little time to pack their things and leave. The land had been sold.

It was then that the developers in the late ‘80s under the condition that it would be returned if Del Cerro residents could not raise the money to build the pool. Everyone swung into action. Dose, who has been the manager of the pool for the past ten years, remembers when it was still in its planning stages. “A group of men went door-to-door and asked people if they would be willing to donate, I believe it was $250 then, which was a lot more money than it is today,” she says, “and that’s the way it began.”

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Dose and the board took charge.

“I was involved with them in going to see one of their very prominent real estate attorneys about the problem,” she says. “He informed us that we might as well forget it. We didn’t stand a chance here.”

Dose and her posse were not about to give up, and they hired a lawyer and filed suit.

“We went to court,” says Dose. “We had an older judge that reviewed all this information, and he said, ‘I’m not going to make a decision right now. I want to take time to do this. It will take me some time.’ After six months, the decision was made by him that [the Del Cerro community] had worked very hard to establish this, and he felt there was something illegal that had been done.” She smiles.

“So the property is now ours.”

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<th>Procedure</th>
<th>Upper Lip</th>
<th>Lower Legs</th>
<th>Full Face</th>
<th>Upper Legs</th>
<th>Brazilian</th>
<th>Full Legs</th>
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<td>Upper Lip</td>
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With this coupon. First-time patients only. Visit us at www.sabrees.com for other specials. Offer expires November 30, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.

Abi’s Skin Center
Free Facial

Bare Skincare
Free Bamboo Spa

Bee Tan Salon
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Fame Haras, 200 ZOOM Advanced $169

Hollywood Tan One Free HT60 tan Dr. Robert M. Howard Eyewear Plus 6 yr. contacts for $139

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I.S.N.$94.95 super special

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Kayus Clinic2-bun laser treatment

Krostop1 hour massage $49

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L.J. Center for Facial Plastic Surgery Botas Tues. 20% off

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Lasing Beauty20% off permanent makeup

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Lumineux Medical Spa Free Liposuction

Massage Envy1 hour massage $39

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Optimum Condition2 for 1 personal training

Oriental 1 SpaHair removal $25

Optimum Condition2 for 1 personal training

Oriental 1 SpaHair removal $25

Optimum Condition2 for 1 personal training

Oriental 1 SpaHair removal $25

Optimum Condition2 for 1 personal training

Oriental 1 SpaHair removal $25

Optimum Condition2 for 1 personal training

Oriental 1 SpaHair removal $25
For all their hard work, however, there is one “big issue” the community association cannot tackle: the SDSU Adobe Falls development. “If there’s anything that happens in Del Cerro, the Del Cerro Community Association will take part in it,” says Dose. “We cannot on this issue, because we have several members who are professors. So we can’t take sides on this at all.”

“The community association and the pool association are apolitical,” adds Baton. “To my knowledge, we have never taken a political stand. And because we are a membership organization, obviously our members could have very diverse views on any particular issue.”

Whatever may happen in and to Del Cerro — a change in demographics, a bulge in population — the appeal has, if anything, grown. “I think one of the more positive things you can say about Del Cerro is that, as a community, I know numbers of people who are on their second and third homes within Del Cerro,” says Mary Baton. “I know numbers of people who have added on to their homes so that they could stay here, and we have a number of second-generation families moving in.”

She pauses. “So all of that, I think, speaks well for a community.”

— Rosa Jurjevics

### Neighborhood by the Numbers

**Boundaries**
- North: ...........................................................Navajo Road
- South: .............................................................Interstate 8
- East: .................................................................Lake Murray/Park Ridge Boulevard
- West: .............................................................Navajo Road/Navajo Canyon Open Space Park

**Demographics**
- Population: ..................................................10,459
- Male: ...............................................................48%
- Female: ............................................................52%
- White: .............................................................79.3%
- Hispanic: ..........................................................8.9%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: .....................................5.3%
- Black: ..............................................................3.2%
- Native American: ...........................................0.2%
- Other: .............................................................3.1%

**School Statistics**
- California Standards Test, English-Language Arts, 2007 results:
  - Grade 5, statewide average: 44% proficient or average
  - Grade 8, statewide average: 41% proficient or average

### 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: SDRreader.com/health

**Extension 7010 Abdominoplasty/Tummy Tuck**
1. What is abdominoplasty?
2. Full vs. mini vs. liposuction
3. Surgery
4. Risks & side effects
5. Recovery

**Extension 7070 Botox**
1. What is Botox?
2. Botox & wrinkles
3. Effects of Botox
4. How much does it cost?

**Extension 7040 Breast Surgery**
1. Breast augmentation
2. Silicone vs. saline implants
3. Breast lift
4. Breast reduction
5. Male breast reduction

**Extension 7100 Cosmetic Dentistry**
1. About our office
2. Implants, dentures & partials
3. Invisalign, the clear straightener
4. Veneers & teeth whitening
5. Crowns, bridges & surgeries

**Extension 7090 EyeSculpture**
1. What is it?
2. How it works
3. Initial steps
4. Future weight gain
5. Best candidates

**Extension 7160 Tanning**
1. About us
2. Benefits of tanning
3. UV-free instant tan
4. Vertical booths vs. bed
5. Hollywood Tan membership

**Extension 7050 Weight Loss**
1. What should I eat?
2. How much can I lose?
3. Body Mass Index (BMI)
4. Is the Atkins diet safe?
5. Exercise: How much?

**Extension 7000 Hollywood Tans**
- 7 locations in San Diego & N. County. Call toll-free for the one nearest you.
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- 477 N. El Camino Real, Suite A-210, Encinitas
- 760-844-4211
dentistry.

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- 9830 Genesee Ave. #500 La Jolla
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- 8930 University Center Lane—La Jolla
- And now also in The Village of La Jolla
LETTERS

continued from page 12

of incompetence as a crack smoker, and did that incompetence help him to survive? Mr. Laurence J. Peter, inventor of the Peter Principle (may God rest his soul), is probably rolling over in his grave at the thought of this. And the beat goes on.

Perspective of a retired drug agent

San Diego

God-Haters Miss The Point

The “Perfect Drought” (Cover Story, October 18) examined many suspected natural and man-made reasons for it, and all very interesting; however, many of us suspect the true cause was missed entirely for reasons unacceptable to the God haters, henceforth, a possible biblical explanation.

From Psalm 147: “Praise ye the Lord — Who covereth the heavens with clouds, Who prepareth rain for the earth, Who maketh grass to grow —. He giveth snow like wool. He causeth it to snow on the hills: He sendeth his wind upon the waters: and they shall be dried up, for it is the land of drought. He causeth the grass to grow —. He giveth...”

In short, rain is a product of drought, and drought is a product of wind. So when the wind is driven out of the land, there is no rain, and when there is no rain, grass does not grow. Without a doubt, this is the cause of the drought.

In all fairness, necessary evil could be a valid reason; however, making a statement about the USA’s role in old Babylon, with the USA’s lot being decided by some unknown government and the citizens of the USA being without any control over their own lives, or being subject to the whims of the U.S. government, is scary. We live in a world where the decisions we make today will affect tomorrow.

In light of this, I present my argument. If the USA had done what it was commanded, without any influence from any other country or the world, the USA would elect a new government, and this would effect it as it is an election year. If the USA had not done what it was commanded, the USA would elect a new government, and this would effect it as it is an election year. Therefore, the USA would elect a new government, and this would effect it as it is an election year.

As an example, the USA would elect a new government, and this would effect it as it is an election year. Therefore, the USA would elect a new government, and this would effect it as it is an election year.

While supplies last.

Expires 11/30/07.

Published November 7

Posted by Kazzie on 11/8/07, 12:55 a.m.

I have lived in Germany for 15 years now, but when I put my toes in the sand at Moonlight Beach, I know that it’s home. On a visit 4 years ago, while I was hoping the USA would elect a new government, I realized why Californians are so complacent - you’ve got it too good. Who cares about the affects the USA has on the rest of the world when you’ve got all that sun and surf.

Remote Control King

Published November 7

Posted by EDizzle on 11/9/07, 12:55 a.m.

When you buy any two Luco brews (Leviticus chapters 18, 20, 26; and Deuteronomy chapters 18 and 28) you get one Luco Travel Kit free. (Excludes crown)

Expires 11/22/07.

Kazzie
Patterns, Poems
An Evening of Musical Shakespeare

Poetry is somewhere between singing and speaking,” says neurologist Ani Patel. “It’s using the voice in a regulated way, with pitch and time. The Iliad and the Odyssey, before they were written down, were transmitted orally — patterns have tremendous pneumonic power.”

On Monday, November 19, the Neurosciences Institute will host “A Musical Shakespeare Evening,” presented by the San Diego Shakespeare Society. One scene to be performed is from Othello, in which Desdemona sings the “Willow Song.” “We’re trying to show how song is used for dramatic effect,” says Vanessa Dinning, artistic director for the Shakespeare Society. Dinning explains that music in theater is used as a device to dramatically highlight a scene. “She’s singing a song her mother’s maid used to sing about death. It’s very sad, but it’s also ironic — she says, ‘the song won’t go from my mind this night,’ but it’s the night she’s going to get murdered, but she doesn’t know that.”

“Shakespeare had a wonderfully talented use of rhythm, imagery, and auditory patterns,” says Patel, whose new book, Music, Language, and the Brain, was released last week. “The fact that it’s rhythm is very important because that helps us remember poems and patterns.” Listening to music, Patel explains, “uses many different levels of brain structure simultaneously — the rhythm gives predictability and time, and the melody gives it a temporal organization in terms of chunks that flow logically from one to the next. They connect almost like a puzzle — each part of the melody has cues that set up expectations of the next part. When we speak, we don’t remember the exact words, just the gist of what someone said, but with songs, we remember every word because it uses all these other levels of the brain. Like a mental chain, it creates a structure — once you put words in, it makes the sequence of words easier to remember.”

Because many different areas of the brain are used in conjunction to process the combination of melody and rhythm, people with brain damage may retain the ability to understand and remember music. One famous case is that of Clive Wearing, a conductor and musicologist who, in 1985, suffered brain damage after contracting encephalitis (an infection that causes the brain to swell). Wearing was left with a severe case of amnesia. Because of the extremity of his case, Wearing has been the focus of many studies. In an article for New Yorker magazine, neurologist Oliver Sacks writes, “Clive’s amnesia not only destroyed his ability to retain new memories, it deleted almost all of his earlier memories.” Yet when a piece of music is placed before Wearing, he is able to play it on the piano without error. Like his memory of his wife, which remains intact, Wearing has what Patel refers to as “emotional memory” of music, “one of the deepest and least understood.”

To many neurologists it appears that memories (Freud called this infantile amnesia), deep emotional memories or associations are nevertheless being made in the limbic system and other regions of the brain where emotions are represented — and these emotional memories may determine one’s behavior for a lifetime.

Patel explains that, according to a recent study by one of his colleagues, an early love of music was often traceable to a memory of a positive experience. “It was never a music lesson, but always some event with the family — at home or in a church — when music reached them deeply in a loving environment.” Music learned early in life may be used as a tool to heal certain mental illnesses later in life. “It was recently documented that a patient with advanced Alzheimer’s — someone who cannot recognize her own family — can recognize songs and detect when an error is inserted into a song she knew,” Patel explains, adding that there is growing evidence that musical training can enhance one’s ability to pick up a foreign language.

The performance at the institute will include acting, singing, and dancing. “In this case, it’s inspiration from the plays,” says Dinning. Scenes from movies, plays, and ballets based on Shakespeare’s work will be presented, including a song from Boys of Syracuse (written by Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart in 1938), the first musical to be based on a Shakespeare play; the song “Tonight” from the movie West Side Story; and a pas de deux (ballet duet) from Sergei Prokofiev’s Romeo and Juliet.

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

BAJA
Hispanic-American Guitar Festival continues at Centro Caligráfico Tijuana with concert by Duo Eurasia, hailing from Spain and Vietnam, on Thursday, November 15; $15. Glamia la Diva of Basilia takes stage on Friday, November 16; $15. Final concert is Saturday, November 17, by Genia y Figura del Flamenco from Spain; $25. Performances begin at 8 p.m. at Paso de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Rico. 011-52-664-887-9636. (TIJUANA)

SOLUCIÓN MORTAL, Tijuana No, Calavara, and other rock bands in concert, Friday, November 16, 7 p.m., at Multikulti (at Avenida Constitución and 7th Street). 8. 011-52-664-880-2631. (TIJUANA)

La Casada MotoCross Series competition continues on Saturday, November 17, 8 a.m., at La Casada Resort. 619-819-6323. (BASS BEACH)

Bruno Bichi's Comedy La Historia del Tigre presented Sunday, November 18, 6 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paso de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Rico). Tickets: $18, $20 U.S. 011-52-664-887-9636. (TIJUANA)

¿Por Que los Hombres Aman a las Cabronas? Comedy presented Monday and Tuesday, November 19 and 20, at 7 and 9:30 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paso de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Rico). 845 U.S. 011-52-664-887-9636. (TIJUANA)

Music by Franz Schubert may be heard when Orchestra of Baja California is joined by pianist Daniel Nobl in concert, Thursday, November 22, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paso de los Héroes and Mina Street). 15 U.S. 011-52-664-887-9636. (TIJUANA)

Renaissance Airs promised when Windwood Ensemble of UAIRC School of Arts performs Wednesday, November 21, 7 p.m., at Centro Estatal de las Artes (CEARTE), at Boulevard Costero and Calle Riviera). 011-52-646-176-3055, 011-52-646-177-1195. (TIJUANA)

OUDOORS
November’s and December’s picturesque sunsets and sunrises are no accident. This is the time of year when high cirrus clouds, often the precursors of storms, sweep through our area with some regularity. When cirrus or other lowly clouds are present, low-angle sunlight bathe the underside of these clouds in a crimson luminescence. This effect is most noticeable a half hour to a few minutes before the sun rises and a few minutes to a half hour after the sun sets.

Roaming Tarantula Spiders are occasionally seen this time of year crossing rural roads or marching through some of San Diego’s canyon-bordering neighborhoods. Doggedly searching for a mate, a male will try to hold its course despite your best efforts to distract or hinder him. Male in temperature, most tarantulas will tolerate gentle handling, they may bite, however, if provoked. Despite their fearsome reputation, tarantula venom is less powerful than a bee’s.

The Fremont Cottonwoods along the San Diego River in Mission Gorge are now showing their best tawny foliage. You can park at the Old Mission Dam historic site or the Mission Trails Regional Park visitors’ center and explore the riparian area by way of river trails, or by walking, bike riding, or skaking along the bike path high above the river’s south and east banks. Large cottonwoods can also be seen along other watercourses throughout the San Diego County backcountry, including along the Sweetwater River near Cottonwood Golf Course, and in Cottonwood Valley, east of Pine Valley along Interstate 8.

The Annual Leonid Meteor Shower, famous for its outbursts over the period 1998-2002, has now settled down to a modest display of only about 10 to 20 visible events per hour (as seen under clear, dark skies). This year the peak period is this weekend, November 17-18. Viewing conditions will improve after midnight, as soon as the first-quarter moon sets. All Leonid meteors appear to radiate from the constellation of Leo, which currently lies high in the south at dawn.

Explore East Village and warehouse district during Walkabout on Saturday, November 17. Moderately paced walk over flat sidewalk terrain starts at 7:30 a.m. at Albertsons (655 14th Street). Free. Optional coffee follows (bring money). 619-231-7465. (EAST VILLAGE)

Tents, Black Skimmers, shorebirds, gulls, ducks should be evident when Audubon Society birders head to San Diego River Estuary on Saturday, November 17, 8 a.m. Free. Directions: 619-692-3246. (TIJUANA)

Great Escapes
619-235-8200 TO PLACE AN AD

Cupid’s Castle B&B
Fairytale castle near Hamilton’s Casino. 4 chambers with Jacuzzis, balconies, TVs, bathrooms, chocolates, pool table, breakfast, snacks. Voted most romantic getaway. Near wineries. Wedding facility: 760-742-3386. www.cupscaastlesandbnd.com

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For a relaxing getaway, we have cabins from $74 plus tax! Southern California’s 2nd boldest secret-200+ in the sky! 11 individual log cabins, fireplaces, kitchens. Reservations: Waldtraves Lodge, 951-659-2787, www.liquidskate.com

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Wind & Sea Red and Breakfast invites you to come relax, reenergize and enjoy a commanding view of the Pacific Ocean. Sleep in the ocean front and awake to your gourmet breakfast. 888-436-6665, www.lajollaoyceanfrontbedandbreakfast.com

Big Bear Cool Cabins
Cabin or fancy home rental or a room in the lake. Firepits, BBQ, TV, kitchen, hot tub and more. Professional housekeeping, towels, and linens are included. Pet-friendly. Check rates and book online: www.bigbearcoolcabins.com or 800-550-8779.

Out & About
“ECSTASY OF THE WHIRLING DERVISHES”
Friday, November 16, Mandeville Auditorium.
(SEE DANCE)

$12/Person Catalina Getaway
Roundtrip cruise for 2, £1 night Hotel, £2 dinner or boat tours for couples who qualify and attend a 2 hour tour and vacation ownership presentation near home. No obligation. Call 7 days, 7am-7pm. Bonus gift card for 1st 500 800-718-8150 x3

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Come and enjoy at Festival Plaza our full promotion! Stay 3 nights, get 1 night free. 10-15% off when you stay 2 nights. Mention this ad. Expires 12/20/07. Excludes holidays/special events. 1-800-453-8606, reservations@hotelfestivalplaza.com

Rosarito Beach Hotel
Family Vacation Package: $169
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THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

FIFTH ANNUAL
SAN DIEGO ARTS FESTIVAL

Meet 200 of America's best Contemporary Craftspeople & Fine Artists offering their original works in all price ranges. One-of-a-Kind Holiday Gifts!

Enjoy Main Stage & Strolling Holiday Entertainment!
Food & Drink! Wonderful Fun!

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SAN DIEGO CONVENTION CENTER

Entrance at 111 West Harbor Drive Friday & Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 10am-5pm
Tickets at the Door- $8 Adults, $7 Seniors, Children Under 12 Free
Information: www.americanartfestivals.com or 805-461-6700
Bring a can of food for the Salvation Army and receive $1 off regular admission price

Discount coupons available at all participating locations.

Present For $1 Off One Adult Admission NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER.
**A GUIDE TO UNEXPECTED SAN DIEGO AND BEYOND | BY JERRY SCHAD**

Although relatively unknown among hikers, the Piru Creek gorge offers a rugged wilderness experience less than one hour’s drive away from L.A.’s northern suburbs. In 1992 the 220,000 acre Sespe Wilderness was carved out of lands lying mostly west of Piru Creek. This spacious wilderness area includes the Sespe Con- trolled (closed to all recreational use), where California condors raised in captive breeding programs have been released into the wild.

Experienced hikers/backpackers can mount a two-day expedition down along Piru Creek, which involves almost no true climbing but rather many miles of riverbank walking and foot-wetting creek crossings. The area was blackened by the October 2007 Ranch Fire, so it is imper-ative that you contact Los Padres National Forest (805-646-4348) for the latest information about whether the Piru Creek route is accessible and legally open to foot travel. Also, check on your conditions, wilderness area rules, and logistics. If the water in the creek is flowing too fast, you will want to postpone your trip.

To reach the starting point from Interstate 5, take the Templin Highway exit and drive up the westside frontage road (old Highway 99) to a point two miles past Oak Flat Campground’s entrance. There you’ll find Frenchnman’s Flat (elevation 2050 feet) — a large, deep, op-erated parking area behind the oak flats. Conditions can change rapidly. Hikers should be properly equipped and have safety and navigational skills. The Reader and Jerry Schad assume no re-ponsibility for any adverse experience.

**PIRU CREEK**

Remote Piru Creek, in the Los Padres National Forest north of Los Angeles, offers a challenging wilderness experience. Distance from downtown San Diego: 170 miles

**Hiking length: 21 miles**

**Difficulty:** Strenuous (overnight backpack trip)

information about a publicly owned recreation or wilder-ness area. Trails and path-ways are not necessarily marked. Conditions can change rapidly. Hikers should be properly equipped and have safety and navigational skills. The Reader and Jerry Schad assume no reponsibility for any adverse experience.

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**ROAM-O-RAMA**

**ROMANTIC MOUNTAIN GETAWAY**

**Next best thing to driving a Ferrari...**

**One Free Race!**

With purchase of race. Valid for up to 4 people.

Valid Monday-Friday except holiday. Must present ad.

Not applicable for group reservations. Limit of one free race per customer. Some restrictions apply. Expires 12/14/17.

• 40-mph karts

• Up to 13 drivers racing wheel-to-wheel

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**Swingin’ 60s Holiday Dance**

Singles and couples of all ages, abilities. $7. 760-525-5124.

---

**Sweatheart Package**

Sundays: Breakfast for 2, bedroom for 2, romantic mountain getaway, and horseback riding for $159.

---

**Hustle and Nightclub Mix Dance Party**

Saturday, November 17, at Pattie Wells Dance Hall (1255 West Moreno Boulevard). Hustle lesson at 8 p.m. Open dancing for singles and couples of all ages. $15. 760-525-4322.

---

**Romantic Mountain Getaway**

Overnight price for two people

Sunday-Friday: 1 night, breakfast for 2 • $129

---

**Weekend Specials**

2 nights (Fri. & Sat.), breakfast for 2 • $258

---

**Southwestern Dinner and Bed**

2-night weekend package with dinner and massage

one night or horseback riding • $338

---

**USA Dance Party with wide va-riety of music, third Saturday of each month, including November 17, at Cheek2Cheek (909 Grand Avenue, suite 3). Lessons at 7 p.m., dancing 8 to 11 p.m. All ages, abilities. $7. 760-525-3124.

---

**NUTTY ALREADY?**

The junior bal-let ensemble presents selections from The Nutcracker on Saturday, November 17, 2 p.m., at Perform- ing Arts Workshop (1105 2nd Street). Free. 760-753-2671.

**Great Mountain Getaway**

With purchase of race. Valid for up to 4 people. Valid Monday-Friday except holiday. Must present ad.

Not applicable for group reservations. Limit of one free race per customer. Some restrictions apply. Expires 12/14/17.

• 40-mph karts

• Up to 13 drivers racing wheel-to-wheel

**DANCE**

**Get Your Groove On!**

 Newest dance steps taught by instruc- tors/_density Prince on Thursdays at Dancing Unlimited (4569 30th Street). Beginners at 7-9 p.m., in- intermediate/advanced 8:30 p.m. $10 per class, $35 for four. 858-635-1211, Gwen Rotter.

Bellydance Showcase on Saturday, November 17, 8 p.m., Claire de Lune Cafe (2906 University Avenue). Donation: $5. 619-688- 9845. Live Oak Springs Resort.
FANTASTIC ADVENTURES

Holiday Flight Tickets on Sale Now!

Sky Sailing offers a variety of breathtaking scenic sailplane rides. The adventure begins as you slip into the sleek sailplane for an experience you will remember forever. You will be treated to a gentle, tranquil ride or a roller-coaster ride—whichever you prefer— at no extra charge. All our pilots are FAA-certified commercial pilots. Rides for two start at $70 per person. If you think that special someone would like to take the controls and handle most of the flight, then an Introductory Lesson (starting at $110) is just the ticket.

Ask about our wing-mounted camera pictures.

Ask about our special holiday discount for flight tickets.

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guests and someone's wallet. 619-235-8200.


Viva Cuba — 5:30 p.m., when local wine will be served. New program will offer overview of Great Cuba and a sampling of Cuban food. For ages 12 and up. $35. 858-755-7133.

The Water Conservation Garden's annual meeting, celebrating the garden's past year, is Thursday, November 15, 11:30 a.m. Free. Registration: 619-278-5724. (KEENNY MESA)

Lectures

“San Diego in Perspective,” an exhibit of “process paintings” by Bill Mosley begins with artist talks, Thursday, November 15, 6-9 p.m., in studio 106 of Art Union (GOLDEN HILL) .

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening the IMAX Summer Exhibit, “Dinosaurs Alive, The Living Sea.” Fridays at the Fleet explores personal adventures and artistic benefits experienced by Dutch and Flemish artists on sojourns (1550-1700) during Art in the Afternoon. 

Museum. Free. 619-239-5548 x15. (BAJON PARK)

“Managing Your Credit” is topic at San Diego Metropolitan Credit Union (9212 Balboa Avenue). Included in regular admission. 858-454-3541.

The Word Within the Word,” drop-in writing workshops led by author, creativity coach, humorist Jill Badonkey on third Thursday of each month, including November 15, 7 p.m., at Book Works (Flower Hill Promenade, 2670 Via de la Valle). Prompts, triggers, tricks to “make your creative writing easier.” All levels. 813- 760-434-3436. (CEL MAR)

Celebrate the Arrival of Beau- 

jolais Nouveau when local wine expert Barbara Baxter speaks Thursday, November 15, 7:30 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Fee: reservations: 858-454-3582. (LA JOLLA)

“Expressionism in Art and Music” — Nicolas Rebêles, San Diego Opera director of education, speaks for guest lecture series at San Diego Museum of Art on Friday, November 16, 10 a.m. $12. 619-232-7931. (BAJON PARK)

“Unpublished and Not Yet Ripped Off,” workshop by San Diego Rebuild for local fire victims, Friday, November 16, 2:30-7 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Work- shops by “legitimate and licensed construction contractors, material suppliers and attorneys along with tax and lend- ing professionals.” Free. 619-955-6879. (ESCONDIDO)

“Navigating the Tides: The Future of the San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve” divulged by conserv- 

dcy, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Free. 619-268-4030.

Imagining San Diego — 5:30 p.m., at the La Jolla Library. Free. 858-453-5338.

“Jellico” — 7 p.m., at the La Jolla Library. Free. 858-453-5338.

The Sound Wave Conservation Gard- en's annual meeting, celebrating garden’s past year, is Thursday, November 15, 11:30 a.m. Free. Registration: 619-278-5724. (KEENNY MESA)

“Spirit of the Latino Warrior” (1950), a documentary film, is screened at noon Thursday, November 15, in room 3601. Free. 760-510-9472.

San Diego History Center, 1260 Park Drive. Free admission when local wine will be served. New program will offer overview of Great Cuba and a sampling of Cuban food. For ages 12 and up. $35. 858-755-7133.

The Word Within the Word,” drop-in writing workshops led by author, creativity coach, humorist Jill Badonkey on third Thursday of each month, including November 15, 7 p.m., at Book Works (Flower Hill Promenade, 2670 Via de la Valle). Prompts, triggers, tricks to “make your creative writing easier.” All levels. 813-760-434-3436. (CEL MAR)

Les Ballet Jazz de Montréal demonstrates the physicality of dance in new ways at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard) on Sunday, November 18, 7 p.m. Tickets are sold by Louis Rollick. Tickets: 833-850-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

FILM

“Latino Warrior: An American Hero” — exhibit created by Gregg Nevarez offers “historical perspective of the incredible con- 

victions, sacrifices, and values of

Latinos since the Revolutionary War.” Exhibit opens Wednesday, November 14, and continues through November in MiraCosta College Library (One Barnard Drive).

Nevarez will be on hand for screening of documentary The Spirit of the Latino Warrior at noon Thursday, November 15, in Atlan ATR. Screening also is slated for Saturday, November 17, 6 p.m., in MiraCosta Little Theatre (room 3601). Free. 760-510-9472. (ESCONDIDO)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening the IMAX Summer Exhibit, “Dinosaurs Alive, The Living Sea.” Fridays at the Fleet explores personal adventures and artistic benefits experienced by Dutch and Flemish artists on sojourns (1550-1700) during Art in the Afternoon. 

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assisted Audrey Sharpe present “Rescue Me: Delegate Non-Writing Tasks to Increase Your Productivity” in afternoon. $35. 619-741-9114. (MISSION VALLEY)

Make a Holiday Wreath from a grapevine wreath base and embellish it when Arne Carver leads program, Saturday, November 17, 10 a.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. $65 fee includes materials. 619-255-0203. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Rescue Task Force president, founder Gary Becks discusses his “international nonprofit organization that provides food, medical supplies and support to victims of natural and man-made disasters” for Clairemont Republican Women Federated, Saturday, November 17, 10 a.m., in Clairemont Community Center (4731 Clairemont Drive, at Lakehurst Avenue). Free. 858-273-3259. (CLAREMONT)

Bookbinding Demonstration planned by bookbinder Edna Wright for Clairemont Art Guild, Saturday, November 17, 12:30 p.m., at Holy Cross Lutheran Church (3450 Clairemont Drive). Free. 858-273-3259. (CLAREMONT)

“Architecture and Gardens of Ancient Japan” are focus for illustrated lecture by historian Clare Radulovich, Sunday, November 18, at Dance Place San Diego in NYC Promenade (2680 Traviston Road). Authentic Movement is described as “physical practice of self-inquiry and expression...after moving, movers and witnesses gather together to reflect upon and integrate experience through verbal language.”

No prior movement experience necessary. Required newcomers’ introductory workshop 1–1:30 p.m. ($5); workshop 1:30–4 p.m. ($33 at door). Required reservations: 619-822-5761. (POMA LIMA)

Where Does Humanist Morality Come From? Have the answer to this question and others when Roy Murphy Jr., speaking, Glenn Steckling will focus on “shamanism and rock art, outlining the ways we can use shamanism to give insight into rock art images while avoiding the pitfalls of an oversimplified shamanistic model” for 12 O’Clock Scholar program at San Diego Museum of Man on Monday, November 19, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

“Irrigation Design for Water-Wise Gardens” is topic on Monday, November 19, 3 p.m., in Cuyamaca College’s Water Conservation Garden (21222 Cuyamaca College Drive West). Design principles for overhead sprinklers and drip irrigation. $15. Reservations: 619-660-0614 x410. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

“The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls”—slideshow illustrated by Jodi Magness, from department of religious studies at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Monday, November 19, 6:30 and 8 p.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. $25. Suggested reservations: 619-255-0203. (SAN MARCOS)

“Internet for the Absolute Beginner” taught at Poway Library (13137 Poway Road) on Tuesday, November 20, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Participants must have current county library card, be familiar with use of computer mouse. Free. Reservations: 619-513-2900. (TORNADO)

Last-Minute Holiday Recipes presented by Chef Joey, Tuesday, November 20, 1 and 6:30 p.m., at Bloomington’s San Diego at Fashion Valley (7057 Friars Road). Free. 619-410-6400. (MISSION VALLEY)

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Gourmet Art “taught by Carol Lang on Sunday, November 18, noon–5 p.m., at OceanSide Museum of Art School of Art (219 North Coast Highway). Expect instruction on cleaning, cutting, papercutting, coloring, and embellishing “your own one-of-a-kind gourd.” Students may make a bowl, birdhouse, or covered container; demonstration of use of basket-weaving techniques for decorating gourds included. For all levels of experience. Fee; $80, plus $112 materials fee. Registration: 760-721-2787. (DEL MAR)

“Authentic Movement” Workshop led by Elana Uretsky and Jessica Radulovich, Sunday, November 18, at Dance Place San Diego in NYC Promenade (2680 Traviston Road). Authentic Movement is described as “physical practice of self-inquiry and expression...after moving, movers and witnesses gather together to reflect upon and integrate experience through verbal language.”

No prior movement experience necessary. Required newcomers’ introductory workshop 1–1:30 p.m. ($5); workshop 1:30–4 p.m. ($33 at door). Required reservations: 619-822-5761. (POMALIMA)

“Hypnosis: Clearing Up Myth and Misconception” certified hypnotist Paul Furr plans discussion, Saturday, November 17, 1:30 p.m., in room 111A of Chancellor’s Complex at UCSD. Free. 760-751-3094. (LA JOLLA)

“Rituality” Gallery Talk by curators of exhibit, Saturday, November 17, 2 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (1340 North Escondido Boulevard). Included in museum admission. 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

San Diego Chinese Music Ensemble and New Tang Dynasty Dance Team perform for Concert Hour performance, Thursday, November 15, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. 760-744-1350 x2316. (SAN MARCOS)

Jamaican Poet Claudia Rankine plans spoken-word performance, Thursday, November 15, 6 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art; $10 general. 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

A Medieval Demon narrates Clive Barker’s adult horror novel Mister R. Gone, which he’ll discuss and sign, Thursday, November 15, 6:30 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7035 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Free. 858-268-4747. (HEAVEN MESA)

He’s a “Featured Teacher” in movie version of The Secret, and Michael Bernard Beckwith shares his “life visioning process,” Thursday, November 15, 6:45 p.m., at Unity Center (8999 Activity Road). $39.99. 619-544-9700. (POMA LIMA)

Former White House Counsel John Dean discusses his new book, Broken Government: How Republican Rule Destroyed the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Branches, Thursday, November 15, 7 p.m., at Escondido Library (239 South Kalmina Street). Free. 760-836-4684. (ESCONDIDO)

Independent Journalist Dahr Jamail discusses his new book, Beyond the Green Zone: Dispatches from an Unembedded Journalist in Iraq, Thursday, November 15, 7:30 p.m., at Oceanside Museum of Art; $10 general. 619-587-0103. (MISSION VALLEY)

IN PERSON

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What’s That You’re Writing?

NAME: JOHN MOOD | AGE: 75 | OCCUPATION: RETIRED/WRITER
NEIGHBORHOOD: OCEAN BEACH | WHERE INTERVIEWED: AT HIS HOME

What are you writing?

“I have a new book out called Rilke on Death and Other Oddities. Rainer Maria Rilke was a German-language poet who lived from 1875 to 1926. I’ve been reading him for half a century.”

Why did you write it?

“My first book on Rilke was published in 1975 — Rilke on Love and Other Difficulties. On the last page of that book, I said that another book was needed for me to find the words about Rilke on death. Several decades later, I’ve found them. Rilke first attracted me because he talked about death in a way that made sense for me. I used to have anxiety attacks in the middle of the night: ‘I’d wake up shivering. I’m much more sanguine about death now.’

Could you summarize the book?

“One of Rilke’s masterpieces is the 860-line poem Duines Ele- gies. The first line is ‘Who, if I cried out, would hear me among the angels?’ There is this sense of terror, but you don’t know what he’s terrified about. He doesn’t say until the beginning of the ninth elegy, near the end of the poem. By then, he is able to say ‘Yes’ to each life and death. He is able to see death as an old friend. That’s partly because, after ten years, he had completed the poem, the one that made him into a poet. I think that after that, he was a little happier with his old friend.

“I wasn’t able to see death that way until I met my wife Stephanie and we established a relationship. Because for me, and for Rilke, love and death spring from the same source. By love, Rilke and I mean sexual love. We don’t have bodies — we are bodies. We have sex and we die. One makes up for the other.

“About death, Rilke wrote in a letter, ‘Affirmation of life-and-death appears as one in the Elegies. Death is the side of life averted from us, unshone upon by us...like the moon.’ Life and death are two sides of the same coin. For Rilke, if one doesn’t affirm both, one isn’t affirming at all, but picking and choosing. My book gives a selection from his letters concerning death, a chapter on the popularity of Rilke in America (nine Hollywood movies have included his poetry), and a chapter on scientific accu-
racy, which was very important to him. And a chapter on his use of humor. ‘Rilke’s approach to death was that of a poet. He said you have to die your own death, just like you have to live your own life. When Rilke was dying of leukemia, he did not even want to know the name of the disease. For him, knowing would have meant that he was dying the disease of leukemia — the disease, rather than his own death.’

Do you have a favorite passage?

“Yes, the beginning of the ninth elegy: ‘Being-here is much, and all this here, which disappears so, seems to need us and strangely concerns us. Us, the most disap-
ppearing. Once each, only once. Once and no more. And we too, once. Never again, but this having been once, even if only once: ‘Having been of the earth, seems irrevocable.’

Why should someone read this?

“If one thinks about death and what it means, I think Rilke is for that person. If you enjoy dazzling, metaphor-rich poetry, you’ll enjoy Rilke.”

The Electrician opens ($15, $20). Eliza Gilkyson takes stage on Sunday, November 18 ($18, $22). Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4600 Manfield Street), 619-303-8176. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Latin Harp Night promises music by Cesar Daniel and Jose Smith, Saturday, November 17, 7:30 p.m., at San Diego Folk Heritage concert: $15. 858-566- 4040. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Tribalization: A World-Wide Storytelling Celebration slated for Saturday, November 17, hosted by Storytellers of San Diego at 7:30 p.m. in Manchester Conference Center at University of San Diego (5998 Alcala Park). Jim
Del Mar Warehouse Sale

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Thurs-Sat: 9am - 7pm
Sunday: 9am - 5pm

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Conscious Comedy Explosion! Stand-up comedy and voice over artist Strower performs for “70’s in 1.” Saturday, November 17, at Chopstix Habana. A Taste of Cuba (7777 University Avenue). Cuban dining: 8 p.m.; comedy show: 9–11 p.m. Tickets: $8 in advance, $10 at door. Reservations: 619-819-7388. (LA MESA)

Country Music Troubadour, Songwriter Clint Black takes stage, Saturday, November 17, at 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Black is a ten-time platinum-selling artist. Tickets: 571-5105. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

Dancers, Comics, Accordion Player, clown, magician, singer— all night long! at North Park Vauudole Shows, November 17 and 18, at North Park Vauudole and Comedy Shoppe (2011 El Cajon Boulevard). Performances begin at 8 p.m. on Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. 514. Recommended reservations: 619-220-8663. (escondido)

“Godspell” — this musical interpretation of the Gospel of Matthew is presented by St. John of the Cross Art, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Escondido Boulevard). Performances range from the funny to the frightening.” Suitable for adults, ranging from the funny to the frightening. “Learn what music meant to a Shakespearean audience and how the Bard’s works have inspired others over the centuries to produce musicals, operas, ballets.” Jonathan McMurray and Rosina Reynolds will share thoughts on Shakespeare; performances by members of San Diego Ballet, Bill Nolan, Victoria Mature, Amy Riddle, Yos Nel, Dance of the Weeds, San Diego Civic Dance Company, Leigh Scarritt Productions, Antonio 7:30. Jon- som, others. Evening begins at 7:30 p.m. at Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive) $20 general. 619-246-8735. (LA JUNA)

Marquette University professor and National Geographic Off the Beaten Path author Kent MacLaine (piano), Sunday, November 18, 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Her most recent CD is “Tranquil Light,” a jazz and rhythm and blues-influenced work. Tickets: $45-$60. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

Read the Poem You Wrote or One You Love

I-5045

Special program led by Margie Stinson for All Christians, Monday, November 19, starting at 6 and 7:30 p.m. in Smith Recital Hall at San Diego State University. 619-594- 0575. (escondido)

“Amish Grace.” David L. Weaver-Zercher visits San Diego Public Library (820 E Street) to discuss his book co-authored focusing on an Amish community’s ability to forgive gunman’s family after school shooting in 2006, Monday, November 19, 6:30 p.m. Signing follows. 619-234-6821. (escondido)

“Love Negotiated” — Aspire Playwrights Collective presents staged reading of new, full-length play by local playwright and actor Kevin Six, Monday, November 19, 7 p.m. at Athenaeum School of the Arts Studio (4414 Park Boulevard). Pay what you want — after the performance. 588-505-4195. (normal heights)

“A Musical Shakespeare Evening” presented by San Diego Shakespeare Society, Monday, November 19. Enjoy songs of Shakespeare in original settings, “learn what music meant to a Shakespearean audience and how the Bard’s works have inspired others over the centuries to produce musicals, operas, ballets.” Jonathan McMurray and Rosina Reynolds will share thoughts on Shakespeare; performances by members of San Diego Ballet, Bill Nolan, Victoria Mature, Amy Riddle, Yos Nel, Dance of the Weeds, San Diego Civic Dance Company, Leigh Scarritt Productions, Antonio 7:30. Jon- som, others. Evening begins at 7:30 p.m. at Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive) $20 general. 619-246-8735. (LA JUNA)

Pamper yourself with San Diego’s only Billiard Academy and instruction packages. Receive our “hands-on” one-on-one instruction can make “one lesson on our revolving carpet finishes beyond Balboa Fountain. Fees: $65 for adults, $20 per child 6-12 in double kayak with parent (price includes equipment, paddling instruction). Reservations: 619-255-0203. Repeats Saturday, December 8. (SAN DIEGO)

San Diego Littoral Thon ii, walk, Saturday, November 17, at Saint Diego Cove in Mission Bay Park. Registration: 8 a.m.; walk at 9 a.m. Free; pledges encouraged. Registrations: 800-374-3384. (escondido)

Talk Derby to Me, Hard Corps and Rollers of San Diego Derby Dolls meet up for last bout of the season on Saturday, November 17, 6 p.m., at Skateworld (6907 Linda Vista Road). All ages. All-skate session at 7:30 p.m. (skate and roll with teams). $12. 858-560-9349. (escondido)

Bonsall Blast, an eight-mile bicycle race with Bicycle San Marcos and Old Town Society riders on Sunday, November 18, starting at 8:45 a.m. in Doyle Park. Bring money for lunch in Bonsall. Free. 858-561-3846. (BONSO)

Bicycle in San Marcos and Vista with Knickerblers, Sunday, November 18. The 25-mile ride starts at 9:30 a.m. at woodland Park (at Woodward Parkway and Rock Spring Road). Bring money for lunch at Old Spaghetti Factory. 858-435-5479. (santa CRUZ)

San Diego Chargers are in Jack- sonville for game against the Jaguars on Sunday, November 18, 10 a.m. Game broadcast on CBS, listen on radio station KLOZ-FM, Rock 105.3. Tickets for future games: $34-$52, available through Ticketmaster (619-221-TIXS).

Father Joe’s Thanksgiving Day 5K Walk and Run starts at Mu- seum of Man in Balboa Park, at 8 a.m. on Thursday, November 22, finishes beyond Baboo. Fountain. 800-478-6625. (escondido)

“Move Your Feet Before You Eat” Usde Turkey Trot, Thur-
Run for the Hungry Thanksgiving Day 5K and 10K, Thursday, November 22, starting at 6 a.m. at Petco Park East (at Imperial and 13th Street). Race-day fee: $30 general, $20 for children. 619-298-7900. (EAST VILLAGE)

SPECIAL

51st Annual International Peace Pageant in Montezuma Hall at San Diego State University, Thursday, November 15, noon–3 p.m. Over 40 countries represented, several nonprofit-organizational units, nine cultural organizations, 2500 participants. Free. 619-594-4192. (SDSU)

International Education Week 2007 continues through November 23 at USD campus at 5998 Alcala Park. On Thursday, November 15, Manuel Aguilar, professor of art history at CSU Los Angeles and in Guadalajara Summer Program, will discuss his recently published book, hosted by international lecture program. 619-260-8835.

The Presence of Absence in the Ruins of Kaft Burj by visual arts professor Han Jakob screens on November 22, at 6 p.m., in the San Diego College of Technology. 619-582-8865.

Yoga and Meditation: At 8 a.m., at Designs by Doria (5623 Madra Avenue). Juried artists display and sell work including antiques, glass, crystal, jewelry, art, silver, furniture, more. 619-681-0989. (DOWNTOWN)

Backboning and Yoga Nidra Workshop led by Matias Playa, a visitor from Costa Rica, Saturday, November 17, 2–5 p.m., at Asha Yoga Center (1905 Calle Barcelona #218). Learn to “calmly relax and experience greater freedom in backboning.” How to use techniques of yoga nidra (relaxation) “to expand your boundaries and experience the state of pure conscious awareness.” $30. Registration: 760-632-7093. (LA COSTA)

Knitting Circles for those who already know the basics to hook up and “meet other knitters and exchange ideas,” Saturdays, 2–5 p.m., at Knitting by the Beach (3010 Hillsdale Boulevard). You’re asked to use yarns purchased in the store during session. $20. 619-804-8424. (MISSION VALLEY)

“The Value of Science,” discuss a selection of J.H. Poincaré’s great work with Books Reading and Discussion Society, Saturday, November 17, 2 p.m., in third-floor conference room of San Diego Public Library (13th & E Street). Newcomers welcome. Free. 619-440-5623. (MISSION VALLEY)

Vegan Dinner Party Turkey-free Thanksgiving vegan dinner, Saturday, November 17, 3 p.m., at Linda Vista Recreation Center (7646 Lemon Street). Enjoy “delicious Tofurkey, outstanding meat- and dairy-free dishes and special vegan food surprises...” Your favorite vegan dish; main dishes, side dishes, snacks, desserts welcome. 619-236-8991. (SAND VISTA)

Annual Salmon Dinner hosted by Sons of Norway, Saturday, November 17, at Masonic Hall (7849 Tommy Drive). Ham; materials, instruction provided. Find House of the Philippines on Pres- ident Way at 6, $20 at door. 619-583-0859. (SAN CARLOS)

High-Performance Classic Car, Truck, and Cycle show and swap, Toys for Tots event is Sunday, November 18, at Qualcomm Stadium. Vehicles on display and for sale, along with “acres of parts and accessories.” Bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate, receive free refreshments. Admission: $5 general, free for kids under 13. 888-848-9342. (MISSION VALLEY)

Lakeside Auto Speedway Centennial, celebrating the 1947 land speed record set by Barney Oldfield on a racetrack around Lakeside, is slated for Sunday, November 18, 10 a.m.–3 p.m., at Lindo Lake Park (9841 Vine Street). Free admission. A “garage sale” is available; sale of Norwegian crafts, presented by Sons of Norway, Saturday, November 17, at Masonic Hall (1430 Vantage Court). In celebration of five years, Green Flash crafts sampling from 11 local brewers’ food. $20 fee includes ten four- ounce tastings (discounted “designated driver” wristbands available). 21 and up. 619-579-9012. (VISTA)

Show Goose Global Thanksgiving, host Vic Villasenor hosts 16th annual event, Sunday, November 18, 1 p.m. to sundown. Enjoy “celebration of peace, harmony, and abundance through a festive atmosphere that embraces the beauty and solidarity among all people.” Villasenor is author of Rain of Gold, Burro Genius: A Memoir, other books. Music by Miracosta Latin Jazz Orchestra. “At sundown candles are lit, everyone faces outward sending their energy of goodwill and harmony and peace around the whole world.” Admission is an appetizer, main dish, salad, or dessert to share with 12 others, for every 5 people in your group. Bring sweaters, folding chairs, water. No alcohol. Find Rancho Villasenor at 1302 Stewart Street. 760-722-1463. (OCEANSIDE)

“The Truthdig Debate on Religion and Politics” — part two — between authors Harris and Chris Hedges discussed by Humanist Association of San Diego, Sunday, November 18, 1 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (4065 Vermont Street). Free. 760-445-8112. (MISSION VALLEY)

“Beaujolais, Burgundy, and More,” learn to “boost your Bur- gundy-buying confidence” during tasting, Wednesday, November 21, 5 p.m., at Wineteller and Brasserie (9550 Walpe Street, suite 115). 833-430-9377. (BA CORAL)

“Demos, Golems, and Dib- buks: Monsters of the Jewish Imagination” theme for “Let’s Talk About It: Jewish Literature” reading, discussion series at La Jolla Library (7555 Draper Avenue). Focus on The Metaphormo- s by Franz Kafka on Wednesday, November 21, 6:30 p.m. Free. Registration: 619-236-3817. (LA JOLLA)

F O R K I D S

“Something’s Fishy” when Mil- le Patterson’s Weaver’s Tales perform through Sunday, Novem- ber 18, in Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. Santa and the Ho Ho Ho That may be seen November 21 and 23–25. Shows begin at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday–Friday and at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Find theater at 2130 Pan American Place. Admin-
**MUSEUMS**

**Campmo Railroad Museum**, showcasing more than 130 years of American railroad history and technology. Visit static and operating exhibits, the museum includes cabooses, steam and diesel locomotives, track motorcars, 1880s “Tim Crow” segregated passenger cars. Every Saturday, train rides operate each weekend from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. on the grounds. Free admission. Donation suggested. 619-420-6916.

**George White and Anna Gardner House**, historic home sits on five acres of landscaped grounds with a formal English garden. Built for civic leader and department store founder George Marston and his family by San Diego architect William Hebbard and Irving Gill, the Marston house design is in keeping with the early 20th-Century American Arts and Crafts period, emphasizing simplicity, function, and natural materials. The museum is located at 3525 Seventh Avenue; 619-298-3142.

**House of Pacific Relations**, an intercultural wall display, replicates the early post office and general store, and a school room are part of this museum. A mural painted by Michael Strong depicts six periods of Poway’s past. Find the museum in Poway Park at 14154 Midland Road; 858-679-8578.

**Powerhouse**, International Cotations are open every Sunday, noon–4 p.m., presenting history and traditions of 50 ethnic groups. On Tuesday of each month, children around the World videos screened in Hall of Nations, select cotations open. 619-588-4069.

**Chula Vista Heritage Museum** the museum features glimpses of Chula Vista’s past, exhibits feature lemon packing crate labels, photos of downtown Chula Vista, and more. Donors of the original 1920s bus are shown inside the bus, doors, and adobe blocks are from the original Star newspaper building, and relics from the Otay Watch Company. Find the museum at 360 Third Avenue; 619-420-6916.

**Marine Corps Recruit Depot Museum**, housed in a historic building, the museum features five permanent galleries with artifacts, uniforms, medals, weapons, and photographs depicting Marine Corps history. The museum is located in Building 7 at MCRR, just inside gate 4, off Pacific Highway; 619-524-4638.

**Olef Wieghorst Museum** displays paintings and prints by Olef Wieghorst and features exhibits of other artists’ American West art. Located in Balboa Park; admission with cactus gardens, 20 x 20-foot reproduction of Wieghorst’s painting Navajo of Creek with a rock and restored home Wieghorst lived in for many years starting in 1945. The museum is located at 131 Rea Avenue; 619-590-3431.

**Reuben H. Fleet Science Center** is dedicated to promoting, interpreting, and preserving the history of the San Diego region. “The Kid City” (for preschoolers), “The Best of Symmetry and Signs,” and “TryScience!” “Comet Impact” is their motion sim-ulator ride. Films are shown daily in the IMAX theater; 619-238-1233.

**San Diego Maritime Museum**, see “Caddilacs” exhibit through Saturday, December 2. More than 80 automobiles and motorcycles from horseless carriages to future prototypes are included in the museum’s permanent collection. Find the museum near the Starship Bowl; 619-231-2886. (BALBOA PARK)

**San Diego Hall of Champions**, ongoing exhibits include “Bird Watching: Tony Hawk in Flight,” “Surfing in San Diego,” exhibits of baseball card art, focusing local rugby history. “The museum — dedicated to promoting, recognizing, and preserving athletic achievement — is located at 2131 Pan American Plaza; 619-234-2344. (BALBOA PARK)

**San Diego Marine Museum**, San Diego’s original maritime museum by the book same name written by Bruce Linder, is said to be “the only comprehensive exhibit depicting the extraordinary contribution the Navy has made to the history of the San Diego region.” The museum features permanent exhibits documenting the history of San Diego. South Street, 26th and Water Street, the building of the West Coast by the sea, the old San Diego-Coronado ferryboats, the tuna fishing industry, and the military. The museum fleet consists of the 1863 bark Star of India, the 1898 San Francisco ferryboat Berkeley, and the 1940 Scottish steam yacht Moly. There are also the Ticonderoga, a partial replica of a U.S. Coast Guard cutter, and Commander, is permanently on exhibit; see artifacts, costumes, props from the movie “The Poseidon Adventure.” Also open for touring: a B-39 Soviet attack submarine, among the largest conventional nuclear submarines ever built. This Project 641/Frost class diesel-electric submarine was designed to train U.S. and NATO sailors throughout the Earth’s oceans. There are also nautical exhibits, ship models, paintings, drawings, military uniforms, ships in bottles, woodcarvers, and a complete research library; 858-539-5100. (DOWNTOWN) 100 North Harbor Drive, along the Embarcadero at corner of North Harbor Drive and Broadway; 619-234-9153. (BALBOA PARK)

**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 culture, emergence of first temples and cemeteries, emergence of complex societies. Exhibitions chronicled 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. Through January; 619-231-2886. (BALBOA PARK)

**Edward S. Curtis Refocused** offers Native American insight into Curtis’s photo documentation of their lives. Curtis is famous for his photographs of recreated scenes of traditional life and ceremony, for portraits of tribesmen wearing historic garments. Exhibition features prints of his photographs taken in locations throughout the U.S. and Canada and examines some controversial elements of Curtis’s photography, techniques he used.

“Art and Expression: The Legacy of Our Communities” 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, woodworking, folk art, katsina, bone and ivory implements, shields, textiles.

“Artists Speak: Contemporary Art from Ghana and Zim-babwe,” museum has partnered with artists from Ghana and Zimbabwe to showcase paintings and sculptures by accomplished African artists.

Permanent anthropology exhibit “Footsteps through Time: Four Million Years of Human Evolution” features more than a hundred touchable replicas of early humans, primates, and human ancestors.

“ heeft Slide show screens throughout the day, telling the story of the war in Mexico and the U.S. 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 11508 San Pasqual Valley Road; 760-737-2201. (ESCONDIDO) 1306 North Harbor Drive, along the Embarcadero at corner of North Harbor Drive and Broadway; 619-234-9153. (BALBOA PARK)

**Valleym Center History Museum**, the museum features historical exhibition centered around a California grizzly bear, described as “the only one on view in San Diego.” Also on exhibit: model of an 1862 steter’s cabin, collection of Indian baskets, and aerospace display. Find the museum at 29200 Cole Grade Road; 760-749-2993. (VALLEY CENTER)
Events that are underlined occur after November 22.

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

CLASSICAL

Kurt Wall's American Opera, Street Scene, performed by San Diego State University’s Opera Theater, November 16–18, in Smith Recital Hall at SDSU. Play is based on Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Elmer Rice, lyrics by Langston Hughes. Curtain rises at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: 619-233-6327. Show closes Saturday, November 24.

Selections from “Látigo” may be enjoyed when Quartet San Francisco, joined by percussionist John Santos, performs for concert series hosted by La Jolla Music Society, Friday, November 16, 7:30 p.m., in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Tickets: $30 general, $5 for children. 858-459-5728. (LA COSTA)

Schubert’s “Symphony No. 8 (Unfinished)” may be heard when San Diego Symphony, conductor Jahja Ling presents Jacobs Masterworks concerts, November 16–18. Also on program: Weiqin’s “Im Sommerwind,” “Clarinet Concerto” by Mozart, and Hindemith’s “Symphonic Metamorphosis.” Soloist is Franklin Cohen (clarinet). Concerts begin at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday in Copley Symphony Hall (750 Street). Tickets: 820-390. Reservations: 619-233-0627. (SAN MARCOS)

Mozart’s “Eine Kleine Nachtmusik” and “Flute Concerto in D” are on tap when East County Youth Symphony presents concert, Saturday, November 17, 7 p.m., at Lakeview Community Presbyterian Church (9008 Channel Road). Program includes “Symphony No. 8 in G” by Dvořák. Free: 619-444-9228. (LA JOLLA)

The Quartetto di Venezia plans ArtPower concert, Saturday, November 17, 8 p.m., at Neurosciences Institute (10640 Ion Jay Hopkins Drive). Program includes Boccherini’s “Quartet in F Minor No. 4,” “Quartet in E Major” by Cherubini, Sollima’s “Zobeido and Federico II from Viggo in Italia.” “Quartet in E Major” by Verdi. Tickets: $34, available at 858-534-TIXS. (LA JOLLA)

“Music in Motion,” Classics for Kids and Classical Philharmonic family concert, Sunday, November 18, 2 p.m., at Salvation Army Kroc Community Center Performing Arts Theatre (8485 University Avenue). Enjoy music by Vivaldi, Bernstein, Tchaikovsky; dancing by members of City Ballet of San Diego. Tickets: $11–$22. Reservations: 619-291-3111. (ROLANDO)

Organ Concert by San Diego civic organist Carol Woliner in Spreckels-Orgel Pavilion, Sunday, November 18, 2 p.m. Free: 619-702-8138. (LA JOLLA)

Transcriptions of Early Music — including pieces by Vivaldi and Bach — is performed when classical guitarists Fred Benedetti and Robert Wertzel take stage for Old Masters of Music and Art series at San Diego Museum of Art, Sunday, November 18, 2 p.m. Included in museum admission. 619-696-1966. (SOLAIS PAPAY)

The Striano Piano Quartet performs music of Telemann, Brahms, Joplin, J. S. Bach, and Beethoven on Sunday, November 18, 4 p.m., at St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church (16279 Pomerado Road). Requested donations: $10 general, $5 for those under 12 and younger. Reception follows the concert. 858-487-2139 (POWAY)

“A Cornucopia of Opera Favorites” performed during ArtPower concert, Sunday, November 18, 7 p.m., at Palomar College Performance Lab (room D201). Selections: Mozart, Verdi, Bizet, Puccini, Giacomo Meyerbeer. Performers include soprano Kathleen Haim, mezzo-soprano Kathleen O’Brien, tenor Tom Oberjat, baritone David Marshman, and pianist Timothy Todd Simmons. Reception at 4:30 p.m., concert at 5 p.m. Tickets: $20 in advance, $23 at door. Recommended reservations: 858-793-0316. (SOLANA BEACH)

Double Bass Recital — Han Han Cho performs a diverse selection of works by Prokofiev, Xenakis, Rosini, Belut, Henri, Ramvier, when joined by Robert Zelelkin, Janes Negysey, Piavicky, Nykert and concert, Sunday, November 18, 8 p.m., in Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD. Free: 858-534-4673. (LA JOLLA)


Arias and Ensemble Pieces from grand opera presented when San Diego Opera Ensemble performs on Monday, November 19, 7:30 p.m., at All Souls’ Episcopal Church (1475 Catalonia Boulevard). Reception follows. Donation: $5. 619-223-6394 x13. (POINT LOMA)

Electro-Acoustic Music Festival showcasing music for piano and computer-generated sounds with “inmedia” of electro-acoustic music and visual art planned Tuesday, November 20, 8 p.m., in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D10, 1140 West Mission Road). Directed by Matthew Janos. $5 general, free for students. 770-704-130-2433. (POWAY)

Piano Ensemble Concert, by Eeva Niall in Smith Recital Hall at San Diego State University, Wednesday, November 21, noon. Free: 619-594-6020. (SAN MARCOS)

Violin Studio Recital, Wednesday, November 21, noon, in Rhapsody Hall at San Diego State University, Wednesday, November 21, noon. Free: 619-594-1966. (SAN MARCOS)

“San Diego in Perspective,” an exhibit of “process” paintings by Bill Mosley opens with reception for artist on Friday, November 16, 6:30 p.m., at Kruglak Gallery at Miramar College (student center at One Barnard Drive). Reception follows artist’s talks, Thursday, November 15, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. 760-757-5386. (LA JOLLA)

“It’s Good to Be a Girl,” exhibit of work by female artist collective GRRRRRL Power opens with reception on Friday, November 16, 7 p.m., at Women’s History Museum (2323 Broadway, suites 101 and 107). Reception includes “mini-shopping marketplace” with local handmade jewelry, apparel, crafts, trinkets. 619-233-6327. Show closes Saturday, December 8. (GOLDEN HILL)

“Random Selection” — see new art by 20 artists during this annual exhibit opening with reception, Friday, November 16, 7 p.m., at Brokelyn Gallery (402 Market Street). Encore reception/ viewing is Friday, November 23, 7 p.m. 619-843-8424. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

ART LISTINGS

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Annual Faculty Art and Photography Exhibition continues

Explore the fine art of animation

Animated Painting merges music, art, and animation in an innovative exhibition of digital media. SDMA premieres this contemporary art experience featuring New Media artists, including Julian Opie, Jeremy Blake, and William Kentridge. On view through January 13, 2008.

Preview Animated Painting and related programs at www.sdmart.org.

Chorus Breviarii San Diego

Gregorian Chant Schola and Liturgical Prayer Group

November 2007 Events:

- Thursday, November 15, 2007 • 7 p.m • Solemn First Vespers of the Feast of St. Margaret, Queen of Scotland followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament - First vespers service (evening prayer) in the spectacular new church! - St. Margaret’s Catholic Church 4300 Oceanside Blvd., Oceanside (Directions: 5 North or South to Oceanside Blvd. then east 5 miles. Church is on left, just past College Boulevard.)

- Saturday, November 17, 2007 • 12 noon • Solemn Pontifical Requiem Mass - In the Traditional Roman Rite — Extraordinary Form - Celebrated by H.E. Salvatore Cordileone, Auxiliary of the Diocese of San Diego Fr. Burt Boudoin, Assistant Priest Fr. Victor Szczurek, O.Praem., Deacon Fr. Ben Davison, Sub-Deacon Choir of the Bach Collegium San Diego Ruben Valenzuela, Dir.

Music to include: Requiem Mass for 4 voices by Giovanni Francesco Averino (1567-1630) San Diego Premiere Performance - St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church 1638 Polk Ave., Normal Heights (at the intersection of Park Blvd. and Polk Ave.)

For further information call organist John Polhamus at: 858-220-4072

San Diego Reader November 15, 2007 53
**Classical Music**

**ART MUSEUMS**

**California Center for the Arts Museum** — *Rituality* features contemporary works from ten local artists alongside traditional artifacts from Africa, Native North America, the Pacific Islands. Exhibition examines role of ritual in exploration of identity, creation of community, construction of power, as mediated and expressed through art. (Museum Information) • 888-294-9880. Painter Joshua Smith has exhibition of paintings opening with reception, Saturday, November 17, 5 p.m., at Santa Ysabel Art Gallery (30352 Highway 79). Through Sunday, December 30. 760-765-1676.

**Dover** opens with artist’s reception Saturday, November 17, 5 p.m., at The Center of Visual Arts (3275 Adams Avenue, “Testing Grounds,” Saturday, November 17, 5 p.m., at Santa Ysabel Art Gallery (30352 Highway 79). Through Sunday, December 30. 760-765-1676.

**ART WORKSHOPS**

**Gregorian Chant Workshop**

An introduction to sung prayer Saturday 1 December 2007 Mission San Diego de Alcalá Mass celebrated by Most Rev. Salvatore Cordileone Auxiliary Bishop of San Diego Workshop led by Kathy Reinheimer and Mary Ann Carr Wilson 8:30 a.m. Registration 9:00 a.m. Basics of Gregorian Chant 11:00 a.m. Learning the responses and Ordinary of the Mass 12:00 p.m. Lunch 1:00 p.m. Degrees of participation 2:00 p.m. Learning chant hymns 3:00 p.m. Mass 4:15 p.m. Q & A Panel Discussion The Workshop aims to familiarize people with the chant tradition and Ordinary prayers sung during the Mass.

**Registration Fee**: $15 per person, $25 family rate Coffee and snacks will be provided. Please bring a sack lunch to enjoy on the Mission grounds. To register, please email Mary Ann at lilmacarr@yahoo.com.

**Celebrate Thanksgiving with a bird’s-eye view**

**Atop the Bahia Resort Hotel on Mission Bay**

11:00 am – 3:00 pm • Mission Ballroom Reservations: 858.539.7635 Adults $36.95 • $18.95 Children 3–12 2004 PARKING $6 – MUS BY JOHN CAUD

**DANCE for $30**

for 4 weeks • Classes Still Open

**Monday**

- Argentine Tango

**Tuesday**

- Latin/Ballroom

- Nightclub 2-step

- Hustle

- Jitterbug & Swing*

**Thursday**

- Lindy Hop*

- West Coast Swing

**Friday**

- Salsa*

- West Coast Swing

Country-Western Two-Step*

Social Dance Specialist

**Dances**

- Every Thursday: West Coast Swing/Nightclub Mix

- Every Saturday: Latin & Ballroom

- Every Sunday: Jitterbug/Swing

**Pattie Wells’ Dancetime Center**

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

**Restaurant**

Assorted Sautéed Seafood in Lobster Fennel Sauce, Roast Turkey • Black Angus Prime Rib

**BAYHOMES & ROASTS**

BUFFET BRUNCH INCLUDES

Roast Tom Turkey • Black Angus Prime Rib Baked Ham • Shrimp Cocktail Assorted Sautéed Seafood in Lobster Fennel Sauce, Omelettes, Waffle Station All the trimmings and an array of Sweets Treats, Champagne and Mimosas
I created the illusion that I actually was sitting, floating on a flying carpet.”

Wientzen says 100 contestants were narrowed down to 10 finalists, among whom Wientzen was included.

“The contest rules on the website and (91X emcee/deejay Chris) Cantore himself said onstage that the top-three finalists would be selected based on crowd response and then from there they would pick the winner…. I have a video that proves that me and the alien couple had the best crowd response.” He says the winner — the headless housewife — did not receive as much crowd support as he did.

“Humor had it that the winner was Cantore’s wife,” says Wientzen, who maintains that the winner may have been the best of the final three because he was not included.

“My theory was that I was eliminated so she could win the contest.”

Wientzen says he protested onstage when it became clear that pregnant Britney made the cut and he didn’t.

“Cantore said, ‘The genie’s pissed. He’s really pissed. The genie wants a recount.’

Pregnant Britney should have been booted off the stage. Chris Cantore and his crew completely rigged the contest.”

Wientzen says he e-mailed Cantore with his accusation.

“I never received a response from them. I talked to [Cantore producer and sidekick] Ruggy by phone the next day, and he said they would call me back and put me on the air and have fun with me. But they never did.”

Cantore denied it was his wife who won the contest and said he had nothing to do with judging. He referred all questions about the contest to 91X promotion director Josh Hammond, who did not return a call requesting a comment.

— Ken Leighton

The Hive Mind Aspect

High Mountain Temples’ new CD, A Screaming Comes Across the Sky, includes the song “Fluctuat Nec Mergitur,” which pays homage to Elizabeth Clare Prophet of the Church Universal and Triumphant.

“She had a free cable-access TV show [until the band’s three-hour set included. A November 26 London date has been booked to honor the late Atlantic Records founder Ahmet Ertegun. With 25 million ticket requests for the 18,000 seats available, a tour is almost a certainty. If so, odds are that the band will make it to San Diego.

Six out of the seven times Led Zeppelin came to town, the band performed at the Sports Arena. The exception was their local debut on January 13, 1969, at the Fox Theatre (now Symphony Hall).

When Led Zeppelin played at the Sports Arena on March 10, 1975, it was the last time they did so under the old first-come, first-served “festival seating” floor plan. According to concert attendant Chuck Heck, some people had camped on the arena grounds for weeks to ensure their spot up front. The situation inside was worse than the lines outside: with no chairs on the floor, the sold-out crowd surged forward.

“Bouncers on top of the stage were leaning over, pulling fainted victims out of the crush,” remembers Heck.

“This continued throughout the show. By the end of the second song, Plant was pleading with the crowd to step back because people were now being pulled from the crowd right and left, in what appeared to be unconscious states.”

The 1975 tour reportedly used the loudest sound system available.

“Their music was so loud that it was almost impossible to tell what was being played,” says Heck.

The band’s three-hour set included a 30-minute version of “Dazed and Confused.” During the encore of “Heartbreaker,” a young woman in front of the stage got up on some guy’s shoulders and pulled off her blouse and bra. As the band played, a spotlight was aimed at the girl and Plant began to rub his crotch and point, incorporating the antics into his performance. John Bonham threw his sticks and derby into the audience and began to gesture with his
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9TH
ANGELS & AIRWAVES, BAD RELIGION, SEETHER, AGAINST ME!

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5500 CANYON CREST DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, CA 92122

APRIL 30

MOTION CITY SOUNDTRACK

DECEMBER 1

BRIAN REGAN IN CONCERT

DECEMBER 1

BRIAN REGAN

ALL AGES
bands on his chest in reference to the young lady. According to Heck, the band appeared to be surprised by the fever pitch of the San Diego audience.

"At one point, Robert looked at Jimmy and the rest of the band and threw up his arms as if to say, 'My God — really?' Even the pompous Plant appeared to be humbled."

— Bart Mendez

All About the Money

Drummer Josh Olmos played music with singer Caleb Wilborn when the two attended Rancho Buena Vista High. In 2004, four years after high school, they formed the pop/reggae band Free to Burn, which played regularly at Squid lee’s and other local nightspots.

Olmos says things were going well for the band before they decided to record a demo in August of last year.

"We had over $4500 in the band fund," says Olmos. "That was money from all our band gigs over two years... Just before we started to record, Caleb set us down and tells us there is no more money in the band fund. He told us he needed the money... that it was gone."

Olmos says keyboard player Matt Brown came up with the $850 to pay for the session.

"I had recorded at Proxy [Music studios in Oceanside] before," says Olmos. "We didn't want to back away from the band fund," says Olmos. "We had over $4500 in the band fund," says Olmos. "That was money from all our band gigs over two years... Just before we started to record, Caleb set us down and tells us there is no more money in the band fund. He told us he needed the money... that it was gone."

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"I had recorded at Proxy [Music studios in Oceanside] before," says Olmos. "We didn't want to back away from the commitment to them. We ended up with a real nice demo."

But that “real nice demo” was never used.

This year was supposed to be the year that [Free to Burn] would take off,” says Olmos. “When we would all quit our day jobs and just do music.” He says the depleted band fund killed the band.

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"I had recorded at Proxy [Music studios in Oceanside] before," says Olmos. "We didn't want to back away from the band fund," says Olmos. "We had over $4500 in the band fund," says Olmos. "That was money from all our band gigs over two years... Just before we started to record, Caleb set us down and tells us there is no more money in the band fund. He told us he needed the money... that it was gone."

Olmos says keyboard player Matt Brown came up with the $850 to pay for the session.
ON SALE NOVEMBER 30
NEW YEAR’S EVE ‘07

ON SALE NOVEMBER 16
KCI & JOJO DECEMBER 28
WITH SPECIAL GUEST JON B

ON SALE NOVEMBER 14
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14
& SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15
AT 10:30PM

CRISTIAN CASTRO DECEMBER 1

FUEL / TRAPT DECEMBER 10

TOWER OF POWER JANUARY 20

UPCOMING DREAMCATCHER SHOWS:
Project X Nov. 16 9pm Makai Nov. 23 9pm
Viejas Dancers & DJ Nikki Nov. 16 10:30pm Crush Nov. 24 9pm
Project X Nov. 17 9pm A Tribute to Spandex - Aqua Nets Nov. 29 8pm
Shall We Dance Nov. 18 6pm Rising Star Nov. 24 9pm

UPCOMING V LOUNGE SHOWS:
Izon Eden Nov. 15 8pm Bill Magee Blues Nov. 22 8pm
Modern Day Moonshine Nov. 16 5pm Cash’d Out Nov. 23 5pm
Crush Nov. 16 10pm Lady Dottie & The Diamonds Nov. 23 10pm
Hot Rod Lincoln Nov. 17 5pm Rising Star Nov. 24 5pm
David Patrone Extravaganza Nov. 17 10pm Full Effect Nov. 24 10pm
Izon Eden Nov. 18 7:30pm Izon Eden Nov. 25 7:30pm

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Thursday 15
Soma kids will get a taste of dad’s hardcore tonight as Miisfits, D.L., and Agent Orange rain down on the Sports Arena Theater. Original Miisfit Jerry Only — he was the dude with the tidal wave mohawk — resurrected Danzig’s porn-horn band in 1995. After several personnel changes, bassist Only, Black Flag guitarist Dez Cedena, and a drummer named Robo have kept the punk-scene favorites on the road and tour this year in celebration of the Miisfits’ 30th anniversary. Only has released three studio discs under the Miisfits moniker and has another slated for early ’08. Agent Orange and D.L. made their name round L.A. surf moshing together — it brings a tear... Japanese Orange and D.I. made their name round L.A. surf moniker and has another slated for early ’08. Agent Orange favorites on the road and tour this year in celebration of the band’s 30th anniversary named Robo have kept the punk-scene favorites on the road and tour this year in celebration of the Miisfits’ 30th anniversary. Only has released three studio discs under the Miisfits moniker and has another slated for early ’08. Agent Orange and D.L. made their name round L.A. surf moshing together — it brings a tear.

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Friday 16
Anthology continues to fill the void left by Blind Melons by booking trad blues fare. Friday night the Little Italy supper club presents Little Charlie and the Nightcats. Little Charlie Baty is a blues guitarist vocalist in the Chicagoland tradition. Baty and fellow Bay Area native Rick Estrin, who sings and plays harp, formed the quartet in 1976 while attending UC Berkeley. The club band signed to blues label Alligator in the mid ’80s and since have released eight discs of jazz and blues standards and originals, the most recent with the telling title Nine Lives. Baty and Estrin are old-timey trashkin showmen. Highly recommended set... Silverchair checks in at House of Blues. The award-winning Australian rock band had a mean age of 14 when they broke internationally with 1995’s hit record Frogstomp. This year, the post-grunge trio dropped their fifth disc, Young Modern, which features arrangements by Beach Boy guru Van Dyke Parks... Huntington Beach rap-core band (hed)pe will appear at Cane’s. The quintet’s touring this year’s bizzarely insane... While Mia Ma’s all- age Epicentre hosts East Coast experimentalists the Annuals and indie-pop act Manchester Orchestra.

Boston’s Lyricists Born makes his trade as producer/collaborator over an active decade in Oakland’s underground rap scene. In 2003, B.L. as solo artist dropped a flip called Later That Day. In ’05, with the aid of former collaborators KRS One and Dan the Automator, B.L. remixed the disc calling it Same RBBS Different Day, which was released on rap label Quannum. The remix is a commer- cial hit, touring L.B. worldwide and landing him all the big indie-rock fests as token hip-hopper. Did I say that? San Diego beat boys the Kneeslighs open... SoCal alt-country acts Silverbird and Sangre Sangre (Blood Blood! Wha...?) roll into Beauty Bar... And Latin dub-n-pop band Mr. tube and the Flying Objects (feat. Paul Jenkins) will headline the November birthdays show at Casbah, which also features country rock-n-rol sots Bartender’s Bible.

Zeppelin, Steve Miller, and the Dead. Cotton turned 72 this year and tours infrequently due to throat ailments. Time to catch the legend... Folkie Suzanne Vega sits at in Belly Up Saturday night. The 48-year-old singer is best known for sticky hits “Tom’s Diner” and “Luka.” This year she signed to Blue Note and dropped her ninth studio collection Beauty & Crime. Richard and Linda Thompson’s son Teddy will open with Brit-flavored folk and country. Check his new Verve release Unput and Down Low for a taste. From the sounds, Teddy Thompson’s a chip off his parent’s block... Soma hosts a MySpace event featuring grassroots (net- roots?) comers Say Anything, HelloGoodbye, and Polyaxis — the Japanese Depression. I’ll be at Tower Bar, however, checking in on rambler’ t mountain troubadour Diablo Dimes and MEX, aka the Mario Escobero Experience. I guess ex-Dragon Tiscord’s still got that rock-roll grease under his nails.

Saturday 17
Spill Toronto will play a CD-release show for Be More Careful (Green Box Records). Jason De La Torre and crew were nominated for an SDMA this year for best alternative album months ahead of the disc’s release. Crash Encore, Silent Comedy, and Calico Horse (ex-Clockwork Army) share the stage... Up the street at Anthology, Mississippi bluesman James Cotton weaves his harp and belts his sorrow... “Mr. Superharp” has played with blues greats Sonny Boy Williamson, Howlin’ Wolf, and Muddy Waters (with whom he won a Grammy) and appeared on rock records with Joplin, Led Zeppelin, Steve Miller, and the Dead. Cotton turned 72 this year and tours infrequently due to throat ailments. Time to catch the legend... Folkie Suzanne Vega sits at in Belly Up Saturday night. The 48-year-old singer is best known for sticky hits “Tom’s Diner” and “Luka.” This year she signed to Blue Note and dropped her ninth studio collection Beauty & Crime. Richard and Linda Thompson’s son Teddy will open with Brit-flavored folk and country. Check his new Verve release Unput and Down Low for a taste. From the sounds, Teddy Thompson’s a chip off his parent’s block... Soma hosts a MySpace event featuring grassroots (net-roots?) comers Say Anything, HelloGoodbye, and Polyaxis — the Japanese Depression. I’ll be at Tower Bar, however, checking in on rambler’ t mountain troubadour Diablo Dimes and MEX, aka the Mario Escobero Experience. I guess ex-Dragon Tiscord’s still got that rock-roll grease under his nails.

Sunday 18
Rock-and-roll guitarists/singer Ben Harper and his Innocent Criminals appear at the Civic Theatre downtown. The San Fran rockster has been Rolling Stone’s artist of the year (2005) and won two Grammys (both in 2005). Harper has a couple live releases to his credit, Live from Mars (2001) and Live at the Apollo (2006), that should appease you of the, uh, sincerely the dude brings to performance. French pop singer Piers Faccini opens... How many “wolf” bands can you name? Seems to be a pack of ’em. Here’s another: Sea Wolf. The L.A. indie poppers are touring behind new Dangerbird releases to his credit, Live from Mars (2001) and Live at the Apollo (2006), that should appease you of the, uh, sincerely the dude brings to performance. French pop singer Piers Faccini opens... How many “wolf” bands can you name? Seems to be a pack of ’em. Here’s another: Sea Wolf. The L.A. indie poppers are touring behind new Dangerbird releases to his credit, Live from Mars (2001) and Live at the Apollo (2006), that should appease you of the, uh, sincerely the dude brings to performance. French pop singer Piers Faccini opens... How many “wolf” bands can you name? Seems to be a pack of ’em. Here’s another: Sea Wolf. The L.A. indie poppers are touring behind new Dangerbird releases.
From China, with Guitar

“I always wonder how such brilliant musicians could be so unsatisfied with themselves.”

Singer/songwriter Brenda Xu was born in Harbin, China, near Russia’s southern border. “I was five years old when I first came to America to live with my grandmother,” she says. When she was ten, her mother joined them in the U.S. and began teaching Xu piano. “I was in high school when I got my first guitar and began writing songs. When I first played around town at open mikes, it was a little duo with a friend of mine. We played three shows, and then I started writing songs on my own.”

Her first solo gig was in January 2007 at the Hot Java Cafe in Carmel Mountain Ranch. She sometimes performs and records with guitarist Ivan Cheoo and occasionally plays with a bassist as well. Her six-song CD It’s True was released this summer. She appears November 19 at UCSD’s Café Roma and November 23 at Java Jones on Ninth Avenue.

WHAT’S IN YOUR CD PLAYER?

1. Tori Amos, Boys for Pele. “This film is depressing as hell, but the cinematography is gorgeous, and the actors are phenomenal in it. It also has a killer score, with pieces performed by Jacqueline du Pré, whom the film is about.”
3. Six Feet Under. “My favorite television series of all time. I usually don’t buy DVDs, but I own this box set. It’s well written, and there is a ‘realness’ — an uncolored quality — in it.”
4. Eternal Sunshine of the Spotted Mind. “This is a classic love story told in an unconventional way, and I’m a sucker for great love stories.”

WHO WOULD YOU MOST ENJOY MEETING FOR LUNCH?

Aimee Mann. She’s one of my favorite songwriters, and I’d love to pick her brain about stories.”

FAVORITE DEAD CELEBRITY?

“Elliot Smith, because of his songs. I wish he hadn’t bought it, I listened to this CD so much when he was alive. I al-
ways wonder how such brilliant musicians could be so unsatisfied with themselves when they have the ability to create art that touches so many people.”

FIRST BOOK YOU REMEMBER READING?

“My favorite television series of all time. I usually don’t buy DVDs, but I own this box set. It’s well written, and there is a ‘realness’ — an uncolored quality — in it.”

FAVORITE MAGAZINES?

“You don’t subscribe to any at the moment, but if I had the funds to subscribe to one right now, it would probably be the Economist. Their articles are more interesting than a lot of other international news publications.”

3. Tristan Prettyman, Twentythree. “When I first bought it, I listened to this CD so much that I got sick of it. But I started listening to it again recently and rediscovered its innocent, ethereal quality.”

4. Tristan Prettyman, Twentythree. “When I first bought it, I listened to this CD so much that I got sick of it. But I started listening to it again recently and rediscovered its innocent, ethereal quality.”
RESTAURANT & NIGHTCLUB

DECO'S

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FRI. NOV. 16

ROB ZOOMY OF CLUB DEVIADE & ZXR PRESENTS
FRIDAY NIGHT SHAKEDOWN
FEATURING

DJ JAYCEE J OF POWER 106 FM LOS ANGELES
DJ RAGE, DJ DUBZ, DJ JOEL & DJ BUGZ
KICKING OFF DECO'S 19TH OLYMPIAD & THE BIRTHDAY CLUB. KIM DO. HELEN LY HOSTED BY MANNY SANTIAGO.

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STOP LIGHT PARTY

FEATURING A

SPECIAL LIVE PERFORMANCE BY

ALONG WITH

AVALON

WEDNESDAY 11/21

NO SCHOOL OR WORK NEXT DAY!!
**THIS WEEK’S CONCERTS**

**THURSDAY**
The Average White Band: Anthology, Friday, November 16, 1337 India Street, San Diego. 619-224-4171.
Kelly Clarkson: San Diego Civic Theatre, Friday, November 16, Third Avenue and B Street, 619-570-1190.
Little Charlie and the Nightcats: Anthology, Friday, November 16, 1337 India Street, San Diego. 619-395-0100.
(bed) pe: Cans, Friday, November 16, 1105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-649-1780.

**SATURDAY**
SuSanne Vega: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, November 17, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.
Clint Black: California Center for the Arts, Saturday, November 17, 350 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 866-944-0425.
Eric Alexander: Soma, Saturday, November 17, 3350 8th & B, Thursday, November 15, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.
James Cotton: Anthology, Saturday, November 17, 1337 India Street, San Diego. 619-595-0300.

**FRIDAY**
Silversunpeople: House of Blues, Friday, November 16, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.
Kelly Clarkson: San Diego Civic Theatre, Friday, November 16, Third Avenue and B Street, 619-570-1190.
As I Lay Dying: House of Blues, Saturday, November 17, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

**TUESDAY**
Down: House of Blues, Tuesday, November 20, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

**UPCOMING CONCERTS**

**NOVEMBER**
The English Beat: Belly Up Tavern, Friday and Saturday, November 23 and 24, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.
New Found Glory and Senses Fail: House of Blues, Saturday, November 24, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.
Guttermouth: Cans, Saturday, November 24, 1105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

**SUNDAY**
Puddle of Mudd: House of Blues, Sunday, November 18, 1337 India Street, San Diego. 619-299-2583.
Brián Bromberg: Anthology, Sunday, November 18, 1337 India Street, San Diego. 619-595-0300.

**DECEMBER**
Lucy Kaplansky: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, December 1, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.
Fall Out Boy: San Diego Sports Arena, Saturday, December 1, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.
Cafe Tacuba: Soma, Saturday, December 1, 3350 8th & B, Thursday, November 15, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.
Christian Castro: Viejas Casino DiamondJr Arch Show Room, Saturday, December 1, 3500 WIlkow Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.
Blues Traveler: Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, December 2, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18**
New Found Glory and Senses Fail: House of Blues, Saturday, November 24, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.
Guttermouth: Cans, Saturday, November 24, 1105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

**M art h**
Agent Orange: House of Blues, Saturday, November 24, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4**
New Found Glory and Senses Fail: House of Blues, Saturday, November 24, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.
Guttermouth: Cans, Saturday, November 24, 1105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6**
As I Lay Dying: House of Blues, Saturday, November 30, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7**
The John Butler Trio: House of Blues, Saturday, December 1, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.
Blues Traveler: Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, December 2, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8**
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**LIVE MUSIC NO COVER CHARGE**

**Wednesday**
Kandy Presents (DJ Music)
Indie Rock, Live British Pop

**Thursday**
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Hip Hop, 90s, 00s & Dance

**Friday, November 16**
The Lost

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We’ve got up to 14 NFL games every Sunday. Spend your Sundays with us, no matter who you’re rooting for! Drink specials! Complimentary food.
The Knitters: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, December 13, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Unwritten Laws: House of Blues, Friday, December 14, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Tori Amos: Copley Symphony Hall, Friday, January 11, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

The Young Dubliners: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, December 15, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

A Winter’s Tale —和— She’s So Unusual, Monday, December 31, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.
**SanDiegoReader.com**
Submit a listing online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the music section. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. The listings are free.

**Air Conditioned**: Weekdays, Club Vogue, Street West and 10:30 a.m. the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. Thursdays, Too Cool for School, old-school hip-hop, and 3rd. Fridays, rare groove, funk, and disco. Saturdays, Juicy, classic booty-shakin’ music. Sundays, guest DJ night.

**Cafe Novo**
57th and Grand Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-590-5664. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. DJ Nate Williams spins hip-hop with DJs Blackstone and Atari.

**Cityscape**
1236 First Avenue, downtown. 619-230-3650. Thursdays, live electronic, crunk, urban, and glitch hop. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. 3780 30th Street, Hillcrest. 619-295-4163.

**CLUBS BY AREA**

**DANCE**

**San Diego Reader Music Scene**
404 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-234-1000. 

**Cafe Novo**
57th and Grand Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-590-5664. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. DJ Nate Williams spins hip-hop with DJs Blackstone and Atari.

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There are now more bands with the word “wolf” in their name touring North America than there are actual wolves in the wild. But Los Angeles band Sea Wolf proves they’re worth making room for one more.

Singer-songwriter Alex Brown Church started Sea Wolf as an avenue for songs that didn’t fit with the ’60s-flavored guitar pop of his other band, Irving. I always liked Irving’s songs but felt that none of the band’s three singers was distinctive. Sea Wolf has made me revise that assessment; Church’s half-murmured voice sounds great in this context. A more flashy singer would distract from the quiet music they produce like “Sea Monuments” from the EP Det To the River Before It Runs Too Low. The song goes by at a fairly brisk pace, but the drums are restrained, and you can hear lovely little details in the arrangement: a sweet guitar part, a little bit of strings, even something that sounds like an ‘80s Casio. Which brings up another thing I like about Sea Wolf: While Church’s mellow sounds fit in pretty well next to those of many of the bearded, sensitive, hipster-ish guys of today’s indie rock, he doesn’t sound too precious about what instruments he uses or what effect he wants to go for. He sings about gypsies and mysteries in “You’re a Wolf,” but at no point does he seem in danger of writing a rock opera about fairies. The songs are the stars here, not the image. And, yes, Sea Wolf does have a song called “You’re a Wolf.” They also use their MySpace page to list almost 30 other bands with “wolf” in their name.

**SEAWOLF, Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, November 18, 8 p.m., 858-483-8140.**

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**THE COMEDY STORE**

**Friday & Saturday**

_11/15_

**ALICIA GATTO**

**JOHN MILLER**

_FIGHTING FOR NINEWEEN_  

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Must be 21 • All shows 2-drink minimum

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**5 NOTE**

**BY WILLIAM CRAIN**

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**BECOES**

**continued**

_Best reservations should be made for most clubs. Please arrive early for a Saturday show._

**Gallagher's Pub and Grill,** 9146 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach 858-232-5390. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, live music.

**Hennessy’s Tavern (PR),** 805 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach 858-483-8447. Friday and Saturday, live music.


**La Valencia Hotel,** 4420 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach 858-483-6200. Thursday, jazz & tapas. Friday, jazz quartet. Saturday, Latin jazz, Sunday, acoustic world music; Monday, Chidi Yale, jazz, Tuesday, flamenco. Wednesday, blues.

**Winstons,** 1941 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach 858-222-8602. Thursday, 9 P.M., Game Day and the International Partners, alternative rock. Friday, 9 P.M., Kuss and the Wolf, Friday Night Fingers, reggae. Saturday, 1 P.M., Alfred Howard and The K22 Orchestra, jam, Monday, 9 P.M., the Electric Water Band, classic rock. Tuesday, 9 P.M., Dance'Hality, reggae. Wednesday, 9 P.M., Vegetation and the Mayan Viper, reggae.

**710 Beach Club,** 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach 858-483-7844. Thursday, 10 P.M., The Revolvers, soul/rock/reggae. Friday, 11 P.M., Bad N' Bones, soul/rock/reggae. Saturday, 11 P.M., Saturday Night, soul/rock/reggae.

**Turquoise Cafe,** 837 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach 858-483-6200. Wednesday, 7:30 P.M., jam music; Thursday, 7:30 P.M., live music; Friday, 8 P.M., live music; Saturday, 8 P.M., live music; Sunday, 8 P.M., live music.

**710 Beach Club,** 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach 858-483-7844. Thursday, 10 P.M., The Revolvers, soul/rock/reggae. Friday, 11 P.M., Bad N’ Bones, soul/rock/reggae. Saturday, 11 P.M., Saturday Night, soul/rock/reggae.

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**DOWNTOWN**

**Anthology,** 1507 India Street, San Diego 858-559-0980. Thursday, the Avenging White Band, Friday, Little Cuchito and the Night Cats, Blues, Saturday, James Cotton, Blues, Sunday, Brian Brose’s Underdogs, Up & Down, Jazz, Wednesday, Eric Alexander and Jimmy Makove, Jazz.

**Bela**, 919 Fourth Street, Gudanm, 858-221-6100. Wednesday, 10 P.M., Doc’s Sushi & Karaoke Bar, 858-223-8131. Friday and Saturday, Steve Duvet, classic rock.

**Mexico Stone Pub,** 870 Beach Street, Ocean Beach 858-221-8310. Thursday, 8 P.M., Yara’s, rock, 858-227-9847. Friday and Saturday, Steve Duvet, classic rock.


**Dizzy’s,** 354 Fourth Avenue, Gudanm, 858-239-5810. Thursday, 9 P.M., the International Farmers, blues, and Raggle Taggle, afro/latin folk, Monday, 8 P.M., Aurora Jennings, acoustic proposal.

**4th & B**, 338 First Street, Downtown, 858-221-8310, Wednesday, Magnetix, rock/blues. Saturday, the Soul Revue; Sunday, the Fremonts.

**Bamboo Rock,** 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach 858-221-8310. Thursday, 10 P.M., Amanda Michel and Raggle Taggle, afro/latin folk, Monday, 8 P.M., Aurora Jennings, acoustic proposal.

**Lizette’s,** 837 West Indies Avenue, Downtown, 858-223-8131. Thursday, 8 P.M., the Dregs of Sada, rock.

**Mystique,** 4th Street, Downtown, 858-223-8131. Thursday, 8 P.M., the Mississippi Shouters, rock/blues.

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**Tiki House,** 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach 858-223-9734. Thursday, Lazy Lizard, karaoke. Friday, the Mudsharks, rock. Saturday, the Mississippi Madsharks, blues, Sunday, open mic. Wednesday, Careen Ball, rock.

**Terious Cafe,** 873 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach 858-483-6200. Thursday, jazz & tapas. Friday, jazz quartet. Saturday, Latin jazz, Sunday, acoustic world music; Monday, Chidi Yale, jazz, Tuesday, flamenco. Wednesday, blues.

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**Brandon’s Tattoo and Piercing**, 2610 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach 858-221-8310. Thursday, 10 P.M., the Salt Lickers, international rock.

**Mississippi Shouters,** 2180 River Front, Ocean Beach 858-221-8310. Thursday, 10 P.M., the Dregs of Sada, rock.

**JukeBox**, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach 858-483-7844. Thursday, 10 P.M., The Revolvers, soul/rock/reggae. Friday, 11 P.M., Bad N’ Bones, soul/rock/reggae. Saturday, 11 P.M., Saturday Night, soul/rock/reggae.

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**The Al McKay Allstars** present  
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_Art showed content from Nov 15, 2007_
The Kensington Club, 4078 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2484. Friday, Transit and Charlie Mal, rock.


Martin's Above Fourth, 3941 Fourth Avenue, San Diego. 619-295-0232. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Vintage Vinyl, jazz.

O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub, 3130 Mission Beach Blvd, San Diego. 619-276-5677. Friday, 9 p.m., Kennedy’s Corner, indie. Saturday, 9 p.m., the Blooding Ish, Old Devil, and Bisked in Snow, rock/punk/ish folk. Monday, 8 p.m., Mystery Train, blues. Tuesday, 9 p.m., Bagdad City and the Prin Music, rock. Wednesday, the Northwest Band, Hammond, DMF, Niospec, Irving goats, and Tim Rudy, punk/rock/barnes.

The Ould Sod, 3737 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-9894. Friday, live music. Tuesday, traditional Irish jam session.

Padre Gold, 7245 Linda Vista Road, San Diego. 858-227-9901. Monday, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., the Jazz Project Big Band, big-band-swing.

Pal Joey's, 5147 Waring Road, Allied Gardens. 619-286-7837. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., the Blues Jaguars, blues/swing.

Roisie O’Grady’s, 902 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-7990. Friday and Saturday, live rock.


Second Wind, 3115 Norcross Road, San Carlos. 619-815-7010. Friday and Saturday, Sana Cruz, classic rock.

Soma, 3550 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-6027. Music is rock/indie/Alternative. Thursday, 7 p.m., the Moths, Agor Orange, and D2. Friday, 7 p.m., Top Pow to U, beneath the Sky. Whiskey A Go Go, Down town, and the Daphb Pernons Saturday, 7 p.m., Say Anything, Hilt Godfroy, and Petosexual. Sunday, 6 p.m., Big Head the Kid Table, Whole Wheat Bread, the A K A, We Definitely Baked, Evil Petting Zoo, and the Final Best Babies.

South Park Bar and Grill, 1949 Toron Street, San Diego. 619-696-1080. Thursday, 11:30’s Jazz Jam. Friday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Amanda Browning and the John Kay Oday. Saturday, Mike Jones and the 4x Trifecta, R&D, 7040 Jazz, Sunday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Tim Naranja and Doug Walker, modern jazz.
San Diego Reader

Friday, 9 p.m., dance.

North County (continued)

San Diego Tio Leo’s Lounge, 7256 Carmel Valley Road, Del Mar. 858-789-0270. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m., classic rock. Tuesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Mike Gardner, acoustic rock/folk.

Cheers, 2347 Main Street, Ramona. 760-799-0270. Friday and Saturday, classic rock. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Mike Gardner, acoustic rock/folk.

China’s Palace, 2241 South El Camino Real, Oceanside. 760-419-3000. Sunday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Gordon, keyboard, Pets. Saturday, 9 p.m., Jerry Harris and the Tornado Magnets, 143 South Cedros, Carlsbad.

This CD is divided almost equally into three parts. The first few songs are happy, snappy piano tunes with a sprinkle of honky-tonk electric guitar and a bit of harmonica. I appreciate the piano, and it’s played well. This part of the album is rooted in America, only the tempo is a bit slower than raucous small-town bar music. The band plays this bit with journeyman skill, but they never get comfortable enough to excel.

Midway through the album, the band switches gears to a combination of blues and lounge, only the tempo is even further restrained. Given that blues and lounge are already slow and Isam’s throttle is set at about 1/3 speed, you can imagine these songs aren’t going to get the band onstage at the MTV Teen Attention Deficit Disorder Music Awards. Delving even deeper into somnolent inspiration, we get to the last few tracks, 10 to 13. These approach lullaby speed, and Isam’s voice is gravely sweet, like your dad reading a bedtime story two days before Christmas. Even for the “soft rock” genre, this CD is a snoozer.

If it weren’t for track 11, “Fourteen Years,” I’d only recommend this CD as an alternative to warm milk. But, ah, track 11 is an acoustic offering near the brilliance of Crosby, Stills, and Nash. I wish I had an album of songs just like it.

To get your local CD reviewed, please mail it to: Music Editor, Humphrey’s CDS, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803.

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San Diego Reader November 15, 2007

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Bone of Goodmen with The Vulgar Herd

Buddhism in Backstage

Musicians:

The Isam Band

Humphrey’s Backstage

Music Club

CD is a snoozer.

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Mulaney’s Wagon Wheel, 8861 Magnolia Avenue, Santee, 619-448-8550. Friday and Saturday, country music.

Renegade Inn, 14330 Old Highway 80 (half mile east from Lake Jennings turnoff), Hmm Springs, 419-801-8205. Friday and Saturday, Southern country, country.

Second Wind, 8256 Magnolia Avenue, Santee, 619-590-8290. Friday and Saturday, 3 Miles High, classic rock.

Tommy’s Italian Restaurant, 118 North Second Street, El Cajon, 619-440-2679. Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.; France Z, stand-up comedy/rock.

Beneath the Sky: Soma
Big D and the Kids Table: Soma
Big Sandy and His Fly-Rite Boys: The Casbah
Cinder Road: House of Blues
Civet: Brick By Brick
Conspiracy of Thought: Cane’s
The Dajjal Personas: Soma
A Dark Halo: The Jumping Turtle
The Desert Vikings: The Jumping Turtle

D.Roost: Cane’s
Hello Goodbye: Soma

Himas: House of Blues
Impending Doom: Soma
In Silence: The Jumping Turtle
Inciting Riots: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Just Like Jenna: Brick By Brick
Kennedy’s Curse: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Lazarro Cassanova: 4th & B
The Midwinters: The Metaphor Coffeehouse

The Misfits: Soma

SOUTH BAY/CORONADO

Buon Giorno Restaurant, 4110 Bonita Road, Bonita, 619-674-2688. Thursday, 7 p.m., the Ticket Jazz Trio; Friday, 9 p.m., Joe Davo, variety. Saturday, 7 p.m., to midnight, Stage 44, Latin/ and French, RB/Jazz.

The Butcher Shop, 300 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-420-9440. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 8 p.m., Per Gertsson, standards/parolatin.

Hotel del Coronado, 1550 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-6611. Ballock and Story: Thursday through Sunday, 4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Tony Lasley, Latin jazz, Friday and Saturday, 8:30 p.m., Ray Bricu, pianist; Monday, 4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Gretz Granoble, Tuesday and Wednesday, Joe Gibson, guitar. 1550 Ocean: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 9 p.m. to midnight, Tony Lasley, jazz guitar.

Crown Room: Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Ray Bricu, pianist; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Ping Eliz, harpist.

Island Sports and Spirits, 104 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-3454. Friday, the Stilettos, rockabilly; Saturday, Jon’s Garage, classic rock.

MP’s Irish Pub and Grill, 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-5281. Thursday, Big City Shamrock Blues, Friday, Mystique, jazz/R&B; Saturday, the Elitement, Blues; Sunday, Jon Moore, acoustic/kits; Monday, The War, Irish folk, Tuesday, Jackson and Sons, acoustic; Wednesday, Taylor Harvey, acoustic rock.

ALTERNATIVE

Agent Orange
Amon Amarath
House of Blues

Bamboo Rock: The Casbah
Bartender’s Bible: The Casbah
Beneath the Burial: Dreamstort

D.A.R.: Soma
Rheanna Downey: The Metaphor Coffeehouse
Dying Regret: The Jumping Turtle
Evil Petting Zoo: Soma
Fighting for Nineteen: Dreamstort
Fing: The Casbah
Alicia Grotto: Dreamstort
Josh Haggquist: The Metaphor Coffeehouse
Head(s): Cane’s
Hello Goodbye: Soma

EAST COUNTY

Clan Bella Cafe, 223 Baltimore Drive, La Mesa, 619-577-0328. Friday, 9 p.m., the Zzymzzy Quartet, jazz.

Dirk’s Niteclub, 682 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-484-6366. Friday and Saturday, Noreen, classic rock.

Don’s Cocktail Lounge, 1321 Rancho Mission Viejo Road, El Cajon, 619-435-2444. Friday and Saturday, the Tall Gods, rock/rock.

Downtown Cafe, 102 East Main Street, El Cajon, 619-440-5807. Friday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Joes and the Stangys, classic rock/oldies/country.

Fannie’s Nightclub, 615 Campo Road, Spring Valley, 619-489-2804. Friday and Saturday, live rock/metal/punk.

Matchbox Twenty
Duran Duran
Lenny Kravitz
Vanessa Carlton

SUNDAY DECEMBER 9
6:00PM

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EVENT TIME & DATE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
as i hear it
BY BRIAN CARVER

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2007

ALTERNATIVE

Mr. Tube and the Flying Objects: The Casbah
My Laughing Face: Dreamstreet
Nautical Disaster: The Casbah
Orange: Brick by Brick
Polysics: Soma
Project Cain: The Jumping Turtle
Puddle of Mudd: House of Blues
Say Anything: Soma
The Shake Ups: The Metaphor Coffeehouse
The Silent Comedy: The Casbah
Six Reasons: Dreamstreet
Sonic Syndicate: House of Blues
Tainted Society: Dreamstreet
Too Pure to Die: Soma
Uh Huh Her: The Casbah
Whitesapel: Soma
The Wrecking Dead: Dreamstreet
Zoey Boy and Karma Girl: 1 Stop Cafe

ROCK

Addiquity: The Casbah
Buddy Akai: 8th & B
The A.R.K.: Soma
The Average White Band: Soma
Wendy Balley: Humphrey's
The Band of Goodmen: Humphrey's
The Baptists: The Casbah
The Bozanni Brothers: Coyote Bar and Grill
Brazt: The Old Skid
Steve Browne: Skinner Street Pub
Calico Horse: The Casbah
Canon Ball: The Casbah
Chango Malo: The Konings Club
The Credit Union: Ocean House
Crash Encore: The Casbah
Criminal Funk: Humphrey's
Cubana: 'Canes

Dazed and Confused: 710 Beach Club
The Dead Beat Babies: Soma
Deadline Friday: Belly Up Tavern
Deep Fried: House of Blues
Destroyer Bunny: Windows
The Detroit Underground: Humphrey's
Dios Malos: Belly Up Tavern
Dirty Heads: Soma
DMRP: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
Nate Donnis: 'R. O'Sullivan's
Down: House of Blues
The Drugs of Sadat: Dick's Last Resort
Dusty n' Bones: 710 Beach Club
The Eight Twenty Band: Hyde Park
Electric Soul: 'Til Late (Micro Mosh)
The Electric Waste Band: Windows
Etched In Stones: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
Firebox: The Casbah
5 Miles High: Second Wind (Santee)
Fleetwood Max!: McCabe's Beach Club
Funky P VIP: The Kachen
Game Daze: Windows
Mike Gardiner: North Bar Sports and Spirits
Mozz: The Casbah
The Ghost Town Deputies: The Casbah
Good Times: Henry's Pub
Joey Harris and the Tornado Magnet: Tim's Lounge
Hollywood Begg: The Casbah
The Homeless Sexuals: Brick By Brick
The International Farmers: Winstons
JBG: 'Canes
J-Down: Humphrey's
Joey and the Stingray: Downtown Cafe
Jessie Johnson: Humphrey's
Kid Lightning: 4th & B
Lizard Fish: Humorosus Tavern (Carlsbad)
The Long and Short of It: Humphrey's
The Muddox Revolution: Humphrey's

The Mood: Ocean House
The Narci: Tiki House
Nemesis: Dick's Last Resort
The Neverland Ranch Hands: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
New Moonson: Belly Up Tavern
Northstar: Coyote Bar and Grill
O'Kei Riders: 'Til Late (Micro Mosh)
Old Devil: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Old Man Hands: Belly Up Tavern
One Theory: Dreamstreet
OPM: 'Canes
The Phunk Junkies: 'Canes
The Prism Band: Brick by Brick
The Prism Music: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
Private Domaine: Dick's Last Resort
Qu'est Que C'est: The Casbah

Regal City: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
Tim Ralho: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
Rice Gone Wild: Molly Malone's
Rockstar: Humphrey's Belly Up Tavern
Ron's Garage: Island Sports and Spirits
The Salt Lickers: The Kachen
Sea Wolf: Belly Up Tavern
Malvin Seals: 'Canes
Serious Guise: Second Wind (San Carlos)
Shark Attack: 4th & B
Shea's Rebellion: Brick By Brick
Shut Up Stella: House of Blues
Sloth: Dreamstreet
Smug: J.L. Landau's Irish Pub
Soundscapes: Brick By Brick
Spill Toronto: The Casbah

San Diego Songs Take the Street Test

Artist: High Mountain Tempel
Song: "Ruins of the Empire" (from the CD A Screaming Comes Across the Sky)
Heard By: Craig Oliver, South Park

She had an okay voice — straining, but okay. Maybe I'm mistaken, but it was a pop or soft country song almost. It reminded me of a newer Carrie Underwood or maybe old Jewel. She was singing about wanting some dude to be her everything, basically. It was pretty much a song about a chick wanting a guy. It was more of an acoustic, slow song with soft drums. It’s hard to say if that would get put on the radio — I've heard a million bands that should have been on the radio that weren't. That would probably be more of a “chick” song. I don't think I'd listen to all the way through if I was hanging out by myself.

TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD HEARD, PLEASE MAIL IT TO:
Music Editor, As I Hear It, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803

Artist: Sheni Lopez
Song: "10 p.m." (from the CD 10 p.m.)
Heard By: Cameron Meadows, El Cajon

It’s good. It's a really nice underlying beat to it that’s maybe similar to the Gorillas. It flows very well with the rapping. One of the rappers sounds very much like one of the rappers from Linkin Park. It's cool because you have two different kinds of voices — two different kinds of styles. The lyrics are good. They're both rapping about different stuff. I would definitely consider putting it on hip-hop. It seemed like this song was a little bit more jazz based. I could see that song being pretty mainstream, but it could [also] be totally underground, just according to how much exposure it gets. I could see myself listening to that song all the time.

Artist: Moses One & Mannyexport
Song: "Clockwork '06" (from the CD Foreign Emirence)
Heard By: Tarja Dehrab, Linda Vista

It’s already underground but it’s that maybe similar to the Gorillas. It flows very well with the rapping. One of the rappers sounds very much like one of the rappers from Linkin Park. It’s cool because you have two different kinds of voices — two different kinds of styles. The lyrics are good. They’re both rapping about different stuff. I would definitely consider putting it on hip-hop. It seemed like this song was a little bit more jazz based. I could see that song being pretty mainstream, but it could [also] be totally underground, just according to how much exposure it gets. I could see myself listening to that song all the time.

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Yo, DJ!

Talk About a Star

We drove the 90 miles from Modesto and parked blocks away. Arriving without tickets, we were lucky to purchase our pair moments before they sold out. We made our way to the balcony and enjoyed the first two acts: the Chambers Brothers and Etta James. Now, this is the Winterland balcony, 1975. Contact buzz, anybody? They could have called it “Bongland.” Like being inside a giant hookah, Not that I’m complaining, mind you.

Anyhow, during intermission, the buzz of excitement was not just from the smoke. This crowd was alive. Out they came. Their first song was “You Got It.” From the “White” album. I could tell the boys were a little jittery because the performance was not too tight. Just a few months before, original drummer Robbie McIntosh died of an overdose. Singer Al Gorrie was kept alive that same night only because Cher kept dousing him with water, so the legend goes. It would be unfair to suggest they partook in any preconcert enhancements this night, but hell, they’d be catching up with the audience. Their new drummer Steve Ferrone was the first black member of the previously all-white AWB. Not that anybody ever claimed “false advertisement” or asked for a refund.

After a few songs, the group tightened up, and by the time they introduced the title cut of their next LP, Cut the Cake, my girlfriend was imploring me to take her downstairs near the stage. I was content to just kick back upstairs, but down we went. She led me to the front of the stage, which had room for us directly in front of the lead singer.

We danced all night. I couldn’t believe it. MLK would have been proud. Whites and blacks dancing and smiling together in sheer joy. Then came the moment: the opening refrain of “Pick Up the Pieces,” just like Bill had played for me weeks earlier. You know, where the guitar strum precedes the signature saxophone riff. Well I’m here to tell you that guitar strum lasted a good three minutes. They milked it for all it was worth. The sax guys took their sweet time resetting the microphones, fidgeting with their horns — to the point where guitarist Onnie McIntyre gave them a look as if to say “So start, already!”

When the saxophones took wing, it was shivering ecstasy throughout the hall, long-version style. The band cooled us off with an inspired encore of “Heard It Through the Grapevine.” Even more miraculously, I found my car and drove us safely home through the Central Valley fog.
San Diego Reader
November 15, 2007

105

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BANDS

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Amber Rubarth: Lotto’s Coffee House
Lisa Sanders: Lotto’s Coffee House

Bluimp: Harney Stone Pub
Skibbereen: Border Books and Music (Carlsbad)
Pete Stewart: Brick By Brick
Teddy Thompson: Belly Up Tavern
Karl Vatland: Brick By Brick
Suzanne Vega: Belly Up Tavern
Chris Valer: Lotto’s Coffee House
Veronica Noy: E Street Cafe
Gene Warren: McP’s Irish Pub and Grill

BLUES / SOUL

The Bayou Brothers: Patrick’s II
Big City Shamen: McP’s Irish Pub and Grill
Blue Fours: Patrick’s II
Blue Lagoon: Patrick’s II
Blue Rocker: The Garden Bench Bistro
The Blues Invader: Pal Joey’s
James Cotton: Anthology
The Elevators: McP’s Irish Pub and Grill
The Freemonts: Patrick’s II
Fuzzy and the Bluesmen: Croce’s Jax Bar
Johnny “B” Bop: Coyote Bar and Grill
L.A. Jones: Patrick’s II

Mia Jones and the Kc Trifecta: South Park Bar and Grill
Lady Dottie and the Diamonds: Henry’s Pub
Queen Latifah: California Center for the Arts
Little Charlie and the Nightcats: Anthropology
Michele Lundeen and Blues Strike: Patrick’s II, Humphrey’s
The Bill Magee Blues Band: Patrick’s II
The Mississippi Mudsharks: Tiki House
Modern Day Moonshiners: Martins Ranch (Galahamp), Thirsters, House of Blues

Jeff Moore and the Witch Doctors: The Kronen
Mystery Train: O’Connor’s Pub and Nightclub
The Post 310 Blues Band: American Legion Post 310
Len Rainey and the Midnight Players: Coyote Bar and Grill
Ruby and the Red Hot Tots: Belly Up Tavern
Ruby Blue: Belly Up Tavern
The Soul Persuaders: Belly Up Tavern
The Stilettos: Island Sports and Spirits, Henry’s Pub
Billy Watson: Coyote Bar and Grill

RAP / HIP-HOP

The Comfortable Creeps: Brick By Brick
Deep Rooted: Belly Up Tavern
Kastle Vania: Brick By Brick

The Kneshits: Belly Up Tavern
Lyrics Born: Belly Up Tavern
Queen Latifah: California Center for the Arts

EVERYTHING ELSE

Mickey Avalon: Info
Tomi Barabara: O’Georges on Fifth
Ray Corcor: The Butcher Shop
Julio de la Huerta: The Westgate Hotel
Karen Giorgio: The Westgate Hotel
Happy Rom: Triple Crown Pub
John Cain: Shooters Bar and Grill, Bahia Resort Hotel
Jane Lull: Border’s Books and Music (Mission Valley)
Orquesta Paranada: Sevilla
Orquesta Guasara: Sevilla
OSAL: Brick By Brick
Faith Page: The Westgate Hotel
John Tafolla: Blue Parrot
Tidepool: Brick By Brick

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ERIC ALEXANDER 11/21
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GREG ADAMS 11/24
OLETA ADAMS 11/30
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On Saturday, October 27, there were several more Halloween parties to crash. I planned to hit two or three.

The first one I got wind of was in Encinitas. It started early, and as I was coming from North County, I thought I’d go to that one before heading down to National City.

My date and I had planned to dress as Sonny and Cher. I shaved my beard but left a long, goofy mustache. I decided, in the spirit of the holiday’s gore and blood, that I’d be Sonny after his skiing accident. I wore fake blood on my face, ski goggles around my neck, and I made a sign that read, “Gypsies, Tramps, and Skis.”

Before we got into my car, I gathered a few small tree branches and tucked them into my collar and belt. My belt buckle was a cheesy microphone, which I was glad to make use of after buying it for a dead-rock-star party I had attended. There were two security guards at the party’s driveway who were charging $10 a head for entry. I was able to talk my way in but thought it was odd that a doctor would charge people to attend his party. Sure, he had a lot of food and drink and a DJ, but it had to look bad to some of your fellow employees at the hospital who’re probably working $15-an-hour jobs.

There was a dead pig on a table, which grossed me out, but a crowd of people was devouring it. As I walked by, someone asked, “Who are you supposed to be, roadkill?” I said, “Are you talking to me or the pig?”

He looked at my date and said, “I know you’re supposed to be Cher, but who is he?”

A few minutes later, someone else said, “You’re Sonny and Cher, but who are you?” as they looked at me. Cher replied, “I would need a mustache to be both Sonny and Cher.” I said, “Luckily, she waxed it a few days ago.”

There were five other people who came up to us and had no clue as to who we were. Our costumes were a bust.

But we weren’t alone. One doctor had a tuxedo and a mask. He had a receding hairline, and Cher said to me, “Look at Jack.” He did look a bit like Nicholson, and I thought he was the Joker from *Batman*. According to his nametag, he was “007.” I said, “You just wanted to utilize the tuxedo you had.” He said, “Actually, yeah. I just wore it to a party for Roger Moore in Los Angeles.” I said, “He didn’t have to wear a nametag that said 007, did he?” He said, “Nah, everyone recognized him.”

I had read that Moore turned 80 and couldn’t believe he was that old. He doesn’t look it. 007 said, “If you saw him in person, you’d believe it.”

He told me he usually dresses up as historical figures such as George Washington.

I found out later who my date was referring to when she said “Look at Jack.” There was a guy in a Jack in the Box head on the dance floor. He looked funny bobbing his head, and I wondered if he would take an eye out with his sharp nose.

Another guy had made a bathtub costume, with bubbles and a showerhead. His friend followed him around in a bathrobe and shower cap.

An older doctor was walking around in a hospital gown that had a fake backside sticking out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out. He had an IV drip going out.
labeled “Viagra” attached to his arm and a pretty blonde nurse following him around with a bedpan. She said, “Don’t tell anyone I took all these supplies from [my] hospital.”

I walked by a room that had strobe lights and a DJ. There were a few people dancing.

Out by the pool, I found a bartender serving drinks.

A woman in a devil costume asked me to guess who she was. Since she was wearing a nice dress, I said, “The devil wearing Prada?” “No,” she said, “the devil in a blue dress...but I guess it could be Prada.”

She didn’t know who I was either.

A Middle-Eastern woman in a nurse outfit came up and said, “You don’t know who I am, do you?” I backed up for a better look and said, “Yeah, I went to your sister’s wedding. I haven’t seen you.”

She looked at my date and said, “He asked my friend to marry him.”

Luckily, I had already jokedly wrote this story: I told my date the story: I went to a room with a blonde nurse following him around with a bedpan. She said, “Don’t tell anyone I took all these supplies from [my] hospital.”

I promised Sunana that I’d write about her sister’s wedding and then she went to take her brother, who was the DJ, a drink.

As we left for another party, I assured my date that I wouldn’t propose to anyone there.

I hadn’t heard back from the people in National City and decided not to drive that far south.

Gerald’s San Carlos party was put together when a friend of his had to cancel her party due to the wildfires.

There were musicians playing downstairs, but I stayed upstairs with two of the biggest pizzas I’d ever seen.

I glanced over the rail to watch the band. Gerald, dressed as a nun, was on bass. A Mexican wrestler was on drums — cape and all.

A drunk guy came over to grab a piece of pizza and said, “Who the hell are you guys supposed to be?” I said, “This is getting ridiculous. Do I need to sing?” I started singing. “They say we’re young and we don’t know/ Won’t find out until we grow.” My date was reluctant to sing out until we grow. She joined in when I got to the chorus: “Babe...I got you babe.”

A few people laughed. He looked over at them confused and then back at us. “I still don’t know.”

I said to Cher, “Do we need to do another song?”

The guy said, “I don’t watch a lot of TV.”

Crash your party? Call 619-235-3000 x421 and leave an invitation for Josh Board.

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

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**CONSPIRACY OF THOUGHT**

**KILLERS OF COMEDY**

Comedians from the Howard Stern Show

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**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21**

**DIET SODA FEET**

**STONE SENSES • NOIZ**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23**

**40 OUNCES TO FREEDOM**

Duran Duran Tribute

**THE BIG PROVIDER**

Dave Matthews Band Experience

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24**

**FURGUS MOUTH**

**CRITICAL ME THE HEDRONS**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29**

**MOWOR**

**DIECAST**

**EKOTREN • SIX REASONS**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1**

**SAMMY DREAD**

**REBELLION**

**ROOTS COVENANT • J IRIE & LAMB’S BLOOD**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8**

**EEK-A-MOUSE**

**B FOUNDATION • SOCIAL GREEN**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13**

**EARL ZERO**

**DASH EYE**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18**

**EAGLE SCALE**

**TO FREEDOM**

Sublime Tribute

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22**

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Theater of War

“That was fun! I got to cast the prettiest girl in class — and kiss her!”

I always had a passion for play-making,” says Robert Landis, co-founder of the legendary Foothills Theatre of San Diego (1947) and equally legendary Scripters (1948). “Theater has always been — how to put this — a source of decompensation for me, something apart from the stress of business. I always loved to see a show, talk about theater, write plays, dream.

“Maybe,” he adds, “that’s why I got that assignment during the war. They needed people who could write fiction” — the biggest fictional production, it turns out, of the 20th Century. The war was World War II. The assignment: construct an imaginary army to confuse the Nazis about Allied invasion plans for D-Day.

“It all started with a clerical error,” says 86-year-old Landis, still tickled by the irony. He studied English and theater at DePauw University. During spring break of 1942, he enlisted in the Navy and received an on-the-spot commission during the war. They needed people fast. They called us ‘Golden Boots’ — instant officers.

One hundred Golden Boots assembled for training at Newport, Rhode Island. Owing to a clerical error William DeLannoy — “should’ve been with the clerical error William deLannoy — ‘should’ve been with the Navy and received an on-the-spot commission during the war. They needed people fast. They called us ‘Golden Boots’ — instant officers.”

They got to see Mary Martin in One Touch of Venus from backstage. “We watched next to her. Landis chuckles, “but couldn’t tell you precisely where it was.”

Robert Landis

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Robert Landis
led by General George S. Patton, prepared to make the major assault.

A London film company constructed false barracks, shells of buildings, aircraft, “even fake LSTs” [landing ship, tank] in the water. Large swaths of obvious camouflage concealed empty fields. The fictional messages and fake movie sets created the impression that the Allies had almost twice the strike force they actually did (for a full account, see Roger Hesketh’s Fortitude: The D-Day Deception Campaign).

“When it comes to misinformation, the Brits were already masters,” says Landis. “They taught us how to create coded tapes and radio them out to Patton’s quote-unquote headquarters.” Landis and others sent hundreds of urgent messages to Kent, and received hundreds back, building an entire fictional base, strategies, needs, imperatives.

“Another thing the Brits taught us: before an invasion, communications reach critical mass. Then, the day before, they drop off to nothing. That’s a dead giveaway the Germans alerted to.” So instead, come the first week of June 1944, and even after D-Day, Selfridge’s basement continued sending communiques: “No drop off, as if plans were still being made for the big one.”

The continued disinformation helped construct one of the most life-saving fictions of the war that D-Day was just a feint. The roof attack was still scheduled for Calais. Hitler believed it and kept his main Panzer divisions in Paris.

“I hope it helped,” says Landis, eyes watering, “that and that we saved lives.”

During the war, Landis and deLannoy attended many a West End show and got seriously about starting a community theater. “Bill sold me on the allure of San Diego, even though they already had a theater there, the Old Globe. While I was in Indiana getting released from the service, Bill said ‘Come visit. You heard of love at first sight?’ He beams. ‘Well, guess what...’”

In 1945, Landis crossed the country in a 1940 Buick sedan. He reached Los Angeles and turned left on the old El Camino Real. At South Del Mar, where the hill slopes down to Carmel Valley Road, he saw Torrey Pines (state reserve), Sorrento Valley, whitecaps on a blue-blue ocean, and La Jolla off in the distance. God! It was gorgeous.

“I had no job waiting for me, just pure faith that something good would happen.” Landis got work at the Union-Tribune and eventually became manager of advertising.

Landis, deLannoy, their wives Gini and Lois, and Norman Johnson founded the Footlights Theatre in 1947. For a while, it was the only local theater in San Diego, since the Navy requisitioned the Old Globe as a hospital annex and wouldn’t remove the clinic and cots for some time.

Footlights produced seven shows a year, for seven years, in the 700-seat Roosevelt School Auditorium north of the zoo on Park. Their inaugural show commemorated their first Broadway experience: Wilder’s Skin of Our Teeth. Since there were no national touring productions in those days, Broadway released the rights to plays one year after they opened. “We did them as soon as we could, and the New York promotion helped sell tickets.”

Ask people who saw Footlights to name their favorite show, and two things happen: five-decade-old memories spring to life, and few can choose one. Candidates include Dark of the Moon, Joan of Lorraine, Pygmalion, or The Man Who Came to Dinner.

In the early ’50s, Landis and deLannoy dreamed of buying an acre in Mission Valley and a Quonset hut — “a big one, seat 200, maybe 250” — at war surplus. They’d open a theater amid the dairy farms. But in 1953, a new summer company in San Diego — the La Jolla Playhouse — acquired the latest Broadway releases. “Our source dried up. In essence, the La Jolla Playhouse put us out of business. I don’t blame them. We were worn out, and it was time to fold our tents.”

Along with being a loyal Charger fan — do NOT speak of the Bolts in his presence! — Robert Landis remains an unconditional lover of theater. When he retired from the Union in 1982, he joined Project Vanguard in Point Loma, where he directed, acted, and had five of his plays produced. His subjects range from Chekhov (Anton’s Lovers) to presidential dirty tricks (The Illusion Factory), The Canaris Enigma, about spymasters in London and Berlin in WWII, came from his experiences in the war.

In February 2007, Landis expressed his passion for play-making once again. Vanguard staged his Au Revoir, Cyrano, a Play with Music — 60 years, almost to the day, after the founding of Footlights Theatre. •
Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given to us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

Blithe Spirit
MiraCosta College Theatre Program stages Noël Coward’s popular comedy about a scence, held for a novelist’s deceased wife, that works too well.

By the Bog of Cats
SDSU School of Theatre, Television, and Film presents Marina Carr’s “play full of Irish mysticism and folklore loosely based on Melville’s EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE, DON POWELL THEATRE, SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, THROUGH DECEMBER 2; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M., MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. (NOTE: NO PERFORMANCES THANKSGIVING WEEK.) 615-594-6884.

Cry-Baby
La Jolla Playhouse presents the world premiere musical adaptation of John Waters’s cult classic movie: “bad boy meets good girl,” but is “as bad as they say”? Mark Bankows directed.

Doubt
South Coast Repertory Theatre stages John Patrick Shanley’s drama about an amiable young priest suspected of an “incident” by his school’s principal. Martin Benven directed.

Dracula
North Coast Rep’s production favors theatricality to camp or over-the-top attempts at hair-raising. Some of the most memorable images are stage-wide tapestries, as when Renfield breaks out of his straitjacket, and vampires attack backlit by lightning, longs for her long-lost beau. In this ensembl concept directed by Christopher Venable, the characters are so close to their secret lives and “hidden” selves, and so sexually starved, they might not need the Count to turn them loose. The repetens is already there. Stephen Dietz’s adaptation, which tries to replicate almost the entire Bram Stoker novel, has lulls the cast doesn’t overcome. But performances carry the day. Sean Sullivan’s Renfield’s a aged Hamhilt Lecter on steroids, even before she succumbs, Christy Yael’s graceful, driven Lucy moves like a restless gymnast. Jason Heil’s Harker and Brenda Dodge’s Mina nicely reveal Victorian propriety coming apart at the synapses. Matt Thompson’s Count, and this is probably direc torial, is a super-seducer in control. But a subplot runs through the book that Thompson could underscore: the Count also has a “hidden self.” Beneath his sensuality he’s a slave to needs, fearing “time” and “want” and cursed to repeat himself, maybe forever.

The Frogs
Athena in crisis. Its has no great living write, just hacks. So Dion ysus disguises himself as Hercules, line’s mane and skin, and journeys to Pluto’s court in Hades. He’ll bring back the best deceased Greek writer. Question is who wears the laurel — Aeschylus or Euripides? Dion ysus conducts an underworld battle of the Poets to find out not who’s best, it turns out, but who will best serve the state. The Theatre, Inc., opened its intimate new space with a spirited, though quite uneven staging of Aristophanes’ comedy. Too often cast members stressed business over vocal clarity and garbled Marianne McDonald and J. Michael Walton’s witty, often rhyming adaptation (the theatre may contribute here; sound seems to climb straight up). Other extended comic bits, including a rape number, tended to spread and slow the pace. High points: co-director Douglas Lay’s tricky Dion ysus (rightfully more fragile human than imperious Greek god); Fred Harlan’s physical transformations as Xanthias, Dion ysus’s servant; and Michael Niets in multiple roles. Aristophanes thought most comedy vulgar, especially the scatological works of Aristophanes, who never met a bodily function he wouldn’t exploit. For its inaugural production, Theatre, Inc., makes a mission statement. It honors the playwright’s delight in bargain-base ment law comedy and declares it won’t play safe or sweep anliticities under the welcome mat. Worth a try.

The Nine Muses
900 S. C Street, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH NOVEMBER 15; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M., MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-230-3016.

Gas
Palomar Performing Arts stages Georg Kaiser’s expressionistic drama that “challenges the sustainability of our technological society.” Michael Madson directed.

An Ideal Husband
Oliver Wilde built his comedy on an inversion: instead of a man putting a woman on a pedestal, Lady Gertrude Chiltern holds her husband, Sir Robert, to the highest standard, not knowing he has a past and lives each minute in fear of public exposure (as Wilde penned the play), he was headed for three court trials.

It’s kinda like ABC’s Whose Line is it Anyway?...without commercials...or Drew Carey and some other stuff...

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Puccini’s The Swallow
(La Rondine)
November 9, 11, 15, 17, 18
Lyme Opera Pan Siros at the Birch North Park Theatre 3000 University Avenue, San Diego 619-239-8836 $59, $45, $46, $35, $30 Children 11 & under $35

The story of a love not meant to be...

Worth a try.

MARK O’CONNOR’S APPALACHIA WALTZ TRIO
with Rebecca Silber, viola and Mike Black, cello
Thursday, January 10

GEORGE WINSTON ON TOUR
A Solo Piano Concert
Sunday, January 27

JIGGL
Thunder Drum of China
Friday, March 14

KENNY BURRELL QUARTET
with Anne Wilson, the Magnificent Horn
Saturday, June 11

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“AMAHŁ AND THE NIGHT VISITORS”
A touching Christmas story
December 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 23

MARK O’CONNOR’S APPALACHIA WALTZ TRIO
with Rebecca Silber, viola and Mike Black, cello
Thursday, January 10

GEORGE WINSTON ON TOUR
A Solo Piano Concert
Sunday, January 27

JIGGL
Thunder Drum of China
Friday, March 14

KENNY BURRELL QUARTET
with Anne Wilson, the Magnificent Horn
Saturday, June 11
A Musical Shakespeare Evening
The San Diego Shakespeare Society presents 
“Measure for Measure,” Shakespeare in their original set- 
tings, but also what music meant” to the Bard’s audience.

NEUROSCIENCES INSTITUTE AUDIO-
6190 1040 JOAN OF ARC DRIVE, 
MOUNTAIN, NOVEMBER 13, 
12-7:30 P.M. 619-248-6735.

National Comedy Theatre
Improvational comedic, making up funny stuff on the spot, it is
difficult enough. Years ago, Keith Johnstone thought if he
could improve on the improv and certainly he did. He got the idea from pro wrestling
(“where Terrible Trolls mangled de- 
traksters’ only fun while gimmies
saved their handiwork”). National
Comedy Theatre is an offshoot of Johnstone’s Theatresports (artistic
director Gary Kramer says the two compare like
“rugby and American football”), resembles an athletic
event more than an improv. Teams wear uniforms and compete on Ac- 
 trio.Turf. Using suggestions from the audience, they play “Emotional
Impressionism” (Fox, “Freeze Tag,” with judges awarding points to best scenes. Eisenhower and groans get bottled: quick, wit
rewarded (one of the most refresh-
ing parts of the contest: people ac-
tually acknowledge one another).

Worth a try.

The Swallow (La Rondine)
Opera by San Diego presents

the local premiere of Giacomo
Puccini’s La Rondine

NORTH PARK THEATRE, UNIVERSITY AVENUE,
SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 
619-230-8835.

Torch Song Trilogy
Diversionary Theatre stages Harvey Fierstein’s tone-three act comedy-drama

about the adventures of Arnold Beckoff, “a Jewish homosexual down-and-out.” G. Scott lady- 
delivered.

DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4540 PARK
8:00 P.M.

1250 Third Ave., Chula Vista
SUNDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1800.

Dining Out for the Arts

San Diego’s local premiere of Giacomo
Puccini’s La Rondine

NORTH PARK THEATRE, UNIVERSITY AVENUE,
SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-230-8835.

Torch Song Trilogy
Diversionary Theatre stages Harvey Fierstein’s tone-three act comedy-drama

about the adventures of Arnold Beckoff, “a Jewish homosexual down-and-out.” G. Scott lady- 
delivered.

DIVISIONARY THEATRE, 4540 PARK
8:00 P.M.

1250 Third Ave., Chula Vista
SUNDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1800.
Mamacitas and Lobster

Super Cocina is the secret destination of San Diego gringos who love authentic home-style Mexican food. (It’s no secret to local Latinos, of course.) If you’re hoping to find something resembling the sophisticated Mexico City–style cuisine of the defunct Chilango’s, this isn’t it, but it’s certainly as genuine. Instead of city slicker chef creations, you’ll enjoy simple, spicy country food — mainly the astonishingly varied stews that are the mainstays of home cooking. (And given the cafeteria steam tables, what better than stews?) There’s no professional chef here; these are the family dishes of local housewives from all over Mexico, who cook their favorites for the restaurant. Their audition? The owner’s wife tastes the applicants’ specialties. (No star rating here — it’d be as inappropriate as rating a friend’s dinner party.)

The dining room is simple, spacious, and pleasant, with a terra cotta tile floor, bare tables of blond wood, and craft objects (clayware, mason jars, etc.) on high ledges, plus, near the cash register, a poster illustrating the various types of chili peppers. A normal-size TV at one side of the room is tuned at normal volume to telenovelas — Mexican soap operas. Food is served on paper plates with plastic cutlery (you buy your tray to the trash bin when you’re done).

On any given night, you’ll find a dozen-plus entrees to choose from, rotating from a repertory of, reportedly, over 100 different dishes. For seven bucks cash, you get generous tastes of two entrees, rice, beans, and tortillas. A printed menu board and signs in the windows list favorites as frijoles (goat stew), nopalitos (cactus strips), albondigas (meatballs), and menudo. That doesn’t mean that any of these will be served on a given night. (When I was there, menudo was the only choice from the list.) But you’re sure to find something you’ll enjoy just as much — because here, you can taste before you choose. Just ask, and the counterperson will furnish you a sample of anything you’re hoping to find hundreds of miles from home.

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Chiles are the very heart of Mexican cooking, and after Europeans discovered them in the New World, the plants became near-global nutritional saviors. Humble in their demands for space, water, and fertilizer, adaptable to numerous climates, and amenable to preservation by drying, chiles pack a nutritional wallop of vitamins A and C, with probiotic germicidal properties as well. Each of the gazillion varieties has its own unique flavor profile, from the sweet undertones of jalapeños to the gently seductive darkness of poblanos, from the mustardy-fruity piquancy of habaneros to the reproductive darkness of poblanos, from the mustardy-fruity piquancy of habaneros to the unique flavor profile, from the sweet undertones of jalapeños to the gently seductive darkness of poblanos, from the mustardy-fruity piquancy of habaneros to the reproductive darkness of poblanos, from the mustardy-fruity piquancy of habaneros to the reproductive darkness of poblanos.

The dishes at Super Cocina carry the full chile component, but they don’t bear nameplates — another reason to take full advantage of those samplings. The night I ate there, I felt like a bewildered Moses, confronted with not just one Red Sea in the heat trays but six. This is not Italian-American food, where “red” normally means only tomato. Here, each red is a different blend of ripe chiles. I fell in love at first fiery bite with an incidually shredded pork (probably picadillo de puerco) — the spiciest dish I’ve tasted in any Mexican restaurant in San Diego. For a soothing complement, I chose a chile relleno, a fresh poblano (the proper pepper, not the fast-food version). I fell in love at first fiery bite with an incidually shredded pork (probably picadillo de puerco) — the spiciest dish I’ve tasted in any Mexican restaurant in San Diego. For a soothing complement, I chose a chile relleno, a fresh poblano (the proper pepper, not the fast-food version).

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Almost nothing for vegetarians (possibly chile rellenos or nopalitos when available). No checks or credit cards.

Ratings reflect the reviewer’s reaction to food, ambience, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

Go to SanDiegoReader.com to find hundreds of past reviews.

Super Cocina
3627 University Avenue (36th Street), City Heights, 619-584-6244

HOURS: Daily, 8:00 a.m.–8:30 p.m.

PRICES: Dinner (two-entree choices, rice, beans, tortillas) $7, cash only.

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: Cafeteria featuring rustic Mexican home cooking from many regions; choices change daily, centering on varied stews. Soft drinks only (horchata, jamaica, etc.).

NEED TO KNOW: Free parking lot. Family atmosphere. Tastes of dishes provided upon request while you’re trying to decide. Some dishes very spicy. Almost nothing for vegetarians (possibly chile rellenos or nopalitos when available). No checks or credit cards.

Ratings reflect the reviewer’s reaction to food, ambience, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

Go to SanDiegoReader.com to find hundreds of past reviews.
grounds were tended by a half dozen gardeners — whose daily pay was precisely the amount that the resort dining room charged in guests for a two-egg breakfast. (The cheapest dinner for two would have eaten up a week’s salary.) At that economic level, stews like these would be primarily sauces to pour over rice and/or tortillas, perhaps with a bit of meat to flavor them, and probably more vegetables to fill them out.

There are rarely many stuffed tortilla antojitos in the trays — they often swan away in chafing dishes but may be worth trying if you catch them early. I spoted plump chicken enchiladas in dark green sauce, but the wrappings looked soggy. Whatever you order, you get golden-tinged rice, a tad dry but the wrappings looked decent. (The cheapest dinner for two would have eaten up a week’s salary.)

Breakfast. (The cheapest dinner for two would have eaten up a week’s salary.)

The room is simple, with standard Mexican décor. The chips were fresh, the salsa very mild. The house margarita was also mild but tasty. The guacamole (mainly puréed avocado) demonstrated that this would probably not be an undiscovered authentic treasure. In fact, Jim and I jointly remade the position by stirring in nearly all of the table salsa and a good shake of salt. It was still wimpy white people guacamole.

Luscious Local Lobsters

La Jolla Rancherita, 7404 La Jolla Boulevard (Marine Street), 858-459-5877; http://lajollarancherita.lajolamenuclub.com or (San Diego Reader.com for menu).

At the start of our local lobster season, I learned unhappily of the demise of my two favorites in Puerto Nuevo (“Lobster Village”), south of Rosarito. Most restaurants there are owned by one or the other of two erstwhile fishing families who turned their sleepy town into a huge tourist destination. Nowadays, it’s run down, most of the lobsters in their restaurants are as likely to arrive frozen from other waters as to be fresh and live. Whenever they come from, in the typical Puerto Nuevo lobster restaurant, the critters are first halved and grilled, then chilled, then deep fried in lard and served to tourists with a dipping sauce of melted “Kitchen Maid” spread (margarine blend).

My two faves (El Galeon and Malecon) were both small independents, featuring genuine live spiny lobsters. El Galeon mixed the Kitchen Maid half-and-half with butter. I don’t know why they closed — did the burger bankrupt them? The tiny water-front paragons, Malecon, was owned by an active fisherman who brought his catch in live in the early morning and served it freshly grilled (no lard fry) with 100 percent real melted butter. His articulate “steerer” (they all have English-speaking steerers trying to drag in patrons) told us that the owner had been “threatened by the Big boys” since day one in business. Malecon is now physically demolished.

Local lobsters are currently in season again, and I wanted a good source right here, minus the loud party scenes or inconsistencies of Rockin’ Baja or the Old Town Mexican restaurants. Then I spotted an ad for La Jolla Rancherita — local lobsters $29.95 apiece, highly lauded by a different publication. Samurai Jim and I headed thataways, hoping they might have good Mexican food, too.

The room is simple, with standard Mexican décor. The chips were fresh, the salsa very mild. The house margarita was also mild but tasty. The guacamole (mainly puréed avocado) demonstrated that this would probably not be an undiscovered authentic treasure. In fact, Jim and I jointly remade the position by stirring in nearly all of the table salsa and a good shake of salt. It was still wimpy white people guacamole.

Lobster isn’t on the printed menu — it’s only available in season, supplied by a fisherman cousin of the owner. (Call before you go to make sure they have it.) We had to wait a while for our lobsters — a positive sign that they really were live and cooked to order. Happily, they weren’t fried but lightly grilled (as at dear departed Malecon). They arrived halved, with the tender tail meat pulled from the carapaces, chopped bite-size and returned to the shells. The upper end of one half wore chopped cilantro, the other was strewed with diced-under ripe tomatoes. Tortillas came alongside for diners who want to roll up the lobster and garnishes.

We didn’t. There were two ramekins of dip: One held straight melted butter, the other a delicious green jalapeno-garlic butter. Each plate also included a mini-casserole of dense, reheated mashed potatoes sprinkled with paprika (very comforting), and on the side, a mound of crunchy unsweetened (yay!) coleslaw in a light, tart dressing. The lobsters were large enough that we took home half the portion, and we were glad to have it, since they were mostly succulent enough to furnish another night’s unalloyed pleasure.

The rest of La Jolla Rancherita’s menu is standard border-Mex, with numerous antojito combos plus several stand-alone entries and prime rib on weekends — plus numerous interesting fresh salads. (Hey, it’s La Jolla! We saw no Latins eating there!) Happily, they weren’t fried but lightly grilled (as at dear departed Malecon). They arrived halved, with the tender tail meat pulled from the carapaces, chopped bite-size and returned to the shells. The upper end of one half wore chopped cilantro, the other was strewed with diced-under ripe tomatoes. Tortillas came alongside for diners who want to roll up the lobster and garnishes.

One thing for sure — whatever meal you eat at Super, your mouth’s gone to Mexico.

Vietnamese Beef Noodle Soup

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619-692-1919 • Hillcrest

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Enjoy Vietnamese, Thai, Chinese or Italian.
All dishes are 100% vegetarian, most dishes and all desserts are also vegan.

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Sorberto in San Diego. November 13, 2007 115
High-Class Grub

“Lamby joes. No question. You get two. They’re so tasty. Shall we go for that?”

The jig was pretty much up the moment I opened my mouth.

“Well which one will fill me up the most?” I asked.

Not that Will the barman even raised an eyebrow. He probably just figured: OK, here’s our loss leader for the evening.

See, this is at, whoa…Laurel. One of those high-falutin’ joints for folks ready to drop a couple of hundred clams for din-dins. It’s in this classy, glassy, curvy, blue-green-gray building at Fifth and Laurel, and I’d been hankering to get here for the longest time because — what else? — I’d heard they had a happy hour to cry for. Like reallly good food for about seven bucks.

I’d left Carla down at the Embarcadero. She was doing a birthday cruise with her girlfriends, and I thought I’d walk up to Laurel. What could be easier?

Ha! Banker’s Hill? Think North Face of the Eiger. By the time I reach the summit — Laurel and Fifth — I stagger into the place, gasping like Eiger. By the time I reach the summit — Laurel, and I’d been hankering to get up here for ages. I order up the other item I’ve got the bit between my teeth. Let’s say the fork between my mitts. I order up the other item I’ve been craving. Mediterranean mussles. Also comes in an elegant white-Japanese-looking bowl, with another big one for the shells. But what really comes first is the whiff of the broth. I could swear it’s white wine and onion and garlic. But Will points to the menu. “Old Monk super beer broth.” Beer it is, along with the onion and garlic, probably. It’s worth the seven bucks just for sniffing rights. But it’s also worth chomping into, because beyond the moules, down in the soup, little chunks of “Merguez” (Moroccan-style sausage) give it a salty, herby tang. Slices of baguette are great for dipping, but I need a spoon to slurp up every last luscious drip.

I sit back, hoping to catch the buzz around me. Spanish-speaking couple on the right has ordered a hundred-dollar — is that Clicquot on the label? — champagne to have with their $7 braised duck and stonefruit flatbread. Damn. Maybe should have had that. It’s like a mini-pizza. Duck, blue cheese, arugula, fig purée. Sigh.

But, gotta go meet Carla. Check’s $20.47. She’ll kill me. Till I tell her there’s a lamby joe with her name on it, next time we’re on the block and in the black.

Come again,” says Will.

Appreciate the invite. I walk back up the stairs and out into the real world. At least now, I just have to roll down that hill. ■

The Places: Laurel Restaurant happy hour, 505 Laurel Street, Banker’s Hill, 619-239-2222

Type of Food: Mediterranean-American

Prices: Happy-hour choices include lamby joes (mini-burgers made of ground lamb); soup of the day; Mediterranean mussles; shrimp falafel balls with tzatziki sauce; seafood salad (shrimp, squid, mussels, scallop, sauce); short-rib spring rolls with feta, yogurt, onion, braised duck and stonefruit flatbread, each $7.00

Happy Hour Hours: 5:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. daily

Buses: 3, 120

Nearest Bus Stops: Fifth and Laurel (northbound); Fourth and Laurel (southbound)

High-class grub at its level is a luxury. It’s hard to come by. We’re lucky to have it. Laurel Restaurant, on Fifth between Laurel and Church, is the high-class grub that takes advantage of being the last word in the alphabet. It’s a work of art, from the front door to the back. The doors are open, and you’re greeted by a valet parking attendant, who then wheels your party to the front door. Inside, the decor is European, with a touch of Hollywood. The food is exquisite, and the service is impeccable. The drinks are top-notch, and the atmosphere is inviting. It’s the perfect place to take a special someone or treat yourself to a night of luxury. High-class grub at its finest.
Blue Streak

“I’ve been on every day since April of ’78 — five original shows a week.”

For the past couple of weeks, I’ve been marveling over Courtney Cochran’s blitz on the wine business — sommelier, list consultant, author, hostess, teacher, blogger...building the brand everywhere she can. And the more I thought about it, the more her fledgling efforts put me in mind of Anthony Dias Blue, who is easily one of the best-known names in wine writing, thanks in no small part to a 30-year program of multipurpose self-marketing. “I was a speaker at the Wine Writer’s Symposium in Napa earlier this year,” says Blue. “They had one seminar called ‘Can you make a living as a wine writer?’ I got up and said, ‘No. You can’t. Which is why you have to do other things.’”

But unlike, say, Gerald Asher, who began to write about wine out of his experience as a wine importer — like, say, Gerald Asher, who began to write about wine out of his experience as a wine importer — Blue’s approach seems more a narrowing of focus. Of course, he has worked hard to hone his oenophilic skills through “paying attention and enlarging your sensory memory,” but his devotion to and interest in the gustatory arts had always been far ranging, inclusive. Talking to him, it sounds almost as though wine is just what happened to work out.

Take, for example, his European wine epiphany. Such stories are common enough among wine aficionados — though it’s hard to imagine many that involve such an early ascent to the heights of sublimity. “I grew up on a farm in Washington State,” recalls Blue, “but my father got into an international business, spent a lot of time in Europe, and fell in love with it — particularly Burgundy. When I was 11, he and my mother took me to France; he wanted to go to the Chevalier de la Tastevin dinner in Beaune, so we stayed there for two or three weeks. I ended up going to taste wine in dingy cellars in Burgundy, and that got me started. I think that in any endeavor, you have to have the best and you have to have the worst if you want to get an idea of the scale. I’ve read restaurant reviews from places like Oklahoma City that say, ‘This is the best restaurant in the world,’ and it’s some beanery in Oklahoma City. It’s because those people have never been out of Oklahoma City. Well, I got out.”

The shift to talk of restaurants is telling — the meal at the Hotel de la Côte d’Or. The chef’s name was Dumaine; he was considered by most people to be the best chef in France. It was an amazing experience. I remember it as if it were yesterday. I had the famous roasted chicken at L’Auberge du Père Bise on Lake Annecy. They still make it today.” Later, a few years buying alcohol for an Amherst frat house — “mostly bourbon,” says Blue — brought an interest in spirits.

Post-college, Blue tried his hand in both theater and advertising. Writing “was always in the back of my mind, but I had no idea I could ever make a living at it. There weren’t many wine writers around — about the only two I knew were Robert Lawrence Balzer and Frank Prial. But a friend of mine got to be the editor of a controlled-circulation magazine for doctors — Diversion. It was an interesting juxtaposition — pictures of great golf courses or restaurants interspersed with pictures of lesions. They made me wine and food editor.” That led to restaurant reviews in New York and New Jersey, and that led to Blue’s Lifestyle Minute, his daily radio spot on WBCS in New York City. “Except for two weeks after 9/11, I’ve been on every day since April of ’78 — five original shows a week.” (And now that Blue is blogging, the spots often do double duty as blog fodder.)

Nineteen seventy-eight also saw Blue’s return to the West Coast, there to take up the position of wine and spirits editor. But I was never the meal at the Hotel de la Côte d’Or. The chef’s name was Dumaine; he was considered by most people to be the best chef in France. It was the first time I ever had quenelle, and it was an amazing experience. I remember it as if it were yesterday. I had the famous roasted chicken at L’Auberge du Père Bise on Lake Annecy. They still make it today.” Later, a few years buying alcohol for an Amherst frat house — “mostly bourbon,” says Blue — brought an interest in spirits.

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Nineteen seventy-eight also saw Blue’s return to the West Coast, there to take up the position of wine columnist for the San Francisco Chronicle. And that’s when Blue’s entrepreneurial engines started firing in earnest. Then as now, San Francisco was “a very active wine market,” and it wasn’t long before Blue was hosting a weekly tasting panel for the trade. (He brought the panel to L.A. when he moved south nine years ago, but the S.F. version still operates.) While he was at it, he bought the San Francisco International Wine Competition from the state. “It was part of that weird concept that Willie Brown came up with when he was speaker — that every county, no matter how urban, should have a county fair. The wine competition was the only part that survived in San Francisco, and it got to the point where the state didn’t want to fund it anymore. I took it private, and I was able to get commercial sponsors. We’ve had growth every year — last year, we had 4000 entries. And eight years ago, we started a Spirits Competition as an extension; we’re up to 700 entries. It’s fantastic.”

One of those commercial sponsors was Blue’s next employer, Bon Appetit. “I started in January of ’81 as wine and spirits editor. But I was never on staff. I was always a freelancer, so I was able to write for other publications.” The list of those publications is long indeed, but what stands out to me is American Airlines’ American Way in...
Eventually, Blue became convinced that it was time to strike out on his own and launch his own magazine. He had already been writing reviews for Patterson’s Beverage Journal, a wine and spirits trade journal published in California, Nevada, and Arizona. About a year ago, he partnered with Meredith May, who was already the managing editor of the magazine, and the two bought the title from the printer. Two artistic overhauls and a rechristening (as Patterson’s The Tasting Panel) later, it’s beginning to take off.

“Our overall goal is to be a national trade publication with a large circulation—we are at 40,000 now. The printer we bought it from also publishes Variety, and that’s kind of our model—a magazine that’s of interest to the general public. We’re in a glamorous industry—there’s interest; people want to get the inside dirt, and we’ve got that. Plus, we’re about people.” Plus, Blue gets to write his own review sections and a letter from the editor. A recent example made a nuanced case for the elimination (or at least lowering) of corkage fees in restaurants and probably stronger—the wine market is as strong as it has ever been in America—and there is interest; there’s interest; there’s interest. He’s imported a major Minischafter—showing an individual ingredient by presenting it in several different incarnations within the same dish, like musical variations on a theme. Blue’s menus list each item’s pedigree and primary garnish, but those details don’t begin to describe the behind-the-scenes enhancements of marinades, brines, rubs, and infusions that play subtle roles in the dish. The flavor of a false plum Graham cracker is improved by soaking the cracker in red wine, then wrapping it around a lamb chop and grilling over gas. Even better are distinctive dishes from the owner’s family recipe—his mom’s Louisiana klieb is a large, gluttified-out-fillet-lamb motherboard; he’s just as excited about his sourdough bread, the bread that goes with it, the sourdough bread that goes with the bread...and it doesn’t add any corkage charge to the bill.

This smart operator has discovered that the customer that brings wine usually makes up for it by ordering the most expensive and sophisticated dishes and more of them.

**RESTAURANT LISTINGS**

The Reader’s Guide to San Diego is recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Barbara David, Ambrose Martin, Shari McCullough, Max Nash, Eleanor Widmer, Nomi Wine). Each issue contains a selection of over 500 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

**NORTH COASTAL**

The Armenian Cafe 1826 California Boulevard (at First), Carlsbad, 760-720-2259. A true downtown cafetique with a year-round heated sidewalk overlooking Highway 101, the menu offers Armenian specialists cooked with a Lebanese accent as well as gastric Middle Eastern crowd pleasers, including gyros made from lamb. Steak, lamb kabob is the house specialty, a “less leader” featuring tender premium lamb cutlet cooked sautéed, grilled over gas. Even better are distinctive dishes from the owner’s family recipe—his mom’s Louisiana klieb is a large, gluttified-out-fillet-lamb motherboard; he’s just as excited about his sourdough bread, the bread that goes with it, the sourdough bread that goes with the bread...and it doesn’t add any corkage charge to the bill.

**BROCKTON VILLAGE**

Brockton Villa 2811 Via de la Valle, Solana Beach, 760-724-9200. The area’s premier French provincial restaurant offers exquisite, creative cooking. Favorites from an often-changing menu include white fish served any style, mushroom capipcio soup, and zesty Tatins. Service matches atmosphere with excellent service. Dinner reservations a must. Dinner nightly, Friday & Saturday only. Moderate to expensive — E.W.

Roxy Nautical Foods Restaurant 517 North Coast Highway 101 (at D Street), Encinitas, 760-486-0201. You don’t have to be a Self Radiation Fellow-ship follower to fit in in Encinitas, but it helps. Roxy was made for the veggie crowd who’ve grown up around the famous tiki compound. These are some, which includes surfer, vegans, and even visiting Hollywood stars picky about their food. Actually, it is no longer strictly vegetarian, as it draws in the carnivores buying into the health bandwagon. The menu features a wide array of dishes that include fish, meat, and tofu, and they’re all delicious. Roxy is the perfect place to satisfy your cravings for something healthy and nutritious. The ambiance is cozy and welcoming, with candlelit tables and soft background music. The staff is friendly and attentive, ensuring that your dining experience is pleasant and enjoyable. Roxy Nautical Foods Restaurant is a great choice for anyone looking for a satisfying and refreshing meal. It’s a must-visit for anyone who loves healthy and delicious food.

**SUNSET SPECIAL**

The Original 101 Diner 512 First Street, Encinitas, 760-543-2235. This is where the caviar worker from Rancho Santa Fe comes to remember his roots. It’s got a genius behind the scenes—down-home cooking you could want, including all-day breakfast ranging from really cheap biscuits and sausage gravy to a pretty cheap top sirloin steak and eggs. For lunch, the bacon-Buddah burger with fruit is a good choice for the carnivore. The turkey-cranberry sandwich is also good, and try the spinach salad with bucc, feta cheese, olives, tomatoes, and chopped egg. Even though this one’s definitely a 1976 restaurant in a town that grew up in the 1970s, it’s got the big screen TV, the classic menu, and the classic service. It’s got the same old, familiar feel that you’d expect from a diner. The Original 101 Diner is a must-visit if you’re looking for a classic diner experience in Encinitas. It’s got the same old, familiar feel that you’d expect from a diner. The Original 101 Diner is a must-visit if you’re looking for a classic diner experience in Encinitas. It’s got the same old, familiar feel that you’d expect from a diner. The Original 101 Diner is a must-visit if you’re looking for a classic diner experience in Encinitas. It’s got the same old, familiar feel that you’d expect from a diner. The Original 101 Diner is a must-visit if you’re looking for a classic diner experience in Encinitas. It’s got the same old, familiar feel that you’d expect from a diner. The Original 101 Diner is a must-visit if you’re looking for a classic diner experience in Encinitas. It’s got the same old, familiar feel that you’d expect from a diner. The Original 101 Diner is a must-visit if you’re looking for a classic diner experience in Encinitas. It’s got the same old, familiar feel that you’d expect from a diner. The Original 101 Diner is a must-visit if you’re looking for a classic diner experience in Encinitas. It’s got the same old, familiar feel that you’d expect from a diner. The Original 101 Diner is a must-visit if you’re looking for a classic diner experience in Encinitas. It’s got the same old, familiar feel that you’d expect from a diner.
feeling good and full, not bad and bloated. Open daily, brunch through dinner. — J.M.

**When In Rome** 110 South Coast Highway 101 (at Encinitas Boulevard), Encinitas, 760-944-1771. This elegant restaurant offers three dining areas and a menu with outstanding appetizers and pasta dishes. There are many unusual preparations. Gorgeous presentation; warm, friendly service. Avenue Dose—casual crowd. Dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Expensive. — J.W.

**NORTH INLAND**

**Centre City Cafe** 1600 S. Escondido Boulevard (frontage road along Centre City Parkway), Escondido, 760-499-6011. In the quiet little “motel strip” just north of Lake Hodges, this cute, friendly café serves classic American diner food, including all-day breakfast. The chicken-fried steak is exemplary, with a crackly butter-crust and a smooth, peppery cream gravy. Several cuts of USDA Choice steaks are offered at rock-bottom prices, and early bird dinners and daily specials offer amazing bargains. You can sit inside, in a restaurant shop ambiance, or chow down on the dining terrace in front. Open daily, three meals. Huge portions, low prices. — J.W.

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**Sevilla** Established 1987 104, Sorrento Valley, 858-587-7940. Sorrento Valley is where you commute to work, not to live, so forget warm neighborhoods. Of course, the Grill is what you’d expect — standard strip mall, bare-bones furnishings, office workers lunching international bottles at bargain prices. Half the fun is matching wines to foods. The beer list is sophisticated, too, as well-priced cognacs and aged ports. Business lunches are offered fine certified-Angus grilled steaks and chops of various species. For a Southern California cacophonous casino, the restaurant offers three dining areas and is the long, adventurous wine list, offering international bottles at bargain prices. Several cuts of USDA Choice steaks are offered at rock-bottom prices, and early bird dinners and daily specials offer amazing bargains. You can sit inside, in a restaurant shop ambiance, or chow down on the dining terrace in front. Open daily, three meals. Huge portions, low prices. — J.W.

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**Calendar**

**RESTAURANTS**

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Stop by anytime and enjoy our delicious comfort food.

24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Free milkshakes

With purchase of any entree over $7.95

One coupon per person, please.
booths combine with the stay-up-late kitchen to make the space feel like a cozy bar, a respite from the bright buzz of Mission Beach. The scene list runs the gamut from Cook’s sparkling wine to Crystal champagne, stopping along the way at an interesting if expensive collection of wines. Next door is the restaurant’s serviceable sushi bar (858-488-7255) and two-story patio dining. Lunch weekdays, brunch and lunch weekends, dinner seven days. Sushi bar open nightly, 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Moderate. — A.M.

The Third Corner Wine Shop and Bistro 2265 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-223-2700. Ed Moore’s casual, low-key spot is first of all a wine shop selling most global bottlings for just 20% over wholesale. It’s fun to pop the cork there if you plunk down at a table among the racks to enjoy casual bistro-style food designed to go with wine. You can snack on goat cheese salad, smoked duck salad, a cheese plate or a pâté plate, or get serious with braised short rib or duck confit surprisingly paired with spicy Nandina red beans and rice. No reservations accepted, so best to go at off-hours or you’ll wait for a table. Comfortable lounge with fireplace for sipping. Full bar. No corkage charge after 11 p.m., when restaurant staffers drop in for after-work noshing. Lunch and dinner until 1 a.m.; closed Monday. Low—moderate. — N.W.

Umi Sushi 2806 Shelter Island Drive (at Shelter, off Scotti), Point Loma, 619-226-1135. An instant neighborhood success, this large, cheerful sushi bar and dinner house also offers Japanese and Korean entrées, including unagi (cooked in the kitchen, not at the sushi bar). Forbidden, nicoise, and beef teriyaki — all grilled prime beef. Sushi highlights include lemony ahi sashimi, garlic tuna, and a “Crazy Boy” roll spicy enough to divert your breath. The wine list runs the gamut from Cook’s sparkling wine to Crystal champagne, stopping along the way at an interesting if expensive collection of wines. Next door is the restaurant’s serviceable sushi bar (858-488-7255) and two-story patio dining. Lunch weekdays, brunch and lunch weekends, dinner seven days. Sushi bar open nightly, 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Moderate. — A.M.
Thursday, November 22, starting at Noon

Thanksgiving Dinner $11.95

Traditional roasted turkey, mashed potatoes & gravy, homemade stuffing, candied yams, sweet corn and carrots, and cranberry sauce.

Starting at 2 pm: Live Maine Lobster $11.95

10 am-2 pm
Thanksgiving Day Brunch

Starting at 2 pm: Live Maine Lobster $11.95

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Includes your choice of beverage: champagne, mimosa, horchata, homemade orange sangria, or non-alcoholic champagne, mimosa, or orange juice.

Includes any other offers.

Catch the NFL Package here! 11 TV's

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Happy Hour 4-7 pm daily
Beer specials each day - 15 taps!

King Crab 1.5 lbs. Alaskan Crab Legs

Dungeness Crab 1-1/2 lbs. Whole Crab

Lobster $11.95 Special

After 4 p.m. Mon. thru Wed. Steamed only.

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50% Off Entree

Buy one entree and get second of equal or lesser value 50% off. Cannot be combined with Lobster and Crab $11.95 special. Expires 11/29/07.

Join us for Margarita Brunch! All-you-can-eat gourmet Mexican brunch $10

Every weekend 9 am-2 pm

Includes your choice of beverage: champagne, mimosa, horchata, homemade orange sangria, or non-alcoholic champagne, mimosa or orange juice.

Large selection of Mexican delicacies including:

- beef fajitas, fish enchiladas, vegetarian selections,
- tacos la Mexicana, homemade tortillas, fresh tortilla soup

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**Sushi Bar**

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- Cut Rolls: California, Caterpillar, Cucumber, Philly, Rainbow, Eel, Salmon Skin, Scallop, Hand Rolls:

**www.ginzasushi-shanghairestaurant.com**

**Green Salad, Rice**

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**Lunch Daily 11:30 am-2 pm**

**Dinner Daily 5-9 pm**

- Appetizers: Gyoza, Egg Roll, Soft Shell Crab, Miso Soup, Shrimp Tempura, Chicken Tenyaki, Agedashi Tofu, Green Salad, Rice
- Nigiri Sushi: Albacore, Amaebi Avocado, Clam, Crab, Eel, Egg, Imitation, Hamachi, Ikura, Saba, Smelt Egg, Octopus, Oyster, Salmon, Scallop, Shrimp, Smoked Salmon, Squid, Tuna, Uni, Red Snapper
- Cut Rolls: California, Caterpillar, Cucumber, Philly, Rainbow, Crab, Soft Shell Crab, Spicy Tuna, Tempura Shrimp, Vegetable, Yummy, Firecracker, Seafood Dynamite, Shrimp
- Hand Rolls: Eel, Salmon Skin, Scallop, Crayfish, Tuna, Shrimp, Tempura Shrimp, California

**8657 Villa La Jolla Dr., Suite 125**

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- **Reg. $13.95 • Hillcrest Sun., Wed., Tues.: Vegetarian**
- **Mira Mesa 7 nights a week.**
- **Choose from over 30 items: vegetarian, chicken, lamb, seafood and Indian fusion. With coupon. Expires 11/29/07.**

**Free dinner**

- **Buy 1 entrée and two beverages and receive 1 entrée of equal or lesser value free. Excludes buffets and specials.**
- **Max. discount $12.** With coupon. Expires 11/29/07.

**$1 off lunch buffet**

- **Monday-Friday only. With coupon. Expires 11/29/07.**

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**Brickyard Coffee and Tea**

- **475 West G Street, downtown, 619-696-7220.** The problem, folks, is that it’s so easy to lose to the Marina District, is the lack of café life. That is, until this modest little eatery and café popped up next to the trolley tracks by the Seaport Village trolley stop. You sit under the poplar trees in a brick patio that has one unusual downtown advantage — except for the wind sifting through the poplar (or a trolley pulling in), it’s completely silent here. Sipping coffee and reading your newspaper in the thing here, but if you can fill up, too, with items like “Texas chili,” or grilled cheese and tomato sandwich with a cup of chili, or spinach and mushroom quiche with a small Caesar salad, or poutine. You can also order half a sandwich — turkey, ham, beef, or tuna — with a cup of soup or Caesar salad. It’s the nearest thing to a French country café. Open early morning till 3 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

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**Cafe Chloe**

- **211 Ninth Avenue (at G Street), East Village, 619-232-3242.** How did we ever manage before this indispensable brunch spot? In a bright and beautiful setting with small tables, bar seating, and a patio, you’ll find light and substantial breakfasts, svelte lunches and sophisticated bar nibbles.

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**Happy Thanksgiving Buffet**

- **Thursday, November 22 • 11 am-7 pm**

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**San Diego Reader, November 15, 2007**
Gourmet India 310 Fourth Avenue (south of F Street), Gaslamp, 619-702-7007. Most Indian restaurant owners claim they're the only place downtown where you won't find the clots. Don't miss the distinctive appetizers, especially the crunchy chicken or wheat flats with a spicy, fresh-tomato topping. The Mughal (Indian) flavors are close. South India's (Sri Lankan) flavors seem more5.

Don't miss breakfast's poached eggs with Dijon mustard and a wall of smoked salmon. Dinner nightly, until 11:30 p.m. weeknights, 10 p.m. weekends. Very noisy. Full bar. American classics and the occasional fancy food. Urbane multicultural fusion dishes done with an eye toward established American classics and the occasional trendy dish. A "grazing menu" features small bites for folks on a diet or on the run. The menu changes seasonally, but you can count on the kitchen any time of year. Very noisy. Full bar. Dinner nightly, until 11:30 p.m. Weekends full menu; grazing menu; expensive; gracious; quiet. — N.W.

Dobson's 856 Broadway Circle, downtown, 619-231-6771. This dependable downtown restaurant offers classic and comfort fare. Incredible variety of people who enjoy the restaurant. The food and service are consistently good, and the wine list is excellent.

Dinner and lunch Monday through Friday; dinner only on Saturday. Moderate expenses. Expensive to very expensive. — E.B.

The Oceanaire Seafood Room 401 Fourth Avenue (at Marine Street, 1 block south of Pearl), Gaslamp, 619-858-1227. Oceanaire is a fine fish restaurant, nothing toosession.

Order Saska's Filet Challenge and receive two 7 oz filet dinners, served with sides and house-made brownies only $49.50. Order now.

Open 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sat.

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Dobson’s 856 Broadway Circle, downtown, 619-231-6771. This dependable downtown restaurant offers classic and comfort fare. Incredible variety of people who enjoy the restaurant. The food and service are consistently good, and the wine list is excellent.

Dinner and lunch Monday through Friday; dinner only on Saturday. Moderate expenses. Expensive to very expensive. — E.B.

The Oceanaire Seafood Room 401 Fourth Avenue (at Marine Street, 1 block south of Pearl), Gaslamp, 619-858-1227. Oceanaire is a fine fish restaurant, nothing too

Order Saska’s Filet Challenge and receive two 7 oz filet dinners, served with sides and house-made brownies only $49.50. Order now.

Open 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sat.

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For starters, there are brilliantly seasoned short-ribs. You can choose from two sauces, a tangy sarsaparilla barbecue sauce or a rich molasses-based barbecue sauce. You can order the flanks, but go for the rib tips — the more adventurous — to enjoy a steak. If you can handle a table-for-two meal, you might be satisfied with the seasonal arches, illuminated clusters of red grapes. For instance, don’t forget to ask them to ring the bells set in the wooden entrance door; they clank tunelessly, but they’re great for celebrating birthdays. When calling in Tijuana use only the number 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; in Mexico use 619-224-3551. It’s not extravagant to forget to ask them to ring the bells set in the wooden entrance door; they clank tunelessly, but they’re great for celebrating birthdays.

Vallarta Natural 1252 Boulevard Acapulco (just before El Toro de Tijuana), 688-1860. Maybe the only thing that wasn’t fresh in Tijuana, this vegetarian haven was started in 1996 by health-conscious Doctor Georgia Val- larita de Alcántar. They make their own yogurt, soy bread, breads, soy milk — and “meat” — like a veal from their own when photos — daily. You sit at wood tables and chairs next to blue-framed yellow walls splattered with Taviles’ ce- ramic mosaics. At breakfast, try the tender mole, a mix of eggs, spinach, mush- rooms, onions, and chile. For lunch (and it’s usually busiest around three), their excellent soup, caldo fideo, served with these, rice, avocado, and chile, will fill you nicely. The soy ham- burguer is good, but go for the ragu, which has that gluten molasses along with choice, avocado, and chile. Good organic coffee. Wonderful juice, especially the caracol — if you need cleansing. Open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Rita Norta Notos Héroes Avenida 4988, between 2nd and 3rd Streets (opposite Dorian’s department store), Ti- jiana, 685-6579. This cafe may have the best rotas (call them Mexican-style hamburgers) in Tijuana. Six-inch rath- ers of musroom, peas, onions, and corn, served with a mix of eggs, spinach, mush-rooms — daily. You sit at wood tables and chairs next to blue-framed yellow walls splattered with Taviles’ ce- ramic mosaics. At breakfast, try the tender mole, a mix of eggs, spinach, mush-rooms, onions, and chile. For lunch (and it’s usually busiest around three), their excellent soup, caldo fideo, served with these, rice, avocado, and chile, will fill you nicely. The soy ham- burguer is good, but go for the ragu, which has that gluten molasses along with choice, avocado, and chile. Good organic coffee. Wonderful juice, especially the caracol — if you need cleansing. Open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

L’Owlish Pizza and Pasta 386 East E Street, Suite 211, 619-585-1371; and Eastlake Village Center South, 2205 Otay Lakes Road, Suite 101, 619-623-1177. Eastlake Village is a bit out of Tijuana. This chain has always prided itself on its Italian/Pastas, pizza, and sal- salad bar. One of the disadvantages: adding marinated flank steak and a rib eye to the menu. If you’re or- dering the flank, well-done is a no-go. That will toughen it. But a rare flank is, well, flish in its marination and espe- cially its post-oil chile/pickled sauce. Also good fried-cooked vegetable pizza, where the quick and easy recipe makes for great-tasting, Technicolor-bright broc- coli, zucchini, eggplant, and bell pep- pers. And “Mediterranean chicken salad” works well, partly thanks to the tang of pepperoncini chips. Moderate. — E.B.

La Costa Azul Mariscos 1017 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-691-9812. Great family-run hangout for traditional seafood from Sinaloa and Nayarit, Mex- ico’s craking hot desert coastal states. Their ancient Sinaloa fish specialties (shrimp in spicy brine) is simple, mouth-azizitely delicious, and rather expensive. It’s a must, but maybe most satisfying are whole fish dishes like pescado Ver- acruzano Truly traditional offerings come in great three-legged reality. Even their less-then-spectacular signature dish, Camarones Costa Azul (rab and cheese, served atop a pita with sliced onions), arrives in a burning hot wok. Also delicious is the vegetarian version, fajitas with shrimp, beef, chicken. Many cus- tomers come around sunset, just to sit with a cool drink under palm fronds on the patio. Even if you’re actually on Chula Vista’s Broadway, it’s worth a try. Moderate. — E.B.

Sammie’s Woodfired Pizza 227 Pacific Beach, 619-459-0723. Sammie’s Woodfired Pizza, 227 Pacific Beach, is good, but go for the crusty, one of the best around. — E.B.

Guunbo, Po’ Boys, Jambalaya, BBQ, Wings

Buy 1 entrée, get 1 half off of equal or lesser value with purchase of 2 drinks. Valid every Mon. - Fri. at both locations. Not valid with any other special offers. Expires 11/29/07.

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Includes salad bar. Valid Mon. - Fri. from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Not valid with any other special offers. Expires 11/29/07.

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50% off lunch or dinner entrée

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We’ve Got Huevo! San Diego’s Best Breakfast & Lunch

Open daily 6 a.m. - 2 p.m. For menu go to: www.thebrokenyolkcafe.com

Our Broken Yolk

Now open in Village Walk, Eastlake

$2 off with minimum $8.00 order and one drink. Limit 1 per couple. One coupon per person. No separate checks. Not valid on weekends. Not valid with any other special offers or coupons. Expires 11/29/07.

We’re Famous Tacos Loco’s Eastlake Village Walk 884 Eastlake Parkway (858) 270-9010

Pacific Beach

Lunch

50% off or free jalapeno poppers

With purchase of one entrée of equal or lesser value and two drinks. One coupon per table. Some restrictions may apply. Expires 11/29/07.

Baja

Dish that like

is safe enough. Or bone-
**Over 75 Restaurant Coupons at SDReader.com**

Here’s a small sample to whet your appetite!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restaurant Name</th>
<th>Offer Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Free Mocha Jackson</strong></td>
<td>Half white chocolate, half dark chocolate. Hot, blended or iced. Buy 1 at regular price, get the 2nd free. Offer expires November 30, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee House on Broadway</td>
<td>Coffee, teas, smoothies, pastries. Live music Fridays 8 pm. Vibes poetry event Saturdays 9-11 pm.</td>
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<td><strong>Free sambussa appetizer</strong></td>
<td>With purchase of two entrees. Not valid on Fridays. Offer expires November 30, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.</td>
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<td><strong>1/2 off tapas</strong></td>
<td>1/2 off any of our savory tapas from 4-7 pm every day with coupon. Our menu features only the freshest local ingredients. You can expect spectacular service and a menu with unique and tempting options. Offer expires November 30, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.</td>
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<td><strong>Free wine tasting</strong></td>
<td>Purchase one tasting at regular price and receive the 2nd at equal or lesser value free. Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per customer. Reservations required. Offer expires November 30, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.</td>
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Restaurants listed without coupon offers have only menus online. Restaurants with * have multiple locations. See online menu or coupon for all locations.
Redacted, directed and written by Brian De Palma, is a high-def video pseudodocumentary, or if you prefer, humorless mockumentary, about some Marines in Samarra (John O’Hara’s Appointment in Samarra is de rigueur reading for one of them) who, in the line of duty, mow down a pregnant Muslim en route to the delivery room, and, in their leisure hours, rape and murder a fifteen-year-old schoolgirl. Just to hit the highlights. The “source material” consists principally of a fictitious video diary, which one of the leathernecks hopes will be his entrée into USC film school, and a fictitious French documentary with English subtitles, plus snippets of staged footage from security cameras and embedded journalists. Not to mention the authentically documentary photo montage at the end, to push your face into the war in case you weren’t taking the film seriously enough, and to wrap it up in a cloak of sanctity. The average moviegoer, self-protectively staying away from this sort of thing, selectively taking shelter in American Gangster and Bee Movie, will not share the omnivorous critic’s sense of battle fatigue. De Palma, one of the few contemporary American filmmakers to possess a recognizable style (B-movie baroque), is willing here to give all that up for a semblance, a guise, a pretense, of Unvarnished Truth. By his own admission in an accompanying Director’s Statement, he “told this story years ago” in Casualties of War (and needless to say, in full-blooded 35mm), one of the better Vietnam films, to say nothing of the better De Palma films. “But,” he adds scoldingly, “the lessons from the Vietnam War have gone unheeded.” Another film was deemed necessary, and without any fancy stuff. There may be dabs and dribbles of lyrical artiness in the French documentary (a shot of a scorpion aswarm with ants, a cliché since the opening sequence of The Wild Bunch), but that can be blamed on the French. In the main, the handheld digital camera, corralling a pallid picture in a waver ing frame, proves to be the same labor-saving, corner-cutting device for De Palma as it is for the pre-eminent mockumentarist, Christopher Guest. Different for De Palma, though, is the expectation that the device will vouch for his veracity and his verisimilitude. In spite of the unfamiliar faces that make up the cast (Izzy Diaz, Patrick Carroll, Daniel Stewart Sherman, Rob Devaney), the naturalistic acting comes across as unnaturally actorish, and one wonders anew why it should be so difficult for actors to act natural. Any such shortcomings would of course be less of a drawback in a docudrama, where, if the distortions do not actually enhance the comedy, they sabotage only laughs. They do not, as they do here, sabotage high dudgeon. The Mist is the third Frank Darabont film to have been adapted from the works of Stephen King, although the first two, The Shawshank Redemption and The Green Mile, were not the sort of work for which that author is best known. (Darabont’s most recent film, The Majestic, already six years ago, was truly horrible, horrid, but not in any way intended.) This new one, adapted from a King “novella,” is much more what we would expect: “Something in the mist! Something in the mist took John Lee!” Said mist has rolled down from the mountain on which there is os-
tendently some type of missile-defense base, rolled across the lake, rolled into town, and what’s in it — including the thing that took John Lee — is a menagerie of jumbo insects, reptiles, mollusks, God knows what. And by and by, we get a throwaway science-fictional explanation for this — really more mythological than science-fictional, more Pandora’s Box than Frankenstein’s Monster — but the concern of the townsfolk barri-caded inside the local supermarket, The Food House, is simply to survive the end of the movie. “It appears we may have some problem of some magnitude here,” announces the skeptical Todd Saloni in Polinodromes, employing a rotation of dissimilar actors to play a single role, a multiplication of a gimmick used by Luis Bunuel in That Obscure Object of Desire. (Not a gimmick, in other words, exclusive to filmmakers named Todd.) The fact that Bob Dylan is a real person and a public figure, about whom we may have our own ideas, further complicates matters, and it is easy to lose track of the subject of the film when we are looking at a prepubescent black boy, Marcus Carl Franklin, hopping freight trains in Depression-period hobos-style, or looking at Richard Gere in grumpy glasses on horseback in the era of the model-T, and all the easier when they are masquerading under the aliases of Woody Guthrie and Billy the Kid, respectively. The songs in the film (sometimes sung by Dylan himself, sometimes by others) leave no doubt as to the protagonist’s identity, and no doubt as to his uniqueness, but between the half-dozen different faces and pseudonyms, the film seems to be not so much about the “many lives of Bob Dylan” as about a half-dozen different lives altogether. The elusiveness of the man, the multifacetedness of him, would presumably be The Point, but that point could have been made more subtly: the dissimilarity of Marcus Carl Franklin and Richard Gere amounts to gross overstatement. Adding to the confusion is a visual patchwork stitched together out of grainy black-and-white, glossy black-and-white, juiced-up color, and peachy color (Edward Lachman, cinematographer), not even counting the diverse cinematic allusions, catch them if you can, to Fellini, Godard, Peckinpah. Christian Bale, who plays the protagonist in his Greenwich Village folk phase as well as in his Christian-confessing phase, tends to a decade later, gets the speaking voice, the cadence, just right. And Cat Blanchett, who takes over the role for the intervening commercialized and electrified and amplified phase, additionally (and paradoxically, as the sole transgender impersonator) gets the look just right for good measure. In the nonsequential narrative, we can be glad whenever either of these two is having a turn. And we can be glad, too, whenever it’s Heath Ledger’s turn (Ben Winslow, the sixth impersonator, is but a talking head), if only because Ledger brings with him, in the part of Dylan’s wife and the mother of his children, Charlotte Gainsbourg. This completely credible actress, who can look handsome and can look lovely, and can look in between, has never looked lovelier. Is it age? Maturity? All three of these are opening next Wednesday.

MOVIE LISTINGS

Across the Universe — Two-and-a-quarter-hour promo for the Beatles without ever mentioning them by name. A generous, even overgenerous sampler of their songs (thirty-three of them, by the count in the press notes, leaving aside the numberless others that are quoted from or alluded to) has been re-recorded, or “covered” as they say in the business, by a fictitious cast of characters planked down against the follo-wing backdrop of the Sixties: the war, the draft, the protests, the drugs, the psychodelics, the Sexual Revolution, all that. To link the Beatles with the upheaval with a certain sense. Unlike, say, the more enduring Rolling Stones or the going-nowhere Dave Clark Five, the Beatles were onstage when that really did evolve (as some would prefer, devolve) swiftly and dramatically, making them a useful weathercock for the wider winds of change. You are here and there, minded afloat of their range and their riches, and in new moods, you hear the songs with new ears. (The treme- nously down-tempo rendition, for example, of “I Wanna Hold Your Hand” by an Asian-American high-school cheerleader, T.V. Carpio, brings the song a new, a renewed feeling, all by itself almost worth the price of admission.) By the second half, however, the inspiration irreversibly runs out. steam en route to a spluttering climax of “All You Need Is Love.” (Wearily, now: yeah, yeah, yeah.) Part of the problem is that, instead of the counterrevolution gaining momentum in the sequence of events, there’s a visible increase in music-video vulgarity, ornamental surreality, Fellini-esque fantasy, all the elements that go into director Julie Taymor’s fabled “vision.” Another part of the problem may be that the later songs, even though the playlist in the film does not observe an antique chronology, tend to be more turgid. Part, too, may simply be that two-and-a-quarter hours are too long for a promo. With Evan Rachel Wood, Jim Sturgess, Joe Anderson, Dana Fuchs, Martin Luther McCoy, and cameoed by Bonzo, Eddie Izzard, Joe Cocker, Salma Hayek. 2007.

American Gangster — Formula under-world drama poured into an epic template. Like Jelly-brand waffle batter spread over an iron the size of a billiard table. “Based on a true story,” it traces, in separate intertwined storylines, the converging upward paths of criminal and cop: the former (Denzel Washington) starting out as the servile driver and bodyguard for the leg- endary Bumpy Johnson, a big fish in the small pond of Harlem into the late Sixties, then expanding the pond, upon his boss’s death, into an ocean; and the latter (Russell Crowe) working his way up as an under-cover narc in New Jersey, studying for the bar in his spare time. Their eventual meet- ing comes, and drag on, as something of an anticlimax, after an excitingly staged drug raid from which the ganglord is lucky to be absent. The opposing paths up to that point are smoothly graded and well serveable, and so on), moves things along at a tolerable pace, although there’s the distinct impression that even if he knew any shortcuts, he wouldn’t take them. His goal is epic, and he would gladly drag his feet to get there. At two and a half hours plus, he indeed does get there. Washington, to pay him a back- handed compliment, is never quite credible as a through-and-through bad guy, even though that seems to be the way to the Os- car (i.e., Training Day). Crowe on the other hand is a perfectly credible crusader, over- coming no greater obstacles on the road to respectability than his bosomy white sneakers and his unflattering, insensitive period haircut, framing his face in a rather folded wings. With Chiwetel Ejiofor, Josh Brolin, Lymani Nadal, and Ruby Dee. 2007.

Across the Universe — Two-and-a-quarter-hour promo for the Beatles without ever mentioning them by name. A generous, even overgenerous sampler of their songs (thirty-three of them, by the count in the press notes, leaving aside the numberless others that are quoted from or alluded to) has been re-recorded, or “covered” as they say in the business, by a fictitious cast of characters planked down against the follow- ing backdrop of the Sixties: the war, the draft, the protests, the drugs, the psychodelics, the Sexual Revolution, all that. To link the Beatles with the upheaval with a certain sense. Unlike, say, the more enduring Rolling Stones or the going-nowhere Dave Clark Five, the Beatles were onstage when that really did evolve (as some would prefer, devolve) swiftly and dramatically, making them a useful weathercock for the wider winds of change. You are here and there, minded afloat of their range and their riches, and in new moods, you hear the songs with new ears. (The treme- nously down-tempo rendition, for example, of “I Wanna Hold Your Hand” by an Asian-American high-school cheerleader, T.V. Carpio, brings the song a new, a renewed feeling, all by itself almost worth the price of admission.) By the second half, however, the inspiration irreversibly runs out. steam en route to a spluttering climax of “All You Need Is Love.” (Wearily, now: yeah, yeah, yeah.) Part of the problem is that, instead of the counterrevolution gaining momentum in the sequence of events, there’s a visible increase in music-video vulgarity, ornamental surreality, Fellini-esque fantasy, all the elements that go into director Julie Taymor’s fabled “vision.” Another part of the problem may be that the later songs, even though the playlist in the film does not observe an antique chronology, tend to be more turgid. Part, too, may simply be that two-and-a-quarter hours are too long for a promo. With Evan Rachel Wood, Jim Sturgess, Joe Anderson, Dana Fuchs, Martin Luther McCoy, and cameoed by Bonzo, Eddie Izzard, Joe Cocker, Salma Hayek. 2007.
BABETTE MANGOLTE
Filmmaker and professor, UCSD
Visual Arts Department
Michael Powell is probably best known for The Red Shoes and Black Narcissus, movies that made during World War II, thanks to funding from the British Ministry of Information, a wartime necessity for their attempt to explain cultural differences between allied and enemies. I recommend 49TH PARALLEL, shot in 1941. It revolves around the landing of a German submarine in north Canada at a time when the U.S. is not yet engaged in the war. Canada is allied with Britain. The German crew’s attempt to penetrate the 49th parallel that separates Canada from the U.S. permits an exami- nation of Nazi ideology clashing with Canadian individualistic pluralism. The film’s remarkable for its dialogue, scenic beauty, and the fact that — while shot primarily in studio during the war in England at the time of the blitz — the script doesn’t demonize the enemy.

49TH PARALLEL (England) 1941
Criterion Collection
List price: $39.95

ADY MELIKA
Videographer, instructor, and
San Diego Unified School
District video producer
Abbas Kiarostami’s 10 on Ten and Five Dedicate to Ozu are thought-provoking films challenging mainstream filmmaking trends. 10 on Ten is a self-portrait of Kiarostami demonstrating the creative process of making the film Ten. Throughout the film, he’s in a car driving the audience around to share with them ten elements of his work. In a very intimate setting, this film demonstrates how his body of work has evolved over time. These are a provocative and insightful contemplation of the art of cinema.

Composed of five long shots, Kiarostami’s Five structurally refers to the static-cam- eramen arrangements of Andy Warhol. The remarkable landscape work is mostly filmed along the waters of the Caspian Sea, portraying tides and driftwood, dogs and ducks, croaking frogs, and the reflection of the moon. Five is an unforgettable viewing experience that feels a bit unbearable at first but ultimately enlightening and meditative at the end.

10 ON TEN (Iran) 2004, Zeitgeist Films
List price: $29.99

FIVE DEDICATED TO OZU (Iran) 2003, Kino Video
List price: $29.95

SAYDEE DROPPED IN TOWN SQUARE 14, VIsta Villa

Gone Baby Gone — Directing debut of Ben Affleck, who stays behind the camera and credits the spotlight to his younger brother Casey, in the role of Patrick Kenzie, theBoston missing-persons private eye (“I find the people that started in the cracks and then fell through”)s, along with his “unsympathetic partner Angie Gennaro (Michelle Monaghan), featured in a series of detective novels by Dennis Lehane. The plot, starting sensibly enough with the vanished daughter of a drug addicted and destitute single mom proves in the long run to be preposterous. But Affleck, meaning Casey more than Ben, works wonders to humanize Lehane’s rather embarrassing literary creation, partly just by his youthful delicacy and his clip-on-the-shoulder defensiveness about it. A singularly unprovoking hero, he gains stature by holding his ground, however sid- ily, against some highly showy perform- ances (Ed Harris, Amy Madigan, Amy Ryan, Morgan Freeman, among them). And the other Affleck, Ben, does some nice impressionistic detailing of his native Bean Town, and some candid thumbnailing of assorted lostwits, before he succumbs to a muddling plot and a gapping resolution.★★★★★

CRASH (2004), LATINO FILM NETWORK
List price: $25.00 (for institutional use)

FRONTIERS OF DREAMS AND FEARS 2001, Arab Film Distribution
List price: $25.00 (for institutional use)

★★★★★

In the Valley of Elah — A more commen- table writing and directing effort from Paul Haggis (writer only on Million Dollar Baby and Flags of Our Fathers, among oth- ers) than his bokey Oscar-winner, Crash. More focused, more concentrated, more self-contained, more consistent: an uncom- promisingly murderous murder mystery, and stranded antiwar cry, about a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom (remember when?) who goes missing upon his return to Fort Rudd, New Mexico, and who turns up on the outskirts of the base, stabbed, dismembered, and burned beyond recogni- tion. Say what you will about the film- maker’s political point-making, it never clumps up the unflowing stream of the narrative; and at the same time he shows a true cine- matic eye for tacky Americans, the streets, the stores, the townscapes, etc., so that whenever we go anywhere on screen — an army barracks, a motel, a public restroom, a strip club, a coffee shop, a “drive-up” bar, a fast-food joint — we can feel we’ve really been there, really seen it. (The most milti- gation of nauseous green and blanched white is a case of whatever would be the opposite of gilding the lily — wanting the word, pos- sibly — and equally unnecessary) Jimmy Lee Sudduth, as the victim’s father, a stereotyped M.F. and current gravel hauler who presses the invoice forward for the military looks for an easy way out, has past the right amount of starch in his perfor- mance, touchingly represented. Charlie Tahan on the other hand, as the ben- eficiated civilian cop who eventually takes an atonement, is perhaps more emotional than you want from a cop, but not more flims- icky, with mannerly air, no makeup, and her hair parted in the middle and pulled back as severely as Emily Dickin- son’s. The rest of the cast has been carefully chosen to the smallest role, with spe- cial mention reserved for Susan Sarandon, Jason Patric, Jason Francesco, Jack Laugh- lin, Wes Chatham, Josh Brolin, Barry Corbin, and, nondramatically topless in her mid-fifties, Frances Fisher. 2007.★★★★★

The Kingdom — A remedial history les- son on U.S.-Saudia relations, behind the opening credits, introduces a hypothetical massacre of a hundred-plus American citi- zens at an oil company picnic, the handi- work of an “Osama wanna” — Speedily onto the scene — where we are on 9/11 — comes an FBI response team (Jamie Foxx, the take-charge family man; Jennifer Garner, the token superwoman; Chris Cooper, the token good actor; Jason Bateman, the obligatory wiscracker), to take names and kick ass, but first to burn the ears of the local Saudi investigator with their salty Free Speech, (Aasif Mandvi, in the part, is as laible as he is expedientable). Despite Peter Berg’s by-the-numbers realism, that cliché of immediacy and urgency, is a continual annoyance, and in the cli- mactic action is worse than that. Only Dennis Quaid’s ability to follow what’s happening can scarcely convince us it’s actually happening, in 2007.★★★★★

Lions and the Real Girl — Director Craig Gillespie, of the mainstream Mr.30 Rock, indulges the monkeyshines of Ryan Gosling in the part of an antisocial Minnesota Lutheran who seeks happiness in a bizarre relationship with an unsexually correct life-size sex doll. Everyone in the town loves him too much, for some unpar- alleled reason, to hurt his innately, en- ternal psychosexual. Pretty much one-note, and sour. With Emily Mortimer, Paul Schneider, Kelli Gar- nery, and Patricia Clarkson. 2007.

LIONS FOR LAMBS — Topics on the table: the war on terror, the lack of a battle plan to wage it, the government policy of dis-
information, the complicity of the press in all this, the general lowering of journalistic standards, the apathy of the younger generation, the ivory-towerism of academia, and (if that’s not enough) the responsibility of every individual citizen to get involved, make a difference, act out a slogan. The action in the film, which is to say the talk, talk, talk, takes place in three arenas the Capitol Hill office of a go-getter GOP senator, entertaining a veteran newshound in a last-hurrah one-on-one interview (“My honest effort to keep the press better informed”), a snowy Afghan mountaintop on which two old college buddies lie wounded and marooned, and the office of their former Poli-Sci professor at “a Cali- fornia university,” where he now, in con- science-stricken over his vain attempt to dissuade them from joining the military, fights for the soul of a disengaged student of bright promise and smart mouth. The shifting focus from one arena to another, for all its geographical scope, is scarcely cinematic at all, but more like a shifting spotlight on a stage, a pool of illumination that circulates between these three distinct two- somes. Although a few flashbacks combat this effect, the staginess — the soapop- nies — never for a moment relents. The film, really more a forum than a film (“Here we are,” the truist statement the senator makes, “having a high-minded de-bate”), collects commonplace talk on the issues of the day, things you could hear spoken all around you, and it crams them into the mouths of tamely connected, sketchily conceived fictional characters. Presented for the most part in a confected fact-sheet style, and rather slyly in com- plexion for so eminent a cinematicographer as Philippe Rousselot, it comes to us out of the evident conviction that we are at too critical a time in our history to be bothered with amenities such as art and artfulness, imagination and invention. (Still another indicator, like no shampoo on airplanes, imagination and invention. (Still another as Philippe Rousselot, it comes to us out of California university,” where he now, con-“bate”), collects commonplace talk on the film, really more a forum than a film standards, the apathy of the younger gener- all this, the general lowering of journalistic information, the complicity of the press in all this, the general lowering of journalistic standards, the apathy of the younger generation, the ivory-towerism of academia, and (if that’s not enough) the responsibility of every individual citizen to get involved, make a difference, act out a slogan. The action in the film, which is to say the talk, talk, talk, takes place in three arenas the Capitol Hill office of a go-getter GOP senator, entertaining a veteran newshound in a last-hurrah one-on-one interview (“My honest effort to keep the press better informed”), a snowy Afghan mountaintop on which two old college buddies lie wounded and marooned, and the office of their former Poli-Sci professor at “a Cali- fornia university,” where he now, in con- science-stricken over his vain attempt to dissuade them from joining the military, fights for the soul of a disengaged student of bright promise and smart mouth. The shifting focus from one arena to another, for all its geographical scope, is scarcely cinematic at all, but more like a shifting spotlight on a stage, a pool of illumination that circulates between these three distinct two- somes. Although a few flashbacks combat this effect, the staginess — the soapop- nies — never for a moment relents. The film, really more a forum than a film (“Here we are,” the truist statement the senator makes, “having a high-minded de-bate”), collects commonplace talk on the issues of the day, things you could hear spoken all around you, and it crams them into the mouths of tamely connected, sketchily conceived fictional characters. Presented for the most part in a confected fact-sheet style, and rather slyly in com- plexion for so eminent a cinematicographer as Philippe Rousselot, it comes to us out of the evident conviction that we are at too critical a time in our history to be bothered with amenities such as art and artfulness, imagination and invention. (Still another indicator, like no shampoo on airplanes, imagination and invention. (Still another as Philippe Rousselot, it comes to us out of California university,” where he now, con-
**Michael Clayton** — The title figure is the designated fixer for the elite Manhattan law firm of Kenner, Bach & Ledven, touted as a “miracle worker” but more modest in his self-assessment: “I'm not a miracle worker, I'm a sinner. The smaller the mess, the easier it is for me to clean it up.” And a three-billion-dollar class action suit against his firm’s biggest client, United Northfield, or UNNorth for short, makes a very big mess. Aside from being George Clooney, the hero doesn’t look much like much. Crushed under a mountain of debt, worn off the gambling habit (notwithstanding a prefatory relapse at the poker table), run ragged by his job, his (notwithstanding a prefatory relapse at the poker table), run ragged by his job, his

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**No Country for Old Men** — The Coen brothers’ adaptation of a violent Cormac McCarthy novel, starring Tommy Lee Jones, Javier Bardem, Josh Brolin.

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**Stardust** — Fanciful fairy tale located in a magical kingdom within Merry Old England, populated by an ardent suitor, a grapping inamorata, a humanoid heavenly body, a stary unicorn, a wicked witch, a power-mad prince, a gallery of ghosts, a gay flying pirate (putting the fairy in fairy tale), among others. The plot thickens, the pot bubbles, and the possibilities seem greater than the eventualities. With Charlie Cox, Claire Danes, Sienna Miller, Michelle Pfeiffer, Robert De Niro, Jason Fleming, Mark Strong, and Peter O’Toole, directed by Neil Marshall. 2007.

**We Own the Night** — The old story, with new operatic embellishment, of brothers on opposite sides of the law (Mark Wahlberg, Joaquin Phoenix), plus a father firmly on the lawless side (Robert Duval), and Russian drug dealers so ruthless and repugnant as to straighten out the bent brother. All pretty obvious and overstated, although a couple of big developments come sooner than might have been anticipated, and director James Gray (The Yob, also featuring Wahlberg, and Little Odessa, also featuring Russian mobsters) stages an exciting shootout on wheels in a low-visibilit

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**30 Days of Night** — A tribe of subtitle vampires strategically targets the northernmost town in the U.S., Barrow, Alaska, hunted down for a useless month, free rein for incipient bloodsuckers. The majestic clouds and snowscapes on the last day of light ignite an apocalyptic posturing, in an ankle-length film, road movie, romance movie, set in a

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**Music Within** — Ron Livingston plays Richard Pimentel, a hearing-impaired Viet-

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THE READER PUZZLE

by David Levinson Wilk

1. 41-Across: Dan Funk, Long Beach, Calif., responded in 1967 when asked what his play was about.
2. 19-Across: The name of the 2007 movie "The Reader." 
3. 25-Across: The "N" in the 2007 movie "The Reader." 
4. 24-Across: The "X" in the 2007 movie "The Reader." 
5. 23-Across: The "O" in the 2007 movie "The Reader." 

WALLS OF THE GAME:

1. the point for solving the Reader Puzzle will be a Reader T-shirt.
2. All entries in the Reader Puzzle contest must be received by the Reader by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, five days following the issue date. (Fax in-219-2104 or U.S. Mail to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 8980, San Diego, CA 92118-0980).
3. All entries must be accompanied by your name and address. 
4. Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.
5. In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and advisory. We've only got five prizes each week to give away, so if there are more than five winners, we'll have a lottery.
6. All prizes must be entered in the space allowed on the puzzle page. And please, no calls or trips to our office.
7. One prize per entry.

Solutions to and winners of the Reader Puzzle for 11/18/07:
There were 83 entrants.
The winners are:
1. Martha Awidzewiez, San Diego
2. Mike Renfro, San Diego
3. Jason Chong, La Mesa
4. Dan Funk, Encinitas
5. George Jackson, Oxnard

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THE READER PUZZLE

1. Deep down
2. He's green and mean
3. Hairy
4. 56, in Roman numerals
5. In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and advisory. We've only got five prizes each week to give away, so if there are more than five winners, we'll have a lottery.
6. All prizes must be entered in the space allowed on the puzzle page. And please, no calls or trips to our office.
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Clue: Flower power crests here

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Last week’s place: (clue: First Greek space station) Acropolis Space Center Self Service Storage, 3200 Highland Avenue, National City. (Last week’s winners: Renee Blair, J. Oldenkamp, Vance Sharp, John Scott Jennings, Scott Rosen)

NAME THIS PLACE

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REHEARSAL STUDIOS. Studio in Ocean Beach. 619-523-3073.

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Spike (Rich) coming November 30 to De- gug! myspace/theinformists.com, 619-799-9517. Also open to bands from 20 years ago. Contact Tony at 619-760-7987. We still have a place in the Reader by


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Crewman and dog of Rafael Trujillo Jr. (son of the Dominican Republican dictator), 1958. When his yacht docked in San Diego, news-gatherers and about 5000 people swarmed the waterfront. Most-desired glimpses included the “dapper,” “handsome,” “playboy” general and a “mystery Lady in Red” (actress Linda Milan), seen boarding the yacht in L.A., according to our local daily. When Trujillo and Milan weren’t on the scene to make news, the dog earned a paragraph in the newspaper: “The yacht’s dog — a long-haired brindle-colored shepherd — was taken ashore carefully led by a sailor in bright whites. The friendly dog jumped two times along the dock, was carefully photographed by a television cameraman and returned onboard” (next week: we have a runaway...and it’s not the dog)

— by Robert Mizrachi

You can purchase this photo and many more at the San Diego Historical Society’s repository library or online at www.sandiegohistory.org.

For more information, call 619-232-6203, ext. 127.

PICTURE STORY

Photograph from the San Diego Historical Society

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Features</th>
<th>Price Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHULA VISTA</td>
<td>1449-1450</td>
<td>Beautiful garden courtyard, central vacuum, garage</td>
<td>$1050, 2 bedroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>CITY HEIGHTS</td>
<td>4316 52nd Street</td>
<td>Pet deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $500 off!</td>
<td>$1300, 3 bedroom, 2 bath</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLLEGE AREA</td>
<td>540 Naples Street</td>
<td>Gated, central air/heat, dishwasher, balcony, laundry, on-site parking, pool, pool, off-street parking, parking.</td>
<td>$900 deposit OAC. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $675, rent. $600 deposit, $1850. 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, from $1225. Move-in special!!! From $765, 1 bedroom.</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLLEGE AREA/ALLIED GARDENS</td>
<td>5723 54th Street</td>
<td>Large 2 bed, 2 bath, $1350. Large 2 bed, 2 bath, $1350. Large 2 bed, 1 bath, $1200, includes utilities/cable/internet (except phone). 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $1125. Deposit $800. 619-733-9760.</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLLEGE AREA/MISSION HILL</td>
<td>201 Fourth Street</td>
<td>Pet deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $950. Available December 1, possibly sooner. 858-755-3883.</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLLEGE AREA/SHERMAN HEIGHTS</td>
<td>7870 Stalmer Street</td>
<td>Pets Accepted. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $950. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, $995-$1295. <a href="http://www.Wexford.com">www.Wexford.com</a>. 2701 Jackson Street. 858-422-5060.</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOWNTOWN, SHERMAN HEIGHTS</td>
<td>90th &amp; K Streets</td>
<td>Located between 20th and J Streets. $800 deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $775-$800. 619-253-6711; 909-569-9530.</td>
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<tr>
<td>EL CAJON BOROUGH/CARLSBAD</td>
<td>2412 Del Rey Avenue</td>
<td>Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, $1425. Beautifully remodeled with 12 month lease!</td>
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$99 Moves You In! (Includes first month free with 13-month lease)!

Urban Penthouse Living (1,546 sq. ft.)

Some restrictions apply.
Free high-speed Internet
Large pool and spa
On-site laundry facilities
Full kitchen
Complimentary breakfast
Near SDSU, Qualcomm, Seaworld, Zoo, restaurants, beaches, shopping & downtown
Free cable with HBO

San Diego’s best furnished studios

Free daily breakfast!
Free HBO
Free maid/linen service!
No lease!
Free concierge service!

• Studios from $915/month*
• Corporate rentals available
• Heated pool and spa • Free parking
• Laundry facilities • Paid utilities
• Air conditioning • Microwave • Refrigerator
• Easy freeway access • Centrally located
• Temporary or long term
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• Toll-free: 1-888-475-7147
• www.californiasuiteshotel.com

*Rates subject to change. Based on availability.

Beds: 2
Bathrooms: 2
Square Footage: 1,546

*Some restrictions apply. Click here for full details.

152 San Diego Reader, November 15, 2007

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Free high-speed Internet
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I have lived in a roommate-filled world for way too long. My current roomies are just fine — they have their quirks, but no one compares to the “Other Two in Linden House.”

It started out fine; it usually does. My best friend Sarah found the house. She was living with a girl named Maggie near the college we all attended. Our lease was about to run out, so I was planning on moving into the house with Sarah. I asked if Maggie could join us because it would make our rent cheaper, and I didn’t want to leave her out in the cold. I knew that Maggie was a semidepressed person, but she was an artist — so, that’s cool, I’m an artist as well.

We all seemed to get along. If anything bothered one of us it was just ignored. Then, one day, out came the chalkboard — it was meant for writing down bills and whatnot. I came to think of it as the “Nasty Notebook.”

Any kind of nasty note that you can think of, someone would put it there. Maggie started to write stupid stuff like, “Don’t let coffee grains into the sink, it’s clogging it.” All the while she’s lodging cheese and potatoes right into it, and we didn’t have a garbage disposal.

One month she would clean the house and then parade around as if she deserved some kind of medal. Her art started to include little sayings in it, like “F*ck you” and “Kill Me.” How pathetic. The house was plagued by the black cloud of Maggie. I thought to myself, How horrible of a life does one have to make themselves into such an inhuman creature?

One day the beast that bred her appeared, her mother. She stumbled in and said, “It stinks in here.” Not “It’s nice to meet you, mother, how was your day...” I was pissed. Sarah and I had come home just before “It” arrived, so we hadn’t yet had a chance to take out the garbage. This woman chunked around the house and waited for Maggie. She also used the phone — barking, cussing, raving. No wonder Maggie was so depressed. I’d be depressed if I had to look at that face growing up.

Sarah couldn’t take it anymore and moved out into her own place. For me, the house was convenient, a ten-minute walk from my work. So I stayed and found a quick replacement. I wouldn’t normally choose a male to join our household, but this one was quite feminine. He looked like a man and dressed like a man but sounded like a little girl. I thought it might work. I am an optimistic person. Little did I know what kind of demented drama-queen stuff he would drag in.

“The slut that took it in the butt” is what I came to call him. John was dating a girl who traveled often and lived in Atlanta. One night John took my friends and me to a gay bar, and he brought home the most repulsive man in the place. Not the surgeon or the policeman — the man who cut a hole out of the ass part of his pants and pasted a piece of plastic over it. You could see the entire crack. And John brought him home.

But that’s cake — not only did John cheat on his long-distance boyfriend, he did it almost every night of the week, with anyone he could. Disgusting. And my food — he didn’t just eat just a little bit here or there. He would get obliterated and eat all of it and then vomit.

I felt bad for him, but he didn’t show me any respect so it was kind of hard to care about him. He was wasting all of this good food, and there I was without any.

There was only so much that I could take of these two. I moved out into a one-bedroom apartment where I could have my cake and eat it by myself. Since then I’ve traveled from one coast to the other, so I doubt those retards will see this here in San Diego. But if they do, I would say, ‘Suck it, and I hope you can afford your own place because I doubt anyone would be able to live with you for any longer than I did.”
166 San Diego Reader November 15, 2007

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NEW RADIATOR

FREE Factory

NEW RADIATOR

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**LEAD STORY**

— Terry Chestnut, a criminal defense lawyer and adviser to the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department, has developed a line of greeting cards for a Hallmark-ignored demographic: the recently incarcerated. Among her selections are cards reading, “Sorry to hear about your arrest” and “Honestly, I never knew anyone who was arrested before” and simply, “No You!” Aremendatory card had corresponded could choose: “I know that I have not visited you. But I still care about you… When are you getting out, anyway?” 

Card sales are slow, according to an October Los Angeles Times story, and Chestnut acknowledges that people might prefer to ignore their connections to criminals.

**Great Art**

— Australian performance artist Stelios Arca- diou, 61, showed off the laboratory-grown, non-food edible art he had implanted in his arm in 2006 and which now fully resembles his other two ears, according to an October report in London’s Daily Mail. The next step, he said, is to implant a tiny microphone, connected to a Bluetooth transmitter, so that his audience can hear what his third ear “hears.”

**MDT sophomore Sam Simpson, 19, was arrested at Logan International Airport in Boston in September when she walked by a security check-point wearing her own creative creation of a hooded sweatshirt with a wired circuit board sewn onto the front, thus evoking the image of a suicide bomber. She compounded the problem by being uncommunicative, but shortly after her arrest, authorities determined that she is a bright and eccentric student.

**Government in Action!**

— Three aldermen in Dover, N.J., seem exceptionally apprehensive that the town’s gumball machines are easy targets for would-be vandals, and their community and have been studying the issue since April. The aldermen have checked all 800 gumball machines in the town of 18,000, gotten rid of the 100 that were unlicensed, and will report to the mayor by Jan. 1 on the town’s vulnerability. The mayor has been mildly supportive of the project, as contrasted with the police chief, who said, “You’d probably win the lottery first” before being victimized by terrorists’ gumballs.

**People Different From Us**

— “Over my dead body was I going to give the state another dollar for the tolls,” said Thomas Jensen, 68, to the judge in Rochester, N.H., in September as he accepted the three-day jail sen-tence instead of a $150 fine. He had been convicted of cheating the state for insisting on using two discontinued 25-cent tokens to pay a 50-cent toll after he had failed to use the tokens up before their expiration.

**Chutpah!**

— Trial lawyer Gary Baise is also the “lower taxes, limited government, less spending” candidate for chairman of the Fairfax County (Va.) Board of Supervisors, but an October Waiting Times investigation revealed that he had collected nearly $300,000 in federal subsidies between 1995 and 2005 on an already profitable farm he owns in Illinois. At first, he appeared outraged at himself: “There’s no way you can justify this for guys like me.” This is what’s wrong with government.” He said he’d continue to take the subsidies.

— Even More Chutzpah! (1) The man who witnessess say robbed the Washington Mutual Bank in Miami Springs, Fla., in October was arrested out-side the bank, but when he was brought back inside to be identified, he shouted at the employees (according to a Miami Herald report), “You ruined my life! I told you not to call the [police]” (2) Authorities in Concord, N.H., arrested Frank Drake, 37, in October, after finding him watering one of several marijuana-plant gardens along side Interstate 89. Police seized 44 plants on the southbound side and 88 on the northbound side.

**Police Blotter**

— Donald Turk, 48, and two associates were charged in Lake Elsinore, Calif., in September with kidnapping Turk’s girlfriend, whom Turk was trying to push out of his life because she annoyed him. His plan, allegedly, was to get her into a car, drive her to Mexico, drop her off, and hope that she would not return home. However, she was back several hours later, demanding that Turk put off the cab driver who had driven her from the border. Arrested with Turk was a 47-year-old named “No Nose” because he has a hole in the middle of his face as the result of a gunshot.

— Petty Crime: (1) Police in Mesa, Ariz., reported that a man in a black Chrysler sedan pulled up to a Burger King employee in February and, hours later, on one evening in September and, at gunpoint, took the uniform he was wearing. (2) In Hyannis, Mass., in September, an 18-year-old high school student was charged with possession of marijuana, which police said he was smoking out of an apple.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@Yahoo.com

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Thirty Years Ago

WEEKEND NATURE LOVER. Cuyamaca, deserts, etc. Seeks passing passengers to diminish car expenses. At destination we split. Come return time, my Magic Bug will be there. Mike 222-4557.

DRIVING TO PHENIX for Thanksgiving. Leaving SD on 23rd, returning late 27th. Plenty of room for kids, dogs, etc. Juli 224-7414.

AZTEC FAN wants ride to San Jose State game. Will share. Fred 287-5038.

—CLASSIFIEDS, November 19, 1977

Twenty-Five Years Ago

My fear that she wouldn't have the abortion played on me. "Even if it is alive, you don't need to feel guilty," I said. "We're not under Christian law and you can still have the abortion."

"Something inside me is alive and part of me and I'm nurturing what could be our child, and you try to divorce yourself from what's happening by calling what's inside me an it. You're so unfelt of what I feel. Any way, just because I think abortion is some kind of murder, and I feel material, that doesn't mean I'm anything close to a Christ-ian. Now, will you please turn off the lamp?"

And let's go to sleep.

—ONE WOMAN, ONE MAN, NO BABY.

David Stenson, November 18, 1983

Twenty Years Ago

"This is a historic occasion," began Tanja Winter of Friends of Nicaraguan Culture. "Sometimes I wonder if this is really San Diego."

She looked out at 800 people crammed into USD's Camino Theatre on November 14 to hear an address by Daniel Sheahan. "This is a tribute to peace activists in San Diego." The audience applauded itself.

Winter compared local activists to Benjamin Under, Daniel and Philip Barrigan, and the Plowshares Eight, and she emphasized that there is no such thing as humanitarian aid to the contras — all aid to mercenaries is military aid.

—GUY LIGHTS, " ADDRESS," Karl Koating, November 19, 1987

Fifteen Years Ago

Don't plunge into bookstore or library and seize the first pretty cover. You don't want someone about whom too much has been written. You don't want to be overwhelmed.


You want also to sidestep suicides. Thus the poet Sylvia Plath, who ended her life by sticking her head in the oven; or the poet Anne Sexton, who took too many pills; and the poet Hart Crane, who jumped ship between Havana and New York; or Heming-way or Vachal Lindsay (whose last drink was Lysol).

—WHEN ANY OLD BOOK WON'T DO, FIND ANOTHER LIFE TO READ," Judith Moore, November 19, 1992

Ten Years Ago

Baby and Child Care by pediatrician Benjamin Spock occupies a rarefied position in publishing history. Only a handful of titles — the Bible, Quotations from Mao Tse-tung, The Gaimness Book of World Records, and a few others — have been more successful.

The original 1946 book has changed a lot. Now it is changing one more time. Dr. Spock and his wife Mary Morgan moved to La Jolla last November, where they've been overseeing the prepartion of a seventh edition to be published early next year. But the doctor is a very old man. He turned 94 in May, and Death is stalking him.

—CHILDHOOD'S END," Jeanette De Wyse, November 20, 1997

Five Years Ago

Early last week, when the nation was bickering about politics and the government was taking baby steps toward war, I called Father Abbot Charles at Prince of Peace Abbey in Oceanside.

"In addition to chastity and obedience, we take a vow of poverty, and we live in commu-nity. I'm no way disparaging diocesan priests when I say that when you become a diocesan priest, you tend to move up a little in the social scheme of things. Monks don't move up."

—SHEP AND GOMS, Ale Opuscar, November 14, 2002

Columns archived at SandDiegoReader.com

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MOVING DAY

Dear Noah,

You found out today that the girls next door are moving. You are very upset about this. You told me you would have to say goodbye to them forever, all the while with tears in your eyes. You cried and cried.

This brought back memories of when I was packing everything up to move across country with you a couple of years ago. You cried then, too, saying you would have to say goodbye to all the familiar people and places of your life thus far, for “FOREVER!” It made me feel like crap then (even though I knew it would be for the best) and it makes me feel like crap all over again.

I have explained to you it will be okay. We will also be moving...sooner than later. I told you that change and different situations can be good. You can meet new people and make new friends. You can have new adventures.

But this relationship with those little girls was your first experience at a real friendship and playmates that you could play with on a regular basis. All you had to do was step out into your back yard.

As long as I live, I will never forget the days you would come running to me shouting, “Mommy, mommy! Emma and Brianne are outside! Can I go out and play?” — a milestone that took years to attain. You would go darting out the back door squealing greetings to the girls through smiles and giggles as they did the same back to you. I am sure you also will never forget the kisses goodbye at the end of the day; chasing fireflies new friends. You can have new adventures.

Once a day such as today, I feel inadequate. I wish that I had a shoulder to cry on. I wish I could make it all better. I know God is there to always hear me out, because I doubt most any other human wants to hear me going on and on. I am thankful for this. As I sit here and spill the beans, even if only partly, I know in the long run everything will be fine.

But it can be exhausting doing it all by yourself. Or even feeling as if you are doing it all by yourself.

I am busy telling everyone else it will be okay. I sometimes just wish I had someone around to verbally do the same for me...even if I already know things will be okay.

I love you Noah, more than words can say.

Mommy

XOXOXOX

Dear Noah,

My birthday wishes for you are many:

1. I wish you will always find your way in the world with confidence and security in the knowledge of who you are and what you can offer to this world and to others.
2. I wish for your safety and protection so you can live a full, prosperous life.
3. I wish for peace in your busy mind and understanding so you can handle living in my world.
4. I wish for you to continue to love the Lord, pure in heart and soul as you do now.
5. I wish for you the ability in yourself no matter what anyone else says.
6. I wish for you to continue to feel optimistic and hopeful, even when experiencing or seeing the horrors of the world today.
7. I wish for you to find a special love one day, if that is what you desire, so you won’t be alone or lonely in this world but have someone special to share things with, to love, and love you back, and have a family.
8. I wish for you a new-found ability to eat more

The lesson will save you a day turn into a loving, compassionate little boy, who will one day turn into a loving, compassionate man. One who will know how to treat a lady as a lady should be treated and who can support himself.

I wish for you to stay as a child in your heart and see through the eyes of a child’s eyes so you can keep the wonder of the world within you.

I wish for you to have independence one day.

I wish for you to have no regrets in your lifetime.

I wish you will someday know just how much I love you.

I love you to the moon and back again, Noah! Mommy

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A red-eye flight, six miles above the black icy Atlantic, winging toward Greenland is the quintessential setting to throw a pillow fort and work on creative projects, I’ve found. Think of it. You have free food—and a warmish goo masquerading as food, which tastes like each of the dishes was cooked in the same coffee pot, but it’s still better than any- thing I’ve ever made. On international flights they keep the breeze coming, and no project can be completed without it. And, since there are nearly no passengers, especially on the flying rattrap that is Yugoslavian Air, you can take up two rows of seats spanning the width of the craft, gather all the pillows onboard, and wall yourself in.

“WINIE!” I yelled out the hole I had left for provisions and the ordering thereof. The rest of the plane was dark, but in my pillow fort of seat rows I had all the TVs and reading spot-lights on and trained in the same direction; enough light to see my pad and paper. “WINIE!” I bellowed.

As a precautionary measure, I illuminated all of the stewardess beacons in my two rows. Bin! Bing! Bing! Bing! Bing! I scurried on the floor between the seat rows, in the nar- row “leg and carry-on luggage” area, touching all the buttons to beckon all the stewies.

You’d think the stews would not tolerate such misbehavior, but flight attendants, espe- cially the male of the species, are a terriﬁed, panic-ridden breed, like stalk-legged gazelles. Chilled Pinot Grigio and a cold plate of apples and cheese slices arrived at my pillow- fort door.

“Anything else, sir?” the shivering fawn of a man in smart blue blazer and red apron asked. To emphasize my dominance in the situation, I launched from the pillow- fort door, snapping my teeth like a breached great white shark after a baby seal. Snap! Snap! Snap! The stew squealed and bounded on thin haunches to the rear stew pen and huddled and cried in fear with tears.

This wasn’t a transatlantic midnight ride, it was Marlin Perkins’s Wild Kingdom. And the stew knew on which side of the prey/predator line they stood.

When I finally had some peace from the frightened staff, I settled in, tapped my pen to my teeth, and mulled over my obscene revision of It’s The Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown! which I entitled, I’ll Be Damned, Charlie Brown, You Fithly SOB, Bukowski Was Right!

WHAT I WILL AND WON’T WATCH THIS WEEK
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15
12 CORAZONES
TELEMUNDO 7:00 P.M.
My next project is to save all the paper delivered to me as supermarket junk mail and to use Spanish-language sales on London Broil ($4.99 per pound) wet-glue and stuck against the exterior of my entire pickup. Then I’ll ﬁx steer horns to the hood and chase the matador around the Tijuana bullring. ¡Ole! Get those funny pants moving, ¡Ole!

THE FASHION TEAM
TVGH 8:00 P.M.
Last week, a man in a pair of pleated and pocketless jeans crossed in front of my truck. I spun to the right, with little control of the vehicle, and nearly slammed into a thrift-store. Mattress World, 1601 University style, large 42x72 inch, smoked glass table with storage, large 2 door storage area under TV, adjustable shelves, perfect condition, $75. Can email photos. 760-941-0541.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16
GROUNDED FOR LIFE
FAMILY 7:30 P.M.
When my neighbors let their kids scream and play in the courtyard, I walk out and strap lit- tle dunce caps on them. Next week it will be Xu Kias Kian outﬁts, and the week after that, I’m escalating the wardrobe selection to the nuclear option: Village People leather, with mustache. Your lease clearly states kids are not to play in the courtyard, but I’m the jerk now, huh?

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17
COLLEGE GAME DAY
ESPN 7:00 P.M.
Now that I’m newly singled, I need to jog off this love chub I picked up on the ex’s couch. To make jogging more fun, I picked up a Zoro mask and a pair of Larry Green green-and-white short shorts. It’s the vision of my creamy upper thigh — and a little higher up in the crotch area — that makes my ﬁtness regimen fun, but it’s the mask that keeps me safe from prosecution. Tremble, North Park. Trem- ble at what lies beneath that thin layer of fabric.

IRON CHEF AMERICA
FOOD 7:00 P.M.
Not only pumpkins in October, but also we should drunkenly carve other foodstuffs for the other months of the year. This month I’ve des- ignated for cutting tomatoes into ﬁsh shapes. February is one of my favorites: cheeseburg- ers into famous opera balls. And who can for- get April, when we cut salmon to look like boom boxes. Just like mom used to make.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18
E.T. THE EXTRATERRESTRIAL
FAMILY 9:30 P.M.
In 1988, my cousin had a baton with silver glitter in it that I mistook for a Pixie Stick. You know those paper tubes of shiny, multicolored sprinkles? You can see how I got confused; also, keep in mind of my childhood was spent in natural confusion. Anyway, I coughed sparkles for a week, but no serious health problems occurred. I’m thinking of doing it again. You know, for parties.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19
THE SIMPSONS
FOX 7:30 P.M.
I wish The Simpsons were funny like they used to be. I also wish I could breathe underwater, and I wish I’d found a pair of magic under- pants that gave me super strength and that gold doubloons shot from my ears when I sneezed. Alas, Alas.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22
(THANKS FOR NOTHING)
MACY’S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE
NBC 9:00 A.M.
Last month, I entered a painting into an art show. The painting is entitled Dia de los Muertos Jackalopes. You can imagine. Now, shockingly, it did not sell. So I’m giving it to my friend Mel on Thanksgiving. Like the Indians gave the Pilgrims paintings of Dia de los Muertos Jack- alopes, I’ll be in traditional headdress and manning the craps table. Mel will have buckles on her hat and shoes.

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BREAKING THE MAGICIAN’S CODE: UNMASKING THE MAGICIAN
XDTV 8:00 P.M.
Luckily, I carry a white dove in my armpit for just such an occasion. Sure, he poops on my ribs, but it’s a lot of fun at picnics and on long bus trips. People wonder why I put sunﬂower seeds in my sleeve, and then they wonder how I pulled a bird from my armpit. They never put it together. Dummies.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20
E! NEWS
E! CHANNEL 11:00 P.M.
If you ever come across an abandoned life-guard tower, put your ear up to its door. Like listening to a conch shell to hear the ocean, you can hear Kim Kardashian’s gigantic rear end call from the great beyond. “Step toward the light, Kim Kardashian’s gigantic rear end. Step toward the light.”

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(THANKS FOR NOTHING)
MACY’S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE
NBC 9:00 A.M.
Last month, I entered a painting into an art show. The painting is entitled Dia de los Muertos Jackalopes. You can imagine. Now, shockingly, it did not sell. So I’m giving it to my friend Mel on Thanksgiving. Like the Indians gave the Pilgrims paintings of Dia de los Muertos Jack- alopes, I’ll be in traditional headdress and manning the craps table. Mel will have buckles on her hat and shoes.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17
COLLEGE GAME DAY
ESPN 7:00 P.M.
Now that I’m newly singled, I need to jog off this love chub I picked up on the ex’s couch. To make jogging more fun, I picked up a Zoro mask and a pair of Larry Green green-and-white short shorts. It’s the vision of my creamy upper thigh — and a little higher up in the crotch area — that makes my fitness regimen fun, but the mask that keeps me safe from prosecution. Tremble, North Park. Tremble at what lies beneath that thin layer of fabric.

BREAKING THE MAGICIAN’S CODE: UNMASKING THE MAGICIAN
XDTV 8:00 P.M.
Luckily, I carry a white dove in my armpit for just such an occasion. Sure, he poops on my ribs, but it’s a lot of fun at picnics and on long bus trips. People wonder why I put sunﬂower seeds in my sleeve, and then they wonder how I pulled a bird from my armpit. They never put it together. Dummies.

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I spent last night, a Friday night, in a Motel 6 somewhere off I-5. I don’t know where exactly, but it is right around the corner from that dunkin’ donut windmill you see from the freeway. What I was doing there was giving my son a break from me. We fought like spitting children that Friday afternoon, and we had never had before. Ever. Not in three decades. Words were shouted, hissed, and hurled: “Why don’t you just go to the hospital and ask them for heroin?”

This was after I asked him for the second time for Amithren for my insomnia. He considered me a drug addict because I needed two to sleep. I had also asked his friend for a half of a Serquel, so maybe he had a point. I don’t consider myself a drug addict at all, so I took great offense. Maybe I am, though. I suppose it is likely that many drug addicts do not think of themselves as such. I’ve chronicled my drinking enough here, but I just don’t take little sleep, and I had nine dollars so I walked to a nearby 7-Eleven and bought a pack of cigarettes (after having quit six weeks earlier) and a liter of ginger ale, I alternated the ginger ale with Maalox. It was not until then that I really thought I was doing there was giving my son a break from me. There we were, when my life turned to shit from drinking again.

Somehow in the middle of a fairly interesting movie about Roger Maris (directed by Billy Crystal), I reached into my back pocket and discovered my ATM card. To describe the astonishment I experienced (as I had been wearing those three words off for, like, another two hundred or so), Miraculously, I remembered my PIN number and wasted no time getting back to the 7-Eleven, where I was pretty sure there would be a cash machine. There, I withdrew $100, bought a small carton of milk, then went next door to a six-inch sandwich with guacamole. I’m sure I was shaking from the cold and standing there. I called him a liar. He told me, “Come on back, Dad. All is forgiven.” That’s when I lost it. I called my mother, and she was willing to fight me that Saturday morning. At the moment he is playing video games behind me. He tells me he is very pleased I am here, working across from him, and that he is very sorry for his behavior. Throughout my apologies and his, it is much like some Laurel and Hardy routine.

We will be making chicken pasta together.

Something else I’m sure of was that I was near tears with relief. When you’re broke, in a motel, hungry, and you’re pretty sure your only son hates you, and you have no real prospects of a place to live after check-out time, one can easily weep for oneself. That if is, if one is inclined that way, and I am. A small miracle, easily attributed to prayer, can add to this state.

Once back in the room, eating too quickly, I decided to call my son to test the waters. He told me, “Come on back, Dad. All is forgiven.” That’s when I lost it. I called my mother, and she was willing to fight me that Saturday morning. At the moment he is playing video games behind me. He tells me he is very pleased I am here, working across from him, and that he is very sorry for his behavior. Throughout my apologies and his, it is much like some Laurel and Hardy routine.

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“T.G.I.F. “I guess I wanted you to be like a superhero or something.”

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