

SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

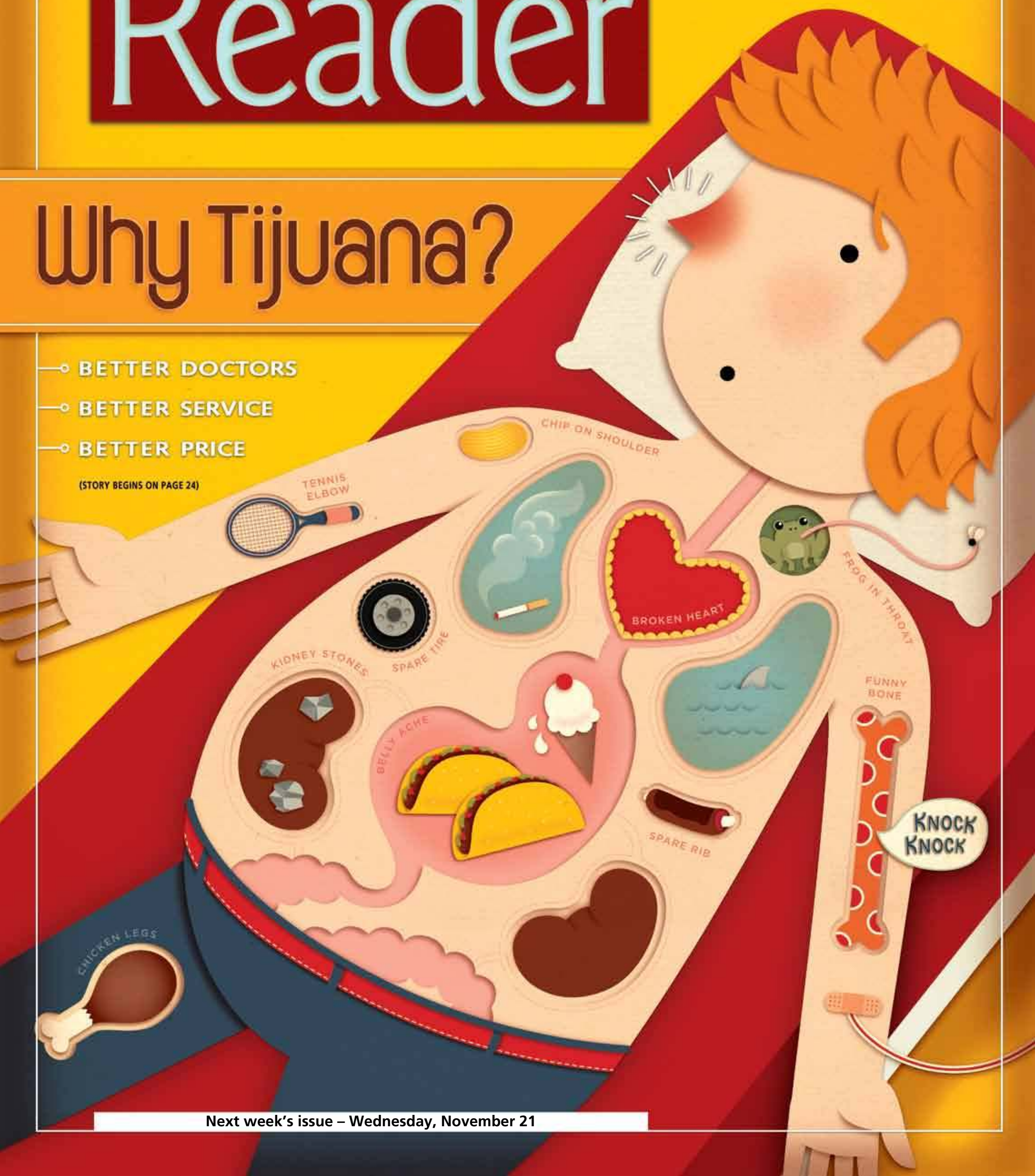
VOLUME 36 / NUMBER 46
NOVEMBER 15, 2007

Reader

Why Tijuana?

- BETTER DOCTORS
- BETTER SERVICE
- BETTER PRICE

(STORY BEGINS ON PAGE 24)



Next week's issue – Wednesday, November 21

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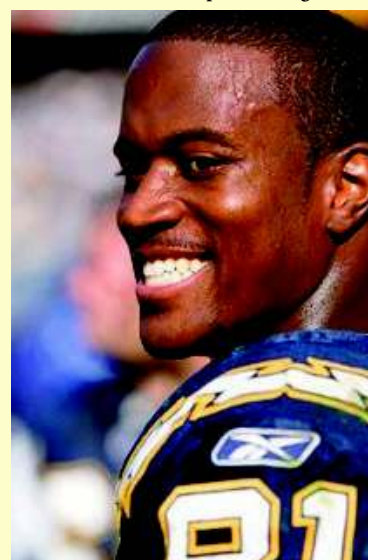
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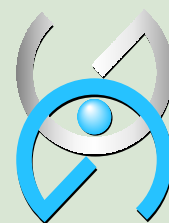
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BREAKING NEWS

Charity at home Any doubters of **Jesse Unruh's** old adage that "money is the mother's



Tom McClintock

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 charities, 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 PG&E 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 Sacramento and elsewhere around the state to legislators and their staffers. 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.

Assemblywomen **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 senate majority leader **Gloria Romero**, also at Staples. On other September nights, senators **Ron Calderon** and **Lou Correa** each



Fabian Nunez

got \$164.75 worth of hospitality at Staples. A few days later, **Ricardo Lara**, district manager to Assembly Speaker **Fabian Nunez**, and three other Nunez staffers, along with three other legislative aides, went to Staples, thanks to Sempra, which reported the total cost to be \$3127. ... 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 León** along with Anderson staffer **Chip Englander** 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



Western Metal Supply Company

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 news 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 Cheryl Mason 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. They represented 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 scien-

tific research and development, which provides 24,123 jobs and \$662 million of payroll (out of a county total of \$15.8 billion). Next come wireless communications carriers

SAN DIEGO TECH EMPLOYMENT 2007

	Establishments	Employment	Payroll
	5822	137,080	\$3,201,180,482
% of total	6.2	10.5	20.2

at 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 special-

ized 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 begin-

ning of [the University of California, San Diego]" and other nearby research institutions. Biotech and telecom flowered from academic and research facilities, says Cunningham, noting that Irwin Mark Jacobs, cofounder 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

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 pols' 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":

San Diego Proved to Be No New Orleans." By contrast with New Orleans, San Diego's reaction was "almost a model of efficient, effective response."

Balderdash. 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 Rancho 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

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



Proposed site of Kensington Terrace



Maggie McCann

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

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 meet-

Aldine to I-15, one block each side of Adams." A revised Notice of Application for the project went out to residents within 300 feet on June 21.

On July 11, Jansen announced in the committee the full nature of Kensington Terrace as "a mixed use development consisting of 16,560 square feet of office, 16,515



Emerald gas station

ing was a more extensive partnership mentioned. According to meeting minutes, "Allard Jansen reported that he had closed on the Emerald Gas Station property on March 31. Both that property, and the one immediately east, will be developed in a partnership." The partners also announced "planning [for] 108 underground parking spaces."

In the Kensington-Talmadge Planning Committee minutes for May 8, plans to do a traffic study for Kensington Terrace were announced. The study "should cover area [from]

square feet of retail, and 19,200 square feet of residential (9 for-sale units) on a 0.78 acre site." The project would now take up the whole block on Adams between Marlborough and Edgeware Road. It would need a height variance of eight feet over limit. There would be 118 parking spaces, though the

continued on page 8

Neal Obermeyer



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Tech pays

continued from page 6

paid in town," says economist Alan Gin of the University of San Diego. "People in high tech are attracted by amenities, put more emphasis on lifestyle." San Diego's weather may continue to attract them, "but negatives like crime, traffic, and periodic fires," along with a high cost of living, may turn some off. "Rural living may become less attractive."

"We're a victim of our own success," says Cunningham. "We've made San Diego such a desirable place to be; it's so expensive. Housing development has not matched job and population growth. It's making it very expensive to be producing products, hiring workers; we lose out with the high cost of living."

But will the falling dollar propel 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, entrepreneurial activity, but when it comes to making products and profits, we're not so good," says 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 start-up 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 biotech 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 one-tenth the number of employees removing brush

as recommended by the former fire chief, who resigned in frustration. The governor vetoed four bills that would have boosted San Diego's fire-fighting capability. Coordination on getting military fire-fighting 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 Erie, 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 150 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

pat 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

project requires only 87. "Gas station to remain until permit in hand," according to

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CITY LIGHTS

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-Talmadge Planning Committee members maintaining that residents were notified of the extent of the project and outraged residents denying it. The residents also say no meeting minutes have appeared on the committee's website. Maggie McCann writes that "around September 23, a 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 organizations. Again, says McCann, "sometime in October a resident distributed a flyer that there was an agenda item [for Kensington Terrace to be discussed 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 negative declaration say the project will make available 8000 square feet for a supermarket, 3000 for restaurant space, and 5500 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 meeting on November 1 at the Kensington Community Church to explain his project.

I listened to Jansen give a

CITY LIGHTS

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 possible. 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 community notification, he was sure everything had been done properly. Before the meeting started, a Kensington-Talmadge Planning Committee spokesman 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

CITY LIGHTS

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 continues, 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 traffic is going out to Adams and will circulate through neighborhood streets to leave the area. This factor alone shows that the project should be required to produce an environmental impact report."

In his e-mail to city project manager Anne Jarque, Jim 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 2.1 per 1000 square feet of commercial. 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 better serves the community of Kensington," concluded Chatfield, "I would be happy to assist." He may get that chance. At last Thursday's Planning Commission meeting, the Kensington Terrace hearing was continued for a week. And the commission gave the parties homework. Meet before you come back — and iron out some of your differences. ■



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Cora Tomalinas
 San Jose

"My passion is community organizing. I believe that you develop community one person at a time. I think that when people come together to look at a problem and really work together to do something about it, then we can prevent violence."

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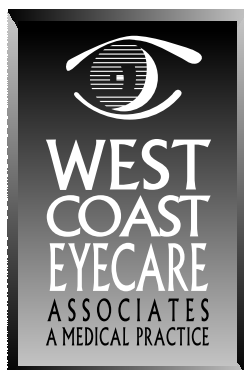
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Hey, We're Friendly

This is in response to the review of Faith Chapel for the November 4 services ("Sheep and Goats," November 8). One correction: we were founded locally in 1956, not 1965 as reported. Why were we given only 1/2 for friendliness? Please tell us the reason for it. Also, the review did not mention the choir whatsoever. Otherwise the pastors were quoted accurately.

Patti Garfield
via e-mail

Matthew Lickona responds:
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

Three quotations in the October 4 cover story, "Best San Diego Jams," came from stories Steve Thorn wrote for *Kicks* magazine in 1979 and 1980.

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 damndest 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

continued on page 70



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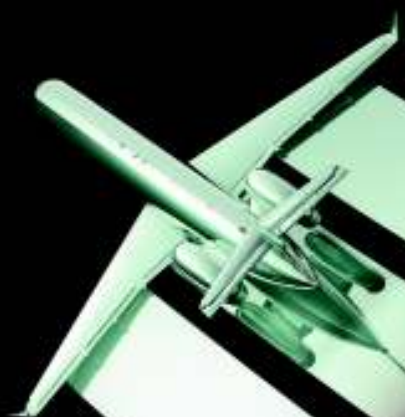
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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP

BY MATTHEW ALICE

Illustration by Rick Geary



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 Joes 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, Heathen, I was just getting into this story. You had a real chiller 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 pooh-poohs 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

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

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SportingBox

By Patrick Daugherty

Congrats

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, 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 have qualified for the Women's Cross Country National Championship. Book 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 persons), 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 3200. 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 watchNAIA.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 1990 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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Tampa Bay	3	36		ATLANTA
CINCINNATI	3	49		Arizona
PHILADELPHIA	10	40 ½		Miami
New England	16	46 ½		Buffalo
DALLAS	10 ½	47		Washington
HOUSTON	1	47		New Orleans
GREEN BAY	10	37 ½		Carolina
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The Diva

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Kevin

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Guide to San Diego slang
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Mike

Sheep and Goats

Weekly church review
By Matthew Lickona



Scott

Tin Fork

Best cheap eats
By Ed Bedford



Will

As I Hear It

Local CDs get reviewed by
people on the street
By Brian Carver



Tariq

SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: Interdenominational
Address: 855 Barham Drive, San Marcos, 760-761-4922
Founded locally: 1996
Senior pastors: Steve and Becky Riggle
Congregation size: around 275
Staff size: 3
Sunday school enrollment: 90
Annual budget: n/a
Weekly giving: n/a
Singles program: in development
Dress: casual to semiformal
Diversity: very diverse
Sunday worship: 10:15 a.m.
Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 20 minutes
Website: www.gracenorthcounty.com

My first note upon hearing the band at Grace was “powerful.” Not so much the lyrics — the songs were familiar enough that I remembered at least three from last week’s service at another church — but the energy. My second note was “diverse.” Three different vocalists led the music, and they looked, dressed, and sounded the parts of gospel, emo-folk, and country-pop, sometimes putting their various stylistic stamps onto different sections of a single song.

The congregation reflected that diversity — and that energy. Murmurs and cries of “Amen” and “Oh, yes” provided frequent punctuations to the various pastors’ teachings — many of which, as it happened, had to do with God’s power.

Pastor Renee Crenshaw read from Paul: “I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, in order that you may know...His incomparably great power for us who believe....” I don’t know what you’re going through today, but He has incomparable power...and He wants us to share in that great power. Whatever you’re going through, I pray you will claim it.... We’re not going to walk around surviving, we’re going to walk around overcoming! God bless you as you come and share with our prayer partners!” Cheers and applause as congregants, singly or in groups, approached the row of prayer partners at the foot of the stage — partners young and old, black and white, male and female — and prayed with them. Some held hands, some embraced, some placed hands on shoulders, forehead to forehead. The room was burbling with voices — prayer and chatter and song: “My God is mighty to save/ He is mighty to save.”

“Our God is mighty,” said Pastor Joel Davis in the midst of the music. “He is powerful. Even death couldn’t hold Him down. God’s power is available to us today. I want to encourage you, no matter what you’re facing.... Rejoice together, knowing our God is mighty to save.... We believe that when we put God in His rightful place, enthroned upon our praises, He comes and He moves

in a mighty way. He says He inhabits the praises of His people.... Let’s lift Him up once more!”

Pastor Mike Mieritz detoured from the theme for a moment, reminding the congregation of its part in God’s movements: providing gifts for needy children at Christmas, bringing Thanksgiving meals to the poor in motels and on the streets. “When we reach out to the community like that, that’s what God calls us to. This time we are spending now is meant to encourage us to get outside these four walls...and to serve the nations.” He then returned through Psalm 96’s account of “God’s incredible presence and incredible power,” which enjoined the hearer to “ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name.... Bring an offering and come into His courts.”

Pastor Matt Woltjer, the emo-folk part of the music team, played a solo during the collection: “I used to be mad at you/ A little on the hurt side, too/ But I’m not who I was...”

That set up another detour from the theme of God’s power, this one from Pastor Scott Crenshaw. “Oh, man, I’m so glad I’m not who I used to be. But it’s a process, isn’t it? Paul said, ‘I have to die daily.’ Holiness, joy of God, transformed life — it doesn’t just happen, does it? ‘Come up and sign a card, and you can get it today.’ No, it’s a process, and part of the process is being determined to say, ‘I’m going to kill this flesh.’”

But Crenshaw got back on track for the bulk of his sermon — a sermon lovingly illustrated with anecdotes from Crenshaw’s youth and carried along on swells of volume and intensity — starting with David’s plea for help in Psalm 27: “Hear my voice when I call, O Lord. I want you to hear something this morning: God meets needs.... We have

a God who loves to pour out upon his children. But then David says, ‘My heart says of you, “Seek your face.”’ There is a huge difference, my friends, between seeking the hand of God and seeking the face of God. Does God meet needs? Yes. But we were not created to seek after the things of God; we were created to seek after God.... I make you a promise: you go after His face, and His hand will move.”

Crenshaw finished with a prayer and a plea: “Could we all just be still for a moment? Could we just love on Him, just for a moment? Not because of what He’s doing or what He’s done, but because of who He is.”

What happens when we die?

“We believe that what the Bible says is true,” said Crenshaw. “It says that at death, every person stands before God to give an account of their life.”

— Matthew Lickona



SCOTT CRENSHAW

**Grace Community Church
San Marcos**
★★½

Sermon

content★★★
delivery★★★

Liturgy

Music

congregational.....★★½
band.....★★★

Snacks

.....★½

Architecture

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Poor to satisfactory.....(none)
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Suspects Wear Masks in Halloween Homicide

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BestBuys

—EVE KELLY

For years, all I had to do was wince in the presence of my mother-in-law and out came the Advil. Mom was caring for her parents and her in-laws in their declining years; fighting pain was a big part of her life. And that's how she found Topricin, an anti-inflammatory pain-relief cream that's become her new standby. "It's been like a miracle for Patrick's grandmother," she told me. "And I put it on the grandkids as soon as they get bumps or twists. It works wonders."

As for me, I was convinced when it brought solid relief to an aching lower back. That's what led me to call Topical Biomedics (800-537-7246; www.topicalbiomedics.com) for a chat with Topricin inventor and CEO Lou Paradise. "I was my own experiment initially," said Paradise. "I had contracted a severe case of carpal tunnel syndrome and necessity became the mother of invention." The result of his experimentation is a cream that "treats lower back pain as well as the pain associated with arthritis, carpal tunnel syndrome, repetitive motion, and trauma or sports injuries."

Paradise conducted his search for relief in the realm of homeopathy. "Homeopathy offers us an opportunity to use some significant pharmacological agents. Some of the medicines come from pretty toxic things in nature, but because homeopathy uses a microdose, obtained through serial dilution, there is no noxious potential. In Topricin, for instance, there are four different venoms. Venom is basically highly concentrated digestive juice, so it creates incredible enzyme action in tissue. Take graphites, which come from the rattlesnake. It causes capillary hemorrhaging in the bitten animal, which immobilizes it. But from a homeopathic point of view, graphite strengthens the capillary and makes it resilient — the defense system in the body gets stimulated. Naja, which is cobra venom, is a neurotoxin that causes paralysis; in homeopathy, it strengthens nerve tissue. What I was looking for when I put Topricin together was synergy between the medicines, a benefit bigger than the individual parts." (Paradise was careful to point out that the homeopathic medicines are derivatives of venom, and that no actual venom is present in Topricin.)

As for the nature of that benefit, Paradise told me that "Healing is the ultimate form of pain relief. It's the body that's the miracle, not the product. Topricin works by helping to balance the chemistries in the soft tissue, where the pain is, so that the body can start the process of healing the damage in the cellular membranes."

Paradise gave an example. "When you twist your ankle, the body wants to immobilize the tissue. It sends everything — red blood cells, white blood cells, all the inflammatory fluids. There are some free radicals in there, and that's very good for dealing with damaged tissue and any bacterial buildup. But if it stays more than 24 to 48 hours, now you're not only suffering from the injury, but also from free-radical damage. The body then wants to send more blood flow to the region, but if all that inflammation has

"Things that were good initially for the body are now turning on the body."

overwhelmed the tissue, it can't do that. Things that were good initially for the body are now turning on the body."

With Topricin, said Paradise, "we are not trying to eliminate or cause inhibition of the inflammation. Rather, we want to allow the part of the physiology of inflammation that's vital for healing and then release it from where it's captive in the tissue. What Topricin does first is to detoxify the tissue" by normalizing the interior balance of the body necessary for "stimulating vasodilation and lymphatic drainage." The former increases blood flow; the latter helps to release toxins.

Normalizing the interior balance is a matter of chemistry. "There are 11 medicines in Topricin," said Paradise. "They're molecular, and they're closely matched to the body's chemistry" — to the point of mutual attraction. "As soon as the body senses the medicine on the skin, it pulls them down into the deepest recesses of the tissue. Topricin works from the inside out — it wants to expel all the loose toxins." Once absorbed, "what the medicines in Topricin do is excite the prostaglandins in the body — they're hormonal compounds that regulate every conceivable bodily function. The medicines sort of fill in where the body needs extra chemical reactions.

Belladonna, for example, is an antispasmodic and anti-inflammatory agent." Paradise also stressed the advantage of early application, saying that Topricin helps the body keep from going overboard on inflammation in the first place.

This emphasis on helping the healing process sets Topricin apart from "most analgesic products, which numb or nullify the sensation of pain in the skin receptor. They shut down the excitement the body needs to bring about healing chemistry in the tissues. Further, if you nullify the pain and think you're okay, you start using the injured region. Then, when the analgesic wears off, your pain comes screaming back, only more so." And because most analgesics "contain grease, fat, or petroleum-based oils, they smother the skin. The skin needs to aspirate — it needs to breathe and perspire so that it can expel toxins. We use only highly refined vegetable oils, triglycerides, and highly purified water."

Today, said Paradise, "Topricin is used in major metropolitan hospitals around the country. It has become a mandatory protocol for surgical outpatients because of the fabulous job it does on trauma. It can literally get patients better after the trauma of surgery in less time. My mother went in for a hip replacement, and she got Topricin as a post-surgical treatment. When she went back for her first visit, the doctor was astonished. She was in her early 80s, and her range of motion and function scores were way ahead of where they should have been for her age — or any age. And the healing on the incision was remarkable."

Topricin is available through the company website (topricin.com) or by mail. Locally, it can be found at Keil's food store in Clairemont (\$15.59 for a 2 oz. tube) or SeaCoast Vitamins & Herbs in Imperial Beach (\$24.99 for a 4 oz. jar).

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

1. Inflamed joint
2. Topricin
3. Lou and Aurora Paradise



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by Barbarella

American Woman

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 that part in Lee Greenwood's famous tribute that goes, "And I'd gladly stand up [cymbal crash] next to you and defend her still today, 'cause there ain't no doubt I love this land! God bless the U.S.A.!" But despite all my love of country, when I left for Europe, I did so with an apologetic air. After all, I'd read about the Ugly American, that loud-talking guy in the shorts with the fanny pack and baseball cap who inadvertently offends

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 lih-lay), which literally translates to "the milk." The waiter rolled his eyes, said, "Oh, *leeeelaay*." 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.

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 hoisted my laptop bag onto my shoulder and stepped back, right up against him, hoping this would drive him back a foot or two. No such luck. The kid just stayed there; when I'd had enough of his closeness and moved forward, he closed the gap — all the way to the cashier. When I was finally boarding the plane, I snapped. While we were stuck in the aisle, waiting patiently for a guy who was taking an extraordinarily long time to put his carry-on bag in the overhead

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





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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 mopeds 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 scooted 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 embar-

rassed laugh, at the truthiness 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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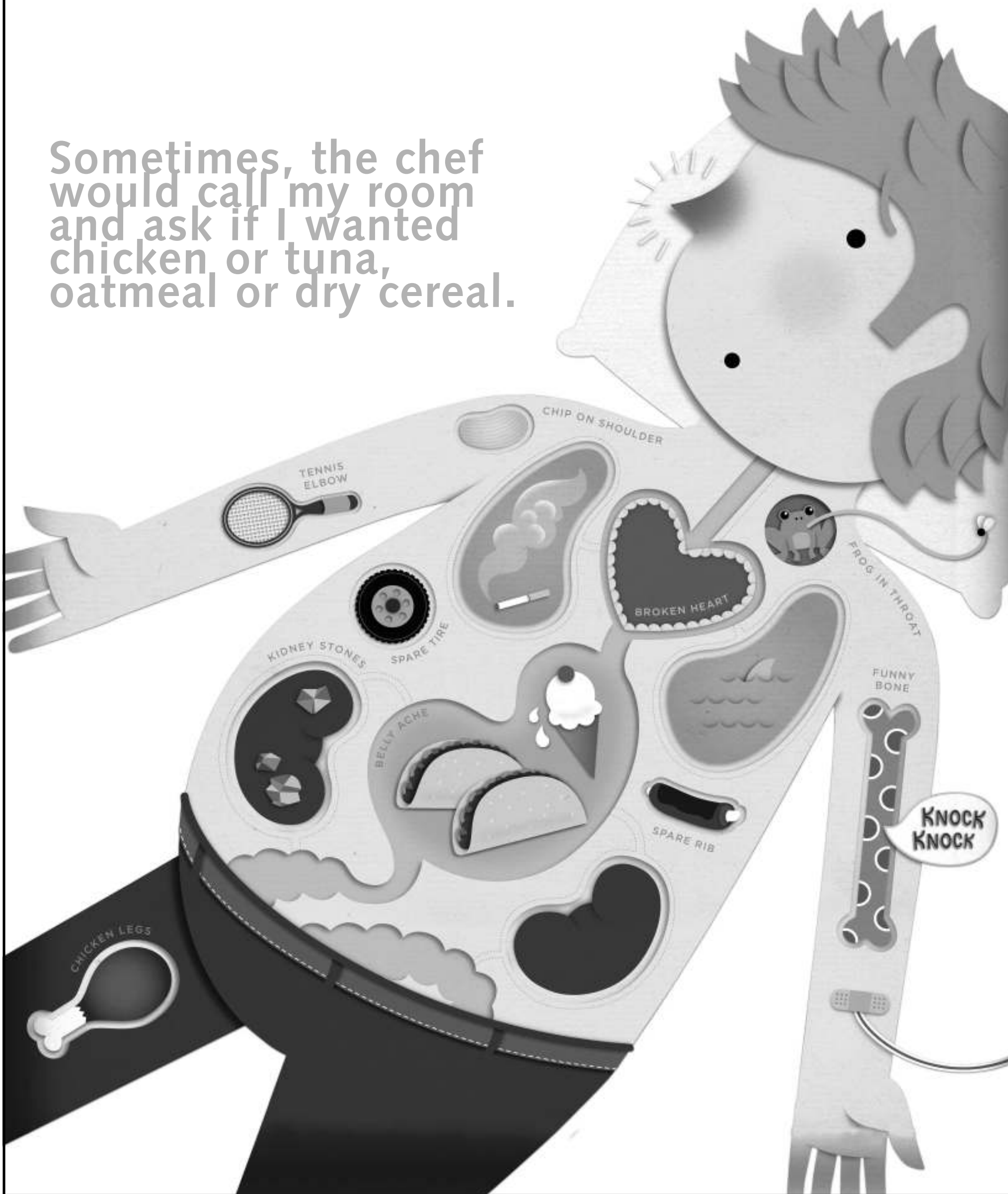
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Everything was just out of reach as I lay on my left side in a bed at Tijuana's newest and most modern hospital. I had to sit up or lie down only on my left side because of a stinking wound the size of a pack of cigarettes on my lower right back. The 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-

cotta 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



Deadly dogs they are: wrapped in bacon, served with mayonnaise, mustard, grilled onions, catsup, and hot, diced serrano chiles.

ILLUSTRATION BY JESSICA HISCHKE

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 home-made 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-

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, a daughter, and a tenant who rents a room from

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wise, hot, diced serrano chiles. Somehow, word reached her of my diet, and she refuses to sell them to me.

I often see the hot-dog vendor early mornings walking to daily Mass at the neighborhood parish, San Juan Bautista. Every June, on the feast of the saint's nativity, the parish holds a parade down the boulevard, and every Christmas there is a parish fair. On Friday afternoons, a shop that sells student supplies also sells out-of-date breads, bagels, and sweets purchased from supermarkets in the U.S. All the proceeds go to the parish. On weekends, many neighbors sell used clothing, furniture, and appliances in front of their homes. When I first moved here, I furnished my home from those yard sales. The refurbished refrigerator and washing machine I purchased from one such

I looked like a morbidly obese ghost or a Ku Klux Klansman.

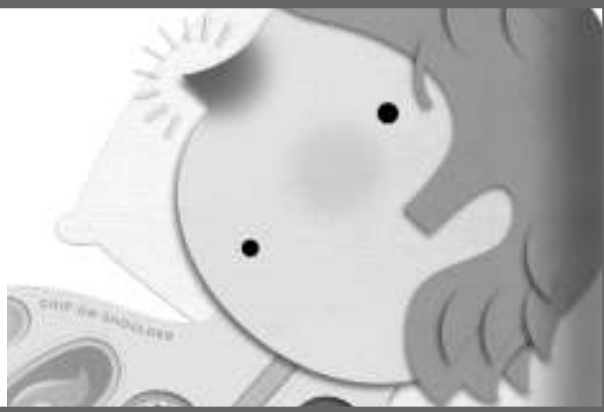


ILLUSTRATION BY JESSICA HISCHKE

sale are still going strong after five years. Almost every day, a pickup truck parks on a corner a block away, and from the back of the truck you can buy fresh whole watermelons, strawberries, oranges, pears, and sometimes peaches and mangos. Plumbers, electricians, carpenters, and painters park their trucks along the boulevard, some with hand-lettered signs offering their services.

My Golden Cage

Three stories below my hospital room was a

well-maintained garden with lush green foliage and blooming red and orange flowers; in front of the office tower was a patio with aluminum tables and chairs — but it was rarely used. After I learned that the pump controlling my IV had a battery that lasted for up to three hours, allowing me to disconnect it from the wall plug and wheel it around the room, I made frequent visits to the window. When my cardiologist, Dr. Mario Zúñiga, stopped by to check up on me, I asked, “Why doesn’t anyone use

the garden? Why can’t I be given access?” “Because,” said the doctor, “you are connected to an IV line.” “Yes,” I said, “but there are sometimes hours between the administrations of medicine. Why can’t the nurses cork the line during the intermissions, allowing me to move about more freely? After all, they do this briefly each morning so I can shower.” Zúñiga sighed in exasperation. “Okay,” he said. “You can use the garden for 15 minutes in the morning and 15 minutes in the after-

noon. I’ll note it in your chart.”

The nurses attending me were scandalized. Never before had a doctor specifically ordered that a patient be allowed access to the garden. Normally, all patients were confined to the floor, with a security guard posted at every exit to prevent patients from fleeing the hospital without paying. To ensure that I did not run off during my daily outings, I was required to wear two white, collarless flowing hospital gowns — one facing front, one covering my rear — and flip-flops. And I had to check in and out at the nurses’ station. I looked like a morbidly obese ghost or a Ku Klux Klansman whose sartorial political statement had gone awry. In short, I was a ridiculous figure. One afternoon I overstayed my allotted 15 minutes, and a nurse was dispatched to

retrieve me. “If you run off, I’m the one who will get into trouble,” she scolded. Another morning, a walkie-talkie-equipped security guard carrying a clipboard to note unusual events asked me my name and room number. He noted these in his report, also recording the time and location, obviously worried that he might have trouble on his hands. The guard then called the nurses’ station to check up on me. Once he received assurances from the head nurse that it was “part of the patient’s treatment,” he gave me a little salute and wished me a quick recovery.

When I was not off on one of my brief tastes of freedom, I spent hours sitting on the side of my bed, chatting with the nurses, who had come to work in Tijuana from all over Mexico. Bertha, a chubby, short woman whose curves strained



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the seams of her uniform, told me that she was from Veracruz, at the opposite end and opposite coast of the country. Bertha's smile revealed a missing tooth, but she didn't seem troubled by it. She was perhaps the most chatty of the nurses, volunteering that she had three children, one awaiting a kidney transplant that she was saving up to pay for, which is why, she said, she worked two jobs. Her husband, to whom she has been married for 21 years, worked as a carpenter, but even with three incomes, life was a struggle. "Two of my sons are in high school, and you know that costs money," she said. Although Mexican law guarantees free public education, the law is rarely observed. Parents are asked to pay for tuition, books, the mandatory uniforms that are a feature from kindergarten through prep school, and for the upkeep of the school building and grounds. Still, Bertha was always smiling, happy because, she said, Tijuana has jobs — plenty of them,



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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 Mazatlán — and for its marijuana crop, drug-trafficking, and *narco-corridos*, 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

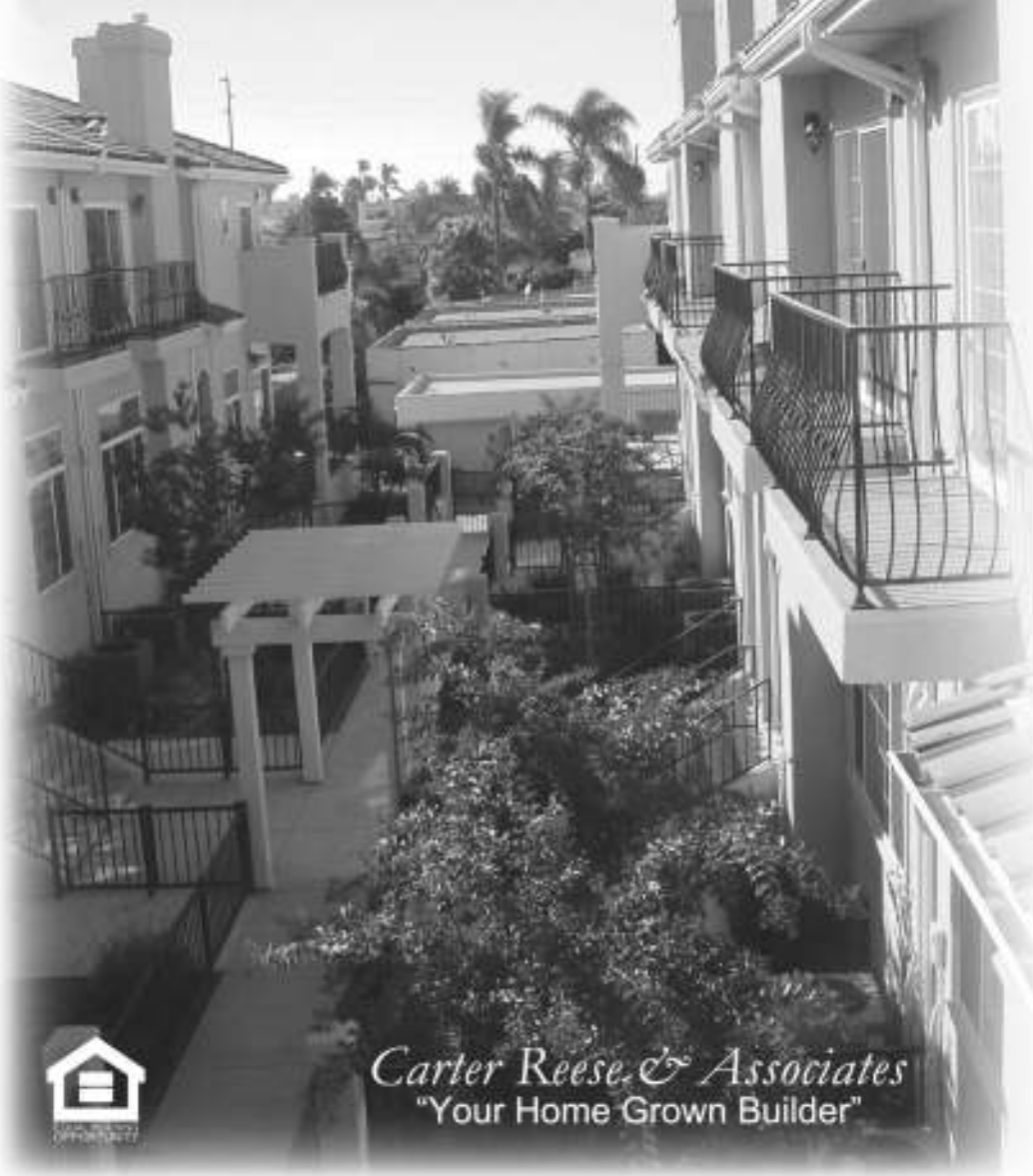
fit him as if tailor-made, which, with his close-cropped haircut, gave him a vaguely military look. For some reason, all the male nurses wore white pants and lime-colored smocks, while the women wore white

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 there, 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 taken note of that and 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 Denorah, 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 understanding of the 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

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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 and been shocked by the assumption that all gringos shared their perversities. “I’ve already had three boys, and I’ve only been downtown for five hours,” one dirty-

old-man type had bragged. Others introduced youngsters 40 years their junior as a “girlfriend” or “boyfriend.” Still others solicited “investments” for diamond mines in South Africa, promising returns in the millions, or asked me to smuggle bullets or guns into Mexico, a federal crime in a country where possession of a weapon is prohibited. The local news was full of reports of gringos arrested in pedophile sex rings, peddling child pornography, operating from their homes 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 handcuffed 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, especially 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

sive 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

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 and a side of mango) at 10:30; the biggest, most filling meal of the day at 2:00 p.m. — a creamy soup; a well-prepared thin slice of steak, maybe two ounces; one-fourth of a baked potato, turned on its flat side so it

formed a cone that stood up on the plate, with a design carved on the top to give it the look of a ready-to-eat potato sculpture; two tiny pieces of whole-wheat bread cut to form perfect circles, with a light spread of cottage cheese. Late afternoon, around 5:00 p.m., another snack — a fruit salad, or five crackers and a glass of skim milk. Then, around 8:30 p.m., the final meal of the day, a snack of mixed fruits and a small bowl of cornflakes with 1 percent milk and a glass of freshly squeezed juice, sometimes a ham-and-cheese or a tuna sandwich with nonfat, artificially sweetened yogurt and strawberries on the side.

Dr. Zúñiga and Me

Two days before I was to leave the hospital, I had a bitter argument with Dr. Zúñiga, not the first in our five-year doctor-patient relationship. The doctor had sent over a note by way of his secretary outlining how much he would be owed when I was allowed to go home: \$4500 U.S. dollars. That was \$1500 more

Zúñiga’s office was equipped like any other first-class cardiologist’s office anywhere in the world.

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, obses-

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



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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 buxom, 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 allowing you 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 7:00, 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 his angry patient. Over the hours since our phone conversation I had strengthened my resolve

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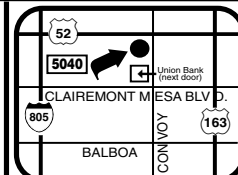
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not to pay the extra \$1500. But by the time the doctor arrived, he had already decided to honor his \$3000 pre-hospitalization agreement — \$4000 for a week in the hospital, medicines, bandage changes, and meals included, and \$3000 for his professional services. “Look,” he lectured. “You are a very difficult patient to treat — heart problems, diabetes, high blood pressure, blood clots, chronic bronchitis, morbid obesity, and now this damn infection that won’t go away. Remember, we are trying to keep you from needing surgery, which would really endanger your life. But you are a complicated patient, and you are a stubborn man with a bad temper. You know that. We are alike that way. Remember, too, that I have called in a surgeon, an infectious-medicine

specialist, a hyperbaric doctor to look at you — and I have to pay their fees, too. But okay, I will accept the \$3000.” Then Zúñiga looked me squarely in the eye, full of Mexican hyperbole: “You are the kind of patient that makes a doctor nervous. I go home at night worrying about you; sometimes I can’t sleep. I worry that something may go wrong, and it could, anytime. You are in very delicate health. Surely the worry you cause me is worth something.”

By the time our chat was over, we had shaken hands and all was well again. These spats had been a feature of our relationship since 2003, when breathlessness and chest pains had first led me to Dr. Zúñiga. I was in bad shape when I was referred to Dr. Zúñiga by an internal medicine specialist at another of

Tijuana’s premiere hospitals — Hospital Excel, known for heart and kidney transplants and bypass surgeries. One night in early winter of 2003, as I was preparing for bed, I fell unconscious to the ground — just like that, awake and alert one minute, unconscious the next. I was awakened by my mixed-breed Chihuahua nervously licking my face. I picked myself up off the floor and went to bed. The next morning, I called my internist at Excel, who referred me to an Excel cardiologist. But that doctor’s 48-hour heart-monitoring equipment was on the fritz, so by sheer chance I was passed on to Dr. Zúñiga. His office was on the third floor of a prestigious medical building in Tijuana’s River Zone, one of the best areas of the city, and equipped like any other first-class

cardiologist’s: EKG, Doppler echocardiogram, a cardiac stress-test machine, a two-bed cardiac intensive-care unit, and a small, fully equipped emergency operating room — just in case.

Dr. Zúñiga quickly got to the bottom of things: first a 48-hour recording of my heartbeats, later an angiogram. He went over the recording carefully. “You see that,” he said, pointing to a series of squiggly irregularities in the EKG tracings. “Four of them in a row. And here...and look here. This is happening over and over again, all through the day. Three or four of them in a row and you might fall down. More than that, and your heart might lose its rhythm altogether and your friends can call the funeral parlor.”

Dr. Zúñiga was

blunt, but I liked his direct approach. He made things crystal clear — no medical obfuscation, no BS. Besides, the doctor had made himself available 24 hours a day — given me his home phone, his cellular, and his Nextel Walkie radio-phone number. “The slightest thing, I don’t care what it is, you call me,” Zúñiga advised. Once, when I had fallen ill in the wee hours, I opted to go to the Hospital Angeles emergency room. There, blood tests and a urine exam were performed, and I was given an IV with a medicine that erased the pain shooting from my loins to my groin. I was pleasantly surprised by the bill: \$80.00. But Dr. Zúñiga became angry when he learned of the ER visit. “I told you to call me!” he shouted. “Why didn’t you call me? Why didn’t they

call me from the emergency room?” I told him, “Look, it was after 3:00 in the morning.” Zúñiga called me a stronger, Mexican version of “a stupid idiot” and warned me that, given the nature of my various infirmities, it was downright dangerous to seek medical attention elsewhere.

Often, the doctor would phone out of the blue in the middle of the afternoon or in the early evening to ask how I was doing. Whenever diagnostic tests were performed, Zúñiga would call me at home to explain the results — and fax over a copy of the report. (In Mexico, the patient owns personal lab studies, X-rays, MRIs, whatever — they are your property and you are responsible for toting them to and from your personal physician and storing them at home.) Dr. Zúñiga treated me

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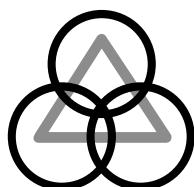
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like a close friend, not just a patient. When a good friend of mine fell into deep legal trouble, it was the well-connected Zúñiga who recommended the lawyer who resolved the problem. ("The biggest fucker in Tijuana," said Zúñiga, by way of recommendation.) Every year at Christmas, Zúñiga invited me to a *posada*. He had invited me to meals at his home, to meet his mother, to USC football games, to Padres baseball games. But, except for the referral to the attorney, I had never taken the doctor up on any of his offers. Once, he gave me a copy, in Spanish, of *All Quiet on the Western Front*.

Following that initial

angiogram, during which dye was injected into an artery near my groin — later outlining arteries in my heart on a special X-ray machine — Dr. Zúñiga showed me the results. "You have several bad arteries, but this one right here — see it? — is really bad, almost completely stopped up. You need an angioplasty and a stent to keep open the artery, and you need it right away." That was how the relationship began, with a balloon angioplasty and placement of a drug-eluting stent, performed at Tijuana's Hospital del Prado in April 2003, once considered the best hospital in the city but which, depending on who you talk to, now

takes a back seat to Hospital Excel and Hospital Angeles. Dr. Zúñiga's assisting cardiologist, Dr. Patricia Aubanel, had treated Mother Teresa's heart problems during her 1992 visit to the Sisters of Charity order of nuns in Tijuana. By the time I arrived for my most recent stay at Hospital Angeles — and this most recent argument with my cardiologist — I had undergone two more coronary angioplasties (November 2004); an angioplasty on two of my right renal arteries, with placement of stents (June 2006), during which I almost lost my life; and a year later, in April 2007, a triple surgery: removal of a suspicious and painful inguinal cyst, repair of a

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You may qualify to try an investigational medication while participating in a research study and be reimbursed \$50 for your screening visit if screening and continuing the study as an outpatient, \$50 for each inpatient hospitalization day you are in the study (excluding day of hospital discharge and any stabilization days) and \$100 for each outpatient visit (excluding screening visit).

Total reimbursement will not exceed \$1400.

Call 858-566-8222 for more information.
The California Neuropsychopharmacology Clinical Research Institute, LLC
"CNRI, LLC"

CLINICAL RESEARCH Bipolar Disorder • Depression • Schizophrenia

Researchers at Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital are currently enrolling men and women into inpatient and outpatient studies.

Eligible participants may receive all study-related care at no cost, and may be reimbursed for time and travel.

Participation is confidential and trials are safely conducted under the supervision of experienced physicians and research specialists.

To learn more, please call the Sharp Mesa Vista Clinical Research Center at

(858) 694-8350.

Clinical
Research Center
SHARP Mesa Vista
Hospital

MV69A ©2007 SHC

If you take daily medicine to fight chronic pain, you may be at risk for ulcers.

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

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



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



Tired of the weight? A Type II diabetic?

Are you:

- A Type II diabetic?
- In overall good health?
- Currently suffering from obesity?
- Between 18 and 70 years of age?
- A non-smoker for at least 3 months?

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



Is waking up tonight affecting your tomorrow?

Do you or someone you know have trouble staying asleep? Is it affecting daytime activities? A study of an investigational medication is under way for people who have trouble staying asleep, characterized by waking up throughout the night (sleep maintenance insomnia).

To qualify for participation in this research study, you must:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Have trouble staying asleep through the night
- Be impacted in your daily life by your sleep problems

If you qualify and choose to participate in this study, you will receive an initial consultation, study-related examinations and laboratory evaluations, all follow-up visits, and you may receive study medication at no charge to you. Compensation for time and travel provided.

If you are interested in learning more about this study,
please call:

(619) 688-6565

See our website: 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.

If you are interested in learning more about this study,
please call:

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com



Is your Schizophrenia medication making you heavy?

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

You may qualify if you are:

- Diagnosed with schizophrenia
- Between 18 and 65 years old
- Have taken Zyprexa (Olanzapine) or Risperdal (Risperidone) for the past 3 months
- Have not been hospitalized for schizophrenia in the past 3 months

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

For more information about this study, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com



strangulated hernia, and removal of my gall-bladder.

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 —

RESEARCH STUDIES



Are you having diarrhea again and again?

Or, do you alternate between diarrhea and constipation?

We are now doing a clinical research study to test the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medication for **FEMALES** who have diarrhea-predominant or alternating irritable bowel syndrome.

You may qualify if you:

- Are having diarrhea for the majority of the time or are alternating between diarrhea and constipation for the majority of the time
- Have at least 3 bowel movements per week

If you become a participant, all study-related care will be at no cost including doctor visits and study medication or placebo, and you'll also receive up to \$300 for time and travel.

For more information, please call Medical Associates Research Group: (858) 277-7177

Do you have Body Dysmorphic Disorder?

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

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

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

Study participants must:

- **Be age 18-65** • **Not be on any medications that affect brain functioning**
- **Not have any active medical conditions** • **Weigh less than 280 lbs.**
- **Not have a history of chronic substance abuse**

There is NO monetary compensation for participation.

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

Smoking too much pot?

WE WANT TO HELP YOU STOP!

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

For more information and to see if you qualify, please call **858-784-7867**

or visit **www.pearsoncenter.org**

for more detailed information.



Menstrual Cramps?

A clinical research trial using a natural product to treat menstrual cramps is being conducted by Women's Health Care at Frost Street.

To qualify for this study, you must be:

- **Female, 18-45 years**
- **Have regular menstrual periods for the last 6 months**
- **Have cramps for the last 2 menstrual cycles**

Participants will receive confidential study-related medical evaluations, study medication at no cost and reimbursement up to \$400.00 for time and travel.



858-505-8672
www.womenwellness.net



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.

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\$5.16/unit

BOTOX injections take as little as 15 minutes and last 3 to 9 months. **\$8 per unit** for first area, **\$6 per unit** second area, **\$5.16 per unit** third area introductory price (25 units per area). Results may vary.

Call 619-543-1061

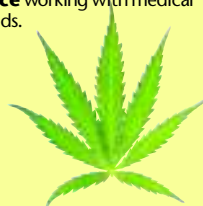
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Do you have an eye infection?

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 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?

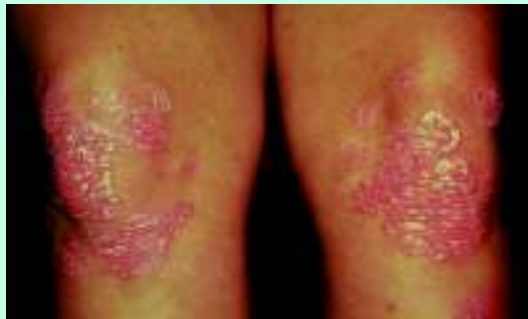


You may be eligible for a research study at UCSD Department of Psychiatry.

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

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

and would leave a big hole in your back. I'm not sure you would even survive the anesthesia, and there is no guarantee that the infection would not spread."

So here I was, back in the hospital in Tijuana. Now Zúñiga was talking about having me undergo treatment in a hyperbaric oxygen chamber, in which a patient breathes 100 percent oxygen under the pressure of two or three atmospheres. It is a standard treatment, apparently, for wounds that will not heal. As on almost all other occasions in which my cardiologist had suggested an expensive, complicated, or unusual procedure, I decided to check with the medical establishment in the U.S. before going ahead. I don't know why I persisted in this neurotic pattern: time after time, Zúñiga had been correct, both in his diagnosis and his recommended treatment. The hyperbaric chamber treatments, estimated to cost \$9500 in Tijuana, would cost a lot more in the U.S. I checked with UCSD Medical Center and Paradise Valley Hospital: their price for the same treatment, \$36,000. Besides, as a longtime expatriate, I had come to loathe American medicine. I have lived in Mexico since 1991 and over those years have received all my medical care in Tijuana — from \$10-a-visit general practitioners to top-of-the-line physicians like Zúñiga. Each time I ventured to the

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.

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

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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?

free treatment

as part of a clinical trial of a computerized treatment program for generalized anxiety disorder at the San Diego State University Psychology Department.

Center for Understanding and Treating Anxiety

Call: (619) 229-3740
http://nas.psy.sdsu.edu

OPIOID-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 8 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.

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

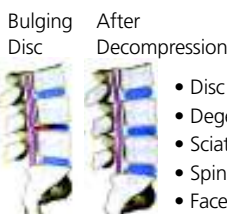


Neck or lower back pain?

Arm or leg pain • Numbness
Cramping • Weakness

Tired of nothing working?

Chiropractic, physical therapy, acupuncture, pain medication, muscle relaxers



- Disc Herniation
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Do you have small, red, rough spots on your face or scalp?

You may be suffering from Actinic Keratoses or pre-cancerous 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.

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

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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



PACIFIC SLEEP
MEDICINE SERVICES

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

1.866.410.6767

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 between 18 and 64 years of age
- 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

Make Peace with your Period

A research opportunity of a NATURAL PRODUCT for menstrual pain and discomfort.



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.

Call to learn more:

Medical Center for Clinical Research
William D. Koltun, M.D.
(619) 521-2841
Mission Valley

Participants will receive all study-related care, including physical exams, lab tests and study medication.

The First Step is Your Call



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

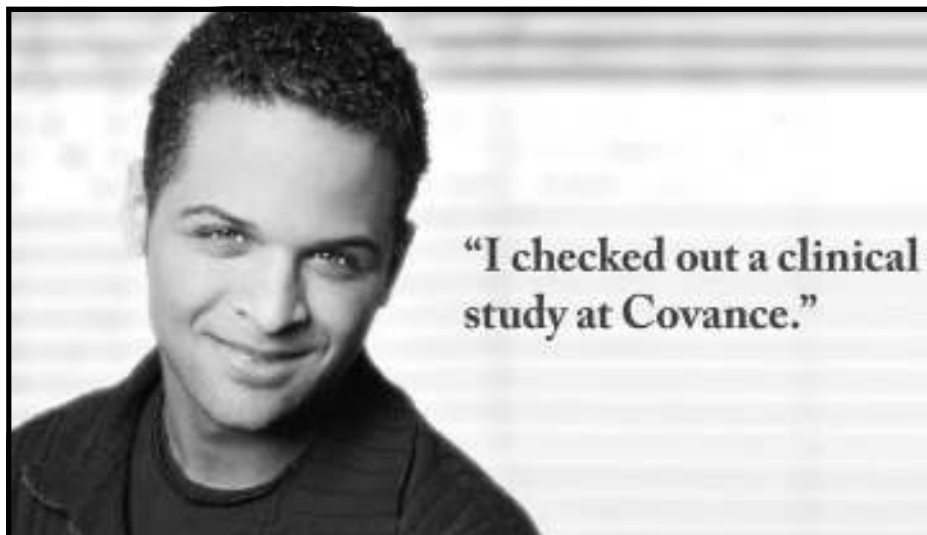
Participants may receive at **no cost**:

- 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



"I checked out a clinical study at Covance."

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.

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U.S. for a second opinion, I went home to Mexico vowing never to return to an American doctor. Doctors in the U.S. spend so little time with their patients — processing them through in assembly-line fashion, barely familiar with their lives at all. I had seen cardiologists and dermatologists and surgeons in Chula Vista. Each time, I had to wait far longer than my scheduled appointment, and the modus operandi was always the same: fill out a medical history, be screened by a nurse, who took vital signs and made a brief note of “reason for today’s visit.” Then I was taken to an examining room, told to sit on an exam table and that the doctor would see me soon. I was left sitting in those exam rooms for as long as 45 minutes before the doctor 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 were told to fast before coming to my appointment for blood tests, Zúñiga always suggested that after the blood was drawn, I grab a sandwich and something to drink

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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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ney surgery from a cardiologist who had once been a professor under whom Zúñiga had studied at the Autonomous University of Baja California. (The priest, it turns out, did not like Zúñiga because of his association with Dr. Aubanel, who had renamed the cardiology service at Hospital del Prado the "Mother Teresa Cardiology Center." Father was miffed by the doctor's expropriation of the saintly nun's name.) As far as the former professor was concerned, Zúñiga had pestered the professor for a letter of recommendation to a prestigious residency program in Mexico City — but once Zúñiga had been accepted, reports came back to the professor that the young medical student had skipped some classes. "He was not a serious student," the erst-

while professor, now returned to private practice, fumed. "He embarrassed me." The ex-professor recommended against the surgery and placed me on tranquilizers. In the meantime, my blood pressure was surging out of control. Even though I was taking six different blood-pressure medicines, my blood pressure stayed dangerously high, and the walls of my heart muscle were thickening from all the extra work. A third cardiologist had me wear a 24-hour monitoring device of my blood pressure and came up with the same diagnosis as Zúñiga: renal stenosis. Before-and-after radioactive imaging studies of my right kidney showed a remarkable change: my right kidney, once perhaps a fourth of the size of the left, had begun to grow again once the blood supply had been

restored. And my blood pressure, taken repeatedly over the course of a year, had returned to normal. Zúñiga had been right again.

The morning after I was released from Hospital Angeles, as I stood in my front yard drinking my customary cup of strong black coffee and enviously watching people going about their normal routines, my next-door neighbor Raquel, a homemaker in her early 60s, walked up. "How are you feeling?" she asked. I told her I was feeling better but not the best. "Well, these things take time," she said. "We have all been worried about you. Glad to see you are back home. Can I offer you anything?" "No, not at the moment," I said, thanking her. "You be sure to let me know if you need anything. You've got my number. Anything at all." It was

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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

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

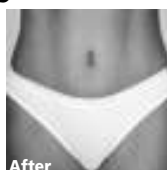
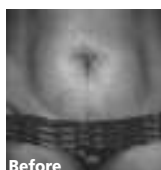
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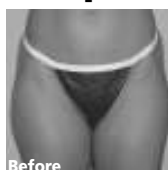
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Up on the Hill

Del Cerro

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



PHOTOGRAPH BY ALAN DECKER

Del Cerro

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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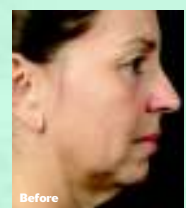
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moving to something one level.”

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



PHOTOGRAPH BY ALAN DECKER

Clyde Van Arsdall

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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was nothing. Empty.”
Mary Baton, another 50-year resident, remem-

bers that time. “When my children went to school, we knew virtu-

ally everybody in the community,” she recalls, “and if we didn’t know them, we knew about them. Now you don’t know as many people because the community has tripled — quadrupled — in size.”

And the community may grow even more; looming on the horizon is a housing project called Adobe Falls, which San Diego State University wants to build for graduate students and faculty. The

“If there’s **anything that happens** in Del Cerro, the Del Cerro Community Association **will take part in it.**”

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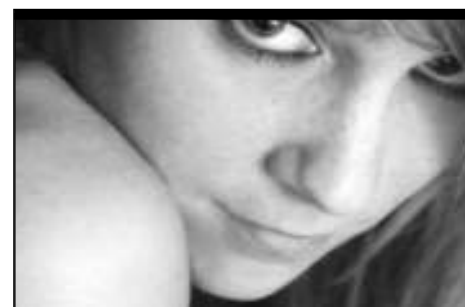
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project, to be completed in stages, was originally proposed as a 540-unit complex at the end of Adobe Falls Road, which winds down the hill in the western section of Del Cerro, across College Avenue from the Highlands.

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 jeweler, 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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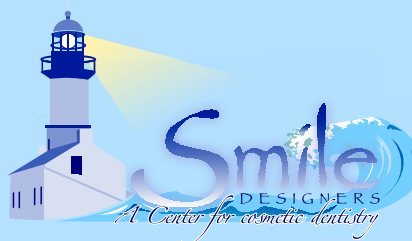
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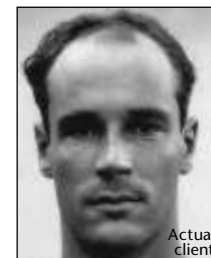
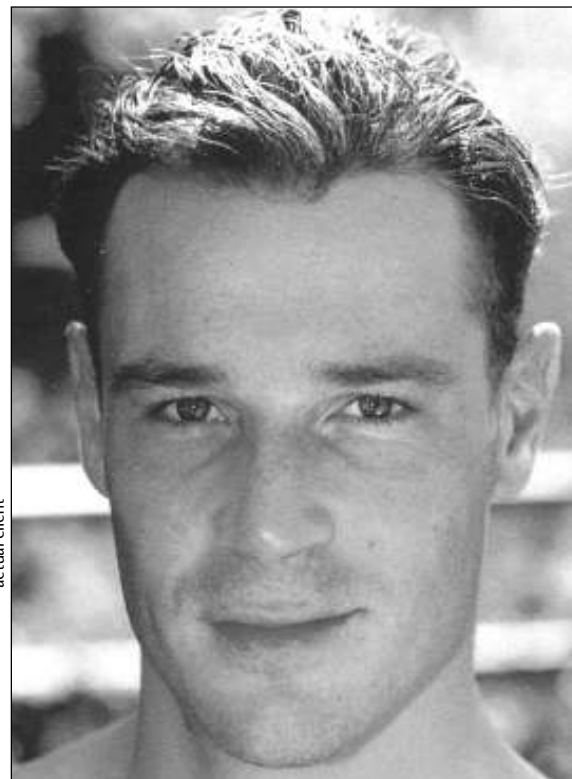
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behind a thicket of cacti, the private four-acre park stretches down a small hill to a couple of tennis courts, shaded cabanas, and the pool.

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 land decided to retire, he donated 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.

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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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As the Del Cerro community formed in the late '50s, so did the

continued on page 66

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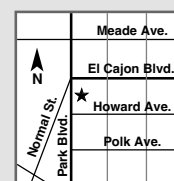
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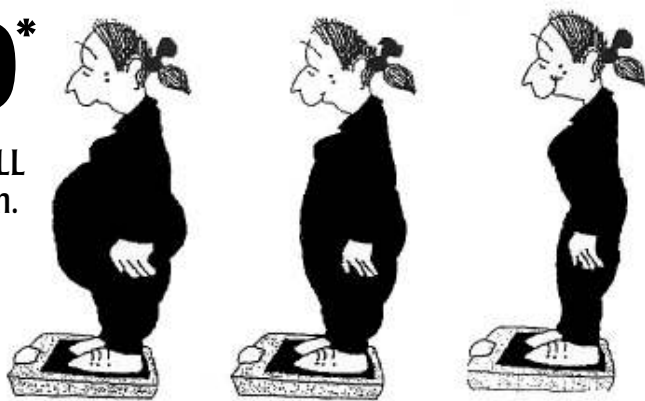
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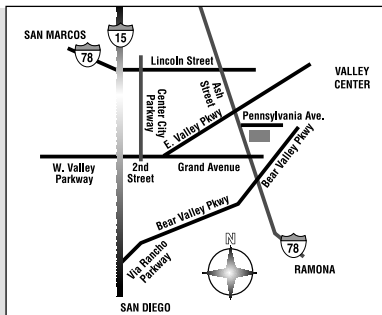
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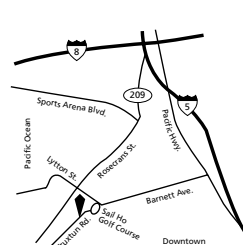
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up on the Hill

(continued from page 62)

Del Cerro Community Association. "The community association was formed just because in new communities, there are lots of needs in the community," says Baton, who is president of the Del Cerro Park board. "Everyone's interested in

the community, so it was just essentially a group of people that formed an association for the betterment of the community, and I would say virtually everybody in the community probably belonged in the initial stages."

But since then the community association has died down some.

"We were a much smaller community

then," Dose, who is on the board, explains, "and as time went on, the Del Cerro Community Association was dying out because unless there's a big issue, if you don't have a big issue, what is it? So we combined the Del Cerro Community Association with the Del Cerro Park. And we have the same board. So this is what really kept it alive."

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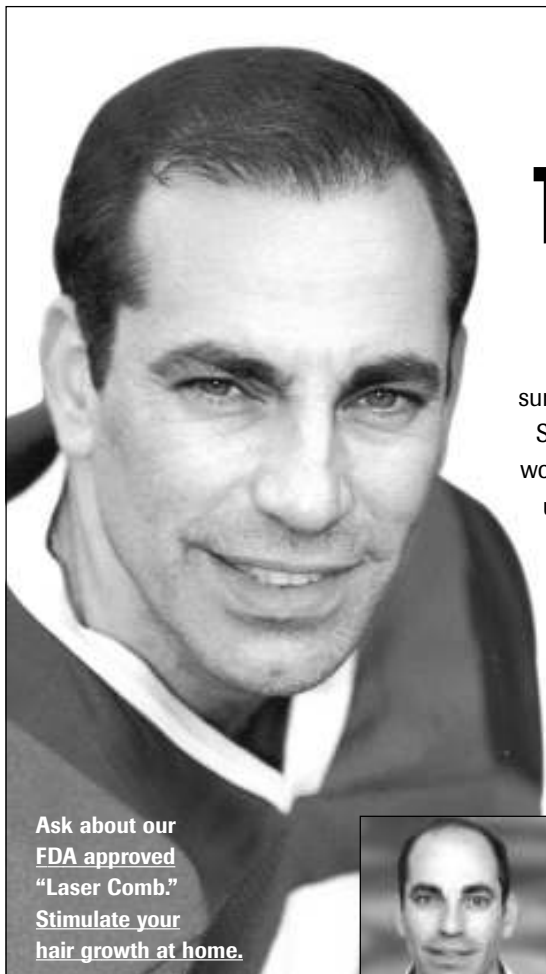
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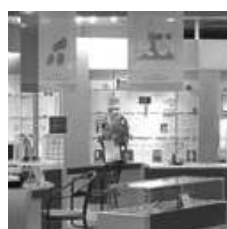
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Neighborhood by the Numbers

Boundaries

NorthNavajo Road
SouthInterstate 8
East.....Lake Murray/Park Ridge Boulevard
West.....Navajo Road/Navajo Canyon Open Space Park

Demographics

Population.....10,459
Male48%
Female52%
White79.3%
Hispanic.....8.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander.....5.3%

Black.....3.2%
Native American.....0.2%
Other3.1%

School Statistics

California Standards Test, English-Language Arts, 2007 results
(Grade 5, statewide average: 44% proficient or average)
Phoebe Hearst Elementary.....74%
(Grade 8, statewide average: 41% proficient or average)
Lewis Middle School.....55%
(Grade 10, statewide average: 37% proficient or average)
Patrick Henry High School45%

For all their hard work, however, there is one “big issue” the community association can-

not 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

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

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- 1 What is abdominoplasty?
- 2 Full v. mini v. liposuction
- 3 Surgery
- 4 Risks & side effects
- 5 Recovery



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Extension 7070 Botox

- 1 What is Botox?
- 2 Botox & wrinkles
- 3 Effects of Botox
- 4 How much does it cost?



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Extension 7040 Breast Surgery

- 1 Breast augmentation
- 2 Silicone v. saline implants
- 3 Breast lift
- 4 Breast reduction
- 5 Male breast reduction



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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



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Extension 7000 Face-lift

- 1 About our office
- 2 Procedure
- 3 Cost
- 4 Recovery
- 5 Benefits



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Extension 7080 Laser Eye Surgery

- 1 About LASIK
- 2 Who is a candidate?
- 3 Your eye exam
- 4 Surgery
- 5 After surgery



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Extension 7030 LipoSculpture

- 1 What is it?
- 2 How it works
- 3 Initial steps
- 4 Future weight gain
- 5 Best candidates



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- 1 About us
- 2 Benefits of tanning
- 3 UV-free instant tan
- 4 Vertical booths v. beds
- 5 Hollywood Tans membership



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- 2 How much can I lose?
- 3 Body Mass Index (BMI)
- 4 Is the Atkins Diet safe?
- 5 Exercise: How much?



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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 rea-

sons 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 heaven with clouds, Who prepareth rain for the earth, Who maketh grass to grow —. He giveth snow like wool. He causeth the wind to blow, and the waters to flow" for those who keep His commandments and withheld from those that do not.

Jeremiah chapter 50 and 51 describe the fall and burning of a latter-day daughter of Babylon (likely

the U.S.) by a nation of the "utmost border" or "north" (Hebrew: top of the world) representing Russia in the soon-coming Mideast world war of Gog and Magog, Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39.

Also, "a drought is upon her waters: and they shall be dried up, for it is the land of graven images and they are mad upon their idols," Jeremiah chapters 50 and 51. No drought occurred at the fall of old Babylon, nor did alien agriculture workers flee for fear of the coming sword, no mother nation birthed her as Britain did the U.S. and never honored God as we once did.

Why the U.S.? God warned the ancient He-

brews (Leviticus chapters 18, 20, 26; and Deuteronomy chapters 18 and 28) should they engage in sexual practices outside of marriage and sacrifice infants upon the fires of Moloch, including other corruptions, the inhabitants would be spewed (driven) out of their land, and this occurred.

With increasing intensity our natural calamities are attributable to such practices and not global warming or cooling. Colonel Stanislav Lunev, the highest-ranking Russian intelligence agent (GRU) to defect to the U.S. (1992), said Russian general staff policy was to launch a surprise nuclear attack upon the U.S. to destroy it.

In 1994, hawkish Russian parliamentarian Vladimir Zhirinovskiy warned the U.S. of Russia's plans to occupy the U.S. under which there will be no food or medicine available to Americans, who will be forced to immigrate to Russia, Japan, and Europe, and Russian leaders will not gloat when this happens, thus fulfilling God's judgment in Jeremiah chapters 50 and 51.

Solution? This nation must repent and ask for forgiveness and accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior or watch the intensification of drought and natural disasters followed by military defeat and relocation. Shortly.

Max Evans
San Marcos

Comments from Reader Website

Cover Story

Published November 7

Posted by Kazzie on 11/9/07, 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 I'm back home. On a visit 4 years ago, while I was hoping the USA would elect a new gov't, 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 11/8/07, 10:20 a.m.

Ollie is the only reason to pick up that cheap ink-ed fish wrap! Now that he's online — no more trees will have to die for my laughter!

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Patterns, Poems

An Evening of Musical Shakespeare

Poetry is somewhere between singing and speaking," says neurologist Anil 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 mnemonic 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 rhythmic 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 Sacks refers to as "emotional memory" of music, "one of the deepest and least understood."

To many neurologists it appears that the ability to create emotional memories begins at birth in the same part of the brain that harbors our instincts. Sacks writes, "It seems certain...that in the first two years of life, even though one retains no explicit



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*.

— Barbarella

A Musical Shakespeare Evening Monday, November 19

7:30 p.m.

Neurosciences Institute
10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive
La Jolla

Cost: \$20

Info: 619-246-8735 or www.nsi.edu

Mumm Champagne Brunch Cruise
Grand Finale of the San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival
Sunday, November 18, 2007
Cruising from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Thanksgiving Cruise
Thursday, November 22, 2007
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Calendar
LOCAL EVENTS

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 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.

B A J A

Hispanic-American Guitar Festival continues at Centro Cultural Tijuana with concert by Duo Eurasia, hailing from Spain and Vietnam, on Thursday, November 15; \$15. Galina la Diva of Rus-

sia 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 Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río. 011-52-664-687-9636. (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. 011-52-664-680-2631. (TIJUANA)

La Cascada Motocross Series competition continues on Saturday, November 17, 8 a.m., at La Cascada Resort. 619-819-6323. (ROSARITO BEACH)

Bruno Bichir's Comedy *La Historia del Tigre* presented Sunday, November 18, 6 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). Tickets: \$18, \$20 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (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 (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street), in Zona Río. \$45 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

OUT & ABOUT

“ECSTASY OF THE WHIRLING DERVISHES” Friday, November 16, Mandeville Auditorium.

(SEE DANCE)



Renaissance Airs promised when Woodwind Ensemble of UABC School of Arts performs Wednesday, November 21, 7 p.m., at Centro Estatal de las Artes (CEARTE, at Boulevard Costero and Calle Riviera). 011-52-646-176-3005, 011-52-646-177-1195. (ENSENADA)

Music by Franz Schubert may be heard when Orchestra of Baja California is joined by pianist Daniel Noli in concert, Thursday, November 22, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los

Héroes and Mina Street). \$15 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

OUTDOORS

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 lofty clouds are present, low-angle sunlight bathes the un-

dersides 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 effort to deflect or hinder him. Docile in temperament, 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 riverside trails, or by walking, bike riding, or skating 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 outing 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). 619-231-7463. (EAST VILLAGE)

Terns, 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. (MISSION BAY)

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Rosarito



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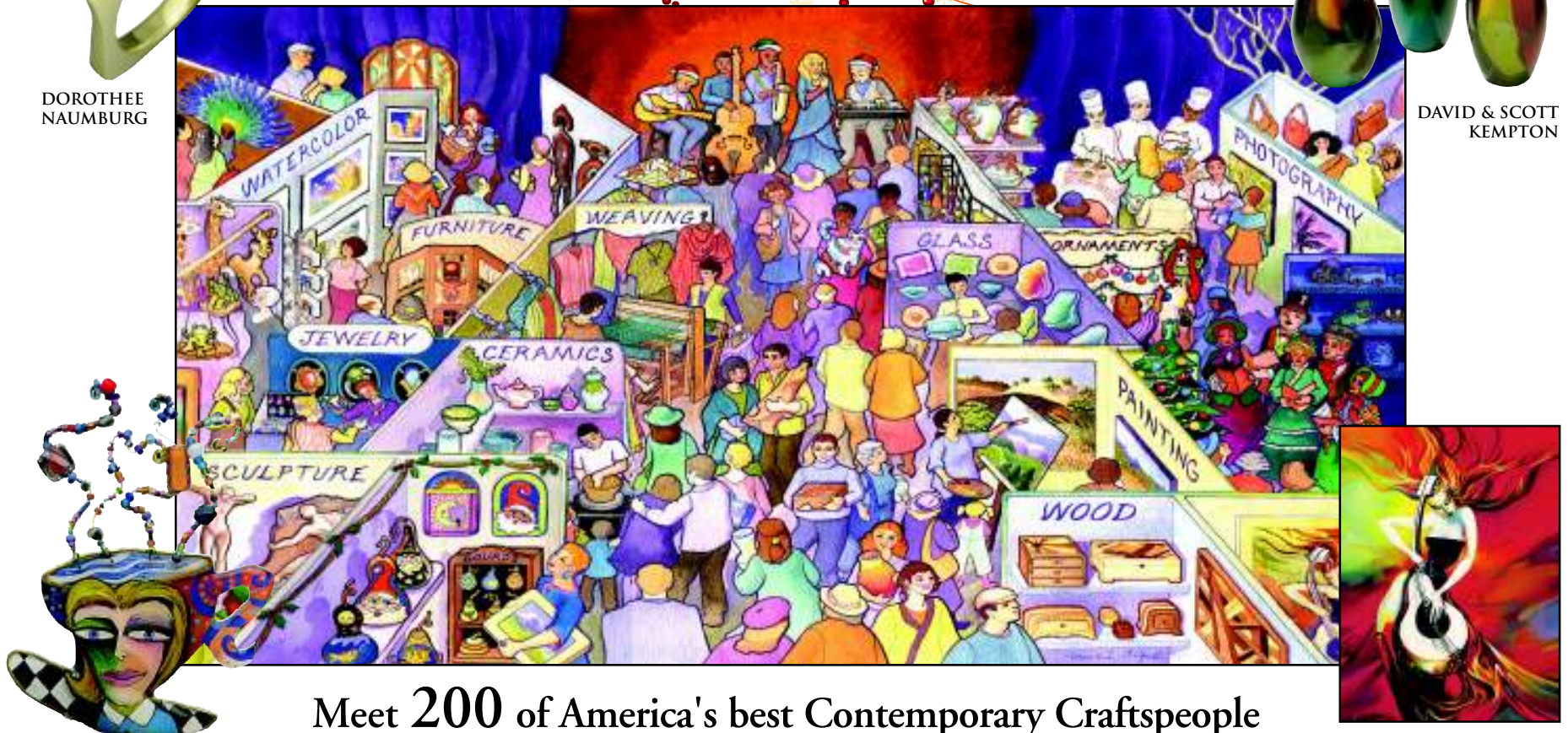
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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

Bring Your Loppers! Help rebuild Spring Trail, which was destroyed in Cedar Fire, during work party in San Diego Audubon Society's Silverwood Sanctuary on Saturday, November 17, 9 a.m.–noon. Bring gloves, wear long pants, long-sleeved shirt, old clothes. Water and snacks provided. Free. The sanctuary is located at 13003 Wildcat Canyon Road. 619-682-7211. (LAKESIDE)

Tamarisk Bash at Black Mountain Park, Saturday, November 17, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Volunteers eradicate the invasive shrub tamarisk. Bring gloves, water, sun protection. Meet at kiosk in parking-staging area off San Dieguito Road (opposite Montien Road). Free. 858-342-8856. (RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

Trail Repair Work in Paso Picacho continues in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park on Saturday, November 17, 9 a.m. Bring work shoes, gloves, hat, water, snack. Group gathers at Paso Picacho campground maintenance area behind fire department building. Free. Registration: 858-566-7399. (CUYAMACA RANCHO STATE PARK)

Turkey or Shawii? Find out what circa 1620 Kumeyaay peoples consumed during guided walks on Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, November 17, 18, and 21, 9:30 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park (One Father Junipero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

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

Explore Lake Murray during easy Canyoneers hike, Saturday, November 17, 1 p.m. Look for wildflowers and water birds as you make your way toward the 1918 dam. Free. 619-255-0203. (LA MESA)

Habitat Restoration along Coast-to-Crest Trail hosted by San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy, Sunday, November 18, 10 a.m.–noon. Volunteers remove nonnative vegetation, debris. Bring water, sturdy shoes, sun protection. Free. Directions, reservations: 858-755-6956. (DEL MAR)

It's "California Winter" for native California plants — see the result of "slash and burn" gardening techniques demonstrated last month when Buena Vista Native

ROAM-ORAMA

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 Condor Sanctuary (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



Narrows of Piru Creek

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 imperative 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 river 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 west-side frontage road (old Highway 99) to a point two miles past Oak Flat Campground's entrance. There you'll find Frenchman's Flat (elevation 2050 feet) — a large, dirt lot on the left. Fishers by the score park

here and then hike down the Piru Creek canyon in search of trout-fishing holes. The stream is artificially stocked.

From Frenchman's Flat, work your way down the cottonwood- and willow-fringed banks, crossing whenever necessary. The stream slips over water-worn boulders, some the size of cars, and collects in silt-bottomed pools. You should resign yourself right away to walking in squishy boots. Once you get used to it, the interludes of wading will feel refreshing.

The seamed and shattered walls down the length of the gorge ahead, up to 500 feet high, disclose at least five distinct changes in the bedrock as you travel downstream. These rocks reflect a variety of ages, from older than 600 million years (Precambrian metamorphic rocks) to tens of millions of years old (Eocene sedimentary rocks). Several faults cross the route, including the northernmost end of the San Gabriel Fault. If you care to keep apprised of your progress down the canyon, be sure to keep updating your position on a topographic map. The Fish Creek confluence at 5.2 miles into the hike is a major milestone; there you change your general direction of travel from west to south.

The most interesting part of the canyon is an otherworldly passage just north of the confluence of Ruby Canyon (9.5 to 10 miles). There you make your way between grotesquely sculpted conglomerate-rock walls, wading most of the time.

South of the narrows the canyon widens considerably and you sometimes have the luxury of walking on flat, sandy terraces on either side of the creek. At around 11.5 miles, you can follow a remnant of an old trail on the canyon's west side for some distance before being forced back into the rocky bed of the creek. At 13.2 miles, you pick up an old road that will take you to a former parking and picnic area opposite the defunct Blue Point Campground (elevation 1130 feet),

some 15 miles from Frenchman's Flat. You're now six miles away by paved road, often closed to vehicle traffic, from where you can reliably reach a parked automobile: the entrance to Lake Piru. Perhaps you have planted a second car there earlier, or someone can meet you at that finish point.

This article contains

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

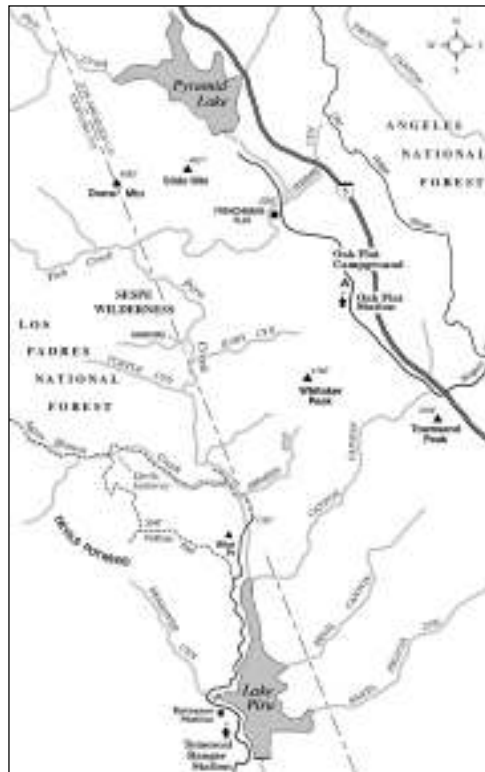
PIRU CREEK

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 (approximately) to start and finish points

Hiking length: 21 miles

Difficulty: Strenuous (overnight backpack trip)



Plant Club meets on Sunday, November 18, 2 p.m., at Buena Vista Nature Center (2202 South Coast Highway). Free. 760-439-2473. (OCEANSIDE)

Canyon Favorites Hike — take moderately paced loop hike to Carson's Crossing and waterfall in Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, Sunday, November 18. Hike starts

at 4 p.m. in kiosk at Park Village Road and Camino del Sur. Free. 858-342-8856. Bring water, wear hiking boots. (RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

DANCE

Get Your Groove On! Latest dance steps taught by instruc-

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

Bellydance Showcase with Dondi, Sabrina, Claudette and Marina, live music by John Bilezikjian, Thursday, Novem-

ber 15, 8 p.m., Claire de Lune Coffee Lounge (2906 University Avenue). Donation: \$5. 619-688-9845. (NORTH PARK)

Swingin' '60s Holiday Dance planned Thursday, November 15, La Jolla YMCA Firehouse (7877 Herschel Avenue). Meeshi and CafeSavoy Swing Productions celebrate holidays with '60s theme

dance party boasting live '40s swing, '50s rock, and '60s soul dance music by Anna Troy Band, acoustic folk/jazz with Grass Gypsies, and "special hula hoop-hip-hop-acroyoga improv jam." Wear "your craziest '60s attire." Beginning swing lesson 8 p.m., followed by live music, 9 p.m.–1 a.m. Fee: \$10–\$12. All ages. 858-395-6060. (LA JOLLA)

Clara, the Sugarplum Fairy, Mice, and Soldiers — San Diego Academy of Ballet presents *The Nutcracker*, November 16 and 17, at East County Performing Arts Center (210 East Main Street). Dancers Vitaliy Nechay (the Cavalier), Kiril Kulish (the Nutcracker), and Katlyn Linderman (Sugar Plum Fairy) joined by over 75 local dancers. Curtain rises at 7 p.m. on Friday; at 1 and 7 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets: \$10–\$30. 619-440-2277. (EL CAJON)

Northwestern Caller Gordy Euler will "bring some fun new dances" when Hey Wire makes music for contradance on Friday, November 16, 8 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church (3030 Thorn Street). Beginners' dance workshop: 7:30 p.m. \$8. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. (NORTH PARK)

"Ecstasy of the Whirling Dervishes" — rituals of Rumi's followers are "an act of love and a dramatization of faith that possesses a highly structured form in which gentle turns become increasingly dynamic." Enjoy the chanting of poetry, rhythmic rotation, and music creating synaesthesia during ArtPower event, Friday, November 16, 8 p.m., in Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD. Tickets: \$34 general, available at 858-534-TIXS. (LA JOLLA)

Nutty Already? The junior ballet ensemble presents selections from *The Nutcracker* on Saturday, November 17, 2 p.m., at Performing Arts Workshop (1105 2nd Street). Free. 760-753-2671. (ENCINITAS)

USA Dance Party with wide variety 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. 760-525-5124. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Hustle and Nightclub Mix Dance Party, Saturday, November 17, at Pattie Wells Dancetime Center (1255 West Morena Boulevard). Hustle lesson at 8 p.m.; open dancing for singles and couples of

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10:30 a.m. Start of Celebrity
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11:00 a.m. "Rock Concert"
with Richie Kotzen
(Former lead guitarist of Poison and Mr. Big and 2006 solo opener for Rolling Stones)

12:00 p.m. "Pre-Parade Show"
Featuring
Katharine McPhee
and Drake Bell
(Also San Diego Mega Stars, Monet, and Young Americans)

12:30 p.m. "California Dreaming"
61st Annual
Mother Goose
Parade (A
spectacular event)



Corbin Bleu
"High School Musical"
Grand Marshal



Erik Estrada
Honorary Parade
Grand Marshal



Drake Bell
Nickelodeon's
"Drake & Josh"



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Restless"



Dean Cain
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"Must Love Dogs,"
Sci-Fi's "Surface"



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Greg Grunberg
NBC's Hit Series
"Heroes"



Richie Kotzen
Recording Artist



Eva La Rue
CBS's "CSI Miami"



Mario Lopez
ABC's "Dancing
with the Stars"



Kyle Massey
Disney's "Cory
in The House"



Jesse McCartney
Recording Artist



Katharine McPhee
"American Idol,"
Recording Artist



Monet
Recording Artist



Emily Osment
Disney's "Hannah
Montana"



Sara Paxton
Discovery Kids
"Darcy's Wild Life"



Ehren Ramirez
"Napoleon
Dynamite"



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Roselyn Sanchez
CBS's "Without
a Trace"



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"Hope & Faith"



Devon Werkheiser
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Visit **www.mothergooseparade.org** for more details.

Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

all ages, 8:30–11 p.m. \$7; first time free. 619-275-3533. (BAY PARK)

Traditional Village-Style music promised when Veselba Bulgarian Bitov Ensemble plays for dancing on Saturday, November 17, 8 p.m., at Folk Dance Center (4569 30th Street). \$8. 619-281-5656. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

English Country Dancing with calling by Bruce and playing by Steve and Kay on Sunday, November 18, 6–9 p.m., at Jean Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road). \$6. 858-676-9731. (POWAY)

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. Troupe is led by Louis Robitaille. Tickets: \$35–\$50. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

FILM

“Latino Warrior: An American Hero” — exhibit created by Gregg Nevarez offers “historical perspective of the incredible contributions, 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 on Thursday, November 15, in Aztlan A/B. Screening also slated for Saturday, November 17, 6 p.m., in MiraCosta Little Theatre (room 3601). Free. 760-510-9472. (OCEANSIDE)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: *Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure*, *Dinosaurs Alive*, *The Living Sea*. “Fridays at the Fleet” showcases *Wolves* (6 p.m.) and *Alaska* (7 p.m.) on November 16. Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

Mars Movie Night promises *Jeff Wayne’s Musical Version of “The War of the Worlds”* — *Live on Stage* (2006), Friday, November 16, 7 p.m., in studio 106 of Art Union Building (2323 Broadway). Also on tap: an episode of the serial *Flying Disk Man from Mars* (1950), a “Duck Dodgers” cartoon. Free with reservation: 619-723-3456. (GOLDEN HILL)

Social Activist Ralph Nader profiled in *An Unreasonable Man*, screening for Sunday Matinee on November 18, 2 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Documentary includes “rare archival

OUT & ABOUT

**SINGER-ACTRESS
QUEEN LATIFAH**
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Arts, Escondido.

(SEE IN PERSON)



footage, over 40 recently conducted interviews, computer animation.” Discussion follows. Free. 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

Rollicking Road Odyssey! Enjoy *Viva Cuba* when Juan Carlos Cremata’s 2005 film screens in Spanish with English subtitles, Wednesday, November 21, 6:30 p.m., for Film Forum at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

LECTURES

“San Diego in Perspective,” an exhibit of “process paintings” by Bill Mosley begins with artist talks, Thursday, November 15, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., in Kruglak Gallery at MiraCosta College (in student center at One Barnard Drive). Reception for artist is Friday, November 16, 6:30 p.m. 760-757-5368. (OCEANSIDE)

“Managing Your Credit” is topic at San Diego Metropolitan Credit Union (9212 Balboa Avenue), Thursday, November 15,

11:30 a.m. Free. Registration: 619-278-5724. (KEARNY MESA)

“Inspired by Rome: Dutch and Flemish Painters and Their Italian Sojourns” — Anne Woollett explores personal adventures and artistic benefits experienced by Dutch and Flemish artists on sojourns (1550–1700) during Art in the Afternoon lecture at Timken Museum of Art on Thursday, November 15, 12:30 p.m. Woollett is associate curator in department of paintings at J. Paul Getty Museum. Free. 619-239-5548 x15. (BALBOA PARK)

The Water Conservation Garden’s annual meeting, celebrating garden’s past year, is Thursday, November 15, 3–5:30 p.m. Keynote speaker, author Nan Sterman will focus on garden’s role in water conservation; hear about plans for future. Free. Water Conservation Garden (12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West). 619-660-0614. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

“Soundwaves” Art Talk by artist Dario Robleto, Thursday, November 15, 6 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). Included in

regular admission. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

“The Word Within the Word,” drop-in writing workshops led by author, creativity coach, humorist Jill Badonsky 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. \$13. 760-434-3436. (DEL MAR)

Celebrate the Arrival of Beaujolais 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: 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

“Expressionism in Art and Music” — Nicolas Reveles, 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. (BALBOA PARK)

“How to Rebuild and Not Get 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). Workshops by “legitimate and licensed construction organizations and contractors, material suppliers and attorneys along with tax and lending professionals.” Free. 619-955-6879. (ESCONDIDO)

“Navigating the Tides: The Future of the San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve” divulged by conservancy director and principal scientist Doug Gibson for San Elijo Lagoon Lecture Series, Friday, November 16, 7 p.m., in room 201 at MiraCosta’s San Elijo campus (3333 Manchester Avenue). Free. 760-436-3944. (CARDIFF)

“The Trials and Joys of Light-Footed Clapper Rail Recovery” presented by Charles Gailband and Laurie Conrad for Audubon Society, Friday, November 16, 7 p.m. at

Tecolote Nature Center (5180 Tecolote Road). Since 2001 Team Clapper Rail has bred and released over 170 birds into Southern California coastal salt marshes. Free. 858-755-7133. (CLAIREMONT)

“Create a Nature Garden for Birds and Butterflies” after San Diego Audubon workshop focusing on creating wildlife-friendly gardens. Two-session workshop teaches selection, planting, maintaining native plants adapted to our environment. First session: Saturday, November 17, second session; Saturday, November 24. Classes run 9–10:30 a.m. at Tecolote Nature Center (4675 Tecolote Road). \$30 fee includes a one-gallon native plant. Registration: 619-682-7200. (CLAIREMONT)

Refresher and Beginning Genealogy sponsored by North San Diego County Genealogical Society, Saturday, November 17, 9 a.m.–3 p.m., at Carlsbad Cole Library (1250 Carlsbad Village Drive). Follow-up tour of genealogy division at library, Monday, November 19, 7 p.m. Free. 760-757-0528. (CARLSBAD)

“Cultural and Heritage Tourism” provide topic for architect Paul Johnson when Friends of San Diego Architecture meet, Saturday, November 17, 9:30 a.m. at NewSchool of Architecture and Design (1249 F Street). Discussion follows. Donation: \$5 general, free for students. 619-224-8584. (DOWNTOWN)

“Gorgeous Gourds,” transform a freshly grown gourd into a work of art, Saturday, November 17, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., at Cuyamaca College’s Water Conservation Garden (12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West). For ages 12 and up. \$35 general. Reservations: 619-660-0614. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

“Funny Girl — Make ‘em Laugh, Make ‘em Buy” is subject when Vicki Lewis Thompson visits Romance Writers of America, gathering Saturday, November 17, 10 a.m.–3 p.m., at Handlery Hotel and Resort (950 Hotel Circle North). Thompson and

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assistant 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 Aenne Carver leads program, Saturday, November 17, 10 a.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. \$65 fee includes materials. 619-255-0203. (BALBOA PARK)

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. (CLAIREMONT)

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. (CLAIREMONT)

"Architecture and Gardens of Ancient Japan" are focus for illustrated lecture by historian Clare Crane and architect Loch Crane for San Diego Independent Scholars, Saturday, November 17, 1:30 p.m., in room 111A of Chancellor's Complex at UCSD. Free. 760-751-3094. (LA JOLLA)

"Hypnosis: Clearing Up Myth and Misconception" — certified hypnotherapist Paul Furth plans discussion, Saturday, November 17, 2 p.m., at Bonita Library (4375 Bonita Road). Free. 619-475-4642. (BONITA)

"Rituality" Gallery Talk by curators of exhibit, Saturday, November 17, 2 p.m., at California Center for the Arts Museum, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Included in museum admission. 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

"Gourd 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, pyro-engraving, 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 \$12 materials fee. Registration: 760-721-2787. (OCEANSIDE)

"Authentic Movement" Workshop led by Eliana Uretsky and Jessica Radulovich, Sunday, November 18, at Dance Place San Diego in NTC Promenade (2650 Truxton 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 experiences through verbal language."

No prior movement experience necessary. Required newcomers' introductory workshop 1-1:30 p.m. (\$5); workshop 1:30-4 p.m. (\$35 at door). Required reservations: 619-822-5761. (POINT LOMA)

Where Does Humanist Morality Come From? Hear the answer to this question and others when Roy Speckhardt, executive director of American Humanist Association in Washington, D.C., speaks for Humanist Fellowship on Sunday, November 18, 2 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-670-4159, 619-544-0640. (DOWNTOWN)

"The Roswell Incident and Milton Sprouse" provide subject for Sprouse when he addresses MU-FON (Mutual UFO Network), Sunday, November 18, 6 p.m., in banquet room at Sizzler (3755 Murphy Canyon Road). Time permitting, Glenn Steckling will focus on "The E.T. Visitors — Why They Are Here and How We May

Have Benefited." Free. 760-753-2456. (MISSION VALLEY)

"Shamanism and Rock Art," Ken Hedges presents overview of "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. 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

"Irrigation Design for Water-Wise Gardens" is topic on Monday, November 19, 5 p.m., in Cuyamaca College's Water Conservation Garden (12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West). Design principles for overhead sprinklers and drip irrigation. \$15. Reservations: 619-660-0614 x10. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

"The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls" — slide-illustrated lectures 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. (BALBOA PARK)

"Internet for the Absolute Beginner" taught at Poway Library (13137 Poway Road) on Tuesday, November 20, 8:45-10 a.m. Participants must have current county library card, be familiar with use of computer mouse. Free. Reservations: 858-513-2900. (POWAY)

Last-Minute Holiday Recipes presented by Chef Joey, Tuesday, November 20, 1 and 6:30 p.m., at Bloomingdale's San Diego at Fashion Valley (7057 Friars Road). Free. 619-610-6400. (MISSION VALLEY)

IN PERSON

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. 760-744-1150 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 B. Gone*, which he'll discuss and sign, Thursday, November 15, 6:30 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Free. 858-268-4747. (KEARNY 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. (MIRAMAR)

Former White House Counsel John Dean discusses, signs 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 Kalmia 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,

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What's That You're Writing?

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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 *Duinese Elegies*. 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 accuracy, 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 death 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 disappearing. *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."

7 p.m., at First Unitarian Universalist Church (4190 Front Street). "Where can you learn the truth about the war that has defined our lives?" Jamail has covered the Middle East for more than four years. Donation requested. 619-298-9978. (HILLCREST)

One of America's Most Provocative Thinkers? Naomi Wolf discusses her latest book, *The End of America: A Letter of Warning to a Young Patriot* for Great American Writers Series, Thursday, November 15, 7 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Among her other books: *The Beauty Myth*. Free. Required reservations: 619-687-3580. (DOWNTOWN)

Poet Joanne Kyger, author of *About Now: Collected Poems*, reads for World Literary Series,

Thursday, November 15, 7 p.m., in Academic Hall 102 at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). Admission is free, parking is not. 760-750-8077. (SAN MARCOS)

"The Diviners" presented by Mt. Carmel High School's Theater at the Mount youth theater program, Thursday-Saturday, November 15-17. Performances begin at 7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, with 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday. Tickets: \$10 general, \$8 students. Find Mt. Carmel High School at 9550 Carmel Mountain Road, 858-484-1180 x3341. (RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

Puccini's Operetta *The Swallow* is current production for Lyric Opera San Diego, continuing through November 18. Puccini's only operetta is set in demimonde

of 1870s Paris. Cast includes tenor Chad Johnson, soprano Suzan Hanson.

Curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday and Saturday, November 15 and 17, with 2:30 p.m. matinee on Sunday, November 18, at Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2891 University Avenue). Tickets: \$30-\$50 general; children 5-17 pay half price. 619-239-8836. (NORTH PARK)

City Works Press and San Diego Writers, Ink host readings, book signings by Mel Freilicher (*The Unmaking of Americans: 7 Lives*) and Stephen-Paul Martin (*The Possibility of Music*) on Friday, November 16. Event begins at 7 p.m. at Ink Spot in Art Center Lofts (710 13th Street, studio 210). Free. 619-388-3554. (DOWNTOWN)

In aChord Men's Ensemble hosts evening of music, entertainment at LGBT Center (3909 Centre Street), Friday, November 16, 7 p.m. Guests include Ria Carey, emcee Joey Landwehr, more. \$25. 619-501-1071. (HILLCREST)

"My Heart Speaks a Different Language," Chicana writer and dramatic performer Carmen Tafolla presents her one-woman show on Friday, November 16, 7:30 p.m., in Little Theatre (room 3601) at MiraCosta College (One Barnard Drive). Free. 760-795-6613. (OCEANSIDE)

Revisionist Historian Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz discusses her book *Roots of Resistance: Land Tenure in New Mexico 1680-1980*, Saturday, November 17, 1 p.m., at University Community Library (4155 Gover-

nor Drive). Free. 858-552-1655. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

"Celebrating America Unchained," mystery author Sheryl Anderson visits Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard) to sign *Killer Riff*, Saturday, November 17, 2 p.m.

Crime author Troy Cook hits Galaxy to sign *The One-Minute Assassin* at 4 p.m. on 17th. Free. 858-268-4747. (KEARNY MESA)

Comedy Out of Cambridge, four comics, all of them Harvard grads, perform Saturday, November 17, 7 p.m., at UCSD Faculty Club (9500 Gilman Drive #0121). Tickets: \$45-\$55, include buffet dinner. 858-534-0876. (LA JOLLA)

Erin McKeown in Concert hosted by AcousticMusicSanDiego on Saturday, November 17; Matt

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 (4650 Mansfield 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 Dieguito United Methodist Church (170 Calle Magdalena). Tickets for this San Diego Folk Heritage concert: \$15. 858-566-4040. (ENCINITAS)

Tellabration: 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 Alcalá Park). Jim

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

Dieckmann, Gay Ducey, Fred Laskowski, Marilyn McPie, Katy Rydell, Linda Whiteside spin “tales ranging from the funny to the frightening.” Suitable for adults, children over 12. \$10. 619-298-6363. (LINDA VISTA)

Conscious Comedy Explosion!

Stand-up comedian and voice-over artist Straww performs for “70’s Jam,” Saturday, November 17, at 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: 619-819-7838. (LA MESA)

Country Music Troubadour,

Songwriter Clint Black takes stage, Saturday, November 17, 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Black is ten-time platinum-selling artist. Tickets: \$53–\$68. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

Dancers, Comics, Accordion

Player, clown, magician, singers — all on tap during North Park Vaudeville Shows, November 17 and 18, at North Park Vaudeville and Candy Shoppe (2031 El Cajon Boulevard). Performances begin at 8 p.m. on Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. \$14. Recommended reservations: 619-220-8663. (NORTH PARK)

“Godspell” —

this “musical interpretation of the Gospel of Matthew” is presented by St. John of the Cross Youth, November 17 and 18, at St. John of the Cross (8086 Broadway). Performances begin at 8 p.m. on Saturday, 3 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: \$10 general, \$8 for students, seniors, children. 619-741-9114. (LEMON GROVE)

“Simcha: A Night of Mind-

Bending Mysteries” presented by “mentalistic magician” Guy Bavli on Saturday, November 17, 8 p.m.,

at Soille San Diego Hebrew Day School (3630 Afton Road). \$50 tickets include “decadent dessert reception.” For adults only. Reservations: 858-279-3300. (KEARNY MESA)

“Comics That Kill” —

comedy by Tim Shaw, Kinner Shah, Jason Bang, David Feingold (a.k.a. Fat Jewish Guy), Rob Deez, Dinah Lefert on Saturday, November 17, 8:30 p.m., at Milano Coffee Company (8685 Rio San Diego Drive, suite B). Not for those under 14. \$7. 619-263-3335. (MISSION VALLEY)

“Eyewitness to the Holocaust”

is title for talk by Ramona resident Erwin Levy on Sunday, November 18, 1 p.m., at Julian Library (1850 Highway 78). Levy escaped Germany as part of Kindertransport to England in June 1939 at age 15, later served in U.S. Army in Europe (1944-48). Talk is followed by klezmer concert with virtuoso klezmer clarinetist Alexander Gourevitch. Free. 760-765-0370. (JULIAN)

San Diego Author

Keith Jones discusses *The Mayan Key*, Sunday, November 18, 2 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Free. 858-268-4747. (KEARNY MESA)

The Grace and the Arts

concert series showcases Laura Brennan (bassoon) and Jim Tompkins-MacLaine (piano), Sunday, November 18, 2 p.m., at Grace Lutheran Church (3967 Park Boulevard). Offering. 619-299-2890. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Sunset Poets

convene for performance by local poet Steve Kowit, Sunday, November 18, 3 p.m., at Flying Bridge Restaurant (1105 North Coast Highway). Kowit, recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in Poetry and two Pushcart Prizes, will read from his new book, *The First Noble Truth*. Open-mike readings follow. Free. 760-758-2410. (OCEANSIDE)

Comedy Hypnotist

Gary Conrad plans show benefiting the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Sunday, November 18, 5 p.m., at VFW Post

OUT & ABOUT

ICONIC ACTOR

KIRK DOUGLAS
For San Diego Jewish Book Fair, Monday, November 19.

(SEE IN PERSON)



#3788 (7785 Othello Avenue). \$18 tickets include dinner. 858-292-1648. (LINDA VISTA)

Who Has Run or Hiked Thou-

sands of Miles of trails throughout California, the Southwest, and Mexico; written 14 books including *Afoot and Afield in San Diego County*; and writes a weekly column for the San Diego Reader? It's Jerry Schad, who speaks for Friends of Hellhole Canyon Open-Space Preserve, Sunday, November 18, 5:30 p.m., outdoors at Stone World Bistro (1999 Citracado Parkway).

Schad will present photographs of his explorations of San Diego County's geographical regions, discuss recreational opportunities available locally for those interested in walking, hiking. Artist Julie Schneider Ljubenkov will have original watercolors and limited-edition prints of her work on display. Bring a chair or pillow. Free. 760-471-4999. (ESCONDIDO)

David Pamley and Continental

Divide plan bluegrass concert, Sunday, November 18, 7 p.m., at St. Mark's United Methodist Church (3502 Clairemont Drive). Requested donation: \$15. 858-679-1225. (CLAIREMONT)

Iconic Actor

Kirk Douglas discusses his new memoir *Let's Face*

It: 90 Years of Living, Love, and Learning for San Diego Jewish Book Fair on Monday, November 19, 6 p.m., at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). Douglas has appeared in more than 80 films, including *Lust for Life*, *20,000 Leagues under the Sea*, *Seven Days in May*. Booksigning follows. \$15.50. 858-362-1348. (LA JOLLA)

Traditional Music of China

promised during world music series concerts on Monday, November 19, starting at 6 and 7:30 p.m. in Smith Recital Hall at San Diego State University. \$10. 619-594-1696. (SDSU)

“Amish Grace,” David L. Weaver-Zercher visits San Diego Public Library (820 E Street) to discuss book he 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. Free. 619-236-6821.

“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 (4441 Park Boulevard). Pay what you want — after

the performance. 858-505-4195. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

“A Musical Shakespeare

Evening” promised 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 McMurtry and Rosina Reynolds will share thoughts on Shakespeare; performances by members of San Diego Ballet, Bill Nolan, Victoria Mature, Amy Biedel, Vox Nobili, Daniel and Rebecca Myers, San Diego Civic Dance Company, Leigh Scarritt Productions, Antonio T.J. Johnson, others. Evening begins at 7:30 p.m. at Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive) \$20 general. 619-246-8735. (LA JOLLA)

Marquette University

professor Daniel Maguire visits Open Door Books (4761 Cass Street) to sign and discuss *A Moral Creed for All Christians*, Monday, November 19, 7:30 p.m. Free. 858-270-8642. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Singer-Actress

Queen Latifah takes stage on Monday, November 19, 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Her most recent CD is *Trav'lin' Light*, a jazz and rhythm and blues-influenced work. Tickets: \$45–\$60. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

Read a Poem You Wrote or

One You Love during open-mike poetry cafe, Tuesday, November 20, 6 p.m., at Lemon Grove Library (8073 Broadway). Coffee, dessert provided. Free. 619-218-8412. (LEMON GROVE)

Jazz Standards

promised when Peter Erskine, Alan Pasqua, and Dave Carpenter take stage for Athenaeum Jazz series, Tuesday, November 20, 8 p.m., at Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive). \$29. 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

Reggae Legend

Half Pint joined by Kush, Blood Fiyah Angels, Keys of Creation in concert, Thursday, November 22, 8:30 p.m., at WorldBeat Center (2100 Park Boulevard). \$12.50 in advance. 619-230-1190. (BALBOA PARK)

SPORTS

Rides to Suit Every Rider!

San Diego Bicycle Club's “world famous” Saturday rides start at 8:30 a.m. at 8715 Via La Jolla Drive (in parking lot at La Jolla Village Square). Fast rides, core training, and development rides

offered. Helmets mandatory. Free. 619-522-0058. (LA JOLLA)

Reef College Surf Tournament

for surfers from SDSU, UCSD, USD, Point Loma Nazarene University, MiraCosta, and CSU San Marcos is Saturday and Sunday, November 17 and 18, 8 a.m.–2 p.m., on south side of Oceanside Pier. Free for spectators. 858-514-3600. (OCEANSIDE)

In Search of the Black Sea

Turtle, paddle silent kayaks over warm, shallow waters of South Bay, pass over eel grass beds to look for backs and heads of turtles rising to breathe during family program led by Margie Stinson for San Diego Natural History Museum, Saturday, November 17, 9 a.m. Learn biology of these sea creatures, story of San Diego's turtles (tale that began in 1855). Fees: \$65 for adults, \$20 per child 8–12 in double kayak with parent (price includes equipment, paddling instruction). Reservations: 619-255-0203. Repeats Saturday, December 8. (SAN DIEGO BAY)

San Diego Lymphoma-Thon

5k walk, Saturday, November 17, at De Anza Cove in Mission Bay Park. Registration: 8 a.m.; walk at 9 a.m. Free; pledges encouraged. Registration: 800-235-6848. (MISSION BAY)

Talk Derby to Me,

Hard Corps and Diego 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. (rent skates and roll with teams). \$12. 858-560-9349. (LINDA VISTA)

Bonsall Blast,

take an 82-mile bicycle ride with Bicycle Touring Society riders on Sunday, November 18, starting at 8:45 a.m. in Doyle Park (8175 Regents Road). Bring money for lunch in Bonsall. Free. 619-561-3846. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Bicycle in San Marcos and

Vista with Knickerbikers, Sunday, November 18. The 25-mile ride starts at 9:30 a.m. at Woodland Park (at Woodland Parkway and Rock Springs Road). Bring money for lunch at Old Spaghetti Factory. 858-453-3687. (SAN MARCOS)

San Diego Chargers

are in Jacksonville for game against the Jaguars on Sunday, November 18, 10 a.m. Game broadcast on CBS; listen on radio station KIOZ-FM, Rock 105.3. Tickets for future games: \$54–\$92, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS).

Father Joe's Thanksgiving Day

5k Walk and Run starts at Museum of Man in Balboa Park at 8 a.m. on Thursday, November 22, finishes beyond Balboa Fountain. 888-478-6925. (BALBOA PARK)

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Run for the Hungry Thanksgiving Day 5K and 10K, Thursday, November 22, starting at 8 a.m. at Petco Park East (at Imperial and 13th Street). Race-day fee: \$30 general, \$20 for children. 619-298-7400. (EAST VILLAGE)

51st Annual International Peace Village in Montezuma Hall at San Diego State University, Thursday, November 15, noon-3 p.m. Over 40 countries represented, seven nongovernmental organizations, nine cultural performances, photography competition, more. Free. 619-594-1982. (SDSU)

The Presence of Absence in the Ruins of Kafr Bir'im by visual arts professor John Halaka screens on 15th at 5:30 p.m. in Soles Auditorium. Discussion of documentary with Halaka follows (6:45 p.m.).

Expect an international dinner and movie on Friday, November 16, 5 p.m. Events are free. Find USD campus at 5998 Alcala Park. 619-260-8835. (LINDA VISTA)

Westgate Hotel (1055 Second Avenue) hosts "Beaujolais Nouveau 2007" event on November 15, 6-8 p.m. Classic country French fare paired with Georges du Boeuf Beaujolais Nouveau. \$45. Reservations: 619-557-3655. (POINT LOMA, DOWNTOWN)

Del Mar Antique Show and Sale, November 16–18, at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Antique appraisal booth, glass, crystal, jewelry, art, silver, furniture, more. Show opens at 11 a.m. each morning, closes at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 5 p.m. Sunday. \$8 general. 800-943-7501. (DEL MAR)

Taste of the Triangle, Friday, November 16, 7 p.m., at Birch Aquarium at Scripps (2300 Expedition Way). Around 15 eateries offer samples of gourmet cuisine; silent auction. Tickets — \$50 in advance, \$60 at door — benefit University City public schools. Reservations: 858-677-0989. (LA JOLLA)

Artisans' Studio show and sale, Saturday, November 17, 10 a.m.–4 p.m., at Designs by Doria (5623 Madra Avenue). Juried artists display work including art quilts, blown glass, ceramics, jewelry, baskets, gourds, home decor. Free admission. 619-582-8865. (DEL CERRO)

Celebrate 144th Anniversary of the *Star of India* with birthday celebrations, Saturday, November 17, noon–3 p.m., at Maritime Museum (1492 North Harbor Drive). Party on *Star* promises live music, family activities, birthday cake (1 p.m.). Free admission to *Star* (admission fee required to tour other ships in museum's collection). 619-234-9153. (DOWNTOWN)


"Market Day and Holiday Leftovers: How to Maximize Your Holiday Bird" — chef Bernard Guillas presents demonstration, tasting, Saturday, Novem-

"Parols" Are Traditional star-shaped Christmas lanterns of the Philippines. House of the Philippines plans all-house hands-on parol-making workshop, Saturday, November 17, 1-3 p.m. Free; materials, instruction provided. Find House of the Philippines on Presidents Way at Pan American Plaza. 619-804-8424. (BALBOA PARK)

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 (616 Stevens Avenue, suite B). You’re asked to use yarns purchased in the store during session. Free. 858-509-9276. (SOLANA BEACH)

"The Value of Science," discuss a selection of J.H. Poincaré's work with Great Books Reading and Discussion Group, Saturday, November 17, 2 p.m., in third-floor conference room of San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Newcomers welcome. Free. 619-440-5625. (DOWNTOWN)

Vegan Dinner Party Turkey-free Thanksgiving vegan dinner, Saturday November 17, 3 p.m., at Linda Vista Recreation Center (7064 Lev-



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Annual Salmon Dinner hosted by Sons of Norway, Saturday, November 17, at Masonic Hall (7849 Tommy Drive). Ham also available; sale of Norwegian crafts, baked goods. Seatings at 4 and 6 p.m. Fee: \$17.50 in advance, \$20 at door. 619-583-0859. (SAN CARLOS)

High-Performance Classic Car, Truck, and Cycle show and swap and 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. 858-484-9342. (MISSION VALLEY)

Lakeside Auto Speedway Centennial, celebrating the 1907 land speed record set by Barney Oldfield on a racetrack around Lindo Lake, is slated for Sunday, November 18, 10 a.m.–3 p.m., at Lindo Lake Park (9841 Vine Street). Pre-1930 antique cars on display, with pace-lap “parade” (noon), music, crafts, food, silent auction, history displays, all presented by Lakeside Historical Society. Free. 619-561-1886. (LAKESIDE)

Talmadge Art Show, over 50 local artists exhibit and sell work in variety of media on Sunday, November 18, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at San Diego Women's Club (2557 Third Avenue). Free admission. 619-559-9082. (HILLCREST)

Beer Festival planned Sunday, November 18, noon–4 p.m., at Green Flash Brewing Company (1430 Vantage Court). In celebration of five years, Green Flash hosts sampling from 11 local breweries, food. \$20 fee includes ten four-ounce tastes (designated “designated driver” wristbands available). 21 and up. 760-597-9012. (VISTA)

Snow Goose Global Thanksgiving, author Victor Villaseñor 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.” Villaseñor is author of *Rain of Gold*, *Burro Genius: A Memoir*, other books. Music by MiraCosta Latin Jazz Orchestra, dancing; “at sundown candles are lit, everyone faces eastward 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 Villaseñor at

"The Truthdig Debate on Religion and Politics" — part two — between authors Sam 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. (HILLCREST)

"Beaujolais, Burgundy, and More," learn to "boost your Burgundy-buying confidence" during tasting, Wednesday, November 21, 5 p.m., at WineSeller and Brasserie (9550 Waples Street, suite 115). \$16. 858-450-9557. (MIRA MESA)

“Demons, Golems, and Dybbuks: Monsters of the Jewish Imagination” is theme for “Let’s Talk About It: Jewish Literature” reading, discussion series at La Jolla Library (7555 Draper Avenue). Focus on *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka on Wednesday, November 21, 6:30 p.m. Free. Registration: 619-236-5817. (LA JOLLA)

"Something's Fishy" when Millie Patterson's Weaver's Tales perform through Sunday, November 18, in Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. *Santa and the Ho Ho Thief* may be seen November 21 and 23-25.

Shows begin at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday–Friday and at 11 a.m., 1, and 2:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Find theater at 2130 Pan American Place. Admis-

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

sion: \$3 for children, \$4 seniors, \$5 general. 619-544-9203. (BALBOA PARK)

“Music Matters,” West Hills High School music students present concert and discussion, Thursday, November 15, 3:30 p.m., Santee Library (9225 Carlton Hills Boulevard, suite 17). Designed to encourage an interest in music, for “children of all ages.” Free. 619-448-1863. (SANTEE)

Stubbed Book Binding class for those in fifth–tenth grades led by Sandra Erbetta, Saturday, November 17, 10 a.m., at Japanese Friendship Garden. \$55. 619-232-2780. (BALBOA PARK)

“Kelp Kornucopia” is theme for family program, Saturday, November 17, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., at Birch Aquarium-Museum (2300 Expedition Way). Meet Scripps Institution of Oceanography scientist, learn about kelp forest research, get your hands slimy with real kelp. Included with paid aquarium admission. No reservations necessary.

“Explore It: Kelp,” also slated for November 17, runs 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Press seaweed, conduct experiments, make kelp plant to take home, taste seaweed. Fee is \$4 per person, in addition to regular aquarium admission. Advance registration required: 858-534-7336. (LA JOLLA)

“Color” provides topic when Reuben H. Fleet Science Center hosts family science day, Saturday, November 17, noon–3 p.m. Participants “make a free science experiment” to take home. Included in regular admission. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

The “Most Dynamic Science Faculty Presenters” at San Diego State University plan “Science Sampler” for high school students, Sunday, November 18. Four “exciting short mini-lectures” planned. Preshow hands-on demonstrations, 12:30–1:50 p.m.; mini-lectures, 2–4 p.m., all in Geology Math Computer Science (GMCS) building room 333 (located on east side of campus). Free. 619-594-5586. (SDSU)

Animal Tales Told, and crafts and animals are part of fun on Sunday, November 18, 1 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society and

SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). Donation: \$3. Reservations: 619-243-3432. (LINDA VISTA)

“Music in Motion,” Classics for Kids and Classics Philharmonic family concert, Sunday, November 18, 2 p.m., at Salvation Army Kroc Community Center Performing Arts Theatre (6845 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)

Local Filmmaker, Actress, screenwriter Mickey Harrison, a.k.a. Prudence the Pilgrim, plans Thanksgiving storytelling, Monday, November 19, 4 p.m., at Warwick’s Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). 858-454-0347. Free. (LA JOLLA)

MUSEUMS

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

Interpretive 90-minute train rides offered each weekend (11 a.m., 2:30 p.m.) over portion of the San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway. Find the depot on Highway 94 at Forrest Gate Road. 619-465-7776. (CAMPO)

Chinese Historical Society and Museum, Pat Tseng’s adornment designs incorporate Eastern and Western cultural traditions. An exhibit of work by the artist, known for “transforming antique objects and small artifacts into modern-day adornments,” continues through December.

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

Chula Vista Heritage Museum the museum features glimpses of Chula Vista’s past; exhibits feature lemon packing crate labels, pho-

OUT & ABOUT

“EDIT, REWARDS, AND UNDERLINES”

By May-ling Martinez, opening Friday, November 16, Athenaeum Music and Arts Library.

(SEE ART GALLERIES)



RED DOOR #4, MAY-LING MARTINEZ

tographs of downtown Chula Vista, doors and adobe blocks from the original *Star* newspaper building, and relics from the Otay Watch Company. Find the museum at 360 Third Avenue. 619-420-6916. (CHULA VISTA)

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

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

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

Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park, old adobe buildings were once vacation retreat and working rancho of actor Leo Carrillo. Tours

on Saturdays (11 a.m., 1 p.m.) and Sundays (noon, 2 p.m.). Find Rancho de los Quiotes at 6200 Flying LC Lane. 760-476-1042. (CARLSBAD)

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

Olaf Wieghorst Museum displays paintings and prints by Olaf Wieghorst and features exhibits of other artists’ American West art. Adjacent to museum is courtyard with cactus gardens, 20 x 20-foot reproduction of Wieghorst’s painting *Navajos at Castle Creek*, and original restored home Wieghorst lived in for many years starting in 1945. The museum is located at 131 Rea Avenue. 619-590-3431. (EL CAJON)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, “Listen Here! Making Sense of Sound,” allows visitors to experience the nature of sound, how human beings perceive sound, and the act of listening through exhibits, activities, demonstrations. Exhibit from the Exploratorium in San Francisco continues through Sunday, June 1, 2008.

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

Ongoing exhibitions include “So WATT! An Illuminating Look at Energy,” “Aging for All Ages,” “San Diego Science Showcase,”

“Kid City” (for preschoolers), “The Best of Symmetry and Signals,” and “TryScience!” “Comet Impact” is theme for motion simulator ride. Films are shown daily in the IMAX theater. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Automotive Museum, see “Cadillacs” exhibit through Sunday, 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 Starlight Bowl. 619-231-2886. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Hall of Champions, ongoing exhibits include “Bird Watching — Tony Hawk in Flight,” “Surfing in San Diego,” exhibits of baseball card art, fencing, local rugby history. The museum — dedicated to promoting, recognizing, and preserving athletic achievement — is located at 2131 Pan American Plaza. 619-234-2544. (BALBOA PARK)

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

The museum features permanent exhibits documenting the history of San Diego’s waterfront and the building of the West Coast by sea, the old San Diego-Coronado ferryboats, the tuna fishing industry, and the military. The museum fleet consists of the 1863 bark *Star of India*, the 1898 San Francisco ferryboat *Berkeley*, and the 1904 Scottish steam yacht *Medea*. The HMS *Surprise*, used in film *Master and Commander*, is permanently on exhibit; see artifacts, costumes, props used in making of the flick. Also open for touring: a B-39 Soviet attack submarine, among the largest conventionally powered submarines ever built. This Project 641/Foxtro class diesel-electric submarine was designed to track U.S. and NATO warships throughout the Earth’s oceans. There are also nautical exhibits, ship carpenters, model building, ships in bottles, woodcarvers, and a complete research library.

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

San Diego Museum of Man, “Journey to the Copper Age: Archaeology in the Holy Land” tells story of profound changes metallurgy brought to human society: birth of Mediterranean farming, creation of first temples and cemeteries, emergence of complex societies. Exhibition chronicles development of humanity in

present-day Israel, Palestine, and Jordan. Highlights include photographs by *National Geographic* photographer Kenneth Garrett and collection of archaeological artifacts seen for first time on West Coast. Through January.

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

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

In “Artists Speak: Contemporary Art from Ghana and Zimbabwe,” museum has partnered with artists from Ghana and Zimbabwe to showcase paintings and sculpture 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 futuristic cyborgs (part human, part machine).” 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

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

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

SINGLES

Are you single and over 40?



Imagine finding the love of your life this weekend!

Imagine yourself at our singles party this weekend. As soon as you arrive you start to meet and talk with quality singles. You are amazed at how fun and easy it is. Finally, you have discovered the best way to meet singles over 40!

Every week The Social Place hosts a singles party that gives you a chance to meet more singles in one night than you could meet on your own in an entire year.

This week our Monthly Featured Singles Dance will be on:



Saturday, November 17, 7:00 PM at Country Inn & Suites 5975 Lusk Blvd. San Diego, CA 92121

Come to our dance this week.... you don't want to miss it!

For more information
http://love.thesocialplace.com
1-866-258-6952

Singles Parties for 30 Plus, 2 Nights a Week!

A Comfortable, Safe Environment with Great Music and Fun People.

Parties for singles over 30 • \$11 admission

**Tuesdays
Dance Party
7-11 pm**

94th Aero Squadron
8885 Balboa Ave.



**Saturdays
Dance Party
8 pm-1 am**

8110 Aero Dr.
Skies Lounge
Four Points Sheraton
Ladies get in free before
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Couples welcome on Saturdays!

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Athletic Singles Association

Info: (800) 488-9246
Office: (760) 434-4700
www.athleticsingles.com

Lucky 7 Match

SPEED DATING

Thursday, November 29

Ages 25-37, 38-48 & 48-62

at **30-Two Lounge** (Downtown)

Check-ins 7 pm, events 7:30 pm

Advance registration required.

See website for details.

www.lucky7match.com

(619) 890-7117

Calendar

ART

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 Weill'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: \$6–\$15. 619-594-1696. (SDSU)

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. 858-459-3728. (LA COSTA)

Schubert's "Symphony No. 8 (Unfinished)" may be heard when San Diego Symphony, conductor Jahja Ling present "Jacobs' Masterworks" concerts, November 16–18. Also on program: Webern'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 B Street). Tickets: \$20–\$90. Reservations: 619-235-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

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 Lakeside Community Presbyterian Church (9908 Channel Road). Program includes "Symphony No. 8 in G" by Dvořák. Free. 619-444-0228. (LAKESIDE)

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

"Music in Motion," Classics for Kids and Classics Philharmonic family concert, Sunday, November 18, 2 p.m., at Salvation Army

Kroc Community Center Performing Arts Theatre (6845 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 Williams in Spreckels Organ Pavilion, Sunday, November 18, 2 p.m. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Transcriptions of Early Music — including pieces by Vivaldi and Bach — promised when classical guitarists Fred Benedetti and Robert Wetzels 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. (BALBOA PARK)

The Striano Piano Quartet performs music of Telemann, Brahms, Joplin, Jadassohn, Beethoven on Sunday, November 18, 4 p.m., at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church (16275 Pomerado Road). Requested donation: \$10 general, \$5 for those 12 and younger. Reception follows the concert. 858-487-2159. (POWAY)

"A Cornucopia of Opera Favorites" promised during concert, Sunday, November 18, at California Foundation for International Global Arts (Galerie d'Art International, 320 South Cedros Avenue, suite 500). Selections by Mozart, Verdi, Bizet, Puccini, Giacomo Meyerbeer. Performers include soprano Kathleen Halm, 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, Rossini, Bulut, Henze, Ram-sier, when joined by Robert Zelickman, János Négyesy, Päivikki Nykter in concert, Sunday, November 18, 8 p.m., in Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD. Free. 858-534-4637. (LA JOLLA)

Pianist Hyue-eun Ham performs for mini-concert at noon, Monday, November 19, at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Free. 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

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

Electro-Acoustic Music Festival showcasing music for piano and computer-generated sounds with "intermedia" of electro-acoustic music and visual art planned Tuesday, November 20, 8 p.m., in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10, 1140 West Mission Road). Directed by Madelyn Byrne. \$5 general. 760-744-1150 x2453. (SAN MARCOS)

Piano Ensemble Concert, by Eva Nalhi in Smith Recital Hall at San Diego State University, Wednesday, November 21, noon. Free. 619-594-6020. (SDSU)

Violin Studio Recital, Wednesday, November 21, noon, in Rhapsody Hall at San Diego State University, Wednesday, November 21, noon. Free. 619-594-1696. (SDSU)

ART LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after November 22.

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GALLERIES

"Inspirational Abstracts" by Javier Lopez Barbosa opens with reception on Friday, November 16, noon–7 p.m., at Gallery Savarese (386 North Coast Highway 101). Barbosa "has perfected a technique by mixing oils and glazing using brilliant colors to create...abstracts." 760-505-0063. Through December. (LEUCADIA)

"The Holiday Exhibition" opens with reception for the ten artists, Friday, November 16, 6 p.m., at Taboo Studio (1615122 West Lewis Street). Closes Friday, December 28. 619-692-0099. (HILLCREST)

"Edits, Rewards, and Underlines," mixed-media works by

May-ling Martinez go on exhibit with artists' reception, Friday, November 16, 6:30 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). "The Whaling Bar" — with large paintings and drawings of lounge at La Valencia Hotel — by Raul Guerrero, and "Selections from the Athenaeum's Artists' Book Collection: Hans-Peter Feldmann" also open during reception, and all close on Sunday, December 30. 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

"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., in Kruglak Gallery at MiraCosta College (in student center at One Barnard Drive). Reception follows artist's talks, Thursday, November 15, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. 760-757-5368. (OCEANSIDE)

"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 works by 20 artists during exhibit opening with reception, Friday, November 16, 7 p.m., at Brokers Building Gallery (402 Market Street). Encore reception/viewing is Friday, November 23, 7 p.m. 619-239-1639, 619-843-8424. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

Annual Faculty Art and Photography Exhibition continues

~ Chorus Breviarii San Diego ~

Gregorian Chant Schola and Liturgical Prayer Group

November 2007 Events:

~ Thursday, November 15, 2007 • 7 pm ~

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 Blvd.)

~ 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 Sczurek, 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 Anerio (1567-1630)*
San Diego Premier 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 organizer John Polhamus at: 858-220-4072



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 international 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.

SDMA SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART
WWW.SDMART.ORG

Animated Painting is organized by the San Diego Museum of Art. This exhibition is made possible by the generous support of the Krichman Family Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation, the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, the Mondriaan Foundation, and the African Arts Committee of the San Diego Museum of Art. Additional support is provided by the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, the County of San Diego's Community Enhancement Program, and members of the San Diego Museum of Art.

Artwork (Right): Ruth Gómez, still from *Animales de compañía* (detail), 2005. (Top left) Jeremy Blake, still from *Sodium Fox* (detail), 2005. (Bottom left): Julian Opie, still from *Ruth Smoking* 3, 2006. (Middle top) William Kentridge, still from *Tide Table* (detail), 2003-04. (Middle bottom) Ann Lislegaard *Bellona* (after Samuel R. Delany)(detail), 2005.

Calendar

CLASSICAL MUSIC

through Wednesday, December 12, in Boehm Gallery at Palomar College (1140 West Mission Road). Reception for artists: Saturday, November 17, 2 p.m. 760-744-1150 x2304. (SAN MARCOS)

"Intimate Views," an exhibition of new oil paintings and figurative studies in oil on paper by Annie Dover opens with artist's reception on Saturday, November 17, 4 p.m., at Santa Ysabel Art Gallery (30352 Highway 78, at junction of Highway 79). Through Sunday, December 30. 760-765-1676. (SANTA YSABEL)

Painter Joshua Smith has exhibition of paintings opening with reception, Saturday, November 17, 5 p.m., at Chuck Jones Studio Gallery of Old Town (2501 San Diego Avenue). 888-294-9880. (OLD TOWN)

Photographer David Fokos will be on hand for exhibit of his black-and-white landscape photographs, Saturday, November 17, 5 p.m., at Bartram Gallery (7874 Girard Avenue). Through Saturday, December 1. 858-459-9797. (LA JOLLA)

"Testing Grounds," exhibit of etchings by Gene Flores opens with reception on Saturday, November 17, 6 p.m., at Crossing Tracks Gallery (3275 Adams Avenue, 619-521-0676). Through Sunday, December 2. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

"A Show of Help," this "night of art benefiting those in need after the 2007 fires" with work by artist Jesse "ish" Kellman is Saturday,

November 17, 7 p.m., at 465 Gallery (465 Tenth Avenue). 619-847-0779. (EAST VILLAGE)

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.

"Niki de Saint Phalle: A Spiritual Path" offers a closer look at de Saint Phalle's spiritual journey, her interpretation of traditional tarot cards. "Is the tarot pack only a game of cards, or is there a philosophy behind it?"

Fifty-four individual paintings by Teresa Villegas are gathered in "La Lotería: An Exploration of Mexico." Artwork draws upon Mexican traditions, historical figures, food, popular culture.

"The Poetics of Myth" features a series of bas-relief terra-cotta panels by Brad Burkhart, focusing "on the creation of modern myths and archetypes."

Each of these exhibits continues through Sunday, January 27.

"Muerte de todos ofrenda de participación (Death Comes to Everyone: A Participatory Offering)" — Eloy Tarcisio's 12th annual site-specific installation at California Center for the Arts, Escondido continues through Sunday, November 25.

The museum is located at 340 North Escondido Boulevard; 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

Mingei International Museum — North County, "Paper Transformed," exhibition made up of "Crowning Glory — From Paper Bag Hats by Moses" and "Origami — The Art of Paper Folding" from Mingei's permanent collection continues through Saturday, December 29. For "Crowning Glory," Moses created more than 250 hats from paper bags contributed by merchants in his Hawaiian neighborhood. "Origami" boasts nearly 100 examples of traditional and contemporary paper folding; exhibition honors acclaimed local paper folder, author, teacher Florence Temko. Find the museum at 155 West Grand Avenue. 760-735-3355. (ESCONDIDO)

Mingei International Museum, "Craft in America: Expanding Traditions" surveys more than 200 works, spanning a period of nearly 200 years. Handcrafted furniture, ceramics, fiber and textiles, basketry, glass, wood, jewelry, metalwork are showcased. Closes Sunday, January 27.

Also on view: "American Viewing Stones: Natural Art in an Asian Tradition." Chinese connoisseurs began using large stones to decorate gardens, courtyards during the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.—A.D. 220); "Scholar's Rocks" is English name most commonly used for these items. American viewing stone collecting began with first- and second-generation Japanese-Americans who continued traditions of bonsai and *suiseki*.

The "Chinese Woodblock Prints in the Style of the Ten Bamboo Studio" are likely from a 19th-Century edition of *Treatise on Calligraphy and Painting of the Ten*

Bamboo Studio. Prints are noteworthy for technique of printing using multiple blocks. Both exhibits close on Sunday, December 30.

Masterworks from permanent collection are gathered in "The Beauty of Use — Mingei International Museum at 30," showcasing significant objects from many cultures shown in relationships highlighting similarities and differences among them. Museum has formed a collection of *mingei* now comprising 17,000 objects from 141 countries such as collection of 19th-Century African tribal currency, group of masks including example of Amazonian feather work, ritual objects, selection of monumental containers. Closes Sunday, May 11. The Mingei is located on square with San Diego Museum of Art. 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, "Robert Irwin: Primaries and Secondaries" is "the largest exhibition of renowned artist...Irwin's work since 1993." Exhibit features five new major installation works created specifically for MCASD's galleries, is drawn almost exclusively of works from museum's collection. Closes Sunday, April 13. Find the museum at 1001 and 1100 Kettner Boulevard (at Broadway), directly across from the Santa Fe Railroad Depot. 858-454-3541. (DOWNTOWN)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, "Soundwaves: The Art of Sampling" examines "a specifically late 20th-Century manifestation of the conjunction of art and sound," showcases works by artists including Tim Bavington, Helen Cohen,

Sean Duffy, T. Kelly Mason, Alyce Santoro, others. Through Sunday, December 30.

"Cerca Series: Iana Quesnell," also closing on December 30, "investigates nomadism and temporary living situations." See several new large-scale drawings and an animation responding to artist's binational life between San Diego and Tijuana.

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

Museum of Photographic Arts, "Picturing Eden," continuing through Sunday, January 13, examines "many facets of paradise, from a place of contemplation and restoration to a site of loneliness and despair." Exhibition includes work by more than 30 artists, including Michael Kenna, Sally Mann, Han Nguyen, and Doug and Mike Starn.

"Public Privacy: Wendy Richmond's Surreptitious Cellphone" is said to explore "how 20th-Century Americans occupy personal spaces while going about their daily lives in the public eye." Richmond allows viewers to observe people in mundane routines by shooting tiny movies on her cellphone video camera. Closes Sunday, January 6.

Also on view through January 6, "New Light: Selections from MoPA's Education Programs," including photographic and multimedia pieces by more than 60 San Diego students.

Find the museum in the Casa de Balboa building, at 1649 El Prado. 619-238-7559. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Museum of Art, "Everett Gee Jackson/San Diego Modern, 1920-1955," is retro-

spective of "San Diego's most important Modernist artist." Exhibit featuring more than 50 works spanning most significant and productive decades of artist's career "presents a representative range of Jackson's multifaceted work, while contextualizing Jackson within the broader scope of mid-20th Century American modernism." Closes Sunday, January 27.

"Animated Painting," continuing through Sunday, January 13, boasts "25 cinematic works by 14 international contemporary artists who adapt traditional painting and drawing methods to the concepts and technologies of animation." Participating artists include the Barnstormers, Sadie Benning, Jeremy Blake, Sebastián Díaz Morales, Kota Ezawa, Ruth Gómez, William Kentridge, Ann Lislegaard, Takeshi Murata, Serge Onnen, Julian Opie, Wit Pimkanchanapong, Qiu Anxiong, and Robin Rhode.

"Tastes in Asian Art," continuing through Sunday, November 25, features over 80 new works, many of which have never been displayed before. Highlights include new subsection of sculptures of *lohans* (enlightened monks), newly restored Chinese ancestor portraits, a screen of samurai warriors, an elaborate deck devoted to Tibetan art featuring bronze sculptures, furniture, 18th-Century shrine doors.

"Lyric Visions from Nezami's *Quintet*" includes more than 20 paintings created for or inspired by Nezami's texts, "among the most celebrated and influential poetic works in all of Persian literature." Paintings range in date from 15th to 20th Centuries. Closes Sunday, December 16.

For further information, call 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

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	Basics of Gregorian Chant
11:00	Learning the responses and Ordinary of the Mass
12:00	Lunch
1:00	Degrees of participation
1:30	Learning chant hymns
3:00	Mass
4:15	Q & A Panel Discussion

The Workshop aims to familiarize people with the chanted responses and Ordinary prayers sung during the Mass.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to learn a few beloved chant hymns.

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Registration Fee: \$15 per person, \$25 family rate

Coffee and snacks will be provided.

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To register, please email Mary Ann at ilmacarr@yahoo.com.

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IMPENDING DOOM
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SAT. NOV 17

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Calendar

MUSIC SCENE

The Reader offers \$25 for news tips published in *Blurt*. Call us at 619-235-3000, ext. 456, or e-mail your tip to blurt@sdreader.com

Me and the Alien Couple “I’m breaking up with you guys, dumping you in the gutter, and jumping your sinking doomed ship on

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

receive as much crowd support as he did.

“Rumor 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 booed 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 Tempel’s 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

early to mid-’90s] that aired in San Diego late at night,” explains Eric Nielsen (also of Maquiladora and Buzz or Howl). “She would channel the ascended masters and go into these trance chant



PROPHET’S DISTURBINGLY BEAUTIFUL PULSE

sessions. They were sure that the end of the world was coming, and they dug into the earth to build these huge fallout shelters [mainly in Montana, but one was built in Santee].”

Prophet’s church doctrine includes fairies, elves, mysticism, alchemy, and paranormal beliefs. According to bandmember Keith Boyd, *fluctuat nec mergitur* means “She is tossed by the waves but is not sunk.” The track includes samples of Clare Prophet’s voice.

“There is a disturbingly beautiful pulse she develops as her prayers progress, which is both mechanical and organic,” says Boyd. “Her sermons dealt with the rules and methods of obtaining and developing spiritual power. We ran the samples alongside

a field recording of insects, as they share this combination of sonic elements. We also felt the hive mind aspect of the cults and bugs were a perfect mirror to each other.

“California and cults have a connection that goes deep into the fabric of what makes this state what it is,” says Boyd. “California is a blank slate for an endless parade of fools, seers, crackpots, and healers.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

The Pompous Plant

Rumors are flying that Led Zeppelin may be preparing to tour again. 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 attendee 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



ZEP IN THE '70S

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

the inside track

blurt

its destined voyage to hell,” wrote Poway High teacher Luke Wientzen to 91X. He

himself said onstage that the top-three finalists would be selected based on crowd



GENIUS COSTUME?

THE WINNER BY A HEAD (AND THEN SOME)

feels his costume was snubbed at the station’s October 30 contest at House of Blues.

Wientzen says he “went all out” on his costume so he could win the \$1000 prize. “I was a genie on a flying carpet.

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

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ALL AGES **DECEMBER 1**

Calendar
MUSIC SCENEblurt
continued

hands 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 Mendoza

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 Joe'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 start to record, Caleb sets 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 our 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. Olmos now plays with singer/songwriter/guitarist Matt Sundstedt in an all-original Oasis-like trio.

When contacted, Wilborn and Brown said they did not want to comment on the episode.

"When you mix music and business, sometimes it falls flat on its face," says Olmos, who suggests bands get a checking account that requires two signatures; the Free to Burn account was set up so that each member could sign checks. "Or better yet, get an accountant or band manager that has no relationship with anyone in the band to handle the money."

— Ken Leighton

Comics and Musicians Don't Get Along

The upstairs tenants who forced Twigg's to cease live music in February have left the building, says Twigg's former music coordinator John Ciccolella. But the music won't be coming back to the University Heights coffeehouse.

"It's no secret Twigg's is moving," says Ciccolella. He says it's unclear whether the new Twigg's will have music after it moves "...down the block and around the corner."

When Twigg's ended its five-night-a-week live-music series, Ciccolella started booking acoustic shows across the street at the Mueller College of Holistic Studies. He's been hosting live shows there every Friday and Saturday since March.

The weekend shows at the

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new venue, he says, "...have not been as successful" as they were at Twigg's, but he hopes the resurrection of a Wednesday open-mike night at Mueller College will bring back some of the old Twigg's mojo.

"When the Twigg's open



DAMIGO RECRUITED TO HOST

mike closed, a lot of local musicians left the circuit," says singer/songwriter Josh Damigo. Ciccolella recruited Damigo to host the new Wednesday open-mike series that started last week. Damigo says open-mike participants will sign up at Twigg's to play across the street.

Whereas comics were not welcome at Twigg's in the past, Ciccolella says, "Right now we'll take everything." If the open mike becomes top heavy with comics, "We may have to reevaluate; comics and musicians don't get along."

Previous hosts of the Twigg's open-mike nights have included Jeff Berkley, Tim Mudd, Jefferson Jay, and Carlos Olmeda. Damigo says the open-mike host gets paid from the tip jar.

"People don't tip much [at open mikes]." He says a host can expect to take home between \$20 and \$50 for a night of dealing with musicians who are all maneuvering for a good time slot.

"If you are a host, you definitely get a lot of people who want to get on your good side," says Damigo. "But it doesn't work that way here." Damigo says performers at his open mike get their ten-minute slots by way of a random drawing held before the show begins at 8:30 p.m.

— Ken Leighton

Hitched 'n Swaddlin'

Regular rockabilly shows in San Diego have diminished during the past decade. The Screamin' Solo Flights (featuring Omar Romero), the

Hooligans, and Rip Carson used to rock and bop regularly at Tio Leo's and other venues around town. With Hot Rod Lincoln front man Buzz Campbell currently on guitar with Lee Rocker, that band isn't jamming as often.

Since March, though, the "Rockabilly Shake Out," has attracted touring and homegrown bands. The event, which began at Chasers in City Heights, is now held the first Friday of every month at Tio Leo's in Linda Vista.

"We showcase two to three bands," says promoter and deejay Julian "Juliancito" Vasquez. "We're trying to get people to dance and to get back into rockabilly."

Vasquez attributes the decline in the San Diego rockabilly scene to "a lot of bands breaking up and moving out of town, people getting married, and just getting older. Having kids really hampers partying on the weekend."

Another venue with a regular rockabilly night is Henry's Pub, downtown. The Stiletos play covers every Tuesday night (for free) until the bar closes.

The next Shake Out at Tio Leo's is set for December 7.

— J. Michael Niotta

Rock 'n Roll Doctor

When Ozzy Osbourne plays the Sports Arena on Tuesday, November 20, the venue "must have a real ear, nose, and throat doctor on site [and] must be able to administer if required a B12 shot and Decadron (anti-



THE OZZMAN PERSEVERES

inflammatory) shot." An oxygen tank must be available from load-in. At this writing, Atlas Tickets on Kemper Boulevard is selling a pair of front-row seats for \$590. (From thesmokinggun.com.)

— Jay Allen Sanford

CONTRIBUTORS

William Crain, Dave Good, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemmingson, Ken Leighton, Ryan Loyko, Derek Plank, Eric Rife, Jay Allen Sanford, David Stampone

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Hot Rod Lincoln	Nov. 17	5pm	Rising Star	Nov. 24	5pm
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This Week In Music

Thursday 15

Soma kids will get a taste of dad's hardcore tonight as **Misfits, D.I.,** and **Agent Orange** rain down on the Sports Arena theater. Original Misfit Jerry Only — he was the dude with the tidal wave mohawk — resurrected Danzig's horror-punk band in 1995. After several personnel changes, bassist Only, Black Flag guitarist Dez Cadena, and a drummer named Robo have kept the punk-scene favorites on the road and tour this year in celebration of the Misfits' 30th anniversary. Only has released three studio discs under the Misfits moniker and has another slated for early '08. Agent Orange and D.I. made their name round L.A. surf and skate scenes and were branded "skatecore" by fans such as Tony Hawk, who has used the bands' music in his video game series. Fathers and sons moshing together — it brings a tear.... Japanese rapper **Lyrics Born** made his trade as producer/collaborator over an active decade in Oakland's underground rap scene. In 2003, L.B. as solo artist dropped a flop called *Later That Day*. In '05, with the aid of former collaborators KRS One and Dan the Automator, L.B. remixed the disc calling it *Same !@# \$ Different Day*, which was released on rap label Quannum. The remix was a commercial 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 **Kneehighs** 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. Pall Jenkins) will headline the November birthdays show at Casbah, which also features country rock-n-soul sots **Bartender's Bible**.

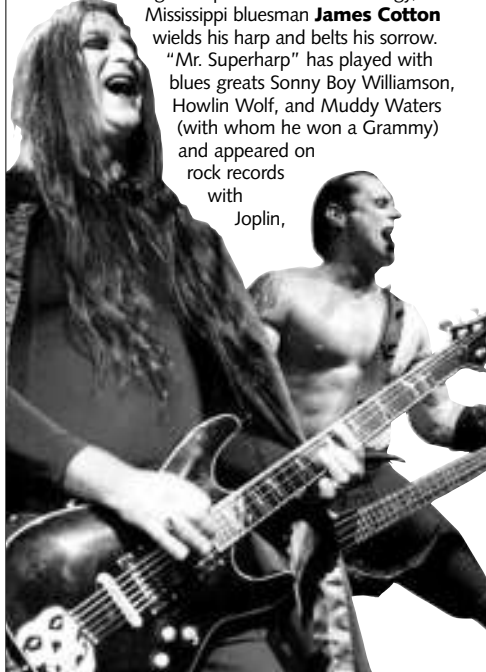
Friday 16

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 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 sharkskin 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 'Canes. The quintet's touting this year's funkified *Insomnia*.... While Mira Mesa's all-age Epicentre hosts East Coast experimentalists the **Annals** and indie-pop act **Manchester Orchestra**.

Saturday 17

Spell 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,



MISFITS, SOMA

Mississippi bluesman **James Cotton** wields 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, 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 in at 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 *Upfront and*

Down Low for a taste. From the sounds, **Teddy Thompson's** a chip off his parents' block.... Soma hosts a MySpace event featuring grassroots (net-roots?) comers **Say Anything, HelloGoodBye,** and **Polysics** — the Japanese Devo.... I'll be at Tower Bar, howev., checking in on ramblin' man troubador **Diablo Dimes** and **MEX**, aka the Mario Escovedo Xperience. I guess ex-Dragon Escovedo's still got that rock-roll greeze under his nails.

Sunday 18

Rock-and-soul guitarist/singer **Ben Harper** and his **Innocent Criminals** appear at the Civic Theatre downtown. The San Fran rockstar has been *Rolling Stone's* artist of the year (2003) 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* (2005), that should apprise you of the, uh, sincerity the dude brings to performances. 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 disc *Leaves in the River*. Walks and talks like Decemberists; sounds like Eels. The six-piece will split a Belly Up bill with **Dios Malos**, a Hawthorne, CA-based band that's drawing comparisons to wispy West-Coasters Grandaddy and Radar Brothers. Local accordion folkies **Old Man Hands** open. That's a solid Sunday-night triple bill, ya'll.... Grunge throwbacks **Puddle of Mudd** tout a new one, *Famous* (?!), at House of Blues.

Monday 19

Christmas is coming earlier and earlier: Heavy metal choir **Trans Siberian Orchestra** board their seasonal folderol at Cox Monday night. These New York composers, singers, and players have made a name with kids of all ages by jamming stacks with their rock-operatic renditions of traditional holiday fare..... Long live the queen! **Queen Latifah** graces California Center for the Performing Arts with her soulful rap. The Newark native has garnered nominations for Grammys, Emmys, and Academy Awards — girlfriend loves the limelight! The Queen's September release, *Trav'lin' Light*, has charted top ten.... For the heavy-metal challenged among you, **Amon Amarth** is one of the heaviest metal bands out there. "Out there" being the key. Ready? The Swedish quintet is named after a place in Tolkien's Middle Earth — Mount Doom. Their conceptual records are based on Norse mythology, and they fashion themselves as Vikings on stage. According to my neighbor Blunt (no kidding), it's all about the synchronized headbanging — band,

crowd, bartenders, doormen, stage hands. No one's safe. **Himsa** and **Sonic Syndicate** open Monday's House of Blues heaviness.

Tuesday 20

After a decade of fronting eight(!) different bands, including the seminal garage-punk akt the Reatards, **Jay Reatard** has found himself. Literally — last year the Memphis synthpunk singer/songwriter released his first solo disc, *Blood Visions* (In The Red). Catch the multi-instrumentalist at Bar Pink Elephant. Connect the dots: Jay Reatard



JAY REATARD, PINK ELEPHANT

(then 15-year-old Jay Lindsay) discovered his hankering for punk rock at a 1998 Rocket from the Crypt show. Too easy?... Boasting ex-members of Pantera (including frontman Phil Anselmo), Corrosion of Conformity, and Crowbar, **Down** fancies itself a heavy metal supergroup. It's all Southern-flavored stoner rock on their third Warner disc, *Down III: Over the Under*, though press packs suggest it's the New Orleans band's "Katrina record." The quintet gets down at House of Blues Tuesday night.... Is it metal week or somethin'?

Ozzie and Rob Zombie rawk like night of the living dead at Sports Arena.

Wednesday 21

Did Death From Above 1979 split or is Jesse Keeler just gettin' his DJ on with **MSTRKRFT**? The Toronto-based electronic dance duo — Keeler and soundsmith/producer Al-P — will mash it up on turntables and laptops at 4th&B Wednesday, when the downtown club hosts a bevy of like bands. Check out all this bold type: **Lazaro Cassanova, Shark Attack, Kid Lightning,** and **Buddy Akai**. Sounds like a frat party.... San Diego's favorite ska punks **Buck-O-Nine** will play their annual Thanksgiving gig at Belly Up. This year the Bucks dropped their ninth studio disc, *Sustain*. The reggae-flava'd **Social Green** will toast the room.... L.A. party-boy rapper **Mickey Avalon** rocks the mic at Belo. The club kid propped his s/t debut on MySpace last year, and it's since been picked up by Interscope for hardcopy product placement. I'm sorry, I couldn't think of any other way to say that.... Casbah throws a free Thanksgiving eve **Jivewire + One Nation Under a Groove** joint feat. dance DJs **Bart Blackstone, Atari,** and **T-Money**. See you at the taco cart.

— Barnaby Monk

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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 Cheong 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*. "I like her older albums better than her newer ones. *Little Earthquakes* is one of my favorite albums of all time, but this one also has so many beautiful melodies on it. Tori can sing a song with attitude and soul like no one else."
2. Vienna Teng, *Dreaming through the Noise*. "Her music takes you somewhere, transports you. Her songs tell a story, and you are drawn into it as soon as you hear the first notes."

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."

LISTS

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

DESERT-ISLAND DVDs?

1. *Hilary and Jackie*. "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."
2. *Reality Bites*. "Best slacker movie ever."
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 uncensored quality — to it."
4. *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless 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 random topics."

FAVORITE DEAD CELEBRITY?

Elliot Smith, because of his songs. I wish he weren't so miserable when he was alive. I al-



Brenda Xu

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?

Too Much Magic, which was about these kids who stumbled upon some magical powers. My uncle, who I grew up with, made me do a book report on it."

FAVORITE MAGAZINES?

"I don't subscribe to any at the moment, but I used to read *Rolling Stone* religiously. 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."

MOST VISITED WEBSITES?

"I have to say MySpace, even though some people think it's a cult. It's a good place to find new music that isn't played on the radio and a great marketing tool for musicians."

TOP GUILTY PLEASURES?

1. "Watching reality shows like *America's Next Top Model*."
2. "Eating chocolate cheesecake."
3. "Playing covers of pop songs."

MAC OR PC?

"I use a PC, but I'm getting a Mac for my next computer because they are so damn cute, which is the most important factor to consider when purchasing any kind of technological equipment." ■

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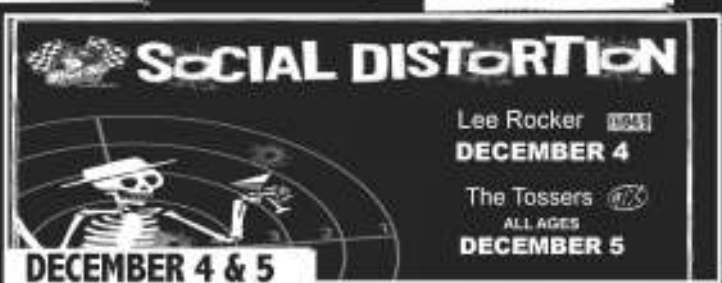
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Calendar CONCERTS

Marc Cohn and **Amy Correia:** Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, December 8, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

The Aquabats: Soma, Saturday, December 8, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Eek-A-Mouse: 'Canes, Saturday, December 8, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

"Star 94.1 Jingle Ball" with Matchbox 20, Duran Duran, Lenny Kravitz, and Vanessa Carlton: San Diego Sports Arena, Sunday, December 9, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Angels and Airwaves and **Bad Religion:** Cox Arena, Sunday, December 9, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

Jonathan Davis: House of Blues, Monday, December 10, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Modest Mouse: Soma, Monday, December 10, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Fuel and **Trapt:** Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room, Monday, December 10, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Tori Amos: Copley Symphony Hall, Wednesday, December 12, 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-235-0804.

Cowboy Mouth: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, December 12, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

The Melvins: The Casbah, Wednesday and Thursday, December 12 and 13, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Mannheim Steamroller: San Diego Sports Arena, Thursday, December 13, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

The Knitters: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, December 13, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

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

Etta James: 4th & B, Friday, December 14, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Dave Koz: Copley Symphony Hall, Friday, December 14, 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-235-0804.

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

Jim Kweskin and **Geoff Muldaur:** AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, December 15, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Venice: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, December 20, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Shiny Toy Guns: House of Blues, Friday, December 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

The Kottonmouth Kings: House of Blues, Saturday, December 22, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Peter White: Spreckels Theatre, Saturday, December 22, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500.

K.C. & the Sunshine Band: 4th & B, Saturday, December 29, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Pato Banton: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, December 29, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Cracker and **Camper Van Beethoven:** Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, December 30, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

The Aggrolites: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, December 31, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Reverend Horton Heat: House of Blues, Monday, December 31, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

I thought *Sing You Sinners* was a fearless gesture, given **Erin McKeown's** catalog of funky, hip-hoppy (and sometimes countrified) folk/punk/swing. She belongs to that musical no-fit genre in which folk has been included for so long now that hardly anybody notices anymore except for the critics who have a need to categorize such things. *Sinners* is a departure, a compilation of covers of Tin Pan Alley and Broadway gold from the '30s, '40s, and '50s, the kind of material done by artists such as Rosemary Clooney or Judy Garland. I like it not because I have an affinity for that generation but because McKeown hasn't the chops to do the material — and yet she pulls it off.

McKeown's a Virginian, barely 30, and claims not to have grown up a sycophant of pop culture. She's an ethnomusicologist, has a bachelor's degree in it. This detail is offered as background, not as an apology for her creations that become more elaborate as time passes. At her best, McKeown is a student of personalities: "I don't say it I imply it/ I'm the queen of quiet/ What kind of lover am I?" She illuminates character types that you know, or feel as though you know, or know and wish you didn't. "Every time she sees a movie," McKeown sings, "she thinks it's about her. Every time she hears a song, she thinks it's about them."

I like the rich possibilities in McKeown's voice and the true punk tradition in which she declines to exploit them. She keeps her singing just left of center and reveals her protagonists in song by putting them into delicious situations that beg resolution: "You



ERIN McKEOWN

know my secret/ Somebody told you, didn't they?/ I can tell by your voice/ And in the way we are awkward." McKeown is bigger than a singer/songwriter. She is a novelist with a guitar.

ERIN McKEOWN, AcousticMusicSan-Diego, Saturday, November 17, 7:30 p.m. 619-303-8176. \$18 or \$22.

JANUARY

Skid Row and **L.A. Guns:** House of Blues, Thursday, January 10, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Xavier Rudd: House of Blues, Friday, January 11, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

The Blue Man Group: San Diego Sports Arena, Friday, January 11, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Al Kooper: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Wednesday, January 16, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Twista: 'Canes, Wednesday, January 16, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Pat Green: 4th & B, Friday, January 18, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Fu Manchu: The Casbah, Friday, January 18, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Tower of Power: Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room, Sunday, January 20, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

FEBRUARY

Robin Trower: 4th & B, Tuesday, February 5, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

The Wallflowers: Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room, Saturday,

February 9, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Jimmy Webb: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, February 9, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Styx: House of Blues, Saturday, February 16, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Queensrÿche and **Don Dokken:** House of Blues, Thursday, February 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

MARCH

RBD: San Diego Sports Arena, Saturday, March 1, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Blind Boys of Alabama: Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, March 9, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

APRIL

Avril Lavigne: Cox Arena, Wednesday, April 30, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

JUNE

The Cure: Cox Arena, Tuesday, June 3, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 & 27 MASTERPIECE 6:30-11:00 PM	WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21 & 28 <i>The Soul Revue</i> 6:30-11 PM

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BATTALION OF SAINTS

Thursday, November 15 JOHNNY DIFFERENT ORANGE • CIVET HOMELESS SEXUALS SHEA'S REBELLION	Friday, November 23 BLUESPRING AQUA TRIBE WENDY BAILEY BAND
Friday, November 16 JUST LIKE JENNA SOUNDSCAPE • WFO	Sunday, November 25 TORE BACK • HEMLOCK ETCHED IN STONE
Saturday, November 17 KASTLE CREEPS TIDEPOOL DR. NIX & BRANDISH OSAL 8	Wednesday, November 28 LUKAS ROSSI <i>(Winner of Rockstar Supernova)</i> THE MATERIAL ELECTRIC MISTRIS OPPORTUNE TIME BLACK CHERRY
Sunday, November 18 ListenlocalSD.com presents "ACOUSTIC ALLIANCE" KURT VATLAND MATTHEW BLAKE JESSE BOWEN TIM FLANNERY PETE STEWART Visit website for more information.	Thursday, November 29 CRASH ANTHEM KURT VATLAND SCARLET HAZE
12/22 Shot Out Hoods Christmas Special • 12/28 Supersuckers	Friday, November 30 DR. KNOW THE RESENTMENTS THE LUGERS BLOOD STAINED REALITY NEVERLAND RANCH HANDS

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Calendar

CLUBS

DANCE

If you would like to include your DJ event, e-mail sellis@nethere.com or submit a listing online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the music section. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. The listings are free.

Air Conditioned: Wednesdays, *Club Nigel*, Steve West and DJ SG spin the '80s. Thursdays, *Too Cool for School*, old-school hip-hop, and '80s. Fridays, rare groove, funk, and disco. Saturdays, *Juicy*, classic booty-shakin' music. Sundays, guest DJ night. Mondays, *House of Rep*, hip-hop, funk, and soul. 4673 30th Street, North Park. 619-501-9831.

Beauty Bar: Fridays, *Feel the Noise*, electronic dance rock beats. 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, Talmadge. 619-516-4746.

Brass Rail: Third Thursday of the month, *Pussy Galore*, live bands with DJ Robin Roth spinning electro, indie, and '80s. Second Friday of the month, *Club Fashion Whore*, fashion show and discotheque. Fourth Friday of the month, *Sabbat*, '80s retro night with DJs Harlot, Liquid Grey, and guests. 3796 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-298-2233.

Candelas: Thursdays, deep soulful house by DJ ALA and guests. 416 Third Avenue, downtown. 619-702-4455.

Club Rio: Wednesdays, *Hot Wednesdays*, dancehall, ragga, and R&B. 9 p.m. 1299 Camino del Rio South, Mission Valley. 619-843-7400. @bold:The Flame: Second and fifth Saturday of the month, *Sabbat*, gothic, industrial, and dark '80s with DJs Robin Roth and Adam Atom. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. 3780 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest. 619-295-4163.

Inferno Young Adult Nightclub:
Fridays and Saturdays, DJ Kool T spins Top 40, techno, and '80s. Sunday, *Super Sunday Jam* featuring DJ Dizzy D. Wednesday, guest DJs spin hip-hop, R&B, and Top 40. 9 p.m. to 1:15 a.m., high school students and up. 775 Metcalf Street, Escondido. 760-741-1271.

Kadan: First Saturday of the month, *BrokenBeat Night*, live electronic, crunk, and glitch hop. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. No cover. 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

The Kava Lounge: First Saturday of the month, *Ascension*, underground dance music with DJs Robin Roth and Tom King. Wednesdays, *Mixtape Sessions*, hip-hop, downtempo, and breakbeat with DJs Mada and Ricky Wracks. No cover. 2812 Kettner Boulevard, Middletown. 619-543-0933.

Mission Valley Resort: Thursdays (18 and up) and Fridays (21 and up), *La Maraca*, merengue, cumbia, and reggaeton. 9 p.m. 875 Hotel Circle South, Mission Valley. 619-298-8281.

Moondoggies Pacific Beach:
Saturdays, *What's Good* with DJs Enigma
and Cisco. Hip-hop, R&B, and Top 40.
9 p.m. No cover. 832 Garnet Avenue,
Pacific Beach. 858-483-6550.

Shooterz: Wednesdays, *Funk It Up*, elektro, indie, and nu-rave with DJ Flyfx and guest. Thursdays, *Club '80s*, new wave, punk, and synth-pop with DJs Bryan Pollard, Sickboy, and Stern. First, third, and fifth Saturday of the month, *Therapy*, industrial, gothic, and elektronika. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. 3815 30th Street, North Park. 619-574-0744.

Static Lounge: First Friday of the month, *West Coast Mash Up*, drum 'n' bass, jungle, and ragga. Fourth Friday of the month, *Club Pop Noir*, electro, '80s, and indie with DJ Groundfloor and Edgartronic. 634 Broadway (between Sixth and Seventh Avenue), downtown. 619-544-1609.

Tio Leo's: Thursdays, zydeco dance with DJ Gator Boy. 8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. 5302 Napa Street, Morena District. 619-542-1462.

Whiskey Girl: Fridays and Saturdays, DJ Marc Thrasher mixes music videos. Sundays, *10 Spot Sundays*, DJ Famous Dave mixes video requests. Mondays, *Manic Mondays*, DJ Marc Thrasher mixes '80s and '90s videos. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, DJ Famous Dave mixes

music videos. 9 p.m.; 21 and up. 600
Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-236-1616.

CLUBS BY AREA

If you wish to submit a listing, call 619-235-3000, ext. 405, night or day by 5 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 760-788-1309 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the music section.

BEACHES

Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Beach. 858-488-0551. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Adrienne Nims and Spirit Wind*, global jazz. Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 9 p.m. to midnight, *John Cain*, international/jazz/blues/Latin/pop/standards.

Bar Leucadian, 1542 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia. 760-753-2094. Friday and Saturday, live rock.

Blue Parrot, 4993 Niagara Avenue, Suite 103, Ocean Beach. 619-222-1722. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 7 p.m., *John Tafolla and Friends*, guitar and vocals.

The Calypso Cafe, 576 North Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-632-8252. Live music nightly.

'Canes, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780. Thursday, 9 p.m., *Melvin Seals*, *JBG*, and *Cubensis*, rock. Friday, *Hed(pe)*, *the Phunk Junkeez*, and *Conspiracy of Thought*, alternative rock. Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Dirty Heads*,

OPM, *One Drop, the Stone Senses*, and Noiz, rock/reggae.

Dreamstreet, 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-8131. Thursday, 4 p.m., *Fighting for Nineveh* and *Alicia Gatto*, alternative rock. Friday, 4 p.m., *the Wrecking Dead*, *Tainted Society*, and *My Laughing Face*, alternative rock. Saturday, 4 p.m., *Sladd*, *Six Reasons*, *One Theory*, and *Beneath the Burial*, alternative rock.

E Street Cafe, 128 E Street, Encinitas. 760-230-2038. Friday, 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Veronica May*. Saturday, 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Zen Boy and Karma Girl*.

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Calendar CLUBS

BEACHES

(continued)

Gallagher's Pub and Grill, 5046 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach. 619-222-5300. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, live music.

Hennessey's Tavern (PB), 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 858-483-8847. Friday and Saturday, live music.

The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-6483. Thursday, 3 EZ Pieces, jazz. Friday, *the Salt Lickers*, rock. Saturday, *Funky Pox*, rock. Wednesday, *Jeff Moore and the Witchdoctors*, blues.

La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-454-0771. Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., also, Sunday and Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., *Rick Ross*, piano/jazz.

The Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla. 619-453-4420. Grill: Friday and Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Mike Nelson*, solo jazz guitar.

Portugalia, 4839 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach. 619-222-7678. Tuesday, 9 p.m., open mike hosted by *Jeffrey Gottlieb*.

710 Beach Club, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Thursday, *Elephants in Mud and Irration*, reggae. Friday, *the Stepping Feet*, jam band. Saturday, *Dazed and Confused* with *Dust n' Bones*, rock. Wednesday, *Lexington*, reggae.

Shooters Bar and Grill, Radisson Hotel, 3299 Holiday Court, La Jolla. 858-453-5500. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *John Cain*, international jazz/blues/Latin/pop/standards.

Thrusters, 4633 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach. 858-483-6334. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Modern Day Moonshine*, soul/rock/reggae.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Thursday, *Local Listen Showcase*. Friday, *the Nards*, rock. Saturday, *the Mississippi Mudsharks*, blues. Sunday, open mike. Wednesday, *Canon Ball*, rock.

Turquoise Cafe, 873 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach. 858-488-4200. Thursday, jazz trio. Friday, jazz quartet. Saturday, Latin jazz. Sunday, eclectic/world music. Monday, *Chill Vibe*, jazz. Tuesday, flamenco. Wednesday, blues.

Winstons, 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-6822. Thursday, 9 p.m., *Game Day and the International Farmers*, alternative rock. Friday, 9 p.m., *Kush and Blood Fiyah Angels*, reggae. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Alfred Howard and the K23 Orchestra*, jazz. Monday, 9 p.m., *the Electric Waste Band*, classic rock. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *Destructo Bummy*, rock. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *Vegetation and Mojow and the Vibration Army*, reggae.

DOWNTOWN

Anthology, 1337 India Street, San Diego. 619-595-0300. Thursday, *the Average White Band*. Friday, *Little Charlie and the Night Cats*, blues. Saturday, *James Cotton*, blues. Sunday, *Brian Bromberg's Downright Upright*, jazz. Wednesday, *Eric Alexander and Jimmy Mulidore*, jazz.

Belo, 919 Fourth Street, Gaslamp. 619-231-9200. Wednesday, 10:30 p.m., *Mickey Avalon*, punk/rap/funk.

Blarney Stone Pub, 502 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8519. Friday and Saturday, *Steve Brewer*, classic rock.

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-232-HELL. Music is rock/indie/alternative rock/punk. Thursday, *Mr. Tube and the Flying Objects and Bartender's Bible*. Friday, *Big Sandy and His Fly-Rite Boys*, *the Ghost Town Deputies*, and *the Boptones*. Saturday, *Spell Toronto*, *Crash Encore*, *the Silent Comedy*, and *Calico Horse*. Sunday, *Fing*, *Wendy Bailey*, and *Lindsey Cook*. Monday, *Firethorn*, *Hollywood Begg*, *Nautical Disaster*, and *Bamboo Rock*. Tuesday, *Uh Huh Her*, *Qu'est-ce Que C'est*, and *Addiquit*. Wednesday, *livewire* and *One Nation under a Groove*.

NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

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 in 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

quiet numbers like “Ses Monuments” from the EP *Get 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, hippie-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,



SEA WOLF

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.

SEA WOLF, Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, November 18, 8 p.m. 858-481-8140. \$6.

Club Montage, 2028 Hancock Street, Balboa Park. 619-294-9590.

Croce's Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. All music is jazz unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Dave Patrone*. Friday, *Yavez*. Saturday, *Primo*. Sunday, *the Archtones*. Monday, *Dave Scott*. Tuesday, *the Shep Meyers Quartet*. Wednesday, *Fuzzy and the Bluesmen* or *Sue Palmer*.

Dakota Grill and Spirits, 901 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-234-5554. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, contemporary piano.

Dick's Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-9100. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, live rock/blues. Tuesday, Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Dregs of Sada*, rock. Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Private Domain*, rock.

Dizzy's (Harbor Club Towers at Second and J Street), 200 Harbor Drive, San Diego. 858-270-7467. Thursday, 8 p.m., *the Nathan Hubbard Octet*, jazz.

Dublin Square, 554 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-239-5818. Sunday, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., *Adrienne Nims and Raggle Taggle*, Celtic/Irish folk. Monday, 8 p.m., *Austin Jennings*, acoustic pop/soul.

4th & B, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343. Wednesday, *MSTRKRFT*, *Lazaro Casanova*, *Shark Attack*, *Kid Lightning*, and *Buddy Akai*.

G5-Georges on Fifth, 835 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-702-0444. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, *Tom Barabas*, pianist.

Henry's Pub, 618 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-238-2389. Thursday, *the Flock of 80's*. Friday, *Good Times*.

Saturday, *Good Times*, classic rock. Tuesday, *the Stiletos*, rockabilly. Wednesday, *Lady Dottie and the Diamonds*, blues.

House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-299-2583. Thursday, 6 p.m., *Modern Day Moonshine*, soul/rock/reggae. Friday, *Shut Up Stella*, rock/pop/rap. Sunday, *Puddle of Mudd*, *Deepfried*, and *Cinder Road*, rock/alternative rock. Monday, *Amon Amarth*, *Himsa*, and *Sonic Syndicate*, death metal/metal/thrash. Tuesday, *Down*.

Jimmy Love's, 672 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G), downtown. 619-595-0123. Thursday and Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Masterpiece*, jazz/R&B. Friday, 9:45 p.m., *Crush*, disco/Top 40. Saturday, *Superfunk Fantasy*, dance/Top 40. Sunday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Mystique*, jazz/R&B. Monday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Insight*,

jazz. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Soul Revue*, dance/Top 40.

Martini Ranch, 528 F Street, downtown. 619-235-6100. Live music Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *Modern Day Moonshine*, soul/rock/reggae/funk.

Onyx, 852 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-235-6699. Tuesday, *Gilbert Castellanos*, jazz.

Patrick's II, 428 F Street, downtown. 619-233-3077. Music is blues/soul unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *the Bayou Brothers*. Friday, *the Fremonts*. Saturday, *Michele Lundeen and Blues Streak*. Sunday, *L.A. Jones*. Monday, *Blue Largo*. Tuesday, *Blue Four*. Wednesday, *Bill Magee Blues*.

Rock Bottom, 401 G Street, Gaslamp. 619-231-7000. Friday and Saturday, live pop/rock/disco/dance.

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Sevilla, 555 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-5979. Club Salsa: Thursday, *Orquesta Farandula*, salsa. Tuesday, *Orquesta Guarare*, salsa.

The Shout House, 655 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-231-6700. Rock and roll sing-along dueling pianos.

The Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue, downtown. 619-238-1818. The Plaza Bar: Monday through Friday, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., *the Prince of Piano*, piano/pop.

Evening Entertainment: Thursday and Friday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Fran Loskota*, pop/jazz. Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Karen Giorgio*, cabaret. Sunday and Monday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Julio de la Huerta*, Latin. Tuesday and Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Faith Page*, international/standards.

Whiskey Girl, 600 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-236-1616. Thursday, *DaGroove*, rock hits, and *DJ Marc Thrasher*. Friday and Saturday, *DJ Marc Thrasher*. Sunday, *DJ Famous Dave*. Monday, Manic Mondays with *DJ Thrasher*. Tuesday, *DJ Famous Dave*. Wednesday, *the Stepping Feet*, a Dave Matthews Band tribute, pop/rock, and *DJ Famous Dave*.

SAN DIEGO

AcousticMusicSanDiego, 4650 Mansfield Street, San Diego. 619-303-8176. Sunday, *Eliza Gilkyson*, folk.

The Aero Club, 3365 India Street, San Diego. 619-297-7211.

Albie's Beef Inn, 1201 Hotel Circle South, San Diego. 619-291-1103. Tuesday through Saturday, *David Timothy Smith*, piano bar.

American Legion Post 310, 465 47th Street, San Diego. 619-264-1919. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *the Post 310 Blues Band*. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Willovealot*, smooth jazz/funk.

The Bahia Belle Cruise, the Bahia Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Bay. 858-539-7779. Departs 6:30 p.m. Friday. *B Natural*, pop/Top 40. Saturday, blues band.

Blarney Stone Pub, 5617 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont. 858-279-2033. Music is Irish/folk. Thursday, *Harold and Gabe*. Friday, call club for information. Saturday, *Skelpin*. Tuesday, Irish jam session. Wednesday, *Robbie O'Reilly* or *Skelpin*.

Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley), 1072 Camino del Rio North, Mission Valley. 619-295-2201. Friday, 8 p.m., *Jane Lui*, pop piano.

Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-LIVE. Thursday, 8 p.m., *Orange, Civet, the Homeless Sexuals*, and *Shea's Rebellion*, rock/alternative. Friday, 8 p.m., *the Prism Band, Just Like Jenna, Soundscape*, and *WFO*, rock/alternative. Saturday, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., *Tidepool, Kastle Creeps*, and *OSAL 8*, hip-hop/electronica. Sunday, 8 p.m., *Kurt Vatland, Tim Flannery*, and *Pete Stewart*, acoustic rock.

Claire de Lune, 2905 University Avenue, North Park. 619-688-9845. Live acoustic/folk/jazz.

Etta's Place, 6179 University Avenue (at College and University). 619-582-6730. Live rock/swing.

The Gordon Biersch Brewery, 5010 Mission Center Road, San Diego. 619-688-1120. Saturday, *Blue Rockit*, blues/rock.

Humphrey's, Half Moon Inn, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-224-3577. Backstage Lounge: Thursday, 7 p.m., *the Vulgar Herd*; 8 p.m. to midnight, *the Band of Goodmen*, rock. Friday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Patty Zlaket*, original folk/rock; 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., *Makai*, dance/disco. Saturday, 12 noon to 6 p.m., "KCR Fire Benefit Concert," with *the Maddox Revolution, J-Downs, Jesse Johnson, Wendy Bailey*, and *the Long and Short of It*, rock; 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., *the Detroit Underground*, Motown/dance. Sunday, two performances, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. to midnight, *Reggie Smith*, jazz. Monday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Michele Lundeen*, blues. Tuesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Rockola*, classic rock. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Criminal Funk*, '80s dance.

The Imperial House, 505 Kalmia Street, San Diego. 619-234-3525. Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., *Rick Lyon*, pop standards/Top 40/variety.

In Cahoots, 5373 Mission Center Road, Mission Valley. 619-291-8635.

The Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848. Friday, *Transfer* and *Chango Malo*, rock.

Lestat's Coffee House, 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-282-0437. Music is acoustic/folk/roots. Thursday, *Chris Velan, Delancy*, and *Owen Plant*. Friday, *Paul Sprawl* and *Peter Bolland*. Saturday, 9 p.m., *the Flimz, Lisa Sanders*, and *Sara Petite*. Sunday, *Adam Levy, Amber Rubarth*, and *Rob Drabkin*. Wednesday, *Eric Ethan, For Fairweather*, and *Tim Bassett*.

Martini's Above Fourth, 3940 Fourth Avenue, San Diego. 619-293-

0232. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Vintage Vegas*, jazz.

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, 1310 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park. 619-276-5637. Friday, 9 p.m., *Kennedy's Curse*, indie. Saturday, 9 p.m., *the Bleeding Irish, Old Devil*, and *Etched in Stone*, rock/punk/Irish folk. Monday, 8 p.m., *Mystery Train*, blues. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *Ragdoll City* and *the Prism Music*, rock. Wednesday, *the Neverland Ranch Hands, DMF, Noisegod, Inciting Riots*, and *Tim Raldo*, punk/rock/hardcore.

The Ould Sod, 3373 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-6594. Friday,

live music. Tuesday, traditional Irish jam session.

Padre Gold, 7245 Linda Vista Road, San Diego. 858-277-8681. 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. 619-286-7873. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., *the Blues Invaders*, blues/swing.

Rosie O'Grady's, 3402 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-7666. Friday and Saturday, live rock.

San Diego Sports Club, 1271 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-299-7372. Live music.

Scolari's Office, 3936 30th Street, San Diego. 619-296-3546. Live indie/rock/alternative.

Second Wind, 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos. 619-465-1730. Friday and Saturday, *Serious Guise*, classic rock.

Soma, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-SOMA. Music is rock/indie/metal/punk. Thursday, 7 p.m., *the Misfits, Agent Orange*, and *D.I.* Friday, 7 p.m., *Too Pure to Die, Beneath*

the Sky, Whitechapel, Impending Doom, and *the Dajjal Persona*. Saturday, 7 p.m., *Say Anything, Hello Goodbye*, and *Polysics*. Sunday, 6 p.m., *Big D and the Kids Table, Whole Wheat Bread, the A.K.A.s, the Fabulous Rudies, Evil Petting Zoo*, and *the Dead Beat Babies*.

South Park Bar and Grill, 1946 Fern Street, San Diego. 619-696-0096. Thursday, *J.J. Lim's Jazz Jam*. Friday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Amelia Browning* and *the John Kopecky Trio*. Saturday, *Mia Jones and the Ko Trijecta*, R&B/Top 40/jazz. Sunday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Tim Ninnink* and *Doug Walker*, modern jazz.

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Calendar CLUBS

SAN DIEGO

(continued)

Tio Leo's, 10787 Camino Ruiz, Mira Mesa. 858-695-1461. Thursday, *Oh! Ridge*. Saturday, *Electric Soul*.

Tio Leo's Lounge, 5302 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-1462. Thursday, blues. Friday, *Joey Harris and the Tornado Magnets*, rock. Saturday, *Vintage*. Wednesday, *the High Society Jazz Band*.

Triple Crown Pub, 3221 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-281-0263. Saturday, *Happy Ron*, punk/blues.

NORTH COUNTY

The Alley, 421 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-434-1173. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, *the Love Rangers*, dance.

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022. Thursday, 9 p.m., *Lyrics Born*, *the Kneehighs*, and *Deep Rooted*, hip-hop. Friday, 9 p.m., *Deadline Friday* and *New Monsoon*, rock. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Suzanne Vega* and *Teddy Thompson*. Sunday, 8 p.m., *Sea Wolf*, *Old Man Hands*, and *Dios Malos*, rock. Monday, 8 p.m., *Ruby and the Red Hots*, *the Soul Persuaders*, *Rockola*, and *Ruby Blue*, blues/soul/rock. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *Buck-O-Nine* and *Social Green*, ska/reggae.

Bistro 221, 221 Grand Avenue, Escondido. 760-737-7398. Friday and Saturday, *Donnie Finnell and Company East*, standards and light jazz.

Boar Cross'n, 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-2899.

The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe, Flower Hill Mall, I-5 at Via de la Valle, Del Mar. 858-755-3735. Friday, 8 p.m., *the South Coast Duo*, jazz.

Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad), 1905 Calle Barcelona,

Carlsbad. 760-479-0242. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Skibbereen*, Irish folk.

Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain), 11160 Rancho Carmel Drive, Carmel Mountain. 858-618-1814. Friday, 8 p.m., *Tom Boyer*, acoustic. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Kama Linden*, folk.

California Center for the Arts, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 1-800-988-4253. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Clint Black*, country. Monday, 8 p.m., *Queen Latifah*, hip-hop.

Carvers, 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock.

Cheers, 2475 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-0270. Friday and Saturday, classic rock. Tuesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Mike Gardner*, acoustic rock/folk.

Chin's Palace, 2241 South El Camino Real, Oceanside. 760-439-3600. Sunday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Marc Logan*, jazz.

Coyote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Bozanni Brothers*, classic rock. Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Eight Twenty Band*, rock/Latin. Saturday, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., *Billy Watson*, harmonica blues, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Len Rainey and the Midnight Players*, blues. Sunday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., *Johnny "B" Blues*, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Jerome Dawson*, jazz. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Northstar*, classic rock.

Cuvee Restaurant, 2334 Carmel Valley Road, Del Mar. 858-259-5878. Monday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Sambajazz*, Brazilian and American jazz.

Epazote, 1555 Camino Del Mar (in the Del Mar Plaza), Del Mar. 858-259-9966. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Z-Bop*, jazz/swing/standards/blues.

The Flying Bridge, 1105 North Coast Highway, Oceanside. 760-722-1151. Sunday, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Z-Bop*, jazz.

Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad), 2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-6951. Thursday, 9 p.m., *the Clay Colton Band*, acoustic rock. Friday, *Lizard Fish*, rock. Saturday, *DJ Dam*.

Hensley's Flying Elephant Pub and Grill, 805 Tamarack Avenue,



Album: *Stay Awhile* (2007)

Artist: The Isam Band

Label: self-released

Where available/price: Lou's Records in Encinitas for \$9.99.

Online at isamband.com for \$12.

Songs: 1) Gypsy Girl 2) You Stole Their Hearts 3) Stay Awhile 4) When You're Close 5) I Wouldn't Mind Knowing 6) Birds Hover 7) Sweet Little Angel of Mine 8) Psychic Hotline 9) Showtime Baby 10) Fell In and Fallen 11) Fourteen Years 12) Louise 13) Whoever Brought You Near

Musicians: Isam Khoury (vocals, guitar), Bill Adams (vocals, harmonica), Paul Anderson (bass, guitar), Michael Singer (keyboard), Dave Santoro (drums, percussion), Peter Sprague (guitar), Tripp Sprague (saxophone, flute), Sara Anderson (vocals), Lauren Widney (vocals)

This CD is divided almost equally into three parts. The first few songs are happy, snappy piano tunes with a sprinkle of honky-

>hometown CDs

BY OLLIE

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 Americana, only the tempo

Carlsbad. 760-672-8305. Wednesday, 7 p.m., *Joe Wood and the Lonely Ones*, blues/rock.

The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo, Rancho Santa Fe. 858-756-1131. Thursday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Jerry Melnick*, jazz/variety piano.

It's a Grind, 631 South Rancho Santa Fe Avenue, San Marcos. 760-761-4839. Friday, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Len and Gayle*, acoustic.

J.J. Lander's Irish Pub, 125 Main Street, Fallbrook. 760-731-0839. Thursday and Saturday, 9 p.m., *Brehon Law*, Irish folk. Friday, 9 p.m., *Smug*, acoustic rock. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *Tim Lee*, acoustic rock. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *Fear the Fat Guy*.

The Jumping Turtle, 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos. 760-741-7778. Music is rock/alternative/metal. Friday, 8:30 p.m., *Project Cain*, *Dying Regret*, *the Desert Vikings*, and *a Dark Halo*. Tuesday, *'80s Night*.

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-ish 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 gravelly sweet, like your dad reading a bedtime story two days before Christmas. Even for the "soft rock" genre, this



The Isam Band

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.

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6646. Friday, 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the California Rangers*, country. Saturday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Fleetwood Max!*, Fleetwood Mac tribute band.

The Metaphor Coffeehouse, 258 East Second Avenue, Escondido. 760-489-8890. Saturday, 7:30 p.m., *the Shake Ups*, *the Midwinters*, *Josh Hagquist*, and *Rheanna Downey*, indie pop/alternative rock.

Mille Fleurs, 6009 Paseo Delicias, Rancho Santa Fe. 858-756-3085. Tuesday



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9:30 pm • Motown & Dance

Detroit Underground



Sunday, November 18

8 pm • Smooth Jazz

Reggie Smith



Monday, November 19

7 pm • Scorchin' Blues

Michele Lundeen

Wednesday, November 21

8 pm • '80s Dance

Criminal Funk

Tuesday, November 20

8 pm • Classic Rock

Rockola

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Saturday,
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Second Wind Bars **Free WiFi Internet**

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U-31 **2nd drink \$1**

through Sunday, *Mark Lessman*, jazz. Wednesday, piano.

Molly Malone's, 1270 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-9050. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m., *Rice Gone Wild*, classic rock.

North Bar Sports and Spirits, 200 West El Norte Parkway, Escondido. 760-480-8228. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Mike Gardner*, acoustic rock/folk.

Ocean House, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4131. Friday, 9 p.m., *the Moods*, rock. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Boogie Nights*, dance/Top 40. Sunday, salsa. Tuesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Cradit Union*, swing.

R. O'Sullivan's, 118 East Grand Avenue, Escondido. 760-737-0954. Thursday, 9 p.m., *Joe Wood and the Lonely Ones*, acoustic blues/rock. Sunday, 5 p.m., *the Clachan Boys*, Irish folk. Tuesday, 8:30 p.m., *Nate Donniss*, acoustic rock. Wednesday, 8:30 p.m., *the Clay Colton Band*, acoustic folk/rock.

Rancho Bernardo Inn, 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-675-8500. El Bizcocho Restaurant: Friday, 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., and Saturday, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Jerry Melnick* and *Tom Bishop*, jazz/variety.

Surf N'Saddle, 123 West Plaza Street (Lomas Santa Fe and Highway 101), Solana Beach. 858-755-9474. Saturday, 9:30 p.m., *Stevi Lynn and Triple Threat*, classic rock.

Tom Giblin's Irish Pub and Restaurant, 640 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-7234. Thursday, 8:30 p.m., *Tony Cummings*, Irish folk. Friday, 8:30 p.m., *Brehon Law*, Irish folk. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *the Clay Colton Band*, acoustic rock. Tuesday, 8:30 p.m., *Fear the Fat Guy*, acoustic rock. Wednesday, 8:30 p.m., *the Clachan Boys*, Irish folk.

SOUTH BAY/CORONADO

Buon Giorno Restaurant, 4110 Bonita Road, Bonita. 619-475-2660. Thursday, 7 p.m., *the Tokeli Jazz Trio*. Friday, 9 p.m., *Jesse Davis*, variety. Saturday, 9 p.m. to midnight, *Stage 4* or *Mikan and Friends*, R&B/jazz.

The Butcher Shop, 556 Broadway, Chula Vista. 619-420-9440. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Ray Correa*, standards/pop/Latin.

Hotel del Coronado, 1550 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-6611. Babcock and Story: Thursday through Sunday, 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Tony Lasley*, Latin jazz. Friday and Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Ray Briz*, pianist. Monday, 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Gonzo Gonzales*. Tuesday and Wednesday, *Jim Gibson*, guitarist.

1500 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 Briz*, pianist, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., *Ping Hu*, harpist.

Island Sports and Spirits, 104 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-3456. Friday, *the Stiletto's*, rockabilly. Saturday, *Ron's Garage*, classic rock.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill, 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-5280. Thursday, *Big City Shaman*, blues. Friday, *Mystique*, jazz/R&B. Saturday, *the Elevators*, blues. Sunday, *Jim Moore*, acoustic/folk. Monday, *Gene Warren*, Irish folk. Tuesday, *Jackson and Jesus*, acoustic. Wednesday, *Taylor Harvey*, acoustic rock.

EAST COUNTY

Ciao Bella Cafe, 5263 Baltimore Drive, La Mesa. 619-337-0238. Friday, 9 p.m., *the Zzymzzy Quartet*, jazz.

Dirk's Niteclub, 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove. 619-469-6344. Friday and Saturday, *Nemesis*, classic rock.

Don's Cocktail Lounge, 13321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon. 619-443-2444. Friday and Saturday, *the Tall Dudes*, rock/country.

Downtown Cafe, 182 East Main Street, El Cajon. 619-440-5687. Friday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Joey and the Stingrays*, classic rock/oldies/country.

Fannie's Nightclub, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-698-2204. Friday and Saturday, live rock/metal/punk.

Mulvaney's Wagon Wheel, 8861 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-448-8861. Friday and Saturday, country music.

Renegade Inn, 14335 Old Highway 80 (half mile east from Lake Jennings turnoff), Flynn Springs. 619-561-8105. Friday and Saturday, *Sundance*, country.

Second Wind, 8528 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-596-8350. Friday and Saturday, *5 Miles High*, classic rock.

Tommy's Italian Restaurant, 1190 North Second Street, El Cajon. 619-440-2676. Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Franco Z*, standards/swing/jazz.

Calendar BANDS

ALTERNATIVE

Agent Orange: Soma

Amon Amarth: House of Blues

Bamboo Rock: The Casbah

Bartender's Bible: The Casbah

Beneath the Burial: Dreamstreet

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: 'Canes

The Dajjal Persona: Soma

A Dark Halo: The Jumping Turtle

The Desert Vikings: The Jumping Turtle

d.fRost: 'Canes

D.I.: Soma

Rheanna Downey: The Metaphor Coffeehouse

Dying Regret: The Jumping Turtle

Evil Petting Zoo: Soma

Fighting for Nineveh: Dreamstreet

Fing: The Casbah

Alicia Grotto: Dreamstreet

Josh Hagquist: The Metaphor Coffeehouse

Hed(pe): 'Canes

Hello Goodbye: Soma

Himsa: 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

Lazaro Casanova: 4th & B

The Midwinters: The Metaphor Coffeehouse

The Misfits: Soma



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Calendar

BANDS

ALTERNATIVE

(continued)

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

Whitechapel: Soma

The Wrecking Dead: Dreamstreet

Zen Boy and Karma Girl: E Street Cafe

ROCK

Addiquit: The Casbah

Buddy Akai: 4th & B

The A.K.A.s: Soma

The Average White Band: Anthology

Wendy Bailey: Humphrey's

The Band of Goodmen: Humphrey's

The Boptones: The Casbah

The Bozanni Brothers: Coyote Bar and Grill

Brax: The Ould Sod

Steve Brewer: Blarney Stone Pub

Calico Horse: The Casbah

Canon Ball: Tiki House

Chango Malo: The Kensington Club

The CREDIT Union: Ocean House

Crash Encore: The Casbah

Criminal Funk: Humphrey's

Cubensis: 'Canes

Dazed and Confused: 710 Beach Club

The Dead Beat Babies: Soma

Deadline Friday: Belly Up Tavern

Deep Fried: House of Blues

Destructo Bunny: Winstons

The Detroit Underground: Humphrey's

Dios Malos: Belly Up Tavern

Dirty Heads: 'Canes

DMF: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Nate Donnis: R. O'Sullivan's

Down: House of Blues

The Dregs of Sada: Dick's Last Resort

Dust n' Bones: 710 Beach Club

The Eight Twenty Band: Coyote Bar and Grill

Electric Soul: Tio Leo's (Mira Mesa)

The Electric Waste Band: Winstons

Etched in Stone: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Firethorn: The Casbah

5 Miles High: Second Wind (Santee)

Fleetwood Max!: McCabe's Beach Club

Funky Pox: The Kraken

Game Day: Winstons

Mike Gardner: North Bar Sports and Spirits, Mas Fina Cantina

The Ghost Town Deputies: The Casbah

Good Times: Henry's Pub

Joey Harris and the Tornado Magnets: Tio Leo's Lounge

Hollywood Begg: The Casbah

The Homeless Sexuals: Brick By Brick

The International Farmers: Winstons

JBG: 'Canes

J-Downs: Humphrey's

Joey and the Stingrays: Downtown Cafe

Jesse Johnson: Humphrey's

Kid Lightning: 4th & B

Lizard Fish: Hennessy's Tavern (Carlsbad)

The Long and Short of It: Humphrey's

The Maddox Revolution: Humphrey's

as i hear it

BY BRIAN CARVER

Artist: **High Mountain Tempel**

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



Craig

It's very soundscape-y. It reminded me of the "star gate" sequence in *2001: A Space Odyssey*. Even the whole arc of the song seemed to fit that; it's just constantly rushing by — nothing too tangible. It was mainly instrumental. There were kind of ethereal vocals towards the end. It sounded like chanting. In a way, the music sounded a lot more chaotic and then sort of worked its way to a calmer place in the last couple of minutes. It sounded like it was working more with different synth sounds and feedback. There weren't any standard instruments; no drums, no bass. It would be something I'd throw on while I write. It sounded really good for what it was.

Artist: **Sheri Lopez**

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



Cameron

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 it all the way through if I was hanging out by myself.

Artist: **Moses One & Mannyfesto**

Song: **"Clockwork '06"** (from the CD *Foreign Eminence*)
Heard By: **Tariq Dehrab**, Linda Vista



Tariq

It's good. It's got a really nice underlying beat to it that's maybe similar to the Gorillaz. 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 it 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.

TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD HEARD, PLEASE MAIL IT TO:

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The Moods: Ocean House

The Nards: Tiki House

Nemesis: Dirk's Niteclub

The Neverland Ranch Hands: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

New Monsoon: Belly Up Tavern

Northstar: Coyote Bar and Grill

Oh! Ridge: Tio Leo's (Mira Mesa)

Old Devil: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Old Man Hands: Belly Up Tavern

One Theory: Dreamstreet

OPM: 'Canes

The Phunk Junkeez: 'Canes

The Prism Band: Brick By Brick

The Prism Music: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Private Domain: Dick's Last Resort

Qu'est Que C'est: The Casbah

Ragdoll City: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Tim Raldo: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Rice Gone Wild: Molly Malone's

Rockola: Humphrey's, Belly Up Tavern

Ron's Garage: Island Sports and Spirits

The Salt Lickers: The Kraken

Sea Wolf: Belly Up Tavern

Melvin Seals: 'Canes

Serious Guise: Second Wind (San Carlos)

Shark Attack: 4th & B

Shea's Rebellion: Brick By Brick

Shut Up Stella: House of Blues

Sledd: Dreamstreet

Smug: J.J. Lander's Irish Pub

Soundscape: Brick By Brick

Spell Toronto: The Casbah

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Calendar

BANDS

ROCK

(continued)

The Stepping Feet: 710 Beach Club, Whiskey Girl

Transfer: The Kensington Club

Triple Threat: Surf N'Saddle

The Vulgar Herd: Humphrey's

WFO: Brick By Brick

Whole Wheat Bread: Soma

Patty Zlaket: Humphrey's

POP / TOP 40

B Natural: Bahia Belle Cruise

Boogie Nights: Ocean House

Crush: Jimmy Love's

Jesse Davis: Buon Giorno Restaurant

The Flock of 80's: Henry's Pub

The Love Rangers: The Alley

Rick Lyon: The Imperial House

Makai: Humphrey's

David Timothy Smith: Albie's Beef Inn

The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love's

JAZZ / BIG BAND

Eric Alexander: Anthology

The Archtones: Croce's Jazz Bar

Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn

Brian Bromberg's Downright Upright: Anthology

Ray Briz: Hotel del Coronado

Amelia Browning: South Park Bar and Grill

Gilbert Castellanos: Onyx

Chill Vibe: Turquoise Cafe

Jerome Dawson: Coyote Bar and Grill

Donnie Finnell and Company East: Bistro 221

Jim Gibson: Hotel del Coronado

The High Society Jazz Band: Tio Leo's Lounge

Alfred Howard and the K23 Orchestra: Winstons

The Nathan Hubbard Octet: Dizzy's

Insight: Jimmy Love's

The Jazz Project Big Band: Padre Gold

The John Kopecky Trio: South Park Bar and Grill

Fran Laskota: The Westgate Hotel

Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado

Mark Lessman: Mille Fleurs

J.J. Lim's Jazz Jam: South Park Bar and Grill

Marc Logan: Chin's Palace

Masterpiece: Jimmy Love's

Kevin McCully: The Westgate Hotel

Jerry Melnick: The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, Rancho Bernardo Inn

The Shep Meyers Quartet: Croce's Jazz Bar

Mikan and Friends: Buon Giorno Restaurant

Jimmy Mulidore: Anthology

Mystique: McP's Irish Pub and Grill, Jimmy Love's

Mike Nelson: La Costa Resort and Spa, The Lodge at Torrey Pines

Adrienne Nims and Spirit Wind: Bahia Resort Hotel, La Costa Resort and Spa

Tim Ninnink: South Park Bar and Grill

Sue Palmer: Croce's Jazz Bar

Dan Papaila: The Lodge at Torrey Pines

Dave Patrone: Croce's Jazz Bar

Primo: Croce's Jazz Bar

The Prince of Piano: The Westgate Hotel

Rick Ross: La Valencia Hotel

Sambajazz: Cuvee Restaurant

Dave Scott: Croce's Jazz Bar

Reggie Smith and Pressed for Time: Humphrey's

The South Coast Duo: The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe

Stage 4: Buon Giorno Restaurant

3 EZ Pieces: The Kraken

The Tokeli Jazz Trio: Buon Giorno Restaurant

Vintage Vegas: Martini's Above Fourth

Doug Walker: South Park Bar and Grill

Willovealot: American Legion Post 310

Yavez: Croce's Jazz Bar

Z-Bop: The Flying Bridge, Epazote

Franco Z.: Tommy's Italian Restaurant

The Zzymzzy Quartet: Ciao Bella Caffé

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Buck-O-Nine: Belly Up Tavern

Elephants in Mud: 710 Beach Club

The Fabulous Rudies: Soma

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Kush and Jah Blood Fiyah Angels: Winstons

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Noiz: 'Canes

One Drop: 'Canes

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COUNTRY

Benchmark: Don's Cocktail Lounge

Clint Black: California Center for the Arts

The California Rangers: McCabe's Beach Club

Sundance: Renegade Inn

Yo, DJ!

Talk About a Star



The Average White Band plays Anthology tonight, November 15

Back in December of 1974, I was an average white player for the Modesto Junior College basketball team in Central California. My teammate Bill Wilson, a smooth-playing guard from the Brooklyn projects, had a surprise for me.

"Hey, Wolfie (the first of my many nicknames), check this out." From his eight-track player came the opening refrains of "Pick Up the Pieces," booming out of the giant speakers propped up on the backseat of his 1966 Cutlass Supreme.

"And these boys are white!" hollered Bill, as we bombed down College Avenue on the way to practice.

I tried to remind Bill of the teachings of Martin Luther King, Jr., and his dream of citing character over the identification of color, but Bill just laughed. The Scottish lads' naming their band the way they did kinda blew up that whole "color blind" thing anyway.

AWB's "White" album swept across America like a mini British Invasion, ten years after the real one. The notion that a white group could play funky soul music so well was not only novel, but something of a sensation. So, when AWB was making their debut on the West Coast, my girlfriend and I were on our way to San Francisco's legendary Winterland.

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.

Anyhoo, 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 very 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 advertising" 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

imploing 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.



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Delancey: Lestat's Coffee House

Rob Drabkin: Lestat's Coffee House

Eric Ethan: Lestat's Coffee House

Fear the Fat Guy: J.J. Lander's Irish Pub, Tom Giblin's Irish Pub and Restaurant

Tim Flannery: Brick By Brick

The Flimz: Lestat's Coffee House

For Fairweather: Lestat's Coffee House

Eliza Gilkyson: AcousticMusicSanDiego

Gonzo Gonzales: Hotel del Coronado

Harold and Gabe: Blarney Stone Pub

Taylor Harvey: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Jackson and Jesus: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Austin Jennings: Dublin Square

Brehon Law: J.J. Lander's Irish Pub, Tom Giblin's Irish Pub and Restaurant

Tim Lee: J.J. Lander's Irish Pub

Len and Gayle: It's a Grind (San Marcos)

Adam Levy: Lestat's Coffee House

Kama Linden: Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain)

Jim Moore: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Adrienne Nims and Raggle Taggle: Dublin Square

Robbie O'Reilly: Blarney Stone Pub

Paul Sprawl: Lestat's Coffee House



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3/2 Marcia Ball & John Hammond • 3/14 Tommy Castro Band

12/13 The Knitters
12/15 Young Dubliners Xmas Show
12/19 Gary "Ho Ho" Hoey's Rockin' Christmas Show
12/20 Venice Xmas Show

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11/16 THE MAR DELS
11/23 CANDY KANE
11/30 THE FABULOUS PELICANS

12/21 The Greyboy Allstars
12/22 Cash'd Out
12/28 Boogie Nights - Metalsnake
12/29 Pato Banton
12/30 Cracker & Camper Van Beethoven
12/31 New Year's Eve - The Aggrolites
w/Grand Ole Party
1/4 Elijah Emanuel & The Revelations
1/9 David Lindley
1/18 Dilated Peoples

1/19 Dead Mans Party
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Calendar

BANDS

ACOUSTIC / FOLK

(continued)

Sara Petite: Lestat's Coffee House

Owen Plant: Lestat's Coffee House

Amber Rubarth: Lestat's Coffee House

Lisa Sanders: Lestat's Coffee House

Skelpin: Blarney Stone Pub

Skibbereen: Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad)

Pete Stewart: Brick By Brick

Teddy Thompson: Belly Up Tavern

Kart Vatland: Brick By Brick

Suzanne Vega: Belly Up Tavern

Chris Velen: Lestat's Coffee House

Veronica May: E Street Cafe

Gene Warren: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

BLUES / SOUL

The Bayou Brothers: Patrick's II

Big City Shaman: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Blue Four: Patrick's II

Blue Largo: Patrick's II

Blue Rockit: The Gordon Biersch Brewery

The Blues Invaders: Pal Joey's

James Cotton: Anthology

The Elevators: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

The Fremonts: Patrick's II

Fuzzy and the Bluesmen: Croce's Jazz Bar

Johnny "B" Blues: Coyote Bar and Grill

L.A. Jones: Patrick's II

Hellogoodbye, November 17, Soma

Mia Jones and the Ko 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: Anthology

Michele Lundeen and Blues Streak: Patrick's II, Humphrey's

The Bill Magee Blues Band: Patrick's II

The Mississippi Mudsharks: Tiki House

Modern Day Moonshine: Martini Ranch (Gaslamp), Thrusters, House of Blues

Jeff Moore and the Witchdoctors: The Kraken

Mystery Train: O'Connell'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 Hots: Belly Up Tavern

Ruby Blue: Belly Up Tavern

The Soul Persuaders: Belly Up Tavern

The Stiletto: Island Sports and Spirits, Henry's Pub

Billy Watson: Coyote Bar and Grill

Joe Wood and the Lonely Ones: Hensley's Flying Elephant Pub and Grill, R. O'Sullivan's

RAP / HIP-HOP

The Comfortable Creeps: Brick By Brick

Deep Rooted: Belly Up Tavern

Kastle Vania: Brick By Brick

The Kneehighs: Belly Up Tavern

Lyrics Born: Belly Up Tavern

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EVERYTHING ELSE

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Tom Barabas: G5-Georges on Fifth

Ray Correa: The Butcher Shop

Julio de la Huerta: The Westgate Hotel

Karen Giorgio: The Westgate Hotel

Happy Ron: Triple Crown Pub

John Cain: Shooters Bar and Grill, Bahia Resort Hotel

Jane Lui: Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley)

Orquesta Farandula: Sevilla

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Crasher

GYPSIES, TRAMPS, AND SKIS

by Josh Board

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

"Are you talking to me or the pig?"

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, road kill?" 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."

"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

Top: The doctor who threw the party (middle, with the beard); Bottom left: Devil in a blue dress (left)

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,

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Decemberists Dec. 1, 2

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Lenny Kravitz, Matchbox 20,
Vanessa Carlton** Dec. 9

Tori Amos Dec. 12

Mannheim Steamroller Dec. 13

Dave Koz Dec. 14

Peter White Dec. 22

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Ozzy Osbourne

with **Rob Zombie**, Nov. 20



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November 16

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Dec. 27

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

Luckily, I had already told my date the story: I jokingly wrote this woman’s friend a note about she and I having an arranged marriage because the wedding we were at was an arranged marriage.

This “nurse” was actually a political writer named Sunana. Because of my costume, I guess, we started talking about musicians. I think she said she produced a Grammy-winning album and once worked with Meatloaf. I mentioned a lawsuit about Meatloaf using the title *Bat Out of Hell* for a second album. She told me about him losing two other lawsuits: one for someone not being paid proper royalties and another due to his albums not having the correct record-company labels on them. I thought, *Three lawsuits — Meatloaf is probably living on meatloaf these days.*

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 her verse, so I sang it. 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.” ■

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Theater of War

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

Always had a passion for play-making,” says Robert Landis, co-founder of the legendary Footlights Theatre of San Diego (1947) and equally legendary Scripteasers (1948). “Theater has always been — how to put this — a source of decompression 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. “Wasn’t that unusual...they had jobs to fill, needed bodies 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 Ds, right?” — got put next to Landis. DeLannoy was from San Diego. “I’d heard of the place,” Landis chuckles, “but couldn’t tell you precisely where it was.”

They discovered a shared love. DeLannoy had an MA in theater arts from USC and, before enlisting, had taught drama at San Diego High.

Landis began writing and staging Sherlock Holmes mysteries when he was eight. Two years later he wrote, directed, and played the lead in a show about Tom Sawyer. “That was fun! I got to cast the prettiest girl in class — and kiss her!”

Landis says he didn’t do much writing at DePauw, but before the war broke out he planned to do graduate study at Yale School of Drama.

At Washington D.C., Landis and deLannoy worked communications — 12-hours-on/24-off shifts — in the Navy Department’s top-secret BritCom room. They sent and received encrypted messages from Washington and the admiralty in London. During his stay in D.C., Landis wrote a drama about a task force in battle. “I hadn’t even been on a warship and wrote the play anyway! What chutzpah, huh?”

The minute they got leave, Landis and deLannoy beelined to Broadway to see theater. Their first show, Thornton Wilder’s *Skin of Our Teeth*, “knocked our socks off! It had Fredric March, Tallulah Bankhead, a young Monty Clift, and the production quality was unbelievable. I can’t begin to tell you how thrilled we were!”

They got to see Mary Martin in *One Touch of Venus* from backstage. “We watched next to her suspicious husband, who was there every night

keeping an eye on his wife. Even met her. Imagine that!”

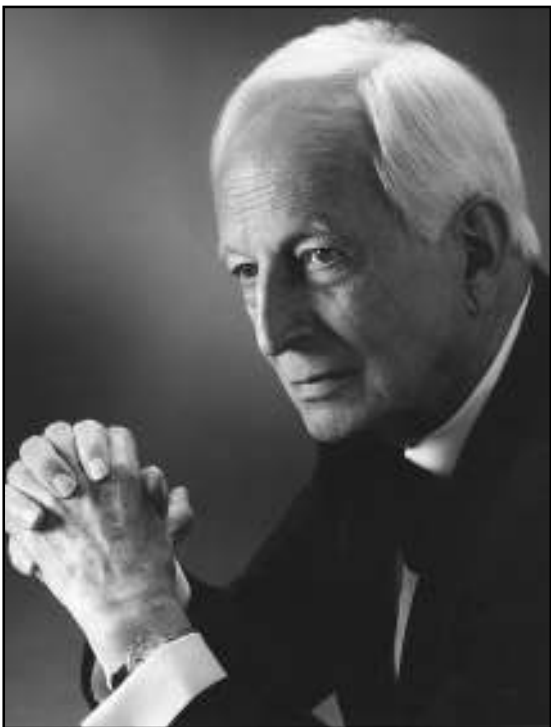
Early in 1943, they shipped to London on the Queen Mary. It was more a barracks than a luxury liner, “just a troopship with all amenities removed. I came home on the Queen Elizabeth. Same deal.”

His duty on the Queen Mary: watch for submarines and report anything that looked suspicious. “We sailed — zigzagged, really — crossing paths where German U-boats sunk ships left and right. So the Atlantic Ocean was a dump, with barrels, lumber, oil slicks, wooden cartons floating on the surface. I reported all of it, and they didn’t mind, ’cause you just never knew.”

Landis and deLannoy were members of SHAEF (Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force) assigned to Communications Central for Allied Forces in London (“Ike was our boss”). Their office was the basement of Selfridge’s on Oxford Street. Above ground it was a prosperous, six-floor department store. Military personnel entered by a back door, got in an elevator, and went below. The elevator opened to a warehouse-citadel, the size of a city block, filled with the latest in communications equipment, wires, cables, and blinking lights secured against bombing by reinforced walls and ceilings. Winston Churchill’s direct line to Washington, D.C., went from his Cabinet War Room through Selfridge’s basement, where a computer scrambled his messages into code.

Landis and deLannoy became part of a joint task force. Along with cohorts from Britain, they created disinformation about D-Day.

“By spring of ’44, everyone knew an invasion was coming. The build-up was obvious — you got all kinds of troop and supply ships crossing the



Robert Landis

Atlantic. But the question was when Allied Forces would land — and where?”

Hitler became convinced they’d choose the Pas de Calais, the shortest stretch across the English Channel from Dover. He believed it so strongly he kept several crack tank divisions in Paris. “Our job,” says Landis, “was to keep him convinced and keep those Panzers in Pay-ree.”

If the allies were attacking at Calais, they’d need an army in southeastern England. So the basement task force created one. They wrote “bogus communications” about a nonexistent base in Kent, where 28 imaginary divisions, allegedly

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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 fast 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 were 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 *real* 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, "and that we saved lives."

During the war, Landis and deLannoy attended many a West End show and got serious 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 ill 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. ■



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THEATER

THEATER LISTINGS

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 Noel Coward's popular comedy about a séance, held for a novelist's departed wife, that works too well.
MIRACOSTA COLLEGE THEATRE, 1 BARNARD DRIVE, OCEANSIDE, THROUGH NOVEMBER 18; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-795-6815.

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 *Medea*."
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.) 619-594-6884.

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 he "as bad as they say"? Mark Brokaw directed.
LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, MANDELL WEISS THEATRE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, THROUGH DECEMBER 16; TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY AT 7:30 P.M. THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-550-1010.

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 Benson directed.
SOUTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, SEGERSTROM STAGE, 655 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, COSTA MESA, THROUGH NOVEMBER 18; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:30 P.M. 714-708-5555.

Dracula

North Coast Rep's production favors theatricality to camp or over-



Cry-Baby

the-top attempts at hair-raising. Some of the most memorable images are stage-wide tapestries, as when Renfield breaks out of his straightjacket, and vampires attack innocent Harker, and sensual Lucy, backlit by lightning, longs for her fang-toothed beau. In this ensemble concept directed by Christopher Vened, 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 ripeness 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 caged Hannibal 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 directorial, is a super-seducer in control. But a subtext 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.

Worth a try.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987 LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH, THROUGH NOVEMBER 18; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-481-1055.

The Frogs

Athens is in crisis. It has no great living writer, just hacks. So Dionysus disguises himself as Hercules, lion'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? Dionysus 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 theater may contribute here; sound seems to climb straight up). Other extended comic bits, including a rap number, tended to sprawl and slow the pace. High points: co-director Douglas Lay's tipsy Dionysus (rightfully more fragile human than impervious Greek god); Fred Harlow's physical shenanigans as Xanthias, Dionysus's servant; and Michael Nieto in multiple roles.

Aristotle 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-basement low comedy and declares it won't play safe or sweep infelicities under the welcome mat.

Worth a try.

THE ARK THEATRE, 899 C STREET, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH NOVEMBER 18; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-216-3016.

Gas

Palomar Performing Arts stages Georg Kaiser's expressionistic drama that "challenges the sustainability of our technological society." Michael Mufson directed.
HOWARD BRUBECK THEATRE, PALOMAR COLLEGE, 1140 WEST MISSION ROAD, SAN MARCOS, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, THROUGH DECEMBER 2; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. AND THURSDAY AT 4:00 P.M. 760-744-1150 X2453.

An Ideal Husband

Oscar 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

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that would do everything to him that Sir Robert feared). The comedy has several Dorian Grays, including Sir Robert and Mrs. Cheveley, who blackmails him and who, when her mask comes off, is “dreadful to look at.” Lamb’s Players production could be funnier (epigrammatic one-liners get thrown away) with higher stakes but is enjoyable and elegant looking: Jeanne Reith’s costumes, embroidered silks and hats with enough feathers for an aviary; Mike Buckley’s minimalist set with tall flowers like sculptures. Deborah Gilmour Smyth plays Mrs. Cheveley believable with an apt smidgen of melodramatic villainy. Robert Smyth’s Chiltern is one of his best performances in years. When Cheveley blackmails him, he doesn’t collapse. But his mask, which up to now we didn’t know he wore, begins to show. Wilde wrote himself into the “flawless dandy” Lord Goring (some say an idealized portrait). Rick D. Meads matches the playwright’s sculpted lines with well-spoken deliveries and delights in having — possibly one of Wilde’s most autobiographical utterances — “one of those terribly weak natures that are not susceptible to influence.”

Worth a try.

LAMB’S PLAYERS THEATRE, THROUGH NOVEMBER 18; THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 4:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-437-0600.

Irving Berlin’s White Christmas

Welk Resort Theatre presents the San Diego premiere of a new musical based on the melodies of the 1954 movie, including “Blue Skies,” “Happy Holidays,” and the title song. Jon Engstrom directed and choreographed. WELK RESORT THEATRE, THROUGH DECEMBER 30; TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 1:45 P.M. 760-749-3448.

Joey and Maria’s Comedy Italian Wedding

Joey and Maria tie the knot in “not-so-ordinary interactive dinner theater.” HOLIDAY INN ON THE BAY, 1355 NORTH HARBOR DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, OPEN-ENDED RUN. FOR DAYS AND TIMES CALL 800-944-5639.

Love Negotiated

Aspire Playwrights Collective, dedicated to nurturing new works, presents a staged reading of Kevin Six’s piece about “fear, denial, love and the fear and denial of love.” Patricia Elmore directed. ATHENAEUM STUDIO ON PARK, 4441 PARK BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, AT 7:00 P.M. 858-505-4195.

The Magic Fire

Moonlight State Productions offers Lillian Groag’s memory play about a family of immigrants caught in Juan Perón’s fascist regime. Kathy Brombacher directed. AVO PLAYHOUSE, 303 MAIN STREET, VISTA, THROUGH NOVEMBER 18; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-724-2110.

Mesa College Student One-Acts

Students direct and perform “Bird Bath” by Leonardo Melfi, “Broken Hearts” by Kevin R. McLeod, and “Naomi in the Living Room” by Christopher Durang. MESA COLLEGE, 7250 MESA COLLEGE DRIVE, KEARNEY MESA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, THROUGH NOVEMBER 18; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. 619-388-2304.

A Musical Shakespeare Evening

The San Diego Shakespeare Society presents “not only the songs of Shakespeare in their original settings, but also what music meant” to the Bard’s audience. NEUROSCIENCES INSTITUTE AUDITORIUM, 10640 JOHN JAY HOPKINS DRIVE, LA JOLLA, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, AT 7:30 P.M. 619-246-8735.

National Comedy Theatre

Improvisational comedy, making up funny stuff on the spot, is difficult enough. Years ago, however, Keith Johnstone thought it’d be more exciting if gone competitively. He got the idea from pro wrestling (“where Terrible Turks mangled defrocked priests while grannies waved their handbags”). National Comedy Theatre, an offshoot of Johnstone’s TheatreSports (artistic director Gary Kramer says the two compare like “rugby and American football”), resembles an athletic event more than an improv. Teams wear uniforms and compete on Ac-troTurf. Using suggestions from the audience, they play “Emotional Sympathy,” “Blind Line,” and “Freeze Tag,” with judges awarding points to the best scenes. Klunkers and groaners get booed; quick wit rewarded (one of the most refreshing parts of the contest: people acknowledge failure, abundantly, then forget it). It makes for a lively, often funny evening. And Gary Kramer is one talented comedian.

Worth a try.

MARQUIS THEATRE, 3717 INDIA STREET. MISSION HILLS, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-295-4999.

Night of the Iguana

OnStage Playhouse presents Tennessee Williams’s drama about a defrocked Episcopal priest battling demons without and within. David Meredith directed. ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVENUE, CHULA VISTA, THROUGH NOVEMBER 30; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-422-7787.

Punks

Ion Theatre stages a reinvention of *The Maids* by Jean Genet. Set in present-day New York, the piece raises questions about “class struggle, the stigma of prostitution, and our destructive fascination with youth, vanity, and celebrity culture.” Glenn Paris directed. ION THEATRE, ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS, 4580-B ALVARADO CANYON ROAD, EAST MISSION VALLEY, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, THROUGH DECEMBER 15; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. 619-374-6894.

The Rat Pack, Live at the Sands

Broadway*San Diego hosts a touring production of the musical about Sammy Davis Jr., Dean Martin, and Old Blue Eyes himself, during the original filming of *Ocean’s Eleven* in Las Vegas. Mitch Sebastian directed and choreographed. SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, THIRD AND B STREETS, DOWNTOWN, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, THROUGH NOVEMBER 25; MONDAY, TUESDAY, FRIDAY, AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 6:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 2:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 1:00 P.M. 619-570-1100.

San Diego Theatresports: The Funhouse

A cross between improvisational comedy and *Family Feud*, The Funhouse combines improv with competitive scene-making, with the audience awarding points to the winning team. Purists might balk at the odiousness of comparisons

used in this format, but the “game show,” on Fridays, is a kick. The 90-minute evening offers different bits. The winner gets a banana, the loser a “forfeit.” Some attempts went nowhere (improve is tough: I did it in my, as hindsight reveals, callow youth). Others made amazing twists and turns. The group has more hits than misses, and their guru, Keith Johnstone, wrote one of the very best books I’ve read about making theater. They put his pearls to good use. Their motto: “Remember, when it’s not funny, it’s art.”

Worth a try.

THE FUNHOUSE 6822 EL CAJON BOULEVARD (BETWEEN 68TH AND 69TH), COLLEGE AREA. FRIDAY AT 7:45 P.M. SATURDAY AT 7:45 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-465-7469.

Side by Side by Sondheim

Coronado Playhouse and Greene Music present the revue of Stephen Sondheim’s earlier music from *Gypsy*, *West Side Story*, and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. Daniel Logan directed. CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO, THROUGH NOVEMBER 25; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-435-4856.

The Skin of Our Teeth

UCSD Theatre and Dance opens its new season with Thornton Wilder’s epic about the Antrobus family struggling to survive icebergs (in suburbia), nuclear war, and fickle time-warps. Sarah Rasmussen directed. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, THROUGH DECEMBER 1; MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, AND THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, THROUGH SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, AT 2:00 P.M. 858-534-4574.

The Swallow (La Rondine)

Lyric Opera of San Diego presents the local premiere of Giacomo Puccini’s only operetta. NORTH PARK THEATRE, UNIVERSITY AVENUE AND 29TH STREET, NORTH PARK, THROUGH NOVEMBER 18; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:30 P.M. 619-239-8836.

Torch Song Trilogy

Diversinary Theatre stages Harvey Fierstein’s three-act comedy-drama about the adventures of Arnold Beckoff, “a Jewish homosexual drag queen.” G. Scott Lacy directed. DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK

BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, THROUGH DECEMBER 16; THURSDAY AT 7:00 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. SUNDAY AT 6:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 1:30 P.M. (ALSO “SELECTED MONDAY PERFORMANCES”), 619-220-0097.

Tribute to D.J. Sullivan

To honor her 40th anniversary of teaching acting, D.J. Sullivan’s students perform her favorite scenes and monologues. 1531 TYLER, HILLCREST, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, AT 7:00 P.M.

Triple Espresso: A Highly Caffeinated Comedy

Hugh Butternut’s done his lounge act at the Triple Espresso Coffeehouse 20 years to the day. While patrons sip a house blend — “Grape,” “Scandinavian Blizzard,” or “Mokoko Cocoa Mocha” — Hugh plays ’70s tunes on the piano. He and his companions, here to celebrate Hugh’s anniversary, got stuck in the ’70s. The trio used to be Maxwell, Butternutt, and Bean, a comedy group that never went far. They’re “losers,” they admit, but not “ordinary” ones. And hey, their reunion could help them face searing issues from their mediocre pasts. The story line’s straight from *Forever Plaid*. There’s also the *Forever Plaid*

problem: the three comedians are far too talented to play inept characters. One’s a whiz at the piano. Another’s a first-rate mime, and the third’s a crackerjack magician. The trio’s so talented, when the plot has them complain of difficulties to overcome, you wish they’d quit trumping up the pseudo-drama and get on with this highly entertaining, if lightweight show.

Worth a try.

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVENUE, GASLAMP QUARTER, THROUGH FEBRUARY 17; THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SATURDAY AT 5:00 P.M. AND 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M. 619-234-9583.

Where There’s a Will...

There’s a Wake Mystery Café Dinner Theatre presents James Pascarella and Will Roberson’s interactive comedy, set in a 1920s speakeasy where suspicion shrouds every “gangster, game, and dame.” Pascarella directed. MYSTERY CAFE, IMPERIAL HOUSE RESTAURANT, 505 KALMIA STREET, MIDTOWN, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1600.

THEATER DIRECTORY

Actors Alliance Of San Diego

2650 Truxtum Road, Suite 203
Liberty Station
(619) 224-3600 www.actorsalliance.com

Arts Tix

28 Horton Plaza, Downtown
(619) 497-5000
www.sandiegoperforms.com

Asian American Repertory Theatre

(888) 568-2278
www.asianamericanrep.org

Beacon Theatre

(760) 724-8218
www.beacontheatresd.com

Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center

590 Palm Canyon Dr., Borrego Springs
(760) 767-4275 www.bsapac.us

The Broadway Theatre

340 East Broadway, Vista
(760) 806-7905
www.premiereforkids.com

California Center For The Arts

340 N. Escondido Blvd., Escondido
(760) 839-4100 www.artcenter.org

Carlsbad Village Theatre

2822 State St., Carlsbad
(760) 729-0089
www.carlsbadvillagetheatre.com

Centro Cultural De La Raza

2004 Park Blvd., Balboa Park
(619) 235-6135 www.centroraza.com

Christian Community Theater

1545 Pioneer Way, El Cajon
(619) 588-0206 www.expaclive.com

Civic Theatre

3rd & B, Downtown
(858) 570-1100 www.sdcivic.org

Clairemont Community Players

Holmes Elementary
4902 Mt. Ararat, Clairemont
(858) 560-5114

Community Actors Theatre

2957 54th St., State College
(619) 264-3391
www.communityactorstheatre.com

Copley Symphony Hall

750 B St., Downtown
(619) 235-0804
www.sandiegosymphony.com

Coronado Playhouse

1835 Strand Way, Coronado
(619) 435-4856
www.coronadoplayhouse.com

Cygnet Theatre Company

6663 El Cajon Blvd., Ste. N, College Area
(619) 337-1525 www.cygnetheatre.com

Diversinary Theatre

4545 Park Blvd., Normal Heights
(619) 220-0097 www.diversinary.org

East County Performing Arts Center

210 E. Main St., El Cajon
(619) 440-2277 www.ecpac.com

Educational Cultural Complex Theater

4343 Ocean View Blvd., Southeast
(619) 527-5256

Eveoke Dance Theatre

644 7th Ave., Downtown
(619) 238-1153 www.eveoke.org

The Fault Line Theatre

3152 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest
(619) 692-3382 www.faultlineprod.com

Fern Street Circus

(619) 235-9756 www.fernstreetcircus.org

The Fritz Theatre

(619) 233-7505 www.fritztheatre.com

Grossmont College

Stagehouse Theatre, El Cajon
(619) 644-7234
http://grossmont.gcccd.cc.ca.us/

The Hispanic Arts Theatre Of San Diego

(619) 475-7496

H.I.T. Productions Dinner Theater

Shirley’s Kitchen, 7868 El Cajon Blvd.
La Mesa (619) 561-8673
(619) 561-8673 www.dinnertheater.net

Horton Grand Theatre

444 Fourth Ave., Downtown
(619) 234-9583

Inner Mission Productions

(619) 245-4958
www.innermissionproductions.org

Ion Theatre

(619) 374-6894 www.iontheatre.com

Iris Theater

4580-B Alvarado Canyon Rd.
(619) 271-4144 www.irisheater.org

Laguna Playhouse

606 Laguna Canyon Rd., Laguna Beach
(949) 497-2787

La Jolla Playhouse

Mandell Weiss Center, UCSD
(858) 550-1010
www.lajollaplayhouse.org

La Jolla Stage Company

7887 Herschel Ave.
(858) 459-7773
www.thelajollastageco.org

Lamb’s Players Theatre

Paul and Ione Harter Stage
1142 Orange Ave., Coronado
(619) 437-0600 www.lambsplayers.org

Lamplighters Community Theatre

8053 University Ave., La Mesa
(619) 464-4598
www.lamplighterstheatre.org

Lyric Opera San Diego

Stephen & Mary Birch North Park Theatre
2891 University Ave.
(619) 239-8836
www.lyricoperasandiego.org

Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater

Balboa Park
(619) 685-5990

Mesa College

Theatre Company
7250 Mesa College Dr., Clairemont
(858) 627-2621

MiraCosta College Theatre

One Barnard Dr., Oceanside
(760) 795-6815 www.miracosta.edu

Mira Mesa Theatre Guild

(858) 693-7328

Moonlight Stage Productions

651 E. Vista Way Vista
(760) 724-2110
www.moonlightstage.com

The Muse Theatre

(619) 239-2894
www.themusetheatre.com

Mystery Cafe

The Imperial House Restaurant
505 Kalmia St., Hillcrest
(619) 544-1664 www.mysterycafe.net

National Comedy Theatre

3717 India St., Mission Hills
(619) 295-4999
www.nationalcomedy.com

New Village Arts Theatre

2787 B State St., Carlsbad
(760) 433-3245 www.NewVillageArts.org

North Coast Repertory Theatre

987-D Lomas Santa Fe Dr., Solana Beach
(858) 481-1055 www.northcoastrep.org

North Park Vaudeville

2031 El Cajon Blvd., North Park
(619) 647-4958

The Old Globe Theatre

Cassius Carter Centre Stage
Lowell Davies Festival Theatre, Balboa Park
(619) 23-GLOBE (234-5623)
www.oldglobe.org

Onstage Playhouse

291 Third Ave., Chula Vista
(619) 422-7787 www.onstage.itgo.com

Palomar College Theatre

1140 W. Mission Rd., San Marcos
(760) 744-1150 x2453 www.palomar.edu

Patio Playhouse

201 E. Grand Ave., Escondido
(760) 746-6669 www.patioplayhouse.com

Pine Hills Lodge

2960 La Posada Way, Julian
(760) 765-1100 www.pinchillslodge.com

Point Loma Nazarene University

Salomon Theatre
3900 Lomaland Dr., Point Loma
(619) 849-2433 www.ptloma.edu

Poway Center For The Performing Arts

15498 Espola Rd., Poway
(858) 748-0505 www.powayarts.org

PowPAC, Poway’s Community Theater

13250 Poway Rd., Poway
(858) 679-8085 www.powpac.org

Ramona MainStage Theatre

626 Main St., Ramona
(760) 789-7008

The Rehearsal Room

1159 6th Ave., Downtown
(619) 589-9963

San Diego Actors Theatre

P O Box 880285 92168
(858) 268-4494 www.sdactorstheatre.net

San Diego City College Theater

15th and C Streets, Downtown
(619) 230-2676 www.sdcity.edu

San Diego Junior Theatre

Casa Del Prado Theatre, Balboa Park
(619) 239-8355 www.juniorthatre.com

San Diego Musical Theatre

(858) 560-5740
www.SDMT.org

San Diego Opera

1200 Third Ave., Downtown
(619) 232-7636 www.sdogera.com

San Diego Repertory Theatre

79 Horton Plaza, Downtown
(619) 544-1000 www.sandiegorep.com

S.D. School Of Creative & Performing Arts

2425 Dusk Dr., Paradise Hills
(619) 470-0555 www.scpa.sandi.net

San Diego State University

Don Powell Theatre
and Experimental Theater
(619) 594-6884
http://theatre.sdsu.edu/

San Diego Theatresports

1531 Tyler, Hillcrest
(619) 465-7469 www.improvise.net

Scripps Ranch Theatre

10455 Pomerado Rd., Scripps Ranch
(858) 578-7728
www.scrippsranchtheatre.org

6th @ Penn Theater

3704 6th Ave., Hillcrest
(619) 544-1484 www.sixthatpenn.com

San Diego Black Ensemble Theatre

(619) 280-5650

Sledgehammer Theatre

(619) 544-1484 www.sledghammer.org

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, mad-looking fluffed-up toy hens, etc.) on high ledges, plus, near the cash register, a poster illustrating the various types of chile 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 bus your tray to the trash bin when you're done).

On any given night, you'll find a dozen-plus entrées to choose from, rotating from a repertory of, reputedly, over 100 different dishes. For seven bucks cash, you get generous tastes of two entrées, rice, beans, and tortillas. A printed menu board and signs in the windows list such favorites as *birria* (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 want. Which is useful, because the seasoning is by Mexicans, for Mexicans, with no concessions to tender *guero* palates. The dishes are cooked the way they'd be at home — not for middle-class city folk, but for country families, where chiles make a major contribution to keeping kids and grownups healthy. And that's vital to the authenticity of the flavors, too.

Chiles are the very heart of Mexican cooking,



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

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 probable 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 simple, scarlet shriek of serranos. Even up here, Latino markets typically carry at least a dozen types, and cooks often combine several varieties to create wonderfully complex harmonies — for instance, the famous *mole poblano* of Puebla. This is why food that's "blandened down" to gringo tastes can never be authentic, or even truly good. It's not the lack of piquancy, it's that such a huge segment of the Mexican pantry is banished when a cook can't use a full array of chiles — including the scorchers.

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 incendiary shred-

ded 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-fooder Anaheim) stuffed with melted Oaxaca cheese in a puffy, greaseless batter with a toothsome soft texture. (A local blogger from Mexico has compared it to cotton candy.) It had survived the steam-table treatment triumphantly.

My friends Dave and Barb, longtime fans of Super, brought me here. Dave sought a similar hot-mild balance: His pork stew was a large, bone-in shoulder chop swathed in red-brown chipotle sauce. Its spiciness was milder but darker

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 entrée 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 nopaltitos 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.

and more complex than my porcine wildfire. I actually liked his better in the long run. His second entrée consisted of two small empanadas swathed in shredded lettuce and a riot of *queso fresco*. The crisp dough pockets were also filled with mild, grainy, unmelted white cheese, a fluffy relief for scorched gullets, although a bit bland on its own.

Barb's stew tasted best of all: shredded beef in a reasonably spicy red sauce, the right amount of heat for the meatiness of the beef. Her balancing-choice was chicken *mole poblano*, which proved soothing but too smooth and simple. Tasting mainly of chocolate and sugar, it lacked the fire and complexity of the labor-intensive Pueblan masterpiece.

The one other digression from authenticity is a general one, the sheer amount of meat in the stews (not that I'm complaining about it). In rural Mexico, these might be holiday dishes rather than daily dinner. I once spent a few off-season days at a resort in Chiapas. Its well-manicured



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grounds were tended by a half-dozen gardeners — whose daily pay was precisely the amount that the resort dining room charged its 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 swoon away in chafing dishes but may be worth trying if you catch them early. I spotted plump chicken enchiladas in dark green sauce, but the wrappings looked soggy. Whatever you order, you get golden-tinged rice, a tad dry from the heat trays, plus *delicioso* loose (not refried) ranchero-style pinto beans, with some spice of their own. If you want dessert, there are a few on hand (e.g., churros). Breakfast here is reputedly a special treat, with uncompromised renditions of all the great eye-openers, including acclaimed *chilaquiles verdes*.

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

Luscious Local Lobsters

La Jolla Rancherita, 7404 La Jolla Boulevard (Marine Street), 858-459-5877; <http://lajollarancherita.lajolla.menueclub.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 rumored, most of the lobsters in their restaurants are as likely to arrive frozen from other waters as to be fresh and live. Wherever 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 butter bankrupt them? The tiny water-

front paragon, Malecon, was owned by an active fisherman who brought his catch in live in the early mornings 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 thataway, hoping they might have good Mexican food, too.

The room is simple, with standard Mexican decor. 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 portion 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 available only 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 strewn with diced underripe 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 jalapeño-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

moistly 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 entrées and prime rib on weekends — plus numerous interesting fresh salads. (Hey, it's La Jolla!) We saw no Latinos eating there (hey, it's La Jolla!). But if you're looking for local lobster treated well and purely, served with no added lard or atmospheric annoyances, the Rancherita is a find.

ChocoPods

A shameless plug: If you love finding a chocolate mint on your pillow at a luxury hotel, here's news of something even better that you can treat yourself to, almost guilt-free (and a lot cheaper than \$300 a night). It's no secret that I'm seriously gaga for Chuao's amazing local-made, all-natural artisan chocolates. The quality of the Venezuelan-grown chocolate is supreme, the fillings sophisticated and imaginative (even avant-garde, sometimes). Now, Chuao is making mini-bars called "ChocoPods" and selling them at gourmet groceries, including Henry's and Whole Foods. They come in five flavors, four of them robed in dark chocolate: Candela

is a delicious, spicy macadamia praline (nuts are reputedly helpful for getting to sleep). Modena combines strawberry and balsamic caramel into an Italian goodnight kiss. Picante has an emphatically spicy cabernet caramel center. (It's a little stimulating for a bedtime treat unless you've got overnight company to share it with.) Passion (my personal addiction) is a wonderfully grown-up, sweet-sour passion fruit caramel. Banana (the sweetest, most soothing flavor) has milk chocolate filled with banana and brown sugar caramel.

What makes ChocoPods especially worth the glee is: Each bar-let has under 60 calories and six grams of carbohydrates. And each has such sensuous, powerful, intriguing flavors that it completely satisfies that evil late-night chocolate jones. If you've got any self-control at all, one is actually enough! So I'm touting these things as a way to thank Chuao for creating something that all weight-watching, part-time chocoholics secretly want and need — a moment of pure semi-sweet joy that won't turn us, presto change-o, into instant hippopotami. For more information or to order online (\$5.95 for a six-pack, plus tax and shipping): www.chuaochocolatier.com. ■

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“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.
“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 up here for the longest time because — what else? — I’d heard they had a happy hour to cry for. Like really 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 Laurel 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 a goldfish.

Everybody looks up as you come down the black-and-white marble steps into this half-underground palace. Is he a player, a somebody in this town? Sorry, folks. You walk around two giant glass water urns that magnify bunches of red roses inside them. Talk about goldfish. Drowning, not waving. And money? Black-clad waiters whisk bottles of champagne around like *grande* coffees at Starbucks.

I head for the long curved L-shaped bar where the after-work crowd, and people waiting for dates to turn up, and lone wolves like me hang out.

I flop into a tall green-and-white seat. Will comes up.

“Still happy hour?” I croak.

“Till seven o’clock. You have 45 minutes. Are we interested in something to drink, something to eat, maybe?” He points to a long red card labeled “Seven Before 7.”

Oh yes. This was what I’d heard about.

There are “Bites” and “Drink.” Seven items in each.

The food choice starts with lamby joes (mini-burgers made of ground lamb), today’s soup (squash), a bowl of mussels, shrimp falafel balls with a tzatziki

sauce to dip ’em in, a seafood salad, short-rib spring rolls, and braised duck and stonefruit flatbread.

Half the drinks are cocktails like dragon’s blood sangria (a combination of Bordeaux wine, port, fruit, and Calvados brandy). The other half are wines.

Will looks at me. “Are we ready?”

He needs an answer. I notice other customers stem-spinning their cocktail glasses.

“Uh, got beer?” I ask. “On the program?”

“Oh, no problem. A light one?”

“No. Heavy. More like a stout.”

“Perfect. I’m sure you’ll like this.”

He brings out a bottle of Road Dog stout, from the Flying Dog Brewery in Colorado. He pours it into a long narrow glass. Nice chocolate color. I take a sip. Oh, yes. Dark, but sweeter and lighter than, say, a Guinness. And, Will says — guy’s got my number already — only five bucks. And — free bonus! — he brings around bowls of edamame for everybody at the bar — peppery-salty soybeans that you pull out from their skins with your teeth, something to go with the beer. You could fill up on them alone.

So this is where I ask my question. “Will, man,” I say. “Don’t have a great deal of dinero

weighing me down. Which of these bargains is gonna fill me most?”

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

What the heck? We shall. Five minutes later, an *unter* waiter brings out this long white square plate, real elegant, loaded with two mini-burgers. I grab the first and chomp in. Oh. Oh. Oh, yes. Sweetness that the menu says comes from — what? caramelized *fennel*? — and spiciness coming from *garam masala* aioli (a northern Indian spice mix, seems), plus ground lamb meat instead of beef. It all makes for an addictive, yummy combo.

And, as Will said, two really is filling. Except, now, ten minutes before the happy hour bell, 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 mussels. 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 in, because beyond the *moules*, down in the soup, little chunks of “Merquez” (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.



Will

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 Place: 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 mussels; 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

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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 multiplatform 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.'"

Blue has always done other things. But unlike, say, Gerald Asher, who began to write about wine out of his experience as a wine importer — as an outgrowth of his particular expertise — 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 one's 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 I've ever been to,' 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 — Blue's 11-year-old awakening didn't end in the cellar. "At that time, there were nine Michelin three-star restaurants in France, and I think we went to five of them. The chefs were the guys who taught the guys who are the guys now. I remember 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.

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 Priar. 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 WCBS 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 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



Anthony Dias Blue

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-

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Along the way, Blue also managed to write a smattering of books that reflected his range, among them, *Anthony Dias Blue's Pocket Guide to Wine*, *The Complete Book of Mixed Drinks*, and two cookbooks with his wife Kathryn. "A couple are still selling pretty well," he says. "When my mother was around, she always bought a copy."

Oddly enough, while the wine market is as strong as it has ever been in America — and probably stronger — the world of wine writing has followed print in general and gone into shrink mode. "At one point, I was syndicated by the *Chronicle*," says Blue. "And the papers used to pay for it. Then all of a sudden, they were giving it away for free. I think it has definitely put a damper on the wine-journalism field." (Blue does grant that he's seen some good work being done on the wine blogs, however.) And with the death of editor Bill Garry at *Bon Appetit*, "Things changed — there was a shift away from wine and spirits."

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 Meridith May, who was already at 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're at 40,000 now. The printer we bought it from also publishes *Variety*, and that's kind of my model — an industry magazine that's of interest to the general public. We're in a glamour 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 section 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 noted that "the Houston's chain, one of the best run and most profitable of all restaurant groups, lets its customers bring wine and...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 Restaurants are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Barbara David, Ambrose Martin, Shari McCullough, Max Nash, Eleanor Widmer, Naomi Wise). Each issue contains only a fraction of over 500 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at SanDiegoReader.com. Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a mid-range entrée. Inexpensive: below \$10; moderate: \$10 to \$19; expensive: \$20 to \$24; very expensive: more than \$25. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.

NORTH COASTAL

The Armenian Cafe 3126 Carlsbad Boulevard (at Pine), Carlsbad, 760-720-2233. At this large cottage with a year-round heated sundeck overlooking Highway 101, the menu offers Armenian specialties cooked with a Lebanese accent as well as generic Middle Eastern crowd pleasers, including gyros made from scratch. Lamb shish kebab is the house specialty, a "loss leader" featuring tender premium lamb cubes with assertive seasonings, grilled over gas. Even better are distinctive dishes from the owner's family recipes: his mom's Lebanese *kibbe* (a large, glo-

rified nut-filled lamb meatball) is outstanding, as is her *kashka lea* dessert — an exotic nutmeg sponge cake fragrant with rosewater syrup, topped with pistachios and thickened cream. Dinner platters constitute a full meal, including a great "Armenian salad" and a tasty dip for the meat, along with less-than-great egg-lemon soup, pilaf, and pita wedges. Wine list is dreary, but corkage fee is reasonable. Three meals daily. Live music and belly dance Friday and Saturday night. Moderate to slightly expensive. — N.W.

Blanca Beachwalk Plaza, 437 South Highway 101, Solana Beach, 858-792-0072. The opening of sleek, sophisticated Blanca marks the arrival of our first 21st-century restaurant, highlighting perfect seasonal ingredients so radiantly and originally prepared that diners must rouse to rapt attention. Chef Wade Hageman, a protégé of renowned SF/Vegas chef Michael Mina, has imported a similarly complex, labor-intensive style of cooking that appeals as much to the mind as to the senses. He's imported a major Mina strategem — showcasing an individual ingredient by presenting it in several different incarnations within the same dish, like musical variations on a theme. Blanca's menu lists each item's pedigree and primary garnishes, but those details don't begin to describe the behind-the-scenes enhancements of marinades, brines, rubs, soaks, and infusions that play subtle roles in the multilayered flavors that come to the table. Appetizers are especially adventurous, the wine list is exceptional (if mainly very pricey), and the restaurant's decor is as modern and polished as the food. Dinner only. Reservations required. Very expensive. — N.W.

California Bistro 7100 Four Seasons Point, Four Seasons Resort Aviara, Carlsbad, 760-603-6868. This restaurant features fresh California cuisine in a beautiful, luxurious hotel dining room. Open 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday to Thursday (to 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday). Reserve for the Friday night seafood buffet (5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.), which includes cooked seafood, sushi, and sashimi. Moderate to expensive. — E.W.

Joey's Smokin' B-B-Q 6955 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, 760-929-1396. Also Torrey Hills Center, 4645 Carmel Mountain Road, Carmel Valley, 858-350-1317. Joey Maggiore doesn't produce Southern "Q" so much as So-

Cal "Q" — more an homage to Memphis than anything you'd find in Memphis itself — but the tables include paper towel dispensers instead of napkins, a clear signal to go ahead and get messy. All the meats are smoked, not grilled, in true "Q" fashion. Pulled pork offers reasonably credible Memphis-style flavor and tender-chewy texture. Baby back ribs come in three versions: sweet ribs glazed with the "suh-weet" sauce, wet ribs glazed with the mild-spicy sauce, and dry-rubbed ribs sprinkled with spice rub. Sweet or wet are the best. Chicken plates come in a variety of sizes and parts. House-made hot links are well seasoned in the Louisiana manner, but extremely salty. The list of sides is long and varied. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W.

Juanita's Taco Shop Estilo Tepatitlan 290 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-943-9612; also in Vista at 248 Main, 760-758-4531. Enticing aromas of fresh tortillas and fragrant frijoles greet you as you enter this busy little *taqueria*, where the food's cooked in the style of Tepatitlan, a small city near Guadalupe. Its local specialty is *carnitas* — which Juanita's does up (by the plate or by the pound) as tender, non-greasy shreds, served with fresh, cilantro-laden mild tomato *salsita*. Standard wraps are fine, too, and the beans taste as good as they smell. Try a "Flying Saucer" — it really takes off, with shredded meat, onions, mild chiles, beans, sour cream, shredded orange cheese, and puréed guacamole riding high on an airy crisped flour tortilla. Open daily, three meals, until midnight. Inexpensive. — N.W.

The Original 101 Diner 552 First Street, Encinitas, 760-753-2123. This is where the caviar crowd from Rancho Santa Fe comes to remember their roots. It's got all the deliberately 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-Cheddar burger with fruit is a good surprise combo. The turkey-cranberry salad sandwich is also good, and try the spinach salad, with bacon, feta cheese, olives, mushrooms, and chopped egg. Even though this 101's vintage (1983) in no way compares with the Oceanside 101 Café's (1928), it has become a genuine part of Encinitas life — lines on the weekends will tell you that. Open for breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

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Pamplemousse Grille 514 Via de la Valle, Solana Beach, 858-792-9090. The locals' favorite French provincial restaurant offers exquisite, creative cooking. Favorites from an often-changing menu include white fish served any style, mushroom *cappucini* soup, and *tarte Tatin*. Serene atmosphere with excellent service. Dinner reservations urged. Dinner nightly, lunch Friday only. Dinners expensive. — E.W.

Roxy Natural Foods Restaurant 517 North Coast Highway 101 (at D Street), Encinitas, 760-436-5001. You don't have to be a Self Realization Fellowship follower to fit in in Encinitas, but it helps. Roxy was made for the veggie crowd who've grown up around the famous seaside compound. These days, that includes surfers, vegans, and even visiting Hollywood stars picky about their food. Actually, it is no longer strictly a vegetarian eatery: the owners have added chicken and fish for Encinitas's "new people" — the carnivores buying up property in the hills. But the vegan-veggie spirit still rules. Most popular item on the menu is owner Shahram Naimi's own invention: the scrumptious Roxy falafelburger. Its green "meat" is made from garbanzo beans, potatoes, onions, cilantro, and herbs, all bedded down with tomatoes, a thick mat of sprouts, and melted cheese, covered by a whole-wheat bun. For chicken-lovers, the garlic chicken pizzas sell big-time. Other healthy treats include the three-egg avocado omelet with toast, the artichoke sandwich (with marinated artichoke hearts), and the squash enchilada dinner (steamed banana squash with corn, bell peppers, and low-fat cream cheese in a flour tortilla). Payoff? You come out



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When In Rome 1108 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. A winner. Dressy-casual crowd. Dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Expensive. — E.W.

NORTH INLAND

Centre City Cafe 2680 S. Escondido Boulevard (frontage road along Centre City Parkway), Escondido, 760-489-6011. In the quiet little "motel row" 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 batter-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 eat inside, in a coffee-shop ambiance, or chow down on the dining terrace in front. Open daily, three meals. Huge portions, low prices. — N.W.

Fiore's Harrah's Rincon Casino, Valley Center, 877-777-2457. This is where Valley Center goes to celebrate special occasions. An island of serenity in the cacophonous casino, the restaurant offers fine certified-Angus grilled steaks and chops of various species. For a starter, the shrimp margarita is delicious. Choices include numerous seafood entrées, and for lighter eating there's an Oyster Bar attached. The best attraction is the long, adventurous wine list, offering international bottles at bargain prices with by-the-glass choices galore. Half the fun is matching wines to foods. The beer list is sophisticated, too, as are well-priced cognacs and aged ports. Business-casual dress code. Kids allowed in casino restaurants, not in gambling area. Reservations advised for weekends. Open for dinner daily. Moderate at Oyster Bar; upper moderate to very expensive in restaurant. — N.W.

The Grill 10920 Roselle Street, Suite 104, Sorrento Valley, 858-587-7940. Sorrento Valley is where you commute to work, not to live, so forget warm neighborhood eateries. At first glance, the Grill is what you'd expect — standard strip mall, bare-bones furnishings, office-lunch oriented. But the Greek owners give it character with generous but cheap

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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

breakfast dishes like the Mediterranean omelet and lunch specials such as the luscious Philly cheese steak. And they're flexible. Want bacon, sausage, *and* ham in your breakfast pita? They'll do all three, same price as with a single meat. Breakfast and lunch weekdays. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Hacienda de Vega 2608 S. Escondido Boulevard (frontage road along Centre City Parkway), Escondido, 760-738-9805. This is a Mexican restaurant with a difference — or two. The setting is a gorgeous restored Old California-style hacienda set on two acres, including a verdant courtyard (complete with fountain) for fair-weather dining. The menu is also a leap upward from standard fare. Señora Vega offers authentic Mexican cuisine cooked in the sophisticated manner of Mexico City, her hometown — not border-food compromises. You'll find an array of fresh and interesting appetizers along with a wide choice of serious entrées featuring complex, delicious sauces. Each dish is seasoned to the optimum spiciness for its overall flavor — this is not the land of the bland. The Sunday all-you-can-eat brunch offers a whole sampling of goodies brought to your table, with refills as desired. Five vegetarian entrées and a kiddie menu available; casual atmosphere. Full bar specializing in margaritas, of course. Open daily, lunch (or brunch) and dinner. — *N.W.*

LA JOLLA

Donovan's Steak and Chop House 4340 La Jolla Village Drive, Golden Triangle, 858-450-6666. At this excellent traditional steakhouse, the menu includes a variety of appetizers, among them a cocktail of giant shrimp with a spicy, tomatoey sauce and a large, lightly sautéed crab cake with house-made tartar sauce. The wet-aged prime

beefsteaks are seasoned with sea salt and pepper and cooked on a gas grill precisely to your order. Bleu cheese, béarnaise, and peppercorn sauces are available at extra charge. Non-beef entrées include fish, seafood, veal chop, pork chop, or a delicate Australian rack of lamb. Unlike many steakhouses where your money buys only the meat, entrées are served with vegetables and potato. Additional à la carte sides include creamed spinach and sautéed mushrooms. Among the house-made desserts the highlights are a light, creamy cheesecake with fresh strawberry sauce and a traditional creme brûlée. The service is attentive, friendly, and knowledgeable, in a masculine setting with dark wood-paneled, dim lighting, and only a moderate noise level. Cigar room off the bar. Open Monday through Saturday. Very expensive. — *N.W.*

George's at the Cove 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-4244. At George's dressy, comfortable downstairs fine-dining restaurant, California Modern Restaurant, chef Trey Foshee's superb California cuisine is based on prime ingredients, emphasizing local seafood and produce and cooked to highlight rather than mask the natural flavors. The menu changes seasonally, so don't miss such treats as squash soup, table-smoked salmon, Sea of Cortez scallops, or wine-braised prime short ribs when available. A long and serious (but costly) wine list at fair prices offers plenty by the glass or half-bottle, including rare dessert wines. Leisurely pace, attentive service — make a special evening of it. Reservations necessary. An informal Café is one flight up, and on the rooftop is the wildly popular Terrace Bistro, with its fabulous seacoast views, sharing with the Café a more casual and affordable menu; reservations advised. Wheelchair-access by two elevators; front desk staff will guide you (if arriving alone, ask valet parkers to fetch a staffer). Men's restroom upstairs; disabled can use neighbor Pasquale's facilities. Downstairs dinner only; upstairs lunch and dinner daily. Downstairs expensive to very expensive; Café and Terrace moderate. — *N.W.*

Tapenade 7612 Fay Avenue, La Jolla, 858-551-7500. This is not only one of the finest restaurants in the county but

in the country. Featuring sunny Provençal flavors, famed chef-owner Jean-Michel Diot offers superb seasonal ingredients treated with the consummate ease of a master chef. Among the special joys here are a sophisticated *foie gras torchon*, luscious free-range veal, and top-quality seafood, with garnishes that display an impressive balance of venturesome creativity and rigorous technique. Desserts are worth the calories, matching the style and flair of the earlier courses. And you don't even have to dress to the nines for your first-class dinner — the sixes will do in the easy bistro atmosphere. Serving lunch (including a moderate two-course prix fixe) weekdays, and dinner daily (including bargain-priced three-course prix fixe "sunset dinners" Sunday through Thursday). Otherwise, expensive to very expensive, and worth it. — *N.W.*

Zenbu 7660 Fay Avenue (at Kline Street), La Jolla, 858-454-4540. It was a natural for fisherman-restaurateur Matt Rimel to open a sushi bar/fish house, featuring sparkling fresh catch, much of it from his own boats. Sashimi and the simpler sushi are better here than the big party rolls, which can be lunkish. Don't miss the sashimi of live local *uni* (sea urchin) served on its shell most weekends. Cooked fish entrées feature equally sparkling seafood, sometimes in almost goofily elaborate preparations. No reservations; 30-minute wait likely on weekends. Sushi bar is up a short staircase; dining room and patio tables are wheelchair accessible. Several vegetarian choices. Full bar, good sake list. Dinner nightly. Upper moderate to expensive. — *N.W.*

MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

China Max 4698 Convoy Street (at Engineer), Kearny Mesa, 858-650-3333. The decor is plain and bright, the sound level loud, but this is a major resource for authentic Hong Kong cooking — creative and multi-regional, filtered through the refined wizardry of the genuine Cantonese style. The seafood aswim in the live

tanks includes such delicacies as black cod (bony but wonderfully sweet), Dungeness crab, and (if you've got the money) abalone — but even inexpensive, homey dishes (e.g., wonton soup, crabmeat cakes) sing with flavor. Call ahead for reservations to avoid a wait at the door. A Pan-Asian community throngs here, for good reason. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to exorbitant but mainly moderate. — *N.W.*

IKEA Restaurant & Cafe 2149 Fenton Parkway, Mission Valley, 619-283-6166, ext.1200. Central shrine for San Diego's 10,000 Swedes, so they say. They come to taste open-faced sandwiches, salmon, shrimp, and meatballs again. This restaurant inside Sweden's wildly successful "home interiors" chain is a great intro to Swedish tastes. The food's more sensible than exciting, of course. But healthy — beef and pork for the meatballs are guaranteed hormone-free. You eat the meatballs with Swedish lingonberry (not cranberry) sauce. Seafood is big: the shrimp open-faced sandwich, the salmon plate with potatoes and broccoli, and the Gravad Lox Plate (cured salmon) are always on. And if you want to be disgustingly healthy, chew on their fresh vegetable plate (raw carrot sticks, cauliflower, garbanzo beans, and mushrooms). All for a song. The only health hazard: hordes of babies and kids romping in the restaurant's mother-friendly play area. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Lightnin' Jacks BBQ Clairemont Town Square, 4705-H Clairemont Drive (near movieplex), Clairemont, 858-270-8227. Clean, cute, and a little self-conscious, this barbecue has black-and-white Western pictures on the walls and some seating on barstools with metal "saddles" (more comfortable than they look). The barbecue mechanism is a Texas-style pit smoker burning sweet hickory. The meats that emerge from it aren't the smokiest, but they're tasty enough. Pork ribs are tender and moist, and beef brisket carries enough smoke flavor to pass muster in Texas; other meat choices are less successful. The tomatoey sauce is pleasant but ordinary. A fried catfish plate makes a flavorful alternative (but be-

ware the cat sandwich, awash in hot sauce). Hush puppies and sweet potato fries are the most savory sides. Check your take-out bag to make sure you're getting what you ordered, as youthful staff is easily flustered. Kiddie plates available. Draft beer and wine available. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.*

Seoul B.B.Q. 4344 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-505-8700. This Korean restaurant means sitting before a sizzling cast-iron grill, sipping hot sake, the smell of grilled beef, grilled onions, and fresh garlic in the air. Try the "Korean B.B.Q." marinated short ribs (*tong galbi*) or thick marbled slices of sirloin (beef *gui*). You'll enjoy all the accompanying dishes that make the meal, like crunchy seaweed salads, radishes in garlicky tomato sauce, slow-cooked potatoes with soy sauce and jalapeño pepper. Feeling adventurous? Go for the goat meat hot pot or Korean steak tartare (*yukhoe*). This is sensual, elemental, hairy-chested food. Lunch and dinner six days, closed Sunday. — *M.N.*

Tropical Star 6163 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont, 858-874-7827. A modest café and grocery offers Puerto Rican and Latin American food and groceries. Very modest surroundings; good authentic inexpensive food. Same menu all day Monday through Saturday; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.W.*

THE BEACHES

The Australian Pub 1014 Grand Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-9921. A great place to take your kids after a morning at the beach. This relaxing pub, owned by a true-blue Aussie, offers heaps of good Aussie food. Try the Road Kill (grilled chicken breast with pico de gallo sauce and cheese, "run over" between two pieces of sourdough) or the Aussie Burger (1/2-pound patty, with a fried egg, cheese, bacon, grilled onions, beets, pineapple, and a side of steak fries). And for an "outback experience," order up Vegemite (a beefy kinda paste) and four slices of bread — it's the Aussie national food, mate. Lunch and dinner

weekdays, three meals weekends. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Hancock St. Cafe 3354 Hancock Street, Loma Portal, 619-296-2060. If you spot Marilyn, Elvis, and Lady Liberty waving at you from the sidewalk, you're here. They are life-size fiberglass lookalikes, but Mario is real, and his restaurant is a living shrine to jazz pianist Herbie Hancock. Mario has pianos, guitars, and drums inside — even a little stage where you're often welcome to perform. The food? Italian home cooking. Mario is from New York and knows his pasta. You can usually expect a good-value special, like spaghetti and meatballs. Sometimes he'll even throw in a bottle of red wine. Here among the little factories and auto shops of Loma Portal may be San Diego's most popping cultural phenomenon. Worth investigating, even if you just want to eat. Open daily, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Lamont Street Grill 4445 Lamont Street (between Grand and Garnet), Pacific Beach. 858-270-3060. PB's most romantic restaurant serves California comfort food, punctuated by bold and sometimes strange Mexi/Asian/Cajun flavors, in a rambling converted residence with several rooms and levels. Dinners come with soup or salad, and many entrées are served over marvelous house-made fresh pasta. Salmon over fettuccine in a delicate dill cream sauce is especially fine. The huge array of desserts is house made, too, with something for every palate. The most desirable tables (available first come, first served) are on a lovely fireplace-heated patio. Wheelchair ramp and parking in small lot behind restaurant (call ahead and they'll save you a spot). Homey atmosphere; can get loud. Affordable wine list, full bar. Open daily, dinner only. Moderate. — *N.W.*

Saska's 3768 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach, 858-488-7311. Venerable, local steak-and-seafood joint that tries harder, from the broth-thin homemade teriyaki sauce (sweet up front, fading to bitter ginger) for the well-cooked (if mild-flavored) fish to the cut-on-the-premises aged beef. The interior's low wood-slat ceilings, driftwood beams, dim light, and red-leather

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booths combine with the stay-up-late kitchen to make the space feel like a cozy haven, a respite from the brighter buzz of Mission Beach. The wine list runs the gamut from Cook's sparkling wine to Cristal champagne, stopping along the way at an interesting (if expensive) collection of reserves. 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, loosey-goosey spot is first of all a wine shop selling most global bottlings for just 20% over wholesale. It's \$5 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 ribs or duck confit surprisingly paired with spicy Nawlins 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 Shafter, off Scott), Point Loma, 619-226-1135. An instant neighborhood success, this large, cheerful sushi bar and dinner house also offers Japanese and Korean entrées, including *teppanyaki* (cooked in the kitchen, not at the table), Korean ribs, and excellent beef teriyaki of gently grilled prime beef. Sushi highlights include lemony *ama ebi*, rich garlic tuna, and a "Crazy Boy" roll spicy enough to divert your palate from the presence of imitation crabmeat. Free parking lot (often full). Special kids' menu available. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner daily. Sushi prices lower than most; entrées inexpensive to moderate. — N.W.

CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

Big Kitchen 3003 Grape Street (between 30th Street and Fern Street), South Park, 619-234-5789. This isn't just a restaurant, it's the social center of the universe — and Judy "The Beauty" Forman is its queen. Blame her for the Fern Street Circus, for driving the Miss California beauty pageant out of town, and for disgustingly healthy dishes like Judy's Favorite (spinach, mushrooms, sherry, and eggs). Our favorite: the avocado, cream cheese, and chives omelet. Vegans' fave may be the "veggie option": sautéed spinach, mushrooms, onions, cilantro, brown rice, tofu, and roasted garlic. Her cooks make pretty much everything on the spot, including muffins, waffles, and pancakes. While you're waiting, they always have this "out there" eclectic crowd, plus walls filled with pictures and *bon mots* like "Will Be President For Food." Breakfast and lunch only; closes at 2 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Chicken Pie Shop of San Diego 2633 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park, 619-295-0156. How much do people love this place? Count the chickens lining the walls — ceramic, wood, beaded, painted, even feathered. Hundreds. They're gifts from generations of customers. Here, as in the 1930s when it started up, the basic chicken pie comes filled with big chunks of chicken meat, doused with white gravy and accompanied by mashed potatoes, veggies, coleslaw, a roll, and dessert — like the delicious pineapple pie available Mondays — all for one really low price. The menu also offers fried chicken, burgers and steaks, but 90 percent of customers still order that same old chicken pie. Seven days. Cash only. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Huffman's Bar-B-Que 5039 Imperial Avenue (at Euclid), Chollas View, 619-264-3115. This café has a huge multigenerational following, some famous — check out their wall photos, in which Jesse Jackson and Muhammad Ali are just two — and some not so famous. The big draw is Huffman's fabulous Southern soul food. Try their gravy-

smothered fried chicken served with collard greens, yellow peppers, red beans, rice, and white mopping-up bread, or their Louisiana Creole gumbo, thick with crab, shrimp, links, ham, and chicken. Other fine eats include the catfish sandwich and half-pound rib tips. Open daily, lunch and dinner, to 11 p.m. weekdays, 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Krakatoa 1128 25th Street, Golden Hill, 619-230-0272. This used to be an abandoned property. Now the swamp-green clapboard house is the coolest, if (reportedly) ghost-ridden, coffee-eatery hang-outery in Golden Hill. Its garden is lush and tropical, and on its wooden deck laptops unfold, essays get written, relationships get worked out. The menu is light, the names heavy: the breakfast sandwich (scrambled eggs, cheese, fruit) is the Wonchi (an Ethiopian caldera); the roast turkey sandwich with ham, cream cheese, and cranberry sauce is the Ubehebe (a dormant volcano in Death Valley); the Amboy (a Mojave Desert volcano) is a peanut butter, honey, banana, cinnamon, and bacon sandwich. Open 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Sundays till 6 p.m.). Inexpensive. — E.B.

La Dona 1784 Newton (at Beardsley), Barrio Logan, 619-233-4939. This café is steeped in Mexican history, especially Barrio Logan history. You half expect to see several L.A. Zoot-suitors drift in as you inspect the black-and-white shots of the late actress Maria Felix (Mexico's Marilyn Monroe) or the great photos of the Mexican Revolution that include Zapata and Pancho Villa. The place has been here for 63 years, and old-timers say it reminds them of long-ago cafés in Los Angeles, Modesto, or Madera. The food is home cooking, Mexican style, with meals like scrambled eggs and chorizo with rice and refried beans. Watch out for the pot o' salsa — it's a real jaw-slammer. Other dishes to sample include *chicharrones*, *menudo*, and *pozole*. Seven days, breakfast to late lunch. Inexpensive. — E.B.

The Linkery 3386 30th Street (at Upas), North Park, 619-255-8778. The artisanal "slow food" cuisine here features local ingredients and made-from-scratch preparations. Despite the name, there's a full menu that includes tasty



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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

grilled vegetable appetizers and some fine entrées. But the focus is on the side dishes of fresh sausages made daily on-premises. These vary not only in composition but in palatability. Good ones include chicken curry, *linguista*, Polynesian pork. Venturesome international wine list at low markups, plus international beers and Mexican Coca-Cola (better tasting than U.S. made). Small parking lot (enter by alley on Upas just east of Jack in the Box). Noisy even when nearly empty. No reservations. Dinner daily, until 11 p.m. Moderate. — N.W.

EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA

Antonio's Hacienda 700 North Johnson Avenue, El Cajon, 619-442-9827. If the decor hasn't been updated from its original 1960s-fabulous Old California Spanish, it's because there's been no need. The enormous dark-wood chandeliers, the padded-leather wooden chairs, the chainsaw-weathered wood beams — all top-shelf and aging well. Families abound, reveling in the guitar trio and the exposed kitchen station — such atmosphere! And the flavors are user-friendly, sweetness muting the spice in the salsa and the Ranchero sauce. The Camarones Tequila is a little more exciting; the sweetness of its bacon-wrapped shrimp gets a fine counter from the bitter liqueur in the marinade. Excellent Enchiladas Suizas; pale, mush-tender shredded chicken wrapped in tortillas and doused with good, tangy green sauce. Lunch and dinner daily; Saturday and Sunday champagne brunch-buffet from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Inexpensive to low moderate. — A.M.

Geno's Barbecue 291 West Main Street, El Cajon, 619-444-3667. The original owner, Geno, was a real guy, a

refugee from corporate America who turned this ex-Taco Bell joint into a surfing-themed BBQ place. He was a surfer, but serious. He'd won lots of prizes for his BBQ sauce, using a chili pepper he said nobody else had. Today, a new owner has continued the tradition. Try #5, pulled pork and slaw, or #9, shredded beef, melted jack, and sautéed onions. Sides like dirty rice and cornbread are good, but if you're light of pocket go for the "Ripcurl" hot dog, the best deal on the menu. Open 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Sala Thai 6161 El Cajon Boulevard (College Plaza), College Area, 619-229-9050. With purple cloth napkins, white tablecloths, green banquettes, butter-colored walls, and a portrait of King Chulalongkorn, Sala Thai has all the trappings of a class joint — except you're only paying six or eight bucks for main dishes. The food? A bit gentle on the spice front. *Tom yum kung*, the famous shrimp soup, should make your neck hairs stick straight out, but if that's what you want you'll have to ask the cooks to make it spicier. Chicken *mus-saman*, labeled "medium spicy," is pretty tame but still delicious with its authentic taste-boosters like kaffir lime leaves. Hottest curry: "chicken green." Health treat: *Som tum*, the famous papaya salad. Lunch, dinner daily; Sunday dinner only. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Toshi Sushi 5943 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area, 619-287-3536. Don't ask what's in the "dynamite" sauce (besides the obvious mayo and smelt roe) — it's a house secret, one the restaurant dangles before you in numerous contexts. Try it baked onto the rich, everything-goes Garbage Roll, where deep-fried shrimp, freshwater eel, and tuna add flavor to the creamy-crunchy interplay of sauce and vegetables. Rolls, both plain and elaborate, abound here. While some can be heavy on the rice and light on the fish, others are triumphs. The Toshi Tempura Special Roll takes battered whitefish and wraps it around the seaweed casing, which is then filled with just-cooked whitefish and a host of garnishes — an exotic-yet-honey fried-fish alternative. The Johnny Roll shows octopus at its most tender, but watch out

for spotlight-hogging sweet cream cheese. The simpler sushi can vary — a brilliant, translucent slice of tuna offset by a blander, duller salmon. Japanese entrées are also available. Inexpensive to moderate. — A.M.

Valley House Restaurant 10767 Woodside Avenue (at Magnolia), Santee, 619-562-7878. This is for Cornbelt folks, plus wannabes who enjoy plain-speaking, plenty-of-it Iowan food. Take the morning special, "Iowa Breakfast": breaded pork tenderloin, two eggs, and hash browns, fries, or grits, plus a choice of biscuits, muffins, or toast — it's delicious. Lunch or dinnertime you can't go wrong ordering the signature "Iowa Porker" hot sandwich (breaded pork tenderloin in a bun with soup, potato salad, or steak fries) or the "Iowa Beefers" (seasoned ground beef simmered in chicken broth, piled into a burger bun). Open three meals, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B.

FAR EAST

Mediterraneo 1347 Tavern Road (Alpine Creek Shopping Center), Alpine, 619-445-9902. The vibe in this tasteful little trattoria (with adjoining bar) is young, and so is the chef, still slipping new dishes into a menu stuffed with local favorites. The pizzas are outstanding — such a lovely, airy, silken crust! Such wafer-thin rounds of pepperoni! Entrées change with the seasons. Desserts are big and sweet. When the weather's fine, dine on the patio and watch the sun drape light over the piney hills. Daily, lunch and dinner, plus Sunday brunch. Expensive. — A.M.

UPTOWN & OLD TOWN

Blue Water Seafood Market and Grill 3667 India Street (at Chalmers), midtown, 619-497-0914. This bright, clean charmer a half-block south of El Indio has a double identity: First, it's a retail fish market; aside from Whole Foods,

this is the only restaurant-quality fresh raw seafood south of I-8 and west of City Heights. If you love oysters, don't miss the big, buttery bivalves here. Second, it serves simple, terrific seafood to eat in or out. Plates are plastic, but don't look for greasy fried stuff. Entrées are grilled gently until perfectly done, topped with your pick of flavors (the lemon-garlic butter is especially tasty) and come with rice and a huge salad with your choice of terrific house-made dressings. If indecisive, ask what's best that day. The overstuffed grilled fish tacos are messy and perfect, with just the right proportions of ingredients. Reachable only by driving north on India. Metered street parking by day. Good choice of beers; a few affordable wines; \$5 corkage for BYOW. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W.

Bombay Exotic Cuisine Of India 3975 Fifth Avenue (between University and Washington), Hillcrest, 619-298-3155. We're talking northern India here, right? That means lots of lamb, potatoes, creamy sauces, tandoor-baked breads, chicken, and less of the south's mouth-scalding heat. At least in its daily buffet, Bombay's a lot less spicy, (though their *sag paneer* — creamy, cheesy spinach — delivered a surprising punch). The buffet includes tandoori chicken, assorted *pakor*as (lentil-batter fritters), mock duck, chicken *tikka*, and, if you hit the right day, an addictive mango soup. If you want meat or spicy food, best to order from the menu — say, a creamy *tikka masala* with lamb, or long kebabs of minced lamb (kebab curry), or the rich Bombay Coconut Malai. Tell them whether you want it mild, spicy or, for leather-mouths, *tikki*. For a cheap, light meal, try a couple of lamb *samosas*. And be sure they bring the chutneys, India's real unexplored treasure. Lunch and dinner; buffet at lunch and Monday evenings only. Sister restaurant, Monsoon, 729 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-234-5555. Moderate. — E.B.

El Agave 2304 San Diego Avenue (at Old Town Avenue), Old Town, 619-220-0692. Reservations recommended. Wheelchair access difficult (steep ramp). You'll find upscale, unusual Mexican specialties in an intimate

Spanish-style dining room or on a small heated balcony. The menu celebrates three great pre-Hispanic cuisines — Aztec, Mayan, Nahuatl — with discrete admixtures of France, Spain, and Italy. (It's the history of Mexico on a plate.) Among the highlights are the five different Oaxacan moles (plus a sixth from Chiapas), local sea bass in tangy jamaica (hibiscus) sauce, and a unique appetizer, *tlacog*os *cuitlacoche*, ovals of blue corn masa topped with a sort of "mushroom" that grows on corn ears. (In English it's called "corn smut," but it tastes much nicer than that sounds.) The bar stocks at least 1700 tequilas and makes a food-friendly on-the-rocks margarita with fresh fruit juices. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W.

El Indio Mexican Restaurant 3695 India Street, midtown, 619-299-0333. El Indio, "the god of Mexican food," presides over this bustling (expect a line), airy restaurant in an atmosphere of pale blue 1940s solidity. The menu includes the usual suspects (burritos, tacos, etc.), plus slightly less common items (*machaca*, *chile rellenos*). Excellent house-made corn tortillas help the standard fare to better approximate the divine. So do the sublime core flavors of the meats — the chicken in the taco and the beef in the enchiladas. The *carne asada* sports a pleasant char, and the beans have a raw-beany intensity. Less heavenly: seasonings (especially paprika and salt) tend toward the heavy side. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. — A.M.

El Zarape 4642 Park Boulevard, University Heights, 619-692-1652. This stylish little Mexican restaurant on a tony stretch of Park Boulevard is proof that not all taco shop food is equal. Try a shredded beef or chicken taco or tostada and you'll know what we mean, with their generous mounds of juicy, slow-cooked meat. Many enjoy their unusual scallop burritos, vegetarian potato-filled burritos and rolled tacos, and well-prepared soups. We go for the stewed meat. El Zarape is dependable, serving Mexican with solid, homemade, handmade flavor. Three meals daily. Inexpensive. — M.N.

Hob Nob Hill 2271 First Avenue (at Juniper Street), Banker's Hill,

619-239-8176. It opened in 1944 as a 14-stool lunch counter. Now, you sweep in under the maroon canopy to shiny red booth seats, deep blue carpet, blond wood, paintings, and a half-wall of wine. You're thinking "business class," but don't be fooled. We're talking coffee-shop prices, especially with the all-day breakfasts and sandwiches, not to mention the burgers with a salad tossed in. It's across the street from a retirement condo complex and at dinner, says the owner, "We cater to seniors." While there are a la carte choices, affordable three-course prix fixe dinners (with a regular entrée for each day of the week, Mom style) are the order of the day — e.g., tasty barbecued pork on Saturday, roast lamb or pot roast Sunday. Open daily. Inexpensive to low moderate. — E.B.

Izakaya Masa 928 Fort Stockton Drive, Suite #109, Mission Hills, 619-542-1354. An *izakaya* is the Japanese equivalent of a tapas bar. The menu here includes 12 cold appetizers and 19 hot ones, along with 12 deep-fried mini-kebabs and a host of more standard dishes, plus sushi. Find adventure with the little dishes. *Chuka kurage*, superb cold jellyfish salad, is crunchy and spicy but lightly sauced, with no greasy chili-oil residue. Fried oysters (*kaki*), ethereal fried tofu in broth, and *kara-age* (spicy fried chicken) stand out among the hot appetizers. *Kushi-age*, a variety of deep-fried kebabs on bamboo skewers, are inexpensive and delicious; try the Japanese sausage. *Maguro yamakake*, a cold appetizer of raw tuna with glutinous grated mountain yam, is an advanced course in Japanese cuisine — a strenuous challenge to a Western palate. Sushi rolls are a bit creative, but not the restaurant's forte. Go for the tapas and enjoy yourself. Lunch Tuesday through Friday and Sunday. Dinner six nights. Closed Monday. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W.

Jimmy Carter's Cafe 3172 Fifth Avenue (at Spruce Street), Hillcrest, 619-295-2070. This comfy, middle-class eatery has a surprise — great Indian breakfasts (until 11:20 a.m. weekdays, 3 p.m. weekends). Try their chicken curry or *pessaratu* (mung bean crêpe with onions, peppers, ginger, *dhal*, and chutneys). Or vegetarian *vindaloo*. Jimmy (no, not the ex-pres) does Chi-

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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, Crab, Spicy Tuna, Shrimp, Tempura Shrimp, California



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nese too — like the Mongolian beef (Chinese vegetables and beef in a hot chili sauce over rice or noodles), or good Mexican dishes such as chili verde (pork or chicken simmered in spicy tomatillo sauce). But center stage is his all-American Jimmy Burger (1/3-pound patty with potato or carrot salad). One bonus: a fine tangential view of Balboa Park's lawns and trees. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Shakespeare Pub & Grille 3701 India Street (at Washington), South Mission Hills, 619-299-0230. Probably the most convincing English pub in town. The Bard's brew-house boasts bare-board floors, diamond lead-glass windows, and authentic Brits sitting around the bar quaffing ale from their own pewter mugs. Pub grub is bluff and plain-spoken. Shepherd's pie, bangers and mash, ploughman's plate (the pickled onions and cheese, Scotch egg, and Branston pickle make it the real thing) — all are great with rich English beer, say, a Boddington's Pub Ale. Sunday's roast beef dinner is worth dragging yourself out of bed for, too. The pub includes a shop that sells British goods. Breakfast weekends, lunch weekdays, and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

DOWNTOWN

Brickyard Coffee and Tea 675 West G Street, downtown, 619-696-7220. The problem, if you're rich enough to live in the Marina District, is the lack of café life. That is, until this modest little eatery and café settled in next to the tracks by the Seaport Village trolley stop. You sit under eleven poplar trees in a brick patio that has one unusual downtown advantage — except for the wind sifting through the poplars (or a trolley pulling in), it's completely silent here. Sipping coffee and reading your paper is the thing here, but 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 *panini*. 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.*

Cafe Chloe 721 Ninth Avenue (at G Street), East Village, 619-232-3242. How did we ever manage before this indispensable bistro opened? In a bright and beautiful setting with small tables, bar-seating, and a patio, you'll find light and lovely Parisian-style bistro fare with substantial breakfasts, svelte lunches and dinners, and sophisticated bar-nibbles.

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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

Don't miss breakfast's poached eggs with sage-truffle *beurre blanc*. Nightly specials keep the menu interesting, and desserts are worth every calorie. Beverages include divine lavender lemonade, root beer choices, and an intelligent wine list at modest markups, most available by the glass. Metered street-parking daytime. No reservations except large groups. Moderate. — *N.W.*

Chive 558 Fourth Avenue (near Island), Gaslamp, 619-232-4483. Here you'll find a new cuisine for the upscale residential neighborhood rising around the restaurant. Diners can choose an adventurous meal or an evening of sophisticated comfort food. Urbane multicultural fusion dishes dance cheek to cheek with remade American classics and the occasional sleek French luxury dish. A "grazing menu" features small bites for folks on a diet or on the run. The menu changes seasonally, but you can trust the kitchen any time of year. Very noisy. Full bar. Dinner nightly, until 11:30 p.m. weekends. Full meals expensive; "grazing" can be moderate. — *N.W.*

Dobson's 956 Broadway Circle, downtown, 619-231-6771. This reputable downtown restaurant offers class and comfort, geared for people who enjoy

eating well. The food is good, often very good, as with chicken liver mousse pâté, Mediterranean blue mussels, and, when available, the crude but virtuous soft-shell crab. Their sweets, such as brownies, are hefty, louché, and cheap. Bring a date to the upstairs dining room. Dobson's is suave, its confidence infectious. Lunch and dinner Monday through Friday; dinner only on Saturday. Moderate to expensive. — *M.N.*

Galileo 101 West Tower, Harbor Club, 201 J Street (at Second Avenue), downtown. Also 10 Harbor Drive, Suite 101, downtown, 619-702-7101. When new, Galileo 101 offered "avant-garde Italian" food that has gradually evolved into adventurous Euro-Cal cuisine, its dishes influenced by modern French cooking with a few Pacific Rim touches. Chef Joe Craig is putting all his talent and imagination into the seasonal menu, with generally splendid results. Moist, tender sea bass is served with rarely seen Hawaiian ubi — huge yams with rich-flavored deep-purple flesh. Flat-iron steak and short ribs are both made with ultra-tender, flavorful Kobe beef, accompanied by zesty sides. The nightly specials are worth serious consideration — they're where the chef fully stretches out and has some fun on the job. Creative appetizers may include scallops with *osso buco* and a wild boar tamale. Solid international wine list. Dinner six nights, closed Sunday. Reservations advised. Expensive to very expensive. — *N.W.*

Gourmet India 810 Fourth Avenue (south of F Street), Gaslamp, 619-702-7967. Most local Indian restaurants share nearly identical pan-regional menus (yawn). Gourmet India, in contrast, serves authentic regional delicacies you won't find at the clones. Don't miss the distinctive appetizers, especially the crunchy *sev poori* (wheat wafers with a vibrant, spicy fresh topping), the *bel poori* (India's favorite railway snack), or southern India's *uttapam*, pancakes (made of cream of wheat) resembling soft, exotic mini-pizzas, accompanied by a coconutty fresh chutney. *Peshawari naan* is a spectacular tandoor-cooked bread stuffed with cashews, raisins, and fresh cheese, and tandoori chicken wings are tender and savory with their lively green dipping sauce. Entrées include the rarely seen *mirchi tikka*, tender boneless chicken from the tandoor, steeped in a bright, spicy, lime-juice marinade. Madras Fish in coconut milk is a delicious Southern-style coconut milk curry, and the house specialty, Bombay Chicken, is a salty and oddly homey-tasting stew. Interesting and appropriate wine list; numerous Indian and international beers. You can eat royally on a prosperous peasant's budget. Lunch and dinner daily. (Parking not validated at Horton.) Moderate. — *N.W.*

Grant Grill U.S. Grant Hotel, 326 Broadway (between Third and Fourth Avenue), downtown, 619-232-3121. The hotel has reopened after its \$52 million renovation, and it's looking magnificent. The Grant Grill, too, is changed and

freshened. In days of yore, the bill of fare combined French haute cuisine with British hotel-grill staples. Now it's thoroughly Southern Californian (although they did resurrect the fabled mock turtle soup in response to diner pleas) with nods to the "Slow Food" movement. Well-raised meats, local produce, and artisanal products include housemade *burrata* mozzarella and herbed bread. Entrées are large, rather salty, and have fine side items, but there's still a basic conservatism at work. Nothing here to scare the horses. Appetizers and amuse-bouches are more engaging than entrées, while desserts are in the "needs more work" stage. Serving pace, especially on busy evenings, is slow. But the town's movers and shakers are back at their old favorite haunt. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily. Very expensive. — *N.W.*

House of Blues 1055 Fifth Avenue (north of Broadway), downtown, 619-299-2583. HOB's dining rooms (filled with vibrant folk art) are separate from the nightclub, so you don't have to attend a performance to eat there. Highlight of the week is the prix-fixe Sunday "Gospel Brunch" in the basement (with near-hidden elevator access), a generous buffet of mainly tasty mainstream and Southern goodies, including extraordinary smoked roast beef. Upstairs, the regular menu mingles soul and Cajun dishes with pub grub. The gumbo is surprisingly successful (if not exactly personal or eccentric) and the jambalaya is real. Oddly bittersweet Voodoo Shrimp (aka "BBQ Shrimp") comes with irresistible rosemary cornbread. A sampler of grilled Louisiana sausages is a hit. But some dishes denature regional flavors — the amiable, Tennessee-style baby back ribs are more Nashville suburb than downtown Memphis, while the humongous Cajun meatloaf and the bronzed catfish boast all the right Cajun spices but no Cajun flavor. Entrées come with vegetables, but consider amending them with tasty, inexpensive sides like superb sweet potato fries with house-made ketchup. Wine list is pitiful; have a Hurricane. Lunch and dinner nightly until 2 a.m. (except Sunday until midnight). "Lightning Lunch" prix fixe weekdays. Call for Gospel Brunch tickets. Dinner reservations essential; dinner packages available with access to shows. Moderate. — *N.W.*

La Casita 1247 C Street (at 13th Street), downtown, 619-531-0044. Don't be fooled by the li'l old blue-and-white clapboard house at the bottom of City Col-

lege's hill. Princes and politicians come to this full-service restaurant to hammer out deals, mix with the Latino (or Anglo) community, and eat some of the best *chorizo con huevos* (spicy pork sausage with eggs) in town. Fair-weather eaters flock to the spacious garden patio to chow down among the songbirds. In the cozy Mexican-style interior, the pictures on the walls tell you who-all comes here for the good tacos and enchiladas or the delicious pork burritos. Most delicious of all is watching Anglo City-Hallers trying valiantly to learn to love the house-made *menudo* (tripe soup). Delivery anywhere downtown 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Open six days 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., closed Sunday. — *E.B.*

Lou and Mickey's 224 Fifth Avenue (between K and L), Gaslamp, 619-237-4900. The onetime ornate Royale Brasserie across from the Convention Center finally had to bow to conventional tastes and simplify into a fifties-style steak-and-seafood house. Kings Seafood is still the owner, so the fish quality remains fine. The fare is simple, with minimal sauce or garnish; vegetables cost extra, coming in large portions but merely adequate preparations. Best dishes include "BBQ Shrimp, Man-ales' Style," a buttery, spicy New Orleans extravaganza (available as starter or entrée), and the huge, juicy rib-eye "Cowboy Steak." Valet parking at door. Wraparound heated dining patio. Noisy in dining room near bar; request "Nude Room" for quiet. For interesting wines at good prices, look into "Adventures" sections of the list. Dinner nightly, weekends until 11 p.m. Fish moderate, meats expensive. — *N.W.*

The Oceanaire Seafood Room 400 J Street (at Fourth Avenue), Gaslamp, 619-858-2277. Oceanaire serves all manner of fresh seafood, including some rare species, from simple preparations to complex dishes with international influences (France, Italy, Asia, Louisiana, fusion). Fusion-y appetizers range from crab cakes (among the best in town) and lively El Diablo fried squid to disappointing oysters "Gate-safellar" and laughable "Cajun-rubbed" prawns. ("Eh, Soileau! C'mere, let me rub these prawns on you!") Of a menu comprising some 30 entrées, the best dishes tend to be the least ambitious choices from the Simply Grilled and Broiled section. Or you can gamble on more elaborate but risky composed entrées — e.g., fire-roasted Mano de León scallops in an Asian-style treatment are

earthy and delicious, but spiny lobster is buried under an overwhelming, incoherent sauce. Let K.I.S.S. be your guideline. Vegetables and side dishes, served family size at extra charge, aren't wonderful. Housemade desserts are pretty good and sized for groups. The Oyster Bar is a pleasant separate area for snacking or seasonal special dinners; in season, the Kumamotos are superb, other varieties less thrilling. Reservations urged, especially on weekends. Dinner daily. Happy hour at oyster bar moderate, dinner very expensive. — *N.W.*

Sixth Avenue Bistro 1165 Sixth Avenue (at B Street), downtown, 619-239-4194. This charming, airy café offers some very credible New Orleans-style cooking at affordable prices. Among the sandwiches are an outstanding oyster po' boy (with big juicy oysters and good light batter) and a fine, fully-packed approximation of a *muffaletta*, albeit with a kaiser roll standing in for Central Grocery's big, round Italian bread. The jambalaya is tasty, too, even with the substitute for andouille. Wine and beer. No reservations. Breakfast to dinner (closes 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 4 p.m. Sunday). Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

Crown Room Hotel Del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-6611. Let's face it, this is one of the grandest entrances you'll make anywhere, into the enormous, gloomy, vaulted timber dining room where presidents, princes and Marilyn Monroe have chowed down. It's only open for Sunday brunch these days. The gigantic eat-till-you're-beat buffet feast ranges from omelets to salmon, crab legs, prime rib, dizzying desserts, and even a chocolate fountain for large parties, available upon request. The downside? Monroe was here to shoot *Some Like It Hot*, but (apart from the chocolate) most food ain't. It's either cold (like the croissants, though the chocolate chunk ones are delicious) or luke-warm (like prime rib and eggs Benedict — and those eggs could do with a lot more Benedict). But this is an Edwardian-scale social occasion — see and be seen. The food isn't great, but the atmosphere is grand. Open Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Expensive. — *E.B.*

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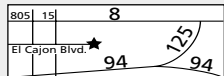
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La Jolla Rancherita

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L'Escale Coronado Marriott Island Resort, 2000 Second Street, Coronado, 619-435-3000. Probably the pink flamingos and bay views bring you here first. But L'Escale ("Port of Call" in French) delivers to the taste buds too. For "Northern Mediterranean cuisine with California flair," read lots of pasta, fish, salads, sandwiches. Try the grilled salmon *niçoise* salad with its richly sauced fish, crunchy green beans, red potatoes, strong olives, and rosemary-flavored bun. Entrées like grilled chicken and mushrooms in Parmesan cream with penne pasta are safe enough. Or bone-in filet mignon. But for sheer architecture, check out the tuna salad sandwich wrapped in lavosh: three vertical Armenian bread tubes, angle-sliced to reveal interiors of tuna and greenery. Eat on the pool and bay-surrounded patio if you can. Breakfast, lunch, dinner. Moderate to expensive. — *E.B.*

Spiro's Gyros Ferry Landing, 1201 First Street #4, Coronado, 619-435-1225. The food, the music, the view — are we outside Athens? Is this the Aegean? This inside-outside Greek café is located at the water's edge, and the heated patio has a spectacular view of San Diego, the bay, and the boat traffic. At sunset, sipping their excellent Greek wines (cheaper than their California), watch the sun set the city ablaze in gold. The prices keep Spiro's popular with the locals as well as tourists. Try the moussaka (eggplant casserole) or the souvlaki chicken, marinated in *tzatziki* sauce, served with tomatoes, onions, and pita bread. Open seven days until 8 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Tango Grille Argentine Steak House 635 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-420-0384. Play *gaucho* and enjoy the most authentic Argentine *parrillada* (mixed grill) in town at this charming, warmly decorated bistro about two minutes from the Chula Vista Shopping Center. Fine, smoky wood-grilled Colorado beef appears in several unusual cuts (including succulent steak-cut short-ribs). You can choose from two different mixed grills (sized for one or two), the first with conventional meats, the other — the more adventurous — includes organ meats and blood sausage. For starters, there are brilliantly seasoned mini-empanadas of amazing lightness, as well as several interesting salads. Those not in a grilled-meat mood can opt for numerous pastas (including a big, meaty lasagna) or the ubiquitous *milanesa* (breaded beef or chicken patties) of the

pampas. Portions are more than generous, and so are the flavors. Open daily. Low moderate. — *N.W.*

Village Pizzeria 1206 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-522-0449. Mootime Creamery owner David Spatafore decided to set up what he's always wanted: A cheap, back-east Italian, red-and-white-tablecloth, dangling Chianti bottle eatery where local families and amateur sports teams can come in and pig out. He wisely didn't destroy what was half of the famous old Mexican Village. Instant atmosphere! Ancient murals of guys with guitars serenading señoritas, arches, illuminated clusters of red grapes. The bad news: You might have to handle pumped-up kids' sports teams cramming the booths around you. The good news: Great calzones and pizza by the slice. (Pizza-by-slice portions stop at 6 p.m.) Open lunch through dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

BAJA

From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; when calling in Tijuana use only the restaurant's seven-digit number.

El Cid Lopez Mateos #993 (just off Blancarte), Ensenada, Baja, 646-178-1809. This restaurant is at the heart of the tourist district, but the cooking and service are way above coach class. Look to the "Specialties" section of the huge menu for the most interesting selections. Crisp quail with rose petal sauce (famed from *Like Water for Chocolate*) proves outrageously delicious, and the seasonal *chiles en nogada* (meat-stuffed poblano chiles with walnut-cream and pomegranate) gain refinement from greaseless ground sirloin. Fish dishes are fresh, rich, and tender, and you'll find nine different ways to enjoy a steak. If you can handle a table-side production number, crêpes with *cajeta* (caramel sauce) makes a very grand finale. Fully bilingual staff; English menus available. Vegetarian on request. Sidewalk patio dining available. Reserve for weekends during tourist peaks. Full bar, with excellent margaritas, Baja wines. Open daily, continuous service breakfast through dinner. Moderate. — *N.W.*

La Espadaña Avenida Sánchez Taboada #10813, Zona Río, Tijuana, 634-1488 or 634-1489. If you learn only

one word of Spanish, learn this one: *Borrego*. Because this place does the greatest oven-cooked leg of lamb ever. The meat tastes as if it was cooked in wine, garlic, and herbs, but the owners insist it's just Tecate lamb baked slowly in its own juices with a bit of oregano. But most folks come here for beef — steaks and the popular beef fillet, sizzled at a big flame-and-smoke display counter BBQ grill. Vegetarian on request. All terracotta and timber, this is where the local middle classes come for their cross-border food fix. Think Tijuana's version of Mission Valley. Still, it's charming, and you can have fun. For instance, don't forget to ask them to ring the bells set in their *espadanas* (holes cut in the Mission frontage) above the great arched wooden entrance door; they clank tunelessly, but they're great for celebrating your 21st birthday. Mom getting her degree — whatever. Open for breakfast, lunch, dinner, seven days. Moderate. — *E.B.*

Rica Torta Niños Héroes Avenida #890, between 2nd and 3rd Streets (opposite Dorian's department store), Tijuana, 685-8579. This café may have the best *tortas* (call them Mexican-style hamburgers) in Tijuana. Six-inch rashers of marinated *carne asada*, slices of ham, squares of cheese, chopped salad, tomato slices, fresh-scooped avocado...it's a double-wide, double-high burger. The menu has 16 different kinds of *tortas*, from chorizo with eggs to beef-steak ranchero, all served in huge, three-ribbed, crisp-toasted Mexican bread buns. There's other stuff, but to a burger buff, one of these is quite enough. Vegetarian on request. Open seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Vallarta Natural 1252 Boulevard Agua Caliente (just before El Toreo de Tijuana), 686-1560. Maybe the only smoke-free restaurant in Tijuana, this vegetarian haven was started in 1996 by health-conscious Doctor Georgina Vallarta de Alcántar. They make their own yogurt, soy hash, breads, rolls, salsas — and "meats" like a veal from their own wheat gluten — daily. You sit at wood tables and chairs next to blue-framed yellow walls splattered with Talavera ceramic suns. At breakfast, try the *tartaleta vallarta*, a mix of eggs, spinach, mushrooms, onions, and chile. For lunch (and it's usually busiest around three), their excellent soup, *caldo tlalpeno*, packed with cheese, rice, avocado, and chile, will fill you nicely. The soy *hamburguesa* is good, but go for the *torta*, which has that gluten *milanesa* along with cheese, avocado, and jalapeño. Good organic coffee. Wonderful juices, especially the cactus — if you need cleaning out. Open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

D'Lish Pizza and Pasta 386 East H Street, Suite 211, 619-585-1371; and Eastlake Village Center South, 2260 Otay Lakes Road, Suite 101, 619-216-3900; both in Chula Vista. This chain has always prided itself on its Italian/California pastas, pizzas, and salads. Now it has gone carnivorous, adding marinated flank steak and a rib eye to the "bistro entrées." If you're ordering the flank, well-done is a no-no. That will toughen it. But a rare flank is,

well, d'lish in its marination and especially its pesto-like *chimichurri* sauce. Also good: fire-roasted vegetables pizza, where the quick roasting makes for great-tasting, Technicolor-bright broccoli, zucchini, eggplant, and bell peppers. And "Mediterranean chicken salad" works well, partly thanks to the tang of pepperoni chips. Moderate. — *E.B.*

La Costa Azul Mariscos 1037 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-691-9812. Great family-run hangout for traditional seafood from Sinaloa and Nayarit, Mexico's crackling-hot desert/coastal states. Their ancient Sinaloa dish *aguachile* (shrimp in spicy brine) is simple, mouth-sizzlingly effective, *langostinos* are lush, but maybe most satisfying are whole-fish dishes like *pescado Veracruzano*. Truly traditional offerings come in giant three-legged *molcajetes*. Even their less-traditional signature dish, *Camarones Costa Azul* (crab and cheese-stuffed, bacon-wrapped shrimp) arrives in a burning hot *molcajete*. Also delicious: the sizzle-plate fajitas *mixtas*, with shrimp, beef, chicken. Many customers 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 feels strangely like Cabo. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *E.B.*

Sammy's Woodfired Pizza It's not Italian or New York pizza, it's...San Diego pizza! The crusts are Californian: thick and slightly sweet. The toppings

range from ordinary to exotic. The menu includes many salads and a handful of American-Italian entrées. Continuous service, same menu lunch and dinner. Open daily. Inexpensive. 702 Pearl Street, La Jolla, 858-456-5222; 770 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-230-8888; 8650 Genesee Avenue, Costa Verde, 858-404-9898; 12925 El Camino Real, Del Mar, 858-259-6600; 1620 Camino de la Reina, Mission Valley, 619-298-8222. — *N.W.*

St. Tropez If you love continental breakfast, these bright cafés with indoor-outdoor seating offer scores of house-baked pastries (including brioche) and good coffee. Parisian-style brunch/lunch choices embrace *croque monsieur* and *croque madame* (grilled ham and cheese sandwiches, topped with either light cream sauce or an egg), crêpes, quiche, onion soup gratinée, or chicken-filled puff-pastry. Omelets are rather weighty. Some of the sandwiches offer Mediterranean flavors — try a *pan bagnat* (*salade nicoise* on a baguette) or one of the grilled *panini*. Desserts range from cookies on up to elaborate cakes. Beer and wine. Open daily, breakfast to early dinner. Inexpensive. Encinitas: 947 South Coast Highway 101, Lumberyard Shopping Center #103D, 760-633-0084; downtown: 926 Broadway Circle, 619-696-8695 and 600 West Broadway, 619-234-2560; Hillcrest: 3805 Fifth Avenue, 619-497-0297; Rancho Bernardo: 16625 Dove Canyon #109, 858-673-6824. — *N.W.*



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These Three

The naturalistic acting comes across as unnaturally actorish.

Oh, goody. *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 leather-necks 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 bat-

tle 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, corraling a pallid picture in a wavering 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



Redacted

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 docucom-

edy, 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, horrific, 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-



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tensibly 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.

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 barricaded inside the local supermarket, The Food House, is simply to survive to the end of the movie: "It appears we may have a problem of some magnitude here," announces the skeptical store manager after viewing the chopped-off tip of a tentacle, still thrashing, at the loading dock. The traditional voice against tampering with nature, though quite properly a religious one, is in this instance a stridently fire-and-brimstone one (Marcia Gay Harden's), going on about "the end of time," never mind the end of

the movie; and there is no opposing voice more authoritative than Thomas Jane's, Toby Jones's, Jeffrey DeMunn's, Laurie Holden's, or Frances Sternhagen's (a no-star cast). The computer-generated creatures, very well-done, never overdone, are infinitely more congenial than this shrewish doomsayer, and not even Darabont's slushy, slapdash direction (shallow focus, rack focus, lack of focus) can spoil the party.

Speaking of mist, *I'm Not There* blows another cloud of mist into the mystique of Bob Dylan. Filmmaker Todd Haynes, who once enlisted Barbie dolls to tell the Karen Carpenter story, now borrows a gimmick used by Todd Solondz in *Palindromes*, employing a rotation of dissimilar actors to play a single role, a multiplication of a gimmick used by Luis Buñuel 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 hobo-style, or looking at Richard Gere in granny 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, jaundiced 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 folkie phase as well as in his Christian-con-

vert phase a decade later, gets the speaking voice, the cadence, just right. And Cate 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 Winshaw, 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 homely 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

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

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 plunked down against the billowing backdrop of the Sixties: the war, the draft, the protests, the drugs, the psychedelics, the Sexual Revolution, all that. To link the Beatles with the upheaval makes a certain sense. Unlike, say, the more enduring Rolling Stones or the going-nowhere Dave Clark Five, the Beatles were a group that really did evolve (or, as some would prefer, devolve) swiftly and dramatically, making them a useful weathercock for the winds of change. You are here reminded afresh of their range and their riches; and in new mouths, you hear the songs with new ears. (The tremulous, 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 of steam en route to a spluttering climax of "All You Need Is Love." (Wearily, now: yeah, yeah, yeah.) Part of the problem is that, as the counterculture gains momentum in the sequence of events, there's a visible increase in music-video vulgarity, ornamental surrealism, 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 a strict 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 cameos by Bono, Eddie Izzard, Joe Cocker, Salma Hayek. 2007.

★★ (HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; LA PALOMA; MISSION VALLEY 20)

American Gangster — Formula underworld drama poured into an epic template. Like Jiffy-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 legendary 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 undercover narc in New Jersey, studying for the bar in his spare time. Their eventual meeting comes, and drags 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 greased; and director Ridley Scott, the epitome of slick (*Alien*, *Blade Runner*, *Thelma and Louise*, *Gladiator*, *Black Hawk Down*, 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 as credible as a through-and-through baddie, even though that seems to be the way to the Oscar (i.e., *Training Day*). Crowe on the other hand is a perfectly credible crusader, overcoming no greater obstacles on the road to respectability than his buoyant white sneakers and his unflattering, inexpensive period haircut, framing his face with folded wings. With Chiwetel Ejiofor, Josh Brolin, Lymari Nadal, and Ruby Dee. 2007.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA CAMINO REAL; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER



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VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Bee Movie — Cute name, even for an overhyped, presold, mega-budget money-making machine. (The return of Jerry Seinfeld! — as leading voice, co-writer, co-producer, and principal drum beater.) Cute is much more than you can say, however, for the spongy, marshmallowy computer-animated honeybees or for the premise that permits them to converse in English at equal volume with humans. The storyline of a rebel bee unready to settle down to his one and only Job-for-Life has its points of cleverness (e.g., the episode of getting stuck on a tennis ball, ultimately overelaborated), and toward the end of it there's a sententious lesson in ecology, more for grownups than for tots. With the voices of Renée Zellweger, Matthew Broderick, Chris Rock, Patrick Warburton; directed by Simon J. Smith and Steve Hickner. 2007.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Before the Devil Knows You're Dead — Interesting attempt by the eighty-three-year-old Sidney Lumet to keep up with the Tarantinos, piloting a caper film of back-and-forth time jumps and alternating points of view. The caper itself, a jewelry store stickup, is strictly small-time. "We don't want Tiffany's," the mastermind, a drug-dependent real estate accountant (Philip Seymour Hoffman), pitches the idea to his younger brother, a deadbeat dad (Ethan Hawke): "We want a mom-and-pop operation." More specifically, the operation of their own mom and pop (Rosemary Harris and Albert Finney), squeezed between Claire's and Foot Locker in a cookie-cutter Westchester shopping mall. The robbery goes very wrong very early, and the ensuing time scramble dispenses information and revelations on an unpredictable schedule. We meet "Grandma," for example, at a school play *after* we have seen her shot in the holdup and *before* we find out she was not supposed to be at work that day. And we find out that the recruited younger brother is having an affair with his sister-in-law, the mastermind's wife (Marisa Tomei, more extensively attractive than ever), *before* we even know that the mastermind has any part in the plan. The totally botched robbery, leaving no prospect of success and profit, quickly eliminates much of the standard suspense in this sort of thing (cueing instead a brooding *Fargo*-esque musical score from *Fargo*'s actual composer, Carter Burwell), and it permits the focus to shift to the deeply jaundiced view of family life — family discord, family disloyalty, family dysfunction. That view, while it lets in a fair share of malicious humor, is not to be taken lightly. Lumet, whose long list of credits runs along the lines of *Twelve Angry Men*, *Long Day's Journey into Night*, *Fail-Safe*, *The Pawnbroker*, *Serpico*, *Dog Day Afternoon*, *Network*, *The Verdict*, and the like, is by nature banished from lightness. 2007. ★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Bella — Love in New York City, with Eduardo Verástegui, Tammy Blanchard, Manny Perez, and Ali Landry, directed by Alejandro Gomez Monteverde. (ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SAN MARCOS 18)

Beowulf — Robert Zemeckis's computer-animated treatment of the 8th-century epic poem, with the voices of Ray Winstone, Anthony Hopkins, and Angelina Jolie. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN

DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 11/16)

The Bourne Ultimatum — The *Bourne* absurdum. It isn't just that Part III in the adventures of the amnesiac superspy adds more ridiculousness. It's that, at these lengths, the ridiculousness multiplies exponentially. More ridiculousness, that is, and more and more ridiculous. (The sentimental soft spots found in Parts I and II are here concentrated in a couple of female, motherly, protective, nurturing CIA agents who, alone among their heartless colleagues, are interested in keeping the hero

alive.) Paul Greengrass's frantic visual style — a hand-held camera in the grips of delirium tremens — fosters irritation where it intended excitement. With Matt Damon, Joan Allen, Julia Stiles, David Strathairn, Scott Glenn, and Albert Finney. 2007. ● (GASLAMP 15)

The Bubble — Israeli filmmaker Eytan Fox explores relations between Jews and Arabs in present-day Tel Aviv. (KEN, 11/16 THROUGH 20)

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-DAVID DENBY, THE NEW YORKER

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-DAVID FEAR, TIME OUT NEW YORK

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-OWEN GLEIBERMAN, ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

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-LEAN ROZEN, PEOPLE

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-ROGER EBERT, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

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-MARSHALL FINE, STAR MAGAZINE

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-LEAN ROZEN, PEOPLE

"DYNAMITE! RANKS WITH THE YEAR'S BEST."

-PETER TRAVERS, ROLLING STONE

"A TERRIFIC SUCCESS!"

-A.O. SCOTT, THE NEW YORK TIMES

"A POWERHOUSE! LUMET BACK AT THE TOP OF HIS GAME."

-JAN STUART, NEWSDAY

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-CLAUDIA PUIG, USA TODAY

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49th Parallel

BABETTE MANGOLTE

Filmmaker and professor, UCSD Visual Arts Department

Michael Powell is probably best known for *The Red Shoes* and *Black Narcissus*, made after the war with his collaborator Emeric Pressburger. But the films they made during World War II, thanks to funding from the British Ministry of Information, are fascinating 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 examination 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



10 on Ten

AYDA MELIKA

Videographer, instructor, and San Diego Unified School District video producer

Abbas Kiarostami's *10 on Ten* and *Five Dedicated 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 is a journey of discovery. These lessons are a provocative and insightful contemplation of the art of cinema.

Composed of five long shots, Kiarostami's *Five* structurally refers to the static-camera experiments 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 extremely 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



Frontiers of Dreams and Fears

DORIS BITTAR

Artist, writer, and educator, www.dorisbittar.com

Mai Masri is an award-winning director from Ramalah, Palestine. Her *Children of Shatila* and *Frontiers of Dreams and Fears* are both worth checking out. *Frontiers of Dreams and Fears* was the Official Selection of the 2002 Human Rights Watch International Film Festival. Masri's flawless documentaries are poetic, brutal, and direct so as to make an entire audience weep. Masri steers us to specific lives that take us to the larger sociopolitical center of Palestinian aspirations. *Frontiers of Dreams and Fears*, in particular, documents the effects of being a Palestinian refugee through the eyes of teenagers from different refugee camps: one in Lebanon and one in Israel. Through letters and shared stories, the children get to know each other and organize to meet for the first time at the Lebanese-Israeli border.

CHILDREN OF SHATILA 1998, Arab Film Distribution
List price: \$250 (for institutional use)
FRONTIERS OF DREAMS AND FEARS 2001, Arab Film Distribution
List price: \$250 (for institutional use)

not spoken to one another in the year since their father's funeral, now heading out together on a "spiritual journey" in a first-class sleeper car across India, with the ultimate aim of tracking down their mother (a no-show at the funeral) in a convent at the foot of the Himalayas. In other words, a typical Wes Anderson operation, bringing about the insecure bonding of misaligned oddballs, but in an atypical exotic setting, the better to draw out their oddness. Owen Wilson, Adrien Brody, Jason Schwartzman, Amara Karan, Anjelica Huston, Bill Murray. 2007. ★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA 12)

Fred Claus — Christmas comedy with Vince Vaughn, Paul Giamatti, and Rachel Weisz, directed by David Dobkin. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18;

SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Gone Baby Gone — Directing debut of Ben Affleck, who stays behind the camera and cedes the spotlight to his younger brother Casey, in the role of Patrick Kenzie, the Boston missing-persons private eye ("I find the people that started in the cracks and then fell through"), along with his "snooty" 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 derelict 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 chip-on-the-shoulder defensiveness about it. A singularly unprepossessing hero, he gains stature by holding his ground, however suddenly, against some highly showy performances (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 lowlifes, before he succumbs to a muddying plot and a gagging resolution. 2007.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Heartbreak Kid — The Farrelly brothers' remake, thirty-five years after the original, serves as a handy gauge of the decline of Western civilization. Apart from their substitution of bodily-function gags for social observation and verbal wit, the well-cast and well-constructed comedy about the man who strays on his honeymoon (as directed by Elaine May and as written by Neil Simon) has been badly recast — Ben Stiller, Malin Akerman, Michelle Monaghan in place of Charles Grodin, Jeannie Berlin, Cybill Shepherd — and ruinously reconstructed, so that we now have an unwieldy, drawn-out first act, an interminable and repetitious middle act, and a hasty, slapdash last act. The Farrellys have given the groom a mountain of "motivation" to stray, and given him the Perfect Woman to stray to, thus taking the sting out of the joke and exposing themselves as a couple of consummate clods. 2007.

● (PALM PROMENADE 24)

In the Valley of Elah — A more commendable writing and directing effort from Paul Haggis (writer only on *Million Dollar Baby* and *Flags of Our Fathers*, among others) than his hokey Oscar-winner, *Crash*. More focussed, more concentrated, more self-contained, more consistent: an uncompromisingly mournful murder mystery, and strangled 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 recognition. Say what you will about the filmmaker's political point-making, it never clogs up the unrushed flow of the narrative; and at the same time he shows a true cinematic eye for tacky Americana, 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 mood lighting of nauseous green and blanched white is a case of whatever would be the opposite of gilding the lily — wilting the weed, possibly — and equally unnecessary.) Tommy Lee Jones, as the victim's father, a retired M. P. and current gravel hauler who presses the investigation forward when the military looks for an easy way out, has just the right amount of starch in his performance, touchingly repressed. Charlize Theron on the other hand, as the beleaguered civilian cop who eventually takes an interest, is perhaps more emotional than you want from a cop, but not more glamorous, with mannish attire, no makeup, and her hair parted in the middle and pulled back as severely as Emily Dickinson's. The rest of the cast has been carefully chosen down to the smallest role, with spe-

cial mention reserved for Susan Sarandon, Jason Patric, James Franco, Jake McLaughlin, Wes Chatham, Josh Brolin, Barry Corbin, and, nonchalantly topless in her mid-fifties, Frances Fisher. 2007.

★★★ (GASLAMP 15)

Into the Wild — Illustration, in a sketchy hand, of the Jon Krakauer nonfiction book on Christopher McCandless, a 1990 college graduate, on the doorstep of Harvard Law School, who gave away his tuition fund to Oxfam, obliterated his identity, renamed himself Alexander Supertramp, and swapped the evils of society for the purity of the northern wilderness ("No longer to be poisoned by civilization," he carved into a wooden shingle at his encampment), where ultimately he starved to death in 1992. It may not sound like much of an idea for a film. It isn't. A Seventies-style road movie, redolent of Seventies-style disaffection, it has a strong element of travelogue, as our happy-go-lucky hobo rides his aging Datsun westward to South Dakota, abandons it at Lake Mead, kayaks down the Colorado River, drifts into Mexico, train-hops up to L.A., thumbs his way to the Salton Sea, Anza Borrego, and Alaska. In that final destination, the travelogue veers toward nature documentary. At nearly two and a half hours, the film feels very, very long, albeit short on relatable incident: the protagonist goes places, he meets people, and then he goes to a place where he won't meet people, where he will meet only his end, a martyr to something or other. Director Sean Penn unmistakably takes himself very seriously, and takes his protagonist almost reverently, painting him as something of a holy fool (a reader of Tolstoi, even though an eater of meat when he can get it), and offering up this speculative reenactment as nothing less than an endorsement. At the top, he sets the tone with a high-flown epigraph from Lord Byron: "I love not man the less, but Nature more" — that one. The kid sister periodically supplies some explanatory narration ("I understand what he was doing"), and Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder chimes in with a half-dozen or so acoustic songs in sympathy and support. Of the real protagonist's earnestness and conviction, the film can tell us next to nothing. Of the filmmaker's, it can tell us much. And then it can tell us again. And again. With Emile Hirsch, Marcia Gay Harden, William Hurt, Jena Malone, Vince Vaughn, and Hal Holbrook. 2007.

★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Kingdom — A remedial history lesson on U.S. -Saudi relations, behind the opening credits, introduces a hypothetical massacre of a hundred-plus American citizens at an oil-company picnic, the handiwork of an "Osama wannabe." Speedily onto the scene — where were they 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 wiseacre), to take names and kick ass, but first to burn the ears of the local Saudi investigator with their salty Free Speech. (Ashraf Barhom, in the part, is as likable as he is expendable.) Director Peter Berg's bob-and-weave camera, that cliché of immediacy and urgency, is a continual annoyance, and in the climactic action is worse than that. Our inability to follow what's happening can scarcely convince us it's actually happening. 2007.

● (GASLAMP 15)

Lars and the Real Girl — Director Craig Gillespie, of the mainstream *Mr. Woodcock*, indulges the monkeyshines of Ryan Gosling in the part of an antisocial Minnesota Lutheran who seeks happiness in a chaste relationship with an anatomically correct life-size sex doll. Everyone in town loves him too much, for some unapparent reason, to burst his literal balloon. Pretty much one-note, and sour. With Emily Mortimer, Paul Schneider, Kelli Garner, and Patricia Clarkson. 2007.

● (HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Lions for Lambs — Topics on the table: the war on terror, the lack of a battle plan to wage it, the governmental policy of dis-

show), complicated by romantic rivalry: two brothers, a widower with three girls and a reformed womanizer, both smitten by a worldly Frenchwoman. A showcase for Steve Carell's self-consciousness, somewhat more sympathetic than Dane Cook's lugishness. Juliette Binoche looks as if she could do better. With John Mahoney, Diane Wiest, and Emily Blunt; directed by Peter Hedges. 2007.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Darjeeling Limited — One thing to be said for a Wes Anderson film, and it's no small thing, is that it bears an individual stamp. A stamp as flat as a postage stamp, as emphatic as a rubber stamp. (Whap, whap.) A well-known commodity after *Bottle Rocket*, *Rushmore*, *The Royal Tennenbaums*, *The Life Aquatic of Steve Zissou*, An-

derson favors fastidiously balanced, nailed-down compositions, the figures pinned to a shallow background like butterfly specimens. Stressing their separateness, he has no intention to hinge his shots together into a smooth and seamless line, but instead slots them into place as if on disconnected planes, setting up a clumping rhythm of starts and stops, glazing the screen with the deadest of deadpans, and erecting an invisible wall (invulnerable even to the occasional uncharacteristic zoom) between the filmmaker and his characters, freakishly feckless people, abject puppets manipulated by a man with little regard for human diversity and volition. The effect — the unhumanness of these humanoids — is often amusing and always distancing. The danger in the director's method is that it can be *too* distancing and therefore not amusing *enough*. (Since he always clamps a tasteful mute on the audience's merriment, the standard laugh-meter is an unreliable measure.) If this outing seems a cut above all previous ones, it may be the benefit of a real, a tangible, a substantial background against which to display his specimens: three, thirty-something brothers who have

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 academe, and (if that’s not enough) the responsibility of each and 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 an hour-long 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 California university,” where he now, conscience-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 three distinct twosomes. Although a few flashbacks combat this effect, the staginess — the soapboxiness — never for a moment relents. The film, really more a forum than a film (“Here we are,” the truest statement the senator makes, “having a high-minded debate”), 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 tenuously connected, sketchily conceived fictional characters. Presented for the most part in a constricted face-shot style, and rather sickly in complexion for so eminent a cinematographer 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, that *the terrorists have won*.) And — despite an A-list cast of Tom Cruise, Meryl Streep, and Robert Redford, the last of whom also directed — it logs in at several ticks under ninety minutes, as if any greater elaboration would have dangerously delayed the delivery of the message. With Andrew



Before the Devil Knows You’re Dead

Garfield, Derek Luke, Michael Peña. 2007. ● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18;

TOWN SQUARE 14)

Love in the Time of Cholera — Half a century of unrequited love, too much time for Javier Bardem to span persuasively, ceding the early years to a younger unmatching actor (Unax Ugalde), then acting awkwardly younger than he looks, then donning a series of stick-on mustaches from

coal black to salt-and-pepper to sooty gray. To make matters worse, the object of his love remains the same actress throughout, Giovanna Mezzogiorno, and changes but little. Even at two and a quarter hours, the film (adapted by Ronald Harwood from a hefty novel by Gabriel Garcia Márquez) often feels hurried and half-baked. With Benjamin Bratt, Catalina Sandino Moreno,

Fernanda Montenegro, John Leguizamo, and Hector Elizondo; directed by Mike Newell. 2007. ● (ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 11/16)

Lust, Caution — Under the rare “NC-17” rating, filmmaker Ang Lee shows his high-mindedness by keeping us waiting an hour and a half for the hot stuff (borderline hardcore action, laced with S&M, the doll-faced newcomer Tang Wei as an unprotesting sex toy), and another hour and ten minutes still to go. What we wait through, or wade through, is a stagnant spy drama about a resistance cell formed of zealous theater students in Second World War-time Shanghai, plotting the assassination of a “cautious” (but lustful) collaborator with the occupying Japanese. The director, straight off *Brokeback Mountain*, reportedly cut the film by some fifty minutes for the more puritanical Chinese market, while, in his own assessment, perfectly preserving the spirit of the thing. Inasmuch as there are scarcely fifty minutes of hot stuff, scarcely even five, we must suppose he has cut through some of the stagnancy as well. (And maybe, more regrettably, the very messily violent knife murder, as difficult and clumsy a killing as that of the gum-chewing KGB man in Hitchcock’s *Torn Curtain*.) Frankly, it might have been preferable to see the shorter version over here. The entire course of the plot, the height or depth of passion it strives for, can be taken as a kind of tribute to the magnetism of Tony Leung, even in the role of a sadistic quisling. But although you can see at the end of it where it wanted to get to, you cannot see, from all that came before, how it ever expected to get there. 2007. ★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Martian Child — Sci-fi writer (and widower) adopts a problem child who believes he’s from another planet. The means of expression are hackneyed and mawkish, and John Cusack’s emotional reserves run only puddle-deep, but the warm, clean, well-lit

MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL

CLAIREMONT

Town Square 14
4665 Clairemont Drive (858-274-1234)
Call theater for program information

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15
701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400)
Call theater for program information

Horton Plaza 14
Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)
Call theater for program information

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12
8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262)
Call theater for program information

La Jolla Village
8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)
A Christmas Story (PG) Sat. 11:55p.m.

MIRA MESA

Mira Mesa 18
10733 Westview Parkway (858-635-7700)
Call theater for program information

MISSION VALLEY

Fashion Valley 18
7037 Friars Road (858-558-2262)
Call theater for program information

Mission Valley 7
7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)
Call theater for program information

Mission Valley 20
1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262)
Call theater for program information

STATE UNIVERSITY

Ken
4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)
The Bubble (Not Rated)

UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas
3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)
Before the Devil Knows You’re Dead (R);
The Darjeeling Limited (R); **Into the Wild** (R); **No Country for Old Men** (R)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center
1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)
Call theater for program information

San Diego Natural History Museum
1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821)
Ocean Oasis (Not Rated) Fri. 10:10a.m.

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18
405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)
BCall theater for program information

LA MESA

Grossmont Center
Grossmont Center (619-465-7100)
Call theater for program information

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15
2951 Jamacha Road
Call theater for program information

SANTEE

Santee Drive In
10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)
Bee Movie (PG); **Fred Claus** (PG); **Mr. Woodcock** (PG-13); **Stardust** (PG-13)

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10
Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)
American Gangster (R); **Bee Movie** (PG); **Beowulf** (PG-13); **Fred Claus** (PG); **The Game Plan** (PG-13); **Lions for Lambs** (R); **Mr. Magorium’s Wonder Emporium** (G); **P2** (R); **Saw IV** (R)

Palm Promenade 24
770 Dennerly Road (858-558-2262)
Call theater for program information

Rancho Del Rey 16
East H Street (619-216-4707)
Call theater for program information

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive-In
2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727)
Call theater for program information

NORTH INLAND

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Carmel Mountain
11620 Carmel Mountain Road (858-674-9770)
The Abandoned (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:10, 2:50) 4:55, 7:10, 9:40; **The Abandoned** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:50) 4:45, 7:20, 10:15; **The Abandoned** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 12:45, 2:30, 3:30) 5:05, 7:00, 9:45; **American Gangster** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:15) 4:15, 7:35; **Bee Movie** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:25, 1:00, 2:40, 3:20) 5:00, 5:30, 7:25, 7:50, 9:30, 10:00; **Beowulf** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:35) 5:15, 7:55, 10:25; **The Comebacks** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 2:25) 4:35, 7:05, 9:35; **Dan in Real Life** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 2:55) 5:25, 8:00, 10:20; **Gone Baby Gone** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:55) 4:50, 7:30, 10:10; **Mr. Magorium’s Wonder Emporium** (G) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 2:45) 5:10, 7:30, 9:50; **P2** (R) Fri.-Sun. 7:40, 10:05

ESCONDIDO

Escondido 16
350 W. Valley Parkway (760-291-0119)
Call theater for program information

FALLBROOK

River Village
5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784)
American Gangster (R); **Bee Movie** (PG); **Beowulf** (PG-13); **Fred Claus** (PG); **Lions for Lambs** (R); **Mr. Magorium’s Wonder Emporium** (G)

POWAY

Poway 10
13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)
American Gangster (R); **Bee Movie** (PG); **Beowulf** (PG-13); **Dan in Real Life** (PG-13); **Fred Claus** (PG); **Lions for Lambs** (R); **Martian Child** (PG); **Mr. Magorium’s Wonder Emporium** (G); **P2** (R)

SAN MARCOS

San Marcos 18
1180 West San Marcos Boulevard at Old California Walk (760-471-3711)
Call theater for program information

VISTA

Vista Village
Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive (760-945-7469)
Call theater for program information

NORTH COASTAL

CARLSBAD

Plaza Camino Real
2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469)
Call theater for program information

DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8
El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)
American Gangster (R); **Bee Movie** (PG); **Beowulf** (PG-13); **Dan in Real Life** (PG-13); **Fred Claus** (PG); **Martian Child** (PG); **Michael Clayton** (R); **Mr. Magorium’s Wonder Emporium** (G)

Flower Hill 4
2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425)
Into the Wild (R); **Lions for Lambs** (R); **Love in the Time of Cholera** (R); **No Country for Old Men** (R)

ENCINITAS

La Paloma
471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW)
Across the Universe (PG-13)

LA COSTA

La Costa 6
6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)
American Gangster (R); **Bee Movie** (PG); **Dan in Real Life** (PG-13); **Fred Claus** (PG); **Lions for Lambs** (R); **Mr. Magorium’s Wonder Emporium** (G)

OCEANSIDE

Mission Marketplace 13
College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-806-1790)
American Gangster (R); **Bee Movie** (PG); **Beowulf** (PG-13); **Dan in Real Life** (PG-13); **Fred Claus** (PG); **Mr. Magorium’s Wonder Emporium** (G); **P2** (R); **Saw IV** (R); **Why Did I Get Married?** (PG-13)

Oceanside 16
401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733)
Call theater for program information

SANDIEGOREADER.COM

Calendar

MOVIES

photography of Robert Yeoman (on whose talents Wes Anderson holds no monopoly) will give the sensitive viewer something to cozy up to, something constant. With Bobby Coleman, Amanda Peet, Joan Cusack, Oliver Platt, Sophie Okonedo, and Anjelica Huston; directed by Menno Meyjes. 2007.

★ (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; POWAY 10)

Michael Clayton — The title figure is the designated fixer for the elite Manhattan law firm of Kenner, Bach & Ledeen, touted as a “miracle worker” but more modest in his self-assessment: “I’m not a miracle worker, I’m a janitor. 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 UNorth for short, makes a very big mess. Aside from being George Clooney, the hero doesn’t look like much. Crushed under a mountain of debt, sworn off the gambling habit (notwithstanding a prefatory relapse at the poker table), run ragged by his job, begging his boss for an advance and getting

the brush-off, he has little time for his neglected son and none for a shave. In addition to all that, Clooney has firmly suppressed the head-wagging smugness that so often chills his charm. In fact he has sunken into the part quite deeply and depressively. We keep waiting to see some sign of a miracle. And waiting. In its bald essentials — the soulless law firm, the monolithic corporation, the robotic hit men, the stirrings of conscience and poses of piety, the mechanics of comeuppance — the film is fairly standard-issue. But screenwriter (the *Bourne* series) and first-time director Tony Gilroy, beginning with the nonlinear narrative arrangement, has devised an all-over strategy of tease and obfuscation, very clever at disguising the lack of cleverness. Very clever, that is, in presentation, not in plot, character, idea. If we sometimes grow weary of not knowing what the hell people are talking about, we never altogether get weary of wanting to know. Tilda Swinton, Tom Wilkinson, Sydney Pollack. 2007.

★★ (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14)

Mr. Magorium’s Wonder Emporium — Family fantasy with Dustin Hoffman and Natalie Portman, written and directed by Zach Helm.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 18; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 11/16)

Music Within — Ron Livingston plays Richard Pimentel, a hearing-impaired Vietnam vet and disabilities activist, directed by Steven Sawalich.

(MISSION VALLEY 20)

No Country for Old Men — The Coen brothers’ adaptation of a violent Cormac McCarthy novel, starring Tommy Lee Jones, Javier Bardem, Josh Brolin.

(FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIRA MESA 18; FROM 11/16)

Resident Evil: Extinction — Post-apocalyptic posturing, in an ankle-length duster, with two sheathed machetes, by a feminine Mad Max, or to be more exact an Angry Alice, a plasticity, poreless, yet perspiry Milla Jovovich. The door is left wide open to a third sequel. With Ali Larter, Oded Fehr, and Iain Glen; directed by Russell Mulcahy. 2007.

● (GASLAMP 15)

Stardust — Facetious fairy tale located in a magical kingdom within Merry Old England, populated by an ardent suitor, a grasping inamorata, a humanoid heavenly body, a stray 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 Flemyng, Mark Strong, and Peter O’Toole; directed by Matthew Vaughn. 2007.

★ (SANTEE DRIVE IN)

30 Days of Night — A tribe of subtitled vampires strategically targets the northernmost town in the U.S., Barrow, Alaska, hunkered down for a sunless month, free rein for nocturnal bloodsuckers. The majestic clouds and snowscapes on the last day of light ignite hope for a sense of style, but the superhuman strength and speed of the monsters soon prepare you for boredom and monotony, albeit *gory* boredom and monotony. A brief recurrence of majesty: the aerial view of slaughter, splotches of red on a field of snow, an action painting in motion.

With Josh Hartnett, Melissa George, Ben Foster, Danny Huston, and Mark Boone Junior; directed by David Slade. 2007.

● (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15)

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 lawful side (Robert Duvall), 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 Yards*, also featuring Wahlberg, and *Little Odessa*, also featuring Russian mobsters) stages an exciting shootout on wheels in a low-visibility rainstorm. If this scene could be bodily transferred, let’s say, to *The Godfather*, it would be celebrated as an immortal cinematic set piece. The Polish contemporary classical composer Wojciech Kilar, whenever there’s a breather in the Eighties oldies, contributes some weighty, heavy-treading incidental music. With Eva Mendes, Alex Veadov, Antoni Corone, and Tony Musante. 2007.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18)

Wristcutters: A Love Story — Buddy movie, road movie, romance movie, set in a mundane afterlife exclusively for suicides, no smiling allowed: “Everything is the same here; it’s just a little worse.” A lifeless (literally, but also figuratively) fantasy, difficult to recognize or remember as fantasy. With Patrick Fugit (looking a bit like an undergraduate Harvey Keitel), Shannyn Sossamon, Shea Whigham, Leslie Bibb, and Tom Waits; written and directed by Goran Dukic. 2007.

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CONSTRUCTION: Project Managers, Service Technicians, Installers. Seeking motivated, organized people experienced with design, blueprints, A/V systems installation. Benefits offered. Send resume: dplotkin@audioassociates.com; fax 619-461-9469. EOE.

COOK. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring a Cook. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm: San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

COORDINATOR (family services). Full time licensed-eligible intern or licensed MFT/LCSW. Working with SED, high-risk youth, families. Provide case management and counseling services for client and family. Positions available throughout San Diego County, including North County region. Bilingual a plus. MHS, Inc. is an EOE, offers excellent benefits/competitive salaries. resume and cover letter to: famfor-admin@mhsinc.org or fax 858-569-1873.

CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY PROBATION Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Dates: November 17, 2007, 8am or December 8, 2007, 8am. Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. Must be 21 years, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or becoming a citizen. Pass criminal/personal background investigation. No felony convictions. High school diploma/GED. \$35,068-\$44,740/year. www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation. Jobline: 858-514-8558.



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Or apply in person 12-5 pm Monday-Thursday:
2851 Camino del Rio South, Suite 300
San Diego, CA 92108

Careers in Probation

Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I

Minimum Qualifications

- 21 years old • Good physical condition • No illicit drug usage
 - U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen
- No felony convictions • High school diploma or GED

Salary:

\$35,069-\$44,741 annually

Safety Retirement-Sworn Officers 3% at age 50.
Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply.

Test dates:

November 17, 2007 • 8 am
or December 8, 2007 • 8 am

Montgomery Middle School
2470 Ulric Street • San Diego, CA 92111

Maximum 85 applicants. Applications available at the test site.

For additional information, contact the department's

Jobline: 858-514-8558

www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation



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CORRECTIONAL MONITOR. Volunteers of America is a faith-based social service nonprofit. Come join us in our life saving mission to help individuals and families obtain the tools they need to improve their quality life. Want experience in the field of corrections? You would monitor the activities of clients at our parole program located in downtown San Diego, ensuring the safety and security of the clients, the facility and ensuring normal operations. Requires HS/GED and related work experience (\$8.28/hour). Call HR at 619-228-2047, email resume to hr@voa-swcal.org, fax to 619-282-8210, or mail to Volunteers of America, Attention: HR, 3530 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92108. EEO/AAP Employer.

COUNSELORS: Alcohol and Drug Treatment. Volunteers of America is a faith-based social service nonprofit. Come join us in our life saving mission to help individuals and families obtain the tools they need to improve their quality life. Alcohol and Drug Treatment Counselors needed to assist clients at our facility in the Flynn Springs area of El Cajon. Treatment Specialist I requires HS/GED and willingness to enroll in Alcohol and Drug certification program (\$9.25/hour). Treatment Specialist II requires AA degree or CAARR certification and related work experience (\$10.00-\$11.00/hour). Night and overnight shifts a priority. Criminal background check required. Call HR at 619-228-2047, email resume to hr@voa-swcal.org, fax to 619-282-8210, or mail to Volunteers of America, Attention: HR, 3530 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92108. EEO/AAP Employer.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES. Today's Stuff is looking for Customer Service Reps to work full time or part time Monday-Friday. For further information, please call 204-887-6348.

CUSTOMER SERVICE. 150 Inbound Customer Service Reps needed now! Take gift orders over the phone and Internet. \$10/hour plus incentives. Full time/part time, all shifts available. Mission Valley location close to public transportation. Fun, casual environment. Must be Internet savvy. Apply in person 7am-5pm Monday-Friday: Sedona Staffing, 7380 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 209, San Diego, CA 92111. Shannia@SedonaStaffing.com. 619-818-4332.

Free Classifieds!

Post free online ads with photos at SDReader.com

CUSTOMER SERVICE. Face-to-face interviewing. No sales! Will train. \$10-12/hour. Full/part-time. 619-379-4237.

CUSTOMER SERVICE. Setup and display. No experience necessary, we will train. Call for interview, 619-448-2294.

CUSTOMER SERVICE. Up to \$500-\$1000+ weekly setting appointments! www.monarchjobs.com. Paid weekly, AM/PM shifts. Full, part time. Medical, dental. Near Grantville trolley. Call today, start today! Mission Valley: 619-516-4276.

DATA ENTRY SPECIALIST. Volunteers of America is a faith-based social service nonprofit. Come join us in our life saving mission to help individuals and families obtain the tools they need to improve their quality life. You would collect data and do data entry for alcohol and drug treatment program to determine program effectiveness. Position is located at our downtown alcohol and drug treatment facility. Requires AA degree or 60 credit hours and proven experience in data entry (\$9.00-\$9.90/hour). Call HR at 619-228-2047, email resume to hr@voa-swcal.org, fax to 619-282-8210, or mail to Volunteers of America, Attention: HR, 3530 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92108. EEO/AAP Employer.

DELIVERY DRIVER. Courier delivery service seeks individuals for dedicated San Diego routes and on-demand Messengers for all areas. Full and part time. Clean DMV record, reliable vehicle. Will train. Call 24-hour Jobline: 877-574-3726.

DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER. County of San Diego Probation Department is now hiring. Test Dates: November 17, 2007 or December 15, 2007. Qualified applicants will be notified by mail of the time and location of the test. Applications must be submitted no later than 15 days prior to exam date. Qualifications: Bache-

lor's degree with experience. Must be 21 years, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen. Pass criminal/personal background investigation. No felony convictions. \$50,752-\$61,672/year. Safety Retirement-Sworn Officers 3% at age 50. Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply. Applications can be accessed online from the Job/Current Recruitment section of the County website at: <http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov>. Jobline: 858-514-8558.

DEPUTY SHERIFF and Deputy Sheriff Detentions/Courts. San Diego County Sheriff's Department. Hiring for two types of positions: take one exam, apply for either or both! Special Exam Dates: Tuesday, November 20, 2007, 5:30pm arrival or Tuesday, November 27, 2007, 5:30pm arrival. Sheriff's Administrative Center, 9621 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego CA 92123. Registration by e-mail or phone is required for the Ridgehaven test ONLY at: recruit@sdsheriff.org. Detention/Courts: \$39,796-\$61,608 annual salary, plus benefits. 18-year-olds eligible to apply! Deputy Sheriff: \$49,704-\$71,099 current annual salary, plus benefits. U.S. citizen or applied for citizenship; 20-1/2 years old. High school graduate or G.E.D. required. Bring valid photo ID. Valid California Driver's License prior to appointment. Effective oral and written communication in English. EOE. Additional test dates: www.joinsdSHERIFF.net. 858-974-2000.

DISPATCHER COORDINATOR. Social Services Coordinator, Van Driver, Caregiver or Homemaker. CNA, HHA, and PCA. Is it time for a career change? Competitive salary, benefits, flexible. Email incoqs@sbcbglobal.net, fax 760-428-9442. In-Home Care, 5963 La Place Court, Suite 114, Carlsbad, CA 92008. 760-931-5442.

DISPATCHER. Experience preferred. Part time, 25-35 hours/week. Nights and weekends. Benefits. Old Town area. Apply in person: 3140 Moore Street, San Diego 92110. 619-778-3807. Email chrisortiz2@cox.net.

DISPATCHER. Seeking experienced Dispatcher for local transportation company. Must be familiar with Livery Coach software. Must be dependable. 619-224-1141.

DOG/CAT & OTHER PET CARE in your home. Paid "Host Families" needed for vacationing pets. Experience with animals necessary. www.pawsonplaypetcamp.com. Toll free, 888-320-PETS (7387).

DOOR PERSONNEL. In Cahoots now hiring. No experience necessary. Apply in person, Tuesday-Friday, after 5pm: 5373 Mission Center Road, San Diego 92108. incahootssandiego@msn.com.

DRIVER HELPER, SEASONAL: UPS is hiring for Seasonal Driver Helper positions in Chula Vista, San Diego and San Marcos. Must be able to meet UPS driver appearance standards, able to meet driver in delivery area, at least 18 years old, available to work during the day Monday-Friday (on-call basis), available to work October 1-December 31. \$8.50/hour. Apply online at www.upsjobs.com.

DRIVER, VENDING ROUTE. Full time. Experienced preferred or will train. Bring clean DMV. Good pay plus benefits, company vehicle. Apply Monday-Friday: 7988 Stromesa Court, San Diego.

DRIVER. Lakeside area. Class B with P endorsement and current DOT medical card. Experienced operating 16-26 passenger minibus with wheelchair equipment. California driver's license and clear DMV required. Full-time. 7am-4pm, Monday-Friday. Excellent benefits. \$10.25/hour to start DOE. Unwayway Inc.: 619-562-6330.

DRIVER. One full or 2 part time Drivers needed at beautiful retirement community. Days and shifts will vary. Must be available nights/weekends. Apply in person at 7450 Olivetas Avenue, La Jolla. Email ruthmorris@scphs.com. Call 858-450-5276 or fax 858-450-5207.

DRIVER. Tow truck. Full time. Experienced preferred but will train. South Bay

area. Clean DMV. Background checks required. Salary plus commission and benefits. 619-543-8951. seveltow@aol.com.

DRIVER/WAREHOUSE. Part time, possibly full time. Responsible, reliable, hard-working, able to multi-task, self-starter, detail-oriented and needs minimum supervision. Call 858-581-2628, fax 858-581-2629.

DRIVER/LEGAL MESSENGER. Great opportunity in busy, growing litigation support service. We will train an enthusiastic team player. Good driving record, \$9.00 to start, company car. Full time. 619-298-2385.

DRIVERS WANTED. Requires valid CA driver's license, current H-6 DMV printout and good, safe driving skills. Hourly/commission/tips. Call 619-591-0303 or or apply in person at Xpress Shuttle, 1065 Bay Boulevard, Suite B, Chula Vista, CA 91911.

DRIVERS, DELIVERY. \$12+/hour, must be at least 21, clean DMV, Class C license. Full-time positions, great benefits. Days, afternoons, weekends. Background check/drug test required. Excellent customer service skills. Apply in person: Sleep Train Mattress Centers, 9455 Cabot Drive, 92126. 858-877-2005.

DRIVERS, TOW TRUCK. Full-time. All shifts. No experience required. Top pay/benefits. Requires 21+ years, clean driving record, background/drug screen. 3140 Moore Street (92110). Old Town area. email: chrisortiz2@cox.net or call 619-778-3807.

DRIVERS. Bonus paid! Auto parts delivery with late model pickup truck, car or van. Clean DMV. Local and North County openings. \$1750 to \$2400 a month. Fuel paid. Independent contractors. 619-233-4374.

DRIVERS. Dominion Distribution is looking for part-time Drivers to deliver free publications on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. You must have a truck, van or SUV and be currently insured. Call

Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm, 858-279-3137 x243.

DRIVERS. Immediate openings for delivery throughout San Diego County! Deliver AT&T phone books to new customers. Good pay! Year-round work. Full-time or part-time hours. Day time hours only. Use your own car. Paid car allowances. Must bring with you: Driver's license, Social Security card, proof of insurance. Transportation and drug screening required. Apply or call 9am-1pm Monday-Thursday at 9586 Distribution Avenue, Suite K, Miramar, San Diego, 92121; 858-547-4427.

DRIVERS. Local transportation company is seeking reliable, experienced Chauffeurs. Must be dependable. 619-224-1141.

DRIVERS. Now hiring Patrol Drivers! \$11.00 per hour. Call now, 619-294-3200.

DRIVERS. Teams earn top dollar plus great benefits. Solo drivers also needed for Western regional. Werner Enterprises, 800-346-2818 x123.

DRIVERS. Transportation services provider for seniors and disabled. Great pay! At Your Home Familycare. E-mail: homecarejobs@atyourhomefamilycare.com. Call toll free: 1-877-903-JOBS.

DRIVERS/DELIVERY. Employees wanted! Use your own mini-pickup. \$440/week starting. Openings county-wide. Gas bonus paid. Growth opportunity. 619-230-1532, 858-578-7812, 760-639-5400. www.databay.net/applicant/formsd.asp.

DRIVERS/DELIVERY. Immediate long-term positions. Class A & B—Local/intrastate. Class C—Local/intrastate. Class C drivers must have 1 year of experience, pass drug screen, and be able to read Thomas Guide. Full benefits available immediately. Call 858-292-8562, fax 858-292-0230, e-mail help@gostaff.com, apply online www.gostaff.com.

ELECTION NIGHT WORKERS. Job Fair! Registrar of Voters. Saturday, 11/17/07, 9am-1pm, 5201 Ruffin Road, Suite I, San Diego 92123. Now hiring temporary full-time workers for the February, June and November 2008 elections. \$8.76-\$17.61/hour. Also hiring Ballot Assemblers, Clerical, Drivers, Printing/Graphics/Reproduction and Warehouse Workers. Excellent customer service skills required. Must be 18 years of age. Job descriptions/Applications available online at sdvote.com under Temporary Employment. Please attend with completed application. For directions, call 858-495-5153.

HELP WANTED

IMMEDIATE ASSIGNMENTS FOR:

LIVE-IN CAREGIVERS

Drivers with insurance. 2-3 years' experience and CA ID or DL, SS required. Fingerprint and TB test a plus. Competitive pay. Overtime for holidays. Employer-matched 401(k). Health, vision and dental insurance available.

Also offering opportunities for:
CNAs, HHAs and Hourly Caregivers

Call for an interview in North County or San Diego:
760-434-4393 or 619-231-0151

Or apply in person 10 am-3 pm Tuesday-Thursday:
2333 1st Ave., Ste. 205, San Diego, CA 92101



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9620 Chesapeake Drive, Suite 108
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Apply in person 7 am-5 pm Monday-Friday:

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7380 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. #209
San Diego, CA 92111
Shannia@SedonaStaffing.com
619-818-4332



Need Extra Money for the Holidays?

Ace Parking is now hiring:

- **Valets** (Seasonal & Part-time)
Must be able to drive stick and have a valid driver's license.
- **Cashiers** (Seasonal & Part-time)
- **Parking Managers** (Full-time)

All positions must be able to work weekends and holidays including New Year's.

Come see Ace Parking at Jobing.com

Friday, November 16

Noon-5 pm

San Diego Convention Center

OR

Apply in person Monday-Friday 8 am-3 pm:
2550 5th Avenue, Suite 105
San Diego, CA 92103

Call **619-231-9501** for more information.

Ace Parking is an EOE. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.



ELECTRICIAN, Omni San Diego Hotel. Come join a great team at a premier four star property located in the heart of Downtown San Diego, connected by sky bridge to the San Diego Padres Ballpark. We are currently seeking candidates for Refrigeration Mechanic, electrician, Kitchen/Laundry Engineer and Engineer. We offer an excellent benefit package and competitive wages. Drug-free workplace. EOE M/F/D/V/AA. Apply 10am-2pm Monday-Thursday: 675 L Street, San Diego, CA 92101. Fax 619-645-6564.

ELECTRONIC ASSEMBLERS, Test Technician, Production Workers 3rd shift and Warehouse. MDI offers paid holidays after 520 hours and vacation bonuses after 2000 hours. Apply at MDI Staffing: 858-277-5680.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS: Immediate openings! All shifts available. Competitive pay, health insurance, PTO. MedFleet Ambulance, 8912 Troy Street, Spring Valley, CA 91977. 619-222-2244.

ENGINEERS: Omni San Diego Hotel. Come join a great team at a premier four star property located in the heart of Downtown San Diego, connected by sky bridge to the San Diego Padres Ballpark. We are currently seeking candidates for Refrigeration Mechanic, electrician, Kitchen/Laundry Engineer and Engineer. We offer an excellent benefit package and competitive wages. Drug-free workplace. EOE M/F/D/V/AA. Apply 10am-2pm Monday-Thursday: 675 L Street, San Diego, CA 92101. Fax 619-645-6564.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT. Volunteers of America is a faith-based social service nonprofit. Come and join us in our life saving mission to help individuals and families obtain the tools they need to improve their quality of life. Duties include providing administrative support of CEO, COO and Board of Directors, records management, special projects, and office management. If you have proven experience as an Executive Assistant then we want to talk to you! Excellent communication and computer skills required. Call HR at 619-228-2047, email your resume to hr@voa-swc.org, fax 619-282-8210, or mail to Volunteers of America, Attention: HR-EA, 3530 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92108. EEO/AAEP Employer.

FINANCE. Experienced debt negotiator/collector dream job. \$11-\$17/hour, \$50,000-\$75,000/year helping people settle debts, resolve credit issues and increase credit scores. Fun, exciting, creative high energy needed. Fax resume: 858-764-5426.

FINANCIAL SERVICES Marketing. Rapidly expanding financial services marketing company seeks local sales representatives. Ideal candidate will be motivated, honest, outgoing, entrepreneurial, with 4 years of college or equivalent. Call our office and leave message (or fax) 24 hours: 877-286-5339.

FIRE SPRINKLER FITTER with experience and knowledge of certifications, backflows, repairs and installs. Knowledge of highrises and/or marine a plus. Call immediately: 619-670-3500 x20.

FITNESS TRAINER with strong fitness background. Personal training experience required. Must be able to work full/part time hours. E-mail resume: donawilson@fitnesstogether.com or call 858-451-6051.

FOOD SERVICE: American Food Courts looking for crew members. Full time/part time available. Apply in person at the Food Court inside the Marine Corps Recruit Depot near Old Town. Contact Christine at 619-291-3823.

FRONT DESK AGENT. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring a Front Desk Agent. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm: San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

FUNDRAISING for national charities and Democratic Party. Full-or part-time (evening and Sunday shifts). Paid training. Medical, dental, 401(k). Hourly plus bonuses, regular raises. Apply at Gordon & Schwenkmeyer, 9620 Chesapeake Drive, Suite 108, San Diego 92123-1369. Call 858-496-2100.

GENERAL EMPLOYMENT. Earn extra money immediately! Part time/temporary, set your own hours! Anyone needing immediate cash, start immediately. Earn a paycheck by delivering telephone directories in the San Diego East and South County. Must have a car and insurance, be 18+ years. Get paid within 48-72 hours of completion of route, plus mileage reimbursement. Call today, start today, reference Job #1253 and #1254: 877-231-1702. www.deliverphonebooks.com. Directory Distributing Associates.

GENERAL. Free employment and training services for individuals with disabilities, ages 19-21 on probation or parole. Able-Disabled Advocacy, Inc., 2850 6th Avenue Suite 311, San Diego, CA 92103. 619-231-5990 x305.

GREETER. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring a Greeter. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm: San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

GROCERY/NATURAL FOODS. Now hiring! Produce and Grocery Clerks (Del Mar), Manager on Duty, Vitamin Specialist, Grocery Clerk (Carlsbad). Vitamin Manager and Cashier (4S Ranch). \$9-\$20/hour. Great environment, competitive pay, bonus and benefits. Jimbo's Naturally! 12853 El Camino Real, Del Mar. Fax 858-793-7732, hr@jimbo.com, www.jimbos.com.

GROUP FITNESS INSTRUCTORS: Corporate, Luxury and Residential exercise environments. Locations all over San Diego. All types of classes, all days and times. Water and Mind/Body Instructors strongly encouraged to apply. Certification and experience required. E-mail: chenayle@fitsandiego.com. Fax: 858-715-8681. Call 858-715-8611.

SAN DIEGO SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT Now Hiring!



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THE REFLECTION OF SUCCESS

Exam Dates:

November 20, 2007 • 5:30 pm Arrival
or November 27, 2007 • 5:30 pm Arrival

Sheriff's Administrative Center
9621 Ridgehaven Ct., San Diego, CA 92123
Registration by e-mail or phone is required
prior to the Ridgehaven test **ONLY**.
recruit@sdsheriff.org

18-year-olds eligible to apply!

Bring valid photo ID.

www.joinSDSHERIFF.net
858-974-2000

San Diego County Sheriff's Department Open House November 29, 2007 • 6-8 pm

This FREE event is a great opportunity for anyone interested in a career in law enforcement. Talk to the heroes of the Sheriff's Department about the hiring process, qualifications, benefits, career advancement, the academy and much, much more!

San Diego Sheriff's Department
9621 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego, CA 92123

Contact Deputy Laura Legler:

858-974-2336

Laura.Legler@sdsheriff.org

EOE

GUARDS/SECURITY. Chance to win a new Camry and \$10,000 bonus. Join the #1 Security Team, where people make the difference. Call Securitas, the largest, most respected security company in the world! Countywide positions available. Free Guard Card training. Medical/dental/vision and 401(k), excellent working environment, free uniforms. For fastest response, apply online now! www.securitasjobs.com. Thank you for applying online! Or call San Diego: 619-641-0049; San Marcos (North County): 760-591-3733; Temecula: 951-676-3954. EOE/m/f/v/d, drug free. PPO #14827.

HAIR DESIGNERS. Busy Gaslamp salon seeking booth renters. Walk-ins available! Great urban loft environment, convenient parking. Move-in incentives. 619-231-7588.

HAIR DRESSERS and manicurists, booth rental. Established Poway salon. Upstairs Hair Studio, 858-679-2767.

HAIRSTYLIST WANTED. Sport Clips in Rancho Bernardo. We're the fastest growing hair care company in the country marketing to men. We have career openings for motivated stylists with positive attitudes. Positions available for weekday evenings and weekends. Call Johnnye at 858-592-4104 or visit www.SportClips.com/stylists.

HAIRSTYLIST. Booth rental in friendly, upscale La Jolla salon, in business 58 years! Parking provided. Very reasonable rent! Call 619-222-3585 or 858-488-2951.

HAIRSTYLIST. Booth rental: \$125. Great location, ample parking, full service salon. Two-week move-in special. La Mesa. 619-741-3551, leave message.

HAIRSTYLIST. Color, cuts, texturing, waxing. Hairstylist wanted for clean, full-service salon in Mira Mesa. We provide training, benefits, clients, supplies. 858-530-9005.

HAIRSTYLIST. Lower your expenses! La Jolla/UTC. Relaxed, established easy-going salon seeks weekly booth renters: \$200/week. Call Paul Gerard Hair Salon, 858-625-0555.

HAIRSTYLIST. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring a Hairstylist. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm: San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San

Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

HAIRSTYLISTS/MANICURISTS. First 2 weeks free! Bring your clients and relocate to a new nice salon with great location across from Parkway Plaza. Hairstylist: \$120/week. Nail Technician: \$75/week. For more information, please call 619-654-3979.

HAIRSTYLISTS: Pristine salon in Pacific Beach looking for fun, outgoing booth renters. Parking available. Call Saman for move-in special: 858-922-6076.

HAIRSTYLISTS needed for a hip, new salon. No clientele needed! Walk-in clients for motivated! Will train. We need you now. Great benefits package includes health insurance. 858-380-5882.

HEALTHCARE SALES. Work at home. Large corporation seeking Reps. Affiliated with U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Daily pay, 401(k), direct deposit, benefits. Full/part time. Excellent income! Ambitious Reps only! www.MyAmazingOpportunity.net.

HEALTHCARE. Now hiring! Caregiver, full time, 1st shift. Belmont Village is an employee-focused senior living community near Highway 15 and Poway Road. We offer great pay, medical coverage and a quarterly incentive bonus. Experience in Dementia a plus. Stop by to apply, call 858-486-5020, or fax resume: 858-486-3540. Belmont Village at Sabre Springs, 13075 Evening Creek Drive, San Diego, CA 92128. EOE.

HEALTHCARE. We are growing! Caregivers, full time (night shift), part time (5-9pm daily). Belmont Village is an employee-focused senior living community near Highway 15 and Poway Road. We realize that it is our employees who make us the finest senior living community in San Diego. We offer great pay, medical coverage and a quarterly incentive bonus. 1 year experience preferred. To apply, call our 24-hour job hotline: 1-800-483-2098. Belmont Village at Sabre Springs, 13075 Evening Creek Drive, San Diego, CA 92128. EOE.

HEALTHCARE: CAREGIVER and Medication Giver. Benefits available. No experience, will train. Apply in person at Sunrise Assisted Living At La Costa (license #374601134), 7020 Manzanita Street, Carlsbad, CA 92011. 760-930-0060.

HEALTHCARE: RNS, LVNs, AIDES. Join La Jolla Nurses! Looking for Home Health Aides, ongoing assignments. Also per diem work—you pick the days, hours and shifts! Competitive pay rates, excellent work assignments. Employee-owned agency—you receive shares of company stock free! State-licensed home health agency. Medical, dental and vision benefits; 401(k) plan, referral bonus. La Jolla Nurses HomeCare, 858-454-9339.

HIRING EVENT! See Ace Parking at Job-ing.com. Friday, November 16, 12noon-5pm, San Diego Convention Center, downtown San Diego. Need extra money for the holidays? Ace Parking is now hiring Seasonal and Part-Time Valets, Cashiers and full-time Parking Managers. Must be able to work weekends and holidays including New Year's. Valets must be able to drive a stick shift, have clean driving record. EOE. Women and minorities encouraged to apply. Can apply Monday-Friday, 8am-3pm, 2550 5th Avenue, Suite 105, San Diego 92103. 619-231-9501.

HIRING EVENT! 11/17/07-11/18/07. Manager, Tax Associates, Receptionist. Flexible hours. Full and part time. For more information call Jackson-Hewitt Tax Service, 619-444-8297.

HOME LOANS: If you have ever considered going into the real estate field and making a six-figure income, Community One is the answer. Great training provided. The only requirement is to have the drive and desire to be successful. Call Deon, 858-382-0856.

HORTICULTURIST. Part-time, work on 6-acre farm in Vista planting orchards, starting exotic plant/tree nursery, and living on property as caretaker in your RV. 760-758-5454.

HOTEL FRONT DESK. Full-time, 3-11pm. Weekends required. Experience a plus. Competitive pay! Old Town Inn, 4444 Pacific Highway. Fax resume to 619-296-0524, email oldtowninn@nethere.com.

HOUSECLEANING. Weekly pay. Paid mileage. Merry Maids offers flexible hours. No nights, weekends, holidays. Work in teams. Insured car required. Must speak English. South Coast/all south areas only. 619-336-1612; 619-226-2621.

HOUSEKEEPERS. Immediate openings! Part time and full time. Earn up to \$462 weekly after 5 weeks full time plus tips. Paid weekly. Must have car and phone. Call today, start tomorrow! WorkWithDanas@aol.com. Dana's Housekeeping Personnel Service. 619-298-6110.

HVAC TECHNICIAN. ARS is looking for career-minded HVAC Technician with minimum three years experience. If you like the idea of working for a national leader in the service industry, with benefits that rival the industry standard, and have the motivation and desire to earn an income that would make many college graduates envious, please call us today to arrange an interview that just might change your life forever! Kevin, 858-677-5455 x113. kkellington@ars.com, www.jobswithars.com Drug-free work environment. License #ARS San Diego 791820.

IN-HOME CARE. Caregivers and Companions. Minimum 1 year experience non-medical home care for seniors. Valid California Driver's License. Serving Santee/La Mesa/Del Cerro/San Carlos. Maureen, Visiting Angels, 619-749-7525.

INSIDE SALES COORDINATOR. Full/part time. 2-3 years sales experience. \$15/hour plus commission. For an immediate

Post free online ads with photos at SDReader.com

interview, call 858-597-4000. Send resume to staffing@tristaff.com.

INSIDE SALES and Call Center Reps. MDI offers paid holidays after 520 hours and vacation bonuses after 2000 hours. MDI Staffing, 8316 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, #204. Fax 858-277-5621. Call 858-277-5680.

JOB COACH/COMMUNITY Training Specialist. \$9.75/hour to start. Assist developmentally disabled adults in the community. 32.5 hours/week. Benefits. EOE. Apply Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm: Stein Education Center, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego 92120. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax: 619-281-0453. www.vistahill.org.

JOB COACHES. Community-oriented Center for Independent Achievement is seeking dependable individuals in East County. 1:4 group ratio maximum. \$8.50-\$9.50/hour. Annual raises. Bonuses for exceptional performance. Benefits with full-time. pficareer@yahoo.com. Fax 619-440-6864. 619-440-6802.

JOB FAIR! Registrar of Voters. Saturday, 11/17/07, 9am-1pm, 5201 Ruffin Road, Suite 1, San Diego 92123. Now hiring temporary full-time workers for the February, June and November 2008 elections. Ballot Assemblers: Assemble and open ballots. Day/evening/weekend shifts, \$8.76/hour. Clerical: PC, phone, general clerical skills. Day/evening/weekend shifts, \$8.76-\$12.29/hour. Election Night Workers: \$8.76-\$17.61/hour. Drivers: drive small vans; pick up items up to 40 pounds; Class C driver's license required; \$12.29/hour. Printing/Graphics/Reproduction: experience a plus; \$12.29/hour. Election Night Workers: \$8.76-\$17.61/hour. Warehouse: driver's license a plus; \$10.62/hour. Excellent customer service skills required. Must be 18 years of age. Job descriptions/Applications available online at sd-vote.com under Temporary Employment. Please attend with completed application. For directions, call 858-495-5153.

JOB WANTED. Childcare. Mature, honest, caring woman seeks live out childcare, afternoons and evenings. Have 10 years experience. Reasonable rates. Call Dee 619-281-0874.

LANDSCAPING: Experienced Landscaper able to operate all types of lawn equipment. Requires reliable transportation/cell. Competitive pay, potential for benefits. Drug-free company. Serious applicants. 619-708-3939.

LAW ENFORCEMENT. Deputy Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Detentions/Courts. San Diego County Sheriff's Department. Hiring for two types of positions; take one exam, apply for either or both! Special Exam Dates: Tuesday, November 20, 2007, 5:30pm arrival or Tuesday, November 27, 2007, 5:30pm arrival, Sheriff's Administrative Center, 9621 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego CA 92123. Registration by e-mail or phone is required for the Ridgehaven tests ONLY at: recruit@sdsheriff.org. Detention/Courts: \$39,796-\$61,608 annual salary, plus benefits. 18-year-olds eligible to apply! Deputy Sheriff: \$49,704-\$71,099 current annual salary, plus benefits. U.S. citizen or applied for citizenship; 20-1/2 years old. High school graduate or G.E.D. required. Bring valid photo ID. Valid California Driver's License prior to appointment. Effective oral and written communication in English. EOE. Additional test dates: www.joinssdSHERIFF.net. 858-974-2000.

LEASING AGENT for luxury apartments. Sales experience a must. Fax resume to 888-369-9229 or e-mail wmaplicants@aol.com.

LIFEGUARDS. City of Chula Vista is now hiring. Lifeguard I: \$13.28-\$16.15/hour. Lifeguard II: \$14.61-\$17.76/hour. Senior Lifeguard: \$16.06-\$19.53/hour. Please apply in person at 263 Fig Avenue, Chula Vista 91910 or visit www.chulavistaca.gov. Call 619-691-5096.

LIGHT INDUSTRIAL. Volt Services Group has immediate Temporary, Temporary-to-Direct Hire and Direct Placement opportunities. Competitive wages, paid weekly, paid holidays and vacation. Medical and dental insurance plans, state of the art training, career management and more. www.jobs.volt.com. Call Volt Services Group for more information. EOE. San Diego: 858-576-3140; e-mail: clairemont@volt.com. Carlsbad: 760-729-8916; email carlsbad@volt.com. El Cajon: 619-401-1524; email elcajon@volt.com. San Marcos: 760-471-0800; email sanmarcos@volt.com. Scripps Ranch:

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Local transportation company seeks experienced, dependable, reliable:

CLERICAL/ACCOUNTING STAFF
Must be familiar with Livery Coach software.

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Permanent Part-time Package Handler

Must be: 17 1/2 years old • Able to lift up to 70 lbs.
Available to work Monday-Friday

Shifts: 3-9 am; 5-10 pm **Pay Rate:** \$8.50-\$9.50/hr.

Seasonal Driver Helper

Must be: Able to meet UPS driver appearance standards
Able to meet driver in delivery area • At least 18 years old
Available to work during the day Monday-Friday (on-call basis)
Available to work from October 1–December 31, 2007

Hours: Varies with delivery area **Pay Rate:** \$8.50/hr.

Apply online at: www.upsjobs.com

EOE/M/F



Careers in Probation



Deputy Probation Officer

Minimum Qualifications

- 21 years old • Good physical condition • No illicit drug usage
- U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen
- No felony convictions • Bachelor's degree with experience

Salary: \$50,752-\$61,672 annually
Safety Retirement~Sworn Officers 3% at age 50.
Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply.

Test dates: November 17, 2007, or December 15, 2007

Qualified applicants will be notified by mail of the date, time and location of the test. All applications must be submitted no later than 15 days prior to the exam date. Applications received after the 15th day will be scheduled for the following exam. Applications can be accessed on-line from the Job/Current Recruitments section of the County website at:

<http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov>
Jobline: 858-514-8558

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County of San Diego Sheriff's Commissary Stores Supervisor

Annual salary \$39,208-\$47,653

This position is allocated to the Sheriff's Department, Inmate Services Division. Incumbent is responsible for the operation of an inmate commissary store system consisting of a bulk warehouse and a materials and supply operation located throughout the County, and a central office which services the numerous detention facilities.

FILING DEADLINE: 11-27-07

For a copy of the announcement and application, go to:
www.sdcounty.ca.gov, or call HR at: **619-236-2191**

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 - Must Have Car and Phone
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Call today,
start tomorrow!

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858-578-0920; email scrippsrancho@volt.com.

LOAN AGENTS/SALES. No real estate license required. Training provided! Leave message 24 hours a day for return call, 888-313-7226. Fax resume: 858-454-2437.

LVNS NEEDED to care for medically fragile child in Santee. Must have minimum 1 year experience. Call Mom: 619-339-6664 or 619-749-2227 or leave message.

MAID SERVICES. Relax. It's done. No nights, weekends, holidays. Merry Maids offers flexible hours, weekly pay, paid mileage. Work in teams. Insured car required. Must speak English. South Coast/ all south areas only, 619-336-1612; 619-226-2621.

MAINTENANCE TECHS for North County luxury apartments. Must be experienced. Background/drug test required. Benefits. Fax resume to 888-369-9229 or e-mail wmapplicants@aol.com. Call 888-252-7976.

MAINTENANCE. Volunteers of America is a faith-based social service non-profit. Come join us in our life saving mission to help individuals and families obtain the tools they need to improve their quality life. Duties include general maintenance and repair at a licensed adult residential facility for mentally ill adults in Spring Valley, and transportation of clients as needed. Requires HS/GED and 1 to 3 years of related experience. Criminal background check required. Must have a clean driving record. Part time, 30 hours/week (9.00-\$11.00/hour). Call HR at 619-228-2047, email resume to hr@voa-socal.org, fax to 619-282-8210, or mail to Volunteers of America, Attention: HR, 3530 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92108. EEO/AAP Employer.

MAINTENANCE for older buildings. Must have experience. Tools and transportation required. Call 619-692-3124 or 619-234-7572.

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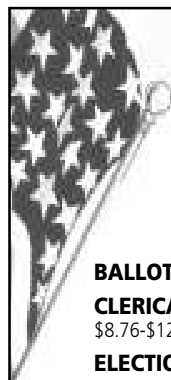
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EOE M/F/D/V

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BALLOT ASSEMBLERS Assemble and open ballots. Day and evening/weekend shifts. \$8.76/hr.

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ELECTION NIGHT WORKERS \$8.76-\$17.61/hr.

DRIVERS Drive small vans and pick up items up to 40 lbs. Class C driver's license required. \$12.29/hr.

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Fax: 619-281-0453
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All applications/résumés must
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Recreation Assistant \$10.33/hr. to start, with benefits

Supervise direct care of children with autism and other disabilities. 12 units ECE or related field, CA driver's license. Pre-employment screening/background check. Monday-Friday 9:30 am-6 pm.

Community Training Specialist/Job Coach \$9.75/hr. to start, DOE

To assist developmentally disabled adults in the community. Behavioral and instructional programs. Implement schedules. 32.5 hours/week. Benefits.

Transition Specialist • \$9.75/hr. to start, DOE

Assist teachers in group- and community-based instruction for developmentally disabled adults. Implement behavioral management programs. 30 hours/week.

Classroom Aides \$9.75/hr. to start, DOE

Work with developmentally disabled children in a nonpublic school. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista, La Mesa. Monday-Friday 7:30 am-1 pm.

EOE



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MARKETING ASSISTANT, Best Windows & Doors. \$15/hour plus bonuses, potential \$35K-\$50K yearly. Need transportation, valid license and good work ethic. Call Jack: 800-657-BEST (2378).

MASSAGE THERAPIST, Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring a Massage Therapist. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm: San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

MECHANICAL TECHNICIAN. ASC Certified Jaguar Technician. Part time or full time with full benefits. Great salary! Call Jaguar Specialists, 858-274-5191.

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MENTAL CASE AIDE. Volunteers of America is a faith-based social service non-profit. Come join us in our life saving mission to help individuals and families obtain the tools they need to improve their quality life. You will monitor clients, assist with setting and administration of medications, do light charting and assist with preparation and serving of meals for clients at a licensed adult residential facility for mentally ill adults in Spring Valley. Criminal background check required (\$8.25/hour). Call HR at 619-228-2047, email resume to hr@voa-swcsl.org, fax to 619-282-8210, or mail to Volunteers of America, Attention: HR, 3530 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92108. EEO/AAP Employer.

MORTGAGE COLLECTOR must have 2+ years' experience in delinquent loan ac-

counts. This is a unique project for a self-motivated, highly organized individual. For more information, please call 858-577-2325 or e-mail to: sandiegohr@gcserv.com.

MUSIC SURVEY. No selling. Need telephone interviewers for consumer surveys for radio station. Sunday-Friday, 2:00pm-8:00pm. Up to \$10/hour. Be dependable, have basic computer/telephone skills. 619-442-5325; www.callout.com.

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NINERA/AMA DE LLAVES. Preferible que viva con la familia. Tendra su propio cuarto y baño. Cuidara 2 ninas. Experiencia y referencias requeridas. No fumar. 858-616-8616.

NURSING: Palomar Pomerado Health is now hiring. Skilled Nursing Facilities: Certified Nursing Assistants and Licensed Vocational Nurses. General Services: Cooks, Food Service Workers, Nutrition Care Assistants, Environmental Service Workers, and Distribution Cart Technicians. Home Health: LVN, Home Health Aides, CNA/Personal Care Assistants, Homemaker/Companion/Sitter. For consideration, please apply online: www.pph.org or apply in person, Monday-Fri-

day, 7:30am-4:30pm at Palomar Medical Center, Human Resources: 660 East Grand Avenue, Escondido, 92025 or Pomerado Hospital, Human Resources: 15615 Pomerado Road, Poway, 92064.

OFFICE. Immediate long-term positions. Managers, Recruiters, Receptionist, Account Managers and Sales Staff. Full benefits available immediately. Call 858-292-8562, fax 858-292-0230, e-mail help@gostaff.com, apply online www.gostaff.com.

OPEN HOUSE! San Diego County Sheriff's Department, Thursday, November 29, 2007, 6pm-8pm. Free! Talk to the heroes of the Sheriff's Department about the hiring process, qualifications, benefits, career advancement, the Academy and much more! San Diego Sheriff's Department, 9621 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego CA 92123. EOE. Contact Deputy Laura Legler, 858-974-2336. Laura.Legler@sdsheeriff.org.

OUTDOOR YOUTH COUNSELOR. Do you love the outdoors and helping troubled teens? Immediate openings at Eckerd outdoor therapeutic programs in North Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Vermont, New Hampshire. Year-round residential position, free room/board, competitive salary/benefits. Info and apply online: www.eckerdyouth.org or fax

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resume to Career Advisor/AN, 727-442-5911. EOE/DFWP (AAN CAN)

PACKAGE HANDLERS. UPS is hiring for permanent, part-time positions in Chula Vista, San Diego and San Marcos. Must be 17-1/2 years old, able to lift up to 70 lbs., and be available to work Monday-Friday. Shifts: 3am-9am and 5pm-10pm. \$8.50-\$9.50/hour. Apply online at www.upsjobs.com.

PART TIME. ACTIVITY ASSISTANT, part time (every other weekend). Belmont Village is an employee-focused senior living community near Highway 15 and Poway Road. In this position, you will conduct recreation and social activities for our residents. 1 year experience preferred. We offer great pay, medical coverage and a quarterly incentive bonus. Stop by to apply, call 858-486-5020, or fax resume: 858-486-3540. Belmont Village at Sabre Springs, 13075 Evening Creek Drive, San Diego, CA 92128. EOE.

PART TIME. Looking for a home-based business? Join our Watkins team today. Flexible, part time, excellent training provided. Free info at www.zestybiz.com.

PART-TIME POOL TECH needed for pool service/filter cleans. No experience necessary, will train. Must have own pickup truck and insurance. If you enjoy working outdoors, call Christy at 619-277-4877.

PART-TIME SEASONAL. Pinery Christmas Trees needs part-time Lot Sales Attendants and Cashiers. 6 locations: Escondido, Southwestern College, Mission Valley, Del Mar, North Park, Bonita Farm. 858-566-7466.

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PHONE SALES. \$1000-\$2000+/week realistic first-year potential! Highest paid commission in industry with bonuses. Experienced Re-loaders welcomed! Start your high-paying sales career today! 30-year old company. Great hours, 7am-2:30pm, Monday-Friday. No overtime, weekends, evenings. Paid training. 401(k), medical, dental. 3 offices for your convenience. Kearny Mesa: Allen, 858-292-8577. Oceanside: Mike, 619-701-3631. Sorrento Valley: Ron, 800-854-2830 x232.

PLUMBERS. ARS is looking for career-minded Plumbers with minimum 2 years experience. If you like the idea of working for a national leader in the service industry, with benefits that rival the industry standard, and have the motivation and desire to earn an income that would make many college graduates envious, please call us today to arrange an interview that just might change your life forever! Kevin, 858-677-5444 x113. kkellington@ars.com, www.jobswithars.com. Drug-free work environment. License #ARS San Diego 791820.

PLUMBING APPRENTICE. Need a trade? No experience necessary. Work in plumbing, drain cleaning trade. We train. Earn up to \$900/week with opportunity for advancement. Must have small truck or van. 858-530-3265. 619-440-4336. 760-741-7503.

POKER INSTRUCTOR. New position for Poker Instructor now open! Good opportunity. Send resume to P.O. Box 191044, San Diego, CA 92159.

POLICE OFFICERS. San Diego Police Department is hiring! Ready for a career change? See our upcoming test block dates on our website. Police Recruit earns \$42,723 per year. Police Officer I earns \$43,596 per year. Police Officer II earns \$61,110 per year. For more information, Call 619-531-COPS or visit our website at: www.sandiego.gov/police.

PROBATION CAREERS. Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Dates: November 17, 2007, 8am or December 8, 2007, 8am. Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. Must be 21 years, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or becoming a citizen. Pass criminal/personal background investigation. No felony convictions. High school diploma/GED. \$35,069-\$44,741/year. www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation. Jobline: 858-514-8558.

PROFESSIONAL TELESALES Reps. \$12/hour base. Bonus plus commission. Structure. Full-time pay, part-time work. Room for advancement. 2 shifts available. Monday-Thursday. Paid training/leads provided. Call Robyn, 619-603-1680 x116.

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RESTAURANT/COOK. 1 part time position (32 hours per week). Salary, \$9.18-\$11.65 per hour. Drug/criminal screening. Apply in person, Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm or send information: St. Paul's Senior Homes & Services, 328 Maple Street, San Diego, CA 92103, fax: 619-239-1256.

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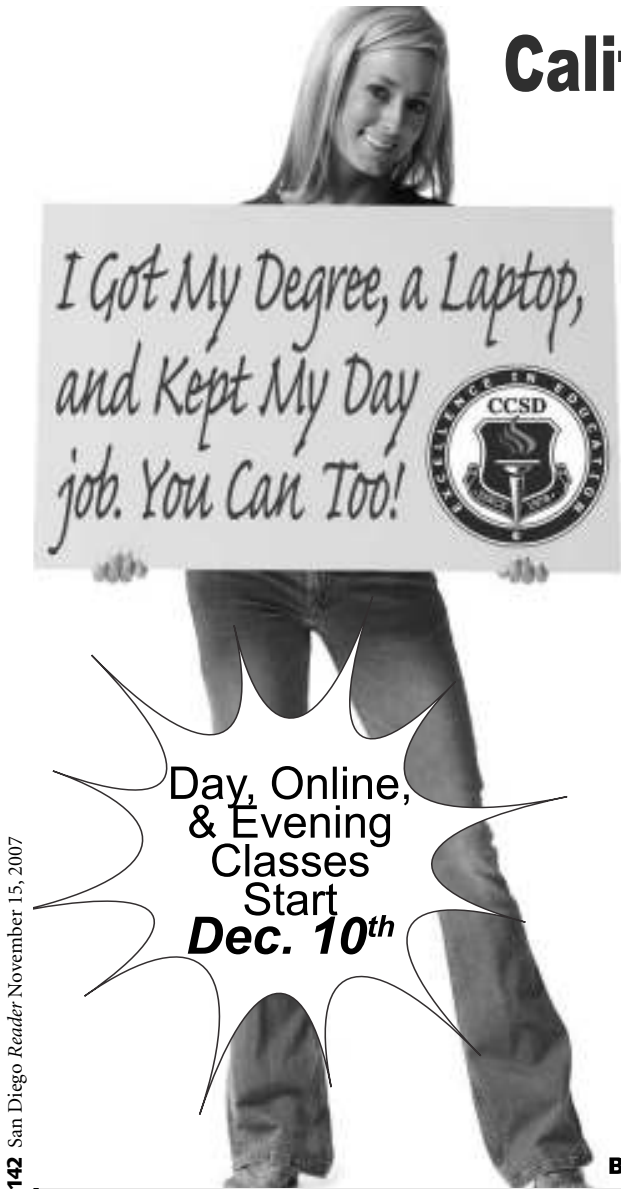
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Rima Paulius
Teacher
Pacific Beach

I don't usually carry a purse because I don't have many things. An ID, debit card, and keys. Now, when I carry a backpack, it's a whole other story. It's bigger and there's more stuff I know I'm going to need. I have my sunscreen, lip gloss, first aid kit, baby wipes, telephone numbers, a book, and a camera, occasionally.



David Lighty
Accountant
Pacific Beach

My wallet has credit cards and money. A bottle opener. Always a single dollar bill that was given to me. It's bad luck to have an empty wallet and no money. Sometimes I have a little more than a dollar. I have a zipper on one side of my wallet that destroys my license. I carry stamps, and I have a *danke* sticker I got in Germany for donating money to something.



Jeremy Malecha
Student
Ocean Beach

Well, there's cash. Uh...let me think. Can I check it? Okay, an ATM card, credit cards, a few business cards, my USD ID, Triple A, my health insurance, and a business card from the captain of the police department. There was some stuff I was doing where I was dealing with the police. Maybe I shouldn't say that, though.



Hilde Hoybach
Office worker
Las Vegas

I have my wallet. So, of course, there's money in there. Hopefully. The rest of the things in my purse...let me think. A checkbook, glasses, coin purse, small compact with a comb, and some lipstick. Well, those are the things that are always in my purse. Sometimes I'll have a few other odds and ends.



Courtney Rogers
Student
Point Loma

I have gum, which I shouldn't, because of my braces. There's lotion, a planner, cell phone, lip gloss, and a toothbrush; again, because of my braces. I can't tell you all of the things I have in there; it would take too long. It's a really big purse, so I'm able to get a lot of stuff in there.



Emily Schnatz
Maid
Oceanside

I have a wallet in my purse, of course. Makeup, keys, a backup tampon, a Dallas Cowboys keychain for good luck. That's my favorite team, and I never lose at the casinos when I have that with me. I have a book, a granola bar in case I get hungry. And there are photos in my wallet.

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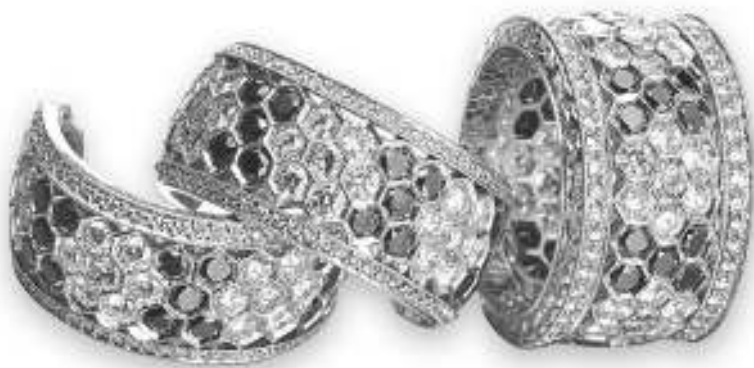
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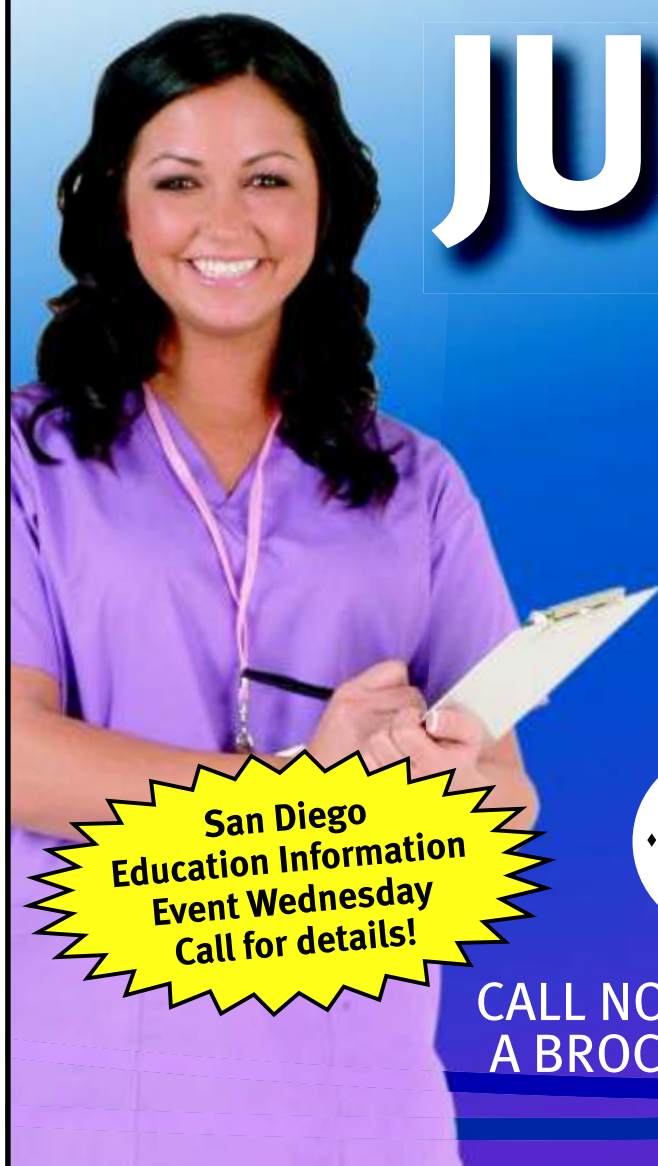
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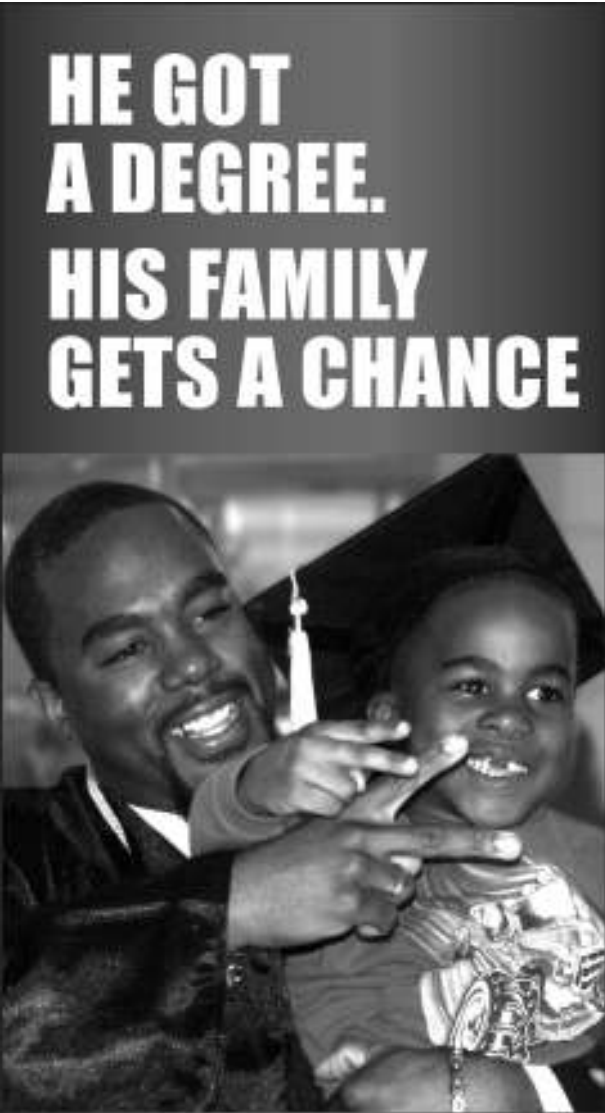
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THE READER PUZZLE

Across

- Deep down
- He's green and mean
- 1996 movie that got a PG-13 rating for "intense depiction of very bad weather"
- Turn
- Largest of the British Virgin Islands
- Kind of candidate
- With 36- and 41-Across, how the playwright of "Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead" responded in 1967 when asked what his play was about
- Protestant denom.
- Beat decisively
- Dirty literature
- The "N" in the 2007 movie "TMNT"
- Go in
- Sly as ____
- Astronaut Armstrong
- Candy brand that asked in 2007 print ads "Is sex better than chocolate and peanut butter?"
- See 19-Across
- "The Simpsons Movie" character
- ____ Vegas
- See 19-Across
- Flower part
- Butterlike spread
- Nile queen, for short
- What "there is nothin' like"
- Blanket-toting friend of Charlie Brown
- Kennel sounds
- "I cannot tell ____"
- Not pos.
- "Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead" playwright
- French carmaker
- Port-au-Prince native
- Compare with
- Che Guevara's first name
- Small, as apartments go
- Bruce Springsteen's ____ Band

Down

- Dresser
- Like Japan's flag, colorwise
- Hairy
- Homes of the rich and famous
- Get from ____ (progress a bit)
- Moves, to a Realtor
- Center of a hospital
- Credit reporting co. now known as Experian
- Chef's seasoning
- Poland Spring competitor

- Eye-catching hue
- Suffix with glob
- 56, in Roman numerals
- "Jeopardy!" multimillionaire Jennings
- Clump of hair
- Plane or square, e.g.
- Hillary Clinton, ____ Rodham
- Puppeteer Henson
- Tavern offering
- Bring up
- St. Nick's holiday
- ____ and Span (cleaner brand)
- Hollywood canine
- Jackie Robinson's alma mater
- TV dial: Abbr.
- Inventor Whitney
- Stimpy's sidekick on TV
- Not as gray
- One of a matched pair
- Electrical device
- The blahs
- Abu Dhabi, e.g.
- Is unobliged to
- "My Country 'Tis ____"
- "I ____ reason for ..."
- Takes to the sky
- Attend
- Tavern offering
- Gaza Strip org.
- "Ich bin ____ Berliner"
- It's strummed in Maui
- First name of 62-Across

RULES OF THE GAME

- The prize for solving the *Reader* Puzzle will be a *Reader* T-shirt.
- All entries in the *Reader* Puzzle contest must be received by the *Reader* by 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, five days following the issue date (Fax to 619-231-0489 or U.S. Mail to *Reader* Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803).
- All entries must be accompanied by your name and address.
- Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.
- In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and arbitrary. We've only got five prizes each week to give away, so if there are more than five winners, we'll have a lottery.
- All answers must be entered in the space allowed on the puzzle page. And please, no phone calls or trips to our office.
- One entry per person.

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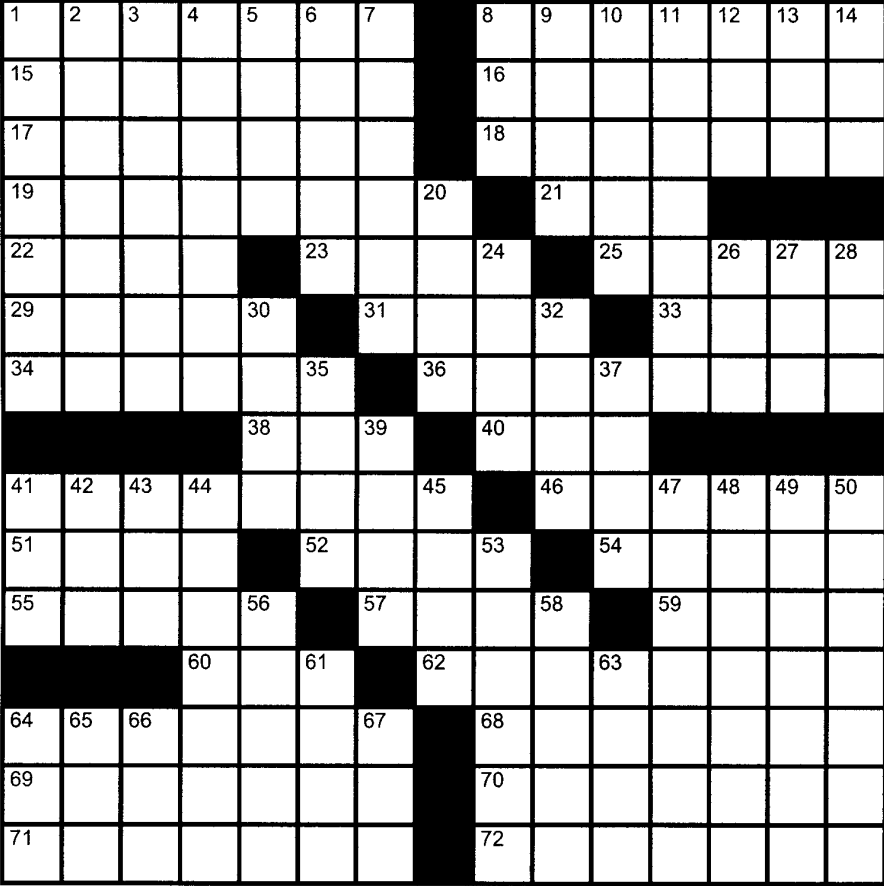
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EVINCE ACTI DEA
NETTER WEST ZEN

Solution to and winners of the *Reader* Puzzle for 11/8/07.

There were 84 entrants. The winners are:

- Martha Awdziejewicz, *San Diego*
- Mike Renfro, *San Diego*
- Jason Chagnon, *La Mesa*
- Dan Funk, *Encinitas*
- George Jackson, *Oceanside*

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FENCING

NAME This Place



Clue: Flower power crests here

Describe this location, name the nearest cross-streets, and win a Reader T-shirt. E-mail to NameThisPlace@SanDiegoReader.com; fax to 619-231-0489; or mail to Reader, Name This Place, Box 85803, San Diego 92186 — include your name and address. (Deadline, Tuesday, 9 a.m. In case of ties, lottery will determine top five winners.)



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)

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FREE DECORATING SEMINAR. Thursday, November 15, 6pm. Saturday November 17, 10am. At Plan B Party Styling, 4401 Twain Avenue, Suite #5, Kerry, for information. 619-971-1615.

LARGE PARTY SPACE AVAILABLE. Full service: anniversaries, holidays, wedding, birthdays. Accommodates 150+. Buffet, full service: meals/sushi/bar. Great rates! Call Kaito Restaurant (Encinitas): 760-634-2746.

STAGE NOTES

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ABILITY THROUGH TRAINING. The Robert Wald Actor's Studio focuses on moment-to-moment reality training. These classes unlock the actor's ability to work spontaneously and with the realism and intensity advocated by the industry's creative legends. Beginners welcome. Thursday evening class available, 6:30pm-10:30pm or Saturday morning. Call for information. 619-542-1216.

ACTORS/ACTRESSES for Telenovela pilot filmed in San Diego/Tijuana. Fluent Spanish required. Compensation is wardrobe, DVD, contract. Send bios to: hd@modelstar.us.

AUDITIONS: Independent feature film. Meals, credit, DVD copies provided. Send photos and resume to williamwaldron@hotmail.com or mail WWIII, 3261 Fair Oaks Lane, Spring Valley 91978.

AUDITIONS: For kids' vaudeville show. Seeking kids and teens, dancers, singers, musicians, comedy, specialty acts. Call 619-647-4958.

MALE MODELS WANTED. We are seeking attractive men, 18-25, for Internet, video and print work. No experience necessary! Earn up to \$2,000 per day! For more information, call Rose at 858-571-0512. www.platinumred.com.

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MODELS/INTERNET VIDEO. Females 18+. Reality-based/art photography. Excellent pay. Flexible hours. Seeking all body types/races. Open-minded a plus. Paid daily. David, 619-203-3327.

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COUNSELING & SUPPORT GROUPS

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ANXIETY TREATMENT-FREE! American Psychological Association sponsored research examining cognitive behavior therapy (CBT) group and biofeedback. Supervisor: Richard Gervitz, PhD, Lic-7204. 619-269-5726.

ANXIOUS? DEPRESSED? Relationship issues? Parenting/family issues? Insurance and sliding scale accepted. Individuals, couples, children, adolescents/families. Private Mission Valley location. Phaedra Scoortis, MA, MFT, MFC-43174. 619-972-0209.

SurfDIEGO

Name: Kevin Darcy

Lives: Pacific Beach

Surfing: Ocean Beach jetty

On his Chris Gallagher 6'0", Kevin Darcy likes the waves at Ocean Beach jetty. He says the spot "is especially fun if you're a regular footer, and on good days it barrels."

Kevin has other boards, but he's been sticking to the Chris Gallagher for a few months so he can improve. "Boards are like cars; they all ride differently. If you get used to one board and you make good progress with it, then switch to a different board. There are all these little things you have to do differently until you're used to that board."

When conditions warrant the commute, Kevin makes the jaunt to Oceanside, but he surfs mainly between Black's and O.B. "I live in P.B., so I can get to the beach on a bike or get in the car and be here in O.B. in a couple minutes."

He surfs four or five days a week. "Everyone in O.B. is pretty mellow and there are good surfers out here. I like to watch a couple of the really good



guys."

Kevin is originally from Los Angeles. He's been here for two years and sees San Diego as an excellent surf area, but has advice for beginners: "You have to respect the people who live here and surf here. San Diego has a

great surf community, and everyone wants to be a part of it. But you get tourists out there that have never been surfing before. And they crowd in on guys who have been here forever and surf here every day." He calls this group of people "...looks

with money. They're dangerous; people get hurt, people get their boards broken. On accident, of course, but it's still frustrating."

See the video

Go to San DiegoReader.com

Click on SurfDiego

NOTICES

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AL-ANON, Grupo paz mental. Sufre por el alcoholismo en su familia? Juntas sesionan Martes, 5:30pm-7pm, y Sabados, 1-2:30pm. 3450 Bonita Road, #207, Bonita, CA 91902.

ALCOHOLICOS ANONIMOS. Problemas con el alcohol? Nosotros le ayudamos a vivir mejor. Sesiones Lunes-Viernes, 7am y 8pm. Sabados, 8am y 7pm. Domingo 8am y 5pm. Grupo Bonita Hispano, 3450 Bonita Road, #207. 619-746-3912.

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CALLING WRITERS/AUTHORS! "The Benefit of the X Husband"-opportunity to share the benefit of your relationship with your X Husband. Deadline: 11/30/2007. Info: www.thebenefitofthex.com.

CANNABIS PATIENT(S) ACT. (Association Cannabis Therapeutics.) Nonprofit. Seeks caregiver/patients with questions about co-operatives, clones, medicine, growing guidelines. Proposition 215 local guidelines. Meth kills. 619-528-0907.

CODEPENDENT? Suffering from codependency? Codependents anonymous 12-step recovery program. The only requirement for membership is a desire for healthy and loving relationships. 619-222-1244 or www.sdccda.org.

DIVORCECARE meets every Sunday at 9am at 4926 La Cuesta Suite 203-A, Tierrasanta. Special Free support group for those divorcing, divorced, or broken live-in relationship. 4926 La Cuesta, Suite 203, Tierrasanta. Bruce, Bruce@coastline-realestate.com or 619-461-4480.

DIVORCING/SEPARATING? Get guidance/support during your emotional adjustment. Group meets Friday, 6:30-8pm, in Allied Gardens off Waring Road. Divorce Anonymous, 619-442-1550.

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FREE EMPLOYMENT/TRAINING services for individuals with disabilities, ages 19-21 on probation or parole. Able-Disabled Advocacy, 2850 6th Avenue #311, San Diego 92103. 619-231-5990 x305.

FREE PSYCHIC HEALING. Lecture Clinic. Free readings for new visitors. Mondays, 7:30pm, by Vessa's Clairvoyant Program

Free Classifieds!

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students. 4455 Morena Boulevard, Suite #108. 858-509-7582.

HARMONY COMES HOME. Barbershop Holiday Show, December 8, 3pm and 7pm, The Neurosciences Institute. We're bringing family together for a huge holiday reunion. www.pacificcoastharmony.org. 760-723-2294.

HELP FOR YOUR LIFE. Lonely? Dial hope 858-277-8060. Scripture, new thought, prayer, helpful messages 858-277-2389. Sunday service, 10 a.m., Linda Vista Presbyterian Church, 2130 Ullrich Street, San Diego, 92111. 858-277-0523.

HERPES/HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS. (HSV/HPV) Support group. Accurate medical information and support. Recorded message. 619-491-1194. www.SanDiegoCityHELP.org.

LAND AUCTION. 500 properties must be sold! Low down, easy financing. Free catalog. 877-745-5340. www.landauction.com.

LOST VIDEO CAMERA, Sony in San Diego Airport, or Taxi on 10/13/07. Keep camera as reward, we just want tapes of our children, please, 319-329-4556.

MOVIE BUFFS Interested in watching movies, then discussing it afterwards (like book clubs)? Ages 25 to mature welcome. Please call 619-850-6075 or 858-272-8727.

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE Anonymous 12-step meeting for people with OCD. Mondays, 6-7pm, Department of Health Services Complex, 3851 Rosecrans Street, Mission Road.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Meetings daily. www.oasandiego.org or 619-521-2538.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION. December 13. "Christ's Greatest Gift." 1323 Stratford Court, Del Mar, 7-9pm. Open meeting. No fee. Materials available. Please call for information. 858-259-1880.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION. November 20, "Leadership and Service," 7-9pm, Eureka Street/Mission Valley. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. Please call for directions. 619-296-9046.

PRIVATE COUNSELING. Your journey can be clearer, more peaceful; relationship issues, body image, self-esteem, anger. I can help. Work toward acceptance of yourself. Fee. 619-838-6817.

RECOVERY GROUPS for men and women seeking freedom from addiction/co-dependency. Fridays, 7pm. Celebrate recovery, First Lutheran, 867 South Lincoln Avenue, El Cajon. 619-444-7444. www.recovery4u.cc.

RESEARCH STUDY. Women living with smoker needed for 9-day research study. Leave message or email TRDRPPDAStudy@projects.sdsu.edu, for more information.

RESEARCH STUDY, WEIGHT LOSS patients needed for study. Eligible participants will receive one entry into a raffle for \$500. Please e-mail wresearch@yahoo.com or call 760-964-8846.

TEMPLE OF BHAKTI YOGA. Sunday, 10:30-11:30am; Tuesday, 6:30-7:30pm. For information please call 760-787-0700.

TWELVE STEPS NOT working for you? Try a self-empowering, skill-building approach with S.M.A.R.T. Recovery, free support groups. 858-546-1100.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. The Earth Discovery Institute (EDI) is seeking docents to guide students at Crestridge Ecological Reserve. October-May, 4 hours/week. Training provided. chadgroup@cox.com; 619-749-5767.

WRITERS WANTED. The Academy for Alternative Journalism, established by papers like this one to promote diversity in the alternative press, seeks talented journalists and students (college seniors and up) for a paid summer writing program at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. The 8-week program (June 22-August 17, 2008) aims to recruit talented candidates from diverse backgrounds and train them in alt-weekly style feature writing. Ten participants will be chosen and paid \$3000 plus housing and travel allowances. For information and an application visit <http://aaaj.aan.org>. You may also e-mail us at altacademy@northwestern.edu. Applications must be postmarked by February 8, 2008. Northwestern University is an equal opportunity educator and employer. (AAN CAN)

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DAVIEBABA IN BOSTON. You are always on my mind. You are always on my mind. Hope you are safe and well.

JACK, ERNIE, Humphrey's "not Hillcrest" 8/24. Hope you and yours are surviving the fires and aftermath all right. Alice, 4seasons1day@gmail.com.

TO "BUY" AND SELLS. Don't forget "bills" are included. Lies are getting weak. Trib.notices.

MUSIC

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GUITARS AND AMPS. 1980s Tokai Love Rock model, \$749, USA Fender Telecaster Custom Shop \$899, Fender Duo-Sonic Mexican \$225, Fender Mexican Stratocaster \$250, Carvin Vintage Tube Bel Air 212 \$425, Fender Cyber Twin \$599, Line 6 Flexitone III with FBV Shortboard \$599, Line 6 Spider II 30 watt \$149, Peavey Bandit 112 \$250. At Moze Guitars, 619-698-1185.

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BLUES BASSIST wanted who really loves the blues and understands bass/drums groove. Quality equipment, sing. Older fun guys, occasional quality gig. nadol@san.rr.com or 619-435-3384.

COSTUMED THEATER ENSEMBLE seeking entertainers/musicians/themed musical groups. (Costumes a plus). Vocals are a must. Group performs 100+ gigs per year. Fax resume, 858-279-5840.

DRUMMER NEEDED for cover/original project. Must be passionate, tasty chops, rehearse 12-16 hours/week. Soundgarden, Bush, Foo Fighters. \$400-\$600/night. No poseurs. www.myspace.com/wunderlist; 619-461-3607.

GUITARIST seeking drummer with kit and place to play for experimental duo. Improvisational guitar player with limited skills seeking drummer to experiment on week-ends. 619-297-5578.

JAZZ SOLOISTS WANTED, Serious, experienced performers for San Diego invitational jazz spotlight. Inquire at 619-315-6115.

JUKEBOX, working corporate/wedding band, seeks versatile male vocalist with tenor range. Hard working, quick learning team player, excellent vocals, image, 30s-40s, stage presence. john@pisanosales.com.

KEYBOARDIST, professional, needed for established professional casuals band. Casinos, weddings, corporate, private events. Played convention center, Qualcomm Stadium. Good pay. Great opportunity. Leave message, 858-616-6363.

PIANIST, other Christian musicians, join country rock gospel church band. Intermediate to semiprofessional. Saturday practice, Sunday performance, Imperial Beach. Semiprofessional recording. Kerry, 619-515-8437; Joan, 619-397-1599.

PRODUCER seeks female talented composers, performers, singers, original material and incredible uniqueness. Need string, brass players. Pro-tools? Call 619-528-0907; www.myspace.com/sherilopez; www.myspace.com/mindcontrolsalsa; www.myspace.com/concretesummerdays; www.myspace.com/swollenmonkeys.

REGGAE HIPHOP ROCK/JAZZ Guitarist available. CD/tour credits: Pato Banton, Fully Fullwood, Majek Fashek, Myka Nyne, Scientist, Skunk records, Tippa Irie, etc. Dale 858-401-2973, www.myspace.com/dalehauskins.

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TEAZER, QUESTHAVEN, New Salem. Spike (Rich) coming November 30 to December 6. Must contact band members/fans from 1980s. Contact spikeredden@yahoo.com; www.myspace.com/rockenrich1; 513-919-1234.

TRUMPET AND CLARINET needed. Looking for Big Band musicians. Big Band Ambassadors. Contact Susy, 619-807-8478.

VOCALIST NEEDED. Well established working rock cover band seeking professional female lead vocalist around North County. No chemical dependencies. Email, theband@shadygrey.com or call 760-781-3123.

VOCALIST WANTED. Alternative rock band. Must be committed and available for rehearsals (Encinitas)/recording dates/gigs. Guitar, piano, other experience a plus. Joe, 760-518-2509; Sean, 760-518-6113.

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ATTENTION ARTISTS, singers and songwriters. Artist development, producing, songwriting and arranging for your CD or demo. Call Ravenflight Music at 619-258-0911.

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Say What?



Mike Mehaffey | Age: 25 | Occupation: Student/Retail | Lives: Ocean Beach

My slang word is **Barney** because it's funny and it makes me laugh. A Barney is a dork or a loser — someone who's goofy or out there or in the way. The first time I heard it, my friends and I were watching this old

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BAY PARK, Female preferred, nonsmoking. Large room, own bath. Well maintained condo. Washer/dryer. Assigned parking,

gated. Pool, jacuzzi, barbecue. Convenient location. \$750, 619-379-9983.

'80s surfer movie called *North Shore*. In it, there's this guy named Turtle who calls another guy a Barney. We were in, like, fourth grade at the time, and my friends all started calling each other Barnies. Then Barney, the

big purple dinosaur, came out and that made it even better. Now, everybody uses it.

See the video
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CHULA VISTA. Master bedroom, private bath in 2-story condo. Available 12/1. DirecTV, assigned parking, laundry, walk-in closets. Nonsmoking/drugs. \$550/month, \$400 deposit. Dorothy, ramin_bijan@yahoo.com.

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MISSION VALLEY/USD. \$2100. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with 1 car garage. New carpet and blinds. 5935 Mildred Street. Drive by first and call if interested. 619-226-7368 or 619-987-8079 or www.bkbinc.com.

MT. HELIX. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. 2400 square feet. Quiet neighborhood. 2-car garage. Pool. No pets. Deposit. \$2300 includes gardener/pool service. 619-443-9192.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1275. 2 bedroom, washer/dryer, yard, large kitchen, full dining room, new carpet and tile. Pet negotiable. Available November 17. 4378 36th Street. 619-398-6962.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$2895. Rent/rent-to-own. 4 bedroom, 3 bath. Remodeled. 3,000 square feet. Panoramic view. Fire-place, balconies, new carpet/tile/stainless appliances. 2930 Copley Avenue. 619-281-0005.

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NORTH PARK. 3 bedroom historical house, garage, small fenced yard, small pet OK with deposit. \$500 off first, \$1820/month. 3719 28th, 92104. Lucy, 619-980-0019, 619-698-7520.

NORTH PARK. \$2100. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with view, washer and dryer, 2-car garage. Pets OK. 619-540-6526.

NORTH PARK. \$850. Adorable 1 bedroom cottage. Quiet, well-kept complex. New paint. Hardwood floors. Tiled bath. Private fenced area. \$650 deposit. 4233-1/2n 33rd. 619-756-4009.

NORTH PARK. \$1050, rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. 2 bedroom, 1 bath detached house. 1-1/2 car garage, driveway. New carpet. Laundry. No pets. 3820 Pershing Avenue. 619-299-8515.

NORTH PARK. 4418 Wilson Avenue #2. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Laundry room. reader@sdcpm.net. SDCPM, 619-220-4840.

NORTH PARK. \$695. Completely remodeled. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Charming cottage. Stove, refrigerator. Near all. Move-in special \$300. 3876 35th Street. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

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OCEAN BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Great ocean views! Hardwood floors. Garage. Laundry hookups. Pets OK. \$2350 includes water/trash. Lease, deposit. Available now. 4652 Niagara, 619-920-2787.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1850. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house. Fruit tress in front yard. 1300 square feet. 2652 Figueroa Boulevard. Available 11/15. No pets. 858-967-0014, www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$850. Studio. Walk to beach or bay. 1423 Pacific Beach Drive. Pet friendly. 858-967-0014, www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. 1425 Pacific Beach Drive. Garage. Pet OK. Available now. 858-967-0014, www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$3500. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath house on Mount Soledad across from Kate Sessions Park. 5104 Soledad Road. Fireplace, view, large yard, landscaping included. 858-967-0014, www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2995. House with views of the Bay. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths. 2-car garage. Washer, dryer. Patio. New carpet. New paint. No pets. 1-year lease. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

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PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1400. 1 bedroom house. Private yard, new landscaping and deck. Washer/dryer, off-street parking. Close to bay. Available now. 858-581-3323.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Only 60 yards to beach! Garage plus 2-parking spots. Laundry onsite. No pets. \$1950/monthly. 858-483-3335.

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POINT LOMA. Designer Remodeled 4 bedroom 3 bath, 2400 square foot, garage. Yard, patio/fountain. Kitchen stainless steel/granite countertop, stainless steel appliances, lighted cabinets. Hardwood floors travertine/slate throughout. Spa tub, rainfall shower, dual sinks, large walk-in closet. Fireplace, wine cellar. \$3250, lease option. 619-368-9410.

POINT LOMA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Cul-de-sac. Attached 2-car garage. All appliances. 3211 Macaulay. \$1850. 6-month lease. Balcony. (No yard.) Agent, 619-463-2971.

POINT LOMA. Harbor View 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with 2-car garage. Recent remodel. Hardwood floors. Pristine condition. \$2995. 1-year lease. Agent Stella Biggs, 619-384-1945.

POWAY. \$1875. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house available now. 2-car garage, den, fenced yard, fireplace, pets OK. Short lease OK. Call Miles, 619-571-6454.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. \$1400/month. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpets. Garage. Fenced yard. Extra parking. Special season move in. No pets. 858-538-1962.

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TALMADGE. House, gated. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, air conditioning, washer/dryer, garage. \$1250. 619-517-7119.

TIERRASANTA. Great location. Large 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. Newly remodeled, granite countertops. Near Sierra High, Farb Elementary. No pets/smoking. 10/01/07, \$2395/month. 858-565-7664.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1395. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, vintage cottage with hardwood floors, new paint, kitchen with newer stove, refrigerator, new stack washer/dryer. Quiet neighborhood on cul-de-sac. Large front and back fenced yard, off-street parking. Walk through historic neighborhood, lots of nearby shops. 4583 Delaware Street. 619-683-9274.

VALLEY CENTER. Woods Valley. \$4000. Over 4500 square feet. 4-car garage. On cul-de-sac. Brand new, move in anytime. Nonsmoking. No pets. Call for details, Top Notch Realty, Inc., 858-715-0688.

VISTA. \$1850-\$2050. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Stove. Dishwasher. Spa. Hookups. Yard. Fireplace. Horses welcome! 172 Palmyra Drive. 858-598-1111 x190. utopiamgmt.com.

WANTED: 2 bedroom, 2 bath house by 12/1. San Diego area. Yard preferred since I have dog. Garage optional. \$1500. jennifer.gall@audatex.com; cell, 925-698-7651; work, 858-946-1714.

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ALPINE. \$950-\$1000. 2 bedrooms. First month free, OAC. Air conditioning, dishwasher. Laundry. Pool. Parking. No pets. 1319 Marshall Road. Agent, 619-298-7724.

ALPINE. 2 bedrooms, \$1280. Private garages, fireplaces, vaulted ceilings. Resort-size pool and spa. Call for special! Alpine Woods, 1829 Arnold Way. 619-445-1341.

ALPINE. 55 and up. Spacious luxury living. 1 bedrooms, \$955. 2 bedrooms, \$1205. Special: \$75 off! Creekside Meadows, 1750 Arnold Way, 619-445-2480.

ALPINE. Relaxed country living at it's best! 1 and 2 bedroom floor plans with dishwasher, heated pool, spa, fitness center and 24 hour laundry facilities. Dogs under 25 pounds and cats welcome! Call for more details and current specials! Alpine Country Apartments, 2660 Alpine Boulevard. 619-445-8022. www.alpinecountryapartments.com.

BALBOA PARK. \$975-\$995. Large downstairs studio with laundry facility. Also 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage available. Across from Balboa Park. No pets. 2804 6th Avenue. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

BANKER'S HILL. \$2295. Extra nice 2 bedroom with den, split-level condo. Open and bright! Garage, fireplace, storage. Cat OK. 2233 5th Avenue. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

BANKER'S HILL. \$825. 1 bedroom apartment, laundry, close to all. Wood floors. 1915 4th Avenue #5. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

BANKER'S HILL. \$995. 1 bedroom plus office, view, laundry, new carpet. Great location. No pets. 2011 Front Street #4. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

BANKER'S HILL. Will go fast! \$800-\$900 per month. Deposit \$500. Spacious stu-

PICTURE STORY



Crewman and dog of Rafael Trujillo Jr. (son of the Dominican Republic 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 Lita Milan), seen boarding the yacht in L.A., according to our local daily.

When Trujillo and Milan weren't on the

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dios in secured vintage building with great views. First Avenue/Hawthorn. Full size kitchen and bath. On-site laundry. On street parking. Only cats with \$200 deposit. 619-325-7332.

BANKER'S HILL. \$1495. Beautifully upgraded 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Tile and hardwood floors, view from wooden deck. 310 West Hawthorn. Agent, 858-560-1178.

BAY PARK. \$1420. Deluxe 2 bedroom, 2 bath, panoramic sailboat views/your terrace! Dishwasher. Berber. Gated. Laundry. Parking. No stairs. Cat friendly!

Beach/freeway. 2805 Morena. 858-459-1544.

BAY PARK. \$900. Studio condo. Pool, spa, new carpet, no pets. 4060 Huerfano Avenue #102. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

BAY PARK. \$1150. 2 bedroom. Bay Park's best maintained property with beautiful courtyard and sparkling pool. No pets. 2520 Chicago Street. TTPM, 619-405-7200. www.debonairapts.com.

BAY PARK/CLAIREMONT. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath (approximately 952 square feet) available now. Gated park-

Photograph from the San Diego Historical Society

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 took two turns 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

ing, pool, laundry. Nicely landscaped, small complex (38 units), near I-5, Mission Bay, beaches. Grocery store, bank, library, restaurants nearby. Agent, 619-275-5121.

BAY PARK/CLAIREMONT. \$1195. Upgraded 2 bedroom, 1 bath. On-site laundry, parking, upper unit. 2537 Chicago Street #10. Agent, 858-560-1178.

BONITA. \$825. Utilities included. 1 bedroom studio, across from golf course, everything remodeled. New kitchen and bathroom. Off-street parking. 619-894-0536.

CARDIFF by the Sea. Large 2 story, 4 bedroom, 3 bath house on cul-de-sac near beach, freeway, San Dieguito Academy. Sorry, no pets. \$2895. 760-753-6575.

CARDIFF. \$1595. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment across from Swami's beach. 1913 San Elijo. Close to shops and restaurants. 760-753-6575.

CARLSBAD. \$1250. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Completely renovated. Beautifully landscaped. Carport, on-site laundry. Close to village/beach. No pets. Available now. Lease. www.thepalmsapts.info. 760-505-7736.

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ABANDONED AFTER THE FIRES! Rescued: 10 pot bellied pigs. Some pregnant, some old/crippled, all in need of help. Desperate for food donations/vet care! Donations: Terry's Hay & Grain, Valley Center, c/o Debi Toner's Pig Rescue. Vet care donations: PO Box 2225 Valley Center, California 92082. These beautiful animals need good homes. Please help. Thanks, Debi.

AQUARIUM SALE at Octopus's Garden. 20H aquarium \$20; 29 for \$29; 40R \$40. Even a 60E is just \$60. Other tank spe-

cials also. Lots of healthy saltwater fish and beautiful corals. Protein skimmers. Lighting systems, pumps, decorations and supplies at low prices at Octopus's Garden. Noon-9pm, 7 days. Call 858-576-7449.

AQUARIUMS AND PONDS! Freshwater/saltwater fish. Extensive reef animals. 9000 square feet. Low warehouse prices! Expertise not found in Southern California cookie-cutter stores! Aquatic Warehouse. 5466 Complex Street #204, San Diego. Behind Superior Courthouse, off Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. www.aquaticwarehouse.com. Daily, 10am-7pm. Saturday, 10am-6pm. Sunday, 11am-6pm. 858-467-9297.

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BENGAL KITTENS. Miniature leopard cats, superior show and pet quality. Must see. www.yinyangbengals.info. Both brown spotted and snow leopards. Male/female. \$400/up. 858-272-2049; 858-414-8656.

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LOST CAT. White, spayed female, 11 years old, missing since moving to Jut-

land/Moraga on October 2. Very friendly and very loved. Please help. 619-820-4380.

LOST POMERANIAN, Alpine Chaparral Hills, Willits, Alpine Hills, Tampau Roads, 10/26/07. Female, 10lbs, collar/tag with number on 619-851-5424, mostly tan, some white/black, paulzmom@sbcglobal.net.

LOVEBIRDS, tame, sweet, adorable, hand fed, indoor raised babies, all types and colors. GirlFridaySD@aol.com.

MINIATURE HORSE, AMHR registered, black filly, foaled 4/14/04, gentle, quiet, sweet. Halter classes. Trailers and clips easily. Sacrifice \$1200. E-mail pictures. Cell, 812-573-8318.

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CARMEL VALLEY. 2 bedroom (dual masters), 2.5 bath 1200-square-foot condo, furnished/unfurnished, wood floors, fireplace, laundry, 2-car garage. Pool, spas, more. Pet OK. \$2200/month. 619-977-2412.

CARMEL VALLEY. Looking for affordable luxury living? 1 and 2 bedrooms. Flexible leases; call for current rates. Near beaches, shopping, easy freeway access, great school district! Free tennis, swimming lessons! Washer/dryer. Parking. Fitness center. Pool. No pets. Club Torrey Pines, 12646 Torrey Bluff Drive. 1-866-354-2096. www.sdreader.com/rent/2106.

CASA DE ORO. Half off first month, OAC! \$1050, 2 bedroom. \$1300, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Spacious. Laundry, balconies, pool. Military accepted. Espanol. 619-857-0365.

CASA DE ORO. Mount Helix. 1 bedrooms starting at \$850. 2 bedrooms starting at \$1025. Park/garden-like settings. Pool. Spa. Close to all shopping. Cats welcomed with deposit. Conrad Villas Apartments. 3917 Conrad Drive. Visit our website: www.progressmanagement.net or call 619-697-6323.

CHULA VISTA. \$2100. 3 bedroom condo near Eastlake. Washer/dryer hookups, fireplace, walk in closets, 2 car garage. Cats/dogs OK. Pool. 619-253-6711; Cassie 843-263-0415.

CHULA VISTA. \$100 off first month's rent! Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1100 with \$900 deposit OAC. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$900 with \$800 deposit. Pool, laundry room. Close to mall/freeway. Available December 1. 433 D Street. 619-632-0080.

CHULA VISTA. \$825. Cute 1 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow. Remodeled unit. Garages available. Call 619-420-2205. www.sadapbrokers.com.

CHULA VISTA. \$945. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Beautiful garden courtyard. Controlled access. Very clean. Air conditioning. No pets. 540 Naples Street. TPPM, 619-422-5709.

CHULA VISTA. \$1025. 2 bedroom, 1 bath in upscale property with central vacuum and air conditioning. Beautiful garden setting, controlled access parking. No

pets. 161 5th Avenue. TPPM, 619-420-8161.

CHULA VISTA. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, "all utilities included." New carpet, paint, clean, quiet, secure and ready now. On-site laundry, pool, parking. Best deal in South Bay! 540 Flower Street. If you can find one better, rent it! Crista, 619-425-5451 or Rachael, 619-804-1044.

CHULA VISTA. \$875. 1 bedroom in upscale property with central vacuum and air conditioning. Beautiful garden setting, controlled access parking. No pets. 144 Garrett Avenue. TPPM, 619-585-1959.

CHULA VISTA. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Gated, central air/heat, dishwasher, balcony, laundry, off-street parking. Section 8 OK. No pets. \$1125. Deposit \$800. 619-425-6511.

CHULA VISTA. \$775/month. \$250 deposit. 1 bedroom, fully furnished. 2 blocks from Chula Vista Center. Off-street parking. Laundry room. Lots of trees. 521 Park Way. Office open daily (near Fifth and G). 619-420-5084.

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CITY HEIGHTS. \$700. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment with garage. Call for details, 619-540-6526.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1000. Newly remodeled throughout. 1 bedroom with den. Close to all, 1 parking space. Onsite laundry. No pets. Available immediately. 4113 43rd Street. 858-274-4122.

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CITY HEIGHTS. \$1075 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse. Laundry. Parking. No pets. At 4243 47th Street #A. 619-299-8515.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1300. 3 bedroom, 2 bath on 7th floor. Stove, refrigerator, carpet, blinds, dishwasher, fireplace, patio, laundry on-site. Gated parking. No pets. 4416 47th Street #10. Agent, 619-298-7724.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs corner unit with garage. Hardwood floors. Pets OK. 3846 36th Street. 619-683-7638. Xlarent.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$995. Two 2 bedroom/2 baths, 850 square feet, newly renovated, near SDSU, 4316 52nd Street. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

CLAIREMONT. \$1385 plus deposit. Huge, over 1200 square feet, 2 bedroom, 2

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CLAIREMONT/KEARNY MESA. Wexford Manor. Large 1 and 2 bedrooms in beautiful complex with pool, spa, laundry, air conditioning, dishwasher. Sorry, no pets. \$995-\$1295. www.WexfordLiving.com. 7870 Stalmer Street. 858-277-4843.

CLAIREMONT. Move-in special!!! From \$1215. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Large, sunny townhomes. Pool. No pets. The Gardens, 5544 Balboa Arms Drive. Call 858-278-5862.

CLAIREMONT. \$1225 includes utilities/cable/internet (except phone). 1 bedroom apartment. Quiet cul-de-sac. Canyon views. Off-street parking. Laundry onsite. No pets. No smoking. 760-420-1411.

CLAIREMONT. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Half off first month! 1000 square feet. Dishwasher. On-site laundry. Pool. Near freeways. Mount Alifan Place. Agent, 619-692-4121.

CLAIREMONT. Great 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Garage. Secured off-street parking. Total remodel, new windows, tile floors, appliances. Nonsmoking. Pets considered. \$1450. 858-272-9622.

CLAIREMONT. Free daily continental breakfast, HBO, concierge service, maid/linen service! No lease! Furnished studios from \$395/week; \$1195/month! Corporate housing available. Utilities included! Microwave. Mini-refrigerator. Laundry. Heated pool, spa. Central location. Garden surroundings. Parking. No pets. California Suites Hotel, 5415 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. 1-888-475-7147. www.sdreader.com/rent/2035.

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CLAIREMONT. \$875. 1 bedroom. \$1125. 2 bedroom with balcony. Upstairs. Pool. Laundry. New carpet. Off-street parking. No pets. Available 11/15. 7322 Mesa College Drive. 858-560-6204.

CLAIREMONT. \$1195. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath condo in Village Square. New carpet and paint. Pool. Laundry in complex. One parking space. No pets. One-year lease. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

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COLLEGE AREA. \$750-\$775. 1 bedroom. Near shops. Laundry room. No pets. 6769 El Cajon Boulevard. Apartments in rear courtyard. 619-464-0901.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1250. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Garage. Parking. No

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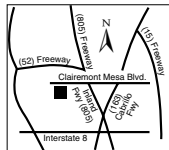
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LA MESA. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartments. Recently refurbished. Close to Grossmont Center and Green line trolley. Laundry. Cat OK. 619-469-3735. www.floft.com.

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LA MESA. \$1125. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$500 deposit!! Air conditioning. Dishwasher. Carport. Storage. Pool. Gated. No pets. Available 12/1. 5435 Morengo Avenue. 619-698-7926. villaknollsapts.com.

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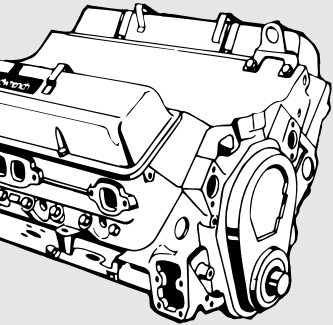
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Nasty Noteboard

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 Noteboard.” 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.

Once in a blue moon 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 “Fuck 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 have to make them 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, my name is...” 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 clunked 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 doctor 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 whoever 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. Here 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 happily eat and drink 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.”

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LEAD STORY

— Terrye Cheatham, 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, "Not You!" A remorseful correspondent 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 Cheatham acknowledges that people might prefer to ignore their connections to criminals.

Great Art!

— Australian performance artist Stelios Arcadiou, 61, showed off the laboratory-grown ear that 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 audiences can hear what his third ear "hears."

— MIT sophomore Star Simpson, 19, was arrested at Logan International Airport in Boston in September when she walked by a security check-

point wearing her own fashion 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 but eccentric student.

Government in Action!

— Three aldermen in Dover, N.J., seem exceptionally apprehensive that the town's gumball machines are easy targets for terrorists to poison 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.

Chutzpah!

— 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 *Washington Post* 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'll continue to take the subsidies.

— Even More Chutzpah! (1) The man who witnesses say robbed the Washington Mutual Bank in Miami Springs, Fla., in October was arrested outside 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 his 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 take her to Mexico, drop her off, and hope that she would not return home. However, she was back several hours later, demanding that Turk pay off the cab driver who had driven her from the border. Arrested with Turk was a 47-year-old pal nicknamed "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 worker on the street late 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

Available late November. Drive by 1954 Missouri Street. Do not disturb residents. To view: christinero@sbcglobal.net, 858-274-8251. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pblife>

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1250 rent. \$800 deposit, OAC. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1-car garage, new carport, paint, appliances, tile, blinds. No pets. 1607 Diamond Street. 619-299-8515.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1195 rent/\$650 deposit. 1 bedroom, quiet upper unit right on Mission Bay! Great floor plan. No pets. Garage \$70. Available November 15. 3976 Morrell Street. 858-483-3221.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1595. 2 bedroom upper duplex. Open house: Saturday, 11/17, 12pm-2pm. 1-parking. Vaulted ceilings. Balcony. Laundry on-site. Grass courtyard. Don't disturb front house-use alley access! Dog considered. 1924 Oliver Avenue. 619-822-0093.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1595. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Wood floors, 2 parking spots, laundry on-site. Basic cable included in rent. Small pet OK. 4750 Noyes Street. 858-967-0014, www.cal-prop.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1950. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 2 blocks from beach! Split level, 2-parking spots, laundry on-site. Available 12/3, 915 Diamond Street. No pets. 858-967-0014, www.cal-prop.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 3 blocks to beach! Upgraded, laundry on-site. 1071 Missouri Street. Available 12/15. 858-967-0014, www.cal-prop.com.

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483-5111 x10 or apply online at www.melroyproperties.com.

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POINT LOMA. Completely remodeled spacious studio. \$950. On-site laundry, manager, and parking. Close to freeway, shopping, and beaches. Must see. No pets. 2089 Chatsworth Boulevard. 619-222-0152.

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Plus labor. Most cars.

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SAVE \$50

Oil Change \$13⁹⁵ Basic
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\$19⁹⁵ Premium
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BACK WHEN

In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

WEEKEND NATURE LOVER, Cuyamacas, deserts, etc. Seeks paying passengers to diminish car expenses. At destination we split. Come return time, my Magic Bug will be there. Mike 222-8557.

DRIVING TO PHOENIX for Thanksgiving. Leaving SD on 23rd, returning late 27th. Plenty of room for kids, dogs, etc. Judi 224-7418.

AZTEC FAN wants ride to San Jose State game. Will share. Fred 287-5038.

—CLASSIFIEDS, November 17, 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 unfeeling of what I feel. Anyway, just because I think abortion is some kind of murder, and I feel maternal, that doesn't mean I'm anything close to a Christian. Now, will you please turn off the lamp?

And let's go to sleep."

—**"ONE WOMAN, ONE MAN, NO BABY,"**

David Steinman, November 18, 1982

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 Sheehan. "This is a tribute to peace activists in San Diego." The audience applauded itself.

Winter compared local activists to Benjamin Under, Daniel and Philip Berrigan, 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."

—CITY LIGHTS: **"ADDRESS,"** Karl Keating,

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. Right off, eschew the more popular U.S. presidents. Likewise, Marilyn Monroe, Elvis Pres-

ley, Shakespeare, Hemingway, Henry James.

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 Hemingway or Vachel Lindsay (whose last drink was Lysol).

—**"WHEN ANY OLD BOOK WON'T DO, FIND ANOTHER LIFE TO LEAD,"** 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 Guinness 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 preparation 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,"** Jeannette De Wyze,

November 20, 1997



San Diego Reader, November 18, 1982

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 community. I'm in 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."

—SHEEP AND GOATS, Abe Opincar, November 14, 2002

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

POINT LOMA. \$1095 rent, \$600 deposit. OAC. Lower 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking. Laundry. No pets. At 4461 Valeta Street #C. Agent, 619-299-8815.

POINT LOMA. \$1095 rent, \$600 deposit. OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Balcony. Laundry. No pets. At 4359 Mentone Street #1. Agent, 619-299-8515.

POWAY. \$1125. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartments. Beautiful courtyard, pool, dishwasher, patio or balcony, parking, laundry. No pets. 12500 Oak Knoll. 858-679-1789.

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RANCHO PENASQUITOS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1250-\$1350/month. Low \$500 deposits! Newly remodeled. Air conditioning. Pool, spa. Carport. No pets. Rancho Villas Apartments. Call 858-484-0744.

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in-unit. Storage. Pool. 6564 Bell Bluff Avenue. 858-922-3891.

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SANTEE. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse. Carpet. Washer/dryer in unit. Pool. Private. 1056 square feet. Air conditioning. Cats/dogs OK. Nonsmoking. Lease. 949-351-1883.

SANTEE. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 2 bath corner unit condo with wood floors and custom paint. Crown molding. Washer/dryer in unit. 1-car garage. 858-598-1111 x192. utopiamgmt.com.

SANTEE. \$825. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Also 1 bedroom, 1 bath for \$775. On-site laundry, off-street parking. No pets. 8527 Graves Avenue. 619-258-2584.

SOUTH PARK. \$975. Deposit \$700. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Laundry. Parking. Close to Balboa Park. No pets. 1644 Grove Street. 619-584-5900.

SOUTH PARK. \$975. Cute 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, near downtown San Diego. Gated. Private balcony, canyon view, wood floors, laundry, off street parking. 760-943-9228.

SOUTH PARK. \$875. 1/2 off 1st month. 1 bedroom duplex. New carpet, vinyl and paint. Near Balboa Park. Small pets OK. 3078 Juniper Street. 619-804-3325.

SOUTH PARK. Victorian flat. Studio. Tree-top Park view! Wood floors. Clawfoot tub. \$699. 2034 30th Street. 858-568-5081.

SPRING VALLEY. Sharp 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath townhouse, washer/dryer, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, storage galore, private 2-car covered carport attached, pool, great park, walk to shopping. \$1650/month. Some new furniture available for rent/purchase. Approvals required. Chet Moore, 619-991-9665 or Peg 1-800-848-1453.

SPRING VALLEY. \$1900/\$1900 deposit. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse, 2 car garage, on quiet cul-de-sac. 3122 Lamar Court. 619-466-8153.

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SPRING VALLEY. 9924 Buena Vista Drive. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$795. 1/2 off first month. Section 8 OK. Won't last, clean and quiet. 9928 also available, \$795. reader@sdcpm.net. SDCPM, 619-220-4840.

SPRING VALLEY. \$1400. Move-in ready! 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome. Gated community. Private patio. Laundry hookups. Community pool. Easy freeway access. Jackie, 951-757-1738.

TALMADGE. \$800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upper unit. Upgrades. Nice bright apartment. Located in small complex. On-site manager. Available now. 4545 Contour

Boulevard #E. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

TALMADGE. \$865. Large 1 bedroom. Clean, good condition. Nice, quiet area. On-site laundry, off-street parking, air conditioning, security gated. 4544 Winona Avenue. 619-229-1406.

TALMADGE. \$1150. Large, lower 2 bedroom. Washer/dryer. New carpet. Fireplace, patio, attached garage. No pets. Near SDSU! 4471 Winona Avenue. 619-804-3325.

TALMADGE. \$775. Move-in special! Upgraded 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Gated community, laundry and parking. 4453 51st Street #6. Agent, 858-560-1178.

TALMADGE/COLLEGE AREA. \$795. Large 1 bedroom apartment. Security gated. Near SDSU. New paint. Patio. Laundry. Parking. Dishwasher. Quiet.

Nice courtyard. 4544 Altadena Avenue. 619-265-7886.

TALMADGE/KENSINGTON. Deluxe 2 bedroom 1 bath with backyard starting at \$1120! Large closets, built-in shelving, ceiling fans, separate dining room. Refrigerator, stove, dishwasher. Covered parking, courtyard, on-site laundry. Pool, spa with poolside WiFi. Outdoor billiards, barbecue lounge with WiFi. Fitness center, computer lab! Pet-friendly. Talmadge Point, 619-282-1191. www.pacificliving.com.

TIERRASANTA. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Senior complex. Gated, quiet complex, recreation room with activities, on-site

laundry. Next to shopping, bank, pharmacy and more. Cat OK. Section 8 OK. 4906 La Cuesta Drive. 858-278-4910.

TIERRASANTA. \$1775. 2 master bedrooms, 2-1/2 bath townhome. Canyon views. 3 level. 2-car garage. Extra storage. Fireplace. Dishwasher. Air conditioning. Pool. Wood floors. 619-788-4663.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house/duplex with garage. \$1000 deposit. Newly renovated unit. New tile, new paint. Convenient location. Coin operated laundry. Available 11/15. 3024 Madison Avenue. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

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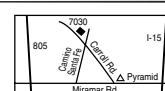
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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1025. On wooded canyon hillside. Laundry onsite. 3948 Florida Street. Agent. Call 619-298-1057. View at sevillelmgmt.com.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$695. Move in special: 1/2 off second month's rent. 1 bedroom, 1 bath seniors or disabled community apartments. On-site laundry, in gated community, close to bus lines. Small pets OK! 4086 Swift Avenue. Agent, 858-560-1178.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$825. Nice, clean 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo, 6 month lease. First/last month's rent. Parking. No pets. 4243 39th Street. 619-788-9362.

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CANYON VIEW TWIN HOME. Vista. Large, lovely 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 2-car garage. Large patio. High ceilings. Italian tile. \$359,000. Rico, Pacifica Properties, 760-431-9577.

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HYDESVILLE. Northern California. 3 bedroom 2 bath, ranch home, 6.32 acres. Very private. Charm, size and location, you can't beat it. \$727,000/agent, Michelle 707-599-2180.

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JULIAN/SHELTER VALLEY, 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. Carport and detached garage. Completely remodeled. Large enclosed patio with extra bedroom. Lot over 1 acre. \$220,000/owner, 858-776-6040.

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OREGON/UMATILLA, 303 acre Umatilla buffalo ranch. Nice 2100 square foot custom log home, 6000 square foot shop, buffalo corrals, 125 acre irrigated circle with water rides, 270 acres of rock, all rock are leased under mining permit. Minutes from town, 541-567-2833.

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VISTA. Mobile home and land by owner. \$115,000. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. 55+ community. Small animal permitted. \$130 HOA, includes water, trash, cable. 760-295-3514.

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BAY PARK. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 4-unit complex. Balcony, patio. New flooring/paint. Washer/dryer. Garage parking. Near bay. Agent, 858-337-6929. http://www.visualtour.com/shownp.asp?T=1236607.

BUY OR SWAP this newer, 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in Mission Valley for 1 bedroom condo. Laundry, air, balcony, parking. Pool, jacuzzi, gym. \$385,000. 619-301-9427.

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SAN DIEGO. Investment property for sale. Great opportunity, 5 units, 3 buildings plus 4 car garage in 1 lot. Well maintained! Positive monthly income. Call Top Notch Realty Inc. for details. 858-715-0688.

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REAL ESTATE

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HOTEL OWNER WANTS TO BUY property anywhere. Small houses, big houses, condos, apartments, commercial, vacant land. Call 619-204-0610.

INSTANT EQUITY. If you are looking to buy into an equity position or build sweat equity contact me, broker. sandiegoinstantequity.com or 619-322-7175.

OREGON/HERMISTON, Home-site, 8 acres with giant 22,000 square foot shop or storage. 64 10x20 bays, would make excellent car storage, 25' between bays with office in center. Building tall and well constructed, 3 face power and single face power. New drilled well. Close to Columbia River recreation, zoned residential, \$265,000. Stuart Bonney 541-567-2833.

SAN DIEGO REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST! It's a fabulous buyers' market! Let an expert help you find a great deal today! Reallocation Specialist tool ElisabethSellsSanDiego.com. 619-788-2720.

SANTEE. 3 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home, older but comfortable, central heat/air, swamp cooler. Space rent \$485. Open house: Sundays, 1-4pm. \$48,000. 619-442-4514.

ZERO DOWN ALL AREAS or cash out for any reason. Credit scores to 300. Foreclosure, bankruptcy OK. No out-of-pocket costs. Loans available. Ron, 408-461-0406, www.weneedaloannow.com.

Tickets

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AIR TICKET TO SOUTH AMERICA, One transferable air miles ticket to any 2 countries in South America. Must reserve 11 months ahead. \$900/cash. Carlsbad 760-929-9292.

AIRLINE TICKET, roundtrip anywhere Southwest flies, last minute reservations OK. \$395 cash only. 858-505-0504.

BUICK GOLF TOURNAMENT tickets, January 2008 Torrey Pines, offered by San Diego High School Band, \$15 (\$4-\$9 savings). Good for any day. Anna, 619-861-6338.

Sports

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BEACH CRUISERS, front and back fenders, male and female frames, \$80/each. Call 858-488-2582.

DIVING GEAR, 2 complete sets plus many extras. 619-287-0942.

GOLF STUFF. Lynx Staff bag, \$75. Taylor-made burner graphite, \$35. Putter, \$35. Khaki color golf bag, \$35. 858-864-2708.

HOBBIE 16 MAIN SAIL, new, 5oz. white Dacron, main view, 2 telltale windows, vinyl shroud protection and battens tie, no battens. \$500. 619-297-0157.

KAYAK FOR SALE. New and used. Cobra demonstrator 10 foot kayaks \$395 to \$495 with seat and paddle (regular \$500-\$750). Tandem kayak sale. New Tandems (regular \$1250) on sale for \$399-\$999. Used demo Tandems, complete with 2 seats and 2 paddles for just \$699-\$799 (regular \$1145). Fish 'n' Dives, new and used for \$795-\$1095 complete with seat and paddle. San Diego Sailing Center, 858-488-0651. For photos, see www.kayaksforsale.com.

POWER YACHT, 46' liveaboard, 1990 Ocean Alexander, twin diesels, 611TI 485hp each, 480-gallon fuel, upgrades. Harbor Island slip, \$249,900 or exchange for real estate, 949-521-4739.

SKIS, Hexcel 195s. Qlin Mark IV, 180s. 619-523-3786.

SNOWBOARD BLOWOUT SALE 25%-75% off selected new and used snowboards, boots, clothing and accessories. Why rent this year when you can buy at these prices? Trade in other sports and fitness equipment to save even more money. Play It Again Sports, Pacific Beach, Tier-rasanta, College Area. 858-490-0222, www.playitagainsd.com.

SOFTBALL LEAGUE wants teams and players for new fall/winter season. 619-295-0385.

SOFTBALL PLAYERS. Team wants 2 experienced players. 619-517-5791.

SPORTS BOARD GAME CLUB. We want new players. All you need is luck and the spirit to win. Call for details on how to join, 619-517-5781.

SURFBOARD, stand-up paddle, 12', soft top, perfect condition, great for learning.

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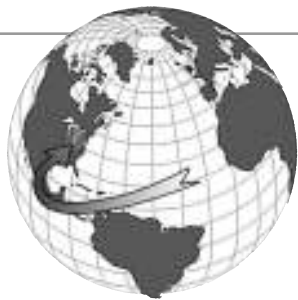
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BLOG WORLD

MELINDA

Greenville, Ohio



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 at night in the summer; swimming in the pool, those lazy, long, hot summer days, sharing toys, tents, popsicles, and dreams.

On 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:

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.

I wish for your safety and protection so you can live a full, prosperous life.

I wish for peace in your busy mind and understanding so you can handle living in my world.

I wish for you to continue to love the Lord, pure in heart and soul as you do now.

I wish for you the ability

to avoid a lot of the crap most kids when teenagers have to go through to learn. My hope is you can learn by avoiding those challenges — you have enough of your own already.

I wish for you to be able to feel fulfilled in your life at whatever you choose to do.

I wish for you to know you can do anything you set your mind to and to believe



in yourself no matter what anyone else says.

I wish for you to continue to feel optimistic and hopeful, even when experiencing or seeing the horrors of the world today.

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.

I wish for you a new-found ability to eat more

variety of foods without gagging or crying.

I wish for you to realize there are always consequences to your actions and to think about those consequences before taking action. This lesson will save you a lifetime of regret.

I wish for you to tackle life with the gusto and fervor you already do. To enjoy life and living even through sorrows. I wish for you to suffer few sorrows.

I wish for you to continue to be such 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 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

<http://dearnoah.blogspot.com>

No dings/dents. 2 months old. Paid \$650, asking \$500. Fun board. Bill, 760-310-5835.

SURFBOARDS. 6 used Thrusters, 7.0 gun, 6.10 down to 6.0, water tight, used, from \$100-\$200 each. Also liquidating inventory. Quads, fish thrusters, 50% off retail and longboards 50% off. 760-809-8642.

TENNIS LEAGUE. Intermediate to advanced skill levels. Join the year-round fun

at the #1 League in San Diego. Leagues starting now. 858-794-1800; www.tennisleague.com.

YAKIMA RACKS. With surf pads and straps \$300. Q-clips for Honda Civic (cheap to replace to fit your car if required), \$525/new, 858-449-2760.

PHOTO

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NIKON F3HP, 35mm, \$325. MD-4 motor-drive, \$125. AIS lenses, 28mm, 35mm, 50mm, 85mm, 80-200, SB-17. 619-708-8618.

COMPUTERS

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removal, website design, music, networks, cable/DSL, video, etc. A+/MCP certified. 24/7 onsite. \$25/hour. 858-793-0398.

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- Check tire pressure & rotation
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- Inspect exhaust pipe & muffler
- Inspect power steering system
- Inspect fuel lines
- Check clutch free-play & adjust
- Replace distributor cap & rotor
- Adjust timing
- Lube front end • Road-test
- Call for details. 6-cyl. extra.

Clutch Job **\$245***
4x4, twin cam extra.

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Intermediate Service **\$95***
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Oil & Filter Change **\$1795***
Up to 4 qts. Exp. 11/30/07. Some cars higher.

CV Boot **\$4995*** **CV Axle** from **\$145***

Fuel Injection Service **\$35***

Timing Belt **\$115***
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San Diego Reader November 15, 2007 171



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IBOOK. G4. 933MHz, 40GB HD, 1.1GB RAM, WiFi, DVD/CDRW, excellent, \$500. 619-303-4084.

LAPTOP BLOWOUT. FREE Diagnostic. Laptops starting from \$298 for ACER, Dell, IBM, Toshiba and more. Laptop/projector rentals-\$25/\$75. 3 locations! Going fast, call now: 1-888-861-8347.

LAPTOP. Gateway 366Mz, \$125. Desktop computers, 550Mz to 900Mz, \$50-\$100. 17" monitors, \$5. Accessories, \$1-\$5. 619-222-9323.

TOTAL COMPUTER. Commercial service. We do everything. Installation, set-up, training, repair, networking, telephones, wiring, upgrades. \$20 in-home diagnostics. 619-941-1809; cell, 619-607-0221.

BICYCLES

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TANDEM, \$600, 619-239-6339.

TREK MOUNTAIN BIKE, 26" with shocks suspension, back rack, extended handlebars, blue and white, hardly used, \$250. 619-688-1906.

WANTED / TRADE

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FISHING TACKLE. Collector wants for his personal collection wooden lures, reels, miscellaneous by Heddon, Pflueger, Creek Chub, South Bend, Shakespeare, to name a few. 619-972-3488.

I AM LOOKING for a person who knows carpentry. Exchange for housing. Please call me after 9am. 619-479-4212.

INDIAN ARROWHEADS/ARTIFACTS. Must be authentic. Call Steve at 619-985-8562.

MATTRESS, full or queen size. Please leave a message, 760-634-1416.

OLD TOYS AND TRAINS. Lionel, American Flyer, Marx, Aurora, Corgi, Dinky, Hot Wheels, Matchbox, slot cars, Buddy-L, Smith-Miller, Structo, Tonka. Old plastic vehicles: Pyro, Renwal, Dave. 858-756-2411.

SHOTGUN AND RIFLE SHELL boxes, pre-1960. One and two-piece boxes, empty or full, manufactured by Winchester, Peters, Remington, Western, Federal, Robin Hood, Defiance, etc., for private collection. 858-565-1756.

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

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ALL ANTIQUES WANTED! Cash paid. Antiques/collectibles. Also, quality furniture, pianos. 1 piece or houseful. Cash paid. Same day pickup. Bonded. Licensed. Since 1965. 1-800-840-4447, www.southcoastauction.net.

AMERICAN/ENGLISH/FRENCH inspired antiques from 19th/20th century. For a list or viewing, call 619-847-5144.

ANSTEAD'S AUCTION. We buy antiques, collectibles, household furniture, appliances, TVs, home electronics, pianos. Prompt service. Local buyers. Licensed/

bonded. Serving San Diego since 1971. 619-233-3148; 1-888-722-2002.

BARBIE DOLLS (4), holiday dressed, all in original box, never opened, 1996 edition, \$100. 619-583-7749.

CERAMIC HUNTING DOG, Antique, 1930s, 8" high 12" long. Appraised at \$250, make offer. Minton English China 1950s, appraised at \$1700. Asking \$400. 619-276-5360.

DISC JOCKEY'S collection, 500 jazz/big band 78" records plus 10 albums from 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, and large Ampex phono with speakers. \$1000. 619-422-3547.

FAINTING COUCH, authentic, turn-of-the-century antique, dark walnut with gold velvet fabric, \$775. Amy, 619-231-0030.

FIRST GRADE READERS from 1950s-1960s, nostalgic gift for the oldsters on your list. \$2.50 to \$250 depending on rarity and condition. 619-286-6554.

WALT DISNEY COLLECTORS, Drinking glasses, never used. 101 Dalmations. Lady and the Tramp. Pinocchio. Snow White. Bambi. Alice in Wonderland. Only \$15. Call after 9am, 619-283-1767.

GARAGE SALES

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AIR TICKET TO EUROPE. One transferable air miles ticket to any 2 cities in Europe \$1000. Must reserve 11 months ahead. Pay cash. Carlsbad 760-929-9292.

BAY PARK/MISSION BAY. Sunday, November 18, 9am-2pm. 5101 September Street. TVs/electronics, furniture, kids' clothing/items, etc.

CLAIREMONT. Garage sale. Saturday, 11/17, 8am-1pm. Moving overseas, everything must go. Furniture, appliances, women's clothing, housewares, books, etc. Alley behind 4400 block of Clairemont Drive.

CLAIREMONT. Saturday/Sunday, 11/17-11/18, 8am-4pm. Corner Idlewild/Jutland. Lots of good stuff! Clothes, toys, Xmas items, maternity clothes, infant carseat/stroller, etc.

DEL CERRO. Multisister garage sale. 11/17-11/18, 8am-1pm. Furniture, blue recliner, kitchen dining set, claw-foot dropleaf table, upholstered chair, children's bed, decor, clothes. 6228 Brynwood Court.

LA JOLLA, Christmas boutique and garage sale. Saturday 12/1/07, 9am-2pm. Antiques, collectibles, food, art, crafts, clothing, household items, decorations! Good Samaritan Episcopal Church. 4321 Eastgate Mall, 92121.

MIRA MESA, Like new reasonably priced furniture and more on Saturday 11/17, 10am. Court 11, Caminito Obrá at Flanders (park on street). Cash only.

MIRA MESA. Garage sale. Sunday, 11/18, 8am-2pm. Sofa bed, CD boombox, VHS player, desktop computer set, suitcase, printer, housewares, coffeemaker, plates, clothing. 10577 Greenford Drive.

NORTH PARK. Yard sale. Saturday, 11/17, 7am-1pm. Baby items, dishes, children's clothes, books, videos, Beanie Babies, Christmas items, adult clothing. 3445 29th Street.

OLD TOWN. Garage sale. Saturday, 11/17, 9am. 21" Panasonic TV, electronics, knickknacks, collectibles, sporting goods, tools, hardware, leather goods, costumes, clothing, household goods. 4111 Mason Street.

APPLIANCES

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DISHWASHER/DRYER, Late models, multi-function, energy savers. Dishwasher under counter or portable. Dryer can stack or rest on floor. Super deal at \$80/each. 619-461-2643.

DISHWASHER and trash compactor, used, black glass fronts, older but hardly used, \$25 each. 760-746-2047.

GUITAR, Hero for PS2, like new, \$50. 760-580-0541.

REFRIGERATOR, Kenmore, side by side, with ice maker, lots of shelves and drawers, beige, 32" Wx28" Dx65" H, works great, some scratches. \$100. Moving overseas, must sell. chandrabeal@hotmail.com.

VACUUM, Kirby Power Drive, 2 boxes of accessories, all attachments, about 3 years old, includes shampoo and instructional video. Paid \$1300, sell \$250. 858-547-9573.

ELECTRONICS

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POLK AUDIO LSI 5.1 THX Certified Theater System, new, audiophile system for midsize-to-large rooms, for cutting edge listeners, for high definition, includes everything, \$3200. 619-708-8766.

TAPE DECKS, 8 track, vintage top Pioneer recording model, 3 of them, like new, plus 60 tapes including Elvis boxed set, \$320 for all. 760-732-1315.

TV, 28" colored Panasonic. 619-523-3786.

TV, big screen Mitsubishi, 50", looks great, \$325. Also 32" Panasonic, works perfectly, \$135. 858-780-8746.

TV, Sony Wega Trinitron KV-36FV16, 36", physically and functionally perfect condition, beautiful picture. Retail over \$1400; asking \$300/best cash. Weighs over 200lbs. 619-306-8050.

FURNITURE

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BAR STOOLS, dark wood, highback, swivel, 2 at \$25 each. Wingback chair, muted colors, \$40. 619-449-9047.

BED \$100 ABSOLUTE BARGAIN! The Furniture Warehouse now open to the public. We sell warehouse direct. Come see our large showroom. We have over 70 sets in stock from \$89! 995 Bay Boulevard, Chula Vista, 91911. Open 11am-

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\$15⁹⁵
Most cars.

Free retest when we do repair.
Plus \$8.95 certificate and \$1.50 transfer fee.
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4-CYL. \$25/6-CYL. \$35/8-CYL. \$45*
Includes spark plugs. Additional parts extra. Most cars.

TIMING BELT SPECIAL \$95*

Includes parts & labor. Most 4-cyl. cars.

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Front & rear. Turn rotors, drums, new pads, lining. Most cars, 4WD extra.

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\$12⁹⁵

Most 4-cyl. cars. Includes new filter, EPA, up to 5 qts. oil. Some oil filters extra.

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Most cars. Bring DMV notice.
Vans, SUVs, RVs, trucks, V8, and European extra.

Basic Tune-Up

with oil change

4-cyl. **\$35⁰⁰**

6-cyl. **\$39⁹⁵**

8-cyl. **\$49⁹⁵**

Most cars. Includes new plugs and new oil filter. *Inspect* cap, rotor wire, air filter. Some oil filters extra. Some cars labor extra. Platinum plugs extra. Must present coupon at time of service. Coupons may not be combined with any other offers. Expires 12/5/07.

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A RED-EYE FLIGHT, SIX MILES ABOVE THE BLACK ICY ATLANTIC, winging toward Greenland is the quintessential setting to make a pillow fort and work on creative projects, I've found. Think of it. You have free food...well, a warmish goo masquerading as food, which tastes like each of the dishes were cooked in the same coffee pot, but it's still better than anything I've ever made. On international flights they keep the booze 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.

"WINE!" 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 spotlights on and trained in the same direction; enough light to see my pad and paper. "WINE!" I bellowed.

As a precautionary measure, I illuminated all of the stewardess beacons in my two rows. *Bing! Bing! Bing! Bing! Bing! Bing!* I scurried on the floor between the seat rows, in the narrow "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, especially the male of the species, are a terrified, panicky 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 kicked in fear with the others.

This wasn't a transatlantic midnight ride, it was Marlin Perkins's *Wild Kingdom*. And the stews 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 Filthy 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 papier-mâché my truck with it. I want Spanish-language sales on London Broil (\$4.99 per pound) wet-glued and stuck flat against the exterior of my entire pickup. Then I'll fix steer horns to the hood and chase the matador around the Tijuana bullring. ¡Olé! Get those funny pants moving. ¡Olé!

THE FASHION TEAM

TVGN 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-

shop collection bin. I'll repeat that because it bears repeating: Pleated. Pocketless. Jeans. Pulled up over his paunch in front, as though I wanted a view of his smooth, middle-aged rump without the obstruction of pockets. What on earth, man!?

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 little dunce caps on them. Next week it will be Ku Klux Klan 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 Zorro mask and a pair of Larry Bird 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. Tremble 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 designated for cutting tomatoes into fish shapes. February is one of my favorites: cheeseburgers into famous opera halls. And who can forget 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 sugar? You can see how I got confused; also, keep in mind much 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 underpants that gave me super strength and that gold doubloons shot from my ears when I sneezed. Alas. Alas.



Grounded for Life

BREAKING THE MAGICIAN'S CODE 4: 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 underarm. 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."

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 Jackalopes*. I'll be in traditional headdress and manning the craps table. Mel will have buckles on her hat and shoes.

7pm daily. Closed Monday. Credit cards accepted. Legitimate warranties in writing! Fast delivery. 619-426-2727. www.tfwarehouse.com.

BED \$169 A BARGAIN. A Ortho Pillowtop Queen, new in plastic with warranty, mattress/box. All sizes. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.

BED A DISCOUNT store. Mattress World in Hillcrest sells new beds at warehouse pricing lower than regular stores. Student specials, fast delivery or pickup, national

brands. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Mattress World, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. Check www.sandiegobeds.com or email to: info@davisworld.com. Call: 619-260-8000.

BED FRAME, metal. Fits different size beds. Can be easily taken apart to be transported in a car. \$20. 858-277-3065.

BED, Sleep Number, queen size, 3 months old, like new, \$3200/best. Can deliver. El Cajon, 619-749-3450.

BED, super comfortable and clean, Ikea double, Sultan Hamno mattress and Aneboda frame, includes bed slats, few months old. Moving overseas, must sell, \$375. chandrabeal@hotmail.com.

DAYBED/FUTON, Bunkbed/trundle-heavy duty, very universal, space saver, can separate, \$90/best/trade. 619-670-8356.

DINING ROOM TABLE SET, Southwestern style, large 42x72 inch, smoked glass table top. 2 white pedestal bases, 6 turquoise up-

holstered chairs \$450. UTC area 858-657-0930.

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, pine veneer, 18"Dx54"Wx48"H, TV space 31"Wx27"H, 2 adjustable shelves, perfect condition, \$75. Can email photos. 760-941-0541.

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, 5'Wx45"H on rollers, oak, 2 glass doors, 3 shelves and storage, large 2 door storage area under TV, side door, \$115. 619-563-4985.

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San Diego Reader November 15, 2007 173

RED MEAT

by Max Cannon ©2007

RED MEAT

anti-gravitas field generator

from the secret files of
max cannon

Ted, are you *ever* going to take off that body fluid harvesting suit? It isn't going to protect you from global climate change.

Sure it will, Honey. As long as I keep recycling my own fluids, I won't die from dehydration.

So you're covered for drought. How about mega-storms, crop die-offs, insect-borne diseases, massive flooding or boiling heat?

= ULP =

Nice going, Sweetheart. You've caused me to clog the feeder line on my suit. It's not really designed to handle solids.

SCHLORP!

Suck a little harder. I bet it will clear itself.

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FURNITURE. Like new, must go. Sofa, \$100. Washer/dryer, \$200. All tables, \$100. TV, \$50. Dinette set, \$100. New king size bed, \$200. Etc. 858-780-9633.

GORGEOUS LAWSON, Olive green pull out sleeper is a soft fabric, patterned designed couch with rounded tufted arms, large pillows and a tailored skirt, \$600. 760-274-3204.

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE. 2 dressers, not particle board, \$25 each. Queen mattress and box spring, \$50. 619-575-0161.

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE. Large teak wall unit, shelves and cabinets, \$500. Large solid wood dresser, shelves and drawers, \$300. 619-423-5916.

LOVE SEAT, beautiful leather, teal color, excellent condition, looks and feels great, \$465. 858-733-0343.

MATTRESS A DISCOUNT store-Mattress World in Hillcrest sells new beds at warehouse pricing lower than regular stores. Student specials, legitimate warranties, fast delivery or pickup, name brands. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Authorized Sealy, Simmons, Spring Air, Aireloom dealer. Also Latex, chemical-free and Swedish style Visco-Memory! Mattress World, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. Check: www.sandiegobeds.com or email to: info@davisworld.com. Call: 619-260-8000.

MATTRESS BOX PILLOWTOP SET. New in plastic with warranty. Queen \$169. King \$239. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. Call 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.

MATTRESS, Sleep Number 9000, like new, California king, dual controls, fully transferable warranty, includes Egyptian cotton 400-thread count sheets, pillows. Originally \$4300, asking \$3000. 619-227-4247.

OFFICE DESK, 5' 9" walnut collapsible table \$25. Small desk \$25. Secretary chairs \$20.

Clothes racks, two rows 6' long, 2.5' wide, of fice racks 619-276-5360.

OUTDOOR FURNITURE, designer, beautiful, Pierce Martin set in fabulous condition, 42" round table, stone top, 6 armchairs, 6' sofa, lounge chair, coffee table, \$2000. 858-481-8034.

SALON EQUIPMENT. 2 styling chairs, shampoo bowl, shampoo chair, 2 dryer chairs, 2 dryers, 2 manicure stations, hydraulic facial table, tilt-up massage/facial table. 619-339-3140.

MISCELLANEOUS
FOR SALE

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ANTENNA, 10', \$1. HP PDA iPAQ2215, in box, \$120. Calipso washer/dryer, \$650. Computer hard drive, \$10. 858-605-1645.

ART SUPPLIES, 300lb watercolor paper 30x22, \$6 a sheet. Lots of watercolor brushes and paint, come see, make offer. Art books, 858-272-2496.

ART SUPPLIES, 400 Rembrandt pastels in beautiful wood box and cans of fixative. (Cost me \$400, best offer.) Barely used. Watercolor crayons (cost me \$100), best offer. 858-272-2496.

BEDS A PILLOWTOP MATTRESS Box Set. New in plastic with warranty. Queen \$169. King \$239. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.

CARD TABLE with 4 matching padded chairs by Samsonite, excellent quality, \$50. Santa, 50" tall, animated, musical, dancing, \$30. Men's all-down vest, XL, \$10. 619-282-9581.

CEMETERY PLOTS. Glen Abbey Memorial Park. \$2500 in Block 5 and \$3500 in Block 41. Call 619-583-5189 or 619-203-9465.

CLASSIC CHINA, Noritake Bamboo 60 piece, \$399. Snack coffee set, \$100. Platinum coffee set, \$100. Ideal for holidays. Pictures available. 619-280-5155.

CLOTHING. Chanel skirt, late style, originally \$2500, black pleated silk, size 10, 28" long, perfect condition, \$350/best. 760-753-6996.

DEAD SEA SCROLLS, 1 adult ticket, November 23, 10am. \$20. 1 twin bed frame, \$9. Violins, \$49 and \$99. Antique metronomes. 619-426-4360.

DESK, CHAIR, 6 drawers, 38"Wx78"L, \$50. Wedding dress, hat, shoes, size 8, \$100 all. Off-road tires, 18" and 21", 2 each, \$5 each. Table, glass top, \$25. 858-277-7197.

DRILL KITS, Makita 9V, \$25; 12V, \$50. Overhead projector, \$75. Kirby vacuum, attachments, shampooer, self-propelled, like new. \$200. Men's Italian leather jacket, \$45. 619-449-8069.

ELECTRIC CART, single seat, 4 wheel, outdoors, for parks, camping, desert, ideal for disabled, \$1500. Can deliver. 858-864-2708.

ENCYCLOPEDIAS, World Book, complete, includes Child Craft, \$50. 619-583-2523.

HELICOPTER, radio controlled, like new, in box, includes battery, charger, remote transmitter, great for beginner, 2 weeks old, paid \$140, sell for \$85. 619-295-2551.

KEY CUTTING MACHINE, never used, lever action, \$400/best. Panasonic VCR/TV, great condition, \$50. Sony studio monitor, \$100. 619-224-0499.

LAWN MOWER, Honda, newer model, \$110. Recurve bow and 25 arrows, \$65. 150lbs. of dumbbells, \$65. Fancy walker and toilet chair, \$75. Dog carrier, \$18. 858-581-6223.

MICKEY MOUSE OLD PHONE, Collector. New in box. Antique French lord statue 13" pewter, brass teddy bear, \$15. Brass hi-top hat and small one \$15-\$45. 702-334-2350.

MICKEY MOUSE OLD PHONE, Collector. Antique French lord statue 13" pewter, brass teddy bear, \$15. Brass hi-top hat and small one \$15, \$45. 702-334-2350.

MINERAL COLLECTION. Cabs, slabs, cutting rough, crystals, lots of quartz including Herkimer diamonds, unusual tumbled, much more. Knife collection, old Ker-

shaws, Schrade IXLs, others. 619-260-8482.

MIRRORS, beveled, framed, smoke color, new, 36" Hx5" L, \$100. 36"Hx24" L, \$50. 619-938-9655.

MISCELLANEOUS. Antique dresser, white, \$100. Copper clothes and hat rack, \$135. Office or living room armchairs (4), \$40 each. Extension ladder, \$60. Best offer. 619-582-0096.

MOVING SALE, Antiques, aquarium/stand, refrigerator, washer/dryer, TVs/stands, stereo, entertainment center, recliner, dining, coffee, and end tables, beds, dressers, bikes, vacuum, files, 619-670-7821.

MOVING SALE. All must go. Clothes, shoes, dishes, crochet spreader, wall clocks and other wall things. 619-233-8815.

PLANT POTS, plastic, approximately 40, 1-5 gallon each, mostly smaller sizes, \$15 all, 4 wrought iron flower pot holders, \$10 all. Escondido, 760-685-8291.

RESTAURANT KITCHEN Exhaust, fire protection and replacement air components. Will comply with local and State fire codes, \$1000. 858-566-4231.

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SWORD, 40"L, stainless steel blade, beautifully detailed black case, gorgeous, \$65. 619-445-5898.

TOW BAR for motor home pulling a car, cost \$550, sell \$125. Huge dog carrier, cost \$300, sell \$95. Newer electric mower, \$65. World encyclopedia, \$3. 858-581-1869.

WORMS, Redworm, nature's fertilizer, 1 bucket \$40. Guarantee 1000+ worms. Lisa 619-449-7875.

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- Advanced Auto Tech **Catalytic converter \$95**
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- Chevron Mission Valley **Oil change \$14.95**
- Chris's Auto Repair **Smog check \$15.75**
- Cliff Brown Automotive **\$10 off any service over \$50**
- Convoy Auto Repair **Tune-up \$29.95**
- Dent Time **10% or \$15 off dent repair**
- Discount Transmission & Axles **Free diagnostic road test**
- European Coach **Free diagnostic**
- Factory Tire Automotive Service & Sales **Premium oil change \$19.95**
- Five Star Customs **Window tint \$199**

- Greenlight Honda Acura Care **\$100 off factory service**
- International Auto Service **Brake service \$48 plus parts**
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- Mission Gorge Auto **Rebuilt engines \$899**
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- San Diego Smog & Auto Repair **\$10 off any service**

- San Diego Smog Test Only **\$10 off smog check**
- Sea Sides Classic Tinting **Window Tint \$59**
- Smog Clinic **\$26.75 Test Only smog special**
- Sound Check **15% off window tinting**
- Southern California Transmission **\$100 off transmission rebuild**
- Streetnoyz Auto Sound & Security **10% off window tint**
- Suspension Plus Full Service Center **One free shock or strut**
- Thao Automotive **Smog check \$16.75**
- University Transmissions **Transmission power flush \$79 and up**
- Value Transmission **\$75 off clutch special**
- Volkswagen Dealers of S.D. County **Fuel injector cleaning \$139.95**
- Welltech Auto Service **Smog check \$15.75**
- Wentworth Automotive **\$24.95 AC service**
- West Coast Auto Glass **\$149.95 windshield replacement**
- Xpert Paint & Body **\$50 off bumper repair**

T.G.I.F.

“I guess I wanted you to be like a superhero or something.”

By John Brizzolara

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 mock Dutch windmill you see from the freeway. What I was doing there was giving my son a break from me. We fought like spiteful children that Friday afternoon, and we 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 Ambien 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 Seroquel, 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. Maybe I am. 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 many drugs so...

I had been staying with him (at his invitation) for several days while I was in between more permanent places to stay. I called him a liar. He told me, “Fuck you!” and he never uses foul language. It escalated until it became clear the situation in the small apartment was untenable. His mother intervened and took me to the motel.

Once inside, I watched television for the first time in months and found that Newton Minnow (Remember him? Not if you're under 50, most likely) was correct when he called the medium a “vast wasteland.” I watched inane crap anyway while I grieved over the fact that my son had told me that I was not the man he wanted me to be. He said, “I guess I wanted you to be like a superhero or something.” He was quite serious. He has a childlike mind very often. He certainly wasn't making a joke or being ironic.

I managed 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 the early hours, say three or four a.m., while watching *Jerry Maguire* or maybe *Bridget Jones' Diary* and yet not watching them, that I remembered to pray. God occupied few — no, none of my thoughts for days, maybe weeks on end. I remembered I had a rosary given to me by someone while I was asleep in the hospital a few weeks earlier. I have no idea who the benefactor might have been. At any rate, I dug it out of my backpack, where I had placed it for luck or something. I just held it for a while, said, I think, two prayers, and became distracted by my sudden and ravenous hunger.

Not a thing I could do about it, naturally, except smoke. Now, this is not meant necessarily for the Catholic presses or any other inspirational publications. It is just what happened. I knew I had a hundred or so in the bank, but the nearest branch was miles away, and I had lost my ATM card weeks ago, along with my ID and other items from my wallet. This happened in a blackout in Mexico. The repetition of the words “weeks ago” stems from the timeframe when my life turned to shit from drinking again.

Somewhere 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 pants on and off for, yes, weeks) would require another 200 words 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 was. I withdrew \$100, bought a small carton of milk, then went next door to Subway for a six-inch club sandwich with guacamole. I'm sure I was shaking with relief and walking very, very quickly back to Motel 6.



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 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 his mother, and she was willing to fetch 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. Between my apologies and his, it is much like some Laurel and Hardy routine.

We will be making chicken pasta together.

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