

SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

VOLUME 36 / NUMBER 52  
DECEMBER 27, 2007

# Reader

Salaries,  
Stock options,  
Corporate jets,  
Limousines,  
Interest-free loans,  
Trust funds.

San Diego's  
highest  
paid  
executives

Story begins on page 24



Unsung hero of Midway-Rosecrans fire – see City Lights



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—Kris Clark, 5/29/07

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## BREAKING NEWS

**PR move of the year** The former public relations aide to **Alan Bersin** during his



Alan Bersin

stormy tenure as superintendent of schools here made some headlines of her own up the road in Fresno in 2007. After leaving the school district following the buyout of Bersin's contract in 2005 by a newly reconstituted board of education, **Peri Lynn Turnbull** did PR and fund-raising duties at High Tech High, a favorite Bersin charter school, and the local Red Cross chapter, where she had been hired by then-executive director **Ronne Froman**, another onetime member of Bersin's crew. Then in August of this year Turnbull abruptly surfaced as the new "chief information officer" for the Fresno Unified School District.

But the sweet terms of her contract, signed by superintendent Michael Hanson prior to school board review, set off a row similar to those Turnbull frequently encountered as Bersin's loyal lieutenant. The deal pays \$125,000 a year, plus a monthly allowance of \$2075 for meals, travel, lodging, and related expenses. Yet another provision allows Turnbull to work two days a week from her San



Peri Lynn Turnbull

Diego residence. That drew the wrath of *Fresno Bee* columnist **Bill McEwen**, who wrote that the arrangement "violates the first tenet of the public-relations practitioner's handbook: Don't become part of the story." McEwen also complained about Turnbull's monthly expense account, noting it "is more than what some families in Fresno Unified live on. Teachers paying for class supplies out of their pockets rightfully are incensed about the district's giving an administrator two grand a month." The debate came to a head at a rowdy school board meeting in October during which members of the teachers' union hurled catcalls at Hanson and board members when they tried to speak. That drew the ire of *Bee* editorialists, who called the heckling "shameful," though they counseled Turnbull to "make a connection to the community and not worry about whether she can make an airplane connection from San Diego." The board finally approved the contract, 5-2.

**Bad news bloggers** Did 2007 finally mark the beginning of the end for KPBS, the public radio and television station pair owned and operated by San Diego State University? With public contributions flat and growing competition from streaming news sources on the Internet, some questioned the station's continuing viability. In August, honcho **Doug Myrland** abruptly axed *Full Focus*, KPBS's only regular public affairs television show, on which local policy wonks matched wits with host **Gloria Penner**. The station's strategy of timing the announcement in the dog days of summer to avoid negative attention backfired when Myrland commandeered a blog on the KPBS website and blasted

away at critics of the cancellation. "KPBS has been in existence for 46 years, and NEVER has it been a collective, or even a participatory democracy. I make decisions in the same way every General Manager before me did," wrote Myrland, a state employee. "We aren't elected officials — every budget line item and every personnel decision and every bit of information we collect is not everybody else's business. Just because you give a contribution or pay taxes doesn't give you the right to decide — or even influence — what goes on the air and what doesn't."

The tempest drew the attention of San Diego city attorney **Mike Aguirre**, who made a request to SDSU under the state's Public Records Act to turn over documents regarding cutbacks at the station and alleged untoward influence being brought there by the *Union-Tribune*. In October, **Michael Marcotte**, the station's news director, fired back at the quixotic city attorney, saying that finances played no role in the demise of *Full Focus*. It was, he said, "removed for failing to draw viewers, which amounts to a responsible programming decision, not a dereliction of duty." He added that the stations produced "more than 15 hours a week" of programming "to help our region better know itself."

As it turns out, Marcotte, a 12-year station veteran, will no longer be around to contribute to the betterment of self-knowledge. A month after his anti-Aguirre piece, he announced his own departure in a blog post headlined, "Happy Birthday Public Broadcasting (I Quit!)." Marcotte's blog entry said he was leaving on "good terms," though it didn't explain why. He has become a "public media consultant" in Santa Barbara.

**Golden globe** Old Globe impresario **Jack O'Brien** has sold his Mission Hills mansion, built a house in Connecticut, and is finally retiring after 26 years to spend more time directing Broadway hits and, most likely, collecting more Tonys. So he probably won't miss his relatively pedestrian Globe salary, including benefits, of \$68,211. (That figure is as of 2005, the latest period for which an IRS return was available.) O'Brien's compensation was much less than the \$254,258 paid his boss, Globe executive director **Louis Spisto**, who is set to become the Globe's chief executive officer and executive producer upon O'Brien's January departure. And resident artistic director **Jerry Patch**, who will share creative management duties with director **Darko Tresnjak** in the post-O'Brien era, got \$93,079. Even flyman and stage carpenter **Christian Thorsen** received more than O'Brien, \$79,630.



Jack O'Brien

— **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.**

## This Is Luxury Retirement?

By Don Bauder

**C**hicago's Pritzker family is one of the world's richest. There are ten Pritzkers listed in the 2007 *Forbes* 400, the magazine's

compilation of the nation's wealthiest people. Those ten Pritzkers are worth a collective \$26.6 billion, according to *Forbes*. The Pritzkers are known for intra-family feuding and shrewd if sometimes dubious use of decades-old offshore trusts to minimize or eliminate taxes. The Pritzkers are occasionally written up for having had unsavory business associations. "Do the Pritzkers hate paying taxes more than they seem to despise one another?" asked *Forbes* in a 2003 article.

Among many valuable assets, the Pritzker family controls the Hyatt hotel chain and its various subsidiaries. An affiliate of Hyatt, through related entities, controls and manages a purportedly luxury 21-story home for senior

citizens, Classic Residence by Hyatt at La Jolla Village, at 8515 Costa Verde Boulevard, and a related care center at 4171 Las Palmas Square.



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

8515 Costa Verde Boulevard (on right)

In the early part of its tumultuous existence, the facility was known as La Jolla Village Towers.

Residents of those buildings are as mad at Hyatt as the Pritzkers have historically been mad at each other. On December 14, Superior Court Judge Yuri Hoffman granted class certification to a fraud suit against Hyatt

The court agreed that 349 elderly residents (consisting of most persons living there except the disabled or mentally impaired) may have been misled by marketing brochures, contracts, and oral representations from Hyatt affiliates and constitute the class. "Probably a few will opt out of the suit,"

continued on page 8

Read Don Bauder's Scam Diego blog every day! Go to [SanDiegoReader.com](http://SanDiegoReader.com) and look in Blogs for Bauder.

Contact Don Bauder at 619-546-8529 or [don.bauder@mac.com](mailto:don.bauder@mac.com)

## Neal Obermeyer





## Saved from Smoke and Flames

By Joe Deegan

Each day, Jim Grant drives from Shelter Island to his job at Hammond and Masing General Contractors in Mira Mesa.

On Tuesday morning, December 11, as he approached Midway Drive on Rosecrans Street, he saw smoke to his left. "I'm not ordinarily a gawker, not in a hurry to run to badness," says Grant. "But I didn't hear any sirens, and that plume of smoke was big and black. So I called 911 on my cell phone and pulled a U-turn at Rosecrans and drove back a block."

Grant turned right on Cauby Street, which runs west between Walgreens and the Days Inn motel. He could then see that the smoke came from the back of a large apartment complex, the Loma Portal Apartments, on the south side of the street. Not wanting to get in the way of fire trucks, Grant drove 50 feet past the rising smoke and turned in to the parking lot of the next apartment building. "I drove in a ways," he says, "because I wanted to get a good angle to see where the smoke was coming from. I grabbed my camera and stepped over this wall right

here."

Grant and I are now standing in the Loma Portal's lot. He points to his left, then to his right, indicating where at the time of the fire, three days earlier, several groups of onlookers stood around watching the smoking building. "I asked them, 'Has anybody gone in there to make sure all those units are empty?'" When the onlookers said no and none showed a sign of going in, Grant started moving toward the apartments. He wondered, "Where is everybody?" He kept expecting to see firefighters.

Grant, who is 52 years old, five feet ten inches tall, and 180 pounds, is leading me down a palm-lined sidewalk between two wings of the building. "I was looking up to my left in the direction of the smoke," he says, "and all of a sudden, around the corner, there were flames shooting out of those upstairs windows." Shattered glass lay on the concrete below. Before proceeding farther,

Grant says he put his camera on the ground next to one of the palm trees. Later he took pictures.

Following Grant's route on the day of the fire, we now enter a back entrance to the Loma Portal's north wing. Immediately inside, a staircase rises to the right. Grant takes me to the second-floor landing, which doubles back toward another door. "This hallway door was closed," he tells me. "When I opened it, there was a big rush of hot air coming through. And I started down the hall yelling and banging hard on every door I saw. You're going to want to know what time this was, right? Well, here's my broken watch. It says 7:37."

Grant says he wasn't sure where any of the doors went. But plenty of smoke was rising from underneath the first door on the hallway's left. And it was very hot there. A little farther, the small square window that had covered an emergency fire hose was open. Grant and I speculate that someone may have tried to use the hose before escaping the building.

By now, Grant tells me, the whole hall was filling with smoke. I ask, "How was your visibility?"

"On the first two passes down that hallway, I could see," says Grant.

Grant kept pounding on



Maria Caltette

the doors to his left and right. "I got all the way down here [the second-to-last door on the right], and when I banged on it, the door opened. And a woman is sitting there in a wheelchair holding a baby. Next to her is a boy about nine years old. I started yelling at her. 'You've got to get out of here right now,' I said. 'You can't stay here. The building's on fire. You've got to go.' She said something in broken

English about putting on her undergarments. She mentioned that twice. The second time I was done having conversation. I reached down and grabbed the baby like this," says Grant, as he shows how he pulled the child, dressed in a one-piece jumper, into the crook of his arm. "And I pulled the baby to my chest. Then I grabbed the kid by the back of his neck, and we ran out, the boy at my side."

"Did the lady say anything further?"

"I don't think so," says Grant, "but she may have. Several fire alarms were going off, and you couldn't hear anything else."

"So I took the baby down, retracing my steps through the hall, down the stairwell, back to the sidewalk, and when I got out there, one of the guys who had been standing in the parking lot was coming my way. So I said, 'Here, take the baby.' And I told the kid, 'Stay with [this man].' Then I went back, up the stairs again, down the hall through a big cloud of smoke. It smelled like electrical wire and plastic burning, a very acidic effect in my nose and throat, pretty bad. And the same thing all over. I was banging on doors and yelling. When I got to the woman's door, I cracked it open, and

I thought, 'Where is she?' Turns out she was in the bathroom, half dressed. It looked like she was putting on her leg braces, and maybe some undergarments. I yelled at her again, 'You've got to go. The building's on fire. Your kids are downstairs.' By then, I couldn't breathe. I thought, 'I better get out of here or they'll be dragging me out by my ankles.'"

"How was she doing?"

"She had been in the bathroom with the door shut. Whether there was an exhaust fan going in there, I don't know. But it was like she had this modesty thing that had kicked in, and she wanted to make sure she was properly dressed."

"Since I couldn't breathe, I knew I had to get a firefighter to help me carry her out. So I went back out of the building. But there weren't any firemen there yet."

Fortunately, however, a San Diego police officer came running up and asked about the situation. The officer then instructed Grant to lead him to the woman upstairs. The two of them ran up the stairs

*continued on page 10*

An archive of City Lights stories can now be searched on the Internet at [www.SanDiegoReader.com](http://www.SanDiegoReader.com)



Loma Portal Apartments, December 11, 2007

## Luxury retirement

continued from page 6

says Donald R. Short, a resident who initially filed suit against Hyatt as an individual. "A hundred people have indicated that if our suit were not certified as a class action, they would seriously think about filing their own suit," says Short, who remains a half-owner of a partnership that owns 532 residences in Phoenix. "We trusted [Hyatt], believing that they would

treat us right. They deliberately planned and set up a system by which they would convert the ownership of \$85 million from the people who live here to their own account. The word in my vocabulary that describes this is 'steal.' They have no remorse."

One of the six primary plaintiffs in the suit, along with Short, is James F. Gleason. The lawyer representing the residents is Michael A. Conger. In 2003, Gleason was plaintiff in a suit against the City of San Diego over the

intentional underfunding of the pension system. Conger was the attorney in that case, which was settled after the City agreed to put \$130 million in the pension system. "The suits have similarities," says Gleason. "The first was about the City underfunding the pension system, and this second suit is about Hyatt not funding promised long-term care."

Residents have many other complaints: an indoor swimming pool, computer room, art studio, billiards facility,

outdoor park with picnic tables, and other amenities were taken away when Hyatt began constructing a second, adjacent tower. The company had promised to provide 24-hour nursing assistance. Now, if a medical emergency happens after normal working hours, an attendant phones 911, according to the suit. The residents also complain that service in the care center is substandard.

Despite the sharp decline in services, monthly fees have been going up, not down. The people had been told all along that their monthly fees were not going toward long-term care. Then a Hyatt official told the residents that their escalating monthly fees were going toward the care center. People thought they had paid for this through their original payments. "Now we're learning that we are paying for it a second time with a monthly fee," says Gleason.

Residents paid entrance fees of \$218,000 to more than

\$1.2 million, depending on the size and quality of their suites and other factors. The money often represented "the bulk of their life savings," says Conger. "[Hyatt] told the residents, 'You give us the entrance fee, and a portion of the entrance fee — sometimes 8 percent, sometimes 40 percent — would be set aside for long-term care. You move first into independent living, but if you need assisted living, skilled nursing, or Alzheimer's care, you move next door to the care center.' The residents were told it was already prepaid; there would be no higher fee. It was supposed to be set aside in a master trust fund, but they never gave anybody a copy of the master trust agreement." That "hidden agreement" said that all the money is loaned out to Hyatt for 50 years at zero percent interest, says Conger.

Entrance fees are fully refundable for 90 days after residency and partially refundable on a declining scale for

the next 50 months. After that, fees are nonrefundable. Thus, after the first few years, residents "have no realistic alternative if they are cheated or mistreated," according to the suit.

The defendants' lawyer, Eric M. Acker, denies every allegation, both generally and specifically. The plaintiffs did not file their complaint within reasonable time and have not suffered damage, says Acker. And the complaints are barred by the statute of limitations, says Acker.

Susan Compton, interim executive director of the facility, released a statement that was cleared through Hyatt headquarters in Chicago. Hyatt affiliates "vigorously deny" any violations of state law, according to the statement. The ruling on class certification "is a procedural ruling only, and has no bearing on the merits of the plaintiffs' allegations. The court simply decided that it

continued on page 10

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## Luxury retirement

continued from page 8

believes that it will be more efficient to adjudicate the claims of residents that choose to be a member of the class action together, instead of handling claims in separate individual lawsuits." The Hyatt facility "is the finest community of its kind in San Diego," boasted Compton, saying the second tower will open in spring 2008.

Hostility at this facility dates back about a dozen years. In mid-1996, the California Department of Social

Services declared that the financial condition was unsound. Then in 1996, management riled residents by stating, "Materials published by La Jolla Village Towers could be construed to mean that La Jolla Village Towers will provide care at the facility for a resident's life." But because the developers hadn't received financing, it wasn't necessarily so, the residents were warned. The developers went into Chapter 7 (liquidation) bankruptcy in late 1996. Later, that was boosted to Chapter 11 (reorganization). Hyatt and a major cred-

itor bought it out of bankruptcy in 1998. For a while, the rancor evanesced, but then it flared up again in recent years over the same topic: the residents thought they had prepaid for long-term care but say they were duped. They were still paying, and the care facility was insufficient. Further, the noise and loss of amenities from the construction of the second tower took away what luxury the place had.

"We trusted that [Hyatt] had actuarial accounting," says Gleason. "Older people thought it was a gilt-edged company." ■

## Smoke and flames

continued from page 7

to the hallway entrance. "The officer tugged on the back of my shirt and yelled, 'Go,' " says Grant.

The two men pushed into the hall as far as they could, but by now, according to Grant, the visibility was eight or ten feet at the most. "Worse than that was the heat and the fumes," he says. "I felt like my chest was about as big as a walnut. You couldn't get air, absolutely couldn't get air. But suddenly, there was the woman, in her motorized

wheelchair, coming at us out of the smoke. I guess she finally realized she was going to die if she didn't get out of there."

Grant and the officer guided the wheelchair out to the landing, where they carried the woman down the stairs. Then, while she held on to the stair railing, they went up and retrieved her chair. The woman was quickly reunited with her children, a four-week-old daughter and ten-year-old son.

By this time, San Diego Fire-Rescue Department personnel were shooting water into the burning apartment and blowing smoke out of the building with a fan. Television cameras appeared shortly afterward. And lo, a KNSD reporter was seen speaking with young Huberto. Later, on the evening news, the reporter stated the facts. "Maria Caltette, a disabled woman, was still on the second floor with her ten-year-old son Huberto and her one-month-old daughter." "I thought about things they tell me in school — not to panic when there's a fire — so I didn't panic," Huberto said. "I grabbed the baby and I ran out."

Later, by phone, I speak with Maurice Luque, a

spokesman for the fire department who was one of the first responders on the scene. Luque tells me he does not know which version of events is correct. I ask Jim Grant if the boy's version bothers him. "No," he says, "it's okay for him to take some credit."

"You know," he continues, "when my sister heard about what happened, she said I must have been crazy to run into that building. When it all comes back to me, I think I might very well have been crazy, because I almost didn't make it. But my company recently paid for me to take a very thorough first-aid class. I don't think that during the fire I was thinking consciously of the things I learned. Maybe subconsciously, though."

The day after the fire Grant returned to the Loma Portal. He tells me that seeing the wheelchair's tracks in the hallway gave him "an eerie feeling." He looked into Caltette's apartment again too. "It had a thick layer of black soot all over the place," Grant tells me. "The acoustical ceiling, the carpets, the couch, everything had been inundated by smoke. You could see the wheelchair tracks crisscrossing on the linoleum of her kitchen floor." ■



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The following is the opinion of the author and is not intended to give legal advice to any specific person. The reader is advised to seek legal counsel if prosecuted for DUI. This information is of a general nature, intended for readers age 21 or older not under prior court order to do otherwise, and is based on California law.

Let's start with some basics. Driving while under the influence of alcohol or any other drug is antisocial behavior. The horror caused by the death or maiming of a loved one by a "drunk driver" is unthinkable. The pain caused by such an incident scars forever not only the victims but the drinking driver, who is usually a decent, law-abiding citizen. No sane person would want such a thing to happen, not even one time.

However, what if elected officials use this terrible blight on society as an excuse to whip the general public into a frenzy and to capitalize on the human misery flowing from this carnage, only for the purpose of getting votes in the next election? And what if other effective remedies to the Driving Under the Influence problem are ignored deliberately? Finally, what if the liquor and restaurant industries pay big bucks into the political coffers of these same elected officials or chapters of MADD to lobby against legislation directed at the liquor and restaurant industries' contribution to the problem?

"Control" is the key word. You will not wipe out DUI any more than you will wipe out any other disease. But a healthy body is a body in "control," and the same applies to a healthy society. Let's look at some facts. There is little doubt the 0.08 percent blood alcohol law is window dressing and avoids the real issues. The fact is 0.08 percent is so low a blood alcohol level that local police officers have told me they cannot possibly tell the difference between 0.07 percent and 0.08 percent based on objective symptoms during the roadside sobriety test. Consequently, if you admit to having had a drink or if the officer smells alcohol on your breath, you are going downtown for further tests, no matter how you do on the field sobriety test or roadside breath test. The foremost authority in the world on DUI, A. W. Jones from Sweden, refers to them on "monkey tests" and of no value in DUI testing.

So, why do these embarrassing roadside tests at all? Don't do them is my answer; don't ever take the so-called field sobriety test. First of all, it is not a sobriety test. It is a coordination test, and many people who clearly are not under the influence of alcohol simply are not coordinated. That's a fact. If they want to use a coordination test to measure sobriety, they should require you to take a similar test once each year to provide a baseline from which to measure your performance at roadside.

Secondly, the tests are subjective and the officer can conclude you failed even if you are the most coordinated person in the world. He later will tell the jury at trial that you did poorly to prove he was right in arresting you and bringing you downtown for further testing. Once downtown, your blood alcohol level may have increased and may, in fact, be 0.16 percent (over double the legal limit) or higher at that later point in time. Depending upon when you had your last food and drink of alcohol, however, you easily could have been 0.04 percent, 0.06 percent, or 0.07 percent blood alcohol level at the time you were driving. The only blood alcohol level that is relevant or important under the code is the blood alcohol level at the time of driving. The fact you are determined to be 0.08 percent or more at a later point in time does not automatically make you guilty of breaking the law, under CVC Section 23152B.

Furthermore, any conclusion to be drawn from a blood alcohol level assumes the machine is measuring accurately, which often times is not the case. In order to challenge the blood alcohol level, it becomes necessary to retain a competent attorney to point this out to the jury and to show the arresting officer is not an objective, detached third-party witness. He wants to see a conviction to vindicate his decision to arrest. Obviously, the officer will exaggerate and distort in order to prove his point, and he is able to do so because very few of the field sobriety tests truly are objective. Which raises another question: Instead of ordering the accused to recite the alphabet while the officer writes into the police record the alleged results, why not allow the accused to actually write the alphabet out in his own hand? This would be direct evidence of the accused's ability to demonstrate his dexterity and hand coordination directly to the jury. Taxpayers have purchased expensive video and audio taping equipment for our law enforcement agencies, but those agencies rarely use the equipment in driving under the influence cases, thereby denying the jury firsthand evidence of the accused's actual state of sobriety. Instead, the officer simply testifies before the jury about how badly the accused did on one test. He actually is telling the jury, "Trust me. I have no motive to lie. If I say he did badly, that should be enough for you." When I asked a local television moderator to question the police about what happened to those 16 expensive video cameras donated to the San Diego Police Department by Aetna Insurance and which the local newspapers touted as the "doom of drunk drivers," the local police person said, "They are all broke." Right! And I just saw Elvis last week, too.

The fact is the officer does have a motive to lie, and, sadly, stretching the truth to gain a conviction seems to be the rule, rather than the exception. A retiring CHP officer interviewed for an investigator position with the firm told me he could add to his annual salary \$50,000 working overtime making court appearances in DUI cases. He lamented that he disliked working nights because it required him to ride with a partner. This veteran CHP officer explained that if he stopped a suspected DUI and formed the opinion following the field sobriety test that the driver was not DUI, very often his patrol partner, eager for overtime, would say, "If you don't take him downtown, I will." Doesn't a \$50,000 increase in one's annual salary provide a motive to lie about performance on the field sobriety test? Police officers and overzealous young prosecutors often are heard around the courthouse rationalizing less-than-candid police officer testimony in marginal cases saying, "If they were not drinking and driving, they wouldn't be in trouble in the first place." That may be

MADD's law, but it is not the law in any state of this United States. A public policy saying "The end justifies the means" didn't work for the communists and it won't work in a free society.

For these reasons, if you are stopped, do not take these trick roadside sobriety tests, and if you are a juror, demand to see the written alphabet, video/audio tape recordings, or other firsthand evidence of impairment. It is very easy to provide. The law is a search for the truth and should not be a witch hunt guided by hysteria, half-truths, and self-serving statements of the arresting officer.

Recently, a San Diego police officer told me as part of his training he was required to attend a school on the breath machine. He was amazed when a fellow officer was administered known amounts of alcohol in an effort to demonstrate the workings of the alcohol breath-testing machine. What amazed him was he saw the officer consume seven gin and tonics, yet the breath results registered only 0.04 percent, well below the legal limit. I saw the same thing occur in alcohol studies I attended in forensic laboratories in Los Angeles, and it illustrates my point. If the officer weighed 200 pounds and each drink he consumed was one ounce, the resulting blood alcohol level should be 0.13 percent. So, either the machine was testing improperly or the officer was tested right after drinking and before the alcohol fully was absorbed into his blood stream. That is exactly what happens to the citizen who is stopped just as he is leaving a bar. He is 0.04 percent or 0.05 percent and "OK" to drive at that point in time, but 30 minutes to two hours later, as the alcohol becomes absorbed into his blood stream, he increases his blood alcohol level to 0.12 percent or 0.14 percent, over the legal limit. Incredible, but true. Because of this physiological phenomenon we see people convicted of driving under the influence even though they are not guilty of violating the 0.08 percent law "per se." Thousands upon thousands of people every day plead guilty based on a chemical test result over 0.08, never knowing they actually are innocent.

The statistics from the National Traffic Safety Council state that 80 percent of the DUI-related fatalities are caused by 10 percent of the DUI drivers. We in the trade call them the "Gamma Alcoholics." These are sick people who repeatedly go through the court's revolving door, each time coming out a little more stripped of their social status, and each time coming out a little more dangerous to the rest of us. That is because no one in the present system of justice has addressed adequately the causes for this continual abuse of alcohol. Elected officials insist on making public policy decisions that look good to the voters but are not good for society. Instead of providing state resources for "Social Model Alcohol Rehabilitation Houses," which have as much as an 82 percent non-recidivist rate and cause alcohol abusers to stop drinking for life, they'd rather lock them up in jails where they get no help for their drinking problem.

The biggest injustice, however, is the cruel, callous disregard our lawmakers show for the rights of the thousands of 0.05 percent and 0.06 percent drivers who are arrested for DUI and eventually blow over 0.08 percent 30 minutes to two hours after they were driving. These people are in truth, and in fact, innocent of Driving Under the Influence, but because of a misdirected emphasis by the government, these hapless individuals must hire an attorney competent in this area of the law and science, and pay for the services of a medical doctor or toxicologist if they hope to have any chance of avoiding huge fines, jail time and a very serious criminal record. And remember, these are ordinary citizens just like you and me who go to work every day, play by the rules, yet still find themselves charged with a serious crime (not just a traffic infraction) and are treated by the courts just as if they committed a robbery or carjacking. And what's worse, it's on their record for the rest of their lives, not just the 7-10 years the judge tells them.

When you see the great number of new liquor licenses being issued to small gas station convenience stores who easily can sell beer and wine to young drivers; when you see the bright lights advertising liquor and encouraging people to drink because alcohol sales make up 80 percent of the net profit for the restaurant business and provide a huge tax base for our state; when you also consider only two beers can equal a 0.08 percent blood alcohol level in a small person, you must ask yourself whose pockets are being lined to keep the law enforcement and legislative emphasis on the citizen who has just consumed a couple of "after-dinner" drinks and is snagged by a cop "who just happened to be cruising by" and noticed the license plate light was not properly illuminating the license plate as the driver was pulling out of a restaurant's parking lot to go home. To make matters worse, the United States Supreme Court in 1996 held that an attorney cannot challenge the subjective motive of an officer for making a traffic stop in open court. This means that if a police officer wants to pull you over only because he saw you exit a bar and figures you've been drinking, he can use the fact that your license plate is not properly illuminated as a basis to stop you and smell your breath to see if you exhibit the odor of alcohol. Under this Supreme Court decision his real motive in stopping you cannot be challenged. This decision encourages perjury (a felony) and is a national disgrace. Every right-thinking American should hang his head in shame over *Whren v. United States*. (Continued on [www.MrDUI.com](http://www.MrDUI.com).)

Learn what the government doesn't want you to know. For example, what is the real "burden of proof" in a DUI jury trial, not the one the court or prosecutor will give you? Find out what "proof beyond a reasonable doubt" really means, not legal mumbo-jumbo. Look at a checklist on what to do to keep from being pulled over for drunk driving drawn up by the most experienced and oldest "DUI only" attorney in San Diego County. Finally, find out how to keep your driver's license if stopped for a DUI. Go to [www.MrDUI.com](http://www.MrDUI.com) for the rest of the story.

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## LETTERS

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### Pay Bump For Patrick

Whatever you are paying Patrick Daugherty ("Farewell, Nazi Harlot," Feature Story, December 13), it's definitely not nearly enough. Patrick is clearly a talented and very funny writer. I look forward to reading more from him.

Phil Crepeau  
 via email

### So Silly... Very Entertaining

I have a belated comment on your cover story, "The Second Lives of San Diegans" (November 21). I'm a 75-year-old man, and I used computers for years in engineering to do design calculations and simulations and things of that sort, and I read this story, and there was something weird about it — for God's sake, you know, a woman coming up with one of these so-called avatars and giving it some silly name, Pollywog. Does she have a sister named Tadpole? And another man coming up with some character called Dropsy or Topsy or something. There's just something weird and geeky about this, you know, like the phrase "Get a life!" Well, they got one.

But it finally occurred to me, these may be people who never really grew up, because I remember when I was a little boy, my brothers and I would play with toy soldiers and toy cars, and my brothers even invented these imaginary characters. I can still remember the names. There was some guy named Jan and there was another guy named Darney. And at the same time, little girls we knew were playing with dolls and toy stoves and dollhouses, and these people in your story, I think

they're people who never grew up.

Another thing, in this business of buying and selling and trading virtual reality objects, or whatever they call that stuff on the computer, there was something like that that went on years ago when I was a kid, maybe in the third or fourth grade, 1940, 1941. Around Halloween, we had our health books, and I'd trace a skeleton out of the health book and cut the thing out with scissors, and some little girl would see the thing and say, "Oh, make me one of those. I'll give you a penny for it." So I'd make a skeleton for her, and some other little girl would see it and want one. So I was in the business of making skeletons. And then, at the same time, the war was coming on, and I'd make drawings of fighter planes and dogfights, combat fights between airplanes, and some little boy would say, "Make me a picture of an airplane. I'll give you a penny for that."

I still haven't finished reading this story. It's so silly. Very entertaining.

Name Withheld  
 San Diego

### Comments from Reader Website

### City Lights, Breaking News

Published December 19

Posted by Disappointed on 12/19/07, 3:01 p.m.

I'm disappointed that Mitz Lee — a genuine "good government maven" has withdrawn from the District 5 City Council race. And I'm disappointed that Matt Potter uses that same benign description for carpetbagging Republican insider and District 5 Council candidate Carl DeMaio, who is famous for his ultra-conservative plan to privatize governmental services to citizens, using a fiction of economy and efficiency for what certainly will be profiteering at the public's expense. Carl thanks you, Matt, for the favorable portrayal, but the rest of us are bummed.

Posted by Taxpayer Advocate on 12/20/07, 6:49 a.m.

Disappointed must be a city employee or union goon. Carl DeMaio has been the city's leading tax-

payer and good government advocate for years. Mitz dropped out because—unlike you—District 5 voters know Carl will be a watchdog on City Council and serve them well. Matt Potter is just stating what IS.

### City Lights, by Don Bauder

Published December 19

Posted by Fred Williams on 12/19/07, 12:19 p.m.

The SEC says there was "scienter" by senior city officials in concocting the fraud that resulted in our current near-bankruptcy. Where are the prosecutions, Don? Is it because all of what you've been reporting for years is false, (why don't they sue for libel?), or is it because the system is so utterly corrupt it's become transparent and no one cares?

Reply by Don Bauder: It wasn't just the SEC making the charge. The outrageously expensive study by Kroll made the point, and studies by the city attorney were actually the best source of this information. There are prosecutions, but they seem to be going nowhere. Remember, this is San Diego. The City has a history of overlooking such thievery, and smearing those who try to uncover it.

Posted by Gimme Shelter from these crooks on 12/19/07, 2:59 p.m.

Oh come on — is there anyone in San Diego who doesn't know [former city attorney] Gwinn won't be touched? He's got too much information on too many people...and with a DA who is conveniently Blind; it's just BAU — business as usual.

Reply by Don Bauder: The DA is worthless and protecting Gwinn, among others.

Posted by LG on 12/19/07, 7:00 p.m.

My father worked for the city for years. He isn't getting that much in retirement. How did a deal like that get started? You are saying, if I made 50k per year and I retire. I am going to make 60k for life? Your kidding me. How is that right?

Reply by Don Bauder: You cite the tragedy of what is going on. The older retirees have modest pen-

continued on page 14

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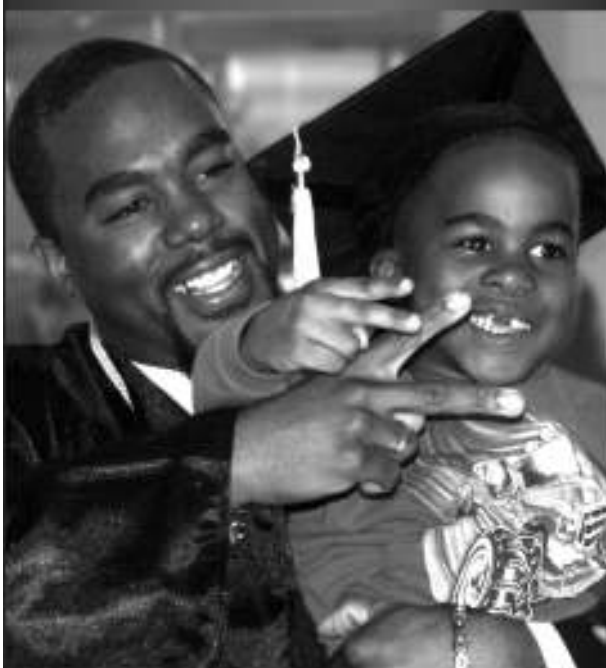
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## LETTERS

continued from page 12

sion and healthcare plans. It was in the last several years that the floodgates opened. First, the City stole money from the pension system to pay for the Republican convention of 1996 and other incidentals. Then to appease the workers, it promised fatter retirements. It apparently never occurred to anyone that if you dramatically lift the payouts and steal money from the pot, a deficit will result.

*Posted by JF on 12/20/07, 6:58 a.m.*

Don, I do agree with some of what you're saying in regards to public official's "cavalier" use of public funds, but you're way off in regards to the DROP program. I'm sure you're aware that the city doesn't put one dime of public funds into DROP, but that all of the money comes from the employee's own retirement. SDCERS is allowed to keep that money and earn interest on it. Last year, SDCERS made 11%

and paid out 8%. Using the terms in Flannery's Blog (8% and 35 interest periods-8+years) that \$126 million in DROP accounts earned SDCERS \$11 million to help pay off the UAAL.

*Reply by Don Bauder:* I disagree. Check out the new report on the city attorney's website. It has a good discussion of DROP costs. Also, Donna Frye has put out a penetrating memo dealing with the topic. It is available on <http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd6>.

*Posted by Sparky on 12/20/07, 7:40 a.m.*

Don, The DROP is not paid by the City. The DROP as pointed out by JF is the retirees retirement payment placed into a separate account. Would you feel better if I left City service at age 55 (the average age for safety) and went to work for the County; place my retirement check into my own annuity; worked for 5-8 years and then started travelling? There is no difference. Except the City capped the retirement at 90% so there

would really be no reason for me to stay. I would receive 90% at age 52 after serving 30 years as a safety member. You got it wrong this time Don. The DROP is not the issue or the problem. The underfunding is!! The increase in benefits and no adjustment in payments by employee and City. That is not the employees fault, nor the Unions. The City messed this up and did not do their due diligence.

*Reply by Don Bauder:* The underfunding of the pension system IS the big problem — no question about that. But DROP is not cost-neutral by a long shot. Even the former SDCERS lawyer admitted that DROP was extraordinary among such programs. It IS double-dipping.

*Posted by anton on 12/20/07, 11:10 a.m.*

Want and only way = key decision makers & implementers of stripped of their hauls and jailed in 'Enron by the Sea'. Another v. good informational posting by Don Bauder. Dec. City Attorney Report re SDCERS v. good with excellent graphs showing the pension debacle. Also, any truth seekers should check out Pat Flannery's v. good info. too.

*Reply by Don Bauder:* Yes, the city attorney's most recent report on the pen-

sion system — showing how close San Diego is to the financial edge — is clear and readable, if terrifying. And I agree that Pat Flannery has an excellent blog.

### Crush

**Published December 19**

*Posted by Steve Heimoff on 12/20/07, 9:51 p.m.*

Matthew, thank you for largely getting my quotes right. But my first name is Steve, not Bob. Cheers, Steve Heimoff

*Posted by Lickona on 12/21/07, 8:05 a.m.*

And apparently, my first name is Mud. A thousand apologies, Steve.

### Diary of a Diva

**Published December 19**

*Posted by Hil on 12/21/07, 1:49 a.m.*

i may be uptight, but in my opinion everyone gets about ONE free stupid-drunk card, like maybe on their 21st bday. after that people need to learn to control themselves. i really cant respect someone who is out of control like that. i have only been tipsy/drunk a few times, it was quite lovely, and I was very careful not to get sloppy. bleh. I think people have a desire to act like infants sometimes and alcohol is the excuse.

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SportingBox

By Patrick Daugherty

# Sportsman Of The Year

The Box would like to award its Sportsman of the Year trophy. Regulars will recall that the trophy is a handsome bronze statue depicting a solitary professional athlete standing in an Iowa cornfield, weathered cap clutched tight in callused left hand, while manly right hand extends outward to receive a cashier's check for 10 million dollars. The trophy is awarded every August 1st to commemorate the Battle of Jutland.

We're running a little late this year. No matter. Selected from this year's best columns, let's consider the candidates: Arthur Blank, the kick-me Atlanta Falcons owner. His franchise quarterback goes to prison for torturing, killing, and gambling on dogs. And Bobby Petrino, his big deal University of Louisville college coach, the guy who signed a five-year, \$25.5 million contract with Blank, then went on to lead the Falcons to a 3-10 record and quit with three games left to play in the season. Literally snuck out of the Falcons complex, afraid to face his players. Left them a memo.

Then, Blank hires Bill Parcells to run his football operations. Now, Parcells is nothing if not an opportunist, but at least he's competent...and in this situation competent is good enough. So, Blank hires Parcells, at least Blank thought he had a deal, and so did the reporter Parcells called at 7:00 a.m. to talk about his new job with Atlanta. And then, a few hours later, Parcells accepted a better offer from Miami and went south before you can say, "Bonus."

The Tour de Syringe. The worst one yet. Fewer people care.

Marion Jones. Although she has been disqualified on a technicality (voter nausea), she does win the Athletic Slimeball of the Year award. Do you remember Jones's denials when her name was linked to steroids? Remember her threatening lawsuits, calling the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency a "kangaroo court?" This was going on during the period Marion Jones was negotiating to become a government witness and drop a dime on her fellow athletes.

The 2007 College Football Season. I'll start with the best college-football game I've ever seen: Boise State 43, Oklahoma 42, played on January 1, 2007. Proceed with Appalachian State 34, No. 5 Michigan 32; on to Illinois 28, No. 1 Ohio State 21; on to Arkansas 50, No. 1 LSU 48; finishing with Stanford 24, No. 2 USC 23.

Iraq's 1-0 win over Saudi Arabia in the Asian

Cup final. The game was played in Jakarta on July 29. Here's the stunner: it was a real Iraqi team with Shi'ite, Sunni, and Kurdish players. Sadly, the goalkeeper's brother-in-law was killed right before play and the midfielder's relatives were kidnapped and murdered.

Honorable mention to Tim Donaghy, former NBA referee and convicted felon. However, David Stern is the nominee because he had the tougher role to play.

Donaghy had been showing signs of distress for a long time. In 1995, he was charged with harassing and stalking Dennis Van Zandt in Haverton Township, Pennsylvania.

In 2002, Donaghy was charged with disorderly conduct and harassment of his postman. Donaghy was suspended from Radley Run Country Club in 2004 for chasing his neighbor's wife around the golf course while shouting obscenities.

In 2005, Donaghy was sued by his neighbor Peter Mansueto, who claimed he was harassed by Donaghy who yelled obscenities at him, set fire to his tractor, and crashed his golf cart into a ravine.

Donaghy refereed for 13 years. During the 2-year period in question, he officiated 139 regular-season games, 8 playoff games, and 4 preseason games. When the forgoing became public, Donaghy said he would name at least 20 other referees who were involved in gambling activities.

Stern managed to make all this go away.

I wrote this back in July: "...we have an NBA spokesman telling the Sporting Press, '...the league won't comment further on the Donaghy investigation or any changes in its officiating policy until the federal probe is finished.'

"It's beginning to look like Rumsfeld's Abu Ghraib prison defense. First, announce that nine investigations are going on (we're on top of this), but you can't comment until the investigations are complete (and the trials and appeals), and then proceed as usual. If Donaghy is arrested and takes a plea bargain, then there won't be a public trial, which means no witnesses, no cross examinations, then the similarity between the NBA and Rumsfeld will be whole."

This is what happened.

Stern had his investigation, which came back and declared the NBA clean, "but, by golly, we're going to let our referees play poker from now on." No one has been fired. No one has been implicated. Everyone has gone back to sleep.

David Stern, our Sportsman of the Year!

## The Vegas Line

College Football Postseason			
Favorite	Spread	Over/Under	Underdog
Thursday, December 27			
Texas	2	62	Arizona State
Friday			
Boston College	3 ½	56	Michigan State
TCU	4	60	Houston
Oregon State	4 ½	48	Maryland
Saturday			
Wake Forest	2 ½	48	Connecticut
Central Florida	3	57	Mississippi State
Penn State	5 ½	51	Texas A&M
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2000	Chevy	Astro	Silver	92K	Leather	<b>\$130</b>	\$6,500
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SHEEP AND GOATS  
PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

“My work as Director of the Commission for Inter-Religious Affairs has made for some interesting travels,” said Mark Pelavin, addressing the December 16 plenary session of the Union for Reform Judaism biennial convention, held at the San Diego Convention Center. “I took an 18-hour trip to Rome for Pope Benedict’s first meeting with Jewish leaders. I spent a bizarre and memorable 36 hours accompanying [URJ President] Rabbi Eric Yoffie to visit Jerry Falwell at Liberty University.... But none of those trips were as interesting or exciting as my time in Chicago’s Rosemont Convention Center last August.” There, Rabbi Yoffie had addressed the Islamic Society of North America — “the first major Jewish leader” to do so.

Historic as the speech may have been, Pelavin said that Yoffie’s “was not the most interesting speech I heard that day. That distinction goes to our next speaker, Dr. Ingrid Mattson” — the first female and the first convert ever to serve as president of ISNA. “Those

of us in the religious communication field often say that we shouldn’t judge someone by what they say to us, but rather, by what they say when they’re speaking to their own people. Listening to Dr. Mattson...made clear the wisdom of that approach. She spoke clearly and forcefully about the challenges facing the American Muslim community, including the need to make it as clear as humanly possible that those who engage in terror in the name of Islam profane the religion.”

Mattson opened with an account of her organization’s makeup and purpose. “We are an umbrella organization for Muslim individuals and organizations.... One significant feature of the American Muslim community is that it is dynamic...interested in expanding our understanding of what it takes to be an ethical and balanced Muslim in contemporary America.” This diversity and dynamism, she said, had given rise to dialogue in which “Muslims have been forced to confront the reality that many cultural practices and beliefs contrary to our faith have been integrated into many traditional understandings of Islam.... Sometimes, the Islam that is taught...is not always in harmony with the ethical teachings of the Qur’an and the Prophet Mohammed, but in fact are misogynistic, authoritarian, or extremist views antithetical to true Islam.”

She noted that immigrant Muslims today have much in common with immigrant Jews and “have instinctively turned to the example of Jews in America to understand how to deal with the challenges we face as religious minorities,” including that of combating prejudice. “It is our responsibility,” granted Mattson, “to reclaim Islam from the terrorists and extremists.... We have published fatwas — religious verdicts — proving that suicide bombing, vigilante operations, terrorism, and hate-mongering is prohibited in true Islam.” Still, she said, “no matter what we do, there are some who will choose to continue to characterize us and our religion as essentially evil.... Newspapers, cartoons, and films have continued to produce hateful images of Muslims, as they did

with Jews before. Sometimes, the caricatures are almost identical. Medieval and modern images of Jews — as deceptive, conspiring to overthrow Christian rule, odd in their manner and dress — dehumanized Jews, thereby softening the ground to allow the atrocities of the Holocaust.”

Mattson said that she did not fear “that such a crime could happen to the American Muslim community.” But she was “worried that it is politically correct to mock and insult Muslims in the media and in public.” She recounted hearing an accusation that Muslims were all working together for the same goal, like ants in a colony. “These ideas are necessary to allow atrocities. It is, I believe, why most Americans have not protested waterboarding, sensory deprivation, and other forms of torture of Muslim detainees — even if they are guilty, and even if they are Muslim-American citizens. I believe that hatred and intolerance are easily transferable. I am not surprised that some young men who responded ‘Happy Hanukkah!’

to ‘Merry Christmas!’ were attacked in the New York subway. I am happy it was a Muslim who jumped in to defend the Jewish men.” The room broke out in applause.

“This small incident,” she continued, “highlights our common threat at the same time as it highlights our common interests and shared humanity.” In light of this, she said, she was delighted that ISNA and URJ were entering into dialogue, “to rid ourselves of the ignorance we have of the other, and move on, God willing, to work together for the greater good.”

Mattson acknowledged that “there are

ambitious political rulers in the Muslim world who manipulate religious sentiment against the Jewish people to extend their authoritarian rule. At the same time, Jewish Americans need to hear the concerns that Muslim Americans express about the suffering of the Palestinian people as genuine and justified.... I have seen the tears of elderly Palestinian men as they spoke about being forced to leave the homes of their fathers and their fathers’ fathers.... If religion is about anything, it should be about the ability to extend empathy beyond our own family — our own tribe, our own religious community — to humanity at large.... The question is, will the teachings that we impart to our children serve to expand their empathy and encourage solidarity with each other at the same time that these teachings serve the very important purpose of giving them a deep sense of attachment to their specific communities and traditions?”

She closed with a quote from the Qur’an: “To each among you we have prescribed a law and an open way. If God had so willed, He would have made you a single people, but (His plan is) to test you in what He has given you.... The goal of you all is God. It is He who will show you the truth of the matters in which you now dispute. Let us strive for good, to improve each of us, and to improve all of us. May God help us in this effort.”

— Matthew Lickona

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com



INGRID MATTSON

**Dr. Ingrid Mattson’s Address at the Union for Reform Judaism Biennial Convention**

*“If religion is about anything, it should be about the ability to extend empathy beyond our own family — our own tribe, our own religious community — to humanity at large.”*

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## BestBuys

—EVE KELLY

Uncle Max's lady friends come and go, along with their unsolicited shopping advice and their dubious aid in the lifestyle department. But he always comes to me for counsel on the stuff that really matters — especially now that he's decided that San Diego is where God always intended him to live. At the opening of the Christmas shopping season, he told me what he really wanted this year: a personal assistant. "Someone to help me keep my affairs in order," he explained, "and to make sure the bar is properly stocked. But I don't have time to interview people. Do you know someone?" I did not — most of my friends tend to have a hard enough time managing their own lives. But I did have a suggestion: "You want a personal assistant? Call a concierge."



"Concierge" is a French term that originated from a word that meant, 'keeper of the candles,'" says Nicole Matthews, owner of the Henley Company, an operation specializing in events and lifestyle Management ([thehenleycompany.com](#)). "In medieval times, when someone arrived at a house, it was the keeper of the candles who greeted them and guided them inside. Eventually, it merged into 'keeper of the keys,' and today, the key is the symbol of the concierge. They had access to everything." Matthews has a title of her own: CSEP. "It stands for Certified Special Events Professional. I'm one of about 250 in the world with that certification. You have to do a huge portfolio and take a comprehensive eight-hour exam. You need to know 3000 vocabulary words related to the industry, and you have to create a sample event from start to finish, based on 48 criteria."

Matthews spent around 13 years in corporate events management before striking out on her own 3 years ago. When she did, she added the personal concierge/lifestyle management component to her range of services. "I become their personal assistant. In their professional life, they have an executive assistant or a secretary who manages day-to-day operations. I'm that person in their personal life. That can mean travel arrangements, personal shopping, errands, getting tickets to concerts or sporting events. I take the concept of a hotel concierge and bring it into your personal life."

She tells a favorite story — an extreme example to illustrate a point. "I had a colleague who was hired by a single father to sort Legos. His son was hugely into Legos, but it had gotten to the point where he couldn't make sense of them any more — they were too mixed up. The father gave my colleague pictures of what the Lego constructions should look like, and my colleague spent hours assembling each project and putting them into bags with the pictures. At the end of the day, when the dad came home, the Legos were all organized. It's kind of a funny story, but to that father, the Legos had become

"I had a colleague who was hired by a single father to sort Legos."

a burden, very overwhelming. He was willing to pay for his time. The motto of my company is, 'Live the life you want; delegate the rest.' I really believe in that for my clients."

She mentions a confirmed bachelor, "a regular client who basically can't shop for himself. He has no interest in it, but he has to look nice, so I make sure that happens for him. I'm always just kind of looking for clothes for him when I'm out and about. I'll pick stuff up and take it to his house. If he likes it, he keeps it; if not, I take it back."

A more typical request might involve travel arrangements. "A client called and said, 'In three weeks, we have a week off. Plan a trip.' I booked them on an Alaskan cruise, an inland passage on a small boat — only 40 people on board." Or gift purchasing: "I need a bottle of Dom Perignon sent to my brother in Missouri." Or tickets: "I have access to a few brokers — that's one of the benefits to being a member of the association."

Given her background in events, it's not surprising to find that Matthews enjoys putting on a show, even on a small scale. "A client had parents traveling to Hawaii for their anniversary. I made reservations for them — 'Eight o'clock at such-and-such a place.' For something like

this, I'll usually speak to the general manager. He faxes me the wine list, and we pick a wine to have sent to the table. I give him the credit card information so the bill is taken care of. My client makes just one call."

Sometimes the scale isn't so small. "I ask my clients, 'What do you want people to talk about on the drive home?' Is it the food? Is it the band? What do you want them to remember? Parties have a lot to do with the chemistry of who's there; it's not something you can necessarily orchestrate. But I once did a surprise 40th birthday party, a pub crawl on an English double-decker bus. The bus pulled up in front of the birthday boy's house, and everyone started making a racket. People who had flown in from England were stashed in different places along the route. We stopped at the birthday boy's favorite places for food and drink, went to an English pub for an hour, and then headed back home where a bagpiper was waiting in the driveway. Inside, we had pub food. We had the double-decker bus logo on the napkins, cups, and nametags. And it didn't cost a fortune — maybe \$2000 for 60 people."

Matthews's rates run pretty much along industry standards. "If it's virtual work — stuff I can do from my desk — it's \$50 to \$75 an hour. If it's out-of-office, it's \$75 to \$100. And event management is \$125 an hour. I'm also available on a monthly retainer basis."

Columns archived at [SanDiegoReader.com](#)

1. Nicole Matthews, CSEP
2. Concierge key
3. Double-decker bus



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by Barbarella

# Guys Gone Wild

*I am leaving the town to the invaders: increasingly numerous, mediocre, dirty, badly behaved, shameless tourists.*

— Brigitte Bardot

**W**e told our friends we were going for the food, but that was a partial truth. Despite David’s passion for gastronomy, it wasn’t the call of Cajun cooking that led him to whisk me away to New Orleans a few days after returning home from Seattle — it was the miles. With a stopover in Chicago, the round-trip would earn us 5120 miles, more than enough to place us in the coveted “50,000 miles flown in a year” category of our frequent flyer program. Once

the flight was booked, however, all David could think about was blackened fish and jambalaya. Thus I found myself walking along the Mississippi River one sultry Saturday afternoon, trying unsuccessfully to rid my dark sweater of an incriminating layer of white powder. In L.A., people might have drawn other conclusions, but any-

one on the street in New Orleans could tell at a glance that I’d been to Café Du Monde, purveyor of chicory-flavored coffee and beignets — sinful pillows of fried dough set on a small plate and engulfed in a blizzard of fluffy white sugar.

Even more than food, music, and art, New Orleans is known for its Mardi Gras celebration. Mardi Gras is French for Fat Tuesday, the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, which is the day (usually in February) that signifies the beginning of Lent for Christians. I learned in Catholic school that Lent is a 40-day stint during which you’re not allowed to do things you like — in child terms, that meant I wasn’t supposed to eat chocolate,

and when I did, I was supposed to feel guilty. Later in life, I learned that Lent is representative of the 40 days Jesus wandered through the desert resisting the slew of temptations Satan threw at him. For centuries since, folks have celebrated the Tuesday before Lent with the voracious fervor of Britney on a bender the night before she’s due at rehab.

Mardi Gras holds no allure for me. I once went to the Mardi Gras celebration in San Diego. *Once.* Afterwards I came to associate the event with attention-seeking girls baring their breasts and hammered guys assuming the right to be especially aggressive and lecherous. Accounts of friends who had been to the real deal didn’t sound much different. I had no interest in fighting my way through the streets with a million other people in search of a clean restroom, or straining to see an elaborately decorated float through throngs of other revelers. By visiting “off season,” I was hoping to soak in the culture minus the stupidity brought on by party-seeking tourists. Apparently, this is a lot to ask of a city renowned for decadence.

The night before, we’d gone out with our friends Steve and Jenifer, who happened to be visiting the Big Easy while we were there. Steve and Jen are artists and longtime New Orleans lovers (they’d organized a benefit on Martha’s Vineyard to support victims of Katrina). We met up

with them at Columns, the hotel at which they were staying that prides itself on having been the shooting location for the 1978 Brooke Shields flick *Pretty Baby*. Earlier in the day, David had come across a *New York Times* article published that morning called “36 Hours in New Orleans,” which began by suggesting cocktails and live jazz on the porch of the Columns hotel on St. Charles at 5 p.m. on Friday. David and I thought it was a fun coincidence, but Jen was horrified when we shared the news. “It’s too bad,” she said. “We’ve been coming here for years. Now we’ll never get in.” It was Friday, the clock read 5:15, and members of the six-piece jazz ensemble were exchanging energetic solos; we were seated so close to them that Jen had to move a few inches away to avoid being bumped by the trumpet player. After a round of classic New Orleans libations — Sazeracs and mint juleps — and a tour of Steve and Jen’s *Blue Lagoon*-themed room (complete with a cheesy poster of another Brooke Shields “classic”), we dined at Upperline restaurant and then took the streetcar down to the Quarter, where we caught the holiday burlesque show at the House of Blues. After the bawdy show let out, we wandered down to Bourbon Street, with its boozy frat party in full swing. The air was aglitter with flying beads. “I don’t get the throwing of the beads when it’s not Mardi Gras,” Jen said. Steve wanted to escape the sophomoric

**Instead of college and military kids, the streets were crowded with middle-aged conventioners.**

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frenzy and bring us to the Marigny district, where we could hear live blues all night. Like the Gaslamp on a weekend, the ruckus was entertaining enough to watch, but I was exhausted, so we bid our friends farewell and headed back to our hotel.

After sleeping in and fueling up on butter-soaked, deep-fried, sugar-covered dough, David and I strolled past voodoo stores, art galleries, and tchotchke shops on our way back to Bourbon Street. It was two o'clock, and the sun was still high in the sky. Rounding the corner to our destination, we were momentarily

deafened by cacophonous dance music. The street was lined with clubs competing to see which could inflict permanent hearing loss the quickest. Employees paced the sidewalks, hawking this strip club or that, and women in bikinis and stiltlike heels tottered in doorways to help beckon midday voyeurs.

Though the train-wreck watcher in me enjoyed ogling hosers as they stumbled up and down the street with plastic, liquor-filled "go cups" in their hands, I could see why Steve and Jen didn't want to spend time in the area. It was like Avenida Revolución in Tijuana on

a Saturday night. Only instead of college and military kids, the streets were crowded with middle-aged conventioners. The ground was littered with necklaces of gold, green, and purple plastic beads, but nobody seemed particularly interested in scrambling for the prizes that, in a few months, would be desperately sought after.

Before we made it to the end of the first block, something struck me in the shoulder. I whipped around, but no one was there. David hadn't seen what happened, but he had a guess. I followed his finger to find a group of men standing on a bal-

cony, leaning on the rail for balance, and tossing beads down at the street. David rolled his eyes and said, "This is obviously their Disneyland idea of what New Orleans is about." As if to prove his point, one of the guys screamed "SHOW US YOUR TITS!" He was eyeballing a taxi that had just deposited four older women. I waited for one of the women to shout a retort, but instead, they all laughed and held their hands up for beads. One of them, who resembled Mrs. Potts from Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, actually shimmied and shook her enormous bust with

glee.

"Wow," I said to David, as the music and shouting receded behind us.

"Yeah," he agreed.

"You know, it kind of makes sense that the whole Mardi Gras concept is rooted in Catholicism. If you think about it, those guys are like Catholic school girls. They get away from home, where they have to abide by the rules of their families, their jobs, or whatever, and they just go bat-shit crazy, trying to cram in every vice they can before they have to report back to their lives. It's like Vegas, but instead of shiny shirts from L.A. looking to

get lucky, you've got a lot of button-downs in jeans and white sneakers from the Midwest looking to let loose."

"It's a shame that they're so caught up in having 'the experience' of New Orleans, that they're going to miss the experience of New Orleans," David said. "If they would only look beyond their 'go cups' and Bourbon Street, they might find that New Orleans is a very warm and charming city with a rich history."

"Rich in butter," I joked.

David showed his dimples. "Is there any other way?" ■

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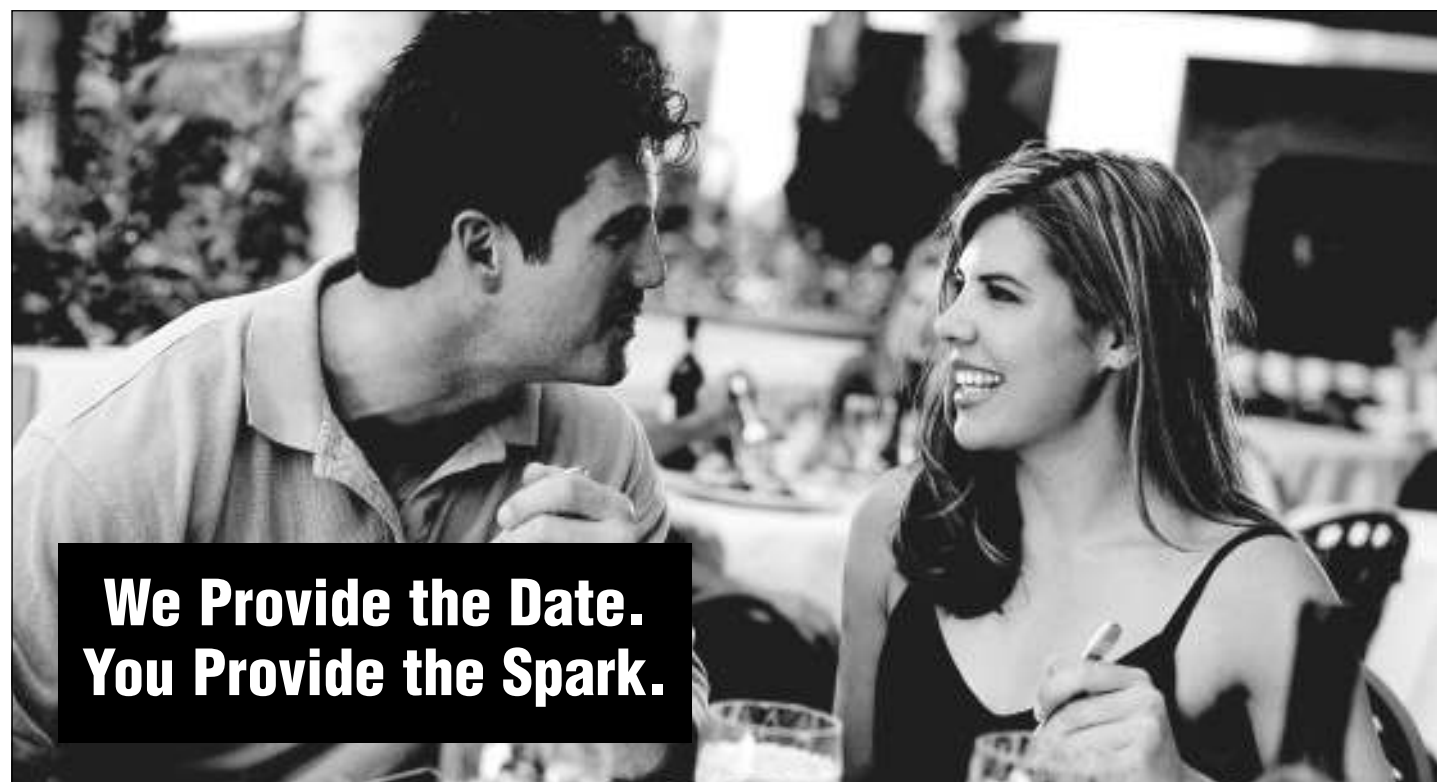
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# San Diego's highest paid executives

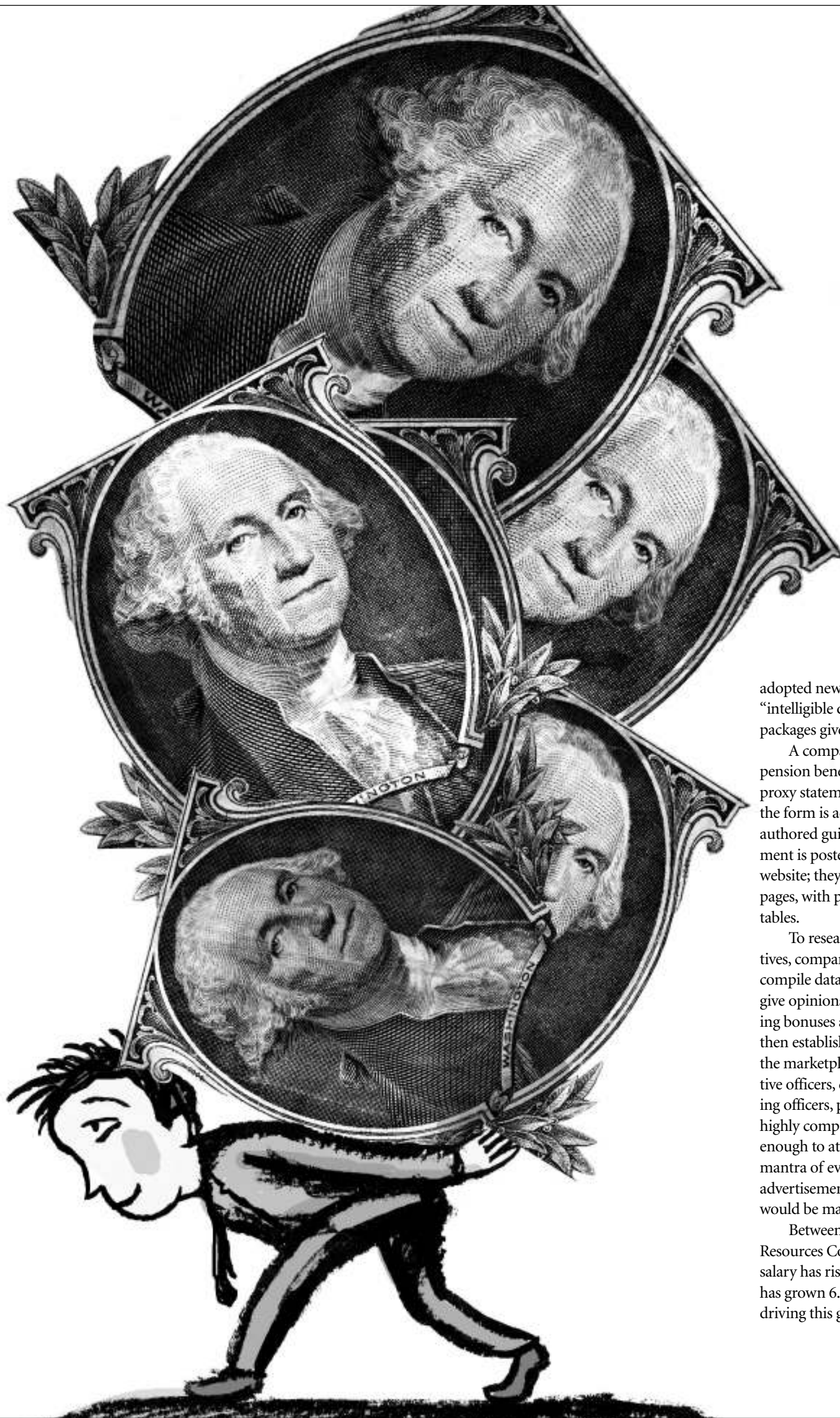
Salaries,  
Stock options,  
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Trust funds.

San Diego is home to 35 rich executives, almost all white men, who receive millions in compensation for running our community's largest publicly traded companies. They have made some of their money from salary and bonuses, but the mountain of wealth each has accumulated is the result of stock and option awards. For years, income earned by executive officers has been reported by business news organizations. However, the value of stock and options awarded has been difficult for nonanalysts to determine. The identity and value of many perks have gone unreported.

Benefits such as health insurance and retirement savings are well known. But the perks suggest that executives may be financial wards of their companies. Some executives enjoy health benefits in retirement; payouts for voluntary or involuntary termination; use of the corporate jet (spouses usually fly free); use of the company car or chauffeured limousine; an interest-free loan to purchase a home; country or tennis or workout club memberships; personal health coaching; a

home-security system; season tickets for sports teams or theater/music venues; legal fees; trust and estate-planning fees; bodyguards; expense allowances; and, for the very special, the crew and upkeep of a private yacht.

Born in 1934, in the wake of the 1929 stock market crash, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission was mandated by Congress to provide investors with reliable information about publicly traded companies. In 2006, the SEC



adopted new rules requiring what they claim is “intelligible disclosure” of the compensation packages given to top officers.

A company reports executive pay as well as pension benefits and severance packages on the proxy statement, Schedule 14A. No easy read, the form is accompanied by a 372-page SEC-authored guide. Every company’s proxy statement is posted on the Securities and Exchange website; they can run to 100 single-spaced pages, with patience-draining footnotes and tables.

To research what they should pay executives, companies hire outside consultants to compile data about competitive pay rates and to give opinions as to the reasonableness of awarding bonuses and options. The company’s board then establishes the executive’s contract. Since the marketplace for top managers (chief executive officers, chief financial officers, chief operating officers, presidents, and vice presidents) is highly competitive, contracts need to be sweet enough to attract the best people — this, the mantra of every board. Word gets out, like a job advertisement: if you worked here, you, too, would be making this much.

Between 1994 and 2005, Mercer Human Resources Consulting reports, the median CEO salary has risen very slightly while total CEO pay has grown 6.5 percent per year. The chief factors driving this growth are stock options and other

Steve Francis exercised options worth \$52.1 million.



equity grants. The Corporate Library notes that the average CEO compensation of the S&P 500 companies in 2006 was \$14.78 million.

According to an Internal Revenue Service rule, companies can deduct from their taxable income only \$1 million of an executive's compensation. An exception is made for performance-based pay — bonuses and equity awards made under a plan that satisfies a number of conditions, one of which is that pay must be based on pre-established goals.

The new SEC rules have spurred shareholders who are demanding that executives be held accountable for their pay. Many shareholders want companies to adopt a pay-

for-performance plan: the more homers you hit for your ball club, the more you get paid; the fewer homers, the less you get paid. Investors are asking, is there any way to determine whether these executives are worth what their corporate boards are paying them?

One idea for making executives accountable is to allow shareholders a nonbinding advisory vote on executive pay plans. Another idea is to require compensation committees to simplify and to state their incentive programs clearly. Still another, favored by most shareholders, is to tie the executive's compensation to the growth of the company's stock. With the new rules, it is easier to

compare an executive's pay with the stock growth. By this measure, many San Diego executives seem grossly overpaid while a few are making a (relative) pittance.

### **Part One Executive compensation for San Diego's highest-paid executives**

For each executive below, the salary, bonus, stock and option awards, change in pension value, and other compensation are provided. In most cases, the compensation is for fiscal year 2006. The category "other compensation" comprises the perks, whose identity and value, if worth more than \$10,000, must be listed on the proxy statement. The value realized from options that

were exercised in 2006 is also shown.

A stock option is the right to purchase a set number of shares in the future at a set price, called the grant price, usually the price of the stock the day the option was granted. Typically options must be held between three and ten years before they vest, when the person can exercise the options, i.e., purchase the shares. If the grant price is \$10, and the stock price goes to \$20, the executive makes \$10 per share once he or she exercises the options and then sells the shares. The longer a person is with the company and the more the stock price grows, the more valuable the options become.

Executives are also

compensated by the tax gross-up, a reimbursement of taxes paid on another perk, such as moving expenses. When the executive is reimbursed for expenses, the reimbursement must be reported as income on the executive's tax form, and this generates a tax liability. That tax is paid by the company. A spokesperson for a shareholder watchdog group called the tax gross-up the "Leona Helmsley provision . . . the ultimate in piggishness."

In 2006, Steve Francis of AMN Healthcare earned \$350,000 in compensation and took home \$52.1 million in profit after he sold shares in AMN. That year, three of San Diego's largest companies, in terms of market capitalization (the

number of shares multiplied by the share's price), were Qualcomm, Sempra Energy, and Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). According to *Forbes*, the CEOs of these three were among the top 500 highest-paid executives in America: Qualcomm's Paul E. Jacobs ranked 95; Sempra Energy's Donald E. Felsing, 149; and SAIC's Kenneth C. Dahlberg, 305.

Only executives of publicly traded companies, whose compensation is reported on the proxy statement, are included below. There are San Diegans who run private companies and make tens of millions every year — for example, John Moores of the Padres or David Copley of the *San Diego*

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

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### I. AMN Healthcare Services

**Steve C. Francis  
Chairman**

Salary .....\$189,000  
Stock & option awards.....\$136,000  
Other comp.....\$25,000  
**Total .....\$350,000**  
Exercised options .....\$52.1 million

Francis is the chairman of the board of AMN Healthcare Services, a health-care staffing company. A cofounder of the company in 1985, 53-year-old Francis was the CEO from 1990 to 2005. In 2005, he was a candidate for mayor of San Diego, losing in the primary election. He is considering a run for mayor again in 2008.

Throughout 2006, Francis cashed in his



Steve Francis

options, exercising them in batches of 50,000 and selling them the same day. The company notes that 2006 was the first year that Francis exercised stock options.

He was also awarded 5555 restricted stock units (RSUs) and 4445 stock appreciation rights (SARs); the fair value of these awards was \$36,000. Francis owns 216,922 shares, which on September 21, 2007, were worth \$4.1 million.

**Susan R. Nowakowski  
CEO**



Susan Nowakowski

Salary .....\$550,000  
Bonus.....\$605,000  
Stock & option awards .....\$1.3 million  
Other comp.....\$29,000  
**Total.....\$2.5 million**  
Exercised options .....\$7 million

Nowakowski, 43, owns 300 shares, which on September 21 were worth \$5652. She also owns 55,000 units of stock awards that have not vested, worth, according to the proxy, \$1,514,700, as well as 289,405 exercisable options and 303,250 options that are not yet

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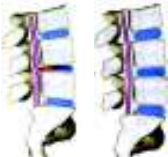
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QME, Chiropractor  
866-887-5790  
sdspinaldecompression.com



NON-SURGICAL  
SPINE CARE CENTER

**New location! 2555 Camino del Rio South #201**



## 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](http://www.ari-inc.com)



## Is your current Anxiety medication not working?

### Are you:

- Currently taking one of the following: Cymbalta, Lexapro, Paxil or Effexor for the treatment of Generalized Anxiety Disorder?
- Still feeling nervous, tense or "on edge" most of the time?
- Still having trouble sitting still or finding it impossible to simply relax?
- Between 18 and 65 years of age? • In overall good health?

If you answered yes to all of these questions, you may be eligible for our investigational drug research study. If you qualify and choose to participate, you will receive physician consultations, study-related medical examinations, laboratory evaluations and follow-up visits at no charge. You may receive study medication to be used in addition to the Generalized Anxiety Disorder medication you are currently taking. Health insurance is not required and compensation for time and travel is provided.

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

**(619) 688-6565**

See our website: [www.ari-inc.com](http://www.ari-inc.com)



# 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>**

**CENTER FOR UNDERSTANDING AND TREATING ANXIETY**

6386 Alvarado Court, Suite 301, San Diego



## 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](http://www.ari-inc.com)



# 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>**



## 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](http://www.ari-inc.com)





## Do you or a loved-one have trouble sleeping?

### INSOMNIA

If you or a loved one are between the ages of 18 and 64 and have had trouble sleeping for 3 months or more, you may qualify for a 7-week research study of an investigational new drug's effects on sleep disturbances. Qualifying applicants will receive the study drug or placebo (sugar pill) and all study-related medical treatments at no cost as well as compensation for time and travel.

#### Participants must:

- Be in good health • Be between the ages of 18 and 64
- Have a history of primary insomnia for at least 3 months

For more information, please contact: **Jo Anna Williams, CRC**  
**Genesis Center for Clinical Research**  
3651 Fourth Ave., Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92103 • 619-260-0010

## Do you or someone you know suffer from Generalized Anxiety Disorder?

#### Do you:

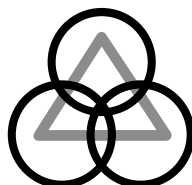
- Worry excessively and can't relax
- Have persistent anxiety, tension or nervousness
- Have muscle tension or upset stomach
- Worry about how you will deal with each day

**You may be eligible to participate in a clinical  
research study of an investigational medication.**

Participants will receive at no cost:

- Study-related exams
- Investigational drug
- Compensation for time and travel

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



SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTERS

exercisable. Other compensation consists of "matching contributions to the Company's Executive Non-Qualified Excess Plan, the Company's 401(k) Plan and life insurance premiums." AMN Healthcare Services "generally does not provide its named executive officers with perquisites."

#### II. Qualcomm

##### Paul E. Jacobs CEO, director

Salary .....\$1 million  
Bonus .....\$1.7 million  
Stock & option  
awards .....\$24.9 million  
Other comp .....\$141,000

**Total.....\$27.7 million**  
Exercised  
options .....\$15.8 million

Paul Jacobs, 45, is the son of Qualcomm cofounder and chairman of the board Irwin M. Jacobs. Qualcomm makes wireless telecommunications products and services.

In 2006, Jacobs was granted 900,000 stock options at the grant price of \$44.02. If the stock price grows 5 percent per year over ten years, according to the proxy statement, he will realize \$24.9 million.

Jacobs owns 1,559,615 shares, some held in trusts,

worth \$63.7 million on September 21.

The son's stock is small potatoes compared to his father's stock wealth. Irwin Jacobs owns 26,904,101 shares, some held in trusts. The shares on September 21 were worth \$1.1 billion. This year, dividend payments on those shares totaled \$14.5 million.

Like most companies, Qualcomm has a voluntary deferred compensation plan: executives can defer 100 percent of their income "on a pretax basis." They stow their income in an account where it will go

#### RESEARCH STUDIES

## Attn: Heavy Drinkers

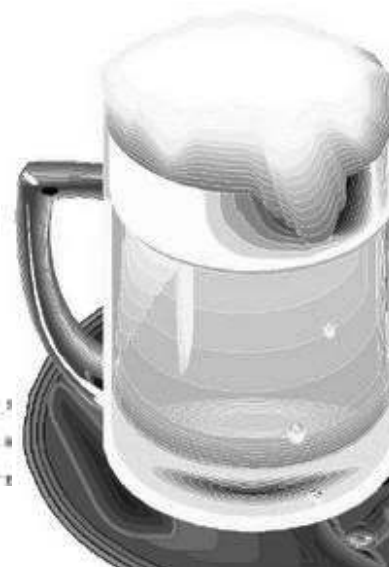
Researchers at The Scripps Research Institute are working to develop new treatments for people with alcohol problems.

Is your current alcohol use causing problems with your family, your work, your life?

If you want to stop drinking, The Pearson Center for Alcoholism and Addiction Research is conducting a clinical trial to help you reach that goal.

Qualified participants receive lab tests, medication or placebo, individual counseling and compensation for travel. All information is confidential.

Call: 858-784-7867 (STOP)  
Or visit: [www.pearsoncenter.org](http://www.pearsoncenter.org)



## Alcohol Taste Tests!

### 2-hour group pays \$100

Plaza Research is a nationwide focus group facility that is hosting a paid alcoholic beverage taste test. We are looking for individuals 21+ years to take part in a paid 2-hour session. Call now to see if you qualify. And tell a friend!

**(858) 200-3000**

Or e-mail your name, phone number, and date of birth and we'll contact you.

**SanDiego@PlazaResearch.com**

**PLAZA  
RESEARCH**

# Are You a Healthy Male?

If so, Profil Institute would like to invite you to participate in a clinical research study evaluating an investigational medication.



**You may qualify if you are:**

- 18 to 50 years of age
- Not having major health problems
- Not currently taking prescription or over-the-counter medications
- A non-smoker for at least 6 months

**Profil Also provides:**

- Study related medical care at no charge
- Shuttle Service from the H St Trolley Station in Chula Vista

**You may be compensated up to \$1,800 (some overnight stays required)**

For more information, call

**(619) 788-9216**

Or

Email: [volunteer@profil-research.com](mailto:volunteer@profil-research.com)

**Profil**

Institute for Clinical Research, Inc.

865 Third Avenue Suite #100  
Chula Vista, CA 91911

# HEALTHY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Profil Institute invites you to participate in a clinical research study evaluating an investigational insulin.



**You may qualify if you are:**

- 18 - 45 years of age
- In good health with no major medical problems
- A non-smoker for at least 1 year
- Not currently taking prescription medications



**You may be compensated up to \$750.**

For more information, call:

**(619) 409-1243**

**Profil**

Institute for Clinical Research, Inc.

865 Third Avenue, Suite #100  
Chula Vista, CA 91911



# Do you have eczema?

**Has anyone you know ever been diagnosed with Eczema Herpeticum or had a bad reaction to the smallpox vaccine?**

The ADVN with the UCSD Department of Dermatology has active research studies and is enrolling patients with Atopic Dermatitis, Eczema Herpeticum, Psoriasis, and healthy control subjects. Financial compensation is offered to eligible participants. This NIH-sponsored study typically involves only a single visit, which includes a questionnaire, examination, and blood draw. Especially needed are people of African-American genetic heritage, although anyone with Eczema Herpeticum is encouraged to contact us.

**ADV N**

Atopic Dermatitis Vaccinia Network

Please contact for more details, and spread the word.

**858-657-8390**

[ucsddermstudies@gmail.com](mailto:ucsddermstudies@gmail.com)

Restlessness or feeling on edge.

Easily Fatigued,

Irritability,

Trouble Sleeping .....



**ANXIETY.....**

**ARE YOUR CURRENT MEDICATIONS JUST NOT ENOUGH?**

**eStudySite is conducting a research study for adults with Generalized Anxiety Disorder.**

**If you or someone you know is:**

- 18 to 65 years of age
- Diagnosed with Anxiety and experiencing symptoms while being treated with any of the following medications: Cymbalta, Lexapro, Paxil, or Effexor XR

**You may be eligible to participate in this 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 may be provided.**

**For more information call eStudySite:  
(619) 321-6604 or toll free 1 (877) 857-2084**



## Healthy Male?

**Covance needs healthy men to take part in a clinical research study.**



**Qualified participants must be:**

- Healthy Men
- Age 18 to 65
- Non-smokers
- Able to participate in overnight stays

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

**COVANCE**  
THE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMPANY

Participants will receive all study-related exams and investigational medication at no cost. Participants may receive compensation up to \$4,650 for time and participation.

9665 Chesapeake Dr., Ste 200  
San Diego, CA 92123  
**TestWithTheBest.com**  
Study 208000



Paul Jacobs

untaxed until they retire or choose to use it.

**Steven R. Altman**  
**President**

Salary .....\$749,000  
Bonus .....\$1.1 million



Steven Altman

Stock & option awards .....\$17.2 million  
Other comp .....\$116,000  
**Total.....\$19.2 million**  
Exercised options .....\$10.8 million

Altman's 179,288 shares were valued at \$7.3 million on September 21. In 2006 he was granted 620,000 stock options at the issue price of \$44.02. With the stock price rising 5 percent over ten years, the value of his stock options will grow to \$17.2 million.

**Sanjay K. Jha**  
**COO**



Sanjay K. Jha

Salary .....\$688,000  
Bonus .....\$1 million  
Stock & option awards .....\$15.6 million  
Other comp .....\$107,000  
**Total.....\$17.4 million**  
Exercised options .....\$8.4 million

Jha, who is chief operating officer and president of Qualcomm CDMA Technologies, owns 23,891 shares, which on September 21 were worth \$975,000. In 2006, Jha was granted 565,000 stock options. Over ten years, with the stock price growing 5 percent a year, he will



**RESEARCH STUDIES**

## 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**

## 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

MV66A ©2007 SHC

make \$15.6 million.	shares, his one-day profit was \$178,875.	Other comp.....\$61,000
On September 4, Jha exercised the option to buy 7500 shares, paying a grant price of \$16.11 per share. The price of the stock that day for everyone else ranged from \$39.44 to \$40.23. When Jha sold the	<b>Roberto Padovani</b> <b>Executive vice president</b> Salary .....\$459,000 Bonus.....\$325,000 Stock & option awards .....\$8.3 million	<b>Total.....\$9.1 million</b> Exercised options .....\$9.3 million  Padovani is executive vice president and chief technology officer at Qualcomm. In 2006, he was

RESEARCH STUDIES

SCHIZOPHRENIA

Is your current medication working?

If you're taking Seroquel® and have experienced a return of symptoms, you may want to consider participating in a clinical research study.

This study is evaluating an approved medication to see if it may provide control of schizophrenia symptoms and to evaluate its effect on weight.

Seroquel® is a registered trademark of Astra-Zeneca.

Do you qualify? You may qualify for this study if you:

- Are between 18 and 55 years of age
- Have been diagnosed with schizophrenia
- Have experienced a return of symptoms after taking Seroquel® for three months or more

All study-related care and study medication will be provided at no cost for up to eight months.

Please call: 1-888-619-7272



SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTERS

BOTOX® as low as \$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

Medical Marijuana Evaluations

WARNING: ID Cards issued by Health Department are the only ID cards recognized by law enforcement.

Legitimate and affordable. Dr. Sterner has **10 years' experience** working with medical marijuana patient needs.

For 24-Hour Recorded Information Please Call: 619-442-4215



Lose Weight as low as \$10/day

We have new and innovative **medications** and regimens to help you lose weight without depleting your body of the nutrients it needs and help you feel satisfied: **bioidentical hormones**, lifestyle and nutrition training and **vitamin B-12 injections** are important contributors to your well-being and helpful in increasing your energy, heightening your metabolism and feeding your nervous system. Let Dr. Sterner develop an individualized program just for you.

Call 619-543-1061

Central Location Near Airport



www.antiagingarts.com

**Medical Center & Weight Control Medical Clinic**  
1516 W. Redwood St., Ste. 105  
San Diego 92101

**Robert F. Sterner, Jr., MD**  
Harvard 1978/UCLA 1982  
Serving San Diego Since 1984

Are you Hispanic and living with asthma?

Researchers in your area are evaluating the safety and effectiveness of a study drug to treat asthma in the Hispanic population.

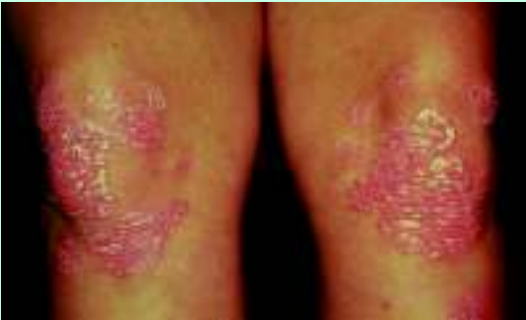
You may qualify to participate if you:

- Are Hispanic (both parents identified as Hispanic)
- Are 12 years of age or older
- Take asthma medication daily

Qualified study participants will receive study-related drug and medical care at no charge. Reimbursement for time and travel may be provided. Health insurance is not needed to participate.

Call: 858-505-0069

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



# Health & Beauty Coupons at SDReader.com!

Here's a small sample to get you inspired!

## Hair transplant: 1400 hairs transplanted just \$1999



Imagine hair transplant results so "impeccably natural" no one may ever suspect you had hair restoration surgery. Located in the heart of San Diego...La Jolla. Offer expires January 31, 2008.



**New Look MD**  
Artistic Hair Transplant Surgery.

9834 Genesee Ave., Ste. 428, La Jolla/Scripps Hospital, 888-290-6526  
www.NewLookMD.com

Reader Coupons  
619-235-3000

## \$20 off 1-hour massage



New clients only. 1-hour massage includes your choice of hot tub, body shampoo, sauna or steam room. Offer expires January 31, 2008.



**Naomi Spa**  
Open 7 days a week 10 am-10 pm.

3960 4th Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-299-9519

Reader Coupons  
619-235-3000

## \$5 off any spa package



Receive \$5 off any spa package. See Readerad for a list of packages. Offer expires January 31, 2008.



**Jennifer Salon & Spa**  
Call 858-560-0325 or 858-560-5081.

8055 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Suite 103-B  
(next to Burger King between 805 & 163)

Reader Coupons  
619-235-3000

## Body wraps \$52



(Reg. \$60) Non-fluid inch loss. Reduces cellulite. Tones and tightens skin. Series of 3 only \$150 (reg. \$165). Great package before your wedding or special event. Ask about our rewards program! Offer expires January 31, 2008.



**Jezebel Day Spa**  
Facials • Body Contour Wraps • Waxing • Microdermabrasion • Massage  
Broken Capillary Treatments

3242 Adams Avenue, San Diego, 619-521-0890  
www.jezebelledayspa.com

Reader Coupons  
619-235-3000

A Day Spa **\$10 off any 1-hour service**  
A Doctor's Weight Loss Clinic **\$55 off initial fees**  
A Dream Smile **ZOOM! & teeth whitening \$199**  
Action Recovery **10% off detox program**  
Adam & Eve Skin Care **Eyelash extension \$150**  
Ageless & Beautiful **\$500 off Vaser LipoSelection**  
Aqua Bella **Buy 3, get 1 free**  
Aqua Day Spa **Body scrub and massage \$90**  
Arena Eyeworks Opt. **Contacts-exam, 6-mo. supply \$139**  
askforhypnosis.com **Free custom hypnosis CD**  
Bare Skincare **\$25 Brazilian wax**  
Beautik Salon **Free haircut with purchase**  
Beauty by Judy **15% off any purchase**  
Bee Tan Salon **Free Magic Tan**  
Bella Pelle Medical Spa **\$25 off treatment**  
Body Wise Yoga Studio **\$10 off yoga class**  
Brazilia Skin Care La Jolla **Brazilian bikini wax \$35**  
Carole & Debi Hairstylists **Free designer haircut (\$45 value)**  
Center for Age Management **\$50 off any service**  
Chesaray's Touch Massage **Sports massage \$59**  
Chula Vista Yoga Center **10 days of yoga \$10**  
Coastal Dental Arts **\$1,000 off Invisalign**  
Continuum Aesthetics **10% off any service**  
Cosmetic Laser & Skin Rejuvenation **Botox \$9 per unit**  
Delicate Dental Arts **Teeth cleaning, exam and x-rays \$89**  
Derm Aesthetics **Free medical microdermabrasion**  
Dimension Salon **1/2 off chemical services**  
enigma. professional piercing **\$5 off body piercing**  
Extreme Smile Makeover **\$1000 off Invisalign**  
Face Beautiful **\$500 off Rhinoplasty**  
Family Dentistry **Free teeth whitening**  
Dr. Rabinder Gill **\$199 ZOOM! Advanced Power**

Global Laser Cosmetics **Free facial or microdermabrasion**  
Global Laser Vision **Free consultation & eye exam**  
Glow M.D. Skin Care **Free underarm laser hair removal pkg.**  
Dr. Michael Goldsmid Optometry **\$20 off eye exam**  
Hair Addictions **Eyelash extensions \$30 off**  
Hair by Don-Paul Hofherr **15% off retail hair products**  
Farnaz Haroon, DDS **ZOOM! Advanced \$269**  
Hollywood Tans **One free HT60 tan**  
Dr. Robert M. Howard Eyecare Plus **6 pr. contacts for \$149**  
Junior Ibarra **20% off haircut**  
I.C.E. Spa **Free brow wax**  
ILHT **\$500 off hair transplant**  
Indigo Salon **20% off any service**  
Indulge Skin Care **\$70 IPL Fotofacial**  
Inner Balance Massage **1-hour massage \$50**  
Inner Balance Skin Care **\$45 Microdermabrasion**  
Inside-Out **Free Mesotherapy treatment**  
iTan **\$49.95 super specials**  
JCPenney **Contact lens exam \$79**  
Jennifer Salon and Spa **\$5 off any spa package**  
Jezebel Day Spa **Body wraps \$52**  
Karie Hayden & Associates **20% off contour wrap**  
Karo's Salon **Permanent eyeliner \$99**  
Kayou Clinic **2-for-1 laser treatment**  
Knotstop **1-hour massage \$49**  
Robert Kearney, MD **\$100 off Botox/Restylane**  
L.J. Center for Facial Plastic Surgery **Botox Tues. 20% off**  
La Jolla Cosmetic Laser Clinic **20% off Thermage**  
La Jolla Hair Clinic **50% off hair replacement**  
Laser Clinique **\$100 off Juvéderm**  
Lasting Beauty **20% off permanent makeup**  
Life Medical Spa **20% off Fraxel II**

LifeWalk **25% off weight loss system**  
Lucky Spa **\$20 off 1-hour massage**  
Philip Levy, OD **\$25 off eyeglasses**  
Massage Envy **1-hour massage \$39**  
Medi Mar **\$10 off medical marijuana evaluation**  
Mesa Family Dentistry **\$500 off Invisalign**  
Mind Body Partnerships **Spa package \$179.99**  
Howard Milstein, MD, & Associates **Laser hair removal \$95**  
Murphy Frazier Chiropractic **\$25 off any treatment**  
My Nails & Skin Care Day Spa **Refresh body spa pkg. \$150**  
Naomi Spa **\$20 off 1-hour massage**  
New Look MD **1400 hairs transplanted \$1999**  
Non-Surgical Spine Care Center **Free consultation**  
North County Laser Eye Associates **\$500 off LASIK**  
Optimum Condition **2 for 1 personal training**  
Oriental #1 Spa **\$10 off massage**  
Pacific College of Oriental Medicine **Acupuncture \$20**  
Padilla Family & Cosmetic Medicine **\$50 off Radiesse**  
Poshé Skin & Spa **1-hr. facial, massage or microdermabrasion \$45**  
Pretty Kitty **\$30 Brazilian wax**  
Rejūve Med Spa & Wellness **\$99 fire & ice facial**  
Revive **Shiatsu/oxygen experience \$10**  
Revive Salon & Spa **\$100 off 1-hour teeth whitening**  
Revive Yourself **Free haircut with purchase of color or highlights**  
Ross Med Hair Restoration **\$2900 for 3000 transplanted hairs**  
Sabre Springs Dentistry **Free dental exam**  
Salon Soulé **\$10 off precision haircut**  
S.D. Skin.net **2-hour facial \$95**  
S.D. Wax Queen **\$25 Brazilian wax**  
Dr. Selby **Contacts & exam \$122**

Shumway Cosmetic Surgery **\$50 off Botox or Restylane**  
Skin Science **\$50 off single hair removal**  
Skin Trade **\$10 off waxing**  
Soft Touch Dental **Zoom 2! \$249**  
Sonya of London **Head-to-toe treatment \$145**  
South Coast Tan **Free Mystic tan**  
"Spa for One" Sanctuary **\$25 off Micro Dermal Tone trtmt**  
Spa Urban Retreat **Professional Aveda massage \$49**  
Sport Clips **\$5 off MVP haircut**  
Success Hypnotherapy **50% off hypnotherapy session**  
Suddenly Slimmer **Free chi treatment with any service**  
Sunshine Dentistry **ZOOM! teeth whitening \$199**  
Syner Chi Day Spa **IPL Photofacial \$99**  
Tanya at Salon D' **50% off haircut or \$10 off updo**  
24 Hour Fitness **7 days of fitness free**  
UCP **Free week of Medifast food**  
Dr. Jeffrey A. Umansky **\$500 off any major surgery**  
The Undercarriage **Brazilian wax \$35**  
Urban Skin Care **Brazilian wax \$30**  
Vahl Chiropractic Wellness Center **\$25 off laser treatment**  
Vein & Liposculpture Center **Microderm. series. 5 for \$250**  
VIP Salon & Day Spa **Two 1-hour massages \$109**  
Viva Wellness Med. Groups **Botox \$59**  
Dr. Weiss Med Spa 858 **Laser hair removal \$189**  
Wellness & Longevity **\$50 off initial consult**  
West Coast Eyecare **\$500 off LASIK "custom"**  
Won's Acupressure **10% off acupressure**  
World Spa **3 spa treatments \$149**  
Yoga One **1 month unlimited yoga**

granted 300,000 stock options. If the stock price grows 5 percent per year over ten years, he will realize \$8.3 million.

**William E. Keitel**  
**CFO**

Salary .....	\$577,000
Bonus.....	\$710,000
Stock & option awards .....	\$13.1 million
Other comp.....	\$84,000
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$14.5 million</b>
Exercised options .....	\$6.5 million

Keitel, executive vice president and chief financial officer, owns 5794 shares, which on September 21 were worth \$237,000. In 2006, he was granted 475,000 stock options. At a 5 percent rise per year over ten years, the value of his stock options will be \$13.1 million.

**III. Sempra Energy**  
**Donald E. Felsing**  
**Chairman, CEO**

Salary .....	\$943,000
Bonus .....	\$1.9 million
Stock & option awards .....	\$4.4 million
Change in pension value .....	\$1.9 million
Other comp .....	\$404,000
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$9.5 million</b>
Exercised options .....	\$4.2 million

Sempra Energy is an energy services company, which owns San Diego Gas & Electric. Felsing owns 481,166 shares, valued at \$28.8 million on September 21. During his 35 years with the company, his pension benefits have grown to \$16.5 million. Felsing has also participated in a deferred compensation plan, which earned 6.3 percent interest in 2006. His plan's aggregate balance on December 31, 2006, was \$14.5 million.

Felsing's "other compensation" includes medical, disability, life and personal liability insurance premiums; car allowances, mileage reimbursement, and the hourly rate of drivers; as well as event gifts, mementos, and residential security alarm services. The lion's share of Felsing's perk payout was

a tax gross-up, a reimbursement for the taxes he paid on the rest of his "other compensation."

If Sempra were to fire Felsing — other than for cause (gross negligence on the job, moral turpitude,

or significant acts of dishonesty) — he would receive the sum of his annual base salary and a bonus; his incentive-based awards would immediately vest and become exercisable; his health insurance

would continue for two years; he would receive free financial planning and outplacement services; he would get two years of service credit added to his pension; and, as long as he divulged nothing confi-

dential about Sempra, he would receive another year's worth of insurance and medical benefits along with a lump-sum payout equal to his salary and bonus.

Summing up all that,

Sempra declares that Felsing will get \$32.2 million if he is fired and \$47.2 million if his ouster is due to a "change-in-control," that is, the company merges with or is taken over by another company,

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one person or group acquires 20 percent or more of the share voting power, or a majority of the board is ousted. (Other top Sempra executives get similar but scaled-down severance packages. One study found that in 44 percent of executive contracts, the executive gets a severance payment even if he or she is convicted of fraud or embezzlement.)

In 2007, a group of shareholders proposed that the board limit “excessive pension benefits” for senior corporate executives. At issue was a “supplemental” plan that based benefits on salary, bonus, and other compensation rather than on salary alone. According to the rebels, the expanded plan provided benefits “far greater than those permitted under the Company’s tax-qualified pension plan.” The group termed it “overly generous and unjustifiable.” They wanted to keep the extra plan but only if salary was the sole determinant of benefits.

The board of directors argued against the shareholders’ proposal. They said that basing the pension on salary and bonuses was “a very common business practice.” Such a plan is “fair and reasonable and has contributed significantly to superior corporate performance and shareholder returns.” And if the company offered no such supplemental retirement plan, they would “be at a significant competitive disadvantage in attracting and retaining highly qualified executives.” The board recommended a no vote. The board won: shareholders voted 76 to 24 percent against the proposal.

### Neal E. Schmale President, COO

Salary .....\$745,000  
Bonus .....\$1.2 million  
Stock & option  
awards .....\$2.4 million  
Change in pension  
value .....\$1.6 million  
Other comp .....\$323,000  
**Total.....\$6.3 million**  
Exercised  
options .....\$2.7 million

## The Fine Print

Despite the SEC’s new rules about “intelligible disclosure,” the proxy statement still requires interpretation to determine executive compensation.

The most problematic category is equity awards. Equity awards can include phantom stocks, unrestricted stocks, restricted stocks, restricted stock units (RSUs), stock appreciation rights (SARs), and options, all of which become vested or exercisable at a future date.

When do they count as income?

The proxy statement’s Summary Compensation Chart, required by the SEC, counts stocks and options as income the year they vest or become exercisable. The footnote to the option awards column on AMN Healthcare’s compensation chart reads “ ‘Option Awards’ represent the portion of options and SARs granted from 2002 to 2006 and recognized by the Company as a compensation expense in fiscal year 2006 in accordance with FAS 123R.... The amounts expensed for Mr. Francis’ option and SAR awards are comprised of \$44,519 for options granted in 2002, \$260,512 for options granted in 2003, \$380,598 for options granted in 2004, \$353,455 for options granted in 2005 and \$25,784 for SARs granted in 2006.” The proxy statement shows Steve Francis’s total 2006 income as \$1,302,809.

*Forbes* magazine, in its table of “CEO Compensation,” counts options as income the year they’re exercised, whether or not the stock is then sold. By this measure, Francis, who did sell his stock, had income in 2006 of \$52.4 million.

The AFL-CIO, which calculates executive income on its Executive PayWatch web page, counts equity awards as income the year they’re granted. (The proxy statement supplies this number on its “Grant of Plan-Based Awards” chart, where the grant-date fair value of stock and option awards is given.) This number, which we have used in our reporting, begets a more accurate total figure for an executive’s earnings for the year. Calculated this way, Francis’s income last year was \$350,000.

Every proxy statement includes a table of stock ownership, on which executive officers, among others, are listed along with the number of shares for which they have beneficial ownership — direct or indirect voting and investment power. Most executives hold stock and options in retirement accounts, trusts, their children’s trusts, and other accounts. Options that are exercisable in 60 days are also included in the total number of shares that are beneficially owned. The number of shares we provide for each executive does not include options exercisable in 60 days.

The fiscal year for most companies included in this story is the calendar year. Qualcomm, Cubic, SAIC, and ResMed are exceptions. In all but two cases we used the proxy statement for fiscal year 2006; we used the fiscal year 2007 proxy statement for SAIC, whose fiscal year ended January 31, 2007, and for ResMed, whose fiscal year ended June 30, 2007.

All dollar amounts are rounded. Stock ownership and “other compensation” under \$10,000 are not included. ■

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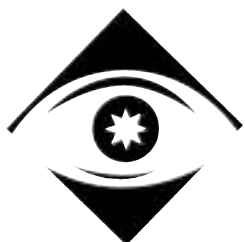
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Roberto Padovani



William Keitel



Donald Felsing



Neal Schmale



Edwin Guiles



Kenneth Dahlberg

Schmale owns 378,088 shares, which on September 21 were worth \$22.6 million. His pension benefits are \$6.5 million. In his deferred compensation plan, Schmale has saved \$9 million. Were Schmale to be fired, he would receive \$6.1 million, and

were he to be ousted because of “change-in-control” of the company, he would get \$35.5 million.

**Edwin A. Guiles**  
**Executive vice president**  
Salary .....\$595,000  
Bonus.....\$834,000

Stock & option awards .....\$1.8 million  
Other comp .....\$235,000  
**Total.....\$3.5 million**  
Exercised options .....\$4.5 million

Guiles’s 251,126 shares were valued at \$15 million on September 21. His

pension benefits are \$9.8 million. In his deferred compensation plan, Guiles has \$3.2 million. If fired, Guiles would receive \$2.9 million. If ousted because of a “change-in-control” of the company, he would get \$25.3 million.

#### IV. Other High-Paid Executives

**SAIC**  
**Kenneth C. Dahlberg**  
**CEO, chairman**  
Salary.....\$1 million  
Bonus .....\$1.3 million  
Stock & option awards .....\$3.6 million  
Other comp .....\$1.5 million  
**Total.....\$7.4 million**

Science Applications International Corporation is, according to its website, “a leading provider of scientific, engineering, systems integration and technical services and products to all branches of the U.S. military, agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense, the intelligence community, the U.S. Department

of Homeland Security and other U.S. Government civil agencies.” Dahlberg has been the CEO of SAIC for four years and chairman of the board for three. SAIC became a publicly traded company in October 2006.

Dahlberg’s “other compensation” included a \$1.5 million special cash dividend and \$14,805 of matching funds and profit-sharing contributions. In addition, there were sums for financial planning, tax preparation, and “airline or social club memberships.” The market value of his unvested stock awards is \$1.8 million. He has \$3.7 million in a “key executive stock deferral plan.” And his severance package, structured much like other

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4 Risks & side effects  
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4 Surgery  
5 After surgery



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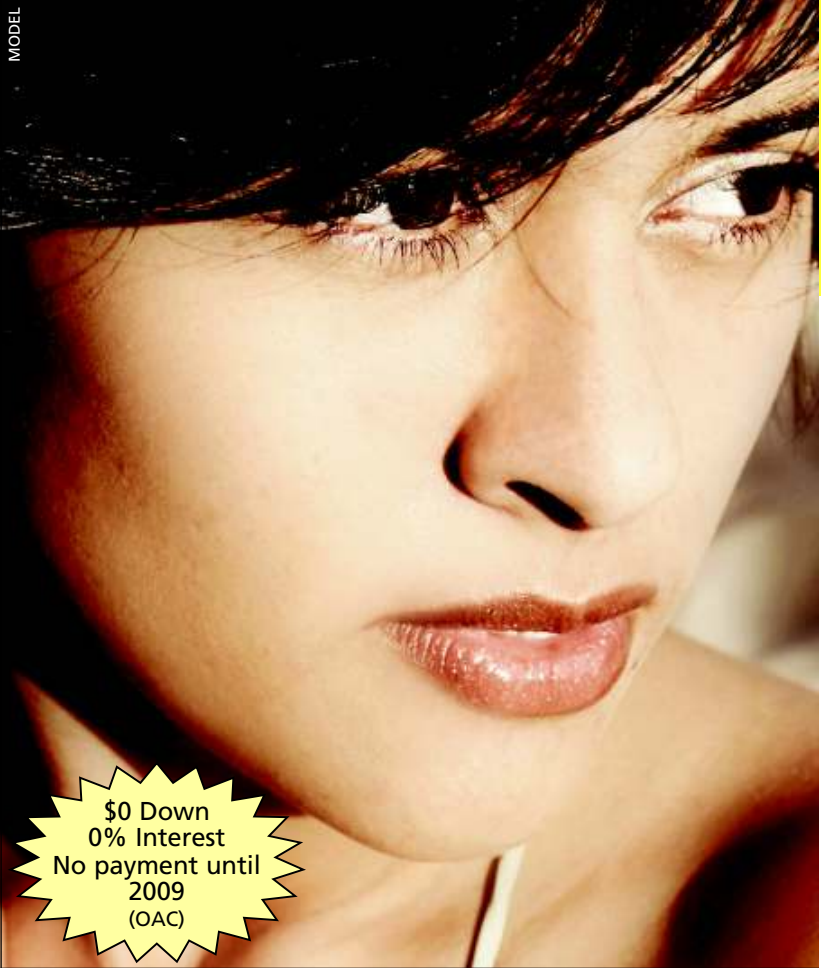
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Ginger Graham



Daniel Bradbury



S. Douglas Hutcheson

companies' severance deals, gives Dahlberg \$14.4 million if he "is involuntarily terminated without cause or resigns for good reason within a 24-month period following a change of control." Dahlberg owns 327,089 shares, some held in a retirement plan and in trusts. On September 21, his shares were worth \$6 million.

**Amylin Pharmaceuticals**

**Ginger L. Graham**  
CEO, director

Salary .....\$559,000  
Bonus.....\$755,000

Stock & option awards .....\$4.4 million  
Other comp.....\$69,000  
**Total.....\$5.8 million**  
Exercised options.....\$555,000

Amylin, named after a hormone produced in the pancreas by the same cells that secrete insulin, develops medicines for the treatment of diabetes and obesity. In 2006, Graham was CEO of Amylin; she's currently on the board of directors. Her "other compensation" included \$726 for a life insurance premium and "\$68,290 for

certain living expenses, including tax gross-ups of \$35,290, related thereto." Graham owns 1,289,583 shares, which on September 21 were worth \$64 million.

**Daniel M. Bradbury**  
CEO, director

Salary .....\$457,000  
Bonus.....\$463,000  
Stock & option awards .....\$3.4 million  
**Total.....\$4.3 million**  
Exercised options .....\$1.9 million

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M. Bradbury. Bradbury's tenure began this March; he had been president for almost one year and chief operating officer for the previous four years. On September 21, Bradbury's 1,135,685 shares had a value of \$56.3 million. Starting with Amylin in 1994, Bradbury has accumulated options over the years. The company's stock price went south before it went north, which means the grant price of many of his options is low. The stock price in early 1992 was around \$20 a share, tumbled in 1998 to 38 cents, and now is nearing \$40.

## Leap Wireless

**S. Douglas Hutcheson**

**CEO, president, director**

Salary .....\$541,000

Bonus.....\$800,000

Stock & option

awards .....\$4.1 million

Other comp.....\$22,000

**Total.....\$5.5 million**

In 2007, the shareholders of Leap Wireless approved the issuance of 3.5 million shares of common stock. This added to the 4.8 million authorized in 2004. The board argued that more stock was necessary "to provide long-term incentive grants on an ongoing and regular basis to motivate, reward, and retain key employees who create shareholder value." In the past, according to the proxy statement "equity awards have been issued to approximately 150 of our approximately 2,000 employees and to our five non-employee directors."

The chief beneficiaries are the top six executives of the company: the winner is S. Douglas Hutcheson. His outstanding options and unvested stock awards total 389,000 shares. Hutcheson owns 38,733 shares, which on September 21 were worth \$3.1 million.

In 2006, Hutcheson's

salary went from \$350,000 to \$550,000 in February and to \$575,000 in May. For the year, he received \$541,346. The compensation committee gave these raises after comparing Hutcheson's salary to CEO salaries at other wireless companies as well as "to recognize his proven ability to successfully manage our rapid growth." His bonus was \$700,000, or 129 percent of his salary; he also got another \$100,000 discretionary bonus.

If Hutcheson, who's been at the helm since 2005, quits or is fired for cause, he gets \$179,178; if there's a "change-in-control" at Leap and he stays on, he gets \$8.6 million; if there's a "change-in-control" and he's fired soon after new management takes over, he gets \$14.9 million.

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Ronald Langley



Linda Lang

# Chairman John R. Hart CEO

Salary.....\$1.1 million  
Bonus .....\$4.2 million  
Other comp.....\$29,000  
**Total.....\$5.3 million**

Pico Holdings owns and operates real estate properties. In 2006, Langley and Hart earned the same

amount. Langley is the beneficial owner of 8.94 percent of the company's shares. According to the proxy statement, of his 1,684,693 shares, 17,986 "are held in the Company's 401(k) Plan. Mr. Langley owns a membership interest in PICO Equity Investors Management, LLC, which has voting

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## > Juvéderm \$349 per syringe (reg. \$450).

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Gregory Lucier



Henry Nordhoff



Jay Flatley

control of 1,666,667 shares of the Company."

Hart is the beneficial owner of 8.95 percent of the company's shares, or 1,685,750 shares. The proxy says, "19,083 of these shares are held in the Company's 401(k) Plan. Mr. Hart owns a membership interest in PICO Equity Investors Management, LLC, which has voting control of 1,666,667 shares of the Company." In addition, 19,940 shares of the company are held "in a deferred compensation plan Rabbi Trust for Mr. Hart."

## Jack in the Box Linda A. Lang Chairman, CEO

Salary .....\$700,000  
Bonus .....\$1 million  
Option awards .....\$3.1 million  
Other comp .....\$112,000  
**Total.....\$4.9 million**  
Exercised options .....\$1.1 million

Lang's "other compensation" included a \$13,500 car allowance and \$41,049 for financial planning services. Under "Other Benefits and Perquisites," the proxy statement says, "The Company does not

own or lease a Company airplane, purchase country club memberships, provide officers with the use of permanent residences, home security systems or defray the cost of personal entertainment or family travel."

## Invitrogen

## Gregory T. Lucier Chairman, CEO

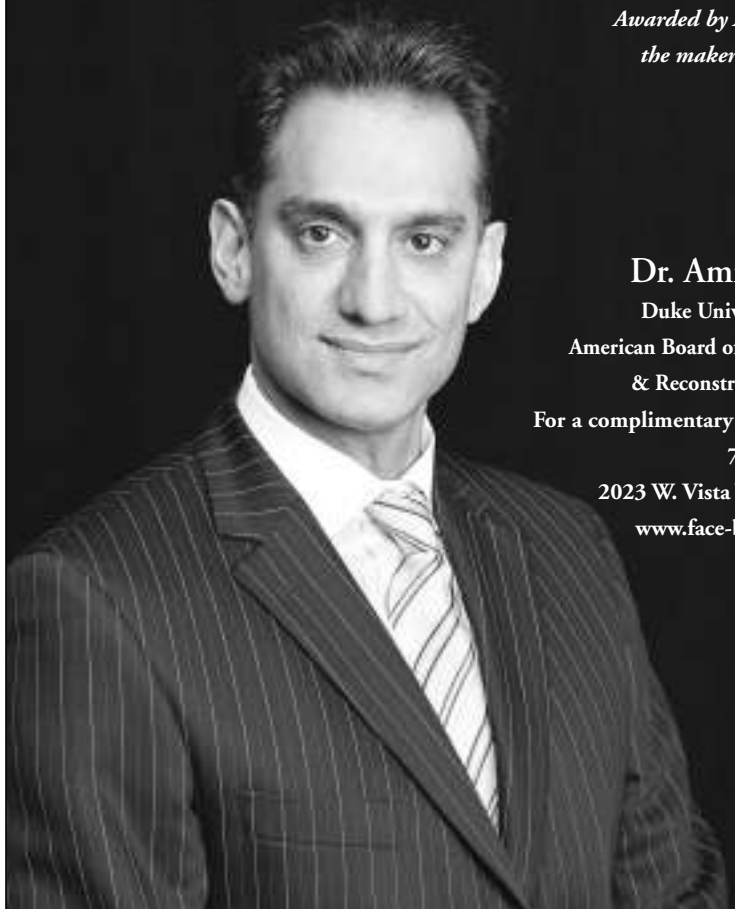
Salary .....\$905,000  
Bonus.....\$288,000  
Stock & option awards .....\$3.6 million  
Other comp.....\$20,000  
**Total.....\$4.8 million**

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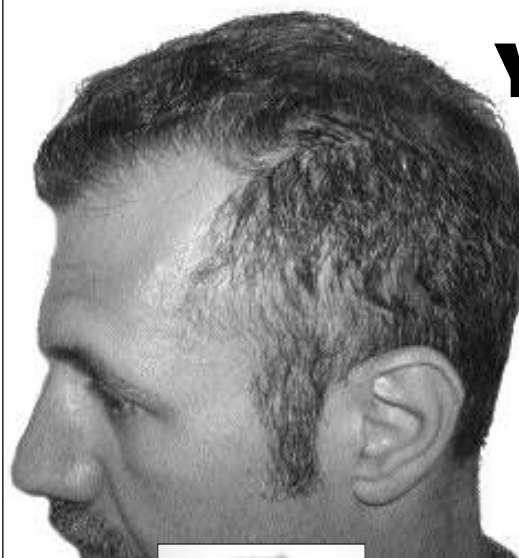
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Invitrogen is a biomedical technology firm. Lucier owns 68,649 shares, which on September 21 were worth \$5.7 million.

### Gen-Probe

**Henry L. Nordhoff**  
Chairman, CEO,  
president

Salary .....\$645,000  
Bonus.....\$470,000  
Stock & option awards .....\$3.5 million  
Other comp.....\$64,000  
**Total.....\$4.7 million**  
Exercised options .....\$3 million

Gen-Probe makes products for use in the clinical diagnosis of human diseases. Nordhoff's 13,665 shares were worth \$913,000 on September 21. His "other compensation" included travel expenses to attend a company retreat (\$6677) and travel expenses for his spouse (\$13,261). In 2000, Niall M. Conway, an executive vice president, was given a \$100,000 interest-free loan "to assist him with the purchase of his initial residence in San Diego."

### Illumina

**Jay T. Flatley**  
CEO

Salary .....\$463,000  
Bonus.....\$149,000  
Stock & option awards .....\$3.7 million  
**Total.....\$4.3 million**

Illumina develops and manufactures tools and systems for genetic analysis. Flatley owns 568,382 shares, including some owned by his children. Flatley's shares were worth \$30 million on September 21.

### ResMed

**Peter C. Farrell**  
CEO

Salary .....\$614,000  
Bonus.....\$470,000  
Stock & option awards .....\$2.9 million  
Other comp .....\$171,000  
**Total.....\$4.2 million**  
Exercised options .....\$2.5 million

ResMed produces products to treat sleep disorders and other respiratory disorders.

## Magic Eyelash Extension

# \$100

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

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- Acne scars
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Specializing in removal of freckles, age spots and sun spots

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Waxing from head to toe for men & women.  
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- Acupuncture Face-lift
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- Ageless Lift Facial
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- Slimming Facial
- Microcurrent Facial

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- Increases collagen & elasticity
- Rid yourself of wrinkles, lines and folds, age spots, pores, stretch marks, dilated capillaries and rosacea

### Lymphatic Drainage Facial \$85

Computerized treatment that rejuvenates and cleanses from the inside out. Excellent for face swelling and bags under the eyes. Regeneration for dry, aging, wrinkling skin, couperose and erythrosis (red spots). We can reshape any part of the body for slimming. Immediate results!

### Spa Treatments

### Head to Toe \$145

3-3 1/2 hours. Package includes:

- **European facial**
- **Complete 1-hour therapeutic body massage**
- **Manicure & Pedi-spa**
- **Choice of any body spa treatment**

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

### PCA Chemical Peel

Purchase 6 PCA treatments and receive 7th treatment free. Treats the following conditions:

- wrinkles
- sun damage
- hyperpigmentation
- acne

**\$85** per treatment

### Deep Cleansing Facial \$65

Begin with face mapping.  
• Includes steam, prep scrub & extraction  
• Face, head, neck & shoulder massage  
• Customized masque to refine & repair skin

**FREE 15-min. back massage or Hydroxy Acid Peel**

### Summer Package \$110

European facial, facial massage including head and neck acupressure, back facial with 15-minute back massage, and body detox wrap.

### Mini Face-Lift \$85

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New, advanced nonsurgical technique. Enhances skin tone. Noticeable results after one application! Recommended 2 to 3 times a week for at least 3-4 weeks.

### Deluxe Back Facial \$85

Combines ultrasonic and electrical currents with skin products. Great for acne, coarse, sun-damaged and deep-congested skin. Includes glycolic acid peel.

### Acupuncture

### Acupuncture Face-lift Special \$85

- Eliminate fine lines, reduce deep wrinkles
- Tone muscles of face to lift drooping eyelids and lift and firm cheeks
- Tighten pores of skin
- Reduce or eliminate "smile lines"
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Model



Peter Farrell



Alexis Lukianov



Kent Snyder

ResMed paid \$70,834 for Farrell's use of the private jet, which included universal weather monitoring costs, on-board catering, and landing/ramp fees. Expenses for Farrell's car include \$48,848 for depreciation, registration, and insurance; "personal use of corporate club memberships" ran \$7103. The value of Farrell's 987,292 shares on September 21 was \$43.3 million. He also owns 586,000 options that are exercisable in 60 days, which, when added to the shares he owns, amounts to 2 percent of the

company's outstanding stock.

**NuVasive**  
**Alexis V. Lukianov**  
**Chairman, CEO**

Salary .....\$400,000  
Bonus.....\$450,000  
Stock & option  
awards .....\$2.4 million  
Other comp.....\$26,000  
**Total.....\$3.3 million**  
Exercised  
options.....\$11,540

NuVasive is a medical device company. On September 21, Lukianov's 88,027 shares were worth \$3.2 million. Perks at

NuVasive comprise automobile allowances of \$500 to \$1000 per month, health club memberships ("initiation dues plus \$250 to \$1000 per month"), life insurance premiums, and entertainment.

**Senomyx**  
**Kent Snyder**  
**CEO, president, director**  
Salary .....\$400,000  
Bonus.....\$134,000  
Stock & option  
awards .....\$2.7 million  
**Total.....\$3.2 million**  
Exercised  
options.....\$479,000

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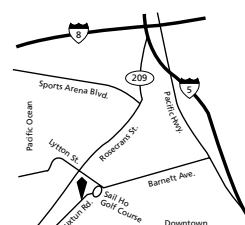
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Gary Lyons



Thomas Lewis

Senomyx, a biotechnology company, uses taste-receptor-based assays to develop flavors for food and beverage products. Snyder's 71,036 shares were worth \$883,000 on September 21.

#### Neurocrine Biosciences

Gary A. Lyons

CEO, president, director

Salary .....\$600,000

Stock & option

awards .....\$2.5 million

Other comp.....\$10,000

**Total.....\$3.1 million**

Neurocrine Biosciences develops drugs to treat

neurological and endocrine diseases and disorders. Lyons owns 376,565 shares, which on September 21 were worth \$3.9 million.

#### Realty Income

Thomas A. Lewis

CEO, director

Salary .....\$350,000

Bonus.....\$685,000

Stock & option

awards .....\$1.7 million

Other comp .....\$406,000

**Total.....\$3.1 million**

Realty Income is a commercial retail real estate business. Lewis owns

#### HEALTH AND BEAUTY



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BEFORE ACTUAL PATIENT



AFTER ACTUAL PATIENT



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Alan Gold



Jay Kranzler



George Fellows

471,316 shares, including  
170,816 shares owned by  
the Lewis Revocable Living  
Trust; on September 21,  
the shares totaled \$13.3  
million. William E. Clark  
Jr., cofounder and CEO of  
Realty Income for nearly  
30 years, is now the chair-  
man. His 886,836 shares,  
some owned by his trust  
and some by his wife's  
trust, on September 21  
were worth \$25 million.

**BioMed Realty Trust**  
**Alan D. Gold**  
**Chairman, CEO,**  
**president**

Salary .....\$420,000

Bonus.....\$766,000  
Stock & option  
awards .....\$1.2 million  
Other comp.....\$96,000  
**Total.....\$2.5 million**

BioMed Realty Trust is a  
real estate investment  
trust. Gold owns 1,561,207  
shares, about three-fourths  
of which are defined as  
“limited partnership  
units.” On September 21,  
the value of Gold's shares  
was \$38.7 million. His  
“other compensation”  
included an automobile  
allowance of \$12,000 and  
dividends of \$64,650 “paid  
on unvested stock.”

**Cypress Bioscience**

**Jay D. Kranzler**  
**Chairman, CEO**

Salary .....\$529,000

Stock & option  
awards .....\$1.6 million

Other comp.....\$42,000

**Total.....\$2.2 million**

Exercised  
options.....\$510,000

Cypress Bioscience pro-  
vides products for disor-  
ders of the central nerv-  
ous system. Kranzler's  
256,724 shares were val-  
ued at \$3.9 million on  
September 21. He also  
owns 1,629,671 options  
that are exercisable in 60

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days, which, when added to the shares he owns, amounts to 5.6 percent of the company's outstanding stock.

#### Callaway Golf

**George Fellows**  
CEO, president, director  
Salary .....\$850,000  
Other  
comp .....\$1.2 million  
**Total.....\$2.1 million**

Callaway Golf makes golf clubs and golf balls. On September 21, Fellows' 22,456 shares were worth \$356,000. His perks



George Haligowski



Robert Akins



Peter Leparulo



Howard Birndorf

Salary .....\$548,000  
Bonus.....\$853,000  
Change in pension  
value.....\$103,000  
Other comp.....\$18,000  
**Total.....\$1.5 million**  
Exercised  
options .....\$1.7 million

Cymer manufactures "excimer light sources," the "deep ultraviolet (DUV) photolithography sources" used in the semiconductor industry. Akins owns 25,794 shares, which on September 21 were worth \$1 million.

#### Novatel Wireless

**Peter V. Leparulo**  
CEO  
Salary .....\$415,000  
Bonus.....\$277,000  
Stock & option  
awards.....\$626,000  
**Total.....\$1.3 million**

Novatel Wireless provides devices and services for broadband wireless access. Leparulo was CEO until November 2006, when he became executive chairman and Brad Weinert became acting CEO. As of September 21, Leparulo's 64,085 shares were valued at \$1.5 million.

#### DJO Incorporated

**Leslie H. Cross**  
CEO  
Salary .....\$499,000  
Bonus.....\$237,000

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industry," the proxy states, "many executives are provided subsidized country club memberships and free use of the Company's products."

#### Imperial Capital Bancorp

**George W. Haligowski**  
Chairman, CEO, president  
Salary .....\$590,000  
Bonus.....\$970,000  
Change in pension  
value.....\$33,000  
Other comp .....\$395,000  
**Total.....\$2 million**  
Exercised  
options.....\$805,000

Imperial Capital Bancorp is the holding company for

Imperial Capital Bank. Haligowski's perks included \$108,710 for "club memberships and meeting attendance-related expenses" and \$60,960 for "chartered air transportation service." Imperial Capital also provides its executives with "use of a Company-owned automobile or automobile allowance." Haligowski's 193,573 shares include 164,308 "vested supplemental executive retirement plan ("SERP") account shares held in the Rabbi Trust we estab-

lished," according to the proxy statement, as well as "29,265 shares held for Mr. Haligowski in his deferred compensation plan account in the Rabbi Trust." On September 21, Haligowski's shares were worth \$6.2 million. Together with his 97,500 shares of options exercisable in 60 days, he owns 5.23 percent of the company's outstanding stock.

#### Cymer

**Robert P. Akins**  
Chairman, CEO



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- Patty S., El Cajon

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- Elimination of wrinkles around eyes
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- Cellulite reduction treatments (Endermologie)
- Fotofacial™ (improves sun-damaged skin and rosacea without downtime)
- Facials, peels, waxing
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Other comp.....\$70,000  
**Total.....\$1 million**

Cubic Corporation manufactures defense electronics, military surveillance and combat-training systems, and automatic fare-collection systems. Zable, who is 92 years old, owns 40 percent of the company. According to the proxy statement, he is "deemed a 'Control' person of the Corporation." Zable owns 10,679,891 shares, which on September 21 were worth \$484 million.

## Encore Capital Group

**J. Brandon Black**  
CEO, president, director  
Salary.....\$385,000  
Bonus.....\$354,000  
**Total.....\$739,000**

Encore Capital Group provides bankruptcy services to the finance industry. The value of Black's 5000 shares on September 21 was \$59,000.



Walter Zable



J. Brandon Black

## Part Two Pay for Performance

Most proxy statements contain some version of the following rationale for executive compensation. These statements are found in a section typically titled "Compensation Philosophy and Objectives." This one is taken from the proxy statement of DJO Incorporated, whose market capitalization as of October 1 was \$1.2 billion. In 2006, its top five executives earned a total of \$6.8 million.

"We compete in an aggressive and dynamic

industry and, as a result, hiring and retaining quality employees are key factors to our success. Our compensation programs for executive officers are designed to (1) attract talented individuals who are capable of growing the Company, (2) retain key individuals, (3) motivate executive officers to increase the Company's performance for the benefit of stockholders, and (4) reward executive officers for exceptional individual contributions to the achievement of our business objectives. Our com-

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## Refresh Body Package \$150

Microdermabrasion, 1-hour therapeutic body massage, European facial, manicure and spa pedicure, figure wrap and steam.

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Spa pedicure and manicure with one of the following:  
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• Figure wrap (lose 4"-15") \$70

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## Diamond Microdermabrasion \$60

Includes facial, acupressure, and custom masque. Treats fine lines, wrinkles, brown spots, pigmentation, acne scars and enlarged pores.

## Multi-Vitamin Power Treatment

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Advanced treatment for cellulite and spot reduction.

Abdominal or back 40 min. **\$45**

Thighs or hips 60 min. **\$65**

Add any section to figure wrap for only **\$10**

## Deluxe Treatment \$75

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Lose weight without going to the gym. Two healthy inch-loss programs:

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pensation programs are also designed to provide a direct, meaningful link between the Company's annual business plan and individual performance and compensation earned."

One way to evaluate an executive's worth is to link the stock price in a given year to the total compensation paid, a method that has several caveats. Variables such as

the size of the company and profitability also affect pay. An executive's efficiency might be better measured by his or her performance over five years. But not all of these executives have been at the helm that long.

The stock price growth and drop in 2006 for San Diego companies whose executive pay is listed show wide variations. Six companies —

Qualcomm, Sempra Energy, BioMed Realty Trust, Callaway Golf, Cubic, and Imperial Capital Bancorp — pay dividends, which contribute to total shareholder return. Also, earnings may rise while the stock price falls, as happened at Qualcomm in fiscal year 2006.

Mergers and acquisitions, an economy's boom and bust cycles, and political instability affect stock

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price. If a stock soars or plummets one year, an adjustment may come the next. One study found that on any given day 75 percent of a stock price's movement is determined by the movement of the group to which it belongs: utility stocks go up and down together, for example.

Despite all these variables, linking the stock price to the executive's pay is a simple way of considering compensation during a year of calm and steady growth. Two thousand six, at least on the economic front, was a healthy year; the S&P 500 index rose nearly 12 percent. The year carried no egregious shifts in world or national economies or politics that directly accounted for why these stock prices rose or fell.

## Most efficient executives based on stock-price growth in 2006

Jay Flatley at Illumina was by far the most efficient CEO. Illumina grew 165.4 percent, for which it paid Flatley \$4.3 million.

Jack in the Box's Linda Lang oversaw stock growth of 79.3 percent and was paid \$4.9 million.

DJO's Leslie Cross was a real bargain. DJO's stock grew 55.1 percent, while Cross earned \$1.3 million.

Leap Wireless paid S. Douglas Hutcheson \$5.5 million; he oversaw stock growth of 53.7 percent.

ResMed's Peter Farrell earned \$4.2 million; the stock grew 28.8 percent.

NuVasive paid Alexis Lukianov \$3.3 million; he presided over stock growth of 26.2 percent.

Cypress Bioscience's Jay Kranzler received \$2.2 million, while the stock grew 25.2 percent.

Realty Income paid Thomas Lewis \$3.1 million; he oversaw stock growth of 24.8 percent. Imperial Capital Bancorp's George Haligowski earned \$2 million, and the stock grew 20.2 percent.

Cymer paid Robert Akins \$1.5 million; he

presided over stock growth of 19.4 percent.

BioMed Realty Trust paid \$2.5 million to Alan Gold, and Gold helped the stock grow 17.7 percent.

Sempra Energy's stock price grew 21.5 percent in 2006, for which its top five executives were paid \$25.2 million. According to Sempra's proxy statement, the company's cumulative five-year return to shareholders — stock-price appreciation plus dividends — has been 168 percent. In comparison, the average return of companies in the S&P 500 Utilities index has been 55 percent and in the S&P 500 index 35 percent.

**Executives whose company stock price grew between 1.7 and 7 percent**  
Callaway Golf paid George Fellows \$2.1 million, and he oversaw stock growth of 3.8 percent.

Walter Zable at Cubic earned \$1 million; the stock rose 3.3 percent.

Gen-Probe's Henry Nordhoff made \$4.7 million, and the stock grew 5.2 percent.

Ronald Langley and John Hart of Pico Holdings each made \$5.3 million. They helped push the stock up 5.7 percent.

Kent Snyder was paid \$3.2 million by Senomyx; the stock rose 7.1 percent.

## Least efficient executives based on decline in stock price

By far the least efficient executive for the year was Gary Lyons. Neurocrine paid Lyons \$3.1 million; he oversaw a stock price plunge of 83.6 percent.

Another inefficient executive is Howard Birndorf, a founder and longtime chairman and CEO of Nanogen. The company paid Birndorf \$1.2 million, while the stock slipped 28.1 percent.

Encore Capital Group paid J. Brandon Black \$739,000, while the stock went down 26.5 percent.

Novatel's Peter Lep-arulo earned \$1.3 million, while he oversaw a stock

price drop of 18.9 percent.

Invitrogen paid Gregory Lucier \$4.8 million. The stock dipped 14.7 percent.

Amylin Pharmaceuticals' Ginger Graham received \$5.8 million. Under her leadership the stock fell 9.8 percent.

Qualcomm executives also score low. In fiscal year 2006, the stock price fell 13 percent, while each of the top five executives was given a larger salary and bonus: Jacobs got a 131 percent raise; Altman, a 78 percent raise; Jha, a 69 percent raise; Keitel, a 55 percent raise; and Padovani, a 26 percent raise.

All this stock-price fluctuation invites a few questions. Why is an executive whose company's value rises significantly in one year (Cross, DJO; Kranzler, Cypress Bioscience) paid comparatively so little? Why does an executive whose company's value treads water or rises slightly (Fellows, Callaway Golf; Nordhoff, Gen-Probe) receive the same or more money? Why does an executive whose company's value drops spectacularly (Lyons, Neurocrine; Birndorf, Nanogen) given the same or more compensation? Why do boards whose companies may go bankrupt or be sold sign such generous severance packages for their top executives?

And last, what possible incentive could there be for corporate board members, themselves current and former executives and beneficiaries of sweetheart pay deals, to negotiate tougher contracts? If the executives they hire and guarantee anywhere from \$10 to \$100 million over time have led the spectacular boom in the American economy in the last 25 years — from 777 to 13,400 points on the Dow Jones Industrial Average (1625 percent) — why would anyone controlling such a system want to alter it? ■

— Thomas Larson

# The Blue Barrel

## Tour of Recycling Plant

**T**he Miramar landfill is set to reach capacity by 2013," says Steve South, president of Edco Disposal, a waste-collection and recycling company headquartered in Lemon Grove. "This means we're going to have to recycle more and come up with increased alternatives for different types of processing."

Edco, named after Ed Burr, founder and owner, is "a famous, old, family-owned business that has been picking up our trash for what seems like forever — more than 30 years," says

Helen Ofield, vice president for historic sites and installations for the Lemon Grove Historical Society. On Thursday, January 3, South and Ofield will lead a tour of the new plant.

"This is the 30th anniversary of cityhood for Lemon Grove," says Ofield. "On December 19, 1977, the city council debated until midnight on whether to relax the zoning code for Edco, which had just opened. Trucks were coming in, and neighbors up on the hill were irate, and the council decided to limit the use of Edco's property to corporate offices only — now [Edco is] the last word on trash collection and technology." Edco is the only facility in San Diego that can process mixed-construction demolition debris.

In 1989, state government passed the Integrated Waste Management Act, or AB 939, requiring all California jurisdictions to divert 50 percent of the total waste away from landfills by the

year 2000. Currently, according to Senator Alex Padilla, only 62 percent of the state's jurisdictions meet that requirement. Padilla wrote the pending Senate Bill 1020, "Solid Waste Diversion," which calls for 60 percent statewide diversion by 2012 and 75 percent by 2020.

"To accomplish the goals of AB 939, we invested millions to build [recycling] plants, as opposed to building a new landfill," says South. Edco's new ability to receive mixed demolition debris has been critical to the city in the wake of the fires. "A lot of the material generated from the fire, we're receiving it from both the city and the county and sorting through it," says South. "Obviously the fires were a tragedy, and these were not anticipated volumes that would be generated for the landfills. By processing this debris, we're able to minimize the impact of the tragedy." Once it is separated and processed, most of the demolition debris, like concrete and asphalt, is reused locally.

Recyclable waste is received "fully comingled," says South, meaning "the glass is in with the paper, in with metal, plastic, and cardboard." The material is sent over a series of belts and conveyors for mechanical and manual separation. "We have an optic sort, or computer-scanning program that separates [material]. Once the optic eye makes a determination, it sends the reading to an air compressor, which then will blow air and direct some of the material [mostly

plastic] onto a different conveyor....

"Typically, if people aren't recycling, it's because they just don't understand that every person makes a difference," says South. "Once people see what we're doing, how you can separate [material] and put it to reuse, then they have a greater understanding of why they should participate. Once we educate people, it's been our experience that they want to do the right thing."

South adds, "Kids are the greatest recyclers. For them, that's the way it is and there's no alternative. My kids, Trevor and Abigail, understand what goes in the blue barrel."

Some well-meaning adults still need to learn the "do's and don'ts" of recycling. Objects not accepted by the facility include plastic bags (many of which can be returned to grocery stores that will send them back to the factories that produced them), wax paper, Styrofoam, ceramics, or any plastic or glass items not labeled "CA Redemption

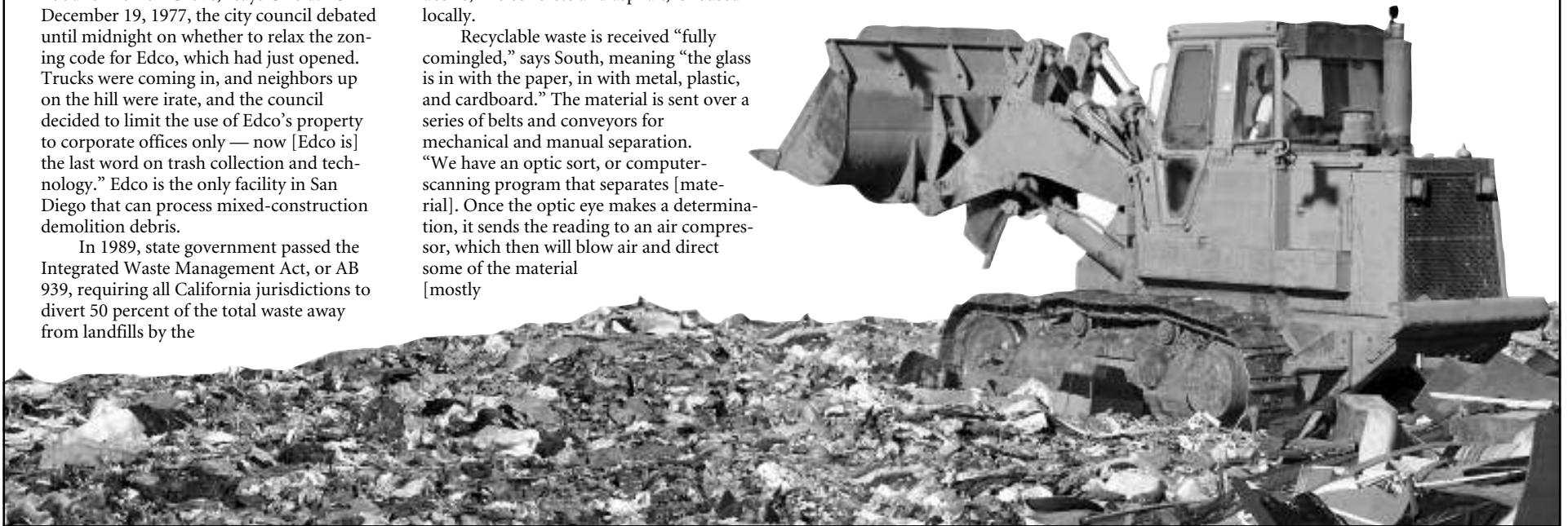
Value" or "CA Cash Refund."

"The most damaging are any fluids — automotive fluids like antifreeze or bleach," explains South. "They mix with the other material and tend to contaminate loads. Oil can be recycled, but it needs to be brought in separately in a sealed container." The most common mistake do-gooders make is to inadvertently dump a bag of trash that should have been placed in a trash container into the recycling bin.

— Barbarella

**Tour of EDCO Recycling Facility**  
**Thursday, January 3**  
**1 p.m.**

**Lemon Grove Historical Society**  
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# Calendar

## LOCAL EVENTS

Events that are underlined occur after January 3.

**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.

## OUTDOORS

**Tree Aloes**, the familiar succulent plants with red-hot-poker-like flower clusters, are at their showy best at the beginning of each year. Large clumps of aloes can be seen at La Jolla Cove, Mission San Diego de Alcalá, and scattered along the embankments overlooking Highway 163 in Balboa Park.

**Mission Hills Meander**, one-hour walk with Walkabout to admire views, homes, and gardens, starts at 5 p.m. on Friday, December 28, at 1920 Ft. Stockton Drive. Free. 619-222-3447 or 619-231-7463. (MISSION HILLS)

## OUT & ABOUT

### BASIC BIRDING

at Buena Vista Lagoon, Saturday, December 29.

(SEE OUTDOORS)



**Basic Birding**, Tom Troy leads basic birding program on Saturday, December 29, 8:30 a.m., at Buena Vista lagoon landing (2202 South Coast Highway). Emphasis on identifying birds by sight and sound and using binoculars, spotting scopes, field guides. Free. Directions: 760-967-6915. (OCEANSIDE)

**New Year's Nature Walks** at Mission Trails Regional Park on Saturday and Sunday, December 29–30, and Wednesday, January 2. Guided outings begin at 9:30 a.m. at visitors' and interpretive center (One Father Junipero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

**Shaman's Hike** led by Will Bowen in Los Peñasquitos Canyon

Preserve, Sunday, December 30. "Walk the path of the shaman with nature as the vehicle to the sacred world...take a short hike to a power spot to reflect, renew." Bring a drum or rattle (optional), blanket to sit upon. Adventure starts at 3 p.m. at west-end staging area on south side of Sorrento Valley Boulevard (one-half mile east of intersection of Vista Sorrento Parkway). Free. 858-342-8856. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

**Watch the Birdie**, naturalist Tom Lyon leads easy three-hour bird walk in search of "winter" migrants on Tuesday, January 1, in Daley Ranch. Bring binoculars. Free outing starts at 8 a.m. in main

parking lot (on La Honda Drive). 760-839-4680. (ESCONDIDO)

**Gray Whale Migration** off San Diego County's coast peaks this month. The best view spots from land are high points close to the surf. Aside from the whale-watching overlook at Cabrillo National Monument, try Sunset Cliffs, the pocket parks and dead-end streets from Pacific Beach to Scripps Park in La Jolla, various ocean overlooks on the trail system at Torrey Pines State Reserve, the cliffs opposite Carmel Valley Road south of Del Mar, overlooks opposite Lomas Santa Fe Drive in Solana Beach, and various cliff-top viewpoints and beach access stairways in Encinitas and Leucadia. Scan the ocean a few hundred yards to a couple of miles out using high-powered binoculars. Best times for viewing are about 9 a.m. to noon.

**The Quadrantid Meteor Shower**, delivering a brief and sometimes intense display of "shooting stars," will be best seen this new year starting just before midnight on Thursday, January 3, and ending with the light of dawn on Friday morning. Only those observers situated far from city lights are likely to see meteors in abundance. This year, the moon's phase is waning crescent; its glare in the early-morning sky will not seriously compromise sky conditions.

**Very Low Tides** early next week will provide good opportunities for observing sea life in the lower intertidal zones. On Monday, January 7, the tide dips to -1.0 foot at 3:03 p.m. Tuesday's low tide of -1.1 feet occurs at 3:35 p.m. Wednesday's low tide of -1.1 feet happens at 4:06 p.m.

**The Crescent Moon** returns to evening sky on Wednesday, January 9. Look for its thin, smiling shape low in the southwestern sky about 30 minutes after the sun sets. On the following day (Thursday) the slightly thicker crescent moon will be much easier to spot, and it will be visible for a longer period of time after sunset.

## DANCE

**Disco-Type New Year's Party** with Dalya Dallal promised on Saturday, December 29, 8 p.m., at Folk Dance Center (4569 30th Street). \$10. Required reservations: 858-337-3045. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

**English Country Dancing** on Sunday, December 30, 6–9 p.m.,

## FILM

**Reuben H. Fleet Science Center**, currently screening in the IMAX theater: *Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure*, *The Living Sea*, *Dinosaurs Alive!* Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

**Burning Bowl Ceremony** "releases the old and welcomes in the new," Monday, December 31, 7 p.m., at Seaside Center for Spiritual Living (1613 Lake Drive). Free. 760-944-9226. (ENCINITAS)

**"The Dog Problem"** screens for Film Forum at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street) on Wednesday, January 2, 6:30 p.m. Free. 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

# Great Escapes

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## OUT & ABOUT

### THE CABARET COMEDIAN

Ray Jessell, Wednesday, January 2, at California Center for the Arts, Escondido.

(SEE IN PERSON)



"The Big Bang" illuminated during "The Sky Tonight" planetarium show at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, Wednesday, January 2, 7 p.m. View real sky through telescopes (weather permitting) after show. \$8.50 general. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

### IN PERSON

"A Night of Comedy" stand-up comedy show with entertainment by Mal Hall, Mario Mann, Joe Charles, Matt Knost, and Robert Lariviere on Thursday, December 27, 7:30 p.m., at Below Market (600 Fifth Avenue). Free; donations welcome for comics. 619-236-1616. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

The Cabaret Comedian, Ray Jessell gives free performance Wednesday.

### LECTURES

"How to Get in the Zone and Stay in the Zone" explained by Walter Holtschi, Thursday, December 27, 6 p.m., at Sacred Pathway Bookstore (300 Carlsbad Village Drive, suite 103). "Feel better, play better, perform better." Free. 760-729-2434. (CARLSBAD)

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**Singers/Actors:** Please arrive promptly at 4:00 p.m. Prepare and perform a one- to two-minute musical piece that demonstrates your vocal ability.

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**SeaWorldSanDiegoAuditions.com**

Or call our Audition Hotline: **(619) 226-3607**



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# Calendar

## LOCAL EVENTS

day, January 2, 4 p.m. at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

**"Jazz Vocal Spotlight,"** Julie Kelly performs for Jazz in the Park series on Wednesday, January 2, 5:30 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. \$22. Reservations: 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

**Open Invitational Poetry Slam,** fifth annual event takes place in community room of Cardiff-by-the-Sea branch library (2081 Newcastle Avenue), Wednesday, January 2, 6:30 p.m. Free. (CARDIFF)

## SPORTS

**Bumble Bee Seafoods Holiday Bowl 5K Run** steps off at 9:45 a.m. on Thursday, December 27, at corner of North Harbor Drive and Ash Street, proceeds along waterfront to finish near Tuna Harbor Park. Race-day registration: 8 a.m. 858-268-1250. (DOWNTOWN)

**2007 Pacific Life Holiday Bowl** between Arizona State University Sun Devils and University of Texas Longhorns is Thursday, December 27, 5 p.m., in Qualcomm Stadium. Tickets: \$80-\$95, available through Ticketmaster. 619-283-5808. (MISSION VALLEY)

**Encouraging Healthy Minds,** "Forum, Art Show, and Benefit Concert for Healthy Minds" offers up speakers from the National Alliance on Mental Illness, Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention, and Survivors of Suicide Loss, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Evening concert lineup includes Anna Troy Band, Chuck Schiele, This Holiday Life, Gregory Page, The Real SeanJon, and Jon Foreman of Switchfoot, 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

All events held in Poway Community Park Auditorium (13094 Civic Center Drive) on Friday, December 28. Free. 858-395-3950. (POWAY)

## ROAM-O-RAMA

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

**S**erene Oakoasis Open Space Preserve covers 397 acres of oak woodland, boulder-studded hillsides, and young chaparral vegetation recovering from the 2003 Cedar Fire. Try visiting during winter, when the air is clean and fresh, or during March, when almost every living thing in the plant kingdom is green and the sweet fragrance of annual wildflowers and fragrant wild lilac (ceanothus) floats on the sun-warmed breeze. The hiking loop described here measures 2.4 miles and involves an elevation gain of only 300 feet.

To get to Oakoasis from Lakeside, turn east on Maplevue Street where the freeway portion of Highway 67 ends. After 0.3 mile on Maplevue, turn left (north) on Ashwood Street. Ashwood will become Wildcat Canyon Road ahead.



Oakoasis, after the Cedar Fire

From the beginning of Ashwood, proceed 4.2 miles (mile 4.2, according to the roadside mile markers) to the driveway for Oakoasis Open Space Preserve on the left. At 0.1 mile ahead, there's a parking lot — a trailhead for the preserve and a future staging area for the uncompleted Trans-County Trail.

From the trailhead, descend north and west on the Trans-County Trail. (Within a few years, it will be possible to make your way west on this trail all the way to the ocean at Torrey Pines State Beach.) At the next two trail junctions, stay right so as to make a direct descent to an old dirt road near the bottom of a shallow, oak-lined ravine. Keep going west on this road, which meanders amid the oaks. This "oak oasis" is in a post-2003 fire-recovery mode and is already regaining its shade-giving character. At the west end of the oak oasis, 0.7 mile from the start, you come upon the ruins of a cabin constructed of split logs in 1936. Little more than the foundation and chimney remains, a consequence of the 2003 firestorm.

From the cabin ruins, make a right (go north) on the Upper Meadow Trail, where you soon catch sight of the sparkling surface of San Vicente Reservoir, a mile to the west and some 800 feet below. Just ahead, there's a short side trail to a scenic overlook offering a better view of the reservoir.

Next, you go up and over a saddle (1480-foot elevation), traverse a grassy vale (an "upper meadow" dubbed Daisy Flat), and drop into a minor ravine. You climb gradually uphill to a flat area at the top of that ravine, and then descend slightly — all the while circling right. By about 2.0 miles, you're back down in the oak-oasis ravine you visited earlier. Just ahead is the trail you used earlier to descend into that ravine. Use it to return to the trailhead.

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.

### OAKOASIS OPEN SPACE PRESERVE

Fire recovery is a work-in-progress at Oakoasis Open Space Preserve near Lakeside.

**Distance from downtown San Diego:** 24 miles

**Hiking length:** 2.5 miles

**Difficulty:** Easy



## SPECIAL

**Thar She Blows!** Daily whale-watching cruises made possible by Birch Aquarium at Scripps (2300 Expedition Way) and San Diego Harbor Excursion, now through March 31 at 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. \$15 kids 4-12; \$30-\$35 for those 13 and older. Reservations: 619-234-4111. (LA JOLLA)

**"Snapshot of an Era:** Uncovering Our New Deal Past" — ex-

**38th Annual YMCA Resolution Run** takes place Saturday, December 29, starting at 11 a.m. in Balboa Park near corner of 6th Avenue and Laurel Street. 5k run or 1-mile fun walk. Free. 619-232-7451, x109. (BALBOA PARK)

**North County Ride,** join Sierra Club bicyclists for ride with rolling hills on Sunday, December 30. 25-mile ride starts at 8:30 a.m. behind Barnes and Noble Bookstore (Del Mar Highlands shopping center, at Del Mar Heights Road and

El Camino Real). 619-583-3261. (DEL MAR)

**A Long, Flat Ride,** join San Diego Bicycle Touring Society bicyclists for 80-mile ride through Oceanside, Vista, Escondido, and Poway, Sunday, December 30, 9 a.m., starting at Doyle Park (8175 Regents Road). Bring money for lunch. 619-426-8192. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

**San Diego Chargers** are in Oakland to meet up with the Raiders on Sunday, December 30,

1:15 p.m. Game broadcast on CBS; listen on radio station KIOZ-FM, Rock 105.3. Tickets available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS).

**New Year's Day Ride** with Knickerbikers aptly begins at Carmel Valley Park 'N Ride (12791 Sorrento Valley Road), 9 a.m. Tuesday, January 1. 619-787-7427. (CARMEL VALLEY)

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**Lips**

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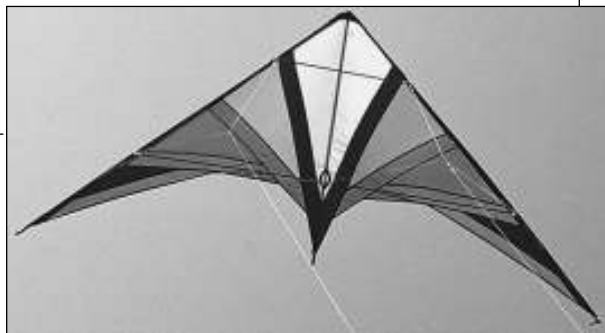


## OUT & ABOUT

### NEW YEAR'S DAY KITE FESTIVAL

Tuesday, January 1  
at Mariner Point.

(SEE SPECIAL)



venue and Upas Street. Free.  
619-231-9091. (BALBOA PARK)

**First Night Escondido**, alcohol-  
and drug-free New Year's Eve cel-

ebration with live music, dancing,  
activities for kids, midnight fire-  
works, and more at California  
Center for the Arts (340 North Es-  
condido Boulevard) and along

Grand Avenue in downtown Es-  
condido. Celebration begins at  
6 p.m., Monday, December 31.  
\$15, kids 6 and under free.  
760-715-4448. (ESCONDIDO)

## OUT & ABOUT

### FIRST NIGHT ESCONDIDO

Monday, December 31 at  
California Center for the Arts.

(SEE SPECIAL)



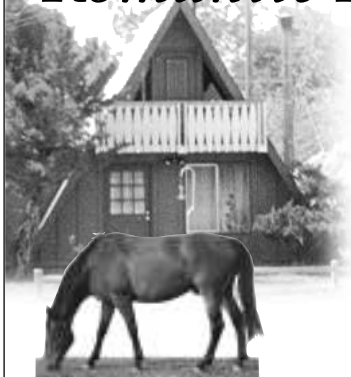
**San Diego Kite Festival** and  
potluck sponsored by San Diego  
Kite Club, Tuesday, January 1,  
from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at  
Mariner Point (off West Mission

Bay Drive). Free. 619-258-7066.  
(MISSION BAY)

**"Out with the Old,"** wines  
showcased during tasting, Wednes-

day, January 2, 5 p.m., at WineSel-  
lar and Brasserie (9550 Waples  
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9557. (MIRA MESA)

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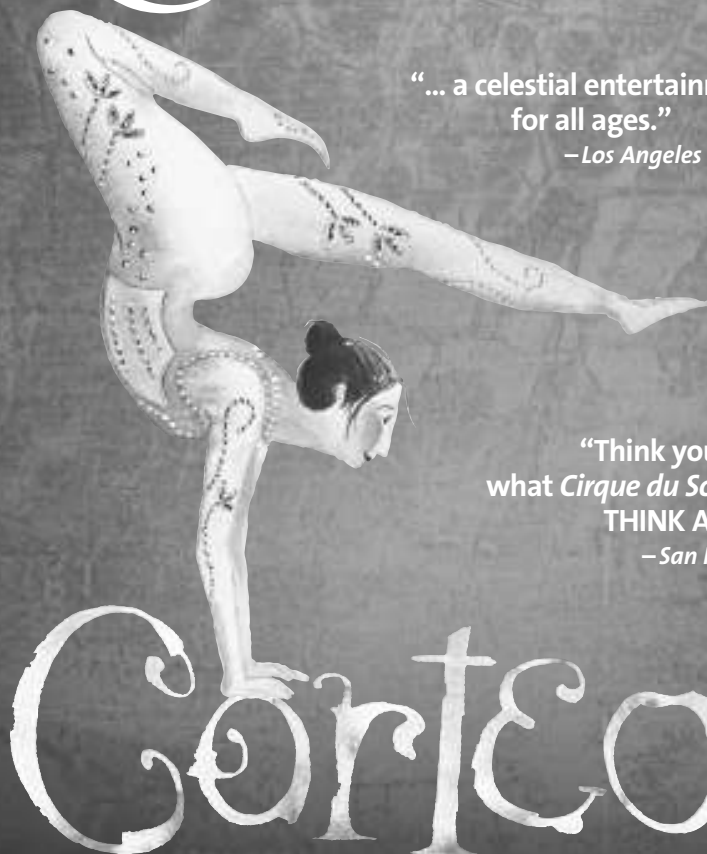
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# What's That You're Reading?

**NAME:** SHIVA MOHAZAB | **AGE:** 23 | **OCCUPATION:** STUDENT (BIOLOGY MAJOR)  
**NEIGHBORHOOD:** ESCONDIDO | **WHERE INTERVIEWED:** SAN DIEGO STATE CAMPUS



## What are you reading?

"I just finished *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini. A friend gave it to me as a birthday present. I haven't talked to her about it yet because she's in France and we don't talk that often. But I've talked to other people about it."

## Tell me about it.

"It's about a friendship between two boys, how they grow up, and the turmoil and events that were happening in Afghanistan at the time. There are a lot of ethnic divisions. The main character, Amir, is from a higher class, and his friend Hassan is from a lower class — the Hazara. Hassan is a servant to Amir's family. Every morning, he wakes up and makes breakfast for Amir, does his laundry — yet they are still friends, which is unusual. Amir is actually kind of ashamed to have Hassan for a friend, so a lot of times, he tries to hide the

friendship. I enjoyed the way the conflicts between the two boys paralleled the conflicts happening throughout the country."

## Who was your favorite character?

"Hassan. Throughout the book, he remained so pure; he never did anything wrong. There was tension in Amir. He made very, very stupid mistakes, but it never bothered Hassan because he was so pure, and very moral."

## Tell me about the writing style.

"It wasn't a hard read. It was just a story, based on a lot of historical facts about what was happening in Afghanistan 30 years ago. It's pretty gloomy because it's describing war."

## Compare this book with others you have read.

"It was similar to *Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood* by Marjane Satrapi." (*Persepolis* is the story of a young girl's life in Iran during the Islamic revolution.)

"I've read books that deal with revolutions that happen in the writer's own country — how they or their characters deal with it, emotionally and personally, as well as how they see it in the bigger picture."

## What book has been most life-changing for you?

"That would be the works of the poet Jelaluddin Rumi. His poems are very spiritual, and they make me think about things like, 'Why am I here?' and 'What am I meant to do?' Also questions of how the universe runs, how I'm meant to connect with it. Some of his

books are about people who are searching. I feel like I'm searching — for everything. For what will make me feel like I fit in, and what I am meant to do. I'm also influenced by my dad — he likes to think about these sorts of things, and he talks to me about them."

## Do you have a favorite author?

"One of my favorites is Paulo Coelho, who wrote *The Alchemist* — it's a novel. I like it because it contains a certain amount of spirituality. I remember one line: 'When you want something with all your heart, the whole universe conspires to help you achieve it.'"

## What magazines or newspapers do you read?

"I don't really read magazines or newspapers."

**San Diego Boat Show**, over 500 boats and yachts, boating and sailing lessons, fishing seminars, kids' area, and live music, January 3–6 at San Diego Convention Center and Marriott Marina (111 West Harbor Drive). Hours: Thursday and Friday, noon to 8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. \$10 adults, \$5 kids 12–16, free for kids under 12. 858-274-9924. (DOWNTOWN)

**Recycling...**up close and personal, Lemon Grove Historical Society leads tour of Edco Recycling Facility, Thursday, January 3, 1 p.m. Wear "sensible" shoes. Carpool from Parsonage Museum (3185 Olive Street). Free. 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

**"What Rights Do Animals Have?"** Discuss subject with P&R Discussion group, Thursday, January 3, 7 p.m., at Other Side Coffee House (4096 30th Street). Free. 619-370-1027. (NORTH PARK)

## FOR KIDS

**"Jack and the Beanstalk,"** performed by Big Joe Productions, through December 30 in Marie

Hitchcock Puppet Theater. Shows begin at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday–Friday (with additional performance December 27–28 at 1 p.m.) and at 11 a.m., 1, and 2:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

*Pacific Tales*, presented by Old Fashioned Kite Flying Puppeteers, begins Wednesday, January 2. Find theater at 2130 Pan American Place. Admission: \$3 for children, \$4 seniors, \$5 general. 619-544-9203. (BALBOA PARK)

**Tots and Tales** interactive story time for preschoolers with animal stories, crafts, live animals on Thursday, December 27, 10:30 a.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). Donation: \$3 per child. Required reservations: 619-243-3432. (LINDA VISTA)

**At the Stroke of...6 p.m.**, New Year's Eve event features countdown, fireworks, and pop-rock performance by Justin Roberts and the Not Ready for Naptime Players. Festivities take place from 3 to 6 p.m. in Legoland (One Legoland Drive) on Monday, December 31. \$47 for kids and seniors; \$59 for adults. 760-918-5346. (CARLSBAD)

## MUSEUMS

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

**Bonita Museum and Cultural Center**, the museum highlights the history of the Sweetwater Valley from the mid-1800s, with historical photographs; artifacts, tools, and farming implements; the district's 1953 fire engine; and bound copies back to the 1930s of the *Chula Vista Star News*. Find the museum at 4355 Bonita Road; 619-267-5141. (BONITA)

**Campo Railroad Museum**, showcasing more than 130 years of American railroad history and

technology through static and operating exhibits, the museum includes cabooses, steam and diesel locomotives, track motorcars, 1880s "Jim Crow" segregated passenger cars.

Interpretive 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 mu-

seum at 404 Third Avenue (at J Street). 619-338-9888. (EAST VILLAGE)

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

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

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

**George White and Anna Gunn Marston House**, historic home sits on five acres of landscaped grounds with a formal English Romantic garden. Built for civic

leader and department store founder George Marston and his family by San Diego architects William Hebbard and Irving Gill, the Marston house design is in keeping with the early 20th-Century American Arts and Crafts period, emphasizing simplicity, function, and natural materials. The museum is located at 3525 Seventh Avenue; 619-298-3142. (HILLCREST)

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

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

**J.A. Cooley Museum**, an eclectic collection of items — including displays on phonographs, clocks, electric trains, and 20 other

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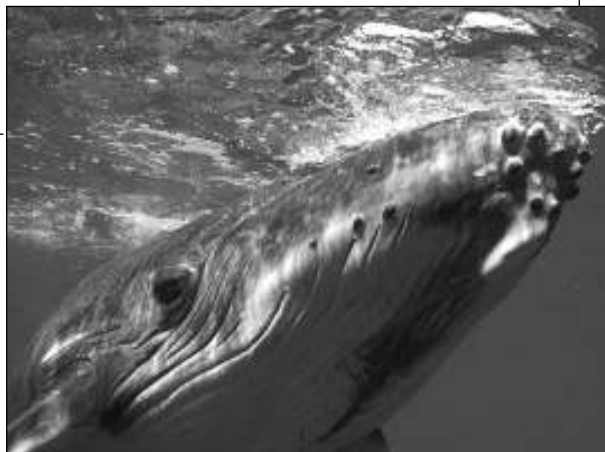




## OUT & ABOUT

**DAILY WHALE-WATCHING CRUISES** through March 31, Birch Aquarium at Scripps.

(SEE SPECIAL)



## OUT & ABOUT

**HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL** at San Diego Civic Theatre through Sunday, December 30.

(SEE IN PERSON)



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOAN MARCUS

types of collections — is featured at the museum. The current featured attraction is an “Industrial Product Collection,” with examples of the historical progression of auto technology from 1886–1915, “some classics and a concept car.” Find the museum at 4233 Park Boulevard; 619-296-3112. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

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

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

**Museum of San Diego History**, “Place of Promise: Stories of San Diego” lets visitors “literally walk on San Diego”; a map of county ex-

tends from wall to wall across the floor. Also featured in ongoing exhibit are two large 1930s murals by artist Charles Reiffel and a 1910 San Diego streetcar. Stories of San Diego are interpreted through images, artifacts, oral histories from society’s collection. The museum is located in the Casa de Balboa building; 619-232-6203. (BALBOA PARK)

**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.

“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,”

“Kid City” (for preschoolers), “The Best of Symmetry and Signals,” and “TryScience!” “Escape from Dino Island” is theme for motion simulator ride. Films are

shown daily in the IMAX theater. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

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# Calendar

## LOCAL EVENTS

Hotel: Victorian Lady Traveler's Adventures in San Diego, 1888" includes glassware, dishes, bottles, personal items dating from late 1880s that were excavated from a block in East Village area downtown in 2002.

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

**San Diego Automotive Museum,** "High Art: Concept Cars and Automobile Design," continuing through Wednesday, March 26, includes vehicles from General Motors, Nissan, Chrysler, Mazda, Honda, Volvo, and Art Center College of Design.

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, fenc-

ing, 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,** "The War through Steichen's Eyes — Combat Photography in the Pacific 1943-45" features 50 photographs produced by Edward Steichen and photographers under his supervision; many famous images of World War II featured. Additional photographs, documents, artifacts chronicle the life of this accomplished photographer. Through July.

"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 contri-

bution 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/Foxtrok 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 metalurgy brought to human society: birth of Mediterranean farming, creation of first temples and cemeteries, emergence of complex societies. Exhibition chronicles development of humanity in present-day Israel, Palestine, and Jordan. Highlights include photographs by *National Geographic* photographer Kenneth Garrett and collection of archaeological artifacts seen for first time on West Coast. Through January.

"Edward S. Curtis Refocused" offers Native American insight

## OUT & ABOUT

### OPERA GALA

Saturday, December 29  
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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 ex-

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

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

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

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

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

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# Calendar

## ART

### CLASSICAL LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after January 3.

**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

**Annual Birthday Concert**, civic organist Carol Williams leads the celebration Sunday, December 30, 2 p.m., in Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

**"The Sun Never Sets** on the Habsburg Empire," La Jolla Renaissance Singers perform choral selections "from regions formerly under the reign of Charles V," Sunday, January 6, 3 p.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church (1945 Ilion Street). Free. 619-276-1041. (BAY PARK)

### ART LISTINGS

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### GALLERIES

**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.

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 retrospective 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.

"Josef Albers and His Students: Theory and Practice," closing Sunday, March 2, presents four prints by master artist, color theorist, teacher Josef Albers. Display features works by four of his American students — Richard Anuszkiewicz, Robert Birmelin, Robert Rauschenberg, Audrey Flack — with each work corresponding to one of Albers' prints.

"Image Makers and Rule Breakers: French Art, 1860-1960," continuing through Sunday, January 20, highlights museum's

depth in mid-19th- through mid-20th-Century French painting and sculpture. Exhibition "presents two parallel tracks of artistic experimentation: one following the landscape tradition and the other figurative art. It examines how these different paths both progressed towards abstraction." Close to 30 works are on view, including Bouguereau's *Young Shepherdess* and pieces by Monet, Toulouse-Lautrec, Renoir, Degas, others.

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

**Timken Museum of Art**, "Drawn to Rome: French Neoclassical Sketchbooks and Prints" explores sketches and prints by young French painters and architects who studied in Rome. Work by these artists "helped spark a revival in classical aesthetics that transformed 18th-Century French art." Closes Sunday, January 13.

Permanent collection includes European old master paintings, 18th- and 19th-Century American paintings, and Russian icons. *Saint Bartholomew*, the only Rembrandt painting on public display in San Diego, is featured. 619-239-5548. (BALBOA PARK)

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# Wicked Grasp

*Lucifer takes credit for global warming, is proud to see the earth becoming a second Hell.*

If I could host a dinner for five “unforgettable” San Diegans from long ago, one guest would have to be Apolinaria Lorenzana. Called “*La Beata*” — “the blessed one” — she came to Alta California as an orphan in 1800. The government ordered her to marry and raise a large family, but she never did. Instead she became a nurse at the mission, godmother for at least 100 children, and a teacher (even a saint, some say). At one time she owned three ranchos, then lost them through guile or legalese, or both. She died, blind and indigent, at Santa Barbara in 1884, having lived through all the turmoil of 19th-Century California.

Some of Lorenzana’s favorite memories were the *pastorelas* the San Diego pueblo staged, each Christmas, at the mission and in private homes. “They would call upon me to look for people to play the various roles,” she told Thomas Savage in 1878. “I would also organize everything,” especially the costumes, like the blazing red one Pio Pico wore when he played Lucifer on Christmas Eve, 1837. In effect, Lorenzana cast, designed, and most likely directed the local *pastorelas*, making her possibly the first artistic director of San Diego theater.

One of the oldest of Christmas traditions, dating back into the Middle Ages in Europe, *pastorelas* tell the story of the shepherds on their way to Bethlehem. At several points, Lucifer and his

minions try to thwart the pilgrims’ journey, using fear and temptation. But the humble band, aided by mighty archangels, prevails, and they join wealthy kings and lowly animals at the manger.

When missionaries introduced *pastorelas* to the New World in the 1500s, the genre underwent a sea change. Instead of strict good-versus-evil morality plays, they became so ribald and joyous that priests tried to ban them. But like the undaunted shepherds, families refused to stop and performed the celebrations in their homes.

This shift created a second tradition: no two *pastorelas* are alike. Each is tailored to the city, town, or even the street where it’s staged. Civic events, heroes and villains entwine with the story, making it at once timeless and personal: a local doer of good becomes Archangel Michael; a corrupt politico or evil landlord, Lucifer.

For 17 years, Teatro Mascara Magica has presented an always popular *pastorela* for the holiday season. Every year Max Branscomb, teacher of journalism at Southwestern College, updates the story — in rhymed couplets. In this year’s version, young Guadalupe wants to win on *American Idol* so bad she swears she’ll sell her soul to the devil. She’s half-kidding, but Oops! Ever alert to weakness, in rush Moloch and Satan — at, the red-clad demons claim, her service. To save her from their wicked grasp, the forces of good time-travel Guadalupe back to the first Noel.

## REVIEW JEFF SMITH



Amanda Graham, Cleve Andre Jacobs Jr., Oli Rosa in *La Pastorela de la Raza*

**La Pastorela de la Raza**, by Max Branscomb  
Lyceum Theatre, 79 Horton Plaza, downtown  
**Directed by William Virchis**; cast: Willie Greene, Edwin Ortiz, Joey Molina, Dave Rivas, Rhys Green, Cleve Andre Jacobs Jr., Oli Rosa, Amanda Graham, Marina Inserra, Augustin Castaneda, Dulce Leyva-Fernandez, Catherine Andrews, Christian Campos, Crystal Moore, Roberto Milbauer Gonzalez, Julie Inserra, Sylvia Enrique, MC Perez, Chuck Hart, Ary Hernandez, Yvette Rojas, Enrique Rosales Jr.; lighting, Jason Bieber; sound, Jermaine Loyce  
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If you're expecting a typical "shepherds' play," you've never seen TMM's always free-lance, raucous *pastorela*. The shepherds don swain mufti, true, but among Satan's various guises, this year, are Elvis "the King" and a slinky Jim Morrison (Joey Molina's a standout at both, along with a self-bleeping super-chef). Dave Rivas's Satan's a see-moan Vato, and as Moloch, Rhys Green does an exact imitation of Sammy Davis Jr., singing "Candy Man." The Archangel Gabriel (Edwin Ortiz) doesn't blow a horn; he plays a white, left-handed Stratocaster, à la Jimi H.

Lucifer takes credit for global warming, is proud to see the earth becoming a second Hell. But times're tough even in the Inferno; the economy's so rotten that mid-level devils fear getting downsized.

Branscomb's scripts not only celebrate the holidays; they're also a year in review: who's been naughty (Sunroad takes it on the chin, or, as t'were, on its illegal top floors) and nice. When he saves the shepherds, the Archangel Michael adopts various guises. At one point he wears #21 on

a Chargers jersey and snakes through the evildoers, whom the script labels "Raider Nation," in slo-mo. But for hometown heroes, and it's a sign of the times, L.T. had competition in 2007. When Michael came to the rescue dressed as a firefighter, the opening-night audience went nuts.

Willie Greene's great-sized performance as Archangel Michael has become a holiday tradition. Few can ignite an audience like Greene, who, on several occasions, turns the Lyceum stage into a hand-clapping, air-guitar-strumming rock concert.

Director William Virchis, who calls it the "B plot of the nativity," usually stages the *pastorela* on someone else's set (in this case, the Rep's recent *La Quinceañera*), with someone else's lighting plot, and with a cast of varying talents but full commitment. When he wants, the show rocks, but Virchis also keeps a humble, even makeshift feel — the shepherds go on an unrehearsed odyssey into the unknown; why not the cast as well? The combination's like watching *Jesus Christ Superstar*:

heartfelt but minus all the glitz. ■

## 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.*

### An American Christmas

Lamb's Players stages its historical reenactment of Christmas in 1907 at the Hotel del Coronado, which includes a cast of 30, songs, and a five-course meal.  
HOTEL DEL CORONADO, THROUGH DECEMBER 30, NIGHTLY AT 6:30 P.M.  
619-437-0600.

### A Christmas Carol

North Coast Repertory Theatre presents a new version (by Jacqueline Pardue Goldfinger) of the popular Dickens story. Joe Powers directed.  
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Calendar  
THEATER

How the Grinch Stole Christmas

The Old Globe presents its holiday show, about the Green Meanie and hapless Whoville. The tenth anniversary production includes three new songs.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH DECEMBER 30; THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FOR MATINEE SCHEDULE, CALL 619-234-5623.

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; THURSDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE THURSDAY, SATURDAY, AND SUNDAY AT 1:45 P.M. 760-749-3448.

It's a Wonderful Life:

A Live Radio Play

In Cygnet Theatre's holiday show, you not only watch the familiar story of George Bailey, you also watch how it's made in a 1947 radio studio: announcers, flashing applause signs, even a commercial for Lux soap. A change happens toward the end, however. The fiction trumps the fact. As George undergoes an existentialist identity crisis, the actors become the characters, the story steps forward, and how it's being made disappears. Along the way, the show's a treat, especially Scott Paulson's inventive sounds — like a popped top hat for an opening parachute, or a flicked ice cream scoop for crickets. Directed by Sean Murray, wearing Jeanne Reith's wide-body, double-breasted suits and lighter-than-air dresses, the cast performs in the hyper-acting style of the period. As George, Tom Andrew has the antsy "shoot the works" style down pat. His performance recalls Jimmy Stewart's in the movie, true. But the bigger crime would be if it didn't. Melissa Fernandes, Veronica Murphy, and Brenda Dodge sing (and flash those cinemascope, post-WWII smiles)

beautifully. They do a spunky commercial for "Lux Toilet Cake" that's both spot on and a hoot.

Worth a try.

CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH DECEMBER 30; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M., SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-337-1525.

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.

Lamb's Players Festival of Christmas

Now in its 30th year, Lamb's Players annual holiday show has a new script by Kerry Meads: a diverse group of stranded travelers celebrate the season with stories and songs.

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVENUE, CORONADO, THROUGH DECEMBER 29; THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 4:00 P.M. 619-437-0600.



La Pastorela de la Raza

La Pastorela de la Raza

Reviewed this issue.

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA,

DOWNTOWN, THROUGH DECEMBER 30; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30, AT 2:00 P.M. 619-544-1000.

National Comedy Theatre

Improvisational comedy, making up funny stuff on the spot, is difficult enough. Years ago, however, Keith Johnstone thought it'd be more exciting if 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 improve. Teams wear uniforms and compete on ActroTurf. 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 THEATER, 3717 INDIA STREET. MISSION HILLS, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-295-4999.

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 (improv 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.

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 Blizard," 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 Truxton 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.bspac.us

The Broadway Theatre

340 East Broadway, Vista (760) 806-7905 www.premiereforkids.com

California Center For The Arts

340 N. Escondido Blvd., Escondido (760) 839-4100 www.artcenter.org

Carlsbad Village Theatre

2822 State St., Carlsbad (760) 729-0089 www.carlsbadvillagetheatre.com

Centro Cultural De La Raza

2004 Park Blvd., Balboa Park (619) 235-6135 www.centroraza.com

Christian Community Theater

1545 Pioneer Way, El Cajon (619) 588-0206 www.expactive.com

Civic Theatre

3rd & B, Downtown (888) 570-1100 www.sdcomic.org

Clairemont Community Players

Holmes Elementary 4902 Mt. Ararat, Clairemont (888) 560-5114

Community Actors Theatre

2957 54th St., State College (619) 264-3391 www.communityactors theatre.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.cygnettheatre.com

Diversiory Theatre

4545 Park Blvd., Normal Heights (619) 220-0097 www.diversiory.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) 674-6894 www.iontheatre.com

Iris Theater

4580-B Alvarado Canyon Rd. (619) 271-4144 www.iristheater.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.lambplayers.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.pinehillslodge.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.juniortheatre.com

San Diego Musical Theatre

(858) 560-5740 www.SDMT.org

San Diego Opera

1200 Third Ave., Downtown (619) 232-7636 www.sdopera.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

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**Cleaned House** Al Guerra began hosting local-music radio shows 16 years ago at Rock 102 (105.3's predecessor). During the past

longer there."

Guerra says he quit because of differences between him and 91X program director Phil Manning, who came to the station ten months ago from Seattle. Guerra says Manning's decision last summer to move *Loudspeaker* from 6-8 p.m. Sunday to 1-3

emails.

Manning does not deny the charge that he did not communicate well with Guerra, but he says local musicians shouldn't write off 91X because Guerra is no longer hosting *Loudspeaker*.

"How can he say 91X has a toxic environment when he was never here?" says Manning. Guerra went to the studio once a week for his *Loudspeaker* broadcasts.

Manning says the next version of the program will feature more than one host and perhaps include afternoon DJ Capone and "eager young people in the promotion department" to cohost.

"We needed a more neutral host," says Manning. "From what I heard, Al was a little narrow." Manning says the new *Loudspeaker* will include electronic and "non-bling hip-hop."

"If he listened, he would realize it's one of the most diverse local shows around," says Guerra. He points out that he played electronic artists such as Buddy Akai, the Album Leaf, and Goddamn Electric Bill; hip-hop artists included MC Flow, the Knee Highs, and Timz.

When asked what he would do if he ran 91X, Guerra says, "I would play Christmas music for the rest of the year, blow up the station, and hire a program director who cares."

Chris Cantore, host of the 91X morning show for 11 years, signed off on December 14, saying he was not sure if he would be coming back after a two-week vacation.

When asked, Manning did not deny looking into replacing Cantore with a nationally syndicated morning show; however, he says the next 91X morning show will be live and local. But, Manning says he is looking "outside San Diego" for morning-show talent.

— Ken Leighton

**Cellular Nation** "Tori [Amos] was screaming and swearing at two girls in the front row," reads a post on the *toriforum* message board concerning the singer's December 12 concert at

Copley Symphony Hall. A YouTube video posted the next day chronicles the meltdown.

Amos is at her piano, singing "Code Red." After the line "What you stole, I would



TORI AMOS SAID WHAT?

have given freely," she stops playing (the band goes on a few beats) and points toward the front rows and says, "Hold on, hold on, get the fuck out of my show, get the fuck out, get out." She stands up to address the people and then sits back down, saying, "It's a privilege to sit in the front row. Shut the fuck up. I reserve those seats for people who appreciate music. Those are my seats. So get the fuck out!"

The crowd cheers a bit as Amos gives a quick Rocky-style victory wave and restarts

the song. Reportedly, several security guards then escorted the two chatty patrons away from the stage.

"The two girls she yelled at kept talking on their cell phones," posted an attendee on *TMZ.com*, an account backed up by others. Some reported that the two offending female patrons repeatedly got out of their seats to pace back and forth in front of the stage, perhaps trying to improve their phone reception.

A statement released the next day by Amos's label reads, "Tori doesn't sell front row seats to her shows. She'll pick fans that are in the back row and she will upgrade them. It is a privilege to get picked. Apparently, these two girls were on their cell phones all night.... It was her sticking up for her other fans that missed out on the opportunity."

"Missed the opportunity to get yelled at," posted another *toriforum* user. "She screamed at me in Denver once when I had to get up and use the bathroom."

A post on *TMZ*, apparently from outside the U.S., reads, "Perhaps your audiences are really that rude there, considering how rude

# blurt

the inside track

3 years, he's been the talent behind *Loudspeaker*, the all-local two-hour program on 91X. Last week his last show aired.

"It's a toxic environment at 91X right now," says Guerra. "[Management] completely destroyed the brand 91X. The station I grew up with is no



BUDDY AKAI PLAYED ON LOUDSPEAKER

a.m. Monday was a slap in the face to local musicians. Guerra says Manning would not return phone calls or

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Calendar  
MUSIC SCENEblurt  
continued

most of you are. Good manners must be going the way of the dinosaur where you all live, replaced by bullying aggression. Ugh."

— Jay Allen Sanford

## Native American

**Hustle** The Dago Braves — rappers Mike "Odoe" Allen, 18, and Terrence "Poodeezy" Brown, 19 — are cousins who live on the Sycuan reservation near Alpine.

"We are both three-quarters black and a quarter Native American," says Poodeezy. "Our grandma is full-blooded [Native American]."

The duo's Sycuan ancestry helped Allen and Brown get casino backing so they could record their first CD, *Native American Hustle*. Poodeezy says they recorded the disc at a reservation studio.

"Our hustle is the casino," says Poodeezy. "That's how we eat and put our kids in college."

Dan Phippen, the music department administrator for Sycuan, says his boss, "Uncle Shu," "...is a major member of the Sycuan tribal nation. He is the director of the music department" and made arrangements for the teen rappers to record.

"This studio is not open to the public," continues

Phippen. "If we choose to work with somebody, they are either native, from another tribe, and/or someone else from San Diego who has been rapping and is known to us." Phippen says three or four other artists have recorded at the Sycuan facilities.

Poodeezy says they were able to hire four different



PHOTOGRAPH BY DEREK PLANK

## STRAIGHT OUTTA SYCUAN

local hip-hop producers, including Batkave and Music Money Entertainment. He says their lyrics are positive, not "gangster."

"Our lyrics come from our firsthand experiences; we try and keep it real. If we say we're driving in a Benz, we're really driving in a Benz. There's no lyin'."

Dago Braves appear December 29 at the House of Blues.

— Ken Leighton

**Short Shorts** After disbanding for a year and a half, Irradio will reform. Front man Dan Dasher remains as the only original member. He chose to finish writing the songs that became Irradio's third album (to be released next year), which will be titled *I Am the Horn*. Horn as in "horn players." Irradio added saxophone player Steven Welker, who sounds amazing mixed with the band's dreamy-ethereal vibe. The new lead guitarist for Irradio is Jim Hughes (ex-Transit War).

Ex-Transit War? That's

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right, but the Transit War is still going strong (they played with Against Me!, Bad Religion, and Seether a couple of Sundays ago). Transit War replaced Jim Hughes with TJ from Buckfast Superbee. While fans will miss Jim, TJ has embraced Jim's songwriting...and he has the youthful look that is more marketable. Buckfast



PHOTOGRAPH FROM MYSPACE.COM/MAYSTAR

LOOK FOR THE ALBUM! LOOK FOR HER CLOTHES! (MAY)

Superbee is still together (they were scheduled to play at the Casbah last night).

You can plan on seeing an album from Maystar next year, but no one is sure how

soon. May and Abe are working on recording the album with Daniel Crawford (guitar/lap steel for the Blackout Party), who is adding production and additional instrumentation to the minimalist stylings of the indie duo. What's holding up the Maystar album? May's vocals. Besides her admission that she needs to work on them, Maystar's MySpace page says she is overworked from doing promotions, booking the band, and organizing her monthly Fashion Whore fashion show.

— Vanja James

## Strange Stage Moments

- Chet Cannon (the Committee): "Well, the strangest thing that has happened to me while onstage is when one night this tequila-swilling female went Vampirella on me. I mean, she actually jumped up onstage, over my monitor, past my mike stand and tip can, and latched onto my chest just below my collar with a mouth full of teeth...OUCH!"
- Jo Ellen Doering (the Brombies): "The most annoying, a corporate party who loved bluegrass, but they sat down at a table right in

front of us and I think they really wanted to see if they could be louder than us — and they were. They were louder than the banjo. We almost stopped, it was so loud. This was brutal. In fact, the person who booked us in this place in Ojai called the next day to apologize."

- Michele Lundeen: "I had some guy literally crawl across the floor to eat a dog biscuit out of my hand when I was performing one of my heartwarming originals, 'I Need a Dog.' I was really just teasing, and there he was on his hands and knees, barking and growling. Lawd, have mercy."
- Barbara Nesbitt: "After reluctantly conceding to play 'Sweet Home Alabama' in Portsmouth, VA...a gentleman exited the men's bathroom wearing nothing but a smile, ran straight up to the stage, danced for a moment, then ran out the door and down the street. But that's not that strange in Portsmouth."
- Sir Charles Rowland (the Vultures): "At a gig on the outskirts of Barcelona, a

rowdy crowd attempted to de-pants me onstage while we were playing a song. I fell down, but they did not get them off."



PHOTOGRAPH FROM MYSPACE.COM/THEWARDS

## THE NARDS NEED A NEW MARACA PLAYER

- Rick Wilkins (the Nards): "At the Tiki House in PB, where I still play a lot, we used to get people from the audience up to play maracas or whatever for fun. One time this woman came up, grabbed the maracas, and proceeded to live out her pole-dancing fantasies. She violated the stage and the maraca in ways not often seen outside of cheap Internet porn. That maraca is still on display as a warning."

— Bart Mendoza

## CONTRIBUTORS

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

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# Hear Me Roar!

*"I broke my ankle playing a singing, dancing mermaid on the Disney Cruise Line."*

Jenn Grinels grew up in Northern California before landing at UC Irvine to study musical theater. After graduating she moved to San Diego and began appearing in local stage productions, which she still does from time to time. One of her most challenging roles was in reverse-drag, playing bearded rock musician Yitzhak in the musical *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* at the Cygnet Theatre.

More recently she portrayed Janis Joplin in the '60s musical *Beehive* at the Theatre in Old Town.

Jenn tours and plays locally as a solo singer-songwriter. "Many of my songs are inspired by my boyfriend, Marine Captain David T. Russell, who was recently redeployed overseas. I write about the pain of separation and how difficult that can be. Before he left, quite a few of his coworkers and guys from his platoon came out to see me play."

While touring she often performs at functions organized by KVN, the Key Volunteer Network ("basically, the military wives' club"), and she's looking into a related charity in order to donate a portion of her CD sales ("probably Operation Homefront").

## BIGGEST POLITICAL CONCERN?

"The war in Iraq. Nobody likes the idea of their loved one thousands of miles away facing the near certainty of violence...the fact that I don't agree with the reasons we entered into this war only makes it harder."

## MOST DANGEROUS GIG?

"I broke my ankle playing a singing, dancing mermaid on the Disney Cruise Line. I was loading into a lift that was about to rise up through the stage. I jumped in — wearing heels, because Disney mermaids wear heels — broke my ankle, and ev-

eryone panicked. I think we were all having visions of the smoke clearing onstage and 500 children gasping at the sight of a floundering, writhing, screaming mermaid. But they pulled me out in time, and the show went on without a hitch."

## LISTS

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

## WORST JOB?

"Working for a gynecologist we called Dr. McLucifer. In around two years he had gone through something like 60 employees in a five-person office. For the few months I lasted at the front desk he only referred to me as 'hey you.' One former patient even started a website for complaints against him called 'Sex, Lies, and Uterine Fibroids.'"

## WHAT'S IN YOUR CD PLAYER?

1. Fiona Apple, *When the Pawn...* ("My favorite CD on the planet").
2. Gill Landry, *The Ballad of Lawless Soirez* ("My boyfriend is obsessed with this New Orleans-based singer-songwriter that we found on Yahoo music").
3. VHS or Beta, *Bring On the Comets* ("My best friend gave me the album to prep for their concert at the Casbah, and now I'm just reliving the night by listening to it").

## DESERT-ISLAND DVDs?

1. *Arrested Development: The Complete Series* ("It's brilliant.")
2. *Before Sunrise* ("It would be nice to have all the time in the world to go back and listen to that dialogue again.")
3. *What the Bleep Do We Know!?* ("No matter how many times I've seen it, there's always something new to take from this film.")

## MAC OR PC?

"Both. I do all my design work and music on the



Jenn Grinels

Mac, but the PC is better at stealing Internet from the neighbors."

## LUNCH DATE OF YOUR DREAMS?

"A good booking agent. Preferably one who would pick up the check."

## FAVORITE HANGOUT?

"E Street Café in Encinitas has fantastic coffee, free Internet for customers, excellent live music, and open-mike nights."

## BEST LOCAL BREAKFAST?

"Honey's Bistro and Bakery [in Encinitas]. I love the lobster eggs Benedict and the orange-raspberry pancakes. And they have the best açai, granola, and fruit bowl anywhere."

## MOST EMBARRASSING DRUNK STORY?

"I'm so boring, though there is a certain amount of alcohol that causes me to break into the national anthem. Once was under the Eiffel Tower. Well, in Paris, Las Vegas."

## MOST OFFBEAT FAN?

"The Todd.' That's what he calls himself. He lives in Los Angeles, but many times he shows up at San Diego shows because he says he was 'already in the car anyway.' Once, at the Belly Up, he showed up in the front row wearing a T-shirt he had made. It had a picture of me screaming some high note and a caption that said, 'I am Jenn, hear me roar!' He made one for me, too. I wear it all the time." ■

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Friday, January 4  
**CABRÓN! GORILLA GUERRILLA HK & THE HOMELESS SEXUALS**

Saturday, January 5  
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# club crawler

This Week In Music

## Thursday 27

No band was more seminal to the L.A. punk scene than the gang of high school misfits who, in 1975, got expelled and formed a group called **Germs**. Centered around singer Darby Crash, the young quartet reinvented East Coast punk, playing faster, singing brasher, and planting seeds of hardcore punk. Crash died of an overdose in 1980, and the Germs disbanded, a brief but potent catalogue in their wake. Other than guitarist Pat Smear, who joined Nirvana (and later Foo Fighters), the Germs have been off the grid. Until Summer 2007, when *What We Do Is Secret*, a biopic on Darby Crash and the evolution of the Germs, played the L.A. film fest. Actor Shane West, who played Crash in the film, fit into Smear's plan to reunite the Germs, and this year, they're back live. The Germs play Casbah Thursday night with SoCal progeny **Battalion of Saints** and the **Adolescents**. Nu-punks the **Atoms** in the Atari Lounge.... If you miss the door at Casbah and have to get your punk rock on, recommend heading up to Bar Pink Elephant, where shepunks the **Nightmares** and **Glossines** show you why '08 will be the year local girls kick down that rock-roll barrier.... OB band **Slightly Stoopid** host "A Not So Stoopid Benefit" for wildfire victims at Belly Up.

The Skunk recording artists released their seventh collection of fusion party rock, *Chronicitis*, this year. The Stoopids will be joined by **Arm the Angels**.... Down at Winstons, L.A. funk-jam trio



THE GERMS AT CASBAH

**Particle** settles in for a two-night stint with guest guitarist **Brian Jordan**. Check their latest live CD/DVD *Transformations* for a primer.

## Friday 28

Eddie Spaghetti and his **Supersuckers** lick Brick by Brick with country-punk Friday night. The Seattle-based



CAMPER VAN BEETHOVEN AT BELLY UP

Suckers are the self-proclaimed "greatest rock 'n' roll band in the world." Watching the 15-year vets live, you might believe it...at the least, you'll believe they believe it. Hard to, uh, swallow their new one, though, *Live at the Whole Foods Market.... I am the son and the heir*. Smiths tribute band **Sweet and Tender Hooligans** take over Casbah Friday and Saturday nights. If you're into Moz and the jaded crooner's pop, you'll appreciate the Hooligans' aping take. Cover Me Badd karaoke also on tap.... Sublime tribute **40 Oz. to Freedom** fill the dance card at beach bar 'Canes. Local player Dane Scott (Tubby) nails the Long Beach trio's reggae rock

and jams his hand into Sublime-y originals. **Rude Boy Roots** in support.... House of Blues books Rick Ortiz's Noches Rockeras, featuring L.A. Latin-rockers **Santos de Los Angeles** and locals **First Class Fiction**.

## Saturday 29

Jay Jenkins, aka **Young Jeezy**, takes the gang to House of Blues. The 30-year-old Atlanta-based rap artist came up in 2001 with hit disc *Thuggin' Under the Influence* and since has "earned his stripes" with Miami gunplay as a gangsta rapper. Cleared of that and then endeared to Katrina victims for his philanthropy, Young Jeezy's got new life. Check last year's collection *The Inspiration*. Local hip-hoppers **Dago Braves** split the bill with similar "slow-flow" style.... Latin-jazz maestro **Pete Escovedo** and his orchestra settle into Anthropology Saturday and Sunday nights. The percussionist played in Santana and shares a family tree with Sheila E., Thomas "Coke," Alejandro, and local rocker Mario of the Dragons and MEX.... *I'm your boogie man*. **KC and the Sunshine Band** drag the corpse of disco dance music into 4th&B and reanimate the thing for the downtown crowd. "This is real imported Italian nylon."... English reggae vet **Pato Banton**, 25 years in the biz of "changing the world through music," brings his road-show to Belly Up with the **Love and Groove Band** and **DJ Carlos Culture**.... SD pirate-rock trio **Thee Corsairs** sing *Tales of Rum and Whiskey* at Zombie Lounge. **Red Cavalier** and the **Embalmers** also on the bill.

## Sunday 30

"Could it be true? It must be a cold day in Hell!" reads the Casbah website re **Creedle**'s reunion gig there Sunday night. Original lineup of Devon, Tim, Dion, and Cheme will resurrect the local jazz-punk act for this one-off. Dig out 1992 Cargo disc *Half Man Half Pie* and lick yer chops. **Bunky, Donald Wislon, and Secret Fun Club** round the bill.... Don't like pie? How 'bout crackers? David Lowery will front **Cracker** at Belly Up as they shill their latest folk-pop oddity *Greenland*, and then give you what you've all been waiting for: **Camper Van Beethoven!** The Campers have been on again, off again since a 2002 reunion, and fan response keeps Lowery and his '80s indie act coming back. Caught these sets this year up at Pappy and Harriet's Pioneertown Palace in Joshua Tree. Wanna see it? Order up the *Campout* DVD.

Only a matter of time before Monks of Doom amps up.

## Monday 31

Lots to unload this last night of '07, so get your Evelyn Wood on: If you missed **Ziggy Shuffledust** couple weeks back, Gary and gang will don the Bowie gear New Year's Eve at Bar Pink Elephant. Latin-flavored Beatles trib act **Baja Bugs** open.... San Fran psych-rockers **Mother Hips** and **Billy Midnight** will count it down at Casbah.... Check this greasy House of Blues buffet:



REV. HORTON HEAT AT HOUSE OF BLUES

**Rev. Horton Heat, Hank III, and Nashville Pussy** on the main stage and **West of Memphis** upstairs in the Voodoo room.... Los Angelino ska-rock quintet the **Aggrolites** alight on Belly Up's stage with local comers **Grand Ole Party** and L.A. party band **Beatmo**.... Big bass man **Lee Rocker** toasts Anthology with rockabilly.... Beauty Bar stages live 'lectronic sets from **MayStar, Edgartronic, Groundfloor, and Wendy Darling**.... And **Victory Nightlife DJs** host "Massive" at 4th&B. Check [myspace.com/victorynightlife](http://myspace.com/victorynightlife) for packages.

## Tuesday 1

Welcome to oh-eight. Good couple a nights to settle into them resolutions.... "Friends Chill" with boardgames and bee-bop at Whistle Stop.... And Josh Mullins MCs "Comedy Night" at Lestat's.

## Wednesday 2

Scraping... New North Park club U-31 will host an "Industry Night." More (or less) on U-31 as the new year progresses and the joint figgers out what it wants t'be — we'll keep lookings for bookings...

— Barnaby Monk

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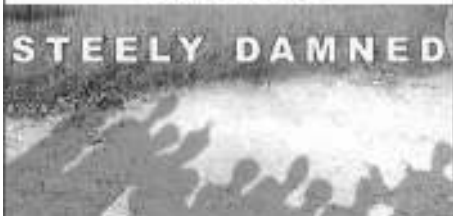


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Amuse + 3 course prix fixe menu  
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12/29 & 30 7:30PM/9:30PM

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FRI 1/4 7:30PM

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1/8 & 9 7:30PM

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## Calendar CONCERTS

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## THIS WEEK'S CONCERTS

### FRIDAY

**K-Ci and JoJo:** Viejas Casino  
DreamCatcher Show Room, Friday,  
December 28, 5000 Willows Road,  
Alpine. 619-445-5400.

**The Sweet and Tender  
Hooligans:** The Casbah, Monday,  
December 28, 2501 Kettner Boulevard,  
San Diego. 619-232-4355.

### SATURDAY

**Young Jeezy:** House of Blues,  
Saturday, December 29, 1055 Fifth  
Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

**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.

**The Sweet and Tender  
Hooligans:** The Casbah, Saturday,  
December 29, 2501 Kettner Boulevard,  
San Diego. 619-232-4355.

**The Pete Escovedo Orchestra:**  
Anthology, Saturday, December 29, 1337  
India Street, San Diego. 619-595-0300.

### SUNDAY

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

**The Pete Escovedo Orchestra:**  
Anthology, Sunday, December 30, 1337  
India Street, San Diego. 619-595-0300.

### MONDAY

**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.

**The Mother Hips and Billy  
Midnight:** The Casbah, Monday,  
December 31, 2501 Kettner Boulevard,  
San Diego. 619-232-4355.

**Lee Rocker:** Anthology, Monday,  
December 31, 1337 India Street, San  
Diego. 619-595-0300.

## UPCOMING CONCERTS

### JANUARY

**The Circle Jerks:** House of Blues,  
Saturday, January 5, 1055 Fifth Avenue,  
Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

**Bill Frisell and Joey Baron:**  
Anthology, Tuesday and Wednesday,  
January 8 and 9, 1337 India Street, San  
Diego. 619-595-0300.

**David Lindley:** Belly Up Tavern,  
Wednesday, January 9, 143 South Cedros  
Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

**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.

**Chris Hillman and Amy Loftus:**  
Anthology, Saturday, January 12, 1337  
India Street, San Diego. 619-595-0300.

**Lupe Fiasco:** Belly Up Tavern,  
Tuesday, January 15, 143 South Cedros  
Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

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

**Ben Kenney:** House of Blues,  
Thursday, January 17, 1055 Fifth Avenue,  
Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

**Cross Canadian Ragweed:** Belly Up  
Tavern, Thursday, January 17, 143 South  
Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-  
8140.

**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.

**Dilated Peoples:** Belly Up Tavern,  
Friday, January 18, 143 South Cedros  
Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

**Tiger Army:** Soma, Friday, January 18,  
3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego.  
619-226-7662.

**Social Distortion:** House of Blues,  
Friday through Sunday, January 18, 19,  
and 20, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp.  
619-299-2583.

**Ryan Adams:** Spreckels Theatre,  
Saturday, January 19, 121 Broadway,  
downtown. 619-235-9500.

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

**Lil Wayne:** House of Blues, Monday,  
January 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp.  
619-299-2583.

**Steve Poltz:** Belly Up Tavern,  
Thursday, January 24, 143 South Cedros  
Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

**Fred Eaglesmith:**  
AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, January  
25, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal  
Heights. 619-303-8176.

**Pepper:** 'Canes, Friday, January 25,  
3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach.  
858-488-1780.

**Ozomatli:** Belly Up Tavern, Friday and  
Saturday, January 25 and 26, 143 South  
Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-  
8140.

Born

Irish

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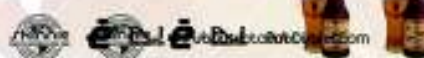
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## Calendar CONCERTS

### JULY

**Richard Cheese & Lounge Against the Machine:** House of Blues, Saturday, July 26, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

## Calendar CLUBS

### DANCE

*If you would like to include your DJ event, e-mail [sellis@nethere.com](mailto:sellis@nethere.com) or submit a listing online at [SanDiegoReader.com](http://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-skool hip-hop, and '80s. Fridays, rare groove, funk, and disco. Saturdays, *Cocktail Party*, dance in your dazzling duds. Sundays, guest DJ night. Mondays, hip-hop, funk, and soul with DJ 1979. Tuesdays, *Big Sonic Chill*, dream pop bliss. 4673 30th Street, North Park. 619-501-9831.

**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*, old skool '80s, gothic, and industrial with DJs Atom, 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.

**The Flame:** Second Saturday of the month, *Sabbat*, gothic and industrial with DJs Robin Roth, Adam, and Diskdroid. 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. Sundays, *winter break jam* featuring DJ Dizzy D. Monday, *New Year's Eve jam*. Wednesdays, guest DJs spin hip-hop, R&B, and reggaeton. 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. No cover. 2812 Kettner Boulevard, Middletown. 619-543-0933.

**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.

**Static Lounge:** First Friday of the month, *West Coast mash-up sessions*, 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.

**The Whistle Stop:** Second Friday of the month, *Pussy Galore Stripped*, live bands with DJ Robin Roth spinning

# NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

The **Aggrolites** say they are not a ska band, but for the life of me they sound like one, minus horns. That's the tipping point between ska and reggae, the horns. A ska band has a trombone and a sax or a trumpet, while a reggae band is all rhythm section: bass, drums, guitar, and sometimes keyboards. The Aggrolites' ska conformity comes from the ska-flavored "walking" bass line present in most of their songs, the guitar chords chopping on the off beats, and the standard drum cadences. I know, sounds just like reggae. We could argue the finer points of ska vs. reggae (historians say that ska came to be sometime during the '50s and predates reggae), but in spite of the Aggro-

lites' protests, I hear places where horns could be all over their sound. Instead, they back fill their arrangements with a giant old tube organ that gets hauled around from gig to gig.

Having recorded all of their albums in this decade, the Aggrolites are late to the dance. The '80s was the last epoch in which ska and reggae were to die for, powered as such by blue-eyed punk reggae outfits like the Police. Go back another 20 years, and it was something called skinhead reggae that was all the rage in the U.K. The L.A.-based Aggrolites seem to favor the driving beats and mod tendencies of that era and have blended it with '60s soul to make what they call dirty reggae.

The band has a secret weapon in their singer, **Jesse Wagner**. Whether he knows it or not, he is an authentic R&B torch. His unlikely voice has the explosiveness of a



**AGGROLITES**

Jackie Wilson coupled with the growling soul grind of a Bobby Womack. Wagner is an eruptive act, and his style and his performance elevate yet another SoCal reggae band into the ranks of legendary ska-reggae bands like Rancid and Madness.

**AGGROLITES, Belly Up Tavern, Monday, December 31, 9 p.m. 858-481-8140. \$38.**

electro, indie, and '80s. 2236 Fern Street (corner of 30th and Juniper), South Park. 619-284-6784.

### 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](http://SanDiegoReader.com) by clicking on the music section.*

### BEACHES

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

**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. Thursday, *Michele Lundeen and Blues Streak*, blues. Friday, *Uplift*, reggae. Saturday, *Semisi and Fulabula*, reggae.

Sunday, *Luna Llena*, Latin. Monday, *Triple Shot*, blues.

**'Canes**, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780. Friday, *40 Oz. to Freedom* and *Rude Boy Roots*, reggae/alternative/punk. Saturday, 9 p.m., *the Iron Maidens* and *the Monsters of Rock*, metal rock. Monday, 9 p.m., *Tainted Love*, dance/rock.

**Dreamstreet**, 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-8131. Friday, *Circle Empire*, *Packablacks*, *Sugar Bear*, and *J Dub*, hip-hop/rap. Saturday, *Media Lab*, *Time Is the Enemy*, and *Outlet*, metal/hardcore/rock. Sunday, *Eek-A-Mouse*, reggae. Monday, *Front Yard*, *Middle Finger*, and *Bedlam*, rock.

**E Street Cafe**, 128 E Street, Encinitas. 760-230-2038. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday,

7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Joseph Angelastro*, jazz. Friday, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., *the Smart Brothers*. Saturday, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., *Gabriella*, 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Jennifer*.

**Hennessey's Tavern (PB)**, 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 858-483-8847. Friday, *Kevin Mesohung*. Saturday, 10 p.m. to 1 a.m., *the Band in Black*, rockabilly/country.

**The Kraken**, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-6483. Thursday, *Frankie Dee and the Funk Natra Band*, R&B/funk/soul. Friday, *West of 5*, classic rock. Saturday, *Jeff Moore and the Witchdoctors*, blues. Sunday, *the Blues Brokers*, blues jam. Monday, *Idle Train*, classic rock.

**La Valencia Hotel**, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-454-0771. Friday and

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**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.

**Manhattan Restaurant** (at the Empress Hotel), 7766 Fay Avenue, La Jolla. 858-459-0700. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Tokeli and Friends*, jazz. Saturday, 9 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., *the Tokeli Jazz Quintet*.

**Riley's**, 2901 Nimitz Boulevard, Point Loma. 619-255-8635. Monday, 8 p.m., *Dannicus*, Irish/Pirate rock.

**710 Beach Club**, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Thursday, *Tim and the 23's*, rock. Friday, *the Stranger's Six*, *Aphnea*, and *Decompression*, rock/punk/metal/alternative. Saturday, *the Vokab Kompany*, hip-hop. Monday, *Split Finger* and guests, reggae/rock/ska.

**Tiki House**, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Thursday, *Blue Spring*, rock. Friday, rock. Saturday, *Earl's Son*. Monday, live 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, *Blue 44*, jazz. Wednesday, blues.

**Winstons**, 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-6822. Thursday and Friday, 9 p.m., *Particle*, electronica/funk/jam. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Social Green*, reggae/rock. Monday, 9 p.m., *the Electric Waste Band*, classic rock.

**DOWNTOWN**

**Anthology**, 1337 India Street, San Diego. 619-595-0300. Thursday, *the Steely Damned*, rock/jazz/R&B. Friday and Saturday, *the Pete Escovedo Orchestra*, jazz.

**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. Thursday, *the Germs*, *the Adolescents*, *the Battalion of Saints*, and *the Atoms*, punk/hardcore. Friday and Saturday, *the Sweet and Tender Hooligans*, indie. Sunday, *Creedle and the Secret Fun Club*, indie/jazz/punk/rock. Monday, *the Mother Hips* and *Billy Midnight*, rock/country.

**Croce's Jazz Bar**, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. Thursday, 8 p.m., *Warren Lovell*. Friday, 8:30 p.m., *Yavez*. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Primo*. Sunday, 8 p.m., *the Archtones*. Monday, 8 p.m., *the Shep Meyers Trio* and *Yavez*.

**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, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Scott Carter Duo*, pop rock. Monday, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., *Straight Six*, R&B/rock.

**Dizzy's** (Harbor Club Towers at Second and J Street), 200 Harbor Drive, San Diego. 858-270-7467. Friday, 8 p.m., *the Bi-National Mambo Orchestra*. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Gilbert Castellanos*, *Brian Levy*, *Mahesh Balasooriya*, *Hamilton Price*, and *Kevin Kanner*, jazz.

**Dublin Square**, 554 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-239-5818. Saturday, *Sligo Rags*, Irish folk rock. Monday, live Irish folk.

**4th & B**, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343. Saturday, *KC and the Sunshine Band*, funk/R&B/disco.

**G5-Georges on Fifth**, 835 Fifth Avenue (between E and F Streets), 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 Stiletto*s, rockabilly. Wednesday, *Lady Dottie and the Diamonds*, blues.

**House of Blues**, 1055 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-299-2583. Friday, 6 p.m., *West of Memphis*, blues, 8 p.m., *Noches Rockeras*. Saturday, *Young Jeezy* and *Dago Braves*, hip-hop. Monday, *the*

*Reverend Horton Heat* with *Hank III* and *Nashville Pussy*, rockabilly.

**Jimmy Love's**, 672 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G), downtown. 619-595-0123. Thursday and Sunday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Masterpiece*, jazz/R&B. Friday, Saturday, and Monday, 9:45 p.m., *the Pop Rocks*, '80s dance/rock/pop.

**Patrick's II**, 428 F Street, downtown. 619-233-3077. Music is blues/soul unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Blue Largo*. Friday, *the Bill Magee Blues Band*. Saturday, *Johnny Vernazza*. Sunday, *Blue Four*. Monday, *Tell Mama*. Tuesday,

*Missy Anderson*. Wednesday, *the Bayou Brothers*.

**Pierre's Place**, 1404 Fifth Avenue, San Diego. 619-727-4700. Friday, *Gregory Michael*, indie/acoustic.

**Rock Bottom**, 401 G Street, Gaslamp. 619-231-7000. Friday, *DJ Milar and Marlino*. Saturday, *Crush*, hip-hop. Monday, *Superfly* and *Rock Starz*, pop/rock.

**Sally's Seafood on the Water**, at Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego, One Market Place, downtown. 619-232-1234.

Saturday, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Tokeli Jazz Quintet*.

**Sevilla**, 555 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-5979. Club Salsa: Wednesday, *Trece de la Suerta*, 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 band, pop/rock, and *DJ Famous Dave*.

**Worldbeat Center**, 2100 Park Boulevard, Balboa Park. 619-230-1190. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Eek-A-Mouse*, reggae/ska/pop, 9 p.m., *Kush and Jah Blood Fiyah Angels*, reggae.

**SAN DIEGO**

**Albie's Beef Inn**, 1201 Hotel Circle South, San Diego. 619-291-1103. Friday, 6:30 p.m., Saturday, 7 p.m., and Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., *David Timothy Smith*, piano bar.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31



THE BEACH'S ULTIMATE

NEW YEAR'S EVE

2007 2008



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# Calendar CLUBS

## SAN DIEGO

*(continued)*  
**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 Bar Pink Elephant**, 3829 30th Street, San Diego. 619-567-7194. Thursday, 10 p.m., *the Nightmares and the Glossines*, punk.

**The Beauty Bar**, 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-516-4746. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Transfer*, *Music for Animals*, and *the Apes of Wrath*, indie rock.

**Blarney Stone Pub**, 5617 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont. 858-279-2033. Traditional Irish folk music.

**Brass Rail**, 3796 Fifth Avenue, San Diego. 619-298-2233. Thursday, 9:30 p.m., *Rhythm and the Method*, rock/blues.

**Brick by Brick**, 1130 Buenos Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-LIVE. Friday, 8 p.m., *the Supersuckers*, rock. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Osall*, *Phon*, *Psyler*, and *Brekah*, psychedelic/breakbeat.

**The Handlery Hotel and Resort**, 950 Hotel Circle North, San Diego. 619-298-0511. Friday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., *the Christopher Dale Trio*, acoustic pop.

**Humphrey's**, Half Moon Inn, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-224-3577. Backstage Lounge: Thursday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *the Buick Wilson Band*, blues/swing. Friday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Skelpin*, Celtic music. 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., *Crush*, dance. Saturday, 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., *Makai*, dance/disco. Sunday, 9:30 p.m. to

midnight, *Fattburger*, smooth jazz. Monday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the T. Fox Band*, 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., *Makai*, dance/disco, and *the Detroit Underground*, Motown/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.

**Kadan's**, 4696 30th Street, San Diego. 619-640-2500. Monday, *Mayhem Mondays*, punk rock.

**The Kensington Club**, 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848. Saturday, *the Calvins* and *Batar-Zan*, alternative. Monday, *Transfer* and *Vitro*, alternative rock.

**Lestat's Coffee House**, 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-282-0437. Thursday, *the Cash Kings*, country/rockabilly. Friday, *Eleanor England* and *the Shep Meyers Trio*, jazz. Saturday, *Josh Damigo*, classic rock/acoustic. Sunday, *Claire Stahlecker*, *Happy Ron Hill*, and *the Smart Brothers*, acoustic/alternative/blues/power pop.



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Every Wednesday starting January 9

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## MONDAY, DEC. 31ST

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**ONYX**



## Calendar

### CLUBS

## SAN DIEGO

**Little Italy Urban Bar and Restaurant**, 1953 India Street, San Diego. 619-398-2974. Monday, *Viva Santana*, Latin rock.

**Martini's Above Fourth, 3940**  
Fourth Avenue, San Diego. 619-293-  
0232. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.,  
*Vintage Vegas, jazz.*

**Miami Grille (UTC)**, 4545 La Jolla Village Drive, San Diego. 858-552-0668. Thursday and Sunday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Jeff Blum*, Cuban jazz.

**O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub,**  
1310 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park.  
619-276-5637. Friday, 9 p.m., *Breaking Up Over Texas*, Paratrooper, and Brooklyn. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Diablo Dimes* and *Desert Diamonds*. Monday, 9 p.m., *Fat Man's Misery*, blues/rock. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *Roots Vision*, reggae. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *Chip Conrad and the Concrete Feat.*, country/indie/rock.

**The Ould Sod**, 3373 Adams Avenue,  
Normal Heights. 619-284-6594.  
Traditional Irish folk.

**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, *Nite Life*, blues/swing. Monday, 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., *Moon Dance*, classic rock.

**Red Fox Steakhouse**, 2228 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-297-1313. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, contemporary/jazz piano.

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

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

**Soma**, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-SOMA. Friday, *Dynamite Walls*, the *Silent Comedy*, *Bedford Grove*, and *Numskul*, indie/rock/alternative. Saturday, *The Haven*, *Fight Fair*, *the Boys After*, and *Five More Days*, pop/punk/hardcore/rock. Monday, *Pierce the Veil*, *Suicide Silence*, *Stick to Your Guns*, the *Warriors*, *Low Definition*, the *Faceless*, *Elysia His Irate Life*, *Carnifex*, *Misdelpnia*, and *Tragedy and Triumph*, metal/hardcore/punk/rock/indie.

**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 9:15 p.m., *the Paul Ingram*  
*Quartet*, jazz. Saturday, blues jam  
session. Sunday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Tim*  
*Ninnink* and *Doug Walker*, modern jazz.

**Tio Leo's**, 10787 Camino Ruiz, Mira Mesa. 858-695-1461. Thursday, *Stars on the Water*, rock.

**Tio Leo's Lounge**, 5302 Napa Street  
(at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park.  
619-542-1462. Friday, *Blue Largo*,  
blues/jazz. Saturday, *Red Sonya*, rock.  
Wednesday, *the High Society Jazz Band*.

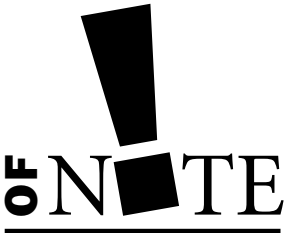
## NORTH COUNTY

**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., *Slightly Stoopid* and *Arm the Angels*, rock/reggae/punk. Friday, 9 p.m., *Metal Snake* and *Radiostar*, rock/metal. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Pato Canton*, *Love and Groove*, and *DJ Carlos Culture*, reggae. Sunday, 8 p.m., *Cracker* and *Camper Van Beethoven*, alternative rock/punk/folk/ska. Monday, 9 p.m., the *Aggrolites*, *Grand Ole Party*, and *Beatmo*, reggae/big beat/funk/indie/rock.

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

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



BY WILLIAM CRAIN

Of all the bands to come out of the Los Angeles punk scene, the **Germes** were always the best cut out for a tacky biopic. Their story had it all: the male-female lineup, the tragic ending (singer Darby Crash killed himself with heroin), and, of course, the celebrity cameos (Joan Jett produced the *Germes*' one album; Go-Go Belinda Carlisle was briefly a member; guitarist Pat Smear later went on to join Nirvana and the Foo Fighters). The world will get to judge for itself next summer with the release of *What We Do Is Secret* starring Shane West as the ill-fated Crash.

But the definitive film treatment of the  
Germans will likely always be their segment of

*Billy Watson and the Int'l Silver String  
Submarine Band, blues/jazz.*

**Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad)**, 1905 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad. 760-479-0242. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Sharol Hazel Township*, acoustic/folk rock/indie.

**Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain)**, 11160 Ranch Carmel Drive, Carmel Mountain. 858-618-1814. Friday, 8 p.m., *Korrie Paliotto*, folk rock/acoustic/indie. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Johnson, Bosley, and Morin*, acoustic trio.

**California Center for the Arts,**  
N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido.  
1-800-988-4253. Monday, 7:45 p.m., to  
*City Limits Band*, country rock.

**Carvers,** 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive  
Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Frid

Penelope Spheeris's 1981 documentary *The Decline of Western Civilization*. Because of that movie, to me and thousands of others the Germs will always be the band with the singer who was so wasted that his manager considered duct-taping the microphone to his face so he wouldn't drop it as he stumbled around the stage. And partly because of that movie, I have always had trouble believing people when they say the Germs were great. The band's recorded legacy is slight (everything fits on the MIA compilation CD) and, frankly, not that impressive. The live performances available on YouTube and elsewhere are, like those in *Decline*, notable mostly for Crash's incoherence. I guess you had to be there.

And now you can, sort of. The surviving Germs first reunited last year for a jaunt



## GERMS

on the Warped Tour. Their singer? Actor **Shane West**. It strikes me as a cynical, somewhat morbid attempt to cash-out the band's legacy. But, hell, I'm thinking I'll go see them.

**GERMS, The Casbah, Thursday, December 27, 8:30 p.m. 619-232-4355. \$20.**

Sunday, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Z-Bop*, jazz/swing/standards.

**Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad)**  
2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad.  
760-729-6951. Friday, *Steve Langdon*  
acoustic. Saturday and Monday, DJ  
event.

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

**J.J. Lander's Irish Pub**, 125 Main Street, Fallbrook. 760-731-0839. Monday, 8:30 p.m., *Fear the Fat Guy*, acoustic rock.

**The Jumping Turtle**, 1660 Capa  
Road, San Marcos. 760-741-7778.  
Thursday, *the Tribes of Judah, Straight  
Trippin'*, Project: Out of Bounds, and  
Denise Latray, reggae. Saturday, Aw

*Samsara, Medius, Axxys, and Dethrattle*, metal/hardcore/thrash. Sunday, *Long Live Logos*, rock/pop/indie. Wednesday, *the Subtle Way*, screamo/metal/hardcore.

**La Costa Resort and Spa**, 2100 Costa Del Mar Road, Carlsbad. 760-438-9111. Spa: Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Mike Nelson*, jazz.

**The Lake Wohlford Cafe**, 25484 Lake Wohlford Road, Escondido. 760-749-2755. Monday, 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., a *Fifth of Blues*, blues.

**Mas Fina Cantina**, 2780 State Street, Carlsbad. 760-434-3497. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Mike Gardner*, acoustic rock/folk.

**McCabe's Beach Club**, 1145 South Tremont Street, Oceanside. 760-439-6646. Friday, 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the California Rangers*, country.



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**CELEBRATIONS AT MOONDOGGIES**

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 DJ 5G, DRINK SPECIALS & PARTY FAVORS  
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### Friday 12/28

- Circle Empire
- Packablacks
- Faultline
- Sugar Bear
- J Dub

### Saturday 12/29

► Media Lab

► Time Is The Enemy

► Outlett

### Thursday 12/27

**Movie Night**  
with Shane

### Sunday 12/30

*Club Kingston*

featuring

► Eek-A-Mouse

### Monday 12/31

*New Year's Eve!*

► Front Yard

► Middle Finger

► Bedlem

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Tuesday 1/1  
*Happy Hour with Emelia*  
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Wednesday 1/2  
**Gasoline Chicken**

Thursday 1/3  
*Karl Strauss Night*  
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The Soul Stealers

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Encurses

Saturday 1/5  
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Dead Serial Killers  
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SLIGHTLY  
STOOPID

with ARM the ANGELS  
thursday dec 27



4

BOOGIE NIGHTS



with RADIOSTAR and DJ Tommy Cox  
friday dec 28

pato banton

with the LOVE and GROOVE BAND  
and DJ CARLOS CULTURE

saturday dec 29



2 CRACKER  
and  
CAMPER  
VAN BEETHOVEN

sunday dec 30

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THE SIN CITY ALL STARS  
MIKE STINSON  
THE SLIDEWINDERS  
EVE SELIS

Thu 1/3 • 8:00 PM

ELIJAH EMANUEL &  
THE REVELATIONS



THE HI-LITES

Fri 1/4 • 9:00 PM

AN EVENING WITH  
RICKIE LEE JONES



Sat 1/5 • 9:00 PM

SALSA



Sun 1/6 • 8:00 PM

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DAT PHAN  
(WINNER OF  
LAST COMIC  
STANDING)



KENNY KANE  
BOB MURPHY

Tue 1/8 • 8:00 PM

DAVID LINDLEY



JACK TEMPCHIN

Wed 1/9 • 8:00 PM

MIDWINTERS



THE EXFRIENDS  
MAYWEATHER

Thur 1/10 • 9:00 PM

COMMON SENSE



IGLU & HARTLY

Fri 1/11 • 9:00 PM

NEW ACOUSTIC  
GENERATION



W/MICHAEL TIERNAN  
FEAT. VERONICA MAY  
TREVOR DAVIS  
ALLIED GARDENS

Sun 1/13 • 8:00 PM

LUPE FIASCO



W/GUEST

Tue 1/15 • 9:00 PM

ELECTRIC PRUNES



THE PRAYERS

Wed 1/16 • 8:00 PM

CROSS CANADIAN  
RAGWEED



W/GUEST

Thu 1/17 • 9:00 PM

DILATED PEOPLES



LMNO

Fri 1/18 • 9:00 PM

DEAD MAN'S PARTY  
OINGO BOINGO TRIBUTE



THE REAGANOMICS

Sat 1/19 • 9:00 PM

TODD SNIDER



W/GUEST

Tue 1/22 • 8:00 PM

MIKE KENEALLY



TOM GRIESGRABER

Wed 1/23 • 9:00 PM

STEVE POLTZ  
CD RELEASE PARTY!



TIM BLUM

Thu 1/24 • 9:00 PM

OZOMATLI



W/GUEST

1/25 & 26 • 9:00 PM

MOUNTAIN



SHOCK N' AWE

Sun 1/27 • 8:00 PM

FM 94.9 PRESENTS  
ROGUE WAVE



MIDNIGHT MOVIES

Thu 1/31 • 9:00 PM

## UPCOMING:

2/1 B-Side Players  
2/2 Los Lobos  
2/5 O<sub>2</sub> For Life - Rumba in the Rainforest  
2/6 Super Furry Animals  
2/7 Bedouin Soundclash  
2/8 Marc Ford & Deadline Friday  
2/9 Groundation Bob Marley Tribute Show  
2/10 Rhett Miller  
2/13 ALO

2/14 George Clinton & Parliament Funkadelic  
2/15 Sia w/guest  
2/16 Maceo Parker  
2/19 Stan Ridgway presents Wall of Voodoo's  
Call of the West  
2/22 The Blasters and The Hacienda Brothers  
2/24 NCCS Food Bank Benefit Concert w/  
Earl Thomas, Amber Ojeda & Justus Ewing  
2/25 Jay Farrar  
2/26 Adrian Belew  
2/27 Punch Brothers  
featuring Chris Thile  
3/1 Al Howard & the K23 Orchestra  
and Perpetual Groove

3/2 Marcia Ball & John Hammond  
3/4 Rufus Wainwright  
3/9 The Blind Boys of Alabama  
3/13 Mad Professor  
3/14 Tommy Castro Band  
3/20 The Itals  
3/21 Built to Spill w/The Meat  
Puppets & Helvatia  
3/22 The Presidents of the United  
States of America  
3/29 The Avett Brothers

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SALSA SUNDAY!

1/6 & 1/20 ORQUESTA PRIMO

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# Calendar CLUBS

## NORTH COUNTY (continued)

**Molly Malone's**, 1270 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-9050. Friday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., *DJ Levi*, rock. Saturday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., *Feeling of Hate*, metal.

**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. to midnight, *Material Witness*. Saturday, 9 p.m. to midnight, *Stars on the Water*, rock.

**R. O'Sullivan's**, 118 East Grand Avenue, Escondido. 760-737-0954. Thursday and Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Fear the Fat Guy*, acoustic rock. Friday and Monday, 9 p.m., *Brehon Law*, Irish folk.

**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.

**The Red Eye Saloon**, 1448 South Mission Road, Fallbrook. 760-721-4881. Friday and Saturday, 8:30 p.m. to midnight, *the City Limits Band*, alternative country/rockabilly/blues.

**Robbie's Roadhouse**, 530 North Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-634-2365. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Adrienne Nims* and *Spirit Wind*, global jazz.

**Surf N'Saddle**, 123 West Plaza Street (Lomas Santa Fe and Highway 101), Solana Beach. 858-755-9474. Thursday, *the Drowning Men*, rock/alternative. Friday, *Inhale*, reggae/rock/grunge. Saturday, *Project: Out of Bounds*, reggae/rock/rap.

**Tom Giblin's Irish Pub and Restaurant**, 640 Grand Avenue,

Carlsbad. 760-729-7234. Thursday, 9 p.m., *Tony Cummings*, Irish folk.

## SOUTH BAY/CORONADO

**Buon Giorno Restaurant**, 4110 Bonita Road, Bonita. 619-475-2660. Thursday, *Yvonne Flores*, piano/jazz. Saturday, *Madera* and *One Thousand Eyes*, 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, Saturday, and Monday, *Mad for Mary*, rock.

**Janie's Cocktails**, 656 E Street, Chula Vista. 619-420-9951. Monday, 9 p.m., *Wunderfist*, classic to modern rock.

**McP's Irish Pub and Grill**, 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-5280. Thursday, *the Justin Brothers*, acoustic. Friday, *the Fall Guys*. Saturday, *the Offbeats*. Sunday, *Jim Moore*, acoustic folk. Monday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., *the Elevators*, blues.

## EAST COUNTY

**Borders Books and Music (El Cajon)**, 159 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon. 619-593-5119. Friday, 7 p.m., *B'Dale*, acoustic. Saturday, 7 p.m., *Chris Luessman*, ukulele.

**Dirk's Niteclub**, 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove. 619-469-6344. Friday,



**Album:** *Keep Your Head* (2007)

**Artist:** Mike Press

**Label:** self-released

**Where available/price:** M-Theory in Mission Hills for \$10.

Online at *iTunes*, *CDBaby.com*, *mikepress.com* for \$10.

**Songs:** 1) Teams 2) Short Supplies 3) Taboo 4) Barista 5) Smart Went Crazy 6) Tears of Goodbye (Wayward People's Hearts) 7) Hands of You 8) Katie Baton Rouge 9) Way of Knowing 10) Saturated 11) Keep Your Head 12) Treasure

**Band:** Mike Press (vocals, guitar, drums), Kyle Thompson (guitar, bass), Joe Amato (lap steel), Jeremy Curtis (bass), Billy Conway (drums), Steve Mayonee (guitar, mandolin), Jabe Beyer (vibraphone, electric piano)

Another sensitive coffee-house whiner with the sensibility to bore your macchiato cold. Mike Press follows a long tradition of

## >hometown CDs

BY OLLIE

Monday, 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., *Joey and the Sting Rays*, country.

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

**Second Wind**, 8528 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 6019-596-8350. Friday and Saturday, *gone9*, 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.

and the soft desperation of pleading with an ex lover. I can't think of a style of music paired with this type of voice that would be considered interesting because even sad songs need some power and pace. Mike has neither.

Twangy western back-ground tunes, which Mike has incorporated, would serve as a solid launching pad, but the rhythm never gets out of second gear, and Mike's voice languishes in the slow meantime. Mike's redemption could've been well-written lyrics, but alas, in a four-song span (tracks 4 to 7) he sings about "waiting around" a "coffee shop" and includes a chorus so standard and innocuous, it holds no meaning; he repeats, "I wash my hands of you." The mind numbs.



Mike Press

Mike and band are competent musicians, keeping time professionally and hitting each note as intended, but beyond that there isn't much to listen to on this album.

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

# Calendar BANDS

## ALTERNATIVE

**The Adolescents:** The Casbah

**The Apes of Wrath:** The Beauty Bar

**Aphnea:** 710 Beach Club

**The Atoms:** The Casbah

**Batar-Zan:** The Kensington Club

**The Battalion of Saints:** The Casbah

**Beatmo:** Belly Up Tavern

**The Boys After:** Soma

**The Calvins:** The Kensington Club

**Camper Van Beethoven:** Belly Up Tavern

**Carnifex:** Soma

**The Scott Carter Duo:** Dick's Last Resort

**Cracker:** Belly Up Tavern

**Creedle:** The Casbah

**Decompression:** 710 Beach Club

new wave

new years

WITH

CANES

Monday,

December

31st

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NEW YEAR'S EVE 2007

BLACK

Ball

Monday,

December 31

2 Dance Floors • 3 Full Bars • Live Flamenco Dancers

Go-Go Dancers • Champagne Bar • VIP Bottle Service Tables

Party Favors • DJ Underground & DJ Grimm

DJs provided by Strictly Rhythms Entertainment

Spécial Holiday Prix Fixe Dinner Menu served from 5 until 11 pm

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# Calendar

## BANDS

### ROCK

(continued)

**Axxys:** The Jumping Turtle

**Bedford Grove:** Soma

**Bedlam:** Dreamstreet

**Blue Spring:** Tiki House

**Breaking Up Over Texas:** O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

**Steve Brewer:** Blarney Stone Pub

**Brooklyn:** O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

**Chip Conrad and the Concrete Feat:** O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

**Desert Diamonds:** O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

**The Detroit Underground:** Humphrey's

**The Drowning Men:** Surf N'Saddle

**The Electric Waste Band:** Winstons

**Fear the Fat Guy:** R. O'Sullivan's, J.J. Lander's Irish Pub

**Feeling of Hate:** Molly Malone's

**Front Yard:** Dreamstreet

**Full Xposure:** Dirk's Niteclub

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

**Good Times:** Henry's Pub

**Grand Ole Party:** Belly Up Tavern

**The Taylor Harvey Band:** Don's Cocktail Lounge

**The Ideas:** Carvers

**Idle Train:** The Kraken

**The Iron Maidens:** 'Canes

**The Lil' Efert Band:** Don's Cocktail Lounge

**Long Live Logos:** The Jumping Turtle

**Mad for Mary:** Island Sports and Spirits

**Material Witness:** Ocean House

**Media Lab:** Dreamstreet

**Medius:** The Jumping Turtle

**Metal Snake:** Belly Up Tavern

**Middle Finger:** Dreamstreet

**Billy Midnight:** The Casbah

**Misdelphia:** Soma

**The Monsters of Rock:** 'Canes

**Moon Dance:** Pal Joey's

**The Mother Hips:** The Casbah

**Night Shift:** Carvers

**Noches Rockeras:** House of Blues

**Paratrooper:** O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

**Radiostar:** Belly Up Tavern

**Red Sonya:** Tio Leo's Lounge

**Rhythm and the Method:** Brass Rail

**Rock Starz:** Rock Bottom (Gaslamp)

**Rude Boy Roots:** 'Canes

**The Secret Fun Club:** The Casbah

**Gone9:** Second Wind (Santee)

**Stars on the Water:** Tio Leo's (Mira Mesa), Ocean House

**The Steely Damned:** Anthology

**The Stiletto's:** Henry's Pub

**Stone Wolf:** Second Wind (San Carlos)

**Superfly:** Rock Bottom (Gaslamp)

**The Supersuckers:** Brick By Brick

**Tainted Love:** 'Canes

**Tim and the 23's:** 710 Beach Club

**Time Is the Enemy:** Dreamstreet

**Transfer:** The Kensington Club, The Beauty Bar

**Viva Santana:** Little Italy Urban Bar and Restaurant

**West of 5:** The Kraken

**Wunderfist:** Janie's Cocktails

### POP / TOP 40

**The Flock of 80's:** Henry's Pub

**KC and the Sunshine Band:** 4th & B

**The Love Rangers:** The Alley

**Rick Lyon:** The Imperial House

**Makai:** Humphrey's, Humphrey's

**Pop Rocks:** Jimmy Love's

**David Timothy Smith:** Albie's Beef Inn

**The Stepping Feet:** Whiskey Girl

### JAZZ / BIG BAND

**Joseph Angelastro:** E Street Cafe

**The Archtones:** Croce's Jazz Bar

**The Bi-National Mambo Orchestra:** Dizzy's

**Tom Bishop:** Rancho Bernardo Inn

**Jeff Blum:** Miami Grille (UTC)

**Ray Briz:** Hotel del Coronado

**Gilbert Castellanos:** Dizzy's

**The Christopher Dale Trio:** The Handlery Hotel and Resort

**Eleanor England:** Lestat's Coffee House

**The Pete Escovedo Orchestra:** Anthology

**Fattburger:** Humphrey's

**Donnie Finnell and Company East:** Bistro 221

# as i hear it

BY BRIAN CARVER

Artist: **Calico Horse**

Song: **"Awake in the Clouds"** (from *myspace.com/calicohorsemusic*)

Heard By: **Charlie Herlevic**, downtown



Charlie

I liked it very much; it's a very pretty song. It reminded me of a band called Quix\*o\*tic. It also reminded me of seeing Siouxsie and the Banshees live. I think the girl has a lovely voice. I thought the mood of the song was very "full" and her voice was very complementary to the music. [The song] seemed fairly dark, but I couldn't pick up on some of the words. There's kind of a one-beat drum — almost like a drum-circle drum and then a keyboard or synthesizer. Some guitar. It was really simple in terms of there wasn't a lot of instrumentation. I don't think it would be huge commercially, but I think they could certainly support themselves as musicians.

Artist: **The Sess**

Song: **"Don't Look Back"** (from their debut 7")

Heard By: **Dave Sampson**, Middletown



Dave

It was cool; I liked it. It's high-energy, kind of aggressive, not overly heavy. It actually kind of reminded me of the Jimi Hendrix Experience playing punk. The vocalist has the same quality to his voice that Jimi did. I like punk music where there is some musicianship to it. A lot of punk musicians think being able to play an instrument well isn't very "punk," but [the Sess] are pretty good. Being a good musician isn't a hindrance. I'd listen to it on the radio. Part of what reminded me of Jimi Hendrix's stuff is that they seemed to have '60s production values. I wonder what they're like live.

Artist: **Red Feathers**

Song: **"Monster Inside"** (from the *Breathe the Cold* EP)

Heard By: **Willy Hultgren**, Mission Hills



Willy

The music reminded me a lot of the Decemberists. The guy's voice is kind of wailing, drifting all about — it's cool. It's the kind of music where you'd want to see it live in a small venue...maybe a hundred people, tops. It's good beer-drinking music. The name of the song has something to do with a monster and he was saying, "move away," so I guess that makes sense. No one wants to be cuddling with a monster. It's very tuneful and everything has a flow to it — it seemed like a professional gig. I don't see it busting the Billboard Top 40 because it doesn't have that kind of appeal, but I could see them getting picked up by a radio station.

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

Music Editor, As I Hear It, San Diego *Reader*, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803

**Masterpiece:** Jimmy Love's

**Kevin McCully:** The Westgate Hotel

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

**The Shep Meyers Trio:** Lestat's Coffee House, Croce's Jazz Bar

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

**Adrienne Nims and Spirit Wind:** Robbie's Roadhouse

**Tim Ninnink:** South Park Bar and Grill

**One Thousand Eyes:** Buon Giornata Restaurant

**Dan Papaila:** The Lodge at Torrey Pines

**Hamilton Price:** Dizzy's

**Primo:** Croce's Jazz Bar

**The Prince of Piano:** The Westgate Hotel

**Rick Ross:** La Valencia Hotel

**Sambajazz:** Cuvee Restaurant

**The Tokeli Jazz Quintet:** Sally's Seafood on the Water, Manhattan Restaurant

**Vintage Vegas:** Martini's Above Fourth

**Doug Walker:** South Park Bar and Grill

**Willlovealot:** American Legion Post 310

**Yavez:** Croce's Jazz Bar

**Z-Bop:** The Flying Bridge, Epazote

**Franco Z.:** Tommy's Italian Restaurant

### REGGAE / SKA

**The Aggrolites:** Belly Up Tavern

**Pato Banton:** Belly Up Tavern

**Eek-A-Mouse:** World Beat Center, Dreamstreet

**40 Oz. to Freedom:** 'Canes

**Inhale:** Surf N'Saddle

**Kush and Jah Blood Fiyah Angels:** World Beat Center

**Love and Groove:** Belly Up Tavern

**Project: Out of Bounds:** Surf N'Saddle, The Jumping Turtle

**Roots Vision:** O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

**Semisi and Fulabula:** The Calypso Cafe

**Slightly Stoopid:** Belly Up Tavern

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**A CONCRETE PROJECT**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29



(All-female tribute to Iron Maiden)

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An Evening With

**Tainted Love**  
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**HARD ECHO  
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FRIDAY, JANUARY 4

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IRIE SIDE • THE KNEE HIGHS  
RESIDENT CANE**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5

**MYSTIC ROOTS  
CARBINE • SHAKA BUKU  
WYLDE BUNCH**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10

**CANOBLISS • MNIYIC  
TAINTED SOCIETY • DISCORD  
TWELVE TWENTY**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

**THE BLOODY HOLLIES  
GET BACK LORETTA  
FONO • DEMASIADO**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16



**TWISTA**



FRIDAY, JANUARY 25



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**Social Green:** Winstons

**Split Finger:** 710 Beach Club

**Straight Trippin':** The Jumping  
Turtle

**The Tribes of Judah:** The Jumping  
Turtle

**Uplift:** The Calypso Cafe

### COUNTRY

**The Band in Black:** Hennessey's  
Tavern (PB)

**The California Rangers:** McCabe's  
Beach Club

**The Cash Kings:** Lestat's Coffee  
House

**The City Limits Band:** California  
Center for the Arts, The Red Eye Saloon

**Hank III and Nashville Pussy:**  
House of Blues

**The Honky Tonk Kings:** Renegade  
Inn

**Joey and the Sting Rays:**  
Mulvaney's Wagon Wheel

**The Reverend Horton Heat:** House  
of Blues



**Live Music • Full Bar  
Seafood • Vegetarian  
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Thursday, December 27

**Michele  
Lundeen**

Friday, December 28

**Uplift**

Saturday, December 29

**Semisi**

Sunday, December 30

**Luna Llena**

Monday, December 31

**Triple Shot**

Tuesday, January 1

**TBA**

Wednesday, January 2

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*the matches*  
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**WE SHOT  
THE MOON**

FRI. MAR 14  
**SILVERSTEIN**  
THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA

**FRI. DEC 28**  
**DYNAMITE WALLS**  
THE SILENT COMEDY  
MISC. AILMENTS FOUNDATION  
BEDFORD GROVE  
NUMSKULL

**SAT. DEC 29**  
**THE HAVEN**  
FIGHT FAIR  
THE BOYS AFTER  
TALK FAHRENHEIT  
5 MORE DAYS

**FRI. JAN 4**  
**ANIMAL CORPSE**  
CRIMSON KNIGHT  
STILETTO SILHOUETTE  
SERGULATH  
ABOMINATION  
DIABOLICAL SLAUGHTER

**SAT. JAN 5**  
"THE BIG SHOW 2008"  
**hello marquee**  
**A Doll Science** *latliva*  
*Athena*  
*invictus* & *Shattered Hope*  
SUNDAY  
MAINSTAGE • 510

**FRI. JAN 11**  
**50 LONG DAVEY**  
THE MATERIAL  
ARM THE ANGELS  
CHILDREN OF NOVA  
THE CATHEDRALS

**SAT. JAN 12**  
**It Prevails**  
FOR THE FALLEN DREAMS  
RECON  
EVERY BRIDGE BURNED  
AMERICAN ME

**THURS. JAN 24**  
**FINCH**  
TERA MELOS  
SOUND THE ALARM  
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**SAT. JAN 26**  
**The Roasters**  
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HUS CITY STOMPERS  
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**SUN. JAN 27**  
"THE PAC TOUR"  
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ENVY ON THE COAST  
DANGER: RADIO  
ANOTHER DAY LATE  
512 - 6PM - LUNATIKS

**WED. JAN 30**  
**BLACK DOLPHIN MURDER**  
3 INCHES OF BLOOD  
HATE: INTERNAL  
DECREPIT BIRTH  
513 - 7PM - LUNATIKS

**SAT. FEB 2**  
**DEAD TO FALL**  
WINDS OF PLAGUE  
(CD RELEASE)  
IMPENDING DOOM  
BELAY MY LAST

**WED. FEB 6**  
**SHERWOOD**  
*the matches*  
**THE HIGHER**  
**WE SHOT  
THE MOON**

FRI. MAR 14  
**SILVERSTEIN**  
THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA

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# Calendar

## BANDS

### ACOUSTIC / FOLK

**B'Dale:** Borders Books and Music (El Cajon)

**Tony Cummings:** Tom Giblin's Irish Pub and Restaurant

**Josh Damigo:** Lestat's Coffee House

**Dannicus:** Riley's Sports Bar

**Earl's Son:** Tiki House

**The Fall Guys:** McP's Irish Pub and Grill

**Gabriella:** E Street Cafe

**Gonzo Gonzales:** Hotel del Coronado

**Johnson, Bosley, and Morin:** Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain)

**The Justin Brothers:** McP's Irish Pub and Grill

**Kevin Kanner:** Dizzy's

**Steve Langdon:** Hennessy's Tavern (Carlsbad)

**Brehon Law:** R. O'Sullivan's

**Kevin Mesohung:** Hennessy's Tavern (PB)

**Gregory Michael:** Pierre's Place

**Jim Moore:** McP's Irish Pub and Grill

**Korrie Paliotto:** Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain)

**Sara Petite:** Cheers

**Sharon Hazel Township:** Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad)

**Skelpin:** Humphrey's

**Sligo Rags:** Dublin Square

**The Smart Brothers:** E Street Cafe, Lestat's Coffee House

**Claire Stahlecker:** Lestat's Coffee House



Lee Rocker, December 31, Anthology

### BLUES / SOUL

**Missy Anderson:** Patrick's II

**The Bayou Brothers:** Patrick's II

**Blue Four:** Patrick's II

**Blue Largo:** Tio Leo's Lounge, Patrick's II

**The Blues Brokers:** The Kraken

**Diablo Dimes:** O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

**The Elevators:** McP's Irish Pub and Grill

**Fat Man's Misery:** O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

**A Fifth of Blues:** The Lake Wohlford Cafe

**Frankie Dee and the Funk Natra Band:** The Kraken

**Happy Ron Hill:** Lestat's Coffee House

**Lady Dottie and the Diamonds:** Henry's Pub

**Michele Lundeen and Blues Streak:** The Calypso Cafe

**The Bill Magee Blues Band:** Patrick's II

**Jeff Moore and the Witchdoctors:** The Kraken

**Nite Life:** Pal Joey's

**One Way Out:** Golden Acorn Casino

**The Post 310 Blues Band:** American Legion Post 310

**Straight Six:** Dick's Last Resort

**Tell Mama:** Patrick's II

**Triple Shot:** The Calypso Cafe

**Johnny Vernazza:** Patrick's II

# New Year's Eve Party

No cover. Champagne toast at midnight and party favors.

**Open New Year's Day** 10 am-10 pm • Full Kitchen

**Karaoke** Friday, Dec. 28 • 6 pm-12 am

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**\$80 per person includes:**

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**Featuring**

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## New Year's Eve Special Event

Featuring: **Al Madrigal, Kirk Fox, Vicki Barbolak** and **Stephen Glickman**

8 pm: Tickets \$25  
10:30 pm: Tickets \$30 (includes champagne toast)

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Plus, enjoy all aspects of package #2!

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Friday, January 18

**THE MOTELS**

Featuring Martha Davis



Friday, December 28 •  presents

**SUPERSUCKERS**

**ROCKET**

Saturday, December 29

**OSAL8 • PHON • PSYLER**

**BREAKAH • DJ NIX**

Wednesday, January 2

**THE BLINKING PROJECT**

**JOHNNY COMPTON**

Friday, January 4

**JEFF BLOOM & THE REGGAE ALLSTARS**

**GUAVA BELLY**

**SANDOLLAR**

**LYNN ST. ROCKERS**

Saturday, January 5 • 7 pm

"Going the Distance"

(Leukemia Benefit) featuring

**IN EVERY BREATH**

**SOUNDESCAPE**

**LUNAR FICTION**

**UNBEKNOWN**

**FEELING OF HATE**

**ALYSSA JACEY**

Friday, January 11

**SHOOT THE PILOT**

Saturday, January 12

**MOMMY'S LITTLE MONSTER**

(Social D Tribute)

**BITCHFITS**

(All-Girl Misfits Tribute)

**NOISEGOD**

Saturday, January 19

**FADED CHRONICLEZ**

**BLUE SKY BLONDE**

**HAVEN BORN**

**THE OUTSIDE VIEW**

(Reunion Show)

Wednesday, January 23

**PROJECT ANALOGUE**

**DAPPER DAND**

**MADDOX REVOLUTION**

1/26 **The Dreaming** • 2/13 **Moral Crux** • **Teenage Rehab** • 2/16 **JFA** • **Angry Samoans**

2/22 **"Rock This Town"** (an appreciation for '50s music & culture) • 3/2 **The Mother Truckers** • 4/30 **UFO**

**LOT 81**

Serving lunch & dinner

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**BUY YOUR TICKETS EARLY AND SAVE!**

December 16 - December 30

Silk \$175 • Eagle's Nest \$100

New Year's Eve Day until 6PM

Silk \$200 • Eagle's Nest \$150

For more information or to see upcoming events on sale visit [www.pechanga.com](http://www.pechanga.com)

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let the countdown begin...



absolut drinks

passed hors d'oeuvres 9 - 10pm



wells

complimentary party favors



draft beers

champagne toast at midnight

**2008**

**Xavier's bar & grill**

750 5th Ave. | Gaslamp | 619.233.0600

**Dj Pokkey**

spinning all night

\$25 cover





# Calendar BANDS

West of Memphis: House of Blues

The Buick Wilson Band:  
Humphrey's

## RAP / HIP-HOP

Circle Empire: Dreamstreet

Crush: Rock Bottom (Gaslamp),  
Humphrey's

Dago Braves: House of Blues

J Dub: Dreamstreet

Packablacks: Dreamstreet

Sugar Bear: Dreamstreet

The Vokab Kompany: 710 Beach  
Club

Young Jeezy: House of Blues

## EVERYTHING ELSE

Tom Barabas: G5-Georges on Fifth

Brekah: Brick By Brick

John Cain: Bahia Resort Hotel

Ray Correa: The Butcher Shop

Julio de la Huerta: The Westgate  
Hotel

Faultline: Dreamstreet

Karen Giorgio: The Westgate Hotel

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Luan Llena: The Calypso Cafe

Chris Luessman: Borders Books and  
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The Nightmares: The Bar Pink  
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Osall8: Brick By Brick

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# Crasher

## SILKY SMOOTH

by Josh Board

**I** went to parties at two different bars. I was told there would be food at the first one — Hamilton's Tavern in North Park. When I got there with my friends, however, the food was gone. One of my friends found out it was all sausage and meats, so she didn't mind; she's a vegetarian.

Someone pointed out the owner of the bar shooting pool. I asked if his name was Hamilton and this other guy, Mike, pointed out an African American sitting at one of the tables and said, "That's Hamilton. The owner didn't name it after himself. When he bought this place, Hamilton had told him this pub had six different names over the years. The owner said it was people like him that were the heart of the neighborhood, and so he told him he was going to name the bar after him. He has his own table, too."

I said, "Damn. I was just talking with some friends at a pizza place where they named a dish after a local radio DJ. I thought it would be cool to have a sandwich named after me. This



guy gets a whole bar, though. That's cooler than a sandwich."

I met a guy named Jon who told me about his online radio station. He told me that he's also a mobile DJ and that he does private parties. Someone else told me that Jon was nominated for a Grammy. It wasn't



Top right: San Diego Scorpions (Lyndsay on the right); Bottom left: April at the Lei Lounge; Bottom right: Jon runs an online radio station and music archive Reelin' in the Years

known that, I probably would've spent all my time talking with him.

My friends each grabbed a



about it being "silky and smooth," one of my friends said, "Like my legs."

I went to the bar for a Coke and was told that they had 25 beers on tap but no soft drinks. They said I'd have to go to the liquor store next door.

I overheard someone say that Hamilton's has the best jukebox in the city. I went over to look at it as it played a punk version of "Time Won't Let Me." I saw the jukebox had the Black Crowes and the Black Keys. So

far, so good. I also saw it was unplugged. Jon said, "They aren't playing the jukebox. They're playing one of my old radio shows."

As I walked back, I overheard a woman say, "Have you noticed every person in here has a beard? It's freaking me out." Having just shaved my beard off and not being in my early 20s like the rest of the crowd, I felt a bit out of place.

I talked to Mike and some of his coworkers for a bit and then headed out to my next shindig.

My friends and I noticed all the houses in such close proximity to the tavern. I said, "They must love it when drunk people leave at 2 a.m." A person working on their car nearby overheard me and said, "Once a week, someone comes over and pees in our front yard or passes out in the bushes."

One of my friends left to go to a movie and the other went to see ultimate fighting at 4th&B. I told her that I'd meet her there later, after I'd hit a party at Lei Lounge on Park

"Have you noticed every person in here has a beard? It's freaking me out."

until a few days later when I looked at his website that I saw he was one of the founders of Reelin' in the Years, which has the biggest collection of music performances in the world. Had I

beer and were talking to one of the brewers about the process. I heard him say that one of the brews is in a cask for two weeks and that it's naturally carbonated. When he said something

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We're hoping to include a couple of **downloadable MP3s** for as many of the performers as we can.

If you would like to have songs added to your own page, we'll need two things:

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2. A note granting permission to post to the site. E-mailing this is fine as long as you include direct contact info as well as a scan of your signature. We'll e-mail you a draft of the note upon request.

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# Crasher

Boulevard.

When April invited me, she said it was a "Sagittarius party," but when I called her for directions, she said it was a party for a professional female football team, the San Diego Scorpions.

I walked into the Lei Lounge and overheard two attractive blond women talking about how nobody picked the Jets in their last football pool. I assumed this was them and sat down. They said, "Who the hell are you?"

"Are you on the Scorpions?" I asked.

"That heavy metal group from Germany? No. But if that's a pick-up line, it's original." I scanned the room and saw a few larger parties and headed in that direction.

Some members of the team were crammed into this area that had a cabana. They told me that the restaurant gave their reservation to someone else. They were supposed to be on the part of the patio with the fire pit and more space. Since a few people were smoking, I pulled out a cigar. As I took a puff, a waiter came over and said, "You can't smoke that. You can smoke anything you want, just not cigars." He came over a few minutes

later and said, "Well, not 'anything you want.' You can't smoke pot."

I saw a large African-American woman whom I'd met at a party a year ago. She looked like a football player. When I saw a petite white girl, I had to ask her what position she played. She told me that she'd been a running back for four years. I asked what her longest run was, and she said that she had an 84-yard run last year.

She told me that she became a football player when she was 20. The recruiters saw her playing basketball in a gym and invited her to try out.

I talked to Lyndsay, a short African-American girl. She told me that she'd been a right tackle for the past four years. I asked what her worst injury was. "I hurt my finger the other day. Other than that, I haven't been hurt."

I said, "Women football players... The biggest worry you have is breaking a fingernail, huh?"

Nobody laughed.

April started smoking a clove cigarette, and I wondered why cigars weren't acceptable, but those were. They smell just as strong.

I found out April works at the Humane Society with another member of the Scorpions. We talked a little about that.

I was told that two

women on the team were celebrating birthdays.

I overheard one lady say, "I'm going to Vietnam, Thailand, and a few other places I can't pronounce."

I asked the players if their season was over and one of them said, "Our team might not continue. There might not be enough funds."

I asked if the owner of the Scorpions owns any other sports teams. Someone said, "No. She owns a dog-sitting business."

There were a couple of petite girls in the corner snuggling up with each other. One had several piercings in her face. When they got up to leave, a tall blond picked them up as they hugged. I couldn't hear why they were leaving so early.

I told April I was going outside to finish my cigar. The waiters told us that we couldn't stand in the aisle, as a lot of the team had food arriving.

While I was outside smoking, I decided to take off early and go see the fights at 4th&B. It was the shortest time I'd ever spent at a party. ■

*Crash your party? Call  
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# The Rainbow Sign

We are a frazzled, worried country after seven years of every important decision being decided wrong by that “deciderator” and the awful gray eminences whispering in his ears. So do I dare to interpret the change in San Diego restaurant food as a rainbow sign, a new attitude that locates our city in a specific place on the globe, no longer just some otherworldly surfer paradise?

When I arrived here seven and a half years ago, the restaurant-going attitude in these parts was mainly “fill ’er up regular.” Now, just as we don’t want toys full of lead, we don’t want traces of 18-syllable petroleum derivatives in our veggies — we’ve finally caught up with Moose, Wyoming, and Oxford, Mississippi, where the same values have apparently taken hold. Most of us are stuck with regular supermarket meats at home, but when we go out, we’ll happily pay a little extra for steers who’ve at least tasted grass, fat pigs raised with clean ankles, birds who got to strut and eat some bugs. What a fabulous development! Even the *Zagat Guides* have recognized San Diego’s existence again, noting these changes and issuing a San Diego guide after several years’ lapse. (Well, it’s shared with Orange County and Palm Springs, but it’s mainly about here.) More than half the local *Zagat* respondents said they actively sought out organic and/or sustainably raised vegetables and natural meats at local restaurants. Seems we’re not in Kansas anymore — or in the San Diego of old.

I think *Zagat*’s editors got it wrong when they ascribed the change to the presence of Bay Area celeb-chef Brad Ogden (consulting at Arterra and Anthology). Long before Ogden’s arrival, Michael Stebner (at Azzura Point, then Nine-Ten, then Region, now gone to Arizona) was the first I know of to carry the Alice Waters/Slow Food ethos here, until it finally took hold and spread.

The greatest change, though, seemed to arise after chefs Ed Moore and Deborah Schneider co-ordinated a series of Chef’s Celebration dinners three years ago that specifically matched top chefs with individual local farms. What came out of that, I think, has been the much-enhanced availability of local, sustainably raised, and organic produce. (Not every chef has time to trek up to Chino Farms, which doesn’t deliver or take credit cards except for Alice Waters herself.) Farmers here used to sell everything to produce whole-



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

salers who’d truck the stuff up to L.A. and resell it, from whence it traveled south again, several days the worse for wear. Now, Specialty Produce, a major supplier to local restaurants, is carrying a “Farmers Market” line, buying from local farms and delivering to local chefs, while Mocerri Produce reached that point even earlier. Crow’s Pass Farms in the North County also gathers the harvest from nearby farms to deliver to restaurants several times a week. These companies (along with Ed and Deb themselves) deserve special recognition for changing the way we eat. (I haven’t faced a “Sysco veggie medley” all year!)

Another wholesaler who has helped make the changes possible — Hans-Trevor Gossman, chef of the late, lamented Royale Brasserie — is now working for Hamilton Meats. Several chefs praised him as an outstanding “meat guy,” because “as a chef himself, he knows what chefs need.” He’s at least partly responsible for the increased availability of naturally raised meats, heritage-breed pigs, and pampered poultry.

So now that local and sustainable foods are all over the place — the challenge to the chef has become: You’ve got the right stuff, so what are you going to make of it? These lovely ingredients absolutely taste better than factory-farm products, but it’s still up to chefs to *do* something fresh and imaginative with them. Cookie-cutter local menus get wearying, with the same old Caesar salads and crème brûlées, the same 30-year-old Chez Panisse combos (beets and goat cheese, pears and Roquefort), bolstered by 15-year-old sushi “sensations.” (How many seared ahis must one critic eat before you can call her fed up? It’s as though we’re all still wearing bow-necked blouses and red power suits with padded shoulders.)

We had some losses, too. Three of our best, least-boring chefs departed: Riko Bartolomei for Hawaii, Gavin Kaysen for New York, Brian Pekar-cik for Pittsburgh. Zen Sushi in Del Mar was an open-and-shut case, but chef James Holder has opened a new sushi place in the Flower Hill Promenade that I look forward to visiting. On the mom

’n’ pop side, our best German restaurant, Chef Axel, went over to a catering-only operation, and D’Mood simply evaporated. Bud’s, offering authentic flavors of N’awlins, is reputedly gone too, and Big Jim (of Big Jim’s in Encinitas) sold out and retired, leaving the SD area almost destitute of genuine, low ’n’ slow, Deep South-style BBQ. (There are several Texas-style Qs around, but they don’t offer the soulful side dishes.) Let’s cherish Barnes BBQ in Lemon Grove — it seems to be the last of its kind here (unless you like looking at dirty old smoked brassieres at KC BBQ downtown).

As for ethnic restaurants, none of the openings was as thoroughly arresting as Kous-Kous’ debut last year. Rather than choose a single “best” in the ethnic category, an honor roll of fine newcomers includes Romesco in Bonita and El Comal in North Park, for serious Mexican cuisine; Latin Chef in Pacific Beach for authentic Peruvian; Portugalia in Ocean Beach for Portuguese and Brazilian (it’s not a brand-new restaurant, but it was new to me this year); Buga for Korean; and Izakaya Masa for fun Japanese tapas. I was also delighted by a belated discovery of Piatti, a most unchainlike chain with truly Italian flavors.

In the “bests,” I’ve kept an eye out for restaurants that use fine ingredients interestingly, freshly, and most of all, deliciously. When I first moved here — the Frisco Food Snob hitting Surferville — I was so appalled at the general state of restaurant fare that I simply didn’t think to include “delicious” among my top critical criteria. Fine ingredients, fine craftsmanship, and some hint of creative originality were rare enough, I’d forget to ask myself whether what I’d eaten also tasted good! Well, that little factor is back in play again, with a vengeance.

So here is a crazy quilt of the best tastes of the year. There will, of course, be no single “Best Restaurant,” a ridiculous idea given the range of restaurant styles. These are mainly just outstanding tastes encountered over the course of the year.

**Best New Upscale Restaurant:** Clay’s Hotel La Jolla, 11th-floor penthouse, 7955 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, 858-551-3620, [clayslajolla.com](http://clayslajolla.com). This restaurant fills the bill precisely: the cooking is original, natural, and totally delicious. No boredom here, and almost every dish exceeds ex-

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pectations. On top of the fab food, the view from the windows — a panorama of La Jolla from inland to the sea — is gorgeous. And it's comfortable! (Unlike so many top destinations, you can dress cute instead of wearing a boring beige up-scale *schmatte*.) A delight in all regards.

**Best New Moderately Priced Restaurant:** Currant, Hotel Sofia, 140 West Broadway (next to Greyhound terminal), downtown, 619-702-6309, *currant-restaurant.com*. A well-seasoned, big-time chef, Jonathan Pflueger, has chops to spare, and he brings wit and playfulness to his ever-changing seasonal menus. The affordable food and wine prices are a huge plus: you can eat like a first-class passenger (well, much better than that) on a coach budget.

**Best Upscale Rebirth:** Mistral, Loews Coronado Bay Resort, 4000 Coronado Bay Road (Silver Strand Boulevard), Coronado, 619-424-4000 or 619-424-4477. The former Azura Point has tastefully redecorated and renamed itself. It just won a major travel-magazine award for "resorts that give back," largely on the strength of Mistral's all-organic menu. But on the right night, with the right server (and

the right company), what it gives you is a taste of heaven, a blissful tropical mini-vacation — with a panoramic view of the bay thrown in. A romantic and relaxing destination, with clean and lovely cooking and a sommelier you can trust.

**Best Neighborhood Restaurant Rebirth:** Kensington Grill, 4055 Adams Avenue (at Kensington Street), Kensington, 619-251-4014, *kensingtongrill.com*. Chef Hannes Cavin is cooking up a storm at Kensington Grill. It's not revolutionary, but just about every dish tastes terrific. That's what you want in a neighborhood place — flavorful, consistent food that makes you feel happy, makes you feel fine.

**Best New Bistro:** Cavailon, 14701 Via Bettona, Suite 200, Santaluz, 858-433-0483, *cavaillonrestaurant.com*. Former Tapenade sous-chef Philippe Verpiand presides at this far-off suburban outpost of top-notch French cooking. As the *Michelin Guide* would say, "It's worth a detour." Whether you choose the least expensive weeknight early-bird menu (quite affordable) or a fancier seasonal one (say, the truffle menu of winter), you'll be moved by the beauty, soul, and depth of the food. If nothing else, try the *panisse*, the perfect version of Provençal fried chick-pea rectangles. Whoa, this guy can cook!

**Best Reborn Bistro:** Bernard'O, Albertson's Shop-

ping Center, 12457 Rancho Bernardo Road, Rancho Bernardo, 858-4870-7171, *bernardorestaurant.com*. Chef Patrick Ponsaty, formerly of El Bizcocho, remains an awesome chef — as far as I'm concerned, one of the best in San Diego. Now he's cooking for an up-scale bistro (albeit a very pretty one), and when he cooks, he *cooks*. It was his food that reminded me that deliciousness really does count. Consistently wonderful, it's full of happy surprises.

**Entrée of the Year:** Jack's La Jolla, 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla, 858-456-8111, *jacks lajolla.com*. Muscovy duck breast with cocoa nibs was so brilliant it struck my posse as funny. The breast slices were "rosy" as ordered, tender and rich, rubbed with a bit of star anise, and accompanied by parsnips and a sweet kumquat confit in which each dainty slice of fruit was individually visible. But the Zen-foodie joke lay in an irresistible little pile of toasted ground cocoa nibs, flour, butter, and sugar, baked and then seasoned with toasted ground cloves and run through a Cuisinart-equivalent. It's as though chef Tony DiSalvo thought about the classic Mex-haute combo of mole poblano with turkey and pared it down to essentials — cocoa and game bird, just the basics, a logical but original combination that turns out to taste stunning.

**Best Grazing:** Two winners here, not so much tied as sep-

arately equal: At Bite, 1417 University Ave (at 14th Street), Hillcrest, 619-299-2483, *bitesd.com*, chef-owner Chris Walsh draws from Mediterranean flavors to produce some of the most sensuous grazing dishes in the city. His foie gras crème brûlée is a satiny dream, while warm poached oysters with truffled cream will remind you why these creatures are rumored to be aphrodisiac. (Here, they *are*.) And his rose-scented prosecco cocktail is the perfect exotic drink out of an *Arabian Nights* fantasy. Meanwhile, at Seasons, 142 University Avenue (at Third Avenue), 619-692-1919, chef Comer Smith takes a different approach: His "global tapas" are miniature highlights drawn from his savory, venturesome entrées. Among them: a spectacular gingered Jidori chicken pot sticker in a rich hot-sour broth that tastes something like an Eastern-European stuffed cabbage gravy — redefined by a Southeast-Asian master chef.

**Best Affordable Steak:** Brandt Natural Beef Prime grade flat-iron at Starlite Lounge, 3175 India Street (between Redwood and Spruce), Midtown, 619-358-9766, *starlitesandiego.com*. Both tender and savory, this was anything but boring cow — its flavor was nearly as full-bodied as bison. It was lightly sauced with horseradish crème fraîche, just right for highlighting the meat without disguising it.

**Best-Used Foams:** The

Guild, 1805 Newton Avenue (at Beardsley), Barrio Logan, 619-564-7584, *theguildrestaurant.com*. Most chefs use foam as a special effect, a gilding of the goodies. Guild chef Melissa Mayer uses foams seriously, to vary and intensify tastes. Her complex fizzies open up the flavors, making them clearer, more distinct, and they take on the roles that heavier sauces and reductions play in more conventional "fine cuisine." There's nothing frivolous or arbitrary. They belong to Mayer's food the way paint belongs on canvas. And the restaurant itself is delightful, an oasis of community and artistry in the least-chic neighborhood of the city — 'til now.

**Sensational Soups:** The velvety cream of porcini and chestnut soup at Seasons (see "Best Grazing" above) is intensely mushy and astonishingly fulfilling. On a cold night, it warms you to the marrow; better yet, like a lover's caress or a mother's lullaby, it leaves you feeling cared for. And at Jack's La Jolla (see "Best Entrée" above), chef Tony DiSalvo's creamy celery-root soup last winter was smashing, topped with a "butterscotch froth" (made with a touch of maple syrup, with balsamic vinegar to cut the sweetness). The soup concealed crunchy diced fresh celery and earthy house-made mini-ravioli with a filling of shaved fresh black truffles and truffle juice, baked potato pulp, crème fraîche, and

a little agar-agar binding. This is just the kind of food San Diego needs more of, sensual and approachable but unexpected.

**Best Unendangered Caviar:** Caviar Tacos at Quarter Kitchen, Ivy Hotel, 600 F Street at Sixth Avenue, downtown, 619-814-2000, *quarterkitchen.com*. The 'Bertos don't make tacos like these: shells of supernal delicacy, made of wafer-thin slices of potato, curving around a lush filling of fine Tsar Nicoulai American paddlefish caviar, and robed in crème fraîche gently amended with horseradish, red onion, and chives. (You can opt for endangered Caspian caviar, but the lower-priced spread is as glorious as it is virtuous.) A mouth-filling combination with light, sensual textures, this is food for the sea gods, who would doubtless be tickled blue by it. This kitchen also turns out fine truffled french fries. (But be careful: When you go to Quarter Kitchen/ Keep your money in your socks./ The water price and parking fees/ Will have you on the rocks...)

**"Life's a Beach" special award:** JRDN, Tower 23 Hotel, 4551 Ocean Boulevard (at Feldspar Street), Pacific Beach, 858-270-5736, *JRDN.com*. A breezy break on the beachside back patio on a summer evening exemplifies everything that's best about San Diego living. Lively food, cocktails, and spirit — not to mention a little sand in your sandals. ■



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# Yes, Nuttyish

*“You want us to become sheep again?  
There’s a reason they’re stupid!”*

**L**ordy. Just lost my veg-inity. Gulp. Sitting here at the green counter. Biting into my first-ever raw taco. Looking ahead to start the New Year off right, healthy.

Angie watches me like an anxious mother hen from behind the counter. “Actually, it’s not just vegetarian, but vegan.”

Okay, truth is, this is happening only because I had a few minutes to spare between buses up here in Hillcrest. Thought I’d stroll down Fifth to the St. Tropez for a quick cawfee. But then I spotted this place with an inside wall full of hanging potted plants so green they looked artificial. Outside, I didn’t notice any sign saying who da heck these guys were. Must have a captive audience.

Then I recognized the handwritten name on a markerboard.

“Cilantro Live!”

Oh, right. I remember now. Hank and I had gone to the original Cilantro Live! four years ago, down in Chula Vista. We found ourselves munching on a flaxseed burger and a walnut-mushroom “meat” loaf. And met Cristina Guzman. Her message: Raw is Beautiful. “The secret is the enzymes,” she’d said. “Because there is so much more life in [live, uncooked] food, you need to eat less of it.” Live enzymes, she meant, help your body turn food into energy. Anything cooked over 105 degrees Fahrenheit starts killing them.

It seemed a little, uh, twiggy, nutty Garden of Eatin’ back then. And Carla didn’t help, when I tried to convert her. “Eating meat created our larger brains!” she yelled. “You want us to become sheep again? They eat grass. There’s a reason they’re stupid!” The gal’s a dyed-in-the-wool carnivore.

But today — heck, seems a lot of people don’t agree. Even though the Chula Vista place has

closed, Cristina has opened three new raw restaurants, in Lemon Grove, Carlsbad, and Hillcrest, with invitations to open in L.A., Seattle, Japan, and on the East Coast.

You can smell success as soon as you get inside. It’s big and cheery. There’s that wall of greenery (yes, real CO<sub>2</sub>-gobbling plants), a whole gaggle of big glass-globe hanging lights, lots of wood, and lime-green and white walls. This counter is curvy and topped with green mosaic, with a hole for a fern to grow up through.

Soon as I sit down, Angie recommends the tacos as a good re-intro to raw food.

Now I’m trying to analyze this first taste of the “heavenly tacos,” as the menu calls them. They’re soft, and yes, nuttyish. But I like it ‘cause the flavor’s strong, not insipid. If I didn’t know better, I’d say hops. Beer. That kind of delicious molasses-deep sugar-sharp taste.

“It’s the chipotle,” Angie says. “It has a smoky atmosphere, and it gives a kind of a cooked flavor. Actually, the tacos’ main filling is a nut ‘meat’ made out of almonds and walnuts and sun-dried tomato, plus chipotle and avocado.”

She says they make their own tortillas, too, out of dehydrated vegetables such as tomatillos, corn, and the nopal cactus. And their own salsa fresca. “And we make the sour cream out of almonds and lemon juice.” That’s just the beginning. The complete recipe, she says, is a super secret.

‘Course, listen long enough to eloquent Angie, and pretty soon you’re a disciple of the movement. “Since I switched to the vegan lifestyle,” she says, “my energy levels have been through the roof, and especially with raw foods, it’s like electricity through your veins.”

I picked the tacos, but the choice is pretty

huge. They have soups such as coconut, carrot, or avocado and cilantro (\$4 cup, \$6 bowl); a big salad section with maybe the most interesting-sounding items on the menu, like Spicy Thai salad in a sweet almond sauce with spicy cashews (\$10, \$7 for a half-order); Japanese Sea Vegetable salad with arame and dulce — brown and red seaweeds — (\$10, \$7); or nopalitos salad with nut-based feta cheese (\$9, \$6). They have a bunch of \$8 pâtés in wraps such as the walnut-fig pâté, or “Fortuna,” a sunflower-pumpkin pâté, or the “Asian” (an almond-fig pâté). You can understand the pâté thing: A lot of what they do here is crush nuts and seeds. The entrée section seems to show off the veggies. A green enchilada (\$13, with house salad) combines marinated cabbage, mushrooms, bell peppers, onions, corn, avocado, and nacho “cheese” (it’s nondairy, nut-based). “Roma Raw-violis” (\$12) are thin slices of tomato stuffed with the same “cheese” and pesto sauce. The cheeseburger’s patty is made of tomatoes, flaxseeds, bell peppers, garlic, and mushrooms. It comes on a bun made of almond pulp and buckwheat, \$13.

Whack — 13 Washingtons? Brilliant improvisation, but better be a great burger. And my two tacos, with “Mexican wild rice,” also cost \$13. That’d buy 13 regular tacos not two blocks from here.

So why does it have to be so expensive? “The preparation’s really labor intensive,” Angie says. “You have to cut up all the vegetables, and pound the nuts and seeds, and then they have to go in the dehydrator. It takes a lot more work to prepare than ordinary food.”

But dollar for dollar, protein for protein, Mc-




Cristina Guzman

Donald’s must be a far better deal for the ordinary guy, right? Angie shakes her head. “It’s not a sustainable or compassionate way of living. Or healthy. Heart disease is the number-one killer in America now.”

I pay my \$13. It suddenly strikes me. The next fortune’s gonna be made by the guy who can make eating healthy like this high volume, low cost, and way cool. Who wouldn’t want to feel as charged up with “electricity through your veins” as Angie? ■

**The Place:** Cilantro Live!, 3807 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-325-1949. Also in Lemon Grove and Carlsbad  
**Type of Food:** vegan, raw, mostly organic  
**Prices:** Soups, e.g., coconut, carrot, avocado and cilantro, \$4 cup, \$6 bowl; lunch special soup ‘n’ half-salad combos, \$10–12; walnut-fig pâté wrap, \$8; “Fortuna” (sunflower-pumpkin pâté wrap), \$8; green enchilada with marinated cabbage, mushrooms, bell peppers, onions, corn, avocado, with house salad, \$13; raw vegan cheeseburger, \$13; nutmeat tacos, \$6 (one), \$9 (two), with wild rice, \$13; fat-, flour-, and sugar-free desserts, e.g., carrot cake, \$8 (with ice cream)  
**Hours:** Noon–9:00 p.m., Monday–Thursday; 11:30 a.m.–10:00 p.m., Friday–Sunday  
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# Genius Oddballs

*"People ask, 'After Sideways dies down, do you think it will go away?'"*

Remember Cabernet? King Cab? Remember how Tony Soter used to have a hand in crafting outstanding Cabernets (and Cabernet blends) at places like Chappellet, Spottswoode, Araujo, and Dalla Valle? Soter still makes Cabernet, but as Steve Heimoff notes in his recently published book *New Classic Winemakers of California*, "ironically, he now specializes in Pinot Noir." And he's not alone in his devotion to the heartbreak grape. Heimoff's first two interview subjects, Bill Wathen at Foxen and Dan Morgan Lee at Morgan, both started out making Cab and moved over to Pinot. Says Lee, "I think back to when I got out of school. I liked Cabernet then, loved it, or at least I thought I did. Now I drink about two bottles of Cabernet a year, probably even less. At our house, probably six out of ten bottles of wine are Pinot Noir."

Or consider Merry Edwards, who is "finally building her own winery after making wine for more than 30 years." Heimoff asks, "Why make different Pinots? Most people would not make four single-vineyard Cabernet Sauvignons, they'd make a blend." Edwards responds, "That's because Cabernet doesn't have the finesse or complexity that Pinot has...I think Cabernet and Merlot are very unsophisticated wines. If you try to do an aroma profile, there isn't one. Pinot is more like white wine, in that it has a substantial

and very complex aroma." At interview's end, Heimoff asks Edwards if America is becoming "a Pinot Noir—drinking country." Her reply: "They're starting to...People ask, 'After *Sideways* dies down, do you think it will go away?' Well, no. It's been building for ten years at least. The base is solid now."

Okay, okay — so that's four. There are always going to be a few oddballs out there, even genius oddballs, doing interesting things on the fringes and taking shots at the mainstream. Except, of the 27 "new classic" winemakers Heimoff

selects for the book, 13 are focused primarily on Pinot Noir, while only 8 make Cabernet a specialty. And it gets better. Heimoff divides his book by "the decade in which the winemaker first began his or her career: the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s." He chooses 10 from that latest decade — the new generation, the future of the industry. Of those 10 (representing 9 wineries), 5 are making their name with Pinot Noir. Two specialize in Rhones. The other 3 are Gina Gallo, who is involved in way too many varietals to be called a Cab specialist; Javier Tapia Meza of Ceago Vinegarden, who talks mainly about biodynamics; and Rolando Herrera of Mi Sueño Winery and Baldacci Family Vineyards, who makes Cabernet, but also Pinot, Chardonnay, and Syrah.

Of course, Cabernet and its attendant blends have not abandoned the field. Bob Levy is in these

pages, still keeping the faith at Harlan Estate. And Mark Aubert, winemaker for Colgin, another cult Cab, sounds off on...Pinot Noir. To be fair, much of the interview treats other matters, including Cabernet, but we learn right off the bat that Aubert's own label produces Chardonnay and Pinot. And Heimoff, who went into his conversations having done his homework but not armed with any set list of questions, finds himself asking Aubert about the complaint that some Cal Pinots are "Rhone-like." "Yeah," answers Aubert, "Very, very ripe, *surmaturite*." (And at the end, we learn that since the interview took place, Aubert and Colgin have parted company. So that's at least one Cab he's not making these days. Later still, we find that he had a hand in the making of the first Pisoni Pinot.) And while Heidi Peterson Barrett says she has always believed that "Cabernet is king and Napa Valley is the lead in that," it's interesting to note that she recently parted ways with what was perhaps the king of the cult Cabs, Screaming Eagle. (She does, however, still make Cabernet under her own label and elsewhere.)

"Well, sure," the skeptical reader thinks, "Heimoff could pick a handful of wineries. Of course he's going to try to establish the existence of a trend, in order to provide some justification for picking what he does." A sensible thought. But when I asked him about it, Heimoff denied trying to highlight Pinot Noir in particular. In the book, he gives the following as his criteria: "My foremost parameter was that the winemaker be making consistently excellent wine." Second, "I wanted, obviously, to include more women," and "I also wanted diversity from a production point of view: small wineries and large ones, specialists and generalists." Finally, "I wanted geographic balance." From the sound of it, it's not Heimoff's fault that all those factors conspired to make Pinot



the star of the show. It's just what happened.

What's going on? Is the industry tracking with David Lee at Morgan, wondering what it found so compelling about Cabernet now that it's fallen in love with Pinot Noir? Heimoff, who also serves as West Coast editor for *Wine Enthusiast* magazine, might not entirely disagree. "Again and again," he says, "I talk to people, people who know about wine, who say, 'I started out with Cabernet, but as I got older, I became attracted to Pinot.'"

Such unwilling fickleness (though I suspect some might call it development) can be hard on a grape-grower or a winery. "We finally get everyone settled on Cab, and now *this*?" It can also be hard, notes Heimoff, on a critic. A common charge against Robert Parker is that, as he has aged, he has become fonder of ever-increasing intensity, ever-bigger body, ever-larger dollops of jammy fruit. The palate that made him a legend, runs the complaint, has been dulled by an endless barrage of tastings, to the point where it

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takes monster hugeness to really catch his fancy. Imagine, however, the opposite possibility: that as a critic ages, he becomes less tolerant of sweetness, of ripeness, of enormity. He begins to long for something quieter, something more demure in its approach. (Not that California Pinot Noir is always anything close to demure, but these are relative terms.) He finds himself criticizing wines he used to adore and admiring wines he used to dismiss. Not in any extreme sense, but at his level, moderate and even minute senses count. There is a great gulf between 88 and 90 points.

Suddenly, the 100-point scale looms before him, terrible and absolute. What is he to do? If he diminishes his rating on a mondo Cabernet that once received 96 points, people will wonder: what went wrong with it this year? If he raises his rating on a Pinot that used to seem delicate to the point of timidity, people will wonder: how have they changed for the better? Because, clearly, it's the wines that have changed, not the critic. The critic is objective. The critic is an absolute. It's just that the Pinot is better now, and the Cab is flawed. Right? ■

## 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

**Beach Grass Cafe** 159 South Coast Highway 101 (one block south of Lomas Santa Fe), Solana Beach, 858-509-0632. Formerly a branch of Parkhouse Eatery, Beach Grass has been bought by a mini-chain (with Swami's Cafe and Honey's), but still serves the original recipes. You could eat breakfast here daily and never get bored with the creative morning menu, which includes foamy, fresh orange juice and "Beach Benedict" with eggs and house-made hollandaise on a soft, lush crab cake. Oddly, though, the "maple" syrup and "butter" spread are both mass-market blends. Lunches and dinners feature multi-ethnic "coastal cuisine," with the best results in seafood

dishes like "Moroccan crabcakes" and the fish-n-yam chips (with fine house-made tartar sauce). Vegetable accompaniments are tasty and creative. Reservations essential for weekend breakfasts. Free parking in back via driveway to right of restaurant. Breakfast through dinner daily. Moderate to slightly expensive. — N.W.

**Besta Wan Pizza House** 148 Aberdeen Drive (off the 101), Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-753-6707. This is a North County restaurant that continues to be popular. Their thin-crust East Coast-style pizzas are famous locally. Also check for the big-pile spaghetti or lasagna specials if you just want to fill up. Open seven days, lunch and dinner; weekends open at 9 a.m. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Cafe Zinc** 132 South Cedros (at Lomas Santa Fe), Solana Beach, 858-793-5436. The Rancho Santa Fe set like to hang out here in the garden patio with their Porsches at the curb and their shih tzus under the table (dogs are welcome). Even for non-doggie people, the California pepper trees and garden sculpture make this indoor-outdoor eatery a really pleasant kick-back place (which gets its name from the zinc-top bar inside). The menu, a mixture of Italian and vegetarian, offers dishes like frittata with cucumber salsa, and baked eggplant "pizzette" (personal-size pizza) with marinara, mozzarella, and Parmesan cheese. The vegetarian chili and the Zinc veggie burger (served on a La Brea bun) are tasty too. Open daily, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**El Q'ero** 564 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-753-9050. You'll feel like a guest at an intimate party eating a leisurely dinner in this small, noisy, pretty dining room. Chef Mon-

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ica Szepeszy offers personalized, home-style renditions of South American cuisines, including house-made beverages. Be sure to try the house's *chicha morada*, a tangy soft drink made from Peruvian purple corn. The fare includes numerous types of empanadas, tapas-like small plates, and full-size entrées — most from the family homeland, Peru. Desserts vary nightly and can include a cloud-like *tres leches* cake. Vegetarian and allergy-restricted diets accommodated. Lunch and dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Reservations necessary. Moderate. — N.W.

**Firefly** 251 North El Camino Real (at Mountain Vista), Suite B, Encinitas, 760-635-1066. At this spacious wine bar and restaurant (sharing a small mall with well-known Savory), the wine list emphasizes California boutique wineries and lesser-known bottlings from around the world, and plentiful choices by the glass make it easy to experiment with unfamiliar wines. The menu starts with a half-dozen wine-bar snacks including a cheese plate and a charcuterie plate. The most popular lunch item is a grand Cobb salad, and at dinner there's a tasty bourbon-and-mustard-brined pork tenderloin. Desserts are a strong suit here, including a creative crème brûlée featuring white chocolate and the fragrant bergamot of Earl Grey tea. For weekend brunches, Firefly does it up big with a long, seductive array of choices, including a delicious Dungeness crab Benedict. The menu changes frequently, but this likeable spot feels like a sophisticated neighborhood restaurant where, if you're old enough to enjoy a taste of the grape, you can pretty much come as you are. Open for lunch Monday through Friday, brunch weekends, dinner nightly. Moderate to expensive. — N.W.

**La Especial Norte** 604 North Coast Highway 101 (at Leucadia Boulevard), Leucadia, 760-942-1040. This big, brightly lit roadhouse sports highly whimsical decor (take a look at the blue ceramic "pond" in the dining room, complete with cayman) and boasts a five-page menu, including a page of a dozen regional soups and another full page for seafood. The soups are superb — the authentic Mexico City-style chicken soup is laden with avocados, chicken shreds, cilantro, and rice, and the savory eggplant soup includes airy little "crotons" of puffed *relleno* batter. The fresh, interesting seafood entrées outshine the relatively ordinary renditions of the standard stuffed-tortilla variations. No wheelchair access to restrooms. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. — N.W.

**Pacifica Del Mar** Del Mar Plaza, 1555 Camino Del Mar (at 15th Street), Del Mar, 858-792-1803. The chic crowd is drawn here by Pacific Rim/California-fusion cuisine centering on seafood and organic, locally grown produce. It's quality all the way, but some nights the restaurant is a victim of its own success. The riotous overflow crowds can challenge the kitchen's capacities, not to mention diners' tender ears. (Best strategy for pleasure: Reserve for early or late on a weeknight, and ask for patio seating or Room #2.) Fun list of low-priced mini-appetizers, plus great baked oysters, seared scallops, mustard catfish, and house-cured rib eye. The award-winning wine list is half price Thursday nights, and the full bar specializes in creative martinis. "Pacifica Dine-In" offers call-in take-out for selected items. Lunch and dinner daily. Early-bird dinner discount. Pacifica Breeze Café (a level down) offers savory dishes for breakfast through late lunch daily. Expensive to very expensive. — N.W.

# New Year's Eve Extravaganza

## Tapas Bar

6:30 pm 5-course dinner with live guitarist  
\$69\* pp

8:30 pm Midnight celebration.  
5-course dinner,  
live flamenco,  
champagne toast and  
party favors \$129\* pp

## Main Dining Room Dinner Shows

4:30 pm 5-course dinner and flamenco show \$69\* pp

7 pm 5-course dinner and flamenco show \$99\* pp

9:30 pm Flamenco show and midnight celebration.  
5-course dinner, show, party favors, champagne toast  
and access to Club Sevilla \$129\* pp

## Club Sevilla Dinner Show

6:30 pm Show and Dance Party. 5-course dinner,  
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with champagne toast and party favors  
\$129\* pp  
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\* Tax, beverage, and 17% gratuity not included. 21+



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**Paradise Grille** Flower Hill Promenade, 2690 Via de la Valle (at I-5 off-ramp), Del Mar, 858-350-0808. There's a new blossom unfolding at the Flower Hill mall, as chef Justin Hoehn hones his mixture of Caribbean, Polynesian, and California coastal cuisines. Creative house-made flatbread serves as a canvas for a wide range of imaginative toppings. Appetizers are witty — grilled skewered shrimp are coated in Rice Krispies and calamari tempura misto includes batter-fried lemon slices, a surprise substitute for the standard lemon wedges. The pistachio-coated salmon entrée arrives precisely cooked to order. Other entrées include guava-glazed pork ribs, horseradish-seared ahi tuna, and short ribs braised in plum wine. The wine list is long and eclectic. Most desserts come from Opera Bakery, and they're quite good for outsourced sweets. Weekend brunch menu is painfully tempting: Brioche French toast, flatbread with gravlax, crabcakes Benedict, even jerk chicken sandwiches. Open for lunch and dinner weekdays, brunch and dinner on weekends. Expensive. — *N.W.*

**Potato Shack Cafe** 120 West I Street (off South Coast Highway 101), Encinitas, 760-436-1282. Check out the cute potato-toon mural on the side of the building — a sign for spud-lovers to load up on portions sized for lumberjacks from The Lumberyard across the street. American fries (served “All you can eat!”), French fries, potato patties, and baked potatoes with various toppings are the heart of the menu, along with eggs, omelets, biscuits with sausage gravy, and beer-battered onion rings made from sweet reds. If size counts, consider the daunting inch-thick “manhole” pancake that's bigger than the plate. Lunch runs to “deli” sandwiches (with potatoes), or a hearty bowl of chili con carne. Arrive early weekends. Open daily, breakfast to late lunch. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

**Savory** 267 North El Camino Real, Encinitas, 760-634-5556. Chef-owner Pascal Vignau was executive chef of the Four Seasons Aviara when he decided he wanted his own little place. His casual strip-mall restaurant has been perpetually packed for dinner since opening day. Here he serves a monthly changing menu of Southern French and Mediterranean cooking spotlighting seasonal local produce. Highlights include an ultra-rich macaroni-and-ham casserole. The adventurous mainly-Cal wine list is remarkably affordable, with many choices available by half-bottles and glasses (and modest corkage if you BYO). Dinner reservations urged; groups larger than ten accommodated with manager's approval. High tea Saturday afternoon. Lunch Tuesday through Saturday; dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. — *N.W.*

**Tom Giblin's Irish Pub** 640 Grand Avenue (at Roosevelt Street), Carlsbad Village, 760-729-7234. Occupying the whole of a handsome, sprawling, block-long Elizabethan-style building, this friendly “small-townish” saloon offers some above-average pub-grub, especially the perfect, moist corned beef with firm-tender cabbage, the huge, lively salads, and the house-baked brown bread. Boxy (Irish “peasant” potato pancakes, rarely found in California) are done up rather doughy rather than crisp to serve as “wraps” for corned beef and other dishes. Live music Tuesday through Sunday, 9 p.m. to midnight. A large, attractive heated patio next to the parking lot offers some afternoon serenity. Open daily, lunch until late. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

**Tony's Jacal** 621 Valley Avenue (between Genevieve Street and Juanita Street), Eden Gardens, Solana Beach, 858-755-2274. Come here at night, when the mysterious low mud-brick arches with the stained glass windows make you think Old Mexico, when the Del Mar racing bar makes you think 1930s Hollywood, and the dining patio, under the 100-year-old chinaberry tree, looks straight out of Guadalajara. Back in 1946, Tony Gonzales's wife Catalina started preparing food for fellow Mexican workers. Since then, their daugh-

ters have continued the tradition, and everybody from Liz Taylor to J. Edgar Hoover has passed through these portals. Try the “La Colonia” combination of just about anything with rice and beans. Turkey meat is big here, and the (real) crab quesadilla in a corn tortilla is delicious too. Cheapest: probably chicken strips with French fries. And “Jacal”? It means “shack.” No lunch or dinner on Tuesday; no lunch Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

## NORTH INLAND

**Abbey's Real Texas BBQ** 6904 Miramar Road (at Commerce Street, behind Denny's), Miramar, 858-566-5235. Newer, smaller branch at 9353 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard (at Ruffin Road), Kearny Mesa, 858-279-7427. Texas barbecue consists of meat, chicken, turkey, and links that are repeatedly mopped with a marinade and cooked in a big cast-iron smoker (rather than grilled over a fire). Here they use mesquite to barbecue the poultry quickly and the brisket ve-r-r-y slowly. In addition to the usual BBQ sides (potato salad, coleslaw, beans, etc.), they offer a Caesar salad. At the Miramar branch the room is large and unadorned but very clean. Wheelchair accessible. Same menu lunch and dinner. Open daily; continuous service for lunch and early dinner weekdays; normal dinner hours weekends. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W.*

**El Bizcocho** Rancho Bernardo Inn, 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive (at Rancho Bernardo Road), 858-675-8500. The deluxe restaurant in this rural golf-and-tennis hideaway features upscale, creative French-California cuisine, incorporating old-is-new techniques and imaginative combinations of seasonal ingredients. The weighty wine tome starts out expensive and goes up from there, with relative bargains at the high end and some half-bottles; by-the-glass choices are just adequate. To find it: Take Bernardo Oaks Drive (a long block west of Pomerado) north to the end of the road to the RBI parking lot (with validated parking for restaurant-

goers). If disabled, specify when you reserve, and they'll set up your table in an accessible area. Otherwise there's a maze of short staircases to negotiate en route to the restaurant. Tie-and-jacket requirement now relaxed, but still very dressy. Great service, luxury resort ambience. Dinner nightly, Sunday brunch. Very expensive. — *N.W.*

**Galeon (Escondido)** 503 West Mission (at Centre City), Escondido, 760-746-5951. Mexican seafood, along with the usual dishes, is featured in a bright coffee-shop atmosphere with comfortable booths, big windows, a lunch counter and a salad bar. Shrimp and *langostino* (“squat lobster,” in fishermen's terms) are the house specialties, and are well treated. Also consider an intense little marlin taco (squeeze some lime onto this rich, strong fish), or the savory *albondigas* soup (lime it up, too). Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive (standard dishes) to moderate (seafood). — *N.W.*

**Pho Hoa Hiep** 9910 Mira Mesa Boulevard, #A, 858-578-1468 (also at 6947 Linda Vista Road, 858-268-8406). This *pho* (soup) place of the brothers Hoa and Hiep is a clean, busy eatery near hi-tech offices. It's popular at lunch and dinner, partly because of frequent two-for-one deals. Try the #1, *Dac Biet Xe Lua*, an “extra large bowl” of soup filled with rare steak slices and well-done brisket, flank, tendon, and tripe along with mint and bean sprouts. A popular breakfast *pho* is “French bread with beef juicy cube soup.” They also have rice dishes. And try the traditional fruit drinks, maybe the *Xam Bo Luong*, a combination of loganberry, black dates, seaweed, and lotus seeds in syrup. Lunch and dinner six days, closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Rancho Valencia** 5921 Valencia Circle, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-759-6216. Nestled in the lush garden setting of the Rancho Valencia Resort is one of San Diego's dining gems. They advertise the cuisine as California-French. Whatever. Every bite from appetizer to dessert is prepared and presented to delight Californians, French people — actually, any person on the planet with taste buds. Enjoy an entrée of prime mesquite-grilled steak, fresh fish, veal,

or chicken. Portions are generous, as is the wine list. Casual-elegant dress. Open daily, lunch and dinner; brunch Sunday. Very expensive. — *S.M.*

**Vincent's Sirino's** 113 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-745-3835. French-born chef-owner Vincent Grumel serves Gallic classics in an intimate, small-town bistro setting. This is a cuisine of rich dark sauces robing fine ingredients, such as a huge, flavorful veal chop (no factory calf, that). Mushrooms and vegetables (from local farmers or Grumel's own garden) are the season's best and sensitively treated. Desserts are worth every calorie — save room for the spectacular Bavarian. Full bar, fine wine list. Lunch Tuesday through Friday, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Expensive. — *N.W.*

## LA JOLLA

**A.R. Valentien** The Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, 858-777-6635. A superb choice for a splurge: Chef Jeff Jackson cooks up a daily changing menu of California cuisine emphasizing the natural flavors of peak, in-season produce and top-quality well-raised meats and wild seafood. Not only is the food delicious and quietly inventive, but it's relatively healthy, with less fat, salt, and “bad carbs” than at most restaurants. Note that all dishes on the “chef tasting” dinner are also available solo. The setting (a “country inn” on a golf course) is beautiful, the warren of dining rooms quiet and romantic unless packed. Validated valet parking, free self-parking; full bar with steeply priced wines, moderate-price cocktails. Reservations essential for weekend and holiday dinners. Open three meals daily. Very expensive. — *N.W.*

**Brockton Villa** 1235 Coast Boulevard, La Jolla, 858-454-7393. Pretty and romantic, this sprawling cottage perches above La Jolla Cove and offers heated terraces as well as semi-enclosed tables indoors to admire the view. The culinary masterpiece is “Coast Toast,” served until noon — the French toast of your happiest dreams, puffy and airy

with a lovely orange flavor. (And the coffee is excellent.) Lunchtime features sandwiches on flavorful Bread & Cie breads while dinner runs to San Diego international-eclectic cookery that can be hit-or-miss. Affordable wines and corkage. Steep stairs to all dining areas. All nearby pay parking is uphill in a garage under Trattoria Acqua or up on Prospect. Unisex restroom. Open three meals Tuesday through Sunday; breakfast/lunch Monday. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W.*

**The Cheese Shop** 2165 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla, 858-459-3921. Used to be the Cheese Shop had 100 varieties of cheese from all over. No more. “The cheese trade is dead,” says owner Phil Schutz. They still have all-cheese sandwiches with mixes of provolone, Monterey Jack, Cheddar, Swiss, Muenster, Danish Havarti, or Norwegian Jarlsberg. But today this small, busy café is more famous for its “overstuffed” meat sandwiches. The leg of lamb, top round beef, and roast pork loin are all spit-roasted right beside you as you walk in, to waken your taste buds. Cheeses like crumbled Greek Mizithra add tang to the taste. If you're into salami and ham, try the foot-long. Inexpensive. Other location: 427 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-232-2303, open daily breakfast to late lunch, with delivery to downtown addresses. — *E.B.*

**Great Khan's Mongolian Festival** 4545 La Jolla Village Drive (UTC), 858-678-0950. This is a chain that stretches almost as far as the Mongolian Empire, but that's because the idea is good. One meal, plenty of it, and guaranteed fresh because it's either frozen (curled shavings of beef, chicken, turkey, pork) or raw (veggies including cabbage, celery, broccoli, cucumber, green peppers, carrots, mushrooms, pineapple, water chestnuts). Stuff as much as you can into your bowl and hand it to the chef to braise on the huge hotplate, and add noodles. Bonus: gallery view of skaters or an ice hockey match while you eat. Open lunch through dinner weekdays, earlier closing weekends. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Harry's Coffee Shop** 7545 Girard Avenue (at Pearl), La Jolla, 858-454-7381. When Harry Rudolph



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It opened Harry's back in 1960, his idea was simple: to create a down-home eatery and soda fountain where all La Jolla — rich, poor, Brahmins, and gardeners — could mix and meet with plenty of good eats. Everyone from Joan Kroc to Junior Seau to Brooke Shields has been spotted here, along with regular folks who've been coming in for three decades. Now Harry III reigns quietly among a dozen whirling dervish waitresses at lunch. The big ham steak and eggs is a favorite breakfast, as is the simple, rich "Hot Creamy Oatmeal" with strawberries. Pecan pancakes and thin, crisp waffles ring true to many Easterners (though Harry offers thick Belgian-style waffles, too), and for lunch, turkey burgers and the bacon-loaded British Burger are popular. At the counter, the banter between been-here-forever waitresses and customers sounds like family life. Nice sidewalk patio, too. Breakfast and lunch daily. Long lines on weekends. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**La Taverna** 927 Silverado Street (at Girard Avenue), La Jolla, 858-454-0100. Reservations are a necessity at this tiny trattoria, especially if you'd prefer the relative quiet of the roofed sidewalk patio to the din of the cute but cramped dining room. Look for Italian cooking styles ranging from Tuscan, which showcases pastas with simple fresh sauces, to meatballs and red sauce. Highlights include chef-owner Mary Ann Vitale's house-made Sicilian-style fennel sausage, and if the feather-light potato gnocchi is on special, just say "yes." Save room for a slice of house-made layer cake. Moderate. — N.W.

**Marrakesh** 634 Pearl Street (at Draper), La Jolla, 858-454-2500. The North African fare of Morocco is like no other in the world — influenced by Arab cuisines, but more intense and sheerly hedonistic. At this Moroccan restaurant, the fare is arranged into a nightly five-course prix fixe feast, with superb lentil soup (*harira*), a salad plate, *bastilla* (a chicken-filled filo pie), an entrée, and finally mint tea poured from on high to accompany almond baklava perfumed with orange-flower water. The setting and service are dramatic — tented ceilings, low banquette seating at carved round tables, belly-dancing interludes, servers in fezzes. (You're the Sheik of Araby.) A short list of entrées (a maximum of two choices per table, to be shared) features fine chicken (or lamb) with olives and preserved lemons; moist, fatless duck; lamb with couscous; and rather dry fish. You can request the dreamy lamb with honey, an extravaganza that includes fruits, almonds, sesame, and cinnamon. Lunch and dinner daily; reserve for weekends. Moderate. — N.W.

**Piatti Ristorante** 2182 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla Shores, La Jolla, 858-454-1589. Whether you sit inside to enjoy the warm, rustic decor or outside under the giant ficus tree listening to the fountain, you're in for a treat at this secluded restaurant. Meals begin with crunchy corn-studded *ciabatta* and spicy balsamic dipping sauce, but don't fill up too soon: the appetizers and salads are varied and tasty. All pastas are house-made and served with lively, unusual sauces. Lemon-herbed rotisserie chicken, wood-fired pizzas, veal *piccata*, and *bistecca* (a grilled rib-eye steak) round out the entrées. Portions are generous, so pace yourself if you're planning to have one of their house-made desserts. Lunch and dinner daily, brunch also available Saturday and Sunday. Moderate. — S.M.

**Sadaf** 613 Pearl Street (at Cuvier), La Jolla, 858-551-0643. You worry — those formal fixtures and black-tux waiters, the gold-encrusted paintings, and the crisp, pink table linens all scream "expensive!" Actually, prices are easygoing, especially at lunch. After the basket of complimentary bread, try skewers of chicken or ground filet mignon with rice or salad, or *albalou polo* (rice, dried cherries, and chicken). Pistachio-and-rosewater ice cream is a great finale. Nonspecials and evening meals cost more, but at any price this is real Persian food, with typical riotous herbage and sybaritic spicing. Another branch in the Gaslamp turns into a nightclub after dinner, but the food's better at this La Jolla flagship. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

**Trattoria Acqua** 1298 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-0709. This popular restaurant has charming decor,

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Calendar  
RESTAURANTS

with arched doorways dividing a warren of white-painted, high-ceilinged rooms and terraces arranged around a tiled, heated courtyard. The seasonally changing menu could be called “avant-garde Italian,” a style that more than pushes the Italian envelope with assorted international influences. The food can be divine — or dismaying. Given Acqua’s “destination restaurant” status, there’s a surprising air of bean-counting that manifests itself in oddly lightweight silverware, waiters unclear about proper wine service, and, at times, tired veggies. Desserts, though, are superb. Full bar with extensive, wide-ranging wine list that includes half bottles as well as choices by the glass. Walk-ins accepted but weekend reservations advised. Restaurant is two floors down from Prospect, with validated parking in underground garage on Coast Boulevard. Elevator access from both directions (Acqua’s stop is the first floor). Lunch or brunch and dinner seven days. Moderate (pastas) to very expensive. — N.W.

**Tutto Mare** 4365 Executive Drive (at Executive Way), Golden Triangle, 858-597-1188. The modern Italian cuisine here emphasizes pasta and fresh seafood from the mesquite grill or oak-fired oven. Lunch hours roar with chic crowds from the surrounding office buildings, but the kitchen is most on its toes then, too. Pastas come with fresh-tasting sauces, and substantial seafood salads are available. Entrées (whether seafood or meat) may be overcooked by the fierce wood fires, and most come with minor variations of the same lemon-butter sauce and a one-size-fits-all veggie medley. Full bar, interesting wine list, good happy hour nibbles. Complimentary valet parking. Call for careful directions (very hard to find). Extremely noisy. Lunch and dinner weekdays, dinner weekends. Pastas and salads moderate, entrées expensive. — N.W.

MISSION VALLEY  
& THE MESAS

**Andrés Restaurant** 1235 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park, 619-275-4114. This is a cozy cultural surprise on hard-to-define Morena Boulevard. The food is flavorful (and not spicy-hot like Mexican and South American dishes). A good introduction to it is *ropa vieja* (“old clothes”): shredded beef sautéed with mushrooms, green pepper, and tomatoes with ever-present rice and black beans. And the Cuban sandwich (roast pork, baked ham, and cheese) shows off the Cuban handling of pork. Other interesting dishes include *alcapuria* (pork and green plantain) and luscious, messy *yuca con mojo* (yuca root with garlic oil). Open for lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

**Shanghai City Restaurant** 3860 Convoy Street #105 (off Balboa), Kearny Mesa, 858-278-5883. Forget the blah strip mall it hides in — this little piece of Shanghai is a jewel. It feels like one of those century-old places in San Francisco’s Chinatown. A two-foot-long, satin-silver arowana fish greets you as you come in. Brightly painted dragon columns support a gold dragon arch that leads you into the gold-walled dining room. Mainly, Chinese seem to come here, often eating Shanghai seafood dishes or choosing sumptuous specials like clay hot pots filled with eel and chestnuts or steamed rockfish on a big oval platter. Or, for around five dollars, you can choose lunches like Shanghai chicken, chicken chop suey, or Szechuan pork with crispy noodles, soup, steamed rice, a spring roll, and the main item. Open daily 10 a.m. to midnight. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

**Spice House Cafe** 9035 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard (at Complex Drive, across from courthouse), 858-565-1028. When your “head feels like an old potato” and your “tongue like a button hook” (to quote Kipling), Spice House’s answer is their Hangover Omelet. We don’t know if it’s the Ortega chilies or Jack cheese or super tangy tomato sauce,

but some guys swear they feel better for eating it. Other excellent choices include Portuguese sausage with three eggs; Italian sausage frittata with ham, tomatoes, mushrooms, and thick French toast topped with strawberries and whipped cream. Emphasis on Greek-American cuisine. Breakfast and lunch, closes at 3 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**24-Hour Valley Kitchen Family Restaurant** 875 Hotel Circle South, Mission Valley, 619-819-1017 or 619-298-8282. Great when everything else is closed. The place feels like a Midwestern chain eatery: all carpets, dark-wood walls, etched glass. Prices are a little up there, but hot French dip is great and burgers are generous. Best news may be that if you feel like breakfast at midnight, no problem. Ask for the pork chops, two eggs, hash browns, and biscuits and gravy. Chops are crumbed and buried in hash browns. Splosh on lots of applesauce, and leave room for the biscuits — their bacon-fat gravy will have you licking the plate. Bonus: You can sit here with a book and a coffee all night long if you like. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

THE BEACHES

**Brazil by the Bay Restaurant and Sports Bar** 3770 Hancock Street, Loma Portal, 619-692-1410. It’s not by the bay, but the food is definitely by-the-book Brazilian. You know because the first things you see are *guaraná*, the Amazonian energy drink, and *açaí*, the Amazonian palm berry energy bowl. If you’re not strapped for cash, go for the popular *feijoada* stew, black beans cooked slowly with “six types of pork and two kinds of beef,” offered Saturday and Sunday. If you don’t have the dough, have what most of Brazil eats every day: the “PF,” *prato feito* (“ready plate”). It’s beef, chicken, or fish with rice and Brazilian beans. End with the cheapest dessert, the wicked *brigadeiro*. Open seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**The French Gourmet** 960 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach, 858-488-1725. In the mood for pâté, ratatouille, or calf’s liver in a homey

atmosphere? Make a reservation at The French Gourmet *tout de suite*. Start off with traditionally prepared escargots or mussels. The onion soup is good, but hope that the soup du jour is gingered cream of carrot. Entrées include lamb loin, veal tenderloin, bouillabaisse, and fish, with several preparation choices for chicken or filet mignon. The pan-roasted halibut is gently enhanced with a champagne *beurre blanc* sauce and topped with crispy braised leeks. Desserts abound, with an imported French cheese plate topping the list — along with pastries, meringues, etc., all freshly prepared in-house. Bakery, breakfast, and lunch daily; no dinner Sunday or Monday. Moderate to expensive. — S.M.

**Gringo’s** 4474 Mission Boulevard (at Garnet Avenue), Pacific Beach, 858-490-2877. With better cooking than you’d guess from its name, this ambitious spin-off of the local Moondogs chain serves the sort of Mexican cuisine you might find at a seaside resort in Cabo or Puerto Vallarta — skillfully prepared with good, fresh ingredients, just a bit dumbed-down in the flavors. The chile verde, say, is beautifully seasoned, if barely *picante*. Given the surefire location at the hub of PB party town, the food is actually better than it needs to be. A vast list of tequilas, interesting margaritas, and a sensible wine list emphasizing affordable, food-friendly Chilean bottlings add to the draw for a lively young crowd that revs the decibels to a roar on weekends. Three meals daily, brunch available Sunday. Moderate. — N.W.

**The Mission Cafe and Coffee House** 3795 Mission Boulevard (at San Jose Place), Mission Beach, 858-488-9060. Gourmet and Latino breakfasts served in funky surroundings. Outstanding are cinnamon French toast, blackberry-banana pancakes, and roast beef hash with rosemary potatoes and eggs. Chino-Latino lunch items. All dishes plus fabulous bread, scones, muffins, available for take-out. Open daily 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.W.

**The Surfside** 4527 Mission Boulevard (at Garnet Avenue), Pacific Beach, 858-273-2979. In the evenings, it’s a

“scene” here — for good reason. You’ll find fresh sushi, sashimi, and “California coastal cuisine,” i.e., fun and flavorful fusion-y tapas, many of them going for half-price during weeknight happy hours. You can actually reserve for the sushi bar (it’ll put you at the head of the line), where the chefs are unusually friendly. They shine on simple, pure Japanese sushi, although they make the usual “party rolls” too. Most seafood is of fine quality (except the *toro*, which seems to have problems). For those preferring a tapas-style sit-down meal, there’s a breezy, informal dining room with large windows looking out on the street, plus a small private dining room for parties. At least four Japanese beers and more than a dozen sakes available. Reservations urged for large groups. Parking is tight; just one handicapped slot in front lot. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W.

**Sushi Ota** 4529 Mission Bay Drive (at Bunker Hill Street), Pacific Beach, 858-270-5670. What becomes a legend most? At its best, this renowned sushi bar offers fish of exceptional quality, perfect tart-sweet rice, tight wraps, and disciplined creativity. These joys don’t come easily. First, find the place: Driving south from Balboa, look left, and pull into the mini-mall with the large 7-11 sign (opposite Rubio’s). Sit at the sushi bar to snoop on your neighbors’ choices, watching for off-menu extravaganzas. Don’t miss the *ama ebi* with crisp shrimp heads, atypically flash-baked (not batter-fried). Cooked dishes are dull except for *chawan mushi* (custard broth with ginkgo nuts). Alas, when *Ota-san’s* away, his elves may play — amateurishly. Best bet: Reserve a bar seat when the master’s most likely to be present. Lunch Tuesday through Friday, dinner daily. Disabled access chancy. Long, crowded waits unless you’ve reserved. Moderate. — N.W.

CENTRAL  
SAN DIEGO

**La Fachada** 20 25th Street (near Commercial Street), Logan Heights, 619-236-8566. The thing about La

Fachada is: You can have anything anytime. This restaurant near the trolley’s 25th Street stop is Mexican but has Anglo food too — maybe because the cops’ Central Division HQ sits across the road. Great not-quite-morning place for breakfast at, say, 3 a.m. They do a pretty good Western omelet breakfast with cheese, bell peppers, onions, and ham, bacon, or sausage. They also have great Caldo Siete Mares and Vuelva a la Vida, tasty soups laden with seafood. But the best fun is in the evening up to 11 p.m., when an outdoor kitchen operates, mostly serving tacos to eat under a big white garden canopy. Open 7 a.m. to 3 a.m. (Friday and Saturday open 24 hours). Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Los Reyes** 2496 Broadway (at 25th), Encanto, 619-231-0716. Smaller branch at 47th and Market. If you’ve ever craved those fabulous Mexican fish soups that can be such energy restorers, these strip-mall Mexican restaurants have a great one. It’s *Caldo 7 Mares* (Seven Seas Soup) and it comes as a big bowl of savory red fish soup clunking with giant crab legs, clams, chunks of white fish, shrimp, the pink and purple suckers of octopus, and vegetables. It’s also called *Vuelva a la vida*: “Return to life.” On a hot day, their Cocktail Campechana (shrimp and octopus in a light, spicy tomato broth) will return you to life, too. Four brothers and one sister from Michoacan run the place. A very Michoacan dish is *carnitas* — pork shoulders. Or try their gringo lunch deal of a bacon cheeseburger with fries and a can of soda. The prices make this a tightwad’s paradise. Three meals daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Saigon** 4455 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights, 619-284-4215 or 619-284-4288. You’re in a big glass palace here. It’s especially good on Sundays, when three- or four-generation Vietnamese families gather for lunch. Gaggles of waiters hover a glance away, but take your time. The menu has over 250 items on it. Default choice: *pho*, the famous, filling soup-meal of Vietnam where beef cooks in the soup. Another safe bet is stir-fried crispy or soft egg noodle with seafood and assorted vegetables. “33” Vietnamese beer is on



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hand to make Saigon lovers sentimental. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Trieu Chau Restaurant** 4653 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-280-4204. This is as near as you'll come to eating breakfast in Phnom Penh or lunch in Vientiane. Cambodians come in the morning to talk politics and play Cambodian chess. At lunch, Laotians replace them. Maps of "Kampuchea" decorate the walls, as well as long-distance telephone ads. The menu includes Chinese, Khmer, and Lao dishes. In the morning, ask for "djak kvai coffay dok ko" — fried bread with Cambodian coffee, the standard French-Khmer breakfast. Later in the day, you might try pan-fried noodles with broccoli and beef or shrimp and gravy ("koitiow bahat sai kho"). If in doubt, ask for Kathy, who speaks Chinese, Khmer, Lao — and English. Open daily, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Turf Supper Club** 1116 25th Street, Golden Hill, 619-234-6363. At this cozy saloon (a landmark since 1950, "re-established" in 1998), if your meat's done wrong, it's your own fault. Every night's an indoor cook-out, as patrons huddle by the communal fire-pit tending their steaks (a choice of three ritzy cuts, well-marinated in garlic and olive oil), burgers, chicken breasts, or portobello mushrooms; others choose the veggie kabobs or teriyaki skewers of beef, chicken, or fish. And that's the menu. The only side dish is a simple salad — not even fries. But the meat's a treat, especially the huge, juicy Delmonico rib eye. If you're an utterly hopeless cook, a staffer will mind your meal for you, but you'd miss half the fun. Full bar, no reservations. Weekdays dinner only; open until 2 a.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Inexpensive to barely moderate. — *N.W.*

## EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA

**Barnes Bar-B-Que** 2625 Lemon Grove Avenue, Lemon Grove, 619-462-9206. Clayton Davis's sign says it all: "Let Us Bring Tha South to Ya Mouth." You can tell this is the real deal from the two heavy iron doors in the brick wall behind the counter and the big wood fires burning oak inside. This is Memphis-style soul food, mild and mouth watering — and cheap. Expect dollar portions, from smothered chicken or pork, neck bones and cabbage, to country yams, corn on the cob, and corn bread. Other lip-smacking dishes include chopped beef brisket

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# Calendar

## RESTAURANTS

sandwich, pork ribs or shoulder, beef ribs, red snapper, and hot links or ham — all with two sides and bread. Oh yes, they also serve catfish sandwiches and sweet potato tarts. Or you could just stand outside and smell the smoke. Open Monday through Sunday, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Jimmy's** 9635 Mission Gorge Road (at Town Center Drive), Santee, 619-448-8994. We're at the end of the line here, the trolley's Orange Line. Feels like a safari. You walk back through the grass to the streets of Santee. Thank goodness for this family-friendly restaurant with good, old-fashioned American food. Their six-page plastic menu tells all — forget your diet and dig into the breakfast "Eggs and Cakes" (two eggs, three pancakes), the "Touchdown" (two eggs, two hotcakes, four strips of bacon or three link sausages), or the "Monte Cristo" hot sandwich (ham and turkey grilled on butter-dipped Texas toast with Swiss cheese, hot syrup, and French fries). Later in the day, the New York strip or sirloin steak with all the trimmings, and desserts like homemade cinnamon bread pudding with raisins and whipped cream. Open three meals, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Los Michoacanos** 8001 Mission Gorge Road, Santee, 619-449-9032. You get a lot for a little here. Order even one really cheap potato taco from Luis Gabriel, the owner, and you get the full treatment of tortilla chips and salsa beforehand. Then out comes this hot, crisp-shelled taco, bursting with shredded lettuce, two cheeses, and inside, the most scrumptious sautéed potatoes. It may be way cheap, but it's no way mean. Other good Mexican dishes here include the chorizo torta or the grand garlic shrimp combo. Added bonus: The place is new, bright, red and yellow, and sports a terrace looking out across the valley. Open seven days, three meals. Inexpensive — *E.B.*

**The Omelette Factory** 7941 Mission Gorge Road, Santee, 619-596-9686. The Factory sits in the kind of stand-alone building you expect to see in a country town: long, angled roof with a portico dressing up the basic shed structure behind. It's a great sprawling place that's ideal to bring the kids for a big breakfast. You can't beat their omelets, all nineteen of them,

from the Just Say Cheese (with Swiss, Jack, Cheddar, or American), to the magnificent Factory Omelette (a build-your-own: up to four meats, veggies, or cheeses). A Greek family has turned this location, outside Santee, from an abandoned social hall into a regular pit stop for half the community, it seems. For lunch, try the Factory Burger. It has two hamburger patties *plus* gyro meat, two cheeses, and onions. Breakfast and lunch, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

## FAR EAST

**La Posta** 32337 Old Highway 80, Pine Valley, 619-478-5600. Is the Wild West dead? Not out here. Swagger in past the rocking chairs on the wooden porch, by the "NRA meets here, every 3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m." sign, past bows and arrows, dream catchers, lariats, and brass spittoons, and swing into a chair. Now think vintage American food. Hefty anytime-breakfasts include two eggs, hash browns, biscuits, and coffee or eggs with chicken-fried steak or a bulging veggie omelet. ("With syrup" the breakfast items, such as pancakes, stop at 2:30 p.m.) Their sourdough cheeseburger with fries or potato salad is big, or delve into a bowl of chili. Folks hereabouts talk about that chili in low, reverent voices. For dinner, the rib eye steak or pork chops is good enough to make city folks swoon. Three meals daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Ramon's Smokehouse BBQ** 1730 Alpine Boulevard, Suite 110, Alpine, 619-445-1008. The smell of mesquite wood burning under fresh-cut beef rib is beyond resistance. The secret Texas recipe draws crowds. Go Sunday morning, especially, when chefs in maroon aprons dance around the fat-spitting fire, disappearing into the clouds of fragrant smoke to flip the racks of beef and pork ribs. In good weather you can eat out back next to an authentic chuck wagon. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

## UPTOWN & OLD TOWN

**Adams Avenue Grill** 2201 Adams Avenue, University Heights, 619-298-8440. The frequently changing menu tries to embrace several disparate styles and can't quite get its arms around any of them. The dishes are often ambitious; a few soar, but many falter due to flaws in conception, execution, or both. Largely ho-hum wine list

needs selections with enough sweetness to stand up to items featuring Asian spice — try the Rieslings. Still, the place seems full of happiness and friendliness: yellow and orange walls, plenty of smiles amid the bustle. Soups receive lavish attention and sometimes live up to their billings. As to treats, the generous, marvelous lavender-infused crème brûlée makes this a dessert destination — pause to sniff a spoonful before slipping it between your lips. Lunch and dinner daily, breakfast Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *A.M.*

**Asian Bistro** 414 University Avenue (just east of Fourth), Hillcrest, 619-296-4119. The historic building has been freshly redecorated, keeping only the overhead sign that used to mark a one-time Chinese "dive." Now the eclectic pan-Asian menu emphasizes Thai flavors — the owners and kitchen staff are Thai, including executive chef "Miss Songsri" (who put Celadon on the map), working in a more casual vein here. Don't miss "Atomic Hog's Wings" (small pork shanks) or the Louisiana fried buster crab dish named "Jumping Jarvis." The beer and wine lists are international and affordable. Lunch and dinner, serving until 3 a.m. nightly. Lunches inexpensive, dinners moderate. — *N.W.*

**Bread and Cie** 350 University Avenue (at Fourth), Hillcrest, 619-683-9322. At least twenty breads emerge daily from this bakery's 10,000-pound French stone hearth oven. Most are dense, crusty, and delicious French or Italian peasant breads, including the outstanding anise-fig and black olive loaves that are served in many top local restaurants. Scones, brownies, muffins, banana bread, and cookies are the sweet side of the house. Focaccia pizza and sandwiches (many with thick-sliced bread and rather thin fillings) are available to take out or eat on the spot — inside the café or on the sidewalk patio. Open daily except Christmas, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

**Cafe on Park** 3831 Park Boulevard (at University), Hillcrest, 619-293-7275. Okay, it's trendy, from the rusty spoon-and-fork sign at the door to the PC industrial interior (concrete walls, exposed plumbing). But don't expect PC food. The plates are huge and overflowing with fodder. Breakfast scrambles are popular with add-ons such as smoked salmon, artichoke hearts, or Brie cheese. Health nuts choose the Park Porridge stuffed with apples, raisins, and honey. But the prize may be the dish that Placerville, California, miners ordered when they

came down from the mountains with pockets full of gold: the Hangtown Fry — luscious marinated sautéed oysters scrambled in eggs. Three meals daily, with break 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. (Line at door on Sunday.) — *E.B.*

**Ichiban** 1449 University Avenue (at Normal), Hillcrest, 619-299-7203. Is this Paris or Tokyo? At night, the café outside glows like a Van Gogh painting, except the customers are eating sushi and drinking green tea, not red wine. The best values are at lunch, with weekday specials like Bento combos (sushi rolls, crab, salmon, rice) and filling soups overflowing with veggies and thick *udon* noodles. Healthy? You betcha. The miso soup (with every dish) made from soy and seaweed is a great daily iodine fix. Number One — that's what "*ichi-ban*" means. Open to 9:30 p.m., Sunday until 9 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Jack and Giulio's Italian Restaurant** 2391 San Diego Avenue (at Arista), Old Town, 619-294-2074. After more than four decades in business, this father (Giulio) and son (Jack) operation manages to stay fresh. The antipasto salad, with its thin-cut prosciutto and salami, will get your juices flowing. All the traditional Italian entrées like veal parmigiana and fettuccine Alfredo are there, but go for the house specialties like Spaghetti New Orleans with shrimp, crawfish, and crab meat, or the expensive scampi dishes. Broke? Get a simple Angel Hair Mediterraneo or rigatoni with meat sauce to enjoy out on the patio. Open for lunch and dinner, seven days. Moderate. — *E.B.*

**Khyber Pass** 523 University Avenue (at Fifth Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-294-7579. The room's very modern, but Afghan cuisine is full of history, carrying echoes of both Persian and Indian foods, with even a hint of Greek (Alexander the Great conquered the region). Dinners feature kebabs, tandooris, curries, and some unique regional specialties. Flavors are exotic but oddly comfortable to the cosmopolitan palate. Among the don't-miss items are the outstanding *aushak* (spring onion ravioli) and *mantu* (ground-meat ravioli) — both with lively yogurt sauces — and *zamordd chalow*, a spicy lamb-and-spinach stew. Save room for the sexy desserts. Can be noisy inside; small sidewalk patio. Private dining room upstairs bookable for parties. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *N.W.*

**Marie's Cafe** 3016 University Avenue (near 30th), North Park, 619-220-0142. One of the last old-time

diners in town. Marie and son Erik took over in 2002. It had already been operating for 50 years as Johnny's. They kept the tradition but created a sparkling kitchen and a reputation for generous servings. Try the three-egger breakfast omelet with Italian sausage, avocado, and olives. If Erik's smokin' up some ribs (you'll smell them half a block away), grab them. And forget fries. Go for the "side" salad, a huge dish of romaine, with tomatoes, red onions, cheese, croutons, and bleu cheese dressing. Go ahead. Mess yourself up. Open 24 hours Wednesday through Saturday; from 8 a.m. till 3 p.m. Sunday and Monday; till 8 p.m. Tuesday). Inexpensive. E.B. — *E.B.*

**Ono Sushi and Pacific Spice** 1236 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-298-0616. If you are searching for huge portions, fresh tasty food and reasonable prices, don't overlook this colorful Japanese/Pacific Rim café. Excellent specialty rolls, entrées, appetizers. Very crowded weekends; lively young crowd. Dinners nightly; open for lunch Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.W.*

**Sushi Itto** 441 Washington, Hillcrest, 619-291-6060. Don't come here looking for Japanese food. This is *Mexican* sushi, from a chain based in Mexico City that's dedicated to creating rolls for Mexican tastes. Nearly all the party rolls feature cream cheese and avocado and most include a shot of hot spice and some fake crab (*surimi*), too. In their own way, they're fun, so long as you're prepared to give up any puristic standards and go with the flow. But don't bother with the plain *nigiri* — the rice lacks classic sushi seasonings (and is often dry), and the seafood is too mediocre to be appealing in simple preparations. Rock-bottom prices, though. Another branch is in the Gaslamp at 409 F Street, 619-237-1037. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

**Terra** 3900 Vermont Street, Uptown Shopping Center, Hillcrest, 619-293-7088. Co-owner Jeff Rossman, formerly in charge of the front of the house, has moved into the kitchen to serve as chef at this comfortable neighborhood spot, serving venturesome, if uneven, tropical-influenced American cooking. You can settle in a spacious southwest-tinged dining room or people-watch from a sheltered outdoor patio (with smoking permitted). Generously sized tapas can serve as appetizers or as a sustaining bite before venturing into Trader Joe's across the street. The dinner menu changes seasonally, featuring barbecue items during the summer, comforting fare in

colder weather, and special dinners on all major holidays. Good wine list with several flights available, full bar with tropical cocktails (Pisco Sours, Caipirinhas, etc.). Reservations advised, especially for weekends, holidays and special events (e.g., Sunday "blues and barbecue" during the summer). Saturday and Sunday three meals, weekdays lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *N.W.*

## DOWNTOWN

**Athens Market** 109 West F Street (between First and Front), 619-234-1955. Alex Spanos and lots of local hotshots come here for honest Greek home cookin'. Yes, it's classy — white table cloths, linen napkins — but you can fill up on just a bowl of *fakae*, owner Mary Pappas's "secret recipe" lentil soup, and an appetizer, like *spanakopita* (spinach and cheese pastry pockets). Entrées come with rice, roast potato, a vegetable, soup or salad, and French bread and butter — all at a darned good price. Oh, and don't despise the gyro. Meat flavor's great, and it takes a football player to empty this plate. Lunch and dinner Monday through Friday, dinner only Saturday, closed Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

**Edgewater Grill** 861 West Harbor Drive, Seaport Village, 619-232-7581. An easy walk from the Convention Center, the dining room is spacious and handsome, and the view from the crowded dining terrace is optimal (the bay, the Coronado Bridge, a park, etc.). The menu, though, is convention-centered — like a Howard Johnson's for the 21st century. The fare features middle-of-the-road faux-fusion salads, seafood, grilled steaks, pastas (most with shellfish), and individual pizzas, plus daily fin-fish dishes listed on a card in a plastic holder on the table. The lighter dishes are the most successful — this is not a bad place to "graze" on appetizers and a mini-pizza when you're starved for a view. Difficult wheelchair access to terrace. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Entrées high moderate to very expensive. — *N.W.*

**Fat City Steakhouse** 2137 Pacific Highway (at Hawthorn), Little Italy, 619-232-9303. In the Deco "pink palace" at the edge of downtown, the USDA Choice steaks (and one velvety Prime cut) are cooked over mesquite charcoal, which lends them a deliciously smoky campfire flavor. Don't like beef? You can choose nicely grilled chicken, pork, or salmon; two vegan pastas; or scampi. The appetizer list is mainly trite

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Reservations recommended



pub grub, but the fry cook does a great job with calamari. And in fair weather, the lush garden dining patio is a little piece of Eden. Full bar, rather basic wine list. Casual ambience, above-average wheelchair access from large, free parking lot. Dinner daily 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.*

**Gen Lai Sen Hakka Seafood Restaurant** 1065 12th Avenue (at C Street), downtown, 619-239-5478 or 619-239-5479. Across the street from City College, you'll encounter a split personality. The good twin provides superb Hakka dishes, a style developed by a nomadic people originally from northwest China, now residents of mainly the south China coast. The bad twin dishes out gluey cornstarch-ridden stir-fries for starving students. But it's easy to tell which twin is which: The "chef recommend sizzle plates," the hot pots that taste like home cooking (best ordered by four or more), the greaseless fried rice, the noodles (especially "house special rice noodles"), and the whole steamed fish-of-the-day are palpable hits. And if you really want to know what the fuss about Hakka is all about, try the sizzle plate stuffed tofu — these deep-fried crisp rectangles with a pork meatball inserted in each tender center resemble meat-flavored roasted marshmallows, and may just change your mind about bean curd. Open brunch through dinner Monday through Friday. Pleasant service, very casual, mainly inexpensive. — *N.W.*

**Las Cuatro Milpas** 1857 Logan Avenue, Barrio Logan, 619-234-4460. This isn't a restaurant, it's a legend. The same Estudillo family has been serving old-fashioned Mexican food here for three generations — seventy years. Rice, beans, pork tacos (they don't serve beef), pork tamales, chorizo with eggs — that's about it. So how come they have lines outside every day? Blame a potent mixture of sentiment and the lard they refuse to abandon. Folks say that lard flavor is the real Mexico. Also famous: their Saturday *menudo*. Warning: go easy with their deep wine-colored hot sauce. It's room-rocker strength. The name? From a famous mariachi song, "The Four Cornfields." Open morning to mid-afternoon, Monday to Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Mediterranean Cafe and Lounge** 1352 Fifth Avenue (between A and Ash), downtown, 619-515-2233 or 619-325-1900. Don't come early. You'll be all alone. Turn up around midnight, and you'll see just how social the Lebanese can be. Meals are spread over a couple of hours with lots of conversation, probably finishing with a baklava, Turkish coffee, and a *sheesha* — water pipe (much cheaper by the hour here than down in the Gaslamp; best flavor: rose). They have the whole panoply of Middle Eastern and Greek food, but the best deals are probably the single lamb skewer on a roll of pita bread with hummus, tomato, lettuce, and pickles, or the meat pie on pita. Open 5:30 p.m. to 3

a.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 5:30 p.m. to 4 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

**Ocean Room and Lounge** 630 Fifth Avenue (north of Market), Gaslamp, 619-501-6550. Sometimes you don't want a temple of haute cuisine, merely an easygoing place for folks to meet — especially if there are oysters involved. Ocean Room fills that bill handily, one of the few Gaslamp joints where you can enjoy a conversation without straining over the noise. The fare is mainly Mediterranean-style seafood, with a few nods at Cajun cuisine. Pleasant dishes include mussels *mariniere*, "Cajun" seafood pasta (with sub-Cajun spice levels), seafood pan roast, and Fanny Bay oysters on the half-shell. Or try the oyster shooters. Valet parking, bar for single diners, casual feel. Dinner nightly. Expensive (but less than average for the neighborhood). — *N.W.*

**Pete's Quality Meats** 1742-1/2 India Street, Little Italy, 619-234-1684. Pete's Meats was just a butcher's shop until Pete's daughter and sister-in-law got the idea to set up a grill there. Now aficionados line up for Sicilian specialties like Italian-sausage sandwiches, steak sandwiches, and especially *spitini* — veal rolled around two cheeses, onions, tomatoes, pine nuts, currants, parsley, prosciutto, and bread crumbs. Pete stuffs all of that into a hot bun with marinara sauce, sautéed peppers, and onions as packing. Nuff said? Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Rama** 327 Fourth Avenue (near K Street), Gaslamp, 619-501-8424. This large, handsome restaurant is the younger brother of Celadon in Hillcrest. It's named for the king of Thailand and offers Thai cuisine fit for royalty, made with top ingredients (including Chino Farms produce). The menu includes all the popular favorites but adds authentic dishes rarely found locally, such as chicken and squid with flat noodles and caramelized palm sugar, and a wicked Thai version of Chinese twice-cooked pork — a fat-fest made with unsmoked bacon. Soups and curries are based on freshly made coconut cream of swoony richness. The extensive wine list, unusual in this genre, offers affordable, food-friendly choices plus an interesting reserve list. Full bar. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner nightly. Moderate. — *N.W.*

**Rei Do Gado Churrascaria** 939 Fourth Avenue (between E and Broadway), Gaslamp, 619-702-8464. The meats just keep on coming at a Brazilian *rodizio*: skewer after skewer of *churrasco* (Brazilian barbecue), a near-endless procession of rotisserie-grilled meats and poultry. At each table there's a wooden cone with one end red and the other end green. Turn the green side up to start the servers parading to your table, offering you tastes cut from long spits of salty, simply seasoned pork, poultry, ribs, sausages, and numerous cuts of beef. Turn the cone red side up to take a break from the protein parade.

The gargantuan spread includes a buffet in the front of the restaurant with a changeable array of alluring side dishes, salads, fruit, and such intriguing hot entrées as seafood in coconut milk, with exotic but oddly comfortable flavors. There's always a potful of *feijoada*, the national dish — slow-cooked, meaty black beans (in a somewhat bland version, which you can liven up with a splash of hot sauce). No matter how often you eat here, you'll never have the same meal twice. Reservations advisable for weekends. Full bar (have a Caipirinha). No doggie-bags. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate (considering the food amount). — *N.W.*

**Sadaf** 828 Fifth Avenue (at E Street), Gaslamp, 619-338-0008. Vegetarian-friendly. Quiet and relaxed weeknights, the room becomes an ear-splitting mob scene weekends (even before the restaurant goes disco at 9:30). The hearty but sophisticated Persian fare centers on well-marinated kebabs and herb-rich steews, served with various savory rice dishes. There's excellent spinach *borani*, sieved yogurt relish with cucumbers, lamb chop kebabs, and a vibrant, sweet-sour *fesenjan* (pomegranate-walnut sauce with chicken). But the Gaslamp branch's kitchen is wildly inconsistent, e.g., your *fesenjan* dumped on dry kebabs instead of mingling with simmered poultry. Desserts are always dreamy — try rosewater ice cream and/or pudding, or *bamieh*, a delicate ladyfinger soaked in (what else?) rosewater syrup. Moderate. — *N.W.*

**Sevilla** 555 Fourth Avenue (at Market Street), Gaslamp, 619-233-5979. This site has three faces: a crowded but civilized tapas bar for spontaneous snacking, a romantic dining room with serious Spanish entrées, and a basement nightclub dishing out assembly-line paella. The best food is upstairs. You can get tapas in the restaurant and entrées at the bar, and in either case the choices are varied, interesting, and highly cosmopolitan, executed with wonderful consistency. Be sure to look for something that includes potatoes; the humble spud gets Cinderella treatment here. No reservations (or wheelchairs) at tapas bar; reservations strongly recommended for dining room. Dinner daily. Moderate. — *N.W.*

**The Westgate Gourmet Delicatessen** Third Avenue, between Broadway and C Street, downtown, 619-557-3698. This is where you take your respectable Aunt Martha for lunch. The place reeks of gentility. Green carpets, white linen cloths, fresh flowers, chandeliers, giant potted palms. It's part of the Westgate hotel and looks like a grocery for the rich who just can't live without specialty olive oils and expensive wines. But prices for sandwiches, light breakfasts, and lunches are down there with the best Market Street liquor-deli. Among the menu items offered, the best deal is the soup and half-sandwich combo, especially the Friday cioppino: a tomato-based soup filled

with fish such as sea bass, shrimp, and scallops. Open Monday through Friday for breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

## SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

**Coronado Boathouse 1887** 1701 Strand Way, Coronado, 619-435-0155. For a relaxing good time with lovely views and tasty food to match, put on your aloha shirt and head over the bridge. The old Coronado Boathouse boasts a handsome, historic structure with architecture mirroring the nearby Hotel Del, plus enthusiastic servers, terrific water views, and satisfying mainstream American cooking. The herbed artichoke appetizer and fresh macadamia-crusted halibut sauced with coconut milk are wonderful. The juicy roast beef here is USDA Prime (translates to "melt in your mouth") and even the desserts offer some old favorites cooked with classy ingredients and imaginative twists. A perfect place to entertain your in-laws or hold your birthday dinner. Full bar. Dinner seven days, moderate to expensive. — *N.W.*

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Closed Sundays.

**Da Kine's Plate Lunches** 1635 Sweetwater Road (at Prospect), National City, 619-477-8494. You go here for your Pacific Island fix — hundreds of Hawaiians do, every day. You'll find Hawaiian license plates and surfboards on the walls, "Aloha Maid" Guava Nectar, and island food. Although the kalua pig here isn't cooked in an *imu* — a hole in the ground — it sure tastes like the real thing and comes with cabbage, rice, macaroni salad, and kimchi. But beware of the *haupia* cake — it may cause serious addiction. Lunch and early dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Filipino Desserts Plus** 2220-Q East Plaza Boulevard, National City, 619-479-6748; also at 8955-F Mira Mesa Boulevard (inside Seafood City), Mira Mesa, 858-271-5754. Filipinos often mix sweet and savory, so it's no surprise that this desserts place has regular dishes too, including *adobo* pork, *pancit*, and *lumpia*. *Diniguan*, a Filipino specialty, is pork made with "chocolate milk," slang for pig's blood. But the pride of the place is the desserts, from the *ube halea* (purple yam custard) and *maja*

*blanca* (coconut-corn combo) to the *sapin sapin* (multicolored layer cake) and fried sweet *saba* banana on a skewer. Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. — *E.B.*

**Island Wok** 922 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-6835. This tiny indoor-outdoor-takeaway café is a standby with locals, especially the high school crowd. It serves good Vietnamese-Chinese food, and plenty of it. The owner, Xuan, makes scrumptious fresh (not fried) Vietnamese spring rolls wrapped in rice paper with shrimp, pork, or chicken and vegetables in the middle. But most customers go for the steam-table combination plates. You always get chow mein, fried or steamed rice, and a fried spring roll to start off, and then you can add entrées like orange chicken, *kung pao* chicken, or sweet-and-sour pork. Lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday. Closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Parisi's Italian Restaurant** 323 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-420-4490. This is an area where a lot of folks live

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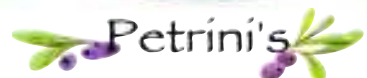
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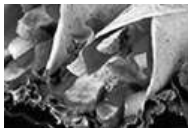
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Olé Madrid **2 for 1 lunch or brunch entrée**  
RA Sushi  
Richard Walker's Pancake House **\$1 off entrée**  
Rock Bottom  
Sevilla  
The Shout House  
Sierra Pacific **3-course gourmet dinner \$34.95**  
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Xavier's **Free appetizer**

Restaurants listed without coupon offers have only menus online. Restaurants with \* have multiple locations. See online menu or coupon for all locations.

in trailer parks on fixed incomes, and Parisi's has become their affordable, often daily treat. The good news is they don't just open cans. Nick and Rosemary Parisi, who opened here back in 1979, brought New Jersey traditions with them. Nick had been a butcher. His son Nick still makes his own delicious fennel-flavored sausage just as his dad taught him. Sons and daughters now run the place and still make their own spaghetti sauce, too. Other dishes include the eggplant or veal Parmesan sandwich and meatballs and sauce with garlic bread. This isn't the smart, spare Gaslamp Italian, it's the old-fashioned Moonstruck Italian. Lunch and dinner daily. — *E.B.*

**Peohe's** The Landing, 1201 First Street, Coronado, 619-437-4474. This gorgeous, view-endowed restaurant offers upscale, Hawaiian-inspired fish and gargantuan steaks in a plush tropical-style setting with indoor waterfalls and three separate patios. Given the visual splendor, much of the food is better than it needs to be, featuring top-quality seafood prepared with care, e.g., halibut in a lush, sassy Frangelico-touched macadamia *beurre blanc*. A chocolate shell filled with macadamia nut ice cream may be worth the calories, too. Full bar. Reservations advised. Lunch (with limited breakfast) Monday through Saturday; brunch Sunday. Dinner nightly. Expensive. — *N.W.*

**Swaddee Thai** 1001 C Avenue (at 10th Street), Coronado, 619-435-8110. Tourists never stray to Swaddee's quiet residential location a block from the bright lights of Orange Avenue. Their loss is the locals' gain. The dining room is a quiet, lovely haven from the hustle; the service is caring and gracious. Even if the long list of Siamese specialties is merely standard, the kitchen, too, is devoted to the art of gently giving pleasure. The peanut sauce accompanying the *saté*, for instance, is classically balanced; the complex but soothing coconut-chicken soup can wash away all cares; and the calamari in the many seafood arrays is cleverly knife-scored to achieve sheer tenderness along with good looks. Even the jasmine rice is an exceptionally fragrant brand. Unless you specify otherwise, spicy dishes have a nice nip tuned to brave but tender *farang* tastebuds. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.*

## 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.

**Cien Años** Calle José María Velasco #1407, Zona Río, Tijuana, 634-3039 or 634-7262. This lovely, comfortable, dressy-casual "destination restaurant" serves extraordinary Mexican haute cuisine, graced with a brilliant variety of sauces based on elaborations of Mexican ingredients, including tropical fruits, nuts, and above all a vast variety of chile peppers, each with its own distinctive flavor (not all of them spicy). You could eat here a dozen times and not begin to exhaust the possibilities. Just a few of the treats are mushrooms steeped in beef marrow, crocodile meat mini-tacos, *pozole* with crab meat, and an irresistible beef and shrimp stew. (Food critic Ruth Reichl consumed a meal of exotic Aztec delicacies, including ant roe and mezcals worms, and you can try them too when they're in season.) The wine list is devoted wholly to ambitious Baja wineries; you're also welcome to BYO. Bar choices include damiana and hibiscus liqueurs. Menu and staff are bilingual. Vegetarian upon request. Reservations strongly advised; ask for directions. Moderate. — *N.W.*

**La Costa** Calle Galeana #8131 (Seventh Street between Revolución and Constitución), Tijuana, 685-8494 or 685-3124. Even after four decades, fisherman-singer Adrián Pedrín Aramburo's seafood place looks fresh, with its blue-and-white floor tiles, polished brass portholes, and varnish. Some seafood combos can be costly, but most fish and oyster dishes are reasonable. Everybody seems to go for fileted sea bass — the baked "Catalina" with mushroom cream sauce, or "Olivia," stuffed with octopus and shrimp, are really good. So are "Madrado" oysters, with chipotle and bacon. But you can't go wrong with the less expensive whole fish plates, like the charcoal-broiled "Saran-deado" (just watch out for the bones). Each entrée comes with soup, hors d'oeuvre, salad, rice, and coffee, plus a Kahlua-based drink-dessert. Bonus: the owner's charming menu inserts. Vegetarian upon request. Open daily, late breakfast through dinner. Moderate to expensive. — *E.B.*

**La Fonda** Baja Highway 1, Km. 59 (Alisios exit from toll-road, about halfway between Rosarito and Ensenada), 646-155-0307 and 646-155-0308, www.lafondabaja.com. It's hard to imagine a better start to the day, in any sweeter ambiance, than at La Fonda ("The Inn"), which offers Mexican and American breakfast dishes and a lavish Sunday brunch buffet with both. Arrive early for patio seating under a straw umbrella with a full-out ocean view. The

bilingual menu is written on chalkboards and dinner choices change nightly, featuring American and Mexican seafood entrées and deluxe meats aged in-house. Vegetarian upon request. Most staffers speak some English. Full bar, including Baja-grown wines. Open daily, three meals, starting about 9 a.m. Inexpensive to moderate. Visa and MasterCard accepted. — *N.W.*

**La Leña** Agua Caliente Boulevard #11191, Tijuana, 686-2920. The nicest thing about La Leña ("The Fire Log") is its view. You come off noisy, fumeey, traffic-wracked Agua Caliente into this quiet, dark-wood, creamy-yellow walled room and a full view of...countryside! Actually, a green golf course studded with trees. In the middle of Tijuana? Golfers thwack balls, giant mowers look like *Star Wars* creatures. So no surprise that you get country-club type eating: open-grill *charro* food for well-to-do *charros*. Old-style BBQ steaks, surf-and-turf combos, and big slabs of Mexican-cut *flete cabreria*, which are flabby but tender. Most arrive at your table sizzling on black iron hotplates. Servings are generous (meals come with soup or salad and you get a free appetizer such as shredded beef and tortillas) if not remarkable. Or even especially Mexican — their hamburger is darned tasty. Vegetarian upon request. But the atmosphere is a great break from the raucous TJ we all know and (sometimes) love. Lunch and dinner daily from 11 a.m. until late. Moderate. — *E.B.*

**Manzanilla** Riveroll 122 (off Lopez Mateo), Ensenada, Baja Mexico, 646-175-7073. At this art-filled, very "Euro" bistro, a pair of gifted, classically trained chef-owners are pioneering "new Mexican cuisine," creating sophisticated combinations of superb local products and traditional Mexican flavors. Fresh-caught seafood, local-grown vegetables and mesquite smoke from the wood-burning grill are featured players on the seasonal menus; a spectacular rib-eye steak, tender and intensely beefy, is also a constant. Little wonder this has become the destination restaurant south of Tijuana. Vegetarian upon request. The menu is in Spanish, but owners Benito Molina and Solange Muris Evans speak fluent English, as do some wait staff. (The only communication problem will be the exotic music blasting on the sound system.) Reserve for weekends, especially during tourist seasons. Full bar featuring tequilas, Baja vintners. Wednesday through Saturday, late lunch through dinner, until midnight. Moderate. — *N.W.*

**Original Ortega's** In Puerto Nuevo, next to Casa de la Langosta, on the first street to your left (Calle Principal) after

entering town through the entry gate. Open since 1952, this is the original "Lobster Village" restaurant, and not much has changed. Eventually Ortega's grew into an octopus with multiple arms in Puerto Nuevo and Rosarito Beach, all pretty similar. The menu is longer than most, with numerous starters (including a tasty ceviche and an excellent tortilla soup), varied seafood entrées and *antojitos*, desserts, and even fancy coffees (including "Viagra," which features reputedly aphrodisiac Damiana herbal liqueur). The spiny lobsters (once local but now from who-knows-where) are first fried in lard, then finished off on the grill, and served with a greasy-tasting melted "Kitchen Maid" margarine blend, frijoles, rice, tortillas, and salsa. Vegetarian upon request. Full bar, English menu, staff marginally bilingual. Moderate to high, but with low-moderate specials. No reservations, cash only. — *N.W.*

## MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

**Bully's East** 2401 Camino del Río South, Mission Valley, 619-291-2665. Also at 5755 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla (858-459-2768), and 1404 Camino del Mar, Del Mar (858-755-1660). Despite the plasma TV sports screen, this place is very sixties. For example, dark, woody, plush red booths. And always crowded. Word is, they serve more prime rib with au jus and horseradish than any eatery in San Diego. The "Petite Cut" 8 ounce, their smallest, fills you plenty, with its baked potato and salad. But just once, come here with your main squeeze and order up the "full cut for two." It hangs ten over the edges. Or go bonkers and order the 32-ounce cut (available in Mission Valley) — just to watch your neighbors' eyes bug out. Not flush? Try the "Bully Burger," French Dip sandwich, or calamari sandwich. Lonely? Go to the horseshoe-shaped Low Bar. Lunch and dinner daily. — *E.B.*

**Cilantro Live!** 3807 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-325-1949. Also at 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, 760-585-0136. Look in Cristina Guzmán's kitchen: no ovens, no burners. Only warmers. Her theory? Never heat food above 112 degrees or the enzymes will die. Enzymes? They're life. They give you energy and do your digestion for you. What's amazing is how much real-looking and -tasting food she can create with raw nuts and twigs. And fruit. And especially seeds. She creates tuna wraps using sunflower-pumpkin seed pâté and burgers using flax seeds —

both pretty credible and edible. Drinks? The margaritas (green apple with ginger, lime, and cinnamon) have to be good: Ms. Guzmán comes from Mexico City. Open for lunch and dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Lunch and dinner daily at Hillcrest branch. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Popeye's Chicken & Biscuits** 2333 Highland Avenue (at 24th Street), National City, 619-477-5605; 2210 E. Plaza Boulevard (at Euclid Avenue), National City, 619-470-3002; 3489 Santo Road (at Aero Drive), 858-573-0035; Metropolitan Center, 1737 Euclid Avenue (north of Federal Boulevard), Chollas Creek, 619-527-6565; and 6095 El Cajon Boulevard (at College Avenue), 619-286-3322. This is the one major national chain to cling firmly to a regional American identity: Wherever you go, if you find a Popeye's, you'll be eating Louisiana flavors. But some flavors travel better than others in fast-food translations: The spicy, crisp fried chicken and air-light drop biscuits are fine as can be. The étouffé (whether of chicken or crawfish, when available) is surprisingly decent. The gumbo, offered at some locations, is weird — flavors aren't bad, but it's more like a Creole risotto, with wet rice instead of liquid (where's the soup?). Dirty rice and jambalaya are nasty and dry. Food quality varies subtly from branch to branch, as does the attitude of the counter-persons. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

**Ruby's Diner** 1 Pierview Way, Oceanside, 760-433-7829. One thing about Ruby's: You can build an appetite just getting there. It's at the end of the 1/3 mile-long Oceanside pier. (There's a \$1 shuttle tram, too.) Ruby's is part of a themed "forties diner" chain stretching from LAX to Scottsdale, Arizona. But it's still fun. Shiny Chevy Corvette-style red leatherette and chrome booths, white walls, portholes, old Coca-Cola signs, "Dewey-Warren" presidential buttons, and that view to Hawaii. Good-sized servings, too — try their omelets. Also in Carlsbad and Mission Valley. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Uno Chicago Bar and Grill** The 1943-born Uno chain made its mark by transforming the flat Italian pizza into something a little more upstanding. Deep-dish pizzas have become one of Chicago's better-known exports. Now Uno does serious steak too, with variously sized Angus top sirloins. They come pretty much as is, but the meat itself is plenty flavorful and tender. Its expanded menu includes fajitas, ribs, shrimp scampi, and steak'n cheese burgers. Still, most lunchtime customers we saw seemed to stick to the staple: deep-dish pizzas and salads. Open daily, continuous service, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. Fashion Valley Center, 619-298-1866; 5th and H, Chula Vista, 619-420-8660; 890 W. Valley Parkway, Escondido, 760-480-8667. — *E.B.*

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# Last Call

*His commitment is forever seen as something of a pose.*

**C**hristmas checklist (partial): *Charlie Wilson's War*. Didactic poli-sci lesson on How the System Works, entertainingly illustrated by screenwriter Aaron Sorkin and director Mike Nichols. The titular war is the one between the Soviets and the Afghans in the Reagan era, and Charlie Wilson is a

nonfictional Texas congressman (played with supreme complacency by Tom Hanks) who, ideally situated for budgeting purposes, spared some time from his enjoyment of the perks of power (single malt, cocaine, strippers in the hot tub) in order to do the bidding of a rabid Right-wing fundraiser in his home state (Julia Roberts, fully surrendering to her natural or enhanced grotesquerie, at one point intrepidly separating her gluey eyelashes with an open safety pin) and brokered a covert alliance between the Pakistanis and the Israelis, combatting the Evil Empire from discreetly behind the scenes. This is not your typical tale of the cavalier cynic getting involved, finding religion, committing himself to a cause. The protagonist's profligate ways are typical enough, and the refugee camp that

opens his eyes is depicted very straight, but there remains, even after that, a sense of irony about his crusade — no more solemnity in his demeanor than in that, let's say, of the surgeons in *MASH* — so that his commitment

is forever perceived as something of a pose, something within quotation marks. The job gets done all the same. Philip Seymour Hoffman, sporting a lush mustache and full head of dark hair in testimony to the character's Mediterranean ethnicity, goes Hanks one better (several better, in fact) as a disgruntled CIA spook who, irked at not getting the Finland assignment after studying Finnish, cannot even throw a tantrum without a wink. Not only does Hoffman walk away with the show, he also gets to recite the Buddhist parable whose punchline frames the entire picture, turning an ostensibly happy ending into an up-in-the-air ending, or in other words no ending at all. We know too well what happened next.

*The Savages*. More Philip Seymour Hoffman. Actually quite a bit more, in the male lead this time, blond and bearded, a thinner, more penetrable disguise, as a Buffalo drama professor

## REVIEW

DUNCAN SHEPHERD



*Charlie Wilson's War*

at work on a tome on Bertolt Brecht. Even more Laura Linney, however, in the larger female lead, brunette and bedraggled, as an unproduced dramatist at work on a “subversive, semi-autobiographical play” (as she describes it in her grant applications) inspired by the works of Jean Genet, Eugene O'Neill, and cartoonist Lynda Barry. They are brother and sister,

forced into the same yoke to deal with their demented father (Philip Bosco) after his Sun City “girlfriend” of twenty years kicks the bucket and her family kicks him out. These are big performances in a small film made up of small moments, a life-is-messy comedy of small (but not few) laughs. Writer and director Tamara Jenkins, not heard from since her (subversive, semi-auto-

biographical) *Slums of Beverly Hills*, seeks the universal in the individual — the particulars, the peculiarities, the normal abnormalities (the lachrymosity of Hoffman, the mendacity of Linney) — which is the right way to go about it. The peculiarities needn't have been so artsy-fartsily peculiar.

*The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*. Julian Schnabel relates another true-

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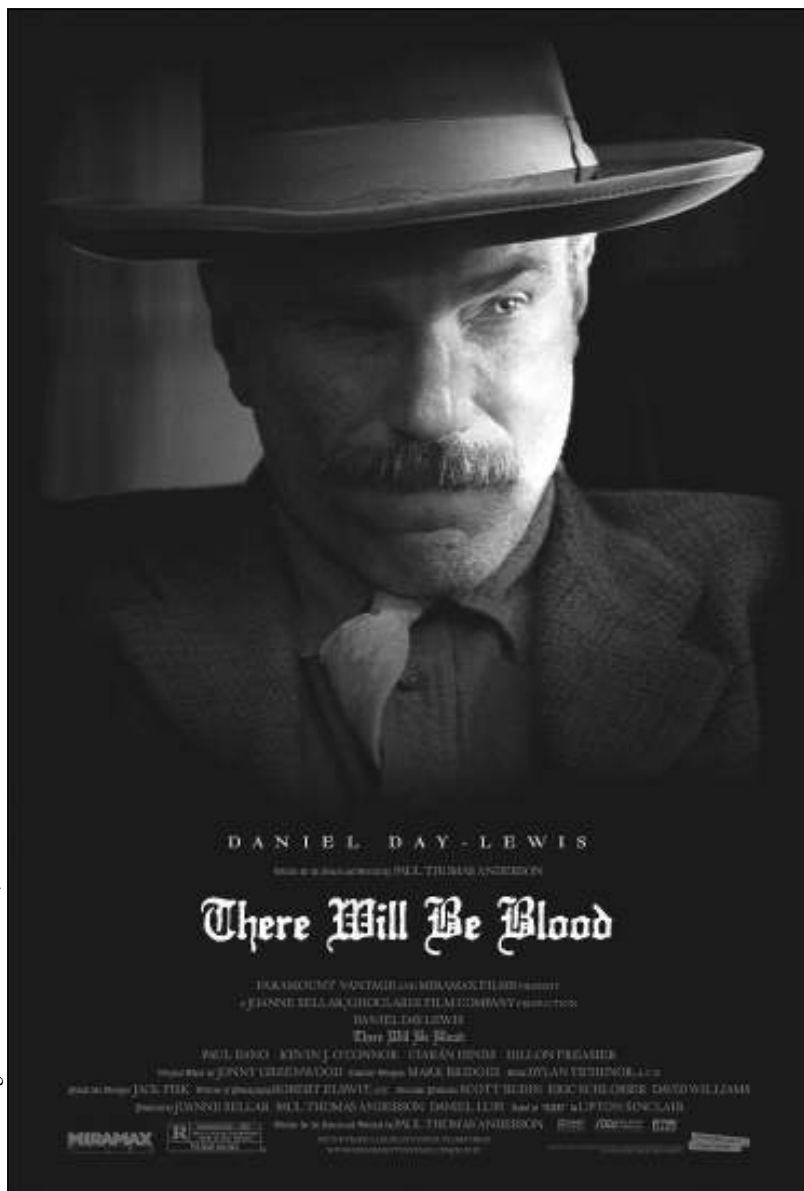
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life tale from the wide world of art, this one a little more liberated from convention than his *Basquiat* or his *Before Night Falls* (though it immediately and continually brings to mind Alejandro Amenábar's *The Sea Inside*), the tale of Jean-Dominique Bauby, an editor at *Elle* magazine, who in the prime of life suffered a stroke that left him paralyzed but for his left eyelid (and his imagination and his memory), and who dictated a memoir, letter by letter, through a system of blinks. The first three-quarters of an hour or so are reasonably audacious, subjectively visualized through the eyes of the invalid (Mathieu Amalric, at this point unseen), with cropped faces and figures, blurred edges, off-kilter angles, etc., and yet the camera looks awfully free-swinging and the editing awfully jumpy for the P.O.V. of a paralytic, as if Schnabel felt he had to lend a helping hand to keep things hopping. (The rotation of comely coquettes to serve as speech therapist, physical therapist, and amanuensis seems to have been assembled out of similar motives.) Much of the remainder of the film feels drawn out and padded, with the major exception of a tense scene in which the wife, operating the speakerphone in the hospital room, is required to mediate a call from the mistress. The essential subject matter is one that demands in its treatment purity and rigor, and that receives instead disorder and indulgence. (This really wasn't the time and place for further proof of the director's hip taste in music, U2, Velvet Underground, Tom Waits.) The film clearly has emerged as the topmost critical favorite of the season, if not the whole year, but I suspect that it has been the recipient of the special dispensation granted the handicapped, the quickness to applaud the least little show of humor, verve, perseverance.

*The Great Debaters*. An Oprah film (or anagrammatically, a Harpo Film) for Oprah's audience, with their insatiable appetite for uplift. The fact-based story (to what extent, I couldn't say) of the debate team at little Wiley College, an all-black institution in segregationist Texas, and of their climactic showdown on the topic of Civil Disobedience against the national champs of Harvard University, plays as a sort of two-hour spot for the UNCF. Denzel Washington, as both the debate coach in front of the camera and the director behind it, may be somewhat unimaginative, even embarrassingly unimaginative, in his complete and precise merger of the two roles into one: the great edifier. (Not just my character but me myself.) Still, if the remedial elucidation of racial issues seems a bit behind the times, it's not so much because the action is set in the 1930s as because racial progress continues to lag in the 2000s. The edifier has plenty of just cause. Fine photography, in addition, by Philippe Rousselot, reassurance, after *Lions for Lambs*, that he hasn't gone blind.

*Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*. The Grand-Guignol Broadway musical (words and music by Stephen Sondheim), Tim Burton-ized for Hollywood. Which means, among other things (such as less music), a ton-of-bricks production design, an ashen color scheme sometimes edging up to the border of black-and-white (excluding the rivers, lakes, geysers of rich red blood), and the *de rigueur* Johnny Depp, showing off a diffident singing voice, as a frightfully frigid avenger, chilling in quite the

wrong way. (Whoever said revenge is a dish best served cold can't have meant straight from the freezer.) Helena Bonham Carter, Alan Rickman, and Timothy Spall are likewise not singers. *The Kite Runner*. From the Khaled Hosseini novel, directed by Marc Forster (*Finding Neverland*, *Stranger Than Fiction*), a story about a storyteller, and in large part a story truly worthy of a storyteller. The remaining parts are hackneyed and/or hokey. Main elements: two boyhood pals in Kabul, 1978, the sons of master and servant, and the psychologically pen-

etrating betrayal of the second by the first, our evolving storyteller. Like the storytelling protagonist of *Atonement*, he has a lot to atone for, but unlike that other, he attempts to atone for it in actual life instead of by rewriting life into a rosier fiction. Notwithstanding the graphic barbarities of the Taliban in the year 2000, the film takes a tactical and tactful approach to the Islamic topic, and the nostalgic recreation of life in the Afghanistan of yesteryear (handsomely photographed in the bargain) is highly beneficial: the competitive, combative, and colorful

kite flying, the Pashto-dubbed print of *The Magnificent Seven* (Charles Bronson's accent giving him away as a native Iranian), the swanky comforts of the hero's home, the imposing figure of his principled, civilized, dignified father (ably embodied by the star of *Taste of Cherry*, Homayoun Ershadi), destined to run a gas station in Fremont after fleeing the Soviet invaders. (Timely complement to *Charlie Wilson's War*.) The besetting

problems of dividing a screen role between a younger and an older actor are brutally spotlighted in the scene where a Taliban bully tells the now adult hero that he never forgets a face, when in truth the face little resembles the one that the bully last saw. It is not surprising that the hero, in turn, doesn't recognize the bully. I didn't either.

After seeing some of the reviews for *Atonement*, I had to ask myself

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Calendar  
MOVIES

whether my prolonged preoccupation with *No Country for Old Men* might have hampered my appreciation of the former's finer qualities. The thought of seeing one of these for a second time, and not just the thought of it but the imminent prospect, gave me my answer: no, I don't think so. (Or as one of the dime-a-dozen Nordic goddesses so charmingly expressed herself on my tour of Scandinavia late last summer: I don't hope so.) My second viewing of the Coen brothers' film turned up nothing much new, specifically nothing much in the sketchy pattern of repeats and echoes (only this: the covered-in-blood hunter and covered-in-blood hunted obtain a shirt and jacket, respectively, off the backs of gawking youngsters), but it turned up continued revelling in their controlled virtuosity. I can't see that their new film says anything their *Fargo* didn't. Indeed it says significantly less. But the less is part and parcel of the spiritual desolation. It takes a Marge Gunderson to look out at a bleak Minnesota snowscape and say, marvelling at what people will give up in the pursuit of money, "It's a beautiful day." ■

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.

**Aliens vs. Predator: Requiem** —

Round two, set in an American small town, with Reiko Aylesworth, Steven Pasquale, and Shareeka Epps, directed by Colin and Greg Stause.  
(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**Alvin and the Chipmunks** — Live action plus computer animation, with Jason Lee, directed by Tim Hill.

(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; OTAY RANCH 12; 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)

**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. ★ (GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20)

**Atonement** — British, bookish period piece, from an Ian McEwan novel, about a young girl's misreading of the amorous activities of her elders, and its tragic consequences. (A mole on the right cheek links the three different actresses who play the role, Saoirse Ronan in the Thirties, Romola Garai in wartime, and Vanessa Redgrave in modern day.) The movie starts rather sedately, despite some point-of-view tricks, in a commonplace country estate; and it then gets rather overblown in the war sequences, including a marathon Steadicam single take of the evacuation at Dunkirk. But all in all it's well-mounted, well-dressed, well-acted, and, well, dull. With Keira Knightley, James McAvo, Brenda Blethyn, and Harriet Walter; directed by Joe Wright. 2007. ★ (FLOWER HILL 4; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MISSION VALLEY 20; SAN MARCOS 18; 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

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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.

★★ (GASLAMP 15)

**Charlie Wilson's War** — Reviewed this  
 issue. With Tom Hanks, Amy Adams,  
 Philip Seymour Hoffman, and Julia  
 Roberts; directed by Mike Nichols.  
 ★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ES-  
 CONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER  
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 DIEGO 15; RIVER VALLEY 6; SAN MARCOS 18;  
 TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VALLEY)

**The Diving Bell and the Butterfly** — Reviewed this issue. With Mathieu Amalric, Emmanuelle Seigner, Marie-Josée Croze, Anne Consigny, and Max von Sydow; directed by Julian Schnabel.  
★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

**Enchanted** — In an overlong prologue, a generic fairy-tale princess, rendered in a pastiche of old-time Disney animation, is dispatched by a generic wicked witch to “a place where there are no happily-ever-afters,” namely modern-day Manhattan in live action, whither she’s soon followed by her betrothed prince, a CG chipmunk, and a witch’s minion. The slothful working-out of this inspiration should pass as sophisticated among grade-schoolers. And maybe once in a while among grown-ups. (With a song, the princess rallies pigeons, sewer rats, and cockroaches to help with the domestic chores.) Amy Adams, far from the most plastically actress, maintains a plucky air of innocence bordering on Blanche Du Bois delusion. With Patrick Dempsey, James Marsden, Timothy Spall, and Susan Sarandon; directed by Kevin Lima. 2007.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**The Golden Compass** — Unstirring epic fantasy, set in a parallel universe where people's souls walk beside them in the form of talking animals, called "daemons." In addition, there's a whole glossary of made-up proper nouns, an obligatory oppressive, thought-policing Ruling Power, and a young girl singled out by destiny to be the Savior, aided by a good witch, a gypsy band, a dirigible-flying cowboy, a CG armored polar bear (cousin of the Coca-Cola polars), and the truth-telling gizmo of the title. A four-pronged last-minute rescue settles nothing, for this is but Part One of Philip Pullman's "His Dark Materials" trilogy. With Dakota Blue Richards, Nicole Kidman, Daniel Craig, Eva Green, and Sam Elliott; directed by Chris Weitz. 2007.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; 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 sul-

lenly, 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.

★ (GASLAMP 15)

**The Great Debaters** — Reviewed this issue. With Denzel Washington, Nate Parker, Jurnee Smollett, Denzel Whitaker, and Forest Whitaker; directed by Washington.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; TOWN SQUARE 14)

**I Am Legend** — The third screen treatment of Richard Matheson's post-apocalyptic vampire tale is the first to retain the original title (cf. *The Last Man on Earth* and *The Omega Man*), and the first to bring to it the total commitment of top dollar, most helpful in creating a weed-overgrown New York City. It also brings to it some very wet sentimentality, with Will Smith having a hard time shouldering the burdens of being a Renaissance man amid a population of nocturnal zombies: he's a brilliant scientist, a hardbodied soldier, a tender dog lover, a Bob Marley aficionado, a *Shrek* memorizer,

and so on. The situation nevertheless keeps a good grip until the fortuitous appearance of a second (and third) human being, after which the grip loosens. With Alice Braga, Charlie Tahan, and briefly an uncredited Emma Thompson; directed by Francis Lawrence. 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 VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA CAMINO REAL; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; Santee DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**June** — A slow starter. In the title role of a pregnant Minnesota high-schooler (named after the Roman goddess of marriage, fidelity, fertility), the dry flat sardonic line-delivery of Ellen Page, the angelic avenger of *Hard Candy*, is not easy to warm up to, no matter how much we might try to see it as an adolescent defense mechanism, or how much as humble emulation of Janeane Garofalo. And the garishly colorful dialogue, from first-time scripter and former stripper Diablo Cody, often tends to push too hard ("Being pregnant makes me pee like Seabiscuit"). The heroine, interested in simply finding a good home for the baby, not in making a profit off it, finds a possible

taker in the weekly *PennySaver* ("next to the exotic birds"), a neat-freaky suburban couple in the gated confines of Glacial Valley Estates. It's there that things really begin to get interesting. Our initial arrival at the housing development is alone sufficient to convince us of Jason Reitman's directorial bona fides: a series of static shots of anti-septic House Beautiful after House Beautiful as the car passes across the screen, left to right, in front of each. And the prospective mother, Jennifer Garner (her piano-wire tautness put to good use), turns out to be the neater of the pair, someone who will studiously ponder "custard" versus "cheesecake" as the color for baby's room, while the prospective father, Jason Bateman, proves to be the freakier, a stay-at-

home composer of advertising ditties and a frustrated rock-and-roller. A curious, potentially dangerous after-school relationship blossoms between him and the heroine: he may be a commercial sell-out as a composer, but he's a person who can talk music to a teenager, and he demonstrates "decent taste in slasher movies" (e.g., Herschell Gordon Lewis's *The Wizard of Gore*, another impediment to our warming up to the heroine). Over time, the film builds, and it does so with proficiency, patience, and foresight. If the heroine is never wholly embraceable, the surrounding characters go far to compensate, specifically J.K. Simmons as her droll laconic dad, Allison Janney as her worldly-wise, even-keeled mom, and above all, Michael Cera as her shunted-

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CLAUDIA PUIG, USA TODAY

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# SEEN ON DVD



Casablanca

### TERESA OYOS

Community activist diva

I have to go to a classic first. *Casablanca*, with Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman, is simply the best movie ever made! It makes me sigh every time I see it. Play it again, Sam!

Next is a contemporary vampire tale from none other than Tony Scott. *The Hunger* is the sexiest movie ever made! I love the scene with Catherine Deneuve and Susan Sarandon in bed with the curtains blowing in the wind. David Bowie also stars.

And finally, from Gregory Nava and Anna Thomas is a story about the joys and hardships of three generations of an immigrant family in *Mi Familia*. Jimmy Smits and Edward James Olmos star. My family took up the whole row at the theater when it first came out. Perfect for those holiday family get-togethers.

**CASABLANCA** (USA) 1943, Warner Home Video  
List price: \$19.98

**THE HUNGER** (England) 1983, Warner Home Video  
List price: \$19.98

**MI FAMILIA** (USA) 1995, New Line  
List price: \$19.98



Knocked Up

### TERRY ALEXANDER

Quality assurance nurse, UCSD HIV Neurobehavioral Research Center

Lawrence Kasdan's *The Big Chill* brings a group of old college friends together for a funeral. I know everyone in it and all the characters feel like they are my friends. I love the interaction among Kevin Kline, Glenn Close, Jeff Goldblum, William Hurt, Mary Kay Place, and others.

I like Cameron Crowe's semi-autobiographical *Almost Famous* for many of the same reasons I like *The Big Chill*. It's also very real and is the best coming-of-age movie I've seen.

And finally, a film from this year, Judd Apatow's *Knocked Up*, which concerns an unwanted pregnancy and the two unlikely people it brings together. It's outrageously funny. And Seth Rogan is hot. You've got to see his bare butt! I wish he were my friend.

**THE BIG CHILL** (USA) 1983, Sony Pictures  
List price: \$14.94

**ALMOST FAMOUS** (USA) 2000, Dreamworks  
List price: \$12.99

**KNOCKED UP** (USA) 2007, Universal  
List price: \$29.98



Genghis Blues

### LAUREN WAY

Phlebotomist, UCSD HIV Neurobehavioral Research Center

Come holiday time, nothing's better than to gather the merry band of miscreants that have become my family and celebrate with films celebrating us. *Mifune*, the third film of the Dogme 95 Manifesto, utilizes bare-bones filmmaking to make the strained relationship between Kresten, his challenged brother, and the live-in caregiver all the more painful and sublime.

In *Kikujirô*, a cantankerous neighbor (Takeshi Kitano) escorts young Masao on a journey to reunite with his mother. Along the way they encounter bikers, Yakuza, and a "Scary Man." There are moments of absurdity and fear, but ultimately a general sense of all being right with the world.

*Genghis Blues*, the documentary about a blind blues musician traveling to Tuva (just outside Outer Mongolia) to compete in the national throat-singing competition, assembles an unlikely troupe for a fantastical journey that can't help but make you try to kargyraa on your own.

**MIFUNE** (Denmark/Sweden) 1999, Sony Pictures  
List price: \$29.95

**KIKUJIRÔ NO NATSU** (Japan) 1999, Sony Pictures  
List price: \$29.95

**GENGHIS BLUES** (USA) 1999, New Video Group  
List price: \$29.95

began to do with *The Ladykillers*, the brothers were smart to cut down the social commentary — the Decline of Western Civilization as viewed by an aging third-generation lawman — to a single block of voice-over at the outset ("Some of the old-time sheriffs never even wore a gun"), and to sprinkle any additional such commentary lightly into the dialogue ("Once you quit hearing 'sir' and 'ma'am,' the rest is soon to follow"). Without those repeated and repetitive interruptions, the simple pursuit narrative — the killer pursuing the filcher, the lawman pursuing both — unfolds as lean, linear, streamlined, and yet slow, steady, and long, never very deep. And on the Coens' part, never very inventive. They have followed McCarthy's blueprint scrupulously, even slavishly, and have bountifully harvested his lip-smacking dialogue; and the major unconventionalities in this mostly conventional thriller are all his. (For better or for worse.) To be sure, the Coens are meticulous technicians, supremely skillful, attentive to the minutest detail. And while the body count climbs numbingly high, the tension in individual set pieces is teased out to an exquisite agony, and with no artificial boost from any background music. (The Coens' regular composer, Carter Burwell, gets credited for the exit music.) Certainly a personal touch, a personal sense of humor, comes into the local-color cameos of gas-station attendant, motel clerk, hotel clerk, trailer-park manager, etc., etc. And perhaps a somewhat unseemly humor, or at least unseemly delight, comes into the characterization of the psychopathic killer, with his robotic delivery of lines, his torturous banter, his gimmicky weapon (a compressed-air tank for blowing locks out of doors and blowing holes in heads), and above all his Engelbert Humperdinck haircut *circa* 1972 (hair humor always being big with the Coens). Tommy Lee Jones, Javier Bardem, Josh Brolin, Kelly Macdonald, Woody Harrelson. 2007.

★★★★ (ESCONDIDO 16; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIRA MESA 18; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**P.S. I Love You** — A widow (Hilary Swank) receives guidance from her late husband (Gerard Butler), directed by Richard LaGravenese. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; 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)

**The Red Balloon** — Albert Lamorisse's half-hour children's fantasy from 1956. Co-billed with his three-quarter-hour *White Mane* from 1952. (KEN, FROM 12/28)

**The Savages** — Reviewed this issue. With Laura Linney, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Philip Bosco, Peter Friedman, and Cara Seymour; written and directed by Tamara Jenkins. ★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

**Starting Out in the Evening** — Literary indie, not just in source material (a well-regarded novel by Brian Morton) or in talky, articulate, literate treatment, but also in subject matter: a stiff-necked New York Jewish intellectual (he wears a tie when home alone), a drinker at the well of Lionel Trilling, Alfred Kazin, Irving Kristol, et al., struggling to complete his fifth and final novel before his demise, parrying the time-consuming advances of an adoring, auburn-haired grad student who has selected him as the obscure topic of her master's thesis, and who has set herself the difficult goal of getting him back in print. (Subplot: his unmarried daughter and her ticking biological clock.) Small, slow, serious film, not without humor, in spite of the straightness and narrowness (or *because* of the straightness and narrowness) of Frank Langella's committed performance, his to-

tal avoidance of anything like comic loopiness and broadness. Lauren Ambrose and Lili Taylor give him plenty of credible trouble as the chief women in his life, new admirer and aging daughter respectively. With Adrian Lester; directed by Andrew Wagner. 2007. ★★ (KEN)

**Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street** — Reviewed this issue. With Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter, Alan Rickman, Timothy Spall, and Sacha Baron Cohen; directed by Tim Burton. ★ (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA CAMINO REAL; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story** — In essence a spoof of *Walk the Line*, to do with a sort of cut-rate Johnny Cash (a Johnny Wampum maybe), although the protagonist's music branches out further than the real Cash's into the groves of Bob Dylan, The Beatles, punk rock (ahead of its time), trend-setters and -followers in general. The comedy mostly aims low, low, depressingly so. The scene with the Beatles in India is a relatively high, high highlight (particularly Paul Rudd's squeezed enunciations as John Lennon), and in the lead role John C. Reilly's innate amiability helps to counteract depression. With Jenna Fischer, Kristen Wiig, Raymond J. Barry, and Tim Meadows; directed by Jake Kasdan. 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 VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; 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)

**The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep** — A fatherless lad during WWII finds the egg of "the rarest of all creatures" — only one on the planet at a time — and nurses the hatchling into the Loch Ness Monster, easily mistakable for a Nazi submarine. Spectacular scenery (New Zealand supplementing Scotland) as the backdrop for a gruesomely cute CG critter and some strong-arm manipulation. With Alex Etel, Emily Watson, Ben Chaplin, David Morrissey, and Brian Cox; directed by Jay Russell. 2007. ● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 18; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**Youth without Youth** — Francis Ford Coppola's first film in a decade (*The Rainmaker*, just to jog your memory), although in truth he hasn't been a *force* since the decade of the Seventies. His comeback, or anyway his return to action, should secure his position in the margin: an English-language (variously accented) art film, replete with "painterly" light, monochrome flashbacks, experimental dream scenes *circa* 1925, upside-down and sideways images, mirror-multiplied images-within-images, doppelgänger dialogues, Nazi boogeymen, Eastern mysticism, decades of period settings. Inspired by a philosophical novella of Mircea Eliade, it revolves around a hoary old Romanian linguist (Tim Roth) who, when struck by lightning, miraculously reverses the aging process and runs into a dead ringer for the long lost love of his youth (Alexandra Maria Lara). It progresses from abstruseness to absurdity. 2007. ★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

aside, unassertive, but ever-faithful boyfriend, the baby's biological father, and a cooler dude than you'd ever guess from his track-team togs. And if the dialogue is unabatingly overcolored, at least the hues are spread around democratically. 2007. ★★★ (ESCONDIDO 16; FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**The Kite Runner** — Reviewed this issue. With Khalid Abdalla, Zekeria Ebrahimi, Ahmad Khan Mahmidzada, and Homayoun Ershadi; directed by Marc Forster. ★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

**National Treasure: Book of Secrets** — National disgrace: another overtaxed premise with an eye to a Franchise. ("This doesn't involve another treasure hunt, does it?") The honorable name of Gates has been implicated in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, and rather than finding this historically intriguing, the present-day Gateses find it personally insulting. Exoneration will lie on a path through the Statue of Liberty, Buckingham Palace, the White House, Mount Vernon, Mount Rushmore, and the legendary City of Gold, as well as through exaggerated CG-aided action. With Nicolas Cage, Diane Kruger, Justin Bartha, Jon Voight, Helen Mirren, Harvey Keitel, and Ed Harris; directed by Jon Turteltaub. 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 VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA CAMINO REAL; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**No Country for Old Men** — The Coen brothers' first literary adaptation, from a Cormac McCarthy original, an overwhelmingly bloody pulp thriller, plumped up with folksy first-person social commentary in italics, about a Texas good ole boy who stumbles upon the internecine scene of a drug deal gone bad, makes off with a satchel of cash, and tries to ditch the implacable hired killer (among others) on his trail. Sharing the writing credit as always and sharing the directing credit as they only

# 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)  
**American Gangster** (R); **Awake** (R); **Before the Devil Knows You're Dead** (R); **Enchanted** (PG); **Fred Claus** (PG); **Gone Baby Gone** (R); **I'm Not There** (R); **Into the Wild** (R); **The Kingdom** (R); **Lions for Lambs** (R); **P.S. I Love You** (PG-13); **The Perfect Holiday** (PG); **Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story** (R)

**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)  
**Aliens vs. Predator: Requiem**; **Alvin and the Chipmunks** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:40) 1:00, 3:15, 5:35, 7:55, 10:20; **Charlie Wilson's War** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:20) 1:55, 4:40, 7:35, 10:15 Sun. 1:55, 4:40, 7:35, 10:15; **Enchanted** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:10) 1:45, 4:20, 7:05, 9:40; **The Golden Compass** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:55) 1:25, 4:15, 7:10, 9:50; **The Great Debaters**; **I Am Legend** (No Rating) Fri.-Sun. (11:00) 1:40, 2:40, 4:30, 5:15, 7:15, 8:00, 9:55, 10:40; **Juno** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:30) 12:25, 2:00, 3:00, 4:45, 5:30, 7:30, 8:15, 10:05, 10:50; **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:30) 1:30, 4:35, 7:45, 10:55; **P.S. I Love You** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:50) 1:35, 4:25, 7:20, 10:25; **Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:35) 1:20, 4:05, 7:00, 10:00; **Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:45) 1:05, 3:25, 5:45, 8:10, 10:35 Sun. 1:05, 3:25, 5:45, 8:10, 10:35; **The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep**

**La Jolla Village**  
8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)  
**Atonement** (R); **The Kite Runner** (PG-13); **No Country for Old Men** (R); **The Savages** (R)

### 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)  
**Aliens vs. Predator: Requiem**; **Alvin and the Chipmunks** (PG); **Charlie Wilson's War** (R); **Enchanted** (PG); **The Golden Compass** (PG-13); **The Great Debaters**; **I Am Legend** (No Rating); **The Kite Runner** (PG-13); **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** (PG); **P.S. I Love You** (PG-13); **Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street** (R); **Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story** (R); **The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep**

**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 Red Balloon: Starting Out in the Evening** (PG-13); **The White Mane**

### UPTOWN

**Hillcrest Cinemas**  
3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)  
**The Diving Bell and the Butterfly**; **Juno** (PG-13); **No Country for Old Men** (R); **The Savages** (R); **Youth Without Youth** (R)

**Reuben H. Fleet Science Center**  
1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)  
**Dinosaurs Alive!** (NR); **The Living Sea** (Not Rated); **Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure** (No Rating)

**San Diego Natural History Museum**  
1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821)  
**Ocean Oasis** (Not Rated)

## EAST COUNTY

### EL CAJON

**Parkway Plaza 18**  
405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)  
Call theater for program information

### LA MESA

**Grossmont Center**  
Grossmont Center (619-465-7100)  
**Alvin and the Chipmunks** (PG); **Charlie Wilson's War** (R); **Enchanted** (PG); **The Golden Compass** (PG-13); **I Am Legend** (No Rating); **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** (PG); **P.S. I Love You** (PG-13); **Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street** (R); **Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story** (R)

### RANCHO SAN DIEGO

**Rancho San Diego 15**  
1951 Jamacha Road  
**Alvin and the Chipmunks** (PG); **Charlie**

**Wilson's War** (R); **Enchanted** (PG); **The Golden Compass** (PG-13); **Hitman** (R); **I Am Legend** (No Rating); **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** (PG); **No Country for Old Men** (R); **P.S. I Love You** (PG-13); **Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street** (R); **The Perfect Holiday** (PG); **Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story** (R)

### SANTEE

**Santee Drive In**  
10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)  
Call theater for program information

## SOUTH BAY

### CHULA VISTA

**Chula Vista 10**  
Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)  
**Aliens vs. Predator: Requiem**; **Alvin and the Chipmunks** (PG); **Charlie Wilson's War** (R); **I Am Legend** (No Rating); **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** (PG); **P.S. I Love**

**You** (PG-13); **Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story** (R); **The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep**

**Otay Ranch 12**  
Eastlake Parkway at Olympic (858-558-2262)  
Call theater for program information

**Palm Promenade 24**  
770 Dennerly Road (858-558-2262)  
**Aliens vs. Predator: Requiem**; **Alvin and the Chipmunks** (PG); **Charlie Wilson's War** (R); **Enchanted** (PG); **Fred Claus** (PG); **The Golden Compass** (PG-13); **The Great Debaters**; **I Am Legend** (No Rating); **Juno** (PG-13); **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** (PG); **No Country for Old Men** (R); **P.S. I Love You** (PG-13); **Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street** (R); **Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story** (R); **The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep**

**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)  
Call theater for program information

### 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)  
**Alvin and the Chipmunks** (PG); **Charlie Wilson's War** (R); **I Am Legend** (No Rating); **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** (PG); **P.S. I Love You** (PG-13); **Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story**

### POWAY

**Poway 10**  
13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)  
Call theater for program information

### 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)  
**Alvin and the Chipmunks** (PG); **Atonement** (R); **Charlie Wilson's War** (R); **Enchanted** (PG); **The Golden Compass** (PG-13); **I Am Legend** (No Rating); **Juno** (PG-13); **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** (PG); **P.S. I Love You** (PG-13); **Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street** (R); **Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story** (R)

## NORTH COASTAL

### CARLSBAD

**Plaza Camino Real**  
2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469)  
**Enchanted** (PG); **I Am Legend** (No Rating); **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** (PG); **Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street** (R)

### DEL MAR

**Del Mar Highlands 8**  
El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)  
**Aliens vs. Predator: Requiem**; **Alvin and the Chipmunks** (PG); **I Am Legend** (No Rating); **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** (PG); **P.S. I Love You** (PG-13); **Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street** (R); **Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story** (R); **The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep**

**Flower Hill 4**  
2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425)  
**Atonement** (R); **Charlie Wilson's War** (R); **Juno** (PG-13); **The Kite Runner** (PG-13)

### ENCINITAS

**La Paloma**  
471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW)  
Call theater for program information

### LA COSTA

**La Costa 6**  
6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)  
**Alvin and the Chipmunks** (PG); **Charlie Wilson's War** (R); **I Am Legend** (No Rating); **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** (PG); **The Nutcracker (San Francisco Ballet)** (NR); **P.S. I Love You** (PG-13); **Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story** (R)

### OCEANSIDE

**Mission Marketplace 13**  
College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-806-1790)  
Call theater for program information

**Oceanside 16**  
401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733)  
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**ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER.** The Association of Alternative newsweeklies (members include papers like the one you're holding in your hand) is looking for an experienced account executive or sales manager to sell advertising, as well as oversee marketing and operations for its successful national classified advertis-

ing network. You must be able to work independently in our small, noncorporate DC office and know your way around spreadsheets, databases and the web. Significant income potential and excellent health, dental, vacation benefits and IRA. Relocation expenses paid. Resume, cover letter and salary expectations no later than Friday January 11 to [rkarpel@aan.org](mailto:rkarpel@aan.org) or AAN, 1250 Eye Street NW, Ste 804, Washington, DC 20005. (AAN CAN)

**AGENTS WANTED IMMEDIATELY!** Obtain your Real Estate license now! Our fast-track program is 2-1/2 weeks with 1-on-1 coaching and free video cram. \$100K potential. Work for national brand now! Call Susan: 858-245-7880 or 800-319-1031.

**AIRLINE ATTENDANTS:** Group interview 5pm Monday, January 7, at Holiday Inn Bayside, 4875 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA. Please bring a copy of your resume and apply online. [www.skywest.com/careers](http://www.skywest.com/careers).

**ALCOHOL AND DRUG TREATMENT** Counselors. We are seeking treatment counselors to help us meet the needs of our dual-diagnosed clients at our licensed facility in the Flynn Springs area of El Cajon. Treatment Specialist I (\$9.25/hour) requires HS/GED willingness to enroll in A&D certification program. Treatment Specialist II (\$10-\$11/hour) requires A.A. degree or CAARR certification and related work experience. Requires passing criminal background check. Full and

part-time positions available. Call: 619-228-2047; e-mail: [hr@voa-swcal.org](mailto:hr@voa-swcal.org); or mail: Volunteers of America Southwest California, 3530 Camino Del Rio North, #300, San Diego, CA 92108. EEO/Affirmative Action Employer.

**APARTMENT RESIDENT MANAGER.** Part time. Pride of ownership beautiful ocean-front properties. Light maintenance, show apartments. Must have excellent references, credit and communication skills. Call 619-501-5553. Fax resume: 619-222-0277.

**APPOINTMENT SETTER.** [www.monarchjobs.com](http://www.monarchjobs.com). Up to \$500-\$1000+ weekly! Paid weekly. AM/PM shifts. Full, part time. Medical, dental. Near Grantville trolley. Call today, start today! Mission Valley: 619-516-4276.

**APPOINTMENT SETTERS.** \$1500-\$3500 weekly. Looking for a fun job? Something with great earning potential that won't interfere with your winter fun? Well, here it is.... Pacific Home Remodeling is hiring ambitious and motivated individuals to set appointments to promote energy-efficient/green living products for the home. No experience necessary, training provided. Call to schedule an interview: 858-866-0183. [www.pacifichomere modeling.com](http://www.pacifichomere modeling.com).

**ASSET PROTECTION OFFICERS.** Guard Management, Inc. provides all training, Guard Card testing, Live Scan for GMI potential hires. Hiring full/part time countywide. Immediate placement with valid California Guard Card. Excellent compensation, growth potential to \$20.00/hour for Field Officers. Recruitment bonus, 401(k), health, professional certification. Apply: 8001 Vickers Street, San Diego. Eligibility is conditional. 858-244-1896 or e-mail resume: [FJohnson@GMIweb.com](mailto:FJohnson@GMIweb.com).

**BARTENDERS NEEDED.** Looking for part/full time bartenders. Several positions available. No experience required. With hourly wages and tips make up to \$300 per shift. Call 800-806-0082 x200. (AAN CAN)

**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.

**CAREGIVER, CNA, HHA** live-ins and hourly. We need San Diego Countywide, immediate assignments. Full/part time. Call for interview. Avalon Home Care, Inc., 760-730-3955.

**CAREGIVER.** I am seeking a job as a caregiver or personal driver for an elderly or disabled person. I have references and experience. Brad, 619-244-3343.

**CAREGIVER.** Provide assistance to adults with developmental disabilities. Apply: Home of Guiding Hands, 1825 Gillespie Way #200, El Cajon, CA, 92020, on-line: [www.guidinghands.org](http://www.guidinghands.org), call: 619-938-3057.

**CAREGIVERS.** Beautiful assisted living facility in Poway has day shifts available (7am-7pm). Benefits, bonuses, extra pay for weekends. Must be kind and caring! Call 858-674-1255 x206.

## HELP WANTED



## JOB FAIR!!

**Now hiring 1-day workers for the February 5, 2008 election.**

- **Tally Equipment Operator** – Basic use of PC and modern office equipment, basic math, driver's license. Able to lift up to 40 lbs., prolonged standing. \$8.76-\$17.61/hour.
- **Official Canvass Operations** – Basic use of PC and modern office equipment, basic math, driver's license. Able to lift up to 20 lbs., prolonged standing. \$8.76-\$12.29/hour.
- **Drivers** – Drive regular vehicles or small vans to pick up items, able to lift up to 40 lbs. (Class C driver's license required). \$12.29/hour.

Excellent customer service skills required.  
Must be 18 years of age.

If interested, attend on:  
Saturday, January 5, 2008 • 9 am-1 pm  
5201 Ruffin Road, San Diego, CA 92123

Job applications now available at:  
**sdvote.com**  
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For directions, call: **858-495-5153**



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Are you a bartender, server, leasing agent, fitness instructor, or anyone with the following characteristics?

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Would you enjoy working with like-minded people?  
We are looking for people like ourselves. People who like to have FUN while making lots of money!

**In November, 18 Sales agents made over \$10,000  
4 made over \$15,000  
and 1 made over \$18,000!**

These people did NO prospecting, NO advertising, NO traveling, NO customer service, NO billing. The clients came to the resort; and the agents had 4+ weeks of vacation.

Come join the professional vacation ownership sales team at the Welk Resort Group.

Call Tom Trobaugh at: **760-749-5082**  
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## 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 date:

**January 5, 2008 • 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](http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation)

## Area Sales Managers

### **Do you like to recruit?**

Are you an outgoing, enthusiastic and results-oriented sales professional? Do you thrive in a fast-paced, dynamic environment and want the opportunity to increase your earnings by achieving your professional goals?

Belcorp has over 40 years of experience in the beauty industry with over \$700M in annual revenue. Our product line **L'Bel Paris** consists of high-quality skin care, cosmetics and fragrances made in France.

Belcorp is growing rapidly in the U.S. and is looking for Area Sales Managers throughout **San Diego County** and **Orange County** with the ambition, business acumen and creativity to achieve sales objectives campaign by campaign.

### **Responsibilities:**

- **Recruit, motivate and train** independent Beauty Consultants
- Grow and sustain profitable sales within the area
- Communicate product and program information to sales force on a timely basis
- Participate in training programs to improve your performance

### **Qualifications:**

- Self-motivated and able to work independently without constant supervision
- Field sales/service experience
- **Experience recruiting and cold calling**
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Ability to inspire, generate enthusiasm and motivate to action
- Bilingual (**English/Spanish**) skills
- College degree or AA desirable

**Belcorp, U.S.A.** offers a competitive base salary, bonus opportunities, car allowance and a comprehensive benefits package.



E-mail résumé to [recruiting@us.belcorp.biz](mailto:recruiting@us.belcorp.biz)  
or call 415-362-5235 x1023 for more information.

**SAN DIEGO SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

# Now Hiring!



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## ***THE REFLECTION OF SUCCESS***

### **Exam Dates:**

**January 5, 2008 • 7:30 am Arrival**

Southwestern College Cafeteria  
900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista, CA 91910

**January 9, 2008 • 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](mailto:recruit@sdsheriff.org)

18-year-olds eligible to apply!

Bring valid photo ID and \$3 for parking  
at Southwestern.

**[www.joinsdSHERIFF.net](http://www.joinsdSHERIFF.net)**  
**858-974-2000**



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[recruiting@wordsmart.com](mailto:recruiting@wordsmart.com)



**CAREGIVERS.** Full/part time. 24-hour live-ins. Male/female. 1+ year experience, vehicle required. Caregivers, Companions, HHAs, CNAs. Leave contact information and brief experience: 619-944-3327.

**CAREGIVERS.** Home Instead Senior Care needs cheerful, dependable people to help seniors stay at home with our non-medical home care services. Competitive pay/training. Flexible hours. Great benefits. Central/East Jobline: 619-433-6200. South Bay/Coastal: 858-277-3722.

**CAREGIVERS/CNAs/HHAs** Immediate openings: Hourly, Live-in, Nights. Cheerful, compassionate Companions/HHAs/CNAs to assist seniors in-home. Minimum 1-year experience. Premium pay/bonuses/benefits, 24-hour office support. Flexible assignments. Age Advantage, 619-660-8881.

**CAREGIVERS/CNAs/HHAs.** Enjoy the rewards of volunteering while earning a paycheck; make extra money for the holidays. Hourly and live-in assignments available. We're seeking caring, compassionate, and dependable people with personal transportation. Benefits: flexible hours, competitive compensation, paid weekly. Apply weekdays: 9am-4pm. Right at Home, 8369 Vickers Street #203, San Diego CA 92111. www.rahlaajolla.com. 858-277-5900.

**CAREGIVERS/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.

**CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS.** Visiting Angels, America's Choice in Homecare. Now hiring compassionate, caring Caregivers/Companions. Requires minimum 1 year experience in non-medical home care for seniors and valid CA driver's license. Serving Poway, Rancho Penasquitos, Scripps Ranch and Mira Mesa areas. Call for an immediate interview: 760-703-2192.

**CAREGIVERS/HOME HEALTH/Personal Assistants/CNAs.** Make extra money for the holidays and get paid weekly! Hourly and live-in. Compassionate and dependable. Flexible hours, competitive pay. Apply weekdays, 8am-3pm: Right at Home 858-451-7844; 16486 Bernard Center Drive #124, San Diego, CA 92128. www.rahencinitas.com.

# Free Classifieds!

Post free online ads with photos at SDReader.com

**CAREGIVERS: LIVE-INS,** 2, 3, 4 or 5 days/week, \$120/day including sleep and meal periods. Weeknds and hourly: 4-hour, 8-hour and 12-hour shifts, AM/PM. Top pay, flexible shifts 24/7, 401(k), production bonus, rewards for good work. Requires valid driver's license, vehicle/insurance, registration, one year of paid elder caregiving experience, eligibility to work in the United States. \$50 Hiring Bonus after 90 days of employment. Comfort Keepers, 2006 Workplace Excellence Medallion Award SDSHRM, San Diego: 619-795-6036. San Marcos: 760-598-3400.

**CAREGIVERS** needed immediately. 1 year experience. All shifts available. Hourly and live in. Call Assertive Homecare Services, 3774 Grove Street, Suite L-1, Lemon Grove. 619-466-6890.

**CHEF, FOOD & BEVERAGE, ETC.** Manpower, in partnership with Cirque Du Soleil, has part-time, nights, and weekend openings: Ushers, Food & Beverage, Janitors, Costume Dressers, Chef, and many more! Earn extra money, see the show free! 1/11/08-2/17/08. Contact your local Manpower office: (Mission Valley) 2225 Camino Del Rio South, Suite E, San Diego (619-293-3606); (Mira Mesa) 7094 Miratech Drive, Suite 100, San Diego (858-635-5835); (San Marcos) 801 West San Marcos Boulevard. (760-736-7080).

**CIRCULATE PETITION.** Circulate statewide political petition. \$100-\$200/day. Paid 3 times per week. All areas. Work immediately after a brief orientation. Call 24/7, 619-819-8950.

**CLASSROOM AIDES.** Work with developmentally disabled children in non-public school. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista, La Mesa. Monday-Friday, 7:30am-1pm. \$9.75/hour to start. EOE. www.vistahill.org. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax resume: 619-

281-0453. EOE. Apply weekdays, 9am-4pm: Stein Education Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

**CLOSERS WANTED,** to generate leads for home improvement. No selling of products! Average income \$20-\$30+/hour Part-Time! Monday-Saturday, day/evening. More info, 1-866-DRHARTY (1-866-374-2789). www.thhd.net.

**CNA/CHHA.** Beginners, experienced. Family Caregivers, Childcare, Home Care Aides, Drivers. Great pay! New-hire bonus! Nonmedical, in-home help for seniors, children, disabled. 12-and 24-hour shifts! Training. Flexible schedules, benefits, retirement, childcare. At Your Home Familycare. E-mail: homecarejobs@atyourhomefamilycare.com. Toll free: 1-877-903-JOBS.

**CNAs and HHAs,** Caregivers/Homemakers, come join us help others in need while making extra money for the holidays. We offer weekly pay, flexible schedules, and training. Hourly and live-ins wanted. Apply: Right at Home. 858-451-7844; or e-mail resume: employment@rahencinitas.com.

**COMMUNITY TRAINING Specialist/Job Coach.** \$9.75/hour to start. Assist developmentally disabled adults in the community. Behavioral and instructional programs. Implement schedules. 32.5 hours/week. Benefits. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax resume: 619-281-0453. Apply weekdays, 9am-4pm, Stein Education Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

**CONSTRUCTION.** Immediate long-term positions. Labor, Home Prep, Customer Service, Finish-Frame-Form Carpenters, Apartment Maintenance, Hang-Tape-Mud Drywallers, Commercial/Residential Plumbers, Painters. Full benefits available immediately. Call 858-292-8562, fax 858-292-0230, e-mail help@gostaff.com, apply online www.gostaff.com.

**CONSTRUCTION/REMODEL.** Local home remodeling company is seeking experienced/skilled electricians, plumbers, dry-

wallers and laborers. Interested applicants please fax resume to 619-946-4364 or call 619-271-5864.

**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.

**CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY PROBATION** Officer I, County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Date: January 5, 2008, 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.

**COSMETOLOGISTS.** We provide benefits for Licensed Cosmetologists that are unmatched in the industry: health, wealth, training, and life crisis management resources. Call 877-870-8087 or email yasmin.shah@greatclips.net.

**COSTUME DRESSERS.** Manpower, in partnership with Cirque Du Soleil, has part-time, nights, and weekend openings: Ushers, Food & Beverage, Janitors, Costume Dressers, Chef, and many more! Earn extra money, see the show free! 1/11/08-2/17/08. Contact your local Manpower office: (Mission Valley) 2225 Camino Del Rio South, Suite E, San Diego (619-293-3606); (Mira Mesa) 7094 Miratech Drive, Suite 100, San Diego (858-635-5835); (San Marcos) 801 West San Marcos Boulevard. (760-736-7080).

**CUSTOMER SERVICE.** Bilingual a plus. 60 Reps needed for bank call center. Be available 3-4 months/weekends if needed. Inbound calls, data entry, excellent communication, flexible shifts. Call today! 858-597-4000. E-mail: staffing@tristaff.com.

**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.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE/DISPATCHER.** ARS of San Diego is seeking a motivated multitasker with good communication and leadership skills for a fast-paced environment. Must be a team player with a minimum of 5 years experience. Kevin, 858-677-5444 x113. kkellington@ars.com, www.jobswithars.com. Drug-free work environment. License #ARS San Diego 791820.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE/DIGITAL** Bond Printing of Architectural Drawings at Mayer Reprographics in Mira Mesa. Computer skills required. Full time with benefits. 8:30am-5pm Monday-Friday. Apply after January 1, 2008 at: 6331 Nancy Ridge Drive.

**DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER.** County of San Diego Probation Department is now hiring. Test Dates: January 26, 2008 or February 23, 2008. 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: Bachelor'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 Sher-

iff's Department. Hiring for two types of positions; take one exam, apply for either or both! Exam Date: Saturday, January 5, 2008, 7:30am arrival, Southwestern College Cafeteria, 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista CA 91910 or Wednesday, January 9, 2008, 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@sdsheiff.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 and \$3 for parking at Southwestern. Valid California Driver's License prior to appointment. Effective oral and written communication in English. EOE. Additional test dates: www.joinSDSHERIFF.net. 858-974-2000.

**DIETARY AIDE/HOUSEKEEPING.** Full time with benefits. Bilingual a plus, must speak some English. 7760 Parkway Drive, La Mesa. Call 619-469-0124 x21.

**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/CUSTOMER SERVICE.** ARS of San Diego is seeking a motivated multitasker with good communication and leadership skills for a fast-paced environment. Must be a team player with a minimum of 5 years experience. Kevin, 858-677-5444 x113. kkellington@ars.com, www.jobswithars.com. Drug-free work environment. License #ARS San Diego 791820.

**DRIVERS WANTED.** Requires valid CA driver's license, current H-6 DMV printout and good, safe driving skills. Must be 25 years or older. Apply in person at Xpress Shuttle, 1065 Bay Boulevard, Suite B, Chula Vista, CA 91911.

**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

## HELP WANTED

### Special Education, Prevention Services and Treatment Programs

Applications/résumés are accepted Monday-Friday 9 am-4 pm.

**Stein Education Center  
6145 Decena Drive  
San Diego, CA 92120**

Fax: 619-281-0453  
E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org

All applications/résumés must include job title. www.vistahill.org

#### 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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- Full-time
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- Medical & Dental Insurance
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- \$8.50/Hour Plus Bonus
- Regular Raises
- Convenient Location

**GORDON and SCHWENKMEYER INC.**  
TELEMARKETING

9620 Chesapeake Drive, Suite 108  
San Diego, CA 92123-1369

**CALL FOR AN INTERVIEW: 858-496-2100**

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.** Must have Class B license with passenger endorsement and at least 6 months experience. Fixed route, Monday-Friday, 36-40 hours/week with benefits. Call 619-287-0628.

**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](http://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 858-292-9562, fax 858-292-0230, e-mail [help@gostaff.com](mailto:help@gostaff.com), apply online [www.gostaff.com](http://www.gostaff.com).

**ESTHETICIAN.** Experienced, full-time. \$360/week guarantee plus commission, insurance. Eastlake location. Ultra, 619-980-8907.

**FAMILY SERVICES COORDINATOR.** Seeking licensed-eligible intern or li-

censed MFT/LCSW. Exciting full-time opportunity working with SED, high-risk youth, families. Positions available throughout San Diego County, including North County region. Bilingual a plus. MHS, Inc is an EOE, offers excellent benefits/competitive salaries. Please send resume and cover letter to [famfor-admin@mhinc.org](mailto:famfor-admin@mhinc.org) or fax 858-569-1873.

**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.

**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](mailto:donawilson@fitnesstogether.com) or call 858-451-6051.

**FLIGHT ATTENDANTS:** Group interview 5pm Monday, January 7, at Holiday Inn Bayside, 4875 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA. Please bring a copy of your resume and apply online. [www.skywest.com/careers](http://www.skywest.com/careers).

**FOOD & BEVERAGE, CHEF, ETC.** Manpower, in partnership with Cirque Du Soleil, has part-time, nights, and weekend openings: Ushers, Food & Beverage, Janitors, Costume Dressers, Chef, and many more! Earn extra money, see the show free! 1/11/08-2/17/08. Contact your local Manpower office: (Mission Valley) 2225 Camino Del Rio South, Suite E, San Diego (619-293-3606); (Mira Mesa) 7094 Miratech Drive, Suite 100, San Diego (858-635-5835); (San Marcos) 801 West San Marcos Boulevard. (760-736-7080).

**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.** Free employment and training services for individuals with disabilities, ages 18-21 on probation or parole. Able Disabled Advocacy, Inc., 2850 6th Avenue Suite 311, San Diego, CA 92103. 619-231-5990 x305.

**GENERAL.** Gain skills to succeed. Are you 16 to 21, low income, need high school diploma or GED and work experience? Turning the Hearts Center, 619-691-9643.

**GENERAL.** Manpower, in partnership with Cirque Du Soleil, has part-time, nights, and weekend openings: Ushers, Food & Beverage, Janitors, Costume Dressers, Chef, and many more! Earn extra money, see the show free! 1/11/08-2/17/08. Contact your local Manpower office: (Mission Valley) 2225 Camino Del Rio South, Suite E, San Diego (619-293-3606); (Mira Mesa) 7094 Miratech Drive, Suite 100, San Diego (858-635-5835); (San Marcos) 801 West San Marcos Boulevard. (760-736-7080).

**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](mailto:chenayle@fitsandiego.com). Fax: 858-715-8681. Call 858-715-8611.

San Diego Police Department

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**Test Dates:**

**Saturday, Jan. 12, 2008 • 8:30 am**

Balboa Park Club Ballroom

2150 Pan American Rd. West, San Diego

**Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2008 • 6 pm**

Balboa Park Club Ballroom

2150 Pan American Rd. West, San Diego

**Friday, Jan. 18, 2008 • 8:30 am**

Balboa Park Club Ballroom

2150 Pan American Rd. West, San Diego



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Or visit our website at:  
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## HELP WANTED



## 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: January 26, 2008, or February 23, 2008**

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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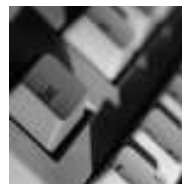


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<b>San Diego</b>	<b>858.576.3140</b>	e-mail: <a href="mailto:clairemont@volt.com">clairemont@volt.com</a>
<b>Scripps Ranch</b>	<b>858.578.0920</b>	e-mail: <a href="mailto:scrippsrancho@volt.com">scrippsrancho@volt.com</a>
<b>El Cajon</b>	<b>619.401.1524</b>	e-mail: <a href="mailto:elcajon@volt.com">elcajon@volt.com</a>
<b>Carlsbad</b>	<b>760.729.8916</b>	e-mail: <a href="mailto:carlsbad@volt.com">carlsbad@volt.com</a>
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## Part-Time Nights & Weekends



### Manpower in partnership with Cirque Du Soleil



**Have you ever wanted to be a part of this award-winning show but can't quite bend that way?! Would you like to see this exciting show for FREE?!!**

**Are you outgoing, energetic, a team player and need some extra \$\$\$?**

**Become a part of the "Behind the Scenes" operations  
for this award-winning show!**

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**Costume Dressers • Chef • and many more ...**  
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**Show dates: Jan. 11-Feb. 17, 2008 • Contact your local Manpower office.**

#### Mission Valley

• 2225 Camino del Rio South, Suite E •  
• San Diego • 619.293.3606 •

#### Mira Mesa

• 7094 Miratech Drive, Suite 100 •  
• San Diego • 858.635.5835 •

#### San Marcos

• 801 W. San Marcos Blvd.  
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**HAIR DESIGNERS.** Busy Gaslamp salon seeking booth renters. Walk-ins available! Great urban loft environment, convenient parking. Move-in incentives. 619-231-7588.

**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.** Professional, experienced stylist, full-time includes some evenings. \$360/week guaranteed plus commission, insurance, vacation. Mission Valley location. Ultra, 619-980-8907.

**HAIRSTYLISTS** needed for a hip, new salon. No clientele needed! Walk-in clients available. Will train. We need you now. Great benefits package includes health insurance. 858-380-5882.

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Post free online ads with photos at [SDReader.com](http://SDReader.com)

**HEALTHCARE:** Palomar Pomerado Health is 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](http://www.pph.org) or apply in person, Monday-Friday, 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.

**HOME HEALTHCARE/CNAs/HHAs.** Enjoy the rewards of volunteering while earning a paycheck; make extra money for the holidays. Hourly and live-in assignments available. We're seeking caring, compassionate, and dependable people with personal transportation. Benefits: flexible hours, competitive compensation, paid weekly. Apply weekdays: 9am-4pm. Right at Home, 8369 Vickers Street #203, San Diego CA 92111. [www.rahlaajolla.com](http://www.rahlaajolla.com). 858-277-5900.

**HOSPITALITY.** Manpower, in partnership with Cirque Du Soleil, has part-time, nights, and weekend openings: Ushers, Food & Beverage, Janitors, Costume Dressers, Chef, and many more! Earn extra money, see the show free! 1/11/08-

2/17/08. Contact your local Manpower office: (Mission Valley) 2225 Camino Del Rio South, Suite E, San Diego (619-293-3606); (Mira Mesa) 7094 Miratech Drive, Suite 100, San Diego (858-635-5835); (San Marcos) 801 West San Marcos Boulevard. (760-736-7080).

**HOTEL.** Old Town Inn seeks experienced Part-Time Night Auditor, Monday/Tuesday. Competitive pay! Apply at 4444 Pacific Highway, fax resume to 619-296-0524 or e-mail [oldtowninn@nethere.com](mailto: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](mailto:WorkWithDanas@aol.com). Dana's Housekeeping Personnel Service. 619-298-6110.

**HVAC TECHNICIAN.** ARS of San Diego is seeking 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 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](mailto:kkellington@ars.com).

[www.jobswithars.com](http://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.

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**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](mailto:steinjobs@vistahill.org). Fax: 619-281-0453. [www.vistahill.org](http://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](mailto:pficareer@yahoo.com). Fax 619-440-6864. 619-440-6802.

**JOB FAIR!** Registrar of Voters. Saturday, 1/05/08, 9am-1pm. 5201 Ruffin Road, Suite I, San Diego 92123. Now hiring 1 day workers for the February 5, 2008 election. Tally Equipment Operator: basic use of PC and modern office equipment; basic math; drivers license; able to lift up to 40 pounds; prolonged standing; \$8.76-\$17.61/hour. Official Canvass Operations: basic use of PC and modern office equipment; basic math, drivers license; able to lift up to 20 pounds; prolonged standing; \$8.76-\$12.29/hour. Drivers: drive regular vehicles or small vans to pick up items; able to lift up to 40 pounds; Class C driver's license required; \$12.29/hour. Excellent customer service skills required. Must be 18 years of age. Job applications available online at [sd-vote.com](http://sd-vote.com) under Temporary Employment. Please attend with completed application. For directions, call 858-495-5153.

**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! Exam Date: Saturday, January 5, 2008, 7:30am arrival, Southwestern College Cafeteria, 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista CA 91910 or Wednesday, January 9, 2008, 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](mailto: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 and \$3 for parking at Southwestern. Valid California Driver's License prior to appointment. Effective oral and written communication in English. EOE. Additional test dates: [www.joinSDSHERIFF.net](http://www.joinSDSHERIFF.net). 858-974-2000.

**LEAD SETTERS.** \$1500-\$3500 weekly. Earn what you're worth! Pacific Home Remodeling is hiring ambitious, motivated individuals to set appointments to promote energy-efficient/green living products such as Magic Window and Flex-On Exterior Coating—all products approved by the Department of Energy. Training plus all tools and support to insure success provided. Great pay! Growth opportunity. Call to schedule an interview: 858-866-0183. [www.pacificomeremodeling.com](http://www.pacificomeremodeling.com).

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**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.

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**MACHINE OPERATORS** (Paper machines), part-time Warehouse, Production Workers (3rd shift), Mail Sorters, and Engineering. MDI offers paid holidays after 520 hours and vacation bonuses after 2000 hours. Apply at MDI Staffing: 858-277-5680.

**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.** Full/part-time. Days/weekends. Residential hotel. Basic maintenance skills required. Plumbing, electrical, carpentry. \$11/hour and up. Studio 819, 819 University, Hillcrest. 619-542-0819.

**MANICURIST.** One of the lowest booth rentals available! Relaxed, established easy going La Jolla/UTC salon. \$100/week. Lower your expenses. Call Paul Gerard Hair Salon, 858-625-0555.

**MARKET RESEARCH** Telephone Interviewers. No selling. Friendly, outgoing. San Diego's fastest-growing market research company. Bilingual Spanish a plus. Hourly, bonuses, medical. Advancement opportunities. [www.luthresearch.com](http://www.luthresearch.com). Apply: Luth Research, 1365 Fourth Avenue, Downtown. Job Hotline: 619-243-8045.

**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).

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**MYSTERY SHOPPERS:** Get paid to shop! Earn up to \$200/day. Experience not required. Call now: 800-486-7204.

**NANNY/ASSISTANT.** Carmel Valley. Approximately 30 hours/week. Childcare, cooking, errands, light housekeeping. Requires English proficiency, vehicle. Brya or Laurie, 858-775-7177. Resume: [Laurie@lmaworldwide.com](mailto:Laurie@lmaworldwide.com), fax 858-720-1106.

**NURSING.** Casa de las Campanas, a retirement community in Rancho Bernardo, is searching for a Part-time Unit Clerk/Receptionist to work weekends only, in our skilled nursing facility. Assists with the needs of the Medical Records Department, experience preferred. Neat appearance, customer service and excellent organizational skills is a must. We offer competitive wages and a great working environment. Please apply in person, Monday thru Friday, 8:30am-12:00noon and 1:00-4:00pm, Human Resources Department, 18655 West Bernardo Drive, 92127. Or fax your resume to 858-592-1853. EOE.

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**Oceanside: Mike, 619-701-3631**

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**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](http://www.zestybiz.com).

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**PLUMBERS.** ARS is seeking 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](mailto:kkellington@ars.com), [www.jobswithars.com](http://www.jobswithars.com). Drug-free work environment. License #ARS San Diego 791820.

**PLUMBERS/SERVICE TECHNICIANS** with experience needed now! Rescue Rooter offers: Medical/dental, 401(k), vans/tools, paid vacations/overtime, high income, drug-free workplace. To apply, please e-mail: [imyking@ars.com](mailto:imyking@ars.com) or call: 858-457-6506. AA/EOE. License #765155.

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**PROBATION CAREERS.** Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Date: January 5, 2008, 8am, Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Utric 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.sdcountry.ca.gov/probation](http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/probation). Jobline: 858-514-8558.

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Sales, eLiveLife.com— Mission Valley. Inside Sales, American Satellite-Mission Valley, 2667 Camino del Rio South #204— DirectTV phone center, \$300-\$500/day. 619-398-5050 or e-mail resume to [info@eLiveLife.com](mailto:info@eLiveLife.com).

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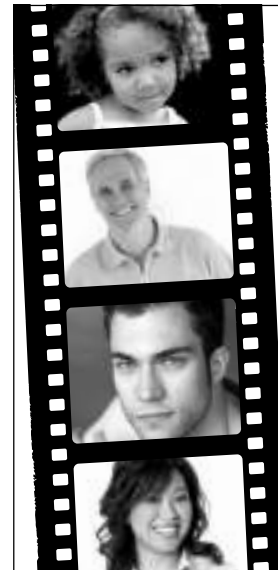
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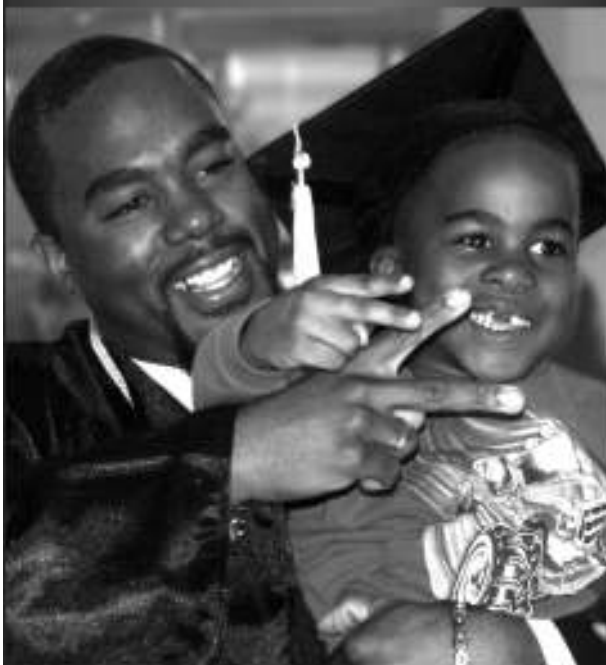
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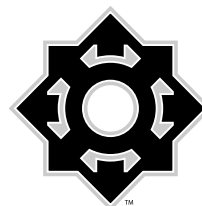
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**DANCE LESSONS.** Salsa, swing, ballroom, weddings and more! Pacific Beach and North County locations. Contact Amanda, 619-206-1101; [amanda@dancehealthy.com](mailto:amanda@dancehealthy.com); [www.dancehealthy.com](http://www.dancehealthy.com). Get happy, get healthy, get dancing!

**DANCE LIKE THE STARS!** Brides/grooms-learn fusion of salsa, Latin ballroom, hip hop for first dance! \$10 adult/kids' group salsa classes: Monday-Friday in Pacific Beach, La Jolla, Old Town, Mira Mesa. Private lessons, \$50. [www.susienguyen.com](http://www.susienguyen.com), 858-488-6900, cell-805-252-6900.

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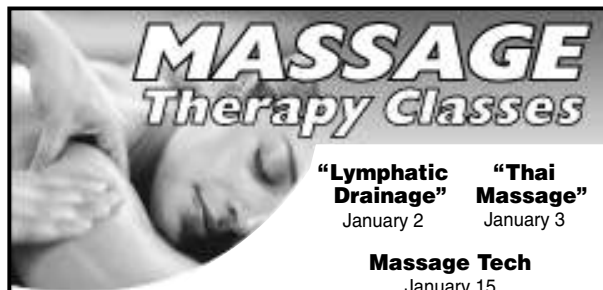
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# Say What?



**Shawn Gray** | Age: 31 | Occupation: Cafe Manager | Lives: University Heights

## YER MOM

It works with everything. Like... Anything, anything. We used to always bust it back and forth. “Yer mom’s this, yer mom’s dah- dah-dah-dah.” And then you can take it a step further and say, “we did this with yer mom last night.” I can’t even give an example of a

yer mom joke because it works with everything. Try it. Next time somebody says something, just say back to them “yer mom...” Fill in the blanks, whatever they said. Say something, anything. “I like potatoes.” “Yer mom likes potatoes. Yer mom liked potatoes last night.” See? It works?

We even had a button on the [cash] register [at work] that said “yer mom” on it.

See the video

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**NEW TAI CHI AND QI GONG** Classes. First class free. Visitors welcome. Taoist Sanctuary, 4229 Park Boulevard, San Diego 92103. 619-692-1155 or [www.taoistsanctuary.org](http://www.taoistsanctuary.org).

**PRESCRIPTION EYEGLASSES,** \$8. Custom made to your prescription, stylish plastic or metal frame, Highindex, UV protection, anti-scratch lens, case, lenscloth for only \$8. Also available: rimless, titanium, children’s, bifocals, progressive, suntuins, ARcoating, etc. <http://zennioptical.com>. (AAN CAN)

**TREADMILLS, ELLIPTICALS,** cycles, and other exercise equipment wanted. Cash for quality fitness gear. We pick up. Big selection of new and used exercise equipment for sale. 90 days free financing! Play It Again Sports, 858-751-0338. [www.playitagainsd.com](http://www.playitagainsd.com).

## PARENT RESOURCES

**PLACE PRINTED ADS** in the Reader by calling 619-235-8200.  
**POST FREE ONLINE ADS** with photos at SDReader.com. See thousands of classified ads not printed here!

**PREGNANT?** Considering adoption? Talk with caring people specializing in matching birthmothers with families nationwide. Expenses paid. Toll free 24/7, Abby’s One True Gift Adoptions, 1-866-413-6293. (AAN CAN)

## WEDDING & PARTY GUIDE

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**AFFORDABLE PHOTOGRAPHY** and Ministerial. Married couple with over 30 years experience in wedding business teams up to cover your event. [www.brianhowarthphotography.com](http://www.brianhowarthphotography.com). Call Brian or Valerie: 619-583-0411.

**AMAZING DJS AND BANDS!** Book your New Years Eve Entertainment today! San Diego Parties & Entertainment. Excellent DJs, fabulous bands, specialty entertainment. Wedding/Event Coordination available. 619-315-6325.

**AWARD-WINNING PHOTOGRAPHER.** See your wedding day unfold on DVD. On a budget? Digital photography. Hourly rates, special events. Kidnapper of Images, Beverly, 858-736-4472; 858-274-4472.

**BAND, “HOT PURSUIT.”** Weddings; corporate, private parties. High-energy dance band featuring sax player, female vocalist. Swing, jazz, rock, R&B, country, dance hits. 760-751-1876. [www.HotPursuitMusic.com](http://www.HotPursuitMusic.com).

**BEAUTIFUL PORTRAITS** Done in the privacy of your own home. Free 8x10 with this ad. Family, Graduations, individuals. Call for appointment. Mind’s Eye Photographies, 619-602-8253.

**DISC JOCKEYS/LIVE BANDS**/novelty acts. Weddings, corporate, parties. 400 bands, 10 DJs to choose from. All types of music. Affordable! Since 1973. 619-223-5732. [www.musicasyoulikeit.com](http://www.musicasyoulikeit.com).

## STAGE NOTES

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**ABANDON YOUR ACTING FEARS!** Actors’ Workshop Studios. San Diego’s number 1 film/TV studio! Professional 3-camera set. Weekly in-house auditions with Hollywood/local casting directors, producers, agents. [www.actorsworkshopstudios.com](http://www.actorsworkshopstudios.com); 858-587-6666.

**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.

**ALIVE ON STAGE!** Point Loma Actors Workshop. More fun than you’ve ever had on a Monday night in Point Loma! Beginners welcome. Next session starts January 7. Join now! [www.pointlomaactors.com](http://www.pointlomaactors.com). 619-225-0044.

**AUDITIONS.** SeaWorld’s Sesame Street Bay of Play: January 5, 2008, SeaWorld’s on-site Adventure Camp Facility, 500 Sea-World Drive, San Diego 92109 (across from SeaWorld Security). Dancers: Audition morning or noon session. Please arrive promptly at 9:00am or promptly at 12:00pm. Must be between 4’11” and 6’3” tall, able to wear full body character costumes. Singers/Actors: please arrive promptly at 4:00pm. Prepare and perform one-to two-minute musical piece that demonstrates your vocal ability. Must be 18+ years. Bring recent photo, resume. EOE. Audition Hotline: 619-226-3607. [www.SeaWorldSanDiegoAuditions.com](http://www.SeaWorldSanDiegoAuditions.com).

**AUDITIONS:** Whirled Peas Productions LLC film, Releve, to shoot summer 2008. Academy of Performing Arts in San Diego. Dancers and actors. Copy/credit. Appointment: [whirledpeasproductions.Releve@gmail.com](mailto:whirledpeasproductions.Releve@gmail.com).

**AUDITIONS:** Luann: Scenes in a Teen’s Life. A musical by Greg Evans, based on his comic strip. Directed by Dana Case. 1/23/08, 7pm (voice and movement); 1/24/08, 7pm (readings from script). Howard Brubeck Theatre, Palomar College, 1140 W. Mission Road, San Marcos 92069. more info: 760-744-1150 x2455. [www.palomarperforms.com](http://www.palomarperforms.com).

**MALE/FEMALE MODELS WANTED.** We are seeking attractive models with good physiques, 18-25, for 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](http://www.platinumred.com).

**MEDIA MAKE-UP ARTISTS** earn up to \$500/day for television, CD/videos, film, fashion. One week course in Los Angeles while building portfolio. Brochure, 310-364-0665. [www.MediaMakeUpArtists.com](http://www.MediaMakeUpArtists.com). (AAN CAN)

**MODELS.** Amateur models needed for photo, video, web work. Ages 18-60. All types. No experience necessary. Cash paid. Professional setting. Call Jenn, 619-379-4964.

**MOVIE EXTRAS/MODELS.** Earn up to \$200 per day. All looks needed to work

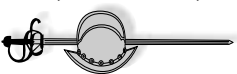
## INSTRUCTION

## Go on, admit it...you’ve always had a little Zorro in you!

Beginner’s Classes • Sales of Replica Swords & Daggers  
Instruction in Theatrical Swordplay • Advanced Training



San Diego’s Premier Fencing Club



with film and TV production companies. No experience required. Call 877-282-2458.

**MOVIE EXTRAS, ACTORS,** models! Make \$100-\$300/day. No experience required. Meet celebrities. Full time, part time. All looks needed! Call now. 1-800-566-6103 x528. (AAN CAN)

**TAP DANCERS,** 50+, wanted. Performance troupe forming. Enthusiasm and gusto far more important than experience or talent. 619-697-1810.

**TEACHERS FOR CHILDREN:** Gymnastics, Cheerleading, Hip-hop, Theater, Ballet/ Tap, Flag Football, Basketball for ages 2-12, beginning levels. Experience required. Mobile gym program. Part time. North County. \$15-\$35/class. 760-917-4800.

**VOICEOVER WORKSHOP.** Break into voiceover! Taught by voice actor/author James Alburger. Learn interpretation, character voices, microphone technique, more for radio/TV. www.voiceacting.com; 858-484-0220.

## COUNSELING & SUPPORT GROUPS

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**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.

**ARE YOU MAD?** Learn how to manage your anger constructively. Gain power, control, reduce conflict and improve your relationships. Classes begin soon. Mission Valley. Jay Schneider, LCSW. Lic-9573. www.manageangerdaily.com. 858-538-5587.

**CLINICAL HYPNOTHERAPY.** "What the mind can conceive, the body can achieve." All issues addressed. Free consultation. Patricia R. Parlin, Ed.D. CHT403-250. Call 619-442-3661 or 619-504-1935.

**COUNSELING/DREAM STUDY.** Curious? Unsettled dreams? Training needs? Jungian dreamwork for life issues, transitions, growth. \$40/1 hour session. \$10/2 hour group. Paul Hartsuyker, MFT-15896. www.sandiegotherapists.com/hartsuyker.html. 619-269-8939.

**FEELING STUCK? STRESSED?** Experiencing crisis? Relationship issues? Career problems? Family conflicts? Grief? Past trauma? Take back your power. Free consultation: 619-723-9244. Trish Deignan, LCSW21861.

**GAY/BISEXUAL MEN.** Supportive individual therapy. Depression, anxiety, confusion, addictions, spiritual/religious issues. Married, closeted welcome. Discretion, confidentiality assured. Mel Karmen, PhD, MFC-12709. 619-296-9442.

**HEALTHY ADULTS:** Inner Child healing and recovery work. Establish healthy boundaries. Heal wounds of dysfunctional family. Thought Field Therapy eliminates phobias and traumas. Counseling for individuals, couples' enrichment and family bonding. Sharon Goodlove, TFT Diagnostician; Glenn Goodlove, LCSW-1450. Goodlove Counseling Center, 858-569-8975. www.goodlove-online.com.

**IN-HOME THERAPY** for couples and families. Convenient, confidential, affordable. Evening and weekend appointments available. Inner Peace Counseling Services, Edward Thompson, MFT#41044. Call 858-232-4669.

**MILITARY.** PTSD? Battle Fatigue Syndrome? Night Terrors? Memory Loss? Difficulty Sleeping? Troubled Relationships? Former military therapist licensed trauma specialist providing free group treatment. License #MFT37234. 858-342-0181.

## NOTICES

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**ADDICTED** to Internet pornography/sex? Out of control? You are not alone. Call Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step fellowship. PO Box 3791, San Diego 92163 or 619-685-7211 or www.slaa-san-diego.org.

**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.

**ALANON-GRUPO RENCUENTRO.** Hay problemas de alcoholismo en su familia? Sesiones Lunes y Jueves de 5:00-6:30pm, 3450 Bonita Road #207, Bonita, 91902. 619-470-6955.

**ALCOHOLICOS ANONIMOS.** Tiene problemas con la bebida? Llamenos 24 horas. Oficina Central Hispana, 3628 University Avenue, San Diego, 92105. 619-280-7224.

**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 Hispana, 3450 Bonita Road, #207. 619-280-7224.

**BALLROOM/LATIN DANCE** parties every Friday. Pre-party class, 7:15pm. Party, 8pm. \$12/person. Free refreshments. Salsa, Swing, Cha Cha. Singles/couples. Rancho Bernardo. 858-451-3775.

**BE A MILLIONAIRE FROM HOME!** Sell Mangosteen; make lots of money! Very high antioxidant value. Significant anti-in-

flammatory properties. Tons of health benefits! www.diane.discovermangosteen.com. Diane, 877-674-4280.

**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.sdcoda.org.

**DARK EYE CIRCLES?** Teamine eye complex: new technology for reducing dark circles, puffiness, wrinkles. Powerful antioxidants= maximum anti-aging benefits. 100% guaranteed. Call your Doctor today!

**DIVORCECARE** meets every Sunday at 9am at 4926 La Cuenta Suite 203-A, Tierrasanta. Special Free support group for those divorcing, divorced, or broken live-in relationship. 4926 La Cuenta, Suite 203, Tierrasanta. Bruce, Bruce@coastline-realestate.com or 619-461-4480.

**FREE EMPLOYMENT/TRAINING** services for individuals with disabilities, ages 18-21 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. Every first Mondays, 7:30pm 1/7/08, 2/4, 3/3, by Vessa's Clairvoyant Program students. 4455 Morena Boulevard, Suite #108. 858-509-7582.

**GAIN SKILLS TO SUCCEED.** Are you 16 to 21, low income, need high school diploma or GED and work experience? Turning the Hearts Center, 619-691-9643.

**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 Ulric Street, San Diego, 92111. 858-277-0523.

**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 Roscreans Street, Mission Room. Information: OCAhelp@cox.net.

**OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS.** Meetings daily. www.oasandiego.org or 619-521-2538.

**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.

**RESEARCH STUDY.** Women living with smoker needed for 9-day research study. Leave message, 619-594-8827 or email TRDRPPDASStudy@projects.sdsu.edu, for more information.

**TEMPLE OF BHAKTI YOGA.** Sunday, 10:30-11:30am; Tuesday, 6:30-7:30pm. For information please call 760-787-0700.

**VOLUNTEERS.** Help stop child abuse crisis. San Diego's abandoned/neglected children desperately need you. Become a child advocate. Information session on Wednesday, January 30 and February 20. Voices for Children, 858-569-2019, www.speakupnow.org.

**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://aaj.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)

## TRAVEL & GETAWAYS

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**PACIFIC/MISSION BEACH.** Furnished vacation rentals. Luxury waterfront homes/condos. Studios to 5 bedrooms. Completely equipped for immediate use. Agent, 866-912-2409. www.sdvcr.com.

**TAHOE TIMESHARE.** 4 bedroom, 2 bath condo at Heavenly Valley, Nevada. Remodeled, new carpet, furniture, kitchen, bathrooms. Sleeps 10+. \$20,000. 2 adjoining shares available. 707-326-1092.

## PERSONALS

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**DAVIEBABE STILL IN BOSTON.** If there is God, only he knows how much I miss you and the kids! Happy candy canes!

# SurfDIEGO

Name: Michelle Quezada

Lives: La Jolla

Surfing: La Jolla Shores

"In there you have to be fighting for the waves," Michelle says, pointing to the crowded surf at La Jolla Shores. A study of sports participation by American Sports Data claims that between 1987 and 2000 the number of surfers increased by almost 50 percent to 2.2 million.

"I was hit once," Michelle says. "He hit me here," she says, pointing to her chin and then her shoulder. "And my arm was sore for about a week." For the year 2003, the Consumer Product Safety Commission counted 306 surfing injuries from 100 hospitals around the United States.

"You have to watch out for new people. You have to see how people are surfing and how they are; how they balance and ride the wave. They usually have trouble standing up or they don't know where they're going."



Michelle learned to surf in La Jolla, but visits Baja to surf.

"I surf around Ensenada, and there aren't a lot of people. You can get to know people better there.

Here, there are so many people. You don't really get to know anybody."

She says that she enjoys San Diego beaches for the terrain.

"Here it's sand; down

in Baja it's rocks. I cut my foot once on the rocks down there, but it wasn't too bad."

See the video  
Go to SanDiegoReader.com  
Click on SurfDiego

MUSIC

## EQUIPMENT / INSTRUMENTS

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**ABANDON ALL GEAR!** Top dollar paid! Guitar Trader of San Diego buys, sells and trades everything: Electric, acoustic, bass guitars, guitar amps, bass amps, PA amps— anything to everything! Guitar Trader of San Diego, 7120 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. Toll-free: 877-687-4276. www.MusicPower.com.

**ACCORDIONS.** Small for beginners, \$75. Full size with 120 bass, \$150. Both come with cases. 619-427-4344.

**APEX MUSIC SINCE 1952!** Get the gear you need, at affordable prices. Sales, repairs and rentals. No one compares! 6210 El Cajon Boulevard. 619-583-1431, www.apex4me.com.

**EFFECTS PEDALS-100s** of different kinds in stock! Fulltone, Menatone, T-Rex, Maxon, Visual Sound, Barber, Xotic, Durham. Choose from many brands. www.SuperSoundMusic.com or call 760-739-9099.

**GIBSON GUITAR SOURCE.** Into the year deals! Over 300 Gibson guitars in stock. We guarantee the best prices on all Gibsons and Marshall amps. Centre City Music, 1033 Sixth Avenue. Call 619-338-9033. www.ccitymusic.com.

**GUITAR HOLIDAY PACKAGES.** Classical guitar package \$139, acoustic guitar package \$149, electric guitar package \$199. Visit Mozeguitars.com or call 619-698-1185.

**GUITAR,** Eastman jazz, thinline archtop, like new. Crate amp, \$107.70. GX20M Alesis Quadraverb, multi-effects processor, digital music corp. ground control, SKB effects rack, KMC 19-4U. 858-270-7918.

**GUITAR,** vintage 1974-1975 Gibson SG Special, small pickguard, mini humbuckers, walnut color, still some life left in frets, Gibson rectangular hard case, \$1300/best. Rick, 760-216-0854.

**GUITARS AND AMPS.** Epiphone LP 56 Gold Top reissue \$399, Epiphone LP Standard \$450, Yamaha Bass BB404 \$399, Line 6 Flextone III with FBV Shortboard \$599, Fender Cyber Twin \$599, Larrivee LV-03 \$999, Kamaka Ukulele Koa baritone \$699, Kamaka Concert Koa

\$699. Gibson LP Studio \$799. At Moze-guitars.com, 619-698-1185.

**KEYBOARD,** Roland RD1000 88-key piano/MIDI controller, onboard programmable, \$900/best. General Music S3 synth, 16-track sequencer, mixer, fully editable, effects processor, floppy disc, \$500/best. 760-839-5350.

**NOW GET WHAT YOU WANTED!** Baby Taylor on sale! \$299 (list \$398). Line 6 POD X3 Amp Modeler and Multi-Effect, \$399 (list \$559). Marshall MG250DFX Stereo 2x12 reduced! \$399 (was \$449). Guitar Trader of San Diego, 7120 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92111. Toll-free: 877-687-4276. www.MusicPower.com.

**PIANO,** 1917 Orchestral upright grand piano. Beautiful in great condition, sounds great. \$1000/best offer. Call 760-270-4364.

**PIANOS WANTED!** All pianos! Cash paid. Also, quality furniture and antiques. 1 piece or houseful. Bonded. Licensed. Since 1965. Same day pickup. 1-800-840-4447. www.southcoastauction.net.

**ROADCASES.** San Diego's oldest road-case company. Pleasing musicians for 20 years. Bring us your best deal; we will beat all. Call Left Coast, 858-278-7888.

**VIOLA,** 15,5", newer German-made instrument, very good condition, excellent tone, has bow and case, only \$185. 858-453-2835.



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MUSIC

## MUSICIANS AVAILABLE / WANTED

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**BASS PRO FOR HIRE,** New Years, short/long term, one nighters, very experienced. Vocals (own P.A.) fret, fretless. Call now! Rios 619-315-6115.

**BASSIST SOUGHT BY BAND,** Into Rock, Jazz, Funk, Reggae, etc. For gigs, tour-

ing, record deal. Brian 619-677-2574. Jessie 619-817-1260.

**BASSIST,** professional, with professional lead and harmony vocals needed by very established casuals band. Played corporate, weddings, casinos, private parties. Good pay, great opportunity. Message, 858-616-6363.

**COUNTRY MUSIC/BLUEGRASS** jam. Guitar, mandolin, fiddle, banjo players interested in getting together to play country music and bluegrass. Call Bob, 858-753-1775.

**DRUMMER** sought by indie/electro band Starcrossed. Play along with drum machine. Be experienced, professional, own equipment, transportation, practice twice week. www.myspace.com/starcrossedrock or 858-220-2243.

## MUSIC

'Tis The **Taylor** Season

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**The Blue Guitar** Established 1961

5959 Mission Gorge Rd., Ste. 101, Mission Valley  
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Rates include FREE engineer!

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Across

- 1. "Deal or No Deal" network
- 4. Film company whose mascot is a lion named Leo
- 7. Drops out of the bidding
- 12. Chicken \_\_\_\_ king
- 13. Prefix with legal
- 14. Native Alaskan
- 15. Sch. near Harvard
- 16. Quitter's comment
- 18. Movado rival
- 19. Center of Florida?
- 21. Neither here \_\_\_\_ there
- 22. "The Philosophy of Right" author
- 23. Drunk's utterance
- 24. Rap's Dr. \_\_\_\_
- 25. Yeses, in Yokohama
- 26. Just picked
- 28. Whom R.E. Lee fought for
- 29. Wall St. worker
- 30. Paddle
- 31. Biblical verb ending
- 33. Army bed
- 35. Mel who hit 511 homers
- 38. IV x IV
- 39. "Norma \_\_\_\_"
- 40. Ad \_\_\_\_ committee
- 41. \_\_\_\_-Magnon
- 42. Kobe cash
- 43. Round table title
- 44. Book after Galatians: Abbr.
- 45. Corp. top dog
- 46. Actor Robbins
- 48. Elec. text-reading method
- 50. "I Love Lucy" neighbor
- 52. "Scat!"
- 53. "Rock and Roll, Hoochie \_\_\_\_" (1974 hit)
- 54. 1973 Supreme Court decision name
- 55. "Would you like to see \_\_\_\_?" (waiter's query)
- 56. Les poissons swim in it
- 57. How some losses are shown
- 60. "Mack the Knife" singer Bobby
- 61. Pitcher of milk?
- 63. Bargain bin abbr.
- 64. Wood nymph
- 65. Building wings
- 66. Opposite of paleo-
- 67. British guns
- 68. Go blonde, say
- 69. AOL, e.g.: Abbr.

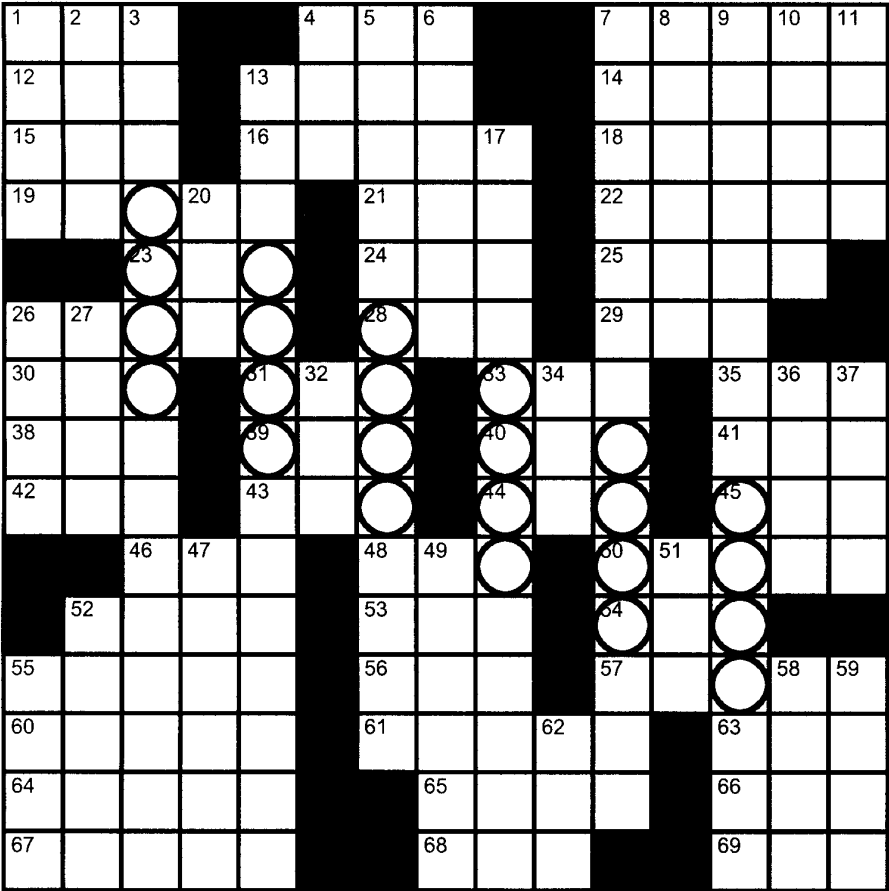
Down

- 1. With 59-Down, say that Cher (!) is a personal friend of yours, e.g.
- 2. Radar observation
- 3. Classic 1951 novel

- 4. Fleetwood \_\_\_\_
- 5. Popular SUV model
- 6. Noble estates
- 7. School developers?
- 8. In \_\_\_\_ and out the other
- 9. 18th-century Italian composer often compared to Haydn
- 10. Flood stoppers
- 11. Small runway craft, for short
- 13. Relievers work on them
- 17. In a precarious manner
- 20. Sue Grafton's "\_\_\_\_ for Outlaw"
- 26. Very alluring
- 27. Speak wildly
- 32. \_\_\_\_ chi
- 34. Alley \_\_\_\_
- 36. Branch headquarters?
- 37. Hammer or sickle
- 47. Sea off Sicily
- 49. Provided fuel for an engine
- 51. Heap
- 52. Like a brainiac
- 55. Does sums
- 58. "You are" in Spain
- 59. See 1-Down
- 62. Suffix with infant

RULES OF THE GAME

- 1. The prize for solving the Reader Puzzle will be a Reader T-shirt.
- 2. All entries in the Reader Puzzle contest must be received by the Reader by 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, five days following the issue date (Fax to 619-231-0489 or U.S. Mail to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803).
- 3. All entries must be accompanied by your name and address.
- 4. Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.
- 5. In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and arbitrary. We've only got five prizes each week to give away, so if there are more than five winners, we'll have a lottery.
- 6. All answers must be entered in the space allowed on the puzzle page. And please, no phone calls or trips to our office.
- 7. One entry per person.



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Solution to and winners of the Reader Puzzle for 12/20/07.

There were 67 entrants. The winners are:

- 1. Christi Benson, San Diego
- 2. Ralph Hayward, El Cajon
- 3. Jack Reilly, La Mesa
- 4. Wess Aldeman, Oceanside
- 5. Marilyn Contreras, El Cajon

**DRUMMER WANTED.** Irie Dingo, rock/funk/reggae band. Must have professional gear, team attitude, day job, experience. Some originals/covers. Rehearse twice/month. info@riedingo.com; www.riedingo.com.

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**Dan Williams**  
*Retired*  
*Ocean Beach*

It would probably be my neighbor's '96 Mercedes. I got it for \$2500 and it's totally cherried out. She's 86 and can't drive anymore. She originally was going to sell it for \$5000, which was a good deal. It's worth about 11 or 12 grand. It does have a few hundred thousand miles on it, though. But, my wife runs errands for her, so she gave us a good deal.




**Jennie Williams**  
*Administrative Assistant*  
*Ocean Beach*

My fish Hercules. It was a quarter. It was just a feeder fish and now it's huge. I know that a lot of fish like that aren't expensive to begin with. They aren't exotic or rare. We had Hercules in an aquarium with a koi, and we fed it koi food. We've had it now three or four years. It'll even come up and eat food right out of your hand.




**Jenny Goodlett**  
*Student*  
*College Area*

I got a Scunci Steamer for around \$20. They sell for over \$100. I saw it on an infomercial, and when I went to the store to buy one, I had a coupon. The guy gave me another coupon and an additional discount on top of that. It wasn't very good, though. I put a hole in my friend's wall trying to get a stain out. So, maybe that wasn't such a good deal. Maybe I'd say one of my cross-enrollment classes. I'm going to San Diego State, and I only paid \$10 for the class.




**Stan Lubin**  
*Accountant*  
*Virginia*

It probably involves clothes. I can't think of anything else I've ever gotten a really good deal on. I'm sure there are people that bought their houses 30 years ago and now they are worth so much more. I've done this move a few times, and it's enabled me to get the best deals on shirts. I switch the price tag on an expensive shirt with a really cheap one.



**Jamie Bond**  
*Accountant*  
*Solana Beach*

Well, it was a pair of boots at a thrift store. I'm sure thrift stores are where others get their best deals, too. These boots regularly sell for \$300. I saw them there for \$6. And, all the shoes were half price, so I ended up getting them for \$3. I didn't even realize at the time how expensive those boots were. It wasn't until later. But I'll always thank the AmVets for that.



**Joey Sandlin**  
*Waiter*  
*Mira Mesa*

I bought an Andrew Dice Clay DVD for only \$5. Do you remember him? He's that comedian that had his hair slicked back, wore the leather jacket, and smoked. He would tell the dirty nursery rhymes. It ended up being a really good deal, not just because of the low price, but because my friends and I have watched the thing thousands of times.

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**ESCONDIDO.** Bedroom/bath. Secured building in nice, quiet area. Pool, jacuzzi. Cats on premises. No smoking. Female preferred. \$530/month, 1/2 utilities, \$100 deposit. 760-737-0495.

**ESCONDIDO/WEST.** \$550/\$350, quiet 3 bedroom 2 bath townhouse. Includes utilities, wireless Internet, laundry, kitchen. Community pool, jacuzzi, tennis, basketball courts. No smoking/drugs. 760-443-7763.

**FLETCHER HILLS.** Master bedroom. \$525, \$500 deposit. Share spacious house, wireless Internet, washer/dryer. Walk to shops and Grossmont College. Nice neighborhood. Available now! 858-243-1911.

**LA COSTA.** \$775 includes utilities. Large furnished room with private bath in luxurious townhome. 2-car garage. Laundry/storage. Large fenced yard. 2-patios. 760-431-9926.

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**MISSION HILLS.** Corner downstairs furnished room, bright, with large bath. Quiet, traditional neighborhood. Centrally located. \$850 (utilities included), \$850 deposit, \$25 credit check/references. No alcohol/drugs/smoking. 619-295-0905.

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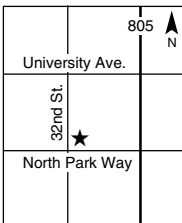
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**CLAIREMONT/BAY PARK.** \$1795. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath home with view of Mission Bay. 2-car garage. New carpet. Small pet negotiable. Holiday special-Free rent until 1/15/08. 3578 & 3586 Trenton. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

**EL CAJON.** \$1650. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath house. Appliances, garbage disposal. Laundry hookups. No pets. 636 South Magnolia. Available 1/15/08. Section 8 OK. 619-971-1145; 619-579-8027.

**EL CAJON.** \$2000/month. 1634 estimated square feet. 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Pets OK. Large fenced yard. New carpet. Extra den/office. Central heat/air. Agent, 619-471-2201.

**ESCONDIDO.** \$1250-\$1500. Tired of apartment living? Beautiful 2 & 3 bedroom manufactured homes offer spectacular hilltop views. Full-sized washer/dryer, some small yards. Peaceful community, sorry no pets. 1924 Sheridan Avenue. 760-745-1677.

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**LA MESA.** 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 8805 Fabienne Way. Estimated 1125 square feet. \$1850/month. Great backyard with deck. Large driveway, fireplace, washer/dryer and dishwasher. Call 619-471-2201.

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**LEUCADIA.** \$2300. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, West of Highway 101. Fenced yard, hardwood floors, new bath and kitchen. 427 La Veta Avenue. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

**MISSION HILLS.** \$2695. 3 bedroom, 3 bath full house. Hilltop location with views of bay and Old Town. 2 levels. All appliances. Washer/dryer. Patio and balcony. 619-683-7638, Xilarent.com.

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**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.** \$1400. 2 bedroom, 1 bath Craftsman home. Hardwood flooring. Gas stove. Refrigerator. Laun-

NAME This Place



Last week's place: (clue: Barn again agriculture?) Edgemoor community garden at Edgemoor Hospital, 9065 Edgemoor Drive, Santee. Gene Brand stands in his section of the garden in front of the historic 1913 barn of Edgemoor Farm, where George Cowles once raised polo ponies. In 1890, after Cowles died, his widow Jenny married Milton Santee. Edgemoor became a dairy farm; then, in 1960, a geriatric hospital.

dry hook-ups. Fenced yard. Covered patio. Storage. Gardener. Street parking. Cat OK. Available 1/1/08. 3823 Edna Place, front house. 619-793-4638.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** 3 bedroom, 2 bath detached house. Fenced-in patio area. 4653 Wilson Street (back house). Month to month. \$1700/month, \$1700 deposit. Pets considered. 619-276-7640.

Clue: Fun courtesy of the water guy

**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.)



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Mayor Frank Curran (left) and SDPD chief O.J. Roed, meanwhile, stated his opposition to the registration of guns because he didn’t believe such laws could be enforced.

— by Robert Mizrachi

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**NORTH PARK.** \$2395. Newly remodeled Craftsman home. 4 bedroom, 2 bath. All appliances. New paint and flooring. Some utilities included. Garage available. Large front porch. Washer and dryer. 858-598-

## PET CENTRAL

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**ABANDONED AFTER THE FIRES!** Rescued: 10 pot bellied pigs. Some pregnant, some old/crippled, some recovering from surgery, 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: Creekside Vet Service, c/o Dr. Bender, 8751 Old Castle Road, Escondido, 92026, 760-751-1020. 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 specials also. Lots of healthy saltwater fish and beautiful corals. Protein skimmers. Lighting systems, pumps, decorations

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**AQUARIUM,** 65-gallon Tru-Vu, full set up, fish, pine cabinet, hood lights, etc., \$400/best. 55-gallon aquarium, miscellaneous parts, \$165/best. Encinitas, p.m. best, 760-753-8824.

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**OCEAN BEACH.** Ocean view! 1 bedroom duplex. Large garage. Hardwood floors. Sunny, quiet. Laundry hook-ups, shared yard. Pets OK. \$1660. Available now. 4656 Niagara. 619-920-4022.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$2295. 2 bedroom house on top of hill in Ocean Beach! Huge garage with garage and washer/dryer! Hardwood floors and partial ocean view! Small pet on approval. 4437 Newport Avenue. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or [www.sunsetpacificrealty.com](http://www.sunsetpacificrealty.com).

**PACIFIC BEACH.** Mobile home on the Bay! Cute and cozy 2 bedroom, 2 bath, washer/dryer. On De Anza Cove. \$2200/month includes utilities/cable. Mike, 858-456-0407; 858-344-1033.

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**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$2250. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Washer/dryer. Fireplace. Stove, refrigerator. Heat. Fenced yard. Covered carport. Available 1/03/08. 1810 Chalcedony. 619-884-3399.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 4 blocks to beach. Large yard, washer/dryer, garage. \$2750. Available January 15. 1140 Diamond Street. Call 858-273-4812.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$2995. House with views of the Bay, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths. 2-car garage. Washer, dryer. Patio. New carpet. New paint. Available now. 1-year lease. Pets negotiable. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

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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, \$2950, lease option. 619-368-9410.

**POINT LOMA.** 3240 Lowell Street. \$2900. City, bay views! Great room! 2 bedroom, 2-3/4 bath house. Cathedral ceilings. Tile and carpet. 2 fireplaces. Built-in bar. Garage. Yard. Pets OK. About 2900 square feet. 619-435-0387.

**POINT LOMA,** Spacious 3 bedroom 1-1/2 bath. Washer/dryer, fireplace, wood floors, 2 car spaces. Water included. \$1750/month, won't last. Hablamos espanol. 619-395-3015.

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**SOLANA BEACH.** \$1895. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath house. 2-car garage. No pets. Fireplaces. New carpet. Washer/dryer. Patios. Appliances. 103 Guerrero Court. Juno, 619-275-3455.

**SOUTH BAY.** \$1700, 3 bedroom, 1 bath house. \$1600, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. Beautiful security. Large yard. All appliances included. 858-254-4469.

**SOUTH BAY.** Like new! 6 bedroom, 3 bath home. Washer/dryer, stove, refrigerator, microwave. \$2375/monthly includes gardener. \$2000/deposit. No pets. Lease. \$35/adult application fee. Stevens Real Estate. 619-422-3810.

**SOUTH PARK.** \$1550/month plus deposit. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house, wood floors, washer/dryer, yard. Available 12/15. Small pet OK. 2609 Mt. Clair. 619-669-9953.

residential. Koi-Koi Living Jewels's 20th year. 1975 Jamacha Road, El Cajon. Monday-Saturday, 10am-5pm, Sunday 11am-4pm. 619-441-9275.

**LOST:** Fawn female pug. "Nani" disappeared December 1, 9pm. Hot pink collar/ID tag. Rancho Penasquitos area. Generous reward. Please help! Call 858-538-7463 or 858-449-7579.

**MINIATURE PINSCHER,** spayed, 18 months, tan, 8lbs., needs safe, secure yard and home. No small kids. A real character, nice, \$100. 619-583-5122.

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**PUG CHIHUAHUA MIX,** neutered, 1 year, 6lbs., black and tan, quiet lapdog, \$100. Absolutely no small kids. 619-466-0426.

**SIAMESE KITTENS FOR CHRISTMAS!** CFA Pedigree: Blue Point, Lilac Point, Chocolate Point, also Balinese, Oriental, and Oriental long Hair. \$500. 619-819-9112. 760-690-3973, 202-903-0274, 909-522-4338.

**SOUTH PARK.** \$1800 rent plus \$1800 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath house, hardwood floors, large deck, jacuzzi. 1645 Grove Street, 1000 square feet. Owner pays water. Nonsmoking. No pets. 619-640-7530. [www.sdforrent.com](http://www.sdforrent.com).

**SPRING VALLEY.** Home with pool! 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 2406 Coach Drive. 1559 estimated square feet. 2-car garage, fireplace, dishwasher, heating/air conditioner. Gardener/pool service included. \$1900. 619-471-2201.

**UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS.** \$1600. 2 bedroom, 1 bath Craftsman, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, laundry hookups. Full basement. Deck. Off-street parking. No pets. 4438 Alabama. 619-302-1598.

**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.

**UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS.** \$1325. Picture perfect cottage, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Wood floors. Huge den. Fenced yard. Parking. Freeway access. Laundry. 2720 Monroe Avenue. Agent, 619-692-4121.

**UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS.** Move-in special, \$500 off first month rent! OAC. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house/duplex with garage. \$1000 deposit. Newly renovated unit. New tile, new paint. Convenient location. Coin operated laundry. Available now. 3024 Madison Avenue. [www.cethron.com](http://www.cethron.com). 619-295-1100.

**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.

## RENTALS APARTMENTS / CONDOS

**PLACE PRINTED ADS** in the Reader by calling 619-235-8200.

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**ALLIED GARDENS.** \$1175. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. New custom two tone paint and carpet throughout, blinds! Parking, laundry, pool onsite. Very spacious. Sorry, no pets. 4550 Vandever. Manager, 619-282-8000.

**ALPINE.** December rent free! Relaxed country living at its best! From \$800 1, 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, current specials! Alpine Country Apartments, 2660 Alpine Boulevard. 619-445-8022. [www.alpinecountryapartments.com](http://www.alpinecountryapartments.com).

**ALPINE.** Spacious 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse, walk-in closet, air conditioning, pool. Small pets welcome. Move-in special: \$200 off first month OAC. Call 619-445-0805. [www.sdaptbrokers.com](http://www.sdaptbrokers.com).

**BALBOA PARK.** \$975. 1 bedroom, 1 bath charming cottage available. Across from Balboa Park. No pets. 528 Olive Street. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or [www.sunsetpacificrealty.com](http://www.sunsetpacificrealty.com).

**BALBOA PARK, EAST.** Newly remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Patio and yard. \$899. 2649-1/2 B Street (behind house). 858-568-5081.

**BANKER'S HILL.** Nice 1 bedroom, wood floors, second floor corner, small view, air conditioning, forced air heating. \$900. References. 2149 2nd Avenue. Also, 1 bedroom with deck \$915. 619-992-7791 or 619-992-0078.

**BANKER'S HILL.** Studio, \$900. 1 bedroom, \$1050. Downstairs, facing pool, gated. Newly remodeled, all brand new. Cats/small dogs OK. Deposits \$600, pet \$300. 413 Olive Street. 619-291-5788.

**BANKER'S HILL.** \$1000-\$1200/lease. Fully restored, luxury studios with new stainless appliances, granite counters, stone tiled kitchen and bath, clawfoot bathtubs, hardwood floors, ceiling fans, top-of-the-line fixtures, on-site laundry, rooftop deck with views. No pets. Nonsmoking. 2408 Second Avenue. Call for appointment. 619-232-0153 or 858-361-8234 or 619-851-4521. [www.sdreader.com/rent/12159](http://www.sdreader.com/rent/12159).

**BANKER'S HILL.** \$675-\$910. Lovely studio and 1 bedroom. Well-kept, classic building designed by Gill. Stove, refrigerator, gas included. Laundry onsite. Near bus. 619-236-0452.

**BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN.** \$2195. Super nice 2 bedroom condo, hardwood floors, 2 patios, fireplace, terrific view, washer/dryer. Pets OK. Available now. Call Steve at 619-696-7500.

**BANKER'S HILL.** \$1795. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upscale, gated, first avenue. New appliances and flooring. 2 view balconies. Jacuzzi, pool. Quiet neighborhood, near all. 858-490-0113.

**BANKER'S HILL.** \$1695. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, fireplace, porch. Nonsmoking unit. Under 25 pound pet with \$500 additional deposit. Street parking. 2930 Columbia Street #B. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

**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.** \$795. Studio apartment, security building, laundry, large, close to all. 2117 Front Street #6. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

**BANKER'S HILL.** \$995. 1 bedroom apartment, great location. Quiet, close to all. 1955 Front Street. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

**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.

**BAYPARK.** 3907 Gresham Street. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Awesome bay view! Fireplace, balcony, dishwasher, washer/dryer. 2 underground parking. \$2425/month, \$2425/deposit. [www.tmcassidy.com](http://www.tmcassidy.com). Cassidy, Broker, 619-275-LIST.

**BONITA.** Great view. \$1200, utilities included. 1 bedroom cottage. Balcony, deck. Across from golf course. Parking. 619-894-0536.

**CARDIFF.** \$1195-\$1395. 1 and 2 bedroom spacious apartments. No pets. Only 3 blocks from the beach. Easy access to I-5! 760-430-4444 x190. [www.utopiamanagement.com](http://www.utopiamanagement.com).

**CARLSBAD** from \$1200. Beautifully remodeled 1 and 2 bedrooms. Fantastic views. Walk to beach. Spacious floor plans. No pets. 2303 Ocean Street. 760-434.7721.

**CARLSBAD.** \$1175. 2 bedroom, 2 bath garden apartment. Fireplace, new fixtures, Berber carpet, clean. 760-729-2908.

**CARLSBAD.** \$1375. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, pet OK with deposit, parking included, pool, fitness center. Fee. Free search at [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com). 619-367-3333.

**CARLSBAD/LA COSTA.** \$1625. Large, luxury 3 bedroom, 2 bath in beautiful garden complex with views over La Costa golf course. Fireplace, washer/dryer, air conditioning, pool, spa, sauna, 2385 Carriage Way. Alicante Views. TTPM, 760-431-7575.

**CARMEL MOUNTAIN RANCH.** 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 1-car garage. Vaulted ceilings, washer/dryer, beige paint. 1-year lease. Available 12/28/07. \$1795. Peter, 858-663-5695.

**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](http://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.

**CHULA VISTA.** \$855, including garage, large 1 bedroom apartments. Walk-in closets, laundry on site. Pool, jacuzzi, gas grill, park-like setting. 619-425-0670.

**CHULA VISTA.** \$895. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Clean, quiet, secure. On-site laundry. New paint/carpet. Garage available. If you can find one better, rent it! 215 Glover #A. Call Rachael 619-804-1044 or Jeff 619-713-1044.

**CHULA VISTA.** \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, "All Utilities Paid." 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! Please call Rachael, 619-804-1044.

**CHULA VISTA/OTAY RANCH.** \$975. 1 bedroom with full bath, kitchenette and living room. Private entrance. Air conditioning/heater. Utilities included. Microwave, refrigerator. 619-656-3652; 619-253-4786.

**CHULA VISTA.** \$1475. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Award-winning complex. 2-car garage. Washer/dryer. No pets. 265 Ash Avenue. TTPM, 619-585-1959.

**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 now. 433 D Street. 619-632-0080.

**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.

**CITY HEIGHTS.** \$995. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Pools. Laundry. No Section 8. Gated community. Near freeway/shopping/downtown. Cats OK. Year lease. Susan, 619-588-2370.

**CITY HEIGHTS.** Move-in special! 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$995, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1200. Huge apartments with parking, pool, laundry. \$500 deposit OAC. 619-284-1045. [www.melroyproperties.com](http://www.melroyproperties.com).

**CITY HEIGHTS.** \$1600. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Gated complex. Jacuzzi, barbecue, washer/dryer, covered parking. Granite/stainless kitchen. \$1600 deposit. Pet considered (\$300 deposit). 619-994-9591.

**CITY HEIGHTS.** \$895. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Downstairs, new floor, canyon view, water/sewer/trash included. 2840 39th Street #10. People Helping Others Property Management. 619-282-5400. [www.peoplehelpingothers.com](http://www.peoplehelpingothers.com).

**CITY HEIGHTS.** Two 1 bedroom, 1 baths, 600 square feet, \$750. Near SDSU. 4316 52nd Street. People Helping Others Property Management. 619-282-5400. [www.peoplehelpingothers.com](http://www.peoplehelpingothers.com).

**CITY HEIGHTS.** \$675, rent, \$600 deposit, OAC. 1 bedroom duplex. New carpet. No pets. At 4331-1/2 41st Street. 619-299-8515.

**CLAIREMONT.** \$1275. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo with spacious floor plan. Gated community. 2 pools. \$750 deposit. 1 year lease. Available 1/3/08. Derek, 858-922-4205.

**CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY.** Up to \$500 off! 1 bedroom, 1 bath from \$1085. 2 bedroom, 1 bath from \$1300. Dishwasher, microwave. Tennis, basketball. Movie theatre, pool, gym, yoga lessons. Pet with deposit. Available now. Monday-Saturday, 9am-6pm. Sunday, 10am-5pm. Coral Bay Park, 3309 Cowley Way. [www.CoralBayCanyonAndParkApartments.com](http://www.CoralBayCanyonAndParkApartments.com).

**CLAIREMONT.** \$1125, 2 bedroom with balcony. Upstairs. Pool. Laundry. New carpet. Off-street parking. No pets. Available now. 7322 Mesa College Drive. 858-560-6204.

**CLAIREMONT.** \$870. 1 bedroom, senior complex. Courtyard. Clean and quiet. On bus line. Laundry. No pets. By appointment only. Call 858-735-4099 or 858-560-8362.

**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. Photos at www.WexfordLiving.com. 7870 Stalmer Street. 858-277-4843.

**CLAIREMONT.** \$1200. Utilities included. Pleasant 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment/cottage. Private patio. Lovely canyon view. Quiet cul-de-sac. Off-street parking. Laundry. Cat OK. Nonsmoking. 760-420-1411.

**CLAIREMONT.** \$985, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated. Parking. Pool, spa. Workout room. Laundry. 5150 Balboa Arms Drive. Call 858-571-0104. www.kandproperties.com.

**CLAIREMONT.** 4247 Mount Henry Avenue. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 carport. Fireplace, workshop, washer/dryer, pets considered. \$2225/month, \$2225/deposit. www.timcassidy.com. Cassidy, Broker, 619-275-LIST.

**CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY.** "Unbeatable move-in Specials!" Up to \$500 off move on select units. Newly remodeled 1, 2 bedrooms. 1 bedroom starting \$1085, 2 bedrooms starting \$1300. Air conditioning. Movie theatre. Pet deposit. Gym. Yoga. Pool. Coral Bay Canyon, 3309 Cowley Way. Toll free: 1-877-585-1146. www.CoralBayApartments.com. www.sdreader.com/rent/1031.

**CLAIREMONT.** \$900/month. Studio available for immediate move-in! Centrally located. Easy access to freeways, dining, beaches, and much more! Lots of upgrades. 6 month lease available. 619-291-5555 x190. www.utopiamanagement.com.

**COLLEGE AREA.** Remodeled studio. Upper unit/behind house. Separate entry, kitchen, bath. 350 square-feet. \$850/month includes utilities, cable, Internet. 6172 Mary Lane Drive. 760-603-0057; 619-871-6909.

**COLLEGE AREA.** \$850. Remodeled 1 bedroom, 1 bath garden apartments. Ample off-street parking. Laundry facilities. Lots of light. Walking distance to SDSU and shopping. No pets. 619-287-9890; numeric page 619-407-1535.

**COLLEGE AREA.** \$1350. 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment in contemporary building, central air conditioning, security, underground parking. Year lease. 4742 Seminole Drive. Call 619-469-0031.

**COLLEGE AREA.** 2 and 3 bedroom homes. Some with hardwood floors and yard. Several to choose from. Washer and dryer connections, garages and gardeners included. Apartment Finders. Free service! 619-296-2787.

**COLLEGE AREA.** \$1350. Deposit \$600. Extra large 3 bedroom, 1 bath, parking,

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laundry, close to all. No pets. Available now. 4205 49th Street. 619-564-8764.

**COLLEGE AREA.** 1 bedrooms from \$995. High-speed Internet access. Gourmet kitchen. Microwave. Gas range. Central air conditioning and heating. Large walk-in closet. Controlled access. Pool. Barbecue and picnic areas. Cat-friendly. Parking. Walking distance to campus! Aztec Pacific, 6663 Montezuma Road. Toll free: 1-800-433-6120. See www.pacificliving.com; www.sdreader.com/rent/1042.

**COLLEGE AREA.** \$1200. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in the attractive Sunrise Community, 1100 square feet, all kitchen appliances, balcony, outside storage, common garage parking, water paid. 5980 Dandridge Lane #238. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400, www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

**COLLEGE AREA/TALMADGE.** \$725 rent. \$600 deposit. OAC. Large 1 bedroom. New carpet. Parking. Laundry. No pets. At 4423 Menlo Avenue #12. 619-990-5021 or agent, 619-299-8515.

**COLLEGE AREA.** \$1325, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Fireplace. Central heat/air. Microwave, dishwasher. Balcony. Gated. Intercom entry. 4828 Art Street. Agent, 619-298-7724.

**COLLEGE AREA.** \$750. Charming, lower 1 bedroom, 1 bath, new carpet, paint, on-site laundry. 1 mile to SDSU. Cat OK. Section 8. 4644 Soria Drive. 619-804-3325.

**COLLEGE/LA MESA.** \$950. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet, paint and appliances. Clean, secure, ready now! On-site laundry. 7240 El Cajon Boulevard #12. Call Rachael 619-804-1044.

**COLLEGE/LA MESA.** \$845. Remodeled 1 bedroom. Clean, secure. New carpet, paint. Close to everything. This is a beautiful apartment. On site laundry. Ready

now. If you can find one better; rent it. 7240 El Cajon Boulevard #25. Rachael, 619-804-1044.

**DEL MAR.** \$1700. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Awesome views of Torrey Pines Reserve and Beach. Rarely available. Walk to beach! 1 parking. Balcony. No pets. 12760 Via Cortina #7. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

**DEL MAR.** \$1750. 2 bedroom, 2 bath (dual masters), fireplace, air conditioning, 2-car garage, patio, in-unit washer/dryer, pool/Jacuzzi. 3560 Voyager Circle. 619-336-6021, 619-247-6813.

**DEL MAR.** Ocean view 2 bedroom, \$1995, 3 bedroom, \$2495. Non-view 2 bedrooms, \$1595-\$1795, 3 bedrooms, \$1995-\$2195. Block to ocean. 201 Fourth Street. Call for special! 858-481-9585; mikeatla@aol.com.

**DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH.** Ask about our holiday specials! \$1175. Newly remodeled studio located close to Del Mar Beaches, Cedro's Design District. Perfect for the Southern California lifestyle. Balconies/patios. Pool. Parking. Electricity included. Medium dogs welcome! 858-755-1466. sandpiper.rasnyder.com.

**DOWNTOWN.** San Diego's first hip hostel hotel. From \$49/night. From \$245/week. From \$19/bed in hostel. Free wireless Internet. Near bus/trolley. Flat screen TVs. European-style detached bathrooms. Restaurant serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. 500 West Hotel. 500 West Broadway. Toll free: 1-888-895-0875. 619-234-5252. www.500WestHotel.com, www.sdreader.com/rent/2114.

**DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE.** December move-in special! Only \$613-\$736/month with 12 month lease! Utilities included! Office hours: daily 8am-6pm. Near Petco Park, bus/trolley. Fully furnished. Bay/ ballpark views. Underground parking. Air conditioning. Laundry. Internet. Club-house/library. Income qualify! Island Village. 1245 Market Street. For details,

1-800-351-0613. www.sdreader.com/rent/2070.

**DOWNTOWN.** Studios with kitchen and bath, \$625-\$700. Single room with private bathroom, \$500-\$550. No smoking or pets. 10th and E Street. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x103.

**DOWNTOWN.** Comfortable rooms, \$450/up. Studios, \$650/up. Near Gaslamp District. Very quiet and clean. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, community kitchen, shared bathrooms. Near shopping, restaurants, movie theatres and Horton Plaza. No pets. Arlington Apartments, 701 7th Avenue. Hughes Management. 619-231-2385. www.sdreader.com/rent/2097.

**DOWNTOWN.** Cozy rooms, \$450-\$625, grab these little jewels today! Very comfortable, convenient location, historic building near C Street trolley. Choice of shared or private bathrooms. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator, no pets. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B. Hughes Management, 619-239-3808. www.sdreader.com/rent/2099.

**DOWNTOWN.** Economical furnished rooms, \$400-\$500, best price, save money. Conveniently located on C Street trolley line, near restaurants, free cable TV, shared bathrooms, on-site laundry facilities, vending machines, elevator service, no pets. 636 C Street (between 6th and 7th). C Street Inn, Hughes Management, 619-234-4165. www.sdreader.com/rent/2098.

**DOWNTOWN.** Gaslamp area. Move-in special, \$280. Community kitchen, shared bath, on-site laundry, vending machines, no pets, Star Hotel, 522 7th Avenue. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

**DOWNTOWN.** Outstanding furnished rooms, \$400-\$500. Heart of Gaslamp. Shared bathrooms. Community kitchen. Free cable TV. No pets. 843 4th Avenue.

Windsor Hotel. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

**DOWNTOWN.** Attractive rooms. Shared bath. Utilities included! Near City College! \$400-\$595 per month. Weekly rates from \$1251 719 14th Street, Villa Victoria. Hughes Management, 619-231-2385.

**DOWNTOWN.** Furnished studios. From \$59/daily, from \$210/weekly rates! Ideal, affordable, short-term stays. Private bathroom, kitchenette, microwave, refrigerator, cable TV. Air conditioning, laundry, voice mail. High speed Internet. Food service daily. Near trolley/bus/freeway, Balboa Park, Gaslamp. West Park Inn, 1840 4th Avenue. www.westparkinn.com. 619-236-1600. www.sdreader.com/rent/2037.

**DOWNTOWN.** \$795 and up. Cool studios! Classic, spectacular building. Full kitchen/bath. Hardwood floors. Murphy beds with built-ins. Storage/laundry on site. Cat-friendly. 619-233-3973; 619-665-8307. www.floot.com/biltmore.htm.

**DOWNTOWN.** Park Terrace, East Village. Ballpark and bay views. New, stylish, executive condo, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Granite and cherry kitchen/baths. Stainless appliances. Washer/dryer. Balcony. Billiards/recreation room, fitness center, rooftop deck, barbecue/lounge, underground parking/storage, secure building. Near Gaslamp and Old Town. 3 freeways within 1 mile. Must see. \$2350. Call for appointment, Blanco Investments, 714-434-1616.

**DOWNTOWN.** Brand new rooms near City College. Single rooms with kitchenettes from \$150/week plus deposit

(long-term). Includes utilities/cable. Quiet, secure. Shared bath/laundry. Hotel Mediterranean. 619-231-8656. www.hotelmed-sd.com.

**DOWNTOWN.** Se renta 2 casitas. 1 recamaras, 1 bano y 2 recamaras, 1 bano con opcion de comprar. Recien remodeladas. Listas 1/2/08. Franklin/31st. 916-501-2712.

**DOWNTOWN.** 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom Victorian 4-plex. New everything! Close to Petco/Gaslamp. 321 20th Street. \$1195/month, \$1000/deposit. Section 8 OK. Small pet. Bob, 619-760-6055.

**DOWNTOWN.** \$1635. Cortez Hill. 2 bedroom, 2 bath Park View condo. Courtyard view. Parking. Washer/dryer. All appliances. New paint. Secure, gated building. 760-740-0345, 951-733-0565.

**DOWNTOWN.** Beautiful building, new furnished rooms. Refrigerator, microwave, TV, cable. Starting at \$175 weekly, 920 Beech Street. Call 619-234-1952.

**DOWNTOWN.** \$675. Studio, 1 bath apartment, great views, all utilities paid, near Petco Park, controlled access building. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**DOWNTOWN.** \$775. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, cat OK with deposit, hardwood floors, paid water/trash/gas. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**DOWNTOWN.** \$1250. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath duplex, tile floors, 2-car parking included, extremely large backyard. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

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**DOWNTOWN.** \$1900. 2 bedroom, 2 bath new condo, breathtaking view, perfectly situated for fresh air, warmth and sunshine. Fee. Free search at [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com). 619-367-3333.

**DOWNTOWN.** \$1350/month with 1/2 off first month! 1 bedroom, 1 bath new condo in the Element. Brand new appliances, carpet and paint, underground parking. Easy access to the freeway and conveniently located near airport, dining, entertainment, shopping and more! Call today! 619-291-5555 x190. [www.utiaplmanagement.com](http://www.utiaplmanagement.com).

**DOWNTOWN.** \$2550. 2 bedroom, 2 bath with panoramic view of the city! Located in La Vista. Over 1000 square feet of luxury living. Many upgrades. All appliances and great community amenities. 619-291-5555 x190. [www.utiaplmanagement.com](http://www.utiaplmanagement.com).

**DOWNTOWN/MARINA DISTRICT.** Crown Bay, 2 split master bedrooms, 2 bath, 1100 square feet, 2 parking spaces. 2 balconies, hardwood floors. \$2300. Sam, 619-203-9204, Anthony 619-228-4426.

**DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY.** From \$800/month. Private bath, cable TV, microwave, refrigerator. Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Efficiency apartments with laundry. Near trolley/bus lines, blocks from harbor. On-site manager. Villa Caterina, 1654 Columbia Street. 619-232-3400.

**DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY.** Great location! 1 bedroom, 1-1/2 baths 1750. Banker's Hill, 2 bedroom with washer/dryer \$1650. Available now. Call 619-255-0526.

**DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE.** Newly remodeled studios, \$600 plus \$300-\$400 security. Controlled access, shared bathrooms/kitchens. Full size beds. Laundry facility. Patio area. Palms Hotel, 619-233-0408.

**DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP.** \$99 moves you in! Live/work lofts. Penthouse, 1546 square feet, \$2750. Loft, 1463 square feet, cement floor, \$2425. Loft, 1163 square feet, carpeted, \$1600. Pets OK, parking available, keyless entry system, laundry facility, high speed Internet capability, central air/heat, high ceilings. Penthouse extras: granite kitchen countertops, Brazilian cherry wood floors, stainless steel appliances, 9 French doors. 1014 Fifth Avenue. Toll free: 1-888-241-3523. [www.sdreader.com/rent/2145](http://www.sdreader.com/rent/2145).

**DOWNTOWN/GOLDEN HILL.** Large studio with full kitchen in very nice neighborhood. Hardwood floors. Close to bus stop. 942 23rd Street. \$695. 619-994-0449.

**DOWNTOWN/GOLDEN HILL.** 4850. 1 bedroom, gated, tropical setting, very quiet and secure. Tile floors in kitchen/bath, lots of storage. Close to bus stop. \$850. 2559 'C' Street. 619-994-0449.

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**DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP** From \$1395. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartments. Move-in Special, 1/2 off first month! 9-foot ceilings, all appliances, central heat/air, controlled entry, parking included. William Penn Building, Corner 5th and F. Agent, 619-298-7232; visit [www.sbayproperties.com](http://www.sbayproperties.com).

**DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP.** Las Flores Hotel. Small, quiet. \$120/week and up. Four-week minimum. Color TV with basic cable. Refrigerator in most rooms. Secure. 619-235-6820.

**DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP.** Move-in Specials. Live/Work Lofts in the heart of The Gaslamp! Roof decks with barbecue. Laundry on every floor. Parking available. Seven locations Downtown. Select pets OK. Visit loft leasing office: 315 Fourth Avenue. 619-231-1505 x12. [www.trilogymangement.com](http://www.trilogymangement.com). Also visit [www.sdreader.com/rent/2064](http://www.sdreader.com/rent/2064).

**DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY.** 1501 Front Street #432. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1500. Great condo! 663 estimated square feet. reader@sdcpm.net. SDCPM, 800-246-2530.

**EL CAJON.** \$775. 1 bedroom. New carpet, refrigerator, air conditioning. Barbecue, pool, laundry, parking, gated. 718 South Magnolia. Ask about move-in special! Section 8 OK. 619-312-0606.

**EL CAJON.** \$715. 1 bedroom. Just remodeled! Beautiful landscape with gated entry. No pets. 1018 East Lexington Avenue. TPPM, 619-838-8088. [www.eastwindsapts.com](http://www.eastwindsapts.com).

**EL CAJON.** \$695. 1 bedroom. Fabulous pool/courtyard complex. Super clean apartments. No pets. 314 Wisconsin Street. TPPM, 619-742-7600. [www.palmetstates.info](http://www.palmetstates.info).

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**EL CAJON.** Cajon Villas. \$785, 1 bedroom. \$985, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1270, 3 bedroom. Pool. Parking. Air conditioning. No pets. 933 Peach Avenue. 619-447-9193.

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**FASHION VALLEY.** \$1100. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Huge walk in closet. Dishwasher. On site parking. Balcony. No pets. 5720 Gaines Street. 619-299-3477.

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**FASHION VALLEY.** \$1250 rent. \$600 deposit. OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Granite counters. 2 parking spots. No pets. At 1355 Brunner Street. 619-298-5820.

**FASHION VALLEY/USD.** \$1250 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 2 open parking spaces. Laundry. No pets. At 1340 Eureka Street #24. 619-298-5820.

**GOLDEN HILL.** \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Fenced patio. Off-street parking. Convenient location. 1239 33rd Street. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x102.

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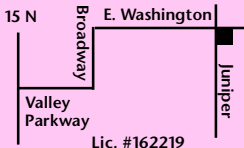
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**GOLDEN HILL.** \$875. 2 bedroom 1 bath. Bottom floor, corner unit. Laundry on-site. Pet under 20 pounds considered. Very clean. 1021-28 28th Street. Manager. 619-929-8127.

**GOLDEN HILL/DOWNTOWN.** Studios, \$750-\$795. Decorator colors, hardwood floors, large walk-in closets, laundry on site. Cat OK with deposit. On bus line. 619-231-8723.

**GOLDEN HILL.** \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs unit. Laundry. Clean and bright. Assigned parking. Close to Downtown/Balboa Park. 2631 A Street. Call 858-571-1970. [sunriseliving.com](http://sunriseliving.com).

**GOLDEN HILL.** (2) Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath \$795/\$850. Hardwood floors. Great neighborhood, laundry on-site. Available now. No dogs. 2412 E Street. 619-857-3706.

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**HILLCREST.** \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, hardwood floors, near bus line to Downtown. Available now. 3310 Reynard Way. Agent, 619-298-7232. [www.sbayproperties.com](http://www.sbayproperties.com).

**HILLCREST.** Remodeled/luxury with garage! All redone granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, maple wood cabinetry. Community sundeck courtyard with water-wall, 1 bedroom, \$1295/month. Month to month. Lease option available. 4077 3rd Avenue. Sorry, no pets. Call Nicol at 619-807-7053.

**HILLCREST.** Newly remodeled, pool, washer/dryer. Month to month. Barbecue, clubhouse featuring a pool table, flat screen TVs and bar. Granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, maple wood cabinetry and large storage rooms. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath \$1495/month. Sorry, no pets. Lease option available. 1030 Robinson Avenue, San Diego. Call Nicol at 619-807-7053.

**HILLCREST.** Newly remodeled, pool, washer/dryer. Month to month. Barbecue, clubhouse featuring a pool table, flat screen TVs and bar. Granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, maple wood cabinetry and large storage rooms. 2 bedroom, 2 bath \$1795/month. Sorry, no pets. Lease option available. 1030 Robinson Avenue, San Diego. Call Nicol at 619-807-7053.

**HILLCREST.** \$800. Sunny studio in charming, gated Spanish building. Nice, recently remodeled kitchen with gas stove. Ceiling fan. Tile shower. Laundry on-site. Cat OK. 1830 Robinson Avenue. Call 619-298-1961.

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**HILLCREST.** \$1395. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Secured parking, 4th floor, great views! Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. No pets. Available now. 1907 Robinson. Michael 858-597-6100 x321.

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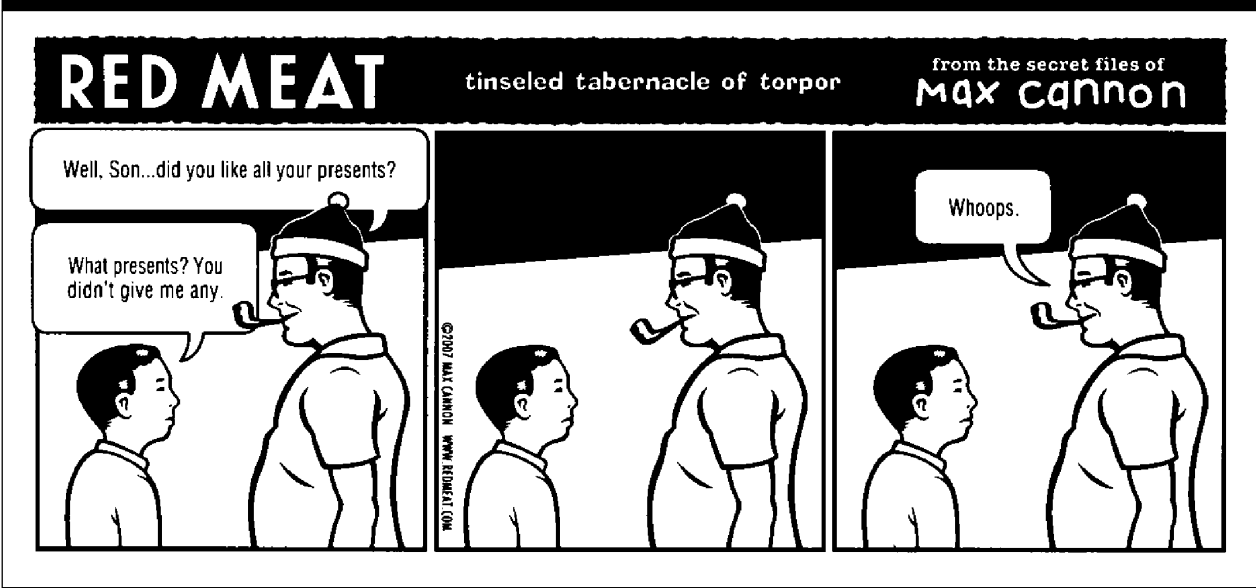
**HILLCREST.** \$850 studio. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1550. Pool, canyon view. Close to all. Rec room. Cat OK. Sleepy Hollow Apartments, 4201 Sixth Avenue. 619-298-1059.

**HILLCREST.** \$1275. 2 bedroom, 2 bath end unit. Bright. Dishwasher. Balcony. Laundry. Private garage. Gated. Garden setting. No pets. Available 1/1/08. 3672 Georgia Street. 619-301-9958.

**HILLCREST.** \$1050. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, storage closet, dishwasher, built-in book shelf, laundry on site, parking. No pets. 1224 Pennsylvania Avenue. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

**HILLCREST.** Ask about our move-in special! 1 bedrooms from \$875. 2 bedrooms from \$975. Great floor plan. Easy freeway access. 4124 Campus Avenue. 619-294-2871.

## RED MEAT



**HILLCREST.** Studio, \$835. Great location, quiet area. Off-street parking, laundry. Cat OK. 4166 4th Avenue. 619-298-7868. [hilltopterrace.rasnyder.com](http://hilltopterrace.rasnyder.com).

**HILLCREST.** \$800 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. Large 1 bedroom duplex. No pets. At 3853-1/2 First Avenue. Agent, 619-299-8515.

**HILLCREST.** Holiday Special: 1/2 off first month's rent! \$1050, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Cats welcome! Controlled access, gated parking, elevator access. Very clean unit. Small, private balcony. Dishwasher, central air and heat. Ceiling fan. Tons of cabinet space. Close to Downtown, Balboa Park and Old Town! 858-571-1970. [www.sunriseliving.com](http://www.sunriseliving.com).

**HILLCREST.** \$995. Charming lower 1 bedroom, stove refrigerator, laundry, next to Balboa Park, UCSD. Pet negotiable. Garage \$75/month. 3533 6th Avenue #2. 619-804-3325.

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**LA JOLLA/UCSD.** \$1475. \$500 off first month! 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Near shops. Balcony. Laundry. No pets. 8849 Villa La Jolla Drive. 858-457-4509.

**LA JOLLA.** Studio. Amazing location. One block to Starbucks, beach and bus. Prospect Street. Kitchen with appliances. Walk-in closet, laundry. \$1195-\$1450, includes utilities. 858-336-0252.

**LA JOLLA.** \$995, studio. \$1520, 2 bedroom. \$300 off first month! Garden setting. New windows. Laundry. Walk to shops. No pets. 7555 Herschel Avenue. 858-459-1102.

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www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**LA JOLLA/UTC.** \$1645. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, 2-car parking included, pool, Jacuzzi, sauna, business center. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**LA JOLLA/UTC.** \$1235. 1 bedroom apartment, cat OK with deposit, near all, clubhouse, heated lap pool, fitness. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**LA MESA.** \$1500-\$1900. Quiet furnished/unfurnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 2-car garage. Available 1/15/08. Aztec Drive. Near park, all. Washer/dryer. Patio. Pool. Jacuzzi. No pets. 619-260-0752.

**LA MESA.** \$1125. 2 bedroom apartments. Brand new carpet, custom paint. Large private patio or balcony with laundry hookups. Nonsmoking. No pets. Year lease. 619-464-0416.

**LA MESA.** \$925. 1 bedroom. Hardwood floors, new appliances, freshly painted. Laundry facilities. Garage available. Small pets OK. Section 8 OK. Available now. Call Tony, 619-316-3473. e-mail: av\_lopez@cox.net

**LA MESA.** \$400-\$600/monthly. 25'-30' fully furnished trailers and spaces. Quiet park. Laundry onsite. No pets. Convenient location close to all/bus. References required! 619-461-0264.

**LA MESA.** \$795, 1 bedroom. Balcony. Air conditioning. Garden courtyard. Dishwasher. Intercom entry. Laundry. Off-street parking. 4311 Parks Avenue. 619-460-5406.

**LA MESA.** \$900, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Deposit \$450. Air conditioning. Dishwasher. Carport. Storage. Pool. Gated. No pets. Available 2/07/08. 5435 Morengo Avenue. 619-698-7926. villaknollsapts.com.

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**LA MESA.** \$1025. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Garage. Laundry. Cat OK. 5027 Guava Avenue. Call 619-980-5177. www.kandrpproperties.com.

**LA MESA.** \$795 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. Large 1 bedroom, detached cottage. Open daily, 3:30-6pm. No pets. At 4869 or 4861 Jessie Street (east of 73rd). 619-299-8515.

**LA MESA.** \$975. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath triplex. Laundry hook-ups. Patio. Cul-de-sac. Parking. No pets. 7410 Lime Street #C. Agent, 619-298-7724.

**LA MESA.** 1 bedrooms, \$890/up. Spacious apartments. Near Grossmont Center. Great neighborhood. Convenient to all! Villa Morocco. 5545 Morro Way. Available. 619-985-3500.

**LA MESA.** Huge 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1250. New carpet, air conditioning, covered parking, laundry. Available now. 5430 Lake Murray Boulevard. Agent, 619-260-1368. View at www.sevillemgmt.com.

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**LA MESA/CASA DE ORO.** 1 bedrooms, \$945-\$995. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1195. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1325. Air/heat. Huge patios/balconies. Gated access and parking. Small pet OK. Elegant, sculptured courtyards with flower gardens, fountains, gas lamps, park benches. Charming. New Orleans ambience. 3903 Conrad Drive. 866-894-6343. www.sdrader.com/rent/1017.

**LA MESA/FLETCHER PARKWAY.** Super spacious 1 bedrooms, \$995. \$250 move-in incentive. Award winning community. Pool and spa. Great location. No pets. Open Saturday 9am-5:30pm. 5500 Morro Way. TPPM, 619-884-7900. www.villageaptslamesa.com.

**LEMON GROVE.** Newly remodeled first floor 1 bedroom apartment in small, quiet complex. Move-in today! Fabulous location near shopping and trolley. \$820/month. Laundry on site. No pets Please! Please leave message, 619-252-5175.

**LEMON GROVE.** Sundance Trailer Park. Space rental \$430/month. Shower facilities, coin laundry. Peaceful gated community. Near trolley/freeway. No pets. Manager, 619-646-7777 or 619-980-5200.

**LEMON GROVE.** \$800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Nice, spacious, upstairs unit. Close to all. Laundry. Small backyard. Available now. 3320 Vista Avenue #7. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

**LEMON GROVE.** \$1135. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Washer/dryer hookups. Balcony. 7165 Central Avenue. Call 619-697-8458. www.kandrpproperties.com.

**LEMON GROVE.** \$725. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Lush community. On-site laundry, pool, parking. 7465 Pacific Avenue. Call 619-303-1694.

**LINDA VISTA.** \$685-\$1200. Studios with utilities included, 2 bedrooms, 3 bedrooms. Laundry, gated parking. \$400-\$800 deposits! No pets. Astro Vista Apartments, 2249 Ulric Street. 858-565-6400.

**LINDA VISTA.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath townhouse. \$1075 and single level corner unit. \$1125. Deposit \$900. Freshly renovated interiors, some backyards, assigned parking. Great location. Please, no pets and no Section 8. Office at 2451 Ulric Street. 619-249-9585.

**LINDA VISTA.** Huge studio, \$875. All utilities included. Very private, in a duplex with a yard. Separate kitchen, walk-in closet, hardwood floor, washer. Assigned parking. No pets please! Please call to view. 619-249-9585.

**LINDA VISTA.** \$1175. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Corner unit. Sunset views! Assigned parking. Remodeled kitchen, hardwood floors. Onsite laundry. Clubhouse, pool, tennis. \$900 deposit. 858-775-3036.

**LINDA VISTA.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, \$1500. Totally remodeled, new kitchen/bath, washer/dryer, shed for storage. Pet allowed. 2717 Wheatstone. 858-277-1760. housing.molamini.com.

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**MISSION BEACH.** Very attractively furnished and completely equipped condo. New construction. \$4500/month. 3 bedroom, 3 bath. 810 Ensenada Court. Agent, 866-830-3196. www.sdv.com.

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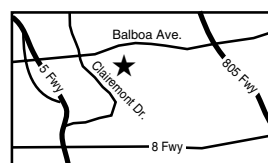
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nets. Laundry on site. New window coverings. Very bright and spacious. Close to I-5, Downtown, Little Italy and Balboa. 2822 Reynard Way. Call 858-571-1970. [sunriseliving.com](http://sunriseliving.com).

**MISSION VALLEY.** \$1600. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Hardwood/Travertine floors. Washer/dryer. Small pet with deposit. Gated community. Pool/spa/fitness. 619-994-9117. 619-987-9118.

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**MISSION VALLEY.** \$850, studio, \$1350, 2 bedroom, 2 bath with 2 parking. Free basic cable. Pool, jacuzzi. Close to all freeways and shopping. Agent, 619-692-4121.

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**MISSION VALLEY/COLLEGE** Area. Ask about our holiday specials! 1 bedrooms from \$960! 2 bedrooms from \$1400. Minutes to shopping, dining, transit, SDSU. Gated community. Pool/spa. On-site laundry. Fitness center. Carports available. 4929 Collwood Boulevard. 619-287-3020. [collwoodpines.rasnyder.com](http://collwoodpines.rasnyder.com).

**MISSION VALLEY.** \$1060. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, parking included, fitness center, fireplace. Fee. Free search at [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com). 619-367-3333.

**MISSION VALLEY.** Autumn special! From \$375/weekly, Renovated fully furnished studios/suites! Pool, spa. Full kitchen. On-site laundry. Complimentary continental breakfast. Off-street parking. Free high speed Internet, cable-80 channels, HBO! Near SDSU, Qualcomm, more! Days Inn & Suites, 5343 Adobe Falls Road. 1-800-492-9471; 619-287-1911. [SanDiegoHotelsDaysInn.com](http://SanDiegoHotelsDaysInn.com). [www.sdreader.com/rent/2139](http://www.sdreader.com/rent/2139).

**NATIONAL CITY.** \$695 plus utilities. 1 bedroom apartment off 16th and Highland. Close to all. No pets. Year lease. \$35/adult application fee. Rick, 619-422-3810.

**NATIONAL CITY.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath, recently upgraded, \$950/month. Parking space. Water paid. 116 Palm Avenue. Call 619-474-4441.

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**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$900. Downstairs 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1000 square feet, secure building, parking, laundry. Cat OK. Nonsmoking. Available 1/1/08. 4675 Bancroft Street #A. 619-276-5899.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$1250. \$200 off! Nice, upgraded 2 bedroom, 1 bath nonsmoking triplex. Gated. Attached storage. Porch. Laundry. Garage. Cat/tiny dog OK. 4461 32nd, #1. 619-283-8359.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$800, 1 bedroom. \$1075, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Gated. Laundry. 1-car garage. 4379 Swift Avenue. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$995. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs. New paint. Ceramic tiled floors. Gated. Laundry on-site. Available 01/15/08. 4582 39th Street. [www.cethron.com](http://www.cethron.com). 619-295-1100.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$800. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Cats welcome. Community barbecue area. Gated complex. Off-street parking. Available now. 4664 34th Street. 619-255-1472.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$750 1 bedroom, 4263 42nd. \$795 1 bedroom, 4670 Cherokee. \$925 2 bedroom, 4133 37th.

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**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$975. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs. Gated. Storage. Laundry on site. Parking. No pets. Available now. 4678 Ohio Street #2. Agent, 619-298-7724.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$775. 1 bedroom. Brand new paint and carpet! Completely renovated. Single-story complex. Laundry. Parking onsite. Cat OK. 3064-68 Adams Avenue. Agent, 619-820-2584.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** 4474 33rd Street #6. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Dishwasher, air conditioning, and washer/dryer. Off street parking. No pets. \$1050/month, \$1050 deposit. [www.timcassidy.com](http://www.timcassidy.com). Cassidy, Broker, 619-275-LIST.

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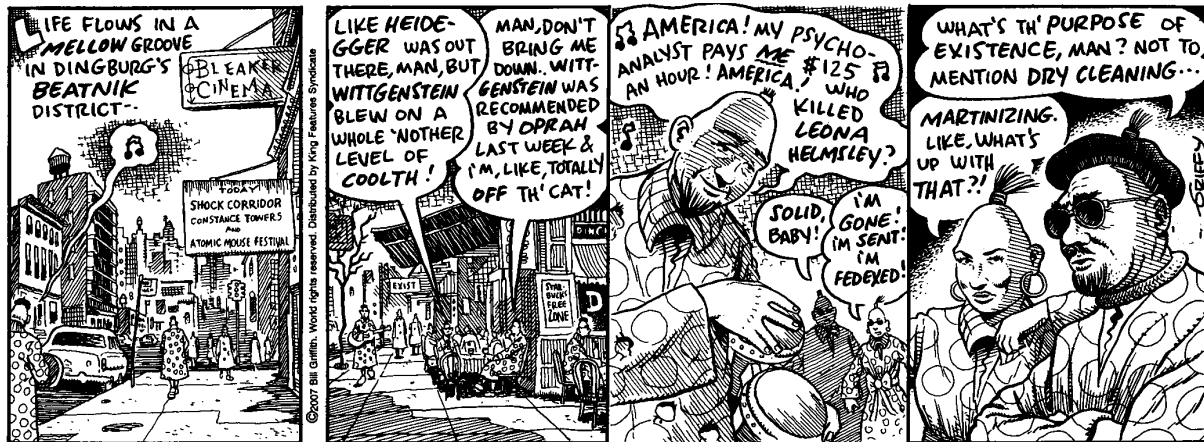
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619-255-0382. [www.sdaportbrokers.com](http://www.sdaportbrokers.com).

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**NORTH PARK.** \$775/month. \$500 deposit. 1 bedroom apartments. 3940 Idaho Street #7, #10. Laundry on-site. Cats only

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**NORTH PARK.** \$745. 1 bedroom, upstairs. \$1000, Upstairs, 2 bedroom. Laundry on-site. Cats OK, no dogs. Available now. 3952 Iowa Street. 619-339-4311.

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laundry, air conditioning, newly redecorated. 4631 Idaho. 619-521-1901. 619-461-9415.

**NORTH PARK.** \$815. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Special. \$200 off 1st month's rent! Waived credit check fee. Swimming pool. Parking. Garden Vista Apartments. 4121 Cherokee. 619-284-8363. [sunriseliving.com](http://sunriseliving.com).

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**NORTH PARK.** \$800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs. Parking. Laundry. No pets. Available approximately 1/7/08. 4160 36th Street #3. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

**NORTH PARK.** \$800, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1100, 2 bedroom. Upstairs. Renovated. Granite. New windows. Parking. Laundry. 4053 Cherokee Avenue #8. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

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**NORTH PARK.** \$775. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry. Parking. New carpet. Available now. 4553 Texas Street #8. [www.cethron.com](http://www.cethron.com). 619-295-1100.

**NORTH PARK.** Move-in special, \$300 off first month rent. OAC. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Small complex. Great area. Quiet. Lower unit. Gated entry. Parking. Great location. Laundry on-site. Available 1/01/08. 4177 Illinois Street #2 and #7. [www.cethron.com](http://www.cethron.com). 619-295-1100.

**NORTH PARK.** \$1000, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Nice, bright and airy upper apartment. Plenty of cabinet space. Laundry and parking on site. 1 year lease. Available now. 4119 Kansas Street #4119-1/2. [www.cethron.com](http://www.cethron.com). 619-295-1100.

**NORTH PARK.** \$1000. Nice, bright upper unit with hardwood floors, built-in china cabinet. Set in lushly landscaped gated complex. Laundry on site. 1 year lease. Available 1/10/08 and now. 4058 Hamilton Street #4060 and 4064-1/2. [www.cethron.com](http://www.cethron.com). 619-295-1100.

**NORTH PARK.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1025. 1 bedroom, \$825. Dishwasher, parking, laundry, patio. \$200 off first month. 3162 Monroe. Call 619-284-1314. [www.melroyproperties.com](http://www.melroyproperties.com).

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**NORTH PARK.** \$875. 1 bedroom, downstairs condo in quiet canyon setting. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Heat and air conditioning. Tandem parking. Shared deck and jacuzzi area. Ask about pet. Available 1/15/08. 2044 Robinson. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

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**OCEAN BEACH.** \$925. Large 1 bedroom apartment. Patio, laundry, 2 blocks to beach. No dogs or cats. 5045 Lotus Street. Available now. 858-292-6046.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$975. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Vertical blinds, off-street parking, laundry. No pets. Near YMCA. Available now. 4419 Montalvo Street. 619-523-0763.

**OCEAN BEACH.** Ocean front 2 bedroom. \$1650, deck ocean view! Gated. Off street parking. Washer/dryer. Stairway down to beaches, cliffs. 5034 Cabo Santa Cruz. No dogs. Garage available. 619-316-0407.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1100. Remodeled 1 bedroom. Block and half from beach! Parking. Newly refinished hardwood floors. No pets. Small 6-unit complex. Newport Avenue. 619-244-0725.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1350. 1 bedroom. 1-1/2 blocks to beach! Completely renovated! Hardwood floors. New stainless appliances. Granite counters. Parking. Patio. No pets! Newport Avenue. 619-244-0725.

**OCEAN BEACH/POINT LOMA.** \$1900. 2 bedroom townhome. Move-in special! Washer/dryer. Hot tub. Garage. 4554 West Point Loma Boulevard. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$750. Studio apartment. Available now. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. No pets. \$400 deposit. 5081 Lotus. 858-695-3759.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$935. Manager's Special. Blocks to the beach! 1 bedroom. Clean. Parking. Laundry. No pets. Seacoast Apartments, 5030 Lotus. Call Doris, 619-204-1651.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1400. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. All amenities. Fireplace. Swimming pool. Onsite laundry. Off-street parking. No pets. 4825 Del Mar Avenue. 619-758-9565.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1250. Large 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath apartment available with dishwasher, balconies, etc. Laundry on-site! No pets. 4231 Voltaire Street #5. Call

619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs apartment. 1/2 block to beach! Laundry on-site. No pets. 5057 Narragansett Avenue #17. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1050. 1 bedroom, 1 bath attached cottage with hardwood floors! Block to beach. Pet on approval. 5067 Brighton Avenue. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1375. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath downstairs apartment with parking and laundry! New carpet, paint and vinyl. Blocks to beach! No pets. 4965 Muir Avenue #1. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1175. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex unit with parking! Close to beach! No pets. 4660 Green Street. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs apartment with parking and laundry! Half block to beach! No pets! 5043 Santa Monica Avenue #1. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage available. Located 1 block from beach. No pets. 5024.5 Cape May Avenue. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs apartment with parking and laundry. Blocks to beach. No pets. 2243 Abbott Street Apt B. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1400. Deposit \$1000. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. 1 year lease. Close to beach. Parking. Available now. 4955 Brighton Avenue. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbcinc.com.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1650. \$1000 deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Upstairs. Many upgrades. Ocean view. Parking. Laundry. Available now. 4714 Point Loma Avenue. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbcinc.com.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, month-to-month lease, refrigerator, stove, newly painted, new carpet, parking on site. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1365. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, upstairs unit, 1/2-block from ocean, quiet complex west end of beach. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

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**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1095. 1 bedroom, large, upstairs, remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, coin laundry, parking. Close to cliffs. No pets. Available now. 4784 Bermuda. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

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**OCEANSIDE.** \$750. Studio, 1 bath apartment, close to the beach, paid utilities.

Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**OCEANSIDE.** \$925. 2 bedroom, 1 bath triplex, nice and clean, 950 square feet, nice city view. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**OLD TOWN.** \$650-\$695. Low \$150 deposit. Fully furnished studios-alcoves on excellent hillside location. Free basic cable. 1616 Guy Street. 619-298-6242.

**OLD TOWN.** 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 1912 San Diego Avenue #5. San Diego Bay view. Includes two-car garage. No pets. \$1250/month, deposit \$1250. www.timcassidy.com. Cassidy, Broker, 619-275-LIST.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, \$1375. New granite kitchen, new carpet/tile for both units. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, \$1450 and 1 bedroom plus den with balcony/ocean view, \$1195. No pets. Lease. 4467 Dawes. 858-483-4553.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1550. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Partial ocean views! Beautifully remodeled. Dishwasher. Quiet atmosphere. Heated pool. Parking or garage available. Cats considered. 858-272-4398.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1310/\$1750. Beautifully remodeled, 1 bedroom, 1 bath; 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Great views! Balcony, dishwasher, and imported tile. Heated pool. Laundry. Parking or garage available. 858-272-4398.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$950. 1/2 off first month! Move in special! 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Corner unit. Laundry on site. No pets. 4476 Bond. 760-402-8325.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 1 block to beach! Large living room and kitchen. Nice patio with lawn in back. 1 year lease, \$1650. Available 1/2/2008. 1183 Pacific Beach Drive. Nonsmoking, no dogs. 619-318-6477.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1190/month. Upgraded 1 bedroom second floor apartment. Close to beach! Friendly gated complex. Dishwasher, carpet/tile, courtyard, barbecue, laundry facilities. 1216-1/2 Felspar. 858-483-2504.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1395. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Walk to Garnet, ocean. New carpet, paint. Parking. No pets. At Emerald and Cass. Available now. 619-286-3400.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 2-parking spaces. Laundry. Closet. Near I-5/bay. Complex amenities. 4833 Bella Pacific Row, #119. \$1900. Agent, Micki: 858-454-3076, 619-861-3076.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 1 bedroom on beach plus 2 bedroom in the 2000 block of Garnet. 6 month's lease. Pets under 30 lbs ok. Roomies/co-signers ok. Office open 7 days. 4217 Oliver Court. 858-483-7670.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse. New-built 2005! High end custom construction. Tiled kitchen/bath. Quality Berber carpet. Built-in closets. Nonsmoking. \$1950. 858-270-2576.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** Bay front penthouse. 4 bedroom, 3 bath. 3000 square feet. Spectacular bay/ocean view! Parking. Elevator. 3740 Rivera. \$5000. Agent, 866-723-9456. www.sdvcr.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1080-\$1140. Block/ocean. Sunny, quiet 1 bedroom rear duplex. Remodeled kitchen/bath. Ceramic tile, Berber carpet. Ceiling fan. \$200 rebate! 851 Diamond. 858-270-0214.

**PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT.** \$1150. Large, quiet, immaculate 1 bedroom. Bright, sunny. New stove/refrigerator. Parking. 2 blocks/bay. 3709 Promontory. No pets. 858-274-6699.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1795. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath luxury townhouse. All appliances, 2 fireplaces, patio. Quiet. Drive by 1932 Missouri Street #2. Available immediately. Call 760-744-2129.

**PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH** \$1600. House, 2 bedroom, 1 bath with den. Dishwasher. 2 off street parking, laundry room. No pets. Available 1/1/08. 1845 Chalcadony. 858-459-1928.

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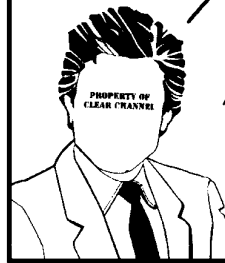


**#5....."NORTH AMERICAN SCUM"  
BY LCD SOUNDSYSTEM**

**#4....."WE'VE GOT EVERYTHING"  
BY MODEST MOUSE**

**#3....."XR2" BY M.I.A.**

**#2....."THE WEIRDNESS" BY THE  
STOOGES**



AND THE  
**#1** FAVORITE  
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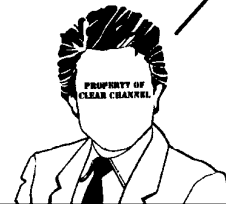
**#10...."COLETTE" BY ENON**

**#9....."GUM" BY CORNELIUS**

**#8....."YOU KNOW I'M NO GOOD"  
BY AMY WINEHOUSE**

**#7....."WE WERE BORN THE MU-  
TANTS AGAIN WITH LEAFING"  
BY OF MONTREAL**

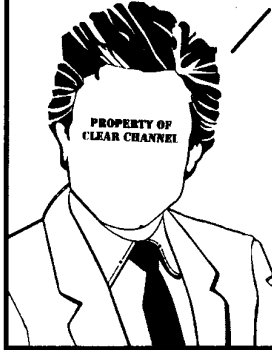
**#6....."HONEYBEE" BY GRINDERMAN**



**#1**

**"THE GAME"  
BY ALEX GOPHER!**

NEEDLESS TO SAY, WE  
WON'T BE PLAYING ANY OF  
THIS CRAP HERE AT THE BIG  
HOT THROBBIN' KNOB-FM...



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**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$2395. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo with attached garage. Washer/dryer. Beautiful new construction. Available immediately. 1558 Hornblend Street #4. Boone Property Management. 858-274-3600. www.booneproperties.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1425. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment available immediately. 2 blocks to the beach. 765 Agate Street. Boone Property Management. 858-274-3600. www.booneproperties.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$2350. 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment available immediately. 1522 Hornblend Street. Boone Property

Management. 858-274-3600. www.booneproperties.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT.** \$1495. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Holiday special-Free rent until 1/15/08. Half block to Sail Bay. Great location! Partial bay view. Close to restaurants and shopping. 3825 Riviera Drive #4. TPPM. 858-699-3851.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1250-\$1650. Senior building (ages 62+). Open Saturday

10am-12pm. Holiday special-Free rent until 1/15/08. 2 bedroom, 2 bath in controlled access building. Immaculate, washer/dryer, fireplace, secured parking. 1625 Chalcadony Street. TPPM. 619-806-5760.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Cat OK with extra deposit. 1 parking. 2112 Balboa Avenue #11. TPPM. 858-699-3851.

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- Inspect coolant hoses
- Inspect drive belts

- Change engine oil (5w30)
- Change oil filter
- Check for fluid leaks
- Change master cylinder brake fluid
- Top off fluids
- Inspect brake system

- Clean and adjust rear drum brakes
- Clean battery terminals
- Check fuel filter
- Check differential fluid
- Check transmission fluid
- Check suspension
- Check struts and shocks

- Inspect steering system
- Check exhaust system
- Rotate tires
- Check and adjust tire air pressure
- Road test

Starting at  
**\$189<sup>95\*</sup>** 4-cyl.  
We also offer  
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Increase your MPG **\$34<sup>95\*</sup>** 4-cyl.  
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(Full synthetic fluid)  
• Avoid costly transmission failures  
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Starting at **\$89<sup>95\*</sup>** 8-qt. system

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1996 and Newer **\$39<sup>75</sup>** Your One-Stop Smog Shop  
1995 and Older **\$59<sup>75</sup>**  
Free re-test with our repairs. Most cars. Plus \$8.25 certificate and \$2.00 transfer fee.  
**Call for appointment.**



#### Cooling System Flush

• Flush radiator and block  
• Flush heater core and hoses  
• Up to 1 gallon green coolant (special coolants and/or additional capacities extra)  
Starting at **\$59<sup>95\*</sup>**

#### Premium Oil Change

Synthetic Blend Starting at **\$29<sup>95\*</sup>**  
• Up to 5 qts. of 5w30 Valvoline oil & standard oil filter  
• 60-pt. vehicle inspection  
**Call for appointment.**

#### Timing Belt

Replacement at 60,000 miles recommended to avoid engine damage. Parts extra. A/C or P/S add'l \$20 labor each. FWD additional \$25. V6 additional (call). Most 4-cyl. RWD cars & light trucks.  
Starting at **\$59<sup>95\*</sup>** Labor only

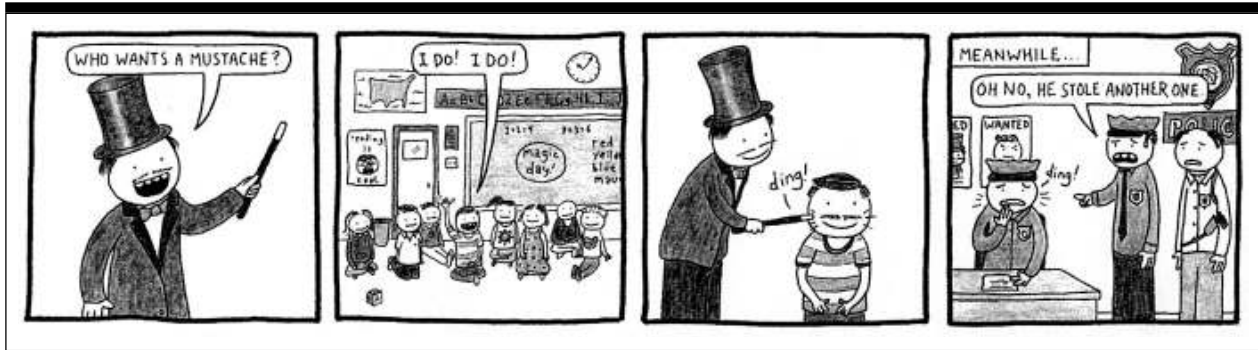
#### Brakes

Free Brake Inspection Starting at **\$69<sup>95\*</sup>**  
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• Inspect hardware  
• Inspect drums or rotors  
• Inspect lines, hoses & seals  
• Inspect master cylinder & fluid  
Front or rear. Labor only. Plus parts.



## THINGPART

by Joe Sayers ©2007



**PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT.** \$975. Large 1 bedroom. Holiday special-Free rent until 1/15/08. New carpet, paint and blinds. Walk to Sail Bay. 4015 Haines Street #6. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1350. Holiday special-Free rent until 1/15/08. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome in ultra clean garden property. Easy access location. Laundry,

parking. No pets. Su Casa Apartments. Open Saturday, 11:30am-12:30pm. 2155 Felspar Street #12. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** Security deposit \$250, OAC! December move-in specials! Studios from \$945. 1 bedrooms from \$1195. 2 bedrooms from \$1650. Air conditioning/heat. Cats welcome! Heated pool, water aerobics. Fully equipped gyms. Spas.

Tennis. Basketball. Business center. Bay Pointe, 3866 Ingraham Street. www.progressmanagement.net. Toll free: 1-888-759-7435. www.sdreader.com/rent/2081.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$500 off first month's rent! Charming 2 bedroom apartments from \$1555. Only 1 block from the beach! Located in the north Pacific Beach neighborhood with beachfront access only minutes away. Short distance to downtown La Jolla shopping and dining. Our quaint apartment homes include on-site laundry facility, extra storage and a quiet

location. Cat friendly. Call our rental office today! 858-272-7464.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Close to bay. \$1250/month, \$1000/deposit. Parking, laundry facility, no pets. 4115 Ingraham Street. 858-270-4674.

**PACIFIC BEACH** Studio, \$850/month. Parking. Close to all, walk to bay. No pets. \$850/security deposit. 1606-1/2 Pacific Beach Drive. 858-270-4674.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upper, on alley, \$1350. Open beam ceiling, new paint, parking. Available now. 1464 Grand Avenue. Agent, 619-260-1368. View at http://www.sevillamgmt.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$875. Downstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. On-site laundry and parking. No pets. 1965 Hornblend #1. Please call 619-698-1400 or 619-992-7754.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** Large 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, downstairs, new paint, new carpet, with garage. Newly remodeled. Lots of storage. Near all. No pets. Available now. 1663 Diamond Street #1. \$1650. 858-483-5111 x10 or apply online at www.melroyproperties.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 1 bedroom with garage, upstairs, \$1100. Newly remodeled. Close to the bay. New paint/carpet. No pets. Available January 30. 1971-1/2 Grand Avenue. 858-483-5111 x10. www.melroyproperties.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 1/2 off first month's rent this week only! Rent extra large 850 square foot 1 bedroom apartment homes in Pacific Beach at \$1250. 2 bedrooms from \$1595. Bike trail to Mission Bay. Fitness center, TV lounge, pool, spa, Sundek. Barbecue lounge. Storage. Covered/garage parking available. Cat friendly. Fabulous floor plans! Spectacular bay views, Mount Soledad! The Pacific at Mission Bay. 2636 Grand Avenue. 1-800-490-6372. pacificatmissionbay.pacificliving@crossfiremail.com. www.pacificliving.com. www.sdreader.com/rent/1049.

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**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$925. 1 bedroom. Close to bay with onsite laundry and parking. 4418 Bond Street #7. 858-336-4891 or 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, quiet neighborhood, stove, garden setting, barbecue area. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1595. 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex, will consider pet with deposit, 2-car parking included. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** Near beach! \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, quiet four-block, 962-A Wilbur Avenue. No pets. Stove, refrigerator, off-street parking. 619-275-2858.

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**PACIFIC BEACH.** Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 860 Missouri Street #D. Great location, only 1-1/2 blocks to the beach! All utilities paid. One covered parking space. No pets. \$1550/month; deposit \$1550. www.timcassidy.com. Cassidy, Broker, 619-275-LIST.

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**PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH.** \$1200. 1 bedroom, downstairs, large, remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, coin laundry, pool. No pets. Available 1/8/08. 812 Tourmaline. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$925. 1 bedroom, downstairs. Stove, refrigerator, gas fireplace, coin laundry, parking, 7 blocks to ocean. No pets. Available now. 1452 Grand. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

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**PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT.** \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs. Parking. Coin laundry. Easy freeway access. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 1/22/08. 2150-1/2 Reed. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH.** \$1475-\$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs. Large units. Stove, refrigerator. Open parking space or garage space. Coin laundry. Private patio. 2-1/2 blocks to ocean. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 1/10/08. 945 Chalcedony. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH.** \$1475. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large, upstairs. Stove, refrigerator. Private balcony. Parking. Coin laundry. No pets. Available 1/11/08. 1032 Beryl. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator. Downstairs unit on 3-unit property. Parking. Will consider small pet with additional deposit. Available 1/12/08. 1130 Reed. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1200. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Upper level. Off-street parking. Laundry on site. No pets. 4451 Haines Street. 858-270-4492 x203.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$900. Studio, 3 blocks to beach. Assigned off street parking. Laundry on-site. No pets. 1050 Hornblend. 858-270-4492 x203.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1700. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 3 blocks to beach. Assigned off-street parking. Laundry on-site. Available mid-December. No pets. 1050 Hornblend. 858-270-4492 x203.

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## Grand Prize Winner

I started renting out a room in my home, on and off, about ten years ago. I have had so many colorful characters that I could share more than a few entertaining stories, but my most recent roommate deserves the grand prize for roommate from hell.

Jeanine called about the room, came by to see it, and told me that she was interested in renting. As we talked I began to characterize her as boisterous and outgoing (later I would say psychotic and manic). She moved in.

Jeanine quickly filled me in on almost every event of her entire life, including her present situation. She said that she was 48, divorced, and had three children who live with their father. Her only possessions were some family photographs and clothes.

After a few days she added that she had been diagnosed with bipolar disorder. *Who hasn't?* I thought. She said she had been on medication for years and that a bipolar disorder was responsible for all of her difficulties, including her divorce, having lost custody of her children, and a failure to keep a job.

In spite of her setbacks, I did believe that Jeanine had goals and aspirations. I was impressed when she expressed her lifelong dream to become a stand-up comic. She told me about this with confidence and showed me all the material that she had written. She said with great excitement that she was soon to attend an amateur night at a comedy club and that she would make it big — “I just know it!”

From the minute Jeanine got up in the

morning until she left for work (which was about two to three hours a day), she would talk, non-stop. She was loud, abrasive, often vulgar, and above all, obnoxious. After 15 minutes of nonstop nervous and neurotic chatter, I would try to tune her out or desperately try to excuse myself in some polite matter...which was difficult because there was never a break — not even a slight pause — in her monologue.

Even so, for the first few days she expressed gratitude for the things that I let her use — her bed, the sheets and comforter, a TV, the coffee maker, a radio. And, truth be known, she was complimentary of my personality and lifestyle, which, I confess, went a long way.

Jeanine decided that she wanted to get a pet and said her daughter had found a kitten. She asked me if she could keep it. I said “yes,” as long as she kept her kitten separated from my cats (I have two). That night they dropped off the kitten(s) — her daughter had two, not one. I said it was okay but reiterated that they would need to keep away from my cats.

The kittens were cute, and for a brief, optimistic, and delusional moment I almost believed that everything would work out. Then one of the kittens got sick, started throwing up, and became lethargic. Interestingly, Jeanine began to find it somehow difficult to keep her bedroom door closed at this time, exposing my cats and my dog to whatever illness the kitten had acquired.

The kitten got progressively worse, and Jeanine was conveniently gone most of the time. The next thing I know Jeanine is standing in my room at 2 a.m., sobbing because the kitten had died. A sense of dread came over me as I fully realized what an irresponsible, inconsiderate, and unstable individual I was living with.

The second kitten started to get sick, so I decided I would have to call the humane society and report extreme animal neglect. They came and took the sick kitten — found out they both had feline leukemia.

I soon received a 20-page letter from Jeanine. The handwriting

looked frantic and manic; the words got bigger and bigger as the letter progressed, as if she was running out of time and desperately trying to squeeze in a few more words before the timer went off. According to her, I was territorial, confrontational, and condescending, but occasionally kind and thoughtful. She demanded to receive better treatment or said that she would leave. I gave her a 30-day notice of termination.

She began packing almost immediately, and within a week she had vacated. Almost a month later she left a note on my door stating that she wanted half of her deposit and rent back because she had left early.

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**POINT LOMA.** \$1050 rent, \$600 deposit. OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking spot. Laundry. No pets. At 2836 Avenida De Portugal. Agent, 619-299-8515.

**POINT LOMA.** \$895 rent, \$600 deposit. OAC. 1 bedroom. Laundry. Parking space. Pool. New carpet. No pets. At 2625 Camulos Street #13. 619-523-1453.

**POINT LOMA.** \$1150 rent, \$600 deposit. OAC. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors and new carpet in bedrooms. 1-car garage. Laundry. No pets. At 2839 Shelter Island Drive. Agent, 619-299-8515.

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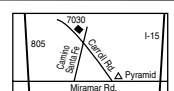
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**DOWNTOWN.** Studio condo, 12th floor. Balcony with views. Parking. Discounted. \$7,760 down required. Buyer to finance balance of \$250,884. Owner. 858-272-2760, rriecken@san.rr.com.

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146 San Diego Reader December 27, 2007

**LEAD STORY**

— At press time, two major pieces of art at galleries in London and New York City were basically holes in the floors of the buildings yet were the subjects of glowing reviews. Doris Salcedo’s *Shibboleth*, a large crack in the floor of a hall at London’s Tate Modern (on which at least 15 people have suffered minor injuries after tripping) is said to symbolize racial and class divisions in society. Urs Fischer’s *You*, at New York’s Gavin Brown Enterprise, is actually a crater, 38 feet by 30 feet by 8 feet deep, that, according to one reviewer, meshes “themes of transparency, trans-formation, disruption, and destruction.”

**Government in Action!**

— It’s Good to Be a British Prisoner (continued): (1) The Portland Young Offenders’ Institute in Dorset recently began holding classes for up to 30 inmates in pole-vauling (but reassured critics that even the most athletic inmates would only get about 13 feet high, whereas the prison walls are 20 feet tall, topped by razor wire). (2) Psychologist Susan Young was paid the equivalent of about \$1000 a day to counsel convicted

murderer Barry George during his recent retrial in London, and among her duties, she said, was to massage his head periodically so that he could concentrate better to assist his lawyers. — The Army Corps of Engineers announced in June that its repairs and upgrades of levees in the Lakeview neighborhood of New Orleans would allow the system to hold back a future storm’s flood waters even if the level rose more than five feet beyond the Katrina level. However, in November, the corps announced that because of a mistake in calculation (an engineer had used a “minus” sign when a “plus” sign was called for), the levee repairs would protect against flooding only six inches above the Katrina level.

**Police Blotter**

— Least Competent Florida Police: (1) Sheriff’s deputies arrested Cynthia Hunter, 38, in Brandon, Fla., in October, and she remained in jail for 50 days until a lab concluded that the “metham-phetamine” in her purse was really dried cat urine that she had legally purchased for her son’s science project. (2) Deputies arrested Andrew Johnson, a white man, in Ocoee, Fla., in Novem-

ber, believing he was Anthony Johnson, a black man wanted on a felony drug charge. Andrew Johnson was allowed to post bond while the case was under investigation, but his driver’s license was confiscated and his mother had to drive him to and from work. — The New Torture: When three men stole drugs from a dealer in Edwardsville, Ill., the dealer and a partner allegedly snatched one of the men and roughed him up, seeking payment for the drugs. In November, police arrested the alleged dealers after the roughed-up victim reported that he had been held down, paddled, had some hair shaved off, and then deliberately burned on the neck and shoulders by having freshly baked cookies taken straight from an oven held against his skin.

**The Continuing Crisis**

— In January, Jerome Felske was fired as a truck driver for the city of Chicago when investigators learned that he had 22 criminal convictions on his record. Felske appealed, and in September, the city’s Human Resources Board reinstated him, noting that Felske had disclosed six of them

on his original application and, as to the others, the board said the city had not proved Felske “intentionally” hid them. Felske, his lawyer had argued, had forgotten about the other 16 (all of which occurred before 1991).

**People Different From Us**

— Australian Wayne Scullino, 30, quit his tele-com job in Sydney in early 2007, and, after convincing his wife, they sold their house and moved to Wisconsin for the sole purpose of rooting for the Green Bay Packers, about which he has had a fascination since age 15. Said Scullino, “At some point, you’ve got to stop living the life you’ve fallen into and start living the life you want to,” and he feared waiting even one more year, since quarterback Brett Favre might retire after this season. He told the Associated Press in October that the family would probably move back to Australia after the Super Bowl and start all over with a new house and new job.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com

and gym. Built 2004. \$349,900-\$359,900. Realtor, 619-403-0114.

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**OCEANSIDE.** Reduced to deal! Large 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath cul-de-sac home. \$475,000. Large yard, landscaped, new windows, freshly painted. Vista School District. Monica, Agent, 760-583-2528.

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**BED \$169 A BARGAIN.** A Ortho Pillowtop Queen, new in plastic with warranty, mat-

tress/box. All sizes. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. 800-464-6420. North County. 800-464-6490.

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**BED FRAME,** metal. Fits different size beds. Can be easily taken apart to be transported in a car. \$20. 858-277-3065.

**BEDS.** Waterbed, motionless, California king, \$200/best. Futon, queen, wood frame, \$100/best. Encinitas, p.m. best. 760-753-8824.

**CHAIR** and ottoman, overstuffed with feather, custom built, burgundy with blend cushion, 36"W, moving, must sell, \$125/best. UTC, 858-652-8738.

**CHINA CABINET,** mahogany, Duncan Phyfe style, lighted display case, with 3 shelves, drawer, enclosed storage on bottom. Store value \$895. Yours for \$650. Photo available. 760-729-6571.

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**FURNITURE,** Coffee table, wood classic style \$10. Small bamboo armchair \$10. Colonial wood chair \$10, bar chair, \$3. TV stand with wheels \$5. Escondido 760-685-8291.

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AUTOMOTIVE



Rebuilt and installed  
**Automatic Transmission**  
with a  
**3-year/30,000-mile warranty**

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Parts & labor. Includes torque converter.

Computer-controlled (FWD or RWD)  
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Transmissions with overdrive  
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3-speed, rear- & front-wheel drive  
**\$100 off**



**Brakes Labor Special!**  
**\$34<sup>95</sup>**

Replace pads or shoes, inspect rotors, repack wheel bearings. Parts additional. Semi-metallic or premium pads not included. Turn rotors extra if needed. Most cars & light trucks. With this ad.



**Tune-Up Labor Special!**

Change 4 plugs, adjust timing and idle, and road test. Parts extra.  
**\$19<sup>95</sup>** 4-cyl.  
**\$30<sup>95</sup>** 6-cyl.  
**\$44<sup>95</sup>** 8-cyl.  
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**New Clutch**  
**\$50 off** Rear-wheel drive  
**\$75 off** Front-wheel drive  
Most cars. With this ad.  
3-year/30,000-mile warranty

**'Check Engine' light on?**

Computer diagnostic  
**\$19<sup>95</sup>**

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**Transmission Tune-Up LABOR SPECIAL!!!**

Includes adjust band and linkage and road test. Parts additional. With this ad.  
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Call for special price on vans, trucks, RVs, performance and sport vehicles.

**FREE BRAKE INSPECTION** with completed brake repairs

**Value Transmission**  
**1-866-891-5394**

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**\$15<sup>95</sup>** Most cars.

Free retest when we do repair.  
Plus \$8.25 certificate and \$1.50 transfer fee.  
Vans, trucks & European cars extra. Cash only.  
Must present DMV renewal notice.  
\*All prices plus tax. With this ad. Exp. 1/28/08.

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Repair and Service All Japanese Cars

**Major Service 30K • 60K • 90K • 120K \$185\***

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- Replace air filter
- Replace fuel filter (non-EFI type)
- Replace spark plugs (platinum extra)
- Change brake fluid
- Check front & rear brakes
- Check cooling system & hoses
- Check tire pressure & rotation
- Check lights
- Adjust hand brake
- Inspect exhaust pipe & muffler
- Inspect power steering system
- Inspect fuel lines • Inspect all belts
- 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. Up to '89 models.

**Engine & Transmission Overhaul**  
Call for details.

**Intermediate Service \$95\***

15K • 45K • 75K • 105K Call for details.

**Oil & Filter Change \$17<sup>95</sup>\***

Up to 4 qts. Exp. 1/31/08. Some cars higher.

**CV Boot \$49<sup>95</sup>\* CV Axle from \$145\***

**Fuel Injection Service \$35\***

**Timing Belt \$115\***  
Twin cam extra. Up to '89 models.

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Regular oil **\$29<sup>95</sup>** Synthetic oil **\$49<sup>95</sup>** 4-cyl.  
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# BLOG DIEGO

My pets are neurotic freaks of nature.

My bird, Byron, is a bulimic pervert who spends much of his day engaged in his two favorite activities: vomiting and masturbating. How, you ask, does a bird masturbate? There are many videos posted various places on the Internet (by the birds' perverse human owners), but it boils down to an activity not dissimilar to human masturbation. And, natural a process as it is, no less disgusting. I mean, really, at least humans have the courtesy to do it in private and not speak of it to their friends.

I was reading up on bird behavior and found two pieces of good news about Byron's condition. First, he seems only interested in masturbating with inanimate objects in his cage, which means that he does not perceive me as his mate. This is actually GREAT news.

Second — and this is perhaps TOO logical — bird behavior is affected by bird environment, particularly lovebirds', who are prone to the bird equivalents of cabin fever and depression, hence they require much distraction and frequent changes of environment. So, over the weekend I bought him some new toys and perches and a different kind of bird seed. So far, my efforts have been successful as there is no sign

of vomit or any instances of bird masturbation. I also learned that birds are more apt to be all machismo and perverse when they can fly. I'm not exactly sure what the link is, but it seems logical — wing clipping as a sort of metaphoric castration. So, yesterday I clipped his wings, which was really quite sad but seems to be helping.

My cat, too, is a neurotic freak. I love him to pieces, but the creature has issues. He's a tremendous fraidy cat, and will jump and run to hide under the nearest piece of furniture if, while petting him, I move, breathe too loudly, reach for the remote, or pet him differently. He runs and hides for 20 minutes (sometimes longer) before venturing out again. Then he'll sit on the other side of the room and stare at me for another 10 minutes before he decides that it's probably okay to come back because the likelihood of me *eating him* is

slim to none. I'm a vegetarian.

The cat also has this lovely habit of pooping in the bathtub. It's got nothing to do with the level of cleanliness of his litter box, because it can be all shiny



new litter and he still poops in the bathtub. Pervert. The only solution to this seems to be to always leave one inch of water in the bottom of the bathtub (since I have an open tub with a shower curtain; I do not have a shower door or any such apparatus that prevents cat entry).

The cat problem is a substan-

tially more difficult case than the bird. The cat doesn't seem to understand that, when he poops in the bathtub, *I know he did it*, and furthermore, *I will find out about it*. He always seems so surprised when I discover the poop in the tub, as though I have some mystical, mind-reading skill that allows me to see his secret shame.

It's extraordinarily difficult to train the creature to understand that love is a good thing. Because if I pick him up and force him to let me love him, well, that's not so happy for anyone. As much as I like ice cream, if someone were to hold me

down and force-feed me ice cream, I would hate every minute of it and would probably end up hating ice cream by the end of the experience. So, I need to find gentler, more subtle ways of showing the cat that it is okay to be loved. Again, not as easy as changing the environment.

Unlike the bird, the cat is not

confined to a cage, and I can't afford all new furniture.

For now, baby steps. The bird is surrounded by lots of shiny new things and seems to be doing much better, at least until he grows accustomed to those new things and becomes depressed and perverse again. The cat has a new food, which is supposed to be much better for him (and may very well make him less crazy, or at least in a better mood, right? Eating vegetables ultimately makes humans feel better than eating pizza, even if the pizza is tastier). And I give him love and avoid ever punishing him in any way or raising my voice or turning up the radio or television or walking too loud or laughing or coughing or crying or moving unnecessarily or showing any kind of emotion except I AM A STOIC ROBOT AND I LOVE TO PET YOU, BUT ONLY WHEN YOU WANT TO BE PETTED. Maybe one day he will love me back.

Comment from Zee: *My stepmom had a cockatiel who liked to masturbate during our dinner. When she first moved in with her bird, we always thought he just liked to move his rope with the bell on the end. Then she explained to us what he was really doing. So every time we'd hear the tinkle of the little bell, my brother and I would look at each other and start laughing.*

Got a blog you'd like to flog? Send your best stuff — around 900 words' worth — to [FlogYourBlog@SanDiegoReader.net](mailto:FlogYourBlog@SanDiegoReader.net). If we run your posts, we'll send you \$50.

## MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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**HELICOPTER MINI 500**, single seat, experimental, liquid-cooled Rotax 582 engine with Pep kit, doors, 5-point safety harness, easy ground maneuvering, 70mph, 14.7 gallon, \$24,000. 520-440-6070.

**LAWN MOWER**, electric, new, \$85. Honda 400 generator, \$195. Expensive thick rug, 7x10, tan, \$95. Color TV, \$25. Boxes of fishing gear, \$60. Very big anchor, \$35. 858-581-6223.

**MACADAMIA NUTS**. Organic, in shell or shelled and roasted. Can mail order. In-shell orders, \$6/pound. Shelled, roasted, unsalted, bagged. Small batches, \$10/pound. No chemicals. 619-788-2849.

**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

Kershaws, Schrade IXLs, others. 619-260-8482.

**MODEL AIRPLANE**, B-29 bomber, 4 engines, RC \$95. Still in box. 619-574-7530.

**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.

**ORGAN BENCH**, oak, 51" long, \$50. Toilet, new, white, \$80. Sink, new, white ceramic drop in, \$30. 858-272-4812.

**PLUMBING**, Cobra SE series, cable drum machine for cleaning drains. Two piece cutter set, \$125, still in box. 619-574-7530.

**PROJECTOR OVERHEAD**, \$45. Gram scale triple beam \$45. Artist's easel fold up case \$45. Vacuum, Kirby \$150. 619-449-8069.

**RADIO CONTROLLED** Beautiful red Corvette, unopened. 15" long, goes 20 MPH. Includes transmitter, controller battery, charger, plus 2 extra batteries. Originally \$175, sell \$85. 858-483-4615.

**RC CAR**, Red Ferrari, 1/10 scale, precise, fast \$95. Still in box. 619-574-7530.

## AUTOMOTIVE

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• Replace plugs • Adjust timing  
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Keep your car under warranty!  
Call for special price list on services for your car.

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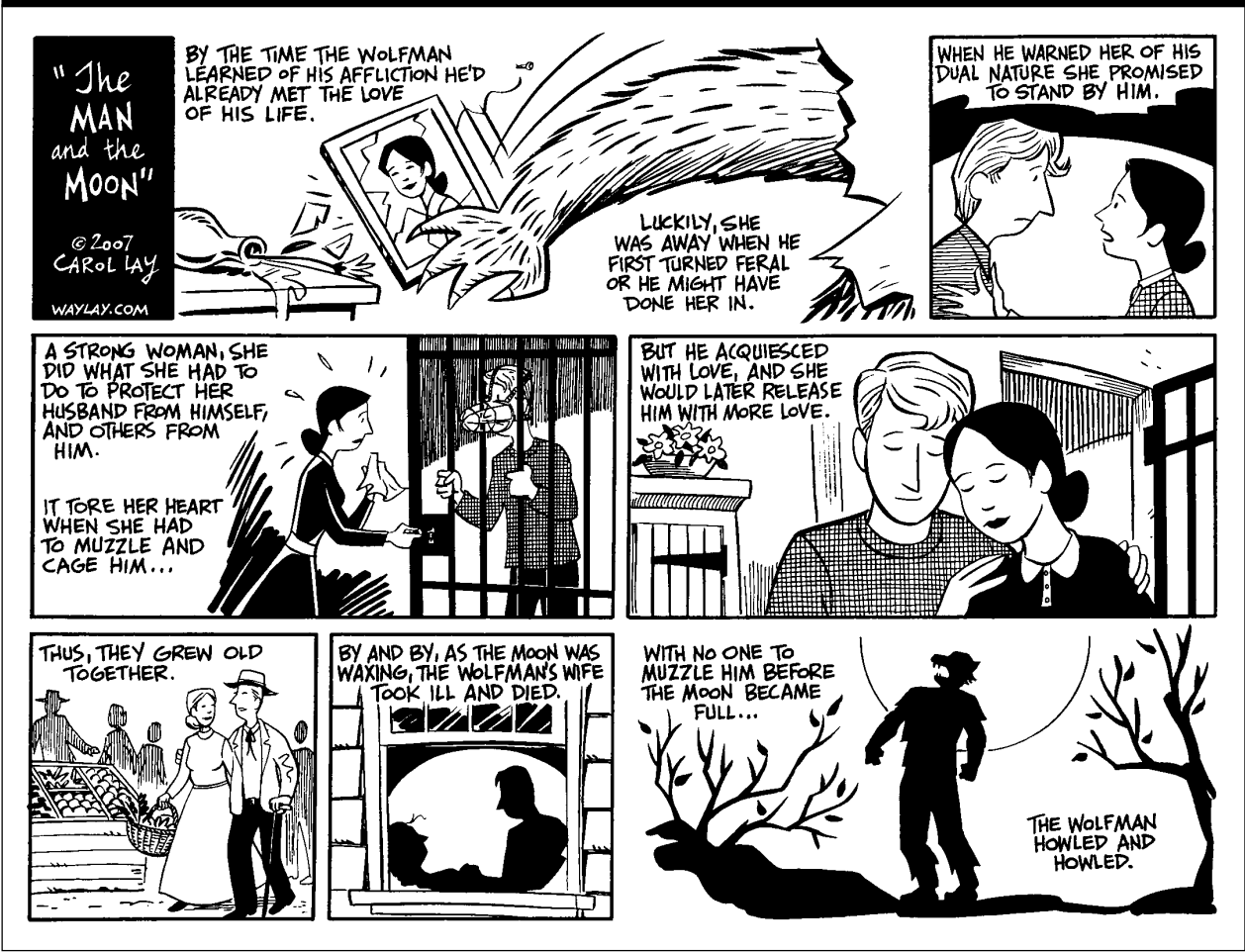
**SMOG ✓ TEST ONLY**  
**\$24<sup>95</sup> \$34<sup>95</sup>**

**PASS OR DON'T PAY**

Plus \$8.25 certificate and \$2.00 transfer fee. Most cars and light trucks. RVs call for appointment. Effective 12/1/07 1976-1995 vehicles require evap test (\$15 extra). Completion of repairs needed before retest. We will match most local competitors' coupons. Not valid with an Internet offer or other discounts.

**Quick Smog**  
1741 Garnet Avenue  
858-270-9253  
Open 7 days  
\$5 off Sundays!





**SPA,** Caldera Tahitian, 2004, seats 6, lounge, 45 massage jets, waterfall, multi-color LED lighting, steps, gray cabinet/cover with lift, 7x7x36, works perfectly, \$3200/best. 619-303-9993.

**SPA/HOT TUB,** Deluxe 2008 model. Neck jets, therapy seat. Never used! Warranty. Can deliver. Worth \$5950, sell for \$1950. 858-530-0980.

**STEEL BUILDINGS,** 30'x40', 40'x60', 50'x100'. Advertising discount. Prices limited. Up to 50%. Call Larry, 619-719-7385.

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**PLYMOUTH HORIZON,** 1989. 4 door with air conditioning, 73,000 original miles. As is, needs work, \$500. 619-449-1104.

**TOYOTA CAMRY XLE,** 1999, super clean, new tires, clean title, V-6, power steering, brakes, locks, windows, trip odometer, tachometer, air conditioning, tilt, leather, \$6200/best. 619-249-5194.

**TOYOTA CAMRY,** 1997, excellent condition, 112K miles, complete service/Carfax records. New radiator, water pump, timing belt, battery, wipers, trottle body system, more. \$4900. 619-275-2595.

**TOYOTA CELICA GT,** 2001. One owner. Carfax with clean report. 60,900 miles. All maintenance records available. Blue with black interior. Air conditioning. Moonroof, \$10,900. 619-282-1001.

**VW JETTA,** 1990. Red, auto, 4 door, sunroof, CD player, air, 1 owner. No accidents, 156,000 miles. Good condition/runs strong, \$2800/best, 619-884-0404.

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**BMW 330ci,** 2004, gray, manual, 34K miles, free maintenance and warranty until 2010 or 100K, excellent condition, private parties, \$31,000. eldirectorJJ@aim.com or 858-472-0499.

**FORD MUSTANG,** 2001, must sell, white body, tan convertible top, 5-speed manual, 39K miles, very good condition, heating/air conditioning, cruise, couple dings, \$8700. 760-715-9416.

**FORD TAURUS WAGON,** 1999. Excellent 6 cylinder gas saver, loaded. Only 69,000 miles, garaged, smogged. \$2000 below book. Extra large cargo, roof rack, \$4600. 619-422-3547.

**FORD TAURUS,** 2003, 46K miles, great air conditioning, 4 door, CD, runs excellently, looks good, good on gas, burns no oil, always maintained. \$6000. 619-850-4338.

**MERCEDES-BENZ 300SE,** 1991, great car inside/out, automatic, runs great, clean title, leather interior, no major repairs, smog test already done, 218K miles, \$3200/best. 619-823-9035.

**PLYMOUTH HORIZON,** 1989. 4 door with air conditioning, 73,000 original miles. As is, needs work, \$500. 619-449-1104.

**TOYOTA CAMRY XLE,** 1999, super clean, new tires, clean title, V-6, power steering, brakes, locks, windows, trip odometer, tachometer, air conditioning, tilt, leather, \$6200/best. 619-249-5194.

**TOYOTA CAMRY,** 1997, excellent condition, 112K miles, complete service/Carfax records. New radiator, water pump, timing belt, battery, wipers, trottle body system, more. \$4900. 619-275-2595.

**TOYOTA CELICA GT,** 2001. One owner. Carfax with clean report. 60,900 miles. All maintenance records available. Blue with black interior. Air conditioning. Moonroof, \$10,900. 619-282-1001.

**VW JETTA,** 1990. Red, auto, 4 door, sunroof, CD player, air, 1 owner. No accidents, 156,000 miles. Good condition/runs strong, \$2800/best, 619-884-0404.

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## AUTOMOTIVE

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Here's a small sample to get your motor running!

### \$12 off any Test Only smog



"Pass or Don't Pay." Call for details. Offer expires January 31, 2008. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.



**Quick Smog**  
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Reader Coupons  
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Complete repairs. Japanese, European and domestic. Free towing. We fix problems with "check engine" or any other warning lights. Offer expires January 31, 2008. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.



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ATEK **Tune-up \$24.95**

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**RON AND I WERE EATING A SUGARY SCONE AND TALKING ABOUT OUR PLANS** to pork up over the coming holidays. I had decidedly given up, and I planned to get a good amount of bloat going until the end of the year and then exercise it all off in January.

“Oh, they’ll call it the goddamned ‘battle of the bulge’ on the news,” Ron said.

“They never come up with anything original,” I agreed.

“Tonight,” Ron did a newscaster impression, “*we’ll take a look at how San Diegans are fighting the battle of the bulge.*”

“I’m going to eat a hunk of prime rib the diameter of a bus steering wheel,” I said.

“Tonight,” Ron continued in his drippy announcer’s voice, “*on Channel 17 News at 10: Now that the holidays are over, San Diego shoppers are battling another long line. Their waistslines.*” He pointed at my ever-expanding middle.

“All the things I never get to eat, I’m going to eat,” I daydreamed. “I diet a good 11 and a half months out of a year. I’m going to eat all the sugar and salt and garbage that everyone else eats. And then I’m going to recline on my bulging rear end and swab the grease from my cheeks and hair with an old dirty shirt. I love the holidays.”

“Tonight,” Ron kept up with the anchorman impersonation, “*San Diegans are heading home after the holidays. But will they be able to fit through the door? We take a look at how folks are slimming down in January.*”

“I’m not saying I’d kill one from the zoo, you know, because those are, like, San Diego treasures or something.” I stopped and touched my chin. “But, I wonder what panda tastes like.”

“Tonight, holiday shopping is dog eat dog, but we get one shopper’s secret recipe for...panda,” Ron said, using that stupid news-anchor pause, “*and how he plans on losing the battle of the bulge in January.*”

“I don’t even know what the Battle of the Bulge is,” I said.

“It’s that thing people do in January after eating all December,” Ron said.

“No, it was a real battle. In World War II or something.”

“Tonight,” Ron started with his deep news voice, “*we talk to one World War II vet about his resolution to jog off...his panda belly.*”

“You’ve had too much sugar. I’m eating the rest of this scone.”

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27**

**SESAME STREET**  
**PBS 10:00 A.M.**  
Rainbow circles are those magical dots that appear on your computer screen after you sneeze. Sneeze fairies put them there and the rainbow circles grant you wishes. My wishes are always turned down, and the sneeze fairies say, “We told you about the swimming pool wish. You can’t have it. It’s just not sanitary for other swimmers.” Oh, c’mon! It’s a magical wish and you’re worried about sanitation? Besides, that’s what the chlorine is for.

**THE OFFICE**  
**NBC 9:00 P.M.**  
Since I work alone in my front room, I miss out on holiday office snacks. I don’t get the

surprise tray of snowman cookies. What I also miss out on are stringent sexual harassment guidelines. But, on the other hand, if I didn’t want to get chased around and groped at the office Christmas party, I wouldn’t have worn that naughty Mrs. Clause outfit. Tramp.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28**

**WHO WANTS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE**  
**ABC 7:00 P.M.**  
See, this writers’ strike thing, I’m torn on it. As a writer, I hope other writers make more money. That sounds great. But, to be honest, I wasn’t super impressed with a lot of their work before all this strike business, and I will, RIGHT NOW, write TV shows for whatever salary they were making. My first TV show will be about erstwhile TV

writers in soup kitchens and homeless shelters and about how I struck it rich. HA HA HA HA! Oh, crap! That sounds hilarious.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29**

**MERCENARY FOR JUSTICE**  
**USA 11:00 A.M.**  
Adulthood is decidedly missing an important factor. In this time of war and suffering around the world, I am in constant need of one thing. A Big Wheel — those tricycles with the big plastic wheels (no, really) and the one hand brake on the right side that would throw you into a terminal skid. Yes, kids in Afghanistan are starving and I don’t have a Big Wheel. This injustice is insufferable!

**COX PRESENTS THE NUTCRACKER BALLET**  
**CASD4 7:30 P.M.**  
I’m learning to speak French. The first word I’ve encountered is “burlesque,” and from what I’ve gathered from my field studies, the word means, “Sort of chubby chicks who can’t dance well.” Keep learning, folks. It’s the secret to staying young. ¡Olé!

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30**

**LIFE IS WILD**  
**CW 8:00 P.M.**  
Jawbreakers are the stupidest candy. However, they are also the longest lasting. It’s cruel irony or something like irony or fate or something that a candy that lasts three months is by far the dumbest of them all. Cruel irony or something, I say! Cruel!

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 31**

**SPORTSCENTER**  
**ESPN 8:00 P.M.**  
Imagine how pants feel about bungee-jumping. Sure, they’re probably exhilarated by the wild freefall, but they’re probably also a little afraid. I mean, every jump is a potential soiling. Pee isn’t funny. Well, not when you are pants, it’s not.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 32, 2007**

**THE BIGGEST LOSERS: COUPLES**



Gossip Girl

**NBC 8:00 P.M.**  
Time to start dieting, suckers. I’ve devised my own weight-loss plan. Anything I can eat while lying on my back is okay. So, really, the only thing I’m giving up is soup. You can’t pour soup from a bowl into your mouth or you’ll end up with bits of ham and noodles in your eyebrows. Peas are going to be a challenge to keep out of my nostrils, but I think my consumption of ice cream bars is going to skyrocket. Man, I love this new diet!

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2008!**

**GOSSIP GIRL**  
**CW 9:00 P.M.**  
The writers from this show shouldn’t push their luck. If their contract negotiator had any sense about him, he’d take the first offer. “Let’s see here... Oh, this deal looks like a good one. The studio is willing to throw in another half packet of M&Ms and a pair of sunglasses from the lost-and-found box. I say we take it.”

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 3**

**SAN DIEGO INSIDER**  
**CASD4 8:00 P.M.**  
Now is the big stretch until the next holiday: President’s Day. But, it’s worth it. Last President’s Day, I was so wasted I chased Mayor Sanders down Broadway with a sharpened car key and a roll of Saran Wrap. I wore pigtails; he was in blue. Man, it seems like PCP was just *made* for the wild three-day celebration of when Abe Lincoln landed on Plymouth Rock with the pilgrims. Rest up, Sanders, you’ve got two months.

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