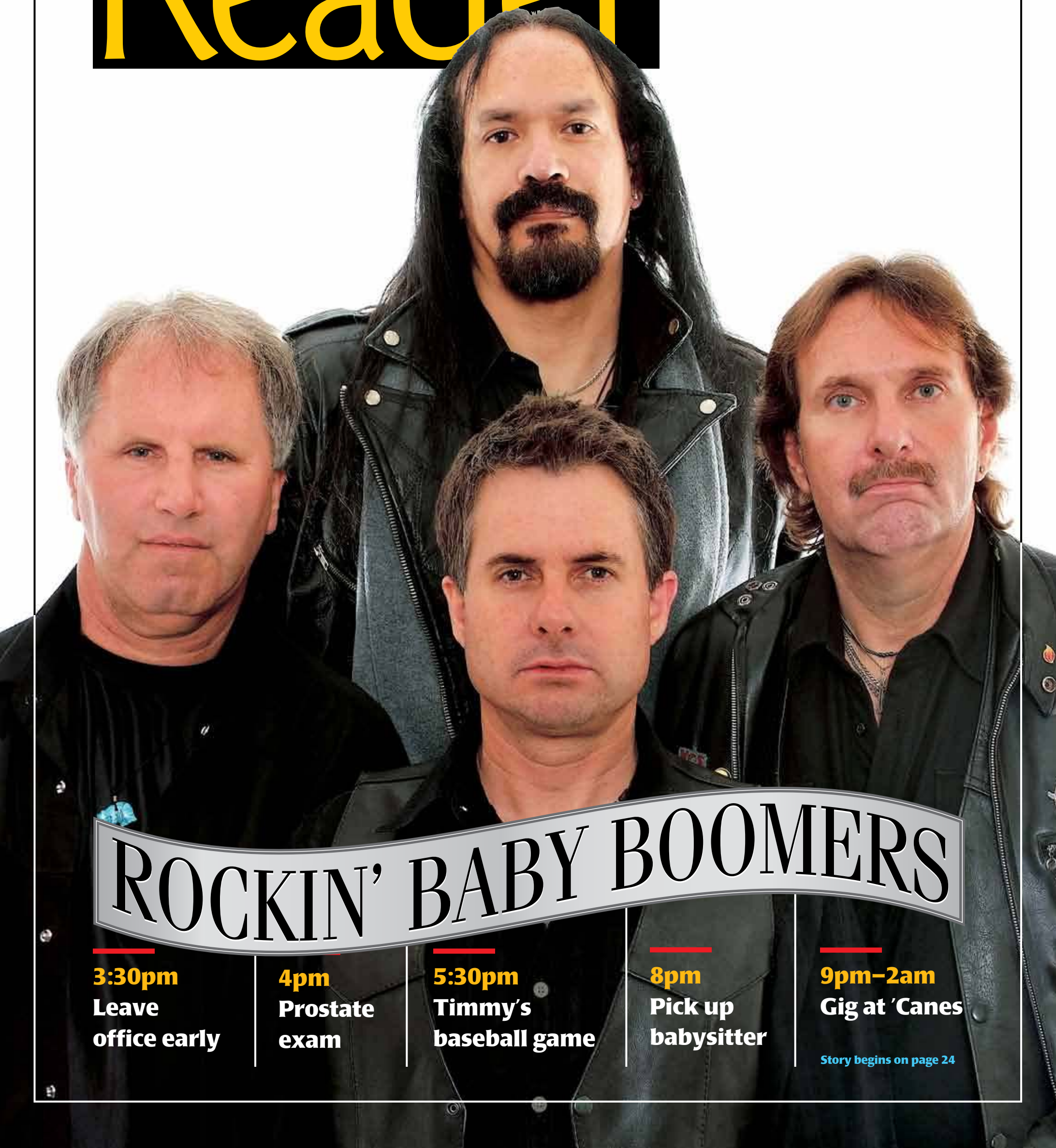


SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

VOLUME 37 / NUMBER 3
JANUARY 17, 2008

Reader



ROCKIN' BABY BOOMERS

3:30pm
Leave
office early

4pm
Prostate
exam

5:30pm
Timmy's
baseball game

8pm
Pick up
babysitter

9pm–2am
Gig at 'Canes

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EXPRESSJET

BREAKING NEWS

Charity begins at the mansion

With Governor **Arnold Schwarzenegger** proposing draconian cuts—including closing 48 state parks and beaches, slashing Medi-Cal and school funding, and releasing 22,159 “low risk” inmates from state prisons—it might not seem like the appropriate time to build UCSD’s chancellor an \$8 million mansion.



Marye Anne Fox

But that’s what’s on the agenda this week for UC regents at their monthly meeting in Los Angeles. UCSD chancellor **Marye Anne Fox**, who would inhabit the fancy new digs, argues that the historic house currently occupying the La Jolla Farms site is far too modest and decrepit for the stylishly upscale image the campus wants to project. She also claims that tax-exempt charitable contributions gathered mostly from fat-cat La Jollans would provide the bulk of the financing. Critics of the new mansion argue that in times of major budget cutbacks, any private funds the university can raise should go to more deserving uses. UC officials have been stalling on providing public records with details of the funding plan, but the university did finally release a list of donors who it says are standing by to pay for the project, checkbooks at the ready. They are **Richard Atkinson**, the former UCSD chancellor and UC president who made a fortune in Qualcomm; **Audrey Geisel**, Dr. Seuss’s widow; **John Moores**, ex-UC regent and Padres owner; **Irwin Jacobs**, Qualcomm founder; **Donald and Darlene Shiley**; **Pauline Foster**, mother-in-law of ex-school superintendent **Alan Bersin**; **Malin Burnham**, real estate magnate and yachtsman; library-supply king **Arthur Brody**; and **Jerome Katzin**, a retired investment banker.

Desert of the heart There’s been another development in the slow but steady liquidation of the newspaper holding company of late *Union-Tribune* owner **Helen Copley**.



Helen Copley

Last week Copley Press quietly recorded a document giving GP Associates LLC, run by **Gregory Perlman** of Sherman Oaks, the right to buy 71 acres that Copley owns in the desert near Borrego Springs. The memorandum of option, said to last two years beginning on December 27 of last year, provides no details as to the price of the deal. Just before the end of last year Copley sold La Casa del Zorro resort in Borrego to GH Capital, another Perlman venture, which had previously bought the bankrupt Rams Hill subdivision. It’s now called Montesoro. . . . One semi-humorous rumor making the rounds at the U-T has the **McKinnon** clan, proprietors of KUSI and *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles* magazine, taking control of the newspaper in a partnership in which **David Copley** surrenders majority control; a new regulation adopted by the Federal Communications Commission late last year allows an owner to hold both a newspaper and a television station in the same city, mak-

ing the imagined deal possible, if not all that probable. . . . During the first 11 days of this year, there have been 979 foreclosure sales in San Diego County, compared with 727 during the same time last year, according to figures from the County Recorder’s Office. Not surprisingly, the records show that some of the loans gone bad were owned by big Wall Street firms, including Lehman Brothers (3) and Bear Stearns (9), both enmeshed in the subprime debacle. But taking a bigger hit was Germany’s Deutsche Bank, with a grand total of 38. Another noted subprime player, Britain’s HSBC, was forced to take back 5 pieces of local real estate during the same period.



La Casa del Zorro

Cheesy The California Tribal Business Alliance, a well-heeled political action committee backed by six Indian tribes, including the Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians and the Viejas



Doug Manchester

Band of Kumeyaay Indians, staged a lavish “back-to-the-session bash,” an invitation-only party for state legislators and staff last week at Sacramento’s posh Mason’s Restaurant. Other listed sponsors included the California Business Properties Association and the California Broadcasters Association. Entertainment was provided by the Cheeseballs, which bills itself as “the Bay Area’s top party band.” . . . Downtown hotel mogul **Doug Manchester**, who is forging ahead with that controversial development project on Navy property across from the Broadway Pier, has sent out an email promoting a new-age self-improvement extravaganza at the Sports Arena called “The Secret to Having Your Best Year Ever.” Including motivational stars like **Anthony Robbins** and **Lisa Nichols**, the January 19 event promises to teach attendees how to “double or triple your income in 2008,” “find and nurture your ideal relationships,” “infuse your life with positive spirituality,” and “get healthy and stay healthy forever.” Proceeds go to the Jenna Druck Foundation, a nonprofit group specializing in “bereavement support.” . . . The office of Sheriff **Bill Kolender** has been spending money at some posh resorts, purportedly on lobbying business. According to state disclosure records filed by the sheriff’s department, Kolender representatives spent \$631.28 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in South Lake Tahoe and \$3833.29 at the Hyatt Sacramento hotel during last year’s second quarter.



Anthony Robbins

— 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.

Phone Wars

By Don Bauder

Former president George H.W. Bush pledged to make the U.S. a “kinder and gentler nation.” He was not thinking of James

Kinder of La Jolla, a onetime lawyer who resigned from the state bar in 1989 after being recommended for disbarment. For one thing, Kinder’s name rhymes with “tinder,” not “binder.” For another, Kinder has continued filing lawsuits by the hundreds, even after his run-in with the bar and, later, being named a vexatious litigant, or chronic court abuser, by superior court in 2003.

Kinder’s presence won’t make any place gentler. For example, in a deposition that he took under penalty of perjury in the year 2000, Kinder referred to a judge who had denied his claim as “the old fart judge pro tem.” Asked why he was filing so many lawsuits against companies he claimed were harassing him telephonically, Kinder replied, “I am going to sue the shit out of every one of

them because they are screwing with me and they don’t care.” When asked how many calls he had received from a company he was suing, Kinder replied, “Shit, I don’t know. I get so fuckin’ pissed off about this.”



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

Since the late 1970s, Kinder has been involved in well over 600 lawsuits, overwhelmingly as the plaintiff, in superior court and small claims court. On February 1, in the courtroom of Judge Ronald L. Styn, 85 companies and organizations will ask to have their cases combined. They have been named defendants in

individual Kinder suits. The defendants include some hefty outfits: Wells Fargo, JPMorgan Chase, General Motors Acceptance, Time Warner Cable, Blockbuster, Travelers Insurance, and Microsoft. The defendants won’t talk, but the word is that a bundling of these cases is a certainty. You see, in Kinder’s own words, judges are “fuckin’ pissed off” too.

Here’s Kinder’s game: In 1996, he got the phone number 619-999-9999 for his pager. Immediately, he began getting swamped with autodi-

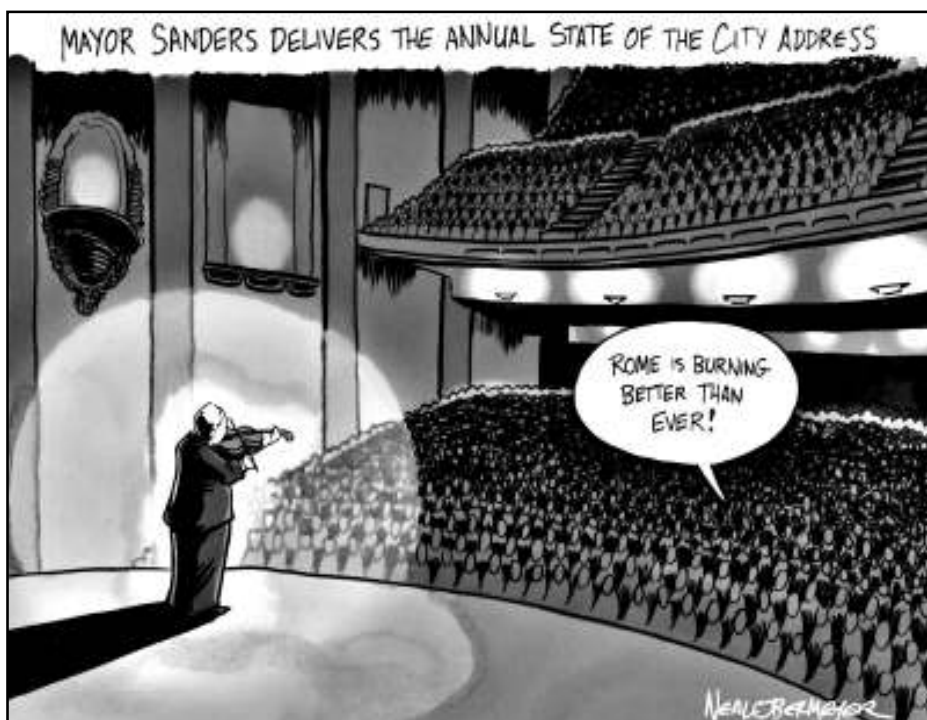
aler calls. Within three years, he launched the lawsuit binge. There are several reasons why calls may flood into a 999-9999 number. One is that a collection agency, say, that doesn’t have a number for someone it wants to reach has to put something in the computer on the phone number line. If

continued on page 8

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Scam Diego blog every day!
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Neal Obermeyer



Condos Come, The Village Goes

By Dorian Hargrove

Over the past year in southern Hillcrest, starting at the corner of Fourth and Pennsylvania and ending at the corner of

Sixth and Redwood, the sounds of construction on several condominium complexes have dominated the area. High-pitched beeping from forklifts and skip loaders echoed through the neighborhood and entered small one- and two-story apartment buildings and older houses. Cranes

tered sidewalks early in the morning.

The residents of Hillcrest have grown accustomed to the sounds of construction in their neighborhood. In the last five years, the community has witnessed the building of more than a dozen large condominium projects. And

are slated for completion, while the fate of a fourth is undecided. In all, 216 new residences are planned, not including the controversial 301 University project, which is facing harsh opposition by members of the community regarding its height and number of units.

Alan Nevin, director of economic research for Marketpointe Realty Advisors, feels that there is not enough development occurring in Hillcrest and welcomes an urban makeover. "The area should be a shining star, complete with a blend of high-styled low-, mid-, and high-rise residential projects.... Instead, it's a neighborhood of one- and two-story obsolete structures that should have been torn down decades ago. Smart growth and Hillcrest should not be mutually exclusive."

While Nevin believes that the community "should be one of the great urban cores of San Diego," John Taylor, a representative for Save Hillcrest, a group "dedicated to smart growth in the Uptown District," sees the matter through a different set of safety goggles. "Hillcrest is not an extension of downtown, nor should it be. Hillcrest is an established community with predominantly one- to three-

story buildings. If one brings the downtown model to Hillcrest, you lose the eclectic feel of Hillcrest that many have worked so hard over the last 100 years to create."

In mid-November 2007, the first condos to be completed, Phase I of Atlas at Hillcrest, opened to new owners on the corner of Fourth Avenue and Pennsylvania. Texas-based D.R. Horton, the nation's largest homebuilder, developed the Atlas project.

Atlas at Hillcrest — Phase I
3687 Fourth Avenue
5 stories
63 units, approx. 15 per floor
4 floor plans, 725, 1022, 1214, 1485 square feet
1 and 2 bedrooms
Prices: \$344,000–\$679,000
Amenities: Bar lounge with terrace and fire pit; state-of-the-art gym; gated underground parking; pool and spa; satin nickel front door hardware; tile in entry, kitchen, and bath; granite countertops in kitchen and bath; large walk-in closets in master suites; black-on-stainless appliances including slide-in range and self-cleaning oven, built-in microwave/hood, and multicycle Energy Star dishwasher.

Atlas at Hillcrest is located near the heart of Hillcrest, just two blocks south of Uni-



PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOE KLEIN

Trilogy on 5th, 3265–3285 Fifth Avenue

versity Avenue. Builder D.R. Horton touts the U-shaped design of Phase I as "chic, sleek, and innovative." According to the San Diego branch of D.R. Horton, 39 of the 63 units have been sold.

Richard Benson of Benson and Bohl Architects, whose offices are four blocks away, isn't a fan of Atlas. He feels that change is inevitable for Hillcrest but that each project should complement and add to the surrounding structures. "I would like to see a variety of buildings...but they should be quality designs that add and enhance the character of the community and not just buildings that get adorned with fake cornices, as is the case with Atlas. The other problem is the fact that due to the height restrictions, they feel like they can go long instead, thus taking up the whole block, which, in my opinion, destroys that block."

Atlas at Hillcrest — Phase II
3650 Fifth Avenue
77 units, approx. 20 per floor
4 floor plans, 725, 1022, 1214, 1485 square feet
Prices: \$344,000–\$679,000
Completion date: January 2009
Amenities: Same as Atlas I

Phase II, east of Phase I and facing Fifth Avenue, is located on the site of the former headquarters of the American Red Cross, just north of the popular Hash House a Go-Go

restaurant. Construction on Phase II has slowed. "We are focusing all of our energy onto completing Phase I and moving the new owners into the building," said Daniel Stevens, a sales representative for Atlas at Hillcrest, in mid-November of last year. None of the Phase II units are currently for sale.

Bill Hall, a 38-year resident and former beauty salon owner in Hillcrest, whose small two-story apartment building sits on Pennsylvania tucked in between Phase I and Phase II, feels that overall "the changes are for the good, besides the dust and the noise. The sidewalks will be redone, the buildings are nice looking. Obviously traffic will be an issue, but really, there's not much that I could do about it anyway."

Asked if the infrastructure of the cramped community of Hillcrest would be able to handle the addition of hundreds of new residents, Councilwoman Toni Atkins, who represents the area, said, "Our older urban neighborhoods need upgraded infrastructure.... New development does pay for much of the impact of growth through developer

continued on page 10



Sean Morton



Richard Benson

and building supply trucks took up coveted street parking, and construction workers on their way to job sites clut-

despite the recent lull in the housing market, in the upcoming months three new mid- and high-rise developments



Atlas at Hillcrest, Phase I, 3687 Fourth Avenue



Mi Arbolito

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

Phone wars

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the blank isn't filled in, the computer will balk like a mule. So an area code plus 999-9999 is put in the blanks. The 999-9999 number is the default or "dead air" number for most autodialers. Also, some people filling out a form, but not wanting to receive calls, will plug in 999-9999. Clerks who

haven't been given a phone number will write in the 9s too.

After he got hundreds of calls, Kinder began recording the calls and suing those who made them under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991, which was signed into law by the aforementioned President George H.W. Bush. This federal law restricts telemarketers in the use of automatic dialing systems and prerecorded voice messages.

Among many other things, it bans early-morning and late-evening solicitation calls. Kinder has elaborate systems to monitor the calls he receives, and then he goes to court to collect money, usually \$500 to \$1500 per autodialer call to a receiver that he calls a pager. Although the protection act is federal, most lawsuits filed under it are in state courts.

Kinder has claimed in a deposition that he received

as many as 63,000 calls one month. The volume is down to 4000 to 5000 now. He has insisted in these depositions that the calls drive him absolutely crazy. Consistently, he is asked: if you are going crazy, why don't you get rid of that number? He replies that such a number is a valuable marketing tool for his various businesses. In fact, when I interviewed him, that was the only question he would answer:

"I have a B.S. in marketing. This is the most valuable telephone number in the San Diego area code, so I am not willing to give up my number. It is an unforgettable number," he said. In a deposition, he said it was worth \$2 million to \$3 million.

He claims in depositions that he represents the little people against telemarketers, but his opponents argue that he is abusing the court sys-

tem to make money. Many defendants have simply settled, but others won't. He claims he sued one company for \$75 million. It fought. Other defendants say they are not telemarketers; for example, they may be a doctor's office trying to reach a patient with a reminder of an upcoming appointment. And the Telephone Consumer Protection Act often does not apply in suits Kinder files, say defendants.

Kinder's credibility is not helped by his record. In July 1988, the hearing panel of the State Bar of California recommended that he be disbarred after being convicted of crimes involving moral turpitude. (He got a five-year stayed sentence.) He had been a personal injury lawyer. In 1979, according to the panel, Kinder forged a document certifying that his client had married a man. Problem: the groom was dead. The bride got the dead groom's benefits, and Kinder took one-third of them, or \$3300, according to the panel. Kinder had officially tied the knot as a minister of the Universal Life Church, a Modesto-based mail-order operation that hands out minister's ordinations almost immediately for free. (The so-called church would go on to lose money in San Diego's J. David pyramid scheme of the 1980s.) According to the bar panel, Kinder concealed the crime for six years and then tried to get the faux widow not to sing to the police.

The panel also noted two occasions on which Kinder warned opposing lawyers that he would counsel his clients to make untrue statements. Kinder had an alcohol problem in those years, and a psychiatrist testified that he was in treatment and could practice law. But the panel said the "bad faith, dishonesty, concealment, and overreaching" added up to moral turpitude, and he should be disbarred. Early the next year, he resigned and went on to operate Rainbow Towing, Rainbow Rent-A-Car, Rainbow Carpet Cleaning, and Rainbow Auto Repair from an unimposing building at 3129 India Street.

He soon ran into other problems. Rainbow was parking cars all over the street. In the late 1990s, Dona Loshon-

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Phone wars

continued from page 8

kohl Hufford of the San Diego Police Department began ticketing those cars. Kinder filed numerous complaints against her. She countersued and was awarded \$350,000 and got a restraining order against him. Early last year, she won another \$900,000 from him. Her boyfriend was dying as a result of a bad auto accident. At the accident scene, as she held him in her arms, Kinder stared her down. The court sided with her.

From Rainbow's humble headquarters, Kinder began the lawsuits in 1999, suing in propria persona, or on his own behalf, but in 2003 he was declared a vexatious litigant, or one who repeatedly files groundless suits. Then he hired two young lawyers. The Kinder team still operates from the India Street office, monitoring calls and suing the so-called offenders.

In a typical letter, one of his lawyers, Chad Austin, wrote

Equidata of Newport News, Virginia, in February of last year, claiming that it had made 64 autodialer calls to Kinder's so-called pager and owed \$64,000. His letter to Kenneth Copeland Ministries of Newark, Texas, also in February, demanded \$10,000. Both have been named in the suits that the defense seeks to consolidate February 1. Austin refused comment.

Defendants in those suits charge that the paging function has been disconnected and replaced by a sophisticated computer system with multiple tape recorders and date/time stamps.

Los Angeles lawyer Andrew Struve is defending U.S. Health-Works in the ongoing case. It is charged with making 223 calls. The telephone protection law "was a well-intentioned law designed to prevent people from receiving unsolicited calls from telemarketers where the receiver gets charged," says Struve. Kinder claims his device is a pager, and he has to pay for incoming calls, "but it is

not a pager." Struve's client consists of doctors trying to contact patients.

Ronald Stargis, a Sacramento lawyer, won against Kinder in small-claims court. Stargis was able to show that a dialing machine used by a collection agency was "not statutorily defined as an automated dialing device," he said.

As the current case proceeds, such arguments will ring out in superior court. Call it Kindergarten. ■

Condos come

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impact fees, fees that are charged to address the impact of increased density and population in a community. The community supported raising those fees several years ago, and they were smart to do so, because during the upturn in the real estate market, the City collected millions of dollars that have been allocated toward infrastructure projects."

Trilogy on 5th

3265-3285 Fifth Avenue
5 stories
25 units, 5 per floor
17 floor plans, 1166-2858 square feet
2-3+ bedrooms
Price: \$615,000-\$1,350,000
Completion date: March 2008
Amenities: Nine- to ten-foot ceilings in living areas; hard-surface flooring in entries, kitchens, and baths; plush carpeting; granite countertops in kitchens and baths; top-quality appliances; and a double party-wall system for sound insulation.

Four blocks south of the temporary sidewalks of Atlas at Hillcrest Phase II, located on the corner of Fifth and Thorn, Trilogy on 5th occupies the former site of an old Craftsman house, that, according to the builder's website, was the home of a man named Deroy Spaulding. The Waverly Electric Car Company, a Midwest firm that, according to the Indiana Historical Society's website, was "the first company to successfully produce several battery-powered vehicles for neighborhood use" during the early 20th Century, also had an office in that block.

Trilogy's builder, San Diego-based Mayfair Homes,

says that Trilogy on 5th "has retained several historical features of the Spaulding residence, recreated architectural elements of the Waverly building, added a third, more contemporary facade, and incorporated all into an eclectic, eye-appealing design." Along with the original mail-slot, some of the wood and bricks from the old Craftsman-style home were reused for the porch, says a Trilogy sales associate. The design for the entrance was also intended to incorporate some of the original appearance of the home.

Sean Morton, owner of Flowers by Sean one block north of Trilogy at Fifth, has a conflicting opinion of the multicolored building, "It's definitely good for business, but I think the building is a little tacky — it's six different colors and just ugly." Morton can see both points of view on the arrival of new mid- and high-rise condominiums to the area. "For business, it's a great thing, but as a resident I can definitely see the concerns that a lot of the community is having."

According to a sales associate at Mayfair Homes, 23 of the 25 residences are currently available.

Mi Arbolito

Sixth Avenue and Upas
14 stories, 148 feet tall,
14 units, 1 per floor
1 floor plan, 2258 square feet
2 master suites, 2 baths
Prices: start at \$1,100,000
Completion date: fall 2008
Amenities: Twenty-five linear feet of floor-to-ceiling window wall, a fully wired entertainment center, low-voltage track lights in living and dining areas, stainless steel appliances, a three-bowl stainless-steel Elkay sink with Grohe fixtures, Italian porcelain tile, granite countertops, French doors that lead out to a wrap-around balcony, master suite with hardwood floors and floor-to-ceiling window facing Balboa Park, shower with etched frameless glass, Roman tub.

Two blocks north of Trilogy, on the northeast corner of Sixth Avenue and Upas Street, stands the residential tower Mi Arbolito. The 14-story building, buttressed up against one of the few high-rise condominiums in Hillcrest, 666 Del Prado, sits on the edge of the manicured grass of Balboa Park.

The developer of the slender high-rise building is

continued on page 12

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CITY LIGHTS

Condos come

continued from page 10

Delaware-based 1700 Investors, LLC, though the design is by San Diego architectural firm Martinez and Cutri, whose other works include Prospect Point in La Jolla and the Hyatt Regency Hotel expansion in San Diego.

According to the Martinez and Cutri website, Mi Arbolito is "destined to be the most prestigious and exclusive residential tower in all Southern California."

Architect Richard Benson feels that the location and design for Mi Arbolito are in tune with the surrounding area. "It's the appropriate place for a high-rise.... It should be done with the immediate area serving as a context for the scale of the design."

The views to the south are of downtown San Diego, and to the southwest, the panorama is sure to offer sights of the bay. Views to the east are blocked by 666 Del Prado.

Ron Getchey, president of 666 Del Prado's homeowners' association, isn't happy with the new neighboring building, and he isn't thrilled with the San Diego Planning Commission for allowing the pro-

CITY LIGHTS

ject to be built. "I headed the litigation against the building for the year that the project was on hold, and let me tell you...the entire process between the developers and the commission was not objective."

Chris Burch lives three buildings down from Mi Arbolito in a 100-year-old former Spanish mansion that has been converted to apartments. "I really like the old buildings. I would like to see new construction that matches the old city architecture, and I really hate the fact that in order to give a great view to someone else you have to take it away from another. I mean, without the high-rise, I would have a view of the park. There should be a law against it."

Three of the 14 units have been sold.

Biarritz

Sixth Avenue and Redwood
 11 stories
 37 units
 1700-4500 square feet
 Prices: \$1.4-\$5 million

The fourth condo project, Biarritz, is four blocks south of Mi Arbolito, across Sixth Avenue from Balboa Park. Construction on the proposed luxury condominiums has

CITY LIGHTS

stopped a dozen feet above ground, and the fenced-off construction site is devoid of workers as well as any sign of recent activity. Previously owned by Mayfair Homes, the project was in the hands of San Diego National Bank as of last week. Reliable sources say the bank is currently negotiating with another developer. Loan management at the bank declined to comment.

The sluggish housing market continues to show dismal results for developers. Out of the 105 currently available units, only 44 have sold.

According to Councilwoman Atkins, the City is seeing the effects of the sluggish market. "We have seen a slowdown in residential project development and plans in the pipeline at the City's Development Services Department."

Atkins is aware that some Hillcrest property owners and residents are troubled by the condo developments. "There is significant concern from community residents that infill projects may destroy the village character of Hillcrest. I am concerned that there are structures that are more than 45 years old that may be deemed historic but which are being demolished at a high

CITY LIGHTS

rate to make way for infill projects that may not be in character with the surrounding neighborhood."

John Castle, owner of several Hillcrest apartment buildings, is disappointed by the high-rise trend. "I feel that the older buildings add character to the community and that bringing in large complexes loses some of that character."

Despite the slowing of plans coming to the City, and despite the pleas from some of Hillcrest's community members and property owners, the residents of Hillcrest will in time once again have to cope with the sounds of diesel-powered construction coming into the neighborhood. In addition, commuters should be prepared to weave their way in NASCAR-like fashion through blocked lanes of traffic taken up by construction vehicles.

And after the new citizens of Hillcrest move into condos such as Atlas at Hillcrest, Trilogy on 5th, Mi Arbolito, and perhaps, eventually, Biarritz, and once they become settled, they too will join the debate on the development of Hillcrest. ■

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SanDiegoReader.com/letters. Include your name, address, and telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

What About Soccer Dads?

Please fire the person who approves your cover titles. In "Soccer Moms Are the Absolute Worst" (Jan-

uary 10), the article discusses parents who pressure and berate coaches, referees, and their children involved in youth sports, but the title is based on one recount in which mothers grumbled amongst themselves about team rosters, not about their children's performances. Of the article's 21 "bad behavior" vignettes in which gender was identified, only 3 of the stories (including the "soccer mom" one) were about mothers, and the other 18 were about fathers acting poorly. And yet you also chose to highlight one of the other three "mother" stories in a textbox in the article's opening spread! Is the image of high heels on a basketball court too titillating to pass up? Your title is misleading and grossly inconsistent with the article itself. Why the cover's inaccurate gripe against mothers as the main offenders, when the article suggests that sports fathers are "the absolute worst," if anyone must be called that?

Larissa Leroux
via email

Issues Exposed

Regarding your cover story "Soccer Moms Are the Absolute Worst" (January 10), your author exposed a lot of common issues in youth sports. I have coached Little League, recreational, and competitive youth as well as high school soccer over the past 25 years, and I can relate to most of the stories in your article. I have seen the good and bad parents and good and bad coaches and the effect they have on the kids and teams. Great article.

Mike Usher
via email

Sometimes Ya Gotta Yell

Regarding the cover story on soccer moms ("Soccer Moms Are the Absolute Worst," Cover Story, January 10). First, Bill Walton's photo is funny. It looks like he's got basketball clones he's creating to take over the world. But in regards to Walton's comments on coaches not yelling at kids, he totally misses the boat

on that. He is a hall of fame basketball player, and I respect his opinion, but it does not make sense to say that coaches at the college level cannot yell at kids. His coach, John Wooden at UCLA, didn't have to yell because he coached people like Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Bill Walton, who were the best centers who ever played. Coaches like Phil Jackson of the Lakers, they don't yell, and they do all this coaching and Buddha and giving books on philosophy to players, and that doesn't work. It's not working for the Lakers now. It only worked when they had Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant, two future hall of fame players. So Bill Walton needs to realize that not everybody is from the '60s and believes in this love everyone and no yelling. I wonder what he'd think of military boot camps.

Paul Nelson
Mira Mesa

Too Hot To Cheer

I enjoyed reading the "Soc-

cer Moms Are the Absolute Worst" cover story issued January 10. I find it amazing (in both a comical and disgusted way) how some parents and/or coaches conduct themselves when involved in a youth sports league. I have both witnessed and experienced out-of-line and over-the-top reactions during youth sporting events many times.

The most recent one that comes to mind doesn't even involve any verbal abuse. It doesn't even involve any abuse that one could witness someone actually physically doing. In September of this past year, I attended a Mighty Mites (ages seven to nine) football game in Santee. The game started at 10:00 a.m., and you would think the weather could be halfway decent at this hour. However, on this day the temperature had already reached above 100 degrees and was still rising at a slow pace. All of the adults attending the event, including

continued on page 64

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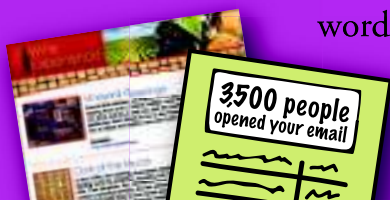
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San Diego Reader January 17, 2008 15



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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP

BY MATTHEW ALICE

Illustration by Rick Geary



Heymatt:

What's up with the Chia Pet? Why every Christmas are we bombarded with ads for these weird things? Where did they come from? Who buys them? Some things in the world need an explanation. This is one of them.

— Chia Pest, San Diego

Our favorite Christmas trick was the year Grandma soaked the elves in the tub, lined them up in the living room window, and sprinkled them with chia seeds. Chia Elves, I think she said they were. We had to get rid of them when the green stuff died and they started to smell pretty bad.

The original chias, at least 50 years ago, came from Mexico. A combination of traditional, handmade bull- and ram-shaped planters with native sage seeds. If you can keep the greenery alive long enough, you should get small blue flowers from the chia seeds. An American found them in Mexico and started importing them on a small scale into the U.S. For decades they chugged along slowly as a sort of weird, traditional Christmas trinket, a last-minute stocking stuffer, or a gag gift for the company Christmas party.

In the late 1970s, a marketing whiz from Chicago encountered the Chia Pet at a trade show, bought the rights to it from the original importer, and set about making sure we all knew about the amazing, educational clay figures. The line expanded to include Elmer Fudd and Homer Simpson and other licensed characters, the advertising department came up with the "Ch-ch-ch-chia" commercial jingle, and we were hooked. Why? No one really knows. It's just one of those off-the-wall things that catches some screwy part of the American imagination and makes a fortune for the manufacturer. About half a million chias are sold every Christmas and, presumably, thrown out every Fourth of July. And chias are now made in ch-ch-ch-China, like everything else. We have no better explanation for the strange Chia Pet.

Matthew:

There are lots of things I don't understand about TV. But one of the things I've wondered since I was first aware of TV is why there's no Channel 1. We've got hundreds of channels of junk, but no Channel 1. Is that the channel that used to have all the good stuff on it? Where did it go?

— Ted, San Marcos

Well, once upon a time, back in, oh, 1945 or so, the FCC started dividing up the airwaves for this newfangled TV thing that everyone wanted. They chopped the broadcast band into 13 parts and numbered them 1 to 13. Things went along okay for a while, until it became clear that the band-greedy TV was eating up some valuable radio space. You can fit about 600 radio frequencies into one TV channel, so the FCC lopped off Channel 1 and reassigned those waves to radio. And it's been that way ever since.

Dear Matt:

My uncle used to tell us a story about how his mother's hair turned white overnight after her husband died. We've never challenged him, but I've always wondered how that's possible, that somebody's hair could turn white overnight. So can you tell me?

— Nameless, via email

An old, old wife's tale. Stories of famous people turning white overnight go back centuries. Marie Antoinette is said to have gone white the night before she was beheaded, but wiser heads have said her hair was already white, you just didn't notice it under all her wigs. Anyway, hair once it's hanging off our heads is dead tissue. Nothing short of hair chemicals can change the color. A dermatologist from NYU finally addressed the question in a volume on hair and said these stories might come from an affliction called alopecia areata, a sudden overall loss of hair. It particularly strikes pigmented hair, not strands that have already turned white. So our subject is suddenly struck with alopecia, the darker strands fall out, and only the whiter strands are left. The overall effect is that all the hair has turned white. I'm sure it's too late to try this version on your uncle, though.

Hey, Matt:

Why when I spill something wet on a dress or a tablecloth or some other fabric, the fabric always turns dark? If the dress is light blue, the spill turns it dark blue. Why would it change color at all?

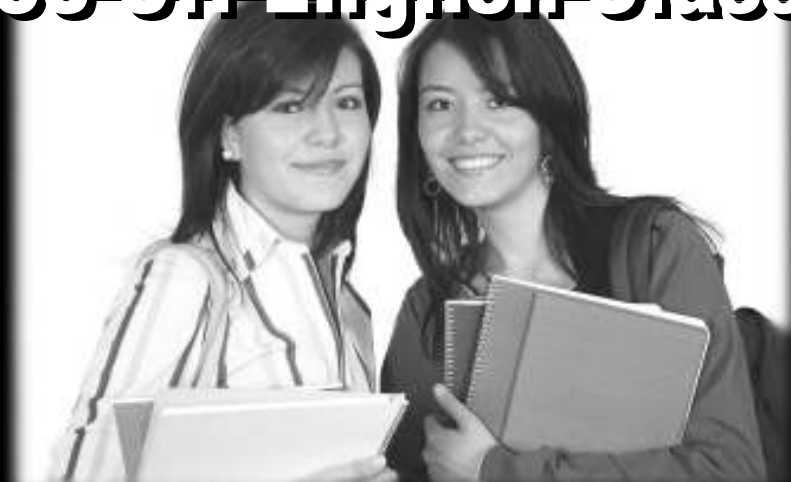
— Rhonda, via email

Before anything is spilled on the fabric, the light hits it and is reflected back pretty much unmolested. Add water to the mix, and things are much more complicated. The water scatters more of the light, scatters more of it into the fabric itself, so less light reaches your eye, and the spot looks darker than the original fabric color. It's as simple, or as complicated, as that.

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

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

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SportingBox

By Patrick Daugherty

Why The Chargers Will Beat The Pats And...

...destroy their perfection, thereby establishing athletic dominion over the continent, AFC-wise, and, at the same time, crush the hopes of little boys and girls living in Eastern Europe.

The Bolts will win for the simple reason that San Diego's first team will be on the field. The Chargers' brain trust finally deployed their best against Indianapolis, although not until the crucial fourth quarter. Happily, that turned out to be good enough. Playmaker Legedu Naanee, running backs Darren Sproles and Michael Turner, and especially first-string quarterback Billy Volek, sailed the Chargers into victory harbor. The defending Super Bowl champions are beaten by our varsity team. On to Boston.

The last time the Chargers went to New England, in Week 2, they lost 38-14. But, they were burdened by second-string players: Philip Rivers, LaDainian Tomlinson and a surprisingly spry, at the time, Antonio Gates. They lost. What else would you expect?

Another reason the Bolts will win is the Big Dig. The mammoth construction project was first talked about in the 1970s; work commenced on underground tunnels and above-ground bridges in 1991. You, reading this, have lived long enough to see the job finished. Be happy. The project was turned over to Massachusetts authorities two and a half weeks ago, although lawsuits will continue for decades. As consequence, the city is unemployed and will be drunk at kickoff time.

The Bolts will win because Peter King, sportswriter and sports-TV gossipmonger, wrote, "New England (17-0). Eight quarters shy of history, I can't see the Patriots losing. Not to the beat-up Chargers at home, or to the red-hot Giants or Packers."

The Bolts will win because the Gray Hoodie is too strange to go undefeated. Look at Bill Belichick's background. He was captain of the lacrosse team at Wesleyan University back in the day. He graduated in 1975.

Which brought him into the orbit of one Kevin Lempa, a shadowy figure in Belichick's life, who, besides being a San Diego Chargers defensive backs/defensive line coach from 1997 to 1999, was also a wide receiver coach for Wesleyan University in 1976, just one year after Belichick left.

Freaky.

The Chargers will win because Jay Mariotti, columnist for the *Chicago Sun-Times*, wrote, "This is the Patriots... They are a sure thing — and you always go with a sure thing. There is just no way the Patriots will lose...the Chargers have no better chance in Gillette Stadium than Rosie O'Donnell has of winning a beauty contest in a thong."

The Chargers will win because of Gary Callahan, sports columnist for the *Boston Globe*, wrote, under the head "Why bother showing up?" this about the Chargers/Indy game: "They didn't win a championship. Not even a conference championship. They won a second-round playoff game and earned the right to travel across three time zones to play the greatest team ever on a day that is expected to be colder than naked ice fishing. If this was a title fight, someone in the Chargers' corner would be screaming: 'Stay down! Stay down!'"

When that many sports columnists, writing for different outlets in different cities, all say the same thing, you know to go the other way. Think, buying a house at the top of the market.

The Chargers will win because it's time for the Patriots to lose. The Pats are no longer crushing every team they play. For bettors, this trend is more pronounced. New England is 15-8 against the spread (ATS) over their last 23 games, which means they've won games for themselves and then won the same games for bettors by covering the spread. This is what you would expect from a great team. However, New England is 1-6 ATS in their last seven games. At this point in the season, what counts is how a team is playing over their last two, three, four games.

Yeah, New England spreads have been high and, yeah, spreads are set to how people will bet not on matchups; even so, over the last six games, New England beat the Giants by 3 points, beat Baltimore by 3 points, and beat Philadelphia by 3 points. Another way of looking at those numbers is to consider that the Patriots have been one penalty call from losing any one of those three games.

On the other hand, San Diego is 5-0 ATS over their last five games. They're hot. And, here's a secret that apparently no one knows: the Chargers just beat the defending world champions, on their field, with backup players. Do you think that might mean something?

The Vegas Line

NFL Conference Championships (Home Team in CAPS)			
Favorite	Spread	Over/Under	Underdog
Sunday			
NEW ENGLAND	14	47 ½	San Diego
GREEN BAY	7	42	New York Giants
1st Half Odds			
NEW ENGLAND	8	24	San Diego
GREEN BAY	4	21	New York Giants
Money Line			
NEW ENGLAND	-900	San Diego	+600
GREEN BAY	-330	New York Giants	+260
Super Bowl XLII Winner			
Money Line			
New England	-365	San Diego	+900
Green Bay	-510	New York Giants	+1550

The Sporting Box can be found at SanDiegoReader.com

SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: Presbyterian Church USA
Address: 4474 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights, 619-955-6718
Founded locally: September 2007
Senior pastor: Stephen Phelan/Edgardo Avila
Congregation size: 130
Staff size: 4
Sunday school enrollment: 40
Annual budget: n/a
Weekly giving: n/a
Singles program: singles community group
Dress: mostly casual, some semiformal
Diversity: very diverse
Sunday worship: 10:30 a.m.
Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 30 minutes
Website: harbormidcity.org

"A church for Ken-Tal," read the glossy cardboard flyer that arrived in my mailbox. The usual photos of lovely, multiethnic churchgoers were accompanied by the less usual word "skeptical." Ah. *Going for the affluent intellectual sophisticates of Kensington and Talmadge. But, hello — services in the Hoover High School auditorium? That's City Heights. What are these folks up to?*

"Buenos dias," said Pastor Edgardo Avila as he opened the (bilingual) service at Harbor Mid-City. "Good morning!" echoed Pastor Stephen Phelan. "Stand with me now as we move into God's presence and worship a God who is here with us and has come to transform our hearts through praise."

The band — drums, bongos, bass, keyboard, and a man on the woodwinds — busted into a rolling '70s groove. "Your faithfulness is so great/ Your faithfulness is incomparable/ No one is like you, my blessed God... *Tu fidelidad es grande/ Tu fidelidad incomparable es/Nadie como tu, bendito Dios...*"

The Spanish-speaking segment of the congregation filed out to hear the message in Spanish, and Phelan preached to those who remained. "This morning, we're going to be in Luke, and we're going to talk about one of the big sticking points — hell. People who are wrestling with the claims of Christianity say, 'How can there be a loving God who would fling people into hell?...' The answer we're going to get from our text is, 'People end up in hell because they choose hell.' I know that's really counterintuitive, so let's look at our text." "Skeptical..."

The story was about Lazarus the beggar and the rich man. "The rich man doesn't want anything to do with Lazarus.... He's coming out of his extremely nice house and looking at a guy whom dogs are taking chunks out of. For him, to get involved meant that he would have to get into the mess of life. And let me just make a little aside: throughout Luke...the rich man misses the Gospel and the poor man gets the Gospel. Why? Because wealthy people can write a check for life.... The notion is, you don't need God because *you* can make

things happen.... Here at Harbor...we need the poor man in the parable to help us as a church to get the Gospel, to help us learn about who we are.... Those in the streets know that they're broken, they're weak, and they're needy. That's the fundamental condition that God wants us to be in. We're seeking to be a bridge church, bringing together the rich and the poor."

Getting back to his point, Phelan noted that the rich man, once he had died and gone to hell, didn't ask to go to heaven. He asked to have Lazarus come down and bring him water. "He says, 'Send that beggar to me!' He thinks he's still in charge." To explain, Phelan quoted G.K. Chesterton: "Hell is God's great compliment to the reality of human freedom." There are people who reject God all their life, and at the end of their life, God says, 'Thy will be done.' God's not going to force himself on people."

But what about hellfire and torment?

Phelan cited C.S. Lewis's account of the way a sin — say, grumbling — becomes ingrained and eventually identified with a person, to the point where, in eternity, "there will be no you left...just the grumble itself, going on and on forever, like a machine." That's what hell is — when those hellish character traits burn for the rest of our lives and become who we are. The rich man no longer exists as a person; he has become pride and arrogance embodied."

Phelan called on the faithful to offer up the prayers of the faithful. For the church: "We pray that the church would be able to draw people closer to you, instead of repelling people, making them angry with you and with faith." For San Diego, especially its college students: "For moral purity — the age is not

friendly to Christianity." For the world: "We ask that we would be able to reach to the homeless, to the hungry, to the drug addicts, to those we don't want to reach out to. Christ never was a person to shy away from people."

The Spanish-speaking contingent returned for the Lord's Supper — "the gathering of God's family." Phelan encouraged those who had not committed themselves to Christ to refrain from receiving, "not because we want to exclude you...but because Jesus set this meal up as a way for His body to feed spiritually on Him."

What happens when we die?

"There are people who want to be with Jesus," said Phelan, "and they put their trust in Him, and their heart is aligned with Him, and so they spend eternity with Him. There are people who have rejected Jesus, and they don't want to be with Him, and so they spend eternity apart from Him."

— Matthew Lickona

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com



STEPHEN PHELAN

Harbor Church Mid-City City Heights

★★½

Sermon

content.....★★★
 delivery★★★

Liturgy.....★★★

Music

congregational.....★★
 band★★½

Snacks★★★

Architecture.....★½

Friendliness.....★★½

Poor to satisfactory.....(none)

Good★

Very good.....★★

Excellent★★★

Extraordinary★★★★



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— EVE KELLY

"Biotherapy? In La Mesa?" asked my husband as we strolled through town admiring the new shops. "Sounds like something you should check out."

The next day, I sat down with Jim Felt, executive director of Stowe Biotherapy Medical Oasis (619-697-5614; thestowefoundation.org). Felt showed me around and then set up a conference call with Dr. Lawrence Stowe, managing director of the Stowe Foundation and a health and science advisor for the Biotherapy Research Institute, a nonprofit research and development company for biological medicine and immune therapy.

"Biotherapy has to do with the biological environment of the cells of the human body," explained Stowe. "It involves using the right biological agents to treat biological tissues, organs, and glands. Every tissue, organ, and gland in your body is controlled by the body's bioterrain, which is in turn controlled by a number of factors: how hydrated it is, how oxygenated it is, whether there's the presence of infection or an accumulation of toxins. Diet affects your bioterrain — do you have the right amino acids, fats, sugars, carbohydrates? It's also affected by what we call biologically active energy fields. For instance, if you expose bodily tissue to the wrong frequency of vibration, it will cause cellular death. But the right frequency of vibration can accelerate health. The energy fields surrounding the cells are just as critical as the biochemicals, and biotherapy involves actively controlling and managing those fields."

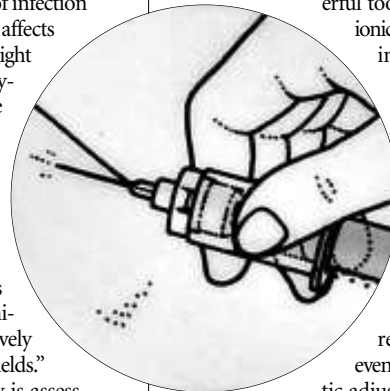
The first step in biotherapy is assessment. "We look at how the human immune system is performing," explained Stowe, "because that's what's responsible for the repair and regeneration of the body. Our efforts are coordinated through a person's physicians." It starts with "a sophisticated series of blood tests. We also do hair and stool analysis. And we have a device called a Inergetix CoRe that can do a systemic, total-body evaluation of the energy fields."

Stowe evaluates the functionality of a person's immune system by determining the degree to which they suffer from PITTTS syndrome. "Each letter has a meaning. 'P' stands for poor nutrition. Even if you're eating a healthy diet, you can still have poor nutrition if your digestive tract isn't functioning properly or if your enzymes aren't breaking down your food. We do a complete evaluation of the metabolic processes. If nutritional deficiencies are detected, we suggest targeted nutritional supplements. If you're deficient in the omega-six family, we'll recommend evening primrose oil. If it's omega-three fatty acids, we'll recommend fish oil. And we tell people where they can get supplements that will be biologically active in the body."

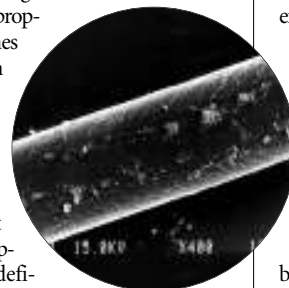
"I" stands for infection. "Almost every chronic illness," said Stowe, "is associated with an underlying pathogen — such as a virus, bacteria, amoeba, or parasite. Once a pathogen has been detected — through blood work — a patient-specific supplement can be created. The pathogen is harvested, grown in a large colony, and then killed. Then, if you inoculate a chicken that is about to lay an egg, the chicken will react to the antigen and form



1



2



3

"Stress patterns related to finance disturb certain areas of the central nervous system."

transfer factors. The transfer factors will end up in the egg yolk, and can be transferred into the oral peptide supplement. The domestic supplement manufacturers we utilize use chickens as bioreactors, just like the big pharmaceutical companies do."

"I" stands for toxins. "Hair analysis helps us because toxins get stored in your hair. The vast majority of toxins in the human body are metabolic waste products that are somehow not being eliminated. They can also be chemicals or heavy metals. We use different therapies to neutralize or remove their effects. One therapy works by ionic replacement. If you have an enzyme that's built to have a certain amount of zinc on it, and the zinc gets displaced by mercury, the enzyme can't perform its function. We can use fulvic acid to create an ionic exchange between a trace mineral like zinc and a heavy metal like mercury." But "what separates us from everybody else" is that "we combine the biochemical processes with energy processes — there's always some type of energy field that has to be manipulated in order for a biochemical reaction to optimally occur. There's an electrical field that leads to how tightly bound the toxin is with the enzyme, and a magnetic field is a powerful tool for disrupting those ionic forces. Or we'll use a far-infrared sauna to temporarily get the heat that it takes to drive chemical reactions."

The next "T" stands for Trauma. "Trauma can be either physical or emotional. Physical trauma may require surgical intervention to realign the body — or even just a simple chiropractic adjustment. This helps the energy meridians of the body to flow freely. For emotional trauma, we use the Genie machine." (More on that next week.)

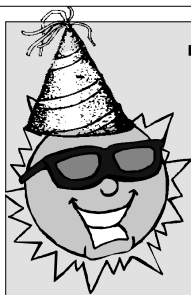
Finally, "S" stands for stress. "Stress is an energy disturbance, but it gets back to the things you do on a day-to-day basis — the lifestyle choices you've made. You can choose whether you lead a stress-free life. We can detect certain energy disturbances because different types of stress influence different organs. Stress patterns related to finance disturb certain areas of the central nervous system, while stress patterns associated with interpersonal relationships disturb a different part. Because every part of the brain is in communication with a different part of the spine, looking at energy disturbances along the spine gives us a good clue as to a person's stress patterns." The functional study then provides matter for the evaluation of choices.

Stowe listed four pillars of health — mind, body, spirit, and emotions — and said that biotherapy seeks to put these in balance. "Mind is what you are educated to know. We provide all of our science-based studies so that people can believe in what's going on here. The body is addressed through biological agents and practices. We address the spirit by being nonjudgmental, but we try to encourage people to stay in tune with what they believe — their faith, whatever it may be. And to deal with the emotions, we use the Genie machine."

Next week: the Genie machine.

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1. Dr. Lawrence Stowe
2. Drawing blood for analysis
3. Magnified strand of hair



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by Barbarella

When the wine goes in, strange things come out.

— Johann Christoph Friedrich von Schiller

David opened a second bottle of wine and circled the room refilling glasses. Our guests were neighbors from the building next door whom I had ogled through binoculars and with whom, while passing by on the city streets, I'd shot the breeze. It was surreal to see such familiar strangers sitting in my living room. The conversation had followed the usual getting-to-know-you lines, with each person delivering a brief history of themselves. After learning about Eric's new job as the manager of Neiman's, a lull settled over the party.

I was about to offer up more of David's homemade rum cake when Kimberly jumped to a standing position, set her glass on the table, and exclaimed, "Hey! Y'all want to see my party trick?"

Rare is the person who would refuse an offer of entertainment. All heads nodded emphatically. While Kim prepared herself mentally and physically for her demonstration, the rest of us discussed the concept of the party trick.

"I've never heard anyone actually refer to them as 'party tricks,'" I said. "Usually, someone just says, 'Yo, look at what I can

do."

"I can put my fist in my mouth," said Shawn, Kim's husband.

"Yeah, so can I," I said. "But does that count as a 'trick?'"

"Of course," said Shawn. I wondered why the fist-in-the-mouth thing was so enthralling to people. The first time I did it, in response to a dare, those around me were astonished. As Kim removed her charm bracelet and set it on the counter, I pondered the possibilities: *Is the fist-in-mouth a sexual thing? No, too bizarre-looking, and then it would be weird for Shawn to be doing it. Maybe a comedy thing. Yeah, that must be it.*

"My friend Mary has a party trick," said Robert, interrupting my thoughts. "She pulls her underwear up over her shoulders." Before I'd finished wincing at the mental image of an extreme Melvin, Kim dropped to her knees and a hush fell over the room. She placed her splayed

hands on the rug, and situated her head equidistant between them. Then she rocked forward until she gained enough momentum to hoist her legs above her. The feat of upside down balance was dazzling enough, but *Cirque du Kimberly* wasn't over yet. Slowly, she spread her legs apart until she was nearly doing the mid-air splits, and then she dexterously scissored her legs forward and back. The room erupted into applause as everyone marveled at the demonstration, save for Shawn, who was familiar with his wife's offbeat ability.

When Kim returned to her seat and snatched up her glass, the air in the room seemed more buoyant; by displaying her lighthearted trick, she had shattered what was left of the ice between us. After Kim's one-woman talent pageant, the talk was all tricks. Kim explained how her trick originated during a visit with her sister-in-law. After a few drinks one night, Shawn's sister Stephanie asked Shawn and Kim to reveal their party tricks. Shawn went about cramming his sizeable fist into his not-so-giant muzzle. Kim, however, confessed she didn't have anything. Stephanie, who hypocritically had no trick of her own, told Kim she'd better think of one fast or see herself to the door. Kim balked at first, but when Stephanie pulled the ol' "It's my house" routine (and, as Kim remembers, there was plenty more party to be had), it struck her that, as a child, she had been able to stand on her head. After a failed attempt or two, and with Shawn holding her skirt against her legs for the sake of decency, Kim succeeded, and was granted another drink. The scissoring was a recent flourish.

When one displays a unique ability, it

surprises and delights a crowd. Or grosses them out. At a few parties in high school, I'd witnessed people risk injury by attempting (and succeeding) to ignite gas expelled from their buttocks. Sometimes, tricks can take on a freak-show quality, as is the case with those who are double-jointed or minored in circus arts.

When asked what he could do, David shrugged. "I don't have a party trick," he said with a frown. "But I do have a super power," he offered hopefully, and explained that if a party at someone's house ran through the night, he could prepare a gourmet breakfast from whatever foods he found in the fridge and cupboards the following morning.

"That doesn't count," I snapped, perhaps a bit defensively. Aside from wiggling my ears and raising each of my brows independently — both pathetic facial twitches that paled in comparison to headstand scissors — I had nothing. If the rest of my friends had tricks, they were holding out. I began to wonder about all the delightful, lull-busting amusements I'd been missing out on.

Outside the party context, I asked around. I learned that my friend Janet used to press a thumbtack into her big toe. This earned her a lot of free drinks for a while, as people bet she wouldn't puncture her piggy (what she hadn't told them was that, due to a childhood accident, all feeling in that toe was lost). But, tragically, during one such performance at the age of 28, Janet's toe tingled back to life, and she was forced to retire the trick. My friend Sarah, a paragon of maturity, said goodbye to her trick long before she became a high school teacher.

I learned that my friend Janet used to press a thumbtack into her big toe. This earned her a lot of free drinks for a while, as people bet she wouldn't puncture her piggy.

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Sarah used to wow friends with her aptitude for erucation — she could burp the entire alphabet without pause, and without the aid of a carbonated beverage.

Ollie said he could sing like Kermit, after which I made a mental note to give him some extra wine at my next gathering. Next time I see Al, I plan to throw him three random objects à la the Flying Karamazov Brothers — apparently, Al can juggle *anything*. I've

seen Ron make the monkey face, but that ape-dance thing he mentioned sounds a lot more exuberant.

I'd be happy to watch tricks all day, but Kim thinks the good stuff should be reserved for parties. "You can't just walk into a place with everyone all sober and bust out your party trick," she said, as David opened a third bottle. "If you bust out your trick after everyone's had a few drinks, though, people

will just be amazed."

"I know I was," I said. "Party tricks are fun," said Kim. "You get to learn something personal about someone, and you get to make people laugh and go, 'No shit. You can do that?'"

"It's like you read my mind," I said. Then, as there were no more tricks to be had for the moment, I ventured, "Does anybody want some more of David's homemade rum cake?" ■

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San Diego Reader January 17, 2008 23

ROCK



Meknes

CKIN' BABY BOOMERS

By half past nine, all of the pool tables at Bar Leucadian are taken, and fortysomething couples line the bar like birds on a wire. They are exposing an inordinate amount of cleavage and chest hair, and I watch as a man in a suit and gleaming leather shoes orders a drink. He looks around self-consciously at the others, who wear stonewashed jeans two sizes too small.

Most are turned toward the band, playing at the front under a surfing video and a sign that spells out “Illicit Behavior” in alternating colors of Day-Glo paint. Illicit Behavior is now several minutes into a Ted Nugent cover, and each musician — from the drummer pounding out the beat to the lead singer — is intensely focused. Their heads are down as they play, and when they look up, they look at each other, nodding in time to the beat. They don’t seem to mind that the dance floor is empty except for Sergio, a 22-year-old rocker in the heavy metal band Axson. He wears black lace-up leather pants with chains and has long, curly hair, which he shakes wildly while he repeatedly makes the heavy metal hand sign over his head.

Sergio stands in sharp contrast to the members of Illicit Behavior, who are a far cry from the undernourished-looking twentysomethings that usually skulk onstage, belting out angry lyrics. Most of the members of Illicit Behavior have receding hairlines and deeply lined faces. They wear baggy jeans and T-shirts. And they are each old enough to be Sergio's father.

A man with white hair, shorts, and flip-flops tries to get the women at our table to dance, but the six of us shake our heads. "It's usually a lot more wild than this," says my friend Sarah, a neighbor of the lead singer, Marcus Matherly. Last month when Illicit Behavior played, women were flipping up their shirts and trying to jump onstage. Now I watch as several women — lined up hopefully against the



Double Vision

wall — play with an inflatable microphone. It's so large that when a woman holds it up, it hits her knees.

"Hey," Matherly yells over to them after a Led Zeppelin cover. "Is that the biggest thing you've ever had between your legs?"

The musicians I listened to while I was

growing up in the '80s did not have receding hairlines or wrinkles. They had Mohawks and leather jackets. They partied all night, free of worries about how their children were doing in school — probably because they didn't have kids. Most didn't even have wives. But now it's not unusual to see middle-aged men and women onstage, playing way past rock-star prime.

Bono is 47. Joe

Walsh is 60, and Mick Jagger is 64. They are all still playing, mostly to sold-out crowds. Locally, quite a few bands with baby boomers at the mic play clubs monthly; many more play at weddings and corporate events.

"I know lots of other people doing this too," says Phil Beaumont, who, at 40, is a former manager of God Machine and a musician and singer in

Maquiladora, who have put out six CDs in the last decade.

Tim Mays, owner of the Casbah and widely regarded as the glue of the San Diego music scene, says that he sees older musicians in all kinds of bands, including rock, punk, metal, jazz, rockabilly, and country. "I think anyone out playing music that they love and enjoy playing is great — old or young. There are bands like X,

TSOL, Adolescents, and others, who are all punk rock bands from the early '80s that are still out playing, enjoying themselves, and drawing decent crowds."

I ask Matherly, Illicit Behavior's lead singer, why he still plays. "Hey, it's not like I'm an athlete and past 35 I can't play 'cause my body hurts too much," he says. "With music, you're never done. You can play till you're 80. In fact, I sing better than I did in college. If you're good at it and you love it, why not?"

John Adams, who plays guitar and keyboards in Illicit Behavior, says, "I'm 52 going on 18." He's been playing music since he was 5, and in addition to playing in Illicit Behavior, he works at Band Central Station, a music store in Vista he's been involved with for the last 15 years and owned for 4. "I don't see me quitting playing," he says. "It's just what I do. The music store makes my living, but it's just something to see me between gigs."



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Matherly — who looks years younger than his actual age, 44 — believes that older people play in bands longer because it's socially acceptable now in a way that it wasn't 30 years ago. "In the '70s, '80s, and even the '90s, rock and roll was about youth and anger. If you were 40, you were considered over the hill. Now there's a resurgence of older rock bands — Yes, Genesis, the Police, Aerosmith — and all those guys are in their 60s."

Another big change is in the music itself. John Adams explains his own musical version of evolution theory to me: musicians who played rock and roll in the '50s and '60s couldn't keep up with the changing times and dropped out. "The sounds changed," he tells me. "The amps got louder, the songs got



Maquiladora

more difficult than the three-chord that came out of the '50s. Music evolved."

Myhearpod.com, a company specializing in hearing aids for baby boomers, states on its

website, "Baby boomers are the first generation to be exposed to electronically amplified sound.

Perhaps a defining image of youth for this generation is that of booming drums and squealing electronic guitars played by rock bands like the Grateful Dead."

A common denominator among many baby boomers playing rock and roll is that they grew up playing music in their homes. John Adams started piano at age 5, played drums in the school band when he was 9, and got into guitar when he was 13. Matherly's parents were flower children in the '60s, and he was introduced to Jimi Hendrix at a young age. "I was always around music," he tells me. "My dad played guitar and had a great voice, and by the time I was 10, I discovered I had a voice and a gift in terms of being able to sing."

Hank Morton played guitar and keyboards for

four years in the indie band Ilya, which has put out several CDs and was nominated for awards at the 2002 and 2003 San Diego Music Awards, including Best New Artist, Best Alternative Album, and Album of the Year for *Poise Is the Greater Architect*. Morton also grew up with music, and he tells me stories about jamming with his brother and dad. As he talks, Morton runs his hands through his short blond hair, so that after a few minutes, it sticks up in tufts, much like his infant son's. It is only after our conversation that I notice the bald spot on the top of his head.

Paul Clark, who plays guitar in the classic rock band Meknes, is modest about his musical accomplishments. A native San Diegan, he speaks with the slow drawl of a surfer, but he

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becomes animated as he tells me about his first guitar. His parents brought it back from a trip to Tijuana when he was 7 and told him he could take lessons. In 1970, when Clark was 13 and had a paper route, he saved up \$300 and bought a one-year-old Martin guitar. "It's worth \$3000 now," he says, and in the next breath, he mentions that recently he found out that his father used to play jazz on the Santa Cruz pier. "He played every Friday night and sometimes on the radio, until he ran away to join the Navy and his mom sold his sax."

Richard Fish, a 48-year-old ophthalmologist who plays in the classic rock band Double Vision, can't remember a time when he didn't love to play. "I remember as a small kid holding make-believe guitars, pretending to play along with

Beatles records with my brother and cousins. Some of us took up an instrument, drums and guitar in my case, started playing a bit, then found other kids to play in a band with. As you get

sal," says Hank Morton. "You have a message or you want to create something beautiful. It's a universal thing, and it spans the generations." To Morton, band culture crosses all barriers,

"Girls who would never give you attention outside of a club are throwing themselves at you when you're onstage."

older, if you keep up with it, I guess there is some sense of wanting to go back a bit in time, playing the songs you grew up with and loved."

"The appeal for getting into music is univer-

including age, gender, and genre.

Another appeal, apparently, is the chicks. "Even as a happily married guy, it's fun getting attention from girls," Matherly tells me. "It's

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Dr. Robert Henry and his associates at the VA San Diego Healthcare System/UCSD are currently conducting a research study on Losartan Potassium compared to placebo and its effects on insulin sensitivity in people who are overweight and have elevated blood pressure.

You may qualify if you are:

- Male or female between the ages of 18-75
- Overweight
- Currently have mildly elevated to high blood pressure and are being treated with at most one high blood pressure medication
- Non-diabetic with impaired fasting glucose (blood sugar)

Participants will receive a medical screening at no cost by board-certified physicians and have the option to enroll in a research study after screening. Compensation up to \$800 will be provided to participants who qualify for the research study.

If you are interested please call:

(858) 552-8585 ext. 6740



Do You Suffer from Excessive Shyness?

Have you experienced intense fear of being embarrassed or evaluated negatively by others in a variety of social and performance situations such as:



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



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

If you are 18 years of age or older, and are interested in this research program, please call:

1-877-UCSD-SHY (1-877-827-3749)
or e-mail: veryshy@ucsd.edu

IS YOUR TEENAGER EXPERIENCING:

- Sadness or anger?
- Crankiness?
- Problems in school?
- Loss of interest in friends or activities?

These may be signs of depression.

PCSD~FEIGHNER RESEARCH

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

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

We are conveniently located in the Mission Valley area.

For more information about this study, please call toll-free:

1-877-FOR-INFO
1-877-367-4636





Do You Have Insomnia? Are You Taking Ambien?

California Clinical Trials is conducting a research study to determine if an investigational medication can be used to help patients stop taking Ambien.

Every study conducted by California Clinical Trials is staffed by a team of skilled and experienced physicians and medical professionals.

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

- You may receive up to \$500 for your time and travel.
- You receive investigational study medication and study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



858-571-1188

Toll-free 800-571-1188
www.cctstudy.com

Depression

**steals more than
your mood, it robs you
of life's pleasures.**



Are you between the ages of 18 and 55 and finding life hard to tolerate? Has your energy and motivation to enjoy your life decreased? Do you find even simple pleasures empty? If so, you may qualify to try an investigational medication being studied for depression.

California Clinical Trials has been assisting the pharmaceutical industry with finding new medications for depression. Every study conducted by California Clinical Trials is staffed by a team of skilled and experienced, caring physicians and medical professionals trained to place your comfort and well-being first.

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

- You receive up to \$500 for your participation.
- You receive no-cost research study medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



858-571-1188

Toll-free 800-571-1188
www.cctstudy.com



Are You A Night Owl Who Can't Fall Asleep Till Midnight (or Later)?

**Who me? Yes, you, the one who is up most of the night.
Have trouble getting up early in the morning?
Feel like you could sleep all day and should say, "who, who" all night?**

If you are healthy but have chronic problems falling asleep before midnight, you may qualify for a research study in our state-of-the-art sleep clinic and receive an investigational medication for poor sleep.

Every study conducted by California Clinical Trials is staffed by a team of skilled and experienced physicians and medical professionals trained to place your comfort and well-being first.

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

- You may receive up to \$2600 for time and travel.
- Receive no-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



858-571-1188

Toll-free 800-571-1188
www.cctstudy.com



We're looking for volunteers with Migraine Headaches

If you are between the ages of 18 and 65, in good health and suffer from an average of 2 or more migraines monthly, you may qualify to try an investigational medication being studied for the treatment of migraine headaches.

Every research study conducted by California Clinical Trials is staffed by a team of skilled and experienced physicians and medical professionals trained to place your comfort and well-being first.

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

- You receive \$250 for three study visits.
- You receive no-cost study-related medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



858-571-1188

Toll-free 800-571-1188
www.cctstudy.com

Type I Diabetes: How Does It Affect You?

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

The Profil Institute for
Clinical Research invites
you to participate in a
clinical research study
involving an investigational
insulin for people with
Type I Diabetes. You may
be compensated up to
\$1760 for your time.



You may be eligible to participate
if you are:

- Between 19 and 70 years old
- Diagnosed with Type I Diabetes
- Otherwise healthy

For more information, please call:

619-409-1244

Profil

Institute for Clinical Research

fun flirting. One thing with older musicians, you could have been the ugly duckling — you could still be the ugly duckling, and you're skinny and wrinkled — but you're the man. Girls who would never give you attention outside of a club are throwing themselves at you when you're onstage."

Fish of Double Vision tells me by email that his wife doesn't mind women throwing themselves at her husband. In fact, according to Fish, she still finds drummers irresistible, 22 years after she first saw him play. He adds, "I think that men are just grown-up boys. And to some degree, boys will be boys. Some guys hang at the bar with buddies, some are avid golfers or bowlers, and some are members of service organizations. And some of us are just playing in

rock-and-roll bands."

And yet, all of these reasons don't explain why these men are onstage. After all, it's not easy to be in a band while holding a day job and raising kids.

has to get ready at about four, drop off the equipment, set it up, and then play. On nights his band has gigs, he's lucky to come home by 3:00 a.m. "The next day, my six-year-old son wants me to

**"There is not a greater
high than getting up
onstage and commanding
the crowd. It's a sense
of power."**

"The hardest part is that I feel guilty when I practice," Matherly tells me. Illicit Behavior practices from nine until midnight every Tuesday night. On weekends that the band plays, Matherly

get up with him, and I'm exhausted all weekend."

Hank Morton, who's in his 30s, left Ilya because the touring became a strain after he got married and bought a fixer-upper house. "I

RESEARCH STUDIES



Do You Suffer From Recurrent Genital Herpes?

We are conducting a research study with an investigational medication to see if it helps reduce the healing time for genital herpes outbreaks.

To qualify, you must be at least 18 years of age, medically diagnosed with genital herpes, and be in good general health.

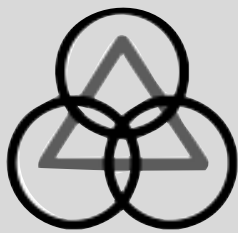
Qualified participants will receive:

- Study medication • Laboratory tests
- Study-related physical exams
- Compensation for time and travel

For more information, call:

619-521-2841

Medical Center for Clinical Research



SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER

"Together...we can make a difference!"

Do you or someone you love suffer from **Alzheimer's Disease?**

If you are:

- Male or female between 50 and 85 years of age
- Fluently read and speak English
- Are in good general health

You may be eligible to participate in a clinical research trial for an investigational new medication.

Participants will receive at no cost:

- Study-related exams • Investigational drug
- Compensation for travel-related costs to attend study visits

For more information, please call

toll-free: 1-888-486-9150



SYNERGY CLINICAL
RESEARCH

Are you **one** of the **17 million** people in America who currently have **diabetes?**

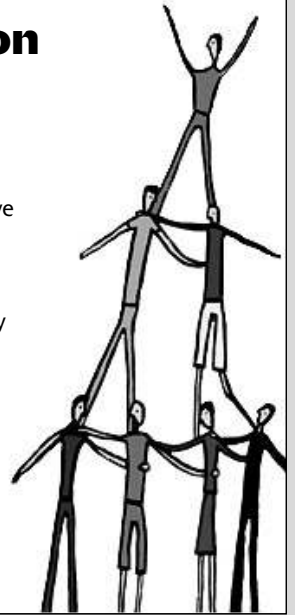
Would you like to help others like yourself in finding better treatment options? If you have type 2 diabetes or if you have experienced symptoms such as increased thirst, increased urination, increased appetite, and fatigue, and a diagnosis is confirmed by your doctor...

You may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study for a potential diabetes treatment. You may be eligible if:

- You have been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes and are currently being treated with Metformin
- You are between 18 and 75 years of age — Women must be surgically sterile or at least 2 years postmenopausal
- You are not currently being treated with any other antidiabetic medication other than Metformin

For more information, please call

toll-free: 1-888-486-9150



Have you or someone you know been diagnosed with **Bipolar Disorder?**

Are you currently receiving treatment with lithium, olanzapine, Larnotrigine, or valproic acid? Are you currently experiencing depression? You are not alone!

Synergy Clinical Research is conducting research studies for **Bipolar Disorder with Depression**. All study-related procedures will be provided at no cost. Participants will be compensated for time and travel after each completed visit. We understand...

Call Synergy Clinical Research toll-free at: 1-888-486-9150

Together...we can make a difference.



SYNERGY CLINICAL
RESEARCH

Worry Too Much?

If you worry excessively, can't relax; have persistent anxiety, tension, nervousness; have difficulty sleeping, concentrating, worrying about how you'll deal with each day; or upset stomach and muscle tension, you may have **Generalized Anxiety Disorder**.

You may qualify for a no-charge medical research study to test an investigational medication for the treatment of anxiety. All inquiries are confidential and no insurance is requested. Study-related evaluations, blood test, study-related pills and exams are at no cost and you will be compensated for visit, travel and expenses.

For more information, please call

toll-free: 1-888-486-9150

If you are one of the 15 million adults affected by depression, you may be eligible to participate in a research trial of a new depression medication now being studied.

You may be eligible for the study if:

- You are between the ages of 18 and 70
- You are experiencing symptoms of depression

All qualified participants will receive study-related care and study medication for up to 8 weeks at no cost.

**To find out if you qualify for this study,
or for more information, please call**

toll-free: 1-888-486-9150

or visit: www.parAGOnstudy.com

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 toll-free: 1-888-486-9150



SYNERGY CLINICAL
RESEARCH

www.synergysandiego.com

Do you or a loved-one have trouble sleeping?



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

burned out on it. All of a sudden, new stuff was dominating my life — I was building a business, I bought a house, and then my son Seth came along.” Since then, Morton has had another son, Spencer, now six months old.

Phil Beaumont of Maquiladora is the director of the Museum School, where he also teaches. “Our school has been trying to move into the new Children’s Museum,” he says when we talk in September. “I haven’t played a lot this year, and it’s been a heavy weight on my shoulders. For me, just the way our band is set up, and working as a teacher, it’s a matter of when we can tour. It requires planning and flexibility.” On November 30, the board of directors at the Children’s Museum decided that the museum would no longer house



Casbah owner Tim Mays

the school. Now Beaumont must search for a new facility as well as host “a number of fundraising events.”

So what keeps these guys practicing, memorizing lyrics, and getting up onstage? It’s not the money — everyone I spoke to said he was lucky to break even play-

ing at bars.

I am reminded of what Joseph Campbell, renowned mythology professor, once referred to as “peak experience” and of what Dr. Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, psychology professor at Claremont Graduate University, calls the “flow state.” In his book *Flow*:

RESEARCH STUDIES

Don't be in a *Holidaze*.

Are you smoking too much pot?



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

Follow through on your New Year's resolution! We want to help you stop.

For more information and to find out if you qualify, please call:
858-784-STOP (7867)
or visit our website at:
www.pearsoncenter.org



Profil Institute is looking for

HEALTHY VOLUNTEERS

To participate in a clinical research study
evaluating an investigational insulin.

You may qualify if you are:

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



**You may be compensated
up to \$1,500**
(2 overnight stays required)

For more information, call:
(619) 409-1243



Profil
Institute for Clinical Research, Inc.

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


The Psychology of Optimal Experience, Csikszentmihályi describes “flow” as “being completely involved in an activity for its own sake. The ego falls away. Time flies...your whole being is involved, and you’re using your skills to the utmost.”

Matherly says he wouldn’t feel complete unless he was singing. “As a musician, there is

nothing more. There is not a greater high than getting up onstage and commanding the crowd. It’s a sense of power. It’s an amazing thing, like surfing a really large wave, but it’s continuous.”

“I miss it when I don’t do it,” says Beaumont, of Maquiladora. “There’s those moments playing when your eyes close and it feels really

RESEARCH STUDIES



Trapped by Cocaine? Or any other mind-altering substance?

Cocaine Anonymous can help!

Call the San Diego help line today.

We’re here and we’re FREE!
Toll-free:
866-242-2248
or visit our website:
www.CASanDiego.org



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

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 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.

For more information about this study,
please contact:

(619) 688-6565

or visit us online at: www.ari-inc.com



Tired of the weight? A Type II diabetic?

Are you:

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

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

For more information about this study,
please contact:

(619) 688-6565

or visit us online at: www.ari-inc.com



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

Clinical research study for adults with depression.

If you or someone you know is:

- 18-55 years of age
 - Currently experiencing a depressive episode and have a history of recurrent depression
- You may be eligible to participate in this clinical research study.

Qualified study participants will receive:

- A comprehensive medical evaluation as it relates to the study
 - Supervised care by medical professionals during the study
 - Study medication at no cost
- Compensation for time and travel and an aftercare program may be provided.

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

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com



Is your Schizophrenia medication making you heavy?

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

You may qualify if you are:

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

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

For more information about this study, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com



Not sleeping?

Are you:

- Having trouble falling asleep?
- Having trouble staying asleep through the night?
- Between 18 and 64 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 may receive study medication and you will receive study-related physician consultations, study-related medical examinations, laboratory evaluations and follow-up visits at no charge. Health insurance is not required and compensation for time and travel is provided.

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

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com



Are YOU Postmenopausal?

If so you may qualify for a medical research study at Covance.

Covance San Diego is looking for women who are:

- Healthy & postmenopausal for at least 12 months
- Age 40 - 65
- Non-smoking for at least 3 months
- Able to complete a 6-day/5-night stay, plus 11 outpatient visits

Participants will receive all study-related exams and investigational medication at no cost and may receive up to \$5,000 for time and participation.

COVANCE

9665 Chesapeake Dr., Ste 200
San Diego, CA 92123

Please Reference Study 207547

TestWithTheBest.com or 866-818-3253



good. For those moments it's worth it. When I take the time to play, even an hour or so, I kind of win it back, you know?"

Paul Clark describes the first time Meknes played at the Serra Mesa street fair. "I was walking on air for three days afterwards," he says and then pauses. "Part of it is, I remember when I was younger playing, and I would force myself to play, and it was all about getting the chicks. But we're all established now and have pretty good

love lives, and that's not part of it anymore. It's kind of distilled down to the music and the camaraderie of the band. It's nice not having to impress people for personal gain — it's just a creative outlet."

Maybe older musicians have an even easier time of achieving the flow state because they have nothing more to prove — they are in it for the joy of playing.

"Once a band has been around for a certain amount of time," Tim Mays says, "they may come to realize that they're not going to be huge and make a ton of money, and at that point, they decide to go back to playing music for the reason they first started — fun."

Morton tells me, "Music was always something I wanted to do with my life. I wanted to play with a neat group of

people and create something that was lasting. In a lot of ways, we did that. The neat thing was to do something we were proud of, the act of recording an album and CDs that are still out there."

When I ask Morton if he'll go back to playing when his children are older, he hesitates. "I don't know," he says. "It wasn't anything great, but I'll always be able to have it. Seth might someday go through my things and see my CDs. It's the lasting power of art," he says. "It's what surpasses you."

"I've seen friends just stop playing, and I've seen friends that have kept on going," says Beaumont. "If it's something that feeds you, you keep going. That's why you get into music in the first place. 'Cause you dig it." ■

— Pamela Hunt-Cloyd



RESEARCH STUDIES



Do you have osteoporosis?

Are you concerned that you do?

You may qualify for this clinical research study.

Participants are needed for The POWER Study, a clinical research study of an investigational study drug that may reduce your chance of breaking a bone, a common risk of osteoporosis.

You may qualify for this study if you:

- are at least 65 years old
- had your last menstrual period more than five years ago
- have never broken a hip

Eligibility will depend on a range of criteria.

Study participants will receive study-related drug and medical care at no charge.

Compensation may be provided.

For more information about The POWER Study
or to see if you qualify call 1.866.993.2929
or visit the website at www.OsteoPowerStudy.com

SCHIZOPHRENIA SCHIZOAFFECTIVE BIPOLAR DISORDER MAJOR DEPRESSION

We may currently or in the future have inpatient and outpatient research studies involving investigational medications for the conditions listed above.

Qualified candidates will be reimbursed for time and transportation (\$50 for each inpatient hospital day and up to \$100 for each outpatient visit).

For more information, call: **858-566-8222**

The California Neuropsychopharmacology Clinical Research Institute, LLC
"CNRI, LLC"

Now Enrolling:

Clinical Research Study for Adults with

Type 2 Diabetes

If you are...

- Between 18 and 77 years of age • Currently taking Metformin or Glucophage®

You may be eligible to participate in a global clinical research study.

Participants may receive study-related medical care, study medication, laboratory work, and evaluations, at no cost.

To learn more about this study, please call

Ritchken & First M.D.'s Donna Perez at: 858-292-0108 x207

All calls are confidential.

MB102014

Partners Diabetes

CL-DD4178 09/07

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

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

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

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

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

Medical insurance is not required for study participation.

MEMORY LOSS FROM ALZHEIMER'S? GENE THERAPY



To date, no treatment used for Alzheimer's disease stops the disease; current treatments only temporarily reduce AD symptoms. *Ceregene*, a San Diego biotechnology company, and *Dr. Adam Fleisher* at UCSD are currently recruiting subjects for a Phase 1 clinical research study to test the safety of the experimental drug CERE-110. CERE-110 is injected directly into the brain through a neuro-surgical procedure. It works by adding a gene to nerve cells in the brain through the use of gene transfer (also called gene therapy). The nerve cells may then produce more nerve growth factor (NGF) which might improve the health and function of nerve cells involved in memory. All participants in this experimental procedure will receive CERE-110.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Age 50-80
2. Alzheimer's disease diagnosis
3. Stable health
4. Study partner for visits
5. Not on coumadin
6. No metal in body, i.e., pacemaker



For further information contact:
Christina Gigliotti, PhD at (858) 622-5800



ARE YOU AT LEAST 65 AND NOT GETTING RESTFUL SLEEP?

If so, you or a loved one may be interested in a research study of an investigational medication for insomnia in the elderly.

Qualified Participants Must:

- Have trouble either going to sleep or staying asleep
- Be at least 65 years of age

Study-related exams, laboratory tests, and study medication are provided at no cost. Qualified participants may receive up to \$2,450 in compensation for time and effort.

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



PACIFIC SLEEP MEDICINE SERVICES
1.866.410.6767



ARE YOU A NIGHT OWL?

Do you go to bed at a late hour?

If so, you should know about a research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of **Delayed Sleep Phase Syndrome (DSPS)**.

Qualified Participants Must:

- Be 18 and older
- Go to bed later than you would like

Qualified Participants Will Receive:

- All study-related care, exams and study drug at no charge
- Compensation for time and travel

ATTENTION HEAVY DRINKERS

**What if...
Your New Year's Resolution
was powered by
scientific research?**



Stop Drinking!

Find out if you qualify for a research program that may help you stop drinking and start the new year right!

For more information and to find out if you qualify, please call: 858-784-STOP (7867) or visit our website at: www.pearsoncenter.org

Cattery

"We attract people who love cats, people who hate people, oddities, rarities, quirky, flaky, fruity..."

A cloud of fog hangs over the mountains as morning begins at the Friends of Cats shelter in Flinn Springs, a small community just west of Alpine.

At 7:00 a.m., the day is already underway at Friends of Cats. The fluorescent lights are on, illuminating the shelter's series of rooms, each filled with resident cats. An array of colors and sizes, they lounge and perch and sidle along, some in clumps, others alone.



Friends of Cats started in 1927 as the vision of Maude Erwin, a young animal lover who founded the organization as a means of rescuing all manner of shelter animals from euthanasia before focusing its efforts on cats alone. Called first the Animal Rescue League and then Foundation of Cats, headquarters was in Bonita and then

Pacific Beach before the organization moved to its current location in Flinn Springs in 1966. To this day, Friends of Cats remains a no-kill shelter, meaning no cats will be "put down," unless they are suffering incurable pain.

And cats are everywhere; there are close to 360 of them at Friends of Cats' facility, a

building that, with its series of neatly spaced, off-white rooms and linoleum tile floors looks as if it were once intended as a medical office. The cats lounge in rooms lined with baskets and boxes and carpet-covered structures outfitted with places to bask and hide. There are cats in cages, in outdoor, meshed-in encampments, and at the back

of the building in special trailers organized according to their needs; these are low, red-and-gray buildings, complete with screened porches. There are cats in the hallways and cats in the office, a small space at the center of the main building, free-roaming cats that have been made permanent residents of the shelter. They nestle in cage-

HEALTH AND BEAUTY



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Jessica Simpson chose Kawesch Laser Centers.*

Free eye exam

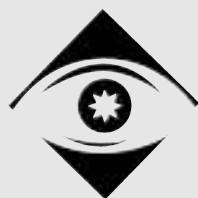
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liner blankets in the linen closet, on top of the microwave in the kitchen, and in little nests strategically placed on the floor.

For both staff and "residents," the Friends of Cats' daily routine begins with food. Robin Johnson, the head vet tech, stirs it into a large steel bowl like a chef mixing ingredients. Her auburn hair is cut into a chin-length bob and she wears a yellow-patterned medical scrub top.

"Everything we do is formulated toward what [the cats] want," she says, as a white shorthair dips its nose into the bowl for a taste. "Generally, since I'm in charge of medical, if I have happy cats, I have healthy cats."

Within the Friends of Cats' system, the cats have been broken down into categories. Indoors in the main building are the adoptable cats, the medical cases, the kittens, and, of course, the office cats. Outside, arranged around a small courtyard, are the "cottages," trailers that house feral or "shy" cats, the older "retiree" cats, chronic



Cats at shelter

peeing and biting cats (known as "the pee-ers and biters"), the pregnant mothers, and the feline AIDS and leukemia cats. All the cats housed there, aside from the mothers and their litters of kittens, are considered non-adoptable.

With paper plates of food on a tray, Johnson makes her rounds, stopping to talk to the cats in each of the rooms.

"Okay, kids!" she greets

the Nursery, a small spot containing two cages of kittens, "Hi, boo-boo heads!"

The kittens, a quartet of a brown and three orange tabbies, scamper to her outstretched hands, mewing in an off-tempo chorus. She pets them and continues her monologue.

"You guys grew a lot while I was gone!"

Johnson has been at Friends of Cats for nine years,

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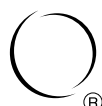
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before which she did merchandising for the Navy Exchanges as part of her father's business.

"It never was a career that I chose, I just kind of went into it because it was there," she says. "Then I was seeing my therapist and he said 'You know you could do whatever you want,' and I said, 'What do you mean, whatever I want?' He said, 'Well, what do you like to do?' and I said, 'I like football and I like cats.' And he said, 'I don't think you're going to do much in the football arena. Why don't you find out some more about taking care of cats?'"

Shortly thereafter, Johnson started taking classes. At around the same time, she also began to volunteer at Friends of Cats, casually at first.

"It wasn't long, a couple of months, and I was in love with this place," she remembers. "Not so much the place but the cats. I just felt like they absolutely needed me and I absolutely needed them and that was kind of it."

Johnson's story is not uncommon at Friends of

Cats; over the years, many people have felt the same way about the shelter. Dave Abeyta, who is in charge of maintenance for the shelter, began his career with Friends of Cats as a volunteer 13 years ago. A cat lover by nature, Abeyta decided to spend some time at the shelter, to relax during a difficult period in his life. He runs a hand through his salt-and-pep-

it started. So I just started coming every week, and then I started coming a little more.... And one thing just leads to another."

Recently, he was hired to take care of all the repairs and construction within Friends of Cats on a fulltime basis.

Others have become integrated into the Friends of Cats family in the same

Another unusual case was that of a kitten brought in without eyes, possibly the discarded prey of crows.

per hair.

"I came out here, and it was an oasis of calm, of peacefulness," he says, taking a break from cutting wood with a table saw. "I could come out here, spend a couple of hours just petting and grooming the cats, and my week was better. It was very moving and that's how

manner as Abeyta, starting small and quickly getting hooked. Barbara Auckland, the shelter manager, began at Friends of Cats as a kennel worker through her cleaning business. Four months later, she accepted her current title and has been at it ever since. She sits at her desk in the middle of the shelter,

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"We attract people who love cats, people who hate people, oddities, rarities, quirky, flaky, fruity, and some normal folk," Auckland says with a laugh. Her voice is tinged with an inflection that gives away her British origin. "Some of us here fit into one or more of those categories."

Cats rove in and out, jumping up to get some attention before moving on. Auckland barely notices; she is, obviously, used to this. She pauses at times to talk to the cats, each of which appears to listen.

Meanwhile, at the back of the shelter, Johnson must administer medications to all the cats with medical issues, which many of them have. She keeps track of who requires what on a large dry-erase board on which she's written the names of the cats, the medications they need, and a space to check off whether or not they've received it.

In the medical room, a small space set up with a steel-topped table and bins of supplies, Johnson lines up a series of needleless syringes containing oral medications, some of which are for hyperthyroidism, others for upper respiratory issues.

In addition, Johnson must contend with a handful of diabetic cats, whose conditions range in severity.

"They're very, very high

monetary and otherwise. In addition to receiving funds, they have a squad of dedicated volunteers who donate time and labor, and they also participate in shelter-specific programs with pet-supply manufacturers. This allows them significant discounts—Science Diet's program charges 25 cents a pound for dry food, for example. A local vet provides low-cost services when needed, which is

"It's going to be either buy the cat a can of food or take the bus. I can't do both."

maintenance and also very expensive," Johnson says, filling a syringe with pink liquid. "The [glucose test] strips are a fortune. Strips are, like, a buck apiece. It's crazy."

With all the feeding, watering, and especially medical care that Friends of Cats provides in its facility, expenses add up. Friends of Cats pays for its overhead not only via adoption and lifetime care fees but through donations,

often.

There have also been sizeable donations of a different origin; Friends of Cats has received some funds as the heir to several estates. The resulting sums have been varied, and oftentimes Friends of Cats is willed the deceased's feline companions.

"People pass away and leave \$10,000," says Auckland. "People pass away and leave cats in their will a set

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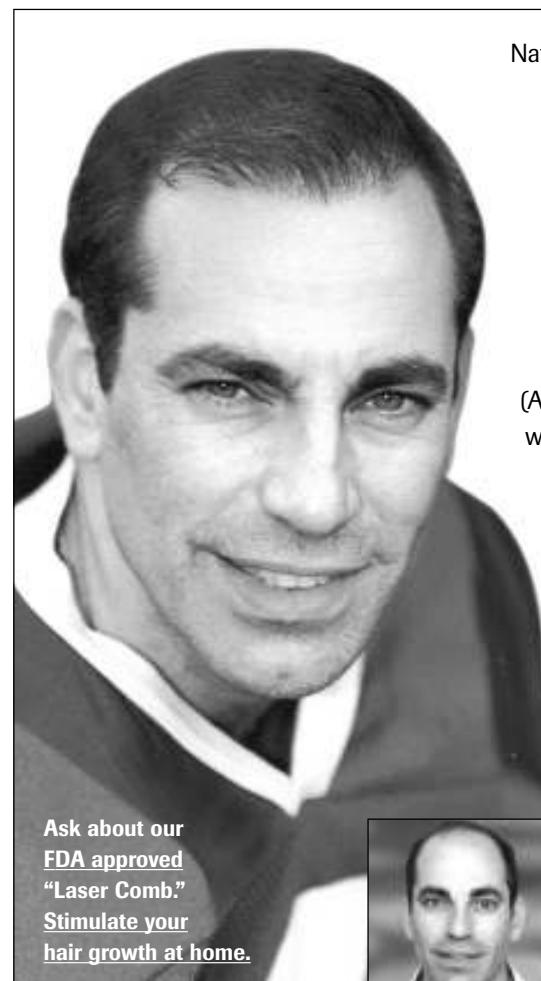
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fee of \$5000 per cat. People pass away and leave a house and no cats. I've seen a few people pass away who've left us a house. We sold. There have been two; one we got half of the funds, and one we got about two-thirds."

Auckland, who has been the shelter's manager for seven years, estimates that one of the houses brought in around \$200,000 to the organization. The house contained, however, she says, approximately 40 cats, most of which were feral. Some were able to go to homes; many, though, remain in the Shy Cottage.

Cats, when their lifetime care is totaled up, make for expensive pets and, within the shelter system, expensive residents.

"When we divided [the inheritance] amongst all the cats we had also received, and their care over the years, I think it worked out to about three dollars a cat," Auckland says.

While a number of older cats are placed in lifetime care, a program in which an owner pays or wills a set fee per cat to have it cared for over the duration of its life, most of the cats at Friends of Cats are given up by their owners and are not paid for. Auckland, with seven years of experience under her belt, cites myriad reasons why they might be and have been relinquished.

"People need to give up their cats because they're moving, or their owner is allergic or has had a lifestyle change," she says. "[They're] traveling, or somebody in the family died."

A white Persian catapults onto the desk.

"This is Molly," Auckland says, by way of introduction. "Molly is a lifetime-care kitty. She was given to us by an owner who was getting married, and new daddy was not a cat guy. Apparently Molly liked to pee on things, and new daddy wasn't going to put up with that, so Molly's mommy paid for us to care for Molly. She didn't want her adopted out. She wanted to know that she would be here and be safe forever and ever."

In addition to Molly, there are several other lifetime resident cats allowed free reign of the shelter. Some are lifetime-care cases; others are simply un-adoptable cats that have made their home at the shelter. Perhaps

the most well known is Nefertiti, a small Tonkinese with startlingly blue eyes and a nasty upper respiratory disease, who serves as the shelter mascot. Unadoptable due to her medical condition, Nefertiti spends her

days on top of the washing machine or climbing on staff members'—and visitors'—shoulders.

There's also Tabitha, a 25-pound gray shorthair that was adopted from Friends of Cats as a kitten and sub-

sequently found, years later, abandoned in a plastic tub in San Clemente. At the time, according to the vet who ended up with her, she was so large she was unable to escape. Back at Friends of Cats, as a lifetime resident

Tabitha now has her own spot in the office, a towel-covered nest next to a filing cabinet, with a sign reading "Tubbitha the Diva" to mark the spot.

In addition, there are a bunch of others, each of

whom has a unique personality and a set of medical or behavioral issues to match. Angel, a white Persian, has cancer. Ophelia, also a Persian, has asthma. Clorox, a white shorthair who was dumped off at the front gate

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one night, is deaf. Flaco, who hops up onto Auckland's desk, is a multicolored, ill-tempered yet still loved "pee-er." Leonardo, who joins him on the desk, is a lionlike Maine coon mix that Auckland adopted but later relocated to Friends of Cats due to his frequent urination — "He basically thinks we moved here," she jokes — to become part of the gang. Down the hall, in his "apartment," is Houston, who, according to Auckland, has a form of "kitty dementia" that causes him to become disoriented.

Of all the 360 cats at Friends of Cats, few are strays. It's shelter policy not to take them in, as it's hard to "start from scratch" without some sort of medical history. There have, however, been exceptions. Not long ago, Auckland recalls, a homeless man came to the door explaining that he had a kitten for them to take in and that he'd been spending his limited funds on cat food. The kitten, hidden in his backpack, was small and orange, and despite the no-stray rule and lack of medical personnel

onsite, Auckland caved.

"He said, 'Here's my dilemma. I have a dollar and something to my name,'" Auckland says. "It's going to be either buy the cat a can of food or take the bus. I can't do both.' So we took the kitten."

There have also been other special circumstances where Friends of Cats has taken in an unusual resident or, in some cases, a bundle of them. During the height of the Hurricane Katrina disaster in 2005, Friends of Cats accepted 40 new cases from New Orleans after corresponding with a displaced weblogger writing from a Winn-Dixie parking lot in the area. Most of the cats, which were driven from New Orleans in a horse trailer, have been adopted.

"We met with them in San Bernardino in the rain and picked them up," Auckland recalls. "That was crazy."

Katrina aside, Friends of Cats is no stranger to disaster, having tackled several on their own turf. Perhaps the scariest was the Cedar Fire of 2003, which came extremely

close to the shelter's compound.

"You could actually look across the street and the flames were so high, they were higher than the trees," Dave Abeyta says. "I remember how here in the courtyard, we were putting cats in carriers and the sky was a dark gray... And it was hot, very, very hot, it was like everything was radiating heat, and the only light was coming from across the street where the flames were."

The fire just missed the shelter, leaving everything — and everyone — unharmed.

"We had just received a donation of 400 cardboard carriers that arrived the day before the Cedar Fire hit," Auckland says. "We were unprepared to evacuate, and if we hadn't received that donation, we would not have been able to get all the cats off the property."

Most recently, Friends of Cats was threatened by the Witch Fire and its offshoots, which, according to Auckland, came within three miles of the property. Veterans of the Cedar Fire (and

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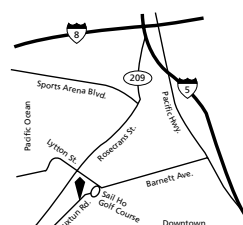
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a smaller fire that flared up just past the freeway), the Friends of Cats staff and volunteers caught, caged, and evacuated all the cats to a warehouse in Barrio Logan owned by Rebuilding Together San Diego. Auckland, Johnson, the kennel workers, and volunteers spent the day before the evacuation chasing down cats so they would be ready to leave when the calls came.

"It was controversial for us staff-wise, the keeping them in carriers in preparation," Auckland says. "But the fire came within three miles of here, and if we had made the decision at ten o'clock that night to evacuate and we didn't have the carriers ready or the cats even in them... Then we would have been working through the night."

The cats were returned, safe and sound, after 12 hours at the warehouse.

In addition to the disastrous times, there have also been some miraculous events in Friends of Cats' history. Five years ago, a woman called the shelter looking for a white kitten for her granddaughter, who was dying of a brain stem tumor.

"All this little girl wanted for Christmas was a white kitten," Auckland says, "and right after the phone call we got another lady calling saying 'I have a litter of white kittens I need to give up.' So we called the grandmother back and we coordinated with her to bring in her granddaughter, who was in a wheelchair/gurney type thing, and the little girl couldn't even speak anymore. She just communicated with eye motions, and we all stood around and cried as she picked out, by eye motions, which [kitten] she wanted."

The little girl died eight months later, and her grandmother, as a token of gratitude, sent Friends of Cats her granddaughter's rain boots with a plant inside. They remain to this day in the Friends of Cats herb garden.

Another unusual case was that of a kitten brought in without eyes, possibly the discarded prey of crows.

"She was just this tiny little thing," recalls Johnson. "We got her eyes fixed because although her eyes weren't there, you don't want to leave a big hole. Stuff can get in there and get infected, so you

have to do another surgery that closes the eyes shut. And through the whole thing she was the best little kitten."

Miracle now lives with one of the Friends of Cats board members, as a foster cat.

Auckland's desk has become a cat haven. Flaco and Leonardo sit, cleaning themselves, as Nefertiti purrs her squeaking purr from her nest in the corner. Johnson, done with feeding and medicating, tends to a cage full

of new kittens. They squeak at her playfully.

"A lot of [the cats] don't know any other home, and now this is just their home," Johnson says. "They don't know they're in a shelter."

The cat-friendly atmos-

phere must be credited to the tireless staff.

"You could talk to anybody here, including the kennel workers, and we all know that we can go somewhere and make more money than we're making now, that's a

given," says Abeyta.

He looks off into the distance.

"But we do this because this is what we're good at," he says. "This is what we do." ■

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Bushwhacked



Detail of Beef Herd, by Olaf Wieghorst

The Louis Almeida case should be closed. During a seven-year period in the '80s, he took San Diego art collectors for hundreds of thousands of dollars through forgeries and fraud. At least, that's what he admitted to when he was caught in 1989. He was sent to prison that same year, served his time, and was released in July 1994. But Almeida's elaborate cons, ten years or more in the making, were never dismantled completely. They continue to play themselves out, and only Almeida knows where and how they will end.

Almeida limited his counterfeiting to one artist, the late Western painter Olaf Wieghorst. It was a smart choice. Wieghorst, a long-time resident of El Cajon, was prolific and hugely successful. His paintings sold literally as fast as he could make them — and at six-figure prices. He was very popular in San Diego, "a local gem," as one admirer put it, which gave Almeida a ready base to cultivate. For an added whiff of legitimacy, Almeida, a skilled frame-maker in his own right, was Wieghorst's personal framer and friend.

At his trial, Almeida, in a last-minute surprise, pleaded guilty to six counts of grand theft. In exchange, the prosecution dropped six more. Then came several months of wrangling over restitution. In the end, Almeida went to jail for the maximum term without repaying anyone and without answering dozens of questions about his crimes. Then—assistant district attorney Lantz Lewis (who has left the office and could not be reached) drew up 56 of them for the court. They are laid out on three single-spaced pages in Almeida's case file

in the older records section of San Diego Superior Court.

"Questions for Louis Esquivel Almeida," reads the heading. Here's a sampling: Who made the forgeries? Where were they made? What other fakes exist and where are they? Who now possesses the originals that have never been returned? Some of the fakes were elaborate photographic reproductions. Who did them? Did the operator know he or she was taking part in a criminal enterprise? Who else did Almeida sell forgeries to? Are there more forgeries still

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on the market or stashed away somewhere? How many people were in on the plan? Was Almeida forced by someone else to commit his crimes? If so, by whom? How many times had he faked the signature of Roy Wieghorst, Olaf's son and business agent, who now manages the Wieghorst estate?"

Finally, two more the DA didn't mention: Why did he do it, and how did he think he'd get away with it?

"They're buying the man as much as the art," Martin Petersen says of Wieghorst. Petersen is curator of paintings at the San Diego Museum of Art and an authority on and acquaintance of the painter. Wieghorst must have been quite a man. In 1972 a pair of his paintings sold for \$1 million, a record price for a living artist at the time. Doug Jones, who owns the Jones Gallery in La Jolla, can instantly recall the first time he saw Wieghorst's work some 40 years ago, when Jones was a boy. "He was

painting some bucking horses on the counter of a store that sold Western gear. I thought that was just magic."

At the height of his popularity in the '50s and '60s, Wieghorst sold paintings to Hollywood celebrities like John Wayne, Roy Rogers, and Gene Autry. Wealthy conservatives admired him, too. Presidents Dwight Eisenhower, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, and Ronald Reagan bought his work, and would-be president Barry Goldwater wrote the foreword to the only biography written about him, William Reed's *Olaf Wieghorst* (1969, Northland Press, Flagstaff). "When I first saw a painting by Olaf Wieghorst," Goldwater writes, "I knew I had to have that painting... I see the Navajo faces, the long hair, the saddles, the horses, and I can know the Navajo." Wieghorst was "a giant of a man, barrel-chested with muscular arms and hands as big as two of mine and twice as strong. He looked to me anything but an artist..."

"The horse has been

my greatest teacher," Wieghorst told Reed. "But he was not alone. The rolling prairies, the snow-capped mountains, the desert, the cow-camps, the breaking-corral, the bawling calf, running iron, and the dusty trail of a cattle drive... I have sat on the rim of some canyon for hours at a time, watching rolling thunderclouds, clear summer skies, arid desert, and blue-green mountain country... As I watched nature's wonders, it dawned on me how small and insignificant I was."

Wieghorst was born into a middle-class Danish family in 1899, and as a boy spent time around horses. His father sent him to a Russian acrobat to be trained as a professional performer in Copenhagen, and in 1912, when Wieghorst was 13, the Jack Joyce Circus and Wild West Show came to town. It was a sensation. Painters Charles Russell and Frederic Remington, to whom Olaf would be compared later, were widely admired.

The star of the Jack Joyce was "the grandest thing I

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had ever seen," Wieghorst recalled to his biographer. He was "dressed in goatskin chaps, a big '20-gallon' cowboy hat and a bright red shirt with leather cuffs." After the First World War, he moved to New York City and met his future wife, Mabel Walters. A newsreel about the U.S. Cavalry chasing Pancho Villa in Mexico inspired him to sign up for the Army. Seven years after seeing his first bucking bronco, he was finally headed west, to Ft. Bliss, Texas.

"I was completely taken with those cavalry horses," he told Reed. "They were beautiful animals." He sketched them with whatever materials he could find. He was documenting the closing days of the horse soldier, witnessing scenes that now can only be approximated on film, like a 3000-horse review at Ft. Bliss that climaxed in a mass cavalry charge.

In 1922 he was mustered out at age 23, along with some friends with whom he'd agreed to start a ranch. The informal partnership broke up when Wieghorst decided to take a job with a rancher in New Mexico named Cunning-

ham. Wieghorst quit after several seasons, but Cunningham had made an impression. Wieghorst later incorporated the Cunningham "quarter-circle 2c" brand into his personal hallmark.

Wieghorst returned to New York City where Mabel Walters was waiting for him. Like many Army veterans, he applied to the police department. A brief stint on foot patrol in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, ended when he refused to take a bribe. He transferred to the mounted patrol and was promoted to the elite Central Park bridle path patrol in 1930. His son Roy was born that same year. Starting in the mid-'30s, Wieghorst began to sell more of his works at prices ranging from \$25 to \$100. He also painted calendar illustrations and privately commissioned horse portraits.

By December of 1944, he was confident enough to retire from the force, taking a pension of \$1500 a year. His first investment was \$850 in a used house trailer. On January 1, 1945, 26 years to the day after he'd done so the first time, he headed west again and settled in El Cajon. By 1955, there was a waiting

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list of people who wanted Wieghorsts.

Orland Bonaguidi, an 82-year-old retired businessman and Wieghorst collector, had started "buying the man." In his younger years, Bonaguidi covered literally the same territory that Wieghorst celebrates in his paintings. "I followed his footsteps," Bonaguidi says, sounding and looking like the El Paso native he is. We meet at Victor's, a venerable coffee shop/cocktail lounge/de facto clubhouse for the Mission Bay Golf Course. When I arrive, he's eating two fried eggs and hash browns.

After World War II, Bonaguidi started a roofing company in San Diego, eventually designing the roofs of the Guggenheim Museum and San Francisco International Airport. The business, though, was decades in the making, while he "fell in love with [Wieghorst's] pictures" long before he could afford them. "That," he adds ruefully, was "my entrée to Louis [Almeida]."

Bonaguidi didn't see his first Wieghorst until the early

1970s. It was hanging in George Thackeray's gallery in Hillcrest. "I thought, 'I know this country.' The more I met him, the better I liked him. Normally you think of an artist as some little guy with a long beard and a paintbrush. He was just the opposite. This great big husky man with a warm smile who'd talk to you."

Bonaguidi bought prints priced at a couple thousand dollars. "If you buy one painting and you spend that kind of money [five or six figures], you've got one painting. But over the years, I've accumulated maybe 30 signed prints."

Nearly all his Wieghorsts came from Almeida, whose Brentwood Gallery was near the roofing factory. "He knew I was an ardent Wieghorst fan. One day he calls me and says, 'I can get you an original [painting] for about \$35,000.' I went up and looked at it. It was beautiful. I didn't have the money, but my son Ron did. We bought the damn thing. [Almeida] even let me chisel him down \$5000."

Later, in the living room of his house in Ocean Beach, Bonaguidi takes the painting down from the wall. A not very distinguished cowboy scene, the horse and rider indifferently portrayed, it's about two feet square, which would justify the lower price. The trademark signature is in the corner. Unfortunately, it's a forgery. The "Wieghorst" Bonaguidi is holding in his hands "turned out to be a switch." Bonaguidi has never bothered to pursue the matter legally. "I'm going to take his signature off, though," he says, "so no one else gets fooled," and because it's an insult to Wieghorst's reputation.

Bonaguidi is more upset by the loss of a \$6000 boxed set of prints, 13 original numbered lithographs. "Louie said, 'I can sell those for you. Make a couple of thousand. Do you want to?' I didn't really, but I needed the money. So I gave him the prints. That's the last I saw of them... Then one day I got a call from a lady in La Jolla, and she asked if I knew Louie. Indeed I did. She had

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a small painting by Olaf, and it was a forgery." This was Marilyn Pavel, who, along with her husband Frank, helped break the Almeida case. Bonaguidi says, "I sat down with Louie in his office, and I said, 'Louie, now tell me. I don't want any bullshit. Is [my painting] an original or is it not?' And Louis said, 'I swear, you know Mexicans, 'on my mother's grave.' I said, 'All right.'"

Later, Bonaguidi felt betrayed and foolish. He'd known Louie for about 15 years. "I liked him. He was an impressive person...but always broke. He'd come to me and say, 'Orland, I can't pay the rent. I need a cou-

ple of hundred dollars.' That's how I accumulated so many paintings. When he needed money, he had something to sell."

As for the 13 prints, Bonaguidi says, "Louie knows who's got those. He better have them stashed away, because I don't know how he's going to make any money."

Marilyn Pavel can laugh now about how she and her husband, dentist Frank Pavel, brought Almeida to justice. They are also among the few people to get back their original, though it took years and cost thousands of dollars in lawyers' fees.

In 1982, when the mar-

ket was still strong, they bought a painting, *Watering His Pony*, from an Arizona dealer for \$50,000. Almeida was the intermediary. While it was still at his gallery, he asked them if they'd like to sell it. "Possibly," Marilyn Pavel recalls they replied. We are talking in the living room of her house overlooking the bay.

"At the time," Marilyn says, "Wieghorst was very popular. Almeida said, 'I'm showing it to this bank, to this person here.' Whether he was showing it to anyone, we'll never know."

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\$20,000, but Almeida never told the Pavels or gave them any money. He stalled them for five years. “He wouldn’t return my calls. Then I went by his studio, and the door was locked and there was a notice that he hadn’t paid some tax.

“Finally I said to Manuel [Almeida’s brother-in-law Manuel Castañon], ‘Do I have to call the authorities to have this painting returned?’ at which point I got a call from [Louis Almeida] right away. He said he’d been down visiting his sick father all those many months. It was not returned until the following year. And it was crated. We thought, ‘We’re interested in selling that painting,’ so we uncrated it, and I said, ‘It’s been a while, but I don’t recall it looking like that.’”

Floyd Jones (no relation to Doug Jones), owner of the Art World Western Heritage Gallery, told the Pavels it was a fake. “We were stunned, but given all that background, it began to make sense.” The Pavels confronted Almeida and demanded their

original. Then they called the authorities.

Their fake was one of the few done on canvas, but “it wasn’t even the right dimensions.” What was supposed to be a night scene had “lots of yellow ochre.” It didn’t match the photograph they’d taken for the insurance company.

Pavel has had no contact with Almeida since the trial. “His pleading guilty and taking the rap meant that he didn’t have to reveal who was helping him.” I show her the 56 questions. “We had questions for him. I don’t know that these are all ours, but ours are included in that.” Almeida “was really a very good con artist. He had a lot of doctors on the string. Lawyers, developers.” The Pavels won a judgment of \$158,000 from Almeida, though there’s no prospect of collecting. They have put their original for sale on consignment at Art World. “It’s an early Wieghorst. If someone were interested in the scope of his work, they’d like it.”

Roy Wieghorst isn’t opti-

mistic about unraveling Almeida’s secrets. “Louie was a difficult person to deal with. We asked him while he was in prison who did these photos,” the forgeries made to look like lithographs. He named a photo lab, and Wieghorst sued it. “Louie described where it was located,” but they discovered that the lab had never been located on that spot, “so we dropped the suit. Louie was a habitual liar,” Roy concludes. “I could understand if he was doing it in Arizona, but right here in the community where my father lived?”

As for motive, Wieghorst heard stories that Almeida “went to Vegas, threw money around, rented lots of rooms. Others said he never gambled. Still others predicted he’d go south, to Mexico.” When the judge encouraged him to cooperate, “Louie would never say anything. He just took the full sentence. You wonder why he would do that unless he had money stashed away in Mexico.”

Roy figures in his father’s biography as an ancillary

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character, a 15-year-old uprooted from his native Queens and dropped into a trailer park in El Cajon. The only child and only son of a strong-willed father, he doesn't seem to have rebelled seriously against Olaf. While Olaf was alive, Roy kept control over the number and quality of prints that were produced. With his father's death in 1988, he became the leading Wieghorst authority.

We meet in Roy's spacious 1960 designer-built house above El Cajon. Heavy beams and industrial-strength fittings are melded with large expanses of glass and blond wood. The living room looks out on scrub-covered hills.

In the casual social salad of San Diego in the '40s and '50s, Roy was thrown together with Almeida. He speaks about Almeida without emotion. "It's amazing how many people were taken in." It's equally amazing how simple-minded most of Almeida's methods were. Wieghorst has identified four. A simple color photo-

graph, enlarged to match the original, was Almeida's favorite technique. That's how he copied a signed print of the *Navajo Madonna*, which would have sold for as much as \$5000. Almeida offered his versions for \$3000. "Many people thought it was a bargain."

Another work Almeida copied more than once was an old pencil drawing that was "very, very black. He just put it in a Xerox machine and pushed 100 [percent]." This deception was so hard to detect, Roy had to bring in experts from Xerox.

"Way number three, he hired someone and showed them an original, and they actually made a copy of it." No artist was ever found, but Wieghorst thinks most of the work was done in the U.S. He only had one copy made, "that we know of," Roy says. "I often wonder where he is now and what he's doing. Maybe he's sipping a piña colada on the beach in Acapulco."

Almeida has a good reason to lie low: a \$300,000 civil judgment Wieghorst

won against him for federal copyright violations. "Louie doesn't have any assets that we know of. But it's good for ten years and can be renewed again for another ten years."

Almeida's ingratitude nettles him the most. "We would go out of our way" to refer business to him. "My father would see Louie in the gallery, and he always had a sad story about how his kid was sick and he didn't have the money to pay the doctor. My father was a pushover, and he'd hand him \$100. Then to turn around and do all these forgeries."

After the Almeida case broke, Roy offered to authenticate some people's holdings, but "They were afraid that they have lost their investment. This way, they don't know, and they can turn around and sell it and in all good conscience say it's an original Wieghorst as far as they know."

Roy and I walk to Olaf's studio, built in 1956, "where my father did most of his major paintings." It has thick

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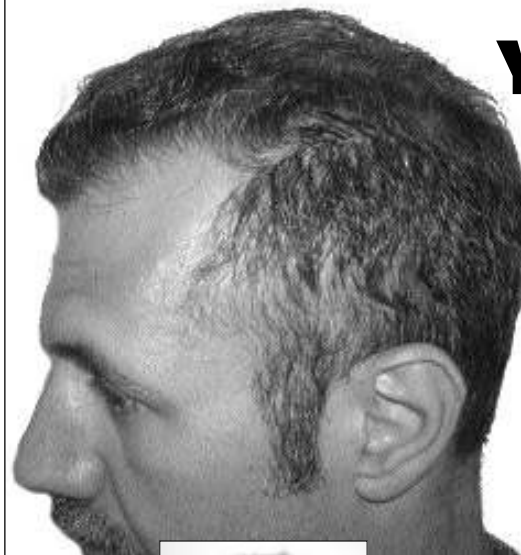
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adobe walls and is cool and dark, yet a skylight lets in a filtered north light, which makes the place glow. "And it's quiet," Wieghorst says. "At one time he had two feet of dirt on the roof and had grass growing up there."

Wieghorst's reputation rests on his eye for detail as much as his artistic vision. In his biography, he told Reed he felt obligated to be historically accurate because "all the information the future generations will get of the passing of the West must surely come from the pen of the author and the brush of the artist."

The San Diego Museum of Art's Martin Petersen appreciates the power Wieghorst exerts over his fans. Wieghorst exhibitions at the museum in 1962 and 1976 drew record crowds. "His emphasis was on the details that satisfied the aesthetics of that kind of collector. A lot of painters jumped on the bandwagon, but they didn't really know the Western lifestyle."

Petersen worries that "the art is the least thing dis-

cussed" about Western artists. When that's examined, some aesthetic patterns emerge. In Wieghorst's case, Petersen sees a progression. "As he developed as an artist, it's the landscape that dominates, and the horse and the rider are relegated to a corner, and man looks at nature in awe." Petersen likes "the really ambiguous things. There's a boss man with a herd of cattle and there's so much dust, you don't see much else. I loved his rainy scenes."

"Olaf's works have held up pretty well. His watercolors can sell for \$10,000, which is not bad. Maybe four figures for drawings. He had a devoted following, and as long as they're around..."

Wieghorst consciously crafted his image. "He tried to look like Charlie Russell. He felt Russell was the epitome of the Western painter," with "a theatrical dash. He was a charming person, as was his wife May. He used to go fishing with Roy Rogers. He did a little watercolor of John Wayne."

About five or six years before he died, Wieghorst glimpsed the macabre side of artistic success. His car ran off the road and caught fire, and he and his wife were burned. A gallery that carried a lot of his work announced that he'd died.

How did Almeida think he could get away with his crimes? Bonaguidi sees him as simply blinded by greed. Roy Weighorst mentioned Clifford Irving's 1969 book *Fake!*, about legendary Impressionist forger Elmyr de Hory. "He's a charming man...and he can smile right in your face and tell the most awful lies." It's hard to denounce fakes. A gallery owner told Irving, "You have to do it gently. If you say 'fake,' you insult a man's intelligence, you wound his vanity, and you probably lose him as a customer."

That may explain the thin court file of letters of condemnation against Almeida and the tepid tone of the ones in support. Almeida could only produce half a dozen people to write in in his favor. As belated evidence

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of his attempts at restitution, he filed two handwritten pledges of loans, one from his sisters. There was also a vague letter from another frame-shop owner saying he might pay as much as \$40,000 to buy Almeida out.

On the opposing side of the ledger, only three of the victims named in the criminal complaint, all doctors, put down their thoughts in writing. Frank Pavel gave a dispassionate account of Almeida's misdeeds, ending by saying he "has cost us a great deal monetarily as well as personal anxiety and stress."

One Dr. Stewart G. Belote scrawled an angry note to the judge, urging him to impose "the maximum sentence allowable by law."

Belote was the third and last person to whom Almeida "sold" the *Arizona Trails*. It had been placed on consignment in 1983 by Shirley Landenheim, a San Diego resident who had bought it directly from Roy Wieghorst for \$20,000. In 1986 Almeida convinced Belote to pay him \$15,000 for a partial share in the work, without telling Belote he didn't actually own it. By then, Almeida had made upwards of \$100,000 by selling and reselling *Arizona Trails*.

Belote wrote: "His record with us was one of repeated misrepresentation, lying and deceit, and to my knowledge he has shown little or no remorse for his actions."

Dentist Lawrence Andrews paid \$40,000 for *Arizona Trails*. He preferred to write, he told the court, because he was afraid of "future retaliation" by Almeida, "a world-class liar and con man." Andrews figured his total losses at Almeida's hands to be more than \$100,000. "[I]t will take me ten years of hard work to recover my retirement fund losses," he wrote.

For a time, Shirley Landenheim thought she was one of Almeida's few victims to get back her original, the *Arizona Trails* that Almeida trafficked in for so many years. It has been valued at \$200,000, she says. Six months after she left it with Almeida, a San Diego man named David Scott bought it for \$50,000. Almeida kept the news — and the cash — to himself.

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He had Scott make his check out to "M. Castenon [sic]," according to the DA's statement of facts. Landenheim lost patience and demanded her painting back. Almeida stalled for six years.

"He drummed up all these stories," she recalled in a phone conversation. Meanwhile, David Scott placed the painting on consignment with Almeida for resale. Almeida told him that in April of 1986, one "D. Canaro" had bought it for \$37,000, making an initial down payment of \$18,000. That last sum is all Scott saw for his \$50,000 investment. As the DA put it, Scott "never received the remainder of the purchase price, never met D. Canaro, nor did he ever see *Arizona Trails* again."

Landenheim knew nothing about Scott. She

just wanted her painting back. Finally, she thought it had been returned to her in January of 1989. "We never even unwrapped it," Landenheim says, but put it straight in a bank vault. When she heard about Almeida's arrest, she brought it down to the police station, still in the brown paper. "Roy said, 'Look in the corner of the picture.' " There was a white spot. "That's the reflection of a flash bulb," he said.

Retired interior designer Muriel Kinney was one of the few to write in support of Almeida. She'd used him to frame pictures "for over 20 years." She still patronizes the business of Almeida's brother-in-law, Manuel Castañon. "The old-timers used him a lot," she said in a recent interview. Before starting

her own business, she worked for the design firm of Cannell and Chaffin. Kinney never had her clients buy art from Almeida, but "he would help me design the frame to fit what I had done."

Almeida, she said, was "the mouthy one, a real talker, kind of a con artist. Manuel was in the background. He was shy." Castañon has set up his framing shop in a "suite" that's little more than a large garage in an industrial park off Miramar Boulevard near the naval air station. He moved here after the trial. The tenants are small businesses for whom a UPS delivery is a big event. There's no walk-in trade. Castañon's customers must know where he is.

Castañon was my only link to Almeida. His wife is Almeida's ex-wife's sister.

Although he only hears from him a couple of times a year, he agreed to deliver a letter from me asking for a chance to talk. No go, Castañon reported back apologetically in his halting English. Just asking got him into trouble with his wife and in-laws. Still, he agreed to see me at his framing shop.

At the start of Almeida's troubles, "we were all mad at him." Castañon didn't know what was going on, he says. "We just did the work. He was the one who sold." Castañon was never charged with a crime, and it makes sense that Almeida would have kept his scheming to himself. The more people who knew about his illegal profits, the more people with whom he'd have to share them.

However, many of

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Almeida's victims, who asked to remain nameless, scoff at Castañon's claims of ignorance. At the very least, they wonder, how could he have framed copies of the same "original" print so many times without having questions?

When Almeida was arrested, he said that nearly all of the money he'd stolen had been used to pay back taxes. But he still owed the government tens of thousands of dollars when he went to jail.

"He could hardly pay the rent," Bonaguidi says, echoing others' wonderment. "What could a man like that do with the money? You do one of three things. You either gamble it like hell, or you're on narcotics, or the one that will take it quicker than all of that is a woman. I never saw a strange woman in Louis's shop. And I bet I was in there 200 times. And he didn't look like he was on narcotics to me. I'm not a young kid. I'd recognize that in a minute. He wore a dirty shirt, slacks. No show. He had an old van. The only thing he enjoyed doing was going to the baseball game."

"Louie might have been a sharp swindler," Roy Wieghorst says. "He didn't drive a big fancy car. He might have all this money in a Swiss bank... The police found shoeboxes full of money order receipts. He didn't even have a checkbook. He owed everyone. You really wonder what happened to all that money."

After the trial, "Manuel called me half a dozen times," Bonaguidi recalls. "I don't know if Manuel knew what was going on. After what happened to me and the others, I didn't want to have anything to do with the family." Castañon "closed the shop, practically threw everything away."

Almeida's divorce from Alicia, his wife of 28 years, produced the most extensive paper trail. Many of those he conned wonder if the divorce wasn't a counterfeit, too. For instance, although the 1987 *Tribune* profile quoted him to the effect that he surrounded himself with Western paintings at home, the only reference to art in the Almeida's community property declaration is the word "paintings," written on one line, whose value was

"unknown."

According to the court papers, Alicia initiated the breakup in March 1988, around the time the Pavels were pressing for the return of *Watering His Pony*, Shirley Landenheim was demanding her *Arizona Trails* back, and the IRS had asked for \$15,000 in back taxes for employee withholding at the gallery. Also, two civil judgments totaling nearly \$25,000 had been awarded against Almeida's business, and he had borrowed \$22,500 from a San Diego lawyer friend, pledging his house in El Cajon as collateral.

In her pleadings, Alicia said the IRS had seized their motor boat, trailer, and a 1983 Dodge van. "Our large motor home [valued by Alicia at \$19,000] has also recently 'disappeared,' and I have no knowledge of its present whereabouts."

For his side, Almeida said he was a high school graduate with an income of \$24,000 a year. His son, Louis Almeida, Jr., was said to be making the same amount. Alicia's yearly earnings came to \$6000.

She asserted that Almeida had a history of spending large sums of cash. From 1978 to 1987, a period in which he admitted owing money to the IRS, she said that he paid \$18,000 cash for a new Camaro for his daughter and \$3500 for a boat for his son. Almeida disputed her figures but didn't deny paying in cash. The Camaro, he claimed, cost only \$7400 plus "artwork," and the boat wasn't as expensive as she'd said.

According to the court files, the couple reconciled from May to November of 1988. Official proceedings recommenced in early 1989, around the time of Almeida's arrest.

After he pleaded guilty, his criminal trial became entangled in the divorce. As late as September of 1989, Almeida told the judge in his criminal case that the divorce was the reason he couldn't pay restitution. He didn't mention that the value of his and Alicia's holdings was far less than what he owed his victims. On the divorce side, Almeida's lawyer argued that he shouldn't be sent to jail on the criminal charges until the civil case was settled.

As he faced ruin, Almeida

put on a stunning display of brinksmanship. The main issue in the divorce was the sale of their house. He wanted to assume full title by buying out Alicia for \$45,000 cash, substantially less than her half-share of the \$160,000 asking price. It was more than fair, he argued, because he had so many debts to pay off. She countered that they had been incurred by Almeida on behalf of the Brentwood Gallery and weren't her responsibility.

Almeida's cash offer was made at the same time he was claiming poverty in his criminal case. There's no indication where the \$45,000 would have come from.

In the summer of 1989, Alicia was granted permission by the court to put the house on the market over the objections of Almeida, who was still living there with her (albeit with separate sleeping arrangements). Almeida continued to resist. Alicia alleged that he didn't allow a real estate agent inside with prospective buyers (a contention the agent supported); on another day, Almeida locked Alicia out, forcing her to break in with help from the police; he poked holes in the walls to spy on her, Alicia said, and left her obscene notes; in another form of sabotage, he left cigarette butts, beer cans, and dirty laundry lying around and refused to flush the toilet; he untied their son's admittedly violent dog, who nearly bit an agent.

Alicia finally called Animal Control to remove the pet. Almeida told the court their son was "very angry" and "punched several holes in the walls and scattered trash in the house." He also admitted that "I have left ashtrays and an occasional beverage container behind."

The pleadings continued after Almeida went to prison. By the end, he was acting as his own lawyer and writing letters from his cell. The house was sold and some debts paid. None of his victims received any money.

I ask Castañon about current relations between Almeida and Alicia. "They see each other," he says.

Almeida got his start at George Thackeray's gallery in the late '50s. He and his wife Grace agreed to talk to me at their house in Ocean Beach, a dark, wood-shin-

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Hair Addictions **Eyelash extensions \$30 off**

Hair by Don-Paul Hofherr **15% off retail hair products**

Farnaz Haroon, DDS **ZOOM! Advanced \$269**

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**

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Revive **Shiatsu/oxygen experience \$10**

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Salon Soulé **\$10 off precision haircut**

Salon D's **Free designer 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**

gled structure on the side of a hill. Inside is a profusion of paintings and sculptures, not surprising given their years of buying, selling, framing, restoring, promoting, and collecting art in San Diego.

George was one of Wieghorst's first friends when Wieghorst arrived in El Cajon. They painted together. "I used to travel to shows with him a lot." They went all over the Southwest, including the Cunningham ranch. "If you rode up the canyon, you'd hear *thwump-thwump* — shots, bullets, hitting a tree. He must have been in his 80s then.

We look at a Wieghorst painting called *Spring Rain*, a dark, impressionistic work, one of about a dozen Wieghorsts on the walls. Thackeray can remember when Wieghorst painted it. "It was raining cats and dogs, and he couldn't sleep. So he got up and started that painting. He called me up and said, 'George, come on over. I want to show you something.' So I went over, and there it was... Everywhere you looked [in his house]

was a gun. Remember, he was a retired New York City cop."

Almeida just showed up one day looking for work. "I had a lot of guys working for me," George says. Almeida stayed "for 12 years." Thackeray says now that he believes Almeida cheated him of untold amounts of money during that time.

At first, George ran the gallery by himself, most of his time taken up with restoration work and appraisals. At the counter, writing up bills for jobs and collecting the payments was Almeida. "He'd write \$15 tickets for \$150 jobs" and pocket the difference, George claims.

Their relationship began to unravel when Almeida tried to steal a customer. George had told the person there'd be a bit of a delay on a framing job, so Almeida offered to do it right away and charge less. He hadn't counted on the customer's loyalty to Thackeray. "The guy called us up and told us about it, so we got suspicious," Thackeray says. Later, Almeida had the client for an appraisal

make the check out to him. "Then we started checking the books. It was enormous what he was bleeding us for, \$40,000, \$50,000, \$60,000 — we never did know."

"The proof that he really was fleecing George over the years was that as soon as he left, the business started making money," Grace says. "More was going out than was coming in. Over a period of four or five months, I kept track of every single order there was, and he couldn't get away with it."

The Thackerays helped Almeida buy his first house and had offered him an equity share in their business, which would grow larger the longer he stayed. "I can't get over what I did in those days," George says now, his voice rising in disbelief. Almeida's response to their offer made Grace wonder. He wanted to know how much cash he could get for his share on the spot. "The minute he did that," she says, "I reached over and took the contract away."

"He in the meantime had gotten our whole mail-

ing list" by taking home receipts and copying the customer information off them one at a time. "He conned a lot of our customers into dealing with him, too."

George gave him vacation time and told him to never come back. He remembers his last glimpse of Almeida. "He stood at the end of the alley crying. I didn't soften. I let him cry. He was such a good actor." ■

— Phyllis Orrick

UPDATE: In 2006, Roy Wieghorst opted not to renew the \$300,000 civil judgment against Almeida. To date, none of the victims have been repaid.

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LETTERS

continued from page 14

myself, were seeking shade in the bleachers. I was able to find a shady spot under another attendee's sun umbrella, and so I started to watch the game.

I was blown away when I saw cheerleaders out on the field baking in the sun. These girls were the same age range as the boys playing, seven to nine. They had no shade and were on the track pavement that surrounded the football field. During the game, which lasted two hours, they would go into a 15-minute-long set of cheers and then take a 10- to 15-minute break sitting on the track. One of their coaches (who I'm guessing was once a cheerleader herself) would come around and spray them down with water and then give a small pep talk about how great they were doing and to keep it up, but during the entire game they were never moved into the shade for a break. Even the players on the field had a shade tent that they were under when they were not playing, but these girls had nothing. I should also mention that these girls represented the home team. The

visiting team had a cheerleading squad; however, their parents/coaches decided not to have them cheer since it was so hot.

The visiting football team ran out of water at one point and had to purchase water from the home side. Three boys were suffering from heat exhaustion by the end of the day, two of whom vomited due to this.

I say, when the temperature rises above 100 degrees, there is no reason to force these kids to play. They're not gaining anything by it, unable to give their all in such conditions. Even though there was no person you could physically see being over the top, I feel this is the same thing.

Karyl Bing
via email

Been There, Seen That

I just read the cover story for this week's *Reader's* "Soccer Moms Are the Absolute Worst" (January 10). What a great story!

This is the type of story that needs to be told! As a father of two young children in sports, I have seen many of the ill-mannered, overbearing parents talked about in this story. I am glad the *Reader* printed this story. Maybe some will see themselves in this story and

lighten up a bit and let their kids have fun.

I really appreciated all the different people that were interviewed giving their stories and thoughts. It drove home the fact that sports for young children should be fun, first and foremost. They all agreed the yelling and screaming does no good. A perfect example: The defensive coach of my son's Pop Warner football team screamed in many of the kids' faces, "You're weak" as they came off the field after giving up a touchdown. It demoralized them into losing badly. Until then, they were competitive and having fun.

Reading this story also brought back memories of seeing parents fighting in the stands when I was a kid. That is the last thing you want to see when you are playing ball with your friends.

This story was not the typical "topic-of-the-day story" that I can see on TV or read in a major paper, i.e., CEOs make too much money, politicians are scammers, the housing crunch, etc. Thanks!

Name Withheld
via email

Not Okay

My name is Brittany. I was chosen for the "Say What?" column (January 10). I did not say what was printed. That is not okay with me.

Brittany
via email

The Reader regrets the error.
— Editor

Get Real

I am a college student. I was assigned to critically analyze mainstream media by choosing ads about dieting, cosmetics, or cosmetic surgery. I chose cosmetic surgery because it is amazing nowadays the number of ads in the media telling us that we have to have a perfect body in order to be beautiful and how

inexpensive it has become to have cosmetic surgery.

In your ads, models with beautiful bodies and faces are used to invite women or suggest to women that's the way they are going to look if they have a face-lift, tummy tuck, or breast augmentation. But in reality, that is not the way women are going to look after cosmetic surgery is done. I know that the job of the media is to persuade women using women's sexuality to achieve a goal.

Just want to let you know that some women feel offended or feel a pressure with your ads. We are already in a constant way within us because we are trying to look beautiful all the time to fulfill society's demands on how women should look at all times. We have a constant war trying to lose weight, disciplining our bodies to exercise to have a better body shape, or dieting. It is frustrating sometimes the pressure we have by the media telling us, "Have surgery and you will look beautiful."

I think that a lot of women will appreciate it if your paper uses more realistic models when it comes to cosmetic surgery or any other ad related to beauty.

Gabriela Godoy
La Mesa

Comments from Reader Website

Picture Story

Published January 9

Posted by tiki kiki on 01/11/08, 9:45 a.m.

I remember too!! I was born in '65, and I don't know how old I was when her clothes started becoming worn and tattered, then I think during the bicentennial year '76 an Uncle Sam costume was put on her. Am I right? What a trip.

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The Vanishing Bees

Bring Them Back to the Garden

AColony collapse disorder is an immune system disorder. The bees' immune system is compromised, which might be due to the stress [commercial beekeepers] are putting on the bees," says beekeeper Diane Busch. "It's big business. Colony owners might have 5000 hives and put them on flatbed trucks and ship them in early February — when bees should be warm and stay in their hives — and then they let them loose on almonds in Northern California. Because of Colony collapse disorder, California is low on hives."

LOCAL EVENTS

**LOCAL
EVENTS**

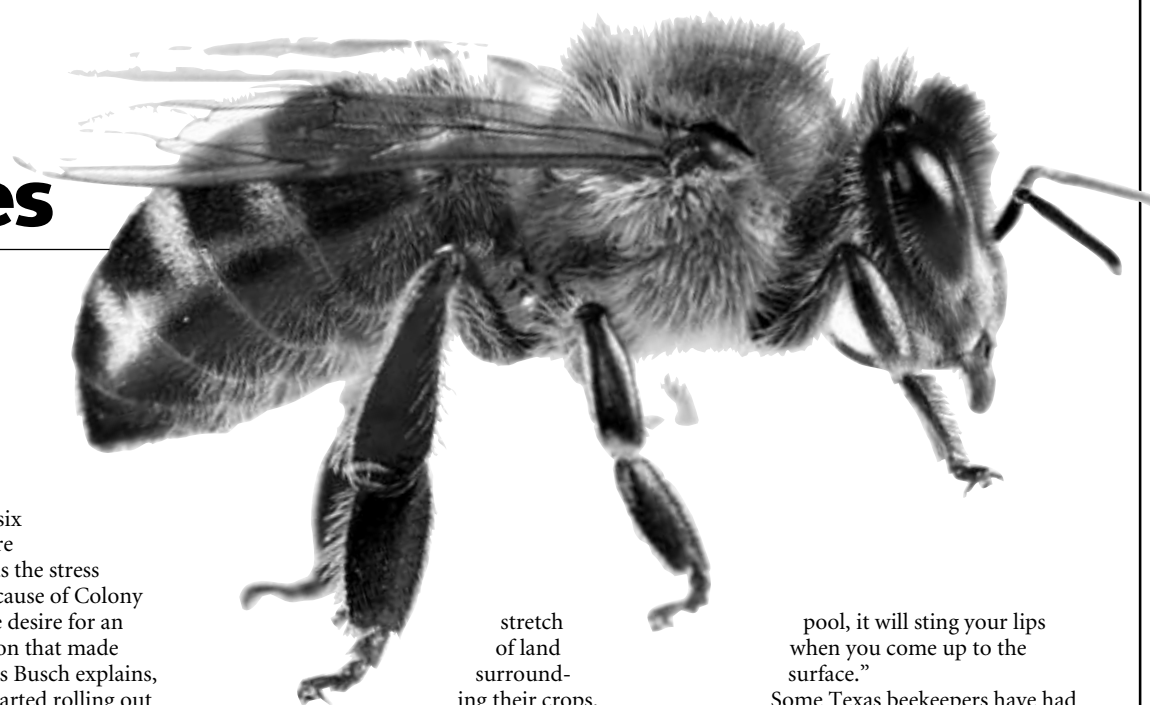
On Wednesday, January 23, Busch will speak at the Mission Hills Garden Club about the issue of disappearing bees and will offer suggestions for attracting bees to local gardens. Colony collapse disorder (when all but the queen and a few larvae of a 65,000-bee hive disappear) has been reported in 35 states. "The DNA makeup of these worker bees is to protect and take care of that hive, so for them to leave the queen and babies behind just doesn't make sense. That's what's got everybody stumped," says Busch. She wonders if perhaps the diseased bees

somehow become aware of their illness and leave to protect the queen.

Die-offs of one sort or another occur about every six years. “Back in the ’80s there was the varroa mite.” Just as the stress placed on bees may be the cause of Colony collapse disorder, it was the desire for an increase in honey production that made bees susceptible to mites. As Busch explains, “About 20 years ago they started rolling out a foundation for beehives’ frames [with] a pattern of wax in beehive form — the kind you make candles out of. Instead of rolling it out at 4.9 [mm per cell], they rolled it out at something like 5.2 [mm]. It was a little bit bigger, so the bees made bigger comb, that held more honey, which made bigger bees. Everyone was excited because bigger bees, more honey. But the bigger bees now had a space between the thorax and abdomen that was big enough for a mite to get in.”

Mites and diseases are not the only challenges California beekeepers have faced in the past year. “We lost a lot of hives with the fire,” says Busch. “At San Luis Rey [Apiaries, located in the San Pasqual Valley], they lost 500 hives [in the Witch Creek Fire]. It’s devastating. I don’t know if they’ll start over again, because that was a family business.”

At least 30 percent of the food supply in America is dependent upon bees for pollination. According to a 2004 article in *National Geographic*, the domesticated honeybee population has declined by 50 percent in as many years. Some farmers, says Busch, are now attempting to attract native bees by allowing weeds to grow on a 6- to 12-foot



stretch
of land
surround-
ing their crops.
This effort may be
enough to supply
farmers' markets, but

Busch explains that large-scale commercial crops could never rely on native bees: "There just aren't enough native bees, and it's not in their nature [to pollinate immense fields]. The European honeybee is bred to do just that. They are wonderful because of their sheer numbers and diligence. And they like to go to one single flower per trip — unlike bumblebees that will go to a rose, then a strawberry, then an apple blossom, then go home, honeybees will go, apple, apple, apple, then go home. That's why you can get things like lavender honey and clover honey."

Although bee pollination leads to better seed production and healthier plants, home gardeners should be wary of drawing the wrong kind: the killer bee. Unfortunately, says Busch, one cannot visibly tell the difference between a European honeybee and an Africanized honeybee. "They're exactly the same, except for behavior. A honeybee might chase you down the block and give up and go back to its hive, but a killer bee is relentless — if you dive into a

pool, it will sting your lips when you come up to the surface."

Some Texas beekeepers have had success working with Africanized bees (“they say they pollinate faster and are really good workers”), but Busch says if an Africanized bee colony took over one of her hives, she’d kill it. “You can put a black trash bag over [the hive] and seal it up with duct tape, and either [the killer bees] suffocate or starve to death. Or a lot of [beekeepers] spray the hive down with soapy water. The soap gets on their wings and they can’t fly. It’s caustic for them and they die. But the thing is, if you do that, then you’ve got soap on your equipment.”

— *Barbarella*

**"Bees and Beyond" — a lecture with
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LOCAL EVENTS

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BAJA

Hypnotists Taurus do Brasil and his son John Milton return to Centro Cultural Tijuana for performances through Monday, February 25. Curtain rises at 8 p.m. Monday–Wednesday, at 6 and 9 p.m. Thursday–Saturday, and at 5 and 8 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: \$12–\$15 U.S. Find center at Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street in Zona Río. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Mardi Gras is celebrated with parades, music, food, and entertainment on the streets of Ensenada, Thursday, January 17–Tuesday, January 22. 011-52-646-172-3022. (ENSENADA)

Author Humberto Mussachio discusses his new book, *Historia del Periodismo Cultural en Mexico*, Thursday, January 17, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). Free. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Dúo Fernández-Bramat plays classical music featuring soprano and piano, Saturday, January 19, 7 p.m., at ICBC (Avenida Centenario #10151, in Zona Río). 011-52-664-684-8609. (TIJUANA)

Jazz Music promised when Turiya Mareya is joined by David Millard, Saturday, January 19, 9 p.m., at El Lugar del Nopal (Privada 5 de Mayo #1328). 011-52-664-685-1264. (TIJUANA)

Rock Music by Delux, Saturday, January 19, 11 p.m., at El Foro (on Avenida Revolución). \$20 U.S. 619-734-2333. (TIJUANA)

“Two Birthdays: Virginia Woolf and Edgar Allan Poe” — Mayra Luna, Pedro López Solís, Olimpia Ramírez, and Luis Gastélum discuss these two influential authors who were both born in January, Thursday, January 24, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). Free. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Bridal Expo with everything for your wedding, Sunday, January 20, 10 a.m.–8 p.m., at Camino Real Hotel in Zona Río. 011-52-664-633-4000. (TIJUANA)

OUTDOORS

Hawkwatch, visit Ramona’s grasslands to witness winter migration of hawks, falcons, and eagles during outing led by Wildlife Research Institute. Walks offered every Saturday in January and February, 9 a.m.–noon. Walks led by trained biologist. Wear hiking or walking boots. Bring binoculars or spotting scopes if you have them. Outings begin at Wildlife Research Institute headquarters, 18030 Highland Valley Road (near Rangeland). Free. 760-789-3992. Heavy rain cancels. (RAMONA)

Highest Monthly Rainfall totals in San Diego are most likely to occur in January and February (about 1.9 inches each on average) according to weather-service statistics. If low temperatures accompany the typical Pacific storms of this period, there’s a chance of snow in the mountains, including a very slim chance of snowfall as far west as the coast. Only during the months of December and January have traces of snow ever been recorded at San Diego’s National Weather Service station.

A String of Extraordinarily Low Tides occurs this weekend and early next week. The tide on Saturday, January 19, dips to -1.4 feet at 1:27 p.m. Sunday’s low tide of -1.6 feet occurs at 2:10 p.m. On Monday the tide falls to -1.7 feet at 2:50 p.m. Tuesday’s tide dips to -1.6 feet at 3:27 p.m. Wednesday’s low of -1.4 feet occurs at 4:02 p.m.

These low-tide episodes will be perfect for exploring the lowermost of the intertidal zones in the rocky areas of San Diego County’s coastline. Extreme high tides will also occur a few hours before each extreme low tide. The tidal extremes this month are related to the moon’s full phase, and also to the moon’s seasonal position in the sky, which is helping to carry the global tidal bulges and troughs

OUT & ABOUT

CELESTIAL MELODIES! “Chinese New Year Spectacular,” Thursday, January 17, California Center for the Arts, Escondido.

(SEE IN PERSON)



over latitudes farther north than usual.

The Moon and Mars dance together on the evening of Saturday, January 19. In the evening twilight the two will lie near each other in the eastern sky. Observers in the Arctic and northwestern North America will witness an occultation (covering up) of Mars by the moon at that time, but we in San Diego are too far south and will have to settle for a near miss.

Explore Whelan Lake Bird Sanctuary with Audubon Society birders on Saturday, January 19, 8 a.m. To reach trailhead, take I-5 to Highway 76; go east to Douglas; turn left, continue to North River Road; turn left and continue to Whelan Lake Road; go as far as you can and park near the caretaker’s home. Free. 858-755-7133. (OCEANSIDE)

More Walk, Less Talk, naturalists Simone Green and Barbara Van Horne lead moderately strenuous 4.5-mile walk in Daley Ranch on Saturday, January 19. Meet at 8:30 a.m. in La Honda Drive parking lot. Free. 760-839-4680. (ESCONDIDO)

Trail Work in Paso Picacho continues in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park on Saturday, January 19, 9 a.m. Bring work shoes, gloves, hat, water, snack. Group gathers at Paso Picacho campground maintenance area behind fire department building. Free. Registration: 858-566-7399. (CUYAMACA RANCHO STATE PARK)

Guided Nature Walks planned on Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, January 19, 20, and 23, 9:30 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park (One Father Junípero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

Help With Wildlife Monitoring after San Diego Tracking Team hosts training, Saturday, January 19, 9:45 a.m.–4 p.m., at Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Ranch House. Learn to recognize tracks of native mammal species, join experienced tracker on one or more wildlife surveys. To reach site, take Canyonside Park Drive off Black Mountain Road, follow signs. Free. 760-715-4102. (RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

Tree Time, Offshoot Tours offers hour-long guided tour highlighting various Balboa Park trees Saturday, January 19, 10 a.m., starting at visitors’ center. Free. 619-235-1122. (BALBOA PARK)

Rediscover Escondido during walking tour led by Escondido Citizens Ecology Committee, Saturday, January 19, starting at 11 a.m. at southeast corner of Grand and Broadway. Free. 760-743-8207. (ESCONDIDO)

Hike Along a Dirt Trail that descends gradually into a canyon through coastal sage scrub and chaparral when Canyoneers lead easy outing in Crest Canyon Open-Space Park on Sunday, January 20, 9 a.m. Free. Directions: 619-255-0203. (DEL MAR)

Visit San Diego Audubon Society’s Silverwood Sanctuary during guided walks offered at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on Sundays by reservation. The sanctuary is located at 13003 Wildcat Canyon Road (five miles from Ashwood-Mapleview turn). Free. 619-682-7200. (LAKESIDE)

Explore Dike Rock when naturalist from Birch Aquarium at Scripps leads “Tidepooling for All” on Sunday, January 20, 12:45–2:45 p.m. \$10 for adults, \$8 for children older than two. Re-

quired reservations: 858-534-7336. (LA JOLLA)

Propagating Native Plants — plant propagation can be complicated or simple, depending on your expectations of success. Learn some different techniques and fill nursery with pots with Buena Vista Native Plant Club on Sunday, January 20, 2 p.m., at Buena Vista Nature Center (2202 South Coast Highway). Free. 760-439-2473. (OCEANSIDE)

Waterfall Hike, take moderately paced loop hike with naturalist Linda to Carson’s Crossing and waterfall in Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, Sunday, January 20. Hike starts at 3 p.m. in kiosk at Park Village Road and Camino del Sur. Free. Bring water, wear hiking boots. 858-342-8856. (RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

January’s Full Moon rises majestically from the darkened east horizon on Tuesday, the 22nd, at around 5:45 p.m. (about 35 minutes after the time of sunset).

Is There Snow Piled up in the South Bay? Join Walkabout perambulators to walk, see, hear about the old Fenton salt plant, Wednesday, January 23. The moderately paced walk starts at 9:45 a.m. in north end of Palomar Street trolley station parking lot. Free. 619-231-7463. (CHULA VISTA)

DANCE

Bellydance Showcase with Jayna, Marguerite, Dilek and Nari performing to live music by John Bilezikjian with Frank Lazzaro and Dave Dhillon (percussion) on Thursday, January 17, 8 p.m., Claire de Lune Coffee Lounge (2906 University Avenue). Donation: \$5. 619-688-9845. (NORTH PARK)

“Cabaret Dances–Imágenes Latinas” — Jean Isaacs San Diego Dance Theater plans concerts January 17–20 at San Diego Museum of Art. Evenings of modern dance embody “the Latin spirit” with choreography by Jean Isaacs for her company of nine dancers. Dancing begins at 8 p.m. Thursday–Saturday, 6 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: \$25 general, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). Information: 619-225-1803. (BALBOA PARK)

Old Twine String Band makes music, Steve Barlow calls for contradance on Friday, January 18, 8 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church (3030 Thorn Street). Beginners’ dance workshop: 7:30 p.m. \$9. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. (NORTH PARK)

“Survival Waltz for Balls” covered during Waltz and Such vintage dance lesson, Friday, January 18, 7:30 p.m., in room 207 of Casa del Prado. Open dancing, 8:30–9:45 p.m. All ages and abilities. Partners not required. Donation: \$1. 619-583-9956. (NORTH PARK)

Groove on Tap, one-year anniversary show by tap dancer Claudia Gomez Vorce, percussionist Toby Ahrens, “musician” Todd Davidson, Friday, January 18, 8 p.m., Onyx Room (852 Fifth Avenue). Guests include DJ Sachamo, Danny “Slapjazz” Barber, Leland “Spoonful” Collins, breakdancer Pacific Yo. \$15. 619-235-ONYX. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

Hustle and Nightclub Dance Party, Saturday, January 19, 8:30–11 p.m., Pattie Wells Dance-time Center (1255 West Morena Boulevard). Dancing for singles and couples of all ages. Hustle lesson: 8 p.m. \$7; first time free. 619-275-3533. (BAY PARK)

Take an “Imaginary Journey through Middle Eastern Dance” on Sunday, January 20, 3 p.m., in Saville Theatre at City College (1313 Park Boulevard). Enjoy “a mind-boggling performance of professional belly-dancers” including Shalimar, the Shimmy Sisters, Dondi, Sahar Sami, Oriental Jewels, many others. Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at door. 619-666-2104. (DOWNTOWN)

“Drought and Rain, Volume 2” presented by Compagnie Ea Solá from Vietnam for ArtPower, Wednesday, January 23, 8 p.m. in Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD. In the piece, “Twelve young dancers from the Vietnam National Opera Ballet slip seamlessly on a stark pale stage between solitary anguish, alienated ambiva-

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lence, and reflective recognition of their connection to one another." Tickets: \$36, \$32 general, available at 858-534-TIXS. (LA JOLLA)

FILM

"A Seal's Life: The Story of the Northern Elephant Seal" screens Thursday, January 17, 6:30 p.m., at Birch Aquarium at Scripps (2300 Expedition Way). Documentary details journey that elephant seals make along coast of North America. Producer Drew Wharton discusses film, answers questions after film. \$8. 858-534-4109. (LA JOLLA)

"Thirst: Fighting the Corporate Theft of Our Water" — film focusing on "fight over community water resources across the globe" screens for San Diego Renters Union on Thursday, January 17, 6:30 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1220 Cleveland Avenue). 619-687-5109. Donation.

Thirst will also be screened for Sunday Matinee on January 20, 2 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5800. (HILLCREST)

"Fat Man Walking" has San Diego premiere during winter film series, Thursday, January 17, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). Probing, impressionistic documentary by filmmakers David Mollering and father-and-son Pierre and P.J. Bagley "follows the trajectory of Oceanside resident Steve Vaught, whose unusual weight-loss strategy involves walking from San Diego to New York." Mollering, Bagley, Vaught on hand for post-screening question-and-answer session with audience. \$7. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: *Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure*, *Dinosaurs Alive*, *The Living Sea*. "Fridays at the Fleet" showcases *Mystery of the Nile* (6 p.m.) and *Africa: The Serengeti* (7 p.m.) on January 18. Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

"Navigating the Mekong River," author Mick O'Shea shares his film *Exploring the Mother of Waters: Source to Sea on Mekong*, Friday, January 18, 6:30 p.m., at REI San Diego (5556 Copley Drive). Film charts O'Shea's 4000 kilometer kayak adventure; he'll be on hand to sign books following screening. Free. 858-279-4400. (KEARNY MESA)

"The Day Mars Invaded the Earth" (1962) screens for Mars Movie Night, Friday, January 18, 7 p.m., in studio 106 of Art Union Building (2323 Broadway). Enjoy a *Duck Dodgers* cartoon and another episode from *Flying Disc Man from Mars* (1950). Free with reservations: 619-723-3456. (GOLDEN HILL)

"Away from Her" — consider this film starring Julie Christie and Gordon Pinsent when Cinema Society of Carlsbad convenes on Saturday, January 19, 2 p.m. Cinema chat begins at 1:30 p.m. in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Discussion follows. Free. 760-602-2026. (LA COSTA)

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

with other fans, Saturday, January 19, 7–10 p.m., in Studio 106 of Art Union Building (2323 Broadway). Program includes *Gojira*, a.k.a. *Godzilla* (Japan, 1954); *Quatermass II, Episode 2* (U.K., 1955); *Radar Men from the Moon, Episode 9* (1952). “Watch the best and worst from this era!” Free with reservation: 619-233-9779. (GOLDEN HILL)

“In Focus: National Geographic Greatest Portraits” opens with screening of documentary film *The Photographers* at 3 and 5 p.m. on Sunday, January 20, in Cannon Art Gallery at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Opening reception: 4 p.m. Free. 760-602-2021. (LA COSTA)

World on a String, film series offering “look into the world of beading that takes you around the world and to many cultures” continues with *The Sacred Bead*, Tuesday and Saturday, January 22 and 26, 7:30 p.m., at Xpressive Arts Center (12257-B Old Pomerado Road). \$5. 858-679-2787. (POWAY)

LECTURES

“Test Your Clairvoyance,” Walter Holtschi divulges “how to develop your psychic senses and improve your intuition,” Thursday, January 17, 6 p.m., at Sacred Pathway Bookstore (300 Carlsbad Village Drive, suite 103). Free. 760-729-2434. (CARLSBAD)

Touchy! “Tellington TTouch” discussed on Thursday, January 17, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society (5500 Gaines Street). Method “helps reduce various signs of stress such as excessive barking and separation anxiety.” \$10. No pets. Required reservations: 619-243-3424. (LINDA VISTA)

Safe Boating Course, eight weeks long, offered by San Luis Rey Sail and Power Squadron. Course starts Thursday, January 17, 7 p.m., at Oceanside Yacht Club (1950 Harbor Drive). Nominal materials fee. 760-942-0870, 760-754-8670. (OCEANSIDE)

“Introduction to Dreams and Their Interpretation,” Keith Burke, director of California Institute for Open Studies, discusses nature of dreams, Friday, January 18, 1 p.m., at Pacific Beach Library (4275 Cass Street). Free. Required registration: 858-581-9934. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Book Arts lecture by Sandra Kroupa, book arts librarian at University of Washington, Friday, January 18, 3 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). She’ll present guidelines based on questions she answers from people who sell original artists’ books. Free. 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

Austrian-Born Artist Erwin Redl plans art talk in conjunction with his *Matrix II* piece, Friday, January 18, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla (700 Prospect Street). \$7 general. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

“Exercise Is Medicine!” Function First, described as “the exercise alternative to pain relief,” hosts lecture, Saturday, January 19,

OUT & ABOUT

“DROUGHT AND RAIN, VOLUME 2,” Compagnie Ea Sola for ArtPower, Wednesday, January 23, UCSD.

(SEE DANCE)



9 a.m., at 2700 Adams Avenue #205. Adrienne Navarra discusses role of postural correction to combat migraines; Anthony Carey will “debunk the myth of overuse injuries and the contemporary methods of treating them.” Free. RSVP: 619-285-9218. (NORTH PARK)

Introduction to Windows Computer class for beginners, Saturday, January 19, 9 a.m., at Rancho San Diego Library (11555 Via Rancho San Diego). Take floppy disk or USB flash drive. Free. 619-660-5370. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

“Photography at the Poles” opens with lecture by participating photographers Ralph Lee Hopkins and Abe Ordovery, Saturday, January 19, 9 a.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. Exhibit features images of Arctic and Antarctic by leading *National Geographic* photographers. Lecture is followed

by reception at 10:30 a.m. \$12 general. 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

“What Do You Find in PERSI?” Mary Van Orsdol, genealogy librarian at Carlsbad City Library, addresses Computer Genealogy Society of San Diego on Saturday, January 19, 10:30 a.m., in Robinson Auditorium at UCSD (off Pangea Drive). User groups for Family Tree Maker and Reunion/Macintosh begin at 9 a.m. Free. 619-426-8295. (LA JOLLA)

“The Blokhause Way: Total Package for a Different Experience” presented by “international architect and local celebrity” Graham Downes for Friends of San Diego Architecture, Saturday, January 19, 9:30 a.m. at NewSchool of Architecture and Design (1249 F Street). Donation: \$5 general, free for students. 619-224-8584. (DOWNTOWN)

Cartooning and Caricatures Workshop led by Harry Hamernik, Saturday, January 19, 10 a.m., Oceanside Museum of Art School of Art (219 North Coast Highway). Hamernik is author of forthcoming *Face Off: How to Draw Amazing Caricatures and Cartoon Portraits* and *Cartoonimals*; he is faculty member at Art Institute of California. No experience necessary; all ages welcome. \$85. Registration: 760-721-2787. (OCEANSIDE)

FBI Public Liaison April Langwell and novelist Mary Castillo (*Switchcraft*, *Hot Tamara*, *Friday Night Chicas*) address Romance Writers of America San Diego, Saturday, January 19, 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m., at Trinity Episcopal Church (845 Chestnut Street). \$30 general (includes lunch). Reservations: 858-486-5280. (ESCONDIDO)

Fifty Percent of the Material in Landfills is described as organic compostable material. Learn to convert this “trash” into rich compost during home composting workshop planned for Tijuana Estuary Saturday Speaker Series, Saturday, January 19, 10 a.m., at Tijuana Estuary visitors’ center (301 Caspian Way). Free. 619-575-3613. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

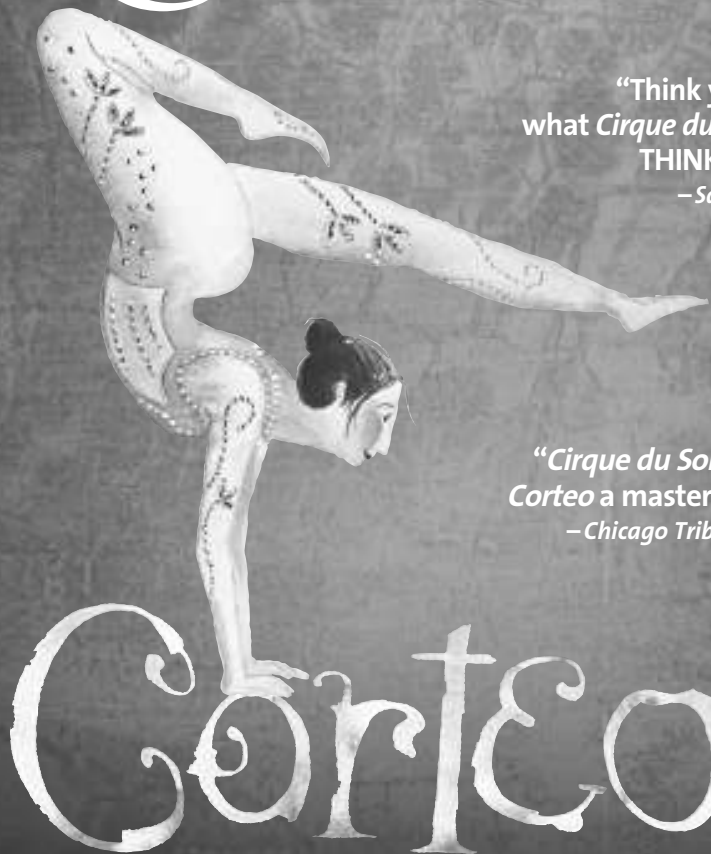
“To Serve, to Inspire: Meeting California’s Asian Pacific Americans in Elected Office” is theme for panel planned Saturday, January 19, 10 a.m.–noon, in Pepper Canyon Hall (next to Gilman parking structure), UCSD. Among panelists: Senator Leland Yee, chair of Senate Select Committee on Asian Pacific Affairs. Free. 858-405-3326. (LA JOLLA)

“Trees in the Water-Conserving Landscape” — tree selection, planting tips, watering, maintenance, best tree species for our climate divulged on Saturday, January 19, 10 a.m., in Cuyamaca College’s Water Conservation Garden (12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West). \$15. Reservations: 619-660-0614. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Art Critique by Mae Craider-Davis for Clairemont Art Guild, Saturday, January 19, 12:30 p.m., at Holy Cross Lutheran Church (3450 Clairemont Drive). Free. 858-273-3259. (CLAIREMONT)

“Designing With Succulents” author Debra Baldwin speaks and offers gardening advice when MiraCosta College Horticulture Club gathers, Saturday, January 19, 12:45 p.m., in building 7000 on MiraCosta College campus (One Barnard Drive). Free. 760-729-8172. (OCEANSIDE)

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Care and Feeding — and Pruning! Rose talk by award-winning arrangement exhibitor and American Rose Society consulting rosarian Jack Shoults, Saturday, January 19, 1 p.m., at Summers Past Farms (15602 Olde Highway 80). 619-390-1523. (EL CAJON)

“Is Your Music Good Enough for the Movies?” Film and TV Licensing” is focus for workshops hosted by Buddha Frog Music Publishing, Saturday, January 19. Classes begin at 1 p.m. at College-Rolando Library (6600 Montezuma Road, 619-533-3902) and at 3:30 p.m. at Malcolm X Library (5148 Market Street, 619-527-5456). Requested donation: \$5. (COLLEGE AREA, SOUTHEAST SAN DIEGO)

Memories of Tug's, including a video of “Skip and Biffy” visiting the bar on its last day, shared when Pacific Beach Historical Society gathers on Saturday, January 19, 1 p.m., at Earl and Birdie Taylor Library (Pacific Beach Library, 4275 Cass Street). Free. 858-581-9934. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Middle-Eastern Drumming Workshop with “master Arabic tabla player” Issam Houshan, Saturday, January 19, at Kava Gallery (2804 Kettner Boulevard). Learn popular rhythms, techniques, solos. Bring dumbek or similar hand drum. Beginners at 1 p.m. (\$20); intermediate/advanced 2:30 p.m. (\$25). 760-703-1487.

“The Secret to Having Your Best Year Ever” divulged Saturday, January 19, 1–7 p.m., at San Diego Sports Arena. Motivational, inspirational speakers include three teachers from book and movie *The Secret*, former San Diego Charger Miles McPherson, Ken Blanchard, Anthony Robbins, Ken Druck, many others. Tickets benefiting Jenna Druck Foundation: \$29–\$1000, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). Information: 619-270-9672 or 619-294-8000. (SPORTS ARENA)

“Isn’t Everything on the Internet?” Find out when UCSD Audrey Geisel University Library librarian Brian Schottlaender addresses San Diego Independent Scholars, Saturday, January 19, 1:30 p.m., in room 111A of Chancellor’s Complex at UCSD. Free. 760-751-3094. (LA JOLLA)

“Action and Nonaction in Mindfulness” is topic when Reverend Hiroshi Abiko of Buddhist Church of San Francisco presents “Dharma Discussion” on Saturday, January 19, 7 p.m., at Buddhist Temple of San Diego (2929 Market Street). “Learn to avoid the trap of thinking that Shin Buddhism is an entirely passive activity, entrusting all to Amida Buddha.” Free. 619-239-0896. (GOLDEN HILL)

“An Introduction to Pine Needle Basketry” presented by Carol Lang on Sunday, January 20, noon–5 p.m., at Oceanside Museum of Art School of Art (219 North Coast Highway). Students use local natural materials, transforming yard waste into functional vessels. Bring sharp scissors. Fee: \$80, plus additional \$10 for materials paid directly to Lang. Registration: 760-721-2787. (OCEANSIDE)

“Exopolitics — Preparing for Future Contact with Cosmic Cultures” presented by photojournalist, author Paola Harris for MUFON (Mutual UFO Network) on Sunday, January 20, 6 p.m., in banquet room at Sizzler (3755

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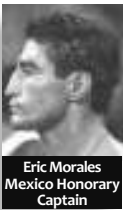
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UFO Investigative Journalist Paola Harris speaks, shows "unbelievable video and photos of the most recent UFO cases," Monday, January 21, 6 p.m., in Schulman Auditorium at Dove Library (1775 Dove Lane). Booksigning follows. \$10. 760-525-0205. (LA COSTA)

Boating Skills and Seaman-ship Course offered by Flotilla 16-03 of U.S. Coast Guard auxiliary starts Monday, January 21, 7:30 p.m., at San Diego County Health Building (3851 Rosecrans Street). Nine-week course covers the right boat for you, equipment, trailering, rules of road, inland boating. \$25 fee for text. Registration: 619-446-2145. (SAN DIEGO)

"Internet for the Beginner" taught at Poway Library (13137 Poway Road) on Tuesday, January 22, 8:45-10 a.m. Participants must have current county library card, be familiar with use of computer mouse. Free. Reservations: 858-513-2900. (POWAY)

"Evaluating Genealogical Sources" discussed by genealogy instructor Anne J. Miller when North San Diego County Genealogical Society meets, Tuesday, January 22, 10 a.m., in Carlsbad City Council Chambers (1200 Carlsbad Village Drive). Free. 760-630-5720. (CARLSBAD)

"Food for Life," nutrition and cooking class "designed for cancer prevention and survival" continues with "Favoring Fiber" presented by Tracy Childs on Tuesday, January 22, 11:45 a.m., at Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center (10905 Road to the Cure). Free. RSVP: 858-450-5990 x243. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

Infrared Photography is subject for art talk by photographer Monte Nagler, Tuesday, January 22, 6:30 p.m., at Art Expressions Gallery (2645 Financial Court, suite C). Nagler will discuss infrared photographic technique, process of converting regular digital camera into infrared camera. Free. Reservations: 858-270-7577. (BAY PARK)



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OUT & ABOUT

"BROADWAY'S ORIGINAL DREAMGIRL"

Jennifer Holiday with San Diego Symphony, Friday and Saturday, January 18 and 19.

(SEE IN PERSON)



Fix a Flat, learn brake and derailleur adjustment, more, when REI shop technicians offer basic bicycle maintenance clinics on Tuesday, January 22, 6:30 p.m., at REI San Diego (5556 Copley Drive; 858-279-4400) and REI Chula Vista (2015 Birch Road, 619-591-4924). Class repeats Wednesday, January 23, 6:30 p.m., at REI Encinitas (1590 Leucadia Boulevard; 760-944-9020). Call to register. Free. (KEARNY MESA, CHULA VISTA, ENCINITAS)

"Archaeology of the Second International Border Fence:

Problems and Solutions" presented by state parks archaeologist Therese Muranaka for San Diego County Archaeological Society's "Fourth Tuesday Evening Lecture Series," 7:30 p.m. on January 22, at Los Peñasquitos Ranch Adobe (12122 Canyonside Park Drive). "Dating at least 8000 years before present, there are Archaic precontact sites, 19th-Century Boundary Commission camps, and WWI and WWII military outposts overlapping each other in the valley's settlement pattern." Free. 858-538-8066. (RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

Explore Realism — with focus on Gustave Courbet, Jean-Fran-

cois Millet, Camille Corot, Theodore Rousseau, Charles-Francois Daubigny — when art historian Linda Blair continues "French Art in the 19th Century" series, Tuesday, January 22, 7:30 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). \$17. 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

Wilderness Basics Course, ten-week course with lectures and four weekend trips offered by Sierra Club beginning Tuesday, January 22, 7:30 p.m., at Scottish Rite Masonic Temple (1895 Camino del Rio South). Subjects include survival skills, first aid, equipment selection, more. \$125. 858-467-5074. (MISSION VALLEY)

"Scottish Surnames, Clans, and Septs" discussed by Jackie Webster when the Scottish Interest Class sponsored by British Isles Genealogical Research Association celebrates "Robert Burns Day" on Wednesday, January 23, 10:30 a.m., at LDS Family History Center (4195 Camino del Rio South). Free. 619-465-7326. (MISSION VALLEY)

"Opera Insights Series," Ron Shaheen presents historical and cultural background, music analysis, plot synopsis, musical selections



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from Wagner's *Tannhäuser* for upcoming San Diego Opera production. Lecture starts at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 23, at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

Bee Story, bee keeper and expert Diane Busch discusses current problems and mystery of honey bee die-offs for Mission Hills Garden Club on Wednesday, January 23, 6 p.m., at United Church of Christ (4070 Jackdaw Street). Learn to attract bees to your garden. \$10. RSVP: 619-260-8312. (MISSION HILLS)

"Mother/Daughter Duets: Relationships in Counterpoint" workshop hosted by mother-daughter team and authors Jennifer Rosvally and Shura Saul, Wednesday, January 23, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Workshop highlights "the changes that occur during maturation." Free. 619-236-5821. (DOWNTOWN)

"The Future of Biodiversity in a Changing World" pondered by Walter Jetz of UCSD for "Global Climate Change: Species and Places" series on Wednesday, January 23, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. Free. 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

"Who Created the Gods?" Question pondered when North County Agnostics meet, Wednesday, January 23, 7 p.m., in Ocean-side Mission Library community room (3861-B Mission Avenue). Free. 760-445-8112. (OCEANSIDE)

"Embryos and Evolution," all animals share similar architectural control genes called Homeobox genes, which "provide a pattern to construct organisms of incredibly diversity, beauty, and complexity." UCSD biologist William McGinnis speaks for Grey Matters lecture series at San Diego Natural History Museum, Thursday, January 24, 6:30 p.m. Free. 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

"How to Raise a Reader" divulged by literature specialist, teacher Robin Radlauer, Thursday, January 24, 6:30 p.m., at Poway Library (13137 Poway Road). 858-513-2900. (POWAY)

"Science Solutions for a Planet in Peril" explored by Charlie Kennel, Scripps Institution of Oceanography distinguished professor, Thursday, January 24, 6:30 p.m., at Scripps Institution of Oceanography UCSD. Kennel will discuss how convergence of earth science, biology, social science could lead to new awareness of Earth's systems that may enable coordinated responses to global environmental challenges. \$8 general. Reservations: 858-534-5771. (LA JOLLA)

"Real Cool Geckos" — Rami Guirguis focuses on geckos of New Caledonia when San Diego Herpetological Society gathers, Thursday, January 24, 7 p.m., in room 104 of Casa del Prado. Free. 760-533-2611. (BALBOA PARK)

IN PERSON

"Corteo" is "a joyous procession, a festive parade imagined by a clown," presented by Cirque du Soleil under the *grand chapiteau* at Del Mar Fairgrounds, January 11–February 3. *Corteo* cast includes 61 artists from 16 countries.

Performances begin at 8 p.m. Tuesdays–Thursdays; 4 and 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays; 1 and 5 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets: \$50–\$85 general, with discounts for seniors, students, children. 800-678-5440. (DEL MAR)

Author Caitlin Rother signs *Naked Addiction*, Thursday, January 17, 7 p.m., Borders Books and Music (11160 Rancho Carmel Drive, 858-618-1814). Free. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

Local Authors Deke Houlgate and J. Stryker Meyer plan conversation, moderated by mystery writer Taffy Cannon, Thursday, January 17, 7 p.m., at Cole Library (1250 Carlsbad Village Drive). Free. 760-602-2012. (CARLSBAD)

The "Giddy Musical Comedy" *Honk!* offers a new twist on Ugly Duckling's story; it's next production for actors of San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts. Curtain rises at 7 p.m. Thurs-

day–Saturday, January 17–19, and 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, January 19 and 20. \$7 general. Find campus at 2425 Dusk Drive. 619-475-8556. (PARADISE HILLS)

Mumbai Gangsters! Acclaimed Indian author Vikram Chandra discusses, signs *Sacred Games*, Thursday, January 17, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

"The Eclectic Collective" promises soul music, Thursday, January 17, 7:30 p.m., in David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre, Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). Artists include JZMN, Steph Johnson, Ryan Montana, Ernest Lane, Mac Johnson. \$15. 858-362-1348. (LA JOLLA)

"The Ultimate Music Event" takes place January 18–20 at Town and Country Hotel (500 Hotel Cir-

cle North). Kenny G performs with guests Norman Brown, Alan Hewitt on Friday, 7:30 p.m. All-star show with Norman Brown, Nick Colionne, Larry Carlton, many others, starts at 1 p.m. on Saturday. Fourplay, Patti Austin, and Warren Hill take stage at 7 p.m. on 19th.

On Sunday, see the Four Tops and Spinners at 1:30 p.m.; Kool and the Gang perform at 7:30 on 20th. Tickets: \$9–\$59, depending upon show. 888-695-0888. (MISSION VALLEY)



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San Diego Surf Series competition continues Saturday and Sunday, January 19 and 20, 7 a.m.–5 p.m., at south jetty near Oceanside Harbor. Free for spectators. 760-607-1225. (OCEANSIDE)

Board and Brew the Long Way, take “great” 50-mile ride with San Diego Bicycle Society on Saturday, January 19, starting at 8:45 a.m. in Doyle Park (8175 Regents Road). Free. 619-243-8617. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

SPECIAL

Tai Chi and Qigong stress release, five-week class offered on Thursdays from January 10 through February 7 at Redwood Town Court (500 East Valley Parkway), 10 a.m. Free. Registration: 760-796-3757. (ESCONDIDO)

“Snapshot of an Era: Uncovering Our New Deal Past” — exhibition exploring the genesis of the university campus and development of San Diego during the New Deal continues through May, in Special Collections Reading Room, University Archives, and Donor Hall of San Diego State University’s Love Library (5500 Campanile Drive). Exhibit uses archival photographs, institutional records, memorabilia, other primary resources to highlight impact of various New Deal programs on the physical campus environment, student life during the 1930s. Free. 619-594-6791. (SDSU)

“Jeannie Cheatham: My Life in Music...” The blues icon is celebrated in exhibit continuing through January in UCSD Arts Libraries (lower level of west wing of Geisel Library). Free. 858-534-8074. (LA JOLLA)

Thar She Blows! Daily whale-watching cruises offered by Birch Aquarium at Scripps and San Diego Harbor Excursion, now through March 31 at 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Naturalists on board share knowledge, gray whale artifacts, specimens. Fee: \$15 for kids 4–12; \$30–\$35 for those 13 and older. Reservations: 619-234-4111. (DOWNTOWN)

The Brig *Lady Washington* and topsail ketch *Hawaiian Chieftain* are docked at Kona Kai Marina (1561 Shelter Island Drive) through January 21, with dockside tours Thursday and Friday, January 17 and 18, 4–5 p.m.; Saturday–Monday, January 19 and 21, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Donation: \$3.

Public sailings and battles planned Saturday–Monday, January 19–21, 2–5 p.m. Battle sails fee: \$60 general; pay \$55 for adventure sails. Reservations: 800-200-5239. (SHELTER ISLAND)

How Would You Amend the Constitution? Make your case with P&R Discussion group, Thursday, January 17, 7 p.m., at Other Side Coffeehouse (4096 30th Street). Free. 619-370-1027. (NORTH PARK)

Del Mar Antique Show and Sale, January 18–20, at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Antique appraisal booth, glass, crystal, jewelry, art, silver, furniture, more. Show opens at 11 a.m. each morning,

closes at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 5 p.m. Sunday. Fee: \$8 for entire show. 800-943-7501. (DEL MAR)

Crop, Shop, Have Fun — Scrapfest San Diego hits Del Mar Fairgrounds, Saturday and Sunday, January 19 and 20, 9–11 a.m. Scrapbookers, stampers will complete page layouts with other like-minded people, vendors, demonstrations. \$40. Space availability: 619-807-1918. (DEL MAR)

Bridal Flower Tour planned by Bonnie Woelfel on Saturday, January 19, 10 a.m.–noon. See “all of the varieties and colors of flowers available for your wedding.” Tours start at 1657 Neptune Avenue to view greenhouse and photographs, proceeds seven miles (by car) to Flower Mart on Avenida Encinas in Carlsbad to view flowers from all over world. Free. Reservations: 760-944-1208. (LEUCADIA)

2008 Spring Show in the Park hosted by San Diego County Orchid Society, January 19 and 20, in room 101 of Casa del Prado. Show hours: 11:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Sunday. Free admission. 619-405-0412. (BALBOA PARK)

“Treasures from the Arctics,” chef Bernard Guillas demonstrates recipes, Saturday, January 19, noon, at Macy’s School of Cooking (in Mission Valley shopping center, 1555 Camino de la Reina). \$10


donation benefits Mama’s Kitchen. Reservations: 888-424-3663. (MISSION VALLEY)

Aristotle’s On Happiness discussed by Great Books Reading and Discussion Group on Saturday, January 19, 2 p.m., in third-floor conference room of San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Newcomers welcome. Free. 619-440-5625. (DOWNTOWN)

Classics, Hot Rods, cycles, and high-performance vehicles on display during San Diego Auto Swap,


Sunday, January 20, 7 a.m.–1 p.m., at San Diego Sports Arena (in conjunction with Kobey’s swap meet). Vehicles on display and for sale, along with “acres of parts and accessories.” Admission: \$5 general, free for kids under 13. 858-484-9342. (SPORTS ARENA)

Taste Cake, Hear Music, See Gowns — 33rd annual winter Bridal Bazaar at San Diego Convention Center (111 West Harbor



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San Diego Reader January 17, 2008 73

What's That You're Writing?

NAME: JUDY REEVES | **OCCUPATION:** AUTHOR/TEACHER
NEIGHBORHOOD: SOUTH PARK | **WHERE INTERVIEWED:** REBECCA'S COFFEEHOUSE



What are you writing?

"A novel. I've been working on it, it was three years in December. And I'm almost done with the second draft: *All That Isn't Singing*. The title comes from an e.e. cummings poem."

Tell me about it.

"It's set in 1957, '58 in Kansas City, Missouri. So, there's a lot of music in it. The protagonist wants to be a singer. She's a young girl, 17, 18 years old. She ran away from home to go to Kansas City to be a singer. A woman who recognizes her talent early on — an old, kind of washed up singer — says to her, 'Anybody can be a success, honey, you just have to be willing to give up everything.' So off she goes to Kansas City, where she meets a young woman from Cuba. They become roommates and my character gets a job at a radio station and finds a mentor there. It being 1957, '58, jazz is where it is, rhythm and blues is where it is. It's also just before the Cuban Revolution. It is my character's search for success as a singer, and what is that success. And it has to do with how we work with mentors, what happens with that whole power and control, and where a mentor becomes maybe more powerful. Does that silence our voice or give us strength? Are we doing what they want or are we doing our own thing? And the love between a man and a woman, also the attraction between women. And she has always dreamed of going to California to be a star. Her daddy is in California, so part of it is her journey to go to California."

What made you write it?

"She was a character in another novel that I wrote. In that first novel she ran away from home, and I never knew what happened to her. She was one of three daughters in the other book, called *Sleepwalking on the Big Dragon*, which is set at a fishing camp at a lake in the Ozarks. That lake is called the Big Dragon, and everybody's sleepwalking in it. So, she ran away from home

in that book, and I finished that one and did rewrites on it and put it aside. And I didn't know what I was going to work on next — I was just doing writing practice — her voice just kept coming up. She is a really alive character for me. I love her attitude: she's sassy. I thought, I wonder what happened to her when she went to Kansas City? So I just followed her and it just kind of went from there.

"I'm also really interested in that time. It was the time of the Beats, and change was happening in music at that time too. To tell the truth, I've always wanted to be a singer — can't carry a tune. So, I think in part, writing about a singer is a way I could do it. Also this is the time of the great Western movement, when the freeways were just being made. So, I think this is the beginning of the disintegration of the close-knit families that stayed in one place. And off we all go, on the road. That's also an exciting theme for me, being on the road. There's a lot of really rich cultural experience to explore through this young girl's eyes and through her experiences in the middle of the country, in Kansas City."

Do you have a favorite passage?

"The one I'm working on, probably. My favorite sections of the book are when Louise, the character, gets to go sing somewhere. Whether she's auditioning for a little local television

show or whether she's standing up on a clunky little bandstand at this fish fry at fishing camp or whether she's with this band where they're going to play at a coffeehouse. I like when she goes to sing."

Why should someone read this?

"I think all of us have these desires to be what we see ourselves as before that vision gets squashed by making a living and being in the real world. Whatever it is, whether we see ourselves as a singer or a writer or a painter — when we can do anything. I think connecting maybe with the dreams of this young girl, that that will reconnect too. Primarily I think [they'll read it] because people will like the characters. Or I hope they'll like the characters. I hope they'll care about a woman who wants to go to Cuba because of the revolution, who wants to be there at history being made. If you can have characters who break your heart, who give you hope, reach somehow inside of you and connect, and there's also a story that we care about, not just interesting characters. There has to be a story; we're made for stories. We love stories, we need stories."

Tell me about your writing habits.

"Every morning when I get up I go out to my studio, which is two feet from my house. I go out there and I light a candle and I read some kind of meditation. I write a few notes in my jour-

nal and then launch into the writing for the day. I try to spend two or three hours out there each morning. Sometimes I get a lot done; sometimes I don't. I go there probably five days a week. Sometimes six, but no fewer than five days a week."

Is writing your primary job?

"It's my meaningful work. I teach also, and I am executive director for San Diego Writers, Ink, a nonprofit literary organization. And that takes a lot of time. I like teaching. I always say that I'm a writer and a teacher because I love them both so much. I don't know who this poet is — I don't know who I'm quoting — but he said, 'Anybody can make a living as a writer. You just have to lower your living standards.'"

What are your relationships like?

"I kind of half-live with a writer; we've lived off and on together. He's a poet, and he does his work at a certain time, I do my work at a certain time. And there's a lot of mutual support and appreciation for the other's work. He comes through as a muse for me because his images are so rich. And he's very disciplined and very productive, and that's great for me too."

"Almost all my friends are writers. My community is made up of writers. When you talk to other writers, you can discuss things that you couldn't discuss with somebody who's not a writer."

Drive) is Sunday, January 20, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Over 300 exhibitors offering their wares, fashion show. \$10. 760-334-5500. (DOWNTOWN)

"What Do Today's Top Comics have to say about religion?" Ponder question with Humanist Association of San Diego, Sunday, January 20, 1 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (4065 Vermont Street). Free. 760-445-8112. (HILLCREST)

Martin Luther King Jr. celebration planned Sunday, January 20, 4 p.m., at Christ United Presbyterian Church (3025 Fir Street). Performances by the MLK Celebration Mass Choir, youth essay finalists will share their compositions about King, keynote speech by Rudolph F. Crew, who is superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, author of *Only Connect, The Way to Save Our Schools*. Free. 619-239-2346. (SOUTH PARK)

20th Annual Martin Luther King Day Celebrations, Monday, January 21, 11 a.m.–6 p.m., at WorldBeat Cultural Center (2100 Park Boulevard). Outdoor music festival features Elijah Emanuel and the Revelations, Caribbean gospel vocalist Lynette White, BlackMenSoul, African dancers and drummers, food, vendors. Free admission. 619-230-1190. (BALBOA PARK)

Warwick's Knitting Club? Get out your needles for a knitting club and book signing event with *The Friday Night Knitting Club* author Kate Jacobs on Wednesday, January 23. Knitting instruction at 6:30 p.m.; \$40 fee includes signed book, materials to start a scarf, and priority seating at 7:30 p.m. discussion and signing. Discussion, signing are free to attend. Find Warwick's Bookstore at 7812 Girard Avenue. Reservations: 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

"Your Heart's Desire: Sex and Love in Jewish Literature" explored during "Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature" discussion series, continuing with *The Mind Body Problem* by Rebecca Goldstein on Wednesday, January 23, 6:30 p.m., at Poway Library (13137 Poway Road). Free. 858-513-2939. (POWAY)

Exercise Your Humor and creativity with "variety of active and interactive exercises...to give your

funnybone a workout" led by Jacquie Lowell, Wednesday, January 23, 7:35 p.m., at Radiance Yoga Center (1618 West Lewis Street). \$20. 858-581-0050. (MISSION HILLS)

Global Belly Laugh Day celebration, Thursday, January 24, 1–2 p.m., in grassy area between lily pond and botanical building. Organizers say "people around the world will smile, throw their arms in the air, and laugh out loud at

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Have Your Tarot Cards Read and enjoy “culinary delights” during “A Taste for the Arts” on Thursday, January 24, 7 p.m., at California Center for the Arts Museum (340 North Escondido Boulevard). \$5 fee includes museum admission. 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

“What Is Globalization’s Dark Side?” Share opinions with P&R Discussion Group on Thursday, January 24, 7 p.m., at Other Side Coffee House (4096 30th Street). Free. 619-370-1027. (NORTH PARK)

FOR KIDS

“The Very Hungry Caterpillar” and other favorites performed by Big Joe Productions through Sunday, January 20, in Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. Next up: *The Rabbit on the Moon* and *The Little Red Hen* performed by Gaston Morineau. Shows begin at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday-Friday and at 11 a.m., 1, and 2:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Find theater at 2130 Pan American Place. Admission: \$3 for children, \$4 seniors, \$5 general. 619-544-9203. (BALBOA PARK)

“Magic for Life,” Amazing Dana presents “The Magician’s Nutrition Education” for kids, Thursday, January 17, 2 p.m., at Fletcher Hills Library (576 Garfield Avenue). Fish is brain food! Free. 619-466-1132. (EL CAJON)

“The Bridge to Terabithia” presented by San Diego Junior Theatre through January 20 in Casa del Prado Theater. Adaptation of Newberry Award-winning book by author Katherine Paterson is for those eight and older. Curtain rises at 7 p.m. on Friday, 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. January 19 show is ASL interpreted. Tickets: \$8–\$11 for those under 14 and seniors, \$10–\$13 general. Reservations: 619-239-8355. (BALBOA PARK)

“Ocean Awareness Day” projects presented by teams of “enthusiastic, emerging scientists” — area high school students” for family program, Saturday, January 19, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., at Birch Aquarium-Museum (2300 Expedition Way). Included with paid aquarium admission. 858-534-7336. (LA JOLLA)

“Structures” provide topic when Reuben H. Fleet Science Center hosts family science day, Saturday, January 19, noon–3 p.m. Participants “make a free science experiment” to take home. Included in regular admission. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

Animal Tales Told, and crafts and animals are part of fun on Sunday, January 20, 1 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). \$3 per child. Reservations: 619-243-3432. (LINDA VISTA)

“Becka and the Big Bubble” books author Gretchen Schomer Wendel reads from one of her books for preschool story time, Wednesday, January 23, 10:30 a.m., at Poway Library (13137 Poway Road). Free. 858-513-2900. (POWAY)

“Children of the Earth,” Joe Reilly — a singer, songwriter, environmental educator at Leslie Science and Nature Center in Ann Arbor, Michigan — presents his children’s music program on Wednesday January 23, 6:30 p.m.,

at Malcolm X Library (5148 Market Street). Appropriate for preschool through middle school. Admission: \$10 general, \$5 for those 12 and under. 619-527-3405. (ENCANTO)

Tots and Tales, interactive story time for preschoolers at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA involves crafts and animals, Thursday, January 24, 10:30 a.m., at Humane Society (5500 Gaines Street). \$3. 619-243-3432. (LINDA VISTA)

“Trucktown: Smash! Crash!” Award-winning children’s book author Jon Scieszka (*The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales*) and award-winning illustrator David Shannon (*No, David!*) read from and sign their new collaboration at Warwick’s Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue) on Thursday, January 24, 3:30 p.m. Event includes visit by San Diego Fire Department. Free. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

Alex Rider Lives! Bestselling young adult novelist Anthony Horowitz reads from and signs his latest “Alex Rider” novel, *Snakehead*, Thursday, January 24, 5 p.m., at Borders Books and Music (1072 Camino del Rio North). Free. 619-692-3676.

Busy at 5 p.m.? Horowitz also plans reading and signing at 7:30 p.m. on 24th at Warwick’s Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). 858-454-0347. Free. (MISSION VALLEY, LA JOLLA)

MUSEUMS

Bancroft Ranch House Museum houses indigenous Indian artifacts and memorabilia of early settlers in the area, run by the Spring Valley Historical Society. The home, built in 1863, was registered as a National Historic Landmark in 1962 and is on a spot where Kumeyaay Indians camped more than 1000 years ago beside the

spring that later gave the area its name. The museum is found at 9050 Memory Lane; 619-469-1480. (SPRING VALLEY)

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

Birch Aquarium at Scripps, an aquarium and museum under one roof, the facility is a component of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD. More

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

than 60 tanks contain marine life of Pacific Northwest, California coastline, Mexico's Sea of Cortés, and South Pacific. The La Jolla Kelp Tank is a two-story-high tank with giant kelp plants and nearly 30 species of local marine life. "Feeling the Heat: The Climate Challenge" examines science behind climate change; "Art of Deception" explores undersea camouflage. "Wonders of Water" waterplay area includes three interactive stations. The Lynne and Howard Robbins Shark Reef Exhibit features a 13,000-gallon shark tank with black tip, white tip, bamboo, and wobbegong sharks.

The aquarium is located at 2300 Expedition Way (off North Torrey Pines Road, south of La Jolla Shores Drive). 619-534-FISH. (LA JOLLA)

California Surf Museum, "The Surfer-Shapers," on exhibit through 2006, showcases several surfers whose conceptual abilities and crafting talent radically altered surfboard design. The search has always been for lighter, faster, more maneuverable boards, from Duke Kahanamoku in early 1900s to Tom Blake in 1920s to Simon Anderson in early 1980s.

The museum features surfing artifacts and memorabilia — such as surfboards and clothing — of local legends Phil Edwards, John "L.J." Richards, and Peter Johnson, and Duke Kahanamoku. The museum is located at 223 North

Coast Highway; 760-721-6876. (OCEANSIDE)

Chula Vista Nature Center, an interactive living museum devoted to the endangered Southern California coastal wetlands, located in Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. Visitors can use a Bioscanner to view animals macroscopically, use a Wentzscope for views of microscopic organisms found in the "Sweetwater Soup," and interact with computerized videos exploring how tides affect the bay in the "Moons, Tides, and the San Diego Bay" exhibit. Pet sharks and rays in the David A. Wergeland Shark and Ray Experience, see burrowing owls and migratory birds, and enjoy the xerophytic gardens.

Visitors meet a shuttle bus at the Bayfront E Street Trolley Station or at the center's parking lot at the foot of E Street and Bay Boulevard. 619-409-5903. (CHULA VISTA)

Coronado Museum of History and Art, "The Joy of Toys: Antique Treasures," on display through Sunday, February 3, includes variety of antique toys, furniture, vintage collectibles, comics, Winnie the Pooh's "40-Acre Woods," more.

Ongoing exhibits explore the overall history of Coronado, Navy and Army, Tent City, and the Hotel del Coronado. Find the museum at 1100 Orange Avenue. 619-435-7242. (CORONADO)

Flying Leatherneck Museum, dedicated to the Marine Corps who provided air support, from the propeller-driven fighters and bombers of the 1940s to the modern jets and helicopters currently in use. Static displays of a variety of

OUT & ABOUT

LADY WASHINGTON AND HAWAIIAN CHIEFTAIN on Shelter Island, through Monday, January 21.

(SEE SPECIALS)



aircraft are included, along with equipment, insignia, paintings and photographs, scale models, and a research library. The museum is located in building T-2002, at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. 858-693-1723.

Gaslamp Museum of Historic San Diego, glimpse San Diego's colorful past at the museum, where displays highlight Wyatt Earp's San Diego days, the Peg Leg Gold Legend, the first maps and photographs of Old Town and "New Town," early military history, the naval disaster in 1923 at Point Honda, and more. Find the museum at 413 Market Street (between Fourth and Fifth Avenues). 619-237-1492. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

Heritage of the Americas Museum, more than 100 Chinese jades of the Late Neolithic (4300–2500 B.C.) through the

Ming periods (A.D. 1368–1644) are included in "The Stone of Heaven: The Enduring Art of Jade Age China." From ancient times, jades in China were treasured as talismans, worn on the body either as final adornments in death or as ornaments in life. See a rare and valuable jade burial suit of the Han dynasty (206 B.C.–A.D. 221), one of only about two dozen that have been excavated in China. The suits were made of more than 2000 square and rectangular plates of jade sewn together with threads of gold, silver, or bronze (depending upon the status of the wearer). Ongoing.

The museum features art and artifacts from South and North America, concentrating on the utilitarian and decorative artistry of crafts workers from ancient cultures. The museum also features wings dedicated to natural history,

archaeology, education, anthropology, and fine art. Find the museum on the Cuyamaca College campus, 12110 Cuyamaca College Drive West. 619-670-5194. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Heritage Walk Museum, the museum includes the restored Victorian House, the city's original Santa Fe Train Depot, a railroad car with model train, working blacksmith shop, and a barn. Find Heritage Walk in Grape Day Park, at 321 North Broadway; 760-743-8207. (ESCONDIDO)

John DeWitt Historic Museum and Library, operated by the Alpine Historical Society, it is located in the 1897 home/office of Dr. Sophronia Nichols. She was the first doctor in Alpine and the first female doctor in the East County. Indian artifacts from the Kingery family on exhibit. The

museum is located at 2116 Tavern Road; 619-659-8740. (ALPINE)

La Mesa Depot Museum, located in a restored 1894 wooden train station, exhibits include original telegraph and telephone equipment, pot-bellied coal stove, period furniture. The adjacent freight train display features 1923 steam locomotive, 1957 refrigerator car, 1941 caboose. Find the museum at La Mesa Boulevard and Spring Street. 619-465-7776. (LA MESA)

Magee House Museum, built in 1887 and surrounded by rose gardens, the site includes "one of the last barns still standing in Carlsbad." Docent and self-guided tours of historic house and gardens. Find Magee House at 258 Beech Street; 760-434-9189. (CARLSBAD)

Museum of Making Music hosts "The Ukulele and You: America's Enduring Love of the Jumping Flea" through Thursday, January 31. "Promoted as an easy-to-play, portable, and fun musical instrument, the ukulele has enjoyed three major waves of popularity on the mainland U.S. Over the last 15 years, the instrument has been going through a third wave of interest both in Hawaii and on the mainland." Contemporary players are taking ukulele into rock, jazz, classical, punk. Collection includes over 300 instruments ranging from finely crafted rare and historic ukes made of koa, mahogany, other precious woods to inexpensive, plastic marvels produced in the '50s.

The past 100 years of American music and music making are highlighted at the museum, with over 450 vintage instruments, hundreds of audio and video clips, and an interactive stage. Find the museum at 5790 Armada Drive; 760-438-5996. (CARLSBAD)

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)

Ramona Pioneer Historical Society and Guy B. Woodward Museum is a complex of historical buildings, including the Verlaque House (the only Western adobe home of French provincial design still in existence), wagons, antique exhibits, and artifacts. There is a cowboy bunk house, women's clothing and accessories from 1700 to 1800, a ranch blacksmith shop and tack room. The Casey Tibbs Memorial Exhibit is dedicated to Tibbs, a local resident who was a world-champion rodeo rider. The Bancroft Memorial Rose Garden is on the grounds. Rare documents, historical exhibits, books, photographs, and a research library are also part of the complex.

Find it all at 645 Main Street. 760-789-7644. (RAMONA)

San Diego Aerospace Museum, the technological advancements made in aircraft propulsion over the last century are showcased in "100 Years of Aircraft Engines," including a functional reproduction of the 1903 Wright Flyer Engine; a Rolls-Royce liquid-cooled Merlin V-12 that powered the *Spitfire* and

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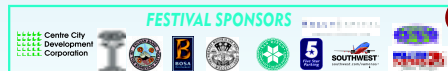
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P-51 *Mustang* fighters; and a rare German Junkers *Jumo 004*, one of the world's first operational jet engines.

Concurrently, see "The History of Commercial Aviation in America." A new section of the exhibit celebrates the 40-year history of PSA, with original graphics, a re-creation of the airline's first ticket booth at Lindbergh Field, and uniforms and memorabilia donated by former employees. Ongoing.

"P-51 *Mustang*" celebrates the legendary Air Force fighter used during both World War II and Korea. The museum's *Mustang* is painted in the red-tail livery of the Tuskegee Airmen, who distinguished themselves flying bomber escort and ground attack missions during World War II.

The museum offers exhibits of over 65 aircraft — including an RQ-1K Predator UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) on indefinite loan from the National Museum of the United States Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, which "saw action over the Balkans in the late 1990s"; a replica of Spirit of St. Louis, a Fokker Scourge (or Fokker Eindecker E-III), a World War I Spad VII, flight deck of the USS *Yorktown*, and a Lockheed Blackbird spy plane — 1400 scale models, 10,000 aviation-related items, and memorabilia from Montgolfier hot-air-balloon era to Space Age, along with an International Aerospace Hall of Fame.

The museum is located in the Ford Building in the Palisades area. 619-234-8291. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Aircraft Carrier Museum onboard the decommissioned USS *Midway* is open for

tours, now berthed at 910 North Harbor Drive. Exhibits include Navy jet simulators, carrier and flight deck touring, captain's sea cabin, pilot house, navigation bridge. Admission fee includes audio guide. 619-544-9600. (DOWNTOWN)

San Diego County Sheriff's Museum, the 150-year history of the sheriff's department is highlighted at the museum, which is located "just feet away" from the original cobblestone jail site, built in 1850. The museum boasts artifacts, photographs, equipment, uniforms, and vehicles, along with exhibits from each of the departments making up the organization such as crime scene, K-9, court service, detentions, crime lab, bomb squad, and many others. Find the museum at 2384 San Diego Avenue; 619-260-1850. (OLD TOWN)

San Diego Electric Railway Association, located in historic National City Santa Fe Depot (922 West 23rd Street), offers exhibits, video displays, trolley equipment,

restored passenger car from National City and Otay Railroad. 619-474-4400. (NATIONAL CITY)

San Diego Model Railroad Museum, museum celebrates American railroads with "the largest permanent operating model railroad and toy train exhibit" in North America. Four scale-model railroads of the Southwest, the "San Diego County Relief Map" exhibit, and an interactive toy train. There is a multimedia presentation on railroading, an operating railroad semaphore signal, and interpretive displays on railroads and model railroading. The museum is downstairs in the Casa de Balboa building. 619-696-0199. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Natural History Museum, "Photography at the Poles," opening Saturday, January 19, features images of the Arctic and Antarctic by leading *National Geographic* photographers in the museum's Overdoor Gallery. Look for landscapes, mass

breeding grounds of king pen-guins, wildlife. Closes Sunday, May 4.

The permanent exhibit "Fossil Mysteries" showcases last 75 million years in Southern California and Baja California region, a time known for its rich fossil record. Highlights include life-sized models of *Albertosaurus*, *Lambeosaurus*, a sea cow, megalodon shark, more.

Current "giant-screen film" is *Ocean Oasis*. 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

Serra Museum, "Commemorating 75 Years: The Serra Museum" is said to "remember the events leading up to the dedication of Presidio Park and the Serra Museum" on July 16, 1929. The exhibit includes a "visit back in time to 1929."

The museum interprets the Native American, Spanish, and Mexican periods of San Diego's history and contains Spanish Colonial furnishings, art, and artifacts. It's located at the site of the

West Coast's first European settlement, 2727 Presidio Drive. 619-297-3258. (OLD TOWN)

Veterans Museum and Memorial Center, memorial to men and women who served in U.S. Armed Forces, Coast Guard, and Wartime Merchant Marine. Located in the former San Diego Naval Hospital Chapel (2115 Park Boulevard), the museum features original service-inspired stained glass, as well as historical murals painted by Richard DeRosset. Main exhibit hall features displays, exhibits of historic artifacts, documents, photographs, memorabilia, artwork honoring men and women who served. Museum is also home to San Diego Vietnam

Peace Memorial and Veterans Memorial Garden. 619-239-2300. (BALBOA PARK)

Wells Fargo History Museum, the museum features a working agents' office staffed by guides in period costumes and contains a working telegraph for visitors to send and receive messages. Short films on California and Wells Fargo history; a gold display, part of the collection assembled by Wells Fargo agent Samuel Dorsey at the end of the 1800s; an exhibit of Concord Coach #251, a restored stagecoach built in 1867; and the Davies watch. The museum is located in the reconstructed Colorado House, at 2733 San Diego Avenue. (OLD TOWN)

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Southland Art

"They're building a complex behind my house that looks just like that."

In the 1950s and 1960s, several Bay Area painters — David Park, Richard Diebenkorn, Elmer Bischoff, and others — were working to revivify traditional figurative painting while juggling formal issues raised by Abstract Expressionism about surface and illusionist depth. They painted portraits, bathers, domestic scenes, and still lifes, pushing the limits of representation. (Each at some point also painted abstractly.) At the same time, a different scene was taking shape in Los Angeles, where artists were taking, so to speak, indigenous materials — L.A.'s chemically treated sunsets, surfing and car culture, found junk — to explore other possibilities that, even at their most crystalline and nonrepresentational, usually came directly out of their experience.

In the late 1960s, for instance, the artist and ardent surfer Peter Alexander, while using resin to repair a board, noticed that the hardened substance refracted light but looked like liquid standing still, so he experimented with it as a sculptural medium, molding resins into standing wedges hazed through and through with mystical hues of faint purples and glassy aquamarines. His contemporary Billy Al Bengston raced cars and motorcycles and in his art imitated their hard, lacquered, candy-color looks. From customizing shops he got the idea of using metal as a support and manipulating color for sculptural effects; and he happily admitted that his art came directly out of Southern California freeway culture. Why not? Art imitates life in unexpected ways.

What Alexander and Bengston produced came to be called "finish fetish" art, because of their obsession with dazzling surfaces and their use of fiberglass or aluminum supports instead of more traditional canvas or linen. (They and a few of their cohorts were tagged the Venice Boys, because they lived near Venice Beach.) Finish fetish art and other practices that buzzed around Southern California in the 1960s and 1970s (when a second generation of Bay Area figurative painters were building on the achievements of their predecessors) are on view at a condensed survey exhibition, *SoCal*, running at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. The show, which draws exclusively on LACMA's collection, scoops up everything from Ed Kienholz's junk art (including his most famous construction, *Back Seat Dodge*, '38, which I'll get to in a minute) to Lyn Foulkes's muscular stereoscopic blue and rose landscapes, in which she scratches the canvas to create wild grasses and floats gestural squiggles above hilltops; and from shrine art that showcases L.A.'s mongrel mix of ethnicities to Kenneth Price's architectural ceramic sculptures with glazes so color

saturated and enameled that you want to knock on them. One Price piece is composed of a green upper story cantilevered over a "floor level" box with red, yellow, and orange facets. "They're building a complex behind my house," I overheard one visitor say, "that looks just like that."

In the 1960s and 1970s, contemporary social issues scraped back and forth across formal problems. Some L.A. artists were intent on making trouble, so trouble they made, no one more than Ed Kienholz. His *Back Seat Dodge*, '38, a cutaway view of a couple coupling in the snub-nosed jalopy of the title, its ambient space lit only by headlights, big-band music tinkling faintly from the radio, is so grungy and audacious — the dummy-woman's legs spread wide for the chicken-wire man pushing into her — that when it was first exhibited in 1966, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors deemed it pornographic and threatened to shut the museum, but they and the museum reached a compromise: the assemblage could be shown if the car door were closed. (Gallery attendants opened the door to adults on request, but not if children were present.) *Back Seat Dodge*, '38 is whoopie as noir-ish, shabby furtiveness, vintage 1930s, with mysterious effluvia fogging the car windows, discarded panties and empty beer bottles tossed here and there. Kienholz knew how to get our attention so that he could then criticize our attention: his art doesn't sandbag us in any vulgar way, but it does celebrate vulgarity while slicing and dicing hypocrisies about America's sexual mores. Kienholz, who died in 1994, was a realist of disgust, of gutter clutter, but also a wicked satirist. The ratty seat cushion of the abortionist's chair in *The Illegal Operation* is actually a crushed female torso with stuffing, like a rag doll's inners, oozing from her vagina. Cigarette butts and grimy nasty instruments lie scattered around her. *The Illegal Operation* dates to 1962 and still shocks — Kienholz's raspy sadness, grim outrage, and diabolical in-your-face humor is hard to shake.

Looking at stuff in this exhibition made me think that texture counted more as an essence for Southern California painters than it did for other regional styles, even when, or especially when, the work has obvious subjective meanings. Eric Orr's 1979 *Gold to Lead Strip* uses gold leaf on wood as Gothic artists did hundreds of years ago, though the subject matter is autobiographical, since the carved surface grill contains his father's portrait. In it and another of Orr's works, *Silence and Ion Wind*, where sweet little rooms (or monastic cells) are drawn onto sandpaper with pencil and gold pen then mounted on lead panel, the artist achieves fresh



Back Seat Dodge '38, 1964, Edward Kienholz

SoCal: Southern California Art of the 1960s and 1970s from LACMA's Collection

Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles

Through Sunday, March 30. For additional information, call 323-857-6000; 323-857-0098 (TDD). Or visit lacma.org

effects using ancient methods. The junk art equivalent of this would be, I think, personal narrative that's literally constructed from crafted or found materials. When John Outterbridge was growing up during the Depression, his father supported the family by operating a small hauling business with a rattletrap pickup, exchanging his work for yams and watermelons. The son's recent (1993) construction, *John Ivery's Truck: Hauling Away the Traps and Saving the Yams*, obviously owes much to Ed Kienholz's breakthrough autobiographical and socially acute work. A toy truck with a business phone number painted crookedly on the door gives up none of its pathos to the fond humor that also defines it. It also reminds us of the identity politics that took hold of some Southland art in the 1990s, when another provocateur-enchanter, Betye Saar, constructed *Gris Gris Guardian*. Saar is of mixed ethnic descent, and her work is a retablo or shrine to her past, with candles, voodoo dolls, bones, feathers, corn husks, and bottles of occult potions you'd find in a Santeria shop.

While the exhibition doesn't make this case, nearly everything in it can be traced back to the momentous split between Cubism, which re-visioned not only how we imagine we see physical reality but how that re-visioning could be represented in marginally abstract, shuffled planes, and the kind of Conceptualism Duchamp initiated when he said that if an artist calls something he or she has found "art" — a

urinal, a bicycle wheel, whatever — then art it is. When Larry Bell in 1966 makes a transparent cube of vacuum-coated glass, or a year later when John McCracken in *Don't Tell Me When to Stop* crafts a tall candy-apple red rectangular slab and leans it against the wall as a sort of sculpture-yoga, they're still dealing with issues stirred up by Cubism. When Outterbridge builds a model of his father's truck, he's extending, as so many artists everywhere are still trying to extend, the consequences of Duchamp's readymades. The art that slips these traces is the pure painting of So-Cal artists who are essentially landscape painters, except that they're painting L.A.'s sometimes toxic sunrises and sunsets. Norman Zammitt learned a lot by studying how light filters through Pacific sunsets, and of his eye-piercing picture of concave ribbons of color rising from bottommost rubbed maroons to ethereal cotton-wool blues, he said, "I wanted to make light with paint."

It would be too easy — and another kind of sandbagging — to criticize *So-Cal* for being, like the city it represents, smug with self-regard and obsessed with appearances. All art obviously is concerned with appearances. L.A.'s spin is an art that has a see-here, slightly boastful air about it. Then again, every center — L.A., New York, San Francisco, wherever — is provincial in its own (sometimes unaware) way. I wish *So-Cal* were bigger, more eclectic, and inclusive of other practices. I'm not in the oracle business so won't comment on what seems likely to last,

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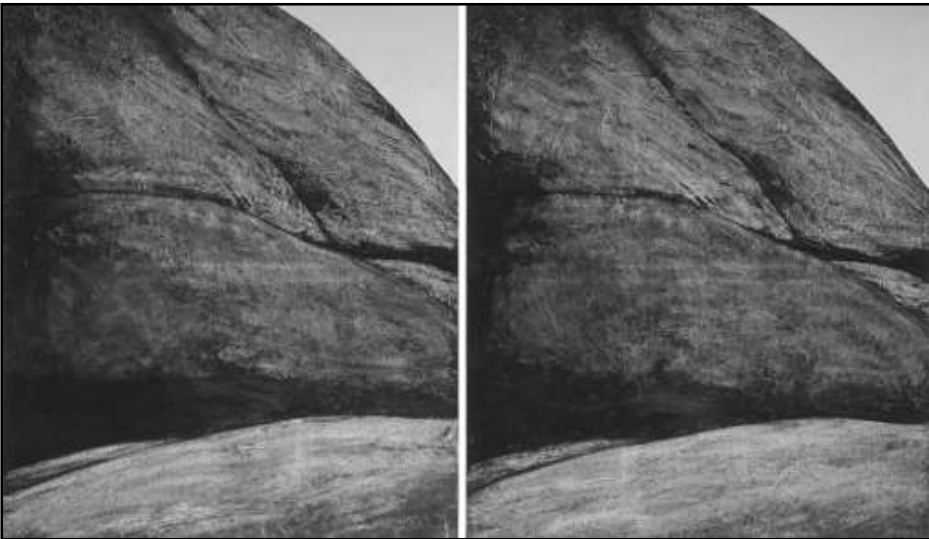
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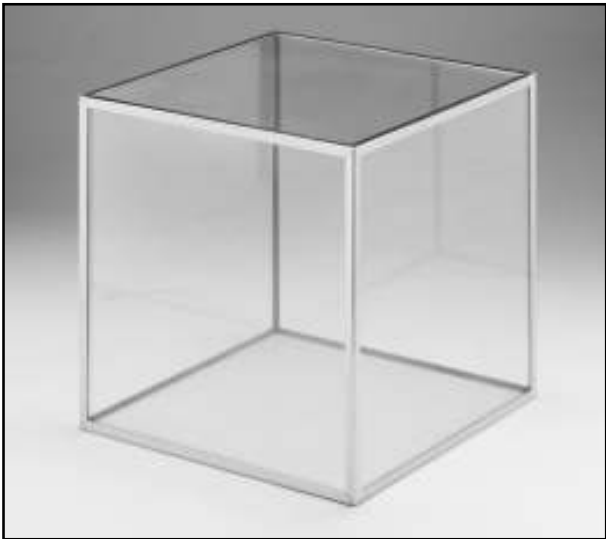
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Rose Hill, 1964, *Llyne Foulkes*



Cube, 1966, *Larry Bell*

what not. The most memorable things in the show, for sure, are Kienholz’s plug uglies. He wasn’t interested in problem solving, he was pre-occupied with crafting a nearly completed reality in everything he made, with uncomfortable moral consequences squirming in every tattered end and darkened nook. ■

ART LISTINGS

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GALLERIES

“The Art of Motion” by Blake Shaw and “Images of Nature” by Lew Abulafia open with reception on Thursday, January 17, 5:30 p.m., at Ordovery Gallery (444 South Cedros Avenue, studio 172). See these exhibitions of fine art photography through Sunday, February 24. 858-720-1121. (SOLANA BEACH)

“Estuary,” new “alluring, conceptual, abstract paintings with as-

semblages” by John Patrick Salisbury may be enjoyed through Sunday, February 3, at Susan Street Fine Art Gallery (415 South Cedros Avenue). Meet Salisbury during reception on Thursday, January 17, 6 p.m. 858-793-4442. (SOLANA BEACH)

“Women’s Work,” California artists Ciel Bergman, Pegan Brooke, Judith Foosner, Frances McCormack exhibit new paintings in show opening with reception on Friday, January 18, 5 p.m., at R.B. Stevenson Gallery (7661 Girard Avenue, suite 201). Through Friday, February 29. 858-459-3917. (LA JOLLA)

“Jazz Giants: The Photography of Herman Leonard” opens with reception for Leonard, Friday, January 18, 6 p.m., at Morrison Hotel Gallery (1230 Prospect Street). Though over 6000 of Leonard’s original photographs were lost during Hurricane Katrina disaster, the 84-year-old artist continues to shoot, develop, exhibit his archive. 858-551-0835. Closes Thursday, February 7. (LA JOLLA)

“Pacific Connections,” exhibition of photographs by David Taylor closes with reception, Friday, January 18, 6 p.m., at Colosseum Fine Arts (2400 Kettner Boulevard, suite F-109). RSVP: 925-305-4864. (LITTLE ITALY)

“The Contemporary Scroll: Visual Explorations,” interpretations of Dead Sea Scrolls by contemporary artists may be seen at Front Porch Gallery (2903 Carlsbad Boulevard) through Sunday, March 16. Meet artists during opening reception: Saturday, January 19, noon. 760-795-6120. (CARLSBAD)

“To See Feel Fit,” group show dedicated to Matt Scheer opens with reception, Saturday, January 19, 7:30 p.m., at Agitprop Gallery (2837 University Avenue).

Viewing continues Sunday, January 20, noon–5 p.m. 619-384-7989. (NORTH PARK)

“In Focus: National Geographic Greatest Portraits” opens with reception Sunday, January 20, 4 p.m., in Cannon Art Gallery at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). The 51 color and black-and-white photographs highlight work by some of organization’s “most celebrated photographers.” Reception includes screening of documentary film *The Photographers* (3 and 5 p.m.). 760-602-2021. (LA COSTA)

Painting, Photography, Sculpture, installation by local artist Jacob Ramsden may be seen through Friday, February 29, at Ramsden 9th & E Gallery (920 E Street #102). Opening reception: Thursday, January 24, 7 p.m. 619-981-4856. (DOWNTOWN)

ART MUSEUMS

California Center for the Arts Museum, “Rituality” features contemporary works from ten local artists alongside traditional artifacts from Africa, Native North America, the Pacific Islands. Exhibition examines role of ritual in exploration of identity, creation of community, construction of power, as mediated and expressed through art.

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

Fifty-four individual paintings by Teresa Villegas are gathered in

“La Lotería: An Exploration of Mexico.” Artwork draws upon Mexican traditions, historical figures, food, popular culture.

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

Each of these exhibits continues through Sunday, January 27.

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

Mingei International Museum — North County, “Paper Transformed,” exhibition of “Origami — The Art of Paper Folding” from Mingei’s permanent collection continues through Sunday, March 2. “Origami” boasts nearly 100 examples of traditional and contemporary paper folding; exhibition hon-

ors acclaimed local paper folder, author, teacher Florence Temko.

“Art of Play: Kinetic Toys of the World” — closing Sunday, June 29 — features objects that move when manipulated. See kites from many countries, pull- and push-toys, antique mechanical banks, puppets, wooden toys. 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 are ongoing.

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 high-

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ART

lighting 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 Sec-

ondaries” 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, in the room-sized “Erwin Redl: Matrix II,” the space seems to recede in all directions, as if the walls were mirrored. Floor-to-ceiling and wall-to-wall, the room is filled with grids of phosphor-green LEDs, creating an immersive web of light. Closes Sunday, May 4.

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

Museum of Photographic Arts, “The Photographer’s Eye: A Way of Seeing” — opening Saturday, January 19 — is drawn from the museum’s permanent collection. Exhibit illustrates the book *The Photographer’s Eye* (1966) by John Szarkowski; he led 160 exhibitions at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York.

Also opening on the 19th and closing Sunday, April 20, is “Measured Time: MoPA at 25.” Museum’s atrium wall will hold a timeline exhibition reflecting museum’s achievements since 1983. Images from permanent collection will illustrate significant artists whose first solo exhibitions were held at MoPA, more.

“Picturing the Process” focuses on “an evolution of the early history of photography.” Exhibition including photographic works ranging in date from mid-19th to early 20th Century closes Sunday, July 6.

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.

“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, 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)

CLASSICAL LISTINGS

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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

“Music for the Seasons,” the colors of the seasons explored when San Diego Chamber Orchestra performs with violinist Lindsay Deutsch and soprano Katherine Blumenthal. Selections by Tchaikovsky, Piazzolla, de Bismortier, O’Conner, Haydn, Cage, Vivaldi, Glazunov. Concert begins at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, January 18, at St. Paul’s Episcopal Cathedral (2728 Sixth Avenue). Tickets: \$20–\$55 general. Reservations: 858-350-0290. (DOWNTOWN)

“If Music Be the Food of Love...” Hutchins Consort continues its “Movable Feast” series with concert, Friday, January 18, 8 p.m., at Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive). Program “touches on virtually every musical era and includes new pieces composed specifically for the violin octet.” Tickets: \$25 general, \$15 for seniors and students, \$40 family rate. 949-675-6010. (LA JOLLA)

San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory present winter showcase series concert featuring wind ensembles and preparatory orchestras, Sunday, January 20, 1 p.m.

Enjoy performing Mozart’s “Requiem” when the symphony presents “Ovation” concert at 7 p.m. on 20th. Concerts take place at Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street. Tickets: \$5 for students, \$25, \$35 general. 619-233-3232. (DOWNTOWN)

Civic Organist Emeritus Robert Plimpton plans concert in Spreckels Organ Pavilion on Sunday, January 20, 2 p.m. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

German Lutes, Spanish and Russian Guitars — Old Masters of Music and Art series at San Diego Museum of Art continues with recital by John Schneiderman on Sunday, January 20, 2 p.m. Included in museum admission. 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Music by Bach, Handel, Mozart, Granados may be enjoyed when guitar and flute duo

comprising brothers Jacek and Maciek Switacz perform for “Pleasure of Your Company” chamber music series, Sunday, January 20, 2:30 p.m., at Scripps Miramar Ranch Library (10301 Scripps Lake Drive). Donation. 858-538-8158. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

Italian Saxophone Quartet takes stage for “Virtuosos Series” hosted by Fallbrook Music Society, Sunday, January 20, 3 p.m., at Bob Burton Center for the Performing Arts (2400 South Stage Coach Lane). Repertoire includes Bach, Scarlatti and Mozart, Joplin, Gershwin, Cole Porter. \$37 general, \$10 students. Reservations: 760-451-8644. (FALLBROOK)

“Hollywood Hits,” San Diego Chamber Orchestra and Jung-Ho Pak play “the most famous and exciting film scores of all time,” including *Spiderman*, *Star Wars*, *Titanic*, and *Harry Potter* on Sunday, January 20, 2 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Tickets: \$15–\$35. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

The Cabrillo Singers make “glorious music that will inspire you and your friends,” Sunday, January 20, 7 p.m., at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church (3502 Clairemont Drive). Offering. 858-273-1480. (CLAIREMONT)

Grammy-Nominated Borealis Wind Quintet performs for Barbara and William Karatz chamber concert series on Sunday, January 20, 7:30 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). \$35. Reservations: 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

Early Music played by Elizabeth Marti for mini-concert at noon on Monday, January 21, in Lyceum Theatre at Horton Plaza. Free. Bring lunch. 858-454-5872. (DOWNTOWN)

Music on the Point concert series continues when organist Kate Cameron is joined by a bagpiper and percussionist, Monday, January 21, 7:30 p.m., at All Souls’ Episcopal Church (1475 Catalina Boulevard). Donation: \$5. 619-223-6394 x13. (POINT LOMA)

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and legendary violinist, conductor Pinchas Zukerman join San Diego Symphony for a “superconcert” co-conducted by Jahja Ling, Thursday, January 24. Program boasts Weber’s “Oberon” overture and Beethoven’s “Violin Concerto” and “Symphony No. 5.” Concert begins at 7:30 p.m., in Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Tickets: \$30–\$100. Reservations: 619-235-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

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TALENT UPDATE

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MUSIC SCENE

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What Price, Fashion?

Petra O. was at the Beauty Bar December 10 with her friend Charles Crisp.

"It was a Monday night,"

outside. My friend Charles gets pulled in the other direction. I get taken outside and around the corner. I didn't want to get taken too far because I didn't know what his intentions were. I joked, 'Do I need weapons to defend myself?' There was silence. The bouncer said, 'This is not a joke.' He asked

going back there. We laughed all the way home to Hillcrest."

A couple of messages left at the Beauty Bar went unreturned.

— Ken Leighton

iMad Local music lover Stacie Somers is so mad about her iPod's limitations, she's suing Apple. Her lawsuit seeks class-action

status, contending that Apple monopolizes the music-player industry because iPods and



IS APPLE GREEDY?

to restrict consumer choice, and to restrain what little remains of its competition in the digital music markets."

Somers is seeking a court order forbidding Apple from continuing its allegedly anticompetitive business practices. She cites consumers' "lack of options," which violates the Cartwright and Sherman Antitrust Acts. She requests a "permanent injunction against the reported behavior in addition to damages." The "damage" amount is unspecified.

Further, Somers accuses Apple of shipping its products with "crippleware," which "forces" consumers to purchase all their digital music through iTunes. According to the complaint, "Apple's crippleware operating system software prevents the iPod Shuffle from playing WMA [Microsoft Windows] files.... Apple's iPod is alone among mass-market digital-music players in not supporting the WMA format."

At 99 cents per song on iTunes, it would cost around \$40,000 to fill up a new iPod from Apple's online store. Somers paid a \$350 filing fee

to initiate the lawsuit.

According to a recent article posted at arstechnica.com, an estimated 36 percent of people get much of their music from illegal file-sharing. Such files can often be played in a number of devices and formats.

Apple spokeswoman Susan Lundgren has declined to comment on pending litigation.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Youth Run Amosh "I grew up with the Circle Jerks, but I never got to see them. Finally, I got to," says Erik, who was at the band's January 5 House of Blues show. Erik, well over 21, saw the band from the first floor; those under 21 had to view the band from upstairs, away from the bar and mosh pit.

"Even the singer was bummed out," says Eric about Circle Jerks frontman Keith Morris. "He talked about it on stage. He wanted the kids down there. This was a punk show...."

"Towards the end of the show, I look over and I see kids running down the stairs towards the front of the stage.

They rushed the mosh pit. The security immediately closed down the bar. I saw them throw [three or four] kids out of there."

House of Blues general manager Michael Grozier did not respond to a request for comment.

Keith Morris says, "We've played at the House of Blues San Diego at least three times and we've never seen that happen before. Maybe this is some new policy they have. Unfortunately they didn't point it out to us in advance or we would have requested to play somewhere else."

One local insider who has dealt with the 29-year-old band before, says, "The band likes to think the kids are still into them, but 80 percent of the people who go to see old-school punk bands are over 30 years old. That's why they play places like the House of Blues. I don't think they should have made this an all-age show with alcohol. I think they should have chosen one or the other."

Morris says he received emails from some of the local underage fans who were not against getting "herded" into an underage area. "They were just happy to be there. They will put up with some of that."

— Ken Leighton

Poor Folk When Rickie Lee Jones played the Belly Up Tavern on January 5, a person in the audience was overheard saying, "Wow, she's fat! She's a bad looking 52." Another guy said, "Chunky's in love," a pun referring to her 1979 hit song "Chuck E's in Love."

Before starting a song, she warned the audience that she'd forgotten some lyrics.

blurt

the inside track

says Petra. "It was pretty packed. There was a black female hip-hop MC. She asked the crowd to come up and do charades. Charles went up onstage. I was break dancing. Everyone saw my outfit."

Both Petra and Crisp are fashion designers. Petra's outfit included black boots with white shoelaces.

"We were taken aside by someone in the crowd. I knew his last name. He was Jewish. He asked me if I knew what [white shoelaces] meant. I told him yes, that I was from Austria, and that white shoelaces can be a skinhead Nazi thing. But you have to go with the whole outfit." She says if she was trying to make a Nazi fashion statement, she would have needed to wear a bomber jacket, rolled up jeans, and have a shaved head.

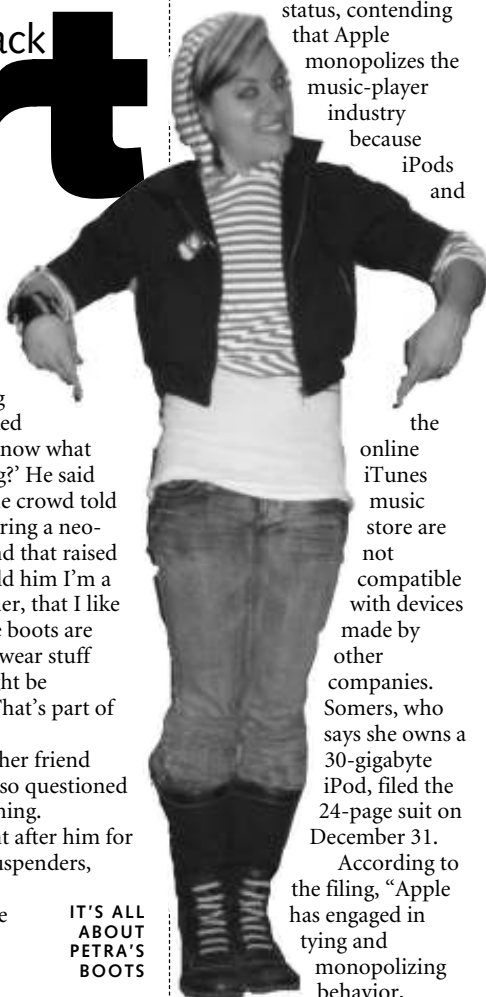
About ten minutes later, Petra and Charles were ushered out by security.

"This black bouncer comes up and asks me to step

me if I was trying to cause any problems or endanger any of the partying crowd. He asked me, 'Do you know what you're wearing?' He said someone in the crowd told him I was wearing a neo-Nazi outfit, and that raised a red flag. I told him I'm a fashion designer, that I like fashion. These boots are fashionable. I wear stuff because it might be provocative. That's part of fashion...."

Petra says her friend Charles was also questioned about his clothing.

"They went after him for wearing red suspenders, which is supposed to be another Nazi thing. They weren't even red; they were maroon.... We were left in an awkward position. He didn't offer to invite us back in. I'm not



IT'S ALL ABOUT PETRA'S BOOTS

the online iTunes music store are not compatible with devices made by other companies. Somers, who says she owns a 30-gigabyte iPod, filed the 24-page suit on December 31. According to the filing, "Apple has engaged in tying and monopolizing behavior, placing unneeded

and unjustifiable technological restrictions on its most popular products in an effort

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JONESIN' FOR DOUGH? (RICKIE LEE JONES)

Then, during the song, she hummed a few bars and did the "scat" thing, spouting a few sentences of nonsensical words.

While introducing her band, she forgot the names of her bassist and keyboardist. She approached each of them individually, exchanged whispers, and then she introduced them to the audience.

At one point during the show, a guy stood up near the back and said, "Rickie, can you do that song again?" She said, "If you buy me a drink." He went on to explain that he couldn't hear it because some people were talking next to him. I then pointed to the people next to me, and said, "You guys are, too."

After the next song, she lectured the crowd in a soft-spoken way about being disruptive.

Jones did hear an electrical appliance at the bar and stopped a song a few minutes into it. When she resumed singing, she heard a drink being shaken. Instead of stopping, she made it a

part of her song, singing "Shake, shake, shake..."

The club was maybe half full of people. At rickieleejones.com, it states: "The hard financial times have taken their toll on Rickie Lee's funds.... WE simply do not have enough money to create new music. So, we are

asking our fans, friends and family to send us money, and in return, your name will appear on the next CD, as well as, of course, we will send you the CD in advance of the release."

— Josh Board

Uprooted The 35th annual Adams Avenue Roots Fair will take place this May 3 and 4, but founder Lou Curtiss is on his way out.

Curtiss started the event on the SDSU campus in 1967 and moved it to Adams Avenue in 1994. He has been an unpaid member of the Adams Avenue Business Association Board, which oversees the Roots Fair (as well as the larger Adams Avenue Street Fair) ever since. The event now draws 40,000 music fans annually.

Curtiss will not be running for reelection when his term is up this month, thereby giving up his involvement in the events organization. He has several grievances with the current board and believes the event

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has been watered down since the passing of the board's former business director, Marco Anguiano, in 2006. Anguiano gave Curtiss free reign to book (within budget constraints), but today his choices must be approved by a committee he feels isn't



LOU CURTISS IN 1983

knowledgeable about roots music.

"I wanted to bring a Cajun group from Louisiana here. I heard someone ask, 'Why? We have groups here that play that type of music.'"

The board's executive director, Jim Schneider, spells out the Roots Fair booking policy.

"As with any big concert of this type, we're just looking for someone that's going to draw, within the fair's stated genres," Schneider says. "We wouldn't necessarily take a local act over a national one, but we do have to factor in a limited budget."

According to Schneider, SDSU professor emeritus Joel Henderson will be "largely" responsible for booking this year's event, with Curtiss advising.

Schneider considers Curtiss "an integral part of this festival. If Lou does follow up with his decision to leave, he'll be sorely missed."

Curtiss has considered starting up another showcase but has ruled it out for the moment because "somebody would have to come up with a good sum of money to get something like that under way."

In the meantime, he will continue converting his archive of vintage recordings into the digital format. Curtiss is currently in the process of transferring the 3000 songs performed at the fifth edition of the Roots Fair in 1972.

— Bart Mendoza

JamMaster Jehova

Escondido music instructor Linda Menendez locates songwriters and musicians for Rhino and Sony Records, companies that pay her to track down outstanding royalty recipients and deliver accrued funds.

"It's pretty cool to see the reaction on someone's face who's been living in a trailer in Wisconsin, with no idea his music got picked up for a movie [soundtrack] or some *Pebbles* or *Nuggets* compilation, and I hand him a check for ten grand!"

Menendez receives a commission of 5 to 10 percent of the royalty amount, plus basic traveling expenses.

"I was looking to deliver a \$15,000 check to a guy who recorded an obscure Christian rock album in the '70s under the name JamMaster Jehova, *Life Saving*. He called it that because his musical ministry would save lost souls and because he spent his life savings on it. He pressed 10,000 copies and only ended up selling a few hundred to religious bookstores before he donated all the unsold albums to thrift stores. His biggest distributor was the Salvation Army, and they don't pay."

Home Sweet Home

Records does pay, though the label didn't come into existence until after JamMaster Jehova (real name Brian Benoit) gave up his dreams of a musical ministry. The Christian label released Benoit's songs (copyright-clear due to the songwriter's business naiveté) on numerous devotional compilations.

"My client [Home Sweet Home] kept aside the standard residuals.... Unfortunately, I couldn't track him down through Social Security, DMV, or law enforcement [records], and the address on his last tax return was no good anymore."

"I did find a marriage license placing him in Northern California. I went up there, and he had already moved, but I knocked on a neighbor's door, and he gave me [Benoit's] new address.... I got \$1200 for the delivery, and his wife made me a terrific roast beef dinner."

— Jay Allen Sanford

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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club crawler

Thursday 17

Two nights of rant rock at the Ché as Worcester, Mass. punks **Bane** visit a deluge of "hahdco-ah" music on the UCSD room. Through ten years of relentless touring, the quintet has kept the early '80s straight-edge punk aesthete alive and resisted the tumble into radio-ready



BANE AT CHÉ

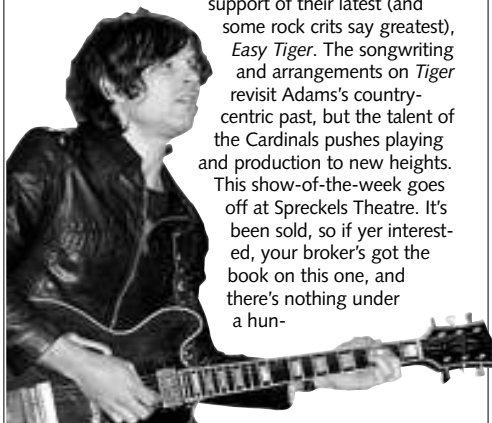
power pop of contemporaries Saves the Day and Jimmy Eat World. The band's touting their latest, last year's *Ten Years Plus*, but check out 2005 crit pick *The Note*. Thursday night's "Bane Part 1" features **Outbreak**, **Trash Talk**, **Constrict**, and **More Than Words**.... Free show with electronic experimentalists **Aspects of Physics**. The instrumental act reemerges at Bar Pink Elephant previewing the third in its three-part *Marginalized Information Forms* series. Set to drop in March, *Other* was recorded with a traditional full band, fleshing out the IDM guit loops and drone of parts one and two. AoP guitarist **Rob Crow** will spin a DJ set. Check out Rob's "guest list" from last week's Pitchfork for a peek at his collection (Shellac? The Osmonds?).... Punk-pop trio **Vena Cava** return home to headline a rock-solid locals-only bill at Casbah that includes **Bloody Hollies**, **Nothingtons**, and **Modlins**.... Beauty Bar books Seattle indie kids **Army Navy** who tout new e.p. *Saints*. They call it "happy hardcore."... Oklahoma quartet **Cross Canadian Ragweed** and local faves the **Farmers** visit country rawk on Belly Up.... Anthology hosts a fire-relief gig featuring **Tim Flannery**, **Bushwalla**, **Married by Elvis**, **Get Back Loretta**, **Carlos Olmeda**, **Molly Jensen**, **Alex Woodard**, and **Voices Of Prayze**.

Friday 18

Hit makers Martha Davis and the **Motels** ("Only the Lonely," "Suddenly Last Summer") will preview material from upcoming disc *Beautiful Life* at Brick by Brick with guests TBA.... Night of stoner rock at Casbah as San Clemente's **Fu Manchu** kicks off a national tour in support of new one *We Must Obey*. Likeminded locals **It's Casual** and **Get Your Death On** open.... Mike Ness and the newest incarnation of his O.C. punk-pop industry **Social D** will hold forth at House of Blues for three nights Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Friday night the **U.S. Bombs** drop on the downtown room in support.... Lots of honorable mentions Friday night: Los Angelino psychobilly trio **Tiger Army** plays all-age Soma with **Dear+Departed** and **Revolution Mother**.... **Dilated Peoples** revisit early days of hip-hop at Belly Up. L.A. underground rapper **LMNO** (Leave My Name Out) opens.... Texas country boy **Pat Green** strums a set at 4th & B.... Local indies **Circa Now** and **Science Fiction** hit the Ken.... Acoustic **Drew Andrews** and his band pull into the Whistle Stop in South Park.... While over in North Park, **Arm the Angels** rocks Beauty Bar and **Brown Sound** muddies Pink Elephant.... And don't forget "Bane Part 2" at the Ché, with **Silent Drive**, **Outbreak**, **Trash Talk**, and **Teenage Kicks**.

Saturday 19

You can take the boy out of Whiskeytown, but you can't take Whiskeytown out of the boy. Alt-country singer-songwriter and all-around bad boy **Ryan Adams** and his **Cardinals** tour in support of their latest (and some rock crits say greatest), *Easy Tiger*. The songwriting and arrangements on *Tiger* revisit Adams's country-centric past, but the talent of the Cardinals pushes playing and production to new heights. This show-of-the-week goes off at Spreckels Theatre. It's been sold, so if yer interested, your broker's got the book on this one, and there's nothing under a hun-



RYAN ADAMS AT SPRECKELS

This Week In Music

dred bucks.... Heavy rock rolls over Casbah with loud four-way **Long and Short of It**, **Demasiado**, **Vitro**, and **Pen and Ink**.... Down the street at Anthology is a benefit concert for jazzman **Carl Evans Jr.** Players include **Charles McPherson**, **Brian Lynch**, **Gilbert Castellanos**, and **Nathan East**.

Sunday 20

Gonna be a barn-burner at Casbah Sunday night when the **Legendary Shack Shakers** headline sets by locals **Whole Hog** and **Whiskey Dick**. Nashville psychobilly bluesmen the Shack Shakers are touring in support of last year's YepRoc disc *Swampblood*, a primer for country skunk's uninitiated. These harp-heavy violin jams are fun stuff....



LEGENDARY SHACK SHAKERS AT CASBAH

Long Island five-piece **This Is Hell** keeps the punk rock coming at Ché Café this weekend. Their latest screamo collection *Misfortunes*, due out on Trust Kill Records, exhumes the speedy anthems of hardcore. They'll split the UC San Dago bill with Toronto's **Cancer Bats**, **Triumph** (no, not *that* Triumph), and **Alpha & Omega**.... Bay Area funk-n-soul outfit **Tower of Power** place their bets at Viejas. The ten-man horn-heavy act's been kicking down their might've been jams for 40 years. Good onya ToP.... L.A. shoegazers **The Start** initiate Beauty Bar to their take on an early Cure vibe, fronted by the platinum vox of Aimee Echo.

Monday 21

Dwayne Carter, aka **Lil Wayne**, raps up House of Blues Monday night. The New Orleans rapper

came to prominence with the Hot Boys in 1999 when they released *Tha Block Is Hot*. Wayne's pimped his flow for a number of MCs and hip-hop crews with his *Carter* series, but this year will release his first solo studio effort, *Carter III*, due in February. Local up-and-comers the **Dago Braves** will toast the room in the opening slot. Could be the Braves put SD on the rap map this year with building interest in '07 debut *Native American Hustle*.... Indie rock has a *New Disease* thanks to **Daredevil Jane**. Scratch your itch at Casbah's Anti-Monday League meeting. Join Jane and opens **Roses On Her Grave** and **Thieves & Liars** for a night of classic rock-roll. CD release for Thieves, by the by.

Tuesday 22

M-Theory hosts a Casbah show by **Lonely H**, **Shaky Hands**, and the **Rafter Band**. Blues-fueled Lonely H hails from Port Angeles, Washington, and they drizzle indie rock vox over drag-strip Americana. Check their debut *Hair* out, like, now, and rethink Black Crowes. Portland band Shaky Hands could steal this one, howev., if their slacker samples hold up live. Local pop stalwart Rafter Roberts (Bunky) opens. Sleeper sets of the week?... Pop-rock satirist **Todd Snider** feeds his fan base at Belly Up Tuesday night. It's Stones-meets-Dylan Seventies with punch lines. The Nashville native's *The Devil You Know* (2006) is Snider's Petty-esque tour-de-force, the studio disc spawning a live take and DVD by the same name. Check any or all of 'em out. The chops aren't his, but they cut as deep. "And guests" open.... A band called **Goatwhore** opens for a band called **Exodus** at House of Blues. Heaven metal?

Wednesday 23

Blues guit phenom **Debbie Davies** was nominated for Best Contemporary Blues Artist last year. Check out the crew (Tab Benoit, Coco Montoya, Charlie Musselwhite) and tunes on last year's *Blues Blast* for a live primer. This Anthology gig'll be the no-shit show of the week.... Local rocker **Mike Keneally** will get off at Belly Up with experimental instrumentalist (the instruments, not the music, necessarily) **Tom Griesgraber**.... At Casbah, Nashville roots rocker **Will Hoge** will *Draw the Curtains*. The breakout disc has Hoge touring the country this year. This one's an early show (7p) fronted by **Jason Isbell** and **Jeremy Fisher**.

— Barnaby Monk

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<p>SUNDAY • JANUARY 20</p> <p>THE LEGENDARY SHACK SHAKERS WHOLE HOG WHISKEY DICKS</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY • JANUARY 23</p> <p>WILL HOGE JASON ISBELL (DRIVE BY TRUCKERS) JEREMY FISHER</p>	<p>SUNDAY • JANUARY 27</p> <p>THE LOCAL PYLE & FM 94/9 PRESENT A FREE SHOW WITH HOTEL ST. GEORGE DESERT DIAMONDS THE TIGHTEN UPS TEAM ABRAHAM DOORS 7 PM • FREE FOOD</p>

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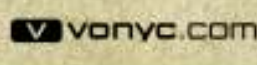
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Drawn to Dive Bars

"Something about ordering a Jack and Coke and not dressing up is just cool."

Singer/guitarist Kyle Phelan was honing his rock chops while still in high school, crafting his first album at the age of 17. After graduation he kept busy appearing in concerts, on the radio, and on television. He performed three years in a row for KPRI's Concerts on the Square in Horton Plaza. He's played on seven different stages at various Del Mar Fairs, and he's been featured on KPRI's *Homegrown Hour*. Last summer he was able to promote his self-titled third record (sometimes called "the White Album") by performing several cuts on a KUSI-TV morning program. All this, and he only recently turned 21.

"I know I'm new at this whole drinking legally thing," he says, "but I'm very drawn to the dive bars. Not gonna lie. Something about ordering a Jack and Coke and not dressing up is just cool as hell to me."

At about the same time that Phelan was learning to appreciate happy hour, he found himself nominated for a 2007 San Diego Music Award for Best Acoustic. "I'm finally at a place in my life where I can wake up every day and know that all I have to do is play music," he says. "It's a good feeling."

Kyle Phelan appears tonight, January 17, at UTC's Miami Grill and on Tuesday, January 22, at the Brigantine in Poway.

WHAT'S IN YOUR MUSIC PLAYER?

1. Maroon 5, *It Won't Be Soon Before Long*: "They have a great group of songs on this disc that you just don't get sick of."

2. *The Best of Stevie Wonder*: "It's an awesome collection of all his hits from the '70s to now. Stevie has to be one of my top three favorite artists."
 3. John Mayer, *Continuum*: "This album is what you'd call

perfection."

4. "Other CDs in my car that I will pop in at least once a week are Marc Broussard's *Carencro*, David Ryan Harris's *Soulstice*, and Musiq's *Luvanmusiq*."

DESERT-ISLAND DVDs?

"If I could only bring a couple DVDs, I'd have to say any season of *Entourage* or *Nip/Tuck* would make me content and happy. I just love the HBO specials. Other essential movies would be *Old School*, *Wedding Crashers*, and any Dane Cook stand-up."

DREAM LUNCH DATE?

"I would love to have lunch with record company executive Clive Davis. I think the reasoning is pretty obvious on that one. Ha!"

WHERE DO YOU HANG OUT?

"I love going to the Brigantine to eat and play



Kyle Phelan

music. They just recently started live music on Tuesday nights in Poway."

BEST ADVICE YOU EVER GOT?

"The best was from my dad when he told me I shouldn't date girls until I'm ready to have a serious relationship. I didn't really listen to him, and now I've written three CDs about my

messed-up experiences that I really wish I could have avoided. The advice was genius."

WILDEST DRUNK STORY?

"Wow, I could write a book on this topic. I'd have to say waking up in places that don't look familiar have to be some of the best, worst, most fun, craziest experiences I've gotten into." ■

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THIS WEEK'S CONCERTS

THURSDAY

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

Cross Canadian Ragweed, Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, January 17, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022.

FRIDAY

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

Tiger Army, Soma, Friday, January 18, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma. 619-226-SOMA.

Social Distortion, House of Blues, Friday, January 18, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

Chuchito Valdes, Anthology, Friday, January 18, 1337 India Street, Little Italy. 619-595-0300.

Dilated Peoples, Belly Up Tavern, Friday, January 18, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022.

SATURDAY

Ryan Adams, Spreckels Theatre, Saturday, January 19, 121 Broadway, Downtown. 619-235-9500.

Social Distortion, House of Blues, Saturday, January 19, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

SUNDAY

Social Distortion, House of Blues, Sunday, January 20, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

Tower of Power, Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room, Sunday,

January 20, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

Exodus and Goatwhore, House of Blues, Tuesday, January 22, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

Todd Snider, Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, January 22, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022.

WEDNESDAY

Debbie Davies, Anthology, Wednesday, January 23, 1337 India Street, Little Italy. 619-595-0300.

Mike Keneally, Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, January 23, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022.

Dilated Peoples, January 18, Belly Up Tavern

Ryan Adams, January 19, Spreckels Theatre

Todd Snider, January 22, Belly Up



THURSDAY, JANUARY 17

Rockin' Johnny White presents
IRON WORKS • ONE THREAD
SIRENS OF SHIPWRECK
CHILDREN OF NOVA

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18



Wild Child
(Doors Tribute)

DAZED AND CONFUSED
(Led Zeppelin Tribute)



SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

stranger



IRATION

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

GUAVA BELLY • RICKSHA
BROKE ON FRIDAY
MONDAY'S ALIBI

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25



PEPPER

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26



Tribute to
Johnny Cash



BABES IN SIN
FROM LAS VEGAS



SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

Moulin Rouge presents
CLUB SEDUCTION

Reggae Sundays Kickoff Party
DJs ALONZO, BABY KROWN & BIG DADDY

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31



VOODOO GLOW SKULLS
BFOUNDATION
JOSH FISCHER
(of Bargain Music)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1



40 OUNCES TO FREEDOM
(Sublime tribute)

HIGH TIDE • RUDE BOY ROOTS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8



FISHBONE

DIRTY HEADS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

THREE BAD JACKS
THE CATHOUSE THUMPERS
THE HANDSOME DEVILS
THE ORANGE VELVETS



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the show



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THE FARMERS
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

TRIBUTE TO DAVID FUENTES OF HEP CAT

FEAT. DIRTY REGGAE BUNCH (MEMBERS OF THE AGGROLITES AND HEP CAT)

SKANIC • THE UPBEAT
THE AMALGAMATED
Sun 1/20 • 8:00 PM

TODD SNIDER



ANNA TROY
Tue 1/22 • 8:00 PM

MIKE KENEALLY



LARRY MITCHELL BAND
TOM GRIESGRABER
Wed 1/23 • 8:00 PM

STEVE POLTZ
CD RELEASE PARTY!



TIM BLUHM
Thu 1/24 • 9:00 PM

OZOMATLI



W/GUEST
1/25 & 26 • 9:00 PM

MOUNTAIN



SHOCK AND AWE!!!
Sun 1/27 • 8:00 PM

B-SIDE PLAYERS



SAMBADA'
Fri 2/1 • 9:00 PM



W/GUEST
Sat 2/2 • 9:00 PM

O₂ FOR LIFE:
RUMBA IN THE RAINFOREST



ELIJAH EMANUEL & THE REVELATIONS
Tue 2/5 • 6:00 PM

SUPER FURRY ANIMALS



HOLY F★K
Wed 2/6 • 9:00 PM



WESTBOUND TRAIN
BEAT UNION
Thu 2/7 • 9:00 PM

MARC FORD
(FORMERLY OF THE BLACK CROWES)



DEADLINE FRIDAY
Fri 2/8 • 9:00 PM

GROUNDATION
BOB MARLEY TRIBUTE SHOW



DJ CARLOS CULTURE
Sat 2/9 • 9:00 PM

RHETT MILLER



JENNIFER O'CONNOR
Sun 2/10 • 8:00 PM

ALO



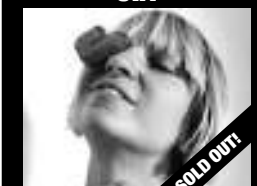
W/GUEST
Wed 2/13 • 9:00 PM

GEORGE CLINTON & PARLIAMENT
FUNKADELIC



Thu 2/14 • 9:00 PM

SIA



W/GUEST
Fri 2/15 • 9:00 PM

JUST ADDED!

2/17 **Dynamite Walls & The Drowning Men** • 2/21 **PIVIT and Agent 51**

2/28 **Solana Beach Baseball Bash** benefiting SB Little League w/Atomic Groove

3/6 **Hotel Café** w/Ingrid Michaelson, Cary Brothers, Greg Laswell, Kate Havnevik, Jessie Baylin and Jim Bianco - on sale Friday @ noon!

3/15 **Common Sense** • 4/19 **Cash'd Out**

- 2/16 Maceo Parker w/Leo Tardin's Grand Pianoramax & special guests
- 2/19 Stan Ridgway presents Wall of Voodoo's Call of the West
- 2/22 The Blasters and The Hacienda Brothers
- 2/23 Atomic Punks
- 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 feat. Chris Thile

- 2/29 Boogie Nights - Metro '80s Fever!
- 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
- 3/10 New York Dolls

- 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
- 3/23 Steve Earle w/Allison Moorer
- 3/29 The Avett Brothers
- 4/27 Victor Wooten

SWINGIN' HAPPY HOURS

1/18 **BAYOU BROTHERS** • 1/25 **BILLY WATSON**

Free Parking! Low Service Charges! Free Coat Check! Great Bar Prices! Great Food!

Thursday, February 14, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022.

Richard Elliott, 4th & B, Friday, February 15, 345 B Street, Downtown. 619-231-4343.

Fabulous, Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room, Friday, February 15, 345 B Street, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

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

Maceo Parker, Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, February 16, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022.

Third Day and the Myriad, House of Blues, Wednesday, February 20, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

Queensryche and Don Dokken, House of Blues, Thursday, February 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, House of Blues, Sunday, February 24, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

Marilyn Manson, House of Blues, Monday, February 25, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

Pat Metheny Trio, Anthology, Tuesday, February 26, 1337 India Street, Little Italy. 619-595-0300.

Adrian Belew, Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, February 26, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022.

Pat Metheny Trio, Anthology, Wednesday, February 27, 1337 India Street, Little Italy. 619-595-0300.

MARCH

Miguel Bosé, Cox Arena, Sunday, March 2, 550 Campanile Drive, College Area. 619-594-6947.

Marcia Ball and John Hammond, Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, March 2, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022.

Foo Fighters, Cox Arena, Monday, March 3, 550 Campanile Drive, College Area. 619-594-6947.

Rufus Wainwright, Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, March 4, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022.

Bad Religion, House of Blues, Friday, March 7, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

The Blind Boys of Alabama, Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, March 9, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022.

Clutch, House of Blues, Wednesday, March 12, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

Angels & Airwaves, Soma, Thursday, March 13, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma. 619-226-SOMA.

Nada Surf, House of Blues, Tuesday, March 18, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

Built to Spill, Belly Up Tavern, Friday, March 21, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022.

Presidents of the United States of America, Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, March 22, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022.

A Flock of Seagulls and Dramarama, House of Blues, Sunday, March 30, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

Citizen Cope, House of Blues, Monday, March 31, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

APRIL

Big Head Todd & the Monsters, House of Blues, Saturday, April 5, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

RBD, Coors Amphitheatre, Sunday, April 6, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Ministry, House of Blues, Monday, April 7, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

Avril Lavigne and Boys Like Girls, Cox Arena, Wednesday, April 30, 550 Campanile Drive, College Area. 619-594-6947.

MAY

Juanes, San Diego Sports Arena, Saturday, May 3, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma. 619-224-4171.

Nightwish, House of Blues, Friday, May 23, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-299-2583.

JUNE

The Cure, Cox Arena, Tuesday, June 3, 550 Campanile Drive, College Area. 619-594-6947.

JULY

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

Calendar

CLUBS

DJ

Air Conditioned Lounge:
Thursdays: *Too Cool for School* . Old-school hip hop and '80s. Saturdays: *Cocktail Party*. Dance in your dazzling duds. Sundays: *Guest DJ Night*. Guest DJs

TBA. Mondays: *DJ 1979*. Hip hop, funk, and soul. Tuesdays: *Big Sonic Chill*. Dream-pop bliss sponsored by San Diego's Local 94.9. Wednesdays: *Steve West & DJ SG* . *Club Nigel*, Steve West and DJ SG spin the '80s. 4673 30th Street, North Park. 619-501-9831.

Bar Dynamite: Thursdays: *DJ's SG, Dubz, Tekniksian*. Hip-hop, funk, and old-skool. 1808 West Washington Street, Mission Hills. 619-295-8743.

Bourbon Street: Tuesday: *Play With It*. Best & Worst of the '80s with DJ *Junior The Disco Punk*. 4612 Park Boulevard, Downtown. 619-291-0173.

Brass Rail: Thursday: *Pussy Galore*. All females, all night long. Third Thursday of the month, live bands with *DJ Robin Roth* spinning electro, indie, and '80s between sets. 3796 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-298-2233.

Candelas: Thursdays: *DJ ALA*. Deep soulful house in a new downtown venue. 416 Third Avenue, Downtown. 619-702-4455.

Inferno Young Adult Nightclub: Fridays: *DJ Kool T*. Inferno Young Adult Nightclub. Fridays and Saturdays, Top 40, Techno, and '80s with DJ Kool T. Saturdays: *DJ Kool T*. Inferno Young

Adult Nightclub. Fridays and Saturdays, Top 40, Techno, and '80s with DJ Kool T. 775 Metcalf Street, Escondido. 760-741-1271.

Lei Lounge: Sunday: *Remedy*. Afternoon DJs, outdoor patio. 4622 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-813-2272.

Livewire: Thursday: *Skull Kontrol*. First and Third Thursdays, with *DJ Mario O* Sunday: *Garage, Trash, Soul*. With DJ *Ruby Mars*. Friendly dive bar. Monday: *Wheels of The Industry*. Featuring local DJs 2103 El Cajon Blvd, Normal Heights.

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HOT TOPIC PRESENTS

GIGANTOUR

MEGADETH

IN FLAMES

Children Of Bodom

high on fire



IN STORES NOW

MAY 20

COX ARENA

TICKETS ON SALE
SATURDAY
JANUARY 19
@ 10 AM!

REVOLVER
HOT TOPIC

Calendar CLUBS

Moondoggies Pacific Beach:

Saturdays: *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.

San Diego Sports Club:

Thursdays: *Club '80s*. New wave, punk, and new romantic with DJ Bryan Pollard and Roxanne Redlight. 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-299-7372.

Sevilla:

Saturday: *Top 40, Latin Pop, and Reggaeton*. With DJ Joe Guerrero. Friday: *Top 40, Latin Pop, Rock and Reggaeton*. With DJ Joe Guerrero. 555 Fourth Avenue, Downtown. 619-233-5979.

The Bar Pink Elephant:

DJ set from Rob Crow of Pinback. For *Aspects of Physics*. 3829 30th Street. 619-564-7194.

Thrusters Lounge: Thursday: *Hip Hop*. Three years of free hip hop, still going strong. DJ Pnutz and Collagey on the decks. 4633 Mission Blvd., Mission Beach.

Tio Leo's Lounge - Clairemont:

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

U-31:

Friday: *Feel the Noise* with Gabe Vega and Saul Q. Local indie/electro/dance-rock DJs. Thursday: *DEEP: DnB, Jungle*. With DJ Modus (U.K.). Friday: *Feel the Noise* with Gabe Vega and Saul Q. Local indie/electro/dance-rock DJs. 3112 University Ave.

Waterfront Bar & Grill:

Thursday: *Classic Hip Hop, Party Jamz, '80s, Disco Remixes*. Traditional dive bar setting.

Whiskey Girl:

Fridays: DJ Marc Thrasher. Mixes music videos. Saturdays: DJ Marc Thrasher. Mixes music videos. 600 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-236-1616.

Zombie Lounge: Thursday: *Shining Through, The Lost, Eclipse 79*. With The Warrior DJs. 3519 El Cajon Blvd.

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, mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the music section.

BEACHES

The Calypso Cafe, 576 North Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-632-8252. Thursday, *Luna Llena*, Latin. Friday, *Uplift*, reggae. Saturday, Jeff Moore, Dean Smith, and Billy Thompson, blues. Sunday, Escalera, Latin. Monday, Cactus Twang, roadhouse rock. Tuesday, Jack

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5-7 pm Every Day!



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PAT GREEN
Patrick Davis
Emerald River Band
JANUARY 18

Robin Trower
FEBRUARY 5

Paula Poundstone
FEBRUARY 8

D.L. HUGHLEY UNAPOLOGETIC
FEBRUARY 23

Bob Saget
MARCH 7

Lavell Crawford
from Last Comic Standing
MARCH 29

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The SHOUT! House

Rock 'n Roll Sing-A-Long
Duelling Pianos

Congratulations Chargers!

...we're not sure if you're going to be in Glendale on February 3rd but if you are, our new Shout! House location will be open and ready for you.

Opens, Glendale, AZ at the Westgate City Center (home of the Big Game) January 30th! Hope to see you all there!

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& **CHASE COSTELLO** (EV MUSIC)

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SATURDAY 01.19.08

MARKY PRESENTS

BLK INK

FEATURING A TAG TEAM SET BY:

CHRIS LOISI & SEAN WILSON

OPENING DJ SET BY: **TONY LEE**

LIVE CONGAS: **KOFI** / LIVE SAX: **JASON WHITMORE**
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UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24
TOPIA - UPGRADE LATIN NIGHTLIFE

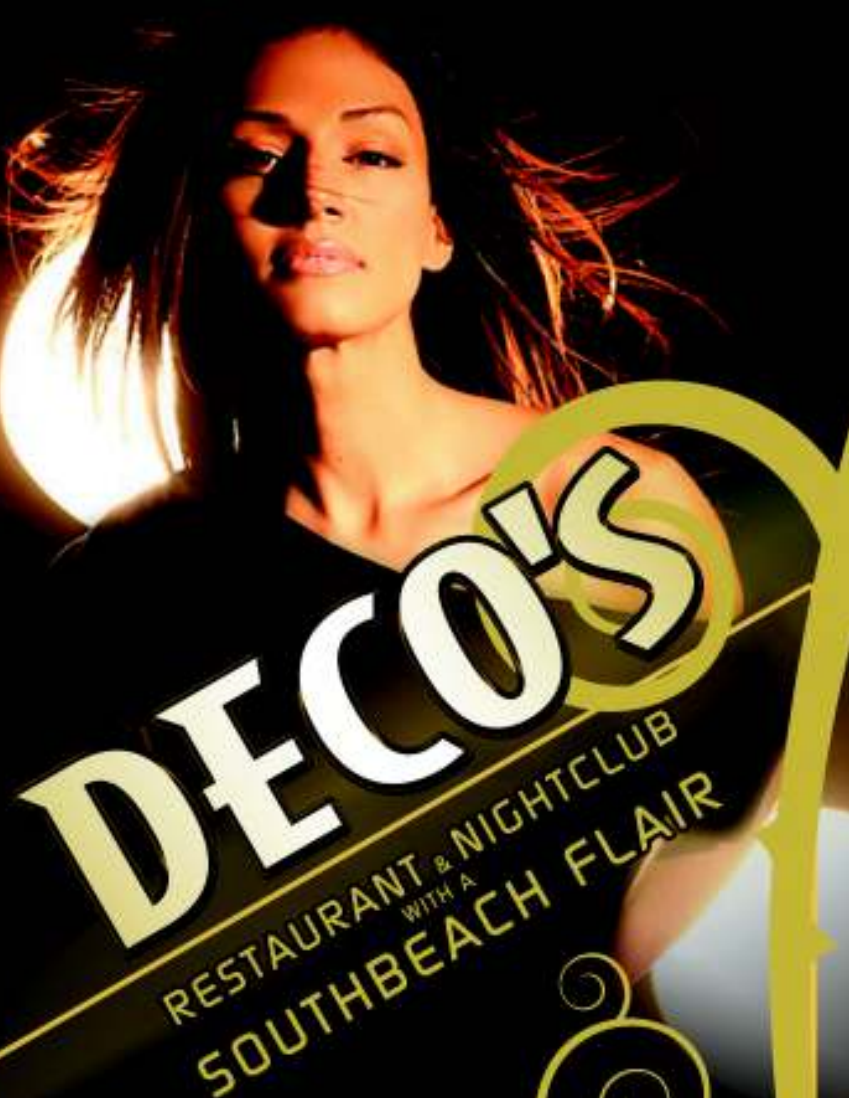
FRIDAY, JANUARY 25
DJ Z-TRIP

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26
DJ MISS LISA



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FRIDAY JANUARY 18

ROB ZOOMY OF CLUB DEVIATE & 2XR AND KAYELLA ENT. PRESENTS

FRIDAY NIGHT SHAKEDOWNS

SHAKEDOWN BREAKDOWN
HOSTED BY COCKSTAR ARMY CLOTHING

FEATURING THE ONE & ONLY

DJ JAYCEE J POWER 106 LOS ANGELES
Special GoGo by **LISA KAI**

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\$5 LONG ISLANDS & \$5 VODKA ROCKSTARS 'TIL 10:30PM
\$3 KAMIKAZE'S & \$3 BOTTLE BEER ALL NIGHT LONG

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DRINK SPECIALS

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\$3.00 BEERS ALL NIGHT LONG!!!**

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Calendar CLUBS

BEACHES

(continued)

Tempchin, folk. Wednesday, *Nena Anderson*, blues/jazz.

'Canes, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780. Thursday, 8 p.m., *the Iron Works*, *One Thread*, and *the Sirens of Shipwreck*, rock/metal. Friday, 9 p.m., *Wild Child* and *Dazed and Confused*, classic hard rock. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Stranger*, *Iration*, and *the Stone Senses*, reggae. Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Guava Belly*, *Ricksha*, *Broke on Friday*, and *Monday's Alibi*, rock.

Ché Café, UCSD Campus, 9500 Gilman Drive, Student Center B-0323C, La Jolla. 858-534-2311. Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m., *Bane*, *Outbreak*, *Trash Talk*, and more, punk/hardcore/alternative. Monday, 7 p.m., *This Is Hell*, *the Cancer Bats*, *Triumph*, and *Alpha and Omega*, hardcore/metal.

Dreamstreet, 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-8131. Thursday, *Rhythm and the Method*, *Drop Joy*, and *Tide*, alternative rock. Friday, *Aghori*, *One Theory*, *Sight Unscene*, *Against the World*, and *Proven*, hardcore/metal/thrash. Saturday, *Mad Habit*, *Aural Medication*, *the 3rd*, *Matt Williams*, and *Subtitles*, rock/alternative. Sunday, *DJ Artistic* and *DJ Carlos Culture*, reggae. Wednesday, *Gone to Oblivion*, rock/alternative/metal.

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

Jack's Restaurant, 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-456-8115. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Larry White*, contemporary jazz.

The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-6483. Thursday, *Frankie Dee* and *the Funk Natra Band*, R&B/funk/soul. Friday, *the Flat Out Liars*, classic rock. Saturday, *Blue Heat*, blues/rock. Sunday, *the Blues Brokers*,

NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

Brandon Boyd plays up the new-age, en vogue rock star thing a bit too much for my tastes, but there's nothing wrong with his band. Incubus is a wonderland of power chords and hip-hop beats and Boyd's lyric astral projections, all tailored to fit the arena-size crowds their multiplatinum success has earned them.

But branding the band with the name Incubus was perhaps a mistake. My Random House unabridged dictionary says that Incubus is an imaginary demon fabled to have sexual intercourse with women in their sleep. But the Incubus band image is quite different. Their public semblance is wholesome, nice-guy vanilla. I once read a quote from Incubus's original bass player Dirk Lance that

was gratuitous and pornographic in context, and I remember thinking, "He's not long for this group of Scouts." I was right.

Lance's replacement is former Roots guitarist **Ben Kenney**. With Incubus, Kenney's playing is textured and aggressive, less the jazz and funk bass that Lance brought to the table. In his side-project band, the Ben Kenney sound is more metallic and stringy and compressed in a way that creates the illusion that a lot of sound is coming out of a small space. Kenney's own music sits well within the boundaries of all modern pop rock as dictated by Linkin Park: thin lyric line, bombastic chorus, and for the most part, ditch the solos. Makes for a dynamic listen. In this case, Kenney has a solid, pleasing voice with an abrupt range.

Lest a fan think that Kenney could one day carry the whole Incubus show without the



BEN KENNEY

current lead singer, he writes this on his MySpace page: "Please don't ask me to put you in touch with Brandon Boyd. Sure, he's a great guy, but it's rude and stalker-ish to bother me with your obsession over him."

BEN KENNEY: House of Blues, Thursday, January 17, 7 pm. 619-299-2583. \$14.

blues jam. Wednesday, *Jeff Moore and the Witchdoctors*, blues.

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

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

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*.

Portugalia, 4839 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach. 619-222-7678. Thursday, 7 p.m. to midnight, *Jeffrey Gottlieb*, *Sene Afrika*, *Cafe Moliendo*, *Robin Lee*, *Clifford*, *Justin Mills*, *Don Truesdail*, *Jilliam Doty*, *Blowski*, and *Melissa Eisler*, acoustic rock.

710 Beach Club, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Thursday, *Noiz Carbine*, rock. Friday, *Born Tonight*, *In Every Breath*, and *3 Against 1*, rock. Saturday, *the Lou Dog Trio*, Sublime tribute. Monday, *Mitch Budd*, *Aaron Blyth*, and *Allegra*, acoustic/folk/rock. Wednesday, *the Highlines* and *Four Minutes til Midnight*, rock/funk/hip-hop.

Shooters Bar and Grill, Sheraton La Jolla, 3299 Holiday Court, La Jolla. 858-453-5500. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to

11 p.m., *John Cain*, international jazz/blues/Latin/pop/standards.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Thursday, *Meld*, rock/blues/jam. Friday, *Roxy Monoxide*, rock/pop. Saturday, *Tornado Magnet*, rock/country/Americana. Wednesday, *NZ Rock*, rock.

Turquoise Cafe, 873 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach. 858-488-4200. Thursday, *Evona's Jazz Trio*. Friday, 6:30 p.m., blues and jazz. Saturday, 6:30 p.m., Latin jazz and blues. Monday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Blue 44*, jazz. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., flamenco. Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Tomcat Courtney*, blues.

Winstons, 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-6822. Thursday, 9 p.m., *Indubious* and *Raiz Muzik*, reggae.

Friday, 9 p.m., *Kush* and *Jah Blood Fiyah Angels*, reggae. Saturday, *On the One* and *Sharp Three*, alternative rock. Monday, 9 p.m., *the Electric Waste Band*, classic rock. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *C-Money* and *the Players*, hip-hop/dub/reggae. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *Modern Day Moonshine*, blues/rock/soul/reggae.

DOWNTOWN

Anthology, 1337 India Street, San Diego. 619-595-0300. Thursday, 7:30 p.m., *Tim Flannery*, *Bushwalla*, *Married by Elvis*, *Get Back Loretta*, *Carlos Olmeda*, *Molly Jensen*, *Alex Woodard*, and *Voices of Prayze*, acoustic/country/alternative/pop. Friday, two shows, 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., *Chuchito Valdes*, Latin jazz. Saturday, two shows, 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.,

Archie Thompson's New Moon Flyers, jazz. Sunday, two shows, 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., *Charles McPherson*, *Brian Lynch*, *Gilbert Castellanos*, and *Nathan East*, jazz. Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., *ESP*, jazz. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., *Debbie Davis*, blues.

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

Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp), 668 Sixth Avenue, San Diego. 619-702-4200. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Lacy Younger*, folk.

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-232-HELL. Thursday, *Vena Cava*, *the Bloody Hollies*, *Nothington*, and *the Modlins*, punk/indie/rock. Friday, *Fu Manchu*, *It's Casual*, and *Get Your Death On*, rock. Saturday, *the Long and Short of It*, *Demasiado*, *Vitro*, and *Pen and Ink*, rock/alternative. Sunday, *the Legendary Shack Shakers*, *Whole Hog*, and *the Whiskey Dicks*, rock/punk. Monday, *Daredevil Jane*, *Roses on Her Grave*, and *Thieves and Liars*, rock/metal. Tuesday, *the Lonely H*, *Shaky Hands*, and *the Rafter Band*, rock. Wednesday, *Will Hoge*, *Jason Isbell*, and *Jeremy Fisher*, rock.

Croce's Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. Music is jazz. Thursday, 8 p.m., *Warren Lovell*. Friday, 8:30 p.m., *Yavez*. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Primo*. Sunday, *the Archtones*. Monday, *Dave Scott*. Tuesday, *Shep Meyers*. Wednesday, *Sue Palmer*.

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

Dick's Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-9100. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Blue Rokit*, blues/rock. Friday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Disco Pimps*, funk. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., *Straight Six*, rock. Sunday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *the Ideas*, classic rock. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Dreggs of Sada*, classic rock. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Private Domain*, unplugged, rock.

Dizzy's (Harbor Club Towers at Second and J Street), 200 Harbor Drive, San Diego. 858-270-7467. Friday, 8 p.m.,



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Thursday, January 17

8 pm • Original Rock

Tapwater

Friday, January 18

6 pm • Classic Rock **Jumpstart**

9:30 pm • Dance

Crush



Saturday, January 19

3-8 pm • **Sandi Shaner CD Release**

9:30 pm • Motown & Dance

Detroit Underground



Monday, January 21

7 pm • Blues

Chet Cannon's Blue Monday Blues Party

Sunday, January 20

6 pm • All-Star Jazz Lineup

MLK Jr. Birthday Jazz Fest

with **DJ John Phillips**

Tuesday, January 22

7 pm • Jimmy Buffett Tribute Band

Trade Winds

Wednesday, January 23

8 pm • Sweet Soul Music

The Soul Persuaders

Saturday, January 26

Dennis Jones



Saturday, February 2

John Nemeth with
Nathan James & Ben Hernandez

Wednesday, February 6

Anthony Gomes



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Tickets for "Upcoming Shows" available at Ticketmaster and Humphrey's.

All shows are 21 years and up.

Danny Green and His Trio, jazz. Saturday, 8 p.m., Sue Palmer, blues/jazz.

Dublin Square, 554 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-239-5818. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, live rock/Irish folk/acoustic.

4th & B, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343. Friday, Pat Green, the Emerald River Band, and Patrick Davis, country/folk rock/acoustic.

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, 9:30 p.m., groove. Tuesday, Stiletto's, rockabilly. Wednesday, Lady Dottie and the Diamonds, blues.

House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-299-2583. Thursday, 6 p.m., Modern Day Moonshine, blues/soul/reggae/rock.

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, 9:45 p.m., Diva Soul, disco/Top 40. Saturday, 9:45 p.m., Pop Rocks, '80s dance. Monday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Insight, jazz. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Mystique, jazz/R&B. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Soul Revue, dance/Top 40.

Martini Ranch, 528 F Street, downtown. 619-235-6100. Tuesday, 9 p.m., Modern Day Moonshine, blues/rock/reggae/soul.

Patrick's II, 428 F Street, downtown. 619-233-3077. Music is blues/soul unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Shelle Blue. Friday, the Laurie Morvan Band. Saturday, the Bill Magee Blues Band. Sunday, Chet Cannon and the Committee. Monday, Dave Camp. Tuesday, the 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band. Wednesday, the Bayou Brothers.

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

Sevilla, 555 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-5979. Club Salsa: Thursday, live salsa. Tuesday, Orquesta 8.8, salsa.

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

The Waterfront Bar and Grill, 2044 Kettner Boulevard, downtown. 619-232-9656. Saturday, 9 p.m., Fred Heath, blues.

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.

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.

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 Beauty Bar, 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-516-4746. Saturday, 8 p.m., Mongoloid, rock/experimental/punk.


Blarney Stone Pub, 5617 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont. 858-279-2033. Thursday through Saturday, also, Tuesday and Wednesday, traditional Irish folk music.

Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley), 1072 Camino del Rio North, Mission Valley. 619-295-2201. Friday, 8 p.m., Steven Ybarra, acoustic pop.

Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-LIVE. Friday, 8 p.m., the Motels, '80s pop/new wave. Saturday, Faded Croniclez, Blue Sky Blonde, Haven Born, and the Outside View, alternative/rock. Wednesday, Project



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San Diego Reader January 17, 2008 97

Calendar CLUBS

SAN DIEGO

(continued)
Analogue, Dapper Dan's, and the Maddox Revolution, rock/pop.

Epicentre, 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa. 858-271-4000. Friday, 7 p.m., *Luke Kinney, the Donnis Trio, Haley Montgomery, and Brandon Colon*, acoustic. Saturday, 7 p.m., *Marlone Dane, J.O.T., and Preezy*, hip-hop/R&B. Sunday, 6 p.m. live rock. Wednesday, 7 p.m., *Brighten, Number One Gun, Sever Your Ties, Secret and Whisper, and a Middy Atlantic*, alternative/indie/rock.

The Gordon Biersch Brewery, 5010 Mission Center Road, San Diego. 619-688-1120. Friday, *the Wise Monkey Orchestra*, indie/alternative/rock.

The Handlery Hotel and Resort, 950 Hotel Circle North, San Diego. 619-298-0511. Friday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Barbara Nesbitt*, acoustic. Saturday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Mike Spurgat and Bill Coomes*, acoustic rock. Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Christopher Dale*, acoustic pop.

Hot Monkey Love Cafe, 6875 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-469-4113. Saturday, 7 p.m., *Deaf Zero*, rock/alternative.

Humphrey's, Half Moon Inn, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-224-3577. Backstage Lounge: Thursday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Tapwater*, original rock. Friday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Jumpstart*, classic rock/swing; 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., *Crush*, dance. Saturday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Patty Zlaketti*, acoustic; 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., *the Detroit Underground*, Motown/dance. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., *Hank Easton*, jazz; 6 p.m. to 1 a.m., *Jazz Festival*. Monday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Chet Cannon*, blues. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Trade Winds*, Jimmy Buffet tribute band. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *the Soul Persuaders*, sweet soul.

The Imperial House, 505 Kalmia Street, San Diego. 619-234-3525. Friday

NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

Jello Biafra has called **Legendary Shack Shakers** vocalist **J.D. Wilkes** “the last great rock and roll front man.” I don’t know about the “last” part, but I agree that there are not many singers left who can compare with Wilkes when it comes to capturing an audience’s attention.

I first saw the Shack Shakers about ten years ago when they were more or less a rockabilly band and Wilkes was a skinny guy in vintage shirt and horn-rim glasses who did hilarious pantomime-like routines while singing. Since then they’ve retooled and regrouped several times and have grown into something else: a weird mixture of swamp blues, bluegrass, Cajun music, polka, and

punk rock, all steeped in a Southern Gothic aesthetic that Tennessee Williams would have envied. Wilkes now earns comparisons to Iggy Pop and Tom Waits. But even back when I first saw them, it was clear that the Shack Shakers had the potential to live up to the “legendary” in their name.

Wilkes, who lives in western Kentucky (though the band is based in Nashville), is also a cartoonist and is working on a film about the essence of Southern-ness, or something like that. Concepts get complicated with the Shack Shakers — surprisingly so for a band that tours with the likes of Southern Culture on the Skids and Reverend Horton Heat. The Shack Shakers’ most recent album, the impressive *Pandelirium*, was supposedly the conclusion of the “Tent Show Trilogy,” which was meant to explore global influences on Southern music. Or something like that —



LEGENDARY SHACK SHAKERS

once again, the concept gets a little freaky. But, no matter: just follow Wilkes wherever he takes you, and you’ll find something interesting.

LEGENDARY SHACK SHAKERS: The Casbah, Sunday, January 20, 7 pm. 619-232-4355. \$12.

The Ould Sod, 3373 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-6594. Friday, *the Dateless Losers*, rock.

Ramada Inn, 5550 Kearny Mesa Road, San 619-596-9777. Proud Mary’s Restaurant; Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Keith Jacobsen*, smooth jazz saxophone.

Red Fox Steakhouse, 2228 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-297-1313. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, contemporary/jazz piano.

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, 6:30 p.m., *Tiger Army, the Dear and Departed, and Revolution Mother*, punk/hardcore/metal. Saturday, 7 p.m., *His Irate Life, TerrorsPELL, Murder on the Dancefloor, Forever Days Forgotten, Comes the Horsemen, and From the Break of Dawn*, hardcore/metal.

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., live 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, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *the Robin Henkel Band*, blues/swing. Saturday, *the Edge*, rock.

U31 Cocktail Lounge and Bar, 3112 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-584-4188. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *the Republic of Letters*, alternative/rock.

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, 8:30 p.m., *Cross Canadian Ragweed, and the Farmers*, roots rock. Friday, 9 p.m., *Dilated Peoples* and *LMNO*, rap and hip-hop. Saturday, *Deadman’s Party*, classic hard rock. Tuesday, 8 p.m., *Todd Snider*, country.

and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., *Rick Lyon*, pop standards/Top 40/variety.

JP’s Pub, 10436 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Tierrasanta. 858-576-2509. Friday, 9 p.m., live blues and rock.

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. Friday and Saturday, live alternative rock/punk/indie.

Lestat’s Coffee House, 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-282-0437. Thursday, *Mario Escovedo and Rob DeeZ*, acoustic. Friday, *Jordan Reimer, Quiet the Moon, and Young Goodman*, acoustic. Saturday, *Lisa Sanders*, acoustic. Sunday, *the Robin Henkel Band*, blues.

Little Italy Urban Bar and Restaurant, 1953 India Street, San Diego. 619-398-2974. Saturday, 9 p.m., live 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.

O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub, 1310 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park. 619-276-5637. Friday, 9 p.m., *D.P.I., the Homeless Sexuals, the Death Mickies, and Pig Champion*, rock/indie/punk. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Writer, the Northstar Session, the Fling, and Joel P. West*, rock/roots/indie/Americana. Monday, 8 p.m., *Mystery Train*, blues. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *Eights and Aces, the Rotten Livers, and the Abrasives*, classic rock/alternative/indie. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *the Howlin’ Jupiters, Illuminatus, and Dog Smile*, rock/metal/indie.

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Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Mike Keneally* and *Tom Griesgraber*, rock/acoustic.

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., *Martin Storrow*, acoustic/classic rock.

Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad), 1905 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad. 760-479-0242. Friday, 8 p.m., *Joey Pearson*, soul/R&B/pop. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Sharon Hazel Township*, acoustic/rock.

Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain), 11160 Rancho Carmel Drive, Carmel Mountain. 858-618-1814. Friday, 8 p.m., *Johnson, Bosley, and Morin*, acoustic trio. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Jeffrey Joe Morin*, acoustic pop/blues.

Carvers, 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Friday and Saturday, *Kicks*, pop/dance.

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

Coyote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Billy Watson*, harmonica blues. Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Big Rig Deluxe*, country/rockabilly. Saturday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Scott Carter and New Breed*, pop jazz. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Jerome Dawson*, jazz. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Northstar*, classic rock.

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

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

Hensley’s Flying Elephant Pub and Grill, 805 Tamarack Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-672-8305. Wednesday 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Joe Wood and the Lonely Ones*, blues rock.

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

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Calendar CLUBS

SAN DIEGO

(continued)

Sunday, 2 p.m., *Sharon Hazel Township*, indie/folk/rock.

J.J. Lander's Irish Pub, 125 Main Street, Fallbrook. 760-731-0839. Thursday, 9 p.m. to midnight, *Brehon Law*, Irish folk. Friday, 8 p.m., *the Money Band*, acoustic rock. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Patty's Boots*, acoustic rock. Wednesday, 8:30 p.m., *Tim Lee*, acoustic rock.

The Jumping Turtle, 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos. 760-741-7778. Thursday, 8 p.m., *Mursic and Causeway*, alternative/rock/pop. Friday, 8 p.m. live rock. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Dying Regret*, *Etched in Red*, *Medius*, *Discord*, *Fulcrum*, and *Ill Conceived*, metal/hardcore/progressive. Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Jac*, *the Roadside Coyotes*, *the Love Campaign*, and *E Nation*, alternative/funk/rock/indie.

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.

Molly Malone's, 1270 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-9050. Friday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., *the Travelin' Band*, classic rock. Saturday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., live rock music.

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, *Harmony Park*, rock. Saturday, dance music. Tuesday, *the Cradit Union*, ballroom swing.

R. O'Sullivan's, 118 East Grand Avenue, Escondido. 760-737-0954. Thursday 9 p.m., *Joey Wood and the Lonely Ones*, acoustic rock, or *Raiz*

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Artist: Solarminds

Label: Mind Altering Records

Where available/price: Lou's Records in Encinitas (\$10.99), Cow Records in Ocean Beach (\$8.98), Mojo Sounds/Thrft Trader (\$8.99), Taang! Records (\$9.99), M-Theory in Mission Hills (\$9.99), Thirsty Moon (\$9.99), Off the Record in North Park (\$11.99), and Spin Records (\$11.99). Online at mindalteringrecords.com for \$12.

Songs: 1) My Salvation (Drifting) 2) My Salvation (a Way) 3) My Salvation (Saved) 4) My Salvation (with Sound) 5) My Salvation (and Prayers) 6) The Worshipping Sun (Soul) 7) Then Came the Night 8) Vision 9) Hallucination 10) The Worshipping Sun (Mind) 11) The Dawn Will Always Come

Band: Chris "Solarone" (guitars, keyboards, percussion, ambient sounds, vocals), Starry Wizdom (keyboards, harp, vocals), Doug "Umbra" (bass, vocals), Paul Gil (drums), Jaime Lyerly (vocals)

My first impression of this CD was "Great, just what I need: a *Dark Side of the*

Moon knockoff." Solarminds' pace is a slow, determined one, and they incorporate an

electronic filter or effect for every instrument and vocal. All of them. The combination results in wiggly atmospheric lounge music with haunting, far-off voices that seem to be shouted up from the bottom of a well.

There are no clear delineations between songs; through slight alterations in the beat or variations in the chords, a new song is created from the foundation laid by the track before it. The lyrics are heady and repetitive, associated with shadows, rain, the sun, and the mind...as well as torture and life. It's conceptual audio art, and it's not for everyone. By track four, I'm impressed. No instrument misses a chord or beat. Even though it's oddball stuff, it's well played, relaxing, and forces contemplation, which seems to be Solarminds' intended goal.



Solarminds

While I would not want to sit in a bar while the band reverbed their instruments and whined through megaphones, I wouldn't mind having the album lying around in case a buddy of mine scored some mushrooms and my Netflix movies included the entire run of that goofball TV show from the '70s, *Land of the Lost*. Just for the weirdness of it.

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

Muzik, reggae. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Joe Wood and the Lonely Ones*, acoustic rock. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Clachan Boys*, Irish folk. Wednesday, 8:30 p.m., *the Clay Colton Band*, acoustic rock.

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

Surf N'Saddle, 123 West Plaza Street (Lomas Santa Fe and Highway 101), Solana Beach. 858-755-9474. Friday, *Meliesa and the Monkey Bites*, alternative. Saturday, *Wire Monkey*, rock.

Theatrx, 155 East Grand Avenue (at Kalmia, next to the Light Gallery), Escondido. 760-735-2491. Friday, 8 p.m., *L.A. Jones and the Blues Messengers*, blues.

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

Saturday, *the Stiletto*s, rockabilly/swing/roots.

VFW (Chula Vista), 299 I Street, Chula Vista. 619-422-1262. Saturday, *the Rhythm Jacks*, blues rock.

EAST COUNTY

Borders Books and Music (El Cajon), 159 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon. 619-593-5119. Friday, 8 p.m., *Chris Luessman*, acoustic. Saturday, 7 p.m., *B'Dale*, acoustic folk.

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

Don's Cocktail Lounge, 13321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon. 619-443-2444. Friday and Saturday, 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., *Joey and the Sting Rays*, country/rock.

Fannie's Nightclub, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-698-2204. Thursday, *the Cory Wilkins Band*, rock. Friday, *LSD Productions*, rock. Saturday, *On Fire*, rock.

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

Second Wind, 8528 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 6019-596-8350. Friday and Saturday, *5 Miles High*, classic rock.

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

Calendar BANDS

ALTERNATIVE

The Abrasives: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Against the World: Dreamstreet

Aghori: Dreamstreet

Aural Medication: Dreamstreet

Bane: Ché Café



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THE MOTELS
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Saturday, January 19
FADED CHRONICLEZ
BLUE SKY BLONDE
HAVEN BORN
THE OUTSIDE VIEW
(Reunion Show)

Thursday, January 31
4or the Nod Productions presents
JOEY YOUNGMAN
TERRY MULLAN
WES HOPPE • PHON

Monday, January 21
The Rubber Rose presents
"THE SEX WORKERS ART SHOW"

Friday, February 1
S.A.T.O.R.I.

Wednesday, January 23
PROJECT ANALOGUE
DAPPER DANS
MADDOX REVOLUTION

Saturday, February 2
"HELL ON HEELS"
BURLESQUE SHOW

Friday, January 25
STARING AT STRANGE
CITY LIKES ADDICTION
WICKHEAD

Wednesday, February 6
THE BUSINESS END
CAPTAIN HASHBROWN

Wednesday, January 30
MERKABA BANDITS
DOGSMEILE

Saturday, February 9
"Frank & Sulo's Birthday Bash"
UNSET
AUTHENTIC SELLOUT
ALL HOT & BOTHERED
CANOBLISS

2/13 *Moral Crux* • *Teenage Rehab* • 2/16 *Angry Samoans* • 2/22 "Rock This Town" (an appreciation for '50s music & culture) • 2/24 *Acoustic Alliance* • 2/28 4or the Nod Productions • 3/1 *Funland* (featuring Klaus Flouride & East Bay Ray of Dead Kennedys) • *JFA* • 3/2 *The Mother Truckers* • 4/4 *Y&T* • 4/30 *UFO*

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Comes the Horsemen: Soma
The Dear and Departed: Soma
The Death Mickies: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Dog Smile: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
D.P.I.: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Drop Joy: Dreamstreet
Forever Days Forgotten: Soma
From the Break of Dawn: Soma
Fulcrum: The Jumping Turtle
Get Back Loretta: Anthology
The Highlines: 710 Beach Club
His Irate Life: Soma
The Homeless Sexuals: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Ill Conceived: The Jumping Turtle
Meliesa and the Monkey Bites: Surf N’Saddle
A Midday Atlantic: Epicentre
Mursic: The Jumping Turtle
Number One Gun: Epicentre
On the One: Winstons
Outbreak: Ché Café
Pen and Ink: The Casbah
Pig Champion: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Proven: Dreamstreet
The Republic of Letters: U31 Cocktail Lounge and Bar
Revolution Mother: Soma
Roadside Coyotes: The Jumping Turtle
The Rotten Livers: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Secret and Whisper: Epicentre
Sever Your Ties: Epicentre
Sharon Hazel Township: Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad), It’s a Grind (San Marcos)

Sharp Three: Winstons
Subtitles: Dreamstreet
Terrorspell: Soma
This Is Hell: Ché Café
Tiger Army: Soma
Vena Cava: The Casbah
Vitro: The Casbah
The Wise Monkey Orchestra: The Gordon Biersch Brewery

ROCK

Aces and Eights: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Alpha and Omega: Ché Café
The Bloody Hollies: The Casbah
Born Tonight: 710 Beach Club
Steve Brewer: Blarney Stone Pub

as i hear it

BY BRIAN CARVER

Artist: **The Napoleon Complex**
Song: **“Handcuffs”** (from the CD *How Does Salt Water Mix with Tea?*)
Heard By: **Patrick Ewing**, Phoenix, AZ



Patrick

I liked it. The vocals reminded me of the Blood Brothers a little bit. Good instrumental stuff. It’s rock, obviously. It’s more like the modern stuff that a lot of people are doing right now, I think. I thought it was pretty straightforward — none of those really “out there” sounds — just mostly guitar, drums, and bass. There are a lot of cymbals going on with the drumming. It’s kind of climactic. I remember one lyric he sang was “waking up on the trolley with no pants and a broken jaw.” That was pretty powerful, I guess. It seems like something that would be pretty popular with the rock crowd.

SAN DIEGO SONGS TAKE THE STREET TEST

Artist: **Trophy Wife**
Song: **“The Cuddler”** (from the CD *Rose-scented Cuddle Moments...*)
Heard By: **Bart Cameron**, Logan Heights



Bart

What did I like about it? Good songwriting. I don’t think that it was much more than two or three minutes, so I think that’s, like, your O.G. seven-inch record. There was a good eight-bar intro — not a whole lot of time screwing around. The lyrics were very funny without being too stupid. It was the contradiction of the character that they were describing: this guy “the Cuddler.” The whole country/rock thing...I like it. The first thing that jumped into my mind when I heard these guys was Cake. It’s the kind of stuff you find on a mix tape. They were way more than competent. I imagine seeing these guys live would be a good show.

Artist: **The Vision of a Dying World**
Song: **“Awoken”** (from the CD *and the Grammar Lamb*)
Heard By: **Steve Andrews**, El Cajon



Steve

I liked it a lot. The thumping bass line was kind of country-ish. The guitar had a lot of reverb on it. The guy’s voice was pretty mellow. It was almost kind of like Iron and Wine — really soft. The lyrics weren’t very audible, but the overall tone was very relaxed, whereas in most folk music they’re really trying to push specific vocals. This was more of a melodic sound. It was an interesting mix of country...a little bit of folk and indie, as well. I think it could be profitable. It depends on how good they are live. That’s the test for me. I think it’s good driving music, especially because of the bass line.

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Music Editor, As I Hear It, San Diego *Reader*, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803

Broke on Friday: ’Canes
The Cancer Bats: Ché Café
The Clay Colton Band: R. O’Sullivan’s, Tom Giblin’s Irish Pub and Restaurant
Dapper Dan's: Brick By Brick
Daredevil Jane: The Casbah
The Dateless Losers: The Ould Sod
Dazed and Confused: ’Canes
Dead Man’s Party: Belly Up Tavern
Deaf Zero: Hot Monkey Love Cafe
Discord: The Jumping Turtle
The Dreggs of Sada: Dick’s Last Resort
Dying Regret: The Jumping Turtle
The Edge: Tio Leo’s (Mira Mesa)

The Electric Waste Band: Winstons
Etched in Red: The Jumping Turtle
Faded Chroniclez: Brick By Brick
The Farmers: Belly Up Tavern
Fear the Fat Guy: Tom Giblin’s Irish Pub and Restaurant
5 Miles High: Second Wind (Santee)
The Flat Out Liars: The Kraken
The Fling: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Fu Manchú: The Casbah
Get Your Death On: The Casbah
Gone to Oblivion: Dreamstreet
Guava Belly: ’Canes

Harmony Park: Ocean House
Haven Born: Brick By Brick
Will Hoge: The Casbah
The Howlin’ Jupiters: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
The Ideas: Dick’s Last Resort
Illuminatus: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
In Every Breath: 710 Beach Club
The Iron Works: ’Canes
Jason Isbell: The Casbah
It’s Casual: The Casbah
Mike Keneally: Belly Up Tavern
The Legendary Shack Shakers: The Casbah
The Lonely H: The Casbah

The Long and Short of It: The Casbah
The Love Campaign: The Jumping Turtle
Mad Habit: Dreamstreet
Medius: The Jumping Turtle
Meld: Tiki House
The Modlins: The Casbah
Monday’s Alibi: ’Canes
Mongoloid: The Beauty Bar
Murder on the Dancefloor: Soma
Noiz Carbine: 710 Beach Club
Northstar: Coyote Bar and Grill
The Northstar Session: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Nothingtons: The Casbah

One Theory: Dreamstreet
One Thread: ’Canes
The Outside View: Brick By Brick
Patty’s Boots: J.J. Lander’s Irish Pub
Private Domain: Dick’s Last Resort
Project Analogue: Brick By Brick
Radiostar: Island Sports and Spirits
The Rafter Band: The Casbah
Rhythm and the Method: Dreamstreet
Ricksha: ’Canes
Roses on Her Grave: The Casbah
Roxy Monoxide: Tiki House
Shaky Hands: The Casbah
Sight Unscene: Dreamstreet
Silent Drive: Ché Café
The Sirens of Shipwreck: ’Canes
The Stilettos: Henry’s Pub, Island Sports and Spirits
Stone Wolf: Second Wind (San Carlos)
Straight Six: Dick’s Last Resort
Tapwater: Humphrey’s
Thieves and Liars: The Casbah
3 Against 1: 710 Beach Club
Tide: Dreamstreet
TNT: Dirk’s Niteclub
Tornado Magnet: Tiki House
The Travelin’ Band: Molly Malone’s
Triumph: Ché Café
The Whiskey Dicks: The Casbah
Whole Hog: The Casbah
Wild Child: ’Canes
The Cory Wilkins Band: Fannie’s Nightclub
Matt Williams: Dreamstreet
Wire Monkey: Surf N’Saddle
Writer: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub

POP / TOP 40

Scott Carter and New Breed: Coyote Bar and Grill
Crush: Humphrey’s
The Disco Pimps: Dick’s Last Resort
The Flock of 80’s: Henry’s Pub
Kicks: Carvers
The Love Rangers: The Alley
Rick Lyon: The Imperial House
The Maddox Revolution: Brick By Brick
The Motels: Brick By Brick
David Timothy Smith: Albie’s Beef Inn
The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love’s
Trade Winds: Humphrey’s

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10 pm – Cremson Reign

Tues: (1/22) : 10 pm – The Purple Haze Experience
(A Tribute to Jimi Hendrix)

Thurs: (1/24) : 9 pm – Nathan James
9:45 pm – Sheri Lopez
10:45 pm – Martin Storrow
11:30 pm – Donovan Nugent

Tues: (1/29) : 10 pm – OU812
(Van Halen/Sammy Hagar Tribute)

ALL ACCESS

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For booking:
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Calendar
BANDS

JAZZ / BIG BAND

The Archtones: Croce's Jazz Bar
Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn
Blue 44: Turquoise Cafe
Ray Briz: Hotel del Coronado
Gilbert Castellanos: Anthology
Jerome Dawson: Coyote Bar and Grill
Nathan East: Anthology
Hank Easton: Humphrey's
ESP: Anthology
Evona's Jazz Trio: Turquoise Cafe
Donnie Finnell and Company East: Bistro 221
Yvonne Flores: Buon Giorno Restaurant
Jim Gibson: Hotel del Coronado
Danny Green and His Trio: Dizzy's
Insight: Jimmy Love's
Keith Jacobsen: Ramada Inn
Fran Laskota: The Westgate Hotel
Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado
J.J. Lim's Jazz Jam: South Park Bar and Grill
Warren Lovell: Croce's Jazz Bar
Brian Lynch: Anthology
Madera: Buon Giorno Restaurant
Masterpiece: Jimmy Love's
Kevin McCully: The Westgate Hotel
Charles McPherson: Anthology
Jerry Melnick: The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, Rancho Bernardo Inn
The Shep Meyers Trio: Croce's Jazz Bar
Mystique: Jimmy Love's
Mike Nelson: The Lodge at Torrey Pines
Tim Ninnink: South Park Bar and Grill
One Thousand Eyes: Buon Giorno Restaurant
Dan Papaila: The Lodge at Torrey Pines

Yo, DJ!

Talk About a Star



Fourplay performs tomorrow, January 18, at the Town & Country Resort

I've had the pleasure of having dinner several times with Fourplay's keyboardist Bob James. One funny time, at Croce's, Fourplay had a new release out [in 1994]. We were talking about the guest artists featured on it and then, out of the blue, Bob says, "Why the fuck aren't you playing the single?" I almost fell out of my chair laughing. It was just so unexpected and so perfectly timed in the conversation....

I know Nathan and his brothers Marcel and James

well. A great memory I have is when I was doing overnights. It was 2:00 a.m. And anyone could walk up to the second floor and look in the booth of those studios at KIFM if they wanted. And two guys decided to [do so] one night. I saw the frame of these two black guys. I got scared and hid behind a part of the wall. I thought they were going to kill me or rape me or something.

I looked around the wall and they were laughing. It was Nathan and his brother. I let them in, and they hung out for three hours. We talked. They picked out music I was able to slip in. I wasn't the music director in those days, so I couldn't just do anything I wanted.



DJ: KELLY COLE
Station: SMOOTH JAZZ 98.1 FM
Shift: MONDAY-FRIDAY, 2-7 P.M.

Kush and Jah Blood Fiyah Angels: Winstons
Jeff Moore: The Calypso Cafe
Raiz Muzik: Winstons, R. O'Sullivan's
The Stone Senses: 'Canes
Stranger: 'Canes
Uplift: The Calypso Cafe

COUNTRY

Big Rig Deluxe: Coyote Bar and Grill
The California Rangers: McCabe's Beach Club
The Emerald River Band: 4th & B
Pat Green: 4th & B
Joey and the Sting Rays: Don's Cocktail Lounge
Married by Elvis: Anthology
Todd Snider: Belly Up Tavern
Whiskey Ridge: Renegade Inn

ACOUSTIC / FOLK

Allegra: 710 Beach Club
B'Dale: Borders Books and Music (El Cajon)
Blowski: Portugalia
Aaron Blyth: 710 Beach Club
Mitch Budd: 710 Beach Club
Bushwalla: Anthology
Cafe Moliendo: Portugalia
Causeway: The Jumping Turtle
The Clachan Boys: Tom Giblin's Irish Pub and Restaurant, R. O'Sullivan's
Brandon Colon: Epicentre
Bill Coomes: The Handlery Hotel and Resort

Cross Canadian Ragweed: Belly Up Tavern
Tony Cummings: Tom Giblin's Irish Pub and Restaurant
Christopher Dale: The Handlery Hotel and Resort
Patrick Davis: 4th & B
Rob Dee: Lestat's Coffee House
The Donniss Trio: Epicentre
Jillian Doty: Portugalia
Melissa Eisler: Portugalia
Mario Escovedo: Lestat's Coffee House
Jeremy Fisher: The Casbah
Tim Flannery: Anthology
Mike Gardner: Cheers, North Bar Sports and Spirits, Mas Fina Cantina
Gonzo Gonzales: Hotel del Coronado
Tom Griesgraber: Belly Up Tavern
Molly Jensen: Anthology
Johnson, Bosley, and Morin: Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain)
Luke Kinney: Epicentre
Brehon Law: Tom Giblin's Irish Pub and Restaurant, J.J. Lander's Irish Pub
Robin Lee: Portugalia
Tim Lee: J.J. Lander's Irish Pub
Chris Luessman: Borders Books and Music (El Cajon)
Justin Mills: Portugalia
The Money Band: J.J. Lander's Irish Pub
Haley Montgomery: Epicentre
Jeffrey Joe Morin: Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain)
Barbara Nesbitt: The Handlery Hotel and Resort
Carlos Olmeda: Anthology
Quiet the Moon: Lestat's Coffee House
Jordan Reimer: Lestat's Coffee House
Lisa Sanders: Lestat's Coffee House
Mike Spurgat: The Handlery Hotel and Resort
Martin Storrow: The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe
Jack Tempchin: The Calypso Cafe
Don Truesdail: Portugalia
Joel P. West: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
Joe Wood and the Lonely Ones: R. O'Sullivan's
Alex Woodard: Anthology
Steven Ybarra: Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley)
Young Goodman: Lestat's Coffee House

Barbara Nesbitt: The Handlery Hotel and Resort
Carlos Olmeda: Anthology
Quiet the Moon: Lestat's Coffee House
Jordan Reimer: Lestat's Coffee House
Lisa Sanders: Lestat's Coffee House
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Young Goodman: Lestat's Coffee House

ACOUSTIC / FOLK

(continued)
Lacy Younger: Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp)
Patti Zlaket: Humphrey's

BLUES / SOUL

Nena Anderson: The Calypso Cafe
The Bayou Brothers: Patrick's II
Blue Heat: The Kraken
Blue Rockit: Dick's Last Resort
The Blues Brokers: The Kraken
Dave Camp: Patrick's II

Chet Cannon: Humphrey's
Chet Cannon and the Committee: Patrick's II
Tomcat Courtney: Turquoise Cafe
Debbie Davis: Anthology
Frankie Dee and the Funk Natra Band: The Kraken
Fred Heath: The Waterfront
The Robin Henkel Band: Tio Leo's (Mira Mesa), Lestat's Coffee House
L.A. Jones and the Blues Messengers: Theatrx
Jumpstart: Humphrey's
Lady Dottie and the Diamonds: Henry's Pub
The Bill Magee Blues Band: Patrick's II
Modern Day Moonshine: Martini Ranch (Gaslamp), House of Blues, Winstons
Jeff Moore and the Witchdoctors: The Kraken
The Laurie Morvan Band: Patrick's II
Mystery Train: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
The 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band: Patrick's II
Sue Palmer: Dizzy's, Croce's Jazz Bar
Joey Pearson: Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad)
The Post 310 Blues Band: American Legion Post 310
The Rhythm Jacks: VFW (Chula Vista)
Shelle Blue: Patrick's II
Dean Smith: The Calypso Cafe
The Soul Persuaders: Humphrey's
Billy Thompson: The Calypso Cafe
Billy Watson: Coyote Bar and Grill
Joe Wood and the Lonely Ones: Hensley's Flying Elephant Pub and Grill

Mystery Train: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
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Billy Thompson: The Calypso Cafe
Billy Watson: Coyote Bar and Grill
Joe Wood and the Lonely Ones: Hensley's Flying Elephant Pub and Grill

RAP / HIP-HOP

C-Money and the Players: Winstons
Marlone Dane: Epicentre
Dilated Peoples: Belly Up Tavern
J.O.T.: Epicentre
LMNO: Belly Up Tavern
Preezy: Epicentre

EVERYTHING ELSE

Tom Barabas: G5-Georges on Fifth
John Cain: Shooters Bar and Grill
Ray Correa: The Butcher Shop
Julio de la Huerta: The Westgate Hotel
Demasiado: The Casbah
E Nation: The Jumping Turtle
Karen Giorgio: The Westgate Hotel
Luna Llena: The Calypso Cafe
Orquesta 8.8: Sevilla
Faith Page: The Westgate Hotel
Sene Afrika: Portugalia



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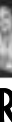
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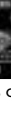
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Crasher

A FEW FUNNY MEN

by Josh Board

Some friends and I decided to crash the Comedy Palace on Clairemont Mesa Boulevard to check out the comedians. We talked our way into the club and I somehow ended up backstage with a few of the comics performing that night.

There wasn't a backstage area or green room that you'd imagine for the talent; it was just someone's office. Sitting on the desk was a baby's pacifier and one of the comedians held it up and made a joke about it.

I spoke with Sean Kelly, whom I'd seen perform before. I was impressed with the variety of accents he did and how he worked the crowd.

Chip Franklin, who does the morning show for KOGO 600, was roaming around. He got a phone call from his son, and we talked about what it's like raising teenagers. When he said something that made me laugh, I wondered if comedians should avoid being funny right before a set to save it for the stage.

Since Franklin had written jokes for Leno and Letterman, I asked him about the writers'



strike. He said that he has a brother-in-law who was making a lot of money as a writer, but that he's now in danger of losing his house because of the strike.

Many of the writers who voted to strike, he said, aren't regular working writers. They may have sold only one screenplay in their

"I'm opening this show, so don't expect much."

career, which, Franklin suggested, made it easier for them to strike — they had nothing to lose.

I told them about two comedienne who quizzed me on



Top: Sean Kelly (left); Bottom left: The DJ; Bottom right: Kelly on stage

female comics before a radio show I was to be interviewed on. The women were bothered by the fact that most of the ones I was

familiar with were from the '80s and '90s. They said how much more difficult it was for women to make it in that business. We ended up having an argument that made it on the air.

Coincidentally, when I went out to the club for food, I bumped into comic Dangerous Dick; he was the one interviewing me and the female comedians when we had the argument. I had never seen him perform live, and he said, "Hey, I'm opening this show, so don't expect much."

He performed a funny set, though. One of his bits involved stopping a cop to sign a fix-it ticket he got. Dick explained that he pulled up behind a cop car and flashed his headlights. And when

the officer pulled over, Dick walked up to the car and said to the cop, "Do you know why I pulled you over?" He ended the bit saying, "They don't like that very much." But the crowd did.

When I ran into Franklin, he told me that he is from Washington, D.C. and that he's owned comedy clubs over the years. "I've booked people like Martin Lawrence, Bill Maher, Kevin James, and Ray Romano. Many slept on my couch, borrowed my car, and never returned a call once they made it big. That's okay. I would've blown them off as well."

When the discussion turned to problems with bookings, Franklin had a few gems. "There was this one show with Kevin Pollack, who we had booked for little money. Then *A Few Good Men* came out, and he was huge. Well, his agent wanted more money, but we had a deal. And a good lawyer. So we expected this huge attitude. But he showed up and was a real pro. He actually hung out at the end of his show calling people's answering machines and pretending to be

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Jack Nicholson.”

Another incident involved Marc Price, who played Skippy on *Family Ties*. I told Franklin how Price came into the radio station I worked at in the early '90s, and he was nice. I was shocked when Price asked me if there was a place in town known for having prostitutes. I said, “Uh, yeah. El Cajon Boulevard.” He wrote that down. He then asked about a place known for having a large gay population. I told him Hillcrest. He also wrote that down. I saw that night that he used the information for bits on stage.

Franklin’s experience with Price didn’t go as well. He told me, “He was a horrible comic. He would get drunk and hit on female customers and always be late for the show. He once skipped out on the late Saturday show after already being paid. It was only \$500 bucks, but still... Revenge is sweet. A year later, I booked him at a club in Chicago. Sent him the contract and itinerary and said I couldn’t wait to see him. For the first time in his life, he arrived on time. Did I mention that I never had a club in Chicago?”

I was surprised to find that comedians have some of

the same stories rock stars have. Franklin, who told me he had opened on tours with Chicago and the Ramones, once walked in on Jerry Lee Lewis in the bathroom. Lewis was using the sink to, uh, not wash his hands.

Franklin saw Joey Ramone autographing a woman’s tongue. And he got to open for Warren Zevon, who he was a big fan of. We spent a few minutes talking about Zevon and our favorite songs of his.

An African-American comedian named Lamont got on stage and sarcastically thanked everyone for “keeping the applause going until I got five feet from the stage.” When we started applauding again, he said, “It’s too late! But, hey, I’ve never heard of you either.”

The club was packed, but I was surprised at the conversation I heard coming from tables. It was distracting, but sometimes the comedians knocked on the talkers.

Some patrons who’d had too much to drink thought

that they were part of the show. When one comedian told us that he was from Cleveland, he added, “We have a motto. What happens in Cleveland...is a lie. Nothing happens there.” That joke was interrupted by a woman who finished the sentence with the incorrect anticipated punchline: “...stays in Cleveland.”

When Kelly got on stage, he talked at first to all the “baldies” in the crowd. He had a lot of energy and the room dug it. You could see that people in the front rows were nervous, as Kelly picked people out and started talking with them.

When someone heckled him from a back table, he joked about them being from Lakeside and said that people there “close escrow on their house at the DMV.”

Franklin’s act was hysterical. One of his bits was about how at his age, when he sees a *Playboy* centerfold and her date of birth, he thinks, “I wonder what her mom looks like.” I couldn’t

believe he could keep us laughing through such a long set. I think he was on stage close to 45 minutes.

I ran into Kelly, who was rushing to get out of there. He’d just flown into town that day from Phoenix, where his mother-in-law had passed away. He seemed sad. He told me he had to catch a plane back to Phoenix.

“How could you do comedy under those circumstances?” I asked him.

“Yeah, it’s hard. I almost missed this show.”

Editor’s note: Sean Kelly is a sales consultant to the Reader. Josh Board has

appeared on Chip Franklin’s radio show on KOGO 600 AM.■

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Time Travel

I suspect that all middle-class (and up) native San Diegans have dined at Rainwater's on Kettner at least once — for a birthday, a graduation, an engagement, an anniversary. According to its website, the restaurant is currently celebrating an anniversary, of its 20th year in business. But it's actually more like the 23rd year. Last summer it acquired a new executive chef, Julian Quinones. The mere possibility of change at this bastion of tradition gave me an excuse to end my status as the last middle-class Rainwater's virgin in San Diego.

You could say that chophouses are urban America's version of the French bistro (a genre that is burgeoning again here), offering simple but well-sauced traditional dishes and fine wine lists in a congenial, faintly in-groupy atmosphere. But unlike bistros, chophouses are usually rather large, luxurious in atmosphere and pampering service, and they're almost always forthrightly expensive. And, of course, they are focused above all on the joys of red meat — a characteristic stemming more from English first-class hotel restaurants and clubs than from France's more eccentric eateries.

Rainwater's spacious second-floor dining room resembles an English men's club scaled to New World proportions, coziness spread large, with dark wood, leather booths, gentle lighting, white tablecloths. This is where the downtown power elite lunches. (Of course, I've heard the same about Chuey's in Barrio Logan — but I guess Chuey's is for working lunches and Rainwater's is for impressing-somebody lunches.) It's reportedly hectic at noon, but at a midweek January dinnertime, we found it sparsely populated.

The appetizers include retro steakhouse choices (shrimp cocktail and its colleagues), and there seemed to be fewer choices on the printed menu than on the website. (The lighting is dim, but had I spotted steak tartare, I would have ordered it.) We began with six flawless Washington State oysters, big, fresh, and juicy, arriving with a very decent house cocktail sauce as well as a mignonette, with Tabasco sauce offered on the side. A fine crab cake offered large hunks of crab and little filler. The crab is Eastern blue, but it tasted so buttery I thought it might be Dungeness. The breads were irresistible: First came a round of delicate, moist cornbread cylinders, followed by fluffy sourdough French, both accompanied by high-quality unsalted butter.

We lucked into an exceptional "special": beef Wellington is new to the menu. Normally, it's \$42, all by itself, but that evening it was part of a package deal that for the same price included choice of a salad and dessert. For the salad, I chose



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

a baby spinach and Belgian endive mixture strewn with Roquefort cheese and caramelized pistachios in a light vinaigrette. Loved it.

Beef Wellington reminds me of the old movie joke, "We call our company Miracle Productions. If it's a good picture, it's a miracle!" If it's a good Wellington, it's a miracle, too, because this is a dish difficult to pull off perfectly. It consists of beef tenderloin

topped with foie gras and mushroom *duxelles* (minced and sautéed), surrounded by a buttery pastry shell. The miracle: baking the pastry until done, without overcooking the beef. Everyone at my table had, at some point, attempted it and flopped; it's really something to choose at a restaurant instead of suffering over at home. (The chef later told me it takes a really hot, consistent oven. When he cooked it at home for his sister's birthday, in 30 individual portions, just as the Wellingtons are served at the restaurant, many portions came out overcooked, to his great embarrassment.) I've even seen serious French chefs brought to their knees by the dish.

Rainwater's chef did as fine a job on it as I've ever tasted: The pastry shell, rolled out thin, emerged deliciously crunchy, while the beef was a perfect medium-rare. Surrounding this marvel was a dark red-brown Bordelaise sauce based on veal demi-glace and red wine, dotted with small turned potatoes, carrots, and onions. Diehard

traditionalists often serve Wellington with Madeira sauce (based on a heavy, flour-thickened traditional *sauce brun*), but frankly, I preferred this lighter, thinner potion, which doesn't overwhelm the other flavors. Sometimes,

as a special, the chef serves it with a sauce Perigourdine, dotted with black truffles. If you ever see this on the specials board, don't even think of not ordering it, whatever

the cost. That cashmere sweater you lust for will be 70 percent off in a month, but this sauce won't be here then.

The beef at Rainwater's is Cryovac-aged by their meat wholesaler for three weeks (that is, "wet-aged" inside Cryovac packaging, a kind of heavy plastic wrap). This style of aging makes the meat tender but doesn't change or improve its flavor. (It's less expensive than dry-aging, a process rarely attempted even by steakhouses now, which does intensify the beef flavor — at the cost of shrinking the meat and forming a thick, dry crust that needs to be trimmed off.) The beef is sent to Rainwater's uncut, still in its Cryo shrink-wrap, in large sections (known as sub-primal cuts), such as the short loin and the rib rack. Usually the chef at Rainwater will give it another week of wet-aging onsite. Then he or another expert chef-butcher will band saw it into smaller pieces and cut it into the individual steaks, roasts, and chops that appear on your plate. The beef cuts that will become

REVIEW NAOMI WISE

Rainwater's on Kettner

★★★½ (very good to excellent)

1202 Kettner (at West B Street), downtown, 619-233-5757, rainwaters.com.

HOURS: Monday–Thursday 11:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m., Friday until 11:00, Saturday 5:00–11:00 p.m., Sunday 5:00–10:00 p.m.

PRICES: Dinner appetizers, \$9–\$16 (not counting much higher caviar service); soups and salads, \$8–\$16; entrées, \$23–\$51 (most over \$40); sides, \$7–\$15; desserts, \$6–\$10.

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: Classic chop-house fare with USDA prime beefsteaks and roasts with "continental" sauces, plus some seafood, poultry, other meats. Lunch menu emphasizes substantial salads, sandwiches, and downsized items from dinner menu. Awesome, book-length international wine list with verticals of top-growth Bordeaux, Bourgognes, and Sauternes (in the four-figure range) at approximately 150% of retail prices. Little under \$40, but enough under \$60 to get by. Full bar.

PICK HITS: Oysters, crab cake, beef Wellington, potato gratin side dish. Chef recommends bone-in rib-eye steak, 14-ounce New York steak, lobster tail.

NEED TO KNOW: Valet parking \$10. Elevator access to second-floor restaurant. Quiet, fairly dressy atmosphere nights; weekday lunches much busier (business chic garb). Reservations always advisable. Most steaks and chops come without vegetables. No vegetarian entrées, but plenty of salads and sides for lacto-vegetarians to cobble together a meal, bupkes for vegans.

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

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steaks and roasts are all USDA Prime Midwestern corn-fed beef. The braising cuts (such as the short ribs) are certified Angus, the equivalent of USDA Choice.

Kent's entrée preference was the restaurant's traditional specialty, "pepper filet," known to Francophones and Julia Child followers as *le steak au poivre*. Although the meat was very tender, none of us found it that big a deal, especially for its \$49 price tag. If we had to do it again, we'd be more likely to go for a rib-eye steak or the roast prime rib and revel in pure, simple carnivorousness with these more flavorful cuts. (Or, for a filet, we might go with the version that comes

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with Béarnaise sauce — although it's easier than Wellington, Béarnaise is another dish usually best left to professional chefs, who can stay calmer than palpitating home cooks as they beat the butter into the egg yolks.)

Lynne, a lover of braises, chose short ribs “osso buco style.” They were what your mom might make if she's a very adept cook — tender, just fatty enough for flavor, in a deeply beefy liquid. They offer old-fashioned goodness, even if they're not the revelatory ribs of George's California Modern, or of Market, both made from higher grades of beef and garnished with their chefs' higher-flying ambitions. (As you might expect, the doggy-bag reheat tasted even better. Braises and stews do tend to improve overnight.)

Cheryl picked the evening's seafood special, grilled swordfish. It wasn't overcooked, and it came with actual vegetables — a wonderfully gooey, cheesy potato gratin and crisp grilled asparagus. I can't say that the fish itself was truly interesting, but then swordfish is rarely as thrilling as one hopes it will be.

The menu is long, and peering its various corners offered some amusement in the mode of time travel to the culinary past. I can't remember the last time I saw veal liver and onions. (I know that several down-home eateries and diners around town regularly offer liver and onions — but I doubt it's calf's liver.) Here it's made with “milk-fed” (translation: Simulac for cows) Provimi veal, whose livers would probably be light-colored and tender, something like a mammalian foie gras. There's also a modest three-cheese meatloaf nestling among the expensive steaks, like a poacher amidst the fox-hunting party, and (so tempting!) a genuine butter-drenched Dover sole meunière, with fish flown in from Europe. That's a fish leaving its carbon footprint over 7000 miles of sky (but so-o-o good).

On a menu section titled “Special Things We Do for You” (the source of both the short ribs and the Wellington), I noticed a marinated roast Shelton (natural) chicken. Normally, I wouldn't really consider ordering roast chicken in a restaurant (unless I were at Chez Ami Louis in Paris), but next time I might, because Shelton birds are exceptionally flavorful, and I'd trust this seasoned chef to come up with a good marinade.

For dessert, we ventured on profiteroles, filled with vanilla ice cream. They were plated over caramel syrup and drenched in chocolate sauce, and the two sauces conspired to gum up the delicate texture of the pastry. Even with four sharing it, we abandoned it half eaten as just too sweet. A wedge of cheesecake imported from New York's Carnegie Deli was huge, weighty, and as New Yorkish as a replica of the Carnegie Hall building carved

out of cottage cheese.

The chef may be new here, but the traditions are old, and they hold. I don't think people go to Rainwater's looking for surprises. People mainly go there to eat what they've always eaten there. When I was 20, I would have found the food utterly thrilling, but in the immortal words of malapropish film mogul Louis B. Mayer, “Much water has been passed since then.” Dinner here seems a bit quaint and nostalgic, an array of luxurious cuisine from the bygone days of the genuine 40-hour week, of the vacation with no email device in the hand-luggage, of jobs that lasted forever and ended with employer-paid pensions instead of 401Ks — a time that was less culinarily adventurous but also less fraught, and vastly more indulgent with its rich, easy comforts. It's a lovely time to visit.

ABOUT THE CHEF

Chef Julian Quinones is a mellow local guy, returning after years of working out of town. “I started as a dishwasher in Del Mar at the racetrack when I was 16 years old,” he says. “Two months later they advanced me to cook's helper — you know, run upstairs and get them the spices. And I saw the cooks — they were older, and they were having such fun. They'd be working hard and throwing bread across the room at each other, and I thought it would be fun to be a chef. So I asked

them, ‘What's the best way to learn to do your job?’ ‘Get in a good restaurant and learn to cook the right way. If you get in a bad restaurant, you'll be messed up all your life,’ they said. I didn't know much about food, but I picked the best. I started at Hotel Circle at Angelo's, an Italian restaurant. At that time, the chefs there were from Las Vegas, and they were really good.

“I started there back in '69, and I went to Plate 500, where Liberace's orchestra used to play. Everybody was in tails. It was a huge thing for me. I started in pantry, and then I was making French desserts. Everything was served on silver platters. I moved to broiler and learned to cut meats. I learned sautés, how to make sauces, and I decided I wanted to be a chef [not just a cook]. From there I went to Pucci's, which was also French service, huge menu. I started on [the] sauté [station], and six months later I was a sous-chef. I'd work 14 hours a day and get paid for 8, but I was doing everybody's job. I learned really fast and had some natural ability, and six months after that they made me the chef. So I've been a chef since 1973.

“I've worked quite a few jobs. I worked at La Valencia for nine years in the '80s. I got out of the business — I moved north to Washington State and bought an 80-acre farm and put a track in and was training and breeding racehorses. I opened

my own restaurants up there. So I went about eight years running my own businesses, with restaurants and horses. Started my son [in the business]. He's now executive sous-chef at La Costa — he's turned out really good. I trained a lot of chefs who started out as dishwashers, and now they're making more money than I do. But I love the business.

“Then I worked in Palm Springs at the Chop House, but since I'm originally from San Diego, my family's here. My mother's getting up in age, and I wanted to be close to her if she's sick, and my grandkids are here, and I've got a great-grandson, too. So I came back here and applied for a job at Rainwater's because I really had a good feeling about the owners. I'd applied with them before, and this time they hired me, and it's been a great relationship.

“We did a few changes to the menu; we'll be playing with it. We put beef Wellington on, we put on duck à l'orange, a combination of marinated duck breast and confit, over wild rice. We have a real nice short rib that's osso buco style, on the bone; it looks great, tastes really well. It's a process. When I start at a place, I don't just change everything. I see what people like, and I keep playing with it. And as the crew gets better and grows, I can do more things. It takes time, you mold your crew, you mold the waitstaff, and in time you get there.” ■

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Delicate Gut-Liner

"I'm from South Africa. No such things as preservatives where I came from."

It's morning. Feeling lousy. No, wasn't grog last night. Toothache. Normally, I never take pills. But Carla persuaded me. Took an antibiotic. Gripped my gut like a vice.

This mawnin', still recovering. Weaving gingerly through East Village. Feel like a Yosemite bear who ate too many cans from the campsite garbage last night.

Whatever, need something. I'm thinking a delicate gut-liner. Nothing with red-hot chili sauce, puh-leeze. I pass a new corner place called "Neighborhood." Burgers and beer. Ugh. Could not handle that. But it's part of a brand-new block of lofts that's gone up between Seventh and Eighth, and at the far end, I spot another new, Euro-looking place called Zanzibar. Love that name. Spice Island, right? Off Africa. Cloves, nutmeg, cinnamon, pepper...

And hey, it's open. They have a deli. Another door just beyond leads into an impressive interior. I see a big parquet floor, lots of tables, classy dark wooden chairs, a wine bar with seven high bar chairs, and modern art on the walls. Walls are cream and pale green, varnished wood and brick, beautifully done. Bottles of wine are clumped all over the place. Troppo wooden, five-bladed fans hang from the ceiling. Uh, may be a little beyond this li'l wallet o' mine.

Except, this waiter guy Joey comes up. Says "absolutely" that they're open. He points to a sign that says "seat yourself" and waits for me to move.

I waver. Haven't even felt how fat ye old bill-fold is. But...sigh. Guess if you don't speculate, can't accumulate.

Inside, people are running around the deli part, baking, mixing salads, and setting up platters of things like roasted giant prawns on sticks.

Plus. I see customers over there pouring themselves coffees and sitting down at a little counter. So the deli has its own separate thing going. But I have to see what the full-menu deal here is. I sit down at a table with green cushioned benches along one side. Big plasma's got ESPN rolling. Sound system's playing a cover of John Lennon. "Cold Turkey has got me...on the run." Man. Bit like how I feel.

"Start you off with a coffee?" Joey asks. He's wearing the brownish monogrammed "Zanzibar" T-shirt the whole staff has on. You

can tell it's still early for them. It's, like, just turned eight. One guy's counting money at the wine bar, a gal's feather-dusting around piled mega-cans of tea, another's polishing wineglasses. All very sophisticated. Man. Gotta count the lettuce, make sure I can handle this. Uh oh. Too late. Joey's back with the coffee (\$1.55 in a "Zanzibar" mug) and a menu. It's big. Four columns of lunch, three of breakfast items, and I see a whole 'nuther dinner and wine menu. Then I notice, hey, the breakfast dishes ain't so pricey after all. Whew. A plain three-egg scramble with toast and rosemary potatoes and a side of fruit costs \$5.95. Greek egg scramble with tomato, basil, and feta cheese (same sides) is \$7.25.

Omelets are all baked. The one with avocado and fontina cheese goes for \$8.95, like most of the others — except for the super-healthy "Health Nut Omelette," which is egg whites, spinach, broccoli, mushroom, tomato, onion, feta cheese, mozzarella, avocado, and salsa. That's \$9.50.

But what's wrong with two simple poached eggs on toast with tomatoes and salsa for \$6.50?

Uh, salsa and my queasy stomach, that's what. And, when I think about it, I just can't handle the thought of broccoli so near to sunrise, so say-

onara Health Nut Omelette.

I come back to the Greek scramble, with its harmless sprinkles of tomato chunks and basil and feta, and rosemary taters. It's \$7.25.

Aaah. Ten minutes later, I'm digging into this mess of eggs with a delicious, delicate hint of, I wanna say rosemary, but that's what the potatoes have, so maybe it's basil — or maybe both. They're kissing cousins of the mint family anyway, right? Whatever, it's like a Persian garden. Delicate, sensual. Nobody's hitting anyone with a hammer. My stomach thanks me by not making lots of creaking noises. The little bowl of melons and grapes and pineapple and strawberry ain't nuttin' to sneeze at neither. But the pièce de résistance is surprising: the multigrain toast. It is so danged scrumby and, with butter, so full of flavor, I almost forget the eggs and spuds. Joey tells me it comes from Bread & Cie. Say no more.

"This place yours?" I ask.

"I wish," Joey says.

On my way out I come across the actual owners in the deli. Turns out this place opened only last July. But Carole Janks has been running another Zanzibar in P.B. for, like, 17 years. Have I been asleep for 17 years? "It started off as just a coffee place in 1991," Carole says.

"They were just ahead of the coffee curve," her daughter Michelle says. "It took off like crazy." Michelle's the corporate organizer here. She's been to culinary school. She's worked for Martha Stewart. Whoa.

"I always wanted to do food," says Carole. "I'm from South Africa. No such things as preservatives where I came from. So I was a little despondent at San Diego's food scene back then.



Carole Janks

Heavy on preservatives, not much that was cooked on the spot from scratch. So gradually we started introducing homemade foods. Fresh, daily, no preservatives. And now we're here with this big kitchen, we can really go to town."

What a find. I won't forget that gentle rosemary-basil potato-egg combo for a while. Saved my bacon. My delicate gut feels great and grateful. Guess right now you could call it rosemary's baby. ■

The Place: Zanzibar Cafe, 707 G Street, East Village, 619-230-0125 (also at 976 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-272-4762)

Type of Food: American

Prices: Three-egg scramble with toast, rosemary potatoes, fruit, \$5.95; Greek eggs with tomato, basil, feta, \$7.25; avocado, fontina cheese omelet, \$8.95; Health Nut omelet, with egg whites, assorted veggies, avocado, feta, mozzarella, salsa, \$9.50; eggs Benedict, with non-Canadian bacon, \$9.50; breakfast panini, with two fried eggs, potatoes, fruit, \$7.25; grilled chicken pesto sandwich with fontina cheese, mixed greens, \$9.50; portobello mushroom salad, with goat cheese, walnuts, raisins, \$9.50; three-cheese pizza, \$7.95

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Improve on Nature

"We worked with the French nuclear atomic energy commission on this."

Cork is random," observes Michael Friedman, CEO for Oneo Closures North America. "It's a plant. When you punch a cork out of a piece of bark, it's very unusual to get one that's absolutely perfect, with no veins and no lignine. That's the part of cork that's less desirable — it's harder, doesn't have the same elasticity, and is less able, mechanically, to come back into shape" after it's been deformed. (It's this elastic character, and the tendency for cork to return to its original shape, that make it such an effective stopper: the compacted cork is forever straining to expand to its original size, pushing against the neck of the bottle and creating a tight seal.) "What you're looking for is called suberine — the spongy, elastic, semiwaxy fiber in cork."

A little less than 20 years ago, says Friedman, Oneo came up with a solution — art perfecting nature. "We grind up the cork into 2-millimeter particles and put them on a densometric sorting table — it's basically a giant shaker table. It takes the lighter stuff — the suberine — and moves it over to one side and moves the other stuff away. We actually burn it to generate power for our plant. Then we put the granules into individual molds and, using a food-grade binder, put them back into a cork shape." It's not a perfect process — a little more art is called for. "When you

put the cork back together, you end up with gaps between the granules. We fill those with microspheres. They're made for us in Sweden — polymers filled with an inert gas. When they're heated and put under pressure, they expand hugely and fill those little gaps in the cork."

Crush
 MATTHEW LICKONA

And by varying the proportion of cork to microspheres, "We can determine exactly what the permeability of the closure will be — how much oxygen can permeate the closure over a given period of time. (With an actual cork, if you have one little vein or structural defect, it could allow oxygen to just get in randomly.) Right now, for wines that are intended for immediate consumption, we have a cork with lower levels of microspheres, allowing more oxygen exposure. And we have a very tight cork for longer-aging wines. The right amount of oxygen over the right amount of time is your friend."

Micro-agglomerate corks like this also aid in the fight against TCA — the cork-borne compound that causes cork taint in wine. According to Friedman, "You cannot use steam effectively on a punched cork, because it deforms it to the point where it's mechanically unable to be a cork." And steam is the most effective way to remove the chemical components that may combine to form TCA. Or, at least, it was.

"Our director of research and development

comes out of the food world," explains Friedman, and it was in that world that Oneo found its answer: supercritical fluids. "Basically, if you have something like water or carbon dioxide under very high temperature and pressure, you get this state that's sort of between a liquid and a gas. It becomes a solvent." (The Oneo literature puts it this way: "It has the unique ability to diffuse through solids like a gas, and dissolve materials like a liquid.") "This process has been around for many years," continues Friedman. "It was used in the '30s to concentrate flavors. In the '60s, the Russians were using it to extract essential oils. Then, in '67 or '68, Nestlé started using it to extract flavor characteristics from coffee to add back into decaffeinated coffee. It's also used to remove the bitter components from hops in high-end beers and for extracting fragrances from flowers for perfume."

Oneo's idea was to use it to remove potentially damaging chemical compounds from cork granules. "We worked with the French nuclear atomic energy commission to develop protocols for this — they have a facility called the Fluid and Membrane Lab. We just needed to adapt an existing process." The result was the DIAM cork, "the only cork closure available on the international market today which is guaranteed to have TCA at levels below the detection thresholds of one half of one part per trillion." Now, "We have our own plant in Spain, on the same site as our traditional cork-processing plant. We take the granulated cork, process it through the supercritical carbon dioxide cycle, and pump it back to our traditional facility," where it gets molded into shape.

That's where Friedman comes in. Oneo



DIAM cork and constituent granules

wanted some help in selling DIAM to the world, and they decided he was the man to help get the job done. Friedman, for his part, liked what he saw. "I've always been around brands," he explains. "One of the things this company invented years ago, without really understanding that it had done so, was the idea of putting their name on a cork. Taking an agricultural commodity and putting a name on it, because there's a technical advantage to it, the process by which it's been made. As a marketing guy, I found that very interesting."

For starters, Friedman ramped up the company's emphasis on the DIAM brand, pulling Oneo's screw-cap closures from the U.S. market and scrapping conventional cork production altogether. Then he set about working his contacts. "I've been in the wine business for 30 years. I was a general manager at Fetzer for 7 years, and before that, I ran the import business for the parent company, Brown-Forman. I have relationships at pretty high levels of major wineries, and I'm tap-

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ping into those relationships, building programs to design specific protocols for them. One of the largest wineries has asked us to develop a custom version of the DIAM cork, one with a specific degree of permeability. Another wine group owns 29 brands and 12 wineries, and we're now in half their brands. London is the largest export wine market in the world, and we are the dominant closure there. Tesco is the number-one wine retailer in the U.K., and the only approved closures in Tesco are screw caps and DIAM corks." ■

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 700 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at

SanDiegoReader.com. *Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a midrange entrée. Inexpensive* below 10; **moderate:** 10 to 19; **expensive:** more than 25. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.

BEACHES

A.R. Valentien 11480 North 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 excel-

lent.) 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.*

California Pizza Kitchen — La Jolla 3363 Nobel Drive, La Jolla, 858-457-4222. Two Beverly Hills lawyers started this chain in 1985 to exploit "the premium pizza segment." Some 150 restaurants later, guess it worked. The place is all shiny chrome, glass, etched palm trees, golden wood and black furniture, and two pizza ovens with real logs burning inside. The Original BBQ chicken pizza, the chain's first hit, is still their top seller. It has barbecue sauce, smoked Gouda and mozzarella cheeses, BBQ chicken, red onions, and cilantro. The BBQ chicken chopped salad is good too, as is the jambalaya. If you've got a sweet tooth, but are embarrassed to order "Hawaiian" pizza, try the pear and Gorgonzola. It has caramelized pears, caramelized onions, Gorgonzola and other cheeses, and hazelnuts. At night, the Nobel Drive branch features a view of the shining Mormon cathedral. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

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 cafe is more famous for its "overstuffed" meat sand-

wiches. 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, La Jolla, 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.*

Gringo's 4474 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-490-2877. With better cooking than you'd guess from its name, this ambitious spin-off of the local Moondoggies 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.*

Harry's Coffee Shop 7545 Girard Avenue, La Jolla, 858-454-7381. When Harry Rudolph II 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.*

Marrakesh 634 Pearl Street, 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 Sheikh 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, 858-454-1589. If this is a chain, then tie me up, tie me down! Piatti started in the Bay Area and retains that foodie ethos, giving chefs at the local branches freedom to produce splendid, classic Italian menus including multi-regional starters, interesting pastas, and thin-crust pizzas. The quality of ingredients and cooking is beyond suspicion. You are almost guaranteed a tasty meal. This one of a few local eateries to offer sweetbreads to those who love them. Ravioli *al limone*, prosciutto-grilled romaine, and key lime-raspberry tart are among the favorites. Californian-Italian wine list, full bar. Plenty for vegetarians, plus some vegan dishes (varying seasonally). Reservations essential — beg for patio seating in good weather to avoid the indoor din. Lunch and dinner, seven days. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W.*

The Surfside 4527 Mission Boulevard, 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



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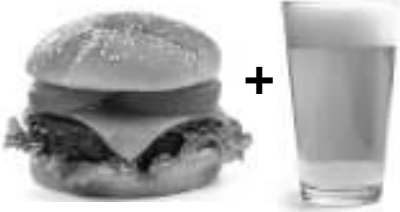


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they make the usual “party rolls” too. Most seafood is of fine quality (except the *toro*, which seems to have problems). For those preferring a tapas-style sit-down meal, there’s a breezy, informal dining room with large windows looking out on the 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.*

La Taverna 927 Silverado Street, 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.*

Trattoria Acqua 1298 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-0709. This popular restaurant has charming decor, 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, La Jolla, 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.*

BAJA

Cien Años Calle Jose Maria Velazco #1407, Baja, 664-634-3039. 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 mezcal 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 on request. Reservations strongly advised; ask for directions. Moderate.— *N.W.*

La Costa Calle Galeana #8131, Baja, 664-685-8494. Even after four decades, fisherman-singer Adrian Pedrin 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 “Sarandeado” (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, Baja, 646-155-0307. 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. www.lafondabaja.com. — *N.W.*

La Leña Agua Caliente Boulevard #11191, Baja, 664-686-2920. The nicest thing about La Leña (“The Fire Log”) is its view. You come off noisy, fumey, 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 *filete 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), Baja, 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

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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.*

CENTRAL

24-Hour Valley Kitchen Family Restaurant 875 Hotel Circle South, Mission Valley, 619-819-1017. 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.*

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 — where are the Rieslings? Still, the place seems full of happiness and friendliness: yel-

low 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 weekends. Inexpensive to moderate. — *A.M.*

Anthony's Fish Grotto — Downtown 1360 North Harbor Drive, Downtown, 619-232-5103. You're going to get a sore neck at the downtown flagship of this local chain, splitting your time between your meal, your partner, and the harbor scene outside. If you don't want overcomplicated food, Anthony's obliges. Fish and chips is still the simplest and the best. Or Mama's Platter, cod combined with batter-fried calamari, shrimp, oysters, scallops, and clam strips. Anthony's has been up and running for six decades now, with the buying power to get the pick of the catch. The menu offers 18 different seasonal fish to choose from, plus — if you've got the bread — delicious lobster dishes (in season) like lobster thermidor with a creamy, winery sauce. Try to be there at sunset when the water-sky show will do its damndest to distract you. No reservations. Open daily, lunch through dinner. Moderate. — *E.B.*

Asian Bistro 414 University Avenue, 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.*

Athens Market 109 West F Street, Downtown, 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 *fakee*, 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.*

Avenue 5 2760 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-542-0394. Chef-owner Colin MacLaggan offers a short, tasty menu of creative, seasonal, French-influenced California cuisine in a chic, classy-casual neighborhood bistro. Be sure to ask about daily specials. Desserts are all house-made, including baked *fromage blanc*, a charming cheesecake. The adventurous international wine list is loaded with interesting bottles at low markups. Full bar. Extremely loud when crowded. Reservations urged. Lunch Tuesday through Friday, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. High moderate. — *N.W.*

Bread and Cie 350 University Avenue, 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 cafe; or on the side-walk patio. Open daily except Christmas, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

Café on Park 3831 Park Boulevard, 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.*

Chipotle 734 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-209-3688. 11 other locations in San Diego County. Hard to believe: This chain that McDonald's acquired cleaves firmly to the original vision of the chef who founded it: naturally raised tender meats in authentic marinades made on-premises — it's quality all the way, and way better than most local "Berto's" (which often use cheap meat marinated by their meat-jobbers). The fresh-grilled *carne asada* is splendid, the *carnitas* outstanding. And it's "have it your way" with a wealth of choices as to what you get — burritos, tacos, bowls, fajitas — and what goes into it. You can eat indoors or outside (or take-out), drink margaritas, beer, or soft drinks, and park for free (if a slot's open). Open 10:45 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Rock-bottom prices. — *N.W.*

Cilantro Live! 3807 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-325-1949. Founder Christina Guzman believes raw is beautiful. "The secret is in the enzymes," she says. Cook food and you kill them. "There is so much more life in [live, uncooked] food, you need eat less of it." Maybe just as well, because these raw dishes don't come cheap. So, how to eat vegan, raw, and not gag? Start with the surprisingly strong-tasting "heavenly taco." The tortillas (made out of dehydrated veggies) are filled with nut "meat" (almonds, walnuts) plus sun-dried tomato, chipotle, and avocado. Has a bit of molasses taste. Now try the Fortuna sunflower-pumpkin pâté wrap. You're on your way. Open daily Sunday to Thursday, midday to 8:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday until 9:30 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

Las Cuatro Milpas 1857 Logan Avenue, Logan Heights, 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.*

DMood 4628 Park Boulevard, University Heights, 619-297-6663. This delightfully decorated bistro offers eclectic Middle Eastern cuisine that's primarily Persian but offers touches of North Africa, India, Southern Europe, and the U.S. Don't miss the splended appetizer sampler (a full array of luscious Middle Eastern tapas), the pomegranate-glazed game hen stuffed with basmati rice and fruit, or the skewered lamb. The daily fresh fish gives talented chef Cecilia Tajonar a chance for creative play. Persian ice creams in sexy flavors (rosewater, orange blossom, pistachio) are among the dessert choices. Live entertainment at many brunches and weekend dinners provide vibrant cultural experience. Interesting teas (including Persian and Moroccan); okay wine list; full bar. Reservations urged for large groups (call after noon). Street parking. Street patio in front and courtyard in back for al fresco dining in fair weather. Numerous vegetarian/vegan choices. Half-size salads available by request. Dinner Tuesday through Saturday; Saturday and Sunday brunch. Moderate.

Edgewater Grill 861 W. Harbor Drive, Downtown, 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.*

La Fachada 20 25th 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 Vuelta 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.*

Fat City Steakhouse 2137 Pacific Highway, 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 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.*

Ichiban 1449 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-299-7203. Is this Paris or Tokyo? At night, the cafe 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

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dish) made from soy and seaweed is a great daily iodine fix. Number One — that's what “*ichi-ban*” means. Open daily until 9:30 p.m., lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Joe's Crab Shack — Downtown 525 East Harbor Drive, Downtown, 619-233-7391. Joe's is silly with crab-shack ambiance (campy nautical paraphernalia on down to souvenir giraffe caps), but the food's not bad. You can choose buckets of steamed, barbecued, or garlic crab (of various subspecies), or go for fried or grilled seafood or steaks, or salads. Grown-ups may prefer the patio to the rockin', raucous interior. Full bar, not much wine. Inexpensive to low moderate. Also in Mission Valley, Oceanside, and Pacific Beach. — *N.W.*

Kung Food Express Café 2949 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-298-7302. These guys really try to be green. They have a 100-percent plant-based menu, give their food waste to farmers to compost, and even try to use biodegradable cutlery, plates, and bowls. They have a *live* food section (meaning raw, so enzymes survive), plus vegan and vegetarian items. One great-looking lunch offering is the collard wrap, a big green collard leaf wrapped around a mix of cashews, agave, agave nectar, alfalfa, cilantro, mango, red cabbage, and avocado. Also good are the dishes using steamed quinoa — the Incas' mother grain — plus curried veggies, and beans with Soyrizo. Nice courtyard with native grasses, climbing vines, white umbrellas. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. Inexpensive.

Lotus Thai — Hillcrest 3761 Sixth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-299-8272. This restaurant has taken a giant step up from standard Thai eateries. Most of the menu consists of the usual dishes, but each branch also offers a selection of chef's specialties. Some of these are more authentic; others are more creative than the norm. The chefs are from northern Thailand, and something in their cooking hints of their region — a certain zestiness, a love of strong citrus and fresh herbs that speaks of the Ping River and the hills of Chiang Mai. Well-chosen, affordable wine list, Asian and American beers, and cocktails based on *soju* (Asian lower-proof rice liquor), including a yummy rambutan cosmo. Noisy when crowded. Reservations recommended for Hillcrest on weekends. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Low moderate. — *N.W.*

Marie's Café 3016 University Avenue, 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-egg 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.*

Mediterranean Cafe and Lounge 1352 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-515-2233. 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.*

Mission — North Park 2801 University Avenue, North Park, 619-220-8992. “Urban assault food for a revolutionary people,” say the wait staff's black T-shirts. But the food here is less revolutionary than halfway between health-nut and greasy spoon. Still, their “conscientious cuisine” is generous, good-looking, and intelligent, if a little middle-class timid. Breakfasts are big here. The delicious chicken-apple sausage and eggs comes on a foot-wide plate loaded with unskinned rosemary potatoes, scrambled eggs, and scrumptious baked-on-the-spot rosemary bread. Pancakes and French cinnamon toast are popular staples, as is the Zen Breakfast (scrambled egg whites, braised tofu, brown rice, with veggies). The roast beef hash can be chewy. Check out the “Chino-Latino” dishes (lunch only) like the mild-but-still-delicious ginger sesame tofu with brown rice and peanut sauce, which comes with a plethora of jicama-type veggies. The interior has an arty, post-industrial, coffeehouse feel. Open daily, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Ocean Room and Lounge 630 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 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.*

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 cafe. 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.*

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, sauteed peppers, and onions as packing. Nuff said? Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Pho Hoa Hiep — Linda Vista 6947 Linda Vista Road, Linda Vista, 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, dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

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Calendar
RESTAURANTS

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. Pull bar (have a Caipirinha). No doggie-bags. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate (considering the food amount). — *N.W.*

Los Reyes 2496 Broadway, Southeast San Diego, 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.*

Sadaf — Downtown 828 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-0008. 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. Turns into a nightclub after dinner, but the food’s better at this La Jolla flagship. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

Saigon 4455 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights, 619-284-4215. 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 hand to make Saigon lovers sentimental. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Sevilla 555 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 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.*

St. Tropez — Downtown 926 Broadway Circle, Downtown, 619-696-8695. If you love continental breakfast, these bright cafés with indoor-outdoor seating offer scores of house-baked pastries (including brioche) and good coffee. Parisian-style brunch/lunch choices embrace *croque monsieur* and *croque madame* (grilled ham and cheese sandwiches, topped with either light cream sauce or an egg), crêpes, quiche, onion soup gratinée, or chicken-filled puff-pastry. Omelets are rather weighty. Some of the sandwiches offer Mediterranean flavors — try a *pan bagnat* (*salade niçoise* on a baguette) or one of the grilled *panini*. Desserts range from cookies on

up to elaborate cakes. Beer and wine. Open daily, breakfast to early dinner. Inexpensive. — *N.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, 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.*

Trieu Chau 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.*

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.*

NORTH INLAND

Abbey’s Real Texas BBQ — Mira Mesa 6904 Miramar Road, Mira Mesa, 858-566-5235. 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 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 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 restaurantgoers). 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 ambiance. Dinner nightly, Sunday brunch. Very expensive. — *N.W.*

Dumpling Inn 4619 Convoy Street #F, Kearny Mesa, 858-268-9638. Hole-in-the-wall? Yes. But what a hole-in-the-wall. For those who love the Far East and its food, finding the Dumpling Inn is a little revelation. It’s located in the busy Jasmine/Korean Market Center among Oriental herbalists, man-size-vase shops, even feng shui experts. The Inn itself is

tiny but charming. Long hanging lanterns, decorative strings of scarlet and gold firecrackers, Chinese flutes, and even the odd conical straw hat. The food is serious but not expensive. Dishes like ten fish and green chive dumplings, spicy stir-fried three-ingredient lo mein (thick noodles, jumbo shrimp, calamari, and chicken plus hot red peppers) are challenging and exciting, as is the Dumpling Dinner (including hot-and-sour soup, cold cuts, shredded pork bun, pot-stickers, shrimp and pork dumplings). Don’t miss their divine jellyfish salad — crunchy-tender, bright and spicy (but not too) — you’d be hard-pressed to find its like outside of Hong Kong. Open 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., closed Monday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

El Galeón 503 West Mission, 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 fisherman’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.*

Phuong Trang Vietnamese Seafood Restaurant 4170 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-6750. Tired of putting up with the crowds at the popular Convoy Street restaurant? Go east, where you’ll find the same menu without the hassles. The fare centers on Vietnamese “people’s food” emphasizing numerous genres of noodle soups, but there are a handful of more elegant house specialties — including the extraordinary “Special Sauce” Dungeness crab from the live tank. (The sauce is tangy tamarind.) Call ahead to order steamed or grilled live-tank catfish. Reservations and credit cards accepted, both branches. Vietnamese beers including “33”; just two generic wines. Also bring a pad and write down the numbers of your orders to give the waiter, as staffers speak little English. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate (higher for live-tank seafood). — *N.W.*



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Agedashi Tofu \$3 Fried tofu in soy bonito broth sauce	Flaming Green Lips \$3 Baked green mussels with spicy cream sauce

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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 entree 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.*

Spices Thai Cafe — Mira Mesa 6785 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-552-8845. Superb Thai restaurant that's not only elegant but whose food contains no MSG and very little fat. The seafood dishes rate highly. Among other delicacies are duck and frog legs. Put Spices Thai Café at the top of your list. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.W.*

Sunrise Buffet 3860 Convoy #121, Kearny Mesa, 858-715-1608. "Oysters are here!" It's what everyone here waits for. Apart from the usual array of meats, fish, shellfish, and novelties like stuffed mushrooms, stuffed clams, dragon rolls (cucumber, avocado, asparagus), and *mochi* (sticky rice cake), these plates of raw oysters in their big shells are one of the big draws. This buffet restaurant is smaller than many, but it still looks like a mega-McDonald's eating barn inside, except for a sky-blue-lit ceiling recess *heaven*. Like McDonald's, it attracts lots of families, maybe because it's not just all-you-can-eat, but all-you-can-drink, too — included in the price. Lunch and dinner daily. Sunday all-day lobster buffet. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Uno Chicago Bar and Grill — Escondido 890 West Valley Parkway, Escondido, 760-480-8667. 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. 4465 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-483-4143; Fashion Valley Center, 619-298-1866; 5th and H, Chula Vista, 619-420-8660; 890 West Valley Parkway, Escondido, 760-480-8667. — *E.B.*

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.*

NORTH COASTAL

Beach Grass Café 159 South Coast Highway 101, 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, Cardiff, 760-753-6707. This ever-popular North County restaurant which opened back in 1965 is a family operation all the way. 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. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Bully's 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 horse-shoe-shaped Low Bar. Lunch and dinner daily. — *E.W.*

Café Zinc 132 South Cedros, 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 fritata 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.*

La Especial Norte 604 North Coast Highway 101, 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 "croutons" of puffed *relleno* batter. The fresh, interesting seafood entrees outshine the relatively ordinary renditions of the standard stuffed-tortilla variations. No wheelchair access to re-

strooms. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

Firefly 251 North El Camino Real, 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.*

Il Fornaio — Del Mar 1555 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar, 858-755-8876. Il Fornaio's defensive architecture walls it off from the Great Unwashed — the tourists wandering around Coronado's Old Ferry Landing — but it's worth breaching if only to get your teeth into their to-die-for bread. "*Il fornaio*" means "the baker," after all. Beyond bread, we're talking rustic-feeling, herbal, ultra-fresh salads, and everyday Italian dishes ranging from *sfilatino con bisteccina* (thin grilled steak on a baguette with creamy dijon and salad) to a giant mesquite-grilled 22-ounce *bistecca alla fiorentina*, with lots of vegetarian and pasta dishes in between. A simple *penne alla sorrentina* — pasta tubes with a tomato, mozzarella, and basil sauce — is charming. Pizza *puttanesca* is heaven too, if you're into anchovies. Interesting regional menus from different provinces of Italy pop up during the first two weeks of each month. Most staffers seem mind-blowingly knowledgeable. Moderate. — *E.B.*

Jamroc 101 101 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-436-3162. At this former site of D.B. Hacker's, you can still get great fish 'n' chips, mon. The shack by the tracks now sports bright tropical designs on its back-patio walls, and the fare is casual Jamaican (plus a couple of Cajun dishes). Check out the bargain-priced samplers, which include luscious soft-fried plantains and splendid patties



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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

(empanadas to you and me) with a choice of beef, curry chicken, or veggies. The spicing of the jerks and curry entrées are down-tuned to suit tourist tastes, but the table bottle of Walkerswood Scotch Bonnet Hot Sauce can kick that right up. Don't miss the fresh coconut water, served out of a young Thai coconut. Soca, ska, and (clean) reggae set the mood, and there's live steel pan weekend evenings. Beer, wine, Bigga soft drinks. Open weekday nights until 8 p.m. and weekend nights until 9:30 p.m. Inexpensive. — N.W.

Pacific Del Mar 1555 Camino Del Mar, 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 spe-

cializes in creative martinis. Pacifica Dine-In" offers call-in take-out for selected items. Lunch and dinner daily. Early-bird dinner discount. Pacifica Breeze Cafe (a level down) offers savory dishes for breakfast through late lunch daily. Expensive to very expensive. — N.W.

Paradise Grille 2690 Via de la Valle, 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 entree arrives precisely cooked to order. Other entrees 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, 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 "man-hole" 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.

Ruby's Diner 1 Oceanside Pier, 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 "40s 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.

Savory 267 N. 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, Carlsbad, 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. Boxty (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 Beach 621 Valley Avenue, 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 daughters 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.

SOUTH BAY

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. —N.W.


Island Wok 922 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-6835. This tiny indoor-outdoor-takeaway cafe 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. Closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Jimmy's — Chula Vista 1198 Third Avenue, Chula Vista, 619-427-7161. 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 batter-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.

EAST COUNTY

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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 shred-

ded 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 19 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.*

La Posta 32337 Old Highway 80, Julian, 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" 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.* EOF

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Plain and Simple

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And now for something completely different. *Persepolis*, from France and in French, is a cartoon recap of the comic-strip memoir by Marjane Satrapi, covering her childhood in Iran under (and then out from under) the Shah, her adolescence in Austria to escape the strictures of the Islamic Revolution, her return

REVIEW

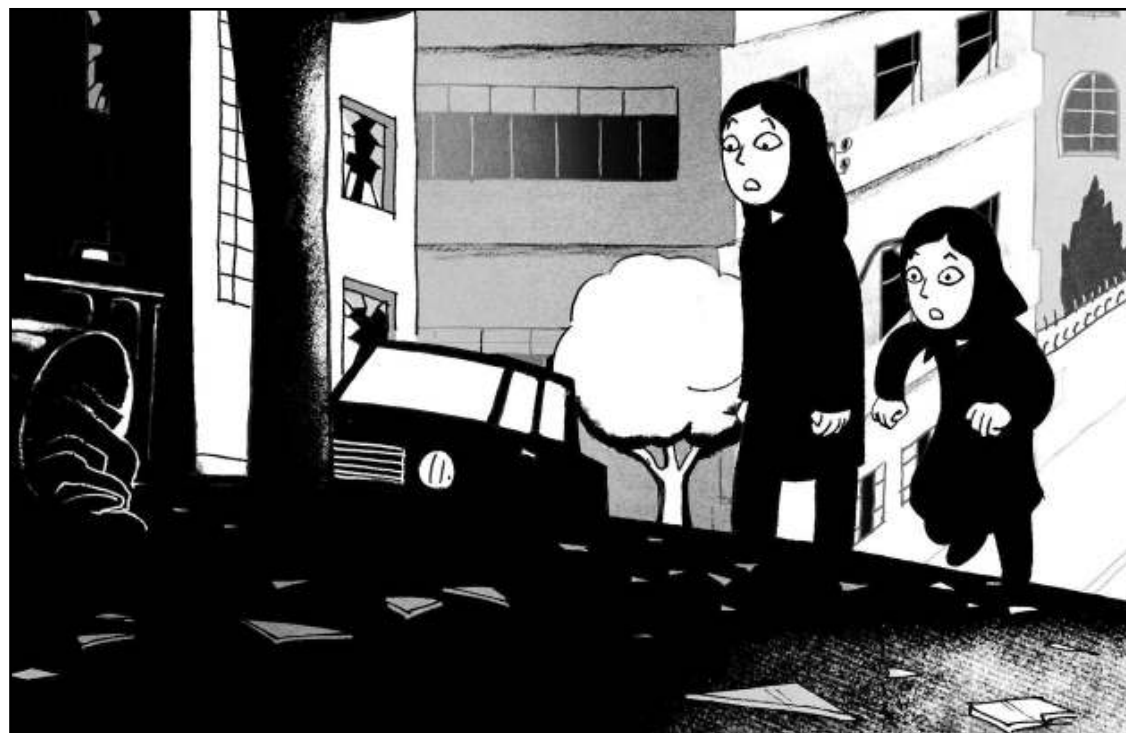
DUNCAN SHEPHERD

to her homeland as a depressed and medicated young woman, then a bride, then a divorcee, and her ultimate exile in France, stretching from the late Seventies, to put dates on it, to the early Nineties. The animation is not all that animated. With stiff movement, a flat visual field, and a black-and-white palette (but for the lightly colored framing scenes in the present tense), it is the furthest thing from the limitless taffy-pull of contemporary computer animation. It is in fact quite deliberately reactionary, a return to "nature" if you will, a homespun product of the human hand, staying as close as possible (notwithstanding some decorative embellishment here and there) to the naive style of the original drawings. And since Satrapi herself is credited as co-director along with a fellow comic artist, Vincent Paron-

naud, we can be sure the result has her stamp of approval.

The general effect, overriding any risk of trivialization, is something in the vicinity of the Brechtian "alienation effect," something distancing, something cushioning, so that we experience such painful subjects as political oppression, imprisonment, torture, execution, etc., less viscerally and

(for all the outward resemblance to a Saturday-morning TV kiddie cartoon) more cerebrally. In actual practice, a dramatic enactment that strives to reproduce the full horror of such things is the more prone to trivialize. Even the best of actors cannot make you forget they're just pretending, cannot make you believe they're in any real jeopardy. A cartoon representation, not aiming for the unattainable, can't fall so short. To point out the cerebral bent of the film is not, however, to imply it goes in for in-depth analysis of Middle Eastern modern history. It goes at these subjects strictly from the point of view of a growing girl trying to make sense of them, starting out loving the Shah, idolizing Bruce Lee, looking forward to a heady future of shaving her legs and being "a prophet," meanwhile



Persepolis

fighting her own little battles as her Iraqi neighbors are dropping bombs on Tehran: "ABBA is for wimps!" asserts the partisan of the Bee Gees, soon to switch her allegiance to Iron Maiden. (Chiara Mastroianni, offspring of Catherine Deneuve and Marcello Mastroianni, voices the heroine when she reaches adolescence and adulthood; her real mother voices her on-screen

mother.) The pip-squeak perspective, in perfect step with the comic-book naivité, continues to run the risk of trivialization, and continues to evade it. She has her own truth, and she won't be caught trying to stretch it.

The narrative, condensed though it is from the complete "graphic novel," maintains a dogged and sometimes plodding chronology: and then

this happened, and then this, and then this, and then, and then.... And while the happenings can be eye-opening (or anyhow, mind-opening) about what it was like to live under the Shah in a family of Communist sympathizers, what it was like under the Ayatollah (the clandestine drinking parties, the black-market rock cassettes, the daring way to wear the veil),

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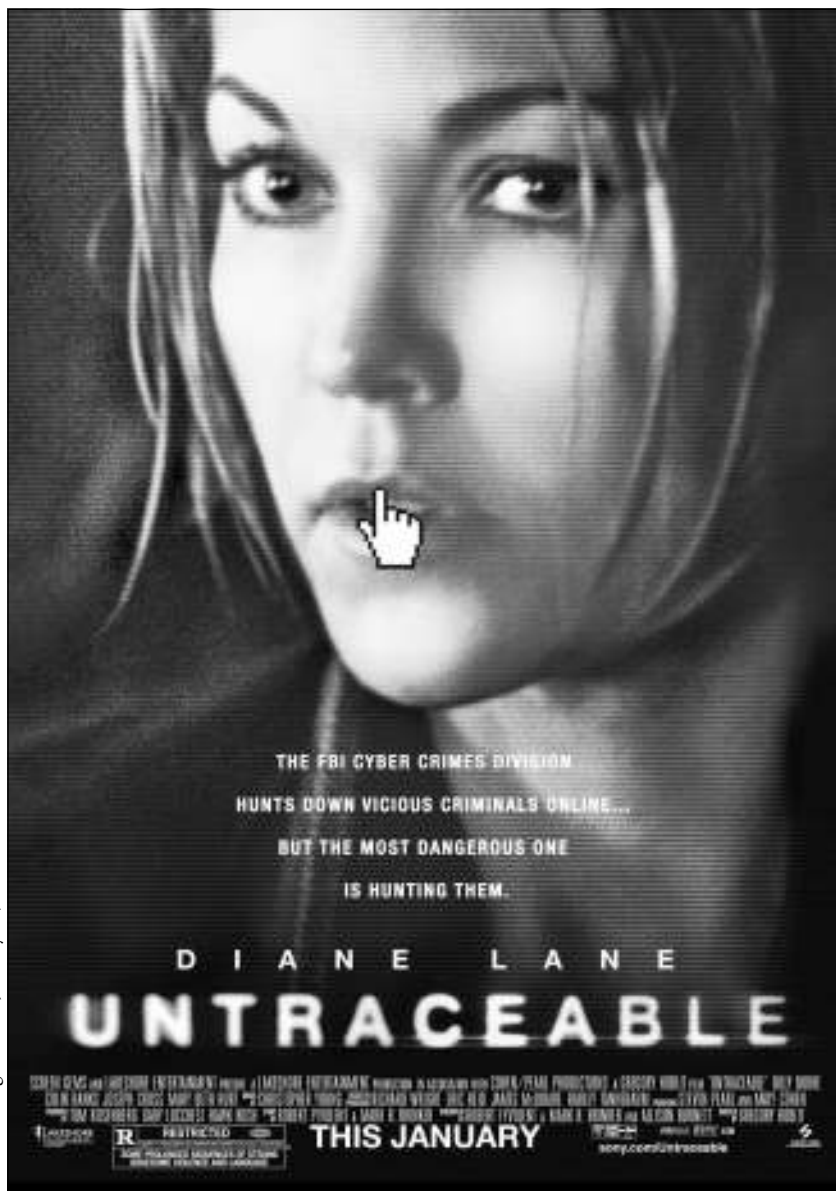
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Please arrive early. Theatre is overbooked to ensure a full house. First come, first served. This film is rated R for some prolonged sequences of strong, gruesome violence and language. No one under 17 years of age will be admitted without their parent or legal guardian.

In theatres January 25



what it was like under the Iraqi bombardment and following cease-fire ("We were so eager for happiness, we forgot we weren't free"), the emphasis eventually shifts toward the individual, a move accelerated by her move to Vienna. If she started out to bear witness to the events of her time, she wound up in the long run a witness primarily to the witness. And she delivers her unblushingly personal testimony with candor, with humor, with self-deprecation, and with aesthetic distance — a distance commensurate to that provided by the primitive animation. Whatever mixed feelings we might have about that animation, they fall away as it becomes merely a serviceable vehicle, frugal and no frills, to convey the unhackneyed story. A useful medium, plain and simple. And on at least one occasion the medium seems more useful than any other could possibly be: the idealized Aryan boyfriend in Austria, after he has cheated on the heroine, gets radically redrawn in accordance with the fallen scales. Sometimes a picture is worth many more than a thousand words, so many more that the equivalent number of words could not be worth the time and effort. And sometimes a

crude drawing is worth more than the sharpest photograph.

The Bucket List, directed by the crowd-coddling Rob Reiner, is a feel-good death trip about two terminal cancer patients, the billionaire WASP and the blue-collar black, who bond as hospital roommates and set out together to do the things and see the sights they never had time for: skydive, car-race, get a tattoo, visit the Riviera, the Dark Continent, the Pyramids, the Great Wall, and along the way open themselves up to epiphanies: "The stars — it's really one of God's good ones." (Although they often have a book at hand in bed or on an airplane, you can't expect a screen character to use his final months to curl up at last with *The Pickwick Papers*.) The good feelings extend even beyond the grave: the action is narrated posthumously in the first-person omniscient, implicitly settling the amicable debate on the afterlife. A fair measure of your regard for Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman would be your pain at seeing them in such pap. Perhaps the closest contact with a real concern emerges in the former's probing question to the latter: "You always had those freckles?"

First Sunday and *Mad Money*, directed respectively by David E. Talbert and Callie Khouri, are a couple of caper comedies. In the *First* one, two backed-up-against-the-wall black Baltimoreans (Ice Cube, Tracy Morgan) go into a ghetto church with the intent to rob it, enter into endless negotiations at gunpoint with the fundraising committee, fix the air-conditioning, and come out better, and not poorer, men. In the *Mad* one, a demograph-

ically diverse trio of women (Diane Keaton, Queen Latifah, Katie Holmes) are of undivided mind about the wisdom and fun of siphoning off wrinkled old bills, marked for shredding, from the Kansas City Federal Reserve. The director makes a unanimous fourth. Both films are equally heedless of consequences, equally inconsequential. Between them, they rack up maybe two and a half laughs, of which the *First* one racks up none. ■

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.

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MOVIES

landed spacecraft in Colorado, and spills into the small town of Crested Butte. The brothers Colin and Greg Strause, visual-effects technicians in their feature directing debut, appear to be on very poor terms with human beings, and not a whole lot better terms with extraterrestrials. Steven Pasquale, Johnny Lewis, Kristen Hager, John Ortiz, Reiko Aylesworth. 2007.

● (GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18)

American Gangster — Formula under-world 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)

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 McAvoy, Brenda Blethyn, and Harriet Walter; directed by Joe Wright. 2007.

★ (ESCONDIDO 16; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION

VALLEY 20; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Bucket List — Reviewed this issue. With Jack Nicholson, Morgan Freeman, Sean Hayes, and Rob Morrow; directed by Rob Reiner.

● (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; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 1/11)

Cassandra’s Dream — Crime thriller written and directed by Woody Allen, with Ewan McGregor, Colin Farrell, and Hayley Atwell.

(FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; LA JOLLA 12; FROM 1/18)

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 broker 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. With Amy Adams, Emily Blunt, Ned Beatty. 2007.

★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA)

Cloverfield — New York City under attack, with Lizzy Caplan, Jessica Lucas, Michael Stahl-David, and Mike Vogel, directed by Matt Reeves.

(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; RIVER VILLAGE 6; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MAR

COS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 1/18)

The Darjeeling Limited — One thing to be said for a Wes Anderson film, and it’s no small thing, is that it bears an individual stamp. A stamp as flat as a postage stamp, as emphatic as a rubber stamp. (Whap, whap.) A well-known commodity after *Bottle Rocket*, *Rushmore*, *The Royal Tennenbaums*, *The Life Aquatic of Steve Zissou*, Anderson favors fastidiously balanced, nailed-down compositions, the figures pinned to a shallow background like butterfly specimens. Stressing their separateness, he has no intention to hinge his shots together into a smooth and seamless line, but instead slots them into place as if on disconnected planes, setting up a clumping rhythm of starts and stops, glazing the screen with the deadeast of deadpans, and erecting an invisible wall (invulnerable even to the occasional uncharacteristic zoom) between the filmmaker and his characters, freakishly feckless people, abject puppets manipulated by a man with little regard for human diversity and volition. The effect — the unhumanness of these humanoids — is often amusing and always distancing. The danger in the director’s method is that it can be *too* distancing and therefore not amusing *enough*. (Since he always clamps a tasteful mute on the audience’s merriment, the standard laugh-meter is an unreliable measure.) If this outing seems a cut above all previous ones, it may be the benefit of a real, a tangible, a substantial background against which to display his specimens: three, thirty-something brothers who have not spoken to one another in the year since their father’s funeral, now heading out together on a “spiritual journey” in a first-class sleeper car across India, with the ultimate aim of tracking down their mother (a no-show at the funeral) in a convent at the foot of the Himalayas. In other words, a typical Wes Anderson operation, bringing about the insecure bonding of misaligned oddballs, but in an atypical exotic setting, the better to draw out their oddness. Owen Wilson, Adrien Brody, Jason Schwartzman, Amara Karan, Anjelica Huston, Bill Murray. 2007.

★★★ (LA PALOMA)

The Diving Bell and the Butterfly — Julian Schnabel relates another true-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.) A big critical favorite, nonetheless, perhaps owing to the special dispensation granted the handicapped, the quickness to applaud the least little show of humor, verve, perseverance. With Emmanuel Seigner, Marie-Josée Croze, Anne Consigny, and Max von Sydow. 2007.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Enchanted — In an overlong prologue, a generic fairy-tale princess, rendered in a

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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 plasticky 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. ★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12)

First Sunday — Reviewed this issue. With Ice Cube, Tracy Morgan, Chi McBride, Malinda Williams, and Katt Williams; written and directed by David E. Talbert. ● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; 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)

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. ★ (HORTON PLAZA 14)

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 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. Nate Parker, Jurnee Smollett, Denzel Whitaker, Forest Whitaker. 2007. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18)

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; 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; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Into the Wild — Illustration, in a sketchy hand, of the Jon Krakauer nonfiction book on Christopher McCandless, a 1990 college

graduate, on the doorstep of Harvard Law School, who gave away his tuition fund to Oxfam, obliterated his identity, renamed himself Alexander Supertramp, and swapped the evils of society for the purity of the northern wilderness (“No longer to be poisoned by civilization,” he carved into a wooden shingle at his encampment), where ultimately he starved to death in 1992. It may not sound like much of an idea for a film. It isn’t. A Seventies-style road movie, redolent of Seventies-style disaffection, it has a strong element of travelogue, as our happy-go-lucky hobo rides his aging Datsun westward to South Dakota, abandons it at Lake Mead, kayaks down the Colorado River, drifts into Mexico, train-hops up to L.A., thumbs his way to the Salton Sea, Anza Borrego, and Alaska. In that final destination, the travelogue veers toward nature documentary. At nearly two and a half hours, the film feels very, very long, albeit short on relatable incident: the protagonist goes places, he meets people, and then he goes to a place where he won’t meet people, where he will meet only his end, a martyr to something or other. Director Sean Penn unmistakably takes himself very seriously, and takes his protagonist almost reverently, painting him as something of a holy fool (a reader of Tolstoi, even though an eater of meat when he can get it), and offering up this speculative reenactment as nothing less than an endorsement. At the top, he sets the tone with a high-flown epigraph from Lord Byron: “I love not man the less, but Nature more” — that one. The kid sister periodically supplies some explanatory narration (“I understand what he was doing”), and Pearl Jam’s Eddie Vedder chimes in with a half-dozen or so acoustic songs in sympathy and support. Of the real protagonist’s earnestness and conviction, the film can tell us next to nothing.

Of the filmmaker’s, it can tell us much. And then it can tell us again. And again. With Emile Hirsch, Marcia Gay Harden, William Hurt, Jena Malone, Vince Vaughn, and Hal Holbrook. 2007. ★ (GASLAMP 15; LA PALOMA, FROM 1/18; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Juno — 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-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. ★★★ (CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16;

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School Daze

CECIL PRATT

Assistant manager, UltraStar Mission Valley 7 at Hazard Center

School Daze: set on a historically black college campus, this film shows the struggles against racism within the black community. Although it presses on a heavy subject, your mood is quickly changed by the film’s wide range of theatrics. It’s directed by Spike Lee and stars Laurence Fishburne.

Zodiac: the fact that something so creepy actually took place in our state is reason enough to get hooked by this film, but on top of that there’s solid acting by Robert Downey, Jr., Jake Gyllenhaal, and Mark Ruffalo, and there’s the realization and theme of obsession that the movie brings to the table.

To Wong Foo Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar: it’s campy, strong, funny, and in your face! You can’t do anything but shake your head at how real the actors (Wesley Snipes, Patrick Swayze, John Leguizamo) come across.

SCHOOL DAZE (USA) 1988, Sony Pictures
List price: \$14.94

ZODIAC (USA) 2007, Paramount
List price: \$29.99

TO WONG FOO THANKS FOR EVERYTHING, JULIE NEWMAR (USA) 1995, Universal
List price: \$9.99



Alpha Dog

JOE RICHTER

General manager, UltraStar Mission Valley 7

Three things I normally wouldn’t give the time of day but really surprised me. First, season six of *24*. My roommates were watching it and I looked up to see Jack Bauer kill his best friend to save the life of a terrorist Bauer believed could help him track another terrorist. I was hooked and went back and watched the episodes I missed.

The second is *Alpha Dog*. I was pretty amazed by Justin Timberlake’s performance in a film about rich kids trying to act like gangsters but get in over their heads when they kidnap another kid.

Finally, *Stardust*. My dad liked this film so I finally gave in and watched it with him. Although based on a book, it was nice to see an original movie from Hollywood. With witches, royal heirs, and a love-strung hero looking for the same fallen “star,” this film had adventure, comedy, romance, and a great score.

24: SEASON SIX (USA) 2007, 20th Century Fox
List price: \$59.98 (seven discs)

ALPHA DOG (USA) 2007, Universal
List price: \$19.98

STARDUST (USA) 2007, Paramount
List price: \$29.99



Dirty Pretty Things

JOHN O’BRIEN

Patron, UltraStar Mission Valley 7

There’s something about Jim Jarmusch’s *Night on Earth* that forever burned it into my memory as a cool film. The ingredients: five clocks set to different time zones, a world map that appears to be connected to a Lite-Brite, and the raspy bellow of Tom Waits. Mix together — beauty in motion.

One of my favorite scenes in Michael Mann’s *Collateral* is when Jamie Foxx sits eye-to-eye with mobster Felix (Javier Bardem). I won’t go into detail, but if you have a child who misbehaves and still believes in Santa, invite him into the room to learn about Santa’s little helper: Pedro el Negro.

In Stephen Frears’s *Dirty Pretty Things*, what defines Okwe (played brilliantly by Chiwetel Ejiofor) isn’t being a taxi driver by day or bellhop by night. Nor is it his curious nature to go digging into toilets with a coat hanger. But what he discovers is disgusting.

NIGHT ON EARTH (USA) 1991, Criterion Collection
List price: \$39.99

COLLATERAL (USA) 2004, Dreamworks
List price: \$12.98 (two discs)

DIRTY PRETTY THINGS (England) 2002, Miramax
List price: \$14.99

handed down to their natural successors, the Masons, and squirreled away by the American Founding Fathers, with clues to its whereabouts written in invisible ink on the back of the Declaration of Independence. The Jerry Bruckheimer treatment (Jon Turteltaub the nominal director) blends bombast and grandiosity with insolence and insouciance, in such a way as to appeal strictly to the tone-deaf or tone-indifferent (or more exactly, juveniles). Nicolas Cage reverts to his action-hero mode, which is to say his take-the-money-and-run mode. Justin Bartha, the mentally challenged younger brother in *Gigli* (if you’re one of the forty-two people who saw it), is the sardonic sidekick who seems to be doing an impression of Dennis Miller. Diane Kruger, the Face That Launched a Thousand Ships in *Troy*, is Just Another Pretty Face. And Sean Bean is just another British baddie, albeit slightly more justifiable as a present-day descendant of the Redcoats. With Jon Voight, Harvey Keitel, Christopher Plummer. 2004.

● (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 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

No Country for Old Men — The Coen brothers’ first literary adaptation, from a Cormac McCarthy original, an overflowingly 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 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.

★★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; PALM PROMENADE 24)

One Missed Call — Serial deaths with a pattern: a young person receives a cell-phone message of his or her own voice, saying his or her last words, dated two days before he or she says them, ultimately dying

on schedule with a marble of rock candy in his or her mouth, after seeing nightmarish visions of millipedes, zombies, and such. “What the hell’s happening?” someone naturally inquires. There must be an explanation, though it can’t hold water — or interest. Drudging remake of a Japanese horror film, manifestly not one of the better ones. With Shannyn Sossamon, Edward Burns, Ana Claudia Talancón, Azura Skye, Johnny Lewis, Ray Wise, and Margaret Cho; directed by Eric Valette. 2008.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Orphanage — Spanish ghost story that strives at all times to stay within arm’s reach of ambiguity — real ghosts or overheated imagination? — in the mold of the Henry James prototype, *The Turn of the Screw*, or at any rate in the mold of the academic squabbles over it. James may have set out to write a straightforward ghost story, but was, bless his unsullied soul, incapable of it. Director J.A. Bayona is no James, nor is he even a Jack Clayton, the judicious filmmaker who turned *The Turn...* into *The Innocents* on screen. The basic situation without doubt seems primed for “resonance,” and the lead actress, Belén Rueda, seems primed almost for spontaneous combustion. An adopted orphan returns to the palatial orphanage thirty years later, with plans to reopen it, and with an adopted, HIV-positive orphan of her own. The boy, already inclined towards imaginary playmates, appears to have made contact with the ghosts of half a dozen children still hanging about the place, and soon goes missing. His mother then goes bananas. Bayona’s tightwire act of trying to walk a line of psychological subtlety while also trying to keep genre addicts on the hook tends to make the obligatory jolts feel all the more forced and factitious: the premonitory music, the startling noises, the creaking hinges, the magnified eyes of the pruned-faced old lady behind her coke-bottle lenses, the fingers slammed in the bathroom door and the backward jackknife into the tub, the plowed-over pedestrian and the gruesome makeup on the carcass. Through all that, we are apt to remain, in common with the rational husband and policewoman, unconvinced and unmoved. Ambiguity will have that effect. The climax, when the heroine is at last left alone in the house, nevertheless crams in two or three good shivers, but it goes on three or four steps too far. Fernando Cayo, Roger Príncipe, Geraldine Chaplin. 2007.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; RANCHO DEL REY 16)

Persepolis — Reviewed this issue. With the voices of Chiara Mastroianni, Catherine Deneuve, Danielle Darrieux, and Gabrielle Lopes; directed by Marjane Satrapi and Vincent Paronnaud.

★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 1/18)

P.S. I Love You — The overhanging question is whether a two-time Academy Award-winning actress, Hilary Swank, can lighten herself into the thespian weight-class of a Sandra Bullock or a Kate Hudson. The answer seems to be no, not when the director and co-writer, Richard LaGravenese, who directed her also in *Freedom Writers*, is intent on sniffing out pockets of genuine emotion in a mechanical tearjerker (and laugh-jerker) about a turning-thirty widow who learns to live again under the guidance of pre-written missives from her dear departed, Gerard Butler, a life-loving, beer-chugging Irish minstrel. (“Why,” she wonders in front of the TV screen one night, “can’t I be Bette Davis?” — another two-time Academy Award-winner, but an unequalled ten-time nominee.) Swank may not be able, in a flashback to the meet-cute, to look quite like a college coed on her first tour of Europe, but she can touchingly act like one, and remind us in the process that one of her rarest gifts is her totally uncool enthusiasm. Kathy Bates, merely a one-time Academy Award-winner, has her moments, too, as Swank’s sourpuss mother. With Lisa

RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

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 penetrating betrayal of the second by the first, our evolving storyteller. 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 re-creation of life in the Afghanistan of yesteryear (handsomely photographed in the bargain) is highly beneficial: the competitive, com-

bative, 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. 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. With Khalid Abdalla, Zekeria Ebrahimi, and Ahmad Khan Mahmudzada. 2007.

★★ (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; HORTON

PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MISSION VALLEY 7; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Mad Money — Reviewed this issue. With Diane Keaton, Queen Latifah, Katie Holmes, and Ted Danson; directed by Calie Khouri.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; 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; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 1/18)

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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); **There Will Be Blood** (R)

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(PG-13); **The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A VeggieTales Movie** (G); **27 Dresses** (PG-13)

Palm Promenade 24
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River Village
5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784)
The Bucket List (PG-13); **Cloverfield** (PG-13); **In the Name of the King** (PG-13); **Juno** (PG-13); **Mad Money** (PG-13); **27 Dresses** (PG-13)

POWAY

Poway 10
13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)
Atonement (R); **The Bucket List** (PG-13); **Charlie Wilson's War** (R); **Cloverfield** (PG-13); **First Sunday** (PG-13); **In the Name of the King** (PG-13); **Juno** (PG-13); **Mad Money** (PG-13); **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** (PG); **No Country for Old Men** (R); **27 Dresses** (PG-13)

SAN MARCOS

San Marcos 18
1180 West San Marcos Boulevard at Old California Walk (760-471-3711)
Call theater for program information

VISTA

Vista Village
Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive (760-945-7469)
Call theater for program information

NORTH COASTAL

CARLSBAD

Plaza Camino Real
2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469)
The Bucket List (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:20, 4:45) 7:00, 9:15; **Juno** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:10, 1:20, 3:30) 5:40, 7:50, 10:00; **Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 1:55, 4:35) 7:15, 9:45

DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8
El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)
The Bucket List (PG-13); **Charlie Wilson's War** (R); **Cloverfield** (PG-13); **In the Name of the King** (PG-13); **The Kite Runner** (PG-13); **Mad Money** (PG-13); **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** (PG); **P.S. I Love You** (PG-13); **27 Dresses** (PG-13)

Flower Hill 4
2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425)
Atonement (R); **Cassandra's Dream** (PG-13); **Juno** (PG-13); **There Will Be Blood** (R)

ENCINITAS

La Paloma
471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW)
The Darjeeling Limited (R); **Into the Wild** (R)

LA COSTA

La Costa 6
6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)
The Bucket List (PG-13); **Cloverfield** (PG-13); **Juno** (PG-13); **Mad Money** (PG-13); **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** (PG); **27 Dresses** (PG-13)

OCEANSIDE

Mission Marketplace 13
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Oceanside 16
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Calendar

MOVIES

Kudrow, Gina Gershon, and Harry Connick, Jr. 2007.

★ (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16;
FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12;
MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20;
OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROM-
ENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL
REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MAR-
COS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Savages — Philip Seymour Hoffman in the male lead, blond and bearded, as a Buffalo drama professor at work on a tome on Bertolt Brecht. And Laura Linney 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-autobiographical) *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.

With Peter Friedman and Cara Seymour.
2007.

★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Steep — Documentary by Mark Obenhaus on daredevil skiers.

(KEN, 1/18 THROUGH 24)

Stop Making Sense — A concert movie and nothing more, and as narrowly focussed a one as ever was: little of the live audience, nothing of the backstage, only the on-stage. In fairness, the movie (directed by Jonathan Demme) is probably better to look at than most concert movies, and the concert (staged by David Byrne) is probably better to look at than most mere concerts. But in the long run, neither the staging of the concert nor the filming of it, nor both those efforts put together, is inventive enough or distracting enough to take center-stage from the music. And it can easily seem a very long run indeed, with too much of the music stuck in the general area of dental-drill-punctuated-by-indecipherable-cries-from-the-patient. To say that enjoyment of the Talking Heads' music will be a help to enjoyment of their movie would be to understate comically. To say a strict prerequisite would perhaps get nearer the case. 1984.

★ (KEN, 1/19 MIDNIGHT)

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street — The Grand-Guignol Broadway musical (words and music by Stephen Sondheim), Tim Burtonized 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. 2007.

★ (ESCONDIDO 16; 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; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

There Will Be Blood — Based loosely, so they say, on *Oil!*, a muckraking, boat-rocking, banned-in-Boston novel by Upton Sinclair (a writer partial to exclamation points in his titles), this is a kind of anti-epic, an anti-*Giant*, about a miserly, misanthropic, nothing short of murderous American oil man in the first decades of the last century warped beyond recognition as an exemplar of the enterprising capitalist. (The accompanying music credited to Jonny Greenwood of the British rock group Radiohead, edgy, skittery, dissonant, helps set the tone: not music to Build an Empire By, such as a Dimitri Tiomkin or a Max Steiner might have composed, but instead music to Squirrel Away Nuts for the Winter By.) The hard dirty work, at the outset, of digging a well all by his lonesome is vividly and wordlessly captured by writer-director Paul Thomas Anderson, yet it's hardly adequate to explain or excuse the character's subsequent aberrance, and his particular animus towards a hayseed faith healer (the initially very young and insufficiently aging Paul Dano), each of whom has his own inflexible reasons for not deferring to the other: the Self-Made Man versus the Man of God. Daniel Day-Lewis, ever the risk-taker, even if the risk (immurement in Victorian melodrama) is much the same as in *Gangs of New York*, makes of the protagonist a real and repellingly compelling figure when he's not breaking the spell with his John Huston rollercoaster cadences. (Why would this depraved money-grubber, we keep asking ourselves, be impersonating the director of *The Maltese Falcon*, *Treasure of the Sierra Madre*, whatever?) But two and a half hours, if all we're going to do is gape, are a long time to spend in the company of such a man, a good hour or more too long. There will, as promised, be blood, though not any time soon, and never all that much. Kevin O'Connor, Ciarán Hinds. 2007.

★ (FLOWER HILL 4, FROM 1/18; LA JOLLA VIL-
LAGE, FROM 1/18; MISSION VALLEY 7,
FROM 1/18; MISSION VALLEY 20)

27 Dresses — Romantic comedy with Katherine Heigl, Edward Burns, Malin Akerman, and James Marsden, directed by Anne Fletcher.

(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 20; OCEANSIDE 16;
OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARK-
WAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO
SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MAR-
COS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE;
FROM 1/18)

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.

★ (GASLAMP 15; PALM PROMENADE 24)

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KENNETH TURAN, LOS ANGELES TIMES

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Where There's a Will... There's a Wake

SANDIEGOREADER.COM
Calendar
THEATER

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given to us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

Anton in Show Business
6th@Penn Theatre presents Jane Martin's backstage comedy about an ill-fated production of Anton Chekhov's *Three Sisters* that skewers every sacred cow in theater. Dale Morris directed. 6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST, THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. 619-688-9210.

The Blessings of a Broken Heart
San Diego Repertory Theatre presents a workshop production of Sherri Mandell's struggle, adapted by Todd Salovey, to find strength after the murder of her son by terrorists in Israel. Salovey directed. SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH JANUARY 20; THURSDAY THROUGH SAT-

URDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-544-1000.

The Cemetery Club
Poway Performing Arts Company stages Ivan Menchell's comedy about three widows who make monthly visits to their late husband's graves. POWAY PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY, 13250 POWAY ROAD, SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, THROUGH FEBRUARY 10; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-679-8085.

Cirque du Soleil: Corteo
Cirque du Soleil brings its new show, a "cortege," or joyous funeral procession imagined by a Clown, to Del Mar. GRAND CHAPITEAU AT DEL MAR FAIR-GROUNDS, 2260 JIMMY DURANTE

BOULEVARD, DEL MAR, THROUGH FEBRUARY 3; TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 8:00 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 4:00 P.M. AND 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 1:00 P.M. AND 5:00 P.M. 800-678-5440.

The Daddy Machine
Diversionary Theatre presents the world premiere of a "family-friendly" musical, by Patricia Loughrey and Rayme Sciaroni, about lesbian and gay families. Sciaroni and Siobhan Sullivan directed.

DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, THROUGH JANUARY 27; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 1:00 P.M. AND 3:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 1:00 P.M. 619-220-0097.

Feminine Ending
South Coast Repertory Theatre stages the West Coast premiere of Sarah Treem's comedy about "the choices of a talented woman." Timothy Douglas directed. SOUTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE,

JULIANNE ARGYROS STAGE, 655 TOWN CENTRE DRIVE, COSTA MESA, THROUGH JANUARY 27; TUESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 7:45 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:30 P.M. 714-708-5555.

In This Corner
The Old Globe Theatre presents the world premiere of Steven Drukman's drama about Joe Louis and Max Schmeling. They battled in the ring in 1938. Now they reunite in 1970, in a psychiatric ward. Ethan McSweeney directed.

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CASSIUS CARTER CENTRE STAGE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH FEBRUARY 10; SUNDAY, TUESDAY, AND WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 P.M., THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-234-5623.

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BALBOA THEATRE, 868 FOURTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN, SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, AT 8:00 P.M. 619-570-1100.

A Matter of Tact

The "long form" improv troupe performs a "completely made-up-on-the-spot" play.

NORTH PARK VAUDEVILLE AND CANDY SHOPPE, 2031 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, AND SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, AT 8:00 P.M. 619-220-8663.

Music and Memories

The Welk Resorts Theatre presents Wayland Pickard's solo performance as Liberace, the multi-talented entertainer.

WELK RESORTS THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO,

THROUGH JANUARY 20; THURSDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE THURSDAY, SATURDAY, AND SUNDAY AT 1:45 P.M. 760-749-8501.

National Comedy Theatre

Improvational 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.

Ordinary People

OnStage Playhouse presents Nancy Gilsenan's dramatic adaptation of Judith Guest's novel. The loss of an older brother may change Conrad Jarrett's "ordinary" family entirely. Jay Mower directed.

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVENUE, CHULA VISTA, THROUGH FEBRUARY 9; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-422-7787.

The Pillowman

Ion Theatre stages Martin McDonagh's 2004 Olivier Award-winner for best new play, an eerie, disturbing drama about the interrogation of a short story writer. Claudio Raygoza directed.

ION THEATRE, THE LAB AT ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS, 4580-B ALVARADO CANYON ROAD, EAST MISSION VALLEY, SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, THROUGH FEBRUARY 16; THURSDAY THROUGH



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San Diego Theatresports: The Funhouse

A cross between improvisational comedy and *Family Feud*, The Fun-

house 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

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Sea of Tranquility

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.**

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LEGE AREA. FRIDAY AT 7:45 P.M. SAT-URDAY AT 7:45 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-465-7469.

Sea of Tranquility

The Old Globe Theatre presents Howard Korder’s comedy about an East Coast psychologist who relocates in the Southwest. His new patients “gradually reveal a surprising mystery — both in his past and in the human condition.” Michael Bloom directed. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THURSDAY, JAN-UARY 17, THROUGH FEBRUARY 10; TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. THURSDAY THROUGH SAT-URDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATUR- DAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-234-5623.

String of Pearls

North Coast Repertory Theatre stages Michele Lowe’s exploration of the effects that a single string of pearls has on an array of women. Karen Carpenter directed. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987D LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH, THROUGH FEBRUARY 10; THURS- DAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-481-1055.

Sweet Charity

Coronado Playhouse stages the musical (book: Neil Simon; music: Cy Coleman; lyrics, Dorothy Fields) about Charity Hope Valen- tine, the club dancer searching for true love. CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO, FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, THROUGH FEBRUARY 17; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-435-4856.

This Is Our Youth

New Village Arts Theatre stages Kenneth Lonergan’s tough drama about three kids in 1982, on the cusp of adulthood, whose decisions may lead to “self-discovery or self- destruction.” Francis Gercke di- rected. NEW VILLAGE ARTS, 2787B STATE STREET, CARLSBAD, SATURDAY, JAN- UARY 19, THROUGH FEBRUARY 17; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 3:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-433-3245.

Triple Espresso: A Highly Caffeinated Comedy

Hugh Butternut’s done his lounge act at the Triple Espresso Coffee- house 20 years to the day. While patrons sip a house blend —

“Grape,” “Scandinavian Blizzard,” or “Mokoko Cocoa Mocha” — Hugh plays ’70s tunes on the pi- ano. 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 ad- mit, 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 tal- ented to play inept characters. One’s a whiz at the piano. An- other’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 enter- taining, if lightweight show. **Worth a try.**

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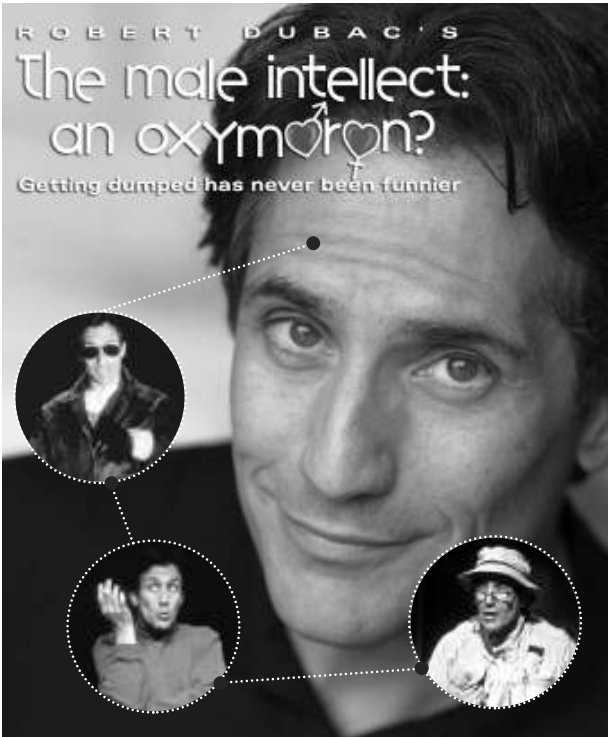
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January 23, 2008 • 5:30 pm Arrival

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

18-year-olds eligible to apply!

Bring valid photo ID.

www.joinsdSHERIFF.net

858-974-2000

San Diego County Sheriff's Department Open House January 31, 2008 • 6-8 pm

This FREE event is a great opportunity for anyone interested in a career in law enforcement. Talk to the heroes of the Sheriff's Department about the hiring process, qualifications, benefits, career advancement, the academy and much, much more!

San Diego Sheriff's Department

9621 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego, CA 92123

Contact Deputy Laura Legler:

858-974-2336

Laura.Legler@sdsheriff.org

EOE



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:

February 2, 2008 • 8 am

Montgomery Middle School

2470 Ulric Street • San Diego, CA 92111

Applications available at the test site.

For additional information, contact the department's

Jobline: 858-514-8558

www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation

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. 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.

COFFEE BARISTA NEEDED. Full/Part-time. Mornings and/or afternoons. Rancho Santa Fe location. Great tips. No experience necessary. Call Bob, Fairbanks Coffee, 858-699-7610.

COMMERCIAL LOAN OFFICERS and Branch Manager positions available now. Generous commission splits, leads and proven marketing plans, work from home or office. No fees. 8 positions available. Fax resume to: 858-630-2236 or e-mail to: info@mortgageloanexpertsinfo.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: Project Managers, Service Technicians, Installers. Seeking motivated, organized people experienced

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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: February 2, 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.

CORRECTIONAL MONITOR. Want experience in the field of corrections? Monitor the activities of clients at our parolee program located in downtown San Diego ensuring the safety of the clients, the facility, and ensuring normal operations. Requires HS/GED and related work experience (\$8.25/hour). Call Human Resources: 619-282-8211; e-mail resume: hr@voa-swcsl.org; fax: 619-282-8210; or mail: Volunteers of America, 3530 Camino Del Rio North, #300, San Diego, CA 92108. EEO/Affirmative Action Employer.

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.

COUNTER ATTENDANTS/MANAGERS. Subway is now hiring! Full or part time, day and evening shifts. Flexible scheduling. Competitive wages. Free employee meals. Paid vacation. Tuition assistance. Apply in person. Mira Mesa: 9242 Miramar Road; 858-578-9205. Mission Valley: 5608 Mission Center Road; 619-497-

0971. Point Loma: 2907 Shelter Island Drive; 619-223-1900. Management applicants, fax resume to 619-688-9291.

CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATES. Make people happy! Proflowers.com is hiring seasonal Customer Service Associates to provide customers with friendly phone service. Located in Sorrento Valley, flexible hours, \$10/hour. Good communication and internet skills are a must! Submit resume to jobs@proflowers.com. Visit <http://proflowers.ning.com> for more info.

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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 #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 at: 6331 Nancy Ridge Drive.

DATA ENTRY SPECIALIST. Volunteers of America is a faith-based social service nonprofit. Come join us in our lifesaving mission to help individuals and families obtain the tools they need to improve their quality of life. You would collect data and do data entry for alcohol and drug treat-

ment program to determine program effectiveness. Located at our downtown alcohol and drug treatment facility. Requires A.A. degree or 60 credit hours and proven data entry experience (\$9-9.90/hour). Call Human Resources: 619-282-8211; e-mail resume: hr@voa-swcsl.org; fax: 619-282-8210; or mail: Volunteers of America, 3530 Camino Del Rio North, #300, San Diego, CA 92108. EEO/Affirmative Action Employer.

DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER. County of San Diego Probation Department is now hiring. Test Date: 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 Sheriff's Department. Hiring for two types of positions; take one exam, apply for either or both! Exam Dates: Saturday, January 19, 2008, 7:30am arrival, Rancho Buena Vista High School, 1601 Longhorn Drive, Vista CA 92083 or Wednesday, January 23, 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. 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.

DETAILER/YACHTS. Wash/buff/wax in local San Diego marinas. Full-time, \$8.50-\$9.50/start. Reliable vehicle required, will transport equipment. 619-944-0741.

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 #791820.

DRIVER, part time, 9:30am-3pm Monday-Friday. Must have 4-cylinder truck with shell. Clean DMV a must. Some heavy lifting. Courier experience a plus. Call between 10am and 5pm Monday-Friday, 858-717-1254.

DRIVER. Bus tours of San Diego and Tijuana, charters and SPAB. Class B/P/A license required. To \$14/hour plus medical, dental, and vision benefits. Call: 619-520-5200.

DRIVER/LEGAL MESSENGER. Great opportunity in busy, growing litigation support service. We will train an enthusiastic team player. Good driving record. \$9.00 to start, company car. Full time. 619-298-2385.

DRIVER. Hourly driver needed to drive our box truck. Regular Class C license required. \$10-\$11 per hour. Full time. No DUI. Call 619-294-4160.

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. 100% paid family insurance! Home daily! Owner/operators drop and hook loads! CDL-A, 2 years experience, 3 points maximum! Complete Logistics, 800-373-9001.

DRIVERS. Bonus paid! Auto parts delivery with late model pickup truck, car or van. Clean DMV. Local and North County openings. \$1750 to \$2400 a month. Fuel paid. Independent contractors. 619-233-4374.

DRIVERS. Dominion Distribution is looking for part-time Drivers to deliver free publications on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. You must have a truck, van or SUV and be currently insured. Call Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm, 858-279-3137 x243.

DRIVERS. 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 company seeking C-Class Drivers for fixed routes. Must have good driving record and clean background. For more information, please call 619-232-4199.

DRIVERS. Transportation services provider for seniors and disabled. Great pay! At Your Home Familycare. E-mail: homecarejobs@atyourhomefamilycare.com. Call toll free: 1-877-903-JOBS.

DRIVERS/DELIVERY. Employees wanted! Use your own mini-pickup. \$440/week starting. Openings county-wide. Gas bonus paid. Growth opportunity. 619-230-1532. 858-578-7812, 760-639-5400. www.databay.net/applicant/formsd.asp.

DRIVERS/DELIVERY. Immediate long-term positions. Class A & B— Local/Intrastate, Class C— Local/Intrastate. Class C drivers must have 1 year of experience, pass drug screen, and be able to read Thomas Guide. Full benefits available immediately. Call 858-292-8562, fax 858-292-0230, e-mail help@gostaff.com, apply online www.gostaff.com.

DRIVERS wanted for floral deliveries for Valentine's Day, February 12, 13 and 14. Must be courteous and professional. Must have own vehicle, insurance, clean DMV and Thomas Brothers Guide. \$15/hour plus gas. A Flower Factory, 858-974-1231, 7276 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard.

EARN \$1750-\$8000 per referral! Call 866-828-1093. Come play CashFlow(c) 01/25/08. We will teach you how to apply

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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 date: 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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 2150 West Pan American Road, San Diego

February 6, 2008
 Balboa Park Club Ballroom
 2150 West Pan American Road, San Diego

February 9, 2008
 Balboa Park Club Ballroom
 2150 West Pan American Road, San Diego

For more information, call:
(619) 531-COPS
Or visit our website at:
www.sandiego.gov/police



Immediate Long-Term Positions

Construction

- Labor • Home Prep • Customer Service
- Finish-Frame-Form Carpenters
- Apartment Maintenance
- Hang-Tape-Mud Drywallers
- Commercial and Residential Plumbers
- Painters

Delivery Drivers

- 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.

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- Managers • Recruiters • Receptionist
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 Riverside and Orange Counties **951-760-7100**
 Fax: San Diego and Imperial Counties **858-292-0230**
 Riverside and Orange Counties **951-760-7101**
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EDUCATION: Now hiring a Youth Leader, part time after school program working with high school students in the juvenile court and community schools. \$8.50-\$10.30/hour. Availability needed: Monday-Thursday, 1-5pm. Visit www.ymca.org, call Veronica Larios: 619-281-8313 x101, or e-mail vlarios@ymca.org. EOE.

ENGINEER, ELECTRICIAN, CARPENTER, Omni San Diego Hotel. Premier four star property located in the heart of Downtown San Diego, connected by sky bridge to the San Diego Padres Ballpark, is currently seeking candidates for General Engineer, Electrician and Carpenter. We offer an excellent benefit package and competitive wages. Drug-free workplace. EOE M/F/D/V/AA. Apply 10am-2pm Monday-Thursday: 675 L Street, San Diego, CA 92101. Fax 619-645-6564.

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.

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FLORIST, PART-TIME. One permanent part-time position plus all Valentine's Day seasonal positions (delivery driver, customer service, design) available. Scripps Ranch Marketplace. Ask for Chris, 858-566-9797.

FLORIST-DESIGNER. Established Pacific Beach flower shop needs competent, hardy, experienced floral designer. Part-time. Weekends a must. Production work and customer service required. Fax resume to: 858-273-1203.

FOOD SERVER: Lead Food Server, full time and part time, at Sunrise Assisted Living At La Costa (license #374601134). Full benefits available. Will train. Apply in person at 7020 Manzanita Street, Carlsbad, CA 92011. Angela, 760-930-0060.



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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.

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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

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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.

HAIRDRESSER and esthetician needed for salon in Hillcrest. Full time or part time. Booth rental only. Free parking. Call Judy, 619-291-1190.

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HAIRSTYLIST. Children's hairstylist wanted for Children's Salon in La Jolla and Carmel Valley. Many clients eagerly awaiting you! Experience with children preferred. Please call 858-551-5161.

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.

HAIRSTYLISTS. In search of Bangin' Stylist! The Garage Salon, Rockability theme. \$250/week rent includes product, color, towels, Receptionist. Exclusively

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HEALTHCARE: Now hiring for CNA's, LVN's, RN's, Move in Coordinator, Dining Room Servers, and Class B Drivers. Apply at 8515 Costa Verde Boulevard. Email hrlajolla@hyattclassic.com. EOE/M/F/V/D.

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 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. Hourly and live-in assignments available. We're seeking caring, compassionate, and dependable people with personal transportation. Flexible hours, competitive compensation, paid weekly. Apply weekdays: 9am-4pm. Right at Home, 8369 Vickers Street #203, San Diego CA 92111. www.rahlajolla.com. 858-277-5900.

HOTEL FRONT DESK. Full-time, 3-11pm. Weekends required. Experience preferred. Apply Best Western Lamplighter Inn and Suites, 6474 El Cajon Boulevard. Fax/email resume: 619-582-6873/ bwlamplighterinn@nethere.com.

HOTEL HOUSEKEEPING. Rancho Valencia, one of the premier luxury Southern California resorts, is currently seeking a Housekeeping Evening Supervisor. Ideal candidate must have extensive hotel housekeeping experience, strong English communication skills and valid drivers license. Apply in person: 5921 Valencia Circle, Rancho Santa Fe CA 92067. Or email resume (as attachment): hr@ranchovalencia.com. www.ranchovalencia.com. No phone calls please. EOE/Drug-free workplace.

HOTEL. Assistant Front Office Manager for Doubletree Del Mar. Contact 858-481-5900 or in person: 11915 El Camino Real, Del Mar.

HOTEL: THE OMNI SAN DIEGO Hotel is a premier four-star property located in the heart of downtown, connected by a sky bridge to Petco Park. We are currently seeking candidates for Front Desk Agent, Housekeeping Supervisor, Security Officers, Concierge, Laundry Washer, Houseman-Banquets, PBX Operator, Room Attendant. Apply 10am-2pm Monday-Thursday: 675 L Street, San Diego, CA 92101. Fax 619-645-6564. Drug-free workplace. EOE/M/D/N/AA.

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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. plicareer@yahoo.com. Fax 619-440-6864. 619-440-6802.

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7:30am arrival, Rancho Buena Vista High School, 1601 Longhorn Drive, Vista CA 92083 or Wednesday, January 23, 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. Valid California Driver's License prior to appointment. Effective oral and written communication in English. EOE. Additional test dates: www.joinSDSHEIFF.net. 858-974-2000.

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RECREATION ASSISTANT for the Stein Education Center, a private special education school serving children with Autism and other disabilities. Candidates must possess 12 units of Early Childhood Education or 12 units in a related field and a valid California driver's license. Duties include supervising direct care, scheduling social and recreation activities. Computer knowledge preferred. Monday-Friday, 9:30am-6pm. Starting salary \$10.33/hour with benefits. Pre-employment screening (drug test, TB) and Background Check (FBI and Department of Justice). EOE. Apply in person, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego 92120 or fax resume to 619-281-0453.

REPOSSESSION AGENT. Established agency located in North County is seeking career-minded individuals that would like to break into the repossession field. Company training provided to qualify for repossession license. For individuals with clean DMV records and are at least 21 years of age with no felonies, apply in person with drivers license Monday through Thursday, 10am-4pm: Fenders Recovery Service, 915 Bailey Court, Suite #110, San Marcos, CA 92070. 760-752-8632.

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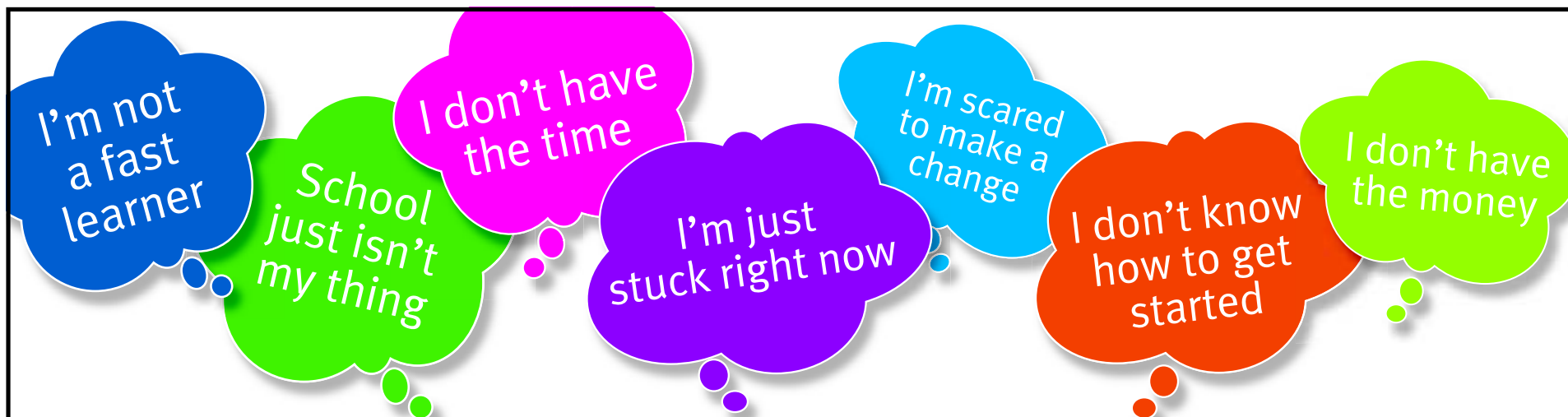
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RETAIL/RESTAURANT: PETCO PARK. Delaware North Companies (DNC) Sportservice hiring for 2008 Padres Baseball Season. Job Fair for Concessions, Retail & Warehouse— Saturday 2/2 11am-4pm, Wednesday 2/13 4pm-8pm, Tuesday 2/26 4pm-7pm. Western Metals Building across from Marriott on Tony Gwynn Drive. Qualified applicants should have food service or retail background but will train the right individuals. Positions available include: Stand Leaders, Stand Attendants, Event Porters, Day Porters, Food Preps, Cooks, Vending Commissary Workers, Vending Commissary Workers,

Food & Beverage Vendors, Team Store Clerks, Program Vendors. Non-union positions: Level Supervisors. Must be able to work Padres home games, including playoffs. Requires pre-employment drug testing and criminal background checks. On-site interviewing, please dress in appropriate interview attire (no jeans, sneakers, sandals, T-shirts, etc.). For more information: www.sdbaseballjobs.com. Or call: 619-795-5901. EEO/DF/M/F.

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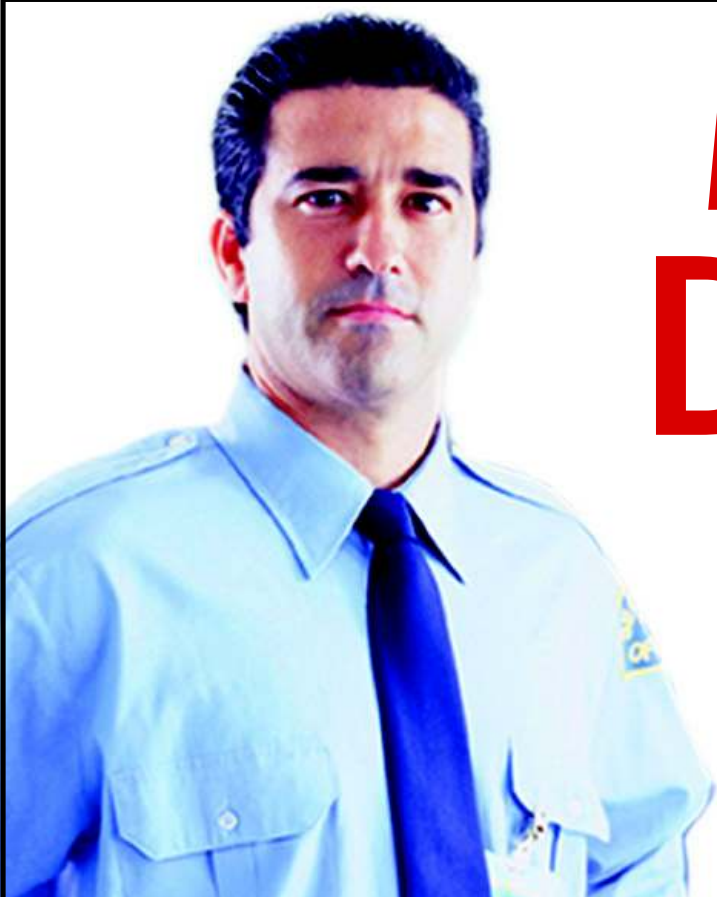


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Bob Benson
Military
Mira Mesa

I'd like to see less of Stephen Colbert. He's good, but that whole act is tired. It's getting old. And Beckham. He's everywhere. He's this huge star and he can't even play soccer. I don't want to see less of Britney Spears. I love watching that train wreck. I'd like to see more of Christopher Hitchens. He's an interesting fellow, and during the elections, it would be nice to hear from him.



Joanna Lydersen
Dancer
Banker's Hill

My picks for people I'd like to see more of would all be music theater types. That's my thing. I'm involved with Eveoke, a dance troupe in town. And, it seems that you don't see enough of music theater the way you do Hollywood celebrities. I would like to see a lot less of Britney Spears. But she was just in the news again last night. I don't think that's going to slow down in 2008.



Kevin Mongeon
Bartender
La Jolla

Really, this list is a no-brainer. I want to see less of tax collectors. Less of my boss. Oh, and less of my coworkers, too. Less of politicians. Less of any celebrity that goes to rehab, like Lindsey Lohan or Britney Spears. I would like to see less of my doctor. I had surgery on my elbow and also on my knee. I can't really think of anyone I'd like to see more of.



Dale Buske
Math Professor
Minnesota

I would like to see less of Britney Spears. I guess the whole Spears family can now be included on that list. Less Britney, more Beyoncé. And more Gary Coleman. You just don't see enough of him, do you? I'd like to see more of John H. Conway. He's a famous mathematician. There was once a few thousand people waiting to hear him speak, and he didn't show up. He can be kind of offensive, but he's incredibly brilliant.



Danielle Janda
Waitress
La Jolla

I would say Britney Spears. Guess what list she's on? Not like seeing more Kevin Federline is any better, especially for those kids. I'd like to see more regular people that actually benefit society and do positive things. I'd like to see more of beginning athletes, not the famous, arrogant ones; young guys trying to make it big. If it's stories, I'd like to see more on popular bands and not so much on local bands. I like to read about bigger groups, to know what concerts I'm going to go see.



Alan Price
Construction Foreman
San Diego

I would prefer to see less of Gerald. He's a local musician and an engineer. I tend to run into him everywhere. If you mean famous people, I'd prefer to see less of that spider monkey George W. And, of course, Michael Vick. But with him going to jail, I guess we will see less of him. And speaking of football players, you can throw Terrell Owens and the New England Patriots on that list. As far as who I'd like to see more, I'd have to say Shakira. I love the way she moves. I've always wondered if she moves like that all the time, if you know what I mean.

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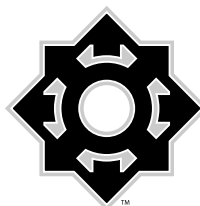
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Across

- 1. Reno, Ashcroft and Gonzales, e.g.: Abbr.
- 4. "I don't mean to ____ dead horse ..."
- 9. Scand. nation
- 13. Lyricist Gershwin
- 14. One-year record
- 15. "The Downeaster ____" (1990 Billy Joel hit)
- 16. A cousin of, say
- 18. Graceful woman
- 19. Columnist whose "middle name" is "Erwin"
- 21. "... long ____ both shall live?"
- 22. Madhouse
- 23. Monopolize
- 25. "You bet!"
- 26. Poet whose "middle name" in "Loner"
- 31. Where the big bucks are?
- 32. Small bucks
- 33. Essayist/novelist whose "middle name" is "Anson"
- 37. Pairs
- 39. Biology lab stain
- 40. Singer whose "middle name" is "Elmer"
- 44. Family docs
- 47. Misfortune
- 48. http://www.cruciverb.com, e.g.
- 49. Singer Young
- 50. Opera star whose "middle name" is "Dodo"
- 56. Longstocking of kids' books
- 57. Bestselling female writer of 1922
- 58. Laid bets at a casino
- 59. Fix firmly
- 60. Jock: Abbr.
- 61. "Live Without ____" (Van Halen concert video)
- 62. Tuck away
- 63. Gov. Spitzer governs it: Abbr.

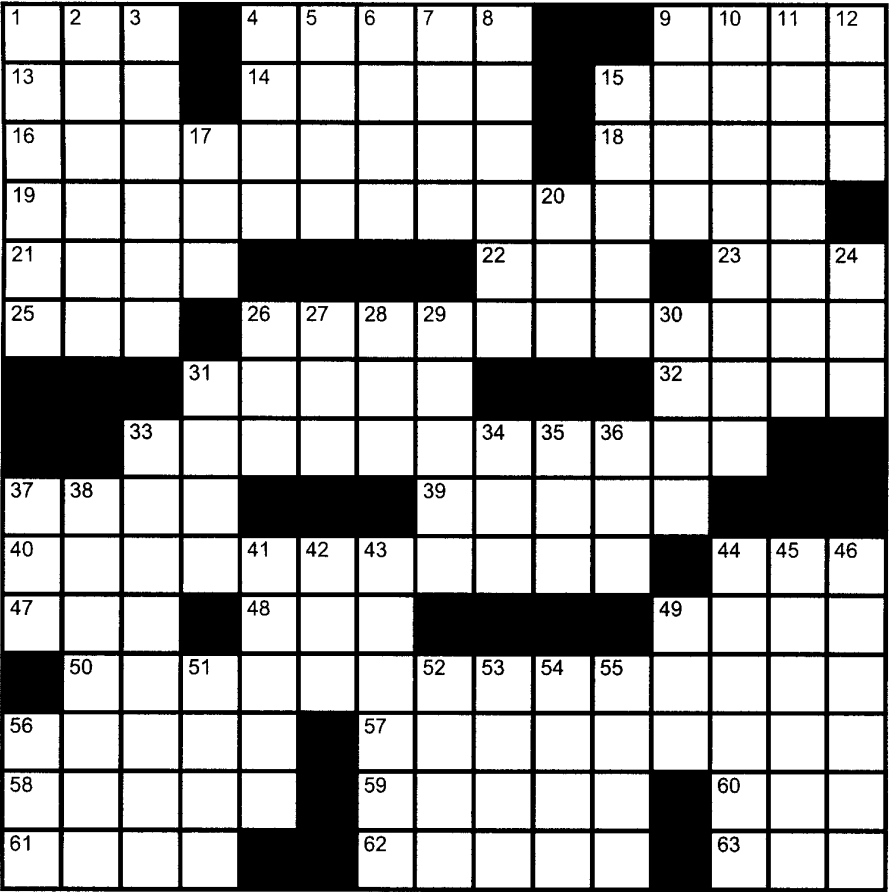
Down

- 1. Vent
- 2. Musical with the song "Summer Nights"
- 3. Ride and Field
- 4. Diminish
- 5. Cabinet dept.
- 6. A ____ (root beer brand)
- 7. "Mon Oncle" star Jacques
- 8. Mourning in the NBA
- 9. Leonard ____, aka Roy Rogers
- 10. Like a painting centered on a wall
- 11. Go boom
- 12. "Lah-di-____!"
- 15. "There was an old woman who lived in ____ ..."

- 17. Lunched, say
- 20. Bamboozle
- 24. Pump output
- 26. +: Abbr.
- 27. Oral health org.
- 28. Inventor Franklin
- 29. Also-ran
- 30. Equine color
- 31. Crafty strategem
- 33. "I swear ..."
- 34. ____-pah
- 35. Decryption org.
- 36. Sn, in chemistry
- 37. Dawn drops
- 38. Perfect
- 41. Clear
- 42. Hosp. scan
- 43. Forefathers
- 44. Columbus, by birth
- 45. Boar's abode
- 46. Symbols of slowness
- 49. Puppy's bite
- 51. Agitated, after "in"
- 52. Not name
- 53. Star with attitude
- 54. Jubilant cries
- 55. It's not true
- 56. Org. for drivers?

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 1/10/08.

There were 107 entrants. The winners are:

- 1. Janine Irwin, La Mesa
- 2. Chloe Bennnett, El Cajon
- 3. Jesus Valdivia, San Diego
- 4. Rose McBride, National City
- 5. George Martin, San Diego

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LOSE WEIGHT! Weight is a symptom of an internal issue that sometimes lies deep

SURFDIEGO

Name: Caroline Minkowski
Home: Hillcrest
Surfing: Tourmaline

"It was about three years ago," says Caroline. "There were Santa Ana winds, and while we were out there, there was this huge swarm of butterflies. I think that the butterflies were blown out from inland. And at the same time there were, say, about 15 dolphins swimming next to our boards. They were all around. With the orange butterflies and the dolphins on a very beautiful day, it was a very nice combination."

Caroline and her husband Jacek are European transplants who found each other in Southern California. Jacek hails from snowy Poland, and Caroline came from rural Germany to UC San Marcos for her master's in English, which she acquired in 2006. Caroline started surfing when she arrived from Germany four and a half years ago. She and her husband surf almost every day. "There's a really strong and really sort of traditional community [at Tourmaline]," Caroline says.



"There's also a lot of people who surf here who have been surfing here for 40-plus years." Every winter, she and Jacek drive to Santa Barbara or Ventura for camping/surfing excursions.

They've ridden waves on vacation in Oahu, Maui, and Costa Rica. A "Just Married" bumper sticker still adorns their van, which is outfitted with lines for hanging towels and sleeves for their boards. In a hefty Ger-

man accent, Caroline says, "Yes, we've grown very accustomed to the Southern California lifestyle." See the video Go to SanDiegoReader.com Click on SurfDiego

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NAME This Place



Last week's place: (clue: Presidential funding fountainhead?) Hangar and old cottage housing duPont Aerospace, 1725 North Marshall Avenue, on Gillespie Field, El Cajon. Tony duPont has been developing a jet transport model here for the past quarter century. According to Wikipedia, all four models have crashed, but Republican congressman Duncan Hunter still backs the project. (Last week's winners: Darwin O'Neill, Jeffrey Summers, Jerome Dietrich, Brian Berrazo, Zachary Utley)

Clue: Many cool, creative ideas evolve here.

Describe this location, name the nearest cross-streets, and win a *Reader* T-shirt. E-mail to NameThisPlace@SanDiegoReader.com; fax to 619-231-0489; or mail to *Reader*, Name This Place, Box 85803, San Diego 92186 — include your name and address. (Deadline, Tuesday, 9 a.m. In case of ties, lottery will determine top five winners.)



WEDDING & PARTY GUIDE

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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.

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ABILITY THROUGH TRAINING. The Robert Wald Actor's Studio focuses on moment-to-moment reality training. These classes unlock the actor's ability to work spontaneously and with the realism and intensity advocated by the industry's creative legends. Beginners welcome. Thursday evening class available, 6:30pm-10:30pm of Saturday morning. Call for information. 619-542-1216.

AUDITIONS for melodrama. One male, one female, late teens to 20s. January 20-21. Stipend. 619-647-4958.

AUDITIONS-AGATHA CHRISTIE'S Black Coffee, a Poirot Mystery, 7pm Monday-Tuesday, 1/21-1/22. Coronado Playhouse. Open auditions. No appointment necessary. Director Keith Anderson. E-mail: maryemily@rocketmail.com. www.coronadoplayhouse.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.

LIVE ON STAGE! Point Loma Actors Workshop. Take the performance high! All levels welcome. Join now! www.pointlomaactors.com. 619-225-0044.

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. (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 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)

POWPAC. Poway's Community Theatre. Auditions: "Rabbit Hole," January 21, January 22, 7pm. 13250 Poway Road. No appointments necessary. For additional information, contact director: 858-335-8481. sherriecolbourn@aol.com.

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.

childhood issues. Tuesday evenings. UTC area. Insurance accepted. Susan Jorgensen, MFT-22281, 858-622-0632.

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.

HOLISTIC NUGGET #3. Holistic orgone therapy is "green," because it works toward a simpler way of life in balance with nature. The life energy on earth and in the atmosphere is exactly the same as the "chi" or orgone energy in our bodies. It's the basic energy of all organisms and life systems. When it's blocked, we have psychological symptoms. The healthiest person is the one with the freest flow or energy. Mary Lou MacIlvaine, Ph.D., Psychologist 14409. 619-501-0334. drmacilvaine.com and sextherapysandiego.com.

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.

THERAPY FOR SHOPLIFTERS. Group or individual, in Mission Valley. For details, call Joyce Nease, PhD (license PSY17073), 25 years experience with the legal system, 619-283-5099.

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.

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.

FEMALE GROUP MEMBER NEEDED for mixed process/support group. Relationship difficulties, intimacy, self-esteem,

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AGUA HEDIODA LAGOON. Foundation needs volunteers. Serve as docents, assist in beautiful native garden/special events/school field trips. Training free, flexible schedules. 760-804-1969, deb@aquahedionda.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. Problemas con el alcohol? Nosotros le ayudamos a vivir mejor. Sesiones Lunes-Viernes, 7am y 8pm. Sabados, 8am y 7pm. Domingo 8am y 5pm. Grupo Bonita Hispano, 3450 Bonita Road, #207. 619-280-7224.

ALCOHOLICOS ANONIMOS. Tiene problemas con la bebida? Llamenos 24 horas. Oficina Central Hispana, 3628 University Avenue, San Diego, 92105. 619-280-7224.

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CANNABIS PATIENT(S) ACT. (Association Cannabis Therapeutics.) Nonprofit. Seeks caregiver/patients with questions about cooperatives, clones, medicine, growing guidelines. Proposition 215 local guidelines. Meth kills. 619-528-0907.

DIVORCECARE meets every Sunday at 9am at 4926 La Cuesta Suite 203-A, Tierrasanta. Special Free support group for those divorcing, divorced, or broken live-in relationship. 4926 La Cuesta, Suite 203, Tierrasanta. Bruce, Bruce@sdfunding.com or 619-461-4480.

DIVORCING/SEPARATING? Get guidance/support during your emotional adjustment. Group meets Friday, 6:30-8pm, in Allied Gardens off Waring Road. Divorce Anonymous, 619-442-1550.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN PRAYER- based solutions and healing? Then discover health, wellness, and harmony in your life. 858-272-3246.

DO YOU HAVE RELATIONSHIP setbacks, anxiety, or pain tormenting you? Call and discover the freedom, wellness, and abundant health in your life. 858-272-3246.

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.

GAİN 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.

HAD UNUSUAL EXPERIENCES? Have beliefs, thoughts, perceptions different than others? Wonder how stress relates? Stress can lead to unusual experiences. Between 18-35? To participate: mjuan@alliant.edu.

KEEP ART ALIVE. Norma At Night And Friends Art Show. January 27, 6-10pm, Creative Expressions Art Studio, 8372 University Avenue, La Mesa. Free. 619-508-4741; www.creativeexpressionartstudio.com.

MOVIE BUFFS: Interested in watching movies, then discussing it afterwards (like book clubs)? Ages 25 to mature welcome. Please call 619-850-6075 or 858-272-8727.

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE Anonymous 12-step meeting for people with OCD. Mondays, 6-7pm, Department of Health Services Complex, 3851 Rosecrans Street, Mission Room. Information: OCAhelp@cox.net.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION, "Energetic Pulse of Life" January 22, 2008. 7-9pm Eureka Street/Mission Valley. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. Please call for directions 619-296-9046.

PMS RESEARCH. UCSD researchers need women, 20-45, not on medication, birth control, or smoking, with regular menstrual cycles for a 5-month PMS study using sleep and light therapy. 8 overnights required. Call 619-543-7393.

PRAYER HEALS. Discover freedom and wellness. Find out how prayer works for you to eliminate chronic disease, pain, fear, depression. 858-652-0728.

PRIVATE COUNSELING. Your journey can be clearer, more peaceful; relationship issues, body image, self-esteem, anger. I can help. Work toward acceptance of yourself. Fee. 619-838-6817.

RECOVERY GROUPS for men and women seeking freedom from addiction/co-dependency. Fridays, 7pm. Celebrate recovery, First Lutheran, 867 South Lincoln Avenue, El Cajon. 619-444-7444. www.recovery4u.cc.

RESEARCH STUDY. Women living with smoker needed for 9-day research study. Leave message, 619-594-8827 or email

TRDRPPDASStudy@projects.sdsu.edu, for more information.

SINGLES FOR JAZZ is a new not-for-profit club for singles interested in attending various concerts and clubs in the San Diego area. Membership is free. Call 760-445-5459.

UCSD HOT FLASH study for menopausal women, ages 45-75, to determine the effects of HRT and/or antidepressants on hot flashes, mood, sleep, and behavior. Require women not currently using HRT, antidepressants, or high blood pressure medications. 5-month study, 6 overnight hospital stays required. Call 619-543-7393.

UCSD MEDICAL CENTER needs healthy volunteers, 40-65 years old, for a research study. Payment is \$10/hour. Please call 619-543-7201.

UCSD MENOPAUSE STUDY. Menopausal women, ages 45-75, skipping menstrual cycles for at least 6 months, not smoking, not using HRT, antidepressants or high blood pressure meds needed for a research study of hot flashes, mood, sleep and behavior. 5-month study, 6 overnight hospital stays required. Call 619-543-7393.

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 alternative-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).

Say What?



Chris Rieder | Age: 34 | Occupation: Teacher/Musician | Lives: Chula Vista

I had these old roommates that used the word “**dinty**” to describe a good, hearty meal. I don't know if it comes from Dinty Moore stew, which is not a good, hearty meal, but I liked it and adopted it. I use it mostly for comfort foods or

things that stick to your ribs, like meat loaf and mashed potatoes and oatmeal. My friend's Mom makes a really dinty chicken-and-dumplings dish that fills you up for hours. Thanksgiving and Christmas are usually dintyfull food times. Also,

you can use it if you are too full to eat. As in, “No way, man, I'm too dinty for seconds!”

See the video
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AS AN AVON ADDICT, I think the Kabuki brush is telling me to pick it up and use it again. Be strong Stephanie be strong!

DAVIEBABE IN BOSTON. So many times I let you down, but never once played around! Still crazy after all these years.

I CRIED BECAUSE, It was my final release of the pain and past and the new life that I will be embracing with you.

THANK YOU Holy Spirit for prayers answered. All.

MUSIC

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BASS CABINET, Eden 1x15XL, 400 watts, excellent sounding lows, \$375. 858-509-3778.

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WORLD GUITAR SHOW! 100s buy, sell, trade! Orange County Fairground, Costa Mesa, January 19, 10am-5pm and January 20, 10am-4pm. TXshows.com.

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BASS AND VOCALS needed for death metal. Influences: Cephalic Carnage, Mastodon, Candiria, Meshuggah, etc. Check out myspace.com/blackambulance and/or call Shaun, 619-417-4751.

COUNTRY MUSIC/BLUEGRASS jam. Guitar, mandolin, fiddle, banjo players interested in getting together to play country music and bluegrass. Call Bob, 858-753-1775.

GUITARIST, LEAD, wanted. 1980s New Wave/Pop music played heavy like Korn, Dope, Orgy, Gravity Kills. Professional gear. Reliable transportation. See http://www.myspace.com/radiostarox.

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SINGER/DYNAMIC FRONT, Person wanted. (21-35) preferably). Experienced SDSU Area band alternative rock band seeking lead vocalist to record album/gig! myspace.com/theinformists.com, theinformists@cox.net, 619-993-9693.

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BANKER'S HILL. Elegant cottage. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stainless steel appliances. Hardwood floors, granite counters, crown molding, private laundry. Partial view. Pets welcome! Street parking only. \$1700. 2119 2nd Avenue. 619-221-9191.

BAY PARK. Beautiful 4 bedroom, 2 bath, Bay Park canyon home. 2-car garage. 2 bedrooms 1 bath kitchen, dining room, living room upstairs; 2 bedrooms. one bath living room, washer/dryer downstairs. Fenced backyard. Outdoor fireplace. Great views. Available February 1. 1381 Elevation Road. Kevin, 619-261-4241. \$2700.

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CARLSBAD. \$3700. 3 bedroom plus office, 3-1/3 bath, 2-story. Move-in special! Hardwood, granite, stainless. 2-car garage. Built-ins. 7343 Paseo Capuchina. 858-514-8201.

CARLSBAD. La Costa Oaks. \$3700. 3 bedroom plus bonus room, 2-1/2 bath, 2-story. Fireplace. Granite, stainless. Jacuzzi. Barbecue. Garage. 3486 Camino Cereza. 858-514-8201.

CARLSBAD. Move-in special! \$3700. 4 bedroom, 4-1/2 bath. 2-story. Fireplace. Hardwood, granite, stainless. 2-car garage. Built-ins. 7343 Jade Lane. 858-514-8201.

CHULA VISTA. Million dollar city/ocean view! 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage, large yard and driveway, fireplace, amazing master bedroom deck. \$2450. 619-482-2076.

CHULA VISTA/OTAY RANCH. 3 bedroom loft, 2.5 bath home. 2-car garage. All appliances included. Washer/dryer, dishwasher. Side yard. \$1850. 619-934-8608.

CLAIREMONT, NORTH. \$2000. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Open floor plan, tiled floors. 2-car garage. Fenced yard. Mowing and hedging provided. Call 858-273-7241.

CLAIREMONT. \$1435. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. 1-car garage. No pets. Nonsmoking. Carpet/paint. Dishwasher. Patio. Large fenced yards. 3566 Idlewild Way. Juno, 619-275-3455.

COLLEGE AREA/Z. CERRITOS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage-style house. Quaint, charming. Fireplace, 2 garages, hookups, fenced backyard. Pets on approval. \$1800. Call 760-753-8353.

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. \$1695. Newly remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with parking. Storage. Fireplace. Hardwood floors throughout. Washer/dryer. Dishwasher. Pets ok. Lease. 1695 North Second. 619-590-0555.

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ENCINITAS/Village Park. \$2500. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, single story, fireplace, garage, family room, fenced yard, community pool/spa. 2119 Mountain Vista. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

ESCONDIDO, \$925-\$1695. Tired of apartment living? Beautiful 1, 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.

FLETCHER HILLS. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath house plus bonus room. 2-car garage. All appliances. Fireplace. Fenced yard. Lease. \$1995. 619-985-7345, 858-452-2188.

LA JOLLA. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. \$2950. Spacious backyard. Close to Tourmaline Beach. Stop by leasing office at 5060 La Jolla Boulevard. 655 Wreilton. TPPM, 858-483-7412, www.casadelmar.info.

LA MESA. \$2700. 4 bedroom, 4 bath plus office. Gorgeous custom home on private drive. Light, bright, custom hand-crafted details. Oversized garage. relleyruffek@hotmail.com or (619)248-5024.

LA MESA. \$1850. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. Lake Murray area. Like new condition. New carpet/paint/appliances. 2-car garage, washer/dryer. First time on market. 6020 Manon Street. Call Rachael at 619-804-1044 or Jeff at 619-713-1044.

LA MESA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1250. Hardwood floors, washer/dryer, carport, fenced yard, extra storage, ceiling fans pets OK. Garden setting. 619-463-1943.

LA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath plus office on mountain. Fantastic view to ocean! 2000 square feet. Garage. Family room. Fireplace. \$2675. Lease. Agent, Bill, 619-823-1674.

LA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. 8805 Fabienne Way. Estimated square feet, 1125. \$1850/month. Great backyard with deck, large driveway, fireplace, washer/dryer, dishwasher. Call 619-471-2201, 619-366-8001.

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MISSION BAY. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Quiet, beautiful manufactured home community. New carpet, paint. 50' from water. Hurry! Available now. Deposit plus references. \$2000/month. 619-548-8992.

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MOUNT HELIX. \$3600. 5 bedroom, 4 bath house plus den on private 1/2 acre. Pool. Citrus trees. 2 fireplaces. Upper and lower decks with magnificent views. Must see to appreciate! 1 year lease. Includes gardener and pool service. Shown by appointment only. 619-427-5533.

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.

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NORTH PARK. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Garage. Living room. Fireplace. Large fenced yard. Pets OK. \$2500 includes gardener/water. Available 21/08. Appointments, 619-296-2873.

NORTH PARK. \$1750. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath house, bonus basement room, great location, private. Available now. No Section 8. Pets OK. 619-980-6076.

NORTH PARK. \$895. Charming 1 bedroom cottage. Dining room. Near Morley Field. Hardwood floors. 1930s-style fenced courtyard. Cat OK. 3364-1/2 Grim Avenue. 619-692-0732, 619-857-1187.

NORTH PARK. Newly remodeled Craftsman home. 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Stainless steel appliances. New paint and carpet, granite countertops, fireplace. Some utilities included. Garage available. Large front porch. Washer and dryer. \$2395. 858-598-1111 x190. www.utopiamanagement.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, refrigerator, stove, walk to bay or beach, comes with 1-car garage. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1900. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house, 2-car parking included, refrigerator, stove, yard, approximately 1100 square feet. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Master suite, front yard. 2-private patios. Hardwood floors. Dishwasher, washer/dryer, laundry room, new paint. Parking. 2014 Felspar. \$2400. 858-735-8593.

POINT LOMA. Spacious 3 bedroom 1-1/2 bath duplex. Washer/dryer, fireplace, wood floors, 2 car spaces. Water included. \$1950/month. 4267 Whittier. Hablamos espanol. 619-395-3015.

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. \$2899, lease option. 619-368-9410.

POINT LOMA. 2 bedroom, 2-3/4 bath house, \$2850. 3240 Lowell Street, City/ bay views! Great room! Cathedral ceilings. New carpeting, 2 fireplaces. Built-in bar. Garage. Yard. Pets OK. About 2900 square feet. 619-435-0387.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath with garage. House/Duplex \$1295 Deposit. Newly renovated unit: new tile, new paint, convenient location, coin-operated laundry. Move In Special: \$500 off 1st month's rent OAC. Available now. 3024 Madison Avenue. www.cethon.com. 619-295-1100.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, wood floors, granite/tile kitchen, fireplace, yard, garage, workshop. Pet OK with deposit. (No pit bulls). 4404 Louisiana. \$1500. 619-445-0799.

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ALPINE. 2 bedrooms, \$1290. Private garages, fireplaces, vaulted ceilings. Resort-size pool and spa. Call for special! Alpine Woods, 1829 Arnold Way. 619-445-1341.

ALPINE. 55 and up. Spacious luxury living. 1 bedrooms, \$955. 2 bedrooms, \$1205. Special: \$75 off Creekside Meadows, 1750 Arnold Way. 619-445-2480.

BALBOA PARK. \$950. 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.

BALBOA PARK, EAST. Newly remodeled 1 bedroom, 1 bath plus den and walk-in closet. Patio and yard. \$799. 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. Downstairs, facing pool, gated. Newly remodeled, all brand new. Cats OK. Deposits \$600, pet \$300. 413 Olive Street. 619-291-5788.

BANKER'S HILL. Elegant cottage. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stainless steel appliances. Hardwood floors, granite counters, crown molding, private laundry. Partial view. Pets welcome! Street parking only. \$1700. 2119 2nd Avenue. 619-221-9191.

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. \$750. Studio apartment. \$200 off first month's rent! Great location. Close to all! No pets. 2027 Front Street #3. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

BANKER'S HILL. Will go fast! \$800-\$900 per month. Deposit \$500. Spacious studios in secured vintage building with great views. First Avenue/Hawthorn. Full size kitchen and bath. On-site laundry. On street parking. Only cats with \$200 deposit. 619-325-7332.

BANKER'S HILL. \$2250. Extra nice 2 bedroom townhouse with den. Open and bright! Garage, fireplace, large storage. Cat OK. 2233 5th Avenue. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

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.sdrreader.com/rent/2159.

BANKER'S HILL. \$1025. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated. Parking. Laundry. 6-month lease. 1922 2nd Avenue. Call 619-702-5923. www.kandroperties.com.

BANKER'S HILL. \$900. Newly remodeled 1 bedroom. Well-kept, classic building designed by Gill. Stove, refrigerator, gas included. Laundry onsite. Near bus. 619-236-0452.

BANKER'S HILL. \$1650. 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.

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BANKER'S HILL. Upstairs 1 bedroom, \$895. Victorian building. Completely renovated. Fantastic view of Downtown and bay. \$600 deposit. OAC. Cat OK. 2142 Second Avenue. 619-549-9726.

BANKER'S HILL. Two large studios, main floor. Both have hardwood floors, \$795 with \$500 deposit. OAC. Avenue. Call 619-549-9726.

BANKER'S HILL. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Beautifully upgraded apartment. Tile and hardwood floors, view from wooden deck. Move-in special: 1/2 month free OAC. 310 West Hawthorn Street. Agent, 858-560-1178.

BANKER'S HILL. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking, laundry, available now. 304 West Hawthorn Street #5. Agent, 858-560-1178.

BANKER'S HILL. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Fenced yard, laundry, parking,

small to medium pet OK. 316 West Hawthorn Street. Agent, 858-560-1178.

BANKER'S HILL. \$895. 1/2 off first month. Large studio, wood floors, huge closet, gated, appliances, laundry. Pets ok. 2311 4th Avenue. 619-804-3325.

BANKER'S HILL. \$850. Large studio, wood floors, full kitchen, private patio. Cat ok. 2271 4th Avenue. 619-885-5915.

BAY HO. Junior 1 bedroom. Full kitchen, custom closet. Newly remodeled. Close to beach/freeway. Pool, BBQ, on-site laundry, off-street parking. Available February. \$900. 858-652-0321.

BAY PARK. 3907 Gresham Street. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Awesome view! Fireplace, balcony, dishwasher, washer/dryer. 2 underground parking. \$2395/month, deposit \$2395. www.tmcassidy.com. Cassidy, Broker, 619-275-LIST.

BONITA. \$1325. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath condo. Garage plus assigned carport. New carpet, air conditioning, stackable washer/dryer hookups, fireplace. Pool/jacuzzi. Available 3/1. Agent, 619-894-1455.

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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. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 2 bath garden apartment. Fireplace, new fixtures, Berber carpet, clean. 760-729-2908.

CARLSBAD. \$925. Junior 1 bedroom. Bright and airy. Laundry, pool, dishwasher, parking. Easy access to freeway, shopping. Garages available. No pets. 1000 Chinquapin. 760-729-8681 or e-mail woodridgemanager@sbcglobal.net.

CARLSBAD. \$1375. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse-style apartment with large patio. 3 blocks to beach. Secluded garden complex. 2 parking spaces. No pets. 370 Chinquapin Avenue. TPPM, 760-729-8132.

CARLSBAD. \$1845. Spacious 2 bedrooms, 2-1/2 bath condo. Washer/dryer hookups. 1 car garage plus parking. Gas fireplace, carpet. Pool, spas. 812A Kaipati Circle. 858-581-2835.

CARLSBAD. \$1375. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, pet OK with deposit, parking included, pool, fitness center. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

CARLSBAD/LA COSTA. \$1495. Large, luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bath in beautiful garden complex with views over La Costa golf course. Fireplace, washer/dryer, air conditioning, pool, spa, sauna. 2381 Caringa Way. Alicante Views. TPPM, 760-431-7575.

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 Caringa Way. Alicante Views. TPPM, 760-431-7575.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN RANCH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 1-car garage. Vaulted ceilings, washer/dryer, beige paint. 1-year lease. Available now. \$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

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GOLDEN HILL. 1 bedroom, \$850. 1010 33rd Street. Very clean, with patio, appliances, laundry, elevator, and parking. 760-724-0558.

GOLDEN HILL. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Fenced patio. Off-street parking. Convenient location. 3357 B Street. No pets. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x102.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1650. Cityscape. Nice 2 bedroom condo. Dramatic Downtown views! 3rd floor, granite, stainless appliances. Cat OK. 1233 22nd Street #14. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

GOLDEN HILL. Contemporary furnished studio in upcoming community. Available now. Minutes from Downtown. \$1400/month. All utilities, underground parking, DSL, balcony. For special and viewing. 619-595-0111. www.vantaggioSuites.com.

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GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$1350. 2 bedroom duplex with private yard for pet. Hardwood floors, built in storage. Breakfast nook in sunny kitchen. Great residential neighborhood with ample street parking. 9 blocks from Balboa Park, 5 minutes to Downtown San Diego. Rent includes water and gardener. No washer/dryer. 3303 Beech Street. Available now. 619-921-1695 or e-mail: relwardani@lorberlaw.com.

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HILLCREST. Quiet, charming, cozy deluxe 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1200. Gated, fireplace. All appliances, washer/dryer, skylight, private patio, 2 parking spaces. Cats OK. No smoking facility. 3680 Alabama Street. Available now. 619-269-5237.

HILLCREST. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Vaulted ceilings. Walk to Balboa Park and shopping, parking. Laundry. Available now. 3820 8th Avenue #1 and #5. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

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. 1/2 off first month! \$1100. 1 bedroom. Patio. New carpet. Ceiling fan, microwave. Gated entry. Garage. Lush

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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. Hillcrest Palms. Senior complex. 55+ living! \$900. 1 bedroom apartments. Gated community. Convenient location. Near hospitals, restaurants, shopping. No pets. 4042 Albatross Street. 619-574-0784.

HILLCREST. 2 bedroom, 1 bath on canyon. \$1630. All utilities included, washer/dryer. One car garage plus off-street parking. Hardwood floors, close to everything. (619)241-6539.

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HILLCREST. Studio, \$835. Great location, quiet area. Off-street parking, laundry. Cat OK. 4166 4th Avenue. 619-298-7868, hilltopterrace.rasnyder.com.

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HILLCREST. \$925. Large lower 2 bedroom, 1 bath, gated complex, new paint, carpet, laundry. 4275 35th Street. 619-804-3325.

HILLCREST. \$975. Charming lower 1 bedroom, stove refrigerator, laundry, next to Balboa Park, UCSD. Pet negotiable. Storage \$50/month. 3533 6th Avenue. 619-804-3325.

HILLCREST. \$1150. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo, upper unit. Secured underground parking. Storage. Onsite laundry. Jacuzzi. No pets. Close to all. 6-month lease. 619-865-9585.

HILLCREST. \$1295. Extra large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, gated complex, appliances, washer/dryer, private patio, underground parking. Cat ok. Section 8. 4155 Georgia Street. 619-804-3325.

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IMPERIAL BEACH. Large 1 bedroom, \$800/month. Deposit \$500. Appliances. Parking. Manager apartment #1049. Open Saturday 11am-3pm. 1097 Imperial Beach Boulevard. No pets. 619-423-8289.

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LA COSTA. \$1325. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse-style, freshly painted, carport, huge deck with view, communal laundry room. 2950-B La Costa Avenue. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

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LA JOLLA/UTC. Remodeled 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse. New appliances. Tile floors. Double garage. Patio. Pool. \$2490. 8267 Caminito Modena, La Jolla 92037. Available mid-January. 858-405-6234.

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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. \$895. Studio, 1 bath apartment, parking included, new paint, minutes to beach/village, near cove. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

LA MESA. \$1400. Quiet unfurnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath end unit condo. Or furnished inquire. 2-car garage. Available now. Aztec Drive. Near park, SDSU, all. Washer/dryer. Patio. Pool. Jacuzzi. No pets. 619-260-0752.

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LA MESA. \$795 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. Large 1 bedroom detached cottage. Open daily 3:30-6pm. No pets. At 4859 or 4861 Jessie Street (east of 73rd). 619-299-8515.

LA MESA. \$975. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Half off first month! Triplex. Laundry hook-ups. Patio. Cul-de-sac. Parking. No pets. 7410 Lime Street #C. Agent, 619-298-7724.

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. \$920/up, 1 bedroom. \$1220/up, 2 bedroom. Across Grossmont Center, trolley, Costco. Quiet, spacious units. Pools. Mellmanor Apartments, 8750 Mellmanor Drive. 619-461-1940.

LA MESA. \$770, studio, \$350 deposit. \$900, 1 bedroom, deposit \$450. Air conditioning. Dishwasher. Carport. Storage. Pool. Gated. No pets. 5435 Morengo Avenue. 619-698-7926. villaknollsapts.com.

LA MESA. \$825 rent. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated, air conditioning, laundry, parking,

pool. 4905 73rd Street. Call 619-697-8458.

LA MESA. \$760. Studio. \$1025. 1 bedroom, 1 bath with garage. Laundry. Cat OK. 5027 Guava Avenue. Call 619-980-5177. www.kandrpproperties.com.

LA MESA. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1050. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry. Pool. Parking. 5436 Vincetta Court, Call 619-462-8896. www.kandrpproperties.com.

LA MESA. \$750. Studio. Clean, quiet, secure. On-site laundry. If you can find one better, rent it. 7240 El Cajon Boulevard #19. Rachael, 619-804-1044.

LA MESA. \$950. Charming 1 bedroom, classic 1940s apartment. Located in the heart of the village of La Mesa. Unit still retains its original hardwood floors and kitchen cabinets. Current upgrades to the unit include new paint in designer colors, new windows and all new door hardware and updated light fixtures. Property has on-site laundry and is close to many shops and restaurants. Sorry, no pets allowed. Available 2/1/2008. \$500 security deposit. Credit check required. 8441 La Mesa Boulevard at University. Please call between 9am and 5pm. Call Scott at 619-846-6615, email response to: scott@hendershawandassociates.com.

LA MESA. \$1125. Extra large upper 2 bedroom, 1 bath, extra large balcony, stove, refrigerator, air conditioning, laundry, off-street parking. Pet negotiable. 6006 Lake Murray Boulevard. 619-804-3325.

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LA MESA. Lovely 2 bedroom, 1 large bath condo. Near Village. New carpet/paint. Fireplace, washer/dryer. Enclosed parking. No smoking/pets. \$1300/month. 619-749-2867, 619-922-1307.

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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.sdreader.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.

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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.

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MISSION BEACH. \$765. Studio. Steps to Bay! Includes utilities. Excellent condition. No pets. 3264 Bayside Lane. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

MISSION HILLS/HILLCREST. \$1580-\$1690, 1 bedrooms. \$2175, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Central air/heat. Dishwasher. Gas stove. Underground parking. Crown moldings. Vaulted ceilings. Fireplaces. Walk-in closets. Washer/dryer. Internet access. Elevator. Gym. Cats welcome. Mission Hills Commons Apartments, 4021 Falcon Street. missionhills@sbcglobal.net. Please call today, 619-220-0707. www.sdreader.com/rent/2032.

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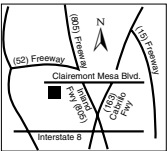
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— by Robert Mizrachi

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Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

OCEANSIDE. \$1151. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhouse (approximately 1280-square-foot), 1-car garage, easy freeway access, community pool/spa, near all. 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.

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. \$1100. Studio, top floor with private balcony. Vaulted ceilings, skylights, secured parking space, laundry on site. Near beach. Call 12-5pm for information, 619-992-6760.

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. \$1550/\$1675. 2 bedrooms, 1-2 baths. Partial ocean views! Beautifully remodeled. Dishwasher. Quiet atmosphere. Heated pool. Parking or garage available. Cats considered. 858-272-4398.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1395. Large, bright, upstairs 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath apartment. Fireplace. Dishwasher. Off-street parking. Very quiet. No pets. 858-481-9819 or 858-270-1243.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1200; 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$900. Each with one parking space. Laundry on site. 6-month lease. No pets. 619-435-3830.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH WEST. \$1125. 1 bedroom apartment, block to beach. Small, quiet complex. Garden. Parking. No pets/smoking. 848-1/2 Emerald. Best call evenings, 858-459-1352.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$775. Studio. Off-street parking, laundry. No pets. One year lease. 1415 Grand Avenue. Call 619-890-9210.

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. \$1800. 858-270-2576.

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PACIFIC BEACH \$1200. 1/2 off first month with lease. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. On-site laundry. No pets. \$500 deposit. 4476 Bond. 760-402-8325. www.baywalkaps.com

PACIFIC BEACH. 1 very large bedroom, 1 bath. \$900/month. Close to beach. Onsite laundry and pool. Quiet community. 858-272-8790.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1 very large bedroom, 1 bath. \$950/month. Close to beach. Onsite laundry and pool. Quiet community. 858-272-8790.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1300. 1 bedroom condos, washer/dryer, stainless appliances, wood-burning fireplace, granite. Parking. Lease-to-own option. Call: 858-274-1585. E-mail: jessica@oceanpacificcompanies.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse. Garage. 1-parking. Dishwasher. Fireplace. Patio. Laundry hookups. Cat OK. 2122 Balboa. Cross street Noyes. 858-576-8292.

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 bal-

cony/ocean view. \$1195. No pets. Lease. 4467 Dawes. 858-483-4553.

PACIFIC BEACH. Bright 2 bedroom, 2 full baths! Upstairs unit. New carpet. Laundry, 2 parking. Quiet. 1948 Emerald. \$1495. Available now. By appointment. 858-554-0400. signad2000@yahoo.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1500. Extra large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. New decor. Clean, quiet. Off-street parking, laundry. No pets. The Tiffany, 1790 Diamond, Manager, Allan, 858-245-9508.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2300. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo with attached garage. Washer/dryer. Beautiful new construction. Available immediately. 1558 Hornblend Street #4. Alta Vista Properties. 858-274-3600. www.altavistamanagement.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1425. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment available immediately. 2 blocks to the beach. 765 Agate Street. Alta Vista Properties. 858-274-3600. www.altavistamanagement.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2300. 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment available immediately. 1522 Hornblend Street. Alta Vista Properties. 858-274-3600. www.altavistamanagement.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. Security deposit \$250. OAC! January 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. \$800. Studio. Cute and cozy. Near bay. Large kitchen/dining area. Excellent location. Sorry, no pets or smoking. 4210 Haines Street #5. Agent, 619-692-4121.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$200 off first month's rent this week only! Rent extra large 850 square foot 1 bedroom apartment homes in Pacific Beach at \$1195. 2 bedrooms at \$1550. Bike trail to Mission Bay. Fitness center, TV lounge, pool, spa. Sundeck. 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.

PACIFIC BEACH. Great values, nice, clean, convenient apartments in multiple Pacific Beach locations. Studios from \$765. 1 bedrooms from \$935. 2 bedrooms from \$1375. Parking, laundry. Some buildings with gated entry, pool and/or deck. No pets. 858-483-3796.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2550. 3 bedroom, 3 full bath townhome in small quiet complex. Fireplace, 2 balconies, 2 garages, all appliances including washer/dryer. No pets please. Available February. 2045 Emerald Avenue #4. 858-459-4347.

PACIFIC BEACH. Studio and 1 bedroom available now! Vaulted ceiling, \$819 and up. New kitchen, ceiling fan. Pool, parking, laundry. Call for tour. 858-536-1900.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1175. 1 bedroom in quiet 4-plex. Stove, refrigerator, coin laundry, garage with opener. Nice shared lawn area. Available now. 1360 Reed. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1175. 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.

tered, microchipped, vaccinated. Most \$150 donation. 619-685-3536.

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LARGE REPTILE GLASS TANK, \$150, 619-262-8801.

LOST BLACK MALE LAB, Goes by name Jake, green collar, microchipped. Lost 12/13/07 in Santee. Call 619-562-1475, 619-948-5284.

LOST DOG. Mission Valley. Black/brown Chihuahua mix. "Toby.". Last seen 1/06/08 Rancho Villas apartments. Friendly, not neutered, was not wearing collar. 619-578-3564, pokeyjoelost@yahoo.com.

POODLE PUPS, standard, healthy, beautiful. Born 11/5/07. Tails docked, dew claws removed. 3 males, 3 females. AKC registration. \$1500. San Diego area. 619-944-6245. E-mail hjgarden@aol.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$995. Quiet 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Covered off-street parking, near freeway, microwave, dishwasher, patio, laundry near unit. No pets. 4651 Pico. 858-272-1958.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1190/month. Upgraded 1 bedroom and 2 bedroom available. 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. \$1100. 2 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs apartment. No pets. Stove, refrigerator, coin laundry, quiet building. 2109 Reed Avenue. Available now. 858-270-3615.

PACIFIC BEACH: Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, The Plaza. \$1150. On Lagoon. Quiet, resort style. Pool, tennis, gym, garaged parking, dishwasher, microwave, laundry, 24-hour security. No pets. 619-279-0031.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$995. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath, gated complex, stove, refrigerator, laundry, off-street parking. Across from ocean. Cat ok. 4751 Mission Boulevard. 619-804-3325.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1125. Extra large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, stove, refrigerator, laundry, carport. 2 blocks from beach/bay. Pet negotiable. 1480 Fortuna Avenue. 619-804-3325.

POINT LOMA/OCEAN BEACH. \$1550. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Upper unit. New carpet. Fireplace, washer/dryer. Cable/ water included. 3161 Groton Way #4. 858-337-2117.

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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.

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POINT LOMA. \$1095 rent. \$600 deposit. OAC. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking. Laundry. No pets. At 4461 Valeta Street #B. Agent, 619-299-8515.

POINT LOMA. Studio and 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartments available, starting at \$945!*. Close to ocean, off-street parking. Spa area, on-site laundry. Cats/dogs 20 lbs OK. Water and trash included. *Limited offer, on approved credit, see manager for details. 2449 Soto Street, apartment #102. 619-224-1973. Or visit us on our website at www.sdrenting.com.

POINT LOMA. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upper unit. Parking, dishwasher, refrigerator, stove, Berber carpet. Quiet. No pets. Near all. 4234 Venus. Agent, 619-254-8703. njcz@aol.com.

POINT LOMA. One month free and free iTouch! Valid with ad only. 12-month lease. Expires 2/29/08. Newly renovated 1 bedrooms from \$1325! City/bay view! Caesar-Stone countertops. Stainless-steel appliances. Pool, spa, sauna. Fitness centers. Air conditioning. Cat friendly. Gables Point Loma, 3811 Marquette Place. 619-223-6577. Gables.com. www.sdrreader.com/rent/1003.

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POINT LOMA. Newly renovated 1 bedrooms from \$975. \$100 deposit, on approved credit! Pets welcome! Clubhouse. Fitness room. Business room. Tennis. Heated pool, spa. Convenient assigned parking. Near shopping, beaches, restaurants, freeway access. Stonewood Garden Apartments, 3889 Midway Drive. Toll free: 1-888-773-6259. MG Properties Investment Real Estate. www.sdrreader.com/rent/2118.

POINT LOMA. From \$1550. Beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment homes. Pool, spa and view deck. Fitness center, media room, gated parking. Gorgeous gated community. 3950 Leland. 619-223-1390.

POWAY. \$895. Beautiful 1 bedrooms in well maintained complex. On-site laundry. Near shopping. No pets. 12529 Oak Knoll. 858-486-0109.

POWAY. \$925. Nice 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartments. Pool, dishwasher, patio or balcony, parking, laundry, beautiful courtyard. No pets. 12500 Oak Knoll. 858-679-1789.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT. Coldwell Banker Property Management, a full-service property management company, specializes in all beach areas. For a complete list of services, please call 858-488-2228.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1250-\$1350/month. Low \$500 deposits! Newly remodeled. Air conditioning. Pool, spa. Carport. No pets. Rancho Villas Apartments. Call 858-484-0744.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 2 bath Casablanca condo. Covered parking. Washer/dryer. Dishwasher. Refrigerator. Fireplace. Patio. Air conditioning. Community pools. Convenient to all. 971-409-6213.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. \$1480. Newly remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath Cantabrias condo. Carport parking. New appliances. Granite countertops. Fireplace. Washer/dryer. Pets OK. Fabulous amenities! Lease. 858-353-7475.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. \$1480. 2 bedroom, 1 bath Via Rimini condo. Garage. Laundry facilities onsite. Small 4-unit complex. Pets OK. Lease. 858-353-7475.

SAN CARLOS. Super special! 2 bedroom townhouses. \$1375 and up. Stove, dishwasher, garage, large patio, pool, laundry facilities. Lakewood Villa Townhomes, 8492 San Carlos Drive, San Diego. 619-469-3585; 619-944-0671.

SAN DIEGO. \$579. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry and parking on site. 619-640-1712.

SANTEE. \$825. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Also 1 bedroom, 1 bath for \$775. On-site laundry, off-street parking. No pets. 8527 Graves Avenue. 619-258-2584.

SANTEE. 3 bedroom, 3 bath, attached garage, washer/dryer, fireplace, patio. Walk to Mission Trails Park. Pets OK with approval. Pool, jacuzzi. \$1600. Call 619-623-2802.

SANTEE. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Kitchen recently remodeled. Washer/dryer. Carport. Storage. No pets. \$1600. Drive by 7899 Rancho Fanita Drive #C, then call 951-653-6433.

SERRA MESA. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Wood floors. Walk-in closet. Community pool. Weight room. Recreation area. Parking. Stackable washer and dryer. Tiled patio. 3571 Ruffin Road #144. Call agent, 619-692-4121.

SHERMAN HEIGHTS. \$995. Large 1 bedroom. Hardwood floors, large walk-in closets, patio, on-site laundry, courtyard. Near bus line. Pet OK with deposit. 2473 Market Street. 619-231-8723.

SOUTH PARK. \$715. Studio. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated complex. Laundry. Cat OK. 2865 A Street. Call 619-236-0566. www.kandrpproperties.com.

SOUTH PARK. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, upstairs. New carpet. Laundry on site. Small pet on approval. 1953 31st Street. 619-640-7530. www.sdforrent.com.

SPRING VALLEY. 9924 Buena Vista Drive. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$750. 1/2 off first month. Section 8 OK. Won't last! Clean and quiet. reader@sdcpm.net. SD-CPM, 619-220-4840.

SPRING VALLEY. \$1850. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath beautifully remodeled home. New carpet, flooring, paint and blinds. 1-car garage, fenced yard and great mountain views. Available now. Small pets OK! 830 Pecos Street. Agent, 858-560-1178.

TALMADGE. \$865. Large 1 bedroom. Clean, good condition. Nice, quiet area. On-site laundry, off-street parking, air conditioning, security gated. 4544 Winona Avenue. 619-229-1406.

TALMADGE. Move-in special! 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$750. New carpet, gated, parking, laundry. 4453 51st Street #6. Agent, 858-560-1178.

TALMADGE/KENSINGTON. \$250 off first month, select units! Deluxe 2 bedroom 1 bath starting at \$1070! Large closets, built-in shelving, ceiling fans, separate dining room. Refrigerator, stove, dishwasher. Covered parking, courtyard, on-site laundry. Pool, spa with poolside WiFi. Outdoor billiards, barbecue lounge with WiFi. Fitness center, computer lab! Pet-friendly. Talmadge Point, 619-282-1191. www.pacificliving.com.

TIERRASANTA. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Senior complex. Gated, quiet complex, recreation room with activities, on-site laundry. Next to shopping, bank, pharmacy and more. Cat OK. Section 8 OK. 4906 La Cuenta Drive. 619-296-6699.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Small, quiet community. Fresh paint. Hardwood floors. Laundry on site. Cat OK. 4478 Alabama Street. 619-692-0732. 619-857-1187.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, balcony, dishwasher. \$825. 1 bedroom. Upstairs. Small, cozy complex. Laundry. Parking. 4460 Cleveland Avenue #5, #6. Agent, 619-298-7724.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1200. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, gated small complex, all appliances, no common walls, granite counters, air conditioning. 4138 Campus

Avenue #2. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$595. Studio. Cozy, 1 parking. Stove, refrigerator. No pets. Smoke free environment. Close to freeways and shopping. 2312A El Cajon Boulevard (in alley). Agent, 619-692-4121.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1025. On wooded canyon hillside. Laundry onsite. Available now. 3948 Florida Street. Agent. Call 619-298-1057 or 619-260-1368. View at sevillemgmt.com.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, small patio, built-in book shelf, large closet, laundry on site, parking. No pets. 4613 Alabama Street. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath \$950. Large upper unit. Spacious kitchen, bright and airy, assigned parking, coin laundry. No pets. 4365 Mississippi. 619-260-3629.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upper. Remodeled with new carpet, window coverings, upgraded fixtures. Gated building with laundry and off-street parking. Broker, 619-286-4250.

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UTC. 55/uf. Spacious luxury living. Pool, spa, golf course. 1 bedrooms, \$1149. 2 bedrooms, \$1349. Town Park Villas, 4633 Governor Drive. 858-453-0441.

REAL ESTATE

Houses

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COLLEGE AREA. Great entry level for investor home. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 car garage. New carpet, range, water heater. \$350K-\$400K. Rich, Remax Associates. 858-405-5270.

EL CAJON. Mobile home. Senior park. Pool. Reduced to \$15,000 or best bid! 1+ bedroom, 1 bath. Refurbished. Carport. Air conditioning, washer/dryer. Low lot rent. Owner, 858-581-9151.

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MEXICO. 408' home with own 4305' private land. Not lease. Built-in bathroom, running water, solar cells, gas stove. 15 minutes south Mulege. \$49,900. Carlos, 619-691-1742.

POINT LOMA. Two master suites, separate bathrooms. Crown moulding. Marble baths, granite kitchen, tile floors. Carpet allowance. Split floor plan. Pool. VA approved. \$220,000. 858-200-7511.

SANTEE. Gotta have it! Newer 4 bedroom, 3 bath house plus loft. Built 1994, over 2000 square feet, large lot, new carpet, \$499,800. Agent: 619-328-0844.

VISTA. 1 acre, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, workshop, 2 corrals, hay barn, outbuildings, kids' cottage, fruit orchard, automatic sprinklers, RV parking. \$450,000. www.socalhorsetrails.com. Bill, 760-207-4562.

VISTA. Shadowridge Golf Course home. 2875 square feet, 2 story, 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 3-car garage. New roof, windows, granite kitchen, landscaping. \$744,000. Dennis, 760-518-6250.

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DEL MAR. Lovely, sunny 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.

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, rrieken@san.r.com.

FASHION VALLEY. The Franciscan. 2 bedroom. Gated community, across from mall and golf course. Pool, jacuzzi, gym, laundry facilities. \$265,000. More info, call John 213-305-2216.

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LA JOLLA. Sunny, lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth at 619-286-5813.

LITTLE ITALY. Spacious condo, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 845 square feet. Upgraded kitchen, washer/dryer. Community pool and gym. Built 2004. \$349,900-\$359,900. Realtor, 619-403-0114.

REDUCED! BAY PARK. Great 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. New flooring, paint, master bath. Balcony/views. Patio. Washer/dryer. \$329,000. Call 619-886-8890 for a showing!

SAN DIEGO. Investment property for sale. Great opportunity, 5 units, 3 buildings plus 4 car garage in 1 lot. Well maintained! Positive monthly income. Call Top Notch Realty Inc. for details. 858-715-0688.

UTC AREA. Sunny, lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.

REAL ESTATE

Miscellaneous

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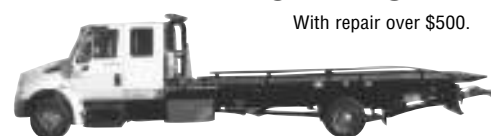
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LEAD STORY

— Lee Myung-bak was elected president of South Korea in December, with experts in *poonsgoo* (similar to the Chinese feng shui) attributing the victory in part to the favorable location of his ancestors’ graves, which is an important predictor of good fortune. Not-so-lucky candidates spent part of the campaign moving their ancestors’ remains to better sites. Former president Kim Dae-jung is said to have learned the hard way, losing an earlier election with poor burial location, then winning after moving some dead relatives around, according to a November Reuters dispatch.

Cultural Diversity

— While European and American TV and film producers take care to have dialogue dubbed into foreign languages using voices that are appropriate for each actor, the dubbing in Poland continues to be done by “lektors” — males with smoking-seasoned voices who speak the dialogue of all the characters in a story in the same pitch. The trick, according to an October *Wall Street Journal* dispatch, is “speaking so smoothly that viewers forget that Paris Hilton sounds like a Polish Johnny Cash.” One experiment using six different actors for the cast of an episode of *Friends* bombed with

viewers, and the next week, the lector returned. — In November, an association of Ugandan activists of Rwandan descent complained to the Ugandan Parliament that the government was discriminating against its women, in that passport-application officials single them out to verify their Ugandan nationality based on the whether their derrieres and legs are sufficiently large. According to a columnist for the newspaper East African, “Uganda is a society that’s besotted with women’s buttocks like few other places are.”

Questionable Judgments

— With the American West’s drought conditions, developer Richard Mladick is nonetheless preparing to build Waveyard, a massive water-theme park, near Mesa, Ariz., which will require 50 million gallons of groundwater to open and as much as 100 million gallons annually. Explained Mladick: “I couldn’t imagine raising my kids in an environment [without the opportunity] to grow up being passionate about the same sports that I grew up being passionate about” [that is, kayaking, scuba diving and surfing]. Voters approved Waveyard overwhelmingly, based on Mladick’s promise of jobs and tax revenue. — In November, Pittsburgh radio station KDKA

reported that soldier Jordan Fox had recently been ordered to return \$3000 of his \$10,000 enlistment bonus because his blindness and back injury from a roadside bomb in Iraq prevented him from fulfilling the final three months of his one-year Army “commitment.” Fox was surprised to learn that the return of funds is standard, but U.S. Rep. Jason Altmire of Pennsylvania has introduced legislation to change that.

Least Competent Criminals

— Holdup-Note Blues: Arthur Cheney, 64, was arrested near Marysville, Calif., in December driving a car that had been spotted at a bank robbery. On the center console of the car, officers found a yellow “sticky” note with a handwritten “Robbery — 100s and 50s only.” Said an officer, “We call that a clue.” ... Orlando Taylor, 26, was arrested walking in the door of a Bank of America in New York City in December. Police suspected he was up to no good because he had a holdup note in his pocket (and an employee identified him from a prior robbery).

Obsessions

— At least a half-dozen groups in five countries are engaged in the quest to show that man can

fly through the air and land without a parachute, according to a December *New York Times* report. “All of this is technically possible,” said a physics professor, referring to the wing suits fliers are testing. “The thing I’m not sure of is...safety.” Some wing suits have slowed vertical descent, briefly, to about 30 miles an hour, though the fliers were still moving horizontally at about 75 mph, which is why all testing is done with parachute backup. American Jeb Corliss believes he could land, even at 120 mph, provided that his neck were protected by a sturdy-enough frame on the wing suit.

Names in the News

— Killed by early-morning gunshots in a club in Greensboro, N.C., in December: Mr. Born God Supreme Thompson. Arrested and charged with groping two women in Springfield, Ill., in December: Larry Letcher, 24. The loser of a Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruling in December that sought to suppress child pornography found on his computer by a Circuit City repair technician: Kenneth Sodomskey.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@Yahoo.com

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College students often think they are ready for everything. I know I did, but I was sorely mistaken — I was in no way ready for what was about to befall me.

After my second year at college I planned on moving out of the dorms and getting into my first apartment — with my girlfriend, no less. Boy, were our parents excited about that. And in our wisdom we thought, “Gee, two-bedroom apartments are better deals than one-bedrooms. So, who do we want as a roommate?” We did not want a friend — that could lead to a “third wheel” problem. And we did not want another college student — too noisy, too messy. We put an ad in the city paper and started interviewing candidates. We came across a guy who fit the bill. We’ll call him Bart. He had a stable job and came to the interview with his dad and girlfriend. Everything seemed great.

Bart was not much of a cook. For him, a meal consisted of walking across the street to the market and buying a microwave dinner or getting something from the Chinese restaurant. No biggie — that meant our kitchen stayed cleaner. But then letters from the supermarket started coming. He was using bad checks. And for some reason he was able to get away with it. He must have received five or six letters from various supermarkets every week. This went on for months. My girlfriend and I were only amused. He paid the rent, so what did we care?

The End of the Month Was Upon Us

But while bouncing checks did not constitute an awful roommate, it proved to be the beginning of a downward spiral.

Spoons started going missing. Weird. I figured they must have been damaged in the garbage disposal and were thrown away. Or something. Naive! One day I found a spoon under the sofa. It had a peculiar coating on it. Dried, iridescent, and with a sickening sweet smell. I thought little of it at the time and threw it in the dishwasher.

By the end of the month we had no spoons. About this time Bart started leaving the house all the time, using what I thought was a local taxi service. Sometimes he would return within minutes; sometimes a day or two would pass. He would always return disheveled and on one occasion looked as if he had been beaten. Finally — about three months since Bart had moved in — I put it together. Of course, Bart was a heroin addict.

My girlfriend and I started looking into how we could have

Bart removed from the lease without losing the lease ourselves. This was trickier than we thought. We did not have the funds to pay the entire rent. Plus it was the middle of the school year, so it would have been hard to find another roommate quickly. As we worried over this, things got worse.

The “taxi service” started calling at all hours of the day, asking for Bart, who would tell me to say that he wasn’t home. Then came the nighttime pounding on the front door. When this happened Bart would run to the door, making sure that he was the first one to answer it. One night Bart actually asked me if he could borrow my credit card. I told him “No” and began to always lock my wallet in my desk.

It wasn’t long before I discovered that my desk had been broken into and my credit card was missing. I canceled the card and asked the company about any recent charges. They said that there were three attempts, but all were failures —

the signatures did not match, and these transactions had drawn their attention. Why they hadn’t called me about it, I don’t know.

That night, just as my girlfriend and I were about to confront Bart, there was a loud knock at the door. This large, sketchy-looking guy said one word: “Bart.” Bart left, looking apprehensive.

A week passed, and Bart had not returned. The end of the month was upon us, and rent needed to be paid. We contacted Bart’s father. He knew more than he was letting on, but all we cared about was that he gave us two months’ rent. Bart never returned. My girlfriend and I split up two months later.

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daggers, others. Any condition except reproductions. Also buy parts (fittings) related items. Mr Chaffee, 619-299-3448.

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BACK WHEN

In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

Ballard Smith, executive vice president of the San Diego Padres, had a terrible day at city hall last week. Councilman Larry Stirling called him "Mr. Ballard," Bill Mitchell forgot Smith's name altogether, and Maureen O'Connor nearly provoked a swinging match. "He came in obnoxious and tried to stay obnoxious," Councilwoman O'Connor said of Smith....

—CITY LIGHTS: **"FOUL BALLARD?"** Paul Krueger, January 19, 1978

Twenty-Five Years Ago

When mechanic Eugene Dahlstrom learned last week that Greyhound was trying to cancel its bus service to Jacumba, he flat couldn't believe it.

"Hardly a day goes by when somebody don't break down and we send 'em to Jacumba to catch the bus. See that hill?" His cactus-stubbed leather face gestures down the Mountain Springs grade toward El Centro. "That hill eats transmissions. That's killer hill. If you make it up without trouble, you got a damn good car."

—CITY LIGHTS: **"BUS STOPS STOP,"** Neal Matthews, January 20, 1983

Twenty Years Ago

Hi. You know me. I'm the guy who hates this place. No, no change, I still hate it, but I just got back from that "other" place and would like to share with you how loathsome it's become. It's the North American Calcutta.

'scuse me, I don't mean to besmirch the Third World — but it's getting there. It's gotten so you can't walk half a block without facing the face of misery. And by half-block, I mean "good" neighborhoods: Upper East Side, Gramercy Park. At Sixth Ave. between West Third St. and West Fourth, it's more like every half-step.

—"I [DON'T HEART] NY," Richard Meltzer, January 21, 1988

Fifteen Years Ago

Many years ago, when I was a youngster growing up in a rough section of the La Jolla Muirlands, I wanted to be a criminal.

This was not unusual. Most people of my generation wanted to be criminals. And in those golden days of my misspent youth, there was one heroic name that the kids in my cul-de-sac all regarded with awe. That was *Mr. A* — John Alessio!

I said to my old man once, when he came home one Saturday after a hard day at the links, "Paw, why's Mr. A so powerful?"

Paw popped a Pabst Blue Ribbon and said, "Gambling. Race track. Now shaddup."

—SAN DIEGO CONFIDENTIAL: **"THE SAD, SAD, TRUTH ABOUT 'MISTER A,'"** Morgan Frew, January 21, 1993

Ten Years Ago

"I don't have the heterosexual figures. In lesbian relationships it's estimated that interpartner violence occurs 17 to 26 percent of the time. In gay male relationships, 11 to 20 percent."

Okay, sports fans, there you have it. Fel-las, don't beat your women during the game, or afterwards either. Lesbians, take a day off. Gay males, keep those hands on the table.

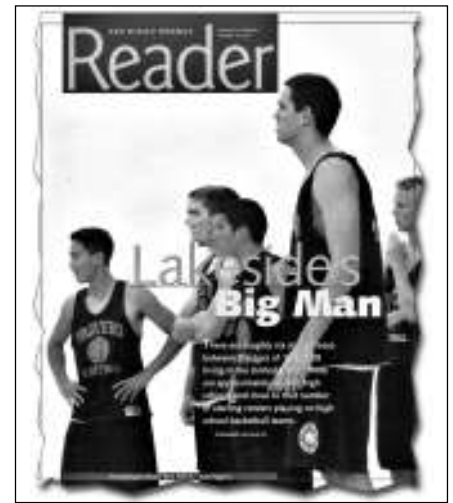
Go Denver.

—SPORTING BOX: **"GETTING READY FOR THE SUPER BOWL PART II,"** Patrick Daugherty, January 22, 1998

Five Years Ago

Jarrold Boswell is the starting center for Lakeside's El Capitan High School varsity basketball team. He is seven feet tall and, according to one area sportswriter, only the third legitimate seven-footer to ever play high school basketball in San Diego County.

Boswell racked up 141 blocked shots during the 2001–2002 season, a Grossmont North League record, and 65 more blocked shots than the runner-up. Bill Walton is the previ-



San Diego Reader, January 16, 2003

ous Grossmont league record holder.

Although a senior now, Jarrold is 17 years old. He won't turn 18 until July, which makes him one year younger than the boys he competes against. When I first met him, in February of 2002, he was 16 and had already received more than 500 letters from universities and colleges. They were kept in a cardboard box. The box was in the kitchen of his parents' 32-year-old three-bedroom Lakeside home.

—"LAKESIDE'S BIG MAN," Patrick Daugherty, January 16, 2003

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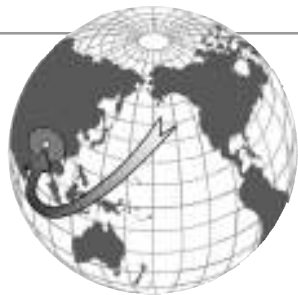
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WEDDING WISHES TO A FRIEND

Adorned in traditional attires of a groom, my friend, you look handsome, and your bride so elegant. The *mandap*, garland in bright yellow marigolds, the sparkle of the jewels of the wannabe brides, dazzling the prowling eyes of the bachelors, young married couples lost in fond memories, sweet wishful tears of the aged, the *dhol* and the *shahnai*, all sing in unison, the timeless tune of the union of two souls. Even the most ambitious of the stars above agree that the two brightest stars are shining on Earth tonight.

It was also a starry night in spring when we lay on the green lawn outside your house, ignoring the repeated calls from your mom to come indoors. Oblivious of the lurking tropical crawlers and the feasting mosquitoes, we were engrossed in important nothings of our adolescent lives. You told me everything, I told you everything — unwritten pact of good friends. My disappointment at not being able to buy my own cricket bat was true, my laughter at the big pimple on your nose was genuine, but the girl I told you I fell in love with was a lie. I am sorry I broke the pact, but truth meant saying I was gay and I was in love with you. I knew you were not gay, but spring breaks always came and shamelessly gave me hope, year after year.

Inside the *mandap*, your brazen eyes are searching for a glance from your bride, but her shy eyes are glued on her toes. You seem depressed, and then her glance and your smile say it all. Lovers. You are completely unaware of the war that just broke out between the bride's and the groom's parties on who is more handsome of you two. Their war is futile, though, for you and your bride are not two but one tonight.

Endless war it was, between the friend and the lover inside me, in all those clumsy football games we played under the muddy monsoon showers. An innocent friend was playing with you and an evil lover was reacting to the slightest touch you made. Every harmless hug of yours was so close to becoming the dagger that could have easily sliced our friendship into two. You were a merciless cyclone when you trustingly got naked to clean yourself inside the changing room, so ignorant of the havoc you were causing inside my impure soul. You innocently wondered why I was still unclean and told me you would wait outside for me, leaving me alone to pick the debris off my broken heart and my shattered self-esteem. You will never know how hard it was to come out with a smile and listen to the magical evening you had had with your girlfriend. I knew you were not mine, but the small green life the monsoon gave atop the brown barren trees always inspired me to wait for our monsoon games, year after year.

The ceremony is over. It is now time for you to take

the bride home. Her parents' eyes are moist. They are wondering why all this mirth and joy when finally they have to give away their little girl, a piece of themselves. Everybody seems sad, but none protest. Because they knew comings and leavings are life, without which life will be no more. Your marriage is just another name; we are all celebrating life tonight.



It was also celebration at the town's fair, my treat to you. Later, it was just a cold wintry night when I told you I was leaving for a private school the next summer. There was a long pause in our conversation for the first time. I waited, but you just kept biting your lower lip, trying to punish it for becoming so dry and harsh; you seemed so betrayed.

What happens to all our dreams of college life together, you must have thought. If only you knew, friendship is benign, and my life is a dark malignant closet destined to be in perennial winter. Winters are hypocrites; they freeze everything around and then regret that the warmth has gone. I knew I wanted to forget you, but winters always came and

reminded me of your disappointed warm breath, year after year.

Marriages are made in heaven, they say. I thank you for letting this sinful soul be a part of your heaven at least for the night. This day will remain in me until I die. If the saying

someone's sorrow is some other's joy is true, let all my sorrows be your joy. I wish you, my dear friend, a happy married life from the bottom of my heart.

mandap: A decorated platform used for Hindu marriage ceremonies.

dhol, shahnai: Musical instruments used in Hindu marriage ceremonies.

<http://1body2soul.blogspot.com/>

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CARDIFF. Ladies' Designer Jean Blowout Sale. Saturday, 1/19, 9am-3pm. Ladies' premium denim at 1/2 wholesale prices, \$55. E-mail Troy for details, Peters4@cox.net. 2165 Edinburg Avenue.

CARLSBAD. Multifamily garage sale. Saturday, 1/19, 7am-3pm. Tons of stuff. Furniture, ski/snowboarding equipment, small appliances, clothing, decor. 7717 Calle Madero (off La Costa Avenue).

COLLEGE AREA. Bedroom furniture and miscellaneous. January 9-January 31, 5090 College Avenue, #8. Call Aaron or stop by anytime, 619-229-9746.

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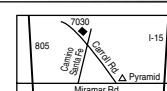
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SERRA MESA. Moving sale. Queen bedroom set-inlaid stand, lamps, lounge \$375. Queen futon, 2 bedside tables, headboard \$175. Miscellaneous: 1/19/08, 8am-1pm, 2486 Bartel Street.

SERRA MESA. Huge yard sale. Saturday/Sunday, 1/19-1/20. Household goods, antiques, electronics, glass, brass lamps, books, and more. 9045 Rohr Place (92123).

SOUTH BAY. Baggage yard sale. Sunday, 1/20, 7am-1pm. Designer clothing, furniture, new rustic master bedroom, bunkbed, furon, household fixtures, mirrors, chairs, more. 507 Fathom Court.

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VIDEO VCR and DVD players, 6 for \$25. Must take all. Favourite VCR video movies, 10 for \$15. Escondido, 760-685-8291.

FURNITURE

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!

BED \$100 ABSOLUTE BARGAIN! The Furniture Warehouse now open to the public. We sell warehouse direct. Come see our large showroom. We have over 70 sets in stock from \$89! 995 Bay Boulevard, Chula Vista, 91911. Open 11am-7pm daily. Closed Monday. Credit cards accepted. Legitimate warranties in writing! Fast delivery. 619-426-2727. www.twarehouse.com.

BED \$169 A BARGAIN. A Ortho Pillowtop Queen, new in plastic with warranty, mattress/box. All sizes. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.

BED A DISCOUNT store. Mattress World in Hillcrest sells new beds at warehouse pricing lower than regular stores. Student specials, fast delivery or pickup, national brands. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Mattress World, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. Check www.sandiegobeds.com or email to: info@davisworld.com. Call: 619-260-8000.

BED FRAME, metal. Fits different size beds. Can be easily taken apart to be transported in a car. \$20. 858-277-3065.

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.

COUCH/MATCHING LOVESEAT. Sage in color, fabric is out of chenille. Excellent condition. \$1000. Call Jill 858-792-4689.

DINING ROOM TABLE, 8 matching chairs with black leather seats, Italian black lacquer, brown lacquer wood extension, good condition, \$2950/best. Rene, 858-452-1179.

DINING SET. Pub height table (54" high 54"x36"). Cherry wood finish with six chairs. Great condition. \$200, 858-693-3251.

FURNITURE A DISCOUNT Factory Direct store. Lowest prices. Order from manufacturers' catalogues and save. Solid cherry, maple, oak or pine, American made Vermont craftsmanship or imported. San Diego's best home furnishings source since 1960. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Al Davis Furniture, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. Check www.davisworld.com or email to info@davisworld.com. Call 619-296-1221.

FURNITURE. Bamboo armchair, small, \$10. 2 wood chairs, \$10 both. Colonial wood chair, \$10. 2 small freestanding shelves, \$5 each. Bar chair, \$3. 760-685-8291.

LOVESEAT, Recliner Lazy-boy, Geometric pattern, blue and tan. Good condition \$200, 858-451-1158.

LOVESEAT, Chair and ottoman. Microfiber fabric. Good condition \$250, 619-313-1675.

MATTRESS A DISCOUNT store-Mattress World in Hillcrest sells new beds at warehouse pricing lower than regular stores. Student specials, legitimate warranties, fast delivery or pickup, name brands. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Authorized Sealy, Simmons, Spring Air, Aireloom dealer. Also Latex, chemical-free and Swedish style Visco-Memory! Mattress World, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. Check www.sandiegobeds.com or email to: info@davisworld.com. Call: 619-260-8000.

MATTRESS and box spring, queen size, pillowtop, firm, great condition, 4 years old, \$175. Vista, 760-519-5926.

MATTRESS BOX PILLOWTOP SET, New in plastic with warranty. Queen \$169. King \$239. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. Call 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.

OAK BEDROOM SET, Queen headboard and frame, \$400. Left dresser, asking \$290. Mirror \$125. Tall dresser \$300. Will

sell separately. Beautiful shape 619-792-0994

OAK FILING CABINET, 2 draw, 31"Wx30"H. asking \$70, 619-792-0994.

OFFICE CORNER UNIT, 7 piece, custom, solid wood, natural finish, 108"H, arrange to fit your space, \$950. Can e-mail pictures. Vista, 760-941-0541.

OUT OF BUSINESS FURNITURE liquidation sale. 60%-90% off! Warehouse lease expiring. Everything must go! Beyond Interior Miramar Warehouse, 8400 Miramar Road, San Diego, 858-450-0818. www.beyondinterior.com.

RED WOOD GLIDER, Paid \$250, asking \$70. Chair, asking \$40, 619-792-0994

SOFA AND CHAIR SET. Oversized 94" beige tweed sofa with wood trim and tropical motif pillows. One year old. \$150, 619-540-9246.

TWIN BED and nightstand from Ikea, approximately 2 years old, terrific shape. Set \$100; bed for \$75; nightstand for \$35. Free mattress. Bill, Temecula, 619-200-3679.

MISCELLANEOUS For Sale

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by calling 619-235-8200.

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AIR RIFLE, RWS model 34, woodstock, .177 caliber, \$175, still in box. 619-574-7530.

ARTIST SUPPLIES. 2 handmade, stretched canvases, 36"x60"x2-1/2" and 48"x60"x2-1/2", sized with rabbit skin glue, clear poplar stretcher bars, \$75 each. Anthony, 619-543-0712.

BEDS A PILLOWTOP MATTRESS Box Set. New in plastic with warranty. Queen \$169. King \$239. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.

BEER BOTTLES, recappable, sed, clean, 5 cases, \$5 each. 619-447-4117.

BOOTS, HARLEY, "The Kind" size 10 1/2, but I wear 11 1/2 in cowboy boots, tennis shoes, I have room in Harley boots, \$60, 858-538-5926.

CORVETTE, radio controlled, unopened, transmitter/controller charger, 3 batteries, beautiful red, 15" long, 20mph long run

time, new Bright, originally \$175, sell \$75. 619-295-2551.

CRAFTS ORGANIZER, Tupperware, orange top, 13x9x3-1/2", unused, \$10. Ladies' vest, small, black suede, excellent, \$15. Watercolor painting, landscape 14x10", framed 22x26", \$25. 619-434-2028.

DESK, CHAIR, 6 drawers, 38"Wx78"L, \$50. Wedding dress, hat, shoes, size 8, \$100 all. Off-road tires, 18" and 21", 2 each, \$5 each. Table glass top, \$25. 858-277-7197.

DIAMOND BAR NECKLACE, 14K gold, with 3 diamonds. Paid \$399. Will sell for \$200 619-792-0994.

DIAMOND NECKLACE, 14K gold setting, .25 carat. Asking \$200 619-792-0994.

DIAMOND RING, .50 carat, 14K gold setting, asking \$800 619-792-0994.

DOLL HOUSE, 20"x9-1/2"x32"H, 4 levels. Like a townhouse, \$59. Call 858-274-6358.

FISH/LILY POND, sturdy black plastic (Home Depot), freeform, 4'x3'x2'D, splendid condition, easy to transport, \$35. Carlsbad, 760-438-4131.

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.

HELMET, Full faced, black CS-Air dot approved, size medium. Excellent condition, \$50. 619-977-3433 858-538-5926.

HOT WATER PRESSURE WASHERS, Hotsy 1290SS, 3000psi, Honda 20hp engine, 6.5GPM diesel fired burner flow, heats 240 degrees, gas burning engine, both \$11,500. 602-325-5527 x36668.

ICE SKATES, men's medium. Guitar. Leather jackets, ladies' large. Microwave oven. Celebrity autographs, movie posters, treasures, etc. Record albums and 45s, videos, books. 619-420-1028.

LAMP, copper arm, swing light, must see, \$185. 619-296-7185.

LAWN MOWER, gas, needs work, \$20. 3 very large terra cotta plant pots, \$15 all. 5 wrought iron flower pot holders, \$12 all. Escondido, 760-685-8291.

LAWN MOWER, 6-1/2hp, 6 months old, rear bag, \$120. 7 tackle boxes of fishing gear, \$85. Small Dahon folding bike, \$110. Pet carrier, \$15. Garden swing. 858-581-1869.

LEATHER JACKET, gorgeous, new, never worn, blue, by designer I.N.C., a must

see, size small/medium, \$100. Call Tate, 760-741-1649.

MICKY 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.

MICKY 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.

MICROWAVE, \$15. Vacuum, \$15. Coffee maker, \$5. Large rug, vinyl backing, \$8. 3 gasoline containers, plastic, \$15. 6 brooms, 2 floor brushes, \$15 all. 760-685-8291.

MISCELLANEOUS. Britain's metal figures, 7 guards plus guard house, \$35. Christmas train, battery operated, plays 3 songs, \$25. Men's new fur trimmed jacket, Diesel, \$40. 619-282-9581.

MISCELLANEOUS. Extension ladder, \$45. Garden tools, \$7 each. Electric slow cooker pot, \$9. Extension cords, different sizes, new, \$25 each. Cash only. 619-582-0096.

MODEL AIRPLANE, B-29 bomber, 4 engines, RC, \$95. Still in box, 619-574-7530.

MOVING SALE. Aquarium/stand, beds, refrigerator washer/dryer, dishwasher. TV/stands, VCR, stereo, records, dressers, recliner, dining table/chairs, vacuum, glass tops, patio, bikes. 619-670-7821.

MOVING SALE Loveseat, entertainment center, 2 bar stools, aero bed, Kenmore refrigerator (1 year old \$350) great condition, 619-944-9927-[:z:]

MOVING SALE, Black leather sofas with end recliners, 5 piece bedroom set (king size headboard), dining tables/chairs, large China hutch and more 619-507-9326

PAINTINGS, originals, lithographs, posters, world renown artists. Autographs, sculptures. Plant gallon pots, 4/\$10. Small trees. Investment books, like new. Men's razor, Norelco, \$10. 858-560-0100.

PALM TREE, fishtail, in 24" boxes over 2 years. Fully acclimated to San Diego climate. Each 7'-8' tall, trunk 6" diameter. 10 available. \$275. 760-216-0863.

PLUMBING, Cobra model #99018 cable drum machine for clearing drains, \$125. Still in box. 619-574-7530.

POOL CLEANING/TEST equipment, \$60. Built-in electric oven, \$50. Microwave, \$20. Soft luggage for top of car, \$45. 619-339-7318.

PRINTER, Newest \$50. Futon single \$50. T-shirts \$6/a piece. 619-459-3682.

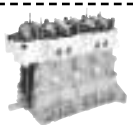
RC CAR, beautiful red Ferrari, 1/10 scale, precise, fast, \$95. Still in box. 619-574-7530.

RESTAURANT KITCHEN exhaust, fire protection and replacement air components. Will comply with local and state fire codes. \$1000. 858-566-4231.

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- Replace air filter
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- 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
- Lubr front end • Road-test
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Clutch Job \$245*

4x4, twin cam extra.
Up to '89 models.

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Intermediate Service \$95*

15K • 45K • 75K • 105K Call for details.

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PAW SERVICE CENTER

8230 Commercial
La Mesa
(1 block west of
Carl Burger Dodge)
619-466-7776

THEY MAY NOT DO IT THIS WAY DOWN HERE, but in my little town in the hills, kids slept outside when the weather was right. In the summer, it was cooler to sleep outside. I can't remember anyone having air conditioning, so kids hopped onto cots or air pads on the back porch or front lawn and giggled and read and drew pictures and griped about going back to school until their heads couldn't resist gravity anymore and the pillow took them.

One thing you had to do was stay behind a fence. Or else neighborhood dogs would come up and lick your face in the morning, and dog breath in the morning is downright revolting. If a neighborhood dog licked your face in the morning, you just had to duck under your blanket and wipe the slobber off your cheek and shoo the dog through the covers. You could pretend to sleep after that, but the thought of that dog's tongue on your nose and mouth wouldn't permit you to nod off again.

Sometimes it was buggy; sometimes you got a little eaten up. Every so often there'd be a swarm of goat-killing mosquitoes that would threaten to empty all your fluids and leave you a shriveled husk on a cot. If you forgot to spray yourself in the face with chemical repellant, you might have to give up and go inside. You only had to do that once a year or so because it was an amateur maneuver to forget your bug spray, and you'd go out for the rest of the season prepared.

A successful snooze outdoors required a lot of equipment. Not really bedding because we didn't really think about that. A cot and a sheet was all you needed in that department, but there were other considerations. Flashlights, maps, compasses, rope, candles, matches, comic books, shoes, bug spray, canteens, and any kind of radio equipment; all of that was totally essential. My friend Timmy and I had walkie-talkies. Our range was too far to get voice communication, but we could screech at each other using the Morse-code button. Until one of our dads yelled out his bedroom window, "KNOCK IT THE HELL OFF OUT THERE!"

Some summer nights I shut the TV off and listen at my window. I think I might hear neighborhood dogs panting and patrolling and the fuzzy squelch of walkie-talkie buttons. I hope.

All I hear are other TVs.

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17

FRESH

VH1 10:00 A.M.

My new favorite video game is *Kazoo Hero*. You don't need a video-game system. All that's required is a radio, a cassette of Casey's Top 40 from May 19, 1983, two kazoo's, and a competitive spirit. I AM THE KAZOO HERO! LONG LIVE ME!

MY BIG REDNECK WEDDING

CMT 9:00 P.M.

If all the TV channels had a party, CMT would be alone by the chip bowl. Only Gay TV would talk to CMT, and that would be because VH1 dared the Gay channel to do it. Then the Gay

channel would come back, giggling and waving its hands around and telling the group of Lifetime, Travel, Discovery, and VH1 that CMT smelled like stale cheese puffs and BO. Sadly, in this tale, I am represented by CMT. Sigh.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18

JUDGE JUDY

KUSI 7:30 P.M.

You know Judge Judy goes home and makes out with a plushy giraffe while she stares at a picture of John Wayne. He was the only man she considered tough enough to take her, and he's long gone, so she sits alone in a bathroom with a bottle of scotch and a wistful feeling and says, "You were the one, Duke. You were the one."

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

THE NEVADA PASSAGE ADVENTURE COMPETITION

NBC 11:00 A.M.

Everyone from Nevada brags that they pay no state tax because the casinos take care of all that. I think I pay 300 dollars per year (gladly!) to the State of California for the "Thank you for not making me live in Nevada" tax.

AT THE MOVIES WITH EBERT AND ROEPER

NBC 6:30 P.M.

First it was Siskel and Ebert. Then Ebert and Roeper. Last week I flipped past and it was two "guest critics" who were not Siskel, Ebert, nor even the fifth-Beatle-ish Roeper. Soon it will be a houseplant and a cup of juice that a prop guy found and named "Roger and Gene," and legally they'll be able to do it. And that's sad. I liked Siskel.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

BILLIARDS

ESPN 11:30 A.M.

The most boring game in the world unless you're playing it, and then it's second only to Scrabble. There might be four of those grimy guys with oily hair, their own pool sticks, and weird little gray gloves who watch this on TV. Everyone else just stops for a second to watch as a contestant bends over the table...they then recognize it's not a woman, get a little icked out that they just watched a guy bend over, and continue past with a little shiver and a *hghghghhh* noise.

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE

USA 5:00 P.M.

After *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, I wish Steve Martin's manager had said, "Go out on top, kid. Retire to a ranch in Scotland and let everyone remember you as a genius." To which Steve would've replied, "But, I just read this script



Bringing Down the House

for *Father of the Bride II* and boy is it..." "Sit down. Sit. Take the ranch in Scotland. Trust me. Ranch. Scotland."

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

THE BIGGEST LOSER: COUPLES

NBC 8:00 P.M.

You can just see producers off-camera giving the contestants some hand signal that means "More crying. More sweating. More crying." All right. CUT! You! You need to cry more and YOU, with the jump rope, you need to sweat more. "But I..." I SAID MORE CRYING AND SWEATING!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

PIONEERS OF TELEVISION

PBS 8:00 P.M.

Oh, what brave and righteous souls have marched forward. You, the pioneers of this noble medium who have traversed great new territories so that we...we fortunate recipients of your favor and generosity can sit, unencumbered by oppression, and watch *Deal or No Deal*, we salute you!

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24

CBS EVENING NEWS WITH KATIE COURIC

CBS 6:00 P.M.

There's one reason and one reason only why I've liked Katie Couric for more than 20 years: She looks like she has a chew of tobacco in her bottom lip.

SCREEN DOOR, wood, 81-1/2"x36" frame, western style and color, \$80. 619-579-0592.

SHOWER DOOR, sliding glass with chrome frame, glass is obscured, 1/4" thick, excellent condition, paid \$300, sell \$125. 619-426-9319.

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% off. Can erect. Call Larry, 619-719-7385.

TOOLS, Carpenter air and electric hand tools. 760-941-9371.

TOOLS, Drill kit, new fire storm Black & Decker with 12V charger and batteries, \$28. 858-274-6358.

TRAILER, 26", live in or travel. Bicycle, doors, skylight, fascia boards, mi-

crowave, wheelchair, guitar case, desk, chairs, mirror, birdcage, pasta maker, collector's dolls, 24" TV. 858-270-0565.

WINE CELLAR, prime condition, black with purple light for digital temperature controls, holds 16 bottles, \$95. 619-741-9062.

MOTORCYCLES

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BEGIN2RIDE.COM. If you've never ridden before, this is the place to start. Bikes/helmets provided. \$98/3 hour lesson (on

bike). San Diego Motorcycle Training, 858-874-5888.

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San Diego Reader January 17, 2008 **165**

YAMAHA ROYAL STAR VENTURE, 2000, awesome full factory loaded bike, 98hp, V-4 engine, gorgeous red, 1 owner, 21K easy miles, as new, a steal at \$8350. 760-732-1315.

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ACURA RSX, 2006, original owner, 25K miles, warranty, red, tan leather, automatic, fully loaded, no accidents, garaged, all records, nonsmoker, excellent, \$17,300. 619-865-7858.

AUTO PAWN LOANS. Secured by vehicle and title. All vehicles, cycles, boats, RVs and heavy equipment welcome. Fast and friendly service. Call 619-464-2131. www.deerhornaautopawn.com.

AUTOS WANTED. \$1,000 shopping, donate car, max IRS deduction, any condi-

tion, help foster kids, free pickup, no papers OK, espanol, 1-888-899-5179.

BMW 318, 1984, 4 cylinder, 30mpg, standard. Engine just replaced, runs good. Tags good until July. \$800. 619-758-8084 text number, Mexico 001-664-320-1470 or 01152-664-320-1470..

BMW 330ci, 2004, gray, manual, 34,500 miles, free maintenance and warranty until 2010 or 100K, excellent condition, private parties, \$31,000. eldirectorJ@aim.com or 858-472-0499.

BMW Z3, 1996, black convertible roadster, only 64,900 miles, automatic, excellent condition, black leather power seats, new back window, customized BMW chrome wheels. \$10,500. 858-344-1234.

BMW, 2006 M3. Competition package. 16,000 miles. Black/black leather/suede. Power everything, navigation, Bluetooth. Excellent condition. Always garaged. Barely driven. \$46,000. Serious buyers, 760-390-0732.

BUICK REGAL, 1976. 350 engine, 350 transmission. Burgundy, excellent road manners. Classic style, super clean smog passed. Registered, ready to drive away. \$3500. 619-583-0924.

FORD CONTOUR GL, 1997, 4 door, low miles, automatic, air conditioning, power steering, brakes, windows, locks, tilt, cruise, stereo/cassette, premium wheels, must sell, \$2975. 619-838-0779.

FORD EXPEDITION, 1999. White, looks and runs great. Tags good until September 2008. \$5,400 or best offer. 619-994-9096.

FORD FOCUS SE, Compact wagon. 28mpg! White, 67,000 miles. Only 6,000 miles on rebuilt transmission, CD/MP3. Inspections welcome, no time wasters please, \$4,900, 760-487-1995.

FORD GALAXY 500, 1965, 352, 2 door, hard top, nice interior. Needs minor engine work (fuel pump/battery). \$4500. 619-251-7108.

FORD TAURUS, 2003, perfect running, 46K miles, air conditioning, CD, power windows, 4 door, very good on gas, burns no oil, \$5950/best. Cash only. 619-850-4338.

HONDAS FROM \$500. Police impounds and tax repos. Cars, trucks, SUVs. Many makes and models! For listings, 800-495-0660 x2180.

MAZDA MX-5 MIATA, 2004, 36K miles with warranty remaining, factory turbocharged and intercooled, 1.8-liter engine, lowered suspension, Racing Hart alloy wheels, 6 speakers, \$14,000. 858-722-3841.

MERCURY SABLE WAGON, 1997, 3.0L, V6, fully equipped, cassette, roof rack, 3rd seat, runs, looks, and drives excellently, \$3150. Owner will help finance. 619-896-0779.

PORSCHE BOXSTER S, 2000, convertible, midnight blue/tan, 6-speed manual, sport package, cruise, CD, premium sound, premium wheels, low miles, all records, fast, \$19,500. 858-270-0707.

VOLVO C70 HT, Convertible, 2001. Dark blue body and top, beige leather interior. Automatic, rollover protection system. One owner. All maintenance records available, \$12,900, 858-531-2201.

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T.G.I.F.

I look happy in that home movie, and that was long before I learned to fake happiness.

By John Brizzolara

My original thought here was to write something about winters in the near future — you know, with global warming in mind and all — but my science fiction writer's instincts seem to have atrophied over the years, and it would be easier to recall winters past.

I remember reveling in snow, ice, and cold as a young man in Chicago. I never did get used to summers back there, though I can certainly recall some fun, often accompanied by something borderline or outright illegal. Being, as I am, congenitally perverse, I seemed to find more license, even romance, in the most brutal winters. One major exception springs to mind and that is delivering the *Chicago Sun Times* one morning in what must have been 40-below weather, when I returned after having completed only half the route, papers rolled and bundled on my sled. I returned to the house with tears freezing on my face and claiming that such weather was not fit for human beings.

The pewter skies and freezing rain we've experienced in San Diego recently seem far more menacing than anything the Hawk brought down on me in Chicago as a kid. A good deal of it is a terror of homelessness since October; a terror staved off by a generous employer, a good-hearted son, and an ex-wife who is anything but the stereotype in the material of stand-up comics.

But one winter in particular, that of 1968/'69, stands out as almost idyllic, if not exactly in the Hallmark tradition. It was the last winter I would spend in the Midwest before migrating to California. I was 17 years old

and turned 18 in the December of '68. I had left the Art Institute in Chicago in October after my father died. I was in a rock band that was making money and felt freer to pursue this without my father's objections. I was a mediocre artist anyway, despite much encouragement from parents and teachers who should have known better.

We played a lot of colleges around Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Michigan. At one point we were banned from Grant County, Illinois, a story of bad behavior of talented teenagers in rock groups at that time. It was an easy enough problem to get around: we simply changed the name of the band from the Sounds of Silence (lame anyway) to Faith. This was just before Blind Faith hit the market in spring of 1969, at which point we were in California and changed the band's name yet again to Contact.

I remember New Year's Eve '68/'69 in Fox Lake, Illinois, smoking much marijuana and listening to our guitar player's collection of blues records all night. That single night, though I was playing bass in the band at the time, I learned a good percentage of the blues progressions and riffs I play to this day. The television was on all night, and images of the Vietnam War flickered in black-and-white through the living room. We'd find ourselves staring in horror until we simply had to go outside and have snowball fights. We'd then go back inside and listen to Muddy Waters, B.B. King, Sonny Boy Williamson, and Lightnin' Hopkins.

In Champagne, Illinois, at the college, and at Circle Campus at the University of Chicago and at Southern Illinois in Carbondale, we were treated like royalty. We were also paid very well.

Despite dilettante pot smoking, no one was drug dependent yet, and none of us really drank. I can't say it was a time of innocence (most of us knew someone in Vietnam, and we had all been through the Democratic Convention demonstrations and police riots, and Bobby Kennedy had been killed in June), but it was a time during which we were not really mispending our youth, unless you consider rock music itself to qualify. I have no idea if New Year's Eve fell on a Friday night that year or not, but the experience seemed like the ultimate and ideal Friday night. In a sense, all New Year's Eves are by their nature Friday nights.

Among my first winter memories, documented on 8mm-home-movie camera film, are of me in a snowsuit. I must have been six years old, and myself and my sister and baby brother are cavorting in the snow, building a snowman and tossing snowballs. I look happy in that home movie, and that was long before I learned to fake happiness.

It might have been a year later (I remember being a little taller) that my father took me for a haircut. I remember snow banks in the city that seemed to tower over the parked cars and my father and I having to climb down from our 1948 Plymouth, walking toward the slowly rotating and striped pole. My



father held my hand. I was looking forward only to the opportunity to read comic books while we waited for my turn. I remember, I think, *Sergeant Rock* and his *Fury Commandos*, *Superman*, and the rest of the usual fare from the 1950s. None of these were abided in our household, so this was a kind of literary excursion on my part. I saved the *Donald Ducks* for last, as they were, in my estimation, babyish.

Twenty years later I was hypnotized by a friend, newly PhD'd in psychology, and though I did not find the experience dramatic in any way, I do remember as I lay on my sofa in Coronado, being guided back to that winter of 1958 and feeling the sharp sting of January winds off the plains beyond town against the razor cut at the back of my neck. I could, years later, smell the witch hazel or bay rum the barber had used there before brushing my neck with talcum powder. And I could feel, actually feel, my father's hand over mine as I studied the snow banks and pretended I was on some frozen planet.

Winter held none of the depression-inducing dread that I have felt keenly this year in our subtropical city studded with palm trees. And the sadness associated with homeless did not exist. There were bums back then and all safely miles away on Madison Avenue.

It is a certainty that in six months I will be bemoaning the tortures of summer here.

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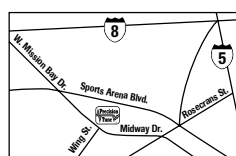


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