## SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

VOLUME 37 / NUMBER 10 MARCH 6, 2008

# Uncle Harry will remain in our hearts and our coffee table forever

LONG, PALS

**Maybe it's my age** — the dark side of my sixties, an elder proto-baby boomer, those 78 million Americans born between 1946 and 1964. Maybe it's because I've been tearing my hair filling out Medicare forms. Whatever the case, I've begun to think increasingly of death, for which an Internet search turns up more than 1,000 euphemisms: worm food, field of screams, dirt nap, or, for journalists: the big deadline, the final edit. continued on page 22

BEEN ASCON

# Reader

So Long, Pals

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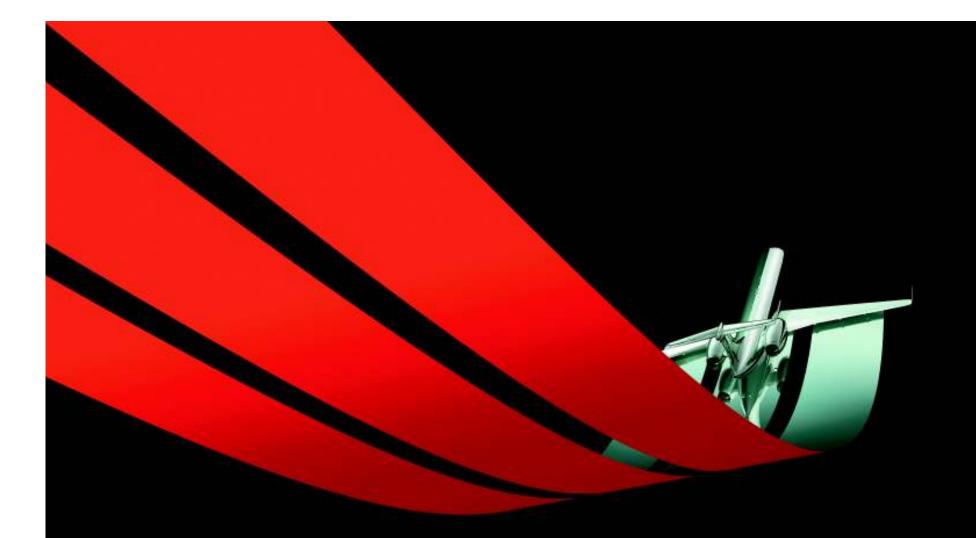
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# BREAKING NEWS

Lowery's demise The San Diego State University Research Foundation has



parted company with the firm of ex-GOP congressman Bill Lowery, its longtime lobbyist, who is currently under scrutiny by a federal grand jury in Los Angeles for his role in obtaining congressional earmarks for defense contractor Brent Wilkes, convicted in the

**Bill Lowery** 

Randy "Duke" Cunningham bribery case. The ongoing investigation reportedly centers on allegations that Lowery funneled campaign contributions to his friend and former colleague, Republican congressman Jerry Lewis of San Bernardino, in exchange for Lewis's assistance in earmarking hundreds of millions of dollars for Wilkes and other clients, including the foundation. Both Lowery and Lewis have denied any wrongdoing. Campaign filings show that Lewis has spent a total of \$1.27 million on legal fees over the past three years, \$105,000 of it in the last quarter of 2007.

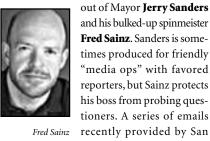
The university foundation has faithfully employed Lowery and his firm, which used to be known as Copeland Lowery Jacquez Denton & White, for at least a decade, during which time the firm racked up a series of multimillion-dollar federal government earmarks channeled to the foundation.

In January 2006, then-foundation executive director Frea Sladek, who retired in June 2006, sent an email to the board, reassuring them that Lowery had done no wrong. "From time to time I've mentioned the Center for Commercialization of Advanced Technology, one of the large SDSURF-administered partnership programs that has been funded through appropriations obtained by our Washington representative, former Congressman Bill Lowery," Sladek wrote. "You may have seen his and Congressman Jerry Lewis' names in the *U*-*T* recently, noting the close relationship between them and drawing attention to the many appropriations (mainly those in Congressman Lewis' San Bernardino area) that have been obtained. The articles state there is nothing illegal but do draw attention to the relationships and large amounts of funding. The appropriations we've received for CCAT are doing many good things."

But this past October, acting foundation head Thomas Scott told the board, chaired by SDSU president Stephen Weber, that he and his staff were considering replacing Lowery's firm or reducing its role, in part because of the brewing scandal. Subsequent foundation conversations about the matter were held behind closed doors, and the organization has made no public announcement of the change, which was revealed in the Lowery firm's Lobbying Report, filed with the Clerk of the House on February 13.

Now known as Innovative Federal Strategies, LLC, the firm was paid a total of \$240,000 by the foundation last year before being terminated on December 31. According to the statement, Lowery and partner Jean Denton lobbied on two Defense Department appropriations bills. One, HR 3222, covered "language training, technology commercialization and DOD (Department of Defense) supply chain enhancement" and the other, HR 1585, "testing of advanced technologies for counter-terrorism applications." Senate records show that the firm, then known as Copeland, Lowery & Jacquez, had been retained by the foundation since at least 1998, when it was paid \$140,000.

Muscled out What remains of San Diego's rapidly diminishing press corps has always had a tough time getting a straight story



and his bulked-up spinmeister Fred Sainz. Sanders is sometimes produced for friendly "media ops" with favored reporters, but Sainz protects his boss from probing questioners. A series of emails recently provided by San

Diego State University in

response to a request under California's Public Records Act shows the process at work with Gloria Penner, longtime correspondent for the university's KPBS broadcasting operation. In June 2006, KPBS producer Graciela Sevilla wrote Sainz, inviting the mayor to come over for an interview. "We don't have any specific agenda, just a check-in and update." Replied Sainz: "We'd love to do it, but we won't with Gloria as the interviewer," Asked Sevilla: "Would it be safe to assume Gloria is out of favor after the [Ronne] Froman interview in January, or is there another reason?" Said Sainz: "I think your read is accurate."

Longhorned Texas buyout magnate T. Boone Pickens, who has a spread in Del

Mar Country Club Estates near Rancho Santa Fe, is throwing a St. Patrick's Day fund-raiser for GOP Congressman Brian Bilbray. The host committee includes the usual names, among them Sempra's Jessie Knight and ex-assemblywoman

T. Boone Pickens Charlene Zettel. ... Former

San Diego schools chief Carl Cohn, who sometimes bridled under close questioning of his stewardship by board member Mitz Lee, is listed as a "special guest" at an upcoming fundraiser for her June opponent John Lee Evans. Cohosting the March 9 event at the La Jolla home of clinical social worker Victoria Danzig is Francine Busby, the Democratic congressional candidate bested by Bilbray in their race to succeed Randy "Duke" Cunningham.

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.

# **Smart?**

## By Don Bauder

e an Diego's heralded Smart Corner is smarting — as in stinging. It's a condominium/office building project, another of the City's touted public/prioffice building? Or is the probvate sector ventures. What titlem the downtown condo market, which some call disastrous

illates city planners is that the trolley runs between a lowand others say is merely slow? rise office building and a high-Or do the trolley and the ailrise condominium tower. At the groundbreaking for the \$120 million project in 2004, thenmayor Dick Murphy exulted, "This is such a great example of smart-growth principles, which are part of our City of Villages plan.... You can walk and take transit to the ballpark, City College, the Gaslamp

ness center." Oops. The privately financed condos aren't selling well, and the publicly financed office building has not leased out the space it had anticipated. There are big questions: has the presence of the trolley turned off potential condo buyers, as well as those who would pay for space in the

Quarter, the downtown busi-

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condominium project.

The gleaming new Housing Commission headquarters and the condos are supposed to have a symbiotic relationship. The commission has a bank loan on which it pays \$1.7 million a year, and \$1.1 million of that was to come from parking, office, and retail leases at the 5-story building. Today, only two retailers, Starbucks and 7-Eleven, occupy the first floor, partly because the condos have not been sell-



Smart Corner

ing condo market share the blame?

Smart Corner occupies the block bounded by C Street, Park Boulevard, Broadway, and 11th Avenue. There is the 5-story office building that, beginning in January of last year, became the \$23.8 million headquarters of the San Diego Housing Commission. The commission occupies the top three floors and hopes to lease up the first two. Adjacent is the 19-story, 301-unit ing and there aren't as many residents as anticipated. "Market conditions are slower than we expected," says Erica Rooks, commission spokesperson, adding, "It's a national trend. Large retail chains are not expanding."

The second floor, which must be rented to a nonprofit, is still vacant. So the expected \$1.1 million annual take is only \$457,476, but the commission says it has a cushion; continued on page 8

# **Big Gulp**

By Dorian Hargrove

n Friday morning, February 15, the patrons at Krakatoa café in Golden Hill sipped on blood red pomegranate tea

and poked at laptops. They repositioned patio chairs to allow the sun's rays to land on their skin.

At 11:30, 43-year-old Scott Nelson, a.k.a. Murrugun the Mystic, emerged from the shadows. His chest-length, freshly dyed burgundy hair contrasted with his black attire.

"I heard that you're a part of the underwater sword-swallowing club now!" said an older, wrinkled gentleman to Nelson as he walked by. Plumes of white cigarette smoke issued from the man's mouth and nose.

"Yeah, and I almost drowned myself," Nelson responded. "Look in my eyes. You know I don't scare

easy. I was scared. Water is the ultimate torture." Then he let out a loud, intense cackle.

Nelson turned his attention away from his acquaintance. There was no sign of fear in his eyes.

He took a sip of hot tea from a large green mug before picking out a of his jeans. In the full sunlight, his face appeared weathered and aged. He looked like a circus sideshow version of actor Willem Dafoe. Dark blue bruises from puncture wounds were visible on his pale and lean left bicep. It was safe to assume that the rest of his body had many similar wounds. He smoked his cigarette and laid out tentative plans for his act at Lestat's Coffee House later that night.

On the agenda for his first full show in over a year: swallowing string and cutting it out from the side of his body with a scalpel, hammering a five-inch-long nail into his nasal cavity, blowing fire from

his mouth and his nose, piercing his skin with 14gauge wire, and swallowing a handful of swords at one time. Nelson, a San Diego native,

spent his first 12 years in Normal Heights, performing magic acts in his back

yard for neighborhood kids. It wasn't until his family moved to Bonita in 1978 that he finally had enough space and privacy to perform stunts such as breathing fire. The fire breathing didn't take him far at first. Nelson dropped

MURRUG Murrugun the Mystic (left)

out of high school at 17 and devoted his time to his guitar and bass while working construction

He performed stunts at bars and for friends. "Probably by, like, '91 or '92, I had a piercing put in my tongue. You know, no one really had one then. I would take out my piercing and go to bars and stick stuff through the hole. I made money doing it, so it was cool. Then one day my girlfriend at the time bet me that I couldn't sniff a condom through my nose and pull it out of my mouth — you know, just some random \$20 bet. I did it and started going to bars and doing it."

remained in the category of stupid party tricks until 2002, when a local musician, the late Bernard Seigal, better known as Buddy Blue, invited him onstage to perform while the Buddy Blue Band played.

"He gave me a wad of money to go up and gross everyone out. I remember it was at the old Catamaran, and I got up and made half of the whole crowd leave. The best thing was, he didn't care that everyone left." Nelson let out a guttural smoker's laugh.

In 2003, he landed a spot on a late-night Las Vegas show called Shock, substituting for former Jim Rose Circus I sold all my music equipment and stopped torturing myself trying to play music and just started torturing

Krakatoa's parking lot in his dented Nissan pickup truck, Nelson went to gather gear for the show, stored in his grandfather's small, cluttered garage. Old, dismantled Flying V guitars sat next to coffin-shaped guitar cases. He rummaged through bags in

an excited, disorganized manner. He set aside dusty swords that later would find their way down his throat and paused while concentrating on collecting the other items needed for the performance.

At 10:30 p.m. in the side room next door to Lestat's, dressed in colorful striped pants and a velvet vest, pink and purple sashes tied around his thin frame, Murrugun the Mystic appeared on the plywood stage in front of the 80plus in attendance.

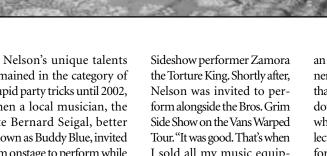
For his first stunt, the yogi floss, Murrugun swallowed a ten-foot-long piece of string. Grabbing a scalpel and hemostats, he made a small incision near his waist. He grimaced as he fished around inside his flesh until he came out with one end of the string; then he walked around the audience as he pulled it inch by inch from his body.

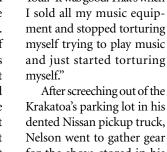
He went on to hammer a nail straight up his nasal cavity, pull a condom from his nose to his mouth, breath fire, break a cinder block on his chest while lying on a bed of swords, and pierce his body with 14-gauge wire.

Nelson's mother, Helen  $\underbrace{\vec{U}}_{N}$ . Nelson, sat in the front row. continued on page 10 Reader

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

March 6, 2008













# CITY LIGHTS

# Smart?

continued from page 6 it sold its old headquarters on Newton Avenue to the Centre City Development Corporation—like the Housing Commission an entity of city government—and the sale went for \$2 million more than anticipated.

The Housing Commission building has four levels of subterranean parking. "We still have some capacity," says Rooks, so revenue isn't as much as anticipated.

Of the 301 condo units, "We have closed on 48 or 49, and we've got 19 more in escrow," says Sherm Harmer,

Reader March 6, 2008

San Diego

codeveloper of Smart Corner as president of Urban Housing Partners. "We have 25 set aside for affordable housing, and 8 of these are processing now." Sales began in April 2004, when the downtown condo market was still hot; people began occupying the units in October of last year.

Because the units are selling slowly, "We are going to rent 100," says Harmer. "We just started renting in December and have rented 45. We expect to rent about 20 a month. I gave everyone that is renting an option to buy. We will help them get a loan." Overall, Smart Corner "is a moderately priced project for the workforce downtown."

The phenomenon of condos going rental is one of San Diego's great ironies. A few years ago, condo conversions, or rental units going condo, were sizzling and considered a scourge by some. Now, downtown, the trend is in the other direction. Several condo projects, including luxury ones, have gone rental. Individuals who own condos but don't live in them rent them out too. From a societal standpoint, the trend isn't necessarily bad: "When a condo goes back as an apartment, if the rent is affordable, that is a good thing,"

says attorney Cory Briggs, who is suing some apartment building owners who went condo. "If the apartment goes condo, it takes affordable units off the market."

TYLIGHTS

Harmer says the problem is the downtown condo market. "It's a slow market," he says, but not a disaster as others say. Indeed, he believes, "We saw the bottom a month or two ago. The entry-level homebuyer is caught up with the difficulty of getting mortgages, with all the subprime problems. Younger buyers are nervous about mortgages and the economy and jobs and have no urgency. Older buyers have long-term confidence in real estate" and are buying. He believes media coverage has been slanted to the negative. However, he concedes, "The real test will come this summer."

GHT

The County overbuilt homes and condos for a number of years. "We need to get rid of inventory," he says. Noting that the number of building permits has slowed every year since 2005, he asserts, "There is discipline in the building industry to dramatically curtail production." New product is not coming online, and stability is coming downtown, he insists. The Smart Corner units will be sold or rented in 18 months to two years, perhaps even earlier, he enthuses. However, Harmer is chairman of the Downtown Residential Marketing Alliance. And he is the 2008 president of the Building Industry Association of San Diego. His optimism is to be expected.

CITY LIGHTS

Taking the opposite point of view is Robert M. Campbell, publisher of *The Campbell Real Estate Timing Letter*, who has had a very good record in recent years: he predicted that the Southern California downturn would be severe at a time when others thought it would *continued on page 10* 





# **Page**Nine

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# CITY LIGHTS

#### Smart? continued from page 8

be mild. The downtown condo market "can be described in one word which starts with D: disaster," he says. Prices are now down 30 percent."At the bottom you will be able to buy at 20 to 30 percent of peak value," he says. Prices plunged that low in the early 1990s. The supply/demand situation downtown "is the worst of the worst, although maybe South Bay will be worse. Downtown, you have huge supply hitting the market, dwindling demand, severe tightening in the mortgage market, a nasty recession

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that will possibly be lengthy."

One close student of the downtown condo market, asking not to be identified because of pending litigation, says, "The market is slow for good buildings, but certainly not disastrous." A "good" building is defined as well built, with adequate parking, in a good location—"meaning not too many surrounding aggravations," including homeless encampments, freeway or train noise, or the Gaslamp's all-night partying.

But it's a disastrous market for bad buildings, says this source. "Bad" means poor construction or poor location. Says this person, "Smart Corner is also a bad location because the [City College] trolley stop causes noise to be trapped

between the two buildings and there are undesirables who hang around there at all hours." "We've tested the trolley

CITY LIGHTS

noise, and it's absolutely negligible," says Harmer, who admits the neighborhood isn't the greatest. "We have a full security system. There have been zero reports of violence. Things that have turned people off are a burned-out building in the area and some other issues. This is an emerging area; it's not the marina district, but we don't charge marina prices. There is an enormous commitment to revitalize the area."

Rooks says the access to public transportation enhances the commission's ability to serve clients."We serve a lot of elderly people, persons with disabilities," she says. She and Harmer are still committed to smart growth. And Smart Corner. Time will tell if that's smart.

IGHTS

# **Big gulp**

Although she winced from act to act, she supports her son's direction. "I actually get a kick out of what Scott doeshe is entertaining, outgoing, and really enjoys what he does. I got used to it. As he grew up, the stunts got more extreme, but by then I grew with them."

The toughest act for her to watch was the one in which he pierced his bicep, side, and forearm, and the area under

his chin with 14-gauge wire. "As a kid, Scott used to hate needles," she said. "He used to have tonsillitis and have to get shots. He hated them, and now look at him. I don't get it!"

CITY LIGHTS

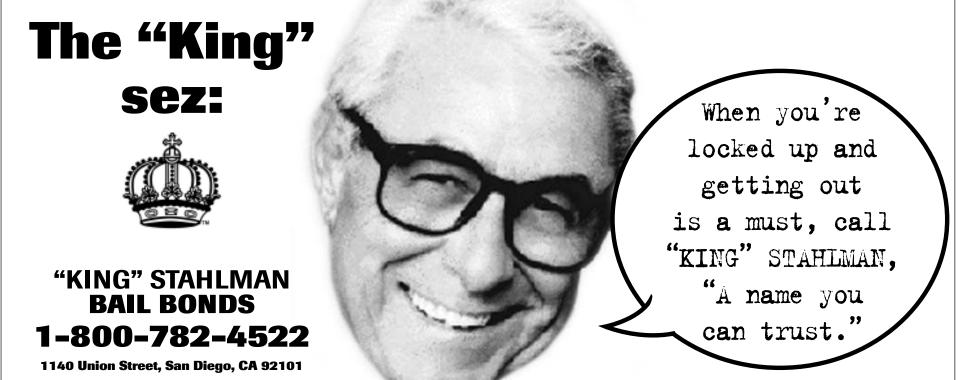
For the grand finale, Murrugun attempted to swallow six double-edged swords at one time, two more than his previous best. As he spent a few minutes stacking the swords, members of the audience tried to dissuade him, yelling, "Just do four!" Nelson didn't listen. He gripped the swords together, took a deep breath, then hoisted them into his mouth and let go as they slid down his throat.

To end the performance, he invited people to staple money onto his body. A long line quickly formed, and at the end of the show, Murrugun the Mystic left the stage with \$20s stapled to his forehead, \$10s on his chest, and dollar bills on his stomach.

The hour-long show was hard to watch for reasons other than the sheer brutality. There were many silent pauses and an obvious disorganization. Nelson's trips back and forth to the green room and his breaks to smoke broke the show's intensity. But according to Nelson, that's exactly how he likes it. "I can't get stressed out about organization. When I'm up there, I kind of change my mind. There'll be stuff that I put on a list and then change because of the audience or the way I feel. Yeah, the show was a little loose, but I just got off of

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doing the exact opposite for the Warped Tour, so it's nice for me to relax up there and go back and forth with the audience."

A few days later, Nelson's only wounds from the performance were the small red dots from the staples. He said his worst injury of the night came from breathing fire. "That night after the show, I had white blisters on the inside of my lips, but by the next morning they were all healed."

He owes his ability to withstand pain to his grandfather, James Dickes, who taught Nelson meditation and relaxation at an early age. "He taught me metaphysics when I was 10 or 11 because I was some wild kid who never settled down. I use it now. It's kind of like partial hypnosis or selfentrancement."

Nelson has little time for relaxation. He has recently been invited to perform in Istanbul for a Turkish television program, and he will be on Dave Navarro's maniaTV Internet television program in late March.

Locally, Nelson is planning another show at Lestat's Coffee House sometime in April and is involved in starting up a 12-person sideshow/circus group called Zirk Ubu.

Updated events can be found on Nelson's website, myspace.com/murrugun.∎



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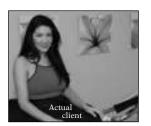
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Just Ten Off Really enjoyed this article

and clarity.

("The Rise and Fall of the Copley Press," Cover Story, February 28). It was wellresearched. One minor edit. In the

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reference to the 1978 PSA air crash, which resulted in a Pulitzer Prize for the newspaper, the author refers to the PSA plane as a Boeing 737. It was actually a Boeing 727.

> Henry Romero via email

## **Daily Destruction**

Re Matt Potter's "The Rise and Fall of the Copley Press" (Cover Story, February 28).

Informative and amazing — the more things change, the more they stay the same — this history of San Diego's only daily paper, the Union-Tribune, and the sad town it has run into the ground. I've lived here for 38 years but even now have learned new things from this story. I am glad to see Matt Potter has returned to writing cover articles. Thank you. I would cavil with Potter's equating Mike Aguirre, our incumbent city attorney, who is as honest as the day is long, with fallen former mayor Roger Hedgecock, who was in cahoots with a Ponzi schemer. Also, I think the *U-T*'s persecution of



Aguirre on its editorial pages deserved a mention, not just *U-T* sportswriter Nick Canepa's unseemly anti-Aguirre campaign. Name Withheld by Request

#### **Under The Rocks**

Enjoyed your article on the Copley Press drama ("The Rise and Fall of the Copley Press," Cover Story, February 28). However, I believe there are a number of factual errors therein, to wit: (1) United States National Bank was "shut down" by the FDIC on October 17, 1973, versus as stated in the article as June 1973, (2) Cunningham was sentenced to eight years, four months in the slammer versus six years as stated, and (3) the PSA plane which crashed in North Park in 1978 was a Boeing 727 versus a 737 as stated.

Any reason why there is no mention of David Copley's enormous yacht? Were those Illinois newspapers sold to also pay for this toy? Bill Kolender's stint at Copley Press was overlooked why? Ditto for Victor Krulak's journey through the executive suite? Keep up the good work and keep turning over the rocks to report on what is not being reported elsewhere.

> Lou Cumming via email

#### From ABC To F

The cover story in the February 28 edition of the *Reader*, "The Rise and Fall of the Copley Press," is very discouraging for those of us who still believe in a free press. I am a graduate of a journalism school that taught the ABCs of good journalism to include:

 Accuracy. 2. Brevity.
 Clearness. Matt Potter's cover story suggests that our only San Diego daily, the San Diego Union-Tribune, flunks on all levels. When a newspaper has a monopoly in a large city like San Diego and then proceeds to use its power to establish its own private agenda (propaganda), we the public are the losers.

As Americans we pride ourselves in having a free press, freedom of religion, democratic elections, and equality for everyone. In San Diego, at least, free press is a sham. As for democratic elections, here is what Rosemary Radford Ruether, a speaker at UCSD's Burke Lecture series, had to say last Monday evening in her talk, "American Empire and the War Against Evil":

"The American Empire has been operated predominantly by the military-industrial complex almost continually since the days of Teddy Roosevelt; thus voting results that provide changes in Washington have very little impact on the power of the empire."

What she is saying is that it doesn't matter who we elect to Congress or the White House because the country (empire) is run by other forces. Election campaigns become a farce because "they dare not deal with the deeper issues underlying the most powerful empire in human history."

How powerful is the U.S.? The military budget exceeds the military budgets of all the other nations in the world combined. The U.S. has military bases in most of the nations of the world, including dozens in Iraq alone. In a recent poll conducted among European nations, the question was asked, "Which nations of the world represent the greatest threats to world peace?" The unanimous answer — Israel and the U.S.

If we cannot count on a free press or free elections, how about freedom of religion? As some have answered, America is the most churched nation in the world, yet it has the highest incarceration rate, highest divorce rate, very high poverty rate (for a rich nation), etc.

Thanks again for the Copley Press article — it's the reality that hurts the most.

Laurel Gray El Cajon continued on page 60



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# SportingBox By Patrick Daugherty

# Free Michelle Wie, Part 2

e were talking about Michelle Wie, who was The Next Big Thing in women's golf at the age of 10, and now, at 18, is a has-been making \$19 million a year (according to *Forbes*).

Golf Digest reports that in her first year as a pro, Wie raked in \$3.5 million from Korean corporations plus \$3.5 million in appearance fees from Asian Tour, European Tour, and Japan Tour events. Add \$12.5 million from Sony, Nike, and others. This, for zero tournaments won. At age 16.

To refresh, Wie turned pro a few days before her 16th birthday. She is not a member of the LPGA, which is a business decision. Although she can't accept appearance fees from LPGA or

PGA tournaments, she can from events on the Asian Tour, European Tour, Japan Golf Tour, and Canadian Tour. By staying a nonmember, Wie is entitled to play in no more than six LPGA tournaments per year and must get a sponsor's exemption for those. Wie's participation makes the LPGA millions, so exemptions have not been a problem and, as nonmember bonus, Wie

isn't required to play in a minimum number of LPGA events and doesn't have to petition the mother ship for permission to play in conflicting tournaments.

When did things go wrong? She played 11 tournaments in 2005, finished in the top five in four of them. Not bad. She entered 14 tournaments in 2006 and finished in the top five in six of them. The girl can play. Things went to hell in 2007: missed cut, withdrew, 84th place, withdrew, 69th place, missed cut, missed cut, missed cut, and finished 19th out of 20 players.

Wie has never won a tournament as a pro against men or women — in this country or abroad. She dragged her phenomenally bad golf game into 2008, tying for last place at the Fields Open in Hawaii (held in February). Her next tournament is the Safeway International, March 27–30 (televised on the Golf Channel), at Superstition Mountain, Arizona. If you like train wrecks, tune in.

It was the 2007 "Ginn Tribute hosted by ANNIKA" that brought things to a head. Wie shoots 14 over par in the first 16 holes, including a jaw-dropping quintuple-bogey. Turns out the LPGA has the "Rule of 88," which sounds like a politburo shakeup in China, but is actually a rule stating that if a non-LPGA member shoots 88, she may not play in LPGA cosponsored events for the rest of the year.

So, on the 16th hole of her first day, Wie is 14 strokes over par. The course is par 72. If she pars the last two holes, she finishes with a 86. But, considering how it's been going, an 88 or above seems more likely.

Eric Adelson of *ESPN.com* picks it up from here: "...her parents began consulting with each other and William Morris manager Greg Nared, who had a cell phone to his ear. Chris Higgs, the LPGA chief operations officer, soon drove up in a cart and spoke with Nared. Higgs had been talking about the Rule of 88 in the media tent, but he said he came out to Wie's rope line for, 'no particular reason.'

particular reason.'

"...Nared spoke to [Wie] briefly before she announced, 'We're not going to play anymore'... glumly climbed into a cart, and rode to the clubhouse, where she met behind closed doors with her parents and Nared. The four spoke for 15 minutes, then an ice pack was brought in for Wie's left wrist. Wie then walked to the media tent without



the ice pack."

The LPGA has a rule that their players cannot practice on a course within seven days of playing in a tournament on that course. As a final burn, Wie was hitting balls at Bulle Rock Golf Club, the site of McDonald's LPGA Championship, 48 hours after withdrawing from Annika's tournament. She practiced at Bulle Rock on Saturday, played the pro-am on Monday, had another practice day on Tuesday, and teed off in the LPGA Championship tournament on Thursday. She made the cut, then finished last, 35 strokes behind the winner, Suzann Pettersen.

Michelle has injured her wrists, to what extent is unclear. But, that has not stopped her controlling parents (Byung-Wook, aka "B.J.," and Hyun-Kyong, aka "Bo") from entering her in far too many events. One wonders how many tournaments Michelle has to finish last in before her parents realize she needs a break. B.J. and Bo argue, berate officials, and illegally coach Wie while she's playing. The best line about this situation is from David Feherty of CBS Sports, "She could be adopted by Britney Spears and be better off."

Good news: Michelle is attending Stanford, far from her home in Hawaii. Bad news: Bo and B.J. have rented a house in Palo Alto.

"We're not going to play anymore."

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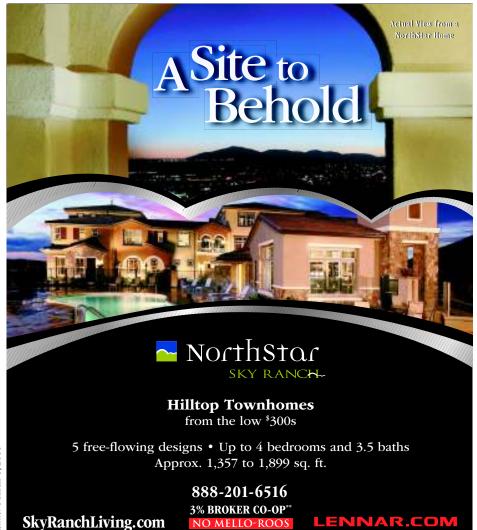
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# SHEEP AND GOATS

San Diego Church of Christ,

West Congregation

Clairemont

\*\*

Liturgy......★★

delivery.....  $\star \star \star ^{1/2}$ 

congregational ......  $\star \star \star ^{1/2}$ 

Snacks .....no snacks Architecture ......\*

content.....

Friendliness .....

Poor to satisfactory.....

.....**\***\*\*

..(none)

...\*\*

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\*\*\*\*

Sermon

Music

Good .....

Very good ....

Extraordinary ...

Excellent ...

Denomination: Church of Christ Address: West congregation meets at Bible Believer's Church, 3410 Mt. Acadia Boulevard, Clairemont, 858-578-1480 Founded locally: about 30 years ago Senior pastor: Mark Wilkinson Congregation size: 100 Staff size: 2 Sunday school enrollment: 40 Annual budget: n/a Weekly giving: n/a Singles program: yes Dress: casual to formal Diversity: diverse Sunday worship: 12 noon Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 20 minutes Website: sdcoc.com

"I want to encourage you to enjoy really close fellowship today — about 15 people to a pew," said Pastor Mark Wilkinson as the congregation poured through the doors of the small, spare church.

The San Diego Church of Christ is divided into numerous congregations; four times a year, they all meet together for worship and fellowship, and about once a month, one congregation will visit another. On Sunday, Tri-Valley came to visit the West, and the crowd had to set up chairs in the vestibule. "Good morning!" said West member Carol, welcoming the Tri-Valleys. "I know that for my kids, it's always fun when they have friends over, but it's best when they get to play with their cousins. That's what this morning is like it's great to be part of the family of God!"

And when that family joined in song, they made their numbers felt. "We're gonna raise the rafters," said one song leader, and he was only half joking. The low ceiling caught the sound and held it cloca and tha

held it close, and the room hummed with the force of it. The women began: "Re-JOICE, Re-JOICE in the law of the Lord/ Med-i-TATE on His LAW all the day and the night." Then the men came in with a countermelody: "Happy is the man/ Who is like a tree/ Planted by a stream/ In season bearing fruit." The multipart harmonies continued throughout the singing, which contained a couple of notable Old Testament military-style sentiments: "Our God, like chaff, blows the wicked away." "Let not my enemies triumph over me." As one hymn ended, an older woman leaned toward the two younger men in front of her. "It's like angels singing," she said, smiling.

Wilkinson's sermon was based on Paul's statement: "For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.""I've been meditating on this passage every day for the last couple of weeks," he began. "I really believe...you cannot get too far from the shadow of the cross."

He lauded the American belief in suc-

cess through hard work, but warned against applying that belief to "our stand before God.... We know we're not perfect, but we begin to think we're not all that bad. And the title of the sermon today is, 'You're just not that good.'"

Laughter rose from the congregation, along with a murmur of mock shock. "Come on, preach it!" someone called. "Encourage us!" joked another. "That's right, Mark — I'm not offended by that," said a third.

Rather, said Wilkinson, "the only way to be saved is through grace alone. It doesn't matter that you've served and bled, that you went everywhere and gave everything. You're not that bad, but you're not that good, either. We forget that, and that's why we have to stay near the cross."

However, he said, "it's grace alone, but grace is never alone." He quoted Paul: "His grace to me is not without effect." "The amazing truth is, Jesus loves you just the way you

> are, but He refuses to leave you there. You cannot stay that way. When you understand how much God loves you, how dare you not change?" And, finally, he said, "we need to complete the circle of grace. Grace isn't your ticket stub that you hang on

stub that you hang on to so you can get into heaven. Grace is a circle of life that we participate in. Grace is God moving to you and loving you...and from you it goes to others. You start loving your neighbors — because grace has had an impact on you. Love the people around you and love God — that is the minimum requirement."

A congregant came forward to give the Communion meditation and read from John's Gospel — Christ's prayer before the Passion: "Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say, Father? "Save me from this hour?" No, it was for

this very reason that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' It's sort of like, 'Go ahead, God. This is what I'm here for: to glorify you.' In going to the cross, He glorified God by completing His life's mission." He concluded with a passage from Romans: "'Use your whole body as a tool to do what is right for the glory of God.' I really think that sums it up." The murmurs and comments ceased, and silence held sway as the Communion plate was passed, broken only by the gentle ping of crisp bread cracked against metal.

What happens when we die?

"I guess that depends on who we are when we die," said Wilkinson. "The saved go to heaven and the lost don't — that's all there is. Beyond that, when it comes to the afterlife, there are so many things we don't know. If I said something, I'd only be guessing, so I'm not going to worry about it." — Matthew Lickona

Columns archived at SDReader.com

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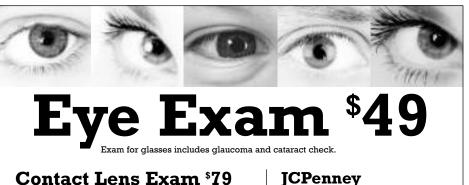


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# **BestBuys**

-EVE KELLY

As my mother's memory gets shorter, the East Coast winters that seep into her bones tend to get longer — especially when she forgets to turn up the thermostat. Mom and Dad are fierce, independent types, but it's getting to the point where they may need to be near somebody who will look in on them every night. So I started looking into

converting our two-car garage into a Granny (and Grampy) flat. "Cheer up," I told Patrick as he grumbled over packing up his workshop. "When the kids move back in and take over the house after grad school, you and I can move out here for

some peace and quiet."

A few calls to the city (San Diego) got me a list of basic requirements for converting a garage into a collection of habitable rooms. (Codes and requirements vary from place to place — be sure to check this out!) Habitable rooms are required to receive natural light

T

2

on at least 10 percent of the floor square footage — a minimum of ten square feet. Rooms must have natural ventilation - at least 5 percent of the floor square footage. Rooms used for sleeping must have an escape or rescue window. Ceiling heights must be a minimum of 7'6". Rooms must be provided with heating facilities capable of maintaining room temperature at 70 degrees. A smokedetection device must be installed. At least one wall-controlled light must be installed in space. Electrical wall outlets must be spaced so that no point along the floor is more than six feet from an outlet. And the private garage may not have an opening into a room used for sleeping purposes.

So much for habitable ... What about pleasant? The space was small; how to keep it from feeling cramped — how to keep Mom and Dad from feeling like they'd been stuffed into a corner? I decided to make my very first stop with Beverly Feldman, ASID, of Space San Diego in Little Italy (619-237-0727; spacesandiego.com). "Our whole focus is to maximize your living space," said Feldman. "What's unique about us is that, even though

we have products in the store, as interior designers, we're not bound only to the products we sell. We help people who are challenged with downsizing; we want to help people figure out how to live in their space better."

For example, "When you live in a bigger home, you tend to buy bigger furniture." If you're downsizing, your overstuffed couch and matching chairs can start approaching Brobdingnagian proportions. "When you live in a smaller space, your furnishings - and their layout become much more critical. We currently offer design packages that include furniture, typically on a smaller scale, to make your space feel bigger."

Those design packages employ what Feld-man called "Go solutions." "The first is, 'Go vertical.' A great example would be stacking chairs or stools [prices start at \$90]. The next

"We want to help people figure out how to live

in their space better."

is, 'Go hidden.' That's an obvious one when it comes to things like Murphy beds. Another example would be the Razel Liftup Bed [prices vary by size, queen bed is \$1549]. The whole mattress lifts up for storage underneath; you can put bulky things like pillows and blankets in there. And it has a chocolate leather headboard and surround; it's quite nice. A third 'Go hidden' solution is the concealed door, which converts existing doorways into fully functional built-in bookcases, while retaining access to the room. You can also put a concealed door in front of a closet. The closet is then hidden by a bookshelf."

Go solution number three was, "Go flexible." "An example of that would be our table bed [queen-size starts at \$3895]. The table can be used as a dining table or a desk, so they're very popular for guest rooms that double as home offices. In a garage con-the bed pulls down over the table in one easy motion. And for a high-end solution that's both hidden and flexible, there's the Zoom Room [\$6795, cabinetry extra]. It's a motorized bed; with the touch of a button

on a wireless remote, the bed descends from behind a custom cabinet. Another push of a button, and it retracts, climbing vertically behind the cabinet. It's great for the elderly, because it takes no effort to take out or put away the bed. And you can add bookshelves, a television, or an art display in the nine inches in front where the bed is hidden." "Go built-in," said Feldman, "is

about conforming your furnishings to the space. A 12-inch cabinet fills up more than 12 inches because of its baseboards. If you build a cabinet in, it takes up less room. Also, you can go floor-to-ceiling, which fits under 'Go vertical.' Built-ins are integral, a small solution that can make a big difference."

Finally, there was "Go architectural,""This has to do with glass, mirrors, and lights. For a garage conversion, lighting is critical. It's important to light any space correctly, but especially a small space because you have to play up all your assets to be able to appreciate however many square feet you have. The best is flexible lighting from above. We love rail or cable lighting. They're similar to track lighting, but more

sophisticated. They both enable you to put the light fixture anywhere on the cable or rail, and then train it where the light needs to go." The light can then work with the glass. "Instead of putting up a full wall to divide two rooms, try a glass divider. It lets light through," and light is expansive. "There is stunning architectural glass available out there, but if that's too costly, even just frosted glass would work well. Mirrors work with the light as well, bouncing it around to give the impression of more space. Used incorrectly, mirrors can be cheesy. But when you use them discretely, you don't notice the mirror right away - you notice how large the room seems."

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

- 1. Table bed
- 2. Beverly Feldman 3. Razel Lift Up bed

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# **Conceptual Cuisine**

by Barbarella

I call it performance art, but my friend Ariel calls it wasting time. History will decide.

- Steve Martin as Harris in L.A. Story

To me, the word "chocolate" is the penultimate attention-grabber, second only to "There's a spider on your head." So it was that while viewing an email message from a friend inviting me to a party in Barrio Logan, my bon-bon-brown peepers seized upon the words, "Chocolate Performance Art." After I RSVP'd my acceptance (as if I was going to turn down an invitation to a party that promised to feature my

He handed out chunks of frozen paint, instructed people to thaw it with their body heat, and then use it to paint the wall. favorite confection), I spent some time wondering what kind of chocoactivities might qualify as "art."

I feel remiss in my inability to completely comprehend art, as it is so prominent in my life. David makes his living as a fine-art photographer. Our home is replete with original paintings, sculptures, and other works not so easily categorized. Many of our friends are artists of one kind or another. And yet, for me, the concept of "art" is as elusive and impossible to describe as that of "love."

When it comes to "performance art," however, I shouldn't feel too bad - even artists have difficulty defining that one. When I hear the term, my mind immediately conjures up an image of a man wearing a diaper and writhing on the floor around a spotlit Twinkie in an attempt to symbolize the Birth of the Industrial Revolution. But my perception has been tainted. A few years ago, some artist friends invited David and me to a performance-art show at a small theater in Chilmark, a tiny town located on Martha's

Vineyard. In a crowded, dark room, I watched three gauze-adorned dancers squirm around on the floor while the air grew heavy with Nag Champa. As soon as the lights were turned on, I rushed outside for a breath of fresh air and smacked my mouth in a futile effort to banish the sickly sweet taste of incense smoke on my tongue. When the rest of the crew caught up, the inevitable question was asked: "Well? What did you think?" There's no way I could have been honest — that would have been cruel. After a moment of silence, during which I did my best to appear thoughtful, I said, "Wow," and left it at that.

I've got nothing against performance art, or interpretive dance, for that matter. I have a dance of my own that communicates to David my excitement for a tasty meal. He calls it my "happy dance." I also enjoy watching YouTube videos documenting the antics of the group Improv Everywhere, which conducts public "performances" that they characterize as pranks or "missions." The goal of these events is to amaze, confuse, or amuse — like the time their "agents" rode the subway with no pants on (just their underwear), or the mission in which dozens of people wandered around a Best Buy in blue polo shirts and khaki pants, or another that had a handful of people show up at a Home Depot and shop in slow motion, or my favorite, the coordinated "freezes" (like when a hundred "agents" arrived at Grand Central Station and, at the very same moment, froze midaction and held their poses for five minutes to the bafflement of passers-by). If it's entertaining or enlightening, I'm in. But I become annoyed when performances have no reasonably discernable *message*. The esoteric, obtuse commentaries and pointless gyrating I can live without. A perfect example of the latter is one piece called "Ice Man" by performance artist Jack Bowen, during which he handed out chunks of frozen paint, instructed people to thaw it with their body heat, and then use it to paint the wall. I just don't get it.

Despite my preconceptions, I was looking forward to partying with my friends and to finding out firsthand how chocolate factored into the affair. I'm not sure exactly what I'd been expecting (a woman bathing in a porcelain tub filled with hot cocoa or inviting challengers to wrestle her in a fudge-filled kiddie pool, perhaps), but the reality did not disappoint. Shortly after I arrived at the capacious warehouse venue, I noticed a corner stage bathed in red light, on which a woman with long dark hair in a 1950s-housewife-inspired frock, apron, and fishnet stockings made a show of dipping strawberries into a pot of simmering chocolate, her movements slow and deliberate.

Despite the strawberry-dipping woman's beauty and the sensual nature of what she was doing and how she was doing





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it, after a few minutes of watching I grew bored and turned my attention to another stage, where two women were preparing an appetizer. I'm down for performance art with a purpose, but I am way too neurotic about bacteria to fully appreciate the vision of a girl in a golden bikini and shoulder-length opera gloves kneeling over a bowl of guacamole, floridly spooning its contents into avocado peels handed to her by a silver-painted gypsy in a sea-green satin silk dress, who is simultaneously communing with a soccer-ball-sized chromed sphere. Sure, it looked cool, but all I could think about was the proximity of a nearly naked person chafing silver paint into my food. When our salads were delivered, I politely offered mine to my friend Rosa, who was more than happy to ingest it on my behalf.

At one end of the room, a chanteuse with a haunting, sonorous voice

chanted over a world-beat rhythm laid down by a DJ and the airy melodies provided by a flutist. Adjacent to the music makers, a woman in a diaphanous dress stepped, swayed, and shimmied to the sounds. All the while, the one beneath the red light (whom I later learned is an organic chocolatier named Juju) continued to seductively plunge fruit and cookies into the pot of chocolate, setting the treats on a platter to be passed around.

A few hours into the party, the performance pièce de résistance entered the room recumbent on a stretcher carried by two shirtless, tribal-painted men, one of whom wore only a loincloth. Accompanying the trio was the gypsy, waving her sphere over the figure being carried and gifting chopsticks to each guest she passed. By this time, Juju had removed her dress and was reclining on a couch on the stage in

only a black bra, panties, and fishnets, while a man used a brush to paint chocolate designs on her chest and belly. Soon, chopsticks were in my hand, and the stretcher was beside me. From my seated vantage point, I had an up-close, eye-level view of the naked Japanese woman, shells on her breasts, and green leaves and flowers running the length of her body, from the center of her chest, over her stomach, atop her pubis, and covering her thighs, knees, and shins. She was colorful, festive, and beautiful.

A traveling, temporary piece of art, I thought, how fun! But then I noticed the food — slices of sashimi among the vegetation, and the soy sauce that had been poured over her, dripping around her sides and down to her buttocks. I searched the crowd in apprehension, only to have my fears confirmed — all around me, people with chopsticks were digging in. My food dream fast became a food nightmare. I watched as friends, not a note of concern on their faces, collected *raw fish* from a *warm naked body*, and put it *in their mouths*.

I gulped my wine to ward off a gag. I smiled at my friend on the stretcher and explained that I wasn't partaking in her generous offering because I didn't eat fish. She smiled back, clearly enjoying her performance; the topless men carried her off, and I watched as the silver orb floated into the crowd.





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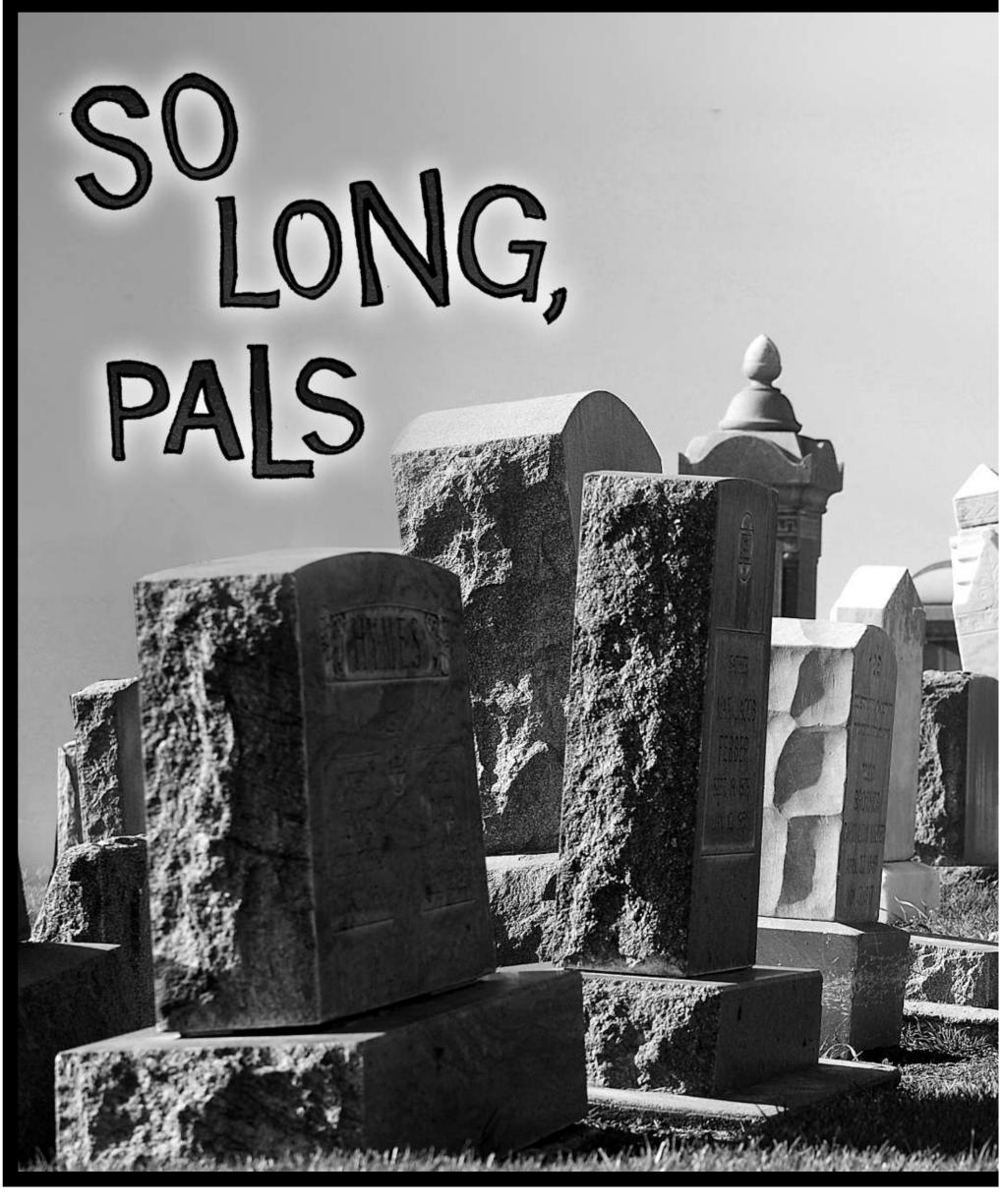
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(continued from front page)

o put it another way: the boomers have begun to go bang. Eight million have died already. In fact, in January, 1700 were dying every 24 hours, according to the Baby Boomer Death Counter (*boomerdeathcounter.com*). So long, pals.

Of course, Americans in general are dying all the time: 700,000 yearly from heart attacks, 600,000 from cancer, 150,000 from strokes, 125,000 from respiratory diseases — more than 2,500,000 in all. But the boomers, I've always thought of them as young. After all, they're practically my generation. As young people we shared the same music, the same movies. Now we're moving to adult communities, assisted living facilities, old folks' homes. Some are signing up for pre-need burial plans; some are measuring themselves for caskets.

"A lot of people don't want to be eaten by worms and bugs."

TAULA MOUTH

Mt. Hope cemete

Or they may be found staring out at the ocean with melancholy expressions, their toes almost touching the surf. That restless water, is that where their ashes will be sprinkled?

So it was with a mixture of dread and curiosity that in November I drove to Westfield University Towne Centre on La Jolla Village Drive to check out Bodies... The Exhibition. Its ads promised more than 260 organs, including 21 full-body specimens, with the same fervor that a movie might promise Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie. Having opened in early May, the exhibition continued till the end of January: seven days a week, for your viewing pleasure. The exhibition's website (bodiestheexhibition.com) currently lists 14 different Bodies exhibitions, which adds up to 294 full-body specimens and more



John Davis runs the only nonprofit, volunteer-led funeral society in San Diego County.

**Plantation chair** 

than 3640 organs. The exhibitions are operated by Premier Exhibitions Inc. in Atlanta, the same folks who brought us the Titanic exhibits.

At least half a dozen other companies also exhibit bodies, but the main one is *Body* Worlds, which organized the first of such exhibits in Tokyo in 1995 and is still going strong, having had exhibits visited by more than 25 million people in 45 cities in North Amer-

ica, Europe, and Asia. Compared to Body Worlds, Bodies... The Exhibition is rather small potatoes, having been visited by only about 4 million. Body Worlds was devel-

oped and promoted by Dr.

(reg. <sup>\$</sup>595) % teak & lea

Gunther von Hagens, formerly a pathologist at the University of Heidelberg's anatomy and pathology department. In 1977 Dr. von Hagens invented the process that he called Plastination.

"In Plastination," writes Dr. von Hagens on his website bodyworlds.com, "bodily fluids and soluble fats are extracted from a specimen, and replaced through vacuum-forced impregnation with reactive resins and elastomers, such as silicon rubber. After posing of the specimen for optimal teaching value, it is cured with light, heat, or certain gases which gives it rigidity and permanence." In a plastinated specimen, every bodily smidgen can be put on view from the glossy red net of the circulatory system, to the entire body thinly sliced from top to bottom like

a pound of Swiss cheese, to the skinned body showing off its muscular system, the respiratory system, the digestive system, whatever. This hardly describes the anatomical landscapes presented for your viewing pleasure, and not simply yours, but your children's, your grandchildren's and greatgrandchildren's, because these things last forever, or at least until the world goes kaput.

The issue of "optimal teaching value" might be open to question. One of my favorite of von Hagens's figures is a plastinated horse reared up on faux Scottish heath and nicely filleted to show off its insides, while on its back perches a rambunctious bareback rider similarly filleted and split from top to bottom to bring to view his inner and outer qualities. Behind them is a backdrop showing Loch

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OPTICAL

San Diego Reader March 6, 2008



Robert Humphrey, owner of Community Mortuary, gave the impression of rigorous honesty.

Lomond or perhaps Loch Ness with a mountain rising above it, for this is Scotland and the figure is called the "Highlander."

In an autobiographical statement on the website, Dr.

von Hagens described his moment of discovery. He had been slicing up human kidneys for a research project and was having difficulties getting a clean cut. "Then one day, I was in the butcher shop in

the university town where I was studying, and as I watched the saleswoman slice ham, it dawned on me that I ought to be using a meat slicer for cutting kidneys. And so a 'rotary blade cutter,' as I called it in the

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project-appropriation request, became my first Plastination investment."

He had his first "presentable sample" not long afterward. "That was on January 10, 1977, the day that I decided to make Plastination the focus of my life." The next year he formed Biodur Products, which sells equipment and materials for anyone interested in doing Plastination on their own. In 1983, he plastinated the heel bone of St. Hildegard of Bingen (1090-1179) at the request of the Catholic Church. His offer to plastinate Pope John Paul II was dropped after becoming bogged down in controversy. In 2001 he opened a plastinating factory, Von Hagens Dalian Plastination Ltd., in Dalian, China, a city of more than six million people.

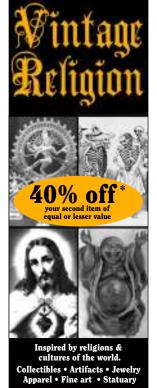
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Hagens opened the Institute of Plastination in Heidelberg in 1993; his 27,000-squarefoot museum, the Plastinarium, opened in the city of Guben in 2006. His website claims there are more than 400 Plastination laboratories in 40 countries "preparing specimens for academic study." He also solicits body donors, and so far more than 8000 people, including more than 100 Britons, have willed their bodies to the Institute of Plastination. Over 400 have already died, and some, no doubt, have been put on display for their loved ones to admire.

Born in Sieniawa Zarska, Poland, in 1945, the son of a former SS officer and Nazi official, Dr. von Hagens originally had the surname Liebchen, which means "sweetheart." This he gave up when he married his first wife, Dr. Cornelia von Hagens, and took her surname; the "von" suggests nobility. In 2005, Dr. von Hagens tried to purchase an abandoned factory in his hometown to be used to plastinate bodies, a "cathedral of science," he said, with "a dissection table as its altar." He hired his 88-year-old father, Gerhard Liebchen, to run the operation, but the Polish government vetoed the idea, citing the inappropriateness of employing a former SS officer, who had been active in subduing Poles during the Nazi occupation, to run a body factory. The doctor then fired his father, saying he had known nothing about his father's war experiences.

Dr. von Hagens is tall and cadaverous-looking, a hemophiliac who seemingly never appears in public without his signature black fedora. This he also wears during his public autopsies, the most controversial being held in an art gallery in London in November 2002. Despite police threats to arrest the doctor, the show proceeded before a sellout crowd of 500 as giant screens on the gallery walls made plain each stoke of the knife. It was the first public autopsy in England in 170 years. After cutting through the chest of the 72-year-old male cadaver, Dr. von Hagens reached inside and pulled out a great handful of innards, declaring, "I have liberated the lungs and the heart." People in the first rows covered their noses because of the smell. When the autopsy was shown on nationwide television several days later, the network received nearly 200 telephone calls of protest from men and women who had accidentally tuned in.

Although the doctor's exhibits are certainly educa-



Barbara Kernan: "You can transport the body and build your own casket."

tional, he displays an unusual sense of humor. A Body Worlds exhibition in Hamburg was held in the former Erotic Art Museum in the Reeperbahn, the city's red-light district, to which Dr. von Hagens invited prostitutes and cab drivers to attend for free. One of the full-body figures, called "Early Bird," displayed a man with an erection. The doctor said, "That's something that every healthy man can relate to, and it's happened to all of us in the mornings and occasion-

used in Dr. von Hagens's exhibits and sold to colleges and universities are created at what he calls his "Chinese

Most plastinated bodies

ally in the evenings."

at what he cans his "Chinese manufacturing facility" in Dalian, a large compound of well-guarded and unmarked buildings surrounded by a rusted metal fence. In 1996 he became visiting professor at Dalian University and helped to begin its Plastination program. Many employees at his factory are or have been medical students from the university. Dr. von Hagens is also director of a Plastination research center at the State Medical Academy in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

The doctor's factory employs about 300 people who prepare about 800 bodies at any given time. It takes four to six months to plastinate a body, or up to 1500 hours, though some of that time is spent soaking and curing the body. A Chinese reporter for redOrbit described bodies on tables "surrounded by 'dissectors,' many of them medical students...hunched over the bodies, picking out fat and tissue with tweezers." A New York Times reporter wrote about the final stage of preparation in "the positioning room where about 50 medical school graduates clean the bodies and pose them in lifelike positions for the traveling exhibitions." The factory also produces books, DVDs, and stuffed toys with flaps that open to show the organs within. Animals are also plastinated at the factory, from rabbits all the way up to an elephant.

Although Dr. von Hagens has been accused of using bodies from Chinese prisons, he says that all his bodies have been donated and come from many countries, but he adds, "All the copycat exhibitions are from China, and they all use unclaimed bodies."

Dr. von Hagens's method of Plastination is no longer protected by patents, which has allowed about a dozen other Plastination factories to spring up, mostly in the Dalian area. One of them produces the bodies used in *Bodies... The Exhibition* and is owned by Dr. Sui Hongjin, a former general manager of Dr. von Hagen's factory, who Dr. von Hagens says he fired for stealing his secrets and setting up his own operation.

Anyone trying to calculate the number of bodies used in the different exhibitions, institutes, laboratories, and museums must be stunned by the possible numbers. Ten thousand? But quite a few bodies must have been discarded during experimentation. Twenty thousand? Even though Dr. von Hagens no longer holds all the patents, he must be a wealthy man. His company, Biodur Products in Heidelberg, run by his second wife, Dr. Angelina Whalley, sells all the chemicals and materials for Plastination. Dr. Whalley, whom Dr. von Hagens married in 1992, is also listed as manager of the Plastination Institute and is business manager and designer of the Body Worlds exhibi-





der March 6, 2008









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tions. The Biodur Products illustrated 20-page catalog not only has the expected silicone polymers and epoxy resins but also huge freezers, dehydration containers, and basic Plastination packages with all the equipment necessary for the home hobbyist. The smallest package allows for Plastination "up to the size of a human head." Dr. von Hagens claims that only when his own Biodur polymers are used can high-level success be achieved. He dismisses the work of all his competitors as "shoddy."

Entering the lobby of the UTC exhibit was similar to entering any museum or theater, with the gift shop to the right and velvet ropes guiding the curious to the ticket windows. During my life I've mostly tried to avoid face-toface encounters with corpses. In fact, I tend to think of them as bloodless and gray, or splopped with gore, and mushed, gashed, sliced, perforated, or smashed in ways designed to upset my stomach. So I rather dragged my feet. But I needn't have worried.

These corpses were pink and the very picture of health, without a trace of gore. And they were active — kicking a football, dribbling a basketball. They clearly enjoyed life, and their glass eyeballs were eager and alert. Even without



skin, or with windows open to various organs, there was nothing discomforting about them. They seemed not like dead people but friendly extraterrestrials. They were young, good-looking Asians with nothing cadaverous about them. The exhibit's various rooms were dimly lit with spotlights that illuminated the dead, while lighted display cases showed individual bits and pieces. And the visitors were fascinated. It was hard not to be. Looking at one of the figures was like seeing myself in a mirror. So that's what I look like inside, I thought.

The rooms were crowded, and people bumped into one another. Children in particular were mesmerized. Reviews that had compared the exhibits to pornography, arguing that to "gawk" at human remains

was immoral, seemed foolish, while the many attempts to ban the exhibits and forbid school field trips seemed excessively timid. Near the exit were half a dozen books of viewer comments in which the word "awesome" figured prominently, along with "fantastic," "amazing," "cool," and all their synonyms. I saw no complaints."I thought I'd wet my pants," wrote one person. Henry from the Santa Ana Boxing Club wrote: "I thought it was interesting because of the cool dead bodies. P.S. I want my body in this place when I pass on." One girl wrote, "I don't understand the myth about Asians having small wangs, these guys were better hung than my boyfriend."

I asked a dozen people if they would want to be exhibited like this, and the only man who said no added, "I got too much metal in my body to be put on display." Clearly this was an eternal afterlife of sorts. Even if their souls went to heaven, their bodies would travel to Topeka, Dallas, and St. Louis — wherever the exhibits were booked.

From this I assumed that Premier Exhibitions must be raking in the dough. The show's eight months in San Diego were probably visited by more than 40,000 people. At an average of \$25 a head that's one million bucks, not counting the money from T-shirts and souvenirs. But rent, insurance, and employees' wages must take a big bite. In January, Premier lowered its sales expectations for 2008, stock dropped to a 52-week low of \$5.60, and the chief financial officer quit. During the year one body exhibition was canceled; others had delayed openings and

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weaker-than-expected sales. Death, it seems, is an expensive business. Only Dr. von Hagens appears to make a serious profit and remains upbeat. As he said in an interview with a *New York Times* reporter, "I want to be the Mercedes of anatomy, before I am plastinated myself."

So what does this have to do with the baby boomers?

The British philosopher Jeremy Bentham, after he died in 1832, had himself stuffed, dressed in his usual clothes, and topped with a wax head and his favorite hat. His actual head with glass eyes was placed between his feet, but after being stolen several times by students, the head was put into storage. The body, or Auto-Icon, is kept in a wooden cabinet in the main building of University College London and is regularly wheeled into meetings of the college council with its attendance recorded in the minutes: "Jeremy Bentham — present but not voting." This too is physical immortality of a sort, and it reflects a common yearning. Let me say this is now possible.

Corcoran Laboratories in Traverse City, Michigan, already offers physical immortality to the wealthy, and not so wealthy, through Eternal





MASSAGE CHAIR BLOWOUT!





Preservation Incorporated. The owner, Daniel Corcoran, worked, or works, with Dr. Roy Glover of the University of Michigan, medical director for Bodies... The Exhibition. Corcoran has his own form of Plastination, a process developed by Dow Corning that is seemingly cheaper and faster than Dr. von Hagens's. Dr. Glover said it took him 24 hours to plastinate a human heart, while it took Dr. von Hagens at least a week. Although Dr. Glover and Corcoran have sold full bodies and body parts to various school and universities ----Corcoran has sold his plastinated frogs and rats to several Michigan high schools they also had a touring exhibition about a third the size of *Bodies... The Exhibition*.

The specimens offered on Corcoran's website (*corlabs.com*) don't seem as polished as those offered by Dr. von Hagens, but they're cheaper—a Volkswagen compared to a Mercedes. And in a March 2000 interview with the *New York Times*, Corcoran said he felt sure that soon some ambitious mortuary scientist would build his own Plastination factory for interested customers.

"There's a gentleman who does mummification somewhere," he said. "He does one

RESEARCH STUDIES

a week, at \$60,000 a body. And he's got a backlog. There's enough eccentric people in the world that someone would do quite well with it."

Then, in 2006, Corcoran

"An unembalmed body is much nicer looking."

decided to provide the service himself. He began his company, Eternal Preservation Inc. (EPI), and posted articles on funeral-service websites, such as *funeralwire.com*, offering tial \$5000. The plastinated body could be buried in the usual way, and the family would feel secure in the knowledge that their dear one was protected forever. In addition, according to the notice, "We believe the deceased and/or their loved ones will want to have better and more expensive caskets just for the fact the deceased remain intact forever and they would want the casket to do so too." Cor-

funeral homes \$5000 per

corpse, which he would plas-

tinate and return. The family

of the deceased would then

pay Corcoran a handsome

sum over and beyond the ini-

coran wrote that if ten percent of the U.S.'s annual dead — the number that he supposed "could afford this process with no financial problems whatsoever" — elected to be plastinated, it would bring the funeral industry a yearly sum of nearly \$140,000,000.

I must say I was impressed by the scale of Dan Corcoran's ambition. Right away I called him at EPI to learn more.

"I was really surprised, to be brutally honest. We got letters and contacts from about 300 funeral homes [after the notice on *funeralwire.com*]. We also had quite a few individuals inquiring about this, and we've had quite a few celebrities who've contacted us about being preserved. I can't tell you their names, but you would recognize them." Nor would it be necessary

for a person to be buried in

#### the usual manner. "It's whatever the individual wants," Corcoran told me. "They could do anything with the body. We heard from someone down South that [he'd] built a mausoleum and wanted seven of his family done." The mausoleum would have windows, as would the caskets, so visitors could observe the deceased.

"A lot of people don't want to be eaten by worms and bugs," said Corcoran. "Literally, thousands and thousands have shown an interest."

Although Corcoran's company was working on a body when we spoke — their first, with another waiting to be done — the purpose of the FuneralWire notice had been to discover the degree of existing interest. Having made technical adjustments to the plastinating process, the company had nearly completed a new website that would not only advertise but describe

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8

# Depression

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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.

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- You receive no-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



San Diego Reader March 6, 2008

the process in detail and contain a price list. Corcoran hoped the website would be up in a few weeks.

This seems like great news for baby boomers. In 2000, Dr. Glover charged \$13,000 to plastinate a corpse, and while the price has surely gone up, one could probably get the job done for the cost of a medium-sized BMW.

And, as Corcoran said, the plastinated loved one wouldn't need to go in the ground. At one point, I talked to John Davis, head of the San Diego Memorial Society, who told me this had already been done. "It happened in Texas and we've seen photos. A husband couldn't let go of his wife and had her treated and put into a glass coffin that he used as a coffee table in his living room."

Of course, this is an industry in its infancy, but one can imagine a time when people might choose to keep their plastinated loved ones in the home, arranged in traditional poses: Aunt Betty taking cookies from the oven, Uncle Bob hunched over a crossword puzzle - figures would last forever and only require a little dusting.

But I had grown interested in other options available to baby boomers who didn't care to wait for Plastination or who would prefer more economical alternatives. This led me to a panel hosted by the Hemlock Society, where four speakers discussed the ized physician aid to dying." At the Sunday afternoon event at the Joyce Beers Center in Hillcrest, members of the society taught me a definition of the

"Embalming is so popular because it makes funeral homes a lot of money."

choices ahead. The Hemlock Society, quoting its website, "is committed to providing information regarding options for dignified death and legal-

verb "to hasten" that I hadn't known before. For instance, Michigan's Dr. Kavorkian was a "hastener" and assisted in "hastening" the hopeless into the hereafter. Only in Oregon is hastening, or assisted suicide, legal in the United States.

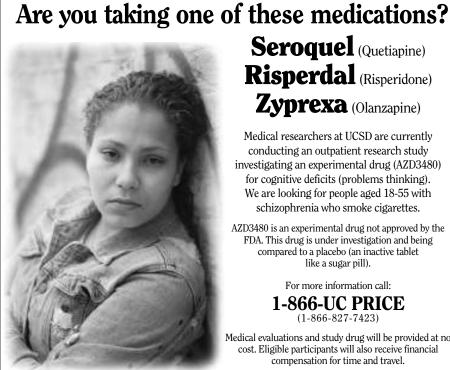
An audience of about 50, mostly elderly, listened as the speakers, two men and two women, represented the basic options: body donation to California colleges and universities; a basic, dignified, and inexpensive - relatively funeral package available from the nonprofit San Diego Memorial Society; a combination mortuary and cemetery package for one-stop shopping from El Camino Memorial; and, lastly, the funeral director of a nonprofit corporation that offers traditional in-home funerals and

advocates green burials and eco-friendly cemeteries.

Karly Baptiste, from El Camino Memorial, is an attractive, dark-haired young woman whose job title "family service counselor" masks her actual job of saleswoman. Six El Camino Memorials are located in the San Diego area, and all are part of Stewart Enterprises, a pricey, nationwide chain.

The audience, as might be expected from people familiar with the Hemlock Society, was fairly savvy about the funeral business, and they gave Ms. Baptiste a hard time. This might be partially blamed on the best-selling book by Jessica Mitford that appeared

#### RESEARCH STUDIES



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Medical evaluations and study drug will be provided at no cost. Eligible participants will also receive financial compensation for time and travel.



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If you are 18-65 and are experiencing such symptoms of depression as feeling worthless, guilty, sad or blue; if you have lost interest in things, lack energy and concentration, you may qualify.

This study offers the possibility of treatment augmentation with a form of the vitamin folic acid to see if it may boost the effectiveness of your current medication in reducing symptoms of depression. This treatment is classified as a medical food, originally derived from a principle vitamin found in leafy green vegetables.

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For more information and to see if you gualify,

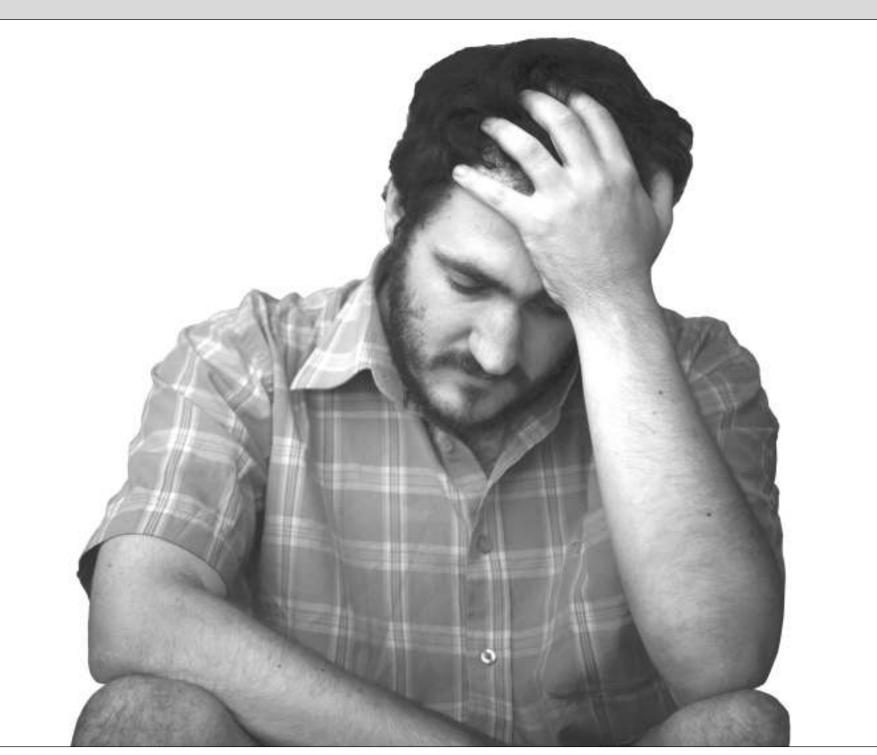
please call 858-784-7867

or visit www.pearsoncenter.org for more detailed information.



San Diego Reader March 6, 2008

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# Schizophrenia

# "I take my medications but still can't think clearly."

Are you (or someone you love) struggling to become more independent? Are you stable on your treatment yet still unable to do tasks that would allow you to become more independent?

Are you taking: Risperdal<sup>®</sup> or Abilify<sup>®</sup> and still having difficulty functioning? Our latest research study adds an investigational medication to your current treatment in the hope of improving your thinking processes.

We are caring, experienced professionals funded by a pharmaceutical company to conduct a research study for qualified people with schizophrenia.

#### If your loved one participates, there is no cost...instead:

- They receive up to \$835 for participation.
- They receive no-cost research 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

# BOTOX<sup>®</sup> as low as \$5.40/unit

BOTOX injections take as little as 15 minutes and last 3 to 9 months. \$8 per unit for first area, **\$6 per unit** second area, \$5.40 per unit third area introductory price (25 units per area). Results may vary.

Call 619-543-1061

# Medical Marijuana Evaluations

WARNING: ID Card does not protect Patient Privacy (HIPPA) for urinalysis. Call our office for more details and ask how we can help.

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

For 24-Hour Recorded Information **Please Call:** 619-442-4215 Save 10% with ad. Expires 3/19/08. For weight control. New patients only.

# Lose Weight as low as \$10/day

We have new and innovative **medications** and regimens to help you lose weight without depleting your body of the nutrients it needs and help you feel satisfied: bioidentical hormones, lifestyle and nutrition training and vitamin B-12 injections are important contributors to your well-being and helpful in increasing

your energy, height-ening your meta-bolism and feeding your nervous system. Let Dr. Sterner develop an individualized program just for you. Call:

619-543-1061 Central Location Near Airport

Medical Center & Weight Control Medical Clinic 1516 W. Redwood St., Ste. 105

Robert F. Sterner, Jr., MD Harvard 1978/UCLA 1982 San Diego 92101



in 1963, The American Way of Death, which focused on the funeral business, particularly in California, and revealed a long list of doubtful practices. The book led to the passage of laws to benefit the consumer. For instance, it is now possible to go into any funeral home and demand a price list that will reveal the cost of everything from caskets to eye caps — \$15 per gross — those small plastic disks with tiny grippers that keep the eyes of your loved one from popping open during a viewing.

Audience members wanted to know why El Camino's prices were \$1990 for cremation, while the Memorial Society provided cremation with full services, including scattering the ashes at sea, for \$696. Why were the caskets so expensive, the funerals so expensive, why was it necessary to embalm a body, and so on. Ms. Baptiste's answers spoke of the dignity of the process, professionalism, the love and best intentions of the survivors, their chance to create a personalized tribute for the decedent, and Stewart Enterprises'"Simplicity Package." El Camino's Memorial Park or cemetery is broken up into two dozen or so areas with such names as Valor Ridge, Freedom Terrace, Labor Rest Garden, Garden of Eden, Madonna Lawn, Vista of Liberty, Moose Lawn, and the Scatter Garden. I wanted to ask about Moose Lawn, but Ms. Baptiste was having a hard time and I felt it best to leave well enough alone.

According to Wikipedia, the 22,500 U.S. cemeteries yearly bury 30 million board-feet of hardwoods from caskets; 90,272 tons of steel and 2700 tons of copper and bronze, also from caskets; and 14,000 more tons of steel from vaults, which require 1,636,000 tons of reinforced concrete. Also sunk into the ground are 827,060 gallons of embalming fluid, enough to fill eight Olympic-sized swimming pools.

Next to speak was Herb Hawley, head of the University of California Body Dona-

tion Program, who offered a simple solution to rescue this mass of hardwood, steel, concrete, etc.: Give your body to him. Fifty-seven California universities, colleges, and community colleges have bodies donated to them for anatomy classes and research. Unfortunately, last year they received 225 bodies, and they need 500. Only a very small number were unclaimed dead.

One gray-haired lady asked in a quivering voice,"Is an old body useful?"

"We have no age limits on donors," said Hawley. He added that the program had to receive the body within eight days of death. Only the obese and those with hepatitis or HIV were ineligible. Anyone else was fine. There was no charge to the families, and once a school was done with the "study," which might take two or three years, the body would be cremated and the ashes scattered at sea. It was also possible to have organs and tissue harvested — a charming euphemism — before the

#### RESEARCH STUDIES



# CONSTIPATIO

# Straining All The Time...Doesn't Matter What I Eat

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

To possibly qualify:

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

#### Participants may receive at **no cost**:

- Study-related exam and consultation with a board-certified specialist
- Study-related labs, EKG and study medications
- Compensation for your time and travel

Interested, call:

# 619-521-2841

Medical Center for Clinical Research

"Thank You

Generations of men and women have helped in the development of new treatments for Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, diabetes and arthritis... ...and you could help too.

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

## To qualify you must be:

- A healthy male or female age 18 or older
- Able to take part in an outpatient study no overnight stays required

Participants will receive all study-related exams and investigational medication at no cost and will receive compensation up to \$1,000 for time and participation.

Think you can help? Then call: 866-818-3253 or visit: TestWithTheBest.com today.



9665 Chesapeake Dr., Ste. 200

San Diego, CA

Please reference study 6962-178



# 00

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



# Excessive worries Are your worries excessive and

uncontrollable? Do you experience fatigue, insomnia, irritability? CONFIDENTIAL help is available.

You may be eligible to receive

free treatment as part of a clinical trial of a computerized treatment program at the San Diego State University Psychology Department.

**Center for Understanding** and Treating Anxiety Call: (619) 229-3740 http://nas.psy.sdsu.edu

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

Researchers in your area are studying an investigational medication that may provide pain relief and reduce your risk of gastric ulcers. You may qualify to enroll if you:

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

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

To find out if you qualify, call: 858-277-7177 or visit: www.marginc.com

# **Medical Associates Research Group**



# Is waking up tonight affecting your tomorrow?

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

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

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

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

If you are interested inlearning more about this study, please call: contact: (619) 688-6565



## See our website: www.ari-inc.com

# Alzheimer's Disease

FEELING HOPELESS? A new investigational medication is available as part of a research study.

Are you or someone you love: Suffering from mild to moderate Alzheimer's Disease?

• Taking Aricept®, Exelon®, Razadyne®, or Reminyl® for the treatment of Alzheimer's Disease?

Between 55 and 90 years of age? • In overall good health? • Not living in a nursing home? Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study on Alzheimer's Disease.

Qualified participants will receive at no cost: Study medication · Medical evaluation by a board-certified medical doctor · Laboratory tests

· Supervised care by medical professionals as it relates to the study · Compensation for time and travel · Health insurance is not required

If you are interested in learning more about





# Sadness? Low energy? Trouble sleeping? Can't concentrate? These are symptoms of Depression!

- Between the ages of 18 and 70?
  In overall good health?
- · Currently experiencing these symptoms?

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 study medication, 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 call: (619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com



# Is your current Anxiety medication not working?

Are you

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

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

> 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 vou:

- A Type II diabetic?
- In overall good health?
  - · Currently suffering from obesity?
- A non-smoker for at least 3 months?

• Between 18 and 70 years of age?

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



San Diego Reader March 6, 2008 μ





# 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**

body went to the Body Donation Program. In addition, the family could have a traditional church or mortuary service with a viewing. "You're helping mankind," he said. "It's a great educational opportunity. I've signed up for it, and I feel I'm making a better world for my grandchildren."

A red-haired woman with an educated voice said that she had donated her brain to one school and her body to another. "Would there be a problem with that?"

Hawley said it would be no problem. He is a very large man, about six foot six, and solid, with a deep, authoritative voice. He holds a business degree, and his previous body experience had been while he was employed by the San Diego medical examiner's office.

"Some of us are contemplating an arranged death at home," said the moderator. "Can we still be donors?" "Yes, but it might require

an autopsy," Hawley said. "So someone can call you eight days after a death?"

Hawley chuckled. "If someone dies and calls me eight days later, I'll quit."

Another man asked, "If someone hastens their death, if we help in a suicide, which we do, well, sometimes, is there a danger for us?"

"It's illegal as hell," said Hawley. "Dr. Kevorkian got

# Have you been having symptoms of **Major Depression?** Fatigue/lack of energy

RESEARCH STUDIES

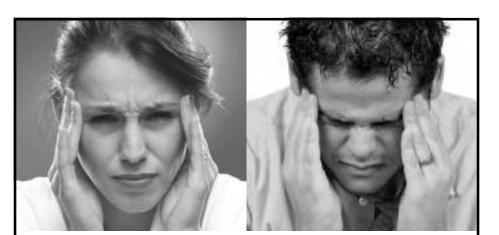
- Depressed mood
- Changes in appetite or weight
- Loss of interest in work/hobbies
- Agitated or slow movements
- Feelings of guilt or worthlessness

You may qualify to participate in a research study of an investigational medication and be compensated up to \$750 (\$50 for your first screening visit and \$100 for each additional outpatient protocol scheduled visit after your first screening visit).

• Sleep difficulties • Poor concentration

• Lack of pleasure

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



# **Got Migraines??**

# Is Fioricet or Fiorinal...Not Enough??

Are migraine headaches interrupting your life...and medication, like Fioricet or Fiorinal, used in the past just not working? Consider this research study comparing an investigational oral medication and a presently marketed treatment for migraine headaches.

#### To qualify:

- Male or female, 18-65 years of age
- Have a history of diagnosed migraines with at least one episode
- per month • Taken Fioricet or Fiorinal for at least one migraine recently

Participants receive at no cost:

- Examination by a board-certified physician
- All study-related medication • Compensation for your time and travel

**MEDICAL CENTER FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH** MISSION VALLEY Call: 619-521-2841



# **Bipolar Disorder** • Depression • Schizophrenia

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

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

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

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

# (858) 694-8350.

Clinical **Research Center** R Mesa Vista Hospital

# 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

# Do you have moderate or severe atopic dermatitis?

If you have atopic dermatitis on at least 10% of your body and you are at least 18 years of age, you may be eligible for a clinical research study.

You may qualify if you have: moderate or severe atopic dermatitis on at least 10% of body surface area.

# 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.

# Type 1 Diabetes: How Does It Affect You?

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



Profil Institute for Clinical Research invites you to participate in a research study involving an investigational insulin for people with Type 1 Diabetes.

You may be compensated up to \$2,750.00 for your time and travel. Four overnights are required.

Participants must be:

- ◆ Between 18 and 55 years old
- ◆ Diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes for 1 year
- ♦ Otherwise healthy

Profil

For more information, please call: 619-409-1244

## **Healthy Female?**

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



**Call today** 

for more information:

866-818-3253

Qualified participants must be:

- Healthy Females Age 18-45
- Non-smokers for at least 3 months
- Willing to take an Oral Contraceptive
- Willing to make overnight stays



Participants may receive up to \$1,550 for time and participation.

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

Study 6135-301



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 travei

MEDICINE SERVICES For more information on these and other clinical studies: call (toll free) 1.866.410.6767 or visit www.AvastraClinicalTrials.com

## OPIOID-INDUCED CONSTIPATION BRINGING YOUR LIFE TO A STANDSTILL?

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

You may be able to participate if you are:

- · At least 18 years old
- + Have a history of chronic non-canceross pain
- · Currently taking an opioid pain medication + Have constipation due to taking an opioid pain medication

Study participation lasts approximately 16 weeks and includes 8 study clini visies and at lease 1 telephone call to assess any side effects. All study-related office visits, medical evaluations, and investigational medication or placebo will be provided to qualified study participants at no cost.

major time for it, and if he hadn't been famous he would have gotten life. But as for assisted death, I believe if you can do it for your dog, then you should be able to do it for your mother."

Next to speak was Barbara Kernan, a registered nurse and licensed funeral director who started Thresholds in 2004 to provide home- and familydirected funerals. Attractive and in her mid-40s, she spoke with great compassion, while expressing anger at the funeral business as a whole." I realized a few years ago that I was going to die, that I was going to check out of here, and it made me look differently at death. Death

is like marriage, a rite of passage. But I didn't like the usual mortuary experience, so I started Thresholds. There's a shift going on. The traditional

We specialize in in-home funerals. We do not embalm and don't require embalming for a viewing. We don't have a traditional mortuary,

"Family-owned mortuaries hate the conglomerates as much as we do."

mortuary experience has left a bad taste in people's lives. We're bringing it back to the family; it's more hands-on, more of a healing experience. but there are many places where you could hold a viewing. We do not sell caskets. We work with the family in washing and preparing the

### RESEARCH STUDIES





If you have mild to moderate high blood pressure, you may be eligible to participate in a voluntary clinical research study of an investigational drug.

Study participants will receive all investigational study medication and all study-related testing and examinations at no cost. Compensation for time and travel may be available.

If interested, please contact: 858-277-7177 or visit: www.marginc.com

## **Medical Associates Research Group**

## **Attn: Heavy Drinkers**

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

Is your current alcohol use causing problems with your family, your work, your life? If you want to stop drinking, The Pearson Center for Alcoholism and Addiction Research is conducting a clinical trial to help you reach that goal.

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

Call: 858-784-7867 (STOP) Or visit: www.pearsoncenter.org

San Diego Reader March 6, 2008 ဖ္ထ

## Health & Beauty Coupons at SDReader.com!

Here's a small sample to get you inspired!

#### Free week of Yoga

Bird Rock Yoga in Pacific Beach. Free week of Yoga. Voted best yoga studio by 944 magazine and Beacon Press. Come visit our new location right upstairs from Bogurt Yoga in Pacific Beach. Build the Body, Settle the Mind! Offer expires March 31, 2008. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.



#### Bird Rock Yoga

Bird Rock Yoga offers Vinyasa Flow, Ashtanga, and Caporia. Check out our website for a current schedule of classes.

910 Grand Avenue #206, Pacific Beach, 858-539-5742 www.birdrockyoga.com Reader Coupons 619-235-3000

Reader Coupons

619-235-3000

#### Free designer haircut



Offer expires March 31, 2008. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.

consultation on new Japanese Straight Perm or thermal conditioning press.

\$45 value with purchase of any color service or 25% off haircut. Free

### Carole & Debi Hairstylists

Thermal re-conditioning specialists. Holiday gift certificates available. Call Carole at 619-295-5796 or Debi at 619-889-7774 to schedule an appointment.

Hotel Circle North

A Day Spa \$10 off any 1-hour service A Doctor's Weight Loss Clinic **<u>\$55 off initial fees</u>** A Dream Smile ZOOM! Advanced teeth whitening \$199 Action Recovery 10% off detox program Adam & Eve Skin Care Eyelash extension \$150 Advanced Dermatology Free cosmetic consultation Ageless & Beautiful \$500 off Vaser LipoSelection Aqua Bella Buy 3, get 1 free Aqua Day Spa Body scrub and massage \$90 Arena Eyeworks Opt. Contacts-exam, 6-mo. supply \$139 askforhypnosis.com Free custom hypnosis CD Bare Skincare **\$25 Brazilian wax** Beautik Salon Free haircut with purchase Beauty by Judy \$200 off a full head of hair extensions Bee Tan Salon Free Magic Tan Bella Pelle Medical Spa \$25 off treatment Body Wise Yoga Studio \$10 off yoga class Brazilia Skin Care La Jolla Brazilian bikini wax \$35 Carole & Debi Hairstylists Free designer haircut (\$45 value) Center for Age Management \$50 off any service Chesaray's Touch Massage Sports massage \$59 Chula Vista Yoga Center 10 days of yoga \$10 Coastal Dental Arts \$1,000 off Invisalign Continuum Aesthetics 10% off any service Cosmetic Laser & Skin Rejuvenation Botox \$9 per unit Delicate Dental Arts Teeth cleaning, exam

### and x-rays \$89

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### <u>removal pkg.</u>

Dr. Michael Goldsmid Optometry **\$20 off eye exam** Hair Addictions Hair extensions only \$599.99 Hair by Don-Paul Hofherr 15% off retail hair products Farnaz Haroon, DDS Lumineers - Save \$300 per tooth Hear Asist Hearing Aids Free hearing test Hillcrest Optical 20% off any purchase 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 45% 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 Free body wrap Jennifer Salon and Spa **\$5 off any spa package** Jezebelle 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 \$75 off purchase of \$500 or more La Jolla Cosmetic Laser Clinic 10% off Fraxel 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

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Bring in this coupon to receive your first Acupuncture treatment at a discounted rate of \$20. New patients only. Please call 619-574-6932 for an appointment. Offer expires March 31, 2008. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.



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The Undercarriage A fine waxing establishment

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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 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 Rejúve Med Spa & Wellness \$99 fire & ice facial

Rejúve Med Spa & Wellness **\$99 fire & ice facial** The Relaxing Space <u>1-hour massage \$45</u> Revive **Shiatsu/oxygen experience \$10** Revive Salon & Spa **\$100 off 1-hour teeth whitening** Revive Yourself **Free haircut with purchase of color or highlights** Ross Med Hair Restoration <u>Free 90-day supply of Propecia</u> Sabre Springs Dentistry <u>Free dental exam</u> Dr. Sadrian **\$50 off Botox or filler** Salon Soulé **\$10 off precision haircut** Salon D<sup>2</sup>'s <u>Free designer haircut</u> S.D. Skin.net <u>2-hour facial \$95</u> S.D. Wax Oueen **\$25 Brazilian wax** 

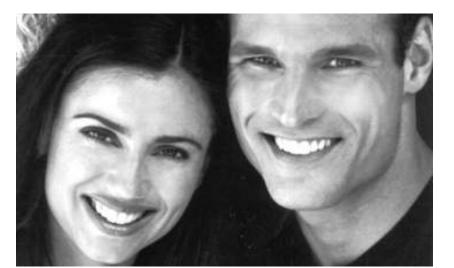
Dr. Selby Contacts & exam \$122

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 <u>\$25 off Micro Dermal Tone trtmt</u> Spa Urban Retreat Professional Aveda massage \$49 Sport Clips \$5 off MVP haircut Success Hypnotherapy 50% off hypnotherapy session Suddenly Slimmer Free Healthy Airbrush Tan with any Double Mineral/Fat Burner wrap Sunshine Dentistry ZOOM! teeth whitening \$199 Syner Chi Day Spa IPL Photofacial \$125 Tanya at Salon D<sup>2</sup> 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 Free Brazilian bikini wax Urban Skin Care Brazilian wax \$30 Vahl Chiropractic Wellness Center \$25 off laser treatment Vein & Liposculpture Center Laser hair removal \$49 VIP Salon & Day Spa Two 1-hour massages \$109 Viva Wellness Med. Groups Botox \$59 Votre Beau'te Free Lumiere light therapy treatment Walden Ashe Skin & Body Spa 15% off massage 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

Shumway Cosmetic Surgery \$50 off Botox or Restylane

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Includes one Zoom! Advanced session.\*



**Free Lifetime Teeth Whitening\*** 

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50% OFF

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**Free Consultation!** 

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"We makes friends with our families; they invite us to dinner. We companion them through the whole process. And we encourage people to bring their children into the process. It's hard and sad, but it's also life-changing. It's very healthy and educational. We don't do embalming for very specific environmental reasons. We don't usually look at the funeral industry as an environmental polluter, but it is. Also an unembalmed body is much nicer looking, more real looking, than an embalmed one. We also encourage people to witness the cremation. It can be emotionally challenging, but it helps with the grief experience."

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answer period, a woman asked Kernan, "Don't dead bodies stink if they're not embalmed?"

"We had a young woman at home for five days over Christmas without smelling. And she was still like an angel after those five days. A cause of death like liver cancer can cause an odor, but most people are okay for five days. And we'll use dry ice, but we'll place

shroud, in a natural area more resembling a park or nature preserve than a cemetery. Sorry to say, no such places exist in Southern California. The closest is Fernwood Cemetery, outside of Mill Valley, a 19thcentury cemetery bought by Forever Enterprises in 2004 which began green burials at that time. The first green cemetery in the United States was

it so you can't see it. I was once

told by morticians that the

body would explode and all

sorts of horrible things if it

weren't embalmed, but that's

burials and eco-cemeteries,

Kernan believes that it's best

for the unembalmed body to

be buried in a biodegradable

container, or with just a plain

As an advocate of green

totally not true."

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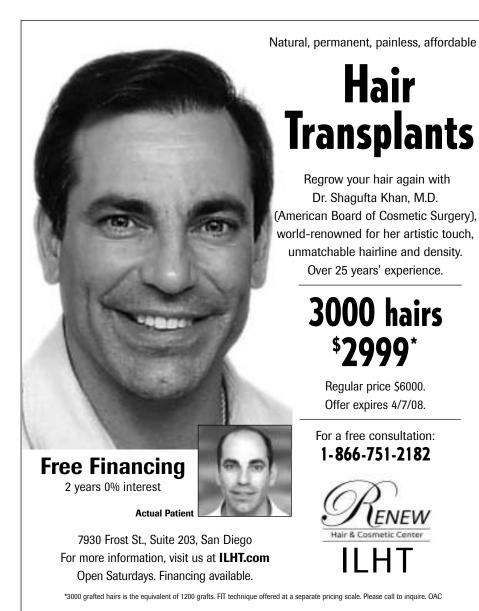
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\*Surgery performed by Dr. Glenn Kawesch.



the Ramsey Creek preserve that opened in 1998 outside Westminster, North Carolina. Their cost for a green burial is about \$2000. It's owned by Memorial Ecosystems, which operates another property, Honey Creek Woodlands, about 30 miles east of Atlanta. So far, only eight eco-cemeteries exist in the U.S., though others are planned. Great Britain, on the other hand, has at least two dozen. Particulars about green burials can be obtained from the Green Burial Council, greenburialcouncil.org.

Local laws requiring the use of burial vaults are the main reason for so few ecocemeteries. Supposedly, a burial vault — all that steel and reinforced concrete - protects the land from sinking as the casket decomposes, and it protects the groundwater from contaminants. New England, where I live, is full of cemeteries with early-20thcentury and 19th-century graves where no burial vaults were used, and one finds no

evidence of sinkage. Nor is contamination an issue, studies in Great Britain suggest, unless the body is buried on the bank of a stream or river. Studies indicate there is far more pollution in conventional cemeteries, not just because of the buried chemicals, metals, and concrete, but because of the fertilizer. chemicals, and water used to

"The resistance to home funerals has been disappointing."

keep the cemeteries green. Nor do burial vaults, embalming, and steel caskets ensure against decomposition. The only way to protect against body rot is Plastination. The big reason for burial vaults is that they make money for cemeteries.

The fourth person to speak was John Davis, executive director of the San Diego

Funeral Consumers Alliance (funerals.org), a national organization that "gives advice and guidance to local memorial and funeral-planning societies." The benefits of a memorial society are pre-funeral planning and price — the society negotiates with participating mortuaries "to provide services for members at preestablished prices." Funeral

Memorial Society, which has

enrolled more than 30,000

members since its founding in

1958. It is the only nonprofit,

volunteer-led funeral society

in San Diego County, and

Davis is the only paid employee.

His position is considered

half-time, though he says it

keeps him busy about 60

hours a week. The Memor-

ial Society is affiliated with

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packages from nonparticipating mortuaries can range from \$3000 to \$13,000, while additional services and pricey caskets can more than double the cost. This doesn't include cemetery charges. Memorial Society prices range from about \$500 to \$1700, with cemetery charges being extra, as are the cost of permits, licenses, and taxes. Cremation packages from nonparticipating mortuaries can range from \$2000 to \$8000, while the Memorial Society prices run from \$500 to \$700. The society has about 7500 members of all ages with the oldest being 108. The membership fee is \$40.

The Memorial Society's prices may indicate why it's unpopular with the local funeral industry. Of the 56 licensed mortuaries in San Diego County, only 6 are willing to meet the Memorial Society's criteria. Of the roughly 5000 monthly mortuary totals in the county, the Memorial Society handles about 40. This disparity is no indication of the quality of the Memorial Society's cremation and burial plans but points to advertising and the extra services offered by most other mortuaries.

John Davis has been executive director since August 2006, though he has been on the board of the Memorial Society for over ten years. At 58, he has short gray hair and a closely trimmed gray beard. He wears rimless glasses, and his small ears are set so close to his head they appear to be hiding. Previously, he held positions in the financialservices industry. He described the function of the Memorial Society and discussed the high prices of the nonparticipating mortuaries. "The reason embalming is so popular in this country is that it makes it possible for funeral homes to make a lot of money. In most other countries, embalming is a lot less common, even rare." Muslims forbid embalming, and it is generally forbidden under Jewish law. Some branches of the Eastern Orthodox Church also forbid embalming. Embalming began to be widely used in the United States during the Civil War as a way to preserve and ship home members of the military who had died of wounds or sickness.

I spoke again with Davis several days later over lunch at the Hob Nob Hill on First Avenue, where he described the current state of the funeral industry more specifically.

"The mom-and-pop mortuaries are being sucked up by the multinational companies," he told me. "One of the biggest that makes its presence felt in San Diego is Service Corporation International." There are more than 20 SCI establishments in the San Diego area, including Glen Abbey Memorial Park & Mortuary, one of the largest and most expensive funeral companies in the country.

SCI's website — *sci-corp.com*—states that in 1999, "The company's global network numbered more than

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4500 funeral service locations, cemeteries, and crematories in 20 countries." This number was greatly increased in November 2006, when SCI acquired the Alderwoods Group for \$1.2 billion. Alderwoods had been the secondlargest provider of funeral, cremation, and cemetery services with 579 funeral homes, 72 cemeteries, and 61 combination funeral homes and cemeteries in the U.S., Canada, and Puerto Rico. The third-(now second-, after the acquisition of Alderwoods) largest company is Stewart Enterprises. Alderwoods owns Rose Hills Memorial Park & Mortuary in Whittier, the largest cemetery in the world with 2500 acres and more than 600 employees. Turning the many steep hillsides, cliffs, and canyons into rolling hills required moving 25 million cubic yards of earth in a project one-sixth the size of the building of the Panama Canal. The vastness of this enterprise gives one a sense of the prof-

its available to the funeral

industry.

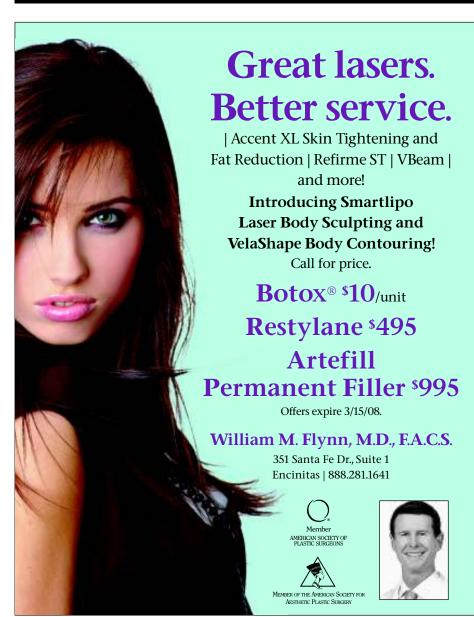
SCI was founded in Houston in 1962 by Robert Waltrip, who remains chairman of the board. He is a friend of George W. Bush, as well as a big-money contributor to Bush's political campaigns. Both Waltrip and Bush, while the latter was still governor of Texas, were involved SCI paid an additional \$21,000 in fines to the state funeral commission.

John Davis told me that the San Diego Memorial Society would not work with an SCI mortuary, nor would the company work with him. "We don't want to work with a company we see as gouging the public. If someone wants an

"When I started, only about 4 percent were cremated, now it's almost 70 percent."

in a scandal, where Waltrip allegedly got Bush to fire a director with the Texas Funeral Service Commission for pursuing SCI's violations of state embalming codes. Although Waltrip and Bush denied they had acted improperly, the case was settled out of court with SCI and the State of Texas jointly paying \$200,000, while expensive funeral, that's fine; but poor people are talked out of money that is needed by their families." Davis said that a mortuary salesman would make his pitch when someone "was at their most vulnerable" and would try to convince the prospective buyer that issues of love, respect, and prestige would be reflected

### HEALTH AND BEAUTY



by the amount of money the customer paid for the funeral. "Much of this would be avoided with preplanning and living wills, but people are so afraid of death that they don't do it.

"SCI tries to buy up enough mortuaries in a community to give them an effective monopoly, and then they raise their prices through the roof." He said that SCI also had a no-walk policy and, if forced to, would match or undercut other mortuaries' prices in an attempt to drive them out of business.

"We still have a lot of family-owned mortuaries in the county, and they hate the conglomerates as much as we do. We sue SCI all the time and mostly win. The Funeral Consumers Alliance is suing them right now for price-fixing on their caskets and other stuff. Once SCI and the conglomerates set up their monopolies, they can control prices. After all, management serves the shareholders, and profits run about 25 percent." An edifying source for funeral industry shenanigans is funeralsripoffs.org.

Another of Davis's concerns was the theft and illegal trade of body parts. He said a crematory might remove tissue and body parts, and whatever was left would be put into the cremation furnace. Tissue and body parts were also taken from mortuaries. I had heard this from several other people, but it's difficult to know how much of it goes on. Some people say a lot, some say very little.

In a case in 2003, Michael Brown, owner of the Pacific Care Crematorium in Lake Elsinore, was sentenced to 20 years in prison after he pleaded guilty to mutilating 78 bodies without permission. The body parts were sold to medical-research companies and universities for a profit of at least \$435,000. These were mostly heads, knees, and spines that he was legally obliged to cremate between February 2000 and February 2001. Two of Brown's employees received lesser sentences. Prosecutors said the bodies came from Riverside, San Diego, and San Bernardino counties. A number of the San Diego body parts came from SCI mortuaries. The SCI Humphrey Mortuary in Chula Vista, along with Brown's several companies, had to pay \$450,000 in damages to the widow and family of a San Diego man whose body parts Brown intended to sell. The crime

was discovered when Riverside County investigators raided Brown's home and business offices and discovered the San Diego man's head, shoulders, and knees. In separate cases, other San Diego families were also awarded large sums stemming from Brown's conviction.

In an ongoing case that broke toward the end of 2005, Michael Mastromarino, an oral surgeon and owner of Biomedical Tissue Services of Fort Lee, New Jersey, was accused of taking the tissue and body parts from hundreds of bodies from funeral homes in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania in what was labeled a corpse-snatching ring. Mastromarino's company then sent the tissue in large coolers to five suppliers across the U.S. Harvested skin is used in many medical procedures. Every year about 20,000 square feet is used for burn victims. A company in Florida, Regeneration Technologies, shipped a total of 19,446 pieces of tissue from

## HEALTH AND BEAUTY

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Mastromarino's company. One of the bodies belonged to Alistair Cooke, former host of Masterpiece Theatre, who died in 2004 at the age of 95. His arms and legs went to Regeneration Technologies, but records are unclear about who received his pelvis and other tissues. At this writing (January 2008), Mastromarino has pleaded guilty to the charges and has promised to provide investigators with information about the companies who received the stolen bits and pieces. In return, he hopes to avoid a lengthy prison sentence, according to the Associated Press. A Google search will turn up other recent cases involving stolen parts and tissue.

For a San Diego baby boomer imagining the future of his body after death, stories of body looting must come as a nasty surprise. Although the vast number of mortuaries may be innocent, the existence of even one crooked mortuary or crematorium plants a seed of doubt. Alistair Cooke, according to his daughter, had a horror of being cut open. Now he is spread across half the country.

Well, how does one protect oneself from such a danger? It was this question that led me back to Barbara Kernan of Thresholds. After all, a home funeral and green burial would keep attention focused on my earthly remains till they were safely in the ground.

I met Kernan and her partner Eric Putt one afternoon in a coffee shop on El Cajon Boulevard. Before Thresholds, Kernan worked as a school nurse and thought of becoming a homeopathic doctor focusing on homedeath care. Then, as she said, she was sidetracked into becoming what she called a "death midwife to companion people through the death process."

Kernan began to take distance-learning classes from Clayton College in Atlanta. One of the first questions she was asked was "Are you prepared for your own death?"

"It changed my life," Kernan told me. "And I realized there could be a service that could help people through a difficult time. Then, the more I learned, the more misinformation I learned. Like embalming. I had no idea that one didn't need to be embalmed. And once I found out that people could keep the body and do their own funeral, then I wanted to work with them and help them. We need to return to the rituals and intimacies of a funeral. Meaning has to be brought back into the process."

She also learned that only four laws govern what happens to the body. 1 - A certificate of death must be signed by a doctor or medical examiner. 2 — A permit must be filed for the final disposition of the body. 3 — There has to be a suitable container for the body — "Which can be anything," Kernan added. 4 ----One has to "interface" with a cemetery or crematorium.

Kernan took other classes,

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including a workshop in Northern California in washing and preparing bodies, before becoming a licensed mortician. At 45, she is quite pretty, with dark blond hair tied back in a ponytail. The day we met she wore brass-andbead earrings, a blue shawl, an earth-colored blouse, a long skirt, and no makeup. She and Putt are the only licensed funeral directors in the county who do home funerals. She said San Diego cemeteries don't allow green burials because they are so inexpensive, while only two cemeteries — Mt. Hope and El Cajon — will let her use a cardboard casket, even with a concrete liner. In-home funerals cost between \$400 and \$2000.

"Many times our customers come to see us as part of the family," Kernan told me. "People have been disempowered by the conventional funeral process, and we try to empower them. We help them claim responsibility over this major rite of passage. We don't use what they call restorative arts. We use the least invasive stuff to achieve the same results that the industry tries to achieve. We won't use eye caps or wire the jaw shut unless the family wants it. We're controlling the environment in an in-home funeral. We'll wash the body; we'll use ice if we need to. People don't have to have an in-home funeral, but they should know what their options are. Some people will help us dress the body, but most won't. Some feel that to dress their mom is inappropriate. But often the family will help us carry the body out of the bedroom. Other families have worked right there with us. We've had families come and help us clean up bodies after autopsies. They can be messy, but they are what they are. Really, we're doing what the family wants us to do. We've even had people build their own caskets. We had a family — they were carpenters - who built a beautiful casket out of poplar and mahogany with special handmade wooden handles. The women upholstered the inside of the casket with blue cloth. The casket was so large that it wouldn't fit in the house, so they left it on the porch,

and the son picked up his dead mother and carried her to the casket in his arms. It was beautiful. People were weeping. The son placed his mother in the casket, and the kids put flowers around her. It made me realize how beautiful this expe-

rience can be. Members of that family still call us. Some families have even invited us to Easter and Thanksgiving dinners."

On the other hand, Thresholds hasn't had as many in-home funerals as Kernan had hoped - only 20 out of about 200. "We've had far more conventional funerals than we ever thought we'd have. The bulk of our work is in direct cremation, with the body going directly to the crematory. Families can witness the cremation if they want to, but most haven't. Death has gotten a bad rap, but it's beginning to come out of the closet."

To educate people about in-home and family-directed funerals, Kernan and Putt offer classes and attend about 20

functions a year - Earth fairs, Alzheimer conferences, holistic healing circles, and environmental conferences. "We go wherever we can get the name out," she said.

The resistance to home funerals has been disappoint-

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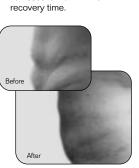
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ing. "It's a force outside me. I have moments when I think, 'What the hell am I doing?' But then all I need is a family to thank me, and I think how I wouldn't want to do anything else. In the beginning I was very idealistic, but now, although everything has worked out, I'm not as idealistic as I used to be. I thought people would be knocking

down the doors to do this, but that's not what happened. At first I was more intolerant of people who didn't want a hands-on experience, but now I think it's okay."

When I asked about body looting, Eric Putt says it exists in every community in California. "Harvesting is too lucrative, and the temptation is too great. There's a lot of money in body parts and tissue." Putt is 50 with a trimmed beard, ponytail, and rimless glasses. Before beginning Thresholds with Kernan, he spent several years running a first-call service, transferring bodies from homes to mortuaries. "It's tough work. You're on call 24 hours a day with maybe 40 mortuaries calling you. People in the business drive white vans, very industrial looking, but with no windows in the back. Nobody realizes there could be a dead body inside."

I felt he must be exaggerating about body looting, but maybe I'm wrong. Maybe his familiarity with mortuaries gives him more credibility on the subject.

I'd told John Davis and Barbara Kernan I wanted to talk to a local mortician, and both recommended Robert Humphrey, owner of Community Mortuary on Broadway in Chula Vista. Both said that although there were good people in the industry, Humphrey was the man they respected most.

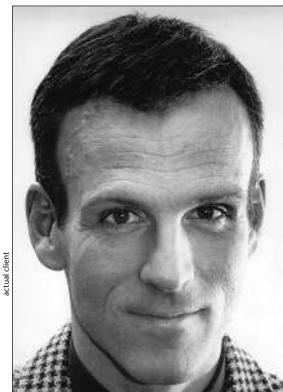
Some confusion exists about Humphrey's Community Mortuary, because about two blocks north is Humphrey Mortuary, which is owned by SCI. Humphrey's father, also a mortician, started his mortuary in 1955 when it was Humphrey's Mortuary, but

then he sold it, along with the name, in the 1970s. As a result, people who are looking for Robert Humphrey sometimes wind up going to Humphrey's Mortuary."There is constant confusion about it," he told me, "and there always will be."

Actually, Humphrey's grandfather started in the business back in the 1890s "in that transition period between when livery stables and hardware stores sold caskets and the funeral homes began," Humphrey said. "I grew up in mortuaries, lived in them all my life. I was shocked when I learned that other kids didn't freeze when the telephone rang." He worked in the mortuary as a teenager and got his embalmer's license — he is now 63. After his father sold the mortuary, Humphrey stayed on as manager but soon left to pursue jobs in banking and then computers."But I always gravitated back," he said. During those years the mortuary changed hands several times, and then Humphrey bought it in 1999. The San

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Diego Memorial Society had worked with the Humphrey Mortuary beginning in 1958, but SCI ended the relationship. However, Humphrey's Community Mortuary is one of the six mortuaries used by the Memorial Society.

"To tell you the truth," said Humphrey, "I'd rather have SCI as a competitor up the street than a young, harddriving professional who did everything right. SCI pays most of their people on commission. Often they were topnotch encyclopedia salesmen the month before. But I know some I respect, and many [of these people] hate what they do. For a while, there was a fierce acquisition phase by SCI. They'd buy a place, slap on a fresh coat of paint, fire everyone and hire kids, double their prices and treat their customers shabbily. But it didn't work, and they had to moderate their tactics. Still, it's a corporation. In my business, my wife and I answer the phones all night, and I do what I have to do. The big places have an

answering service, maybe in Canada, who'll tell the caller that the director will get back to him in an hour. Maybe they do, maybe they don't."

Humphrey is bald with a round face and soft voice and was quite distinguishedlooking in a dark blue suit. Over the years I've met a number of funeral directors who were a trifle oily, but Humphrey

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gave the impression of rigorous honesty. He has eight employees and handles about 370 bodies a year. His wife and son also work in the mortuary. It reminded me of the backstretch or stable area of a racetrack: everybody talking quietly and nobody running. But it's a well-appointed and dignified environment, and their prices are less than

that are discounted. And what we charge the Memorial Society is even less." Despite these prices, Humphrey's does more than double the business of Community Mortuary.

half of Humphrey's up the

street. Direct cremation at

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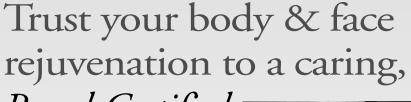
Humphrey's. "Each thing has

to be itemized," said Humphrey,

"but we can offer packages

I asked Robert Humphrey how the funeral business had changed since 1950. "Back then," he said, "all embalmers and funeral directors owned their own businesses. They'd

#### HEALTH AND BEAUTY



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raise prices for the rich and give funerals away to the poor. Now, with these big chains, that's no longer true. And it used to be more emotional back then. Today, you don't see the wailing, screaming, and jumping in the grave. It used to scare the heck out of me. Now people are more reserved. Everything changed when Jessica Mitford published The American Way of *Death.* With that book, the fox was in the henhouse. Mitford was a true crusader. The business ceased to be a goodold-boy network. New laws were passed. That's why a general price list and a casket price list are available by law to

everyone. But the biggest change has been cremation. When I started, only about 4 percent were cremated, now it's almost 70 percent. We had to have a chapel, an embalming room, and a casket room. Now companies selling direct cremations need only a storefront. I believe that will just about finish the mortuary business."

I'd recently read of a woman in Illinois who had had her six cats put to sleep and buried with her; I asked both Kernan and Humphrey if they knew of anything like this. They didn't but did mention instances of people being buried with the ashes of pets,

and Kernan mentioned a man who was buried with an urn containing his wife's ashes in the crook of his arm. One man was buried with a baseball bat, one with his golf clubs, and another with a practice samurai sword. Many were buried with photographs, both of people and pets. They were also buried with cans of beer, bottles of whisky, joints of marijuana, candy bars, baseball mitts, a mother's purse, beads and feathers, tea bags (I found that particularly odd), coins on the eyes or in the hands — it was a long list.

Lastly, I asked Humphrey about stolen body parts. "I think the possibility of body

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

theft from mortuaries and crematoriums is greatly exaggerated," he said. But he agreed that even one publicized instance puts all them under suspicion.

I next visited the Humphrey Mortuary up the street. Its website states that it was established in Chula Vista in 1955 but doesn't say that that was an entirely different mortuary and only the name is the same. Humphrey's has been at its present location since 1999. Its lobby gives an immediate impression of opulence and calm. Lights gleam from a huge chandelier. Above a gas fireplace hangs the reproduction of a painting of one of Byrne-Jones's melancholy women. In fact, I saw many reproductions of a melancholy nature. No clowns, no circuses. To the left was the Rose Chapel, seating about 80 people, a handsome and nondenominational space; to the right was the Serenity Chapel, seating more than 170 people and resembling a more traditional church. Beyond the fireplace were a number of viewing rooms, while sweeping upward from my right was an impressive staircase.

I introduced myself to the salesman — called a "family service counselor" — as a prospective customer, because

I felt that if I introduced myself as a reporter I might be shown the door. I don't know if this was true, but because of my deception, I'll simply call the family service counselor Mr. Jones. He was polite, soft-spoken, and seemingly straightforward — nothing like a used-car salesman, which I had come to expect. He led me up the curving staircase to a conference room. The rugs were so thick that an elephant could dance the hokey pokey and not be heard.

Glancing at the mortuary's price list, I said I'd just visited Community Mortuary and wondered why Humphrey's was so much

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more expensive. Mr. Jones made one of those what-asilly-question faces and proceeded to tell me the advantages of Humphrey's. Firstly, there was the ambience, the impression of upper-class opulence. Community Mortuary might be dignified and attractive, but it lacked the muted glitz of Humphrey's. Then there was the grief-management library, a 24-hour "Compassion-Helpline," preneed and pre-planning packages, which enable a person "to lock in a price forever." After some of this, Mr. Jones spoke of the "dignity packages.""Dignity Memorial" is a brand name for SCI and is offered by its 1800 locations. Although Humphrey's also offers a basic no-frills, no-ceremonies funeral — immediate burial with container provided by the purchaser for \$3095 the effort is to sell the Dignity packages, which range from the Tribute package at \$8295 to the Platinum package at \$11,595. In the latter, the offered stainless-steel and hardwood caskets cost \$2795 all by themselves. Of course, there are more expensive caskets available, all the way up to a solid-mahogany casket for \$13,295. The caskets include small memory-safe drawers located over the decedent's belly for pictures, coins, jewelry, whatever the corpse would like to save. However, the memory corner option is also extra. The memory corner is fixed to a rear corner of the casket and may have military insignias or pay tribute to the decedent's favorite hobby - small images representing a passion for golf, gardening, cooking, fishing, hunting, and so on. In the Tribute package the casket price ranges between \$1200 and \$1400. Cemetery charges are extra.

The top Dignity packages also offer immediate discount bereavement fares from airlines (meaning one doesn't need to wait for a reimbursement), as well as discounted bereavement travel packages for up to four family members for up to a year. There is a child/grandchild protection program that provides a free funeral for any of the decedents' children or grandchildren up to the age of 21 and a number of other services to make the survivors' lives easier. Dignity cremation packages range from \$10,395 down to \$3195. While all the pack-

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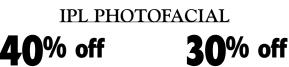
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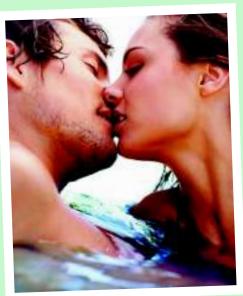
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ages might ease the funeral process, they are pricey and include frills like a Dignity Platinum Cross pen set, the Platinum Engraved Crane's acknowledgement cards with envelopes, and an engraved stationery set with envelopes. Listed by themselves on the mortuary's price list, the pen set is \$58, the acknowledgment cards and envelopes are \$159, and the stationery set and envelopes are \$131 - a total of \$348 for pen set and stationery.

I'm sure some baby boomers grow excited to hear of such possibilities, but this particular proto-boomer would prefer the in-home funeral and green burial. When I had asked Robert Humphrey about in-home funerals and green burials, he said, "I could live with that," then added: "Really, the whole thing is up to my family. It's whatever they want."

Another Dignity package service is a form of vir-



Community Mortuary, in Chula Vista, handles 370 bodies a year.

Lang Syne" — whatever you want. And in 500 years, someone can access it from China if there is a China — and say, "What an odd bloke."

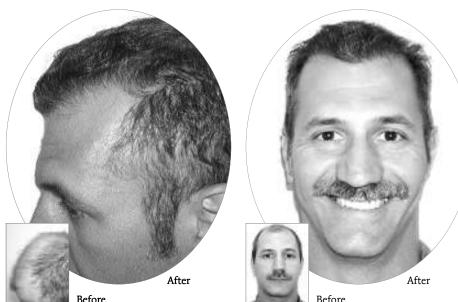
So these are possibilities available to those of us on the cusp of darkness. Another option—not available in San Diego—is sky burial, at times practiced in Tibet and India. The body is put on a high platform, prayers are chanted, incense is burned, and the body is left to be devoured by vultures. Robert Humphrey had such a client. Since the body had to be shipped, it had to be embalmed. Then the body was put on top of a stone tower. "Given the embalming fluid," Humphrey told me, "those had to be very sick vultures."

I've said little about cremation, but if a boomer wants that option he or she can choose inurnment — a new word for me - and have their urn buried in a cemetery. And in San Diego one can find many companies to scatter one's ashes at sea. Or one's ashes can be mixed with cement, then sunk in the ocean to help form an artificial reef and fish habitat. On the other hand, the Celestis Company offers memorial space flights that will put your ashes into orbit around the earth. Or one's ashes can be shot from a cannon or shotgun, dropped from a helium balloon, sent skyward in fireworks, or scattered from a plane. The company LifeGem will squeeze your ashes into an artificial diamond, and the company Mementos will mix a few smidgens of ash with molten glass to make lovely spheres of about nine inches in diameter with streaks of color and swirling ash. Smaller glass objects can be carried in the pocket. This process is also suitable for pets. And then there are lockets and memorial pendants, music boxes, garden ornaments — whatever you might want done with ashes is most likely available. Your ashes can even be mixed with paint, which is then used to paint your portrait.

The average male produces six pounds of ash; the average female produces four pounds. I expect a wooden casket would add to the weight. The body is incinerated in a retort at between 1400 and 2100 degrees for two hours. The end result is ash and a lot of bone fragments, so the whole business goes into a cremulator with a rotating or grinding mechanism to pulverize the bits and pieces into a sandy substance called cremains. Unavoidably, a few crumbs will remain in the retort or cremulator and be mixed in with the next person. Probably every cremated human being carries with him



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or her a little bit of someone else.

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it as "statistically significant." The mercury comes from dental fillings. It has been suggested that teeth could be pulled either at the mortuary or crematorium. This idea has had few supporters.

In some areas of Europe cremation is now illegal, while the environmental departments of a number of states. including California, have either begun or plan to begin measuring crematory emissions. Emissions have also been measured by the U.S. **Environmental Protection** Agency. Measurements by the British environmental pro-

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tection agency in 1999 indicated that "crematories are the third-largest source of airborne mercury." The cremation rate in England is 80 percent. According to a 2005 report from the Funeral Ethics Organization based in Hinesburg, Vermont, "The Oslo-Paris Agreement is requiring European crematories to filter out mercury and dioxins...The cost of the filtering system is high (\$500,000), and the equipment takes up a huge amount of space...All newly built crematories will be faced with meeting this challenge." It is expected that this will put quite a few crematories out of business.

Enter promession from the Italian word for "promise" - invented in 1999 by the Swedish biologist Susanne Wiigh-Masak. In this process, the body and coffin are frozen and then dipped in liquid nitrogen, which is at a temperature of -196 degrees centigrade. This makes the body and coffin very brittle. Body and coffin are gently vibrated, reducing them to a white organic powder. The powder is then placed in a vacuum chamber, and the water is evaporated. Lastly, an





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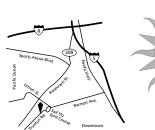
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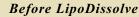


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Wiigh-Masak patented her method and formed the company Promessa Organic in 2001. A full-scale facility was ready in Sweden in 2003, and more Prometors, as they are called, have been built or are being built in Great Britain, the Netherlands, Germany, South Africa, and South Korea. More countries are lining up. Meanwhile, promession has become very popular in Sweden. The powder is hygienic, odorless, and won't decompose unless water is added. The result is a growing number of ecological burials where the small coffin is placed in a shallow grave and a bush, tree, or perennial plant is put above it. Over the next months the coffin and ash decompose, and this nourishes the plant or tree. Sometimes, a little commemorative plaque is placed on the tree, sometimes not. Nothing in the process creates environmental problems, and the liquid nitrogen is saved and used again.

I don't know if it is possible to buy stock in Promessa Organic, but I've got my wallet open. It's expected that promession will become very popular in the United States. To tell the truth, I've always felt a little squeamish about being burned, but the possibility of being turned into a human Popsicle, jiggled to white powder, and then placed to nourish, say, a hungry rhododendron is quite attractive.

So there you have it, boomers. It's called the future. Soon we can look forward to plastinated boomers dawdling in the living rooms of their children or used as lawn ornaments - holding a birdhouse or working as a scarecrow. Or, like Alistair Cooke, we can enter the looted-body parts market. Or we can be shot into space or thrown into the sea. Or we can be sliced and diced in the body-donation option. Or we can be turned into a tasty white dust for trees to eat.

The future, my boomer friends, is yours. ■

— Stephen Dobyns

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## LETTERS

#### continued from page 12 **Old Swine Better Than New Swine**

In his otherwise perceptive review of that overrated fraud, Paul Thomas Anderson's There Will Be Blood, the usually astute Duncan Shepherd correctly attacks Daniel Day-Lewis's "John Huston rollercoaster cadences," but then goes on to ask, "Why would this depraved money-grubber, we keep asking ourselves, be impersonating the director of The Maltese Falcon, Treasure of the Sierra Madre, whatever?"

Shepherd's rhetorical question has a very easy answer for those of us who remember John Huston's definitively evil portrayal of that far more depraved money-grubber Noah Cross in Roman Polanski's magnificent Chinatown (which also boasts a far greater script by Robert Towne than Anderson's psychologically one-dimensional adaptation of Upton Sinclair's Oil!).

Brilliantly acted by Huston (surely one of the greatest, creepiest performances ever committed to celluloid), the Towne/Polanski capitalist robber baron is greedy even in his secret erotic life, ruthlessly impregnating his own daughter, whose husband he murders. After having this daughter gunned down by the Los Angeles Police Department, he is last seen whisking the adolescent granddaughter he has sired with his daughter off to meet the same fate: to be violently raped by this maniacally possessive, incestuous old bastard. Noah Cross,

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in short, makes the current film's capitalist swine seem a dithering amateur.

Gerald Dugan Pacific Beach

#### **Blatant Power Grab**

Don Bauder's "City Light" ("Brash Cash," February 21) refers to the threat of an initiative by the developers to give the mayor absolute power. Yesterday I was approached outside Ralphs and asked to sign an initiative to "audit the mayor." It sounded good until I read it. The petition will give the mayor the power to choose the auditor who audits the mayor's departments, which is virtually the whole city. A blatant power grab buttressed by signature solicitors who are trained to lie to the public.

Melvin Shapiro Hillcrest

R

#### **Universal Disgrace**

You are an absolute disgrace to journalism the world over! How stupid of you to give attention to irresponsible, violent gangs by plastering their names on the front of the Reader ("To Live and Die in Oceanside," Cover Story, February 21).

Why did you give them undeserved attention? That is just what those lowlifes seek. By giving them this spotlighted attention, you and Bouvier are just as irresponsible as the gangs whose names you printed.

If I/we subscribed to the Reader, our subscription would be *permanently* canceled by us!

Also, the tattooed picture of a gang member is revolting. What status you have given to this person! Perhaps the "status" he has procured through his picture on the cover of your paper will help him turn his life around to a positive way. That won't be your fault because that is probably not what you had in mind.

Carlos, Maria, and Trent

MEDIC

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### Now, Say You're Sorry

I find it wonderful that the good Lord is working to change the lives of so many of the miscreants featured in your story ("To Live and Die in Oceanside," Cover Story, February 21). I'm a bit disheartened, though, that even after their being saved, these same cowards fail to give any hint of remorse for their crimes or compassion for their victims in their dialogue. I guess they've learned from their newfound savior, who could have intervened before their murders and rapes and shown compassion to the victim, that Christian compassion is reserved only for the criminal. Crime victims and their families are left to take solace in knowing that the forgiveness granted these animals comes from a spiritual partner in crime. S. Walsh

neighborhoods here. Your article really directly states that once one leaves the pier/harbor areas, the area descends into a hovel, a slum. And that cover is (putting it mildly) in the worst of taste. We moved here ten years ago from the East Coast into a lovely home. The neighbors all take pride in their homes; it is safe; there is no crime. Again, we are deeply offended. This is absolutely the worst, irresponsible article that I have read. What an injustice to the people of Oceanside! Is this sensationalism in journalism?

> Patricia and Bob Tilli Oceanside

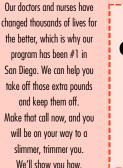
### From The Law's Side

Regarding the negative response letters about the Oceanside story ("To Live and Die in Oceanside," Cover Story, February 21), I don't feel that the article was meant in any way to disrespect the city of Oceanside. Two people in my immediate family are in law enforcement in Oceanside and have been for at least ten years. I think that this story was informative and well researched. Sorry



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**Past The Pier** 

We are livid after reading

Geoff Bouvier's article "To

Live and Die in Oceanside"

(Cover Story, February 21).

What an unfair depiction

of the people and the

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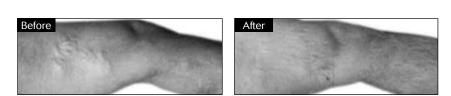
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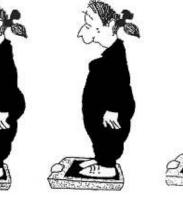
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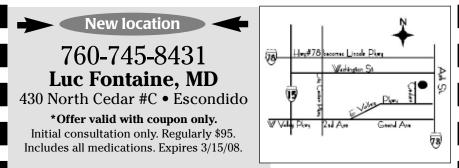
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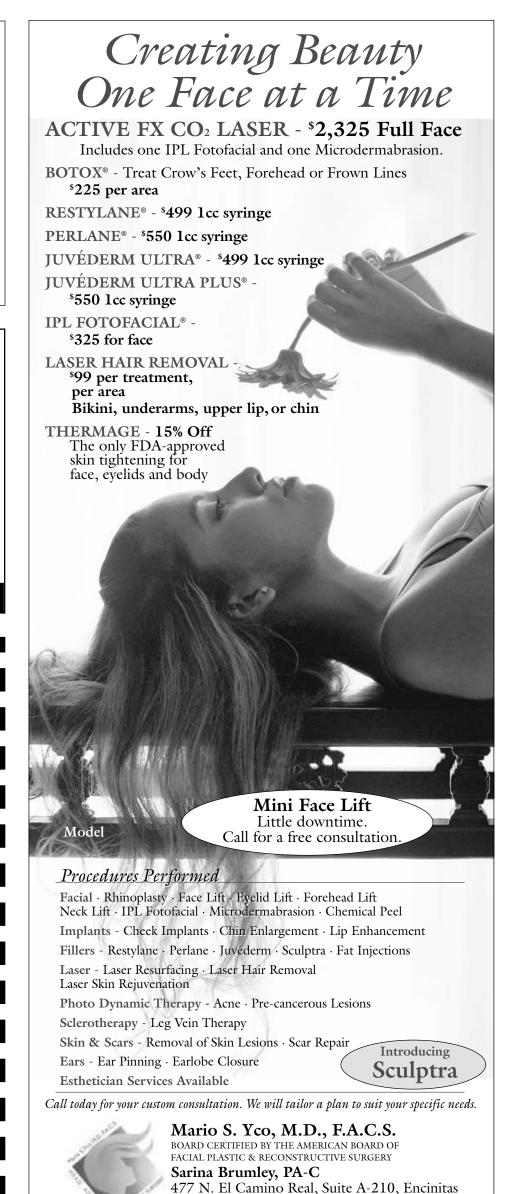


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if you don't feel your city was well represented. My law-enforcement siblings make a point every day to better this city. Dogs are involved, guns are involved, pride is involved. You try being law enforcement in Oceanside.

> Krista Bruce La Mesa

### **List Complete?**

"To Live and Die in Oceanside" (Cover Story, February 21) was an interesting and sad, but not new, commentary on gangs. We know these gangs are in many, many cities. What was your purpose in doing a feature article on them? These heartless, misfit, sad souls need attention as well as a need for belonging. So they

steal, attack, murder, and are murdered, often to get attention. And you, in your infinite wisdom and stupidity, add to their need for attention by actually placing their gang names on the front cover of the Reader. I can't believe you did this! Boy, I sure hope you didn't leave out the name of any gangs there in Oceanside. Did you get all of them on the cover? I sure hope so, because any left out might feel they need to do "something" to achieve such notoriety. Perhaps you should have put them in ABC order. The list could show "partiality," and who knows what that reaction could bring.

In short, placing the gang names on the cover of

the Reader shows irresponsibility and poor, disturbing thinking on your part. I was shocked and disgusted that you made such a decision! Name Withheld

#### Visited Lately?

I'm calling about the article dated February 21, "To Live and Die in Oceanside" (Cover Story). In the article, it talks about the streets in the back of Camp Pendleton. I happen to live on one of the back streets of Camp Pendleton, and there are positive neighborhoods more than negative neighborhoods in this area. So it really was a killer to read in headlines "to live and die in Oceanside." And you know, the North County Times, our newspaper, was

just building our area up, and then we get slam-dunk with the Reader. So I think someone needs to come out and look at the area that they're talking about and put a positive side to this article, if possible.

> Marlene Oceanside

#### **Good Stuff!**

Time to cover some good news and not concentrate on negative journalism ("To Live and Die in Oceanside," Cover Story, February 21). Why not start with the newest weekly tradition bringing some positive influences to downtown Oceanside. The Sunset Market is a great start! Every Thursday night, downtown Oceanside transforms itself,

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## **Obnoxious Population**

Don Bauder's excellent February 14 article, "Dust Bowl Coming?" ("City Lights"), quotes solid authorities and conditions regarding Southern Califor-

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619-303-8511 9029 Park Plaza Dr. #200 La Mesa www.successhypnotherapy.com nia's drought. No politician or conservation measures will alter its severity, as outlined in Max Evans's November 15, 2007 letter, "God-Haters Miss the Point," whereby the problem is not climatic or geophysical but rather spiritual, for God owns and controls the weather (Psalm 147).

Early America honored God's precepts for living and governing and found itself blessed beyond imagination over any combination of backsliding and pagan nations, precepts today mostly ignored and paralleled with an increasingly obnoxious population and declining standard of living resulting from a new idol worship of things created, and not the Creator, including environmental material objects and vain, arrogant celebrities.

Biblically, and ultimately, legalized sacrifice of the young (abortion) and legalized perverse sex, unless reversed, will bring military defeat and the remaining population spewed (driven) out of their land (ref. Lev.

Ch. 18, 20, 26; Deut. 18 and 28).

Mr. Evans mentioned a simultaneous severe drought and destruction of a latterday "daughter of Babylon" (Jer. 50:38). Likely the U.S. for transgressions, currently manifesting erratic and vicious weather and economic dislocation.

Our industrial base has left, agriculture faces heavy foreign competition and endless new and foreign pathogens, potential depression and possible dollar collapse, all representing loss of blessings and new curses due to our unbiblical lifestyle.

To reverse the above for prosperity and good rains, the U.S. must repent (II Chron. ch. 7:14) and ask God for forgiveness through His son Jesus Christ and for eternal life. Sam Adams said, "You will be ruled by God or by tyrants." The current one has a good start on us.

> Ken Howard Escondido

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## **Rancho Romance**

Mexican Golden Age Films

e chose these movies because this particular branch has an 80 percent Hispanic-of-Mexicandescent population," says Catherine Greene, librarian for the Mountain View/Beckwourth branch library. "They like taking these movies out, particularly the classics, and I think part of it is that they remember having seen these while they were living in Mexico."

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On Wednesday, March 12, the library will screen the classic Mexican film *Ustedes los Ricos*, starring Pedro Infante. Made in 1948, the film was released during the "Golden Age of Mexican Cinema" that



sed during the n Cinema" that spanned the 1930s to 1950s. The star of the film, Infante, was also a *ranchera* singer. An article for *about.com* describes

ranchera as "a type of song that was literally sung on a Mexican ranch...the music concerned itself with traditional themes of love, patriotism, and nature." Many classic films include *ranchera* music, which has a sound reminiscent of polka and often includes accordions, guitars, and trumpets.

"We have a growing collection of these kind of movies," says Greene. "I usually send people to a couple of area book fairs and tell them to buy anything about the Mexican culture and anything in Spanish. Many of our staff members come from Spanish-speaking families whose heritage is Mexican, so I rely on them to help make selections."

Library clerk Sam Cerrato assisted in choosing some of the films that will be shown. "There's two different styles I've seen in Mexican classic movies," he says. "There's the humorous ones with one guy, Cantinflas." Greene describes Cantinflas as "the Mexican Charlie Chaplin." Mario Moreno, the actor's real name, is best known in the United States for his role as Passepartout in the 1956 film *Around the World in Eighty Days.* 

The second Mexican classic style Cerrato calls the "romantic old style." In these types of films, he says, "A real macho man gets a really pretty woman. They sing outside the window, a serenada. A famous singer will come out and sing this song that he wrote for the movie." One film that was recently shown is Camelia, about a "famous actress in a play who has all these men coming after her," Cerrato explains. "What happens is, this guy is a bullfighter, and she goes to see him at one of his bullfights, and he's distracted because she's incredibly beautiful, and he gets hurt. She is high class and doesn't want anything to do with him, but in secret she falls in love with him." Cerrato adds, "You can watch it over and over again, even if you know the ending. It draws you in."

Of the three classic films screened thus far, the first was the most well attended. Greene blames the low turnout for the latter two screenings on library hours. "The only nights that were open for this are Monday and Wednesday. The parents coming home from work at six or seven at night, exhausted, have to feed their kids. If it was a Friday night thing or Saturday — our library closes at 2:30 on Saturdays — I think these would be more heavily attended." The limited hours, she says, are "a real sore spot, especially in this community — the problem is a lot of kids in this community don't



have computers at home, or if they do they don't have Internet access. They have only two nights to come here and do their homework. It's obscene! Populations in communities like La Jolla are better able to deal with these hourly cutbacks because more of their patron population has Internet and computers at home."

Greene supervises a youth "friends of the library" group that offers tutoring. "All these kids come from families in which the first language is Spanish. When these kids were growing up — they're now in high school — they couldn't get help with their homework. So what they decided to do here

Marvin K. Brown

From Ustedes los Ricos

every Wednesday night is tutor elementary school kids who can't get the kind of help at home that they need." — Barbarella

Mexican Film Classics: Ustedes los Ricos Wednesday, March 12 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mountain View/Beckwourth branch library 721 San Pasqual Street Southeast San Diego Cost: Free Info: 619-527-3404



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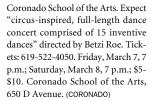


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## DANCE

"Carmina Burana" City Ballet of San Diego's choreographer Elizabeth Rowe Wistrich presents her take on this popular song cycle. Program includes company premiere of the "Kingdom of the Shades" act from La Bayadère, with choreography by Marius Petipa. 858-272-8663. Friday, March 7, 8 p.m.; Sunday, March 9, 2 p.m.; Saturday, March 8, 8 p.m.; \$29-\$59. Ages 5 and up. Birch North Park Theatre, 2891 University Ave. (NORTH PARK)

"Go Ask Alice" This "lively, contemporary version" of Alice in Wonderland is presented by students at



Creative Dance and Movement FreeBox hosts "facilitated movement practice" on Tuesdays and Fridays. Participants don't need partners or dance experience; it's "about play, not performance." 760-809-6279. Tuesday, March 11, 8:30 a.m.; Friday, March 7, 8:30 a.m.; \$10. Dance North County, 535 Encinitas Boulevard, Suite 100. (ENCINITAS)

Flamenco Olivar Led by new artistic director Kristina Covarrubias, company plans performance with dancers, musicians, singers. 619-641-6103. Friday, March 7, 7:30 p.m.; \$10. City Heights Performance Annex, 3791 Fairmount Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

Funky Swing and Blues Dance Party Dance the West Coast swing "California's state dance." Host and roving instructor is Jane Hance. DJ plays swing, nightclub two-step, requests. Dancing for singles and couples of all ages. First time free. 619-275-3533. Thursday, March 6, 8 p.m.; \$3-\$6. Pattie Wells' Dancetime Center, 1255 West Morena Boulevard. (LINDA VISTA)

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## <u>OUT & ABOUT</u>

EDGY! BOB SAGET Friday, March 7, 4th & B.

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day, March 8, 7 p.m.; \$5-\$7. Dance North County, 535 Encinitas Boulevard, Suite 100, (ENCINITAS)

**Gray Beard Makes Music!** Chris Page calls for contra dance hosted by San Diego Folk Heritage. Beginners dance workshop 7:30; dances taught and called to live music 8-11 p.m. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. Saturday, March 8, 7:30 p.m.; \$7. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street, (NORTH PARK)

Laissez Les Bon Temps Roulez! Bonne Musique Zydeco plays for dance hosted by Bon Temp Social Club and Gator by the Bay Festival. Dance instruction at 6:20, live music from 7-10:30 p.m. 858-496-6655. Saturday, March 8, 6:20 p.m.; \$14. War Memorial Building, 3325 Zoo Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

Learn the Rotary Waltz Lesson for beginners, as well as intermediate lesson in mazurka, with open request dancing until 9:45 p.m. hosted by Waltz and Such in Casa del Prado room 207. All ages and abilities. Partners not required. 619-583-9956. Friday, March 7, 7:15 p.m.; \$1. Casa del Prado, El Prado, (BALBOA PARK)

Social Dance Party DJ plays swing, Latin, ballroom, and nightclub for singles and couples of all ages. Lesson: 8 p.m. First time free. 619-275-3533. Saturday, March 8, 8 p.m.; \$4-\$7. Pattie Wells' Dancetime Center, 1255 West Morena Boulevard. (LINDA VISTA)

#### FILM

"King Corn" Preview screening of film by Aaron Woolf, Curt Ellis, and Ian Cheney. Ellis and Cheney moved from East Coast to heartland "to learn where their food comes from" and find out about "America's most productive, most subsidized grain."

**\$5 O** 

**BRUNCH CRUISE** 

619-236-5821. Wednesday, March 12, 6:30 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street, (DOWNTOWN)

"Reflecting Pool" Sober investigation into "most controversial tragedy of our time" hosted by San Diegans for 9/11 Truth. Requested donation: \$5. 619-222-2120. Sunday, March 9, 4 p.m.; Joyce Beers Community Center, 1230 Cleveland Avenue, (HILLCREST)

"Rocket Science" Director Jeffrey Blitz's "fractured fairy tale of adolescent angst" tells tale of a stutterer who joins the debate squad to win a girl's heart, showcased during Film Forum. 619-236-5800. Monday, March 10, 6:30 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

"The King of Masks" This Chinese film is up for consideration when Cinema Society of Carlsbad convenes. Cinema chat begins at 1:30 p.m.; discussion led by Andy Friedenberg follows screening. In

## Global business opportunity for college grads

• Family-owned business seeking 3-5 entrepreneurs · Products and services from Web development and telecom to health care • Primary career or secondary income

· For those who enjoy learning and teaching Join us for a 1/2-hour presentation and interview that could change your life!

Saturday, March 8: 10 am, 11 am or noon UCSD Extension • 6925 Lusk Boulevard, Room 111

"Voices: A Women's Human Rights Film Series" Series hosted by Eveoke Dance Theatre and the Cultural Worker continues with So-

Lane (CARLSBAD)

raida, Woman of Palestine, pursuing the question, "How to preserve one's humanity in the midst of oppression?" Reservations: 619-238-1153. Saturday, March 8, 6 p.m.; \$10-\$12. Eveoke Dance Theatre, 2811 University Avenue, Suite A. (NORTH PARK)

Mandarin with English subtitles.

760-602-2026. Saturday, March 8,

1:30 p.m.; Schulman Auditorium at

Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove

"Youth Visions 2008" Media Arts Center San Diego's 15th anniversary San Diego Latino Film Festival promises "an eclectic array of socially conscious documentaries and experimental shorts from media centers and schools throughout the country." Young filmmakers lend their perspectives to social issues including 'immigration, racism, and community violence." Also included are selection of experimental shorts from young filmmakers exploring medium of filmmaking. Program includes America's Invisible Backbone: Rights vs. Limitations, Pero La Vida Sigue, The A-G Requirements: Your Pathway to California's Colleges and Universities, I Want My Parents Back. 619-230-1938 x102. Tuesday, March 11, 6 p.m.; \$7-\$9. Mission Valley 7, 7510 Hazard Center Drive (MISSION VALLEY)

Film Classics from Mexico See Ustedes los Ricos with Pedro Infante. In Spanish, with English subtitles. 619-527-3404. Wednesday, March 12, 6 p.m.; Beckwourth Library, 721 San Pasqual Street. (LOGAN HEIGHTS)

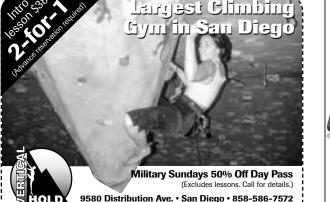


Motherless Daughters support group. Next meeting Thursday, March 13. For info: 619-583-3034 email: arw22@peoplepc.com

## Inspirational Sunday NEW Champagne Brunch Cruises



Valid up to 6 adult tickets. Not valid on Easter and other holidays, special events, gift certificates or in combination with any other offer. Mention discount at time of purchase and present upon boarding. Coupon Code: SDR50 Expires 3/30/08



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Harley Rentals from **\$<u>O</u>O**  Rentals Accessorie Apparel Cajon Blvd., El Cajon 619-442-9428 **Is Water a Right for All People?** Or is it a commodity to be bought, sold, traded in a global marketplace? Green Party of San Diego hosts screening of *Thirst* and following discussion addressing "the inevitability of the privatization of San Diego water systems." Donation. 619-518-6387 or 619-295-6000. Sunday, March 9, 2 p.m.; \$5-\$10. Joyce Beers Community Center, 1230 Cleveland Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Latino Film Festival Media Arts Center's 15th annual Latino Film Festival with films from all over the globe runs March 6-16. Films include Born in East L.A., Cara de Queso, Calavera Highway, Coco y Nico, Deficit, Ese Beso, Fiesta Patria, Hero the Great, Kilometro 31, Los Manos de Ché Guevara, Ojos que no ven, Sangre de Mi Sangre, Zacarias y el Dragon de Lluvia Gris, and many, many others. Festival includes celebrity appearances, music, parties, art, workshops. Details: 619-230-1938 x101. Thursdays, 4 p.m.; Fridays, 4 p.m.; Saturdays, 11 a.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m.; Mondays, 4 p.m.; Tuesdays, 4 p.m.; Wednesdays, 4 p.m.; through Sunday, March 16, 2008, \$7-\$9. Mission Valley 7, 7510 Hazard Center Drive. (MISSION VALLEY)

Music and Movies! Geoffrey Gartner leads UCSD Chamber Orchestra in concert with clarinet soloist Robert Zelickman featured as orchestra performs music by Rossini as well as klezmer selections, followed by de Falla's ballet suite "Love the Magician." After intermission, view famed European art films Un Chien Andalou by Salvador Dalí and Luís Buñuel, and Entr'acte by Rene Clair, with Chamber Orchestra performing Satie's score for Clair's film. 858-534-3229. Sunday, March 9, 3 p.m.; Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA) Sierra Club Movie Activist Night See Black Diamonds: Mountaintop Removal and the Fight for Coalfield Justice, a 2006 documentary focusing on coal mining in Appalachia and how it is affecting the environment. Finger-food potluck followed by no-cost movie. 619-299-1743. Friday, March 7, 6 p.m.; Sierra Club, 3820 Ray Street. (NORTH PARK)

**Sunday Matinee Series** Sean Penn narrates *War Made Easy: How Presidents and Pundits Keep Spinning Us to Death*, a film exposing "a 50year pattern of government deception and media spin that has dragged the U.S. into one war after another." 619-236-5800. Sunday, March 9, 2 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

## FOR KIDS

**"A Year with Frog and Toad"** New three-time Tony-nominated musical by Robert and Willie Reale with characters from Arnold Lobel's books. Story follows cheerful and popular Frog and grumpy Toad through four fun-filled seasons. Reservations: 619-570-1100 or Ticketmaster (619-220-8497). Sunday, March 9, 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., \$5-\$35. Balboa Theatre, 854 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

"Alice in Wonderland" Pacific Children's Theatre performs February 29-March 9. Seating reserved at front "for very young children." 619-920-2838. Fridays, 7 p.m.; Saturdays, 2 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m.; through Sunday, March 9, 2008, \$7-\$10. United Church of Christ, 4070 Jackdaw Street. (MISSION HILLS)

"How to Eat Fried Worms" San Diego Junior Theatre season OUT & ABOUT

FIGHTING COMMUNITY VIOLENCE, FOR YOUTH VISIONS 2008 Tuesday, March 11,

Valley Cinemas.

UltraStar Mission

continues with play adapted for stage by author Thomas Rockwell, for kids of all ages, February 29-March 16. Performance on March 15 is ASL interpreted. Reservations: 619-239-8355. Fridays, 7 p.m.; Saturdays, 2 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m.; through Sunday, March 16, 2008, \$8-\$13. Casa del Prado Theater, 1650 El Prado, Suite 208. (BALBOA PARK)

"Ritzy Rosey and Bitsy Blossom Turn Over a New Leaf" Comic ventriloquist Lynn Trimble performs March 5-9. Next: *Peter Rabbit* presented by Puppet Express, March 12-16. Curtain rises at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday-Friday; 11 a.m., 1 and 2:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. 619-544-9203. Thursday, March 6, 10 a.m.; Friday, March 7, 10 a.m.; Saturday, March 8, 11 a.m.; Sunday, March 9, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, March 12, 10 a.m. \$3-\$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

"The Amazing Adventures of Robinson Crusoe" Missoula Children's Theater returns to cast



more than 50 local children in this new musical. 858-748-0505. Saturday, March 8, 3 p.m.; Saturday, March 8, 7 p.m.; \$5-\$17. Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road. (POWAY)

**All Aboard!** Chula Vista Live Steam Club provides train rides. Donation: 50 cents. Children under 48" must be accompanied by an adult. 619-421-5227. Saturday, March 8, 12:30 p.m.; Sunday, March 9, 12:30 p.m.; Rohr Park, 4548 Sweetwater Road. (BONITA)

**Carlsbad Multicultural Arts Festival** Fifteenth annual festival runs March 9-14, with music, dance, music, storytelling, and theater from the Americas, Africa, Asia, Europe. Festival begins when Asha Baba performs "Jaliyaa."

Performances of "Salsalandia," "Musical Folk Tales from Japan," "Tales Alive," "Japan in a Suitcase," taiko drumming, more, continue March 11-14. Venues include Centro de Información (3333 Harding Street), Cole Library (1250 Carlsbad Village Drive), Carlsbad Community Cultural Arts Center (3557 Monroe Street). Details: 760-434-2904. Tuesday, March 11, 10 a.m.; Sunday, March 9, 2 p.m.; Wednesday, March 12, 3:30 p.m.; Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

**Easy to Build, Easy to Fly!** Celebrate spring and make a sled kite during family science day. Sessions last 45 minutes. Included in paid admission. Reservations: 619-234-8291 x19. Sunday, March 9, 12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.; \$6-\$15. San Diego Air and Space Museum, 2001 Pan American Plaza. (BALBOA PARK)

Kids in the Kitchen Health and fitness fair to teach children and families "importance of good nutrition and a healthy lifestyle." Expect hands-on activities, cooking demonstrations with local chefs, fitness stations with soccer, gymnastics, dance and yoga, "Game On!" obstacle course, more. Families with children under age 10 encouraged to attend. 858-740-4283. Saturday, March 8, 10 a.m.; Toby Wells YMCA, 5105 Overland Avenue. (KEARNY MESA)

**Second Saturday Puppet Show** Watch a story come to life through art of puppetry when San Diego Guild of Puppetry takes stage. Included in regular admission. 760-735-3355. Saturday, March 8, 1 p.m.; Mingei International Museum — North County, 155 West Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

### IN PERSON

**"4x4"** Sushi Performance and Visual Art's performance series continues with dance, theater, spoken word, and music. Participants present new or in-progress works in "alternative, casual social setting"; all pieces low-tech, limited to ten minutes, performed on 4' x 4' stage. Pay what you can. 619-235-8466. Tuesday, March 11, 8 p.m.; ages 21 and up. Bluefoot Bar and Lounge, 3404 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

**"Carrot Cake Murder"** It's the latest mystery by Joanne Fluke, who will shares recipes and treats and then sign books. 858-268-4747. Saturday, March 8, 3 p.m.; Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, suite 302. (CLAIREMONT)

"Confessions of a Prairie Bitch" San Diego Rugby Football Club presents a night of comedy with Alison Arngrim, best known as Nellie Oleson from *Little House on the Prairie.* Arngrim talks about life on set of *Little House*, growing up with Michael Landon, having a father who was Liberace's agent, and a mom who did many famous cartoon voices. Concert benefits Project PROTECT. 619-226-9019. Saturday, March 8, 8 p.m.; \$10. Ages 21 and up. The Hole, 2820 Lytton Street. (POINT LOMA)

**"Dublin's Irish Cabaret"** Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with cabaret comedian Noel V. Ginnity and company. Entertainment by tenor Paul Hennessy, soprano Emer Harnett, All-Ireland Champion dancers, music of Pat Marnane Band with uilleann piper Tommy Keane, Irish Step Dancers, Stuart O'Connor Singers. Reservations: 619-570-1100 or Ticketmaster (619-220-8497). Friday, March 7, 8 p.m.; \$25-\$50. Balboa Theatre, 854 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

"Elton John and Tim Rice's AIDA" J\*Company Youth Theatre presents "soft-rock musical" based on Verdi's opera of the same name,



A DAY IN POMPEII FEBRUARY 15 THROUGH JUNE 15

## Experience life and death in the ancient Roman world

Two thousand years ago. Mt. Vesuvius erupts in cataclysmic Tury, burying the Roman city of Pompeii. Preserved in ash, frozen in time... Pompeii lives again.

See more than 250 priceless artifacts from the legendary lost city along with body casts of victims formed at the very moment of death. Experience life and death in the ancient Roman world. Spend a day in Pompeii!

The only showing on the West Coast!

Tickets are on sale now online www.sdnhm.org; at the Museum or by phone: 877.946.7797.



March 1-16, in Garfield Theatre. A 12-piece orchestra composed of professional and young musicians provides live accompaniment. Reservations: 858-362-1348. Saturday, march 8, 8 p.m.; Sunday, March 9, 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 8, 8 p.m.; \$12-\$16. Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

"Luann: Scenes in a Teen's Life" High-energy musical based on popular comic strip by Greg Evans, directed by Dana Case, March 7-16. 760-744-1150 x2453. Fridays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m.; through Sunday, March 16, 2008, \$8-\$12. Howard Brubeck Theatre at Palomar College, 1140 West Mission Road. (SAN MARCOS)

"The Long Embrace: Raymond Chandler and the Woman He Loved" Noted author Judith Freeman will read from and discuss her critically acclaimed book. Freeman sets out to solve the puzzle of who Chandler was and how he became the writer who would create in Philip Marlowe an icon of American culture. Freeman is author of the novels The Chinchilla Farm, Set for Life, A Desert of Pure Feeling, and Red Water. 858-456-1800. Saturday, March 8, 7 p.m.; D.G. Wills Books, 7461 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

"Walking LA/(Sur)face City" New performance by Sara Wookey hosted by Sushi Performance and Visual Art, performed by Natilee Harren and William Beckley, with live music by Roderick Schrock. Piece

**Free riding lessons** 

Certain restrictions apply. Gratuity and tax not included.

rentals j

Horse

"touches at the heart of what it is to define oneself in the complexity of our ever-evolving cities," juxtaposing video, photography, dance, and texts by Georges Perec. Pay what you can. 619-235-8466. Friday, March 7, 8 p.m.; Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1001 Kettner Boulevard, (DOWNTOWN)

Animal Husbandry? Journalist, author Amy Sutherland discusses and signs What Shamu Taught Me About Life, Love, and Marriage. Sutherland wondered what would happen if she applied animal-training techniques to humans in her life, including her husband. 858-454-0347. Tuesday, March 11, 7:30 p.m.; Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Author Visit Lauren Myracle, author of teen novels including TTFN, TTYL, Twelve, and L8R,G8R, plans talk sponsored by Yellow Book Road. 619-463-3006. Friday, March 7, 10 a.m.; Spring Valley Library, 836 Kempton Street. (SPRING VALLEY)

Make a Difference? Pulitzer Prize-winning author Tracy Kidder discusses and signs Mountains Beyond Mountains, his book about Dr. Paul Farmer. 619-236-5821. Tuesday, March 11, 6:30 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Combating Wildfires and Murder Author Sandi Ault signs her mystery novel Wild Inferno. 858-268-4747. Tuesday, March 11, 5 p.m.; Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, suite 302. (CLAIREMONT)

**Comedy under Construction** Comedy Under Construction plans character-driven, fast-paced improv sketch comedy show. 858-550-8088. Saturday, March 8, 8 p.m.; \$5-\$10.

## <u>OUT & ABOUT</u>

"PLANTING SCULPTURE. **SCULPTING PLANTS,"** Marcia Donahue for San Diego Horticultural Society, Monday, March 10.

(SEE LECTURES)

Ages 16 and up. Swedenborg Hall, 1531 Tyler Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Cropper Writers Series Novelist Danzy Senna, author of Caucasia and Symptomatic, reads from her work. 619-260-7721. Friday, March 7, 7 p.m.; Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

Edgy! Bob Saget entertains. His 2007 HBO comedy special was That Ain't Right; he wrote, directed, starred in Farce of the Penguins. Tickets available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). Friday, March 7, 8 p.m.; \$33-\$43. Ages 21 and up. 4th & B, 345 B Street, (DOWNTOWN)

Full Moon Poets' Mockingbird Poetry Slam Danny Salzhandler leads poetry slam in conjunction with "The Big Read" program focusing on To Kill a Mockingbird, hosted by Encinitas Library. 760-753-7601. Friday, March 7, 7 p.m.; Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Get Planting Local author Debra Baldwin shares ideas from her new



book, Designing With Succulents. 858-581-9931. Saturday, March 8, 1 p.m.; North Clairemont Library, 4616 Clairemont Drive. (CLAIREMONT)

Hugh C. Hyde Living Writers Series Poet Peter Pereira reads from his work in room 2203 of Malcolm A. Love Library at San Diego State University. Pereira - a family physician in Seattle and a founding editor of Floating Bridge Press - is author of Saying the World and What's Written on the Body. 619-594-5318. Wednesday, March 12, 7 p.m.; San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (SDSU)

Step Right Up! Share thoughts, anecdotes, reflections on To Kill a Mockingbird in conjunction with "The Big Read Program" during open-mike night led by Nancy May. 760-753-7601. Wednesday, March 12, 7 p.m.; E Street Cafe, 128 E Street. (ENCINITAS)

Thriller Author Christopher Rice signs, discusses Blind Fall. 858-268-4747. Wednesday, March 12, 7 p.m.; Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051

Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 302. (CLAIREMONT)

## LECTURES

"An Ethnography of Two Communes in Cambodia's Southwest" Since 1994, UC Irvine professor Eve Zucker has lived and worked in Cambodia on three occasions for a total of 39 months, 13 of which were spent living in an upland Khmer village in southwestern Cambodia, where she conducted doctoral research concerning memory and remaking of moral order in the aftermath of violence. "How are villagers forming trusting relations again?" Talk presented in Social Sciences Building Room 104. RSVP: 858-822-5297. Wednesday, March 12, 4 p.m.; University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive, (UCSD)

**"Does Europe Still Matter?** The State of U.S.-European Relations" Will the U.S.-European relationship remain crucial for security, political, and economic reasons in light of the growing importance of regions like Asia and the Middle East? Karl Kaiser - adjunct professor of public policy at Kennedy School and author of several hundred articles and about 50 books in fields of world affairs, foreign policy, international environmental policy focuses on question in UCSD's IR/PS Robinson Auditorium. 858-822-5297. Thursday, March 6, 7 p.m.; University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (UCSD)

"Genealogical Research on the Internet" Psychologist, professional genealogist Anne Miller addresses Computer-Oriented Genealogy Group of North San Diego County Genealogical Society. Presentation will go "beyond the wellknown genealogy sites like Ancestry.com and Heritage Quest, to explore many other free but littleknown sites that contain genealogical information." Nonmembers welcome. 760-630-5720. Tuesday, March 11, 1 p.m.; Carlsbad City Council Chambers, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive. (CARLSBAD)

**"Genes Controlling Flower** and Fruit Development" Grey Matters lecture series continues with talk by UCSD chair of cell and developmental biology division of biological sciences Martin Yanofsky. 619-232-3821. Thursday, March 6, 6:30 p.m.; San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

"Here and Now: Contemporary Art from the San Diego Region" MCASD contemporary art curator Stefani Hanor speaks for ongoing "Guest Lecture Series" themed "SDMA in the 21st Century." 619-696-1953. Friday, March 7, 10 a.m.; \$7-\$12. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

"How Women Got the Vote" Devon Atchison from Women's History Museum discusses women's suffrage, "replete with stirring slides and commentary" for "History Alive" se-





Overnight price for two people Sunday-Thursday: 1 night, breakfast for 2 **\*129** 

**Sweetheart Package** Sunday-Thursday: Breakfast for 2, dinner for 2, therapeutic massage or horseback riding **\$209** 

### Weekend Specials:

2 nights (Fri. & Sat.), breakfast for 2 \$258 2-night breakfast package with dinner and mas one night or horseback riding \$338

In-room Jacuzzis, fine dining, cocktails, lodge, RV park, tent camping, near Acorn Casino Fireplace, 2-story, A-frame cabins, AC, HBO, microwave, refrigerator, swimming at Jacumba Hot Springs

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## Adopt a Russian Child

Please attend a free informational meeting Thursday, March 20, from 7-9 pm. (Ask about our Asian program.)





San Diego Reader March 6, 2008

8

**DOPTION OPTIONS, INC.** 

RSVP: 619-294-7772 Toll-free: 877-542-7772 www.adoption-options.org ries sponsored by Lemon Grove Historical Society. Question and answer follows. 619-460-4353. Thursday, March 6, 7 p.m.; \$2. Ages 12 and up. H. Lee House Cultural Center, 3205 Olive. (LEMON GROVE)

**"Improving Reproductive Outcomes"** Pharmacist and nutritionist Jan Roberts "explains how pre-conception health care can help enhance fertility, prevent miscarriage, reduce defects, and ensure an uncomplicated labor and an exceptionally healthy, happy baby." Roberts is author of *The Natural Way to Better Babies*. 858-461-0285. Wednesday, March 12, 1:30 p.m.; ages 18 and up. Vista Library, 700 Eucalyptus Avenue . (VISTA)

"Insight Seminar: Dancing in the Dark" Seminars with actors, designers, directors are offered for each Old Globe production; artists from all phases of production process meet with patrons to exchange ideas and insights. 619-23-GLOBE. Monday, March 10, 6:30 p.m.; The Old Globe Theatre, 1363 Old Globe Way. (BALBOA PARK)

"Introduction to Forensic Science" San Diego Police Department DNA criminalist Tami Ballard plans "an introduction into forensic biology (DNA), specifically fluids used in crime scene reconstruction and investigation" for San Diego Archaeological Center. Donation. 760-291-0370. Saturday, March 8, 11 a.m.; ages 10 and up. San Diego Archaeological Center, 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road. (ESCONDIDO)

"Northern Baja California Indian Women's Concepts of Illness and Healing" George Longstreth, M.D., summarizes a questionnaire survey of about 350 Kumeyaay, Paipai, and Kiliwa women on most common illnesses in their villages for 12 O'Clock Scholar program. Admission fee includes museum entry. 619-239-2001. Monday, March 10, noon; \$4-\$8. San

GPEAT ESCAPES 619-235-8200 TO PLACE AN AD

#### **Big Bear Cool Cabins**

Cabin or luxury home on or near the lake. Fireplace, BBQ, TV, kitchen, hot tub and more. Professional housekeeping, towels, and linens are included. Pet-friendly available. Check rates and book online. www.bigbearcoolcabins.com or 800-550-8779.

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For a relaxing getaway, we have cabins from \$74 plus tax! Southern California's 2nd best kept secret-6200' in the sky! 11 individual log cabins, fireplaces, kitchens. Reservations: Edelweiss Lodge, 951-659-2787, www.1cabin4u.com.

#### **Romantic Mountain Getaway**

In-room jacuzzis, fireplaces, horseback riding, in-room massage, fine dining, cocktails, complimentary breakfast. See display ad. Live Oak Springs Resort. 619-766-4288.



#### \$12/Person Catalina Getaway

Roundtrip cruise for 2, +1 night hotel, +2 island bus or boat tours for couples who qualify and attend a 2-hour tour and vacation ownership presentation near home. No obligation. Call 7 days, 8am-7pm. Bonus gift card for 1st 50! 800-718-8810 x51.

#### **Cupid's Castle B&B**

Fairytale castle near Harrah's Casino. 4 chambers with Jacuzzis, balconies, TVs, bathrobes, chocolates, pool table, breakfast, snacks. Voted most romantic getaway. Near wineries. Wedding facility. 760-742-3306. www.cupidscastlebandb.com.

#### **Encinitas Romantic Getaway!**

\$90-\$175! 5 custom ocean-view rooms. Feng shui! Penthouse Shangri-La: A true hidden paradise with private 8' hot tub! Enjoy enchanted gardens. Walk to beach and downtown. Seabreeze B&B. Call 760-944-0318 or www.seabreeze-inn.com.



## La Fonda Hotel Restaurant & Spa

Located between Rosarito & Ensenada. Hotel offers 36 oceanview rooms most with fireplaces. Food ranges from Mexican fare to famous lobster fest & all you can eat \$13.95 Sunday brunch. 1 hour south of San Diego. lafondabaja.com. 01152-646155-0308.



### **Rosarito Beach Hotel Family Vacation Getaway Package: \$139**

One night in an oceanfront room, two 30-minute massages, continental breakfast, dinner, 2 kids 12/under stay/eat free dinner. \$169+ tax, double occupancy. Sunday-Thursday. Expires March 13, 2008. Excludes US holidays/special events. www.Rosaritobeachhotel.com. 1-866-ROSARITO.

Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**"Planting Sculpture, Sculpting Plants"** Berkeley-area artist and sculptor Marcia Donahue, said to have "created one of the most fascinating and beautiful gardens in the country," discusses her work for San Diego Horticultural Society in Surfside Race Place. Plant forum follows. Free. 760-295-7089. Monday, March 10, 6 p.m.; Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

**"Plumeria 101"** Doug Jones discusses the planting and care of plumeria cuttings when Southern California Plumeria Society gathers. 619-461-5942. Sunday, March 9, 1 p.m.; War Memorial Building, 3325 Zoo Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

"Restoring Native Habitat at Torrey Pines State Reserve Flintkote Plot" San Diego Coast District Ecologist Darren Smith addresses Point Loma Garden Club. 619-223-3315. Wednesday, March 12, 10 a.m.; Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal. (POINT LOMA)

**"San Diego: The Making of a Greener City"** Keynote speaker is Josh Gelfand, vice chair of San Diego Regional Sustainability Partnership, managing editor for *EcoInvestment-Club.com* and Eco Investment News Network. Investing green in San Diego also examined by Jan P. Schalkwijk, principal of JPS Global Investments. 619-269-4440. Tuesday, March 11, 7 p.m.; \$25-\$35. The Eco Center for Alternative Fuel Education, 4100 El Cajon Boulevard. (CITY HEIGHTS)

"Spring Basket and Natural-Dye Eggs" Make a springtime basket from a peat pot, paint and decorate it with vintage pictures and collage materials during family program (for those eight and older with an adult). While pots are drying, enjoy complete tea and treats! Learn to dye eggs with raspberries, coffee grounds, onion skins, more. 619-255-0203. Saturday, March 8, 10 a.m.; \$35-\$43. Ages 8 and up. San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

"Xeriscape: Beautiful Landscape on a Low-Water Budget" Seven principles of xeriscape, plant selection, planting techniques presented. Tour of xeriscape garden. Reservations: 619-660-4350. Saturday, March 8, 9:30 a.m.; \$30. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

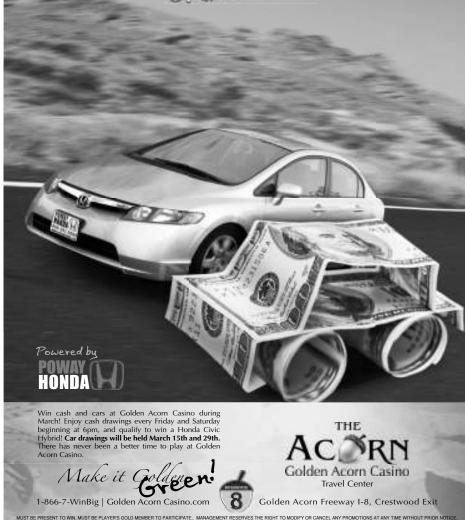
#### Altruism, Karma, and Ethics

These key Buddhist principles employed in treatment of illnesses by "Tibetan Medicine" methods, discussed by Dr. Lobsang Dhondup and Sondra Buschmann. 858-552-1657. Wednesday, March 12, 6 p.m.; La Jolla Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

**Appraisal Round Table** Program directed towards collectors and prospective collectors includes presentation on what an appraisal is, focusing on American and Latin American art, Asian art, the decorative arts. Led by certified appraisers Natasha Bonilla Martinez, Lydia Thompson, Garrett Goldfield. 800-988-4253. Sunday, March 9, 2 p.m.; \$5. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

**Art Talks** London artist Michael Sanders plans art talks. His exhibit "Ruin" explores destruction that took place during 2003 when U.S. military forces occupied ancient site of Babylon for major camp. 760-757-5368. Monday, March 10, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Kruglak Gallery at Mira-







Saturday & Sunday, March 8 & 9, from 10 am to 5 pm Battles on Saturday at noon & 3 pm and on Sunday at noon & 2:30 pm

Authentic Battles • Historic Figures • Living History Tours Demonstrations • Tour the 40-acre Museum • Food & Refreshments





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Antique Gas & Steam Museum

2040 N. Santa Fe, Vista • 760-941-1791 • 1-800-5-TRACTOR (near the intersection of Oceanside Blvd. & N. Santa Fe) www.goldcoastfestivals.com



Costa College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Arts and Letters Graham Wilder narrates slide show of his nature images. 760-765-0370. Tuesday, March 11, 6 p.m.; Julian Library, 1850 Highway 78. (JULIAN)

**Dreaming of South America?** San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society gathers for a "Copiapoathon" presentation by Paul Klaussen, chronicling his travels through Chile. Also on tap: Mark Muridian presents his recently completed video from an expedition entitled Bolivia, Gateway to the Andean Cacti. Normal cactus and succulent festivities promised, all in Casa del Prado's room 101. 858-270-5544. Saturday, March 8, noon; Casa del Prado, El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Freeform Knitting Colleen Davis, first president and a founder of North Coast Knitters, plans lecture, trunk show, demonstration for Palomar Handweavers' Guild. Davis - whose "mission is to inspire knitters to be adventurous, try new things, and dig into their creative side" - discusses combining "woven" swatches with other things to make garments. Guests welcome. 760-533-5857. Wednesday, March 12, 9:30 a.m.; ages 12 and up. Trinity Episcopal Church, 845 Chestnut Street. (ESCONDIDO)

Get Paddling! Try kayaking or canoeing after an experienced REI staff member shares information about the activity, including which type of kayak, paddle, and PFD best fits your needs, local paddling destinations. 619-591-4924. Tuesday, March 11, 7 p.m.; REI Chula Vista, 2015 Birch Road. (CHULA VISTA)



Manzanita blossoms, Black Mtn.

way is 1 mile east of Black Mountain Road, and 2.5 miles west of Interstate 15 by way of Bernardo Center Road. The short, uphill drive on the paved access-

ROAM-()-RAMA

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

way leads to a parking lot and trailhead perched on a viewful, elevated flat spot, where you'll find an informational kiosk detailing (among other things) plans for a future wheelchair-accessible path that will loop around the immediate area

The Miner's Ridge Loop Trail crookedly circles 2.5 miles around Black Mountain's lower and middle slopes, which are thickly coated with mature chaparral vegetation - some of it as much as 15 feet tall. In spite of the many wildfires that have swept the county in recent years, this area still showcases the dense and diverse assemblage of chaparral growth that is some-

times referred to as the "elfin forest." Walk to the east side of the parking lot to find and follow the Miner's  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Ridge}}$ Loop Trail.You start off on a wide, graded pathway graced occasionally with interpretive plaques detailing facts about the local plants and wildlife. After 0.4 mile, you reach a fork in the trail. Stay right (as suggested by the directional signs and mileage markers); you will return to this same spot later by way of

fter many years of awkward accessibility, or no access at all, the north

slope of Black Mountain once again welcomes hikers (and their four-legged

companions). The new, improved access to the Miner's Ridge Loop Trail lies

along the south side of a recently opened piece of Carmel Valley Road that

spans the distance between Black Mountain Road and Bernardo Center Drive.

Note that you can only turn onto the access driveway for the trailhead if you are

traveling eastbound on Carmel Vallev Road from Black Mountain Road. That access-

the left fork. The now narrower, rougher, and steeper trail takes you up the northeast flank of Black Mountain, with widening views of the newly minted 4S Ranch and Del Sur neighborhoods below. Bevond the carpet of houses vou'll spot mountain slopes in the Lake Hodges area that were swept by the 2007 Witch Creek Fire. These formerly ashen-looking slopes are temporarily turning emerald green in response to the recent rains and winter sunshine.

You continue working your way generally south, more or less heading in the direction of a large antenna facility on Black Mountain's summit. (If you want to hike to the summit itself, trails originating at Stargaze Avenue and at Hilltop Park

Paddle Clinic Try kayaking or canoeing after an experienced REI staff member shares information about

the activity, including which type of kayak, paddle, and PFD best fits your needs, local paddling destinations.

**Birthday** 

**Parties** 

(take Cabot off Miramar Rd.)

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8123 Miralani Drive

858-586-7500

760-944-9020, Tuesday, March 11, 7 p.m.; REI Encinitas, 1590 Leucadia Boulevard, (ENCINITAS)

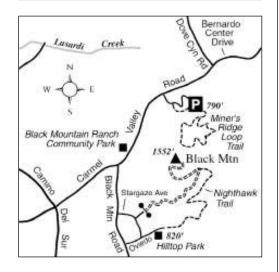
on the south slope provide that information about a publicly option). About half way around owned recreation or wilder the loop, you reach a high ness area. Trails and pathpoint on the trail, 1230 feet ways are not necessarily in elevation and about 450 marked. Conditions can feet above where you started. change rapidly. Hikers should You then descend east and be properly equipped and have safety and navigational later north until you reach the skills. The Reader and Jerry trail fork you encountered earlier, just 0.4 mile from the Schad assume no respontrailhead parking lot. sibility for any adverse experience.

This article contains

#### NORTH SLOPE BLACK MOUNTAIN

Explore the newly reopened Miner's Ridge Loop Trail in San Diego's Black Mountain Open Space Park.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 23 miles Hiking length: 2.5 miles Difficulty: Moderate



Plenty o' Paddling! Try kayaking or canoeing after an experienced REI staff member shares information

about the activity, including which type of kayak, paddle, and PFD best fits your needs, local paddling destinations, 858-279-4400, Wednesday, March 12, 7 p.m.; REI San Diego, 5556 Copley Drive. (CLAIREMONT)

Stories of Hope Elyn Saks went to Harvard, to Yale, wrote The Center Cannot Hold, and is now professor of law and psychology at USC, all while living with a serious mental illness. Saks will presents her story for National Alliance on Mental Illness. 800-523-5933. Thursday, March 6, 6:30 p.m.; University Christian Church, 3900 Cleveland Avenue. (HILLCREST)

## OUTDOORS

March Is the Proverbial Windy Month here in San Diego, as in most places. From midday to late afternoon, sun-warmed air expands and rises over the county's interior, drawing in an influx of cool air from the coast to replace it. These afternoon sea breezes will continue at peak strength until well into the summer, providing dependable conditions for such sports as sailing, kite flying, and hang-gliding.

The Pleasantly Pungent Odor of sage is filling the air wherever native vegetation grows on the county's coastal and lower-foothill slopes. Most common are the black sage, with tight clusters of small, white flowers; the grayish-leaved white sage; purple-blossomed, sweetsmelling Cleveland sage; and California sagebrush, characterized by soft, needle-like leaves.

The Anza-Borrego Desert State Park flowers best this month, with peak blooms expected early in the month in low-lying, warm areas like Borrego Valley, the Borrego Badlands, Coyote Canyon, and along Highway S-2 in the south end of the park. Among the many



La Mesa Antique Street Faire One day only: Sunday, March 30, 9 am-4 pm







-//\_/-////



annually appearing wildflowers you'll find in the low-lying areas are desert sunflower, dune primrose, lupine, desert chicory, sand verbena, and desert lily. On slightly higher ground and up along the hillsides, you'll spot blooming brittlebush, chuparosa, ocotillo, apricot mallow, and more. Starting in mid-month, several varieties of cactus should explode into bloom. For the latest update on this season's expected better-than-average bloom, call Anza-Borrego Desert State Park's special hotline, 760-767-4684, for a recorded message.

The Two Lowest Tides for March (-0.9 feet) occur on Wednesday, March 5 at 2:02 p.m.; and on Thursday, March 6 at 2:29 p.m. These are propitious occasions for viewing marine plant and animal life in the lower intertidal zones.

**The Slender Waxing Crescent** Moon makes its first easily observable appearance low in the western sky during twilight Saturday, March 8. Because the zodiac stands at a steep angle relative to the west horizon this time of year, the young crescent moon hovers almost directly over the

#### setting sun and so appears as a "smile" almost perfectly aligned with the horizon

**Asian Pacific Historic District** Tours Led on second Saturday of each month, starting at Chinese Historical Museum. Required reservations: 619-338-9888. Saturday, March 8, 11 a.m.; \$2. Chinese Historical Society and Museum, 404 Third Avenue (DOWNTOWN)

**D** Street Nesting Site Work Party Help improve nesting habitat for endangered California least terns. Volunteers will remove ice plant that has invaded native salt grass vegetation and finish removing small and medium-sized invasive trees and shrubs used by predators to prey on least tern chicks. If you own them, bring hand saw and/or large loppers. gloves, wear long pants, long-sleeve shirt, eye protection, sturdy shoes. Water, snacks provided. Only heavy rain cancels. Directions: From I-5, exit Mile of Cars/Bay Marina Drive and turn west; turn left on Marina Way; meet at entrance of bike path located on east side of street just as Marina Way curves to right. RSVP:

All other events

619-682-7200. Saturday, March 8, 9 a.m.; ages 14 and up. D Street Nesting Site, 100 Gunpowder Point Drive. (CHULA VISTA)

**Discover Old Escondido West** Walking tour led by Escondido History Center, starting at southeast corner of Grand and Broadway. 760-743-8207. Saturday, March 8, 11 a.m.; Draper's and Damon's, 101 East Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

March Madness on the Lake See crazy coots, eager egrets, daffy ducks perform mating rituals during guided walk in Mission Trails Regional Park. 619-668-3281. Saturday, March 8, 8:30 a.m.; Kumeyaay Lake Campground entry station, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Native Plant Walk What have the rains brought among the native flora of Gonzales Canyon? Find out during easy walk sponsored by California Native Plant Society, Participants will be introduced to native plants growing there, their uses, ecological roles. Wear sturdy shoes, long pants and bring a friend. To reach trailhead, exit I-5 at Del Mar Heights Road and head east; turn left on Lansdale, make immediate left onto unmarked access road to Torrey Highlands Park; meet on right side of street at gated canyon entrance. 619-501-3789. Saturday, March 8, 10 a.m.; ages 8 and up. Torrey Highlands Park, Lansdale Drive at Del Mar Heights Road. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Palm Walk Offshoot Tours offers its monthly hour-long guided stroll exploring structure, growth habits, landscape value of palm trees. 619-235-1122. Saturday, March 8, 10 a.m.; Balboa Park Visitors' Center, 1549 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Field Ornithologists Expert birders lead bird walk on easy trail winding along Tecolote Creek. Bring binoculars, drinking water. 858-581-9944. Saturday, March 8, 9 a.m.; Tecolote Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road. (CLAIREMONT)

Scat Happens Follow footsteps and droppings - of coyotes, bobcats, mule deer, other animals with guide during nature hike. 619-668-3281. Saturday, March 8, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, March 9, 9:30 a.m.; Wednesday, March 12, 9:30 a.m. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Stargazing Party Search for a shooting star or Saturn and Jupiter during stargazing parties planned (weather permitting) in MiraCosta College's baseball field. Call to confirm: 760-757-2121 x6201. Friday, March 7, 8 p.m.; Saturday, March 8, 8 p.m.; MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Tracking Walk Easy tracking walk for everyone, starting at Los Peñasquitos Canvon Preserve Adobe Ranch House. Learn to track animals, discover their environments. 858-484-3219. Saturday, March 8, 8 a.m.; Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, 12020 Black Mountain Road. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Trail Repair Work Continuing in Paso Picacho Campground area. Bring work shoes, gloves, hat, water, snack. Registration: 858-566-7399. Saturday, March 8, 9 a.m.; Paso Picacho campground, Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, Highway 79, five miles north of I-8. (JULIAN)

Volunteer Habitat Restoration Project Help remove invasive salt cedar plants, and plant native species during project in Santa Luz area of Black Mountain Park. Meet at back (north) side of park on Carmel Mountain Road, one block east of intersection with Black Mountain Road. Bring water, sun protection. Gloves available. 858-342-8856. Saturday, March 8, 9 a.m.; Black Mountain Community Park, 12115-A Black Mountain Road, (RANCHO PENASOUITOS)

Where Was Wyatt Earp's Neighborhood? Patty Fares leads Urban Safari exploration through Gaslamp Quarter, starting in park at Fourth Avenue and Broadway (directly across street from U.S. Grant hotel), Reservations: 619-944-9255. Sunday, March 9, 10 a.m.; \$10. Westfield Horton Plaza, 324 Horton Plaza. (DOWNTOWN)

### SOUTH OF THE BORDER

"Chinese and Japanese Immigrants in Baja California" Lecture by Catalina Velásquez Morales from Universidad Autónoma de Baja California. 011-52-664-687-9636. Wednesday, March 12, 7 p.m.; Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJA)

"Edipo Güey" Comedy based on tragedy by Sophocles, for adolescents and adults. 011-52-664-687-9636. Tuesday, March 11, 8 p.m.; \$12. Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJA)

"Las Aventuras de Backyardigans" Children's show by Carrusel Infantil Company. 011-52-664-687-9636. Friday, March 7, 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Sunday, March 9, 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; \$10-\$20. Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, (BAJA)

"Los Culpables" Juan Villoro reads from and signs his new book. Panel discussion participants include Karla Robles, Gabriela Guinea, Karina Márquez, Reyna Soledad, and Estefanie Bórquez, 011-52-664-687-9636. Friday, March 7, 7 p.m.; Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, (BAJA)

Cosmic Science Expo Spiritual, esoteric, metaphysical exhibits, music, entertainment, March 7-9, 011-52-664-625-3331. Friday, March 7, 10 a.m.; Saturday, March 8, 10 a.m.; Sunday, March 9, 10 a.m.; Tijuana City Hall, in Zona Río.

Lola, Lola, Lola, Lola Concert with pop music. 011-52-664-688-1080. Sunday, March 9, 5:30 p.m.; Auditorio Municipal, Boulevard Agua Caliente, (BAJA

Tribute to Bob Marley and Carlos Santana Ensenada's Grupo Wandana performs tunes made famous by these artists. 011-52-646-176-3005 or 011-52-646-177-1195. Thursday, March 6, 7:30 p.m.; \$5-\$8. Teatro Benito Juárez, Avenida Guadalupe, between Calles 2 and 4. (BAJA)

#### SPECIAL

"A Mind of Her Own: Fathers and Daughters in a Changing World" "Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature" series continues with Anzia Yezierska's Bread Givers. SDSU associate professor of English and comparative literature June Cummins leads discussion. Registration: 858-694-2484. Wednesday, March 12, 6:30 p.m.; Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

7





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Reception Sites		call 619-235-8200.

#### BY SONIA ELIOT

## What's That You're Reading?

NAME: TANYA FINLALY | AGE: 39 | OCCUPATION: STAY-AT-HOME MOM NEIGHBORHOOD: RANCHO SANTA FE | WHERE INTERVIEWED: UNIVERSITY TOWNE CENTRE



"The most recent book I read was Loving Frank — it's a novel by Nancy Horan."

## Tell me about it.

"It's basically a novel about the events in the life of Frank Lloyd Wright, in particular, an affair he had with a woman named Mamah Cheney. Both Wright and Cheney left their families and basically set up house together. She was an upper-class woman, and he was a famous architect. She ended up getting

a divorce. Those things just weren't done back then. The story had a tragic ending: Cheney — together with her two children from her husband who were visiting for the summer — was killed in a brutal way by one of their employees. He was obviously crazy — he also killed several other employees on the property."

What do you make of the plot?

March 8, 6 p.m.; Bonita Museum

and Cultural Center, 4355 Bonita

"Nature and Heart of a

Woman" Art exhibition with orig-

inal "eclectic oil paintings" by Ira-

nian artist Saedeh Bani-Rahimi. See

new pieces, "as well as old favorites."

Road. (BONITA)

"It's a true story, but it's written as historical fiction. Horan draws from letters between Wright and Cheney, and from other research, and imagines the conversations they might have had. Wright is very well known, but Cheney has kind of been forgotten, and Haron brings her back. I got into the book because I was interested in architecture. I liked the way it described Wright's inspirations for his designs — the way he combined nature and architecture in a seamless way, using lots of glass to bring the outdoors inside."

#### Did you have a favorite character?

"That would have to be Cheney. She was an educated woman, and at the time, women could basically be teachers — they didn't have many choices. She got married, had children, and felt very confined by her life — she always wanted more. She lived in the Midwest, and she met Wright because he was hired to design a home for her husband and her. She was drawn to this brilliant man because she herself was also brilliant, and she didn't have a creative outlet.

"Leaving her family was a huge, hard decision. Her own children were young at the time, and Wright had something like six kids. In society, she would have been thought to be the harlot, but Horan was sympathetic — trying to explain why she did what she did, her reasons for making the decision. Especially since it was so out of the ordinary at the time." <u>Compare this with other books</u> you've read.

"It was definitely out of the ordinary for me. I normally read straight fiction. But then, I'm not reading much of anything these days because of the time I need to spend with my kids." What book has been most life-

## changing for you?

"I guess I love Robert Frost's poem 'The Road Not Taken.' That's a great one. I read it in middle school, but it's so apropos. I think you can always think about different paths that you can choose in your life. I've been pretty adventurous; I've taken a lot of paths. I've done different jobs, and I've lived everywhere, from Europe, to the Midwest, to the Pacific Northwest, to the South, to the Northeast, and now, Southern California. I have no regrets."

Do you have any favorite authors?

"I really like Bill Bryson — he writes travel memoirs."

### What magazines or newspapers do you read? How many articles do you read to the end?

"I read Vanity Fair, and maybe sometimes O, the Oprah magazine. Not really any newspapers. I'll read maybe three or four articles through to the end."

## Do you talk to friends and family about reading?

"I've never been part of a book club. I talk to my husband about reading, but he enjoys more fact-based books — tales of explorers in the New World. He hasn't read *Loving Frank* yet, but I've set it aside for him."

"Juried Fine Art Exhibit 2008"
 Opening reception for participating artists. Display of children's art is also on view. Show closes on Saturday, April 19. 619-267-5141. Saturday,
 Required RSVP: 858-481-6003. Friday, March 7, 4:30 p.m.; La Vida del Mar, 850 Del Mar Downs Road. (SOLANA BEACH)

**"Peace-ing Communities Together"** Peace-building conference for those 18-29 years old hosted by San Diego Council of Hostelling International USA, March 7-9. Joyce Neu, executive director of Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice presents "Building Peace: A Job for Idealists or Pragmatists?" Fee includes meals, workshops on components of peace building, discussions with peace-building leaders in community, more. Registration: 619-338-9981. Friday, March 7, 7 p.m.; Saturday, March 8, 9 a.m.; Sunday, March 9, 9 a.m.; \$45. House of Pacific Relations, 2125 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

"Sacred Earth and Healing Arts of Tibet Tour" Seven Gaden Shartse monks from Gelugpa order of Tibetan Buddhism will create a

for

traditional sacred sand mandala for public viewing, March 7-9. Cafe hosts live music and slide

show of "Life in the Monastery" on March 8, 7-10 p.m. The Venerable Geshe Jampa Norbu will be on hand to answer questions. Donation.

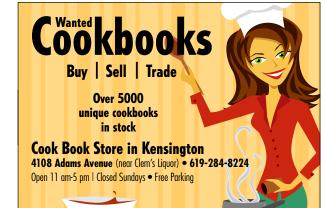
Ceremony to dismantle mandala is March 9, 1:30 p.m. Monks and community members will walk sand to Cottonwood Creek Park for blessing. Donation: \$10-\$15. 760-230-2038. Friday, March 7, 9 a.m.; Satur-

**SCUBA** 

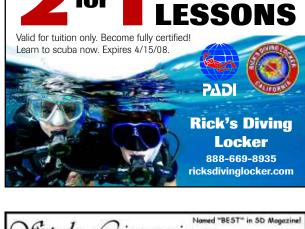
day, March 8, 9 a.m.; Sunday, March 9, 9 a.m.; Wednesday, March 12, 7 p.m.; E Street Cafe, 128 E Street. (ENCINITAS)

"Sweetwater Union High School District Student Art Exhibition" Award reception for annual exhibition of work by students. Show may be viewed through Friday, April 11. 619-585-5757. Friday, March 7, 5 p.m.; South Chula Vista Library, 389 Orange Avenue. (CHULA VISTA) **"Thoughts for the Times on War and Death "** San Diego Great Books gathers to discuss this Freud selection. Newcomers welcome. 619-440-5625. Saturday, March 8, 2 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Bring a Sharp Chef's Knife! Chef Carissa Giacalone leads sauté and stir-fry basics class. Reservations: 888-424-3663. Saturday, March 8, 11 a.m.; \$55. Macy's Mission Valley













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Home Store, 1555 Camino de la Reina, (MISSION VALLEY)

**Creativity Workout** Exercise your humor with "variety of lively interactive exercises...to give your funnybone a workout" led by Jacquie Lowell. \$20. 858-581-0050. Friday, March 7, 7:30 p.m.; \$20. Radiance Yoga Center, 1618 West Lewis Street. (MISSION HILLS)

**Explore the Urban Context** TNT (Thursday Night Thing) examines urban life and landscapes with the urban-themed events and activities. Performance artist Sara Wookey, urban designers Howard Blackson and Michael Stepner lead discussion on "new urbanism" movement in architecture; enjoy sneak preview of Wookey's Walking L.A./(Sur)facing the City, make reflective buttons "ideal for nighttime walking and cycling." Garage-punk by BRAAIINS, mellow indie pop by Longstay, hip-hop beats by DJ Destijl. 858-454-3541. Thursday, March 6, 7 p.m.; Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN)

Gem Faire Over 80 manufacturers, wholesalers, importers offering jewelry, gems, beads, crystals, silver, and minerals. Classes, demonstrations. Weekend pass: \$5. 760-390-3599. Saturday, March 8, 10 a.m.; Friday, March 7, noon; Sunday, March 9, 10 a.m.; \$5. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Have Papers Piled on Your Desk? Stumped when deciding what to file and what to trash? Suggestions for "Getting Organized" on offer when Voluntary Simplicity group meets. Donation. 619-298-9978. Monday, March 10, 7 p.m.; \$2. First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, 4190 Front Street. (HILLCREST)

House of México Lawn program with costumes, music, dance, and ethnic foods, 619-234-0739, Sunday, March 9, 2 p.m.; House of Pacific Relations, 2125 Park Boulevard, (BALBOA PARK)

Lux Family Day Enjoy art activities and entertainment, meet landscape painter (and artist-in-residence) Astrid Preston. 760-436-6611. Saturday, March 8, 1 p.m.; Lux Art Institute, 1550 South El Camino Real. (ENCINITAS)

Ranunculus Rainbows The Flower Fields with nearly 50 acres of giant ranunculus flowers are blooming again, open for tours. Visitors may stroll pathways or take wagon ride (\$4 general). Exotic plant sale, sweet pea maze, poinsettia display, American flag of flowers. 760-431-0352. Thursdays, 9 a.m.; Fridays, 9 a.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.; Mondays, 9 a.m.; Tuesdays, 9 a.m.; Wednesdays, 9 a.m.; through Sunday, May 11, 2008, The Flower Fields, 5704 Paseo Del Norte. (CARLSBAD)

SDSU Murals Lecture and Tour Concealed for decades behind ceiling tiles on the bottom floor of SDSU's Hardy Memorial Tower, remnants of two Depression-era murals again saw daylight in 2004; one of the murals has been removed from basement wall and has been restored and installed in SDSU Library. Learn how murals were discovered and what they mean to campus when Seth Mallios of anthropology department presents "Uncovering Our Past" in Hardy Tower Room 140. Following talk, tour Hardy Tower, where one mural remains hidden. Unveiling of restored and relocated mural will follow tour. 619-594-4991. Friday, March 7, 6:30 p.m.; San

Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (SDSU)

### San Diego Golf Super Show

Show promises exhibitors, merchandise, presentations, golf skill contests, clinics, seminars, hitting cages, virtual golf simulator, more. 858-586-1210. Saturday, March 8, 9 a.m.; Friday, March 7, 11 a.m.; Sunday, March 9, 9 a.m.; Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, (DEL MAR)

Tiaras and Taffeta Bridal and Quinceañera Expo hosted by wedding and quinceañera event professionals, displaying their products and services. Registration: 619-708-0859 (in English) or 619-246-0915 (en español). Sunday, March 9, 11 a.m.: \$8-\$10. Lakeside Community Center, 9841 Vine Street, (LAKESIDE)

Whale-Watching Cruises Made possible by Birch Aquarium at Scripps and San Diego Harbor Excursion, now through March 31 at 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily. \$15 kids 4-12; \$30-\$35 for those 13 and older. Reservations: 619-234-4111. Thursdays, 9:45 a.m.; Fridays, 9:45 a.m.; Saturdays, 9:45 a.m.; Sundays, 9:45 a.m.; Mondays, 9:45 a.m.; Tuesdays, 9:45 a.m.; Wednesdays, 9:45 a.m.; through Monday, March 31, 2008, \$15-\$35. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Who's the Ugliest of Them All? Time for 13th annual Del Mar Kiwanis Ugly Dog Contest. Many dogs will compete in 14 contest categories including ugliest dog, best mutt, cutest pup, best trick, best St. Patrick's Day costume, more. Competing canines charged \$6 per category. 858-755-5913. Sunday, March 9, 11 a.m.; \$2-\$8. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Stay tuned for more upcoming events!

## OUT & ABOUT

LUANN: SCENES IN A TEEN'S LIFE March 7–16, Howard Brubeck Theatre.

(SEE IN PERSON)

## SPORTS

Clash at Clairemont Event presented by PacSun and Mission Valley YMCA promises demonstrations from over 20 professional skateboarders and BMX bike riders including Andy MacDonald, Bucky Lasek, Kevin Robinson, and Mat Hoffman, along with other pros. Autograph sessions throughout day. Proceeds benefit Mission Valley YMCA and Grind for Life, 619-279-9254, Saturday, March 8, 11 a.m.; \$10. Krause Family Bike and Skate Park, 3401 Clairemont Drive, (CLAIREMONT)

Del Mar/Solana Beach Rotary Bocce Ball Tournament Twelfth annual tournament, 858-481-9085. Sunday, March 9, 9 a.m.; Del Mar Horsepark, 14550 El Camino Real. (DEL MAR)

Riddle Ride "Don't leave your brain at home - you'll need to think" during 25-mile Knickerbikers bicvcle adventure. Ride will be "unusual, vet social." Park across from museum. Bring money for lunch in Old Town.



619-298-5506. Sunday, March 9, 9 a.m.; Junípero Serra Museum, 2727 Presidio Drive. (OLD TOWN)

Up for a Century? Join San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders to peddle 100 miles through Camp Pendleton to San Clemente and back on first morning of daylight saving time. Bring money for lunch. 619-561-3846. Sunday, March 9, 8:45 a.m.; Doyle Park, 8175 Regents Road. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

### MUSEUMS

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

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619-299-4FLY (4359)

Chula Vista Heritage Museum The museum features glimpses of Chula Vista's past; exhibits feature lemon packing crate labels, photographs of downtown Chula Vista, doors and adobe blocks from the original Star newspaper building, and relics from the Otay Watch Company, 360 Third Avenue, 619-427-8092. (CHULA VISTA)

Creation Museum A museum contrasting the evolution and creation world views, 10946 Woodside Avenue North, 619-448-0900. (SANTEE)

Gemological Institute of America Museum Permanent exhibits include displays depicting science and art of gemstones and history, lore and cultural significance of jewelry. Reservations are required. 5345 Armada Drive, 800-421-7250. (CARLSBAD)

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

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. 321 North Broadway, 760-743-8207. (ESCONDIDO)

House of Pacific Relations International Cottages are open every Sunday, noon\_4 p.m., presenting history and traditions of 30 ethnic groups. On fourth Tuesday of each month, Children Around the World videos screened in Hall of Nations, select cottages open. 2125 Park Boulevard, 619-234-0739. (BALBOA PARK)

J.A. Cooley Museum An eclectic collection of items - including displays on phonographs, clocks, electric trains, and 20 other types of collections - is featured at the museum. The current featured attraction is an "Industrial Product Collection," with examples of the historical progression of auto technology from 1886-1915, "some classics and a concept car." 4233 Park Boulevard, 619-296-3112. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

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

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

Museum of San Diego History "Place of Promise: Stories of San Diego" lets visitors "literally walk on San Diego"; a map of county

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extends from wall to wall across the floor. Also featured in ongoing exhibit are two large 1930s murals by artist Charles Reiffel and a 1910 San Diego streetcar. Stories of San Diego are interpreted through images, artifacts, oral histories from society's collection. The museum is located in the Casa de Balboa building. 1649 El Prado, 619-232-6203. (BALBOA PARK)

**Parsonage Museum of Lemon Grove** "The Kumeyaay: At Home in the World" features murals depicting the world of Kumeyaay in Lemon Grove in 12,000 B.C., when vast sweeps of oak savannah and a river dominated the area. The coming of the Spanish conquistadors and the Catholic hierarchy in the mid-18th century is portrayed. Century-old artifacts, along with photographs of leading contemporary Kumeyaay family flank the life size figures.

"The Art of The Treganzas" boasts hammered copper and brass artifacts, paintings, drawings, and Arts and Crafts furniture created between 1906-1935 by this pioneer Lemon Grove family.

In "Lemon Grove: 1892-1935," homes and families of pioneer fruit growers are shown in rare photographs, along with artifacts, in

TASTINGS • PARTIES • THEATRE • SPORTING EVENTS

SINGLES

000 B.C., when avannah and a he area. The ish conquistaic hierarchy in wie potrardy difference of the town. 3185 Olive Street, 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE) **Reuben H. Fleet Science Center** "Strange Matter" introduces visitors to world of materials science. Mate-

to world of materials science. Materials scientists investigate structure of materials to discover what gives them their remarkable properties. Closes Sunday, May 18. "Listen Here! Making Sense of

this display detailing agricultural

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

Ongoing exhibitions include "Origins in Space: Spin-Offs in Science and Technology," "So WATT! An Illuminating Look at Energy," "Aging for All Ages," "Kid City" (for preschoolers), "TryScience!" "Escape from Dino Island" is theme for motion simulator ride. Films are shown daily in the IMAX theater. 1875 El Prado, 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

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

The museum is dedicated to "curation of archaeological projects and sharing them with the

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week covering every sport and social activity imaginable! public." 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road, 760-291-0370. (ESCONDIDO)

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

More than 80 automobiles and motorcycles from horseless carriages to future prototypes are included in the museum's permanent collection. Find the museum near the Starlight Bowl. 2080 Pan American Plaza, 619-231-2886. (BALBOA PARK)

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

### Valley Center History Museum

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

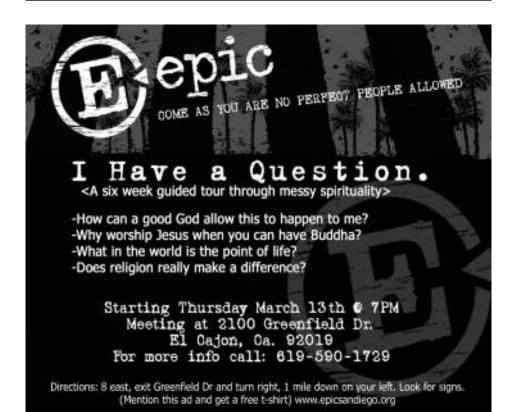


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## The Ghost Brought Inside the Flesh

"I have forced the sun to take pictures for me."

RE

ΕW

W.S. DI PIERO

've seen every cut of Ridley Scott's *Blade Runner*, and yet when I watched his new-absolutely-last-I-promise director's cut, I'd never felt so pierced by the importance of photographs in the movie. The Terrell Corporation

manufactures Replicants (humanoids with a four-year life span) and supplies them with personal photographs — Mom, Dad, the dog, the house and its

piano — so that they'll believe they have a real past. The photos give them a human back-story. Most of the photographs in this hallucinatory color film, though, are black and white, and humans aren't, so in a sense these "memories" are already falsifications or simulacra of the past, just as the Replicants are simulacra of human beings. I've spent so much of my life looking at and thinking about photography of all kinds daguerreotype, tintype, digital, radiographic; straight, formalist, vernacular, mystical — that I feel pretty toughened about the affects photographs so effortlessly express, so Blade Runner's memory conceit shouldn't have hit me so hard. And yet when I now look at portraits, I feel as never before a biting sensation of loss, or loss's impending-ness, no matter if it's an album snapshot of wedding debauchees, a tintype of a live Civil War recruit, an excruciating yearbook pose, or a Chloë Sevigny glam shot. What I see are perishables, already on their way toward the other side, wherever that may be. For all the tactile illusion of sensuous presence that photography smuggles into consciousness, it also brings the ghost inside the flesh, the body's breath that sooner or later goes. I know this has to do with

how an image transcends its own appearances and that the template of personal history shapes our response to images. The in-

glenook of an exhibition currently at the Museum of Photographic Arts, Picturing the Process: Portraiture Through the Lens, contains only a couple dozen pictures yet offers one meditative occasion after another on the nature of life and memory, or memory in life, how we prepare to remember ourselves with a representational device whose mechanics, unlike those of painting or sculpture, are master-able by any old fool. Digitization has made portraiture an even more voracious and omnipresent retrieval system. The most exhaustive visual archive of troops at war is right now being created thanks to cell-phone cameras. A portrait is inevitably some kind of memento mori, whether ---- to cite examples from the exhibition — it's a daguerreotype of a dog seated on a chair, a tintype of a teenager about to go off to the slaughter fields of Antietam or Gettysburg, a photographer's self-portrait (invariably fragmented or only a shadow), or a raucous celebrity image of



New York City, 1966, Lee Friedlander

**Picturing the Process: Portraiture Through the Lens** *is on view at the Museum of Photographic Arts until July 6.* 

Janis Joplin. How tender-tough she looks, pointing straight at us, wearing that sweet, dizzy, welcome-to-the-piece-of-my-heart smile.

These are included in a show, billed as a simple sampling, that's really a teacup history of portraiture, from Daguerre's 1839 invention, which proliferated recklessly because of the expanding middle class and would within 20 years include, among other genres, dirty pictures (not included in the show) now valued by collectors of erotica, then on to the earliest paper photographs made by Henry Fox Talbot and misted, late 19th-century Pictorialism (represented by a mightily depressed Alfred Lord Tennyson), up to Larry Fink's gleaming 1957 portrait of a portrait: an artist's model sits dressed and splayed on the floor of a painter's studio, her dirty feetbottoms reminiscent of Manet's *Olympia*, and on the wall behind her hangs the painter's triple portrait of her in the same pose and outfit.



## Gregorian Chant Mass

O -mni- a • quae fe-císti nó-bis, Dó-mi- ne, in vé- ro judí-ci-o fe- cí-sti, qui-a peccá-virnus

Schola and congregational singing. Hymnals/missals provided with Latin-English pages.

**Sunday, March 9, 4:00 pm** Pizza Social with singing by the Schola after Mass.

## **Our Lady of the Rosary Church**

San Diego's Jewel Box of Baroque and Rococo Art State and Date Streets (Little Italy) 

Downtown San Diego <section-header>

### February 23-May 18, 2008

"In all forms, ordinary or extraordinary, I seek that life rhythm (pranachhanda) of the reality whose vitality has generated the whole world and all its forms, actual and imaginary, and pulsates within them."

Nandalal Bose, 1944

SDMA has organized the first exhibition outside of Asia to present the works of Nandalal Bose, India's father of modern art. View close to 100 of Bose's finest paintings, including pieces commissioned by Mahatma Gandhi.

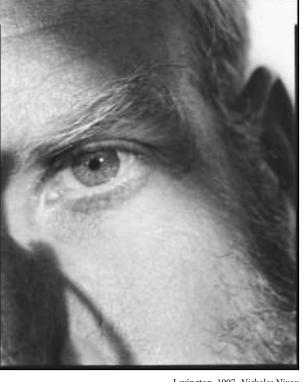
SDMA SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART 1450 EL PRADO, BALBOA PARK · WWW.SDMART.ORG · (619) 232-7931

IMAGE, L-R: New Clouds, tempera on paper, 1937. National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi, Acc. no. 4804. / Dandi March (Bapuji) (detail), linocut on paper, 1930. National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi, Acc. no. 44893.ew Delhi, Acc. no. 4893. / Dolan Champa, tempera on paper, 1952. National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delh Acc. no. 4812. (All images by Nandalal Bose.

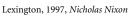
Rhythms of India: The Art of Nandalal Bose (1882–1966) is organized by the San Diego Museum of Art in collaboration with the National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi. The exhibition is made possible by the generosity of Roohi and Rajiv Savara, the Savara Art Foundation, Priva and Mukesh Assomull, Fiona and Sanjay Jha, the Arts and Culture Fund of The San Diego Foundation, and Cayari and C.K. Prahalad. Additional support is provided by Dr. and Mrs. V.S. Ramachardran, Luyra Jal Banes Haugi, the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, the County of San Diego Community Enhancement Program, are supported by ResNed Foundation, not fart. Education programs are supported by ResNed Foundation, In the San Diego Community Enhancement Evogani, and Commission for Arts and Culture, the County of San Diego Community Enhancement Rogram, and the San Diego Museum of Art. Education programs are supported by ResNed Foundation, In the San Diego Community Enhancement Evogani, and Commission for Arts and Culture, the County of San Diego Commission of Dirak San Arts Council and Committee for the Arts of the Indian Subcontinent.



Photographers make light into an occasion for excitability. "I have forced the sun to take pictures for me," Daguerre exclaimed. "[I have] seized the fleeting light." The other fleeting thing is us, and the fleetingness has its comic turns, as in a picture that made me laugh out loud: Untitled (Knife Thrower Signor Arcaris and Sister Rose?). Flashy in his gaucho get-up, said Signor A. poses proudly next to his sister, poor kid, her chiffon-ruffled, unnaturally pinched hourglass figure fastened to a rotating wheel, outlined by hungry looking knives. When Daguerre was patenting his one-off, metal plate process, Fox Talbot, also in 1839, was patenting his Calotype process that would rule the day, because he figured out how to make negatives that yielded multiple prints. The machine Talbot boasted could produce "evidence of a novel kind" was soon being used by detective squads to record crime scenes and register criminals. Picturing the Process includes a 1910 mugshot of one Thomas Wallace. Like most portraits, it inventories its subject, but in a literalist, depersonalized way: the information card presents profile and frontal views and vital stats ("HAIR: med-chest.;

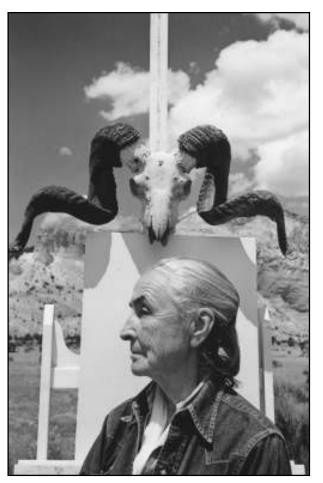


Complexion: ruddy; Weight: 142") but says nothing of his purported malfeasance, depriving the representation of any moral quality. He might as well be that other popular photographic subject: sleep's simulacrum, death. Nadar, pseudonym of Gaspard-Félix Tournachon, made portraits of every famous personage of Second Empire Paris - Baudelaire, Delacroix, Ingres, himself. His picture of the dead Victor



Hugo in bed in no way makes the titan look diminished. The great leveler seems to have flattened but not *leveled* him. Fox Talbot himself made a death portrait of Nicolas Hennem, his assistant in creating all that evidence of a novel kind.

Photography became a representational activity available to anyone who by 1882 could afford one of George Eastman's cheap Kodaks, a Brownie prototype that contained a roll of 100 paper negatives. Soon the masses, in love with unscrolling narrative portraiture, were packing motion picture theaters all day every day during the Great Depression. In the worst of times, that fame-making industry thrived. As for the Brownie



Georgia O'Keeffe, Ghost Ranch, NM, 1968, Arnold Newman

and still photography, even nobodies now had a new selfcelebrating device. With stupefying alacrity, the camera created in us the ability to fabricate a second self, a camera-ready self that most of us can present on command. Photographers of course know how to exploit that self-awareness and projection. Bruce Davidson's portrait of a teenage couple on New York's East 100th Street is nearly rent apart with ambiguity: a beautiful young girl full of hope and promise smiles into the lens; the boy, noncommittal, slightly wary, observes his (presumed) sweetheart from a cautious distance. If that's an image of unequivocal equivocation, James Fee's portrait of David Lynch is a refractory homage to the film director's own distorting, horror-ride chromatics. It's a picture about warped, delusional, smeared self-perception. Lynch appears as a color-warped figure trapped in a swirling, smudged, corroded nimbus. He looks trapped either in the process of coming into being or passing from it.

## ART LISTINGS

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

## GALLERIES

"Ruin" Opening reception for London artist Michael Sanders. "Ruin" explores destruction that took place during 2003 when U.S. military forces occupied ancient site of Babylon for major camp. Work by Sanders is exhibited through Thursday, April 3, along with work by late Walt Cotton. Art talks by

Sanders at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on March 10. 760-757-5368. Kruglak Gallery at MiraCosta College (One Barnard Drive). 6:30 p.m., Thursday, March 6, (OCEANSIDE)

"Triumphant March" Reception for artists. Juror Carol Sass Tuttle selected approximately 100 paintings for exhibition through March. 619-876-4550. San Diego Watercolor Society (2825 Dewey Road, #105). 5 p.m., Friday, March 7. (POINT LOMA)

"Celtic Traditions: A Celebration of Irish Culture" History of Ireland explored in mixed-media exhibition of paintings, photography, woodcarvings, bronze sculptures and jewelry, opening with reception for artists Denise Bonaimo, David Ghilarducci, Danielle Susalla (curator and artist). Closing reception: Friday, March 28, 6 p.m. RSVP: 619-795-3704. Colosseum Fine Arts (2400 Kettner Boulevard, suite F-109). 6 p.m., Friday, March 7. (LITTLE ITALY)

Rock and Roll! Rock and Roll Hall of Fame member Grace Slick brings her latest art exhibit and visits these receptions. "Slick's artwork presents a range of subjects including portraits of old friends and legendary musicians such as Jerry Garcia, Jimi Hendrix, Mick Jagger, Janis Joplin, John Lennon, Jim Morrison, Sting," along with "The Wonderland Suite." 858-551-7071. Wentworth Gallery (1025 Prospect Street). 6 p.m., Friday, March 7. (LA JOLLA)

"Copy" Opening reception for exhibition of installation work and collages by San Diego artists Richard Gleaves and Joey Burns, drawings by French artist Hervé Crespel and Indiana/Chicago artist Tom Torluemke, and mural by Arizona graffitist KAI1. Reception includes "opening-night performance" by Kevin Freitas, local arts writer and founder of www.artasauthority.com art blog. 619-231-3900. Closes Friday, April 25. Simayspace at Art Academy of San Diego (840 G Street). 6 p.m., Friday, March 7. (DOWNTOWN)

"Visual Poetry" Artist's reception for Rodger Heglar, Dana Levine, Peggy Palm, John Valois. Exhibition of painting, digital art, photography continues through Saturday, March 15, celebrating La Jolla Art Association's 90th year and group's new gallery. 858-459-1196. La Jolla Art Association Gallery (7734 Herschel Avenue, suite G). 6:30 p.m., Friday, March 7. (LA JOLLA)

"Spring Open 2008" Gallery La Mesa presents juried exhibition of local artists opening with reception. Show closes Friday, April 4. 619-462-5760. Gallery La Mesa (8808 La Mesa Boulevard). 6 p.m., Friday, March 7. (LA MESA)

"Afternoon Shadows" Reception for landscape artist Joan Boyer, whose exhibition closes Thursday, May 8. 619-546-9546. Second reception: Saturday, April 12. Sharp Gallery (3807 Ray Street). 6 p.m., Saturday, March 8. (NORTH PARK)

"Bill Dane: An Avalanche of **Circumstance**, Photographs Since the 1970s" Opening reception for Bay Area photographer Bill Dane. Exhibition - on display through Wednesday, May 7 spans Dane's early black-andwhite photographs to large-scale color images he has produced since 1980s. 619-501-0879. 4 Walls

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Gallery (3813 Ray Street). 6 p.m., Saturday, March 8. (NORTH PARK)

**"Midnight Parade"** Opening reception for artist Joshua Clay. His art — said to be "dominated by the languid female form" — may be seen through Saturday, April 5. More than 20 artists will have work on view in the 14 open studios. 760-781-5779. Distinction Gallery (317 East Grand Avenue). 6 p.m., Saturday, March 8. (ESCONDIDO)

Fine Art Photography Reception for "Urbanity" by Tom O. Scott and "Our Kinship with the Seas" by Art Myers. Work by Lew Abulafia, Sharon Anthony, John D. Clark, Donna Cosentino, Lakshmi Grace Douglas, Peter Fay, Heidi Fickinger, Lou Montrose, Abe Ordover, Lisa Ross, and Blake Shaw may be seen concurrently. Show closes Sunday, April 6. 858-720-1121. Ordover Gallery (444 South Cedros Avenue, studio 172). 1 p.m., Saturday, March 8. (SOLANA BEACH)

## A R T M U S E U M S

**California Center for the Arts, Escondido Museum.** "Innocence is Questionable" is comprised of work by six renowned San Diego-based artists: Jean Lowe, Ernest Silva, Raul Guerrero, Iana Quesnell, May-ling Martinez, and Yvonne Venegas. Each artist is recipient of 2006/2007 San Diego Art Prize. Through May. 340 North Escondido Boulevard, 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

Mingei International Museum. "Hungarian Folk Magic — The Art of Joseph Domjan" includes several of this master woodblock printer's pieces, along with objects from other cultures of the folklore images Domjan often portrayed. "Exhibition is an expression of the power of art to endure war, politics, and disaster and to rise, phoenix-like, from the ashes." Closes Sunday, October 5.

"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 highlighting similarities and differences among them. Museum has formed a collection of mingei now comprising 17,000 objects from 141 countries such as collection of 19th-Century African tribal currency, group of masks including example of Amazonian feather work, ritual objects, selection of monumental containers. Closes Sunday, May 11, 1439 El Prado, 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

Mingei International Museum — North County. "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. 155 West Grand Avenue, 760-735-3355. (ESCONDIDO)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown. "Robert Irwin: Primaries and Secondaries" is "the largest exhibition of renowned artist...Irwin's work since 1993." Exhibit features five new major installation works created specifically for MCASD's galleries, is drawn almost exclusively of works from museum's collection. Closes Sunday, April 13. Find the museum directly across from the Santa Fe Railroad Depot. 1001 Kettner Boulevard, 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-towall, the room is filled with grids of phosphor-green LEDs, creating an immersive web of light. Closes Sunday, May 4. 700 Prospect Street, 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

**Museum of Photographic Arts.** "The Photographer's Eye: A Way of Seeing" 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 closing Sunday, April 20, is "Measured Time: MoPA at 25." Museum's atrium wall holds a timeline exhibition reflecting museum's achievements since 1983. Images from permanent collection 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. 1649 El Prado, 619-238-7559. (BALBOA PARK)

Oceanside Museum of Art. "Masterpieces of San Diego Painting: Fifty Works from Fifty Years, 1900-1950" focuses on "museum's mission to promote and foster an appreciation for the art and artists of the San Diego region." Guest curator Bram Dijkstra assembled selection of paintings from private collections and museums including celebrated "plein air" painters such as Maurice Braun, Charles Fries, and Charles Reiffel, as well as neosurrealist Ethel Greene and accomplished group of early modernists including Belle Baranceanu. Closes Thursday, June 26. 704 Pier View Way, 760-721-2787. (OCEANSIDE)

San Diego Museum of Art. "Kindred Spirits: Asher B. Durand and the American Landscape" closing on Sunday, April 27 surveys over 50 paintings, drawings, engravings by Durand, a of foremost artist of his era "who created the most memorable American landscape paintings of the mid-19th century." Exhibit gives extra emphasis given to large-scale landscape paintings for which he is best remembered.

"Plein Air Past and Present: A Collaboration Between SDMA and the Lux Art Institute" runs concurrently, featuring more than 20 California plein-air paintings.

"Rhythms of India: The Art of Nandalal Bose (1882–1966)" is described as the "first comprehensive traveling exhibition outside of Asia to survey the expansive repertoire of Bose...the father of modern art in India." Exhibit boasts close to 100 of Bose's finest paintings, executed in variety of styles and media, revealing how Bose contributed to success of India's nonviolent struggle for independence from colonial rule through his association with Mahatma Gandhi. Closes Sunday, May 18.

"Inside the Wave: Six San Diego/Tijuana Artists Construct Social Art," opening Saturday, March 8 and closing on Sunday, June 22, features six artists from San Diego/Tijuana region working within alternative cultures to produce thought-provoking works engaging issues of everyday life and materialism. Artists bulbo, Brian Dick, Adriene Jenik, particle group, Zlatan Vukosavljevic, and Allison Weise produce works including sculptures made of found industrial objects, photographs, documentary videos, and interactive digital media. 1450 El Prado, 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

**Timken Museum of Art.** Permanent collection includes European old master paintings, 18thand 19th-Century American paintings, and Russian icons. Saint Bartholomew, the only Rembrandt painting on public display in San Diego, is featured. 1500 El Prado, 619-239-5548. (BALBOA PARK)



## HOW TO SEND US YOUR

**LISTING:** Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number, and a phone number (including area code) for public information to READER CLASSICAL MUSIC, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SDReader.com by clicking on the events section.

## CLASSICAL

Singers' Concert Students of Phil Larson perform vocal pieces including the Schubert "Mass in G" and Bach's "Cantata 106 (Gottes Zeitist die allerbeste Zeit)." 858-534-3229. Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD (9500 Gilman Drive), 8 p.m., Thursday, March 6. (UCSD)

"Concert Piece for Harp and Orchestra" Harpist Tasha Smith joins New City Sinfonia for concert featuring this Saint-Saëns work. Bookending the piece are Beethoven's "Fourth Symphony" and "Linz Symphony No. 36" by Mozart. 619-527-4457. First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego (4190 Front Street), 7:30 p.m., Friday, March 7. (HILLCREST)

Jacobs' Masterworks Concerts San Diego Symphony, conductor Jahja Ling, and Toby Oft (trombone) perform Higdon's "blue cathedral," "Concerto for Trombone and Orchestra" by Grøndahl, and Tchaikovsky's "Andante Cantabile." Reservations: 619-235-0804. Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street), 8 p.m., Friday, March 7; 8 p.m., Saturday, March 8; 2 p.m., Sunday, March 9, (DOWNTOWN)

**Piano Series** Chinese pianist Yundi Li performs for La Jolla Music Society. Enjoy "Mazurkas Nos. 22-25" by Chopin, "Ballade No. 2 in B Minor" by Liszt, Berg's "Piano Sonata Opus 1," "Jeux d'eau" by Ravel, Ginastera's "Danzas Argentinas," and "Pictures at an Exhibition" by Mussorgsky. Reservations: 858-459-3728. Sherwood Auditorium at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street), 8 p.m., Friday, March 7. (LA JOLLA)

**Eat, Drink, Be Merry!** The Hutchins Consort presents music from Baroque, early romantic, and post-Great War eras, including two works specifically written for the Hutchins violins. 949-675-6010. Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive), 8 p.m., Friday, March 7. (LA JOLLA)

Violins and Violas Students of virtuoso violinist János Négyesy perform works for violins and violas. 858-534-3229. Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD (9500 Gilman Drive), 8 p.m., Friday, March 7. (UCSD)

**Organ Concert** Civic organist emeritus Robert Plimpton in concert. 619-702-8138. Spreckels Organ Pavilion (2211 Pan American Road), 2 p.m., Sunday, March 9. (BALBOA PARK) Virtuosic Piano Gifts on Display! Fourteen-year-old composer and performer Kit Armstrong entertains for Discovery Series hosted by La Jolla Music Society with works of Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Schubert, Debussy, and his own new work. Reservations: 858-459-3728. Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive), 3 p.m., Sunday, March 9. (IA JOLLA)

Another "Wild Hare" Concert? Geoffrey Gartner leads UCSD Chamber Orchestra in concert with clarinet soloist Robert Zelickman featured as orchestra performs music by Rossini as well as klezmer selections, followed by de Falla's ballet suite "Love the Magician." After intermission, view famed European art films Un Chien Andalou by Salvador Dalí and Luís Buñuel and Entr'acte by Rene Clair, with Chamber Orchestra performing Satie's score for Clair's film. 858-534-3229. Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD (9500 Gilman Drive), 3 p.m., Sunday, March 9. (LA JOLLA)

**Proteus 7** This brass, woodwind, percussion ensemble takes stage for Hidden Valley Community Concert Association. Space availability: 760-740-0619. California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard), 2 p.m., Sunday, March 9. (ESCONDIDO)

**Piano for Lunch** Classical piano music on tap when Michael Seller performs for Athenaeum's miniconcert series. 858-454-5872. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street), noon, Monday, March 10. (LA JOLLA)

**"Surprise Surprise"** Listen to Haydn's "Surprise Symphony," along with "Operation for the Removal of a Stone" by Marin Marais, Beethoven's "Irish Songs," and "Concerto for Theremin" by Linda Kernohan during concert by San Diego Chamber Orchestra. Reservations: 858-350-0290. Sherwood Auditorium at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street), 7:30 p.m., Monday, March 10. (LA JOLLA)

New Music Performance Students of renowned contrabassist Mark Dresser perform "starkly different" new music pieces including "Sonic Meditation" inspired by Pauline Oliveros, Stockhausen's "Plus Minus," and "Soundpainting," conducted by Dresser. 858-534-3229. Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD (9500 Gilman Drive), 8 p.m., Monday, March 10. (UCSD)

**South Bay Benefit Concert** Sweetwater Union High School District Symphonic Orchestra, Sweetwater High School Choral Union, and South Bay Community Chorale take stage. 619-267-5141. Ruth French Chapman Performing Arts Center at EastLake High School (1120 EastLake Parkway), 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 11. (CHULA VISTA)

**More "Surprises"** Listen to Haydn's "Surprise Symphony," along with "Operation for the Removal of a Stone" by Marin Marais, Beethoven's "Irish Songs," and "Concerto for Theremin" by Linda Kernohan during concert by San Diego Chamber Orchestra. Reservations: 858-350-0290. Del Mar Country Club (6001 Clubhouse Drive), 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 11. (DEL MAR)

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7



hit in the head by an empty glass Maker's Mark bottle, said As I Lay Dying guitarist Nick Hipa after a February 24 gig in Sydney, Australia. While it did stun and disorient me," he blogged on MySpace, "I am completely fine. Lucky for me the bottle was huge, so it didn't break and I have no need for stitches.... I am happy to say that aside from having a bulbous lump and cut on top of my skull, I'm in good health and feeling like a gladiator."

The bottle was hurled as the band played the third song of its set at the Soundwave Festival, where Unwritten Law and +44 also played. A video of the incident posted on YouTube shows the audience booing as the band leaves the stage. "I'm sorry we had to stop our set," says Hipa online, "but I was quite discombobulated for a good while, and more importantly, the EMT dude wouldn't let me play because my head was bleeding quite a bit, or some sort of mumbo jumbo like that."

Amid sympathetic comments posted at *Blabbermouth.net* was one from username Power of Napalm, complaining, "Metalcore bands have been promoting concert violence for years.... It just serves them right when they get some of that violence delivered to their stage while they perform. I just see this bottle throwing as an integral part of the metalcore bands'



glorification of the violence. You have sown the wind, now reap the whirlwind,

fuckers." — Jay Allen Sanford

#### Find Another Dungeon Rave Party

**Band** After one semester, Lou Smart, 20, decided not to return to SDSU. He asked his two brothers to move to San Diego and join him on the streets; since September, the three have been supporting themselves by busking in Balboa Park, the Gaslamp Quarter, and the Embarcadero.

The three used to play in metal and electronic bands; now they play old-timey instruments such as the pennywhistle, lute, mandolin, ukulele, accordion, concertina, kazoo, and spoons. They also lug along a xylophone, cymbals, and a saxophone. All three sing. They write their own harmony-heavy songs. "We de shie follower?"

"We do this full time," says J, 22. "We can play for a couple of hours at a time; that's as long as the voice lasts. We get, like, \$50 to \$100 an hour unless it's Christmas, when we get \$200 an hour."

"Getting harassed is almost a regular thing," says Mickey, 20. "The bike cops are really uptight."

"The cops are the harshest in the Gaslamp," says Lou.

"Even though we play acoustic, they bust us up and down Fourth Avenue for being too loud even though we're next to a noisy bar that's louder than we are," says J. "We have to pick up and move because they could

The Reader offers \$25 for news<br/>tips published in Blurt. Call us<br/>at 619-235-3000, ext. 456,<br/>or e-mail your tip tohe'd toss to audience<br/>members. When he finished<br/>"Beautiful People," he threw<br/>the microphone into the<br/>crowd. A tall guy (around<br/>6'4") caught it.

**Shticky Situation** The sold-out February 25 Marilyn Manson show at House of Blues had its share of weirdness. A few couples



dressed in leather S&M outfits. Many in the crowd dressed like Marilyn Manson, looking like raccoons with black all over their eyes. One drunk guy without a shirt walked into a brass rail and then stood there punching it hard five times.

The weirdest incident occurred after Manson's "Beautiful People" encore. Throughout the show, he tore off parts of his clothing and threw them into the crowd. He also wiped sweat off his face with towels that The tall guy smiled and said, "I don't have it." The security guard called for backup. My friend, who used to work at House of Blues, told me, "That's not House of Blues security; they work for Marilyn Manson."

I was surprised to see a

The sound guy, who was standing nearby, chimed in, "I saw him give it to another guy who ran out of here." At that point, security personnel numbered around five. One staff person said, "Why would you give it to someone else?" One of them said, "We're going to take you back there and search you, so you better just give it to us." Tall guy



MANSON GIVES (ALMOST) ALL TO FANS

said, "I told you, I don't have it." A different security guy said, "That's a \$300 piece of equipment, and you aren't leaving until we get it back." They then started walking him toward the back of the venue, one staff person holding him by the arm.

About 15 minutes later, I heard someone ask one of the security guys, "Why are you so sweaty?" He said, "I had to get a microphone back from someone."

— Josh Board

Luckily, It Was a Huge Bottle "So, last night I got





Reader March 6, 2008 2



take our instruments....

"At the Embarcadero they leave us alone because we have permits," continues J. "At Balboa Park, you get a permit on a month-to-month basis.... They say the best time to play Balboa Park is between noon and three p.m.



SMART BROTHERS DRESS SMART, TOO

on weekends. At the Embarcadero, prime time is nine in the morning or four in the afternoon; that's when people get on or off the cruise ships.... At the Gaslamp, it's, like, six p.m. to closing time."

"You have to give a show if you want to survive on the street," says J. "People walk up and think we're public property. We've gotten some weird propositions. One guy wanted us to play this dungeon rave party."

"We've had people who come in with a dollar and pretend they are giving money and then try to leave with a handful," says Mickey. "People have tried to steal instruments. We've had to chase people down.' They say no one has

instruments. The Smart Brothers (myspace.com/thesmartbrother s) appear tomorrow at the Hot Monkey Love Café. — Ken Leighton

escaped with either cash or

Not a Bad Battle? Sixtyfour local bands paid \$70 each to participate in the Emergenza Music Festival. The first of eight preliminary battle-of-the-bands competitions began at O'Connells on February 23 (eight bands on eight separate nights at the club). "They heard about us

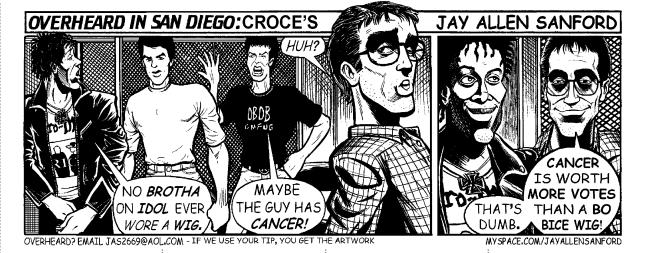
through MySpace," says a member of one of the bands that participated. "They contacted us.... I went down to meet this Christine lady at Guitar Trader in Kearny Mesa for an orientation meeting with the bands. I gave her the \$70 admission fee.'

Each band was given 300 tickets to sell at \$10 each. There were no free guests allowed unless the band sold at least 30 tickets and turned in the \$300; then they were given 10 free tickets.

"A lot of the bands who didn't have any fans brought their moms and dads and families," says another musician whose band did not advance to semifinals. "There were literally grandmas and grandpas all over the place ... We only spent \$17.50 per band member, so I guess it wasn't so bad."

Each band gets 25 minutes onstage. The top 4 bands are selected at each competition by raised hands in the audience; those 32 bands go on to play four semifinal rounds at Brick by Brick. The other 32 get nothing.

Kristine Gottselig is the West Coast manager of Emergenza. She oversees the competitions and says judges will be used only for the finals



(to be held at a venue not yet named). Gottselig says the \$4400 collected from the 64 local bands and the income from ticket sales (\$10 presale/\$15 at the door) are in Sweden. needed to cover venue

expenses. "The prices of clubs and all the staffing is very high,' says Gottselig, who, along with O'Connells owner Rick Lalama, did not want to disclose their arrangement.

Gottselig says the winner of the local Emergenza final



GOTTSELIG OFFERS A WAY OUT OF THIS TOWN

will go on to play a regional round at the Key Club in L.A. with winners from other cities. She says the overall winner of Emergenza wins the following: a show at South by Southwest; airplay on a New York classic rock station; an opportunity to

play the Taubertal Festival in Rothenburg, Germany, in August; an all-expenses-paid mini-tour of Europe; and a recording session at a studio Bass player Chuck

Holiday's band, Two Word Name, won last year's local Emergenza competition. "We got to play venues

like the Key Club in L.A. and 4th&B," says Holiday, "venues that we wouldn't have got to play otherwise. People recognized us more after it was over.'

The Emergenza prelims continue at O'Connells on March 15, 16, and 22. – Ken Leighton

#### **Strange Stage**

Moments Greg Friedman (Truckee Brothers): "In my old punk band, we played a charity Christmas show at a school for the mentally disabled. We started off too loud, and the entire audience was crying in agony. We turned down, and by the end of the second song they were overjoyed and screaming out, 'You're better than Michael Jackson!' It was amazing to be responsible for such completely opposite emotions within the span of five minutes.

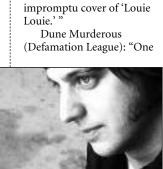
Rockin' Johnny White

(promoter): "I've had my share of the girl with the new boob job who wants everybody in the club to check them out. But that one always starts out like this: 'Do you dare me to flash my boobs?' And I always reply, 'Yes.'

Gregory Page: "At Lestat's, a guy walked onstage and stood at attention next to me while I was singing. I knew he was on drugs. First I asked him politely to leave, and he just stood there like a statue mumbling to himself. Then I said, 'Hey, mister, see that plaque on the wall? It reads, "The Gregory Page Stage," now get the fuck off my stage.' Police were called, and he was taken away and I continued singing." Larry Grano (Soul

Persuaders): "At Dick's Last Resort. I was singing and some young lady came up who had a leash attached to a dog collar around her neck...and handed me the leash. What does one do? After mugging Johnny Carson-style for the crowd, I read her tags and called her owner.

Brandon Welchez (the



Prayers): "In Los Angeles, a

our show for us with an

Hollywood transvestite closed

pretty well-known

FRIEDMAN, APPLAUDED FOR TURNING IT DOWN

time I belligerently kicked Khemical Ali in the ribs during a performance, prompting him to start vomiting almost immediately. Somehow he didn't miss a verse and trudged on." – Bart Mendoza

CONTRIBUTORS

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



## DreamCatcher Angie Ostone Special Guest **MAR 07** l Also Playing: MAR 26 **MAR 14 MAR 22** Razah & Boxie 52 🖏 mpane Comedy's Loveable Queen of Mean APR 04 APR 20 BOBET BLOTZER BOBBE ORANE JOHN CORASI 2 Shows! 7pm & 10pm S R A F٢ APR 10-13 **MAY 10** APR 25, 26, 27 DreamCatcher FREE WEEKEND ENTERTAINMENT MAR 08 5p-9p 9p-2a MAR 09 SWING COMPETITION CLUB V DETROIT UNDERGROUND **MAR 16** MAR 20 50-90 9p-2a EDERAL FUNK SWING COMPETITION CLUB V MAR 08 5p-9p MAR 09 4p-8p AYOU BROTHERS 80z ALL STARS TAHITIAN DREAM MAR 09 10p-1:30a MAR 08 9p-12a

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DAVID PATRONE

# **crawler**

## Thursday

SanFran rock band Birdmonster flies through town on their way to this year's SXSW fest in Austin. The quartet's been soaring since the release of 2006 crit-hit No Midnight. Though the band draws comparison to Modest Mouse, Monk say Birdmonster eat Mouse — "Our goal is to rock so hard one of us faints." Check 'em live tonight at Casbah where they'll preview material from a sophomore disc due to drop this summer. L.A. gazer-pop poster boys Low vs Diamond headline — <cough> early night <cough, cough>.... Goth-pop's on at Beauty Bar where Bay Area nu-wavers The Hundred Days will mine Cure's strum-n-synth and Roxy vox.... I'm all out of love, I'm so somethin somethin' somethin'... Seventies hitmakers Air **Supply** ("Even the Nights Are Better," "Making Love Out of Nothing at All") appear at Sycuan. You've probably seen those Time-Life infomercials with the two Australian dudes shilling "soft rock of the '70s and '80s." That's them.... L.A. hotspot Hotel Café is sponsoring a tour of hipster troubadours — Ingrid Michaelson, Greg Laswell, Cary Brothers, etcet. The Hotel Café Tour pulls in to Belly Up and appears to be sold out...? Ken Club stages Get Your Death On ("Sounds like: Pink Shellabbath") with **Oaks** and **Archons**.... SXSW-bound garage band **Thee Emergency** (Seattle) roll through Zombie Lounge. Check the levels on last year's Can You Dig It? Local alt-rock trio Firethorn, due to drop Pollution for the Fountain of Youth, set the stage.

## Friday 7

Greg Graffin and his traveling punk-rock revivalists **Bad Religion** set up at House of Blues for three nights. Apparently the L.A. band will be camping out at HoB's everywhere. The Epitaph artists are out to tout last year's *New Maps of Hell*. Friday night it's **Ignite** and **HDR** in support; **Miss Derringer** and **Del Torro** on Saturday; Sunday night, the **Briggs** and **Hi-Fi Handgrenades**... Early emos **Live** deliver '90s anthems ("Selling the Drama," "Lightning Crashes") to Viejas. The four-piece York, PA, band broke with 1994's multi-platinum *Throwing Copper*, a modern-rock collection made exceptional by the big voice of frontman Ed Kowalczyk and his guru inspirations. Their latest is last year's live takes *Radiant Sea: A Collection of Bootleg Rarities*.... The **Modlins** drop pretty pop at Beauty Bar. The natty hometowners have a knack for Beatles-y backbeats and harmonies, but the songs describe K-tel comps. Check the Mods' '07 debut With Friends Like These. The boys'll share the back-yard stage with locals **Apes of Wrath** and SFriscans **Music for Animals**.... The remainders: **Crash Encore** and **Drowning Men** wash up at Casbah... Angelino reggae rockers the **Aggrolites** ska 'Canes... **Long Live Logos** and the **Softlightes** entertain teens at Mira Mesa's Epicentre... And there are a coupla comedy sets at 4th&B this weekend: TV personality **Bob Saget** riffs Friday night and Stern favorite **Craig Gass** does Pacino on Saturday.

## Saturday

raggy keys

while

Benders'

the

Casbah stages a rootsy double bill with NorCal's **Delta Spirit** and **Morning Benders**. The Bay Area bands are trucking it to SXSW with fresh product. Spirit's *Ode to Sunshine* bounces with

Talking through Tin Cans hurls guita pop, they're both barking up Dr. Dog's tree.... 'Round downtown: Northwest grunge punks Red Fang

#### (Portland) and the **Cops** (Seattle)

drop in to

Pink Elephant on their way to Austin... Local indie kids **Blackout Party, a.m. vibe,** and **irradio** dial in at Ken Club... and **Vena Cava** and **Tulsa** play Tower Bar. Looks like Cava's going to Austin "just to hang out".... **Bye George!** After 50 years in the bar biz, George Scolari will hang up his hat, or apron or whatever. Get to Scolari's Office Saturday for a farewell bash. Foodstuffs and libations from noon till whenev. The North Park nightspot will soon close for renovations by new owners. No indication as to whether the new venue will continue Scolari's tradition of fringerock bookings.

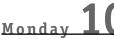
## This Week In Music

## Sunday

Sixty years of records and tours and four Grammys since 2002, that's the backward story of gospel group **Blind Boys of Alabama**. The soul singers hark back to traditional fare on their latest, *Down in New Orleans*, which they'll tour through Belly Up. Don't let "gospel" or "traditional" fool you, though, these eight Southern gents stride, boogie, and rock — check their covers of Tom Waits, Ben Harper, and Rolling Stones. L.A.'s unsung roots rocker **Tom Freund** will premiere material from forthcoming *Collapsible Plans* in the opening slot. *Plans* is Tom's first since 2004's breakthrough *Copper Moon...*. For the kids in the back of the class, Pink Elephant brings French Kiss recording artists the **Dodos** to town. The San Fran duo is set to drop acoustic rocker *Visiter* 3/18 — think a more

NEW YORK DOLLS AT BELLY UF

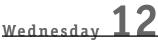
song-centric Animal Collective. Fellow Bay Area psych folkies the **Oh Sees** set the stage.... Down at Casbah, synth-rock sets by **Gil Mantera's Party Dream** (Youngstown), **Mahjongg** (Chicago), and **Old Time Relijun** (Portland).



Showman David Johansen and guitarist Sylvain Sylvain bring their **New York Dolls** back to town. The glam-punk progenitors — they first laid this schtick ca. 1971 — cooled the classics last time round to feature '06's *One Day It Will Please Us to Remember Even This*, a disc that featured appearances by Johansen fans Michael Stipe and Iggy Pop. Now that the NYC sextet has split with the Roadrunner label, the shill is gone. The Dolls and SD trio **Grand Ole Party** kick it at Belly Up Monday night... Electro-experimentalists **Health** (L.A.) press effects at Casbah's weekly Anti-Monday meet. Tourmates **Crystal Castles** have cancelled due to injury to lead singer Alice Glass. Local dance-rock dudes the **Muslims** heat up the room... Beauty Bar's booked SanFran bands the **Blacks**, whose debut, *Nom de Guerre*, smacks of surfy '52s, and slack-rock quartet **Aim Low Kid**, who are apparently aiming right at Pavement.



Study break! UCSD's Ché Café presents Weatherbox, Society!, and Snuffaluffagus. Weatherbox just dropped Doghouse debut American Art, an aggressive power-pop collection that the local quartet will tour cross-country this spring.... Anglophilic nu-wavers the Fascination shares a Casbah bill with like-minded locals Bobby Fantasy and Monday's Alibi.... Free set by Static of the Gods at Beauty Bar.



Get your goosebumps on when Baltimore's bewitched **Beach House** brings *Devotion* to town. The duo's sophomore disc smacks of Black Heart's lovelorn incantations with the eerie twist only a classically trained lady vocalist can conjure. Victoria Legrand is also a classically trained pianist who pares her skills to indie-pop measures, trading vituosity for heavy organ sonics, buoying guitarist Alex Scally's lazy-like-Low guitar lines. With psych-folk compatriots **Papercuts** (SF) and **Calico Horse** (here), these

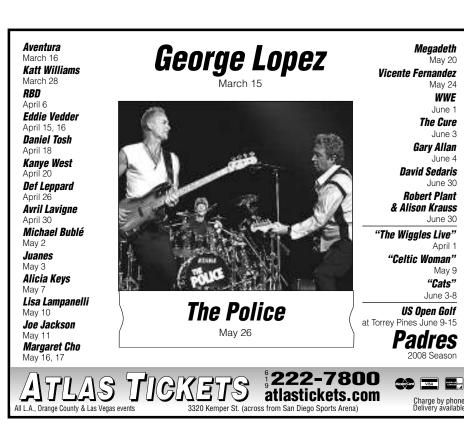
are Casbah's sets of the week.... Newish North Park nightspot U31 picks up the pace by hosting 91X

Loudspeaker, featuring local comers Napolean Complex and the Material.... Else: Clutch and Murder by Death rawk House of



Blues... Gift Machine, Endless Bummer, Ladybird, and Trashcan Fires heat up the Ché...And odd songsmith Matt Good visits Hospital Music on Belly Up. L.A. acoustic kitty kat Veronica May opens. — Barnaby Monk

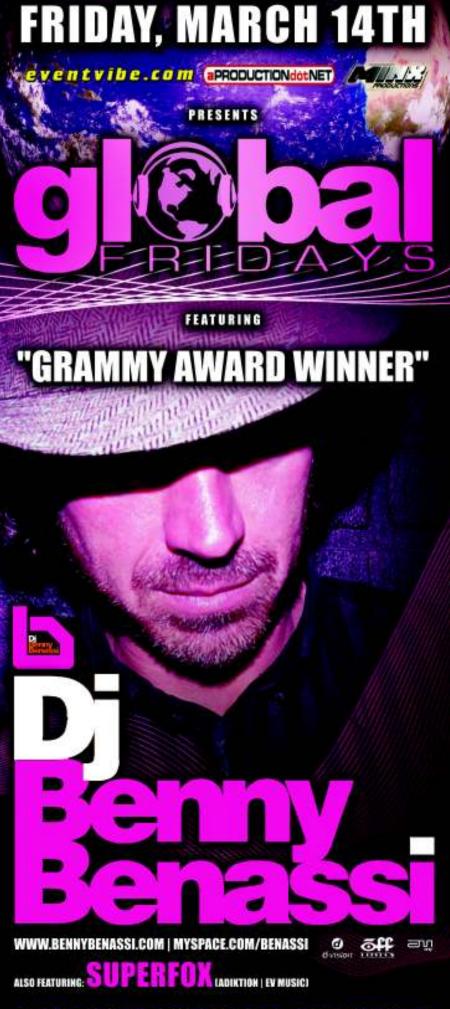
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SATURDAY • MARCH 8 DELTA SPIRIT PORT O'BRIEN THE MORNING BENDERS SUINDAY • MARCH 9 GIL MANTERA'S PARTY DREAM	THE WHITE BUFFALO	SATURDAY • MARCH 22	
	CALICO HORSE	THE SOFT LIGHTES THE FOCUS GROUP	
	WEDNESDAY • MARCH 12 BEACH HOUSE PAPERCUTS	FRIDAY • MARCH 21 DYNAMITE WALLS HOTEL SAINT GEORGE	
	THE MUSLIMS SKULL KONTROL DJS TUESDAY • MARCH 11 THE FASCINATION BOBBY FANTASY MONDAY'S ALIBI	THURSDAY • MARCH 20 KOOL KEITH	
SAY VINYL THIS CENTURY		TUESDAY • MARCH 18 BORN RUFFIANS CADENCE WEAPON	
FRIDAY • MARCH 7 CRASH ENCORE THE DROWNING MEN	MONDAY • MARCH 10 ANTI-MONDAY LEAGUE PRESENTS CRYSTAL CASTLES HEALTH	THE DOWNS FAMILY MEX THE TIGHTEN UPS	
THURSDAY • MARCH 6 LOW vs. DIAMOND BIRDMONSTER SUBMARINES	COCKTAILS • LIVE MUSIC • 21 W/ID 2501 KETINER BLVD. • 232-4355	SATURDAY • MARCH 15 WEST INDIAN GIRL MONDAY • MARCH 17 ANTI-MONDAY LEAGUE PRESENTS ST. PATRICK'S DAY	



San Diego Reader March 6, 2008

8





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## **Mystically Influenced**

*"I think I'm too careful when it comes to women. It takes me a while to warm up."* 

тS

MICHAEL HEMMINGSON

riginally a three-piece band, Merkaba Bandits moved here from Washington D.C. last year and added a fourth member. Their sound is a mixture of contemporary pop and classic rock, heavy on lyrics and vocals.

Merkaba (also spelled "Merkabah") refers to the star-shaped tetrahedron used in meditation in eastern philosophy — *Mer* is light, *ka* is the spirit, *ba* is the body.

This mystically influenced band can be found playing at the Kensington Club, the Zombie Lounge, the Leucadian, and O'Connells, with Alexander Gruenburg on lead vocals and guitar, Michael Loreto on bass, Ryan Sieloff on lead guitar, and Marco Piro on drums.

#### WHAT'S IN YOUR CD PLAYER?

*Alexander:* "The Holy Rolling Empire. Because they rock my socks in a special way." *Ryan:* "I don't own a CD player, but if I did, I'd probably be listening to *Led Zeppelin II.*" *Mario:* "The Hives' new CD. That 'Tick' song was so catchy, I wanted to see what else they had to offer. I was surprised to find out that they don't write their own music."

#### WORST ISSUE PLAYING LIVE?

*Alexander:* "Forgetting my custom-made X-ray glasses."

Ryan: "When the sound check is rushed or not

done at all. Having the right volume levels on everything is crucial."

*Mario:* "Sound levels! It's hard to get them right every night at different clubs with their weird, wacky rooms."

## **SEXIEST LOCAL PERFORMER?** *Alexander:* "Lady Dottie rocks the house."

*Mario:* "I'm going to go with Justin Lynn of the Stranger's Six or maybe Nolan Davis of Despite the Wolves."

#### WHAT DID YOU DO ON PROM NIGHT?

*Alexander:* "Played at my high school's after-prom party." *Mario:* "Went with a friend of mine, got kicked

out of our hotel, and didn't get laid."

#### **BEST DRUNKEN MOMENT?**

*Alexander:* "Finished the biggest bottle of Belvedere they make with three of my friends and proceeded to trash my own house."

#### FIVE MOMENTS THAT SUCKED...

*Alexander:* "The five minutes it took me to comprehend what I had just done to all of my things."

#### WORST JOB?

*Alexander:* "Selling gutter cleaners door to door in between classes at college."



*Ryan:* "Telemarketing is the worst." *Mario:* "Chuck E. at Chuck E. Cheese."

#### FAVORITE QUOTE?

*Mario:* "With Gorilla gone, will there be hope for Man? With Man gone, will there be hope for Gorilla?" — Daniel Quinn

#### STAR WARS OR STAR TREK?

Alexander: "Star Wars. As a young boy, I was Luke Skywalker." Mario: "Star Wars, come on! No 'why' is needed."

**"LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT"...?** *Mario:* "Never really had it; I think I'm too careful when it comes to women. It takes me a while to warm up — looks alone won't do it for me."

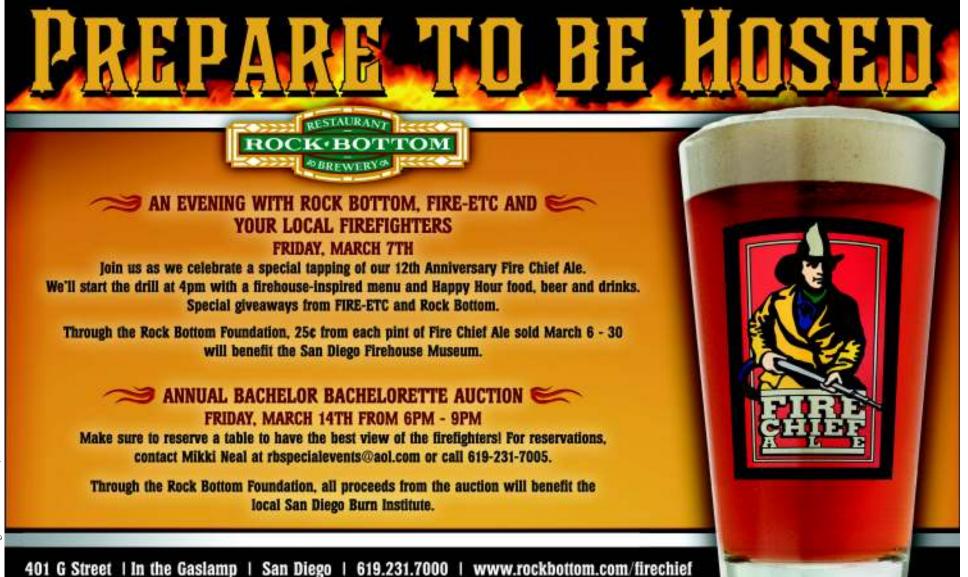
Merkaba Bandits

### LAST BOOK READ?

Alexander: "The Alchemist." Ryan: "Hell's Angels by Hunter S. Thompson." Mario: "Beyond Civilization: Humanity's Next Great Adventure by Daniel Quinn."

#### PRESIDENTIAL PREDICTION?

Alexander: "Considering that the Giants won the Super Bowl…I have no idea." *Mario:* "Obama. I think he's got his head in the right place." ■







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Classical listings can be found in the Classical Music Guide. Music videos, driving directions, maps, event alerts, coupons, and more available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

## HOW TO SUBMIT A MUSIC LISTING: Call 619-235-3000 x405, night or day by 5 pm Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Reader

Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA, 92186, You may also submit information online at SDReader.com by clicking on the music section.

### THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

710 Beach Club: 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-7844.

Thursday - 3rd Alley. Four Minutes till Midnight also performs. Rock/dub/funk. Friday — Social Distortion Tribute. Features performances by Mommy's Little Monsters and the Stalker Dan Band. Rock/punk/alternative. Saturday — Split Finger, High Tide. Reggae/surf rock/ska. Wednesday — New Music Night. Features performances by Rare Form, Defamation League, and Outta Control. Hiphop/punk/rock.

The Alley: 421 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-434-1173. Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays — The Love Rangers. Dance music.

Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300.

*Saturday*, 7:30 p.m. — Berkley Hart. Acoustic/rock. \$12-\$27. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. - Travis Sullivan's Bjorkestra. Jazz ensemble. \$10-\$24.

Beach Grass Café: 159 South Coast Highway 101, Solana Beach, 858-509-0632. Sundays, 6 p.m. — Sambajazz. Brazilian and American jazz.

Beauty Bar: 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-516-4746. Thursday - The Hundred Days Post punk/indie/alternative band from San Francisco, California. Friday - The Modlins, Music for Animals. Apes of Wrath also perform. Acoustic/pop/rock. \$7. Sunday — Loquat. The San Francisco band performs a blend of indie, pop, and electronica music. The Feelings Mutual and Middle Class Rut also perform. Monday - The Blacks, Aim Low Kid. Indie rock. Tuesday - Static of the Gods. Indie

rock/pop. Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-9022. Friday, 9 p.m. — Immortal

Technique. Sunday, 8 p.m. — The Blind Boys of Alabama.

Monday, 8 p.m. — The New York Dolls.

Wednesday, 8 p.m. - Matthew Good. Canadian musician, author, and activist. \$15-\$17.

#### The Bitter End: 770 Fifth

Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-9300. Thursday, 9 p.m. — Crimson Reign, Autotonic. Eight Minutes to Twilight also performs. Rock/alternative/indie.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Avenue, Clairemont, 619-275-

LIVE Thursday - Dough Nation. CD-

release party. Features performances by Mr. Dubie and Submission. Hiphop/rap.

Friday — Mad Martigan, SO3. The Dapper Dans and Project Analogue perform. Rock/alternative/indie. Saturday — Xolmani, Numeros. The Privilege also performs. A fusion of rock, pop, and Latin music. Wednesday — King Arthur's Court, T-Irie. Psychedelic/garage/funk.

Cafe Lamaze: 1441 Highland Avenue, National City, 619-474-3222

Fridays, 7 p.m., Saturdays, 7 p.m. - The Sandy Chappel Quartet. With Burnett Anderson, Robert Sebastian, and Hank Young. Standards/jazz/blues. Sundays, 7:30 p.m. — Burnett's Bliss, With Robert Sebastian and Scott Wallingford. Jazz/standards/blues

#### California Center for the

Arts. Escondido: 340 North Escondido Boulevard, Escondido, 800-988-4253.

Friday, 8 p.m. — Ever Seen an "Irish Button Accordion Wizard"? The David Munnelly Band presents "Ireland, a Celebration!" Munnelly draws inspiration from past masters including the Roaring '20s Flanagan Brothers; he employs "a unique West Mayo style of playing." Munnelly is joined by Kieran Munnelly (flute, bodhran, snare, vocals), Tony Byrne (guitar), Paul Kelly (fiddle/mandolin), Nic Gareiss (sean nos dancer), Shauna Mullin (traditional Irish singer). 800-988-4253, \$27-\$30.

'Canes: 3105 Ocean Front Walk. Mission Beach, 858-488-1780. Thursday — Inberst, Wendy Darling. Causeway and Grin's Edge also perform.

Rock/progressive/indie. *Friday* — The Aggrolites. Performs a mix of reggae, funk, and soul music. Also features performances



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## WEDNESDAYMARCH05

DECO'S, ROB ZOOMY & POINT ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

DECO DANCE THE HOTTEST 18+ & 21+ SUPER-MEGA EVENT TO HIT SAN DIEGO!

FEATURING IN ROOM 1 & ROOM 2 (18+ ROOM)

DJ DEAD SERIOUS & KAYELLA MIXMASTERS

FEATURING IN ROOM 3 (21+ ROOM/PATIO)

DJ DUBZ & DJ ENIGMA

18+ TO PARTY | 21+ TO DRINK (DRINK SPECIAL - \$5 WELLS) HOSTED BY ROB ZOOMY | WWW.GETTHEPOINT.BIZ | WWW.BABEBLVD.COM

## THURSDAYMARCH06

EVENTVIBE.COM & EV MUSIC PRESENTS

## KRUSH THURSDAYS

SAN DIEGO'S NEWEST 18+ THURSDAY NIGHT HOT SPOT!

HOSTED BY: CHASE COSTELLO, RYAN THORSEN, STEVE KAMP, JACK KENNEDY, JASON EWELL, JORDAN BOWDITCH, STEVE JONES, TONY TRUJILLO & RYAN NEVILLEG.

## HIP HOP | MASHUPS | PARTY ROCK

FULL BAR AVAILABLE WITH 21UP ID / DRINK SPECIALS

\$3 DOMESTIC BEERS | \$5 JAGER SHOTS \$5 VODKA ENERGY DRINKS | \$5 LONG ISLANDS

## FRIDAYMARCH07

ROB ZOOMY, ZXR & KAYELLA ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

## FRIDAY NIGHT SHAKEDOWNS

DJ'S RAGE, DUBZ, SPAZZ, NICKY Z, JOEL B, BUGZ & BIG DUDE

\$3 KAMIS & BOTTLE BEERS ALL NIGHT \$5 LONG ISLANDS & VODKA ROCKSTARS 'TIL 10:30PM

2 FOR 1 BOTTLE SPECIALS

## SATURDAYMARCH08

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DJ ROMEO OFFICIAL MYSPACE DJ : SF'S WILD 94.9 A SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT FOR THE RELEASE OF DJ ROMEO'S BRAND NEW MIX CD. BROUGHT TO YOU BY MYX TV & MYSPACE GWEAWAY'S & FREE MIX CD'S ALL NIGHT

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## SATURDAY03.08.08



THE VAULT ELECTRONICA KARMA LOUNGE SCOTT MARTIN ULTRA LOUNGE BARRY WEAVER THE GALLERY DJ VALO

HAPPY HOUR : FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS 15% off MENU ITEMS from 7PM-8PM : 50% off Chef's Choice Entrée DRINK SPECIALS JON OFF SAKE FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS 7-8PM : \$5 DRINK SPECIALS FRIDAYS ONLY

UPCOMING EVENTS FRI:03:14: BENNY BENASSI SAT:03:15:4 STRINGS FRI:03:21: DIRTY SOUTH SAT:03:22:SERGE DEVANT

FOR VIP BOOTHS OR ROOM RESERVATIONS : GREG BRADY : 619.565.0834 : GREGROBEC.TV 615 BROADWAY AVE, SAN DIEGO : 619.231.0011 : WWW.OBEC.TV



by Dirty Heads and One Drop. Saturday - Split Finger, Iration, Justin James. Bag of Toys and Carbine perform. Reggae/rock/acoustic pop. Wednesday — Big Rig Deluxe, the Cathouse Thumpers. Big Fellas and Mystery Train perform. Rockabilly/country/swing.

Carvers: 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-566-2400.

Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. - The Hype. Covers the hits of the '60s through the '90s. Blues, pop rock, and rockabilly.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-HELL. Thursday Low vs. Diamond,

Birdmonster. Submarines also performs. Rock/alternative/indie. Friday — Crash Encore, the Drowning Men. Sayvinyl and This Century perform. Indie/alternative/rock Saturday — Delta Spirit, Port O'Brien. The Morning Benders also perform. Folk/indie/pop. Sunday — Gil Mantera's Party Dream. Mahjongg and Old Time Relijun perform. Alternative/punk/experimental. Monday — Anti-Monday League Presents. A night of electronic/alternative/pop rock music. Features performances by Crystal Castles, Health, the

Muslims, and Skull Control DJs. Tuesdav - The Fascination, Bobby Fantasy. Monday's Alibi also performs. Indie/alternative/electronica

Wednesdav - Beach House, Papercuts. Calico Horse also performs. Pop/folk rock/indie. Cask 'N Cleaver: 3757 South Mission Road, Fallbrook, 760-728-2818

Friday, 6 p.m. - North County Cowboys. Traditional country music from Hank Williams, Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, and Merle Haggard. Features Cowboy Jack.

Chasers Cocktail Lounge: 3615 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights, 619-280-9379. Thursday, 9 p.m. — Low Red Land. The San Francisco rock band also performs with Birds and Batteries.

Dirk's Niteclub: 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-469-6344. Friday, Saturday — TNT.

Dizzy's: 200 Harbor Drive, Downtown, 858-270-7467. Friday, 8 p.m. — Paul Seaforth. The trumpeter/vocalist weaves his musical spell with Peter Sprague (guitar) and Bob Magnusson (bass). Jazz. \$10-\$15. Saturday, 8:30 p.m. — Duke Ellington Tribute. Features performances by Cecil Lytle (piano) and Gilbert Castellanos (trumpet). \$12-\$15.

Sunday, 2 p.m. — Keltik Kharma. Celebrates the release of their CD entitled Kharma Noir. Members include Chris Vitas (violin), Fred Benedetti (guitar), Jeff Pekarek (bass), Lou Fanucchi (accordion), and Duncan Moore (drums). Complimentary CDs will be presented to the first 50 attendees. \$10-\$15

Epicentre: 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-271-4000.

Friday - Long Live Logos, the Softlightes. The Hanks, the Fascination, and the Burning of Rome perform. Indie/rock/pop. \$7-\$9.

Escondido Library: 239 South Kalmia Street, Escondido

SUN: BRUNCH BUFFET

\$13.95 from 9am - 1pm / Happy Hour 4-8pm

Live Reggae 6pm - 9pm / 2-3-4 Drink specials 8pm-close

PB-oké: KARAOKE CONTEST

TUES: TACO TUESDAY \$1.75 tacos, enchiladas & rellenos. Mexican appetizer & entree specials!

\$2.50 Mexican beers / \$3 frozen margaritas

WED: \$5 BURGER & BEER / HAWAIIAN TROPIC CONTEST

THURS: ITALIAN DINNERS \$6.95 & 1/2 PRICE PIZZA

FRI: HAPPY HOUR 3pm - 9pm

MON: SUSHI FROM \$3.95 ASIAN ENTREES \$6.



#### BY DAVE GOOD

From the beginning, Bad Religion, a Los Angeles band, thought they had a plan for the world. "Don't you know the place you live is a piece of shit?" Greg Graffin sang in 1982. "Don't you know blind faith through lies won't conquer it?" With CD titles like How Could Hell Be Any Worse? and No Control, their politics and their altered sound made sense to a fan base that found no home in the violent hardcore that was coming out of Orange County bands in the late '70s. The new punk depended more on pop music conventions than on vitriol and bad guitar playing. Call it punk pop.

Bad Religion stood out from the growing punk-pop pack with spare, guitar-based com-

*Thursday*, 7 p.m. — Latin and Flamenco Jazz. Tony Ybarra and Sonido Moreno perform for First Thursday Concert. 760-839-4329.

Fannie's Nightclub: 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley, 619-698-2204. Thursdays, 8:30 p.m. - Cory

Wilkins. Alternative/rock/blues Grace Lutheran Church: 3967 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest, 619-299-

2890. Sunday, 2 p.m. — Grace and the Arts Series. Jazz pianist Richard Thompson in concert. Offering. 619-299-2890.

The Handlery Hotel and Resort: 950 Hotel Circle North, positions that fizzed with power chords and ginclear three-part vocal harmonies. The new punk, according to Bad Religion, was punk that you could sing along to. Through the years the band did something that the rest of rock seldom pulled off. They remained eloquent messengers, even if a frantic, South Park kind of cynicism crept into their lyrics over time: "And I want to conquer the world/ Expose the culprits and feed them to the children/ Do

Mission Valley, 619-298-0511.

Wednesdays, 5 p.m. - Christopher

Hensley's Flying Elephant

Pub and Grill: 850 Tamarack

Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-729-4996.

Thursday, 7 p.m. — Skelpin. Irish

Friday, 7 p.m. — Taryn Donath.

Muehlhausen. and the Small Pox

Sunday, 8 p.m. — Pacific Ocean

Saturday, 7 p.m. — Jaimie

Friday, 8 p.m. — The Grams.

Dale and Friends. Acoustic

Acoustic/Americana.

pop/rock.

folk jam.

Blues/soul.

Mountain Boys.

Bluegrass/Americana.

away with air pollution/ And then I'll save the whales

If the harder edges of punk were rendered less than angry by punk pop's cleaner styling and melodies on loan from the Beach Boys, consistent writing and a string of hits made Bad Religion something of a trusted brand name; "Infected" may be one of the finest punk-pop songs ever recorded. Punk

> *Monday*, 8 p.m. — Jaimie Muehlhausen. and the Small Pox Mountain Boys. Bluegrass/Americana. Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Joe Wood. Blues/rock/soul.

Hot Monkey Love Cafe: 6875 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area, 619-469-4113. *Friday*, 9 p.m. — Carla Riojas . Singer and songwriter from Juarez,

Mexico promotes her recent CD entitled "Un Disco Soberbio." \$10. House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2583. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 7 p.m. -Bad Religion. Wednesday, 8 p.m. - Clutch

Humphrey's Backstage

Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577. Saturdav — Chris Duarte. A blend of rock, blues, and psychedelic

Tiernan. Enjoy a night of acoustic music with performances by Patti Zlaket and Sven-Erik Seaholm.

Road, Mission Valley, 619-291-8635

Wednesdays, 7 p.m. — KSON Night. Country western dance bar.

Nightclub: 775 Metcalf Street, Escondido, 760-741-1271.



860 Garnet Ave, Pacific Beach. Info: (858)2PB.GRILL / pbbarandgrill.com

**BAD RELIGION** 

Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island music.

pop is punk grown up, and in this maturation

something is both lost and gained. After all,

true punk - like sex and drugs - offered

power to the powerless, if only for a few fleet-

**BAD RELIGION, House of Blues, Friday,** 

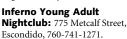
Saturday, Sunday, March 7-9, 7 p.m. 619-

ing, dangerous moments.

299-2583, \$22,50,

Saturday, 6 p.m. — Michael

In Cahoots: 5373 Mission Center









Fridays, 9 p.m., Saturdays, 9 p.m. - DJ Kool T. Top 40, techno, and '80s.

Jack's La Jolla: 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla, 858-456-8111. Every day, 6 p.m. — Piano Bar. Every day of the week in the Ocean

Jimmy Love's: 672 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-595-0123. Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. - The Soul Revue. Jazz music until 10 p.m., dance and Top 40 until 11 p.m.

Joe 'n Andy's Hole in the **Wall:** 9344 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-589-8684. Friday, 9:30 p.m. — Counter Launch. Progressive rock/punk. Saturday, 9:30 p.m. - Jason and the Punknecks. Bluegrass/punk/acoustic. Sunday, 5:30 p.m. — Black Stone. Rock.

Kadan: 4696 30th Street, North Park, 619-640-2500. Mondays, 9 p.m. — Mayhem Mondays. Punk rock every Monday. Live bands and resident DJ Nate Horror provide the tunes. Ages 21 and up.

The Kensington Club: 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington Talmadge, 619-284-2848. Thursday - The Oaks, Get Your Death On. The Archons also perform. Rock/electronic/metal. Thursday — Hard Rock Show. Features performances by local rock/metal bands Get Your Death On, Archons, and OAKS. Friday - Transfer, Love Like Fire. Alternative/indie/punk rock. Saturday - Blackout Party, A.M.

Vibe. Irradio also performs. Bluegrass/punk rock/soul. The Kraken: 2531 South Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-436-

6483. Thursday - Frankie Dee and the Funk Natra Band. Blues/standards/funk Friday, 9 p.m. — West of 5. A local band performs a varied selection of '70s to modern rock. Saturday - Plato Soul. Performs classic to modern hits. Sundays, 4 p.m. — The Blues Brokers. Blues/soul/rock. Wednesday - Jeff Moore and the

## Lestat's Coffee House: 3343

Witch Doctors. Down-home

Americana blues rock.

Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-282-2848. *Sunday*, 9 p.m. — The Applebrown Jazz Ensemble. An evening of creative original jazz. Members include Gabriel Sundy, Peterv August, Andy Geib, Nazo Zakkak, Harley Magsino, and Dave Pschaida. Also features a performance by the Kensington Garage Jazz Band.

#### Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD: 9500 Gilman Drive, La Iolla.

Tuesday, 8 p.m. - Gospel Choir Concert. Ken Anderson directs hundreds of voices as UCSD Gospel Choir sings African-American spirituals, folk songs, blues, and gospel. 858-534-3229.

### McCabe's Beach Club: 1145

South Tremont Street, Oceanside, 760-439-6646. Fridays, 4:30 p.m. — The California Rangers. Performs country music every Friday.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill: 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado,

619-435-5280. *Friday*, 9 p.m. — The Blues Brokers. Blues/soul.



BY WILLIAM CRAIN

Everyone from Morrissey to Mötley Crüe name-checks the New York Dolls as an influence, but no one really sounds like them. Hardly anyone even tries. The Sex Pistols would not have happened without the New York Dolls (Malcolm McLaren briefly managed the Dolls in their last days before moving to London and assembling Johnny Rotten and company), but there's none of the Sex Pistols' political agitation in the Dolls' sound.

Thousands of punk and metal guitarists based their haircut and fashion on the late Dolls' guitarist Johnny Thunders, but hardly any of them play in his old-fashioned Chuck

#### The Metaphor Cafe: 258 East 2nd Avenue, Escondido, 760-747-

1882 *Friday*, 8 p.m. — Social Green. Rock/reggae. \$5.

Molly Malone's: 1270 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-9050. *Friday*, 9 p.m. — Strive Roots. Local metal/punk/reggae band. Saturday, 9 p.m. — American Rock Experience. Features performances by several rock/alternative bands.

**Moondoggies Pacific Beach:** 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-6550 Saturdays, 9 p.m. — What's Good. DJs Enigma and Cisco. Hip-hop, R&B, and Top 40.

Berry/Keith Richards style. The Dolls were famous for being cursed — cursed with being way ahead of their time and cursed with bad luck and worse habits. Only singer David Johansen and guitarist Sylvain Sylvain survive from the old lineup. Bassist Arthur Kane died just weeks after the band reunited in 2004

Despite all the death and disaster, the Dolls were not a dark band at all. What they were was wonderfully ridiculous. They were rough-looking

Mulvaney's Wagon Wheel:

Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — Joey and the

Nancy's Pub: 4246 University

Sundays, 5:30 p.m. — The Steemin

traditional blues, swing, and rock.

Boulevard, Clairemont, 619-276-

Friday, 9 p.m. - The Wastrels,

Tigersharks. Behind the Wagon and

Avenue, City Heights, 619-280-

Heep Blues Band, A blend of

O'Connell's Pub and

Nightclub: 1130 Morena

8861 Magnolia Avenue, Santee,

Sting Rays. Covers rock and

619-448-8550

country hits. \$6.

Ages 21 and up.

5834.

5637.

guys who dressed like hookers and played Shangri-La's songs and silly old novelty hits like "Stranded in the Jungle" but played them in a style that was too loud and sloppy and obnoxious to be considered anything other than punk rock. Now, several years into their unlikely reunion, the Dolls are still wonderfully ridiculous. In 2006 Sylvain and

> the Strikers perform. Punk/hardcore/rock. Saturday, 8 p.m., Sunday, 8 p.m. — Emergenza Music Festival. A

Wednesday — American Rock Experience. On Display presents a mix of rock, blues, and country music. Features performances by Skynyrds Innyrds (Lynyrd Skynyrd tribute), Altered Time, and On Fire

(Jimi Hendrix tribute).

O'Ireland: 575 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-720-1500. Saturday, noon - Rowdy Celtic tunes. The Blokes plan street concert. 760-720-1500.

#### Pacific Beach Library: 4275

Cass Street, Pacific Beach Wednesday, 7 p.m. — Adrienne Nims and Raggle-Taggle. Celtic music. 858-581-9934.

Palomar College: 1140 West Mission Road, San Marcos.



Through the Rock Bottom Foundation, all proceeds from the event will benefit the UCSD Burn Center.

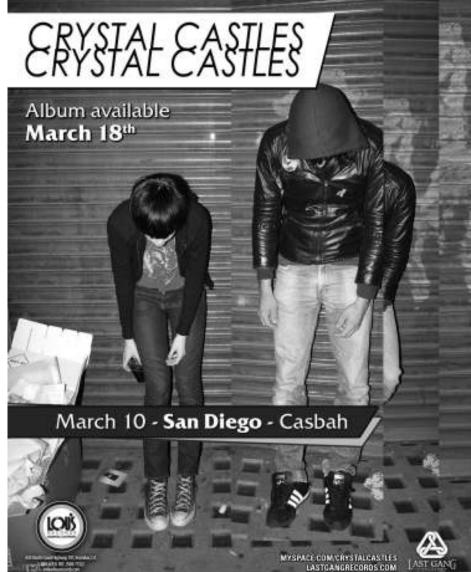
Limited \$100 VIP tables available. Call Caroline Lett at 858.450.9277 to reserve your spot today.



SERIBUS ABOUT OUR FOOD, CRAZY ABOUT OUR BEER. 8980 Villa La Jolla Dr. | La Jolla | 858.450.9277 | www.rockbottom.com/firechief

San Diego Reader March 6, 2008 8

weekend of rock/alternative/hiphop music. Saturday night features performances by Echo Revolution, Gone to Oblivion, Jed Sheldon, Canobliss, Fuzz Huzzi, Goodnight Caulfield, Kellev Winston Lee, Mursic, and Rare Form Live. Mondays, 8 p.m. - Mystery Train. Pro-invitational blues jam on Monday nights. Ages 21 and up. *Tuesday*, 9 p.m. — Another Zeke Productions Presents. A night of indie rock/progressive/experimental music. Features performances by Strike the Design and Escape Note.





Johansen put out the first New York Dolls album in 32 years, and it featured - along with some relatively mature fare - songs like "Dance Like a Monkey," which sounds kind of like "Stranded in the Jungle.

NEW YORK DOLLS, Belly Up Tavern, Monday, March 10, 8 p.m. 858-481-8140. \$22.





Calendar MUSIC

*Thursday*, 12:30 p.m. — Solo Percussion Performance. Local artist and Palomar instructor Heather Barclay for Concert Hour Series in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10). 760-744-1150 x2316.

#### Pasquale on Prospect: 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-456-0722

*Sundays*, 6 p.m. — Stage 4. Jazz/rhythm and blues.

Patrick's II: 428 F Street, Downtown, 619-233-3077. *Thursday* — The Bill Magee Band. Bill Magee was a part of Jimmy James (Hendrix) and the Flames before he started touring with his own band in 1967. After a brief hiatus, he is back and performing on the local blues scene. *Friday* — Double Your Blues. Features performances by Chet Cannon & the Committee, followed by the 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band.

Saturday — The Bad News Blues Band. A blues/funk/Americana band from Tucson, Arizona. Sunday — The Dave Camp Trio. Monday — Nathan James and Ben Hernandez. Roots/acoustic/blues duo.

*Tuesday* — The Blues Invaders. Blues/funk/R&B.

*Wednesday* — The Bayou Brothers. Zydeco/blues/R&B.

Ramada Inn: 5550 Kearny Mesa Road, Kearny Mesa, 619-596-9777. *Wednesdays*, 6 p.m. — Keith Jacobson. Smooth jazz saxophone.

**The Red Parrot Lounge at Casino Pauma:** 777 Pauma Reservation Road, Fallbrook, 760-742-2177.

San Diego Reader March 6, 2008

8

**O**LIALCOMM

Saturday, 8 p.m. — MoonDance. Classic rock/r&b/soul cover band. **Riley's:** 2901 Nimitz Boulevard, Point Loma.

Wednesdays, 9 p.m. — Swing Night. Live swing bands perform. Rosie O'Grady's: 3402 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-284-

7666. Tuesdays, 9:30 p.m. — Bdub's Jazz Jam Session. Modern jazz classics and standards every Tuesday, with Bryan Whelan, Doug Walker, Laurel Grinnell, and friends.

#### The Round Table Cocktail Lounge: 1723 Euclid Avenue,

City Heights, 619-264-6000. *Tuesdays*, 6 p.m. — Charlie Blue. Blues.

#### San Diego LGBT Community Center: 3909 Centre Street, Hillcrest.

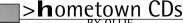
Friday, 7 p.m. — An Intimate Evening with Holly Near. Entertainer, activist Holly Near in concert benefiting Women's History Museum. 619-233-6327. \$20-\$50.

#### San Diego Sports Club: 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-299-7372.

*Friday*, 8 p.m. — Scarlet Symphony. Shares the stage with Pacific Ocean Fire (United Kingdom). Rock/indie/pop. \$5.

## **San Diego Women's Club:** 2557 Third Avenue, Hillcrest.

2557 Third Avenue, Hillcrest. Sunday, 2 p.m. — Celebrating Dorothy Fields. Master Chorale vocalist Bonnie Barnes and composer-pianist Ric Cupples perform music by Broadway lyricist Dorothy Fields (1905-1974) during benefit concert for Women's History Museum. Fields wrote for Harlem's Cotton Club, then moved to Broadway; second part of program includes contemporary





Album: Wasn't Tomorrow Horrible (2007) Artist: Roxy Jones

## Label: H.O.I.

Where available/price: Off the Record in North Park, M-Theory in Mission Hills, or Thirsty Moon in Hillcrest for \$7. Songs: 1) Hola Papi! 2) GM 3) Fade Out 4) Truckload of Get Out of Town 5) Little Town 6) Bessie and Old Man Hyde 7) Sentimental River Song

**Band:** Peter Graves (vocals, guitar), Phillip Dupasquier (bass, guitar), Darrin Lee (drums), Rose Rock (piano, organ)

Website: myspace.com/roxyjonesband

San Diego's smartypants indie cabal, a collection of groups that rely on toocool insider jokes, formerband-geek exclusivity, and counterculture self-righteousness, has an unusual

and original work, 619-233-6327.

Methodist Church: 170 Calle

Saturday, 7:30 p.m. - County

Down's Singer, Social Activist.

Tommy Sands performs for San

Diego Folk Heritage, joined by with

Mova and Fionán Sands. 858-566-

San Marcos Library: 2 Civic

Thursday, 7 p.m. — The Battlefield

Center Drive, San Marcos, 760-

San Dieguito United

Magdalena, Encinitas.

4040. \$19-\$22.

891-3000.

\$12-\$20.

member, Roxy Jones. Watching any of these acts live, you come to think that the bandmembers expect artistic credibility and a contract with Epic Records because they have the ability to irritate

Band. Scottish contemporary music joined with "rich heritage of Celtic music." 858-694-2415.

**Second Wind (Navajo):** 8515 Navajo Road, Santee, 619-465-1730.

*Thursday* — The Hype. Covers the hits of the '60s through the '90s. Blues/pop rock/rockabilly. **Sevilla:** 555 Fourth Avenue,

Downtown, 619-233-5979. *Thursday, Sunday* — Club Salsa. Features performance by Walter II & Orquesta Rumbaney. Includes salsa dance lessons by Valerie. their audience. Although, unlike many of these local acts of the same snotty flavor, Roxy displays cohesion and talent.

While Peter Graves forces his voice a tad off-key for short stretches to impart artiness, this seems to be Roxy's only "unorthodox" technique. On the whole, Roxy uses few high-minded concepts and instead employs a good amount of solid, traditional, good ol' rock-and-roll elements - a refreshing notion for a local indie act. As a result, Roxy Jones remains approachable to mainstream audiences as well as the blackrimmed-eyeglass-wearing "I'm so much more independent

than you" crowd. The band's instrument work is top notch. Graves's lyrics deal mostly with past

Salsa/Latin/tropical. Mondays, 9 p.m. — Rock en Español. Tuesday, Wednesday — Club Salsa.

*Tuesday, Wednesday* — Club Salsa. Performance by Trece de la Suerte. Latin/Tejano/mariachi.

The Shout House: 655 4th Avenue, Downtown, 619-231-6700. *Thursdays*, 7 p.m., *Fridays*, 6 p.m., *Saturdays*, 6 p.m., *Sundays*, 7 p.m. — The Shout House. Rock and roll sing-along dueling pianos. \$5-\$10. Ages 21 and up.

**South Park Bar & Grill:** 1946 Fern Street, South Park, 619-696-

## 0096.

*Thursdays*, 9:30 p.m. — Open jazz jam. Ages 21 and up. *Fridays*, 7 p.m. — The John Kopecky Trio. Jazz. Ages 21 and up. *Saturdays*, 8:30 p.m. — Open blues jam. With Will Jackson. Ages 21 and up.

Sundays, 6 p.m. — Original Music Modern Jazz Series. Every Sunday, with Doug Walker, Tim Nunnink, Nick Tocco, and Nathan Hubbard. *Tuesdays*, 8 p.m. — The Friend, Sibley, Hilton Trio. Jazz. Ages 21 and up.

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conversations and features of a cityscape, mentioning bars, broken glass, 7-Elevens, interaction with neighbors, and his own introspections. From "Hola Papi!": "I was alive before I was born/ Then I rented some videotapes/ Then I got bored."

## 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 Sunshine Brooks Theatre: 217 North Coast Highway, Oceanside, 760-529-9140. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — Hot Cuban Rhythmsl. Spring World Music Series continues with rumbas, boleros, and more by Luna Llena (which means "full moon" in Spanish). Recommended reservations: 760-435-5560. \$15.

**Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre:** 5469 Casino Way, El Cajon.

*Thursday*, 8 p.m. — Air Supply.

Tiki House: 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-9734. *Thursday* — 8 Track Star. Ages 21 and up.

Saturday — The Mississippi Mudsharks. Blues/punk/roots. Ages 21 and up.

**Tio Leo's Lounge:** 5302 Napa Street, Clairemont, 619-542-1462. *Thursdays*, 7 p.m. — Cajun and Zydeco Dancing. Zydeco dance every Thursday night, with lessons by Gator Boy. \$5. Ages 21 and up. *Friday* — Shake Out. Features performances by Dawn Shipley and Atomic Three. Rockabilly/country. *Saturday* — Just Been Funked. Oldskool R&B from the '70s, '80s, '90s.

UCSD: University of California San Diego: 9500 Gilman Drive, UCSD, 858-534-2230.

*Thursday*, 8 p.m., *Thursday*, 10 p.m. — "2 Foot Yard" Tentacle Sessions. "Violin, cello, vocals, and percussion as you've never heard them." 2 Foot Yard takes the Stage at Porter's Pub for UCSD's ArtPower series. Group is said to merge "visceral power of rock with the intimacy and warmth of chamber music." 858-534-8497. \$12.

University City High School: 6949 Genesee Avenue, University City.

Saturday, 7 p.m. — Rising Star Band Concert. Rising Star Band performs music from '70s, '80s, and '90s for concert benefiting University City High School music program. Band "incorporates dance choreography, horns, musical impersonations, and four-part harmonies." 858-457-3040. \$12.

Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room: 5000 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400. *Friday*, 8 p.m. — Live.

Winstons: 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822. *Thursday*, 9:30 p.m. — Ten Mile Tide. Performs a blend of feel-good acoustic, rock, and Americana. Tapwater also performs bluegrass music with a tropical influence. Ages 21 and up. *Friday* — Psydecar. Local reggae, soul, rock band. *Saturday* — Vegitation. Reggae, folk, rock.

**Zombie Lounge:** 3519 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. *Tuesday*, 9 p.m. — Vanja James, Denise Rowe, and Save Amos. Save Amos features Drew and his brother Michael (Motionless, the Binge), Denise Rowe writes soulful catchy acoustic tunes, and Vanja's band makes great harmonies. Ages 21 and up.

## UPCOMING SHOWS

4th & B: 345 B Street,
Downtown, 619-231-4343.
March 14 — Too Short.
March 22 — Ryan Shaw and Doc
Powell.
March 26 — Blue October.
March 28 — Above the Law.
April 2 — Beto Cuevas.
April 25 — Spiritualized.
710 Beach Club: 710 Garnet

710 Beach Club: 710 Garner Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-4837844. *March 20* — Inglewood.

March 20 — Inglewood. Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300. March 14, March 15, March 16 — Flora Purim and Airto. March 21, March 22 — Herb Alpert and Lani Hall. March 28 — Diane Schuur. April 17 — Lee Ritenour, Patrice Rushen, Alex Acuna, Brian Bromberg. May 9 — Janis Siegel. May 23 — Poco. May 24 — Karla Bonoff. May 30, May 31 — Sonny Landreth. June 26, June 27, June 28 — Keiko Matsui.

July 3, July 4, July 5 — Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra. July 12, July 13 — Howard Jones.

**Balboa Theatre:** 854 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-570-1100. *March 20* — "In the Mood."

**Bar Leucadian:** 1542 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia, 760753-2094. *May 17* — Live Wire.

**Beauty Bar:** 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-516-4746. *March 14* — Spell Toronto, the Megas. *March 15* — Strychnine Rock n'

Soul Review. Belly Up Tavern: 143 South

Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-9022. *March 17* — Shawn Mullins. March 18 — The Pretty Things. March 20 — The Itals. March 21 — Built to Spill. March 22 — The Presidents of the United States of America. March 25 — Bob Schneider. April 11, April 12 — The Mother

Hips. April 20 — The Gin Blossoms. April 27 — Victor Wooten. May 22 — Hal Ketchum.

**Brick by Brick:** 1130 Buenos Avenue, Clairemont, 619-275-LIVE March 13 — Psychostick, Better Left Unsaid. March 19 — The New Dayze, Sirens of Shipwreck. March 24 — New Model Army, Vale.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido: 340 North

Escondido Boulevard, Escondido, 800-988-4253. March 29 — "The Belle of Broadway." April 11 — Julio Iglesias.

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STYX THURSDAY, JULY 17	THE TEMPTATIONS & THE FOUR TOPS BUNDAL ADGUST 3	CIPSY KINGS CIPSY KINGS CIPSY KINGS CIPSALE MARICH 13	BILL COSBY FRIDAY, SEFTEMBER 5	RANDY TRAVIS WEDNESDAX, OCTOBER 15

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alendar MUSIC

The Calypso Café: 576 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-632-8252. March 13, April 10 — Michael Tiernan and the Band.

'Canes: 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780. March 13 — Negative Filter, Mursic. March 14 - Brother Ali. March 15 — The Boredoms. *March 22* — Tainted Love. March 28 — GZA/Genius. March 29 - The B-Side Players. April 17 — Helmet.

April 28 — The Breeders May 4 — Blind Melon.

**Carlsbad Community** Cultural Arts Center: 3557 Monroe Street, Carlsbad. March 15 - North County Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Benefit Concert.

Carvers: 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-566-2400

March 14, March 15 - Crossroads. March 21, March 22 — Laguna. March 28, March 29 - Night Shift. April 5 — The Hype. April 25, April 26 — Crossroads. June 6, June 7 — The Hype.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-HELL.

March 13 — The White Buffalo. April 3 — Burning Brides.

**Chasers Cocktail Lounge:** 3615 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights, 619-280-9379. April 18 — Mystery Hangup.

Claire de Lune: 2906 University Avenue, North Park, 619-688-9845. March 15 — The Chris Klich Jazz Ouintet.

Coors Amphitheatre: 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-671-3600. April 6 — RBD. April 26 — Def Leppard, REO Speedwagon, and Styx. May 9 — Celtic Woman. May 24 — Vicente Fernandez. May 26 — The Police and Elvis Costello.

Cox Arena: 550 Campanile Drive, College Area, 619-594-6947. April 30 — Avril Lavigne and Boys Like Girls. May 2 - Michael Bublé. May 20 — Megadeth.

*June 3* — The Cure. Dirk's Niteclub: 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-469-6344

March 14, March 15 - Full Xposure. Dizzy's: 200 Harbor Drive, Downtown, 858-270-7467. *March 14* — ESP. March 16 - CD-Release Party. March 19 — Nate James. April 24 — Winard Harper.

Dublin Square: 554 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-5818. March 31 — Colin Clyne.

Epicentre: 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-271-4000 March 14 — Driving East, Parade

the Day. March 20 — The Lisps, These United States.

The Handlery Hotel and Resort: 950 Hotel Circle North,

Mission Valley, 619-298-0511. March 14 — The Citizen Band. March 21 — The Christopher Dale

March 28 - Barbara Nesbitt.



#### Artist: The Fascination

Song: "Do You Know What I Mean" (from *myspace.com/thefascination*) Heard By: Benjamin Inouye, East Village



I thought it was pretty good. It sort of reminded me if Interpol and New Order had a child. I feel like if you enjoy that style of music, you would enjoy this. I imagine it was just a full band with standard rock instrumentation. They were pretty tight. For that style of music I think you have to be. If not radio airplay, I think it would get a lot of buzz. I always feel like in the indie subcultures of music there are the super-elitists and then there's the people who listen to popular music and what they perceive indie music to be. People, when they hear [the Fascination], would be, like, "Oh, here's some new band that I discovered," but to the elitists it would be, like, "Oh, no, forget about that."

Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-729-4996. March 16, March 17- The Blokes.

<sup>\$</sup>2.25

Wells & Domestic

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SAN DIEGO SONGS TAKE THE STREET TEST

Artist: The Muslims Song: "Nightlife" (from myspace.com/themuslims) Heard By: Oscar Vega, National City



I liked everything, actually - the lyrics, the singer's voice - it was different. He has a cool voice. It sounds kind of like '80s music and punk. [The only comparison] that I could think of right now would be the Sex Pistols...I don't know why. It was the regular instruments — bass, guitar, drums... I think I only heard one guitar; I'm not sure. They were just having fun. It was just some fun lyrics about going out at night. It sounds like something underground. If I were to put that song on, I would be on my way to Coronado or something with my friends...mostly girls, I guess.

Artist: Gregory Page Song: "Sleeping Dogs" (from the CD All Make Believe) Heard By: Abel Gongora, Chula Vista



I liked it. I think the lyrics were kind of abstract, though. It went off on one idea first and then another idea. I like the rhythm, and the guy's voice is really rich. It was nice. I guess it has kind of a Jack Johnson type of feel to it...that kind of folk-y sound. It's something different and, hey, it's catchy. They had an orchestra part in the interlude, which I thought was cool. He had a nicesounding guitar. The chorus line was really nice. It was pleasant; I enjoyed it. I would definitely want to hear more of him. For me, personally, I don't really go out and buy CDs that sound like Jack Johnson unless it's kind of bluesy, but he's more "pop."

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

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2583. March 15 — Particle March 18 — Nada Surf. March 24 — Ace Frehley. March 26 - Collective Soul. March 29 — The Black Keys. March 30 - A Flock of Seagulls and Dramarama. March 31 - Citizen Cope. April 1 — Bad Manners. April 2 — Les Claypool. April 4 — Pitbull and Baby Bash. April 5 — Big Head Todd & the Monsters. April 7 — Ministry. April 9 — Moenia. April 10 — Louis XIV. April 11 — Yellowcard.

April 16 — Thrice. May 15 — Ghostland Observatory. May 23 — Nightwish.

Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577. March 15 — The Steely Damned. March 20 — Willie J. Laws. March 22 - Johnny "V" Vernazza.

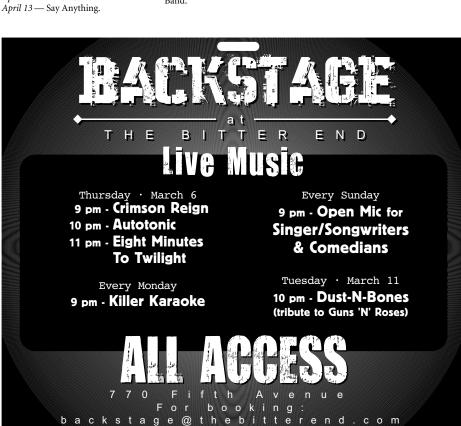
Joe 'n Andy's Hole in the Wall: 9344 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-589-8684. March 14 - Punkfest.

The Kraken: 2531 South Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-436-6483. March 13 - The West Coast Blues Band.

March 19 — Jeff Moore and the Witch Doctors. March 20 — Frankie Dee and the Funk Natra Band. March 26 — Jeff Moore and the Witch Doctors. March 28 — Live Wire. April 2 — Jeff Moore and the Witch Doctors. May 23, June 20 - Live Wire.

La Jolla Library: 7555 Draper Avenue, La Jolla, 858-552-1657. March 15 - Distinctive Sounds.

McCabe's Beach Club: 1145 South Tremont Street, Oceanside, 760-439-6646 June 28 - Live Wire .



THURSDAY, FRIDAY &

SATURDAY NIGHTS Dancing with

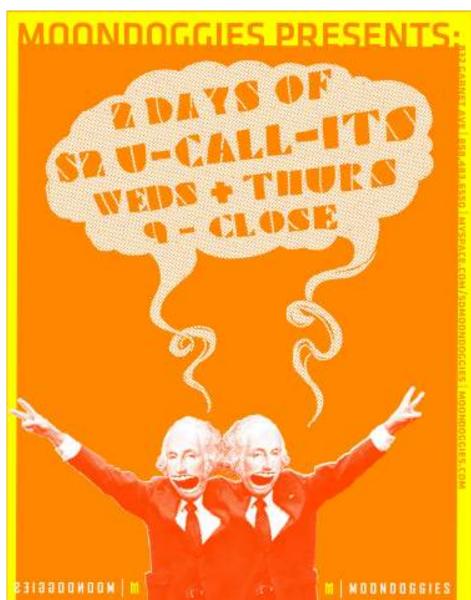
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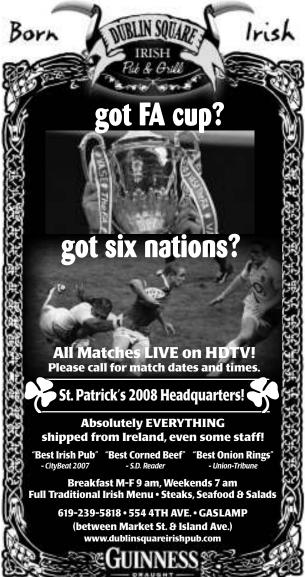
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(corner of Wall Street & Girard in La Jolla) www.JacksLaJolla.com info@JacksLaJolla.com



DJ Angle performing. No cover before 10:30 pm. Drink specials all night.

DJ Timeless and DJ Angle.



BLK Ink presents DJ Sean Wilson and Kofi on drums.



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**MiraCosta College Theatre:** One Barnard Drive, Oceanside, 760-795-6815. March 14, March 15 - Oceanside Jazz Festival.

**Neurosciences Institute:** 10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive, La Jolla, 858-626-2000. March 18 — "Something for You." March 29, March 29 — Athenaeum Jazz.

Normal Heights United Methodist Church: 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. March 15 - Latin Guitar World Fusion!. March 23 — Never Had a "Day Job."

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8:30 pm

Ianis Ian. O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub: 1130 Morena Boulevard, Clairemont, 619-276-5637. March 14 — Arrovo, Joev Harris and the Mentals. March 15, March 16 - Emergenza Music Festival. April 2, May 7, June 4 - Chip

March 27 - Singer-Songwriter

Conrad & the Concrete Feat. Ocean House: 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, 760-729-4131.

March 14, April 18 — Live Wire. Patrick Moore Gallery: 2400

Kettner Boulevard, suite 103, Little Italy, 619-756-6483. March 15 — "Irish Airs and Dances"

Patrick's II: 428 F Street, Downtown, 619-233-3077.



LIVE MUSIC

Friday, March 7

Umbrella

LIVE MUSIC Saturday, March 8

Wunderfist

March 13 - Len Rainey and the Midnight Players. March 15 — Big Mo Blues. March 23 — The Dave Camp Trio. March 24 - Nathan James and Ben Hernandez. March 25 — Blue Largo. March 29 - Len Rainey and the Midnight Players. March 31 — The Bayou Brothers.

**Poway Center for the** Performing Arts: 15498 Espola Road, Poway, 858-748-0505. *April 19* — John Mayall & the Bluesbreakers.

The Red Eye Saloon: 1448 South Mission Road, Fallbrook. April 4, April 5 - The City Limits Band.

The Red Parrot Lounge at **Casino Pauma:** 777 Pauma Reservation Road, Fallbrook, 760-742-2177. March 22, April 18, April 25 – MoonDance

San Diego Sports Arena: 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-224-4171. April 20 — Kanye West. May 3 - Juanes.

San Diego Sports Club: 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-299-7372 March 22, April 26, May 24 - Stick

It in Your Ear Productions. San Dieguito United

Methodist Church: 170 Calle Magdalena, Encinitas. March 29 — Self-described "Eclecto-Maniacs.

Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library: 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad. March 14 — "The Best of Broadway: Cole Porter to Lloyd Webber.

Sevilla: 555 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-5979.



## <u>Yo, DJi</u>

## Talk About a Star



**Bad Religion plays House of Blues** March 7, 8, and 9.

Considering they've been making noise and upsetting parental status-quo sensibilities since 1980, it's not only a pleasure to be on the receiving end of fresh Bad Religion albums every 24 months or so, it's also downright heartening. What's weird is when I was asked to talk about Bad Religion, it was around the time I had to do the [concert] commercial for our radio station. It's always more fun doing the concert spots. You can be that guy with the rock voice that's telling the fans "...if you don't show up, you're a weenie!' The clients usually have all the copy written out for

you, which is fine. It makes things easier. Other times,

March 13, March 16, March 18, March 20, March 27 - Club Salsa Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-226SOMA. March 13 - Angels & Airwaves. March 14 — Silverstein. March 15 - Explosions in the Sky. April 12 - Panic at the Disco

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they just have bullet points written out. It's easier to have them give you more copy that you can cut than for you to try to bulk up the spot. Voicing and producing them is so much easier in the digital age. You have an undo button if you don't get it right. Whether you're using Adobe Audition or Pro Tools, it's better than the days I started in radio, where you had to just keep doing it and recording over it. If you didn't line the songs up at the right spot, it's frustrating.

But, because I'm a fan of the band, putting this Bad Religion commercial together was simple...more fun than if I was doing one for Michael McDonald and appealing to housewives on Percocet or the bed-ridden.



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WorldBeat Cultural Center: 2100 Park Boulevard, Balboa Park, 619-263-7911. *March 14, March 16* — DrumSTRONG2. **Zombie Lounge:** 3519 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. *March 21* — Joe Buck Yourself.

## DJ

How to submit a club or DJ listing: Call 619-235-3000 x405, night or day by 5 pm Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA, 92186. You may also submit information online at SDReader.com by clicking on the music section.

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#### for-1 cover charge. *Sundays*: Guest DJ Night. Guest DJs to be announced. *Mondays*: DJ 1979. Hip-hop, funk, and soul. Special guest joins DJ 1979. *Tuesdays*, 9 p.m.: Big Sonic Chill. "Ethereal dream-pop bliss" sponsored by San Diego's Local 94.9. *Wednesdays*: Club Nigel. Steve West and DJ SG spin the '80s. 4673 30th Street, Normal Heights. 619-501-9831.

**Bar Dynamite:** *Thursdays*, 9 p.m.: DJs SG, Dubz, Teknikscian. Hip-hop, funk, old skool, mashups, and reggae. \$5. *Wednesdays*, 9 p.m.: Deep House Nite. DJs Duane, Lil Ryan and Johnny D spin house music. 1808 West Washington Street, Mission Hills. 619-295-8743.

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King. *Saturday*: Shake Appeal. With DJ Ikah Love, Dimitri Jackson, and Mario Orduno. Club/hiphop/house. \$5. *Thursday*, 10 p.m.: Soul Survivors. Thursday nights with DJ Rob Hostetter and Daniel Sant. Ages 21 and up. *Tuesdays*, 9 p.m.: Trans Am Tuesdays. New wave '80s dance party with DJ Heather Hardcore. *Wednesdays*, 10 p.m.: DJ RatStar. Spinning soul and hip-hop on Wednesday nights. Ages 21 and up. 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, Kensington-Talmadge. 619-516-4746.

**Belo:** *Friday:* James Zabiela. Features Deadmau5 on the turntables. House/electronica/breakbeat. 919

Fourth Avenue, Downtown. 619-231-9200.

**Bluefoot Bar and Lounge:** *Friday*, 9:30 p.m.: Funk 101. First and third Friday of the month with *DJ Sergio*, *SK*, and *Brother Barry*. Soul, hip-hop, house, roots, party jams. Ages 21 and up. 3404 30th Street, North Park. 619-235-8466.

**Camel's Breath Inn:** *Fridays*, *Saturdays*: Live DJ. Every Friday and Saturday night. Ages 21 and up. 1033 Friars Road, Mission Valley. 619-281-1722.

**Candelas:** *Thursdays*: DJ ALA. Deep soulful house music. 416 Third Avenue, Downtown. 619-702-4455.

**'Canes:** Sundays, 9 p.m.: Reggae Sundays. Moulin Rouge Ent. presents Club Seduction. Live reggae, hip-hop, and R&B performances every Sunday. Featuring DJ Alonzo, Baby Krown, and Big Daddy on the turntables. Ages 21 and up. 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

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The Flame: Saturday: Sabbat. Goth and industrial every second Saturday of the month. With DJs Robin Roth, Adam, and Diskdroid Ages 21 and up. *Saturday*: Club Sabbat. Gothic and industrial nightclub hosted at the Flame every second and fifth Saturday of the month. Resident DJs Robin Roth, Atom, and Diskdroid spinning along with special guests. Celebrate Club Sabbat's ten-year anniversary on March 29. Ages 21 and up. 3780 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest. 619-295 4163

Harney Sushi: Wednesdays: Joev's Han Night. Weekly guest DIs spin house, electro, mashups, and Brit-pop. 3964 Harney Street, Old Town. 619-295-3272.

Inferno Young Adult Nightclub: Fridays, 9 p.m., Saturdays, 9 p.m.: DJ Kool T. Top 40, techno, and '80s. 775 Metcalf Street, Escondido. 760-741-1271.

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**Moondoggies Pacific Beach:** 

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San Diego Sports Club: Thursdays, 9 p.m.: Club '80s. New wave, punk, and new romantic with DJs Bryan Pollard, Roxanne Redlight, Sickboy, and Stem. \$2-\$4. Ages 21 and up. 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-299-7372.

Static Lounge: Friday: West Coast Mash Up. First Friday of the month, with DnB, jungle, and ragga. Ages 18 and up. 634 Broadway, Downtown. 619-544-1609.

Tio Leo's Lounge: Thursdays, 8 p.m.: Zydeco Dance. DJ Gator Boy, every Thursday. 5302 Napa Street, Clairemont. 619-542-1462

Whiskey Girl: Fridays and Saturdays, 9 p.m.: DJ Marc Thrasher. Music video mixes. Ages 21 and up. Sundays, 9 p.m.: 10 Spot Sundays. DJ Famous Dave mixes your music video requests. Ages 21 and up. Mondays, 9 p.m.: Manic Mondays. DJ Marc Thrasher mixes '80s and '90s music videos. Ages 21 and up. Tuesdays, 9 p.m., Wednesdays, 9 p.m.: DJ Famous Dave mixes music videos. Ages 21 and up. 600 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-236-1616.



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## **C**rasher

## AND THE OSCAR GOES TO...

### by Josh Board

went to an Oscar party at Sunset Cliffs in O.B. The affair was a potluck, and I stopped at a grocery store to pick up a cake. A few days earlier, when I was at the same store, I saw they were charging me more than the \$10 the cake was listed for. I asked why, and the clerk said, "Because yours is a special order." I replied, "That was for your benefit. The only thing special I'm doing is having you write 'There Will Be Cake' on it. I'm not having you make little oil wells out of toothpicks or anything. If it'll save me ten bucks, I'll just come in on Sunday and have you write that on one of the cakes that's already made." She looked at me like I was crazy and said, "Well, you have to also hope there's someone working here."

When I arrived at the grocery store 30 minutes before the Oscars were to begin, the same woman was working. I picked out a cake and had her write that on it. She wrote "becake" as one word, but I wasn't in the mood to argue. I made up little signs to put on



"Writers scale - more after eating cake," "Jay Leno brought donuts. Josh brought cake." There were more, equally unfunny but cute. I was driving my girlfriend nuts as we were going 80 on I-8 and I bugged

one made a comment about him wearing shades. A woman said "Hal Holbrook was in the aisle doing

the 'Cabbage Patch' during that song." her to put them in the cake. She

said, "I'm not opening this up and getting cake all over me." When we pulled up, we

placed them on the cake before walking in. The crowd was talkthat she loved The Bucket List. I said, "That movie was awful." We debated about it, but it didn't last long; she never told me what it was she liked about the movie. It was just me rant-

ing movies. When the camera

showed Jack Nicholson, some-

Top right: Two guys with movie ties; Bottom left: Larry (middle) laughing at Jon Stewart;

> ing about the movie's clichés. I recalled causing a disturbance at an Oscar party when I complained how bad the movie Crash was.

Jon Stewart came on screen, and we all agreed he was funny. I liked that he didn't tell too many political jokes. I don't think the Oscars should be about that. I did think he would have more to say about the writers' strike. He had a line about Norbit being nominated for an Oscar in the make-up cat-

egory. He said something about the Oscars not recognizing bad movies, which had us all laughing.

When they showed Johnny Depp being made up for Pirates, I asked, "They got a nomination for putting eyeliner on him?" All the women in the room spent the next ten minutes talking about how much they loved him. One older lady scolded him through the screen for chewing gum.

Stewart said that during the commercial break they were going to make fun of what everyone at home was wearing — "Oh yeah, it works both ways." Since I arrived just as the show started, I didn't get to see any of the stars show up. I like all the pregame stuff at the Super Bowl, but with the Oscars, it's guys in black tuxedos, women in fancy dresses, and the occasional Björk wearing a huge swan that everyone talks about for days. I don't see the appeal. I was talking with someone there about Diablo Cody's script for Juno. "It's obviously going to win the Oscar for



best screenplay," I said, "but a lot of it was poorly written." When she won, she had a dress to show off the pinup girl tattoo on her arm...I assume to show how rebellious she is. Stewart joked about her being an "exotic dancer," and I said, "They should've had a pole come out from the stage instead of the microphone."

After some black musicians performed. Stewart said, "Hal Holbrook was in the aisle doing the Cabbage Patch during that song." Holbrook didn't seem happy about that, although, he may not have heard it .... Someone at the party said, "That's kind of racist. That song wasn't a dance song, so why would Holbrook have being doing the Cabbage Patch? It's implying that any time African-American musicians perform that there's a hip-hop element to it."

Stewart joked about another actress' talent. He started to recite the roles she's played and added, "She even played Bob

Dylan." Everyone at the party laughed. I don't think they realized that that wasn't the joke. The actress, along with several other actors, played Dylan in a movie that came out this year. Stewart's punchline was that she played the dog in No Country for Old Men and that she was even playing him (Stewart) at that very moment.

A woman named Ann showed up. She had done some filmwork in L.A., and people asked her about the voting process. She explained what she knew about how the writers vote in the writing category, the directors vote for the director, but everyone, including the actors, can vote on all other categories. She looked at me for confirmation and I said, "That's what I've heard. But you know a lot more than I do. The only movies I've done are ... well, I better not get into that."

When an animated bee with Seinfeld's voice came on screen, it said, "I'm going to show you some of

my previous work." There were scenes of bees in other movies. When there was a swarm, I said, "They should have an arrow on the screen pointing to which one is him," and when they did that, the crowd laughed and someone said, "You've seen this before."

After the award was handed out for film editing, Stewart said, "Someone just took the lead in their Oscar pool based on a guess." I laughed because I had a pool going, and those awards are often what determines the winner, especially when there were few surprises. Daniel Day-Lewis won, as was expected. Someone said, "They should have a separate category for the best villain." I said, "Good idea. Or, this year, for best mustache. Although, Lewis would still beat out Josh Brolin in that category."

Javier Bardem won, as expected. It was a nice touch to see him thanking his mom in Spanish (and to see a normal hairstyle on

him).

The doorbell rang and the woman answering the door said, "You're just in time." I said, "Just in time for what? The Oscars started a long time ago."

These guests were Asian and they brought fried rice. My girlfriend got up to get some. I was stuffed from three brownies and two slices of pizza. The rest of the food smelled good, though. During the commercials, everyone got up to nosh. I heard one woman ask the host, "Can I have something to drink...like cold water?" The hostess responded, "How about...cold water?"

One woman said, "This is great...I can eat now. It's not like the Super Bowl where we have to watch the commercials, too."

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

Columns archived at SDReader.com

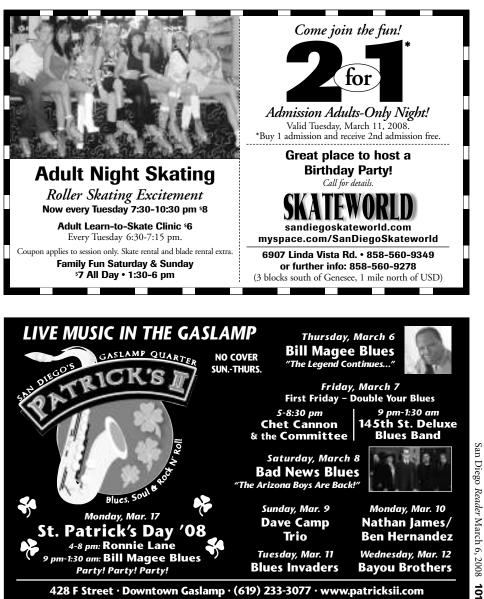


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## **New Venice**

Alexander's is the new North Park spin-off of very old Old Venice in Point Loma, where the latter is popular, if perhaps taken for granted. In the gentrifying North Park area, however, no decent restaurant is ever taken for granted - not yet particularly those springing up south of Univer-sity, in reach of the even hungrier denizens of South Park, where the natives welcome each opening like tropical-island cargo cultists hailing a landing plane. The dogleg-corner of Upas and 30th has become a mini-gourmet ghetto, as moderatepriced and interestingly varied eateries have moved in - the Linkery (relocating soon to larger quarters north), Zensei Sushi, and now, across the street, Alexander's.

The neighborhood direly needed a good neighborhood Italian restaurant (not another pizzeriathere's already a nice new one in Lefty's), and Alex Walter, son of the owners of Old Venice, took up the challenge. When Alexander's opened late last spring, it was instantly embraced by the pastastarved masses and, most evenings, still remains packed. It's worth taking time to call in a reservation, even if only an hour or two before you arrive - especially when it's raining and the spacious back patio becomes too swampy for use.

The dining room is bright, white (with subway tiles on the walls and marble flooring), and raucously noisy, the hard surfaces bouncing the ambient music around until everybody is yelling their conversations. My neighbors Scott, Mike, and I, who all live reasonably close to the restaurant, dropped in one night and were fortuitously seated on the back patio, which has a white fabric ceiling and enough heat stanchions to made a cold night so cozy we could comfortably take off our outerwear. Ah, the thrill of alfresco dining midwinter, under romantic lighting. Could have used a flashlight, though, to read the menu and wine list.

In many ways, Alexander's is more an old-style San Diego restaurant than a new one. The menu is mainly an abbreviation of Old Venice's, with tried-and-true dishes - but then, we generally expect more tradition than innovation at Italian restaurants. A single veggie medley (albeit a Mediterranean mixture including mushrooms, rather than the standard Sysco trio) accompanies all entrées, and I wasn't totally impressed with the quality of ingredients. Yet the kitchen is clearly competent, and most of the food is agreeable



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enough that "good" really does mean "good." The bread service consisted of large, rough, heavily toasted slabs of Italian bread. It may be an attempt at garlic bread, but if so, it's garlic-defi-

cient. "I wonder if they alternate," said Mike, "between one day of fresh soft bread, and for the next day, yes-terday's stale bread, toasted." Arriving with no accompanying butter or bagna, it seems it's not

"eating bread" but "sauce-sopping bread." Just eat your heart out until your order arrives.

We began with Le Tigre shrimp, a compelling appetizer mixture of tender large shrimps, artichoke hearts, a few capers, and small, surprisingly delicious Roma tomatoes in white wine sauce. The portion is large enough (five hefty shrimp), and the mixture of flavors complex enough, to double as a light entrée.

The less-benign Hawthorne-stuffed mushrooms were filled with a bland, dense mince of snow crab and shrimp, the caps shrouded in coarse melted provolone cheese - much of it overbaked to the texture of rubber bands. The dish fairly screams for the substitution of more delicate, acquiescent (and expensive) fontina cheese.

When we ordered the house "spicy Caesar" salad, the waitress told us that since we were ordering entrées, we were entitled to three individual house salads, gratis - but she'd arrange for us to

have mini-Caesars instead of the standard greens. Very kind - but, whoops, not really: We were charged for the Caesar and didn't get the free house mix (which may

well be tastier and comes with a choice of interesting dressings). The Caesar featured dark, soggy rags of the outer leaves of romaine, drenched in tasty, Parmesan-heavy dressing. They tasted as if they'd been soaking since the previous day, and old Gaius Julius might have said, "Et tu, Alex?" at encountering this rendition of his namesake. If I had to do it all over again, I'd go for the more imaginative 30th Street Salad, with pineapple balsamic dressing, or the popular Greek Goddess Salad ---or I might just choose a bowl of steamed New Zealand mussels.

As the evening went on and the restaurant filled to the gills, the sweetness of service deteriorated a bit. For instance, when we asked to borrow back

#### Alexander's ★★ (Good)

3391 30th Street (at Upas Street), North Park, 619-281-2539, alexanderson30th.com.

HOURS: Monday-Friday 4:00-10:30 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday until 11:30 p.m.

PRICES: Appetizers, \$8.50-\$12.25; salads, \$5.25-\$11.25; pastas, \$11.75-\$16.50; pizzas, \$14-\$21.50; entrées, \$20-\$26.25.

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: Coastal Italian cuisine emphasizing seafoods and pasta. Affordable international wine list (California, Italy, Argentina), with most choices available by the glass, plus sangria, beers.

PICK HITS: Le Tigre shrimp; linguine de Kathleen; honey-glazed salmon; seafood piccata (special).

**NEED TO KNOW:** Heated roofed patio behind restaurant is dimly lighted but much quieter than noisy dining room. Unisex restrooms. Reservations advised at all times except very early evening. Takeout orders accepted by phone. One vegan pasta, at least seven vegetarian choices (including pizza).

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

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

one copy of the menu to remind ourselves what the ingredients were in our dishes, the better to enjoy them, the waitress - an Italian beauty with a lovely accent — rather snappily refused. She may not have understood our reasoning, or our English, since she told us to go to the menu on the website. We tried again to explain that we weren't asking for a takeout menu, just to look at the regular one again, but she was in no mood to listen and flounced off in a state of evident stress. (The website, by the way, although far from fancy, proves rather flaky, awkward, and slow - it seems like a throwback to earlier days of website design, and I don't merely mean the old-timey graphic style. A serious and patient nerd could probably figure out

Republicans and Democrats agree..."best" steak in San Diego! Come in and try... our Prime Bone-in Rib Eye, our Prime T-Bone or our Prime New York Strip. Wonderful wines by the glass No corkage Friday or Sunday thru March lunch - dinner - private parties "San Diego's premier homegrown and longest-running steakhouse." – FODORS yummy steaks/// KETT 1202 Kettner Boulevard • Downtown San Diego 619-233-5757

some workaround to print out the whole menu instead of scraps of it, or to copy-and-paste it into Word. Too rushed to make it my life's work, I couldn't do either.)

A shared mid-course of "linguine de Kathleen" was thoroughly rewarding, even "scrumbo" as our Tin Fork would say. Green linguine were swathed in a rich, dark pesto punctuated by pine nuts, more of those delicious little Roma tomatoes, plus sun-dried tomatoes, poufs of feta cheese, and sweet, cooked, whole garlic cloves. Here was proof that Alexander's is really an Italian restaurant, not another Italian-American clichéd collection like some of this area's unmourned departed restaurants. Pesto and garlic cloves! The dish has Genoa written all over it, and the addition of feta shows some

culinary imagination. In fact, there are a lot of Greek flavors on this menu; I suspect they come from parent restaurant Old Venice, since Venice is on the Adriatic, Greece is on the Adriatic, and it's natural for food ideas to flow back and forth between them. (I couldn't reach the owner by deadline to find out whether the family actually is Venetian — or perhaps Greek.)

A lot of the kitchen's best work probably goes into the pasta list, which offers numerous temptations. I would love to try the "vodka Bolognese" with Italian sausages and mushrooms, or the walnut-Gorgonzola sauce, and a friend told me later that she'd enjoyed the house pizza, finding it reasonably thin-crusted, with a wide and interesting choice of toppings. The evening's special of seafood piccata redoubled the sense of authenticity. All the seafood (large mussels, small clams, shrimps, fish) was tender, and the lively lemon sauce was an ideal match for the delicate angel-hair pasta garnish. Scrumbo, again.

A "surf'n' turf" variation of filet mignon and garlic shrimps costs a reasonable \$26, which should raise suspicion about the quality of the meat. Those suspicions are justified. The shrimp, all two of them, were shriveled and dry, and even with the meat cooked rare, we badly needed the steak knife to saw through the chewy beef. That very day I'd seen a supermarket ad for "Select grade filet mignon, \$7.99/lb, Choice grade \$8.99/lb in selected locations." Alexander's was probably Select (at best), conferring all the benefits of an aerobic workout for the jaw. Eat it daily, in mere weeks your chin would look like Ahnold's, and in a few months it would rival Sly Stallone's.

Back to the good news: Honey-glazed salmon was utterly tender, with an attractive sweet, dark glaze that suited it well — piscine comfort food. Even if its mild flavor and soft texture indicated it was probably farmed Atlantic salmon rather than our more wholesome wild Pacific fish, the treatment made it highly enjoyable.

Desserts are housemade but were in scant supply that evening. The signature dessert, borrowed from Old Venice, consists of large chocolate-chip cookies and vanilla gelato. We asked what else there might be. Though still early, the bread pudding was gone. Our waitress rescued a last piece of tiramisu for us — soft and lush, if short on both rum and coffee. Better yet, the icky commercial-grade chocolate syrup (Hershey's? Sysco?) was smeared on the plate, not on the dessert, and the waxy, low-rent chocolate chips besmirched only the accompanying whipped cream. Call it a "deconstructed" tiramisu, and rejoice that the finishing touches are separate from the body.

Oddly enough for an Italian restaurant, there's no espresso here, just coffee. Mike found the "caf" pretty good; I found the decaf so DOA, I loaded some of the dessert whipped cream on top of it to lend it interest.

Given the restaurant's oldstalwart ancestry, the meal was better than I expected, though a trifle less than I'd hoped for. The eternal question is "Would you go back?" Well, a few days

later, I ate at the splendid Antica Trattoria in La Mesa (which I'll tell you about next week or the week after). If I had my way, Antica would be in North Park (better yet, South Park) and Alexander's would be in La Mesa. But (going back to Rummy's deathless quote) you eat at the restaurant you've got. Alexander's is the restaurant I've got within sensible reach of home - and yes, I want to eat more pastas, more specials, more salads, certainly a pizza, and maybe even more entrées. The food isn't ultra-raveworthy, but not only is it "not bad," it's positively good, particularly if you become a regular and learn which dishes to order and which ones to avoid. And compared to the two now-departed Italian joints (goodbye and good riddance!) that used to be in this part of town — well, whew! ■

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## The Corporate O

"I just love it," this gal ahead of me says to her stiletto-heeled friend.

ould this be it? Cue music: "This is the dawning of the Age of Aquarius...

I mean, if I was looking for a sign, this sign has to be it. "Organic to Go," right here in this cluster of sandwicheries, where the B Street high-rise, lunch-rush crowd — bean counters and the

secretaries who love them - come blinking into the midday sun. Organic to Go — but this ain't no down-from-Dulzura organicfarming couple setting up a naïve, struggling business. No sir. This

has the look of Corporate. An official logo on square green umbrellas, and inside, zen-moderne design, with blond wood and a bright sproutsy atmosphere, plants growing in perfect concealed-lighting rows on ledges below the ceiling, the wooden-slat salad bars bursting with greener-than-green forest fodder, and only the girls at the back counter looking a little sallow, the way health-food people often do. Whatever, it's obviously a moment of big-business enlightenment. Quizno's meets Johnny Appleseed.

It was an accident, of course. Here I was, country boy fresh off the trolley at Fifth Avenue, sniffing my way up Sixth amid the pubs and teriyaki and taco joints. This place sure is a nice surprise. I pick up a paper napkin. "Proud to be America's first fast-casual café certified ORGANIC retailer." They sure say all the right things. I'd better join the line and take the plunge.

"I just love it," this gal ahead of me is saying to her stiletto-heeled friend as they help themselves to salad by the pound (\$7.99). "For the first time, I don't have to worry about swallowing poisons and wiping tomato skins. I can just eat.

Must say, it's not your usual hard-floored, clattery-tabled lunch spot. They've set up two areas with comfy couches and low boxy coffee tables,



and the place has wireless. So they don't mind if you dally and post to your blog.

Course, everyone here's ordering lunch, going for things like fire-roasted tomato soup (\$3.99 small, \$6.99 large), mango chutney curry chicken-

salad sandwich (\$7.49), Mom's meatloaf sandwich (\$7.49), or something vegan, like grilled veggie and balsamic sandwich (\$6.49), or a house side salad (\$3.69). I'm tempted by the hot toasted sandwiches, like turkey pepperjack (\$7.49) or the grilled chicken Caesar wrap (\$6.99). But no. I still

need breakfast. Hey, you work late, you start late. Breakfast is a sandwichy affair, apart from a vogurt parfait (\$3.29 or \$4.29) and oatmeal (\$1.99

or \$2.29). The main attractions are an egg-whiteand-herb burrito (\$5.29) — though, uh, what fills that one out? - a bacon and egg salsa burrito (\$5.29), a ham, egg, and cheese breakfast sandwich (\$5.29), or spinach-and-egg-white breakfast sandwich. Okay. Doesn't sound like the world's most exciting choice, but I take the ham, egg, and cheese combo.

And yes, when the chef brings out my sandwich in its paper bag, I'm chomping at the bit. Problem is, there's only a bit to chomp. No sign of eggs, f'rinstance, so guess I'm getting the whitesonly thing. No great sign of cheese either. I mean, with the coffee (\$1.50, no refills) and a couple of salsas, it tastes fine, like a Mickey D breakfast sandwich. But, well, nothing you'd cross town for.

But hold your horses, I tell myself. How 'bout a little Appreciation 101? Like, are we considering the Basic Fact here? These Organic to Go people are bustin' their butts trying to find farms that don't spray, don't inject, and treat earthworms with respect. Or this cawfee. It's good to know some whip-cracking middleman isn't keep-

Lunch

Buffet \$5%

PIZZA

ing all the money down there in Colombia, that the farmers are actually getting some of it. And that their kids aren't getting cancer because their dad has to spray pesticides.

"I come here because it's so fresh," Gerry says. He's chowing down on a salmon salad at the next table. He picked it up himself at the salad bar. Just got in under the pound. Paid \$6.50. "The organic thing isn't a sacrifice," he says. "It's just better, tastier." Turns out he's an accountant, a bean counter, but very into the environment. Hey - a green bean

counter! The other two guys, also accountants, couldn't care less about green. "Load up and eat," savs DI. "That's what it's about." He ain't kidding. He loaded 2 lbs into his cardboard salad box. It's \$7.99 a pound. "I paid \$15.95," he says. Wow. I notice he's cleaned it all out. His buddy Mark might eat nuts 'n' twigs a couple of times a month max. Today, he had the roast turkey and dill Havarti cheese sandwich (\$7.49).

Turns out "O to Go," as they call themselves on one piece of signage, started in Seattle, then expanded down into L.A. and Orange County and here. So we're talking chain, but a chain with the right ideas, at least.

I'm heading out.

"What is that?" I say to a guy eating away at

The Place: Organic to Go, 1143 Sixth Avenue, between B and C Streets, downtown, 619-236-0086

Type of Food: American organic Prices: Breakfast oatmeal, \$1.99 or \$2.29; egg-white-and-herb burrito, \$5.29; bacon-and-egg salsa burrito, \$5.29; ham, egg white, and cheese breakfast sandwich, \$5.29; fire-roasted tomato soup (\$3.99 small, \$6.99 large); mango chutney curry chicken-salad sandwich, \$7.49; Mom's meatloaf sandwich, \$7.49; grilled veggie, balsamic sandwich, \$6.49; toasted turkey pepperjack sandwich, \$7.49; grilled chicken Caesar wrap, \$6.99; salad bar, \$7.99 per pound Hours: 6:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Monday-Friday

**Buses:** All downtown Nearest Bus Stop: Sixth and Broadway Trolleys: Blue and orange lines



Organic to Go

a rich, green plateful of nuts and twigs. He's at one of the sidewalk tables.

"House green salad with a grilled-chicken topper," he says. "Cost \$5.99, plus \$1.69 for the chicken.'

"How is it?"

"Not bad. Fine," he says. He leans forward. "But these guys are so corporate. They've got places in the Merrill Lynch building, Symphony Towers, 101 West Broadway, La Jolla. You want the real thing? O.B., man. There's a real mom-andpop organic there that'll knock your free-range socks off. Roots, think it's called. Go see.'

Huh. Maybe I will. Starting to get wise to this eco-nosh. Guess you could call me the Sage of Aquarius, heh heh.





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## **Up with Riesling**

*"We tasted and talked, and the skeptics became believers!"* 

hy don't you write a book about wine?" You write about a subject long

enough — nine years here at "Crush" — and you're bound to hear it a few times. And every time

I hear it, my answer is the same: "I would love to write a book about wine. I'd call it *Riesling: On the Trail of the World's Most Transparent Wine.* "Transparent' here refers to a wine's ability to transmit the character of the place in which the grapes used to make it were grown. The slatey mineral-

ity of the Mosel. The peachy richness of the Rheingau. It's terroir in the most fundamental sense, and nothing shows it like Riesling." (Yes, there are more than a few Pinot Noir fans out there who would probably take issue, but in today's book market, modesty and nuance do not generally win the day.) "Add that to the remarkable number of styles in which Riesling may be made — the manifold permutations of must weight and fermentation level — and you have the most fascinating single varietal in the wine world. And one of the least appreciated. It's a sleeping giant."

But there's a rub. Given the profound importance of place in a book on vinous transparency, travel to various wine regions would be not merely a pretty selling point (giving the reader a vicarious tour), but a genuine necessity.



I could start right here in San Diego with Rudi Wiest, whose Cellars International has been importing wine for 30 years and is now among the top importers of German Riesling in the country. Then I could head up to the Pacific Northwest,

where one or two bold souls are doing good things with Riesling and where Kirk Wille published *The Riesling Report* for a few years at the turn of the millennium. Then over to New York's Finger Lakes region, where Konstantin Frank and Hermann Wiemer make Riesling near my hometown

of Cortland. But after that, the travel would start to get pricey — no book on Riesling can afford to omit Alsace, Germany, Austria, or even Australia. And what publisher wants to front an alt-weekly wine writer from San Diego covering a grape that relatively few people buy?

But it could be worse. I could be trying to sell the stuff retail, with only a sandwich-board sign on top of a curbside BMW to serve as signage. I could be Damon and Sabrina down at Truly Fine Wine on Morena. "It's commercially zoned here, and so they don't permit retail signage," says Damon. "I'd love a big sign — we may approach the city about that. We've been lucky that once people find us that first time, they come back. But it's been very hard, over our first year, to get people in here. The message we're trying to get out now is, 'If you're coming to Costco, you've got to stop into this place. We're this hidden gem in San Diego that people don't know about.' "

I shouldn't overstate things: it's not *all* bad news. The wine is good, which is the important thing, and the company's main focus is still importing and distribution. "We just got a new shipment in, and we're getting into some new markets," says Damon. "We're in Las Vegas now, and we're open in New York, New Jersey, and Chicago. And I just talked to Katherine Strange at Strange Wine Co. about LA., Orange County, and Palm

Springs. That's where 90 percent of our business is. But I'd love to get more foot traffic in, for the educational component alone. Just to get people drinking the stuff, so we can break down that stereotype about all German wine being sweet. A big focus of ours has been introducing people to the esoteric wines — the ones you'd drink if you were in Germany." (A Spätlese *Fineherb*, for example — fermented just this side of bone dry.) "We have people come in and say, 'I drank some of the best white wine of my life in Germany, and I can never find that stuff here.' That's what we're trying to provide."

The shop, meanwhile, recently underwent a bit of an overhaul. Damon realized that he couldn't make the shop more visible, but he could make it bigger and more appealing — and he could start getting aggressive on price. "We're doing three retail pricing tiers. There's the regular price, which is still very competitive, and then there's 10 percent off for a six-pack, and then 15 percent off for a case. And for items that we have extra inventory of, or that we really want to pro-



Remodeled interior at Truly Fine Wine

mote, we do a red-dot special that gives you an extra 10 percent off on top of that. I just want to encourage people to drink more Riesling." If the discounting program takes off, Damon is thinking of rolling it over the company website as well — a retail draw to a site already laden with more informational goodies. "Also, we took a bunch of footage at the wineries on our last trip to Germany, and we're going to be posting that."

And of course, if you want people to come to you, you often have to start by going to the people. The couple recently held a tasting of Rieslings paired with exotic mushrooms (from the local mushroomers at Golden Gourmet) at the San Diego Wine & Culinary Center. About 25 adventurous tasters attended: a broad mix of graying couples, middle-aged women, and eager youngsters. "When I joined the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, I got a table set up at the center as a German importer/wholesaler. One of the first people I met was [Culinary Center director] John [Alonge], and he got behind what we were doing here." They followed that with a





Riesling-paired dinner at Firefly up in Encinitas.

In other felicitous news, San Diego-based Master Sommelier Eddie Osterland discovered the shop and took an interest. And that led to a dinner with FoodBuzzSD's Marcie Rothman. "She made a lamb stew with all kinds of Chino Farms veggies, killer stuff," recalls Damon. "And I brought over a bunch of big, dry white wines. It can be done." Apparently, Rothman agreed. On her blog, she wrote that "the diners were happily surprised with the duo...we dragged a couple of skeptical pals to meet Damon and Sabrina at the shop. We tasted and talked, and the skeptics became believers!" And not long after, wine writer Mark Stuart gave the shop a loving review in the La Jolla Light: "According to the Wine Market Council, consumption of [Riesling] increased 24 percent over the last year. Truly Fine Wine has championed this wine wave in San Diego by bringing these superior products to market."

So there's cause for hope if not necessarily for my Riesling book, then at least for Damon and Sabrina. "Lisa Redwine just called me and said, 'Hey, I'm doing a class at San Diego State, and we're doing Germany on Monday. Can you come over and pour a bottle of something and talk to people for half an hour?' Absolutely. Any opportunity we get to talk about this stuff. And it's an interesting market — the food scene is improving, new products are coming in. People are coming in and asking really interesting questions - they've heard that Germany has really great wines, which is awesome."

## 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: \$21 to \$29; very expensive: more than \$30. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations

## BEACHES

Baleen 1404 Vacation Road, Pacific Beach, 858-490-6364. Take a quick trip to chic Miami at the local branch of Florida's famed new resort restaurant. Whimsical tropical decor features a monkey motif (carved in the chandeliers, peeking from the paintings) and mambos play on the speakers. But the unlisted prices for chilled shellfish may make a monkey of you unless you ask be fore you buy. The menu features high-quality seafood and land creatures in refined renditions including gorgeous lobster bisque, herbed sea bass, and a hunk of free-range veal. Servers are charmers. The wine list is long and rather steep at the bottom end with better val-ues farther up the range. Reservations. — NW

The Bar-B-Que House 5025 New ort Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-4311. OB's piling in, and for good rea son: the chicken and ribs are smoked on an oakwood fire, then charbroiled. Beef, pork, and ham spend eight to ten hours in the smoker. Of course, they have pork ribs. A good-value combo is the South-ern-Style sandwich — beef, pork, ham, or chicken with coleslaw inside, along with a sauce that's just right: sweet, tangy, spicy. Most original idea? A BBQ burrito with meat, baked beans, coleslaw, and sauce wrapped in a flour tortilla. Expanded menu includes gyros. Open seven days, breakfast through dinner; till 10 p.m. weeknights; 11 p.m. Fridays. Inexpensive. - E.B.

Brazil by the Bay Restaurant and Sports Bar 3770 Hancock Street, Point oma, 619-692-1410. The pleasures of the Brazilian table go beyond the orgies of skewered meats served at rodizios (e.g.,

Rei Do Gado). Here you can eat like a real *carioca*, sampling typical dishes of Bahia, Rio, and São Paulo. You can happily make a grazing meal of stuffed things — appetizers such as *coxinhas*, *pasteles*, *croquetas*, and *kube* (the Brazilian version of Lebanon's kibbe) - and don't miss the luxuriant fried-bananas Milanese. Ask for the house's Brazilian hot sauce, hotter and livelier than the Mexican bottled sauces on the tables. The main-course masterpiece is moqueca de peixe, fish in a curry-like coconut milk stew. Other good choices include prato feito (beef, fish, or chicken, sprinkled with lemon juice and served over a sea of red beans) or filet mignon with *catupiry*, a stroganoff-like concoction made with a rich Brazilian cheese of the same name. Weekends, there's feijoada, the Brazilian national dish, but it's a rather thin and soupy version. Good desserts, including passion-fruit mousse Beer, wine, sake-based cocktails. Lunch and dinner daily. Reservations accepted but not needed. Moderate. - N.W.

Bull and Bear Bar and Grill 1271 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-551-0077. "Bull" and "Bear," as in stock market moods. It's not surprising lots of soigné financial types gather here around sunset, but the food comes at proletarian prices. Of course the names kowtow to mighty Wall Street: the Broker Breakfast Burrito (eggs, bacon), Venture Capital Veggie Burrito, Bull Burger, Dow Jones Dog, Francheesie Dog. Best bang for the buck: the Hot Stock Burger, a half-pound patty with a split Louisiana sausage on top. Bottom line: it's a chew with a view. Open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., daily (bar open till 2 a.m.). Inexpensive. — *E.B.* 

Café Japengo 8960 University Cen-ter Lane, La Jolla, 858-450-3355. Here Bentlevs and Beamers far outnumber Buicks. Inside is contemporary with an

Asian flair, complete with kimono stands and bamboo forests. Sushi is the specialty, and it's above average, although the sushi-bar chefs aren't very friendly, and the seasoned rice tastes quite salty. The highly prized fatty tuna (*toro*) and flying fish roe *tobiko* are offered when available. Otherwise, they may be replaced by smelt roe, *masago*, which may be a minor disappointment. However, the *uni* (sea urchin roe) is pristine. If you appreciate subtlety, try the egg-omelet sushi (tamago), a delightful mixture of eggs, sake, and mirin. Creative party rolls are especially popular here, including the amusing Tootsie Roll — sweet and spicy, crunchy and spongy, with fried soft shell crab topped with grilled shitake mushrooms, avocado, and a sake marinade. Entrées are often a letdown, but diners may be satisfied to make a meal from appetizers like the char su duck salad with goat cheese, candied pecans, and pomegranate vinaigrette; duck wontons with coriander pesto and *ponzu* sauce; and an excellent kimchi martini. No reservations for the sushi bar; arrive early for prompt seating. Lunch weekdays only; sushi bar opens at 5 p.m.; dinner begins at 6 p.m. Very expensive.— B.D. Clay's La Jolla 7955 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, 858-551-3620. In this oddly cozy penthouse with wide windows facing west, the curtains rise at sun-set to reveal a panorama stretching to the sea. It's comfortable, attractive, not too formal — casual-chic. Here, here owner Clay Bordan cooks up a creative, sophisticated, seasonal California-fusion menu with international flavors seam lessly integrated, featuring organic vegetables, wild fish, naturally raised meats and fowl. With his discerning palate, his

fare is unusually delicious. And it's healthful, low-carb enjoyment with in-

teresting veggies, little starch, minimal cream. Wine list includes some high-end

French bargains; good choices by the glass. Full bar. Free parking. Elevatoraccessible restrooms same floor Dietary restrictions accommodated. No kiddie menu, but child-size plates half-price from regular menu. Reservations recommended. Live local jazz in lounge most nights after 7 or 8 p.m.; big band Sunday nights. Can be noisy. Three meals daily. Expensive. —N.W.

Cliff Hanger Café 2800 Torrey Pines Scenic Drive, La Jolla, 858-452-9858. "You should never leave the ground on an empty stomach," says the sign near the cliff, which is where this café hangs. What is it like to be at the Café at the End of the World? You sit, munch, and watch men becoming birdmen, jumping off the cliff beside you. The view of the Pacific Ocean is spectacular. But, hey, grub's good too. Try the Launch (a breakfast burrito with scrambled eggs, bacon, cheese, onions, bell peppers, and salsa). Also great and grilled right there: generous half-pound hamburgers. Open daily for breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. - E.B.

**The French Gourmet** 960 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach, 858-488-1725. In the mood for pâté, ratatouille, or calf's liver in a homey atmosphere? Make a reservation at the French Gourmet tout *de suite.* Start off with traditionally prepared escargots or mussels. The onion soup is good, but hope that the soup du jour is gingered cream of carrot. Entrées include lamb loin, veal tenderloin, bouillabaisse, and fish, with several preparation choices for chicken or filet mignon. The pan-roasted halibut is gently en-hanced with a champagne *beurre blanc* sauce and topped with crispy braised leeks. Desserts abound, with an imported French cheese plate topping the list — along with pastries, meringues, etc., all freshly prepared in-house. Bakery, breakfast, and lunch daily; no dinner



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Sunday or Monday. Moderate to expensive. - S.M.

Island Prime 880 Harbor Island Drive Downtown, 619-298-6802. Deborah (Kemo Sabe) Scott is the chef and coowner (with the Cohn Restaurant Group, owners of many San Diego restaurants) at this high-end steakhouse with a bay view. The steaks and roast beefs are delicious, as you'd expect, but also enjoy creative appetizers and sides like shaved corn with black truffle and a seared ahi stack. Salt runs freely, and the excellent international wine list runs high. Do reserve; free parking. Open daily, dinner only. Very expensive. — N.W.

Joe's Crab Shack — Pacific Beach 4325 Ocean Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-274-3474. Joe's is silly with crabshack ambience (campy nautical paraphernalia on down to souvenir gimme 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 downtown.— N.W.

Kono's 704 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-1669. This inside-outside café is your prototypical California surfer hangout. It's cream and green with maroon canvas window canopies, redpainted make-believe shutters, and three surfboards sprouting through the roof. On weekends, lines of tourists come looking for their California fix. But Kono's is known among locals, too, for generous breakfasts. Check out their PBS: Pancakes, Bacon and Scrambled eggs. Or the breakfast sandwich with eggs, bacon, cheese, and tomato on a toasted English muffin. Or the CB Burger (chicken breast, green chili, and pica sauce). Best time: foggy mornings. Chow down on their patio on the pier while you enjoy a birds-eye view of surfers appearing out of the mists below Breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive - E.B.

The Mission Cafe and Coffee House 3795 Mission Boulveard, Mission Beach, 858-488-9060. Gourmet and

Latino breakfasts served in funky surroundings. Outstanding are cinnamon French toast, blackberry-banana pan-cakes, and roast beef hash with rosemary potatoes and eggs. Chino-Latino lunch items. All dishes plus fabulous bread, scones, muffins available for take-out. Open daily 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. - E.W.

Roppongi 875 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-551-5252. The hard part is deciding whether to sit in the drop-dead gorgeous interior or to people-watch on the large, heated street patio. Then you have to de-cide what to eat from the long Euro-Asian fusion menu, with its vast choice of tapas and sushi options, as well as entrées. At lunch there are several imaginative sandwiches and appetizers. Reservations highly recommended at dinner. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Some tapas and sushi rolls are inexpensive, but if you enjoy grazing the bill can mount quickly. Entrées are expensive. - N.W. Roy's 8670 Genesee Avenue, La Jolla, 858-455-1616. Our own noisy outpost of top Hawaiian chef Roy Yamaguchi's ever-expanding chain has elements of both "top chef" and "chain" about it. Decoding Roy's Rules of Ordering can make the difference between a mediocre dinner and a very happy meal: 1. Steer clear of combination platters — the same dishes come off much better when or-dered separately; 2. You can get any element of a combo by asking for it; 3. Don't waste your palate (or money) on weak umbrella drinks when the wine list is brilliant. The menu changes daily, but some frequent tasty choices are pot stick-ers, *lumpia* Kahana, or chocolate soufflé. Special dietary requests accommodated including vegetarian meals. Reserve, and hope for a table far from the raucous bar Open nightly. Very expensive. - N.W.

Sadaf — La Jolla 613 Pearl Street, La Jolla, 858-551-0643. You worry - those formal fixtures and black-tux waiters the gold-encrusted paintings, and the crisp, pink table linens all scream "expensive!" Actually, prices are easygoing, especially at lunch. After the basket of complimentary bread, try skewers of chicken or ground filet mignon with rice or salad, or *albalou polo* (rice, dried cher-ries, and chicken). Pistachio-and-rosewater ice cream is a great finale. Non-

specials and evening meals cost more, but at any price this is real Persian food, with typical riotous herbage and sybaritic spicing. Another branch in the Gaslamp turns into a nightclub after dinner, but the food's better at this La Jolla flagship. Inexpensive to moderate. - E.B.

Sapporo Japanese Restaurant 5049 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-6686. It's small, but Sapporo has big deals, particularly the lunch specials that usually give you a miso soup, salad, and a combo such as chicken teriyaki and California rolls and white rice - all presented like a piece of performance art. Other specials include yaki soba (stir-fried sauteed chicken, vegetables, and noodles) and champon noodle soup (udon noodles, scallops, shrimp, vegetables), and the value-packed chicken bowl — a big plate of sliced chicken, broccoli, other vegetables, and a swag of rice. Dinner daily, lunch daily except Monday. Inexpensive. — E.B.

The Shores 8110 Camino del Oro, La Jolla, 858-456-0600. At this family-friendly resort on the oceanfront at La Jolla Shores, the hotel restaurant serves simple steak and seafood entrées, classic steakhouse appetizers, and sides. Friday evenings there's a seafood buffet. Although the legendary Bernard (the Ma-rine Room) Guillas is officially in charge as executive chef, the food bears no sign of his involvement: It is thoroughly ordinary. Wines are mainly familiar top-shelf supermarket bottling, with few by the glass (reasonable corkage). Full bar. Validated parking (three hours) in underground garage. Resort-casual dress. Reasonably quiet. Three meals daily. Moderate to high, with weeknight inexpensive "early bird" three-course dinner. - N.W.

#### BAJA

From the United States use the prefix

011-52 when calling Mexico. **La Casa del Mole** Aquiles Serdán #543, Baja, 664-682-9074. Colonia Libertad is where Tijuana's love affair with mole is said to have begun, around 1991. Herminia Amador dreamed of bringing

the flavors of her native state of Puebla to Tijuana. That meant one thing: mole poblano, Mexico's major sauce statement. She opened this flower-filled restaurant, and then a second and a third. And all because Tijuanans love mole *poblano*, a complex, sweet, dark sauce combination of maybe 20 different spices, chiles, nuts, and chocolate. Sit down here, and your big question is: What's going under your mole? Thigh or breast of chicken? Pork? Perhaps enchiladas? Your call. Prices are so reasonable you can try several variations. Whichever, when you bite in for the first time, you're dialing direct back to the earliest days of the conquistadors in Aztec, Mexico. Start with mole poblano, learn its wine-like complexities, then move on to other moles, such as *ranchero* and *verde*. Open 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* 

La Petite Cafe Avenida Constitución #720-Q,, Baja, 664-688-2171. You're in a side eddy here from the storm of Revolución among Olmec sculptures, Aztec calendars, trees, and amazing quiet. It's standard *casera* (homestyle) food: Span-ish chicken with rice and beans, pork chops in green sauce, red enchiladas, steak ranchero, liver-and-onion stew, *chicharrón* (crisp fried pork rind) in a red sauce, and of course carne asada, but cooked well and priced amazingly low. Vegetarian upon request. Check the generous five-item-plus-coffee breakfast special. Three meals, all-day breakfast and lunches, seven days. Inexpensive. -*E.B.* 

Salón Azteca Rosarito Beach Hotel. south end of Boulevard Benito Juarez, Baia, 661-612-1111. This fabled old hotel's all-you-can-eat Sunday brunch buffet offers a great excuse to check out the gorgeous architecture and meet other travelers in town. To reach the buffet, go to the left behind the registration desk to the Salon Azteca, walk in, grab a plate, and start dishing up your breakfast from the long line of cafeteria-like bins filled with gringo, gringo-Mex, real Mexican (menudo), and international specialties. Expect to tip if you want something from the omelet or carving station. Next, plunk down at a table where a waiter will arrive to serve you juice and endless cups of decent coffee. Vegetarian upon request. Casual dress. Secure parking in hotel lot for a small extra charge. Three meals daily: brunch Sunday, Somewhat expensive for the area; Visa and Master-Card accepted. — N.W.

Saverio's Restaurant Mediterraneo Boulevard Sanchez Taboada #3151 (at Escuadron 201 Street), Baja, 664-686 6442. Javier Plascencia Huerta wanted to open an Italian restaurant and says he eventually "got interested in what Baja California has to offer." The result: an Italian *palazzo* offering an interesting and changing fusion of Mediterranean-Baja food with dishes like roasted baby octopus, local oysters cooked on the mesquite grill, mesquite-grilled quail from Ensenada's valley of Guadalupe, mussels cul-tivated in Baja farms, and a delicious rack of lamb raised in the local San Vicente Valley. The restaurant even grows its own herbs. Dish presentation is pure art. One of the tastiest: roast duck breast in a guava sauce with a little burrito of candied leg meat. Vegetarian upon request. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. -E.B.

Super Antojitos 4th Street #1810 (between Constitucion and Niños Héroes) , Baja, 664-685-5070. Sr. Lechuga's restaurant has been around for 40 years, for good reason. Early mornings, people line up for breakfast. You enter a sort of heaven: arches, hidden lighting, glass chandeliers, even a statue of the Virgin Mary. The breakfast special, called mole poblano, includes two eggs, enchilada de mole, rice, beans, and bread or tortillas. The delicious mole, Sr. Lechuga's own, contains raisins, avocado, plantain, al-monds, peanuts, thyme, and cilantro. Plus, you're drinking Sr. Lechuga's own coffee. He grows it down south. "Super antojitos" means super snacks, so search out the *pastes* — pastries stuffed with mole, cheese, or ground meat and potatoes. Also delicious: pork rind gorditas. Vegetarian upon request. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* 

## CENTRAL

Acqua Al 2 322 Fifth Avenue, Down-619-230-0382. Despite its



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moniker, this isn't a seafood trattoria but a near-fishless branch of a restaurant in Florence that won success by eschewing the standard Florentine menu while maintaining Tuscan purity of style. Chef-owner Martin Gonzales trained there and serves as charming host of the local outpost. Best bets are the vegetarian pasta-and-rice dishes made with aro-matic porcini mushrooms. The tasting of five pastas may sound tempting, but they're chef's choice — and he tends to choose the dull ones. Tastings of salads, cheeses, and desserts are also offered. Mains are mainly rather plain. Lunch weekdays, dinner daily. Moderate (pasta) to expensive. - N.W.

Aladdin's Café — Hillcrest 1220 Cleveland Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-574-1111. These cafés offer a bright, clean atmosphere for bright and clean, if rather generic, Middle-Eastern favorites (hummus, tabbouleh, kebabs, shawerma, etc.). plus imaginative Levantine-flavored pizzas and salads. There are ample choices for vegetarians. Both locations offer beer and wine. Hillcrest's owners offer a more Lebanese cuisine. Inexpensive to moderate. - N.W.

Andrés Restaurant 1235 Morena Boulevard, Linda Vista, 619-275-4114. This is a cozy cultural surprise on hardto-define Morena Boulevard. The food is flavorful (and not spicy-hot like Mexican and South American dishes). A good introduction to it is ropa vieja ("old clothes"): shredded beef sautéed with

plus

San Diego *Reader* March 6, 2008

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## Lunch Daily 11:30 am-2 pm Dinner Daily 5-9 pm Appetizers: Gyoza, Egg Roll, Soft Shell Crab, Miso Soup, Shrimp Tempura, Chicken Teriyaki, Agedashi Tofu, Green Salad, Rice Nigiri Sushi: Albacore, Amaebi Avocado, Clam, Crab, Eel, Egg, Inari, Hamachi, Ikura, Saba, Smelt Egg, Octopus,

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mushrooms, green pepper, and tomatoes with ever-present rice and black beans. And the Cuban sandwich (roast pork, baked ham, and cheese) shows off the Cuban handling of pork. Other in teresting dishes include alcapuria (pork and green plantain) and luscious, messy vuca con mojo (vuca root with garlic oil). Open for lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday. Inexpensive to mod-\_\_\_\_\_ E.B. erate.

Anthony's Fishette 1360 North Harbor Drive, Downtown, 619-232-2175. At the baby brother of Anthony's Grotto and Star of the Sea, the good news is you pay a fraction of the price, and you get to sit outside over the water. The chow-der — New England or Fisherman — is fresh, thick, tasty. A meal. Their old-fash-ioned fish-n-chips or Baja squid steak sandwich are great fillers too. Also good: "hand-battered treasures" like catfish strips, swordfish, ovsters, crab claws, and clam nuggets. Breakfast served during summer only. Open for lunch and din-ner seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* 

Antique Row Café 3002 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-282-9750. (Also in Lemon Grove and El Caion.) Antique-land's favorite eatery is a serious exhibit in its own right, especially if you're into sports memorabilia. Look for signed photos of Mickey Mantle, Ted Williams, and Joe DiMaggio (all googly eved with Marilvn) on the walls. The word for the food: generous. All-day breakfast dishes include The Works omelet, stuffed with bacon, sausage, ham, bell peppers, onions, tomatoes, and cheese bulging over a big oval plate along with skins-on breakfast potatoes. Philly Steak Heaven (you choose: steak, ham, or turkey) is one of the more popular lunchtime dishes. Normal Heights and El Cajon, breakfast and lunch daily; Lemon Grove, three meals daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Asia Café 4710 Market Street, South east San Diego, 619-527-1917. May be Asian San Diego's best-kept secret. You have to look behind the smog shop at this all-Laotian shopping center to find it. The menu's Southeast Asian, but the - and most of the conversation around you — is Laotian. Laotian dishes include the famous larb-kai (chicken salad with hot peppers, lemon grass, and sticky rice). Good regional alternatives: bamee (egg noodle) roasted pork soup, Crying Tiger (ground beef salad with vegetables), and *lard nar* (seafood, beef, or pork with sloppy wide noodles and vegetables). Closed Tuesday. Inexpensive. - E.B.

Berta's Latin American Restaurant 3928 Twiggs Street, Old Town, 619-295-2343. Sampling the whole range of little-known cuisines from Guatemala down to Patagonia, Berta's lengthy menu reads like a culinary "pick hits" list of each country's best flavors, typically rendered with expertise and verve. Some outstanding dishes include sweet-savory Chilean pastel de choclo (a casserole of beef, chicken, and corn pudding) from Berta's homeland; spicy ceviche and subtle *seco de cordero* (citrus-flavored lamb stew) from Peru; earthy Guatemalan *chilemal* (cilantro-laden pork stew); aro-matic beef curry from Trinidad; and a sensuous vatapa (seafood in coconut sauce) from Brazil's African-influenced Bahia coast. Vegetarians will find many meat- and fowl-free options. Open for lunch and dinner; closed Monday. Moderate. - N.W.

Big Daddy's 303 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-427-2477. This is one of those places that plaster unbelievable breakfast deals across their windows in red and yellow. It looks sparkling new inside but delivers old-fashioned roadside chow. Breakfast and lunch usually have a couple of specials, but come for the siz zling skillet breakfast. They have nearly a dozen excellent ones, such as the "Chula Vista" (three chicken taquitos on scrambled eggs with bell peppers, avocado, melted cheese) or the "Nashville' (diced country sausage, eggs, potatoes, and gravy) or the "New Orleans," basically Creole-style grilled chicken. Not diet food, but satisfying. Inexpensive. F R

Bondi Bar and Kitchen 333 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-342-0212.

What's loud, strange, and smart enough to catch the eye of every passerby? It's a huge, raucous Australian gastro-pub of-fering numerous Aussie brews — with urban Australian cuisine for ballast — plus a full bar (several of them) of wellchosen wines plus hard liquor. Prime seating is on the front patio and in large straw fish-traps suspended from the ceil-ing in the front dining room. (Dining rooms in back are dim; bring a mini-flashlight to read the menu.) The food resembles California-fusion cuisine but is often spicier, made with home-country ingredients including grass-fed beef, South Pacific fish species, and herbs you've never heard of. There's great grazing on appetizers, including outstanding Pacific oysters on the half-shell, beef pies, tempura prawns, seafood pot stickers, and the fun of exploring cheeses from Oz. Mains are generally less exciting, with a tendency to overcook fish and meats. But it's a party. Dress code: Wear clothes. Three meals, seven days until 11 p.m., 2 a.m. on weekends. Mainly moderate, some entrées expensive. - N.W. Brothers Family Restaurant 5150 Waring Road, Allied Gardens, 619-287-0880. Yes, it looks boring on the outside. Brick, reflective glass. But go in and ou're surrounded by brothers: John and Bobby Kennedy, Hugh Grant and his brother Jamie, the Wright Brothers, the Blues Brothers, the Brothers Rico. They're there because this place used to be run by three brothers. Good old-fashioned cholesterol city rules here with no apologies, and the locals appreciate it. It's like a *Cheers* for eating. All the staples are served: country-fried steak and eggs, pork chops with eggs, Grandma Jennie's pancakes with ham, bacon, and sausage even hefty beef or tuna or turkey sandwiches with soup. Open seven days for breakfast and lunch, with early dinner Wednesday to Friday. Inexpensive.

Buster's Beach House and Longboard Bar 807 West Harbor Drive. Downtown, 619-233-4300. There really was a Buster, a surfer who traveled the world working in restaurants. Baja, Oahu, Fiji, Naples, Ocho Rios, Phuketyou name it, there's a dish from each of those waters, and every one of them ethnically incorrect. The menu's actually an

'50s-style diner

Huge burgers

Thick shakes

— E.B.

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international anthology of surfer-bar grub — and like Waimea Bay's waves, it has huge ups and downs. Skip the greasy Short Board pupu platter and risky daily fish special and go for the well-seasoned crab cakes, fish tacos, spicy paella (more like jambalaya), or pizza. The surfy, fun decor and breezy patio easily compensate for some of the spaciest service in town; a full bar offers a great beer list and decent umbrella drinks. To snag a patio table, reserve it and make sure they write it down. Three hours' validated parking, kid-friendly, plenty for vegetarians. Open three meals daily. Prices cover the waterfront. -N.W.

Café Delight 4646 Park Boulevard, University Heights, 619-298-5248. He used to run one of Baghdad's most famous restaurants, the Ishtar, when Saddam was Vice President. When the government asked him to spy on his customers, Sami and his wife Claudia left the country. You can tell from the cooking: this couple know what they're doing. They took over this little place (and little it is) from a Vietnamese-American couple, so the menu has echoes of Vietnam and the Middle East, as well as Italian dishes. Prices are very reasonable. Try the Vietnamese-style coconut milk soup with veggies, with a sandwich, or lamb shank with red curry sauce and couscous. Also the classy Greek coffee. Open daily from 10 a.m. to late; closed Monday. Inexpensive. -E.B.

California Cuisine 1027 Universit Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-543-0790. Tod Atcheson is now the chef of this long-lived neighborhood restaurant. Following house tradition, the menu is printed daily and the dishes are chosen according to the harvest and catch of the moment. Still, you can usually count on finding a relatively authentic Caesar salad, a huge and exuberantly garnished bourbon-brined Neiman Ranch pork chop, and irresistible grilled Asian barbecued jumbo shrimp. A summertime special of fresh corn and mussel bisque shouldn't be missed if it's on the menu. There's some day-to-day inconsistency but a preponderance of deliciousness. Save room for outstanding, adventurous desserts. Comfortable atmosphere, but interior gets loud when busy. A

heated garden patio surrounding a fountain offers romantic al fresco feasting. Dinner nightly. Moderate to expensive — N.W.

Chopahn Authentic Afghan Cuisine 750 Sixth Avenue, 619-236-9236. Authentic Afghan cuisine resembles Indian and Persian food but is singularly itself: the spicing is exotic but the flavors are clear and unmuddled. It emphasizes grilled-to-order marinated meats (especially lamb), stews, well-seasoned rice dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (aushak) leek or meat turnovers (bulanee), and battered vegetables (pakawra). The grilled salmon is excellent, and don't miss the side dish of sweet pumpkin topped with yogurt and meat sauce (*kadu*). Plenty for vegetarians, too. In-teresting, affordable wine list; Mexican and domestic beers. Small patio. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Moderate. N.W.

City Pizzeria 1125 Sixth Avenue, Downtown, 619-531-0955. There's a cultural war going on here. "City" has a New York attitude — just listen to the guys in the kitchen grabbing dough, flailing it around, yakking, joking. But the dough has been a West Coast family's secret for 75 years. Try the Ranch Chicken pie with garlic chicken, basil, and ranch dressing, or the BBQ chicken with pineapple, red onion, BBQ sauce, and mozzarella. (Of course, no self-re-specting New York pizzeria would ever consider serving such moonbeamish Left Coast toppings — not even if they were in New Jersey.) If those don't tempt you, there are 11 other specialty pies every day. Open daily till 10 p.m., 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive.

Confidential 901 Fourth Avenue Downtown, 619-696-8888. Chris Walsh, whose "small plates" many fondly re-member from California Cuisine and W Cafe, hits his stride here with a menu of creative international grazing foods, from one-bite nibbles to small entrées and mini-burgers. Unexpected, ultramodern techniques and combinations of ingredients make a trip through the menu an adventure in flavors and textures. This is truly eating for fun. Wideranging wine list with something for everyone; pricey creative cocktails. Eat early

(or upstairs) if you prefer quiet; music (and patrons) grow louder later as sceney" crowd comes in to drink. Manv dishes on the sweet side. Reservations strongly advised for weekends and to ensure handicapped-accessible seating. Kitchen open Tuesday through Satur-day, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. (bar until about 2 a.m.). Wide range of prices, but many small bites do add up. -N.W.

Crest Café 425 Robinson Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-295-2910. "Hearty Homemade Comfort Food" is the boast, and this small retro-deco cafe backs it up. Cecelia and her dad, Luis Moreno, took over this place back in 1985. Some staff have been here since the start. Loval customers get their photos and names on an honor roll that fills one wall. Lots of lazy ceiling fans, long, hanging blue lights, and art. "Matisse in Morocco," Salvador Dalí, Frida Kahlo. Consider momsy dishes like Sloppy Joes, honey-glazed pork chops, or the healthy vegetable steam basket. And don't turn down their 11 different kinds of burgers, including the fresh salmon burger, the OuiOui burger (aged bleu cheese crumbled under melted Jack cheese) or the wicked, spicy butter burger (half a pound of lean ground beef stuffed with garlic, tarragon, basil, parsley butter, topped with cheese, garlic-paprika-cayenne-cumin mayo and more butter). Best of all, late hours: open 7 a.m. to midnight, seven days. Dinner at 11 is no problem. How rare is that in San Diego? Inexpensive. — *E.B.* 

Croce's 802 Fifth Avenue, Downtown 619-233-4355. "Live music is complimentary with purchase of a dinner en-trée" at this restaurant and bar run by Ingrid Croce in honor of her late husband, Jim. Appetizers that mix flavors — like the baked Brie and honey-roasted garlic served with mixed greens and a Grand Marnier berry compote— are delicious. But despite creative dishes, like New Zealand sea bass with a pomegranatemacadamia crust, few entrées rise above the level of average Gaslamp fare. Sim-ple is best here — the rich and creamy shrimp carbonara fettuccine with Italian pancetta, Kalamata olives, and basil in a white garlic cream sauce. For dessert, try the flourless chocolate cake with roasted walnuts and pecans served with Tahi-tian vanilla-bean gelato and Verona

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chocolate sauce. The menu is seasonal. Sit by the window for great peoplewatching, or retire to the bar if you prefer live jazz. Open nightly for dining and music (breakfast and lunch Saturday and Sunday). Expensive.— *B.D.* 

D.Z. Akin's 6930 Alvarado Road, College Area, 619-265-0218. At arguably the best Jewish delicatessen in San Diego (it's not Katz's, but it's here, and the service is nicer), you'll find a full range of Euro-pean-Jewish specialties from wonderful soups to nuts, including deli meats and fabulous smoked fish, house-baked breads and pastries, traditional Jewish-American dinner entrées (including a lively Rumanian skirt steak and an ethnic sampler platter), plus 110 different overstuffed sandwiches - among them the very popular corned beef. To start the day, there are American and Jewish breakfasts, including a fabled matzo brei. The knishes, latkes, and chopped liver are all fine. A few acceptable, affordable wines by the bottle (only plonk by the glass), plus fountain drinks, sodas, some domestic and imported beers. Loads for lacto-vegetarians, less for vegans. (This cuisine is big on sour cream.) Open daily except major holidays, three meals. In-expensive to moderate, with kiddie plates available at all meals. - N.W.

Dussini Mediterranean Bistro 275 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-4323. The one-time Old Spaghetti Factory has been remade into a more ambitious eatery. It's still huge — way too big to be called a bistro. It rambles over three floors, with a lounge and pool hall on the top. The menu dabbles with the cuisines of southern Europe: Provence, Italy, Spain. The cooking is uneven, night to night and plate to plate. A pleasing linguiça and kale soup represents Portugal, while a tasty, reasonably authern tic bouillabaisse flirts with southern France. Pastas and steak are also reliably good, but the house specialty paella is made with orzo pasta instead of rice not the best idea. The wine list is a joy, with plenty of choices at all price ranges, and the corkage policy (first two bottles get in free) is remarkably liberal. Elevator access to top-floor restrooms. Reservations recommended for weekend dinners. Lunch and dinner daily. Expensive.

Gathering Bar and Grill 902 West Washington, Mission Hills, 619-260-0400. "Beloved" is not a word you throw around lightly, but that's just what Gath ering has become to Mission Hills regulars. When it reopened after a fire, they flocked back with flowers and hugs. The food is good quality, familiar comfort fare. From plates like the Southwest burger, with avocado, Jack cheese, and salsa, to the Monte Cristo (grilled egg dipped Texas toast with Swiss, ham, and turkey, powdered sugar, and a side of jam). Last we checked, the owner, Dan, was as deft as ever with his magic cards, for any customer who needs to be bamboozled. Open daily, 8 a.m. till late. Magic sessions around 6 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* India Princess — Hillcrest 3925 Fourth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-5011. You walk in through a gold-and-red en-trance. Inside it's all cream cloth-covered tables, vases with fresh flowers, teak chairs that look like giant cellos, silver art objects. This is classy. The deal here is to catch the daily lunch buffet, 20 items of interesting and fresh-tasting Northern Indian dishes like tandoori chicken or chicken tikki masala, navratan korma (veggies with nuts in cream sauce), or keema muttar (minced lamb curry with spices and peas). All for an unprincely sum (dinner is more expensive). Don't miss the wonderful tamarind chutney. Inexpensive (buffet), moderate to expensive (à la carte dinners). - E.B.

Karl Strauss Brewery Restaurant 1157 Columbia Street, Downtown, 619-234-2739. One-time Pabst brewmeister Karl Strauss heads his own brewery and a bunch of brewery restaurants bearing his name, so you can't help but be a little wary of an over-slick operation. But at least at downtown's ivy-covered bricky drink and eatery, the food's honest, tasty, and sleek, not slick. And Karl's beers are still interesting. Go for honest-but-beau-tiful dishes like his Hump Day meatloaf (Wednesday only), which comes looking like a Magic Mountain. Beer influence is everywhere. Filet mignon has an Amber Lager glaze. Ribs boast a Red Trolley Ale barbecue sauce. It can get pricey; try to hit happy hour. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. Other branches at 9675 Scranton Road, Sorrento Mesa, 858-587-2739; 5801 Armada Drive, Carlsbad, 760-431-2739; 1044 Wall Street, La Jolla, 858-551-2739. - E.B.

Kazumi Sushi 3975 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-682-4054, A simple neighborhood sushi bar offering imaginative rolls, each one so distinctively seasoned that there's no need to mar the pretty fish-scapes with wasabi dip. The fish is fresh and includes salmon that Kazumisan cold-smokes himself. For a familystyle dinner, The Ultimate Boat (serving two or more) is an encyclopedia of Japanese specialties, a huge platter of sushi, gyoza, assorted appetizers, vakitori, teriyaki, and terrific tempura. Need comfort food? The tempura also graces the top of a satisfying bowl of *nabeyaki udon* (noodle soup) with an onion-sweet broth. With just a small staff of family members in the kitchen and house, expect a wait for food at busy times. Dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. -N.W.

The Kebab Shop 630 Ninth Avenue, Downtown, 619-525-0055. Food is one area where the Middle East is definitely





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taking over the world. Turkish-style döner kebabs are already on every street corner in Europe, and they're heading our way. Why? It's fast, flavorful, fresh food. The kebab's "meat" is usually lamb, chicken, or falafel, wrapped in a flatbread. The menu here specializes in all kinds of kebabs, including Moroccan shrimp, beef kofte (spiced ground meat with grilled vegetables), and the house special, Iskender, honoring Alexander the Great (lamb on bread with tomato sauce and yogurt). Try also minted zucchini, curried eggs, and Algerian eggplant. The ultimate compliment? Lots of Turkish San Diegans eat here. Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. - E.B.

Laurel Restaurant 505 Laurel Street, Hillcrest, 619-239-2222. Business-class watering hole where for seven dollars per item — food or drink — on the bar menu, we can at least taste how the Other Half lives and dines. The drinks range from Dragon's Blood sangria (a combo of Bordeaux wine, port, fruit and Calvados brandy) to Road Dog stout (from Colorado's Flying Dog Brewery). As for the munchies, think lamby joes (luscious mini-burgers made of ground lamb) Mediterranean mussels (steeped in Old Monk beer broth); seafood salad (shrimp, squid, mussels, scallops, and sauce); or braised duck and stone-fruit flatbread. If money says one item only, lamby joes are most filling. Happy hour daily, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Inexpensive. -ΕB

The Living Room Coffeehouse 5900 El Cajon Boulveard, College Area, 619-286-8434. With deep-draft couches, Persian carpets, pictures on the wall, chunky wooden tables, and a treeshaded patio, this Swiss-owned cafe is a student hangout with a lively notice board, a rental computer, and good cheap breakfast food in huge quantities. Try The Works omelet, with bacon, ham, onions, tomatoes, pepper, cheese on top, potatoes, fruit, and bread. Open

daily, three meals, until late at night. Inexpensive. Additional locations in Old Town, Point Loma, La Jolla, National City, and Otay Mesa. — E.B.

Lucky Buck's Patio Bar and Grill 1459 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619 297-0660. If you've got a craving for the wickedest-lookin' burger since Hodad's, this might be it. The only question: which burger? The Buck 'n' Bleu Ribbon Burger (with bleu cheese, bacon onion strings, and chipotle sauce) Buck's On Fire (pepper Jack, bacon, and jalapeño peppers)? Buck's Lucky Mush-room? Or the Texas Longhorn Buck (Cheddar, hickory bacon, BBQ sauce, and fried onion rings tumbling out of the burger like a Rolling Stones' tongue). All come with garlicky waffle fries. This'll take care of your cholesterol fix for a month. Next time try their healthier veggie burritos and Chicken Buck 'n' Ca sar salad. Daily. 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. (11 p.m. Friday and Saturday). Inexpensive. - E.B.

Magnolias 342 Euclid Avenue, South-east San Diego, 619-262-6005. If you're looking for an authentic Louisiana-style feast, this is the best place in town. Bessie Johnson (of the once-famed Bessie's Garret) is back in business, and mouths are rejoicing. At her handsome, spacious restaurant, you'll find generous hospitality, huge portions, and a long, deli-cious menu of Cajun, Creole, and soulfood specialties. The fried chicken is beyond compare, the jambalaya wellnigh perfect, and the BBQ shrimp, craw fish bisque, and étouffée are splendid Great side dishes include candied sweet potatoes and cornbread dressing. Take outs accepted. Full bar. Lunch and dinner six days; closed Mondays. Low mod erate.

Mama's Bakery and Lebanese Deli 4237 Alabama Street, North Park, 619-688-0717. You'll remember this lovely little place for two reasons. One, the atmosphere: It's a tiny kitchen at tached to an old red-and-green wooden house, with tables and green umbrellas on the sloping sidewalk and also inside a shelter of bougainvillea, green canvas, metal mesh, and white brick. Two, their sajj. It's a round Lebanese oven of ancient design which cooks the delicious flat bread (also called sajj) that goes with pretty much everything, including baba ghanoush (sweet daddy eggplant dip) and fool madamas (fava and garbanzo bean stew). Gotta-haves include beef *shawerma* wrap or falafel wrap and a meat pie unlike any you've had before. A lovely bonus: fresh Lebanese baklava and a little pot of thick, sweet, black Arabic coffee. Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mon-day to Friday, weekends until 4 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.B.

The Mission — Downtown 1250 J Street, Downtown, 619-232-7662, "Urban assault food for a revolutionary peo-ple," say the waitstaff'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-thespot 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-butstill-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-in dustrial, coffeehouse feel. Open daily, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* 

Ortega's, A Mexican Bistro 141 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-692-4200. Owned by a member of the Ortega family, the Puerto Nuevo lobster pioneers, this is the Baja restaurant group's first north-of-the-border venture. You'll find Baja-style cuisine featuring seafood and grilled foods, with a focus on lobster. Unlike the typical Ortega's, the lobster isn't deep-fried before grilling — an im-provement in tenderness and flavor. Of course, the crustacean's best in season (October to February). Fish ceviche makes a good starter course. Other choices include small tacos, steaks, ke babs, etc., plus the standard Puerto Nuevo side dishes — stewed (not refried) beans, and an oddly bland guacamole fixed tableside. Full bar; fun margaritas including almond and pomegranate variations. Reservations recommended for weekends. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Mainly moderate (lobsters and Kobe skirt steak expensive). - N.W

Osteria Panevino 722 Fifth Avenue. Downtown, 619-595-7959. At this Tuscan-style Italian restaurant, the appetizers and pastas are as close to heaven as you can get, particularly the spinach ravi-oli and potato gnocchi, which can come with a four-cheese sauce on request. The stuffed focaccias are simply incredible, and the pizzas are well-nigh perfect. The exposed brick walls enhance the European feeling. Open daily, lunch and dinner to 10:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday to 11 p.m. Moderate to expensive, wines rather high. — N.W.

Pappalecco 1602 State Street, Little Italy, 619-238-4590. Pappalecco ("Lollypop") is a different kind of Italian eatery. It doesn't play the nostalgia card — it's an exact copy of an actual modern café in Pisa that three brothers created there and now here. The idea is for a quick, sophisticated coffee-gelatoeatery where if you ask for coffee you get espresso, customers often have at least one gelato a day "for health," and meals are mostly salad-charcuterie-cheese combos. Sometimes - and the brothers claim this is their idea - they actually combine gelato with their dishes. Expect a multilingual United Nations atmo-sphere. One delicious combo: the Rustico, different Italian cold cuts with pungent goat cheese and bread. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — EB

Patty's Fruitland 1789 National Avenue, Logan Heights, 619-239-3085. Patty used to sell fresh fruit drinks outside a church in Guanajuato. In 1994 she came to America and married Jose. "Why can't we sell fruit drinks in America?" she wondered. Now they've opened a place where you can get combos like e pico de gallo (rooster's beak) with lots of fresh-sliced fruit and raw veggies (jicama, cucumber), all dusted with cayenne pepper. They've expanded to nonfruit (roast beef and other sandwiches, shrimp tostadas, hot dogs), but the fruit and juices define the place. The most tempting: fruit salad with cottage cheese, granola, and honey. Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Inexpensive. - E.B.

**Picasso Spanish Restaurant 3923** Fourth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-294-3061. Interesting Spanish tapas and entrées are served in a small, modern, art-filled room that draws a casual neighborhood crowd. The regional style is Basque, from northern Spain, but these aren't the tiny pinxos of that area - in fact, these bites are larger than usual, sized generously for two eaters. Some top tapas include chicken-stuffed empanadillas, baby eels in garlic sauce, stuffed greenlip mussels and an outstanding paella (available as both a tapa and entree). Moderate. N.W.

**Pizzeria Luigi** 1137 25th Steet, Golden Hill, 619-233-3309. They claim to make real New York pizza in this tiny store front, and they're not lying. One of the owners is from New York by way of Italy, and his Big Apple experiences are written all over the pies. The sauce tastes right, and the crusts are thin enough that you can fold a slice into a "V" to eat on the run, New Yorker style. But it's better to take home a whole pie with your choice of toppings (or a stromboli or calzone) and enjoy it at leisure. Inexpensive. -N.W.

Pokez Mexican Restaurant and Vegetarian Cuisine 947 E Street, Downtown, 619-702-7160. Rafael - his buddies call him Rafa — started this cool student/artist hangout years ago when he was 18. Lunchtime business people come here. Evenings, seems like it's all Rafa's friends: people from downtown, Golden Hill, City College. The food is mostly Mexican vegetarian (though he's got meaty things like chicken or steak ranchero or sauteed chicken fajitas). Tip well: the servers volunteer and share the take from the gravy pot. Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; weekends 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. — E.B.

Red Pearl Kitchen 440 J Street, Downtown, 619-231-1100. An anthology of favorite Asian dishes creatively interpreted for American palates, with touches of fusion and some original dishes. Plenty of appetizers, but main dishes tend to be tastier, including a delicious Cambodian-influenced short rib and pumpkin hot pot - when it's in season. Great veggie side dishes. Sophis-ticated international wine list priced on the high side (few under \$30); short on choices by the glass. Full bar. Surroundings are chic. Reservations advised. Sound level painfully loud most nights. Open daily, dinner. High moderate. -

**Salad Style** 807 F Street, Downtown, 619-255-6731. Is this the tipping point? Whereas traditional meals have always been meat and taters with a side of salad, here, it's salad with a side of meat and taters. Salad's the main item, and it's delicious, even if salad's not your thing, because each concoction is so original. For example, Scott's Grilled Skirt Steak is an arty pile of organic greens, tomatoes smoky, earthy mushrooms, hearts of alm, crumbled bleu cheese, plus red slabs of meat over it. Each dish does something, from the Moroccan couscous salad to the tuna and tomato salad. The Totally Vegan, with its golden volcano of quinoa and snowy tofu slabs, should be in a gallery. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* 

SoleLuna Cafe 702 Ash Street, Downtown, 619-232-0436. Put your climbing boots on. This place sits on the shoulder of the El Cortez hill, a sleek cave peep ing out from under the historic hotel with an umbrella-strewn front terrace that's great for people watching. Its Italian roots show from the excellent coffee and the menu. Many items come straight from the streets of Milano, such as the breakfast croissant with prosciutto ham, smoked Mozzarella cheese, and fruit or salad, or the Rustico Panino (with prosciutto, goat cheese, olive pâté), or bresaola (cured sliced beef), or the Siciliana salad (spinach, tuna, boiled eggs, capers, Mozzarella). Other dishes in clude their homemade eggplant parmi-giano and lasagna. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. - E.B.

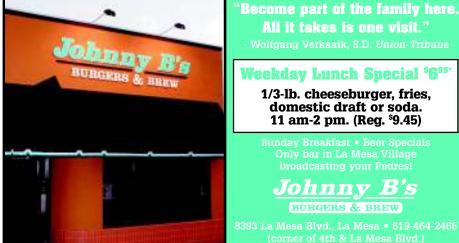
Spice House Cafe 9035 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Clairemont, 858-565 1028. When your "head feels like an old potato" and your "tongue like a button hook" (to quote Kipling), Spice House's answer is its Hangover Omelet. We don't know if it's the Ortega chiles or Jack cheese or super tangy tomato sauce, but some guys swear they feel better for eat-

610 West Ash St. (at India St.) on Little Italy's south side 619-595-0322

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ing it. Other excellent choices include Portuguese sausage with three eggs; Italian sausage frittata with ham, tomatoes, mushrooms; and thick French toast topped with strawberries and whipped cream. Emphasis on Greek-American cuisine. Breakfast and lunch, closes at 3 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* 

**Star of India** — **Downtown** 423 F Street, Downtown, 619–234-8000. It's the lunch buffet that can lead you by the nose into Indian (and here, specifically Punjabi) food. Pick among specialties like vegetable *pakora* — a bunch of veggies dipped in chickpea batter and fried — or a nice mess of eggplant with potatoes, chicken curry masala, and maybe the first cooked spinach you ever loved, *palak paneer*. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* 

**Tioli's Crazy Burger** 4201 30th Street, North Park, 619-282-6044. Cheap eats can be great eats when made by people who care — like charming owner "Wolfie" and European-trained chef Lothar. The place looks like a dive, but inside you'll find creative, madeto-order burgers from beef to buffalo, gator, and ostrich (delicious!), and even fish and veggies — each with its own individualized seasonings and sauce, plus salads and flavorful German-style bratwursts. Even the turkey burger is juicy here. Try the house-made "Texas" beans and the house-made mustard and chipotle ketchup. Specialty and regular beers; affordable wines. Parking lot behind restaurant on Howard. Restroom is not wheelchair accessible. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W.

The Tractor Room 3687 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-543-1007. The folks who brought you the popular bigbreakfast and lunch joint Hash House A Go Go (across the street) focus here on hefty portions of "plain American food" in a dinner house specializing in meat, game, and classic cocktails. The Brawny paper towel man would love it. The atmosphere combines a speakeasy (velvet curtains mask the doorway) and a hunting lodge. Menu highlights include identical stews of wild boar and buffalo, grilled salmon, and Prime grade bone-in rib eye, plus good sides of acorn squash and heavy-cream mashed potatoes and gravy. Nothing to write home to Mom about — it *is* Mom, if she's a Midwesterner, and Dad's a guy who says, "I shot it, you cook it." Well-chosen wine list with lots of appropriate Rhones and Syrahs; few by the glass. Huge list of cocktails. Wheelchair lift (painted to blend in) to left of front staircase. Heated, roofed smoking patio above street level. Valet parking: reservations urged. Closed Tuesdays, dinner six nights until midnight or later, weekend brunch. Moderate to very expensive. — *N.W.* 

**Vagabond** 2310 30th Street, South Park, 619-255-1035. Seasonal world food filtered through a Gallic sensibility, plus worldwide wines and tropical cocktails. Menu changes often, but don't miss the classic moules-frites or the deep-flavored Peruvian seco de carne meat stew. The tiny, painfully noisy dining room, decorated with exotic souvenirs of the owners' global travels, is perpetually standing room only, so dinner reservations are a must for any night. Evening crowd of hip South Park locals; lunch crowd dressed for success. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — *N.W.* 

Vincenzo Ristorante Italiano 1702 India Street, Little Italy, 619-702-6181. The specialty at this tourist favorite is Sicilian seafood. The cooking is competent, but the restaurant's fishmonger settles for ordinary quality (as does the produce provider). The meat jobber does a better job, providing succulent veal that the chef grills expertly, and the Italian sausages (from Pete's Meats, up the block) are the zestiest in town. The restaurant's hard-surfaced interior is so noisy you'll hear every conversation but your own; reserve for the sidewalk patio for a quieter evening. Open lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Moderate.

#### NORTH INLAND

Bernard'O Restaurant 12457 Rancho Bernardo Road, Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-7171. Chef Patrick Ponsaty, a master of flavor, reigns in this unpretentious but beautiful high-ceilinged bistro, producing creative, classic-based French-modern cuisine featuring fine seasonal ingredients. The food isn't merely creative, it tastes heavenly — the man's got a palate. You want to know what genuine (California-adapted) bouillabaisse should be? Or squab at its best? This is the place — and desserts are ravishing, too. Servers are mainly wellinformed, enthusiastic fellow foodies who are right on the mark. Alluring wine list at all prices includes top French growths at near-bargain markups, plus full bar. One vegetarian entrée most seasons. Slightly dressy, reservations urged. Lunch Wednesday through Friday, dinner nightly. Expensive but not exorbitant. - N.W.

**Cavaillon** 14701 Via Bettona, Suite 200, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-433-0483.

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Grand Opening! Basil Thai Bistro 8680 Navajo Road, Suite 104 (at Lake Murray Blvd.) 619-460-THAI (8424)

**La Basil Thai** 5525 La Jolla Blvd. (Bird Rock Area) 858-456-7889 San Diego Reader March 6, 2008 111



Cavaillon is likely to become your favorite neighborhood French restaurant, no matter how far you live from its neighborhood — it's, as *Guide Miche-lin* would say, "worth a detour." Provence-born chef-owner Phillippe Verpiande (former chef de cuisine at Tapenade) offers seasonal, classic French dishes emphasizing his home region in a retro bistro setting. Don't miss the signature starter of *panisse*, a chick-pea cake with the texture of a marshmallow. Other great dishes include transcendent co au vin, superb slow-baked salmon, and a dream ver-sion of crisp-skinned duck confit. Monday night moderate-priced three-course prix fixe dinners (\$32) are as fine as the à la carte menu, although it's difficult to resist the siren songs of the alluring nightly specials. International wine list at lower-than-average markups, French "bargains" on the pricier reserve list, and merciful corkage fees to BYO special bottle. Dinner nightly, brunch weekends. Moderate to very expensive. — N.W.

**Gateway to India** 9520 Black Mountain Road, Mira Mesa, 858-566-5522. This huge eating space fills half of Ker's outlet warehouse. Friday or Saturday, it's crowded with Indian families — the best guarantee that good vegetarian food is served here — and reasonably priced. Only problem with an all-you-can-eat buffet is deciding what to eat. It's mainly northern, Punjabi and Gujarati, according to the Sikh cooks. Just have at the aloo curry, basmati rice, *chhole* (garbanzo beans), and *bengan bartha* (eggplant). See what you like. Some dishes are smoky and roasted, others yogurty, others nutty. Try to leave room for dessert, specially the mango concoctions — Asian mangos are sensational. Open for lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* 

**Hernandez' Hide-Away** 19320 Lake Drive, Escondido, 760-746-1444. The founder of Hernandez' claims he invented the margarita at his previous restaurant in Bird Rock. True or not, the margaritas (rocks, not slush-ee) are terrific, on a par with Baja's best. The food, though, is detuned for gringos, with a standard menu of Cal-Mex specialties. Even the guacamole is underseasoned, but if you like this sort of thing, a pleasant "enchilada pie" is as good as any Midwestern mom's. The huge bargain-priced brunch on Saturday and Sunday brings in the crowds; reservations urged for weekends to save a long wait. The exterior patio sports a big, funny mural, and the interior is carved into several rooms (helps keep the noise down) camped up with cute "Old West" cantina decor. Weekend brunch; lunch and dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.* 

Juanita's Taco Shop Estilo Tepatitlan — Vista 248 Main Street, Vista, 760-758-4531. Enticing aromas of fresh tortillas and fragrant frijoles greet you as you enter this busy little taqueria, where the food's cooked in the style of Tepatitlan, a small city near Guadalajara. Its local specialty is carnitas - which Juanita's does up (by the plate or by the pound) as tender, nongreasy shreds, served with fresh, cilantro-laden mild tomato salsita. Standard wraps are fine, too, and the beans taste as good as they smell. Try a "Flying Saucer" — it really takes off, with shredded meat, onions, mild chiles, beans, sour cream, shredded orange cheese, and pureed guacamole riding high on an airy crisped flour tortilla. Open daily, three meals, until 3 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. -NW

**Korea House** 4620 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-560-0080. Korea House offers floor seating or a table if you want to barbecue your own food. The menu offers fine "down-home" Korean food, such as traditional *mandoo* (beef) dumplings, and *yookhwe*, a steak tartare worth risking. Make a meal from enormous appetizers like *gul bosam* (raw oysters, pork, and cabbage leaves). Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *M.N.* 

Nijiya Market 3860 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-268-3821. If you're not willing to sacrifice quality for convenience when eating fast food, try this Japanese market in Kearny Mesa. Nijiya Market offers prepared box lunches, or *bento*, that are pretty to look at, appetizing, and a real bargain. I suggest, however, passing by Nijiya's steam trays and heat lamps and going straight to the coolers, where you'll find delicious chicken cutlets, fresh sushi, and chilled noodles, as well as dessert delicacies like sweet-bread roll filled with sweet bean paste. Inexpensive. — M.N.

Pampas Argentine Grill 8690 Aero Drive, Kearny Mesa, 858-278-5971. The Argentine specialties feature grilled grass-fed beef, including a somewhat Americanized version of the gauchos' great parillada mixta (mixed grill), with a great chorizo but minus any exotic organs. The naturally raised meats are lower fat and lower cholesterol than feed-lot beef but are salted heavily in the kitchen unless you request otherwise. Specify rare or medium-rare, unless you really like brown cardboard. Lighter fare includes free-range chicken and fresh, well-treated seafood. Beef empanadas are a tasty, authentic starter. Potatoes (fries and mashed) are splendid, salads are exuberant. The full bar features Chilean and Argentine beverages with many affordable South American wines by the glass. Park in lot at restaurant's front door, not the backdoor lot. Lunch (mainly sandwiches) on weekdays. Dinner nightly. Entertainment (harp) Friday through Sunday. Closed Monday. Moderate. — NW

Shanghai City Restaurant 3860 Convoy Street #105, Kearny Mesa, 858-278-5883. Forget the blah strip mall it hides in — this little piece of Shanghai is a jewel. It feels like one of those century-old places in San Francisco's Chinatown. A two-foot-long, satin-silver arowana fish greets you as you come in. Brightly painted dragon columns support a gold dragon arch that leads you into the gold-walled dining room. Mainly, Chinese seem to come here, often eating Shanghai seafood dishes or choosing sumptuous specials like clay hot pots filled with eel and chestnuts or steamed rockfish on a big oval platter. Or, for around five dollars, you can choose lunches like Shanghai chicken, chicken chop suey, or Szechuan pork with crispy noodles, soup, steamed rice, a spring roll, and the main item. Open daily 10 a.m. to midnight. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* 

WineSellar and Brasserie 9550 Waples Street #115, Mira Mesa, 858-450-9557. This long-time favorite "splurge" restaurant, located in a soulless industrial park (there's no "there" there), sits atop a serious wine store, and your dinner quaffs, from an encyclopedic choice of bottlings, will cost just 20% over retail. The food is the comfortably upscale French cooking that San Diego cherishes luxurious and modern, without a hint of exoticism. And many dishes would shine in any galaxy - e.g., foie gras with mango and tender pheasant stuffed with foie gras, along with cured hamachi and yellowfin-tuna tartare. Dining room up staircase, no lift; accessible seating in first floor tasting room, with full facilities. (Call ahead to arrange, and to arrange vegetarian meals.) Reservations usually necessary, as restaurant holds many sold out special events. Ask for directions, too, as all the architecture for miles is identical. Lunch and dinner Tuesday through Saturday (closed between meals). Lunches high-moderate, dinners very expensive. - N.W.

#### NORTH COASTAL

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Azafran 1001 South Coast Highway 101, Oceanside, 760-435-0005. This place just feels Cuban, with its echoey inside bongos, washed orange walls, and giant Cuban jazz mural. We're talking Caribbean-style food, not hot by Mexican standards. Most delicious intro: traditional Cuban pressed sandwiches, hotpressed to mix the juices of, say, smoked ham, roast pork, cheese, mustard, pickles (Cubano #2), or roast pork (*lechón*) with a *mojo* (garlicky-citrus) sauce that makes it juicy. The bread, baked right here, is news in itself — crunchy and sometimes sweet (ask for medianoche). You get a lot, but don't leave without trying a plantain dish or the cheese flan. Or a cup of Cuban coffee. Lunch and dinner six days, closed Monday. Inexpensive. - E.B.

Beach House 2530 South Coast Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-753-1321. This beautiful restaurant, with its breezy seafront patio, is a branch of an upscale beach mini-chain (others are in Dana Point and Laguna Beach). Its main menu features steaks, seafood, and some Continental warhorses (lobster thermidor, etc.) that are best avoided. The view is even more spectacular from the upstairs "Top of the House" which features pub grub and fish in a lighthouse-like setting. On Sundays, local families flock in for the moderately priced à la carte champagne brunch featuring the standard dishes of the genre plus some less-successful fancied-up ones, with endless Freixenet champagne (Wyclef is its house champagne, though). Whatever the meal, stay simple here — burgers, steak, unfussy eggs — and enjoy the atmosphere. Re-serve for a view table or outdoor seating at Sunday brunch. Full bar but few wines \$2 valet parking. Restrooms accessible by elevator, may be tight fit for wider wheelchairs. Daily brunch/lunch and dinner. "Top of the House" serves until 9:30 p.m. in winter and until 10 p.m. in summer. "Early bird" cut-price dinners daily. Brunch moderate, dinner moderate to ery expensive. — N.W.

**Charlie's by the Sea** 2565 South Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-942-1300. This seaside spot offers a blissful patio right on the breakwater and a terrific, authentic Boston-style clam chowder to match the view — it's light, creamy, and loaded with clams, unpeeled red potato chunks, and bits of honey-cured bacon. The kitchen's good with simple dishes, including fresh raw oysters and the lively Bayou Burger with Cajun seasonings and well-made spicy fries. The dinner menu includes more ambitious items, but the weekly main event here is Sunday brunch, with a menu of standard brunch dishes at affordable prices, featuring endless refills of champagne. (Hint: Veuve Clicquot it's not.) Huge wine list, full bar. Free valet parking. Brunch reservations advisable. Monday through Saturday, lunch and dinner; Sunday is brunch only, no dinner. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W.* 

Jimbo's, Naturally! 12853 El Camino Real, Carmel Valley, 858-793-7755. Jimbo and there is a real Jimbo — started out selling healthy eating with the famous OB Co-op. Now he has these organic palaces of his own. Inside the Carmel Valley branch, it's high ceilings and lots of color — yellow, purple, white — with all the ducts and pipes exposed like in a giant submarine. The deli bulges with cheese, hams, burritos, wraps, and an elaborate salad bar. At the juice counter they grind carrots and wheat grass and organic coffee. A "hot case" counter offers all kinds of ricey, tabbouleh-type preparations. Best deals are usually the daily specials. Try Seitan stew (a high-protein, low-fat meat substitute) or Shelton's Jerk Turkey in Fig Sauce, served with organic mashed potatoes, gravy, and steamed vegetables. — *E.B.* 

Kim's Restaurant 745 First Street #103, Encinitas, 760-942-4816. Both Vietnamese and Chinese dishes are offered in a calm atmosphere with quick, pleasant service. The menu lists 265 items, including many Vietnamese house specialties, 28 seafood dishes, and a whopping 45 vegetarian/vegan dishes, many made with seitan (mock poultry). The seafood isn't necessarily fresh catch --- some shellfish is evidently obtained frozen, scallops are phosphate-preserved, and the reasonably priced abalone dishes involve slightly chewy, rehydrated dried abalone from Asia. On the other hand, portions are enormous, and the cooking is careful and tasty, although some flavors have evidently been adapted to American palates and ingredients. Open Tuesday through Sunday, continuous service lunch and dinner; closed Monday. Moderate. — N.W.

A Little Moore Coffee Shop 1030 North Highway 101, Leucadia, 760-753-8228. How did this place slip by unnoticed for so long? Inside, with its low ceiling and snaky counter, it could be out of an early California movie. The specials are named after recent local characters: The Billy is an omelet with ham, avocado, and cheese, plus home fries or hash browns (or cottage cheese or rice). The Cindy is two French toast with two eggs and spuds. A plate of grilled veggies and chicken or beef on a mountain of rice is The Pablo. It's standard but generous fare, a formula that's kept the place humming since at least the 1950s. Breakfast and lunch six

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Nobu Japanese Restaurant 315 South Coast Highway 101, Solana Beach, 858-755-7787 No. this isn't the famou fusion-food Nobu of NY, L.A., and branches located wherever the money is. Our Nobu has been in the sushi business ten years longer than his namesake, and what he creates is classic non-fusion Japanese sushi and sashimi, with well-seasoned rice, freshly toasted seaweed wrappings, and fresh, fresh seafood. If you're in the mood for a different sort of grazing, you can settle at a table or booth to nibble on a score of appetizers, including a fine monkfish pate and enchanting chawan mushi (egg custard) soup served super hot in the cup it was baked in. The Japanese entrées are standard fare, with plenty for vegetarians. It's all comfortable, casual, and kid-friendly, with gracious sushi chefs. Nobu himself usually works the bar Friday through Sunday nights. Dinner daily; open weekends until 11 p.m. Large free lot behind restaurant (via Sierra Street, a block west). Mostly moderate; some delicacies expensive. - N.W.

**Oceanside Cafe** 1938 South Coast Highway, Oceanside, 760-722-7337. This little place does lunch, with good burgers, but breakfast's what a lot of folks come for. Dieter's Downfall, a three-egg omelet stuffed with ham, bacon, sausage, tomato, Jack, and Cheddar, is wicked. Two other things to try: the Sausage of the Week is made next door at the Red and White Market (anything from bockwurst to French apple-chicken sausage). And the dieter's real downfall comes with their carrot cake or double chocolate cake rich, moist, and fresh out of their oven every morning. Breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* 

**Pizza Port** 135 North Highway 101, Solana Beach, 858-481-7332. "Tasty Grub & Grog," says the sign, and that's just what it is. You come here for three things: the pizzas, the beer, and the scene. The place is cavernous, but the tables are communal, with long wooden benches. Rub shoulders with surfers, students, yuppies, and locals. Pizza Port brews their own beer (try Sharkbite Red) and flings their own pizzas, New York style. Filling combos can be great, like the pesto, mesquitegrilled chicken, sun-dried tomatoes, artichoke hearts, and feta (Pizza Carlsbad), or shrimp, clams, onions, olives, bell peppers, and mushrooms (Pizza Solana). Inexpensive. — *E.B.* 

Sammy's Woodfired Pizza — Del Mar 12925 El Camino Real, Del Mar, 858-259-6600. It's not Italian or New York pizza, it's...San Diego pizza! The crusts are Californian: thick and slightly sweet. The toppings range from ordinary to exotic. The menu includes many salads and a handful of American-Italian en trées. Continuous service, same menu lunch and dinner. Open daily. Inexpensive. — N.W.

**Samurai Japanese Restaurant** 979 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach, 858-481-0032. Set in a suburban mall, Samurai is rumored to have the longest sushi bar in California — 50 feet, stretching around 2 walls — with up to 12 chefs. The pure Japanese sushi is made from never-frozen seafood, and the visual side of the art isn't neglected: The friendly chefs take care to make their compositions look as beautiful as they taste. There's also a spirit of something extra — e.g., not just free edamame to nibble, but the *ama ebi* often includes a delicious miso soup made with extra shrimp heads. Additional dining choices include standard Japanese fare in the pretty dining room, *kaiseki* (prix fixe) dinners in the Tatami



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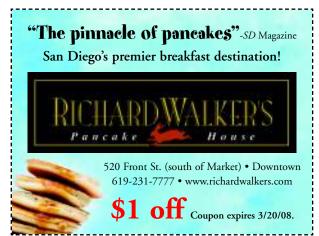
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Room (for groups of 4 to 14, advance reservations required), or grilled items in the Teppan Room (two people minimum, reservations required). Open weekdays for lunch; dinner served nightly. For sushi, best to arrive early or lateish, as it gets crowded at prime time. Mostly moderate; *kaiseki* and some *tep*pan items expensive. — N.W.

Spices Thai Cafe — Del Mar 3810 Valley Centre Drive, Del Mar, 858-259-0889. 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 Cafe at the top of your list. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.W.

**St. Tropez — Encinitas** 947 S Coast Highway 101 # 103D, Encinitas, 760-633-0084. 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.

Swami's Cafe 1163 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-944-0612 No coincidence it's near the famous surf break and the Self-Realization Fellowship compound. You gotta love the very Encinitas vegetarian-spiritual-surfer origins. You eat surrounded by gurgling fountains, wind chimes, wheat grass racks, a rainbow-colored wind sock, and the manager's 1969 surfer van There are plenty of standard dishes, like eggs Benedict or black bean burrito, but the big emphasis is health. Try the protein veggie wrap, with avocado, feta cheese, tofu, and mole, or the Indian curry with tofu. Open 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* 

SOUTH BAY

**Bino's European Coffees and** Crepes 1120 Adella Avenue, Coronado, 619-522-0612. This little round-the corner café (south of the post office) has to be good: it's a favorite retreat for local chefs. Bino bakes his own breads and croissants daily and creates great crunchy sandwiches. Try the Brie Fantasy (chicken breast, roasted marinated pep-pers, double-cream Brie cheese) or the roast beef and jack cheese. Even the veg-gie sandwich squishes with luscious eggplant, and the crêpes are delicious and filling too. Bino's wife is Austrian and makes great Viennese-style coffee. Open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through

Wednesday, to 8 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* MZM Seacoast Bistro 875 Seacoast Drive, Imperial Beach, 619-424-5800. If you can make it past the bland exterior, you'll discover a well-disguised classy joint inside. A harbinger of a new I.B.? Interior is all peach-colored walls, trendy blue sconce wall lights, tweedy booths, and photos of owners Marek and Zofia Migdalski with people like President Bush, Lloyd Bentsen, Sam Donaldson, and Joan Kroc. Migdalski is a recognized private chef who has decided to put I.B. on the gastronomic map. Breakfast, available Saturday and Sunday, tends to be simple but sophisticated, like frittata with Polish sausage, prime rib steak and eggs, or scrambled eggs with smoked salmon. Burgers at lunch are often lamb sirloin. Dinner can be anything, including filet mignon or flatiron steak. Reservations recommended. Inexpensive to moderate. - E.B.

Zorba's Family Restaurant 100 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-422-8853. We haven't got to plate-breaking yet, but Greek dancing is alive and well at Zorba's on Fridays and Saturdays. That includes the zembekikos, where the dancer picks a glass of ouzo off the floor with his mouth and drinks it. The rest of the week? Families fill this place. They're here for the buffet, spooning up the *spanakopita* (spinach in deliciously flaky pastry), dolmathes, (ground beef and rice rolled in grape leaves), moussaka (eggplant, zucchini, and ground beef), and lamb. Try dividing your meal into three: first visit the salad section. Grab their real, strong-tasting olives, tabbouleh, hummus, onions, lettuce, and pita bread. Return for the heavies, the lamb and beef dishes. Then leave room for baklava and other desserts. It may not be the gourmet's method, but there's no better way to fill a belly. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. - E.B.

#### EAST COUNTY

Jasmine Bistro 315 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon, 619-588-8228. A gleaming little architectural jewel surrounded by the big white boxes of its mall, Jasmine Bistro is a spin-off of the well-known Jasmine Hong Kong Seafood Restaurant on Convoy. By day, the fare centers on fresh, expertly made Chinese dim sum (elabo-rate finger food) offered both by cart and by menu. At night, with a reservation, a fresh crew of multiethnic chefs step in to cook up a Pan-Asian panoply, so if you're in the mood for Mandarin and vour date wants Thai, no problem, Unfortunately, eaters in this suburban mi-lieu won't stand for too much authenticity, so sophisticated diners may find the fare a little dumbed-down. Mainly California wine list suggests wine pairings for the food; numerous Asian beers, fruity drinks. Reserve for weekend din-ners. Daily brunch/lunch through early dinner (until 9 p.m.). Mainly moderate (except for some special entrées). -N.W

The Olde Homestead Fudge Factory 590 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs, 760-767-7782. The Fudge Factory's greatest dish is not what it's named for, and some of its pick hits aren't fudge, either. Of the 24 flavors of house-made fudge, barely a half dozen are available on any given day. The chocolate walnut is especially delicious, but the real masterpiece when in season is the Date Shake - a cold quaff that's ambrosial on a hot afternoon. Then, too, this is one of the few spots in town with an espresso machine. Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., closed Monday. (Closed summer months.) Inexpensive. - N.W.



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### Plan Well Acted

"How can you take the sadness away from a girl who learned it so early in life?'

REV

JEFF SMITH

EW

aybe things're different across the lake, where vacationers play nonstrenuous games and pound down chow on the American Plan: three squares, plus tea, coffee, and snack breaks. They've come to the Catskills

in the summer of 1960, it would seem, not for relaxation but regimentation. Their vacation will be orderly, predictable, and without incident, just like last year

and the year before: programmed fun. On Lili's side, the lake is the "River Styx," the

boundary between the Earth and Hades she crossed somewhere in her youth ("how can you take the sadness away," her mother asks, "from a girl who learned it so early in life?"). Lili's brilliant — referencing Milton, Faulkner, and T.S. Eliot — but, according to her mother, she's also psychotic and cursed to live "an intricately unhappy life."

In The American Plan, Richard Greenberg's written a fascinating character: Lili's an Ophelia who didn't commit suicide. Possibly influenced by her German-Jewish's family's experiences during WWI, she projects the Holocaust onto the world, finding insidious intent everywhere (she's convinced her mother murdered her father, for example). Lili's cried "wolf" so many times she could utter the truth unvarnished and you'd only hear a howl.

In an irony so broad it becomes predictable, Lili's right. Things, on this side of the lake at least,

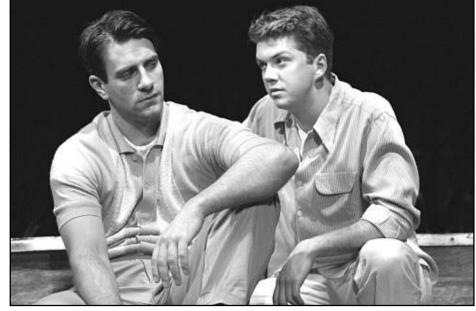
aren't what they seem. Her mother's two- and possibly even three-faced (does she care or doesn't she - or, conditioned by Nazi horrors and oblivious to her own motives, is she smothering her daughter to save her from evils unseen?). Is Nick,

Lili's allegedly understanding Beau, just a gold-bricker after her inheritance? Olivia, the African-American maid, has a past, but at least she's honest enough to admit

that, if she confessed it, you wouldn't like her anymore. By the time young Gil shows up, looking innocent as can be, his deeper motive comes as no surprise.

Like most illusion-versus-reality plays, American Plan suffers from a domino effect: once you realize things aren't what they seem, you can anticipate that those to come will bring disillusionment as well. Sometimes Greenberg strikes a balance between both possibilities (Nick's affections seem genuine, or do they mask a greater affection for his Main Chance?). But the second act unfolds as expected, its fatalistic payoff lacking the punch of the first act's strong setup.

Greenberg is one of this country's finest playwrights. But compared to his Three Days of Rain and Eastern Standard, American Plan is a minor work. Even so, the writing's sharp and often quite witty, especially with Lili's unique take on things: her controlling mother's a "looming, late-Ibsenesque figure"; and, a variation on Shakespeare's Miranda, Lili wishes that Nick was a brave new



Patrick Zeller, Michael Kirby in The American Plan

#### The American Plan, by Richard Greenberg

Cassius Carter Center Stage, Simon Edison Centre for the Performing Arts, Balboa Park Directed by Kim Rubenstein; cast: Patrick Zeller, Kate Arrington, Sharon Hope, Sandra Shipley, Michael Kirby; scenic design, Wilson Chin; costumes, Emily Pepper; lighting, Chris Rynne; sound, Paul Peterson Playing through March 30; 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. 858-234-5623.

#### The Clean House, by Sarah Ruhl

San Diego Repertory Theatre, 79 Horton Plaza, downtown Directed by Sam Woodhouse; cast: Claudia Vázquez, Rosina Reynolds, Annie Hinton, Ivonne Coll, Ron

Choularton; scenic design, Victoria Petrovich; costumes, Jennifer Brawn Gittings; lighting, Christian Deangelis; sound design/composer, Stephanie Robinson

Playing through March 22; Sunday and Wednesday at 7:00 p.m., Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Matinee Sunday at 2:00 p.m. 619-544-1000.





Annie Hinton, Claudia Vázquez in The Clean House

being, to whom "nothing ever happened."

As Lili, Kate Arrington expertly handles the role's emotional non sequiturs and leaps of language. Arrington also conveys the sense, throughout, that Lili knows the outcome. She's read *The American Plan*, and much of her inner tension comes from struggling against the inevitable. She even references Ophelia, at one point, when drawn to the lakeshore of Wilson Chin's appealing — albeit Asteroturfed — set.

As Nick, Patrick Zeller has one of the most striking entrances in recent memory makes quite a splash, let's say. He and Michael Kirby, as Gil, and Sharon Hope as dour Olivia, do capable work, However, Lili's domineering, elitist mother Eva gets lost in Sandra Shipley's thick German-Jewish accent and programmed affectations. Shipley is too strident, even in her calmer scenes, and too external. She's a Tyrant, capital T. We watch the reality of imitative acting rather than the illusion of performance.

The elegant, creamy-white living room, with faux marble floor, at the beginning of Sarah Ruhl's *Clean House* is so immaculate it's the kind of place people photo-shoot rather than inhabit. To the eyes of its owner, a workaholic surgeon named Lane, however, the joint's a sty. Worse, her Brazilian cleaning lady Mathilde refuses to work. She'd rather create a joke so perfect the hearer would die from laughter.

In Freudian terms, an anal fixation can cause an obsession with cleanliness, order, even perfection. Lane's got one. So does her husband Charles, also a surgeon, and her sister Virginia, who once saw European ruins and wondered why someone hadn't swept them away - and who offers to become Mathilde's surrogate cleaner. Now in middle age, they've become so rigid they're almost emotionally static. In a hybrid style that combines farce, operatic aria, and Gabriel García Márquez's "magic realism," The Clean House declares that anality is banality. In its place, Ruhl advocates a life as spontaneous as laughter.

Sat.

Sun,

Sun.

Sat,

Sat.

June 10-21

Apr 12

Apr 13

Apr 20

May 3

May 10

"A good joke can clean out the insides," Mathilde says, waving the author's banner.

The play jumps to unexpected places — the Arctic circle, among them — and alliances: the cheating husband falls for an *older* woman (to whom he sings while operating on her). It also combines locales, as apples fall

from one reality to another. The San Diego Rep's opening-night performance was tentative in spots (the various epiphanics could be more epiphanic, for example, and the cast could worry less about making the magic credible and just enjoy making it); in others, it reached the laughter-like spontaneity Ruhl requires. But throughout, as it wends its deconstricting way, *The Clean House* is a very, very funny play.■



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### THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given 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.

#### The American Plan

The Old Globe Theatre presents the West Coast premiere of Richard Greenberg's comedydrama about "an elegant and imperious German-Jewish refugee, her eccentric daughter, straining against her mother's tight leash,

THE THEATRE INC. 899 C St., Downtown San Diego presents by Dale Wasserman Novel by Ken Kesey Directed by Douglas Lay Runs through March 30 Thurs., Fri. & Sat. at 8 pm Sun. at 2 & 7 pm For tickets call: (619) 216-3016 or: www.thetheatreinc.com

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and the mysterious young man who enters their lives." Kim Rubinstein directed. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2:30 P.M. SUNDAYS, 7 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 30.

#### As Bees in Honey Drown

Scripps Ranch Theatre stages Douglas Carter Beane's dark comedy about wannabes to celebrity drawn. Raylene J. Wall directed. SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 10455 POMERADO ROCH JACTOR 858-578-7728. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATUR-DAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 15.

#### **Bleacher Bums**

OnStage Playhouse presents the popular "comedy in nine innings" about Chicago Cubs' bleacher fans as they root against the St. Louis Cardinals. Bruce Wilde directed. ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AV-ENUE, CHULA VISTA. 619-422-7787. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 5.

#### The Clean House

"How clean is your house?" "How messy is your life?" "How far will you go for love?" The San Diego Rep stages Sarah Ruh's comedy about the human comedy. Sam Woodhouse directed. SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79

HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN. 619-544-1000. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. SUNDAYS, 7 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 22.

#### Dancing at Lughnasa

New Village Arts stages Brian Friel's drama about five poor sisters, in rural Ireland, in whom desires awaken. Esther Emery directed. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B

STATE STREET, CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. SATURDAYS, 3 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 30.

#### Dublin's Traditional Irish Cabaret

For one evening only, the Balboa Theatre hosts the cabaret comedian Noel V. Ginnity and an Irish extravaganza that includes singers, dancers, and the Pat Marnane Band. BALBOA THEATRE, 854 FOURTH AV-ENUE, DOWNTOWN. 619-570-1100. FRI-DAY, 8 P.M. SUNDAY, 11:30 A.M. SUN-DAY, 3:30 P.M.

#### Hamlet: Blood in the Brain

San Diego State University's School of Theatre, Television, and Film presents Naomi Iizuka's "stream of communication," a modern version of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, set in the 1980s and fueled by "drug dealing and drive-bys." SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY THEATRE, 5500 CAMPANILE DRIVE, COLLEGE AREA. 619-594-6884. FRI-DAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUN-DAYS, 2 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 8 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 16.

#### Hello, Dolly!

Not by design, but Jerry Herman and Michael Stewart's musical hit Broadway when it was most needed. It opened January 16, 1964, less than two months after the JFK assassination. The country was shattered, and along came Dolly Gallagher Levi, a garrulous meddler who could fix everything from faulty plumbing to varicose veins to deflated egos; she could heal and make connections and could banish, if only for an evening, the woes of shaken spectators. Every character moves from hoarding (things and emotions) to spreading around, even Dolly, who's been clinging to her departed husband and a bygone past. Jeanne Reith's late-19th century costumes for Lamb's Players accentuate the constriction. But combine the apparel with Colleen Kollar Smith's click-your-heels choreography, and a transformation occurs: the cast spins and leaps about as if released from bondage. Kerry Meads plays Dolly not as a myth or star vehicle, but as an actual person with a special gift she isn't quite sure how to manage. Meads has vocal difficulties, especially with the score's steep intervals, but has an engaging rapport with the audience. Though he could put more mudge into Horace Vandergelder's curmudgeon-ness, David Cochran Heath scores as the parsimonious burgher from Yonkers. Lance Arthur Smith and real-life wife Colleen combine for the stirring "It Only Takes a Moment," the epicenter of the musical's shift from life battened down to sailing free. In a special cameo, Leonard Patten scat-sings Louis Armstrong's version of the - zapadoop-mm - title song. Worth a try. LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 OR-ANGE AVENUE, CORONADO. 619-437-

ANGE AVENUE, CORONADO. 619-437-0600. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 4 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 22.





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National Comedy Theatre 3717 India St., San Diego Box office: 619.295.4999 www.nationalcomedy.com

#### The Importance of Being Farnest

Being Earnest South Coast Repertory Theatre stages Oscar Wilde's most popular play (called by some the "funniest comedy in the English language"). Warner Shook directed. SOUTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 655 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, SOUTHEAST SAN DIEGO. 714-708-5555. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2:30 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS,

#### 2:30 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 9. Leading Ladies

The Broadway Theater opens its new season with Ken Ludwig's comedy about classically trained British actors who dress in drag to land a quality gig. Randall Hickman directed. BROADWAY THEATRE, 340 EAST BROAD-WAY, VISTA. 760-806-7905. THURS-DAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATUR-DAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 16.

#### The Life and Loves of

Dinah Washington For two evenings only, the North Coast Repertory Theatre hosts Yvette Freeman, singing songs from her award-winning Off-Broadway show *Dinah Was: The Life and Loves of Dinah Washington*, including "What a Difference a Day Makes" and "Gamble's Blues." NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. WEDNESDAY, 7:30 P.M. TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M. THURS-DAY, 8 P.M. FRIDAY, 8 P.M. SATURDAY, 8 P.M. SUNDAY, 7 P.M.

#### **National Comedy Theatre**

Improvisational comedy, making up funny stuff on the spot, is difficult enough. Years ago, however, Keith Johnstone thought it'd be more exciting if gone competitively. He got the idea from pro wrestling ("where Terrible Turks mangled defrocked priests while grannies waved their handbags"). National Comedy Theatre, an offshoot of Johnstone's TheatreSports (artistic director Gary Kramer says the two compare like "rugby and American football"), resembles an athletic event more than an improve. Teams wear uniforms and compete on ActroTurf. Using sug gestions 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. <u>Worth a try.</u>

MARQUIS THEATER, 3717 INDIA STREET, MISSION HILLS. 619-295-4999. FRIDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 9:45 P.M. SATURDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SAT-URDAYS, 9:45 P.M. OPEN-ENDED RUN.

#### Oklahoma!

The Welk Resort Theatre stages Rodgers and Hammerstein's ageless musical about the opening of the Oklahoma territory and the blooming of love. WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. THURSDAYS, 1:45 P.M. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 1:45 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. TUESDAYS, 1:45 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 1:45 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 6.

#### One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

The Theatre, Inc., stages Dale Wasserman's adaptation of the Ken Kesey novel about life, and power tactics, in an asylum. Douglas Lay directed.

ARK THEATER, 899 C STREET, DOWN-TOWN. 619-216-3016. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. SUNDAYS, 8 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 30.

#### Permanent Collection

Thomas Gibbons's drama actually improves after the curtain falls. It's based on Philadelphia art collector A.C. Barnes's eccentric foundation. When he died in 1990, Barnes willed the works of predominately white Impressionist artists to Lincoln University, a largely African-American school. And he stipulated that the paintings be displayed just as he left them, permanently. In Gibbons's play, the new director, Sterling North, is an African-American. He finds eight priceless works of African art in storage and wants to put them in one of the foundation's 23 galleries. But the will won't allow it. Lawsuits, rancor, and racist attacks follow on all sides. The play, based more on ideas than characters, unfolds in predictable stages. But to his credit the playwright doesn't cut off the questions he raises. In fact, he opens them up: Who says what is, or isn't, art? What are the modern faces/masks of racism? How multi-cultural, in actual practice, is multi-culturalism? Mo`olelo Performing Arts Company's opening night was stiff and unsteady, the actors often plaving one emotion through an entire scene (happy, sad, angry). Even reliable Walter Murray, as the new president Sterling North, was shaky at first. But when North releases his rage in Act two, Murray became compelling. Joe Powers plays the ghost of Barnes, here called Alfred Morris, as a deft cross between a rational human being and a bourbon-drenched infant (just what was Barnes thinking when he made his will? Did he want a posthumous clash?). David F. Weiner's excellent set's almost a work of art in itself. A Cezanne sits upstage center, flanked by black, see-through screens that reveal rooms and entryways. Lit nicely by Jason Bieber, the orderly set provides a stark contrast for emotional issues, which seem to grow after the final scene's done.

#### Worth a try.

TENTH AVENUE THEATRE, 930 TENTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN. FRIDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SATURDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 16.

#### Proof

Project Vanguard presents David Auburn's drama about a math whiz, allegedly mad, and his 25year-old daughter. Which will she inherit: his condition or his genius? WESTMINSTER THEATER, 3598 TALBOT STREET, POINT LOMA. 619-224-6263. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 16.

### Rhubarb, or How to Play with a Rollergirl

Last January, the San Diego Theater Critics Circle gave Esther Emery a special award for directing. But just when she's handed what could become a confining mold, Emery breaks it: she's written a new play. Now in its world premiere at Moxie Theatre, Rhubarb could use some tightening and tweaking, especially in Act two, but it's an impressive (and funny, and wise) piece of writing. It's also about breaking molds. An aspiring painter, Cecelia's stuck. She does variations on vegetables and wants her genius to arrive. She's also sexually stuck and mother-controlled (asked what her mother's problem is, she replies, "she has children"). Enter a new roommate: Karen's an amateur roller derby fireball whose idea of a good time includes "drink, dance, and making noise." Karen is bisexual; Cecelia's "not



currently developing my social life" (i.e. celibate). They form an odd couple. But unlike Felix and Oscar, who will always be Felix and Oscar, and aided by meddlesome oracles, Cecelia has a double-awakening, both artistic and sensual. The rain falling outside, which once seemed so dreary, now sparkles with liberation. Moxie and director Delicia Turner Sonnenberg honor the script with a tight, hip production. Nick Fouch's scenic design and Eric Lotze's lighting code a naturalistic one-bedroom apartment with passionate reds. Jeannine Marquie, as Cecelia, and Chrissy Burns, as Karen, craft precise characterizations and are especially good in tandem. Judy Watson's expert costumes illustrate the differences the women will overcome in an age where "there are no rules left, only choices. Worth a try.

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, 619-858-0322, THURS-DAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATUR-DAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 9.

#### The Seven

Will Power's hip-hop take on Aeschylus's Seven Against Thebes is a "remix," combining the original with a contemporary flip. Both

worlds exist simultaneously. Thus Oedipus is the blind Theban and an "original gangsta" (a choice that lessens his gravitas). Oedipus curses his sons, Eteocles and Polynices, to war against each other. Will they break their 24/7, got-yourback loyalty? Will today's youth break the cycle of violence? As the brothers, Benton Greene and Jamyl Dobson are outstanding. They move as if in two eras at once: the stylized ritual of Theban royalty and the free-flow of today (their epic single combat, choreographed by Bill T. Jones, also combines both). Most significant: they reach the emotional core of Aeschylus's play: a hunger for hatred (in one of the production's most arresting scenes, Eteocles imagines an endless chain of curses, beginning with the giant shadow of Oedipus's father, Laius, choking his son, and down to today). Under Jo Bonney's direction, The Seven moves at such a relentless pace it almost does a disservice to Power's rich language and rocket rhymes. But information overload, which here includes dazzling on-stage visuals and music, is part of a remix aesthetic. Like the DJ (Chinasa Ogbugagu) who flips an old recording of the play into a new form, you must find your way, connect when you can. If you go to The Seven with fixed notions of what musicals must do, it will disappoint. A stately Carousel it isn't. But if you bring a willingness to let it happen - to go where the play takes you - it could surprise.

#### Worth a try.

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE, UCSD. 858-550-1010. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS 2 P.M. SATURDAYS 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. SUNDAYS, 7 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. WEDNESDAYS. 7:30 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 16.

#### tick...tick...BOOM!

Stone Soup Theatre company presents Jonathan (Rent) Larson's autobiographical rock musical, in which a composer, on the brink of turning 30, worries about falling into oblivion. Lindsey Gearhart directed. 619-287-3065. ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS, 4580-B ALVARADO CANYON ROAD, GRANTVILLE, FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATUR DAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. SUN-DAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 30.

#### Uncle Vanya

The Old Globe/University of San Diego Graduate Acting Program presents Anton Chekhov's drama about a retired professor, his beautiful young wife, and the stagnation

#### they find at his country estate. Kirk Jackson directed. USD: UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO, 5998 ALCALA PARK, USD. 619-260-4600. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 7.

#### Where There's a Will...

There's a Wake Mystery Café Dinner Theatre presents James Pascarella and Will Roberson's interactive comedy, set in a 1920s speakeasy where suspicion shrouds every "gangster, game, and dame." Pascarella directed. MYSTERY CAFE, 505 KALMIA STREET,

HILLCREST. 619-544-1664. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. OPEN-ENDED RUN.

#### You Never Can Tell

Moonlight Stage Productions presents George Bernard Shaw's romantic comedy about two teenaged twins, their missing father, liberated mother, and a waiter who knows all the things "you never can tell." Jason Heil directed. MOONLIGHT STAGE PRODUCTIONS, 615 EAST VISTA WAY, VISTA. 760-724-2110. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 P.M. SATURDAYS. 7:30 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 23.

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### All the King's Women

### It's at that point that the viewer's eyelids are most apt to rise higher than half-mast.

xtracted from a fat Philippa Gregory novel (the novel, that is, is fat), *The Other Boleyn Girl* doles out yet another installment in the long-running royal soap opera. Think of it as Elizabeth: The Genesis,

an hysterical-historical story of court intrigue, concentrating heavily, and heavy-breathingly, on bedroom intrigue,

the sibling rivalry over the affections of Henry VIII. The "other" Boleyn girl, as she is self-described in the dialogue, turns out to be the one we know best, Anne, the second wife of Henry, mother of Elizabeth (too peewee to be played here by Cate Blanchett), and famously cleaved at the neck. A saucy young lass, so bold as to use the word "thighs" in direct address to the King, she is also, in this telling (very different from Anne of *the Thousand Days*, with Genevieve Bujold), the "bad" Boleyn girl, despite the fact that she is the one who withholds her favors till after the wedding, a bit of leverage wielded with all the calculation of the classical femme fatale, the man-trap, the gold-digger,

the home-wrecker, the bewitcher, enticing Henry (a brawny Eric Bana) to split not just with the sitting Queen but with the Pope in the bargain, and to situate himself at the head of the Church of England. The cool, porcelain Natalie Portman,

looking like the snooty W girl in the front row of freshman Physics, DUNCAN SHEPHERD hardly seems at first

glance to fill the bill, and in the final reckoning falls far short. The "good" Boleyn girl, the lesser-

known Mary, is the one who, while still a newlywed, has an earlier stint as the King's mistress, although it's made plain that that was a position she never sought nor desired. If the manipulative machinations of 16th-century male chauvinists did not make this plain enough, the pouty Scarlett Johansson makes it plainer, every now and then throwing off a look of compunction like that of a movie patron who opts, at the last instant at the multiplex box-office, to buy a ticket to 27 Dresses when she had set out with every intention to go to Atonement. At the sudsiest juncture, lathery in the

### about it. Without question it's at that point that the viewer's eyelids are most apt to rise higher than half-mast, the

manner of a mad dog, she would

appear almost to have opted for Meet

the Spartans. That's when she witnesses

her sister's pitch to seduce their

brother in hopes of replacing her lost

fetus before her husband can find out

point where the creators - TV director Justin Chadwick, screenwriter Peter Morgan (The Queen), original novelist Philippa Gregory, whoever else — cheerfully corroborate the Crown's smear campaign against Anne Boleyn, in effect endorsing her beheading, and standing in roughly the same relation to Henry as Fox News

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that, the big treat for me (though I can't expect many to share in it) was seeing Ana Torrent in the role of Catherine of Aragon, thirty-some years after seeing her as the pint-sized heroine of Spirit of the Beehive, and seeing very little of her in the interim. Now a middle-aged woman of im-

The Other Bolevn Girl to George W. Bush. Quite apart from





posing presence, in that ardent, adamant, dignified Spanish way, she has a couple of strong scenes when backed into a corner by the cunning little vixen. She does not go meekly. And she keeps her head.

The Bank Job, starring Jason Statham and Saffron Burrows, claims also to be "based on a true story," or anyway on a true bank job, the knockover of Llovds Bank, Baker Street, London, 1971. The filmmakers, headed by the veteran Australian-born director Roger Donaldson and screenwriters Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais, have taken advantage of the cloak of mystery that still surrounds the case, to concoct a salacious hypothesis that can't be disproved, other than by common sense. The British Secret Service, by this scenario, was the prime mover behind the raid, desirous of getting their hands on compromising pornographic photos of Princess Margaret - yes, Princess Margaret, cavorting with dark-skinned natives in the Caribbean - held in the safe-deposit box of a blackmailing Black Militant. But the way it goes down (as we say in the underworld), it is self-refuting. The notion that MI5, from a safe distance, and through a coerced middle-woman, would farm out the operation to an unknowing gang of petty criminals, novices at bank jobs, is ridiculous on the face of it. Ridiculous because of the high probability (assuming the novices could pull off the job in the first place) of its turning out exactly as it turns out on screen: the hot photos ending up in unpredictable hands. If a team of filmmakers can't find a true story that's any truer than this, they need to keep looking. Or better yet, start from scratch. The almost farcical complications, if taken with sufficient grains of salt, are diverting enough. And the Seventies period has its pleasures, not just the usual haircuts, bellbottoms, plaids, etc., but all that forgotten Black Power stuff, and most particularly the rolledback level of technology: a simple jackhammer, a concrete-penetrating blowtorch, some walkie-talkies, and an amateur ham radio that chances to pick up the back-and-forth between the robbers in mid-job. A refreshing change, all that, from the computerage hocus-pocus of Ocean's Eleven, ... *Twelve*, ... *Thirteen*, and their ilk.

The Counterfeiters, from Austria, and from new-name director Stefan Ruzowitsky, is the recent Academy Award winner in the foreign-film category, for whatever that's worth. (It is traditionally worth even less than the winners in the top categories.) Come to that, it is the only one of the five nominees to have so far reached our local screens. A Holocaust survival tale, loosely based on fact, it tells how "the world's best counterfeiter" (the long, long face of Karl Markovics) eases his existence in a Nazi concentration camp by suppressing his scruples and aiding the German war effort, speedily mastering the British pound, but then dilly-dallying over the U.S. dollar, theoretically affecting the outcome of the war. It is a passably interesting tale to tell, a new path through old territory, but the interest is rather in the tale than in the telling. At any number of stopping points along the path, the sights are liable to seem all too familiar (the bullet in the head, etc.), never mind the refreshing route that led there. And the coarse, raw, desaturated image, whether a chosen cliché or an imposed hardship, is at no point much to look at, a harsh thing to say about a motion picture.

AMC PALM PROMENADE 24

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CHULA VISTA 10

Alice's House is crowded with, in addition to the possessive Alice, three strapping sons, a straying husband, a vision-impaired mother ("Which one of you peed on the toilet lid again?"), and, outside the house, an old flame who happens to be married to Alice's best customer at the beauty shop. All in all, a densely textured slice of São Paolo life, a little overseasoned, but unadorned, humble, modest, narrow in scope if not ramification, easy to chew and to swallow. (The director, Chico Teixeira, is a past documentarist in his fictional debut.) Each of the family members marks out an independent life, and Carla Ribas in the title role makes a sterling representative of womanly maturity not yet disfigured by cosmetic surgery, an all but unimaginable being in contemporary American cinema. None of the family members, what's more, brings us into contact with a ripped-fromthe-headlines social problem, as in the likewise Brazilian City of Men, which opened a week ago. They bring us merely into contact with the sort of middle-class domestic unit that might scan those headlines over breakfast. The universal sort.

And that's my cue to remind you

once again of the start of the San Diego Latino Film Festival, today, March 6, at the UltraStar Mission Valley in Hazard Center. Alice's House, opening tomorrow at the Ken, in direct competition, would have fit comfortably in the festival setting, and it affords you an alternative should you wish to avoid the crowds.

\* \*

Pacific Theatres, I notice, have now gone the way of UA Cinemas and Mann Theatres. Gone, gone. Their remaining houses in town, the Carmel Mountain, the Grossmont Center, the Clairemont Town Square, and the downtown Gaslamp, have fallen into the hands of an entity called Reading Cinemas, out of New Zealand and Australia. There has as vet been no further loss of screens, but it nonetheless feels like a passing. Maybe not as poignant a one as the passing of Pacific's single-screen Grossmont or single-screen Cinerama. (The then single-screen Clairemont was the first theater I attended after moving to San Diego: Johnny Cash and Kirk Douglas in *A Gunfight*, for forty-nine cents.) But all the same, a passing. I call for a moment of silence.

MOVIE LISTINGS

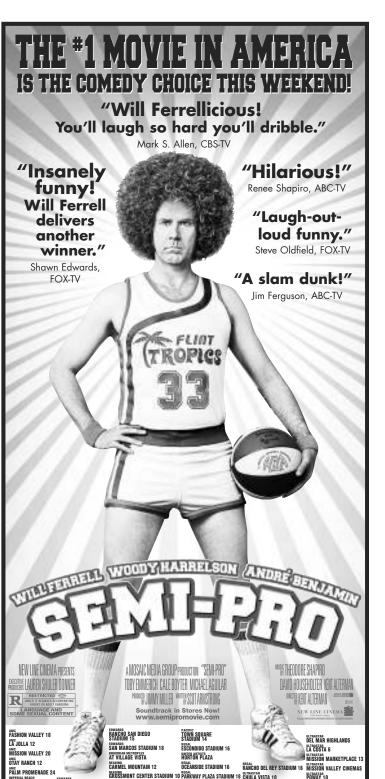
All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews sorted alphabetically, by year of release and by rating, are available online at SDReader.com.

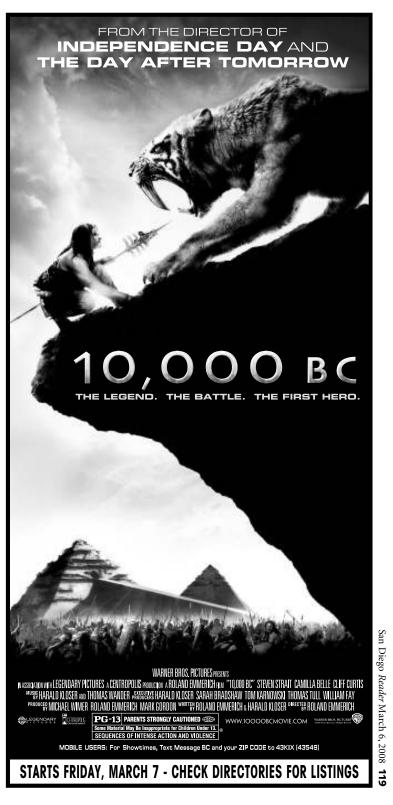
Alice's House — Reviewed this issue. With Carla Ribas, Berta Zemel, Vinicius Zinn, and Ricardo Vilaca; written and directed by Chico Teixeira. ★★★ (KEN, 3/7 THROUGH 13)

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. ★ (MISSION VALLEY 20)

The Band's Visit — To be specific, the Alexandria Police Ceremonial Orchestra. an octet costumed in robin's-egg blue, visiting Israel for the inauguration of an Arab Culture Center, but taking a wrong turn to a sound-alike destination in the middle of nowhere, spending a night, getting to know the locals and vice versa, bridging a cultural gulf. The blend of comedy and pathos, under the direction of Eran Kolirin, might call to mind the cinematic heyday of Italian humanism, albeit with more of an absurdist deadpan. Only three of the eight band members receive sufficient screen time to become individualized in the least - the priggish leader, his stifled assistant, an unruly rookie - and Sasson Gabai as the first of the three could stand alongside an Alberto Sordi or an Ugo Tognazzi (to place him in the company of comic-pathetic Italians), albeit with more reserve and decorum. Ronit Elkabetz, as his easygoing hostess, makes a lissomely sensuous foil. Imad Jabarin, Saleh Bakri, Khalifa Natour. 2007. ★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

The Bank Job — Reviewed this issue. With Jason Statham, Saffron Burrows, Stephen Campbell Moore, and James Faulkner; directed by Roger Donaldson. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CEN-









Svndromes and a Centurv

MAURICIO CHERNOVETSKY Director, Cassandra

To someone who's a fan of long, contemplative takes and abstract narrative techniques. Thai director Apichatpong Weerasethakul's Svndromes and a Century really delivers! But what's most refreshing is the lightness and humor the director manages to infuse into a story that deals with memory. I'm still mesmerized by his exquisite compositions.

The next film is Lucrecia Martel's La Ciénaga, about the life of two women and their families in the small provincial town of Salta, Argentina, Martel's a master at conveying mood and a sense of place. Like Weerasethakul, Martel is forging a cinematic language that's all her own. Watching her films is like being honored to take part in a conversation with someone who's more insightful and thoughtful than I can ever hope to be.

SYNDROMES AND A CENTURY (Thailand) 2006, Strand Releasing List price: \$27.99 LA CIENAGA (Argentina) 2001,

Homevision List price: \$26.95



DAVID NIEBLA Music video director, Tijuana Bass and Tengo La Voz

As a local filmmaker with films screening March 12 at the San Diego Latino Film Festival, I'd like to share a few of my influences and inspirations: David Lynch's masterpiece, Lost Highway. Underrated, it represents all that a great film should have: suspense, amazing plot, and excellent cinematography. It's one of the most visually poetic films I've seen.

Lynch's film-noir style has been an enormous inspiration. But my second pick. Mulholland Drive, demonstrates how nonlinear storytelling can be taken to the next level. With its multilayered plot and eccentric twists and turns, this movie's a must for any aspiring filmmaker. After watching it 50 times, interesting gaps still remain.

My final pick is Terry Gilliam's ferociously visual Fear and Loathina in Las Veaas. Gilliam takes the already surrealistic scenarios of Las Vegas and launches them into another dimension.

LOST HIGHWAY (USA) 2001, Universal List price: \$19.98

MULHOLLAND DRIVE (USA) 2002. Universal

List price: \$14.98 FEAR AND LOATHING IN LAS VEGAS (USA) 1998, Criterion List price: \$39.95 (two discs)

TER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; 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 3/7)

**Be Kind Rewind** — Twisted, tangled, snarled zaniness around a behind-the-times video store, facing foreclosure, in Passaic, N.J. An habitué of the place (Jack Black, at his most demonically possessed) unwittingly erases the entire stock after he becomes "magnetized" while attempting to sabotage the next-door power plant: "I didn't sabotage the power plant; the power plant sabotaged *me*." With the help of the phlegmatic clerk (Mos Def, a half-step faster than Stepin Fetchit), he then sets about to re-shoot every requested title on home video - for some reason, the re-shot movies are said to have been "Sweded" and thereby pumps new life into the busi-ness. Zaniness notwithstanding, there is a lumbering logic at work, a natural next step in the movie fan's expanding sense of entitlement: first a video store on every corner,

March 6

Reader

San

then a camcorder in every pot, et voilà. My movies, my remakes, all mine. Director Michel Gondry, a specialist in zaniness if not nearly a master of it (The Science of Sleep, Human Nature, Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind), apparently sees nothing wrong with any of these developments (Power to the People!), though he can't quite get out of the way of the steamroller of Copyright Infringement. His offhand style, by which he clearly conveys a looseness of standards, lacks the precision demanded of comedy. But his cheap knockoffs of big movies - Ghostbusters, Robocop, Rush Hour 2, Driving Miss Daisy, The Lion King, et al. - have touches of invention that would do credit to any gang of let'sput-on-a-show neighborhood kids: e.g., the tomato pizzas that stand in for exit-wound blood splatters. In the end, the film as a whole seems little more than a tedious setup for these knockoffs, which can be accessed, at your convenience, at a web address disclosed in the final credits. With Danny Glover, Melonie Diaz, Mia Farrow, Sigourney Weaver, 2008. ★ (GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VAL-



PATRIC STILLMAN

Curator, San Diego Latino Film Festival

In 15 years at the festival, I've seen Latino cinema push the boundaries of storvtelling. Recently, I enjoyed how the quick-paced Ladron Que Roba A Ladron stirred up the standard American heist film and made it uniquely Mexican, Raul Mendez (who stars in Kilometro 31 at this year's festival) helps make the film thoroughly enjoyable.

Niñas Mal could be dismissed as another rebellious teen comedy, but it brings depth to the characters by exposing very real class struggles. Muchloved actress Martha Higareda (who presents two films at SDLFF) dazzles the camera.

Finally, a real genre twister that combines women wrestlers, monsters, and mad doctors! You can't help but fall in love with the stunning former Miss Mexico Lorena Velazquez in top form in the '6os cult classic Las Luchadoras Contra la Momia. I can't wait for the special tribute for her at this year's festival.

#### LADRON QUE ROBA A LADRON

(Mexico) 2007, Lionsgate List price: \$16.99 NINAS MAL (Mexico) 2007, Columbia/TriStar List Price \$16.99

LAS LUCHADORAS CONTRA LA MOMIA (Mexico) 1964, Image Entertainment, List Price \$17.99

LEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18)

Charlie Bartlett — A poor little rich boy, drummed out of every private school in a reachable radius, shows up undiplomatically for his first day at public school in a blazer and tie, toting an attaché case, glad-handing like a Presidential candidate. But after a beating or two, he attains his uppermost goal in life - popularity - by peddling prescription meds to his classmates and offering confessional-style counseling in adjoining stalls in the boys' lavatory. Overstated teen comedy, but not grossly so, never gross-out-ly so, with an above-average range of emotion for the genre, and a narrowly pallid palette. Directed by Jon Poll (George and Ringo?), it ingratiates itself chiefly through the choirboy delicacy of its star, Anton Yelchin, who could practically pass for preteen, an inherently more ingratiating age. Kat Dennings, the moderately Goth romantic interest, helps out with the ingratiation, while Hope Davis and Robert Downey, Jr., as the respective single parents of the hero and heroine, contribute

little but indie prestige. 2008. ★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPI ACE 13)

College Road Trip — Father-daughter comedy with Martin Lawrence and Raven-Symoné, directed by Roger Kumble. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8: ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MIS-SION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12: PALM PROMENADE 24: PARKWAY PLAZA 18: POWAY 10: RANCHO DEL REY 16: RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SOUARE 14: FROM 3/7)

The Counterfeiters — Reviewed this issue. With Karl Marcovics, August Diehl, and Devid Striesow; directed by Stefan Ruzowitsky. ★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 3/7)

Definitely, Maybe — A little girl's first Sex Education class raises questions in her mind about where she came from, and raises the word "penis" repeatedly to her lips. The answers take the form of a "mystery love story" in which her father recounts in flashback his entanglement with the three leading ladies of his life. What's unusual, and not uninteresting, about this juggling act is the length of time that all three balls are kept in the air. But the juggler, the beady-eyed and metallic-voiced Ryan Reynolds, is not a man who projects honesty of feeling or elicits sympathy of re-sponse. With Elizabeth Banks, Isla Fisher, Rachel Weisz, Abigail Breslin, and Derek Luke; written and directed by Adam Brooks, 2008.

★ (ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18: HOR-TON PLAZA 14: LA JOLLA 12: MIRA MESA 18: MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VAL-LEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RAN-CHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18)

Diary of the Dead — George A. Romero, passing off Ontario as his Pennsylvania habitat, raises more zombies for the purpose of running them further into the ground. The tetralogy hereby becomes a pentalogy. The borrowed Blair Witch gimmick of filmmaking students recording the events on shaky camcorders is more expedient than plausible; and the obligatory "social commentary" - mostly on the Babel of modern media -— is now more self-conscious, overt, and verbalized, especially in the first-person narration of a film-within-the-film called The Death of Death. But there are still touches, dabs, bloody spatters of imagination and humor. With Michelle Morgan, Josh Close, Shawn Roberts, Amy Lalonde, and other unknowns, 2008. ★ (PALM PROMENADE 24)

The Eye — Ho-hum Hollywood re-do of a Hong Kong horror, wherein a blind classical violinist receives corneal transplants and, along with them, blurry visions of the world around her, other worlds, past happenings, ghosts, and whatnot. (Is it normal, doctor, to see the souls of the departed being escorted by shades to the Other Side?) Her great tragedy had always been that she could not look in the mirror and see Jessica Alba, and the tragedy continues even after she regains her sight: the movie's creepiest moment is precisely in front of a mirror. Her great blessing, by compensation, is that she could never see herself playing the violin: one moving part only, the right shoulder joint, like a cardboard-cutout puppet, the bent arm swinging back and forth on its hinge, the rest of her body stock-still. You wonder whether Alba, to "prepare" for the part, bothered to look at concert footage of Anne-Sophie Mutter, Sarah Chang, Leila Iosefowicz, Nadia Salerno-Sonnenberg, anybody at all. With Alessandro Nivola, Parker Posey, Rade Serbedzija, and Rachel Ticotin; directed by David Moreau and Xavier Palud, 2008

● (CHULA VISTA 10; PALM PROMENADE 24) Fool's Gold — Matthew McConaughey

and Kate Hudson fight to out-cute one an-other, and out-bronze one another, as a still-in-love divorced couple on a Caribbean treasure hunt, in competition with a murderous rapper. Some of the bru-

tality is truly brutal; none of the humor is humorous. With Donald Sutherland, Ray Winstone, Alexis Dziena, Ewen Bremner and Kevin Hart; directed by Andy Tennant. 2008.

• (ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME NADE 24: PARKWAY PLAZA 18: RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MAR-COS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN)

4 Months, 3 Weeks, and 2 Days –

Romanian filmmaker Cristian Mungiu details a squalid quest for an illegal abortion in the final years of the Ceausescu regime, and discloses, in passing, a good deal about a way of life, and in particular about the foundation stone of the black market. Altogether a strong film, in the mode of rubyour-nose-in-it naturalism, availing itself of the aesthetic precepts selectively followed by the Danish Dogmatists, the Iranian Kiarostami, the Belgian Dardenne brothers, among others. Boiled down to a basic checklist: a humanoid camera, handheld and foot-propelled; a bias towards the "integrity" of long takes, whether static or kinetic; an observance of one or more of the classical unities (the action here lasts less than a day); location-shooting only, in "natural" light (a resultant greeny-gray overcast); no special effects; no background music. 4 Months toes the line, makes no missteps, and it holds interest if it doesn't quite stir excitement. The entire cast, helped perhaps by the unfamiliarity of its faces and its tongue, closely guards the illu-sion of reality. But Vlad Ivanov, helped most definitely by the natural dominance of his role as the outcall abortionist, unflaggingly stern yet unpredictably patient, is the clear standout. Nondescript in his physical features, casually attired in black leather jacket, striped sweater, and blue jeans, he manages to be intimidating, manipulating, and ultimately abusing without ever looming larger than life, a mundane villain. Although the film, like Vera Drake a few years earlier, doesn't debate the rights and wrongs of abortion (just another of the facts of life), it has something for both sides of the argument. It has, on one side, again like Vera Drake, a hazardous backstairs modus vivendi for which no one could be nostalgic and to which no one would choose to return. And on the other side it has, in a towel on the bathroom floor, an unmistakably human fetus whose exact age is told in the title, and only there. (The expectant mother is prone to waffle.) The rights and wrongs of it can't be properly debated till we've clarified what "it" is. The fetus, as "real" as everything else in the film, makes it clear. Anamaria Marinca, Laura Vasiliu. 2007.

★★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

In Bruges - Writer-director Martin Mc-Donagh, in his feature debut, dispatches two British hit men to lie low, after a job with messy collateral damage, in the "fairytale" Medieval town near the coast of Belgium, where one of them (the tousled Brendan Gleeson) is interested in seeing the sights while the other (the tight-wire Colin Farrell) sizes the place up as a "shithole," excepting only a Bosch museum piece. Together they engage in forced, overwritten, exhibitionistic comic dialogue at some variance with the guilty conscience and the thoughts of suicide. Ralph Fiennes, attempting to do (if not outdo) Ben Kingsley in Sexy Beast, comes into it late as a hottempered, high-principled crime boss. A little later, bullets fly, blood flows. The beauties of the town survive all this, and even the wan photography. 2008. ● (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Jumper — Flashy adolescent fantasy about a bullied nerd who spontaneously acquires the supercool superpower of teleportation: the face of Big Ben one minute, surfing in Fiji the next, the head of the Sphinx the next. Hardly has this power been established, and hardly has the awkward teen morphed into Hayden Christensen, before he's on the run from a murderous partypooper known as a Paladin (the whitehaired Samuel L. Jackson), though that doesn't deflect the Jumper from a detour to woo his childhood crush (Rachel Bilson). Development is stunted; questions and

confusion far outrun thrills and suspense. With Jamie Bell, Michael Rooker, and Diane Lane; directed by Doug Liman. 2008. • (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MIS-SION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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 linedelivery 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 Vallev 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 antiseptic 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-athome 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. ★★★ (ESCONDIDO 16: FLOWER HILL 4: HILL-CREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; TOWN SOUARE 14)

Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day —

Stagy farce under the shadow of approaching war in the London of the Thirties. An unemployed and all but unemployable governess stumbles, through a chance of mistaken identity, into the temp job of social secretary for a visiting American chanteuse. The underemployed Frances McDormand seems a little miscast in the title role, which is to say, for one thing, that her British accent is not up to her Minnesotan in Fargo. The cranked-up players all around her try and try to keep pace with the despotic bigband beat on the soundtrack. And fail and fail. Amy Adams, Mark Strong, Lee Pace, Shirley Henderson, Ciarán Hinds; directed by Bharat Nalluri, 2008.

● (FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; HOR-TON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; SAN MAR-COS 18; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 3/7)

**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 man-





Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

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701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400) Call theater for program information

#### Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM) **The Bank Job** (R) Fri. (11:45, 2:15, 4:45) 7:45, 10:15 Sat. (11:45, 2:15) 4:45, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (10:45, 1:15) 3:45, 6:45, 9:15; **College Road Trip** (G) Fri. (11:00, 1:05, 3:10, 5:10) 7:15, 9:45 Sat. (11:00, 1:05, 3:10) 5:10, 7:15, 9:45 Sun. (10:00, 12:05, 2:10) 4:10, 6:15, 8:45; **Defi**nitely, Maybe (PG-13) Fri. (11:40, 2:25, 5:05) 7:40, 10:15 Sat. (11:40, 2:25) 5:05, 7:40, 10:15 Sun (10:40, 1:25) 4:05, 6:40, 9:15; Jumper (PG-13) Fri. (11:05, 1:15, 3:25, 5:35) 7:55, 10:05 Sat. (11:05, 1:15, 3:25) 5:35, 7:55, 10:05 Sun. (10:05, 12:15, 2:25) 4:35, 6:55, 9:05; **The** Kite Runner (PG-13) Fri. (10:55, 1:45, 4:35) 7:25, 10:20 Sat. (10:55, 1:45) 4:35, 7:25, 10:20 Sun. (9:55, 12:45) 3:35, 6:25, 9:20; Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day (PG-13) Fri. (11:50, 2:05, 4:15) 6:45, 9:00 Sat. (11:50, 2:05) 4:15 6:45, 9:00 Sun. (10:50, 1:05) 3:15, 5:45, 8:00; Semi-Pro (R) Fri. (11:10, 12:10, 1:20, 2:20, 3:30, 4:40, 5:40) 7:10, 7:50, 9:20, 10:10 Sat. (11:10, 12:10, 1:20, 2:20, 3:30) 4:40, 5:40, 7:10, 7:50, 9:20, 10:10 Sun. (10:10, 11:10, 12:20, 1:20, 2:30) 3:40, 4:40, 6:10, 6:50, 8:20, 9:10; Step Up 2 the Streets (PG-13) Fri. (11:15, 1:35, 4:05) 7:05, 9:25 Sat. (11:15, 1:35) 4:05 7:05, 9:25 Sun. (10:15, 12:35) 3:05, 6:05, 8:25; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri. (11:30, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30) 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30 Fri. (12:00, 2:30, 5:00) 7:30, 10:00 Sat. (11:30, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00) 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30 Sat. (12:00, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Sun. (10:30, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00) 3:30, 4:30, 6; Vantage Point (PG-13) Fri. (11:20, 1:30, 3:40, 5:50) 8:05, 10:25 Sat. (11:20, 1:30, 3:40) 5:50, 8:05, 10:25 Sun. (10:20, 12:30, 2:40) 4:50, 7:05, 9:25

#### LA JOLLA

#### La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262) The Bank Job (R) Fri. 2:00, 4:50, 7:30, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (11:20) 2:00, 4:50, 7:30, 10:15 Be Kind Rewind (PG-13) Fri. 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:35, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:35, 10:10; Charlie Bartlett (R) Fri. 4:25, 10:25 Sat. (10:30) 4:25, 10:25 Sun. (10:35) 4:25, 10:25; College Road Trip (G) Fri. 12:45, 2:50, 5:00, 7:15, 9:35 Sat.-Sun. (10:40) 12:45, 2:50, 5:00, 7:15, 9:35; **Definitely, Maybe** (PG-13) Fri. 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 10:00 Sat. (10:50) 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 10:00 Sun. 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 10:00; Jumper (PG-13) Fri. 1:20, 3:35, 5:55, 8:20, 10:35 Sat.-Sun. (11:00) 1:20, 3:35, 5:55, 8:20, 10:35; **Juno** (PG-13) Fri. 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 8:05, 10:30 Sat. (10:35) 12:55, 3:15, 5:30, 8:05, 10:30 San. 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 8:05, 10:30; **The Other Boleyn Girl** (PG-13) Fri. 1:25, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (10:45) 1:25, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50; **Penelope** (PG-13) Fri. 12:35, 2:40, 4:55, 7:20, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (10:30) 12:35, 2:45, 4:55, 7:20, 9:40; Semi-Pro (R) Fri. 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sat.-Sun. (10:55) 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri. 1:50, 4:45, 7:45, 10:40 Sat.-Sun. (11:10) 1:50, 4:45, 7:45, 10:40; There Will Be Blood (R) Fri.-Sun. 12:50, 7:10; Vantage Point (PG-13) Fri, 12:40, 2:55, 5:10, 7:25, 10:05 Sat. (10:25) 12:40, 2:55, 5:10, 7:25, 10:05 Sun. 12:40, 2:55, 5:10, 7:25, 10:05

#### La Jolla Village

8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236) 4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days (NR) Fri. 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50; **Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day** (PG-13) Fri. 2:10, 5:00, 7:30, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. 11:30, 2:10, 5:00, 7:30, 10:10; No Country for Old Men (R) Fri. 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. 11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40; The Counterfeiters (NR) Fri. 2:00, 4:50, 7:20, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. 11:20, 2:00, 4:50, 7:20, 10:00

#### **MIRA MESA**

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Mira Mesa 18

10733 Westview Parkway (858-635-7700) Call theater for program information

#### MISSION VALLEY

**Fashion Valley 18** San 7037 Friars Road (858-558-2262) **The Bank Job** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:45) 2:35, 5:20, 8:05, 10:55 Sun. (11:45) 2:35, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30;

### MOVIE SHOWTIMES

The Bucket List (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 12:10, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 10:00 Sun, 12:10, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:55; Charlie Bartlett (R) Fri.-Sun. 12:30p.m.; College Road Trip (G) Fri.-Sat. (10:30) 12:50, 3:10, 5:25, 7:45, 10:05 Sun. (10:30) 12:50, 5:25, 7:45, 10:00; Definitely, Maybe (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:55) 1:45, 4:45, 7:40, 10:35 Sun. (10:55) 1:45, 4:45, 7:40, 10:25; Fool's Gold (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 10:10 Sun. 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 10:00; Jumper (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 12:05, 2:50, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30 Sun. 12:05, 2:50, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10; The Other Boleyn Girl (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:45) 1:35, 4:20, 7:15, 10:15 Sun. (10:45) 1:35, 4:20, 7:15, 10:05; **Penelope** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:35) 2:00, 4:25, 6:50, 9:20; Semi-Pro (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:35) 12:15, 12:55, 2:40, 3:20, 5:00, 5:45, 7:25, 8:10, 9:50, 10:40 Sun. (10:35) 12:15, 12:55, 2:40, 3:20, 5:00, 5:45, 7:25, 8:10, 9:50; **The Spiderwick Chronicles** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40; **Step Up 2 the Streets** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 12:25, 3:00, 5:35, 8:20, 10:50 Sun. 12:25, 3:00, 5:35, 8:00, 10:20; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00) 12:00, 1:50, 2:45, 4:40, 5:30, 7:30, 8:15, 10:25, 11:00 Fri.-Sat. (11:00) 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:25 Sun. (11:00) 12:00, 1:50, 2:45, 4:40, 5:30,

7:30, 8:15, 10:15 Sun. (11:00) 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15; **There Will Be Blood** (R) Fri.-Sun. 12:20, 3:50; 27 Dresses (PG-13) Fri.-Sun (10:40) 1:25, 6:55, 9:45; Vantage Point (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 11:30) 1:55, 3:05, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30; Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 4:05p.m.

Mission Valley 7 7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841) Semi-Pro (R) Fri. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Sat. (2:45) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Sun. (2:45) 5:00, 7:30; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sat. (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; Vantage Point (PG-13) Fri. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sat. (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; San Diego Latino Film Festival

#### **Mission Valley 20**

1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262) Atonement (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:00) 4:45, 10:35 Sun. (11:00) 4:45, 10:30; **The Bank Job** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:20) 2:05, 4:50, 7:30, 10:20; **Be** Kind Rewind (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 12:15, 2:35

5:10, 7:40, 10:10; College Road Trip (G) Fri. (10:25) 12:05, 12:40, 2:20, 2:55, 4:40, 5:20 7:00, 7:45, 9:25, 10:05, 11:45 Sat.-Sun. (10:25) 12:05, 12:40, 2:20, 2:55, 4:40, 5:20, 7:00, 7:45, 9:25, 10:05; Definitely, Maybe (PG-13) Fri. Sun. 2:00, 7:50; Fool's Gold (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:15) 1:55, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00; **Jumper** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:15) 12:30, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00; Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:45) 2:15, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35; **The Other Boleyn Girl** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:45) 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:50 Fri.-Sun. (10:45) 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:50; **Penelope** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:55) 1:05, 3:20, 5:35, 7:55, 10:15 Sun. 1:05, 3:20, 5:35, 7:55, 10:15; **Semi-Pro** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:30) 12:10, 12:50, 2:40, 3:15, 5:00, 5:40, 7:25, 8:05, 9:45, 10:30 Sun. (10:30) 12:10, 12:50, 2:40, 3:15, 5:00, 5:40, 7:25, 8:05, 9:45; **The Spiderwick Chronicles** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:15) 12:35, 3:00, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15; **Step Up** 2 the Streets (PG-13) Fri -Sun, 12:05, 2:2 4:55, 7:20, 9:40; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:05, 11:50) 1:45, 2:30, 4:30, 5:15, 7:15, 8:00, 9:55, 10:40 Fri. (10:20) 1:00, 3:45, 6:30, 9:15, 11:55 Sat.-Sun. (10:20) 1:00, 3:45, 6:30, 9:15 Sun. (11:05) 1:45, 2:30, 4:30, 5:15, 7:15, 8:00,

9:55; There Will Be Blood (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:05, 6:45; Vantage Point (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:50) 1:10, 3:30, 4:25, 5:50, 8:15, 10:10, 10:45 Sun (10:50) 1:10, 3:30, 4:25, 5:50, 8:15, 10:10; Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:30) 2:10, 5:05, 7:40, 10:25 Sun 2:10, 5:05, 7:40, 10:25

#### **STATE UNIVERSITY**

#### Ken

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236) Alice's House (NR) Fri. 5:05, 7:15, 9:25 Sat.-Sun. 2:55, 5:05, 7:15, 9:25

#### UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas 3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236) In Bruges (R) Fri. 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 9:40; Juno (PG-13) Fri. 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 9:55; **No Country for Old Men** (R) Fri. 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. 11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45; **The Band's** Visit (PG-13) Fri. 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:00 Sat. Sun. 11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:00

#### **Reuben H. Fleet Science Center**

*1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)* **Bears** (G) Fri. 7:00p.m.; **Dolphins** (Not Rated) Fri. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 8:00 Sat. 10:00, 12:00, 2:00 Sun. 10:00, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00; Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West (No Rating) Fri. 6:00p.m.; Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure (No Rating) Fri. 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 9:00 Sat. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00 Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00

San Diego Natural History Museum 1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821) Ocean Oasis (Not Rated) Fri -Sun 10:00 12:00; Pompeii: The Last Day (NR) Fri.-Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00

#### EAST COUNTY

#### EL CAJON

#### Parkway Plaza 18

405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456) **The Bank Job** (R) Fri. (11:40, 2:15, 4:55) 7:30, 10:20 Sat. (11:40, 2:15) 4:55, 7:30, 10:20 Sun (10:40, 1:15) 3:55, 6:30, 9:20; The Bucket List (PG-13) Fri. (2:20, 4:45) 7:15 Sat. (2:20) 4:45 7:15 Sun. (1:20) 3:45, 6:15; College Road Trip (G) Fri. (12:00, 12:45, 2:20, 3:05, 4:45, 5:25) (d) Fil. (12.00, 12.45, 2.20, 5.05, 4.45, 5.25) 7:00, 7:45, 9:20, 10:05 Sat. (12:00, 12:45, 2:20, 3:05) 4:45, 5:25, 7:00, 7:45, 9:20, 10:05 Sun. (11:00, 11:45, 1:20, 2:05) 3:45, 4:25, 6:00, 6:45, 8:20, 9:05; **Definitely, Maybe** (PG-13) Fri. (11:35, 2:25, 5:10) 7:55 Sat. (11:35, 2:25) 5:10, 7:55 Sun. (10:35, 1:25) 4:10, 6:55; **Fool's Gold** (PG-13) Fri. (11:30, 2:10, 5:00) 8:00, 10:45 Sat. (11:30, 2:10) 5:00, 8:00, 10:45 Sun. (10:30, 1:10) 4:00, 7:00, 9:45; **Jumper** (PG-13) Fri. (11:45, 2:15, 4:35) 7:30, 9:55 Sat. (11:45, 2:15) 4:35, 7:30, 9:55 Sun. (10:45, 1:15) 3:35, 6:30, 8:55; **Juno** (PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 2:40, 5:25) 7:50, 10:20 Sat. (12:00, 2:40) 5:25, 7:50, 10:20 Sun. (11:00, 1:40) 4:25, 6:50, 9:20; **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** (PG) Fri. (1:30, 4:30) 7:25, 10:35 Sat. (1:30) 4:30, 7:25, 10:35 Sun. (12:30) 3:30, 6:25, 9:35; **The Other Bo-leyn Girl** (PG-13) Fri. (1:30, 4:25) 7:25, 10:15 Sat. (1:30) 4:25, 7:25, 10:15 Sun. (12:30) 3:25, 6:25, 9:15; **Penelope** (PG-13) Fri. (11:35, 2:10, 4:50) 7:20, 10:00 Sat. (11:35, 2:10) 4:50, 7:20, 10:00 Sut. (10:35, 1:10) 3:50, 6:20, 9:00; **Semi-Pro** (R) Fri. (12:15, 2:45, 5:20) 7:40, 10:00, 10:40 Sat. (12:15, 2:45) 5:20, 7:40, 10:00, 10:40 Sun. (11:15, 1:45) 4:20, 6:40, 9:00, 9:40; The Spiderwick Chronicles (PG) Fri. (12:05, 2:35, 5:05) 7:35, 10:05 Sat. (12:05, 2:35) 5:05, 7:35, 10:05 Sun. (11:05, 1:35) 4:05, 6:35, 9:05; **Step Up 2 the Streets** (PG-13) Fri. (11:55, 2:30, 5:05) 7:40, 10:25 Sat. (11:55, 2:30) 5:05, 7:40, 10:25 Sun. (10:55, 1:30) 4:05, 6:40, 9:25; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri. (11:30, 11:50, 12:10, 2.05, 2.25, 2.45, 4.40, 5.00, 5.20) 7.15, 7.35, 7:55, 9:50, 10:10, 10:30 Sat. (11:30, 11:50, 12:10, 2:05, 2:25, 2:45) 4:40, 5:00, 5:20, 7:15, 7:35, 7:55, 9:50, 10:10, 10:30 Sun. (10:30, 10:50, 11:10, 1:05, 1:25, 1:45) 3:40, 4:00; Vantage Point (PG-13) Fri. (12:10, 2:30, 4:50) 7:10, 9:30 Sat. (12:10, 2:30) 4:50, 7:10, 9:30 Sun. (11:10, 1:30) 3:50, 6:10, 8:30; Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins (PG-13) Fri.-Sat.

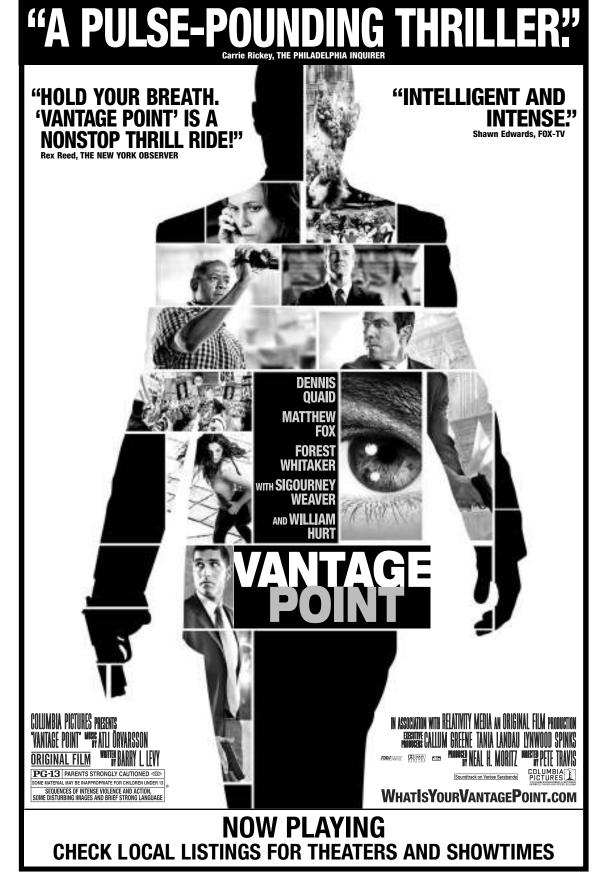
#### LA MESA

**Grossmont Center 10** 5500 Grossmont Center Drive (619-465-7100) Call theater for program information

#### **RANCHO SAN DIEGO**

(11:40) 9:40 Sun. (10:40) 8:40

Rancho San Diego 15 2951 Jamacha Road Call theater for program information



#### SANTEE

#### Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447) Fool's Gold (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.; Jumper (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.; **The Spiderwick Chroni-cles** (PG) Fri.-Sun.; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun

#### **SOUTH BAY**

#### **CHULA VISTA**

Chula Vista 10

Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214) The Bank Job (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **College Road Trip** (G) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:00, 2:15) 4:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30; **The Eye** (PG-13) Fri. (10:45, 1:15, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (1:15, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30; **Jumper** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 1:00, 3:15) 5:30, 7:45, 10:15; **Semi-Pro** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 12:45, 3:00) 5:15, 7:30, 10:00; The Spiderwick Chronicles (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 4:45, 7:15, 9:30; **Step Up 2 the Streets** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:45; **Vantage Point** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45

#### Otay Ranch 12

Eastlake Parkway at Olympic (858-558-2262) The Bank Job (R); College Road Trip (G); Jumper (PG-13); Juno (PG-13); No Country for Old Men (R); The Other Boleyn Girl (PG-13); Penelope (PG-13); Semi-Pro (R); The Spiderwick Chronicles (PG); Step Up 2 the Streets (PG-13); 10,000 B.C. (PG-13) Vantage Point (PG-13)

#### Palm Promenade 24

770 Dennery Road (858-558-2262) Alvin and the Chipmunks (PG); The Bank Job (R): Be Kind Rewind (PG-13): College Road Trip (G); Definitely, Maybe (PG-13); Diary of the Dead (R); The Eye (PG-13); Fool's Gold (PG-13); Jumper (PG-13); Juno (PG-13); No Country for Old Men (R); The Orphanage (R); Penelope (PG-13); Rambo (R); Semi-Pro (R); The Spiderwick Chroni-cles (PG); Step Up 2 the Streets (PG-13); 10.000 B.C. (PG-13); Vantage Point (PG-13); Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins (PG-13)

#### Rancho Del Rey 16

East H Street (619-216-4707) 10,000 B.C. (PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 2:45, 5:20) Call theater for program information

#### **IMPERIAL BEACH**

South Bay Drive-In

### 2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727) Call theater for program information

#### NORTH INLAND

#### **CARMEL MOUNTAIN**

**Carmel Mountain** 11620 Carmel Mountain Road (858-674-9770) Call theater for program information

#### **ESCONDIDO**

#### Escondido 16

350 W. Valley Parkway (760-291-0119) **The Bank Job** (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:45, 3:50) 7:50, 10:35 Sun. (11:45, 2:50) 6:50, 9:35; **The Bucket** List (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:10, 2:55) 6:40, 9:35 Sun. (11:10, 1:55) 5:40, 8:35; **College Road Trip** (G) Fri. (12:15, 2:30, 4:55) 7:20, 9:40 Sat. (12:15, 2:30) 4:55, 7:20, 9:40 Sun. (11:15, 1:30) 3:55, 6:20, 8:40; **Definitely, Maybe** (PG-13) Fri. (1:35, 4:20) 7:05 Sat. (1:35) 4:20, 7:05 Sun. (12:35) 3:20, 6:05; **Fool's Gold** (PG-13) Fri. (1:20, 4:50) 7:35, 10:40 Sat. (1:20) 4:50, 7:35, 10:40 Sun. (12:20) 3:50, 6:35, 9:40; **Jumper** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (1:00, 3:25) 6:50, 9:55 Sun (12:00, 2:25) 5:50, 8:55; **Juno** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:35, 3:05) 6:55, 10:20 Sun. (11:35, 2:05) 5:55, 9:20; The Other Boleyn Girl (PG-13) Fri -Sat (12:25, 3:15) 7:10, 10:10 Sun (11:25, 2:15) 6:10, 9:10; **Penelope** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:40, 3:40) 7:45, 10:25 Sun. (11:40, 2:40) 6:45, 9:25; **Semi-Pro** (R) Fri. (12:05, 2:50, 5:10) 7:40, 9:50, 10:30 Sat. (12:05, 2:50) 5:10, 7:40, 9:50, 10:30 Sun. (11:05, 1:50) 4:10, 6:40 8:50, 9:30; **The Spiderwick Chronicles** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (12:30, 3:55) 6:45, 9:30 Sun. (11:30, 2:55) 5:45, 8:30; **Step Up 2 the Streets** (PG-13) Fri. (1:10, 4:40) 7:25, 10:05 Sat. (1:10) 4:40, 7:25, 10:05 Sun. (12:10) 3:40, 6:25, 9:05; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 12:55, 1:45, 2:40, 3:35, 4:30, 5:20) 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45 Sat. (12:00, 12:55, 1:45, 2:40, 3:35) 4:30, 5:20, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45 Sun. (11:00, 11:55, 12:45, 1:40, 2:35) 3:30, 4:20, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 8:45, 9:15; **Vantage Point** (PG-13) Fri. (1:40, 4:10) 7:15, 10:00 Sat. (1:40) 4:10, 7:15, 10:00 Sun. (12:40) 3:10, 6:15, 9:00

#### FALLBROOK

#### River Village

Road (760-945-8784) The Bank Job (R) Fri. (2:45) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sat. (12:00, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Su ın. (12:00, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00; No Country for Old Men (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 2:00) 5:00, 7:45, 10:45 Sun. (11:00, 2:00) 5:00, 7:45; **Semi-Pro** (R) Fri.-Sat. (1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30; **The Spiderwick Chronicles** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 8:00, 10:15 Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 8:00; 10,000 **B.C.** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:30, 2:15) 5:00, 7:30, 10:15 Sun. (11:30, 2:15) 5:00, 7:30; **Vantage Point** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15

#### POWAY

**Poway 10** 13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423) The Bank Job (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; College Road Trip (G) Fri.-Sat. (12:00, 2:15) 4:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 Sun. (12:00, 2:15) 4:15, 6:30, 8:30; Jumper (PG-13) Fri. (10:30, 1:00, 3:15) 5:30, 7:45, 10:15 Sat. (1:00, 3:15) 5:30, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (1:00, 3:15) 5:30, 7:45; No Country for Old Men (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:45, 1:30) 4:30, 7:30, 10:30 Sun. (10:45, 1:30) 4:30, 7:30; **Penelope** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:15, 12:30, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30 Sun. (10:15, 12:30, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15; **Semi-Pro** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (11:15, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30; **The Spiderwick Chronicles** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 4:45, 7:00, 9:15 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 4:45, 7:00; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 11:30, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00) 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:45, 10:45 Sun. (10:00, 11:30, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00) 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00; **Vantage Point** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15

#### 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) **The Bank Job** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:45, 2:35, 5:10) 7:50, 10:30; College Road Trip (G) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:10, 3:15, 5:25) 7:30, 9:45; Definitely. Maybe (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:05, 4:30) 9:50

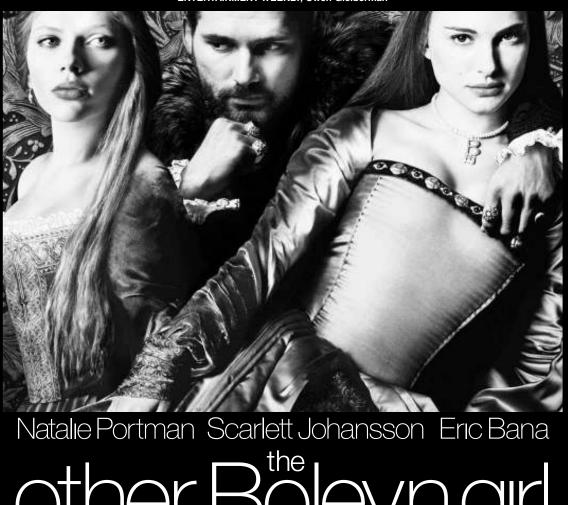
Fool's Gold (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (1:50) 7:15; Jumper (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 2:50, 5:15) 9:45; Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:10, 2:30, 5:00) 7:15, 9:40; **The Other Boleyn Girl** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 2:00, 4:45) 7:25, 10:15; **Penelope** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:05, 3:15, 5:30) 7:45, 10:05; **Semi-Pro** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:20, 3:05, 4:40, 5:25) 7:00, 7:40, 9:20, 10:00; **The Spiderwick Chronicles** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:40, 2:10, 4:30) 7:05, 9:25; **Step Up 2 the Streets** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:35, 2:05, 4:35) 7:05, 9:30; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 12:00, 1:10, 2:00, 2:40, 3:50, 4:40, 5:20) 6:30, 7:20, 8:00, 9:10, 10:00, 10:40; **Vantage Point** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:50, 2:15, 4:35) 7:00, 9:20

#### NORTH COASTAL CARLSBAD

Plaza Camino Real 2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469) **Semi-Pro** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:20, 1:25, 3:30) 5:35, 7:45, 9:45 Sun. (11:20, 1:25, 3:30) 5:35, 7:45; **Vantage Point** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:10, 1:10, 3:20) 5:25, 7:30, 9:35 Sun. (11:10, 1:10, 3:20) 5:25, 7:30

### "A CLASSY ROMANTIC COCKTAIL **'THE OTHER BOLEYN GIRL' OFFERS THE PLEASURES** YOU WANT FROM A ROYAL-COURT SOAPER.

Natalie Portman sparkles with deception, daring to flaunt passion as well as ambition. Few actresses know how to submit with the parted-lip sensuality of Scarlett Johansson." ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY, Owen Gleiberman



### In Bruges (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00)

5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; Juno (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:15) (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; No Country for Old Men (R) Fri.-Sat. (2:30) 7:30, 10:30 Sun. (2:30) 7:30; The Other Boleyn Girl (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 1:15, 4:00) 7:00, 9:45 Sun. (10:30, 1:15, 4:00) 7:00

at Del Mar Heights Road

#### **ENCINITAS**

**DEL MAR** 

El Camino Real

(858-646-9420)

Flower Hill 4

**Del Mar Highlands 8** 

Call theater for program information

2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425)

La Paloma 471 South Coast Highway 101

(760-436-SHOW) Into the Wild (R) Fri.-Sun. 6:00p.m.; No Country for Old Men (R) Fri. 9:00p.m. Sat.-Sun. 3:20, 9:00

#### LA COSTA

La Costa 6

6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)

No Country for Old Men (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:45, 1:45) 4:45, 7:45, 10:45 Sun. (10:45, 1:45) 4:45, 7:45; **The Other Boleyn Girl** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00 Sun. (10:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00; Semi-Pro (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 12:45, 3:00) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 Sun. (10:30, 12:45, 3:00) 5:15, 7:30; The Spiderwick Chronicles (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:45, 2:00) 4:30, 7:15, 9:30 Sun. (11:45, 2:00) 4:30, 7:15: 10.000 B.C. (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:45 Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; Vantage Point (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15

#### OCEANSIDE

#### Mission Marketplace 13 College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-806-1790)

Be Kind Rewind (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 2:00, 4:30) 7:15, 10:00 Sun. (11:15, 2:00, 4:30) 7:15; **Charlie Bartlett** (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:15, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15, 9:45 Sun. (12:15, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15; College Road Trip (G) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:00, 3:15) 5:30, 7:45, 10:00 Sun. (11:00, 1:00, 3:15) 5:30, 7:45; Definitely, Maybe (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:45, 4:45); **Jumper** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:30, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (11:30, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30; Juno (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 8:00; No Country for Old Men (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:30, 2:15) 5:00, 7:45, 10:30 Sun. (11:30, 2:15) 5:00, 7:45; Semi-Pro (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15; The Spiderwick Chronicles (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:45, 2:00, 4:15) 7:00, 9:30 Sun. (11:45, 2:00, 4:15) 7:00; **Step Up 2 the Streets** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:45, 3:00) 5:15, 7:30, 10:00 Sun. (12:45, 3:00) 5:15, 7:30; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 12:00, 1:45, 2:30, 4:15) 5:15, 7:00, 8:00, (11:00, 12:00, 142), 2:30, 4:15) 5:15, 7:00, 6:00, 9:45, 10:45 Sun. (11:00, 12:00, 1:45, 2:30, 4:15) 5:15, 7:00, 8:00; **Vantage Point** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15; **Welcome Home** (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15; **Welcome Home** Roscoe Jenkins (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (2:15) 7:30, 10:15 Sun. (2:15) 7:30

#### Oceanside 16

COLUMBIA PICTURES

401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733) **The Bank Job** (R) Fri. (1:10, 4:20) 7:20, 9:50; **Be Kind Rewind** (PG-13) Fri. (1:10, 4:20) 7:20, 7:30; **Be Kind Rewind** (PG-13) Fri. (12:35, 2:55, 5:25) 7:50, 10:15; **College Road Trip** (G) Fri. (12:15, 2:25, 4:50) 7:10, 9:35; **Fool's Gold** (PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 2:45, 5:20) 7:55, 10:25; Jumper (PG-13) Fri. 8:05, 10:15, (1:25, 5:45) 3:35; Juno (PG-13) Fri. (12:25) 7:00; Penelope (PG-13) Fri. (11:55, 2:10, 5:05) 7:40, 10:10; **Rambo** (R) Fri. (12:05, 2:20, 4:30) 7:45, 10:05; **Semi-Pro** (R) Fri. (12:20, 1:30, 2:40, 3:40, 4:45) 6:05, 7:15, 8:15, 9:25, 10:25; **The** Spiderwick Chronicles (PG) Fri. (12:10, 2:35, 4:55) 7:35, 9:50; **Step Up 2 the Streets** (PG-13) Fri. (11:50, 2:15, 4:40) 7:05, 9:45; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 12:30, 1:15, 2:30, 3:00, 3:45, 5:00, 5:30) 6:50, 7:30, 8:00 9:30, 10:00, 10:30; **There Will Be Blood** (R) Fri. (3:30) 9:20; Vantage Point (PG-13) Fri. (1:40, 3:50) 6:00, 8:10, 10:20

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TheOtherBoleynGirl.com

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FOCUS BBCFILMS PG-13 PARENTS STR

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ager, etc., etc. And perhaps a somewhat unseemly humor, or at least unseemly delight, comes into the characterization of the psychopathic killer, with his robotic delivery of lines, his torturous banter, his gimmicky weapon (a compressed-air tank for blowing locks out of doors and blowing holes in heads), and above all his Engelbert Humperdinck haircut *circa* 1972 (hair humor always being big with the Coens). Tommy Lee Jones, Javier Bardem, Josh Brolin, Kelly Macdonald, Woody Harrelson. 2007.

★★★★ (ESCONDIDO 16; FLOWER HILL 4; HILL-CREST CINEMAS; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; LA PALOMA, FROM 3/7; MIRA MESA 18; MIS-SION MARKETPLACE 13; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6, FROM 3/7; 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 premoni-

tory music, the startling noises, the creaking hinges, the magnified eyes of the prunefaced 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 Princep, Geraldine Chaplin. 2007. ★ (HORTON PLAZA 14; PALM PROMENADE 24)

**The Other Boleyn Girl** — Reviewed this issue. With Natalie Portman, Scarlett Johansson, Eric Bana, and Jim Sturgess; di-

rected by Justin Chadwick. ★ (ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CEN-TER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SAN MAR-COS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Penelope — Contemporary fairy tale about an accursed heiress with a pig's snout, a major impediment to her betrothal to a suitable blueblood, the understood formula for lifting the curse. The moral of the tale preaches self-acceptance, but a self-acceptance that brings about a complete and beauteous transformation (a most accommodating metaphor) is an easy pill to swallow. A chewable, cherry-flavored pill. One chapter of the story - the shut-in heroine's escape to the city, a scarf over half her face, eyes wide to the unknown wonders of the world — is rich in possibilities, piddling in fulfillment. With Christina Ricci, James McAvoy, Reese Witherspoon, Simon Woods, Peter Dinklage, Catherine O'Hara, and Richard E. Grant; directed by Mark Palansky, 2008.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MIS-SION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**Semi-Pro** — Not half-funny. Will Ferrell joins his interest in the Seventies (*Anchor*-

man) to his interest in sports (*Talladega* Nights, Blades of Glory, Kicking and Screaming) in a relentlessly hard-sell comedy on the final season of the American Basketball Association before its merger with the NBA. The name of the focal franchise, the Flint Tropics, tells you how far from the plausible the filmmakers will stray in pursuit of a laugh. (No, let's not forget the Utah Jazz or the Los Angeles Lakers, but neither let's forget they were transfers.) With Woody Harrelson, André Benjamin, and Maura Tierney; directed by Kent Alterman. 2008.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARK-WAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA CAMINO REAL; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Spiderwick Chronicles — An inherited Gothic monstrosity in the countryside, newly occupied by a fatherless family from the Big Apple, houses a secret chamber and a sealed book, never meant to be read, Arthur Spiderwick's Field Guide to the Fantastical World Around You. The buildup (scrabbly sounds in the walls, a plastered-over dumbwaiter, a warning written in dust) holds promise, but the promise dissipates with the materialization: a kit and caboodle of butt-ugly CG beings sprites, sylphs, fairies, a dragon-sized griffin, a honey-loving brownie, toadlike goblins vulnerable to tomato sauce, and the shape-shifting Ogre, Mulgarath, the anti-Shrek, who could somehow rule the world if he could possess the book. Saccharine family fare based on the kiddie-lit series by Tony DiTerlizzi and Holly Black. With Freddie Highmore (as twins), Mary-Louise Parker, Sarah Bolger, Joan Plowright, and David Strathairn; directed by Mark Waters. 2008.

● (CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ES-CONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA COSTA 6; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARK-WAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SOUARE 14) **10,000 B.C.** — Prehistoric adventure with Steven Strait, Camilla Belle, and Cliff Curtis, directed by Roland Emmerich. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARK-WAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SOUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 3/7)

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 repellently 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. ★ (ESCONDID 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RAN-CHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18)

27 Dresses — Girly fairy tale to do with the proverbial always-a-bridesmaid, twenty-seven times by actual count, with a closetful of once-worn gowns to prove it, who stands mutely by as her slutty younger sister returns home and steals her dreamy boss right out from under her nose. Screenwriter Aline Brosh McKenna and director Anne Fletcher unprotestingly accept all the romantic-comic conventions, the contrivances, the clichés, and tidy them into shape as if with a nail file and vial of varnish. Katherine Heigl, blandly beautiful whenever her face-crumpling fierceness isn't spoiling the effect, gets an opportunity to play a more coherent character than in Knocked Up, and demonstrates a fine control of the light and shade of legible emotion. She keeps the blahs at bay. James Marsden, Malin Akerman, Edward Burns, Judy Greer. 2008. ★ (FASHION VALLEY 18)

Vantage Point — Anti-terrorist exploitation to do with an apparent assassination of the U.S. President on Spanish soil on the eve of a peace accord, but an actual assassination of his look-alike: "Sir, we've used doubles since Reagan," a page out of Saddam Hussein's playbook, and the terrorists know that playbook backwards and forwards. The narrative goes over and over the same compressed sequence of events from differing points of view, until, on the sixth pass, the full story comes to light in all its laughable absurdity. With Dennis Ouaid, Forest Whitaker, Sigourney Weaver, Matthew Fox, and William Hurt; directed by Pete Travis. 2008. CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8: ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18: GROSSMONT CENTER: HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARK-WAY PLAZA 18: POWAY 10: RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)





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Competitive wages, paid weekly. Paic holidays, vacation, Medical, dental, training, career management. www.jobs.volt. com. EOE. San Diego: 858-576-3140; eall: clairemont@volt.com. Carlsbad 60-729-8916; email carlsbad@volt.com. Cajon: 619-401-1524; email elcajon@

volt.com. San Marcos: 760-471-0800; email sanmarcos@volt.com. Scripps Ranch: 858-578-0920; email scrippsranch@volt.com. Ranch: ADMINISTRATIVE/CUSTOMER SER-

ADMINISTRATULE VICE AND A VICE. Empower your future with a new ca-reer! Sedona Staffing has multiple temporary and temp-to-hire opportunities with San Diego's top companies! We are currently hiring Administrative Assistants, Data Entry, Inbound Customer Service Reps, Account Generator, and Retail

Salespeople. Apply in person 7am-3pm Monday-Friday: Sedona Staffing, 7380 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 209, San Diego, CA 92111 (next to Coco's). Call Carla, 619-857-9844 or Sharon, 858-268-9844 x204.

ADMINISTRATIVE/RECEPTIONIST. Full time. Join the Volt Services Group family! Career-minded, serious professional dedicated employee, solid work history. Volt Services is looking for experienced, highly professional, self motivated, dy-

#### **JOIN THE #1** SECURITY TEAM

✓ Med/dental/vision

✓ Free life insurance

✓ Paid vacation ✓ 401(k)

- ✓ Will assist with Guard Card
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Positions throughout San Diego County, North County and Temecula. EEO/M/F/D/V • Drug-Free • PPO #14827 For fastest response, apply online now! www.securitasjobs.com Thank you for applying online!

Or apply 8 am-5 pm Mon.-Fri. SAN DIEGO (92120) • 619-641-0049 • 6160 Mission Gorge Rd., Ste. 100 AN MARCOS (92078) • 760-591-3733 • 365 S. Rancho Santa Fe Rd., Ste. 202 TEMECULA (92590) • 951-676-3954 • 28991 Old Town Front St. , Ste. 206 SECURITAS

namic individuals to work in Del Mar and surrounding communities. Professional interaction with visitors, new hires, HR staff, co-workers, management. Minimum Stati, co-workers, management, winimum 2-3 years administrative support experi-ence, exceptional reliability, handle tasks with high level of detail, knowledge of MS Office and Internet. Clear communication skills, flexibility, multi-tasking. EOE. Carlsbad@volt.com. Volt Services Group, 1850 Marron Road, Suite 114, Carlsbad

### Marketing Associates Needed

Pacific Home Remodeling, Inc. is seeking Marketing Associates to promote our energy-efficient/green living products at weekend home shows and events to make quality leads and appointments.

- Paid training provided
- · Great sales and marketing experience
- Base + commission + bonuses



Call Mark to schedule an interview: 858-866-0183

Home Remodeling, Inc. A Professional Home Improvement Group

### Fundraising

A national Telemarketing firm with over  $20\,$ years in business, specializing in fundraising for the Democratic Party and charities, is currently hiring Telemarketers for its San Diego center.

- \$9/hour
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- Performance bonuses
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- 401(k)
- Full- and part-time Convenient location



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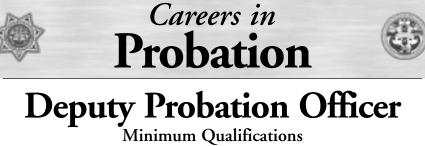
Call for an interview: 858-496-2100

North County Machine Programmer • Electro-Mechanical Assemblers Stock Clerks • Soldering Specialist • Fiber Optic Tech Machine Operators • Material Handlers Production, Mechanical Assembly • Warehouse Workers Paid holidays after 520 hours • Various shifts Vacation bonuses after 2000 hours • Come in or call now! 201 **CONTRACT STAFFING SINCE 1957** 8316 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. #204 San Diego • 858-277-5680

WANTED

San Diego Call Center • Receptionist • Test Technicians

Electronic Assemblers • Machine Programmer (CNC) Machine Operator • Inside Sales (outbound) • Quality Assurance Production Workers • Warehouse Manager • Mail Sorters



• 21 years old • Good physical condition • No illicit drug usage • U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen • No felony convictions • Bachelor's degree with experience

> **Salary:** \$50,752-\$61,672 annually Safety Retirement-Sworn Officers 3% at age 50. Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply.

Test dates: March 22, 2008 or April 26, 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

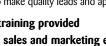
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### APPOINTMENT SCHEDULER. \$15/hour

APPOINTIMENT SCHEDULER. \$15/hour plus bonus. Appointment Setting busi-ness-to-business via phone, no selling. Part time only. Morning hours 7:30-11:30am, Miramar area. Paid training. Can earn up to \$20/hour. E-mail resume to employment@versacall.com or send resume to Schedular, 7047 Carroll Road, San Diego, CA 92121.858-677-6766.

San Diego, CA 92121. 838-677-6766. **APPOINTMENT SETTER.** No selling1 \$10/hour base pay. Earn up to \$20/hour! No experience needed. Just book ap-pointments. Money motivated, reliable people for 9am-3pm shift, Monday-Fri-day. Additional hours available. Gateway Marketing. San Diego: 619-697-5600. Es-condido: 760-743-0050.

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APPOINTMENT SETTERS, \$1500-\$35500 weekly. Pacific Home Remodeling is hir-ing ambitious, motivated individuals to set appointments to promote energy-effi-cient/green living products such as Magic Windows and Flex-On Exterior Coating—all products approved by the Department of Energy. Training plus all tools and support to insure success pro-vided. Great pay! Growth opportunity. Call to schedule an interview: 858-866-0183. www.pacifichomergenodeling.com. APPOINTMENT SETTERS. \$1500-\$3500

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CALL CENTER and Inside Sales (Outbound). MDI offers paid holidays after 520 hours and vacation bonuses after 2000 hours. MDI Staffing, 8316 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, #204. Fax 858-277-5621. Call 858-277-5680. CAREER FAIRI South Bay Career Fair, Saturday, May 10, 10am 1pm: City of Chula Vista City Hall courtyard, 276 Fourth Avenue, Chula Vista 91910. Medical, Hospitality, Security, Administrative, Recreation, Lifeguards, Drivers and more. Employers include SeaWorld, Knotts Soak City, Chula Vista Police Department, Chula Vista Recreation Department, Recreation Recreatio

Clacobs/wcl.chulia-vista.ca.us. CAREGIVER. Provide assistance to adults with developmental disabilities, full time, third shift, \$9 per hour. Apply: Home of Guiding Hands, 1825 Gillespie Way #200, El Cajon, CA, 92020, on-line: www. guidinghands.org, call: 619-938-3057.

CAREGIVERS, \$250 SIGN ON BONUS CAREGIVERS. \$250 SIGN ON BONUS. Casa de las Campanas, a luxrious retire-ment community located in Rancho Bernardo, is hiring Part-time Caregivers to assist our residents. Looking for indi-viduals who are reliable and prefer one-year experience. Please visit us to complete an application in the Human Resources Department, 18655 West Bernardo Drive, San Diego, CA 92127. You may fax your resume to 858-592-1853. EOE.

1853. EOE. CAREGIVERS. Full/part time. 24-hour live-ins. Male/female. 1+ year experience, ve-hicle required. Caregivers, Companions, HHAs, CNAS. Leave contact information and brief experience: 619-944-3327. CAREGIVERS. Home Instead Senior Care needs cheerful, dependable people to help seniors stay at home with our non-

#### **Free Classifieds!** Post free online ads with photos at SDReader.com

medical home care services. Competitive pay/training. Flexible hours. Great bene-fits. Central/East Jobline: 619-433-6200. South Bay/Coastal: 858-277-3722.

South Bay/Coastal: 85-271-3722. CAREGIVERS. Live-in positions available for caring individuals in Oceanside. 5pm-6am Wednesday-Sunday. Experience with seizures and/or people with develop-mental disabilities preferred. Must be bla to expendence beckground debut/debtie able to pass background check/obtain fingerprint clearance. Reliable vehicle re-quired. Paid rent plus \$1300/month. Call Anthony, 619-302-2357.

CAREGIVERS/CNAs/HHAs Immediate openings: Hourly, Live-in, Nights: Cheer-ful, compassionate Companions/HHAS/ CNAs to assist seniors in-home. Minimum 1-year experience. Premium pay/bonuses/benefits, 24-hour office sup-port. Flexible assignments. Age Advan-tage, 619-660-8881.

**CAREGIVERS/CNAs/HHAs.** Hourly and live-in. Seeking caring, compassionate, dependable people with transportation. Flexible hours, competitive compensa-Hexibie Hours, competitive compensa-tion, paid weekly. Apply weekdays: 9am-4pm. Right at Home, 8369 Vickers Street #203, San Diego CA 92111. www. rahlajolla.com. 858-277-5900.

CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS. Minimum 1 year experience non-medical home care for seniors. Valid California Driver's License. Serving Santee/La Mesa/Del Cerro/San Carlos. Maureen, Visiting An-gels, 619-749-7525.

CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS. Visiting Angels, America's Choice in Homecare Now hiring compassionate, caring Care-givers/Companions. Requires minimum 1 year experience in non-medical home year experience in non-medical nome care for seniors and valid CA driver's li-cense. Serving Poway, Rancho Pe-nasquitos, Scripps Ranch and Mira Mesa areas. Call for an immediate interview: care for 760-703-2192

#### HELP WANTED

CAREGIVERS/HOME HEALTH/Personal Assistants/CNAs. Compassionate/de-pendable. Competitive/weekly pay, flexi-ble schedules, training available. Apply weekdays, 8am-3pm: Right at Home 858. 451-5762; 16486 Bernard Center Drive #124, San Diego (92128). www.

CAREGIVERS/HOME HEALTH/Personal Assistants/CNAs. Get paid weekly! Hourly and live-in. Compassionate and dependable. Flexible hours, competitive pay. Apply weekdays, 8am-3pm: Right at Home 858-451-5762; 16486 Bernard Center Drive #124, San Diego, CA 92128. www.rahencinitas.com.

CAREGIVERS: LIVE-INS, 2, 3, 4 or 5 days/week, \$120/day including sleep and meal periods. Weekends and hourly: 4-hour, 8-hour and 12-hour shifts, AM/PM. Top pay, flexible shifts 24/7, 401(k), pro-duction bonus, rewards for good work. Requires valid driver's license, vehicle/in-surance, registration, one year of paid el-der caregiving experience, eligibility to work in the United States. \$50 Hiring Bonus after 90 days of employment. Comfort Keepers, 2006 Workplace Excel-lence Medallion Award SDSHRM, San Diego: 613-795-6036. San Marcos: 760-598-3400.

CAREGIVERS needed immediately. 1 year experience. All shifts available. Hourly and live in. Call Assertive Home-care Services, 3774 Grove Street, Suite L-1, Lemon Grove. 619-466-6890.

CARPET CLEANER TECHNICIANS. Stan-CARPET CLEANER TECHNICIANS. Stan-ley Steemer, San Diego's #1 carpet and upholstery cleaner, is hiring now, full or part time! No experience necessary! Full-time \$8-\$20/hour earning potential. Great benefits for full-time employees. Paid training. Company fitness center and free breakfast every morning. Hurry, come in to apply and interview today! Human Re-sources, 9655 Via Excelencia, San Diego, CA 92126. (Exit Miramar Road West off I-16, turn right on Kearny Villa, right on Candida and head down the hill.) Questions? 858-271-9988 x162. EOE. Drug-

free environment. **CIRCULATORS.** Collect signatures on statewide petitions. No experience nec-essary. Paid 3x/week. \$10-\$30/hour. Hours dependent contract work where/when you want. Full/part time. 619-230-9020. **CLASS A DRIVER.** 10 years experience. Long distance 7 years in 11 western states. Experience: 53' dry van, 48' trailer/reefer, forklift, Bob-cat. 760-497-7126.

7126. CLASSROOM AIDES. Work with develop-mentally disabled children in non-public school. Experience preferred. Allied Gar-dens, Chula Vista, La Mesa. Monday-Fri-day, 7:30am-1pm. \$9,75/hour to start. EOE. www.vistahill.org. Fax resume: 619-281-0453. EOE. Apply weekdays, 9am-Jpm. Stein Education Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

CLOSERS WANTED to generate leads for home improvement. No selling of prod-ucts! Average income \$20-\$30+/hour, part-time! Monday-Saturday, day/evening. More info, 1-866-DRHARTY (1-866-374-2789). www.thnd.net.
 CNA/CHHA. Beginners, experienced.
 Family Caregivers, Childcare, Home Care Aides, Drivers. Great pay! New-hire bonus! Nonmedical, in-home help for se-niors, children, disabled. 12-and 24-hour shifts! Training. Flexible schedules, bene-fits, retirement, childcare. At Your Home FamilyCare. E-mail: homecarejobs@ atyourhometamilycare.com. Toll free: 1-877-903-JOBS.

CNAs AND HHAs, Caregivers/Homemak CNAS AND HHAS, Caregivers/Hormemak-ers. We offer weekly pay, flexible sched-ules, and training. Hourly and live-ins wanted with own transportation. Apply: Right at Home. 858-451-5762; or e-mail resume: employment@rahencinitas.com. CNAS AND HHAS, Caregivers/Hormemak-ers. We offer weekly pay, flexible sched-ules, and training. Hourly and live-ins wanted. Apply: Right at Home. 858-4515762; or e-mail resume: employment@ CNAs/HHAs/COMPANIONS/Homemak

ers. Seeking caring, compassionate, de-pendable people with transportation. Competitive pay, flexible schedules, paid weekly, training. Apply weekdays: 9am-4pm, Right at Home, 8369 Vickers Street #203, San Diego CA 92111. www. rahlajolla.com, 858-277-5900.

COMMUNITY TRAINING Specialist/Job Coach. \$9.75/hour to start. Assist devel-Coach. \$9.75/hour to start. Assist devel-opmentally disabled adults in the commu-nity. 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 Educa-tion Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

Drive, San Diego CA 92120. COMS/HHAs. We're seeking caring, com-passionate, dependable people with per-sonal transportation. Flexible schedules, competitive pay, paid weekly. Training opportunities. Apply weekdays: 9am-4pm. Right at Home, 8369 Vickers Street #203, San Diego CA 92111. www. rahlajolla.com.858-277-5900. CONSTBUCTION. Immediate long-term

CONSTRUCTION. Immediate long-term and temporary positions. Labor, Carpen-ters, Drywallers, Maintenance Tech, Plumbers, Painters, Full benefits available immediately. Call 858-292-8562, fax 858-292-0230, e-mail help@gostaff.com, ap-ply online www.gostaff.com.

COOK, LEAD SERVER: Senior resort re-Curun, LEAD SERVER: Senior resort re-tirement community seeking: Full-time Cook experienced in all kitchen areas, with Safety Serve Certification, 312/hour; and full-time Lead Server, Wednesday-Saturday, up to \$9.50/hour. Apply: Wes-ley Palms, 2404 Loring Street, Pacific Beach 92109. Donna, 858-581-8569. Fax 858-581-8630.

CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY PROBATION

Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Date: April 5, 2008, 8am. Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. Must

be 21 years, good physical condition, no il-licit 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: 856,514,9568

COUNTER ATTENDANTS/SUPERVIcuunter attenDANTS/SUPERVI-SORS. Subway is now hiring I-full or part time, day and evening shifts. Flexible scheduling. Competitive wages. Free em-ployee meals. Paid vacation. Tuition as-sistance. Apply in person. Mira Mesa: 9242 Miramar Road, 858-578-9205. Mis-sion Valley: 2109 Fenton Parkway #1; 619-563-1940. Point Loma: 2907 Shelter Island Drive; 619-223-1900. Management applicants, fax resume to 619-688-9291. CustomRE SERVICE. Setup and dis-CUSTOMER SERVICE. Setup and disnce necessary, we will view, 619-448-2294.

Customers Service. Start the New Year with a great job! Up to \$500-\$1000+ weekly setting appointments! www. monarchjobs.com. Paid weekly. AM/PM shifts. Full, part time. Medical, dental. Near Grantville trolley. Call today. start to-day! Mission Valley: 619-516-4276.

CUSTOMER SERVICE/DISPATCHER. ARS of San Diego is seeking a motivated multitasker with good communication and leadership skills for a fast-paced environ-ment. Must be a team player with a mini-mum of 5 years experience. Kevin, 858-677-5455 x113. kkellington@ars. com, www.jobswithars.com. Drug-free work environment. License #791820.

DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER. County of San Diego Probation Department is now hiring. Test Dates: March 22, 2008 or April 26, 2008. Qualified applicants will be notified by mail of the time and loca-tion of the lest. Applications must be sub-mitted no later than 15 days prior to exam date. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree with experience. Must be 21 years. good physical condition, no lilicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen. Pass criminal/personal back-ground investigation. No felony convic-tions. \$50,752-\$61,672/year. Safety Petirement-Sworn Officers 3% at age 50. Bilingual men/women encouraged to ap-ply. Applications can be accessed online from the Job/Current Recruitment section of the County website at: www.sd-county.ca.gov. Jobline: 858-514-8558. DEPUTY SHERIFF and Deputy Sheriff De-**DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER.** County of San Diego Probation Department is DEPUTY SHERIFF and Deputy Sheriff De-tentions/Courts. San Diego County Sher-iff's Department. Hiring for two types of positions; take one exam, apply for either or both! Exam Dates: Wednesday, March



### **2 Pacific Beach Restaurants Now Hiring!**

Looking for friendly, customeroriented individuals to add to our team. Requires a strong work ethic and ability to get things accomplished. Experience not necessary.

\*Full- and part-time \*Day and evening shifts \*Starting hourly at \$8.50 \*Free meals

\*Grease-free environment

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APPLY ANY DAY BETWEEN 9 AM-3 PM:

2015 Garnet Ave. at Morrell 858-270-5450

4263 Mission Blvd. or between Reed and Thomas 858-581-6950



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### Desk Coordinator

- Supervise staff • Retail sales coaching & merchandising
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- Coach staff members to up-sell & cross-sell services Grow with the business. Sales-oriented, self-managing,

computer-literate, highly organized. Full-time benefits: 401(k), holiday pay, medical, dental, vision,

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Contact us today to explore your opportunities.

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San Diego Police Department **NOW HIRING Become One of America's Finest** and Discover the Possibilities!

Over 100 career opportunities including nationally recognized SWAT, K-9, Air Support, Motor, Beach, Bike, Horse, Harbor and Investigative Teams.

**Test Dates:** Sat., March 15, 2008 • 8:30 am Balboa Park Club Ballroom 2150 West Pan American Road & Presidents Way

Wed., March 19, 2008 • 6 pm Balboa Park Club Ballroom 2150 West Pan American Road & Presidents Way

Fri., March 21, 2008 • 8:30 am Balboa Park Club Ballroom 2150 West Pan American Road & Presidents Way

# **POLICE OFFICERS**

For more information, call: (619) 531-COPS Or visit our website at: www.sandiego.gov/police





Accounting/Finance





Koch Membrane Systems is seeking highly motivated, high-energy individuals who want to become active participants in the drive to be a world-class company. We are hiring for the following positions at our manufacturing plant located in Scripps Ranch.

#### Manufacturing Engineer

Immediate opening for a qualified Engineer with past experience in manufacturing or process engineering. Project management and PLC/computer-controlled process a plus. Must be able to identify and implement new and/or improved equipment for membrane and spiral element processes, improve process throughout, and reduce costs.

#### Environmental Health & Safety Manager

Immediate opening for a hands-on Manager with a minimum of 5 years of professional EH&S experience. Must have experience with industrial hygiene, respirator programs, ergonomics, injury and illness prevention programs, California environmental requirements for air and water and California hazardous waste management. Must be technically skilled and able to perform physical mechanical tasks to maintain water treatment, air discharge, and monitoring tasks. Must have formal occupational safety, industrial safety, industrial hygiene training and/or education; BS in associated discipline preferred. Supervises 2 positions

#### Journeyman Electrician II

Must have knowledge of NEC and California state codes on wiring requirements, knowledge and experience with industrial applications (installation and troubleshooting of plant and manufacturing equipment), knowledge and experience with proper PPE and arc flash requirements (NFPA 70E). Must be a Certified/Licensed Journeyman Electrician with 5 years of experience, preferably in a manufacturing/industrial environment, and be up to date on applicable codes (NEC and CA).

#### Journeyman Electrician

Must have knowledge of NEC and California state codes on wiring requirements, experience troubleshooting and correcting PLC/controls issues, experience in developing, specifying and installing new/upgraded PLC/process controls. Must be a Certified/Licensed Journeyman Electrician with 3 years of experience, preferably in a manufacturing/industrial environment with experience specifying and installing PLC and other process control equipment.

#### PRODUCTION

\$500 Starting Bonus for Production Workers!

#### Machine Operator/Castor/Coater (3-4-4-3 shifts)

Immediate openings for experienced Machine Operators in our Membrane Manufacturing Department. Major duties include setting up and monitoring machine for coating and/or casting membranes; transfering and monitoring chemicals and making adjustments as needed; taking samples of membrane and chemicals; keeping complete and accurate records and logs of readings; changing rolls of fabric as necessary; draining, cleaning, and refilling chemical troughs as necessary.

#### Packagers, Preppers, Wet Testers, Brine Sealers, Rollers (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Shifts)

Candidates should have good math skills, be able to lift 40 lbs., and be willing to stand all day. Must have 1 year of previous manufacturing experience. These will initially be payrolled through an agency during an introductory period.

Koch Membrane Systems offers an excellent benefits package including a matching 401(k) plan. Please fax résumé to KMS at: 858-635-1009, fill out an application at: 10054 Old Grove Road, San Diego, CA 92131, or e-mail: mesteban@kochmembrane.com For more information about the company, please visit our website: www.kochmembrane.com

FOF M/F/D/V

12, 2008, 5:30pm arrival, Sheriff's Admin-istrative Center, 9621 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego CA 92123 or Saturday, March 15, 7:30am arrival, Rancho Buena Vista CA 92083. Registration by e-mail or phone is required for the Ridgehaven test ONLY at: recruit@sdsheriff.org. Deten-tion/Courts: \$39, 796-\$61,608 annual salary, plus benefits. 18-year-olds eligible to apply! Deputy Sheriff: \$49,704-\$71,000 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 Cali-fornia Driver's License prior to appoint-ment. Effective oral and written communication in English. EOE. Addi-tional test dates: www.joinsdSHERIFF. net. 858-974-2000. DESK CORDINATOR. Dearinger, voted

DESK COORDINATOR. Dearinger, voted DESK COORDINATOR. Dearinger, voted "Best Salon" by San Diego Magazine, is hiring. Grow with the business! Supervise staff, Retail Sales coaching and Merchan-dising, front desk interaction, coach staff members to up-sell and cross-sell ser-vices. Sales oriented, self manage, com-puter literate, highly organized. Medical, dental, chiropractic, acupuncture, 401(k), free hair services, product discounts. Creative environment. dearinger.com. E-mail resume to mark@dearinger.com. DiaMOND GRADER. Will train. Nonporfit

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760-931-8182. www.adeccousa.com. **DISPATCHER.** 911 Emergency, San Diego County Sheriff's Department. Look-ing for a challenging career in Public Safety? Test Date: March 22, 2008. Sign-up begins 6:30am. San Diego County Op-erations Center, entrance at corner of Complex Street and Topaz Way, San Diego (Kearny Mesa). First come, first served. Limited seating. Bring valid pic-ture ID. Must be at least 18 years; be pro-ficient in Enolish: bass computer-based ture ID. Must be at least 18 years; be pro-ficient in English; pass computer-based performance test; pass background and medical checks. No experience neces-sary. \$17.60/hour: Entry Level. \$21.19-\$25.76/hour: Lateral Entry. Medical, dental, vision, life insurance and retire-ment benefits. EOE. www.sd911.com. Jobline: 858-566.

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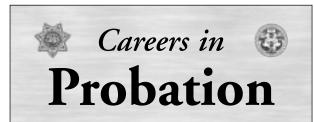
Work with developmentally disabled children in a nonpublic school. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista, La Mesa. Monday-Friday 7:30 am-1 pm.

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Law ENFORCEMENT. Deputy Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Detentions/Courts. San Diego County Sheriff's Department. Hiring for two types of positions; take one exam, apply for either or both1 Exam Dates: Wednesday, March 12, 2008, 5:30pm arrival, Sheriff's Administrative Center, 9621 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego CA 92123 or Saturday, March 15, 7:30am arrival, Rancho Buena Vista High School, 1601 Longhorn Drive, Vista CA 92083. Registration by e-mail or phone is required for the Ridgehaven test ONLY at: recruit@sdsheriff.org. Detention/Courts: 39,796-\$61,608 annual salary, plus benefits. 18-year-olds eligible to apply1 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. LAWN CARE COMPANY. College area. Full and part time, easy flexible hours, \$10-\$15/hour. Canvassing door hangers. Call 619-\_299-2956.

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#### March 12, 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

### March 15, 2008 • 7:30 am Arrival

Rancho Buena Vista High School 1601 Longhorn Drive, Vista, CA 92083

### 18-year-olds eligible to apply!

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### March 25, 2008 • 6-8 pm (doors open at 5:30 pm)

145 seats available. First come, first served (doors close at 6:30 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!

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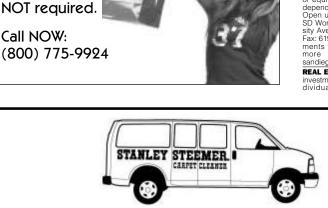
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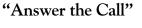
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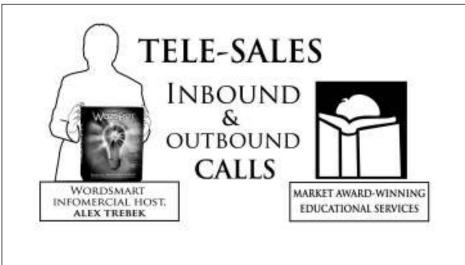
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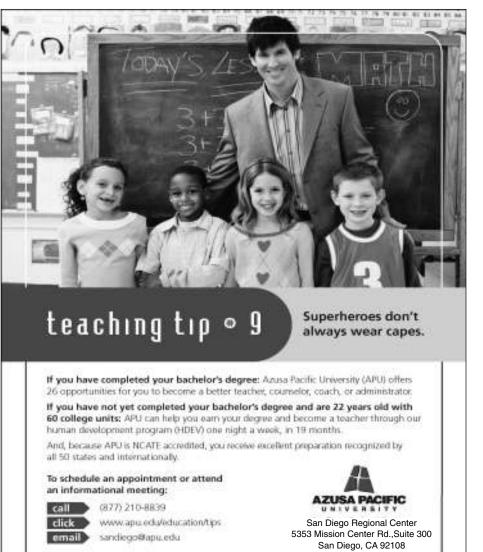
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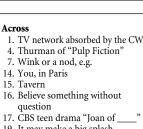
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- 19. It may make a big splash
- 20. Jaguar on a Jaguar, e.g.
- \_\_\_ Lang Syne" 22 23. Reproductive material
- 24. "The Raven" monogram
- 27. Code-cracking org.
- 28. Citrus fruit with red pulp 33. Bad marks
- 35. Gun shot
- 36. Opens, as a bottle of wine
- 38. Personal histories
- 39. Subtlety
- 40. Intoxicates 41. Tidv
- 43. Tiny bit
- 46. Mao-\_\_\_\_ tung
- 47 Mai
- 48. Office missive
- 49. Smell something (or what to do when looking closely at 20-, 28-
- and 41-Across)
- 54. Unbeliever 57. Occasionally
- 58. It included the creation of the
- WPA and TVA
- 59. Haul
- 60. Honest
- 61. Merged with
- 62. CPR pro

#### 63. Senate vote

#### Down

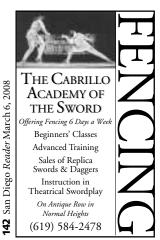
- 1. Jazz fan, most likely 2. Leaky
- 3. Movie star who made his film debut in "Fast Times at
- Ridgemont High"
- 4. Hair salon option
- 5. Sierra Club founder
- 6. Strands
- 7. Lose one's temper
- 8. Settle (into) 9. Phaser setting
- 10. Feature of limo windows
- Broadway's Hagen
   and Coke
- 13. Dermal opening?
- 18. Interject
- 21. Years abroad 24. He'll fight for his country
- 25. Stress, it's said
- 26. Beloved animals

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29. Was sweet on
30. Waist-ful?
31. Buzz
32. Quite often
34. Up good
36. The "U" in ICU
37. Creatures of habit?
38. Do om work?
40. Bric-a
42. Verdi opera featuring "Ave
Maria"
44. Simple life?
45. Bandleader Tommy
48. Me, in Paris
49. "Benson" actress Conn
50. Biblical garden
51. Suckling spot
52. It's really no big thing
53. Abbr. on a food package

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28. It sails on el lago

- 54. Like Beethoven's "Pastoral"
- Symphony 55. Alumna bio word
- 56. NBA position

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

1. Kristina Pohaku, San Diego

2. Dennis Beabout, Temecula

4. Felina Thom, Lemon Grove

3. Traci Doddy, San Diego

5. Mark Stephens, Portrero

Reader Puzzle for 2/28/08.

There were 123 entrants.

The winners are:

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by David Levinson Wilk

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PREGNANT? Considering adoption? Talk with caring agency specializing in match-ing birthmothers with families nationwide. Living expenses paid. Call 24/7, Abby's One True Gift Adoptions, 1-866-413-6293. (AAN CAN)

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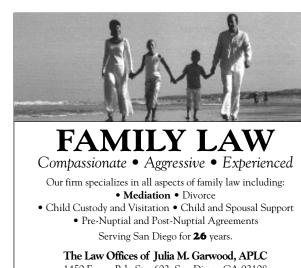
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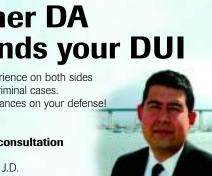
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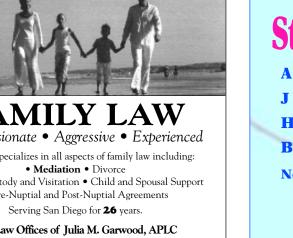
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## NAME This Place



Last week's place: (clue: Capri-cious diving belle?) "Diving lady" neon sign outside the Villa Capri Hotel and Apartments, 1417 Orange Avenue, Coronado, opposite the Hotel Del Coronado. Owner Bettye Trowbridge Vaughen had the classic '50s inn, and its sign, built in 1956. Vaughen, a top post-war L.A. model who was set to play opposite John Wayne in *Red River* when she became pregnant, still oversees the running of her hotel. This sign was featured in the 1996 movie *Flirting with Disaster*.

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ages, Beverly, 858-736-4472; 858-274-4472 BAND, "HOT PURSUIT." Weddings; corporate, private parties. High-energy dance band featuring sax player, female vocalist. Swing, jazz, rock, R&B, country, dance hits. 760-751-1876. www. HotPursuitMusic.com. DISC JOCKEYS/LIVE BANDS/novelty acts. Weddings, corporate, parties. 400 bands, 10 DJs to choose from. All types of music. Affordable! Since 1973. 619-223-5732. www.musicasyoulikeit.com

WEDDING GOWN, gorgeous Maggie Sot-tero, halter, crystals, excellent condition, size 8, stunning LaAmour silk organza, taffeta, cap sleeves, matching veil. Paid \$900, asking \$300. 619-286-8645.

Q: Ramona's roses?

Describe this location, name the near-

est cross-streets, and win a Reader T-shirt.

E-mail to NameThisPlace@SDReader.com;

fax to 619-231-0489; or mail to Reader.

San Diego 92186 — include your name

Tuesday, 9 a.m. In case of ties, lottery will

and address. Please put "Name This

Place" in the subject line. (Deadline,

Name This Place, Box 85803,

determine top five winners.)

### STAGE NOTES

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by Calling 619-200-0200. POST FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SDReader.com. See thousands of classi-

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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 spontaneously and with the realism and intensity advocated by the industry's cre-ative legends. Beginners welcome. Thursday evening class available, 6:30pm-10:30pm or Saturday morning. Call for information. 619-542-1216.

Acting CLASSES. Montysilverstone. com, father of star Alicia, holding classes, Del Mar and Rancho Santa Fe, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday. Check our website or call 858-759-7881. AUDITION. Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat! California Youth Conservatory is seeking young performers aged 5 -17 all ethnicities. March 7-8. www.cyctheatre.com. 619-944-7574. Www.cyclineater.com. 619-944-7374. LIVE ON STAGEI Point Loma Actors Workshop. Taste the performance high! New classes starting now. Beginners wel-come. Join the fun, www.pointformaetors. com. Sign up now. 619-225-0044.

MEDIA MAKE-UP ARTISTS earn \$500/day for television, CD/videos \$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)

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voiceover! Taught by voice actor/author James Alburger. Learn interpretation, character voices, microphone technique, more for radio/TV. www.voiceacting.com; 858-484-0220.

#### Counseling & SUPPORT GROUPS

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ADVANCED SEX THERAPY. The deepest part of intense contact with another per-son is learning to tolerate your own strong emotional sensations. And without this, life gets dull. Intense emotional contact includes emotions in the eyes, deeper breathing, maintaining a higher charge, and tolerance for your sensations of anxi-the de theos child depend, problems foll ety. As these skills deepen, problems fail in place. Sex therapy never includes sex, nudity, or demonstrations. This work goes beyond psychology into physiology and life energy (chi), Dr. MacIlvaine, PhD AA-SECT-CST. PSY#14409. 619-501-0334. ADVANCEDSEXTHERAPY.COM. PhD

ANXIOUS? DEPRESSED? Relationship issues? Parenting/family issues? Insur-ance and sliding scale accepted. Individ-uals, 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. Mis-sion Valley. Jay Schneider, LCSW. Lic-9573. www.manageangerdaily.com. 858-538-5587.

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EMOTIONAL WOUNDS from childhood? "Healthy Adults: Inner Child Course" be-gins in March. Call for free preview. Heal wounds from dysfunctional family. Thought Field Therapy eliminates pho-bias and traumas. Counseling for individbias and traumas. Counselling for individ-uals, couples' enrichment and family bonding. Sharon Goodlove, TFT Diagnos-tician; Glenn Goodlove, LCSW-1450. Goodlove Counselling Center, 858-569-8975, www.goodlove-online.com.

EMOTIONAL ARMORING. Armoring makes you feel dead and blocks you from enjoying love and satisfaction. Orgone (OR-goan) therapy addresses your de-fensive armor with advanced therapeutic techniques. Private practice in beautiful, serene setting. Dr.MacIlvaine, PhD. PSY#14409.619-501-0334.

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GAY/BISEXUAL MEN. Supportive indi-GAY/BISEXUAL MEN. Supportive indi-vidual therapy. Depression, anxiety, con-fusion, addictions, spiritual/religious issues. Married, closeted welcome. Dis-cretion, confidentiality assured. Mel Kar-men, PhD, MFC-12709. 619-296-9442. MILITARY. PTSD? Battle Fatigue Syn-drome? Night Terrors? Memory Loss? Dif-ficulty Sleeping? Troubled Relationships? Former military therapist licensed trauma specialist providing free group treatment.

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### NOTICES

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ADDICTED to Internet pornography/sex? Out of control? You are not alone. Call Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step fellowship. PO Box 3791, San Diego 92163 or 619-685-7211 or www.slaa-san-

AL-ANON, Grupo paz mental. Sufre por el alcoholismo en su familia? Juntas sesio-nan Martes, 5:30pm-7pm, y Sabados, 1-2:30pm, 3450 Bonita Road, #207, Bonita

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91902. 619-470-6955. ALCOHOLICOS ANONIMOS. Tiene probiemas con la bebida? Llamenos 24 horas. Oficina Central Hispana, 3628 University Avenue, San Diego, 92105. 619-280-7224

ALCOHOLICOS ANONIMOS. Problemas con el alcohol? Nosotros le ayudamos a vivir mejor. Sesiones Lunes-Viernes, 7am y 8pm. Sabados, 8am y 7pm. Domingo 8am y 5pm. Grupo Bonita Hispano, 3450 Bonita Road, #207. 619-280-7224.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL works for hu-man rights. Meetings: 7pm, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. First Unitarian Church, 4190 Front (opposite UCSD Medical Cen-619-283-163

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CANNABIS PATIENT(S) ACT. (Associa uon Cannabis Therapeutics.) Nonprofit. Seeks caregiver/patients with questions about cooperatives, clones, medicine, growing guidelines. Proposition 215 local guidelines. Meth kills. 619-528-0907. ) Nonprofit

CARDIFF HEALTH ENLIGHTENMENT Net working Expo. Saturday, March 15, 5-9 p.m. Free admission. Guest speakers, ex-hibits. Join us! Ada Harris School Audito-rium, 1508 Windsor Road. 760-632-7774. DIVORCECARE meta rooto2 may at 9am at 4926 La Cuenta Suite 203-A, Tier-rasanta. Special Free support group for those divorcing, divorced, or broken live-in relationship. 4926 La Cuenta, Suite 203, Tierrasanta. Bruce, Bruce sdfunding.com or 619-461-4480.

**EVILDOERS BEWAREI** Fight violent crime and injustice. Be a real life superhero. Join the Xtreme Justice League. 619-819-7834.

FIRE VICTIMS: POTBELLIED PIGS. Please help! Thanks if you've already sent donations-you're heroes! I've been work-ing hard to get the pigs on the road to re-covery. Some are injured/crippled from running from the fires. They aren't adopt-Able and may never fully recover. They ve needed lots of vet care, and still do. If you can help, call Creekside Vet Service: 760can help, call Creekside Vet Service: 760-751-1020, 8751 Old Castle Road, Escon-dido, California, 92026, c/o Debi Toner's rescued pigs. Thanks for caring!

FREE EMPLOYMENT/TRAINING services for individuals with disabilities, ages 18-21 on probation or parole. Able-Disabled Advocacy, 2850 6th Avenue #311, San Diego 92103. 619-231-5990 x305.

FREE PSYCHIC HEALING. Lecture Clinic. Free readings for new visitors. First Mon-day every month, 7:30pm, 4/7, 5/5, 6/2, 7/7 by Vessa's Clairvoyant Program stu-

The Blue Guitar

dents. 4455 Morena Boulevard, #108 858-509-7582. GAIN SKILLS TO SUCCEED. Are you 16

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HELP FOR YOUR LIFE. Lonely? Dial hope 858-277-8060. Scripture, new thought, prayer, helpful messages 858-277-2389.
Sunday service, 10 a.m., Linda Vista Presbyterian Church. 2130 Ulric Street, Cen Direct 02111.860-037.0679. San Diego, 92111. 858-277-0523

HERPES/HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HSV/HPV) Support group. Accurate medical information and support. Recorded message. 619-491-1194. www. SanDiegoCityHELP.org.

Jan DiegoUtlyHELP.org. INNOVATIVE POETRY seeking audience. www.exponentiallyacerbic.blogspot.com would love feedback and possibly to start up a poetry workshop in San Diego, South Bay area.

JULIAN GOLD RUSH TOURS and field trips. All ages. Includes Gold Rush musi-cal, gold mine visit, guided townsite tour/lunch. www.enthrallinc.org. Non-profit: Enthrall, Inc. 760-782-9202.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Join the Guardian Angels Safety Patrol. Be a role model and safeguard the community against crime. www.guardianangels.org or 619-964-8099.

MOVIE BUFFS. Interested in watching movies then discussing it afterwards (like book clubs)? Ages 25 to mature wel-come. Please call 619-850-6075 or 858-

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE Anonymous 12-step meeting for people with OCD. Mondays, 6-7pm, Department of Health Services Complex, 3851 Rosecrans Street, Mission Room. Information: OCAbeln@cox.net

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Meetings daily. No dues or fees. Contact www. oasandiego.org or 619-521-2538.

PINKEYE CLINICAL STUDY. Pediatric Re PINKETE CLINICAL STUDT. Pediatric He-search Study. Does your child have "Pink-eye"? UCSD is conducting a clinical study using an antibiotic eyedrop for "Pinkeye" (bacterial conjunctivitis). Your child may be eligible to participate if he or she is between the age of birth to 31 days old, has "Pinkeye" (bacterial conjunctiviold, has "Pinkeye" (bacterial conjunctivi-tis), and is in good general health. Study participation offers the following at no cost study medication (eyedrops), physi-cal and eye exams, vital signs (heart rate, respiratory rate, temperature), compen-sation for your time and travel. If you are interested in obtaining more information about this research study, please con-tact: UCSD Pediatric Pharmacology Re-search Unit (PPRU), Rosalinda Cruz, CMA, CCRC. 619-497-2100 (office), 858-735-5732 (pager).

PLAY BRIDGE, CANASTA, PINOCHLE, lunch, join 39ers senior club, 10am-Tuesdays to play bridge, canasta or shle. San Diego Recreation Center Idaho Street 92104 3pm pinochle

PRIVATE COUNSELING. Your journey can be clearer, more peaceful; relation-ship issues, body image, self-esteem anger. I can help. Work toward accep-tance of yourself. Fee. 619-838-6817.

PSYCHIC MEDIUM SEMINAR. Mary Rose Occhino, Hilton Resort 6/8, 1:30pm 4:30pm. Intuitive readings. Past life con nection/direct to perfect future. Ticket \$100, \$75, \$55. 631-767-5291. www celestial/whispers.com. :30pm

RECOVERY GROUPS for men and women seeking freedom from addiction/co-de-pendency. Fridays, 7pm. Celebrate Re-covery, 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.

smoker needed for 9-day research study. Leave message, 619-594-8827 or email TRDRPPDAStudy@projects.sdsu.edu, for SENIOR WOMEN'S BASKETBALL.

Women age 50+. Join us at Palomar YMCA, Escondido. 3-on-3, halfcourt. NCAA rules as modified by NSGA.Con-tact Robyn: 760-471-0038 or rorban@cox. 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-

TEAM DIRTY RED Running Club every Sunday, 7:30am. Meet: Max Muscle La

Sunday, 7:30am. Meet. Max Macole J Jolla, 7514 Girard, 858-459-1955 or Max Muscle Rancho Penasquitos, 9995 Carmel Mountain, 858-484-1155. TEMPLE OF BHAKTI YOGA. Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm; Fridays, 6:30-7:30pm. Free. For information please call 760-787-0700.

UCSD MEDICAL CENTER needs health volunteers, 40-65 years old, for a re search study. Payment is \$10/hour Please call 619-543-7201. VOLUNTEER Childbirth Assistants needed, UCSD Medical Centers Doula

Program needs women to help mothers during labor. Big commitment, lots of gratification. 619-543-6269.

grainication: 619-543-5259.
VOLUNTEERS. Become a child advocate.
Help stop child abuse crisis. San Diego's abandoned/neglected children desper-ately need you. Information sessions held on Wednesday, 4/2, 4/16, 5/7. Voices for Children, 858-569-2019 or visit www.

speakupnow.org. WRITERS (2) looking for "Chicken Soup" type pet stories for new book and toon se-ries, with photos if possible. claudia@ writersetc.com or piedpiper@newsblaze. com or 858-693-3939.

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MISSION BEACH. On the boardwalk! Newly renovated 2 and 3 bedrooms. Lux-ury units for rent. Granite, Stainless steel appliances. Travertine tile. Everything new! Private balconies, new pool, secu-rity building/parking. 3790 Riviera Drive. Mike, 619-247-2114.

TIMESHARE. Red deeded floating week. 2 bedroom with jacuzzi. Inverness at Del Lago, Montgomery, Texas, Lake Conroe. RCI #1105 \$800.7/4/08 week extra. 858 613-9210.

TRAVEL COMPANION WANTED. Charm ing, artistic, witty, spiritual, sweet natured lady seeks friends, single or families with children for travel, cruising, theatre, theme park outings and nature walks. Ma-neck 619-235-9646.

**P** ersonals

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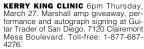
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858-395-3012



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great opportunity. Leave message, 858-616-6363.

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Looking for like minded individuals. Email Vinniefono@yahoo.com. PRODUCER seeks female talented com-posers, performers, singers, original ma-terial and incredible uniqueness. Seeking interns, "Platypuss Elaine." Pro-tools? Call 619-528-0907; www.myspace.com/ beciteers.com

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available. CD/tour credits: Pato Banton, Fully Fullwood, Majek Fashek, Myka Nyne, Scientist, Skunk records, Tippa Irie, etc. Dale 858-401-2973, myspace.com/dale-busking

Singer WANTED, mature, to start a cap-pella ensemble. Jazz, pop, blues, etc. De-pendable, fun. Prefer read music. I have charts. Marie, La Mesa, 619-462-2889.

SINGER/DYNAMIC FRONT, Person wanted, (21-35) preferably). Experienced SDSU Area alternative rock band seeking lead vocalist to record album/gig! mys-pace/theinformists.com, theinformists@ oox.net, 619-993-9693.

cox.net, 619-933-9693. SINGERS. Ladies, do you like to sing? Come/join women's chorus singing 4-part harmony. All ages welcomed. Perfor-mances throughout the community. Mon-days, 7pm La Mesa. 619-449-7107.

SLIDE GUITARIST wanted to form original blues/rock band. I'm a singer/songwriter with club owners interested in my material. Mike, 858-272-8832.

SOLICITO MANAGER promotor para pro-

Solicito MARGER promotor para pro-mover 100+ Canciones, originales en es-panol (ballads, rock, salsa, reggae, etc.). Trato con Ricardo, 619-284-1625. VIOLINIST WANTED. Strolling violinist to join with a French accordionist to play for an opening of a French restaurant. Impro-visation necessary. Paid cash. 818-535-9955, 760-723-7373.

VOCALIST WANTED. Experienced, versa-tile musicians seeking high caliber lead female singer. Blues influenced music, tight harmonies, low pressure artistic envi-ronment. Information www.VelvetCrumble. com/singer.html or 619-518-8488.

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DRUMMER WANTED by Rat City Riot You: Hard working, experienced, 18+, professional gear, transportation. Us: 5 tours, 2 records, recording 3rd. Contact www.ratcityriot.com or chris@ratcityriot.

DRUMMER, bassist, and keys needed. Maybe guitarist. lencyde is interested in samples. Contact us at myspace.com/ien-

DRUMMER, experienced, sought for roots reggae band Nekter. All-original material. Have demo. Ready to gig. Dedicated seri-ous drummers only, please. Barry, 619-795-4472. GUITAR PLAYER WANTED for blues/jazz

GUITARIST/SONGWRITER, rock/blues seeking great band. All types of serious musical flow. Influences: classical, pro-gressive R&B. Serious vocals. Seeking se-rious soulmates, serious jamming. Michael.birmingham@pizzahut.com **KEYBOARDIST**, professional, needed by established corporate, wedding, casino, casuals band. Wedding gig coming up at the La Jolla Country Club. Good pay and

MUSIC



San Diego Reader March 6, , 2008



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Neumann, AKG, JBL, Sennheiser, Apogee,



Bill Riddell Design Engineer North Park

love Johnny Depp in that pirate movie, whatever that character's name is. Yeah, Jack Sparrow. I love that swagger he had. It's so much like Keith Richards, too. He plays a lot of characters in his films that I'm sure people wish they were more like. I think his character in Pirates of the Caribbean was the coolest, though.



#### Mike Coniglio Administrative Assistant Tiiuana

character would be Batman My character would be batting. He's a real person. He doesn't have any super powers, so it is realistic that someone like him could exist in society. He's rich, he does good for society, and he doesn't kill anvone. Since he doesn't have to depend on anyone financially, he's able to get the best and newest techno logical gadgets out there to help him with battling evil. Plus, I'd get to drive the Batmobile.



Kasey Johnson Student Mira Mesa

f I had more time to think about it, I might say something different. I'm thinking of all the superheroes that come to mind. I'll say Peter Parker and Spiderman. I want all those webs. And, of course, climbing buildings and swinging around from place to place. And you have those times where you aren't Spiderman, just Parker.



#### Nikki Rosas Waitress

Mira Mesa don't know. Oh, wait, it would have to be Superwoman. I could have a big S on my chest. I do everything already. I have two teenagers and I work really hard. I'm not picking her because of looks, really. I'm just thinking of all the other perks you would get by being Superwoman.



#### $Michael \ Ralston$ Entrepreneur

San Diego would say Superman. He's amaz ing. All people want the strength and the ability to be able to fly and pick up anything. I'd join the NFL and not tell anyone I'm Superman. I would end up being the best player ever. I guess there are a lot of things you could do as Superman.



Derek Smalls Plumber Santee

'd like to pick a fictional character from an F. Scott Fitzgerald novel that is rich and goes to swanky parties. Or, someone from Hemingway or Jack London that goes on adventures. Also, it would make me appear to be well read. But the simple truth is, I'd love to be the lead guitarist of Spinal Tap. I can't pick the drummer; they all die. So, move over, Nigel Tufnel.

es. \$650/month. Female preferred. 619-

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Greeth is a combination of "gross" and "teeth." I guess it could also be "green" and "teeth," depending on how long it had been since

the person brushed. "Grums" is

the same idea but pertaining to

bad dental hygiene are the nastiest things ever.... My slang is sly enough that I can use it without people knowing what it means. I've seen some bad cases of greeth

gums. I think that bad breath and

Kylie Gilmore | Age: 26 | Occupation: Veterinary Assistant | Lives: El Cajon

and I hate to look. I don't want to stare. I don't want to be mean.

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SDSU/LA MESA. \$580/month, utilities in-cluded! Hardwood floors. Nice area. Share large house. Washer/dryer, Large backyard. Walk to SDSU and trolley. Call SPRING VALLEY/CASA DE ORO,

\$650/month. Room completely remod-eled home. Share utilities, plenty of park-ing, near town. Large yard, plenty storage. 619-977-8973.

TIERRASANTA, 3 rooms available in 4 bedroom 2 bath condo. Washer/dryer. \$600-650, shared cable/utilities. No

oking/heavy drinking/drugs. Refe ces. Available 3/01/08 858-571-8612. ences. Available 3/01/06 000-07 (10012.) **TIERRASANTA.** \$700/month, \$200 utilities in clean and quiet 4 bedroom house. In-cludes broadband Internet, cable, gar-dener/maid, washer/dryer, pool, fireplace. No smoking/pets. 619-920-000

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Share 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse, balcony, huge closet. Female nonsmoker, no pets. \$600, 1/2 utilities, first/last, \$250 security. Great neighborhood. 619-291-7887.

### RENTALS

#### COMMERCIAL

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by POST FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at

SAN DIEGO. 6781 El Cajon Boule-vard. 700 square feet. \$1.75/fooi nnn, nnn charges are .32 cents. Gen-\$1.75/foot

ral commercial zoning. Includes storage building. 858-751-6300. PARK BOULEVARD LOCATION, across from Henry's Marketplace. Previously written up in the San Diego Magazine, November issue, as one of San Diego's hottest blocks to shop. Park Boulevard signage avail-able. 2 office units with storage. First office, \$450, 120 square feet, fur-nished with executive desk and furni-ture. Second office, \$550, 180 square feet, unfurnished. Both units come with air conditioning, weekly janitorial service, and power. We are renting month-to-month or 1/2 off 1st renting month-to-month or 1/2 off 1st month with 6 month lease. Ron, 858-518-9898

SALON: ROOM AVAILABLE in busy La Mesa spa. First 2 months \$500. La Mesa spa. First 2 months \$500, then \$600/month. Darling room, hardwood floors, window covers. Must see to appreciate! 619-697

MISSION BAY. Office suite. 336 square feet. \$1.20/square foot. Next to 1-5. Easy access. Free parking. Near shopping center. 2445 Morena Boulevard #209. Juno, 619-275-3455.

#### SERVICES

# Quit smoking for life!

• 85% success rate

- Totally pain-free low-level laser technology used in Canada and Europe for 30 years
- Most smokers need just one treatment with a free 3-day follow-up booster to be smoke-free
- You will have a feeling of well-being that fights cravings normally associated with nicotine withdrawal

Call 877-600-5222 to schedule an appointment or visit us on the Web at www.matrixlasercenters.com.



### **\$10 OFF 1-HOUR** MASSAGE or \$5 off 1/2-hour With ad. Through 3/20/08.

Brazilian/Bikini Wax

4411 Mercury St. #109 • 858-278-2786

Open Mon.-Sat. • Sunday by appointment only

Kearny Mesa (up close to 163 Freeway)

Gift certificates available.

All types of massage Table shampoo • Jacuzzi



### **Eyelash Extension**

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619-583-5722 4938 El Cajon Blvd. (at Winona Street) 7 days 9 am-9 pm Lic. #2006012505



San Diego Reader March 6, , 2008 147

**\$35** (lasts up to 2 wks.) **\$99** (lasts up to 6 wks.)

SPECIALS

Mole Removal Sun and age spots, skin tags

with blue hard wax 1/2 OFF and warts. New customers. Offers expire 3/20/08.



**3 Microdermabrasions** or **3 European facials** 

## **Surf**DIEGO

Name<sup>.</sup> Mark Lives in: Ocean Beach Surfing: Ocean Beach Age: 50 After-Surf Food: Bean and cheese burrito Favorite Surf Spot: Mexico

"I started surfing when I heard the message from the Beach Boys when I was in fourth grade," says Mark. "I decided then that I was going to surf. I was in Michigan and I moved to California when I was 27."

Mark also uses a stand-up paddle board. "The first time I ever saw it was at a Coalition Club contest in Malibu; I saw Laird Hamilton doing it in pretty big surf. I was very impressed and excited. I injured my shoulder and couldn't get surgery. I decided to get into the stand-up style myself. It's more using your core muscles to use a paddle while you stand on the board. You use your waist and lower back; it works with my shoulder. It's like standing up without having feet on the end of your legs," he laughs.

He paddles on a 9'8" board.

"You have an advantage with a paddle. Other

BANKER'S HILL. Charming, single pro-fessional office; waiting room; free client off street parking; coded access and much more. Contact Yas Ghafouri, 858-454-8857 or email: yghafouri@cgpinc.

PACIFIC BEACH. Storefront/retail space for lease, \$3000/month. 1453 Garnet Av-enue, approximately 1340 square feet. Good location and visibility. 858-270-4492, x203.

MISSION HILLS. \$1150. 700 square feet, upstairs office space with lobby, 2 spa-cious rooms and kitchen area. 930 West Washington Street. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

PACIFIC BEACH. Office space, \$800. Second floor office, 2 rooms, ample park-ing. Easy access. 4455 Lamont Street. 858-270-4492 x203. SAN DIEGO-GREAT VISIBILITY!. 6787 FI

HOME

BATHROOMS

Kitchen/Bath

Cabinets, countertops, flooring, all interior and exterior repairs, HOAs. Family-owned, 37 years experience, insured/bonded/li-censed (#443970). References available. Free estimates. 858-565-0335.

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Special! 3 Areas \$45

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& Sin 5141

2008

Reader March 6,

San Diego

<u>8</u>

#### SERVICES



to raise children; there is a

lot of love and spirit here."

He advises beginners to "Just

be courteous. Take some surf

lessons, pay attention, stay

away from other surfers when

you're learning. You can fall

Why does he surf?

"The older you get, it's

surfers get frustrated that you're catching more waves. even in small surf. You hear comments every now and then Mark does feel that

there is an overall positive surfing community in San Diego

"It takes a community

square feet. 402 Market. Hughes Man-agement 619-239-1639 x102 BANKER'S HILL/UPTOWN OFFICE. Wonderful office near Downtown and Hillcrest. Free parking, elevator, interior restrooms, large waiting/reception area. Competitive rates. Call 619-846-8238.

down a lot."

CARLSBAD. Parking and/or dry storage only. \$100 for private; \$125 for shared. only. \$100 for private, \$120 for other Located in nice complex. 1000 Chin-quapin Avenue. Agent, 760-729-

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE. Pacific Beach. 2168 Balboa Avenue #3. \$1600. 970 square feet. Available immediately. Call Alta Vista Properties, 858-274-3600;

STOREFRONT/OFFICE. \$2100. Over 1350 square feet. Street level. High ceil-ings. 2 private bathrooms. Central loca-tion. 2053 Garnet Avenue. Space can be divided for less rent. 858-272-9614. NORTH PARK. \$2195. Office/Retail space, approximately 1400 square feet, large reception area, kitchenette, near all. 3928 Illinois Street #101. 619-843-0796.

not only a thrill, but it relieves stress and helps keep you in shape. It's also a family thing; my daughter is a competitive surfer with her college team."

See the video Go to SDReader.com Click on SurfDiego

> RENTALS Houses

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by POST FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SDReader.com. See thousands of classi-

SDReader.com. See thousands of classi-fied ads not printed here! ALPINE. Large 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath cus-tom home, panoramic view, Jacuzzi, 2-car garage, RV parking, private lake, clubhouse, tennis. 3 acres. \$2195. Day 619-296-6487, evening 619-933-8912. BONITA. Immaculate 3 bedroom, 2-5 bath home plus bonus room. 3-car garage. Huge yard/lot. Pool. Hardwood floors. New appliances. \$2500 includes gar-dener. 619-757-9829.

CARDIFF. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Large home with yard and 2 car garage. Gran-ite/marble throughout. 1 year lease. No pets. \$2295/month. 760-753-6575.

**CARDIFF.** Cute 3 bedroom 2 bath house 1000 square feet. 600 square foot en-closed patio, 7,200 square foot lot. Laun-

dry hookups. Quiet street. \$2400/month includes gardener, \$2400/deposit (install-ments). Pets on approval. ombok@aol. com, 760-632-0790.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, all utilities included! Secluded cot-tage, fenced yard, appliances, off-street parking, small pets, section 8. 4140 39th Street #C. 619-804-3325.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath Annual Annual

CLAIREMONT. \$1895. Large 3 bedroom. 2 bath house. Two car garage. No pets. Nonsmoking. Appliances. Fenced large yard, porch. Clean. 4212 Conrad Avenue. Juno, 619-275-3455.

COLLEGE AREA/SDSU. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, \$1950. Vaulted ceilings, dou-ble garage, laundry hockups. Available mid-March. 5567 Baja Drive. Agent, 619-260-1368. View at http://www.sevillengmt.com.

http://www.sevillemgmt.com. **DOWNTOWN.** \$1695. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths house, newly installed hardwood and tile flooring throughout, new appli-ances, new bathtubs/sinks. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-bar on the search at the sear

367-3333. EL CAJON. \$1800. Beautiful Spanish style 2 badroom 2 bath with family room, fire-2 octom, φ1000. Beautitul Spanish style 3 bedroom, 2 bath with family room, fire-olace, air conditioning, washer/dryer hookups, garage, RV parking. No pets. 319-444-3506.

619-444-3506. ESCONDIDO. Move in special: half off first months rent. \$895-\$1695. Tired of apart-ment living? Beautiful 1, 2 & 3 bedroom manufactured homes offer spectacular hilltop views. Full-sized washer/dryer, come ormuli worde. Peaceful community. some small yards. Peaceful community sorry no pets. 1924 Sheridan Avenue 760-745-1677.

ESCONDIDO. 951 Gamble. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1395. New paint, new carpet! dc@ sdcpm.net. SDCPM, 619-220-4840.

Sucprimer, SDCFW, 019-220-4840. HILCREST, \$950, Beautiful large 1 bed-room duplex. Clean and quiet. Restored Craftsman. Garden setting. Hardwood floors. Deck. Large Oak kitchen. Off-street parking. 619-469-9763. HILLCREST. \$1395. 1 bedroom cottage

HILLCREST. \$1395. 1 bedroom cottage. Hardwood floors, washer/dryer hook-ups, private yard. Off-street parking space with shared garage. Cat OK. Near bus line to downtown. 3304-1/2 Reynard Way. Agent, 619-298-7232. www. sbayproperties.com. HILLCREST. \$850. Small 1 bedroom, 1 bath house. No parking. No pets. Non-smoking. Hardwood floors. Washer/dryer. Appliances. Nice. Clean. 3941-1/2 9th Avenue. Juno, 619-275-3455.

**IMPERIAL BEACH.** \$1700. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Big backyard. Near beach and estuary. Available 3/01/08, 619-997-9215.

9215. **KENSINGTON.** \$1995. Spanish stucco house. 3 bedrooms. Fireplace. Dining room. Breakfast nook. Washer/dryer available. Avocado and apricot trees. Garage and carport. Hardwood floors. Very chaming. Available 4/3. 4684 Biona Drive. 858-569-9390.

**KENSINGTON.** 3 bedroom 2 bath with hardwood floors, plantation shutters, cus-tom paint, bright updated kitchen, central air/heat, finished detached garage with work bench, storage, new front loading washer/dryer. Great for entertaining: outside gazebo and covered patio. Walk to village. 4848 Kensington Drive. \$2795. 619-683-9274.

LA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath plus office, on mountain. Fantastic view to ocean! 2000 square feet. Garage. Family room. Fireplace. \$2595. Lease. Agent, Bill, 619-

LAKESIDE. \$1695. Cute 3 bedroom, 2 bath country home! Laundry facilities, woodburning stove, wooded lot in East Lakeside. Quiet, private. Close to free-way. Rick, 619-254-5378.

LEMON GROVE. \$1760. 3 bedroom, 2 Lemon GROVE. \$1760. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 2-car garage. New carpet/paint. Covered patio. Appliances. Washer/dryer. Pet OK. Near trolley. Avail-able 4/1. 858-483-2156. MIRA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath with nice yard. On cul-de-sac, \$1895/month. No pets. 2-car garage. Available now. Call 858-259-9791.

MISSION BAY. Hurry! Manufactured homes. 2 bedroom, 2 bath and 2 bed-room, 1 bath. \$1200-\$1800, introductory rate! Pet possible. Available 3/1/08. Ref-erences, deposit. Christa, 619-548-8992. MISSION BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house \$3200. Steps to ocean, wood floor-ing, 2 balconies, garage plus space, washer/dryer. 3747 Strand Way. Avail-able 4/1. 858-483-3534 ext. 29. www.cal-

prop.com. **MISSION HILLS**/South. \$1250. 1 bed-room, 1 bath house, hardwood floors, re-cently painted, very clean, quiet, yard. Year lease. \$1000 security. 3525 Columbia. 619-298-7659.

Columbia. 619-298-7659. **MOUNT HELIX.** Luxury 3 bedroom, 2 bath, open floor plan. Gourmet kitchen, stainless appliances, granite, travertine. Remodeled baths, much more. No pets. \$2,500. Alan 858-366-5673.

MT. HELIX. \$2500. Luxury custom ocean/ city view hilltop home on Dictionary Hill. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, bonus room, Avail-able 3/15. Year lease. Craig, 619-840-1661 165

NORMAL HEIGHTS/NORTH PARK \$1200. Credit check. Člean Spanish style 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Carport, hardwood floors, fireplace, fenced yard, patio. Rent n? 619-299-1633.

NORTH PARK. Nice area. \$1450. Cute 2 bedroom, fireplace, fenced yard, wood floors, laundry on site. Drive by, appoint-ment only. 3403 31st Street. 619-992-7204

7791. NORTH PARK. \$1200. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Cottage. Very cute. Cozy. Hardwood floors. Custom paint, tile, custom fixtures. Centrally located. Close to 1-805, shop-ping and more! barage included. Laun-3821 dry facility on site. Available 3/8. 382 Bancroft Street. Call 858-571-1970. sun

OCEAN BEACH/POINT LOMA. \$2100. 3 OCEAN BEACH/POINT LOMA, \$2100. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, completely remodeled house. Bamboo floors, fireplace, 2-car garage, washer/dryer. No pets. 4373 West Point Loma Boulevard. 858-483-3534 x29, www.cal-prop.com. OCEANSIDE. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Yaulted ceilings, wood floors, master suite with walk-in closet. All appliances. Close to shopping, parks, schools, free-ways. \$2,200. Linda 760-525-4863. OCEANSIDE. 3 bedroom 2 bath. home

OCEANSIDE: 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Cul-de-sac. 1500 square feet. 2-car garage. Laundry hookups. Yard. Pets on approval. Just north of Swap Meet. \$2100. Deposit \$2000 (installments). ombok@aol.com. 760-632-0790.

Ombokwadi.com, 760-532-0790.
PACIFIC BEACH. \$2000. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house with large yard, new carpet, landscaping included, available now, no pets. 2652 Figueroa Boulevard. 858-483-3534 ext 29. www.cal-prop.com.

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feet. \$1.50/foot nnn, nnn charges are 32 cents. General commercial zoning. Cor-ner location. 858-751-6331.

ner location. 858-751-0001. OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE. \$975/month. 3 Thethroom. Pacific Beach. Avail-

rooms, 1 bathroom. Pacific Beach. Avail able immediately. 1761 Garnet Avenue Alta Vista Properties. 858-274-3600

ROOM WITH PRIVATE ENTRY, outer of

fice, restroom also, near Sports Arena Administer copyrights and artist promo-tion by day. Room for rehearsals

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\$350.858-414-1122

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$2700. Mt. Soledad. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2-story. 2-car garage. Bay views. Fireplace. Fenced yard, balcony, patio. Washer/dryer. Non-smokino. 858-454-0422.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2000. 3 bedroom, 1 bath charming house, new carpet, or-ange and peach trees, large front and backyard. Fee. Free search at www. westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

PACIFIC BEACH. Large front house near bay, \$1000/month. New paint, new car-pet. No pets. 1965 Grand Avenue. Avail-able 3/6. Call 858-483-5111 x10. www. melroyproperties.com. POINT LOMA. Endless bay views! 4 bed-room, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage on 1.6

., \_... stati, z car garage on 1.6 acres. Garden, patios perfect for enter-taining. \$4800. Pets OK. Linda 619-399-7960.

POWAY. \$2150. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath house, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, yard, patio, central air, fireplace, in-unit washer/dryer. Fee. Free search at www. westgidrantals.com 619.967.9292 om. 619-367-33 WestSide/Emilais.com, 416 cd. ecc. SANTEE. Nice 4 bedroom, 3 bath home, 2400 square feet. 2-car garage. Yard. Washer/dryer. Fireplace. New carpet/paint. Near Santana High. \$2350.

619-562-6564. SERRA MESA. \$1950. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house plus extra room. Fireplace. 2-car garage. All appliances. Private backyard. 3465 Angwin Drive. Agent, 619-698-1400. www.allenrealpropertyservices.

SOUTH PARK. \$1550/month plus deposit. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house, wood floors, washer/dryer, yard. Available 3/15/08. Small pet OK. 3606 Maple Street. 619-669-9953

SPRING VALLEY. \$1750. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, garage, nice yard/view. New kitchen/bath. No pets. 9859 Saint George Street. Yolanda, 619-948-5103 Kelvin, 619-339-1335. SPRING VALLEY, \$1495, 2 bedroom, 1

bath home with view of lake, appliances, washer/dryer, fenced yard, deck, garage, pets ok. Section 8. 9756 Ivanho Street. 619-384-9219.

VALLEY CENTER. Woods Valley. \$4000. Over 4500 square feet. 4-car garage. On cul-de-sac. Brand new, move in anytime. Nonsmoking. No pets. Call for details, Top Notch Realty. Inc., 858-715-0688.

WANTED: \$1,000,000 cash for newer ocean view home, 3000+ square feet in Carlsbad, Encinitas, or Del Mar. Close 30 days or less. No agents. samsays@gmail.

#### RENTALS

#### A PARTMENTS / Condos

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AUTOR CONTINUE ADD WITD Photos at SDReader.com. See thousands of classi-fied ads not printed here! ALPINE, \$1000. 2 bedrooms, 2 bath. Air conditioning, dishwasher, Laundry. Pool. Parking. No pets. 1319 Marshall Road. Agent, 619-298-7724.

ALPINE. \$900. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Air conditioning, on-site laundry, pool. Small pets welcome. Call 619-445-0805, www.sdaubteckore.com vww.sdaptbrokers.com

ALPINE, 2 bedrooms, \$1305, Private garages, fireplaces, vaulted ceilings. Re-sort-size pool and spa. Call for special! Alpine Woods, 1829 Arnold Way. 619-445-1341.

ALPINE, 55 and up. Spacious luxury liv-ing. 1 bedrooms, \$955. 2 bedrooms, \$1235. Special: \$75 off! Creekside Mead-ows, 1750 Arnold Way, 619-445-2480. BALBOA PARK/East. Forest-like setting

3 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1700. Quiet. Fire-place, patio. Near zoo. Carport. Gated Laundry. No pets. 619-299-1530. BALBOA PARK. \$2200. Extra nice 2 bed-room townhouse with den. Open and bright! Garage, fireplace, large storage. Cat OK. 2233 5th Avenue. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

BALBOA PARK. EAST. \$722. Victorian flat studio. Treetop view of Park. Walk to all Wood floors. Upstairs classic restored building, Southwest facing. Newly remod-eled. 2034 30th Street. 858-568-5081. BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN. \$1195. 1

bedroom townhouse. Very private. Spa-cious. Hardwood floors. Laundry on-site. Patio. Free parking. Pets OK. Available now. Call Steve, 619-696-7500. 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-

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www.melroyproperues.com. BANKER'S HILL \$825. Large, charming studio, across from Balboa Park. Hard-wood floors. Security gated, Owner pays utilities. Laundry.Quiet. 3105 Fifth Av-enue. No pets. 619-347-0003.

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San Diego

Reader March 6, 2008

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#### **PICTURE STORY**

Photograph from the San Diego Historical Society



**7**irginia Casey with chinchilla pelts at Graf's Firs, Fashion Valley, 1972. In 1940, the daily paper interviewed a local retired druggist who was raising chinchillas. By 1951, 200 San Diegans reportedly had chinchilla farms. A year later, breeders held their first

annual chinchilla show in Balboa Park, including a queen with ten attendants. By 1975, a Fawnetta Pike was credited with establishing one of the largest ranches in the U.S., "providing furs for big name fashion designers here and abroad." — by Robert Mizrachi

You can purchase this photo and many more at the San Diego Historical Society Research Library or online at www.sandiegohistory.org. For more information, call 619-232-6203, ext. 127

CITY HEIGHTS. \$775. 1 bedroom. New carpet. Gated building. Laundry. Parking. Available about 4/1. 4344 Van Dyke Avenue #6. Agent, 858-514-8201. CITY HEIGHTS. \$1500-\$1750. 2 and 3 bedrooms. Custom maple cabinets. Hardwood floors. Stainless steel fixtures. Washer and dryer in unit. Granite counter tops. Custom paint. Gated community. Private patio. Assigned parking. Com-pletely/remodeled. Cats and dogs OK!

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Idlewild Way. Agent, 858-560-1178. **CLAIREMONT/BAY PARK.** \$1150. Up-graded 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upper unit, parking available, on-site laundry. No pets. 2537 Chicago Street #10. Agent, 858-560-1178. Kim, 619-684-5800 for an appointment to view the unit.

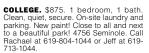
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news/rent2098. **DOWNTOWN.** Gaslamp area. Move-in special, \$280. Community kitchen, shared bath, on-site laundry, vending ma-chines, no pets, Star Hotel, 522 Th Av-enue. 619-235-6068. Hughes

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**DOWNTOWN.** \$1750. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths condo, 934-square-foot top-floor baths condo, 934-square-foot top-floor end unit, on-site manager, trash chute, el-evators, great security. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

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#### SERVICES





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at 619-807-7053. **HILLCREST.** Newly remodeled, pool, washer/dryer. Month to month. Barbecue, clubhouse featuring a pool table, flat screen TVs and bar. Granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, maple wood cabinetry and large storage rooms. 2 bedroom, 2 bath \$1795/month. Sorry, no pets. Lease option available. 1030 Robin-son Avenue, San Diego. Call Nicol at 619-807-7053. 807-7053

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LA JOLLA. \$2400. Nice 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome. All appliances. 2-car garage. Pool. Pets negotiable. Available LA JOLLA: 52400, 1000 -bath townhome. All appliances, 2-car garage. Pool. Pets negotiable. Available immediately. Near UCSD. Alta Vista Prop-erties, 858-274-3600.

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214-500-8349. **LA JOLLA.** \$1350. Luxury 1 bedroom condo. Enclosed patio, open floorplan, granite, washer/dryer, parking. Near free-ways/shopping. Available now. Call for move-in special! 858-277-3410.

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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. 619-367-333.

Com. 619-567-5353. **LA JOLLA/UTC.** \$1295.1 bedroom. Laun-dry in unit. Parking. Fireplace, patio. Pool, spa. Close to UCSD, UTC, freeways. No pets. Available now. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

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www.casadeimar.into.
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pets/smoking. 619-954-5286. LA MESA. \$950. 1 bedroom. Hardwood floors, new appliances, freshly painted. Laundry facilities. Garage available. Pets OK. Section 8 OK. Available now. Call Tony, 619-316-3473. e-mail: av\_lopez@ cov.net

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Manager, 619-820-2584. LITLE ITALY, Two 1 bedroom, 1 bath, off-street parking, hardwood floors, new paint/refrigerator, \$1045/month, \$800 de-posit, \$1025/month, \$800 deposit. Credit check, references. Linda, 619-399-7960. MIRA MESA. \$895. Upper 1 bedroom, 1 bath, great location, lots of cabinets, walk-in closet, laundry, off-street parking, section 8 04. 8767 Mira Mesa Boulevard #8. 619-804-3325.

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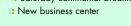
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NORTH PARK. \$1950. 2 bedroom, 2 bath duplex, very modern, hardwood floors, upscale kitchen, master bedroom upupscale kitchen, master bedroom up-stairs with attached sun deck. 2717 Vightman Street Wightman Street. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699 NORTH PARK. \$1000. 2 bedroom. 1 bath

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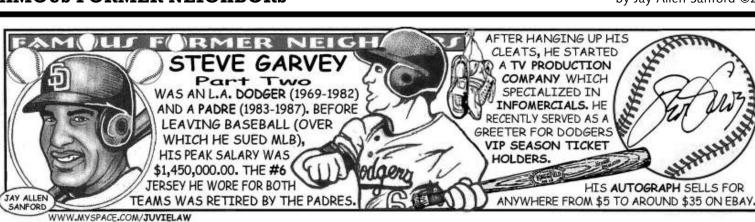
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upstairs apartment in South Ocean Beach! Laundry facility. No pets. 4852 Santa Cruz #6. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or

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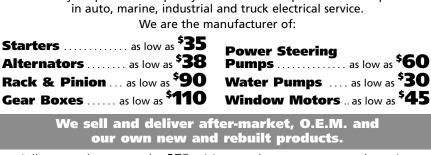
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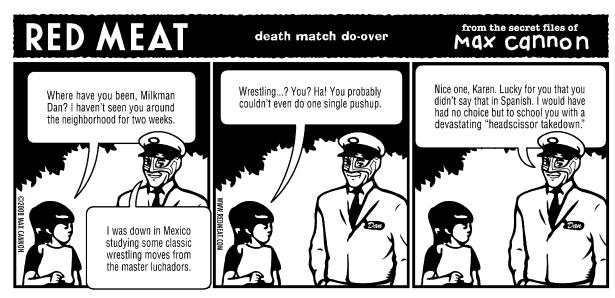
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Com. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1750. Very spacious, remodeled 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Walk to Bay. Parking and laundry onsite. 1524 Thomas Avenue. www.cal-prop.com, Company States

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2450. 3 bedroom. 2 bath. Very spacious upstairs unit, large bedrooms, remodeled, parking and laun-dry onsite. No pets. 1514 Chalcedony Street. 858-483-3534x29 www.cal-prop.

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4288. PACIFIC BEACH. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1485. Balcony, new decor, Clean, guiet. Near all. Parking. No pets. 1650 Emerald. Manager, apartment #6. Henri-etta, 858-539-6131; 858-245-9508.

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619-218-2220. PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom on beach. 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. \$1325, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upper unit. Laundry. First come parking. 3726-1/2 Ingraham Street. Call 858-490-1600.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$500 off first month's rent! Expires 3/20/08. \$99 deposit! OAC. Studios from \$945. 1 bedrooms from \$1095. 2 bedrooms from \$1650. Air con-ditioning/heat. Cats welcome! Heated pool, water aerobics. Fully equipped gyms. Spas. Tennis. Basketball. Business center. Bay Pointe, 3866 Ingraham Street. 1-888www.progressmanagement.net. 1-888-759-7435. www.sdreader.com/news/

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1115. 1 bedroom PACIFIC BEACH. \$1115. 1 bedroom. Large, downstairs. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Coin laundry, carport parking. 2 private patios. No pets. 5 blocks to ocean. Available 2/16. 1180 Grand. Del Sol Property Management, Boker, 658-270-2071; www.delsolpm.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1075. 1 bed-

cony. Gas fireplace. Coin laundry. Park-ing. Available 3/12/08. 1032 Beryl. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071: www.dolsobam.com olpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. Great values, nice PACIFIC BEACH. Great Values, hice, clean, convenient apartments in multiple Pacific Beach locations. Studios from \$766.1 bedrooms from \$975.2 bed-rooms from \$1355. Parking, laundry, Some buildings with gated entry, pool and/or deck. No pets. 858-483-3796.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH, \$1195. 2 bed-room, 1 bath. Tiny cottage in front of stu-dio apartments. All utilities paid. Stove, refrigerator. Coin laundry. 3 blocks to ocean. Cat OK with additional \$300 de-posit. Available 3/10/08. 5025 Cass Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm. com

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$2100 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Stove, refrigerator. Washer/dryer. Huge double garage plus parking. Gardener paid. Ask about pet. Available 3/10/08. 4255 Lamont. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$2400. 3 bed room, 2 bath condo. Upstairs in quiet 4-plex. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Laundry hook-ups. Garage plus parking space. Private balcony. Fireplace. No petsl Available 3/15, 960 Sapphire. Del Departer Mongement, Priva

Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1775. 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. Like new appliances. Laun-dry on site. 2 miles to the beach. No smoking. No pets. Please stop by 2734 Hornblend Street (behind 2736). Avail-able 3/30. 619-997-9383.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$200 off first month. 2 PACIFIC BEACH. \$200 off first month. 2 bedroom, 1 bath across from Mission Bay from \$1325! Gated community. Trails to bay, beach. Adjacent amenities: pool, spa, sundeck, barbecue lounge. Equip-ment and free weight room. Cardio fitness center. Computer lab with printer. TV lounge. On-site laundry, Cat friendly! 1-800-490-6372. www.pacificliving.com. PACIEIC BEACH. \$900/\$1000. Unfur-nished, 1 bedroom, completely refur-bished, laudry, pool, sun deck, 3 blocks to beach, privacy gate. Nonsmoking. No pets. 1027 Felspar Street.

PACIFIC BEACH. Studio, \$695/month. Off-street parking. Laundry available. Close to Mission Bay. 3503 Del Rey Street. Call 858-272-2889.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1100. Just steps to beach Downstairs 1 bedroom. Walk to Garnet restaurants and shopping! Car-peted floors. Appliances. Parking, 726 Emerald Street. 858-272-9547.

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prop.com. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1695. 2 bedroom, 1 both upgraded. Remodeled kitchen.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1575. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upstairs unit. Light and bright! 2

## news of the WeiRD

#### LEAD STORY

- Several Duke University campus organizations, including the Women's Center, the Student Health Center, and the Women's Studies Department, sponsored a "Sex Workers Art Show" on Feb. 3. Nearly nude "artists" danced for students and criticized America by pretending to eat excreted dollar bills. A university spokesman explained to a *National Journal* reporter that the recent show was acceptable because it was "art" and "social commentary," rather than male-bonding entertainment.

#### **Cultural Diversity**

- Brand-new Japanese parents receiving a gift are then customarily obligated to give a lesser one in return, and the Yoshimiya rice shop in Fukuoka recently created the ideal such return: small bags of rice of the exact weight of the newborn, printed with its face and name, so that original gift-givers (relatives, friends) can experience cuddling "the baby." Then, of course, according to Yoshimiya's owner, they can break open the bag and eat the rice, though he admitted some people have a problem with that.

— "We sleep with the snakes [meaning cobras], we eat with the snakes, we live with the snakes [but] we are not scared," said a 14-year-old girl in a village near Calcutta, India, to a *Wall Street Journal* reporter in November. Said a village leader, "Whenever I lie down in my bed, a cobra will just slide on top of me without hurting me." In fact, more than 3000 cobras live in one hamlet, mostly in peace, with few bite victims (though a cobra bite is often fatal because villagers initially trust the gods and spirit doctors to treat them). Cobras are so revered in the village that cobra bites are usually described as attacks by vipers or by "nonresident" cobras, based on a belief that local cobras are incapable of evil.

— There is usually a well-stocked Red Cross tent when the January corralejas (amateur bullfights) take place in towns in the Colombian countryside, reported the New York Times in January. "This year was calm, no deaths yet," said a newscaster in Sincelejo. Hundreds of wannabe matadors jump into makeshift rings, some sober and sponsored by local merchants, but others inebriated. Wrote the *Times*, "A stream of men arrived" in the Red Cross tent, "intestines peeking out of a belly, bone protruding from a fractured shin, blood spurting from a gash in the buttocks." Said a local, "This is about the ecstasy of escaping death."

#### Questionable Judgments

- In December, even after the widely reported tiger attack on a visitor at the San Francisco Zoo, the Houston Zoo was still allowing its visitors to play "tug of war" with its own lions and tigers. A 20-pound slab of meat, attached to a long rope, is tossed into the enclosure, and visitors are encouraged to toy with the cats by yanking on it as the animal lunges for it. Said a Houston zookeeper, the game keeps the animals from getting bored. Besides, a zoo official said, "[The lion or tiger] kind of lets us know when he wants to play, and we go along with that." · Two counselors in the Denver school system proposed in December that the school board give high school girls who get pregnant at least four weeks of maternity leave, without academic penalty, so they can bond with their newborns. The counselors said the policy would encourage

### by Chuck Shepherd

teen mothers to stay in school. — A teacher at Yamata Elementary School in Yokohama, Japan, was disciplined in January after a finding that she improperly punished her class because a few students would not come to order. Officials said she lined up all students and walked down the row, slapping each one in the face.

#### **Family Values**

— (1) Geraldine Magda, 44, was arrested in Austin, Minn., in January, following a nursinghome visit to hold the hand of her dying sister in her final hours. Magda was charged with stealing the wedding ring from her sister's finger during the hand-holding. (2) A Chicago man traveled to Sheboygan, Wis., in December to finally meet the 18-year-old woman who was his biological daughter, but during the same visit, he was arrested and charged with sexually assaulting her while she was sleeping.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego *Reader*, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@Yahoo.com

Parking, 2 blocks/bay, 3709 Promontory. No pets. 858-274-6699. **PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1650. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 3 blocks to beach. Assigned offstreet parking. Laundry on-site. Available now. No pets. 1050 Hornblend. Call 858-270-4492 x203.

270-4492 x203. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1200. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Off-street parking. Laundry on site. No pets. 4451 Haines Street. Available May. 858-270-4492 x203. PACIFIC BEACH. \$895. \$250 off first month. Spacious studio. all apoliances. patio, pool, spa, gym, tennis, barbecue, laundry, secured parking. 1885 Diamond Street #122. 619-804-3325. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1600. 2 bedroom, 2 bath luxury condo at The Pizza. Second floor. Fireplace. Carpet/paint. Lushly landscaped. Laundry. Microwave. Dish washer. Pools. Parking. Tennis. Billiards. Health club. Sauna. 24-hour security. Available now. No pets. 1801 Diamond Street, #216. 619-888-6604.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1200. 2 bedroom, <sup>-</sup> bath cottage. Patio, parking, laundry facil ity. No pets. 4115 Ingraham Street. 858-270-4674. PACIFIC BEACH. 1/2 off first month's rent!

PACIFIC BEACH. 1/2 off first month's rent! Charming 1 bedroom apartments from \$1105. 2 bedroom, 1 bath from \$1555. Only 1 block from the beach! Located in the north Pacific Beach neighborhood with beachfront access only minutes away. Short distance to downtown La Jolla shopping and dining. Our quaint apartment homes include on-site laundry facility, extra storage and a quiet location. Cat friendly. Call our rental office today! 858-272-7464. www.pacificilving.com. **PACIFIC BEACH.** Newly renovated, 3 bedroom 3 bath, 2 car garage, ample parking. Master bedroom view of bay and Sea World. No pets. \$2300. 619-933-8743.

8743. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1100. 1 bedroom apartment. First floor. New carpet, paint, flooring. Completely remodeled. Quiet. Gated. Covered parking. Small pets OK. \$1100 deposit. 619-339-9951. PACIFIC BEACH. \$925-\$975. 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, 2 units available, private yards and washer/dryer. No pets. 4409/4411 Noyes Street. 619-459-0370. PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Crown Point with fabulous city/bay views. 1,050 square feet. Off-

street parking. Washer/dryer. No pets. \$2,000. 858-213-4429. **PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT.** 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Half block to bay. 3820 Haines. 1-year lease. No pets. \$1550/month, \$1000/deposit. Move-in special. Jason, 858-837-0364.

San Diego

Reader March 6,

, 2008

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#### AUTOMOTIVE







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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath apartment, carpet floors, on-site laundry, dishwasher, ceiling fan, paid wa-ter/trash. Fee. Free search at www. westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, cottage-style unit, carpet and tile floors, parking included, on-site laundry. Fee. Free search at www. westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

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PACIFIC BEACH. Well maintained 1 and 2 bedrooms, \$925-\$1200. Clean, quiet, up-per, parking, laundry, ceiling fans, pool. No pets. Available mid-March. 858-964-4660. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1120. 1 bedroom, 1 hoth in the perfect walk-to-all location.

bath in the perfect walk-to-all location. Near beach, Henry's and Garnet. Open Saturday 1-2pm. 1222-1/2 Felspar Street. Saturday 1-2pm. 1220 TPPM, 858-699-3851.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1700. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome. Half block to Vons. Full-size washer/dryer, granite countertops. 1624 Emerald Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1095/month: Large re-modeled 1 bedroom apartment, upstairs with balcony. \$1525/month: Spacious re-modeled 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, upstairs. Parking. Pools. Laundry facili-ties. Cats OK. 3883 Jewell Street. Call Manager, 858-272-0068. See www. apartments.com/tuscanapartments for photos and floor-plans. PACIFIC BEACH. \$2595. Remodeled

throughout! 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath town house. Fireplace, washer/dryer, patio dishwasher, microwave, off-street park

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townhome end unit, washer/dryer, 2 park-ing spots, bay/beach close. 1528 Grand \$2200. 714-323-9317. PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$950

1 bedroom. Ground floor unit, approxi-mately 730 square feet. Near bay. 1846 Oliver. No pets. Laundry facility, off-street parking. Month to month. Available 3/19. Photos on our website: Photos on our website: http://www.freewebs.com/lefrontenac/ Contact Manager lefrontenac@inbox.com

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6302; cell 858-442-9730. **POINT LOMA.** Free rent until April 1! Valid with ad only. 13-month lease. Expires 4/1/08. Newly renovated 1 bedrooms from \$1325! City/bay views! Caesar-Stone countertops. Stainless-steel appli-ances. Pool, spa, sauna. Fitness centers. Air conditioning. Pet friendly. Gables Point Loma, 3811 Marquette Place. Call 619-223-6577. Gables.com. www. sdreader.com/news/rent1003. POINT LOMA. Newly renovated 1 bed-

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Com. Point Loma. \$1295. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Washer/dryer. Air conditioning. 3 parking spots. Fireplace. Lagoon. Pool. Double oven. Gated community. Parking underground. Rue De Orleans. Agent, 619-692-4121.

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x193. **POINT LOMA.** \$775, \$350 deposit. Spa-clous studio, 2 rooms. New carpet. Year lease. 2838 Keats Street 4D (at Scott). Curt, 619-665-9353 or 619-795-7382; Patrick, 619-944-7009.

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pet. 858-229-5039. SOLANA BEACH. Newly remodeled 1 bedroom. Upstairs apartment home lo-cated just around the corner from Del Mar beaches, race track, and close to Cedro's Design District. Our community is perfect for the Southern California lifestyle. Open kitchen, breakfast bar, walk in closet, ceil-ing fans, balconies. Pets welcome. This will go fast so call today! If interested please call 858-755-1466.

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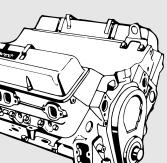
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**Red Flags** 

**I** think there's a particular kind of relationship — specific to each person — that you must endure before you find the one that you are going to spend the rest of your life with. In fact, you're grateful that you went through it because when you do find the right person, and you start to notice your partner's idiosyncrasies, they are nothing compared to that asshole you dated before.

We met at the hair salon. You could tell right away that he put a priority on being well groomed and that he thought highly of himself. This high degree of confidence was an attractive thing, at the time. Turned out that the particular kind of confidence he possessed translated as "I'm perfect, and all other human beings are not."

I spent four grueling years trying to measure up, trying to be his Mary Poppins kind of perfect. When I look back, the only good thing about the relationship was that my dog liked him. I always thought that dogs had a special, keen sense of who is a good person and who is not. I don't know what made me think that, since there are evil people who abuse their dogs, and the dogs remain loving and loyal.

I didn't know at the time that the wellgroomed thing meant that I was supposed to be perfectly groomed, too. His definition of groomed: "Wear expensive designer clothes that must symbolize success." He would spend an hour in the bathroom; the stench of his hair products would pollute the place. He liked going to Nordstrom because the sales people would cater to him. Before walking out the door to go anywhere, he would ask me, in a condescending, pompous voice, "Are you going to wear that?

He sold software for a living. He said, "Selling software is more important than being a doctor." He said that anyone could be a doctor; it takes special talent to sell software. He traveled a lot, so we only spent weekends together. He spent holidays with his family. I wasn't perfect enough to be invited.

I discovered that with the average five days between dates that I would start to forget the criticisms I had received from the previous weekend. What I'm trying to do now is explain the four-year timeline of torture that I allowed myself to experience.

I haven't yet mentioned: He would try to get out of paying, for anything. At first I thought it was because he needed to keep some

Dumped

money aside to buy expensive clothes for his sales job. Then I started to think about it. He was in the shower...I wanted to see just how desperate his finances were. I found a wrinkled ATM slip on the top of his "exquisite" dresser (everything had to be of the best quality, preferably made by well-known designers).

The reason he didn't pull his wallet out was because ... well, because he didn't. The ATM slip showed that he had \$50,000 in his account. He didn't pull out his wallet not because he was struggling; it was because he was cheap. He could afford the finer things but couldn't afford to contribute to the tip for restaurant service. "Do you have a couple of bucks?" he would say. "I don't want to break a five." We split everything 50/50. He always ordered the "special." I would order the cheapest salad, and then we would split the bill. Not only did I pay for most of his superb meal, but I ended up paying for most of the tips because the service was almost always never up to his expectation. "After all, that is their job," he would say. He had an important career; everyone else had a job.

He told me that he had once been robbed by "two black guys" when he lived in Pacific Beach. From that point on, apparently all black people were not "safe." Whenever we saw a black person he would insist that "our safety is compromised." If we had to get from point A to point B, and the journey would take us through Pacific Beach, we had to take another route.

I recall an occasion at a Blockbuster video store. There was this really cool Jamaican guy who worked there — he'd seen us often over the weeks and months - and one day this guy kinda snapped. In front of everyone in the store he declared, in a warm, Jamaican accent, "Wha tiz wrong wit ya, maan? I see ya here all dis time ----

not one time have you used your wallet, maan. It's obvious you can afford it. You wear expensive tings; why you not help pay for dees movies?" I baked that guy a batch of chocolate-chip cookies. From then on, the jerk I was with stayed in the car when I rented movies.

He would always say that I lived in a "box." It was a box — 200 feet of box from one of the most popular and scenic beaches in the world, Windansea Beach in La Jolla. He lived in a small room in a house on a noisy road with two other guys. But he loved to drive us through the scenic hills of La Jolla, judge the nice houses, and then give me a hard time: "Are you always going to live in a box?" You see, he was in a "transition" where he lived, while I had made my choice to live in a "hox"

He insisted, demanded, that I save a parking space in front of my box so he could keep an eye on his precious, clean car. We were always driving around parking lots to make sure that we found the perfect space so that no one could damage his shiny green BMW.

He wore two condoms, for "safety." He would ask, regularly, and I mean often, "Are you still taking that birth-control pill?" It was like I was scheming to trap this dashing good catch with a pregnancy, or that my vagina was diseased and dirty and he didn't want his precious dick to touch it.

In preparation for his weekend visits I would spend my days off scrubbing and cleaning. He would open a cupboard to get a glass and ask, in an offensive tone, "Is this clean?" I took his tone as a suggestion that I spent my spare time putting soiled dishes in grimy cupboards. I spent even more time cleaning; he would smoke a stinky cigar in the "box" and then spit his tobacco saliva on the front doorstep.

The relationship largely consisted of him telling me how he didn't

like what I lived in, how I wore my hair, what I wore or how I wore it, how I socialized, who I socialized with, or where I worked. There was always, always something that I could be doing better to improve the quality of my life so that I could be his girlfriend.

That was ten years ago. I recently saw him in a grocery store. He was impeccably dressed and had every hair in place; my hair was in a messy bun, and I wore comfortable sweats. When I saw him I immediately had the feeling that I imagine you would get coming upon a decaying corpse with massive maggots thriving in it — you just want to get away from it as quickly as possible.

If I had paid attention to my red flags, it might have ended amicably. Spending your life trying to be the person that someone else wants you to be sucks. It doesn't matter who gets dumped. What matters is you recognize - exactly when, or as close as you can get to it — that moment in time when you realize, you know, that it's not going to be a good match. Try to force a relationship to work and you will wake up one day wishing that the guy you're dating would just die, painfully.

I have married a man with the integrity of a monk. He also has the baggage cargo of a 747 airplane he comes with a mean, vindictive ex-wife and three kids that barely tolerate me. I've never been happier.

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2008

San Diego Reader March 6,

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Acura/Honda factory-trained. With well over a decade of experience, including several years working as a top mechanic at a well-known local Acura dealership, you can be assured of top-notch quality service. Jerry takes pride in what he does. His diagnostic skills are well-known throughout the industry. Often when customers are unable to achieve satisfaction elsewhere, they are directed to Jerry for an analysis. He thrives on a good challenge, Jerry will also take the time to explain to customers what he believes the problem is and how he would go about fixing it.

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# BACK WHEN

In the Reader

#### **Thirty Years Ago**

Sunday, country music figurehead Johnny Cash makes his annual visit to San Diego at the Civic Theatre with his perennial partners, June Carter and the Carter family. Cash has long been the most persistent "back to the roots" C&W artist of notoriety and has managed to survive the silly "outlaw" period quite nicely.

—THIS WEEK'S CONCERTS, Steve Esmedina, March 9, 1978

#### **Twenty-Five Years Ago**

Definitely Gandhi. Cinematographically it's very well done. The direction is, how shall I put it...it's masterful. Ben Kingsley's performance is excellent, his character is well developed. It's an emotional film that carries a message we all need today. Let's face it, we're living with the constant possibility of crisis, of war. -OFF THE CUFF "WHAT MOVIE WOULD YOU GIVE AN

ACADEMY AWARD TO?" Roger Shields, Poet, La Mesa, March 10, 1983

#### **Twenty Years Ago**

Mrs. Winter tells us how wonderful the Sandinista leaders are, but she omits the horror of their leadership. While my father fought for the Sandinistas in 1979 and died for the cause

of Democracy, the Sandinista comandantes corrupted their own revolution by stealing from the people and spending all government funds on military buildups.

In 1984 my brother was murdered in front of me by a Sandinista comandante, and his only crime...his only error...he sold four chickens to a contra platoon commander. My family is now mostly in Honduras, as almost one million Nicaraguans have voted with their feet and fled the Sandinista barbarism. —LETTERS: "CONSISTENCY," Anji Garcia Hegerochea,

Friends of the Nicaraguan Resistance, March 10, 1988

#### **Fifteen Years Ago**

Would vou like to know me better? Do vou wanna know me better? 'Tain't likely, like why the hell should you, and I'm not sure I want ya to anyway. More writeboy confession shit - I know — I wouldn't wanna read it either. Nothing could make me read past this sentence, or even the last sentence, and I sure as heck don't "want" to write it. No way. But want - wish - choice - has got so little to do with it, even writing goodstuff --- masterworks — is hardly something I desire. You write Crime and Punishment, okay? But I owe a piece, I owe many pieces, I'm two years

behind and it's just kind of spilling out of me. - "END WITHOUT END." *Richard Meltzer*.

March 11, 1993

#### **Ten Years Ago**

I consulted the above-mentioned psychiatrist in 1990 for what I could only describe as a kind of "teary incontinence." In other words, I could not control when I would break down in short fits of weeping - sometimes it would occur at the most inappropriate and even light moments.

Forward to 1990. I was tending bar and would have to duck out past the service end, into the men's room. It would last about two minutes, but it happened several times a day. I heard a lot of jokes from the regulars about my bladder.

The shrink told me it was natural, that I was grieving. I had just been dumped by my girlfriend. I told him I didn't think that was it. - "WET MISERY." John Brizzolara, March 5, 1998

#### **Five Years Ago**

Last Sunday afternoon I spoke with Reverend Tom Horton of National City's Church of God of Prophecy about how Pentecostals thought of John Ashcroft. At the beginning of the morning's service, the gentleman who first led

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San Diego Reader, March 11, 1993

us in prayer asked that, in addition to remembering our soldiers overseas, we keep the attorney general in mind....

"Well, Ashcroft is Assemblies of God, which is probably the Pentecostal denomination closest to our own, the Church of God of Prophecy. If we had a sister denomination, the Assemblies would be it. The other nice thing about Ashcroft is that he's not ashamed of his faith.'

-SHEEP AND GOATS, Abe Opincar, March 6, 2003

Columns archived at SDReader.com

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these prices? Trade in other sports and fitness equipment to save even more money. Play It Again Sports, Pacific Beach, Tierrasanta, College Area. 858-490-0222, www.playitagainsd.com. SOFTBALL LEAGUE needs 1 team for

men's slow pitch. We play year round. In-dividual players also welcome. 619-517-5781. SOFTBALL PLAYERS. We need a 3rd ler. 619-295-0385 SOFTBALL PLAYERS needed for

women's 3-pitch team Monday evenings in Ocean Beach. Recreational team playing for fun and exercise. 858-273-5346 SOFTBALL TEAM wants a shortstop and center fielder. 619-517-5791. SOUTHWEST KAYAK SYMPOSIUM.

Mission Bay, San Diego. Less

mos, information. Huge sale on kayaks and accessories. www.aqua-adventures. com 619-523-9577 SURFBOARDS. Vintage longboards, '60s and '70s. Also 15 used boards from \$100 and '70s. Also 15 used boards from \$10 and up. Ding repair. Call 760-809-8642. TENNIS LEAGUE. Intermediate to ad-

s. Join the ve fun at the #1 League in San Diego. Leagues starting now. 858-794-1800; ennisleague.com **TENT,** Coleman, 10'x10' Sundome, sleeps 4, never out of box, \$80/best. 619-466-4, ne 1887

UNIVERSAL GYM, squat station, chest station, 2 pulley stations, adjustable bench, Olympic bar and dumbbells, 400lbs. of plates and weight rack, \$350. 858-354-6286.

#### Рното

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AUTOMOTIVE



WANTED: Cheap digital camera, mini-mum 2.1 megapixel, prefer HP, Canon, Nikon. 619-276-8443.

#### COMPUTERS

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pairs, upgrades, installations, virus/spy-ware removal, website design, music, networks, cable/DSL, video, etc. A+/MCP certified. 24/7 onsite. \$25/hour. 858-793-0398. COMPUTER CIRCULATION CENTER. Buy

sell, trade. Laptops, PCs. Repairs, up-grades, virus/spyware removal. 24-48 hour turnaround. 9350 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, San Diego 92123. Call 858-573-0411.

COMPUTER STUFF, Mice, keyboards, ca-bles, cards, etc. Great for computer dealer, call for list, make offer. 760-598-6906, rfort27@hotmail.com.

LAPTOP BLOWOUT. FREE Diagnostic Laptops starting from \$298 for ACER Laptops starting from \$298 for ACER, Dell, IBM, Toshiba and more. Laptop/pro-jector rentals-\$25(\$75. 3 locations! Going fast, call now: 1-888-861-8347.

TOSHIBA LAPTOP/TABLET PC, Windows XP. Model #35000. 1.33 GHz, 752 RAM, 40GB. \$455. Handwriting recognition. NIS 2008 and MS Office. \$445. Kelvin

TOTAL COMPUTER. Commercial service We do everything. Installation, set-up, training, repair, networking, telephones, wiring, upgrades. \$20 in-home diagnos-tics. 619-941-1809; cell, 619-607-0221.

#### BICYCLES

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BIKE UNIVEGA ALPINA, professional mountain bike, 18 speed, 18.5 inch frame. Good working condition with good Knobby Tires \$125, 619-296-9415.

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BIKE. Schwinn 6-speed bike in good con-dition. Only \$80. Call if interested. 858-342-1756. 619-501-1883

FOLDING BICYCLE. Dahon 6-speed fold-ing bicycle. Great traveling transporta-tion. Practically new with luggage rack and gumwall tires. \$175. 858-459-8857.

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neu aus not printed here! BOOKS WANTED. Currently seeking nov-els, textbooks, cookbooks, comics, you name it. Will take all your books. Will do-nate those I don't need. Contact bookgirl619@gmail.com.

**CASH** for Walt Disney autographs, original animation/comic art, vintage Disney items, Disneyland items, any type vintage comics, autographed photos (no sports), movie items, 619-465-3090.

FILM, 16mm. Cartoons, features, TV shows, comedies, home movies, etc. Sound or silent, any quantity. Top dollar paid. I run a film fan club. 760-943-1545. Paid: 11th a lifth tab Club, 760-943-1545.
FISHING TACKLE. Collector wants for his personal collection wooden lures, reels, miscellaneous by Heddon, Pflueger, Creek Chub, South Bend, Shakespeare, to name a few. 619-972-3488.

Commercial and the offsor 25486. GOLD WANTED: Cash on the spot! Gold & Precious Gems of San Diego, 3439 Uni-versity Avenue, 92104, 619-283-1228; 5423 El Cajon Boulevard, 92115, 619-582-4068. www.sellusyourscrapgold.

HEATER, portable space. 858-272-9795 INDIAN ARROWHEADS/ARTIFACTS.

#### Αυτοмотіνе

MASSAGE CHAIR by Brookstone, Sharper Image or Hawaiian Lomi, newer, upscale, reasonably priced. Private party, 619-501-1883

619-501-1883. OLD TOYS AND TRAINS. Lionel, Ameri-can Flyer, Marx. Aurora, Corgi, Dinky, Hot Wheels, Matchbox, slot cars. Buddy-L, Smith-Miller, Structo, Tonka. Old plastic vehicles: Pyro, Renwal. Dave, 858-756-444

RECUMBENT BICYCLE wanted, prefer-ably lightweight, higher end model. Call Guy, 619-464-2131.

SCRAP GOLD WANTEDI Cash on spot! Broken, scrap, dental. Gold & Precious Gems of San Diego: 3439 University, 619-283-1228, 5423 El Cajon Boulevard, 619-582-4068. www.SellUsYourScrapGold.

SHOTGUN AND RIFLE cardboard shell boxes (pre-1960), duck and game calls boxes (pre-1960), duck and game calls, hunting and fishing badges (pre-1940) and paper licenses (pre-1930). Phone 858-565-1756.

#### **ANTIQUES & C**OLLECTIBLES

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ANSTEAD'S AUCTION. We buy antiques, collectibles, household furniture, appli-ances, TVs, home electronics, pianos. Prompt service. Local buyers. Licensed/ bonded. Serving San Diego since 1971. 619-233-3148; 1-888-722-2002.

BELL Norman Rockwell's "Looking Out to Sea" porcelain bisque dinner bell, great gift, limited edition by River Shore, only \$45. Leave message, speak slowly, 619-283-1767. CAMEOS, antique, 2 large pendants/pins

3 pairs of earrings, more unusual and col-lectible jewelry, best offers, must sell. 760-753-6996.

camera, Daguerretype. Schaeffer foun-tain pen. \$50 each. 619-297-7636.

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COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR

7980 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. 92111 858-244-1062

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As low as **\$22** + tax.

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Includes 16 qts. oil and BG's clean and conditioner kit. Extended-life

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FAINTING COUCH, authentic, turn-of-the-century antique, dark walnut with gold velvet fabric, \$675. Amy, 619-231-0030. SEWING MACHINE, 1940s Singer model 128-23, \$100. 619-980-7100.

SWORDS, 2, on stand, Samurai the Warrior, Aristocracy of Japan, stainless, ap-praised at \$1000 each, asking \$200 each. 619-445-5898.

each. 619-445-5898. **TOY FIGURES,** British, metal, 7 palace guards plus guard house, \$30. Collection of 8 antique coffee pots, mostly China, \$75 all. Antique quit, \$35. 619-282-9581. **WANTED:** I buy 1950s-1970s rock and roll concert posters, flyers, handbills, used or unused tickets, programs. Private party. Please call 619-501-6210. WABDPODE

WARDROBE TRUNK. Restored 22"x22"x40". Popup top, pullout closet drawers, removable case. Interior cedar Exterior denim. Working latches, lock keys. Reduced \$295, 858-449-2760.

#### GARAGE SALES

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BONITA. Garage sale. Saturday, 3/8, 8am. Everything must go! Clothes, shoes, toys, much more. 5200 block of Central Avenue. Private cul-de-sac. Hard to find, signs will be posted.

signs will be posted. CLAIREMONT. Moving sale. Saturday 3/8. 9am-2pm. Mattress. box spring

3/8, 9am-2pm. Mattress, box spring, chairs, various household items, clothes, Hirsh saw guide table. 3855 Rosetta

COLLEGE AREA. Moving sale. Sunday, 3/9, 8am-2pm. No early birds. 2 families furniture and miscellaneous. 1502 Tarbox Street (92114).

DEL CERRO. Garage sale. Saturday, 3/8, 7-11am. Tools, work table, garden items, household items, clothes, books, videos. 6355 Elder Court.

FLETCHER HILLS. Garage sale. Satur-day, 3/8, 8am. Furniture, sofa, dressers, wall unit, day bed, clothing, TVs, miscella-neous. 2490 Katherine Street, El Cajon.

LA JOLLA, March 8, Saturday 8am-12noon. Versace vase, jewlery, clothing, crystal/silver bowls, new tennis rackets, TVs, electronics. Beautiful things. 1148 Avapide Amaptae mantea

OCEAN BEACH. Moving sale. 3/8-3/9. Appliances, fans, heaters, furniture, equip-ment, electronics, clothes, red vintage dresser, executive chair, weight bench, house/car speakers. 4504 Greene Street. OCEAN BEACH. Moving sale. 3/15-3/16, 8am-3pm. Sofa sleeper, TV, dresser, air conditioner, new age books, household miscellaneous, vintage jewelry. Alley be-hind 4684 Long Branch. 619-226-6248.

DLD TOWN. Garage sale. Saturday, 3/8, 9am. TV, collectibles, knickknacks, elec-tronics, tools, sporting goods, hardware, holsters, clothing, books, household goods, leather goods, purses. 4111 Ma-son Street.

#### **A PPLIANCES**

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DISHW35HER/DRYER, Late models, multi-function, energy savers. Dish-washer under counter or portable. Dryer can stack or rest on floor. Super deal at \$80/each. 619-461-2643.

MICROWAVE, Sanyo, large capacity, touch control, wood grain look exterior \$50. 619-466-1887.

WASHERS AND DRYERS. Guaranteed. \$100-\$195 each. Over 200 to choose from. In-shop/in-home service and we sell parts. Stoves, refrigerators, dishwashers, too. Can deliver. Calwest Appliance Ex-change, 619-723-1545.

#### ELECTRONICS

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Calling 6 19-235-8200. **POST FREE ONLINE ADS** with photos at SDReader.com. See thousands of classi-fied ads not printed here!

FAX and copy machine, Sharp UX510, excellent condition, \$99. 619-473-1243. **IPOD,** Shuffle dock, allows easy access to USB port, \$10. Still in box, 619-574-

POWERED ACTIVE 8" SUBWOOFER, ר-וטטעי טא Snerwood. Manuals. A al at only \$100. Call Kelvin 858-232-

STEREO SPEAKERS (2), JBL model 2500, 2-way system, titanium tweeter, 5.25" subwoofer, \$80 pair. 619-523-1782. TV, COLOR, 27", with remote, like new, excellent picture, \$99, 619-461-4805. **TV, POLAROID,** 32" HD-LCD-TV/DVD with high definition, ATSC tuner. \$600/best. Call Mr. Wally 619-466-4821. XM SATELLITE RADIO, Receiver, boombody, car cradle. Only used 6 months, \$100/for all/or best 619-203-3153.

#### FURNITURE

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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 Boule-vard, Chula Vista, 91911. Open 11am-7pm daily. Closed Monday. Credit cards accepted. Legitimate warranties in writ-ing! Fast delivery. Call 619-426-2727

BED \$169 A BARGAIN. A Ortho Pillowtop Queen, new in plastic with warranty, mat-tress/box. All sizes. Credit cards ac-cepted. Can deliver. 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.

**BED FRAME**, queen, natural solid maple, excellent condition. Mattress and box spring not included. Headboard height 50-1/4", footboard height 30-1/2". Made ", footboard height 30-1/2". Made \$175/best. 619-316-2846.

CHINA CABINET, mahogany, Duncan Phyfe style, lighted display case, with 3 shelves, drawer, enclosed storage on bottom. Store value \$995. Yours for \$600. Photo available. 760-729-6571.

COMPUTER DESK, office/wall/corner unit, 7 piece, custom, solid wood, natural fin-ish, beautiful, 80°H, arrange to fit space, \$850. Can e-mail photos. Vista, 760-941-0541.

COMPUTER DESK with hutch, 60", executive, medium wood, high quality, key-board with 6 drawers and lots of storage, \$175. 619-466-8663.

DAYBED/FUTON, Bunkbed/trundle-heavy duty, very universal, space saver.



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Most vehicles, 1996 and newer.

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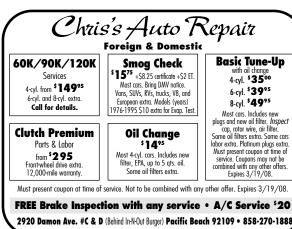
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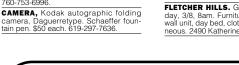
All car models, 1996 and newer

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\$**19**<sup>95</sup> Most vehicles, 1996 and newer. Read code only.





KHUSHAL KHAN

Peshawar, Pakistan

### PESHAWAR OR BUST

Four years back, while I was living in Tarbela Dam, a friend of mine asked me to accompany him to have his computer upgraded. I said, "Fine, let's hit the road to Peshawar tomorrow." He said, "Oh, no, I am not allowed to go to Peshawar. Between me and you, even my dad is afraid to go there." (Peshawar is the city that gave shelter to nearly 3 million Afghan refugees after the Soviet war; it lies in the North-West Frontier Province of Pakistan). I belong to a Pathan family from NWFP and my friend was from Okara, Punjab. Despite the cultural differences between NWFP and Punjab, there was a complete change in lifestyles; we lived in the same colony in my province, and the place was a developed town with educated people. When it comes to shopping, however, Pathans prefer Peshawar while the Punjabis prefer Rawalpindi. Both cities were equal distances from our town, but Rawalpindi was a modern city of Punjab, and Punjabis think Peshawar, the capital city of my province, is very rural and backward. Anyway, he had his computer upgraded from some vendor in Rawalpindi. Later that year, I shifted to Peshawar for educational purposes while my friend took admission in a renowned engineering institution of our country.

What he said to me four years back is still something that is stuck in my mind, words that reflected not only his own views about the city or the Pukhtoon culture, but the views of the entire Punjabi community. I am sure they are not much aware of the situation in Peshawar now, whereas I can tell a lot about the city, having spent three good years of

my life here.

It's getting modernized and civilized, educated on a massive and advanced scale. Women are getting educated as men are. This, however, is the only sneak peek of what I wanted my friend to know. The culture is rich and preserved, yet innovative; yes, and I think I am just a single example of that culture that others think is backward.

I study business in a renowned school of Peshawar, and I live in modern hostels, at least modern in the Pakistani point of view — furnished rooms, TV, newspapers, a highspeed broadband facility (not too common in my country), games facilities, and a beautiful campus being built that will soon be completed using state-ofthe-art engineering techniques and design features.

I have a good company of friends around me who are from well-educated families and know how to speak well, dress well, and act well. We hang out on the weekends hunting for good food and usually landing in Pizza Hut, KFC, or Italian or local continental food inns, as

well as the traditional tikkas and barbecue restaurants where I see many families, couples, and gangs roaming around. We occasionally have parties and functions, and they are modern yet reserved. My friends smoke, but none of us is a victim of drinking. We listen to good music, be it Western or Eastern (not to mention the underground bands of



Peshawar, of which Sajid and Zeeshan happen to be my favorite who sing English). I am fond of good movies and TV series, and I have a huge collection of movies in my computer's hard drive. I can sing and I recently started taking guitar lessons, which happens to be part of a course offered in my university. I have access to news

and information of all types. I have a good knowledge of Internet and computers, and I often spend my leisure time in Orkut and Facebook while online. I don't have a private car of my own; no one in my hostel does except a few, but then it's all about the affordability and time we don't have time to look after a car and as far as conveyance is concerned, that's

what friends are for. I can shop for any product I want, and I can get anything repaired in the city....

The thing is all about the perception and trust. I trust my city and community, which they don't, although I feel comfortable even when I am in Punjab. I don't

know why I feel so weird saying all this. I still think I am missing many things that even the most modern people can learn from us, but, well, I just want my word to be heard and to freely say, "Yes, I live in Peshawar, though not the one you've heard about."

www.funbie.com/blog/

can separate, \$80/best/trade. 619-670-8356. DESK, solid pine, great finish, nearly new, \$300. 619-701-2028. DINING ROOM table with 6 upholstered chairs and hutch, maple, excellent condi tion. 619-886-6929.

END TABLE, Large. Burl wood finish. 3'x4'. A steal at only \$100. Call Kelvin 3'x4'. A steal 858-232-9271 END TABLES, Solid pine wood, 2, with attached knick-knack shelf. \$45/each or best. Excellent condition 619-593-6224

FURNITURE, Save 40% or more! Orde FURNITURE. Save 40% or morel Order from manufacturers' catalogues and save. Factory direct store. Solid cherry, maple, oak or pine, American made Vermont craftsmanship or im-ported. San Diego's best home furnish-ings source since 1960. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Al Davis Furniture, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. www.davisworld.com or email to info@ davisworld.com. Call 619-296-1221. FURNITURE. End tables, \$5, \$15. Small entertainment unit, \$10. Two small bookshelves, \$10 both. Bar chairs, \$3,

\$10. Two plastic patio chairs, \$5. 760-685-8291

MATTRESS and hor and box set, queen pillowtop, , \$150. E-mail pictures. Vista, great shape, \$ 760-519-5926

AUTOMOTIVE



#### **STRIPWAX**







by Jeff Noise ©2008

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.

MATTRESSES. Save 40% or more! Mat-MATTRESSES. Save 40% or more! Mat-tress World in Hillcrest sells new beds at warehouse pricing lower than regular stores. Student specials. Legitimate war-ranties. 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. www.sandlegobeds.com or email to: info@davisworld.com. Call: 619-260-8000. 260-8000

MOVING SALE! With mattress! Unused Dark brown wood. Solid. Originally paid \$1500. Sacrifice, \$350. Also furniture in-cluding tables. Call 619-277-9326.

OFFICE CHAIR, black, like new, cost \$175, asking \$70. 619-890-9624 or 858-597-0856.

PATIO SET, White, 3x5 glass top, green cushion chairs and umbrella \$75, 858-RATTAN COUCH, Coffee and end tables. Beige print. Excellent condition \$800,

ge print. 2-483-0059

RATTAN VINTAGE, Newer tables, chairs, sets. Lots of rattan vintage 6 strand set and kitchen tables, chairs, bar stools 3 for \$99. Oceanside cell 360-941-72972. SOFA AND CHAIR, Beautiful white em-bossed fabric, rolled arms, tropical pil-lows. Excellent condition, \$250, 619-540-9246.

SOFA, perfect, 6 months old, \$50. Olive suede chaise lounge, 2 months old, \$50. 619-713-1918.

TEAK 3 DRAWER DESK, With fold up leaf

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ASPHALT PAVER, Lee boy L1000T diesel #843 steel tracks. Great shape! \$9995. Call 315-685-3921

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.

800-464-6490. BENCH, \$350. White 6-drawer dresser, \$150. Ironing board, \$12. Desk, 4'x30", \$35. Record player, needs adjustment, \$40. Cabinet with brass hardware, 48x20x24, \$400. 619-421-5822. BIKES, 2, 18 speed, \$35. 21 speed \$45. Patio BBQ with electric size stove \$195/best. Baby grand piano \$750. Med-ical scooter \$850. Please call after 9am,

CANDLE HOLDERS, Two, hang on wall each one holds five votive candles, \$25 for pair or best. Wood with glass holders. Excellent condition, 619-593-6334. CARDIAL GLIDE exercise machine, like new, \$150. 6 cubic foot steel Jackson wheelbarrow, \$35. White rattan table, \$25. Oscar Schmidt autoharp, \$100. Dresser drawers, \$100. 619-421-5822. CLOTHING. CC Filson, high-quality men's clothing, photographers vest and bush jacket, both small, like new, \$75 each. Men's small Tony Lama boots, 8-1/2D, \$75. 619-260-8482.

COMPLETE HIDE, of very smooth leather. Color brown, size 50' square feet, \$80/each. Please call 619-638-2483. COOKBOOK, Luchow's German, \$10.

858-487-8494.
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,
36"Wx59"L, \$25. 858-277-7197. **DOORS**, 2 mirrored sliding closet doors. Excellent, satin gold finish, each 24-1/4"X78", 2 rollers on each, \$50. Needs

track from hardware, 619-224-4820 DRESS, jacket, hat, custom, royal blue silk, size 8, \$50. 858-487-8494.

FREE DIRT. Clean, no rocks or weeds. Native La Jolla soil. Large or small amounts available, any quantity OK. La Jolla area, 858-459-9358.

FREE SINGER SEWING MACHINE. Needs repair. Includes cams, bobbins, instruction book, carrying case. Answer-ing machine 858-484-2168.

HOME THEATER, professional digital sys tem, 800 watts, new, never used, still in box, list price on box \$1999, asking \$300/best. 619-466-8663.

**ICE SKATES**, men's medium, great condi-tion. Guitar. Microwave oven. Ladies' large leather jacket. Videos, DVDs, record albums, Hollywood bios, movie stills, much more. 619-420-1028.

JACUZZI BUBBLE SPA by Homedics, for the bathtub, new, with remote and pillow, still in the box, \$65. 619-466-8663. JEWELRY EQUIPMENT. Bench and hand tools with all equipment needed to manutools with all equipment needed to manufacture and repair jewelry. \$1000. Call 619-922-9302.

KEY CUTTING MACHINE, never used KEY CUTTING MACHINE, lever action, \$400/best. Electronic ear protection, several, \$100-\$150. Never used. Bike, 10 speed, \$30. Huffy, 22". used. Bike, 10 519-224-0499.

LAMP, copper arm swing light, \$145/best. 619-296-7185. LAWN MOWER, gas, needs work, \$15. Electric weed wacker, \$2. Five wrought iron flower stands, \$15 all. Sixteen ce-ramic clay flower pots, \$25 all. 760-685-2001

ramic 8291 LUGAGE, bought in Paris, France, 3 pieces, never used, all on wheels, \$75. 619-466-1887.

619-466-1887. MAGNIFIER, Clarity AF Flex Video (CCT), closed circuit TV unit provides support who needs vision assistance. Clarity magnifies 4-60 times onto 20" TV, \$850. 760-591-0007 magnines 4-0 760-591-0997

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#### HOW THE NIGHTLY NEWS SHOULD BE:

Today, billions of people survived. Of our species, less than one percent was killed, raped, or burglarized. So, don't freak out and worry about a bunch of terrifying stuff that statistically will never happen to you as long as you live. As it was, 99 percent of us went about our daily lives. Tow trucks hooked up broken-down vehicles on the freeway in Southern California. Bicycle wheels whirled around Seoul, South Korea. And quite a few people surfed off the coasts of Australia; you known, it's summer down there, Terri.

It sure is, Dan. And speaking of summer, we're cutting the weather segment of our program. You already know what the weather was like today, and we're guessing that it'd be pretty boring to go over that again. It was either rainy or sunny. You either had to work outside or in an office or factory with windows, so the weather today wasn't really a mystery. We figured the weather segment was kind of a waste of time. We've also canned the traffic segment. You're already home, so who gives a damn about traffic? Nobody ever altered a route to get home because we broadcast a traffic report. It's out. Both those segments were super boring and stupid. Back to you, Dan.

Thanks, Terri. I guess this is as good a time as any to tell you this, Terri. You're fired. In the past few decades, news stations have stocked the roster with a lot of women and minority ethnicities to appear multicultural, but, really, nobody cares. It's the news. All you need is one guy with a piece of paper. So, clear out your desk, Terri, and tell Consuela and Lincoln to hit the bricks too.

(Dan dons a full-face leather mask, takes off his jacket, tie, and shirt. He's naked from the waist up, and he stands to show that he's in leather pants with a hard protective codpiece. From sheaths at his waist, he produces two hunting knives that he brandishes menacingly.)

I AM YOUR NEWS OVERLORD NOW! My minions have already secured all entrances and exits to News Station 3, which will now be known as Information Citadel Three.

Now, phase two.

(Dan leaps over the news desk and puts one eye up to the camera.) Like lambs...LIKE LAMBS!

#### WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

#### **THURSDAY, MARCH 6**

#### CELEBRITY FIT CLUB TVGN 9:00 A.M.

#### IVGN 9:00 A.M.

Not a lot of people know this, but I am the fifth member of Marky Mark and the Funky Bunch. You know those scenes where we're dancing in a wet warehouse? That was my idea. And the cinderblock barbell thing was all me, too. Sure, it's tough that the other guys got all the fame, but there's pride in knowing that I was the creative drive behind "the project." That's what we called it. Oh, man, we changed the world. We changed the world.

#### CHOWDER

#### CARTOON 8:00 P.M.

I haven't brushed my teeth in three weeks. At first, they had this blue tinge, but now it's defi-

nitely orange. I found a small Guatemalan child in a molar crevice yesterday. I named him Pepe; he lives in my sock drawer now.

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 7 WHAT NOT TO WEAR

#### TLC 9:00 P.M.

What sort of world do we live in where Aqua Velva is still produced and distributed on a large scale? Sure, you could make a few sales to immigrants and 12-year-old boys, but to prop up an entire brand like that, to get it distributed to grocery stores and pharmacies around the nation, there have to be a lot of people buying it. Who does that? And wouldn't one bottle — if for some reason you ever became owner of one bottle — last you a lifetime? I'm confused on this whole Aqua Velva issue. Everything about it is baffling.

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 8 BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER FX 7:00 A.M.

Let's say that vampire culture underwent a renaissance concerning nationalities and disabled peoples, like all Western countries did, say, back around the 1960s. Say there was a Civil Rights of Vampires Act in 1964 and *Brown v. the Vampire Board of Education* sometime before that. Now, all of this is true, we know it; it's in the history books. That means somewhere out there

is a retarded, wheelchair-bound Eskimo vampire in a little hockey helmet with those crooked wrists, and she snaps her fangs wildly at passersby. It warms the heart. God bless that idiot cripple vampire. God bless her.

#### POLITICALLY SPEAKING NBC 6:00 P.M.

Arnold Schwarzenegger's hair is getting higher and darker every day. He now sports a Conway Twitty "Hello Darlin'"-era pompadour. At some point, even Lou Ferrigno's going to take Arnold aside and in that deaf-ass yowl say, "AHHHNOOD, YOOOOUR HAIWR IS WEEDICULOUS!"

### SUNDAY, MARCH 9

#### BET 3:30 P.M.

Damn, that was mean. The brother was born deaf; nothing he can do about it. Sorry about that, Big Lou. Thanks for taking that picture with me at Comic-Con two years ago. I SAID, SORRY ABOUT THAT, BIG LOU! THANKS FOR TAK-ING THAT PICTURE WITH ME AT COMIC-CON TWO YEARS... Ah, never mind. I'll have to put all this into a puppet show so you understand. Let me get my puppets, Lou. I SAID, LET ME GET MY PUPPETS...

#### MONDAY, MARCH 10

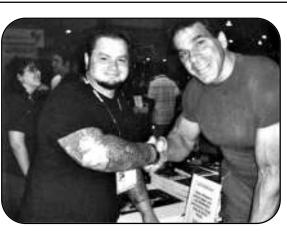
#### INTERVENTION A&E 8:00 P.M.

Is this the bottom? Deaf bodybuilder and retarded Eskimo vampire jokes? Just how low am I going to sink? It's embarrassing. I meet people on the street and they know who I am and it's damn embarrassing. They say, "Really? Really? You should be

ashamed of yourself." And I am. I am.

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fied ads not printed here!



Ollie and Lou Ferrigno

#### TUESDAY, MARCH 11 THE SECRET LIFE OF A SOCCER MOM TLC 7:00 P.M.

Wow, I cannot believe something so horrendously boring is on any TV station anywhere, let alone one that touts itself as the Learning Channel. You want to teach me something, let's start with time-machine carburetors. Time travel is just not going to work until we master the fuel mixture, and this soccer-mom thing can stay on the back burner until after we've conquered the fourth dimension. There, Learning Channel.

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12 GHOST HUNTERS

#### SCI-FI 8:00 P.M.

This is my third and final letter to you, executives of the Sci-Fi channel. I see that you have ignored my past requests to substitute one of your frivolous ghost-hunting shows with an actual hunt of an abominable snowman, which I can prove exists because I have some of his nose hairs and a footprint in my bathtub. You bastards, I'll be dead by the time you get this, and only your ghost-hunting abilities could have prevented it. The Yeti now smiles at my window. IT SMILES!

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 13

#### TMZ ABC 7:30 P.M.

SC 7:30 P.M.

Here's what I think when I watch this show. I don't know who that is. Should I know who that is? Why should I care that he bought chicken at Vons? They keep mentioning his name, but I still don't know who that is. I think, if anyone asks, I'm going to fake like I know who that is. I have to, there's an entire segment on his shopping trip. Maybe he's British, or a fashion model? I'm not sure.

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CHEVY CAMARO SS, 1968, 396 big block, 350 turbo trans, automatic, black on black, 18K miles. \$5800. Contact david68@live.com.

#### AUTOMOTIVE

# CHEVY LUMINA, 4 door sedan, silver-grey, good condition, 82,000 miles, \$2999, 760-598-6906, rfort27@hotmail.

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tinted, \$7000.760-315-1198. **VW JETTA GLS**, 2001. Dark baltic green, black interior. 5-speed manual transmission. 102,000 miles. Original owner. Sunroof, remote keyless entry. Clean title. \$6500/best, 760-271-3140. **VW PASSAT GLS**, 2001, V-6, 81,431 miles, blue exterior, gray leather inte-rior, automanual transmission, font/rear air conditioning, cruise, re-mote keyless entry, sunroof, \$6800. 858-243-4912. 858-243-4912.

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"With some important exceptions, scholars and translators, from the 19th Century onwards, have been virtually at one in their indifference to Seven Against Thebes; an indifference which has been deflected from time to time only into overt hostility and contempt. The play has been accused of being static, undramatic, ritualistic, guilty of an interpolated and debased text, archaic and in a word, boring." - Introduction to Aeschylus's Seven Against Thebes; translated by Anthony Hecht and Helen H. Bacon.

These translators found themselves in "profound disagreement" with this assessment and so, apparently, did a troupe of hip-hop performers with library cards. That may be terribly unfair: if so, I suppose I apologize. It's just that I can't help chuckling to myself when I think, Yo, trip! Nothin' says street cred like Aeschylus. And yet someone, Justin Ellington for one, may think so.

"La Jolla Playhouse presents Will Power's hip-hop, 'sampling' take on Aeschylus's Seven Against Thebes, developed and directed by Justin Ellington." (online event listing).

And why not? The 1959 Italian sword-and-sandal epic that my brother and I snuck into the Mercury Theater in Chicago to see, Hercules Unchained, one of Steve Reeves's finer efforts, was based on nothing less than Seven Against Thebes, the very same.

"Greek tragedy meets hip-hop in writer/composer Will Power's modern adaptation of Aeschylus' story of a cursed family and a society unsure of

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JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE, 1995 Laredo, 4x4, 8 cylinder, power win-dows, seats, doors, locks, mirrors, tow-ing package, original owner with maintenance records, always garaged, never wrecked, excellent condition, \$3350. 760-765-2968.

MERCURY MOUNTAINEER, 1997



I guess I'm wondering how the word "mother" will be used in a hip-hop context.

#### <u>By John Brizzolara</u>

how to free itself from war. Power's urban remix, with rhyming verse and diverse musical styles, shines with relevance through the eyes of a new generation." LaJollaPlayhouse.org

Adapted from Aeschylus' "Seven Against Thebes" Book and Lyrics by Will Power Music by Will Power, Will Hammond, Justin Ellington Choreography by Bill T. Jones Developed and Directed by Jo Bonney Originally Produced by New York Theatre Workshop Through March 16, 2008

"So the honor of this mothering land may not be extinguished, either for her children whom she brought forth and cherished, or for herself, their parent and devoted nurse. For when you were infants on all fours, dandled upon her nourishing hills and valleys .... " — Aeschylus: Seven Against Thebes

Or here, another translation of, I think, the same passage: "[T]he beloved mother who nourishes her offspring, so that defence of one is the defence of the other. So the honor of this mothering land may not be extinguished...she welcomed the familiar burdens of child-rearing, tended you, brought you up, so that you would be filial keepers of her house, bearers of shields...." — Ibid

If I may be so bold? The mother in question is Mother Earth or Mother Greece or, in a contemporary leap (if I'm pickin' up what time it is, know what I'm sayin'?) the Mother Hood. I can see this working.

In The Birth of Political Science in Ancient Greek Thought, author Arlene W. Saxonhouse observes, "[Seven Against Thebes is] embedded in a series of myths that lie behind the action and help to draw out the central themes of the action."

I can't help but wonder how Will Power and Justin Ellington might make use of what Saxonhouse calls, the "autochthonic," Mother Earth, for example. I guess I'm wondering how the word "mother" will be used in a hip-hop context. I don't know about you, but the concept of a hip-hop version of a Greek tragedy fires my imagination. I can, for example, see Eteocles's words in the play:

If man find hurt, vet clasp his honour still, Tis well; the dead have honour, nought beside. Hurt, with dishonour, wins no word of praise!

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automatic, air conditioning optional low-to-average miles, price negotiable John, 619-306-1910.

AUTOMOTIVE

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FORD MODEL A, 1931, panel delivery truck, chili pepper red, very rare, immac-ulately restored, original engine and still

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That might emerge like this in a modern street rhyme:

running well, \$19,500. Douglas, 619-232-

**INTERNATIONAL PICKUP,** 1959, step-side 1/2 ton. E100, 6 cylinder inline 262. Runs well. Good condition, \$4000/best, 619-203-3153. VW CAMPER VAN, 1966, sweet, split window, pull-out bed, table, shelves, icebox, spice rack, 1600 dual port motor, rides great, new brakes/bearings, \$11,000.

great, new p 858-437-3690

### AUTOMOTIVE

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It has working electrical, stove, ice b etc. \$200 takes it. John, 619-318-4612 FORD COACHMAN, 1988, 28', 350, Class C, runs well, very clean, new refrigerator, \$8000/best. 760-791-7277. **GULFSTREAM SUNVISTA 37.** 1989 Sleeps 6-8. Dual A/C, cable/phone ready. Air suspension. Queen bedroom. Refrig-erator, freezer, shower, separate bath-room, storage. Great condition. Will take erator, freezer, shower, separate bath-room, storage. Great condition. Will take payments on part. \$12,000. 619-251-2910. www.sdro.com.

AUTOMOTIVE

#### PARTS

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**A** UTOMOTIVE





Yo, you gotta cap popped in yo' ass? And you don't roll over on a homie? You doin' a solid fo' yo' wasted brother. The brother got no respect without yo' solid. Yo catch a cap and you roll on a brother? Doan even get no rhyme from me!

I wonder what Death Row Records might have paid me not to write that or anything else for the rest of my life?

I'm aiming for Friday night, March 7, to catch the 8 p.m. performance. I'm hoping the cast is off my foot by then and I'll be able to get a ride. I feel it is incumbent upon me to see this, even if, and maybe especially if, it is a kind of punishment. I probably deserve it if for no other reason than because I wrote a rap piece called, "Comin' to a Drive-By near You," an unloving tribute to that amelodic form and one my girlfriend told me I'm going to hell for.

"But you're Jewish. You don't even believe in hell," I remember telling her. "That's because it usually doesn't exist except right here. But in your case, for this, I think God will open one up."

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**S**ERVICES

AUTOMOTIVE

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