

Reader

If there are families here in San Diego, I'd like to find one.

People Buy You Booze

D. is dressed as if he is off to the ComicCon or a *Clockwork Orange* theme party: boots laced up to his knees, raggedy black and red clothes, an old leather jacket with metal studs, a bowler's hat with bright burgundy-dyed hair sticking out, eyeliner, and some other makeup. When I mention *A Clockwork Orange*, he says, "Huh?" I don't know if he is feigning ignorance or has never seen or heard of the movie that his "look" comes from.

(story begins on page 24)

Nothing but Eastern Europeans at this Baghdad chow hall – see Blog World



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BREAKING NEWS

Alien intelligence *Information Week* is out with a list of organizations that obtained



Bill Gates

H-1B visas to bring foreign “guest” workers into the country last year. They included Qualcomm, with 158; UCSD (69); San Diego State (8); San Diego State University Research Foundation (4); the County of San Diego (2); the Islamic School of San Diego (1); and the Zoological Society of San Diego (1). The workers can stay in the country for three years, which can be extended to six years. High-tech industry bigwigs including Microsoft founder **Bill Gates** have been lobbying for raising the 65,000 annual cap on the number of visas granted, a move opposed by homegrown workers, who argue that the program allows employers to recruit cheap labor from abroad. ... There is a new website, *auditsandiego.com*, opposing Proposition C, the controversial June ballot measure sponsored by San Diego mayor **Jerry Sanders**. According to the website, “Allowing any mayor to appoint the person who will audit the city departments is like having the fox guard the henhouse.”

Pete’s return Ex-mayor **Pete Wilson**, who retired as governor to a tony house in Los Angeles, returns to San Diego only occasionally these days to accept tributes from his wealthy friends in the local establishment; the most notable event was the dedication of Wilson’s bronze likeness a few steps away from downtown’s Horton Plaza shopping mall. Another rare Wilson sighting is set to occur next Thursday evening, when he is scheduled to give a speech at “Pete & **Gayle Wilson’s** Salute to Mayor **Jerry Sanders**,” a blockbuster political fund-raiser for the Sanders reelection campaign to be held at the Evans Garage, the private antique-car museum owned by the wealthy Evans hotel family, which just happens to be one of the City’s largest commercial tenants. Tickets are \$320 a person, the maximum amount permitted under city law. There is said to be concern among event organizers that the same Hispanic activists who threatened to disrupt the unveiling of Wilson’s statue may show up to picket at the Evans Garage; Wilson’s support of 1994’s Proposition 187 anti-illegal immigration measure, later overturned by the courts, earned him the permanent enmity of some.



Pete Wilson

Straight up The National Organization for Marriage California, a political committee sponsored by the National Organization for Marriage, a group backing a state measure to ban gay marriage, has picked up support from Poway’s **Margot Kyd**, vice president of supply management at SDG&E and the Southern California Gas Company, who gave \$5000 on March 10, and **Daniel Mulvihill**,

founder and president of Pacific Southwest Mortgage, who kicked in \$20,000 the same day. ... The San Diego Building Industry Association has paid \$4225 to San Diego’s Competitive Edge Research for a poll; topic: Proposition E, the proposed building height limit in Chula Vista on the June ballot.



Margot Kyd

Calling new cops Faced with continued departures from the ranks of its sworn officers due to low pay, low morale, and competition from other law enforcement agencies, the San Diego Police Department is casting an ever-wider net for new recruits. The latest road trip for recruiters took them as far as Ohio, according to a notice on the website of the University of Toledo. Tests were offered there on April 3 and 4. “The department is actively recruiting new hires and lateral transfers — officers currently working for other law enforcement agencies,” the bulletin said, adding that walk-ins were more than welcome. “Starting salary could be up to \$72,675, depending on applicant’s qualifications. No reservations are required; applicants will be admitted to the test on a first-come, first-served basis. After finishing the written test, applicants will be required to complete a Pre-Investigative Questionnaire.” Heading up the recruiting effort is Captain **Bob Kanaski**, who ran the vice squad during the time the FBI had an undercover agent inside the Cheetahs strip club, picking up evidence that was later to be used against city councilmen **Ralph Inzunza**, **Michael Zucchet**, and the late **Charles Lewis**. It was subsequently disclosed that local police had been clued in all along to the bribery investigation being conducted by the feds at the club. ... With the Padres season underway, the city box at Petco Park, where city officials get free seats and \$15 worth of food and booze, is packing them in. Recently released sign-in sheets show that **Jerry Sanders**, up for reelection this year, was conspicuously absent, turning his six tickets over to members of the armed forces; city councilman **Jim Madaffer** and city attorney **Mike Aguirre** warmed their own respective seats during one game. Madaffer took his son and Aguirre was accompanied by fiancée **Ana del Castillo**. Madaffer and son went with the food option; the Aguirre party didn’t.



Jim Madaffer



Mike Aguirre

— 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.

Tattered Safety Nets

By Don Bauder

In the depths of the Great Depression, the American government set up social and financial safety nets to prevent another

treacherous economic downspiral and financial panic. The strategy seemed to work: in the years since, recessions and bear markets have been milder. There has been no depression, and panics have been fleeting. But now, a few outspoken economists fear that a depression — a prolonged downturn, accompanied by severe financial distress — is a possibility, if only remote. One reason: those safety nets are severely shredded.

The social safety nets — the entitlement programs set up in the 1930s and their later refinements — are in tatters. The Medicare trust fund will run out in 2019, and the Social Security fund’s reserves will be depleted in 2041. David Walker, former head of the U.S. Government Account-

ability Office, has been going around the country on Fiscal Wake-Up Tours, warning that the nation is on a financial collision course: there is not enough money to han-



Gary and Mike Aguirre

dle coming baby boomer retirements; the Medicare prescription drug benefit plan is a disaster; tax cuts have been irresponsible; the Iraq War is draining available funds; government pensions at all levels are far too generous; and Congress has no budget controls. Walker recently joined a private group trying to educate citizens on the similarities between America today

and the Roman Empire in its final years.

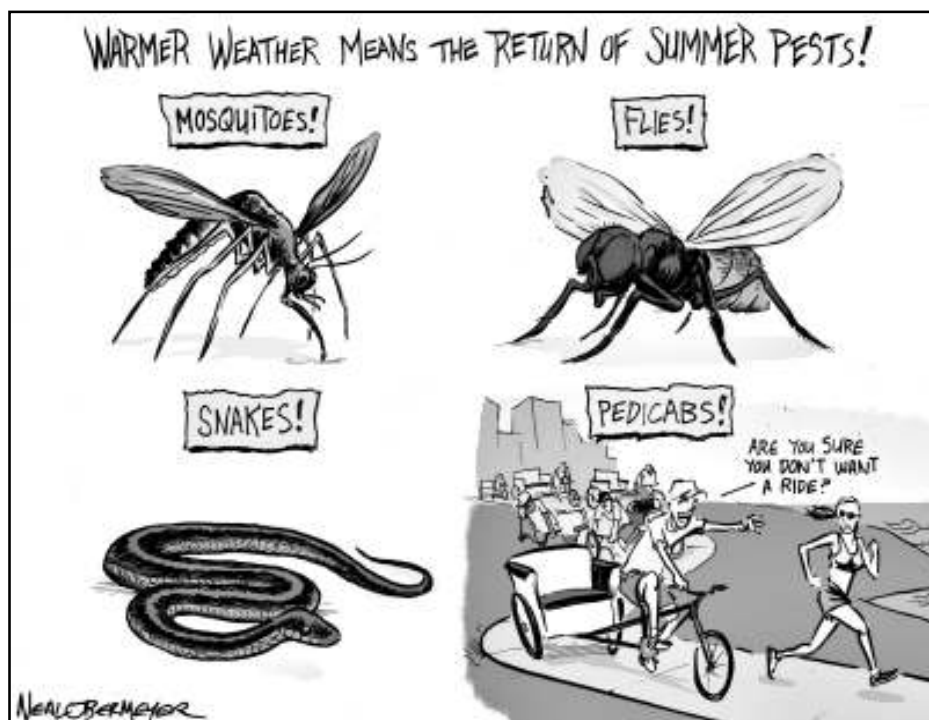
The financial safety nets are in tatters too. They were set up to prevent market manipulation and thwart debt-based pyramids. The 1920s was a decade of wild speculation enriching a favored few but eventually wiping out almost all investors. A handful of crooks would create pools to drive a stock up, then bail out when it hit a predetermined peak. They would work similar magic in driving a stock down.

The stock pyramids, facil-

itated by piles of debt, were the most dangerous. The Van Sweringen brothers built a pyramid of railroad stocks; Samuel Insull had an infamous utilities pyramid. As the stocks crashed and the basic businesses foundered, the debts could not be paid. The pyramids collapsed, exacerbating the fall of the overall market. Viewing one jerry-

continued on page 8

Neal Obermeyer



A Very Gassy Golf Course

By Dorian Hargrove

Standing at the tee pad of hole 15, a Frisbee player on Morley Field's Disc Golf Course can't see the basket he's aiming

for. It's hidden in a thicket of trees 246 feet away. Players searching for their errant neon-colored discs amble down a hill, then up a slope, toward a chain-link fence and adjoining cinder-block wall. The fence and wall enclose a maintenance yard, and rising

inside.

Brandon L. and Eric Stanger, both 26 years old, often play the course. "Everybody's always wondered, like, what's coming out of it and if it is hazardous," says Brandon. "It's obviously heat and chemicals. You can see



Baseball field, entrance gate to center field

above the wall is a stack from which issues a deep, low roar.

Frisbee golfers familiar with the course know the basket is 15 feet below and just to the right of the stack. Serious players gauge the wind's direction by checking the heat waves emanating from the top of the stack. Most people have no idea what's burning

the waves coming off of it."

"It's used for burning something," suggests an employee at the course's pro shop. "Some people have said it's used for burning eucalyptus trees, because sometimes if the wind blows in the right direction, it smells weird."

At one time this southeast corner of Balboa Park was

called the Arizona Landfill. Open between 1952 and 1974, the 139-acre landfill was one of three city-operated dumps. Approximately 90 percent of the landfill's waste came from regular household trash; the other 10 percent came from construction demolition. A portion of the disc golf course — as well as the archery course, the city nursery, the outfield for the college-sized baseball field, and the walking/mountain-biking trail — sit atop an estimated 1.9 million tons of trash.

Decomposing trash creates landfill gas. The composition of landfill gas varies but is approximately 40 percent methane, 40 percent carbon dioxide, nitrogen, water vapor, and hundreds of trace gases. The trace gases originate from all sorts of sources, from PVC to concrete to decomposing plastics. If no gas-collection system is in place, over 90 percent of the methane, a greenhouse gas, is released into the environment.

Methane can also cause an explosion. In 1987, the City began grading the Arizona Landfill and extending a storm drain system. During the project, a laborer removed a piece of plywood that was covering a storm drain inlet. A short time later, he lit a cigarette. The spark ignited the accumulating gases, causing an explosion that left the worker with third-degree burns over 35 percent of his body.

Ray Purtee works for the City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department. "In the late '80s, new air pol-

lution regulations weren't allowing the methane to just waft out into the environment," he says.

So in 1990, the City began installing a vacuum and flare system. The original plan called for 23 gas extraction wells to be spread throughout the old landfill, but after further testing, 51 more wells had to be installed.

Methane wells are made by drilling a hole into the landfill and inserting a perforated pipe. The pipes are then backfilled with gravel and sediment and are connected to an underground vacuum collection system that pumps the gases to the stack, called, in this case, a "shrouded flare." An initial spark from a propane tank starts the combustion process.

Although primitive looking, the shrouded flare — an enclosed, insulated cylinder — is precisely engineered. The stack is 16 feet 2 inches tall and 5 feet 11 inches in diameter. "It's that tall for a number of reasons," says Purtee. "The height of the flame of combustion and what we call the 'residence time.' The residence time holds the landfill gas at 1600 degrees at a minimum of .3 seconds. That is how it is designed to destroy the constituents of the landfill gas.

"The manufacturer of the flare claims 99.5 percent destruction efficiency," Purtee says, "so there is that .5 percent that is not being destroyed, and that .5 percent are the compounds considered toxic, like hydrogen sulfide, PVC monomer, and xylene. In high quantities you wouldn't want to be breathing it, and it would be toxic."

At the time the Arizona Landfill was open, people threw hazardous waste into their trashcans, things like paint, pesticides, and photochemicals. Depending on what's buried in the landfill and what gases are being released, dioxin, among the most dangerous toxins, can be created in the stack and released into the air.

The flare system runs 24 hours a day, except for once a month when it's shut down for maintenance. If a malfunction is detected, an automated system is alerted and places a call to Purtee's cell



Shrouded flare at Morley Field

phone.

Some landfills around the country, rather than flaring their methane, use it as an energy source, employing either gas-fired boilers, internal combustion engines, or gas-fired turbines. In San Diego, the City-owned Miramar Landfill and privately owned Sycamore Landfill both use methane to produce electricity in gas-fired turbines.

Mirat Gurol, a professor of environmental engineering at San Diego State University, is unsure of the overall benefit of using landfill gas as an energy source. "The gases can be collected and treated by methods such as activated carbon adsorption or washing of gases before or after burning. These are costly alternatives to flaring. Although methane has a heating value, typically old landfills do not generate sufficient concentrated gases to justify collecting the gases to produce energy."

Purtee says the City and civic groups "have been look-

ing at alternatives for this site for beneficial use of the landfill gases other than flaring it. This system will remain the system even if there would be another method to reuse some of the gas. We just have too much capital invested to throw this system away, and the amount of gas this site produces, though significant, is rather small in comparison to larger landfills like Miramar." The City has spent "easily \$1.5 million so far at this site, just in gas collection and flaring," Purtee says. But he can think of uses for the electricity created by the methane, for instance, to light the nearby tennis courts. "There's a huge lighting load at the tennis courts at night," he says.

Critics of using landfill gas as an energy source point out that natural gas is a cleaner

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Hole 15, Morley Field Disc Golf Course

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

Safety nets

continued from page 6

built debt pyramid, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt called it "a 96-inch dog wagged by a 4-inch tail."

In this environment, the

United States passed rigid securities laws and set up the Securities and Exchange Commission. Its mission was to protect small investors from the depredations of corporate titans and Wall Street. Now the mission (unstated, of course) is exactly the reverse:

to protect the titans and Wall Street. One way it's done is through what San Diego attorney Gary Aguirre, a former commission investigator, calls the "rotating door." Lawyers work for the agency for several years and then go with big law firms for \$2 million or

\$3 million a year. When they are at the agency, they do dubious favors for the powerful firms representing stock manipulators. For example, John Moores dumped \$487 million of stock in Peregrine Systems during the period in which the books were cooked.

Evidence shows Moores knew about the phony accounting. Moores hired his personal lawyer, Charles La Bella, to oversee a whitewash by the law firm of Latham & Watkins. To no one's surprise, it exonerated Moores and put the blame on his underlings. The

study was ridiculous, pointed out victims. The SEC official in charge of the Peregrine case blessed the Latham & Watkins study — then went to work for Latham & Watkins.

Three years ago, the securities commission notified Bear Stearns that it intended to bring an enforcement action against the firm for overvaluing \$63 million of subprime mortgage-related derivatives. Two years later, the investigation was quietly closed. Gary Aguirre suspects that backroom pressure from law firms killed the matter. If the case had proceeded, the subprime crisis might have been averted, he suggests.

"Fixing the SEC so it can protect investors will not be easy," says Gary Aguirre, who has returned to San Diego after several years in Washington, D.C. "Powerful interests want the SEC to be just the way it is or even weaker." Opacity, thy name is Wall Street. "Over the last decade there has developed a second financial market — unregulated, off the balance sheets. It has grown geometrically." This second financial market has been a comfy home for subprime mortgage instruments, derivatives such as credit default swaps, hedge fund monkey business, offshore money pools, and other collusive contrivances. "The nation has two capital markets: one is semitransparent and semiregulated, the other is opaque and unregulated." And the Securities and

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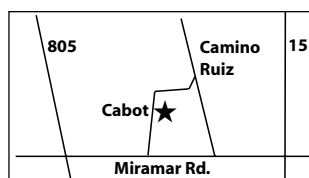
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Safety nets

continued from page 8

Exchange Commission looks the other way — deliberately.

"The investment banks sold the regulators on the theory of counterparty discipline," says Gary Aguirre. Translated, that means "Trust us." Trust these gamblers to be prudent when doing busi-

ness — say, buying a derivatives contract — from a third party. But the collapse of Bear Stearns, and the fact that almost no firm on Wall Street detected the subprime mortgage fraud, should explode any theory of counterparty discipline. The idea was never more than "a myth sold to regulators so investment banks can operate in the shadows without regulation."

In the Bear Stearns crisis, the Federal Reserve began loaning money to the big securities firms. In the years since the Great Depression, it had only loaned to commercial banks. So it is generally accepted that these brokerage firms will have to be regulated. Last week, Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson introduced a "regulation lite" package. Don't expect meaningful regulation of Wall Street. For example, the Treasury only vaguely refers to possible regulatory supervision of complex derivatives, which are the villains. That would be like 1930s regulators winking at Insull and the Van Sweringen brothers, surreptitiously encouraging them to keep building their debt pyramids.

Commercial banks are supposed to be regulated. But the essence of white-collar fraud is contrived complexity. Derivatives, sated with mathematical formulae and Greek symbols, are perfect tools for that. In keeping these inscrutable derivatives off their balance sheets, the commercial banks have evaded reserve requirements, creating a shadow banking system with starkly inadequate reserves. The securities firms, too, have a shadow system; as long as they have their major weapon, complex derivatives, they can evade regulation.

"This is very much like what happened before the stock market crash of 1929," says City Attorney Mike Aguirre, brother of Gary



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Aguirre. "In the 1920s, there was an escalation of speculation. But it could be measured then; it was tied to a central reference point." Today, estimates of the notional value of derivatives run from \$500 trillion to \$700 trillion — beyond anyone's comprehension. Even adjusted for the inflation that has occurred since the 1930s, "today's numbers dwarf the numbers then. There has been a corporate takeover of the full faith and credit of the U.S."

In short, Roosevelt's dog would be a hundred yards long and its tail would be a fraction of a millimeter. "The situation is more dangerous than it was in 1929," says Mike Aguirre, a securities lawyer before he became city attorney. "The numbers are larger; the nation is in worse shape because of the war in Iraq; we don't have the manufacturing, transportation, and infrastructure [dominance] we had then."

Ben Bernanke came in as head of the Federal Reserve promising more transparency. But the Fed-directed takeover of Bear Stearns by JPMorgan was "done completely behind closed doors," says Mike Aguirre. Why did the Fed secretly arrange the emergency nuptials? Because if Bear Stearns had gone bankrupt, the extent of its interrelationships with other Wall Street houses, hedge funds, pension funds, and commercial banks would have become public knowledge. The people would have known that the system was on the brink of collapse and exactly which banks and brokerages were most at risk. Mike Aguirre says that in future such cases, a failing institution should be forced to go bankrupt. "There should be full disclosure of the liabilities." The complexity-obsessed markets must be reformed and simplified: "There should be no trading under the counter. Trading should be in organized markets. This is a good time to close all the loopholes."

That's what reformers said in the 1930s. Then the commercial banks, securities firms, hedge funds, and offshore buccaners created the loopholes anew. Members of Congress, with Wall Street's money in their sticky fingers, let it happen. Now we're back on the brink again with tattered nets below us. ■

Gassy golf course

continued from page 7

fuel source. And some studies indicate that flaring landfill gas creates less pollution than using it to produce electricity.

"Different manufacturers claim different things," Purtee says. "My opinion is that there would be the same amount of emissions from a

microturbine or a reciprocating engine running on landfill gas as we're getting now out of the flare stack. Only instead, we'd be getting beneficial use made, and we'd be offsetting electricity production from power plants."

Although the Arizona Landfill has been closed for 34 years, it is estimated that the site will produce substantial amounts of landfill gas for another 30 years. As the trash

decomposes and bacteria turn the waste into gas, the land settles, creating uneven playing fields and problems for the gas-collection system.

The baseball field at the southwest corner of Morley Field is an example of the sagging land. Half of the field, home to the San Diego City College Knights baseball team, sits on top of the old landfill.

The chain-link outfield fence is uneven and deformed,

pieced together by iron extensions. An old entrance gate to center field, once over 6 feet high, now stands only 3 feet. The fence is held together by wire and string, making it appear shoddy and unkempt.

"You should see the outfield — there are dips all over," says an assistant coach from Southwestern College, in Chula Vista. "They do a pretty good job at keeping with it, but there's only so much that they

can do. Everyone calls it 'the park at the dump.'"

Ray Purtee points to a dip in the land. "See this bowl? That wasn't like that five years ago. So, often we're out here with a backhoe, and we're digging, and we have to reset the pipe and raise it back up so that it will flow properly and not get clogged. It's a lot of maintenance. It's a lot of work to keep this system operating properly." ■

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Don't Freak

Re "San Diego's Secret Missile Testing Sites" (Cover Story, April 3). Enjoyed the story. Thanks. I was thinking about exploring this area, but I was afraid I'd come out classified as a toxic waste site. MEK, methyl ethyl ketone, is a common industrial solvent — not a liquid high explosive. MEKP, methyl ethyl ketone peroxide, is. Don't freak out if you have a product containing MEK (although it is flammable).

Phil Crepeau
via email

Call Homeland Security

My grandson brought me the most recent *Reader* with the picture of San Diego's secret missile-testing sites on the front ("San Diego's Secret Missile Testing Sites," Cover Story, April 3). He wanted to know why anyone would publish such sensitive information, especially at a time of war on terrorism. I could only tell him that it appears to be a case of irresponsible journalism with total disregard for our country's safety.

The article and picture was printed for sensationalistic public attraction and is a good example of the theme in Michael Savage's book *The Enemy Within*. Some people choose their personal constitutional rights over personal responsibility.

The appearance of this cover picture and article really saddened me. Here we are involved in a religious/ideological war against terrorism and extremes, and your journalism is aiding the enemy. Step up to the plate and serve your country better with responsible journalism. If the enemy wins, you won't have the freedom to print freely and express yourself. Don't you get it!

I'm sure your defense for writing this piece would be something like, "The people have a right to know." I say, "Tell that to the people that are fighting to preserve such constitutional freedoms." That logic is just plain stupid thinking during a time of war.

The price of freedom has always cost us dearly, and you should care more than to jeopardize the success of this war with irresponsible publications. You have just provided the everyday crazy and terrorists with a new point of attraction. You have also made protecting our people just that much more difficult. Wake up and get with it!

I've enjoyed the *Reader* until this article but am so angered and turned off by your lack of common sense and propriety that I feel I may not want to read your paper again.

We need to unite to preserve and protect our constitutional freedoms on every front. The enemy would love to destroy us and others like us who have any measure of freedom. It's beyond me why such evil foreign governmental schemes are spawned. Evil is not rational, and I guess that's why talking to the enemy doesn't get us anywhere. They would rather kill us than talk to us. It's their way or no way, so let's not help them succeed on any level.

Marilyn Howell
via email

The missile-testing sites were abandoned years ago.
— Editor

Not So Secret

I read the April 3 cover headline and following article with amusement ("San Diego's Secret Missile Testing Sites"). The facilities at Camp Elliott/Sycamore Canyon could hardly have been a "secret" unless ignorance of their existence renders them so. For decades, one of the visual flight entry points for landing at Miramar has been Atlas Mountain.

The sneering and elitist tone of Mr. Gropen's article expended much ink in pursuit of finding nonexistent nefarious motives for the Sycamore Canyon Test Facility. In doing that, he completely overlooked the contribution the facility

played in one of our country's most worthy efforts: the Mercury spacecraft program, which used Atlas rockets as the lift vehicle for all of the manned flights. He also broadly dismisses the people working there during the years, ignoring the fact that they were frequently and largely composed of the best and brightest aerospace minds of the era as opposed to "earnest techno-drones." It was a sad disservice to the history of San Diego's involvement in, and significant contributions to, aerospace in the decades following World War II.

The sites were remote and unadvertised for a sound reason: missile and supporting propulsion-system development is a hazardous business, best accomplished without legions of curious onlookers and with plenty of room should something not go as planned. By and large, the fencing is present to help ensure range sanitation rather than to secure state secrets. Can you imagine the press response to a wayward jogging lawyer being incinerated because he wandered into the exhaust channel of a rocket engine test? Of course, it wouldn't be said lawyer's fault, would it?

For those interested, there are several websites dedicated to locations like the Sycamore Test Facility that contain great pictures (current and period) and full descriptions of the activities that took place. A cursory Google search will provide a wealth of information on Sycamore Canyon and other 1960s-era missile development and deployment sites.

John Chapman
San Diego

Cavalryman, Man

Re "Picture Story," April 3.

The subject of the photo, Jacob Bergman, had to have been a cavalryman rather than a "calvaryman."

H.B.
via email

Ounces Missing

Re "Panic at the Micropub" ("City Lights," March 27).

Bland and Worona are getting screwed at the pub. Most pints run 16 ounces. Cheers!

Michael Rohner
via email

continued on page 66



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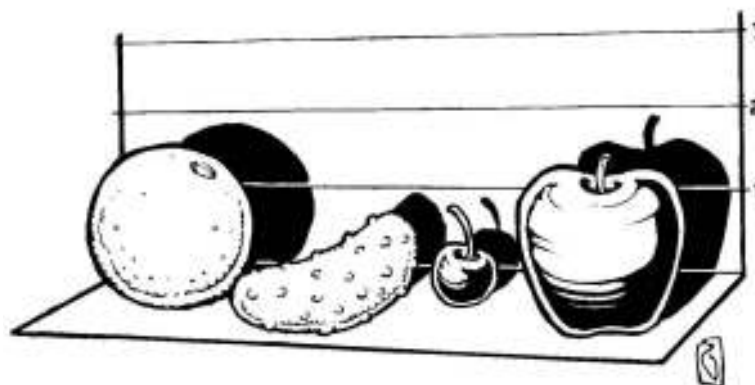
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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP

BY MATTHEW ALICE

Illustration by Rick Geary



Heymatt:

When I watch all my crime shows on TV, I've always wondered about lineups. There's a bunch of five or six guys in a row and one of them is the suspect, and the victim has to pick out the bad guy. I know where they get the suspect, but where do the other four or five guys come from? Who are they?

— Jake, via email

Despite what you see on TV, live lineups are sort of old school these days. Photo lineups are more the trend. But every once in a while they'll need to gather up a small crowd and parade them in front of a victim or witness. When that happens, they have no problem coming up with a few look-alikes. Police and sheriff's deputies have a built-in resource. Jail. The non-perps in a live lineup are themselves perps, just in different crimes. For a treat, school kids get to take field trips to the park and the zoo. I assume it's an equal treat for somebody who's been in lockup for a while to be called out for a field trip to the lineup room.

To Get the Answer I Want:

I took my first air flight September 24, 2007, at age 81 to Syracuse, NY, by Delta Airlines from San Diego. I always had a fear of flying so fast but mentally encouraged myself and did it. It was easy and pleasant. Except one thing. The flight didn't offer a meal on the plane.... On the trip back, my daughter provided me with a packed lunch for on-board food. But a mishap — the food was sent through X-ray with all belongings and shoes. Was it safe to eat? Two weeks after I got back, my hair started falling out by handfuls every time I combed it or shampooed it. Then after two weeks that stopped. I didn't go bald. I have a lot of heavy hair. I asked a nurse and she didn't know.

— Mary Charles, San Diego

Well, Mary, you're never too old to have a big adventure. The first time the elves flew in a plane, they all ended up sitting in the same seat and clutching each other for safety. Grandma tried to get a ticket refund on the unused seats, but no luck. Anyway, it seems that you had two adventures. I'm not sure there's a connection between them, though. If x-rayed foods made our hair fall out, we'd be a nation of chrome domes.

Packaged food is frequently x-rayed in the manufacturing plant. They check batches for foreign objects, for fill levels — just part of the general quality-control process. The strongest dosage used in airport scanners is about the same as you would get in a CAT scan in a hospital. At the levels you find in an airport X-ray machine or one in a packaging plant, there's no adverse effect on the food itself, just as a CAT scan doesn't scramble your insides. Anyway, we are exposed to repeated low levels of x-radiation every time we go out of the house. X-rays are part of the background environment we live in.

Irradiated food is a slightly different fish, though. Stronger doses of X-rays are used on some food products (fruit, spices, and meat, frequently) to kill bacteria. The FDA has studied the effects of these rays on the food, but results aren't scientifically solid. Food irradiation experimentation started back in the '50s, as a "peaceful" use of nuclear power. The first irradiated foods were packaged meats sent to troops in Vietnam. NASA also irradiates its spacecraft before they're used in unmanned landings, like Mars, so they don't transfer Earth bugs to a new planet. The FDA claims there are more chemical changes to food when we barbecue it than when they irradiate it. Not everyone believes them, though there haven't been any proven bad results.

As for your falling hair, it's probably a natural process, just a little heavier than usual. Throughout our lives, hair grows, rests, then falls out in repeated time cycles. And not all follicles are on the same timetable, so while some are growing, others are falling. A new medicine might have made the hair drop heavier. But a trip to Syracuse shouldn't do it. Just coincidence, Mary. It's safe to fly and eat food that's been x-rayed with other people's shoes.

Hey, Matt:

The other day a co-worker showed us his slide show from his trip to Quito, Ecuador, and the Galapagos. In one slide it showed the plaza in Quito where the equator runs. It got me thinking. If one flushed a toilet that was sitting directly on the equator, would the water go clockwise or counterclockwise, or would it all go straight to Washington, D.C.?

— Paul, San Diego

Bzzzzz Old wives' tale alert. The Coriolis force, which causes large things like winds and ocean currents to move clockwise in one hemisphere and counterclockwise in the other, does not affect small waters like bathtubs and toilets. They circle down the pipes according to the configuration of the plumbing. Sorry. Flush a toilet in Quito, and the water swirls any way it likes.

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

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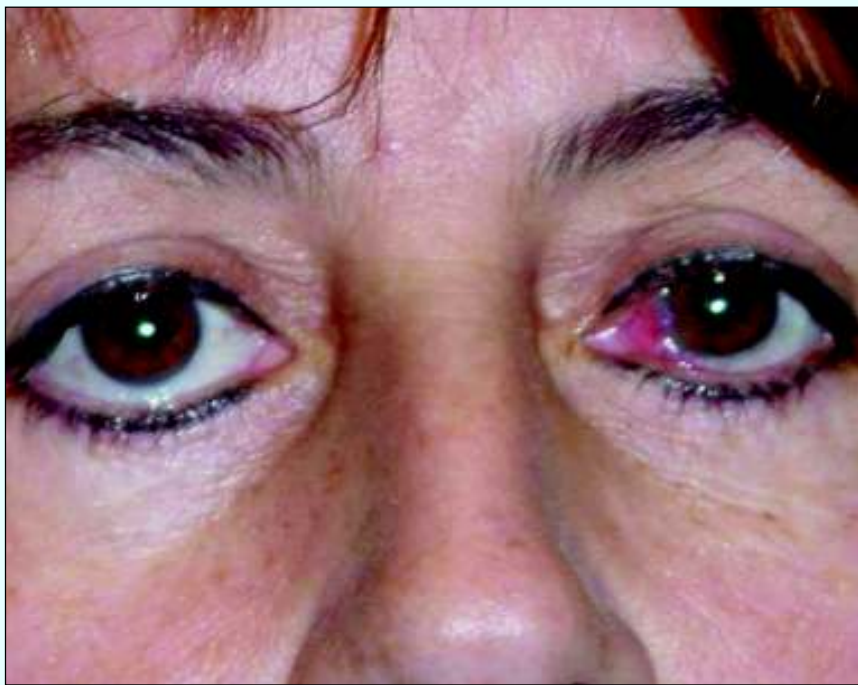


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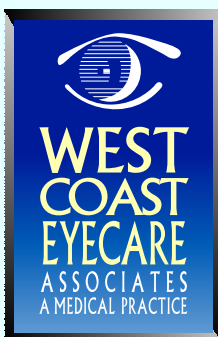
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—Kris Clark, 5/29/07

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Two For You

Occasionally, the Box offers a sports movie review. *Leatherheads* opened Friday and this time I invited a genuine movie reviewer along. The idea is to see the film together, she writes a review, I write a review, no editing, no peeking, tack one review below the other, and turn it in.

Gayle Feyrer is the real movie reviewer. She'll finish the column, follows is my take.

Leatherheads is a George Clooney movie and I hated it. The setup is promising — professional football in the 1920s. First, the good stuff. The sets are spot on. Train stations, clothes, hotels, football stadiums, city shots, speakeasies, locker rooms, uniforms, extras, all capture 1920s America beautifully.

Screenwriters Rick Reilly and Duncan Brantley worked for *Sports Illustrated* in the 1980s, and Brantley wrote a short piece about his experience in the current issue of *SI*. The pair began collaborating in 1986, 22 years before

expat, fanzine publisher, and novelist (three books out, fourth in the oven). Add a lifetime of watching and writing about movies. You're up Gayle.

* * *

Leatherheads succeeds in its attempt to evoke a charming old comedy of yesteryear. Unfortunately, it doesn't match them, much less surpass them. Half of the time I was mildly entertained by its tongue-in-cheek humor. The other half of the time I was bored as the jokes fell as flat as the muddy footballers themselves.

The sense of period is probably the best thing about the film. With its funky clothes and great old cars there's always something to amuse the eye. It also yielded an interesting historical tidbit. Having a black player on the team when WASPs ruled the sports world seemed a nice PC gesture but totally inaccurate. Checking it out, I found that there were two black players and one coach very early



Leatherheads

in the game. Nice to know.

George Clooney mugs his way through the role of Dodge Connelly with his usual easygoing charm. Score one for the *Leatherheads*. On the opposing side, there is Renée Zellweger. As Lexie Littleton, her dialogue delivery was suitably perky. Unfortunately, she's an actress with limited facial expressions, the main one resembling a constipated Pekinese. As her lips pursed up yet again, I was sending silent pleas into the hereafter for Katie, Claudette, or Roz to come and take over the role of the feisty reporter. No such luck.

Carter Rutherford, played by John Krasinski, is Dodge Connelly's romantic rival and hope for the future of pro football. The star player is a war hero to boot — supposedly. It's Lexie's job to flirt out the truth. Krasinski's not in the same league with Jimmy Stewart, but he has a bit of that gangly charm. The plot wobbles because it wants you to like Carter, just not as much as you like Dodge. The "true" story behind his great war adventure turns out to be rather funny. To a modern sensibility, its absurdity is far better than a hyped-up heroism. Maybe in the '20s there'd have been a great brouhaha over it all, but you can't help but wonder if they wouldn't have liked the guy even more.

Finally, nothing in *Leatherheads* works quite as well as it should. The supporting roles are okay but not really memorable. Clooney's direction has a pretty good pace, but the mediocre plot and dialogue undermine his efforts. My favorite moment came early on. I really liked the voyeuristic cow.

the film was released, a not unknown length of time between screenplay and production. Brantley's sister was married to Steven Soderbergh, who had enough juice to walk the script into Casey Silver, then major domo at Universal Pictures. Again, not an unknown way of getting your script noticed. This is 1991.

Now comes the problem of selling an American-football movie to the rest of the world. The rest of the world (which might represent 40 percent or more of the film's revenues), knows less, cares less about American football than we do about soccer. What to do?

Make a romantic comedy, in this instance, of the screwball 1930s variety, and use football as background. We have sassy, ambitious female reporter, Rosalind Russell/Katharine Hepburn/Renée Zellweger who meets charming, roguish, 40-something man, Cary Grant/Clark Gable/George Clooney. I hadn't understood, until Friday, how good Rosalind, Katharine, Cary, and Clark were.

I'll leave the plot summary to Gayle, if she writes one (no peeking, remember?). But, if you've read this far you probably know the story line. Follows is what killed the movie for me.

Clooney and Zellweger give their lines, make their 1930s comedic muggings, but everything reeks false, as if neither star believed their dialogue, or worse, had no idea what to do with it. They were acting and it shows. All movie long.

Now comes Gayle Feyrer, UCLA alumna, MFA out of Oregon. She's been a topless dancer, painter, board-game developer,

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SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: Anabaptist, but without any direct affiliation
Address: South Park, 619-717-6372
Founded locally: 2004
Senior pastor: Jason Evans
Congregation size: 15-20
Staff size: 0
Sunday school enrollment: 0
Annual budget: no budget
Weekly giving: giving to various causes sometimes encouraged
Singles program: no
Dress: casual to semiformal
Diversity: mostly Caucasian
Sunday worship: 6 p.m.
Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 30 minutes
Website: ecclesiaincollective.org/hawthornhouse

Jason Evans sat at one corner of his dining room table, his wife Brooke seated across from him, two young children at the head of the table between them. An array of crosses hung above the handsome Craftsman-style window on the wall behind him. On another wall, next to the built-in hutch, two art prints urged, "Share your table" and "Sustain." Around the rest of the table, seven fellow Christians — some regular attendees at other churches — sat and waited for Evans to read and pray before dinner.

He read from Psalm 116: "How can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord." Then we joined hands, and Evans said grace: "Creator God...we pray that you bless the hands that made this food, from the soil to the table. Bless this food to our bodies, and our bodies to your service, in Jesus' name, Amen. Dig in!"

Dig in we did. Noodles were passed and scooped into bowls, and one guest ladled tomato-vegetable soup on top of them. Bread, salad, and cottage cheese made their way around the table. Beers were opened; wine and water were poured. The talk meandered from art to bands to *Star Wars* exhibits to South Park's need for a good bookstore.

After 45 minutes or so, Evans read from Luke chapter 24: the disciples meeting the resurrected Christ on the road to Emmaus. The disciples didn't recognize Jesus, even as "He explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself." Only when he broke bread with them did they recognize Him. "Anything stand out to anybody?" asked Evans.

James had a question. "I never quite grasped the meaning for the story — they don't recognize Him, and then He does something and they recognize Him?"

Rick offered an explanation. "For me, it made sense, just because there was something sacred in the ritual of the breaking of the bread. That sort of opened an inner eye for them."

Jason took up the notion of the sacred. "Jesus breaks bread here, He breaks it at the Last

Supper, He breaks it when He feeds the five thousand... It's very simple — it's just bread — but it becomes ritual, it becomes sacred, throughout His story."

James took a stab at the symbolism. "If we as Christians did more breaking of bread, to try to reveal Jesus to people...how do we practice that sacred thing but do it in a way that is so authentic that Jesus is revealed to people?"

Jason answered by quoting from a book by William Stringfellow, a Harlem attorney. "He talks about how the whole point of liturgy is to celebrate the word of God in our lives.... Where do we see the story of redemption and liberation in our own lives...and the lives of other people.... I think that's why we care about the different issues we do, because we see opportunities for the sacred to be broken open."

Offered Rick, "I see it in our desiring community, coming together here on Sundays and in other ways. I think this is one way that God opens into our lives — this longing for community."

That helped Matt, a teacher, finish mulling: "He's walking with the disciples, and they're hearing it... 'Okay, you didn't figure it out. Let's do this communion thing. Now, we're spending time, being close to one another...' It really comes through those relationships; it doesn't come through... figuring it out."

And that inspired Liz to speak up. "I think one of the beautiful things about the passage, and Christianity in general, is that at no time did Jesus ever expect people to say, 'Oh hey, you've come back!' He's accepting that people are living within their state of mind, that it takes time to grow and to realize...yeah, Jesus has been there my whole life, but for a good chunk of it I had no frickin' clue. Then, suddenly, something happens and you're, like, 'Oh, yeah.'"

As the evening wound down, Evans prepared to break his own bread: a tortilla, joined by a pottery chalice filled with red wine. Evans read again from the Scripture passage: "When He was at table with them, He took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and began to give it to them. And then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him...." Then he tore off a piece of the tortilla, ate it, and passed the rest to the woman seated on his right. "Christ's body, broken for you," he said. She then took the tortilla, tore of a chunk, and passed it along: "Christ's body, broken for you." And so it went, around the table, followed by the cup of wine: "Christ's blood, shed for you..."

What happens when we die?

"I don't know yet," said Evans.

— Matthew Lickona



JASON EVANS

Hawthorn House

★★½

Sermon

content.....★★½
 delivery.....★★

Liturgy

.....★★½

Music

congregational.....none
 band.....none

Snacks

.....★★★★

Architecture

.....★★½

Friendliness

.....★★★★

Poor to satisfactory.....(none)

Good.....★

Very good.....★★

Excellent.....★★★★

Extraordinary.....★★★★

The End of Religion

It all began because God is Love. As a great lover, He wanted lovers. But, how to create a lover? What He could do was create a creature capable of loving. So, He created man in His own image, with a Godlike intellect, Godlike emotion, and the freedom to choose! He placed man on earth and turned man loose. Sad to say, man chose to turn away from Him. But, God didn't give up on him. So, in order to be as close as possible to the objects of His love, He set up a religious system whereby He could live next to them without compromising His own holiness and justice. He required bloody sacrifice, rules, regulations, a fence (veil), priests, etc., and God planted Himself in their midst. That was as close as He could get to them since religion could only cover their sins.

Not being satisfied with this limited and temporary arrangement, God allowed His Son to be the Lamb of God to take away the sins of the world.

When His Son cried out from the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken Me?" the veil of the Temple was torn from top to bottom, and God came out from behind it. It was the end of religion. Since then, He's been knocking at people's hearts, saying, "Please let Me in. I love you. I want to live in your body with you!" So, down through the ages He's been fishing in this polluted pond for lovers. (His Son is the bait.) He is creating a Kingdom of lovers – His Church. When that is complete, up and away we go! The rest? Down the drain! Tough Love!

To know the heart and mind of God, read His word, starting at the Gospel of John, where you can meet the Creator.

Hugh Thomas

BestBuys

—EVE KELLY

There is something about the combination of longer daylight hours and spring air that brings a hunger for back-yard projects. And it's been growling in the Kelly household these past few weeks. First, there was the wooden trellis installed at the end of the porch, with a trumpet vine climbing to the top. Then came a new concrete path along the back of the house. And last week, hubby Patrick got a hankering for a fishpond.

"The preferred spot for a fishpond is typically at a high visual point from inside your home," explained Steve McIntosh, who, along with wife Kristin, owns San Diego Pond & Garden in Poway (858-486-0033).

"Having a waterfall against a natural backdrop, whether it be a sloping hillside with lots of foliage, is always a plus, giving you a more natural look. The waterfall is typically the high point of the pond, providing beautiful white water and incredible sound, all the while providing a great source of oxygen for aquatic life."

Does the pond need to be placed in a shady spot?

"Although partial shade is fine, it is preferable to have exposure to the sun for several reasons; better viewing of your fish and increased water temperature is healthier for the underwater environment. Sunlight is necessary for many types of aquatic plants, such as flowering water lilies."

How many fish can a pond support?

"Many people believe that the recommended number of fish is based on the amount of gallons in your pond. This has changed some due to advanced technology in the area of circulation, filtration, and UV sterilization. Having said that, I don't encourage overstocking your pond as it can cause poor water conditions and unnecessary stress to your fish."

What type of fish should you use?

"Typically, people stock their ponds with both Japanese and domestic koi. Many pond keepers may also keep turtles, goldfish, and banded high-fin sharks. Although the high-fin shark is an algae eater, they will not keep your pond free from the ever-growing algae."

Are koi expensive?

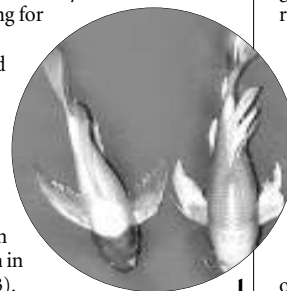
"Koi can get expensive; many collectors can spend hundreds of thousands of dollars stocking their ponds, but this is not typical. We regularly stock koi ranging in price from \$10 up to \$4500 each."

How long can koi live?

"Maximum life span is over 200 years in exceptional cases; the average life span is somewhere around 25 to 45 years."

McIntosh says the size of the pond can vary based on personal preference, "I've worked on pond projects that were more than an acre in size. The average back-yard pond is typically 3000 to 5000 gallons. The one important thing to keep in mind when it comes to koi is the depth of the pond. I recommend nothing less than three feet. This will provide the fish with adequate protection against natural predators, such as raccoons, herons, and egrets."

San Diego Pond & Garden offers pond construction, service, maintenance, equipment, and koi. "For the do-it-yourselfers, we have great instructional videos and provide on-site consultation. We are seeing an increase in the number of people who are building their own back-yard waterscape."



"We are seeing an increase in the number of people who are building their own back-yard waterscape."

An average-sized pond can be installed in less than a week." Prices vary based on the size, type of equipment, and rock being used on the project. "You can spend a couple thousand dollars on a pond or you can spend \$100,000 on a pond, depending on how lavish one chooses to get."

"Be sure to start with a pump that provides good circulation and a biological filter. Having the right equipment will allow you to keep a beautiful pond with relative ease. I also recommend installing a UV sterilizer; this kills bacteria and single-cell organisms. This can mean the difference between crystal clear water and pea-soup water."

We talked recommended brands.

"The most commonly used liner is manufactured by Firestone; it's 45 millimeters [thick], also known as 45mil EPDM."

"Our number-one filtration system sold in our store is the Ultima II, made by Aqua Ultraviolet. These filters start at \$400 and go up from there," depending on the number of gallons in your pond.

"Aqua Ultraviolet makes one of the most popular and dependable UV lights on the market. The ultraviolet light size is based on the number of gallons of the pond. They start at 15 watts and go up to 1200 watts."

"It is important that your pond has adequate circulation; for example, if your pond is 3000 gallons, I would suggest a pump that is providing a minimum of 3000 gallons per hour. Most of our customers prefer waterfalls with greater flow for aesthetics and the sound. The pond at our store is about 3000 gallons, but due to the size of our waterfalls, we run

a pump that moves 12,500 gallons per hour. Pump prices can range from \$300 up to \$1200."

What about maintenance?

"With the right equipment, pond maintenance can be kept to a minimum. Once a week you will need to backflush your filtration system and replace your UV light bulb about every ten months."

What plants can be used?

"Shallow plants or bog plants are used and are typically placed at a depth of zero to six inches. People use umbrella palms, horsetail, or cannas. There are all sorts of reeds that you can put in; variegated reeds are real popular. Irises grow very well in and out of the pond. And in the pond, water lilies and water poppies. There are floating plants, water hyacinth, and water lettuce, which are nice for coverage on the pond, providing some shade and a place for fish to hide under."

Any new trends this year?

"Pondless waterfalls are the new trend; this is essentially a waterfall coming down to a underground basin with a layer of rock at the surface. In the basin is your submersible pump that circulates the water back to the top of the falls and down again. This is ideal for the individual that has no interest in keeping a pond, or it may simply be a space issue. Pondless waterfalls are great for the aesthetics of a beautiful waterfall and the pleasant sound and because it's not necessary to run all the time."

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1. Japanese koi
2. Store pond
3. Pondless water feature

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Hot Stuff

Tell me what you eat, I'll tell you who you are.
— Anthelme Brillat-Savarin

I was an occasional user. At least that's what I told myself. "It's not that I *need* it," I'd say, "it's that I *want* it," and wanting is not as desperate as needing. As when I started smoking, the habit developed incrementally. The first time, I tried it out of curiosity. An insistent friend, also a user, urged me on as I brought it to my lips and into my mouth. I coughed a few times; my throat and tongue felt of fire. I recoiled from the burn and swore I'd never go near it again. But when the stuff came near me a few months later, I suddenly remembered the pleasant buzz I'd had that first time, a sort of euphoria peeking through the pain. Reveling in the

memory, I broke my promise to myself and did it again.

Despite the burning, watery eyes, and sniffles the stuff caused, it became a part of my daily life. It was no big deal. A little here, a little there, until one day not so long ago, it occurred to me that I yearned for it. Like a cup of coffee or those cigarettes I quit

smoking years ago, I found it difficult to get through an entire day without it. Then, last week, I reached a turning point. David, witness to my descent, pushed me to admit that my obsession with heat was no longer a casual one. Hi. My name is Barbarella, and I am a chilehead.

I grew up sheltered from the spicy fruit I've come to crave. My mother-of-Sicilian-descent preferred mild sauces — Ragu (with the onions sieved out, of course), Hunts tomato sauce, and tomato paste. Catering to my father's finicky tastes, the most exotic spices she added to the simmering tomato lava were salt, sugar, onion powder, garlic powder, and, if she was feeling bold, dried oregano. Though my father-of-Irish-descent

slathered all non-pasta meals with ketchup and Tabasco, the latter never made it to any of the other plates in the house.

After I left home, I was careful to avoid spicy food. At Taco Bell, I requested mild sauce; at Thai restaurants, I ordered yellow curry with a spice factor of zero out of ten. On those occasions that I was caught off guard, such as the time I bit into a pepperoncini that had somehow found its way into a turkey sandwich I'd brought home from Subway, or when I accidentally dumped red pepper flakes instead of grated Parmesan onto my slice of pizza, I'd spend the next half hour cursing and extinguishing my tongue with ice water.

They say your taste buds change every seven years. It makes sense. I couldn't stand mustard growing up, but then, without warning, I came to like the stuff a few years after I moved out of my parents' house. Same thing happened with fresh tomatoes, avocados, and cucumbers. My seven years must be up again — suddenly, I can tolerate onions, I don't think cilantro is as devastating as it used to be, and, of course, there's this new preoccupation with peppers. I used to be a "slice of cheese" kind of girl. Now, partly because I have a thing for alliteration, but more to demonstrate the extreme turn my taste buds have taken, I recently switched to a five-"P" pizza — pepperoni, pineapple, pepperoncini, blanketed in Parmesan and pepper flakes.

A few months ago I lunched at Tofu House, a Korean barbecue place that serves boiled tofu in searing clay pots. I ordered the soup with a spice level of three out of five chile peppers. It was the most painful meal I'd ever eaten. And loved. I went back two days later, thinking it was the tofu I was after. This time, I took things down a notch — two out of five. My mouth was on fire, but the flavor of the broth spoke to me through the heat. Soon I was up to three times a week. The spicy hot broth was like heroin, and without a regular fix, my mood would sour.

When I decide to embrace something, I do so with the fixated fervor of an idiot savant. I immerse myself in my newfound passion until, like a freakish appendage, it becomes yet another extension of my personality. One autumnal afternoon in 2003, I decided that red and black made a great color combination. Today, my clothing, jewelry, eyeglass frames, phone, purses, shoes, and even the interior and exterior of my car reflect my color obsession. It is the same with peppers. Their being red is a coincidental perk.

As with any new crush, I wanted to learn all I could about the object of my infatuation. I started reading up on its history. I discovered that, according to botanists specializing in pepper genealogy, all chile peppers originated in South America (it wasn't until the 1500s that pep-

Despite the burning, watery eyes, and sniffles the stuff caused, it became a part of my daily life.



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pers first appeared in Asia). The chemical that makes my tongue burn and my heart pound is called capsaicin, and the level of heat is measured in Scoville units, after the guy who developed the technique for measurement in 1912 (by diluting peppers in water and using his tongue to gauge how much water needed to be added before the heat was no longer detectable). I even studied the process of making Tabasco hot sauce.

Since my confession, I no longer have to slink around alleys and go through back doors to get my supply. Pancho Villa's market on El Cajon, with their vast selection of chiles, has become a regular stop. My last trip there I bought bags of each kind in my never-ending search for a higher high. On Adams Avenue, I found myself a dealer of liquid fire and left his shop with a sack of bottles in each hand.

Sure, the highs are great, but the burn was a concern. What was I doing to myself? Fortunately, my research revealed that peppers are good for you. There are few things more satisfying than realizing your vice is a virtue. To counteract David's quips about my "addiction," I've taken to citing health and science journals. When he

says, "What, you're not even going to *taste* that before you cover it with ground pequin?" I'll respond, "Six times the vitamin C of an orange. More than double the carotene found in carrots. This is more superfood than blueberries, goji

berries, and acai combined. And I just read yet *another* study that supports the peppers-prevent-cancer theory. I'll forward it to you." To which he usually sighs and says something about my habit of rationalizing.

Yesterday, the chilly

air and cloudy sky seemed to whisper, "Matzo ball soup from D.Z. Akins." But, for the first time, the idea of Jewish penicillin did not seem as warmth inducing as it always had. I wasn't convinced it would satisfy my craving for comfort. As David waited

by the door, I rushed back to the kitchen, filled a small plastic container with some of my freshly ground dried hot peppers, and tucked it into my purse. At the restaurant, the servers walking by seemed to take special interest in my bowl, which

had somehow turned red. It was the best matzo ball soup ever. ■

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If there are families I'd like to find one.



The
sight of
their skin
and
clothes
started to
nauseate
me.



here in San Diego,

(continued from front page)

I KNOW that D., as I talk to him, is sizing me up, trying to figure out if I am telling him the truth or playing him, trying to decide if he can physically overcome me and rob me, or beat me up for the hell of it. More than once he tells me how much he loves utilizing his “shitkicker boots” to break ribs and smash faces in. I have a feeling it’s all boast — he wants me to think he’s a badass, that he’s tough and knows how to survive on the streets.

He is scared.

D. says he’s 16 and he’s been on the street for two years, finding his way to San Diego from Tempe, Arizona. “I tried L.A. and Orange County for a while,” he says, but he did not care for the “scene” there. “Cardiff, P.B., O.B., they’re cool,” he says. “I like to be by the water.”

“What do you mean by ‘scene’?” I ask.

He juggles three rocks as he speaks, hoping to catch some attention, maybe some money from the people who walk by us on the boardwalk. “Too many peeps,” he says, “too much competition. Too much violence. Hate.”

“What violence?”



He gives me this look: he's not going to talk about that; he doesn't want to, doesn't care to — what does it have to do with him?

D. has plenty to say about all the “domestic tranquility,” as he calls it, in Tempe, Arizona.

“Since I was eight or nine, I used to share a drink with my mom,” he says. “Maybe before, I don't know. But the first time I got really drunk, it was on Bailey's. I threw up. I must have had half the bottle. It was sweet shit; I liked it. I never liked beer or red wine; that's what I tried before, and even tequila. I like tequila now but not then. I ralphed on the Bailey's and my mom's

boyfriend, what's-his-name, he just laughed about it. My mom wiped my mouth with a towel — we were in the bathroom, I'd just lost my junk in the toilet —



PHOTOGRAPH BY ALAN DECKER

and she said something like, ‘Hey, sleep on your belly, okay, so you won't choke if it happens again.’ So she sent me to my room and made sure I was on my stomach. I

didn't ralph again, but I woke up with this shitty bad hangover. I can't smell Bailey's or anything like it without getting this sick feeling. Beer, tequila, that's my drink if

I drink.”

“How do you get booze?”

“Easy. Dudes always have it. People buy it for you. That's why I like hanging at the beaches.

People aren't so uptight, not even the cops. It's not like in the city, or even up in L.A. Things are more mellow here.”

“Does your mother know where you are?”

“I write to her...sometimes.”

“Does she ask you to come back?”

“Not really, I don't know.” D. seems uncomfortable. “Sometimes she sends a couple \$20 bills in the mail. I think I missed some of her letters because of my moving around. Like, last letter she wrote, ‘Why haven't you answered me about...’ such-and-such, this, whatever, she must have asked me something and she's mad I didn't answer, but I didn't get any letter. Either she didn't send it and thinks she did, because she's a drunk, you know, or the letter didn't reach me.”

“Do you ever call her?”

“It's long distance. Why waste the money? I called once. Some guy answered. Don't know who. Didn't recognize the voice. So I hung up. Some new boyfriend. She

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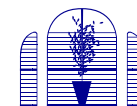


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switches boyfriends every four months. Every ten minutes!" He finishes his juggling. "Every ten, a new gentleman."

"How long was she with your father?"

"Couple years. She was 20 when I was born. And a drunk."

"Do you speak with your father?"

"Not really." He looks at some people down the block. "Used to. I told him about getting wasted on Bailey's, and he wasn't happy about that, but he was, like, 'That's your mother for you.'"

"You couldn't go stay with your father?"

"Do I wanna? He's been in jail a lot. He's better. No more crazy-making trouble. But he

got married and then he moved to Seattle because the chick he married, her family is loaded, I guess. As a wedding present her mom and dad bought them a house, any house they wanted in any city, so they decided to live in Seattle and that's what they did. Some luck. I wish I can marry a chick like that; like, her mom and dad will buy us a house, but I wouldn't pick Seattle. I'd pick San Diego, Solana Beach, or Oceanside. Or Montana, out in the wilderness and stuff. I've heard about Montana. I'd like to check it out.

"I was going to check out Seattle once," he says, "maybe even drop in on the bio-dad. But I never made it up that far. Only

got as far as L.A., and then I went back down this way."

I ask him about street families, made of homeless and runaway kids; these "families" have become a part of many urban myths and extend from city to city across the country. I want to know if there are such families in San Diego.

D. acts as though he doesn't know what I mean. I can tell he doesn't want to bother with the question. "I've heard about families," he says. "Plenty in L.A. There were some in Arizona, and I know of some in, like, Nevada and such, but I don't know of any families. I've never been in one."

He says he's in a pro-

gram, "a group home thing," but he doesn't elaborate and I don't want to push it. He's acting as if he wants to go; he doesn't want to talk to me. His eyes go cold and hard.

"What's your story?" he asks.

"I ran away from home when I was 15," I say. "I hung around Hollywood and Venice Beach."

He nods. Have I impressed him?

I don't tell him that I didn't run away because of a bad family; I ran away because I was a young neophyte writer who was reading Jack Kerouac and Jack London and listening to the Doors, so I thought running away and wander-

ing the streets would give me material to write about.

"Did you hook?" D. asks.

"No," I say. "Did some good Dumpster diving."

He laughs. "Yeah."

"Tell me about what you want to do, say, when you're 20. Twenty-five."

"Be in a band." He says he can play the drums and the keyboards; he's played on them but doesn't own any. "I suck!" In punk rock terms, that means he's good.

He looks at some people down the block again. A group of kids, dressed as colorfully as he, are coming this way.

"I gotta go," he says.

"It's okay," I tell him.

"Not okay for you. They shouldn't see you talking to me, and I wouldn't try to talk to them if I were you. They might hurt you."

"They" were the kids coming this way. Are they a gang, I wonder, gatekeepers of information? Will "they" find it strange that D. is talking to a regular, older person like me? I am amused, but also touched in a way, that he is concerned about my safety. I am also curious about just how dangerous "the dangerous streets" are.

The approaching kids disperse; I guess I will not find out. Before I can ask D. about it, he walks away, juggling the three rocks.

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Finding street kids and runaways in San Diego was easy; there are certain areas they converge on in Ocean Beach, Pacific Beach, downtown, and in East County, such as El Cajon and Lemon Grove, or in North County, in Ocean-side and Carlsbad. Getting them to speak to me proved trickier. Approaching them at their hangouts with the news that I was researching an article caused nervous and angry laughter, skepticism, and distrust. My press badge did not impress them and made them even more cautious since it had been issued by the San Diego Police Department. They thought I was a pervert looking for a young trick, or a cop, or maybe I was a parent trying to find his runaway child. If I bought them

food (pizza, burritos, hot dogs), however, they would warm up and talk to me; or I had to "make a donation" for their time. Seventy-five percent of those I sought out for interviews flat-out refused me, politely or with contempt, spitting on the sidewalk or eyeing me as if they were ready

and searched through my pockets. This was my own fault; I did not report the incident to the police because I saw no point in creating another statistic for a crime that would never be solved. It was dark out, I was not paying attention, I would not be able to come up with a reliable descrip-

Foster parents think they can save the world.

to hit me with their fists or their skateboards, which does eventually happen.

One evening I was talking to four young males with skateboards, and two of them hit me with their skateboards, assaulting me from behind; when I went down, all four kicked me with their shoes or boots

tion or to point them out in daylight as they all had a generic "look" — very short hair, baggy jeans, flannel shirts; all were holding skateboards. (In late February 2008, an Australian man was beaten by two males with skateboards in the Point Loma/Ocean Beach area, leaving him in a temporary coma; I wondered if

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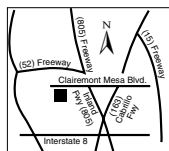
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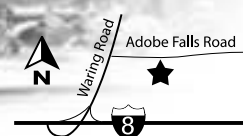
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these were the same assailants, but when the police issued photos of the suspects, I realized they were too old to be my muggers.)

When I crossed paths with these four, I was walking home from the store. I was recovering from a nine-day bout with the flu and was not thinking clearly. I have been mugged twice previously in my life — once while driving a taxi cab, and once at the 12th and Imperial trolley station on Christmas Eve — experiences that have taught me to be aware of who is standing behind me or getting too close into my personal space. Twice, I was not paying attention and was mugged from behind — now it's three times. Exciting? No. Stupid is a better word. I should have known better than to let two of the young men stand behind me.

And I should not have attempted an interview at night on a dark side of the street. I wasn't even out looking for interview subjects, although sometimes interviewees show up; the term is "random samples." They only got away with \$21.50; I have deemed this the price of admission, the price (along with a few bruises and a cut lip) of a reminder always to be cautious...the price for being dumb enough not to remember my own rules of safety when "in the field."

The Rules, the Names

There is a general code among them, four rules, I was to learn:

1. Don't narc or tatt. (That is, don't be a rat.)
2. Keep your mouth shut. (Don't talk to the cops.)
3. Old school rules. When a street kid

becomes old school (over age 22, in most cases), you have to do what he or she says.

4. No one *declares* himself or herself old school. You have to earn it.

Breaking the rules, I was told by several kids, could result in being ostracized or beaten up — "paying a tax," it's called. So, every kid that did talk to me was running the risk of breaking rules one and two, no matter how much I assured them I was not out to get anyone in trouble, only trying to understand their reality. Breaking rules one and two could incur the wrath of those listed in three and four or hinder someone from gaining the respect and status of "old school."

Many went by nicknames — Glitter, Souleater, Highlander, Dalmatian, Trucker,

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Princess, Shoulderblade, Sabretooth, etc., like handles on instant messaging or in a video game. I've taken care to change names and locations to disguise where each interview subject is located in the city. It's not my intention to get anyone "taxed" for "talking." As the TV show says, "The names have been changed to protect the innocent."

Mom Was on Meth and Other Crap

Glamour's street name was chosen for sheer

irony, and she thinks it's funny. She was born with fetal alcohol syndrome, which has left her face with some "less than pretty" features. "My mother was 80 proof the whole time I was in her," she says. She doesn't know the medical term, or much about the condition, but I do — if the mother drinks heavily between days 15 and 22 of her pregnancy, when the facial features of the fetus are forming, there can be detrimental results. Glamour's eyes don't line up, her mouth

is crooked, and she has unusual bone structure in her cheeks. You have to look closely to see it because she wears very heavy makeup to help cover her flaws. "Guys tell me I'm pretty," she says, "when they want something." She admits to occasional hooking when she needs money.

She doesn't tell me how old she is; I am guessing between 14 and 16. She wears thick, warm clothing, although it is not cold out and the sky is clear; the sun is bright and warm. "I have very thin blood so I'm always cold," she tells me. "I'm not sure if I have my mom to thank for that

too."

Not only was her mother — who gave birth at 42 — an alcoholic, Glamour says, her mother was also on "meth and other crap."

"She is a whore," Glamour says with obvious distaste. "A barfly type, a whore for a drink."

Glamour does not drink; she says she likes to smoke pot because it makes her feel "at peace with the world. Everything seems as if it's calm and cool. I close my eyes and listen hard."

To what?

"I listen," she says.

She spent much of her childhood in and out

of foster homes. "My mother couldn't deal with me. She only wanted to drink. Why did she even have me? I'll never figure that one out. I asked her once and she just... I dunno. That's when I lived with her when I was 11. For a while my grandparents [took care of me], but they were in their 70s, and then my grandfather died and my grandmother went into a home. I don't remember that. I was, like, 3."

This was in Denver, Colorado.

"How did you wind up in San Diego?"

"To go to Hollywood and be a star, baby!" she

says and laughs loudly. "Oh, I'm kidding," she says. She lights a cigarette. "I hitched out. Read about it on this website."

"What website?"

"*Digihitch.com*. It's cool. About hitching, road travel and all, where to go to get food, services and all, meet people, all that crap."

I ask her about street families, and she says, "I was in a family in Denver. Mom, Dad, six or seven kids. We set up tents. I didn't like it."

"Why?"

"Just didn't like it," she says.

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Several kids I talk to, as a



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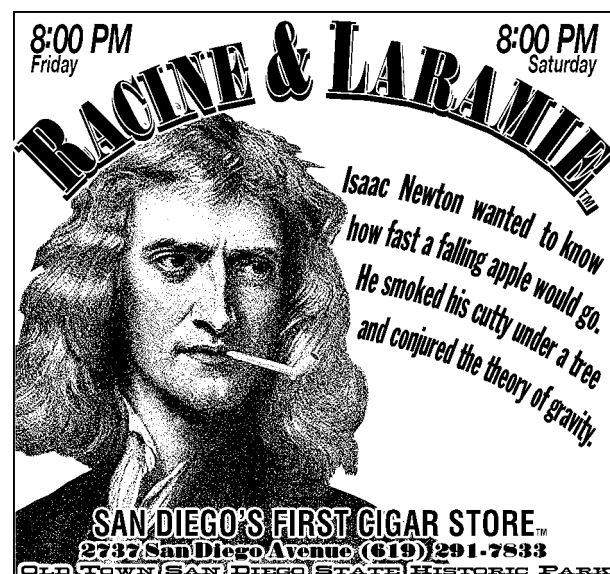
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means of finding out information for living on the road, on the street, and on the beach, mention *Digihitch.com*. There is also *hippy.com*. "The Internet is easy to use," D. says. "You go into any library, or you use someone's connection, or if you have a laptop you can sit in a lot of places and pick up some Wi-Fi."

Are You Pimping Your Girl Out?

I had heard rumors of young women working the beach scene or getting money out of men who "pick them up." I live in Ocean Beach. Prostitution is common. I was unaware of this until one day in 2005. I was walking home from the grocery store and was approached by a young woman in ripped jeans. I had spotted her walking with a man who was her age up ahead of me; they both could not have been older than 19. He veered off as she walked up to me and asked if I had a dollar. I do not care to be panhandled and usually ignore those who try, but she looked hungry and scared, so I gave her all the change I had in my

pocket.

Then she asked, "You wouldn't know where I could make \$20 to \$40, would you?"

"What?" I said.

"You know," she said, raising her eyebrows.

I knew. "How long have you been doing this?" I asked.

"What?"

"Is that your boyfriend there? Is he pimping you out? Hey, you!" I yelled at him.

"Please," she said, "no." She was embarrassed now.

"YOU! YEAH YOU! COME OVER HERE NOW!"

Sheepishly, he joined us.

"Yeah?" he said. They both had accents — Southern, of some type.

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"Are you pimping your girl out?"

He glared at me.

"She likes sex," he said.

She nodded when I looked at her.

"We need money," he said.

"Hungry," she said.

"We haven't eaten in almost a day," he said.

He was playing me.

His words were rehearsed. He was better at it than she was. I had no sympathy, but I did have a lot of curiosity. So I invited them into my apartment for lunch.

They probably thought a sexual transaction was going to transpire; money would be made. They weren't 19; they

were younger. I imagined them being lovers on the run, a modern Romeo and Juliet. I wanted to create something mythical and romantic and sugarcoat their truth, but they were just two destitute kids who were having a hard time surviving.

I made them hot dogs, gave them chips and sodas, and asked about their story. They were from Kentucky, and that explained the accents. They had driven out to the West Coast in search of Hollywood (I didn't tell them they were in the wrong city). They were broke and living by the beach in their car, an



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old station wagon that, he said, “was on the verge of falling apart.”
“How long have you been hooking?” I asked the girl.
“Two weeks.”
“How many tricks have you done?”
She shrugged. “Not many. Four or five.”
“Why did you single me out?”
She shrugged. “You were there.”
“You were checking her out,” the boyfriend said, defiant. “So why not,” he said, “she likes sex.”

She didn’t say anything.
“Why not make some money?” he said.
I asked her, “What was your first john like?”
“John?” She didn’t understand the term.
“Trick,” I said. “Customer.”
She shrugged again. “I was drunk. Just some guy. In his car. It was okay. He gave me \$40.”
“Do you see yourself going pro? Doing porn movies? Stripping?”
“No,” she said. “I’m not a stripper.”
“Then what are you?”
“What are you?” she said, softly.
“Why all the questions?” the guy said. He was pissed off. He stood up. “So you fed us, so thanks. No reason to be mean.”
“I’m just trying to understand,” I said.
“Understand what?”
“Why people do

this.”
“Do what?”
“Why what?” the girl said. “What is there to understand? People do stuff.”
“You’re just an asshole,” the guy said.
Was it as simple as that? Now I was feeling uncomfortable. I was asking very personal questions, and I had no right.
I wanted them to leave. The sight of their skin and clothes started to nauseate me. I didn’t want to hear their accents; I didn’t want to hear another word out of their mouths. I gave them \$20 and told them to go away. That night, I became paranoid, because they knew where I lived. I tried to remember if either of them was casing my apartment out, how to get in. I thought about them waiting for me to leave, maybe watching from their car,



RESEARCH STUDIES



CLINICAL RESEARCH

SCHIZOPHRENIA	Researchers at Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital are currently enrolling men and women into inpatient and outpatient studies.
DEPRESSION	
BIPOLAR DISORDER	Eligible participants may receive all study-related care at no cost, and may be reimbursed for time and travel.
	Participation is confidential and trials are safely conducted under the supervision of experienced physicians and research specialists.
	To learn more, please call the Sharp Mesa Vista Clinical Research Center at (858) 694-8350 .

Clinical
Research Center
SHARP Mesa Vista
Hospital

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Healthy Female?

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



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

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

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Depression

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

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

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

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

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



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- Decrease your physical and mental functioning
- Increase fats in the bloodstream
- Interfere with sleep
- Be mistaken for medical conditions



If you are between the ages of 18 and 50, you may qualify to take part in a research study of an investigational medication for Generalized Anxiety Disorder.

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

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

- You receive up to \$400 for your time and travel.
- You receive no-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



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Are you being treated for your Sleep Apnea and Depression but still have sleepiness during the day?

Because these two disorders have tiredness and fatigue in common, people who suffer from both feel like they drag all day long. California Clinical Trials is conducting a research study of an approved medication to see its effects on individuals with both sleep apnea and depression. If you are 18-65 years of age and in stable health, using your prescribed CPAP regularly and taking antidepressant medications, you may qualify to participate in this research study.

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

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

- You will receive compensation for your participation.
- You will receive study-related medication and study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



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Are you a Good Sleeper between 21 and 50 years of age?

If so, you may qualify to participate in a research study at our sleep lab.

This study involves no drug therapy; instead, the study tests an investigational noninvasive device. The duration of the study will be approximately 2 weeks, including 3 visits to the sleep lab.

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

Qualified volunteers will be compensated up to \$450 depending on your level of involvement in the study. If interested, please call.



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We need 12 volunteers only

Profil Institute for Clinical Research is conducting a clinical research study testing an investigational medication in Type 2 diabetes adults.

Are you...

- A Type 2 diabetic controlling your diabetes with diet and exercise or Metformin monotherapy?
- Between 18 and 65 years old?
- Otherwise healthy?

If you answered "YES" to any of the above questions, you may qualify for this clinical trial.

Qualified participants will receive:

- Study-related physical exams and lab work at no charge
- Compensation up to \$2000 (2 overnights required)

For more information, please contact
Toll-free: 1-866-308-7427
Local: 619-409-1244/619-409-1257
E-mail: studies@profil-research.com

so they could rob me. I looked for station wagons that were filled with possessions, as if someone lived in them. You can find these cars on any block in Ocean Beach. I looked for Kentucky license plates, on my block and down at the beach. I never saw them again.

Three years later, I think about them now and then. Are they still together? Did she go pro? Where are they, how are they, what happened?

You Don't Talk About Street Families

I am sitting at an outdoor table at a local taco shop in Ocean Beach, waiting for my food. At the table next to me are two teenage girls. Both are very thin and their clothes are dirty, their hair unwashed. They are counting out the change they have on the table — a pile of dimes, nickels, pennies, a few quarters. I listen to them talk about how to get more money, some party that was happening tomorrow night, something about "this jerk."

One of them looks at me. She is smoking a cigarette. She walks over and asks if I have any change. I tell her I'll buy the food they want if they'll talk to me and tell me about their lives. They are both dubious, of course, and they should be on their guard, for their own safety. I explain the article I'm working on. One girl doesn't want to have anything to do with me. But the other, the one who is talking to me — I'll call her Kimmy — figures, why not, I'm buying lunch. "You buy, I'll fly," she says.

When their food is ready, Kimmy sits at the table with me; her friend stays at the other table but keeps looking at us out of the corner of her eye.

Kimmy says she and her friend are in a certain school, an "at-risk youth"

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"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?
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Please reference study 6962-178

GERD Clinical Research Study



If this happens more than 3 times a week...

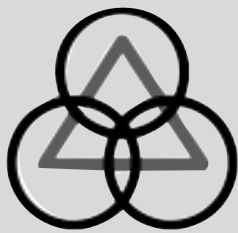
Learn more about a clinical research study for **GERD** (Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease). Frequent heartburn may be a sign of this more serious condition.

Qualified participants will receive study-related medication and exams by a specialist at no cost. Participants may also be compensated for time and travel.

To learn more, call:

858-277-7177

MEDICAL ASSOCIATES RESEARCH GROUP
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SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER

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

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

If you are:

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

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

Participants will receive at no cost:

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

For more information, please call

toll-free: 1-888-486-9150



SYNERGY CLINICAL
RESEARCH

Do you have high blood sugars?

You may be qualified to take part in a research study for people with

Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus.

You may qualify for this study if:

- you are male or female between 18 and 70 years of age with Type 2 Diabetes
- if you are female, you must not be able to have children
- you have been taking same dose of metformin for at least 2 months

If you qualify, your participation in the study would last about 4 months, during which you will receive the investigational study drug and study-related medical care at no charge. You will also be reimbursed for your out-of-pocket expenses: commuting expenses, meals and parking fees.

To learn more about the study, please contact us at:

1-888-486-9150

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

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

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

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

Together...we can make a difference.



SYNERGY CLINICAL
RESEARCH

Worry Too Much?

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

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

For more information, please call

toll-free: 1-888-486-9150

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

You may be eligible for the study if:

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

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

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

toll-free: 1-888-486-9150

or visit: www.parAGOnstudy.com

R092670-PSY-1008

NOW ENROLLING Clinical Research Study Schizophrenia

Do you know someone who has been diagnosed with Schizophrenia and is experiencing difficulties due to tolerability problems or adherence to a daily oral medication therapy?

If he or she is 18 years of age or older and has had Schizophrenia for more than one year, he/she may be eligible to participate in the research of a new investigative treatment!

A clinical research study is being conducted to evaluate Paliperidone Palmitate, a long-acting, injectable medication in the treatment of subjects with Schizophrenia.

This open-label, long-term research study is now enrolling subjects, and volunteers from this area are needed to participate!

For more information, please contact:

1-888-486-9150



SYNERGY CLINICAL
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www.synergysandiego.com

Heavy Drinkers Not Seeking Treatment

Investigators at The Scripps Research Institute are currently seeking volunteers who consider themselves to be heavy drinkers and do not have any desire to stop drinking. The purpose of the research is to learn the most effective way of studying predictors of relapse or a return to drinking.

Earn compensation for completing 4 study visits that take place over 3 weeks.

This study **does** involve taking a medication or placebo for one week.



To find out if you qualify for study participation, please call Marni at: 858-784-7867 or visit our website at: www.pearsoncenter.org for more information.



school that I have heard of, but they haven't been in almost three weeks, nor have they been at the "home" where they both lived. "Too many rules and sketchers," she says, but doesn't explain. "I don't like being told what to do, and my friend, she doesn't either. We're tight. We'll kill for each other."

"Looks like she wants to kill me now," I say.

"She doesn't trust people. She's been..." Kimmy doesn't explain. Her friend stares at her.

"So where have you two been staying?"

"Here and there, there are places," she says, blowing smoke out of her mouth and toward me in what seems like an action she saw in a movie or on TV. "Guys," she says, "there are guys to stay with if we need to."

I nod.

"I'm out." She holds up her pack of American Spirits. "Buy me one, we can keep talking."

I give her a \$10 bill to get cigarettes. She goes to the gas station next to the taco shop. I almost

expect her friend to stand up and they'll both run off — they've eaten half their food. But Kimmy comes back with a new pack. She even gives me change.

"How do you get cigarettes?" I ask. "Don't they ask for ID?"

"Oh come on," she says.

"You're not 18."

"Oh, get real," she says, and looks at her friend. "Cigs are the easiest things to get."

"Where are your parents?"

"I don't know, prob-

RESEARCH STUDIES

Irritable Bowel Syndrome...

20% of Americans suffer from IBS and constantly worry about Stomach Pains, Cramps, Bloating, Constipation, and Diarrhea. Accelovance is researching a new oral supplement that could help suppress some symptoms, and is seeking volunteers

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If you or a friend suffer from **Diarrhea Predominant IBS**, Call Accelovance Today to learn more.

San Diego, CA

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ACCELOVANCE

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



THERE MAY BE AN EASIER WAY



What if you could take one pill a day to treat your RRMS?

Relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis (RRMS) is unpredictable and current injection treatments are inconvenient. Help us find out if it's possible to take one pill, once a day for RRMS.

Researchers are currently conducting a clinical study to evaluate an investigational oral medication for RRMS. If approved, this once-daily pill would be one of the first oral treatments available.

You may be eligible to participate if you:

- Are 18-55 years of age • Have been diagnosed with RRMS • Have experienced at least 1 relapse during the last year, or 2 relapses during the last 2 years • Do not require the use of a wheelchair

For more information, call:

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Don't wait, participate!



Do you suffer from Osteoarthritis of the hip?

Are you currently taking medications for pain relief? If you are 40 years old or older and are generally in good health, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical trial evaluating an investigational oral medication.

For further information, please call: 619-229-3909



San Diego Sports Medicine and Family Health Center
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San Diego, CA 92120

INVESTIGATIONAL PAIN-RELIEF PATCH STUDY

Sprained your ANKLE?



Study Patch goes here.

If you've just sprained your ankle, consider helping evaluate an investigational medicated patch that's placed directly where you feel the pain.

Local doctors are currently conducting a medical research study evaluating an investigational medicated patch for its ability to relieve pain when placed directly on your ankle where you feel the pain.

To pre-qualify for this study you must be:

- 18 years to 75 years of age, AND
- Experiencing pain from a sprained ankle that occurred in the last 24 hours.

Qualified participants will receive study-related medical evaluations and investigational medicated patches at no cost. Reimbursement for time and travel will also be provided.

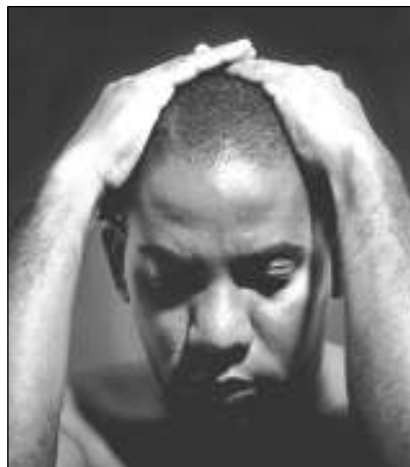
SUPPORT

www.thesupportstudy.com

To learn more, please contact:

**San Diego Sports Medicine
and Family Health Center
619-229-3909**

Study Information by Catherine Quillen, MD



Are you living in the shadow of bipolar depression?

We're working to bring future treatment options to light.

As a person with bipolar I, you know what it's like to live with the darkness of depression. So you may want to know about this clinical research study examining an investigational drug for bipolar depression compared to a placebo, an inactive substance, when used in combination with a mood stabilizer, if:

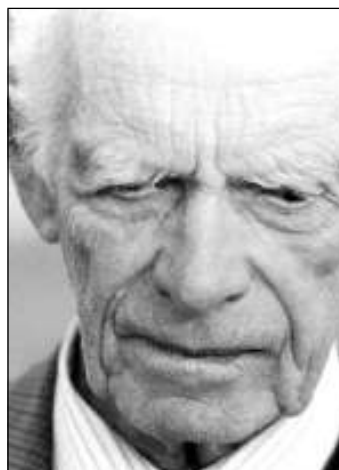
- You are at least 18 years old • You have a history of at least one bipolar manic or mixed episode
- You have been diagnosed with bipolar I and are currently experiencing a depressive episode

Participation may last up to 12 weeks, and includes study-related care and monitoring from specialists in bipolar I, access to a mood stabilizer, and potential access to investigational medication, all at no cost.

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

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com



Do you constantly worry? Every day?

Do you:

- Feel nervous, tense or "on edge" most of the time?
- Have trouble sitting still or find 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 and you may receive study medication. Health insurance is not required and compensation for time and travel is provided.

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

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com



Is your current Schizophrenia medication not working?

Are you:

- Currently taking one of the following: Seroquel, Zyprexa or Risperdal for the treatment of Schizophrenia?
- Currently smoking at least 10 cigarettes per day? • Between 18 and 55 years of age?

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 Schizophrenia medication you are currently taking. Health insurance is not required and compensation for time and travel is provided.

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

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com



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

Are you:

- 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 contact:

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See our website: www.ari-inc.com



bipolar

We are conducting a research study in bipolar depression. Are these study criteria right for you or someone you know?

- Taking one or two of the following medications: lithium, Zyprexa® (olanzapine), and/or Depakote® (Valproic Acid) for the last two months
- Managing depression for at least one month
- Not currently taking an antidepressant
- Between the ages of 18 and 65

The study will evaluate the investigational product along with your current mood stabilizers. Qualified volunteers will receive study-related exams and study medication at no cost. Study duration is approximately three months.

Call 858-566-8222 for more information.

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

Depakote® is a registered trademark of Abbott Laboratories. Abbott Laboratories is not affiliated in any way with this study. ZYPREXA® is a registered trademark of Eli Lilly and Company. Eli Lilly and Company is not affiliated in any way with this study.

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.

ably in jail.”

“Probably?”

“I haven’t talked to them in three years or so. They fought all the time. All the time,” and I see it in her eyes, hear it in her voice: remembering.

“The cops would come. They kept the neighbors up. One night the cops arrested my daddy. But you know what’s funny? My mommy was the one

beating up my daddy, she could always take him, but they arrested him and they were asking her if she was okay, did she want to get a restraining order, did she need counseling. When the cops left she just laughed about it. The next time the cops came, they were both arrested because there were drugs around the place, and I got put in a

fucking foster home.”

It was the first of many. “I would get fed up with the shit there and jet,” she says. “Then I’d get picked up and put in another foster home, then I’d jet. Then I did some time in juvie. Four months in juvie.” She adds, “Ugh.”

“What for?”

“Solicitation.”

“What?”

RESEARCH STUDIES

Is Diabetes a Part of Your Life?



Learning to live with this chronic disease is not easy. Even with proper diet, plenty of exercise and regular medication, keeping your blood sugar under control can still be challenging.

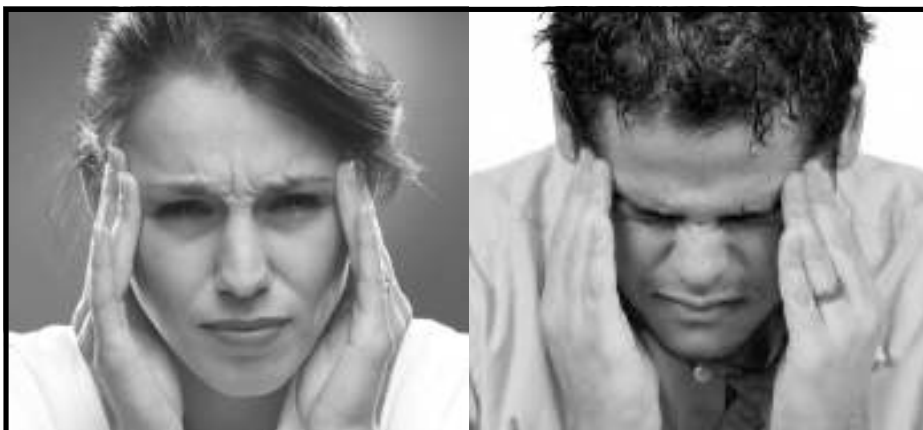
If you have Type 2 Diabetes, you may be eligible for a research study of an investigational oral medication.

You may qualify for this study if you:

- Are age 18 years or older
- Recently diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes
- Currently not taking any oral diabetes medication or insulin
- Have been told your blood sugar is too high

If you qualify, you will receive study-related care and study medication at no charge.

**To learn more about this study, please call
Ritchken & First M.D.'s Donna Perez at: 858-292-0108 x207**



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:

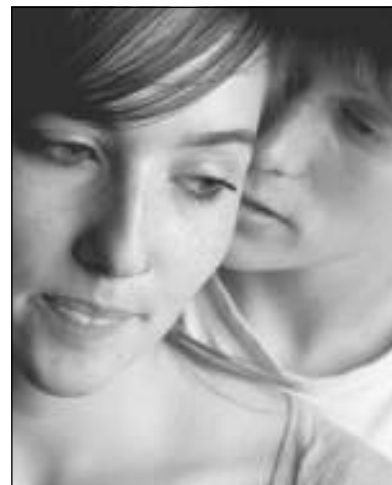
- Male or female, 18-65 years of age
- Have a history of diagnosed migraines with at least one episode per month
- Taken Fioricet or Fiorinal for at least one migraine recently

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**



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

Do You Suffer From Pain After Shingles? (Postherpetic Neuralgia)

If you are suffering from Postherpetic Neuralgia (pain after shingles), you may be eligible to participate in a research study. Study medication and study related exams are provided at no cost. Qualified participants will be compensated for time and travel.



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or visit **www.AvastraClinicalTrials.com**

Are You Self-Conscious?

Does anxiety make it hard for you to be close with other people?



Do you avoid:

- Social interactions, relationships or jobs because you fear criticism, rejection or embarrassment?
- Being the center of attention?
- Going to social events and meeting new people?

If you answered YES to any of the above, you may be eligible to participate in an experimental research study comparing several study drug options for social anxiety. Medical assessment and clinical care are provided.



For more information, please call:
1-877-UCSD-SHY (1-877-827-3749)
or e-mail: veryshy@ucsd.edu
Visit our website at: www.veryshy.org

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

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



Institute for Clinical Research

"Hooking."
I nod.
"You don't believe
me," she says.
"I believe you," I say.
She leans forward.
"That's right."

"So you were in
juvie..."
"Also for getting in
this fight. Messed this
bitch up."
"Four months," I say.
"It sucked," she says.

"I bet."
"Bad shit in there."
"I bet."
"You have no fuck-
ing idea."
"I don't," I say.
"So back to another

foster home, then this
other home, where I met
her [her friend at the
next table] there, and we
were sent to this stupid
fucking school, and we
left that shit and now

we're here."
"Where were all
these foster homes?"
"Everywhere," she
says. "El Cajon, Spring
Valley, Encanto, even one
in La Jolla, and that was

the worst. These people,"
and she shakes her head.
"What people? The
foster parents?"
"They think they can
save the world and shit,"
she says. "They think
they know how shit is,
but they don't know shit
about shit."

I ask about street
families.

"That's something
you don't talk about."

"Why?"

"Because." She blows
smoke my way. "You just
don't."

* * *

I walk by a bus stop and
see D. there with a group
of kids, eight of them.
They're all waiting for the
bus. I know he sees me,
but he acts as though he
doesn't. I don't look at
him or say anything.

How Does It Feel to Get Your Old Ass Whipped by a Kid?

Ryan is 15 and tells me
that he has a home, but
he hardly goes there; he
stays with friends, or at
the beach if it's warm,
and he only goes to
school if he's forced to,
but he finds school to be
a waste of time. "The kids
don't want to be there,
and the teachers don't
want to be there," he says,
"so what's the point? You
got a bunch of people sit-
ting in this room and
none of them like it,
they'd all rather be some-
where else, and the gov-
ernment tells them they
gotta be there and the
teachers gotta be there
because they want to get
paid by the government
to babysit us."

He says his mother is
a "wannabe hippie." She
had him when she was 22
and married. She got
divorced, and she then
got involved with an
older guy. This guy is in
his late 50s, a Vietnam
vet. "She wants to be a
hippie so bad, she wishes
she was around back
then, so she hooks up
with this stupid old guy
who I guess was in 'Nam.
'Nam," he says and spits
on the ground, symbolic



Participate in Our Research Studies

Do you suffer from schizophrenia?

Do you hear voices or see things that other people don't?

Do you feel that people are following you, talking about you,
or are out to get you?

You may be eligible to participate in a research study.
Compensation of up to \$2000.

Call us for more information: **760-806-9200**



Do you have trouble sleeping through the night?

Insomnia is a condition where you might:

- Wake up frequently or awaken during the night but usually fall back to sleep
- Have sleep difficulties interfering with your daily work and life

If you are 18 years or older and experiencing some of these
symptoms, you may qualify to participate in an insomnia research
study to see if an investigational drug improves your quality of sleep.

Study participants will receive, at no cost, investigational medication, study-related physical exams,
study-related care, and may also receive compensation up to \$500 for time and travel.

If you are interested in participating in this clinical study, please call

Excell Research at **760-806-9200** to schedule a screening visit.



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ACTUAL PATIENT

Before



ACTUAL PATIENT

After



Farzad Yaghouti, MD
Medical Director

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Dr. Maria Roybal

of bad memories.
"What's with these
dudes? They're all so
fucked up."

"What do you
mean?"

"Like my mom's old
man," he says. He refuses
to refer to this guy as his
"stepdad," and he isn't
sure if his mother ever
married him for real or
not. "Sometimes she says
she is married, some-
times she says it never
happened, sometimes
she says they were mar-
ried in Las Vegas, and
sometimes that they
went down to City Hall."
He's not sure what the
truth is and now he
doesn't care, but he will
never call the guy his
stepfather. "He's a mean
little fucker with a chip
on his shoulder," Ryan
says. "He's usually quiet
and stares at the TV, but
when he starts drinking
and doing speed, he goes
nuts. He takes it out on
my mom. Starts hitting

her and hurting her and
shit. And the neighbors
call the cops and some-
times they take him away
or sometimes they don't
do shit, and when the
cops leave he laughs and
says the cops are stupid
and starts hitting my
mom again."

"And she stays with
him?"

"Ten years," he says.

He says he decided
to do something about it.
He started to lift weights
at the gym in school and
at a friends', getting mus-
cles. He shows me his
biceps, flexes them with
pride. "When I knew I
could, I took him," Ryan
says. "I wailed on his ass
and said, 'How do you
like it, huh, how do you
like it when someone hits
you?' My mom had to
pull me off him, she said
I was gonna kill him, and
I wanted to kill him, and
the pussy was just there
on the floor and crying
like a baby or something.

He was crying, and I said,
'Look at the big bad
tough guy now!'

"My mom, she says,
it's the same thing always,
she says to me, like she
says to the cops, she says
to me, 'It's not his fault.
He saw some bad things
in Vietnam and did bad
things and it's messed
him up bad, it's not his
fault.' She always says,
'He's a combat vet and he
has issues.' She always
says, 'It's the Agent
Orange, it's not him, it's
the Agent Orange.' I'm,
like, dude, that was so
long ago, that was a mil-
lion years ago, get over it,
will you. Don't take your
fuck out on other people
and just get a grip, it was
a zillion years ago.

"He wasn't so big a
talker now that I could
whup his ass. He was
quiet for a time. Couple
days. Then he gets drunk
again and thinks he's bad
and he wants a rematch.
He comes into my room,

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- Patty S., El Cajon

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compassionate people. Thank you, everyone!"

- Carmen P., San Diego

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he breaks open the door because I have it locked, and he comes in and says, 'I'm gonna kick your ass now,' because he wants revenge. He wants revenge because I whupped his ass, so what do I do," Ryan says proudly, "what do I do, but I whup his fucking little ass again! Old man! Stupid old man! You think you can take me? Big badass 'combat vet' — how does it feel to get your old ass whupped by a kid, huh? You like hitting women — well, how does it feel when you get hit? How do my fists feel on your face?"

Ryan is riled up, punching at the air, his face red. He is reliving the experience, the feelings, the hate, the fear.

His violence worries me.

He calms down.

"Well, shit," he says, grinding his teeth a bit,

"the old man wasn't feeling too good about getting his ass kicked. I kicked his ass three times. I worked out even more for the next time. But he tells my mom, 'He goes or I go.' He says, 'We should be in the bedroom.'"

Ryan explains that the three of them lived in a one-bedroom; he had the bedroom, and they

you should go to your dad's for a while."

"Where is he?"

"Up by San Francisco, he has this job in computers. Walnut Creek. Can you get that? Can you see me in a place called Walnut Creek?"

"Been there," I tell him. "Isn't so bad."

"It sounds bad," Ryan says. "She calls my dad and they argue a lot.

If my baby's a girl, she will be my best friend.

had the living room with a fold-out couch. The arrangement was to appease Ryan's father, who sent child-care payments each month that went to rent.

"So you know what my mom does?" he says.

"She took his side?"

"She says, 'Maybe

He sends money, I see him maybe two times a year. He always comes down here. But he has another wife, he has three kids, a girl and two boys, brothers and sisters I never met and I don't wanna meet and they don't wanna meet me. I can't go up there and I'm

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not gonna go up there, so I say fuck it, fuck it, I'll move out, I'll go. You wanna stay with this but-twipe who beats on you all the time, you can stay with the little creep and you let him hit you, you do what you want, I tried. I tried to stop him, you do what you want, but I swear, if he ever hurts her bad I will cut his eyes out. He kills her, I'm gonna kill him three times over. I'll kill him for days."

Ryan's best friend, who is a year younger than him, has a dad who was in the "Gulf War, and he's messed up something bad too," Ryan says. "None of that 'Agent Orange,' but he says, I mean my friend says his dad saw some bad shit like the 'Nams. But my buddy's dad, he doesn't get mean and angry when he drinks. He gets quiet, he's like, he sits there on the couch and

just cries. Or he walks around the neighborhood and talks to trees. So that's where I stay a lot, I can crash there with my buddy, his dad doesn't care. I don't think his dad notices really. I don't stay there all the time, half the week like, and there's couches to crash on, or I can take the sleeping bag out to the beach. My mom keeps trying to get me to come back. I say yeah, well, I'll just kick her husband's ass if I do."

He's facing a choice, however, because his mother says she plans to move to Idaho by midyear. "Get this, the little angry man comes into some land and money. His own mom dies and leaves him this property up in Idaho and money. All he talks about is how he will use the money to sue everyone who ever messed with him."

His mother says he

can move to Idaho with them.

"No way" is Ryan's response.

He wants his mother to emancipate him when he turns 16, so he can legally be on his own.

"Will she do it?" I ask.

"She has to," he says.

Next, I ask if he knows about the street families.

"I've known some kids in them."

"Here?"

"Not here, I don't think, but places."

"Other cities."

"Yeah," he says, "it's some freaky shit."

"How so?"

"Well," he says, thinking, "I don't get it. They trade one family for another. They have rules and laws. You break the rules, you get your ass whupped or have to pay money or you get kicked out."

"There's a 'mom' and

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a 'dad' in the families."

"Yeah, they say that. That's freaky shit. Don't know..."

"Know what?"

"Are they that desperate to have some kind of real family that they make up shit like that? Mommy and Daddy and brothers and sisters."

"Some people like the order of things," I say. "The security."

"Of what?"

"Belonging."

"Don't they know they'll just get hurt? Every kid I know who has been in one of these families, they just get hurt. It happens."

"Hurt in what way?"

"Every way."

"If there are families here in San Diego, I'd like to find one."

"Why?"

"To learn from them."

"Learn what?"

"I'd just like to talk to them, the 'mom' and 'dad.'"

"Not a good idea. They wouldn't talk to you, for one. They'd probably attack you. They'd probably whup on you thinking you're out to get them. Or they'll just lie to you."

"Why would they do that?"

"Everyone lies. Like the weekend warriors." The weekend warriors, he explains, are kids who have homes, have families, but like to slum with the street kids on Saturday and Sunday, pretending they're down and out. "They think it makes them bad," he says, "and they panhandle. They come up with these sob stories and they tell people. They dress all ratty and make people feel sorry for them and people give them money, or the church people come by and give them food and clothes and shit, and later they laugh about it. They say these church people are so stupid, everyone is stupid. They get all this stuff, and they maybe make \$40 or \$50 a day from panhandling

when they don't really need it."

I ask Ryan where he sees himself in five or ten years, what would he like to be doing.

"An assassin," he goes.

"C'mon."

"Sure. A contract killer, for the Mob or the government or anybody. I'll kill people. For the right price. Maybe I've already done it, how

would you know?"

He's serious.

"Maybe I'll be married," he says.

* * *

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Sex Is Stupid

Rhonda is 16 and has a part-time job at a deli that she says she is going to quit because her friend was fired from the place. "If they don't bring him back, I'm going to say, 'Later, dudes.'" She says the owners are Arabic. "These foreigners don't get it, they don't understand what being tight with a friend is like. I can always get another job. It's not like I really like those sandwiches. They don't help you lose weight, they make you gain. I gained six pounds since working there, eating sandwiches all the time. I hate that stuff now. I can get a better job. I need to make more money if I wanna get a place with my homies."

She is still in school; she knows she needs a diploma. "Maybe I might go to college too," she

says. "There's all kinds of scholarships. I can get a free ride. My grades are good. I don't know. Maybe."

I meet her at the bus stop, and we take the same bus to get the trolley at Old Town. I have seen her before on the bus, have overheard her talking to people about foster homes and the system and how she lived in a shelter with her mother for half a year when she was ten. "I'll never go back." She is short, perhaps just barely over five feet tall; she wears baggy jeans and a large T-shirt and a beanie cap. She talks and speaks the tough-chick act well and has acquired the attitude and look.

I also overheard her, a month ago, talking about getting in a fight with another girl over a guy they were both sleeping with and how she won the fight, but the

guy picked the other girl to "be with," and that pissed her off so bad "that I kicked this guy's ass too." It was a tall story on the bus to a captive audience of three other kids. Who knows if it is true? I am tempted to ask her about it but don't; she might find it strange that I know more about her life than she thinks.

She also thinks I am trying to pick her up. "I don't really date older guys," she says, "not really."

"That's not what I want," I say.

"What do you want?"

I try to assure her I am not a bad guy. She looks me over. "You're harmless," she says. "I'm pretty good at telling. I can read a person. I'm kinda psychic."

"What makes you say that?"

"Sometimes I just know what people are

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thinking. I know what's going on in their hearts, if something bad happened or if they are sad or happy or are lying."

She has a brother who lives with his father; his father is not her father. "My dad is some guy, somewhere," she says. "My mom, she had me when she was 14. Fourteen! Dude. I can't even think about what it would be like if I got knocked up at 14. Like, right now if I had a kid that was 2, the way it was with my mom, oh God."

Her mother has health problems. "She's all messed up on pills and doctor stuff; she has problems with something, her intestines. She's sick a lot. Probably from the booze, but she doesn't drink anymore. I know I'd be a better mom. I'd try to be. But that ain't gonna happen. I ain't gonna get knocked up. No glove, no love."

She says she really likes her friend who got fired, but he wants to sleep with her and she doesn't want to do that. "We're too close and I like just that," she says. "If we did it, it would only ruin us being friends. That happens a lot. I don't want to lose my friend over sex, which is just stupid anyway."

"Sex is stupid?"

"All it ever does is cause trouble. Look around. Sex always messes all kinds of stuff up. It's stupid. People can't mess around and be fun and leave it at that. There is always all this drama. I've had enough drama in my life."

She is now an emancipated minor, the way Ryan wants to be. She's been in foster families, and she was recently sleeping at a special shelter for girls. "Too many lesbians there," she says, "not my thing." She now rents a room out from a family, but she and some friends want to pool their money together and rent out a house. "A real

house," she says, "a real home."

"Are you and your friends like the street families?"

"No. We're just homies."

* * *

I start to think that these street families are an urban myth, propagated by the media, like in the episode of *Law and Order* about a street fam-

ily led by a homicidal maniac. In fact, portrayals of makeshift street families in Dickens and Doyle (the Baker Street Irregulars who help Sherlock Holmes in his cases)

are violent criminal gangs, not a loving substitute for Mom and Dad and domestic bliss.

While in the area of Solana Beach, a couple of teens smoking a joint

point out a group of people gathered on the beach and tell me that they are a street family known in this area. I squint at them; the group is mostly teens in worn clothes. I

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spot what looks like an older man and woman — could this be the “mom” and “dad”? There are 11 in all. I decide to find out.

They notice me approach. The older male says something, and the group disperses, breaking off into couples, or going off alone, everyone headed in a different direction.

Fred Wants a Dollar, Man

J., who has long brown dreadlocks and smells as if she hasn't bathed in a week, doesn't have any shoes. Her feet are caked in dirt. She hates shoes. She says it is “the lifestyle.” She tells me she has just turned 17 and instead of prostitution, she makes money with her dog. The dog she holds by a leash is scrawny, dirty, and has desperate eyes. I think it may be some kind of

Labrador mix. His name is Fred. Fred wants to lick me and for me to pet him.

“Man, he likes you,” J. says. “He usually doesn't like guys.”

“Fred smells my cats on me is all.”

“Fred wants a dollar, man. Give him a dollar. Just hold it out. Watch.”

I hold out a dollar. Fred takes it in his mouth, whimpering, tail wagging, and turns to J., his mistress. She takes the dollar and pockets it.

“Great trick,” I say.

“No trick,” she says. “Business. Me and Fred, we're partners.”

Fred looks to me, wagging his tail. He wants more dollars.

“People won't give money to you when you hustle, not you alone usually,” she says. “But you got the dog, they become these humanitarians all of a sudden like. ‘Oh, look at that

poor hungry dog,’ and they give you money to feed it. Me and Fred here can make \$200 over a weekend. Man, if I had a baby, I'd make twice as much. You see these folks with their baby, ‘my baby need to eat,’ ‘my baby need clothes,’ and people get all generous and shit. Almost makes me want to have a kid. We'd be business partners the way me and Fred here be partners. Oh, look, he heard that, Fred is jealous.”

They Separated Me from My Sisters and My Mom

Anna is 16, five and a half months pregnant. She lives with a “good” foster family. “They don't judge me or nothing like that,” she says, “they are kind people. Their own kids are grown up and live in other cities. I know they just need someone around to take care of,

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and it makes them feel good.”

She’s in school, and she takes an after-school course about prenatal care and how to take care of her baby when the child is born. This is not the first time she’s been pregnant. Another time was two years ago. “But it just wasn’t meant to be,” she says, not explaining further.

“Where is the father?” I ask.

“He’s ‘not in the picture,’ ” she says, making finger quotes. “Maybe someday he will be. Depends. It would be nice. It doesn’t matter. I can do this alone. I used to take care of my sisters. I know how to take care of babies.”

She says she’s been homeless since she was 12. Her father was killed in a fight at a bar. “He left the bar and someone shot him. So we were alone. Me, my mama, my

two little sisters. We got evicted and went from friends to aunts and uncles and kept moving. I remember for a while we were living in this abandoned house in Golden Hill, no lights, no water, nothing, just some sleeping bags. The four of us. We were there for a few months, until the person who owned the place found out and called the cops and got some court papers. There I was, going to school, trying to act normal, living in this house that wasn’t ours, and I’d take care of my sisters while my mom was out working or looking for work.”

“Was there a lack of work?”

“She worked, but it never paid much. We ate, we had food, we had clothes, we just couldn’t get a place or a home.”

Next, they went to the shelters.

“The shelters wel-

comed us. There were several. There were programs. But the State people, the family people, wanted to separate us. They said it would be for a while, until things were better. They separated me from my sisters and my mom.”

“Where are your sisters?”

“Foster home, the same one at least, they are together.”

“Your mother?”

She hesitates. “She’s with some guy now. She’s not happy that I’m pregnant. She wasn’t the other time. I wasn’t going to have no abortion. That’s just wrong. I won’t ever kill some small life. It’s not their fault. And I want my baby. No one will ever take my baby from me. No one can ever take that love from me, and they can’t, they never will, no. If she’s a girl, she will be my best friend. We’ll be more like

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sisters than mama and baby. Even if she's a boy. If she's a boy, he'll be my best friend too."

She says, "My mama had me when she was 17, so I don't see where she has call to judge me."

She says, "No one does. They don't know me."

"She'll change her mind when she sees her grandchild," I say.

Anna smiles. "She

will. I know she will."

I ask her about the street families — does she know about them, has she ever crossed paths with them?

"Just talk," she goes. "I would never join one."

Why not?

Anna touches her stomach and says, "I have my own family; I don't need to find no fake one." ■

— Michael Hemmingson

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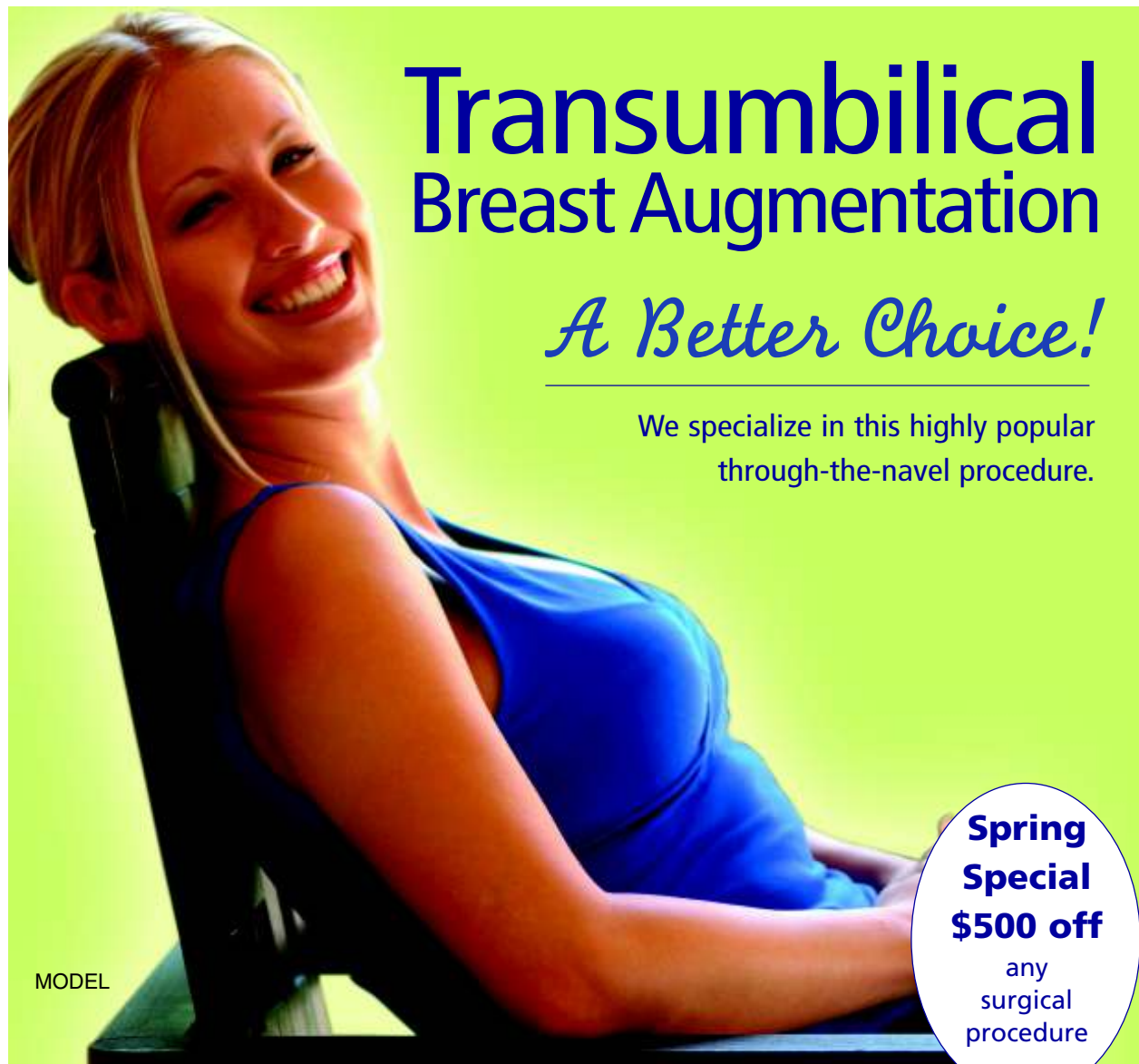
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MYTH #2: Implant manufacturers do not warranty their implants when inserted transumbilically.

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MYTH #3: Patients can only have their implants positioned OVER the muscle when electing to have their surgery performed through the navel.

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Go Greased Lightnin'

Paul Patrzalek's house in La Mesa is impossible to miss: Outside in the front yard sits a 10,000-pound truck with a camper shell that looks — and sounds — not unlike a tank. It's beige in color, adorned with the Mercedes logo. The cab is bright white, and the whole thing sits a good few feet off the ground. It looks utterly out of place in this quiet neighborhood, a hulking machine set down amidst the sedans and minivans.

This monster is a Unimog, a 1975 Mercedes behemoth that sits in Patrzalek's driveway, dwarfing the surf-style '60s wagon beside it and his one-story, peachy-white house.

In the Unimog sits Patrzalek, who has climbed aboard to start it. The vehicle rumbles to life, shaking with the effort, sound filling the street. Patrzalek revs the engine and the ground trembles. A grin stretches across

his bearded face, eyes shielded by sunglasses and a military-style black cap. He says something inaudible, motor growling, words swallowed. He tries again, shouting over the din.

"Soon this will run on vegetable oil!"

That, he says, is the plan; when he gets the special conversion kit he needs, Patrzalek will make the necessary modifications to the Unimog that will allow it to run on what

is known as "waste vegetable oil" or "straight vegetable oil," which he collects from restaurants around the city. It's called "greasel" in the grease-car community, not to be confused with "biodiesel," which is veggie oil that has been chemically modified.

Over the past year, Patrzalek's pet project of turning diesel vehicles into what have been termed "veggie cars" has evolved into a business — albeit a slow one. While most of the conversions have been done on-site at his clients' homes, some he does in a larger workspace in Lakeside and in his La Mesa garage, which is crammed full of bikes, bike parts, car parts, and surfboards. Music blasts from a stereo hanging above Patrzalek's workstation, a wooden table at the back of

the garage covered in tools and debris.

The idea for converting cars first came to Patrzalek five years ago, but he didn't get going on it until last year, after having seen Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth*.

"I was watching [it] with a friend of mine, and I looked over and I said, 'I'm out. I give myself a month to do the research, find a veggie car kit, or I'm going to quit driving altogether,'" he says, sitting at his desk at Adams Avenue Bicycles, where he also works as, in his words, a "parts guy."

"With that kind of incentive," he says, "[it] got me really quick to figure something out."

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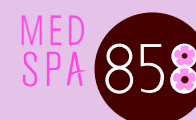
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After purchasing his conversion kit from Lovecraft.com, at that time the only online kit vendor that sold the one-fuel-tank system he was after, Patrzalek got himself an ancient Benz and began the installation process. The story is, as Patrzalek tells it, half determination and half kismet.

"It's really funny, my buddy has a used bicycle shop and he just gets weird stuff," he explains. "And out of the blue, I just call him up and I say, 'Hey, Dave, do you have an old Mercedes you want to sell?' And he says, 'Yeah, I do.' And the thing is so beat up when I got it that I barely got it home. I said, 'Oh my God, what have I done?' But then I finally got the kit from Lovecraft and threw it in, and I was just totally stoked."

Another local grease-car driver is Joe Connor, a San Diego sportswriter who launched the Green Power Sports Tour, a tour of ballparks around the U.S. that he conducted in "the Green Machine," a bright green Mercedes sedan that runs

on straight vegetable oil. The tour, sponsored by several major companies including Autotrader.com and MapQuest, was completed in December 2007. Connor plans to embark on another beginning this August.

His decision to convert to vegetable oil was not financial, he says, but ideological.

"If America prides itself on innovation, I didn't see any innovation in our energy policy," Connor, who is cur-

"The conversion is basically just hillbilly engineering at its finest," Patrzalek says, popping the hood on a candy-apple red Mercedes wagon.

He explains the conversion process, which can only be made to diesel-powered vehicles. It appears technically daunting but, Patrzalek claims, can be done by anybody who is "a bit mechanically inclined." The first step, he says, is to install

"The conversion is basically just hillbilly engineering at its finest."

rently in Central America, writes via email. "Therefore, I felt it important to make a statement.

"If I can do it, you can do it," he continues.

That seems to be the prevailing theory behind grease cars: doing it yourself. According to Patrzalek, who has worked on vintage cars since his childhood, the kit works right out of the box. Both he and Connor haven't looked back.

a heated filter for the oil. The second is to take out the stock fuel filter and put in a heat transfer unit, a duel chamber that runs both fuel and coolant into the engine. Then, as Patrzalek explains, a special fuel pump must go in and hook into the coolant line so that the heated oil and the coolant can both travel to the motor. After hooking up all the necessary hoses, the job should be finished.

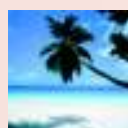
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While many websites and other sources claim that in order to heat the oil, veggie cars must be started and stopped on diesel or biodiesel—a vegetable-oil-based fuel that includes several harmful chemicals—Patzalek says he hasn't had any problems.

"There's always people telling me, 'Oh, you have to start it and stop it on diesel' and all that. And in our climate it's not necessary," he says. "For almost anywhere you don't need to. You just need to mix kerosene or some kind of thinner with your oil to get it started in subzero weather."

Melanie Zauscher, a third-year mechanical-engineering graduate student and founder of University of San Diego's Biofuel Action and Awareness Network, says this depends on the system of the car, the oil used, and the weather.

"During the really cold nights, below 35 degrees, I'm even nervous [using biodiesel

in my car] about [getting] stuck somewhere, because the biodiesel has jellified," she says. "However, in San Diego I don't really have to worry about that most of the year. You run the same risk with the vegetable oil, except it would solidify at an even higher temperature. That's why people who use straight vegetable oil usually add heaters to their car

that will allow them to make batches of biodiesel themselves.

Back in La Mesa, Paul turns on another of his veggie vehicles, a cherry-red Mercedes. Though not nearly as loud as the Unimog, it's still a noisy car, engine jolting as it roars to life. A jet of smoke explodes from the exhaust pipe. It smells like a deep fryer.

"You can't drive up to your local Shell station and buy grease."

to keep the oil less viscous than it is at room temperature. So it really depends."

The Biofuel Action and Awareness Network is an on-campus group devoted to both educating the community about alternative fuels and implementing their use on campus, starting with university transportation vehicles. The network is currently working on a reactor

"There's Thai oil in there," Patrzalek explains, smiling proudly.

Patzalek's business, named Greasel My Diesel, evolved shortly after he went veggie, when friends and friends of friends began to approach him about doing conversions of their cars. So far, he estimates he's done 10-15 conversions. His clients, he says, are mostly environmentally minded people who want to go the extra mile to help minimize the effects of fuel emissions.

"They're either going to be...very environmentally aware, into mountain biking or cycling, surfing," Patrzalek says of his clients. "[They're] just environmentally conscious people. [People] that would probably be eating organic food, aware of the environment. It's usually not a cost thing. I mean, granted, it's enticing, but mainly it's people who are just concerned about the

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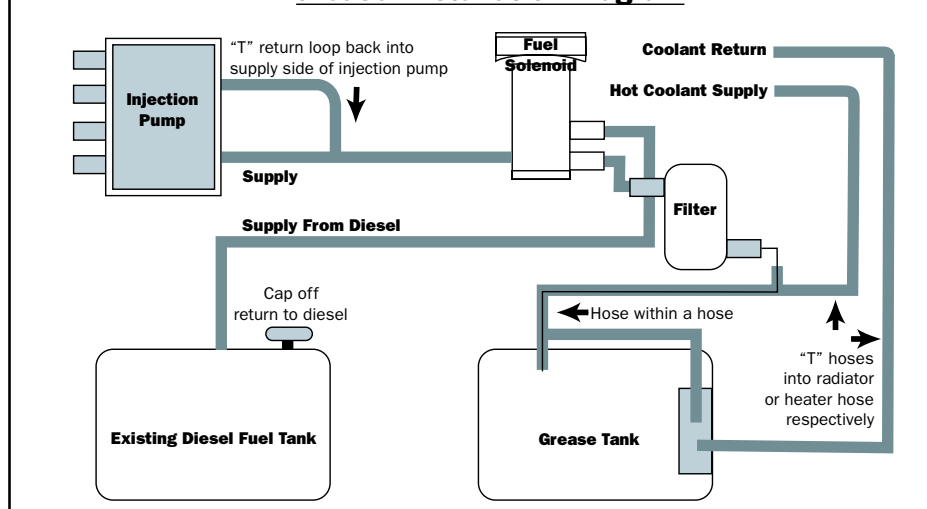
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Greasel Installation Diagram



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environment.”

With a vegetable oil car, fuel cost is not an issue; the harvesting of oil, however, is. Restaurants are the prime sources of waste vegetable oil and must pay to have it removed from their facilities. Many, according to Patrzalek, are happy to give it up and hand it off to him in the same five-gallon jugs they purchased it in. He can harvest, he says, 5–15 gallons per restaurant; two or three restaurants are enough to fuel his fleet of three — soon to be four — veggie oil vehicles.

Connor gets his oil primarily from Asian restaurants.

“Local places support it,” he writes. “The big nationwide chains couldn’t care less. Chili’s, however, has been great to me.”

“I enjoy it,” says Patrzalek, speaking of harvesting

oil. “I enjoy picking it up. I go hunt it down. I enjoy the whole thing of it.”

Others, however, may not. The process is, as Patrzalek describes it, “gross,” not to mention laborious. First, one must locate oil sources and figure out how and when to pick it up. Also, before the oil can be used, it must be filtered to ensure it is free of food debris and other contaminants. For this process, Patrzalek uses a large plastic drum with a special kind of nylon filter attached to it that catches whatever gunk should not be in his fuel. This “home-fueling station” is kept in a shed in Patrzalek’s backyard, along with extra steel cans of filtered oil.

Every new oil source Patrzalek finds, he screens.

“If I find a resource and they agree to let me have it, I’ll take home a gallon, and

I’ll watch it and I’ll see if water settles on it, how much fat is in it, or anything like that,” he says. “I’ve been at places where I actually won’t use the oil, it’s too dirty or it’s got too much fat [or] too much water in it.” Patrzalek says he disposes of the unacceptable grease in the restaurant’s grease traps, though having gotten his filtration and harvesting system down to a science, this happens less often than it used to.

But there are other drawbacks, which Connor outlines.

“Grease is like glue,” he writes. “It sticks to everything. [Also] grease smells [and] you have to keep things clean. You [also] can’t drive up to your local Shell station and buy grease; it takes time to find a source and then time to ensure you have good, filtrated grease.”

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Difficult or not, grease car drivers persist and, for the moment, restaurant vegetable oil is relatively plentiful. There are, however, others out there that have found a use for the same product. Biofuel companies like San Diego upstart New Leaf Biodiesel, a corporation that is currently working on producing biodiesel for wholesale purposes, are installing locked boxes on restaurant premises for oil collection. New Leaf's website boasts a laundry list of restaurants that have provided them with oil, well over 100 in all.

"Basically, we want to help clean up San Diego's air quality by providing biodiesel and recycling a local product into local fuel," says David Richards, co-founder of New Leaf. "We want to help transform the way fleets are using fuel by providing them with a cleaner alternative energy such as biodiesel."

New Leaf is constructing its facility in Barrio Logan and plans to officially open in late April or early May.

Patrzalek, who still has his stock of oil sources, has mixed feelings on the subject.

"I mean, it's great that they want to collect it and filter it and sell it, but I think there's also a point where I kind of like the idea of still getting it for free," he says. "I think it should totally be accessible. If people are willing to go through all the trouble of collecting it themselves and using it, I think it's fantastic. I mean, I understand capitalism and whatnot, but it's kind of rad that you can do that. If there's no free vegetable oil available, that would totally suck."

"I think it's great," says Richards enthusiastically, speaking of grease car drivers. "I think that what they're doing is awesome. They have the same intentions as [we do], using alternative renewable fuels, and I don't think there's anything wrong with it. I think it's great that they're running an alternative or renewable fuel in their vehicles."

Richards does, however, recognize the oil New Leaf is collecting as a commod-

ity that veggie car drivers and collection companies use as well.

"Obviously, there's a limited amount of oil in San Diego, and it's hard to say how many people are out there using vegetable oil in their cars," he says. "So it's hard for me to answer that question [of] if there's going to be a competition between us and them or what. Most of our competition is with existing businesses."

While New Leaf seeks to provide biodiesel, Patrzalek and his fellow greasel drivers use only vegetable oil, not biodiesel. Biodiesel, while made from waste vegetable oil, is an entirely different form of alternative fuel.

Waste oil, Zauscher and her colleague Justin Klein explain, is too thick to run through a regular diesel engine. Biodiesel, on the other hand, is waste oil that has been chemically treated to remove glycerol—a sugar alcohol that acts as a thickening agent—and is thin enough to be used in unmodified diesel cars.

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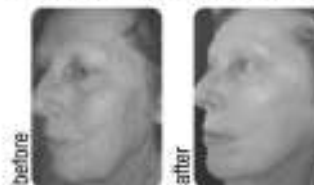
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biodiesel, the thickness of it decreases, so you can run it in a regular diesel engine without modifications," says Klein. "If you're just running regular vegetable oil, you have to make modifications to heat it up before it can go into the engine."

"That's kind of why biodiesel is better because you don't have to convert your car," says Zauscher, who runs her Volkswagen Jetta on biodiesel. "[But] there's obviously benefits to con-

verting your car, because you can just get the waste vegetable oil from restaurants and not have to make biodiesel..."

The Biofuel Action and Awareness Network decided to promote the use of biodiesel on campus as opposed to other fuels for several reasons, which Zauscher outlines.

"The university would never use vegetable oil in their fleet, but we are called Biofuel Awareness and Action

Network because we do want to encourage all biofuels, including waste vegetable oil," she says. "It seemed more logical that people would be less scared of [using] biodiesel as opposed to waste vegetable oil, because biodiesel is more similar to diesel than waste vegetable oil is, and biodiesel doesn't require modifications to the vehicle."

Another advantage of biodiesel over vegetable oil is a legal one. While veggie oil conversion kits are sold

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all over the United States, the process is still illegal and has not been approved (or disapproved) by the Environmental Protection Agency. A spokesman for the agency told Mary Pickels of the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* that vegetable oil is "flammable under certain conditions" and points out the existence of laws "against tampering with vehicles that alter their emissions." In addition, the conversion will definitely void any warranties a vehicle might have, though it is not an issue with the older-model Mercedes popular with veggie car drivers — their warranties have likely expired years ago. With biodiesel, few to no modifications are required, a definite advantage over vegetable oil.

Though not as cost-effective as vegetable oil or as simple to harvest, it is possible to make biodiesel oneself. However, while it requires only a few ingredients, the process is laborious and demands a considerable amount of know-how. It requires the use of several harmful chemicals, including sodium hydroxide (lye) and methanol, a petroleum-based alcohol, both of which demand safety precautions. Both Zauscher and Klein, along with other members of their group, are currently testing their homemade biodiesel in small amounts.

Some, however, are skeptical about the impact biodiesel will have. Accord-

ing to the National Biodiesel Board, biodiesel produces approximately 50 percent fewer smog-causing emissions than regular diesel, but some have found problems associated with its use. David Pimentel, a professor at Cornell University in New York, is one of biodiesel's biggest critics.

"Including all the inputs, [producing] biodiesel using soybeans... takes 53 percent more fossil energy to produce a gallon of biodiesel than the production of a gallon of diesel," he writes via email from New York. "Thus, biodiesel is a major contributor to global warming. We use soybeans for biodiesel production because it is the best, because we do not have to use nitrogen fertilizer with soybean production. Nitrogen fertilizer for rapeseed or canola production requires about 33 percent more fossil energy."

Connor, on the other hand, doesn't agree with those who are suspicious of biodiesel and other alternative fuels.

"In my view, we need to explore, and not shoot down, multiple energy options, from biodiesel to vegetable oil to ethanol to hydrogen cars and on and on," he writes. "When you have choices and competition, prices go down. When you have exorbitant demand and limited choices, you have what we have now and will continue to have: high prices."

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able buying gas," says Patrzalek. "I've spent the past 15 years commuting to work by bike, so I've been fortunate enough to not have to really rely on internal combustion, because I feel like a sucker buying gas."

For him and for Connor, vegetable oil was the logical choice.

Still, veggie car drivers have a lot to face, skepticism perhaps being the largest obstacle in their path.

"I've been at Henry's

and had one of the clerks give me crap for not bringing in my own bags, and I just said, 'I have a veggie car outside,' and they said, 'No, you don't. You can't do that,'" Patrzalek says. "And I backed up my car almost to the door, and you can smell it when it's burning, and they still didn't believe me."

He pauses.

"The funny thing is I got so many people calling and asking questions about it, going on and on, but still,

I wasn't able to sell a car," he continues. "I don't know. They're just not ready for change. They're so conditioned to go to the fuel pump for it, and when you have something new like this, they maybe don't feel comfortable about it or they don't believe it. It sounds too good to be true."

According to Patrzalek, it's not.

"It just takes a bit of tenacity," he says, "that's it." ■

— Rosa Jurjevics

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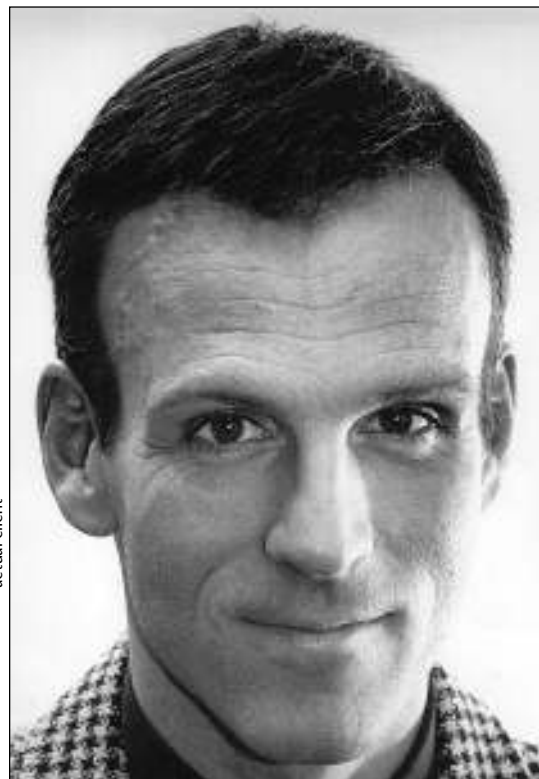
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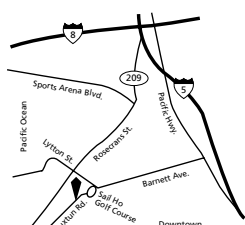
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LETTERS

continued from page 12

Alastair Bland responds: I suggest you take a tour this weekend of five or six bars while carrying a 32-ounce measuring cup. When they bring your favorite draft beer to the table, transfer it to the measuring cup. See how much they've served you. You'll know you're at a special pub if you've received 14 ounces, but 12 to 13 ounces is more on par with the status quo.

Save Old Skills

I am here on business, and I picked up your recent copy with the cover story "Chivalry Is Not Dead" (March 27).

I am glad to see that there are still those who have a passion for keeping some of our traditions and history alive.

Without these artists, craftsman, and masters of skills from the past, we would only be able to read

about these historical skills and professions.

Thank you for reintroducing them to your readers.

Will McLaughlin
via email

Surprising Clothesline

I totally agree with Phyllis Hordin about clothes hanging out (Letters, April 3). I hang my clothes out too, and a neighbor came into my yard one time and went, "Oh, a clothesline!" like she'd seen a live *Tyrannosaurus rex*. But it really doesn't make sense to prohibit clotheslines during energy crunches.

Dale Anne Thompson
Clairemont Mesa

Chivalry Lessons

Your cover story on the "lost arts" in San Diego was great ("Chivalry Is Not Dead," March 27). Thanks for letting your readers know about the Chivalry Today educational program! Every year we go to hundreds of schools, libraries,

and youth groups to put on our presentations to help children understand the ethics and values of chivalry as a "warrior's code of honor." We also offer presentations on the Leadership Secrets of the Code of Chivalry for businesses and civic groups, like Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs. Readers who would like to learn more — or who might like to subscribe to our monthly *Chivalry Today* podcast — can go to our website (which wasn't mentioned in the article): *ChivalryToday.com*.

Thanks again for helping keep the lost art of chivalry alive in San Diego!

Scott Farrell
Director, Chivalry Today
Educational Program

Comments from Reader Website

Cover Story

Published April 2

Posted by ponzi on April 2, 1:21 p.m.

As a teenager in the late

70's I used to drive to San-tee Lakes and cross over the water treatment ponds or bypass some fences to get on a dirt road that took me close to the eastern test site.

There was a hole in the fence and a well traveled path from people visiting the abandoned facility.

There were several crate sized boxes mounted on the side of the canyon which we assume were for cameras to film the tests. My friends and I would go and crawl into the bunkers underneath the "missile pad." There was just a lot of wire racks, electrical apparatus and large stainless steel plumbing fixtures.

Ironically, in 1990 I was working for General Dynamics on the Altas-Centaur program at Plant 5 in Kearny Mesa. There was a massive clean room that housed the Atlas rockets where they were stretched, inflated with gas (to keep them from crumpling) and where the engines were

mounted and inspected. The Tomahawk was also assembled at Plant 5. Many parts of the Atlas II were also assembled at Air Force Plant 19 on Harbor Drive. Now part of the SpaWar facilities.

Blurt

Published April 2

Posted by woodywoodham on April 3, 8:22 p.m.

Not having access to a hard copy of the Reader here in Prescott, Blurt is just no fun anymore. It seems more condensed.. Also it's more cumbersome to view on the internet than it used to be. Instead of one column it's a several scattered articles here and there. Please bring back the former internet format for Blurt.

Crush

Published April 2

Posted by bluto on April 3, 11:07 p.m.

First of all, you can't ever prove something is safe. All you can do with a

study is prove that something is not safe. You can never prove that genetically changed materials are safe - and that shadow of doubt is all that naysayers like Erica need in order to keep getting their names in lights.

Second, she assumes that scientists and company executives are bad people, who only want to make money, at the expense of people and nature. She needs to be careful in what she says and have her knowledge down right. She needs to be careful about talking about transgenic (switching genes from different animals) and genetic enhancement using the yeast genes own genetic material. There is a huge difference.

As for ethyl carbamate, it hasn't been shown to cause cancer in humans because performing studies on this to prove that would be unethical, something the Nazis did. However, its so cancer causing, it's ability

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to cause cancer is so stable, it's actually used as a baseline to compare how cancer causing other substances are. And she says that we should continue keeping it in wine?

Finally, I've worked in the past with companies who have had to deal with consumer "advocates" like Erica. Dealing with them opens up a huge can of worms. You write a response and they pick that apart to keep the debate going. People like Erica are only interested in getting their name in lights and you writing her up just fans the flames.

Good work writing a one-sided story not talking to anyone on the other side. Nice lazy work!!

Posted by Eric on April 4, 4:11 p.m.

Actually, the developer of these yeasts could have done animal feeding trials to test for toxicity, the same way developers of new food additives do.

And since there have been studies showing that GMOing yeasts can produce toxicity, that's exactly what he should have done. The developer of these yeasts is the lazy one (along with the FDA, which doesn't require such tests), not the writer of this article.

There have also been studies showing that ethyl carbamate (when in wine) does not cause cancer in lab animals, supporting the idea that wine has other properties (i.e. resveratrol) that counteract any carcinogenic effects of ethyl carbamate. So there is no reason to take a chance on this type of GE wine yeast, healthwise or marketwise.

Transgenic just means inserting genes from a foreign species. (It doesn't have to be from an animal.) The ML01 GE yeast is transgenic, because the developer inserted a gene from a bacteria to make it.

In any event, the genes being from a foreign species

isn't the main issue. The main issue is the fact that the insertion of genes, any genes, is inherently disruptive and can affect the way the whole organism functions. Get your facts straight, Bruto.

City Lights, by Joe Deegan Published April 2

Posted by scubasd on April 2, 9:45 p.m.

The City is in violation of the following laws related to the surf camp RFP process and the proposed Kayak RFP process:

Civil Code 670
Revenue and Taxation Code 17041.5
Government Code 53978
Heckendorn, 42, cal 3d 481(1986)
California State Proposition 218
Coastal Commission Act sec. 30213
Coastal Commission Act sec. 30222

They have also opened the door to tort claim lawsuits by all the surf camp

operators that were forced out of business by the illegal and excessive fees.

All fees paid to it by this operator. It will have 45 days to respond before we take legal action to recover the fees from the City.

City Lights, by Don Bauder Published April 2

Posted by Fred_Williams on April 3, 6:52 a.m.

San Diego's Song:

Rip me off with a ball-park
Give me corporate pork
Buy me a mayor and council seat
After the vote our team always gets beat
Cause it's fraud, fraud, fraud economics
Taxpayers lose, it's a shame
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Time to sue John Moores for our money

back. Time to put Susan Golding, Jack McGrory, and Casey Gwinn in jail for corruption. Then we'll go after the Spanos crime family too. Our pension deficit is a direct result of these stadium/ballpark frauds. If it's not the case, then John Moores and Alex Spanos ought to be suing me for libel.

Posted by Anon92107 on April 3, 1:14 p.m.

Our highest priority is to terminate the corrupt judicial era that former Justice O'Connor exposed, where the influence of money and politics causes our judges to overrule the Rule of Law. Until we restore the Rule of Law in San Diego all other problems cannot be dealt with as Aguirre keeps proving because of the corruption of San Diego judges that has been business as usual since the Greer court at least.

As you exposed in "Brash Cash" response #2 "Davies is — one of the

most powerful people in San Diego, particularly in the selection of judges." We need a list of judges who were "selected" by Davies, along with those who have overthrown the rule of law in Aguirre's cases. Do you have that list available?

Posted by dbauder on April 3, 1:40 p.m.

The cover story of the New York Times Magazine, Sunday, March 16, titled "Supreme Court Inc.: How the nation's highest court has come to side with business," should interest you.

Posted by Fred_Williams on April 5, 7:08 a.m.

Let's get together and serenade the city. If you're able to take off some time from work, (notice how they schedule these things so most people cannot attend), we can go to the next city council meeting and sing the ballpork song.

I live and work downtown. The condo towers are empty.

Even on the days when

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the boys are playing ball, it's clear that the only place they are spending their money is inside the Moores money making stadium...if you leave during the game, you cannot go back in.

We also neglect to calculate the amount of money spent policing the rowdy drunks. I counted at least two dozen uniformed officers surrounding the sports fortress for the game.

What about the litter? These ball-obsessed fans don't seem able to hit a trash can, so we all pay for cleaning up their mess.

As Gerry Braun pointed out in his recent article, even restaurants that got steady custom from the ball-fans have gone out of business.

So where is the benefit to San Diego's economy?

It doesn't come from hotel room taxes, since almost all the people attending the game are locals within driving distance.

It doesn't come from increased local restaurant or bar revenues, since that is captured within the stadium (where Moores keeps the profit...\$8 for a beer).

It doesn't come from rent, since Moores pays only \$500k rent, while we pay a minimum of \$17 MILLION for the bonds alone.

Yet, as Darren points out, the local media, including the allegedly independent VOSD keep spinning the lie that hosting professional ball players is somehow profitable.

It is NOT profitable to us, and they know this.

So what is their motivation?

Could it be the free press passes to the games?

Could it be the marketing and advertising partnerships?

Could it be simple stupidity? After all, when I attended college I noticed that the journalism students were uniformly dim-witted. To be a newsreader requires little more than a deep voice and a full head of hair.

Thank goodness for Don Bauder. What he lacks in good looks, he more than makes up in good sense.

Unfortunately, our television addled society seems unable to do basic math, and will instead mindlessly

repeat the simplistic slogans of the cheerleaders.

"Keep the Faith," indeed.

Unfortunately, it was bad faith. The "pump and dump" history of John Moores with the Peregrine fraud should have landed him in jail. His bribery (oh, wait, "illegal gifts") of Stallings should have put him in the slammer. The ballpork rip-off should have seen him doing hard time.

Now he's got political prostitute Steve Peace working on ways to put the airport into his greedy hands, and I'm sure the privatization of Balboa Park will be yet another fraud where Moores will stiff us all.

One wonders how much longer San Diego will tolerate all of this.

My number one criteria for the next mayor, council, and city attorney is if they will have the cajones to prosecute John Moores and get our money back.

Posted by dbauder on April 5, 7:18 a.m.

Remember, the mainstream media make oodles of money off of pro sports. That's why any stadium welfare ripoff generally gets the support of a city's major media outlets. There are some exceptions in enlightened communities such as New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, etc. I'm not surprised some local TV station concluded that the ballpark was so wonderful for downtown San Diego. I doubt if the reporter knew enough to check into the ailing downtown condo market, and to learn what the Padres had promised to do versus what they actually did. CCDC put out propaganda pieces boasting that the ballpark had caused all kinds of development in a 60-block area around the field. The ball-park brought development 60 blocks away? Please. The Union-Tribune printed the story basically as written by the CCDC. But nobody mentioned the key point: that development — much of it now semi-empty condos — came during a period when interest rates were the lowest in 50 years (around 1 percent most of the time.) Almost every major city, particularly in the sunbelt areas, had

condo booms, and most, like San Diego, now are suffering busts. But these things won't be covered by biased and unsophisticated media.

Feature Story

Published March 26

Posted by adk2169 on April 1, 11:32 a.m.

LOVE, LOVE, LOVE!

This is the best cooking show. you recognize all the ingredients in their Vons packages. The best show was the Sweet and Sticky Ribs....sooo easy and everyone tells me they are the best ribs they have ever had. The video of this recipe is funny too, the part where he drops the ribs on the ground and then throws them on the grill anyway, reminds my of my mom. Sam....are you hiring??? I want this job. Ill do the dishes for you.....

Blurt

Published March 26

Posted by myrnakai on April 1, 11:52 a.m.

It is very disheartening to read an article that has so many holes in it when it comes to the facts.

Just like the media to "blow up" something that in reality came down to what was simply an infraction regarding the Boat and Ski Club. I am disappointed in the "mystery" person who made such negative claims. Stating the Boat and Ski Club's ambiance is synonymous with a mosh pit, (wild and out of control/ brawls), is like saying eating twinkies makes you homicidal.

On the contrary, I have been to the Boat and Ski Club an infinite number of times when it was open to the public. Consistently I saw young and old people listening to music by local musicians, some with plate in hand enjoying a nice steak dinner. The facility does serve alcohol, but never did I witness any kind of violence, only jovial interactions, as well as dancing..... Personally, I feel the real issue behind this complaint is that the club is changing a bit, and yes, change can be scary.

Oh, by the way, that photo of Cathryn had been altered to also appear scary. I think we get the REAL picture if you know what I mean...




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Bound by Fear

A Discussion of Gated Communities

Gated communities are created for different reasons, but the reasons are all about fear," says president of the American Anthropological Association Setha M. Low. "In places like California, where the cities can't expand their tax base easily, they turn to private developers. I imagine San Diego doesn't have the money to provide [additional] infrastructure, so they turn to private companies to build private communities." These communities pay for their own streets, landscaping, and parks. People who move into such new developments, Low says, "pay state taxes,

local taxes, and homeowner fees — they're triple taxed."

LOCAL EVENTS

On Thursday, April 10, Low will present a lecture titled, "Gated Communities in the U.S., Latin America, and China: A Cross-Comparison of the Fear and Insecurity" at the San Diego State University library. Low spent almost a decade interviewing residents of gated communities. "If you ask somebody, 'Why did you move to a gated community?' they'll say, 'I was afraid of X,'" she says. "In any of those countries, that's the only thing that's similar." One major difference is that in China and Latin America, walled neighborhoods have always existed. "I find it more shocking in the United States, where there were open suburbs, and now suddenly, these walls." The 2001 census revealed that 16 million individuals, or around 6 percent of the country's population, lived in gated communities.

Low says those who move to a gated

community in search of "community" will be "sorely disappointed." Most residents in such developments, Low believes, practice what she calls "moral minimalism" by going out of their way to avoid interacting with one other. For example, rather than walking across the street to knock on a neighbor's door to discuss and attempt to resolve an issue (e.g., excessive noise), most people choose to report the incident to the homeowners' association. Thus the neighbor, robbed of open dialogue and the opportunity to respond (e.g., "I'm sorry about that; I'll make an effort to keep it down"), receives an anonymous violation notice and may feel targeted, while never knowing which neighbor reported the issue. "Whatever happens, you get the board to take care of things — you don't have to deal with your neighbors," explains Low. "That's moral minimalism, and it can be produced. They know fewer and fewer of their neighbors because they go to the board to take care of things."

Another problem with homeowners' associations, Low says, is private governance. During an appearance on National Public Radio's *Talk of the Nation*, Low elaborated. "[Private governance] can mean that your community is controlled by a very small number of people who will make your decisions based on property rights, and you are bound by contractual law as opposed to laws that would protect your freedom of speech. So if the HOA decides you can't have a red door or a certain kind of plant, you don't have any legal recourse to argue against that." At the time of the interview, in 2004, there were 250,000 homeowners' associations in



Setha M. Low

the United States. Since that time, most new housing developments, gated or not, have been "common-interest developments" with associations.

According to Low, gated communities can give people a false sense of security. "People would say, 'I'm worried about crime; [living here] makes me feel safe' — but in fact it doesn't," she says. "Your crime rate is pretty much the same. Most gated communities are in areas where there was an extremely low crime rate in the first place." Conversely, burglars have been known to target gated communities. Low also explained on *Talk of the Nation* how some communities only pose as gated: "There are faux-gated communities with no guards, they're just pretending — they have the guard house and the walls and the gates, but the gates are open, and there's nobody there. It's such an important part of American culture that they don't even have to have the software of the people, just the hardware for everyone to think they are safer or to provide a status people are looking for."

Gated communities are most often developed in areas of the greatest heterogeneity, especially those of socioeconomic or racial diversity. French geographer Renaud Le

Goix created a map of gated communities in Southern California and found that most of them were new developments located between older, lower-income neighborhoods. "I would argue this is due to the fear of others," says Low. "This fear of others is about a kind of general insecurity with the changing quality of life in America."

Low admits that in certain situations it is advantageous to live in a gated community. "If there's been drive-through drug dealing, [gates] tend to be very effective. But then it just moves over a street."

— Barbarella

Lecture: "Gated Communities in the U.S., Latin America, and China: A Cross-Comparison of the Fear and Insecurity"

**Thursday, April 10
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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

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DANCE

“Bellydance: Philosophy and Technique” Leilainia leads “Bellydance Basics: Fun with Bellydance” (7-8 p.m.), followed by lessons in “using the dance to get into your body” (8-9 p.m.). “Workshop is great for intermediate dancers, yogis, and all who have awareness of their body and movement.” \$120 fee is for six weeks. 619-884-7707. Tuesdays, 7 p.m.; through Tuesday, May 20, 2008, \$60-\$120. Bamboo Yoga and Bodywork Center, 1127 Loma Avenue. (CORONADO)

“Don Quixote” San Diego Academy of Ballet presents this “comedic and intriguing love story...a re-creation of the origi-

nal Russian masterpiece.” Cast includes former Bolshoi dancer Maxim Tchernychev, former Russian principal dancers Valeri Tchekachev, Vitaliy Nechay, and Victoria Luchkina, and over 75 local dancers. 858-748-0505. Friday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.; \$10-\$30. Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road. (POWAY)

“Evening Extravaganza” Urban Tribal presents Rose Harden and Deb Rubin, formerly of Ultra Gypsy, along many other dancers. Doors open 8 p.m. Performance is followed by April 12 workshops by Harden and Rubin at Dance Place San Diego. 619-235-8267. Thursday, April 10, 8:30 p.m.; \$5. The Kava Lounge, 2812 Kettner Boulevard. (LITTLE ITALY)

Bellydance Workshops Tribal SDstyle presents workshops with combined forces of Deb Rubin and Rose Harden’s “Core Integration for Belly Dance” applied to tribal technique and new stylized fusion choreography. Rubin’s “Engaging the Core — Slow and Slinky” workshop runs noon-2 p.m.; “Rocking the Core” presented 2:30-4:30 p.m. by Harden. 619-235-8267. Saturday, April 12, noon; \$40-\$80. Dance Place San Diego in NTC Promenade, 2650 Truxtun Road, Suite 108. (POINT LOMA)

Dance Studio Hour Students in MiraCosta College’s dance classes perform in variety of styles, along with demonstration of Pilates mat work, in room 204. 760-757-2121 x6302. Thursday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.; MiraCosta College San Elijo Campus, 3333 Manchester Avenue. (CARDIFF)

Day of Dance 2008 Day promises dance workshops, classes

OUT & ABOUT

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in styles including modern, jazz, Latin, swing, tap, hip-hop, yoga, ballet, more, in 5100 building (dance studio) 760-757-2121, x6302. Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m.; \$25-\$30. Ages 11 and up. MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

English Country Dancing Janet and Tyge handle calling duties, and there’s live music on tap for English country dancing. 858-676-9731. Sunday, April 13, 6 p.m.; \$8. Jean Hart Academy of Dance, 12227 Poway Road. (POWAY)

Funky Blues and Swing Dance Party DJ plays west coast swing, nightclub two-step, requests for singles and couples of all ages. Roving instructor. First time free. 619-275-3533. Thursday, April 10, 8 p.m.; \$3-\$6. Pattie Wells’ Dance-time Center, 1255 West Morena Boulevard. (LINDA VISTA)

Get Hustling! Hustle workshop for intermediate/advanced dancers led by Billy Marti for San Diego Hustle Club (\$15). Hustle Club dance party follows 8 p.m.-midnight (\$7), with beginner lesson 8:30 p.m. (included in admission). 760-803-9982. Saturday, April 12, 7 p.m.; \$5-\$7. Dance North

County, 535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 100. (ENCINITAS)

Israeli Line Dancing Dances from recent workshops taught by Dalya Dallal, followed by international dance requests. 619-281-5656. Saturday, April 12, 7:30 p.m.; \$7. Folk Dance Center, 4569 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

Laissez Les Bon Temps Roulez! Leroy Thomas and the Zydeco Roadrunners play for dance hosted by Bon Temp Social Club and Gator by the Bay Festival. Dance instruction at 6:20 p.m., live music from 7-10:30 p.m. 858-496-6655. Saturday, April 12, 6:20 p.m.; \$14. War Memorial Building, 3325 Zoo Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

Learn the Ancient Art of Bellydance Leilainia offers mixed-level class on Thursdays “focusing on balancing and invigorating through dance.” Stretch, tone, strengthen your body. Drop-in fee: \$15; \$60 for six weeks. 619-884-7707. Thursdays, 6 p.m.; through Thursday, May 8, 2008, \$15. Rock Paper Scissors, 4967 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Ragtime and Redowa, Part III Wrap-up of authentic ragtime

two-step choreography (beginner level), and “further venturing” into Redowa/mazurka variations (intermediate level). Open request dancing until 9:45 p.m. Hosted by Waltz & Such in Casa del Prado room 207. All ages. Partners not required. Donation. 619-583-9956. Friday, April 11, 7:15 p.m.; \$1. Casa del Prado, El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

The More the Merrier The community band returns — plan to sit in with them — and Steve Barlow 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, April 12, 7:30 p.m.; \$7. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

FILM

“Bicycle Thieves” Director Vittorio De Sica’s 1947 neo-realist masterpiece — set in post-World War II Rome — screens for spring film series. 858-454-3541. Thursday, April 10, 7 p.m.; \$5-\$7. Sherwood Auditorium at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, 700 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

“Classic Silent Films from France” Teeny-Tiny Pit Orchestra for Silent Films provides live music and sounds with classic short films for UCSD’s ArtPower series. Films include *Une Dame Vraiment Bien*, *Les Joyeux Microbes*, and “short surprises” from Georges Méliès, the Lumière Brothers, more. Audience is invited to assist with creation of some of the music, sounds. Screen-

ing offered in CalIT2 Theatre at UCSD. 858-534-TIXS. Thursday, April 10, 8 p.m.; \$10. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (UCSD)

“Drive-Thru New Zealand” Donavon Frankenreiter, Benji, Pat-O, and other pro surfers scour “the beautiful surf-soaked land of New Zealand” in the next “Drive Thru” installment. During screening, pros will be on hand; expect “tons of product giveaway.” 760-436-7469. Thursday, April 10, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.; \$8. La Paloma Theatre, 471 South Coast Highway 101. (ENCINITAS)

“Duma” Film set in South Africa with 12-year-old boy returning a cheetah to the wild screens for “Carlsbad Reads Together”-themed Carlsbad Library film series. 760-602-2026. Wednesday, April 16, 6 p.m.; Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

“El Norte” This 1987 film — following a brother and sister as they make a new life in Los Angeles as young, uneducated, illegal immigrants — screens for Second Saturday Cinema series. 619-298-7261. Saturday, April 12, 7 p.m.; St. Paul’s Cathedral, 2278 Sixth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

“Loose Change (Second Edition)” Film — described as “follow-up to the most provocative 9/11 documentary on the market” — screens for Film Forum. 619-236-5800. Monday, April 14, 6:30 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

“The Last Kiss” Italian romantic comedy about life, love, infidelity, marriage, growing up screens for International Film Series in room 201 at MiraCosta’s San Elijo campus; film repeats at 7 p.m. on Oceanside campus. 760-795-6612. In Italian with English subtitles. Friday, April 11, 1 p.m.; MiraCosta College San Elijo Campus, 3333 Manchester Avenue. (CARDIFF)

“The Last Kiss” Again! Italian romantic comedy about life, love, infidelity, marriage, growing up screens for International Film Series in room 3601. 760-795-6612. In Italian with English subtitles. Friday, April 11, 7 p.m.; MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

“Washington, You’re Fired” Documentary presents first-hand testimony and whistleblower accounts focusing on the war on terrorism’s challenges to liberties in the U.S. Screening hosted by San Diegans for 9/11 Truth. Donation. 619-222-2120. Sunday, April 13, 6:30 p.m.; Joyce Beers Community Center, 1230 Cleveland Avenue. (HILLCREST)

A Story of War, Peace, Surfing See *Sliding Liberia*, a film by Britton Caillouette and Nicholai Lidow, during Surf Aid International fundraiser screening. Film follows four young surfers traveling through war-torn Liberia “in search of perfect waves” who find “a way to travel responsibly in the 21st century.” 760-436-7469. Friday, April 11, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.; \$8. La Paloma Theatre, 471 South Coast Highway 101. (ENCINITAS)

Saps at Sea Tent The annual “Russ Peck” show with live theater pipe organ accompaniment and Laurel and Hardy flicks promised when local chapter of Laurel and Hardy fans gathers. 619-417-9032. Saturday, April 12, 7 p.m.; \$6.

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FOR KIDS

“Big Foot, The Musical” Old Fashioned Kite Flying Puppeteers perform through Sunday, April 13. Weaver’s Tales present *The Three Pigs and Other Funny Stories*, April 16-20. 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, April 10, 10 a.m.; Friday, April 11, 10 a.m.; Saturday, April 12, 11 a.m.; Sunday, April 13, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, April 16, 10 a.m.; \$3-\$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

“Cooking Up Music” San Diego Symphony plans interactive performance introducing “young minds to classical instruments and musical composition.” Philip Mann directs and narrates selections by Mozart, Bach, Grieg, Strauss, played by 15 symphony members. From the stage, Chef Jacques demonstrates similarities between ingredients of a cake and ingredients of music. Show is geared towards children in kindergarten through third grade. 760-724-2110. Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.; \$5-\$10. Avo Playhouse, 303 Main Street. (VISTA)

“Going Green” Classics for Kids family concert balancing music, art, dance, education. Classics Philharmonic performs Saint-Saëns’ “Carnival of the Animals” and other “descriptive music about the world around us.” 619-570-1100. Sunday, April 13, 2 p.m.; \$12-\$16. Ages 3 and up. Balboa Theatre, 854 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

“The Frizz and Creepy, Crawly Friends” Spiders are more than meets the eye — “they’re our creepy, crawly friends.” Learn how spiders spin their webs and how they trap meals. For those four to six years old with an adult. Fees do not include museum admission. Reservations: 619-255-0203. Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.; \$12-\$15. Ages 4 and up. San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

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, April 12, 12:30 p.m.; Sunday, April 13, 12:30 p.m.; Rohr Park, 4548 Sweetwater Road. (BONITA)

April Showers and May Flowers “Art class with a floral twist” planned for next Secrets of the Garden parent participation program. Students will paint, “investigate the power of the flower and the mysteries behind

their fragrance and appearance,” enjoy a snack. For those four and older with an adult. 619-660-0614. Friday, April 11, 6 p.m.; \$12-\$15. Ages 4 and up. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Get Steamed! Check out live plankton under a microscope, create an art project to take home, enjoy short cruise on San Diego Bay aboard historic *Pilot* boat during spring family day. Maritime Dancers will perform aboard HMS *Surprise* (1 and 2:30 p.m.), activities on upper deck of ferryboat *Berkeley*. Adults pay regular admission; children must be accompanied by adult to enter for free. 619-234-9153. Sunday, April 13, 11 a.m.; San Diego Maritime Museum, 1306 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

Make a Giant Origami Bird! Children 8-16 years old invited to take part in intermediate-level folding class that starts with a “huge piece of paper.” Required registration: 619-232-2780. Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.; \$8. Ages 8 and up. Japanese Friendship Garden, Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

Musical Story Time Educator Anne Fennell presents interactive storytelling session inspiring reading, exposing participants to elements of music, musical instruments, and music making. For those seven and younger with their families. Suggested donation: \$5. 760-438-5996. Monday, April 14, 9:30 a.m.; Museum of Making Music, 5790 Armada Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Paper Airplane Festival Find out all about paper airplanes, enter a paper airplane flight contest, and see a “record breaking launch” during family science day. Sessions lasting 45 minutes are included in paid admission. Reservations: 619-234-8291 x19. Saturday, April 12, 12:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 12, 1:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 12, 2:30 p.m.; \$6-\$15. San Diego Air and Space Museum, 2001 Pan American Plaza. (BALBOA PARK)

IN PERSON

“3 for \$300 Poetry Slam” Poetry and Art Series continues with poetry/visual art combination slam for writers, artists, performers. Performers who bring and show visual art connected in some way to their poetry earn extra points; performers also encouraged to use artwork hanging in museum. Winner takes home \$300. Signups start at 6:30 p.m. 619-236-0011. Wednesday, April 16, 6:30 p.m.; San Diego Art Institute: Museum of the Living Artist, 1439 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

“A French Bulldog for Every Season” Author Michele Copen signs her book capturing “the joy, humor, fun, and excitement of the French bulldog.” 858-454-0347. Saturday, April 12, 1 p.m.; Warwick’s Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

“Bonk: The Curious Coupling of Science and Sex” Author Mary Roach discusses, signs her book examining “what science is doing to make the bedroom a more satisfying place.” 858-454-0347. Wednesday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.; Warwick’s Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

“Ghosts of El Grullo” Local author Patricia Santana discusses and signs her new book, sequel to her first novel, *Motorcycle Ride on the*


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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

Sea of Tranquility. 858-454-0347. Thursday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.; Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

"Godspell" Red Brick Players present this musical, telling parables of Jesus as found in the gospel of Matthew, directed by Eric von Metzke. Concert pianist Bryan Verhoye leads one of the church's worship bands to provide accompaniment. Offering, 619-223-1633. Friday, April 11, 7 p.m.; Saturday, April 12, 7 p.m.; Sunday, April 13, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church, 2128 Chatsworth Boulevard. (POINT LOMA)

"Planet Earth Rocks!" Celebrate Earth Day early with Palomar Unitarian Universalist musicians, singers, comedy. 760-631-7055. Saturday, April 12, 3 p.m.; \$10. Palomar Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 1600 Buena Vista Drive. (VISTA)

"Poetic Expressions — Honoring San Diego Poets" Spoken word event promising performances by Marsella Alvarez, Jihmye, Jennifer Geran, Jim Moreno, Laurie McRae, others. 619-641-6103. Friday, April 11, 7 p.m.; City Heights Performance Annex, 3791 Fairmount Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

"Urinetown" This musical with "biting satire and parody" is presented by students, April 3-12. 619-475-8556. Thursday, April 10, 7 p.m.; Friday, April 11, 7 p.m.; Saturday, April 12, 7 p.m.; \$9-\$10. School of Creative and Performing Arts, 2425 Dusk Drive. (PARADISE HILLS)

36th-Century Interstellar Adventure! Science-fiction author Peter F. Hamilton, author of the *Night Dawn* trilogy, signs new series starting with *The Dreaming Void*. 858-268-4747. Monday, April 14, 7 p.m.; Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 302. (CLAIREMONT)

A Prescription for Brain Health Dr. Larry McCleary discusses and signs *The Brain Trust Program*. Learn to increase brain function at any age. 858-454-0347. Tuesday, April 15, 7:30 p.m.; Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Author Reading Nina Revoyr, author of *Southland*, reads from her new book, *The Age of Dreaming*, tackling Los Angeles race relations within the film industry dur-

ROAM-ORAMA

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

The cabin community in Big Santa Anita Canyon and along neighboring Winter Creek has been called "a rustic Xanadu, where groceries come by burro." On foot is the only way in for the owners of the 82 cabins, dating from the early 1900s. Many of the residents are weekenders from the nearby L.A. metropolis. Some settle for amenities typical of a century ago: kerosene lamps, drinking water carried in by the jugful, and one-hole privies.

On this rambling loop hike to Hoegees Trail Camp on Winter Creek, you'll get a good feel for the riparian splendor that attracted early residents and day-trippers, and that still attracts legions of hikers today. Native alders, oaks, bays, and willows cluster along the bubbling, cascading streams. Ivy and vinca, planted by the early settlers, have run rampant in some areas, climbing high into the trees in a fashion reminiscent of the kudzu-vine invasion of the American Southeast. Both canyons have been plugged in many places with crib dams — flood-control dams constructed of precast concrete logs — but more than 40 years of steady regrowth have softened their visual impact.



Winter Creek

bottom of Big Santa Anita Canyon on a paved drive that doubles as the initial segment of the Gabrielino Trail. After rounding the first sharp bend (0.2 mile), veer right onto an obscure (possibly unmarked) trail, the First Water Trail. Descend on precipitous switchbacks (watch your step!) to the stream below, where an appropriately named First Water Camp welcomed hot and footsore hikers in the 1920s and '30s. Turn left (upstream) and follow the rudiments of a trail amid streamside cabins and boulders to the confluence of Big Santa Anita Canyon and Winter Creek — the spot where the paved drive comes down from Chantry Flat. Today, only a small restroom building occupies a flat area nearby, where the largest resort of the area, Roberts Camp, sprawled in the early 1900s. During the peak of its popularity, a branch of the L.A. County Library and a post office were established here to serve guests and passing hikers.

From the confluence, head west into the steep-walled confines of Winter Creek. The well-traveled trail snakes upward, sometimes along the stream, otherwise up on the canyon walls in order to bypass crib dams or to swing by cabins. After 1.5 miles (from the confluence) you come to Hoegees Trail Camp (tables, stoves), tucked into a shady nook on Winter Creek's south bank. Today, Hoegees is one of the more popular trail camps in the San Gabriel Mountains.

Your looping return is by way of the Upper Winter Creek Trail. From Hoegees, continue upstream on the north bank, passing the Mt. Zion Trail on the right.

Presently, the trail swings left to cross the stream and climb obliquely up Winter Creek's south canyon wall. In a short while you reach a signed junction — right toward Mt. Wilson, left back to your starting point a crooked 2.6 miles away. About 0.3 mile from the end, the trail joins a paved section of San Olene Fire Road; it will take you down past the picnic area to the upper

parking lot at Chantry Flat.

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

HOEGEES LOOP

Explore a sparkling stream and an anachronistic cabin community in the San Gabriel Mountains.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 130 miles

Hiking length: 5.4 miles

Difficulty: Moderately strenuous



ing silent film era. 619-692-2077. Saturday, April 12, 2 p.m.; San Diego LGBT Community Center, 3909 Centre Street. (HILLCREST)

Blink! Magic show starring Chipper Lowell, two-time winner of Comedy Magician of the Year by the International Magicians Society, and cast of "world-class magical artists from around the globe." 800-988-4293. Sunday, April 13, 2 p.m.; \$10-\$25. California Center

for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

Comic Zach Galifianakis Tickets available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). Friday, April 11, 8 p.m.; \$35. Ages 21 and up. 4th & B, 345 B Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Cropper Writers Series John J. Clayton reads from his work for series. 619-260-7721. Monday, April 14, 7 p.m.; Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, Uni-

versity of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

Historical Mystery Author Sharan Newman signs *The Shanghai Tunnel*, set in 19th-century Portland, Oregon. 858-268-4747. Sunday, April 13, 2 p.m.; Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 302. (CLAIREMONT)

Literary Reading World Literature Series continues with reading by Joyelle McSweeney, author of

the novels *Flet* and *Nylund*, *The Sarcographer* in Grand Salon (Room 113) of M. Gordon Clarke Field House. 760-750-8077. Thursday, April 10, 7 p.m.; CSU San Marcos, 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road. (SAN MARCOS)

Local Author Appearance Carlette Anderson signs, discusses *Dysfunctional Is Normal*. 619-466-1132. Wednesday, April 16, 6:30 p.m.; Fletcher Hills Library, 576 Garfield Avenue. (EL CAJON)

Los Angeles Thriller Author Robert Levinson signs, discusses *In the Key of Death*. 858-268-4747. Saturday, April 12, 2 p.m.; Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 302. (CLAIREMONT)

Poetic Brew Reading sponsored by San Diego Writers, Ink, hosted by Eber Lambert. Show begins with open readings, followed by featured reader Chris Vannoy, short break, more open readings. Sign-ups begin at 6:30 p.m.; open readers have three minutes and 33 seconds of time. 619-284-3663. Tuesday, April 15, 7 p.m.; Rebecca's Coffee House, 3015 Juniper Street. (SOUTH PARK)

Reading by Marjorie Welish Welish, a recipient of many prestigious awards for poetry, is also a "highly respected painter and art critic." She will read from her new book of poems, *Isle of the Signatories*, and other recent works in the Visual Arts Facility. 858-534-4618. Wednesday, April 16, 4:30 p.m.; University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (UCSD)

Support Your Local Comic Quartet comedy show, featuring Mark Gonzalez, Jamar, DJ Cooch, Mr. Sweettooth, "special celeb guest." RSVP: 858-454-9176. Wednesday, April 16, 8 p.m.; \$5-\$10. The Comedy Store, 916 Pearl Street. (LA JOLLA)

Up for Some Chicken Soup? Nurse LeAnn Thieman, co-author of *Chicken Soup for the Nurse's Soul* and *Chicken Soup for the Caregiver's Soul*, presents lecture, book signing, hosted by Elizabeth Hospice. Registration: 6:30 p.m., lecture 7 p.m. 800-988-4253. Monday, April 14, 6:30 p.m.; \$20. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

Writer, Poet, and Radical Cineaste! Tisa Bryant reads from her first book, *Unexplained Presence*, in Visual Arts Facility. Book is described as "a collection of original, hybrid essays that remix narratives from eurocentric film, literature, and visual arts and zoom in on the black presences operating within them." 858-534-4618. Monday, April 14, 4:30 p.m.; UCSD: University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (UCSD)

LECTURES

"Flowers and Their Messages — My Spiritual Journey with Flowers" Merry Street of Zenspiration Gardens speaks and demonstrates flower designs interpreting a spiritual journey with flowers for San Diego Floral Association in Room 101 of Casa Del Prado. Melding Eastern and Western phi-

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osophy and tradition, Street “uses her beliefs and artistic and design talents to create unique floral designs for individuals.” Everyone attending is encouraged to bring one or more flowers to help create a mandala. 619-232-5762. Tuesday, April 15, 7 p.m.; Casa del Prado, El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

“A Short History of Opera Costumes” Holly Poe Durbin shares her experiences as a costume designer for Decorative Arts Lecture Series co-hosted by Palladian Society and Athenaeum Music and Arts Library. Continental breakfast at 9:30 a.m.; lecture at 10 a.m. Reservations: 858-454-5872. Monday, April 14, 9:30 a.m.; \$17-\$27. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

“A Washington Lobbyist for Free Thinkers” Full-time lobbyist Lori Lipman Brown “works... to keep government hands off your religion.” She discusses her work for Humanist Fellowship. 619-670-4159, 619-544-0640. Sunday, April 13, 2 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

“Art and Architecture and Life Connected” Renowned artist and architect James Hubbell plans slide-illustrated lecture on the integration of his art with his buildings for Friends of San Diego Architecture. 619-235-4100. Wednesday, April 16, 6:30 p.m.; NewSchool of Architecture and Design, 1249 F Street. (DOWNTOWN)

“Cultural Preservation” Mel Vernon of San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians discusses importance of promoting and preserving Native American culture for 12 O’Clock Scholar program. Admission to lecture includes museum

OUT & ABOUT

“CLASSIC SILENT FILMS FROM FRANCE”

For Teeny-Tiny Film Series, Thursday, April 10.

(SEE FILM)



entry. 619-239-2001. Monday, April 14, noon; \$4-\$8. San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

“Gated Communities in the U.S., Latin America, and China” UC Berkeley anthropology professor Setha M. Low promises “cross-comparison of fear and insecurity in gated communities.” Talk presented in room 2203 of Malcolm A. Love Library at San Diego State University. 619-594-1103. Thursday, April 10, 4 p.m.; San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (SDSU)

“Global Warming and Atmospheric Brown Clouds: A Double Threat for Asia” Scripps Oceanography atmospheric science researcher V. Ramanathan speaks for Perspectives on Ocean Science lecture series. Science can offer practical solutions, but effectiveness of strategies hinges on global cooperation and immediate implementation. Required reservations: 858-534-5771. Monday, April 14, 6:30 p.m.; \$5-\$8. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

“Healthy Backyard Habitat” Learn to encourage birds and butterflies with a native plant garden

when Mel Hinton and David Kimball speak for California Native Plant Society in Casa del Prado room 101. 619-685-7321. Tuesday, April 15, 7 p.m.; Casa del Prado, El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

“Ideas for Action” North Coast League of Women Voters present “four new ways to approach and affect four vital issues in our communities and the world.” Discussions include water, climate change and sustainability, women’s issues, the FCC. 760-736-1608. Wednesday, April 16, 7 p.m.; Carlsbad by the Sea, 2855 Carlsbad Boulevard. (CARLSBAD)

“Insight Seminar: The Glass Menagerie” Artists from all phases of the *Glass Menagerie* production process meet with patrons in “lively exchange of ideas and insights” to enhance the theatergoing experience. Seminar concludes with informal champagne reception. 619-23GLOBE. Monday, April 14, 6:30 p.m.; \$3-\$5. The Old Globe Theatre, 1363 Old Globe Way. (BALBOA PARK)

“Introduction to Word” Two-part class for beginners focuses on word processing. Bring floppy disk or USB flash drive. 619-660-5370. Continues April 19. Saturday,

April 12, 9 a.m.; Rancho San Diego Library, 11555 Via Rancho San Diego. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

“Landscape Photography in the Digital Age” Larry Stein dispenses basic principles of landscape photography with special emphasis on digital techniques. “Demystify the issue of resolution, mega-pixels, and print size.” Class on 16th followed by field trip on April 19, class on April 23. Class is best suited for cameras allowing manual control of exposure, as well as digital cameras providing an image histogram. Registration: 619-255-0203. Wednesday, April 16, 6:30 p.m.; \$65-\$75. San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

“Making Wooden Toys That Move” Workshop planned for Second Saturday series. Reservations: 760-735-3355. Saturday, April 12, 10:30 a.m.; \$10-\$15. Mingei International Museum — North County, 155 West Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

“Political and Financial Astrological Cycles 2008-2012” Stock market analyst, Fortune 500 consultant, and former Paine Webber vice president Ray Merriam presents overview of planetary cycles for next four years and how they will affect our economy, politics, and Federal Reserve for San Diego Astrological Society in lecture hall room G-102. 619-654-1265. Friday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.; \$20. Mesa College, 7250 Mesa College Drive. (KEARNY MESA)

“Telling Our Stories: Transforming Our Dreams” Children’s literature author Amada Irma Perez presents lecture in room 2203 of Malcolm A. Love Library at San Diego State University. 619-594-1103. Thursday, April 10, 12:30 p.m.; San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (SDSU)

“The Duchy of Burgundy” Wine maven Barbara Baxter of Planet Wine continues “Sacred and Profane” series. Reservations: 858-454-5872. Wednesday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.; \$25-\$30. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

“The Navy’s History in San Diego, 1846 to Present” Historian and author Captain Bruce Linder, USN, retired, addresses Sons of the American Revolution. Tickets include breakfast. Required reservations: 760-743-0034. Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m.; \$8-\$16. Ramada Inn, 5550 Kearny Mesa Road. (KEARNY MESA)

“The Study of Propagation” Learn how to start plants from seed, cuttings, and division from master propagator Mary McBride and horticulturist Liz Rozycki. On Saturday, students benefit from practical experience in propagation nursery. Classes presented April 10, 17, and 24; Saturday, April 26, 9 a.m.-noon. Required advance registration: 760-436-3036 x206. Thursday, April 10, 7 p.m.; \$80-\$100. Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

“The Supernatural in Italian Renaissance Art” Christian Kleinbub explores ways in which some Renaissance artists most committed to naturalism made room for supernatural in their paintings. Kleinbub is assistant professor of Italian Renaissance art at Ohio State University. 619-696-1969. Wednesday, April 16, 6 p.m.;

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Jane Clifford

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\$7-\$15. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Beginning and Refresher Genealogy Class Course offered by North San Diego County Genealogical Society and Carlsbad City Library. Materials provided. Nonmembers welcome. 760-757-0528. Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m.; Cole Library, 1250 Carlsbad Village Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Better Meeting Sigma Delta Unit of Parliamentarians hosts tenth annual "Presiding Skills Workshop" for leaders and members of any organization "wishing to improve their meeting skills." Class bases instruction on *Robert's Rules of Order*, 10th Edition. 619-435-1350. Saturday, April 12, 8:30 a.m.; \$15. Ages 15 and up. Christ Lutheran Church, Pacific Beach, 4761 Cass Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Camelina to the Rescue! How can an herb related to mustard and cauliflower replace fossil fuel? Duane Johnson of Great Plains Oil works to develop camelina for manufacture of biodiesel and jet fuels, high omega-3 livestock feed, more. Johnson addresses San Diego Horticultural Society in Surfside Race Place. Plant forum follows. Free. 760-295-7089. Monday, April 14, 6 p.m.; Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Do You Have "GenSmarts"? Pam Journey explains how GenSmarts "can help you get your genealogy back on track" when San Diego Genealogical Society meets at noon. Prior to lecture, beginner class on census records offered (10-11:15 a.m.). 619-449-3615 or 619-588-0065. Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.; St. Andrew's Lutheran

OUT & ABOUT

COMIC ZACK GALIFIANASKIS
4th & B, Friday,
April 11.

(SEE IN PERSON)



Church, 8350 Lake Murray Boulevard. (SAN CARLOS)

Get to Know Madagascar Kelly Griffin, "renowned aloe hybridizer" and curator of xerophytic plants at Rancho Soledad Nurseries, presents his memories of a month exploring the island's flora and fauna. Slide show presented for San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society. 858-270-5544. Saturday, April 12, noon; Balboa Park Club, 2150 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

Hillside Gardening Landscape designer Connie Beck shows "how to make the most of gardening on a slope," focusing on erosion control, plant choices, terracing, retaining walls. Required registration: 619-660-0614. Wednesday, April 16, 6 p.m.; \$20-\$25. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

How Does Divorce Complicate Your Family Tree? "Nontraditional Families: Issues of Privacy and Confidentiality in Constructing a Genealogical Tree" is topic when semi-retired college and university librarian Stephanie Weiner speaks for San Diego Jewish Genealogical Society. 619-583-0826. Sunday, April 13, 1 p.m.; Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

How to Live Happily Ever After with Your Cat Training secrets, cat behavior, nutrition, preventing destructive behaviors, socialization with people and other animals, how to communicate with cat. Required reservations: 619-299-7012 x2247. For humans only. Monday, April 14, 6 p.m.; \$35. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

Love and Betrayal! Musicologist Ron Shaheen focuses on Verdi's *Aida* for next opera preview. 760-434-2904. Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.; Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

What Are You Reading? Librarian Sandy Steel "presents some of the best titles never to make the bestseller lists," including fiction, nonfiction, current titles, classics. 858-581-9931. Wednesday, April 16, 2 p.m.; North Clairemont Library, 4616 Clairemont Drive. (CLAIREMONT)

OUTDOORS

Mustard, a nonnative plant more like a weed than a wildflower, is blooming profusely on grassy slopes all along the coastline of San Diego County. An old story, probably apocryphal, tells of the padres scattering mustard seed along the El Camino Real so that the bright, yellow mustard blossoms would help them find their way in future spring seasons. More likely, the plant was introduced to western North America in the form of seeds carried in the hay used to feed livestock brought in by the early settlers.

Fremont Cottonwoods along the San Diego River in Mission Gorge will show off their best iridescent green foliage this month. The Old Mission Dam parking area on Father Junipero Serra Trail, off Mission Gorge Road (west of Santee), is a good place to begin a stroll on trails near the riverbed. Be careful — rattlesnakes may be out and

about this time of year.

The Tall Locust Trees planted years ago along Julian's narrow streets are once again brightening this backcountry (and former gold-rush) town with blossoms of white, pink, and lavender. Introduced into the West by 19th-century emigrants, locust trees have become almost a trademark of California's gold country, from the Mother Lode south to Julian.

The Black Oak, San Diego County's most handsome native deciduous tree, is sending out new leaves this week, painting the mountain slopes with shades of red, brown, and bright green. The newly emergent leaves are reddish brown in color, creating a pseudo-autumn color in the forest. After a week or two the unfolding leaves acquire a light green tint; after a month they're dark green. Black oaks are commonly found in the upper elevations of the county in areas such as the Palomar, Cuyamaca, and Laguna mountains.

Snakes, encouraged by recent warm temperatures, have already emerged from burrows and rock crevices to hunt for prey throughout the county's lower-elevation hillsides and canyons. Gopher snakes, garter snakes, king snakes, rosy boas (all harmless), and three varieties of rattlesnakes — red diamond, speckled, and Southern Pacific rattlesnakes (all poisonous) — have been sighted. Close encounters with rattlesnakes are not uncommon wherever residential properties abut undeveloped land — a common situation throughout San Diego County.

Asian Pacific Historic District Tours Led on second Saturday of each month, starting at Chinese Historical Museum. Required reservations: 619-338-9888. Saturday, April 12, 11 a.m.; \$2. Chinese Historical Society and Museum, 404 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Birding at Batiquitos Barbara Moore leads Audubon Society bird walk. 858-755-7133. Saturday, April 12, 8 a.m.; Batiquitos Lagoon Nature Center, 7380 Gabbiano Lane, Carlsbad.

Clark Valley Petroglyphs Wear hiking shoes for moderate three-

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mile hike to early Cahuilla petroglyphs with volunteers from Colorado District Archaeology Society hosted by Anza-Borrego Institute. Bring water, snack, sunscreen. Four-wheel-drive vehicles recommended; high clearance required. 760-767-4063. Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m.; \$25-\$35. Liar Peg Leg Smith Monument, junction of Hwy S-22 and Henderson Canyon Road. (BORREGO SPRINGS)

Egyptian District Urban Safari It's not Giza, but enjoy exploring the Egyptian District of Hillcrest, along with Vermont Street Bridge, Gill architecture, and more. Reservations: 619-944-9255. Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.; \$10. Urban Grind, 3797 Park Boulevard. (HILLCREST)

Explore Florida Canyon Head into hidden gardens and see wildflowers with Walkabout adventurers. Walk with one hill, moderate pace, starts across from Veterans Memorial Building (at Park Boulevard and Morley Field Drive). 619-231-7463. Sunday, April 13, 11 a.m.; Veterans Museum and Memorial Center, 2115 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Get Dirty in Paso Picacho Help with trail-repair work. Bring work shoes, gloves, hat, water, snack. Registration: 619-341-1746. Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m.; Paso Picacho campground, Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, Highway 79, five miles north of I-8. (JULIAN)

Home Compost Workshop Certified master composters and Solana Center for Environmental Innovation present composting basics, worm composting, saving water in process. Registration: 760-436-7986 x225. Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.; Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Hummers, Tigers, and Kites — Oh My! Trail guides relate what they've got in common, and more, during guided nature walks. 619-582-6261. Monday, April 14, 9:30 a.m.; Tuesday, April 15, 9:30 a.m.; Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Kite Flying! Harriers, kites, and kestrels may be seen on the wing while meadow larks sing during guided hikes through grasslands of Mission Trails Regional Park. 619-668-3281. Saturday, April 12, 8:30 a.m.; Kumeyaay Lake Campground entry station, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Native Plant Walk Scope out spring blooms of native plants in Navajo Canyon during easy, non-technical walk sponsored by California Native Plant Society. Learn of the plants, their uses, common names. Meet in parking lot. 619-501-3789. Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.; Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 6801 Easton Court. (ALLIED GARDENS)

Palm Walk Offshoot Tours offers its monthly hour-long guided stroll exploring structure, growth habits, landscape value of palm trees. 619-235-1122. Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.; Balboa Park Visitors' Center, 1549 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Restoration Project Help plant "a few more than 250 plants" during restoration project in native plant garden. Tools, gloves, water, snacks provided. Join group at corner of Taylor Street and Congress Street (directly east of Old Town trolley station). RSVP: 619-297-7380. Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m.; Old Town State Historic Park, 4002 Wallace Street. (OLD TOWN)

San Diego Field Ornithologists Expert birders lead bird walk on easy trail winding along Tecolote Creek. Bring binoculars, drinking water. 858-581-9944. Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m.; Tecolote Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road. (CLAIREMONT)

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 con-

firm: 760-757-2121 x6201. Friday, April 11, 8 p.m.; Saturday, April 12, 8 p.m.; MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Sunset Cliffs Cleanup Beach cleanup hosted by Surfrider in Ocean Beach begins at end of Ladera Street. Wear closed-toed shoes. 619-758-7743. Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m.; Ocean Beach, Newport Avenue and Abbott Street. (OCEAN BEACH)

SOUTH OF THE BORDER

"Cómo Envejecer con Gracia" Theatrical piece presented by Susana Alexander and Blanca Sánchez. 011-52-664-688-1080. Wednesday, April 16, 6 p.m.; Wednesday, April 16, 9 p.m.; Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJA)

"Edipo Güey" Comedy based on tragedy by Sophocles, with modern language. 011-52-664-687-9636. Tuesday, April 15, 8 p.m.; \$12. Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJA)

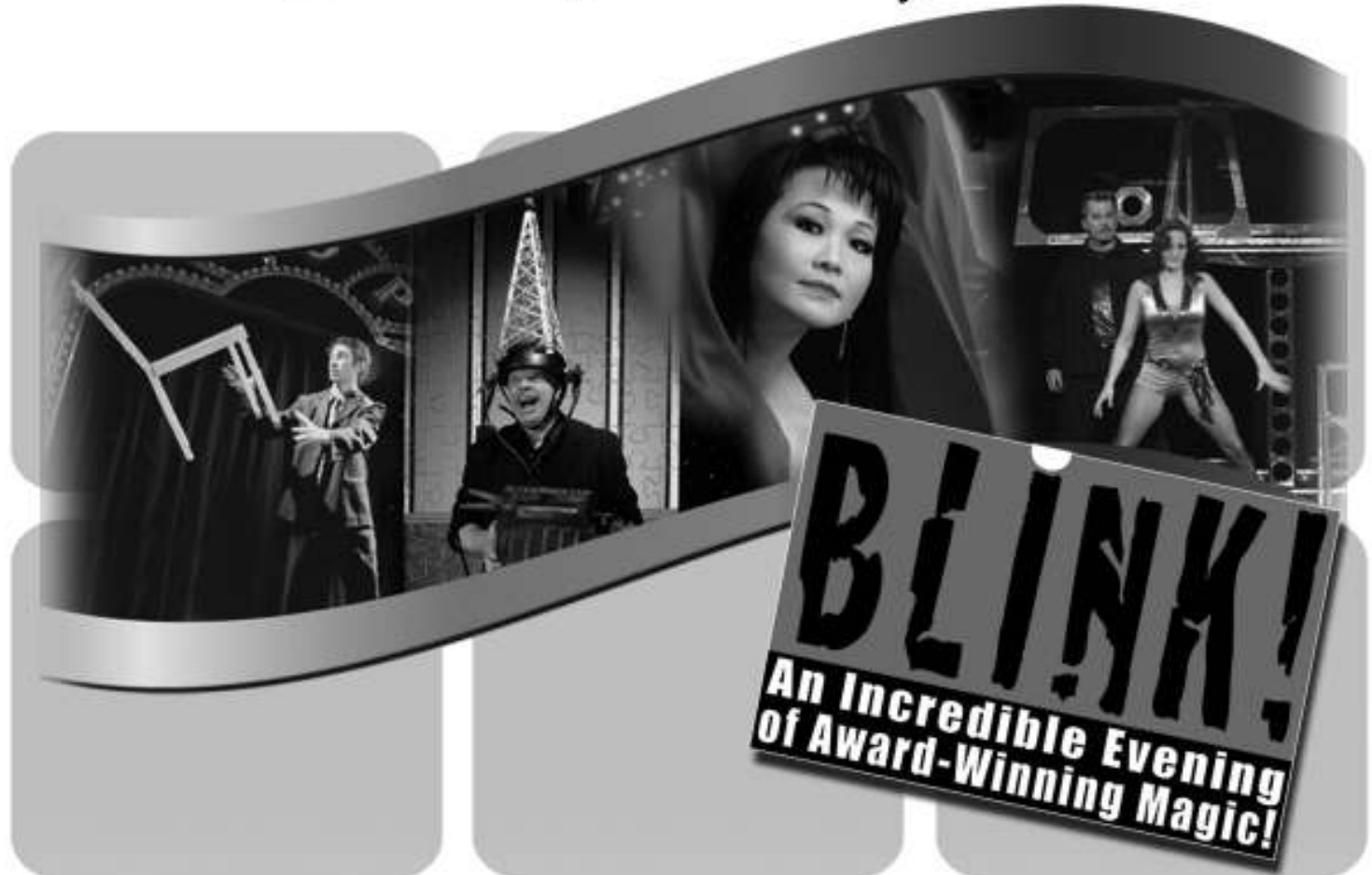
"El Amigo Incomodo" Pedro Carrillo Toral's play performed. 011-52-664-687-9636. Thursday, April 10, 6 p.m.; Thursday, April 10, 8:30 p.m.; \$15-\$20. Centro

Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJA)

"Nuevas Tendencias en el Cine Mexico" Lecture by Alejandro Pelayo. 011-52-664-687-9636. Friday, April 11, 7 p.m.; Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJA)

"Peter Pan" Grupo Bailando en Compañía performs "for the whole family." 011-52-664-687-9636. Sunday, April 13, 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.; Centro Cultural Tijuana,

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What's That You're Reading?

NAME: MARY JANE OLIVER | **AGE:** 57 | **OCCUPATION:** BUS DRIVER

NEIGHBORHOOD: GOLDEN HILL | **WHERE INTERVIEWED:** BARNES & NOBLE, GROSSMONT CENTER



What book are you currently reading?

"I'm reading a lot of books. I generally read about three or four a week. One is called *The Attack* by Yasmina Khadra. It's about a doctor, a Muslim living as a citizen in Israel. He works with Jews, and he's never gotten into the conflict. Then, all of a sudden, he hears that his wife ended up being one of the bombers — the people who strap the explosives to themselves. First, he can't believe that his wife did it. They had everything, and her best

friend was a Jew. Then he's kind of obsessed with finding out why she did it. He's going all over — Jerusalem, Bethlehem. You're trying to figure it out, too, and as he goes along, you see that he was so busy with his job that he was neglecting his wife, making her more of a dream. He just assumed everything was great — just like a lot of people who are oblivious to what's going on."

Tell me about the style.

"It starts out kind of strange, with a car explosion. It's almost like the guy who's talking is dead, like he's out of himself. He's talking about the bodies and how everyone is crying, and then he looks down and says, 'Oh, my leg has been almost totally detached.' That's how it gets you going — Now I need to find out the rest of it. It's suspenseful."

What book has been most life-changing for you?

"Everybody says, 'I grew up in a Christian home, so I must be a Christian.' But that doesn't mean that you are one. Everybody has to make a decision. I was at a low point in my life. I was very depressed; I thought there was no hope. But then I decided to go back to what I knew; I started reading the Bible. I was

in a bad relationship, and I was looking for something to kind of glue myself together. I went to the Book of John, and it was almost like it was...giving me what I needed to see, what I needed to do. I was getting angry, like the man in *The Attack* — 'I want to know who did this; I'm going to make them pay.' But a lot of times, you can't do that. You can't correct the decisions people make. You can just correct yourself."

Who are your favorite authors?

"I like C.S. Lewis; I just like his writing. I've always had this thing with men that are kind of strong, intelligent men. They call them 'nerds' now. There's something stimulating about a man who really thinks. I like [Lewis's] *Mere Christianity*, and a friend turned me on to his science-fiction trilogy."

What magazines or newspapers do you read?

"I generally don't read newspapers. On 30th off of University, there used to be a newspaper store — you could get papers from all over the world. If I was going to read a newspaper, it would be from there, from another country. That way, you can get an outlook on what's going on in that country. I travel a lot. I went all over."

Do you talk to your friends about reading?

"I have this group of people; we pass along books. I do like when you can sit down and really discuss a book: 'What did you see? What made you laugh? What made you angry?' They meet once a month, but it's always during the time when I'm working."

Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJA)

Concert of Classical Music The CEM Orchestra performs Tchaikovsky's "Manfred Symphony" and "Fantasy Overture from Romeo and Juliet," and soloists Olena Galytska and Santos Cota perform "Concert for Two Pianos in D Major" by Bach. 011-52-646-176-3005 or 011-52-646-177-1195. Thursday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.; \$8. Teatro Benito Juárez, Avenida Guadalupe, between Calles 2 and 4. (BAJA)

Julio Preciado In concert. 011-52-664-685-9594. Friday, April 11, 9 p.m.; Las Pulgas Club, on Avenida Revolución. (BAJA)

SPECIAL

"9/11 Truthstock 2008"

Truther.org hosts event in SDSU's Montezuma Hall in quest of facts uncovered in wake of attacks of 9/11. Organizers plan screenings of *Terrorstorm*, *Improbable Collapse*, *Zeitgeist*, two *Loose Change Final Cut* premieres, speeches by physicist Steven Jones and Richard Gage of AIA, panel discussions. 858-583-4766. Thursday, April 10, 9 a.m.; San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (SDSU)

"Andrew Jackson and the Trail of Tears" Give it some thought and discuss with P&R Discussion Group. 619-370-1027. Thursday, April 10, 7 p.m.; The Other Side Coffee House, 4096 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

"Battle of the Bands and Arts" Bands will perform on baseball field, and artwork judged by MiraCosta art faculty will be displayed in nearby 5100 building. 760-795-6815. Friday, April 11, 10 a.m.; MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

"Celebration of Leaving Poverty Behind"

Women's Empowerment International plans wine and cheese reception and a bazaar at which local refugee women will sell handicrafts, jewelry, other original products. 858-486-6466. Sunday, April 13, 2 p.m.; Scripps Miramar Ranch Library, 10301 Scripps Lake Drive. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

"Creative Seafood Meals"

Chef Sarah Linkenheil of Sally's Seafood on the Water demonstrates recipes including seafood potpie with Japanese pumpkin cream and shitake ragout. Reservations: 888-424-3663. Saturday, April 12, noon; \$35. Macy's Mission Valley Home Store, 1555 Camino de la Reina. (MISSION VALLEY)

"Flowers in Wonderland" San Dieguito Garden Club of Encinitas hosts 19th annual standard flower show. Flower arranging and children's activities including a treasure hunt on Saturday (noon-2 p.m.). 760-436-3036. Friday, April 11, 1:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.; Sunday, April 13, 10 a.m.; \$5-\$10. Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

"Great Gardens, Great Cause"

Weidners' Gardens and Paul Ecke Ranch partner with Community Resource Center for seventh an-

nual garden tour and Ecke plant sale. Self-guided tour of some of North County's unique, extravagant gardens. Tickets include "exclusive admission" to Ecke Ranch to purchase spring plants. 760-230-6305. Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m.; \$25. Community Resource Center, 650 Second Street. (ENCINITAS)

"Mediterranean Mexico" Walk along Ensenada's boardwalk to a fresh fish and seafood market, along to the back room of a bakery to learn to make olive-filled focaccia bread. Learn history and process of producing olive oil and of curing olives at Cetto's processing plant, then enjoy a Mediterranean meal, followed by a wine tour. Price includes transportation, meal. 619-255-0203. Saturday, April 12, 8 a.m.; \$82-\$92. San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

"Reds, Whites, and Blues Wine Festival"

California Wine Festival with more than 300 California wines, imports, craft beers, gourmet food samples, live blues, concert by the Grams at Embarcadero Marina Park North, benefiting the Make-a-Wish Foundation. 805-223-1880. Saturday, April 12, 1 p.m.; \$85. Embarcadero, Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

"The Mind of Krishnamurti" SDSU Library hosts the traveling

exhibit "The Mind of Krishnamurti: World Citizen, World Teacher" in reference services area on first floor of library addition. 619-594-4303. Thursdays; Fridays; Saturdays; Sundays; Mondays; Tuesdays; Wednesdays; through Friday, May 23, 2008, San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (SDSU)

Antique Appraisal for Antique Lovers

Professional appraisers will evaluate heirlooms and collectibles to "reveal the origins of your mystery object." Priceless treasure? Fake? Art vendors will offer a variety of wares; "gourmet edibles" for sale. Certified antique appraisers fee: \$10 per item; limit three items per person. 760-639-6164 or 760-639-6160. Sunday, April 13, 11 a.m.; McClellan Senior Center at Brengle Terrace Park, 1400 Vale Terrace. (VISTA)

Art Alive 2008 San Diego Museum of Art's annual springtime event boasts professional and amateur floral designers interpreting works of art with floral arrangements. Related events include floral demonstration and lecture by Four Seasons Hotel George V Paris's artistic director Jeff Leatham on April 11 (10 a.m., \$60).

Leatham conducts master class on April 12 (9 a.m.; \$110). Family

arts workshops planned 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday (included in admission). Local garden guru Nan Sterman presents lecture on "French Gardening" on April 13, 2 p.m. (\$25). 619-232-7931. Friday, April 11, 9 a.m.; Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m.; Sunday, April 13, 9 a.m.; San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Be a Grunion Groupie!

Scripps naturalists share "the amazing tale of the elusive California grunion." Learn how these unique fish run? up on local beaches, lay their eggs in moist sand. Watch baby grunion hatch before your eyes. Included in aquarium admission. 858-534-4109. Saturdays, 11 a.m.; Saturdays, 1 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m.; Sundays, 1 p.m.; through Sunday, June 15, 2008, Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Curator's Walk Through

Guest curator Joyce Corbett leads walk-through of "Hungarian Folk Magic — The Art of Joseph Domjan" exhibition. Reservations: 619-239-0003 x405. Sunday, April 13, 4:30 p.m.; \$10-\$15. Mingei International Museum, 1439 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

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in dog sports. Foundation for Dog Sport is intermediate-level class designed to help dogs and owners together learn skills necessary for beginning their dog sport choice. \$149 fee includes all six sessions, handouts, prizes. Required reservations: 619-299-7012 x2273. Thursday, April 10, 6 p.m.; \$149. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

Head to Toe Women's Expo Weekend of fashion shows, shopping, pampering, makeovers, inspirational speakers, more. 619-491-0677. Friday, April 11, 10 a.m.; Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.; Sunday, April 13, 10 a.m.; Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

House of India Program of songs and dances presented for lawn program at International Cottages. 619-234-0739. Sunday, April 13, 2 p.m.; House of Pacific Relations, 2125 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Integrative Psychology Research Fair Presenters have recently completed or are researching integrative approaches and topics for their dissertations and will share their intentions, discoveries, problems encountered during event hosted by Center for Integrative Psychology. RSVP:

858-635-4870. Friday, April 11, 6 p.m.; ages 21 and up. Alliant University, 10455 Pomerado Road. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

Lux at Night Explore Julie Heffernan's work during panel discussion with *Union-Tribune* art critic Robert Pincus, Old Globe dramaturge Jerry Patch, Lux director Reese Shaw, and Heffernan. View art exhibits, take studio tours, enjoy music, refreshments. 760-436-6611. Wednesday, April 16, 7 p.m.; Lux Art Institute, 1550 South El Camino Real. (ENCINITAS)

Puppy Fun Class Have a new puppy? Have questions? Workshop helps prevent and manage unwanted puppy behaviors before they become problems. Topics: digging, chewing, housetraining, nipping, barking, calmness in house, puppy nutrition. Pups must be current on vaccines, under 16 weeks of age. Required reservations: 619-299-7012 x2273. Saturday, April 12, 1 p.m.; \$35. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

Rally 'Round Robert Australian tourist Robert Schneider was brutally attacked while visiting San Diego in February. Fundraiser to aid in Schneider's recovery includes live music, Australian barbecue. 619-454-0294. Sunday, April 13, 2 p.m.; \$8. Bondi Bar and Kitchen, 333 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

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)

Spring Renaissance Faire and Shakespeare in the Park Queen Elizabeth I and her royal court and Renaissance re-enactors gather for days full of entertainment, period music, battle pageants, arts and crafts, theater, games. Weekend passes available. 805-496-6036. Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.; Sunday, April 13, 10 a.m.; Felicitia Park, 742 Clarence Lane. (ESCONDIDO)

Sweet Pea Festival Celebrate the fragrant, beautiful sweet pea flowers; make your way through sweet pea maze, cut your own bouquet while they last. Bring a picnic and

enjoy live music by Mary James. 619-390-1523. Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m.; Summers Past Farms, 15602 Olde Highway 80. (EL CAJON)

Taste of the Nation Share Our Strength's fund-raiser battling childhood hunger includes chefs from Mistral at Loews Coronado Bay Resort, Anthology, Oceanaire Seafood Room, 1500 Ocean at Hotel del Coronado, Jack's La Jolla, Addison at the Grand Del Mar, Jade Theatre, A.R. Valentien at the Lodge at Torrey Pines, Arterra, Currant Brasserie, Grant Grill at US Grant Hotel, Dish at Universal, Blue Coral, Quarter Kitchen at the Ivy Hotel, Molly's Fine Dining, Georges California Modern, Blanca, Nine Ten, Barona, more. 877-26-TASTE. Sunday, April 13, 3 p.m.; \$95-\$125. Hotel Solamar, 435 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

The Easter Lilies are in Bloom Again Three hundred fragrant Easter lilies on display among the permanent collection through Wednesday, April 16. 619-239-0512, 619-235-1100. Fridays, 10 a.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.; Sundays, 10 a.m.; Mondays, 10 a.m.; Tuesdays, 10 a.m.; Wednesdays, 10 a.m.; through Wednesday, April

16, 2008, Botanical Building, El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

The Games People Play Board game benefit for Heifer International with variety of board games "ranging from serious to hilarious." Donation: \$10. 619-204-8834. Friday, April 11, 8 p.m.; \$10. Tea N More, 7380 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (CLAIREMONT)

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.; through Sunday, April 13, 2008, \$15-\$35. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Woofstock: A Festival for Dogs and People Canine Companions for Independence hosts Peace, Love, and Walk n' Roll Fun

Dog Walk through Balboa Park (8 a.m.; \$35 registration fee includes T-shirt, admission to festival). Festival — at Park Boulevard and Presidents Way — promises K-9 playground, flyball, two shows by Disc Dogs in Southern California, demonstrations of Canine Freestyle, search and rescue, assistance dogs, contests. Well-behaved dogs on leash welcome. 760-901-4307. Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m.; \$5. Balboa Park, Park Boulevard at Presidents Way. (BALBOA PARK)

SPORTS

Boys of Spring After road trip with games against the Dodgers in Los Angeles (April 11-13), the San Diego Padres host Colorado Rockies, April 15-17. Game broadcast on radio station XPRS (1090 AM), XEMO (860 AM) in Spanish. Tickets: 619-795-5000, 877-374-2784. Tuesday, April 15, 7:05 p.m.; Wednesday, April 16, 7:05 p.m.;

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

\$8-\$57. Petco Park, 100 Park Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN)

ESPN Navy Moto X World Championships Moto X World Championships promises competition by more than 85 motocross riders, competing for the title of Moto X World Champion in disciplines including freestyle, supermoto, speed and style, best trick, step up, motoX racing. Tickets available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). Saturday, April 12, 11 a.m.; Sunday, April 13, 11

a.m.; \$10-\$25. Qualcomm Hall, 5775 Morehouse Drive. (MIRA MESA)

How About a Long, Hilly Ride? Join San Diego Bicycle Touring Society for 107-mile bike ride from McDonald's to Campo, Pine Valley, and Japatul. 619-561-3846. Sunday, April 13, 8:45 a.m.; McDonald's, 551 Telegraph Canyon Road. (CHULA VISTA)

Paint! Southern California Paint Horse Show. 858-794-1171. Saturday, April 12, 8 a.m.; Sunday, April 13, 8 a.m.; Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Ride 4 AIDS Bicycling routes over three courses start and finish at Spanish Landing Park (across from Lindbergh Field). Distances

include 10-, 25-, and 50-mile challenge ride. 619-543-7476. Sunday, April 13, 7 a.m.; \$30-\$40. Spanish Landing Park, off North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

San Diego City Championships Men's and women's rowing competition. Free for spectators. 619-260-5917. Saturday, April 12, 7 a.m.; Mission Bay.

San Diego Mud Run 2008 Obstacles, hill climbs, mud pits, fun with competition in 5k, 10k, or youth 1k "mini-mud" events. 619-415-5434. Sunday, April 13, 12:15 p.m.; \$10-\$45. Skyline Wesleyan Church, 11330 Campo Road. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Tour the Beaches Join Knickerbiker bicyclists for scenic ride passing La Jolla Shores, Pacific, Mission, Dog, and Ocean Beaches. Bring money for lunch at Hodad's in O.B.

The 28-miler starts in Trophy's parking lot. 858-279-9863. Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m.; Trophy's in Costa Verde shopping center, 4282 Esplanade Court. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Year-Round Waterskiing Convoir Waterski Club provides ski boats for waterskiing. Group meets at south end of Crown Point Beach. 858-863-4755. Sundays, 8 a.m.; \$8-\$15. Mission Bay.

MUSEUMS

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)

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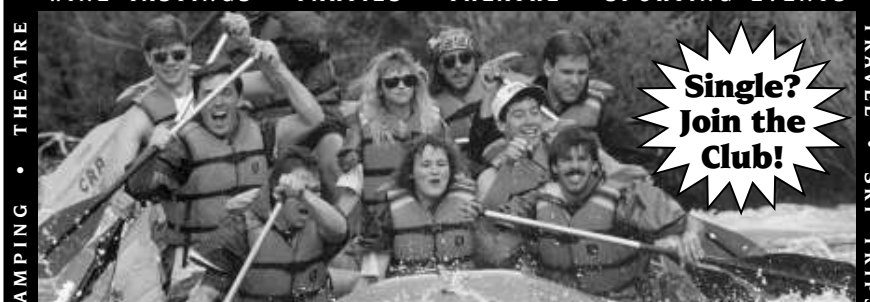
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Mingei International Museum “Hungarian Folk Magic — The Art of Joseph Domjan” includes several of this master woodblock printer’s pieces, along with objects from other cultures of the folklore images Domjan often portrayed. “Exhibition is an expression 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 More than 50 items are included in “Artful Armadillos,” on display through Sunday, September 7. The pieces are created from materials including wood, ceramics, metal, and shells, from collection of Katarina Real-Cate.

“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 “Maya Lin: Systematic Landscapes” features recent sculptures, drawings, large-scale installations exploring “landscape as both form and content, as well as the role technology plays in visualizing and transforming our world.” Exhibition centers on three large-scale installations; each puts viewer into “a distinctive relationship to the scale and shape of the land.” Also featured are a series of sculptures based on water volumes of inland seas, large drawings of landforms and river sheds, and images of Lin’s recent earthworks and architectural projects. Through June.

“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-to-wall, 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 neo-surrealist 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 Art Alive, museum’s annual springtime event, runs April 11–13. Nearly 100 professional and amateur floral designers interpret works of art with floral arrangements.

“Kindred Spirits: Asher B. Durand and the American Landscape” — closing on Sunday, April 27 — surveys over 50 paintings, drawings, engravings by Durand, a 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 de-

scribed 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,” 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, 18th- and 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)

GALLERIES

“El Anatsui: Earth Growing Roots” Opening reception in University Art Gallery for exhibi-

tion of seven large-scale works completed by the artist in 2007. Ghanian artist El Anatsui joins foil bottleneck wrappers and metal bottle caps — refuse from empty liquor bottles — to create amazing fabric-like wall sculptures. See the show through Wednesday, May 7. 619-594-5171. San Diego State University (5500 Campanile Drive). 6 p.m., Friday, April 11. (SDSU)

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

“Kimberly Tomney: Silver Lining” Reception for exhibition of mixed-media works by Tomney. Artist uses reflective silver paint and ink on lined notebook paper in depicting outdoor leisure scenes void of vacationers. Show continues through Wednesday, May 7. 619-501-0879. 4 Walls Gallery (3813 Ray Street). 6 p.m., Saturday, April 12. (NORTH PARK)

“Scena II” Photography exhibition by Siobhan Arnold opens with reception for artist. Exhibit closes Sunday, May 4. 619-521-0676. Crossing Tracks Gallery (3275 Adams Avenue). 6 p.m., Saturday, April 12. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

“Numinous” Artist’s reception for Levi J. Casias, whose master of fine arts thesis exhibition may be viewed April 14-17. 619-594-6511. Everett Gee Jackson Gallery at San Diego State University (5500 Campanile Drive). 6 p.m., Saturday, April 12. (SDSU)



Gregorian Chant Mass



**Sunday, April 13
4:00 pm**

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Goodbye, City Life
Disenchanted with their hometown of New York City, rockers Karmen Guy and Sami Yaffa of Mad Juana were

indefinite move. They settled into an Ocean Beach apartment.

"First we just decided to stay here for the summer; we wanted to get the fuck out of [New York] for a couple of months," says Yaffa, who also plays bass for the New York Dolls. "So we came here, and we wrote, like, six more

So far, the couple has no qualms about relocating.

"New York just started to bore me," Yaffa says.

"It's really boring — oh my God," Guy echoes. "We've been back [to New York] to play shows a few times, and I really don't miss it. I've never felt like this before. I've always felt like, 'Oh, my God, I have to get back there as fast as possible.' This is the only place I've moved to and not had that feeling of anything's missing."

The band, which has the fervent energy of a gypsy troupe and the chops of a jazz combo, formed in the mid-'90s while Yaffa and Guy were living in Spain. Their album, *Bruja on the Corner*, is scheduled for release in June.

— Rosa Jurjevics

Razor's Edge Grandfather Nick Razor, 50, has been fronting a local punk band since 1989.

"We started as Manticore, then I changed the name to G.F.I. It doesn't stand for anything. It's just three letters I threw together."

Razor has released all nine G.F.I. albums himself, including *Dichotomy*, which was released four months ago. He says he won't stop making

music, in spite of his lack of support.

"Lou's won't carry my album. When I went in there with my sixth album, *Homemade Hardcore*, they said it was too tasteless. The cover had a woman in a leotard lying on a mattress. It didn't show anything, but they said it was too pornographic. Yet, they will carry other albums that have nudity on them because the bands are signed."

G.F.I.'s website (gfipunk.com) shows two decades of posters. They've opened local shows for GBH, Fear, and Social Distortion. Some venues, such as the Spirit Club and the old Soma on Metro Street, no longer exist.

Although G.F.I. gets booked regularly in Orange County and Las Vegas, it's tougher in their hometown.

"A lot of clubs we've never been able to play at. The Casbah, the 710 Club, and the Ken Club won't answer our calls or return our emails. It bewilders me. In 19 years we've never played the Casbah. [Owner] Tim Mays won't even acknowledge that G.F.I. is alive."

The possibility of playing 'Canes is even less likely.

"We played there in '99 with Dr. Know and Gang Green. The whole event went off great, but there was a big problem with bands drinking too much beer. They called me the next day and said too



NICK RAZOR: MISCREANT FOR LIFE

much beer was given out, and I told them they needed to coordinate with their bartenders, that it wasn't my responsibility.

"They told me I owed them \$500. I told them you can't get blood out of a turnip. They told me I was banned from 'Canes forever and to never show my face there again. I went there, like, three or four years later to see Fishbone and the Untouchables. I wasn't there more than a half hour when I

was escorted out and there were police there waiting for me. They told me if I didn't leave the premises I would be arrested for trespassing."

Razor says he will rock until "I drop dead."

"I've grown calluses. I've grown a second skin. Why conform now when I've been a rebel and a miscreant all my life?"

G.F.I. appears April 19 at the Metaphor Café in Escondido.

— Ken Leighton

Appetite for Deconstruction The second song on the Burning Brides' third album *Hang Love* is titled "San Diego." The Philadelphia-born/L.A.-based neo-grunge trio played it last week at the Casbah. When the record was released last June, reviewers singled out the number. Peter Lindblad in *Goldmine* admired the song's "stoner-metal destruction."

In his long mixed review for the webzine *PopMatters*, Barry Lenser made allusions to Cameron Crowe's largely SD-set quasi-autobiographical film *Almost Famous*, including the flick's fictitious composite band: "Burning Brides embody the precarious appeal of Stillwater." Lenser went on

blurt

the inside track

looking for a change. In June of last year, they packed their bags and instruments and dog and set their sights on San Diego.

"We wanted to finish writing the record," says Yaffa of their upcoming album. "New York can be a very distracting place just because [of] the demands of the living cost."

After a three-month stay, Guy and Yaffa decided to turn what was intended to be a post-tour vacation into an



YAFFA AND GUY, AT HOME IN O.B.

PHOTOGRAPH BY DEREK PLANK

[songs] in four days. It was really weird, and it just turned out to be really creative."

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SUNDAY

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Calendar
MUSIC SCENEblurt
continued

to praise “‘San Diego,’ a bracing charger which, in some way, must be ironic. Why insert angular, Rage-esque riffs over a subtext that involves California’s fat-cat conservative stronghold if not for a dose of mild comedy?”

It appears nobody pursued a link-revealing clue in the lyrics: “I’m looking for something to take/ I’m looking for a missing hot snake...”

On the publicity one-sheet explaining the album’s tracks, singer-guitarist Dimitri Coats revealed all: “It’s an abstract love song with some venting about our former drummer who was also in Hot Snakes. He was the cheapest guy I ever met. You could buy him eight beers in a row and he wouldn’t buy you one. He had real problems spending money and ultimately with being on a major label.

“The Hot Snakes were a cool band from San Diego so whenever we played there it was sort of tense, like hanging out with your wife’s ex-boyfriend.... It’s fitting that the main riff came out of one of the first jams we had with [current drummer] Pete.”

The “other drummer” was Philadelphia’s Jason Kourkounis, best known in SD lately as “J. Sinclair K.” of John Reis’s new band the Night Marchers. Kourkounis, a founding member of Hot Snakes, played in the band

from 1999 to 2003. He left the Snakes and toured full time with the Brides, who had convinced him to join in 2002 before getting signed to V2 and migrating west. He left in 2005 amidst looming label troubles and personnel problems.

Kourkounis remains respected and in demand, still playing with Philly’s vet psych-rockers Bardo Pond and others as able. When his touring former band returned to play Philadelphia a few weeks ago, the *Philebrity* blog



PHOTOGRAPH FROM BURNINGBRIDES.COM

BURNING BRIDES FEEL HEAT FROM PHILLY

ran a listing with an old group photo and this caption: “The Burning Brides (pictured here when they had the best drummer in town and before everybody totally hated them) ... For the uninitiated, the Brides are an object lesson in forgetting where you came from and how this dirty old town can drop you like a college girlfriend during your first week as a cast member on *The Real World*.”

— David Stampone

The Ukulele Renaissance Begins Now

For 30 years Owen Burke has been trying to make a living by handcrafting stringed musical instruments. Best known in San Diego music circles for his decade-long stint as drummer with lounge singer Jose Sinatra, he’s built everything from a bass sitar to a tambourine banjo (most of which have stayed in his collection). Now he’s convinced we’re on the

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: U-31 LOUNGE

JAY ALLEN SANFORD



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WWW.MYSPACE.COM/JAYALLEN Sanford

verge of a ukulele revival.

“People had started telling me I needed to find something else to do, that maybe it was time to start painting houses,” says Burke. “But I told them the ukulele is coming back, that I was going to refocus my energy on reinventing it and help create a buzz.”

Burke has managed to get one of his prototype models into the hands of acoustic troubadour Gregory Page. However, it was a chance meeting with vaudeville-influenced Americana trio the Smart Brothers that convinced him his hunch about “ukes” was correct.

Immediately following the Smart Brothers’ set at Java Joe’s March 1 showcase, Burke approached the band, ready to offer them, free of charge, their choice from his stockpile of handmade instruments.

“I instantly felt that they were made for the Smart Brothers, I just didn’t know it when I was crafting them,” says Burke. “When I approached them, I felt like saying to them, ‘I’ve got your instruments at the shop and I need the space.’” Burke invited the Smart Brothers to his workshop.

“Hanging from the ceiling, on the walls — everywhere,

really — were the most peculiar and unique instruments any of us had ever seen,” says Jay Smart. “All made from interesting, unconventional materials



PHOTOGRAPH FROM MYSPACE.COM/THESMARTBROTHERS

THE SMART BROTHERS SCORE

such as recycled woods, tin pans, fiberglass, and palm-tree branches.”

To date, Burke has given the group a violin uke, an electric steel-string uke, a banjo-uke electric hybrid, a baritone uke, two electric guitars, and a stand-up mini bass. He will create custom gear for the Smart Brothers’ upcoming tours, including a cocktail drum set, and is designing instruments named after each band member.

Burke plans on producing a line of ukuleles later this year that will retail for between

\$250 and \$1000, with models planned for beginners, special-needs players, and art collectors.

— Bart Mendoza

Beware of the Deadly Wedley

“We’re here to make a stand for all who have been picked on, kicked on, but never licked on,” says singer/guitarist Eugene Over. His band the Pocket Protectors takes its sound from ’80s *Freedom Rock* albums and its look from *Revenge of the Nerds*.

The band’s offbeat arrangements take on everything from bloated rock operas to reedy-voiced ballads. According to Over, “Although ‘Mr. Roboto’ [Styx], ‘Beat It’ [Michael Jackson], and ‘Let’s Go Crazy’ [Prince] absolutely kill, our medley of the wimpiest ’80s hits, the Wedley, brings both smiles and tears to all who witness it.”

The Pocket Protectors recently earned a residency at Viejas.

“After months of negotiation,” says Over, “the entertainment and production directors were left with only two choices: either a

restraining order or hire us.” Asked about their day jobs and other endeavors, Over says, “I cannot reveal any information that could lead to the unveiling of our alter egos.”

However, it’s not hard to ascertain that Eugene Over is actually Eric Golbach, and the Pocket Protectors’ members also perform as Platform 54 (disco), the Aqua Nets (big-hair metal), and Jurassic Rock (classic stadium rock). Of the



DANGEROUS BRAINS (THE POCKET PROTECTORS)

four groups, the brainy Pocket Protectors are most in demand. They next appear April 12 at Viejas casino’s V Lounge.

— Jay Allen Sanford

CONTRIBUTORS

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

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This Week In Music

Thursday 10

Up top, Oakland hip-hopper **Del the Funky Homosapien** serves fresh cuts *11th Hour* to Belly Up. The Hieroglyphics mainstay is cousin to Cube and at 17 was penning tunes for Ice and his Lynch Mob crew. At 19, Del's single "Mistadobalina" got him signed to Elektra where he released hit discs *I Wish My Brother George Was Here* ('91) and *No Need for Alarm* ('93). Del

hooked up with Gorillaz for their multi-platinum debut in 2001.

Check that disc's hit "Clint Eastwood." *11th*



DEL THE FUNKY HOMOSAPIEN AT BELLY UP

Hour is the funky one's first original collection in eight years. Expect a hot house with **Bukue One** and **Serendipity Project** in support. **DJ Drez** spinz round sets.... More hop t'be had at Casbah as local she-emcee **MC Flow** drops a CD release for *Incredible*, her first. Check her Space for samples of Flow's flow. "Sounds like: a white girl rapping." The **Kneehighs**, **Bad Credit**, and **Jiggle It Bitch Hip Hop Burlesque** set the Middletown stage.... The once catchy Convoy crew brings their guitar blam and gouche glam schtick **Louis IV** to House of Blues. Their latest Atlantic disc is called *Slick Dogs and Ponies*, and despite limited promo, the quartet's collection's kicked a minor hit with lead single "Air Traffic Control." This Casbah-sponsored bill features **Transfer**, the **Prayers**, and **Los Do Bros**.... Bar Punk Elephant hosts a CD release for **Wild Weekend's** Munster Records debut single. The ladies resurrect Zeros/L.A. punk on seven-inch "Black and White" b/w "Don't Push Me Around".... On the down-low, L.A.'s best kept secret the **Happy Hollows** appear at Beauty Bar. Recommend checking the trio's homemade e.p. *Bunnies and Bombs* and lead single "Monster Room" off upcoming full-length debut. The Hollows stole the show at Spaceland opening for Why? last month.

Friday 11

Canadian couple Dan Boekner (Wolf Parade) and author Alexei Perry are **Handsome Furs**. The duo signed to SubPop for '07's *Plague Park*, steady beats and heady lyricism, eschewing Boekner's tried-true quirk pop for something a little staid. Boekner's melodicism and performance should be worth the Casbah bill. San Dagans **Mr Tube and the Flying Objects** (feat. Pall Jenkins) prop the pair round SoCal dates with big-band rhythmn-dub. **Tobyn Clarke and the Tender Fairies** in the Atari Lounge.... Jacksonville alt rockers **Yellowcard** kick down *Paper Walls* at House of Blues. The band's latest Capitol release peaked at #13 on Billboard and features hit single "Light Up the Sky." Have a look for digipak *Live from Las Vegas* for a prevue. Appetizers include the **Spill Canvas**, **Play Radio Play**, and **Treaty of Paris**.... San Fran psych-rock band **Mother Hips** settle down at Belly Up Friday and Saturday night. The quartet is out to tout last year's crit pick *Kiss the Crystal Flake*. Bay Area buds **New Monsoon** open Friday night, while Saturday books **Jackie Greene** and **Mike Krum**.... Out at the beach, **Sick Puppies** curl up at 'Canes. The Sydney trio last year released *Dressed Up as a Life* (Virgin) with hard-rock hit "My

World".... In the urbs, it's Johaz' soul music night at Pink Elephant with **DJ Artistic** and **Science Fiction** live.... Electronic waver **Buddy Akai** spills a CD release on Beauty Bar.... While Whistle Stop props a **Pussy Galore** DJs-n-dance joint with the **Modlins** and **Bobby Fantasy** live.



HANDSOME FURS PLAY CASBAH

Saturday 12

London's 'lectronicats **Morcheeba** tour hot property *Dive Deep* through 4th&B Saturday night. The Godfrey boys are known for chill techno beats and adding soft-rock vox to the Bristol sound — "Nick Drake produced by Wu-Tang's RZA." No telling who among the duo's long list of guest vocalists will share the stage, but best bets on Jody Sternberg.... Soma stages power-pop sets by **Panic at the Disco** and **Phantom Planet**. Phantom Planet will drop their first post-Jason Schwartzman disc, *Raise the Dead*, on Tuesday.... Drop the kids off and go check out *Dirty Old One Man Band* **Scott Biram** at Casbah. The Austin-based artist country fries blues rock till it sizzles, like Bob Log w/out the affect. **Hillstomp** and **Pushin Rope** also on the bill.... Notable triple ticket up at the Zombie has locals **Archons**, **Oaks**, and **Firethorn** rawkin' UniHeights.



EDDIE VEDDER AT SPRECKELS

Sunday 13

Harp master **Charlie Musselwhite** will blow down Belly Up Sunday night. Charlie's shared studio and stage with everyone from Bonnie Raitt to Tom Waits, and last year the 64-year-old artist released standout collection *Delta Hardware*, for which he won Album of the Year, Song of the Year ("Church Is Out"), Traditional Blues Album of the Year, and Best Instrumentalist (Harmonica) at the 28th Annual Blues Awards.... English electronic act **Meat Beat Manifesto** last week dropped their eighth dance-club collection *Autoimmune*, which they'll play through 'Canes.... Squeaky **Scout Niblett's** touring the globe behind *This Fool Can Die Now*. The odd songstress stops at Ché Café.... L.A. indie kids **Say Anything** will preview *The Day Is Mine* at House of Blues.... "The greatest rock band in the world!" **Eddie Spaghetti** and his **Supersuckers** will make "the walls melt with sweat" at Casbah.

Monday 14

Stay home. Watch baseball.

Tuesday 15

Prodigal son returns. Pearl Jammer **Eddie Vedder** hit the fan with his soundtrack takes for big flick *Into the Wild*. His track "Guaranteed" won a Grammy for Best Song Written for a Motion Picture. He'll hum it for ya at Spreckels Tuesday and Wednesday nights. Aussie singer/songwriter **Liam Finn** (his dad was in Crowded House!) opens.... Swing yer partner. Multiple Grammy winners **Asleep at the Wheel** throw down a hoedown at Belly Up. The country big band's latest, last year's *Kings of Texas Swing* CD/DVD should be a good primer.... Mustachioed power trio **Thieves and Liars** lay their "Zeppelin-meets-Floyd" rawk on Casbah. Check Space hits from debut *When Dreams Become Reality*. With **Ride the Boogie** and the **Casket Salesmen**.

Wednesday 16

Almost out of words, so go see **Cat Power** at 4th&B.... You don't dig the hipster chanteuse? In walking distance you got O.C. experimentalists **Thrice** at House of Blues and SDMA winners **Grams** propping a CD release at Anthology.... The **Subhumans** stomp Soma with classic UK hardcore.... Piano pop-pers **Bryan Scary** and the **Shredding Tears** play Casbah.... **Thin Man's** got Wednesdays at Tower. This week with guests the **Sess**.... U-31 books local indie acts **Writer** and **Drowning Men** with **Snow** from L.A. — *Barnaby Monk*



CAT POWER AT 4TH & B

Eddie Vedder
April 15, 16
Daniel Tosh
April 18
Def Leppard
April 26
Avril Lavigne
April 30
Michael Bublé
May 2
Juanes
May 3
Alicia Keys
May 7
Lisa Lampanelli
May 10
Joe Jackson
May 11
Margaret Cho
May 16, 17
Megadeth
May 20
Vicente Fernandez
May 24

Kenny Chesney
May 29

Kanye West

April 20



The Police

May 26

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June 30

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Journey

July 15

Chris Isaak

July 16

Ringo Starr

July 27

Gipsy Kings

August 18

Dave Matthews Band

August 22

Melissa Etheridge

August 30

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Sunday · April 13

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Monday · April 14

9 pm - **Karaoke**

Wednesday · April 16

9 pm - **Black & Red Party**

with **Cash Kings** (Johnny Cash Tribute)

Thursday · April 17

9 pm - **Old Devil**

10 pm - **Full Boar**

11 pm - **Pushing Rope**

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Fresh Every Time

"We must've blasted it out the ride about ten times that day, and it sounded fresh every time."

Young Mass (a.k.a. Fifth Element) is, at age 21, the youngest member of the rap and hip-hop collective Digital Underground. His family moved from Chicago to San Diego when he was 10.

At the 2003 "Gutfest" in Mission Bay Park, Digital Underground producer and performer Shock G (a.k.a. Humpty Hump of "The Humpty Dance") discovered the 16-year-old Stanton. "It was the first time I heard his jam 'Down in Diego,'" says Shock G. "We must've blasted it out the ride about ten times that day, and it sounded fresh every time."

Shock G included Young Mass on two tracks of his 2004 CD *Fear of a Mixed Planet*: "Cherry Flava'd E-mail" and "Hold Me Down Up." Young Mass has shared the stage with George Clinton, Tone-Loc, and Mopreme Shakur. His self-titled CD has recently been released.

Shock G contributed to the following Q&A.

MOST DIFFICULT ASPECT OF PERFORMING LIVE?

Young Mass: "It never lasts long enough. It's like a drug, and the fix only lasts for only a little while and is too far in between."

Shock G: "When Young Mass grabs the mike, it dates us. Him just doing his regular thing makes me and the rest of Digital Underground sound

like dinosaurs. I ain't mad at him for that, though."

BEST ADVICE YOU'VE EVER RECEIVED?

Young Mass: "Dr. Dre told me I have the potential to be the best ever if I apply and dedicate myself to my craft."

Shock G: "NYC, L.A., or ATL — dive into the scene, work with everybody and anybody, from hip-hop to rock. Blaze everybody's albums, shows, and mix tapes. Get

the voice and production out there on as much stuff as possible."

WHAT'S IN YOUR CD CHANGER?

Young Mass:

1. UGK (R.I.P. Pimp C)
2. Kanye
3. 50 Cent
4. Jay-Z
5. And, of course, Young Mass.

THREE WISHES FOR A GENIE IN A BOTTLE...

Young Mass:

1. Own a marijuana factory.
2. Have a house big enough to fit all of my friends and family in.
3. Be regarded as the best human to ever live.

FIVE THINGS THAT SUCK:

Young Mass:

1. San Diego artist exposure.
2. Racism.
3. Being broke.
4. Being rich.
5. Sex with the wrong person.

EARLIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY?

Young Mass: "Fighting my cousin for a dollar for our parents' amusement."

BEST AND WORST GIGS?

Young Mass: "Worst gig moment was at the Sunset House of Blues with Digital Underground. I had the honor of performing with George Clinton and his funky violinist Lili Haydn. I accidentally knocked the violin out of her hand as I went to give the crowd dap — she was steamin'."

Shock G: "Best was 'Canes at Mission Beach, by the roller coaster. Even though we begged the staff to let our Young Mass in, they insisted that he wait outside until his turn onstage and that he could enter only to say his raps and then must leave immediately. We thought this was silly because he would cross the line anyway to do his part in the show — why can't he chill backstage? Mass swore to stay in the dressing room and not be near any alcohol. He didn't even drink



Young Mass

back then. Still, they insisted. 'No ID? Can't chill inside!' So when he reached the stage, first thing he did was let the doormen *have it* over the microphone. I don't remember exactly what he said, but Money-B and I were crackin' up. It was funny as hell — Mass was really salty." ■

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6 pm • Blues
Chet Cannon & guests
9:30 pm • Blues Harp
Curtis Salgado
Blues Harp Weekend

Sunday, April 13
8 pm • Smooth Jazz
Reel to Real

Monday, April 14
7 pm • Blues
Chet Cannon's Blue Monday Blues Party

Tuesday, April 15
7 pm • Jazz Vocalist
Jesse Davis

Wednesday, April 16
8 pm • Sweet Soul Music
The Soul Persuaders

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Calendar

MUSIC

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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

4th & B: 345 B Street,
Downtown, 619-231-4343.
Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — Morcheeba.
Mellow trip-hop and electronica.
Wednesday, 8 p.m. — Cat Power.

710 Beach Club: 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-7844.

Thursday— Aaron Blyth and Pushin' Rope. Acoustic/soul/bluegrass.

Friday— Rebellion and Indubious. with Natural Incense. Rock/reggae/dub.

Saturday— The Lou Dog Trio, Irieside, the Professors. A Sublime tribute. Rock/reggae.

AcousticMusicSanDiego:
4650 Mansfield Street, Normal
Heights, 619-303-8176.
Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — David
Wilcox. Singer-songwriter. \$25-
\$50.

American Legion Post 310:
465 47th Street, Southeast San
Diego, 619-264-1919.
Sunday — Willovealot. Jazz.

Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300.
Friday, 7:30 p.m. — Candy Dulfer. Jazz-funk saxophonist. \$20-\$83.
Saturday and Sunday — Melissa Manchester.
Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. — Skelpin. Irish folk jam band. \$5.
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. — The Grams. CD-release party. Rock/pop. \$8.

Balboa Theatre: 854 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-570-1100. *Saturday, 8 p.m.* — “DreamGuys.” San Diego Men’s Chorus presents spring concert with guest artists including Frenchie Davis. \$32-\$42.

Beach Grass Café: 159 South Coast Highway 101, Solana Beach, 858-509-0632.
Sundays, 6 p.m. — Sambajazz. Brazilian and American jazz.

Beach House: 2530 South Coast Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-753-1321.
Wednesday, 6 p.m. — Freefall. Jazz.

Beaumont's: 5662 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla, 858-459-0474.
Thursday, 8 p.m. — Greg Feldman. Covers/standards.
Friday, 8:50 p.m. — Mark Fisher and Friends. Covers/standards/rock.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — The Jones Revival. Covers/standards/rock.

Beauty Bar: 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-516-4746.
Thursday — Happy Hollows and Starline Theory. Indie rock/experimental. \$5.
Friday — Buddy Akai, the Frail, Jamuel Saxon. Electro/rock/pop. \$5.
Sunday, 9 p.m. — The Burning of Rome. CD-release show. With the

Robotanists and Siberian.
Alternative/experimental.
Wednesday — The Feelings Mutual.
With Over the Atlantic and
Hialeah. Indie rock. \$5.

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

Thursday, 9 p.m. — Del tha Funky Homosapien. Hip-hop from Northern California. \$20-\$22.

Friday, 9 p.m. — The Mother Hips and New Monsoon. Rock/soul/blues bands from San Francisco.

Saturday, 9 p.m. — The Mother Hips and Jackie Greene. Mike Krum opens. Rock/indie/pop.

Sunday, 9 p.m. — Charlie Musselwhite. Blues harp player and bandleader. \$18-\$20.

Monday, 8 p.m. — John Cruz. Acoustic/soul.

Tuesday — Asleep at the Wheel. Country swing.

Wednesday, 8 p.m. — Joanie Mendenhall. Vinyl-release show with Michael Tiernan and Correatout. \$8.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church:
925 Balour Drive, Encinitas.
Friday, 8 p.m. — Encinitas Guitar Orchestra Concert. Concert of jazz and blues music by orchestra with 30 guitar players. Donation. 760-943-0755. \$10.

The Bitter End: 770 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-9300.
Thursday, 9 p.m. — Jesse LaMonaca and Lessons from Zeke. With Isaac Hayden. Acoustic/soul/rock.

Bob Burton Center for the Performing Arts: 2400 South Stagecoach Drive, Fallbrook, 760-731-2278.
Sunday, 7:30 p.m. — Coro Hispano de San Francisco. Group with 27 singers and 12 musicians performs Latin American folk and traditional music from missions and ranchos for Fallbrook Music Society. 760-451-8644. \$10-\$25.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Avenue, Clairemont, 619-275-LIVE.

Thursday, 8 p.m. — Dave the Butcher, the Nightmares, Batar-Zan. Local garage rock bands and guests. \$5.

Friday, Saturday — Emergenza Fest. With Mindstress, Fuzz-Huzzi, the Case Of, Feeling of Hate, a Scribe Amidst the Lions, Madera, Luzeterna, and Kelley Winston Lee. Metal/alternative/indie.

Wednesday, 8 p.m. — Aepnia. With Border Town Bust and Family Wagon. Alternative rock/experimental.

Cafe Lamaze: 1441 Highland Avenue, National City, 619-474-3222.
Friday and Saturdays, 7 p.m. — The Sandy Chappel Quartet.
Sundays, 7:30 p.m. — Burnett's Bliss. Jazz/standards/blues.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido: 340 North Escondido Boulevard, Escondido, 800-988-4253.
Friday, 8 p.m. — Julio Iglesias. \$63-\$78.

The Calypso Café: 576 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-632-8252.
Thursday, 7:30 p.m. — Michael Tiernan and the Band. A night of acoustic music at their favorite North County hangout.

Canes: 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780.
Thursday, 8 p.m. — Critical Me, Dogmatic, 12 Cent. Punk rock. \$6.
Friday, 8 p.m. — Sick Puppies. Thriving Ivory and Saving Abel perform. Alternative rock/pop. \$12.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — Stepping Feet. A Dave Matthews Band tribute. Lights also performs a Journey tribute. \$10.
Wednesday, 8 p.m. — Leldon and

Shoots the Breeze. With Just Like Jenna, Yovee, and Spank Baby. Alternative rock. \$10.

Carvers: 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-566-2400.
Frida and Saturday, 8 p.m. — The Blues Brokers. Blues/soul.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-HELL.
Thursday, 8:30 p.m. — MC Flow. CD-release show with the Kneehighs, Bad Credit, and Jiggle It Bitch hip-hop burlesque. Hip-hop/rock. \$8-\$10.
Friday, 8:30 p.m. — Handsome Furs, Mr. Tube & the Flying Objects. Garage rock/experimental. \$10.
Saturday, 8:30 p.m. — Scott H. Biram and Hillstomp. Plus guests. Blues/punk/country. \$10.
Sunday, 8:30 p.m. — The Supersuckers. With Good Man Down and Eddie Spaghetti. Rock/country/punk. \$18.
Monday, 8:30 p.m. — Kill Me Tomorrow and Wilderness. With Book of Martyrs. Experimental/rock/pop. \$8.
Tuesday, 8:30 p.m. — Thieves & Liars and Ride the Boogie. With Casket Salesman. Rock/metal/progressive. \$6.
Wednesday, 8:30 p.m. — Bryan Scary. Indie pop.

Ché Café: 9500 Gilman Drive, B-0323C, La Jolla, 858-534-2311.
Friday, 7 p.m. — Trash Talk, Trapped Under Ice. Down Pressure and a Better Hope Foundation perform. Hardcore.
Saturday, 8 p.m. — The Career Soldiers, Sayaka, Media Blitz. Hardcore punk. \$5.
Sunday, 8 p.m. — Scout Niblett. Indie/experimental.

David and Dorothea Garfield
Theatre: 4126 Executive Drive, La Jolla, 858-362-1348.
Saturday, 8 p.m., Sunday, 2 p.m. — “Heart and Soul.” Music of the ’50s showcased during concerts by Gay Men’s Chorus of San Diego. Tunes by Perry Como, Mario Lanza, Nat “King” Cole, Della Reese, many others. 619-574-6273. \$30-\$35.

Del Mar Plaza: 1555 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar.
Sunday, 5 p.m., *Tuesday*, 5 p.m. — Keith Jacobson. Oceanview Patio. Smooth-jazz saxophone.

Desi N' Friends Bar and Grill: 2734 Lytton Street, Point Loma, 619-224-6409.
Tuesday, 8 p.m. — The Eben Brooks Band.

Dizzy's: 200 Harbor Drive, Downtown, 858-270-7467.
Thursday, 7:30 p.m. — The Spectrum Trio. Jazz. \$10.
Friday, 8 p.m. — Steve Steinberg. With Mike Holguin, Justin Grinnell, Lynn Willard, and Hank Easton. Funk/jazz. \$10-\$15.
Sunday, 7 p.m. — Loretta Lynn and Conway Twitty Tribute. Features a duet by Sara Petite and Chris Hoffee. Additional performances by Cindy Lee Berryhill, Lisa Sanders, and the Truckee Brothers. \$10.

Downtown Café: 182 E. Main Street, El Cajon, 619-440-5687. *Thursday*, 6 p.m. — Chet & the Committee. Blues jam. *Friday*, 7 p.m. — Joey & the Sting Rays. Cover rock and country hits.

Epicentre: 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-271-4000.

Thursday, 7 p.m. — Mae and Honorary Title. With Between the Trees and Far-Less perform. Indie rock/pop. \$15.
Friday, 7 p.m. — A Shattered Hope and the Subtle Way. Heaven Is for Sinners, the Goomies, and the Veltexans. Hardcore/metal. \$7-\$9.
Saturday, 7 p.m. — With Hope Last Breath and Murder on the Dance Floor. Black Out, Wages of War,



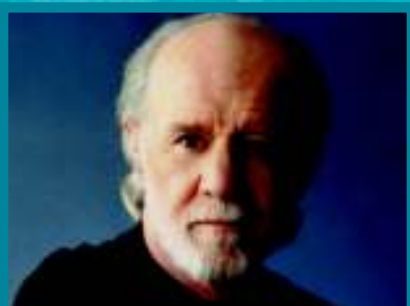
JOE JACKSON
SUNDAY, MAY 11



KEM
THURSDAY, JUNE 12



INDIGO GIRLS
THURSDAY, JUNE 19



GEORGE CARLIN
SUNDAY, JULY 20



DOOBIE BROTHERS
WEDNESDAY, JULY 23



EMMYLOU HARRIS
THURSDAY, JULY 31



PAOLO NUTINI
TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

MAY

Friday, May 9 • 6:30 & 9:00
KATHY GRIFFIN

Sunday, May 11 • 7:30
JOE JACKSON
with special guest **Mutlu**

Thursday, May 15 • 8:00
JESSE COOK

Friday, May 30 • 8:00
CRAIG FERGUSON
with special guest
Randy Kagan

JUNE

Saturday, June 7 • 7:30
BEACH BOYS

Tuesday, June 10 • 7:00
ERYKAH BADU/
THE ROOTS

Thursday, June 12 • 8:00
KEM

Friday, June 13 • 7:30
JONNY LANG

Saturday, June 14 • 8:00
WANDA SYKES

Tuesday, June 17 • 8:00
CROSBY, STILLS & NASH

Wednesday, June 18 • 7:00
KEB' MO'/
TAJ MAHAL

Thursday, June 19 • 7:30
INDIGO GIRLS

Friday, June 20 • 7:30
IDINA MENZEL

Wednesday, June 25 • 7:30
ANI DIFRANCO

Thursday & Friday,
June 26 & 27 • 7:00
ONEHAWAII TOUR
featuring **Keali'i Reichel,**
Na Leo, Willie K. &
Augie T.

Monday, June 30 • 7:00

ROBERT PLANT and
ALISON KRAUSS
featuring **T Bone Burnett**

JULY

Tuesday & Wednesday
July 1 & 2 • 6:00

BOB WEIR and
RATDOG

Wednesday, July 16 • 7:30
CHRIS ISAAK

Thursday & Friday
July 17 & 18 • 6:30

HIPPIEFEST: A
CONCERT FOR
PEACE & LOVE
with **Jack Bruce** of
Cream, Eric Burdon &
The Animals, The Turtles
featuring **Flo & Eddie,**
Melanie, Badfinger
featuring **Joey Molland**
and **Jonathan Edwards**

Sunday, July 20 • 6:30 & 9:00
GEORGE CARLIN

Tuesday, July 22 • 8:00
FEIST

Wednesday, July 23 • 7:30
DOOBIE BROTHERS

Friday, July 25 • 8:00
FRANKIE VALLI &
THE FOUR SEASONS

Sunday, July 27 • 7:30
RINGO STARR &
HIS ALL STARR
BAND featuring
Colin Hay, Billy Squier,
Hamish Stuart,
Edgar Winter, Gary
Wright & Gregg
Bissonette

Monday, July 28 • 7:00

DEREK TRUCKS &
SUSAN TEDESCHI
SOUL STEW
REVIVAL with special
guest **Scrapomatic**

Tuesday, July 29 • 7:30
TOOTS &
THE MAYTALS

Wednesday, July 30 • 8:00
DANA CARVEY

Thursday, July 31 • 7:30
EMMYLOU HARRIS

AUGUST

Friday, August 1 • 8:00
DOLLY PARTON

Sunday, August 3 • 7:30
PAT BENATAR &
NEIL GIRALDO

Monday, August 4 • 7:30
HUEY LEWIS &
THE NEWS

Tuesday, August 5 • 7:30
LYLE LOVETT

Wed., August 6 • 7:30
BOZ SCAGGS

Friday, August 8 • 7:30
PETER & GORDON/
GERRY & THE
PACEMAKERS/
GARY LEWIS &
THE PLAYBOYS

Sunday, August 10 • 8:00
UB40

Monday, August 11 • 7:30
DAVID SANBORN/
LEE RITENOUR

Tuesday, August 12 • 8:00
PAOLO NUTINI

Wed., August 13 • 7:30

MICHAEL McDONALD
Thursday, August 14 • 7:30
JOE COCKER

Friday, August 15 • 8:00
TOWER OF POWER

Monday, August 18 • 8:00
GIPSY KINGS

Sunday, August 24 • 8:00
BILL MAHER

Tuesday, August 26 • 7:30
LUCINDA
WILLIAMS

SEPTEMBER

Fri., September 12 • 7:00
ALAN PARSONS
LIVE PROJECT

Sat., September 13 • 7:00
AIR SUPPLY/
CHRISTOPHER
CROSS

Thurs., September 25 • 8:00
KENNY G

Sun., September 28 • 8:00
ETTA JAMES &
THE ROOTS BAND

OCTOBER

Friday, October 3 • 7:30
AMERICA

Sunday, October 5 • 7:30
CECILIO & KAPONO

Friday & Saturday
October 10 & 11 • 7:00
RUSSELL PETERS
& FRIENDS

Sunday, October 19 • 7:30
GORDON LIGHTFOOT

Additional acts will be added. Please check humphreysconcerts.com for updates.

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SANDER KLEINENBERG

FRIDAY APRIL 25
BOB SINCLAR

FRIDAY MAY 2
JOSH GABRIEL (GABRIEL & DRESDEN)

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Hardcore/metal. \$7-\$9.

Escondido Charter High School: 1868 E. Valley Parkway, Escondido.
Saturday, 7 p.m. — "The Piper's Play." Cameron Highlanders Pipe Band of San Diego and Escondido Charter High School Choir present concert of Scottish highland music with bagpipes, drums, dancers, vocalists in American Spirit Theater. 619-992-0479. \$10.

The Flower Fields: 5704 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad.
Saturday, 11 a.m. — Fiddlin' in the Flowers. Bluegrass Day planned by North County Bluegrass and Folk Club, with music by Lighthouse (1 and 3 p.m.), musicians playing around the grounds. 760-431-0352, 858-566-4594.

Gallagher's Pub & Grill: 5046 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-5300.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Modern Day Moonshine. Blues/soul/rock.

Grant Grill: 326 Broadway, Downtown, 619-232-3121.
Thursday and Wednesday, 6 p.m. — Tom Barabas at the Piano. "Great American Songbook."

The Handlery Hotel and Resort: 950 Hotel Circle North, Mission Valley, 619-298-0511.
Friday, 8 p.m. — The Citizen Band. Americana/bluegrass/country.
Wednesday, 5 p.m. — Christopher Dale and Friends. With Podunk Nowhere. Acoustic/Americana.

The Harp: 4935 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-0168.
Tuesday, 7 p.m. — Chet & the Committee. Blues jam.

Hensley's Flying Elephant Pub and Grill: 850 Tamarack Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-729-4996.
Thursday, 8 p.m. — Skelpin. Irish folk jam band.
Friday, 4:30 p.m. — Taryn Donath. With Peter Hall. Blues/soul.
Saturday, 7 p.m. — Help. Beatles tribute band.
Sunday, 8 p.m. — Jaimie

The Kensington Club

Thursday, April 10
LISA THE LUSH
UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF

Friday, April 11
ROSES ON HER GRAVE
DESERT DIAMONDS

Saturday, April 12
DIANA DEATH
THE NEVERLAND RANCH HANDS

Friday, April 18
THE FRANTIC ROMANTIC
BOOK OF MARTYRS
MODERN RIFLES

Saturday, April 19
HOTEL ST. GEORGE
DEATH ON MARS
WRITER
LADY VAIN

Friday, April 25
THE SPITS
THE OKMONIKS
THE BLACK AND WHITES

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Apr. 15: **Trece de la Suerte**
Apr. 16: **TBA**
Apr. 17: **Salsa Caliente**
Salsa Dance Lessons @ 8:30 pm by Valerie
So Cal's Best Salsa Orchestras & DJs at 10 pm

Early Sunday Salsa @ 6:30 pm

Apr. 13: **SALSA CALIENTE**
Salsa Dance Lessons @ 6:45 pm by Valerie
Live Band starts @ 8 pm
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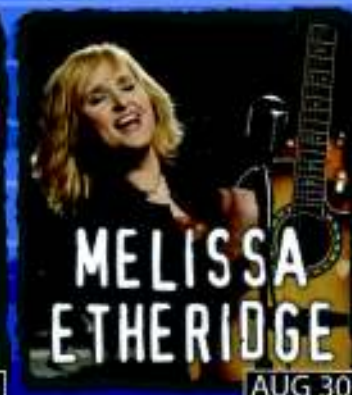
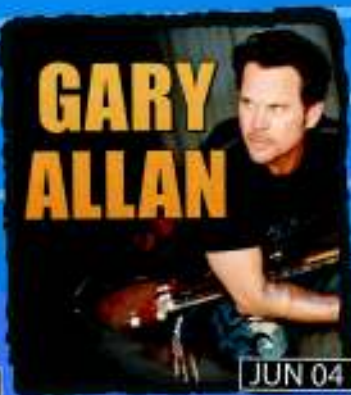
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FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH



SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH

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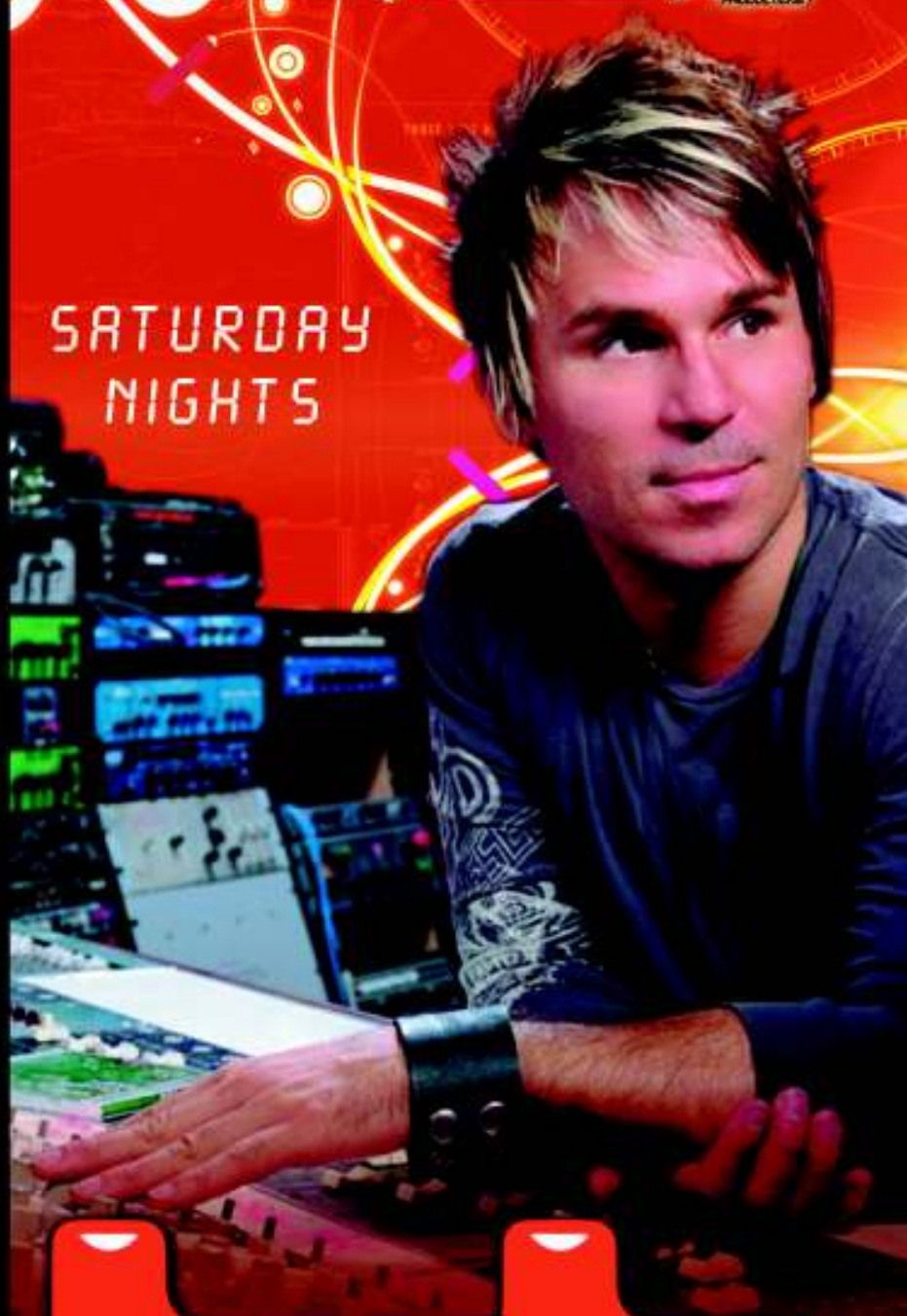
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JIGGLE IT B***H
HIP HOP BURLESQUE**

FRIDAY • APRIL 11
**HANDSOME FURS
MR. TUBE &
THE FLYING OBJECTS**

SATURDAY • APRIL 12
**SCOTT H. BIRAM
HILLSTOMP
PUSHING ROPE**

SUNDAY • APRIL 13
**SUPERSUCKERS
GOOD MAN DOWN
EDDIE SPAGHETTI**

MONDAY • APRIL 14
ANTI-MONDAY LEAGUE PRESENTS
**KILL ME TOMORROW
WILDERNESS
BOOK OF MARTYRS**

TUESDAY • APRIL 15
YESTERDAY MAGAZINE PRESENTS
**THIEVES & LIARS
THE CASKET
SALESMEN
RIDE THE BOOGIE**

WEDNESDAY • APRIL 16
**BRYAN SCARY
& THE
SHREDDING TEARS**

THURSDAY • APRIL 17
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SLOUGH FEG
CHILDREN**

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SATURDAY • APRIL 19
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SUNDAY • APRIL 20
**DIRTY SWEET
THE BINGES
THE ROMAN SPRING**

MONDAY • APRIL 21
**ELF POWER
FLOWERS FOREVER
AGENT RIBBONS**

TUESDAY • APRIL 22
DON CAVALLI

WEDNESDAY • APRIL 23
**THE BLACK HEART
PROCESSION**

FRIDAY • APRIL 25
THE TEENAGERS

SATURDAY • APRIL 26
**THE NIGHT MARCHERS
THE MUSLIMS**

SUNDAY • APRIL 27
**MATT CURRERI AND
EX-FRIENDS
PAUL CURRERI**

MONDAY • APRIL 28
**FLUF • MEXICOLAS
BUCKFAST SUPERBEE**

TUESDAY • APRIL 29
**MAC LETHAL • GRIEVES
DJ SKU**

WEDNESDAY • APRIL 30
**YO MAJESTY!
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YEAH!**

THURSDAY • MAY 1
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THE SESS**

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MANIC HISPANIC

SUNDAY • MAY 4
UNKNOWN HINSON

MONDAY • MAY 5
CINCO DE MAYO
THE HEAVY

WEDNESDAY • MAY 7
TAPES N TAPES

FRIDAY • MAY 9
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APRIL 10

YELLOW CARD
Acoustic



Spill
Canvas
PLAYRADIOPLAY!
TREATY OF PARIS

APRIL 11

APOCALYPTICA



APRIL 12

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APRIL 13

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with special guest
ILLBELL and DAGO
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APRIL 14

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BAMBULA

APRIL 15

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A CURSIVE
MEMORY

So Long Davey
Chronic Future

APRIL 17

LA JOLLA
ESTACION



APRIL 18

DELTA ROOM

Jesca Hoop
Lissie

APRIL 19

Symphony

Epica • Into Eternity

APRIL 20

SUPER DIAMOND



Premium Neil Diamond
Tribute Band!

APRIL 21

Timbaland 25

Original members

APRIL 23

From East Comic Standing
Lavell Crawford
Tickets from 3/25 4th & 8th show
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APRIL 24

BELANOVA



APRIL 30

DELTA ROOM

THE SLACKERS
DEALS GONE BAD

MAY 1

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LITTLE
FINGERS**

THROW RAG

MAY 1

LED ZEPPELIN
A Tribute to Led Zep

LA GRANGE

MAY 2

MENUDO

GLOWB N7

MAY 4

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MAY 10

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MAY 13

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MAY 15

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5/18 THE KOOKS	6/20 OLD 97'S
5/20 ADICTS	7/25 THE AQUABATS
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5/28 THE NATIONAL	

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FRIDAY, APRIL 18

MT TUNSTALL

The Campfire Tour

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SPRECKELS THEATRE

SATURDAY, MAY 3



COX ARENA

TICKETS START AT \$10.50!

AVRIL LAVIGNE

IN CONCERT

APRIL 30



WOTWOT PRESENTS

GIGANTOUR

MEGADETH

IN FLAMES

Children of Bodom

high on fire

MAY 20

- LIVE NATION
- 5/9 Celtic Woman Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre
 - 5/24 Vicente Fernandez Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre
 - 5/26 OJ Present: The Police Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre
 - 5/29 Kenny Chesney with LeAnn Rimes Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre
 - 6/3 The Cure • Cox Arena
 - 6/27 311 with Snoop Dogg Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre (On Sale 4.19 @ 12PM!)
 - 7/15 Journey with Heart and Cheap Trick Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre
 - 7/24 MercyMe • SDSU Open Air Theatre

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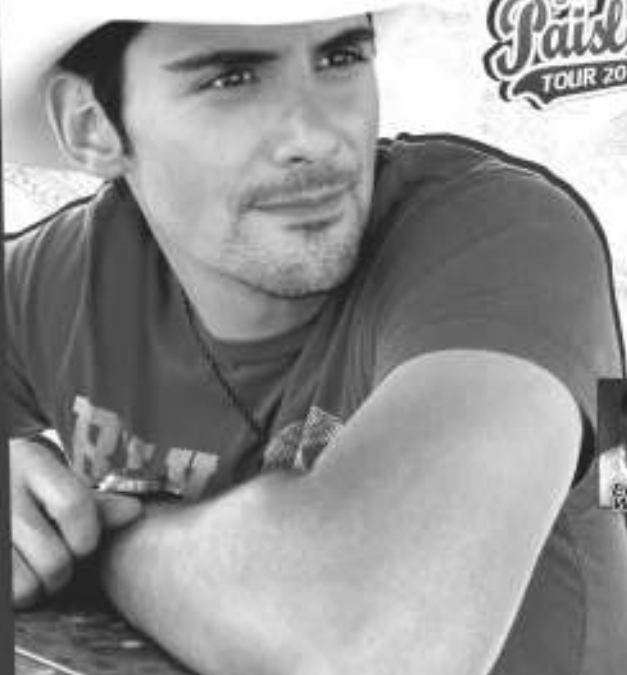
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All dates, acts and ticket prices subject to change without prior notice. Subject to applicable service charges.

LIVE NATION

Calendar MUSIC

Neurosciences Institute: 10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive, La Jolla.
Friday, 8 p.m. — Enjoy the Mohan Veena. Raag and Taal Academy presents Grammy Award-winning Indian musician Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt on *mohan veena* (a highly modified concord archtop guitar) accompanied by Shri Subhen Chatterjee (tabla). 858-202-1704. \$20-\$50.

North Coast United Methodist Church: 1501 Kelly Street, Oceanside.
Sunday, 4 p.m. — Sunday Afternoon Gospel Choir Concert. Spirit-filled group from Walker Chapel AME performs. Donations accepted for performers. Optional dinner follows (\$6.50 general). 760-439-4099.

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub: 1130 Morena Boulevard, Clairemont, 619-276-5637.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Kush & Bloodfiah Angels. Reggae/dub.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — Avitia, Without a Motorcycle, Ricksha. With Hurts to Laugh and Dia Syndicate. Rock/alternative/folk.
Mondays, 8 p.m. — Mystery Train. Pro-invitational blues jam.
Tuesday, 9 p.m. — Mojave, Silent Lune, Aepnia. Alternative/indie/experimental.
Wednesday, 9 p.m. — The Orange Velvets and Moontucky Risin. Indie/rock/psychedelic.

Pala Casino: 35008 Pala Temecula Road, Pala, 877-946-7252.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Metro. Performance in the Grand Cabaret.

Saturday, 8 p.m. — Chicago Tribute Authority. A tribute to Chicago in the Grand Cabaret room.

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 — 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band. Blues/funk.
Friday — Soul Diego. Covers Motown, soul, and blues.
Saturday — Dennis Jones. Blues/rock.
Sunday — Taryn Donath & Mo-Jo Rising. Blues/soul.
Monday — Blue Largo. Blues/soul/swing.
Tuesday — The Bayou Brothers. Zydeco/blues/R&B.
Wednesday — The Bill Magee Blues Band. Blues/soul/rock.

Pounders: 125 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-739-1288.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Custard Pie. Covers/standards.

Rancho Bernardo Inn: 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-675-8500.
Fridays and Saturdays, 6 p.m. — Jerry Melnick & Tom Bishop. El Bizcocho Restaurant. Jazz/variety.
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.

The Round Table Cocktail Lounge: 1723 Euclid Avenue, City Heights, 619-264-6000.
Tuesdays, 6 p.m. — Charlie Blue. Blues.

SDSU: San Diego State University: 5500 Campanile

NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

New Monsoon came with so much of rock's past in their sound and performed with such accuracy that at first listen I thought they might be a cover band. They are not. Redolent of Southern rock, namely the Allman Brothers, there is also a splash of West Coast hippie rock on loan from the Dead. It lends the project an earthy kind of feel. But right about the point that a listener begins to think that this sort of jamming has all been done before, New Monsoon juices it up with a reggae mix that anchors their sound to the present. Add to that bluegrass (they appear regularly at major festivals such as Telluride), funk, and something approaching straight-ahead jazz. The only ingredient missing is the

long-winded soloing traditional to old-school rock and jazz.

But the jam-band descriptor implies a mellowness. And while New Monsoon can recreate that Mill Valley ethic, they have also been called "the perfect storm" by critics, referring to the power of their live performances.

New Monsoon is a San Francisco band. Formed out of college in 1998 by **Bo Carper** and **Jeff Miller**, the band has survived a variety of personnel changes over the years. Almost from the beginning New Monsoon caught industry attention, and by 2003 they were the *Jam Base's* Emerging Artist of the Year. *Jam Base* characterizes New Monsoon as a rock and roll jam band, but to my ear their guitar work has a rustic fingerboard technique that has more to do with stomping in the pines than egoistic guitar heroism. On their recordings they sound like many



NEW MONSOON

bands, as if they grew up listening to all the great rock festivals of the past. It works so well that I have to remind myself that New Monsoon has been around since 1998, not 1968.

The Mother Hips headline.

NEW MONSOON, Belly Up, Friday, April 11, 9 p.m. 858-481-8140. \$22.

Drive, SDSU, 619-594-5200.
Thursday, 7 p.m. — "Common Chords." Junoon's Salman Ahmad (guitar) and Yale Strom (violin). 619-594-6020.

Saville Theatre at San Diego City College: 1313 Park Boulevard, Downtown, 619-388-3676.
Tuesday, 8 p.m. — Jazz Piano Sensation! Josh Nelson performs. Reservations: 619-388-3037.

Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library: 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad.
Sunday, 2 p.m. — Akayaa and Bolga Zohdooah. Ghanaian "high life music." 760-602-2012.

Sevilla: 555 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-5979.
Mondays, 9 p.m. — Rock en Español.

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-226-SOMA.
Thursday — Jeffree Star. With Dr. Manhattan, Breathe Carolina, and Fight Fair. Electro/pop rock.
Friday, 7 p.m. — Family Force 5. With the Maine, Ivory Line, and a Dull Science. \$12.
Saturday, 6 p.m. — Panic at the Disco. With Motion City Soundtrack, the Hush Sound, and Phantom Planet.
Sunday, 6 p.m. — Animosity, First

Blood, For the Fallen Dreams. With the Dajjal Persona and the Hoedown. Deathcore. \$12.
Wednesday, 7 p.m. — The Subhumans. Anarcho-punk band. \$12.

South Park Bar & Grill: 1946 Fern Street, South Park, 619-696-0096.
Thursdays, 9:30 p.m. — Open jazz jam. Ages 21 and up.
Friday, 7 p.m. — The Paul Ingram Quartet. With Michela Dalla Pozza.
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.

Spreckels Theatre: 121 Broadway, Downtown, 619-235-9500.
Tuesday and Wednesday, 8 p.m. — Eddie Vedder. Pearl Jam front man. \$67.

The Swedenborgian Church of San Diego: 4144 Campus Avenue, University Heights.
Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — Berkley Hart and Joel Rafael. Meeting Grace and

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Wednesday, April 30

UFO SLEDD

Thursday, April 10

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THE NIGHTMARES
BATAR-ZAN

Friday, April 11

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THE CASE OF...
FEELING OF HATE
A SCRIBE AMIDST THE LIONS
MADERA • LUZETERNA
KELLEY WINSTON LEE

Saturday, April 12

"EMERGENZA FEST"
THE KNEEHIGHS • TIM SHAW
PRECIO DE SANGRE
DIVE BOMBER
GONE TO OBLIVION
BRIEGADE

Wednesday, April 16

BORDER TOWN BUST
FAMILY WAGON
AEPNIA

Thursday, April 17

DOOKIE
STARVING FOR GRAVITY
MR. ROARKE'S TATTOO

Friday, April 18

NEGATIVE FILTER
TAINTED SOCIETY

Sunday, April 20

Polynesian Underground presents

ISLAND IRIE
TRIBAL THEORY
56 HOPE

Wednesday, April 23

JUSTIN HOPKINS & THE GUILT
BASSBOOSA
SKYBOMBERS
CHEEKY

Thursday, April 24

RISE OF THE REVOLUTION
PARKER & THE NUMBERMAN

Friday, April 25

Agent Orchid presents

"THE TOLEDO SHOW"
THE CATS • THE DAMES
THE WHOLE DIRTY DEAL

Saturday, April 26

S.A.T.O.R.I.
DANTE'S BONEYARD
SOUNDESCAPE

Thursday, May 1

STARLINE THEORY
THE RED PAINTINGS
LINDA STRAWBERRY

Saturday, May 3

MOTHER MAE I
CANOBLISS
SIX REASONS
INSTINCT OF AGGRESSION
AGAINST THE WORLD

Friday, May 9

DEAD SERIAL KILLERS
AIZEN • ETHS
SUPERBUTT
ONE THEORY

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Saturday • April 12

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Thursday • April 10

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Fridays

KARAOKE

Saturday, April 12

SIDE JOBZ

Sundays

KARAOKE

Thursday, April 17

ROBIN HENKEL BAND

Saturday, April 19

THE HYPE

Thursday, April 24

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Calendar

MUSIC

Dark-Thirty House Concerts host benefit for Eric Lowen Trust. 619-787-8242. \$20-\$25.

Templar's Hall at Old Poway Park: 14134 Midland Road, Poway.
Saturday, 7 p.m. — Triumphant Over Hardship. Tom Boyer in concert for San Diego Folk Heritage. 858-566-4040. \$15-\$18.

The Hot Java Cafe: 11738 Carmel Mountain Road, Carmel Valley, 858-673-7111.
Wednesday, 7 p.m. — Diane Waters, Alyssa Jacey, Joan Kurland. With Sketch and Bobo Czarnowski. Acoustic.

Tiki House: 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-9734.
Thursday — Shrewd Lucy. Alternative rock.
Friday — Brain Buckit. A fusion of New Orleans jazz with rock.
Saturday — Mississippi Mudsharks. Blues/punk/roots.
Wednesday — Pushing Rope. Country/punk/bluegrass.

UCSD: University of California San Diego: 9500 Gilman Drive, UCSD, 858-534-2230.
Monday and Tuesday, 8 p.m. — Lura. "New queen of Cape Verdean music" performs mix of French Afropop sounds, Brazilian rhythms, traditional African music. 858-534-8497. \$32.

V Lounge: 5000 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.
Saturday, 5 p.m. — Modern Day Moonshine. Blues/soul/rock.

Valley View Casino: 16300 Nyemii Pass Road, Valley Center,

866-843-9946.
Friday, 8 p.m. — Creedence Clearwater Revisited.
Winstons: 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822.
Thursday — The Breakfast with Agave. Rock/funk/Latin.
Friday — Banyan. With Stephen Perkins, Nels Cline, and Mike Watt. Rock/jazz/experimental.
Saturday — Deadline Friday. With a Led Zeppelin tribute by Dazed and Confused. Rock/blues.
Mondays, 9 p.m. — The Electric Waste Band. \$7.

WorldBeat Cultural Center: 2100 Park Boulevard, Balboa Park, 619-263-7911.
Friday — Katchafire. Reggae/dub/surf band from New Zealand. \$25.

UPCOMING SHOWS

4th & B: 345 B Street, Downtown, 619-231-4343.
April 19 — Jazze Pha, 8ball & MJG, Tela.
April 25 — Spiritualized.
April 28 — M.I.A..

AcousticMusicSanDiego: 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights, 619-303-8176.
April 17 — Ramblin' Jack Elliott.
April 19 — We Five.
April 25 — Hot Club of Cowtown.
April 27 — Terry Sylvester.
May 1 — Po' Girl.
May 10 — John McEuen.
May 17 — Prince Diabate.
June 13 — John Gorka.
June 19 — Randy Kohrs and the Lite.
June 20 — Roy Book Binder.
July 11 — Chad & Jeremy.
July 15 — John Keawe.
August 2 — Belinda Gail and Curly

NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

If you look at the photos on **Scout Niblett's** website, you might not think that all of them picture the same person. In one she's a pretty blonde riding a bike. In another she's a dark-haired woman with bags under her eyes. Here she's a smart, young, urban professional, and there she looks like a hippie revolutionary posing for a police mug shot. In yet another photo she looks like a little girl. In a few of them she has made herself up to look like a corpse.

These are all images of Emma Louise Niblett, a 34-year-old Englishwoman now living in Oregon. The stage name comes from

To Kill a Mockingbird. The fondness for wigs and disturbing role-play may come from photographer Cindy Sherman. As for the music, Niblett has been relentlessly compared to early Cat Power (for her spare arrangements and edge-of-sanity vocal mannerisms) and early P.J. Harvey (for more or less the same reasons). But don't expect Niblett to sing in a TV commercial for diamonds anytime soon — Niblett may be even more idiosyncratic than Chan Marshall or Polly Jean Harvey.

In "Kiss," a duet with Will Oldham (a.k.a. Bonnie "Prince" Billy — a guy who knows about stage names and role playing), Niblett sounds lovely and soulful — at least until the part of the song where her voice goes high and nasal and repeats, "It could have killed me!" until it gets kind of scary. She's playing a role when she sings



SCOUT NIBLETT

that song, and she's not afraid to let it take her places where she doesn't come off as pretty or nice or all the other things a young woman is expected to be.

SCOUT NIBLETT, Ché Café, Sunday, April 13, 8 p.m. 858-534-2311. \$13.

Musgrave.
September 21 — Willy Porter.

Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300.
April 17 — Lee Ritenour, Patrice Rushen, Alex Acuna, Brian Bromberg.
April 18 — Tift Merritt.
April 22 — Patty Larkin.
April 23 — Jeff Moore and Friends.
April 24 — Richard Marx.
April 26, April 27 — Leon Redbone.
April 30 — The Pat Senatore Trio.
May 2 — Michael Burks.
May 3 — Smokin' Joe Kubek & Benois King.
May 4 — Bradley Leighton.
May 6 — Jason Reeves, Molly Jenson, Trevor Davis.
May 7, May 8 — Marcus Miller.
May 9 — Janis Siegel.
May 10, May 11 — Kevin Eubanks.
May 13, May 14 — Les Nubians.
May 16, May 17 — Patti Austin.
May 21 — Rosie Ledet & the Zydeco Playboys.

May 23 — Poco.
May 24 — Karla Bonoff.
May 30, May 31 — Sonny Landreth.
June 5 — Metro.
June 13, June 14 — Ivan Lins.
June 18 — Hiromi.
June 20 — James Cotton.
July 3, July 4, July 5 — Ottmar Liebert and Luna Negra.
July 12, July 13 — Howard Jones.

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library: 1008 Wall Street, La Jolla, 858-454-5872.
May 7 — Jazz at the Neurosciences Institute.

Balboa Theatre: 854 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-570-1100.
May 3 — Mariachi los Camperos de Nati Cano.
May 10 — Betty Buckley.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.
April 17 — Swim Party and

Republic of Letters.
April 18 — Elijah Emanuel & the Revelations.
April 19 — Cash'd Out.
April 20 — The Gin Blossoms.
April 22 — The Twinkle Brothers.
April 23 — Led Kaapana & Mike Kaawa.
April 24 — Dark Star Orchestra.
April 25 — B-Side Players and Cava.
April 26 — The Yonder Mountain String Band.
April 27 — Victor Wooten.
April 30 — Get Back Loretta and Ryan Ferguson.
May 1 — Mike Doughty.
May 2, May 3 — The English Beat.
May 4 — Shelby Lynne.
May 5 — Reggae de Mayo.
May 14 — Kathleen Edwards and the Last Town Chorus.
May 19 — Murder by Death, Dios, Gasoline Heart.
May 20 — The Proclaimers and Jeremy Fisher.

May 22 — Hal Ketchum.
May 25 — Don Carlos.
May 29 — Poncho Sanchez.
May 30 — Final Warning.
May 31 — Ladytron.
June 6 — Common Sense.
June 13 — The Young Dubliners.
June 14 — Cash'd Out.
June 21 — Dead Man's Party.
June 25 — Gary Hoey.
June 27 — Pato Banton and the Mystic Roots Band.
June 28 — Atomic Punks.
July 6, July 7 — Israel Vibration and Outlaw Nation.
July 12 — Stepping Feet.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Avenue, Clairemont, 619-275-LIVE.
April 17 — Starving for Gravity.
April 18 — Negative Filter and Tainted Society.
April 23 — Justin Hopkins & the Guilt, Bassboosa, Skybombers.
April 24 — Rise of Revolution.
April 25 — S.A.T.O.R.I., Soundescape, Dante's Boneyard.
April 25 — The Toledo Show.
April 30 — UFO.
May 1 — The Red Paintings and Linda Strawberry.
May 3 — Mother Mae I, Canobliss, Six Reasons.
May 7 — Behold.
May 8 — Jupiter One and Shrewd Lucy.
May 9 — Media Lab, MNIYIC, Eths, Superbutt, One Theory.
May 17 — My Middle Finger, FM Revolver, Hydrovibe.
May 24 — Teitur and Jessie Baylin.
June 7 — Mad Sin.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido: 340 North Escondido Boulevard, Escondido, 800-988-4253.

April 18 — Tish Hinojosa & Her

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Sunday, April 13	Monday, April 14	Tuesday, April 15	Wednesday, April 16
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April 27 — “Neil Berg’s 101 Years of Broadway.”
May 7, May 7 — The Screamin’ Primas.
’Canes: 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780.
April 17 — Helmet.
April 18 — Arm the Angels and Broke City.
April 19 — Diego Roots.
April 20 — Michael Prophet.
April 23 — Collie Buddz.
April 25 — Mystic Roots, High Tide, d*frost.
April 26 — Wild Child.
April 28 — The Breeders.
April 30 — Guava Belly and Stained Glass Saints.
May 2 — SOJA, Rebelution.
May 3 — Organika Music Presents.
May 4 — Blind Melon.
May 7 — Melvin Seals & JGB.
May 9 — Devin the Dude.
May 10 — Alfred Howard & the K23 Orchestra.
May 15 — Ekolū.
May 16 — B Foundation, Iration, Frontyard.
May 17 — Tainted Love.
May 23 — Buck-O-Nine.
May 24 — Cash’d Out.
May 25 — Atomic Punks.
May 30 — On the One and Blue Turtle Seduction.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-HELL.
April 17 — The Sword.
April 19 — Dengue Fever.
April 20 — Dirty Sweet.
April 21 — Elf Power and Flowers Forever.
April 22 — Don Cavalli.
April 23 — The Black Heart Procession.
April 24 — Firethorn.
April 25 — The Teenagers.
April 26 — The Night Marchers.
April 27 — Paul Curreri.
April 29 — Mac Lethal.
April 30 — Yo Majesty.
May 1 — The Woggles, the Heartaches, the Sess.
May 2 — Manic Hispanic.
May 3 — Roses on Her Grave and Desert Diamonds.
May 4 — Unknown Hinson and Bartenders Bible.
May 5 — The Heavy.
May 6 — Blood on the Wall and Thee Oh Sees.
May 7 — Tapes ’n Tapes.
May 8 — Vetiver, Astra, Johnathan Wilson.
May 9 — Cash’d Out.
May 9 — The Sess.
May 13 — Langhorne Slim and Ferraby Lionheart.
May 15 — Efterklang and Slaraffenland.
May 16, May 17 — Lucy’s Fur Coat.
May 18 — The Dirtbombs, Dan Sartain, the Terrible Twos.
May 19 — The Kills, Child Ballads, Roxy Jones.
May 20 — Destroyer and Devon White.
May 21 — The Radar Brothers and Le Switch.
May 22 — The Von Bondies and Die! Die! Die!
May 23 — French Kicks.
May 24 — Donita Sparks.
May 26 — Margot & the Nuclear So and So’s.
May 27 — The Archways.
May 28 — Ladyhawk and Neva Dinova.
May 30 — Swervedriver and Film School.
May 31 — Trevor Keith and Say Vinyl.
June 1 — Oaks.
June 4 — Local H.
June 8 — Firewater.
June 9 — The Queens, Lemuria, Bomb the Music Industry.
June 10 — Detroit Cobras and Les Sans Culottes.
June 20 — Sea Wolf and the Jealous Girlfriends.
July 6 — Retribution Gospel Choir.

Ché Café: 9500 Gilman Drive, B-0323C, La Jolla, 858-534-2311.
April 18 — Have Heart, Violation, More Than Words.
May 7 — Fern Knight, Ex Reverie, Joshua Emery Blatchley.
May 10 — Alexander T. Kent.
May 17 — Fleas and Live, Mouth Sewn Shut.
May 27 — Parenthetical Girls, Pwrful Power, Au.
Coors Amphitheatre: 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-671-3600.

April 26 — Def Leppard, REO Speedwagon, and Styx.
May 9 — Celtic Woman.
May 24 — Vicente Fernandez.
May 26 — The Police and Elvis Costello.
May 29 — Kenny Chesney and Leann Rimes.
June 13 — Brad Paisley.
July 15 — Journey.
August 14 — Vans Warped Tour.
August 22 — The Dave Matthews Band.

Copley Symphony Hall: 750 B Street, Downtown, 619-235-0804.
May 9 — Vladimir Spivakov and the Moscow Virtuosi.
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.
Dizzy’s: 200 Harbor Drive, Downtown, 858-270-7467.
April 17 — Dusty Brough & Eva

Scow.
April 18 — The Cross Border Trio.
April 19 — Peter Sprague.
April 24 — Winard Harper.
May 6 — Don Ross and Brooke Miller.
Dream Street Live: 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-8131.
April 24 — The Eben Brooks Band.
Epicentre: 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-271-4000.
April 18 — The Duree and a Sweet Little Bullet From a Pretty Blue Gun.
April 25 — Jason David.
May 1 — Averman and Masterpiece.
May 2 — No Lifeguard on Duty and the Guze.
May 7 — Lemon Sun, Satisfaction, the Rosewood Thieves.
May 8 — Get Back Loretta and Alive in Wild Paint.
May 15 — Life or Death and Wages of War.
May 16 — Children of Nova, the Material, Misc. Ailments Foundation.

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THURSDAY, MAY 15

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JAY LENO.....	THURSDAY, JUNE 26	BILL COSBY.....	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5
CHRIS ISAAK.....	TUESDAY, JULY 15	RANDY TRAVIS.....	WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15
STYX.....	THURSDAY, JULY 17	Visit valleyviewcasino.com for more concert information.	



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Calendar MUSIC

May 23 — Five More Days, Out of My League, Hello Marquee.
June 7 — Stereo Summer and a Dull Science.

The Handlery Hotel and Resort: 950 Hotel Circle North, Mission Valley, 619-298-0511.
April 24 — Cindy Lee Berryhill, Lisa Sanders, John Katchur.
April 25 — Barbara Nesbitt.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2583.
April 17 — Thrive.
April 18 — La Quinta Estacion.
April 19 — Best of Tributes.
April 20 — Symphony X, Epica, Into Eternity.
April 21 — Super Diamond.
April 23 — Timbiriche.
April 25 — Latin Fusion.
April 30 — Belanova.
May 1 — The Slackers, Stiff Little Fingers.
May 2 — Led Zepagain.
May 4 — Menudo, NLT, V-Factory, GLOWB.
May 10 — Nylon Summer Music Tour.
May 13 — Dave Matthews Tribute Band.
May 15 — Ghostland Observatory.
May 16 — Eisley.
May 18 — The Kooks.
May 20 — The Adicts.
May 23 — Nightwish.
May 28 — The National.
May 30 — The Kottonmouth Kings.
June 7 — The Dead Kennedys.
June 12 — Augustana.
June 20 — The Old 97's.
July 25 — The Aquabats.
August 2 — Richard Cheese.

Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island

Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577.
April 17 — Rhythm & the Method.
April 18 — Federal Funk.
April 19 — Viva Santana.
April 20 — Will Donato.
April 21 — Sue Palmer & Her Motel Swing Band.
April 22 — The Citizen Band.
April 23 — The Soul Persuaders.
April 24 — Metro.
April 25 — Rising Star.
April 26 — Zac Harmon.
April 27 — Reggie Smith.
April 29 — The Jon Garner Trio.
April 30 — Private Domain.

Humphrey's by the Bay: 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577.
May 11 — Joe Jackson.
May 15 — Jesse Cook.
June 7 — The Beach Boys.
June 10 — Erykah Badu and the Roots.
June 12 — Kem.
June 13 — Johnny Lang.
June 17 — Crosby, Stills, & Nash.
June 18 — Keb' Mo' and Taj Mahal.
June 19 — The Indigo Girls.
June 20 — Idina Menzel.
June 25 — Ani DiFranco.
June 26, June 27 — One Hawaii Tour.
June 30 — Robert Plant & Alison Krauss.
July 1, July 2 — Bob Weir & RatDog.
July 16 — Chris Isaak.
July 17, July 18 — Hippiefest.
July 22 — Feist.
July 23 — The Doobie Brothers.
July 25 — Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons.
July 27 — Ringo Starr & His All Starr Band.
July 28 — Derek Trucks & Susan Tedeschi.
July 29 — Toots & the Maytals.
July 31 — Emmylou Harris.
August 1 — Dolly Parton.
August 3 — Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo.
August 4 — Huey Lewis & the



Album: *bravo!* (2008)

Artist: Oaks

Label: self-released

Where available/price: Online at myspace.com/oaksmusic for \$5.99.

Songs: 1) Big Sta 2) Reeling 3) Spine 4) River 5) Kix 4 Free 6) Deerhead

Band: Marc (bass, vocals), Gerard (guitar), Justin (drums)

Picking through Oaks' photos on the Web, I don't see any molester mustaches, long hair, or dirty denim vests over leather jackets. But those things

wouldn't be out of place. Despite their earthy name and cover art, Oaks plays heshier butt rock of the 1982 Iron Maiden "Run to the Hills" class.

News.

August 6 — Boz Scaggs.
August 8 — Peter & Gordon.
August 10 — UB40.
August 11 — David Sanborn and Lee Ritenour.
August 12 — Paolo Nutini.
August 13 — Michael McDonald.
August 14 — Joe Cocker.
August 15 — Tower of Power.
August 18 — The Gipsy Kings.
September 4 — Lucinda Williams.
September 12 — The Alan Parsons Live Project.
September 13 — Air Supply and Christopher Cross.
September 25 — Kenny G.
September 28 — Etta James & the Roots Band.
October 3 — America.
October 5 — Cecilio & Kapono.

Lestat's Coffee House: 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-282-0437.
April 17 — Edie Carey.
April 18 — Charlie Peacock and Eva Scow.
April 19 — The Eben Brooks Band.
April 20 — Aaron Anderson and the Welcome Matt.
April 23 — Judith Owen.
April 24 — Annie Bethancourt and Barrett Johnson.
April 25 — Gregory Page.
April 26 — The Big Provider.
April 30 — The Eben Brooks Band.
May 17 — Allison Lonsdale.

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub: 1130 Morena Boulevard, Clairemont, 619-276-5637.

Somehow (I'm guessing there was a bet that was lost) Oaks infiltrated San Diego's authentic dive-bar metal elite: bands such as the Long and the Short of It, Archons, and Hostile Combover. While those bands offer traditional metal with ample elements of innovation, Oaks seems content with the standard rhythm and melodies that have been around since pimple-faced dorks played their albums backwards, searching for hidden satanic messages and excuses for suicide. Oaks also revel in the pretentious affectation of the high-pitched wailing lead singer, which had been rightfully abandoned for the past two decades.



Oaks

If this were a parody album, I'd call it genius. As I don't own a Firebird or a chrome skull ring, I can't listen to it.

TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD REVIEWED, PLEASE MAIL IT TO: Music Editor, Hometown CDs, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803

April 18 — Inciting Riots and Deadites Revenge.
April 19 — The Northstar Session and the Grass Heat.
April 20 — Candy Kane Benefit.

Open Air Theatre: 5500 Campanile Drive, College Area, 619-594-6947.
April 24 — Mercyme and Tenth Avenue North.

Pala Casino: 35008 Pala Temecula Road, Pala, 877-946-7252.
April 17 — Alejandra Guzmán.
April 19 — Fantastic Diamond.
April 25 — MVPs.
April 26 — Draw the Line.
May 2 — Sin Bandera.
May 3 — Original Kiss Army.
May 9 — Montgomery Gentry.

May 9 — Metro.
May 10 — Hotel California.
May 17 — The Greatest Hitmakers.
May 17 — Dave Matthews Tribute Band.
May 23 — Tyght Ship.
May 24 — Smokin.
May 30 — Makai.
May 31 — Anthem.
June 13 — Superfunk.
June 14 — Skynnyn Lynnyrd.
June 20 — Boogie Knights.
June 21 — David Brighton.
June 27 — Superfunk.
June 28 — Belladonna.
July 12 — Arrival.
July 18 — The Spazmatics.
July 25 — Platinum Groove.
July 29 — Ringo Starr & His All Starr Band.

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Classic Rock



Serious Guise

Sunday, April 13

Chastise • Dark & Desol

Tuesday, April 15

**Obvious Vitamin • Squirely Arto
The Fuk Lords**

Wednesday, April 16

Reverend Stickman • R.D.G. • Fuzz Huzzi

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THE PALOMINOS

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JOANIE MENDENHALL



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CORREATOWN**

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AND THE
REVELATIONS**

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THE
MOC**



Fri 4/18 • 9:00 PM

CASH'D OUT



DIABLO DIMES

Sat 4/19 • 9:00 PM

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MATTHEW MOON

Sun 4/20 • 8:00 PM

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MIKE KA'AWA**



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6/9 Junior Brown and Rosie Flores & the Riveters • 6/12 The Wailing Souls
7/3 80s Heat – Costume Contest...Cash Prizes! • 7/24 Venice

4/26 Yonder Mountain String Band
4/27 Victor Wooten
5/1 Mike Doughty's Band
5/2 & 5/3 The English Beat
5/4 Shelby Lynne
5/5 "Reggae de Mayo" –
John Brown's Body
5/14 Kathleen Edwards

5/15 FM 94.9 presents American Music Club
5/19 Murder By Death
5/20 The Proclaimers
5/22 Hal Ketchum w/Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash
5/25 Don Carlos

5/29 Poncho Sanchez
5/30 Boogie Nights – Final Warning
5/31 Ladytron w/Data Rock
6/6 "Fiesta Del Sol" Kickoff Party!
Common Sense w/Hoi Polloi
6/13 Young Dubliners
6/25 Gary Hoey
6/27 Pato Banton and The Mystic
Roots Band
7/6 & 7/7 Israel Vibration

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4/11 THE MAR DELS
4/18 ATOMIC GROOVE
4/25 COOL BAND LUKE

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6/21 DEAD MAN'S PARTY
6/28 ATOMIC PUNKS • 7/5 TBD
7/12 STEPPING FEET, DAVE MATTHEWS
BAND EXPERIENCE • 7/26 TBD

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Calendar

MUSIC

August 11 — UB40.
October 8 — Smokey Robinson.

Poway Center for the Performing Arts: 15498 Espola Road, Poway, 858-748-0505.
April 19 — John Mayall & the Bluesbreakers.

Rimac Arena: 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla.
May 8 — The Used.

San Diego Sports Arena: 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-224-4171.
April 20 — Kanye West.
May 3 — Juanes.
May 7 — Alicia Keys.
June 17 — George Michael.

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-226-SOMA.
April 17 — A Skylit Drive, Dance Gavin Dance.
April 18 — The Haven, the Material, Man Without Wax.
April 19 — Bedford Grove.
April 25 — Sever Your Ties and This Is the Hospital.
May 3 — The Voodoo Glow Skulls and Mustard Plug.
May 9 — Lorene Drive and Secret & Whisper.
May 13 — American Me and Unite & Conquer.
May 16 — I Am Ghost and Love Hate Hero.
May 17 — Emmure.
May 23 — Metal for the Masses.
May 28 — Cinematic Sunrise.
June 1 — Nightmare of You and the Graduate.
July 13 — Summer Slaughter 2008.

Spreckels Theatre: 121 Broadway, Downtown, 619-235-9500.
May 5 — K.T. Tunstall.

Tiki House: 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-9734.
April 17 — The Sickstring Outlaws.
April 18 — Hoo Doo Blues.
April 19 — The Nards.
April 23 — Guava Belly.
April 24 — Blue Spring.
April 25 — Meld.
April 26 — Los Primos.

Tio Leo's Lounge: 5302 Napa Street, Clairemont, 619-542-1462.
April 18 — Lands on Fire.

Tio Leo's Mira Mesa: 10787 Camino Ruiz, Mira Mesa, 858-695-1461.
April 17 — The Robin Henkel Band.

Valley View Casino: 16300 Nyemii Pass Road, Valley Center, 866-843-9946.
May 8 — Duran Duran.
May 15 — Trace Adkins.
May 17 — Bonnie Raitt.
June 18 — Bruce in the U.S.A.

July 15 — Chris Isaak.
July 15 — Styx.
August 3 — The Temptations and the Four Tops.
August 14 — The Gipsy Kings.
October 15 — Randy Travis.

Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park: 5005 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.
April 19 — Flyleaf and Seether.
April 22 — Mudcrutch.
May 3 — Unwritten Law.
May 15 — Rilo Kiley.
May 23 — The Cult.
May 31 — Keith Sweat, Bell Biv DeVoe, En Vogue.
June 4 — Gary Allan.
June 27 — Cyndi Lauper, B-52s, Joan Jett & the Blackhearts.
July 26 — Los Lonely Boys.
August 3 — George Thorogood and Buddy Guy.
August 4 — The Regeneration Tour.
August 20 — Donna Summer.
August 30 — Melissa Etheridge.
September 12 — Jaguares.

Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room: 5000 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.
April 20 — Ratt.
May 18 — The Robert Cray Band.
July 24 — Bo Bice.

DJ

HOW TO SUBMIT A 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, get directions, maps, event alerts, RSS feeds, club coupons, and more at SanDiegoReader.com.

Air Conditioned Lounge: *Thursdays:* Too Cool for School. Old-skoool hip-hop, '80s, and funk. *Fridays:* DJ 1979 and DJ Junior. Disco, funk, and '80s music. *Saturdays:* Juicy. With Mike Czech and DJ SG. *Sundays:* Guest DJ Night. Guest DJs to be announced. *Mondays:* DJ 1979. With guests. *Tuesdays,* 11:30 p.m.: Big Sonic Chill. Sponsored by San Diego's Local 94.9. *Wednesdays:* '80s Night. With a different DJ every week. 4673 30th Street, Normal Heights. 619-501-9831.

Bar Dynamite: *Thursdays,* 9 p.m.: DJs SG, Dubz, Teknikscian. Hip-hop, old skool, and mashups. \$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.

The Bar Pink Elephant: *Mondays,* 9:30 p.m.: Grown Folk Music. Features the Husky Boy All Stars DJ Buddha and Duse. Hip-

as i hear it

BY BRIAN CARVER

Artist: **Nautical Disaster**
Song: **"Falling in Love"** (from the CD *Sevens*)
Heard By: **James Magnatta**, Golden Hill



James

It had a pretty sweet little guitar solo in the middle....not really — you can write “sarcasm” after that statement. It was cheesy, and it sounded like the timing was off. It’s pretty light, lyrically, I would say. It was “I believe, I believe, I believe, I’m falling in love with you” — It’s very repetitive. It sounds like some old Unwritten Law or something like that. It’s probably something I would have listened to back when I was about 16...or maybe younger, like, 14. It’s standard punk/alternative, I suppose. That would be [a good song for] a Nickelodeon movie. It would be the song in the background when the sixth-grader is walking through the hall and he’s going to give his note to the girl he likes.

Artist: **The Moviegoers**
Song: **"SS Vaseline"** (from the CD *Or the Gun*)
Heard By: **Colleen Bordon**, South Bay



Colleen

My initial reaction was that this song is very upbeat, and I liked the guitar riff and the bass drum. It’s sort of cliché American pop. It sounded like something I’ve already heard: very poppy, cute rock and roll. It’s kind of like a song I’d probably see in some hip teen show. It was fun; I could definitely see people dancing to it. The singer had a very soothing voice. His voice sounded very folky to me. [The lyrics were] about love, I guess. One thing that surprised me was their utilization of strings. That was pretty cool. I envision a lot of young teenagers listening to that music. It sounded very...I don’t want to say “epic,” but there was a story being told within the song.

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

Artist: **The Burning of Rome**
Song: **"Solemn, Sweet Pipes of the Organ"** (from the CD *Death-Pop*)
Heard By: **Jane Lee**, Clairemont



Jane

It’s not what I thought it was going to be, judging by the look of the album cover. It sort of looks like an emo/hardcore thing, but it’s also called *Death-Pop*, which is exactly what it sounds like. If metal and the New Pornographers had a bastard love child, that’s what it would sound like. The reason I said it sounded like the New Pornographers is because they use this instrument that sounds a lot like a theremin. I don’t know if that’s what they used, but it’s got that same sort of weird, electro, organ-y sound. That definitely made them not sound like a regular rock band. I could see people listening to it at a party and going, “What the hell is that?”

hop/soul. 3829 30th Street, North Park. 619-564-7194.

Beauty Bar: *Thursdays,* 10 p.m.: Soul Survivors. With DJ Rob Hostetter and Daniel Sant. *Tuesdays,* 9 p.m.: Trans Am Tuesdays. New wave '80s dance party with DJ Heather Hardcore. *Wednesdays,* 10 p.m.: DJ RatStar. Spins soul and hip-hop. Ages 21 and up. *Friday:* DJ Audiopuppet. \$5. *Monday:* DJ Veep Reekins. Industry night. *Saturday:* Shake Appeal. With DJ Ikah Love and Dimitri Dickinson. Club/hip-hop/house. \$5. 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, Kensington-Talmadge. 619-516-4746.

Bluefoot Bar and Lounge: *Wednesday,* 9 p.m.: Diamond Cuts. One-year anniversary. DJ Ductape and Trevor Young spin hip-hop, new wave, and old-skoool music. 3404 30th Street, North Park. 619-235-8466.

Brass Rail: *Friday:* Club Fashion Whore. Monthly fashion show, DJs, and discotheque, brought to you by Maystar. Second Friday of the month. 3796 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-298-2233.

Camel's Breath Inn: *Fridays, Saturdays:* Live DJ. 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 Crown, and Big Daddy on the turntables. *Sunday:* Meat Beat Manifesto. A mix of electronica, dub, and techno music. 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Coyote Bar and Grill: *Thursdays,* 10:30 p.m.: DJ Earl Henry. *Fridays,* 10:30 p.m., *Saturdays,* 10:30 p.m.: DJ Steve Hasty. 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695.

Deco's Restaurant & Nightclub: *Thursdays:* Krush. Hosted by Chase Costello, Steve Kamp, Jack Kennedy, and more. Hip-hop/mashups/party rock. Ages

18 and up. 731 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-696-3326.

The Filling Station: *Fridays,* 9 p.m., *Saturdays,* 9 p.m.: DJ Dance Party. 9522 Miramar Road, Mira Mesa. 858-578-0757.

The Flame: *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 spin along with special guests. 3780 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest. 619-295-4163.

Giant: *Friday,* 9:30 p.m.: Mark Farina. House/electronica. 2028 Hancock Street, Mission Hills.

Harney Sushi: *Wednesdays:* Mercer’s Han Night. Weekly guest DJs spin house, electro, mashups, and Brit-pop. 3964 Harney Street, Old Town. 619-295-3272.

Hi Ball: *Thursday:* Revenge of the Prom. Eighties and electro music with DJ Edgartronic, Groundfloor, and Blackula. \$5. 626 E Street, Chula Vista. 619-425-3800.

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.

Jack's La Jolla: *Thursdays,* 10 p.m., *Saturdays,* 10 p.m.: Wall Street Bar. DJs and dancing. 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-456-8111.

Kadan: *Saturday,* 9 p.m.: Underground Playground. Electro, house, and dance mashups. Jack Tripper hosts with guest DJs every second, third, and fourth Saturday of the month. *Mondays,* 9 p.m.: Mayhem Mondays. Punk rock every Monday. Live bands and resident DJ Nate Horror provide the tunes. 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

Live Wire: *Saturday,* 9 p.m.: SD Zoo. Hip-hop and dance with guest DJ Gabe, Hippoh, and guests. Second Saturday of the month. 2103 El Cajon Blvd, Normal Heights.

Mission Valley Resort: *Saturday,* 8:30 p.m.: Rick “La Voz” Chriss. Salsa and Latin club music. \$5-\$10. 875 Hotel Circle South, Mission Valley. 619-298-8281.

O'Connells

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JUST LIKE JENNA
YOVEE • SPANK BABY

FRIDAY, APRIL 18



BROKE CITY
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SUNDAY, APRIL 20

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RZA
& special guests

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

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FRIDAY, MAY 2



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SARAH WATKINS OF NICKEL CREEK



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FOUR LETTER LIE
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THE HOTNESS

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THE MATERIAL
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ON BROKEN WINGS
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AFTER THE BURIAL
REDIFLIGHT

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Crasher

SPEAKING OF DRUGS

by Josh Board

I attended a play Margaret wrote when she was at UCSD a few years back, and when I found out about an event she was organizing at Thomas Jefferson School of Law, I thought I'd crash it. My friend said, "An event at a school? It sounds boring." I explained that I'm fascinated by law...and that there'd be free pizza.

I parked near Kelly's Pub outside Old Town and walked over to the school. As I arrived, I overheard one guy say that the judge who would be speaking was in Kelly's having a drink.

Margaret is part of Students for a Sensible Drug Policy, and Judge James Gray from Orange County was there to speak on U.S. drug policies. As I arrived, I overheard some students saying to one another, "Hey, can we get some drugs here?" One person responded to this by rattling off a list of drugs he could get him and then laughed.

Some of the attendees were wearing suits and acting professional. Others were wearing jeans and faded T-shirts (one a Pink Floyd T).



Top left: Margaret and Alex; Top right: Judge Gray (right)

I saw posters on the walls for "Diversity Celebration" and one for a Monte Carlo Night. Several of the posters advertised a "date auction," where students had a picture of themselves and reasons why you should bid on them. There was a picture of a

reminded me of high school and the posters people made when they ran for student body.

"All of you probably know where to find drugs if you wanted [them]." One person yelled, "O.B.!"

woman named Monica holding a bowling ball. A guy named Jordan was lying in bed and trying to look sexy. His picture stated that he'd cook dinner for you. It

A Middle-Eastern guy wrote that he'd take the winner out for dinner and hookah, but that there were "no smoke and mirrors here, ladies."

One student wrote something about how after seeing the movie 21 he'd be able to clean up playing blackjack.

The Black Law Students Association would be hosting a jazz night.

I spotted Judge Gray as he walked up because, like his name, he's gray. Everyone filed into the room in which he would speak. There were five boxes of pizza set out and cans of Coke and Sprite; with the starving students devouring the pies, I

decided I'd grab a sandwich next door.

The judge opened up with a joke about how most of the students were probably there for the free pizza.

He mentioned that Charles Manson sold drugs from prison...even while he was in solitary confinement. He listed five reasons why pot should be made legal (something I've said for years, and I don't even smoke it). Those things included saving a billion dollars each year on the cost of incarceration and police and making another billion on taxing it.

I started reading some of the paperwork and discovered that Judge Gray has a book out on how drug laws have failed. I read that this drug policy group isn't an "official" student group of the school because they have to exist there for at least two years.

I remembered that when I saw the play Margaret had written, it had a lot of partying and drug references. I asked her how she became associated with this group.

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Crasher

"My inspiration for starting Students for Sensible Drug Policy rests on the notion that our government is spending money in all the wrong places. A report commissioned by the state's legislative leaders last year concluded that California needs to invest up to \$25 billion more a year in education. In most cases, physical education is the first to go. Then the schools are forced to start laying off their teachers."

When she talked about the percentage of drug offenders being Hispanic and African American, I didn't challenge her. Margaret's Asian, and whenever I've argued race issues with people, it always seems to get ugly, with them insisting the "system" is out to get their race.

As the judge talked, one student yelled, "Will you run for president?" Another time, when he said, "All of you probably know where to

find drugs if you wanted [them]." One person yelled, "O.B.!"

For the most part, the students sat quietly fascinated when the judge discussed how Switzerland handled its heroin problem — by giving addicts heroin in a hospital setting. Crime rates went down, he claimed, and most users sought treatment.

I asked Loren, president of the Federalist Society on campus, his opinion of Judge Gray's views on drug policies in the U.S. "I was very skeptical about his thesis, but the judge succeeded in making a concise and passionate case for legalization of drugs. He made a number of very interesting points, especially to...political conservatives, which would certainly cause other conservatives to step back and consider."

Judge Gray talked about several groups who *are* winning the war on drugs — the big time drug dealers. He mentioned law enforcement and politicians who get

elected by talking tough but doing little. He mentioned the private sector, in terms of building prisons, selling home security systems, and he also brought up terrorists, who he suggests get their primary funding from drug sales.

He said that making drugs legal wouldn't result in people rushing out to buy them. "You can get marijuana now, if you want it." He asked for a show of hands of people who knew where to score dope. Most of the audience raised their hands.

A guy walked in and started messing with the air conditioning unit with a gunlike device. The judge joked about being shot.

When the judge talked about the disproportionate amount of minorities being jailed, it was the only thing I disagreed with. But, he spoke so fast, it left little time for raising a hand to call him on anything. I planned to ask Judge Gray a few things when he finished.

I read that he was appointed to the Santa Ana

Municipal Court in 1983 by Governor George Deukmejian and, in '89, to the Superior Court. He helped form a MADD panel in the mid '80s that had defendants of DUIs listen to victims tell their heartbreaking stories.

I wondered what the judge thought of people who make claims, like Reverend Jeremiah Wright, about the police and government supplying crack to African Americans. He then stated, "The enormous amounts of money involved in drug trafficking have directly spawned large numbers of conspiracy theories about our government's involvement in trafficking. Even if these theories aren't true, the fact that many people believe them undercuts the legitimacy of our government and the desire of many people to cooperate."

I wanted to scream, "What do you mean 'even if?!'"

When the judge was finished speaking, one guy with long hair went up and shook his hand and heaped praise on him. A tall woman went over to the empty pizza boxes looking for another slice.

I said to Judge Gray, "I enjoyed what you had to say. It seems obvious that the systems you propose would work best. But you know they'll probably never be implemented. No politician will want to bring those things up." He said, "Oh, no, I think you're wrong. I think we'll see these things get done. Nothing else has worked." I said, "Really? Well, you don't hear about any steps down these paths."

He said, "Six months before the [Berlin] wall came down, you didn't hear people talking about it. Then, it happened." ■

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Neighborhood of E-Ville

Block by block, the redeveloping East Village (which I nicknamed “E-Ville” when it all started) is indeed becoming a high-rise, high-priced condo neighborhood, complete with virulent NIMBY-ism surrounding the remnants of its former identity, including the old, the poor, and the substance-ridden. And every up-and-coming neighborhood needs neighborhood restaurants. “Neighborhood” is a new brew pub that features burgers, but it’s too ambitious to be called a burger joint — yet too funky for a NIMBY label to stick. If Café Chloe is fundamentally feminine and upscale-boho, then Neighborhood is its prole-chic masculine counterpart. Entrée prices may shade a buck or two out of “cheap” range, but the clientele and ambience are more pub scene than plutocratic, more bohemian than big bucks. With the restaurant’s late hours, a lot of Gaslamp chefs show up after work to scarf up clean, decent food with no frou-frou and no formality.

Neighborhood’s deliberately perverse claim to fame is that it doesn’t serve ketchup. The hefty half-pound burgers, made with excellent beef and served on artisan rolls from Bread on Market, are available with several interesting garnishes; ditto the fries. While the kitchen is still experimenting with different cuts of beef, when I was there it was a mixture of Prime rib eye, sirloin, and chuck, all deeply flavorful cuts from corn-fed Midwestern beef. (Most burger joints use simply chuck or the leaner, less toothsome round.) Neighborhood gets this mixture from Hans-Trevor Gossman of Hamilton Meats, who used to be executive chef at the late, lamented Royale Brasserie. (Switching to the wholesale meat biz, Hans-Trevor has become the carnivore’s angel, foraging such delicacies as the Texas free-range antelope served at the Better Half.)

The innermost side of the room consists of a bar, barstools, and tall round tables with high barstools, with a non-giant TV playing sports behind the bar. At our visit, two lissome young blondes were hangin’ at the bar, but the rest of that half of the room was populated wholly by males under (or slightly over) 30, mostly in T-shirts and gimme caps. The streetside half of the room consists of about ten regular-height tables (mainly four-tops). Two were occupied by girl groups, one by two couples, the rest by more



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

males around 30, bonding over burgers. Some nights, it’s families instead — what could be more kid-friendly than this menu? Music plays excruciatingly loudly, forcing all conversations into shouting mode — the decibel level approaches that of the late Region. I think I recognized Blondie singing “I’m gonna gitcha, gitcha” at one point, but for all I know it could have been a cover. Even my youngest friends are a few years past the demographic here, and by the end of the evening we were talking about coming back some night wearing our gun-range earmuffs. (I envision bursting into this modern-day saloon like black-clad Barbara Stanwyck and her all-male posse in Sam Fuller’s great *Forty Guns* — but all wearing earmuffs — and going Richard Thompson’s “Shoot Out the Lights” one better by unleashing a volley at the sound system.)

By the time you read this, however, the sound may be partly tamed. “We’re sort of using the music to drown out the voices,” says owner Arsalun

Tafazoli. Parts of the restaurant are concrete, which bounces sound all over — but Arsalun has hired Paul Basile (the artist/craftsman behind the Guild Restaurant) to add sound baffles to the ceiling in April, which should help. In any case, service is terrific, and the kitchen is fast. A petite, raven-haired beauty took our order and smartly intuited from our choices and general style that we’d be eating “family style.”

Better yet, the menu ventures clear of the standard pub clichés. By any other name, it’s a gastropub! Old-time dive bars offer vats of pickled hard-boiled eggs, free to drinkers. Here instead are \$5 appetizers of pink-salted deviled eggs, which include artichoke mousse in their making. They’re very good. Even better is the steak tartare appetizer, the posse’s favorite dish. The raw beef is mixed with capers, onions, and fresh tomatoes, with a partial topping (across about half) of roasted red-pepper remoulade, a rouille-like coral mayo purée. Our dish came from the

Neighborhood

★★½ (Good to Very Good)

777 G Street (corner of Eighth Avenue), East Village, 619-446-0002, neighborhoodburgers.com (site not up yet).

HOURS: Open daily 4:00 p.m.–midnight.

PRICES: Small plates, sides, and salads, \$2–\$8; entrées, \$7–\$11.

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: Offbeat pub grub centering on half-pound burgers with serious sauces and garnishes. Local microbrewery beers, ample choice of interesting international wines including plenty by the glass, most easily affordable.

PICK HITS: Deviled eggs; steak tartare; Idaho fries; sweet potato fries; any salad, any burger.

NEED TO KNOW: Extremely noisy (this may change soon), with rock playing at maximum volume. Happy hour 4:00–7:00 p.m., Monday–Friday, reverse happy hour Wednesday, starting at 10 p.m. Two-for-one drafts, your choice from one selected San Diego microbrewer, Monday–Friday. Sixteen lacto-ovo vegetarian appetizers and sides, seven of them vegan; three lacto-vegetarian entrées (two adaptable for vegans by request). No kiddie menu, but regular menu is kid-friendly.

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.

kitchen predivided into four neat halved-egg mounds, a nice touch to serve a foursome. But what brought us joy was that this was a genuine tartare, not some pusillanimous scaredy-cat compromise. It featured intensely tasty and tender raw beef and zesty garnishes.

“Crispy IPA buds” (whuzzat? Idaho Potato Association?), when translated into their more understandable Spanish or Portuguese name, are *croquetas* — a tapa of deep-fried, lightly breaded fritters of coarsely mashed potatoes, accompanied by a smooth melted-cheddar dipping sauce with a single roasted jalapeño in the cen-

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Paellas to go or cooked on site.

ter of the ramekin. The dip is pleasant but perhaps too amiable, smooth and mild, with the barest hint of a nip from the chile. It reminded me of Stouffer's frozen mac 'n' cheese (which I like, for a frozen food — but not for a restaurant food). The side dish of jalapeño mac 'n' cheese is more of the same sauce, folded around pasta. If it could sing it would croon like Bing Crosby. (Take out the jalapeño, it'd be Tony Bennett.)

Ricotta gnudi (pronounced "nudie," like those old-time soft-core porn flicks featuring topless volleyball players) were a disappointment. Gnudi are ravioli without wrappings — just the filling, ma'am. At their best (e.g., at the Del's 1500 Ocean) they're poufs of ricotta and herbs light enough to float away on the breeze like dandelions. Although Neighborhood's chef, Jesse Cruz, was a sous-chef in 1500 Ocean's kitchen, his version is heavy, glutinous, and sticky, further weighed down by a sweet glaze that doesn't match the menu's designation of a brown-butter sage glaze. With just a slight push further toward sweetness, they could become a dessert of miniature cheesecake volleyballs.

We chose a second round of appetizers and sides to accompany our entrées. A likable roasted red-and-golden-beet salad featured spring mix in a tasty citrus vinaigrette interspersed with the sliced roots. At the edge of the plate was an ethereal goat-cheese mousse, mixed with cream to smooth out all its caprine edges. There are four other elaborate salads (Bibb lettuce wedge, strawberry-spinach, drunken pear, and a delicious-sounding Cobb), and while none are groundbreaking, they are all tempting.

Idaho potato fries are herbed shoestrings with a light garlic-mayo dip. We loved the slim airy fries but could have done without the dip. Jonathan (a posse newcomer), purposely provocative, asked for the

taboo ketchup. This proved a brilliant move: The waitress brought a full assortment of about five house dips instead. Fred's favorite was the rich sundried tomato purée. Mine was a coral "Cajun" mayo, slightly spicy. I couldn't hear which ones Jonathan and Jim liked.

Sweet potato fries are flawless as is, lightly dusted with crumbs of blue cheese. They come with a superfluous pepper malt vinaigrette, which we tasted but abandoned once we'd received the wider array to play with. But really, they didn't need any dip. Perfect is perfect. Onion rings, on the other hand, were weighed down by a heavy breadcrumb batter. Good rings can fool you into thinking you're not loading up on fat and calories. These — every bite yelled "Grease!" (By the time you read this, the recipe may have changed.)

The moment I looked at the menu, I was set on the 777 Burger, garnished with organic spinach, plum-tomato confit, and béarnaise sauce. I ordered the meat rare, and so it arrived. The artisan rolls that cradle the burgers are admirable as craft-works but so thick it's hard to taste the meat inside them. I removed the top of the roll and dug in with knife and fork. The beef and raw spinach were good, but — where was the béarnaise? Send in the béarnaise! Subsequent tasters detected something resembling Swiss cheese. Well, there's no cheese in béarnaise, so that must have been the sauce. Tasting the leftover half-burger, cold and naked the next day, revealed that wonderfully beefy beef, and I have no beef with that!

The burger that *did* have Swiss was Jonathan's mushroom-marsala burger, medium-rare. He, too, flipped the top half of the roll off his meat in search of flavor, but the subtleties of the garnishes were still lost. Maybe it wasn't the food but the noise, which makes it really hard to hear your food talking to you.

When an entrée of poached mussels wasn't available that night, Fred, who's a vegetarian-sympathizer, voted in favor of the fresh roasted vegetable

sandwich, with portobello mushroom, red pepper, zucchini, garlic hummus, and mozzarella. Well, it didn't taste exactly like all of that. The main problem was that the portobello may have been a day past prime — slightly bitter, slightly tough, rather dry. It was better in theory than in the mouth. No evidence of hummus either. (Could have been a thin layer on the uneaten top half of the bun. Maybe the bun ate my béarnaise as well.) Completing our array was Jim's entrée of stone-smoked, porter-braised beef ribs (named for the brew in which they're cooked). They were tender but also very fatty. The sauce was too simple and bland to highlight the flavors of the meat, and the ample fat deposits were a bit gross.

The other burger choices that we didn't try are the signature Neighborhood Burger with caramelized onions, blue Gruyère, and peppered greens, and a spicy Cajun-rubbed burger, which brings to mind the awful image: "Eh, Fontenot! Park that pirogue, c'mere and rub my burger!" Eesh. We also skipped a veggie burger, a kosher hot dog with kraut, and a grilled-cheese sandwich with tomato bisque — and there's your whole main-dish menu.

We didn't ask what sweets might be available, beyond the delectable Bonny Doone Vin de Glacière on the wine menu. I mean, even the youngest of my posse is staring 40 in the eye. (We grow old, we grow old, shall we wear the bottoms of our Levis rolled?) Should Norah Jones set T.S. Eliot to music, we might listen happily. But we fled. It turns out no desserts were available yet. They're just coming to the menu now — a few simple, housemade sweets designed to go with local craft beers.

I appreciated the care taken to serve some interesting variations on pub grub, the creative thrust of the cooking, and quality ingredients — and the service, the speed, the good wine list, and the great beer list. But in the end, despite the joys of the steak tartare and sweet potato fries, the 12 dishes we tasted barely made the 2.5 rating. And until the sound

baffles are up, I wouldn't return without wearing those target-shooting earmuffs. On the other hand, as my generation used to say, "Don't trust anyone over 30." (Now, we've reversed that to "under 30.") So if you're of an age to love ear-splitting rock and you regard baroque burgers and fancy fries as the crowns of culinary creation — or if you've got kids who do — don't trust me. Neighborhood's your neighborhood.

ABOUT THE OWNER

Arsalun Tafazoli is the 26-year-old owner of Neighborhood. That sonorous name is Turkish, but his parents, of Persian-Italian ancestry, are British, and Arsalun grew up in San Diego. He majored in political science and economics at UCSD, thinking he'd go into law, until some of his older friends scored fabulous jobs at top law firms and nearly died of boredom and loathing. "I thought, if I'm gonna get myself in so much debt, might as well do something enjoyable.

"I love the bar culture. I had an overseas scholarship in Hong Kong, then going to Beijing, Shanghai, Tokyo, and coming back via Spain — there are so many places that are so intimate and comfortable and conducive to conversations, yet good. It's so different than down here. In college I supported myself by working in restaurants and bars, but there, it was a completely different

culture — so simple, but so comfortable, with food and good people. I wanted to create a space like that where, however you're dressed, you can feel comfortable and have good food and good conversation." In Hong Kong, he was a big fan of the famous Aussie bar a block or so behind the Peninsula Hotel in Tsim Sha Tsui, where instead of TV, a singer-pianist unites the crowd into happy, sing-along community.

"Unfortunately, in San Diego you can't have that kind of experience. I was really eager to create a space like that; that was my dream. But a friend of mine started an auto-repair business, and with very little money down, I joined that. And it became quite successful, and I made enough money to give me the freedom to start exploring and creating the restaurant. I had no idea of what I was getting myself into. I talked to a lot of restaurant owners, but being naive, I [still] pursued it. I'd drive around and look for locations. I loved downtown. The energy was different, there were a lot of cool things going on." He tried to get appointments with the big developers, but they wouldn't talk to him. "I went to Borders and bought every book I could about business, so I could write a business plan and put it all together. There was, honestly, a lot of fluff in the plan I wrote. But I was in the gym, and I met a former

CFO of Sycuan, who loved the idea, really got into it, and was willing to take a shot on a young kid and gave us some credibility for FDA loans and stuff like that. And a friend of mine growing up took out a line of credit on his house, and we just made it happen."

I asked why he decided to do upscale pub grub. "The trend in the culinary world," he said, "is these young chefs really pushing the limits, doing all this crazy fusion and off-the-wall things. It can be good, but it's never that satisfying. It's about tastes and getting back to the basics. I've had \$200 meals and carne asada burritos, and frankly, I'd take the burrito. It's simplicity that fascinates me, simple things done well. With simple things, like burgers with good ingredients, they can be just as satisfying as \$200 meals. Our food costs are really high. Our burgers are \$10, but our costs on the plate are \$5, which is well beyond the ratio for most restaurants. But that's what it takes to do really good, simple food.

"As for the noise, we're kind of remodeling right now to deal with that. Obviously, that part wasn't finished when we opened. We want to be a more conversational space, like the bars and pubs of Asia and Europe, so we want it to be less noisy and more civilized, so that people can talk. We're going to start working on that next week." ■

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Pig-Out on Campus

The first few minutes I'm triangulating between burger, crispy chicken and rice, and spinach-and-kidney-bean salad.

'S ee? Skin on the ends. Never, in Fronce." That's how Eric says it, of course. "Fronce." He's French.

He's pointing to his French fry. It does have patches of skin at either end. Actually, I thought that'd be a plus.

But Roland nods agreement. "Our French fries are thinner, more... delicate."

I'd been here at San Diego State looking into, well, taking classes. Yes, moi. Except, first up, needed to fill the airspace in my gut. I asked at the student-info place where the best deal was.

"Oh, the Quaker Kelly Dining Room," said the gal. "It's all-u-can-eat."

So I headed into the jungle of campus housing, looking for anything that said "Quaker." Three buildings down, past Aztec Grill, I spotted a small sign: The Dining Room at Cuicacalli Suites. Aha! Not "Quaker Kelly," but "Cuicacalli." Turns out Cuicacalli means "House of Song" in Aztec.

I bounced up the stairs and into this way-big eating space. But interesting, with different kitchens angling out into the common space, some baking breads, others grilling burgers, others squirting Mister Softee ice creams, plus islands of salad and an Asian food kiosk. Man.

"Student?"

It's a guy standing at a podium between me and the food.

"D'ah, not yet."

"No problem. You pay 45 cents more is all. That'll be \$8.25, \$8.89 with tax."

Ulp. "Does that include, like, everything — drinks, food, salad, dessert, ice cream...?"

"Everything, my friend."

So, Lord. Where to begin? The one menu that

seems to cover the whole place lists items in green, yellow, or red. Green's healthiest, red's the greasiest. At the bakery a gal's cutting up bite-size chunks of hot cheesy ciabatta. Right next to her, a cook named José has five-across rows of hamburger patties cooking. As he builds each burger, he shouts out a name. "Patrick?" "Ellen?" "Joe?"

"For you?" he says.

"Sure," I say, and write my name down on a piece of paper.

I head for the salad bar for a healthy start. Stack up a nice plateful of spinach, kidney beans, garbanzos, sliced mushrooms, mini-tomatoes, croutons, and Italian dressing. Then I pass this guy who's settling down with a steaming bowl of chicken and rice and other savory scatterings in a bowl.

"Where'd you get that?" I ask.

"There," he mumbles. "The stir-fry bar."

Of course. I see the kiosk with the row of five woks and a cardboard sign on the counter: Crispy chicken with tofu orange sauce, jasmine rice, and veggies.

"I'll have that," I say to Eva the cook. She swings into action. Grabs chicken, tofu, and I don't know what all, tosses them into a wok, then looks up.

"Any of these?"

I lean over. Oh, right. Dishes of onions, red and green peppers, carrots, mushrooms, and bean sprouts. "Everything," I say, on principle. She grabs handfuls of each, stirs them round in her wok, lands it on a roaring gas grill for a minute, then snatches a bowl, dunks in a scoop of rice, pours the sizzling wokload all over, and presto. Crispy chicken.

"Ed! ED?" I hear José's microphoned voice ringing out across the room. Oops. Forgot about the burger. This could be embarrassing. But I go over and pick it up, come back for my crispy chicken,

then convoy everything to a seat behind two guys babbling away in French.

Natch, the first few minutes I'm silent, triangulating between burger (nice and crispy), crispy chicken and rice bowl (definitely crispy and tangy), and then freshening up with some spinach-and-kidney-bean salad.

I notice the two French guys are not exactly lunging into their food. They have beef and cheese sandwiches, waffles, chunks of ciabatta cheese bread, and cardboard bowls of fries.

I have to ask. "Not into American food?"

At first they say it's all fine. Then Eric cracks. "Except, well, there's not a lot of taste to this food. You Americans put so much sugar, so much grease, so much oil in your cooking. And we worry about the *chimique* — the pesticides, the hormones in your food, in your meat."

"And selection," says Roland. "Here your choice of cheeses is Swiss, Cheddar, Monterey, that's it. No goat cheese, no Camembert, no bleu... Food for you Americans is just a practical thing. Fill up the tank. For us, eating is a social act. We take pleasure in it. Our mothers will take an hour to prepare the evening meal, maybe four hours on Sunday."

"On the other hand," says Roland, "the girls here are *fantastique*."

It turns out they are part of a group of 40 French students studying international business for a year, first here, then in Vietnam and China.

Still, *chimique* or no *chimique*, this crispy chicken tastes good. Darned good. And the burger ain't bad either. I'm just finishing up the chicken when the place starts emptying. Oh, yeah. Lunch ends 2:30



Chuck

p.m. Dammit, I haven't had dessert. Haven't had my free squeeze of Mr. Softee. Haven't had my cawfee and still have to finish half my salad, half my burger. I ask this manager guy, Chuck, if I can pack my leftovers to go.

He shakes his head. "This place is like life," he says. "Enjoy it while you're here, 'cause you can't take it with you." ■

The Place: The dining room at Cuicacalli, second floor, 5150 East Campus Drive, College Area, 619-594-2622 or 594-4932

Type of Food: American, health, Asian

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Back in Time

“Veteran winemakers swear they can identify a dusty taste imparted to wine by soils around Ruthford town.”

The La Mesa library recently placed *California Wine: A Sunset Pictorial*, published in 1973 and edited by the estimable Bob Thompson, in a cardboard box outside the building's front door. A visual history of the industry, free for the taking. I took it and am now taking it upon myself to give its contents one more day in the sun before they are consigned to the dustbin of history. As the introduction notes, “Having started 5800 years behind Europe, and having run on a rough track most of the way since, California's wine-makers have been forced to rely on science to do much of their catching up...With change a daily fact of life, this is no time to make lasting judgments on what California wine is. Likely it will be something different by tomorrow. But this is a fine moment to capture impressions of some of the old faces that have brought California wine this far, and some of the new faces that will take it to some new level.” (A touch of context: back then, Gallo's storage capacity was a mere 165 million gallons, with another 50 million gallons of fermenters.)

“Forced to rely on science.” The tension between technology and tradition was already fomenting. “Although it pains purists to think so,” reads one section on the newly arrived mechanical harvesters, “the big machines may end up doing

a better job than human hands. Already, mechanical picking gets grapes from vines to fermenters far faster than hand picking does, to the benefit of the wine...To date, harvesters rigged to crush grapes right in the vineyard produce better wine than those that only pick, leaving the crushing until later. Only more years of experience will give answers to some of the long range effects.”

UC Davis was already a power in 1973, already tinkering in the hopes of improving on tradition. Though in one case, at least, the tinkering served only to affirm tradition. *California Wine* tells us that, thanks to research at UC Davis and Fresno State, “we have hybrid varieties based on Cabernet Sauvignon that will grow in a hot place and still make good wine...Dr. H.P. Olmo of UC Davis has grown some 225,000 crosses between two or more of the classic European varieties of *Vitis vinifera*, always seeking to develop new varieties attuned to California sun and soil...From this program have come increasingly familiar grape names: Emerald Riesling, Flora, Ruby Cabernet, Royalty, and Rubired...Now, there is about to appear a new generation, led by a red grape called Carnelian, that seems likely to improve upon the best of these earlier successes.” Mmmm, Carnelian. Wait, what?

Crush
MATTHEW LICKONA

(Charming — and illuminating — academic aside: a photo of a hand-lettered sign advertising “Employment Opportunities for Enology Students: Summer Jobs! Three tour guides needed, Robert Mondavi Winery...Do you like IDAHO? Enologist needed at once...Permanent Work, Charles Krug Winery, See Peter Mondavi...Summertime Job! To call on liquor stores. Chance to learn French wines.”)

Reading through, certain categories suggest themselves. One such: *The French!* “A largely forgotten man named Jean-Louis Vignes recently has been put forward as a more suitable Father of California Wine than Agoston Haraszthy, who has held the post...Vignes fell into obscurity as a matter of chance...the entire district he helped found disappeared beneath downtown Los Angeles by the turn of the century, while Haraszthy's estate has survived almost intact through the years...” Still, “Vignes was a remarkable force in his day. He came from Cadillac, near Bordeaux, in 1833...Most of his wine came from Mission grapes, but some was from varieties he imported from France...He induced a considerable number of his own countrymen to emigrate to California, provided nursery stock to other vineyardists...and established coastwise commerce in wine as far north as San Francisco.”

Why did Haraszthy nab the title? Marketing. “Agoston Haraszthy...was above all an aggressive promoter. One of the things he promoted was the Buena Vista Viticultural Society, in 1855, Sonoma town. Once he and his partners had their winery going, Haraszthy promoted the first grand-scale importation of cuttings from great European vineyards, in 1861.”

The subject of marketing brings up another common theme: *Plus ça change*...The book makes more than one mention of “a certain kind of wine-maker, one willing to lavish care on a 37-gallon lot



Zinfandel vine at Buena Vista

of Pinot Noir just to see what will come of it.” In other words, a cult winemaker. In other words, Martin Ray, a man willing to charge \$37 (and them's 1973 dollars) for a bottle of Chardonnay when his neighbors were charging \$.89 for cheap rosé. (Though it is worth noting that another of his neighbors was Paul Draper at Ridge. “Echo of the struggle,” reads the caption for the photo of a terraced hillside dotted with chaparral. “In 1894, Dr. Ozea Perone terraced his Montebello Vineyards into the ridge west of Cupertino that still bears their name. The terrain defeated its cultivators even before Prohibition.” Ridge Vineyards famously staged a comeback on behalf of the cultivators, and the winery's Monte Bello is now among the great California reds.)

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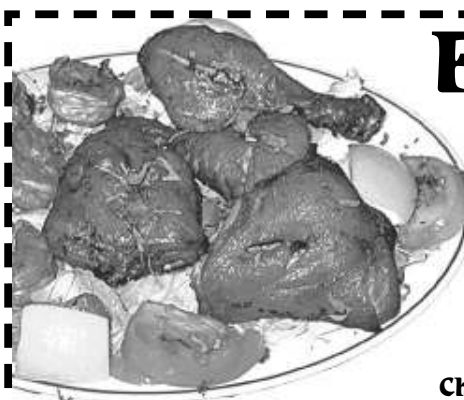
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The text on Ray's region, Santa Clara, also provides this delightfully agricultural tidbit, one that ties grapes into the world of farming in a way you rarely hear about anymore: "John Daniel, when he owned Inglenook, liked Napa Valley soil that was not quite rich enough to grow commercial prunes. Norman Bundgard, Paul Masson vineyard manager at Soledad, favors benchlands that drain just a little too quickly for lettuce to prosper. Such local signs ultimately provide the keys to the finest vineyard lands."

Continuing with *The French!* "The late James D. Zellerbach built his Hanzell winery in 1956 to prove or disprove a theory that had long haunted him: that the barrel a wine ages in has a good deal to do with how the wine finally tastes. A lifelong admirer of great Burgundies, Zellerbach chose to grow Burgundian grapes in California soil, then age the wines in bar-

rels from the French oak forest at Limousin... The wines he made stirred such interest that every California grower of varietals found himself obliged during the 1960s to decide for or against using European barrels in his cellars."

Plus ça change... The hunt for terroir was already underway. "It looks the same, but," runs the caption for a panoramic photo of Napa, "veteran winemakers in the valley swear they can identify a dusty taste imparted to wine by these soils around Rutherford town. There is a geologic difference from other Napa soils."

The French! "Livermore... started out to be a little corner of Bordeaux. Before Prohibition, Frenchmen dominated winegrowing there, having been attracted by the similarity of its rocky soil to Graves." There's that terroir again... "Louis Mel was... the most lasting contributor (Mel had obtained cuttings of Sauvignon Blanc and Semil-

lon from Chateau D'Yquem...)" *Plus ça change...* "Most early wineries snuggled into hillsides. Grapes could arrive at a door on the high side and wine could depart from a door on the low side, having been moved through the fermenting and aging processes by gravity." Today, gravity-feed wineries are cutting-edge again — gentler than the gentlest of pumps on tender grape skins.

Like Carelian, however, some things seemed destined to fade, even some aspects of smart marketing: "Brookside first found the most effective of the current keys to prosperity in the Los Angeles basin: direct sales from winery to consumer. Between 1952 and 1972 Philo Baine and his family built a rambling empire of winery-owned tasting rooms-cum-retail stores all over California. With these, Brookside outstripped everybody else whose grapes grow in California." It's hard to imagine a winery ever managing this

kind of market penetration again.

Speaking of Brookside, the book includes a hopeful note — as fine a place as any to conclude this meander into the past. "New hope: Rancho California. Some 1,100 acres of pioneer vineyards dot the rolling hills east of Temecula and US 395. The potential exceeds 10,000 acres, all within reach of irrigation, all washed by sea air flowing through a gap in the coast mountains. Fittingly, the much-traveled Brookside Vineyard Company is the major owner of vineyards, and the almost exclusive user of the crops from half a dozen independent growers." The other great hope for Los Angeles—regional wine-making? Santa Barbara.

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: \$20 to \$29; very expensive: more than \$30. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.

BEACHES

Barbarella 2171 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla, 858-454-7373. This popular restaurant sits nestled in an English garden just blocks from the beach. You can dine amidst the flora at street-side tables, in the enclosed patio, or in the small dining room. Once you're seated, the friendly staff provides fresh-out-of-the-oven sourdough wheat bread to nibble on. The menu changes daily, offering fresh fish, steak, chicken, pastas, soups, and pizzas, all cooked with a twist of imagination that delivers on the flavor. For instance: pizza topped with smoked salmon, crème fraîche, chives, and fried capers. Or delicate Alaskan halibut served over creamed spring onions with a watercress salad. If a fresh fruit crepe happens to be on the dessert menu, leap on it! Open for lunch and dinner daily. — S.M.

Café Athena 1846 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-274-1140. With a more upscale, eye-catching decor and a longer and more serious menu than most Greek cafes, this is a popular destination, so be sure to reserve for dinner or you'll risk a long wait. The choices include good soups and appetizers (except for a sub-par *taramasalata*), outstanding moussaka, above-average gyros, and interesting, unusual desserts. There's plenty for vegetarians. Rather noisy when crowded. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W.

Costa Brava 1653 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-1218. Cordial owner-host Javier Gonzalez opened this charming restaurant so that local Spaniards would have a place to gather with an authentic atmosphere of home, and indeed, the "Euro" atmosphere and late hours give a truly Iberian feel. The lively garlic-rich dishes here include a wide array of tasty tapas and, among the entrées, a paella that's made to order (sized to serve two or four; call ahead for larger groups). Patio seating in good weather. Parking lot and wheelchair access via the alley behind the restaurant. Open daily 11 a.m. to midnight, with bargain prices at Sunday brunch. Reservations advised for weekend evenings. Moderate. — N.W.

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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

ter Lane, La Jolla, 858-535-0078. A steakhouse for ladies who power lunch, an "old girls" club, or just a happy place where the term "a nice piece of meat" isn't a bad thing? The mahogany of the "old boys" steakhouse genre gives way here to cheery cherry wood. When you get the fried cheese, it's Brie, rolled in panko bread crumbs and slivered almonds. And the wine list boasts far more than just burly Cabernets and Bordeaux — over 100 of the far-flung offerings are available by the glass, and you can assemble your own three-glass tasting flights. Prime steaks are the main event, perfectly cooked and well-seasoned. Try the Key Lime pie for dessert — custardy and full of limey bite. Valet parking. Dinner nightly. Very expensive. — *A.M.*

Humphrey's by the Bay 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577. Most diners at this resort/concert venue restaurant eat at the prix fixe preshow dinners because they guarantee good seats for the concerts at the next-door amphitheatre. But better food emerges once the music-mavens leave the premises. The kitchen features fine seafood, juicy meats, and prime steaks with seasonal veggie garnishes. Preparations are pleasing but in no way

startling — it's a hotel restaurant, after all. Reserve for show nights or to snare a window table with a gorgeous marina view. Free parking when there's no concert, valet parking when there is. Dining room pleasantly quiet. Open daily breakfast through dinner; brunch buffet Sunday. Preshow prix fixe upper moderate, à la carte expensive/very expensive. — *N.W.*

Isabel's Cantina 966 Felspar Street, Pacific Beach, 858-272-8400. This cheerful café instantly became a gathering spot for many PB-ites, including the forsaken population of adults. Chef-owner Isabel Cruz, who calls herself "Food Girl," has imported much of her Mission Cafe menu of Latin-Asian-sorta-health food to the beach. A self-confessed "lazy cook," she focuses on wholesomeness rather than authenticity. Breakfast and lunch are the main meals here and include competent eggs, luscious scrambled eggs, huge sandwiches, and weighty slabs of coconut French toast. Competent Latin-style dishes include tamales with airy masa. Devotees of Southeast Asian cuisines, however, may be disappointed by the simplistic stabs in that direction. If your dish is too mild, house sauces (chili oil, salsa, chipotle sauce, etc.) are available on request. Beer and wine. Small, free front parking lot; pay lot across the street at west end of the block. Three meals daily; closed 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W.*

Kaiserhof 2253 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, Ocean Beach, 619-224-0606. Even

on weeknights, crowds fill this restaurant and *biergarten*, chowing down on hefty, hearty German cooking in a festive atmosphere. Flavors are authentic, but can be monotonous due to the kitchen's reliance on commercial products (especially a heavy-flavored beef base that makes all the sauces taste alike). Good schnitzels, potato pancakes. The excellent apple strudel is the only dessert made in-house. Reservations advised, especially for patio seating. Full bar. Lunch Friday through Sunday, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. — *N.W.*

The Marine Room 2000 Spindrift Drive, La Jolla, 858-459-7222. High cuisine, high adventure, high seas — at only moderately high prices. With chef Bernard Guillas as top toque, the Marine Room has become the quintessential great San Diego restaurant. The exhilarating coastal view meets Cal-French-Pacific Rim cuisine that's as exuberantly out-front as the waves whacking the windows. Guillas's oceanic culinary inventiveness with ultra-fresh, exotic ingredients makes every visit a voyage of discovery, and preparations are so elaborate that each listing on his precise menu reads like a whole tasting dinner. Midweek specials, \$40. No corkage fee any night. Wheelchair ramp to the left of front door. Reservations requested; slightly dressy but not stuffy. Noisy when crowded. Easiest route: Make a right from westbound Torrey Pines onto Roseland or Viking and go left on St. Louis, which runs into Spindrift. Dinner Sunday through Thursday 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Expensive. — *N.W.*

Nine-Ten 910 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-964-5400. Chef Jason Knibb's level of craftsmanship shows a culinary sophistication that would be at home in San Francisco or New York. You'll find adventurous, seasonal cuisine emphasizing "market fresh" local produce (much of it organic or sustainably raised), naturally raised meats, and wild seafood. It's not just the food that's fresh — the ideas are, too, and the flavor matches are flawless. The wine list is superb, and new personnel in the front of the house have brought up the standard of service. Validated valet parking, full bar. Reservations urged. Open daily, three meals. Expensive. — *N.W.*

Red Sails 2614 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-223-3030. One of the

city's oldest eateries has been renovated to look like it always has, but fresher. The dining rooms resemble those on a river paddleboat or a small, rakish cruise ship, while the bayside patio is a funky waterside pleasure, beset by pigeons. The menu runs to simple seafood and steaks (wet-aged USDA Choice), but quality is uneven. Tasty starters include briny littleneck clams on the half-shell, an interesting clam chowder, and a classy house salad (but ask for vinegar and oil on the side to dress it). The coconut shrimp entrée is a good, guilty pleasure, but the fin-fish and fried entrées taste like supermarket frozen food. For the starch accompaniment, baked potato is the most flavorful option. Full bar, strong cocktails, weak wine list. Kiddie menu available. Daily three meals until 11 p.m. Low moderate. — *N.W.*

Sante Ristorante 7811 Herschel Avenue, La Jolla, 858-454-1315. The name is Italian for "saint," and the Northern Italian/regional cooking shines here, especially the fish and seafood dishes. Fresh seafood specials are available every night, in addition to those on the menu. Excellent pasta with mushrooms, ravioli with quail, and lamb chops. Separate room for bar; separate private dining room. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner nightly. Enclosed patio for lunch. Not to be missed. Moderate (pastas) to expensive. — *E.W.*

Sushi on the Rock 7734 Girard Avenue, La Jolla, 858-456-1138. This noisy, high-energy spot — a boxy, saloon-like space with a sushi bar in back — draws a lively twentysomething crowd (although older folks will have plenty of company, too). Unlike more traditional sushi bars, there's a vast selection of "rock and rolls" — huge, creative party sushi. And they're fabulous, with sparkling fresh seafood and immensely clever combinations. Try, for instance, the shrimp tempura roll, which wraps fried shrimp, crab shreds, *daikon* sprouts, and Japanese mayo in deep-fried salmon skin — the combo would be just as impressive as an appetizer at a top Cal-French restaurant. The Orange Crush is another sublime invention, fresh and crunchy with veggies and *tobiko* wrapped in suave salmon. Even simple rolls are so well conceived, and the rice so nicely seasoned, you won't need soy-wasabi dip. No reservations, long waits (in cramped entryway) on weekends. Good sake list. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly, with

deep discounts for happy hour specials. Moderate. Second (quieter, but with full bar) location at 1923 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad, 760-436-6261. — *N.W.*

BAJA

From the United States use the prefix 011-52 when calling Mexico.

Chiki Jai Avenida Revolución #1388, Baja, 664-685-4955. Eat here and you're surrounded by ghosts: Errol Flynn, John Huston, Rita Hayworth, Anthony Quinn, Ava Gardner, and, they say, Ernest Hemingway, who all ate — and drank *vino tinto* — here. Plus the great stars of boxing and bullfighting. But mainly it was a haven for Spanish jai alai players desperate for Old Country food. This is one of Tijuana's great historic eateries, its tale written on the walls. Old border photos, Don Quixote art, fighting bull ranchos' brands, and a matador's framed green cape with his blood still on it. The food's all Spanish, so paella is big (with soup, salad, French bread, and bleu cheese), but also try the baby eel appetizers, chorizo (pork sausages), *bacalao* (cod fish) *à la Vizcaina*, trout with olive oil and garlic, and Gallican octopus. Vegetarian upon request. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

La Diferencia Avenida Sanchez Taboada 10611-A, Baja, 664-634-3346. Mexican haute cuisine, with inventive combinations of traditional flavors. The creative menu reframes the old dishes and devises new ones. Wine list centers on Baja wineries (Monte Xanic and Cetto) at reasonable prices. Vegetarian upon request. Secure, free valet parking next to exterior courtyard. Menu is in Spanish (in a hard-to-read font), but some staffers speak some English. The restaurant is often noisy, even louder when mariachis play. Smoking permitted. Wheelchair access marginal. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

La Escondida Santa Monica #1, Baja, 664-681-4458. This hidden ("*escondida*") mansion has been a restaurant for three decades. The terrazzo and garden overlooking the Tijuana River Valley make breakfast and dinners a treat. House specialties are more interesting than the regular fare. Try the seafood casserole (*cacerola de mariscos*); the *tambor* (a dish of layered beef, cheese, and pork); or the roasted baby Monterrey goat ("*cabrito tatemado*"). Desserts include the house *especial*, mango and ice cream with *rompo* (Mexican eggnog), and *crepas de cajeta con nieve*, crêpes with walnuts, green pistachio ice cream, and "burnt milk" caramel sauce — the nearest thing to liquid fudge this side of paradise. Vegetarian on request. On weekends the place rocks with parties and live music. The big downside: It's hard to find. Take Agua Caliente Boulevard one half mile past the racetrack, turn right at Las Palmas, then left at the Rey del Pollo sign. The La Escondida entrance sign is in red neon at the road's end. Open daily for breakfast, lunch, dinner. Moderate. — *E.B.*

Mercado Sobre Ruedas Colonia Lucio Blanco (from Tijuana, on toll road, take first Rosarito exit; turn left at third), Baja. Don't miss this huge flea

market that materializes every Sunday (from morning until midafternoon) a couple of miles north of the tourist part of town. Its dozens of food-booths offer a vast variety of local treats, ranging from barbecued mutton (*borrego*) to savory Jalisco-style goat stew (*birria de chivo*), to all manner of tacos, made-to-order hotcakes with syrup, "Mexican hamburgers," and Sno-Kones (don't worry about the ice; by law, it has to be made with purified water). The food is totally authentic, cooked to Mexican tastes, and it's a carnival for the mouth. Many vendors speak some English. Rock-bottom prices; cash only. — *N.W.*

El Nido Boulevard Benito Juárez #67, Baja, 661-612-1430. Head south if you're looking for a great dry-aged, mesquite-broiled steak at a bargain price — but don't stop there. Try the house specialty, quail with garlic sauce (*codorniz al mojo de ajo*), or venison, especially the savory *machaca de venado* (strips of meat with peppers, onions, and tomatoes). Both are locally raised on the restaurant's own ranches and may be united in a brilliant breakfast of quail eggs with deer *machaca*. Seafood and surf-and-turf variations are tasty, too. Vegetarian upon request. The restaurant's name means "the nest," and the amusing indoor-outdoor decor is a sort of multiroom aviary with birds singing, chirping, and fluttering all over. Full bar. If sensitive to smoke, don't sit next to the mesquite-burning hearth on the roofed patio. Dressy-casual. Bilingual staff and menu. Open daily, early morning to late evening. Mostly moderate; cash only. — *N.W.*

Los Pelicanos Calle Del Cedro 115 #45, Baja, 661-612-0445. This hotel dining room is El Nido's little (and less-gifted) sister, with a shorter menu and perhaps less-careful cooking. It serves good steaks and surf-and-turf in a handsome room and, at lunch, on a pretty ocean-view terrace. To find it, look for large sign on west side of Juárez, north of the tourist hub, directing you to the site. One winding flight up to the restaurant, no elevator. Bilingual staff and menu. Vegetarian upon request. Full bar. Open daily, three meals. Moderate; cash only. — *N.W.*

Tacos Varios y Aguas Frescas Corner of Constitución and Third, Baja. This is "just" a cart, but don't let that stop your making the effort. Students, local businesspeople, and workers agree: this is the real thing. It's always causing a people-bulge on the sidewalk. However, the cart is only here from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., so you have to time it right. But from tongue to chicken mole, to *milanesa*, steak ranchero, *carne asada*, *chile relleno*, and *pescado* (fish), they create really big taco meals right there. Bonus: standing around chomping in the street is a great way to meet people and practice your Spanish. Nighttime only. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

CENTRAL

Alex's Brown Bag 2550 Fifth Avenue #171, Hillcrest, 619-231-2912. The reborn Alex's (now in the Mr. A's building) is rightly famous for its "Original Philadelphia cheese steak sandwich" (with fried bell peppers, onions, mushrooms, and mozzarella). The owners say what makes their sandwiches so special is that they have the meat trucked in from cheese steak central, South Philly itself. Other Italian-American goodies include the Italian Stallion (Genoa salami, capocollo prosciutto, and mortadella sausage meat), eggplant parmigiana with hot garlic bread, grilled pastрами, and cheese on rye. Open for breakfast, lunch, and just-after-work dinner weekdays. — *E.B.*

Bali Thai Café 407 Camino del Rio South, Mission Valley, 619-297-0800. Expect the unexpected! This tiny, unique restaurant splits its menu between three nations with chefs from Indonesia and Thailand and a chef-owner from Suriname, a former Dutch colony (like Indonesia) in South America. The Thai menu is standard, although the *tom kha koong* (shrimp in coconut milk soup) is outstandingly authentic (don't eat the stuff at the bottom of the bowl!), while the richly tropical Indonesian dishes are so rare locally that culinary adventurers will want to explore such delights as "seafood delight roll," corn fritters, the soothing *soto ayam* (the Indonesian version of chicken-noodle comfort soup), Balinese fish filet, and

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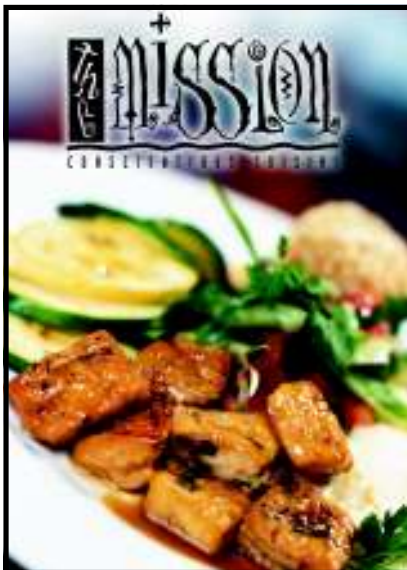
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the spicy *sambal goring* (shrimp in chili sauce), among others. Short but smart wine list, beer, sake. Easy evening parking. Heated, roofed patio. Large portions. Reserve for weeknights, no reservations accepted for weekends. Tuesday through Sunday, lunch and dinner. Low moderate. — *N.W.*

Bandar Fine Persian Cuisine 825 and 837 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-238-0101. In a comfortable setting, the Persian menu offers just a “pick hits list” of popular dishes culled from this fabled cuisine, but the cooking is first rate, featuring fine ingredients prepared with care, skill, and healthfulness. The “Bandar Special” entrée combo lets you choose any two kebabs (chicken, game hen, or beef), beautifully marinated and cooked to your order. Entrées featuring rice with poultry are elaborate and refined, spiked with tangy barberries, sour cherries, or lentils and dates. The list of Persian desserts now includes Persian ice cream, a rose-scented exotic treat. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *N.W.*

Beach City Market 3 Horton Plaza, Downtown, 619-232-2491. Is this the nearest thing to an actual café downtown? Where you can sit outside and slurp coffee or have a full meal and watch the world pass by? It tries hard to be, even though it’s fast deli food. Your sandwich comes in butcher paper. Soup pots are cardboard. You can buy wine, but you can’t drink it here. Why? Other Horton Plaza tenants won’t allow it. Still, soup and sandwich deals give good, generous portions, like minestrone and the Londonport roast beef sandwich flavored with port, white herbs, and spices, or the Deluxe, roast beef with horseradish. Open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Boomerangs Gourmet Burger Joint 4577 Clairemont Drive, Clairemont, 858-483-9500. Aussie food? Nope. The Boomerang idea is that “you’ll always come back for more.” Although maybe they *are* thinking Aussie with their extensive create-your-own-burger options, which include fixings like horseradish, artichoke hearts, carrots, cranberries, cheeses, and mushrooms. Their bright idea: chop and tuck these items into your raw burger meat, like a joey into mama roo’s pocket. Add imaginative sauces (Thai peanut, chipotle pepper, citrus, others). Result: great-tasting burgers. They’re a bit pricey, maybe because they use only “100-percent Angus hormone-free beef.” But that means they can safely cook your burger rare. Rare! That’s enough to boomerang anyone back. Open daily 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Broadway Pizza 1008 Broadway, Downtown, 619-232-6264. This restaurant, near the downtown Senior Center and City College, offers no-nonsense Italian-American food. And they’re not skimpy: from a pizza slice to barbecue beef sandwiches to a Louisiana-style sausage link sub, portions are generous. If you want a hearty dinner, try the whole slab of beef ribs, with veggies, garlic bread, and salad. Unfortunately, the quality has dropped; the formerly fine pizza, for instance, is now marred by oily, low-grade mozzarella and not-so-great optional deli-meat toppings. But the main thing is, while the rest of downtown snores, they’re still open, from 10 a.m. to 3 a.m., seven days. And they’ll

even deliver to nearby neighborhoods. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

Brothers Ôpera, Pâtisseries Fines 1354 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-234-0425. Catherine de Medici brought her macaroon recipe to Paris in 1533. Thierry Cahez brought the same recipe to downtown San Diego in 2007. Customers have been swooning ever since. Well, this customer anyway. Cahez, a well-known pastry chef, has made a specialty of the delicate, golf-ball-size almond-based cookies. But the patisserie he opened also features break-fast pastries like chocolate-filled croissants and lunch items like little square French pizzas, *croque monsieurs* (toasted cheese sandwiches with ham), *croque madames* (*croque monsieur* plus an egg), and sandwiches. His pastries are exquisite, and the place has a genuine French feel to it. Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday); closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Le Cake Château 1152 Seventh Avenue, Downtown, 619-325-0977. This feels like a real French pâtisserie. For starters, the display cabinet has beautiful golden flaky croissants, plus pastries too arty to eat. They do breakfast, but at lunchtime the place is abuzz. You gotta try their version of the *croque monsieur* (grilled ham-cheese sandwich covered with a mornay sauce), or crepes with, say, blueberries and sweet cream cheese. The grilled chicken Caesar wrap is good, but it’s their originality with simple items that’ll turn you on. Like the onion roll loaded with marinated mushrooms, roasted peppers, caramelized onions, goat cheese, and caper mayonnaise. Or a dessert carrot cake with “pineapple raisins.” Don’t ask. You have to try it. Open daily except Sunday for breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

California Pizza Kitchen — Mission Valley 7007 Friars Road #901, Mission Valley, 619-298-4078. Two Beverly Hills lawyers started this chain in 1985 to exploit “the premium pizza segment.” Some 150 restaurants later, guess it worked. The place is all shiny chrome, glass, etched palm trees, golden wood and black furniture, and two pizza ovens with real logs burning inside. The Original BBQ chicken pizza, the chain’s first hit, is still their top seller. It has barbecue sauce, smoked Gouda and mozzarella cheeses, BBQ chicken, red onions, and cilantro. The BBQ chicken chopped salad is good too, as is the jam-balaya. If you’ve got a sweet tooth, but are embarrassed to order Hawaiian pizza, try the pear and Gorgonzola. It has caramelized pears, caramelized onions, Gorgonzola and other cheeses, and hazelnuts. — *E.B.*

China Too 916 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-4283. Don’t blink or you’ll miss this Gaslamp bargain. The menu claims “New York-Style Fine Chinese Cuisine.” Would you settle for decent Brooklyn- or Bronx-style eat-in/take-out? Here you’re getting cheap-but-good Chinese fare for the price of a cup of soup nearby. Lunch specials (with soup, two egg rolls, rice) include green pepper steak with onions, kung pao hot chicken, beef broccoli, shrimp with veggies — all made with no MSG and minimal cornstarch. The owner’s last place was in New York, where customers ranged from Kofi Annan to Robin Leach. Chef Chen even has some of his old dishes here, on a page of multiregional “chef specialties”

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(#90 to #107 on the menu). But what really makes this a “New York-ish” spot will bring joy to hungry mouths all over the restaurant-starved stretch east and south of Balboa Park: free delivery from I-8 to Harbor Drive, from Pacific Highway to 805 or even farther. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; closed Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

El Comal 3946 Illinois Street, North Park, 619-239-7101. No border compromises here, just great home cooking from the mainland (Michoacan, Guerrero, Jalisco, Puebla, Oaxaca, and the Yucatan) in a pair of restaurants founded by Luz Herrera Ibarra, a biology teacher from Acapulco. Stuffed tortilla dishes are back in their proper place as appetizers or lunches (don’t expect numbered “combo plates”). A *botana* sampler plate that “serves two” (actually stuffs four) is a fun way to try a bunch of them, including outstanding pork-filled *sopes* that taste like somebody’s loving *mamacita* made them. Also try a *mulita*, a soft, substantial, house-made tortilla folded over your choice of meat with melted cheese and guacamole, perfect for lunch. For entrées, look to the casseroles, with such exciting choices as Lengua en Salsa Verde (tongue in tomatillo sauce), Barbacoa de Chivo (tender goat in a lively red “barbecue” sauce), and an excellent Mole Poblano (tender chicken breast in sweet-spicy chocolate-based mole sauce). Fish are also well treated. Grilled meat choices, which include a full *parillada assortment* (“serves two,” feeds six), are cut thin and cooked well done. Full bar at North Park location; Mexican and U.S. beers at both. Three meals, seven days (shorter hours in Chula Vista). Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

Downtown Johnny Brown’s 1220 Third Avenue, Downtown, 619-232-8414. Walk up through the Community Concourse past the ship fountain and bingo! — downtown’s answer to a European sidewalk café. Place has a generous patio of chairs and umbrellas. All green and white. You get two types here: sport-minded types (a dozen TV screens, Chargers, Padres, Aztecs banners inside), and city government workers. Burgers are good, but try the breast of chicken burger with soup of the day or fries. Chicken’s grilled, edge-burnt, spicy. Soup’s bobbing with fresh-cut vegetables. Also, salads: taco or Southwest Chicken. What’s best: sitting outside and watching people — not traffic — bustle by. — *E.B.*

Extraordinary Desserts — Little Italy 1430 Union Street, Little Italy, 619-294-7001. Patrons looking for a quiet dessert still cling to the original



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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

charming cottage near Balboa Park. Those wanting more of a meal head for the newer Little Italy location, a vast, noisy space with industrial-chic decor and a menu of eclectic small plates — *mezze* spreads, bruschettas, sandwiches, and cheese plates. Flavors tend to be intense; some creations (such as a bacon-cured salmon sandwich and *pantelleria*, a celery-date spread) are wonderful, others are exhausting even in small portions. Both locations offer pastry cases full of desserts that live up to “extraordinary,” to eat on-site or to take home. Chef-owner Karen Krasne incorporates flavors inspired by the global reach of her travels, from the cooking schools of Paris to the rice fields of Bali. The white cakes are food for angels. Wines (including champagnes), beers, fruit elixirs. Vegetarian-friendly menu. Both locations open seven days, three meals. Uptown location desserts only, all day. Moderate. — *N.W.*

The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant 544 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-232-9840. This spirited, colorful saloon, physically transported whole-hog from the Ould Sod, offers delicious Irish music live most nights, and also attempts serious Irish cooking — with some successes. Try the lovely herb-rich Irish stew, or the boxty, potato crêpes rolled around your choice from a variety of fillings (salmon, beef, etc.). Or start the day here with a huge, carnivorous Irish breakfast. Open daily. Low moderate. — *N.W.*

Greystone 658 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-232-0225. The Italian steakhouse fare here centers on dry-aged prime beef, game meats (including exceptionally tender bison), lobster, and pastas as the main draws, with indifferent starters and desserts. An impressive wine list offers rewarding California and Italian bottlings at \$35 to \$50 but roars up to the stratosphere of first-growth Bordeaux, super Tuscan, and scandalously overpriced Napa reds. Bossy,

sometimes-abrasive waiters push higher-priced choices. Patrons are mainly “suits” with deep expense-account pockets, loudly talking business or enjoying raucous office parties in a testosterone-high atmosphere. Wheelchair access to the street patio and bar area only (dining rooms are up or downstairs). Reservations urged but may not be honored promptly. Dinner nightly. Extremely expensive. — *N.W.*

Gulf Coast Grill 4130 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest, 619-295-2244. The Gulf’s faux-rustic, woodsy dining rooms and patio are great hangouts if you like a restaurant with a noisy party atmosphere. The menu focuses on the cuisine of the South and Southwest, with an emphasis on Louisiana and a heavy hand on the salt shaker. The kitchen does best with the straight Southern dishes, turning out divine fried-shelled crabs, airy hush puppies, and delicious little corn muffins. If you’re deeply familiar with Cajun-Creole flavors, though, don’t look for pure authenticity — you’ll do better with jambalaya, étouffée, or the lunchtime oyster po’ boy than with the soulless gumbo or the misconceived red beans and rice. Heated, smoker-friendly front patio. Wheelchair elevator to restrooms next to stairs. Free parking lot left of the door. Full bar. Lunch Monday through Saturday, brunch Sunday, dinner nightly (early closing Sunday). Moderate to slightly expensive. — *N.W.*

Harney Sushi 3964 Harney Street, Old Town, 619-295-3272. This friendly little spot on a side street serves as a secret haven of pretty-good sushi just a few steps from Old Town’s nonstop tacos and margaritas. You can also get sashimi, Japanese appetizers, and a few mixed-ethnicity entrées (noodles, pasta, teriyaki, tempura) made with seafood or chicken breast. Beef is served, but numerous dishes are vegetarian. Good sake list. Sound system runs loud inside; patio dining available in warm weather. Reservations for sushi bar accepted but not necessarily honored. Open weekdays for lunch, dinner nightly until midnight, with a DJ Tuesday through Saturday. Sushi prices lower than most, entrées inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.*

Hong Kong Restaurant 3871 Fourth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-9449. Where to get a good Chinese meal after midnight? This restaurant (next to Column One’s statues and fountain shop) serves meals till 2:30 a.m. Inside is typical Asian decor, including black-and-white Chinese brush paintings and carved cherry wood chairs. Their huge menu offers traditional Szechwan and Mandarin fare. The fried, pork-filled wontons on raw cabbage are delicious, especially spiced with fiery Chinese mustard. The Singapore-style rice noodles (not often featured in Chinese restaurants) are tangy with curry, and excellent, as is the kung pao chicken. Also look at egg drop soup, pork chow mein, shrimp with lobster sauce, and scallion ginger chicken. Service is super quick. Lunch and dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Japanese Tea Pavilion 2215 Pan American Way, Balboa Park, 619-231-0048. One way or another they have been serving Japanese food here since 1915. Yes, it’s usually crowded, and most go for the cliché item, teriyaki rice bowl with beef skewers. But the teriyaki bowl with salmon, the sweetish *udon soba* noodle soup with tofu *kitsune*, and even the California sandwich piled high with “krab” meat are good and feel Japanese, especially out on the restaurant deck over a canyon. With Japanese flute music playing, the trees, and the noodles, you really feel in a Japanese space. Try konacha green tea for the nearest taste to tea ceremony tea. Open 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily; Monday closed by 3 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Joe’s New York-Style Deli 3401 First Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-295-7666. You enter a time machine: a cavernous concrete-floored deli that dates back to 1902, with a high ceiling, acorn-shaped hanging lights, and a big old-fashioned cooler-counter packed with cheeses, hams, and sausage meat. Old display cases carry olives, pâté, Ryvitas. A sawed-off wooden barrel bulges with Hungarian wines. Go for wraps, jumbo hot dogs with sauerkraut, or East Coast-generous sandwiches like corned beef, dry Genoa salami, cotto salami, bologna, or liverwurst. That Boars Head liverwurst is da bomb. Caesar salad with chicken or

a cup of tortellini soup are good light alternatives. Open breakfast through early dinner daily. — *E.B.*

Lefty’s Chicago Pizzeria 3448 30th Street, North Park, 619-295-1720. An eight-pound pizza? That’s what Lefty claims his “king of all pizzas” weighs at his often-crowded little corner pizzeria. Truth is, you can’t help but be drawn, especially at night, to the little ribbon of lights framing the sidewalk canopy with its tables and benches. Lefty is determined to bring “the real Chicago” to San Diego. So of course we’re talking deep-dish pizzas, as well as some thin and crispy. But the ultimate is his “stuffed” pizza, a 14-inch, eight-pound monster that needs one hour’s “make and bake” time. They also do Chicago hot dogs, char burgers, beautiful spicy fries, juicy Italian beef au jus sandwiches, and a decent “Lefty’s carbonara” (spaghetti, eggs, bacon, Parmesan, and cream). Open lunch and dinner six days, closed Mondays. — *E.B.*

Lotus Thai — Downtown 906 Market Street, Downtown, 619-595-0115. This restaurant has taken a giant step up from standard Thai eateries. Most of the menu consists of the usual dishes, but each branch also offers a selection of chef’s specialties. Some of these are more authentic; others are more creative than the norm. The chefs are from northern Thailand, and something in their cooking hints of their region — a certain zestiness, a love of strong citrus and fresh herbs that speaks of the Ping River and the hills of Chiang Mai. Well-chosen, affordable wine list, Asian and American beers, and cocktails based on *soju* (Asian lower-proof rice liquor), including a yummy rambutan cosmo. Noisy when crowded. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Low moderate. — *N.W.*

Monsoon Exotic Cuisine of India 729 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-234-5555. The younger sister to Hillcrest’s Bombay Exotic Cuisine sometimes shares the same chefs and serves much the same standard repertoire of “Northern Indian cuisine made easy,” with a few tropical additions vaguely inspired by Southern flavors. Curries are indistinct from each other and run to the mild side, no matter what you spec-

ify. Breads are good; tandooris disappointingly soft-surfaced. A room-dividing fountain recreates the roar of the namesake tropical downpour. Add a lively dinner crowd and it’s a (Gunga) din. Solid wine list, some Indian beers, full bar specializing in sweet cocktails. Open daily. Inexpensive buffet lunches; moderate à la carte dinners until 11 p.m. — *N.W.*

Mr. Tiki’s Mai Tai Lounge 801 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-1183. If you loved Trader Vic’s (or can remember it, anyway), you may be amused at the revival of the genre here. Check out the “grass skirt” decor with huge tiki gods and the vaguely “islander” cuisine featuring, in addition, Asian fusion items, elementary sushi, and the occasional sprint into fusion-cuisine seafood. But, as you might guess, the greatest creativity in the house goes into the silly umbrella cocktails, and those are mainly delish. Age 21 and over after 9 p.m. (even with parents). Dinner nightly. Cocktails until 11 p.m., weekends until 1 a.m. Moderate. — *N.W.*

Old World Deli & Cafe 3930 30th Street, North Park, 619-238-0568. This is a delight for anyone who loves northern European food. Their “Great Grilled Grueben” — homemade corned beef on rye with Swiss cheese, sauerkraut, Thousand Island dressing, and mustard is, as they say, *gemütlich*. Also, try the sausage platter: grilled bratwurst, kielbasa, sauerkraut, potato salad, spicy mustard, and rye bread. Open for breakfast and lunch six days, closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Osetra 904 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-1800. Possibly the most expensive restaurant in San Diego. Osetra is named for a precious, near-endangered caviar (which it serves) and attracts patrons who enjoy throwing their money around. The atmosphere is pure Las Vegas, with two floors of loud ambient music, glitzy decor, and a “wine angel” in black tights hoisting herself around a gleaming glass tower to fetch your precious bottle. Celebrities and big spenders get attentive service, others take their chances. The menu is mostly seafood, but it, too, carries the Vegas imprimatur of vulgar bad taste. Too many bold flavors are at war on almost

every plate, and even the simplest dishes are overwrought frenzies of fusion. Best bets for satisfying your palate and curiosity: raw oysters, the cold seafood platter, caviar (if your wallet and conscience can afford it). Disabled access to first-floor dining room only. Full bar. Dinner nightly to at least 10 p.m. Reserve well ahead. Exorbitant. — *N.W.*

P. F. Chang’s China Bistro — Mission Valley 7077 Friars Road, Mission Valley, 619-260-8484. Okay, you’re looking at the haunches of a giant horse right outside your corner window, and there don’t seem to be any actual Chinese people among the wait staff. But this busy mall Chinese chain (130-plus restaurants) has a certain cool. Those reproduction Chin Dynasty horses are really something, as are the bits of the Great Wall and the terra-cotta soldiers scattered inside. The food? The spicy ground chicken and eggplant was too salty for our taste, the Sichuan from the Sea shrimp too sweet, and the Cantonese roasted duck not that exciting. Yet there are jewels, if one searches for them. And — not that it’s at all Chinese — the massive Great Wall of Chocolate dessert will knock you over. Lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *E.B.*

The Palm 615 J Street, Downtown, 619-702-6500. This upmarket chain steakhouse, open since 1926, claims to be the oldest family-operated white-tablecloth restaurant in the country, and it’s spread all over the country as well. The Gaslamp branch, its 30th, is just like all the other branches, even down to decor details, which is the whole point — business travelers with contacts to impress can rely on it wherever they go. The fare features tender, dry-aged and wet-aged USDA Prime beef from the chain’s own wholesale butcher and, for the really high-rollers, monster-sized Nova Scotia lobsters. Other good dishes are shrimp Bruno (with a Dijon sauce), baked crab cakes with no filler, and the Slater Special, which combines the last two in an appetizer. Don’t eat meat, but do eat garlic? Try clams and shrimp *posillippo* and scare off the vampires. All dishes à la carte. Portions are generally gigantic on up. Key lime pie (a normalized wedge) makes a good, tart dessert, and clean *macchinettas* make outstand-



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ing espresso. Excellent wine list, plenty by the glass; full bar. Valet parking. Diner nightly. Very expensive. — N.W.

Panda Inn 506 Horton Plaza, Downtown, 619-233-7800. Behind all the Panda Express fast-food stops is the smaller, more serious Panda Inn chain which originated many of the now-familiar dishes of semi-Americanized “Mandarin” cuisine (they claim to have invented orange chicken, and their version is vastly better than those at the 99-cent joints). Tofu with eggplant and “Mongolian Hotpot,” a meatball casserole with Chinese cabbage, are among the more authentic choices. Preparations here are generally clean and greaseless with well-balanced flavors; spicy dishes are moderately hot unless you request otherwise. It’s not the spot for high adventure, but it does offer dishes for all tastes. Moderate-priced banquet menus make this a good choice for family gatherings. Full bar. Validated parking in Horton Plaza garage; heated patio seating in dry weather. Lunch and dinner daily. Lunches inexpensive, dinner moderate. — N.W.

Phil’s BBQ - Point Loma 3750 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-226-6333. Check the lines around Phil’s any lunchtime. Although Phil grills his BBQ (rather than slow-smoking it), he must be doing something right. He is: That sweet, rich rib sauce he invented is one thing. The fall-off-the-bone pork and beef is another. The sweet baked beans a third. Plus, the restaurant is a rabbit-warren that grew, but it’s kid-friendly, has open washbasins for your greasy mitts, and has paper towel rolls at every table. Ribs can be expensive, but a quarter-rib (four bones) will fill you fine. A great second-best is the BBQ sandwich with char-grilled pork shoulder. Remember: you’ll get pork unless you specify beef. Open for lunch and dinner; closed Monday. New location at 3750 Sports Arena Boulevard, Sports Arena, 619-226-6333. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

The Prado 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, 619-557-9441. In a magical space at the heart of Balboa Park, Prado features cute neo-Nouveau decor and a something-for-everyone menu of American-Mexican-Italian-with-Asian-touches cuisine. The food brings few surprises, but is flavorful and served in huge portions. Top choices include meaty crab cakes and an astonishingly tender, slow-roasted pork loin. A meringue-based banana *tres leches* cake is everyone’s favorite dessert. The bar makes a nice stop during a museum crawl and offers ethereal fried oysters and a range of gussied-up margaritas. Keep an eye out for special prix fixe dinners that include tickets to museum exhibitions. Dinner reservations vital. Vast interior can be noisy, but heated, umbrella-topped terrace tables are quiet and scenic. Moderate to a little expensive, with reasonable wine list. — N.W.

Quarter Kitchen 600 F Street, Downtown, 619-814-2000. Don’t be intimidated by the chic reputation of this high-end hotel restaurant. Normal people can eat here, too, dressed not to the nines but to the high-fives on weeknights, keeping in mind that the best appetizers can be so exquisite that entrées may be superfluous. The menu attempts to please all tastes, from haute cuisine down to publicity-grabbing high-end pub grub (Wagyu sliders, oversized Kobe hot dogs, et al.) . Among the best tastes: Caviar “tacos” (in paper-thin potato shells with crème fraîche) are amazing even with nonendangered paddlefish roe. (Ossetra is also available.) Salmon tartare and spicy crab soup also thrill the senses. The entrées include both delicate “chef” fare and steakhouse fare, including an irresistible side of truffled fries (forget the steak, buy the fries). You can eat fabulously here without bankruptcy if you’re picky and go for light and superb rather than heavy and conventional. Three meals daily, until midnight on weekends. Very expensive. — N.W.

Rannoush 3890 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-235-1360. The full menu of Lebanese-Jordanian cuisine runs from *mezze* (tapas) to house-made sausages and kebabs to desserts — and includes fabulous falafel that’s actually good enough to eat (especially the stuffed version). At this petite, pretty place with Scheherazade decor, all the cooking is from scratch — no nasty instant falafel mix or any other shortcuts, and you can really taste the difference. Other great dishes include vegetarian *kebbeh*, *soujok* sausages, and shrimp kebabs. Desserts include standard Middle-Eastern items such as *baklava*. Wines and beers include food-friendly imports from Lebanon. Lunch 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., dinner 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. — N.W.

Red Sea Restaurant 4717 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-285-9722. You’ll find richly seasoned (and potentially very spicy) Ethiopian cuisine, served communally on a tray lined with a porous pancake, *injera*, which looks like an edible dish towel and serves as both an edible spoon and an edible tablecloth. (Use pieces of it to scoop up morsels in your right hand.) The meat combination platter here isn’t nearly as exciting as several of the specialties. The *kiyto* (spicy beef tartare) is very good, the *gored-gored* (meat cubes in spicy butter) is excellent; both are cooked (or not cooked) to your order and seasoned to your specifications (if you say “hot,” expect fire). Vegetables are fine, too; the yellow split peas, especially, sing with flavor. Restrooms not wheelchair accessible. Vegetarian friendly. Can be noisy on weekend evenings. Open daily. Very inexpensive. — N.W.

Saffron Noodles and Sate 3737 India Street, Mission Hills, 619-574-7737. It’s the smell of the spicy chicken grilling that will get you every time.



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Sluggers by the Ball Park 1219 Market Street, Downtown, 619-546-5973. Not your typical hot dog stand. Sluggers café is all glass, steel, cinder block, and new. This eatery catches much of the Padres business, selling Vienna-brand beef hot dogs and Polish sausages. “Served Chicago-style” — meaning, the dog’s topped with tomato wedges, mustard, pickle, relish, onions, and peppers, all, they say, on a steamed poppy-seed bun from Chicago. Other goodies from the Windy City include the Comiskey Park Pole (a charbroiled Polish sausage dog) and the Italian Stallion (charbroiled Italian sausage in bun). Place is still a little cinder blocky but a good rendezvous for a brewski and a dog after work. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Super Cocina 3627 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-584-6244. If you’re looking for authentic, rustic Mexican home cooking, this simple, bright cafeteria is the place. There’s no chef; instead, local Mexican housewives from

many regions prepare their specialties for the restaurant. They’re mainly fascinating, complex meat or poultry stews, made without border compromises — if a dish should be spicy, it is spicy. The array of about a dozen entrées changes daily from a rotating repertory of about 100. The counter people will give you tastes of any entrée before you choose the two you want, which come in generous dollops with rice, lively ranchero beans, and tortillas. For breakfast, the *chilaquiles* are renowned. Free parking, family atmosphere, no alcohol, cash only. Open daily, 8 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Very inexpensive. — *N.W.*

Taka 555 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-0555. The seafood at this always-packed sushi bar and Japanese appetizer restaurant is top quality. *Ama ebi* (sweet shrimp) from the live tank go down soft and silky smooth, unlike their frozen brethren. And the chefs are highly skilled: the well-seasoned rice is freshly made all evening, and for once the spicy scallop hand roll has scallops, mayo, cuke, and hot pepper running all the way through, not just plopped on top. Savory appetizers supplement the sushi, including miso-baked black cod and mushroom-topped *agedashi* (lightly fried) tofu. The one problem: the later you arrive, the louder it gets. Make reservations, and if you value your ears, go at an early hour. Dinner nightly. Most dishes inexpensive, but many little bites can eat a hole in your wallet. — *N.W.*

Tamale Cart 1852 National Avenue, Logan Heights, 619-338-9140. If you’ve ever wondered what it would be like to eat as the Aztecs ate, come here and try some of the tamales — classic Aztec food — in all their flavors. Tamales are sort of steamed cornmeal dumplings wrapped in corn husks, served with sauce. The choice of goodies stuffed in the middle can include strips of pork, beef, chicken, or cheese, as well as pineapple, strawberries, or coconut. While you’re at it, try the traditional accompaniment, the *champurrado* drink: milk mixed with *masa* — ground corn meal — chocolate, and cinnamon. In this mainly Spanish-speaking market you can sit, watch, and pick up a few bargains too. Tamales make a great breakfast. Three should do you. These

are made by the Restaurant Chiapaneco up at 25th and Market. Open breakfast through late lunch, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Uncle Joe’s Pizzeria 4591 El Cajon Boulevard, SDSU, 619-584-2535. The owner’s a retired Navy medic, one of the first women to serve in the Middle East combat zone. She’s named sandwiches for career stops, like “The Recruit Training Center, Orlando, Florida” (chicken breast, bacon, avocado, provolone cheese, spinach, tomato, and onion) or “North Island Dental Clinic” (turkey, ham, bacon). But try a main dish like eggplant Parmesan or chicken with sautéed mushrooms. Or a massive chunk of lasagna, plus bread and salad. Coffee? You get a huge French-style press-the-coffee-down affair. Your big decision: eat out on the flower-strewn boulevard patio or inside among black leather easy-chairs and a giant screen? Open for lunch and dinner daily until 10 p.m. (until midnight Friday and Saturday). Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Woodstock’s Pizza 6145 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area, 619-265-0999. It’s a college pizza joint, but the fare rates well above standard beer ballast. For that matter, the beers — Karl Strauss and Wyder’s Ciders (along with the usual Coors Light and Bud) — aren’t exactly chug-suds. Crusts — white or sweetly robust whole wheat — are pressed, tossed, and then folded over at the edge, producing a spongy, crunch-crustured rim. The mozzarella is rich, gooey whole-milk; the marinara sauce is dark and spicy; and the toppings are fresh, hearty standouts. Watching your weight? Two low-fat combos (half the cheese) are available. Inexpensive. — *A.M.*

Zocalo Grill 2444 San Diego Avenue, Old Town, 619-298-9840. This casual, festive spin-off of the Brigantine chain features “Pacific coastal cuisine,” an eclectic international hodgepodge with a faint Mexican accent and “something for everyone.” And some of those some-things are delicious — a stacked salad of shrimp and avocados, or coconut-shrimp kebabs emerging from a pineapple, or a huge, beautifully grilled lobster with avocado salsa. Appetizers are discounted at happy hour, and you can

make a whole dinner out of substantial “tapas” sized for sharing. The heated, semi-roofed outdoor terrace encourages al fresco dining year-round. Full bar with creative margaritas, eight draft beers, and California wines including Brigantine’s own custom blends at good prices. Wheelchair lift in back, ramp at south side of terrace. Reservations strongly advised for weekends. Open daily, lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner daily. Moderate. — *N.W.*

NORTH INLAND

94th Aero Squadron 8885 Balboa Avenue, Kearny Mesa, 858-560-6771. One of San Diego’s hidden jewels: there’s classic American fare (stuffed pork tenderloin, farmhouse chicken) in the “Officers’ mess.” Happy hour is weekdays from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Fridays, the outside “Runway” grill features chicken kebabs. The biggest attraction is the place itself. Built to mimic a WWI French farmhouse taken over by a bunch of Yankee flying aces, it has a garden full of antique planes and live ducks — and right outside, the real Montgomery airfield. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

Athens Market Café 11640 Carmel Mountain Road, Suite 124, Carmel Valley, 858-675-2225. At this offshoot of Mary Pappas’s downtown Athens Market, sister Vickie’s food is just as good. If you want a big start, order the *saganaki*, a cheese appetizer that comes flaming to your table. And you can’t lose with *mezedakia*, a big oval sampler of *dolmades* (stuffed grape leaves), *lokaniko* (a delicious Greek sausage), *spanakopita* (spinach in filo pastry), tomatoes, cucumbers, *tzatziki* dip, hummus, feta cheese, and olives. But come for the lamb. It’s wonderfully flavorful, skewered in the souvlaki entrée (which comes with beans and rice) or as lamb chops. Moussaka (baked eggplant, zucchini, and ground beef) goes down well too. Or what’s wrong with a simple plate of feta cheese, kalamata olives, and a glass of Greek red? Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

Bamboo Hut 9172 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-348-0414. You’ll find a taste of Hawaii in a strip mall in a neighborhood that’s all-mall. The bright little “hut” has bamboo chairs, a bamboo ceiling, bare floors, and unclothed tables, with a sushi counter next to a tiny kitchen with a roaring gas grill. A large lattice awning offers outdoor seating a few steps from the door. The quality of the food is all over the map, though — this is not the place to try your first Spam sushi. The seafood sushi is good, though, including a fine Rainbow Roll with really sweet crab; the more creative rolls run to cream cheese and hot sauce. “Local food” choices include a tasty ahi *poké* and excellent chicken *katsu*; the *kalbi* short ribs are tough, though. Plate lunches include one to three entrees (priced accordingly) with steamed or mildly garlic-flavored rice, macaroni salad, and green salad with bright orange dressing à la Kraft French. Be sure they deliver what you ordered; there may be slipups. Open seven days, lunch and dinner. Very inexpensive. — *N.W.*

Bistro 221 221 East Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-737-7398. This genteel bistro — with comfortable chairs and linen-covered tables inside and a shaded patio on the sidewalk — is especially tasty at lunch, with its sophisticated quesadillas and a classic burger and fries cooked your way. At dinner simple starters shine, including a Florida version of gumbo and Maryland crab cakes with minimal filler. The dinner entrées are also the best. — *N.W.*

Casa Reveles Mexican & Seafood Restaurant 201 Mission Avenue, Escondido, 760-480-5565. “Revels,” as the locals pronounce it, offers zesty, careful cooking with some unusually authentic flavors. The Mi-choacán-style carnitas (available in several “stuffed” dishes as well as an entrée) are outstanding for their moist smokiness, and the house’s slightly crunchy fresh-tomatillo version of salsa verde is exciting. Seafood is necessarily frozen (given the inland location), but is handled tenderly. Late breakfast through dinner daily. Breakfast specials Saturday and Sunday until noon. Inexpensive to low moderate, with some

three-course seafood dinners high moderate. — *N.W.*

Fish House Vera Cruz 360 Via Vera Cruz, San Marcos, 760-744-7346. Additional locations in Carlsbad and Temecula. This affordable seafood eatery packs in diners like sardines. Fresh fish and lots of it is the happenin’ thing. On a recent day, 23 different fresh fish selections were available as daily specials, on top of the regular menu of crab, lobster, oysters, shrimp, catfish, etc. All fish are grilled plain, with nothing added but a dab of tartar sauce. The seafood is so fresh you don’t really mind. Each entrée includes a choice of side dishes, two for lunch and three for dinner. The Manhattan chowder is especially tasty, as is their “krab” salad. This is an ideal place for families, but don’t even think of it for a romantic meal out. Dinner daily, lunch daily except Sunday (dinner all day Sunday). Moderate. — *S.M.*

Hill Street Coffee House 524 South Coast Highway 101, Oceanside, 760-966-0985. Organic in Oceanside? Really! Look for the sign: “Organic Restaurant and Espresso Bar” in front of a restored yellow-and-white Victorian house from O’side’s past. Most of their meats, poultry, fish, and veggies are organic, and the menu is full of healthy dishes: tofu/spinach breakfast scramble, frittata *espinaca* (“Greek eggs”), and *pain perdu* (for us peasants that’s French toast) with fresh fruit and syrups. Some vegan items. After 11 a.m., try their Cajun chicken. Open daily, breakfast to dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

The Philadelphia Sandwich Company 3904 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-571-0888. This classic luncheonette is a monument to Philly culture, including sports pennants, historic photos, and colorful mummies’ costumes. The menu is equally devoted to the city’s cuisine, especially its two great cult sandwiches: the hoagie and the cheese steak. The mixed-meat hoagie is way more than a hero — its flavor array is similar to (and just as intense as) a New Orleans muffuletta. As for the cheese steak, it starts with steak strips, onions, and your choice of cheese, and expands from there. Philly natives may like the simple version with Cheez Whiz, but the luscious “Everything” with pro-

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volone is more likely to seduce the innocent. “Philly fries” (with garlic) are the right go-with. The menu also offers Pennsylvania-packaged foods (“Philadelphia Scrapple” to go, Tastykakes, Wise potato chips) to nostalgic émigrés. Lunch to early dinner nightly. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

The Place: El Parque 2659 Reche Road, Fallbrook, 760-731-2775. Just think Little Red Riding Hood — this is Grandma’s place. Okay, it’s not a little old, thatched cottage — it’s a cream-painted metal shed with a gazebo in front. But it is in the Live Oak woods, and you can sink your teeth into some pretty fair Mexican food here, sitting alongside an interesting bunch of agricultural workers and maybe some ruby miners. Good combination plates include the tostada and beef taco, and burrito and enchilada. The time to be here is Sunday morning, when those aggies pour in here for the *menudo*, cooked in a three-foot-high pot. Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

San Tong Palace 4690 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-571-6837. This unassuming strip-mall restaurant is easy to overlook, but once found, impossible to resist. San Tong’s hybrid Korean-Chinese menu draws from these regions’ tastiest styles. The Rainbow Salad demonstrates this combination deliciously, and San Tong’s dumplings are outstanding. The seafood dumplings are

especially remarkable. For the adventurous, I recommend the jellyfish salad, a novel treat for westerners. At San Tong Palace, curious appetites are rewarded well. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *M.N.*

La Tapatia 340 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-747-8282. Take a walk on the mild side at this family-owned favorite, in business since the 1930s. You’ll find standard Mexican fare in a comfortable dining room or, in good weather, a lovely, arbor-like stone-walled patio. The most celebrated dish is the “cheese crisp,” a large tostada covered one-third in ground beef, one-third in beef chunks, and one-third in beans, with cheese, avocado puree, and sour cream over all. Many preparations (grilled seafoods, etc.) are healthy, and veggies taste fresh. Seasonings are rather de-tuned, but there’s a saltshaker and a lively salsa on the table. Open daily, three meals. Moderate. — *N.W.*

Wayside Café 507 South Main Avenue, Fallbrook, 760-723-9633. Locals love meeting and eating in this long low-porched building — partly because it all just feels small-town America. The place used to be Mahrs’ Service Station. You can even sit in the old lube bay to eat. Count on generous servings, especially the mountain piles of red-skinned home-fries as a side at breakfast. Open for breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

NORTH COASTAL

Bubby’s Gelato 937 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-436-3563. This tiny storefront does only a few things (sandwiches, gelati, and sorbet) but does them exceedingly well. The “gourmet sandwiches” really do live up to their designation, with intriguing Mediterranean combinations (artichoke hearts, black olives, grilled eggplant, Gorgonzola are among the choice of ingredients) on soft, round Italian bread. (Or you can just get a tuna melt if that’s your flavor.) Gelati are about twice as rich as Häagen-Dazs, and feature an ever-changing array of bold flavors, e.g., vanilla rosewater and chocolate cinnamon. Open daily 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., closes later on Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

Fidel’s Carlsbad 3003 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, 760-729-0903. It’s not upscale modern Mex — no cumin-infused, mango-corn salsa on Fidel’s menu — but who gives a flyin’ fajita when you can order just about any traditional SoCal-Mexican dish and know it’s gonna be good? Whether you try the chicken-and-rice soup with fresh cilantro and avocado chunks, fluffy *chile rellenos*, a crab enchilada, *carne asada* with all the trimmings, or a lonely *a la carte* chicken burrito, you’re going to be a happy camper. Add a reliable margarita

or a beer and you’re set at this popular North County mainstay. Open seven days a week for lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *S.M.*

Joe’s Crab Shack — Oceanside 314 Harbor Drive, Oceanside, 760-722-1345. Joe’s is silly with crab-shack 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 Pacific Beach, Mission Valley, and downtown. — *N.W.*

Joey’s Smokin’ B-B-Q — Carlsbad 6955 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, 760-929-1396. Joey Maggioro doesn’t produce Southern “Q” so much as So-Cal “Q” — more an homage to Memphis than anything you’d find in Memphis itself — but the tables include paper towel dispensers instead of napkins, a clear signal to go ahead and get messy. All the meats are smoked, not grilled, in true “Q” fashion. Pulled pork offers reasonably credible Memphis-style flavor and tender-chewy texture. Baby back ribs come in three versions: sweet ribs glazed with the “suh-weet” sauce, wet ribs glazed with the mild-spicy sauce, and dry-rubbed ribs sprinkled with spice rub. Sweet or wet are the best. Chicken plates come in a variety of sizes and parts. Housemade hot links are well seasoned in the Louisiana manner but extremely salty. The list of sides is long and varied. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.*

Johnny Mañanas 308 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, 760-721-9999. Local teachers hang out at this green- white-and red-tiled place because it’s such good value. Most dishes are Mexican. There’s a Caribbean chocolate, black bean, paprika, curry-in-the-rice thing going on. Pescado Veracruz (fish marinated in lime juice and garlic with rice, beans, and green salad) is good. The roasted chicken is delicious. The Big Breakfast Burrito Special (eggs, onions, beans, cheese, and rice, wrapped in a large flour tortilla) is *muy popular*, but then so is J.M.’s Great All-American Cheeseburger. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Osteria del Pescatore 1201 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar, 858-509-9293. The restaurant’s name means “Fisherman’s Hostelry,” and you’ll find expert, courteous service and well-crafted seasonal Italian fare here with a strong emphasis on zesty fresh seafood. Go straight to the single-spaced page-long list of daily specials for the most exciting dishes, including spaghetti *a cartoccio* (baked in parchment paper) and lobster risotto. But save room for dessert, especially if the day’s offerings include *torta alla nanna*, a rose-scented nut confection. Parking behind restaurant (turn east on 12th Street); heated dining patio available. Interesting international wine list. Reservations advised. Lunch Tuesday through Saturday; dinner nightly. High moderate to expensive. — *N.W.*

Pacific Coast Grill 437 South Coast Highway 101, Solana Beach, 858-794-4632. The grill features a free-form menu of Pacific Rim cuisine featuring fine ingredients and integrating Mexican, Hawaiian, and Asian flavors into So-Cal comfort cooking. Try the green salad with vibrant cranberry vinaigrette, the “Bag of Bones” (house-smoked pork ribs), and whatever fruit creation is on the dessert menu. Busy and noisy; reservations urged for weekend dinners and all summer. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Full bar. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W.*

Red Tracton’s 550 Via de la Valle, Del Mar, 858-755-6600. Even though you know you’re a half mile from the Pacific Ocean and across the street from the Del Mar Racetrack, one step inside Red Tracton’s dining room sends you reeling back in time to an upscale, dimly lit, maroon-and-gilt restaurant of 1960’s Chicago. The only thing missing is the scent of cigars. Food portions are enormous: The lobster sandwich (a touch heavy on the mayo) easily packs a half pound of lobster (available at lunch on Fridays). The selection is generous: steaks, prime rib, seafood, chicken, and pork — all expertly prepared and served in record time. On days when you don’t give a rip about the Surgeon General’s latest warnings, run to Red Tracton’s and indulge your All-American appetite. Lunch

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Calendar RESTAURANTS

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Sbicca American Bistro 215 Fifth Street, Del Mar, 858-481-1001. Chef-owner Susan Sbicca creates pristine California Cuisine at both of her restaurants, highlighting fresh (and usually organic) local produce on a menu that changes with the seasons. The irresistible lobster-crabmeat croquettes and lobster-shrimp bisque are pure Del Mar deluxe. Some simpler dishes cleverly complete themselves as you eat them: Salmon served with peas and mushrooms to one side, a creamy sauce on the other, creates a whole new sauce when you broach the fillet. A lemon-pistachio cake, too, changes as you cut it, the pieces crumbling into a berry coulis. It's a fun way to eat, engaging the mind along with the palate. Both settings are family-friendly (only well-mannered kids come here) with handsome, airy dining rooms and charming patios. Wide-ranging wine list emphasizing California, plenty by the glass and even some half-bottles. On different weekday evenings, Del Mar and Encinitas each feature \$5 martinis, no corkage fee, and 50% off all bottles of wine from the fine California-centric wine list. Call for specific days. Del Mar branch crowded during racing season. Reservations advisable. Lunch and dinner daily, bar menu ongoing. High moderate to expensive. — B.D.

Tomiko 87 Encinitas Boulevard, Encinitas, 760-633-3587. In a lovely setting overlooking Moonlight Bay you can enjoy Japanese and Pacific Rim fusion cooking and sushi in a serene but lively dining room. When the sushi bar is free from the weekend rush, the quality can be amazing: stunningly fresh *uni*, world-beating silky *toro*. The sushi-master also keeps an eye on the restaurant's seafood purchases, so they meet exacting standards. Appetizers such as "salmon tower tartare" and "drunken black cod" are rewarding, as are the simple, excellent fusion-tinged seafood entrees. Reserve for weekends, especially for sushi bar. Dinner nightly. Moderate. — N.W.

I Trulli Trattoria 830 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-943-6800.

An enduring hit in Encinitas (where there's no shortage of Italian restaurants), I Trulli serves modern Italian food with fashionable new ingredients. The menu, subtitled "Nouvelle Italian Cuisine," resembles the somewhat ambitious, generically "northern Italian" bills of fare that you encounter all over Hillcrest and the Gaslamp. (It is, in fact, a partner restaurant to Hillcrest's Ar-rivederci.) The signifiers of seriousness are the pink peppercorns, goat cheese, sun-dried tomatoes, and light cream sauces that coexist with the more traditional mozzarella-tomato sauce arrays. Best bets are the daily specials, which offer the greatest chance for fresh ingredients and creativity. Busy, cramped, painfully loud inside. Street patio next to highway is also noisy. Reserve for dinner on weekends or expect an hour's wait. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W.

Tuscan Sun Italian Deli 1070 North El Camino Real, Encinitas, 760-633-4546. A town abounding in Italian restaurants ought to have a great Italian deli, and it does. You'll find domestic and imported deli meats and cheeses, fresh-baked breads and focaccia, marinated veggies, and a wealth of gourmet products from Italy. The specialty is the "Caprese" (tomatos-plus) sandwich on focaccia bread with a variety of fillings, best served grilled and dressed with pesto. The eat-in/take-out menu includes pizza, pasta, salads, and a host of sandwiches. Open daily. — N.W.

SOUTH BAY

La Bella Pizza Garden 373 Third Avenue, Chula Vista, 619-426-8820. From the outside, La Bella looks like an Italian farmhouse, with geraniums, bright green shutters, and maroon canopies. A real extended family runs this business. Their secrets are: long hours (from breakfast until after midnight daily), big meals, and small prices. The menu includes standards like spaghetti with meatballs or lasagna, including sides of garlic bread, soup, or salad. The hit with kids is "Papa's Favorite," an 8-inch pizza with mushrooms, pepperoni, and sausage. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive. — E.B.

El Dorado 311 Palomar, Chula Vista, 619-426-4545. The food of Peru is arguably the zestiest in South America,

and Chula Vista's growing Peruvian community expects authenticity. El Dorado is there for them. The *papa relleno* is pure bliss—a little football of creamy mashed potatoes, lightly fried around a filling of ground beef, olives, and raisins. *Seco de cabrito* features young goat in a complex, herbed stew exploding with cilantro. Peruvian ceviche is lively and garnished with *cancha*, smoked hominy-corn kernels. Alas, here in the far north, the cuisine's fire is tuned way down for the kiddies—but there's always hot sauce. Reflecting the local population, half the menu here is Mexican—not tacos but more serious dinner dishes, especially seafood, carried out with above-average flair. Breakfast and dinner daily, lunch weekdays. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W.

Il Fornaio — Coronado 1333 First Street, Coronado, 619-437-4911. Il Fornaio's defensive architecture walls it off from the Great Unwashed—the tourists wandering around Coronado's Old Ferry Landing—but it's worth breaching if only to get your teeth into their to-die-for bread. "*Il fornaio*" means "the baker," after all. Beyond bread, we're talking rustic-feeling, herbal, ultra-fresh salads, and everyday Italian dishes ranging from *sfilatino con bisteccina* (thin grilled steak on a baguette with creamy dijon and salad) to a giant mesquite-grilled 22-ounce *bistecca alla fiorentina*, with lots of vegetarian and pasta dishes in between. A simple *penne alla sorrentina*—pasta tubes with a tomato, mozzarella, and basil sauce—is charming. *Pizza puttanesca* is heaven too, if you're into anchovies. Interesting regional menus from different provinces of Italy pop up during the first two weeks of each month. Most staffers seem mind-blowingly knowledgeable. Moderate. — E.B.

Island Pasta 1202 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-4545. This unassuming, spill-out-on-the-street restaurant somehow got it right. Simple tables on the sidewalk, daily made-on-the-premises semolina pasta, most dishes costing in the single digits. A simple fettuccine Alfredo is a pleasure al fresco with a glass of wine, sparkling against the fresh flowers on the table, watching Coronado's world go by. One good—and vegetarian—special to ask for is the *verdure* pasta, a combo of artichoke hearts, spinach, capers, mushrooms, onions, and olives over spaghetti. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Mary J's Cafe 1930 Cleveland Avenue, National City, 619-477-6645. Mary J and her cafe have been around for 40 years, and about the only thing to change is the prices. This is the real

National City. The regulars start piling in at 5 a.m. Mary always has specials going, but check the big-board menu above the stove too. One of their most popular items is the Trucker's Breakfast (three eggs, ham, bacon or sausage, home fries, and toast), or steak and eggs with hash browns and toast. Mary's son Vic, the morning cook, always gives you more than enough. For lunch or early dinner, try the meat loaf with mixed veggies, boiled potatoes covered with gravy, toast, and soup or salad. Or chicken-fried steak with all the fixings. Also hefty: cheeseburgers or tuna melts (with fries plus soda included in the price) and that old American favorite, a fried egg sandwich with chips. Open 4:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Miguel's Cocina — Chula Vista 970 EastLake Parkway, Chula Vista, 619-656-2822. Although the cooking is blandly pleasant (even the guacamole is underseasoned), it's surprisingly painstaking. Soups are built on fine stocks, salads can be vibrant, and seafood is treated so tenderly that the numerous shellfish-stuffed tortilla concoctions (shrimp enchiladas, lobster burritos) are positively luscious. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — N.W.

The Tin Fish 910 Seacoast Drive, Imperial Beach, 619-628-8414. At a table by this fish shack at the far end of the pier, you can watch people and pigeons (and people feeding pigeons) as you dig into huge portions of simple seafood, appetized by the sea air. The bill of fare features fish—fried, grilled, chowdered, or wrapped into burritos, tacos, or sandwiches. The big fried combos are about what you'd expect, but more piquant pleasures come in smaller packages. (Portions are generous, whatever you order.) The spicy fish tacos are really spicy, while the fried onion rings are of surpassing delicacy. Best of all, the crab cakes are huge and seriously crabby, with plenty of meat and very little filler. With a call, they'll give you a lift from the parking lot to their restaurant. A second branch at 170 Sixth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-238-8100, offers patio dining across from the Convention Center, with live music during summer. Both locations open daily for lunch and early dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W.

Uno Chicago Bar and Grill — Chula Vista Fifth and H Street, Chula Vista, 619-420-8660. The 1943-born Uno chain made its mark by transforming the flat Italian pizza into something a little more upstanding. Deep-dish pizzas have become one of Chicago's better-known exports. Now Uno does serious steak too, with vari-

ously sized Angus top sirloins. They come pretty much as is, but the meat itself is plenty flavorful and tender. Its expanded menu includes fajitas, ribs, shrimp scampi, and steak'n cheese burgers. Still, most lunchtime customers we saw seemed to stick to the staple: deep-dish pizzas and salads. Open daily, continuous service, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. 4465 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-483-4143; Fashion Valley Center, 619-298-1866; 5th and H, Chula Vista, 619-420-8660; 890 W. Valley Parkway, Escondido, 760-480-8667. — E.B.

EAST COUNTY

Anthony's Fish Grotto — La Mesa 9530 Murray Drive, La Mesa, 619-463-0368. If you don't want over-complicated food, Anthony's obliges. Fish and chips is still the simplest and the best. Or Mama's Platter, cod combined with batter-fried calamari, shrimp, oysters, scallops, and clam strips. Anthony's has been up and running for six decades now, with the buying power to get the pick of the catch. The menu offers 18 different seasonal fish to choose from, plus—if you've got the bread—delicious lobster dishes (in season) like lobster thermidor with a creamy, winey sauce. No reservations. Open daily, lunch through dinner. Moderate. — E.B.

La Casa del Zorro 3845 Yaqui Pass Road, Borrego Springs, 760-767-5323. La Casa Del Zorro is Borrego Springs' most renowned and ambitious restaurant, set in a deluxe resort five miles south of town. (Drive through the parking lots until you reach the fenced swimming pool; the restaurant's small, dimly marked door is just to the left.) The menu offers elaborate seafood appetizers (out here in the desert) and entrees with fine, subtle sauces, fresh veggies from nearer the coast, and rather mild-flavored, exquisitely tender meats, evidently chosen to be gentle to the dentures of the duffers. Desserts are few and very sweet. Full bar; great (but pricey) wine list. Reserve for weekend evenings. Open daily. Very expensive. — N.W.

Greek Town Buffet 345 West Main Street, El Cajon, 619-441-9708. Just another Greek buffet? Well, yes. Your choices are standard: gyros meat, *spanakopita*, moussaka, *dolmades*. And the decor is the usual blue and white with Greek island posters. But it's the customers who give it an exotic feel, speaking languages from Russian to Greek to Somali. And if you're hungry, this all-you-can-eat deal is great. Have

gyros meat, but also try the chicken souvlaki (grilled lemon chicken), or start with the excellent *dolmades* (grape leaves wrapped around beef and rice). The leaves' tangy taste and the lemony sauce inside get your juices running. Don't forget salad...or the dessert table (how could you leave without baklava?). Open for lunch and dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Grossmont Student Center Cafeteria 8800 Grossmont College Drive, El Cajon, 619-644-7000. This is no UCSD, with its dozen food franchises and Persian and Somali food tents on campus. Grossmont's single cafeteria (open to the public) is big, echoey, and sticks to standard-issue food like crumb-coated chicken katsu, cheeseburgers, burritos, and really, really cheap pizzas. Breakfast? How about a sausage and tater tot burrito? Health fans do have a plentiful salad bar. It's quite an experience, sharing lunch with local and foreign students, looking over the rolling hills to El Cajon—like being at an international finishing school in, well, Switzerland. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Mario's de la Mesa 8425 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-461-9390. The man on the *burro* (seen on the restaurant's sign and menu) holds two flags, those of Mexico and the U.S.A.—very appropriate. Few dishes (except maybe the *menudo*) will push the paler palate too far in any direction, but gosh-all, everything is so darn tasty. Tamales are a house special: rich, pillowy clouds of cornmeal surrounding richer shredded pork scattered with raisins for a smidgeon of sweetness. Pork also gets loving treatment in the *carnitas rojas*, big chunks browned to the barest crisp, which falls away to melting tenderness. Great marinade (cumin?) on the *carne asada*; intense flavor and buttery richness on the "machaca sonora style" (dry-roasted shredded beef). Beans are so light as to seem whipped; rice is studied with peas and spicy carrots. Service is fast and friendly. Breakfast and lunch Sunday and Monday; three meals Tuesday through Saturday. Inexpensive. — A.M.

Owl Cafe 674 Main Street, Imperial Valley, 760-336-0298. This classic American café is over 50 years old and still serves good rib-sticking food morning, noon, or night. Try breakfast special #1: pancakes, two eggs, and two bacon strips. For lunch, the French dip sandwich. Full-plate dinners—and they are full—include roast beef and chicken-fried steak. Open Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B. EOF



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Realism Dethroned

The director says he's "pursuing a performance that can consummate the intimations of the occult."

When first produced in 1889, August Strindberg's "naturalistic tragedy," *Miss Julie*, was a shocker: not just for its stark class conflicts, herky-jerky dialogue, and "multiplicity of motives," but also because the set was what it was supposed to be. The play takes place in a kitchen, and Strindberg's — much to the amazement of audiences accustomed to scenery painted on flats and drops — had a real stove, real plates, rows of copper pots, and even a speaking tube to the second floor.

The theater of the Gilded Age was indeed that: everything on a grand scale in houses that seated thousands. It was spectacle for the wealthy and could match Vegas glitz for glitz. By deliberate contrast, *Miss Julie* opened, one critic wrote, "in a depressing little room on the first floor" of a Copenhagen building. "The window shutters are screwed shut, and only a single lamp illuminates the stage."

In a famous preface, most of which he stole from Andre Antoine (the "Father of Modern Theater," featured next week), Strindberg extols the emerging realist/naturalist movements. "What most interests people today is the psychological process. Our prying minds are not content merely with seeing something happen — they must know why it happens." Such a process, he says, demands as lifelike a stage as possible: so scrap the footlights ("why should all actors be fat in the

face?") and remove makeup. To emphasize the break from illusion, actors can even turn their backs to the audience.

The play takes place one midsummer night, a bewitching time in Shakespeare and Stephen Sondheim's musical *A Little Night Music*, if not in San Diego, where midsummer runs from mid-July to mid-September. *Miss Julie*, aristocratic "half-woman man-hater," falls for/is seduced by Jean, her father's valet who dreams of bettering his social standing. Unable to take the humiliation of her unthinkable drop in class, Julie eventually decides to leave life early.

For Sledgehammer Theatre, director Josh Chambers has remixed *Miss Julie*. The play's set in Strindberg's time and today, in Los Angeles, where the modern Julie's a rich ditz and a sort of/sort of not famous actor. Jean, now John, is her father's chauffeur, with one eye on the road, the other on his Main Chance. Christine, in both eras, is the cook betrothed to Jean/John. Not content with staging it as a period piece, in a note the director says he's "pursuing a performance that can consummate the intimations of the occult" in *Miss Julie*.

For said consummation, Chambers gives us the now-familiar late- and post-modern attempts to fracture the realism Strindberg helped introduce to theater: intrusive sounds, formal movements and repetitions, characters so backlit the audience becomes blinded. Ominous



Miss Julie

Miss Julie by August Strindberg
Sledgehammer Theatre, 10th Avenue Theatre, 930 Tenth Avenue, downtown
Directed by Josh Chambers; cast: Claire Smith, William Popp, Charlotte DiGregorio; scenic design, Ken MacKenzie; costumes, Leah Piehl; lighting, John Eckert; sound, Jay Maury; musical composition, Chambers
Playing through April 27; Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Matinee Sunday, April 27, at 2:00 p.m. 619-544-1484.

blackouts seal off scenes like the slamming of a mighty vault. For fans of Sledgehammer, these Brecht-gone-berserk, alienating devices recall — but often don't compare in imaginative fervor —

with artistic director Scott Feldsher's ongoing crusade against realistic theater.

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Calendar THEATER

chairs. In this configuration, Chambers echoes the original. Along with being about sexual and social inequalities, *Miss Julie* broke new ground in almost every frame by altering the power dynamics between Julie and Jean. First she controls, then he, then she again. Each fights for even momentary status. Rarely are they equal.

Chambers puts Julie (Claire Smith) above, and John (William Popp) below, or vice versa, then has them shift positions in a slow, nonverbal dance for dominance. The dance is vertical and horizontal: after each blackout Jean and Julie begin as different people from the previous scene. The production includes music, some of it arresting, and dance numbers, as when the Three Little Pigs slam skillet (for unclear reasons — the consummation of occult intimations? — pigs abound in this show, so many you'd think it's set in Thomas Pynchon's legendary Manhattan Beach apartment). But the real chore-

ography's in the blocking, sometimes brusque, sometimes balletic, often telling.

The acting's often more attitude than emotion, however. Popp and Smith are strong physical performers, but both fall flat in the final scene. They have no attendant business: he doesn't jump from the top shelf; she doesn't hyper-gesture like a cheerleader who guzzled a dozen Starbucks lattes. They're alone. And the play ends not with Strindberg's bang but a strange whimper. Was this by design? Was the director showing us how bankrupt realist theater's become if left to its own devices? Maybe. But it also shows that auteur-director attempts, which began in the late '60s and culminated in the early '90s, to defamiliarize realism have become all-too-familiar as well. ■

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 All Night Strut

The Welk Resort Theatre presents this "sassy musical celebration" of music from the 1930s and '40s, including jazz, blues, bebop, and classic song standards. Lance Roberts directed.

WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. THURSDAYS, 1:45 AND 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 1:45 AND 8 P.M. TUESDAYS, 1:45 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 1:45 P.M. THROUGH MAY 18.

Baldwin New Play Festival

UCSD Theatre & Dance presents five new works by MFA playwrights Lila Rose Kaplan, Alex Lewin, Jennifer Barclay, Stephanie

Timm, and Ronald McCants. For days and times of each, call the box office. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO, 9500 GILMAN DRIVE, 858-534-2230. WEDNESDAYS, 8 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 26.

Beau Jest

Class Act Dessert Playhouse presents John Sherman's comedy about a young, unmarried Jewish

woman who hires an unemployed actor to portray her parents' image of an ideal mate. Sharon Strawn directed.

CLASS ACT DESSERT PLAYHOUSE, 4750 MISSION GORGE PLACE, GRANTVILLE. 619-287-3211. THURSDAY, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY, 7:30 P.M. SATURDAY, 1 AND 6:30 P.M.

Black Coffee

The Coronado Playhouse stages Agatha Christie's mystery about the theft of a physicist's valuable formula. Christie's famous detective, Hercule Poirot, appeared for the first time in this 1930 play. CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 13.

Bluebonnet Court

Whether, as a radio ad says, they're the "Yellow Rose of Texas, or one of God's plainer flowers," everyone in Zsa Zsa Gershick's dramedy is living a double life. Austin, Texas, in the spring of 1944, punishes nontraditional preferences. War rages in Europe, and hate sears the Lone Star hill country where, when her car breaks, down, Helen Burke becomes stranded. She's a writer (did an advice column for Hearst, now's headed for Hollywood). She's also Jewish and a lesbian. She learns that the Webbs, who own the motor lodge (where scorpions nap in empty shoes), their African-American employee Orla Mae, and



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Dancing in the Dark

Nanalu Branch, the local librarian, have been stranded all their lives. They're caught between the ideal, glamorized on radio and in movie mags, and closeted choices. In the middle, they've created false, but life-preserving identities. Though the comedy at times upstages the drama (the jokes are so funny, their absence lulls the pace), and though the ending's more a wish than a possibility in 1944, it's clear to see why *Blue Bonnet's* won several awards. The Moxie-Diversionary Theatre co-production gets the play's grit and its hope. Her hair swirling like twin tornadoes, Wendy Waddell exudes Helen's crack-wise attitude. Monique Gaffney's Orla Mae says little, speaks volumes about racial barriers. Jo Anne Glover, Christopher Buess, and Leigh Scarrit play moving variations on the theme of pain. For contrast, Lisel Gorrell-Getz and Fred Harlow etch unreal, often screamingly funny radio personalities (Harlow, in fact, must play half of Austin, from the compassionate to the cutthroat). Jennifer Brawn

Gittings's costumes evoke the period with precision.
Worth a try.
DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-220-0097. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 13.

The Cemetery Club
The Broadway Theatre in Vista stages Ivan Mennell's comedy about three widows who make monthly visits to their late husbands' graves. Jerry Pilato directed. BROADWAY THEATRE, 340 EAST BROADWAY, VISTA. 760-806-7905. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 AND 7:30 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 27.

Dancing in the Dark
The Old Globe's world premiere, based on the MGM movie *The Band Wagon*, has miles to go before it reaches Broadway but already offers considerable entertainment. Playwright Douglas Carter Beane writes three-dimensional one-liners: they are funny;

always, often painfully, true; and perfect for the character the moment they're uttered. The musical comedy, about the near impossibility of making a musical comedy, also boasts the original's great songs, including the iconic "That's Entertainment" and the title song. There are good bits: as when Adam Heller and (the hilarious) Beth Leavel, as comedy writers, pitch their idea to potential cast and backers. They blitz with manic urgency and stop the show as well. The cast performs on John Lee Beatty's minimalist, backstage/on-stage set. Patrick Page, clear-voiced Mara Davi, and Scott Bakula do quality work. Though it ran for almost three hours, the opening night performance felt cramped, however. Numbers got truncated, and knock-your-socks-off entertainment — the *raison d'être* of the original — often got shoved aside for plot and character development. It feels strange to say this, because plays get deservedly clobbered for lacking these qualities, but the revised book is trying for depths and motivations that weigh the show down. New scenes fill in back-story and dull the pace and whimsical "anything can go" tone. The production pulsed forward and needed to get out of its own way.

Worth a try.
OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 20.

I Can't Let Him Go
Hefe & Hefa Productions stage Rachel Robinson and Angela Nixon's "gospel extravaganza" about four women and their individual relationships with God. Robinson and Cynthia Pillard co-directed. LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN. 619-858-0322. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 8 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 8 P.M. THROUGH MAY 4.

Irving Berlin's I Love a Piano
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A Little Night Music
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- North County Times



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MUSIC BY
LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
TECTONIC THEATER PROJECT & ARENA STAGE

Mature content: partial nudity.

33 VARIATIONS
April 8 - May 4, 2008

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Calendar
THEATER

sical “masque.” *Night Music* requires a top performance from every participant — and they deliver! Part of the thrill of opening night came from watching local talent excel in a theater heretofore occupied by commercial touring shows. The musical’s based on Ingmar Bergman’s 1956 movie, *Smiles of a Summer Night*. These come in three kinds, says Madame Armfelt: smiles of the young, who know nothing; of fools, who know too little; and of the very old, who know too much. Actually Mme. Armfelt, who has #3, oversimplifies: *Night Music* looks at the whole zodiac of love, almost every possible combination, in fact, except a happy couple. Like the mismatched lovers in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, they wander, stumble, and shed illusions. In the end they not only fall into a potentially abiding love, they all grow up a little. One could quibble that Cygnet’s music is piped in, though Don LeMaster’s musical direction is clean and precise, and the singers are splendid, from the cho-

rus (who behave a bit like Titania’s fairies) to Sean Murray and Marci Anne Wuebben’s “Send in the Clowns,” to Randall Dodge’s booming Carl-Magnus, and Sandy Campbell and Courtney Evans’s “Every Day a Little Death.” Sporting some of Jeanne Reith’s most elegant costumes ever, the cast performs on Sean Fanning’s spare, gaslit stage, a forest of white birch tree trunks behind the scrim; an apt locale for unstable lovers to get lost and, owing to the alchemy of a summer night, quite possibly find longings fulfilled.

Critic’s pick.

OLD TOWN THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS STREET, OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. THROUGH MAY 11.

Love Crazy

In this sequel to Michael Wulffhart’s *Crazy Love* it’s visitor’s day at the clinic. Patients tell Dr. Anderson about problematic relationships, and the comedy takes “a laughing look at the difference between men and women.” Open-ended run.

CARLSBAD VILLAGE THEATRE, 2808 STATE STREET, CARLSBAD. 760-434-5944. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. OPEN-ENDED RUN.



Where There’s a Will... There’s a Wake

The Man Who Lost The River

New Vision Theatre stages a fictional version of the last days of Samuel Clemens’s life (a.k.a. Mark Twain). He was born when Halley’s Comet crossed the sky and said

he’d go out when it returned. The comet’s coming back. SUNSHINE BROOKS THEATRE, 217 NORTH COAST HIGHWAY, OCEANSIDE. 760-529-9140. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 19.

Miss Julie

Sledgehammer Theatre stages August Strindberg’s drama, says director Josh Chambers, about “the inevitable victory of the anarchic impulse over the mediocre — a victory of will and imagination over the celebrated, the tenured, and the acclaimed.”

TENTH AVENUE THEATRE, 930 TENTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 27.

Momsey’s Bad Boy, or The Saga of the Falsely Reformed Degenerate

GB Productions stages this traditional melodrama, by Summer Golden, about money missing from the collection plate — and what’s Victor Villain’s mom doing wearing diamonds all of a sudden? Mark Anthony directed. NORTH PARK VAUDEVILLE, 2031 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, NORTH PARK. 619-647-4958. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 20.

Mornings at Seven

North Coast Repertory Theatre presents Paul Osborn’s comedy about two houses, in a small Midwestern town, with an adjoining backyard. A change, for once, might happen when Homer might marry his fiancée of seven years. Tracy Williams directed. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. SATURDAYS, 2 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. MONDAYS, 7:30 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH MAY 11.

National Comedy Theatre

Improvisational comedy, making up funny stuff on the spot, is difficult enough. Years ago, however, Keith Johnstone thought it’d be more exciting if gone competitively. He got the idea from pro wrestling (“where Terrible Turks mangled defrocked priests while grannies waved their handbags”). National Comedy Theatre, an offshoot of Johnstone’s TheatreSports (artistic director Gary Kramer says the two compare like “rugby and American football”), resembles an athletic event more than an improv. Teams wear uniforms and compete on ActroTurf. Using suggestions from the audience, they play “Emotional Symmetry,” “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

THEATER DIRECTORY

Actors Alliance Of San Diego

2650 Truxton Road, Suite 203
Liberty Station
(619) 224-3600 www.actorsalliance.com

Arts Tix

28 Horton Plaza, Downtown
(619) 497-5000
www.sandiegoperforms.com

Asian American Repertory Theatre

(888) 568-2278
www.asianamericanrep.org

Beacon Theatre

(760) 724-8218
www.beacontheatresd.com

Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center

590 Palm Canyon Dr., Borrego Springs
(760) 767-4275 www.bspac.us

The Broadway Theatre

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

California Center For The Arts

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

Carlsbad Village Theatre

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

Centro Cultural De La Raza

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

Christian Community Theater

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

Civic Theatre

3rd & B, Downtown
(858) 570-1100 www.sdccivic.org

Center Stage Players

(619) 750-5402
www.centerstageplayers.com

Clairemont Community Players

Holmes Elementary
4902 Mt. Ararat, Clairemont
(858) 560-5114

Community Actors Theatre

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

Copley Symphony Hall

750 B St., Downtown
(619) 235-0804
www.sandiegosymphony.com

Coronado Playhouse

1835 Strand Way, Coronado
(619) 435-4856
www.coronadoplayhouse.com

Cygnet Theatre Company

6663 El Cajon Blvd., Ste. N, College Area
(619) 337-1525 www.cygnettheatre.com

Diversionary Theatre

4545 Park Blvd., Normal Heights
(619) 220-0097 www.diversionary.org

East County Performing Arts Center

210 E. Main St., El Cajon
(619) 440-2277 www.ecpac.com

Educational Cultural Complex Theater

4343 Ocean View Blvd., Southeast
(619) 527-5256

Eveoke Dance Theatre

644 7th Ave., Downtown
(619) 238-1153 www.eveoke.org

The Fault Line Theatre

3152 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest
(619) 692-3382 www.faultlineprod.com

Fern Street Circus

(619) 235-9756 www.fernstreetcircus.org

The Fritz Theatre

(619) 233-7505 www.fritztheatre.com

Grossmont College

Stagehouse Theatre, El Cajon
(619) 644-7234
http://grossmont.gcccd.cc.ca.us/

The Hispanic Arts Theatre Of San Diego

(619) 475-7496

H.I.T. Productions Dinner Theater

Shirley’s Kitchen, 7868 El Cajon Blvd.
La Mesa (619) 561-8673
(619) 561-8673 www.dinnertheater.net

Horton Grand Theatre

444 Fourth Ave., Downtown
(619) 234-9583

Inner Mission Productions

(619) 245-4958
www.innermissionproductions.org

Ion Theatre

(619) 374-6894 www.iontheatre.com

Iris Theater

4580-B Alvarado Canyon Rd.
(619) 271-4144 www.iris theater.org

Laguna Playhouse

606 Laguna Canyon Rd., Laguna Beach
(949) 497-2787

La Jolla Playhouse

Mandell Weiss Center, UCSD
(858) 550-1010
www.lajollaplayhouse.org

La Jolla Stage Company

7887 Herschel Ave.
(858) 459-7773 www.thelajollastageco.org

Lamb’s Players Theatre

Paul and Ione Harter Stage
1142 Orange Ave., Coronado
(619) 437-0600 www.lambplayers.org

Lamplighters Community Theatre

8053 University Ave., La Mesa
(619) 464-4598
www.lamplighterstheatre.org

Lyric Opera San Diego

Stephen & Mary Birch
North Park Theatre
2891 University Ave.
(619) 239-8836
www.lyricoperasandiego.org

Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater

Balboa Park
(619) 685-5990

Mesa College

Theatre Company
7250 Mesa College Dr., Clairemont
(858) 627-2621

MiraCosta College Theatre

One Barnard Dr., Oceanside
(760) 795-6815 www.miracosta.edu

Mira Mesa Theatre Guild

(858) 693-7328

Moonlight Stage Productions

651 E. Vista Way Vista
(760) 724-2110 www.moonlightstage.com

The Muse Theatre

(619) 239-2894
www.themuse theatre.com

Mystery Cafe

The Imperial House Restaurant
505 Kalmia St., Hillcrest
(619) 544-1664 www.mysterycafe.net

National Comedy Theatre

3717 India St., Mission Hills
(619) 295-4999
www.nationalcomedy.com

New Village Arts Theatre

2787 B State St., Carlsbad
(760) 433-3245 www.NewVillageArts.org

North Coast Repertory Theatre

987-D Lomas Santa Fe Dr., Solana Beach
(858) 481-1055 www.northcoastrep.org

North Park Vaudeville

2031 El Cajon Blvd., North Park
(619) 647-4958

The Old Globe Theatre

Cassius Carter Centre Stage
Lowell Davies Festival Theatre, Balboa Park
(619) 23-GLOBE (234-5623)
www.oldglobe.org

Old Town Theatre

4040 Twiggs St., Old Town
(619) 688-2494
www.theatreinoldtown.com

Onstage Playhouse

291 Third Ave., Chula Vista
(619) 422-7787 www.onstage.itgo.com

Palomar College Theatre

1140 W. Mission Rd., San Marcos
(760) 744-1150 x2453 www.palomar.edu

Patio Playhouse

201 E. Grand Ave., Escondido
(760) 746-6669 www.patioplayhouse.com

Pine Hills Lodge

2960 La Posada Way, Julian
(760) 765-1100 www.pinehillslodge.com

Point Loma Nazarene University

Salomon Theatre
3900 Lomaland Dr., Point Loma
(619) 849-2433 www.ptloma.edu

Poway Center For The Performing Arts

15498 Espola Rd., Poway
(858) 748-0505 www.powayarts.org

PowPAC, Poway’s Community Theater

13250 Poway Rd., Poway
(858) 679-8085 www.powpac.org

Ramona MainStage Theatre

626 Main St., Ramona
(760) 789-7008

The Rehearsal Room

1159 6th Ave., Downtown
(619) 589-9963

San Diego Actors Theatre

P O Box 880285 92168
(858) 268-4494 www.sdactorstheatre.net

San Diego City College Theater

15th and C Streets, Downtown
(619) 230-2676 www.sdcity.edu

San Diego Junior Theatre

Casa Del Prado Theatre, Balboa Park
(619) 239-8355 www.juniortheatre.com

San Diego Musical Theatre

(858) 560-5740
www.SDMT.org

San Diego Opera

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

San Diego Repertory Theatre

79 Horton Plaza, Downtown
(619) 544-1000 www.sandiegorep.com

S.D. School Of Creative & Performing Arts

2425 Dusk Dr., Paradise Hills
(619) 470-0555 www.scpa.sandi.net

San Diego State University

Don Powell Theatre
and Experimental Theater
(619) 594-6884 http://theatre.sdsu.edu/

lively, often funny evening. And Gary Kramer is one talented comedian.

Worth a try.

MARQUIS THEATER, 3717 INDIA STREET, MISSION HILLS. 619-295-4999. FRIDAYS, 7:30 AND 9:45 P.M. SATURDAYS, 7:30 AND 9:45 P.M. OPEN-ENDED RUN.

San Diego Theatresports: The Funhouse

A cross between improvisational comedy and *Family Feud*, The Funhouse combines improv with competitive scene-making, with the audience awarding points to the winning team. Purists might balk at the odiousness of comparisons used in this format, but the “game show,” on Fridays, is a kick. The 90-minute evening offers different bits. The winner gets a banana, the loser a “forfeit.” Some attempts went nowhere (improv is tough: I did it in my, as hindsight reveals, callow youth). Others made amazing twists and turns. The group has more hits than misses, and their guru, Keith Johnstone, wrote one of the very best books I’ve read about making theater. They put his pearls to good use. Their motto: “Remember, when it’s not funny, it’s art.”

Worth a try.

FUNHOUSE, 6822 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA. 619-846-6978. FRIDAYS, 7:45 P.M. SATURDAYS, 7:45 AND 9:45 P.M. OPEN-ENDED RUN.

33 Variations

The La Jolla Playhouse stages Moises Kaufman’s drama about Beethoven’s fascination with an insignificant waltz, written in 1819, and a modern-day musicologist determined to find the root of Ludwig van’s obsession. Kaufman directed. LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE, UCSD. 858-550-1010. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH MAY 4.

The Voyage Inheritance

The Lamb’s Players present the San Diego premiere of David Mamet’s adaptation of Harley Granville-Barker’s drama, which asks, “What’s more important in a family: honor or truth?” Deborah Gilmour Smyth directed. LAMB’S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVENUE, CORONADO. 619-437-0600. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 4 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH MAY 18.

What They Have

South Coast Repertory Theatre stages Kate Robin’s comedy about a successful industry couple who find that “lives can change in a heartbeat, and things aren’t necessarily what they seem.” Chris Fields directed. SOUTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 655 TOWNE CENTER DRIVE, SOUTHEAST SAN DIEGO. 714-708-5555. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 1:30 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 1:30 AND 7:30 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH MAY 4.

Where There’s a Will... There’s a Wake

Mystery Café Dinner Theatre presents James Pascarella and Will Robertson’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.

Double-Barrel

No director nowadays would choose to shoot this solely in long shot.

Should anyone be suffering symptoms of withdrawal as the “Seen on DVD” column gears down from weekly to monthly, let me share the latest accretions to my own spotty collection. I don’t purchase DVDs often or with a plan, but the going-out-of-business sale a few months back at the Sam Goody in Fashion

Valley seemed an unmissable opportunity to complement my long-standing copies of *Tombstone* and *Hour of the Gun* with fresh ones of *Gunfight at the O.K. Corral* and *Warlock* (not the 1991 horror show, the 1959 Western), four versions of the Wyatt Earp, Doc Holliday legend.

The major contribution of *Gunfight...* to the lore is, above all else, to render these strange bedfellows, Earp and Holliday, as two facets of a single personality, the superego and the id, the “Preacher” (as Holliday kiddingly nicknames him) and the sinner, the one who, his “wild” youth notwithstanding, strives to walk upright but is sorely tempted by circumstance to stoop, and the one who, for all his wallowing, nurses an eternal spark, a flickering memory, of decency, the one who could yet fall and the one

who could yet, at least on occasion, rise, each of them presenting the other a magic mirror to what might have been. (*Hour of the Gun*, a virtual sequel made ten years later by the same director, John Sturges, emphasizes the breakdown of law and the erosion of Earp’s principles, reducing Holliday to a do-as-I-say-not-as-I-do voice

of conscience. *Tombstone*, positing the warmest rapport between Earp and Holliday, emphasizes mainly the internal momentum of the feud and the escalating cost.) Hardly less noteworthy, in the on-again-off-again relationship of Holliday and Big-Nose Kate, is a depiction of mutual masochism that would have been unthinkable as a central subject in the Hollywood of the day, 1957, but was remarkably smuggled in as a lurid sideshow in what passes for good clean family entertainment. It can shock even today.

Solid (albeit stuffy) though Burt Lancaster is as Earp, Kirk Douglas unfailingly upstages him as the bedevilled consumptive. (Flamboyant and funny as was Val Kilmer’s Holliday in *Tombstone*, Kurt Russell’s Earp was more than a match. James Garner’s



Gunfight at the O.K. Corral

Earp in *Hour of the Gun*, by contrast, has a wide edge over Jason Robards, and in my view a slight edge over all other Earps.) Near the end, to cap off the continual upstaging, Douglas delivers one of, for me, the most thrilling lines in all of movies. “I’ll take care of

Ringo.” The climactic gunfight is now winding down, five members of the Clanton gang lie dead, two Earp brothers incapacitated, and Holliday, snaking toward his prey in a kind of sideways crouch, has just taken a blind-side slug from the wet-behind-the-ears

Billy Clanton (Dennis Hopper), who promptly hightails it on foot toward Main Street, with, in turn, a slug of Earp’s in his belly. But Holliday’s focus is elsewhere, the redoubtable Ringo (John Ireland), the professional gunslinger who had stolen Kate off him,

Tina Fey Amy Poehler

BABY MAMA

Would you put your eggs...

in this basket?



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laughed in his face, and then thrown her back again, unwanted, used up. “I’ll take care of Ringo.” (And you, Wyatt, can go chase that gut-shot pup down Main Street.)

In my mind’s ear I may have remembered the line as spoken with the actor’s much-parodied growling sob, punching up the word Ringo, though in truth he speaks it with great restraint, a matter-of-fact mutter, swallowing the last word as if he can barely stand to say it aloud. What punctuates the line for dramatic effect is the immediate pick-up of Dimitri Tiomkin’s scurrying music, having maintained total silence during the foregoing gunplay, and then, after Holliday plays peekaboo through a team of skittish horses, the final punctuation: the extra bullet (four altogether), and the extra beat to savor his handiwork, when Ringo has been well and truly taken care of. No director nowadays would choose to shoot this solely in long shot and medium long shot, disdaining the closeup, and no leading actor nowadays would sit still for it, Douglas’s head and shoulders framed inside a chipped-out aperture in an adobe wall, a *faux* closeup, in nearly precise ratio to the VistaVision screen, a smallish picture within the picture. Portrait of a killer. The laconic last parting in the Alhambra Saloon approaches excruciation. Without Holliday (“I need you, Doc”), Earp would have been lost. Without Earp, Holliday will be. They both know it. And make all the fun you want of the Frankie Laine vocal interludes (“Boot Hill, Boot Hill,/ So cold, so still”), the accompanying transitional shots of riders on the trail of destiny are portentous in the very best sense. If I could now have back every hour I’ve spent

watching this movie in my lifetime, usually in bits and pieces on TCM and AMC, I’d have been able to read *War and Peace*. Nonetheless I found another two hours to watch it again.

Warlock treats the same legend under pseudonyms, the fictitious title town taking the place of Tombstone. This version, from a book by Oakley Hall, directed by Edward Dmytryk, has its own lengthy list of distinctions. For starters, it offers straight off a novel twist on the classical showdown (the first of five classical showdowns, all of them in some way novel), with the local lawman turning tail at the last instant and running for his life. There and thereafter, the movie institutionalizes the concept of the “backshooter,” a wild card at a fair-and-square showdown, in essence a strategically placed sniper. (Curiously, John Wayne in *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance* fits perfectly the description of a backshooter.) Too, it conceives a whole fanciful lifestyle of the nomadic lawman-for-hire, a town marshal “on acceptance,” supplementing his meager marshalling fee as a faro dealer, travelling the countryside with equipment wagon and entourage, an Earpish peace officer allied with a Hollidaying gambler, peddling law and order along with risk and hazard, equal partners in the operation, in equally dandified duds. And it introduces a new character in the story, a conscience-stricken defector from the outlaw gang, representing man’s self-reforming, self-policing potential. Hence, “Civilization is stalking Warlock.”

This last is played with congenital dyspepsia by the recently departed Richard Widmark (my incentive finally to take the DVD out of its plastic wrap and reacquaint myself), but although he gets top billing, most of the interest centers on the Earp-Holliday relationship, now known as Blaisdell-Morgan. The Holliday character, Morgan, still wears his degeneracy on the outside, a limper rather than a couger, branded for life. His feelings toward the Earp character have been rather deepened and darkened, a complex mix of gratitude, devotion, idolatry, possessiveness, envy, rivalry, and, with a silver-haired Anthony Quinn in the role, nary a hint of homoeroticism, despite his attention to furnishings and décor. (Was there ever a more virile actor?) Henry Fonda is nothing short of princely as Blaisdell, who doesn’t have Earp’s long-nosed Buntline Special but instead an orna-

mental pair of gold-handled Colts. Dragging around his sagging shoulders at an almost ceremonial gait, he carries everywhere an aura of authority, fatalism, fatigue, regret, and sorrow, even into the scaled-down replay of the O.K. Corral shootout: “Bill-ly, Bill-ly,” he admonishes, as though talking to a six-year-old (the gang’s young hot-head, Frank Gorshin, is still called Billy), mercifully winging the punk with his first shot, but obliged, when the stubborn fool nicks him with return fire, to suspend mercy.

Fonda, of course, had played Earp by name in John Ford’s *My Darling Clementine*, for my taste a far too laundered and starched treatment of the legend, with the emphasis preeningly on the picturesque. And Quinn at one point here recites from Shakespeare, just like Victor Mature’s Holliday there. In *Warlock*, quite unlike *Gunfight...*, the opposite sides of the same coin end up in more open conflict, Jekyll vs. Hyde, a struggle for dominance, and the pseudonyms free the story from history and heighten the uncertainty. The winner of the struggle, who understands full well what he has lost, will accept no congratulations. “What are you worth?” he challenges the grateful citizens one by one, his inner savage emerging without inhibition, filling the void. Comparison and contrast between these two versions could go on and on, to neither’s disadvantage. Both of them, for that matter the four of them on my shelves, possess all the power of myth without any self-conscious mythologizing. Movies like they don’t make them anymore.

Meantime, some current disposables.... *Leatherheads* is an intermittently cute comedy on the wild and woolly early days of pro football, cute in some of the archaic banter, but not cute in the unrelieved drab brown color scheme or the indifferent and infrequent on-field action. It shows a lighter side of director George Clooney (*Confessions of a Dangerous Mind*, *Good Night and Good Luck*), a side he has shown often enough as an actor. His opening shots have been well thought out, but after that it’s pretty steady star-gazing, and since one of the stars is the director, it’s pretty squirmy narcissism. *Smart People* is (or are) Dennis Quaid, Sarah Jessica Parker, Thomas Haden Church, and Ellen Page in an indie misfit comedy in an academic setting, which enables the viewer to feel more virtuous when not laughing than when not laughing at a low-brow Holly-

wood comedy: “My fun’s just a little more cerebral than your fun.” (Anyone not fed up with Ellen Page in *June* ought to have ample opportunity.) As well as in fewness of laughs, it can match most any mainstream comedy in manyness of pop songs. Noam Murro directed, Mark Jude Poirier wrote, first-timers both. David Ayer’s *Street Kings*, story by James Ellroy, stages a dirty-cop mud wrestle, strident, obvious, hyperbolic, and hypocritical, one cop dirtier than another, one actor badder than another, making Dirty Harry look, in relation, like new-fallen snow and making Clint Eastwood look like God. The vodka-swiggling, trigger-happy Keanu Reeves, in the lead, proves to be one of the least dirty policemen and least bad performers. *Shine a Light* grants entrée to a Rolling Stones benefit concert at the intimate Beacon Theatre in New York City. If Martin Scorsese weren’t visible in several minutes of *Raging Bull*-ish black-and-white footage pre-event, you’d never imagine he was behind the cut-cut-cut hackwork. Old, old interspersed interviews of young, young Mick stimulate meditation and mirth.

Other doings.... Midnight Madness resumes at Landmark’s La Jolla Village, with encores from past Madnenses (*Tron*, *The Big Lebowski*, *Pulp Fiction*, et al.), on both Friday and Saturday nights, April 11 and 12 through May 16 and 17. And Landmark’s Ken Cinema hosts FilmOut, the annual Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender film festival, April 11 through 17. (See filmoutsandiego.com for schedule.) Landmark, you might have noticed, has been recently turning over movies at a rapid rate, shooing out *Sleepwalking*, *Fighting for Life*, *Snow Angels*, and *The Grand*, for example, after one week. So count yourself lucky, if you haven’t seen it, that the chewy *Caramel* has been held over a second week at the Hillcrest. Finally, the animated *Persepolis* is to be re-released this Friday in English-dubbed form, with Chiara Mastroianni and her mother Catherine Deneuve re-doing their own voices, together with the substituted voices of Sean Penn, Gena Rowlands, and Iggy Pop. I can have no objection on principle. ■

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.

The Bank Job — “Based on a true story,” or anyway on a true bank job, the knock-over of Lloyds 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, covorting 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 be-

cause 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 rolled-back 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 computer-age hocus-pocus of *Ocean’s Eleven*, ... *Twelve*, ... *Thirteen*, and their ilk. Jason Statham, Saffron Burrows, Stephen Campbell Moore, James Faulkner. 2008.

★ (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Bra Boys — Documentary on a Sydney surf gang, narrated by Russell Crowe, co-directed by Sunny Abberton and Macario De Souza. (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; LA COSTA 6; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; FROM 4/11)

Caramel — Sisterhood in the repressive society of Beirut: an Other Woman, a defiled fiancée, a closet lesbian, an aging actress, a lonesome seamstress, a demented bag lady, all in orbit around a second-class beauty shop called Si Bella (the “B” hanging upside down on the façade, the electricity prone to outages). The material encompasses professional intimacies, such as the Lebanese lesbian washing the hair of an enticing customer, or the Other Woman giving a facial wax job to an admiring policeman; and, although never heavy, it also encompasses larger sociological observations, such as the beat-cop harassment of the engaged couple parked after dark, or the difficulty of a woman without identification booking a decent hotel for an assignment, finally settling for a fleabag and cleaning the bathroom herself. Those are all fine scenes, but they’re excelled by the scene — comic, romantic, keenly psychological — of the sympathetic policeman having an imaginary phone conversation from the café opposite the beauty parlor, making up lines to match the mood of the woman in the window: the star and director, Nadine Labaki. With Yasmine Elmasri, Joanna Moukartzel, Gisèle Aouad, and Adel Karam. 2007. ★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

The Counterfeiters — Stefan Ruzowitzky’s Holocaust survival tale, loosely based on fact, 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. 2007. ★★ (FLOWER HILL 4; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Doomsday — Mutant *Mad Max*. “Same shit, different era,” as somebody says. All but wiped out by the Reaper Virus, walled off in quarantine for twenty-five years, Scotland in 2035 retains two hostile clans, heavy-metal cannibals and retro-Medieval knights in armor. Enter, from the English side of the wall, a one-eyed kick-ass chick, the slender Rhona Mitra. Gleefully gory (a bunny rabbit, a grazing cow, multiple beheadings) and dismally derivative. With

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Leatherheads

Bob Hoskins, Alexander Siddig, Adrian Lester, David O'Hara, and Malcolm McDowell; written and directed by Neil Marshall. 2008.

● (HORTON PLAZA 14)

Drillbit Taylor — Homeless army deserter answers a want ad to bodyguard a fat kid, skinny kid, and shrimpy kid from the high-school bully. The jokes arrive predictably, the laughs lag badly. With Owen Wilson, Nate Hartley, Troy Gentile, David Dorfman, Alex Frost, and Leslie Mann; directed by Steven Brill. 2008.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; SANTEE DRIVE IN)

Flawless — Cheeky to call a film that. Especially a Demi Moore film. In it, she carries that affixed chip on her shoulder into the role of the sole female executive at the London Diamond Corporation (Lon Di, for short) in the year 1960, held down in her career advancement by the proverbial glass ceiling. “Don’t give up,” she dashes off a note-to-self on a 3x5 index card. “Work harder. You will win.” Though she is expressly identified as American to cover for the faintness of her accent, that doesn’t prevent her from pronouncing “reschedule” without the “k” sound (“re-shedule”), turning herself inside out to fit in. Bravely, even a touch martyrishly, she puts on, and puts up with, a coiffure and wardrobe out of the Jackie Kennedy scrapbook — and because it’s stuffy old England, exclusively in colors suitable for a funeral — not to mention putting on and putting up with a layer of old-age makeup in the present-day framing scenes, when she pulls out a manuscript of her life story under a title lifted from Kate Chopin, minus the definite article, *Awakening*. Helping to sound reveille is the company’s night janitor (Michael Caine, so peculiarly cast, you keep expecting him to be unmasked as a secret agent), who sees all and knows all without being seen or known, and who pitches to her a retributive raid on the vault in the basement. Beyond a trip to the dog track (his pleasure), neither of the co-conspirators has a life, and the suffocating narrowness of the film will not be offset by its broader awareness of feminist issues or its last-minute epiphany on healthcare.

Michael Radford, the serious-minded director of *1984*, *Il Postino*, *Dancing at the Blue Iguana*, among others, goes through the paces of the heist with precision, but without urgency, without tension, without excitement, without, even, clarity. In a caper film, that could be thought a sizable flaw. Social consciousness is small compensation. 2008.

★ (FLOWER HILL 4, FROM 4/11; HILLCREST CINEMAS)

The Grand — Vegas poker tournament covered in a come-and-go mockumentary style. The gambling “types” — the cowboy-hatted veteran, the Internet novice, the in-your-face punk, the antisocial nerd, the tough-talking broad, the bottomed-out hophead, among others — are amusing in conception and in casting, but not so much in detail. The anticipated laughs seldom materialize. With Woody Harrelson, Chris Parnell, Cheryl Hines, David Cross, Dennis Farina, Richard Kind, Michael McKean, and Werner Herzog; directed by Zak Penn. 2008.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, THROUGH 4/10)

Horton Hears a Who! — Dr. Seuss adulterated: plumped-up graphics (faithful in bare outline); wised-up attitude (vocal impressions of Kissinger and JFK, a martial-arts anime parody); dragged-out storytelling. The elephant’s crossing of a rickety rope bridge is a good sequence (meanwhile, down in minuscule Whoville, a jostled dentist misses the mark with the novocaine needle, hits the patient in the shoulder, and turns his arm into a strand of spaghetti); and the lessons on tolerance and coexistence aren’t lost in the grandiosity. With the voices of Jim Carrey, Steve Carell, Will Arnett, Seth Rogen, and Carol Burnett; directed by Jimmy Hayward and Steve Martino. 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 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; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

In Bruges — Writer-director Martin McDonagh, in his feature debut, dispatches two British hit men to lie low, after a job

with messy collateral damage, in the “fairy-tale” 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 hot-tempered, 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.

● (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Juno — A slow starter. In the title role of a pregnant Minnesota high-schooler (named after the Roman goddess of marriage, fidelity, fertility), the dry flat sardonic line-delivery of Ellen Page, the angelic avenger of *Hard Candy*, is not easy to warm up to, no matter how much we might try to see it as an adolescent defense mechanism, or how much as humble emulation of Janeane Garofalo. And the garishly colorful dialogue, from first-time scripter and former stripper Diablo Cody, often tends to push too hard (“Being pregnant makes me pee like Seabiscuit”). The heroine, interested in simply finding a good home for the baby, not in making a profit off it, finds a possible taker in the weekly *PennySaver* (“next to the exotic birds”), a neat-freaky suburban couple in the gated confines of Glacial Valley Estates. It’s there that things really begin to get interesting. Our initial arrival at the housing development is alone sufficient to convince us of Jason Reitman’s directorial bona fides: a series of static shots of 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-at-home composer of advertising ditties and a frustrated rock-and-roller. A curious, potentially dangerous after-school relationship blossoms between him and the heroine: he may be a commercial sell-out as a composer, but he’s a person who can talk

music to a teenager, and he demonstrates “decent taste in slasher movies” (e.g., Herschell Gordon Lewis’s *The Wizard of Gore*, another impediment to our warming up to the heroine). Over time, the film builds, and it does so with proficiency, patience, and foresight. If the heroine is never wholly embraceable, the surrounding characters go far to compensate, specifically J.K. Simmons as her droll laconic dad, Allison Janney as her worldly-wise, even-keeled mom, and above all, Michael Cera as her shunted-aside, unassertive, but ever-faithful boyfriend, the baby’s biological father, and a cooler dude than you’d ever guess from his track-team togs. And if the dialogue is unabatingly overcolored, at least the hues are spread around democratically. 2007.

★★★ (LA JOLLA 12; LA PALOMA)

Leatherheads — Reviewed this issue. With George Clooney, Renée Zellweger, John Krasinski, and Jonathan Pryce; directed by Clooney.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

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 big-band 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; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MISSION VALLEY 7; POWAY 10)

Never Back Down — A teenage Tom Cruise impersonator (Sean Faris) risks his pretty face in after-school Mixed Martial Arts, a self-labelled “quick learner” looking for retribution against the class bully. The filmmakers show their interest by continually changing the level of color saturation as if fiddling with the settings on a TV remote. With Amber Heard, Cam Gigandet, and Djimon Hounsou; directed by Jeff Wadlow. 2008.

● (PALM PROMENADE 24)

Nim’s Island — When a reclusive marine

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MOVIES

biologist is lost at sea off his own private island, his motherless little girl (having picked up none of his Scots accent even though he's the only person in her life) turns for help to the Indiana Jones-y fictional hero of a series of adventure novels. Worse luck, the actual author behind the books is an obsessive-compulsive agoraphobic female, a plucky performance by Jodie Foster in an insipid children's film, succulently photographed by Stuart Dryburgh. With Abigail Breslin and Gerard Butler; directed by Mark Levin and Jennifer Flackett. 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; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Other Boleyn Girl — 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, 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



Nim's Island

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 girl in the front row of freshman Physics, 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 the pouty Scarlett Johansson makes plain that that was a position she never sought nor desired.) The creative team — TV director Justin Chadwick,

screenwriter Peter Morgan (*The Queen*), original novelist Philippa Gregory, whoever else — more or less corroborate the Crown's smear campaign against Anne, in effect endorsing her beheading, and standing in roughly the same relation to Henry as Fox News to George W. Bush. With Kristin Scott Thomas, Mark Rylance, David Morrissey, Jim Sturgess, and Ana Torrent. 2008.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; LA JOLLA 12; POWAY 10)

Persepolis — Cartoon recap of the comic-strip memoir by Marjane Satrapi, covering her childhood in Iran under (and then out from under) the Shah, her adolescence in Austria to escape the strictures of the Islamic Revolution, her return to her homeland as a depressed and medicated young woman, then a bride, then a divorcee, and her ultimate exile in France, stretching from the late Seventies, to put dates on it, to the early Nineties. The animation is not all that animated. With stiff movement, a flat visual field, and a black-and-white palette (but for the lightly colored framing scenes in the present tense), it is the furthest thing from the limitless taffypull of contemporary computer animation. It is in fact quite deliberately reactionary, a return to “nature” if you will, a homespun product of the human hand, staying as close as possible (notwithstanding some decorative embellishment here and there) to the naive style of the original drawings. And since Satrapi herself is credited as co-director along with a fellow comic artist, Vincent Paronnaud, we can be sure the result has her stamp of approval. The general effect, overriding any risk of trivialization,

is something in the vicinity of the Brechtian “alienation effect,” something distancing, something cushioning, so that we experience such painful subjects as political oppression, imprisonment, torture, execution, etc., less viscerally and (for all the outward resemblance to a Saturday-morning TV kiddie cartoon) more cerebrally. That's not to say the film goes in for in-depth analysis of Middle Eastern modern history. It goes at these subjects strictly from the point of view of a growing girl trying to make sense of them, and the emphasis gradually and eventually shifts to the individual. If she started out to bear witness to the events of her time, she wound up in the long run a witness primarily to the witness. And she delivers her unblushingly personal testimony with candor, with humor, with self-deprecation, and with aesthetic distance — a distance commensurate to that provided by the primitive animation. Whatever mixed feelings we might have about that animation, they fall away as it becomes merely a serviceable vehicle, frugal and no frills, to convey the unhackneyed story. A useful medium, plain and simple. With the voices of Chiara Mastroianni, Catherine Deneuve, Danielle Darrieux, Simon Abkarian, and Gabrielle Lopes. 2007. ★★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA PALOMA; FROM 4/11)

Priceless — French romantic comedy with Audrey Tautou and Gad Elmaleh, directed by Pierre Salvadori. (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 4/11)

Prom Night — Slasher remake with Brittany Snow, Scott Porter, and Jessica Stoup, directed by Nelson McCormick.

(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; 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; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 4/11)

The Ruins — Foolhardy American students (an “F” for everyone), in search of a secret Mayan archaeological dig, find along with it no more than they deserve: murderous natives, parasitic plant life, copious gore. The Mexican Tourism Board couldn't be pleased, but who could? With Jonathan Tucker, Jena Malone, Shawn Ashmore, Laura Ramsey, and Joe Anderson; directed by Carter Smith. 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; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Shine a Light — Reviewed this issue. With Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Ron Wood, and Charlie Watts; directed by Martin Scorsese.

★ (MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; SAN MARCOS 18)

Smart People — Reviewed this issue. With Dennis Quaid, Sarah Jessica Parker, Thomas Haden Church, and Ellen Page; directed by Noam Murro.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 4/11)

Stop-Loss — A hiatus of nine years since Kimberly Peirce's first feature, the gender-bending *Boys Don't Cry*, is practically like starting from scratch. And blended into a crowd of Iraq War films, this bring-the-troops-home agitation (“With all due respect, sir, fuck the President!”) is not designed to claim the same attention. The chronicle of close-knit young vets in Brazos, Texas, dutifully covers a range of possibilities (domestic and alcohol abuse, desertion, a military hospital, a suicide, and so on), but the punches are telegraphed, and, for all the overacting, do not have much power behind them in any case. With Ryan Phillippe (compare his understated work as a WWII vet in Clint Eastwood's *Flags of Our Fathers*), Channing Tatum, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Abbie Cornish, and Timothy Olyphant. 2008.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Street Kings — Reviewed this issue. With Keanu Reeves, Forest Whitaker, Hugh Laurie, and Chris Evans; directed by David Ayer.

● (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 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 4/11)

10,000 B.C. — Prehistoric Low Camp. The archetypal Hero's Journey, at its earliest starting point: the outcast of a mountain clan, who appear to wear bird droppings on their faces, wending his way past woolly mammoths, giant man-eating gobblers, a saber-toothed tiger, across the Sea of Sand to the Head of the Snake and the Mountain of the God, in pursuit of the Four-Legged Demons, to rescue his blue-eyed betrothed and lay claim to the tribal White Spear. A mild hoot, undisguisedly schlocky for all its CG technology. With Steven Strait, Camilla

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Belle, Cliff Curtis, and (narrator) Omar Sharif; directed by Roland Emmerich. 2008. ★ (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Tron — Disney’s leap into the artistic future is also into an artistic void. Computer-generated movie images have plainly come a long way (one way or another, outwards if not forwards, breadthwise if not depthwise) from the 1960s avant-garde abstractions of the Whitney brothers, John and James, and on back to the experiments of pre-computer pioneers like Len Lye and Norman McLaren. And writer-director Steven Lisberger, with his first live-action movie, may have achieved something of a breakthrough in his full-length intertwine-ment of experimental filmmaking techniques and a conventional narrative line. At the same time, there is a sense that the arranged marriage between these two elements has been rather rushed into, without due care taken to ascertain whether the two parties possess similar interests and goals, and without working out an equitable division of tasks. The emergent problems may not suggest an inherent incompatibility, but rather just an unreadiness on one side or the other to pitch in and do its fair share. The urge to anthropomorphize and geographize computer programs is perhaps excusable as an idle daydream, but its palpable realization here, when Lisberger takes us on a tour of computer innards, suggests nothing so much as the sort of TV commercial in which stomach acid or carburetor sludge is given form as a human miscreant (or perhaps better yet, nothing so much as the concluding episode of *Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Sex*, with Woody Allen impersonating a drop of semen). And the software landscape, though filled with multiform wonders, looks quite like a cartoon — albeit with a plasticky, Pop-art surface to it — and quite uninhabitable by human actors. With Jeff Bridges, Bruce Boxleitner, and David Warner. 1982. ★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, 4/11 AND 12 MID-NIGHT)

21 — Takeoff from a true story, presumably far, far off, about a team of MIT math whizzes who, drilled by a Mephistophelean mentor on the faculty, visit Vegas on weekends to beat the house at blackjack. The film is not able to make the frowned-upon practice of “card counting” comprehensible, much less cinematic (unless you consider fast-shuffle editing to be cinematic), but then it’s not really interested in mental acumen and application, only in the rewards and perks: a run-of-the-mill Sin City fantasy (dazzling montage of casino neon, top-of-the-world luxury suite, strip club, stacks and stacks of hoarded chips) in which the natural-born nerd can forget who his friends are, become somebody different, go around acting like a cross between Richard Gere in *Pretty Woman* and Michael Douglas in *Wall Street*. Director Robert Luketic, whose lightweight credits consist of *Legally Blonde*, *Win a Date with Tad Hamilton*, and *Monster-in-Law*, permits himself to be entranced by the fantasy, serving more as press agent than reporter, greasing the wheels for a smooth ride, picking compatible pop songs for tempo. Jim Sturgess is Young Paul McCartney cute as the whizziest math whiz, or in other words a fantasy figure from the get-go. (If he’s so bright, why is he piling up hundreds of thousands of dollars in the ceiling of his dorm room instead of in a bank?) Kate Bosworth is a still more distorted fantasy of the Smart Girl. And Kevin Spacey, who gets all the snappiest dialogue, puts his innate repulsion to good use as the manipulative mentor, the adult authority figure who, in order to complete the fantasy, must finally be overthrown. The most sympathetic figure, even when (perhaps especially when) he’s slipping rings onto his fingers for a brass-knuckle work-over, is Laurence Fishburne as an old-school casino watchdog who’s being phased out by computer software. 2008.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION



Shine a Light

VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Under the Same Moon — Patricia

Riggen’s illegal-immigrant ordeal is a virtual heart-tugging machine, tugging on it at regular and frequent intervals, so that you learn, like an experimental rat, to cringe in anticipation. The agony begins immediately. A camera-friendly single mom (Kate del Castillo) in East L.A., making her

Sometimes the smartest people have the most to learn.

VOGUE

“A BRISK NEW COMEDY.”

Ellen Page is superb. Thomas Haden Church is a crack comic actor whose lazy deadpan is the perfect counterpoint to Page’s sassy but square overachiever. Page plays it with an impeccably light touch, letting soulful vulnerability peer through her wisecracks.”

John Powers

From the producer of “Sideways”

smartpeople-themovie.com

2008 | **SUNDANCE** FILM FESTIVAL | OFFICIAL SELECTION

STARTS FRIDAY, APRIL 11

AJC FASHION VALLEY 18 San Diego (858) 558-244C	AJC PALM PROMENADE 24 San Diego (619) 558-244C	WYCHOWSKI METROPLEX 15 @ VISTA VILLAGE Vista (760) 945-1489	WYCHOWSKI GROSSMONT CENTER STADIUM 10 La Mesa (619) 789-6684	WYCHOWSKI RANCHO DEL REY STADIUM 16 Chula Vista (619) 593-4519
AJC MISSION VALLEY 20 Mission Valley (619) 593-4519	WYCHOWSKI MIRA MESA STADIUM 18 Mira Mesa (619) 593-4519	WYCHOWSKI LA JOLLA VILLAGE CINEMAS San Diego (619) 593-4519	WYCHOWSKI TOWN SQUARE STADIUM 14 San Diego (619) 789-6684	WYCHOWSKI OCEANSIDE STADIUM 16 Oceanside (760) 945-1489
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NO PASSES ACCEPTED FOR THIS ENGAGEMENT

“AN INTENSE, RIVETING THRILLER!”

Keanu Reeves and Forest Whitaker give powerhouse performances.”

Steve Oldfield, FOX-TV

“A modern day *L.A. Confidential*.”

Renee Shapiro, KATV-ABC

DIRECTED BY THE WRITER OF TRAINING DAY

STREET KINGS

KEANU REEVES FOREST WHITAKER HUGH LAURIE CHRIS EVANS

STORY BY JAMES ELLROY SCREENPLAY BY JAMES ELLROY AND KURT WIMMER AND JAMIE MOSS DIRECTED BY DAVID AYER

www.foxsearchlight.com

STARTS FRIDAY, APRIL 11

brother of the absent father, drops by to volunteer for guardianship, fully cognizant of the \$300 per month sent home by the mother. Granny, like clockwork, fails to wake up, and the boy, wasting only a little time for waterworks, heads north on his own to track down his mother before the next weekly call. Hair-raising adventures and close shaves follow bumper to bumper, though the boy always appears to have time to comb his hair as neatly as if he were sitting for a studio portrait. A happy ending never feels in doubt. It’s only a question of how many tugs. 2008. ● (CHULA VISTA 10; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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 Quaid, Forest Whitaker, Sigourney Weaver, Matthew Fox, and William Hurt; directed by Pete Travis. 2008. ● (HORTON PLAZA 14; OTAY RANCH 12)

The Year My Parents Went on Vacation — A child’s-eye view of soccer and politics in 1970 Brazil, directed by Cao Hamburger. (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 4/11)

Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

Town Square 14
4665 Clairemont Drive (858-274-1234)
The Bank Job (R); Horton Hears a Who!
(G); Leatherheads (PG-13); Nim's Island
(PG); Prom Night (PG-13); The Ruins (R);
Smart People; Street Kings (R); Superhero
Movie (PG-13); 10,000 B.C. (PG-13); 21
(Pg-13); Under the Same Moon

Gaslamp 15
701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400)
Call theater for program information

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)
The Bank Job (R) Fri. (12:15, 2:45, 5:15) 7:45, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15;
Doomsday (R) Fri. (12:30, 3:00, 5:30) 8:00, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30;
Horton Hears a Who! (G) Fri. (12:15, 2:30, 4:45) 7:20, 9:35 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 2:30) 4:45, 7:20, 9:35;
Drillbit Taylor (PG-13) Fri. (12:10, 2:35, 5:00) 7:25, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (12:10, 2:35) 5:00, 7:25, 9:50;
Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day (PG-13) Fri. (12:10, 2:25, 4:40) 7:15, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (12:10, 2:25) 4:40, 7:15, 9:30;
Nim's Island (PG) Fri. (12:00, 2:15, 4:30) 7:00, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 2:15) 4:30, 7:00, 9:30;
Persepolis (PG-13) Fri. (12:20, 2:35, 4:50) 7:10, 9:25 Sat.-Sun. (12:20, 2:35) 4:50, 7:10, 9:25;
Prom Night (PG-13) Fri. (12:05, 2:20, 4:35) 7:05, 9:15 Sat.-Sun. (12:05, 2:20) 4:35, 7:05, 9:15;
The Ruins (R) Fri. (12:45, 3:00, 5:20) 7:40, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (12:45, 3:00, 5:20) 7:40, 10:10;
Smart People () Fri. (12:35, 2:55, 5:10) 7:30, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (12:35, 2:55) 5:10, 7:30, 9:45;
Superhero Movie (PG-13) Fri. (12:40, 3:05, 5:15) 7:35, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. (12:40, 3:05) 5:15, 7:35, 9:55;
10,000 B.C. (PG-13) Fri. (12:30, 3:05, 5:30) 8:00, 10:25 Sat.-Sun. (12:30, 3:05) 5:30, 8:00, 10:25;
Vantage Point (PG-13) Fri. (12:25, 2:50, 5:05) 7:50, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. (12:25, 2:50) 5:05, 7:50, 10:00

La Jolla 12
8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262)
The Bank Job (R) Fri.: 12:00, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45 Sat.: (11:45) 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45 Sun.: (11:45) 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:30; **Horton Hears a Who!** (G) Fri.-Sun.: 12:00, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:35; **Drillbit Taylor** (PG-13) Fri.: 12:05, 2:25 Sat.-Sun.: 12:00, 2:20; **Junjo** (PG-13) Fri.: 12:05, 5:05, 10:25 Sat.: (11:50) 5:05, 10:25 Sun.: (11:50) 5:05, 10:15; **Leatherheads** (PG-13) Fri.: 1:20, 2:10, 4:10, 5:00, 7:00, 7:50, 9:50, 10:40 Sat.: (11:10) 1:20, 2:10, 4:10, 5:00, 7:00, 7:50, 9:50, 10:40 Sun.: (11:10) 1:20, 2:10, 4:10, 5:00, 7:00, 7:50, 9:50; **Nim's Island** (PG) Fri.: 1:30, 4:00, 6:45, 9:15 Sat.-Sun.: (11:00) 1:30, 4:00, 6:45, 9:15; **The Other Boleyn Girl** (PG-13) Fri.: 2:20, 7:35 Sat.-Sun.: 1:25, 7:35; **Prom Night** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat.: 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:35 Sun.: 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:25; **The Ruins** (R) Fri.-Sat.: 12:15, 2:45, 5:20, 7:45, 10:15 Sun.: (10:55) 2:45, 5:20, 7:45, 10:05; **Stop-Loss** (R) Fri.-Sat.: 4:50, 7:40, 10:30 Sun.: 4:50, 7:40, 10:20; **Street Kings** (R) Fri.: 1:15, 4:05, 6:50, 9:40 Sat.-Sun.: (10:35) 1:15, 4:05, 6:50, 9:40; **Superhero Movie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat.: 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 10:00 Sun.: 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:55; **21** (PG-13) Fri.: 1:25, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20 Sat.: (10:30) 1:25, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20 Sun.: (10:30) 1:25, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10

8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)
Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day (PG-13) Fri.
 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. 12:00, 2:30,
 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; **Smart People** () Fri. 2:20,
 4:50, 7:20, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. 11:50, 2:20, 4:50,
 7:20, 9:50; **The Counterfeiters** (NR) Fri. 2:10,
 4:40, 7:10, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. 11:40, 2:10, 4:40,
 7:10, 9:40; **Tron** (PG) Fri.-Sat. 11:55p.m.

Mira Mesa 18
10733 Westview Parkway (858-635-7700)
Call theater for program information

Fashion Valley 18
 7037 Friars Road (858-558-2262)
The Bank Job (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:30, 4:10, 6:55,
 9:40; **Horton Hears a Who!** (G) Fri.-Sun.
 (10:30) 12:40, 2:50, 5:15, 7:25, 9:35; **Drillbit
 Taylor** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:40) 2:10, 4:55,
 7:30; **Leadersheads** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:45)
 2:20, 5:05, 7:55, 10:45 Fri.-Sun. (11:45) 2:20,
 3:35, 5:05, 6:40, 7:55, 9:30, 10:45; **Nim's Island**

Mission Valley 7
 7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)
Bra Boys (R) 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;
Leatherheads (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:15, 1:15)
 4:15, 7:00, 10:00 Sun. (10:15, 1:15) 4:15, 7:00;
Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day (PG-13)
 Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

Mission Valley 20
1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262)
Drillbit Taylor (PG-13); Horton Hears a
Who! (G); Leatherheads (PG-13); Meet the
Browns (PG-13); Nim's Island (PG); Prom
Night (PG-13); The Ruins (R); Shine a Light
(PG-13); Shutter; Smart People; Stop-Loss
(R); Street Kings (R); Superhero Movie
(PG-13); 10,000 B.C. (PG-13); 21 (PG-13);
Under the Same Moon

Museum of Photographic Arts
1649 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-7559)
Call theater for program information

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

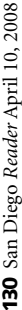
Grossmont Center 10
5500 Grossmont Center Drive (619-465-7100)
Horton Hears a Who! (G); Leatherheads
(PG-13); Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day
(PG-13); Nim's Island (PG); Prom Night
(PG-13); The Ruins (R); Smart People (G);
Stop-Loss (R); Street Kings (R); Superhero
Movie (PG-13); 21 (Pg-13)

Rancho San Diego 15
2951 Jamacha Road
College Road Trip (G) Fri. (11:35, 2:05, 4:20)
6:55, 9:20 Sat.-Sun. (11:35, 2:05) 4:20, 6:55,
9:20; **Horton Hears a Who!** (G) Fri. (11:35,
2:10, 4:25) 6:45, 9:15 Sat.-Sun. (11:35, 2:10)
4:25, 6:45, 9:15; **Drillbit Taylor** (PG-13) Fri.-
Sun. (12:20, 2:50) 7:10, 9:45; **Leatherheads**
(PG-13) Fri. (11:45, 12:15, 2:30, 2:55, 5:10)
7:15, 7:55, 10:00, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (11:45, 12:15,
2:30, 2:55) 5:10, 7:15, 7:55, 10:00, 10:30; **Nim's
Island** (PG) Fri. (11:30, 12:00, 2:00, 2:45, 4:30,
5:00) 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (11:30,
12:00, 2:00, 2:45) 4:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30,
10:15; **Prom Night** (PG-13) Fri. (12:35, 3:00,
5:15) 7:40, 10:25 Sat.-Sun. (12:35, 3:00) 5:15,
7:40, 10:25; **The Ruins** (R) Fri. (11:50, 2:20,
4:40) 7:25, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (11:50, 2:20) 4:40,
7:25, 9:50; **Street Kings** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:05
2:45) 7:05, 9:40; **Superhero Movie** (PG-13)
Fri. (12:10, 2:35, 4:50) 7:45, 10:05 Sat.-Sun.
(12:10, 2:35) 4:50, 7:45, 10:05; **10,000 B.C.**
(PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 4:45) 7:35, 10:10; **21**
(PG-13) Fri. (11:40, 12:25, 2:40, 4:15) 6:50,
7:50, 9:50, 10:35 Sat.-Sun. (11:40, 12:25, 2:40)
4:15, 6:50, 7:50, 9:50, 10:35; **Meet the Browns**
(PG-13) Fri. (11:55, 2:25, 4:55) 7:20, 9:55 Sat.-
Sun. (11:55, 2:25) 4:55, 7:20, 9:55

Santee Drive In
10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)
Horton Hears a Who! (G) Fri.-Sun.; **Drillbit**
Taylor (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.; **Leatherheads**
(PG-13) Fri.-Sun.; **Nim's Island** (PG) Fri.-
Sun.

Chula Vista 10
Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)
Horton Hears a Who! (G) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 4:45, 7:00, 9:30; **Leatherheads** (PG-13) Fri. (10:30, 1:15) 4:15, 7:15, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. (1:15) 4:15, 7:15, 10:00; **Nim's Island** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:15, 12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; **Prom Night** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:30, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45; **The Ruins** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 1:00, 3:30) 5:45, 8:15, 10:30; **Shutter** (I) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 4:40) 8:30; **Street Kings** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **Superhero Movie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:00, 10:15; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (1:30) 6:00, 10:45; **21** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:45, 1:45) 4:30, 7:30, 10:30

Eastlake Parkway at Olympic (858-558-2262)
Horton Hears a Who! (G) Fri.-Sun. (10:20)
 12:25, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:10; **Drillbit Taylor**
 (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:35) 2:05, 4:35, 7:05 Sun.
 2:05, 4:35, 7:05; **Leatherheads** (PG-13) Fri.-
 Sun. (11:30) 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10; **Nim's**
Island (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:15) 12:35, 2:55, 4:55,
 7:15, 9:30; **Prom Night** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.
 (11:45) 2:00, 4:05, 5:15, 6:10, 7:25, 8:20, 9:35,
 10:30; **The Ruins** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:25) 12:40,
 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50 Sun. 12:40, 3:05, 5:20,
 7:35, 9:50; **Shutter** Fri.-Sun. 12:30, 9:30; **Smart**



People Fri.-Sun. 12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40; **Street Kings** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:55) 2:35, 5:05, 7:40, 10:15; **Superhero Movie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:05) 1:15, 3:25, 5:35, 7:45, 9:55 Sun. 1:15, 3:25, 5:35, 7:45, 9:55; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 12:20, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:25; **21** (Pg-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:30) 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:05; **Vantage Point** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:20) 2:45

Palm Promenade 24

770 Denberry Road (858-558-2262)
The Bank Job (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:55) 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:40 Sun. (11:55) 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30; **College Road Trip** (G) Fri. (10:45) 12:55, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:25 Sat. (10:40) 12:55, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:25 Sun. (10:40) 12:55, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:20; **Horton Hears a Who!** (G) Fri. (11:10) 1:20, 3:50, 6:05, 8:20, 10:35 Fri.-Sat. (11:10) 1:20, 3:50, 6:05, 8:20, 10:35 Sat. (10:45) 1:20, 3:50, 6:05, 8:20, 10:35 Sun. (10:45) 1:20, 3:50, 6:05, 8:20, 10:35; **Drillbit Taylor** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:50) 2:20, 4:50, 7:25, 10:10; **Leatherheads** (PG-13) Fri. (11:25) 1:00, 2:10, 4:00, 4:55, 6:50, 7:50, 9:30, 10:35 Sat. (10:20, 11:25) 1:10, 2:10, 4:00, 4:55, 6:50, 7:50, 9:30, 10:35 Sun. (10:20, 11:25) 1:10, 2:10, 4:00, 4:55, 6:50, 7:50, 9:30; **Never Back Down** (PG-13) Fri. (10:45) 1:25, 4:25, 7:05, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (10:35) 1:25, 4:25, 7:05, 9:50; **Nim's Island** (PG) Fri. (11:05) 12:00, 1:35, 2:35, 4:20, 5:05, 6:40, 7:40, 9:15, 10:15 Sat. (10:50) 12:00, 1:35, 2:35, 4:20, 5:05, 6:40, 7:40, 9:15, 10:15 Sun. (10:50) 12:00, 1:35, 2:35, 4:20, 5:05, 6:40, 7:40, 9:15, 10:15; **Prom Night** (PG-13) Fri. (11:00) 12:45, 1:45, 3:30, 4:30, 6:15, 7:15, 8:45, 9:40, 11:05 Sat. (10:05, 11:00) 12:45, 1:45, 3:30, 4:30, 6:15, 7:15, 8:45, 9:40, 11:05 Sun. (10:05, 11:00) 12:45, 1:45, 3:30, 4:30, 6:15, 7:15, 8:45, 9:40; **The Ruins** (R) Fri. (11:05) 12:15, 1:30, 2:55, 4:15, 5:15, 6:30, 7:35, 8:55, 10:00, 11:10 Sat. (10:00, 11:05) 12:15, 1:30, 2:55, 4:15, 5:15, 6:30, 7:35, 8:55, 10:00, 11:10 Sun. (10:00, 11:05) 12:15, 1:30, 2:55, 4:15, 5:15, 6:30, 7:35, 8:50, 10:00; **Shutter** Fri.-Sat. (11:40) 1:50, 4:10, 6:25, 8:40, 10:55 Sun. (11:40) 1:50, 4:10, 6:25, 8:35, 10:45; **Smart People** () Fri. (10:50) 1:10, 3:40, 6:00, 8:30, 10:55 Sat. (10:25) 1:00, 3:40, 6:00, 8:30, 10:55 Sun. (10:25) 1:00, 3:40, 6:00, 8:25, 10:45; **Stop-Loss** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:55) 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45; **Street Kings** (R) Fri. (11:30) 1:15, 2:15, 4:00, 5:00, 6:45, 7:45, 9:25, 10:30 Sat. (10:30, 11:30) 1:15, 2:15, 4:00, 5:00, 6:45, 7:45, 9:25, 10:30 Sun. (10:30, 11:30) 1:15, 2:15, 4:00, 5:00, 6:45, 7:45, 9:25; **Superhero Movie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:35) 1:40, 4:10, 6:20, 8:35, 10:50 Sun. (11:35) 1:40, 4:10, 6:20, 8:30, 10:40; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:10) 1:55, 4:40, 7:20, 10:05; **21** (Pg-13) Fri. (11:15) 1:05, 2:25, 4:05, 5:10, 7:00, 8:00, 9:55, 11:00 Sat. (10:15, 11:15) 1:05, 2:25, 4:05, 5:10, 7:00, 8:00, 9:55, 11:00 Sun. (10:15, 11:15) 1:05, 2:25, 4:05, 5:10, 7:00, 8:00, 9:55; **Meet the Browns** (PG-13) Fri. (11:45) 2:40, 5:30, 8:10, 10:45 Sat. (10:10) 12:30, 3:05, 5:30, 8:10, 10:45 Sun. (10:10) 12:30, 3:05, 5:30, 8:10, 10:35

Rancho Del Rey 16

East H Street (619-216-4707)
Call theater for program information

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive-In

2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727)
Call theater for program information

NORTH INLAND

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Carmel Mountain

11620 Carmel Mountain Road (858-674-9770)
College Road Trip (G); **Drillbit Taylor** (PG-13); **Horton Hears a Who!** (G); **Leatherheads** (PG-13); **Nim's Island** (PG); **Prom Night** (PG-13); **The Ruins** (R); **Smart People** (); **Street Kings** (R); **Superhero Movie** (PG-13); **21** (Pg-13)

ESCONDIDO

Escondido 16

350 W. Valley Parkway (760-291-0119)
Horton Hears a Who! (G) Fri. (12:15, 2:40, 5:00) 7:20, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 2:40) 5:00, 7:20, 9:40; **Drillbit Taylor** (PG-13) Fri. (1:15, 4:20) 8:00, 10:45 Sat.-Sun. (1:15) 4:20, 8:00, 10:45; **Leatherheads** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 3:10) 7:10, 7:50, 10:00, 10:40; **Nim's Island** (PG) Fri. (12:05, 1:20, 2:30, 3:50, 5:10) 6:45, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (12:05, 1:20, 2:30, 3:50) 5:10, 6:45, 9:30; **Prom Night** (PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 2:20, 4:40) 7:00, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 2:20) 4:40, 7:00, 10:10; **The Ruins** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:25, 3:30) 7:55, 10:35; **Shutter** Fri.-Sun. (12:35, 2:55) 7:05, 10:05; **Smart People** Fri.-Sun. (1:10, 3:45) 7:40, 10:15; **Stop-Loss** (R) Fri. (12:30, 4:10) 7:35, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (12:30) 4:10, 7:35, 10:20; **Street Kings** (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:00, 3:55) 7:25, 10:25; **Superhero Movie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:40, 3:00) 7:15, 9:55; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:45, 3:25) 6:40, 9:45; **21** (Pg-13) Fri. (12:10, 1:30, 3:15,

4:30) 6:50, 7:30, 9:50, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (12:10, 1:30, 3:15) 4:30, 6:50, 7:30, 9:50, 10:30

FALLBROOK

River Village

5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784)
Leatherheads (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 2:00) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (11:00, 2:00) 5:15, 7:45; **Nim's Island** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:15 Sun. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15; **The Ruins** (R) 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; **Street Kings** (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:00, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Sun. (12:00, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30; **Superhero Movie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:00, 3:00) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:00, 3:00) 5:00, 7:15; **21** (Pg-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:30, 2:15) 5:15, 8:00, 10:45 Sun. (11:30, 2:15) 5:15, 8:00

POWAY

Poway 10

13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)
Horton Hears a Who! (G) Fri. (10:15, 12:30, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15 Sat. (10:15, 12:30, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30 Sun. (10:15, 12:30, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15; **Drillbit Taylor** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (10:30, 12:45, 3:15)

5:45, 8:15; **Leatherheads** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:15, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 9:45 Sun. (10:15, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00; **Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 4:45, 7:15, 10:00 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 4:45, 7:15; **Nim's Island** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45; **The Other Boleyn Girl** (PG-13) Fri. (11:00, 2:00) 5:00, 7:45, 10:30 Sat. (2:00) 5:00, 7:45, 10:30 Sun. (2:00) 5:00, 7:45; **Prom Night** (PG-13) 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; **The Ruins** (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; **Street Kings** (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; **21** (Pg-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:45, 1:45) 4:30, 7:30, 10:15 Sun. (10:45, 1:45) 4:30, 7:30

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)
Horton Hears a Who! (G) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:15, 4:40) 7:05, 9:15; **Drillbit Taylor** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 2:35, 5:20) 7:55; **Leatherheads** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 11:45, 1:45, 2:20, 4:25, 5:05) 7:15, 7:50, 10:00, 10:40; **Nim's Island** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:05, 2:10, 3:25, 4:35, 5:40) 7:00, 8:00, 9:20; **Prom Night** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 12:10, 1:00, 2:30, 3:15, 4:50, 5:30) 7:10, 7:45, 9:25, 10:05; **The Ruins** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 2:40, 5:10) 7:30, 9:50; **Smart People** Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 2:45, 5:05) 7:25, 9:50; **Stop-Loss** (R) Fri.-Sun. 10:20p.m.; **Street Kings** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 12:15, 2:05, 2:50, 4:45, 5:30) 7:35, 8:10, 10:05, 10:40; **Superhero Movie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 2:45, 5:05) 7:20, 9:35; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:15) 10:15; **21** (Pg-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:45) 7:40, 10:30

STARTS FRIDAY, APRIL 11

CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES

SORRY, NO PASSES ACCEPTED FOR THIS ENGAGEMENT.

NORTH COASTAL

CARLSBAD

Plaza Camino Real

2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469)
Leatherheads (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:00, 2:30, 5:00) 7:30, 9:55 Sun. (12:00, 2:30, 5:00) 7:30; **Nim's Island** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:55, 1:00, 3:10) 5:15, 7:20, 9:25 Sun. (10:55, 1:00, 3:10) 5:15, 7:20; **21** (Pg-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:40, 4:20) 7:00, 9:35 Sun. (11:00, 1:40, 4:20) 7:00

DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8

El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)
The Bank Job (R) Fri. (2:15) 7:30, 10:15 Sat. 7:30, 10:15 Sun. 7:30p.m.; **Horton Hears a Who!** (G) Fri. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 4:45, 7:00 Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 4:45, 7:00, 9:30 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 4:45, 7:00; **Drillbit Taylor** (PG-13) Fri. (11:30) 5:00 Sat.-Sun. 5:00p.m.; **Nim's Island** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:15, 12:30, 3:00) 5:15, 7:45, 10:00 Sun. (10:15, 12:30, 3:00) 5:15, 7:45; **Prom Night** (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; **The Ruins** (R) Fri. (10:45, 1:00, 3:15) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sat. (1:00, 3:15) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (1:00, 3:15) 5:30, 8:00; **Street Kings** (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; **21** (Pg-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 1:15) 4:15, 7:15, 10:15 Sun. (10:30, 1:15) 4:15, 7:15

Flower Hill 4

2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425)
Flawless (PG-13) 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; **Leatherheads** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 1:15, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00 Sun. (10:30, 1:15, 4:00) 7:00; **Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 2:45) 7:30; **Smart People** 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; **The Counterfeiters** (NR) Fri.-Sat. (12:15) 5:15, 9:45 Sun. (12:15) 5:15

ENCINITAS

La Paloma

471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW)
Juno (PG-13); **Persepolis** (PG-13)

LA COSTA

La Costa 6

6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)
Bra Boys (R) Fri. (11:30, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sat. (1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30; **Horton Hears a Who!** (G) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15; **Leatherheads** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 1:15) 4:15, 7:00, 10:00 Sun. (10:30, 1:15) 4:15, 7:00; **Nim's Island** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 7:45; **Street Kings** (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; **21** (Pg-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 1:30) 4:30, 7:30, 10:30 Sun. (10:30, 1:30) 4:30, 7:30

OCEANSIDE

Mission Marketplace 13

College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-806-1790)
Horton Hears a Who! (G) 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; **Drillbit Taylor** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:30, 4:15) 7:00, 9:45 Sun. (11:00, 1:30, 4:15) 7:00; **Leatherheads** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:00, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00, 10:45 Sun. (12:00, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00; **Nim's Island** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (12:30, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30 Sun. (12:30, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15; **Prom Night** (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; **The Ruins** (R) 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; **Shutter** Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:00, 3:00) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 Sun. (11:00, 1:00, 3:00) 5:15, 7:30; **Stop-Loss** (R) Fri.-Sun. (2:00) 7:45; **Street Kings** (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; **Superhero Movie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:15, 2:15, 4:30) 7:00, 9:15 Sun. (12:15, 2:15, 4:30) 7:00; **10,000 B.C.** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 4:45) 10:30 Sun. (11:15, 4:45); **21** (Pg-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 2:00, 4:45) 7:30, 10:15 Sun. (11:00, 2:00, 4:45) 7:30

Oceanside 16

401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733)
Call theater for program information

HELP WANTED

PLACE PRINTED ADS in Job Giant and the Reader by calling 619-235-8200.
POST FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. See thousands of classified ads not printed here!

ACCOUNTANT, JUNIOR. Coordinate monthly closing; reconcile balance sheets. Must be familiar with GAAP. Submit resume at www.hotsspring.com or www.calderaspas.com under "Careers," or e-mail to hstaff@watkinsmfg.com.

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT. We are seeking a part-time, 20-hour a week Accounting Assistant to work in our corporate accounting department. Prepare mailings including checks, invoices and backup documentation; organize and file all accounting documents, make copies of monthly claims and do special projects such as: audit prep work, 1099's, research, and year-end file maintenance. Requires High school/GED and related work experience (\$9-\$9.90/hour). Call Human Resources: 619-282-8211; fax: 619-282-8210; e-mail: hr@voa-swcal.org; or mail resume: Volunteers of America, HR-EA, 3530 Camino Del Rio North, #300, San Diego, CA 92108. EOE/AAP Employer.

ACCOUNTING CLERK needed for fast-paced, growing company in Vista. Requires detail-oriented team player with some Quickbooks and Excel, strong math skills, data entry, with own car. Full time plus overtime. Fax resume/salary requirements: 760-346-2211.

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Free Classifieds: web or mail

EARLY DEADLINE by 6 pm **MONDAY**

Applies to private parties. Other rates for roommates, rentals and paid services. Info: 619 235 8200

WEB: SDReader.Com **MAIL:** P.O. Box 85803, San Diego 92186 (up to 25 words)

\$8 Classifieds: phone or walk-in

LATE DEADLINE by 6 pm **TUESDAY**

Applies to private parties. Other rates for roommates, rentals and paid services.

PHONE: 619 235 8200 **WALK-IN:** 1703 India Street (at Date) Little Italy

1850 Marron Road, Suite 114, Carlsbad 92008. Fax: 760-720-7341. 760-729-8916.

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BARISTA. Part time positions available now. Coffee barista needed for busy coffee cart near UCSD. Excellent work environment. Good pay. Call today, 760-294-1889 or 858-692-0273.

BICYCLE BUILDER. Must be mechanically inclined and detail oriented. Full time. Experience a plus, not necessary. Apply: Bicycle Warehouse, 4650 Santa Fe Street, San Diego 92109. www.bicyclewarehouse.com.

BICYCLE SHOP hiring experienced mechanic/manager. San Diego Bike Shop. Fax resume to 619-235-6774 or e-mail karimi45@cox.net.

BOOTH RENTAL. Hair with Flair, a full service salon in Clairemont, has a booth for rent. For more information, please call Lu Tuesday-Saturday: 858-270-5032.

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DENTAL ASSISTANT. Small practice in Lemon Grove seeks temporary/possible permanent full-time dental assistant with experience, kind and friendly nature. Fax resume, 619-463-9317.

DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER. County of San Diego Probation Department is now hiring. Test Dates: April 26, 2008 or May 31, 2008. Qualified applicants will be notified by mail of the time and location of the test. Applications must be submitted no later than 15 days prior to exam date. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree with experience. Must be 21 years, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen. Pass criminal/personal background investigation. No felony convictions. \$50,752-\$61,672/year. Safety Retirement-Sworn Officers 3% at age 50. Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply. Applications can be accessed online from the Job/Current Recruitment section of the County website at: www.sdcounty.ca.gov. Jobline: 858-514-8558.

DEPUTY SHERIFF and Deputy Sheriff Detections/Courts. San Diego County Sher-

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HOTEL: Find a job! Build a career! SDSU Hospitality Job Fair and Career Expo 2008. Public welcome, free admission, seminars and workshops! Bring your resume. Wednesday, 4/23, 10am-2:30pm. San Diego State University Centennial Walkway. For more information, direction and to register, visit www.jobfairsandiego.com.

HOUSECLEANING. Weekly pay. Paid mileage. Merry Maids offers flexible hours. No nights, weekends, holidays. Work in teams. Insured car required. Must speak English. South Coast/all south areas only, 619-336-1612; 619-226-2621.

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HUMAN RESOURCES ANALYST. San Diego Workforce Partnership, Inc. is accepting applications for full-time position reporting to Interim Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. Responsibilities include: develop and maintain comprehensive employment policies/procedures; maintain safe, healthy, fair, productive work environment, ensuring compliance with state and federal regulations. Requires general Human Resource skill set covering recruitment, benefit administration, insurance, training and staff development. Knowledge of: employment law, employee benefits, interviewing techniques, employee selection processes. Experience mediating employee conflict, conducting investigations. Strong verbal/written communication. Ability to build/maintain internal relationships based on professionalism and solid customer service practices. Bachelor's degree in Human Resources, Public Administration (or related field) from accredited university preferred. Salary mid-\$50K, depending on experience. Job description, visit www.sandiegoatwork.org. EOE/ADA. Position open until filled. Apply: cover letter/resume/salary history/3 or more professional employment-related references. Standard application form available at Workforce Partnership office or Career Centers. Respond to SD Workforce Partnership, 3910 University Avenue #400, San Diego CA 92105. Fax: 619-528-1153 or e-mail Word.attachments@Careers@workforce.org. No phone calls accepted.

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JOB COACHES. Community-oriented Center for Independent Achievement is seeking dependable individuals in East County. 1:4 group ratio maximum. \$8.50-\$9.50/hour. Annual raises. Bonuses for exceptional performance. Benefits with full-time. pficareer@yahoo.com. Fax 619-440-6864. 619-440-6802.

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LOAN OFFICERS. Nationally ranked Lending Tree local broker. America Funding is a nationally ranked Lending Tree Partner. Due to our continued, rapid growth, we have Loan Officer positions available for top producing Loan Officers, which average \$150K plus per year. We support our team's success by providing: technology that shortens the sales cycle so you fund more loans; outstanding training; unlimited qualified leads; total back office and front office support; an excellent commission structure. Our outstanding compensation plan also offers you complete health benefits and a 401(k). DRE License #01396986. Send your resume to: fax, 858-526-6999 or hr@afunding.net, www.america-funding.com. EOE M/F/D/V.

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Wed., April 16, 2008 • 6 pm

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Jobline: 858-514-8558**



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MAINTENANCE/HVAC for North County luxury apartments. Must be experienced and HVAC certified. Background/drug test required. Benefits. Fax resume to 888-369-9229 or e-mail wmaplicants@aol.com. Call 888-252-7976.

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NURSING/CNA. 2 part time weekend shift positions. Near bus line. Must pass drug/criminal background check. Apply in person, Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm or send information: St. Paul's Senior Homes & Services, 328 Maple Street, San Diego, CA 92103, fax: 619-239-1256.

NURSING/CNA. 3 full time day shift positions. Near bus line. Must pass drug/criminal background check. Apply in person, Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm or send information: St. Paul's Senior Homes & Ser-

vices, 328 Maple Street, San Diego, CA 92103, fax: 619-239-1256.

NURSING/LVN. 1 part time weekend position. Near bus line. Must pass drug/criminal background check. Apply in person, Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm or send information: St. Paul's Senior Homes & Services, 328 Maple Street, San Diego, CA 92103, fax: 619-239-1256.

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PORTER. North County. Drug test required. Fax resume to 888-369-9229 or e-mail wmapplicants@aol.com or call 888-252-7976.

POST-PRESS/WAREHOUSE. Entry level. Label printing company. Using machinery, sitting long periods. Benefits. Days, 8:30am-5pm. Apply: 13400 Danielson, #B, Poway 92064. Fax resume: 858-668-2858. admin@mesalabel.com

PROBATION CAREERS. Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Date: May 3, 2008, 8am. Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. Must be 21 years, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or becoming a citizen. Pass criminal/personal background investigation. No felony convictions. High school diploma/GED. \$35,069-\$44,741/year. www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation. Jobline: 858-514-8558.

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RECREATION ASSISTANT for the Stein Education Center, a private special education school serving children with Autism and other disabilities. Candidates must possess 12 units of Early Childhood Education or 12 units in a related field and a valid California driver's license. Duties include supervising direct care,

scheduling social and recreation activities. Computer knowledge preferred. Monday-Friday, 9:30am-6pm. Starting salary \$10.33/hour with benefits. Pre-employment screening (drug test, TB) and Background Check (FBI and Department of Justice). EOE. Apply in person, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego 92120 or fax resume to 619-281-0453.

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RESTAURANT- CHILI'S Grill & Bar, Encinitas, hiring Servers. Apply in person any day between 2-4pm: Chili's, 1004 North El Camino Real, Encinitas.

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SALES/TELEMARKETING (business to business) for national medical seminar company located in La Mesa. We have expanded our business and its customer base. Therefore, we need more sales reps to cover our territories. Telephone sales and Customer Service experience a plus. Base pay guaranteed with unlimited

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SECURITY OFFICERS. Special Response Officers. Full/part time. High starting pay. Excellent benefits. Requires CA guard card. Training available. Drug/background. EOE. M/F/D/V. Apply: Weekdays, 9am-4pm, ABM Security Services, 1620 Fifth Avenue, Suite 875, San Diego, Email: eric.wallis@abm.com. 619-338-9360.

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SECURITY. Pinkerton Government Services, one of the oldest names in security, is looking for serious, professional applicants. Candidates must: have Guard Card, be able to pass DOD background check, be neat and well groomed, be flexible in schedule and location to work, be very reliable, have reliable transportation, have excellent written and spoken English, be career minded, have reliable means of contact (cell phone, etc.). Entry-level pay rate \$11-\$14/hour plus medical, dental, vision and 401(k) benefits. *Temporary armed positions available, \$23.50-\$25/hour. For fastest response, apply online now! www.pinkertonjobs.com. EOE/M/F/D/V.

SECURITY. We want you to join Securitas, the #1 Security Team. We offer: County-wide positions, Free Guard Card training, medical/dental/vision and 401(k), Excellent working environment, free uniforms. For fastest response, apply online now! www.securitasjobs.com. Thank you for applying online! Or call San Diego: 619-641-0049; San Marcos (North County): 760-591-3733; Temecula: 951-676-3954. EOE/M/F/D/V, drug free. PPO #14827.

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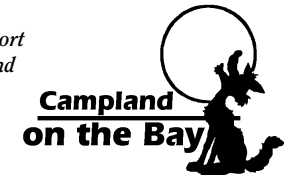
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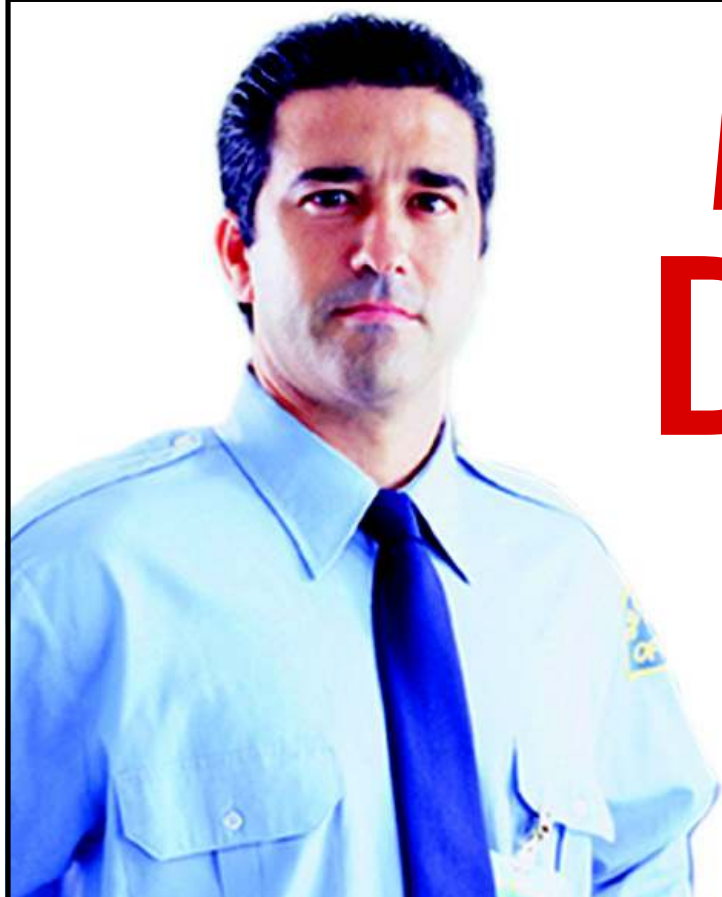


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Across

- 1. Study of the stars: Abbr.
- 5. Hamill or Harmon
- 9. Gone by
- 12. ____ averages
- 14. " ____ Almighty" (2007 comedy)
- 15. Babe's teammate
- 16. 1950 Isaac Asimov classic
- 18. Hang open
- 19. Auction unit
- 20. Choice between one of the Kennedys and a letter in the English alphabet?
- 22. Authors Bagnold and Blyton
- 24. Ristorante suffix
- 25. Choice between a theater award and a "Star Wars" character?
- 28. Bilko and York: Abbr.
- 30. Clearance event
- 31. Food critic Greene
- 32. Yokohama "yes"
- 35. Arranged carefully
- 37. Schoolboy
- 38. With 41-Across, choice between a "Seinfeld" character and a water source?
- 41. See 38-Across
- 43. Lenient
- 44. Elegant shade trees
- 46. Caesar of comedy
- 47. " ____ boy!"
- 49. Egg: Fr.
- 51. Number
- 55. Choice between a cartoon mouse and a classical composer?
- 59. Talk sweetly
- 60. Have a loan from
- 61. Choice between an average guy and a heavy amount?
- 63. On the ____ (escaping)
- 64. Nincompoop
- 67. Geriatrician's study
- 68. Soap ingredient
- 69. Guitarist Clapton
- 70. Patty Hearst's alias
- 71. Nincompoop
- 72. Gave temporarily
- 73. Visionary

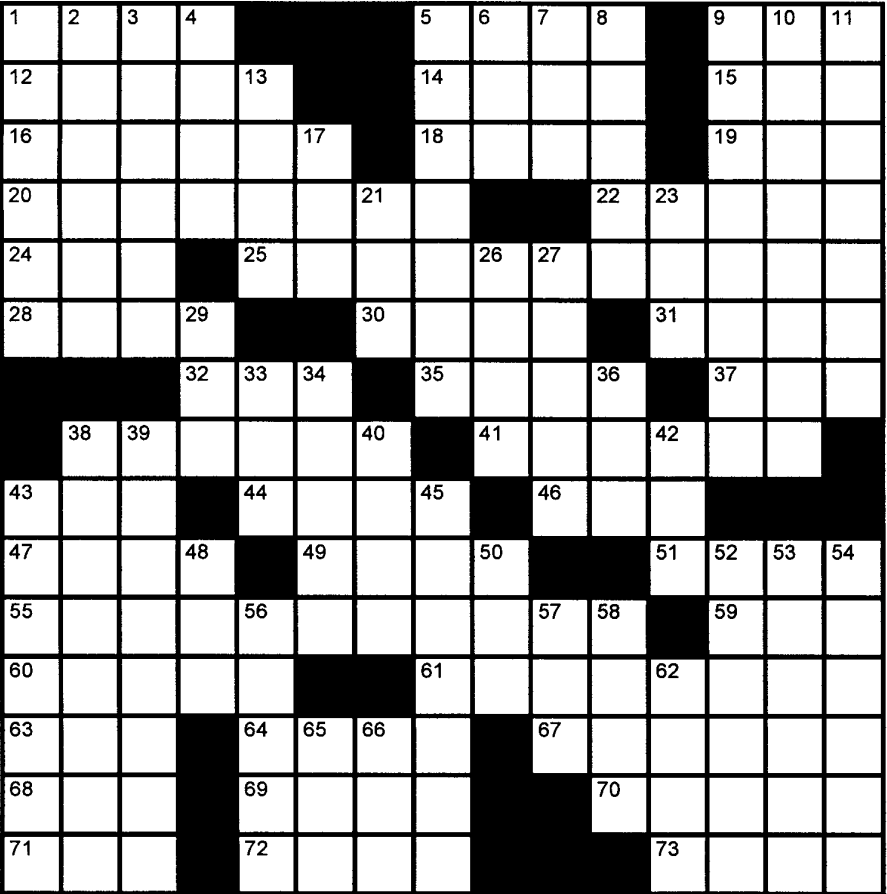
Down

- 1. Cover stories
- 2. It's a wrap
- 3. Small-time
- 4. Former Virginia senator Charles
- 5. "Sleepless in Seattle" star
- 6. Actress Gardner
- 7. Grammy category
- 8. Prepare to propose
- 9. Generally
- 10. Considerable amount

- 11. Performed better than, in a way
- 13. Four-time Indy 500 winner
- 17. Additionally
- 21. They might wear scrubs: Abbr.
- 23. Say "Do this" and "Do that," e.g.
- 26. Butter alternative
- 27. Brings up
- 29. "The L Word" channel, in TV guides
- 33. "Chances ____"
- 34. Home that's never hot on the market?
- 36. ____-night doubleheader
- 38. Entry points
- 39. They're polar
- 40. Part of EMT: Abbr.
- 42. Mag. workers
- 43. Southern California seaside community
- 45. English or French
- 48. Columnist Buchwald
- 50. Toy seller ____ Schwarz
- 52. Gas pump number
- 53. Knuckleheaded gesture of affection?
- 54. Approach
- 56. Alpine call
- 57. Board honcho
- 58. Anchorman Lester
- 62. Nutritional stds.
- 65. Prospecting find
- 66. ATM entry

RULES OF THE GAME

- 1. The prize for solving the Reader Puzzle will be a Reader T-shirt.
- 2. All entries in the Reader Puzzle contest must be received by the Reader by 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, five days following the issue date (Fax to 619-231-0489 or U.S. Mail to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803).
- 3. All entries must be accompanied by your name and address.
- 4. Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.
- 5. In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and arbitrary. We've only got five prizes each week to give away, so if there are more than five winners, we'll have a lottery.
- 6. All answers must be entered in the space allowed on the puzzle page.
- And please, no phone calls or trips to our office.
- 7. One entry per person.



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Solution to and winners of the Reader Puzzle for 4/3/08.

- There were 215 entrants.
The winners are:
- 1. Lauren Biggie, *Oceanside*
 - 2. Grace Borchert, *Chula Vista*
 - 3. Gene Dalton, *Escondido*
 - 4. Barbara Richards, *Cardiff*
 - 5. Kevin Millburn, *Encinitas*

THEOLOGY: HAGGARD GRADUATE School of Theology, Azusa Pacific University. To explore the programs offered, call: 800-TALK-APU. Click: www.apu.edu/stories/tmurphy. E-mail: graduatecenter@apu.edu.

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COME ON, JUST MAKE THE CALL and take a one hour break to experience the royal treatment! I give a seriously great massage. I'm located off the I-5 and Manchester exit. Relaxing and private atmosphere. I'll even give you 20% off your treatment for calling because I'm really nice. Be happy! HHP. Lic-96001467. Kim, 619-417-9226.

FEELING A LITTLE ROUGH around the edges? It may be time for a massage. Call Vivi for your appointment. Lic-21708. 619-379-5992.

DIANA'S \$99 SPECIAL! Try a relaxing full body massage in front of a warm, cozy fire. Showers available. Centrally located. 619-876-7988.

LATIN ANGELS MASSAGE. We specialize in pampering you. Couples welcome. Lunchtime specials available. 619-246-7784.

AFFORDABLE BODY MASSAGE. Let a native San Diegan stimulate mind, body, and soul through the power of touch. Available 7 days/week. Call now! 760-696-0305.

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MASSAGE BY JOHN. \$45/hour. Swedish, deep tissue, sports, soft touch. Professional massage. Skilled, friendly, athletic therapist. Organic aromatherapy. Oils/candles. Monday-Saturday, 9am-11pm. 619-254-8050.

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HEALTH & FITNESS

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ANCIENT HAIR REMOVAL with the twist of a thread. Eyebrow, \$12. Full face, \$45. For appointment: 619-471-5909. Threading class: May 11, 10am-3pm. Register online: www.sandiegothreading.com.

CERTIFIED PERSONAL TRAINERS. Aerobics, body composition testing, injury rehabilitation, youth programs, nutrition analysis. Gift certificates. Visa/MasterCard. www.wendyshealthandfitness.com. Wendy's Health & Fitness, 619-466-4386.

COLON HYDROTHERAPY. Toxic overload can cause wide range of problems in digestive tract. Eliminate parasites, toxins, bacteria. Safe, effective cleansing method. Celmira, 619-288-4261. www.myspace.com/healthinstyle.

COLON HYDROTHERAPY. 16 years in La Jolla. FDA registered equipment. Disposable. Liver, lymph, and cellulite therapies. 858-551-9228. Visit www.lajollalymphatic.com.

NEW TAI CHI AND QI GONG Classes. First class free. Visitors welcome. Taoist Sanctuary, 4229 Park Boulevard, San Diego 92103. 619-692-1155 or www.taoistsanctuary.org.

PROSTATE CANCER? Confused about treatment options? We can help. Informed Prostate Cancer Support Group. www.ipcsg.org. Meeting: April 19, 10am, Moores UCSD Cancer Center, 3855 Health Sciences Drive, La Jolla 92037. No medical/religious affiliations.

STOP SMOKING. Tri-City Hospital's Cardiac Wellness Center program pays majority of cost. \$60 total including materials. 6 evening sessions. 1-1/2 hours, 5/13-6/3. 6:30pm. 760-940-3092. duvel@sbcglobal.net.

TREADMILLS, ELLIPTICALS, cycles, and other exercise equipment wanted. Cash for quality fitness gear. We pick up. Big selection of new and used exercise equipment for sale. 90 days free financing! Call Play It Again Sports, 858-751-0338. www.playitagainsd.com.

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NAME This Place



Last week's place: (clue: Fashionable crossing?) Road, river, and rails intersect near Avenida del Rio at Fashion Valley. The Green Line trolley bridge dominates the 163 and San Diego River here, crossing the river four times as it snakes eastward to Qualcomm and SDSU. (Last week's winners: Giovanni Cassano, Deborah Hall, Andrea Whelan, Kristy Siegfried, Michael Conner)

Q: Cat on a cool tile slide?

Describe this location, name the nearest cross-streets, and win a Reader T-shirt. E-mail to NameThisPlace@SDReader.com; fax to 619-231-0489; or mail to Reader, Name This Place, Box 85803, San Diego 92186 — include your name and address. Please put "Name This Place" in the subject line. (Deadline, Tuesday, 9 a.m. In case of ties, lottery will determine top five winners.)



PARENT RESOURCES

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by calling 619-235-8200. POST FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SDReader.com. See thousands of classified ads not printed here!

BABY SWING, gently used, like new, swing with or without music. Exersaucer, nice, with multiple toys onboard for exploring. Regulation safety car seat. 858-279-5750.

CRIB, light color oak, very nice, converts to daybed, includes mattress. Stroller,

gently used, like new, for children through age 4. Must see. 858-279-5750.

PREGNANT? Considering adoption? Talk with caring agency specializing in matching birthmothers with families nationwide. Living expenses paid. Call 24/7, Abby's One True Gift Adoptions, 1-866-413-6293. (AAN CAN)

SUPER PLAY. Indoor playground/party center. Designed for children 6 and under. Monday-Thursday 9am-5pm. Friday 9am-8pm. \$7 first child, \$5 sibling. www.superplayescondido.com. 760-741-1217.

WEDDING & PARTY GUIDE

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AFFORDABLE PHOTOGRAPHY and Ministerial. Married couple with over 30 years experience in wedding business teams up to cover your event. www.brianhowarthphotography.com. Call Brian or Valerie: 619-583-0411.

AMAZING DJs AND BANDS! San Diego Parties & Entertainment. Excellent DJs, fabulous bands, specialty entertainment. Professional pianist and piano rentals. Wedding/Event Coordination available. 619-321-9893.

AWARD-WINNING PHOTOGRAPHER. See your wedding day unfold on DVD. On

a budget? Digital photography. Hourly rates, special events. Kidnapper of Images, Beverly, 858-736-4472; 858-274-4472.

BAND, "HOT PURSUIT." Weddings; corporate, private parties. High-energy dance band featuring sax player, female vocalist. Swing, jazz, rock, R&B, country, dance hits. 760-751-1876. www.HotPursuitMusic.com.

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.

HIP EVENT PLACE FOR RENT. Downtown/Little Italy. Beautiful contemporary art gallery. Perfect for evening receptions, weekend/weekends. Up to 75 guest. Restaurants close. 858-205-3739.

WEDDING DRESS. Beautiful designer, size 4, off-shoulder brocade and satin trim with a long train, never worn, \$600/best. 619-469-5612.

WEDDING GOWNS (2), stunning, size 7/8, 2 bridesmaids gowns, size 8, 1 junior size 2, with accessories, \$500 for all. Will sell separately. Dana, 619-286-8645.

STAGE NOTES

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ABANDON YOUR ACTING FEARS! Actors' Workshop Studios. San Diego's number 1 film/TV studio! Professional 3-camera set. Weekly in-house auditions with Hollywood/local casting directors, producers, agents. www.actorsworkshopstudios.com; 858-587-6666.

ABILITY THROUGH TRAINING. The Robert Wald Actor's Studio focuses on moment-to-moment reality training. These classes unlock the actor's ability to work spontaneously and with the realism and intensity advocated by the industry's creative legends. Beginners welcome. Thursday evening class available, 6:30pm-10:30pm or Saturday morning. Call for information. 619-542-1216.

AUDITIONS. Costume Characters for SeaWorld's new Sesame Street Bay of Play stage show. April 12, 2008, 11am-3pm, SeaWorld's Adventure Camp Facility, 500 SeaWorld Drive, San Diego 92109 (across from SeaWorld Security). Must be at least 16 years, between 4'11" and 6'3" tall, able to wear full-body character costumes. Please bring recent photo and resume. EOE. Audition Hotline: 619-226-3607. Details at SeaWorldSanDiegoAuditions.com.

DANCE TEAMS: free workshops/auditions, 4/30, 5/1, 5/3. 2 teams: ladies sexy salsa team/mens & ladies salsa team. For more info: www.salsasusie.com, 858-488-6900, 805-252-6900.

MEDIA MAKE-UP ARTISTS earn up to \$500/day for television, CD/videos, film, fashion. One week course in Los Angeles while building portfolio. Brochure, 310-364-0665. www.MediaMakeupArtists.com. (AAN CAN)

MODELS. Amateur models needed for photo, video, web work. Ages 18-60. All types. No experience necessary. Cash paid. Professional setting. Call Jenn, 619-379-4964.

MOVIE EXTRAS/MODELS. Earn up to \$200 per day. All looks needed to work with film and TV production companies. No experience required. Call 877-282-2458.

VOICEOVER WORKSHOP. Break into voiceover! Taught by voice actor/author James Alburger. Learn interpretation, character voices, microphone technique, more for radio/TV. www.voiceacting.com; 858-484-0220.

COUNSELING & SUPPORT GROUPS

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ABUSE ISSUES: HAVE YOU been abused, or are you abusing others or yourself (by drinking, using, overeating, overworking, sexing, etc.)? Then call me! First 30 minute phone visit is free. \$40-\$50/hour. LMFT#42894. Susan, 858-356-8003.

ANXIOUS? DEPRESSED? Relationship issues? Parenting/family issues? Insurance and sliding scale accepted. Individuals, couples, children, adolescents/families. Private Mission Valley location. Phaedra Scourtis, MA, MFT, MFC-43174. 619-972-0209.

ARE INFERTILITY ISSUES affecting your relationship? Let me help you make sense of your situation. Sliding fee. License #MFT43461. Lilach Harris, 619-241-6006.

ARE YOU MAD? Learn how to manage your anger constructively. Gain power, control, reduce conflict and improve your relationships. Classes begin soon. Mission Valley. Jay Schneider, LCSW. Lic-9573. www.manageangerdaily.com. 858-538-5587.

CLINICAL HYPNOTHERAPY. "What the mind can conceive, the body can achieve." All issues addressed. Free consultation. Patricia R. Parlin, Ed.D. CHT403-250. Call 619-442-3661 or 619-504-1935.

COUNSELING/DREAM STUDY. Curious? Unsettled dreams? Training needs? Jungian dreamwork for life issues, transitions, growth, \$40/1 hour session. \$10/2 hour group. Paul Hartsuyker, MFT-15896. www.sandiegotherapists.com/hartsuyker.html. 619-269-8939.

EMOTIONAL WOUNDS from childhood? "Healthy Adults: Inner Child Course". Call for free preview session for April course. Heal wounds from dysfunctional family. Thought Field Therapy eliminates phobias and traumas. Counseling for individuals, couples' enrichment and family bonding. Sharon Goodlove, TFT Diagnostician; Glenn Goodlove, LCSW-1450. Goodlove Counseling Center, 858-569-8975. www.goodlove-online.com.

FEELING STUCK? STRESSED? Experiencing crisis? Relationship issues? Career problems? Family conflicts? Grief? Past trauma? Take back your power. Free consultation: 619-723-9244. Trish Deignan, LCSW21861.

GAY/BISEXUAL MEN. Supportive individual therapy. Depression, anxiety, confusion, addictions, spiritual/religious issues. Married, closeted welcome. Discretion, confidentiality assured. Mel Karman, PhD, MFC-12709, 619-296-9442.

MALE GROUP MEMBER NEEDED for mixed process/support group. Relationship difficulties, intimacy, self-esteem, childhood issues. Tuesday evenings, UTC area. Insurance accepted. Susan Jorgensen, MFT-22281, 858-622-0632.

MILITARY. PTSD? Battle Fatigue Syndrome? Night Terrors? Memory Loss? Difficulty Sleeping? Troubled Relationships? Former military therapist licensed trauma specialist providing free group treatment. License #MFT37234. 858-342-0181.

ROMANTIC STRESS DISORDER? Develop better relationships. Learn assertive skills, stress management. First session half price! Saturday appointments. La Jolla/UTC. MFC#37533. www.4empoweringyou.com. Elaine Quattro, 619-819-6404.

NOTICES

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AL-ANON. Grupo paz mental. Sufre por el alcoholismo en su familia? Juntas sesionan Martes, 5:30pm-7pm, y Sabados, 1-2:30pm, 3450 Bonita Road, #207, Bonita, CA 91902.

ALANON-GRUPO RENCUENTRO. Hay problemas de alcoholismo en su familia? Sesiones Lunes y Jueves de 5:00-6:30pm, 3450 Bonita Road #207, Bonita, 91902. 619-470-6955.

ALCOHOLICOS ANONIMOS. Problemas con el alcohol? Nosotros le ayudamos a vivir mejor. Sesiones Lunes-Viernes, 7am y 8pm. Sabados, 8am y 7pm. Domingo 8am y 5pm. Grupo Bonita Hispano, 3450 Bonita Road, #207. 619-280-7224.

AMERICA'S FAVORITE MOM. Please vote for my mom, Patricia Portuguese, an amazing mom. Nominated in top 100 for NBC contest. Go to www.americasfavoritemom.com/mothers-day-2008/mom/Patricia%20-P-5201.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL works for human rights. Meetings: 7pm, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. First Unitarian Church, 4190 Front (opposite UCSD Medical Center). Information, 619-283-1637.

ART SHOW/MINI CONCERT, March 22, 2-8pm, Creative Expressions Art Studio, 8372 University Avenue, La Mesa. \$10 donation. Support local artists. Refreshments. www.creativeexpressionartstudio.com or 619-508-4741.

BE A MILLIONAIRE FROM HOME! Sell Mangosteens; make lots of money! Very high antioxidant value. Significant anti-inflammatory properties. Many health benefits! Free sample! www.diane.myjetstream.net. 877-674-4280.

BENEFACTOR/MENTOR needed for accomplished African-American female. E-mail: yasmean82@yahoo.com.

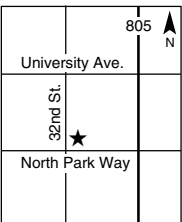
CAN PRAYER HELP? Find solutions to problems. Achieve inner peace and balance, eliminate chronic disease pain, lose crippling fear. 858-652-0728.

CANNABIS PATIENT(S) ACT. (Association Cannabis Therapeutics.) Nonprofit. Seeks caregiver/patients with questions about cooperatives, clones, medicine, growing guidelines. Proposition 215 local guidelines. Meth kills. 619-528-0907.

DIVORCECARE meets every Sunday at 9am at 4926 La Cuenta Suite 203-A, Tierasanta. Special Free support group for those divorcing, divorced, or broken live-in relationship. 4926 La Cuenta, Suite

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203, Tierrasanta. Bruce, Bruce@sdffunding.com or 619-461-4480.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN PRAYER- based solutions and healing? Then discover health, wellness, and harmony in your life. 858-272-3246.

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EXPLORE THE WORLD from home. Host an International Exchange Student through AYUSA. 5 and 10-month programs. <http://www.profiles.ayusa.org>; ami_adkins@cox.net or <http://www.ayusa.org>. Scholarships available.

FAT NOT MORE! FREE Lecture by Marilyn Stompler, author "Fat No More". Identify subconscious blocks preventing weight loss. Tuesday, 4/15, 7pm, 4455 Morena Boulevard #107. www.fatnomore.com.

FIRE VICTIMS: POTBELLED PIGS. Please help! Thanks if you've already sent donations-you're heroes! I've been working hard to get the pigs on the road to recovery. Some are injured/crippled from running from the fires. They aren't adoptable and may never fully recover. They've needed lots of vet care, and still do. If you can help, call Creekside Vet Service: 760-751-1020, 8751 Old Castle Road, Escondido, 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 GROUP THERAPY using hypnosis for overcoming phobia. 3 group sessions, 1.5 hours long, 1 session/week. Must be 18+ and have phobia. Paula, 858-405-1639.

FREE PSYCHIC HEALING. Lecture Clinic. Free readings for new visitors. First Monday every month, 7:30pm, 4/7, 5/5, 6/2, 7/7 by Vessa's Clairvoyant Program students. 4455 Morena Boulevard, #108. 858-509-7582.

GAIN SKILLS TO SUCCEED. Are you 16 to 21, low income, need high school diploma or GED and work experience? Turning the Hearts Center, 619-691-9643.

HERPES/HSB/HPV, Humanpapillomavirus Support group. Accurate medical information and support. Recorded message. 619-491-1194. www.SanDiegoCityHELP.org.

JOHN GUERRERO AT TOBACCO Road. A Presentation of original paintings both of past and present shown on April 12-13, from 10am-4pm, 2510 State Street, San Diego. 858-759-7553.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Stop crime and violence. Be a role model. Be a Guardian Angel. Join the San Diego chapter. Call today, 619-964-8099 or www.guardianangels.org.

MEDITATION: Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue, #303, Ocean Beach. Mondays, 7pm; Saturdays, 11-30am. Call for more information. First class free, \$5/class thereafter. 858-616-6308 or www.dharmacenter.com.

MOVIE BUFFS. Interested in watching movies then discussing it afterwards (like book clubs)? Ages 25 to mature welcome. Please call 619-850-6075 or 858-272-8727.

NAVY AND MARINE CORPS shipmates who served on the USS Columbus CA-74/CG-12 from 1944 through 1976 and the USS Columbus (SSN-762) past and present, if you would like to share memories and camaraderie with old friends and make new ones, please contact Allen R. Hope, President, 3828 Hobson Road, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46815-4505. Home, 260-486-2221 (8am-5pm Eastern time); fax, 260-492-9771; e-mail, hope4391@comcast.net.

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE Anonymous 12-step meeting for people with OCD. Mondays, 6-7pm, Department of Health Services Complex, 3851 Rosecrans Street, Mission Room. Information: OCAhelp@cox.net.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Meetings daily. No dues or fees. Contact www.oasandiego.org or 619-521-2538.

PARENTS, FAMILIES and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). Find help, support, and understanding. Meetings: Hillcrest, East County, North County.

Free Classifieds!

Post free online ads with photos at SDReader.com

TRAVEL & GETAWAYS

www.pflag.com. Call for details, 619-579-7640.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION. "Transition from No to Yes," April 29, 2008, 7-9pm, Eureka Street, Mission Valley. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. Please call for directions, 619-296-9046.

POETS UNITE! Seeking local poets to form workshop. Novices and well published, at least 18 years old. Dates/times to be announced. 619-477-1926; 619-931-3048; www.exponentiallyacerbic.blogspot.com.

PRAYER HEALS! Discover freedom and wellness. Find out how prayer works for you to eliminate chronic disease, pain, fear, depression. 858-652-0728.

PRIVATE COUNSELING. Your journey can be clearer, more peaceful; relationship issues, body image, self-esteem, anger. I can help. Work toward acceptance of yourself. Fee. 619-838-6817.

QUIT SMOKING FOR FREE! Participate in one-hour session of powerful hypnosis to stop smoking permanently. Part of clinical study. Call Hypnosis for Healthy Change, 619-639-5108.

RESEARCH STUDY. Women living with smoker needed for 9-day research study. Leave message, 619-594-8827 or email TRDRPPDAStudy@projects.sdsu.edu, for more information.

SEX and/or relationship problems? Out of control? You are not alone. Call Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step fellowship. PO Box 3791, San Diego 92163 or 619-685-7211 or www.slaa-san-diego.org.

SINGLES FOR JAZZ is a new not-for-profit club for singles interested in attending various concerts and clubs in the San Diego area. Membership is free. Call 760-445-5459.

SUPPORT GROUPS. Six groups monthly. SOSL (Survivors of Suicide Loss). Call 619-482-0297 or email soslsd@yahoo.com.

SWEET TASTE OF VICTORY. Fundraising party to support Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, April 20, 6-9pm, Gillis Bar, North Park. Karaoke/raffle 7-9pm. Must be 21+.

TEAM KATE BREAST CANCER Third Annual 3-day Fundraiser, Saturday, April 12, 3-6pm, Baja Betty's Restaurant, 1421 University Avenue, San Diego 92103. Information, call Sally, 619-495-2749.

TEMPLE OF BHAKTI YOGA. Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30pm; Fridays, 6:30-7:30pm. Free. For information please call 760-787-0700.

THE NEW CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, Looking for enthusiastic volunteers, who love working with children/interest in contemporary art. Available positions: Museum ambassador, gallery guide, studio guide, birthday party helper, special events. 619-233-8792 x103, volunteer@thinkplaycreate.org.

UCSD MEDICAL CENTER needs healthy volunteers, 40-65 years old, for a research study. Payment is \$10/hour. Please call 619-543-7201.

USS COLUMBUS CA-74/CG-12/SSN762 Reunion October 1-4, 2008, at Holiday Inn North, Dayton, Ohio. Please contact Allen R. Hope, President, 3828 Hobson Road, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46815-4505. Home, 260-486-2221 (8am-5pm Eastern time); fax, 260-492-9771; e-mail, hope4391@comcast.net.

VOLUNTEERS. Become a child advocate. Help stop child abuse crisis. San Diego's abandoned/neglected children desperately 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 cartoon series, with photos if possible. claudia@writersetc.com or 858-693-3939.

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by calling 619-235-8200.

POST FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SDReader.com. See thousands of classified ads not printed here!

CABO, MEXICO. One week Cabo, Mexico during Bisbee Black & Blue Marlin Tournament, 10/18/08-10/25/08, five-star Playa Grande Resort, sleeps 4, asking \$1750/best. 858-449-2760.

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PERSONALS

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DAVIEBABE still in Boston. I appreciated you. I respected you. I admired you and I loved you. "It was me, not you!" George Costanza.

DAVIEBABE still in Boston. After the lovin', I was still in love with you!

I THINK OF YOU EVERYDAY. I'll see you soon.

THANK YOU Holy Spirit for prayers answered. SP.

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Paola Najera
Student
Chula Vista

It was so long ago, let me think. It was called *Secret Window*. Wait, I’m not sure if that was it. Maybe the first movie was *It*. That was the Stephen King movie. It was in the ’80s, and I was probably eight years old at the time. It gave me nightmares. Because of that movie, I still think clowns are scary.



Angela Orris
Student
Poway

My first film was probably a kids’ movie. I just can’t remember which one. The first grown-up movie I saw was *Misery*. When you’re a kid, that has a big impact on you. I think I saw a video of it when my family rented it. We weren’t supposed to watch movies like that, but we were sitting there and saw it. Although, now that I think about it, I saw *Friday the 13th* when I was ten, so maybe my parents didn’t care if I saw scary movies.



Kara Studebaker
Student
Poway

I think it was *The Little Mermaid*. I loved the musical aspects of it, too. We owned it, and I was probably small when it came out in the theaters. Well, it’s 20 years old now, and I’m 20. I would sing all the songs, and every Disney movie had a princess. And every girl probably wishes they were the princess.



Mindi Garcia
Waitress
Poway

It was *E.T.* I was really young. Probably the same age as Drew Barrymore in it. I saw it at home, not in the theater. I remember the scene with all the Skittles on the floor. Or were they M&Ms? I can’t recall. I remember it scared me at first, and then...well, it actually scared me pretty much all the way through.



Sherry Denton
Retired
Poway

It was called *The Moon Is Blue*. It had William Holden and David Niven. I remember it was considered risqué at the time, because they used the word “rape,” which you didn’t do back then. I was 11, and this was in the ’40s. I remember at the movies, they would show a few cartoons, and then a newsreel of whatever war or important happenings were going on. When TV came around, they gave prizes during intermission, to keep people interested. My great-grandmother won a Buick.



Nona McClure
Retired
San Marcos

I think it had Margaret O’Brien in it. The first movie I remember well, though, was probably with Shirley Temple. Every girl back then got the perm and danced. I was four years old, and I remember the song “Good Ship Lollipop.” She acted so grown up, I tried acting just like her.

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SCRIPPS RANCH. Sabre Springs. Private furnished room, share bath in luxury condo. Pool, jacuzzi, 24-hour gym, clubhouse, movie theater, computer access. \$575. Female only. 619-395-7159.

SOLANA BEACH/DEL MAR. Gorgeous huge master suite, semi-private entrance, private yard. Attached garage, washer/dryer, pool, jacuzzi. Blocks to beach. Female preferred, \$1150, 858-259-5049.

SPRING VALLEY. Share house. Master bedroom with bath, \$650. 2 other bedrooms with shared bath, \$450/each. Includes utilities. Washer/dryer. All house privileges. No pets/smoking. 619-454-3166, 619-309-9524.

TIERRASANTA. \$450 and \$600 (huge furnished master, private bath, available now). Male nonsmoker, no alcohol preferred. Great location. Quiet home. Kitchen privileges. Available 4/1/08. 858-565-7664.

TIERRASANTA. \$595 plus utilities plus \$350 deposit. Washer/dryer. Very large room, furnished/unfurnished. Near all. No smoking, drugs, pets. Male preferred, 858-292-0145.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Share 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse. Private room/bath. Extra large closet, cable/Internet. Modern gourmet kitchen, fireplace. Gated courtyard. Laundry on premises. No pets/smoking. Female only. \$595/month, first/last, plus \$250 security deposit. 619-291-7887.

VISTA. Sunny, furnished queen bedroom/private bath. \$1000, includes utilities, cable TV, Internet, garage parking, fireplace, washer/dryer, barbecue, patios. Nonsmoker, no pets. 760-727-6028.

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SHERMAN HEIGHTS. Storage unit 8'x14', clean, \$60, deposit \$60. 1-year lease. Lit and secure 619-368-9410, www.innoreventerprises.com.

DOWNTOWN. Space for office or retail, 2443 Kettner Boulevard, 1600 square feet, \$1.80/square foot. Also, multiuse space, 2215 Kettner Boulevard, 2000 square foot building, \$2.50/square foot in 5000 square foot lot. Call 858-218-5769.

CLAIREMONT. GARAGE. 3435 Luna Avenue. 10x22, 9' ceiling, OSB walls (chipboard). 2-socket plug ins on 60 minute timer. Safe secure dry storage only. \$225. Call 858-491-1600.

GASLAMP ART SPACE! \$150 and up. High ceilings, tall windows. Gallery venue for shows. Uniquely affordable. 100-600 square feet. 402 Market. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x103.

PACIFIC BEACH. Storefront/retail space for lease, \$2850/month. 1453 Garnet Avenue, approximately 1340 square feet. Good location and visibility. 858-270-4492, x203.

BEST PRICED OFFICE LEASE on the market! Best office in the heart of downtown La Mesa, California. Approximately 4800 square feet. Wow! So much potential! Huge cubicles (24 included in lease) comfortable space for your reps and floor manager. Womens/mens restrooms. 6 offices in one. Break room, conference room, computer room, reception area. This is truly a diamond in the rough! Close to everything! Trolley, restaurants, shopping, freeways. For lease \$1.50-\$1.75 per square foot. 24 huge cubicles included. Will not last long. Must lease ASAP. Company relocating. 619-668-2239.

COMMERCIAL SPACE. College Area. Need to downsize your office? All sizes available. All offices remodeled. Free utilities. Available now. Move-in special! Donna, 619-820-6035.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$3960. Ideal for live/work space, 2000 square feet each floor. 4 bedrooms. Garage plus 3 off street parking plus non-metered parking. 619-750-6600.

POINT LOMA. Warehouse, office space. \$2300. 2300 square feet. 2176-C Chatsworth. Parking lot entrance. 2 parking. 2 stories loft. Water, trash, taxes paid. Agent. 619-463-2971.

MISSION HILLS. Two second floor office spaces available, gross lease, \$1100—704 square feet, for two offices and lobby area and \$1590—1013 square feet for four offices and lobby area. Can be leased together or separate. 930 West Washington Street. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

POINT LOMA/MIDWAY. \$1.10/square foot gross. Great street frontage at this high-traffic location. 500-3000 square feet available. Improvements planned. Lock in your low rate now! 3333 Midway Drive. Agent, 619-231-2727.

HILLCREST Medical facility. Waiting area, offices, examining rooms. 3719 4th Avenue. \$2000/month. 1845 square feet. Water, trash, taxes paid. Office hour parking. Agent 619-463-2971.

STOREFRONT/OFFICE. \$1895. Over 1350 square feet. Street level. High ceilings. 2 private bathrooms. Central location. 2053 Garnet Avenue. Space can be divided for less rent. 858-272-9614.

PACIFIC BEACH RETAIL/OFFICE space. 640 square feet. \$1475/monthly. Newly remodeled building. 4852 Cass Street. 619-890-9210.

CARLSBAD. \$150. Garages available for parking or dry storage. Located in well-maintained apartment complex. 1000 Chinquapin Avenue. Agent, 760-729-8681.x2.][z.]

GARAGE, NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$125. Single-car garage. 1 year lease. 4737 West Mountain View Drive. 619-226-7368.

SurfDIEGO

Name: Adam

Occupation: Student

Surfing: Mission Beach

Age: 21

Pre-Surf Music: Sublime

Post-Surf Food: Chris's Deli in Ocean Beach

"I've been around boards my entire life. Surfboards, skateboards, snowboards...it's what I really love," says California newcomer Adam as he takes a break from a slow day surfing in Mission Beach.

"I've been surfing for about seven years and skating for the past five. It really helps my balance and control in the water. I got a surfing video for Christmas one year and fell in love. I took one lesson, and I was hooked. From there, I just started surfing on my own."

Originally from Florida, Adam has been in San Diego for two weeks. So far, his impression is positive.

"People here are so nice. I've been yelled at before, and some people can be very rude. Not in San Diego; everyone here has a very relaxed surfing style. Even if they are professionals, they aren't jerks. In Florida, people are so competitive and they have very different surfing styles.... Back home, the water is always warm but the waves are so small. Out here, you deal with some chilly water



but there is usually decent surf."

Adam intends to travel to Hawaii eventually.

"I know it's where almost everyone wants to go, but the waves are incredible. The landscape is gorgeous, and I've heard that people are very friendly."

The best place he has ever surfed?

"Oddly, it was in Half Moon Bay, which is near

San Francisco. There were some great sets, just one after the next. The water was freezing, but it was so worth it. It was the best surf I've ever had."

His worst surfing experience?

"Nothing bad has ever happened to me, but I always remember the first time I dropped in on a wave. It was so scary. It's something I'm sure everyone would be

afraid of. It can be intimidating to look down a wave and not know if you're going to get pulled under. I guess that's just what you've gotta try to do — not get sucked under."

To see an online version of this column, go to sdreader.com. You can print it, email it to friends, and find archived columns.

NORTH PARK. \$225. Brand new 2 car garage, with opener. Dry storage only. No living space. 4077 Utah Street 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

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ALLIED GARDENS. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Remodeled. Wood floors. Air conditioning. Washer/dryer. Dishwasher. Patio, fenced backyard. Garage. Cat OK. \$1850. 5695 Barclay Avenue. 619-818-8414.

BANKER'S HILL/HILLCREST. \$1900. Available 5/1. Charming 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath home close to Balboa Park and shopping. Fireplace, formal dining room, stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer hookups, water/gardener paid. Pet considered. 3332 First Avenue. 619-523-2355.

BAY PARK. \$2495/rent, \$2400 deposit. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 1650 square feet. Top of the line appliances, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, trash compactor, custom kitchen cabinets and fixtures, carpet. 1 bedroom with Murphy bed, custom guest bathroom, fireplace, tile patio over looking canyon, lighted at night. 3 water fountains. Two-car garage. 3669 Mt. Ariana Drive. Call Ed, 858-597-6100.

CHULA VISTA/Rancho Del Rey. \$1950. 4 bedroom, 3 bath. 2-car garage, RV parking. Appliances. Walk to schools, shopping. Dog considered, additional deposit. 858-442-6743.

CITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, canyon view. 1-car garage plus storage space in rear. Fenced yard, washer/dryer. \$1550/month. Available now. 619-561-4299.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1150 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Drive way, Laundry hook-ups. No pets. At 4333 41st Street. 619-299-8515.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, 700 square feet, all utilities, parking. Move-in special! 3221 Lincoln Avenue. People Helping Others Property Management. 619-282-5400, www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

CLAIREMONT. \$1795. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, fireplace, garage. \$20,000+ remodel just done. New washer/dryer, refrigerator, stove, tile carpet, central air, stone countertops, landscaping, alarm plus so much more. Gardener, alarm monitoring included. Credit check required. 4869 Longford Street. 858-205-5600.

CLAIREMONT. \$1225. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex with off-street parking. Small fenced yard. New gas range. Washer/dryer hookups. No pets. 619-276-6745.

CLAIREMONT. \$1795. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Two car garage. No pets. Nonsmoking. Washer/dryer. Appliances. Fenced large yard, porch. 4212 Conrad Avenue. Juno, 619-275-3455.

CLAIREMONT/BAY PARK. \$1575. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. New carpet, deck with view. Open Saturday 11:30am-12:30pm. 3660 Princeton Avenue. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

CLAIREMONT. 3 bedroom, 2 bath lovely updated home on quiet canyon with unbelievable view. Newly remodeled kitchen with upgraded LG appliances, custom stained glass French doors. Attached mud room with open pantry and storage galore. Great room with gas fireplace off kitchen. 2-car garage with washer/dryer, workbench and storage. Sit on back deck and enjoy the view. Nonsmoking property. No pets. 4349 Mt. Jeffers Avenue. \$1995. 619-683-9274.

COLLEGE AREA/LA MESA. \$1225. Small 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Off-street parking. Covered patio. Small fenced yard. Electric range. Laundry hookups. No pets. 619-276-6745.

COLLEGE AREA/DEL CERRO. \$1850 (no pets). Lovely, private. Canyon views. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath. New appli-

ances/carpet, skylight, Roman tub, laundry. Garages. Rebates! 858-270-0214.

CORONADO. In Village. 2 bedroom. 1 bath cottage. 925 square feet. Large yard. Single car garage. Hardwood floors. Laundry. No pets. \$2300. Ramiro, 619-232-9489.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Beautifully remodeled! 2 bedroom, 2 bath home (or commercial rental). Parking. Granite kitchen. Stainless appliances. Washer/dryer. Nonsmoking/pets. Lease. 2146 Columbia. \$2200. 858-200-7959, 619-743-0155.

EL CAJON. \$1650. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, home garage. Newer carpet/paint. Washer/dryer hookups. Front/rear yard. No pets. Available 4/5/08. cell 619-971-1145; 619-579-8027.

ESCONDIDO. \$895-\$1695. Tired of apartment living? Beautiful 1, 2 & 3 bedroom manufactured homes offer spectacular hilltop views. Full-sized washer/dryer, some small yards. Peaceful community, sorry no pets. 1924 Sheridan Avenue. 760-745-1677.

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KENSINGTON. 3 bedroom, 2 bath with hardwood floors, plantation shutters, custom 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. Available now. 619-683-9274.

KENSINGTON. 3 bedroom, 3 bath. Beautifully remodeled 1650 square foot home on canyon. Re-finished hardwood floors, slate accents. Completely updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances, custom painted cabinetry and breakfast bar. Master suite is over 450 square feet with vaulted ceiling, mahogany doors leading to private deck with panoramic views. Master walk-in closet and expansive master bath. Fireplace, washer/dryer, garage. Includes gardener. Walk to Village and close to freeway access, eateries and shops. One of San Diego's premier neighborhoods, don't miss this exceptional home. 4014 North Hempstead Circle. \$3595. 619-683-9274.

LA JOLLA. \$3995. Large split level home, quiet cul-de-sac. Bright, lots of windows/skylights. Open kitchen/family room with fireplace, formal dining room. Spacious living room/fireplace, 2 masters. Ample closet space. Jacuzzi tub in west master bathroom. 3018 square feet. All appliances, washer/dryer hookups, 2-car garage. No smoking. 7770 Roseland Place. Available 5/7. Call 858-583-0182, www.Cal-Prop.com.

LAKE SIDE. \$1695. Cute 3 bedroom, 2 bath country home! Laundry facilities, woodburning stove, wooded lot in East Lakeside. Quiet, private. Close to freeway. Rick, 619-254-5378.

LEMON GROVE/OAK PARK. \$1350. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house. Garage. Quiet area. Landscaped. Patio. Washer/dryer. Easy I-5/I-94 access. No smoking/pets. Adrienne, 619-866-5999.

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MISSION BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house \$3200. Steps to ocean, wood flooring, 2 balconies, garage plus space, washer/dryer. 3747 Strand Way. Available now. 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage, shared yard, appliances, gated, 1-car garage, ceramic tile floors. Cat ok. Section 8 ok. 4573 Hawley Boulevard. 619-804-3325.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. North of Adams. \$890. Lovely, large 1 bedroom. One of five houses surrounded by plants. Extra storage. Appliances. Gated. 619-280-5177.

NORTH PARK. Close to Balboa Park. Large, upgraded 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Garage. Eat-in kitchen. Living room. Fireplace. Large fenced yard. Pets OK. \$2450 includes gardener. Available now. Appointments, 619-417-7705.

NORTH PARK. Cherokee Point. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, charming house. Appliances, washer/dryer, storage, fenced yard. Pets considered. 3632 Dwight. \$1525. 619-283-3941.

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PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath house. \$1695 bonus room and large yard.

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PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house. \$2095. Gardener included, no smoking. No pets. 2660 Figueroa. 858-583-0182; www.cal-prop.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1900. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath house. \$500 off move in, OAC! Parking. Laundry. No pets. 1536 Pacific Beach Drive. To see call 619-574-8009.

POINT LOMA/LOMA PORTAL. Spacious, updated 2 bedroom, 2 bath home. Corner lot. 2-car garage. Office, large family room. Cat friendly. \$2650. Agent, 619-807-5753.

POINT LOMA. \$2175. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. (Approximately 1500 square feet.) Fenced yard. 2-car garage. Appliances and gardener included. Consider pets. Available now. 3742 Lotus Drive, (Plumosa Park area). 619-222-6947.

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SAN MARCOS. \$3100. 4 bedroom plus bonus, 3 bath house. Fireplace. 3-car garage. Granite, gourmet kitchen. Barbecue, fire pit. Yard. 1543 Copper Court. 858-514-8201.

SAN MARCOS. \$3100. 4 bedroom plus 2 bonus rooms, 3 bath house. Fireplace. 3-car garage. Granite, gourmet kitchen. 726 Leeward Avenue, in Sagewood. 858-514-8201.

SANTEE. \$1800, includes gardener. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, single story. Garage, fenced yard, washer/dryer hookups. 8538 Kreiner Way. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

SOUTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, great floor plan. Great views, on quiet canyon. Fireplace, hardwood, laundry. Unfurnished \$2300, furnished \$2800. \$35 credit application. 619-994-6761.

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SPRING VALLEY. \$1350. 1/2 off first month. Charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath home, garage, view of lake, fenced yard, deck, washer and dryer. Pet negotiable. 9756 Ivanho Street. 619-384-9219.

TIERRASANTA. 3 bedroom, 3 bath home with large loft and view. 2-car garage. Community pool. Lease. \$2450/monthly. 11411 Madera Rosa Way. 858-837-1177.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS/EAST. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath craftsman with garage for extra storage. Remodeled: hardwood floors, custom paint, washer/dryer. Major appliances included. Pets considered. \$1175. Call Anita 619-246-8393.

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.

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CARLSBAD. Beautiful 1 and 2 bedrooms, some with fantastic views! Pool, community laundry, gated parking, barbecue areas, spacious floorplans. Walk to the beach! No pets. 2303 Ocean Street. Agent, 760-434-7721.

CARLSBAD. \$925, 1 bedroom. Off-street parking, community laundry. Quiet street. No pets. 3366 Roosevelt Street. Call Agent, 760-434-7721.

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CARLSBAD/LA COSTA. \$1595. Large, luxury 3 bedroom, 2 bath in beautiful garden complex with views over La Costa golf course. Fireplace, washer/dryer, air conditioning, pool, spa, sauna. 2391 Caringa Way, Alicante Views. Open daily. TTPM, 760-431-7575. www.alicantevIEWS.com.

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CITY HEIGHTS. \$675 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. Upper 1 bedroom duplex. No pets. At 4329 41st Street. 619-299-8515.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$995. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Water/sewer/trash paid. Upstairs, living room, renovated. 2842 39th Street #6. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

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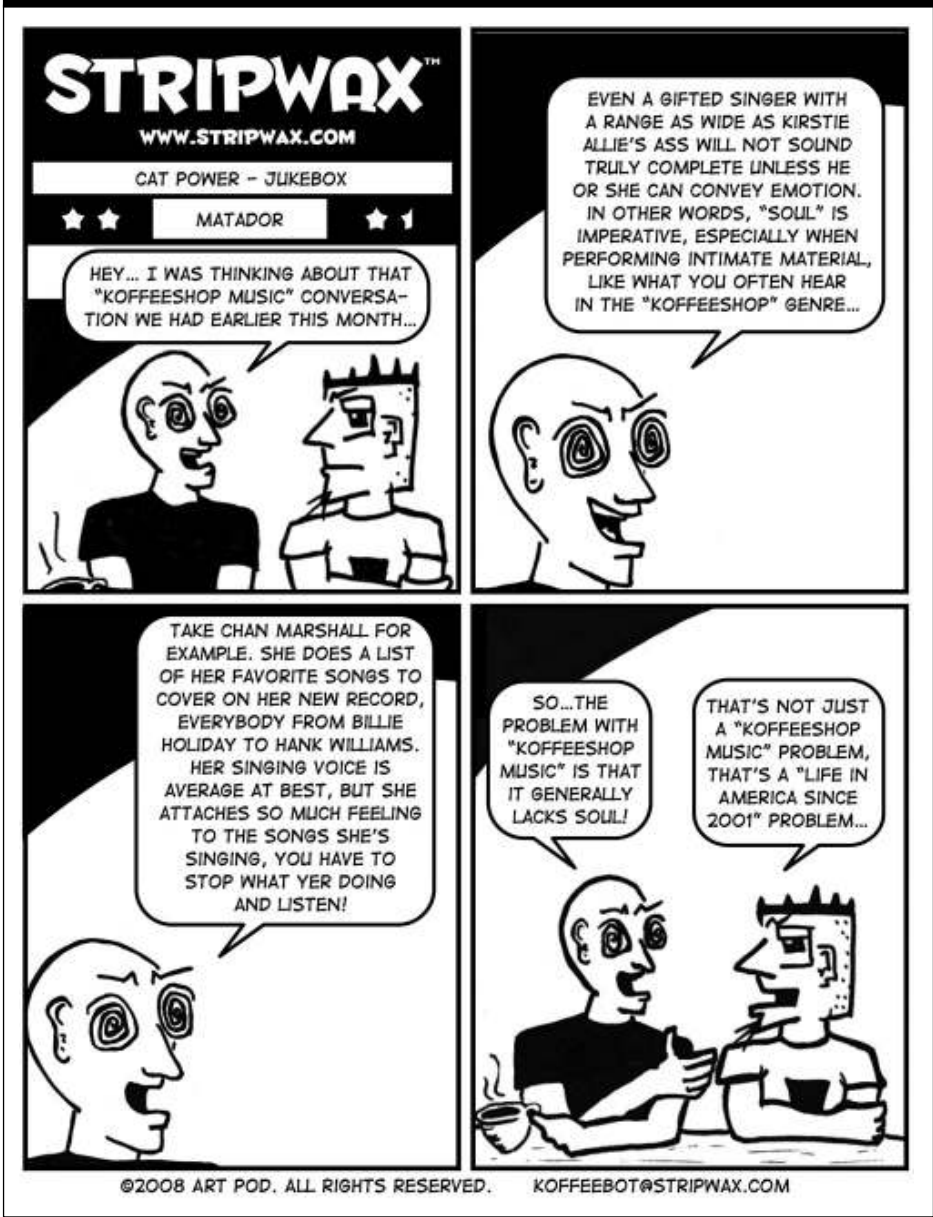
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CLAIREMONT. \$875. 1 bedroom. \$1125. 2 bedroom with balcony. Upstairs. Pool. Laundry. Off-street parking. No pets. Close to I-163. 7322 Mesa College Drive. 858-560-6204.

CLAIREMONT. Large 1 bedroom studio. Utilities and cable included. Close to shopping and bay area. \$875/month. Call days. 858-273-3636 or evenings, 760-408-9405.

CLAIREMONT. Move-in special! From \$1210. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Large, sunny townhomes. Pool. Parking. No pets. The Gardens, 5544 Balboa Arms Drive. Call 858-278-5862.

CLAIREMONT. \$1200. 2 bedroom duplex. \$500 off first month's rent. Garage with opener, new carpets, fresh paint, private patio. No pets. 3340 Clairemont Drive. 858-278-2562.

COLLEGE AREA. From \$1195. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condos. Balcony/patio. Gas stove, microwave. Central air/heat. Dishwasher. Washer/dryer hook-ups. Gated. Pet on approval. Near all/golf course. 619-285-3822.

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COLLEGE AREA. \$1350. 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment in contemporary building, central air conditioning. Security, underground parking. Year lease. 4742 Seminole Drive. Call 619-469-0031.

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DOWNTOWN, NORTH. \$785. Studio. Upstairs. All utilities paid. Full kitchen with stove and refrigerator. Coin laundry. No parking. Easy freeway and Downtown access. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available now. 109 West Fir. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

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DOWNTOWN. Furnished studios. From \$59/daily, from \$210/weekly rates! Ideal, affordable, short-term stays. Private bathroom, kitchenette, microwave, refrigerator, cable TV. Air conditioning, laundry, voice mail. High speed Internet. Food service daily. Near trolley/bus/freeway, Balboa Park, Gaslamp. West Park Inn, 1840 4th Avenue. www.westparkinn.com. 619-236-1600. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2037.

DOWNTOWN. Attractive rooms. Shared bath. Utilities included! Near City College! \$400-\$595 per month. Weekly rates from \$1251 719 14th Street, Villa Victoria. Hughes Management, 619-231-2385.

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DOWNTOWN. Economical furnished rooms, \$400-\$500, best price, save money. Conveniently located on C Street trolley line, near restaurants, free cable TV, shared bathrooms, on-site laundry facilities, vending machines, elevator service, no pets. 636 C Street (between 6th and 7th). C Street Inn, Hughes Management, 619-234-4165. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2098.

DOWNTOWN. Cozy rooms, \$450-\$625, grab these little jewels today! Very comfortable, convenient location, historic building near C Street trolley. Choice of shared or private bathrooms. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator, no pets. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B, Hughes Management, 619-239-3808. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2099.

DOWNTOWN. Comfortable rooms, \$450/up. Studios, \$650/up. Near Gaslamp District. Very quiet and clean. Free cable TV,

on-site laundry, vending machines, community kitchen, shared bathrooms. Near shopping, restaurants, movie theatres and Horton Plaza. No pets. Arlington Apartments, 701 7th Avenue. Hughes Management. 619-231-2385. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2097.

DOWNTOWN. Gaslamp area. Move-in special, \$280. Community kitchen, shared bath, on-site laundry, vending machines, no pets, Star Hotel, 522 7th Avenue. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

DOWNTOWN. \$2200. 1160 square foot loft, 1-1/2 baths. High-end unit, granite, stainless, vaulted ceilings. Across from Petco Park. Parking, storage, BBQ. Available 4/15. 760-807-8971, alicia@polzinhome.com.

DOWNTOWN. Grande South. Spectacular views! Luxury 1 bedroom, 1.5 bath condo. 25th floor. Concierge, gym, pool/jacuzzi, sauna, balcony, fireplace, hardwood. Parking. Lease option. \$2250-\$2350. 760-960-4273.

DOWNTOWN. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, Cityfront Terrace, 5-star living on the 10th floor, views of bay, ocean, bridge. Full-size gym, aerobic room, entertainment room, 2 pools, spa, valet service, home office room, underground parking. Walk to ballpark, Seaport Village, convention center and Gaslamp. Small pet OK. \$2900. 619-733-8995.

DOWNTOWN. Premier location. Furnished studios with full baths, from \$199/weekly. Two award-winning buildings to choose from with 24-hour staff, gyms, laundry rooms, sun decks. Free wireless Internet. Island Inn: 202 Island Avenue (Second and Island), 619-232-4138. J Street Inn: 222 J Street, 619-696-6922. www.affordablehousingsd.com.

DOWNTOWN. Fully furnished studios with utilities included. Rates start at \$160/week. Free wireless Internet. Baltic Inn: 521 6th Avenue. 619-237-0687. www.affordablehousingsd.com.

DOWNTOWN. Brand new rooms near City College. Single rooms with kitchenettes from \$140/week plus deposit (long-term). Includes utilities/cable. Quiet, secure. Shared bath/laundry. Hotel Mediterranean. 619-231-8656. www.hotelmed-sd.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$1300 2 bedroom, \$700 deposit. Quiet complex, gated parking, remote entry, laundry on premises. No pets. 1830 Market Street. 619-405-RENT(7368).

DOWNTOWN. Studios, 1 and 2 bedroom condominiums. \$1400-\$2800/month. 20th floor rooftop terrace: spa, outdoor kitchen, barbecues, sundeck. Fully-equipped fitness facility. Designer interiors: modern kitchens, breakfast bar, floor-to-ceiling windows, flexible layouts. Secured building, subterranean parking. On-site trolley stop and neighborhood retail stores. Smart Corner, 1080 Park Boulevard. 1-888-835-5044. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2161.

DOWNTOWN. \$2700. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo above Petco Park. 2-car parking. Storage, Washer/dryer, Balcony, Clubhouse. Small dog? 427 9th Avenue #1006, 909-645-8135. www.bkbcn.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$675. Studio, 1 bath apartment, great views, all utilities paid, near Petco Park, controlled access building. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, cat OK with deposit, hardwood floors, paid water/trash/gas. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$1685. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths apartment, pet OK with deposit, barbecue/picnic area, business center, spa, pool, fitness. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$1750. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths condo, 934-square-foot top-floor end unit, on-site manager, trash chute, elevators, great security. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$3100. 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath 1500-square-foot townhouse, pet OK, central air/heat, in-unit washer/dryer, granite countertops. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$1450. 1 bedroom, condo at the Mills stainless steel appliances, granite counter tops, open living area. Near Gaslamp, freeway, beaches. The Dymond Group. 619-624-2031.

DOWNTOWN. \$2795. Renaissance Building, Marina District. 16th floor. Water, city views. 2-bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths. Washer/dryer. 1295 square feet. 2-car parking, side-by-side. 858-337-6561. bjan_barkadehi@yahoo.com

DOWNTOWN. \$1895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo, den, 1000 square feet. Discovery

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DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Bright corner studio, \$895. 1 bedroom rooftop penthouse \$1,395. 9 ceilings. Secure, quiet, building with laundry. 1534 Front, near Beech. 619-233-7428.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. 1 bedrooms from \$750. Studios from \$650. Totally renovated. Vintage building. 10 blocks from water. Authentic hardwood floors. Fresh paint. New tile. New appliances. Cats OK. 619-997-1133.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. Newly remodeled rooms available for weekly/monthly rentals, \$495-\$600 plus \$300-\$400 security. Controlled access, shared bathrooms/kitchens. Full size beds. Laundry facility. Patio area. Palms Hotel, 619-233-0408.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. 1 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, loft, 1000 square feet. Laundry room, roof access with bay, city views, parking. \$1875. 619-255-0526 or www.surbanliving.com.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. From \$800/month. Private bath, cable TV, microwave, refrigerator. Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Efficiency apartments with laundry. Near trolley/bus lines, blocks from harbor. On-site manager. Villa Caterina, 1654 Columbia Street. 619-232-3400.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. \$99 moves you in! Live/work lofts. Penthouse, 1546 square feet, \$2750. Loft, 1463 square feet, cement floor, \$2425. Loft, 1163 square feet, carpeted, \$1720. Pets OK, parking available, keyless entry system, laundry facility, high speed Internet capability, central air/heat, high ceilings. Penthouse extras: granite kitchen countertops, Brazilian cherry wood floors, stainless steel appliances, 9 French doors. Toll free: 1-888-241-3523. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2145.

DOWNTOWN/CORTEZ HILL. 2 bedroom 2 bath condo. Hardwood floors, refrigerator, stove, microwave. Trash shoot, 1 parking stall. Central heat/air. Washer/dryer in unit. \$1700/month, \$900/deposit. 619-291-4300.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. \$1950. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Blocks from Petco Park. Scenic court unit has 2 secure parking spots. Granite countertops, washer/dryer, air conditioning, storage unit are part of this rental's benefits. No pets. 619-698-5686.

DOWNTOWN/GOLDEN HILL. \$925. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath atop beautiful Victorian, private entrance. New paint. Shared yard. Laundry onsite. No pets. Call Loren, 619-997-0273.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Las Flores Hotel. Small, quiet, \$125/week and up. Four-week minimum. Color TV with basic cable. Refrigerator in most rooms. Secure. 619-235-6820.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Move-in Specials. Live/Work Lofts in the heart of The Gaslamp! Roof decks with barbecue. Laundry on every floor. Parking available. Seven locations Downtown. Select pets OK. Visit loft leasing office: 315 Fourth Avenue. 619-231-1505 x12. www.trilogymanagement.com. Also visit www.sdreader.com/news/rent2064.

EAST SAN DIEGO. \$695. Furnished studio alcove apartment. Complete living room, bedroom and kitchen furniture. No SDG&E deposit or hook-up fee required. Near 52nd and University. 5101 Towle Court. Close to SDSU. Laundry room. Off-street parking. Low \$300 deposit. 619-281-9451.

EAST VILLAGE. Newer, large 1 bedroom condo. \$1700. Granite, stainless appliances, washer/dryer in unit, air, large balcony, underground parking, gym. Water/trash included. 858-277-3410.

EL CAJON. 1 bedroom, \$800. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$900. Great amenities, air conditioning, laundry on-site, pool, recreation room, parking. Lushly landscaped. No pets. 294 Ballantyne. 619-334-7934.

EL CAJON. \$900/up. 2 bedroom, 1 and 2 stories. Amenities. Pool, park-like grounds, parking. Near town, shops, bus. 743 South Magnolia Avenue. Call 619-579-0174, 619-464-1818.

EL CAJON. 1 bedroom, \$825. 2 bedroom, \$965. \$200 off move-in special! OAC. Smaller, quiet community. Patios, balconies around nice courtyard. On-site laundry facility. Pool area. Near busline. Section 8 OK. Cats welcome. Villa Mollison, 991 North Mollison. 619-588-1780.

EL CAJON. Cajon Villas. \$1325, 3 bedroom. Pool. Parking. Air conditioning. No pets. 933 Peach Avenue. 619-447-9193.

EL CAJON. \$700. 1 bedroom apartment. Downstairs. New carpet, paint. Assigned parking. Laundry. No pets. Available now. 506 Emerald Avenue #6. Agent, 858-514-8201.

EL CAJON. \$705. 1 bedroom. El Cajon's best maintained property with beautiful courtyard and sparkling pool. No pets. 1072 East Madison Avenue. TPPM, 619-444-1614. www.fourwindsapts.info.

EL CAJON. \$695. 1 bedroom. Open Saturday, 12-3pm. Fabulous pool/courtyard complex. Super clean apartments. No pets. \$895 moves you in! 314 Wisconsin Street. TPPM, 619-742-7600. www.palmetstates.info.

EL CAJON. 1 bedrooms starting at \$695. Open Saturday, 12-3pm. Beautifully maintained apartments with sparkling pool. No pets. 234 West Park Avenue. TPPM, 619-850-9722. www.palmtowers.com.

EL CAJON. \$705-\$715. Spacious 1 bedrooms in beautiful property with sparkling pool. Walk to courthouse and Main Street shopping. No pets. 163 Ballantyne Street. TPPM, 619-990-5900. www.tradewindapts.info.

EL CAJON. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Balcony, new blinds, dishwasher. Wood burning fireplace. Large

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closets with mirror doors. New microwave. Washer and dryer hookups. Lots of storage. Community pool. 1013 S. Sunshine Avenue #J. Call 858-571-1970. [sunriseliving.com](#).

ENCINITAS. Treat yourself to this elegantly furnished 1 bedroom at Moonlight Beach. Walk to shops, restaurants, Coaster. Gourmet kitchen, washer/dryer, dishes, linens. \$1995/month. 760-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. \$850 & up. Sick of room-mates? Cozy beach trailers in quiet park. Near beach, Coaster, restaurants, shops. 152 North Coast, Highway 101. 760-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. \$1185, 1 bedroom. \$1395, 2 bedroom. Patio. Small complex. Assigned parking, laundry. New paint. Bright and airy. Garden setting. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. Close to shopping, free-way, Coaster. No pets/smoking. 760-929-1950.

ENCINITAS. \$1495, 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex with yard. 1 car garage, washer/dryer hookups. Close to all. No pets. 760-753-4101.

ESCONDIDO. 2 bedrooms, \$995. Pool, jacuzzi, club, barbecue, park. Air conditioning, laundry. Open house saturday, 11am-2pm. 1960 East Grand Avenue. Call 760-489-6932. [www.melroyproperties.com](#).

ESCONDIDO. \$895-\$1695. Tired of apartment living? Beautiful 1, 2, & 3 bedroom manufactured homes offer spectacular hilltop views. Full-sized washer/dryer, some small yards. Peaceful community, sorry no pets. 1924 Sheridan Avenue. 760-745-1677.

ESCONDIDO. Call for special! Spacious 1 bedrooms from \$835, deposit \$400, 2 bedrooms from \$995, deposit \$500. Great floor plan. Pool, spa. Covered parking. Laundry, RV parking. Cats are welcome. 640 West Lincoln Street. 760-489-8989.

ESCONDIDO. 335 West Lincoln. \$1100, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 900 estimated square footage. Fenced yard, central airheat. 1-car garage. Washer/dryer hookups. Pets OK. Off I-78 and Broadway. Available 4/15/08. Agent, 619-471-2201.

FASHION HILLS. \$1600. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo plus loft. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, balcony. Garage. Fireplace. Air conditioning. Garage. City Scene. Camino Revueltos. Agent, 619-692-4121.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1250 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Parking. Laundry. No pets. At 1330 Eureka Street #29. 619-298-5820.

FASHION VALLEY. \$950 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking. New carpet. No pets. "Bonus density" unit, at 5550 Mildred Street #5. 619-291-1755.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1395. Luxurious 2 bedroom. Tropical garden. Gym. Pools. Close to all. Secluded paradise. Available May. No pets/smoking. 6202 Friars Road. Agent, 619-692-4121.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1100. Large 1 bedroom condo. No pets. Parking. Large patio. Remodeled. New carpet/paint. Dishwasher. Pool/gym. 6304 Friars Road, #341. Juno, 619-275-3455.

GOLDEN HILL. Executive condo, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Large, remodeled with hardwood floors and cherry cabinetry. Courtyard. Laundry. Parking. Near downtown/Petco Park/Gaslamp. Close to freeways. \$2500. Ramiro, 619-232-9489.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1,000. 1 bedroom, 1 bath garden apartment. Garage parking extra. Wood floors. Courtyard. Laundry. Near Downtown/Petco Park/Gaslamp. Close to freeways. No pets. Ramiro, 619-232-9489.

GOLDEN HILL/DOWNTOWN. Up to \$250 off! 1 bedrooms from \$1120. Views. Controlled access. Washer/dryer in unit. Dishwasher. Refrigerator. Stove/range. Microwave. Central air. Rooftop deck. Spa. Outdoor barbecue lounge. Underground parking. Pet friendly! Military special, up to 1/2 month off! Golden Pacific, 1015 19th Street. 1-800-433-6156. [www.pacificliving.com](#). [www.sdreader.com/news/rent2028](#).

GOLDEN HILL. \$1400. Nice 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Second floor. 2-parking spots. Gated. Pets ok. Close to Downtown/freeway/parks. 2742 A Street. 858-774-0762.

GOLDEN HILL. \$975. Cute 1 bedroom cottage. Garden setting. Hardwood floors. Lots of windows. Washer, dryer. Fenced rear yard. 3065 B Street. Available now. 619-559-5423.

GOLDEN HILL. \$825, 2 bedroom, 2 bath \$1095-\$1150. Nice views, gated, underground parking, walk in closets, dishwasher, coin laundry, quiet cul-de-sac. Close to freeway. No pets. Agents, 619-296-3189.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1095, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Ready to move-in upstairs unit. Bright, cozy, clean. Carpet like new. Fresh paint.

Close to Balboa Park, 32nd Street, downtown and more. 2631 A Street. Call 858-571-1970. [sunriseliving.com](#).

GOLDEN HILL. 2608 Broadway. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Washer/dryer hookups, patio. 2 parking spaces with bike rack. Gated. Berber. Refrigerator, dishwasher. Water, sewer, trash included. Agent, 619-471-2201.

HILLCREST. Spacious 1 and 2 bedrooms! Berber carpet, fireplace, spa, gym, intercom, elevator. Sorry, no pets. Hillcrest Summit, 4134 4th Avenue. See photos at [www.WexfordLiving.com](#). 619-299-0047.

HILLCREST. Huge remodeled 2 bedroom plus den/office, 1 bath, vaulted ceilings, balcony. All new items: hardwood floors, maple cabinets, granite counters, stainless sink/faucets, ceramic tile, vinyl windows. 1 parking, laundry. No pets. 3828 Thrd/Robinson. \$1625. 619-295-7113.

HILLCREST. \$1295. 1 bedroom cottage. Hardwood floors, washer/dryer hook-ups, private yard. Cat OK. Near bus to downtown. Save gas and downtown parking fees! 3304-1/2 Reynard Way. Agent, 619-298-7232. [www.sbayproperties.com](#).

HILLCREST. \$200/week and up. Refrigerators, cable TV and HBO. Embassy Hotel, 3645 Park Boulevard. 619-296-3141.

HILLCREST. Near major hospitals. Great location. Great amenities. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Furnished, Central heat/air. Laundry. Walk everywhere. 3730 Eighth Avenue. \$1250/month. 619-889-6771.

HILLCREST. \$1250. 2 bedroom cottage tucked away in urban canyon. Sunny, quiet. Take Lincoln north from Washington right on Johnson to 4170 10th Avenue. 619-322-5701.

HILLCREST. \$825 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. Large 1 bedroom duplex. Some parking. 2 units available. No pets. At 3857 (lower) and 3857-1/2 (upper, new carpet) First Avenue. 619-299-8515.

HILLCREST. \$795 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. Large studio triplex. Full kitchen and bathroom. No pets. At 1075 Essex Street or 3794 Vermont Street. Agent, 619-299-8515.

HILLCREST. \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath with parking, storage, laundry on-site. Close to freeways and shops. 4226 Cleveland Avenue. Call Kenny, 619-255-4944.

HILLCREST. \$725. Unfurnished studio, large unit. Murphy bed, hardwood floors, private kitchen and bath. Laundry. Clean, quiet, secure. No pets. Near bus line. 619-674-3066.

HILLCREST. Studio, \$850. Pool, canyon view. Close to all. Rec room. Cat OK. Sleepy Hollow Apartments, 4201 Sixth Avenue. 619-298-1059.

HILLCREST. 1/2 off first month! \$1025, 1 bedroom, patio. \$1175, 2 bedroom, balcony. New carpet. Garage available. Ceiling fan, microwave. Gated entry. Lush garden setting. Laundry. No pets. 3914 Centre. 619-501-8447, 619-787-1519.

HILLCREST. \$1025. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath, gated complex, hardwood floors, on-site laundry, storage in back yard, near all, cat ok. 1930 3rd Avenue. 619-804-3325.

HILLCREST. \$795. 1/2 off first month. Extra large studio, wood floors, walk-in closets, full kitchen, on-site laundry. Blocks from Park. Cat ok. 2241 4th Avenue #303. 619-602-7080.

HILLCREST. \$1225. 1 bedroom. Beautiful apartment. Prime location. Come and enjoy Hillcrest living at it's best in the beautiful remodeled Park Towers building. Our 1 bedroom units have gone through an extensive remodel in excess of 25K. Full

Say What?



Aletha Chase | Age: 38 | Occupation: Spiritual Healer | Lives: Encinitas

I have to admit, the word I use the most came from the movie *Never Been Kissed*. The word is **Rufus** and it's used to describe something really cool. I love the way it sounds and it's versatile. Rufus can refer to one thing, like a song or a movie, or to a feeling. Some-

one can ask you how your day is and you can say that it's Rufus! Not many people get where it's from and I get asked a lot what it means. On the flip side, something can be an **Anti-Rufus** when it sucks. The fun thing about strange slang words is that it's like a different

language between you and your friends...or in this case, anyone who has seen the movie.

To see an online version of this column, go to [sdreader.com](#). You can print it, email it to friends, and find archived columns.

ceramic tile countertops. Maple cabinets, dishwasher, micro hood, range and refrigerator included. Italian ceramic tile floors with granite accents. Crown molding, ceiling fans and mirrored wardrobes. Full tile bathroom. All new fixtures and windows treatments. Property features a pool, gated access with intercom, covered off street parking and on site laundry. \$800 deposit and one year lease required. Available by May 15, 2008. Small dog ok with additional deposit. 3563 Sixth Avenue at Upas Street. Cats are ok. Contact the resident manager at 619-542-0377.

HILLCREST. Hillcrest Palms. Senior complex, 55+. \$900. 1 bedroom apartments. Gated community. Convenient location. Near hospitals, restaurants, shopping. No pets. 4042 Albatross Street. 619-574-0784.

HILLCREST. 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse condo. New construction. 2-master suites. Approximately 1322 square feet. Air conditioning, fireplace, attached garage, full-size interior laundry room, south-facing balcony. \$2300. Broker, 619-286-4250.

HILLCREST. \$995. 1 bedroom in vintage Spanish building. Excellent location! Walk to all in Hillcrest. No pets. Open Saturday, 10-11am. 635 Pennsylvania Avenue at 7th Avenue. TPPM Monday-Friday: 619-296-8802 or Saturday: 858-699-3851.

HILLCREST. \$995. Studio. Cute and cozy studio apartment home. Beautiful custom tile in kitchen, hardwood floors, custom fixtures, unique claw foot tub and pedestal sink. 3808-1/2 3rd Avenue. Call 858-571-1970. [sunriseliving.com](#).

HILLCREST. Huge, luxury 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath. 1800 square feet. 2-parking. New paint/verticals. Pool/sauna. Laundry on-site. 2-balconies. No pets. \$2100. 619-410-7779.

HILLCREST/UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1525, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Bright, spacious second floor unit with 2 balconies. Master bedroom with walk-in closet. Laundry, underground parking. Close to everything. Available now. 3795 Georgia Street. Call 619-282-4102.

HILLCREST/BANKER'S HILL. \$1550 rent, \$1400 deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath.

Stove, refrigerator, carpet, blinds, air conditioning, balcony with view, assigned parking, laundry facilities. Sorry no pets. 2980 1st Avenue #2B. Available 3/25. Call Ed, 858-597-6100.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$1375-\$1525. Newly remodeled 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath condos. Steps to beach. Heated pool, views. All appliances. 1111 Seacoast #2, #20, and #35. Agent Bill, 619-823-1674.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$815. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$600 deposit. Carpet. Laundry. Courtyard. Water/trash paid. Gated. No pets. 750 11th Street. 619-423-4610.

KENSINGTON. \$1295. Extra large 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, skylights, fully equipped kitchen, coin laundry, off-street parking. Garage available. Easy freeway access. No pets. 619-563-6069.

LA JOLLA, SOUTH. Luxury 1 and 2 bedrooms starting at \$1495. Steps to beach. Balcony, pool, spa, views, controlled access. No pets. Nonsmoking. Office at 5060 La Jolla Boulevard. Open Monday-Saturday, 9am-5pm or call TPPM, 858-483-7412 for information. [www.casadelmar.info](#).

LA JOLLA/UCSD. \$500 off! \$1475, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$500 deposit. New carpet. Balcony. Near shops. No pets. 8849 Villa La Jolla Drive. 858-457-4509.

LA JOLLA. \$1750. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Refrigerator, washer/dryer. 2 parking spaces. Community pool, spa, tennis courts. Near UCSD/La Jolla Village Square. 858-456-3211.

LA JOLLA. \$1950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath townhouse. 3 levels. Laundry, balcony, covered deck, garage. New appliances, hardwood floors. Clubhouse/spa, etc. UCSD close. Pets okay. 619-628-1810.

LA JOLLA. Studio. Amazing location. One block to Starbucks, beach and bus. Prospect Street. Kitchen with appliances. Walk-in closet, laundry. \$1195-\$1450, includes utilities. 858-336-0252.

LA JOLLA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1750. Mint condo in La Jolla Regency. Complex has pool, spa, fitness center, business

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Pets welcome! Steps to trolley, restaurants and shops! Village at Morena Vista, 5395 Napa Street. Toll-free, 1-888-571-0840. www.sreader.com/news/rent2153, www.villageatmorenavista.com.

MISSION VALLEY/TALMADGE. Up to \$500 off first month! 2 bedroom, 2 bath special at \$1395, this week! Gated. Pool, spa, WiFi access. Outdoor billiards, barbecue lounge, fitness center. Computer lab, printer. Laundry center, flat screen TVs! Parking. Pet friendly! Mission Pacific, 4454 44th Street. 1-800-372-9146. www.pacificliving.com. www.sreader.com/news/rent1010.

MISSION VALLEY. \$100 off each month for 1 bedrooms! 12 month lease. 1 and 2 bedrooms from \$1130. No pet rent! 2 pools, spas. Sauna. Racquetball. Tennis. Air conditioning. Fireplace. Fitness center. Laundry. Storage. Garage, reserved parking. Pets welcome! Padre Gardens, 10343 San Diego Mission Road. 1-888-835-5043. www.sreader.com/news/rent2160.

MISSION VALLEY. Huge 1 bedroom, Washer and dryer, fireplace. Large patio, pool, spa and more. www.ApartmentFindersInc.com. 619-296-2787.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1060. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, parking included, fitness center, fireplace. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

MISSION VALLEY/COLLEGE AREA. \$500 off first month! 1 bedrooms from \$960! 2 bedrooms from \$1400. Minutes to shopping, dining, transit, SDSU. Gated community. Pool/spa. On-site laundry. Fitness center. Carpools available. 4929 Collwood Boulevard. 619-287-3020. collwoodpines.rasnyder.com.

MORLEY FIELD/NORTH PARK. \$800, studio. \$800 deposit. Available 5/1. 3679-1/2 Mississippi. S&D Property Management. 619-640-7530. www.sdforrent.com.

NATIONAL CITY. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, recently upgraded, \$800/month. Parking space. Water paid. 116 Palm Avenue. Call 619-474-4441.

NATIONAL CITY. 1 bedroom apartment, \$845. Newly renovated. Microwave, refrigerator. Gated community. Laundry facility. Available late April. Hilltop Villa, 315 East 30th Street. 619-477-7442. www.melroyproperties.com.

NATIONAL CITY. \$750/month. 1 bedroom fully furnished. Low \$150 deposit. No SDGE deposit or hookup required. 624

East 24th Street. Office open daily. 619-474-3787.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1100. Extremely large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 3 walk-in closets. Gated building, parking, on-site laundry, air conditioning, newly redecorated. 4631 Idaho. 619-521-1901. 619-461-9415.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$750 1 bedroom 1 bath, 4263 42nd. \$950 2 bedroom 1 bath, 4133-1/2 37th. Very nice, on-site laundry. No pets. 760-672-0425.

NORMAL HEIGHTS/KENSINGTON. \$995 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking spot. New carpet. Laundry. No pets. At 4742 East Mountain View Drive #5, #6. 619-299-8515.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$825. Very nice 1 bedroom apartment. Conveniently located, close to 805 and shopping. Laundry on site. To view, call Jack, 619-222-2644. 4669 32nd Street #7.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$750. Studio. Laundry. Newly refurbished. New appliances. Available now. 3827 and 3829 Adams Avenue. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry. Available now! 3833 and 3833-1/2 Adams Avenue. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$875. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry, gated. Available 4/10. 4665 34th Street. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$670. Studio. Spacious. Pool. Off-street parking. On-site laundry. Close to major freeways. Sorry, no pets! 4841 West Mountain View Drive. 619-282-6440. Sunriseliving.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$775. Two 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartments, senior/disabled/Section 8. Quiet, new carpet/paint, coin laundry, elevator, street parking. 3628 Monroe. 619-269-3487.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1075. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs. Gated. Laundry. 1-car garage. No pets. 4379 Swift Avenue #1. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs. Laundry. Parking. Convenient location. No pets. 4840 West Mountain View Drive #3. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1195. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upper, all appliances, air conditioning, balcony, walk-in closet, on-site laundry. Garage with extra \$75. 4524 40th Street #7. 619-804-3325.

SLOW WAVE



NORMAL HEIGHTS. 3535 Madison Avenue #202. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo, \$850. dc@sdcpm.net. SDCPM, 619-220-4840.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 4774 33rd Street, #7. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Dishwasher, air conditioning, and washer/dryer. Off street parking. No pets. \$875/month plus deposit. www.timcassidy.com. Cassidy, Broker, 619-275-LIST.

NORTH PARK. \$795. Older, cozy cottage. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. New paint, carpet, stove. Small private patio. Share front yard. No pets. 619-249-7117.

NORTH PARK. Two units available. 1 bedroom \$745. 1 bedroom \$795. Laundry onsite. Cats OK, no dogs. Available now. 3952 Iowa Street. 619-339-4311.

NORTH PARK. \$825. 1 bedroom. Cute cottage in well-kept complex. Convenient location near freeways and shops. 1 cat policy, no dogs. 4241 33rd. Jon, 619-756-4009.

NORTH PARK. \$750 rent. \$600 deposit. OAC. Large studio. Hardwood floors.

Storage. No pets. At 3804 Pershing Avenue #1. 619-299-8515.

NORTH PARK. \$850. Downstairs 1 bedroom. Berber carpet. French doors. Picture window. Mirrored closet doors. Cat OK. Agent, 619-234-9553. www.goldenhillpm.com.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1150.00, basic utilities included. 4651-B 30th Street. 1000 square feet, 1 parking space. No pets. 6 month lease. Call 858-490-1600.

NORTH PARK. \$1000. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Nice, bright, and airy upper apartment. Plenty of cabinet space. Laundry and parking on site. 1 year lease. Available now. 4119-1/2 Kansas Street. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

NORTH PARK. \$940. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Small, quiet property. Downstairs, newer carpet, coin laundry. No pets. 4127 33rd Street. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

NORTH PARK/MORLEY FIELD. \$1895. Charming 2 bedroom house. Completely remodeled. Hardwood floors, fireplace, air conditioning. Inside cat OK. 3770 Villa

Terrace. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

NORTH PARK/MORLEY FIELD. \$895. 1 bedroom. Lower corner apartment with hardwood floors. Garage. On-site laundry. 2565 Wightman Street. Xilarent.com. 619-683-7638.

NORTH PARK. \$1850. 2 bedroom, 2 bath duplex, very modern, hardwood floors, upscale kitchen, master bedroom upstairs with attached sun deck, washer and dryer. 2717 Wightman Street. www.centrecty.net. 619-296-6699.

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NORTH PARK. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs. New carpet and paint. Laundry and parking on site. Deposit \$600. No smoking or pets. Call for appointment. 619-640-6958.

NORTH PARK. \$995. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath remodeled unit. New carpet. Hardwood floors, stainless steel appliances. Pool. Gated community. Call 619-756-7645.

NORTH PARK/MORLEY FIELD. \$995. Large 2 bedroom upper end-unit apartment, quiet complex, view, new carpet/paint. On-site parking/laundry. No pets. 3811 Arnold. 619-252-1214.

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• Change oil filter
• Check for fluid leaks

• Inspect master cylinder brake fluid
• Top off fluids
• Inspect brake system
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• Check fuel filter
• Check differential fluid
• Check transmission fluid
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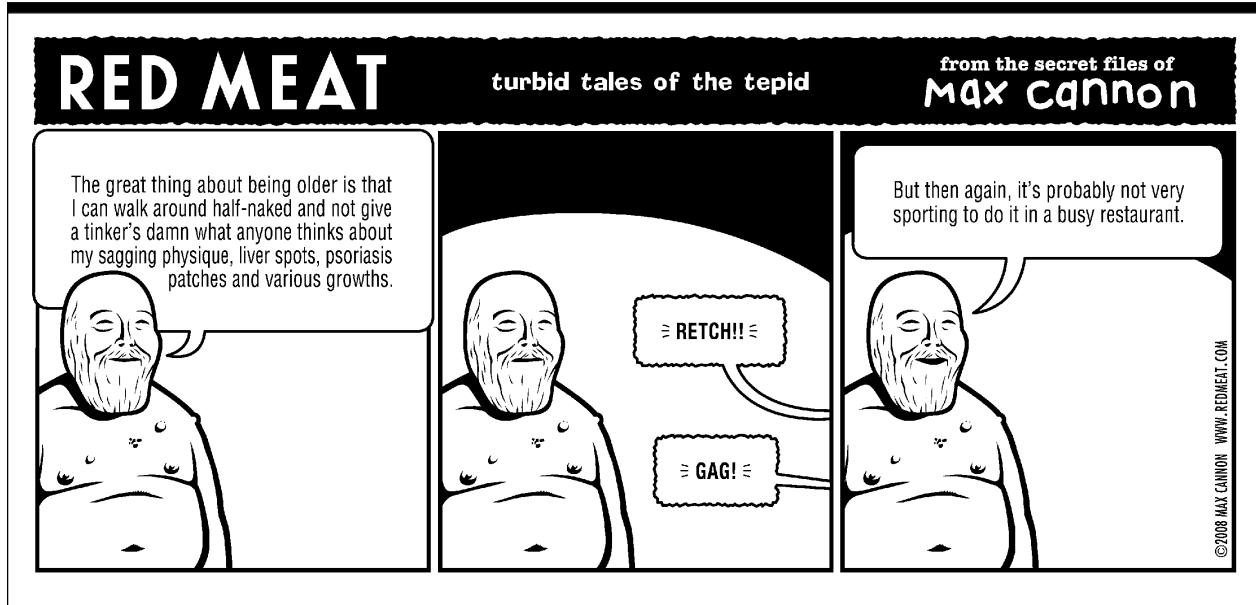
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OCEAN BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath \$1450, hardwood floors, charming area.

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OCEAN BEACH. \$1275. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath downstairs apartment with patio. Dishwasher. Close to bus lines, great location! Laundry on site. New carpet. No pets! 4231 Voltaire Street #1. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$845. 1 bedroom, upper. Newer carpet and paint. Quiet, clean. 1 block to the beach! Available immediately. 2178 Abbott Street #3. 619-222-9308.

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PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom 2 bath upstairs apartment, patio, view, \$1595. Refrigerator, stove, carpet, blinds. Parking, laundry. Indoor cat OK. 1488 Reed. Available now. 858-272-1488.

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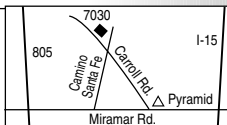
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PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$2850. 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. All appliances. Garage plus parking. Laundry hook-ups. Double sided fireplace. Steps to sand. 4981 Crystal Drive. 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedroom house. \$1795. Appliances. 2 parking spaces. Ceramic tile floors. Carpeted bedrooms. Fenced patio. Laundry facility. Easy freeway access. 2055 Garnet. 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Patio, parking, laundry facility. No pets. 4123-1/2 Ingraham Street. 858-270-4674.

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PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1575. Upstairs unit with bonus room in Crown Point. 4013 Honeycutt. No pets. 858-583-0182; www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. \$1995. Close to beach! Townhouse with patio. 954 Agate #C. 2 parking, no pets. 858-583-0182; www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. \$2550 townhouse with wood floors! 4267 Lamont. 2 car garage, washer/dryer. 858-583-0182; www.cal-prop.com.

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My ex-girlfriend at the end of the 20th Century (1995–1998) and I made the mistake of letting an acquaintance stay with us. This fellow, “Bill,” was from Los Angeles (or so he said) and living in his car. He was an actor and had been cast in a local production. To add to what little money he was getting for the show, he said he would find a day job and get on his feet and go from his car to a motel room or cheap studio apartment. He just needed a temporary place to crash for a week or two. Many of us have been in this position at one time or another, so I found it easy to sympathize. My girlfriend and I

decided to be kind; we offered our couch.

He hardly ever left that couch. He never went out to find a job. In fact, he was replaced in the play because he was not attending all of the rehearsals. At one point I woke him up and reminded him that he had rehearsal that evening, and he said, “Oh, I’m not called tonight.”

The director was a friend of mine, so I knew this wasn’t true. The director later asked me, “What’s the deal with your roommate?”

“He’s not my roommate!” I said.

He started asking to borrow money; I assured him that I had none (which was usually true), but my girlfriend, being the kindheart-

ed soul, would dig up a few dollars for him so he could go get something to eat at the taco shop or Jack in the Box. When she cooked she would make a plate of food for him, and he would have dinner with us.

I asked her not to do this, and she said, “We can’t just let him starve. That’s not right!”

I insisted that he had to go. “You tell him,” she said. “I won’t.” She didn’t have it in her to give people bad news.

Every time I attempted to sit

Roommate From Hell

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1875. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Large, upstairs end unit. Remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Coin laundry. Parking. No pets. Shared courtyard. Available 4/15. 1554-1/2 Diamond. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1745. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Downstairs condo. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, fireplace. Attached garage plus parking space. Laundry hook-ups. No pets. 1 year lease required. Available 4/17. 956 Sapphire. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1845. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome. Front unit in quiet 4-plex. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, laundry hookups, fireplace, private patio, garage plus parking space. No pets. 1 block to ocean. 827 Chalcedony. Available 5/10. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1950. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome. Quiet 3-unit building. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, fireplace, laundry hookups. Attached garage plus extra parking. Large fenced private yard/patio area. No pets. 4228 Fanuel. Available 5/10. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

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cue, shared courtyard. No pets. 1067 Hornblend. 858-336-7997.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$845. 1 bedroom. Hardwood floors, on-site laundry. Near I-5, minutes to Downtown, La Jolla. Available immediately. 3432 Del Rey. 619-222-9308.

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PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 5 blocks to beach. New paint, carpet. Garage, appliances, washer/dryer, large patio, rooftop deck. No pets. \$2800. 858-472-1230.

PACIFIC BEACH. Move-in special! 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, \$1350. Dishwasher, ceiling fan, patio, parking. Walk to beach/shops. No pets. Lease. 4467 Dawes. 858-483-4553.

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Jerry Sample, Jr. (General Manager) is an ASE Master Technician who is also **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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down with Bill and explain to him that he had overstayed his welcome and that he should pay rent or find somewhere else to live or go back to sleeping in his car, he would take over the conversation and go into some kind of hard-luck, sad story. He would talk about the death of his mother and how that affected him, about siblings who stole his inheritance, about being betrayed in love, about being bipolar, about having suicidal thoughts, and so on. Then he would start to cry — he would burst into tears and hug me, as if seeking some brotherly support.

I was left in a tough spot. I turned to my girlfriend, and she was in tears too. Any sad story would get to her. She would give me that “look” and shake her head, “No.”

Weeks turned into months. Bill was planted on my couch like a flag on an island, claiming territory, endlessly snoring and farting and driving me insane. I tried the rude tactic — I would slam the front door when coming and going to wake him up. I played the music and TV loudly. I would get drunk in front of him (he didn’t

drink) and act obnoxious. When my girlfriend and I had sex, we did it so loudly that he must have felt uncomfortable. I would walk out to the kitchen naked to get some water or soda, hoping that would bug him, as he was always shy about sexual topics.

He was bothered by the loud noise all right. He had the audacity to ask me to turn my music down and not to slam the door. “I need my sleep,” he said.

We were now three months in. I again brought up the issue of rent, and he replied, “I have a check coming in the mail.” Yes, he was having his mail sent to my house, but no checks were on the way.

Then my girlfriend came up with a plan: We would be the ones to move out. We would intentionally find a very small apartment, one that could never have a third person

in it, and tell Bill we were moving because we couldn’t afford the rent anymore. Which was true; I did want to get out of that place and find a cheaper home. I mean, Bill wouldn’t have the gumption to assume that he would move with us, would he?

When we told him, he was quiet for a moment and then said, softly, “Oh.” We moved, and Bill ended up moving in with a theater friend across the street. He ran into her on the bus (his car had broken down), and she happened to be drunk. He told her that he no longer had a home because we were moving. He wept. She felt sorry for him. She said, “You can sleep on my couch until you fix your car and things get settled.” I wish I could have warned her.

Two months later she said she was going insane because Bill never

got off her couch — all he did was sleep. She had tried to get him to leave, but he kept saying, “Give me a few more days.” She said she barely remembered telling him that he could stay with her in the first place, then the next day he showed up at her door with his suitcase, and what could she do?

I told her how we resolved the problem. “I’ll do that, then,” she said. “I’ll move.”

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LEAD STORY

— James Bowring, 45, told a court in Tauranga, New Zealand, in February that he wants to reconcile with his son Jacob, 18, despite James’s recent conviction for trying to run Jacob over in his car at 50 mph (after making a U-turn and jumping a curb to get at him). James admitted he was upset at Jacob for calling him a “pedophile,” following James’s having wooed and won over Jacob’s 18-year-old girlfriend and gotten her pregnant. (James admitted that just before making that U-turn, he had dropped off a 14-year-old girl he was giving a ride to.) Subsequently, a judge sentenced James to five months’ home detention in the bus he lives in with the pregnant girlfriend.

Great Moments in Maturity

— Lawyer Kathy Brewer Rentas, 49, was charged with assault in February after asking to shake hands with federal lawyer Jennifer Keane (who was prosecuting Rentas’s husband for probation violation). The handshake began in businesslike fashion, but according to a court security guard, Rentas

squeezed the hand, then yanked it up and down hard, “almost pull[ing] Keene’s arm out of its socket” and nearly sending her tumbling to the ground. — When a 72-year-old Levis, Quebec, woman cleared her walk with a snowblower in December, sending some of the snow onto the adjacent property, the 43-year-old neighbor grabbed his blower and sent it back, and the two spent about ten minutes blowing snow on each other before they stopped. (They “faced each other,” “engines roaring,” wrote the *Canadian Press*.) The neighbor then allegedly punched the woman (and her husband, who had come to help her) and was charged with assault.

Least Competent Criminals

— Should’ve Left Well Enough Alone: (1) Eric Livers, 20, a wanted man in Cheyenne, Wyo., fled to Portsmouth, N.H., but could not resist calling his former Wyoming employer to ask that his final paycheck be mailed to his New Hampshire address. The employer called authorities, and Portsmouth police picked up Livers in Febru-

ary. (2) Jeremy Hart, 24, was arrested in Topsham, Maine, in December after allegedly burglarizing a home while the residents were asleep. As Hart was leaving, according to police, he hit a snow bank in the driveway, causing the car to stall, and Hart to become so cold that he sheepishly walked back, rang the victims’ doorbell, and asked if he could come in and get warm. (The residents, aware that Hart had just been in their house, had already called police.)

Armed and Clumsy

— More people who accidentally shot themselves recently: A man, 20, showing off to friends after miscounting bullets, fatally shot himself in the head (Dallas, January). A man who said he didn’t feel safe walking his dog unless he had his gun with him, wounded himself on a walk (Palm Bay, Fla., February). A convenience-store robber, 25, shot himself in the genitals when stuffing the gun into his waistband (Kokomo, Ind., January). A man, 26, checking on a disturbance near his apartment, shot himself in the buttocks

(Scottsdale, Ariz., December). An insurance company employee, 47, who brings a gun every day to hang in his cubicle, shot himself in both legs while handling it (Lake Worth, Texas, October). A man, 26, shot himself in the head while loading his gun at a firing range (Riverside, Calif., November).

Recurring Themes

— Many inmates file lawsuits over the poor quality of prison food, but noteworthy was the one recently filed by Missouri inmate Norman Lee Toler (serving ten years for statutory rape), demanding kosher food as required by his devout Judaism, even though, in a previous prison stint, he was a notorious Adolf Hitler sympathizer with Nazi tattoos who amassed white supremacist photos and literature. Said a spokesman for the state attorney general, “We have serious factual doubts about...his sincerity.”

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com

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BACK WHEN

In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

Sunday morning in the little desert pit stop of Burro Bend. Everything's quiet. The sun has just risen over the Salton Sea; in the light, it looks like a vast oil slick. The gas station's closed; the cafe's locked up. Suddenly there's a tumbling in the distance like an army of tanks, and on all sides a mushroom cloud of dust boils up on the horizon and converges toward the cross. The noise grows louder and louder, and wheels of all shapes and sizes emerge from the cloud, bouncing and wobbling across the rugged terrain.

—**"DON'T FENCE ME IN,"** *Steve Sorensen,*
April 13, 1978

Twenty-Five Years Ago

If a surfer wants a medium-short board of six to seven feet, or an old-fashioned board of eight feet or longer, and he wants Skip Frye to shape it for him, Frye will take a Clark foam blank some morning at the Gordon & Smith surfboard factory on Raines Street in Morena and get to work in his stall.

Frye's favorite is the kind of board that he likes to surf on himself.

His is a style of surfing that he helped to create in the 1960s. He goes for grace and smoothness and distance. Corky Carroll, one

of the top-rated surfers in Frye's heyday, said Frye was always a gentleman in the water, not aggressively territorial as some surfers are.

—**"SKIP FRYE IS STILL STOKED,"** *Joe Applegate,*
April 14, 1983

Twenty Years Ago

It was amusing to read Nicole Murray's accusation that gay activists Rick Moore and Doug Scott represent the "conservative" gay viewpoint ("The Inside Story," April 7). What's most amusing is Murray's credentials: he may be anti-Reagan, but he's still a card-carrying Republican, supported Bill Cleator for mayor, and is a fan of Barry Goldwater....

—LETTERS: **"PITY,"** *Brad Jacobsen, Hillcrest,*
April 14, 1988

Fifteen Years Ago

"School had just let out for the year, and we planned a weekend in Rosarito. Six of us, three couples.... My girlfriend said that we should do the Ecstasy. I said I wasn't sure because I had never done it before.

"I started to come on to the X, and the sand felt weird beneath me. It's like I could feel every grain of sand shift under my weight when I moved."

—**"LOVE IS THE DRUG,"** *Abe Opincar, April 15, 1993*

Ten Years Ago

Greetings from Poway, the land of many crows. It seems that over the past few years, the crow population in the county has grown dramatically. What would account for this, and could this become a problem?

Crows are tough suckers and will eat just about anything, making adaptation simple. If the least Bell's vireo or California gnatcatcher could eat discarded tacos, they probably wouldn't be endangered either. Oddly enough, tall trees in the expanding suburban landscape may provide more crow nesting sites than in the past.

—STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP, *Matthew Alice,*
April 16, 1998

Five Years Ago

Baseball fans assumed Darryl Strawberry was quietly decomposing in a pauper's grave, but no; turns out, Strawberry, 41, has been hiding out in the Gainesville Correctional Institution for the past 11 months.

Strawberry will be living with his wife and three children in Lutz, Florida. I can hear the old lawn mower humming.

Before being sent to prison, for, I might add, *the first time*, Strawberry had been convicted of violating his probation six times.



San Diego Reader, April 15, 1993

Here we are, in these send-everybody-to-prison times, when 60-year-old men who steal \$50 worth of videos are having that crime counted as a third strike and sent to prison for life because of it. All the while, Darryl Strawberry is living in another age, master of his universe.

—SPORTING BOX, *Patrick Daugherty, April 10, 2003*

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COALITION FORCES

When a phrase is constantly used over time to the same audience, it ends up losing some of its original significance. So when we first got wind of the “coalition” the United States put together to help with military actions in Iraq and Afghanistan, most people probably pictured a combination of military personnel from various countries. As time goes on and the war on terrorism increasingly becomes equated with the Bush Administration and not any international effort, one can be forgiven for forgetting that the title “Coalition Forces” (or its military moniker CF) actually does mean

there are many countries that have troops stationed overseas in support of the current war effort. True, they may be token troops, meant to do little beyond showing nominal support for the United States, but that doesn’t mean you can’t learn a thing or two from them.

Walking the grounds of the larger and more established “American” bases in Iraq is actually quite an international experience. The most multicultural is, of course, the International Zone (IZ) where you will

find a veritable cornucopia of CF (you can now use this acronym to impress your friends!). At the U.S. Embassy, one can hardly walk down a hall without running into a South Korean or a Japanese officer; those who have been there the longest can even tell the two apart (and don’t look at the uniform, that’s cheating). Walk outside of the embassy and don’t know where you’re going? Well, you better have boned up pretty well on your Spanish because otherwise that salty-looking Peruvian guard isn’t going to help you

out at all. And don’t try asking that El Salvadorian, either, because he’ll look at you the same way. Maybe try that Dane standing in the corner; they have a great education system, so you can bet he is at least bilingual.

Go into one of the chow halls, then, and see how at home you feel with all the American troops there. Wait a minute; it’s nothing but Eastern Europeans! There’s a sea of baggy eyes, dark hair, and five o’clock shadows as far as the eye can see. There are Estonians, Georgians, Romanians, Bulgarians,

SAN CARLOS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath townhouse, \$1250. Covered parking, pool, etc. 8284 Echodell Road. Available May 1. Agent, 619-260-1368. View at <http://www.sevillermgmt.com>.

SAN DIEGO. Move-in special. 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom townhome with office/den in beautiful Villagio Complex. Upgraded carpet/wood floors, fireplace. Sunny kitchen with GE appliances, stack washer/dryer, custom plantation shutters and great storage. Central A/C and heat. Master suite with double closets. 2 car garage with remote. Close to shopping, minutes to 163 freeway, 10 minutes to downtown. 7619 Family Circle. \$1895. Available now. 619-683-9274.

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SANTEE. \$1595. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2-story townhome. Air conditioning. Extra large balcony and patio. 2-car garage. Pool and playground. 858-598-1111. utopiaingmt.com.

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SOLANA BEACH. \$1050. 1 bedroom. Beautiful senior community, 55+. Gated. Laundry. Elevator. Courtyard. Clubhouse with large screen TV, Internet access. West of I-5. Close to shopping, bus routes. Near Del Mar Fair grounds, ocean. No pets. Section 8 welcome. 858-755-5995.

SOLANA BEACH. \$1650. Spectacular ocean view! 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in Park Del Mar. Laundry facilities. Pool/clubhouse. No smoking/pets! Email for photos: louise@louiseabbott.com. Louise Abbott Real Estate, 858-755-8046.

SOLANA BEACH. \$1200. Whitewater ocean view! 1 bedroom, 1 bath fully furnished guest suite attached to a home. Includes utilities/WiFi. No smoking/pets! Email for photos: louise@louiseabbott.com. Louise Abbott Real Estate, 858-755-8046.

SOUTH PARK. \$820/month. Cozy, elegant studio, views. Marble countertops, optional wall bed. New appliances. Patio, serenity, privacy. No pets. Steve, 858-603-8828.

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TALMADGE. Near SDSU. \$825. Large, upper 1 bedroom, 1 bath, all appliances, balcony, new paint, on-site laundry, off-street parking. 4451 48th Street #3. 619-804-3325.

TALMADGE/COLLEGE. \$775. 1 bedroom downstairs unit. Refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, on-site laundry, storage closet. No pets. Optional parking. Available now. 4492 Estrella. 858-538-5013.

TIERRASANTA. \$1895. 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome. Unit includes refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, microwave. Washer/dryer hook-ups. Community pool/spa. www.utopiainagement.com, 858-598-1111 x193.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1100 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Laundry on-site. Available now. 4655 and 4657 Georgia Street. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

UNIVERSITY CITY. \$2050/month. 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse. 1 year lease. All appliances. 2 car garage. Call for appointment. Michael, 858-597-6100.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$895. 1/2 off first month. Extra large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated, all appliances, shared garage, patio, new paint, laundry. Near all. 4550 Louisiana. 619-804-3325.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1150. Large upper 2 bedroom, 1 bath gated, all appliances, garage, air conditioning, large balcony, laundry, near all. Cat ok. 4360 Hamilton Street #7. 619-804-3325.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1150, includes 1-car garage. 1 bedroom, coved ceilings, garden setting. Cats OK; no dogs. 4462 Campus. 619-298-0446.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 1 bath senior or disabled community apartments. \$695. Move in special: 1/2 off second month’s rent. On-site laundry, gated community, close to bus lines. Small pets OK! 4086 Swift Avenue. Agent, 858-560-1178, for additional information. Roberto, 858-688-0396, to schedule an appointment to view the unit.

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UTC/LA JOLLA. \$1400. Exquisite 1 bedroom! 2-story. Washer/dryer. Covered parking. Small pet OK. 3939 Nobel Drive. 619-793-4010.

VISTA. \$1625. 2 bedrooms, 1/2 bath townhouse. New paint, carpet. Pool, jacuzzi. Gated community. Available now. Deposit \$1500. Pets considered. Section 8 ok. Ed, 858-597-6100.

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Houses

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BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO. La Mision. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, beautiful oceanview. 24-hour security guard, gated community. Best beach in Baja. \$250,000 or rent \$1000/month. 760-250-7055.

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ESCONDIDO. Comfortable condo, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, spacious living room, washer/dryer hookup, parking. Near shopping centers, freeways. \$235,000. 535 North Beech Street. 619-254-2198; 619-475-5041.

ESCONDIDO. Open house: 4/12-4/13 and 4/19-4/20, 10am-2pm. Fantastic 1200-square-foot house in beautiful Escondido Country Club. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, fenced yard. Mike, Crystal, owners, 760-271-2070.

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Czechs, Latvians, Lithuanians, Polish, Ukrainians, and even Slovaks. Granted, all these guys are from an area smaller than California, but they are here anyway, making life more interesting for a bored American who enjoys people watching. Well, in that regard, you could do better than this group, as they tend to always look like they're ready to shoot themselves, even when they're laughing uproariously; it's an interesting talent shared by the whole bunch. For entertainment value, you would probably find their animated conversations more than make up for the melancholy appearance. Humor is more than skin deep.

Moving around in the IZ you see an even wider range

of nations: of course everyone knows about the British; they are pretty much old hat now, and who is seriously impressed by those accents anyway? Maybe you're in the mood for something a little spicier, kind of like the British but with some kick? How about watching Australian female troops swimming in the outdoor pool at Al-Faw palace? Well, not so fast: in order to go see the beautiful women from Down Under, you should probably do a little research on the Pacific Islands first—unless you're a U.S. Marine who knows the secret handshake—because those Tongan Marines are a pretty selective bunch. That's why they guard the only entrance into Al-Faw and its lovely lakefront

property.

Get away from the cosmopolitan center of Baghdad and — at least on base — things do become a lot more familiar. Almost everyone is a contracted American employee, soldier, sailor, airman, or Marine. But one group sticks it out in harsher conditions, ready to guard posts without the creature comforts available to the others: Ugandans. For Marines stationed most places in Al Anbar province, the Ugandan guard is a familiar sight: unfailingly friendly, polite, and totally at ease with the insurmountable language barrier. As long as you have your ID and have cleared your weapon, then you are “good to go, sah.” Chow halls, gymnasiums, ammo dumps,



gas pumps, it doesn't matter: these guys will guard anything, and with a smile. Pretty soon you'll have your favorite Ugandan and you probably have a name for him (I guarantee he has one for you). So every day for however long you're in country, the two of you will exchange pleasantries, sharing untranslated stories communicated through rudimentary sign language com-

bined with a strange form of charades. They definitely help pass the time.

You could always be the guy who just ignores everyone who isn't American and walks around with his head down, but where's the fun in

that? Instead, try to get in on the latest news about Bosnian football scores or recipes for Latvian cuisine, maybe learn a little bit of Japanese from an expert; if all else fails, at least reach out and befriend one Ugandan security guard and name him “Chester.” It's the least you could do.

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LAS VEGAS. Beautiful 2 bedroom plus den, 2 bath, formal dining room, large island kitchen, fireplace, 26x63 manufactured home. Corner unit, gated 55+, \$79,900. Owner, camrandsaw@cox.net or 702-689-3571.

SANTEE. Nice area. 4 bedroom 3 bath, 2400 square feet. Bay windows, large bedroom, bonus room/office type, \$465,000/owner. Call Pat 619-562-6564.

SOLANA BEACH. Open house Sunday, 11am-3pm. Walking distance to the beach. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, completely remodeled, 649 Marsolan Avenue, \$1,195,000. Agent, Stella Biggs, 619-384-1945.

VISTA. Senior park. 60x24", 1440 square feet, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, heating, air conditioning, large outside deck patio. HOA fee: \$305. Asking \$92,500. Call 760-685-2316.

WANTED: Buy home under \$350,000 with seller financing up to \$350,000. \$10,000 down and total payments up to \$2100 including taxes, insurance and HOA. 619-334-8227.

YUMA, ARIZONA. No money down: 3 units, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 400 shop 110/220 wiring, separate meters. \$240,000/owner. Bob 619-920-2086.

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DEL MAR. Lovely, sunny 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.

DOWNTOWN. Studio condo. Discounted 12th floor. Balcony with views, parking. \$7760 down required. Buyer to finance balance of \$250,884. 858-272-2760, rrieken@san.rr.com.

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LA JOLLA/UTC. Sunny, lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth at 619-286-5813.

LITTLE ITALY. 2 bedroom. Cleverly set up to maximize space. Partial skyline views. Pool, spa, fitness, valet parking. Laundry in-unit. Pre-foreclosure won't last! Agent 858-337-6929.

PACIFIC BEACH. Ocean, Mount Soledad views from top floor, 2 bedroom unit. Features vaulted ceiling, balcony, new appliances, gated, secure parking. Pool, sauna. Agent 858-337-6929.

SAN DIEGO. Investment property for sale. Great opportunity, 5 units, 3 buildings plus 4 car garage in 1 lot. Well maintained! Positive monthly income. Call Top Notch Realty Inc. for details. 858-715-0688.

UTC-GORGEOUS REMODEL! Spacious 3 bedroom townhome. Double garage. Gourmet kitchen. Fireplace. Open: Saturday, 12pm-4pm. \$675K. YouTube keyword: 7125 Calabria. (7125-A Calabria Court). Agent, 866-473-7325.

REAL ESTATE MISCELLANEOUS

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BLEAKNESS RENT MY SPIRIT. FOR DAYS I PINCHED THE BRIDGE OF MY NOSE AND SQUINTED. I pushed at the inside corner of my eyes until they bulged and I was nearly blind. Indecision can be both frantic and depressing. I cried for the first time in years.

“I just don’t know.” I had called my father with hopes to unburden myself of the responsibility and explain that he must help me. I paced my front room, tucking a hand under my elbow, and, without thought, jangling keys. “Choose one for me, please.”

“I don’t even know what a Ninja Turtle is, Son. And I can’t tell you which one should be your favorite.”

I threw the keys into the kitchen sink, metal clanging on metal. “Well, I can’t!” I shouted to him, desperate more than angry. “I’ve been worrying about it for weeks, and I can’t pick one.” I chewed a thumbnail.

“Maybe we should see Doctor Romero again.”

“Doctor Romero can’t help me now,” I said, frowning. “Damn him and his macaroni.” I imitated Doctor Romero’s slow, sensitive tone, “Today, Anthony, I want you to arrange the macaroni on the paper in a way that expresses your feeling.” Shouting again, “I DON’T WANT TO ARRANGE THE MACARONI ACCORDING TO MY FEELINGS, QUACKTOR ROMERO! I WANT SOMEONE TO TELL ME WHICH NINJA TURTLE IS MY FAVORITE. BECAUSE I CAN’T DO IT! I CAN’T DO IT!”

“Easy, Son. Easy.”

“If only it were.” I hung up.

My ankle itched and I half-scratched it with my other heel, not quite getting the job done. I turned the TV on and chewed at my thumb more. I picked up the phone and dialed Jennifer. Looking into the sink, I discovered my keys had cracked a porcelain cup.

“Why can’t they all be your favorite?” Jennifer offered.

“Please. Please, don’t be ridiculous right now. Please.”

“No, wait,” she said. She paused to grasp at her own idea. “What if you enjoyed them all as a ‘favorite,’ only all of them at once? The Ninja Turtles would be your favorite TV show, or your favorite crime fighters, or just your favorite Saturday morning cartoon.”

“It doesn’t work like that,” I moaned, holding the phone away, looking to the heavens for strength to deal.

“Why not?”

“AND WHAT? JUST PRETEND THE TRANSFORMERS DON’T EXIST? JENNIFER! IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?! SOME FANTASY WORLD WHERE TRANSFORMERS DON’T EXIST?!”

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

I shut the sound off. I watch everything muted now. Mostly I listen to *Viens, Mallika, les lianes en fleurs...Sous le dôme épais* from Delibes’s opera, *Lakmé* while watching TV. The following is an interpretation of that.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

JAG

USA 8:00 A.M.

(The duet begins with both girls singing. This shows that Lakmé is whole, unbroken. She’s not yet torn between love and duty to her father.) Man, that chick from *JAG* is a fox. It’s, like, “Hello there! Can I interest you in something smothered in underwear with a side order of man thigh?”

MY NAME IS EARL

NBC 8:00 P.M.

(Lyrics of jasmine give an aromatic exotic feel to the Indian garden setting where Malliki means to bathe Lakmé. Jasmine, which blooms for only a short time, also hints at

Lakmé’s role.) Earl’s ’73 El Camino is super sweet. I had a ’68 El Camino, but mine didn’t have cool stripes like Earl’s; it was primer gray. The car is probably why Jaime Pressly got with Earl in the first place. Trashy women love El Caminos.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

MISS USA 2008

NBC 9:00 P.M.

(Mention of shining waves, a bank, and a singing bird lend an idyllic air. The river is change — change for Lakmé, change for India under British rule, change of seasons and the beginning of a new era.) Snooping reporters digging up pictures of drunk contestants are the only cool things about *Miss USA* any more. Other than that it’s pretty stupid. Put a case of beer and a camera in the green room and let the girls rip. *That* should be the *Miss USA* show.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

CW 9:30 A.M.

(“Ah! We descend together,” Lakmé

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DUALLY AUTO TRAILER, Wanted. Ramp preferred. 619-994-9096.

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DOLL. Harlequin, china head and forelegs, blue tear on face, 19”, soft body, black suit with white collar, \$30. 619-286-6554.

FAINTING COUCH, authentic, turn-of-the-century antique, dark walnut with gold velvet fabric, \$675. Ask for Amy, 619-231-0030.

FOUNTAIN PEN, Parker Duofold, new, \$350. 619-260-8482.

MIRROR, 5’x8”, Louis XV baroque, gold leafed, hand carved, sculptured figurines, valued at \$4000-\$5000, sacrifice \$1000/best. Museum quality, incredible value, 760-231-9531.

MIRROR, 5’x6”, baroque, gold leafed, hand carved, sculptured designs, valued \$4000-\$5000, sacrifice \$1000/best. Museum quality, incredible value, must sell. 760-231-9531.

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sings, not only of her and Malliki to the river, but also her and Gérald as doomed lovers. As the lyric “roses entwined” suggests.) My theme song uses the old Spider-Man music, but the lyrics go, “Underpants, underpants. Ollie’s wearing new underpants. Underpants! Underpants! Ollie’s wearing new underpants, LOOK OUT! He’s got new underpants!”

STAR WARS V: THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK
SPIKE 8:00 P.M.

(The girls’ voices separate and they sing in a round. Gérald and her father want only what they can get from Lakmé, which is greedy and almost regardless of her as a person, but also born from love and devotion. Lakmé will be torn.) “LUKE! LUKE, I’M YOUR DAD! C’MON, THE DARK SIDE IS COOL, YOU DUMMY!” Then Luke’s like, “EAT IT! YOU CUT MY HAND OFF, DIRT BAG!” Then he falls down that air vent. Rad.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13
BIG BROTHER 9
CBS 8:00 P.M.
 (“Covered with flowers, laughing in the morning” can only mean innocence of youth. After all, a bath between two girls could be innocent, but that’s never even hinted at because we’re to feel that Lakmé, and by extension India, are innocent and young.) Man, the other day I ate lamb. Whoeeee. My apartment has smelled like a prison pillowcase every since. Watch out, boy. Watch out.

MONDAY, APRIL 14
THE BIG BANG THEORY
CBS 8:00 P.M.
(The two voices and lyrics from preceding stanzas are joined here. They sing “Let us descend together” and mention the rivers sparkling waves, which Malliki refers to as “charming risings.” Certainly Lakmé’s initial resistance to Gérald’s advances were overcome by his swelling charm.) I wish *The Big Bang Theory* nerds lived next to me. I’d force them to hook

me up with free cable, even the nudie stations, or else I’d punch them all in the beak. Figure it out, geeks! Or get a sock in the mush!

TUESDAY, APRIL 15
JUDGE JUDY
KUSI 9:00 P.M.
(The garden Lakmé bathes in is forbidden ground to foreigners. It’s Hindu’s stern laws that governed Indian society that became untenable under British occupation and soon fell.) If I was on *Judge Judy*, I wouldn’t do what she said. I’d tell her to shut her trap, and she could go to hell, too. She can’t have you arrested or anything; she’s not a real judge. I’d grab myself and be like, “Right here, Judge Judy. Right here.”

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16
DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE
ABC 8:00 P.M.
(Gérald tells his group that many plants in the garden are poisonous, which sets up Lakmé’s final scene. It also shows that danger is everywhere, even in tranquility. It adds



My Name is Earl

tension.) Hillary Clinton looks like a dude. There are pictures of her from a long time ago, and you’d think she wouldn’t look like a dude back in the ’70s. Wrong. She just looks like a dude with long hair and stupid glasses. Looks. Like. A. Dude.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17
SURVIVOR MICRONESIA — FANS VS. FAVORITES
CBS 8:00 P.M.
(It repeats “Under the thick dome

[of the] white jasmine. We descend...we descend together.” The girls sing in unison. Society, rules, laws...they’re all bigger than we are, a rushing torrent. We either float with them or drown.) The UFC should have an event on the beach. That’d be sweet — guys fighting in the cage, ring girls holding up the round signs in the water. Watching fights on the beach would be RAD! I’d get tickets and then proceed to get super drunk.

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mirror that attaches by side wood frame. 760-729-6571.
WANTED: I buy 1950s-1980s rock and roll concert posters, flyers, handbills, used or unused tickets, programs. Private party. Please call 619-501-6210.

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CHULA VISTA. Yard sale. Friday/Saturday, 4/11-4/12, 7am-1pm. Furniture, electronics, household goods, clothes. Chula Vista Emblem Club #415, 1354 Monterey Court (Melrose/East Prospect Court).
CLAIREMONT. Multifamily yard sale. Saturday, 4/12, 6am. Furniture, antiques, glasses, mugs, toys, electronics, sporting goods. Piles of stuff at bargain prices. 3215 Jappa Avenue. Lee_ro@hotmail.com.
CLAIREMONT. Yard sale. Saturday, 4/12, 8am-1pm. Furniture, household items, clothes, dishes, glassware, linens, lots more. 3143 Via Arcilla (off Mount Arca-dia).
HILLCREST YARD/PARKING LOT SALE: 8am-1pm, Saturday, 4/12. 3900 Cleveland Avenue (behind Hillcrest DMV). Hillcrest Preschool fundraiser for ill teacher. Lots of kids’ stuff and tons of miscellaneous items at great prices.
HILLCREST. Yard sale. Saturday, 4/12, 10am-3pm. Good condition clothes, some small furniture, picture/frames, 20+ VHS tapes/CDs. Everything must go. 3712-1/2 First Avenue (Pennsylvania).
LEMON GROVE. Rummage sale. Saturday, 4/12, 7am-2pm. Relay for Life fundraiser. All money goes to fight against cancer. VFW Post 2082, 2885 Lemon Grove Avenue.

LEMON GROVE, San Altos Community Garage Sale, Saturday April 12, 7am-noon. Look for signs off Massachusetts and Madera Street.
OCEAN BEACH. Huge garage sale. Saturday, 4/12, 8am-1pm. Surfrider Foundation fundraiser. Donations from local businesses and residents. Alley behind Details Salon Spa, 2993 Niagara Avenue.
OLD TOWN. Garage sale. Saturday, 4/12, 9am. Collectibles, knickknacks, Sony TV, electronics, tools, sporting goods, hardware, holsters, clothing, books, household goods, leather goods, purses. 4111 Mason Street.
SOLANA BEACH, 742 North Granados, 8am-1pm, April 12, 2008. Furniture, plants, pots, baskets, filing cabinets, microwave, books, pictures, ladder, electric saw, luggage, kitchen, much more.
SPRING VALLEY. Rancho San Diego. Huge garage sale. Saturday, 4/19, 6am-3:30pm. Books, furniture, collectibles, electronics, tools, china, crystal, jewelry, appliances. Skyline Church, Jamacha and 94.
YARD SALE. Matching rust-color sofas, free. 6-piece dinette set, \$25. Clubs/carts, \$20. Vanity, \$25. Coffee table, \$10. 35" Zenith TV/stand, \$250. 619-287-0798; 619-358-3968.

APPLIANCES

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DISHWASHER/DRYER, Late models, multi-function, energy savers. Dishwasher under counter or portable. Dryer can stack or rest on floor. Super deal at \$80/each. 619-461-2643.

MICROWAVES (2), over counter models, 1 white, 1 black, \$40 each. 1 countertop model with turntable, \$20. 619-339-7318.
REFRIGERATOR, White, 1 year old, 20 cubic feet, \$100. Gas grill, 1 year old, \$100, 619-309-9524.
WASHER, Whirlpool, 7 cycle, and gas dryer, \$275. 760-599-0249.

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TV, 27" color flat screen, like new, excellent picture, \$145. 619-461-4805.
TV, Samsung 71" DLP full HD 1080P with high-end glass stand, perfect condition, rarely used, very slim, asking \$2950 for all. 619-665-2070.

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BED \$169 A BARGAIN. A Ortho Pillowtop Queen, new in plastic with warranty, mattress/box. All sizes. Credit cards ac-

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BEDROOM SET, Italian, 2 nightstands, dresser, and headboard, \$760. Futon chair with ottoman, \$85. Green sofa bed, \$375. 619-829-3704.
BEDS. Adjustable Craftmatic like remote control, 2 twins and 1 full size, \$100, \$200, \$300. Best offer or trade. 619-670-8356.
CLOSET. Solid cedar, 2 doors, wooden rod for hangers, 62"Hx32"Wx21"D, beautiful grain, almost antique. Appraised \$250. Now \$195. Hillcrest 619-299-7578.
DINING CHAIRS (4), solid oak, \$30. Coffee table, \$25. End table, \$10. Bar chair, wrought iron, \$10. Small bookshelf, particle board, \$5. Escondido, 760-685-8291.
DINING ROOM CHANDELIER, brass, 8 frosted lights, \$40. Blue area rug, very thick, luxurious, \$150. Oak mirror, 21x29 oval, \$80. Brass piano lamp, \$20. 619-421-5822.
DINING TABLE, glass top with gray tint, measures 5'x3', with rounded corners, sturdy black metal legs and 4 padded chairs, \$175. Larry, 619-208-2931.
DRESSER, beautiful mission style, 5 drawers, 17-3/4"x34"x51-1/2", wrought iron pulls, \$100. 619-265-1171.
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deliver. Call 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.
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MATTRESSES. Save 40% or more! Mattress World in Hillcrest sells new beds at warehouse pricing lower than regular stores. Student specials. Legitimate warranties. Fast delivery or pickup. Name brands. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Authorized Sealy, Simmons, Spring Air, Aireloom dealer. Also Latex, chemical-free and Swedish style Visco-Memory! Mattress World, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. www.sandiegobeds.com or email to: info@davisworld.com. Call: 619-260-8000.
MOVING SALE, Black leather sofas with end recliners, 6 piece bedroom set (king size headboard), dining table/chairs and miscellaneous furniture. 619-507-5326
RATTAN FURNITURE, Beautiful 1930s Rattan sofa and chair. Must see to appreciate. Excellent condition. Never seen one like this before \$800. Contact by email, jprk@cox.net.
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SOFA, chair and ottoman, olive green, Durapella fabric, good condition, also included 3 Bombay tables, 1 coffee and 2 ends, \$500 set only, please. 619-220-6862.

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BRIEFS, adult, for medium incontinence, 50 cents each. 20-gallon air compressor, AC 120/220, \$150. 2001 GMC Sonoma, cherry red, with extra cab, \$9000/best. Weber barbecue, gas, new, \$150. 760-233-9520.

CORVETTE, radio controlled, red, boxed. Beautiful, 15" L, goes 20mph. Includes transmitter, controller, battery, charger plus 2 extra 1 hour batteries. Originally \$175. Sell for \$75, 619-295-2551.

DESK, 6 drawers, 38"Wx78"L, and chair, \$50. Wedding dress, hat, shoes, size 8, \$100 all. Off-road tires, 18" and 21", 2 each, \$5 each. Table glass top, 36"Wx50"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.

DVDs, blank, unused, unformatted, approximately 80 in stack in plastic container, Office Depot brand, DVD+R 8X, \$10. Days, 858-646-4727.

GARDEN FOUNTAIN, cherubs, \$75. Garden swing, \$18. Car top, enclosed luggage carrier, \$12. Expensive thick car cover, \$35. Generator, Honda 1400, \$250. Matchbox cars, 50 cents each. 858-581-6223.

HAMMOCK, string, nice, colorful and perfect, \$25. 858-597-0856 or 619-890-9624.

LAMP, copper arm swing light, \$145/best. 619-296-7185.

LAWN MOWER, Craftsman, 6.75hp, power propelled, like new, 1 year maintenance, \$250. 619-469-7456.

LEATHER PIECES, 12" size, in various colors, best quality leather \$6 per lb. I have 10lbs for sale. 619-638-2483

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MISCELLANEOUS. Vacuum, \$15. Crockpot, \$10. Pasta making machine, \$10. Coffee maker, \$5. Toaster, \$5. 3 large glass vases, \$10 all. Ironing table, \$5. 760-685-8291.

MISCELLANEOUS. Small wood ladder, \$5. Foldable grocery cart, \$10. 2 portable barbecues, \$7. Small metal shelves, garage/outdoors, \$3. Glass shower door, \$8. Escondido, 760-685-8291.

MOBILITY SCOOTERS, (Wheelchairs) 2 years old. Liberty and Pronto sure step \$300/best. Cannon 3 in 1 color printer \$50. Sean 619-516-1648.

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CHEVY AVALANCHE, 2002. 4x4, 2500 rare one of a kind sweetheart. Need cash or trade. California Imports. 888-835-5046.

CHEVY EXPRESS 1500 VAN. 2004. White with tan interior. Automatic, V-6 loaded with power extras. 51k original owner miles. Mint condition. Commercial roof racks interior package. \$12,900. 760-889-3292.

CHEVY PICKUP. 1993 Auto, 3 seater longbed, clean title. Looks good/runs good. V6. Have lots of receipts. Asking \$2800, 619-920-3362.

CHEVY SILVERADO, 2001, \$1000 down drives you away. Buy here, pay here. VIN 134503. A Plus Rentals, 760-633-3552.

CHRYSLER PT CRUISER, 2002. Limited, super clean, cute little jewel, sell cheap. California Imports 888-835-5046.

DODGE DAKOTA SPORT, 2000, club cab, 6 cylinder, 69K miles, fully loaded, 3-window lockable cap, tow package, new tires, \$6900/best. 619-224-4362.

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T.G.I.F.

On Sundays you should probably go to church. I don't, but that's me, and I'll undoubtedly pay for it....

By John Brizzolara

I have pretty much done this anyway, but I should make a more formal proclamation, I suppose, that TGIF encompasses weekends as well as Fridays or simply Friday nights. In fact, I have been fairly shameless about using this space at times for pretty much anything I have felt the need to write about, waiting for someone to tell me I can't do that. No one has yet said exactly that; but nonetheless I feel I should remind myself at regular intervals that readers might well look to this page for suggestions as to how they might spend their time and money on weekends or, oh yes, Fridays. Here are some:

Friday nights, party like it's 1999. That may mean partying, I guess, like you're 11 years younger. In my case that would make me 46 and already beginning to doze by 10 p.m., so, really, don't ask me. It occurs to me that was my response nine years ago, when asked if I'd like to do this column. I didn't say so, but I remember thinking: What am I, Mr. Friday Night? If you need counseling on how best to party naked, drunk, stoned, and with pagan abandon far past the break of dawn, I'll get back to you after my past-life regression session or asking someone better informed. I'm more the guy you would come to and ask, "What should I read over the weekend?" Sorry, it has come to that.

On Saturday, sleep late. Then mow the lawn or do your laundry or something before watching the game. Maybe you've got to go to your kid's soccer thing or ballet recital, whatever. Do it. I had to do that stuff (no ballet, thank God), and today I have a blossoming, nurturing relationship with my grown son who thinks I'm a dangerous idiot. Saturday night, take a bath. For the love of God.

On Sundays, do, for example, what I did last Sunday. Upon waking

in my son's apartment on a weekend sleepover, I decided to get the lad and his friend Curtis up at 8 a.m. No reason. It's just that I was awake, and I'm old and they're not. I remember being in my 20s and my father-in-law waking me ungodly early for no apparent reason other than, "The day is half shot! Get up, I've a little job for you which I'm going to think of in a few minutes." It could be 6 a.m. The idea, I learned, was to instill in the young — who are still physically capable of enjoying a full night's sleep to restore the body and mind — the carved-in-granite, existential reality that sleeping past dawn is moral degeneracy. The earlier you awaken, it follows, the more righteous before the God of Abraham will you stand on the day of judgment.

On Sundays you should probably go to church. I don't, but that's me, and I'll undoubtedly pay for it along with everything else after a lingering, agonizing illness and slow death. After church, or if you don't go, make French toast like I tried to do Sunday until I was thwarted by my evil offspring, who constantly conspires against me.

You see, I thought I'd snap the kids out of their satanic thoughts of sleeping more than six hours, and indeed their souls were in need of some first aid as the neighbors (next door in the Mayflower Villa Apartments) were making love noisily until three. I know. I stood on the balcony, trying to read *Pilgrim's Progress*, despite the girl's moaning (and the guy's, "Pipe down!" every few minutes) and making sure the sliding French door was shut against this audio barrage of licentiousness. I knew the boys were feigning sleep, but oh, yes, indeed, I knew, all right, they were also straining to hear every godless cry of pleasure issuing from the undoubtedly full, rubrous, and succulent lips of the young lady next door. My heart went out to the fellows, who must at that very moment, be struggling manfully against the temptation of sullied thoughts much as I did with near success for hours between four and seven that morning.

So, French toast it was to be! I lined up ingredients: whole wheat bread, (a healthy alternative to the more palatable white bread), butter, eggs, milk, "Lite" maple syrup (half the calories of the less desirable but actually tasty, sweeter conventional syrup and with maybe a slight bitter aftertaste); and the single-portion remains of some rather expensive (price tag still on label) blueberry syrup for myself. I sprayed the pan with Pam, a nonfat, food-like polymer petroleum by-product, I believe, and turned on the burner. This is where problems began.

The range in that apartment will tick like an anarchist's bomb once I rotate the dial even slightly. No matter at what angle I rest the control knob, it will continue to tick alarmingly, which annoys my son no end. I have seen that the stove responds this way only to me; if anyone else cooks, this magically ceases to be a problem. I could see that our night's wrestling with sin had invited some dark forces into the apartment. I left the burner on high, a position where the thing would no longer tick maddeningly, resolving to keep a close eye on the batter-soaked bread. One side a golden brown, then...flip...and a blaring of some electronic saxophone from hell punctured our ears, rattling the glass on the French doors and windows. Curtis exclaimed (silently that is, you couldn't hear him over the deafening smoke alarm tone) and covered his ears. "Dad!" my son shouted, "Turn it off! Jeez."



Instead of immediately turning the burner off or even down, I thought to grab a dish towel from the rack and began fanning the air in front of the alarm sensor, batting smoke and heat away from the thing to silence it. It didn't silence anything. There was a brief struggle for the towel with, I think, my son. By that time it was growing difficult to see. The towel left my grasp and sailed through the air onto the stovetop where it rapidly caught fire. By this time, the slices of French toast were turning to carbon. Both my son and I raced for the burner knob simultaneously and head-butted each other in front of the refrigerator at enough velocity so that we stood there and blinked at each other stupidly for the better part of a minute. Curtis stepped around us, saying, "Excuse me," and turned off the burner, flung the towel into the sink and turned on the cold water. My son walked to the French doors and opened them, all the while glaring at me with fury.

I stood erect and with considerable dignity, if I might say so, and walked slowly back to my bedroom, pausing to carry my copy of John Bunyan with me back to bed. "Fine," I tossed over my shoulder, "No French toast! Excuse the heck out of me!" The day did improve.

And so, following these cues, one should reasonably expect a full and gratifying weekend. One may also learn a couple of safety tips (oh, also, Pam seems to be quite as flammable as napalm; you might want to watch for that) and leave the cooking to say, women or some other minority with nothing better to think about. Have a prosperous workweek.

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