“Hip-hop is the bastard child of the San Diego music scene.” – See Blurt

Stay awake for the 10 o’clock show

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San Diego Reader August 28, 2008

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San Diego Reader, August 28, 2008 5
Consumers Tightening Belts

By Don Bauder

A merican consumers are tightening their belts. So companies selling to households are pulling in their horns. Wall Street expects San Diego consumer companies such as Jack in the Box, Rubio’s, Charlotte Russe, WD-40, and Callaway Golf to face a double whammy: waning customer demand and rising costs of doing business.

Households are tussling with excessive debt, rising unemployment, wages that have been stagnant for 8 years, tightening credit, still-falling home values, and higher prices for food and energy. It’s little wonder that consumer sentiment has been running at close to its lowest rate for more than 25 years. “Credit growth will be slower in coming years, and so will economic growth,” says E. James Welsh, Carlsbad money manager.

“We’re passing out of a very, very long-term buildup in consumer spending,” says David Allen of North County’s Palomar Equity Research. “We reached the zenith in the last three or four years, and now we’re on the downside of the slope. Profits have become a larger percentage of [total economic output] while incomes have lagged. Consumers have made up for that by borrowing through credit cards, mortgages, home equity loans, whatever. So the average consumer is more indebted at a time unemployment and inflation are rising. It doesn’t paint a pretty picture.”

“Many consumer stocks got beaten up terribly, then had a run-up, and now have turned back down,” says Bud Leedom of Leedom Asset Management. He, too, doesn’t see solid signs of a consumer turnaround, although the dollar’s recent strength portends lower commodity prices that will translate into lower prices if the trend continues.

Mark Basmah of Standard & Poor’s thinks full-service restaurants are being hit the hardest, and fast-food outlets will pick up some of that business. But you can’t see that in recent results of fast-food chains Jack in the Box and Rubio’s. Jack has suffered two straight quarters of traffic declines, and its Mexican chain, Qdoba, has had three, says Rachael Rothman of Merrill Lynch. The company’s bakery costs have soared 57.3 percent over the past year, while cheese prices have gone up 20 percent.

One problem is that 43 percent of outlets are in California, where the economy founders. Rothman’s target on the stock is $26, above where it is now.

John Owens of Morningstar, Inc., is more bullish: he thinks the stock’s fair value is $40 a share. He likes the strategy of going upscale with Asian chicken salad, the 100 percent sirloin burger, and ciabatta burgers and sandwiches. On the other hand, Jack is going for the value market with such products as a nacho cheese sandwich.

Early this month, the company lowered its forecast for earnings for the year but predicted they would still be up 7 to 9 percent. “That kind of growth in this challenging environment is impressive,” says Owens, citing “cutthroat competition” from Burger King, Carl’s Jr., McDonald’s, and Wendy’s.

“Rubio’s has always lagged expectations,” says Allen. The Mexican fast-food chain, which has more than 180 outlets in Western states, lost money in its first quarter. Its second-quarter profit of a mere $335,000, or 3 cents a share, was down from $583,000, or 5 cents, in the same quarter of the prior year. The stock has been as high as $11.90 over the past year. It’s now trading around $6. Standard & Poor’s says the stock is worth $4.70. According to S&P, 87 percent of the companies it follows are more desirable investments than Rubio’s.

“The price of cheese, cooking oil, flour went up way, hitting Rubio’s, which hasn’t found a sweet spot yet,” says Leedom.

Charlotte Russe, which sells apparel to women in their teens and 20s through 469 stores in the United States and Puerto Rico, is not garnering Wall Street’s respect just now because of “extensive management upheaval,” says Allen. In July, the company said it would have a weak fourth quarter. Also, chief executive Mark Hoffman would retire. In early August, the company said its chief financial officer, Patti Johnson, was stepping down. Len Mogil, the interim chief executive, would temporarily fill her shoes. Then executive vice president Patti Shields said she was taking off too. Since July 1, the stock has plummeted from almost $18 to around $12.

The company gets 25 percent of its sales from California, Florida, Arizona, and Nevada—states that are getting walloped economically. As a result, Charlotte Russe is “slowing the pace of expansion in response to difficult retail conditions,” says Jason Asaeda of Standard & Poor’s. He thinks the stock’s current price is “below that of other house-hold product companies,” he says. Also, competition will stiffen.

S&P thinks WD-40’s stock price is ahead of itself. It gives the target price as $26. But the stock sells for about $8 more than that already. S&P would sell the stock. Leedom, however, notes that this company’s products are needed, not merely wanted: “It’s a pure consumer blue chip they have been doing a good job,” he says.

In recent years, there has been a massive shift of wealth and income to the richest Americans. For example, the upper 1 percent now corrals more than 40 percent of the nation’s financial assets, such as stocks and bonds. Nonetheless, Ameri-can Express recently announced extremely disappointing earnings and said that the affluent are cutting back on spending. Results have been mixed at retail stores catering to the carriage trade. Callaway Golf gets for the upscale market by selling golf clubs made of space-age metals for hundreds of dollars per club. But Erik Kolb of Standard & Poor’s expects Callaway’s sales to rise only 0.8 percent this year, compared with 11 percent last year. Drivers and irons might record percentage gains in the low single digits, but golf balls will be a problem, says Kolb.

“Callaway is in a better, more upscale part of the consumer market,” says Allen. “But it’s dependent on the fickle taste of the golfer for the latest club. The golf equipment market is basically flat, and there are no major improvement trends on the horizon. It looks like that market place has seen its glory days; now it’s a slow-growth, competitive market, dependent on the next hot club.”

Back in 1998, when it appeared that golf would ride a boom propelled by Tiger Woods and retiring baby boomers, Callaway stock continued on page 8

Matt Potter
is on vacation.

Neal Obermeyer

PETA wants to buy SeaWorld to return its inhabitants to their natural environment.

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Killers Reformed?

By Alastair Bland

They came, they conquered, and they stayed, but you’d hardly know it if you weren’t an entomologist.

After years of media hype, Africanized hybrid honeybees, once commonly called “killer bees,” have established themselves in urban areas to the point of genetic domination among wild European honeybees — also an introduced, if more mellow, species. Biologists, who regularly test local bees for genetic makeup, estimate that three-fourths of feral honeybees in San Diego County’s urban areas have Africanized genes, a situation observable by heightened aggressive behavior in the bees, which may pounce on a beekeeper at the slightest disturbance. Africanized bees produce honey just like the European subspecies, and while some beekeepers “run” Africanized bees, the insects’ behavior can make them hazardous to work with. Where an unprotected person may get stung 10 times by a disturbed European colony, an Africanized colony might deliver 1000 stings.

“You open up the hive and they jump all over you,” describes Chuck Nickels, part owner of San Luis Rey Apiaries in Valley Center.

Beekeepers frequently “requeen” infected colonies, removing the Africanized queen and replacing her with a female purchased from a professional breeder, most of whom are based in genetically clean zones, such as Northern California or Hawaii. The colony’s worker bees constitute the bulk of the hive’s 50,000–odd bees. Workers can live for several months, while queens may live for three years or more. Thus, within weeks or months of requeening, all the Africanized offspring will have died off, leaving the colony clean and the pure queen seated on the throne.

But Nickels, who works with Africanized genes, a situation observable by heightened aggressive behavior in the bees, which may pounce on a beekeeper at the slightest disturbance. Africanized bees produce honey just like the European subspecies, and while some beekeepers “run” Africanized bees, the insects’ behavior can make them hazardous to work with. Where an unprotected person may get stung 10 times by a disturbed European colony, an Africanized colony might deliver 1000 stings.

“By stirring up the media interest all those years, we’ve alleviated the potential impact and disaster,” says Kellum. Bee advisories were distributed in Southern California in the 1990s in nine languages to elevate public awareness, says Dr. Eric Mussen, an apiculturalist at the University of California, Davis. Such campaigning and public education did not occur in Mexico, he says. The result was 175 deaths between 1988 and 1995, prompting the popular name “killer bee” in movies, on TV, and among the media.

African honeybees first appeared in the New World in 1956, in São Paulo, Brazil, as researchers attempted to breed their genetic material into local honeybees to produce a sturdy strain more appropriately suited to the local climate. The African bees escaped and “swarmed,” breeding with local honeybees and foraying outward in search of new habitat, and the aggressive insects commenced on a northward journey of sometimes 250 miles per year. The bees reached Mexico in 1985. Meanwhile, dispersal slowed in the desert region of northern Mexico, and the Africanized bees arrived in Texas in approximately 1990. In California, the bees have moved northward at a rate of approximately 50 miles per year. The insects have been found as far north as Tulare County in the Central Valley and Santa Barbara on the coast, but for the past three years, says Mussen, northward movement has apparently ceased.

Killers Reformed? continued on page 8
Tightening belts
continued from page 6
zoomed to almost $34. But earnings have been volatile. Ditto for the stock. This year, it has been as high as $18.20.
“Historically, the $9 or $10 range has been a floor for that stock,” says Ledem. It recently bounced off that floor to above $13. But he doubts it will climb much higher.

Killers reformed
continued from page 7
stung thousands of times, according to local authorities. Rescuers hauled the man, who survived, into a truck, which the bees reportedly chased for several minutes.

Alan Mikolich, a commercial beekeeper who works 700 to 1000 hives in San Diego and Imperial counties, finds infected hives every week or two, he says. He recalls one such instance in early June.
“I was going through, opening the hives, and they swarmed out and stung me about ten times immediately.”

He retreated, then returned wearing protective clothing and carrying a bucket of soapy water to douse the bees — a trick that coats the insects with suds and effectively drowns them. Emptying a can of ether into the hive will also do the trick.

Last year, Mikolich, who has kept bees commercially since 1985 and prefers to work in shorts and wearing protective clothing, has killed only a dozen colonies in the past 5 years, he says. The 83-year-old has kept bees for 40 years and reports a limited influence from Africanized bees on his colonies. He prefers to requeen those that “turn mean.”

Last fall, San Luis Rey Apianics’ Chuck Nickels found just three of his hives infected upon bringing them home from the Imperial Valley’s alfalfa fields. Indeed, while local entomologist David Kellum’s research in Escondido, San Diego, Oceanside, and many other cities has revealed a rate of 75 percent Africanization, the Imperial Valley is believed to bear a lower Africanized density, closer to 30 percent, according to UC Davis’s Mussen.

Gibbs recalls the 1980s and 1990s, when people grew aware of the advancing bees.

“People were really worried, and the media did a lot of that,” says the beekeeper.

“The press, whenever they have the occasion, will play up what might be alarming. There were a few deaths in the U.S., but mostly it’s been animals.”

All Cities Pest Control regularly answers calls for bee removal throughout San Diego County. Of some 25 calls per day from residents with questions or concerns about nearby hives, perhaps one will involve Africanized bees, a rate that has steadily increased over time. For such instances, the service crew dons double bee suits — one cotton jumpsuit over another — as they can expect to get attacked by at least 10,000 bees, which is considered a small swarm. Large swarms may consist of 30,000 bees.

“The Africanized bee is absolutely, positively a dangerous animal,” says Ben Rasmussen, service manager with the pest control company.

“There hasn’t been a human death in San Diego County, fortunately, though a lot of experts say it’s only a matter of time.

“We definitely do not like the term ‘killer bee.’ In the ’90s, TV media did us a disservice by hyping up the situation. It was a lot of talk backed by very little knowledge.”

Gibbs believes the drought of recent years and the generally dry California climate has curbed the Africanized bees’ invasion to an extent, noting that the subspecies is naturally accustomed to humidity. The beekeeper says that Africanized bees have made a more prominent presence in the American Southeast, where some beekeepers have relented, choosing to work the Africanized bees rather than fight an uphill battle.

But Gibbs has concerns about the incursion of Africanized bees into Southern California, and he claims the government’s common policy of barring beekeeping from public lands facilitates Africanization. continued on page 10
These protected zones could become repositories for Africanized bees," he says. "By practicing this policy of supposedly maintaining wild native bees, they'll really only be maintaining a vacuum for Africanized bees. Bees tend to go where there are no other bees, so the feral bees will invade the open areas, and in this case that's the Africanized bees."

In urban areas, bees are known to thrive, as lush gardens and swimming pools provide food and water in abundance, but Kellum, the county's entomologist, believes that hobbyist and commercial beekeepers will mitigate the further encroachment of Africanized genes into the bee population. The situation today, he says, may be as severe as it will get.

UC Davis's Mussen, however, believes that in time Africanized honeybees could saturate the state. "We're not capable of stopping Africanized honeybees, and we'll have to just find out eventually what their limit is in spreading north. Over time, insidiously, they're winning."

And people will get stung, but most parties agree that the situation is far less dramatic than the media once predicted. Africanized bees may dominate the county, but it seems that the "killer bees" never arrived.
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(continued on page 55)

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(continued on page 55)
Suddenly, other light beers seem heavy.

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Hey, Matt:

When I was a young, troublesome rapscallion, one of my favorite destructive pastimes was to throw rocks at wasp's nests. I discontinued these little adventures after the wasps finally caught up with me one summer afternoon and sent me off to the emergency room. My question is, what exactly are wasp's nests made out of? Could it be wax paper? Or do they just go down to the local Wasp Depot for overpriced supplies?

— Luscious Perwinkle, University Heights

Wasp nests aren’t a common Southern California urban buglet. They’re mostly found in mountainous areas and foothills, so maybe some explanation is required here. The nests of the wasps you will find locally (paper wasps, yellow jackets) look like irregular paper balloons (though yellow jacket nests are built underground or in crevices). Paper wasps prefer the eaves of your house; lies and mud dauber wasps build nests from mud that they pick up and smooth onto the growing structure. Paper wasps and yellow jackets scrape shavings from old fences, weathered telephone poles, any disintegrating wooden thing. And sometimes the odd paper bag or cardboard box in a fine example of natural recycling. Then they hang out chewing the shavings for a while, mixing them well with wasp spit. When they have an appropriately soft and sticky ball of pulp in their mouths, they head for the nest and spread the stuff onto the ballooning construction with their mandibles and legs. So the nests really are made of a form of paper — spit on, softened, squished, and compacted wood pulp.

Hey, Matt:

Every now and then I will get solicitations from various religious or political organizations with a “suggested donation” to purchase their books or DVDs. They place a suggested price on it, but isn’t it true that if it is a donation, I can simply send one cent and by law they are supposed to accept it? I’m not cheap, just thrifty in these hard economic times.

— Paul in Recession

A suggestion is just what it sounds like. Just a thought, a small hint. No one is holding a gun to your head or threatening to take you to small claims if you don’t send the full amount and demand your money back. You slightly inconvenience yourself for the benefit of another. Courtesy. Do you have to be threatened with an expensive parking ticket in order to follow a polite suggestion? The answer to your question is, no, you won’t get a fat fine for parking in a pregnant ladies’ space. Pregnant women do not have any special standing in law as handicapped people do, so no special laws are written for them. The spaces are reserved by the mall ownership as a courtesy to a special group of shoppers. You can flagrantly ignore the signs and the only punishment you might suffer is the angry glares of people who didn’t park in the pregnant spaces or maybe a pummeling with the purses of pregnant women who couldn’t park there because you did. Non-pregnant women, of course, can park there with impunity, since no one is likely to be nosy enough to ask what’s going on or make them pee on a stick in the parking lot.

Hey, Matt:

I see that Horton Plaza has a section of parking for pregnant women. As a male, if I park there, will the cops (or mall cops) treat this the same way they would if I parked in the handicapped spots? And if my girlfriend parks there, will they make her pee on a stick for verification? I mean, what if she’s only two weeks pregnant?

— J.B. Parks, downtown

Courtesy. That old, dead concept courtesy. Why, as a man, would you even be worrying about this? You drive up, read the sign (This space reserved for pregnant women), you check yourself out and decide you’re not a pregnant woman, and you drive on. You slightly inconvenience yourself for the benefit of another. Courtesy.

— Madison Arms, Hillcrest

Arms, as in coat-of. The family crest. Tradition began with English tavern/hostels, often on a duke’s or baron’s land. To honor the landlord, the innkeeper would put the family crest on the wall. “Said Arms, if a man wanted to know who owned the inn or if he was a man of consequence, he could look at the crest.” The Arms is a coat of arms. A suggestion is just what it sounds like. Just a thought, a small hint. No one is holding a gun to your head or threatening to take you to small claims if you don’t send the full amount and demand your DVD. They’re just hoping enough people won’t want to look like cheapskates and will opt for whatever the suggested amount is. But I guess you can resist that kind of emotional blackmail.

Matt:

Why do some old apartment buildings call themselves the Such-and-Such Arms? Like the Windsor Arms or the Johnson Arms? What are arms, besides the obvious?

— J.B. Parks, downtown

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Seven Days Left

The NFL regular season goes off in one week. Players who make the cut get a shot at millions of dollars and what goes with it, while their brothers are thrown into the hell of real jobs, dinner at Pizza Hut, lousy apartments, and municipal golf courses.

Of the former group, quarterbacks are the ones fans watch in a train-wreck sort of way. They have the farthest to fall and therefore make the biggest splash. Follows is the QB situation on select teams seven days before the regular season begins.

San Diego: Philip Rivers is number one, nothing new.

New Orleans: Former Chargers quarterback Drew Brees has finished two seasons with the Saints. First year there he made All-Pro, completed 440 passes for an NFL record, also collected team records in passing yards, touchdowns, and completion percentage. Led the Saints to the NFC Championship game. More of the same in 2007. Has started every game since he’s been with the club.

Arizona Cardinals: Nothing official as of Tuesday. Matt Leinart played like a pig against the Raiders. Kurt Warner is an old guy. Arizona won’t make the playoffs behind either man.

Rookie Matt Ryan will be the Atlanta Falcons’ starting quarterback. Poor bastard. The last rookie QB to start Game One was David Carr in 2002. The Houston Texans went 4-12 that year and Carr was beaten senseless, sacked 47 times.

It’s been a rough run for Atlanta. Their former quarterback, Michael Vick, moved to Leavenworth prison. Then, Bill Parcells ret傅 with the hapless owner, Arthur Blank, dangling the possibility of hiring “Beloved” for the job of kingfish. Unfortunately, “Beloved” rejected Blank at the altar and accepted the same job in Miami.

Atlanta looked like an infant left on the front porch of a crack house. As Jack Nicholson once said, “Whenever I have a problem, the first thing I think is, ‘Will money solve this?’” Falcons owner Arthur Blank signed the number-three player in the 2008 NFL draft, Matt Ryan (Boston College), to a six-year, $72 million contract. The man has made a pact with the devil.

The man has made a pact with the devil.

The Vegas Line can be found at SDReader.com
Under “Stories” in menu bar, click on “Sporting Box.”
Abundant Grace Christian Center
North Park
★★★★

Sermon
content:★★★★
delivery:★★★★

Liturgy:★★

Music
congregational:★★★★
band:★★★★

Snacks:★★★★

Architecture:★★★★

Friendliness:★★★★

Poor to satisfactory:★★

Good:★★★★

Very good:★★★★

Excellent:★★★★

Extraordinary:★★★★

Abundant Grace Christian Center
North Park

Denomination: nondenominational
Address: 3117 University Avenue, North Park, 619-640-2211
Founded locally: 1994
Senior pastor: Cyprian Iwuaba, Sr.
Congregation size: about 200
Staff size: none
Sunday school enrollment: about 20
Annual budget: about $90,000
Weekly giving: n/a
Single program: no
Dress: mostly formal and traditional
Diversity: mostly African American
Sunday worship: 10:30 a.m.
Length of reviewed service: 2 hours, 15 minutes
Website: abundantgracechristiancenter.org

“We are the people of God, who worship God in spirit,” continued Iwuaba, calling for the tithes and offerings. “We have no con-
fidence in the flesh. When we do things accord-
ing to God’s will, we see God’s results... Come giving with expectation that God will bless you.” After the collection, Inyang prayed, “Those that do not have, Lord, we ask that You give, that they may partake in the joy of giving. Now let this money be used...to the prosperity of the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Iwuaba then read the story of Isaiah’s commission: his terrifying vision of God enthroned in the temple and attended by angels, the cleansing of his lips with the coal from the altar: “See, this has touched your lips. Your guilt is taken away, and your sins are atoned for.”

His sermon was titled “A Fresh Touch from God.” “We can all go through times of spiritual decline — there is no zest, no zeal, no motivation to worship the Lord with our hearts... We need to discover God as Isaiah has discovered Him. He realized God is holy. When he saw God, he said, ‘O man of God, I am a man of unclean lips.’ “ But first, “there must be a sense of need... Sometimes there are obstacles about the future... God wants to drive you to a Person who holds tomorrow, who holds the solution to life...”

“We see the Lord is on the throne, noth-
ing will disturb our peace.”

Almost nothing.

“We see the things we allow in our hearts and minds, the things we tolerate in our lives, and we realize that these things have to go because God is holy, and He has said, ‘Be ye holy, for I am holy’... Agree to abandon any-
thing that is wickedness in your life! Let those shackles be broken now, in the name of Jesus Christ!” When we receive the atonement, said Iwuaba, we can, like Isaiah, hear and respond to God. What happens when we die?

“It depends — the preparation is made now,” said Iwuaba. “Man is made to live forever, but because of the fall of man, we were expelled from the presence of God. Jesus made a way for us to go back, but it’s whosoever wills it. If you accept the work that He did on the cross, if you appropriate it to yourself, then you are saved, and when you die, you will see Him. But those who die still in their fallen state, the Bible tells us that they go to Hades, where they will stay and wait until the Final Judgment.”

— Matthew Lickona

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Be sure to check out www.sdreader.com/football to see how your favorite team is doing this season. You’re invited to participate in the “Red Zone” by sharing game predictions, wrap-ups, photos, and videos. The best football blog each week will win a $50 gift certificate to Anthology and the best photo will win a pair of UltraStar movie passes! Go online to rave about the strengths of your team and the weaknesses of your rivals and let the fanfare begin!
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-EVE KELLY

They tend to coat your throat and increase phlegm production, and they increase the likelihood that you will have to clear your throat during the presentation. On top of that, milk is a base, chemically speaking. When you get nervous, acids pour into your stomach, and the mixing of acids and bases can lead to a sour stomach.

On the psychological side of things, “You can pretend that you’re talking to only one person at a time. Talk to one person for one sentence, then to another person for the next. Most people are comfortable in a one-on-one setting it’s the group that they find threatening.”

And before you start talking, “It’s good to get to know your audience. What are their expectations, their biases? What is their prior knowledge of the subject? If there are political issues between people in the audience to whom you are speaking, you may get an attack that has nothing to do with your content—it’s really an attack against someone else in the audience.

So much for preparation. What about delivery? “The first time you give a presentation will be the worst, so make sure you practice it, and practice it in the format that you’re going to be giving it. If you’re going to deliver it standing up, then practice it standing up, because it gives a completely different feeling from sitting down. The most important parts of your presentation are the beginning and the ending. It’s a good idea to memorize and choreograph the first two minutes. By ‘choreograph,’ I mean, come up with gestures that are appropriate to the content. A budget of $100,000 could be a lot or a little, depending on whether it’s part of a school budget or an office-party budget,” and your gestures can help to signify how it should be taken. "And as the speaker, your voice will be the face-level—people are paying attention to you, they tend to be looking at your face. Don’t make them drop their eyes to your center.”

Keeping your feet flat on the ground, said Baron, opens the diaphragm and makes your voice lower and stronger, “which gives an air of aplomb in the public-speaking department. It’s not always the most qualified people who get the job. More often than not, it’s the people who interview the best. I’ve helped people get jobs that they failed to get two, three, times before. When they learn how to interview, all of a sudden they get the job.”

Promotions aside—Baron stressed that just interviewing for a job required a certain amount of éclat in the public-speaking department. “It’s not always the most qualified people who get the job. More often than not, it’s the people who interview the best.”

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“Most people are comfortable in a one-on-one setting: it’s the group that they find threatening.”

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1. Ralph Waldo Emerson

2. Judy Kaplan Baron

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We Sisters

Heather crooned the words to Ozzy Osbourne’s “If I Close My Eyes Forever.” With a straight face.

Video games are bad for you! That’s what they said about rock and roll.

— Shigeru Miyamoto

H eather was right when she said an explanation wouldn’t do it justice, that if I were to fully comprehend it, I’d have to try it for myself. Then again, the same could be said about any experience. As it seems to each year, the summer had gotten away from my sister. A few months ago, it seemed as if we had all the time in the world to hang out. But between my travels, our younger sister’s wedding, and all the inevitable stuff that materializes to fill our “free” days, the months had flown by. Now Heather — a wife and mother of two young boys — had only a handful of days before she would reenter her rigidly scheduled life as a high school English teacher and honors-program coordinator. With an eye trained on the few grains of sand left in summer’s hourglass, I accepted Heather’s invitation to visit her at her home in San Marcos and finally try the new video-game console she’d been raving about.

My dad was the first to tell me about Nintendo’s new Wii system; Dad knew about it because, as a wish-granter for the Make-a-Wish Foundation, he had acquired one for a terminally ill child. As usual, when confronted with something new and mysterious, I looked to my friend the Internet for elucidation. After some digging, I learned that Wii (pronounced “wee”) is intended to inspire dual thoughts of the all-inclusive “we” and the onomatopoeic “Wheel!” Gamers on Wii message boards believe the strange spelling represents two people standing side by side — it. Still, for one reason or another, I find that last little irritating.

When I arrived at my sister’s place, the boys (Liam, 6, and Brian, 4) were standing in front of the television and appeared to be pantomiming tennis players. Each held a white, waddike, wireless apparatus — “wiimotes.” Liam executed a forehand stroke with surprising accuracy for a child who has never held a tennis racket. On-screen, the animated racket smashed the cartoon tennis ball across the court. This was not the two-dimensional, sit-on-your-butt-and-work-your-thumbs Nintendo of my childhood.

“Mom likes the bowling game,” Heather said, prompting me to sputter a mouthful of Diet Coke. The idea of my mother playing any video game was absurd, evoking mixed feelings of amusement and uneasiness — the way I’d feel if I were to stumble upon my sister Jane (Miss Why, 6, and Brian, 4) announcing “wee”) is intended to inspire dual thoughts of the all-inclusive “we” and the onomatopoeic “Wheel!” Gamers on Wii message boards believe the strange spelling represents two people standing side by side — it. Still, for one reason or another, I find that last little irritating.

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For me, Heather had a specific game in mind. As she held the disc in her hand, she said, “Remember when you used to get up in front of everyone and sing ‘Greatest Love of All’ by Whitney Houston?” I nodded. At seven years old, I’d discovered singing as a way to gather the attention of an entire room. As if we couldn’t truly recapture the memory without singing every word, Heather and I began, “I believe the children are our future,” and we didn’t stop until just after we’d shrieked the line, “No matter what they take from me, they can’t take away my dignity,” at which point Brian, in the direct manner befitting a four-year-old, commanded us to cease. Of my sisters, it is Heather who shares my love of singing — we both enjoy belting out the same histrionic, beyond-our-vocal-abilities girlie songs, like anything by Laura Branigan, Andrew Lloyd Webber, or Celine Dion.

When he saw his mother reach for the “micwiphone,” Liam leapt around squealing, “Mommy, I wanna sing ‘Sail Away’!”

“He’s not talking about the Styx song, is he?” I asked. Heather nodded, enjoying my bewilderment. On the screen, an extravagant introduction to the American Idol logo was unfolding. In the seven years since the reality show first aired, I’d only seen one episode, but that was enough for me to get the gist. Karaoke may be fun, but I wondered how it could be a game. Liam didn’t so much sing as he moaned the lyrics that scrolled across the television. According to the clapping hands, smiles, and nodding heads of the clunky animated versions of Paula Abdul, the British guy, and the guy in the glasses, my little nephew was rockin’ like Dokken.

As I watched, I learned that this game...
doesn’t require players to render an inspiring performance or even sing the exact notes — one doesn’t even need to say the right words. All you have to do is make noise into the mic in such a way as to keep the little green arrow in the center of the little purple line that appears high or low on the screen.

When Liam (who had actually sung all the correct words) earned a “diamond” for expertly executing the song, Heather took the mic. Seated with her knees tucked under her on the edge of her L-shaped sofa, Heather crooned the words to Ozzy Osbourne’s “If I Close My Eyes Forever.” With a straight face.

“Oh, it’s my turn,” I said, confiscating the mic as soon as Heather had finished intoning the last “You gotta close your eyes for me.” I clutched the microphone in anticipation as Heather scrolled through the song titles.

“Wait, there, go back,” I said. “To ‘Bohemian Rhapsody’? You sure?”

“Totally. Let’s do it.”

Okay,” Heather laughed. “It has a reputation for being the easiest song on there. It has no complexity whatsoever.”

“Go on. I can rock it. I know this song backwards and forwards.” But three words in, I realized just how overconfident I’d been. At the first instrumental break, I said, “I was totally singing it, why wouldn’t the arrow go up any higher?”

“You have to sing it a lot higher than that,” Heather said. By the time I got to the part where I had to screech “mamma mia” at the pitch of a man whose balls are in a vise and then immediately repeat the words four octaves lower, Heather was doubled over with laughter.

“All right, fu—.” Remembering the children, I reformulated my statement mid-word, “forget this.” Poorly animated Paula was glaring at me for missing so many notes. “I want to do a different one next.” Heather agreed that I deserved another chance, but first, she wanted the mic back. We both gently shushed Liam when he asked if he could have another turn. I became giddy when Heather chose “My Heart Will Go On” by Celine Dion, and I couldn’t keep myself from singing along to the chorus. Heather scored a diamond. “Okay, now me,” I said. I selected “Glamorous,” as I had just listened to it on the drive up. I was surprised that, having heard it only a few times on the radio, I’d somehow memorized every word of Fergie’s hit. After Heather sang “Copacabana,” Liam gave up trying to get another turn, as I had eagerly snatched back the microphone to attempt Aerosmith’s “I Don’t Want to Miss a Thing.”

I was about to go for “Black Velvet” when, glancing at my nephews playing with their trucks and Legos, it occurred to me I’d overlooked something very important. How could I have forgotten one of the main reasons for my visit? I set down the microphone and the wii mote. “Heather,” I said, meeting my sister’s gaze, “I’m hungry. Weren’t we going to do lunch?”

“There’s a place called NYPD Pizza up the street; they sell it by the slice,” Heather said. “I’m in,” I said. “And when we get back, I’m singing ‘Heart of Glass.’ Paula’s gonna love it.”

To get an online version of this column, go to sdreader.com.

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"I was ready to stop dating and have a relationship with a theater."
“Theater matters because it’s the only place where one can find hope. Films are manufactured for us, but in the theater, the actors and the audience are getting together to manufacture a narrative, and to me, that’s where hope resides.”

— Moises Kaufman, playwright, *33 Variations, The Laramie Project*, etc.

Kaufman’s friend Christopher Ashley, currently in the midst of his first season as artistic director of the La Jolla Playhouse, concurs. For both men, the folks in the seats are not merely a crowd of spectators; they’re participants. “For me,” says Ashley, “there is nothing like being in a live audience, with an actual person on stage, experiencing emotions in front of you. There’s a
sort of tightrope thing that happens — everything is being made up in the moment, and anything could happen. There’s a communal experience that’s part church, part circus, and part book club.

When 9/11 hit, Ashley was running a revival of The Rocky Horror Show on Broadway. “It’s totally ridiculous — a story about how transsexual aliens take over the world. As unpertinent to 9/11 as it’s possible to be.” Pertinent or not, it shut down just like the rest of New York City theater in the attack’s immediate aftermath.

“But when we started up performances again a week later, the audience watched it with this electric, jubilant presence: ‘I’m out of the house, and no one has tried to attack me, and I’m together with people, and I’m celebrating being part of a community.’ Going to the theater that night was necessary and important, whether it was light entertainment or serious drama. People needed to be part of a community, together in a theater. When people watch a movie, they’re mostly in their own heads, immersed in the movie. I think people watch a play together. You’re aware of yourself enjoying the show with other people.”

Of course, that’s coming from a self-diagnosed sufferer of “what Jean Cocteau called ‘the red and gold disease.’” By which Ashley means a theater addiction: a love for the red velvet curtain with gold braid. “I suffered from a very early age,” attests Ashley. “Acting as one of the workhouse boys in a production of Oliver! at the Cortland Repertory Theater in upstate New York, it seemed impossibly glamorous at age eight. The sense of community in an acting company was addictive, and staying up four hours past my regular bedtime seemed incredibly bohemian.”

Cortland gave way to Ann Arbor, and Ann Arbor led to Yale, and Yale led to Broadway, and Broadway, after 20-odd years, led to La Jolla. Ashley had wanted to come here ever since the mid-'90s, when artistic director Des McAnuff, the man who had revived the Playhouse in 1983, took what ended up being a five-year break from the position. Ashley applied (unsuccessfully) for the job; he was 30. Even back then, he recalls, the Playhouse “had a reputation for an adventurous spirit.” He keeps a poster advertising the 1986 season on his office wall; among other shows, the season included a new translation of Sophocles’s Ajax, directed by Peter Sellars. The setting for the play was shifted to the present-day United States, and the final line about the inscrutability of the future was changed to a warning about the future’s ability to “wipe us out” if we aren’t careful. (And of course, in a nuclear era, there are no more godlike warriors, only diabolical weapons.) Also produced: the West Coast premiere of William Hauptman’s Gillette. Hauptman had won a Tony in 1985 after writing the book for Big River. In 2002, Bruce Weber panned a revival of the play in the New York Times: “I wish I had seen it [in 1986]; perhaps I would now have a clue what Mr. Hauptman had in mind. But as it is, the script is so riddled with juvenilia, borrowed character types and misguided flights of poetic fancy that it feels like the work of a teenager who has seen too many B movies. Either that or Mr. Hauptman was intent on writing a straight play with the cartoon heart of a musical.”

Gillette may not have been entirely successful — or perhaps it merely failed to age well — but Weber’s last sentence does sound like evidence for that “adventurous spirit” Ashley admired. “Those playwrights and directors were such an exciting crowd to bring here. I use the poster to remember what’s become a kind of rule for myself: bring in the most exciting artists you can find, and make...
Moises Kaufman was one of those artists. When Ashley learned in April of 2007 that his second attempt at landing the artistic directorship had proven successful, he was already committed to three directing jobs, including the Broadway musical version of *Xanadu* (a roller-disco story that had flopped at the box office in 1980, only to be reborn years later on stage in all its glittery glory), "I arrived in La Jolla, and I had about two months to program our first season. The first thing I did was sit down with the staff, and we wrote down on three-by-five cards every project we could think of that would be fun to do. We filled a wall. Then the question was, 'How do we trim that to six subscription shows, two Edge shows, and a couple of Page-to-Stages?"

Kaufman was an easy choice for Ashley. "Part of my application process was that the board wanted to know what artists I was interested in bringing in. That's one of the great things about being a producer; I get to support other artists in a way I never could as a freelance director. I developed a list of about 150 writers, directors, designers, and actors, and Moises was right at the top. I've known him for 15 years; he's one of the people I would invite in to dress rehearsals when I was directing to give me supportive feedback. I love his eye, and he's kind and critical in a really good mix."

And in *33 Variations*, Kaufman had a play in development. That meant it had already debuted at Arena Stage in Washington, D.C., but might still need, as Ashley put it, "another stage to explore itself before it ended up in New York. I saw it in Washington and almost made a call at intermission to offer for him to come here. I was that excited."

The play tells the story of Katherine Brandt, an ailing musicologist who becomes obsessed with Beethoven's obsession with a "secondhand waltz" written by music publisher Anton Diabelli. Diabelli invites 50 composers to write a single variation on his waltz; Beethoven winds up writing the titular 33. The play skips back and forth in time, from Katherine to Beethoven and back again, allowing for the occasional chronological mash-up. As she struggles against time to unravel the mystery of Beethoven's obsession, Katherine must also confront her disappointment with her own "secondhand waltz" — a daughter who is loving but worryingly unfocused, seemingly content to spend herself little by little on this thing and that.

Kaufman was happy to accept Ashley's invitation. "There was a lot he wanted to work on," recalls Ashley. "He's a perfectionist; I think he's had plays that have been four years in workshops. Here, he kept working..."
right through the previews.”

“I wanted to increase the character of Beethoven,” says Kaufman, “And I wanted to deepen the relationship between the mother and the daughter.”

Ashley elucidates: “In Washington, Beethoven was a much more rudimentary character. He had a lot of stage time but almost no development. The present was where all the complete thinking had happened, and the past was kind of sketched in. Moises wanted to explore the questions of ‘Who is Beethoven? What’s he going through? How is his journey paralleling Katherine’s? How are the two story lines working toward colliding at the end?’ And he fleshed out the way the daughter was debilitated by her mother’s disapproval and how their relationship developed through time. This draft is very different than what he had in Washington.”

“Every single night, questions would come up in rehearsals, and he would go home and redraft and rethink.”

Says Kaufman, “I work very much on my feet, with the actors on their feet, improvising, making changes. I do listen to the actors. It was funny — I was directing a couple of episodes of The L Word for television, and I would go on and ask an actor, ‘What do you think your character wants at this moment? Why is she behaving this way?’ The actor’s eyes would open up — she was so grateful, really. ‘You really want me to tell you what I think?’ Most of the time, the director just says, ‘Stand over there and say your line, and then come over here and say this other line.’ In theater, you’re in the same room for many hours a day. Remember the scene in 33 Variations where Katherine comes over and sits down at the table and leans her head on Beethoven’s back? That scene doesn’t have a line of text — it was arrived at entirely through improvisation.”

Kaufman is quick to acknowledge that there are some film directors who are interested in actors’ opinions, but still, the story plays to his notion of theater as the more communal milieu.

In this case, the communion was between playwright, director, and actor — and artistic director. “What shocked me about Ashley,” says Kaufman, “is that for someone who’s been at his job for so little time, he does it so well. He knows intuitively what the process needs: you want somebody supportive, but you don’t want someone in your rehearsal room every day, and you don’t want someone who gives you what you need and then doesn’t come around again until opening.
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“Subscribers bring stability, and stability brings the luxury of time and range.”

Sherri Allen — emerged to join us, she began running down a list of questions and making notes of our answers. An example:
“What did you think the play was about?”

Person A: “Finding the transcendent virtue in everyday things — Beethoven in the beer-hall waltz, and the mother and her daughter, who is content to be ordinary.”

Allen ran down the list, her pen twitching away over the clipboard. “Were there any particular scenes that will stay with you? Were there any points that weren’t clear? What did you think of the nudity? What was

After the play, as my wife and I wandered out through the lobby toward the evening dark, a woman draped in swaths of black fabric called out, “There will be a postshow outside in five minutes!” About six people gathered to see what was what. When the woman — La Jolla Playhouse teaching artist

...
the end, Allen pulled back the curtain a bit: “The play, from the playwright’s point of view, is about obsession. Beethoven’s obsession with the waltz, and Katherine’s obsession with finding out why he was obsessed with it — it’s her life’s work. The daughter is the metaphor for the secondhand waltz. Katherine’s daughter does not meet her expectations because Katherine knows what she wants and is very driven. She’s devoted her whole life to one thing, and her daughter wants to try out different things.”

Person A: “But the mother is not obsessed with the daughter.”

Allen: “No, she’s obsessed with her own life’s work — she neglects her daughter.”

Person B: “How does one illuminate the other if she’s not obsessed with her daughter?”

Woman: “The daughter craves the mother’s approval. She feels she’s never met her mother’s expectations.”

Person A: “Beethoven is obsessed with the waltz. But Mom is not obsessed with the parallel minor work, which is the daughter. That’s why Person B is saying that the one doesn’t illuminate the other, because Beethoven is obsessed with the waltz, but Mom is obsessed with Beethoven.”

Person B: “If Mom was obsessed with making the daughter into what she wanted the daughter to be, maybe we would be able to make that emotional connection between the two more easily.”

Woman: “That’s interesting. No one I know of has made that observation. I’m sure that will be very fascinating to the dramaturge and to the playwright himself.”

“The audience feedback always got back to me,” says Kaufman. “Those were my questions. I put it all in my head. When you begin to hear over and over that something is fantastic, you know that that part is working really well. That was based on feedback from both the audience and the collaborators.”

“The audience joins in the creation of narrative; the art becomes the starting point for a kind of conversation. That fits nicely with Ashley’s vision for his role at the Playhouse, and the Playhouse’s role in the community. “When you do freelance shows, you start over every six weeks — new actors, new audience. I was ready to stop dating and have a relationship with a theater, put down some roots with the audience. I wanted to talk with them, not just for two hours, but across the seasons. For an individual show that we do, we have about half single tickets and half subscription tickets. What’s great about a subscription audience is that they’re loyal to you, and you get to have a conversation with them over time.”

Subscribers bring stability, and stability brings with it a certain luxury of time and range. You don’t have to make every show a blockbuster; in fact, it’s probably better if you don’t. Getting back to that wall of index cards and how Ashley went about paring it down: “I try to make sure that no play is like the others in the season; along every axis you can think of, you make sure the plays oppose each other — that there’s small and large, funny and upsetting, musical and spoken, spectacle and just a person sitting in a room under a beam of light. There’s room for political plays that look outward and for plays that look inward and ask what it’s like being alive in a specific moment. We’re committed to being a safe harbor for unsafe work, and by that I mean that we’re always restlessly struggling for what’s new, either in form or content — taking the audience someplace unknown. Hopefully, that’s going to mean a big range as far as the kinds of experiences you have when you walk in the door.”

The season opened with 33 Variations — a small-scale, spoken-word drama. Then came the single-person show, Charlayne Woodard’s Night Watcher, which told the story of a woman and the 30 children living under her care. “Charlayne has had a long history with the Playhouse,” says Ashley. “This is her third show

“These 60-year-old white audience members [were] totally grooving along.”

When you hear over and over that there is confusion around a character, you had better look at that character. It’s not that specific comments made a difference, but I read and studied every thing. The whole ending of the play changed between the second and third preview in La Jolla.

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2. What $2,950 bottle of wine did Naomi Wise and company decide against in their meal at Roseville?
3. Can a man get a ticket for parking in a spot reserved for pregnant women at the mall? (Ask Matthew Alice.)

See all 10 quiz questions on page 157

First five people who respond correctly will win $25 or a Reader T-shirt – winner’s choice!
from fact — that they were really glad for the chance to process it afterwards, to talk about their feelings.”

(Ashley is quick to point out that the existence of the Edge as a distinct series ought not to reflect badly on the Playhouse’s subscribers. “Did you see The Seven last season?” he asks. “It’s a hip-hop Greek tragedy — a thousand words a minute, with a really dense hipster vocabulary. And you had all these 60-year-old white audience members totally grooving along. They knew very little about that world before they walked in the door, about that world before they walked in the door, anything. They walked in the door, totally grooving along.”)

“Playing the keyboard player for Bon Jovi. In November, the keyboard player for Bon Jovi, posed by David Bryan,” says Ashley. “It’s about need. You have these characters during the Depression on this farmed-out bit of land, and they can’t feed themselves. It’s such a time of need in this country — and worldwide — and as a friend of mine said, the play is perfect for right now. And it’s one of those things I love — a play that is both really dark and really funny.”

“Before the expansion,” he says, “there was only the Weiss Theatre and the Weiss Forum. We could produce only in these very inflexible, fixed-seat houses, which meant that we had to do plays that would appeal to a large audience.” (Apparently, there would be little aesthetic or social pleasure to be had in sitting with a scattered few fellow travelers in the grand emptiness of a major space — another...

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way that attending a play differs from going to the movies.) “The amazing thing about the Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theater is that it can be anything you imagine.”

The Potiker is a big black box—pure potency. “We’re talking about a show for the ‘09–’10 season where the audience walks through this maze of different walls. But if you have something more conventional in mind, the Potiker can be that, too. “We did a show called Adding Machine here last season—it was in the round. We did The Seven here, and we bumped up one section into a sort of raised stage. All the seats can disappear, so you can do a show for 50 people or a show for 400. The whole space is trapped—there’s a parallel space below, so you can go down anywhere you want. And right behind the scrim is a big loading door; we’ve talked about opening it up for A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

The Rao and Padma Makineni Play Development Center offers boxes as well, complete with lighting and sound system, if not seats and stages. “You can tape out the shape of any sort of stage you like and rehearse. It’s fantastic. We also do workshopy productions here. Every year, we commission a show for grade-schoolers that goes out and tours area schools, and then it comes here for a week.” Other, smaller spaces feature windows looking out onto the sidewalk around the theater complex. “The architecture is striving to be as transparent as possible—open to the environment, a people’s theater. The rehearsals are all open, in general. When you come to see a show, you’ll hopefully be able to see everything that’s happening in all the other spaces, so that it feels like a great community of arts happenings.”

“If you’re going to be a major theater, you need a place to rehearse your shows,” concludes Ashley—and now he’s got that. But that’s not all you need. “Right now,” he explains, “a lot of the readings and workshops that we do for new plays, we do in New York. It’s amazing. It’s a third as expensive to rehearse and do a reading in New York as it is to do it here. You have to bring in a playwright and a director and actors and put them up. It’s part of the plan to actually own our own housing, so that we can have artists in residence. I definitely want to make that part of our conversation with the audience”—few of
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whom are likely to jaunt off to New York for a workshop.

Of course, another way to have artists in residence is to have artists who are residents, who come to San Diego because there’s enough going on that they can hope to make a living.

“There’s a lot of theater energy in San Diego right now. Did you follow Seattle in the ‘80s? It was a real hotbed of theater — a lot of shows started there and went on to make a big impact nationally. Actors started to move there, because it was an exciting place to be. I think San Diego is on the edge of having the critical mass to be a major, major arts community.”

The timing, he suspects, is ideal. “There are times when theater rides on its master storytellers, and there are times when there’s room for exciting new people. Sometimes TV and film raid theater, and certainly, AIDS decimated a whole generation of writers. But now there are new people. I was just at the Theater Communications Group conference, and there are a lot of new, young theaters with tiny budgets — places being run on a couple of people’s passion to put on a play. The work they’re doing tends to be based on new writers from within their own community, and as far as I could tell, the work is tending to be very adventurous. That’s a really good sign for the next ten years” — for theater in general, and for San Diego and the Playhouse in particular. Because along with the Weiss Theatre and the Forum, along with the Potiker and rehearsal spaces, grand and intimate, there is the Mandell Weiss Studio Theater: a 100-seat black box that will play host to Ashley’s final piece in the community puzzle: local theater companies.

“Part of the mandate for myself was that I wanted to have a local theater company in residence. We’re going to have a new company every year. We were looking for a company without a permanent home, one that was doing really interesting work and was ready for taking the next step vis-à-vis what we could give them” — a well-equipped home.

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“The day I got here, I started looking through the papers and the publicity to see what I should be seeing. I went from downtown San Diego to La Jolla, from basements to churches, seeing every company I could find. I was trying to jam as many people's work into my memory as I could. That way, when we were looking at applications, I would have a framework: 'Oh, I've seen them.'

One of those companies was Mo’olelo, founded by Seema Sueko; Ashley attended the opening night of *Cowboy versus Samurai*, an Asian-American retelling of *Cyrano de Bergerac*. Explains Sueko, “Underneath the issue of the nose, it's transferred to race, and some other issues come out around how the characters limit themselves based on identity. The main character, who is Korean, chooses to write letters for his friend, who is Caucasian, because he thinks this Korean-American woman likes only white guys.”

The treatment of identity made the play of a piece with the rest of Mo’olelo’s productions, works like *Remains*, which explores the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; *A Piece of My Heart*, which focuses on women who served in Vietnam; and *Since Africa*, which tells the story of a Lost Boy of Sudan and his efforts at resettlement in America.

“There are two volunteers helping him, a Caucasian Chicago socialite and the deacon at a black Catholic church. They live in different

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- Able to complete a 6-day/5-night stay, plus 11 outpatient visits

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

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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

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**High Blood Pressure?**

Have you been diagnosed with, or think that you may have, high blood pressure?

If so, you may qualify for a research study of investigational medications to treat high blood pressure.

Qualified participants must be at least 18 years of age. If you qualify, you will receive at no cost study-related:

- Physical exams
- Laboratory tests
- Investigational study medications, and
- Compensation for time and travel

For more information, please contact:

San Diego Sports Medicine
& Family Health Center
619-229-3909
Americas — which one does he get settled into, and how does his identity factor into that?"

Sueko first heard about Ashley's resident-company plan through press interviews. She heard about it again at the reception given Ashley at the W Hotel when he arrived in town. When the program was officially announced in January, she was ready, and Ashley was impressed. "I think we had ten theaters apply for the first year, and they were really strong applications. All ten basically made the case for why they were ready for attention and how they would use our resources to create exciting theater. Mo'olelo made a great case, but honestly, if no new companies applied, I could do the next eight years with what I've already got."

Like Kaufman, the choice of Mo'olelo seems an easy one, especially in light of Ashley's vision of involving the community — it's integral to every show Mo'olelo puts on. Consider Night Sky, the first show they'll be putting on at the Playhouse. Says Sueko, "Kristen Brandt, the former artistic director at the Sledgehammer Theatre, mailed me the script in November of 2006. " (In this and other respects, the production fairly drips with locality — starting with the idea of doing it in the first place.) "She said, 'This looks like something that might fit for Mo'olelo.' It focuses on aphasia, a type of brain injury. It's about an astronomy professor who is rendered aphasic after suffering a concussion. A big part of what we do is community outreach in conjunction with each play, and she was saying, 'Maybe there is outreach work you can do at stroke centers and things like that.'"  

Then, in February of '07, "One of our audi-ence members came up after a performance and said, 'Have you ever considered a play that deals with brain injury? I used to be the executive director of the Brain Injury Foundation here in San Diego — there's a large community. The stories around brain injury are heroic and epic and funny — really great stories.'" (Another local impetus.) Sueko gave him the script; he shared it with the Foundation. "They liked it; they thought it really captured what aphasia was about." (Local involvement at the level of content.) Finally, in May of '07, the Mo'olelo board met to discuss its 2008 projects. From the company's blog: "In a unique moment of art imitating life, or rather life guiding art, Joe Hiel, husband of board member Elaine Hiel, who had been patiently reading the paper…perked up. He pulled out the San Diego Union-Tribune, which featured a front-page article about soldiers returning from
Volunteers with Type 1 Diabetes Needed

Profil is looking for volunteers with Type I Diabetes to take part in a clinical research study evaluating an investigational insulin.

To qualify, volunteers must:

• Have Type 1 Diabetes.
• Be an adult 18-45 yrs. old (women must be using birth control).
• Be otherwise healthy.
• Be a non-smoker for at least one year.

If you qualify and choose to participate, you may be compensated up to $1,580 and receive study-related medical care. Two overnight stays will be required, as well as two outpatient visits.

For more information, call 619-409-1244

Migraine Headache Research Study

If you have migraines, you are not alone. Contact our office to participate in an investigational research study of an inhaled study medication for adult migraine sufferers.

You may qualify if you:

• Are 18-65 years of age and have been diagnosed having migraine headaches for at least one year
• You have at least an average of 2 but not greater than 8 migraine headaches per month in the last 6 months
• Can attend up to three clinic visits over a 1-8-week study period
• Complete an 8-week study; you may qualify to participate in a one-year study

Qualified participants may receive compensation for time and expenses. Call our office today for a confidential screening.

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...bloating....uncomfortable...
...abdominal pain

A research study is underway for men and women, 18 years of age or older, suffering from diarrhea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome. For those women previously diagnosed or who suffer with abdominal discomfort, bloating, and episodes of diarrhea or watery stools daily, this research study using an oral investigational medication may interest you.

Participants may receive at no cost study-related:
• Colonoscopy (if not performed in the past 2 years)
• Examination and consultation by a board-certified physician
• Lab studies, EKG, and study medication
• Compensation for your time and travel

Interested, call:
Medical Center For Clinical Research
(619) 521-2841

If you’re having trouble controlling a CONSTANT URGE TO URINATE, you may want to know about us.

If you experience a frequent urge to urinate, difficulty preventing leakage, or other problems with urinating — or if you are not satisfied with your current treatment for overactive bladder — you may be able to participate in a clinical research study.

We’re conducting a clinical research study of an investigational drug designed to treat overactive bladder. If you participate, you will receive study-related care, monitoring, and study drug at no cost. To learn more, just call us.

Medical Center for Clinical Research
619-521-2841

GOT MIGRAINES?
...how about an inhaled study drug?

Have your migraines become more difficult to treat? A clinical research study is underway to evaluate an inhaled migraine therapy in men and women with at least a 1-year history of migraine (with or without aura). All participants will undergo pulmonary function testing and echocardiogram, both included with other study-related procedures and study medication, at no cost to the participant.

Possible participants must be:
• Male or female, 18-65 years of age
• Have a history of migraines
• No history of heart disease or stroke
• No history of prostate surgery or prostate cancer

Participants will receive at no cost:
• Examinations and consultation with a board-certified physician
• All study-related medication, labs, EKG, echocardiogram, chest X-ray, and pulmonary studies
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Interested, call:
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A research study is underway for men with significant difficulty urinating or who have a weak stream caused by benign prostatic hypertrophy, or BPH. Qualified participants will receive investigational intramuscular injection medication.

Qualified participants must be:
1) Males over the age of 50 years
2) Have significant difficulty initiating urine stream
3) No history of heart disease or stroke
4) No history of prostate surgery or prostate cancer

Participants may receive all study-related:
1) Exams and consultation with a board-certified physician
2) Medication, laboratory studies, and EKG
3) Compensation for your time and travel

Interested, please call:
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Medical Center for Clinical Research
Sueko is happy to grant that community outreach is a crucial part of her marketing plan. “We spend a majority of our time fundraising and writing donation letters; our ticket revenues cover only about 30 percent of the cost of each show, and we offer free tickets to community groups based on need. But we can go out into the community and establish relationships with key people who can help spread the word. When we did Since Africa, we sold out before it even opened, and one of the reasons was community outreach. We had the Sudanese Refugee Network, the International Rescue Committee, the National Conflict Resolution Center. And our leading actor was a Lost Boy of Sudan and had written a book. Whenever he went to a speaking engagement, he would mention the show.”

Sueko is unabashed about Mo'olelo's social-issue overtones. “With the returning Iraq War vets who have suffered traumatic brain injuries, I think it's crucial for the San Diego community to become more aware about these things — how do we support brain-injury survivors of all kinds? I don’t see theater as being this exclusive thing that lives out on the side of things. I think theater is most effective when it is central to the civic dialogue. I spent a lot of time in the Middle East, and I was speaking with an Israeli playwright there — this was during my formative years in college. He said that theater should be the temples, the mosques, the synagogues, the churches of our lifetime, where
DO YOU EXPERIENCE THE PAIN THAT FOLLOWS SHINGLES?

This pain is known as Post-Herpetic Neuralgia, or PHN.

If you have PHN and you’re at least 18, you may want to participate in a research study of an investigational pain medication.

Qualified Participants Must:
- Be 18 and older
- Have had shingles in the past 5 years
- Have had PHN pain for at least the past 6 months

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- Study-related care, exams and study drug at no charge

For more information on any of these studies, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

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Do you have trouble staying asleep? You might qualify to participate in a clinical research study using an experimental medication.

To qualify for participation in the research study, you must:
- Be between 18 years old and 65 years old
- Be considered to be in good general health
- Wake up multiple times during a typical night’s sleep

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:
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We are currently looking for people to participate in a research study for an investigational medicine for Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD). You may qualify if you are between 18 and 65 years of age and have been diagnosed with GAD or regularly experience the symptoms associated with the condition, including chronic anxiety, muscle tightness, restlessness, prolonged sleep disturbance, and even pain.

If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact:
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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, you may qualify. 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:
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- Not living in a nursing home?

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- Study medication
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- Supervised care by medical professionals as it relates to the study
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If you wake up unrestored, irritable and unable to concentrate after a full night’s sleep?

Find out if you have Nonrestorative Sleep by volunteering for a clinical research study.

This study is developing a questionnaire to help evaluate patients’ experiences with Nonrestorative Sleep.

As a participant, you will first be evaluated to see if you have Nonrestorative Sleep and, if you do, you will then take part in either a focus group with other patients talking about Nonrestorative Sleep or particpate in a debriefing interview to discuss your Nonrestorative Sleep experiences. You may be compensated for your time and travel.

To Qualify, you must:
- Be between 18 and 64 years of age
- Wake up tired even after 7 to 8 hours of sleep

For more information on any of these studies, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com
people can really grapple with issues. Theater should be a place where people come and have dialogue and leave having heard something—a perspective that maybe they have not heard before. But they should also leave feeling reflected on stage. The hallmark of Mo’olelo is specifically that: making a show that has multiple perspectives and using it to create community dialogue.

Bringing in communities who would not typically sit in the same room together, fostering bridges. There can be work done beyond the show. “Night Sky, to some extent, seems to be about giving voice to those who might be literally voiceless. Past Mo’olelo shows, however, give a clearer picture of the kind of dialogue Sueko mentioned—dialogue between groups “who would not typically sit in the same room.” “We cannot live in a world which sees people as just labels,” says Sueko. “Well, we can, but it’s ultimately dangerous and unproductive. When I was writing remains, I worked shopped it with both the local Jewish community and the local Palestinians, and I talked with some Christian Arab communities. When we did A Piece of My Heart, we partnered with the Veterans’ Museum and used their venue for the play. After doing remains, our database was all...
social activists. We wanted to have a dialogue about Vietnam and about the current conflict. After the play, we had conversations that really broke down bridges. We had social activists talking with the daughter of a Vietnam veteran. They didn't see each other as opposites but as humans. They might seem like small things, but for the individuals, they are huge.

That kind of social commitment helps explain why Mo’olelo performed just one show a year until 2007, when it scaled up to two. Sueko came to San Diego in 2003 as an Equity actor, only to find that few directors in San Diego would hire her unless she gave up her Equity card. “If you give it up, you’re cheaper, and you don’t get health insurance and that sort of thing. I talked with other Equity actors who were experiencing the same thing, and I thought, ‘I can sit around and bitch and moan about it, or I can create a small theater company that says: we will pay union wages to local actors. It’s a line item on the budget, a big one, but one we’ll never cut.’” And that kind of commitment helps make San Diego a more attractive destination for would-be actors — bringing Ashley’s vision of San Diego as a major theater city one step closer to fruition.

In Sueko’s eyes, it’s practically synergy. “The Playhouse is demonstrating that you can be a major, national force on the theater scene, a theater that artists from all over the world are dying to work at, and at the same time, you can nourish the community in which you live. I think the theater residency demonstrates that.” And she agrees with Ashley that the artistic spirit is fomenting in town. “In the past five, six, seven years, there have been a number of small companies like Mo’olelo that have been able to launch and survive. That speaks volumes.”

The pieces are in place; now it’s just a matter of making it all happen and keeping things exciting and varied. “It’s an ongoing task for every theater in America,” says Ashley. “How do you keep on broadening?” One way is to engage the community — or communities: playwrights, audiences, actors, other companies. Another way is to expand the notion of what theater is. The Playhouse expansion included a restaurant, and Ashley is happy that it will offer space for a cabaret. “It’s going to be exciting, programming the cabaret, having music as part of the experience. The real question I have is this: people keep telling me that everyone in San Diego goes home by ten. That late-night San Diego is not so much a thing. Are we going to be able to keep an audience awake for a ten o’clock show?” That will be interesting. — Matthew Lickona
Unforgettable
LONG-AGO SAN DIEGO

AMERICAN ICARUS: LINCOLN BEACHEY LOOPS THE LOOP (Part Three)

“Aviators are not born like poets,” said Lincoln Beachey, who claimed that anyone could fly a plane but that, and only he, was the natural-born poet of the air.

When “a mere lad,” Beachey told the U.S. Congress in 1913, he stood on a mountain in Southern California and looked across a sweeping green valley to another mountain. He longed for the wings of a bird to fly off the opposite peak. As sunlight speared through the clouds, the Pacific and several islands suddenly glittered in the distance. “And I wanted to fly there too. And so I decided that someday I would build me a flying machine.”

A world-famous stunt pilot and possibly America’s first superstar, Beachey urged Congress to give military pilots better training. Many had died from meager instruction and ramshackle machines. North Island’s aviation facility, Camp Trouble, had earned its nickname from tragedy.

On September 21, 1913, four months after his crossing of the Atlantic, Beachey became the first American to fly from one mountain to another. “We went over Point Loma to the opposite peak. As we came in to land, children, picnicking families, even horseback riders clogged the runway, Beachey scolded to lose control. The biplane jerked and yawed, sliding to a stop within a dozen yards of horrified spectators.

On November 15, Beachey began to worry that he, and only he, could do with one exception: he had never flown to its fullest until you have taken a trip to the clouds and to the skies.”

By 1913, Beachey had become, writes Frank Marrero, “a national hero of colossal proportions.” Millions had seen him “cease roll,” 180-degree rotations, one after another in a wavelike pattern, or “loop” from a mile up, pulling out at the last second; or snatch a handkerchief off the ground with a wingtip. Except for his twisted cap, which he wore backwards during exhibitions, Beachey, in his three-piece suit, flew with the audacity, and the precision, of a swallow.

One hundred newspapers declared him the “eighth wonder of the world.” At his divorce proceedings his wife began naming women Beachey had promised to marry. When she reached number 32, the judge held up a hand and said, “Enough.”

In 1913, the deaths of at least 22 pilots trying to “outdo Beachey,” forced him into retirement. Called “the Pacemaker of Death,” he had done everything a “birdman” could do with one exception: he had never flown a circle in the sky. No one had and, Beachey boasted, only he could. But if he “pulled off this loop the loop,” then others would die trying “because I have done it.”

On September 21, 1913, four months into his retirement, Beachey got a shock: Adolphe Pegoud flew a complete loop in France. In a cable, Beachey accused Glenn Curtiss of “cheating me out of my dearest ambition…looping.” Beachey demanded a specially made “pusher” biplane, the engine mounted in the rear, so he could “out-Pegoud Pegoud.”

On November 15, Beachey began testing the new craft at Curtiss’s San Diego teaching facility at North Island. At first, Beachy just practiced his familiar “air devilry”: rolls and figure eights and his famous dip of death — making a stone-dead drop from 5000 feet, lifting the nose at the last second, and touching down as softly as possible.

On November 18, over Camp Trouble, at the northeast corner of North Island, Beachey became the first American to fly upside-down. So everyone would know he’d done it, Beachey painted his name in long, blood-red letters on the top wing. When he landed, he pretended to lose control. The biplane jerked and yawed, sliding to a stop within a dozen yards of horrified spectators.

On Tuesday, November 20, Beachey invited people in the crowd to fly with him. All heads turned away, paying serious attention to a cloud or a wristwatch. Eighteen-year-old Lillian Dixon volunteered. Strapped to the left lower wing’s leading edge, she flew with Beachey for a cautious, 15-minute jaunt. When they came in to land, children, picnicking families, even horseback riders clogged the runway. Beachey swerved off course, mowing down heavy brush and finally stopping near an Army tent.

Beachey’s loop-the-loop photograph

Q U O T A T I O N S

1. Frank Marrero: “Beachey’s fame was as vast as any in American history. His only fear was that he would die trying ‘because I have done it.’ ”

2. Waldo Waterman: “It was hard for me to reconcile: he had just lost his life, and we had lost Lincoln Beachey — just as we’d lost the many daredevils that had tried to emulate his singular mastery of the air.”

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An angry Beachey said the military had “only three good machines” at North Island; the rest were repatched junk. Beachey announced that, out of respect for the dead, he wouldn’t fly again until the big Thanksgiving air show on November 27. He’d had it, he said, with uncontrolled crowds, badly trained military pilots, and the government’s “radical mistakes” in aviation policy.

The next day, Tuesday, November 25, Beachey abandoned his vow. At 3:00 p.m. he boarded his biplane. Since he’d given his crew two days off, an Army mechanic twisted the propeller. Unlike previous afternoons, when watchers jammed the bay in boats and lined the sandy runway, fewer than a dozen witnesses noticed Beachey take off into partly cloudy skies.

This was by design. “Beachey chose the time he thought would give him the most privacy in his trial at the loop,” the Union wrote the next day — also that “he simply did not want to fail before a crowd.”

But there was more: throughout Beachey’s career, betting pools formed at each exhibition, the odds — usually around five-to-one — he’d given his crew two days off, an Army mechanic twisted the propeller. Unlike previous afternoons, when watchers jammed the bay in boats and lined the sandy runway, fewer than a dozen witnesses noticed Beachey take off into partly cloudy skies.

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perish — posted on placards. "I was never egotistical enough to think that crowds came to witness my...trick-dog stunts." Only one thing drew them: "the desire to see 'something happen'—meaning, of course, my death."

"I made up my mind that if I did tumble from the air, I did not want my final bump to stamp me as a piker. I wanted to drop from thousands of feet. I wanted the grandstands and the grounds to be packed with a huge, cheering mob... And when the ambulance, or worse, hauled me away, I wanted them all to say as they filed out the gates, 'Well, Beachey was certainly flying some.'"

Beachey, writes Martin Caidin, developed a "sneering, go-to-hell attitude" toward his myriad fans. Several times during a show he'd fly at them just for kicks. He rarely, if ever, signed autographs and often huffed away after an exhibition.

For his first attempt at looping the loop, Beachey didn’t just want privacy. He refused to share the historical moment with what was to him a bloodthirsty horde. As he took off from North Island unannounced, San Diegans heard, at best, the buzzing of a far-off bee.

Scientists swore the stunt was impossible: Beachey’s upright motor would stall at the top of the circle. The machine would flop from the sky like a tailless kite. Beachey powered straight...
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In less than
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Newest Japanese technique. Lasts 4-6 weeks. All natural.

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Lip liner $200* ($300 value)
Eyebrow $200* ($300 value)
Eyeliner $200* ($300 value)
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($145 value) $119*
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($210 value) $154*

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Our 1-hour European facial with alphahydroxy peel will purify, smooth, and soften skin texture and appearance, as well as act as a natural face-lift, removing fine lines, freckles and blemishes. Includes a 15-minute head, neck and back massage with acupressure, as well as a spa manicure and pedicure!

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For men and women.

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**About You**

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Buy a package of 5 and receive your 6th treatment FREE!*

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#### Masks and Peels
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astonishing some, offending many.

On March 15, 1915, Beachey had built his dream ship, a silver monoplane with bright yellow wings and an 80-horsepower Gnome Monosoupape rotary engine that flew twice as fast as his biplane.

He would test it before 50,000 spectators at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco. The aluminum fuselage gave him such unmatched quickness that a friend, Ted Macaulay, warned Beachey against looping.

"It'll be okay," Beachey replied, "as long as I don't pull out too tightly."

His mechanic, Arthur Mix, removed the chocks, and Beachey took off with an instrument, he felt, finally worthy of his abilities. For ten minutes he flew low-level loops over the bay, an ocean roll, and a mock tailspin. Then he came in for a landing.

"She's a homesick angel," he told Mix. "Gas her up. I'm going back again."

"Take it easy," Mix replied. "This baby's a lot faster than anything you've flown."

"Don't worry," Beachey winked through oil-streaked goggles. "But keep your eyes open. I'll wring her out this time."

Beachey arrowed upward for a dip of death. At 3000 feet he hurtled out of the sky faster than any pilot had ever flown. Too fast.

At 500 feet, two cracks echoed across the bay. The left wing folded upward, then the right. The plane became a trembling yellow V. As he nose-dived toward the water, Beachey shut off the engine and fuel line. His last gesture, which thousands witnessed from the grandstand, was a small good-bye wave with the fingers of his right hand.

— Jeff Smith

**Sources:**
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SAN DIEGO READER
August 28, 2008

What's new at La Jolla Cosmetic Laser Clinic?
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Thermage Skin Tightening
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Resurface and Tighten
TotalFX Fractional CO2 Laser
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Suite 129, La Jolla
I don’t aim to be sarcastic or rude, and I’m sure from my own point of view I sound quite conservative. On the contrary, I’m a 24-year-old born-and-raised San Diegan who enjoys reading your publication. And, to be honest, this is the first story I’ve felt the need to comment on due to its controversial nature. I applaud the Reader for its ability to take risks; however, this crosses the line on multiple levels.

Thank you for letting me rant and rave a bit.

Name Withheld by Request via email

MOUs and LOIs
I commend Mr. Bauder for his well-researched and skillfully written article on Warner Springs Ranch (“Hot Water,” “City Lights,” August 21). He attributes to current general manager Jim Stilwell a fact I believe is erroneous. I believe that subsequent events and investigation prove that Highlands Resorts never tendered a $3000 deposit to Warner Springs Ranch pursuant to the established unsolicited Letter of Intent process. Instead, the Highlands Resorts’“draft MOU” that was announced by Mr. Stilwell in a post to the Warner Springs Ranch website on August 17, 2008, was the product of a solicited process and therefore not subject to the established unsolicited LOI process.

This revelation brings owner-schmowners closer to the truth as well as a complete and honest answer to the question I’ve been asking for over three months; as referenced in the article, how did Highlands Resorts cut in front of other offerors and jump from last in time to first in line?

Moreover, also unanswered are questions of who first solicited Highlands Resorts and when the solicitation process first began. I hope everyone who has ever “taken the waters” at Warner Springs requests answers from Mr. Stilwell via email at JStilwell@WarnerSpringsRanch.org and the current board of directors via email at board@warnersprings.com.

Greg S. Maizlish via email

Long Ago At Warner Springs
In general a good article as per Warner Springs re the last 30 years and over 100 years ago (“Hot Water,” “City Lights,” August 21). For about 70 years before the entity of Warner Springs Ranch, the property was open as a resort.

G. Henshaw via email

Brain Rattlers
Your essay on airport noise was so partial in information as to be almost laughable (“Life Under the Flight Path,” Feature Story, August 21).

First, the technology to muffle the sound of jets is well known. I’ve seen three-engine passenger jets fly overhead with barely a whoosh. Why not just say to all airlines and private planes, you can’t land in our town if you make noise?

That brings up a second point. I’ve heard private single-jet planes make as much noise as any passenger jet. Ban them.

Third, the takeoff paths are fan shaped, that is, some take off straight on, others...
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If you are considering any type of plastic or reconstructive surgery, please call the office of Dr. Romero for a Free Consultation.
bank some left or right, others bank more left or right. It makes a difference.

Fourth, the landing path is always the same. When planes land from the west, every single one of them flies directly over my house.

Fifth, we don’t want our windows and doors “sound-proofed.” We live here because we like them open, because we like to be outside, gardening, having a happy hour on the front porch, grilling on the back patio, etc. We want the noise stopped, period, instead of being trapped in a box.

Sixth, no one ever mentions the incredible spray of exhaust emitted every time a plane lands or takes off.

And seventh, and finally, things have improved some over the years (I’ve lived in OB/Point Loma since ’76), but we still get what I call “brain-rattlers” every single day.

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(regularly $125)
Swedish Massage® 65
(regularly $80)
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per area with purchase of package.

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Out-of-area clients accommodated, once established! Ask for details.

### Spa Treatments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatments</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choose Your Package</td>
<td>3 Spa Treatments $159 4 Spa Treatments $189</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Microdermabrasion</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- European facial * Acne treatment</td>
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<td>- Facial, head, and neck massage</td>
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<td>- Customized mask and hair care</td>
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<td>(Initial consultation only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer Package $110</td>
<td>45-minute body massage and body wrap</td>
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<td>- Treatment for all areas</td>
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<td>- New clients only</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 15-minute back massage and body wrap</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deep Cleansing Facial $65</td>
<td>Begin with face mapping</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Includes steam, prop, scrub, and extraction</td>
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<td>- Facial, head, and neck massage</td>
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<td>- Customized mask and hair care</td>
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<td></td>
<td>FREE 15-minute body massage or Hydrosol Acid Pool</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relaxation Package $85</td>
<td>1-hour body massage</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Masseuse and Pin-ups</td>
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</tbody>
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### Energy Balancing Plan $85

- 65-minute relaxation foot massage
- 30-minute head, neck, acupuncture, and back massage
- Pedicure included

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#### Eyeliner $300
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constant should not have to live with the situation, and people you have no control over other 12 gates will be devel-
Klein talk about how an-
makes you angry thus, the noise increases. No
last night I heard Herb $100,000 must be spent on plan-
noise — kind of makes you
30 years ago planes were so annoying, homes in the Quieter Home
wasn’t as houses, the noise wasn’t as
northern flights coming into our town, just very convenient, cheap shuttles to LAX (also lacking in this hick town). By the way, I’m a native San Diego and spent elementary school under the flight path. I know what I’m talking about. The upshot is, no — some of us never get used to the noise, and it
relief in sight. But let’s form some more committees and measure it. Has anyone done a study on the effects of noise on people so affected by sleep interruption and deprivation because of these planes? There are nuisance laws — noise is a nuisance — why don’t they acknowledge that in legal terms? Build a small airport in Otay Mesa for the FedEx carriers, put Terminal 2 planes in Miramar, put commuter planes in an expanded Gillespie Field. And, of course, establish an incoming flight curfew — that would all help and could be effected reasonably economically. San Diego is, and always will be, a hick town — we don’t need international flights coming into our town, just very convenient, cheap shuttles to LAX (also lacking in this hick town). By the way, I’m a native San Diego and spent elementary school under the flight path. I know what I’m talking about. The upshot is, no — some of us never get used to the noise, and it
is a problem.
Cindi Lamert
via email
Complaint About A Complainer
I’m responding to an article in the August 14 edition. On the front page it says “Large Loud Parties Coming Soon to Your Neighborhood” (Cover Story). The gentleman who wrote this article interviewed a person by the name of Zonna Pennell, and she’s complaining about her next-door neighbors because it’s a vacation home rental. If you go on vacationsrentals.com, click on “California,” come down to the “Pacific Beach” area, about halfway down — there are 31 properties listed, and she’s been advertising on there for the last number of years. It’s a cottage, two bedroom, one bath, sleeps four people, $1250 to $1950 per week, “Adorable Beach Cottages by Zonna.” Click on that and it will bring up a description of the property and will show the cottages,

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Natural curl for 3 months.
• Wax Services:
Bikini $18 (reg. $25)
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• 3 Sessions of Microdermabrasion or 3 European Facials $119 (reg. $180)
• Green Herbal Peel $125 (reg. $150 – Mini Peel $95 (reg. $150) – Deep Peel plus one month home care and followup facial
100% based on herbs and plants. Outstanding success in treatment of sun damage, wrinkles, premature aging, hyperpigmentation, coarse and uneven skin, imperfections, enlarged pores, poor circulation, acne, black- and white-heads, loss of elasticity, and cellulite.
• Mole Removal Sun and age spots, skin tags and warts. Free consultation. Free trial.
• Severe Acne Treatment $40 (reg. $55)
Great results guaranteed!

San Diego Reader August 28, 2008 67
LABOR DAY SPECIALS!

Teeth Whitening $199
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“Summer Retreat” Package $159
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San Diego Reader
August 28, 2008

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**Restrictions may apply. Performed by PA or RN only. Exp. 9/30/08.**

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Extensions $99
Helps develop fuller, thicker lashes naturally.

**Pampering Package**
$150 (3-3/4 hours)
Microdermabrasion, European facial, 1-hour body massage, manicure, pedi-spa, and your choice of: mineral salt scrub, detox hydro pack wrap for slimming.

**Summer Package**
$90 (2 hours)
European facial, 15-minute back massage, and detox hydro pack wrap for slimming.

**Relaxing Package**
$70 (1 1/2 hours)
1-hour body massage plus mineral salt scrub or detox hydro pack wrap for slimming.

**Waxing**
Full waxing service for men and women. Specializing in Brazilian waxing.

**Deep Cleansing Facial**
$55 (1 hour)
Includes deep cleansing with steamer, blackhead and whitehead extraction, and 15-minute neck/back/shoulder massage.

**Acne Facial Treatment**
$55 (1 hour)
Includes deep cleansing with steamer, blackhead and whitehead extraction, and 15-minute neck/back/shoulder massage.

**Photo Facial**
$99 (1 1/2 hours 30 minutes)
Microdermabrasion with light therapy treatment, non-surgical, no recovery time. Increases collagen and blood circulation, reduces wrinkles, sun damage, large pores, blemishes and rosacea.

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drink and stay out of trouble.

Safe havens? Was the beach a “safe haven” for David Fortner? He’s the homeless man who was drinking in Mission Beach and got into an argument with another. Fortner’s throat was slashed with such violence that his spinal cord was severed and he died where he fell. On August 5, Fortner’s murderer was convicted and sentenced to 26 years to life.

Stay out of trouble! Did Damian Maple and Francisco Montoya “drink and stay out of trouble”? Prosecutors say these two home- less men were drinking at a fire pit in Ocean Beach. They allegedly beat an Australian tourist over the head with a skateboard, fracturing his skull and eye socket.

The helpless, injured tourist was then thrown into a fire pit and glowing coals were dumped over him. The two homeless men, Maple and Montoya, could be imprisoned for life.

A steady stream of homeless people flows into San Diego’s hospitals and morgues all year long. Alcohol is often the catalyst for those injuries and deaths.

Homeless people are neither thugs nor criminals. Some do suffer from mental health issues or addictions or both. Allowing them to drink on the beach doesn’t keep them safe, nor does it keep them out of trouble. If you oppose an alcohol-free beach, you are absolutely entitled to your opinion. San Diego’s homeless problem is complex and requires comprehensive solutions. To suggest that beach drinking has a positive impact on the homeless is ignorant, inhumane, and cruel. Most of all, it is shameful to use the plight of the homeless to advance the political agenda of returning alcohol to the beach.

Monica Green via email

Euro Quito Edo

Once again, your cross-word puzzle clues had an incorrect spelling for “capital/capitol.”

August 14, 2008, clue number 40 across is given as “Shogunite capital.” The answer is “Edo,” the old Japanese name for the capitol [sic] city.

“Capital” has to do with money, finance, funds, etc. And it was used correctly in clue number two down, “Capital of Italy,” with the euro as the answer.

Jogging your memory, the previous misuse of capital/capital was, as I recall, two or three weeks ago. The clue was “capital in the Andes,” with the answer being Quito, the capitol [sic] city of Ecuador.

I’ve been doing the puzzle and reading the Reader for many years; however, I think your new entry deadline line is unrealistic.

A.R.

According to Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary, “capital” means “(1)(a) a building in which a state legislative body meets, (b) a group of buildings in which the functions of state government are carried out, and (2) cap the building in which the U.S. Congress meets in Washington.” A “city serving as a seat of government” is spelled “capit- al.” — Editor
Can't Get Enough
Cult Films in the Park

I'm not sure if Animal House is as cult-y as Harold and Maude — it might be a little bit more mainstream,” says Lauren Turner, marketing and communications coordinator for the Museum of Photographic Arts.

“The first one we showed was Dirty Harry, because the name of the artist’s exhibition on view was Harry Callahan. Animal House doesn’t tie in with the current exhibition so much as it does the start of the new school year. We were concerned about not having a big turnout for Harold and Maude [shown in February to coincide with Valentine’s Day], but apparently it has a huge cult following — 350 people showed up. People were wild about that movie.”

Turner is expecting an even larger turnout for Animal House, which the museum will screen on Thursday, August 28, as part of its Photography off the Prado Thursdays program, which features a different cult film every three months. A committee of 12 museum employees, who Turner says, “went online to research what a cult film is,” selects the films to be screened each quarter.

Cult films may be defined as movies that are deemed unsuccessful in theaters but later develop a limited but obsessive following. “I would define a cult film as a film that speaks to a person’s inner child,” says the museum’s film and public programs manager Priscilla Parra. “A fan of cult films can look past things like absurd story lines, horrible acting, unnecessary musical numbers, strange camera gyrations, fake guts, and still see a precious gem in cinematic history.”

“The most recent cult film is Dark Knight,” says Scott Marks, local film critic and founder of emulsioncompulsion.com. Bucking traditional definition, Marks believes that a cult film is any film that “attracts a die-hard audience of fanatics” and inspires repeated viewings.

“Cult” can also indicate schlock, or films that were so bad they’re entertaining,” says Marks. “When Pink Flamingos opened, I was so young that I didn’t know what a transvestite was — I thought Divine was just a fat chick. I was so taken by the depravity and honesty and crazed originality that for one year I went to see it every weekend.”

Marks says that his favorite cult film is Blade Runner. “Blade Runner is my Star Wars,” he says. “When they brought that back, I saw it four or five times — I wanted to see how it would look digitally projected, enhanced, in Cinerama. I love that movie.”

Nearly any film can generate a group of obsessive followers, but Marks says there are some he could never see making it into the category of cult. “Ben Hur is not a cult film. In most cases, I think that if a film becomes so big that everybody sees it, it tends to lose some of the originality that may have contributed to its cult status.”

According to Parra, “Films that you probably never see on a cult film list are Daddy Day Care, High School Musical, Daredevil, and The Mummy.” Tragic dramas also need not apply. Marks cites Schindler’s List as an example of a non-cult drama. “I just can’t imagine people dressing up as concentration-camp guards and standing in line.”

Cult-classic aficionados often impersonate their favorite character. To invoke that fanatic feeling, some museum committee members have volunteered to dress in togas for the screening of Animal House. The movie will also be shown in the atrium as backdrop (or, according to Marks, “video wallpaper”) for a performance by local DJ P. Prez. Drawing pads will be available in the atrium for anyone interested in sketching their favorite character. To invoke the category of cult, Marks cites Barbarella as an example of a non-cult drama. “When they brought that back, I saw it four or five times — I wanted to see how it would look digitally projected, enhanced, in Cinerama. I love that movie.”

“P. Prez will be circulating. The movie will also be shown in the atrium as backdrop (or, according to Marks, “video wallpaper”) for a performance by local DJ P. Prez. Drawing pads will be available in the atrium for anyone interested in sketching their favorite character. To invoke the part of cult, Marks cites Barbarella as an example of a non-cult drama. “When they brought that back, I saw it four or five times — I wanted to see how it would look digitally projected, enhanced, in Cinerama. I love that movie.”

Marks adds, “I just can’t imagine people dressing up as concentration-camp guards and standing in line.”

“If they really wanted to capture the spirit of the film,” says Marks, upon hearing that burlesque models will be frolicking about in his of toga, “they would get a bunch of fat alcoholic guys with beer guts in togas. Because that’s what Animal House is.” — Barbarella

POPS Thursdays: Animal House
Thursday, August 28
Event begins at 7 p.m.
Museum of Photographic Arts
1649 El Prado
Balboa Park
Cost: $6
Info: 619-238-7559 or popithursdays.com

To get an online version of this story, go to sdreader.com. You can print it, email it to friends, and get other stories on the same subject or stories by this author.
DANCE
Contradance Graham Hempel calls, Ranting Banshee makes music for dance hosted by San Diego Folk Heritage. 619-283-8550. Friday, August 29, 7:30 p.m.; 37 Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

English Country Dancing Sharon Green calls for English country dancing. Steve Manzo on piano, Janet Parish-Whittaker on flute, Rosemary McGuinness on violin. 858-676-9731. Sunday, August 31, 3 p.m.; 82 Jean Hart Academy of Dance, 12227 Poway Road. (POWAY)

Midsummer Night’s Dancing Student, professional showcase of dance party to follow. Desay will play Latin, ballroom selections. Refreshments provided. 619-275-3333. Saturday, August 30, 7 p.m.; 815. Partie Wells’ Dance Center, 1255 West Morena Boulevard. (GOLD PARK)

Ragtime-Era Tango Learn to read and follow American ragtime tango (beginners: 7:15 p.m., intermediates: 8 p.m.) during Waltz & Such Class in Casa del Prado room 207. Open request dancing follows until 9:45 p.m. All ages. Partners not required. Donation: 619-583-9596. Friday, August 29, 7:15 p.m.; $1. Casa del Prado, El Prado. (BALboa PARK)

Rozmai Ukrainian Dance Ensemble Ukrainian culture, nostalgia, comedy reflected in troupe’s high-performance children under 10 free 619-460-5733. Saturday, August 30, 7 p.m.; $25. Salvation Army Kroc Community Center Performing Arts Theatre, 661 University Avenue. (COLLEGE AREA)

FILM
“Dark Comedy, Twisted Romance” With Red Lynch, Art Gold, Isabel Vega featured in sixth annual “alt pictureshows” short-film showcase. Definitive experiment in “physical channel surfing” conducted as films are shown on nonstop loop. Most films not rated, contain adult content. Free for members. 858-454-3541. Thursday, August 28, 27 p.m.; $5. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, 700 Prospect Street. (LA JOLO)

“No Tega! Tega!” POP Thursdays presents Animal House, John Landis’ cult comedy. Film screened on atrium wall accompanied by music from DJ P. Prey, Dry Sketchy’s life drawing group guides visitors in sketching models from Bit o’ Burlesque. 619-238-7539. Thursday, August 28, 8 p.m.; $6. Museum of Photographic Arts, 1469 El Prado. (BALboa PARK)

Iron Jawed Angels Museum of Photographic Arts, Saturday, August 30. (SEE FILM)

High School Musical 2 Bring your blankets, chairs to this family evening. Film features Zac Efron, Ashley Tisdale, Vanessa Hudgens. 858-358-4198. Saturday, August 30, 3 p.m.; Hilltop Park, 9711 Oviedo Street. (NORTH PARK)


IRON JAWED ANGELS
Museum of Photographic Arts, Saturday, August 30.

San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (MALDONADO PARK)

Son of Rambow Young Will is raised in isolation where television and music are forbidden. He sets out to make his own epic. Garth Jennings’ homage to pop culture will be shown in library’s third-floor auditorium. 619-236-5800. Wednesday, September 3, 6:30 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Ugly Me The romantic comedy Pretendentino, starring Barbara Mori, screen for Cinema on Ty Ilioma series hosted by Media Arts Center. Screenings begin at 10:15 a.m., 12:45 p.m., 3:15 p.m., 5:45 p.m., 8:15 p.m., 10:45 p.m. In Spanish with English subtitles. 619-230-1938. Thursday, August 28, 10:15 a.m.; 82. Mission Valley, 7310 Hazard Center Drive. (MISSION VALLEY)

Saps at Sea Tent Laurel and Hardy flits promised when local chapter of Laurel and Hardy fans gathers. World War II-themed evening. The Big Noise, shorts, cartoon will be screened. 619-417-9032.

Sunday, August 30, 7 p.m.; $6. Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3902 Kensington Drive. (SPRING VALLEY)

STOP

For kids
“Puppets on Parade” 60th Anniversary celebration. Festivities include puppet-making workshops for kids, parade, shows. 619-544-9203. Monday, September 1, 11 a.m.; Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (MALDONADO PARK)

Disney’s High School Musical This “musical rumble between the brainiacs, the thespians, and the jocks” boasting over 75 young county actors is presented by ACT San Diego. 619-544-1000. Thursday, August 28, 7 p.m.; Friday, August 29, 7 p.m.; Saturday, August 30, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Sunday, August 31, 2 p.m.; $12-$21. Lyceum Theatre, 79 Horton Plaza. (DOWNTOWN)

The Elves and the Shoemaker Hardworking shoemaker receives help from funny little elves. Presented by Weaver’s Tales. 619-544-9203. Thursday, August 28, 11 a.m.; Friday, August 29, 11 a.m.; Saturday, August 30, 11 a.m.; Sunday, August 31, 11 a.m.; 5-5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

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San Diego Reader August 28, 2008

You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown White Dog Theatre Company production, through August 31. This summer musical features an adult cast and youth cast. Enjoy production with adult cast on Fridays and Saturdays (7:30 p.m.), Sundays at 2 p.m.; the youth cast takes stage on Thursdays (7:30 p.m.), Saturdays 2 p.m. and Sundays 6 p.m. Reservations: 760-405-3212. Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Fridays, 7:30 p.m., Saturdays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Sundays, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. through Sunday, August 31. Theaters, 155 East Grand Avenue. (CONCORD)

All Aboard! Chula Vista Live Steam Club provides train rides. Donation: 50 cents. Children under 48” must be accompanied by an adult. 619-421-9227. Friday, August 29, 12:30 p.m.; Saturday, August 30, 12:30 p.m.; Sunday, August 31, 12:30 p.m.; Monday, September 1, 12:30 p.m.; Rohr Park, 4548 Sweetwater Road. (BICENTENNIAL)

Do Lobsters Walk in Their Underwear? Find out during “August in the Deep: Pirates” sleepover event. Educational activities, breakfast, Friday, August 29, 9 a.m., through Saturday, August 30, 8 a.m. Reservations: 858-534-7336. Friday, August 29, 6 p.m.; $60. Ages 6 and up. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (MIRAMAR)

Garden Story Time Garden-themed story time for preschoolers. 619-660-0614. Tuesday, September 2, 11:30 a.m.; 3225 Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (GUEST CAFE)

Puppet Variety Show Comic ventriloquist Lynn Trimble presents comedic characters. Magical spoofs, songs will be brought to life all month. 619-544-9203. Wednesday, September 3, 11 a.m.; $3-$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (MALDONADO PARK)
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**IN PERSON**

**“Gangstas in the Public Library”**
Author Don Borchert will discuss Free for All: Oddballs, Geeks, and Gangstas in the Public Library, his memoir about his career as a librarian in Southern California. 760-753-7376. Saturday, August 30, 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.; Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

**Poetry Unlimited** Megan Webster, author of Bi-Polar Express, will be featured along with writer Linda Hutchison in this special presentation. Open readings will follow. 858- 552-1657. Wednesday, September 3, 5 p.m.; La Jolla Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

**This Poem Called My Body** Red Calac Arts, Cahaca Press present chapbook release. Anthology features poems by eight young Latin women. Copies will be available for sale, signing. Donation. 619-920-1713. Saturday, August 30, 7 p.m.; Front, 147 West San Ysidro Boulevard. (SAN YSIDRO)

**Comics That Kill Benefit Show** John Cceconn, Friendly Frank, Tim Shaw, Suzanne West, Grant Cotter take the stage to benefit Rancho Coastal Humane Society. Donation. 760-236-2038. Saturday, August 30, 8 p.m., ages 14 and up. E Street Cafe, 128 E Street. (ENCINITAS)

**Latin Comedy Night** John Ceccon, Friendly Frank, Tim Shaw, Suzanne West, Grant Cotter

**“Gangstas in the Public Library” AN LOCAL EVENTS D**

**Latin Comedy Night** John Ceccon, Friendly Frank, Tim Shaw, Suzanne West, Grant Cotter take the stage to benefit Rancho Coastal Humane Society. Donation. 760-236-2038. Saturday, August 30, 8 p.m., ages 14 and up. E Street Cafe, 128 E Street. (ENCINITAS)

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A Series of Low Tides late this month, associated with the new moon, are predicted for 2:26 a.m. on Thursday, August 28 (-0.9 feet); 3:02 a.m. on Friday, August 29 (-0.9 feet); and 3:34 a.m. on Saturday, August 30 (-0.8 feet). In other words, you’ll hit the high point at Castro Crest by sundown. The distant lights of Los Angeles will be in view by the time you arrive back at your car.

To reach the trailhead parking area, a staging area for the Backbone Trail, drive 3.5 miles north from Highway 1 (Pacific Coast Highway) on Corral Canyon Road. From the west edge of the parking lot, follow on foot the Backbone Trail, which switchbacks downward along the rim of a bowl drained by several upper tributaries of Solstice Canyon. Mostly, the trail makes use of old roads but some of it is newer trail tread. After about a mile of illustrative descent, you join a ravine bottom and then descend decisively to the main tributary of Solstice Canyon (1.3 miles).

Just past the knob you’ll hook up with Castro Peak Road (3.6 miles). Turn right and let gravity repay you for your previous efforts. Within a half hour your car in the parking lot should be in view. 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.

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San Diego Reader August 28, 2008
“Who Signed That? Signed and Inscribed Books” Rare book exhibit in Wangenheim Room showcases over 100 signed and inscribed books by various authors, booksellers, publishers, people associated with literary world. Among the famous: Samuel Clemens, Jack London and his wife Charmian London, Ray Bradbury, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Herbert C. Hoover. 619-236-5807. Thursdays, 1:30 p.m.; through Saturday, August 30.

Memorias de una Infamia Re-ception for Lydia Cacho’s new book. 011-52-664-887-9636. Thursday, August 28, 7 p.m.; Centro Cultural Tijuana, Avenida París #5, in Colonia Altamira.

Todo Mexico Play by José Alfredo Jiménez, music by Orches-tras of Baja California. 011-52-664-887-9636. Thursday, August 28, 8 p.m., $25-$35. Centro Cultural Tijuana, Avenida de los Héroes and Mina Street.

Tijuana Tattoo Expo Artists from countries including Holland, Mexico, France will be featured at this year’s expo. Master Horiiwaka will discuss Japanese tattoo technique. Boog will host Flash Design seminar. Tattoo contests, live entertainment. 1-888-775-2417. Saturday, August 30.


Motel In concert. 619-734-2333. Saturday, August 30, 9 p.m.; El Foro, Seventh and Avenida Revolución, downtown.

Tijuana Tattoo Expo Artists from countries including Holland, Mexico, France will be featured at this year’s expo. Master Horiiwaka will discuss Japanese tattoo technique. Boog will host Flash Design seminar. Tattoo contests, live entertainment. 1-888-775-2417. Saturday, August 30, noon; $6. Grand Hotel Tijuana, Boulevard Agua Caliente 4500.
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Friday, September 5 • 6:30 pm
Scottish Rite Center
1895 Camino Del Rio South, Mission Valley

Saturday, September 6 • 11 am
California Center for the Arts
1 Civic Center Dr., San Marcos, CA 92065

Looking for a night out? Come engage yourself in the splendor of Alaska. AAA and Holland America are hosting this event designed to provide our members with all the information you need to know about planning your next vacation to this remarkable land.

Call one of your local AAA offices to reserve your space for this event:

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3330 Vista Way
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12630 Sabre Springs Pkwy
(858) 780-8088

Rancho San Diego
3605 Avocado Boulevard
(619) 680-3770

San Diego/Mission Valley
2440 Hotel Circle North
(619) 681-1570

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What are you reading?

“Guitar: Music History Players” by Richard Chapman. It’s a history of guitar players and of the guitar itself. It goes through every type of musical genre you might hear a guitar in — blues, country, rock. It’s got full bios on the guitar players. It gives you an idea of what made them tick, what inspired them, what instruments they used.

What are your favorite parts?

“Always about one person” — David Gilmour of Pink Floyd. I always want to know what makes him tick — there are all these different takes on him. This is the first book that actually told me what his style was — he plays Progressive Blues Rock.

Have you read anything else lately?

“I just picked up The Complete Works of the Brothers Grimm. It’s nice to see how the stories were originally written, before Disney and everyone else had their own kind of happy, cheery ways with them. For instance, Sleeping Beauty — the story is only two or three pages long. They get to the point and don’t waste time with a lot of filler. Basically, in the Grimm version, a woman got mad and cursed the princess by making her and the entire kingdom fall asleep for 100 years. And then a lot of guys died trying to get through the thorny bushes to break the curse. The Grims actually say that the guys died.

What book or work has been the most life-changing for you?

“Music, and the lyrics of music, have always been inspiring for me. I think I’d say ‘Comfortably Numb’ by Pink Floyd. It’s from 1979, a very classic song; the lyrics are emotionally moving. When I listen, there’s this passion. The band is progressive, a living entity — the lyrics get better as they go.”

Do you have a favorite author?

“I like the authors of the classics. As a kid, I had instilled in me the idea that you must know the past because if you don’t, you can’t have a changed future. I like Tolkien’s work, but it’s short-lived. Shakespeare’s stories have a timelessness — if you reword them with common terminology, the stories still make sense and are still enjoyable. I’m more into his darker stuff. But for my favorite, I’d probably go with Edgar Allen Poe. He’s poetic; there are so many sides to his work — it’s not all depressing, the way some people think it is.”

Do you read any magazines or newspapers?

“I read the basic area paper; it goes through to the end, and about half of them most of the way through.”

Do you talk to your friends about reading?

“There are a few who read on the boat. In my group, I’m one of the lesser bookworms. I’m selective about what I read. I can’t just get into anything. If I talk about a book, I like to go into details and really critique it, talking about what was done right and what was done wrong; what details were left out and what stuff didn’t need to be included in the first place.”

NAME: MORGAN MEDRANO | AGE: 24 | OCCUPATION: NAVY
NEIGHBORHOOD: USS NIMITZ | WHERE INTERVIEWED: LESTATT’S COFFEEHOUSE, NORMAL HEIGHTS
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Death by PowerPoint—that’s what it’s called. Before you even begin, your audience is bracing for another unattractive and annoying onslaught of bullet slides. To compensate, you need to exceed expectations.

Enter the PowerPoint Live User Conference, the finest instruction in the world for presentation professionals, and it is here in San Diego this fall. You’ll learn much more than just how to avoid ugly slides—you’ll learn how to be more productive and efficient, how to craft a better message, and how to deliver that message more effectively. If everyone attended PowerPoint Live, the program would not have such a bad reputation. You can escape that fate by reserving one of our remaining seats today.

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Visit the hands-on Help Center, staffed all day with PowerPoint experts.
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He broke open the Watergate conspiracy.
Now John Dean, former Nixon White House counsel, author/commentator, tackles another hot topic:

The PowerPoint of Politics 2008

Two months until the November election. Over 60 percent of American voters want better choices for candidates and parties. Why are voters frustrated by campaigns in the information age? How did it get this way? What can be done about it?
Come to an informative discussion on how political messages are presented and manipulated. And why some political parties are better at it than others.

Leading panelists:
John Dean: political author, commentator, former chief counsel in President Nixon’s White House, major figure in Watergate history. Author of Blind Ambition: Worse Than Watergate, Conservatives Without Conscience. Tony Hale: South Bay Los Angeles political activist/field operations chief, nearly 30 years experience. Executive Board Member of the California Democratic Party and delegate to 2008 State Democratic Convention.

Panel talk and discussion
Tuesday, September 23, 2pm
at DoubleTree Mission Valley
Day passes available to visit the Expo and all other seminars and workshops at PowerPoint Live.

San Diego Reader August 28, 2008
**San Diego Reader**

**Calendar**

**LOCAL EVENTS**

inside Gate 4, off Pacific Highway. Witherby Street and Hancock Street, 619-524-6038. (DOWNTOWN)

Marston House Museum  
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)

New Americans Museum in NTC Promenade  
Opening exhibitions include Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service’s “Becoming American: Young and Immigrant Photography by Barbara Reime.” Exhibit features black-and-white photo “interviews” by Reime who traveled through San Diego and U.S. capturing teenagers’ responses to immigrant experience. Also on view: “A Contemporary Story: Perspectives by Immigrant Youth to use photography and other media to share their stories.” 2825 Dewey Road, Suite 102, 619-235-8908. (POINT LOMA)

Parsonage Museum of Lemon Grove  
“The Sonka Brothers General Store” is recreation of store said to have “kick-started the post-agricultural economy of Lemon Grove.” Exhibit includes post office, array of domestic and farm artifacts, photographs, furnishings. “Domestic Life in Lemon Grove: 1915” showcases furnishings, clothing, and artifacts from Lemon Grove ranches and homes, along with photographs of early residents and historic buildings. “The Parson’s Study” is a permanent Arts and Crafts installation. 3185 Olive Street, 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

San Diego Air and Space Museum  
“Star Trek: The Exhibition” is said to contain “the brary of cylindrical recordings. 3185 Olive Street, 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

**Reuben H. Fleet Science Center**  
“Tinkering” features more than 20 hands-on exhibits bringing out “your inner inventor” with pulleys, computer circuits, turntables, wind tunnels, more. In the “Tinkering Studio,” kids transform household items into catapults, robots, spectroscopes, more. Closes June 7, 2009.

**Local Events**

Free ESL class every Wednesday 2-3 pm. Anyone welcome!

*W/ this ad. New students only. Not valid w/ any other offer. Exp. 9/30/08.

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Enjoy hands-on exhibits, videos and interactive media, specimens, and artifacts that will forever change your view and appreciation of this common yet invaluable substance.

July 19 through November 30, 2008

SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
Your Nature Connection | www.sdnhm.org

Reprinted by the American Museum of Natural History (amnh.org) and the Science Museum of Minnesota, in collaboration with the San Diego Natural History Museum, Erie Lake Science Center, The Field Museum, Malcolm Sargent (She-who, Shear), Natural Museum in Australia, Royal Ontario Museum, and Science City Singapore with VIPS Singapore.
The museum offers exhibits of over 65 aircraft — including an R-2K Predator UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) on indefinite loan from the National Museum of the United States Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, which "saw action over the Balkans in the late 1990s," a replica of Spirit of St. Louis, a Folker Scourge (or Folker Eindecker E-III), a World War I Spad VII, flight deck of the USS Yorktown, and a Lockheed Blackbird spy plane — 1400 scale models, 10,000 aviation-related items, and memorabilia from Montegue hot-air-balloon era to Space Age, along with an International Aeronautic Hall of Fame. The museum is located in the Ford Building in the Palauea area.

San Diego Archaeological Center “What is Archaeology?” exhibit provides basics of archaeology in San Diego region from 9000 years ago to present day. Artifacts from center’s collections provide a look at past for young and old alike. Treasure hunt activity “archeology quest” for kids, artifact matching game, hands-on crafts and research station. Closes Tuesday, July 21, 2009.

San Diego Automotive Museum “Motocross America: The Early Years,” continuing through Thursdays, September 25, shows history of motocross, traces evolution of the sport with memorabilia and over 60 off-road machines owned and raced by legends of the sport. A BMW R-1200 GS Adventure bike is on display in lobby. “Hall of Heroes” pays tribute to decades of American racing champions.

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

San Diego Hall of Champions Ongoing exhibits include "Bird Watching — Tony Hawk in Flight," "Surfing in San Diego," exhibits of baseball card art, fencing, local rugby history. The museum is dedicated to promoting, recognizing, and preserving athletic achievement. 2131 Pan American Plaza, 619-234-2544.
picting the extraordinary contribution the Navy has made to the history of the San Diego region. The museum features permanent exhibits documenting the history of San Diego’s waterfront and the building of the West Coast by sea, the old San Diego-Coronado ferryboats, the tuna-fishing industry, and the military. The museum fleet consists of the 1863 bark Star of India, the 1889 San Francisco ferryboat Berkeley, and the 1904 Scottish steam yacht Medusa. The HMS Surprise, used in film Master and Commander, is permanently on exhibit; see artifacts, costumes, props used in making of the flick. Also open for touring: a B-39 Soviet attack submarine, among the largest conventionally powered submarines ever built. This Project 641/Foxtrot class diesel-electric submarine was designed to project 641/Foxtrot class diesel-electric submarines ever built. This Project 641/Foxtrot class diesel-electric submarine was designed to

San Diego Museum of Man

“People, Prints, and Politics: China 1920-1980” features work by Chinese artist and scholar Xian Rang. Yong from Shandong Province. Yong utilizes Chinese art of woodblock printing to create compelling portraits, landscapes, depictions of cultural activities, political posters. Closed Sunday, October 19. “Beyond Reasonable Drought” examines “ways in which culture and climate are intimately connected today as they always have been.” Exhibition examines how water resources have affected populations, cultures. “Gods and Gold: Ancient Treasures from Mexico to Peru” showcases museum’s collections of Mexican, Central American, and South American archaeological objects. Rare gold and jewelry, woodcarving, folk art, katsinas, bone and ivory implements, shields, textiles. In “Artists Speak: Contemporary Art from Ghana and Zimbabwe,” museum has partnered with artists from Ghana and Zimbabwe to showcase paintings and sculpture by accomplished African artists. Permanent anthropology exhibit “Footsteps through Time: Four Million Years of Human Evolution” features “more than a hundred touchable replicas of early humans, primates, and future cyborgs (part human, part machine).” 1350 El Prado, 619-239-2001. (sdsu.edu)

San Diego Tugboat Museum

A 100-foot retired Korean War-era tugboat built in 1951 is open for tours at museum. Boat is docked along Harbor Drive, between Grape Street and Broadway. Harbor Drive, 619-200-7417. (tugboatmuseum.org)

San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park

Commemorates the clash (on December 6, 1846) during the Mexican War between the U.S. Dragoons, bolstered by sailors and volunteers from San Diego, and California militia. Narrated slide-show screens throughout the day, telling the story of the war in Mexico and California. Self-guided tour recounts the events of the battle and profiles the leaders of the forces and also describes the lives of the Indians indigenous to the valley. 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road, 760-737-2201. (sda.org)

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**Classical Listings**

**How to Send Us Your Listings:** Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number, and a phone number (including area code) for public information to READER CLASSICAL MUSIC, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92118-8580. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SDReader.com by clicking on the events section.

**Classical Events**

*“1812 Tchaikovsky Spectaculars*" San Diego Symphony Summer Pops season closes with concerts led by Matthew Garbutt. Principal cello Yoo Zhao performs Tchaikovsky’s “Variations on a Rococo Theme.” Evenings conclude with fireworks. 619-235-0804. Embarcadero Marina Park South (206 Marina Park Way), 7:30 p.m. Friday through Sunday, August 29-31. (DOWNTOWN)

Piano Recital Students of Azhak Luxembourg will perform selections by Bach, Beethoven, Massenet, Chopin, more. 619-298-5313. PianoSD.com (1233 Camino Del Rio South), 4 p.m., Saturday, August 30. (MOUNTAIN VALLEY)

Organ Concert Civic organist Carol Williams in concert. 619-702-8138. Spreckels Organ Pavilion (221 Pan American Way), 2 p.m., Sunday, August 31. (BALBOA PARK)

**Art Listings**

**How to Send Us Your Listings:** Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number, and a phone number (including area code) for public information to READER CLASSICAL MUSIC, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92118-8580. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SDReader.com by clicking on the events section.

**Art Galleries**

*Looking and Listening: Conversations After Katrina* Artist Anna O’Cain’s emotional, installation piece examining effects of Hurricane Katrina. Free parking in designated spaces within Lot #1, 619-644-7299. Hyde Art Gallery at Grossmont College (8800 Grossmont College Drive), 7 p.m., Tuesday, September 2. (GROSSMONT COLLEGE)

*RUTY* Leslie Nemours’s paintings explore mass media’s effect on society. Free parking in designated spaces within Lot #1, 619-644-7299. Hyde Art Gallery at Grossmont College (8800 Grossmont College Drive), 7 p.m., Tuesday, September 2. (GROSSMONT COLLEGE)

*Athenaeum Annual Juried Exhibition* The Athenaeum hosts its annual exhibition to select a List of Members’ Choice Award winner. Pieces by 36 San Diego artists will be on display. A list members may cast their votes to select this year’s winner. Singer-songwriter Kornel Falilut performs. 858-454-5872. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street), 7:30 p.m., Thursday, August 28. (LA JOLLA)

Brian Davis Reception Master floral painter’s light-infused oil paintings will be on display. Artist will be present for dedications of artwork acquired during event. Refreshments provided. Reservation. 888-294-8800. Chuck Jones Gallery (2501 San Diego Avenue). 5 p.m., Saturday, August 30. (MIDDLE TOWN)

**Art Museums**


Mingei International Museum “Hungarian Folk Magic — The Art of Joseph Domjan” includes pieces, printers, and objects from the collection’s 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 12.

"India Adorned" features selections from museum’s Stephen Huyler Collection. Exhibit “reveals the colorful diversity of Indian creative expression, presenting an evocative collection of works that are used in the daily routine of a typical Indian family — objects of worship, personal and domestic adornment, utility, and recreation.” Closes Sunday, April 19, 2009.

"Forms in Wood and Fiber" Southern California New Work features work of six distinguished San Diego wood artists and many California fibers members. "Both fresh perspectives on traditional forms and cutting-edge contemporary art will be included in works of superior design and craftsmanship." Participating artists include Wendy Mansaray, Russ Filbeck, Patrick Edwards, Del Cover, Brett Hesser, and Gene Blackmond. Closes Sunday, January 14. El Prado, 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

Mingei International Museum — North County “Art of Play: Kinetic Toys of the World” — closing Sunday, September 14 — features objects that more when manipulated. Sets made in 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 “Hu-man/Nature: Artists Respond to a Changing Planet,” uses contemporary art to investigate relationships between fragile natural environments and human communities depending upon them. Collaborative multiyear exhibition project sent eight artists to eight UNESCO World Heritage sites around globe to complete multi-instance, create new work informed and inspired by their experiences in these diverse cultural and natural regions.

**Become Famous!**

We publish the names of all those who get the Reader crossword puzzle correct.

We also publish comments from those who get the puzzle correct, such as “Go Chargers.”

“This puzzle was too easy.” “Zonies go home!”

And we list the number of weeks you have submitted the correct puzzle solution, placing the winners with the longest winning streak at the top!

The deadline for the puzzle to arrive at the Reader office by mail, fax, or hand delivery (we have a mailbox slot in our front door) is Monday at 7 am.

**Masseur Therapy Classes**

**Sports Massage** September 4

**Open House**

Wednesday, September 3, 9:30 am

Learn about our next Massage Technician program, only $780.

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Veterans and international students welcome!

Oceanside Museum of Art
“The Vibrant Edge: Paintings of Karl Benjamin from the 1960s, ‘70s, and ‘80s” — closing on Sunday, October 19 — illustrates how this West Coast painting icon became known as one of the founding fathers of Hard Edge.” Benjamin, whose oeuvre spans more than half a century, says, “Color is the subject matter of painting.”

San Diego Museum of Art Touring exhibition “Georgia O’Keeffe and the Women of the Singing Circle” boasts more than 80 pieces, including work by O’Keeffe, Gertrude Kasebier, Pamela Colman Smith, Anne Brigman, and Katherine Rhoades. These artists were “interested in redefining the identity of the modern woman and explored the changing themes of femininity in modernism.” On view through Sunday, September 28.

“Eleanor Antin: Historical Takes,” on display through Sunday, November 2, focuses on Antin’s recent series of large-scale tableaux photographs based on Greek and Roman history and mythology, presented together for first time. “The three series are comprised of comic and psychologically complex melodramatic enactments of actual and fictional classical narratives.”

“Visible Places: Works by Women on Paper” — continuing through Wednesday, November 12 — showcases works from SDMA’s collection. The early-to-mid 20th-Century pieces offer historical framework allowing consideration of how artistic styles changed over time, reflect active participation of women in the social and political currents of the period. Artists included are Mary Cassatt, Katie Kolwitz, Isabel Bishop, Barbara Hepworth, Leonora Carrington. Exhibit includes “Spatial Gestures,” focusing on abstract works by contemporary women artists acquired by museum between 2006 and present.


Timken Museum of Art Permanent collection includes: European old master paintings, 18th and 19th-Century American paintings, and Russian icons. Saint Barbara’s, only the Rembrandt painting on public display in San Diego, is featured. 1000 El Prado, 619-239-5548. (BALBOA PARK)
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Please drink responsibly.
Ziggy Marley; MTV filmed a Total Request Live segment there that year. Last year the club hosted a show by country artist Blake Shelton, and a Good Charlotte show sold out.

This year the 1100-capacity WaveHouse located in Belmont Park presented 15 shows, including Eek-A-Mouse, Ozomotli….and Unwritten Law plays there on September 6. In previous years, all three of those headliners performed at Canes (900 capacity), which is owned the WaveHouse, which, Leitstein acknowledges, is an awkward landlord/tenant relationship.

To ensure the WaveHouse got its share of the talent pool, earlier this year the venue hired entertainment director Shane Berry (formerly of 4th&8) and talent buyer Diana Martinez (formerly of Belly Up, House of Blues) to book its summertime series. Lochtefeld spokeswoman Heidi Hoff says that most of the WaveHouse shows were booked in-house, while a few were brought in by Clear Channel.

“The WaveHouse killing it because they have a 30-foot by 50-foot stage, and it’s outdoors by the boardwalk,” says one musician/businessman who has dealt with the WaveHouse. “They also have that wave machine going during the concerts, which adds more visuals. But because they are outside, they have to stop the music by 10 o’clock on weekdays and midnight on weekends.”

Rumors have spread that the WaveHouse has been trying to take over Canes. Hoff says she has no comment on any takeover plans her boss may have. Leitstein would only say that he is in negotiations with Lochtefeld.

“What they want to do,” says Leitstein, “is have the WaveHouse be a prototype so they can sell this concept [live bands in an outdoor setting next to a wave machine] internationally.”

Leitstein says his landlord is “well within his legal rights” to book the bands that have played at Canes. But is it ethical? “I think that’s up for the readers to decide.”

— Ken Leighton

The Other Man On August 10, Sherman Oaks–based 43-year-old character actor Shelley Malil, best known for a role in 2005’s 40-Year Old Virgin, allegedly stabbed former girlfriend Kendra Beebe 20 times at her San Marcos home.

With her two children asleep upstairs, Beebe had been having dinner on her back patio with local flamenco guitarist David Maldonado. After Malil approached the patio uninvited and began stabbing her from behind, Maldonado was able to wrest the knife from Malil and throw it over a fence before he ran inside to call police.

According to the North County Times, when Maldonado had to leave the house to determine the address, Malil obtained another knife from the kitchen and continued his attack on Beebe. Malil chased her onto her front porch but relented after a neighbor persuaded him to drop the knife.

On August 12, Malil was arrested at the Oceanside Amtrak train station. The next day, he pleaded not guilty to attempted-murder charges. Malil’s bail was set at $10 million, more than double what prosecutors had been asking for, in part because he was considered a flight risk, but also because the attack involved two victims.

Malil faces seven years to life for the crime. Both Maldonado and his spokesperson declined to comment for this story. Police reports indicate that Maldonado was injured during the scuffle, but if so, it wasn’t too serious.

Part of a musical family that includes brothers Luis and Hector, Maldonado has not missed any performances. Beebe remains hospitalized at Palomar Medical Center with injuries that include two punctured lungs and stab wounds to the throat. Meanwhile, Malil’s celebrity status has resulted in him being moved from out of the general inmate population at the Vista jail to a segregated unit of San Diego’s Central Jail. No trial date has been set.

— Bart Mendoza
THE most INTERESTING MAN in the WORLD on GROOMING

THOSE WHO SPEND too much TIME SHAVING BELOW the ADAM’S APPLE HAVE too much TIME.
Armed with Headphones

“Eyes on first class from Cleveland to San Diego! Will I return or stay, though my enemies don’t want me to go! From snow to sunshine, it never rains, they lied! But I rather move on with pride, and no reason to apologize” (M-Double-A-L, “No Apologies”).

“Hip-hop is the bastard child of the San Diego music scene,” says Cleveland transplant M-Double-A-L. “In some cases, it’s viewed with fear and apprehensiveness; it’s similar to Cleveland in that both cities aren’t known for hip-hop, but both in fact have a lot going on underground.”

After moving to San Diego in 2002, he says, “I saw a heavy indie-rock presence, but I was trying to find hip-hop culture in SD. I stumbled across the Hot Monkey Love Cafe, [where] they had open-mike nights, emcee battles, break dancing, and deejaying. After involving myself, I found out about groups such as the Icons, Deep Rooted, as the Icons, Deep Rooted, found out about groups such as the Icons, Deep Rooted, armed with a CD player and headphones, I let anyone who wanted to listen to the music, and some would even buy the album released in October. He appears September 24 at RT’s Longboard Bar and Grill in P.B.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Caught Him with the Cocaine

Defamation League MC Chaz Lomack, 22, was to begin serving a four-month jail sentence on August 14 when he got a last-minute reprieve: the day before, he was given three weeks to return or stay, (cocaine).

Lomack says he plans to gig with his band as soon as he gets out, but there might be a hitch: “I’m not allowed to go into any bars for three and a half years; it’s part of my probation. I am assuming they would let me [go to a bar] if I am performing.”

Ken Lefighton

Sex and Veggies

Def League has released two CDs; Lomack says he and his bandmates plan to collaborate on their third CD through visitations at the halfway house and at his jobs.

“They have to let you have visitation,” says Def League guitarist Nick Sleezin’. “There is no harm in listening to headphones; you can’t get high by listening to headphones.” Sleezin’ says the rest of the band will record the instrumental tracks, and Lomack will add his vocals when he gets out.

“We’re staying away from rap,” says Lomack. “We play instruments now. There are beats, but they are now done with a full band. We added a bassist and a drummer. We’re not making any more hip-hop albums.”

Lomack says he plans to gig with his band as soon as he gets out, but there might be a hitch: “I’m not allowed to go into any bars for three and a half years; it’s part of my probation. I am assuming they would let me [go to a bar] if I am performing.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Source Family ended with Father Yod’s 1975 death in a hang-gliding accident. According to Nielsen, “Family members went their own ways, but in recent years they’ve reconnected to publish oral histories of the group and stage concerts…. We use Yod’s chants and snippets of wisdom on the new album to hopefully re-create the atmosphere the Family felt during their morning meditations.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

CONTRIBUTORS

William Cain, Dave Good, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemminger, Ken Leighton, Ryan Leyko, Bart Meldrum, Derek flank, Eric Rife, Jay Allen Sanford, David Stampone

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10/27 Sons of Anarchy

10/28 The Mountain Goats & Kali King

10/29 Los Straitjackets

10/30 Cowboy Mouth

10/31 Halloween Heat w/80s Heat & Metro

11/06 Keller Williams

11/13 Galactic

11/16 Elisa

11/20 The Bacon Brothers

11/22 Young Dubliners Celtic Christmas

UPCOMING SHOWS:

9/22 Anthony B

10/18 Skatalites

11/7 Roger Clyne & The Peacemakers

11/12 Grace Potter & The Nocturnals

10/6 Nick Lowe

10/9 Joni Earle

10/10 My Morning Jacket

10/12 Bob Dylan

10/13 Pete Seeger

10/14 Black Keys w/Nick Waterhouse

10/15 Joe Walsh

10/16 The Band w/Tomatohead

10/17 The Motels

10/18 The Black Keys w/Nick Waterhouse

10/19 John Prine

10/20 Joe Walsh

10/21 The Black Keys w/Nick Waterhouse

10/22 The Black Keys w/Nick Waterhouse

10/23 President of the United States of America

10/24 The Black Keys w/Nick Waterhouse

10/25 Atomic Punks

10/26 SB Lifeguards Benefit

10/27 Sons of Anarchy

10/28 The Mountain Goats & Kali King

10/29 Los Straitjackets

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10/31 Halloween Heat w/80s Heat & Metro

11/06 Keller Williams

11/13 Galactic

11/16 Elisa

11/20 The Bacon Brothers

11/22 Young Dubliners Celtic Christmas

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5-7 The Fabulous Pelicans

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Thursday 28

Seattle sludge-rockers the Melvins merge with Big Business and overtake Canes tonight. Mainstay Melvins Buzzo and Dale joined L.A. duo Big Business for '01's (A) Smile Animal, a two-drummer assault on the band's Zeppelin-meets-Spinal Tap tag.

This summer’s indie release Nude with Roots hones the big bass drums into a more listenable mix with their signature guitar drip. There’s even a hint of old-school heavy-metal harmonies in Buzzo’s overdrive. Check the Space takes for their latest and early-'90s disc Houdini and Stoner Witch for what made them great. Last year’s American Music Association “Artist of the Year” Patti Griffin appears at Belly Up. The folk singer is a favored songwriter among country-rock and pop elite, having been covered by Emmylou Harris, Dixie Chicks, Linda Ronstadt, Betty Midler, and on. Griffin’s out in support of her new Grammy-nominated disc Children Run Through. Langhorne, PA's favorite son Langhorne Slim and his band the War Eagles will set the Solana Beach stage.

Chicago psych-rock quartet Mannenquin Men are out West for LA’s Fuck Yeah Fest (that’s band). Check out MAM's recommendable sophomore set Fresh Rot — Black Francis fronting the Stooges? They'll kick off a Left Coast swing at Bar Pink this April. They'll be playing with Cali wonder-kid Jackie Greene will be giving up the ghost at Anthology. Since his solo dropped, Greene’s been frequenting Late Night with Conan and toured in Phil Lesh’s latest Dead revival... Best of the bar bills: Local indie trio Writer celebrate a CD release, dropping melodic-pop Blood Drops on Whistle Stop. Joel P. West in support... Pocket empties jazz-n-funk on Bar Pink. Jimmy Dean and the Sausage Kings headline a rockabilly bill at O’Connell’s... and the Millenaries and MC Flow roll through Beauty Bar.

Friday 29

Former Soundgarden, Audioslave Chris Cornell delivers new solo songs to House of Blues. The guitarist/singer's got decent range but kills when he kicks that voicebox into overdrive. Dude rocked Bond, James Bond with his soundtrack hit in Casino Royale. “You Know My Name...” “Come together in a relative way” when pop-n-bop locals Get Back Loretta get back to Casbah Friday night. The SOMA recipients are up for another this year. With Vision of a Dying World and Bloodnok. And don’t miss Detroit duo Silverghost, who haunt the Atrai… Speaking of ghosts, Cali wonder-kid Jackie Greene will be giving up the ghost at Anthology. Since his solo dropped, Greene’s been frequenting Late Night with Conan and toured in Phil Lesh’s latest Dead revival... Best of the bar bills: Local indie trio Writer celebrate a CD release, dropping melodic-pop Blood Drops on Whistle Stop. Joel P. West in support... Pocket empties jazz-n-funk on Bar Pink. Jimmy Dean and the Sausage Kings headline a rockabilly bill at O’Connell’s... and the Millenaries and MC Flow roll through Beauty Bar.

Saturday 30

Surf troubadour Jack Johnson is this week’s big ticket at the Cricket. The Hawaiian hit is out behind his solo drop. The duo rolled live to an analog, no effects or overdubs, no whack.

This year’s SXSW, split the bill... Otherwise: Hip-hop Hitman Ice Cube’s always there for the love. The duo rolled live to an analog, no effects or overdubs, no whack.

Sunday 31

94/10 hosts a freebie for the Secret Scooter Society’s 25th anniversary. They’ll be rolling down to Casbah (plenty of scooter space out front of the club) to sit with mod DIs in the Atari Lounge. Manual Scan, Self Made Men, and Downs Family play the main stage and, after all, live Wire pops spin holiday-one dance jams till dawn... it’s been pissing all weekend right night at Belly Up. How’s your aim? Dirty Dozen Brass Band and The Bonedaddys entertain the gamers... Austin experimentalists Mr. Lewis and the Funeral 5 rock a punk-tango-timp on last year’s Murder and the Art of Dance. The band’ll bear that pull to Bar Pink. (What’s a pull?) Beauty Bar books hot ones the New Up, Secret Apollo, and Burning of Rome... and locals Wilt (their last show!), Colour Revolt, Wild Weekend, and Boomknocks infiltrate into campus club Che Cafe.

Monday 1

“Right on time, like hair on a biscuit.” You’re gonna crack that whip at Del Mar Racetrack Saturday night. Show’s free with paid track tix... Chapel Hill’s Polvo will play “guitar-based soundtracks to kung fu movies” when they hit Casbah Saturday night. The Touch & Go act dropped off the musical map in the ‘90s, but noise-rock’s back and so’s this essential quartet. Lend a bleating ear to 1996’s Exploited Drawing. Bethesda Thrill Hockey trio Trans Am split the bill behind their latest synth-pop set Sex Change. Roxy Jones opens... like: All-rock acts Republic of Letters and A.M. Yibe dial in at the Ken. The Prayers punch throwback pop at Whistle Stop and Manuok, Evacuee (SanFran), Joshua Lanes, and the Pentacles fill a bill at Chasers.

West End 4

Mogwai brings Lemmy and the latest line-up to House of Blues behind their 200h studio disc Motocaster. The trio will rev it up at Ashbourne, Valmont Tobr.
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THIS WEEK’S SHOWS

4th & B: 345 B Street, Downtown, 619-231-4343.
Thursday, 8 p.m. — Ice Cube. Rap/hip-hop.

710 Beach Club: 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-7844.

Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-395-0000.
Thursday, 9 p.m. — The Dirty Dozen Brass Band. With the Rudecaddys. Jazz/jazz/funk. $14-$16.
Tuesday, 9 p.m. — Lee “Scratch” Perry. With the Devastators. Reggae/dub/techno. $20-$22.
Wednesday, 9 p.m. — The Howls, Scarlet Symphony, the Windtalkers. Rock/experimental/punk. $8.

Bistro D’Vine: 3709 Avocado Road, Rancho San Diego, 619-660-2222.
Thursday, 6 p.m. — David Burnett. Jazz.

The Bitter End: 770 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-9300.
Thursday, 9 p.m. — New Colossus and Dreamtiger. With Jesse Nova. Indie/rock/blues.
Tuesday, 10 p.m. — Radiostar. Eighties new-wave rock.
Wednesday, 10 p.m. — Maddox Revolution. Pop/rock/jazz.

Bonic Bar and Kitchen: 333 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-342-0212.
Sunday, 3 p.m. — Jordan Reimer and Brandon Rice. With Sam Bybee and Astra Kelly. Acoustic/folk/pop.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Burnett Avenue, Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.
Thursday, 8 p.m. — Opus Dai and Breakhouse. With Someday Assassin. Rock/metal/punk. $5.
Friday, 8 p.m. — New American Mob. CD-release show with Rebel Rebel, the Strangers, the Whiskey Dickens, and the Fakes. Punk/rock/metal. $7.
Saturday, 8 p.m. — Stumline Theorit and One Lonely Robot. With New Day Mile. Alternative rock/indie. $7.

Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. — Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind. Contemporary jazz/global music.

Canes: 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780.
Thursday, 9 p.m. — Stranger, High Tide, Psydecar. Reggae/rock/hip-hop. $12.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — Little Brother and Wykle Bunch. Hip-hop/rap/soul. $20.
**Calendar**

**MUSIC**

**Sunday**
5 p.m. — Atomic Punks. A tribute to Van Halen. With Damage Inc. and Just Like Priest. $15.

**The Casbah**
2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-4355.
Thursday, 8:30 p.m. — Kill Me Tomorrow and Max Fields. With Fantastic Magic. Experimental/pop/rock. $8.
Friday, 10 p.m. — Gor Back Loreta and BoomSnake. With Vision of a Dying World and Silverghost. Alternative/pop/rock. $8.
Saturday, 8 p.m. — Neil Halstead and Miranda Lee Richards. Indie/folk. $12.
Tuesday, 8:30 p.m. — Middle Class But and Zombie Surf Camp. Alternative/rock/surf. Wednesday, 8:30 p.m. — The Wombats and Pop Nie. Pop/rock/electro. $10-$12.
**Ché Café**
9500 Gilman Drive, B-0323C, La Jolla, 858-534-2311.
Friday, 7:30 p.m. — Matt & Kim and Best Friends. With Doctor Bird. Electro/pop/rock. $8.
Sunday, 7:30 p.m. — BoomSnake and Witt. Indie/rock/pop. $6.
Monday, 8 p.m. — Past Lives and Kill It Tomorrow. With Goozles. Experimental/rock/pop. $7.
**Coyote Bar and Grill**
800 Cardiff Village Drive, Cardiff, 760-729-4095.
Saturday, 8 p.m. — Michele Lander & Blue Stratch. Blues/funk/rock.

**Festival of Beer**
Friday, September 19, 6-11 pm • Columbia & B Streets (Downtown)
The 14th Annual Festival of Beer
All proceeds benefit local cancer research and treatment efforts.

**Tuesday**
8:30 p.m. — Past Lives and Other. With Natsuki Tamura, Satoko Fujii, Norikatsu Koreyasu, and Akira Housoki. Jazz. $15.
**CoCo’s**
801 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-4355.
Thursday, 8 p.m. — Pocket. Soul/funk/jazz. $5.

**Del Mar Thoroughbred Club**
2260 Jimmy Durant Boulevard, Del Mar, 618-731-1141.

**Dirk’s Niteclub**
2762 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-469-3444.
Friday, Saturday — Full Exposure. Covers/standards.

**Dizzy’s**
100 Harbor Drive, Downtown, 858-270-7467.
Sunday, 7 p.m. — Sotoko Fujii ma-do. With Natsuki Tamura, Sotoko Fujii, Norikatsu Koreyasu, and Akira Housoki. Jazz. $15.

**Choy’s**
200 Harbor Drive, Downtown, 858-227-8131.
Saturday, Sunday — Likeweek and Actual Size.

**Embarcadero Marina Park South**
206 Marina Park Way, 619-235-7888.
Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 7:30 p.m. — 1612 Tchaikovsky Spectaculars. San Diego Symphony Summer Pops season closes with concerts led by Matthew Garbutt. Principal cello Yao Zhao performs Tchaikovsky’s "Variations on a Rococo Theme." Evenings conclude with fireworks. 619-226-7662. $7-$15. $15-$175.
**Epicentre**
8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-271-4000.
Thursday, 7 p.m. — Orangello. CD-release show with the Material, RX Bandits, and Akira Horikoshi. Jazz. $15.

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**PORTUGAL, THE MAN**

**BY DAVE GOOD**

“it comes up all the time,” John Gourley says via telephone when I ask him to explain the name of his band. They call themselves “Portugal. The Man.” “It’s pretty off the wall, but at the time when we were coming up with a band name it made perfect sense to us.” Gourley says they wanted to give the band a “larger-person feel, like Ziggy Stardust or Sgt. Pepper.” I feel sheepish. At first I actually thought that “Portugal. The Man” was a dude, much the way my parents thought Jethro Tull because everybody listens to the Beatles, but I love every album.” He says Abbey Road is his favorite. Portugal’s sound is experimental avant-pop rock with a smattering of soul. “When I was in high school and first starting to drive by myself, I listened to Wu Tang in the car, and I recognized their soul and R&B roots. They took the best and chopped it up and made music that transcended all that.” Gourley says he finally left Alaska when he turned 21. That’s when he began touring with his band. “Up until then,” he says, “I was too shy to play music.”

**KX Bandits headline.**

**PORTUGAL, THE MAN**

**Soma, Saturday, August 30, 8 p.m. 619-226-7662. $7 advance; $13 door.**
Friday, Saturday — Loudstone. Classic rock/metal.
The Ferry Landing
Marketplace: 1201 First Street, Coronado, 619-435-8895.
Saturday, 2 p.m. — Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind. With Baggle Taggle. Contemporary jazz/global music.
The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant: 544 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-222-9840.
Restaurant: The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant.
Friday — Alternative/pop/punk.
Thursdays — Fuzz-Huzzi.
The Kraken: 251 South Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-436-6483.
Saturday — Ghost Riders and the Travel Agents. Rock.
McP’s Irish Pub and Grill: 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-5280.
Thursday, 6:30 p.m. — 4 Way Street. Friday, 9 p.m. — The Taylor Harvey Band. Bluegrass/rock.
Saturday, 7 p.m. — Mystique. Jazz/Blues/Blues.
Sunday, 5 p.m. — 4 Way Street.
Saturday, 2 p.m. — The Hip Replacements. Rock.
Molly Malone’s: 1270 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-9050.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — Off Track and Don’t Say Vegas. With Staring for Gravity and Good Luck, Mr. Gorky. Alternative/rock/pop.
Sunday, 9 p.m. — River City. Folk/acoustic/indie.
Monday, 8 p.m. — Mystery Train. Pre-Invitational Blues Jam.
Wednesday, 5 p.m. — Chris Cornell. Classic rock.
Rockabilly/punk/country.
The Flying Bridge: 1105 North Coast Highway, Oceanside, 760-722-1131.
Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — The Lounge Butchers.
Georges on Fifth: 835 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-702-0444.
Friday, 6:30 p.m., Saturday, 6:30 p.m. — Peter the Prince of Piano. Piano/pop.
The Handlery Hotel and Resort: 901 Hotel Circle North, Mission Valley, 619-298-0511.
Thursday, 1 p.m. — Pool Party. With Lady Dottie & the Diamonds. Blues/soul/rock.
Friday, 8 p.m. — Alyssa Iacy. Acoustic/soul/folk rock.
Sunday, 12:30 p.m. — Lady Dottie & the Diamonds. Blues/soul/rock.
Wednesday, 5 p.m. — Christopher Dale and Friends. Acoustic/pop/rock.
Hilton San Diego: 1775 East Mission Bay Drive, Pacific Beach.
Thursday, 7 p.m. — Bill Sheeve, Steve Smith, Mark Smith. Jazz standards on the Acqua patio.
House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2833.
Friday, 7 p.m. — Chris Cornell. Alternative/rock/electro. $47-$62.
Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — La Grange. A tribute to ZZ Top. $10.
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. — Motorhead. With Airbourne, Valent Storm, and Tear Long Disaster. Metal/rock. $37-$47.
Humphrey’s Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577.
Friday, 9:30 p.m. — Rockola. Classic rock. $12.
Friday, 9 p.m. — West of 5. Covers classic to modern rock.
Jimmy Love’s: 672 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-395-0123.
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. — The Soul Revue. Jazz, dance, and top 40.
The Jumping Turtle: 1660 Capitain Road, San Marcos, 760-741-7778.
Thursday — The Actual Proof and Music Diffusion. With Real Brew and the Motives.
Rock/funk/alternative.
Friday — Dying Regret and Uplifted in Red. With Star’d Sanity and From Dan Dark. Metal/hardcore.
Saturday, Sunday — Burning Star Metal Fest. With Imnomnatated Sorphon, Sentinel, Stiletto Silhouette, Dampyan, and more.
Metal/hardcore/indie.
Monday — Reggae Infusion Iris Time. Various reggae bands perform.
TUESDAY — Into Eternity. CD-release show with My Ruin, Shambulation, and Ana Kelli.
Metal/hardcore.
The Kensington Club: 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-284-2484.
Friday — The Posts and the Bugs. With Heavy Cesna and Drunkin Punkin Idiots. Garage/rock/punk.
Indie/rock/pop.
Sunday — Love or Perish and the New Dress. Punk/rock/folk.
The Kraken: 251 South Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-436-6483.
Saturday — Ghost Riders and the Travel Agents. Rock.
Sundays, 4 p.m. — The Blues Brokers. Blues/soul/rock.
Little Italy Spaghettiateria: 1933 India Street, Little Italy, 619-396-2974.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — Willwerallot. Smooth jazz.
The Lumberyard Shopping Center: 937 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 619-987-1277.
Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. — Keith Jacobson. In the central courtyard. Smooth-jazz saxophone.
Irish Pub and Grill: 1048 North Coast Highway 101, Solana Beach, 760-753-1077.
Thursday, 9 p.m. — The Sublime. Classic rock.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Zulu. Classic rock.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — 4 Way Street. Sunday, 5 p.m. — Laura Marie. Rock.
The Lumberyard Shopping Center: 937 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 619-987-1277.
Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. — Keith Jacobson. In the central courtyard. Smooth-jazz saxophone.
Irish Pub and Grill: 1048 North Coast Highway 101, Solana Beach, 760-753-1077.
Thursday, 9 p.m. — The Sublime. Classic rock.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Zulu. Classic rock.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — 4 Way Street. Sunday, 5 p.m. — Laura Marie. Rock.
Old Town State Historic Park: 6002 Wallace Street, Old Town, Sunday, 2 p.m. — The City Guard Band. Performances will be held in the plaza, selections range from Sousa marches to concert pieces.

Osetra: 904 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-226-1600. Thursdays, 8 p.m. — Live Jazz. In the ES Lounge. Thursday, 9:30 p.m. — The Farmers. Roots rock/Americana.

Prescott Promenade: 211 1/2 East Main Street, El Cajon. Friday, 6 p.m. — The Variations. Big band music for the Concerts on the Green, 411-8458.

RT’s Longboard Grill: 1308 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-566-4040. $15-$18.

Saturday

Blues Band. Blues/funk.

Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-464-9535.

Friday

Blues/soul/funk.

Saturday, September 6 • 7 pm


Seaport Park: 1130 Coast Boulevard, La Jolla. Sunday, 2 p.m. — The Heroes. Classic rock for conclusion of La Jolla Concerts by the Sea. 858-454-1600.

Seaport Village: 1600. Friday & Saturday

Classic rock for conclusion of La Jolla Concerts by the Sea. 858-454-1600.

Sunday, 1 p.m. — Nova. Covers/stands/dance.


Sunday

Orquesta Guarare. Latin/salsa.

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Orquesta Primo.

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This Saturday!
August 30
Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre
San Diego's Only Rooftop Restaurant & Premier Music Venue at the Beach!
Outdoor Oceanfront Dining
Lunch & Dinner • Weekend Breakfast
Happy Hour Mon.-Fri.
Plenty of FREE Parking
Private Parties & Banquets
canesbarandgrill.com
www.myspace.com/canesmusic
3105 Ocean Front Walk
MISSION BEACH
858.488.1780

California

Upcoming:
10/9 NaCalifa • 10/17 Iration • BFoundation • 10/18 Stranger
10/24 Lights (Journey Tribute) • 10/25 Devin the Dude • 11/7 Collie Buddz
11/8 Jedi Mind Tricks • 11/13 Method Man & Redman • 11/19 Mest

Outdoor Oceanfront Dining
Lunch & Dinner • Weekend Breakfast
Happy Hour Mon.-Fri.
Plenty of FREE Parking
Private Parties & Banquets
3105 Ocean Front Walk
MISSION BEACH
858.488.1780
www.myspace.com/canesmusic
Wayne Riker is a guitar teacher, and Fretfull should be lesson one because it’s inspirational. Riker makes it sound easy. (Just pick up a guitar, and after 30 years of dedicated study you too could be this good!)

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1st Street Bar: 710 Beach Club: 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-7844. September 11 — Glide Riders. September 18 — Breakhouse.

UPCOMING SHOWS
1st Street Bar: 656 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-944-0233.

The Fremonts • Bill Magee
Missy Andersen
Michele Lundeun
Len Rainey
Jam session at midnight

Saturday, September 6 — Ronny Baker
Sunday, September 7 — Mike McDonald
Monday, September 8 — John Cafferty
Tuesday, September 9 — The Road Dogs
Wednesday, September 10 — Waddy Wachtel
Thursday, September 11 — Dave Alvin
Friday, September 12 — The Sun Kings
Saturday, September 13 — Mike Lookinland
Sunday, September 14 — May 15
Monday, September 15 — The Mission
Tuesday, September 16 — The Fallers
Wednesday, September 17 — The Bells
Thursday, September 18 — The Mission
Friday, September 19 — The Fallers
Saturday, September 20 — The Bells
Sunday, September 21 — The Mission
September 12, September 13 — Crossroads.
September 18, September 20 — Laguna.
October 10, October 12 — Hype.
October 17, October 18 — Laguna.
November 1 — The Baytown Band.
November 7, November 8 — The Gold Dust Band.
November 14, November 15 — The Hype.
December 5, December 6 — The Gold Dust Band.
December 12, December 13 — The Hype.
January 5, January 6, February 6, February 7 — The Gold Dust Band.

October 25 — “Let’s Play.”

Oct 25
BrickbyBrick.com • (619)275-LIVE • 21 and up with ID

The Casbah: 2901 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-4355
September 4 — The Tighten Ups and the Shakespurs.
September 5 — Transfer, Hailjah, Moderna Rifles.
September 6 — Witch and Earthless.
September 7 — Burning of Rome and the Feelings Mutual.
September 8 — RoMaK & the Space Pirates.
September 9 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.
September 12 — Demasalido, Irradio, Firethorn.
September 13 — Lady Dottie & the Diamonds.
September 14 — The Smart Brothers and the Wrong Trouasers.
September 17 — Dr. Dog, Delta Spirit, Hacienda.
September 18 — The Wedding Present.
September 19 — Liam Finn and the Veils.
September 20 — Cash’d Out.
September 25 — Federico Autilio and Natalie Clavin.
September 26 — The Black Heart Procession.
September 27 — TSOUL and the Hollowpoints.
September 28 — Ra Ra Riot and Walter Mergo.
September 30 — Pattern Is Movement and Swim Party.
October 1 — The Sun Aclive Group.
October 2 — Tom Baxter and Charlie Winston.
October 3 — Tom Baxter and Charlie Winston.
October 4 — Local H.
October 5 — Cash’d Out.
October 6 — The Right Hands.
October 7 — The Lights of Sodom.
October 8 — The Black Heart Procession.
October 9 — The Hype.
October 10 — Doug Yule & the Space Pirates.
October 11 — RoMaK & the Space Pirates.
October 12 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.
October 14 — The Black Heart Procession.
October 15 — Tom Baxter and Charlie Winston.
October 17 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.
October 18 — Tom Baxter and Charlie Winston.
October 19 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.
October 20 — Tom Baxter and Charlie Winston.
October 21 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.
October 22 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.
October 23 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.
October 24 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.
October 25 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.
October 26 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.
October 27 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.
October 28 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.
October 29 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.
October 30 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.
October 31 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.

November 1 — The Baytown Band.
November 2 — T.E.L. and Birdmonster.
November 3 — The Rumble Strips.
November 4 — Magnetic Morning and Drew Drew.
November 5 — Sole & the Skyrider band.
November 6 — Electric Six and Local H.
November 7 — King Khan & the BBQ Show.
November 11 — Mudhoney.
November 15 — Mudhoney.
November 19 — Blitzen Trapper and the Parson Redheads.

Ché Café: 950 Gilman Drive, B-0232C, La Jolla, 858-534-2311.
September 10 — Therapy.
September 11 — Paperback Writer.
September 12 — Throw Me the Statue.
September 13 — Rat City Riot and Northern Towns.
September 20 — These Arms Are

Matt & Kim, August 28, Ché Café

Food, Music, Art & Friends...

Thurs., 8/28: Skelpin
Fri., 8/29: special guests Drowning Men
Sat., 8/30: TrackYourDeeds, Inc. presents “Beach Cruise for a Cause” — Grab Your Bikes!
When: 10 am • Start: 290 Seagaze Dr., Oceanside
End: Hensley’s Pub and Grill
All proceeds being donated to Voices for Children.
T.Y.D. will raffle Electra Beach Cruiser and other prizes.

Sun., 8/31: Brit-Pop DJ
Mon., 9/1: The Blokes
Tues., 9/2: Comedy Night
Wed., 9/3: Joe Wood

Sneak Peek
Sun., 9/14: Cranky George from the Pogues
**Labor Day Weekend**

**The SHOUT! House**

**Rock ’n Roll Sing-A-Long Dueling Pianos**

**1921 bacon street • db • 619-222-6822 • www.winstonsob.com**

**Upcoming: July 31-August 2**

- **7 PM**
  - **Tom Hester**

- **8 PM**
  - **Pigpen John**

- **9 PM**
  - **New Dayz**

**310 BEACH CLUB**

**WHERE GARNET ENDS HAPPY HOUR BEGINS**

**ANY BEER ANY SHOT $7.10 OPEN TO 2:00AM**

**Every Tues, @ 710 BC Game Night**

**Pitchers $7.10**

**Upcoming: July 28**

- **8 PM**
  - **Beach House Dreams**

- **8:30 PM**
  - **Dream Tiger**

- **9 PM**
  - **Nosey**

- **10:30 PM**
  - **DC Rush**

**UPCOMING: July 29-August 1**

- **8 PM**
  - **Stranger Natural Incense**

- **9 PM**
  - **The Mystix**

- **10 PM**
  - **Angus & The Flood**

- **11 PM**
  - **The Newcomers**

**Wed Sept 10th**

- **10:00 PM**
  - **Maddox Revolution**

**Thurs Sept 10th**

- **9:00 PM**
  - **New Corpus**

**Thurs Sept 11th**

- **9:00 PM**
  - **Dance Party!**

**Mon Sept 15th**

- **9:00 PM**
  - **Killer Karaoke**

**Tues Sept 16th**

- **10:00 PM**
  - **Radiostar**

**Wed Sept 17th**

- **10:00 PM**
  - **Maddox Revolution**

**Thurs Sept 18th**

- **10:00 PM**
  - **Summer Mencher**

**Fri Sept 19th**

- **8:00 PM**
  - **Dapper Dans**

**Thurs Sept 25th**

- **8:00 PM**
  - **The Bitter End**

**Sat Sept 26th**

- **8:00 PM**
  - **The Paddle Boat**

**Sun Sept 27th**

- **8:00 PM**
  - **Awesome Brothers**

**Thurs Sept 30th**

- **8:00 PM**
  - **Weezer**

**Fri Oct 1st**

- **8:00 PM**
  - **Agent Ribbons**

**Thurs Oct 8th**

- **8:00 PM**
  - **The Citizen Band**

**Thurs Oct 15th**

- **8:00 PM**
  - **Dance Party!**

**Mon Oct 19th**

- **9:00 PM**
  - **Killer Karaoke**

**Tues Oct 20th**

- **10:00 PM**
  - **Radiostar**

**Wed Oct 21st**

- **10:00 PM**
  - **Maddox Revolution**

**Thurs Oct 22nd**

- **8:00 PM**
  - **The Bitter End**

**Thurs Oct 29th**

- **8:00 PM**
  - **The Paddle Boat**

**Sun Oct 30th**

- **8:00 PM**
  - **The Bitter End**

**Mon Oct 31st**

- **8:00 PM**
  - **The Bitter End**

**Wed Nov 4th**

- **10:00 PM**
  - **Maddox Revolution**
JACKfest II
Undercover
featuring:
Led Zeppelin
Dead Man’s Party
The Joshua Tree
Disco Inferno

Poison
August 28
tickets starting at $45

760 KFMB Political Party
featuring Glenn Beck
September 12
tickets only $12

September 13
tickets only $15

Kid Rock
September 17
tickets starting at $71

FREE
Entertainment
August 29 – Metro
August 30 – Queen Nation
(Tribute to Queen)
September 5 – Arctic Heat
September 19 – Superfunk
Fantasy

Ana Gabriel
September 21
tickets starting at $85

Anita Baker
September 27
tickets starting at $75

Smokey Robinson
October 8
tickets starting at $45

Tickets are available at
the Pala Privileges Center
1-877-WIN-PALA
(1-877-946-7252)
and at all Ticketmaster
outlets. For new shows
please visit
PalaCasino.com

PalaCasino.com

Located In Northern San Diego County
From San Diego & Riverside: Take I-15 to Hwy. 78, go east 5 miles
From Orange & Los Angeles: Take I-5 South to Hwy. 76, go east 23 miles

SO MANY MAGICAL NIGHTS
Navajo
8515 Navajo Road • 619-465-1730
(Albertsons shopping plaza at Navajo & Lake Murray)

Thursday, August 28
Soul Thunder
Friday & Saturday, August 29 & 30 • 9 pm
Classic Rock

5 Miles High
Sunday, August 31
The Gulag Carnies
Darken the Soul
Burden Arise

Every Monday
Karaoke

Wednesday, September 3 • 9 pm
The Reverend Stickman
Bedpost Buzzards • Fuzz Huzzi

Santee
8528 Magnolia Avenue • 619-596-8350
(Corner of Prospect & Magnolia)

Thursday, August 28
Bed of Nails • Hard Echo
Friday & Saturday, August 29 & 30 • 9 pm
Classic Rock
THURSDAY 8•28•08
LIMELIGHT EVENTS, CANDY COATED ENTERTAINMENT, BRAD THOMSON, LUPF DESIGNS & ICED ANGELS ENT. PRESENTS AN 18+ EVENT • 21+ TO DRINK

PARADISE ISLAND
COME DRESSED IN SEXY BEACH ATTIRE (OPTIONAL)
HOSTED BY R&B SENSATION TAWNY HEATH (MTSPACE.COM/TAWNYHEATH)
DJ SEIZE & PHOBIK • BINGING HIP HOP • TOP 40 • OIL SCHOOL
$11+ VIP • SNOCKET SPECIAL • 18+ VIP • SNOCKET PER PERSON INCLUDES APPETIZER PLATTER • 1 ROCKSTAR PER PERSON, UNLIMITED SOFT DRINKS, COVER, VP SECTION & MORE • I.D. NO CONTACT ORANGE @ 619.503.8843
WWW.PROMIZEVENTS.NET • WWW.ICEAGELSLENT.NET

FRIDAY 8•29•08
IMPACT PRODUCTIONS, CAPELLA 46 & EYE CANDY INT. PRESENTS

INFAMOUS
AS WE BRING YOU A NIGHT OF SLEIGHSEXY, THE EYE CANDY GIRL WILL BE DOING SURPRISES! PERFORMANCES THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT, BRINGING A SEX APPEAL TO OUR NIGHTLIFE ATMOSPHERE
FINGAZ • PHOBIK • ALEX M.
MIXIN’ HIP HOP • TOP 40 • 80’S • PARTY ROCK!
$200 BOTTLES FOR VIP
FOR VIP BOTTLE SERVICE: ORANGE 619.507.0843
FOR VIP GUESTLIST: JRCRONGASOYAHOO.COM

SATURDAY 8•30•08
DRE VEGAS, HOLLYWOOD HAY & ROB ZOOMY PRESENTS A SPECIAL EVENT

MALIBU WHITE PARTY
SATURDAYS • REINVENTION • THE SUMMER SERIES
GREEN ROOM
HIP HOP • ROCK • 80’S • MASH-UPS
RED ROOM
DJ MIKESKI • OLD SCHOOL HIP HOP
DREVEGAS.COM • HOLLYWOODRAY.COM

MAKE DINNER RESERVATIONS AND BEAT THE COVER
FOR VIP BOTTLE SERVICE: CALL ORANGE @ 619.507.0843
911 4TH AVENUE GASLAMP • 619.231.9200

RESTAURANT & NIGHTCLUB

DECOS
LAbOR DAY WEEKEND
WITH A SOUTHB EACHT FLAIR
THURSDAY, AUGUST 28TH

LOTTA ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS
"ICED OUT PARTY"
18 AND UP EVENT

FOR DRINK SPECIALS AND VIP ACCESS TEXT "CRAZY" TO 313131
VIP BOTTLE INFO CALL OR TEXT TINH @ 619.840.8087
DOOR DISCOUNT PASSWORD IS: DOWH
DRESS CODE: NO HATS, CAPS, BAGGY CLOTHES, THINK GROWN AND CLASSY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29TH

HOSTED BY ROB ZOOMY & POINT ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY NIGHT SHAKEDOWNS
DRINKING ON THE WOODES OF STEELE
DJ ENIGMA • DJ DUBZ • KAYELLA MASTERS
WITH GUEST DJ OF MINNAZALE: DJ JUZI & DJ EDRIC
$3 KAMIKAZER SHOTS & FEATURING BOTTLED BEERS ALL NIGHT
$5 LONG ISLANDS & VODKA ROCKSTARS TIL 10:30PM
2 FOR 1 BOTTLE SPECIALS FOR VIPS (CONTACT TINH @ 619.840.8087)
VIP/BOTTLE SERVICE & BIRTHDAYS: ROBZOOMY@GMAIL.COM | POINTENT@GMAIL.COM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30TH

DRED CARPET PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS
1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY EXTRAVAGANZA
SPECIAL LIVE PERFORMANCE BY INTERNATIONAL RECORDING ARTIST: ASHLEY ROBLES
IN THE VA: DJ B-FLEX, DJ TECH, DJ RAPIS
GIFT BAG GIVEAWAYS TO 1ST 50 GUESTS
$5 APPLETUMS & COSMORUPTIONS TIL 10-10PM
$7 $AGERAREST SHOTS • $4 BUD LIGHT SPECIALS
HOSTED BY BRISEY VODKA FROM 9-11PM
2 FOR 1 BOTTLE SPECIAL STRIKE ALP SCALD DRESS CODE REQUIRED - DOORS OPEN AT 8PM
SATURDAY, AUGUST 30TH @ 7PM
SOCIAL SATURDAYS - CHAMPAGNE TASTING EVENT
PLEASE CALL 619.840.1333 TO PRE-RESERVE • 21+ • NO ENTRANCE UNLESS EVENT INVITED

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31ST

INFINITE ENT. OFF TOP PROD. • EVENTVENUE. • AKRI0VE
1011 PARTY PROD. • THROWDOWN EITE • JAY AVERY PRESENTS

KRUSH: 18+ MEGA EVENT
DJ AYEENA & DJ AL SQUARED
WITH JORGE LUNA OF LYON CROWNS ON THE DRUMS

ALSO FEATURING INFINITE ALLSTARS:
DJ SMOO & DJ TAREK ALONG WITH 1011 PARTY ROCKER DJ SENEMA
7 ROOMS OF BEAST HOUSE MUSIC FOR 18+ • DEDICATED OUTDOOR ROOM FOR 21+

EVENT SPONSORED BY THROWDOWN ENTERTAINMENT CENTER
AND HOSTED BY CELEBRITY UFC FIGHTER - DEAN "THE BOOGIEMAN" LISTER
THROWDOWN GIRLS WILL BE IN THE BUILDING WITH MEMBERSHIP GIVEAWAYS ALL NIGHT

BEAT THE COVER • MAKE DINNER RESERVATIONS
FOR BOTTLE SERVICE CONTACT TINH @ 619.840.8087
619.806.DECS • WWW.DECOS.COM • 717 FIFTH AVENUE GASLAMP
WIN FREE TICKETS
To register go to
www.sandiegoreader.com/news/contests/ and click on the AEG Live logo!!!

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Calendar

MUSIC

- September 26 — Seal
- September 26 — Etta James & the Roots Band
- October 2 — David Byrne
- October 3 — America
- October 5 — Cecillo & Kaponso
- October 9 — Duffy
- October 19 — Gordon Lightfoot
- October 21 — Jack Johnson
- October 26 — Jem
- October 27 — W历ndy
- October 28 — Relient K
- October 29 — The Roots
- October 31 — Pitbull

The Jumping Turtle: 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos, 760-741-7778.

The Kensington Club: 8079 Adams Avenue, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-284-2848.

The Kraken: 2531 South Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-436-6483.


6-Hour Weekend Special Starting at $399 (gratuity included!)

Weekday Special Starting at $189 (gratuity not included)

- UTC Transportation 800-882-6554 www.utclimo.com • TCP-075314

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Comes the fun! 2 for 1

Admission Adults-Only Night!
Valid Tuesday, September 2, 2008.
*Buy 1 admission and receive 2nd admission free.
*Now recruiting for new team!

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Adult Night Skating
Roller Skating Excitement
Now every Tuesday 7:30-10:30 pm
Adult Learn-to-Skate Clinic 6
Every Tuesday 6:30-7:15 pm.
Coupon applies to session only. Skate rental and blade rental extra.
Family Fun Saturday & Sunday
- All Day • 1:30-6 pm

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Serving breakfast from 9 am in September on Saturday and Sunday.
SEPTEMBER 12TH, 13TH, 14TH

Yonder Mountain String Band
Bassnectar • Particle

Mountain featuring Leslie West & Corky Laing
Ruby the Fire Breathing Fire Truck
featuring aerial performers Zircon & Wish

Melvin Seals & JGB • Gram Rabbit • Tom Freund
Shark Attack • ON THE ONE • Izabella • Delta Nove • Vegitation

Alfred Howard and the K23 • MoJow & Vibration Army
PUJA • Cubensis

The Frequency • Interstate Blues • The Nate LaPointe Band • Beth Preston
Still Time • Chi Club • Blackbirdz • Four Minutes til Midnight
Techno Hillbillies • Grand Canyon Sundown • Red Warrior Drum Group
The Glenn Smith Band • Cheap Thrills • Outpost • Haywire
Left Hand Monkey Wrench • Tefflon • The Naked Sun • The Markers
Stolen Rose • Dopegirl • Mike Delux Band • OB3 • The Troubleweeds
Funky A • A Dull Science • Compass Rose • O.T.I
Christopher Hawley Rollers • Pangea Collective • Off Track • LA 5
DJ Smitty J • Radius • Obscure Relevance • Jay Constable
Destructo Bunny • Nikki O’Neill Band • DJ Atom Matter
Linda Sublett • Fishaman & the MindWorld Steppers

Comedy featuring Lisa Sundstedt’s Pretty Funny Women

60 BANDS • 6 STAGES
3 DAYS

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Thursday, August 28
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For more information on upcoming events visit sdreader.com

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**Tony Hawk’s Boom**
5th Annual Thread Fashion Show at the Sheraton

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**San Diego Weekly Reader Street Team**

Have you been tagged by the Reader Street Team? See your photos on sdreader.com

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**Calendar**

**Music**

Band.
October 24 — Great White.

**Ramona MainStage Theatre:**
626 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-7008.

**September 5** — The Hitts.
**September 6** — The Rumblers.
**September 12** — Given Life.
**September 20** — Danielle Tucker and the City Limits Band.
**September 27** — Cash’d Out.

**Riley’s:**
2901 Nimitz Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-225-8635.
**September 13** — Federal Funk.

**San Diego Civic Theatre:**
1100 Third Avenue, Downtown, 858-570-1100.
**November 10** — Alanis Morissette.

**San Diego Sports Arena:**
3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-234-4171.
**September 20** — Janet Jackson.
**September 26** — Playhouse Disney Live!
**October 5** — Panic at the Disco and Dashboard Confessional.

**October 7** — Neil Diamond.
**October 8** — Carrie Underwood.
**December 7** — Celtic Thunder.
**December 21** — The Cheetah Girls.

**San Diego Sports Club:**
1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-299-7372.
**September 4** — "Best Pop Album Night."

**San Dieguito United Methodist Church:**
170 Calle Magdalena, Encinitas.
**September 6** — Peggi Watson.
**September 20** — Peter Sprague and Fred Benedetti.
**September 27** — "Tribute to Woody Guthrie."

**Scottish Rite Center:**
**September 6** — "The Music of Sri Chinmoy."

**Seaport Village:**
849 West Harbor Drive, Downtown.
**September 7** — The Bayou Brothers.
**September 14** — Barbara Jamerson & Two Deep.
**September 21** — The Cat-illacs.
**September 28** — Nova.

**Loma, 619-224-4171.**

**September 25** — "Tribute to Woody Guthrie."

**September 10** — Charlie Chavez y Su Afro Truco.
**September 12** — Orquesta Primo.
**September 22** — Orquesta Guarare.
**September 24** — The Cat-illacs.

**November 8** — Neil Diamond.
**November 10** — Orquesta Primo.
**November 23** — "Tribute to Woody Guthrie."

**November 25** — Orquesta Primo.
**November 28** — Orquesta Guarare.
**November 30** — Orquesta Primo.

**December 21** — Orquesta Primo.
**December 23** — Orquesta Primo.
**December 28** — Orquesta Primo.

**December 30** — Orquesta Primo.

**JULY 28** — "Share This Place" at the Casbah.
**AUGUST 28** — "Share This Place" at the Casbah.
**AUGUST 30** — "Share This Place" at the Casbah.
**SEPTEMBER 2** — "Share This Place" at the Casbah.
**SEPTEMBER 6** — "Share This Place" at the Casbah.
**SEPTEMBER 8** — "Share This Place" at the Casbah.
**SEPTEMBER 11** — "Share This Place" at the Casbah.
**SEPTEMBER 13** — "Share This Place" at the Casbah.

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**San Diego Reader August 28, 2008**

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**5th Annual Thread Fashion Show at the Sheraton**

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**Tony Hawk’s Boom**

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**October 29** — Neil Young

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**November 4**

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**The Roots**
October 15

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**Weezer**
October 17

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**Frank Caliendo**
October 18

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**WWE**
October 26

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**Rise Against**
October 30

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**Jason Mraz**
October 31

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**Carrie Underwood**
November 5

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**Alanis Morissette**
November 10

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**Cheech & Chong**
November 28

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**Cheekah Girls**
December 21

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**“Browny Chaperone”**
September 27

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**“Think You Can Dance”**
September 28

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**Madonna**
November 4

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**Neil Young**
October 29

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**Sevilla:**
555 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-5979

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**September 4** — BombsChante.
**September 7** — Angel Lebron y Su Sabor Latino.
**September 9** — Orquesta R.8.
**September 10** — Charlie Chavez y Su Afro Truco.
**September 21** — Orquesta Primo.
**September 14** — Orquesta Salsa Caliente.
**September 16** — Walter II y Orquesta Rumberan.
**September 17** — Orquesta Guarare.
**September 18** — Sony y Clare.
**September 21** — BombsChante.
**September 23** — Orquesta Primo.
**September 24** — Traca de la Suerte.
**September 25** — Orquesta Salsa Caliente.
**September 28** — Orquesta Primo.
**September 30** — Charlie Chavez y Su Afro Truco.

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**Soma:**
3330 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-226-7562.
**September 4** — White Chapel and Through the Eyes of the Dead.
**September 5** — Play the Fox.
**September 6** — Canobilis and Nirvus.
**September 12** — The Rocket Summer and the Secret Handshake.
Online Club Coupons at SDReader.com

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### Free WiFi Internet access

- **Brick By Brick**
  - 2 for 1 admission
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- **Second Wind Bars**
  - Free WiFi Internet
- **Tio Leo’s Lounge**
  - $1 off admission

### 2-for-1 cover

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- **Second Wind Bars**
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### 1-year anniversary community benefit party to promote healing

**Love and Roll Productions Benefit Concert Series present:**

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**With very special guests:**
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On sale today at 10 am at Ticketmaster.

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Spreading love through music.

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Rancho Bernardo United is a coalition brought together by the Rancho Bernardo Community Foundation to identify and meet our community’s after-the-fire needs.
September 13 — Kate Voegele and Virginia Coalition.
September 14 — Tynny Wells, Jason Reeves, Tyler Beach.
September 15 — Rancid.
September 20 — Children of Nova and Drac Freel.
September 21 — August Burns Red, a Skyla Drive, Sky Eats Airplane.
October 3 — Shanty Town.
October 11 — KatyLynn and Dying Fetus.
October 15 — Norma Jean and Hot Day.
October 16 — Aubinell and Scary Kids-Scaring Kids.
October 17 — The Academy Is…
October 24 — Chiodos and Silverstein.
October 31 — All Time Low and Mayday Parade.
November 1 — Suicide Silence and Emmure.
November 2 — Maylene & the Sons of Disaster.

Tuesday 9/2
Happy Hour
All Night Long!
No: $3 Food Item
Yes: Free Beer
Happy Hour: 3-7 pm
$1 Off Drinks till Close
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Wednesday 9/3
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DAILY HAPPY HOUR 4-7 PM
Playing your favorite classic rock
Power Hour 4-5 pm — $2 U-Call-Its • $1 off drinks till 7 pm

Tio LeOs Lounge: 5802 Napa Street, Linda Vista, 619-342-1462.
September 5 — Shake Out.
September 7 — The Charlie Button Band.
October 25 — The Farmers.

V Lounge: 3600 Wilborn Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.
October 4 — Federal Funk.

October 14 — Minus the Bear and Annuals.
November 15 — Ludo.
November 16 — Underneath and Sasion.
November 26 — Showzy and Tyga.
November 29 — Pierce the Veil and Breathe Carolina.

Sprechels Theatre: 121 Broadway, Downtown, 619-235-9500.
October 9 — Sara Bareilles.
November 2 — Ray LaMontagne.
November 8 — Citizen Cope.

Swedenborg Hall: 1531 Tyler Avenue, University Heights.
September 6, September 7 — Amoruit Zarozoll and Brenda Zaro.

Sycaon Casino Showcase Theatre: 5490 Casino Way, El Cajon.
September 4 — Fugahat.
Theatre: 155 East Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-735-2491.
September 19 — The Bill Magee Blues Band.
October 17 — Demi Jones.

108 San Diego Reader August 28—September 3, 2008
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I went to North County for James’s 90th birthday. As I pulled up, I noticed that there was a party across the street for a woman expecting a baby. I thought that was an interesting contrast, and I would’ve gone over and crashed it, but I wasn’t sure how receptive they’d be. And I already had another party to go to later that day.

James’s birthday bash was catered by Pat & Oscar’s. Several people surrounded the food table, so I went into the backyard to talk to the smokers. I met a guy from Canada. He told me a story about his brother-in-law, who had a friend who could’ve invested in the board game Trivial Pursuit. His buddy developed the game, and he needed investors. It started as a group of friends who had trivia contests in bars while watching hockey. None of them wanted to throw in the $5000 investment. Now they all regret it.

As we were talking, a belly dancer performed inside the house. It was fun watching her sidle up to James, who put his hand on his chest as if he were having a heart attack.

When the dancer was finished, she came outside. She was married to the Canadian guy. The subject of movie reviews came up. They had a little dog with them and said they wanted to start a review column with dogs doing the reviews. The dancer said, “It would have two paws up if it was good and dog poop if it was bad.”

She explained that it would focus more on a few scenes, as opposed to the usual way reviews are written. I said, “Well, a dog wouldn’t miss any scenes by going to the bathroom.”

Seretta, James’s daughter, told me that her son Scott was on the cover of a Reader. She said that it was a picture of him swallowing fire. “How does one learn how to do that?” I asked. “By reading books and practicing.” I asked if she tried to talk him out of it. “Oh, no. This is one of the better things he’s done in life. He got into magic and Houdini-type escapes. Then music and drugs. This is nothing. Now he works for Freak Show Deluxe.”

She handed me his card, which read, “Murrugun the Mystic.” The card had a picture of Scott with a sword down his throat.

One guy told me that he crashed things. I said, “Cars?” He laughed and said, “No, movie sets. I crashed the set of the Jamie Foxx movie Kingdom. It was filming in Scottsdale. I just drove up in my van and said, ‘Extra.’ That gets you onto every set.”

He told me a story about Garth Brooks sitting next to him in an ice cream parlor. A guy with long hair overheard this and said, “I once got into Tom Petty’s hotel room by saying I was a roadie. I didn’t meet him, but I saw him briefly. He went into another room with a girl, and I never saw him again.”

It was a lengthy drive to the second party in National City. It was for someone younger, a Filipino guy named Rady, who was turning 80. His grandkids had put together a ’50s-themed party for the occasion. I pulled out my old letterman jacket for my girlfriend to wear. I wore a letterman sweater. Not the most comfortable outfits on a summer afternoon.

Lowell, who helped put the
Crasher party together, was wearing a white T-shirt. I told him he should’ve had a pack of cigarettes rolled into the sleeve, and he said, “Well, I wanted to keep this PG-13.” His wife was wearing a pink dress with a black belt.

There were a few ladies with poodle dresses and some kids wearing ties and hats. They all looked great. One guy said, “Those kids look more like pimps.”

The backyard had canopies set up, so there would be shade. The fence was covered with ‘50s photos and record albums. I looked closely at an Emerson, Lake & Palmer album. As one guy walked over to where I was, I said, “I think this record, after being nailed up here, will be too scratched to play again.” He said, “Well, with that lame prog rock they did, that’s a good thing.”

There were music notes hanging all around. Someone said that they’d had a treasure hunt before we arrived. An album on our table had a clue that read, “one sheet, two sheets, three sheets, four — some use less, some use more.” I was told, “A woman was trying to figure this out, and I told her it was toilet paper and that she should go inside and get some. She took the whole roll from the bathroom. But they had toilet paper already hidden out here somewhere.”

I saw a kid about three or four years old dressed as Elvis, with a little white jumpsuit, huge sunglasses, and sideburns. I tried to get him to do a song, since karaoke was going. A woman next to me said, “You can’t have a Filipino party without karaoke, especially in National City.”

A few of the songs were sung in Tagalog, but most were popular American tunes and not from the ‘50s. As someone sang Journey’s “Open Arms,” a person at the table next to me said, “You can’t play a song you’ve never heard.”

I had a cherry-flavored cone. As she was listening to it, a UPS guy delivering a package to her asked for a copy. She had been asked at gas stations and other places about it. She has passed the disc on to her old bosses, who want to hear a demo. I said, “That sounds like how bands got signed in the old days. When Toni Basil had the song ‘Oh Mickey,’ the record-company president was listening to it in his car. It was his kid’s favorite song on the tape, so he decided to release it as a single.”

Two cakes were brought out. One was chocolate with black-and-white checkers and the image of a couple dancing. The other cake design included a jukebox made of frosting. Thirty minutes passed before the cakes were cut, but four of the kids kept the flies at bay by waving paper plates back and forth over them. Little Elvis couldn’t wait and put his fingers in the frosting for a taste.

I said to my girlfriend, “That’s how it starts. If he keeps doing that with cakes, in a few years, he will look like the old, fat Elvis in the white jumpsuit.”

Crash your party? Call 619-235-3000 x21 and leave an invitation for Josh Board.

To get an online version of this column, go to sdrreader.com. You can print it, email it to friends, or get other “Crasher” columns and stories by Josh Board.
Rainwater’s...still the “best”

plus a new Price Fix menu...
3 superb courses for $40 per person

San Diego Magazine Critic’s Choice Winner 2008 - Best American Food
Come in and try our innovative wines by the glass...
No corkage Friday or Sunday!
...ing the posse for the first time, as we were trying to decide on our entrées. It’s salt cod that’s been soaked to rehydrate it, mixed with potato purée and milk or cream, I said. “Let’s try it!” was the response. It came as a large, lightly breaded croquette supporting a slab of northern halibut, with whole-grain mustard crème fraîche and asparagus. Loved the croquette, but the halibut was overcooked to serious dryness. I didn’t think I’d have to specify, way out in unincorporated Point Loma, that I like my fish “underdone” by Zonie standards. When I spoke with Amy later, she confessed to cooking it to the preference of all those retired Navy officers out there who demand their fish their way or die hard. The default is “medium-well” (mine is opalescent medium-rare). If you want it done less, state your preference when you order it.

“What’s a papillote?” Sam asked. Alex, our paragon of a waitress, had arrived at our table and she fielded the question, explaining that it’s a wrap of parchment paper. When you bake fish and vegetables and wrap them in it, the fish comes out moist and aromatic. The papillote du jour consisted of local rockfish and asparagus. Looks like she fielded the question, exasperatedly, and our waitress, had arrived at our table, “What’s a papillote?” was the response. It came with Bing cherries in red-wine sauce, topped with mascarpone gelato. “It’s the sleeper on our dessert menu, George told us. It was our fa- vori...
Coronado Icon

“I’m from Tennessee. We take our cooking seriously in the South.”

“I’m a cook, not a chef,” says Mary. “There’s a difference!” says Carla, looking up from her dinner. She’s diving into her turkey, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes and a brown gravy over the top, plus a rich, red veggie soup studded with lentils, corn, zucchini, you name it. This sort of meal is what your grandma cooked and the byword is: don’t skimp. Like, my chops have a bread stuffing hidden under them and a mini dinner-roll loaf with a pat of butter beside it. And Carla has a salad that she’s drowning right now in blue cheese dressing from a syrup jug. It’s all part of the deal. Hers cost $7.25, mine $7.95. Not bad, specially for Coronado.

This is the second time in two days we’ve been here at Clayton’s. Correction: Third, if you count Friday night when we came to the Mexican Takeout, which is, like, the annex at the back of Clayton’s on Tenth. They have the dreamiest shrimp burritos. Mary introduced that, too. Oh man. Cost $6.25. Ate it right outside on the concrete bench, reading the newspapers in their pay shrimps burritos. Mary introduced that, too. Oh man. Cost $6.25. Ate it right outside on the concrete bench, reading the newspapers in their pay boxes. Don’t get any better.

We’ve been staying two nights in Paradise with Carla’s buddy Patty. There’s a big dinner tonight, the kind you mean when Carla rediscovered Clayton’s. Part of her childhood.

Course, Mary’s facing an awesome challenge. I mean, Clayton’s in Coronado is an icon, like Harry’s in La Jolla. Only smaller. And older. Harry’s dates to about 1960. Clayton’s (and there was a Mr. Clayton, who ran the place for maybe 50 years) has been serving Joe and chops since 1947. Now, as then, it’s a bricky little East Coast-style cafe at the corner of Tenth and Orange, with a full-length U-shaped counter inside and half a dozen booths against the wall. In a way, Clayton’s seems to anchor the entire town. You see Navy captains, judges, plumbers, and can collectors all sitting side-by-side here, yakkin’ away.

Mary’s given it a facelift (vertical beige-and-cream-striped walls, new acoustic ceiling), but the ancient wooden phone booth’s still there at the back, plus a genuine 1940s mechanical NCR cash register still’s what they ring you up with, and the Seeburg jukebox is alive and well, with remote push-button selectors scattered around the counter and at each table booth, playing a time warp of tunes.

Right now it’s “Moon River.” And it was “Moon River” yesterday when we came in for breakfast. (Though Carla wanted an early lunch. Here, no problem: They serve everything, all the time. We swung around the maroon counter seats and collected menus from the waitress, Maria.

Carla scanned “sandwiches,” from ham and burger and fries or coleslaw for $6.25, to roast beef sandwich (same sides) for $5.50, to patty melt and onions on rye ($5.95). They had hot sandwhiches like the meat loaf for $6.50 and a bunch of “chef’s specials,” such as spaghetti and meat sauce with macaroni and cheese bread ($6.95) or fish and chips with dinner salad ($7.25). Carla ends up taking a “chili size,” which is like the $7.95 chili cheeseburger, only this is a “ham-burger patty on English muffin with chili, cheese, and onion, served with fries.” It’s $6.95.

Me: no hesitation. Sometimes you gotta eschew to chew. Heh heh. That is, sacrifice the ordinary and go straight for the most outrageous. I could have the one-egg any style with potatoes and toast ($4.50). I could have the 6-oz. steak and two eggs ($7.75). I could experiment with the, uh, jelly omelet for $5.95. But no. The last choice is my first choice: “The Garbage Omelet” ($7.95).

“That means it has everything,” Maria says. “Three eggs, ham, bacon, spicy sausage patty and links, mushrooms, tomatoes, bell peppers, onions, and Swiss, cheddar, and American. With hash browns and toast.”

Somehow I make it through this delicious, salty colossus and come out the other end to find that Carla has, like, massively eaten her burger — and gone one better. Uh, make that one better: she’s ordered a bowl of onion rings $3.95. I have to help her out, of course, and I’m here to say these are the wickedest, freshest, lightest onion rings I can remember having. Damn, they’re good.

So that was yesterday. Today, after finishing the turkey and pork chops, our moment of sin comes when Mary points to an apple pie sitting under glass on the center island. “I bake it each morning,” she says. “Southern-style…”

We cave. It comes with two large balls of peach-colored vanilla ice cream. It’s so fresh, so sweet, but tangy (she uses Granny Smith apples). Somehow I make it through this delicious, spicy, sweet, but tangy (she uses Granny Smith apples). Honestly, the dang thing’s dee-vine. If I were a chef (not a cook), I’d do that finger-kiss thing. Mwah.

“You see Navy captains, judges, plumbers, and can collectors all sitting side-by-side here, yakkin’ away.” — Carla

The Places: Clayton’s Coffee Shop, 979 Orange Avenue (at Tenth), Coronado, 619-433-5425
Type of Food: American, Mexican
Prices: Short-stack breakfast (two pancakes), $3.75; egg, potato, toast, $4.50; bacon, two eggs (same sides), $6.50; cheese omelet, $6.25; jelly omelet, $5.95; “Garbage” omelet (ham, bacon, spicy sausage patty, links, veggie, cheese), $7.95; hamburger (fries or cole slaw), $6.25; roast beef sandwich (same sides), $5.95; patty melt, $5.95, hot meat loaf sandwich (with mash, gravy), $6.50; spaghetti, meat sauce (with salad, cheese bread), $6.45; fish and chips, salad, $7.25; chili size (ham burger patty on muffin with chili, cheese, onion, fries), $6.95; pork chops (with veggie, mash, gravy, or salad), $7.95; onion rings, $3.95; apple pie, $3.25
Hours: 6:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m., daily (closes 8:00 p.m. Sunday)

Nearest Bus Stop: Beach and Orange

“Takeout, which is, like, the annex at the back of Clayton’s on Tenth.” — Carla
Reviving Merlot

“People say it’s like a little death, getting out of your comfort zone.”

I’m not drinking any fucking Merlot!” — Miles, a Pinot Noir fan, in the film Sideways

Instead of reviling that idea, Miles is intrigued. Merlot’s got hit hard enough that, at somebody’s birthday party one night in Napa, somebody suggested making a movie in response to Miles’s rejection of the noble grape from Bordeaux.

Filmmaker Rudy McClain was at that party, and he thought it sounded like a good idea. That was the germination of Merlove, the documentary that serves as his first completed effort. “I have drawers full of little ideas,” he says, “and I’ve written a couple of screenplays. But I needed to get out and see the diversity of real human beings.” His neighbors, for starters. “I grew up in St. Helena, and some of my friends own wineries or are winemakers” — Swanson’s Chris Phelps, for example. “I had a camera for testing out my ideas or are winemakers” — Swanson’s Chris Phelps, for example. “I had a camera for testing out my

As McClain sees it, Miles’s dismissal had such force because, for all our increased ease around the grape. “People had really low self-esteem with wine because it’s not really part of our culture yet, and they didn’t want to be embarrassed. Think about teengeers at the mall — everyone wants to have the right clothes or the right accessories, the right ‘in’ thing. It’s not so much about being an individual. You don’t want to make a mistake; you don’t want to look like you don’t know what you’re doing. When it comes to adults and wines, it’s that same thing, hugely magnified. That’s why Side-

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To revivel merlot — he praised their earthiness, their acidity, their “clarity of fruit. You feel like you’re more connected to the earth.”

France’s superstar consulting winemaker Michel Rolland also agreed to an interview. Explains McClain, “I wanted to talk to him because I wanted to see if what was happening around the world matched what was happening in America. I talked to a French woman who worked for the English magazine Decanter, and she said, ‘What do you mean, people stopped drinking Merlot?’ “Rol-

Land agreed. “He said he didn’t see a worldwide effect, because the notion of varietal is particularly strong in America.” Elsewhere, “They talk about varietal a little bit, but they’re mostly focusing on the winemaker, the terroir, the place where it’s produced. Plus, he was born in Pomerol. Merlot is his life, it’s deeply rooted in him.”

The goal, says McClain, is to let Merlot serve as a window into the larger world of wine. “If people can understand the diversity of Merlot, if we can
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**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 almost 200 listings on request via the film’s website, www.merlove.com. And if anyone wants to kick in financially.” he adds, “I am still offering equity stakes in the movie. A friend of mine did the music — but he needs to make a living, and I can’t afford to pay him any more. Another friend of mine went to France with me and shot the footage over there. He got a free trip to France, but I couldn’t pay him. A lot of people are putting their butts on the line to help this movie be awesome, and it would be a dream come true for me to write checks to all of them.”

**Inexpensive:** below $10
**Moderate:** $10 to $19
**Expensive:** $20 to $29
**Very Expensive:** more than $30

*Editors note to readers in advance for reservations.

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**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, cream cheese, herbs, and fresh capers. Or delicate Alaskan halibut served over creamed potato mash with a watercress salad. If a fresh-fruit cobbler happens to be on the dessert menu, leap on it! Open for lunch and dinner daily — S.D.

**Café Athena** 1846 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-274-1140. With a casual fusion-style menu, it’s easy to see why this place has been a local favorite for years. Fresh fish, steak, chicken, pastas, soups, and pizzas are all on the menu, as well as a variety of vegetarian and gluten-free options. The atmosphere is cozy and inviting, with soft lighting and comfortable seating. Dine in, take-out, or enjoy the patio seating. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

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more upscale, eye-catching decor and a longer and more serious menu than most Greek cafes, this is a popular des
tination, so be sure to reserve for dinner or you’ll risk a long wait. The choices in-
clude good wines and appetizers (except for a sub-par arroz con pollo), outstand-
ing mousseada, above average guns, and interesting, unusual desserts. It’s
plenty for vegetarians. Rather noisy when crowded. Open: daily, lunch and di-
ner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W.

Costa Brava
1663 Garnet Avenue, Pa-
cific Beach, 858-273-1218. Cardial
owner and 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 mar-
ganera (artichokes), and lamb chops. Separate
room for bar service private dinner di-
ning. Lunch Monday through Sat-

dinner nightly. Enclosed patio for lunch. Not to be missed. Moderate (pas-
to expensive).

The Marine Room
2000 Spindrift Drive La Jolla, 858-454-3855. A brass-

town, high adventure, high seas — at only
$55-
geys upon request. Open daily. Inexpensive to

LA ESCONDIDA
910 Prospect Street, La Jolla,
858-454-4385. This hidden (rendezvous
place has a menu that’s far more than an
order: this is the real thing. It’s always
agree: this is the real thing. It’s always
Agua Caliente Boulevard; turn left at
the street is a great way to meet people
bistro). Unlike more traditional
bars, there’s a vast selection of
to look like it always has, but fresher. The
dining rooms resemble those on a river
geylera, and devises new ones. Wine list centers
on the wine list is superb, and
and menu. Vegetarian upon request.
Desserts include the
town? Where you can sit outside and
to the world pass by? It tries hard to be,
other than the usual (cod fish)
the world pass by? It tries hard to be,
New Mexican cuisine, with inventive
desserts, bar snacks, and (cabrito tatemado).
Mexican haute cuisine, with inventive
taste like super-
salad (but ask for vinegar and oil on the
Truck Avenue; turn left at
The Marine Room has become the quintessential
gourmet hub, and there’s no shortage of good
and devises new ones. Wine list centers
on the wine list is superb, and
and menu. Vegetarian upon request.
Desserts include the
town? Where you can sit outside and
our roasted baby Monterrey goat
in front of the house have
personable staff and friendly service. Smiling
doesn’t win well conceived, and the
food. This is one of Tijuana’s great his-
Stand restaurant. Yet it has all the
eating room is El Nido’s little (and less-
early closed. If you’re looking for a
FIESTA
King Crab Night “11”
Alaskan King Crab Legs. Every Monday.

Lobster Night “11”
Live Maine Lobster. Every Wednesday.

Prime Rib Night “11”
Every Thursday. Brunch from “8”
With LIVE music starting at 9 a.m. 9-3 p.m. Sunday through Saturday.
In San Diego maybe they come back for more.” Although he opened also features breakfast pastries. But the patisserie specialty of the delicate, golf-ball-sized, almondine-based cookies. Catherine de Medici brought his pastries are exquisite, and the place has a genuine French feel to it. Open 8 a.m. to 3 a.m., seven days. And they’ll still open, from 10 a.m. to 3 a.m., seven days. And they’ll open daily except Sunday for brunch, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Loe Cake Chateau 1152 Seventh Avenue, Downtown, 619-325-0977. This restaurant, near the downtown senior center and City College, offers no-nonsense Italian-American food. And they’re not dumplingly 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 bread, and salad. Fortunately, it worked. The place is all shiny chrome, and don’t forget fresh whole-bell y pepper, citrus, others). Result: great-tastive sauces (Thai peanut, chipotle

The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant 1445 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 beef, potato-crêpes rolled around your choice from a variety of fillings (salmon, beef, etc.). Or start the day here with a huge, carnivorously Irish breakfast. Open daily. Low moderate. — N.W.

Brothers Opera, Patisseries Finest 3304 41st Avenue, Downtown, 619- 234-0425. Catherine de Medici brought her macaron recipe to Paris in 1533. Therry Caher brought the same recipe to downtown San Diego in 2007. Customers have been swooning ever since. Well, this customer anyway. Caher, a self-taught pastry chef, has made a specialty of the delicate, garlic-basil-flavored, almondine-based cookies. But the patisserie he opened also features breakfast pastries like chocolate-filled croissants and lunch items like little square French pizzas, croque monsieurs toasted cheese sandwiches with ham, croque madelines (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 3 a.m., seven days. And they’ll still open, from 10 a.m. to 3 a.m., seven days. And they’ll open daily except Sunday for brunch, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B.

San Marcos Mexican Restaurant 7303 El Cajon Blvd. • La Mesa • 619-741-3051 Monday-Sunday 7 am-8 pm

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And don’t forget fresh whole-bell pepper, citrus, others). Result: great-tastive sauces (Thai peanut, chipotle

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Greece Village
raucous office parties in a testosterone-splatted work environment. Sometimes-abrasive waiters push higher-priced Napa reds. Bossy, brusque chefs are up to the stratosphere of first-growth Italian bottlings at $35 to $50 but roars the same way a sawed-off wooden barrel bulges with umorous concrete-floored deli that dates to 7666. You enter a time machine: a cavish of vulgar bad taste. Too many bold flavors; spicy dishes are mod- ern but trendy hot unless you request otherwise. It’s not the spot for high adventure, but its tables and benches. Lefty is deter- mined to bring “the real Chicago” to San Diego. So of course we’re talking deep-dish pizzas as well as some thin and crispy. The ultimate is his “stuffed” pizza, a 14-inch, eight-pound pizza? That’s what Lefty claims his “king of all pizzas” weighs at eight-pound pizza? That’s what Lefty claims his “king of all pizzas” weighs at 7666.

Buy one lunch or dinner entrée at 50% off.

Grueben — homemade corned beef on rye with Swiss cheese, sauerkraut, Thou- sand Island dressing, and mustard, as they say, possible. Also try the sausage platter: grilled bratwurst, kielbasa, sour kraut, potato salad, spicy mustard, and eye bread. Open for breakfast and lunch six days, closed Monday.

Osteria 93 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-238-1400. Possibly the most expen- sive restaurant in San Diego. Osteria is named for a precious, raw-endergized carrot (which it serves) and attracts patrons who enjoy throwing their money around. Their signature is a low-Ve- gas, with two floors of loud ambient mu- sic, with a “white” ambiance and “black lights hooting herself to a glimmering glass tower to fetch your precious beverage. Celebrities and big spenders get a private upstairs table, others take their chances. The menu is mostly seaworthy, but it, too, carries the Vegas imprimatur of edible ‘bar’ snacks. Too many bold fla- vors are at work on almost every plate, and even the simpler dishes are overwrought and heavy on the subtle flavors. Best bets for satisfying your palate and curiosity are the old-school seafood platter, and cocktails are plenty (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.

The Palm 615 1st Street, Downtown, 619-702-6500. This upmarket steakhouse, open since 1930, claims to be the oldest family-owned white-table- cloth dining room in the country, and it’s spread all over the country as well. The Galveston branch, its 39th, is just like all the others, even down to server details, which is the whole point — busi- ness travelers with empty tummies can rely on it wherever they go. The filet tenderizes, dry-aged and very aged USDA Prime beef offers a good variety of cuts. It’s a good, tasty, and expensive steak that you can enjoy with a bottle of wine.

Ama ebi is available. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Woodstock’s Pizza 6145 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area, 619-265-3000. It’s a college pizza joint, but the fare rates well above standard beer-ball food. For that matter, the beers — Karl Strauss and Widmer’s (along with the usual Coors Light and Bud) — aren’t exactly cool either. Grains — white or red, whole wheat — are provide, toasted, and then fired over the edge, producing a spicy, crunchy crust. The mozzarella is rich, gooey whole- milk, the marinara sauce is dark and spicy, and the toppings are fresh, hearty standards. "I can have this all day. One person can eat here and come back for more. This is the best pizza I’ve ever had," says a customer. Must present coupon.

**$8 Special**

One sushi roll, small sake and 1 of the above. Some restrictions apply. Please one per customer. Must present coupon.

P.B. Mika Sushi
1154 Garnet Avenue • P.B. 619-405-5040

Closed Mon. — Happy Hour 4-7 pm

2 for $10

Buy two dinner entrees, get one for $10. Valid from 4-9 pm Monday-Friday with ad. Not valid with other offers, Expires 9/1/10.

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Where the Local Taste is at Good as the First! 9168 Pecher Way, La Mesa 619-466-6084 • feixmecafe.com Sat. & Sun. 11-12.

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Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

2271 First Avenue • 619-239-8176

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mezedakia, a big oval sampler of dolmades (stuffed grape leaves), tiropita (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 on the souvlaki sticks (which come 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.

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**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 “bar” has bamboo bars, bamboo coiling, bare floors, and unduhed tables, with a sushi counter next to a tiny kitchen with a roaring gas grill. A large lattice covering 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 slipups. Open seven days, lunch and dinner. [360 Via Vera Cruz, San Marcos, 760-744-7466. Additional locations in Carlsbad and Temecula. This affordable seafood entry packs its diners out of our heads. Fresh fish and lots of it is the happening thing. On a recent day 20 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 cheesecake is especially tasty, as is their “Kahlo” 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. — N.W.**

**Filippi’s/Little Italy** 1121 Mission Avenue, Escondido, 760-480-5856. “Revks,” as the locals pronounce it, offers zesty, colorful cooking with some unusually authentic flavors. The Sicilian-style carretas (available in several “stuffed” dishes as well as an entree) are outstanding for their moist smokiness, and the house’s slightly crunchy fresh-tomato-based version of salsa verde is exciting. Seafood is necessarily frozen (given the inland location), but is handled tenderly. Late breakfast through dinner daily. Breakfast special 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, 760-744-7466. Additional locations in Carlsbad and Temecula. This affordable seafood entry packs its diners out of our heads. Fresh fish and lots of it is the happening thing. On a recent day 20 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 cheesecake is especially tasty, as is their “Kahlo” 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.

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**The Philadelphia Sandwich Company** 3904 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-371-0888. This classic luncheonette is a monument to Philly culture, including sports pennants, historic photos, and colorful mummer’s costumes. The menu is equally devoted to the city’s cuisine, especially its two great cult sandwiches: the hoagie and the cheesesteak. The mixed-meat hoagie is way more than a hero — its flavor array is similar to a Philadelphia-style sub. The cheesesteak, on the other hand, is truly a Philadelphia classic casserole, with its two great Cult-cult sandwiches: the hoagie and the cheesesteak. The mixed-meat hoagie is way more than a hero — its flavor array is similar to a Philadelphia-style sub. The cheesesteak, on the other hand, is truly a Philadelphia classic casserole, with its two great...
**TASTE OF ERITREA & ETHIOPIA**

50% off entree

with purchase of another entree of equal or greater value and two beverages. One coupon per table. With this ad: Expires 9/10/08.

**El Dorado Seafood & Grill**

1202 Orange Avenue, Imperial Beach, 619-426-8820. The menu includes standards like spaghetti with meatballs or lasagna, in-

cluding spaghetti on a special order. The food is served in a specially designed restaurant setting. Service is prompt and friendly. The decor is the usual blue and white color scheme.}

**Dry Tracton’s**

4242 1st Street, Imperial Beach, 619-435-4545. This is a classic American café that has been around for 40 years. The menu includes standards like spaghetti with meatballs or lasagna, in-cluding spaghetti on a special order. The food is served in a specially designed restaurant setting. Service is prompt and friendly. The decor is the usual blue and white color scheme.

**E.B.’s Sushi Bar**

374 S. Orange Ave., Imperial Beach, 619-426-8484. E.B. says that the fish is fresh and the service is excellent. The menu includes standards like spaghetti with meatballs or lasagna, in-including spaghetti on a special order. The food is served in a specially designed restaurant setting. Service is prompt and friendly. The decor is the usual blue and white color scheme.

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Here’s a small sample to whet your appetite!

### Free lunch or dinner

- **Medgrill**
  - Fine steaks, seafood and pasta. Extensive international wine list. Open for lunch and dinner daily.
  - 1263 University Avenue, San Diego, 619-235-3000
  - Reader Coupons 619-235-3000

- **Golden Wok**
  - Chinese buffet.
  - 3342 Parkway Drive, La Mesa, 619-469-8994
  - Reader Coupons 619-235-3000

### 10% off

- **Golden Wok Buffet**
  - All-you-can-eat Chinese buffet. Offer expires September 30, 2008. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.
  - Reader Coupons 619-235-3000

- **Pulled pork, catfish, beef brisket, hickory pit smoked rib tips, barbecue chicken and more!**

### Free BBQ

- **Lightning Jack’s BBQ**
  - Pulled pork, catfish, beef brisket, hickory pit smoked rib tips, barbecue chicken and more! Beer and wine. Catering available.
  - 4705-H Clairemont Drive, Clairemont Town Square, 858-270-8227
  - Reader Coupons 619-235-3000

### Free tapa for lunch

- **Costa Brava**
  - Come to Costa Brava, relax and allow somewhere else to make you feel right at home! Be swept off your feet by tantalizing dishes, ambient settings and passionate musical entertainment.
  - 1631 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-1218
  - Reader Coupons 619-235-3000

### Free lunch or dinner

- **East County & State College**
  - Centifonti’s Restaurant 25% off entree
  - Fix Me A Plate Cafe 15% off any entree
  - Golden Wok 30% off buffet
  - Jane’s Country Kitchen Half off entree
  - Toro Sushi Free 6-piece sushi roll

- **Uptown & North Park**
  - Asmara 50% off entree
  - Baby Back Jack’s BBQ $2 off any sandwich
  - The Cask Room $10 off any bottle of wine
  - Coffee House on Broadway Free Mocha Jackson
  - Harar Ethiopian Restaurant Free sambussa appetizer
  - India Princess Free dinner
  - Lipp 50% off dinner
  - Medgrill Free lunch or dinner
  - Mediterranean Cafe Free lunch or dinner
  - Rudford’s $2 off any menu entree
  - Sicilian Thing Pizza $3 off any pizza

- **Midway, Old Town & Mission Valley**
  - The Amigo Spot 15% off entire check
  - Lot 81 Restaurant & Bar 1/2 price dinner
  - Tio Leo’s Dinner combos $9.49 each
  - The Waffle Spot

- **South Bay & Coronado**
  - El Dorado Seafood & Grill 50% off entree

### Downtown & Point Loma

- **Alex’s Brown Bag**
  - Phillly cheese steak $6.49
  - The Boat house 2 for 1 lunch or brunch
  - Hornblower Cruises
  - House of Blues 20% off restaurant receipt
  - Humphrey’s Jewel Box 2 for 1 entree
  - Little Italy Spaghetti 2 for 1 lunch
  - The Local 2 for 1 dinner
  - Puerto La Bocca Free Argentinian dessert
  - RA Sushi
  - Richard Walker’s Pancake House $1 off entree
  - Rock Bottom
  - Sevilla $10 off Spanish cuisine
  - The Shout House
  - Xavier’s Free appetizer
  - Yogo Tango Free yogurt or smoothie

### North County

- **Calypso** Free appetizer
  - Greek Village Free breakfast or lunch
  - Mikko Japanese 50% off sushi
  - Pho Lucky 10% off entire check
  - Wild Note Cafe

- **La Jolla**
  - Cafe Milano Free Comedy Store tickets
  - Clay’s La Jolla
  - Ginza Sushi Sushi dinner for 2 $16.95
  - La Jolla Brew House Free lunch or dinner entree
  - Su Casa 20% off entire check

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  - Su Casa 20% off entire check

- **Central County**
  - Mo’s Island Grindz 50% off Spanish cuisine
  - RA Sushi
  - Richard Walker’s Pancake House $1 off entree
  - Rock Bottom
  - Sevilla $10 off Spanish cuisine
  - The Shout House
  - Xavier’s Free appetizer
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- **Clairmont, University City, Miramar Rd.**
  - Poway, Mira Mesa, Scripps Ranch & Kearny Mesa
  - CrawDaddy’s 50% off any entree
  - Filling Station Free appetizer
  - Kai Sushi 15% off all menu items
  - Lightnin’ Jack’s BBQ Free BBQ
  - Lot 81 Restaurant & Bar Free lunch or dinner
  - Mo’s Island Grindz 50% off plate lunch
  - Pampas Free empanadas
  - RB Sushi 50% off sushi and rolls only
  - Sunrise Super Buffet $3 off buffet
  - Thai Cafe $1 off buffet
  - VIP Oriental Buffet $3 off all-you-can-eat buffet

Restaurants listed without coupon offers have only menus online. Restaurants with * have multiple locations. See online menu or coupon for all locations.
Blame-Thrower

“One touch of nature makes the whole world kin.”

When Spring Awakening won eight Tony Awards for 2007, including Best Musical, word around the Big Apple went that it would never tour, that it was strictly a “New York show.” Why? Frank Wedekind’s “tragedy of childhood,” on which the musical’s basis, is just too controversial, too sexually explicit for the provinces.

Well, Spring is explicit, but almost tastefully so. The sex scenes, including masturbation beneath a nightshirt, aren’t done to titillate. They illustrate youthful perplexity as much as — and often during — erotic pleasure. If one finds such sights offensive, then one should stay away. For the rest of us provincials, though, Spring’s a bullet-train ride back to the days of raging hormones.

Shakespeare said, “One touch of nature makes the whole world kin.” How Wedekind’s adolescents experience that epic but fleeting “touch” and how their elders stifle it are what the musical’s about.

Wedekind wrote the play in 1891, but because it was so “obscene,” he couldn’t get it produced for 15 years. In brief, often fragmentary scenes, teenage self-discovery clashes with lockstep repression. The play takes place in a rural German town. Melchior Gabler’s mother won’t let him read Goethe’s Faust because it’s “too radical.” Moritz Stiefel isn’t measuring up in school and fears how his parents will react. Young Wendla Bergmann’s mother, who assures her 14-year-old daughter that babies come from storks, lengthens Wendla’s fock to make it a more “penitential garment.” Almost by conspiracy, parents and teachers stomp out every trace of youthful passion.

In the reprise that follows “Mama Who Bore Me,” Wendla’s friends join in (none of whom leaves adolescence unscathed). Their teachers taunt guilt, not the facts of life. The twin numbers set the musical’s hurt and angry tone. They also establish its vocal style. Laser-eyed, their mouths sculpting every word, the cast sings front, concert-style. They roar into hand mikes, as if convinced that no one would listen otherwise — or that no one is listening.

They aren’t just earnest, they’re serious, and never more so than in the show’s anthem, “Aquarius.” Rent’s “Seasons of Love.” When the cast did a brief medley of the Spring score at the Tonys, it was okay for them to sing about “The Bitch of Living” on TV. But when they came to the anthem, they muted its offensive words: “You can kiss your sorry ass goodbye,” they sang, because life is — the song’s title — “Totally F*****.”

An underlying reason people feared Spring might not tour well, I suspect, is that the original’s such a spare, incredibly tight show that the demands of touring might dilute it. There are no wasted moves, and often it blasts from 0 to 60 in an instant. Plus, the characters are sketchy and require top young talent to get their attitude, that fury, just right.

The production at the Balboa Theatre represents a dual shakedown cruise. The company’s beginning a national tour here, and the Balboa’s such a natural venue for this kind of event you wonder why it ever closed. And the production rocks. Kyle Riabko, as the budding nihilist Melchior, and Blake Bashoff as Moritz (a mesa of brown hair rising from his scalp) head a cast with no weak links.

The musical’s hurt and angry tone becomes a tour through a sad old world. The walls — a headless body in a casket, an anvil’s wing — light up and tell parts of Wedekind’s original story. Among other things, the musical becomes a tour through a sad old museum.

Susan Hilferty’s Edwardian costumes — boys in four-button sport coats, girls in long, puffy-shouldered cottons — make the stage resemble a Harry Potter movie, in which heretofore assexual students encounter a mystery far greater than magic.
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.

All’s Well That Ends Well
Most of Shakespeare’s romantic comedies begin with an arranged marriage; the female’s father chooses for her. But what if the golden slipper were on the other foot? What if the woman — Helena in All’s Well — were free to name her mate with the King’s blessing? And what if her intended — rich, young Bertram — flat refuses enforced wedding and would rather go to war than marry beneath his station? In effect, Shakespeare takes a social given of the time and dumps it on its ear. Helena persists; Bertram changes his mind. At the Old Globe, director Darko Trensenjak re-creates the play in Victorian times, which allows Linda Cho to dress the cast in cold, formal charcoal, the soldiers in bright red and black. Trensenjak counters the stiff-upper-lip surface with bawdy touches, including a frontal view of Michelangelo’s God-liest status David upstage (and upstaging all below). As Bertram and Helena, Graham Hamilton and Kimberly Parker Gremer are adequate. The fun’s in the secondary roles: Jim Winker’s crotchety King (“wrapped in discomfiture”); then she really perseveres; after all, she dumps it on its ear. Helena persists; Bertram changes his mind.

Altrust-sized statue bright red and black. Trensenjak insists. At the Old Globe, director Esther Emery has guided a beautifully balanced cast through Margulies’ subtly layered breakthrough comedy! Don Shoeleone. He lived so that others would not go barefoot. Services held every Fri. & Sat. at 8 p.m.

Altar Boyz
The Wells Regent Theatre presents the musical comedy spoof about a fictitious Christian boy band on the last night of their national “Raise the Praise” tour. Nick DeGracia directs, and the musical piece backup band. You won’t be able to keep up with the funny business from crass to classy in 67 seconds. At the Old Globe!

Anything Goes
Cole Porter’s musical classic, about antics aboard the S.S. American, gets an outdoor staging at the Kit Carson Amphitheater. Songs include “I Got a Kick Out of You” and “You’re the Top.”

Boomers
Lamb’s Players Theatre represents one of its most popular shows. In this salute to the Baby Boom generation, when a guy snags a suppert from “Big Girls Don’t Cry,” a woman counters with “It’s My Party and I’ll Cry If I Want To,” as if Leddy Gore wrote the song in response to the Four Seasons. Now in its fourth — fifth? — version, Boomers has grown a great deal since it premiered in 1993. It’s added social dimensions (the original was mostly about middle-class whites), more period details, and a much better understanding of one’s later years (gained from experience: authors Jerry Meads and Vanda Eggington are now 13 years older). Undeniably the piece is a lecture about the generation from 1946 to 1964. Deliberately, sometimes annoyingly, crotchety Jim Chovik recalls major events and provides statistics, from JFK to Kent State (but leaves out Jackson State), from hippies to rappers, marriage to divorce, and beyond. Themes from TV commercials and shows zip past, medleys of parts of songs clutter around a theme (Vietnam, relationships), and the evening unfurls like a game of “name that tune” in fast-forward. Boomers in the audience gulp “ahhs” of recognition when a musical fragment triggers memories. One could wish that, at least once or twice, the company would do a whole song (let Anise Ritchie’s Aretha-strong voice do all of “Respect,” or Keith Jefferson all of “I Heard It Through the Grapevine”). One could also wish that the character wasn’t so one-note (Bill Doyle’s hippie must express the same Dewey-marinated perplexity at least ten times). But the performances overall are quite good, as are Meals’s direction and the four-piece backup band. You won’t learn why the pump don’t work or how good brown sugar can taste, but if you’re of a certain era, Boomers will Time-machine you back in a lively manner.

Cadillacs of Comedy
Carlsbad Village Theatre hosts the comedy group that vows to “take the funny business from crass to classy in 67 seconds.”

The Compleat Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)
“It is a truth universally acknowledged that all men and women in the audience gulp their tea.” Bardolators may wince at how their sacred cow gets sent up in the Reduced Shakespeare Company’s antic-speed-read through the plays. Othello’s rap number, the histories a football game (the King’s crown becomes the ball), and Titus Andronicus a cooking show, for canvass. Compleat opened at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 1987 and ran for 10 years in London. New Village Arts’ updated version’s a kick. To the credit of director Rob Salas, and the three performers — Joshua Everett Johnson, Tim Parker, and Adam Brick — the entire show feels improvised (some actually is, but the border between planned and ad-libbed material blurs). And it flows like a toga party trashing the “musty, 400-year-old plays.” Audience participation contributes, especially when sections of the hour become parts of poor Oldpilia’s psyche.

Where There’s a Will...
There’s a Wake
We cordially invite you to pay your respects to our beloved Don Shoeleone. He lived so that others would not go barefoot. Services held every Fri. & Sat. at 8 p.m.

WORTH A TRY
OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK, 823-2502. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 8 P.M. TUESDAYS, 8 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 8 P.M. THROUGH SEPTEMBER 28.

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The Dream Is Rising (The Dream Is Still Alive) San Diego Reader presents its second annual tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., including T.J. Johnson performing the “I have a dream” speech, accompanied by an ensemble composed of actor-dancers, directed by Monique Gaffney, interpreting a Dream Deferred/A Dream Rising by Langston Hughes. Music is provided by Brasilia East Coast Swing Band.

The Joy Luck Club
During the two-week second Sino-Japanese War, Sunyi Wou founded the Joy Luck Club with three friends to cope with the chaos around them. When Amy Tan’s novel begins, Sunyi has died and her daughter, Jing-Mei “June” Woo, has been in her solo piece: one pound, eight ounces and “blue-black.” She was supposed to live, a doctor said, but she’d never be “normal.” In five scenes — which move from her birth (and her grandfather appealing to an authority in heaven) to age 11 (when she discovers her singing voice) — Woodard’s solo show proves the doctor both wrong and right. She lived, but she isn’t “normal.” She’s blessed with artistic gifts as an actor, singer, and storyteller. Pretty Fire (the ironic title refers to one of America’s most hazardous natural-gas grows in narrative drive as Char-}

The Merry Wives of Windsor Shakespeare’s short notice: Leg-

My Fair Lady When you watch a good produc-

National Comedy Theatre Improvisational comedy, making up funny stuff on the spot, is diffi-

Pretty Fire In one scene, Charleen Woodard has lived to prove a doctor wrong. She was born premature, she says in her solo piece: one pound, eight ounces and “blue-black.” She wasn’t supposed to live, a doctor said, but she’d never be “normal.” In five scenes — which move from her birth (and her grand-}

Worth a try: MARY KLEIN, SUZY LAMBSKIN, MARK HUNTER, SCOTT RYAN, LAURA JOHNSON, ALAN KELLEY, KEVIN LEACH, BRIAN MCCARTHY, JOHN STEWART, AND OTHERS

Pretty Fire
STARBURST THEATRE, 3777 39TH STREET, SUNSET, BOULEVARD, BALBOA PARK, 822-544-7827. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SATURDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SUNDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30.

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 if done 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 im-

The Receptologist Adam Bock’s new comedic piece is tricky to talk about, since every-
tion. The night I caught the show, Graham Hamilton — and the production overall — settled into act two and the way through. At first Hamilton dashed off his poetry as if he were prone. Later he let his accents and restraint. It honors the Shakespeare, works on elemental pulses. He always has a metaphor for everything. One way she tries to add melody to it. If the Old Globe's opening Night I caught the show, Hamilton dashed off his poetry as if having a retrospective of his work in London, are his 15 minutes of force. What he misses, as he is a medium of measuring the performing arts. Why has he come back in time. Given its technical Water is Full of Turpitude. Welton falls in and then out of love for the Trojan War in which Troilus and Cressida stages the musical that originated at the La Jolla Playhouse and won six Tony awards (including best musical) and five Drama Desk awards in 2002. Millie Dillmont seeks her fortune in 1920s New York. Thou shall not have? All, and possibly more, of his success over her? Ask forgiveness. Redivisio. As she has come to see his ex-lover, Patrick. His life is a mystery. He is a man of deep and restrained. It honors the Shakespeare, works on elemental impulses. Romeo and Juliet run together in the words. Why is it full oflj. Sara is full of surprises. William Jones directed. All's Well That Ends Well. Call the theater for days and times of each. Worth a try.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1243 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK, 619-234-5832. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 AND 2 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. THROUGH AUGUST 31.

Troilus and Cressida The Old Globe Theatre has a production of possibly Shakespeare's most angry, a "dark, sly satire" on the Trojan War in which Troilus falls in and then out of love for Cressida and "smiles with his eyes are full of turpitude." Welton Jones directed.

COMPASS THEATER, 7305 45TH AVENUE, ENGLEWOOD, 303-898-5220. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. THROUGH OCTOBER 5.

Where There's a Will... There's a Way The Old Globe Dinner Theatre presents James Pascarella and Will Roberson's interactive comedy, set in a 1920s speakeasy where suspicion abounds: "gangster, game, and dame." Pascarella directed.

Mystery Cafe, 305 SALMA STREET, BANKER'S HILL, 619-544-1064. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. THROUGH OCTOBER 5.

The San Diego Shakespeare Society presents three plays:

HAMLET, written by William Shakespeare and directed by Mark Anthony Tice, November 14 – December 15, 2013

MIGHTY WAVE, written by John Murrell and directed by Bob Gaudio, February 12 – March 9, 2014

THE TEMPEST, written by William Shakespeare and directed by Benjamin Daukantas, March 26 – April 20, 2014

For reservations and more information, please visit www.sdsbs.org or call 619-400-7110.
An End

He suffered no doubts that the critic’s voice was as vital as the artist’s.

He was ninety-one-and-a-half. It had been a long and gradual decline. Yet how quickly I could switch over from “I can’t believe he’s still here” to “I can’t believe he’s gone.”

The passing of Manny Farber early last week at his home in Leucadia provided a lesson in perspective: tearing myself away from writing about Tropic Thunder, heaven forgive me, to sit at the deathbed of the greatest man I’ve known, greatest film critic I’ve read, greatest teacher I’ve had. Driving the long road south down 101 those final days, returning from the deathwatch, was a genuine ghostly experience, a tour of mutual past haunts: Kardiff Kitchen and The Coffee Mill in Encinitas; the stone’s-throw oceanfront cottage in Del Mar where he and his mate, the artist Patricia Patterson, were installed when I moved to town in 1971 and where I house-sat and pet-sat when they went off for a summer in Europe the next year; the UCSD campus where I received — I wouldn’t say earned — an M.F.A. in 1974, Manny making a good show of putting me through the wringer in my oral exam while another panelist, the experimental filmmaker Stanton Kaye, kept stepping in and answering his challenges in my stead; Sheldon’s twenty-four-hour coffee house off the Pacific Beach exit on Interstate 5, good for a caffeine run on late nights at his painting studio, unspooling 16mm films till all hours on the walls.

None of these places is still there, apart from UCSD of course, and even then not the UCSD of the early Seventies, when the Visual Arts Department was lodged in one of the old wooden cabins on Matthews Campus, formerly USMC Camp Matthews. Around it, there was no La Jolla Village Square, no La Jolla Village Center, no University Towne Centre, no Costa Verde, no Starbucks at every point of the compass. For a midday break, the nearest alternative to the school cafeterias would be the antiseptic coffee shop at Scripps Memorial Hospital: no students, no faculty to be run into there.

I wrote about my history with Manny Farber a couple of years ago, a piece still available on the Reader website for anyone who cares to pursue it, and I cannot now go into the rudiments without running the risk of repeating myself. I can be certain, without having to reread the piece, that I would not be repeating myself if I mentioned something a friend of mine, who was there at the time, expressed surprise I had left out. How could I have overlooked the parade of cineastes drawn to the university by Manny’s gravitational pull — Rossellini, Franju, Godard and Gorin, Wenders, Herzog, et al., not to forget the critics Raymond Durgnant and Jonathan Rosenbaum. These were without question a valuable supplement to a film student’s education, and Manny was more than amenable to setting them up in their personal forums. But in my recollec-
tion. Manny, who never had enough time to dissect a movie in a three-hour class, never ran out of angles of attack, never exhausted the possibilities of juxtaposition and rearrangement, would never give over his own class time to these luminaries. He suffered no doubts that the critic’s voice was as vital as the artist’s.

So I left that out. I left a lot out. The student-written critical journal, The Movie Geek. The digital widow of James Agee (clear to the cigarette holder) who, brought in by Manny from New York, toiled in the art office in a secretarial capacity. The hilarious classroom impressions of John Wayne and James Stewart in The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance, the chalk caricatures of the blackboard — words can’t convey. And maybe the biggest omission, indicative of Manny’s self-immolation with work, the reams of Xererox notes genially churred out for students and T.A.’s alike: “From the film’s beginning, Warhol and Fassbinder insist this is a movie and not an experience to be lived through vicariously. Consider the off-center focus at the end of Fassbinder’s Amok film: the center is on a drip-drip gossip of two women, but the camera’s focussed on the long-stupified Raab, Herr R., watching the TV with his mind elsewhere. The tense dynamics, the anticipation and suspense, are deliberately cut out while the movie holds on a homely, honest atmosphere, a flimsy vinicultural backdrop, and, apart from Fassbinder’s character, a small role, an assemblage of oddly unappaling people: the stereotyped bumbler (Alain Rickman), the careless capitalist (Bill Pullman), the dippy hippie (Chris Pine), the blithe blonde (Rachel Taylor), the snooty barmaid (Eliza Dushku), among others. Directed by Randall Miller. 2008.

Boy A — Muffled drama, in milky light and molasses-y dialect, about a young Brit, a Mancunian, released from prison to start a new life under a new name, unable to outrun his past. It might have more impact if you could comprehend more than every third word. With Andrew Garfield, Peter Mullan, Siobhan Finnerman, and Alfie.

All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. www.americathebeautifuldoc.com

Manny, directed by John Crowley. 2007.

Brideshead Revisited — The Evelyn Waugh novel revisited, at roughly a fourth the length of the early-Fifties TV mini-series. Matthew Goode, as the self-proclaimed atheist artist Charles Ryder, murmurs his way through the pages of a radical rewrite (particularly the gay abandon): first year at Oxford, the tormented Catholics of Brideshead manor, Venice, Marakesh, and so on. A white-haired Emme Thompson as the tyrannical Catholic matrachel supplies brief relief from the tutelage. With Ben Wishaw, Hayley Atwell, and Michael Gambon; directed by Julian Jarrod. 2008.

The Dark Knight — Fashionably “dark” comic-book movie, the first one to think of putting the darkness right up in the title — a synonym, that, for “the bat man,” as he is frequently and unfamiliarly referred to, or simply Batman to you and me. Aside from the title, the second installment in Christopher Nolan’s resiling of the DC Comics superhero earns no points as a trailblazer. It would earn none even were it the first installment, although we must acknowledge that this trend-follower sets itself apart as an exceedingly oppressive, grinding, cruel, torturous experience. (The relentless, rumbling, theater-setting background music alone could be a health hazard to anyone with mild depressive tendencies.) It requires the stock figure of the Joker — banish all memories of Jack Nicholson in

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MOBILE USERS: For Showtimes - Text ATB with your ZIP CODE to 43KIX (43549)

America the Beautiful — Documentary by Darryl Roberts on the national obsession with physical beauty.

Babylon A.D. — Vin Diesel vehicle, with Melanie Thierry, Michelle Yeoh, and Gerard Depardieu, directed by Mathieu Kassovitz.

Bottle Shock — Unpalatable promo for California wines, more broadly a paean to good old American know-how and a chance, at the same time, to stick it to the French, the British, the Old World. A competitive wine tasting in the Bicentennial year of 1976, boiled down as “a bunch of hacks taking on the French,” has been freely fictionalized into a chippier comedy (or so we intut from the production music), boasting bright photography, a soppy period atmosphere, a flimsy vinicultural backdrop, and, apart from Freddy Rodriguez in a small role, an assemblage of oddly unappaling people: the stereotyped bumbler (Alain Rickman), the careless capitalist (Bill Pullman), the dippy hippie (Chris Pine), the blithe blonde (Rachel Taylor), the snooty barmaid (Eliza Dushku), among others. Directed by Randall Miller. 2008.

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Manny, directed by John Crowley. 2007.
The House Bunny — Bobo comedy about a sorority from the Playboy Mansion (a frisky Anna Faris) who becomes house mother to the misfits of Zeta Sorority, helpfully dishing them down. Admittedly, the anti-intellectualism is balanced by an at- tempt at smartening up the bimbo, but there is, in every sense, nothing to it. With Emma Stone, Kat Dennings, Colin Hanks, Beverly D’Angelo, and Hugh Hefner, directed by Fred Wolf.

Disaster Movie — spoof of Hollywood blockbusters, written and directed by Jason Friedberg and Aaron Seltzer, with Matt Lanter, Vanessa Minnillo, Nicole Parker. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GLOUCESTER MALL 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; PALM PROMENADE 24; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6)

Frozen River — Stoical prose sob story has some fresh ground to go over — the smuggling of illegal aliens through the slushy snow of the Mohawk Indian reservation on the Canadian border — and some stark scenery to go with it. Writer and director Courtney Hunt, whose plotting and pacing are staggeringly pedestrian, expends a lot of energy explaining how a law-abiding white woman could get caught up in that sideline: a gambling-addicted husband who skips out on Christmas week, a fifteen-year-old sidekick who’s a gambling-addicted husband who skips out on Christmas week, a fifteen-year-old son, and the whole thing is done on the cheap. With Sienna Guillory, winsomely embodied by Skylar Grey, Chris Pine, and (as himself) Buzz Aldrin; directed by Ben Stassen. 2008.

Journey to the Center of the Earth — The Jules Verne novel serves as a shooting script and guidebook for a week of uncle-nephew bonding. The 3D effects can be a bit crude (twice we get spit in the face, once drooled in the face), and it takes a while to reach the fun stuff (the flying fish, the flesh-eating plants, the floating rocks, the flying fish), and it takes a while to reach the fun stuff (the flying fish, the flesh-eating plants, the floating rocks, the flying fish), but that’s a mere pretext for the players at short intervals to warble tunes from the ABBA songbook. Among the things that might be said about the movie are (a) that ABBA, infectious though they can be, are not exactly the Beatles, as witnessed by the following: (b) that another and better-well, movie, Movie’s Wedding, had already successfully plundered the ABBA songbook, without asking its cast to do the singing; (c) that this cast for the most part are not singers (Pierce Brosnan in full opera voice looks as if his head’s about to explode), although no apologies need be made for Meryl Streep, who, besides her lovely benefiting, supplements her usual emotion-plumbing with some pesty physicality; (d) that the natural settings, clearly, brightly, sunnily photographed, somewhat temper the inherent campiness, and (e) that this tempering, in a work of such fragile artifacts, is not necessarily a good thing. To get down to a couple of specifics, the “Super Trooper” number on the eve of the wedding is a definite high point, and despite the shortage of competition for high points, the closing credits are well worth hanging on for, providing two higher points in the form of encores — twin peaks, if you please — with Streep and her bosom buddies (the blissfully confident Christine Baranski and the indomitably plucky Julie Walters) stepping off the Greek island and onto a schicked concert stage, in disco-era Vegas costume. With Amanda Seyfried, Colin Firth, Sofía Skarstedt, and Dominic Cooper. 2008.

The Only Person He Can Trust Is Himself. — Portrayed on the edges of the liminal space between frame and real, between the sacred and profane, between God and a tramp, between life and death, between the two, and in the midst of it." • (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; FASHION VALLEY 18; GLOUCESTER MALL 13; MISSION VALLEY 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)
**MOVIE SHOWTIMES**

**CENTRAL CLAIREMONT**
Town Square 14  
7199 Clairemont Center Drive (858-272-1234)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13)  
College; (R)  
The Dark Knight (PG)  
Hamlet 2 (PG-13)  
The House Bunny (PG-13)  
The Longshots (PG)  
Mamma Mia! (PG-13)  
Pineapple Express (R)  
The Rocker (PG-13)  
Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG)  
Step Brothers (R)  
Tropic Thunder (R)  
Vicky Cristina Barcelona (PG-13)

**DOWNTOWN**
Gaslamp 15  
201 Broadway (619-232-0400)
Death Race (R)  
Hamlet 2 (R)  
Hellboy II; The Golden Army (PG-13)  
Happy Meal Is Here (PG)  
The House Bunny (PG-13)  
The Longshots (PG)  
A Man Named Pearl (PG); 
Miracle (PG);  
The Mummy: Tomb of the 
Dragon Emperor (PG-13);  
Sex and the City (R)  
The Sisterhood of the Traveling 
Paints (PG-13);  
Tropic Thunder (R)

**Horton Plaza**
1857 West Broadway (619-446-1900)
America the Beautiful (R)  
Babylon A.D. (PG-13)  
College; (R)  
The Dark Knight (PG)  
Hamlet 2 (PG-13)  
The House Bunny (PG-13)  
The Longshots (PG)  
Mamma Mia! (PG-13)  
Pineapple Express (R)  
The Rocker (PG-13)  
Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG)  
Step Brothers (R)  
Tropic Thunder (R)  
Vicky Cristina Barcelona (PG-13)

**LA JOLLA**
La Jolla 12  
8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-558-2262)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13)  
College; (R)  
The Dark Knight (PG)  
Death Race (R)  
Hamlet 2 (PG-13)  
The House Bunny (PG-13)  
The Longshots (PG)  
Mamma Mia! (PG-13)  
Pineapple Express (R)  
The Rocker (PG-13)  
Star Wars: The Clone 
Wars (PG)  
Step Brothers (R)  
Tropic Thunder (R)  
Vicky Cristina 
Barcelona (PG-13)

**MISSION VALLEY**
Fashion Valley 18  
7075 Friars Road (619-295-2262)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13)  
College; (R)  
The Dark Knight (PG)  
Death Race (R)  
Hamlet 2 (PG-13)  
The House Bunny (PG-13)  
The Longshots (PG)  
Mamma Mia! (PG-13)  
Pineapple Express (R)  
The Rocker (PG-13)  
Star Wars: The Clone 
Wars (PG)  
Step Brothers (R)  
Tropic Thunder (R)  
Vicky Cristina 
Barcelona (PG-13)

**OTTOUPN**
Hillcrest Cinemas  
2013 Texas Drive (619-298-0266)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13)  
College; (R)  
The Dark Knight (PG)  
Death Race (R)  
Hamlet 2 (PG-13)  
The House Bunny (PG-13)  
The Longshots (PG)  
Mamma Mia! (PG-13)  
Pineapple Express (R)  
The Rocker (PG-13)  
Star Wars: The Clone 
Wars (PG)  
Step Brothers (R)  
Tropic Thunder (R)  
Vicky Cristina 
Barcelona (PG-13)

**SAN DIEGO**
Chula Vista 10  
405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13)  
College; (R)  
The Dark Knight (PG)  
Death Race (R)  
Hamlet 2 (PG-13)  
The House Bunny (PG-13)  
The Longshots (PG)  
Mamma Mia! (PG-13)  
Pineapple Express (R)  
The Rocker (PG-13)  
Star Wars: The Clone 
Wars (PG)  
Step Brothers (R)  
Tropic Thunder (R)  
Vicky Cristina 
Barcelona (PG-13)

**SOUTH BAY**
Chula Vista 10  
405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-4565)
Call theater for program information

**LA MESA**
Grossmont Center 10  
5000 Grossmont Center Drive (619-455-7208)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13)  
The Dark Knight (PG)  
Death Race (R)  
Disaster Movie (PG)  
Hamlet 2 (PG-13)  
The House Bunny (PG-13)  
The Longshots (PG)  
Mamma Mia! (PG-13)  
Pineapple Express (R)  
The Rocker (PG-13)  
Tropic Thunder (R)  
Vicky Cristina Barcelona (PG-13)

**RANCHO SAN DIEGO**
San Diego 15  
2925 Jamacha Road (619-626-2264)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13)  
College; (R)  
The Dark Knight (PG)  
Death Race (R)  
Hamlet 2 (PG-13)  
The House Bunny (PG-13)  
The Longshots (PG)  
Mamma Mia! (PG-13)  
Pineapple Express (R)  
The Rocker (PG-13)  
Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG)  
Step Brothers (R)  
Tropic Thunder (R)  
Vicky Cristina Barcelona (PG-13)

**STATE UNIVERSITY**
Ken  
400 Adams Avenue (619-492-0268)
Boy A (R)  
Fun 4:45; 7:15; 9:45 Sat., 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

**UPTON**
Missions Hills  
2011 Texas Drive (619-298-0266)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13)  
College; (R)  
The Dark Knight (PG)  
Hamlet 2 (PG-13)  
The House Bunny (PG-13)  
The Longshots (PG)  
Mamma Mia! (PG-13)  
Pineapple Express (R)  
The Rocker (PG-13)  
Star Wars: The Clone 
Wars (PG)  
Step Brothers (R)  
Tropic Thunder (R)  
Vicky Cristina 
Barcelona (PG-13)

**SANTEE**
Santee Drive In  
20990 Wicksdale Avenue (619-448-7407)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13)  
College; (R)  
The Dark Knight (PG)  
Hamlet 2 (PG-13)  
The House Bunny (PG-13)  
The Longshots (PG)  
Mamma Mia! (PG-13)  
Pineapple Express (R)  
The Rocker (PG-13)  
Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG)  
Step Brothers (R)  
Tropic Thunder (R)  
The Darkness (R)

**SOUTH BAY**
Chula Vista 10  
405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)
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**EAST COUNTY**
El Cajon  
1850 Parkway Plaza (619-401-4565)
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**Movie Showtimes**

**BARGAIN showtimes are in parentheses.**
The Dark Knight (PG-13) 11:30 2:30 5:30 6:45 9:30
The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (PG-13) Fri. - Sun. 12:15, 2:20, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
Play It Again (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40 2:55 5:00 7:10 9:20
WALL-E (G) Fri-Sun 10:30 12:30 2:30
The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2 (PG-13) Fri-Sun 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
Tropic Thunder (R) Fri-Sun 12:30, 2:10, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15
Tropic Thunder (R) Fri-Sun 12:30, 2:05, 4:50, 7:35, 10:20

 Mandalay 11350 Via de la Valle (760-599-8221)
Mirrors (R) Fri-Sun 12:15, 2:05, 4:45, 7:35, 10:15
The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (PG-13) Fri-Sun 12:15, 2:05, 4:45, 7:35, 10:15
Tropic Thunder (R) Fri-Sun 12:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:15

ENCHANTED
La Paloma 347 South Coast Highway 101

San Diego 6940 El Camino Real (at Aliso/Village)

Now Playing
Check local listings for theaters and showtimes
Sorry, no passes accepted for this engagement
they’re an irrepressible subtext in the found footage. And it just happens to be true. I was already thinking that when Phillip’s former girlfriend brought up the fact that he began to look at it like a bank robbery and how much that delighted him, being a bit of an anti-authoritarian “bad boy.” In fact, I was watching loads of time-lapse videos aboutvonks before the attempt. I’m not sure what the trailers for this film looked like, but I think it should have been promoted this way — a caper. It probably would have had a much bigger mass appeal.

**User Reviews — MOVIES**

**Best user comments from Rater website**

**Man on Wire**

I finally saw Man on Wire today. I thought it was fantastic. Unfortunately, when most people hear “documentary,” their eyes glaze over. But this film is actually a very entertaining “caper” movie more like a caper thriller, mostly because of the way of an elegy. The documentary’s function as a caper thriller, meanwhile, is on balance a success. The narrative information doesn’t always come in the best ordest form, and it comes with a good many interruptions and side trips, but the details of the operation will often, for season or another, beguile the mind.

And although the unindicted history, along with the manifest survival of the talking heads, would seem to put a low ceiling on the suspense, anyone with the slightest touch of acrophobia will not, at the clime, be kept to keep palms dry. 2008. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (JACKSON CREYTS)

**Mirrors**

— It begins (after a pre-credit sequence of a stuntman and his company) at a seedy, burnt-out department store of charred mannequins and hallucinogenic mirrors. It proceeds, however, to a climax with the nemesis,Increment, and Tedium. With Kiefer Sutherland, Jena Malone, and Jason Flemyng, directed by Alejandro Aja. 2008.

**Pineapple Express** — A buddy comedy, a stoner comedy, a crime comedy from the writers and directors of Superbad — a slightly less adhesive film that deals — best friends — on the run from the law. As the two dopers, James Franco mimics the classic “talk show on a video sequel to Pineapple Express is a Young Filmmakers Competition. Crime, a film noir auteur and tender sentiment co-exist uneffectually, if not mutually destructively. With Will Poulter, Bill Milner, and John Gallagher, written and directed by Garth Jennings. 2008.

**San Diego Public Library, 9/3, 6:30 P.M.**

**Star Wars: The Clone Wars** — Or in the order the words appear on screen and in the ads, Star the Clone Wars. It fills in events on the timeline between parts two and three of the second cycle in George Lucas’s space saga. If, from this recovery, that’s still of concern. You need the guiding hand of Dave Filoni, the full computer animation, as opposed to the extensive but partial computer animation in the aforos cycle, judges the action ever furthermore into the universe of the video game. If again, that’s of concern. Best let the zealots fight it out. 2008.

**Step Brothers** — Mainstream comedy, at the broadest point in the stream, about two drifters of developmentally arrested forty-year-olds (Will Ferrell, John C. Reilly), still living at home with their respective single mom and single dad, then together after the parents meet and marry, living first at home and later in bittersweet accord. Everything is pushed to extremes with the intent of making it extra, extra funny, and with the result of making it not at all funny. It is to co-producer Judd Apatow rather that director Adam McKay that we are prone to ascribe the prosthesis and “it’s between the scriptwriting team of Ferrell and McKay that we are obliged to split credit for lines like “I want you to roll into me a little ball and shove you up my vagina” and “I feel like a lightning bolt hit the tip of my penis.”

With Mary Steenburgen, Richard Jenkins, Adam Scott, Kathryn Hahn, 2008.

**Sex and the City** — About a savvy American journalist who shows a skeptical princess a good time on the town. The feminine role, possibly Audrey Hepburn’s signature role, makes the actress’s opposite sides, her outward, otherworldly refinement and her unsuspected capacity for fun. And Gregory Peck is a lot less starchy than normal, too. With Eddie Albert. 1953.

**Sex and the City** — The big-screen re-issuasion of the debbie HBO series (1998-2004) runs, or better say, shows, two hours and twenty minutes. That’s a lot of clothes and a lot of stories, a lot of accompanying narrations, a lot of superficiality, a lot of vacuity. Maybe it would help if you had followed those four boomers — the stringy Sarah Jessica Parker, the Asian thug, dealer — best friends — on the run from the law. As the two dopers, James Franco mimics the classic “talk show on a video sequel to Pineapple Express is a Young Filmmakers Competition. Crime, a film noir auteur and tender sentiment co-exist uneffectually, if not mutually destructively. With Will Poulter, Bill Milner, and John Gallagher, written and directed by Garth Jennings. 2008.

**The Brotherhood of the Traveling Pants 2** — Three years later with a high-school prom group entry in a Young Filmmakers Competition. Crime, a film noir auteur and tender sentiment co-exist uneffectually, if not mutually destructively. With Will Poulter, Bill Milner, and John Gallagher, written and directed by Garth Jennings. 2008.
plays withholding and delaying tactics whose effect is more annoyance than sus-

cence; and at the finish it features a long-

winded verbal summation that, besides

its audience, seems to be built into the

story itself. Conceived in a single scene,

the film is perforce populated with

winded verbal summation that, besides its

effect is more annoyance than sus-

cence. A range of Muslim beliefs and atti-

dudes withholding and delaying tactics

in the context of a Disney computer car-

toon, are the distinctive qualities of post-

apocalyptic and dystopian melancholy.

The happy ending pretty much ruins it. If

the film wanted full credit for evoking those

feelings, the best ending it could have had

would be hopeful, not happy. With the

voices of Ben Burtt, Elissa Knight, Jeff Gar-

lin, and Sigourney Weaver; written and di-

rected by Andrew Stanton. 2008.

★ [CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY SW 21; SQUARE 14]

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fiction about a cute anthropomor-

phized “male” robot — a rattletrap con-

scious being that is entirely conscious.) No less remarkable,

the latter’s father, a crazy mixed-up psychi-

cracy. Rather remarkable for any movie are

blossoms between a teenage dope peddler

and its audience alike. With James McAvoy,

Angélica Barella, Morgan Freeman, Terence

Stamp, and Thomas Kretschmann; directed

by Timur Bekmambetov. 2008.

★ [HUNSTON/LA PLAZA 54]

WALL-E — Relentlessly sentimental sci-

cence fiction about a cute anthropomor-

phized “male” robot — a rattletrap con-

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It could be any actor that plays me, I probably go by Robert Redford. He could do a good job and wouldn’t need any make-up. I like the idea of a Kurt Lancaster. He used to be in the circus. I think Kirk Douglas did that same sort of thing. So they would bring a good aspect to the part with those sorts of skills.

If any actor in history could play you, who would it be?
Astound your friends & become famous!

THE READER PUZZLE:

RULES OF THE GAME
1) Each week we’re printing a lot of EVERYONE who submits the correct answers to the previous week’s puzzle. See this week’s contenders below.
2) When you successfully complete a puzzle, we’ll also print a brief 110 words or less message that you’ve written. This is optional, but it’s a great opportunity for you to give a shout out to or thank any of your own entries. Each time you submit a new puzzle, you may submit a new message.
3) We’re keeping track of how many puzzles you successfully complete. But your information will only be printed when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by the new puzzle deadline: 7:00 a.m., Monday.
4) Entires must be faxed to 692-231-0489 or mailed to Reader Puzzles, P.O. Box 8560, San Diego, CA 92186-5803, or delivered through our mail slot at 7003 Blackstone Street in Little Italy. When you’re going away, send your Reader Tickets each week to contenders chosen randomly.
5) No answers will be legible and entered in the squares provided. Entries that arrive after the deadline will not be considered.
6) If you make a mistake, keep going. You will be disqualified.
7) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.

Across
1. “That’s more than I need to know,” in Internet lingo
4. “Hey, eve!”
7. License to thrill? Abridg
10. Fast flier
13. It’s hard to get out of the business
17. 8th of 12: Abridg
20. “On the Pulse of Morning” poet
22. Tarentine
23. Hari
25. Shot for Shaq
26. “Star Trek” helmsman
27. Most secluded
30. Walkman batteries
33. Gas, say: Abridg.
35. Ruckus
38. “Odds _____ …”
40. Like many loafers
42. Across, as a resolution
44. Area
47. Last word of many fairy tales
49. “Ali McBeal” actresses
52. Word that means “humdinger” or “doozy” (and an apt title for this puzzle)
53. Beseech
56. 12th of 12: Abbr.
59. Deutschland “D’oh!”
60. Dutch _____ disease
61. Diner sign
63. 180 degrees from WWN

Down
1. Hobos
2. Oahu wear
3. Clara Bow’s nickname
4. Buck of filmdom
5. Without, in the world
6. “Here’s looking _____ kid”
7. “What Happens in Vegas” star Cameron
8. Fashion initials
10. Choplite, e.g.
11. Self-centered one
12. Class cutters
15. PC linkup
19. Radate
21. Beach bash
24. 1st and 2nd round
25. Trucker’s expenses
27. Actress Dee and others
28. Fraternity letter
29. 80% of the Kentucky Derby
31. “It’s _____ nothing”
32. Reaction to freshness
33. Incubator parts
36. Antiviral part
37. Leaking
38. Body of water south of Orsk
40. Fills up
43. “Fifty-year” book
45. “Ripe” life stage
46. “Superman” actress
47. “Baywatch” star
48. “What’s up, dude. Where’s my T-?”
49. “Ally McBeal” actress
50. “Chuckles” star
51. Show fear
52. “It’s _____ nothing”
54. No longer working: Abbr.
55. “It’s _____ nothing”
56. 12th of 12: Abbr.
57. “Kaboom!”
58. Spot in the afternoon?
62. “Why, ____ my week.”
64. Plus

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S PUZZLE:

MASH VIASES BASH
PELOD ITALO ECHO
HELLO DOLLY AHA
MR Holland Opus Prime
DIEU MAYAN
EXAMS MOTEL AHS
DUDE WHERE'S MY CAR?
EP'S AUTO'S OUTRA
ANTS BIDS
IGNITIROMANTIC
SPITS ANY
LOCH WHAT'S UP DOC
IKEA PEETE COPY
PERT Merrill BAPS

We cannot accept your entry without the following:
Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
Neighborhood/City: ____________________________
State: ________ Zip Code: __________
Personal Message:

This week’s contenders:

1. Reesha Fullerton, Oceanside
2. Elaine Marume, Oceanside
3. Stephen Wilder, Rancho Bernardo
4. Shannon Barry, Pine Valley
5. Ron Meyer, Santee
6. Woody Anderson, Carmel Valley
7. Susan Morfey, Little Italy
8. George Jackson, Oceanside
9. Karen Davies, San Carlos
10. “Aren’t you glad you started this?”
11. Paul Stanton, Canyon Hills
12. “You need more T-shirts.”
13. “It’s great to be a winner.”
14. “I sliced my right thumb today — have screwed the Padres!”
15. “The new instant replay still would have a mind of its own.”
16. “Sometimes you have to rely on a giraffe filled with whipped cream.”
17. “Don’t pay the ransom. I’ve got the Alamo.”
18. “Bear, you are the pho king.”
19. “Start the count-down! We have screwed the Padres!”
20. “I’m creeping up on you!”
21. “Hello, Dad. We love you!”
22. “Sad and spay/neuter.”
23. “I can fly with a 23-year-old car.”
25. “Aren’t you glad you started this?”
26. “It’s easy to grin when your ship is in sight.”
27. “What’s up, dude. Where’s my T-?”
28. “The new instant replay still would have a mind of its own.”
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Best Weddings, Joyful giving of vows!
news of the WeIRD

by Chuck Shepherd

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LEAD STORY
— Martha Padgett gave birth to quadruplets in Riverside, Calif., in July, but she only did half the work. The other two babies were born to her partner, Karen Wesołowski, using Padgett’s eggs and the same sperm donor, and whose two came along 22 hours after Padgett’s two. The women carried two fertilized eggs each only because they had failed five times before with in-vitro fertilization and just wanted to try the rest of having at least one child between them.

Latest Religious Messages
— “Someone’s getting a new spinal cord tonight!” yelled Canadian tent-revival preacher Todd Bentley in July during his crusade in Lakeland, Fla. (also broadcast on GodTV and the Internet), according to an Associated Press observer. Miracles are “popping like popcorn,” he promised, punctuating each hands-on salvation with an Emeril-ty “Bam!” His unorthodox extols to sometimes rousing up the afflicted, he admits, because that’s what God tells him to do (e.g., kneeing a “cancer patient” in the stomach, banging a crippled woman’s leg on a platform). Anyone in need of healing should shout often, “come and get some!”

— The most popular UK Hindu temple east of London appears to appear the same bedroom of Sushila Karia and her husband, Dhirajil, in a quiet residential neighborhood in the resort town of Clacton-on-Sea. On holy days, the line of pilgrims extends down the ball and stairs, through the living room, out the door, and across the lawn, according to a May report in London’s Daily Mail. The temple, inaugurated 29 years ago to save Hindus the 90-mile round-trip to London, contains 17 marble gods that were specially blessed for the occasion by priests in India.

Cultural Diversity
— France’s Council of Ministers turned down an otherwise-acceptable petition for citizenship by a French Moroccan woman in July, on the basis that her total submission to her husband makes her “insufficiently” “assimilated [her] into the country’s ethos of gender equality. The 32-year-old Muslim veils her entire body in public except for a narrow slit for the eyes and, for example, rejects the idea of voting, in that such matters should be left entirely to the discretion of her husband and male relatives.

— “The days of the ceramics trade here are numbered,” lamented Francisco Figueredeiro, 68, of Portogal’s Caldas da Rainha region. For more than 30 years, Figueredeiro and his wife have been a small number of craftsmen who have shaped and molded penises integrated into various models for export (e.g., mug with penis extensions, penis-shaped bottles, ceramic soccer figures with penises peaking out from under flags). A July Reuters dispatch attributed the decline to a general loss in the provocativeness of public sexual displays.

— The government of France announced that, starting next year, it will regulate the booming business of country-western line-dancing by requiring licenses of teachers after 200 hours’ instruction. Inexplicably, at least 100,000 people in the country-line dance weekly, and the popularity is growing, according to a May dispatch in The Times of London. A French Dance Federation official said he guesses the preference for line-dancing over square-dancing is the French preference for no physical contact.

— Questionable Judgments: (1) Dr. Frederick Lobati, 47, was charged last year with felony abuse of his daughter in Ozark, Mo., but in June 2008 offered the defense that, being of African heritage, he was merely applying a “koko” (a bare fikkol punch), which is an acceptable punishment in his culture. (2) In June, the High Court in Johannesburg granted the request by a Chines civil rights organization to switch Chinese South Africans from “caucasian” (as they were during apartheid) to “black” (which would allow them to better qualify for government benefiat).

Scenes of the Surreal
— (1) The president of Japan’s Okasaka Planning Co. told attendees of the Japanese Seafood Show in July that his tuna makes superior sushi because his company administers acupuncture to each fish prior to its death in order to reduce stress. (2) A Welsh oil painting, Neptun Nade, which was mottled 60 years ago for being too brazen for public display because the model is naked, drew fresh criticism when reintroduced in July at a public gallery in Wales but this time only because the naked model is holding a cigarette.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTip@Yahoo.com.

Edited by James Ulvog

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I use the word ‘booby’ for almost everything. I started saying it six months ago. I think he heard me say it when I said I don’t use it to talk about an actual booby, which I guess also a slang word, just for fun. When I use it, it means something that’s bad or negative. For example, if you’re late for work, that’s booby. Or if your friend is being a jerk, they are booby.”

To see an online version of this column, go to sdsudaily.com. You can print it, email it to friends, and find archived columns.

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- Oil filter change is $25.00
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**$69**
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- Oil change is $25.00
- Soft wash is $25.00
- Interior cleaning is $25.00

---

**FREE**
Regular oil change

- Oil change is $30.00
- Exterior cleaning is $15.00
- Interior cleaning is $15.00

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**$595**
Auto Trans Service

- Oil change is $25.00
- Exterior cleaning is $25.00
- Interior cleaning is $25.00

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**$239**
Auto Trans Rebuild

- Oil change is $25.00
- Exterior cleaning is $25.00
- Interior cleaning is $25.00

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**$275**
Transmission Repair

- Oil change is $25.00
- Exterior cleaning is $25.00
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**$499**
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- Oil change is $25.00
- Exterior cleaning is $25.00
- Interior cleaning is $25.00

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I couldn't help it. I walked by what used to be my favorite bar, I had to peer through the window and see the faces and the abominations. I couldn't even recognize it any more—my old home away from home. “Goddamn it,” I sighed to my date. “This used to be my favorite place, and now it's just going to be another shitty yuppie bar.”

The Office, as it’s now called, used to be Scolari’s Office on 30th, between University and Lincolnia. A great place to see under-ground bands, get stoned, and get mixed in with the friends there, and have good drinks without drai ning your wallet. Sure, it had its downsides. Unfiltered funning, the PA was often half working, and there were various sungs around from time to time. Nothing out of the ordinary for an actual dive bar. But I was of my friends there that most of all missed the PA. It felt like a community. Now its cheap drinks are replaced with five dollar wells, no cover charge is replaced with a cover charge; the dark, comforting atmosphere is now trendy bullshit and lights—what have you. But at least it’s a drying velvet rope outside.

As I walked with my date toward Lincoln and my soon-to-be-stolen truck, I looked down 30th Street. La Boheme the ultimate “fix-you” to people who loved their neighborhood almost as it was five years ago. Yoga studio, restaurant, dance studio, restaurant, beer-bar, SUV's, lifted bro-trucks, BMW's...in the distance, the shadow that was Aztec Bowl, now nestled against vamps like it was a Starbucks. I remember when every one called that donut shop “Hooper Donut” because of all the tranny hookers that would lurk late at night around the back waiting for Johns. I told my date, “You could go in there wasted at 2:30 am, and get a jerk off on the counter.”

She laughed and said, “Sounds like fun.”

“Yeah,” I sighed. “They don’t stay open late anymore.”

Author Name: Adam Rusch
Neighborhood: North Park
Age: 30
Occupation: Bored computer worker/ musician

There She Goes

Author Name: Adam Rusch
Neighborhood: North Park
Age: 30
Occupation: Bored computer worker/ musician

Editor's note: The winner of July’s $100,000 prize for our monthly neighborhood essay contest is printed below.

Deadline for the next neighborhood contest is August 31, 2012.

Past your entry by going to SDReader.com/neighborhoods, find your neighborhood or campus, and follow the instructions to create a blog.
Thirty Years Ago
Mao Tse-tung, chairman of the Chinese Communist Party, will be dead exactly two years September 9.

The only major confrontation the Mao Memorial Committee has had was with another communist group — the Communist Party Marxist-Leninists (CPML).

According to Doug Sollosy, chief organizer of the memorial committee, a skirmish with CPML members broke out several weeks ago in Mission Valley. Sollosy and another committee member were putting up posters on telephone poles outside the First Congregational Church in which a meeting of the U.S./China People’s Friendship Association was being held. Sollosy says a man who is in the CPML tore down one of his posters and a slug-swap ensued.


Twenty-Five Years Ago
Imperial Beach mayor Brian Bilbray, whose ambitions for higher office are no secret, has had enough problems on his hands in the recent past, with his city’s treasury nearly empty and with his beaches closed for the summer due to sewage from Mexico. So the last thing he needed was a phone call several weeks ago from a Chula Vista Star-News reporter inquiring about an incident the previous Friday night in which Bilbray allegedly called a superior court judge and asked him to free a friend of his.

— CITY LIGHTS: “FIRST IMPRESSIONS,” Thomas K. Arnold, September 1, 1983

Twenty Years Ago
Aurore and Ethel Lee await their turn in the supermarket. In the winter of life, they sit, legs crossed at ankles, on folding chairs at a card table. The skin on the tops of their hands is shiny, and speckled as a trout.

“I think people our age, older people, they mostly believe,” says Aurore. “They hope to go to heaven.”

“’In rest homes,’ agrees Ethel Lee, ‘they talk about it a lot. Yes. Hell? Who will go there?’ Rapists, murderers, Hitler,’ offers Aurore.

— IN SIGHT OF HEAVEN, Judith Moore, September 1, 1988

Fifteen Years Ago
After liftoff, I established an en route climb speed of 140 knots and turned to the south-east. We were passing through 4000 feet. Ahead in the near distance, the Salton Sea came into view, off to the right Mt. Laguna and the Mt. Laguna RADAR! Alan asked, “Should we be concerned about being seen on their screen?”

“We’re on their radar screen, count on it, and all they can do is watch us disappear down into Mexico.”

— “DON’T LOAD THE NOSE: A POT PILOT’S CONFESSION,” Michael Jon Thorne, September 2, 1993

Ten Years Ago
One of the two is a multiunitarian; five national cable-and-broadcast conglomerates; a well-entrenched, monopoly daily newspaper and its army of compliant reporters; the mayor and city council and their taxpayer-paid staff; political consultants expected to spend as much as it takes — maybe more than $2 million — to make sure voters approve a new $400-million-plus baseball stadium for San Diego.

“It’s good for all of us” is their motto, and political consultant Tom Shepard, who once pleaded guilty to a charge of money laundering in the political corruption case of his old mentor Roger Hedgecock, is now leading the charge for taxpayer funding of a downtown pleasure palace, replete with luxury suites and an artificial beach.


Five Years Ago
The Naughyville must go. That’s what deputy fire marshal Terry Baird told Cash co-owner Tim Mays August 20 about the trademark black padding mounted behind the stage.

The world-famous backdrop, which has appeared in Rolling Stone and Spin magazines, was originally used for both a Farelle’s ice cream parlor. It has been part of the club since it opened at its Kettner and Laurel location nine years ago.


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LA Jolla UTC. Sunny, lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest $1695. $15,000 down. 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Reduced $239,000/owner. 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday.

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MISCELLANEOUS

San Diego County. All loans researched. 30-50 new properties daily throughout year fixed loan assistance available! Call 800-398-8864, Box 305.

President?

Of course, this office isn’t going to be all fun and shooting pandas with water guns full of whiskey. No. There are goals to be accomplished, namely the roundup and disposal of illegal aliens. In my pursuit of these wrongful immigrants, I’ll need a Wonder Woman costume and all the margarita mix that’ll fit in the back of a Ford Festiva.

In honor of being appointed vice tyrant of homeland endeavors, I’ve named my crotch “The Stimulus Package.”

In the coming term I will require several things to aid me in the full accomplishment of my duties: (1) a rocket pack; (b) cookies; and (4) access to every Marvel comic ever printed. These are not frivolous items; they each fulfill a purpose. In case of disaster, the comic books will act as a guide to defeating supervillains. One cannot fight evil without the nutritional benefit of cookies. And the rocket pack is a rocket pack because everyone should have a purpose. In case of disaster, the comic books will act as a guide to defeating supervillains. One cannot fight evil without the nutritional benefit of cookies. And the rocket pack is a rocket pack because everyone should have a purpose.

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What’s that?

Who the hell is Joe Biden? A senator? From where? What’s that he’s Delaware? Oh, okay, I’ll play along. Sure it’s a state. So, where is this mythical state of Delaware nobody’s ever heard of? Obama picked him for vice president.

Ah, natch! Stupid CNN. Ruin all my fun.

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The Reader
August 28, 2008
Volume 1
Issue 59
Number 5

TOO MUCH TRASH

Comments?
email: too.much.trash@gmail.com

0. Bears: 4,487. Angry villagers storm. Bears obtain fire, start wearing clothes, and using iPhones. ALL GLORY TO OUR BEAR OVERLORDS! (You’ve heard this story a thousand times.)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

CHUCK

NRC 8:00 P.M.

Headline! “NRC Revives Stinking Corpse One Year After Official Death. Medical Community Stunned. TV, Vogue Groan and Roll Eyes and Search Area For Items To Blind Themselves With.” Story at 11.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

THE SHRIMP ON THE BARBIE

KDOV 2:00 P.M.

In the late 1980s the U.S. discovered a magical country where the people speak a funny language and where the animals have old little poodles.

It’s a wonderful place, and Hollywood saw fit to situate every single movie of a generation in this strange land, but after that we forgot about the crazy country and it returned to being a stinky desert island. I think it’s called Austria, and nobody cares about it anymore. Eat one. Austria. We’re sick of you.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

2006 JERRY LEWIS TELEVISION KUSI 9:00 A.M.

Please, won’t you dig deep and give? Every year we run this telethon to fund our project of turning Jerry Lewis into a cyborg and, so far, every year he only gets older, uglier, fatter, more irritating, more pompous ass, and his ears are full of earwax and rice and the pee is himself. A lot. So please, won’t you help?

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The end of summer is at hand, and I may well miss it. Jumping the gun a bit, but not by much, I find myself less disgruntled, overheatred, and dying for that sense of “death in the air that really gets the boys’ pens moving,” as Hemingway once wrote to Fitzgerald around this time of year. Writing this at the very beginning of August, again, I say, I may be gratulating myself prematurely. Still, not bad, not as bad as summers go.

I never went to summer camp, but what I had was baseball on Chicago’s West Side. It was a very large city park across from St. Robert Bellarmine school, which my cousin Jim attended. He was a genius — a doctor today, and he was always meant to be. No question, Jimmy was a good pitcher, very good. So was I, but he was better, so I hit better, which landed me in right field most of the time. Shortly after dawn, Jimmy and I would wake up on those ’60s summer mornings and put out the call in front of ten friends’ houses up and down Meridian and Montrose Streets. “Yo-oh, Vinny! Yo-oh, Ant’n Yo-oh, Shool! Hey, Massa DeiSho! Can Ant’ny and Ant’ny call out to us?”

Jimmie had an A2000 pitcher’s glove worth $60. I forgot what I had. Jimmy’s dad was a cop and would sometimes hit some out to us. Both he and my father were giants with the major league coulds. Each fly ball was a thing to marvel at. Jimmy, of course, was the one who could get the most out of those. Every time he hit a home run, it was a daylong feast of antipasto, sandwiches, sodas, Carling Black Label beer and Chianti, cold-cuts and sausage, and the ever-present vat of marimara sauce. In the attic, Jimmy and I would eat off of TV trays piled with food. My aunts thought we were skinny and we were, and I remember Jimmy’s mom, Aunt Ruth, telling me repeatedly, “Johnny, you got such a nice head of hair. Get it cut, for crissakes.” We watched Flash Gordon, Captain Blood, and WWII movies all in black-and-white but somehow full of more Technicolor than the real thing.

When it rained, that’s all we did, watch movies: Henry Aldrich was a recurring character, now long forgotten, from 1940s films; The Sea Hawk; With Errol Flynn (it was his long hair I wanted ever since, not the Beatles’); even Jack Benny and Bob Hope and Bing Crosby in road movies. Tarzan, too.

Or we read. Jimmy read Tom Swift books and adult war novels (which I also liked), while I read the Hardy Boys and H.G. Wells. We read each other imitation sports articles we had written on his typewriter about our own games or the Cubs or Sox if we’d been taken to Comiskey or Wrigley that Saturday. Puberty put an end to all that. And if this past summer was a pretty good one, I can’t compare. None of them can, except maybe the summer of 1977 in New York. It’s been called the Summer of Sam, at least in the movie by that name, but I think of it as the Summer of Geoff. My son was born on August 27 of that year. Happy birthday, son.

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