San Diego treasure hunters.

We’re not as nerdy as you think.

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**Smear Machine**

By Don Bauder

What do you get when you cross Little Mary Sunshine with the Abominable Snowman? You get an email newsletter named Smear Machine.

Wolverine Network sent to a list of prominent San Diegans, some still powerful. The main target of the Wolverine Network’s venom was the pension whistleblower Diann Shipione, former U.S. attorney Carol Lam, and Aguirre, the main target of the Wolverine Network’s venom.

By now, most San Diegans know that in 1996, the council and pension board voted to increase pension benefits and decrease funding. The idea was to raise money for the Republican convention, which was to be a vehicle to tout then-Mayor Susan Gold- ing for higher office. Then the council went on to add more pension goodies for employees and stated that if the pension ever got below 82.3 percent funded, the City would have to kick in more money. By 2002, it was clear that the pension deficit would be crushing through that 82.3 percent safety net. So in 2002, the council and pension board voted to ignore that threshold and further boost benefits to appease the labor unions. Shipione, a member of the pension board, complained loudly, calling the move “almost corrupt.” Two years later, the pension fund was not even two-thirds funded.

Shipione pointed out that the City was putting its money into two Chula Vista City Council races. On October 20, a group called San Diego Work!, sponsored by the San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council, spent a total of $5182 on printing on behalf of the campaign of Pamela Bensousan, running in the Third District. It spent the same for incumbent Fourth District councilman Steve Castaneda. Both oppose a plan by Chula Vista mayor Cheryl Cox to build a nonunion convention complex on the waterfront.

The San Diego County Democratic Party also got into the act, spending a total of $74,010 on behalf of San Diego Third District city council candidate Stephen Whitburn, running against fellow Democrat Todd Gloria. The party also spent $18,953 for First District candidate Sherri Lightner. And as of October 18, it had put $231,891 behind Marti Emerald. Party efforts for incumbent city attorney Mike Aguirre got much less: $29,728.

Get this: on May 5 of this year, Kaheny sent to his network some opinions penned by a Wolverine member. The member walked about the “false theories of bankruptcy and the pension crisis.” By putting the word crisis in quotes, the Wolverine correspondent was saying the pension debacle was fabricated. This is a conclusion that one investigator after another has thoroughly rejected. Opined the writer, “No one in City hall had ever uttered the word bankruptcy in a meeting.” (Is that a surprise?) The Wolverine Network writer went on to bemoan “the savage raid on San Diego’s good name and reputation…orchestrated, manipulated, and fueled by Shea, Shipione, Lam, and Aguirre’s greed.” (That’s lawyer Pat Shea, pension whistleblower Diann Shipione, former U.S. attorney Carol Lam, and Aguirre, the main target of the Wolverine Network’s venom.)

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Bait and Switchblade

By Catherine Cranston

Armando was looking forward to meeting with Lucy that Friday evening, October 26, 2007. A laborer for a tree-trimming company, he borrowed his sister’s 1996 Mustang and drove to where Lucy asked him to meet her, across the street from the small stucco house on the corner of Maple and West Felicita in Escondido. It was after dark, not yet 8:00 p.m. Lucy was outside when Armando arrived. She ran across Maple to get into his car, but she stayed on her cell phone, telling him she was speaking with her mother. Lucy got in and out of the car several times, going in and out of the house. “I had the car running at first; then she told me to turn it off,” Armando (not his real name) would testify in court. He still had the radio on. He had visited with Lucy once before. “I met her around the neighborhood I used to live at,” he said in court nine months later. “I lived on Grape Street,” about two miles away, a street of apartment buildings and mostly dingy houses with unkempt yards that runs through the heart of Diablos turf.

While Armando and Lucy sat in his car that October night, someone reached in the open window on the passenger’s side and tried to grab the keys.

Then the man walked around to the back of the car. Armando got out to meet the man behind the car, but from the corner of his eye he saw someone jump into the driver’s side. He had left the car door open. Now a second man was behind the wheel. The first man was demanding, “Give it to me. Give it to me.” But Armando turned his back on him and dashed to the driver’s seat, trying to save his sister’s car from being stolen.

As Armando struggled inside the car, fighting to put it back in park, he felt someone “punching” him. “I felt like I was just getting hit in my back, maybe my chest.” He retreated from the car to face his attacker.

“I realized at some point I was bleeding. I had a white T-shirt, so it was obvious I was bleeding,” Armando said out loud, “You stabbed me!” and the assailant told him, “Give it to me or I’ll stick you again.” Armando pulled a $50 bill out of his pocket and gave it to the attacker. He tried to give him a kick. Then he ran, heading for the lights and activity of the business district one block away.

While he ran, he called 911. “I got stabbed. I’m bleeding,” Armando’s panicky voice can be heard on tape saying to the dispatcher. He said that he recognized his attackers. “They hang out on Grape Street,” and they are “Diablos.”

Escondido police officer Thomas Fidel met Armando at the 7-Eleven on South Escondido Boulevard.

“The first thing I asked him, ‘Who did this?’” Fidel testified in court. “He said, ‘Shadow, from the Diablos gang.’”

The 235 members of the Diablos gang specialize in street robberies and assaults. Escondido has three other gangs: the 111-member Westside, the 8-member Santos, and the newest, the 6-member Eastside. In Escondido, gangs steal cars to get around or to use to commit another crime. Last year, 86 percent of vehicles stolen in the city were recovered, the majority within five days. Armando’s car was one of 115 stolen in Escondido that October. The Mustang was found one week later in the northwest section of the city.

Detective Erik Witholt, a gang specialist with the Escondido Police Department, recognized the name Shadow. He was Hector Bravo, 33, and he had at least seven other names listed in records in the Superior Court in Vista. “Prison priors” listed in court documents include several convictions for auto theft; one in 1991, when Bravo was 16 years old; another in 1993, as well as convictions that year for burglary of an inhabited dwelling and escape from lawful custody; and a third auto theft conviction in 1995. In 1998, Bravo was convicted of assault with a deadly weapon, unlawful carry and possession of weapon, and “serious felony,” wherein the defendant personally used a dangerous weapon, a “strike” under the Three Strikes and You’re Out Law.

In 2004, in a plea agreement dated May 4, Bravo signed his name as Hector Javier Alvarado and admitted to willfully aiding and abetting concealment of two stolen motor vehicles. Judge Casserly sentenced him to four years in state prison, but in August 2007, Bravo was released back onto the street.

Two days after Armando was stabbed, while recuperating at his sister’s house, he was surprised to see Bravo standing in front of the house next door. Armando called the police, who arrested Bravo in a nearby Laundromat. He was charged with four felony counts: attempted murder, assault with a deadly weapon, carjacking, and car theft, as well as with four special allegations, which could increase the sentence.

continued on page 8

Photo by Joe Klein

San Diego Reader October 30, 2008

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

continued on page 8
Smar... continued from page 6

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Next Financial Crisis,

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it is amusing to read):

Chris Reed of the Union-Tri-

bune and Daniel Coffey of

the Daily Transcript. Others

in the Wolverine Network and

TV’s Gene Cubbs... and Doug

Coffey, radio’s Roger

Hedgecock and Rick Roberts,

and the print media’s Tom

Blair, Scott Lewis, Craig

Gustafson, Tim McClain,

Gary Shaw, and Eric Wolff.

Aguirre believes all have used

slanted materials from the

Wolverine Network.

Not surprisingly, corpo-

rate-welfare mendicants are

on the list: Moores, Malin

and friends Mark Fabiani,

Dan Shea, Mike Neil, and

George Mitrovich of J. David

Dominelli fame, along with

Bill, Dan, Tim, and Mark

Mitrovich, whoever they are.

There are lawyers such as Ann

version: Keith Enerson,

Doug McCalla, Fred Pierce,

Roxanne Parks, and Bruce

Herring, former deputy city

manager who retired at age

56 at $144,000 a year. And

former officials of the city

today’s office who ran for

Aguirre’s job, Leslie Devaney

and Deborah Berger. And

former district attorney Paul

Pfingst, who was instrumental

in getting Padres majority

owner John Moores off the

hook after he presented gifts

on a former councilmember.

And Tom Story, former top
city bureaucrat who became

an official of the notorius

Sunroad, and his lawyer,

Pam Naughton, along with Sun-

road lawyer Stuart Strauss.

And, of course, establishment
darling Alan Bersin and Sher-

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Jim, Roxanne Parks, Ed Ryan,

Greg Levin, Chris Reed,

Gary Shaw, and his lawyer,

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Bait and switchblade
continued from page 8

“You didn’t tell him your phone had been stolen, did you?”

When Lucy finished testifying, Judge Pressman told her to wait in the witness room until the day’s proceedings were completed. After the jury had been excused, the judge made the unusual move of bringing her back before the court. Lucy stood alone in the center of the room, looking up at the judge. Pressman said to her, “You need to know that I find your testimony incredible. There are laws in this state regarding perjury — that is, lying under oath — and I do not take that lightly.” He paused. “Were you telling the truth?” “Yes,” Lucy immediately replied. Another long pause. “I may well recommend to the district attorney” that charges of perjury be pursued, said Judge Pressman. Before he dismissed her, he added, “You are a bad example for your children and a bad example for this community.”

The next day, Dr. Stephen Kaminski, a trauma and critical care surgeon at Palomar Medical Center, was called to the stand. He testified that when paramedics delivered Armando to the center, he had “what looked like stab wounds on his arm and chest.” The doctor’s first assessment of Armando’s condition was a “high degree of risk for having injured the heart.” Showing the doctor People’s Exhibit Number One, the photograph of Armando lying on his back, chest exposed, with a gaping red wound beside his left nipple, Logan had the doctor confirm that this was the patient he saw that night. The doctor said that scans and X-rays revealed “a pulmonary con- fusion... injury to the lung directly below the rib...” Had it not struck a rib, it clearly could have killed him.” The doctor also described the dangerous proximity to the stab wound of “sorta vessels” and “pulmonary vessels.” He tes- tified that Armando’s chest puncture was “a potentially fatal, life-threatening injury.”

During the trial, Logan introduced as evidence an envelope addressed to the house on Felicita. The address had been written by Hector Bravo, who’d sent a letter from prison to friends living in the house, the same house where Lucy had told Armando to meet her. In dosing arguments, the prosecutor reminded the jury that “the defendant has friends” in the house on Felicita “he writes letters to people there.”

In the defense’s closing argument, Bravo’s attorney, Daniel Mits, pointed out that no one had said they’d seen a knife, nor was any weapon recovered. “He invented that,” said Mits, referring to Armando’s claim of being stabbed. “Maybe [Armando] injured himself on the door,” Mits said.

Mits characterized Armando’s wound as a “mod- erate injury,” which did not warrant a guilty verdict for attempted murder. “It’s a flesh wound,” he said. “What did it take? Four staples.” The victim’s “sister” said in three weeks he’s fine.

“This whole case depends on the believability of their victim... The victim changed his story, making it stronger each time he tells it.”

The judge sent the jury into deliberations just before noon on July 29; it returned with a decision on July 31. The verdict was guilty on three counts: assault with a deadly weapon, carjacking, and car theft. Bravo now had a sec- ond strike on his record. The jury also found Bravo guilty of all the allegations, includ- ing personally using a deadly weapon and personally infecting great bodily injury. How- ever, they found him not guilty of the attempted murder charge. One juror who declined to be named stated as she was leaving the courtroom that it was a “problem” that “the only witness was the victim.”

On October 6, before pro- nouncing sentence, Judge Pressman expressed his thoughts on the case.

“The level of violence that has been shown by this defend- ant is senseless and eger- rious...creating great bodily injury” he said. “This crime was planned in advance. You were using Lucy as bait... You are a serious danger to this community.”

Bravo was sentenced to 32 years in prison.
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One-Sided Report
I live as close to the river as one should, and if and when the 100-year flood hits, it will most likely take my home with it ("There Is No San Diego River," Cover Story, October 23). I live in Mission Valley Village, and our mobile home park was bought by a developer, Archstone Smith, which wants the City to close our park and let them build a four-story condo complex within ten feet of the river, across from the Admiral Baker Golf Course. The City’s Development Services Department did an environmental impact report on the project, and there was no input in this report from anyone from any of the river conservancy groups. At first I thought that it did not bother anyone, and it might be supported by them. However, after seeing how the EIR misrepresented other things, I no longer believe that. What I am trying to find out is if there are organizations that are interested in preserving this section as is and would like to have the easement through here for the river walk and trail. We, the residents, are going before the city council in the near future to try to stop this development and save our homes and the easement.

Homer Barrs
President
Mission Valley Village Mobile Home Park
River Revival
Nice article on the San Diego River ("There Is No San Diego River," Cover Story, October 23). I was really surprised to see Mr. Cuthbert quoted as saying, "There was a little activity in the Lakeside area. People there borrowed my reports and exerted a little bit of pressure. They have done some work in developing park space," because that is not the case, and a lot of work is going on out here, about $17 million plus in river restoration! I work for Lakeside’s River Park Conservancy and would like to invite you and Mr. Cuthbert out for a tour of our project and show you that we are saving the San Diego River out here in Lakeside!

Lakeside’s River Park Conservancy was founded in 2001, with the mission to preserve and restore the biological integrity and beauty of the San Diego River while integrating recreational uses. The segment of the San Diego River in Lakeside has long been the focus of extensive sand-mining operations and heavy industry. Such industrial operations are coming to an end, and a new phase in the river’s life is at hand, one in which nature and humanity work in harmony and regional quality of life is enhanced.

Phase one restoration of the San Diego River in Lakeside was completed January 2007, which included removal of a constriction in the river to allow for the safe passage of floodwaters.

Phase one also replaced acres of riparian habitat for wildlife and supports a multiuse trail system for runners, walkers, hikers, and equestrians.

Many threatened and endangered species reside at Lakeside’s River Park, such as the California gnatcatcher and the least Bell’s vireo.

Lakeside’s river restoration also created four acres of constructed wetlands designed to use phytoremediation (sun and plants) as a natural filtration system to treat storm water and urban runoff flows (pollution) entering the site at the mouth of Los Coches Creek (a large, 17-mile tributary) as it enters into the San Diego River on its way to the Pacific Ocean.

Currently we are in phase two of the restoration process, which began in January 2008 with Caltrans taking approximately 500,000 cubic yards of fill dirt from the south side (next to Highway 67), saving taxpayers approximately $6 million. This dirt will be used as fill in the construction of the Highway 52 extension.

The removal of the dirt is good for the River Park because it will lower the ground level to allow for the natural river bottom to reemerge.

Once the excavation of the fill dirt is completed, Lakeside’s River Park Conservancy will revegetate this area with native California plants and create a new wetlands habitat. The new wetland will be home to many animals and birds and also provide additional water-storage areas during floods.

Cindy Collins
Membership & Volunteer Manager
Lakeside’s River Park Conservancy

Elementary Motivation
Your September 11 cover story in the Reader, entitled “Plague of the Urban Tumbleweed,” moved our school into action. Each year, Fletcher Hills Elementary School’s fifth-grade class holds a fund-raiser to raise money for the end-of-year activities. This year’s fund-raiser is Project Green, a fund-raiser selling environmentally friendly, reusable shopping bags with our school’s logo printed on them!

Our goal as a school is to sell 1000 reusable shopping bags. If every family at Fletcher Hills Elementary purchases and uses at least one bag, our school will have reduced plastic-bag use by 180,000 bags per year.

Our fund-raiser kickoff was held on October 25 at Fletcher Hills Elementary School’s annual Fall Festival, and the fund-raiser will end November 10. (People can order bags at FHtagoesgreen@hotmail.com.)

Fletcher Hills Elementary is doing its part in the fight against the urban tumbleweed. Thank you for the motivating article that inspired a school, and hopefully a community, to recycle, reduce, and reuse!

Annie DeGraff
Fletcher Hills Elementary PTA

Matthew Lickona responds: I was unable to speak with Rabbi Rosenthal after the evening Yom Kippur service, but I called him later, and here’s what he said: “In Judaism, as with many other things, there’s not one simple, easy answer. If I could give you a simple answer, the simple answer is, we don’t know. Judaism has a range of beliefs anywhere from physical resurrection at the time of the Messiah, to the eternity of the soul with God in heaven; to the belief that one once you’re dead, you’re dead, and there’s nothing afterwards. There’s also the belief that you may die physically but you live on in the thoughts and minds and hearts of the people you leave behind. And I found out that Jews who practice mysticism do believe in reincarnation. So it’s pretty much ‘You can believe whatever you want to believe.’ The only thing we don’t believe in, explicitly, is eternal damnation in hell. There’s a belief in a purgatory, but there, people eventually continue on page 60

Letters to the Editor, Box 85803, 619-235-0489; Fax them to 619-231-0489; or see our web page at SDReader.com/letters. Include your name, address, and telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.
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**SportingBox**
By Patrick Daugherty

**What Goes There? Part Two**

Continuing with Mike Kelly, 64, volunteer coordinator and conservation chair at Friends of Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve, Friends focuses on Penasquitos Canyon, leading interpretive walks, maintaining trails, helping out, and, when called upon, tracking wildlife, often to prove the presence of animals in areas on the cusp of development.

Kelly has been with Friends for 23 years. The outfit has had a tracking team since 1993 and offers free or very cheap tracking classes to the public, ranging from beginner to intermediate to advanced to “tracking intensive.”

I wanted to know what happens to the information trackers gather.

Kelly says, “The data can be used to protect or conserve a wildlife corridor.”

“So, you could say to a developer, ‘We’ve got X amount of deer here. Don’t build the big box.”’

“We did that recently,” Kelly says. “Camino del Sur is being extended from Park Village Drive in Penasquitos, north to [Hale Ave.]...”

“You’re going to go through a very pretty canyon with some very good habitat. At first it was designed without a wildlife undercrossing. The tracking team studied this canyon for a month and documented the different wildlife species using it. Turns out, we underestimated how used the corridor was.”

“What did you find?”

“Bobcats, coyotes, fox, deer. We knew there was wildlife presence in the canyon and that the wildlife was moving up onto Del Mar Mesa, but we didn’t know how much it was used. So, based on that information, a wildlife undercrossing has now been designed into that roadway exactly where wildlife is currently crossing.”

Go, bobcats. “If I was a greedy real estate developer, I’d tell you, ‘Well, we don’t know how many animals are going to use that undercrossing. Could be just one. Why should I spend my money on one deer? How would you reply?”

“Actually, that has happened,” Kelly says. “In Carmel Valley there are a series of small properties just south of 56. And there is an important wildlife corridor coming out of [Los] Penasquitos Lagoon. Believe it or not, the wildlife pass underneath the I-5 and 56 flyovers very comfortably. We did prove — and it wasn’t just us — we had more than track and sign studies; we had abatement file with the Department of Fish and Game. Let’s take a look at that design and figure out how we can accommodate it. What we found was not something that was going to stop their project, but it did influence their design.”

“Is that a typical encounter with real estate developers?”

“Yes, it would say so.”

Real estate developer. Chrysler car dealer. Who would you pick for a brother-in-law? Muscling on, “Is tracking also a sport?”

“Oh, definitely. Some trackers in San Diego are world class, have been certified internationally,” Kelly says. “There’s an international federation of trackers; it’s a combination of professionals and amateur citizen trackers. You’ll find professional biologists going through training programs. In fact, some of the local biology consulting firms put their people through our program.”

“But, for a lot of folks, it is a sport. Unlike what we do on surveys, where you’re not following the animal, the sport of it is actually tracking the animal, trying to see the animal itself, not just its track or sign.”

I say, “Is anybody good enough — like in the movies, where the Indian tracker is stepping over rocky ground, gets down on one knee, looks around, then tells the cavalry captain seven men were walking this way, they broke into three groups, one man has a limp, and so on. Is anybody that good?”

“Yeah, there are people that good and a couple of them are local,” Kelly says. “Barry Martin [San Diego Tracking Team founder] just came back to town. He was up in the Pacific Northwest, helping test and evaluate trackers. There are three levels of certification. Somebody like Barry can look and see a compression, where you don’t even have a full track, just a very light compression on some very bad surfaces. He’s been at it a long time, and he’s very good. But, there are people who are better than him.”

“You can spend quite a bit of money going to tracking schools in different parts of the country. We were the first one in San Diego County. I think there was one other program that used citizen scientists, a program in Vermont run by a wildlife photographer. We were the first in California and, I think, second in the nation to have this type of program.”

Contact Friends of Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve at penasquitos.org or by way of Mike Kelly at 858-342-8856.
Poway vs. Vista  
**Posted October 25, 2008, 2:33 a.m.**  
Poway ended an 11-game winless streak against Vista with a 27-23 win Friday night — but it wasn’t easy. The Titans jumped out to a big lead, capitalized on Panthers’ special teams mistakes and hung on for the win.

Poway head coach Damian Gonzalez: “It’s been a long time since Poway has beaten a Vista team.”

Poway did not take long to get on the board, as Brett Thomas returned the game’s opening kickoff 100 yards for a touchdown.

After a Vista missed field goal, the Titans scored again when running back Nick Ricciardulli took a short pass and raced 45 yards down the sideline to give Poway a 14-0 lead seven minutes in.

Poway could not stop Vista from taking the opening drive of the second half down the field. QB David Fisher capped the nearly seven-minute drive with a three-yard touchdown run to pull the Panthers within a score.

Vista bounced back with a score early in the fourth quarter to make it a six-point game. From there, the game belonged to Poway’s defense.

**Size not the whole story**  
**Posted October 23, 2008, 7:02 p.m.**

He stands 6 foot, 3 inches tall, tips the scale at 300 pounds, and has a last name that just sounds mean.

“He’s got a wonderful smile and a wonderful heart,” said Mission Hills head coach Chris Hauser. According to his head coach, Eddie Nuckols also does his part to lighten the mood at practices. Hauser even gives Nuckols credit for the accuracy of the “Coach Hauser Chapstick,” an imitation of one of the head coach’s regular habits.

“He does a pretty good imitation of me. I’ll be addressing the team and all of a sudden I’ll see kids chuckling and smiling. I’ll look over my shoulder and there he is mimicking me,” Hauser said.

Nuckols has received offers from Colorado, Arizona, Arizona State, Minnesota, and San Diego State.

“He’s got a wonderful smile and a wonderful heart,” said Mission Hills head coach Chris Hauser.

According to his head coach, Eddie Nuckols also does his part to lighten the mood at practices. Hauser even gives Nuckols credit for the accuracy of the “Coach Hauser Chapstick,” an imitation of one of the head coach’s regular habits.

“If it’s not the toughest league around, you got to convince me that there’s another tougher league around, because I don’t see any teams that are weak.”

— Lincoln head coach Ron Hamamoto on the Eastern League

“If you play North County football, you’re in the same league. You’re in a tough conference and every school up here is very competitive in all athletics.”

— Carlsbad head coach Bob McAllister on moving to the Palomar League.

“Looking at the Eastern League scores and competitiveness of it, I would say that one jumps out at me right away. I think the Mesa League with Chula, Oceanside, and Bonita looks like a really good league top to bottom.”

— Mission Hills head coach Chris Hauser on the best leagues in the section

“Is it’s scary!”

By Anthony Gentile

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**Comments**

Cathedral Catholic dispensed a whole lot of punishment on Eastern league opponent Mira Mesa. Mustangs Friday night as senior running back Tyler Gaffney, a local neighborhood kid, rambled for more than 200 yards in the 31-21 win. Add the efforts of senior QB Parker Hipp and the Dons’ defense unit, Mira Mesa’s potent offense was held to a measly 7 points in the first half.

By JustWondering 10:07 a.m., Oct 25, 2008

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BestBuys

Had the kids taken an expedition to the Sahara desert? Their lips looked as if they had — white, peeling, cracking, and bleeding. My daughter had ripped off a chunk of lip, and a bloody mess erupted on her face only to be replaced by a crusty black scab. The Kelly family was not photo-ready, and school photo day was fast approaching. Help!

“I had a problem with chapped lips for years,” said friend Cherrie, “and couldn’t find anything to help — including the expensive stuff from the makeup counters. Last year I started using Burt’s Bees lip balm ($2.99 at Henry’s), and my lips are much, much better. I put it on under my lip gloss in the morning, and I keep one in my purse at all times.”

“These days I buy whatever is cheap,” laughed sis Nancy. “But I have always liked the Trader Joe’s Virtuoso lip balm ($2.49 for three tubes). It has a hint of spearmint to it, not overpowering, just enough to be refreshing.”

Most of the people I spoke with complained about Vaseline, particularly its thickness, except sis Meg. “I use Vaseline; it’s something I always have in the house. Little tubes of lip balm get lost in our home. Can’t really lose a huge jar of Vaseline. And during the winter, I also buy Blistex. Here in Massachusetts, with the central heat on day and night, the household shrivels up like a prune. Blistex feels more medicated. I am not sure it is actually doing anything more, but psychologically it seems better. It must be the tingling.”

“I use ChapStick Moisturizer with SPF 15 ($2.47 at Walmart),” offered chum Sarah. “It doesn’t have any scent or flavor. I’m not a fan of flavored moisturizers. They seem too greasy. I want a clean product on my lips, not something that feels like I have leftover lollipops on them.”

Coworker Mike proved to be a rich vein of lip-moisturizing opinions. He raved about C.O. Bigelow Rose Salve ($5.50 at Walmart). “It gives a nice, smooth covering without being too thick,” he explained. “With other products, I often have to wipe off excess clumsiness on the outside of my mouth. Not with this stuff — a clean, neutral flavor. I love it.”

“Alba’s pineapple lip balm ($3.49 at Henry’s) has a refreshing pineapple aroma to it but ends up a bit goopy on the edges of the mouth. Not worth the price.”

“The Blistex Silk & Shine ($1.87 at Walmart) is great. Yes, one might ask why a man was buying a lip moisturizer named ‘Silk & Shine.’ It turned out to cover smoothly, but it wasn’t without an acidic flavor that was too much to deal with.”

“Softlips lip protectant ($2.78 for a two-pack at Walmart) used to be my balm of choice,” stated sis Cath. “It went on as smooth as a baby’s bottom, and it had sun protection in it, but I found it wore off very quickly. I’m still looking for the perfect lip moisturizer.”

After promising to fill her in on my findings, I headed down to Bath & Body Works and the Body Shop to ask the salesladies for their best lip moisturizers. The Bath & Body Works lady pointed me to the C.O. Bigelow My Favorite Lip Balm ($5.50). “It has shea butter and sweet almond oil in it.” Her second suggestion: “C.O. Bigelow Rose Salve ($5.50), which is an all-purpose salve you can use on dry elbows or your lips.”

The Body Shop sales clerk recommended LipScuff ($12). “This is our most moisturizing lip product.”

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Why we need Proposition 4

The cop
Sgt. Tom Yarrington has spent 17 years working as a police officer in San Bernardino County, including three years in a sex crimes unit. He has investigated more than 1000 sex crime cases, most of which involved minors.

The 12-year-old
In an interview published in October 2008, Yarrington spoke of R. At 17, R. began molesting his two stepsisters, initially luring them to “play” with him in exchange for money.

The abuse continued for several years until R. impregnated the younger sister, age 12. He was 24. To help her obtain an abortion, R. insisted that she lie and tell the clinic that she was 14.

Her parents did not learn about the abuse or her abortion until she was 16.

The solution
Yarrington said in the interview he is convinced that if the abortion provider had informed the family when the victim sought its services, the lives of the family would not have been as badly damaged.

“The biggest difference is that the abuse would have ceased immediately,” said Yarrington. “Second of all, she would have been receiving counseling immediately, which is going to help her through the healing process and allow her to move on with her life.”

Yarrington said he believes that family notification for minors seeking abortions would make law enforcement’s job easier and, ultimately, be better for the victims and their families.

“It gives us better investigative leads, allows us to locate more victims and allows us to provide earlier intervention — not only to provide the help that the child needs to make it through this time, but it is also going to assist us in stopping further abuse from occurring to that victim and, potentially, other victims.”

YES on 4
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Stop Child Predators

Paid for by Friends of Sarah, Yes on Prop 4, the Parental or Alternative Family Member Notification Law, major funding by Don Sebastian, Jim Holman and others to reform Child Protection Laws in California.
The Great Escape

Today, there are three kinds of people: the haves, the have-nots, and the have-not-paid-for-what-they-haves.

— Earl Wilson

Six months ago, when I first felt the rippling effects of the subprime mortgage meltdown, I began systematically forfeiting that which was dear to me but which had proved too costly to maintain.

Facials were the first to go — a disappointing but not entirely heartbreaking separation, as I had only had a few appointments at the diminutive Spa Velia, and things were not yet serious between us. The next to be sacrificed were my regular visits to Walter Todd salon — a sadder breakup, as I enjoyed sharing scandalous chitchat with Todd, and my follicles had grown fond of his conditioning rinse. I cut back on pedicures, looked to World Market instead of BevMo for wine, and I finally heeded my sister Jane’s advice to replenish my wardrobe by shopping within the sensibly priced world of Target. David and I were not at risk of losing the home we’d bought just before the bubble burst. Our bills were getting paid and our life wasn’t shabby, but it wasn’t all champagne and diamonds either.

We were making do. That is until everything went to shit. The Dow Jones became a jar of lightning bugs randomly flashing SELL, BUY, BUY, SELL. The presidential election was soon as topsy-turvy as the economy — fear, hatred, and indignation bubbled to the surface and expelled their noxious gases. The headlines and heated conversations on every corner became a pillow pressed against my face with heavy hands. My man and I agreed we needed a breath of fresh air.

David and I had recently caught a couple of episodes of the new PBS food/travel show Spain...On the Road Again, featuring one of our favorite chefs, Mario Batali (bicoastal restaurateur and the Food Network’s Iron Chef Italian); Gwyneth Paltrow (Madonna’s buddy); Mark Bittman (a food writer for the New York Times); and Claudia Bassols (a Spanish actress). The program carried us along with the carefree foursome as they hurtled across the Spanish countryside hedonistically partaking of the food, wine, and luxury spa hotels.

One episode depicted the group’s visit to the region of Rioja, celebrated for its ancient vineyards and wineries. Mario and pals stayed at Marqués de Riscal, a 150-year-old vineyard that boasts a new five-star hotel designed by Frank Gehry, the architect who is famous for his creation of the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao (a two-hour drive from Rioja) and the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles.

“Now, that’s what we need,” David proclaimed.

“Sure does seem like politics and the economy are the farthest things from their minds,” I concurred.

History buffs sightsee at ancient temples and ruins. Art lovers ogle in museums and galleries. Catholics and Muslims go on pilgrimages to cathedrals and mosques. As unapologetic hedonists, David and I embark on sybaritic adventures. Rioja offered acclaimed food, wine, and an architecturally significant hotel, all set in a charming town surrounded by miles of rustic landscape. In denial of the dollar’s weakness and our own humbled bank accounts, we reserved a primo suite at the fancy shmancy Marqués de Riscal Hotel.

The euro is treacherous for Americans, and I’m not just referring to the unfortunate exchange rate but also to the physical money itself and the dangers hiding within its polychromatic folds. For one, euros are not green. The color of grass is synonymous with cash in the States. If I have a wallet full of pink and blue, my eyes don’t transmit the message “hard-earned moola”; they impart “Monopoly money.” And though my brain knows better, I find it nearly impossible to shake the feeling that even if I lose a whole bunch of the pretty paper, it’s all a game anyway; so really, what’s the harm?

Then there’s the coin thing. Change in the States is always spare. David has actually thrown pennies in the trash (please don’t tell my frugal father; I’d never hear the end of it). But in Europe, one coin, the size of a quarter, is worth two whole euros. At the current exchange rate, that’s $2.68, or more than ten quarters’ worth in one coin. Suddenly, loose change is not to be saved for the parking meter; it’s to be saved for buying breakfast.

I tried to remind myself of all these

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things before arriving in Rioja. But as soon as we rounded the turn toward the small town of Elciego I beheld Gehry’s glimmering waves of titanium amid endless vineyards of red, orange, and green. My practicality flew out the window of our rented Pepe car. I was in a magical world now, a place where any restrictions, regardless of sensibility, were not welcome.

For three nights and four days, David and I went on an opulence bender. Before we’d even checked in to the hotel, a smiling man presented us with cool, fragrant tea in clear glasses and a bowl of red grapes. In our suite, we were greeted by a bottle of red wine originating from the vines that could be seen outside the Seussian windows of our room.

We toured bodegas and sampled the same freshly grilled vegetables and regionally favored hake that had been eaten on the show. We walked up and down rows of vines, occasionally plucking and eating the surprising sweet, blue-colored Tempranillo grapes. Like Mario, David requested one of the surprisingly plush, pillow filled with “pure Hungarian goose down.”

One evening we dined at the hotel’s restaurant and opted for the Michelin-starred chef’s 12-course tasting menu, paired with wine. It was grandeur at its most lavish, and we loved every minute of it.

By the third day, the binging and relaxing had begun to fog my brain. Returning from the extensive and impressive Museum of Wine Culture at Dinastía Vivanco, I was struck by the beauty of the scenery. “Just look at it, beh beh. Our timing was perfect to get here during harvest season, so we could see all of the colors of October,” I said, sounding halfway intelligent. I should have stopped there. “I mean, look at them all, all those...what are they called?”

“Winery?” I asked.

“No, the...wine...bushes,” I said, finding the words at last. David tore his gaze away from the road to shoot me a bemused look. “You mean the vines?” he said.

“Yeah, sorry, don’t know what’s wrong with my brain. Look at all those wine vines. It’s just beautiful.”

“Barb,” David said, now laughing at my sudden onset of senility, “they’re called grape vines. Wine comes from grapes, remember the tours?”

“Right,” I said, turning my head back to the window. “I was just kidding.” Then, eager to change the subject, I said, “I’m really sad about leaving. I don’t want to go.”

“We could never afford to stay,” David said. “Great, then it’s thinking?” I asked. David nodded. “Great, then it’s settled. After we get home...I mean, after we recover from this, and let’s not think about that part, but after that, we’re totally going to California wine country. Just think of how fun that’ll be!”

For the remainder of the drive, the car was silent and calm, as David and I gazed upon the landscape and thought only happy thoughts.

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San Diego treasure hunters

We’re not as nerdy as you think.

It’s Monday, 5:00 a.m.
They're treasure hunters, looking for things — metal things to be exact — that were left the day before, or even a few years ago. If they're lucky, they'll find some coins, maybe some cheap jewelry. If they're really lucky, if some beachgoer was flagrantly careless or stone drunk, perhaps the haul might be a platinum ring or a Rolex watch. Can you say "finders keepers"?

When I pull into the parking lot just south of the roller coaster, Russ greets me with a serious look on his face. A self-described "ex-Navy man," he claims 6'4" but appears shorter. I notice that he's wearing low-cut, black neoprene boots. I ask, "Are you trying to make a fashion statement?" "No," he replies. "We wear these diver's boots to protect us from fishing hooks and other sharp objects; they also keep our feet warm when the water's cold." Without much fanfare, he opens the back of his SUV and hands me a Fisher "Quick Silver" metal detector, a dual-frequency model with an eight-inch coil.

He also gives me a long-handled metal scoop and a pair of headphones. We walk onto the beach and proceed straight to the wet sand, where Russ hopes to demonstrate why anyone (much less a 70-plus fellow with arthritis) would want to leave the house at three in the morning to walk back and forth on a dark, deserted beach.

Strangely, I'm happy to be here at this hour, standing about a half mile north of the jetty. Perhaps it's the balmy air or the warmer-than-expected water, maybe it's the gentle wavelets or the faint light to the east, but damn if this isn't relaxing. Even the sand looks pristine, at least to my untrained eyes. Russ isn't here for the ambience, though; he's all business, a stern but well-meaning instructor in this art and science.

at Mission Beach. Russ Gish and his son Lance have already been here an hour, sweeping the sand with a contraption that looks like a skinny, upright vacuum cleaner with a coil at the end.
“Start over there, where the sand is shiny.”  
For wet-sand hunting, Russ recommends the area of the beach kept perpetually wet by the tide, so that’s where I go. I imitate Russ, who ambles along, passing his coil in an arc an inch above the sand. Back and forth, back and forth — there’s a precision, a consistency, so ingrained that it seems mechanical; by contrast, my sweeps seem forced and halting. “Keep the coil parallel to the ground;” he admonishes, and “Remember, if your detector can only go about a foot down, and you’re sweeping the coil five inches above the sand, you’ve reduced your range to seven inches.” Still, within seconds, my headphones squawk with a tone that sounds like an amalgam of a siren and a wailing infant, and I jump.

“Oh, I forgot to tell you,” says Russ. “I’m a little hard of hearing, so you’ll want to turn the volume down.”

My detector continues to sense something every few feet, but as it happens, I’ve jostled the control knobs; I’m not sitting on a gold mine — these are just false alarms. I call Russ over, and somewhat annoyed, he fixes the settings. I resume my sweep, but the headphones are now silent for what seems like eternity. Finally, I get a signal and Russ shows me how to position the scoop to dig a well-placed hole. I sift the sand that holds my bounty — an aluminum pull-top can.

A while later, Russ shows me a silver ring that looks like white gold and lenses for astigmatism. Weekend appointments available. Some restrictions apply. Astigmatism, RGP, monovision and bifocals slightly more.  

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3rd place: “There She Goes”
Author: Adam Rusch
Age: 30

2nd place: “Giselle, Guatay, the Airstream, and the Chief”
Author: Clairemont/Mira Mesa • Escondido/Vista/RB • Alpine

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Neighborhood: University Heights
Age: 25
Occupation: Administrative Coordinator

2nd place: “Giselle, Guatay, the Airstream, and the Chief”
Author: Adam Rusch
Neighborhood: Guatay
Age: 30
Occupation: Worker/musician

3rd place: “There She Goes”
Author: Adam Rusch
Neighborhood: Guatay
Age: 30
Occupation: Worker/musician

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three full-fledged shops in the county. “Full-fledged” is relative, of course; metal detecting, a rather esoteric and relatively expensive hobby — at least in terms of start-up costs — isn’t popular enough to support many stand-alone stores.

If you head to Columbia Metal Detectors in Escondido, don’t look for a sign with a big neon gold coin or vintage prospector photo out front; instead, pull up in front of the Inkwell Printing Company. It’s not that they don’t sell metal detectors — they have about 60 in stock, along with de rigueur accessories like long-handled, stainless-steel scoops and headphones. But, according to owner Frank Trutta, metal detecting just isn’t big enough to warrant exclusive floor space here. Nonetheless, business is good, spurred in recent years by an upswing in gold and silver prices.

Like most detector dealers, Trutta is a long-time enthusiast himself, initially selling the machines out of his house decades ago. When I asked him what draws people to the pastime, he said, unequivocally, “The thrill of the hunt.” I also wondered, “Do you have to be technically inclined to use a detector?” He replied, “No, they’ve become pretty user-friendly. Even a five-year-old could do it; actually, a five-year-old — with the way kids use computers and cell phones nowadays — could probably do it better than you.”

He added, “If you buy a detector from me, I’ll take you out and show you how to use it.”

It’s a lot easier to uncover a treasure hunter than, say, a Morgan quarter, a widely sought-after silver coin dating from the late 19th Century. Although most participants are unaffiliated with clubs, you can find some of San Diego’s most fervent practitioners at the Coinshooters’ Clique, a group started in 1974.

Russ, the Clique’s president, told me what first drew him to this quirky, esoteric pastime. “As a kid, I loved reading about pirates’ treasure.” Gish, who has been sweeping his coils for over 40 years, is regarded by many as one of San Diego’s foremost experts on metal detecting — the equipment, the treasure, and the people. As for the last, he says that there are three principal motivators that drive detecting: “Greed, thrill, and an excuse to get out into the sun or under the moon.”

Although San Diego is not bereft of a past, it’s not the place to dig for Confederate Army belt buckles or Jeffersonian-era coat buttons; Old Town and Presidio aside, and with a nod to Horton and Serra, local treasure hunters aren’t on the speed dials of museum curators. Gish notes, “Unlike other parts of the country, we don’t have the history here in San Diego; what we do have — the Indian and old Spanish stuff — it’s all been covered up by shopping centers and houses.” So goes a coinshooter’s lament about the dearth of hoary diggables in Diego. That’s why Gish and his cohorts are largely beach hunters, wet-sand
who think volleyball is a sport. With forgetfulness and frivolity at a fever pitch, it’s now time for the most important ingredient of all: seawater, preferably cold and rough.

We-sand hunters love chilly ocean surf, though they seldom venture too far into it. Gish says that it’s the cold water of our not-so-beloved California current — more than anything else — that relieves us of our bangles, baubles, and beads. Thanks to typically sub-70-degree temperatures (often closer to 60, to tourists’ chagrin), as fingers shrink in the brine, well-fitted rings become loose, and those that start out loose end up lost.

Gish says that a fingerless ring will be moved three or four feet by each wave. As for relinquished bracelets, necklaces, and watches, he surmises that “roughhousing and grabbing” in the surf are the usual causes. Whatever the cause, San Diego’s beaches yield more than a few items whose value exceeds the “sentimental.” But to find them, you’ve got to “read the beach.”

“When I go to the beach, I don’t see sand and water; I see dips and holes, places where the waves deposit things. We could go to the same beach, and you might not find a thing. But after doing this for all these years, I know where to look,” Gish doesn’t say this with arrogance, just the kind of quiet confidence that builds over decades, much in the same incremental way the ocean crafts a stretch of sand; still, he doesn’t discount the chance that a tyro, with good equipment, patience, luck, and most importantly, a mentor, might come across some nice treasures after a few trips to the shore.

Gish says that the Coinshoothers’ Clique (often shortened simply to “Coinshoothers”) has roughly 60 to 70 active families, which, in most cases, means a retired man who is sometimes accompanied by his wife. (Gish’s own late wife, who lovingly derided him as a “penny hunter,” never joined him but did express a willingness to try on any stylish jewelry he acquired.)

I asked Gish about the club’s name. “Back in the early 1970s, there was a local club called the Gem and Treasure Hunter Association. The president did some, uh, unethical things, like putting all the club dues right into his own pocket. So we broke off and formed our own group; when the prez heard about it, he became hostile and said to me, ‘So you effin’ cliquish people are gonna start your own Mickey Mouse club?’ We thought about calling it the Mickey Mouse Coinshoothers’ Clique,’ but we didn’t want to get in trouble with the Disney people, so we just called it the Clique.”

Unlike many of the other Clique members, Gish is willing, even enthusiastic, to be that mentor; he’d like to see metal detecting grow. He acknowledges that most veteran treasure hunters want to keep “their” hunting grounds secret and are typically loath to share knowledge. He says, “I want to promote the hobby. But I won’t let you hunt with me unless you meet my criterion, which is that you must return an item if it’s returnable.”

What’s “returnable”? To many treasure hunters (and, I confess, would-be beachcombers like me), “returnable” items are limited to those things whose repatriation is forced by the point of a gun or the prospect of imminent incarceration. But that’s not how Gish sees it at all; in fact, he goes to extraor-
ordinary lengths to reunite owners with their lost lucre. If an item is especially valuable, he may “sit on it” for up to six months, perusing lost-and-found ads on craigslist, in local newspapers, and through other sources.

Gish told me that, on occasion, he’s actually commissioned by an owner to look for a missing piece of jewelry or a watch. More often than not, the quest is a “crapshoot,” but not long ago, he found and returned a $4800 engagement ring for a woman who’d heard of his expertise. He doesn’t charge them but now and then receives a tip for success; at times, “They’ll just put it in their pocket without so much as a thank you.” But he doesn’t care. “The best thing about treasure hunting is the feeling I get when I’m able to return something to the owner. That feeling is indescribable.” That’s not to say, however, that every master of the detector is willing to undo your carelessness for free; Frank Trutta’s rate is $60 for two or three hours of work — inherently reasonable (some would say downright cheap), given recent repatriations of expensive rings, one worth $44,000.

Some things, of course — notably, items bereft of distinguishing marks or unique characteristics, especially if lost years ago — are indeed unreturnable and may gleefully be assigned to the pile marked “finders keepers.” Jim Hill, owner of Treasure Trove in North Park, reasons, “Say you find a nice 14-karat-gold chain on the beach. It’s like every other bracelet or necklace you can find at stores all around town. What are you going to do, trace it?” And so it goes: Despite the best efforts of well-intentioned finders, expensive hunks of metal — the stainless-steel diving watch you bought at the duty-free shop in the Caribbean, the gold ring your wife snagged at Nordstrom — may find their way to auction after a careless jaunt to the beach. Gish (who says that over the years, he’s found three or four rings worth over five grand apiece) recently sold a “nice four-figure, 1000-foot diving watch” on eBay for a “fair price.”

Not every valuable find goes to auction; many veteran San Diego treasure hunters prefer to amass modest collections in display cases, while others, like Bruce Campbell, a psychologist for the Santee School District, choose to wear their bounty. In Campbell’s case, it’s a piece he calls his “Mafia” or “pimp” ring, consisting of more than a carat of high-grade diamonds set in 31 grams of gold and appraised at $3200; he uncovered it on a North County beach in 1999.

As a child growing up in Kansas City, Campbell developed a fascination for Civil War memorabilia and fossils. Decades later, after moving to San Diego in 1980 just shy of earning a doctorate, he turned to the beaches. For him, the lure of treasure hunting is the relaxation that comes for Civil War memorabilia and fossils. Decades later, after moving to San Diego in 1980 just shy of earning a doctorate, he turned to the beaches. For him, the lure of treasure hunting is the relaxation that comes.
with, as he puts it, “using a different part of my brain.” A contemplative man with a gentle demeanor and an advanced degree, he’s been immersed in the hobby since the mid-’70s; he’s a member of the Coinshooters’ Clique, as well as an occasional attendee at meetings held by the Prospectors’ Club of Lemon Grove. Campbell describes his occupation as both analytical and “highly stressful.” His head-shrinking tenure was punctuated a few years back by proximity to the notorious 1998 Santana school shootings. He says that the hobby is a good way to unwind, though not necessarily socialize. Noting that Campbell differs from most treasure hunters (club-affiliated or not) in his temperament and level of education, I quizzed him about his fellow detectorists, as they’re sometimes called, asking if he fit the “profile,” as it were. He replied that although he enjoys hanging with buddy Paul Dragos at the “Clique,” he’s rather atypical, except, perhaps, in his attitude about returning items to owners. “Maybe it’s my background; my father was a [Harvard Law School–educated] judge, and my mother was a Mennonite. I was always taught to be honest.” Campbell recalls one return story in particular. “I was hunting at Presidio Park a few years ago when I found a 1966 class ring from Mt. Miguel High School. It was huge — big enough to put a quarter through it, and it was engraved with initials. I contacted a secretary at the school who looked through an old yearbook. There were pictures of two guys with the same initials, one of whom looked like...
he might be pretty big. We contacted him, and sure enough, he was a short, fat guy who’d lost the ring — sliding down a hill on a block of ice. He was elated to get it back after all these years because, apparently, his wife had accused him of giving it to a whore in exchange for her services.”

Campbell realizes that he’s an atypical Clique member but says that the group — while undeniably plebian — isn’t close to the bottom of the barrel. To find the bottom-dwellers, he recommends hanging out with the old coots at the Prospectors’ Club, whom he good-naturedly characterizes as “beneath blue-collar.”

Most treasure hunters are neither contemplative nor well educated; as a rule, they’re taciturn blue-collar retirees — ex-military or military-industrial-complex guys without even undergraduate degrees — rough around the edges and not given to self-analysis. According to Jim Hill, “Folks who use metal detectors are mostly outdoor types who like hunting and fishing; there aren’t a lot of doctors or lawyers.”

In order to understand the psyche of the type, I spoke with one man, another Coinshooters’ Clique member, described by Russ as someone who “eats, breathes, and sleeps metal detecting.” Treasure Hunter X, as I’ll call him, didn’t want his name used but told me, “Everybody will know it’s me anyway.”

“X” is a gruff redneck and a self-described “10” on a 1–10 treasure-hunting-intensity scale. He’s also one of the few locals who has found gold coins — three to be exact — which makes him an object of both respect and envy in San Diego detecting circles. Known for a curious mixture of braggadocio and secrecy bordering on paranoia, he was happy to tell me about the coins — to a point. When I pressed him for details, he said that the mid- to late-19th-century gold pieces (valued more for scarcity than gold content) had been found, respectively, at “the beach,” a “stage stop,” and a “World War II training site.” Apparently fearing that I might scamper out to the boondocks to plunder his mini–El Dorado, he wouldn’t reveal more precise locations. What he did reveal, however, was the profile and mindset of a typical (some would say stereotypical) treasure hunter: When I inquired as to what sort of people are attracted to the hobby — specifically asking him whether college graduates were common — he seemed nonplussed, replying testily, “It’s mostly a bunch of ‘Joe Blows’ who get up and go to work every morning.” He also said, “You don’t have to be personable; very few are social people. There are a lot of loners.”

“Sonny” might typify the loner contingent, the crusty old guys who eschew even the marginal interaction of a club. Living in a Lakeside trailer park, alone save for an old...
I’VE HAD TYPE 1 DIABETES SINCE I WAS A CHILD.

I hope to help others like me in the future by participating in a clinical research study now. Profil Institute for Clinical Research is currently looking for Type 1 Diabetics to participate in a research study evaluating an investigational inhaled insulin.

To participate, you must:

- Have Type 1 Diabetes (diagnosed for at least one year)
- Be 18-60 years old
- Be a non-smoker
- If female, use birth control

If you qualify and choose to participate, you will receive study-related medical care at no cost and you will be compensated up to $1,400. Three overnight stays are required.

For more information, call Profil at 619-409-1244.
We are looking for volunteers to take part in a clinical trial of a new study drug. You will be medically supervised. If you are interested in receiving further information, please call www.MARGINC.com 858-277-7177

Do you suffering from Severe reflux or Heartburn?

We are looking for volunteers to take part in a clinical trial of a new study drug. You will be medically supervised. If you are interested in receiving further information, please call 1-888-871-9587

Alzheimer’s Disease

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

Are you or someone you love:
- Suffering from mild to moderate Alzheimer’s Disease?
- Taking Aricept®, Exelon®, Razadyne® or Reminyl® for the treatment of Alzheimer’s Disease?
- Between 55 and 90 years of age? In overall good health? Not living in a nursing home?

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study on Alzheimer’s Disease.

Qualified participants will receive at no cost:
- Study medication
- Medical evaluations by a board-certified medical doctor
- Laboratory tests
- Supervised care by medical professionals as it relates to the study
- Compensation for time and travel
- Health insurance is not required

If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

“I feel controlled by my anxiety.”

If you feel this way, you are not alone.

Millions of people across the world live their lives with a constant burden of anxiety, where their excessive worrying occurs for no apparent reason or is triggered by the smallest or most insignificant of incidents.

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 qualify and choose to participate, you will receive physician consultations, study-related medical examinations, laboratory evaluations and follow-up visits at no charge, and you may receive study medication at no charge to you. Compensation for time and travel provided.

If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Is waking up tonight affecting your tomorrow?

Do you or someone you know have trouble staying asleep? Is it affecting daytime activities?

A study of an investigational medication is under way for people who have trouble staying asleep, characterized by waking up throughout the night (sleep maintenance insomnia).

To qualify for participation in this research study, you must:
- Be at least 18 years old
- Have trouble staying asleep through the right
- Be impacted in your daily life by your sleep problems

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

If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Affiliated Research Institute specializes in clinical research programs, both inpatient and outpatient, with an emphasis on psychiatric and neurological disorders.

Outpatient Clinical programs offered at Affiliated Research Institute include:
- Alzheimer’s Disease
- Bipolar Disorder
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Insomnia

If you suffer from any of these disorders, you may be eligible for an investigational drug research study. If you qualify and choose to participate, you will receive physician consultations, study-related medical examinations, laboratory evaluations and follow-up visits at no charge, and you may receive study medication. Health insurance is not required and compensation for time and travel is provided.

If you are interested in learning more about any of these studies, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com
tight-lipped or garrulous, transparent or guarded, there’s a measure of pride in uncovering something shiny and/or old. Some of this showing off is done online, some in person at club meetings, like the Coinshooters’ Clique monthly get-together; but wherever the treasure is displayed, value and historical significance are always held in high regard. Nonetheless, some detecting devotees, like Paul Dragos (who hunts with pal Bruce Campbell), are enthralled as much by the “time capsule” notion as by market or museum value.

Of all the treasure hunters interviewed, Dragos, a good-humored electrical engineer at Sony, seems the most transfixed by everyday items. He speaks of prosaic things of decades or centuries past that were lost — and perhaps never mourned — but whose discovery now, in the age of the Internet and the cell phone, shines a light, even if faint, on the lives of those who once held them. As with many local detecting hobbyists, he hunts at the beach in the summer (and after big winter storms) but ventures inland when the mercury descends; he says that’s where most of his favorite treasures have been uncovered — places like the ruins of trading posts and missions near Anza-Borrego and amid the remains of abandoned homesteads and mining camps near Julian. When I asked him what finds he values most, his answers were evocative: four silver coins minted in 1732 Spain, worth a modest $30 to $50 each; a 1920s brass lipstick holder engraved with a woman’s name; and above all, an
Prostate Problems

......can’t go without STRAINING!!!

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:
619-521-2841

Medical Center for Clinical Research

Depressed
Low Energy
Uninterested
Guilt

YOU ARE NOT ALONE…
1 in 6 people experience depression

You may be suffering from a severe form of depression if you experience the following symptoms:
• Depressed mood or sadness
• Loss of interest or pleasure in things you normally enjoy
• Trouble sleeping and/or low energy
• Problems with concentration, memory, and/or making decisions
• Strong feelings of guilt and/or suspicion
• Having unusual experiences such as hearing voices or sounds, or seeing things that aren’t real

Medical researchers in your area are currently enrolling participants in a clinical study evaluating an investigational drug for the treatment of a severe form of depression. Participants must be 22-75 years old and be experiencing symptoms of depression. Participation will include a confidential evaluation by a psychiatrist, all study-related visits, physical exams, and study drug at no cost.

For more information, please call:
Synergy Clinical Research Center
1-888-486-9150

HAS YOUR LIFE BEEN IMPACTED BY TYPE 1 DIABETES?

HOW WILL FUTURE GENERATIONS MANAGE THEIR DIABETES?

The Profil Institute for Clinical Research is conducting a research study to test a possible investigational medication for Type 1 Diabetics.

To qualify, you must:
• Have Type 1 Diabetes
• Be 18-65 Years Of Age, With Type 1 Diabetes
• Using Insulin For At Least The Past 12 Months

Volunteers may be compensated up to $1,950. Up to nine study visits are required but no overnights.

For more information, call Profil at 619-409-1271.

Profil
Institute for Clinical Research
1890s cast-iron toy train engine — worth perhaps $4000 if in good condition, considerably less as is, but fascinating nonetheless.

Whatever one’s motivation for hunting treasure, it’s vital to achieve a balance among the attributes of penetration, discrimination, and sensitivity — terms that speak to how deep a unit can find metal and how readily that unit can distinguish among different types of metal. This takes one to the first and foremost consideration in treasure hunting — choosing a machine, a daunting task for the novice.

To get an overview, I chatted with local dealers and other experts. To begin with, there are two commonly employed technologies among detectors — very low frequency (VLF) and pulse induction (PI), each of which operates — roughly speaking — by gauging the strength of the magnetic field produced by buried metals. (VLF units, in turn, can be subdivided into single-frequency and multiple-frequency units.) There are other specs to consider as well, things like coil size, and among multiple-frequency units, the number of frequencies. There are four big-name brands out there — Fisher, Garrett, Minelab, and White; less known are Bounty

South Bay Treatment Center
Addiction Research has investigational medications with related outpatient drug counseling available in a research setting for...

Methamphetamine or Crystal Meth Users
For more information, call: 1-888-318-2412
Subjects will be compensated for time and travel.

Schizophrenia
A mystery to most and, for some, a major challenge in their lives.

California Clinical Trials is conducting a medical research study of an investigational medication for schizophrenia. If you or someone you know is 18-60 years old and diagnosed schizophrenic and qualifies for the study, there is:

• Study-related medical services at no cost to you
• Compensation up to $2,425

Call us today:
1-888-CC-TRIAL (228-7425)
www.cctstudy.com

Afraid to show your feet?
Do you have toenail fungus?

Therapeutics Clinical Research is conducting a clinical research trial using an investigational medication in patients with onychomycosis (also known as toenail fungus).

We need participants:
• 18-75 years of age
• With toenail fungus on at least one big toe

Qualified participants will receive:
• Examinations by a Board-Certified Dermatologist & study medication at no cost
• Compensation for time and travel

No health insurance required

THERAPEUTICS
CLINICAL RESEARCH

Call us at: 858-279-SKIN (7546)
or e-mail us at: feet@therapeuticsresearch.com
www.therapeuticsresearch.com

Not Happy?

Sometimes even when things are good in your life, you can feel like something is affecting your mood. This general “gloominess” or melancholy may be the result of a chemical imbalance. Pacific Research Network is currently conducting a research program for those under 55 years old looking at an investigational treatment to address symptoms like:

• Trouble with sleep (too much or too little)
• Weight loss or gain
• Lack of interest in activities
• No energy
• Distraction at work
• Irritability
• Feelings of sadness without apparent cause

The program lasts 3 months and has 9 office visits. All study medication, evaluations, physicals and lab work are at no charge. Qualified participants will receive up to $720 for time and travel. Call for an appointment to see if your gloominess may be something chemical related. Perhaps we can help lead you in the right direction.

PACIFIC RESEARCH NETWORK
Call: 619-294-4302 • www.primed.com

Research Studies
Volunteers with Type 1 Diabetes Needed

Profil is looking for volunteers with Type 1 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

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
• Migraine history of 2-8 migraine headaches per month
• Willing to undergo pulmonary testing and echocardiogram

Participants will receive at no cost:
• Examination and consultation with a board-certified physician
• All study-related medication, labs, EKG, echocardiogram, chest X-ray, and pulmonary studies
• Compensation for your time and travel

Interested, call:
(619) 521-2841
MEDICAL CENTER FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH
MISSION VALLEY

Do You Have Trouble Sleeping at Night?

Insomnia is a condition where you might:
• Wake up frequently during the night
• Awaken during the night but usually fall back to sleep
• Wake up too early and not be able to fall back to sleep
• Be impacted in your daily life by your sleep problems

If you are 18 years or older you may qualify to participate in this insomnia research study evaluating whether an investigational medication improves quality of sleep.

Qualified participants will receive all study-related physical and laboratory exams, and study medications at no charge to you. Compensation for time and travel are provided.

Type II Diabetics suffering from insomnia are also encouraged to call.

For more information, please call:
1-888-486-9150

SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTERS
Hunter, Tesoro, and a handful of others. Not surprisingly, each brand has its loyalists and detractors.

What are you trying to find, and how much money can you spend? — it all boils down to this, goes the consensus.

According to Frank Trutta of Columbia Metal Detectors, multiple-frequency VLF machines are generally the way to go for wet-sand beach hunting and general relic/artifact hunting, while those seeking gold nuggets are better off using the PI detectors. In any event, there’s always a trade-off; the deeper a detector can go, the less it’s able to discriminate; sure, it’ll find metal, including nails, pieces of near-worthless aluminum, and lead — “trash” to the cognoscenti. On the other hand, if you’re looking for gold nuggets, you’ll need a unit sensitive enough to pick up small pieces of metal. And, of course, size matters — coil size, that is; smaller coils (8, 10 inches) are good for detecting individual coins, while larger coils (up to 15 inches plus) will go deeper but be less apt to pick up the small stuff.

Ultimately, what counts is what you find and who knows about it. Although the Coinshooters’ Clique is the most visible aggregation of San Diego treasure hunters, many detectorists aren’t affiliated with a club. Still, there has been an effort to organize, if for no other reason than to push back against the constant, inexorable forces of government — both state and federal — that seek to restrict where one can pursue the hobby.

Treasure hunting doesn’t have a lobby to match the NRA; hell, they’d be hard-pressed to match the influence of La Leche League, or even Spelunkers Anonymous, if it existed. Nonetheless, via the FMDAC — the Federation of Metal Detector and Archaeological Clubs — there are attempts, with modest success, to stave off incessant efforts by politicians and cops to fence off any and every good hunting site that might exist.

It isn’t just that one is prohibited from, let’s say, 38 San Diego Reader October 30, 2008

Women Needed to Participate in Domestic Violence Research Study

Who can participate?
- Women between the ages of 18 and 60
- And recently out of a domestic violence situation

What is involved?
Once we determine that you qualify for this study (via phone interview), you will be asked to participate in the following:
- In-person interview (2 hours)
- Neuropsychological testing (2 hours)
- Individual domestic violence therapy (10x 1-2-hour sessions)
- 2 fMRI scans (3 hours each)

When will this take place?
Each appointment will be made to accommodate your schedule, Monday through Friday 9 am-5 pm.

If interested, call Erin Grimes: 619-400-5046

You can receive free individual psychotherapy and up to $425 for your participation.

Principal Investigator: Murray B. Stein, MD, MPH, VA San Diego Healthcare System and University of California San Diego

RESEARCH STUDIES

Can’t Tolerate Iron Pills?
- Anemia Study

eStudySite is conducting a research study of an investigational medication for patients being treated for Iron Deficiency Anemia.

DO YOU QUALIFY?
To qualify, you must:
- Have iron deficiency anemia
- Be 18 or older
- Not be dialysis dependent

Qualified participants will receive study-related medical care and study medication at no cost as well as compensation for time and travel.

If you are interested, please call: (619) 955-5246
Or email: info@eStudySite.com

San Diego, CA
(619) 291-2845

Is your itch becoming a BEAR of a problem?

If you have been diagnosed with Atopic Dermatitis, you may be eligible to participate in a local research study with Accelovance.

For 3 visits over 15 days, Qualified participants may receive:
- Investigational ointment or placebo
- Compensation up to $125
- Study related physician care

Type 2 Diabetes
Taking Lantus® (insulin glargine)?

You may be eligible to participate in a research study and will receive treatment with an investigational medication to evaluate blood sugar control.

Participants must be:
- Taking Lantus® (insulin glargine) with or without Actos® (pioglitazone) and/or Glucophage® (metformin)
- Not be on other diabetes medicines or other insulin

Qualified participants will receive:
- Study-related medical exams and lab work
- Glucose monitor and supplies
- Compensation for travel

For more information, please call:
Diabetes and Endocrine Associates
619-466-4899
Do you have plaque psoriasis?

Therapeutics Clinical Research, a center of excellence in dermatological care, is conducting a clinical research trial of an investigational medication for people with plaque psoriasis.

We need participants:
• 18-75 years of age
• With chronic plaque psoriasis

Qualified participants will receive:
• Study-related examinations by a Board Certified Dermatologist and investigational study medication at no cost
• Compensation for time and travel

NO INSURANCE REQUIRED

THERAPEUTICS
CLINICAL RESEARCH

Call us at: 858-279-SKIN (7546)
or e-mail us at: psoriasis@therapeuticsresearch.com
View our website at: www.therapeuticsresearch.com

Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) Research Study
...tired of the urgency to go...and the diarrhea
...bloated...uncomfortable...abdominal pain

A 5-month clinical research study is underway for men and women, 18-80 years of age suffering from irritable bowel syndrome. For those men and women, diagnosed or not, who suffer with abdominal discomfort, bloating, and episodes of diarrhea, loose or watery stools, this research study using an oral investigational medication may interest you.

Qualified participants may receive at no cost:
• Screening colonoscopy (for those 50 years and older, and not done in the past 5 years)
• Study-related examination and consultation by a board-certified physician
• Lab studies, EKG, and study medication

Compensation for your time and travel may be provided.

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

Are you one of the 21 million people in the United States living with Type 2 Diabetes?

If so, consider participating in a research study at Profil Institute for Clinical Research. Profil is now conducting a research study to evaluate an investigational oral medication for Type 2 Diabetes.

You may qualify for the study if you are:
• A Type 2 Diabetic
• 30-75 years old and are otherwise healthy
• Using insulin alone or insulin in combination with oral anti-diabetic medications
• A non-smoker
• Women must be post-menopausal

If you qualify, you may be compensated up to $2,720 and you may receive investigational medication at no cost. Ten over-night stays and two outpatient visits will be required.

For more information, please call Profil Institute for Clinical Research at:
619-409-1262

Profil
Institute for Clinical Research
sweeping a coil at the base of Mt. Rushmore or around the grounds of Monticello; veteran treasure hunters say that, if the antihunters had their way, the only legal place to detect would be in your own backyard — if you had a permit, that is. The Federation, as all good, compliant organizations are wont to do, publishes a “code of ethics,” which apparently is designed — by dint of polite (obscure) rhetoric — to placate those who stay awake at night fear-stricken at the thought that a misplaced spade might (God forbid) rearrange chunks of dirt. For San Diego hunters, whose natural range has typically encompassed not only So-Cal beaches but the high deserts, bans have sucked some of the thrill from the chase; places like Calico Ghost Town and other sites deemed too holy for private-sector exploration have been marked off-limits by the powers that be. However, these arid reaches are sparsely patrolled and still — to some hard-core aficionados — fair game. After all, if you’ve spent a couple grand on equipment and logged dozens of hours researching historical documents, why let an officious dork in a Smokey Bear hat interfere?

Every treasure hunter with whom I spoke expressed frustration at being shut out. Even Russ Gish, a diplomatic and circumspect man, can’t help noticing that these days it’s

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**Attn: Heavy Drinkers**

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

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

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

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

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**Heavy drinkers not seeking treatment**

Investigators at The Scripps Research Institute are currently seeking volunteers who consider themselves to be heavy drinkers and do not have any desire to stop drinking.

The purpose of the research is to learn the most effective way of studying predictors of relapse or a return to drinking.

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

This study does not involve taking a medication or placebo for one week.

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

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**3,270 people will try something different for their DIABETES.**

Sometimes people with type 2 diabetes still have uncontrolled blood sugar levels even with the help of a healthy diet and exercise, with or without medication. If this sounds like you, then you may be eligible to participate in EMERGE — an international clinical research study exploring an investigational medication for type 2 diabetes.

To participate in the study, you should:
- Be at least 18 years of age
- Have a diagnosis of type 2 diabetes
- Have uncontrolled blood sugar levels even with the help of a healthy diet and exercise, with or without medication
- Have not taken insulin for longer than 1 week during the past 6 months

If you are eligible for the study, you will receive study-related care and medication at no cost to you.

To learn more about the EMERGE study, call: AMCR INSTITUTE INC.
Toll-free: 1-888-318-2411
info@amcrinstitute.com

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**Are you currently diagnosed with Schizophrenia or Schizoaffective Disorder?**

You may qualify to participate in a research study involving an investigational medication. Qualified candidates will be compensated for time and transportation up to $950.00.

Call (858)566-8222 for more information.

The California Neuropsychopharmacology Clinical Research Institute, LLC “CNRI, LLC”

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**Now Enrolling: Global Clinical Research Study for Adults With Type 2 Diabetes**

To be eligible, you must be:
- Between 18 and 77 years of age
- Taking metformin (Glucophage®)

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

Medical insurance is not necessary to participate.

Study participants will be asked to stay overnight at a study site for blood sugar assessments.

**Please call for information:**

AMCR Institute, Inc.
1-888-639-9703

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**RESEARCH STUDIES**
harder than ever to find a lucrative place to reconnoiter lost lucre without being cited or chased out. Take Balboa Park; as a sprawling, wooded tract — replete not only with modern-day tourists but a good measure of old-enough buildings, walkways, and other likely metal depositories — it's a must-sweep property. There's nothing on San Diego's extensive books banning treasure hunting there, but apparently park rangers defending the sanctity of their fiefdom feel justified in demanding that metal-detector-wielding folks cease and desist. Some once-fertile private-sector sites have dwindled as well, notably construction sites where owners and their minions, citing lawsuit concerns (real or feigned), have increasingly erected chain-link fences and No Trespassing signs.

According to Gish and the others, San Diegans (and Californians in general) looking for subsurface bounty still have it good, at least compared to states like Oregon, where — under the pretext of archaeological concerns — little public land remains open. Locals also have an intrinsic advantage here — lack of snow cover in the winter and generally tolerable weather. Among treasure hunters, another question surfaces, though: Can a location become “hunted out”? Gish, always the optimist, says that the problem is overstated. To begin with, he notes, “The beach renews itself every time crowds come and lose things and every time there's a big storm which churns things up.” Even popular sites that have been visited many times before can yield rewards. “You just have to know where to look.”

As it turns out, creativity and research (along with patience and persistence) separate the top-notch, veteran detectorists from their distant, weak cousins — the rank tyros who end up stashing their “guns” in the garage and selling them at a yard sale. Some of it’s pretty basic. For wet-sand hunters, it means perusing the tide charts for the lowest low tides — the “minus” tides — which mostly occur between midnight and dawn in the summer but during the day in the winter. It also entails heading for the beach immediately after big storm waves subside; the stronger the surf, the greater the chances that long-hidden objects will reemerge. Find the location of an old pier or landing, and you’re ahead of the game. For dry-sand hunters, it’s a matter of scoping out concession stands, bus stops, or a seawall — places where coins and jewelry are likely to disappear. Still other treasure hunters gain a leg up by cruising the streets of older residential districts to look for demolition or reconstruction sites. And, of course, dedicated detectorists are known to scan the hills for places heretofore overlooked.

The most dedicated treasure hunters go farther — not just farther...
afield, but deep into the thicket of historical research, where casual detectorists seldom tread. Although there’s no treasure-hunting “bible,” there are dozens of books, many quite specialized, offering “where- and how-to” tips. There are also micro-market periodicals, including Western and Eastern Treasures (to which Russ Gish has contributed) and — notwithstanding the hobby’s age demographics — Internet forums. If those sources are too “mainstream,” there are also the dusty volumes at the San Diego Historical Society in Balboa Park.

For the layman, this level of dedication might denote a “dweeb” or “wonk,” to which Paul Dragos disclaims, “I want everyone out there to know that we’re not as nerdy as they think; we don’t wear black socks with shorts.”

After all is said and done, San Diego treasure hunters — neither deterred by rules (written or unwritten) nor slowed by high winter surf — manage to bag, through dogged persistence and quiet patience, a sparkling array of metallic currency and finery.

And they’re damned proud of it. Every veteran treasure hunter, whether a self-described coinshooter, relic/artifact hunter, and prospector (or amalgam),...
I imagine a small-town Scoops. “It looks the way monthly newsletter, “Digs Clique”) publish a San Diego (who eschew treasure. about uncovering buried

find something exciting

to most rational among us

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Trutta, a typical treasure
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over a swath of sand or

detector from side to side

thrilling, but often tedious

possibly relaxing, occasionally

sweat equity — the osten-

which is deemed a backup

two machines, one of

customers, fresh from pink

are committed to sell detectors are

slosh and the like, buy into

the notion. But the initial

outlay can be steep; if you

buy a decent-quality detector with headphones, along with a scoop and other accoutrements, it’s hard to spend less than $500 to $1000.

For the serious treasure hunter, equipment outlays can run into the thousands because, as it turns out, hard-core devotees usually have at least two machines, one of which is deemed a backup unit in case the first-stringer goes down. And none of this figures in sweat equity — the ostensibly relaxing, occasionally thrilling, but often tedious hours spent sweeping a detector from side to side over a swath of sand or dirt. According to Frank Trutta, a typical treasure hunter can pay for his equipment in “a couple of years,” and clearly, old hands like Russ Gish and “Treasure Hunter X” can do much better.

Jimi Ellis, even as someone who’d like to sell you your first metal detector, is quick to caution, “Don’t give up your day job.” Nevertheless, even the most rational among us find something exciting about uncovering buried treasure.

The Coinshooters of San Diego (who eschew “Clique”) publish a monthly newsletter, “Digs & Scoops.” It looks the way I imagine a small-town church bulletin might appear: there are committee reports, notices about bake sales and “ice cream socials,” trivia columns, and lists of members with serious illnesses and/or upcoming birthdays.

If you thumb through “Digs & Scoops,” you’ll find out that the club meeting always opens with the Pledge of Allegiance and that on December 6, 2008, club members will convene for a Christmas dinner at the Sizzler in El Cajon. It’s “red state” all the way.

Specific to treasure hunting, there’s also a calendar of upcoming events, a recap of recent hunts and contests, and a handy San Diego Bay tide chart.

But for my money, it’s the “show and tell” portion of the newsletter — which chronicles the prior month’s finds — that tells the treasure hunters’ story, the tale of San Diego’s outdoor repository of lost objects.

The June 2008 edition of “Digs & Scoops” is illustrative of the breadth of what’s unearthed — the mundane, the bizarre, and the valuable. Russ
San Diego’s Best Prices for Laser Hair Removal!

Buy 5, Get 2 Free!

Any one area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Underarms</td>
<td>$60</td>
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<td>Bikini Line</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazilian</td>
<td>$175</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full Legs</td>
<td>$290</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper Lip</td>
<td>$35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s Chest/Abdomen</td>
<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s Back/Shoulders</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Face</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New Client Specials!
(Must present this ad!)

- Botox $200 per area (regularly $250/area)
- Skin Analysis and Customized Facial $50 (regularly $80)
- IPL Photofacial $175 (regularly $225)
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Gish’s 28-inch, 27-gram, 14-karat-gold chain (appraised at $1200) was deemed “best find,” while son Lance garnered the “most unusual” for his 50-pound dumbbell. All told, club members scoured out items ranging from vintage coins to late-model switchblades, as well as a San Diego Padres ring, a musket ball, and an antique condom tin. Still another Coinshooter, Alan Calvert, reported finding a silver rose ring, a silver pendant necklace, a silver earring, two working cell phones, a working digital camera, a flashlight, a survival knife, a spring-loaded locking knife, a heart pendant with pink stones, an unusual pendant necklace, a Costa Rican coin, a pot pipe, and a nose ring.

On any given sortie to beach or field, few of the things you’ll find, even if you’re highly skilled, will turn out to be saleable, much less valuable. There’s “trash,” of course, detritus and debris such as pull-tops from cans, mundane nails and screws, and other bits and pieces of nondescript, worthless metal. One step up (arguably) are the morbidly fascinating remnants of San Diego’s recent military past. Treasure Hunter X says that he occasionally picks up bazooka shells and other live ordnance near Coronado or Imperial Beach.

Above the merely bizarre, but beneath the truly lucrative, are items like watch fobs and lapel pins, considered quasi-collectable by some but just mundane curiosities to most. And let’s not forget the nonmetal byproducts of detecting — the patent medicine bottles and such that turn up now and then in the lots of old urban homes and around rural ruins.

Although the majority of treasure hunters keep records (often quite meticulous) of findings, finds they consider worthwhile, Frank Trutta takes it to an
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“Maybe it’s my accounting background, but I’ve broken it down precisely, and it’s the same, year after year. Pennies are 44 percent of what I find; nickels, 10 percent; quarters, 25 percent; dimes, 20 percent; and jewelry, 1 percent.” Russ Gish tracks his treasure by time — an average of 30 coins and 1.5 rings per 2.5-hour session.

But no one buys a $1000 metal detector in order to traipse through the stingray- and jellyfish-laden shallows to find common pennies. It’s the big hit, the big score they’re after. Treasure Hunter X is still tramping through the high desert looking for a meteorite, and he may eventually find it, but who the hell knows when?

Other treasure hunters are looking for their first gold coin or jar full of old silver dollars but may die before they find it. Frank Trutta says it can take years of practice and patience, as in the case of an ultra-rare silver dime — found at an unspecified local beach and appraised at $19,000. On the other hand, there’s no discounting luck. Jim Hill of Treasure Trove claims that one of his customers, on his first hunt — detector fresh out of the box — plucked a platinum-set diamond ring from the sands of La Jolla Shores.

No matter what has been found — it’s the waiting-to-be-found that keeps treasure hunters coming back for more, trudging the shoreline on foggy nights and dodging rattlesnakes in the Cuyamacas’ scrub. Whatever they seek most ardently — gold nuggets, an old railroad watch, even a cheap toy from the 1950s — the anticipation of the next find creates an inexorable, one might say magnetic pull. Arms swinging like pendulums, they’re hard on the heels of the next rush. Finders keepers.

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So I just piled my junk in my little Chevy S-10 and blew down highway 395 ahead of a snowstorm.

I left a wife and son behind, but they had been living with someone else for years.

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So I just piled my junk in my little Chevy S-10 and blew down highway 395 ahead of a snowstorm.

I left a wife and son behind, but they had been living with someone else for years.

Every woman that I met on the street had been molested or raped at a young age.

I like to read. I read a lot. I walked on the beach and hung out at the library.

I was depressed. I had tried many jobs. I had worked as a biological technician, a carpenter, restaurant manager, plumber, electrician, maintenance manager, photographer, reporter, page layout, etc. I was getting too old for construction work. Three

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Mini Herbal Green Peel $99 (reg. ‘150)
First-time clients only.

Spa Treatment Packages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Package</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1</td>
<td>$55</td>
<td>Deep-cleansing facial, manicure, and spa pedicure. (1 1/2 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>1-hour European facial, deluxe pedicure and manicure. (2 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#3</td>
<td>$99</td>
<td>European facial, spa pedicure, 45-minute neck, shoulder, full arm and back massage. (2 1/2 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#4</td>
<td>$140</td>
<td>Rejuvenating facial plus microdermabrasion and double collagen masks. 1-hour massage, spa pedicure, manicure, and paraffin wax for both. (3 hours)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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San Diego Reader
October 30, 2008
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**S-10 was suffering from neglect and severe corrosion from life at the beach. I gave it to one of the Mexican-American guys on the crew. He was an American citizen, but his wife had been busted as an illegal, so they had to live in Tijuana with their three kids. I took all the back seats out of the van and bought a custom mattress, put in some blackout curtains, and I was in heaven — so much room to stretch out.**

I started attracting drama. I managed to hook up with three severely alcoholic women in a row. Not binge drinkers — these ladies drank from morning until night. I had never seen anything like it. I spent days and nights in emergency rooms and hospital rooms. I saw how sick they became and thought they would want to get well. I had no idea what I was dealing with.

There were those romantic moments, such as when I was driving on Mission Boulevard and got kicked in the head. Or a different woman who liked to flash other drivers and pedestrians and scream obscenities out the window. I'm just trying to show you I wasn't making great choices.

Every woman that I met on the street, and got to know somewhat, had been molested or raped at a young age (one by her father). Most of them were in and out of jail on a regular basis. Tickets for illegal lodging (sleeping on the street) or public intoxication, followed by “failure to appear”...
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- Per treatment, per area
- Bikini, underarms, upper lip or chin.

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Fraxel II for smoothing and resurfacing skin, acne scars and even spots.
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Special Package – 4 treatments for $1,060

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Botox $10 per unit.
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As if they could remember what day it was, let alone figure out how to get downtown to the courthouse. So most were continuously sought by the police, and all of them knew the local cops by name.

When I wasn’t working with “J” or “K,” I made some money playing guitar and singing on the street and driving people around for gas money. To play on the street in P.B. you need a permit. To get a permit you have to go to the Park and Recreation Department in Balboa Park on the first Saturday of the month. I never got one. Most of the cops ignored us (I usually played with one or two other musicians). But one cop pulled up one night and screamed, “The next time I see you down here, I’m taking that guitar.” That kind of took the fun out of it for me. (The money wasn’t much to start with.)

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State-of-the-art Thermage Technology with advanced tips for skin tightening and contouring.
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Call for special packages.

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Microdermabrasion
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Botox $10 per unit.
Plus a $25 gift certificate.

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Cellulite Treatment
with Velasmooth $950
for package of 10.

>
Mesotherapy Fat
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For package of 4 sessions, $125 each session.

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As if they could remember what day it was, let alone figure out how to get downtown to the courthouse. So most were continuously sought by the police, and all of them knew the local cops by name.

When I wasn’t working with “J” or “K,” I made some money playing guitar and singing on the street and driving people around for gas money. To play on the street in P.B. you need a permit. To get a permit you have to go to the Park and Recreation Department in Balboa Park on the first Saturday of the month. I never got one. Most of the cops ignored us (I usually played with one or two other musicians). But one cop pulled up one night and screamed, “The next time I see you down here, I’m taking that guitar.” That kind of took the fun out of it for me. (The money wasn’t much to start with.)

Even though I was home- less, I always had a vehicle, and that made life far easier than it was for those living out of backpacks. Having to watch everything you own every minute of the day (including when you are asleep) makes for a tough existence. When a homeless person was arrested, many times the cops would leave their belongings behind. Numerous people I met, who had identification, lost it on the way to jail — the cops would just throw it out the window of the squad car.

One colorful character in P.B. has been living in vehicles for upwards of 20 years. He was laid off after 19 years at a local aerospace company. Nowadays, he’s pretty crippled up and has a hard time walking. He is one of the most compassionate people I’ve ever known. He’s always there to talk to anyone who wanders by. He helps people to get to court, helps them file for disability, and gives them rides to the feeds. He’s well-read and highly intelligent. He loses one or two vehicles a year. Either the cops tow them for some infraction, or they die of old age. Within no time, he’s found a new beater “home.” Why live like this? With his disability, he can either afford a dump room in a bad neighborhood or he can eat.

There is a definite feeling of family among the local homeless at the beach. They often share what they have and try to watch each others backs. Most are loners by nature, but there is a definite feeling of extended family among when they get together for meals at the local churches.

And speaking of the local churches (were we speaking?), there are four churches in Pacific Beach and one in La Jolla that feed the hungry one day a week, and the church in La

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San Diego Reader October 30, 2008 53
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Jolla feeds six days a week at Mariner’s Point. The Methodist Church not only provides a meal, it also has a medical clinic, dental clinic, and acupuncture.

Most of the churches have been hassled by neighbors and the City of San Diego. The churches are careful to insist that people only come on the property one hour before the feed and leave the property after the event. All of the feeds are put on by volunteers and often, to some extent, at their own expense. The hassles faced by the churches active in feeding the poor no doubt discouraged other churches from starting their own programs.

I was amazed by the commitment of many of the volunteers who spend most of one day a week preparing for the feed, collecting the food, and cooking it. Then they have to clean the kitchen and dining room and leave the property as they found it. The people coming to dine are always greeted with a warm smile and a hearty welcome. The often-heard criticism of these programs is that they are “enabling” the homeless. I guess the theory is that if the poor could just get hungry enough, they would snap out of it, realize that poverty is their own folly, and then they would immediately become successful used-car salespersons.

I was at a meeting yesterday of the City Council Permanent Homeless Facility Task Force. There were many compassionate folks at the meeting, responsible for years of hard work furnishing shelter, food, and counseling to those living on the streets. But the political and much of the financial will behind this group’s efforts emerged gradually — the wealthy owners and realtors downtown were upset that all those folks sleeping on sidewalks were making sales of all those new million-dollar condos difficult.

The chairman just wanted a number — how many beds do we have to provide before we can again start writing “illegal lodging” tickets and round up the strays.

The reason the City of San Diego had a moratorium on rounding up the poor was not out of compassion for the poor. It was because of a lawsuit, filed pro-bono, by two young lawyers who pointed out that if there were no beds available in the community, then the only legal option for those living out of backpacks was to keep moving 24 hours a day, every day. Even a well-fed Olympic athlete might...
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San Diego Reader October 30, 2008
Have trouble with that after two or three days. But I digress.

So, I’m on the street, working mostly, and for the most part staying under the radar of the SDPD. I had been on my knees for a few weeks laying tile for “K.” One morning I woke up with a swollen knee and I could hardly walk. After a few days, I went to the emergency room at Scripps. They drained some liquid off my knee and said I’d have to stay off it for a few weeks.

I had saved up some money and I thought — road trip! My plan was to drive to Norfolk, Virginia, and visit with my brother and his family. Before leaving, I managed to hook up with a woman who wanted a ride to some religious community in Arkansas. She didn’t make it that far. She jumped ship in Arizona, thank God.

Meanwhile, my leg was getting worse. I had a wild ride one morning talking to 911 on the cell phone and asking where the hospital was in Kingman, Arizona. I was 60 miles out of town, and the operator tried to talk me into pulling over and sending an ambulance for me, but I couldn’t leave my van out on the road. I finished the drive in agony and spent a few hours in the emergency room. The diagnosis was that I had a cyst behind my kneecap. The doctor said to elevate my leg and stay off it for a while. He gave me a prescription for pain pills and I was back on the road. I made it as far as Austin, Texas, when I got a phone call from some friends in Virginia City, Nevada. They said that my wife had been busted for methamphetamine (yes, I’m still married to her) and that I might want to head that way in case she had to go to jail, so I could take care of our ten-year-old son.

I spent a couple of weeks in town getting reacquainted with old friends and trying to set up a visit with my son. Finally, the visit was arranged, but it was instantly apparent that mom had made sure he had no desire to see me. As near as I could find out, she was in no danger of going to jail, and my money was running low; so I headed back down Highway 395 toward San Diego.

I hadn’t kept track of my money, and when I got back, I found I was $2000 in the red. I ended up selling my work truck to pay off my boss.
I was still using a cane to get around, so I spent some time hanging out with my leg elevated before going back to work. The boss had started a major condo remodel in La Jolla. He already had a big crew working.

I worked with them for a few days but didn’t mesh too well with the crew. So I was sent on a job in El Cajon where I had already done a bunch of work for the client at both their offices and at their home. Things went well for a week or so. The clients, husband and wife, had always been very kind. I had spent weeks and weeks at their home previously, installing granite bars around three of their outside decks. They were also close with my boss and his wife.

One morning, they left me a letter questioning why I had billed them for a couple of hours before I arrived at work. I should have just done as they requested and explained that I was picking up materials for the job, as well as picking up some brochures to help design a new front entry that they were proposing, and that I would be happy to take it off their bill if they still felt it was unjust. But NOOO! I wrote my own letter, all hostile and defensive. Well, that was the end of that job.

Several things went through my mind. I was getting too old for construction work (I was nearing 60); I needed a way to make a living that used less brawn and more brain, and maybe something would come up (I secretly hoped that the boss would call me back to work). I always seemed to squeeze by with enough gas money to keep going. Someone would need to go somewhere, and they’d put a little gas in my tank.

I was back eating at the churches and at Mariner’s Point and was learning dumpster-diving from some pros. You have to know when stores dump their outdated food. Some have their employees cut open packages and make them even more unappealing, and some have their dumpsters behind high walls, requiring late-night scavenging expeditions.

Clothing wasn’t a problem. There is a missionary who lives in her vehicle and collects awesome clothes from stores in the area and distributes them to whoever needs them every single week. No one that knows of her ever has to go without a warm coat or a pair of shoes. She became a good friend, and I helped her when I could, loading and unloading hundreds of pounds of clothes every week. She’s prayed for me a lot over the years, even though she knows I’m not much of an admirer of Christianity.

One of my “taxi service” jobs became taking a friend’s son to elementary school in Clairemont. One day, I had five passengers in my van, including the boy’s mother. We dropped the boy off at school, and on the way back to P.B., “D” asked if we could stop off at her ex-boyfriend’s house in Clairemont and pick up something of hers, as he was moving.

We pulled up in the alley behind a house, and she went in for a few minutes and returned with a gym bag and a backpack. We headed back toward the beach. As we were cruising through a quiet neighborhood, suddenly we were being followed at high speed by a small car with two people inside. They passed us and came screeching to a halt in front of us, cutting us off. (I later found out this was the ex-boyfriend and his brother.) Apparently, there was a ...

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major disagreement over the ownership of whatever was in the bags that “D” had picked up from his house. But, at the time, I really had no clue as to what was going on. The ex approached me on the driver’s side and started screaming and punching me through the window. His brother stood by his car brandishing a three-foot crowbar and talking on his cell phone.

My two male passengers jumped out the side doors to defend me. (They said later that they couldn’t just sit there while this guy was on a senior citizen.) There were some fists thrown, my shirt was ripped to shreds, and the mirror on the passenger side of the van was smashed. Somehow, we got back on the road to the beach, but they were still in hot pursuit.

I yelled at “D”: “What the hell do they want?” She said she had something he wanted, and I said, “Just throw it out the door, and maybe they’ll leave us alone!” So a bag went flying out the door, and they stopped and picked it up. We headed back to the beach thinking that the incident was over.

I pulled into the 7-Eleven parking lot and “M” and “B” jumped out to go across the street to Starbucks.

Two minutes later, a San Diego Police car pulled in behind us. It was soon followed by several more. “D” and “B” were still in the van. “Put your hands where I can see them!” We were cuffed and separated. I was still in shock from the chase and the fight. I asked why we were being detained — they weren’t saying. I sat on the curb by the 7-Eleven for about an hour in handcuffs, while the police conferred with each other. Finally, I was put in the back seat of Lt. Summer’s squad car. She had a ride-along that was a ride along that was introduced as a shrink with the police department. I tried to strike up a conversation with them about the plight of the homeless. I was starting to feel a little uneasy about what kind of justice we might be facing.

I was taken to Northern Division and put in a glass box. After conferring with each other for a few hours, the cops told me I was under arrest for armed robbery. My spirits were sinking fast, and I was driven downtown to the Central Jail.

I was fingerprinted, photographed, strip-searched, and given some snappy new clothes. I think I finally got to a cell about 9:00 p.m. I was exhausted and had developed a dry cough. My cell mate told me to roll up my stuff and get the hell out of his cell. I didn’t think I could just leave, but he convinced me. He head-butted me in the face and I staggered down the stairs with a towel, trying to catch the blood pouring out of my nose. When I finally got a deputy’s attention, he was upset that someone would have to take me down to the dispensary. He asked me if I was prejudiced toward skinheads. I replied that I hadn’t labeled my cell mate a skinhead — he had it tattooed in big letters on the back of his shaved head. While I was in the dispensary, my stuff (really the jail’s stuff) was transferred to another cell block.

In a couple of days I was transferred to George F. Bailey Detention Facility. Every seat on the bus was full and everyone was handcuffed to some.

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one else. The bus ride was better than jail. You could see the great outdoors and they played the radio. It took all day to get strip-searched, separated into different units, and assigned a cell.

My cell mate (celli) was the unit spokesman. He tried to fill me in on prison etiquette before I got hurt again. First of all, the prisoners run the units. (2) Absolute segregation must be observed; blacks, Hispanics, and whites all had their own tables — they’re not labeled so you have to memorize the pattern. (3) Any hassles on the unit will be adjudicated between the spokesmen for the blacks, Hispanics, and whites. This was a bit of a shock to me, having grown up on Navy bases where (at the time) race was the last thing that you noticed about someone. (4) Do what you’re told by the group leader or suffer the consequences. (5) Never rat on anyone to the deputies.

The only serious discipline I ever witnessed was when one of our group was complaining about the exercises he was asked to do because of some infraction. The disciplinarian (his friend) took him in a cell and broke his face. He had to go for some serious medical attention, and he was transferred to another unit. Nothing was ever said to the deputies by either party.

Finally, I was sent down to court for my arraignment. It was the first time I had seen my friends from the van since our arrest. “M” and “B” had been arrested in the meantime. We could see “D” and “M” in the courtroom, but they were in separate glass boxes. The only thing that we were asked that day was to sign a statement so our case could be delayed as the lawyers weren’t prepared. Back on the bus; back to George Bailey. These trips to court start at 5:00 a.m., and you don’t get back until 5:00 or 6:00 p.m. After a few more days, I had a video conference with my lawyer. She hadn’t received my paperwork yet, and she asked me to tell her what happened. She didn’t give me any indication of what she thought of my case, but it was some comfort that I had a lawyer (court appointed, of course). She said my bail was $40,000, but it wouldn’t have mattered if it was $4 as I didn’t have it.

Finally, on my 25th day of detention, we were all assembled in the courtroom (all five of us were being tried together). We never heard any testimony. After a while, my lawyer came over and told me that all charges had been dropped against all of us. We were jumping for joy and high fives all around (not easy to do with handcuffs on). Back on the bus, back to George Bailey. I went to my cell and told my celli that I was getting out. I thanked him for watching out for me and told him I’d keep in touch. He said, “No you won’t,” and went off to arrange for a new cell. He was right — that place freaked me out so bad it has taken me 17 months to sit and write this down.

It took until almost midnight to “process out.” I had my badly torn shirt, shorts, and flip-flops. They gave us a bus token and a cab ride to the trolley. I rode the trolley and the bus back to Pacific Beach. I found some newspaper and curled up in the sand in front of the new lifeguard tower at the foot of Grand Avenue. I froze my butt off all night. Now that is homeless.

My van and everything I owned was in the tow yard used by the SDPD, with a bill that was $1382 to get it back. My sister stepped in and bailed the van out and saved the little shred of sanity I had left. My sister and her husband took me into their home, and it has been wonderful for me.

— Tom Hunter

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LETTERS
continued from page 12

tually make up for their sins and go to heaven. So it’s really wide open.”

Run, Rico, Run!
This is concerning Rico Gardiner’s letter (October 16) in response to letters from other Reader readers who took exception to his rather harsh views of San Diego.

Mr. Gardiner, you failed to address the question posed by one, if not both, of your critics, which I will now restate: if you hate it here so much, why don’t you leave? You are obviously a person of discernment and sophistication who doesn’t fit in with San Diego’s lowbrow beer-and-burrito culture (or what passes for culture around here). How it must gall you to be surrounded on a daily basis by such a knuckle-dragging bunch of rubes, yokels, and slack-jaws.

You need to spread your wings and fly, man, fly! Off to the big city you should go, the sooner the better.
Why waste your life in this Podunk when you could be basking in the refinement and culture that is the essence of that shining city to the north, Los Angeles?
While we San Diegans lack the necessary wit to appreciate such things, you obviously do not.

Again, I must return to the original question of what is it that keeps you here, moldering in the provinciality that defines San Diego? Is it a job? No problem, there are jobs aplenty in L.A. An ankle monitor? Don’t worry, parole doesn’t last forever.
Whatever it is that keeps you here, I hope for your sake that you can overcome it and escape from this awful place.

A few caveats about L.A. They also have “silly sports teams,” as do most of the other “real” cities in the U.S., so you will still have to live with that. They also occasionally eat burritos, as well as drink beer up there, but I’m certain that a bon vivant such as yourself will be able to cope.

Run, Rico, run, while you still can! And don’t let the door hit you in the a**.

David Lathrap
Pacific Beach

Brown Has Big Feet
As Matt Potter was preparing his October 2 story (“Breaking News”) about the referendum challenging secretly negotiated changes to Stockton’s general plan, I wish he had taken the time to call the Alliance for Responsible Planning. The alliance was the group sponsoring the referendum, with the support of the Stockton Peace Officers’ Association, community and business leaders, the A.G. Spanos Companies, and myself. We came together because we were outraged that the Stockton City Council, by a 4–3 vote, had dramatically changed the City’s general plan that took five years and hundreds of public meetings to prepare.

Jerry Brown rode into town, threatened a costly lawsuit to a financially
strapped city, and left no

Just so Mr. Potter does
not fret about it, he should
know that Mr. Spanos did
not support me for mayor.
He supported my opponent.

Attorney General Brown’s
overambitious quest to be
California’s next governor
has led him to trample local
planning efforts.

Fortunately, more than
25,000 Stockton residents
signed our referendum pe-
titions — nearly the same
number of people that
voted in the last municipal
election — and the immi-
nent referendum led to a
settlement with the City
that guarantees the public
will be able to participate as
changes to the general plan
are discussed in the future.

Gary A. Podesto
Former mayor of Stockton
1997–2004
Watsonville

Matt Potter responds: The
item never said anything
about Spanos supporting
Podesto for mayor. We fully
reported Spanos being be-
hind the measure and Attor-
ney General Jerry Brown’s
role in the planning contro-
versy. A follow-up item noted
the City’s settlement.

The Dreaded Santee
Bloc
Re Reader Puzzle. I have
stopped submitting entries
because of the huge Santee
bloc of entries each week —
the people who don’t add
a comment line.

And when the Santee
bloc gets one letter wrong,
they are all wrong.

Something underhanded
is going on — several en-
trants have voiced that even
in their comment line.

Entering the puzzle is no
longer fun, when you see
such a large bloc of people
from the same place all win-
ing together and each one
never makes a comment.

There are always those
people who ruin it for all
the rest because of greed!

Ray Baterich
North Park

According to a phone call
the Reader, many of the en-
trants come from a Santee
nursing home. — Editor

LL Dull J

I find it baffling that you
continue to pay Josh Board
for his “Crasher” column
on a weekly basis. It com-
ts two journalistic sins

Testimonials:
Dear Dr. Mani: You are a
saint! I love my eyes and
so does everyone else.
— S.P. (Eyes by Thermage)

Dr. Mani: You are a life-
saver. It’s been 2 months
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my results. This is the
best gift I could have
given to myself.
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results with my ActiveFX.
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you to know that I had a
wonderful experience at
your office.
— E.Y. (ActiveFX)

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umn. Instead, it is doomed to be a constant embarrassment to party attendees, fans of grammar, and San Diegans in general. I suggest you audition new writers for this admittedly interesting concept, and tell Josh Board that he’s written his last meandering run-on description of how he thought that there would be appetizers at a party but there weren’t, so he went to stand by the pool where he noticed that some of the lights decorating the palm trees were out, and he meant to mention this to the host but he forgot to.

Conor Lastowka via email

Comments from Reader Website
Comments are not edited for spelling, punctuation, or grammar.

Cover Story
Published October 22
Posted by richard on October 23, 10:23 a.m.

The San Diego River has actually been serving the people San Diego for over 8,000 years, not 2,000 years. What other feature in our lovely region could lay claim to that? Without our river we would not have had the San Diego that we love today. Our county is named after the river and Old Town grew up along its banks. Unfortunately it has become one of the more polluted waterways in the U.S. and it runs right along our schools, playing fields, homes, churches etc.

How can we continue to let that happen? You can’t have a healthy community without a healthy river. It’s truly appalling, we are a first world city with a 3rd world river running right through the middle of it.

The San Diego River is historically, culturally and ecologically significant. It’s referred to as California’s first river as discovered by Europeans. San Diego itself, including the San Diego River is home to more bio-diversity than any other county on the U.S. mainland. There are more unique species of flora and fauna here than anywhere else. As such, our region is prone to more extinction than any other county. That extinction is real and is happening right now in Mission Valley, in Santee, right by your house or your favorite shopping center.

Fortunately, there are like minded people out there who are no longer going to sit down and let our river be abused and neglected. I am thrilled that people are giving a voice to our river and working to make it healthy again. I urge you to do an internet search on the San Diego River and see how you can get involved. How exciting that we will soon have a river park and trail where you can walk or ride your bike from OB to Julian, going through Mission Valley, through Mission Trails Regional Park up to our beautiful mountains. The river park will be a world class destination and will be a great tourist draw on par with Balboa Park, the Zoo and other local attractions on which so much of our economy depends.

Parts of the trail and river park exist right now and are waiting for you to explore and discover parts of our county you may not know exist. It’s time to take back our river and return the love it has given to us.

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Nov. 7th & 20th

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Lakeside have proved it. As most other people, “There is a San Diego River? Where?”

Then I looked into it on the internet, and I was like “Wow, wow, wow”, eyes wide open. The river is actually very long and lovely. And on one of the weekends, I decided to hike along the river bank in Mission Valley Regional Park—it turned out to be such a wonderful experience that I will never forget.

It’s really heart-warming to read this article here, thanks again for bringing up people’s attention on the river!

**Straight From the Hip**

*October 22*

*Posted by goinfar on October 22, 3:33 p.m.*

To the editor Matthew,

About “420”. That is not the real meaning. You are a writer for the sd reader, do your research! That is false information, “420” comes from earth day (4/22), the day people are supposed to start growing outside, usually after the first frost... but San Diego wouldn’t know frost! About the time of day students chose to smoke, that was concurrent with the day of year people planted so in accordance it was 4:20 p.m.—get your facts straight-encinitas

Matt DID do his research, and his answer is fairly plausible. See www.waldo420.com they are the original Marin county kids. or go here for a detailed answer to the question: http://www.craigslist.org/about/best/fo BTW, pepsi is nasty and beer is tasty : )

**Blurt**

*Published October 22*

*Posted by jaytwo on October 22, 4:23 p.m.*

Skip’s a pretty decent guy and books shows the same way most promoters do, but you shouldn’t pay $300 to play ‘Canes. Period. If you can’t sell 30 tickets at $10 a piece...don’t. You’ll end up paying $$$ to play for your friends. You may end up gaining a few fans if you’re any good, but that’s about it. If you can persuade 30+ heads to buy tickets, then you’re a winner...and a loser...but mostly a winner...if you haven’t lost. Did I lose you? Get lost...and win. WINNER!

*Posted by BassHog on October 24, 3:45 p.m.*

I lose you? Get lost...and win. You may end up gaining a few fans if you’re any good, but that’s about it. If you can persuade 30+ heads to buy tickets, then you’re a winner...and a loser...but mostly a winner...if you haven’t lost. Did I lose you? Get lost...and win. WINNER!

*Posted by xidongxi on October 23, 11:13 p.m.*

Then I looked into it on one of the weekends, I decided to hike along the river and have witnessed, first hand, the amazing transformation that has occurred there. People can make a difference for their river and community. The people in Lakeside have proved it.

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San Diego Reader October 30, 2008

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Pay to Play has ruined the San Diego band scene, fans don’t want to see 3 crappy bands play who’s only qualification for being on that stage is their ability to fork over $300. Never pay to play... NEVER

Anyone who tells you that this is how the music biz works is either stupid, or in a band that sucks so bad they have to pay to get gigs. I gig every weekend and we never pay to play.

Diary of a Diva
Published October 22
Posted by Gretchen on October 25, 2001 p.m.
Your experience with the newyards is a prime example of how over rated weddings are while not enough time and focus is spent on the relationship. Too often it seems women are head over heals in love with their engagement ring and the ideal wedding. Then, after the wedding, reality sets in and they realize they’re not a good match.

I’ve been lucky in love for over 30 years and our wedding consisted of 30 close friends and family at my sister’s house. It was actually more than what I wanted; like you, I preferred to go to the county courthouse, yet wanted to please my guy. After all these years I still want to make my sweet man happy and it’s reciprocated daily!

Still honeymoons after years of marriage is the best!

City Lights, by Don Bauder
Published October 22
Posted by Fred_Williams on October 23, 1:59 p.m.
Tourism is not an ideal industry to rely on for a world-class economy.

We ought to be doubling-down on attracting more bio-tech, IT, and Telco firms to our perfect climate with great universities near the sea.

Instead, we have a sad history of subsidizing hotels and stadiums with taxpayer money. Neither of these produce anything of lasting value to our region.

Imagine being the host city of the next Google, or being the birthplace of yet another groundbreaking cure. Small innovative companies ought to be made welcome here in San Diego.

Perhaps all those vacant condo boxes towering over the bay can be converted to places suitable for small distributed businesses to headquarter.

Perhaps we’ll eventually get mid-city transportation as a priority, connecting all the residences from Golden Hill to SDSU with downtown. We ought to be expanding residential public transit instead of cutting it.

Trolleys once served these neighborhoods instead of mostly stopping at tourist attractions.

That’s because the city founders knew that San Diego would only prosper if it actually produced things of lasting value. Overnight stays and sporting events are ephemeral options, not the kind of businesses to establish as our beacons of economic independence.

Please support candidates who won’t be beholden to the tourism industry in the future. Our future as residents of San Diego depends on it.

Play is going on in San Diego is because bands that have no business being on a stage are willing to shell out money to be there. Pay to Play has ruined the San Diego band scene, mostly due to greedy promoters. Fans don’t want to shell out $10 to get into Canes or Brick by Brick to see 3 crappy bands play who’s only qualification for being on that stage is their ability to fork over $300. Never pay to play... NEVER

Anyone who tells you that this is how the music biz works is either stupid, or in a band that sucks so bad they have to pay to get gigs. I gig every weekend and we never pay to play.

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Margaret G. O’Byrne, M.D., R.V.T.
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The Light Is Elusive
Painters Who Work from Life

‘Plein air,’ says Daryl Millard, owner of the Daryl Millard Gallery Solana Beach, “means painting a scene outdoors in the elements” where one can see, smell, hear, and feel what one is painting. It is the combination of these sensations, says Millard, that is “used to amplify one’s emotions onto canvas.” The term ‘plein air’ is derived from the French term for “in the open air.”

“In recent years, ‘plein air’ has been a popular word in painting landscape,” says oil painter John Burton. On November 1, Burton will take part in the Plein Air Art Invitational in Torrey Pines.

The plein-air style of painting first became popular when portable easels and paints premixed in tubes became available in the 1870s. Before that time, artists mixed their own pigments with linseed oil. Many art historians believe that plein-air painting was the catalyst for the French impressionist movement.

“In a world where painters have easy access to photography and the computer, it becomes easy to use these as a crutch rather than a tool,” says Burton. In Burton’s view, painting from real life takes more vision and artistry than painting from a photograph.

“It is easier to paint from a photograph because it frames and reduces the incredible amount of information that is inherent in our three-dimensional world…when one works exclusively from photography it means they are always working once removed from the subject. It is as if a poet or a novelist is writing a book about Venice from looking at pictures on the Internet or from stories a friend has told him about the city.”

Millard expresses a similar sentiment. “One has to remember that the camera alters the landscape drastically — darks become darker, lights lighter. All of the subtleties disappear.”

Burton says plein-air painting focuses not so much on the subject as it does on light. “I’m outside right now, looking at a pine tree, but I’m not seeing every needle. You look at a tree, and you’re not as concerned with painting every leaf, but if you can put the right color and value on the shaded side and the right color and value on the lit side, it would appear more like a tree than if you were to paint every leaf.”

Once a painter understands the relationship between color and light in the natural world, says Burton, one is able to begin a painting outdoors and complete it indoors. “Plein-air painting is as much a process of learning as it is an end-product. Sometimes it is art in its own right, and sometimes it is a piece of knowledge or notes to expand on in the studio.”

Burton, who won the grand prize at the invitational last year, believes landscape paintings can be a way for modern society to connect with nature. “We become so overwhelmed by our televisions, video games, Blackberries, traffic jams, deadlines, and media bombardment. I feel people need that connection with God’s creation. That is why someone works a long week and then goes for a hike in Torrey Pines.”

Painting from natural light is not without its disadvantages. “You don’t have much time to capture what you are looking at because the light changes probably every minute,” explains Millard. “Shadows change, vibrancy changes, clouds change, water changes when the wind blows…this means you have to work very fast, which I believe switches the brain to the creative side, allowing for something great to happen, rather than getting bogged down in a well-thought-out painting.” — Barbarella

Plein Air Art Invitational
Saturday, November 1
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Torrey Pines State Reserve
11480 North Torrey Pines Road
Cost: Free ($8 day-use fee required for each vehicle)
Info: 858-792-4700 or celebrateartcraft.com/painting

Peaceful Village, Daryl Millard

To get an online version of this story, go to sdcotreader.com. You can print it, email it to friends, and get other stories on the same subject or stories by this author.
**DANCE**

“Halloween Monster Swing Jam” Halloween costume swing dance in “wildly decorated dance space” with music by six-piece swing band Zanymore. Beginners’ lesson. Couples’ dance contest with $100 prize; costume contest with prizes. Dancing until 2 a.m. 619-470-8000. Friday, October 31, 9 p.m.; $5. Ages 18 and up. Sapphire Lounge, 4096 Bonita Road. ([DELLA VISTA]

Eerie Evening of Waltz Halloween bash — with “Vampire Vampires” theme — hosted by Waltz & Such in Casa del Prado room 207. Rotary waltz review 7:15 p.m., followed by dancing to haunting music until 9:45 p.m. All ages. Partners not required. Donation. 619-583-9886. Friday, October 31, 7:15 p.m.; $1. Casa del Prado, El Prado. ([BALBOA PARK]

Halloween Swing Hoedown Swing into Halloween when Nathan and Ben’s All-Star Swing Band plays live swing, boogie, blues music (9 p.m.-midnight). Dance lesson: 8-8:45 p.m. All ages welcome. Wear country-western attire and save $3 on admission. 858-395-6060. Thursday, October 30, 8 p.m.; $13. Firehouse YMCA Community Center, 7877 Herschel Avenue, La Jolla. ([NEW YORK STYLE SALA]

**FILM**

**I.O.U.S.A.** Patrick Creadon used archival footage and economic data, interviewed economists and thinkers (Warren Buffet, Alan Greenspan, others) to speculate, advise on ways to deal with “the approaching economic collapse.” Flick screens for “Sunday Afternoon at the Movies” series. 619-236-5800. Sunday, November 2, 2 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. ([DOWNTOWN]

**PI** In this film, mathematical genius, number theorist Maxmillian Cohen theories that “everything in nature can be understood through numbers and that if he graphs the numbers properly, patterns will emerge.” After screening, editor Oren Surch discusses process of “building” a film as an editor and what it was like to work in concert with director Darren Aronofsky. 858-534-TIXS. Thursday, October 30, 7 p.m.; $5-$10. Price Center, 9500 Gilman Drive. ([LA JOLLA]

**Vitus** Drama from Switzerland in which a child piano prodigy finds a unique way of dealing with being different is featured when Cinema Society of Carlsbad convenes. Pre-and post-film discussion with Andy Friedenberg. Cinema chat at 1:30 p.m. 760-602-2026. Saturday, November 1, 1:30 p.m.; Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. ([CARLSBAD]

**Madness Takes Its Toll!** Ready for audience participation! Lyric Opera of San Diego and Hawthorn’s present movie series, featuring the cult classic Rocky Horror Picture Show this week. No one under 17 admitted without parent. 619-239-8836. Friday, October 31, 10 p.m.; $7. Hawthorn’s Restaurant, 2895 University Avenue. ([NORTH PARK]

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**MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, SAN DIEGO**

**TRULY CREEPY — ROSEMARY’S BABY**

Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, Thursday, October 30. ([SEE FILM]

**OUT & ABOUT**

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The $8.95 lunch buffet and $15.95 Prime Rib dinner buffet.

Monday - Thursday
October 20 - November 13

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San Diego Junior Theatre opens season with Andrew Lloyd Webber’s musical Cats, based on T.S. Eliot’s Old Possum’s Book of Practical Cats. Directed by Steve Anthony, production runs through November 9. For all ages. Performance on November 8 is ASL interpreted. Reservations: 619-239-8335. Friday, October 31, 7 p.m.; Saturday, November 1, 2 p.m.; Sunday, November 2, 2 p.m.; Sunday, November 2, 2 p.m.; $13. Casa del Prado Theater, 1650 El Prado, Suite 208. (619) 234-5440. Spooky? The Polka Dot Ghost is presented by Big Joe Productions through Sunday, November 2. Juri and the Beardled Dragons may be seen when comic ventriloquist Lynn Trimble takes stage November 3-9. Curtain rises at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday-Friday and at 11 a.m., 1, and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 619-544-9203. Thursday, October 30, 10 a.m.; Friday, October 31, 10 a.m.; Saturday, November 1, 11 a.m.; Sunday, November 2, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, November 5, 10 a.m.; Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (Balboa Park)

IN PERSON

Carnivalesque! Enjoy “a vaudeville and circus exploration of satire and serious relationships.” Charity performance benefits Monarch School. 858-362-1348. Saturday, November 1, 7 p.m.; $10-$20. David and Doretha Garfield Theatre, 4126 Executive Drive. (La Jolla)

Phantasmagoria! Performers in Zink Ubu bring together performance art, circus skills, masking, puppetry, and storytelling. 619-297-3500. Saturday, November 1, 6:30 p.m.; Old Town Theatre, 4040 Twigg Street. (Old Town)

Strange and Haunting Tales! Join San Diego’s scariest storytellers for a “chilling story concert” sponsored by San Diego Folk Heritage. Tellers include Marilyn McCoy, Sarah Suiter, Linda Whiteside, Fred Laskowski, Leo Baggerly, Patti Christensen, James Nelsen-Lucas, 858-454-1325. Friday, October 31, 7 p.m.; Templer’s Hall at Old Poway Park, 14134 Midland Road. (Poway)

“The Pre-Election Comedy Show!” Enjoy fast-paced character-driven improv sketch comedy show by members of Comedy Under Construction. 858-550-8888. Saturday, November 1, 8 p.m.; $5-$10. Ages 16 and up. Swedish Hall, 1531 3rd Avenue. (University City)

Big: The 50 Greatest World-Record-Catch! Historian, author Mike Rinker discusses, signs his latest book (illustrated by artist Fick Ford), which details catches selected for “their sheer size, popularity, beauty, and exciting story.” 858-454-0347. Wednesday, November 5, 7:30 p.m.; Warwick’s Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (La Jolla)

Ghost of El Grufo! Author Patricia Santana reads from her new novel in Griffin Gate. 619-644-7486. Wednesday, November 5, 7 p.m.; Grossmont College, 8880 Grossmont College Drive. (El Cajon)

The Girl on the Fridge: Stories Israelic fiction writer Etgar Keret signs, discusses his work during lecture and lunch hosted by San Diego Jewish Book Fair. Required rese-
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"Chinese Foot-Binding in Cultural Perspective" Suzanne Cahill, Kensington resident and history professor at UCSD, presents this look at "Women’s Bodies, Women’s Work, Women’s Virtue." What exactly was foot-binding? Why did so many women in China bind feet for so long? 619-533-3974. Saturday, November 1, 3 p.m.; Kensington-Normal Heights Library, 4121 Adams Avenue. (KENSINGTON-NORMAL HEIGHTS)

"Empirical Network Models of International Commerce and International Conflict" Michael Ward shows that international behaviors are not independent of one another; he “discusses alternatives,” explores one solution to imposing a structure on dyadic data, “Greenovational Forum: Water and the Built Environment” Examine complex water issues both locally and globally and hear from experts in academia, industry, government, and the nonprofit community. The goal: “to contribute to the exchange of knowledge and the development of solutions for a sustainable future.” RSVP: 858-822-2521. Tuesday, November 4, 4 p.m.; UCSD Faculty Club, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

"Important Chinese Paintings in SDMA’s Collection" Yi-Li Kao, former San Diego Museum of Art associate curator, presents this look at significant Chinese paintings in museum’s collection. 619-232-7931. Thursday, October 30, 1 p.m.; San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (SAN DIEGO)

"International Justice from Outside Pushing In" Professor Naomi Roht-Arriaza of University of California, Hastings College of Law focuses on “Using Transnational Prosecutions to Create Domestic Change.” 858-822-5297. Thursday, October 30, 12:10 p.m.; California Western School of Law, 150 Cedar Street. (DOWN TOWN)

"Land and Property Records in Scotland" Jackie Webster addresses Scottish Interest Group of British Isles Genealogical Research Association. Nonmembers welcome. 619-465-7326. Wednesday, November 5, 10:30 a.m.; LDS Family History Center, 4195 Camino del Rio South. (BRE S N VAL LEY)

"New Advanced Estate Planning, Asset Protection, and Succession Planning Techniques" Personal finance advisor, certified financial planner, KOOG radio host Ken Stern presents lecture, "Learn how to properly plan for your extended lifespan." 858-538-8159. Wednesday, November 5, 1 p.m.; Rancho Penasquitos Library, 13350 Salmon River Road. (RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

"New Silk Roads" Kyong Park, UCSD associate professor of visual arts, discusses this expedition-based urban research project exploring the new urban landscapes emerging in expanding, transforming Asian cities and regions for “Fissional Sites” lecture series. 619-235-2900. Thursday, October 30, 7 p.m.; Woodbury University, 2212 Main Street. (SAN DIEGO)

"So You Want to Be an Author" This "National Author’s Day Celebration" honors local authors and poets. Expect a panel addressing publishing, writing style, book translating, working with book printer, as well as authors’ readings. 760-435-3640. Saturday, November 1, 10 a.m., ages 18 and up. Oceanside Library, 330 North Coast Highway. (OCEANSIDE)

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Guitar Clinic: Heavy metal guitarist George Lynch (Dokken, Lynch Mob) plans clinic. 858-565-8914, Tuesday, November 4, 4 p.m.; Music Power, 7120 Clairmont Mesa Boulevard. (PEPPIE MESA)

Ikebana Series: Learn art of Ikebana (“Japanese flower arrangement”) from Rumi Rice, a Sogetsu School teacher. Materials fee: $30. Classes held each Tuesday in November. Advance registration required. 760-436-3036 x2206, Tuesday, November 4, 10 a.m.; $85-$100. Qual Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (JINGANG)

Practice Writing German Script: And “Learn Basic German Genealogical Vocabulary, Part 2” when Donna Ritchie speaks for German Research Association. 619-276-4660. Saturday, November 1, 10:30 a.m.; LDS Family History Center, 4195 Camino del Rio South. (MISSION VALLEY)

OUTDOORS

Daylight Savings Time ends this Sunday morning, November 2 at 2 a.m. With the resumption of standard time, midday (the time when the sun reaches its maximum altitude in the southern part of the sky) will again be close to 12 noon on our clocks, rather than 1 p.m., as before.

Autumn Color in San Diego County’s mountains reaches its greatest intensity in late October and early November. The forested heights of Palomar Mountain are especially colorful right now. Black oaks on Palomar’s rolling uplands will be exhibiting bright yellow and brown hues for the next few weeks.

Cayucos Reservoir, although hard hit by the 2003 Cedar Fire, remains a worthwhile leaf-peeping destination. The shimmering leaves of the Lombardy poplar, an Italian import that has taken root at the south end of the lake, delight the eye with their golden radiance.

Halloween Evening: Friday, October 31 features a lovely pairing of the waning crescent moon and the planet Venus. Look low in the southwestern sky to spot lanternlike Venus, and a thin sliver of crescent moon a few degrees below it. Jupiter, another lanternlike (but dimmer) planet lies much higher and to the left of Venus. On Monday, November 3, the much thicker crescent moon will appear right next to Jupiter.

The Taurid Meteor Shower, featuring about 10-15 visible events per hour (as seen under clear, dark skies) peaks this year around Monday and Tuesday, November 3 or 4. Best times for viewing are approximately 10 p.m. to 3 a.m., after the moon has set. Individual meteors belonging to this shower are relatively slow-moving (they’re caused by particles burning up when colliding with the earth’s atmosphere at a mere 18 miles per second). All Taurids seem to radiate from a fixed point in the direction of the constellation of Taurus, hence their name.

“Beat the Heat Mystery Walk” Naturalist Kathleen Flanagan leads “Beat the Heat Mystery Walk” at the south end of the lake, delight the eye with their golden radiance.

OUT & ABOUT

CONSIDER CATHEDRAL — SAN DIEGO GREAT BOOKS
defies 1:30 p.m.; ages 18+

Sunday, November 2, 9 a.m.; Te
colote Nature Center, 5180 Te
colote Road. (CLAREMONT)

Guided Nature Walk: Meet at beach side of park, at Regents Road entrance. 925-581-9944. Bring binoculars, drinking water. Saturday, November 1, 9:30 a.m.; Mar
tian Bear Memorial Park, Highway 52 and Regents Road. (CLAREMONT)

History Walk: Offshoot Tours of
tours to Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge and nature center. 619-409-5900. Sunday, November 2, 1 p.m.; Chula Vista Nature Cen

ter, 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive. (CHULA VISTA)

Seek Autumn Blooms: Guided nature walks on offer. 619-668-
3281. Saturday, November 1, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, November 2, 9:30 a.m.; Wednesday, November 5, 9:30 a.m.; Mission Trails Regional Park. One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Van Explora la Naturaleza: Bilingual nature walk led by Spanish-speaking interpre

tive guide. Walks introduce visi
tors to Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge and nature center. 619-409-5900. Sunday, November 2, 2 p.m.; Chula Vista Nature Cen
ter, 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive. (CHULA VISTA)

SOUTH OF THE BORDER

“Aladdin on Ice” Production on ice is “for the whole family.” 011-52-664-687-9636. Sunday, November 2, 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.; $40. Centro Cultural Tijuana,

Save $30

enjoying the biggest thrill of your lifetime!

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**Building Bridges Mexico/USA**
Opening reception for exhibition of original paintings and sculptures by 15 international artists from ten countries sponsored by Consulate General of Mexico in Los Angeles. View the diverse works of art in Sala Internacional through Thursday, January 15. 011-52-646-173-4307 or 011-52-646-687-4308. Friday, October 31, 7 p.m.; Centro Estatal de las Artes, Boulevard Costero and Avenida Club Rotario. [map]

**Chiquita...Pero Picosa** Comedy with actors Verónica Castro, Macaría, and Fernando Caughrrettí. 011-52-664-687-9636. Tuesday, November 5, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, November 1, 10 a.m.; Thursday, October 30, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.; $30-$35. Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paso de los Héroes and Mina Street. [map]

**Mrs. President** Gonzalo Vega and his daughter Marimar return in this comedy with Amara Villafuerte, Gastón Padilla, and Sergio Márquez. 011-52-664-687-9636. Thursday, October 30, 7 p.m and 9:30 p.m.; $30-$35. Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paso de los Héroes and Mina Street. [map]

**Argentine-Venezuelan Singer and Songwriter** Pop music concert by Ricardo Montaner. 011-52-664-681-2735. Friday, October 31, 9 p.m.; Saturday, November 1, 9 p.m.; $165-$185. Grand Hotel Tijuana. 011-52-664-687-9636. Tuesday, November 5, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.; Wednesday, November 6, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.; $35-$45. Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paso de los Héroes and Mina Street. [map]

**Bullfights** Matadors Eloy Cava- zos, Alejando Amaya, and Rodrigo Santos meet up with bulls from Montecristo and Santuyo in Calafia Bullring. 011-52-664-687-9636. Thursday, October 30, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.; $30-$35. Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paso de los Héroes and Mina Street. [map]

**La Factoria, Pee Wee, and Eddy Lover** Enjoy the show. 011-52-664-633-4000. Friday, October 31, 6 p.m.; $10-$25. Campo Nuevo Ensenda, Avenida Diamante and Pedro Loyola. [map]

**Raztlan Festival** Enjoy music by Max Romeo and U Roy (Jamaica), Gomba Jabbari (Puerto Rico), Alika (Argentina), Antidoping (Mexico City), Sonus Uno (Mexico), Blackstars (Jamaica), and Digital Dubs (Brazil). 011-52-664-308-0783. Saturday, November 1, 2 p.m.; $22-$28. Caliente Race Track, on Boulevard Agua Caliente. [map]

**Romantic Music** Carlos Cuevas in concert benefiting Mental Health Hospital Tijuana. 011-52-664-687-9636. Friday, October 31, 8 p.m.; $30-$40. Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paso de los Héroes and Mina Street. [map]

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**UnScene Photography Tour**
The UnScene Photography Tour and W San Diego search “for San Diego’s hottest emerging talent behind the lens and ‘unscrened’ images of the city” during contest. Contestants submit portfolio containing up to 20 photos and $15 entry fee by Saturday, November 1.

W San Diego hosts showcase of the five local finalists’ best shots, live music on Thursday, November 20. 619-398-3100. Thursday, November 20, 6 p.m.; ages 21 and up. W Hotel, 421 West B Street. [contests]

**Amistad/Friendship** Ruby Lang returns to display her sixth annual ofrenda (altar) in commemoration of Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) and “the dearly departed.” This year’s piece features a “Circle of Friends,” representing importance of friendship, with skeletons dressed in handmade paper dresses, holding hands around a table stacked with sugar skulls, candles, flowers, milagros, antique religious items. 858-794-9016. Thursdays, 10 a.m.; Fridays, 10 a.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m.; through Sunday, November 2, SoLo, 309 South Cedros Avenue. [DOWNTOWN]

**Tastemakers’ Ball** San Diego Reader and Valley View Casino present Tastemakers’ Ball 2008. Savor the bounty of delectable foods and exotic drinks from the premier tastemakers of San Diego. Go to http://www.tastemakers-ball.com for more info and to buy tickets! Saturday, November 1, 5 p.m.; $30-$40. Ages 21 and up. Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina, 1380 Harbor Island Drive. [DOWNTOWN]

**Bonita Holidays** Sweetwater Women’s Club hosts annual home tour (Saturday) and craft show including home décor, gifts, farmers’ market (Saturday and Sunday). 619-427-0448. Saturday, November 1, 10 a.m.; Sunday, November 2, 10 a.m.; $10. Sweetwater Women’s Club, 3655 Sweetwater Road. [map]

**“Building Bridges Mexico/USA”**
High Tech High Village Schools benefit from second annual fundraiser, with Taste of Liberty Station (1-2:30, 4:30-6 p.m.), live entertainment provided by students at HTTH schools with musical and variety performances throughout afternoon. “Family pack” admission $35. 619-865-2714 or 619-855-6665. Wednesday, November 5, 1 p.m.; $8-$15. NTC Promenade, 2640 Historic Decatur Road. [map]

**“Muerte de Todos Ofrenda de Participación (Death Comes to Everyone: A Participatory Offering)”** Elsy Tascón’s 14th annual Día de los Muertos installation opens with community reception, participate by bringing objects (such as photographs, momentos, flowers) in memory of loved ones. Reception includes paper flower-making, art projects for children, refreshments including pa’ dulce, Mexican hot chocolate. Installation closes Friday, Novem-
Now through November 1

**Scream Zone**
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**Walking the Reserve**
Enjoy informative walk through garden with a member of the professional horticultural staff.
Sunday, November 2, 1:30 p.m.; Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

**Ask the Horticulturist**
Tour
704 Pier View Way.
(DOWNTOWN)

**What Lies Beneath**
Monster Manor returns, with visits to the Ghastley’s “subterranean cavern” in their Victorian mansion during the night haunts (for those 13 and older). Manor transforms into Caribbean villa with pirates in search of treasure for those “lite fright,” aimed at young children and families. 619-750-3654. Thursday, October 31, 7 p.m.; Friday, October 31, 7 p.m.; $5-$10. Target culture, 7235 Mira Mesa Boulevard. (MIRA MESA)

**53rd Massing of the Colors**
Military Order of the World Wars hosts events including “Service of Remembrance” to honor those who are serving our country. 760-889-2222. Friday, October 31, 7 p.m. through Saturday, November 1, 4-6 p.m. Previews 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Oceanside Museum of Art, 685 Pier View Way. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

**Baking Boot Camp**
Cindy Mushet — author of Art and Soul of Baking — focuses on many important techniques in baking, why they work, and how to avoid problems (as well as how to fix them), plus five tips to improve your baking.
Menu includes sponge cake, chocolate toffee scones, classic apple pie, more. Registration: 760-635-1319. Tuesday, November 4, 6:30 p.m.; $69. Ages 18 and up. Sur la Table, 1905 Calle Barcelona. (CARLSBAD)

**Beginning Yoga**
Series of yoga classes for adults only. Bring yoga mat, wear comfortable clothing, be prepared to remove your shoes. 619-538-4159. Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.; through Saturday, November 15, Ages 18 and up. Rancho Penasquitos Library, 7350 Salmon River Road. (RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

**Casket Walk!**
Historic cemetery tours offering "tales with plots" led by guide Charles Spratley by lantern light. Spratley evokes past on these walking tours “of the history, tragedies, and mysteries of this small-town cemetery.” Wear comfortable shoes, warm clothing.
Halloween evening tours on Friday, October 31, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., evening tour on Saturday, November 1, in celebration of Dia de los Muertos/Day of the Dead. Reservations: 619-889-2222. Friday, October 31, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.; Saturday, November, 1, 7 p.m.; 65 Julían Pioneer Cemetery, Farmer’s Road. (JULIÁN)

**Celebrate Dia de los Muertos**
Day of the Dead celebration featuring artists created by local artists (free viewing), crafts for families, sale of Day of the Dead-themed collectibles. 619-239-2001. Sunday, November 2, 10 a.m.; San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado. (DOWNTOWN)

**Check-In Time at Haunted Hotel**
Experience adrenaline-pumping scares in doll room, slaughterhouse, and run from Punk Zombie Clowns. 619-696-SCARE. Thursdays, 7 p.m.; Fridays, 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 6 p.m.; through Saturday, November 1, 8-1 a.m. Ages 10 and up. Haunted Hotel, 434 Market Street. (MURPHY)

**Co-Ed Drumming Circle**
Elisa Kisselburg leads co-ed circle...
MYSTERY SCHOOL

YOU PLACED AN ORDER FOR FREEDOM
BUT YOU STILL FEEL STUCK

TECH SUPPORT IS HERE NOW*

NOVEMBER 4-6
TUESDAY-THURSDAY
6:30P.M.–9:30P.M.
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YOUR AWARENESS IS IMPORTANT TO US.
PLEASE CONTINUE TO HOLD UNTIL NOVEMBER 4.

Earth image courtesy of NASA, http://visibleearth.nasa.gov
San Diego Reader

Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

blending Japanese, Middle East ern, African traditions. Drums provided if you don’t have your own. Circles offered first Sunday of every month. 619-303-6409. Sunday, November 2, 10 a.m.; $15. Tierrasanta Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 11260 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (Tierrasanta)

Consider Cather Discuss Willa Cather’s Death Comes for the Arch bishop with San Diego Great Books group. Newcomers welcome. 619-440-5625. Saturday, November 1, 2 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (Mission Valley)

Does Your Vote Count? An over the question with P&R Discussion Group. 619-370-1027. Thursday, October 30, 7 p.m.; Fil ter, 4096 30th Street. (North Park)

Don’t Be Caught Dead! Dos Equos XX Monster Bash, outdoor block party on Island Street (between Sixth and Eighth Avenues) and Seventh Avenue (between J and Market Streets). Costume contests, entertainment, food and beverages. Live music. 619-233-5088. Friday, October 31, 6 p.m.; $20-$25. Ages 21 and up. Gaslamp Quarter. (Gaslamp Quarter)

Día de los Muertos Residents, local artists display altars with Day of the Dead ofrendas (offerings), on view October 29-November 2. Nontraditional artist-designed altars on display at Villa Montezuma Museum and in front of historic houses. Walking tours on Saturday and Sunday, at 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., from Villa Montezuma (donation suggested). Azte dancers each day. Tamales, mole, and other traditional foods will be sold each day. Tamales, mole, and other traditional foods will be sold each day. (North Park)

Embark on a Special Journey San Diego Bay is a site for “companion sailing” with private Lynx and revenue cutter California. Spend an afternoon sailing on tall ships as they were sailed in the 1800s. The Lynx will be open for dockside tours, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Reservations: 619-234-9153. Saturday, November 1, 12:30 p.m.; Sunday, November 2, 12:30 p.m.; $42. San Diego Maritime Museum, 1306 North Harbor Drive. (Harbor Drive)

Halloween Doggie Café Take your furry, four-legged costumed dog (costume optional) to socialize with other canines. Trainers offer training tips on keeping dogs calm, civilized around distractions. Costume contest with prizes for scariest, cutest, and most original dog costumes. Pictures on offer. (Donation). Reservations: 619-299-7012 x2230. Friday, October 31, 6 p.m.; $10. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5300 Gaines Street. (North Park)

Haunted (Gingerbread) House Kids and parents will start with a preassembled gingerbread house, then work together to decorate it “in the most fendish way imagin able.” Participants learn easy piping techniques, paint the house with ghoulish black frosting, finish with seasonal candies. 760-635-1319. Friday, October 31, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. $54. Ages 4 and up. Sur la Table, 1905 Cabe rra. (Downtown)

House of Scotland Ethnic danc ing, music, and costumes showed cased during lawn program at In ternational Cottages. Food for sale. 619-234-0379. Monday, November 2, 2 p.m.; House of Pacifi c Relations, 2125 Park Boulevard. (North Park)

Lunch and Musical Program Event hosted by Associated Arts to provide scholarships for “worthy students in the arts.” Reservations by October 29: 619-382-0358. Monday, November 3, 11:30 a.m; 8. San Diego Women’s Club, 2557 Third Avenue. (University Hills)

Miniature Book Exhibition Members of San Diego Book Arts exhibit books “not more than three inches in size” through Wednesday, November 26. “This is the smallest branch of the San Diego Public Library, so this is a fitting exhibit for” the location. 619-533-3974. Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.; Fri days, 12:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.; Mondays, 12:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m.; through Wednesday, November 26, Kenmessing-Normal Heights Library, 421 Adams Avenue. (Normal Heights)

Native Plant Sale Earth Discovery Institute hosts native plant sale to benefit education and restoration programs. Most plants are $7.50 or three for $20. 619-437-7989. Saturday, November 1, 8 a.m.; Crestidge Ecological Reserve, 1711 Horse Hill Road. (Creston)

Notice the Chocolate and Caramel Finale... Halloween wine and candy pairing, with “a few select wines from our collection” matched with traditional Halloween candies. Costumes welcome but not necessary. 760-757-1037. Friday, October 31, 6 p.m.; $15. Ages 21 and up. Vise to Class, 210-A North Coast Highway. (Encinitas)

Renaissance Faire Queen Elizabeth I and her royal court, accompanied by entertainers, food vendors, merchants, and Renaissance reenactors, gather for eighth annual festival. Enjoy period music, battle pageants, Shakespearean theater, continuous entertainment, vendors, children’s activities. Weekend passes available. 805-498-6060. Saturday, November 1, 10 a.m.; Sunday, November 2, 10 a.m.; $7-$15. Felicita Park, 742 Clarence Lane. (Lindon Davis)


Buffalo Alley 10K Run Course begins in 53 Area of Camp Horns, winds up into the hills of Camp Pendleton. Civilians welcome. Two-hour time limit on completion of course. 760-725-6289. Saturday, November 1, 8:30 a.m.; Camp Pendleton, Harbor Drive at I-5. (Oceanside)

Day of the Dead Ride Wear a costume (prizes awarded for most original, scariest) and join the Knickerbokers for a 25-mile bicycle ride including some of San Diego’s old cemeteries, altars on display in Sherman Heights area. Bring money for lunch at farmers’ market: 619-262-3969. Saturdays, November 1, 10 a.m.; County Admin istration Building, 1600 Pacific Coast Highway. (Little Italy)

DANCE FOR $10

1-hour intro class. Latin & Ballroom Jitterbug & Swing Salsa & Merengue

$32 for 4 weeks with this ad


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Two people get their first beginner lesson on our carpet for the price of one. Must mention ad when calling for appointment. Valid until 11/15/08. With ad.

Better Skiing & Boarding Starts Here!

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Top line vehicles: Hummer, Denali & party buses

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Out & About

“BEING THERE: 50 YEARS IN PHOTOGRAPHY” Harry Benson, Museum of Photographic Art, Wednesday, November 5.

“THE SCREAMS ARE FOR REAL” The Screams Are for Real! The Haunted Trail, an “all-outdoor haunted attraction,” promises a mile-long trail through twisted grove of pines and gnarled oaks, as well as “Carnival of Carnage” clown maze. 619-696-SCARE. Thursdays, 7 p.m.; Saturdays, 7 p.m.; through Satur day, November 5, $14. Ages 10 and up. Mission Point, Laurel Street at Sixth Avenue. (Muirlands)

Time to Scream! Del Mar “Scaregrounds” host annual Scream Zone, boasting “House of Horrors” with rooms filled with “terrifying scenes and scents,” haunted hayride through haunted barns on racetrack, and “the Chamber,” promising “the largest spinning tunnel in San Diego.” Call to confirm hours, open dates: 858-755-1161 x2855. Thursdays, 7 p.m.; Fridays, 7 p.m.; Saturdays, 7 p.m.; through Saturday, November 1, $14-$27. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2240 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (Del Mar)

TOWER AFTER HOURS

BUFFALO ALLEY 10K RUN

BUFFALO ALLEY 10K RUN

BUFFALO ALLEY 10K RUN

BUFFALO ALLEY 10K RUN

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BUFFALO ALLEY 10K RUN
**Girlicious!**

**Head to Toe Women's Expo**

**Next Weekend!**

**November 7, 8 & 9**

**Del Mar Fairgrounds**

**Enjoy a stroll through a village with over 200 exhibits! Boutique merchandise!**

**The first 100 women each day will receive a free gift bag!**

**Friday and Saturday afternoons**

**Complimentary Wine, Cheese & Chocolate Tasting • Fashion Show**

**Constance Ramos**

*Star of HGTV’s Color Correction and Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*

Enter to win a 30-minute consultation with Constance at the show.

**Friday & Saturday 10 am-6 pm**

**Sunday 10 am-5 pm**

**General Admission $8 • Seniors $7**

**Children 12 and under FREE**

For more delicious details visit: [www.HeadtoToeWomensExpo.com](http://www.HeadtoToeWomensExpo.com) or call: 877-491-0677
**MUSEUMS**

**Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum** The museum locates, collects, documents, and preserves historical gas-, steam-, and horse-powered equipment related to agriculture and the general development of America. The collection is made up of equipment used in lumbering, mining, oil-drilling, and construction industries.

Blacksmith and wheelwright shop, country kitchen and parlor, steam-operated saw mill, and 1/3-scale train.

**Bancroft Ranch House Museum** Bancroft Ranch House Museum houses indigenous Indian artifacts and memorabilia of early settlers in the area, by the spring Valley Historical Society. The home, built in 1863, was registered as a National Historic Landmark in 1962 and is on a spot where Kumeyaay Indians camped more than 1000 years ago beside the spring that later gave the area its name. 9050 Memory Lane, 858-469-1480. (spring valley)

**Barona Cultural Center and Museum** 1095 Barona Road, 619-443-7003. (CORONADO)

**Birch Aquarium at Scripps Park** Sci- tory is a component of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD. More than 60 tanks contain marine life of Pacific Northwest, California coastline, Mexico’s Sea of Cortez, and South Pacific. The La Jolla Kelp Tank is a two-story-high tank with giant kelp plants and nearly 300 species of local marine life. "Feeling the Heat: The Climate Challenge" examines science behind climate change. "Art of Deception" shows animal camouflage. The Lynne and Howard Robbins Shark Reef Exhibit features a 13,000 gallon shark tank with black tip, white tip, bamboo, and wobbegong sharks. 2300 Expedition Way, 858-534-3934. (san diego)

**California Surf Museum** "From the Brown Mercury to SLRER — A glimpse of 100 Years of Surfing Culture in Southern California" celebrates influence of surfing on California lifestyle. Display features unique collection of surfboards, movie posters, rare photographs for sale on Sunday, November 2, 8:45 a.m.; Sunday, November 2, 8 a.m.; Saturday, November 1, 8 a.m.; Sunday, November 2, 8 a.m.; Del Mar Horsepark, 14550 El Camino Real (del mar)

Komen San Diego Race for the Cure This 5k run/walk starts at Sixth Avenue and Quince Street. 7:30-2:30 pm. Sunday, November 2, 8 a.m.; Sunday, November 2, 8 a.m.; Saturday, November 1, 8 a.m.; Sunday, November 2, 8 a.m.; Del Mar Horsepark, 14550 El Camino Real (del mar)

Elfin Forest Bicycle Ride Runners head out for a 70-mile ride “all over North County.” 8:30-7:49 pm. Saturday, November 2, 8:45 a.m.; Doyle Park, 8175 Regents Road, (santa cruz county)

**Greater San Diego Hunter Jumper Association Finals** 760-533-5278. Thursday, October 30, 8 a.m.; Friday, October 31, 8 a.m.; Saturday, November 1, 8 a.m.; Sunday, November 2, 8 a.m.; Del Mar Horsepark, 14550 El Camino Real (del mar)

Komen San Diego Race for the Cure This 5k run/walk starts at Sixth Avenue and Quince Street. 7:30-2:30 pm. Sunday, November 2, 8 a.m.; Sunday, November 2, 8 a.m.; Saturday, November 1, 8 a.m.; Sunday, November 2, 8 a.m.; Del Mar Horsepark, 14550 El Camino Real (del mar)

NSSA Open Season Surfing competition at Oceanside Har- bor’s south jetty. Free for spectators. 714-378-0899. Saturday, November 1, 7 a.m.; November 2, 7 a.m.; Oceanside Harbor, 1540 Harbor Drive. (oceanocean)

Running Clinics in the Park This "laid-back" series of educational clinics is hosted by exercise physiologist , coach and many runners of all abilities. Topics include "Running Secrets to Make You Faster," "Top 10 Strategies for Successfully Completing Your First Marathon," "Using Tempo Runs to Improve Your Endurance," and "Optimal Nutrition for Distance Runners." "Running Clinics" will be presented by sports mu- nitionist at the "Running Workouts at the Correct Speeds," and " Five Lessons From Physiology and How They Can Make You a Faster Runner." Classes begin in Morley Field, at picnic tables near baseball fields. 819-346-8386. Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m.; through Wednesday, November 19, Balboa Park, Park Boulevard at Presidents Way. (san diego)

**OUT & ABOUT**

**FALL BACK FESTIVAL** Sunday, November 2, William Heath Davis House. (SEE FOR KIDS)

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

**TUC Transport**

**We’ve Moved to Montgomery Field in San Diego!**

**$100 Off Warbird Rides!**

**Ask about our FREE Birthday Package**

**$30 Off Any Biplane Ride** (30 minutes or longer)

**$75 Off Air Combat Dogfight for 2**

**Heritage of the Americas Museum** More than 2000 square feet of jade of the Late Neolithic (4300- 2500 B.C.) through the Ming peri- ods (A.D. 1368-1644) are included in "The Stone of Heaven: The En- durance of Jade Age China." From ancient times, jetes in China were treasured as talismans on the body or as adorn- ments in death or as ornaments in life. See a rare and valuable jade burial suit of the Han dynasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 221), one of only two that have been exca- vated in China. The suits were made of more than 2000 square and rectangular plates of jade sewn together with threads of gold, sil- ver, or bronze (depending upon the status of the wearer). Ongoing. The museum features art and artifacts from South and North America, concentrating on the util- itarian and decorative artistry of crafts workers from ancient cultures. The museum also features art dedicated to natural history, archae- ology, education, anthropology, and fine art. Find the museum at the Cuyamaca College campus. 12110 Cuyamaca College Drive West, 619- 670-5194. (chula vista)

**Japanese Friendship Garden** "Images of Kyoto" by photographer Kevin Sproles may be seen through Saturday, November 29. Pho- tographs offered for sale on Sun- day, November 30. Pan American Road, 619-232-7211. (san diego)

**John DeWitt Historic Mu- seum and Library** Museum and library, operated by the Alpine Historical Society, is located in the 1897 home office of Dr. Sophro- nia Nichols. She was the first doc- tor in Alpine and the first female doctor in the East County. Indian artifacts from the Kinergy family on exhibit. 2116 Tavern Road, 619-659-8740. (alpine)

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**The Brothers of the Little Oratory in San Diego**

**CHORUS BREVIARIUM SAN DIEGO**

Gregorian Chant Schola and Liturgical Prayer Group with Musicians of the Bich College San Diego

Friday Evening, October 31, 2008, 7 pm

**“RECLAIM ALL HALLOW’S EVE FOR CHRIST!”**

Catholic Heritage Event

SOLEMN 1st VESPER OF THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS (1st Evening Prayer of the Feast) Fr. Carl Gimmendorf, E.S.S.F., Helfdom Pophysics to include: Monteverdi — “Magistral Primo Taozo”

Gabrieli — Aria from “Angeli et Archangeli” • T.L. de Victoria — Motet “O Quam Gloriosum”

St. Anne’s Roman Catholic Church 621 Seward St., San Diego 92113

(Turn will be made at 7 pm, with refreshments served at the end. This service will be held outdoors in the front yard, weather permitting.)

Followed by the Liturgy of the Saints Sung in Outdoor Candlelight Procession Latin/Spanish/Latin/English translation booklets will be provided.

Parents: Costumes are encouraged for children — No Ghouls or Vampires, please! —

Don’t miss this Catholic Heritage Event • Mark your Calendar!

For more information call organist John Pohlman at 858-997-8636 or phone the Parish of St. Anne’s at 619-239-8233

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**WANTED**

**Cookbooks**

- **Cook Book Store in Kensington**
  - 4103 Adams Avenue
  - (near Claus’s Liquor) • Free Parking
  - 619-284-8224
  - Open 11 am-5 pm • Closed Sundays

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**COOKBOOKS**

- **Cook Book Store in Kensington**
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**COOKBOOKS**

- **Cook Book Store in Kensington**
  - 4103 Adams Avenue
  - (near Claus’s Liquor) • Free Parking
  - 619-284-8224
  - Open 11 am-5 pm • Closed Sundays
• Tired of hearing a difference between what is said from the pulpit versus what is said in the Gospels?
• Tired of God’s table being treated more like an exclusive country club rather than the inclusive Agape feast Jesus calls all to participate in?
• Tired of hearing about Adam and Eve instead of Jesus, Joseph and Mary as the model of a perfect family, a family which was not based on sexual relations but rather on mutual support and love for each other and God?

WE ARE TOO!

If you are Catholic and are tired of the differences between how the Church is run and what Jesus taught, we encourage you to get in touch with the Independent Catholic Community in your area, where all God’s children in all their diversity are welcome to worship – open, out and just as they are!

St. John tells us that God is Love, and when two people love each other, nothing – not even a law, a rule, a human-made government, or a church organization – can tear them apart.

Let’s vote for real Gospel values.
Let’s vote for love and against prejudice.

SPONSORED BY THE FOLLOWING INDEPENDENT CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES IN YOUR AREA:

American Catholic Church, Diocese of California
www.americancatholicchurch.org

Ecumenical Catholic Communion
www.ecumenical-catholic-communion.org

Independent Catholic Church of the West
www.iccwest.org
Junipero Serra Museum "Commemorating 75 Years: The Serra Museum" is said to "remember the events leading up to the dedication of Presidio Park and the Serra Museum" on July 16, 1929. The exhibit includes a "visit back in time to 1928.

The museum interprets the Native American, Spanish, and Mexican periods of San Diego's history and contains Spanish Colonial furnishings, art, and artifacts. It's located at the site of the West Coast's first European settlement. 2727 Presidio Drive, 619-297-3258. (OLD TOWN)

La Mesa Depot Museum Located in a restored 19th century wooden train station, exhibits include original telegraph and telephone equipment, pot-bellied coal stove, period furniture. The adjacent freight train display features a 1945 caboose. 5996 La Mesa Boulevard and Spring Street, 619-467-7776. (LA MESA)

Magee House Museum Magee House Museum, built in 1887 and surrounded by rose gardens, the site includes "one of the last barns still standing in Carlsbad." Docent and self-guided tours of historic house and gardens. 5790 Armada Drive, 760-438-5996. (CARLSBAD)

National City Depot San Diego Electric Railway Association operates museum in this historic Santa Fe depot with exhibits, video display, trolley equipment, restored passenger car from National City and Otay Railroad. 922 West 23rd Street, 619-474-4400. (NATIONAL CITY)

Olaf Wieghorst Museum Displays paintings and prints by Olaf Wieghorst and features exhibits of other artists' American West art. Adjacent to museum is courtyard with cactus gardens, 20x20-foot reproduction of Wieghrost's painting Navajo at Castle Creek, and original restored home Wieghorst lived in for many years starting in 1943. 131 Rea Avenue, 619-590-3431. (OLD TOWN)

Ramona Pioneer Historical Society and Guy B. Woodward Museum Complex of historical buildings includes the Verquique House (the only Western adobe home of French provincial design still in existence), wagons, antique exhibits, and artifacts. There is a cowboy bunkhouse, women's clothing and accessories from 1700 to 1800, a ranch blacksmith shop and tack room. The Casey Tibbs Memorial Exhibit is dedicated to Tibbs, a local resident who was a world champion rodeo rider. The Bancroft Memorial Rose Garden is on the grounds. Rare documents, historical exhibits, books, photographs, and a research library are also part of the complex. 645 Main Street, 760-789-7444. (RAMONA)

San Diego Aircraft Carrier Museum Museum onboard the decommissioned USS Midway is open for tours, now berthed at 910 North Harbor Drive. Exhibits include Navy jet simulators, carrier and flight deck touring, captain's sea cabin, pilot house, navigation bridge. Admission fees include audio guide. 910 North Harbor Drive, 619-544-9600. (OLD TOWN)

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

San Diego Model Railroad Museum Museum celebrates American railroads with "the largest permanent operating model railroad and toy train exhibit" in North America. Four scale-model railroads feature original restored home Wieghorst and features exhibits of other artists’ American West art. Adjacent to museum is courtyard with cactus gardens, 20x20-foot reproduction of Wieghorst’s painting Navajo at Castle Creek, and original restored home Wieghorst lived in for many years starting in 1943. 131 Rea Avenue, 619-590-3431. (OLD TOWN)

San Diego Civic Theatre “THE BACKYARDIGANS LIVE! Tale of the Mighty Knights,” San Diego Civic Theatre, Thursday, October 30. (SEE FOR KIDS)
Feisty Type

“The old literacy of words is dying and a new literacy of images is being born.”

Photographs and words have been doing their rather stiff box-step dance since the beginning. In the 1840s, Henry Fox Talbot, inventor of the negative-to-positive process, published *The Pencil of Nature*, a collection of photographs accompanied by a text that was both instruction manual and eloquent shout for the new medium. (“The camera, he said, could depict "the injuries of time."”) Since then, words and pictures have practiced different kinds of dialogue. A magazine caption can bias how we read an image. Catalog essays and museum-wall labels craft a historical or interpretive matrix for an exhibition’s contents. The most ambitious engagement of words and photos was the 1941 book *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men*, where James Agee’s rhapsodic prose swooned around Walker Evans’s austere images of barefoot-poor sharecroppers in the South. Words have even been part of the photographer’s tool kit, from the scrawled locales and messages on vernacular snapshots to the kooky, fragmented narratives Duane Michals grafts directly onto his serial imagery.

A major player in this ongoing dialogue was Nancy Newhall. Born Nancy Lynne in 1908 and trained as a painter, she turned to photography after marrying Beaumont Newhall, the first curator of the Museum of Modern Art’s photography division, established in 1940. We’re the beneficiaries of her conversion — “When I married Beaumont,” she said, “I married photography” — and ample evidence of that is on view in *Nancy Newhall: A Literacy of Images* at the Museum of Photographic Arts. Up until her death in 1974, Newhall distinguished herself as a photographer, proselytizer, writer, and curator. (She subbed for Beaumont at MoMA when he went off to serve in World War II.) She worked closely with some of the enduring artists of the last century, among them Edward Weston, Paul Strand, Minor White, and Ansel Adams. She also helped to craft the concept behind *Aperture*, the most influential publication of inventive photography, founded in 1952 and still going strong — *Aperture’s* mission was to experiment with the relationship between powerful images and language.

As a novice photographer, Newhall was mentored by Alfred Stieglitz, who, in his own art and in the work he exhibited at his 291 Gallery in New York, promoted photography as a fine art. She lived in heady times. In the 1930s and 1940s, photography and in the expanding broadband stream of popular art. Long before the word became a new-age commonplace, she promoted what she called a “synergistic” relationship between words and images. Her innovative 1945 book *Time in New England*, matched up Strand’s brooding, atactic pictures of New England with texts taken from precocious diaries, sermons, and other writings.

The exhibition at MoMA is a jewelry box of photographs made by some of the most consequential image-makers of the last century, all connected in some way to Nancy Newhall. She spent many hours listening to Stieglitz, who urged her, in the interest of autobiographical idiosyncrasy, to make her own “equivalents.” He had progressed from his early turn-of-the-century efforts to create “painterly” photography to a belief that pictures should be visual equivalents of the photographer’s inner life. The exhibition includes a few classic “equivalents,” nature studies he made at Lake George in the 1920s and 1930s. But it also includes one of his most famous early images, *The Steerage* (1907), the iconic vision of what Henry James called “the launched populations,” the millions who emigrated to America in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries. In Stieglitz’s picture, the gangway slanting down through the upper and lower decks of the teeming steerage quarters stretches out to the New World shore like a promise and a dare.

Several of the photographers in the Newhalls’ circle, including Nancy and her husband, shared an obsession with architecture both as subject and compositional principle. Beaumont’s picture of the Flatiron building, a response in part to Stieglitz’s famous picture of the same landmark wedge, pitches diagonally across its space and seems, as skyscrapers sometimes do, to be about to tip over and fall like an axe on our heads. Paul Strand’s stark New England image, *The Steeple*, is the Flatiron’s country cousin. Nancy shared this passion for the constructed, geometric qualities of buildings. Her moody *Fire Escape,* with its snow-dusted zigzag ironworks, has a sober quietude and, like so much of her work, explores the virtually infinite inflections of light falling on the charred-wood blackness of things.

Nancy Newhall differed from most of her contemporaries by combining the purist, metaphoric...
Gregorian Chant Mass

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

Sunday, November 9, 4:00 pm
Our Lady of the Rosary Church
San Diego’s Jewel Box of Baroque and Rococo Art and State and Date Streets (Little Italy) • Downtown San Diego

BACH COLLEGIUM SAN DIEGO and present

RICHARD EGARR, HARPSICHORD

Richard Egarr, the lauded Music Director of the Academy of Ancient Music, will perform the beloved Goldberg Variations by J.S. Bach.

Richard Egarr is one of the most versatile musicians around. He has worked with all types of keyboards; and performed repertory of the fifteenth century organ installations from Dussik and Chopin on early pianos to Bingen and Maxwell Davies on modern piano. He is in great demand as a soloist and chamber musician, as well as conductor.

As a soloist, he has performed extensively in the major music festivals throughout Europe and Japan, his 2006 solo tour of the U.S. with Bach’s Goldberg Variations received great critical acclaim.

Bach Collegium San Diego presents:

Sunday, November 2 • 7:30 PM
Athenaeum Music & Arts Library • 1008 Wall Street • La Jolla • www.ljathenaeum.org
Reservations: 858-454-5872 • Tickets: members $25 – nonmembers $30
Classical Listings

How to send us your listings Contributions must be received two weeks prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send contributions by email, 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 sdr@sdreader.com. Check for online at SDRReader.com by clicking on the events section.

Classical

Faculty Recital Guitarist Colin McAllister performs in French Parlor of Founders Hall, 6-1 p.m., Sunday, November 2. (SDUCM)

Percussion Faculty Percussionist Jonathan Hepler performs. 8-534-3229. Mandeville Recital Hall at USD (9500 Gilman Drive), 7:30 p.m., Sunday, October 30. (SDUCM)

Haunted Hamlisch San Diego Symphony, led by Marvin Hamlisch and joined by vocalists Anne Runolfsson and Hugh Panaro, presents “spirited” winter pops concerts. Enjoy spooky tunes including Hamlisch’s own “Halloween Dance,” melodies by John Williams, Rimsky-Korsakov, and composers dead and undead.” 6-19-235-0804. Symphony Hall at UCSD (9500 Gilman Drive), 7:30 p.m., Friday, October 28, Saturday, October 30, and Sunday, November 1. (SDUCM)

American Pie Camarada begins “Gallery Concert Series” with sampling of “all that is good” in American music, including “Summertime” by Gershwin, Appalachian folk songs by Besser, Simon and Garfunkel pop, and contemporary tunes by Leberman, Beth Ross-Buckley (dud) and Fred Bennett (guitar) joined by sopranos Julia Benedetti and Regina Benedetti. Beginning with wine-and-cheese reception (6:30 p.m., Friday), followed by concert featuring “the world-class collection of Don Young’s classical guitars.” Rehearsal Center for the Arts, 11904 University Avenue, 4 p.m., Monday, November 1. (LITTLE TALK)

The DNA of “Music” Time provides theme for when Steven Schick leads La Jolla Symphony and Chorus in season-opening concerts boasting selections by Bedrich Smetana, Tchaikovsky, and Johannes Brahms. 8-534-4637. Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD (9500 Gilman Drive), 8 p.m., Saturday, November 1, and 3 p.m., Saturday, November 2. (SDUCM)

In A Alley String Quartet Prize-winning ensemble performs

Rausch’s “Trombone Concerto” The Redlands Symphony Orches- tra led by Jon Robertson performs this 1993 Pulitzer Prize-winning concerto, commissioned by New York Philharmonic and dedicated to Leonard Bernstein. Also on tap: “Symphony No. 2” by Brahms. 7-601-8464. Bob Burton Center for the Performing Arts (2400 South Stagecoach Drive), 3 p.m., Sunday, November 2. (PALOMAR)

Percussion Time UCSD music graduate student and percus- sionist Ross Karre performs. 8-534-3229. Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD (9500 Gilman Drive), 8 p.m., Wednesday, November 5. (LITTLE TALK)

Vocal Recital UCSD graduate vo- cal student Annie Marie Decer performs a variety of works. 8-534- 3229. Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD (9500 Gilman Drive), 8 p.m., Wednesday, November 5. (LITTLE TALK)
Halloween Rocks Little Italy
W/ THE TUBES 10/31

MOTOWN REVUE SAT 11/1
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UPCOMING:

11/7
ELIJAH EMANUEL
& the
REVELATIONS

11/8:
THE BIG FELLAS
L.A.'s Hottest Dead Tribute

11/9:
THE FABULOUS HIP REPLACEMENTS
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For the Kids

Garrett Sisti of the punk/psychobilly Wrecking Crew played a three-band gig at the Vucaian on October 18.

Arnold says the $2000 will eventually be donated to a music program at a local school, but the school and program have not yet been decided.

Bassist Glen Fisher plays in the Latin jazz band Con Alma. He also organizes First Friday Club, a nonprofit he created.

And, when I came down for the big shows, so it’s difficult.

As we were talking, Kris Kristofferson pulled up in an SUV. I figured Sammy would take off. Instead, he asked him questions, as did the rest of the small crowd. Kristofferson said he had to get in for the sound check, adding, “We’re running late. We almost didn’t get here because of the fires.”

— Josh Board

Blurt

17 sponsored by No Cover magazine.

“They did it for a good cause,” says Sisti, “and nobody could argue with free booze.”

According to Morning Riot drummer Josh Arend (who organized the event and whose band played), those who paid $10 and were there between 8 and 9 p.m. got free vodka drinks.

When the free booze ended, admission was lowered to $5. Arend says more than $2000 was raised for charity.

“It goes to the Electric Hope Foundation,” says Arend. “It helps with music education for kids.” Arend admits that he and No Cover are helping a lady with a nonprofit background get Electric Hope up and running.

INTERVIEWED BY A BOOTLEGGER (KRISTOFFERSON)

And, when I came down for [Bob] Dylan at Qualcomm… I had these beautiful, multi-colored shirts. I only sold 12!”

“Yeah, I get arrested once or twice a year. The worst time was when I did Monsters of Rock (concerts) in the ’80s, with Van Halen headlining. They grabbed three of us in Denver, and we had a $5000 bail. We had to fly back to appear in court.

“ Bonnie Raitt drove by once and cursed at me out her window. But some stars, like Joe Cocker… he just walked up to my wife and hugged her. Willie Nelson was real nice, too. But when Ted Nugent’s security grabbed me, he walked by and said, ‘I hate you bootleggers. You’re the scum of the earth.’”

— Ken Leighton

T-Shirt Guy

Before singer-songwriter Kris Kristofferson played the Poway Center for the Performing Arts on Saturday, October 18, I met Sammy, an L.A. guy selling concert shirts for $20 apiece in the parking lot.

“They aren’t selling them inside,” said Sammy. “That usually makes it easier to sell… They usually only buy when they’re leaving and the women have all the juices flowing.”

How often does he come to San Diego to sell shirts?

“Not that often. There’s a big Samoan crew working all the big shows, so it’s difficult.

— Ken Leighton

INSPIRATION BY SLASH

“[It was] because of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, a United States copyright law,” says Gilberg. “[We] decided to pair was forced to remove more than 100 videos from their YouTube channel.

Silver Rockinggoodpeople

“Even though we felt teaching popular songs for free on YouTube would benefit the original artists, a few labels felt otherwise,” says Next Level Guitar co-founder Tim Gilberg in a press release. He and fellow guitar teacher David Taub launched the local company in 2006, uploading guitar-instruction videos to YouTube that feature songs by Boston, Aerosmith, ZZ Top, Kiss, and others.

RIAA members responded with lawsuit threats, and the
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form partnerships with the publishers… There were no fines levied, so I have no idea what the potential penalty would be. We chose not to fight, even though we could have claimed fair use.” Subsequently, Gilberg secured licensing rights to songs found in the Guitar Hero and Rock Band games. “It costs several thousand dollars to license a song so we can produce a lesson on DVD format,” says Gilberg via email. “To simply make a song request costs several hundred dollars. We tried to gain approval for songs by the Red Hot Chili Peppers and Green Day, and those were declined, but we still had to pay fees just to process a request.”

“We’re only licensed to teach the songs on DVD,” says Gilberg. “The YouTube lessons no longer have specific copyrighted songs.” Next Level Guitar has around 51,000 “Rockongood people” subscribers on YouTube, with many lessons notching up to 30,000 views per month.

Gilberg reports the two most-viewed lessons — “Beginner Slide” and “Velvet Revolver Slash” (“inspired by... but not from a specific song”) — have each garnered over 500,000 views so far this year. The instructional DVDs featuring hit songs from Guitar Hero and Rock Band can be purchased at NextLevelGuitar.com.

“Strange Stage Moments”

James Ready/New Day Mile: “During my teens in New Jersey, I attended a Sunday Bible study every week. The woman running it asked if my band would like to play at the youth group meeting at her church. We were a metal band, so we were a little shocked at the request, but we were happy to get our first gig. It turns out we were opening for a slide show that depicted our kind of music as the type that leads to violence and suicide.”

Mary Dolan: “I was booked for a performance at an AA convention in Las Vegas. I got there with about a half hour to spare. I had a raging headache from the desert drive, the air conditioning, and the tension of bad traffic, so I asked a friend for some aspirin. She didn’t have any, but she asked her sister and she had a bottle of Advil in her purse. So I took two. I’m on stage and I’m Heart’ whatever I had left. I cut it short, and then I started to dry-heave as I was getting off stage.

My friend and her sister came running up to me as I was telling them that I was really very sick. My friend’s sister had tears streaming down her face, and she was saying, ‘I’m sorry, I’m sorry.’ What? Huh? I thought. Then my friend told me that her sister had accidentally given me her diseased muscle relaxants. I was loaded at the AA convention.”

Ed Been/YSK: “One night at the Blue Haven in Chula Vista, there was a heavyset woman in a dress that insisted on doing handstands. Much to our horror, she was not wearing underwear at the time.”

— Bart Mendoza

Gems from recent posts on the San Diego Musicians page at craigslist:

“Female Vocalist: I love to sing [but] I dont have a band!”

“Political Hip-Hop… Obama would like us if he does…. He’s lying about that.”

—from Free Demo Reviews: I’ll write that your great even if you suck… I can’t get you a record deal but I want free demos.”

“Old farf band (Chula Vista) looking for other moldy oldies just like me in their 60s…[I] want to jam with other geriatric rockers.”

“Drummer available….must be punk. I [sic] not very good yet.”

“Political Hip-Hop… Obama liked hip-hop. Which he does…. He’s lying about that.”

—from Free Demo Reviews: I’ll write that your great even if you suck… I can’t get you a record deal but I want free demos.”

“Top secret tribute band… starting Blink 182 tribute… if you steal this idea, I’ll sue you.”

— Allen Sanford

“Get It? Twenty-nine years ago this week (11/4/79), the Knack played downtown’s Fox Theatre, a show that sold out in just a few hours. The band opened with the first three songs from their newly released album Get the Knack, which many critics compared favorably to the Beatles. During the concert, detractors in the audience unfurled a large banner reading “Knute the Knack” and “Get off your ego trip, the Knack suck.” The show continued and the banner eventually vanished; both the San Diego Union and Kicks magazine mentioned it in their respective reviews.

Few Knack biographies note that the band debuted Get the Knack at a San Diego venue. In February 1979, two months before its release, the Knack played the entire album for a Capitol Records showcase at the Catamaran near Mission Beach. Based on advance buzz, the Catamaran sold out, prompting the venue to host other prerelease live-album performances by then-unknowns such as the Motels and the Pop.

By November 1979, the Catamaran was presenting themed concert events such as a “San Diego New Wave Showcase” (which included locals the Penetrators and the Crawdaddys) and “L.A.’s Best Rock Night,” which featured both X and the Go-Go’s in their pre-album days.

— Allen Sanford

CONTRIBUTORS

William Counts, Dave Good, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemminger, Kent Laghari, Ryan Leyhe, Russ Medora, Derek Flank, Eric Rife, Allen Sanford, David Stampone
**Thursday, October 30**

Let’s kick it off with the club date of the week, shall we? DC’s favorite son, Ted Leo and his Pharmacists, roll your punk-pop prescript on at Casbah.

**Saturday, November 1**

UK’s punk-punks the Damned still walk the earth. After 30 years, vocalist Dave Vanian and guitarist Captain Sensible have kept the name alive and this week released the band’s tenth studio set, So, Who’s Paranoid? a garage-y collection that recalls 1979 Damned staple Machine Gun Etiquette.

**Monday, November 3**

Casbah’s Anti-Monday team throws a “Get Out and Vote Pre-Party” with local pop-punk acts Roman Spring and Bedford Grove. SanFran experimental band Tartuff plays Bar Pink Monday night. Check ‘em out on UCSD’s KSDT radio show earlier on. And Portland teenagers White Fang drop into Chi Cafe behind Thanksgiving and the Endless Summer.

**Tuesday, November 4**

The mighty Madonna gets all material and shit at Petco Park on Super Tuesday. Could be the material girl will be the first to tell you who your new prez is. Weird. Not as weird as the 50-year-old pinup’s latest, Hard Candy.

**Wednesday, November 5**

Ashville’s odd instrumentalists Toubab Krewe combine Mali music with American folk rock. The jam-band band will join local funky duo On the One up at Belly Up. Oh no emos Hawthorne Heights hit Soma Wednesday night. Their third for Victory Records, Fragile Future, prettily much tells it all. Your nieces and nephews love this shit, making their quarter billionth umm, flagstaff dark-pop act the Skyrider Band join Solo and Thavious Beck at Casbah.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2**

“Show me I’m wrong...” Local rock-roll quartet Autistic plays an afternoon set at Bar Pink’s Swami’s Sunday Mass. Let us play... Casbah books the Revival Tour, featuring popular songsmiths Chuck Ragan (Hot Water Music), Tom Gabel (Against Me), Ben Nichols (Lucero), and Tim Barry (Avail). Big bill at Belly Up Sunday night has hip-hop harpman James Harman blowin’ blue notes for Ben Hernandez’s Bon Voyage Party with Nathan James, Sonny Leyland, the Freemonts, and Blueargo.

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3**

It’s indie artist Murray Lightburn and his Canadian crew the Dears that fill the bill. Last week they poorly-act released their fourth, Missiles, but bend an ear to the Dears’ ‘06 crit-pick Gang of Losers. A load of it’ll psych-pop at Chi Cafe Saturday night, with Brooklyn bands echange-critique co-motion and Crystal Stilts and local duo Christmas Island. Big pop soul samplers the Heavy weigh in at Casbah with L.A. trip-hopper Kenan Bell... Radio Room dials in surf-rock psych-outs Monsters from Mars... And SanDiego power poppers Buckfast Superbee join... Students at Epicentre.

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4**

In on this too. Get a taste of the Jersey City-based post-rock collective from the Setting Sun. And Anthology does a couple SDMA showcases Tuesday and Wednesday. Tuesday night it’s blues-rock with Portland thrashers Dead Confederate, Ben Hernandez, and Veronica May.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

Wednesday’s got pop-rock’s Billy Midnight and Sayvinyl.

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6**

Nathan James & PHARMACISTS AT CASBAH

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7**

The mighty Madonna gets all material and shit at Petco Park on Super Tuesday. Could be the material girl will be the first to tell you who your new prez is. Weird. Not as weird as the 50-year-old pinup’s latest, Hard Candy.

**GIVE A HOOT!**

Tell ’em your opinion about the columns and topics we include in the Club Crawler. Write to: clubcrawler@sandiegoobserver.com.
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THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

4th&B: 363 8th Street, Downtown, 619-231-4343.
Saturday, 8 p.m. — Rose Boyce. Soul/funk/disco. $20.

710 Beach Club: 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-7844.
Saturday — Cash’d Out. A tribute to Johnny Cash. With the Kyle Van Band and Pushin Rope.
Monday, 8 p.m. — The Let Up. Indie/rock/pop.

Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — Dave Alvin. Roots/Americana singer-songwriter. $22.

The Alley: 421 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-434-1173.
Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — Nathan James & Ben Hernandez. Roots/acoustic/blues duo. $12.

Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-395-0000.
Thursday, 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. — Amel Larrieux. Jazz. $27-$29.
Saturday, 10 p.m. — Haute Chile. Covers/standards. $15.
Sunday, 7:30 p.m. — Billy Midnight and Eve Schi. Acoustic/country/pop. $12.

Bar Pink: 3829 30th Street, North Park, 619-564-7194.
Sunday, 3 p.m. — Autotonic. Rock.

The Bitter End: 770 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-9300.
Thursday, 9 p.m. — Black Seven and the Lost. Punk/rock.

Boar Cross’n: 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-729-2989.
Thursday — Outta-Control and Free Minds. Hip-hop/rap.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Burnos Avenue, Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.
Sunday, 9 p.m. — The Vincent Black Shadow. With Nim Vind. Psychédeles/punk. $10.

Café La Maze: 1441 Highland Avenue, National City, 619-474-3222.
Fridays and Saturdays, 7 p.m. — The Sandy Chappel Quartet. With Burnett Anderson, Robert Sebastian, and Hank Young. Standards/jazz/blues.

The Alley: 421 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-434-1173.
Thursday, Fridays, Saturdays — The Love Rangers. Dance music.

Halloween Costume Contest at Midnight, $500 Cash prize featuring MC Jerome Strange 2 DJs... Marvin & Smooth Sexy Devil GoGo Dancers $2 Drafts & Well drinks 1/2 price other Drinks 50c Appetizer Menu* 1/2 Price reg Appetizers *with drink purchase

Bar & Grill

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**AT**: Calvin’s Sports Bar and Restaurant: 2864 Old Highway 80, Alpine, 619-473-1266. Friday, 8 p.m. — The Highway 80 Band. Country/rock/rockabilly.


**AT**: Thursday, 7:30 p.m. — Michele Lunden. Blue/funk/rock.

**AT**: Canes: 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780. Saturday, 9 p.m. — Dead Man’s Party. An Oingo Boingo tribute. $15.

**AT**: Carlsbad Village Theatre: 2808 State Street, Carlsbad, 760-444-5944.

**AT**: Thursday, 5:30 p.m. — The Kelli Russ-Ma’u Band. Caribbean-style band. $20-$22.

**AT**: Carvers: 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-566-2400.

**AT**: Saturday, 8 p.m. — The Baytown Boys. Indie.

**AT**: Channel Twelve 25: 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-270-7467.

**AT**: Thursday, 7:30 p.m. — The ESP Quartet. Jazz. $10.

**AT**: Friday, 8 p.m. — Quartet EquinoX. Flamenco/jazz. $15.

**AT**: Friday, 7 p.m. — The Latin Connection. Latin jazz and original compositions. $7-$10.

**AT**: Downtown Café: 182 East Main Street, El Cajon, 619-440-5687.

**AT**: Thursday, 6:30 p.m. — Blue44. Jazz/funk.

**AT**: Fannie’s Nightclub: 9140 Campo Road, Spring Valley, 619-698-2204.


**AT**: Gaslamp Quarter: Downtown. Saturday, 4 p.m. — Monster Bash. Halloween block party with the Disco Pimps, The Trips, and Electric Valentine. $25.

**AT**: Hard Rock Café: 801 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-615-ROCK.

**AT**: Monday, 8 p.m. — Venus D Lite. Madonna impersonator hosts a Madonna look-alike contest. Winner will receive two free tickets to the Madonna concert at Petco Park. $5-

**AT**: Hennessy’s Tavern - PB: 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-483-8487.

**AT**: Thursday, 9 p.m. — Zone 4. Heavy metal.

**AT**: Saturday, 9 p.m. — Willie. Acoustic.

**AT**: Holy Trinity Episcopal Church: 9500 Gilman Drive, UCSD, 858-534-2311.

**AT**: Saturday, 8 p.m. — Port of San Diego Wind Band. $20-$22.

**AT**: Holy Trinity Episcopal Church: 28841 Old Highway 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-440-5687.

**AT**: Saturday, 6:30 p.m. — Blue44. Jazz/funk.

**AT**: Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. — The Soul Revue. Jazz, dance, and top 40.

**AT**: The Jumping Turtle: 1860 Capulina Road, San Marcos, 760-741-7778.

**AT**: Monday, 7 p.m. — The Damned. With The Adolescents. Rock/punk. $25.

**AT**: Saturday, 6 p.m. — Cobra Starship. With Forever the Sickest Kids, Hit the Lights, and Sing It Loud. Red/rock/electro. $12.

**AT**: Monday, 7 p.m. — Maxwell. With Jazmine Sullivan. R&B/rock. $77-

**AT**: Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. — Ingrid Michaelson. With Newton Faulkner and David Ford. $15.

**AT**: Jimmy Love’s @ 672 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-395-0123.

**AT**: Jimmy Love’s @ 672 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-395-0123.

**AT**: The Kraken: 2331 South Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-436-6483.

**AT**: Weekend, 6:30 p.m. — The Soul Revue. Jazz, dance, and top 40.

**AT**: The Jumping Turtle: 1860 Capulina Road, San Marcos, 760-741-7778.

**AT**: Monday — Reggae Inusion Irie Time. Various reggae bands perform.


**AT**: Saturday — Desert Diamonds and the Good Lords. Rock/indie.
Thursday, October 30

Halloween Salsa Night

featuring
Salsa Caliente
in full costume

$1000
in cash prizes
Costume contest:
scariest, funniest & best couple

Over
$2500 in prizes
Best couple wins trip to Cabo.
Prizes for sexiest and most original.

Door open @ 9:00 pm. Everyone in full costume free before 10:30.
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Friday, October 31

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NIGHT CLUB

Friday, October 31

Halloween Night

featuring
Salsa Caliente
in full costume

$1000
in cash prizes
Costume contest:
scariest, funniest & best couple

Over
$2500 in prizes
Best couple wins trip to Cabo.
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**Monday** — Doug Allen. Front man of the Mar Dels.

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**Main Tap Tavern:** 518 East Main Street, El Cajon, 619-749-6333.

**McCabe’s Beach Club:** 1145 South Tremont Street, Oceanside, 760-439-6646.

**O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub:** 1130 Morena Boulevard, Linda Vista, 619-276-5637.

**Pasquale on Prospect:** 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-456-0722.

**Patrick's II:** 428 F Street, Downtown, 619-233-3077.

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**Pasquale on Prospect:** 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-456-0722. Sundays, 6 p.m. — Stage 4. Jazz/rhythm and blues.

**The Metaphor Café:** 258 East 2nd Avenue, Escondido, 760-747-1882.

**Open Air Theatre:** 5500 Campanile Drive, SDSU, 619-594-6947.

**Pasquale on Prospect:** 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-456-0722.

**Osetra Watergrill:** 904 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-9946.

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**Thursday • October 30th**

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**Thursday • October 30th**

**Tuesdays in the E5 Lounge**

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**Thurs Oct 30th**

9pm - Black Seven, The Lost

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Jesse Nova

Stunt Double

Summer Mencher

Tues Nov 4th

10pm - Radiostar

Wed Nov 5th

10pm - Maddox Revolution

Thur Nov 6th

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$5 hot sakes  Djs all night  sushi til midnite
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In Oceanside only... 301 mission ave 92054 760.967.1820

$5 hot sakes  Djs all night  sushi til midnite
MISO HARNEY SUSHI

sushi til midnight  super lunch combos  reverse happy hour dining with Dj’s Mondays...happy hour all night

Lunch:  mon-fri 11:30am to 3pm
Dinner:  mon-sun 5:30pm to 12am

Old Town
Wednesday

HAN ANTHROPOLOGY

$2 off all cocktails
Thursday

Friday

Mark Quark
space disco

Saturday

DJ 1979
rare grooves and 80’s

On Harney Street
3964 Harney St.
San Diego, Ca.  92110
619.393.3172

Oceanside
Wednesday

Deez Riddim
Ragga Jungle

Thursday

HAN ANTHROPOLOGY

$2 off all cocktails
Friday

Saturday

Headphone Jones
Funk, Soul & Hip Hop

At Oceanside Pier
301 Mission Ave.
Oceanside, Ca  92054
760.967.1820

2007 awards
best sushi—Citybeat magazine  best sushi—Channel 10  best first date spot—Citysearch  award of excellence—Zagat

www.harneysushi.com
By William Crain

If a band is going to release a self-titled album, it’s usually the band’s debut. If it’s the band’s third album, it’s a sign that the band is trying to reinvent itself. **Secret Machines** did just that this year with their third album, which was also the first since guitarist-vocalist Ben Curtis left and was replaced by Phil Kamata. That’s not an insignificant change for a three-piece, especially considering that Curtis’s brother, bassist-vocalist Brandon Curtis, is still in the band. It’s also the first album on the band’s own TSM label imprint after they parted ways with Secret Machines is a band that makes a lot of electronic and *space rock,* and they can certainly come up with some unearthy racket. On the new album, the guitars are twisted and tweaked through so many electronic effects that it’s hard to tell them from the synth. But that’s just the studio version, and Secret Machines is a band that makes a lot more sense on stage. I don’t know why that is. It’s not just the visuals (the stage set, from the pictures I’ve seen, looks amaz ing on this tour). I guess space rock just needs the kind of space that only a live setting can provide.

SECRET MACHINES, Belly Up, Saturday, November 1, 8 p.m. $5–$8 advance; $10 door.

Show Room: Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Solo jazz guitarist. Saturday Mission Valley, 619-298-1501.


Stage Saloon: Lamontagne. Folk rock. $35. Saturday 8 p.m. — Ray LaMontagne. Folk rock. $35.

Halloween Bash! 2901 Nimitz Blvd. (In Quality Inn) $2.50 pints • Free Pool 4-7 pm 619-255-8635 • Point Loma www.rileysmusiclounge.com


WorldBeat Cultural Center: 2100 Park Boulevard, Balboa Park, 619-234-7911. Friday, 8:30 p.m. — Eek-A-Mouse. Reggae. $15.

Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. — Alika and Quinto Soul. Reggae/sub/Latin. $10.


DECO'S
Halloween Weekend

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30TH
Jay Averly, Infinite Entertainment & Eventvibe.com Presents
The Official Krush Halloween Party
NN Mix - Mega Themed Event / Full Bar & Dedicated Room for the 21+
DJ Rampage, DJ Ayeena & DJ Mark Cena
With Special Guest DJ Philly & DJ Senema
Visit www.jayaeverly.com to get on the VIP List!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31ST
DECO's, Point Entertainment & Qwente Carlo Presents
Halloween Mayhem
Costume Contest $1000 In Cash & Prizes*
Spinnin' on the Wheels of STEALS
DJ Enigma & Kayella Mixmaster's
Featuring Special Guest DJ's... DJ's... DJ's... DJ's (Alan D., Ron, & More)

DJ Rich E Rich & J Smoove
(AKA Double 'R' III) (AKA Mr. Fresh 2 Def)
With Guest MC Tre (920's & GeeJay)

Drink Specials
$5 Jägers: $5 Halloween Shot: $3 Selected Beers
$5 AppleTini's & Cosmo's til 1:30AM
Killer Bottle Special $80: 1 Bottle Get 1 Free

$300 Book Before Day Of Event
For GuestList Email First & Last Names to List@GetThePointBIZ

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST
A RGB ZOOMy & X-RAY EVENT

Club Deviate
Hosted By: The D.N.A. Girls
DJ's: Rich E Rich: X-Ray: Jay Valdez
A-rock: Dubz: Circle K: Rage

$5 Drink Specials
Open Hosted Bar from 9PM - 11PM For RSVP Guests
For VIP List & Hosted Bar: RGBZOOMy@AOL.com

To View All Events and Add Yourself to the Guest List, Go to
Club List Now.com

VIP Access To The Hottest Events In Your Area

731 Fifth Avenue Gaslamp: 619.696.DECO: WWW.DECOs.TV
Beat The Cover: Make Dinner Reservations

ON BROADWAY
Halloween Weekend
FRIDAY OCTOBER 31ST

DownTown's Premier Nightclub or Brandon's Event Center Presents Sandiego's Top Promotions
Dre Vegas, Hollywood Ray, Rob Zoomy, X-Ray & Schem in an Event Like No Other!

$500 Costume Prize

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 1ST

Tim Ortiz Production
www.MinxPro.com

Nightmare After Halloween

Serge Devant

+ DON SANTINO

Samedi Night's Costume Party

Guaranteed Entry Pre-Sale Tickets Available
@EventVibe.com

Upcoming Events: Friday November 7th: Stakkillers... Saturday November 14th: Richard Vision

Beat the Cover!

Club List Now.com

San Diego Reader October 30, 2008
**San Diego Songs Take the Street Test**

**Artist:** Bless 619  
**Song:** “Diego Rivera” (from the CD Diego Rivera)  
**Heard By:** Anthony Lukens, Golden Hill

The beats are pretty good, but I didn’t really dig on the emcee until he said, “There’s so much drama in the big S.D./It’s kind of hard being optimistic...shit.” It was straight back to ’92, man. It was like the Chronic — it had a little bit of that Dr. Dre flavor. I don’t see 91X picking up that song, but maybe 98.9. It’s a little lackluster. It sounded like he was on ketamine or some new drug I’m not hip to. He sounded pretty awesome, but he sounded a little fucked up. Maybe it was just some good old-fashioned glue-huffing. He wasn’t nearly as sparkling as Tupac or somebody that was really articulate. The imagery conjures up a Sherman Heights barbeque...maybe even a lowrider cruisin’ around.

**Artist:** Avita  
**Song:** “The Idea” (from the CD Oceanside Boulevard)  
**Heard By:** Jamie Tollefsen, South Park

I think the composition was good. I didn’t hear any riffs or runs that belong to other music, so in that sense it was pretty original. The lyrics in his song were about a perfect woman, person — whoever the hell it is. It’s kind of contradictory because he says, “I’m not going to give you my point of view, but he’s giving you his point of view in the song. Other than that, I thought it was pretty cool. It’s the type of song that could make the Top 40 charts. The chorus at the end of dragged on and, to me, that’s not how you make a song longer. It’s like a mellow rock, closer to the “metal” side, but not quite there. I could skate or work to that song. I wouldn’t just turn it on to relax.

**Artist:** Writer  
**Song:** “Don’t Wake the Sun” (from the CD Blood Drops)  
**Heard By:** Kimberly Knowles, Golden Hill

I thought that it was interesting. It could definitely be a pop hit. It’s very user-friendly, and a lot of common folk would like it. I couldn’t really pin down an artist to compare it to; but as an era, I would say it sounded like late-’90s popular rock music. I think that he was singing, “Don’t you wake up the sun tonight.” That was the chorus. I would say he was with a girl and they were enjoying a date they were on and they were having so much fun that night that he didn’t want the sun to come up because that would mean it was over. I actually really liked the music — it was well thought out and catchy. I would give it an eight out of ten.

---

**TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD HEARD, PLEASE MAIL IT TO:**  
Music Editor, As I Hear It, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92116-5803

---

**JENNY LEWIS with beachwood sparks and pierre de reder**

**November 1, 2008**

**doors at:** 7:30pm  
**show at:** 8:00pm

**UC San Diego**  
Price Center Ballroom West

**tickets:** $22

**atlas tickets**  
222-7800  
atlastickets.com

---

**Chargers vs. Chiefs**

**November 9**
“North County’s True Music House”

**THIS WEEK**

**THURSDAY 10•30**

- PXP presents
- BLOOD THIRSTY

**FRIDAY 10•31**

- JT HALLOWEEN
- NIGHTMARE
- HALLOWEEN BASH & COSTUME PARTY
- NIHILIST
- EXHORCSTUS
- DAMCYAN
- DESTROY THE RUNNER
- GHOST TOWN
- SCAR’D SANITY

**SATURDAY 11•1**

- HELL WITHIN
- IMPERIAL AVENUE
- HAND TO HAND

**WEDNESDAY 11•5**

- LIPSTICK AND LEATHER

**UPCOMING SHOWS** (See our website for more info):

- Joe Troutman and Colina Denkhaus present
- Women In Rock Night!
- GOD-DESS AND SHE
- BURLESQUE SHOW
- UNLOADED
- THE BOMBPOPS

**THURSDAY 11•6**

- MORDIUM
- CD release party!
- CLINMIRZAZ
- BASS & COSTUME PARTY
- UNLOADED
- THUNDER
- SCAR’D SANITY
- GRACELAND
- (Tribute to Elvis)

**FRIDAY 11•7**

- LONGSTAY
- SOCIAL GREEN
- DIRTY BIRDS
- A.O.V.
- AUSTIN NICOLAI
- HOLY ROLLING
- EMPIRE

**SATURDAY 11•8**

- LIFE OR DEATH
- ALMOST IS NOTHING
- A GHOST
- PINK SOCK

**TUESDAY 11•11**

- 21ST BIRTHDAY
- BASH FOR MONICA!

**WEDNESDAY 11•12**

- PXP presents
- BLOOD THIRSTY

**THURSDAY 11•13**

- LIVE HIP-HOP & MCs
- ALL NIGHT LONG!
- COME DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY!

**FRIDAY 11•14**

- JT HALLOWEEN
- NIGHTMARE
- HALLOWEEN BASH & COSTUME PARTY
- NIHILIST
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- DAMCYAN
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**SATURDAY 11•15**

- HELL WITHIN
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- HAND TO HAND

**WEDNESDAY 11•12**

- LIPSTICK AND LEATHER

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- ALL NIGHT LONG!
- COME DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY!
Both Clubs…
Two Halloween Costume Contests
One Weekend
Fri., Oct. 31 & Sat., Nov. 1
1st Place $200
2nd Place $150
3rd Place $100

Navajo
8515 Navajo Road • 619-465-1730
(Albertsons shopping plaza at Navajo & Lake Murray)
Thursday, October 30
Live DJ – Hip-Hop
Friday & Saturday, Oct. 31 & Nov. 1 • 9 pm
Classic Rock

Monsters of Rock
Sunday, Nov. 2
Four Kings • On The Line
Every Monday
Karaoke
Tuesday, Nov. 4
KMMNWLTH

Santee
8528 Magnolia Avenue • 619-596-8350
(Corner of Prospect & Magnolia)
Thursday, October 30
Suffer Your Life • Comfort in Rage
Detonated
Friday & Saturday, Oct. 31 & Nov. 1 • 9 pm
Classic Rock

Serious Guise
Pool Tables • Dart Boards • Free Parking
Hot Spot & Lotto • Free WiFi Access

Calendar

November 15  —  Illicit Behavior.
November 27  —  Fleetwood Max.
Molly Malone’s: 1270 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-9500.
November 7  —  Strive Roots.
November 8  —  American Rock Experience.

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla:
700 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-3541.
February 19  —  Carolina Chocolate Drops.

North Coast United Methodist Church:
1501 Kelly Street, Oceanside.
November 9  —  Imperial Valley College Chorale.

O’Connells Pub and Nightclub:
1130 Morena Boulevard, Linda Vista, 619-276-5637.
November 8  —  Ninja Love and the Dirty Pearls.
November 9  —  Silent Lune.
November 10  —  Mystery Train.

Ocean Beach People’s Organic Foods Co-Op Deli:
4765 Voltaire Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-1387.
January 16  —  The Gold Dust Band.
Ocean House:
300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, 760-728-4131.

Patrick’s II:
428 F Street, Downtown, 619-233-3077.
November 6  —  Ronnie Lane & the Twisters.
November 7  —  Aunt Kizzy’z Boyz.
November 14  —  Michele Lundeen & Blues Streak.
November 17  —  Blue Largo.
November 18  —  The Bayos Brothers.

Now Booking: Every genre.
Call Billy or Drew: 619-322-8131. www.myspace.com/kidslam
11/18 Jasmine Commerce and Alyssa Jacey w/Sara Haze
11/23 Salsa Sunday
ADDED! 12/1 FM 94.9 presents Raine Maida – On sale tomorrow at noon!
1/2 Pato Banton w/The Mystic Roots Band • 1/30 The Cured

**UPCOMING SHOWS:**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Show</th>
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<td>11/15</td>
<td>Stripes &amp; Lines</td>
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<td>11/16</td>
<td>Devin Alman’s Honeytripe</td>
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<td>Eliza</td>
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<td>11/18</td>
<td>The Rodey Crowell Acoustic Trio featuring Jenny Scheinman</td>
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<td>11/20</td>
<td>The Bacon Brothers</td>
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<td>11/21</td>
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<td>Boogie Nights pres. LMFAO</td>
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<td>Cody Canada &amp; Randy Rogers</td>
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<td>11/26</td>
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<td>11/28 &amp; 29</td>
<td>The English Beat</td>
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<td>12/5</td>
<td>Aimee Mann’s Christmas Show</td>
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<td>12/11</td>
<td>Tom Morello: The Nightwatchman</td>
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<td>12/13</td>
<td>Cash’d Out</td>
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<td>12/14</td>
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<td>12/15</td>
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<td>12/19</td>
<td>Venice Christmas Show</td>
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<td>12/19</td>
<td>Young Dubliners Celtic Christmas</td>
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**FRIDAYS SWINGIN’ HAPPY HOURS**

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<th>Show</th>
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<td>11/7</td>
<td>The Brokers</td>
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**SALSA SUNDAY ORQUESTA**

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Free parking! Low service charges! Great bar prices!

Dine before the show and skip the line...next door at the Wild Note Cafe!
Reader in the scene

San Diego's Only Rooftop Restaurant & Premier Music Venue at the Beach!

Upcoming Events

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30
ROCK OBAMA TOUR
GRAM RABBIT
THE RISING SOUND
MALDROID • THE SPIES
DJ GABE VEGA

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6
HARD ASHTO
MOTUS • deaf zero
TAINTED SOCIETY
FORTYONESIXTY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8
JEDI MIND TRICKS
OUTERSPACE • REEF THE LOST CAUZE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13
SHINEHEAD RISE OF THE REVOLUTION

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14
STILL HIGH TOUR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15
WILD CHILD
(Doors Tribute)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20
DENY THE SILENTS
GROOVE THEORY
IVY SUSPECT

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21
MEST
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR
THE ABILITY

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19
PSYDECAR • REVIVAL

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22
OUTERSPACE • REEF THE LOST CAUZE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26
CANES & FINELINE present

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29
CASHIs Out
GRACELAND, SARA PETITE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31
An Evening with

Book Your Holiday Party @ Canes
Call 858-488-1780 x302 for information.

Outside 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
Canesbarandgrill.com
www.myspace.com/canesmusic

Deadliest Catch Night
All-U-Can-Eat Alaskan Snow Crab Legs $24.95
& Crab Races at 10 pm
Tuesday, November 4
723 Grand Avenue • Pacific Beach
For more info call 858-488-1234

For more information on upcoming events visit sdreader.com

Have you been tagged by the Reader Street Team?
See your photos on sdreader.com & click on “Promotions.”

U4RIK Vodka Promotion
Arterra Lounge, Del Mar Marriott

October Wildfires Benefit Show

Photos by Will Parson

Upcoming Events

Valley View Casino & The Reader present
The Tastemaker’s Ball
Saturday, November 1, 5-10 pm
Sheraton Harbor Island
For more info visit www.tastemakersballsd.com

For more information on upcoming events visit sdreader.com
VALLEY VIEW CASINO PRESENTS

TASTEMAKER'S BALL
A SAN DIEGO READER EVENT

CONTRIBUTING
TASTEMAKERS INCLUDE:

VALLEY VIEW CASINO :: BLACK&BUE STEAKHOUSE :: JACK FM :: MCCUNE CHRYSLER & JEEP
EXCALIBUR CIGAR & WINE :: UARIX VODKA :: FIREHOUSE BREWING COMPANY :: JOBBI.COM
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Yo, DJ!

Talk About a Star

A couple years ago, when I was living back in Albany, NY, my girls and I were chilling at my place after leaving the bars around 4:00 a.m. (one of the perks of living in NY). We were going to town on some killer pizza and 80s while Fuse was on the TV in the background. Mid conversation, the lyrics from the song on the TV caught my attention: “Are we getting closer or are we just getting more lost...”

It sounded like it was about my freakin’ life. With my boyfriend we were really crappy — I was trying to make it work, but he was over it. As I was thinking about that, the song played on: “I’ve been here so long I think that it’s time to move/ The winter’s so cold summer’s over too soon/ Let’s pack our bags and settle down where palm trees grow/ I’ve got some friends some that I hardly know/ But we’ve had some times we wouldn’t trade for the world/ We chase these days down with talks of the places that we will go.”

Now here’s where it gets really crazy, dude. I’d just been saying to my friends how lame winter was and how we should all move out to California to make some new memories there. I mean at the end of the day, doesn’t everyone just want to live, love, and be happy? Of course, like a real nerd, I stared at my TV until the music video was over and it displayed Rise Against, “Swing Life Away.” Sure, I knew about Rise Against, but after hearing that song, I had to hear more. I bought their CDs. I looked up the lyrics to their songs. I was digging the band hardcore. How could I not? That song put my life in perspective.
A few months back, I went to an event in Oceanside that I was told was a divorce party for a guy, but it ended up being more of a car show, as most of these guys are members of a car club in Vista called Los Peligrosos. The club started in Victorville in 2006. I’m told peligrosos means “dangerous.”

As I pulled into the Japanese Cultural Center parking lot, which they rented out for the bash, I saw the cars on display.

When I arrived, I looked for Dave, who calls himself “the Pastor.” The band Pachuco Jose was on stage. They were loud, which made it difficult to talk to people.

I grabbed a Dr Pepper and went back outside to check out the cars, most of which were lowriders.

A landscaper I met had a green ’51 Mercury. He told me that when the fires hit his North County property last year, everything burned down but the barn he was storing his car in. It took weeks for him to get back into the area to find out. He assumed the car was gone.

I asked the landscaper how he got into cars. “My neighbor, a Mexican guy, had a ’57 truck when I was 12. I loved it. Then, 15 years later, I had a new house and a new neighbor. He had the exact same truck. His dad bought it for him. We ended up buying it.”

A woman with a Bettie Page look pulled up in her red Nash Rambler. I started talking to her as she gathered her stuff off of the passenger seat. She told me that someone recently keyed her classic car and flattened two tires. She thinks she knows the woman who did it. I asked if she gets a lot of comments at stoplights.

“They tell me it’s the perfect make-out car because the seats go all out.”

As she was telling me that her dream car is a ’58 Impala, a black ’58 Impala pulled into the lot. I pointed it out and she laughed. She said, “Well, any Impala between ’58 and ’64 I’d love. It’s a beautiful car.”

I talked to the owner of the Impala, who told me that he was in the Cruisin’ Grand car show in Escondido the week before. I asked him where he bought his ride. “I went up to Fresno to buy it. It was $15,000. I eventually put another six grand into it.”

I overheard another person saying their car had been keyed, and I said, “Does your car have to be keyed to get into this car club? It’s like gang initiations where they jump you.”

I met the guy getting divorced, and he seemed as if he was in good spirits. He told me that he doesn’t care for lowrider shows but was quick to add, “I don’t want to sound like I’m dissing, but all the hydraulics and stuff...it ends up all looking the same after a while.”

I agreed and debated whether to ask him about his divorce. I ended up asking one of his friends, who jokingly said, “We spend too much time with our cars and our car friends. That’s probably a problem in a lot of our marriages.”

I walked inside and saw a girl walking around selling raffle tickets. 

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**Crasher**

by Josh Board
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CRASHER

• Fle tickets. I bought three before asking, “Is this for one of those cars outside?” She just smiled and walked away. I saw gift baskets on a table and assumed those were the prizes.

• I asked a guy named Junior about the car club. He told me that they had 15 members, but I saw at least 20 cool cars in the lot.

• I lit a cigar and went back outside, but I made sure I stood far away from the cars that had their windows open, showing off all the improvements that were made to the interior — there were three cars that looked great on the outside but as if a bomb went off on the inside.

• I glanced at the posters for upcoming events at the Japanese Cultural Center. One math-club flyer read, “Be a Math Wizard,” and I wondered if it would be in bad taste to make a joke about Asians being good at math to the smokers nearby. I refrained.

• I met Pastor Dave, whose car is dedicated to Freddie Fender, a musician who passed away two years ago. I said, “Most musicians probably think of his name as sounding like a guitar, while car guys probably think of ‘fender’ as a car part.”

As Dave was showing me his car, I realized that he was sporting the Freddie Fender mustache.

He had the famous Johnny Cash photo where he’s flipping off the camera. I noticed that a few of the guys had these and told them that later that evening I was going to see the Cash tribute band Cash’d Out at the Belly Up Tavern.

I talked with one guy who went into detail about a 283 motor and a ‘69 Firebird front end. It got technical and way over my head. I told him that I didn’t care for all the pin-stripes on the lowriders. He said, “It’s Von Dutch that made that so popular. Do you know who that is?”

I told him that I know a little about his artwork in the ’60s, such as the flying eyeball. He agreed that some people go overboard with the stripes.

One of the few Caucasian couples I saw pulled up in a ’65 Merc. The guy, who looked to be in his late 20s, was excited as he talked about his car. He recently bought it for five grand and told me it only had 65,000 original miles.

We both wondered why more people didn’t go out and buy classic cars for under $10,000. A guy overheard this and said, “Well, with this economy, that’s not possible for everyone to do. Plus, a lot of people just don’t care for the old cars the way we do.” His wife added, “And for $10,000, you won’t be able to get much. You could find something nice, but it’d probably be a project that you’d end up putting a lot more money into.”

As the owner of a ’69 Jaguar, I responded, “True, that is” — my way of saying, “Tru dat.”

Crash your party? Call 619-235-3000 x421 and leave an invitation for Josh Board.

To get an online version of this column, go to sdreader.com. You can print it, email it to friends, or get other “Crasher” columns and stories by Josh Board.
Is Samurai Jim a jinx on bargain-price restaur-
ants? Last time it was a vanished barbecue joint
that sent us fleeing to the very minor mericles of
the meatloaf at Maryjane’s. This time it was a New
Orleans–style restaurant on Convoy Street, where
the pleasant waiter who answered my phone ques-
tions a few days earlier never mentioned that they
were about to close for renovations. (He proba-
bly hadn’t been told.) When we showed up, it was
dark — so, once again, preto change-o. Jim men-
tioned an old, expensive Italian restaurant nearby,
which brought to mind an interesting new one
since we were already that far north, we could
head west to Venice Ristorante, reputedly both
good and moderately priced. And we had better
luck this time.

Insta-cell phone rep, GPS, “location, elevation,
situation” — and the Pritus telekinetically jaunted
to La Jolla in no time. Venice, a year-old offspring
of a successful Denver mini-chain (owned by an Ital-
ian chef) has quietly replaced the former Tutto
Mare (no great loss) in a corporate, soul-less region
of UTC, where all the street names start with “Ex-
ecutive.” Do not be distracted by Executive Square,
Executive Way, or Executive Corner of Hell. Instead,
turn off Genesee onto Executive Drive (a few blocks
north of La Jolla Village Drive).

Venice has a long bakery counter in front, op-
posite a pleasant bar-lounge, then an open kitchen
along one wall leading to the dining room and a
heated dining patio in back. We stayed inside. Out-
doors is quieter, but either way there’s no escape
from dramatic Italian tenor incessantly soppin’ our
tragic arias on the sound system. A very fuyul
cheerful tunes from Verdi and an occasional so-
prano would make a nice break.

We began with antipasto “Venezia,” an
anthology of appetizers, every bite a good bite. I loved
the sensual rollatini of fine prosciutto enveloping
the sensual rollatini of fine prosciutto enveloping
a couple of tasty, tiny crab cakes, and far too few
needs much more polenta to deserve its name.

Primo. I’d take the polenta “Piazza San Marco”
served with a cold-water species (probably factory-farmed At-

dian outsider in a cioppino as it is in a bouillabaisse —
right, not overdone. Of course, salmon is as much
primitive. This tastes much better.” In Venice’s fla-

cine grayscale, from white to black. I was taken back
by “angry” spicy marinara dip. “I didn’t

The appetizer of Polenta “Piazza San Marco”
needs much more polenta to deserve its name.
There seemed to be just one (maybe two — and
somebody else got the other one!) small, delicious
round of it, the size of a sea scallop, firm and crisped
so extravagantly rich, it’s best in modest doses.

Pastas, including ravioli, are made in-house.
You can readily taste the difference between these
and manufactured versions — thinner, silkier, but
with more character. The choice was difficult again
(a rock crab and shrimp filling with lobster sauce!
a sausage and ricotta filling!), but Jim pointed out
that the easiest one to mess up or to shine with
would be the autumnal butternut squash filling
(Anatra ai pistacchi di bronte). These oversized, but-shaped
ravioli come scattered with walnuts and Parme-
san, alongside a small separate pool of marinara. The ravioli are lightly browned in a browned sage but-
ter garnished with wickedly alluring, sugar-coated
crisped sage leaves. The combination is full of happy
contradictions: earthy and delicate,
sweet and bitter, and musky, luscious
richness versus that tart-friendly
marinara. The underlying formula
arises from Italian folk-cooking,
but those Italian folk-cooks are such brilliant chefs!
(Well, the whole world already knows that.)

From the evening’s specials (thankfully printed
on a separate page, not just0 breathlessly and “price-
lessly” recited) we chose cioppino Toscano, a stew
of prawns, salmon, tuna, mussels, and clams in a
fresh tomato and wine sauce. I started to matter
on nostalgically about the Dungeness crab fisherman’s
annual cioppino feast in Pacifica (just south of
Frisco) but stopped myself. “That has great crab,
but the sauce is canned tomato puree, coarse
and primitive. This tastes much better.” In Venice’s Da-

teish-infused sauce of fontina, Parmesan, and Gorgonzola, with
mushroom sauce and the grilled pears: “Pears, of
This is a dish made for sharing
so extravagantly rich, it’s best in modest doses.

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Lucky Jinx
leftovers), the wine list is, frankly, something of a problem if you're on a budget. It's long but mainly red, Italian, and expensive. To my surprise, the choices didn't include a single Verdicchio, a light-hearted white grown not far from Venice itself, nor even Vernaccia (as far as I could see in the small-print tome under romantic lighting), nor Sicily’s lovely and affordable Lachryma Chersii. I grabbed a reliable, crisp Hogue Chardonnay, the cheapest on the list ($29) to ease our traumatized transition from expecting Creole to eating Italian.

“When you choose a Chardonnay, I’m pleasantly surprised,” said Michelle. “They’re never over-oaked.” For the choice of a red, I handed the list to our newly arrived pal Gustavo (bienvenido a San Diego), who’s done a stint as a waiter in an Italian restaurant. “There are a lot of Barolos — for millionaires!” he said, looking over the list. With my stricture of “under $50, if possible,” he picked the same Montepulcianos that I was thinking about — velvety and food-friendly and barely under my price limit. The restaurant’s price for it was a hair under triple retail price.

That bakery at the entrance to our newly arrived pal Gus-tavo (“bienvenido a San Diego”), who’s done a stint as a waiter in an Italian restaurant. “There are a lot of Barolos — for millionaires!” he said, looking over the list. With my stricture of “under $50, if possible,” he picked the same Montepulcianos that I was thinking about — velvety and food-friendly and barely under my price limit. The restaurant’s price for it was a hair under triple retail price.

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The quest for really good low-priced restaurant food comes home with this insanely cheap “earty-bird special.” This small bistro, with its adventurous, skillful cooking and friendly vibe, is my gang’s secret hangout, the posse’s adopted lair. Chef John Robert Kennedy is now serving a nightly dinner of three courses for $15 (plus beverage, tax, and automatic 18 percent tip) on orders taken from 5:00–7:00 p.m. The Lynnester and I checked out the special in a New York minute. The menu offers two choices for starters, four for entrees, and two for dessert. First course consists of the soup du jour or salad. The lively salad has seasonal fruit, candied walnuts, greens, and a light dressing. That evening’s soup was a sensual, creamy soup of potato, leek, and green onion, served cold. The last entree option was a rockfish Veracruzana, a bit too mild in the chile department and oddly stewed all over with couscous. Maybe it’s a version of Veracruzana from one of the Lebanese restaurants in Mérida, way over on the other side of the Bahía de Campeche? Well, I’d say the cuisine here is adventurous.) Portions are huge enough to make a second dinner from leftovers.

The evening’s desserts offered a choice between a comfortingly gooey almond rice pudding or a bowlful of multicolor “rainbow” sherbets, an enchanting dish I ate in South Miami Beach when I was six years old and (obviously) never forgot. Kennedy’s rendition is probably less sweet but no less magical.

When we were done, at about 7:30 on a Friday evening, University Avenue was nearly empty — few pedestrians, few diners in the restaurants. The only crowd was at a campy new indoor-outdoor Hawaiian joint at the next corner, a rascally gay party from day one. Meanwhile, an article in the New York Times a few weeks ago exposed the typical salaries (not the perks) of the financial cowards at those insanely unregulated “free mar- ket” institutions who got us into this mess.

The story reduced unthinkable yearly amounts to an understandable hourly rate: the Masters of the Universe typi- cally earned, in four hours what I get paid for a full year — they paid about the same percent- age in tax as Joe the Plumber and I do (but they have hotshot accountants to shelter a lot of it; I’m just a whiz with TurboTax). And after bankrupting their companies and our country with their mad greed, their re- wards include severance pay ranging from 25 to 100 years of my salary. (Who are the terror- ists destroying “our American fabric of life”?) Now, restaurant critics presumably aren’t sup- posed to be political, but politics spills right onto your plate when you’re eating a $15 meal on a once-busy block of Hillcrest on a Friday night and hoping that a terrific little restaurant can survive the crunch. Remember when you vote: the dinner you save may be your own.

Say, meaning, a major dis on Si- cilian culinary craftsmanship. We had really good cannoli there.

Our server had scribbled calculations for tip amounts on our bill, ranging from 15 to 25 per- cent, all calculated on post-tax balance — a very little display of raw greed following an evening of slightly sub-professional ser- vice. In any case, figure about $55 a head for food, plus drinks, tip, and tax — and very fine food it is, but if you’re budgeting, watch what you drink.

Budget Buy: Better Half’s $15 “Stressed Economy” Blue Plate

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Better grab a taste fast because I’m liable to Hoover it all down.”

Entrée choices aren’t special- ly creative — they’re the simpler dishes and specials from the regular menu. The choices include a grilled fish from steel (yes, you get fries with that); a sa- vory wild-game meatloaf with caramelized onions, hunter sauce, and luxuriously creamy mashed potatoes (my choice that night); a vegetarian pasta with smoked pumpkins, mushrooms, and tomatoes; and the evening's seafood special. (That night, it was rockfish Veracruzana, a bit too mild in the chile department and oddly stewed all over with couscous. Maybe it’s a version of Veracruzana from one of the Lebanese restaurants in Mérida, way over on the other side of the Bahía de Campeche? Well, I’d say the cuisine here is adventurous.) Portions are huge enough to make a second dinner from leftovers.

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Kettnerburgers

“Our organic buns cost four times more than standard buns.”

F ever Crotch’s drummer whacks his drum — the box he’s sitting on — with his bandaged hand and teases his cymbal with a drumstick held in the other. The guitarist bowls some loveorn lament. But actually, together, they’re pretty darned good. They must be, ‘cause Mr. Mean here drops a Washington into the jar — and I’m not even drunk. Just helping hold up the bar here at the Waterfront, sipping a pint of Fat Tire. I only came in because I couldn’t resist the Waterfront’s bright lights and noise on this black stretch of Kettner.

After nine now, so I head out. Except now I’m feeling little twinges of hunger. The Waterfront has burgers, but they’re $7, $9, and that’d mean more $5 Fat Tires. Hmm... Debating this just as I pass this couple at the sidewalk eaten next door, gouging into one giant split burger. I hadn’t even noticed the place, but I see it promises “grass-fed beef” that’s “lower in fat, calories, and cholesterol” and is “one of the rich- promises “grass-fed beef” that’s “lower in fat, calories, and cholesterol” and is “one of the rich-

... of the seven burger choices.

“Healthy has never tasted so-o-o good.”

So, yeah. Looks like the same is also served here. Plus, a good attitude. The guy chomping outside with his date, tells me one burger can feed two just fine. “And the great thing is they don’t mind if you share.”

The burger he and his gal Tracy are splitting is a “JB,” the house burger. “I live on a boat down in the bay,” Mark says, “so there are nearer places, but believe me, this is worth the extra walk.”

Tracy just points to the slogan on the menu: “Healthy is grass-fed, organic buns cost four times more than standard buns. ”

“Just finishes it off. And the whole lot has cost me what? About 12 bucks. Okay, not cheap, but think of it as two Fat Tires next door.”

“I was going vegetarian until I discovered grass-fed beef,” says this gent at the next table. Turns out he’s the owner, Michael. But he says the organic thing doesn’t come cheap. “My beef costs three times the price of regular beef. Our organic buns cost four times more than standard buns.”

I finally stumble back out onto Kettner around 10:30. Full, but energized. Guess all those omega-3s are already circulating.

The Place: Just Burgers, 2034 Kettner Boulevard suite #12, Little Italy, next to the Waterfront, 619-234-7900

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San Diego Reader
A Talk with Ted

“They’re having tastings at bachelor parties instead of going to strip clubs.”

The San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival turns five this year and continues to draw light from ever-brighter stars in the foodie firmament. This year, the headline is Ted Allen, who is, among other things, host of the Food Network’s Food Detectives and judge on Iron Chef America (and until this year, Bravo’s Top Chef). Allen will be visiting in his capacity as the food and wine ambassador for Robert Mondavi Private Selection — the winery’s entry-level line. Those are the wines he’ll be pouring when he hosts a class at Macy’s School of Cooking, demonstrating a couple of recipes from his new cookbook, The Food You Want to Eat. (He’ll also host the Festival’s “Reserve and New Release” tasting aboard Hornblower’s Inspiration.)

Robert Mondavi — the company, not the late winemaker — hired Allen around four years ago, when he was still serving as the gastronomic advisor on the makeover show Queer Eye for the Straight Guy. He already had experience as a food writer — first for Chicago magazine, where he had his personal wine epiphany over sweet white wine paired with chocolate cake, and then for E magazine — but it was television that made him a personality.

“Queer Eye was at the height of its popularity then,” he recalls, “and the Bravo network was appealing to an important demographic for Robert Mondavi” — smart, affluent, and often female. “I think Bravo was and is very strong with women, and they are the people who tend to make most of the food and wine purchases. And, hopefully, Robert Mondavi just thought I was a nice guy.”

It was more than that, of course — they’d seen his work. “I’ll never escape Queer Eye,” says Allen. “But he says it without bitterness; it’s not as if it’s something that he’s eager to escape.” From the beginning on the show, people thought I was smart — probably just because I wear glasses. I’m willing to perpetuate that myth as long as I need to.” (Say, on Food Detectives, where he looks into questions such as “Does turkey really make you sleepy?”) And his mission was essentially friendly: “to help the guy get the girl.” Put more broadly: to make the helpless and helpless a little less so.

In many ways, his work as ambassador is just a continuation of the role. “The idea on Queer Eye was to expose the guy to one or two techniques or wines or foods, something that might inspire him to go to the next level.” Case in point: Andrew Lane says Allen:

“It seems like men in particular have the reputation of not wanting to ask for help, not wanting to stop and ask for directions. Andrew suffered very much from the old, sort of ‘50s–’60s belief that the only reason the waiter was there was to upsell you, and if you didn’t act like you knew everything, he was going to look down on you and be snide. It’s an idea which I think is now largely misplaced. People who work in good restaurants now are there because they love it and they believe in it and they want to share it with you. For a good wine steward, it’s like show and tell — ‘Look what I found! Look how cool it is!’ You actually find more and more people in good restaurants who are excited to share a wine with you that’s not expensive. It’s more of an achievement. So it’s a really basic thing, but I was just encouraging the guy to understand that it can pay to ask for help. Point to a dollar figure on a wine list and say, ‘Listen, this is my budget. Here’s what we’re ordering. What do you suggest?’ ”

Fast-forward four years, to Allen on the road with the Robert Mondavi Discover Wine tour. “In one of the events, each person will get four glasses of wine and a little plate with a piece of plain chicken, a piece of lemon, an olive, and a sun-dried tomato. I ask them to taste a piece of the chicken and then take a sip of the Chardonnay. Then I have them squeeze the lemon on the chicken and taste it again and then decide whether the Chardonnay or the Sauvignon Blanc goes better with the chicken. They’re discovering on their own that the lemon chicken works better with the Sauvignon Blanc because there are citrusy notes, whereas it renders the Chardonnay sleepy.” And his mission was essentially friendly:

“It’s like show and tell — ‘Look what I got!’ ” And his mission was essentially friendly: “To me, that’s more exciting than talking with a group of guys who have a cellar full of Grand Cru Bordeaux.” The gigs on Iron Chef/Top Chef, together with the occasional article in places like Bon Appetit, help him maintain his cred with the serious foodies, but the biggest thrill comes from working with the uninitiated and the curious.

And when you’re working with a superstar brand like Robert Mondavi, it’s easier to turn the curios dead. “When you get into TV,” says Allen, “if people like you a little bit, then you often have the opportunity to align yourself with other companies, have other relationships or endorsements. I knew from the beginning that I wanted to work with a winery. I got approached by several. But what I like so much about working with Robert Mondavi is that it’s a name that everyone respects. Robert Mondavi almost single-handedly created the fine-wine industry in America. Having the opportunity to work with such a beloved company is not only fun, and not only something I can be proud of — because the wines are so great — but also, it reflects really positively on me. More so than if I had gone with another winery that didn’t have that kind of halo.”

MATTHEW LICKONA
The Discover Wine tour has Allen pouring all four levels of the Robert Mondavi portfolio at food festivals around the country — and at art festivals as well. “We tend to be the only game around when we’re there — you see people who are into cooking and wine, even if the festival is not specific to food and wine. Turnout’s been really good.” And it has him answering questions on the tour’s website, starting with things as basic as “Is there really a reason to drink red wine with beef?” (Yes.)

The whole project is aimed not just at selling wine, but also at creating a lifestyle, one that has wine at its bibulous heart. “The site encourages people to throw wine-tasting parties at home for things like bridal showers. Not necessarily pinky-in-the-air, pretentious swirling and sniffing. Consumption of wine is surging, while consumption of beer and other beverages is declining, and I think that’s just a reflection of the continued growth of interest in good food. I’ve even had guys come up to me and tell me that they’re having tastings at bachelor parties instead of going to strip clubs. I don’t know if I believe them — I think they’re doing wine tastings and then going to strip clubs.”

More information on the San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival, which runs November 12–16, can be found at worldofwineevents.com.
are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Ballard, Barbara David, Andrea Martin, Shari McClough, Max Nak, Eleanor Widner, Naomi Wiese). Each issue contains only a fraction of about 900 review. A complete searchable list is available at online at SanDiegoReader.com. Prior estimates are based on the latest information available for a midrange entry. Inexpensive $10; moderate $10 to $19; expensive $20 to $29; very expensive: more than $30. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.

**BEACHES**

Adobe el Restaurante
9700 North Torrey Pines Rd, La Jolla, 858-583-1000
Adobe offers California-Mediterranean creative seasonal dishes with locally farmed vegetables — try the fennel, wormwood salad with fregola, tender roasted salmon, citrus-y dressing. The entree menu is a marvel of flavors and textures. The wine list is extensive, including many wines exclusively, enough by the glass, and banquets. Hence, some of the food is touchy to suit cautious and/or inattentive eaters. California wines are excluded, enough by the glass, most bottles over $40. Full bar. No-cells phones in dining room. Long lines from popular seafood restaurant and great menu. Given 24 hours, this café will prepare an astonishing Lebanese feast on low cost. Daily open, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W.

**BARE BACK BRICK 440 Mission Bay Dr., San Diego, 858-274-7117**

This may be the first New Zealand food place in town, but that’s not what keeps the customers coming in. It’s BBQ’s claim that most of their meat is certified organic. The owners guarantee hormone-free beef and lamb, both from New Zealand. So, to eat at Burgers, burgers, burgers — all kinds — from Prime NZ Angus to lamb burgers with wasabi dip. They also offer chicken. Drink inside is strictly Kiwiana, from the all-black ruggy shirt on the wall to the declaration of “all our people. People who have signed up on hormone-treated meat are coming here for their first burger in seven years. Seven days, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.R.

**BROKEN YAKA 1853 Girard Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-270-9635**

Breaking P.Y.A. a place for this place’s three reasons: its unicorn, its diverse and ever-changing menu, and its challenge of the omg meal of the week. Unique special comes stuffed with a mountain of dungeness crab, cheese, chili, chile, onion, fried and feta. You can choose it or even in the middle of the half-bottle glass, including serious dessert iso. Full bar, creative “chef cocktails” with fresh fruit. Full bar, ethnic elevators all available but hidden (ask valet parking), disabled can use nearby Paseo’s room on same floor. Vegetarians and vegans accommodate to order. Reserve well ahead. Dinner nightly. Very expensive. — N.W.

**GREATHO 1800 Girard Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-4614**

It’s one of this class of Chinese all-you-can-eat buffets in town. They host a glittering chandelier, showcasing the octagonal entrance, plus over the moon in the mist. Certainly they have great surf-n-turf, like prime rib and shrimp, or New Year’s Eve/1231 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 838-454-2444. With a new name and renewed for an even bigger ocean view. Geoghegan’s at the Cove California Modern dining room available. Go to Chef Fleg’s ambi- tudinal, healthful California cuisine based on prime, seasonal ingredients and emphasizing sustainable wild seafood, local produce, naturally raised meats and poultry. The cooking style is a little lighter now, good for carnivorous, vegetarian, or vegetarian but hidden (ask valet parking); disabled can use nearby Paseo’s room on same floor. Vegetarians and vegans accommodate to order. Reserve well ahead. Dinner nightly. Very expensive. — N.W.

**Great Moon Buffet**

1840 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-276-8668

It is one of this class of Chinese all-you-can-eat buffets in town. You host a glittering chandelier, showcasing the octagonal entrance, plus over the moon in the mist. Certainly they have great surf-n-turf, like prime rib and shrimp, or New Year’s Eve/1231 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 838-454-2444. With a new name and renewed for an even bigger ocean view. Geoghegan’s at the Cove California Modern dining room available. Go to Chef Fleg’s ambi- tudinal, healthful California cuisine based on prime, seasonal ingredients and emphasizing sustainable wild seafood, local produce, naturally raised meats and poultry. The cooking style is a little lighter now, good for carnivorous, vegetarian, or vegetarian but hidden (ask valet parking); disabled can use nearby Paseo’s room on same floor. Vegetarians and vegans accommodate to order. Reserve well ahead. Dinner nightly. Very expensive. — N.W.

**JRDN 273 Felspar Street, Pacific Beach, 858-570-5756**

It’s at the beach. Befitting a restaurant digging its feet into the sand, the food here is fresh, fun, and surfy, featuring sustai- nable seafood, natural meats (including those with tasty spice-rubbed steaks), organiclocal produce, and a warm, casual ambiance. From the waterfront, ranging from main course) to choose from for a very, very good reason. It tastes better yet cajun ‘tangy’ sauce; a taste so superior, you’re sure not to find it in any other restaurant, though it is a wide selection of exotic vegetarious meals. Cusco all-you-can-eat buffet available at lunch or dinner in addition to the regular menu. Given 24 hours, this café will prepare an astonishing Lebanese feast on low cost. Daily open, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W.

**George’s at the Cove — California Modern Dining Room**

1231 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 838-454-2444. With a new name and renewed for an even bigger ocean view. Geoghegan’s at the Cove California Modern dining room available. Go to Chef Fleg’s ambi- tudinal, healthful California cuisine based on prime, seasonal ingredients and emphasizing sustainable wild seafood, local produce, naturally raised meats and poultry. The cooking style is a little lighter now, good for carnivorous, vegetarian, or vegetarian but hidden (ask valet parking); disabled can use nearby Paseo’s room on same floor. Vegetarians and vegans accommodate to order. Reserve well ahead. Dinner nightly. Very expensive. — N.W.

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ago. This is the fascination of Roberto Reyes's eatery. It's a tribute to his home state of Puebla in the heartland of Mexico. Cactus plays a big part. Jaldán de Mestizos (“Montezuma’s fingers”) is cactus stuffed with steak, tripe de asado seco is a shrimp patty topped with cactus, ocote (Graptopappus carinatus) is cactus and salted bacon. But there’s also steaks, mole poblano (chocolate chicken with seven different chiles), and the delicious chile relleno (chile pepper stuffed with beef, frutos, and nuts — in egg and covered with creamy nut sauce). Vegetarian upon request. Nice dining room too — built around a fountain. Open 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.; closed Monday. Moderate. — E.B.

Lonchería La Poca Lucha, Alambre's Mexican Grill, and the delicious torta de cactus stuffed with steak; puerco matabien (stuffed with beef, chicken, and chiles rellenos), bistek asado (liver), all around $3. — E.B.

Shafts of sun penetrate the dark of an incredible kitchen of great pretzels. — E.B.

A little local laments. — E.B.

Alambre's Mexican Grill, 750 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-233-2838. Surprise! This place strives to be inexpensive. It's a small Struggle Lunch Place. “Ask for carne de puerco (pork), chiles rellenos, hongos rancheros, or Agüet de pasto (beef), all around $5. Paso del pino (fired fish), estofado con papa (veal with frutos), pollo frito (fried chicken), and carne seca (fried steaks) are slightly more. Price includes soup, steaming hot corn tortillas, and a soda. Open seven days, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Alexander's 3391 30th Street, North Park, 619-281-2359. The southern part of North Park needed a good neighborhood Italian restaurant. The son of the owners of Point Loma’s Old Venetia has provided one, with a menu that is a tribute to that of the mother ship, including plenty of seafood and many Greek-influenced dishes. The new restaurant still claves to its parent's old San Diego ways (e.g., ingredients aren't impressive, and all entrées come with the same veggie medley), but the competent kitchen turns out some delicious dishes, especially pastas (try the linguine de Kathleen), specials, and reasonably thin-crust, interesting pizzas. The interior is bright, white, and very loud; the roofed and white, and very loud; the roofed and shaded patio is packed with customers. — E.B.

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Hawthorn’s Restaurant
2005 University Avenue, North Park
619-295-1888
This long-standing Banker’s Hill restaurant moved to (spiffy but empty) newly refinished digs here, the change proved positive in every way. Main courses run now from $25 but with superior ingredients including varied and seasonal locally grown vegetables, the menu is a must for all California coast lovers. The kitchen now does more from scratch, and you can taste all these improvements on the plate. The fare is Mediterranean-American with Mexi- can touches. Most desserts outsourced. Wide-ranging wine list, full bar, cost- age a reasonable $15. Reservations recommended, especially on weekends. Expensive. — N.W.

Islander Grill
3045 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest
858-297-3929
Here’s a chance to sample the unique tropical cuisine of Guam, an island at the crossroads of the South Pacific. The cooking includes traces of Mexico, the Philippines, Japan, and Hawaii—all filtered through the spicy Chamorro palate. Try the chicken tajadas, a spicy salad resembling ceviche, or the brilliant coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy coconut shrimp (available as a start...
BBQ (rather than slow-smoking it), he can turn out some mighty fine ribs. (It's pretty pricey, though; $15 food & bev. min./person for up to 2 people. Not valid on weekends, holidays, with other offers, coupons or specials. Expires 11/13/08.)

HOB NOB HILL

RENTAURANT & BAKERY
dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

Buca di Beppo — Mira Mesa
10749 Westview Parkway, Mira Mesa, 858-336-2622. People come here to celebrate, in party droves, by gobbling huge plates of food, reading菜单, and having fun. Don't leave without consuming at least one of the restaurant's famous calzones. (Call ahead about the availability of the small size during the week.)

The Strip Club
340 Fifth Avenue, San Diego. This place doesn't host a strip club, but it does offer the chance to sing karaoke. Grab your own steak joint or join Golden Hill's Topper Club — but it's toast. The wino appreciates the spicy sauce or the popular chicken margarita. Stand out in a crowd by wearing a shirt that's not blue or black. Bar, smoke. (Available in several "stuffed" dishes to include burgers, chicken breast, ahi tuna and meat or seafood kabobs (the latter are particularly savory).)

NORTH INLAND

Casa Reveles Mexican and Italian Restaurant
29000 Lilac Park Place, Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-8131. This eatery's new, smart, a mix of quarry red walls, brown leather couches, and the greenest eatery in town. It's part of Golden Hill's Turf Supper Club — but it's toast. The wino appreciates the spicy sauce or the popular chicken margarita. Stand out in a crowd by wearing a shirt that's not blue or black. Bar, smoke. (Available in several "stuffed" dishes to include burgers, chicken breast, ahi tuna and meat or seafood kabobs (the latter are particularly savory).)

SUSHI

Max Sushi
16519 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-473-6660. A bit of a hike, but it's worth it. You can enjoy an exceptional meal: Teki — smoked duck, eggplant-Hunan-style, and shredded potatoes with pickled vegetables are the outstanding dishes.

To celebrate, in party droves, by gobbling huge plates of food, reading菜单, and having fun. Don't leave without consuming at least one of the restaurant's famous calzones. (Call ahead about the availability of the small size during the week.)

Sauces, meat or seafood kabobs (the latter are particularly savory). No reservations, no credit cards. Moderate. — E.B.

A Delight of France
126 West Washington Street, San Diego, 619-226-3485. This authentic French bakery is one of the best in the region, offering daily baked delicious baguettes, brioches, quiches, and croissants, including a luxurious almond croissant stuffed with nuts and laced with sweet almond paste. They claim to use all organic ingredients, even the eggs, and locally grown produce. For a hearty breakfast, you can choose omelets, fresh fruit, toast, fresh juice, and eggs. Lunch dishes include several savory tartes, a French dip plate, crepes, salads, and sandwiches. And oh la la, there are dessert pastries, too. Open for brunch and/or dinner daily. Tuesday through Saturday brunch/breakfast only on Sunday. Inexpensive. — N.W.

The French Market Grill
15171 Bermuda Heights Parkway, Rancho Bernardo, 858-485-8803. Ambience is served in generous portions at this restaurant that, while elegant, is not overpriced. It's open for dinner only in a dining room or a charming patio setting. The wine list has over 50 French wines, and 20 are available by the glass. The menu offers sauces, dishes of duck, lamb, fish, veal, frog legs, and more. Most dishes are served by the road French cuisine sauces, but if you're dieting, you'll gladly omit sauce. Options and eating area of the exceptions can be impossible, 

This eatery's new, smart, a mix of quarry red walls, brown leather couches, and

Let's face it: the food here is great but it's kid-friendly, has open wash-basins for your little one to play in, has paper towels and soap at every table. Kids can be expensive, too, but a quarter rib (four hours) will fill you fine. A great second-best is the BBQ sandwich with cheer-penned message... and

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Americana
The Bird House Grill

The Bird House Grill is a small, quiet, intimate dinner. Inexpensive.

Outstanding Vietnamese Beef Noodle Soup - Chifmzog

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Asian Noodle

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Buy 6 bagels, get 6 free.

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Hours Mon.-Sat. 10-3 am & Sun. 10-3 am & 4 pm

FREE 6" PHILLY CHEESE STEAK SANDWICH

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3904 Convoy St.
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October 30, 2008

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3904 Convoy St.
858-571-0885
The Hideout Steakhouse and Saloon 37415 Highway 76, Julian, 760-782-3656. If you’re a Harley-Davidson weekend warrior, this is your old and dark timbered madhouse peeking out of the trees, with its own spring-fed water well, 300 feet up the mountains. Back in the thirties, Hollywood celebs (Roy Rogers, Ali Flat, et al.) used to hang out here on huntin’ and fishin’ trips. Now, bike enthusiasts make their weekend day-trip destination. It still has a 1920s fireplace roarin’ at one end, a big pot-belly stove at the other, a hokey-tonk upright piano, and a forty-foot-long oakwood bar. Cheeseburgers are the default dish. Available are a “Texan-sized baked potato,” vegetables, salad, and square bread. Open Saturday and Sunday only. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

La Posta 21337 Old Highway 8, Julian, 619-657-2300. You wantn’t leave town, but you’re on the road dead? Not out here. Swagger in past the rocking chairs on the wooden porch, by the “NEA meets here, every 3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m.” sign, past boxes of corsairs, and past a garage door. Enter. This is the “Joe and the Volcano” style place for a fountain tower gurgling in the center to Pappy’s! Pay the woman. Now decide: a little of a lot, or a lot of a little. The huge salad bar is surrounded by a growing U shaped table laden with everything from pre-cut-and-shrimp to baked cod to Certified Black Angus prime rib. Keep coming back. Save from throwing away this stuff. End with, say, strawberry cheesecake and coffee. Unlike the other suckers, you’ve gotten a return on your money.

Saskia’s Steak Lovers Delight

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New York Strip</td>
<td>$28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ribeye</td>
<td>$30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sirloin</td>
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20 oz. charbroiled top sirloin steak dinner for only $34! (Plus tax.)

Choice of One Appetizer:
- Shrimp Cocktail
- Gourmet Mushroom
- Deep Fried Cornmeal Appetizer (Gnocchi and Mushrooms)

Y sidebar:
- Italian Garlic Cheese Toast
- Soup of the Day
- Two (Reg.) Top Salads of Steak
- Choice of Sides

Hurry! Offer expires November 7, 2008.

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User Reviews — RESTAURANTS

Best user comments from Reader website

Pampas Argentine Grill, Kearny Mesa
What a rare find, right in the heart of Kearny Mesa. We did a light sampling of the menu this past Saturday night. My friend and I both loved the calmar appetizer, with its frizzled capers which was served with the predictable but slightly off-center marinara and an unusual tartar sauce. We dined on the costilla con chimichurri (short ribs with oil / garlic sauce) and the vacio (organic prime beef loin, seasoned and simply grilled). Both meat temps (medium-rare) were perfect and quickly served alongside a succulent fresh vegetable garnish. The garlic mashed potatoes were all they promised to be and very moist. My friend (a fry freak) ordered these rather than trying the oft-touted Argentine fries, as he was put off by the merchandising from our server who described them as, “topped with a white sauce.” I bit and was served gloriously crisp yet entirely pedestrian shoestring fries generously garnished with a dollop of sour cream. I decided: a lot of a little, or a little of a lot.

Greeks Town Buffet, El Cajon
Searching for a variety of delicious food? Clean place! Whether you are following a low-carb diet or low-fat diet, this is the place to go. Great soup and salad bar; delicious Mediterranean dishes; banana, gorgonzola, tabouli, and yogurt salad will make your mouth water. My favorite was the lamb dish and skewered chicken. Ah, and there is the dessert table that you cannot resist. The new owners Hanna and...sorry, can not remember the husband’s name, are very helpful and friendly, service was great, and prices were very reasonable. Give them a visit; you will be glad you did.

Crest Cafe, Hillcrest
After a late movie this week a bunch of us met at the Crest Cafe in Hillcrest for a bite to eat. I person-ally hadn’t been there in quite a few years. I am glad we went. Loved the atmosphere and the people. Our waiter was water incredible; he didn’t use a pencil for taking our orders (5 of us) — an amazing memory. I ordered hot tea from an extensive tea list and it was LUSH. Comes in a totally different tea pot for each person. Each of us ordered something different, and I asked each person in our group how their food was, and each was quite pleased. I know I was amazed at a shrimp salad a friend got. I was given a chicken pot pie and was very pleased; the next friend got a super hamburger which was quite large with all the dressings to add on. I got a turkey sandwich, and it was cut in half. I could only eat half since I was so filled with turkey; totally original and very good. Took the rest home for lunch the next day. I will be going back. Oh, they were open until midnight; we left at 11:45pm.

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Vine Ripe Market Grill 1119 Fletcher Parkway Drive, La Mesa, 619-462-9900. Maybe the newest thing you’ll get this side of the Pacific being in the actual Middle East. The scents, the sounds, the music. Women in robes and shawls, men with prayer beads. Behind the food counter, three giant vertical spits of beef, chicken, and a lamb-beef combo rotate in front of blue flames. Ask for the Beef Shaw-arms, or a lamb-lamb spiced on a real sword. The shrimp kabob (basmati rice, hummus, feta salad, pita bread) is wonderful, and their grilled salmon is their most popular dish. Sandwiches include a Kebab Kabob (thin bread stuffed with meat, lettuce, onions, tomatoes, served with a Grecian sauce) and chicken kabobs (thin bread stuffed with chicken, lettuce, onions, tomatoes, garlic sauce). Don’t hurry — be prepared for conversation. 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.
Up Pops Poppy
She stands as one of the towering heroines of modern cinema.

This is the new world order. Any movie that wants to be seen as Serious, however delusional it may be, wants to enter the Oscar race, and therefore wants to make its entrance in the last three months of the year, when it won’t already have been released on DVD, won’t already have been forgotten. As a result, the critic, all through the fourth quarter, is unabatingly up to his eyepins in Serious and Would-Be Serious movies and hasn’t the time to dispense justice. The problem is compounded if the critic then takes off for a week of a week of use-it-or-lose-it vacation time. He will now be above his eyepins and over his head in the Serious and Would-Be Serious.

It was only a matter of luck and timing, both bad, that Mike Leigh’s Happy-Go-Lucky, one of the year’s essential films, would open in my absence. How nice it would have to be to have had it land in my lap when I had nothing more urgent to deal with than Hancock or You Don’t Mess with the Zohan. This is, to get right down to it, a character portrait of a singular person, a primary-school teacher called Poppy, almost dementedly upbeat, seeing it as her mission in life to spread sunshine and joy wherever she goes. A tipsy giggler, a bubbling fount of inanities (“Here we go, gigolo”), a constant commenter (“Never been here before”), she announces to no one in particular on her tour of a bookshop; “Don’t want to go there,” she reacts upon pulling The Road to Reality off the shelf; “Like your hat,” she volun-
teers to the tight-lipped proprietor, an avocational clown, a tiresless self-
amuser, she’s the nearest thing to Pee-Wee Herman you could ever hope to find in a realistic context. (Is it significant that her beloved bicycle gets stolen right off the bat? Unlike Pee-
wee, she sighingly lets it go — “I didn’t even get a chance to say goodbye” — “I didn’t even get a chance to say goodbye” — and signs up for driving lessons.) The context, however, demands that she once in a while drop the good cheer in order to handle crises with her running, racist, rigid driving instructor (“It’s not easy being you, ay?”), a violent bully at school, and an added tramp in the street. She is not a one-note character. She can rise to the occasion, and there is always, even at the best of times, an underpinning of thin ice. It would be easy to imagine him making a movie in which the central character were the volcanic driving instructor — the stalwart Eddie Marsan, who also ap-
ppeared in Vera Drake — and in which the bubbly driving student were only one of several supporting characters, a movie, that is to say, more like his Naked, a portrait of a negativist.

Any viewer less effervescent than Poppy, in any event, will be inclined to look at her as a kind of scientific spec-imen, to be observed with curiosity and wonder — along with unscientific amusement and a silent prayer of thanks she’s not living next door or coming over for dinner — in a somewhat amorphous and arbitrary succession of scenes, situations, circum-
stances. Among the most fruitful of these, after her periodic driving lessons, are a flamenco class under an authentically hot-blooded instructor,

Marge Gunderson, but more than level with Ghost World’s Enid or the title character of the aforementioned Vera Drake. Leigh himself, you might have noticed, especially if you saw either of the samples men-
tioned at the top of this paragraph, is not the jolliest sort of fel-
low (even titles like Life Is Sweet, High Hopes, Home Sweet
Home, and Nuts in May are not to be taken at face value), and it would be

...
please don’t try to tell me that this is meant to be expressive of Poppy’s Wuthering Heights. Clear bright colors ought not to be the exclusive privilege of the Pollyanna.

To attempt to keep things in proper proportion: W., pronounced “duhby,” is emphatically not to be taken seriously. Oliver Stone’s diplomatic biopic on our forty-third President (Josh Brolin, a dead-on impersonation, but where to go with it?) is so careful to avoid bias as to avoid purpose. It barely matches the caliber of a TV docudrama, much less the compensating stickers. In that department, Thandie Newton as Condi Rice takes the cake. Max Payne, out-of-season summer fare, is a stereoidal cop film (literally, pharmaceutica performance-enhancement to a science-fictional degree) featuring dark shadows, lecherous color, CG hallucinations, and Mark Wahlberg’s frozen lines. I’ve Loved You So Long, a film by French novelist Philippe Claudel, about a genteel parlor who moves in temporarily with her younger sister (Elisa Zlercher), drably photographed, and passably absorbing, at least until it dissipates into heart-tugging mockery. The self-explanatory Zack and Miri Make a Porno, starring Seth Rogen (our reigning Everybrow) and Elizabeth Banks, is a Kevin Smith film of incontinent talk, a bit of dirty-do, and a splatter of dirty-doo-do. It is strictly for those sufficiently befuddled that they’re able to find it daring and sophisticated.

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. Ratings are by one to five stars (★), with five being the highest. Reviews are not meant to be exhaustive, nor are they, for style’s sake, intended, and a Buffalo Bill-whiskered Viggo Mortensen, weighed down with a buzzsaw-right, eight-gauge shotgun. The movie, even while it would not compare favorably to its antecedent, can rest comfortably on the tight-knawed interplay between these men, and on its brisk and efficient action scenes, and finally, lingeringly, on the climactic act of friendship (and the backdoor for his succession). That has some real nobility to it, and some subtlety, some irony. With Renée Zellweger, Jeremy Irons, Timothy Spall, Lance Henriksen, Ariadna Gil. 2008.

Appaloosa — Unpretentious, un-epic Western, adapted from a novel by the hard-boiled mystery writer Robert B. Parker. It bears more than a passing resemblance to a Larousse variety of the Wyatt Earp, Doc Holliday legend, the 1959 Warlock, without itself qualifying as a variation on that legend. We have again the two-man team in a peripatetic “peacekeeping business” (Have Gun — Will Travel), the living legend and the overshadowed sidekick. We have also the outsized outlaw gang who hold the titular town in their grip. We have, in conciser form, an identical opening, the Earpian edict of no guns within city limits. We have, among other things, any clear distinction, and thus any palpable tension, between the two peacekeeping partners.

The Haunting of Molly Hartley — There’s nothing inherently wrong with that, but their complete compatibility disqualifies the movie as a variation on Earp — Holliday. I both see it as an exercise in simplicity, a movie that is not afraid to be itself true of the fact that he has never been right yet (John Gemmanese), the woodyard of the house who falls behind in the smallest of conversations (Steve Buscemi); the several teams of hired “muscle” (all brawn, no brains), one team of
La Jolla Village
8659 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-839-0296)

MIRA MESA
Mira Mesa 18
10735 Westmore Parkway (608-326-3266)
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MISSION HILLS

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The Big Lebowski

MISSION VALLEY
Fashion Valley 18
3030 Forum Drive (619-558-2286)
Beverly Hills Chihuahua (PG); Body of Lies (R); Burn After Reading (R); Changeling (R); Eagle Eye (PG-13); The Haunting of Molly Hartley (PG); High School Musical 3: Senior Year (G). Fri., Sat., Sun. 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00. A Christmas Carol (G). Fri., Sat., Sun. 10:25, 1:45, 5:00, 8:15. No 9 PM-10:45 PM shows Sun.-Thu.

Mission Valley 7
7510 Ocean Center Drive (619-685-2441)

LA JUNA

East County

EL CAJON
Parkway Plaza 18
405 Parkway Place (619-491-3484)
Beverly Hills Chihuahua (PG) Fri. (12:35, 3:05, 3:45, 6:15, 6:55, 7:35, 10:10, 10:50); The Secret Life of Bees (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00. The Secret Life of Bees (PG-13) Fri., Sat., Sun. 10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30.

South Bay

Chula Vista
Chula Vista 10
Chula Vista, CA 91910 619-768-9734

SOUTHBAY

Zen and Miki Make a Porno (R) (12:45, 3:00) 7:30, 10:45 Fri. (10:30, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:30); Pride and Glory (R) (11:00, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30); The Haunting of Molly Hartley (PG-13) (11:00, 1:30, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30). No 9 PM-10:45 PM shows Sun.-Thu.

POWAY

14745 Poway Road (619-463-9423)

POWAY

Zen and Miki Make a Porno (R) (10:00, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30); The Secret Life of Bees (PG-13) (10:15, 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15). No 9 PM-10:45 PM shows Mon.-Thu.

ENCINITAS

La Paloma
471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-0997)
Religious (R)

LA COSTA

La Costa 6
6941 El Camino Real (at Arneson/Alejo) (760-599-5696)

SAN MARCOS

San Marcos 18
1180 West San Marcos Boulevard at Old California Walk (760-673-3711)
Call theater for program information

VISTA

Vista Village
Highway 76 at Vista Village Drive (760-945-7469)
Barbie: A Christmas Carol (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only.

Ocean Beach

Mission Marketplace 13
College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-506-1790)

North inland

Carmel Mountain

Carmel Mountain 14
17031 Carmel Mountain Road (760-564-9730)
Beverly Hills Chihuahua (PG); Body of Lies (R); Changeling (R); Eagle Eye (PG-13); The Haunting of Molly Hartley (PG); High School Musical 3: Senior Year (G). Fri., Sat., Sun. 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00. A Christmas Carol (G). Fri., Sat., Sun. 10:25, 1:45, 5:00, 8:15. No 9 PM-10:45 PM shows Sun.-Thu.

North Coastal

Carlsbad
Plaza Camino Real
2385 Marion Road (760-729-7449)
Call theater for program information

Del Mar

Del Mar Highlands 8
El Camino Real at Del Mar Highlands (760-646-9242)
Call theater for program information

Fallbrook

River Village
2765 S. Mission Road (760-943-8734)

Fallbrook

River Village
2765 S. Mission Road (760-943-8734)

Zen and Miki Make a Porno (R) (12:45, 3:45, 7:45, 10:45); The Haunting of Molly Hartley (PG-13) (11:00, 1:30, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30). No 9 PM-10:45 PM shows Sun.-Thu.

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Body of Lies — The war on terrorism, or anyway a single battle against terrorism, conducted with sickness and ruminataion, and time for romance too. Leonardo DiCaprio continues to breathe hard in his effort to be an action hero; the steel-haired Russell Crowe, in a desk job, plays peekaboos around his glasses frames, both are upstaged by Mark Strong as the suave, ambiguous Jordanian chief of security. With Golshifteh Farahani, Oscar Isaac, and Simon McBurney, directed by Ridley Scott. ★★★

Sleepers — Who else? — are able to make wonder — mumble, grace notes, and red herrings, each demented, with the other, in common purpose. Julianna Moore, David Huddleston, Sam Elliott, Peter Stormare, Ben Gazzara, John Turturro, Jimmie Dale Gilmore. 1998.

They are self-styled Nihilists; the nympho Bette Midler, the adolescentucer who afterwards forgets his corrected homework (“Use a dictionary,” “Spelling”) in the abandoned car. The complexity is no illusion. It is right in front of us in frightening and multiplying detail. It brutally illuminates the stupidity. And at the same time it forms the philosophical foundation for a broad and accepting, if aloof and frosty, view of humanism. The Coens — who better than they ever? — are able to make wonderful sport of deadbeats and boneheads from the high ground of diligence and ingenuity. They never play “down” to the audience. They demand effort and intelligence, and they reward these by the truckload. Lively characterizations, flavorful dialogic, dense atmosphere, clever and convoluted plotting, rich and well-developed themes, abundant allusions, “in” jokes, grace notes, and red herrings, each demented, with the other, in common purpose. Julianna Moore, David Huddleston, Sam Elliott, Peter Stormare, Ben Gazzara, John Turturro, Jimmie Dale Gilmore. 1998.

The cinematography doesn’t suffer, with its crystal-clear air, its fine-line focus, and its X-ray-like camerawork, angling slightly upwards, attacking from all sides, intermittently cutting a path in a spurt of purposeful fluidity. George Clooney, Frances McDormand, Brad Pitt, Josh Brolin, Paul Adena阙, directed by Clint Eastwood.

The Dark Knight — Fashionably “dark” comic-book movie, the first time 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 retelling of the DC Comics super hero 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, grueling, torturous experience. (The relentless, rumbling, theater-rattling background music alone could be a health hazard to anybody with mild depressive tendencies.) It requires the stock figure of the biker — banish all memories of Jack Nicholson in Tim Burton’s 1989 edition, “dark” though it was itself, as well as Cesar Romero in the ghastly light TV series from the Sixties — to carry the banner and the burden of the post-9/11 terrorist. “Some men,” Batman’s manservant succinctly sums up the em-
The dreaded black spot, the worst rating given by Reader movie critic Duncan Shepherd, can be found next to many movie reviews. To see them log on to: www.sdreader.com/movies

WON A MOVIE PASS FOR TWO
ROLE MODELS

To enter, visit the Reader website and click on “contests.” SDReader.com
Deadline to enter is Friday, October 31 at 1:00 pm.
Limit one entry per person.
NO PURCHASE NECESSARY.
Opens in theatres November 7.
Knight — goes hand in glove with a larger superhero of olden days — the White Knight — goes hand in glove with a larger lack of faith in the fairy-tale form. He can't trust it to convey its import (in spite of all the scholarly efforts of Bruno Bettelheim, Joseph Campbell, et al.) without an additional grand-opera bombardment. Christian Bale, Aaron Eckhart, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Michael Caine, Gary Oldman, Morgan Freeman, 2008.

The Duchess — Fine costume piece. The costumes anyhow are fine. The piece as a whole is only fair, a predigested potage of 19th-century sexism, blood-cold bloodedness, paramours, bastard, the mandatory male heir, all of it "based on a true story." Rachel Portman's music, much more than Saul Dibb's direction, creates the frequent illusion of some reined-in buildup; unreasonably frenzied and drawn-out ending. The beginning of the bedroom activities; the enigmatic alchemy act at the curtain — is torn between two men. Or from another point of view, two men are struggling at her: a literary lion twice her age and a hot-headed young pharmacists heir. Even while the film lacks the hallmark of a thriller, it nonetheless has the mystery of personalities and relationships, and it has the tension of classes and generations, and it has several points of intrigue: the long-standing animosity of the young man toward the older "what's his name?"; the young one's silent companion-cum-lackey-cum-bodyguard (who, or what, is this guy?); the hinted-at kinkiness in the magic act at the curtain — is torn between two men. Or from another point of view, two men are struggling at her: a literary lion twice her age and a hot-headed young pharmacists heir.

Lakeview Terrace — Neil LaBute’s neighbor-from-hell thriller, no more than oddly provocative by his toughest standards (On the Company of Men, Your Friends and Neighbors, et al.), details the escalating ill between a newly arrived interracial couple (Patrick Wilson, Kerry Washington) and the long-ensconced, unflatterily stereotyped white policemen next door (Samuel L. Jackson), who has definite ideas of propriety and its enforcement. Reasonably graded and reined-in by dumbed-down, mawkishly sentimental and drawn-out ending. The beginning of the end involves perhaps the neatest telephone gimmick since Witzi und Zork, and the raging Southern California brush fire serves effectively as both a plot device and a symbol. The photography could use a bitsy touch-up. 2008.

I’ve Loved You So Long — Directed by Patrick Cregeon on the nation’s economic crisis. (FASHION VALLEY 18, FROM 10/31)

Lakeview Terrace — Neil LaBute’s neighbor-from-hell thriller, no more than oddly provocative by his toughest standards (On the Company of Men, Your Friends and Neighbors, et al.), details the escalating ill between a newly arrived interracial couple (Patrick Wilson, Kerry Washington) and the long-ensconced, unflatterily stereotyped white policemen next door (Samuel L. Jackson), who has definite ideas of propriety and its enforcement. Reasonably graded and reined-in by dumbed-down, mawkishly sentimental and drawn-out ending. The beginning of the end involves perhaps the neatest telephone gimmick since Witzi und Zork, and the raging Southern California brush fire serves effectively as both a plot device and a symbol. The photography could use a bitsy touch-up. 2008.

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I’ve Loved You So Long — Reviewed this issue. With Kristen Scott Thomas, Elsa Zylberstein, and Serge Hazanavicius, written and directed by Philippe Claudel. (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 10/31)
hand. Where’s Fluffy? Gross-out gags are limited to a single, if ongoing, grossery: a band, Where’s Fluffy? Gross-out gags are

think it might be the only Yugo in the gay garage band called the Jerk-Offs, tooling around town in a bally yellow Yugo (“I think it might be the only Yugo in the country”), and Kat Dennings, of Charlie Bartlett and The House Bunny, as the putty little rich girl with abundant brains and no boyfriends. Both of them, especially the latter, show a nice feel for the low-key humor of inarticulateness. In name only do they evoke the banality of Diahann Hammet’s Nick and Nora Charles. With Alexis Denis and Ari Graynor, directed by Peter Sollett. 2008.

★ PASHION VALLEY 16; GASPALM 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12, MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14

Nights in Rodanthe — Two beautiful strangers of opposite sexes but equivalent hurts (she: “That must have been hurtful”), he: “I know you’re hurting”), alone at an isolated inn on the beach; an approaching storm; a walk in the sand; a roll in the hay; a hope for a new beginning. The promise of unintended hilarity, held out by any adaptation of a Nicholas Sparks novel (Message in a Bottle, A Walk to Remember, The Notebook, thus far), remains frustratingly unfilled, despite the presence of Richard Gere. Directed by first-time George C. Wolfe, the film contains nothing but sap, yet not a surplus of sap, not an overflow of sap. It doesn’t add any stability, what with John Glenn, James Franco. 2008.

Pride and Glory — Corruption in the NYPD, with Colin Farrell, Edward Norton, and Jon Voight, directed by Gavin O’Connor. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 9; ESCONDIDO 20; PASHION VALLEY 16; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 10; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MEIRA 38; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 10; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 30; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 12; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Rachel Getting Married — A sort of Rainbow Coalition wedding weekend: the father of the Jewish bride had remarried a black, the bride too is marrying a black (it might be noted that Sidney Lumet, the father of first-time scribe writer Jeyn Lumet, had remarried a black himself), and the theme of the wedding is inexplicably Indian. Director Jonathan Demme, striving for an improvisational feel, stages the goings-on with an almost Danish dishevelment: a hand-held camera in the grasp of an arm-weary cameraman. Anne Hathaway, as the bride’s just-out-of-rehab sister, a constant and tiresome threat of disruption (“She needs a lot of acknowledgment”), proves to be too actreasy for the style; but Rosemarie DeWitt makes a fine impression as her well-behaved sister, and the conviviality of the gathering, with heavy representation from the cloth cats of the music industry, is by large believable and admirable. With Mather Zickel, Bill Irwin, Anne Darrow Smith, Tunde Adegun, and Debra Winger. 2008.

★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; LA PALOMA, FROM 10/31)

Rocknrolla — Director Guy Ritchie visits the London underworld, with Gerard Butler, Idios Elba, Thandie Newton, and Jeremy Piven. (PASHION VALLEY 16; FLOWER HILL 4; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 10/31)

Rosemary’s Baby — Roman Polanski’s Hollywood debut, and his deepest dive into commercialism. These working conditions serve mainly to point up his shortcomings as a storyteller. He slides right over some of the cues for spine-tingles, as if he simply missed them in his reading of the trashy Ira Levin novel. And his expressionistic camerawork, with its distorting lenses and furtive movements, converts the Manhattan apartment locale into a sort of undulating fun-house, and it thereby undermines the intended shock effect of situating demonism in a cooly mundane setting. The acting doesn’t add any stability, what with John Cusack’s J.D. sulking, Ruth Gordon’s birdlike squawking, Mia Farrow’s preeningly tettering behind a pumped-up belly, and the headless stand-in used for Mia’s nude shots. A better, more earthbound movie on devil worshipers in New York City is The Val Lewton Mark Robson Sev- croft Victims. 1968.

★ MAGDALENE OF CONTEMPORARY ART, LA JOLLA, 10/20, 7 P.M.

Saw V — More horror with Tobin Bell, Julie Benz, Greg Bryk, Megan Good, and Costar Mandela, directed by David Hackl. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN CHULA VISTA 10; GASPALM 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MEIRA 38; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 10; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 30; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Secret Life of Bees — The place is South Carolina, the time is 1964, right when LBJ has signed the Civil Rights Act (“Youth but a piece of paper”). An abused white teenage runaway and her fugitive black maid find refuge at a honeyp of “cultured” black sisters named after months of the year, August, June, and May (twin of the deceased April). Sticky sentimentality, by way of the Sue Monk Kidd novel, but Queen Latifah brings some real strength to it, and Dakota Fanning (apparently unspoiled in early adolescence) some real vulnerability. With Jennifer Hudson, Alicia Keys, Sophie Okonedo, and Paul Bettany, written and directed by Gina Prince-Bythewood. 2008.

★ CARMEL MOUNTAIN CHULA VISTA 10; GASPALM 15; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MISSION MEIRA 38; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14

FROM 10/31 (FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12, MISSION MEIRA 38; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 10; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 30; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

San Diego Reader, October 30, 2008

STARTS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31TH AT A THEATER NEAR YOU! Check Local Listings
Sex Drive — A crack-up, not in the sense of an out-loud laugh, but in that of a car wreck. Teen characters, and audience, are pushed into premature corruption: a gross-out road movie whose itinerary includes a pair of wet-dream-soaked briefs, a slingshot condom, an adhesive dildo, a prothetic scrotum, coprophilia, and so on. With Josh Zuckerman, Amanda Crew, Clark Duke, James Marsden, and Seth Green; directed by Sean Anders. 2008.

Sukiyaki Western Django — Japanese Western directed by Takashi Miike, with Hideaki Itou and Masumasa Ando (1998, from 10/31)

Tim Burton’s The Nightmare before Christmas — More accurately Henry Selick’s Tim Burton’s The Nightmare before Christmas, Burton having had the idea for it and then having turned it over to Selick, a specialist in three-dimensional stop-motion animation. As so often in that medium, the aesthetic plane, quite distinct from the financial plane, is not sufficiently higher than that of Mr. Potatohed. The hero, Jack Skellington, aka The Pumpkin King, looks unfortunately like Whitley Streiber’s extraterrestrial in a pinecone suit and on stilts. And his many, varied, grotesque cohorts are first and foremost a manifestation of Hollywood’s betroting slice of overabundance.

dance and overindulgence: too many, too varied, too grotesque. Another, more basic, manifestation of the is the mere fact that the film is a feature and not a short. Because it is a Disney film, of course, and an animated film, there seems to be some immutable law that it must have songs, songs, and more songs — written (and some of them sung) by Danny Elfman, but sounding more like Andrew Lloyd Webber in a search of a melody (“I don’t believe what’s happening to me/ My hopes, my dreams, my fantasy!”). These musical interludes are no doubt the greatest offenders in the torture-rack stretch to feature-length, but the gaudy displays of wealth and expenditure run them a close second. In its bare bones, the premise seems viable enough. Completely separate towns, according to Burton’s fantasyland geography, are responsible for planning and carrying-off the separate holidays on the calendar, until one year the Halloween mastermind gets it into his head to abduct Santa Claus and swap Christmas. There is some dark-toned fun (not darker than TV’s The Simpsons or than Charles Addams’s New Yorker cartoons, and not more fun, either) when the revised Christmas plans begin to go awry. And by and by there’s a traditional and respectable fairy-tale message to do with accepting yourself as you are. The delivery of that message, however, and for that matter the setting-up of the basic premise, are garbled in the extreme. One does not envy parents who must try to explain the thing to their young.

Zack and Miri Make a Porno — Hollywood Semi-Confidential: A fictionalization of producer Art Linson’s chaty, catty tell-all. (The bearded, overweight Alex Baldwin, for example, becomes a bearded, overweight Bruce Willis, ‘as himself.’) The producer protagonist is curiously undercharacterized — though helpfully embodied in Robert Di Niro — and the fictionalizing renders the whole thing less personal and pointed. An occasional observation rings a bell and fetches a chuckle. With Robin Wright Penn, John Turturro, Stanley Tucci, Catherine Keener, Michael Winslet, and (also “as himself”) Sean Penn; directed by Barry Levinson. 2008.

User Reviews — MOVIES

Best user comments from Reader website

Paris, Je T’Aime 2006

This film was VERY good. Eighteen short films by recognizable directors and actors that make you think and feel. If you want a Van Damme dullard-type shoot ’em up movie, then don’t go.

by goosebaum 4:17 p.m., Oct. 24, 2008

Happy-Go-Lucky 2008

There is rawness to Sally Hawkins’s performance as Poppy in Happy-Go-Lucky, which she won the coveted 2008 Best Actress at the Berlin Film Festival. After watching the film, I struck me with great similarities to a film I had recently seen. The film that I’m referring to is the French cinema that launched Audrey Tautou, she played Sophie Neveu in the blockbuster film I had recently seen. The film that I’m referring to is the French cinema that launched Audrey Tautou, she played Sophie Neveu in the blockbuster film

by spook69 10:22 p.m., Oct. 25, 2008

Religious 2008

Agnostics and atheists stand up and be heard! This is the movie you have been waiting for. I loved this movie because it made me think and me want to talk about it afterwards. Bill Maher is nothing short of a comedic genius and I hope the Academy of Motion Pictures honors him with an Oscar this year for this brilliant piece of filmwork. What he did was nothing extraordinary but simply stating the facts that are written out in every religious gospel that is read around the world. It doesn’t matter if you are religious or not; you need to see this movie. If you are one of those religious people that says that this guy is a liberal left-wing troublemaker, then don’t see the movie. You probably don’t have the intelligence to understand the points he is trying to make anyways. You have to watch this movie with an open mind. If you are religious and firmly stand by your beliefs, then nothing he says during the movie should change those beliefs. You have nothing to lose. I hope this film gains more attention and gets played in additional theaters because more people need to see this. Currently, it is only playing in three theaters. Spread the word!

by spook69 10:22 p.m., Oct. 25, 2008

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To write a User Review, visit SDReader.com, go to Movies pull-down, and click on Over 7000 Movie Reviews. Find the movie you want to review and post a comment.

Deadline for user reviews is 12 noon Monday.
October 30, 2008

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National Comedy Theatre Improvisational comedy making, maybe fun stuff on the topic, is diffi-

cult enough. Years ago, however, Keith Johnstone thought it might be more done if we start

to get the joke from pro wrestling (“Where Terrible Turks mangled defrocked priests while

groaning and grunting”). National Comedy Theatre, an off-


doctor of his brother’s TheatreSports’ artistic director Gary Kramer says the two compare like “rugby and

American football,” resembles an athletic event more than an im-

provis. Teams wear uniforms and compete on ActroTurf. Using sug-

gestions from the audience, they play “Emotional Sympathy,” “Blind Line,” and “Freeze Tag,”

with judging awards points to the best group. The last laugh will

be forgotten in years to come, one says. S.M. Shephard-Massat’s
drama-prize comedy-drama, however, remains

worth a try. “The Good Bad the Ugly Ridiculous

written by James Passantino & Victor Velasco

directed by Victoria Velasco

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see also: San Diego's Favorite Actors, shows he can also direct (and
should do more)! And Jason Con-

ner's sound design puts the audi-
cence practically in the bus. Only

three performances remain. Go! Worth a try.

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SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M.
THROUGH NOVEMBER 2.

Waiting to Be Invited
Louise, Dolores, and Odessa don’t look like heroes at first, just three

African-American women dressed all-white for church and heading on a bus to downtown Atlanta. But

today is Friday, and it’s 1964. The Supreme Court made it illegal to discriminate on the basis of race.

And the trio rides to Mandel’s Dep-

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Junior Theatre in the Don Powell Theatre
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Religious events practically in the bus. Only

three performances remain. Go! Worth a try.

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For any additional questions please call: 858-635-1042 or 760-729-8916. Drug tests are required, unless prohibited by state law.

Careers in Probation

Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I

Minimum Qualifications:
- 21 years old
- Good physical condition
- No felony convictions
- High school diploma or GED

Salary:
New: $36,275-$46,300 annually

Test dates:
November 1, 2008 • 8 am
or December 6, 2008 • 8 am

Mentorship Program

Note Application Process:
Prior to taking the written examination, applicants must complete the following: Complete and submit the online application form and provide correct and complete responses to the Supplemental Questions. Applicants will receive a notice by mail to appear for the written examination that will be sent either by e-mail or U.S. mail per applicant’s request. You must be sure to complete the online application before you appear for the written examination.

For additional information, contact the department’s Jobline: 858-514-8558

www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation
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either be sent by e-mail or U.S. Mail per and provide correct and complete re-

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**CAREERS IN PROBATION**

**Deputy Probation Officer**

Minimum Qualifications

• 21 years old • Good physical condition • No illicit drug use • U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen • No felony convictions • Bachelor’s degree with experience

Salary – New: $52,520-$63,850 annually

Safety Retirement–Sworn Officers 3% at age 50

Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply.

Test date: November 22, 2008

Qualified applicants will be notified by mail of the date, time and location of the test. All applications must be submitted no later than 15 days prior to the exam date. Applications received after the 15th day will be scheduled for the following exam. Applications can be accessed on-line from the Job/Current Recruitments section of the County website at:

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Manufacturing
Assemblers
Office Operators
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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 150 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 your mom, or host your own party! 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 am, Monday.
4) Entries must be faxed to 619-231-0489 or mailed to Reader Puzzle, PO Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92986-8533, or delivered through our mail slot at 1703 India Street in Little Italy.
5) Wow! Now we're giving away 1 puzzle AND get it to us by the new puzzle deadline: 7:00 am, Monday.
6) See this week's contenders below.

WE CANNOT ACCEPT YOUR ENTRY WITHOUT THE FOLLOWING:

Name:
Address:
Neighborhood/City:
State:
Zip Code:
Circle T-shirt size:
M L XL

Personal Message:
________________________
________________________

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

W AL L E  P F F T  E A S E
V I E S  H O L A  X R A Y
S A T I L  O R I G  I S L E
H I T C H I N G  P O I N T
E L L A  T E E S U P  T M I
S E  M I T  T I P O F F
D O S  I D O  N E M O S
S E R V I C E  C E N T E R
H O R N E  A E R E G E
M I M O S A  S A P  P P S
O N  A  I M P  I N E  E L E E
U N I O N  S T A T I O N
G A R R  N I K I  S H A R D
O X E N  U S E D  E N N I E
B E D S  S T I V E  A L T A R

The Reader in O'side/Vista until Fri.

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS:

Lil Wagner, Clairemont, 20. “Great idea, Jim. I already did vote for Ron Paul.”
D. Faulkner, University City, 17. “Happy birthday, Mom. I miss you.”
Steve Wilson, Spring Valley, 11. “Congrats Agt. Sean! Kel and Lisa’s baby boom.”
Tom White, University City, 11. “Phew get it this time!”
Kellee Wilson, Santee, 11. “What fun in Chicago last week’s puzzle!”
Carl Bennett, Escondido, 10. “Chargers - don’t let me down.”
Don Austin, Laguna Beach, 11. “Go 48. Jimmie Johnson’s the man!”
Kurt Dornbusch, Mission Valley, 12. “My mom would love to see her son apple or a rigged election.”
1. Corner store owners
2. Realms
3. Carpenter's chore
4. Line on an appl. form
5. Inquires
6. Las, Canary Islands
7. June
8. “What ____ the odds?”
9. Scams
10. Be situated atop
11. State capital with the most inhabitants
12. Funded
13. Hosp. areas
14. 1-Across figs
16. Kung, chicken
17. Sanzener who designed the Gateway Arch
18. Yule
19. Wife of Jacob
20. Senseless
22. 640 acres: Abbr.
23. 619-231-7907
24. Faucet flaw
25. Like good advice
26. Words after court or rule
27. Kind of colony
28. High-pitched instrument made from items collected from the beach?
29. Equally line
30. Crowd for Luigi?
31. One in a gardener's handfull
32. Fill 'ur up!” fill
33. Flooring wood
34. Baby bed
35. Charge
36. Get a home run
37. Cozy and inviting Milky Way component
38. Baker's dozen
39. Chefs, at times
40. Baby bed
41. Coffee or pop
42. Site of the International UFO Museum and Research Center
43. “Seriously!”
44. Barely
45. Got waves on a shoreline
46. Do better than
47. Back together, for now
48. Like some letters
49. chefs at times
50. RR stop
51. Script makeup
52. Com. alternative
53. Nile reptile
54. Script makeup
55. Designer Karan
56. Take ___’r (luster’s) request?
57. Plumb crazy
58. Pile up
59. ____’clock scholar
60. Something located in 17,-
61. Nile reptile
62. Croat neighbor
63. Floor below an EIK,
64. Floor below an EIK,
65. “____’clock scholar
66. Something located in 17,-
67. Roll (up)
68. Country club peg
69. Yale Bowl players
70. Cover the driveway
71. Get 101 Center architect
73. ____ Moines
74. Leans

Across
1. International organization whose name means "stupid" in Spanish
2. Handwriten organizer, briefly
3. Thorny bloom
4. Pile up
5. Prefix with -drome
6. Author Turgenieva
7. What someone might say to an excellent bowler is
8. Remain unsettled
9. Zero
10. 640 acres Abbr.
11. Buddy boy

Down
1. Corner store owners
2. Realms
3. Carpentary chore
4. Line on an appl. form
5. Inquires
6. Las, Canary Islands
7. June
8. “What ____ the odds?”
9. Scams
10. Be situated atop
11. State capital with the most inhabitants
12. Funded
13. Hosp. areas
14. 1-Across figs
16. Kung, chicken
17. Sanzener who designed the Gateway Arch
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19. Wife of Jacob
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67. Roll (up)
68. Country club peg
69. Yale Bowl players
70. Cover the driveway
71. Get 101 Center architect
73. ____ Moines
74. Leans

This week's contenders:

Lil Wagner, Clairemont, 20.
Dave Small, San Carlos, 12.
Jim Odell, Vista, 16.
Rachelle Collier for Encinitas City Council!
Janet Goff, Cardiff, 17.
Dave Descoteaux, Santee, 10.
Kurt Dornbusch, Mission Valley, 12.
Shirley Stafford, Carlsbad, 11.
Tom White, University City, 11.
Carl Bennett, Escondido, 10.
Don Reckles, Carmel Valley, 17.
“Me. Just like you. Only better!”
Don Austin, Laguna Beach, 11.
“Go bye week!”
Kurt Dornbusch, Mission Valley, 12.
“My mom would love to see her son apple or a rigged election.”

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**What's your phobia?**

I don't like darkness. When a room is pitch black, I freak out. I also don't care for heights. The dark, it's just in my head. And with heights, it would be real high buildings before I get scared. There are also types of bugs and insects I don't care for either.

I have a fear of semi trucks. I have a fear of being sucked up by them or that they'll jackknife and smash into me. I think it stems from my childhood. I was an insurance agent, and I heard lots of horror stories that needed big tractors trucks when you hear enough horror stories, you start thinking about it.

I don't really have phobias, per se. I have a fear of losing something. I've locked rooms down, I don't sneak down. I don't care for bugs. But I won't step on them, touch them, or go anywhere near them. And it's not a specific one. I just hate them all. I don't like weird creatures. With verbs, my friend laugh because I won't take the first cup that people may have messed with or a homeless person in came touched.

There are two, it's a fear of bugs and 44s. A lot of women probably don't care for bugs. But I won't step on them, touch them, or go anywhere near them. And it's not a specific one. I just hate them all. I don't like weird creatures. With verbs, my friend laugh because I won't take the first cup that people may have messed with or a homeless person in came touched.

**Mistakes biggest fear is being crushed by a car, bus, motorcycle, or train. Especially if it happens when I'm with two women. I don't know what my parents would say about that at the funeral. But seriously, I'm obviously not afraid of animals. Oh, I do have one fear: Clorox. Those cleaners kind of freak me out. I think they can be deadly.
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Special Promotional Rates!
Limited time offer:
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San Diego Reader - October 30, 2008
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WHEN I WAS A KID, I DREAMED ABOUT THE LADY WHO DROVE A YELLOW VW BUG COVERED IN SAUCE.

SHE CAME BY OUR HOUSE TO TALK TO MY MOM, HER HAIR WAS MADE OF SPAGHETTI AND MEATBALLS.

AT ONE POINT, THE SPAGHETTI LADY HANDED ME A CABARET DOLL WHO ALSO HAD HER HAIR MADE OF SPAGHETTI AND MEATBALLS. SHE TOLD ME TO KEEP IT, BUT SHE TOOK THE DOLL HOME WITH HER.

SO SHE MADE MY COUSIN SARA HUG THE DOLL, AND IT WAS A TOTAL MISTAKE TO TRY TO MAKE HER STAIN ON HER SHIRT.

POOR SARA!

Ask Jesse to draw your dream! • PO Box 4070

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PERSONALS

PLACE ADDS IN THE READER TO calling 619-230-8394, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

NEAR THE PINKS: "Bixer," you were the best woman, best wife, best mother. What a loss I had to lose. Still fellow after all these years. Please give me your address and I am your friend. 619-230-8394. DEAR MOM AND DAD, please don’t think this is a farewell letter, but I am and I am yr son.-your son.

MUSIC

MUSIC EQUIPMENT / INSTRUMENTS

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ALWAYS looking for: Electric guitar, pickup, tubes, effects pedal, bass pedal, amp, speakers, PA equipment, keyboard, synthesizer, turntable, cymbals, drum kit, drumheads, bass drum head, snare, drumsticks, cables, sheet music, music stand, music rack.

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WANTED: Possessing skill, experience in jazz, blues, R&B. Join with a French accordionist to play for Strolling violinist to join with a French accordionist to play for SLOW WAVE 

by Jesse Reklaw ©2008
Utilities, garage, washer/dryer. No smoking, 806-1580.

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PACIFIC BEACH.

OCEANSIDE.

LINDA VISTA.

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Place. Just East of I-5, near park and public with large yards, washer/dryer, cable, fire-

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619-518-1517.

Luxury house. Canyon view. $700. Furnished

230-6782; 619-235-2415, x28340.


amenities. 2 miles to Moonlight Beach. Single square-foot home. Close to shopping. Large

neighborhood. Female only. Nonsmoking/no

occupant only. No smoking, pets, drugs. 760-

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$250 deposit, includes

Room in 3 bedroom house.

$625, $600 deposit. Share

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Share 2 bedroom, 2 pri-

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$130/Three Wraps

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52/One Wrap

$1.10/square

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sdreader.com. You can print it, email it to friends, and find archived columns.

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• Tones & Tightens

• Improves Skin Texture

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$130/Three Wraps (Reg: $195)

First-time clients only.

KARIE HAYDEN

He/She skin, not it.

115 per 90 minutes

1-hour massage includes your choice of hot tub, body shampoo, sauna or steam room.

San Diego, October 10, 2006

157
It doesn’t matter how peaceful a person you are, we are all occasionally smothered by the urge to kill. Yes, you’re helping the little guy. He’s installing software on your computer so you can access my files from home. If you’re counting, it should never have come in on the weekend. The thought of it is enough to make you go crazy. When the bloodletter grips you, take a moment and count to ten. This gives you time to calm down and think.

When you need to work on Saturday,
You’re going to help the little guy. He’s installing software on your computer so you can access my files from home. If you’re counting, it should never have come in on the weekend. The thought of it is enough to make you go crazy. When the bloodletter grips you, take a moment and count to ten. This gives you time to calm down and think.

If counting didn’t quite do it, think of someone you admire, a role model of yours, and ask yourself what they’d do.

We all know you’re not going to kill anyone, but you need to find your own reason not to kill. If you need to cry, go outside. You’ll find a reason not to kill in the fresh new future that doesn’t work.

One day...

You’re gone helping the little guy. He’s installing software on your computer so you can access my files from home. If you’re counting, it should never have come in on the weekend. The thought of it is enough to make you go crazy. When the bloodletter grips you, take a moment and count to ten. This gives you time to calm down and think.

If counting didn’t quite do it, think of someone you admire, a role model of yours, and ask yourself what they’d do.

We all know you’re not going to kill anyone, but you need to find your own reason not to kill. If you need to cry, go outside. You’ll find a reason not to kill in the fresh new future that doesn’t work.

One day...

Do you believe in ghosts? Do you think it’s true, you could learn something for the rest of eternity?

That’s a nice thought, but no matter how hard you try, you’re going to kill.

The woodletter grips you, take a moment and count to ten. This gives you time to calm down and think.

One day...

You’re gone helping the little guy. He’s installing software on your computer so you can access my files from home. If you’re counting, it should never have come in on the weekend. The thought of it is enough to make you go crazy. When the bloodletter grips you, take a moment and count to ten. This gives you time to calm down and think.

If counting didn’t quite do it, think of someone you admire, a role model of yours, and ask yourself what they’d do.

We all know you’re not going to kill anyone, but you need to find your own reason not to kill. If you need to cry, go outside. You’ll find a reason not to kill in the fresh new future that doesn’t work.

One day...

Golden Management

Ocean Beach: 5135, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 500 square feet. 2-car garage. Stucco style house with hardwood floors. Near important streets and offstreet parking. Water and trash paid. 1230 Catalina Blvd. 619-486-8000. www.goldenmanagement.com

Ocean Beach: 11930, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 750 square feet. 2-car garage. Stucco style house with hardwood floors. Near important streets and offstreet parking. Water and trash paid. 1230 Catalina Blvd. 619-486-8000. www.goldenmanagement.com

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**Santee.** Beautiful. Rent includes 2 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2-car garage, large yard, community pool, laundry area, security system, huge living room, French doors, large kitchen, spacious bedrooms, new appliances, washer, dryer. Pets considered. 7900 Mary Drive. 619-698-1342.

**South Park.** $475. Beautiful 3 bed, 1 bath, 1,350 sq. ft. apartment, washer and dryer, large windows, new furnishings. Parking included. 5550 30th Street, 619-221-3026.


**Tamarac.** $950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, 830 sq. ft., available March 1st. Utilities paid. Washer/dryer. 7221 La Jolla Village Drive. 619-293-0526.

**Alpine.** $1,675. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, 950 sq. ft., available immediately. Large living room, separate dining room, modern appliances, enclosed patio. Large walk-in closet. 15773 Gossamer Street. 619-446-0850.

**La Mesa.** $1,500. Beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,100 sq. ft., available immediately. Fully furnished, updated, washer/dryer, central air, parking, Call 619-459-0370. www.nicelocals.com.

**Canyon Lake.** Luxury 2 bed, 2 bath, 1,200 sq. ft., furnished. 8501 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, 619-452-3003.

**Sabre Springs.** $1,200. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 968 sq. ft., available now. Near Serra Mesa Park. 13350 Sabre Drive, 619-453-4555.

**El Cajon.** $1,150. Beautifully updated, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,200 sq. ft., available now. Updated kitchen, large patio. 3654 Sycamore Ridge Road, 619-451-0182.


**La Jolla.** $1,150. Nicely updated 2 bedroom, 2 bath, available now. Includes all utilities except gas and water. 4741 Pearl Drive, 619-458-3382.

**Huntington Beach.** $1,850. Nicely updated 2 bedroom, 2 bath, utilities included. Large patio, newly remodeled kitchen. 17217 Foothill Boulevard, 619-962-7150.

**San Diego.** $2,000. Beautiful home. $750 deposit. 3 bedroom, 2 bath plus den, 2 car garage. 2100 Meridian Street. 619-380-3035.


**Oceanside.** $1,450. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,400 sq. ft. home located in Oceanside. 1652 10th Street. 619-426-4061.

**Carlsbad.** $2,650. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Great room, spacious kitchen, newer appliances. 4743 iris Street. 619-752-1739.


**Mission Valley.** $2,200. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, 1400 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 3225 Vista Del Sol, 619-299-8948.

**Point Loma.** $1,695. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,000 sq. ft., available March 1st. Utilities included, washer/dryer. 4638 York Street. 619-753-7701.

**Solana Beach.** $2,200. Beautiful, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,000 sq. ft., utilities included. Large patio, storage, garage. 1717 Del Mar Avenue. 619-457-0299.

**Kearny Mesa.** $1,975. 2 bedroom, 2 baths, 1,100 sq. ft., utilities included. Walk to UTC, golf course. 5320 Rolling Hills Road. 619-680-7802.

**Mission Beach.** $2,550. Beautifully updated, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,100 sq. ft. Condo, available now. 8523 Point Loma Blvd. 619-222-2525.

**Coronado.** $1,950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 684 sq. ft., utilities included. 1314 Kaper Street. 619-456-0997.

**Clairemont.** $1,475. Beautiful 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Close to SDSU. Utilities included, washer/dryer. 5127 El Cortez Drive. 619-266-6672.

**La Jolla.** $2,650. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq. ft., utilities included. New kitchen, new carpets. 4741 iris Street. 619-752-1739.

**University City.** $1,895. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1100 sq. ft., available March 1st. Utilities included, washer/dryer. 3205 University City Drive. 619-575-4704.

**Downtown.** $1,800. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,150 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 1311 Kaper Street. 619-456-0997.

**Bay Ho.** $2,050. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, 1,100 sq. ft., available March 1st. Washer/dryer. 1950 cleon Place. 619-426-1381 or apply at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**Mission Valley.** $2,000. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 925 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 3000 Mary Street. 619-293-8043.

**Mission Valley.** $1,700. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 950 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 3030 Mary Street. 619-293-8043.

**University City.** $2,100. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1,000 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 3164 Clairemont Drive. 619-575-4704.

**La Jolla.** $2,500. Beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,400 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 8545 La Jolla Village Drive. 619-293-1303.

**La Jolla.** $2,200. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2,000 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 1739 Via Estevez. 619-299-8948.

**La Jolla.** $3,000. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2,000 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 1739 Via Estevez. 619-299-8948.

**La Jolla.** $3,200. Beautifully updated 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,100 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 1727 Via Esteban. 619-299-8948.

**La Jolla.** $3,500. Beautifully updated 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,400 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 1777 Via Esteban. 619-299-8948.

**La Jolla.** $2,050. Beautifully updated 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,100 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 1700 Via Esteban. 619-299-8948.

**La Jolla.** $2,000. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,100 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 1677 Via Esteban. 619-299-8948.

**La Jolla.** $1,800. Beautifully updated 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1,000 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 1655 Via Esteban. 619-299-8948.

**La Jolla.** $1,700. Beautifully updated 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 950 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 1633 Via Estevez. 619-299-8948.

**La Jolla.** $1,650. Beautifully updated 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 900 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 1611 Via Esteban. 619-299-8948.

**La Jolla.** $1,600. Beautifully updated 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 850 sq. ft., includes all utilities. 1599 Via Esteban. 619-299-8948.
**Reader Pop Quiz**

**This week’s questions**

1. What did treasure hunter Frank Frutta recently find with his metal detector that was worth $44,000?  
2. According to Matthew Akio’s anthropological and culinary data, the look and taste of human flesh most closely resembles what?  
3. What publisher does Don Bauer expose as the force behind “Wolverine Network,” the Agaremsmear, city-county-whitewashing newsletter?  
4. Where was my local music man Mary Dolan performing on stage when the music relaxes she was mis-  
   takenly given for a headache kicked in?  
5. In the influenced, long-running photo magazine cofounded by Nancy Newell, whose work is on  
   view right now at MPA?  
6. John Bristzela’s neighbor tries to barter what in exchange for a few calls on John’s cell phone (and  
   succeeds)?  
   four TV shows Allen has been a regular on.  
8. On Super Tuesday, what pop-music charbuster on Barron Monk’s calendar rocks Petco Park?  
9. This week Barbarella, recharging in the Spanish countryside, likens what to “Monopoly money”?  
10. Give the name and street address of Naomi Wise’s latest bargaining-room find.  

**Rules**

Pop Quiz answers must include page numbers from the Reader print edition on which the answers are  
found. First five entrants to deliver correct sets of answers win Reader T-shirts or $25 (indicate preference).  
Answers must be submitted by Monday at 7 am, in the question issue. Only one winner per household or  
mail address per month. Multiple entries may be disbarred. Mail answers to: Reader Pop Quiz, SD Reader,  
Box 8580, San Diego CA 92116; or fax to 619-231-0489; or email at Quiz@sdreader.com; or deliver to 1703  
India Street in Little Italy (we have an after-hours mail slot).
EL CAJON. Attractive, well-kept, 2 bedroom, 1 and 2 bathrooms, $900/up. 2 bedroom apartment. 795. 1 bedroom apartment. Gated, private patio. Lush garden, 8 unit building. Low $300 deposit. 619-330-3342.

GOLDEN HILL. $825. Huge 1 bedroom with hardwood floors. 3 private patios. Pool. Garden setting. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. 11/20/08. 3502 First Avenue. 858-270-3950.

HILLCREST. Smog check. • Install new lining • Replace differential fluid • Replace distributor rotor • Check & adjust timing to specs • Resurface drums/rotors extra Most cars. Includes rear brake job, oil change, top-off fluids (excludes brake fluid), and maintenance inspection. $2 transmittal fee. Free retest when we do the repairs. Most cars. Call today, 1-800-295-3953.


LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. $825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Close to shopping, freeway, coaster. No pets. Available now. 933 Peach Avenue. 619-231-8723.

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. Smog check. • Check radiator and fan operation • Road-test • Check & adjust timing to specs • Smog check $25. Vans and trucks extra. Appointments & walk-ins welcome! 1-888-486-9153 www.precisiontune.com.

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. $800. $250 off first month! 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Best deal in Hill Crest! 4043 First Avenue. 619-804-3325.


LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. $1,045. 1 bedroom apartment. 1015 19th Street. Call today, 1-800-810-1140.

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. $1,000. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Best deal in Hil Crest! 4043 First Avenue. 619-804-3325.

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**7030 Carroll Road • 858-455-5440**

**Unlimited Mileage Warranty!** Call for details.

**Your Friendly & Honest Auto Service Center**

### Automotive Specials

**$100 off Transmission foreign & domestic**

- Rebuilt and installed
- Automatic Transmission with 2-3 year/unlimited miles warranty
- Parts and labor include torque converter.

**$95 New clutch starting at $239**

- Parts and labor.
- Light trucks and front-wheel drive only slightly extra.

**$69 Oil Filter Change**

- Most cars, $60 Thrifty.

**$369 Manager’s Special! Synthetic Blend Engine Oil Change**

- Includes filter and up to 5 quarts synthetic blend oil.
- Most cars, Plus $35 labor.

**Engine Rebuild – Call for Special Price!**

- Import & Domestic & Service available.

**Water Pump Service**

- Starting at $129.

**Transmission Service**

- Starting at $79.

**Brake SPECIAL**

- Goodyear or Federal.

- Most cars, Plus $35 labor.

### Leather Transmission Specials

**Luis Transmission**

888-318-2413

1417 Corporate Suite B
(next to Big-O Tires)

- Military special discounts for tax free service.

**SMOG CHECK SPECIAL**

- $13.95

- Rtu $25.25 Certificate.

- Most vehicles, 1996 and newer.

**SMOG FAILURE DIAGNOSTIC**

- $49.95

- Most vehicles, 1996 and newer.

**SMOG FREE TIRE REBUILD**

- $79.95

- Most cars & some others.

### Best Tire Buy

- Call for PRICES, BRANDS, & OTHERS

### Transmission Service

- Includes labor.

- NY State $79.

### A/C SERVICE

- $19.95

- Impact AC, operation, hoses and AC belt.

- Most 4-7 cylinder cars.

- Trucks, vans, SUVs extra.

### 10% Military Discount

- MasterCard/Visa/Discover

### San Diego Pacific Beach, San Diego, CA 92106

**A/C SERVICE**

- $19.95

- Impact A/C operation, hoses and AC belt.

- Most 4-7 cylinder cars.

- Trucks, vans, SUVs extra.

### Oil & Filter Change

- Most cars, Plus $35 labor.

**Automatic Transmission**

- Includes filter and up to 5 quarts synthetic blend oil.
- Most cars, Plus $35 labor.

### SMOG CHECK SPECIAL

- $13.95

- Rtu $25.25 Certificate.

- Most vehicles, 1996 and newer.

### SCANNING ENGINE CODES & ADVICE

- FREE

- No obligation.

- Most vehicles.

- No parts charged.

### CRACKED WINDSHIELD

- $149

- Must present coupon.

### Windshield Replacement

- FREE TOWING

- Within 10-mile radius.

- Military & senior discounts

### OIL REBATE

- $95

- Includes up to 10 quarts

**New clutch starting at $239**

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- Light trucks and front-wheel drive only slightly extra.

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- 1-2 years old.

### PUMP SPECIAL

- $9.95

- 1-2 years old.

### TURBO SPECIAL

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LEAD STORIES
— Candidates for local office in Brazil can either register under their own names or make up others. In the October election this year, three candidates chose “Barack Obama” (none won), and others registered under “Bill Clinton,” “Torje Bush,” and “Chico Bin Laden.” More than 300 offered themselves under the name of the country’s popular president, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

— In July, when the government of India tried to push its historic nuclear pact with the United States through the parliament, it found six more votes among elected members who were sovereign senators and ordered them released so they could vote for the bill. (Nearly one-fourth of the 540-member parliament have criminal charges pending against them.)

News That Sounds Like a Joke
— Britain’s Bristol City Council warned residents in government housing in September to always leave their sheds unlocked. Otherwise, thieves would have to break the doors down to get inside and taxpayers would be stuck with the repair bills.

— Atlanta Pentecostal preacher Thomas Meeks told the Journal-Constitution in October that he was “in talks” to create a Survivor-style TV reality show in which the twice-divorced evangelist navigates a field of single women and selects a winner. Holy Hook Up: Who Will Be the Next Mrs. Weeks? will be, he said, a “very tasteful, five-star presentation.”

Great Art!
— Chillean-Danish artist Marco Evaristti is working with renowned Texas university Gene Harthom, 47 (convicted killer of three in 1995), in an anti-capital-punishment exhibit to be staged after Harthom’s execution. The murderer’s body would be frozen, then made into flakes that museum visitors could feeds to goldfish. Evaristti is most noted for his 2000 exhibit in which he placed live goldfish in several electric blenders and invited museumgoers to turn them on.

— An unfortunate burst of wind disrupted an outside art installation at the Paul Klee center in Bern, Switzerland, in August, ripping an inflatable exhibit from its moorings and carrying it away. The exhibit, by American Paul McCarthy, was a sculpture entitled Complex Shit, and the inflatable item was supposed to be a dog dropping the size of a house.

Government on Action
— (1) The municipal transit company in Austin, Texas, unveiled a radio advertising campaign in August, giving step-by-step instructions on how to stand up on buses without falling over. When the bus is accelerating, “lean forward and put your weight on your front foot.” (2) A British government-funded poster campaign, also introduced in August, aims to encourage those waiting for municipal buses to do Pilates-type movements to improve physical fitness. Among the suggestions: standing on one leg, pointing the toes forward, or clenching the bottom of the seat.

— Most workers who have retired in the last few years from New York’s Long Island Railroad have also qualified for disability payments (though most did not claim such disabilities while working), according to a September New York Times investigation of state records. Lax union work rules, plus the cooperative “Railroad Retirement Board” (which virtually never rejects a disability application), have resulted in nearly every worker drawing about as much money in retirement as they made on the job. In October, the Times discovered that nearly all of the many same retirees were so confident that their “disability” status would be approved that they purchased private disability insurance to make retirement even more secure.

Police Blotter
— Awesome: Police in Dortmund, Germany, arrested six Romanian men in June and charged them with stealing from trucks on the highway. Allegedly, the thieves would drive their own truck carefully up behind a tractor-trailer at high speed, and on a man on the hood would reach out and open the back of the rig with a bolt cutter. He would climb in and loot the rig of computers and cell phones before passing to a partner sitting on the hood of the trailing truck.

— Almost Awesome: Motorist Michael Mills Jr., 38, who was making a getaway from police who wanted him on identity-theft charges in Chesa peake, Va., drove his car through a drawbridge warning arm and tried to jump onto the span that was being lowered. He missed, and the car plunged into the Elizabeth River, where it sank (but Mills was rescued and arrested).

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

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BACK WHEN

In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

The final indignity, scratched by some nitwit on the exact spot where PSA Flight 182 crashed, is this: PSA 128.

Leiseron, a photographer for Channel 8, and Fitzsimmons, a photographer for the Union/Tribune, were among the first to arrive at the crash scene. They moved around the site — Leiseron with a movie camera, Fitzsimmons with a still camera — photographing the mayhem from several angles.

Before 10:01 am (the plane crashed at about 9:01), they were both in police custody. Leiseron is being prosecuted for "interfering with firemen or any rescue personnel."

— CITY HEIGHTS: "DON’T SHOOT," Neal Matthews, November 2, 1978

Twenty-Five Years Ago

THREE GOLDEN retrievers, 2 foxy gentlemen, I see you every Saturday, on beach, foot of Eighth Street, Del Mar. Need you both...oooh! Suzy Speedo.

75% OF SAN DIEGO drivers have broken both…oooooh! Suzy Speedo.

Fifteen Years Ago

regarding Lawrence Osborne’s cover story on El Centro, we take it from the reading article he did not enjoy his brief stay with us (“Out Here in the Middle of Nowhere,” October 21). El Centro is not a perfect place, especially in the summer months, but neither is it a "Twilight Zone" or "the surface of the moon," and the people who live here do not appreciate being referred to as "semi-marginals."

— LETTERS: "SHABBY, IRRESPONSIBLE DRIVERS," Jack Torrasa, Mayor, City of El Centro, and Larry F. Escalante, President, Chamber of Commerce, November 4, 1993

Twenty Years Ago

Driving home through the dark from Los Angeles, after four hours with Pete Nicholas, a pedophile and member of the Southern California chapter of the Northern Man Boy Love Association (NAMBLA), we didn’t feel better — or worse — about pedophilia.

You may sigh, going out your door, ask yourself, "Why talk to scumbums?" Often the only answer is the answer mountain climbers give when asked, "Why Everest?": "Because it’s there."

Maybe your answer is, "Scumballs talk."

Nicholas, at the end of our interview, agreed to contact two San Diego pedophiles and ask them to talk with us. Neither San Diegan was willing to meet face to face.


Ten Years Ago

Nine years ago today Betty Broderick entered a bedroom in Marston Hills and stared at the sleeping bodies of her ex-husband, Dan, and his second wife, Linda. When they became aware of her presence and moved, Betty repeatedly fired her .38-caliber Smith & Wes- son revolver.

In February 1992, a San Diego judge sentenced Broderick to 32 years to life.

Around 4:30, some of the visitors began to spot their inmates on the other side of the glass windows. Minutes later, Betty appeared.

She sprang up to approach her, and once united inside, she hugged me.

"You look wonderful!" I remember exclaiming.

"I’m still fat," she shot back.

Two fillings had fallen out, but the prison dentist wouldn’t fill or crown them. "That’s the policy," she declared. (When I later asked prison officials about this, they denied any such policy exists.)


Five Years Ago

"Some people call us Latin rap. We don’t mind that, but we don’t want to limit our audience. Only a few Latin rappers made it, like Kid Frost on the West Coast and Big Fun on the East Coast (now deceased)."

— "Major labels aren’t giving Latin rappers a chance."

He said Latin rap lyrics frequently use "eso," "homes," and "vato" as part of the patois. He said the Filipino hip-hop scene is "strongly influenced by black rappers."

— BLURT: "WE ARE THE ONLY MEXICAN/FILIPINO HIP-HOP BAND," Ken Loughton, October 30, 2003

To get an online version of this column, go to sdrreader.com. You can print it, email it to friends, and get other columns and stories by these authors.
IT SAT THER, NOT OMINOUS IN GENERAL, BUT MYSTERIOUS. The TV. I’ve moved in with a roommate to save some money this year and to shed my old bar. My roommate has a TV big enough for the front room. I’ve only owned a tiny set, so small it fits in the cabinet of a standup wardrobe in my bedroom. I hate television, and until now it’d been crammed in a cell so small it’s almost unmentionable. I just use it for background noise and a mind-numbing cocktail.

Mostly I kept the TV for girls. One liked paranormal shows — ghosts, things. Two of them liked sports — football, mostly. One liked programs about prisons and programs about cooking (all of the damned things). I liked Heroes until the writing went bad. I watched 30 Rock until the strike last year.

Before my move, I’d sit down, open the cabinet door, flip through a couple stations, and after five minutes shut it down with a discontenmented grumble. Now that I’ve moved in with Jen, my little television sits cold in my room, and her living-room-size TV sits out in the open; you can see it from the front door.

It occupied a spot on the floor while we moved, and I eyed it with suspicion. On its glossy black glass, our reflections moved and flashed, carrying boxes, hanging art. It never switched on and bit me on the leg as I imagined it would. I regarded it as a dangerous thing; I’d cut a wide lane around it as I walked.

On our first night in the new place, Jen said, “Let’s go have some drinks.” We walked to the glitzy lights and down to the bar. We sat at a perch, a pitcher of beer there (cheap, watery American lager, tasty and cold to the last of it).

She set down a DVD player and fished for wires in the dust and wadded-up tape of packing boxes. Sitting back and aiming the remote, she fired it up, and across the screen galloped a title: Blazing Saddles. Nice.

Sensing my unease with the big set, Jen said, “Here, this is cool.” She set down a DVD player and fished for wires in the dust and wadded-up tape of packing boxes. Sitting back and aiming the remote, she fired it up, and across the screen galloped a title: Blazing Saddles. Nice.
ing, Kermit-y voice? Hang the DJ, hang the DJ, hang the DJ... SHOOT

THE ULTIMATE FIGHTER

SPIKE 10:00 P.M.

As a fight fan, I watched a few episodes last season, but this year I don't have the interest. I realized if I wanted to watch drunks get into fistfights and smash furniture, I'd spend more time with my family during the holidays.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

PURITY BALLS

TLC 9:00 P.M.

I'm not sure about purity, but I know mine sprinkle glitter when you shake 'em, and they cast rainbows instead of a shadow.

MUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

CLOSING BELL

CNBC 12:00 P.M.

There's one advantage of being nearly destitute — I don't have to watch my stocks swirl further down the bog. My only investments are commemorative Slurpee cups, and nothing (nothing!) will devalue those. When laughing now, Mr. Pudas? It's certainly not The Goonie!

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

2008 ELECTION NIGHT

NBC 8:00 P.M.

Oh, sweet merciful maple syrup, thank you, Abraham Lincoln, this awful three-year-long campaign is over. It's like the finish line at my fifth-grade track meet. I'm sweaty, my feet hurt, and I don't care who wins as long as I get to eat pizza and look at Christie Gra-

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**Chevrolet Corvette: 1986, 2 door, leather interior, moonroof. Automatic. 34,000 miles.**

**DAEWOO, 2000, Silver, everything works, a little fender work. $850/best. 619-646-0485.**

**Audi A6: 1999, 59,000 miles, 6-cyl, all power, driver/passenger airbags, sunroof, leather interior. $7950/best, 619-218-7665.**

**TOYOTA TRUCK WANTED. 1984-94. Low to average miles, must be automatic. I am a student and not a professional.
Was this something I dreamt before tea and something to do with ten days off meds?

By John Brizzolara

Fall is the most fun season to write in and about. I have exhausted the famous Hemingway quote to F. Scott Fitzgerald in one of their letters, used it and time again in this column until I’m sure readers are so sick of it they’ve either memorized it or repressed it along with a certain gag response associated with the very word “Hemingway.” I can’t risk using it again or the dear and constant reader will certainly upchuck, groan, plot yet again seeing “The summer is a discouraging time to write. You don’t feel death in the air the way you do in the fall when the boys really get their pens moving.” It would, and I’m forced to agree, be too much one more time around.

And yet “discouraging” is hardly the word. “Anathema” would be more like it, as in “Summer is anathema to writers.” The death part about autumn is literally true.

While I am waiting for death, I am wringing out sopping old T-shirts and stuffing them under the air conditioner’s faulty condenser. Damn! I should have used that as the opening sentence. I could cut and paste, but I didn’t, and fair is fair, so I’ll leave it.

While I am being honest (not as unusual as the bastards say), I’m actually writing this on a Friday, just a couple of weeks back. I’ve picked up my paycheck, gone to the bank, then immediately paid off a couple of bastards (as unsavory as the bastards say), I’m actually writing this on a Friday, just a couple of weeks back. I’ve picked up my paycheck, gone to the bank, then immediately paid off a couple of bastards and begun ruminating about suggestions for my fellow San Diegans or visitors here as to how they might best employ their time this weekend.

I’ve been staring at the cursor for six months now and have come to this conclusion: I don’t really care unless it involves sending me money. Hardly likely. There is so much to do for free in San Diego that is aesthetically/recuperationally/educationally gratifying that I’ve long since learned that this is the perfect town for Buddhists. One need not want or reject anything here. As the homey dogs in my “hoy” say, “It’s all good, know I’m sane?” Of course you do, and, yes, I’m off my meds. Can’t afford ‘em.

*Delta Force* is on in the background without the sound. It’s best. I’m trying to work here. Still, seems like the perfect movie — but for a Saturday afternoon in a theater rather than a Friday premiere. Ten years after the so-called facts, it was loosely based on the time when the Ayatollah was the boogeyman _du jour_ in the ’80s, I mean. It was a good one if you had enough Prozac under your belt and still hadn’t quit drinking — even if you were just hung over. Whoo. Hatred: Chuck Norris and Robert Forster hand-to-hand. Holy shit! Neither of them Muslim, yet that’s what this scene is all about as their eyes lock. Eyes full of all kinds of shit dating from the Crusades. Only they’re two white B-movie actors.

I’m going to take a nap now. But first: Chantix. A commercial for this stuff used to quit smoking. Among possible side effects are “thoughts of suicide.” I wake up to “I have a structured settlement but I need cash now…call J.G. Wentworth, 877 CASH NOW!” done as a Wagnerian operatic jingle. Perhaps you’ve seen it. A helpful note if only I’d won that settlement against, you know, the bastards.

Here’s the doorbell. Yes, yes, it’s Halloween, sort of. It is close enough for San Diego. Only no trick-or-treaters this time. This is a neighbor who wants to trade a jar of peanut butter for four local calls on my cell phone. Interesting. I go for it. Still, I sense All Hallows in the air, and it is good. Genuinely frightening this year, as well. The economy. Ever notice how if the media is discussing white people having money problems they’ll refer to “the economy”? If you’re darker than Tony Orlando, then it’s called “poverty.” And I’m right in there. More olive, actually, than Tony, but I have either an economic problem or a condition of poverty, depending on the light I’m in at the moment. At the moment, as I look in the mirror over the sink to the left of the desk, I see I am either a pale olive drab or possibly a nauseous ash and pea. Exactly the color of fading money, bills held out between the pocket and the desk in hesitation for too long.

I’m trying to remember some bit of freshman psych I read back in ’67 or ’68 about how the weather, no matter what it may be, can have a salutary effect on our mood. Conversely, if one is in some kind of manic/cheerleader mood, that same weather will seem antagonistic and wrong. We are a leader mood, that same weather will seem antagonistic and wrong. We are a

Fiberglass sides, blue/grey graphics. To get an online version of this column, go to sreader.com. You can print it, email it to friends, and get other T.G.I.F. columns or other stories by John Brizzolara.