

December 31, 2008

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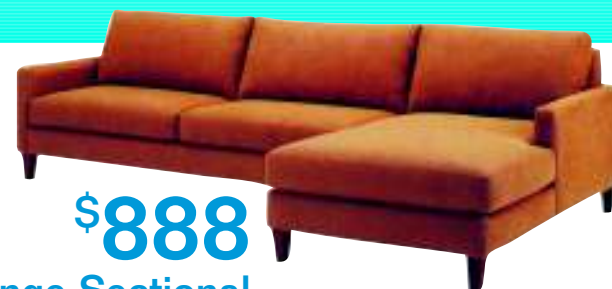
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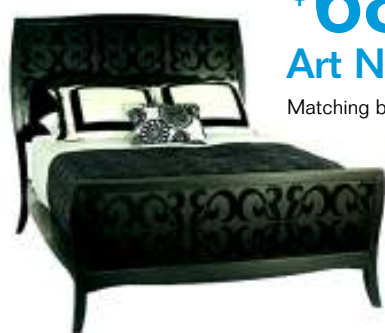
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# What to do if you are stopped for drunk driving

The following is the opinion of the author and is not intended to give legal advice to any specific person. The reader is advised to seek legal counsel if prosecuted for DUI. This information is of a general nature, intended for readers age 21 or older not under prior court order to do otherwise, and is based on California law.

Let's start with some basics. Driving while under the influence of alcohol or any other drug is antisocial behavior. The horror caused by the death or maiming of a loved one by a "drunk driver" is unthinkable. The pain caused by such an incident scars forever not only the victims but the drinking driver, who is usually a decent, law-abiding citizen. No sane person would want such a thing to happen, not even one time.

However, what if elected officials use this terrible blight on society as an excuse to whip the general public into a frenzy and to capitalize on the human misery flowing from this carnage, only for the purpose of getting votes in the next election? And what if other effective remedies to the Driving Under the Influence problem are ignored deliberately? Finally, what if the liquor and restaurant industries pay big bucks into the political coffers of these same elected officials or chapters of MADD to lobby against legislation directed at the liquor and restaurant industries' contribution to the problem?

"Control" is the key word. You will not wipe out DUI any more than you will wipe out any other disease. But a healthy body is a body in "control," and the same applies to a healthy society. Let's look at some facts. There is little doubt the 0.08 percent blood alcohol law is window dressing and avoids the real issues. The fact is 0.08 percent is so low a blood alcohol level that local police officers have told me they cannot possibly tell the difference between 0.07 percent and 0.08 percent based on objective symptoms during the roadside sobriety test. Consequently, if you admit to having had a drink or if the officer smells alcohol on your breath, you are going downtown for further tests, no matter how you do on the field sobriety test or roadside breath test. The foremost authority in the world on DUI, A. W. Jones from Sweden, refers to them as "monkey tests" and of no value in DUI testing.

So, why do these embarrassing roadside tests at all? Don't do them is my answer; don't ever take the so-called field sobriety test. First of all, it is not a sobriety test. It is a coordination test, and many people who clearly are not under the influence of alcohol simply are not coordinated. That's a fact. If they want to use a coordination test to measure sobriety, they should require you to take a similar test once each year to provide a baseline from which to measure your performance at roadside.

Secondly, the tests are subjective and the officer can conclude you failed even if you are the most coordinated person in the world. He later will tell the jury at trial that you did poorly to prove he was right in arresting you and bringing you downtown for further testing. Once downtown, your blood alcohol level may have increased and may, in fact, be 0.16 percent (over double the legal limit) or higher at that later point in time. Depending upon

when you had your last food and drink of alcohol, however, you easily could have been 0.04 percent, 0.06 percent, or 0.07 percent blood alcohol level at the time you were driving. The only blood alcohol level that is relevant or important under the code is the blood alcohol level at the time of driving. The fact you are determined to be 0.08 percent or more at a later point in time does not automatically make you guilty of breaking the law, under CVC Section 23152B.

Furthermore, any conclusion to be drawn from a blood alcohol level assumes the machine is measuring accurately, which often times is not the case. In order to challenge the blood alcohol level, it becomes necessary to retain a competent attorney to point this out to the jury and to show the arresting officer is not an objective, detached third-party witness. He wants to see a conviction to vindicate his decision to arrest. Obviously, the officer will exaggerate and distort in order to prove his point, and he is able to do so because very few of the field sobriety tests truly are objective. Which raises another question: Instead of ordering the accused to recite the alphabet while the officer writes into the police record the alleged results, why not allow the accused to actually write the alphabet out in his own hand? This would be direct evidence of the accused's ability to demonstrate his dexterity and hand coordination directly to the jury. Taxpayers have purchased expensive video and audio taping equipment for our law enforcement agencies, but those agencies rarely use the equipment in driving under the influence cases, thereby denying the jury firsthand evidence of the accused's actual state of sobriety. Instead, the officer simply testifies before the jury about how badly the accused did on one test. He actually is telling the jury, "Trust me. I have no motive to lie. If I say he did badly, that should be enough for you." When I asked a local television moderator to question the police about what happened to those 16 expensive video cameras donated to the San Diego Police Department by Aetna Insurance and which the local newspapers touted as the "doom of drunk drivers," the local police person said, "They are all broke." Right! And I just saw Elvis last week, too.

The fact is the officer does have a motive to lie, and, sadly, stretching the truth to gain a conviction seems to be the rule, rather than the exception. A retiring CHP officer interviewed for an investigator position with the firm told me he could add to his annual salary \$50,000 working overtime making court appearances in DUI cases. He lamented that he disliked working nights because it required him to ride with a partner. This veteran CHP officer explained that if he stopped a suspected DUI and formed the opinion following the field sobriety test that the driver was not DUI, very often his patrol partner, eager for overtime, would say, "If you don't take him downtown, I will." Doesn't a \$50,000 increase in one's annual salary provide a motive to lie about performance on the field sobriety test? Police officers and overzealous young prosecutors often are heard around the courthouse rationalizing less-than-candid police officer testi-

mony in marginal cases saying, "If they were not drinking and driving, they wouldn't be in trouble in the first place." That may be MADD's law, but it is not the law in any state of this United States. A public policy saying "the end justifies the means" didn't work for the communists and it won't work in a free society.

For these reasons, if you are stopped, do not take these trick roadside sobriety tests, and if you are a juror, demand to see the written alphabet, video/audio tape recordings, or other firsthand evidence of impairment. It is very easy to provide. The law is a search for the truth and should not be a witch hunt guided by hysteria, half-truths, and self-serving statements of the arresting officer.

Recently, a San Diego police officer told me as part of his training he was required to attend a school on the breath machine. He was amazed when a fellow officer was administered known amounts of alcohol in an effort to demonstrate the workings of the alcohol breath-testing machine. What amazed him was he saw the officer consume seven gin and tonics, yet the breath results registered only 0.04 percent, well below the legal limit. I saw the same thing occur in alcohol studies I attended in forensic laboratories in Los Angeles, and it illustrates my point. If the officer weighed 200 pounds and each drink he consumed was one ounce, the resulting blood alcohol level should be 0.13 percent. So, either the machine was testing improperly or the officer was tested right after drinking and before the alcohol fully was absorbed into his blood stream. That is exactly what happens to the citizen who is stopped just as he is leaving a bar. He is 0.04 percent or 0.05 percent and "OK" to drive at that point in time, but 30 minutes to two hours later, as the alcohol becomes absorbed into his blood stream, he increases his blood alcohol level to 0.12 percent or 0.14 percent, over the legal limit. Incredible, but true. Because of this physiological phenomenon we see people convicted of driving under the influence even though they are not guilty of violating the 0.08 percent law "per se." Thousands upon thousands of people every day plead guilty based on a chemical test result over 0.08, never knowing they actually are innocent.

The statistics from the National Traffic Safety Council state that 80 percent of the DUI-related fatalities are caused by 10 percent of the DUI drivers. We in the trade call them the "Gamma Alcoholics." These are sick people who repeatedly go through the court's revolving door, each time coming out a little more stripped of their social status, and each time coming out a little more dangerous to the rest of us. That is because no one in the present system of justice has addressed adequately the causes for this continual abuse of alcohol. Elected officials insist on making public policy decisions that look good to the voters but are not good for society. Instead of providing state resources for "Social Model Alcohol Rehabilitation Houses," which have as much as an 82 percent non-recidivist rate and cause alcohol abusers to stop drinking for life, they'd rather lock them up in jails where they get no help for their drinking problem.

The biggest injustice, however, is the cruel, callous

disregard our lawmakers show for the rights of the thousands of 0.05 percent and 0.06 percent drivers who are arrested for DUI and eventually blow over 0.08 percent 30 minutes to two hours after they were driving. These people are in truth, and in fact, innocent of Driving Under the Influence, but because of a misdirected emphasis by the government, these hapless individuals must hire an attorney competent in this area of the law and science, and pay for the services of a medical doctor or toxicologist if they hope to have any chance of avoiding huge fines, jail time and a very serious criminal record. And remember, these are ordinary citizens just like you and me who go to work every day, play by the rules, yet still find themselves charged with a serious crime (not just a traffic infraction) and are treated by the courts just as if they committed a robbery or carjacking. And what's worse, it's on their record for the rest of their lives, not just the 7-10 years the DA or other attorneys tell them.

When you see the great number of new liquor licenses being issued to small gas station convenience stores who easily can sell beer and wine to young drivers; when you see the bright lights advertising liquor and encouraging people to drink because alcohol sales make up 80 percent of the net profit for the restaurant business and provide a huge tax base for our state; when you also consider only two beers can equal a 0.08 percent blood alcohol level in a small person, you must ask yourself whose pockets are being lined to keep the law enforcement and legislative emphasis on the citizen who has just consumed a couple of "after-dinner" drinks and is snagged by a cop "who just happened to be cruising by" and noticed the license plate light was not properly illuminating the license plate as the driver was pulling out of a restaurant's parking lot to go home. To make matters worse, the United States Supreme Court in 1996 held that an attorney cannot challenge the subjective motive of an officer for making a traffic stop in open court. This means that if a police officer wants to pull you over only because he saw you exit a bar and figures you've been drinking, he can use the fact that your license plate is not properly illuminated as a basis to stop you and smell your breath to see if you exhibit the odor of alcohol. Under this Supreme Court decision his real motive in stopping you cannot be challenged. This decision encourages perjury (a felony) and is a national disgrace. Every right-thinking American should hang his head in shame over *Whren v. United States*. (Continued on [www.MRDUI.com](http://www.MRDUI.com).)

Learn what the government doesn't want you to know. For example, did you know that if you have only 2 drinks and someone crashes into you, you are claimed to have caused the accident, and your own mother or brother gets one scratch or a seat belt rash, and they do not complain to anyone, you most likely will be arrested for felony DUI, pay \$25,000 bail and potentially face 1 year and 8 months in state prison on a first offense. Plus, good luck on getting a job. I couldn't print this if it were not true.



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## No More Bragging Rights

By Don Bauder

**T**he San Diego City Employees' Retirement System always likes to brag about its investment performance. It endlessly

points out that among its peers (other municipal employees' funds) and among benchmarks by which various funds are measured, it is in the top 5 percent, or 3 percent, or whatever.

Those bragging rights are going down the toilet. The city employees' pension fund

performance was in the upper 3 percent among peers, boasted the fund.

But that was for June 30. Its record for the third quarter of this year, ended three months later, changed the picture. The fund lost 10.10 percent in that third quarter; other municipal funds, on

ket has suffered a monumental bloodbath in 2008.

The latest numbers can be found in the third-quarter report by Callan Associates, a consulting firm that does statistical analyses for the San Diego City Employees' Retirement System (SDCERS). "In a terrible quarter and year in the capital markets, the SDCERS portfolio underperformed peers," says Callan's Janet Becker-Wold, although pointing out that the ten-year returns remain outstanding.

In the third quarter, the various components of the San Diego fund — domestic stocks, international bonds, etc. — did worse than comparable funds. To put this in context, it's necessary to look at the fund's history. In the giddy days of the mid-1990s, the portfolio managers got gamier. Up until then, 55 percent of the fund was in U.S. fixed income securities (basically bonds). Just 35 percent was in U.S. stocks and 10 percent in real estate.

In late 1994, the bond portion was reduced to 36 percent (34 percent U.S. and 2 percent foreign). Stocks were raised to 54 percent (41 percent U.S. and 13 percent international). But the broad stock market, both domestic and foreign, has gone nowhere since 1998, and there have been two bad bear markets, 2000–2002 and the current one, in those ten years. So the pension fund boosted its pursuit of stocks just in time to get in on a dismal decade. Its ten-year record is quite good but probably could have been better if it had stayed more conservative.

But in the mid-1990s, the San Diego pension fund was merely following the herd: other pension and charitable portfolios loaded up on stocks at that time on the notion that they do better over the long haul than bonds. Reliable statistics show that has been true, but conservative investors warn that a heavy concentration in stocks can



had an utterly dismal performance in the third quarter of 2008, ended September 30. Over the past quarter, the past year, and the past three years, it is now doing poorly when compared with benchmarks.

In the fall edition of *Free Spirit*, the pension system's newsletter, the deputy chief investment officer boasted that through June 30 of this year, the fund had risen annually by 7.77 percent, 10.7 percent, and 7.95 percent over the past three, five, and ten years, respectively. The ten-year

average, lost 7.28 percent. This put the San Diego fund's performance in the lowest 14 percent that quarter.

These abysmal results then shifted all the numbers downward. Over the past year, the fund lost 15.62 percent, putting San Diego's return in the lower 34 percent of comparable pension systems. For three years, the return is 2.47 percent a year — ranking in the lower 43 percent. Annual performance over five years is now 7.34 percent. Ten-year performance is still very good — 7.65 percent a year, in the top 6 percent. The losses will be worse after the fourth quarter, which is not yet finished; the overall stock mar-



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be dangerous. In 2006, the allocations were tweaked to stocks 55 percent (38 percent domestic and 17 percent international), bonds 34 percent (30 percent U.S. and 4 percent foreign), and real estate 11 percent.

In this year's bleak third quarter, the pension fund underperformed in just about every category. U.S. stock plunged 10.8 percent versus the benchmark's minus 7.4 percent, winding up in the bottom 12 percent among peers. International stocks plunged 22.9 percent, rank-

ing in the bottom 10 percent among peers. Domestic bonds, dropping 5.3 percent, did twice as poorly as the average fund. Foreign bonds were down 6.29 percent and in the bottom 17 percent. So-called market-neutral funds, which take both long positions (betting on an upride) and short positions (gambling on a downride), dropped in value and collectively were deep in the bottom half. Returns on real estate (which are reported a quarter behind the other assets) were in the bottom 21 percent; one real estate invest-

ment trust portfolio fund, losing 9.52 percent for the quarter, was at or below the bottom 1 percent for both the quarter and year.

I asked San Diego City Employees' Retirement Sys-

*continued on page 8*

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Contact Don Bauder at 619-546-8529 or [don.bauder@mac.com](mailto:don.bauder@mac.com)

### Neal Obermeyer





## The Uncertain Fate of the Falls

By Dorian Hargrove

**M**el Vernon leans against a black steel fence behind Quarry Creek Shopping Center, on the border of Carlsbad and

Oceanside. Above him towers a massive signpost facing the traffic on State Route 78. Below him is El Salto Falls, San Diego's largest coastal waterfall.

Sporting a gray ponytail and dressed in a faded San Luis Rey Native American T-shirt and jeans, Vernon, who is 58 years old, points out the path of Buena Vista Creek as it courses westward from the waterfall through 100 acres cluttered with heaps of concrete and mounds of tarp-covered dirt, the residue of a decades-long sand-and-gravel mining operation and the workings of a present-day recycling business.

McMillin has a purchase agreement with Hanson for another 160 acres, including the quarry's 100 acres, 56 acres west of the quarry, and 4 acres north of the shopping center, the land on which El Salto Falls lies.

At one time the falls plunged 40 feet. Now, in the aftermath of flooding in the 1980s, the water cascades 15 or 20 feet, mostly hidden from view amidst the quarry's rubble.

Long before construction on the shopping center began, environmental and cultural preservationists became concerned about



Mel Vernon

"For the Luiseño people, our creation story is here," says Vernon, the newly elected chair for the San Luis Rey tribal council. "Our ancestors are still buried here. This land connects us with our

has registered El Salto Falls as an official Native American Sacred Site. According to Carlsbad-based archeologist Dennis Gallegos, a Native American village existed just west of the quarry. A diary written by a member of Gaspar de Portolá's expedition to San Francisco in 1769 mentions the falls and encounters with Native Americans near them. But during the past 40 years, the quarry's hillsides have been carved away, historical artifacts destroyed or buried. Since 1995, the site's sole use has been for recycling concrete and asphalt.

Early in 2009, McMillin Companies will be submitting a revised "concept" master plan to build 500 to 600 affordable housing units on the 160 acres that include the old quarry.

Local preservation groups, including Carlsbad's Historic Preservation Commission, San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians, Buena Vista Audubon Society, League of Women Voters, Save Our Her-



Quarry Creek Shopping Center (El Salto Falls below the sign)

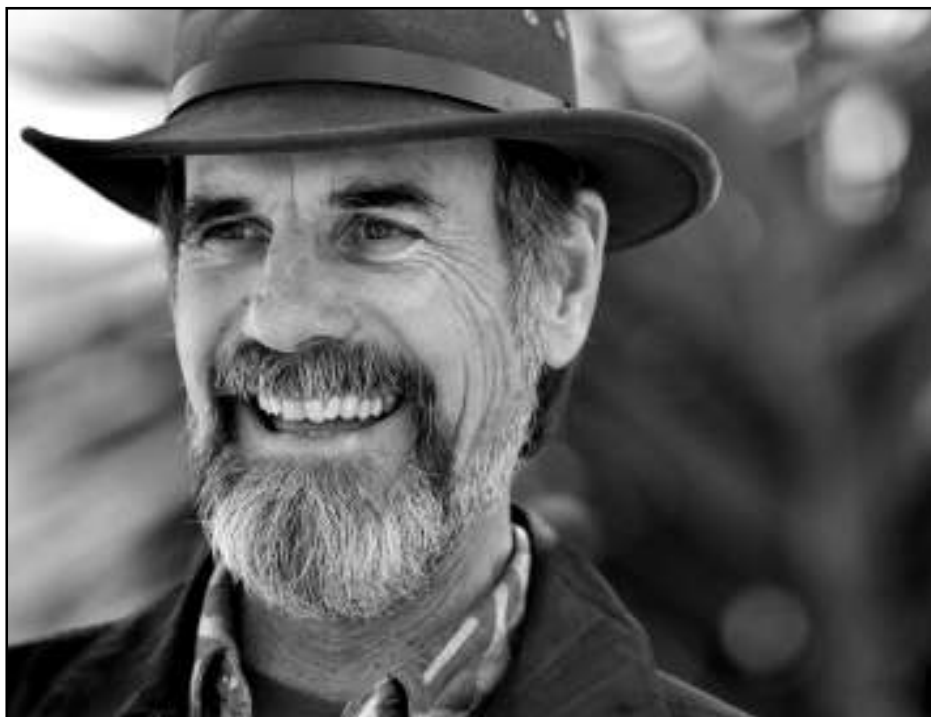
itage Organisation (SOHO), and Preserve Calavera — responsible for securing 134 acres of ecological preserve just west of the quarry — have joined forces in an effort to prevent the high-density development.

Most of the quarry is located in the city of Carlsbad, and for Carlsbad, the housing project would ful-

fill part of a state mandate that requires more affordable housing be built in the city.

"The state gives us a number of units we're supposed to meet," says Van Lynch, senior planner for Carlsbad. "This site has been identified for anywhere from 500 to 600 units." Lynch says the city

*continued on page 10*



Don Christiansen

The Quarry Creek Shopping Center is owned by McMillin Companies, a residential and commercial developer. The company purchased the center's 54 acres from Hanson Aggregates, and

the development's proximity to the falls. Vernon was one of the people who tried to stop the center's construction, and he's continued to fight for the preservation of his ancestral land.

past and shows a continuity of who we are as a people."

The falls were a cultural and spiritual center for the Luiseños, Vernon says, and the California Native American Heritage Commission

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## CITY LIGHTS

### Bragging rights

continued from page 6

tem about the rancid third-quarter performance. A spokesperson said that the underperformance of U.S. stocks was “primarily due to unprecedented volatility.” Some categories of stocks, such as cosmetics makers, will perform well one day and the next day the steels will do well while cosmetics plunge, complained the pension system. Yeah, but all pension funds faced those same conditions. Response: “In the current market environment, fundamentals don’t seem to matter in the market, and investment managers with a focus on higher-quality stocks, like SDCERS, may underperform.”

But does the San Diego pension system really have higher-quality stocks? Callan, for one, has challenged the system’s stock allocation. There are large-capitalization stocks, those that the market values at \$10 billion or more. There are mid caps, \$2 billion to \$10 billion. And small caps, \$300 million to \$2 billion. Callan told the City’s pension system in June that the overall market distribution was 84 percent large cap, 8 percent mid cap, and 8 percent small cap. But San Diego’s pension system has 60 percent large cap, 20 percent mid, and 20 percent small — a much heavier concentration in more speculative small- and mid-cap stocks. Callan conceded that these non-blue chips have a better record in recent years but warned that there have been “long historical periods during which mid- and small-cap stocks have underperformed large-cap stocks.” San Diego should consider shaving its allocations of these gamier small- and mid-cap stocks, lest it lock in some losses, said the consultant.

According to Russell Investments, which rides herd on investment performance, mid-cap stocks dropped 10.18 percent in November, while the broad market went down

## CITY LIGHTS

7.89 percent. Mid caps have done worse than the broad market for the past three months, one year, and three years. Small caps have underperformed the broad market in November and in the past three months. In November, small caps dropped 11.8 percent while large caps dropped 7.6 percent — a significant difference. Small caps suffered “staggering losses” early in the month, said Russell.

But the San Diego pension system is not budging: “Given SDCERS’s belief that small and mid cap stocks will outperform large caps over long time horizons, there is no plan to change the allocation at this time,” says the pension system in a statement.

That could prove risky.

## CITY LIGHTS

The fourth-quarter results won’t be reported until February. Small- and mid-cap stocks are looking more feeble than the overall market, which is plenty weak. It will be interesting to see if the fourth quarter’s performance justifies the pension system’s cockiness.

The board held various meetings in the December 17–20 period. It was told that as of October 31, the fund balance had dropped to \$4.68 billion from \$5.94 billion a year ago. The pension system’s actuary, Cheiron, reported that because of the investment climate, the coming year “will be most challenging and these extraordinary times mandate some discussion in coming months.”

Hmmm. ■

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## Salto Falls

continued from page 7

needs a total of 2000 units to fulfill the state's requirement.

In 2006, the San Diego Association of Governments showed its support for the high-density development by identifying the site as a potential location for "smart growth." The designation qualifies Carlsbad to apply for "funding incentives" from the association.

Brian Milich, senior vice president at McMillin, believes the support of Carlsbad and the association of governments reaffirms his company's intentions for the property.

"From the City of Carlsbad's perspective and San Diego Association of Governments' perspective, there is definitely an interest in seeing housing put on the creek," he says. "Those two designations solidify, to a large degree, that the site is

appropriate for some level of development. That gives us cause to continue our efforts to put together a master plan."

Vernon says building a housing development alongside the falls would be like "putting a waterfall in an alleyway."

"Development here would destroy something unique and something that can never be replaced, both environmentally and culturally speaking," he says.

Before McMillin can build on the land, Hanson Aggregates is required to implement a reclamation plan to return the quarry to safe and usable conditions. In late September, Hanson submitted a draft environmental impact report on its reclamation plan to the City of Oceanside, the lead city overseeing the reclamation process. In addition, Hanson is remediating soil, piled into mounds and covered with tarp, that was contaminated by a leaking gas storage tank.

Meanwhile, preservation groups are looking for funds to acquire the land, or at least the land under El Salto Falls.

Milich says his company hasn't received any formal offers yet. "Some groups are interested in seeing if they can acquire some portions of the property," he says, "and we told them that we'd talk to anybody interested. But we'd only consider selling a portion in conjunction with an overall plan for the entire property. In other words, we're not going to just pick off a piece — we're going to do it all as a comprehensive project. And I'm not aware of anybody right now who has the money to purchase even a portion of the property."

Don Christiansen, from the Carlsbad Historical Society, says Carlsbad should take the initiative. "The City has taken the position that there is not a willing seller and has declined to move forward," he says. "I have taken the position that there is a willing

seller because McMillin has only an option to purchase the land. It is for sale. It's just that McMillin has it tied up. Many of us feel that if the City can justify \$70 million for a golf course that most of us don't use, they can justify acquiring open space that most of us want."

In 2006, Carlsbad's Historic Preservation Commission sent a letter to Carlsbad's city council advising it that "preservation of El Salto Falls, in its current natural state, is possibly the single most important historical preservation opportunity and project considered by the Commission in the last eight years. We feel compelled to strongly ask for your support and involvement in the preservation of the El Salto Falls and surrounding area."

Milich says McMillin has already given guarantees that the falls will be preserved. "We're not moving, nor do we plan on disrupting the falls in any way," he says. "Really,

all of the issues with the falls and the creek will mostly, maybe not entirely, be determined during reclamation. But what gets approved under the reclamation plan doesn't preclude us from taking things from that point and, so to speak, building on that."

Hanson's lead consultant for the reclamation of the quarry, Bill Berger, also has stated the company's intention to leave the falls undisturbed. "There were some changes around the edge of the falls, but the basic falls are not intended to be touched during reclamation."

Shelley Hayes Caron's great-great-grandparents acquired 13,000 acres of Buena Vista Creek Valley through a Mexican land grant back in 1842. Caron currently lives in the restored historic Marón Adobe in the middle of the valley, on 4 acres just west of the quarry. Caron isn't buying any assurances from anybody that the falls will be kept intact.

"We went to the early council meetings in 2003, and their original reclamation plan was to eliminate

the waterfall," she says. "They didn't recognize the waterfall as a historic site. McMillin brought in experts saying the falls were degraded and had no value and no historical significance, that it was just a water feature. So they suggested moving the creek 150 feet north to maximize the development of the quarry. We fought it and we won."

The deadline for public comment on the current reclamation plan's draft environmental impact report ended in December. The Army Corps of Engineers indicated it would not support the proposed plan because of impacts to the creek.

Although preservationists are hopeful that the land around the falls will be restored and the falls left undisrupted, Vernon remains skeptical. "Much of California's history has been based on fear and swindle. For most turns of events throughout history, Indians have ended up on the bottom part of the pancake. Our whole past, as a people, as Indians, is filled with broken promises and broken treaties." ■

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# MY NEIGHBORHOOD

## A monthly writing contest



1st place: "Life Cycle"  
Author: Susie Harris  
Neighborhood: University Heights  
Age: 63  
Occupation: Retired



2nd place: "McCain or Obama"  
Author: Dan McClatchy  
Neighborhood: Golden Hill  
Age: 35  
Occupation: Scientist



3rd place: "To Tell You Something Beautiful Like Asphalt"  
Author: Joshua Rhome  
Neighborhood: El Cajon  
Age: 30  
Occupation: Student

Winners from October 2008

Write about your favorite neighborhood character, the ugliest house or street, local politics, crosstown rivalries, town bullies, etc.

Entries must be submitted through and will be published on the Neighborhood pages of the [SDReader.com](http://SDReader.com) website.

If space allows, we will publish entries in the printed version of the *Reader*.

**1st place** .....\$500  
**2nd place** .....\$250  
**3rd place** .....\$100

Photos and YouTube links to videos are welcome but not necessary to win.

Go to [SDReader.com/neighborhoods](http://SDReader.com/neighborhoods), find your neighborhood or campus, and follow the instructions to create a blog.

**Deadline for this month is midnight, December 31.**

## There's \$25 hidden in these pages! Think you can find it?



**Send in your answers to  
our 10 Pop Quiz questions  
(and the page numbers  
you found them on).**

**See the questions on page 122**

**First five people who respond correctly will win  
\$25 or a Reader T-shirt – winner's choice!**

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## LETTERS

*We welcome letters pertaining to the contents of the Reader. Phone them in at 619-235-3000, ext. 460; address them to Letters to the Editor, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803; fax them to 619-231-0489; or use our web page at [SanDiegoReader.com/letters](http://SanDiegoReader.com/letters). Include your name, address, and telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.*

### Applause X 2

Excellent article by Barbara Davenport on Reality Changers and Christopher Yanov's effort to help young people like those in the story ("Gangbangers to College Students," Cover Story, December 24). I applaud Mr. Yanov for his dedication, and more important, I applaud the young people who are striving to make a difference in their lives and community.

Gus Chavez

Former director of EOP &  
Ethnic Affairs at SDSU  
Retired

### Better Browsing

I work in Juvenile Hall at East Mesa, and as I was walking to the store yesterday, I saw the *Reader* (I enjoy browsing through it), but when I read the cover ("Gangbangers to College Students," December 24), I was interested to read more. It was amazing, what I was reading. I really want to thank you for putting that story in the *Reader*. It's just awesome to see these kids'

lives being changed around with the help of people that really care. Thank you for investing your time for these kids. May the Lord bless you and yours. Have a wonderful new year.

Laura L. Valdivia  
via email

### Naomi? Duncan?

Naomi Wise's article "Restaurant Porn: Italian Style" (Restaurant Review, December 24) is either one of the worst and most hilarious pieces of writing I have ever read or brilliantly satirical. Only a jaded Croatian *beau laid* could decide for sure. I have a suspicion she is really another pen name for Duncan Shepherd. Her fascination with Italian waiters seems to be on par with his obsession with how good Heath Ledger looked in his jeans. Fess up! By the way, I have been to Sicily many times, and in fact, old man Busalacchi was literally my godfather. And I know that even though Italian waiters may be charming liars, the food they serve leaves a lasting satisfaction of a Sophia Loren movie, incomparable to an Anna Magnani-type little appetizer. Or instead of Duncan Shepherd, is she really Naomi Watts moonlighting as another illustrious reviewer for the *Reader*? *Ciao, bella!*

M. Tarantino  
via email

### What's In His Hair?

Is that Lady Clairol or Kiwi (boot) black that Josh "I am not Jewish!" is using in his hair ("Crasher")? What's next? Hair transplants? A

toupee? Gum resections? When will that goniff crash our party at the Salvation Army senior center?

Andrew Schiffman  
via email

### You Have No Idea

I am so glad someone had the courage to expose the story in "Go Directly to Jail...and Die" (Cover Story, December 11). My dad was there for two months, and he has diabetes, and he never got medical treatment. He would often get spider bites, and those were untreated also. Instead of treating them like human beings, they get treated like animals. Just because they are illegal aliens doesn't give them the right to treat them like garbage.

I also read the comments that some of the readers made and was furious. They have no clue what these people have to do in order to cross the border. They have to come here to provide a better life for their family.

Name Withheld

### You're Not Safe

December 11 cover story, "Go Directly to Jail...and Die," brings back very bad memories for me. The same miserable health care exists for inmates at R.J. Donovan for citizens too. My husband had an infection that was neglected last year at the state prison. When I called to visit him there on a weekend, I was told he was at a medical facility and not at the prison. I absolutely couldn't get any more information because of HIPPA privacy laws that protect his privacy even from his wife. I was scared he was dying because the next day I got a letter from him so stating and telling me he had an infection and "was cut on at the prison." He also said he'd been to the hospital and returned and the infection was so bad he said he would die there and could not get any medical attention.

I did not hear from him again for 21 days. He'd writ-

*continued on page 50*

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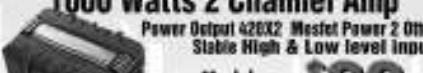
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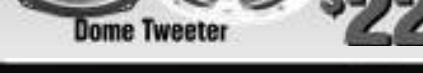
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\*USB compatible: fifth-generation iPod, and first-generation iPod nano. Full Speed compatible: fourth- and fifth-generation iPod, iPod photo, iPod mini, and first-generation iPod nano.

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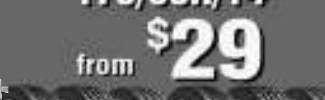
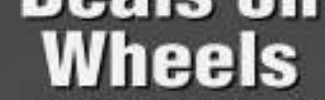
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## STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP BY MATTHEW ALICE

Grandma Alice isn't taking this recession business very well. "Two years ago they squawked that we were spending like it was Mardi Gras and we needed to save our money to help the economy. Now we're unpatriotic if we don't go to the mall and fork over everything we've got. Why can't those people make up their dag-gone minds?" This is one of Grandma's favorite things to mutter. She has several others. It certainly screwed up Christmas here at Casa de Alice. Of course, the elves

each wanted his own Wii system. Grandma had no idea what that was so she just went to Walmart and had them string a lot of yellow police tape around the back quarter of the store and loaded it all into a moving van. Christmas morning we lost the elves under an avalanche of stuffed animals, toothpaste, and bras, which is what happened to be in that particular Walmart area. Luckily we found a little tunnel in the junk that we could stuff pencils and our traditional year-end quiz through so the elves wouldn't have any excuse not to take it. And you have no excuse not to take it. If you've been paying attention all year, this should be a snap. It's our usual roundup of all the things that made you a smarter person in 2008. All the information we passed along that helped you stand out from the crowd and get that big promotion. Please, don't thank us. It's our life purpose.

1. A beautician in Salinas was jailed for injecting Mazola oil into:

- a. A woman's butt, to make her more succulent and bootylicious.
- b. A woman's face, to make her skin smooth and alluring like Joan Rivers's.
- c. A woman's boobs, to make sure when she was out in the hot sun you could fry carne asada on them.
- d. Yes, this is a true thing. Have we ever lied to you?

2. If a person who has had an organ transplant is suddenly killed, say, in a Mazola-oil accident in a beautician's shop:

- a. His/Her transplanted organ can be retransplanted, and yes, it's actually been done with kidneys and livers and it worked and the recipients lived happily ever after.

b. A head transplant is possible under certain unique circumstances, and they can at the same time make the recipient's new face smooth and alluring like Joan Rivers's.

c. Yes, this is a true thing. Have we ever lied to you?

3. If you suddenly find yourself homeless and are desperate for shelter, which reading material is the best to use to build yourself a cozy house?

a. The *Reader*, because rain will run off the slick cover.

b. The *U-T*, because each issue is so lightweight and portable and it makes great papier-mâché, which is good for building things.

c. *City Beat*, because you can look in the back and find an ad for a cozy strip joint that maybe you can move into for a week or two before they discover you're there.

4. An American adventurer visiting a friend in France decided to make a meal of roasted *homo sapien*. When he'd finished his dinner and was asked what it tasted like, he said:

- a. "Like the finest venison from the deep and mysterious Black Forest, except without the cuckoo-clock part."
- b. "Like pork. Yeah, that's it. People taste just like pork. Now go figure why a person should taste like a pig."
- c. "Like veal. Just like mild, white veal that you get by yanking calves away from their mothers and slaughtering them in some blood-soaked abbatoir, and hacking them up into edible chunks, and...oh, I can't continue."
- d. One of these is very nearly true. We couldn't continue.

5. As best we can tell from recorded history, the first person to look in the mirror, decide he was getting too rotund, and go on a diet to lose weight was:

- a. Beowulf. "Beowulf" is always the answer to at least one question on a multiple-choice quiz.
- b. King Tut. Formerly known to wags around Egypt as King Gut.
- c. William the Conqueror. He got too fat to get on his horse. But after his successful weight loss, unfortunately, he fell off his horse and died.

A searchable archive of past columns is available at [SanDiegoReader.com](http://SanDiegoReader.com)

**Got a question you need answered?** Send an email to [heymatt@cts.com](mailto:heymatt@cts.com) or fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Matthew Alice, c/o the Reader, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186.





# President Bush asks Andy to help save the San Diego Economy for the New Year Andy says Everything Must Go! Save up to 70% off now! Hurry!

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# T.G.I.F.

BY JOHN BRIZZOLARA

**I was driven mad  
for half the day,  
tormented because  
I could not remem-  
ber the actor's  
name.**

It was a Sunday morning, the last in November and just after Thanksgiving. *The Time Machine*, the 1960 George Pal version, came on one of the classic-movie stations, and I could not get out of bed to shower, begin the day, even make coffee (I drank three-day-old eggnog from the carton), and I became a child again. I was even equipped with flu or cold symptoms that I associated with getting out of school, attention from Mom (if she was on the right chemical mix), and masochistic affirmation of my sensitive, tubercular, and poetic nature. I loved that story, both the thin novel by Wells and that movie — certainly not its recent remake; but I was driven mad for half the day, tormented (still tubercular and poetic, you see) because I could not remember the actor's name, the one playing George, the protagonist. He was a very cool Australian who also starred in the '60s television series *Hong Kong*.

Can't remember much about that show except that the actor played the coolest guy in the world and always had a drink in his hand. In my adolescence, I would always sneak Coca-Colas I was not allowed, put them over ice in a highball glass, and pretend it was "Scotch and bourbon," some drink I imagined the guy in *Hong Kong* favored. This no doubt explains much about my blossoming alcoholism later.

It is sometime later, and I still cannot remember the actor's name, though it has been engraved in my memory for decades. I'm sure you know what it is if you're over 40. My memory's failure is evidence of brain damage under the bridge (a metaphor

that mixes like scotch and bourbon) and evidence of encroaching senility.

"Rod Taylor," my friend Bill (Jose Sinatra) Richardson told me telephonically that morning, before I ever finished the question. In fact, less than a third of the way through it. "The guy who starred in the 1960 version of *The Time...*? Boom. "Rod Taylor." He went on to tell me that Taylor and another actor, William Smith, put on screen the most convincing and brutal fistfight of any duo in cinematic history in *Darker Than Amber*, based on a Travis McGee novel, by John D. MacDonald. "The two guys actually beat the crap out of each other," he concluded, sounding very happy about it, in fact.

Jeez. "Yeah, well, thanks, man. 'Preciate it."

"Hey, remember, our birthdays are coming up in two weeks."

"How could I forget?"

That weekend a letter appeared in these pages from a very nice man, very complimentary, who assumed I was his age: 70. I found this funny until I realized he was only 13 years off — not that long when you get up into this thinning atmosphere. I am not 83



either. I was more moved and gratified by that letter than anything in recent memory. I hope no one finds anything the least bit artful or clever about this. To the man known only as "Name withheld by request," I thank you. It came at a damned good time, too. If you write to me through the *Reader*, sir, and let me know how to contact you, it would mean much to me — and my father.

It's folly to try to determine how I ended up in my present position, but the childhood experience of reading and seeing the motion picture *The Time Machine* had something to do with it. H.G. Wells had something to do with it and with why I became a writer, but then so did Raymond Chandler and J.D. Salinger and a dozen others. I should have known I would fail to get at it here, in a single column, but if the prospect of failure is to dissuade one, don't bother getting up in the morning.

Actually, that was my plan B that Sunday after Thanksgiving — and likely this morning as well. I should have known I would never become any of those writers — or later, say, Eric Clapton; but — and this is implicit in the better time-travel stories or Theodore Dreiser's novels, to make a "huh?" kind of leap — but I loved Dreiser, too, for his fatalism. And I find real irony there when I look at the other fiction writers who moved me. If I knew the inevitable mediocrity waiting for me down the road, I doubt I would have ever quit my job at the zinc foundry in Illinois when I was 16.

For more stories by this author, go to [sdreader.com](http://sdreader.com).



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## SportingBox

BY PATRICK DAUGHERTY

## Winners and Losers



Brett Favre

Dallas is the great loser. Like a school-marm who has run out of patience with the class dullard, Dallas players brought home their message of quit with a slap to the face. The Boys were stuffed 44 to 6 by the always-struggling Philadelphia Eagles. It was their largest margin of loss in 20 years and cost them a postseason slot.

Embracing failure as his own child, owner Jerry Jones assured his gasping fans that nobody will be fired. Jones wants continuity and continuity he shall certainly have.

Best line from the local press? Jean-Jacques Taylor of the *Dallas Morning News*: "Wade Phillips presides over the most gutless team in franchise history."

Of course, as Taylor points out, Dallas won the fourth quarter 3 to 0. Now, that's something to build on!

Biggest winner: Miami Dolphins, from 1-15 in 2007 to 11-5 and AFC East champion in 2008. Bill Parcells is still the man and quarterback Chad Pennington earned himself a rare, perfectly timed draught of revenge. For every guy who's been cuckolded or laid off when a lesser man kept his job, or was the first cut in every sport he tried out for, this one is for you. Pennington bested Brett Favre and beat the Jets 24-17, thus winning the AFC East. Best line from the local press (*Miami Herald*): "A fitting finish: Pennington outplays Jet who replaced him."

In his own way, Parcells is as big a drama queen as Favre, but he's better at finding the next place to land. It was learned on Sunday that Parcells has a clause in his contract that allows him to opt out if his team is sold.

The principal owner, Wayne Huizenga, said the team will be sold two days after the Dolphins' season ends. Parcells has 30 days after that to exercise his right to exit.

The Tuna will demand a huge raise, better

office furniture, later tee times, or he will leave Miami and get a huge raise, better office furniture, and later tee times somewhere else. Nobody ever said he was loyal.

Loser: Brett Favre and the New York Jets. This is an odd one because it's mostly about perceptions. Considering where the Jets came from, 4-12 in 2007, Favre and his team were a success, finishing 9-7 this year. Do that anywhere else and everybody keeps their job.

The Jets beat New England at Gillette Stadium, followed by defeating undefeated Tennessee on the road. They were 8-3 and number 1 in the AFC East on November 23rd. Things looked golden for third-year head coach Eric Mangini and superhero-in-the-making Brett Favre. Then, the Jets lost four out of their last five games.

The bar was set too high in the beginning, so all hands looked like losers in the end. Best line from the local press (*New York Daily News*): "Brett Favre, Jets complete collapse as Eric Mangini awaits fate" (Mangini was fired on Monday).

Detroit is just sad...Dresden 1945 sad. From its two major dailies cutting home delivery to three days a week, to the incarcerated ex-mayor, to the imminent bankruptcy of General Motors, upcoming bankruptcy of Chrysler, slash-and-burn downsizing of Ford, a population one half of what it was 50 years ago, to locals talking about turning large sections of downtown Detroit into forests with streams and grazing deer, it's sad. This year, *Forbes* ranked Detroit as the most miserable city in the United States. Detroit is the nation's first post-apocalypse city, so it is fitting that their football team would go 0-16. Best local headline (*Detroit Free Press*): "Road to XVI is complete." ("They earned this achievement, all 16 pieces of it.")

Winner: Philadelphia. Besides their Sunday win, it took Oakland beating somebody and Houston overcoming Chicago. And so it was. Loser: Jon Gruden. Tampa Bay blew a ten-point lead and their ticket to the playoffs after losing to the Oakland Raiders. At home.

Loser: Denver and all its evil works. Winner: Baltimore makes the playoffs as a stealth 11-5 team, good enough for the sixth seed in the AFC. Loser: New England, 11-5 is good enough for civic disgrace. Winner: New York Giants. Back again. Big winner: Atlanta, with a rookie QB and an owner who loves his job.

Biggest surprise that wasn't surprising. San Diego. You watch the way San Diego played Sunday night and you think, *What a beautiful team*. With the same won-lost record as Houston, and one game better than San Francisco's, the Chargers are rolling into the post season in fine shape. They're as good as anybody out there. Still, it's hard to get excited and impossible to trust them. On Sunday we saw the team they should have been on the field in September. But, hey, they made it. Now what?

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# fast break

By Anthony Gentile



San Diego in the huddle during a timeout

## Welcome to the Fast Break

Posted December 28, 2008, 12:39 a.m.

Now that high school football season is over, the Fast Break will be dedicated to coverage of high school basketball teams, games, and players throughout San Diego.

In addition to regular coverage of area hoops, you are invited to take part in the website by sending in photos and videos. You can even start your own blog to share predictions and provide game wrapups. Coaches, players, parents, fans, and even mascots are welcome to participate.

Contact ehtrain@gmail.com for more information.

## San Diego rolls over West Valley

Posted December 28, 2008, 3:14 a.m.

Although currently the top team in the section, San Diego is considered by most a one-man gang, led by junior Jeremy Tyler. The Cavers showed Saturday night that isn't the case, beating West Valley 71-59 in a team effort in the quarter-finals of the MaxPreps Holiday Classic at Torrey Pines High School.

"I think we played very very well," said San Diego head coach Kenny Roy. "I was extremely



San Diego head coach Kenny Roy and the Cavers bench

happy with the way my guys stepped up."

Tyler finished with 39 points to lead all scorers, displaying his versatile game. The junior forward committed to Louisville hit long-range shots, short fallaway jumpers, and had a handful of monster dunks.

"Jeremy had an enormous game," Roy said.

Two other Cavers finished in double figures. Senior Jourdan Ward and junior Martin Thomas each chipped in ten points.

"Tonight was totally better than last night — playing in front of our crowd, letting everybody know that all the players can play on this team," Tyler said.

The Cavers jumped out to an eight-point lead in the second quarter only to see it cut to one at the half. During the break, Roy assured his



San Diego forward Jeremy Tyler throws down a dunk in the fourth quarter

team that they did not have to worry about losing the slim lead.

"I talked to them at halftime," Roy said. "I said we got to be smart, we got to be patient, we're not losing — we're the ones that are winning the game at this particular time."

Roy's halftime speech worked, as the Cavers came out fast in the third quarter and never looked back, leading by no less than nine for a majority of the half. San Diego (5-1) will meet Eisenhower in the tournament semifinals on Monday.

"Coach said we're ranked No. 1 in the county," Tyler said. "We have to practice like No. 1, we have to think like No. 1, and it will show on the court."

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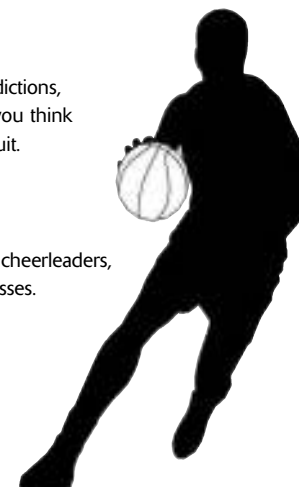
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# BestBuys

-EVE KELLY

Post-Christmas blahs have set in. Children are lolling about the house, and I got a couple of nice checks for Christmas. Time for a jump start.

Steve Wymore is manager of Backyard Adventures in San Marcos (760-432-8260; additional location in Old Town, 619-497-1898). “We carry the AlleyOop trampoline,” he said. “It comes with a lifetime warranty for the frame, five years on the surrounding netting, and five years for the bed, or jumping surface. I constantly have people coming in who have purchased trampolines at Walmart [\$398 with enclosure] or Sports Authority [\$299 with enclosure], and then found they have to replace them after two years. Most warranties on these \$300 trampolines are one year on the frame and 90 days on everything else. You pay more for the best, but this is something that you will have for years.”

Backyard Adventures offers a single-bed trampoline (\$1099 with enclosure) and a double bed (\$1699), both 14 feet in diameter. “The double bed offers a more cushioned landing,” said Wymore. “It’s like there’s an air shock between the two beds. But both have variable bounce, which means that half the springs go into effect just a split-second after the first half. That prevents the hard rebound that you get with most trampolines, and that rebound is what can lead to strains and sprains. Still, if adults or people with bad backs or knees are going to use it, I recommend the double bed, just because of the cushioned landing. Kids seem to like the single bed better — it has a little more spring to it.” (Wymore knows about the kids’ preferences because they get to test out the trampolines at the San Marcos showroom.)

Another safety bonus: “The protective enclosure netting on both of these trampolines is tied in on the inside, where the netting connects to the pad. Most other trampolines have netting that ties in on the outside, and that will let you bounce two or three feet off the trampoline, which can be an issue. Further, the entrance is through an overlap in the net — none of this zipper stuff. That way, you don’t have to worry about a kid falling through the opening if it gets left unzipped.”

Wymore offers setup and delivery for between \$350 and \$375 for the double bed. “We can put it anywhere, as long as the ground is relatively flat. I don’t recommend setting them

“There always needs to be a parent present because kids do the darnedest things.”

into the ground — moisture in the hole can cause rust problems. The only reason for sinking a trampoline into the ground is to prevent fall-off problems, but the netting prevents that now. Oh, and I suggest getting the ladder that hooks into the frame [\$59.95].”

Next I spoke with Susan Wilson, co-owner of Bounce California in Poway (858-592-1439; [bouncecalifornia.com](http://bouncecalifornia.com)), a gym that specializes in gymnastics, trampoline, and cheering. “We use semiprofessional trampolines with a rectangular bed [7’x14’]. That gives you a larger surface than a lot of home-use, round trampolines. Also, home-use trampolines have to be able to last outdoors, so they’re made from polypropylene. Ours have a web-weave, so that air can pass through the holes — it gives you a higher jump. Some of our physically stronger kids can jump to the point where the head is 20 feet up in the air.”

Wilson offered some basic safety advice. “The biggest thing we stress, here and for the home, is that there is only one person ever allowed on the trampoline at a time. Most injuries occur not from flips but from a bigger kid landing on a smaller kid. Second, there always needs to be a parent present because kids do the darnedest things. Third — and we teach this here — is how to stop safely when you’re getting out of control. We teach kids to do what is called a break-fall. It’s a deep-knee bend; it looks similar to a weightlifter’s squat. And we teach them to stay in the center of the trampoline.”

Bounce California offers ten levels of trampoline classes. “Level one is just learning to jump, then adding variations such as a half- or full twist. As the routines progress, the kids learn quarter-rotations — learning to jump forward onto their hands and knees or learning to jump backwards on their backs. Later on, we progress to the somersault, which is a full rotation in the air, either forward or backward. We don’t let the kids flip right away — they need some time to gain aerial awareness.”

Costs run \$146 for eight weeks. “That gets you one one-hour class per week. We do small-group instruction — a maximum of eight students per teacher. Classes run Monday through Thursday, starting at 3:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. And we also host birthday parties.”

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**Hive Sushi Lounge:** Open bar includes hot sake and house beer, miso soup, edamame, shrimp shumai, surf & turf roll (lobster roll topped with Kobe beef), big eye tuna, green tea ice cream • \$55 presale; \$65 night of • Regular menu available on request

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**El Cajon Grand:** Party starts at 8 pm w/ live music by Outta Sync • No cover • \$500 cash giveaway • Party favors at the door • Raffles, prizes, shot specials, food & lots of fun!

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by Barbarella

*The first fall of snow is not only an event, it is a magical event. You go to bed in one kind of a world and wake up in another quite different, and if this is not enchantment then where is it to be found?*

— J.B. Priestley

I was disappointed to be leaving my fair city on one of its rare rainy days. I greet the rain the way a Catholic receives a visit from the Pope — I light candles in every corner of my home, prostrate myself before a window, and gaze reverently at the mass of holy droplets descending from the heavens. Soon after lifting from the tarmac, the plane in which I sat broke through the gray stratum of sky to reveal the intense beam of the rising sun. My only consolation in relinquishing the rain was the knowledge that I would soon be surrounded by snow.

**Casey carried on the tradition of slicing the dogs in half prior to serving them to a lady, regardless of her age.**

As with many things I encounter infrequently, I romanticize inclement weather, associating each type with its polar opposite. Cold means warm, wet means dry, gusty means calm; in my picturesque daydreams, I am always inside, comfy-cozy, and weather is a preternatural phenomenon that happens on the other side of glass.

The first flakes began to fall as David and I were

returning to Boston from a day trip to Wayland, where I got to see David's high school, meet his first photography teacher, and then have lunch at Casey's, the 10-by-20-foot diner in the neighboring town of Natick that has been serving hot dogs from the same pot of boiling water for four generations, each subsequent Casey having carried on the tradition of slicing the dogs in half prior to serving them to a lady, regardless of her age. By the time we got to Newbury Street, white dust veiled the sidewalk like powdered sugar sprinkled upon chocolate cake.

We stopped at a few specialty shops — one for games, another for chocolates — gifts for the family we would see once we reached my in-laws' place on Martha's Vineyard. Each time I stepped outside of the heated car or storefront, I found the shock of cold air exhilarating, the crystalline flecks enthralling. When David dropped me at the hotel before heading down the block to return the car, I could barely see the concrete

through the thickening blanket of snow.

I was surprised when Paul and Sarah pulled up in their Audi, rather than their SUV, to take us 20 miles north to check out their new home's first Christmas tree. The snow had been falling steadily for three hours. Paul said he wanted to see how his new car handled the challenge. Peering out the window as we careened down a laneless highway, I was reminded of *Star Trek*, particularly the Kirk years, the DVDs of which David insisted I watch after I had admitted I'd never seen an episode. The landscape seemed alien, as if we had crash-landed on Planet Exploded Marshmallow. Like the red shirts from the *Enterprise*, those extras that never made it back to the ship, I was soon to learn that like an alluring but poisonous flower, the breathtaking vista only distracted from the peril it posed.

Paul brought us to a suburban restaurant and parked near the entrance. On the way in, I paused to catch a snowflake on my tongue; once inside, I insisted we sit in a booth by a window, so I could watch the small plow pushing snow back and forth to the growing piles that lined the parking lot. I couldn't have been more delighted.

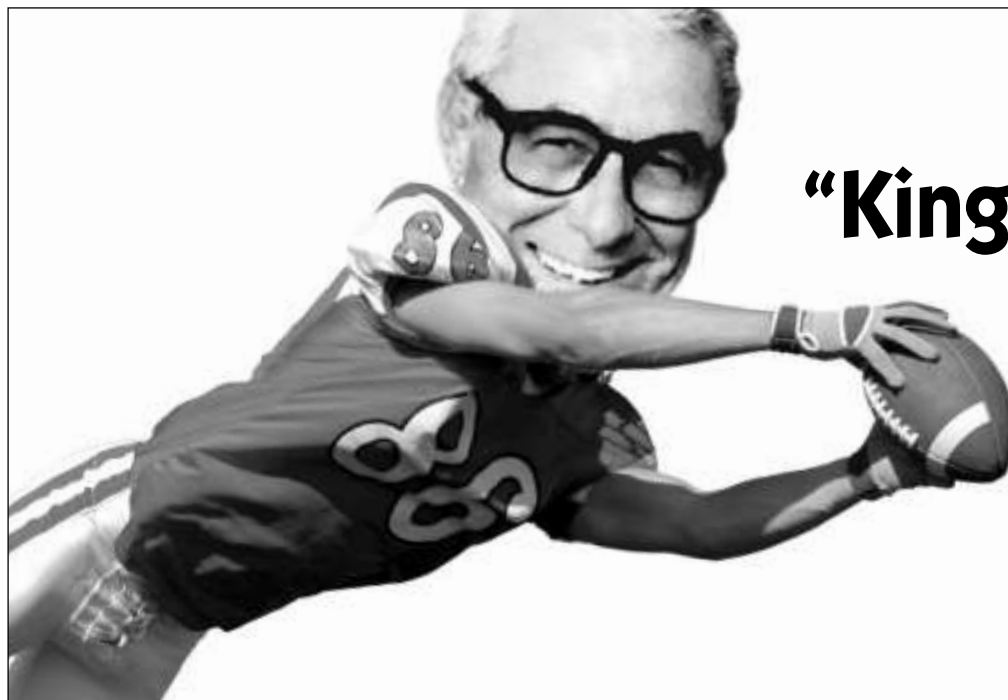
After dinner, when we left the restaurant to get back into the car, my beautiful ice world revealed its cold heart. The wind blew the snow at an angle; frost alighted on my face, liquefying the moment it touched my skin, sending a chill through my bones. I ran to the car, but David stopped me before I could reach the door. "What are you doing?" I shouted. The snow was deaf-

ening, or maybe it was the hat and scarf I had wrapped around my head, or the black night, or the sound-absorbing flakes on the wind.

David had one gloved hand on his face; the other he used to scratch hardened snow from the doorjamb. Following my lead by raising his voice, he said, "I have to get this off, or else it's all going to fall on the seat when we open the door." I thought of the figures in all those snow globes and decided the scenes within were not as idyllic as I'd imagined them to be. Stuck outside the car, I felt trapped in my own hellish globe.

My toes burned with cold; I looked down to find I was up to my ankles in the white stuff. "Hurry," I whined. "I need to get in. Please, just open it!" David, an irritated look on his face, continued to chip away at the ice. My muscles took over, flexing and tensing so that every inch of me quaked in an attempt to increase heat production. Finally, David opened the door and I pushed past him to get inside where I was safe from the breeze and falling snow but still cold as ever. Suddenly, a thunderous grating noise filled the small space. I turned around to see Sarah, still outside, using some kind of stick tool to scour frozen snow off the back windshield. I sat and shivered while David and Paul went to work on the front. All this effort, just to get into a car.

After a handful of unbearably freezing minutes that dragged on like years, everyone was finally seated in the Audi, and I



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was beginning to thaw. It was after 10 p.m., but at every house we passed, a bundled being was at work, shoveling snow from a walkway or digging out a trapped car. I suddenly remembered my father holding a lighter beneath a key — he'd been heating up the metal so that it would melt the ice that had formed in the keyhole of our VW camper.

Having lived in Alaska for two years as a kid, and then New England, I thought I knew this weather. But as a

child, I never had to deal with the relentless reality, never had to struggle to go from point A to point B. I should have realized that all beauty has a price: stiletto heels cause blisters, corsets make it difficult to breathe, and ostrich feathers from my boa tend to stick to my lipstick. So it was that the ethereal panorama of glittering crystals from my dreams made the simplest daily activities incredibly

irritating and discomforting to accomplish. As with most fantasies, the reality simply did not live up. Regardless of my childhood experiences, I was born in San Diego. Sun and surf are in my warm-weather-thinned blood.

Safely back in our heated hotel room, the snow where it belonged on the other side of glass, I contemplated my love of inclement weather. Like

the city of New York, I concluded, weather is great to visit, but I wouldn't want to live there. ■

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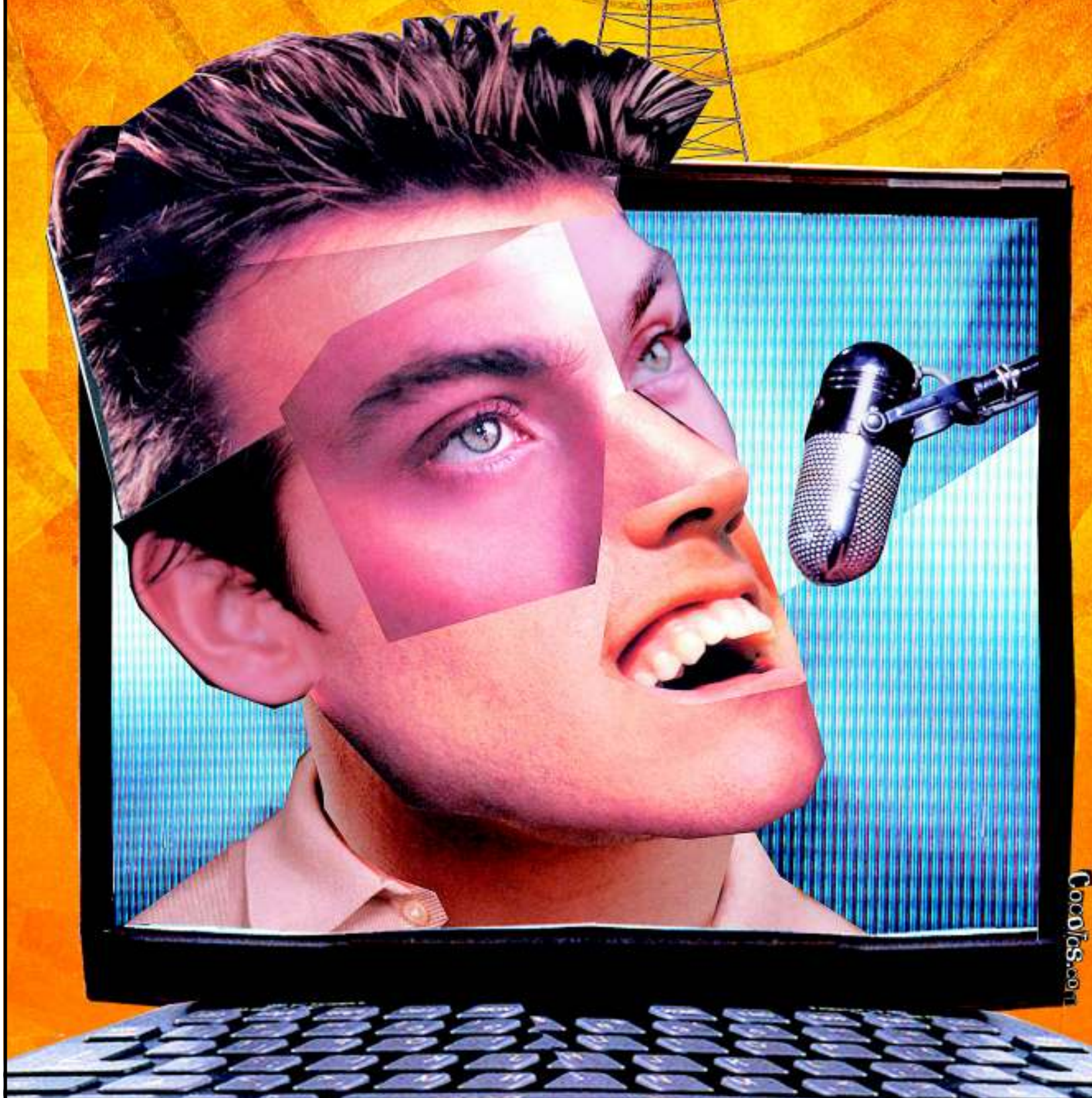
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# Why local radio





# is no longer local

**If San Diego has a voice**, it may be the plummy bass of Chris Cantore. Until December 2007, the Brooklyn native was an audible fixture on 91X's *Cantore in the Morning*, his 5:00–10:00 a.m. show, an anchor of alternative rock and San Diego bands for 11 years. Cantore's timbre is startling; he's often ID'd as "somebody famous" at a drive-through or checkout counter. It — he — sounds like a baritone sax, more Gerry Mulligan than Lisa Simpson. Its long-boarder's cool stretches those mellifluous o's: "I'm so-o stoked, man." Cantore's been compared to the snarky chafe of Adam Carolla, host of a morning show on CBS Radio in Los Angeles and former cohost of radio and TV's *Loveline* and TV's *Man Show*. But Cantore's tone is lighter, lacks bitterness, steers clear of cheeky judgment. His optimism is irrepressible; it has the buoyancy of a surfer expecting that the next wave will be the one.

It's summer and I've got a ringside seat with His Resonance at a café in Little Italy. Chewing a raisin muffin in between sips of a wild berry and green tea smoothie topped with whipped cream, the 38-year-old is wearing knee-length cargo shorts and flat leather slippers. On one calf there's a gnarly bruise-blue tattoo. He's parked his Beemer across the street, surfboard roped on top. He needs to

keep an eye on it. "Although," he says, "stealing a surfboard is the worst karma of all."

Right now, Cantore is in soft-landing mode. Being dumped by 91X messed with his head; like most current radio castaways, he's reinventing himself. Cantore went to high school in Los Angeles, but he later graduated from San Diego State, and the area's coastal vibe and small-town feel convinced

**"I was number one in the ratings the day they let me go."**

## Talk About Turmoil

A year of turmoil in local radio has culminated in a slew of December changes.

Longtime general manager, Bob Bolinger, Clear Channel Radio San Diego, is out, replaced by Debbie Wagner from Tucson, Arizona. After almost ten years, Tom Fudge no longer hosts KPBS's *These Days*. He's been reassigned as an "investigative healthcare reporter." (*These Days* is expanding its four-day-a-week morning show from two to three hours, with KPBS reporter Maureen Cavanaugh taking the helm.) Jimmy Valentine, producer of *The Roger Hedgecock Show* at KOGO, has been let go as part of Hedgecock and his show's national syndication beginning in January.

Stacy Taylor, the afternoon talk-show host at 1700 AM, is gone. He writes on his website that "Yes, I have been 'eliminated' by 1700.... This comes a few days after a couple prime-time sports hosts were fired by B.C.A. Later in the day, on the way in to do my show, Jorge Espinoza, my producer called to say I'd been fired. So, sure enough, when I arrived at the studio, the general manager, Gregg Wolfson was waiting for me at the door with the official news. He explained that the station had lost \$1 million in the previous year and that changes had to be made. When I suggested to him that I was the only host who actually had good ratings at the station, he replied that he was well aware of that.... What ultimately becomes of 1700 is a mystery. Deep recessions tend to put a damper on radio advertising revenue. Admittedly, this is a set-back for so-called 'progressive radio' in the market, although rumors continuously swirl about plans for a new outlet in San Diego. My understanding is that those plans are vague and, in the immortal words of the N.S.A., 'more aspirational than operational.' As for me, I'll weigh my limited options and chill for a few days before moving forward. Thanks for the support."

him to stay. He says he “made a commitment to myself that, because I was so in love with this town, especially 20-plus years ago, I never wanted to leave and go back to L.A.” For work, he wanted the “creative energy” of entertainment, be it screenwriting, acting, music, or the music biz. He applied at all media outlets — the *Reader*, the *Union-Tribune*, every TV and radio station. Only one music promoter called, and he was hired as a gofer: “I’d

do the [Smashing] Pumpkins’ laundry, take the Beastie Boys out for camera equipment, get Henry Rollins his vegetarian food. It was awesome. I thought I’d made it when I did that stuff. I was making five bucks an hour.”

At Star 100.7, Cantore answered the a.m. phones. “I knew nothing about morning radio, ‘Jeff and Jer,’ ‘Dave, Shelley, and Chainsaw.’ Like, I was sleeping.” But on air, Cantore’s attitude was “fearless.” Having acted in local

productions, he says he understood the “theater of being on the air.” The stint at Star put him on the Ear Map. He

## By 2004, Clear Channel bossed nearly 45 percent of local radio stations.

carried the local persona — good guy, but a bit trashy — to fine ratings and reviews.

In 1997, Cantore got on board 91X. Back in the day,

91X was San Diego’s music citadel, built on grunge music and anything smelling “like teen spirit.” Cantore recalls

the hallowed halls of the station on Pacific Highway, where he began working. “That studio reeked of the radio station’s history: It was the most disgusting space — spit, vomit, semen — stained into the carpet and the couch, postcards, dust, ghetto mikes, dirt on the board, razorblade marks from friggin’ jocks of

years past doing friggin’ lines of coke off the friggin’ board.”

Cantore had a great run. He attributes success at 91X “not to my talent — there were plenty of people who did it way better than me — but it was my passion for this town. I never put myself above the listeners.” It was also his ability for self-parody, a contemporary version of which, in a 5:57 video, is available on YouTube: “Whatever Happened to Chris Cantore?” In it he asks everyday folks (those coming in and out of a 7-Eleven) how their world has changed since *Cantore in the Morning* is no longer on the air. The flummoxed looks and dopey

rejoinders are worthy of Leno’s “Jaywalking” on *The Tonight Show*.

Why is radio under duress these days? Cantore gives a perfect example. This past September, Street Scene, San Diego’s annual weekend outdoor live-music bash, returned to the street. It had been hijacked by corporate overlords and moved to what used to be Coors Amphitheater. “I hated it,” Cantore says, that Street Scene, a homegrown entity, was sold on the cultural marketplace to the highest bidder. “What was wrong is that they blew off the flippin’ core. They told the core to go to hell and just focused on the

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masses. Once you lose your core, you're done. Done."

Clear Channel Communications, which today owns some 900 radio stations across America, bought 91X in 1999; the company moved the station to Granite Ridge Road in 2005, "and it changed overnight," Cantore says. "Suddenly there were too many cooks in the kitchen." He says that "We"—including his good friend Hilary Chambers, another local veteran, canned this June from another Clear Channel holding—"just got lost in a sea of white walls and cubicles. And policies that were like... *What?* I was asked to talk about a car wash, some new sales program. You get all these programs forced on you. 'Here's a new policy; we're doing this every Friday; all the stations in the entire cluster are going to do Coupon Fridays.'" Cantore laughs, as much at his mimicking the brass as the idiocy of their policies. "I'm, like, 'Wow. We're blowing off the core. We're allowing anyone we want to swoop in on the action.'"

Prior to the corporate takeover, Cantore says, "We blew it up, we were killing it"—"blowing" and "killing" being, in radio jive, good things. Then came the suits. "Trust me, man," he contin-

ues, "there were so many jocks in this market who were grabbing their ankles and telling management, 'Yes, yes. I'll do whatever you want.' Not me, man."

The new Powers That Be soured him because they

decreed that "listeners are stupid. [But I think that] the consumer is smarter than the industry, and they have been for years. No one has recognized that. Listeners are more brilliant than the people pushing the buttons."

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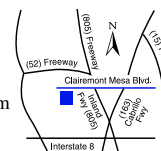
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Cantore fumed over “the repetition, the lack of diversity in the programming, the contrived sound, the disconnect from the core — I would hear this stuff and take it to the uppers,” who routinely dismissed his complaints. “I’d stand on desks, go to GMs, to regional VPs of programming, and tell them, ‘You’re fucking up.’ They didn’t care.” What rattled Cantore was hearing from his listeners directly. They’d say, “I listen to you, and then when the music comes on I punch out,” that is, exit 91X because the music — “it was so friggin’ obvious” — was scripted. Cantore’s core liked him because he shared their enthusiasms for the music. Why that had to change he’ll never understand.

Sucking the dregs of his smoothie, Cantore is reluctant to open up about leaving 91X — “I don’t want to come off as bitter; I hate that.” He sums it up with three words: “It was time.” A mutual parting, but “Yeah, ultimately, they cut the cord.” He was

itual practice,” bungalowed with family and friends, and found “true happiness in the water,” surfing. “I thought, silly me, I could walk out of 15 years’ radio experience and pick my [next] job. It was the absolute antithesis of that.” The phone rang once

## San Diego's radio advertising has grown 33 percent since 1999.

replaced by his soundalike, Adam Carolla. Last June, Hilary and her midday local show at 94.1 were replaced by Ryan Seacrest of *American Idol* fame. (Hilary refused comment for this story.)

Hurt, reeling for months, Cantore worked on his “spir-

or twice. Even New York called. But he turned the offer down. He didn’t want to be chained to yet another corporate environment where the “same financial tightening” was occurring. He wasn’t about to uproot his family or leave Swami’s Point.

What was San Diego’s most famous under-40 jock, with an audience in the thousands, going to do, especially in a radio world that had pigeonholed him as an alternative-rock guru at 91X? If he wouldn’t change, would the format?

### DEREGULATION AND PROFIT: BRING ON THE TURMOIL

The departure of Chris Cantore and Hilary Chambers from San Diego’s airwaves may have been a long time in coming, but come it has,

### RESEARCH STUDIES

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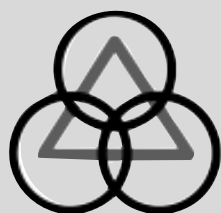
Participation is confidential and trials are safely conducted under the supervision of experienced physicians and research specialists.

To learn more, call the Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital Clinical Research Center at **(858) 694-8350**.

Clinical  
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SYNERGY CLINICAL  
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Are you taking medication and  
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Participants will receive free of charge:

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- Investigational drug
- Compensation for time and travel

For more information, call:  
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RESEARCH

## **Smoked for years? Coughed for months?** **We only need you for a few hours.**

We are conducting a clinical research study for current or previous smokers with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disorder (COPD).

You may be able to participate if you:

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**Finding it hard to focus or concentrate?**

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For more information, please contact the study physician's office listed below:

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- Compensation for your time and travel

**To learn more, call: Synergy Clinical Research Center  
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Have you been diagnosed with, or think that you may have, high blood pressure?

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

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**[www.synergysandiego.com](http://www.synergysandiego.com)**





**Have you suffered from migraines for at least 1 year or longer?**

- Do you have 3 to 14 headache days per month?
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For more information, please text the word "PAIN" to MERCK (63725) or contact eStudySite at: 619-955-5246 or info@estudysite.com



This photo is for illustrative purposes only and does not imply that these models have migraines.

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Generations of men and postmenopausal or surgically sterile women have helped test investigational medications by participating in clinical research studies. You could help too.

To qualify for research study 8200-239 involving an investigational medication you must be:

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to them, and to other veterans. The first inklings of turmoil began in 1996 with the Telecommunications Act, which deregulated the ownership structure of public media and opened the gates to corporate takeovers of local radio stations as investments. Jacor Communications was the first media conglomerate to own a pocketful of radio stations, purchasing 9 of them in the 1990s, including 91X. Clear Channel purchased Jacor in 1999, then, using loopholes in leasing agreements to own and operate stations in Mexico, bought another 13. By 2004, Clear Channel had cornered nearly 45 percent of local radio stations, three times the market share of its nearest competitor. In 2005,

the Federal Communications Commission ruled that Clear Channel had to divest its Mexican-leased properties. That meant selling 91X, Jammin' Z90, and Magic 92.5, which Clear Channel did to Finest City Broadcasting.

## Pirate radio producer: "The FCC considers us terrorists."

A decade of wheeling and dealing has meant that a lot of deejays and program directors have quit or been laid off. Not long after Finest City bought Clear Channel's three stations, program director Kevin Stapleford and CEO Mike Glickenhous left. In 2007, several local deejays

were fired: Stephen Kallao, Marco Collins, Trevor Trent, and Jason Riggs. Syndicated shows took over. In October 2007, at Z90, the morning deejay "Chino" was replaced by *Big Boy's Neighborhood* from Los Angeles; in Novem-

ber 2007, at 91X, Jennifer White, cohost with Chris Cantore for 2 years, left a month before Cantore was fired to do a morning show on Sophie 103.7; in December 2007, at 91X, Al Guerra, who hosted the local-music two-hour radio show *Loudspeaker*, quit over differences with Finest City managers. In a February 2008 letter to the *Reader*, Shannon Leder Johnson, who hosted a show at KIOZ for 15 years and maintained her show as one of the top three in her slot, said that "I was number one the day they [Clear Channel] let me go. On my way out, I had to stop at HR and pick up my ratings bonus check." Most terminations were not prompted by falling ratings but by executive-led decisions to cut costs.

At Star 94.1, replacing Hilary with Ryan Seacrest is

### RESEARCH STUDIES

South Bay Treatment Center

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Benefits of participation include:

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- No medical insurance is required for participation in this study

For more information about our clinical research study, please call site contact Patti Simpson at: (760) 758-2008  
3998 Vista Way, Suite A, Oceanside, CA 92056

a big gamble. Long a local station, niched to the 25–54 age set (moms in minivans), 94.1 is betting that listeners will take to Seacrest’s music and “celebrity sleaze” dirt-dishing on Amy Winehouse and Charlie Sheen. If Seacrest is successful here, the move may send a shockwave through such perennials as *Jeff and Jer* or *Dave, Shelley, and Chainsaw*. Already, time for local talk has dropped, especially on Clear Channel stations. Where deejays once made their personal lives part of the show, speaking for as much as 12 minutes per hour, now their “talk breaks” are timed to one minute each.

Jerry Del Colliano, a blogger at Inside Music Media, writes that Clear Channel, a publicly traded company, is unloading stations as it moves toward privatization. To sweeten the sale, Clear Channel is, Colliano warns, “pruning expensive air talent. Voice-tracking [using prerecorded announcers and personalities from outside markets] and program duplication and multitasking” will continue. “If you’re working for Clear Channel now and survive the onslaught of belt-tightening to come, you’ve likely retained a job in a more stable setting. The game plan is obvious: cut costs, improve revenue, sell the assets.”

Firing and laying off locals is indicative of big changes in the scope and identity of San Diego radio, local or corporate, music or talk. Radio is redefining itself, from terrestrial or ground-based transmission to the new satellite and online platforms. The Internet and Sirius/XM Satellite (recently merged) are expanding the way radio is delivered to listeners. In a multiplatform media world, radio stations with online sites are pushing “360” to their listeners, that is, cycling them from the airwaves to online. Listeners are turning off the long commercial interruptions on music radio in favor of iPods and podcasting. In a reces-

sion, local program directors seek to jettison local talent as too expensive. And talk and opinion, particularly conservative voices, which rule the radio roost, are remaking radio into a cult of personality, whether the blowhole

spouts from Hollywood or Mission Valley.

This past year, in speaking with hosts and deejays, working and laid-off, as well as program directors and radio mavens, I’ve heard an incessant drumbeat: With the

corporatizing spread of “voice-tracked” programs and a dearth of innovative execs, creativity in Radio Land is kaput. What’s more, consolidation continues to produce a climate of self-censorship, in which a lot of people are,

as Cantore says, “scared to talk right now,” a sign that many are protecting what little job security they *do* have. “Here today, gone tomorrow” is the fear local deejays and some of their “uppers” live with daily.

## AN OVERVIEW OF SAN DIEGO RADIO

According to Arbitron, radio’s audience-research company, San Diego ranks as the 17th largest radio market in America, with some 2.5 million 12-and-older listeners. (Metro

### RESEARCH STUDIES

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New York City is the largest, with 15.3 million listeners.) As of 2007, 92 percent of those 12 and over listen to radio at least once a week for an hour. Media Audit, in a finer culling, has found that 82 percent of San Diegans listen to radio each week for 18 hours, about 2 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hours a day. In the past decade, tuning in to local radio has fallen off only slightly. The number of people who listen at home or at work has dropped about 5 percent, while those who listen in their cars has risen 7 percent, the latter at



least partially explained by longer traffic snarls.

Most news stories about radio these days highlight the demise of terrestrial radio. By one estimate, its audience has dropped by 22 percent since 1999. Earlier this year, Arbitron and Edison Media Research reported that 54 million Americans, almost one in four radio listeners, tune in to radio on the Internet every month. This includes Internet radio and terrestrial radio broadcast on station websites. Not surprisingly, there's a link between

these listeners and social-networking sites such as MySpace: 41 percent of weekly online listeners have personal Internet profiles.

In some markets, radio advertising is doing well: As of 2007, San Diego's had grown 33 percent since 1999, according to the San Diego Radio Broadcasters Association. But overall, the radio industry is sluggish. The growth rate for subscriber-based satellite radio has topped out at 19 million, adding a mere 200,000 listeners, or 1 percent, this year. Despite a stagnating

economy, the satellite audience is finite, with less potential than most thought. Growth has slowed because more than half of listeners who tune in to terrestrial radio once a week also access their iPods and mp3 players. According to eMarketer, half of the online audience listens to nonlocal programming or specialized Internet music sites, and half to local stations. With that many turning a deaf ear, it's hard to see ad-based radio growing.

Our fair city has 13 AM and 27 FM stations. These

### RESEARCH STUDIES



## Are you suffering from pain associated with Tennis Elbow?

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#### To qualify, you must be:

- 18 years of age or older • Diagnosed with Tennis Elbow
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- Agree to participate in study up to 21 days with every-other-day visits for 14 days



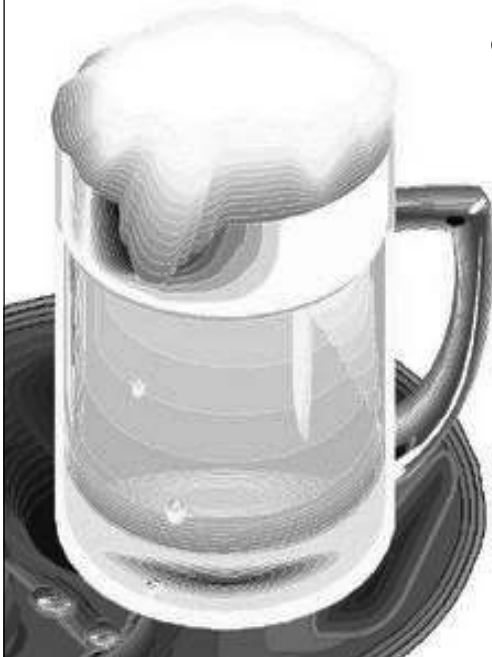
Qualified participants will receive study-related drug, physical exams, lab tests and compensation for time and travel.

For more information, please call: (619) 229-3909

## Attention: 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.



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To participate in the study, you should:

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- 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:  
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Will you be one of them?



If you're having trouble controlling your diabetes with metformin, you could help researchers evaluate an investigational drug that may allow your body to respond better to its own insulin.

Doctors and their study teams are now enrolling participants in a clinical research study evaluating an investigational type 2 diabetes drug taken with metformin. The combination of these drugs may help diabetics better maintain their blood sugar levels.

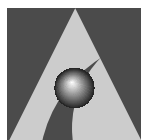
To qualify for this study, you must be:

- 18-75 years of age,
- diagnosed with type 2 diabetes mellitus,
- taking metformin to treat your diabetes, and
- having difficulty controlling your blood sugar levels.

Study drug as well as study-related medical evaluations and tests are provided at no cost. In addition, reimbursement for time and travel may be provided.



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

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- Suffering from mild to moderate Alzheimer's Disease?
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- Between 55 and 90 years of age? • In overall good health?
- Not living in a nursing home?

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

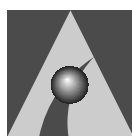
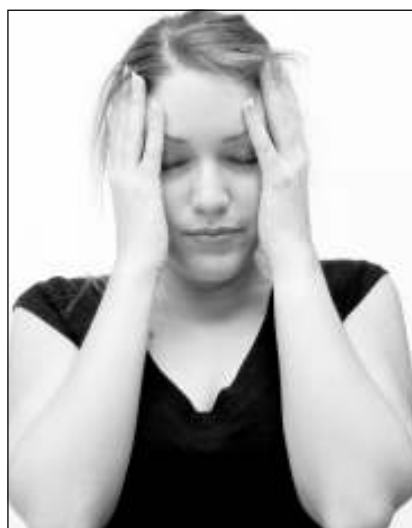
**Qualified participants will receive at no cost:**

- Study medication • Medical evaluation by a board-certified medical doctor
- Laboratory tests • Supervised care by medical professionals as it relates to the study
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If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact:

**(619) 688-6565**

See our website: [www.ari-inc.com](http://www.ari-inc.com)



**AFFILIATED  
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## "I feel controlled by my anxiety."

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

**(619) 688-6565**

See our website: [www.ari-inc.com](http://www.ari-inc.com)

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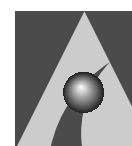
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are devoted to sports, talk, and music, the latter comprising several formats: adult contemporary, smooth jazz, urban, country, rock, and alternative. Some stations are locally owned and operated, such as Broadcasting Companies of America. Some are owned by Clear Channel and managed locally. A few stations, their transmission towers located in Mexico, broadcast

entirely canned content.

Despite radio's corporate ownership, what is *on* the airwaves, say radio critics, is the problem: graying hosts, ad clutter, right-wing talk, piped-in tunes, traffic reports every five minutes — it's all further fragmenting the audience and driving them, much like TV viewers with remotes, to drop their loyalties and roam the band. Put another way, it's

the *leadenness* of radio's need to replicate its formats — for instance, conservative out-of-town hosts Sean Hannity, Dennis Miller, and Michael Medved lord it over midday talk — which is challenged by the *swiftness* of listeners who, bored by such copies, plug their ears in elsewhere. Once listeners understand that talk and music sources are virtually infinite, fewer of them will stay with

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## CANTORE REINVENTS HIS REINVENTED SELF

After months spent assessing his “market equity,” it dawned on Chris Cantore that there might be a future outside terrestrial radio. All media outlets were losing content to the Web. Maybe new online radio technologies were the way to go. (One program Cantore considered is SHOUTcast — “Free Internet Radio!” — where he might start his own station. SHOUTcast lists some 25,000 online radio stations.) “Every discussion I had with program directors or executives came down to new media — how might I reposition myself, be relevant. I heard ‘new media’ so much, I said, ‘Screw it. I’m getting involved.’”

Cantore heard from his listeners, too. He read their testimonials, emails, and letters, “And I’d flippin’ cry, hearing how I had touched people over the years. I wanted to stay in the community.” After door-slamming rejection from print, radio, TV, and SignOnSanDiego (“It was like I was just out of college again”), last spring he started putting podcasts online and video spots on YouTube. “Overnight, I got hit by all these new-media companies. They wanted me to podcast for them, do exclusive video content. This was a sign.”

Luis Kaloyan, the owner of Binational Broadcasting, a new-media network in National City, called Cantore to say he wanted to hire him at *X1FMradio.com*. The live digital broadband radio station, Kaloyan claimed in a company statement, would “transform the old concept of traditional terrestrial radio.” X1FM radio will “define the market to each individual’s profile. Each listener will get direct-marketing advertisements that will impact on their lifestyle.” What’s more, he continued, radio “needs

to go back to basics to serve the community. Radio was never meant to be packaged in a corporate environment. Radio needs to live, and it needs to be artistic, it needs to be creative.” Music to Cantore’s unemployed ears.

By May, Cantore was back on the air, 8:00–noon weekdays, at X1FM. The learning curve is steep, he says. “I was real phone-heavy with terrestrial radio; now it’s all computers. It’s like people don’t even want to

talk anymore.” The audience is 75 percent “the core” (former 91Xers) and 25 percent from all over the world, new and old listeners who live elsewhere and “mouse” him in via the Web. In this regard, the local-only format must

also adapt to a worldwide presence.

The station’s Web traffic, Cantore says, rose 44 percent over the summer. “It’s like a big love fest.”

And yet, underscoring the volatility of local media,

the love ended almost as quickly as it began. Cantore left X1FM in August. He describes what happened: “I believed in the station, saw the traction, felt the excitement and the fervor of the new medium,” online radio.

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But X1FM "couldn't monetize the product, couldn't produce the revenue streams. They were stoked with the results, but I wasn't satisfied on my end. So it ended."

Put simply, Cantore says, the station didn't know "how to take money — not for greed — but as a business." Put even more simply, he left because he wasn't making enough to support himself.

Now Cantore is reinventing himself again with Cantore Creative. His website says that he "produces

and distributes online content for your business, event, brand, and nonprofit." Already, he's doing blogs, podcasts, video campaigns for the Surfrider Foundation and the Del Mar Race-track. "I still believe in this community and in new media."

#### ANTICORPORATE REVOLT, MEEK AND WILD

Over at FM 94.9, bashing Clear Channel has become a cottage industry. Program

director Garrett Michaels tells me that he's been keeping it local since the rock music station set sail in late 2002. FM 94.9 is one of 15 U.S. stations owned by Lincoln Financial Media Group, which includes San Diego's Smooth Jazz 98.1 and Country KSON-FM, one of San Diego's highest-rated stations. FM 94.9 has a lineup of local deejays, with Mike Halloran, one of our town's longest-running talents, still on afternoons.

Michaels says that by going after Clear Channel's monopoly, FM 94.9 lured rock listeners who were fed up with "generic, cookie-cutter formats, the Clear Channelization of rock radio. I believe competition is good for the consumer; what Clear Channel had done was to make it so virtually no one had to compete with each other." The way Clear Channel ran its playlists, Michaels says, was to restrict the programming and "control the overlap." Each of its rock sta-

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tions would be told what to play. In effect, they engineered a kind of rigid diversity, station by station.

Michaels says his bosses are aware of the cost-cutting benefits of syndication, but the company's philosophy is to remain local. People forget, he says, "that the reason the FCC grants you a license to broadcast is to serve your community." Michaels notes that with its local focus, FM 94.9 has grown steadily, despite limiting commercial time to ten minutes per hour. And all this without much marketing. Costly marketing, format changes, and hiring and firing five program directors in five years, he says, is what sank 91X.

For those (few) who believe that the government has no business regulating the airwaves and who want to dump the corporate model entirely, there is pirate radio, also known as Free Radio San Diego (96.9 FM). That is, there *was* Free Radio. In fall 2007, the station, which uses a 43-foot antenna set up in undisclosed locations, was shut down for the second time in three years.

Lo\_Key is the radio ID of a pirate radio host who had a Friday-night show featuring local bands. The station was run by committee; new talent had to audition and pledge themselves to secrecy. The big problem is that for an unlicensed broadcast station to work, someone has to place an antenna on his or her property, thus risking an FCC fine of \$10,000.

The formatless station was located in Golden Hill and had some 15 deejays and operators. Lo\_Key says the reason the station was so appealing to her ears is that it played music by Operation Ivy, later called Rancid, music that would not have been heard on any local station. Lo\_Key says the censorship of licensed radio (one need only remember George Carlin's, and later Howard Stern's, run-ins with the FCC

over one or all of those seven dirty words) is undemocratic. "Everything you hear through mainstream radio—someone is paying for it to be heard. Someone is making money off it. [But] no one was making money off

of us. We supported the local music scene. It was all about options: you can surf the channels and hear the same songs over and over again. They're still playing Aerosmith and shit like that, which was good for its time, but it's

2008, and we need to move on. Radio stations play music that the majority of people want to hear, but the majority of the people have poor taste. They don't know any better."

Lo\_Key's main com-

plaint is that too many people "like what they know." And it was pirate radio's job to shake up such dependency. Why not just get an FCC license or set up an Internet station? It's the thrill of anonymity, Lo\_Key says.

"I'm not one to curse; I just want to be able to play what I want without restrictions. With a license, we have to watch what we say. And if, after so many years, we dropped the F-bomb, we'd lose the license just like that. It's a risk

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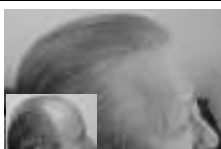
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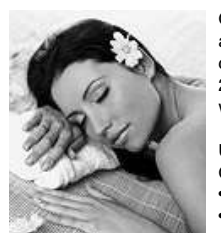
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no one wants to take. The station definitely has a rebellious spirit. We want to fight the system." Part of what eggs on Lo\_Key and others is that "the FCC considers us terrorists."

Keeping the station secret was hard, says Lo\_Key. "I brought on my friends. My family listened. And I probably told more people than I should have." Whenever guests came to the broadcast site, "We had to blindfold them for two flights of stairs. That was part of the adventure." The only thing keeping the station off the air is that the pirates have lost the 96.9 frequency to a legal local station. And, no doubt, the threat of a felony prosecution if caught.

Some of radio's growing pains may soon ease. David Tanny, a San Diego radio blogger since 1999, says that he's waiting for the "convergence," when listeners can

get Internet radio away from a computer — in a car or on a portable device. That will, Tanny says, "put terrestrial radio in a heap of trouble." iRoamer, billed as the world's first universal Internet radio platform, has been launched in Australia, according to *Computerworld Australia*. For a small fee, it will "give wireless Internet radio capabilities to almost any consumer electronic device, such as portable media players, hi-fi systems, set-top boxes, IPTV units, car-radio products," as well as iPhones. "A customizable Internet media aggregation portal" — a phrase that crawled out of a Philip K. Dick novel — will allow "users to listen to live radio in real time from anywhere."

#### CLIFF ALBERT AND THE DEMISE OF KLSD

At first glance, it seems that the talk side of local radio

faces less of the turmoil and transition than the music side does. Talk and news radio are the success stories of the medium. Witness those evergreens Rush Limbaugh and Roger Hedgecock.

Since talk "delivers audiences to advertisers" (in Neil Postman's immortal phrase) so well, ratings-rabid managers want more: it's cheap to produce, its high-profile personalities are news magnets, and it's an ideal way to create a market where one may not have existed.

I find something uniquely appealing about talk radio that goes beyond the political mind-meld of host and listener. Radio is an intimate medium, an archaic thing in our visual age. There are no graphics, no hairdo, no cleavage — voice is everything. And the voice of an agile mind is seductive, creating an internal conversation in the listener. The reason

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you listen may be due to how engaging the host is rather than whether you agree with him. Roger Hedgecock and Stacy Taylor, another local favorite, following a five-minute news update, often open with 25-minute monologues. "What's going on today? Here's what's going on." Talk without callers, talk without commercials, talk with strong opinion — at times maddening, at times brilliant — may lock in an audience for long spells during a three- or four-hour show.

Clear Channel, betting that an audience existed that was antithetical to its conservative talk programming, debuted KLSD in 2004. KLSD and its national programming from Air America enjoyed a good three-year run. But in November 2007, KLSD went off the air. A few listener rallies were held: one in Clear Channel's parking lot starred councilmember Donna Frye, city attorney Michael Aguirre, and TV-news star Bree Walker, among other celebrity protesters.

The man who cut KLSD's cord was Cliff Albert, program director for KLSD and KOGO. Albert was on San Diego radio, first with KFMB in the 1980s, during the halcyon days of Hudson and Bauer, and later and until recently, with KOGO. Many San Diegans recall Albert's sterling silver voice, whose sound, like Cantore's, is part of the audible fabric of our community.

Midway through its run, Albert began noticing that when the audiences of conservative KOGO (with Limbaugh, Hedgecock, and Dr. Laura) or KFMB (with Bill O'Reilly, Sean Hannity, and Michael Savage) were compared to KLSD's audience, there was no overlap. "They didn't share an audience," Albert says. "They'd listen to music, to sports, to whatever, before they'd go to the other station." In essence, the audience was much smaller

than he had anticipated.

One day Albert realized that "traditional radio advertisers — banks, mortgage companies, and business owners, who tend to be more conservative — didn't want to advertise on KLSD. They'd try it for a month or two, and they'd get complaints from consumers. They were uncomfortable with advertising on a station where the host was bashing the President and corporate America, U.S. businesses. We were all disappointed that KLSD, the only liberal station in San Diego, was not delivering enough revenue." This cinched his decision to change the station from progressive talk to sports.

Last January, local KLSD guru Stacy Taylor, whose sardonic wit branded him an intelligent and caustic liberal, landed in the coveted "drive-time" hole from 3:00–6:00 p.m. on 1700 AM, a new talk station. Albert wanted Taylor at KOGO in the "after-Roger slot," but John Lynch, owner of 1700 AM and head of Broadcast Companies of the Americas, upped the ante and signed Taylor, whose edgy, progressive libertarianism continues to froth the airwaves.

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Many San Diegans know the shoeshine polish of Mark Larson's voice. Whether zany skit or conservative talk, his style features a flip, deadpan persona reminiscent of Bob and Ray and their witty send-ups of the medium in which they worked. An on-air presence for 23 years, Larson used to produce Hudson and Bauer during the KFMB heyday. Four years ago at KOGO, Cliff Albert switched Dr. Laura from noon–3:00 to an evening show and put Larson in. But, Albert says, by 2007, when "the ratings were not as strong as they needed to be, I moved Dr. Laura back" to her slot, "to attract younger women listeners."





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With that, Larson took his leave from KOGO.

Larson casts his departure with a bit more corporate complication. It was, he tells me, gobbling a late-lunch turkey sandwich, "Clear Channel's dictate to move

Dr. Laura back into that spot. Cliff does a marvelous job, and the station speaks for itself. Clear Channel is a fine company. But there's a lot of out-of-town influence. As evidence, with my first contract there, it was simple

enough to be hired by two or three people. By the time I got to my last contract last year, it looked like the Magna Carta, there were so many signatures by out-of-town managers. My last year I decided it wasn't as much

fun." He was surprised to hear Albert say it was only a local decision — "Pressure was coming from somewhere to get Dr. Laura back in." In the end, Larson was not let go. He opted out of his contract and said so on the air.

Did Larson feel his content was constricted by KOGO or Clear Channel?

"I didn't until that last year. There was more going on, on the lifestyle front. We were encouraged to do some of the softer stuff, less of the politics. There was a companywide buzz" to change, he says, since Dr. Laura, with a new book, was pushing toward a focus on family

problems and personal morality. Right-wing political opinion had waned following the 2006 elections; it lost some of its steam, Larson says, because "people were tired of talking about the war."

Off the air, Larson, a Republican and a Christian, played with the notion of running for the congressional seat of Duncan Hunter, who, after a failed presidential bid, is retiring from the 52nd District. Conferring with Hunter and Duncan Hunter Jr., Larson discovered *that* wasn't an option. (Junior went on to win the primary and the general election.) John Lynch at 1700 AM signed Larson

to do the 5:00–9:00 morning show and to be the station's program director.

Lynch then tapped Stacy Taylor for the afternoons, so that, in Larson's words, 1700 AM would "be the only station in San Diego with both sides." Offering both liberal and conservative views is either an anomaly or a brilliant bit of programming. Larson is hoping the word spreads "where I am, where Stacy is, and that a different kind of format is evolving."

Larson's strength as a talk-show host, he says, is that he can't be "pigeonholed. People can like me—and disagree with me. These kinds

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of emails make my day: 'I disagree with almost everything you say, but you make me think.' Larson's ideal is to disagree with listeners in ways that keep them tuned in. On this point, he dresses down Limbaugh, who during the presidential election never found a candidate to his liking. It makes no sense, Larson says, that Limbaugh would "demonize McCain while beating up on Obama. What's the point? Everybody ends up bruised. If you demagogue it a certain way, there's a point where I ask, 'Is this all about you? Or is it about caring about your community?'"

#### THE CONUNDRUM OF KPBS RADIO

One man who's been dealing with untidiness on the programming side is John Decker, program director of KPBS radio since 1998. In his San Diego State office, Decker tells me that he'd prefer steering clear of controversy, but it has, with regard to city attorney (now "ex") Mike Aguirre, found him, his general manager Doug Myrland, and his station nonetheless.

In 2007, KPBS canceled two local programs, *A Way with Words* on radio and *Full Focus* on TV. *A Way with Words* was cut, Decker tells me, because its yearly budget was \$250,000, a tag Myrland deemed too pricey. The word-smiths, though, created a local production company and kept the show going in San Diego and in syndication. With the cancellation of *Full Focus*, 12 employees were laid off, including news director Michael Marcotte. The program, at \$1 million annually, had good content, Myrland told the *Union-Tribune*, "but few people watched."

In response to the show's termination, Aguirre, a frequent guest on *Full Focus*, initiated an investigation into why the show was canned: he charged that "KPBS abdicated its duty to maintain

objectivity and balance in its local public-affairs television programming." He requested the station hand over paperwork about the show's demise. He expanded his inquiry to include *Editors Roundtable*, a one-hour Friday-morning

radio talk show featuring three local newspaper editors, Tim McClain, editor of *San Diego Metropolitan Magazine*; John Warren, editor and publisher of *San Diego Voice and Viewpoint*; and Robert Kittle, editorial page

editor of the *Union-Tribune*. Aguirre wrote that *Editors Roundtable* "limited" its guest commentators by alternating these three men every week with another bevy of local editors. He stated that the discussions by McClain,

Warren, and Kittle were sometimes televised, but not those of other editors. Aguirre thought this unfair and wanted to know why the TV format favored the Big Three. He cited an email from Kittle to the station, objecting

that producers had invited Dave Rolland, editor of *San Diego City Beat*, to be on a televised episode with Kittle. For Aguirre, the station's ostensible kowtowing to Kittle's demand violated "objectivity" and the "bal-

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ance [of] federal law” in which the “Corporation for Public Broadcasting is statutorily directed to support those objectives.”

Decker says that though he is not the producer of *Editors Roundtable*, he understood the issues involved. When the Big Three were on every week, did the public pressure the station to expand its stock of commentators? “No,” he says, “we changed

it. We wanted as many voices at the table as possible.” In his words, KPBS thought McClain, Warren, and Kittle “represented a significant number of readers in this town. The show does well. It really does. I’m really surprised. I’m very pleased. Even if you have these guys on every other week, people respond positively to them, and that’s a public service.”

Behind Aguirre’s charge

was the presumption that someone other than KPBS may have been directing the show’s, and by extension, the station’s editorial content. Not a chance, Decker says. Neither David Copley nor Bob Kittle nor the Copley Foundation (which put up millions to build KPBS’s studios in 1995) nor anyone in the community has directly influenced the decisions he and Doug Myrland have

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made over the format of their news programs.

Decker remains indignant over Aguirre's request for internal documents from KPBS, a public institution, which, by law, must make such documents available to the public and, even more so, the city attorney's office. In the end, the investigation—and the dustup—was a waste of the station's time, Decker says. According to the *Union-Tribune*, Aguirre in late 2007 “withdrew the request...on the advice of a First Amendment expert.”

Decker cites, as evidence of the station's ongoing commitment to local programming, the hour-long documentaries *Envision San Diego*, produced about ten times a year; a bit more than two hours a day of local news during *Morning Edition* and *All Things Considered* in the afternoon; and the four-day-a-week, two-hour program *These Days*. This amounts to 20–25 hours a week of local shows.

If *Editors Roundtable* is so popular, and the station believes in the “local mission,” why not produce more such shows? To expand the local focus is a “conundrum,” Decker says. What the station is broadcasting right now is all it can afford. “We haven't debuted a new show in a long time. We haven't done a *Lounge* lately”—the local arts and culture show, sacked four years ago, whose “OK ratings” did not equal the expense.

He notes that one hour of *These Days* costs ten times what a syndicated news show like *The World* costs. Funds for new programming don't exist, he says, since KPBS allocates only 25 percent of the station's total budget to the radio side. The costliest part is TV: Public Television programs are far more expensive than National Public Radio shows. Even though TV gets more funding, there are fewer employees on that side: 6 on TV versus 20 on radio.

This spring, 6 employees were laid off in the latest belt-tightening, not to mention the resignation of Myrland, whose \$218,000 salaried position will no doubt be filled quickly. In short, the lion's share of KPBS's \$20 million

yearly budget (which has fallen three percent since 2005) goes to television.

I ask Decker if he has any mad money with which to experiment. After all, isn't taking a chance on shows like *A Way with Words* or

*These Days* the way things get started?

It's “another conundrum,” he says. “If you innovate, will you lose your audience? Innovation takes time, energy, experimentation, devotion, and commitment

to do something differently. Our move has been to increase audience—to pick shows that reach as many people [as possible] in any given quarter-hour.”

Decker says KPBS “probably has the only growing

audience on radio. Music radio is losing audience, while public radio has gained audience. And our ability to remain relevant is going to depend on our ability to do more local programming.” Which he can't do, he says,

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After  
(Model)



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After  
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Before

After



acknowledging the irony. Even though the radio audience is growing, even though "all the other local radio stations have given up on doing news," neither of these opportunities has translated into KPBS doing much more than downsizing.

## OPINION IS NEWS

Talk radio targets a very particular audience. Cliff Albert at KOGO says he aims for people in their 40s, who are "professionals or career-oriented, employed, have families, close relationships with people, above-average income, own cars, and generally lean moderate to conservative, as opposed to moderate to liberal." Albert estimates the audience at roughly 300,000 during a typical week (up from 200,000 five years ago), listening 60/40 between car and home or office. Albert sees the station's sizable advance as an aging and longer-liv-

ing population interested in hearing about "politics, government, psychology." They listen to the radio hosts "to be affirmed in what they believe. We ask them, 'Why do you listen?'" He says what I'm thinking. And that's music to our ears because we know we have a listener who will tune in every day. They want to go to the office that day and know how to argue their point."

San Diego is blessed with a keen contrarian mind in Mark Ramsey, the president of Mercury Research, who takes issue with much of the prevailing wisdom about radio. At Mercury, Ramsey has consulted for CBS Radio, Clear Channel, and Broadcast Companies of the Americas. His blog is Hear 2.0, where he writes about new media and the need, especially now, for "research and development." So much opportunity exists in radio

these days — "margins are slipping, alternatives are burgeoning" — that stations need to "reposition."

Ramsey disputes Albert's notion that San Diego's radio audience is moderate to conservative. He says you can't label San Diego by its largely conservative talk-radio personae. He calls it a "weird notion that because so much of talk radio is conservative-leaning there is no room for talk radio that is liberal-leaning — to which I say, 'Where's the evidence of that?'" *Jeff and Jer* and *Dave, Shelly, and Chainsaw*, the station KPRI, KPBS, Stacy Taylor, and a lot of the youth-oriented or lifestyle-oriented deejays are anything but conservative.

I ask Ramsey if he's worried about the news getting lost in the putative world of opinion or entertainment radio.

First, he says, contrary to conventional wisdom,

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After  
(Actual patient)



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there's a reason why there's a scarcity of news-radio stations. Research has demonstrated that "there's only one hour a day when there's a demand for news. Maybe 7:00-8:00 in the morning." Here the ratings are huge. The rest of the day, at news stations like KNX in Los Angeles, the ratings collapse.

Second, "The history of news in America is opinion" as the means of dissemination. "If you go back to Benjamin Franklin, that's true. If you go back to Thomas Paine, that's true. This was advocacy journalism — long before Edward R. Murrow. These were people with sharp points of view. The reason why conservative talk radio is so successful is that the point of view" has become the voice of AM radio, which has always sought to reach moderate Americans. "There's nothing wrong with wanting to hear information through your own filter."

The way conservative radio racks up the ratings (no different from cable TV news) is, Ramsey says, by air-mongering primal issues. These days, these include child abuse, terrorism, drugs, teachers having sex with their students. Such "issues" have no opposing side, he says; no one is *for* child abuse. They are exploited because it's far easier to get people to care about such stomach-turning tales than it is to get people to, for instance, care about President Mugabe's terrorist government in Zimbabwe.

On a similar note, Ramsey says the notion that radio is being hurt by the trend toward corporatizing and syndication is another misnomer. "Is it necessarily wrong that Sean Hannity is on the air" locally while "he broadcasts out of New York? No, not if Sean Hannity is better than whoever else might be on in Sean Hannity's slot." As a cultural comparison, it's why the New York Philharmonic is on *Great Per-*

*formances* and not the Tijuana Symphony (no offense). "No matter what field you're in, talent is the scarcest of commodities."

Ramsey says that though San Diegans tell researchers they'd like local program-

ming, they are often just giving "the right answer." It's the sort of question that supposes local *should* be preferred to regional or national. People also confide to survey-takers that they want "some connection to their commu-

nity" on radio. "TV does this with local news," Ramsey says. "But beyond that, people need to have something worth listening to. And there is nothing inherently interesting about being inherently local. Nothing. If you

put local before good, you're making a big mistake. If you put good before local — and you're also local — so much the better. But good is better than local. This has been proven when Howard Stern raked in the ratings that he

did."

And yet, despite his talent and his stellar success, once Stern changed his format, he tanked. All those habituated listeners went elsewhere. ■

— Thomas Larson

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## LETTERS

*continued from page 12*

ten me daily before that. Medical staff at Donovan would not say anything other than he was at a medical facility, though I begged to be allowed to hear one word from him by phone or to be allowed to receive one postcard from him to assure me he was alive. Finally, after going to both state assembly representatives and after calling and talking to people in Sacramento in the governor's office and still not being allowed one word to prove he was alive, I was allowed to receive a phone call from him. He did get an infection there, and medical staff at the prison cut him so badly to remove an infection in his leg he nearly bled to death. He was moved to a designated hospital that treats inmates for 21 days and kept in quarantine because MRSA is so highly infec-

tious and deadly.

He told me during that time he never saw doctors, only staff, and I know when he was released back to the prison it was into the general population, not a medical bed. He was given pants too short to even cover the wound, no bedsheets, and crummy bandages that left the wound exposed, potentially exposing other inmates to MRSA.

Don't think for a moment that the community is safe because you are not "involved with criminals" or married to an inmate as I am. You are not safe at all. There are inmates there whose families come and visit — have contact visits. Your kids sit in class next to inmates' children, or you sit next to inmates' wives on the bus, who are basically exposed to MRSA and capable of spreading it because the prison medical staff is so badly trained, coldhearted, and cheap they won't even provide inmates

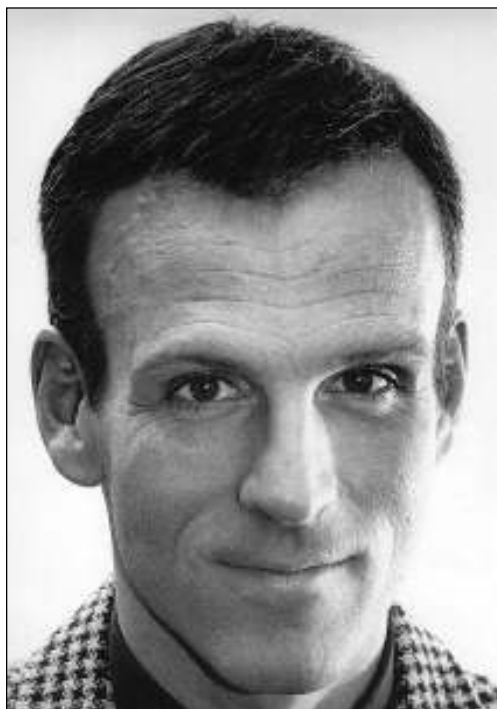
with bleach — plain, simple, cheap bleach — that would go very far to keep the cells and community areas of the prison free from this horrible and deadly disease.

Furthermore, the CDC hides behind HIPPA laws so it doesn't have to give details of illnesses and deaths at prisons now. Now, due to HIPPA, the deaths are always "due to natural causes." I assure you they don't care about the inmates' privacy as much as they care about not having to spend any money on prisoners' health care. The reason they say they don't have to give even a wife any such information is "the inmate didn't ask for a HIPPA form." Of course my husband listed me as next of kin. That didn't matter. The prison doesn't have to tell the inmates at orientation about the HIPPA form, so of course the inmate doesn't know to ask for the form.

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another chief medical officer has gotten in trouble and more money is going to be spent on prison health care, I am sure the situation is just as bad or worse: no matter how much money you pay in tax, the CDC just pockets as much as it can, and that place, R.J. Donovan, is a toilet, a cesspool right here in your county.

So, no matter how you feel about illegal immigrants, rest assured that if your son, nephew, husband, or neighbor ends up there, he'll suffer the same inhumane medical neglect as the immigrant suffered at the neighboring facility, and R.J. Donovan is a breeding ground for an epidemic that could endanger the entire county. Keep in mind that about five years ago, when

the governor had to first address no oversight for the medical budget for prisoners, the first approach was to cut out one meal a day on weekends for the prisoners. No, they don't receive the medical benefits you already pay for. I do believe they are released or killed rather than cured.

Shelly Schwartlander  
via email

### Comments from Reader Website

*Comments are not edited for spelling, punctuation, or grammar.*

### City Lights, by Don Bauder

Published December 23

*Posted by Johnny Vegas on December 23, 12:55 p.m.*

"He believes that the

pension scandals would never have arisen had the City put a sound tax structure into place following Proposition 13."

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- 3 How is it performed?
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- 5 Best candidates?



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# Your Week

## AND WELCOME TO IT

### Thursday | 1

#### SALUTE TO VIENNA

As any hipster will tell you, polka is cool again, a fact that the musicians and dancers



from  
Strauss

Symphony of America will demonstrate during this single performance at Copley Symphony Hall. See **CLASSICAL**, page 63.

#### MEDITATION ON SAND

Not to be confused with a multi-path maze, the one-path labyrinth has been used



as a spiritual tool for thousands of years. Bring biodegradable items to contribute to environmental artist Kirkos's labyrinth on the Stone Steps Beach in Encinitas. See **SPECIAL**, page 57.

#### NEW YEAR'S DAY TEA DANCE

An afternoon celebration with Old World dancing — you know, the kind you see in all those Jane Austen period-piece movies. Live music and instruction by the San Diego English Country Dancers. See **DANCE**, page 54.

### Friday | 2

#### BOOMERS

Filled with epoch music to beam boomers back in time, this is a generational tale about middle-class peeps born between 1946 and 1964. The show has been updated since its inception in 1993. See **THEATER**, page 104.



#### JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

Will Jack escape the giant or become a "Sourdough Jack"? The Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater recounts the old fable about a thieving little boy who saves the day during an economic crisis. See **FOR KIDS**, page 55.

### Saturday | 3

#### TUCK NO-HANDERS, NOSE MANUALS, TAIL WHIPS!

Riders of all levels flaunt their scooter tricks before judges at the Krause Family Bike and Skate Park in this third annual San Diego Freestyle Scooter Competition. See **SPORTS**, page 59.

#### MUSIC & MEMORIES

Liberace impersonator Wayland Pickard transforms into Mr. Showmanship with the assistance of a makeup artist, a candelabra, and sparkling attire. See **THEATER**, page 104.



### Sunday | 4

#### LIFE-SIZE AND SNARLING!

What cost 20 million dollars and spans 200 million years? The *Walking with Dinosaurs* show, here for a week at the San Diego Sports Arena. See **SPECIAL**, page 57.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SPRECKELS ORGAN!

Celebrate the towering organ's 95th birthday. Civic organist Carol Williams will be joined by Soprano Colette Thomas and the House of Scotland Pipe Band as she tickles the 4530 pipes in Balboa Park. See **CLASSICAL**, page 63.

### Monday | 5

#### FANTASY ON ICE

Just because we live in a Mediterranean climate doesn't mean we can't experience winter like the rest of the country. In this case, that means a giant air conditioner to freeze the water in the temporary rink setup at Horton Plaza. See **SPECIAL**, page 57.



### Tuesday | 6

#### ISLAND OF THE GREAT WHITE SHARK

View Richard Theiss's film about great whites around Isla Guadalupe, an island off the coast of Baja. If there were scary music in this one, it would play when humans appear on screen. See **FILM**, page 55.



### Wednesday | 7

#### "INFORMAL GOVERNANCE: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND THE LIMITS OF U.S. POWER"

Earn some serious cerebral street cred by checking out Professor Randall Stone's lecture on why it makes sense for the big countries to let the little countries have a say. See **LECTURES**, page 56.

#### RACE AND CULTURE IN MEDICINE

Visit the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center to find out about how race and culture alter the practice of medicine as a panel of experts explores the topic. See **LECTURES**, page 56.

**Local Events** page 54 | **Classical Music** page 63 | **Art Museums & Galleries** page 63  
**Pop Music** page 64 | **Restaurants** page 86 | **Movies** page 96 | **Theater** page 104



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## New Year's At The Legend For \$199

1 night & 2 tickets to New Year's Ball. Includes party favors, deluxe New Year's buffet, dance show, live music for dancing, and mariachi. Buffet dinner only \$49/person. Rates + tax. Restrictions apply. Reservations: 1-866-Rosarito. [www.rosaritobeachhotel.com](http://www.rosaritobeachhotel.com).

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## Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

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

## DANCE

**"Cabaret Dances"** Jean Isaacs San Diego Dance Theater presents "sizzling, sexy, and steamy program" including premiere of *Eyes of Love*, a collection of duets and trios created by Isaacs, danced to jazz standards sung by Rachel Drexler and performed by pianist Steve Baker. Dances are performed to music by Duke Ellington, Cole Porter, Thelonious Monk, Irving Berlin, Cassandra Wilson. Also on tap: *Sippie*, a suite of five blues songs by legendary singer Sippie Wallace. Guest choreographers/performers include Daniel Mar-

## OUT & ABOUT

### ISLAND OF THE GREAT WHITE SHARK,

Birch Aquarium at Scripps, Tuesday, January 6.

(SEE FILM)



shall and John Diaz, Sadie Weinberg, Annie Boyer, Liv Isaacs-Nollet, Veronica M. Lamm, Anthony Diaz, Julio Catano, Minaqua McPherson, Danielle Eldred. Tickets: 619-595-0300. Sunday, January 4, 5 p.m.; \$15-\$35. Anthology, 1337 India Street. (LITTLE ITALY)

**"Swing Dance at the JAM"** Dance Lindy, East Coast, jitterbug, and swing. Dress: casual or vintage.

No experience needed. Beginner lesson at 8 p.m. 619-291-3775. Friday, January 2, 9 p.m.; \$8. Dance for 2, 7528 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (CLAIREMONT)

**English Country Dancing** Chris Page calls for English country dancing. 858-676-9731. Friday, January 2, 6 p.m.; \$6. Jean Hart Academy of Dance, 12227 Poway Road. (POWAY)

**Hot Salsa Dance Classes** Salsero Jose Bello leads classes. Pay \$10 per class or \$32 for four classes. 619-275-3533. Thursdays, 6 p.m.; through Friday, January 2, \$10. Pattie Wells' Dancetime Center, 1255 West Morena Boulevard. (BAY PARK)

**New Year's Day Tea Dance** Hosted by San Diego English Country Dancers. 858-676-9731.

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Thursday, January 1, 1 p.m.; \$8. Jean Hart Academy of Dance, 12227 Poway Road. (POWAY)

**Salsa Workshop** Learn how to salsa or learn some new moves during workshop for singles, couples. All levels, ages welcome. 858-270-7100. Sunday, January 4, 3 p.m.; free. Cheek 2 Cheek Dance Studio, 909 Grand Avenue. (PACIFIC BEACH)

**Scandinavian Dancing** Learn traditional regional, pattern, and turning dances from Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Finland when Donna Tripp and Ted Martin from Los Angeles instruct. All ages and abilities; singles and couples welcome. 619-286-0355. Wednesday, January 7, 7:30 p.m.; \$6-\$8. Folk Dance Center, 4569 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

**Time to Learn Arabic Dance** Dilek, a professional Arabic dancer from Turkey, leads classes. 619-588-3718. Monday, January 5, 6:30 p.m.; free. Ages 12 and up. El Cajon Library, 201 East Douglas Avenue. (EL CAJON)

**Welcome 2009 in Swingin' Style** Community swing dances including "Firehouse swing school" (7-8 p.m.); swing dancing (8 p.m.); introduction to swing lessons for total beginners (8:30-9 p.m.). Fee: \$50 for four weeks of classes (includes admission to dance), \$8 for dance only. All ages. 858-395-6060. Wednesdays, 7 p.m.; through Wednesday, January 28, \$8. San Diego Women's Club, 2557 Third Avenue. (BANKER'S HILL)

## FILM

**Cast Away** Tom Hanks and a volleyball named Wilson star in this 2000 flick, showcased for dinner and movie night series. No cover; but there's a "Movie Night Prix Fixe meal deal" on offer (\$20). Reservations: 619-255-7049 or 619-997-8043. Thursday, January 1, 8 p.m.; free. Sea Rocket Bistro, 3382 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

**Island of the Great White Shark** Great white sharks face unprecedented threats to their survival. Join filmmaker Richard Theiss for screening and discussion of his documentary. Marine researchers and eco-tourists in Isla Guadalupe have forged an alliance to study and protect these animals from potential slaughter. Theiss will be on hand to sign DVDs. RSVP: 858-534-4109. Tuesday, January 6, 6 p.m.; \$8. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

**Loose Change, Final Cut** "Was the 9/11 attack an inside job, did officials look the other way, or were they completely surprised?" Current Events Theater presents screening of this documentary film, "completely revised" since original release (in 2005). 619-820-5321. Sunday, January 4, 2 p.m.; free. Ages 10 and up. El Cajon Library, 201 East Douglas Avenue. (EL CAJON)

**The Searchers** Film screening in conjunction with "Fear Minus

One" exhibition. 858-534-2107. Tuesday, January 6, 7 p.m.; Porter's Pub at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

**The Wizard of Oz Sing-Along** Audience participation is encouraged during screening of this "classic family-friendly musical" from 1939 starring Judy Garland, Ray Bolger, Bert Lahr, and countless Munchkins. 619-239-8836. Friday, January 2, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, January 4, 2:30 p.m.; \$7-\$9. Birch North Park Theatre, 2891 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

## FOR KIDS

**The Adventures of Tom Sawyer** Mark Twain's classic story of pre-Civil War life in a Mississippi River town comes to San Diego Junior Theatre stage, adapted by Tom Mason. Performance on January 17 is ASL interpreted. Reservations: 619-239-8355. Fridays, 7 p.m.; Saturdays, 2 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m.; through Sunday, January 18, \$8-\$13. Ages 8 and up. Casa del Prado Theater, 1650 El Prado, Suite 208. (BALBOA PARK)

**Jack and the Beanstalk** Will Jack escape the giant or become a Jack-burger? Big Joe Productions entertain. Curtain rises at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday-Friday; 11 a.m., 1, and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 619-544-9203. Thursday, January 1; Friday, January 2; Saturday, January 3, 11 a.m.; Sunday, January 4; \$3-\$5. Marie Hitchcock



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Tecate", where the savvy and hungry line up daily to wait for fresh-baked bread.

**Rancho Ojai R.V. Park**  
Family-friendly working ranch with camping cabins, and many recreational activities.

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Keep one eye on the steep, winding highway and another on the impressive mountain scenery as you descend 4,000 exhilarating feet.



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## ROAM--RAMA | A Guide to Unexpected San Diego and Beyond | by Jerry Schad

**S**kiing in San Diego County's mountains? Fact or fiction? The answer in any given winter season varies, but it is typically "fact" for one or two brief periods of time per year. The type of skiing I'm talking about is cross-country or Nordic skiing, which can

take place successfully on a meager few inches of snow. On several days in December, winter storms deposited variable amounts of snow on San Diego County's upper elevations. Just two weeks ago, I enjoyed yet again another fine ski tour of the trails of the Cuyamaca Mountains.

If you have Nordic ski equipment, simply wait for another cold, wet storm to hit San Diego (most likely in January through early February). Arise very

early the next morning, and take off at your earliest convenience for the Cuyamaca or the Laguna Mountains. If you live in East County, areas where skiing is possible lie as little as 30 minutes away via Interstate 8. Haste does not make waste in this case. Usually, you'll have only a few hours of prime skiing conditions before the ascendant sun softens the snow, and lowlanders clog

every parking lot and roadside turnout. By 9 or 10 in the morning, it may be impossible to find a parking space.

In San Diego, cross-country ski and boot rentals are available from Norpine Mountain Sports on Clairemont Drive (619-276-1577). The use of tire chains could be required at higher elevations, but only in very rare instances. Also, be sure to park your car fully on the road shoulder or turnout (where allowed), completely out of any traffic lane.

The highest part of Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, mapped here, features more than one challenging route for cross-country skiers. It's much easier to ski on fire roads (double-dash patterns on the map) rather than on the park's narrower (single-dash) trails. That's

especially true now, since some of the narrower trails have tended to be smothered by fast growing wild lilac and other shrubs in the aftermath of the 2003 Cedar Fire.

The generously wide West Mesa and Fern Flat fire roads (accessible from the West Mesa trailhead at mile 7.3 on Highway 79, north of the visitor center) offer gentle gradients at altitudes between 4000 and 5500 feet. The wide, south leg of the Azalea Glen Trail also works well for skiing, but not the narrower and steeper northern sections of that trail.

Experienced skiers can try the Lookout Road from Paso Picacho Campground to the summit of Cuyamaca Peak (elevation 6512 feet) and back, 5.5 miles round trip. The strenuous ascent is followed by an at-times terri-

fying descent back down, which is practical only when the snow is soft and powdery (and not icy). Another possible route could take you around the summit of Middle Peak by way of Milk Ranch Road and Middle Peak Fire Road. The Lookout Road and Milk Ranch Road are sometimes used by maintenance vehicles and may be plowed at some point after snow collects on them.

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

### CUYAMACA SKI ROUTES

Kick and glide along the higher-elevation trails of Cuyamaca Rancho State Park — if snow arrives.

**Distance from downtown San Diego:** 45 miles  
**Skiing length:** Up to 10 miles, depending on conditions

**Difficulty:** Moderate to strenuous



Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

#### New Year's Family Dance Jam

Welcome the new year with dance. Learn break dancing, hip-hop, African drum and dance, deejay music. Performances by Akayaa and Bolga Zohdooomah. "Adults must be accompanied by a child." 619-233-8792. Thursday, January 1, noon; \$10-\$15. The New Children's Museum, 200 West Island Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

**Pet Pals Kids Club** Kids 6-13 have "fun with other animal-loving kids." Required reservations: 619-243-3432. Saturday, January 3, 10 a.m.; \$15-\$75. Ages 6 and up. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

**Straw Into Gold** Millie Patterson's Weaver's Tales present *Rumpelstiltskin*. Curtain rises at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday-Friday; and 11 a.m., 1, and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 619-544-9203. Wednesday, January 7, 10 a.m.; \$3-

\$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

### IN PERSON

**Femme Fatale** Laura Ellis presents "musical journey through the dark and sultry world of film noir" for Free First Wednesday Series, with music, dance, and classic film clips. 800-988-4253. Wednesday, January 7, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.; free.

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

**Comics That Kill** Stand-up comedy show with Erik Knowles, Bucky, the Trash Man, Mario Mann, Matt Zint, guest. Hosted by Jason Bang. 619-255-8635. Monday, January 5, 9 p.m.; \$5. Ages 21 and up. Riley's, 2901 Nimitz Boulevard. (POINT LOMA)

**Debut Author** Elle Newmark signs, discusses *The Book of Unholy Mischief*. 858-268-4747. Fri-

day, January 2, 7 p.m.; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 302. (CLAIREMONT)

**Poets INC (Inland North County)** Featured readers are Clifton King and R. T. Sedgwick when Poets INC gather. Reception at 12:30 p.m., reading at 1 p.m. Bring a few poems or short written pieces for open reading. 760-480-4101. Sunday, January 4, 12:30 p.m.; free. Escondido Municipal Gallery, 142 West Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

**Thriller Author** *Bone* by *Bone* signed, discussed by author Carol O'Connell. 858-268-4747. Monday, January 5, 7 p.m.; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 302. (CLAIREMONT)

**Southern California Author** Jan Burke visits to sign, discuss *The Messenger*. 858-268-4747.

Tuesday, January 6, 7 p.m.; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 302. (CLAIREMONT)

**Squeaky-Clean Comedy!** Family-friendly shows for all ages. 858-433-1457. Saturdays, 7 p.m.; \$5. Naveed's Comedy Club at Bella Roma Pizza and Restaurant, 6830 La Jolla Boulevard #103. (LA JOLLA)

**Television and Suspense Author** Stephen J. Cannell signs, discusses his latest Shane Scully book, *On the Grind*. 858-268-4747. Wednesday, January 7, 7 p.m.; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 302. (CLAIREMONT)

### LECTURES

**"Informal Governance: International Organizations and the Limits of U.S. Power"** Pro-



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## Wedding Guide



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#### Bridal Bazaar Saturday, January 17

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fessor Randall Stone from University of Rochester plans lecture in Social Science Bldg (SSB) 107. RSVP: 858-822-5297. Wednesday, January 7, noon; free. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

**"Race and Culture in Medicine"**  
Panel exploring complexities of race and culture in practice of medicine, led by moderator Mary Devereaux, Ethics Center fellow. How do the concepts of race and culture alter the practice of medicine? Panelists include Michael Hardimon of UCSD and Dixie Galapo of Union of Pan Asian Communities. 858-822-2647. Wednesday, January 7, 5:30 p.m.; free. Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

## OUTDOORS

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

## OUT & ABOUT

### LIFE-SIZE AND SNARLING!

"Walking with Dinosaurs — The Arena Spectacular," San Diego Sports Arena, January 1–4.

(SEE SPECIAL)



**Gray Whale Migration** off San Diego County's coast peaks this month. The best view spots from land are high points close to the surf. Aside from the whale watching overlook at Cabrillo National Monument, try Sunset Cliffs, the pocket parks and dead-end streets from Pacific Beach to Scripps Park in La Jolla, various ocean overlooks on the trail system at Torrey Pines State Reserve, the cliffs opposite Carmel Valley Road south of Del

Mar, overlooks opposite Lomas Santa Fe Drive in Solana Beach, and various clifftop view points and beach access stairways in Encinitas and Leucadia. Scan the ocean a few hundred yards to a couple of miles out using high-power binoculars. Best times for viewing are about 9 a.m. to noon.

**Venus** continues blazing bright in the west as a brilliant "evening star" visible at dusk and into the early night hours for the next sev-

eral weeks. By early March, however, Venus will be slipping into the sun's glare. In early April, Venus emerges again as a bright "morning star" visible in the east at dawn. It will continue its morning-star apparition through the remainder of 2009.

**The Short-Lived Quadrantid Meteor Shower** peaks in the late-night hours (11 p.m. to 5 a.m.) on the night/morning of January 2–3. Meteor numbers will increase

toward dawn to as many as 100 per hour, assuming the event is observed from a clear, dark, rural location. The meteors seem to radiate from the constellation Bootes, which is in the eastern sky during this time period.

**California Native Plant Society Walk** Bring binoculars and drinking water. 858-581-9944. Sunday, January 4, 9 a.m.; free. Tecolote Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road. (CLAIREMONT)

**Explore Silverwood Sanctuary** Audubon Society offers guided walks on Sundays, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. 619-682-7200. Sundays, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; free. Silverwood Sanctuary, 13003 Wildcat Canyon Road. (LAKESIDE)

**Guided Nature Walk** Meet at west side of park, at Regents Road entrance. Bring binoculars, drinking water. 858-581-9944. Saturday, January 3, 9:30 a.m.; free. Marian Bear Memorial Park, Highway 52 and Regents Road. (CLAIREMONT)

**Hawkwatch 2009** Visit Ramona's grasslands to witness resident and winter migration of hawks, falcons, and eagles during outing led by Wildlife Research Institute. Events include demonstrations of hawk banding and tracking eagles with transmitters. Walks led by trained

biologist every Saturday through February. Wear hiking or walking boots. Bring binoculars or spotting scopes if you have them. 760-789-3992. Saturdays, 9 a.m.; through Saturday, February 28, free. Wildlife Research Institute, 18030 Highland Valley Road. (RAMONA)

**History Walk** Offshoot Tours offers hour-long history walk, blending Balboa Park history with its wealth of architectural and botanical treasures. 619-235-1121. Saturday, January 3, 10 a.m.; free. Balboa Park Visitors' Center, 1549 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**New Year's Nature Walks** Resolve to learn more about local flora and fauna during guided nature walks. 619-668-3281. Saturday, January 3, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, January 4, 9:30 a.m.; Wednesday, January 7, 9:30 a.m.; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

## SPECIAL

**Ask the Horticulturist Tour** Enjoy informative walk through garden with a member of the professional horticultural staff. Bring questions. Registration: 619-660-0614 x10. Sunday, January 4, 1:30

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## Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

p.m.; free. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

**Fantasy on Ice** Ice-skating outdoors adjacent to Horton Plaza continues. Skating sessions last two hours, with starts from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. Fee for those under 12 includes skate rental. 619-234-1031. Thursdays, 10 a.m.; Fridays, 10 a.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.; Sundays, 10 a.m.; Mondays, 10 a.m.; Tuesdays, 10 a.m.; Wednesdays, 10 a.m.; through Sunday, January 11, \$10-\$12. Horton Square, 225 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN)

**Gray Whale Season Surfaces!** Outings hosted by Birch Aquarium and San Diego Harbor Excursion boast Scripps naturalists on hand to share information about gray whales, the ecology, and history of San Diego Bay and Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Dolphins, sea lions, marine birds make guest appearances. Registration: 619-234-4111. Thursdays, 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Fridays, 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Sundays, 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Mondays, 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Wednesdays, 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; through Sunday, March 29, \$15-\$35. San Diego Harbor Excursion, 1050 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

**Holiday of Lights** More than 350 lighted, holiday-themed displays for viewing from visitors' cars. Admission: \$14 per vehicle (up to five people), \$19 per vehicle with six or more people, \$49 per bus. 858-793-5555. Thursdays, 5:30 p.m.; Fridays, 5:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 5:30 p.m.; Sundays, 5:30 p.m.; through Sunday, January 4, \$14. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

**Life-Size and Snarling!** Dinosaurs once again roam Earth in theatrical arena show, "Walking With Dinosaurs — The Arena Spectacular," based on the BBC Television series. Ten species are represented from the 200-million-year reign of dinosaurs during shows depicting the dinosaurs' evolution, complete with the climatic and tectonic changes that led to demise of many species. Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). Thursday, January 1, 7 p.m.; Friday, January 2, 11 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Saturday, January 3, 11 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Sunday, January 4, 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.; \$29-\$72. San Diego Sports Arena, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (POINT LOMA)

**Meditation on Sand** Environmental artist Kirkos plans to take hours to complete a meditation labyrinth on sand of Stone Steps Beach. Public is invited to bring biodegradable items for labyrinth such as flowers, colored stones, coarse salt, wax candles (to be removed at end of evening). Labyrinth may also be viewed from bluffs above sand drawing.

## OUT & ABOUT

### "CABARET DANCES"

By San Diego Dance Theater, January 4, 11, 18, and 25, Anthology.

(SEE DANCE)



PHOTOGRAPH BY MANNY ROTENBERG

760-942-3636. Thursday, January 1, 1:30 p.m.; free. Stone Steps Beach, 336 Neptune Avenue. (ENCINITAS)

**Poinsettia Bloom** Balboa Park's Botanical Building boasts festive holiday scene with over 500 poin-

settia plants displaying their blooms during 22nd annual display. 619-231-9193. Fridays, 10 a.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.; Sundays, 10 a.m.; Mondays, 10 a.m.; Tuesdays, 10 a.m.; Wednesdays, 10 a.m.; through Wednesday, January 7,

free. Balboa Park, Park Boulevard at Presidents Way. (BALBOA PARK)

**Rev It Up and Go!** San Diego International Auto Show highlights over 400 new-model vehicles, concept cars, alternative-fuel vehicles, specialty cars, trucks, vans. 619-

525-5000. Thursday, January 1, 10 a.m.; Friday, January 2, 10 a.m.; Saturday, January 3, 10 a.m.; Sunday, January 4, 10 a.m.; free. San Diego Convention Center, 111 West Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

**Skating by the Sea** Enjoy outdoor ice-skating on rink overlooking Pacific Ocean. Two-hour matinee sessions at 11 a.m. cost \$15 for adults, \$10 for those 10 and younger. Three-hour skating sessions begin at 2 and 6 p.m.; fee is \$20 for adults, \$15 for those under 10. 619-435-6611. Thursdays, 11 a.m.; Fridays, 11 a.m.; Saturdays, 11 a.m.; through Saturday, January 3, \$10-\$20. Hotel del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue. (CORONADO)

**Stamp-Collecting Show** Stamp and cover dealers offer their wares. 619-218-7835. Sunday, January 4, 10 a.m.; free. Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road. (KEARNY MESA)

**Tall Ship Time** The *Lynx* privateer sails into Oceanside Harbor from San Diego Bay, with free dockside tours, 4-5 p.m. 866-446-5969. Wednesday, January 7, 3 p.m.; free. Oceanside Harbor, 1540 Harbor Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

**Ultimate Ridez Expo** Expect "tricked-out and exotic vehicles," deejays, live performances by local artists, B-boy and hip-hop dance competitions, fashion show, swimsuit competition in this portion of San Diego International Auto Show. 619-407-4180. Thursday, January 1, 10 a.m.; Friday, January 2, 10 a.m.; Saturday, January 3, 10 a.m.; Sunday, January 4, 10 a.m.; free. San Diego Convention Center, 111 West Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

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## SPORTS

**New Year's Day Century** Join San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders for 100 miles of peddling through Camp Pendleton to San Clemente and back. 619-561-3846. Thursday, January 1, 7:45 a.m.; free. Doyle Park, 8175 Regents Road. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

**Resolve to Be Fit!** Downtown YMCA's 39th annual Resolution Run includes 5k run or a 1-mile fun walk. 619-232-7451. Saturday, January 3, 11 a.m.; free. Balboa Park, Park Boulevard at Presidents Way. (BALBOA PARK)

**Ring Around the Rosy Bay Ride** Two options for joining up with Knickerbikers for a bicycling adventure. Start at Vons at 8 a.m. for 50-mile ride; or join group when it makes stop at 9 a.m. in north parking lot of Mission Bay Visitors' Center (42-miles from this point). Either way, see San Diego Bay, birds, lunch in Coronado (bring money), ferry ride (bring \$3.50 fare), naval base, more. 619-823-0070. Saturday, January 3, 8 a.m.; free. Clairemont Town Square, 4821 Clairemont Drive. (CLAIREMONT)

**San Diego Resolution Run** Event winds around Mission Bay. Day-of-event registration: 6 a.m. The 15k steps off at 7 a.m.; 10k starts at 7:30 a.m.; 5k gets under way at 8 a.m. All races have two-hour time limit. 619-890-6067. Saturday, January 3, 6 a.m.; \$20-

\$40. Mission Bay Visitors' Center, East Mission Bay Drive and Clairemont Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

**To the Lighthouse** Join San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders for jaunt from J Street boat launch parking lot (I-5 to J Street). Bicyclists will take Coronado ferry (bring money for fare) on this flat 47-miler and hit Point Loma lighthouse too. 619-647-3212. Saturday, January 3, 8:45 a.m.; free. J Street Marina Park, J Street off I-5. (CHULA VISTA)

**Tuck No-Handers, Nose Manuals, Tail Whips!** Third annual San Diego Freestyle Scooter Competition boasts extreme sport competition beginning at 10 a.m. (following registration at 9 a.m.). Riders in beginning, intermediate, advanced levels will have two or three one-minute runs to impress judges. Lots of scooter tricks promised; "best trick" competition

held after advanced rider competition. Free for spectators. 619-279-9254. Saturday, January 3, 9 a.m.; free. Krause Family Bike and Skate Park, 3401 Clairemont Drive. (CLAIREMONT)

## 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. 2040 North Santa Fe Avenue, 760-941-1791. (VISTA)

**Bancroft Ranch House Museum** Bancroft Ranch House Museum houses indigenous Indian artifacts and memorabilia of early settlers in the area, run by the Spring Valley Historical Society. The home, built in 1863, was registered as a National Historic Landmark in 1962 and is on a spot where Kumeyaay Indians camped more than 1000 years ago beside the spring that later gave the area its name. 9050 Memory Lane, 619-469-1480. (SPRING VALLEY)

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

**Birch Aquarium at Scripps** Facility 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 Cortés, and South Pacific. The La Jolla Kelp Tank is a two-story-high tank with giant kelp plants and nearly 30 species of local marine

life. "Feeling the Heat: The Climate Challenge" examines science behind climate change; "Art of Deception" explores undersea camouflage. "Wonders of Water" waterplay area includes three interactive stations. The Lynne and Howard Robbins Shark Reef Exhibit features a 13,000-gallon shark tank with black tip, white tip, bamboo, and wobbegong sharks. 2300 Expedition Way, 858-534-FISH. (LA JOLLA)

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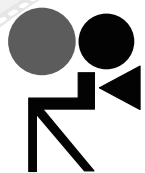


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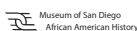
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## Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

### California Surf Museum

"From the Brown Mercury to SL8ER — A Glimpse of 100 Years of Surfing Culture in Southern California" celebrates influence of surfing on California lifestyle. Display features collection of unique surfboards, movie posters, record albums, vintage beachwear, assortment of photographs. Significant surfing personalities from each decade are highlighted. 223 North Coast Highway, 760-721-6876. (OCEANSIDE)

### Chula Vista Nature Center

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

Visitors meet a shuttle bus at the Bayfront E Street Trolley Station or at the center's parking lot at the foot of E Street and Bay Boulevard. 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive, 619-409-5903. (CHULA VISTA)

**Coronado Museum of History and Art** "Public Eye: A Focus on Community Art," continuing

through mid-January, features a decorative bench from 2003 Benchmark project, information on some of Coronado's 38 pieces of public art, models, photographs, and sculptured pieces.

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

### Flying Leatherneck Museum

Museum is dedicated to Marines who provided air support, from the propeller-driven fighters and bombers of the 1940s to the modern jets and helicopters currently in use. Static displays of a variety of aircraft are included, along with equipment, insignia, paintings and photographs, scale models, and a research library. The museum is located in building T-2002, at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. Miramar Road (Marine Corps Air Station), 858-693-1723. (MIRA MESA)

### Gaslamp Museum of Historic San Diego

Glimpse San Diego's colorful past at the museum, where displays highlight Wyatt Earp's San Diego days, the Peg Leg Gold Legend, the first maps and photographs of Old Town and "New Town," early military history, the naval disaster in 1923 at Point Honda, and more. 413 Market Street, 619-237-1492. (DOWNTOWN)

### Heritage of the Americas Museum

More than 100 Chinese jades of the Late Neolithic (4300-2500 B.C.) through the Ming periods (A.D. 1368-1644) are included in "The Stone of Heaven: The Enduring Art of Jade Age China." From ancient times, jades in China were treasured as talismans, worn on the body either as final adorn-

## OUT & ABOUT

### TUCK NO-HANDERS, NOSE MANUALS, TAIL WHIPS!

Freestyle Scooter Competition, Saturday, January 3, Krause Family Skate Park.

(SEE SPORTS)



PHOTOGRAPH BY CASEY MURPHY

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 about two dozen 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

utilitarian and decorative artistry of crafts workers from ancient cultures. The museum also features wings dedicated to natural history, archaeology, education, anthropology, and fine art. Find the museum on the Cuyamaca College campus. 12110 Cuyamaca College Drive West, 619-670-5194. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

### Japanese Friendship Garden

Exhibit of woodturning bowls continues through February. Pan American Road, 619-232-2721. (BALBOA PARK)

### John DeWitt Historic Museum and Library

Museum and library, operated by the Alpine Historical Society, is located in the 1897 home/office of Dr. Sophronia Nichols. She was the first doctor in Alpine and the first female doctor in the East County. Indian artifacts from the Kingery family on exhibit. 2116 Tavern Road, 619-659-8740. (ALPINE)

### 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 1929."

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

### La Mesa Depot Museum

Located in a restored 1894 wooden train station, exhibits include original telegraph and telephone

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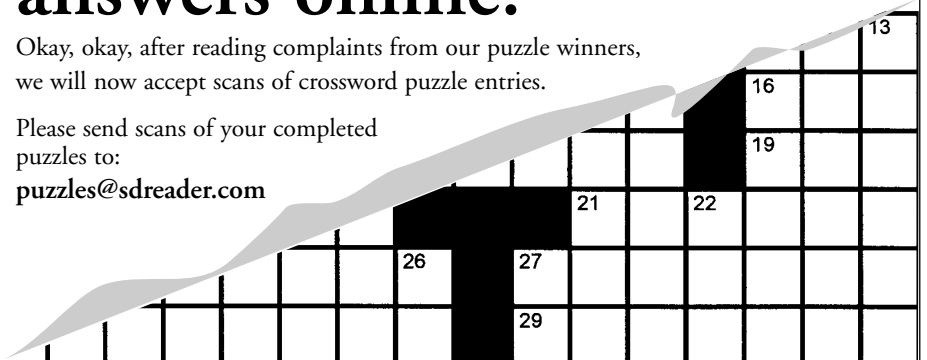
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equipment, pot-bellied coal stove, period furniture. The adjacent freight train display features 1923 steam locomotive, 1957 refrigerator car, 1941 caboose. La Mesa Boulevard and Spring Street, 619-465-7776. (LA MESA)

**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. 258 Beech Street, 760-434-9189. (CARLSBAD)

**Museum of Making Music** What is slide? Why is it so hard to play? “The Magic and Mystery of Slide Guitar” — continuing through March — captures “essence and emotion evoked by slide guitar and slide technique.” Display includes nearly 70 rare and historic instruments, from early 1920s to present.

“Gretsch 125th Anniversary” highlights instruments spanning the company’s rich history. Through Friday, February 20.

The past 100 years of American music and music making are highlighted at the museum, with over 450 vintage instruments, hundreds of audio and video clips, and an interactive stage. Guided tours every Saturday, 2:30 p.m. 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 displays, trolley equipment,

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## Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

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, 20 x 20-foot reproduction of Wieghorst's painting *Navajos at Castle Creek*, and original restored home Wieghorst lived in for many years starting in 1945. 131 Rea Avenue, 619-590-3431. (EL CAJON)

**Ramona Pioneer Historical Society and Guy B. Woodward Museum** Complex of historical buildings includes the Verlaque 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, 760-789-7644. (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 fee includes audio guide. 910 North Harbor Drive, 619-544-9600. (DOWNTOWN)

**San Diego County Sheriff's Museum** The 150-year history of the sheriff's department is highlighted at the museum, which is located "just feet away" from the original cobblestone jail site, built in 1850. The museum boasts artifacts, photographs, equipment, uniforms, and vehicles, along with exhibits from each of the departments making up the organization such as crime scene, K-9, court service, detentions, crime lab, bomb squad, and many others. 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 of the Southwest, the "San Diego County Relief Map" exhibit, and an inter-

## OUT & ABOUT

**SALUTE TO VIENNA,**  
Copley Symphony Hall,  
Thursday, January 1.

(SEE CLASSICAL MUSIC)



active toy train. There is a multimedia presentation on railroad-ing, an operating railroad semaphore signal, and interpretive displays on railroads and model railroading. The museum is downstairs in the Casa de Balboa building. 1649 El Prado, 619-696-0199. (BALBOA PARK)

**San Diego Natural History Museum** "The Art of Robert Bateman" showcases work by "one of the world's premier wildlife

artists." Exhibit reflects his commitment to ecology, preservation. Through January.

"Tibet: Imagery by Kenneth Parker" — continuing through Sunday, March 1 — reveals "religious monuments, prayer flags, modest homes, and dramatic mountains of the region." To create his imagery, Parker engages in five-day backpacking excursions to remote areas carrying 75-85 pounds of gear.

"Aerial Portraits of the American West: Photographs by John Shelton" closes on Sunday, March 1. Shelton is author of *Geology Illustrated*.

Also on view: "Fossil Mysteries," a permanent exhibition. From dinosaurs to mastodons, discover the rich fossil history of our region. Current "giant-screen film" is *Ocean Oasis*. 1788 El Prado, 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

**Veterans Museum and Memorial Center** "Children, Toys, and Service," continuing through April, explores growing up in America during the mid-20th century through the toys and life experiences of the children who played with them. Exhibit includes World War II toy collections of Joe Sutter and Richard Roche, doll collection of Marjorie Alliette, many other individual period toys, games, books, artifacts.

Memorial to men and women who served in U.S. Armed Forces, Coast Guard, and Wartime Merchant Marine. Located in the former San Diego Naval Hospital Chapel, the museum features original service-inspired stained glass, as well as historical murals painted by Richard DeRosset. Main exhibit hall features displays, exhibits of historic artifacts, documents, photographs, memorabilia, artwork honoring men and women who served. Museum is also home to San Diego Vietnam Peace Memorial and Veterans Memorial Garden. 2115 Park Boulevard, 619-239-2100. (BALBOA PARK)

**Wells Fargo History Museum** Museum features a working agents' office staffed by guides in period costumes and contains a working telegraph for visitors to send and receive messages. Short films on California and Wells Fargo history; a gold display, part of the collection assembled by Wells Fargo agent Samuel Dorsey at the end of the 1800s; an exhibit of Concord Coach #251, a restored stagecoach built in 1867; and the Davies watch. The museum is located in the reconstructed Colorado House. 2733 San Diego Avenue, 619-238-3929. (OLD TOWN)

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# Calendar

## CLASSICAL MUSIC

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## CLASSICAL

**“Salute to Vienna”** New Year’s concert by Strauss Symphony of America is led by conductor Christian Schulz, joined by soprano Livia Galambos (Budapest), tenor Valeriy Serkin (Vienna), dancers from Vienna City Ballet performing popular Viennese waltzes, polkas, and operetta excerpts by “waltz king” Johann Strauss Jr. 619-235-0804 or Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). \$39-\$77. Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street), 2:30 p.m., Thursday, January 1. (DOWNTOWN)

**Happy Birthday Spreckels Organ!** Soprano Colette Thomas and the House of Scotland Pipe Band join civic organist Carol Williams during concert. 619-702-8138. Free. Spreckels Organ Pavilion (2211 Pan American Road), 2 p.m., Sunday, January 4. (BALBOA PARK)

**“From Rome to Romania”** La Jolla Renaissance Singers perform “Missa Hodie Christus Natus Est” by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, followed by ten “delightfully different Romanian Christmas carols.” 760-224-8223. Free. Saint Mary Magdalene Church (1945 Ilion Street), 3 p.m., Sunday, January 4. (CLAIREMONT)

## ART LISTINGS

**HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING:** Contributions must be

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

## GALLERIES

**“Toast the New Year”** Opening reception for San Diego Watercolor Society’s current exhibit of approximately 100 paintings. Juror was illustrator Suzy Spafford. Continues through Friday, January 30. 619-876-4550. Free. San Diego Watercolor Society at NTC Promenade (2825 Dewey Road #105), 5 p.m., Friday, January 2. (POINT LOMA)

## ART MUSEUMS

**California Center for the Arts, Escondido Museum** 340 North Escondido Boulevard, 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

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

“Forms in Wood and Fiber: Southern California New Work” features work of six distinguished San Diego wood artists and many California Fibers members. “Both fresh perspectives on traditional forms and cutting-edge contemporary expressions will be included in works of superior design and craftsmanship.” Participating artists include Wendy Maruyama, Russ Filbeck, Patrick Edwards, Del Cover, Brett Hesser, and Gene Blickenstaff. Closes Sunday, January 4. 1439 El Prado, 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

**Mingei International Museum — North County** “Nomadic Legacy — Tent and Textiles of

Central Asia and Iran” presents aspects of rich artistic heritage of nomadic culture, traditions with origins in antiquity. Highlights include recent gifts to museum such as a Kyrgyz yurt, Persian bag faces, Central Asian hats. The Kyrgyz yurt — a round, domed, trelis-tent dwelling, 22 feet in diameter — won first prize in a national contest celebrating 1000th anniversary of Kyrgyzstan’s existence. Also on view: rare Kyrgyz reed screens; Turkoman, Uzbek, and Kazakh costumes and textiles. Exhibit continues through Sunday, March 22. 155 West Grand Avenue, 760-735-3355. (ESCONDIDO)

**Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown**

“Drawing the Line” includes works on paper, sculpture, fabric pieces from museum’s collection, revealing “new approaches to the integration of drafting techniques and line-making into media that have not been traditionally associated with drawing genres.” Show boasts works by artists Amy Adler, Jacci Den Hartog, Kim Dingle, Lana Quesnell, Nancy Rubins, Margaret Honda, Marta Palau, Eugenie Geb, Tania Candiani, Marisol Rendón, Mely Barragán, Lynne Berman, and Shizu Saldamando. On view through Sunday, April 12.

“Human/Nature: Artists Respond to a Changing Planet” uses contemporary art to investigate relationships between fragile natural environments and human communities depending upon them. Collaborative multiyear exhibition project sent eight artists to eight UNESCO World Heritage sites around globe to complete mini-residencies, create new work informed and inspired by their experiences in these diverse cultural and natural regions. Exhibit features new commissioned works by Mark Dion, Ann Hamilton, Inigo Manglano-Ovalle, Marcos Ramirez ERRE, Rigo 23, Dario Robleto, Diana Thater, and Xu Bing. Closes Sunday, February 1. 1001 Kettner Boulevard, 858-454-3541. (DOWNTOWN)

**Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla**

“Weighing and Wanting: Selections from the Collection” marks Hugh M. Davies’s 25th anniversary as museum’s David C. Copley Director. Exhibit offers “a personal, idiosyncratic selection of approximately 130 works acquired be-

tween 1983 and the present,” including works by John Baldessari, John Currin, Robert Irwin, William Kentridge, Nathan Mabry, Yoshitomo Nara, Martin Puryear, Lorna Simpson, Bill Viola, and Lisa Yuskavage. View this “cross-section of paintings, prints, drawings, video, installation art, and photography” through Sunday, January 4. 700 Prospect Street, 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

**Museum of Photographic Arts** “Picturing the Process: Landscape through Time and Space” — continuing through Sunday, February 1 — includes selections from MoPA’s permanent collection, exploring ideas and issues related to landscape.

“Writing with Light” is said to illustrate “the connections between photography and literacy using the photographic arts as inspiration.” MoPA’s annual youth exhibition offers opportunity to recognize talented students throughout San Diego, linking the medium of photography with writing. Through January.

“Nancy Newhall: A Literacy of Images” continues through Sunday, January 25. Best known for writing text to accompany photographs by Ansel Adams and Edward Weston, Nancy Newhall was also a widely published writer on photography, conservation, American culture. 1649 El Prado, 619-238-7559. (BALBOA PARK)

**Oceanside Museum of Art** “Quilt Visions 2008: Contemporary Expressions” — continuing

through Sunday, March 1 — boasts 41 quilts selected from 586 entries. Jurors were Judith Content, Mary Anne Jordan, and Don Bacigalupi.

**“DAMNGORGEOUS: Millard Sheets and His Southern California Legacy”** offers “a comprehensive look at his impressive career from the 1920s to the ’80s.” Over 40 works of art, including watercolors, oils, etchings, lithographs, and drawings, provide viewers with introduction to Sheets’s legacy. In the early 1930s, Sheets helped define a movement known as Southern California Regionalism, depicting rural scenes near his home in Claremont, California. Through Sunday, January 4. 704 Pier View Way, 760-435-3720. (OCEANSIDE)

**San Diego Museum of Art**

“Kimono as Art: The Landscapes of Itchiku Kubota,” closing on Sunday, January 4, features work of Japanese textile artist and kimono designer Itchiku Kubota (1917-2003). Kubota used a variety of traditional techniques, unique personal innovations to create abstract landscapes through complex layering of dyes and inks on monumentally scaled kimono. Exhibition includes Kubota’s dramatic series “Symphony of Light,” presenting a sweeping landscape across 30 kimonos placed side by side, as well as a selection of Kubota’s individual works.

“Emerging Elites: Indo-Muslim Cultures in Transition” examines artistic transitions that took

place in Indo-Muslim cultural centers in the 18th and 19th Centuries. Exhibition treats these paintings as creative, ongoing cultural transformations. Closes Sunday, March 15.

“Visible Places: Works on Paper by Women,” continuing through Sunday, March 22, is comprised of “Spatial Gestures” and “Manners of Sight.” All of the included works are from museum’s permanent collection, many of them presented for first time. 1450 El Prado, 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

**Timken Museum of Art**

“Kimono as Art: The Landscapes of Itchiku Kubota,” closing on Sunday, January 4, features work of Japanese textile artist and kimono designer Itchiku Kubota (1917-2003). Kubota used a variety of traditional techniques, unique personal innovations to create abstract landscapes through complex layering of dyes and inks on monumentally scaled kimono. Exhibition includes a selection of kimono from Kubota’s “Mt. Fuji” series, presented as three views of Japan’s most famous mountain at different times of day, as well as a selection of Kubota’s individual works.

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



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**Slain?** Nine years ago, Francisca and Jorge Alvarez started selling Slayer T-shirts, pentagram necklaces, and Dimmu Borgir pins at Kobey's Swap Meet and at weekly swap meets in North County. Six years ago, they opened the Noise Shop, a metal/punk lifestyle store in

Shop this week.

"The owner of the building [is] a nice guy, but he doesn't want to rent to us anymore.... He says we are making trouble with the other businesses next door. They judge us because of the spiked hair, tattoos, and piercings, but these kids all

lar a person for gas for the traveling bands. Some bands come all the way up from TJ."

"There's pretty much no other place for punk or hardcore bands to play in North County," says bassist Angel Coronel of punk band D.E.A. "There's the Jumping Turtle, but they only have a few spots here and there.... The owner of the [Noise Shop] building doesn't want to lease to them because he thinks the kids are too rowdy — this means that there will be a lot more DIY sewer shows or backyard parties."

Alvarez says she will continue to sell stickers, CDs, and patches at swap meets. "We'll find somewhere else to open in a year or two." The Alvarezes' landlord chose not to comment on the matter.

— Ken Leighton

**Snake Sighting** Tonight's headliners at the Belly Up, the Night Marchers, San Diego knows well; three quarters of the band's members were together from 1999 to 2005 as Hot Snakes.

The fourth Hot Snake was singer-guitarist Rick Froberg, a native son and graphic artist who transplanted to New York over a decade ago. (Before Hot Snakes, Froberg and Night Marcher front man John Reis played in Drive Like Jehu — they started out together as teens, in Pitchfork.)



FROBERG, STILL IN ACTION

Froberg returned to public music-making in 2008, fronting the New York-based band Obits, which already has a self-released single out. Those who've caught the Obits' first shows this year have witnessed something different from Froberg's previous bands: no John Reis on lead guitar, natch, and a more rootsy, blues-based rock than his earlier art-punk ensembles.

Froberg's voice, still a formidable power-yowl, is used in more trad singing. His guitar-playing, paired with that of Sohrab Habibion (ex-Edsel), is more flowing, less choppy.

It's a different sound. Froberg gave the hardware specs by email: "Sohrab plays an old (not sure of the year, probably '60s) reverse Gibson Firebird, and occasionally a Gretsch Silverjet. I play a Harmony Bobcat, and sometimes my '78 Telecaster Standard. Sohrab uses a

Music Man 'twin' [amp] and I use a '71 Deluxe Reverb with a Weber speaker.... I may need something a bit louder, though it does sound great."

Earlier this month, people in Philly, NYC, and Boston got a chance to make Night Marchers vs. Obits comparisons when the two bands shared the bills.

Hot Snakes bassist Gar Wood has moved to guitar in Night Marchers, squaring off on his lefty Gibson SG against Reis's blond Telecaster to produce a gnarly rock 'n' roll roar.

Wood, vet of many celebrated SD bands from

club Rios: "Dude, so funny: Danzig comes out, their hair soaking wet like they've been rockin' so hard — and they hadn't played a note yet!"

— David R. Stampone

**In My Room** "For the past six months, I've been toying around with live Internet broadcasting from my home," says singer-songwriter Michael Tiernan. "In the past couple of months, my audience has really begun to grow." Tiernan's "interactive internet concerts" stream live from his laptop computer every Friday at noon on [tiernantunes.tv](http://tiernantunes.tv).

"I usually perform three



TIERNAN: WORLDWIDE AND PERSONAL

Fishwife through Tanner and the current Beehive and the Barracudas, recalled old gigs for early twentysomethings standing around the merch table — like the time Pitchfork opened for Danzig at the long-gone Point Loma

or four songs, all focused around a certain topic or theme," says Tiernan. "Viewers aren't just viewers either. They are participants, even more so than at a club show.... They can enter chat

(continued on page 66)

# the inside track blurt







THEY PACKED THEM INTO THE NOISE SHOP

downtown Escondido, an area plagued with vacant storefronts.

"A lot of businesses have gone away," says Francisca. According to the *North County Times*, the City of Escondido currently has a \$6 million budget deficit due in part to a 15 percent decrease in local sales tax. But, according to Francisca, it was not the economy that forced them to close up the Noise

come from good, respectable families.... These kids were always respectful of the businesses."

The Noise Shop has hosted live metal and punk shows once a month for the past year and a half. Local bands such as Damcyan, Chaotic Mess, and D.E.A. recently played the store. "We don't charge for our shows," says Francisca, "except maybe two dollars or one dol-

<p>Thursday, January 15</p> <p><b>ALEX SKOLNICK TRIO</b> (from Testament) <b>E.X.P.</b> (Jimi Hendrix tribute) <b>MARK HUETTMAN</b></p> <p></p>	<p><b>BRICK BY BRICK</b></p> <p>Friday, January 2 <b>SILENCE BETRAYED</b> <b>SUNDAY GIRL</b></p> <p>Wednesday, January 7 <b>HANK OF THE DESTRUCTION MOOSE</b> <b>ATEN</b></p> <p>Thursday, January 8 <b>OPUS DAI</b></p> <p>Saturday, January 10 <b>FOUR KINGS</b> <b>SPERO LUMINA</b> <b>MONTE BATTALION</b></p> <p>1/30 Sweet Tooth • Ryan Bingham • 2/11 Zac Brown Band (Tix from postponed 12/11 date will be honored.) 2/14 "Hell on Heels" Burlesque Revue • 3/12 The Start • The Action Design • 3/19 Y&amp;T</p>	<p>Saturday, January 17</p> <p><b>THE DWARVES</b> <b>THE UPRISING</b> <b>CRITICAL ME</b> <b>ART/OFFICIAL</b> <b>THE AGGRONAUTS</b></p> <p></p>
<p>Friday, January 16</p> <p>Siccmade Birthday Bash featuring <b>CROOKED I</b> <b>LIL FLIP</b></p> <p></p> <p>For presale tickets and info: 619-793-8775</p>	<p>Thursday, January 22 <b>SNOT • MOWER</b> <b>ELECTRIC DYNAMITE</b> <b>MY ELYSIAN</b></p> <p>Saturday, January 24 <b>T.S.O.L.</b> <b>BLACK PRESIDENT</b> <b>SHOT OUT HOODS</b></p> <p>Wednesday, February 11 <b>ZAC BROWN BAND</b> <b>GOOD MAN DOWN</b> <b>JOSH DAMIGO</b></p>	<p>Sunday, January 18</p> <p>Belligerent presents <b>AUTHORITY ZERO</b> <b>GIFT/CURSE</b> (Feat. members of Spell Toronto &amp; The Classified) <b>STRIKE TWELVE</b> <b>PLANE WITHOUT A PILOT</b></p> <p></p>

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THURSDAY 1/8 • 8 PM

**ELIJAH EMANUEL &  
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FRIDAY 1/9 • 9 PM

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**THE BURNING OF ROME**

SATURDAY 1/10 • 9 PM

**DAVID LINDLEY**

**ROBIN HENKEL  
NATHAN JAMES**

SUNDAY 1/11 • 8 PM

**MARC BROUSSARD**

**JESSE BAYLIN  
JOSH HOGE**

WEDNESDAY 1/14 • 8 PM

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**THE FARMERS  
THE CHEAP LEIS**

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**2/6 The Greyboy Allstars**

### UPCOMING SHOWS:

- 1/28 Ledward Ka'apana and Mike Ka'awa
- 1/29 West Indian Girl
- 1/30 The Cured
- 1/31 James Morrison
- 2/3 Eagles of Death Metal
- 2/4 Devotchka
- 2/5 Todd Snider, Solo Acoustic
- 2/7 '80s Fever - Hyper Crush

- 2/9 Tim Reynolds and TR3
- 2/12 ALO
- 2/13 Common Sense
- 2/15 Susan Tedeschi
- 2/16 Donavon Frankenreiter w/Gary Jules
- 2/18 Joshua Radin
- 2/19 Donavon Frankenreiter w/Gary Jules
- 2/20 Super Diamond

- 2/21 Cash'd Out
- 2/22 Salsa Sunday
- 2/27 & 2/28 English Beat
- 3/6 Delta Spirit
- 3/12 Solana Beach Baseball Bash feat. Atomic Groove
- 3/21 Stepping Feet: The Dave Matthews Band Experience
- 4/4 John Brown's Body
- 4/9 Dark Star Orchestra

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sessions, make requests, and discuss the [musical] theme." Tiernan also sometimes shows photos and slides and polls viewers on a variety of topics, not necessarily musical. "It usually turns out to be part talk show, part concert....

"So far, the most amazing experience I've had broadcasting is after my daughter was born [in November '08]. I was playing a brand-new song I wrote for her. In the middle of the song, my wife brought the baby into the room after a nap, and I sang the song to her, tears in my eyes. I received tons of feedback after. There were about 50 people watching from all over the world, and many of them wrote me that it was one of the most touching things they'd ever seen."

Tiernan's Internet audience can range from a dozen people to around a hundred. "But compare that with getting in your car, filling up the tank, and driving up to L.A. or San Francisco to play at a club that may or may not have 50 people in it, and it's a pretty good deal. I can also sell sponsorship for my shows and in the future will be putting on pay-per-view online festivals."

Tiernan's songs "Better

Life" and "Distractions" will be featured on MTV's *Real World* on January 21. He appears Wednesday, January 7, at the Belly Up.

— Jay Allen Sanford

**Cheap History** Almost 29 years ago (1/2/80), Cheap Trick played to a sold-out crowd at the Sports Arena. Exactly one year earlier (1/2/79), the band's Civic Theatre concert attracted around 1000 patrons (this was before the release of their breakthrough live *At Budokan* album).



ZANY, RIDICULOUS NIELSEN

The set list included their recent hit single "Dream Police" and requisites such as "Surrender," "Big Eyes," and "I Want You to Want Me." According to concert reviewer Thomas K. Arnold, singer Robin Zander was "clutching the microphone and acting as though he was lusting after the young girls in the audience as much as they were lusting after him."

Rick Nielsen acted "zany" and "ridiculous," according to Arnold, who said the guitarist "pranced around like an

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idiot, making grotesquely silly faces at the crowd and acting like an outpatient from a mental hospital whose release was a horrible mistake."

Soon after the concert, a controversy over the tickets arose after it was determined that promoter Marc Berman sold choice seats to Trip Tickets, a resale agency — scalpers. The city attorney's office investigated Berman, who admitted to the *San Diego Union* that he had sold between 200 and 300 seats to Trip Tickets.

"I don't know what would be illegal about it," Berman told the reporter.

Berman was absolved of any wrongdoing, though laws regarding ticket resale were later altered to preclude such arrangements between primary and secondary ticket sellers. A few years later, Berman — who'd been a San

Diego concert promoter since the mid-'70s — took a job in L.A. as operations director for a resort entertainment company.

— Jay Allen Sanford

**Goodbye Again** William "Doc" Hunter, 70, jazz pianist, Chicago Six, South Market Street Jazz Band. d. 1/8/08.

Bob Finch, 82, jazz bassist and bandleader for the Chicago Six. d. 1/12/08.

John Stewart, 68, member of the Kingston Trio's second lineup in 1961. Wrote "Daydream Believer" (the Monkees/Anne Murray). d. 1/19/08.

Carl Evans Jr., 53, jazz keyboardist, Fattburger founder, toured with Stevie Wonder, Anita Baker, Barry White. d. 4/10/08.

Calvin "Romance" Baugh, 48, jazz vocalist, recorded for Verve Records, front man for



COUNTRY DICK'S "SATAN" (LORNA "DOONE" HAMILTON)

Quiet Storm, sang with Evan Marks, Steve Laury. d. 4/18/08.

Craig Yerkes, 40, guitarist for the Grams. d. 6/28/08.

Barbara Jamerson, 59, jazz vocalist, fronted trio named Two Deep. d. 8/20/08.

Willy Graves, 27, bassist in the Prayers, Plot to Blow Up the Eiffel Tower. d. 9/14/08.

Nick Reynolds, 75, Kingston Trio founding member. d. 10/1/08.

Terrin Durfey, 34, multi-instrumentalist member of Pinback, Jade Shader, and Boilermaker. d. 10/28/08.

Scott Zensen, 50, published online local music webzine, *My Music Week*. d. 11/26/08.

Lorna "Doone" Hamilton, 50, local music "super-fan," sang on *The Devil Lied to Me* by Country Dick Montana. d. 11/27/08.

Mike Peters, 53, keyboardist Mo'Wasabi. Ex-member of Private Domain ('80s), also ex-Eve Selis Band, Dr. Feelgood & the Interns of Love, Ron Bolton Band, Los Banderos. d. 12/6/08.

— Bart Mendoza

### CONTRIBUTORS

William Crain, Dave Good, Larry Harmon, Ken Leighton, Bart Mendoza, Jay Allen Sanford, David Stampone



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## Music & Event Calendar of January

**Thursday, 1st:** Irish Night  
**Friday, 2nd:** The Night Doctors  
**Saturday, 3rd:** The Gobshytes  
**Sunday, 4th:** DJ Blairly Legal  
**Monday, 5th:** The Blokes  
**Tuesday, 6th:** Rich the Stitch  
**Wednesday, 7th:** Joe Wood  
**Thursday, 8th:** Irish Night  
**Friday, 9th:** Reggae with MG3  
**Saturday, 10th:** Special Guest  
**Sunday, 11th:** DJ Blairly Legal  
**Monday, 12th:** The Blokes  
**Tuesday, 13th:** Special Guest  
**Wednesday, 14th:** Joe Wood  
**Thursday 15th:** Irish Night  
**Friday 16th:** New American Mob  
**Saturday 17th:** Hidden City Derby Girls

**Sunday, 18th:** The Drowning Men  
**Monday, 19th:** The Blokes  
**Tuesday, 20th:** Rich the Stitch  
**Wednesday, 21st:** Joe Wood  
**Thursday, 22nd:** Irish Night  
**Friday, 23rd:** Reggae with MG3  
**Saturday, 24th:** Special Guest  
**Sunday, 25th:** DJ Blairly Legal  
**Monday, 26th:** The Blokes  
**Tuesday, 27th:** Special Guest  
**Wednesday, 28th:** Joe Wood  
**Thursday, 29th:** Red Octopus  
**Friday, 30th:** Art Show Event  
**Saturday, 31st:** Special Guest

• Dates are subject to change  
• Check hensleypub.com for details







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# Like an Eagle

“When people are around, I slouch down, to make them more comfortable.”

I’ve lived in San Diego all my life,” says singer-songwriter Jack Tempchin, “and I consider it my city — although I don’t mind sharing it with a few million people.”

Before writing songs for the Eagles and others, Tempchin lived in Banker’s Hill in 1970-’71. He often performed at a Mission Beach watering hole called the Heritage (where, for a time, Tom Waits manned the door).

In 1971, Tempchin managed SDSU’s Backdoor theater. While eating lunch one day at Der Wienerschnitzel on Washington and First in Hillcrest, inspired by “two pretty girls walking by,” he began writing the lyrics to “Peaceful Easy Feeling” on the back of a concert flyer. Friend and fellow musician Glenn Frey brought the song to his band the Eagles in 1972. The group recorded Tempchin’s “Already Gone” in 1973.

Every time the Eagles rerelease either song, Tempchin receives songwriter royalties. The Eagles’ album *Their Greatest Hits (1971–1975)*, featuring both tunes, has sold 27 million copies, making it one of the ten best-selling albums ever, according to the Recording Industry Association of America.

Tempchin’s songs have been covered by locals the Paladins and Chris Hillman, as well as by George Jones, Glen Campbell, Tanya Tucker, Emmylou Harris, and Trisha Yearwood. Now living in Encinitas, Tempchin recently released a solo CD, *Songs*, which includes his new version of “Smug-gler’s Blues,” cowritten with Glenn Frey and featured prominently in the TV show *Miami Vice* in the ’80s.

## WHAT ARE YOU LISTENING TO?

1. “My friend Meiko was the bartender at the Hotel Cafe in Hollywood, where I hang out. I didn’t know she was such a great songwriter and per-

former until I got her new album *Meiko*, which is a hit on the iTunes store.”

2. “Fishtank Ensemble is a band with a gypsy violinist. They’re an amazing group, unlike most anything I’ve ever heard. I’ve been playing their *Samurai over Serbia* album.”

3. “The Phantom Blues Band, featuring the incredible Mike Finnigan on vocals, recorded one of my songs on their album *Out of the Shadows*, which is great. They’re also the backup band for Taj Mahal.”

4. “Joe Sublett’s new solo album, *Subtones*, is instrumental and perfect for when you want to set a mood. He plays saxophone with the Rolling Stones and everybody else.”

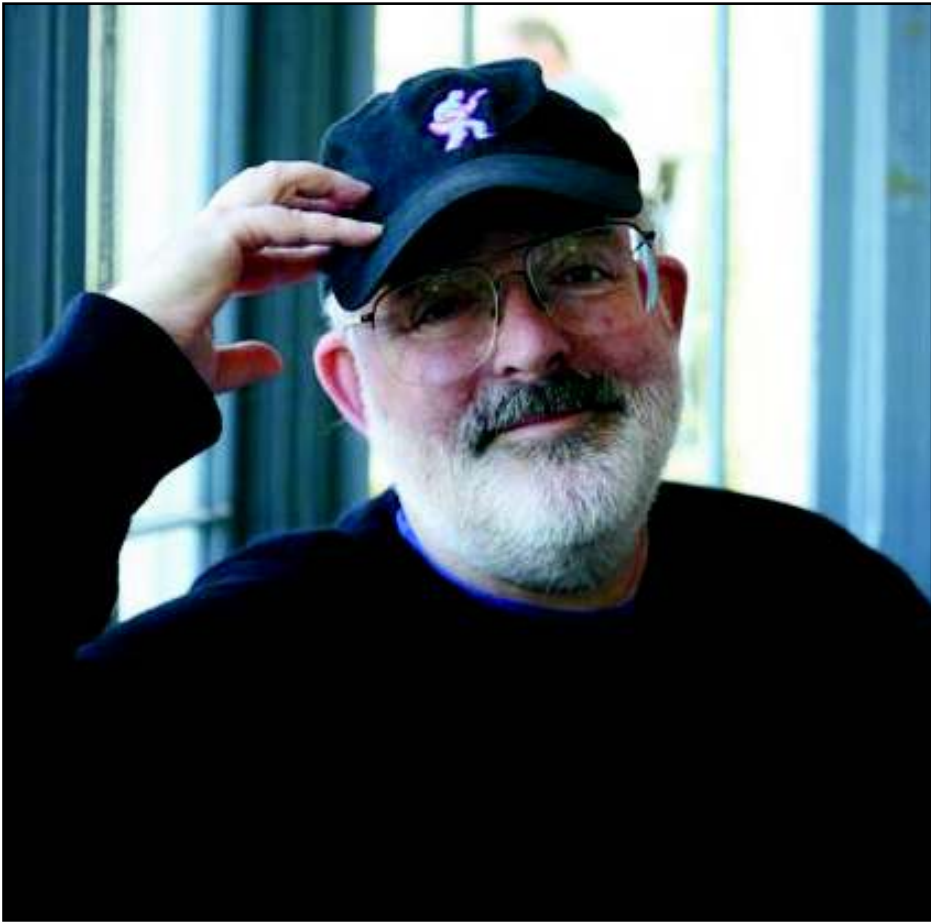
5. “My longtime friend J.D. Souther has a new album called *If the World Was You*, and I can’t get enough of the song ‘I’ll Be Here at Closing Time.’”

## WHAT ARE YOU READING?

1. “*The Shock Doctrine* by Naomi Klein is a fantastic book. It tells how to recognize the three prongs of the corporate-devil’s pitchfork. One, eliminate all public services, like parks, beaches, [and] health care. Two, deregulate all business. Three, privatize everything, from toll roads to the water supply. This leads to people being either very rich or very poor and the end of democracy and freedom.”

2. “*A Princess of Mars* is a great pulp fantasy by Edgar Rice Burroughs, the writer of the Tarzan books. If you have an iPhone, you can download it and thousands of other books free and read them on your iPhone with the free Stanza program.”

3. “The Dumarest of Terra series is perhaps my favorite pulp science-fiction books of all time. The series consists of 32 books by E.C. Tubb that almost no one knows about. The more you read



Jack Tempchin

them, the better they get!”

4. “*The Outfit* by Richard Stark is part of the Parker book series. The movie *Payback* and five other films have been made from the Parker books. The main character is a very bad person. You wouldn’t want to meet him, but he’s great to read about.”

5. “*The Golden Section: Nature’s Greatest Secret* by Scott Olsen is about a mathematical relationship known to everyone from Pythagoras to Leonardo da Vinci. This relationship appears everywhere in nature, and the book claims that it’s the secret of everything. It contains the ultimate mumbo *and* jumbo, except it’s all math, and it’s all true.”

## LENNON OR MCCARTNEY?

“Lennon credited McCartney with writing almost all the songs. They were both great on their own, but neither they nor anyone else ever achieved anything close to what they did together.”

## DRINK OF CHOICE?

“PG Tips tea with heavy cream.”

## SOMETHING ABOUT YOU FEW KNOW ABOUT?

“When no one is around and I straighten up, I am very tall. When people are around, I slouch down, to make them more comfortable.” ■

FRIDAY • JANUARY 2 <b>NASHVILLE RAMBLERS</b> <b>PLASTIC NANCY</b> DJ TONY THE TYGER (SATISFACTION L.A.) <b>ACTION ANDY Y LOS</b> <b>CABALLEROS PSYCHEDELICOS</b>	<b>THE Casbah</b> COCKTAILS • LIVE MUSIC • 21 w/ID 2501 KETTNER BLVD. • 232-4355	SATURDAY • JANUARY 10 <b>THE DRAGONS</b> <b>DEADBOLT</b> <b>WILD WEEKEND</b> <b>BLACK HONDO</b>
SATURDAY • JANUARY 3 <b>THE SLACKERS</b> <b>THE IMPALERS</b>	TUESDAY • JANUARY 6 <b>EARTHLESS</b> <b>HOSTILE COMBOVER</b> <b>DEMASIADO</b> <b>NIGHTMARES</b>	SUNDAY • JANUARY 11 <b>C.L.A. &amp; GUESTS</b>
SUNDAY • JANUARY 4 <b>MIKE WATT &amp; THE</b> <b>SECONDMEN</b> <b>MR. TUBE &amp;</b> <b>THE FLYING OBJECTS</b> <b>THE GLOSSINES</b>	WEDNESDAY • JANUARY 7 <b>BOB LOG III</b> <b>HEARTACHES • WIDOWS</b>	MONDAY • JANUARY 12 ANTI-MONDAY LEAGUE PRESENTS <b>FURIOUS IV</b> <b>OLIVELAWN</b> <b>RADIO WENDY</b> <b>THE OLD IN OUT</b>
MONDAY • JANUARY 5 ANTI-MONDAY LEAGUE PRESENTS <b>THE LONG AND</b> <b>SHORT OF IT</b> <b>ARCHONS</b> <b>GET YOUR DEATH ON</b> <b>FIRETHORN</b>	THURSDAY • JANUARY 8 <b>LUCY'S FUR COAT</b> <b>THE BLACKOUT PARTY</b> <b>DJ SHUFFLEDUST</b>	TUESDAY • JANUARY 13 <b>MEAT PUPPETS</b> <b>I SEE HAWKS IN L.A.</b>
	FRIDAY • JANUARY 9 <b>LUCY'S FUR COAT</b> <b>THE BLOOD FLOWERS</b> <b>DJs EL TORITO Y</b> <b>LA CHINA</b>	THURSDAY • JANUARY 15 <b>HONEY GLAZE</b> <b>STAIRWAY TO CHARO</b>
		FRIDAY • JANUARY 16 <b>EL VEZ</b> <b>GREATEST HITS SHOW</b> <b>MEX</b>
casbahtickets.com Charge by phone: 888-512-7469 thecasbah.com		

<b>“Walking with Dinosaurs”</b> January 1-4 <b>“Annie”</b> January 9-11 <b>Jeff Dunham</b> January 16 <b>John Legend</b> January 16 <b>WEC Cage Fighting</b> January 25 <b>Lil Wayne</b> January 27 <b>“High School Musical</b> <b>Ice Tour”</b> January 28-Feb. 1 <b>Robin Williams</b> February 12 <b>Styx</b> February 14	<b>Bolts vs. Colts</b> This Saturday, January 3, 5 pm  <b>Mötley Crüe</b> February 2	<b>“Grease”</b> March 3-8 <b>Slipknot</b> March 8 <b>“Rent”</b> March 10-15 <b>“Thomas &amp; Friends”</b> March 20, 21, 22 <b>Joe Bonamassa</b> March 20 <b>“Rain: The Beatles</b> <b>Experience”</b> April 21-26 <b>Harlem Globetrotters</b> February 13 & 15 <b>World Baseball Classic</b> March 15-19 <b>Padres</b> 2009 Season
<b>ATLAS TICKETS</b> 222-7800 atlatickets.com All L.A., Orange County & Las Vegas events 3320 Kemper St. (across from San Diego Sports Arena) Charge by phone. Delivery available.		





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## New Year's Eve Party – December 31

2 Great Bands • 2 Clubs • 1 Cover

Party Favors • Champagne Toast



**6 ONE 9**

(Navajo • Dec. 31)



**Serious Guise**

(Santee • Dec. 31)

## Navajo

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

Thursday, January 1 – **KMMNLTH**

Friday & Saturday, January 2 & 3 • 9 pm



Classic Rock

**Serious Guise**

Sunday, January 4 – **Man vs. Man • Bastard Saints • Severed Roots • Carbite**

Monday, January 5 – **Karaoke**

Tuesday, January 6 – **KMMNLTH**

Wednesday, January 7 – **The Reverend Stickman • Bedpost Buzzards • Fuzz Huzzi**

## Santee

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

Friday & Saturday, January 2 & 3 • 9 pm



Classic Rock

**6 ONE 9**

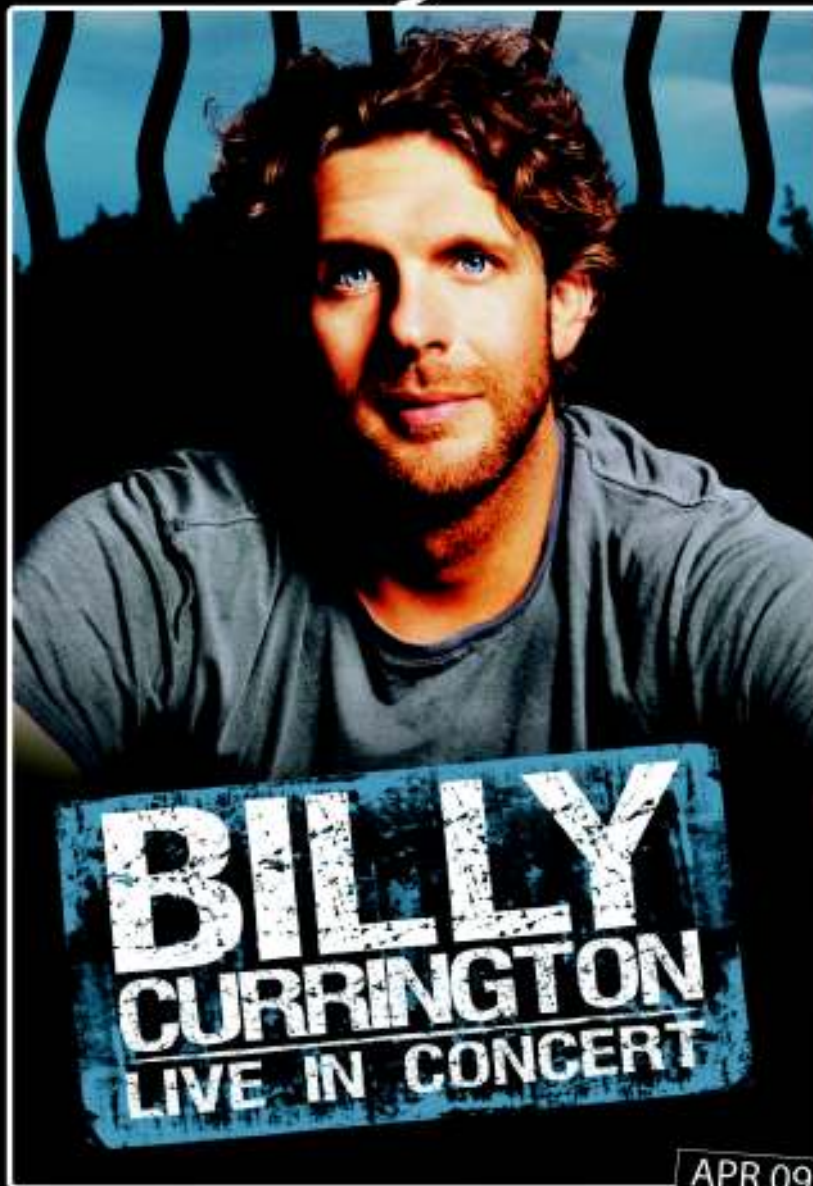
Sunday, January 4 – **The Reverend Stickman • Vacine • Fuzz Huzzi**

Tuesday, January 6 – **Dirty Bones Band**

Wednesday, January 7 – **Cory Wilkins Band**

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

# DreamCatcher at VIEJAS



APR 09

## DreamCatcher

FREE WEEKEND ENTERTAINMENT

JAN 02	MAGIC CITY	9p-1a
JAN 03	80z ALL STARS	9p-1a
JAN 03	CRUSH	9p-1a
JAN 09	MAGIC CITY	9p-1a
JAN 09	REAGANOMICS	9p-1a

JAN 02	CORVELLES	10p-1a
JAN 03	CRIMINAL FUNK	10p-1a
JAN 09	PRIVATE DOMAIN	10p-1a

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# Calendar

## MUSIC SCENE

Classical listings can be found in the *Classical Music Guide*. Music videos, driving directions, maps, event alerts, coupons, and more available online at [SanDiegoReader.com](http://SanDiegoReader.com).

**HOW TO SUBMIT A MUSIC LISTING:** Call 619-235-3000 x405, night or day by 5 pm Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA, 92186. You may also submit information online at [SDReader.com](http://SDReader.com) by clicking on the music section.

## THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

**Anthology:** 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300.  
*Friday*, 7:30 p.m. — Gene Perry's Noche de Rumba Salsa Jazz Orchestra. Salsa/jazz. \$18.  
*Friday*, 10 p.m. — Pocket. Soul/funk/jazz. \$10.  
*Saturday*, 7:30 p.m. — Charmaine Clamor. Contemporary jazz. \$18.  
*Saturday*, 10 p.m. — Janiva Magness. Blues. \$18.  
*Tuesday*, 7 p.m. — The Anthology House Band. Jazz/R&B/soul. \$5.  
*Wednesday*, 7:30 p.m. — Buster Williams, Patrice Rushen, Lenny White. Traditional jazz. \$24.

**Bar Pink:** 3829 30th Street, North Park, 619-564-7194.

*Thursday*, 10 p.m. — Christmas Island. With the Intelligence. Indie/rock/pop.

**Belly Up Tavern:** 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.  
*Friday*, 9 p.m. — Pato Banton and Mystic Roots. Reggae/hip-hop/rock. \$18-\$20.

*Saturday*, 9 p.m. — Pepper. With the Supervillains and Passafire. Reggae/dub/rock. \$25-\$27.  
*Sunday*, 8:30 p.m. — Orquesta Primo. Salsa. \$10.  
*Wednesday*, 8 p.m. — The Michael Tiernan Trio. With Owen Roberts & the Dog House Brewer, Veronica May & the To Do List, Kyle Phelan. Acoustic. \$8.

**Brick by Brick:** 1130 Buena Vista Avenue, Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.  
*Wednesday*, 8:30 p.m. — Hank of the Destruction Moose. Metal/thrash. \$5.

**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.  
*Sundays*, 7:30 p.m. — Burnett's Bliss. With Robert Sebastian and Scott Wallingford. Jazz/standards/blues.

**Canes:** 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780.  
*Friday*, 9 p.m. — Agua Dulce and Psydecar. With Roots Covenant. Latin/alternative/rock. \$10.  
*Saturday*, 9 p.m. — Sashamon. With Stranger, High Tide, and Tribal Theory. Reggae/rock.

**The Casbah:** 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-4355.  
*Friday*, 8:30 p.m. — The Nashville Ramblers and Plastic Nancy. \$10.  
*Saturday*, 8:30 p.m. — The Slackers and the Impalers. With guests. Ska/reggae/soul. \$16-\$18.  
*Sunday*, 8:30 p.m. — Mike Watt + the Secondmen. With Mr. Tube & the Flying Objects. Experimental/garage/punk. \$12.  
*Monday*, 8:30 p.m. — The Long & Short of It. With Archons, Get Your Death On, and Firethorn. Alternative/rock/metal. \$5.  
*Tuesday*, 8:30 p.m. — Earthless and Hostile Comb-Over. With Demasiado and Nightmares. Noise/garage/rock. \$5.  
*Wednesday*, 8:30 p.m. — Bob Log III. With the Heartaches and the Widows. Punk/garage/pop.

**Coyote Bar and Grill:** 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, 760-729-4695.  
*Thursday*, 6 p.m. — The King Fish Turner Band. Rock/R&B.  
*Friday*, 6 p.m. — Sons of Bordertown. Rock/blues/folk.  
*Saturday*, 6 p.m. — Eight Twenty Band. Latin/rock.  
*Sunday*, 5 p.m. — Reggie Smith & Pressed for Time. Jazz.  
*Wednesday*, 6 p.m. — Northstar. Classic rock.

**Dirk's Niteclub:** 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-469-6344.  
*Friday, Saturday* — FX5. Covers/standards/dance.

**Dizzy's:** 200 Harbor Drive, Downtown, 858-270-7467.  
*Sunday*, 7 p.m. — The Outlaw Collective. Modern jazz. \$10-\$15.



Charmaine Clamor, January 3, Anthology

**Fannie's Nightclub:** 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley, 619-698-2204.  
*Thursdays* — Fuzz-Huzzi. Alternative/pop/punk.

**Hensley's Flying Elephant Pub and Grill:** 850 Tamarack Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-434-2660.  
*Monday*, 7:30 p.m. — The Blokes. Rowdy Celtic, bluegrass, and surf.

**House of Blues:** 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2583.  
*Thursday*, 6:30 p.m. — Reel Big Fish. Ska/punk/rock. \$19.  
*Friday*, 7 p.m. — Pepper. With the

## Get away from the zoo on Garnet Avenue!

## Enjoy this New Year's Eve at PB Alehouse and Shore Club!

No cover. No reservations. No inhibitions.

Where Grand meets the sand and the searchlight shines on New Year's Eve.

**5-course dinner \$39 pp**  
 including champagne toast

**\$3 house beers 9 pm-close**  
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Tickets for "Upcoming Shows"  
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All shows are 21 years and up

Wednesday, December 31

## New Year's Eve 2008 Parties

9:30 pm • Backstage Lounge  
**Detroit Underground**



\$49 Advance • \$59 At Door

Celebrate an Elegant Affair  
at Humphreys Restaurant  
**5-Course Dinner & Dancing to**



**Reggie Smith  
& Pressed  
4 Time**  
\$149 Advance  
\$159 At Door

Make Your  
Reservations  
Now!

Friday, January 2 • 9:30 pm • Blues

**Ruby and the  
Red Hots**

Saturday, January 3 • 6 pm • Dance

**Plato Soul**

9:30 pm • Disco/Dance

**Rising  
Star**



Sunday, January 4  
8 pm • Smooth Jazz

**T-Fox**

with **DJ John Phillips**

Monday, January 5 • 7 pm • Blues

**Chet Cannon's  
Blue Monday Blues Party**

Tuesday, January 6 • 7 pm • Funk

**Gregory Michaels**

Wednesday, January 7 • 7 pm • Chicago Blues

**Bill Magee**

[humphreysbackstage.com](http://humphreysbackstage.com) • 2241 Shelter Island Dr. • 619-224-3577

Also visit [www.humphreysrestaurant.com](http://www.humphreysrestaurant.com) for December's restaurant promotions & special offers.

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ALSO FEATURING DJ PIVOTIK AND DJ PREIMER

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\$3 BEERS ALL NITE & \$3 MANAGER SHOT SPECIALS ALL NITE  
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**PLUS 3SG & DV8 DJ : XRAY**

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\$1 Bud, Bud Light, Beer Of the Month  
from 8pm-10pm

**Thursday**  
\$1 Bud & Bud Lights  
From 8pm-9pm

**Tuesday**  
\$5 Gets ANY Beer  
Plus a Shot

ARE YOU READY FOR  
THE  
**New Years Eve  
Party?**



Complimentary  
& Hors-d'Oeuvre's  
& Champagne Toast  
**No Cover**  
before 8p.m.  
\$10 before 10p.m. \$15 after  
Vip Tables are available

GOOD NEIGHBOR TATTOO PRESENTS  
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Supervillains and Passafire. Reggae/dub/rock. \$22.  
*Saturday*, 7 p.m. — The Radiators. Rock/jam band. \$17-\$32.  
*Sunday*, 6 p.m. — B.B. King. Blues. \$72-\$122.  
*Monday*, 7 p.m. — The Meteors. Psychobilly. \$15.  
*Tuesday*, 6:30 p.m. — George Clinton & the P-Funk All Stars. Soul/funk/rock. \$30-\$37.

**The Jumping Turtle:** 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos, 760-741-7778.  
*Mondays* — Reggae Infusion Irie Time. Various reggae bands perform.

**The Kraken:** 2531 South Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-436-6483.  
*Sundays*, 4 p.m. — The Blues Brokers. Blues/soul/rock.  
*Mondays, Tuesdays* — Doug Allen. Front man of the Mar Dels.

**Le Drug Store:** 4th Street and Revolution, Baja.  
*Wednesday* — Carnifex. Metal/hardcore.

**Main Stage Bar at Valley View Casino:** 16300 Nyemii Pass Road, Valley Center, 866-843-9946.  
*Thursday*, 7 p.m. — Metro. Eighties rock. Free.  
*Friday*, 9 p.m. — The Heroes. Covers/standards/dance. 4 p.m. — Firefly. Contemporary rock. Free.  
*Saturday*, 9 p.m. — Innovation. Covers/standards. 4 p.m. — Hot

Rod Lincoln. Acoustic/roots/rockabilly. Free.

**Osetra Watergrill:** 904 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-1800.  
*Thursdays*, 8 p.m. — Live Jazz. In the E5 Lounge. Free.  
*Wednesdays*, 8 p.m. — Los Reyes del Ritmo. Flamenco and Latin music in the E5 Lounge. Free.

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

**Patrick's II:** 428 F Street, Downtown, 619-233-3077.  
*Thursday* — The Bayou Brothers. Zydeco/blues/R&B.  
*Friday* — Michele Lundeen & Blues Streak. Blues/funk/rock.  
*Saturday* — 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band. Blues/funk.  
*Sunday* — Len Rainey & the Midnight Players. Blues/jazz/soul.  
*Monday* — A Fifth of Blues. Blues.  
*Tuesday* — Missy Andersen. Blues/soul/funk.  
*Wednesday* — Shelle Blue. Rhythm and blues.

**Rosie O'Grady's:** 3402 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-284-7666.  
*Tuesdays*, 9:30 p.m. — Bdub's Jazz Jam Session. Modern jazz classics and standards with Bryan Whelan, Doug Walker, Laurel Grinnell, and friends.

# NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

Political folk-punk band **This Bike Is a Pipe Bomb** has been around for more than ten years, but it feels weird to be writing about them in a big weekly newspaper. In an age of blogs and vlogs and text messages, the Pensacola, Florida, three-piece is still committed to getting the word out through zines copied and stapled on the late shift at a Kinko's somewhere and then handed out from one punk to another.

In an age when people buy (or steal) their music online, This Bike Is a Pipe Bomb helps run a record label that sells CDs for

five bucks each, including postage. In an age when the Warped Tour version of punk is big business, and it seems as if every band in the world is trying to get its music played on the CW network or in a TV commercial, This Bike Is a Pipe Bomb is part of the scene that still screams "sellout!" whenever an underground act signs to a major label. Maybe this mindset is an anachronism, but I think not.

The underground punk scene can be stupid and obnoxious. Its politics can be knee-jerk and self-defeating. And the music can be dreadful. But underground punk, in all its forms, can also be powerful, exciting, inspiring. I think we need underground punk, in all its forms, more now than ever. In an age when music often seems like nothing but a prop for video games, we still



**THIS BIKE IS A PIPE BOMB**

need bands who believe that they can create a new way of living. With their raggedy punk-folk, This Bike Is a Pipe Bomb is filling a vital function.

**THIS BIKE IS A PIPE BOMB: Bar Pink, Monday, January 5, 10 p.m. 619-564-7194.**

Triumph and Hello Marquee. With Flight to Athena, Casino Madrid, Lindbergh Skies, Vanguard, and Among the Storm. Punk/hardcore. \$10.  
*Saturday*, 6:30 p.m. — Goodnight Caulfield. CD-release show with Crash Encore, Dynamite Walls, Airplanes & Lovegames, Real

Things Are Good, the Motives, and Troubadours at War. Indie/alternative. \$8.

**South Park Bar & Grill:** 1946 Fern Street, South Park, 619-696-0096.  
*Thursdays*, 9:30 p.m. — Open jazz jam.  
*Fridays*, 7 p.m. — The John

Kopecky Trio. Jazz.  
*Saturdays*, 8:30 p.m. — Open Blues Jam. With Will Jackson.  
*Sundays*, 6 p.m. — Original Music Modern Jazz Series. Every Sunday, with Doug Walker, Tim Nunnink, Nick Tocco, and Nathan Hubbard.



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Valid Tuesday, January 6, 2009.

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Wednesday, December 31

## New Year's Eve Skate

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**DRESS CODE ENFORCED AFTER 9 PM  
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9 PM

**\$15 COVER INCLUDES  
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SUNDAY, MONDAY & TUESDAY 9 PM**

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# NEW





DEC. 31 • NEW YEAR'S EVE

FRI., JAN. 2



Call for dinner package  
and ticket info.



ROOTS COVENANT

SAT., JAN. 3

THURS., JAN. 8



STRANGER • HIGH TIDE  
TRIBAL THEORY

CANDICE GRAHAM  
STRIKE THE DESIGN  
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FRI., JAN. 9

SAT., JAN. 10

LIGHTS  
(Journey Tribute)  
JUMPING JACK  
FLASH  
(Stones Tribute)  
HOT AUGUST NIGHT  
(Neil Diamond Tribute)

FISHBONE  
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FRI., JAN. 16

SAT., JAN. 17

ONE INCH PUNCH  
SIXTH DAY  
NEGATIVE  
FILTER

RECIPRO  
VOKAB  
KOMPANY  
DJ D-ROCK

FRI., JAN. 18

FRI., JAN. 23

Ariel Delmundo  
presents  
SUPLA



Cashid Out  
(Johnny Cash  
Tribute)  
PUSHING ROPE

SAT., JAN. 24

FRI., JAN. 30

Tainted Love  
(80's  
Tribute)  
DJ BAO



presented by  
B-REAL &  
DJ MUGGS  
(of Cypress Hill  
& Psycho Realm)

SAT., JAN. 31

FRI., FEB. 13

(həd) p.e.  
KUTT CALHOUN  
DIRTBALL • POTLUCK  
DGO • DEAF ZERO

ATOMIC PUNKS  
(Tribute to early Van Halen)

2/28: DEAD PREZ

3/13: DE LA SOUL

3/30: LESS THAN JAKE, THE EXPENDABLES

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Jamie Kennedy

DJ Ivy  
Dancing after  
the show.

Only \$25  
per person



NEW YEAR'S EVE

Two shows: 8 pm & 10 pm

Wednesday, December 31st, 2008

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Friend...



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End

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Ashley Mallaney 619 814.2014 or amallaney@thebitterend.com

UPCOMING  
SHOWS

**4th&B:** 345 B Street, Downtown,  
619-231-4343.  
*January 17* — Barrington Levy.  
*January 23* — Sharon Jones.

**AcousticMusicSanDiego:**  
4650 Mansfield Street, Normal  
Heights, 619-303-8176.  
*January 9* — Al Kooper.  
*January 10* — Trace Bundy.  
*January 13* — Elliott Murphy.  
*January 15* — The John Jorgenson  
Quintet.  
*January 16* — Fred Eaglesmith.  
*January 17* — Peter Rowan.  
*January 24* — Loudon Wainwright  
III.  
*February 7* — Hot Club of  
Cowtown.  
*February 21* — Geoff Muldaur.  
*February 27* — Lucky Kaplansky.  
*March 6* — Stephen Bennett.  
*March 26* — Chad & Jeremy.  
*April 3* — Hawaiian Slack-Key  
Masters.  
*April 5* — Muriel Anderson.  
*April 11* — Rory Block.  
*April 24* — David Wilcox.

**Anthology:** 1337 India Street,  
Little Italy, 619-595-0300.  
*January 8, January 9* — Poncho  
Sanchez.  
*January 11* — Jesus Diaz.  
*January 14* — Chuchito Valdes.  
*January 17* — Stanley Clarke.  
*January 18* — Robben Ford.  
*January 20* — The Anthology  
House Band.  
*January 21* — The Eve Selis Band.

*January 22* — Kaki King.  
*January 23* — Richie Havens.  
*January 24* — Fountains of Wayne  
and The Clumsy Lovers.  
*January 25* — Griffin House.  
*January 27* — Bill Charlap, Ravi  
Coltrane, Peter Bernstein.  
*January 28* — Sacha Boutros.  
*January 29* — Rebecca Jade.  
*January 30, January 31* — Bobby  
Caldwell.

**Athenaeum Music and Arts  
Library:** 1008 Wall Street, La Jolla,  
858-454-5872.  
*January 12* — Ron Morebello.  
*January 17* — Marilyn Crispell.  
*January 29* — Hoenig Pilc Project.  
*February 12* — The Michael Wolff  
Trio and The Amina Figarova  
Sextet.  
*February 23* — Jaeryoung Lee.

**Bare Back Grill - Downtown:**  
624 E Street, Downtown, 619-237-  
9990.  
*January 13* — John Miller, Ricardo  
Beas, Austin Jennings.

**Belly Up Tavern:** 143 South  
Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-  
481-8140.  
*January 8* — Rob Carona and Alex  
Woodard.  
*January 9* — Elijah Emanuel & the  
Revelations.  
*January 10* — Dead Man's Party.  
*January 11* — David Lindley.  
*January 14* — Marc Broussard.  
*January 15* — The Knitters and the  
Farmers.  
*January 16* — Marcia Ball.  
*January 17* — 40 Oz. to Freedom.  
*January 18* — Jangada.  
*January 19* — The Walkmen and  
Beach House.

NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

Old punk rockers who are still willing and able: that list would include **Mike Watt**. But unless you were a fan of the Minutemen or FIREHOSE or '80s Southern California punk revival in general, you've likely never heard of him. I think it was the spectacle of Watt letting loose on stage that earned him prominent fans among his peers — the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Sonic Youth, Henry Rollins. When Watt released his first solo album, *Ball-Hog or Tugboat?*, huge rock stars like Dave Grohl and Eddie Vedder rolled out and toured in Watt's band. Not really a virtuoso or even a star in the traditional sense of the word, Watt's bass guitar work has been called

explosive, over the top, and rich with ideas.

But it's what he brings to the stage that really matters. I saw it myself when a band (I can't remember who) brought him onstage at a punk fest I was attending with my then-teenage daughter. Watt's playing lit up the house, an ability not lost on Iggy Pop — who hired him when he reunited the Stooges in 2003 — or on *Bass Player* magazine, which bestowed its Lifetime Achievement Award on Watt earlier this year.

Watt recently turned 51 and lives in San Pedro. He published a book about the experience titled *Spiels of a Minuteman*. Now gray haired and wearing jeans, sneakers, and short-sleeve plaid shirts, he looks more the part of a hardware-store counter guy than a punk holdout, but he still gets in his van and drives the club circuit as if it were 1980. His current band, the Second-



MIKE WATT

men, is more melodic and even jazzy, but the vibe is still the same: by the end of the evening, you wonder how one little club stage could have contained so much Mike Watt and his bass guitar.

**MIKE WATT AND THE SECONDMEN:**  
**Casbah, Sunday, January 4, 8:30 p.m.**  
**619-232-4355. \$12.**

*January 21* — The North  
Mississippi Allstars.  
*January 22, January 23, January 24*  
— Ozomatli.  
*January 28* — Led Kaapana & Mike  
Kaaawa.  
*January 29* — West Indian Girl.  
*January 30* — The Cured.  
*January 31* — James Morrison.  
*February 3* — The Eagles of Death  
Metal.  
*February 4* — DeVotchKa.  
*February 5* — Todd Snider.  
*February 7* — '80s Fever.  
*February 9* — Tim Reynolds &  
TR3.  
*February 12* — The Animal  
Liberation Orchestra.  
*February 13* — Common Sense.  
*February 15* — Susan Tedeschi.  
*February 16* — Donavon  
Frankenreiter.  
*February 18* — Joshua Radin.  
*February 19* — Donavon  
Frankenreiter.  
*February 20* — Super Diamond.  
*February 21* — Cash'd Out.  
*February 22* — Orquesta Primo.  
*February 27, February 28* — The  
English Beat.  
*March 6* — Delta Spirit.

*March 12* — Solana Beach Baseball  
Bash.  
*March 21* — Stepping Feet.  
*April 4* — John Brown's Body.  
*April 9* — The Dark Star Orchestra.

**Birch North Park Theatre:**  
2891 University Avenue, North  
Park, 619-239-8836.  
*January 16* — George Winston.  
*February 28* — The Lalo Schiffrin  
Trio.

**The Bitter End:** 770 Fifth  
Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-9300.  
*January 22* — Ryan Vernazza &  
John Miller and Michelle Lewis.

**Brick by Brick:** 1130 Buenos  
Avenue, Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.  
*January 10* — Spero Lumina and  
Monte Battalion.  
*January 15* — Alex Skolnick.  
*January 16* — Lil' Flip.  
*January 17* — The Dwarves.  
*January 18* — Authority Zero.  
*January 22* — Snot and Mower.  
*January 24* — TSOL and Black  
President.  
*January 30* — SweetTooth and  
Ryan Bingham.  
*February 7* — Unset and Authentic

Sellout.  
*February 11* — The Zac Brown  
Band.  
*March 8* — Acoustic Alliance.  
*March 12* — theSTART.  
*March 19* — Yesterday & Today.

**Canes:** 3105 Ocean Front Walk,  
Mission Beach, 858-488-1780.  
*January 8* — Candice Graham and  
Strike the Design.  
*January 9* — Lights.  
*January 10* — Fishbone.  
*January 14* — After the Crash and  
the Silent Treatment.  
*January 17* — Necro.  
*January 22* — Kemistry and  
Monday's Alibi.  
*January 23* — Cash'd Out.  
*January 24* — Tainted Love.  
*January 31* — (hed) p.e.

**Carlsbad Village Theatre:**  
2808 State Street, Carlsbad, 760-  
434-5944.  
*January 18* — Danny Paisley & the  
Southern Grass.

**The Casbah:** 2501 Kettner  
Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-  
4355.  
*January 8, January 9* — Lucy's Fur

Coat.  
*January 9* — DJs Tom and Iago.  
*January 10* — The Dragons and  
Deadbolt.  
*January 11* — C.L.A. and Janu &  
the Whalesharks.  
*January 12* — Furious IV and fluf.  
*January 13* — The Meat Puppets  
and Benji Hughes.  
*January 15* — Honey Glaze and  
Charo.  
*January 16* — El Vez.  
*January 17* — The Album Leaf.  
*January 18* — Three Mile Pilot and  
Little White Teeth.  
*January 19* — Three Mile Pilot and  
Kill Me Tomorrow.  
*January 20* — Three Mile Pilot and  
Physics.  
*January 21* — Louis XIV and the  
Silent Comedy.  
*January 22* — Louis XIV and the  
Apes of Wrath.  
*January 23* — No Knife and  
Creedle.  
*January 24* — The Penetrators and  
the Loons.  
*January 25* — Tapes 'n Tapes,  
Theresa Andersson and Creedle.  
*January 27* — Gray Ghosts and the  
New Archaic.

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Friday, January 2 • No Cover

**BILL MAGEE**

Saturday, January 3 • No Cover

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**KINGFISH TURNER BAND**  
(Night)

Sunday, January 4 • No Cover

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Mondays and Tuesdays

**DOUG ALLEN** of the **MAR DELS**

Wednesday, January 7 • No Cover

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January 28 — Goblin Cock and Pleaseeasaur.  
January 29 — The Black Heart Procession.  
January 30 — The Adolescents and the Whiskey Dicks.  
January 31 — The Dave & Deke Combo.  
February 2 — The Fruit Bats and Sera Cahoone.  
February 4 — Fucked Up and Mika Miko.  
February 5 — The Bird & the Bee and Obi Best.  
February 6 — Greg Laswell and Jessica Hoop.  
February 9 — Freeks, Sassy, Pant Hoots.  
February 11 — The Appleseed Cast.  
February 12 — Don Caballero.  
February 15 — Yo! Majesty and Drag the River.  
February 17 — Gil Mantera's Party Dream.  
February 18 — The Annuals and Jessica Lea Mayfield.  
February 19 — Murder by Death.  
February 23 — French Kicks and the Broken West.  
February 25 — A.C. Newman and Dent May.  
February 26 — N.A.S.A.  
February 28 — Kool Keith.  
March 10 — Plants & Animals.  
March 15 — Asobi Seksu.  
April 16 — The Black Lips.

**Cox Arena:** 550 Campanile Drive, College Area, 619-594-6947.  
February 2 — Mötley Crüe.  
March 8 — Slipknot.  
March 15 — Los Temerarios.

**Coyote Bar and Grill:** 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, 760-729-4695.  
January 8 — Billy Watson.  
January 9 — Smokestaxx.  
January 10 — Scott Carter & New Breed.  
January 11 — Billy Watson.

**Dirk's Niteclub:** 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-469-6344.  
January 9, January 10 — FX5.  
January 16, January 17 — TNT.  
January 23 — Loadstone.  
January 24 — One & Done.

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**MONDAY: JANUARY 5**  
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**TUESDAY: JANUARY 6**  
**JIMMY DEAN & FRIENDS**

**WEDNESDAY: JANUARY 7**  
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January 11 — The Road Dogs.  
January 12 — The Blues Invaders.  
January 13 — Chet Cannon & the Committee.  
January 14 — Blue Largo.  
January 15 — 3rd Degree Blues.  
January 16 — Johnny "V" Vernazza.  
January 17 — Len Rainey & the Midnight Players.  
January 18, January 19 — Ronnie Lane & the Twisters.  
January 20 — Blue Four.  
January 21 — Bill Magee Blues Band.  
January 22 — A Fifth of Blues.  
January 23 — The Buick Wilson Band.  
January 24 — Missy Andersen.  
January 25 — Shelle Blue.  
January 26 — 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band.  
January 27 — Blue Largo.  
January 28 — Bill Magee Blues

Band.  
January 29 — The Burnsville Band.  
January 30 — Aunt Kizzy's Boyz.  
January 31 — Family Style.

**Poway Center for the Performing Arts:** 15498 Espola Road, Poway, 858-748-0505.  
January 10 — David Hidalgo & Louie Perez.

**Price Center:** 9500 Gilman Drive, UCSD, 858-534-6467.  
April 15 — Seun Kuti & Egypt 80.

**Rimac Arena:** 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla.  
January 16 — John Legend.

**San Diego Sports Arena:** 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-224-4171.  
February 16 — 28th Annual Tribute to the Legends.

**Soma:** 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-226-7662.  
January 9 — Northwall and the Hoedown.  
January 10 — The Alert Signal and Heads Down for Takeoff.  
January 16 — The 25th Hour and the Dajjal Persona.  
January 17 — 3 Inches of Blood and Toxic Holocaust.  
January 23 — Get Back Loretta and Peachcake.  
January 25 — After the Burial and Veil of Maya.  
February 6 — Blessed by a Broken Heart.  
February 15 — Andrew Bird.  
February 19 — Millionaires.  
April 24 — The Devil Wears Prada.

**Spreckels Theatre:** 121 Broadway, Downtown, 619-235-9500.

March 20 — Joe Bonamassa.

**U-31:** 3112 University Avenue, North Park, 619-584-4188.  
January 14 — the drabs.

**Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room:** 5000 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.  
April 9 — Billy Currington.

## DJ

**HOW TO SUBMIT A DJ LISTING:** Call 619-235-3000 x405, night or day by 5 pm Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA, 92186. You may also submit information online, get directions, maps, event alerts, RSS feeds, club coupons, and more at SanDiegoReader.com.

**Air Conditioned Lounge:** Fridays: DJ Junior. Disco, funk, and '80s music. Saturdays: Juicy. With Mike Czech and DJ SG. Sundays: Guest DJ Night. Guest DJs to be announced. Mondays: Rock N Bowl. With guest DJ. Tuesdays, 11:30 p.m.: Big Sonic Chill. Sponsored by San Diego's Local 94.9. Wednesdays: Rotating Crew. Spin house, electro, and hip-hop. 4673 30th Street, Normal Heights. 619-501-9831.

**Bar Dynamite:** Thursdays, 9 p.m.: DJs SG, Dubz, Teknikscian. Hip-hop, old skool, and mashups. \$5. Wednesdays, 9 p.m.: Deep House Nite. DJs Duane, Lil Ryan, and Johnny D spin house music.

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**Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata**  
January 14, 7:30pm

**SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY**

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**Jacobs' Masterworks**

**JANUARY 9, 10 & 11**  
Jahja Ling, conductor  
Jeff Thayer, violin  
Jessie Chang, piano  
San Diego Master Chorale  
BEETHOVEN: *Triple Concerto*;  
Symphony No. 1; *Choral Fantasy*

**JANUARY 14, 7:30pm** **One Night Only**  
Beethoven Recital  
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BEETHOVEN: *Spring Violin Sonata*  
*Moonlight Sonata*; *Archduke Trio*  
Jahja Ling, piano / Jeff Thayer, violin  
Jisun Yang, violin / Yao Zhao, cello  
Anne-Marie McDermott, piano

**JANUARY 16, 17 & 18**  
Jahja Ling, conductor  
Anne-Marie McDermott, piano  
BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 1  
Symphony No. 4; *Leonore Overture No. 3*

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**JACOBS' MASTERWORKS**

**FEBRUARY 27, 28 & MARCH 1**  
Jahja Ling, conductor / Yefim Bronfman, piano  
MENDELSSOHN: *Fingal's Cave*  
OVORAK: *Serenade in E major*  
BRAHMS: Piano Concerto No. 2

**MARCH 13, 14 & 15**  
Jahja Ling, conductor  
BRAHMS: *A German Requiem*

**APRIL 4**  
Philip Mann, conductor / Corey Corneseck, violin  
RESPIGHI: *Fountains of Rome*  
MENDELSSOHN: Violin Concerto  
Symphony No. 4, *Italian*

**APRIL 25; MAY 8 & 10**  
Jahja Ling, conductor  
Frank and Sheryl Renk, clarinet  
Alexander Palamidis, violin  
VAUGHAN WILLIAMS: *The Lark Ascending*  
KROMMER: Concerto for Two Clarinets  
ELGAR: Symphony No. 1

**MAY 16**  
**SPECIAL PERFORMANCE**  
Jahja Ling, conductor  
Kathleen Battle, soprano

**WINTER POPS**

**JANUARY 25, 2pm**  
**NATIONAL ACROBATS OF CHINA\***

**FEBRUARY 6 & 7**  
**Silent Film Night:**  
**PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (1924)**

**FEBRUARY 14**  
**VALENTINE'S DAY AT THE POPS**  
Matthew Garbutt, conductor

**MARCH 8, 2pm**  
**THE IRISH SPECTACULAR with THE DUBLIN PHILHARMONIC\***

**MARCH 20 & 21**  
**POPS GOES JAZZ**  
Marvin Hamlisch, conductor  
Nikki Yanofsky, vocals  
Jazz Ambassadors of the US Army Field Band

**APRIL 10 & 11**  
**POPS GOES VEGAS**  
Steven Reineke, conductor

**MAY 1 & 2**  
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Marvin Hamlisch, conductor  
Michael Feinstein, vocals

\*San Diego Symphony does not perform at these events.

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<b>the Radiators</b> 30th Anniversary Tour JAN 3	<b>B.B. KING</b> Chris Pierce JAN 4
<b>METOROS</b> Kat Killers JAN 5 ALL AGES	<b>George Clinton &amp; The Parliament Funkadelic</b> JAN 6
<b>LED ZEPPELIN</b> JAN 9	<b>BONFIRE</b> Fan Halen JAN 10
<b>Boyz II Men</b> MOTOWN JAN 15	<b>MAZ JOBRAN</b> From the Asia of Evil Comedy Tour and Friday After Noon JAN 16 ALL AGES
<b>Rebelution</b> STATE RADIO JAN 17 ALL AGES	<b>ERIC JOHNSON</b> Johnny Taylor and Kyle Brock The "Ab Via Musica" Band JAN 18
<b>EDWIN McCAIN</b> Dawn Mitschele JAN 21 WOODOO STAGE	<b>FEMIKUTI &amp; THE POSITIVE FORCE</b> ASA JAN 24

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# Crasher

## COLLEGE AREA KOOKOUT

by Josh Board

There was a story on CNN about the controversy surrounding a public Christmas tree in Washington, D.C. In the interest of fairness, apparently, an atheist group was permitted to place a sign up in the area, but then other groups wanted signs too. *Seinfeld* fans, for example, wanted to prop a "Festivus" pole.

The story reminded me of a party I went to this past summer. It was the day after Fourth of July, in fact, and the event was chock full of atheists.

I had put my notes away from that day and forgot about the party. I searched my desk for an hour after the CNN story before I found them.

Tom's voice-mail invite directed me to his College Area home and suggested that there'd be "lots of attractive college girls at the party...if you like that sort of thing."

When I arrived, however, Tom's front yard was full of men.

He told me that there would be a few bands performing, a folk-rock band, Compass Rose, and another group called Grass Gypsies. The stage and microphone were set up, but the bands never showed. Maybe they knew the college girls hadn't either.



Tom on left

"I didn't realize that it was a break for them," Tom explained. "The house across the street has all women living in it, but they went home to spend time with their families. Usually when we have a party they come over."

These guys were part of a group called the American Humanist Association. One guy explained that the AHA is composed of agnostics and atheists. I joked with

nothing to light it with. When I asked around for matches, one guy said, "I quit smoking when I was nine."

A guy who appeared to be in his 70s talked to me about how much he hates President Bush. He said he'd "like to see Bush go to heaven.... I don't want anything bad to happen to him. I just hope I live long enough to see him go. I hope it's real soon, too."

"[There will be] lots of attractive college girls at the party...if you like that sort of thing."

Tom that, strangely, he looked like Jesus...despite his big square glasses and black cowboy hat with the mud-flap girl on it.

I grabbed a cigar out of my pocket and then realized I had

I wanted to ask the old guy if he believed in heaven and hell, since the others at the party didn't, but he never stopped talking long enough for me to get a word in.

I met another guy who was

86. I found out his age when I was informed that he was the oldest marcher in the gay pride parade.

I met an interesting guy named Sam, who did time in jail in Tijuana. He wrote a book about it called *Tales from the Tijuana Jails*.

He told me about a guy, a U.S. soldier who was jailed with him there, who looked like Vin Diesel. The soldier became the protector of a small group of inmates.

Sam told me about the time he saw someone killed. I asked him how he came to be jailed, and he told me about a bed-and-breakfast he ran in TJ that got raided. The police trumped up charges about illegal activities they claimed were going on there. Sam spent a decade in prison.

There was an impressive spread of food on the table, but the burgers were covered in flies. One guy asked that they grill some more burgers, saying, "I prefer to eat meat that isn't smothered in flies."

I grabbed the last piece of chocolate cake, which was safely covered in plastic.

One guy I talked with had a nasal voice but said the funniest things. I noticed among the books and notes he carried was a George Carlin DVD, and I mentioned Carlin passing away. He told me that the Humanist Association was planning

a party to celebrate the late comedian's life and then recited some of Carlin's routines for me. I mentioned that he'd probably like the Penn and Teller show *Bullshit*, and he dropped his papers on the ground as he was fumbling to show me one of their DVDs.

He read a list he wrote about religion that was pretty funny, and I told him that he's probably the type of guy who could write top-ten lists for Letterman. He handed me another list he'd written, but it was too hard to read his writing.

I met a guy named Wayne who wanted to talk to me about religion and religious diversity, but I went off to find the guy who requested his burgers without flies. He wore glasses with plastic frames and a shirt buttoned all the way up and was sporting a backpack (even though it was mid-afternoon and hot outside). It was as if he was dressed up as a nerd on purpose.

I had a blast talking with him. He told me that he'd set up an elaborate online dating system that thousands of couples have used. He said, "I can't get the girl next door to go out with me, or most women for that matter, yet I can devise an elaborate computer system that sets up so many others."

He talked about his various jobs, one of which has him flying to other countries to deal with

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serious sociopolitical issues. He talked about political prisoners, diplomatic immunity, and writing press releases that governments he works for give to the

media. He was like Urkel and James Bond all in one. I talked with a group of guys about their favorite comedies. One guy mentioned *The Apartment* and

*The Odd Couple*. And we talked about how versatile Jack Lemmon was as an actor. The guy I talked with earlier about Penn and Teller was sitting on a couch in the

front yard and yelled, "Why didn't you ask me my favorite comedy?" So I asked, and he said, "*The Jerk*," and then went back to whatever it was he was writing. One guy told me that he's a minister who marries gay couples. Another guy overheard this and told me that his ex-wife married a woman. He added, "And I

get along with the girlfriend better than I did with her!" When I heard someone call out for a guy named Conway, I joked with the person next to me that I'd only ever heard that used as a first name with Conway Twitty. The guy replied, "Oh, I thought it was a common name, like Tim Conway." I talked with Conway, an older black gent, and found him to be one of the most interesting people I'd met in years. He was a retired police psychologist, and we talked about many of the cases in the news. He talked about some officers that he worked with and about the times he accompanied officers to the homes where it was suspected the residents had gone off the deep end. One time they heard a gun being loaded as

they knocked on the front door, looked at each other, and quietly walked away without doing anything. He said, "It wasn't worth it. We figured we'd come back if he did anything crazy to himself or his neighbors. But why should we be shot for knocking on his door?" He told me some interesting stories about his time in the newspaper business. And I found out he played guitar and loved movies. Once I got him talking about sci-fi flicks, there was no stopping him. Conway and I were periodically interrupted. One time it was to inform us that a woman had shown up at the party. (There ended up being two women there, actually, but one was Tom's roommate.) Other times, someone would say something so insane that Conway and I would look at each other dumbfounded. And as the person would walk away, we'd bust out laughing. ■

*Crash your party? Call 619-235-3000 x421 and leave an invitation for Josh Board.*  
  
*For more stories by this author, go to [sdreader.com](http://sdreader.com).*

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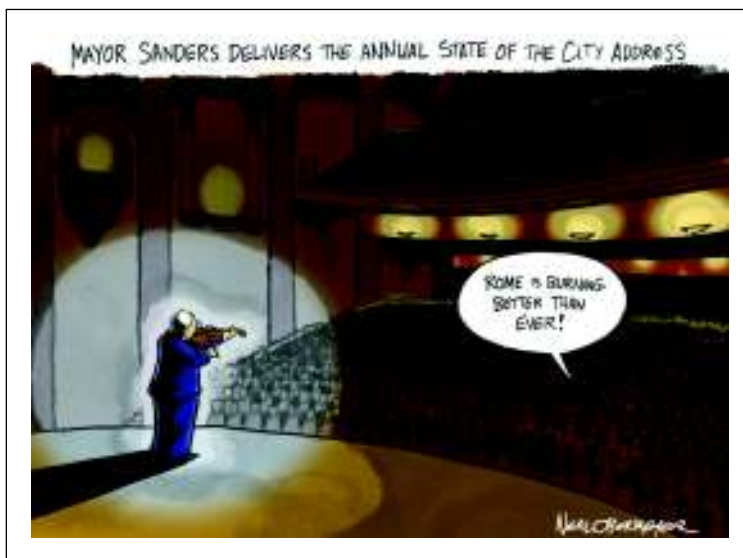
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# 2008: The Year in Food

Where has all the foie gras gone, long time passing? These are bad times! Don't it just make you wanna throw your shoes at someone? A year ago, the glitzy openings of Quarter Kitchen at the Ivy and Nobu drew Hollywood celebs. Now Nobu draws grazing suburbanites dressed for a big night at Marie Callender's, while Quarter Kitchen just lost its prestigious British chef — often a sign that hotel management wants to downscale the cuisine and prices. (Our own skilled but unpretentious Nathan Coulon of the Belgian Lion family has been promoted to executive chef there, and the restaurant's modest "Restaurant Week" menu is priced at just \$30. I'll bet that soon it'll be Change for a Quarter Kitchen.) Hotel restaurants are usually "safer" in terms of lasting power than stand-alones, but even so, the Marriott recently murdered handsome Molly's, to replace it with a branch of the splashy Roy's chain — which will presumably be self-supporting, drawing a crowd that doesn't have to sweat the mortgage.

Anyone following the food biz could smell the rot in the economy months before it became a media event. Very few new high-end restaurants opened here this year, and those that did suffered significant neonatal mortality (e.g., Jade and Dish). Meanwhile, existing temples of haute cuisine have been lowering prices or offering bargain specials to survive. (On the other hand, this fall, we the people finally broke the color bar and the intelligence bar simultaneously, electing someone capable of speaking English and thinking logically.

Frankly, high-end food tends to be better than budget food (with finer ingredients, more labor-intensive preparation, etc.), which means that this year, I've eaten fewer spectacular, creative, deluxe dishes than in any of the previous 20-odd years of on-and-off reviewing. The good news is: I must have spinach between my teeth by now from the local burgeoning of "green"



Roseville

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

rant before I'd even tried it — it's a comfortable space for foodies, with food to please foodies... a friendly little haven where you can wear what you like (within civilized limits) and where the service is warm and smart because the staffers (both front and back of the house) love their gentle boss. Plus there's that brilliant wine list of all half-bottles and the expertise of sommelier/maitre d'/former owner Zubin Desai, who just a few weeks ago sold the restaurant to John. When I first came in to review the place, I was hopeful but wary and skeptical despite my friends' raves. Since then, the Better Half has become the restaurant I go to on my own dime (and under my real name) whenever I get enough ahead on my work to take an evening off for my own pleasure. I want food that astonishes me. Here, I often get it.

## Best New High-End Restaurant: Roseville

Among the few high-end restaurants that opened and survived this year, while I was compiling the list of the "year's best dishes," I noticed that Roseville had the most entries: I started to purr at memories of chef Amy DiBiase's lush asparagus and poached-egg salad, her fabulous herb-crusted albacore with shiitake cream, the crackly-skinned classic duck-leg confit (like a French version of Peking duck), the swoony lemon chiffon parfait. And then there's the irresistible charm of owner/maitre d' George Riffle, the smooth service, the beautiful, romantic room that turns Piaf's "La Vie En Rose" into a visible reverie. This is a lovely, soul-soothing place to go for a little indulgence. And since it's in Point Loma, rather than Del Mar or La Jolla, you don't need to dress in designer-label drag or drag out the family jewels. Nothing snooty here — just fine, fine food, service, ambiance. **Runner Up:** Crescent Grill, where the vegetables are so thrilling they can outshine the meats — it's upscale comfort food good enough to fur-

and "slow" and artisanal restaurants. We're finally catching up with Frisco and Portland and Moose, Wyoming, and eating more sustainably raised, "house-made from scratch" food from JSix, Crescent Heights, Market, and Whisknadle on down the price scale to the Linkery, Sea Rocket, and Tender Greens.

This "bests" list is always eccentric, with as many spontaneous categories as I can think up, and never a single "best" overall restaurant, given the variations between apples, oranges, mangosteens, and soursops. So these are simply the best tastes of this year, followed by a recessionary honor roll of good local cheap eateries I've eaten at during the last eight years in San Diego, to remind everybody that you can eat great dishes on a little dosh if you're willing to adventure.

## DINING REVIEW

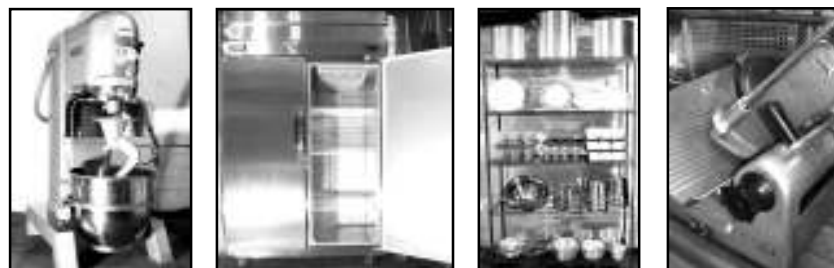
NAOMI WISE

## Best New Moderate Restaurant: The Better Half

There's no single mind-blowing signature dish at the Better Half because the menu changes constantly, driven by the perpetual creativity and intelligence of chef (and now owner) John Robert Kennedy, who's worked under some of the top names in the food biz. His cooking sometimes dazzles, nearly always satisfies, and never gets trite. At a bistro's price range, the chef (and diners) can't afford the exorbitant ingredients of, say, a Blanca or Marine Room or A.R. Valentien, so imagination substitutes for expense. The prolific cornucopia of flavors coming from the kitchen reminds me of candies in the Harry Potter novels, ranging from occasionally somewhat challenging to bliss-inducing — but always fun. My posse had already adopted the restau-

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nish genuine comfort in these times.

#### **Most Promising New Restaurant: Whisknadle**

I predict that in a couple of years, this is likely to become not only one of the county's most famous restaurants, but one of the whole country's food meccas. Last spring, there were still a few little rough spots in some dishes, as you'd expect, given the vaulting culinary ambitions of chef Ryan Johnston. Those will pass. What will remain and strengthen is the purely artisanal "slow food" kitchen where Johnston and crew are using superior ingredients to make everything they can from scratch — even the butter! They're doing *salumi* like Paul Bertolli, they bake their own breads, make cheeses, churn ice creams! Is this awesome, or is it awesome? By reviving traditional farmwife skills, they're going back to the future. More and more, I think, we're going to seek out restaurants that let us taste the pristine ingredients that chain supermarkets won't even sell us, prepared with the laborious craftsmanship that most of us don't have nearly enough time to try, much less perfect. Whisknadle is all about real food (as in Michael Pollan's now-classic exhortation, "Eat food. Real food") at the end of a 60-year stint of increasing, near-inescapable food fakery.

#### **Best French Bistro South of Interstate 8 and Best Week-end Brunch: Farmhouse**

In French cuisine, "rustic" and "sophisticated" aren't contradictory terms. Both qualities are embodied at Farmhouse, overwhelmingly the finest French bistro south of Interstate 8 — not just the best new bistro, the all-out best! Farmhouse joins Tapenade, Cavaillon, and Bernard'O in offering French food that soars above the standard old menu clichés, and here the prices are remarkably merciful, including those on the wine list. Chef Olivier Bioteau's menu changes with the seasons (as it should), but eight months after my dinner, I still cherish the memory of his exquisite chicken-liver mousse; his corvina (local sea bass) with fennel; his soulful, rustic braised pork shoulder; his delicate, sly pear clafouti with rosemary; and his spectacular array of avant-garde chocolates (he's a "certified chocolatier," whatever that means). His weekend brunch dishes were no less vivid. I *hate* brunches — please don't get me up before noon, don't make me eat before 6:00 p.m.! But almost levitating above the plate were ricotta pancakes — perfect, airy, breakfast for angels. And, just a bit closer to earth, Bioteau's radical revision of the Southern classic of biscuits and gravy. The biscuits are remarkably light and crisp-edged, the delicate gravy is made from

reduced cream and puréed mushrooms (not the South's heavy roux-thickened milk), and for meat, you find Bruce Aidells's juicy, fresh (uncured) chicken-apple sausage, America's best breakfast link, to my tastes. Don't look for *les oeufs McMuffinées*, Benedicts, maple syrup, or other brunch clichés — all the choices are Gallic and amusing. This place is so good, I wish I could set all of this to rhyme and sing it to the tune of "La Seine."

#### **Best Italian: Antica Trattoria**

Notice I don't say best "new" Italian. It's been around for a while, but I didn't eat there until this year and discovered that, at long last, this is the Italian restaurant I've been longing for ever since I left New York so many years ago. It's friendly, neighborly, informal — but most important, chef Francesco Basile's food could make a corpse stand up to find a fork for a final post-mortem pasta. My dinner here was, I think, the most sheerly enjoyable single meal of the year — indulgent, exuberant, sensuous to the point of sin! The crab-stuffed portobello mushroom ranks among the most alluring dishes I've ever tasted, gently elbowing its way right in with 30 years of foie gras torchons, dry-aged Prime ribs, and caviar tacos at the fancy joints. Then there was the baked fresh mozzarella with San Daniele prosciutto, and house-made lobster ravi-

oli so sensual it was hard to describe without sliding into outright porn. Yeah, the best dishes here are as good as sex, unless the sex you're having rates better than four stars.

#### **Best New Steakhouse, "Theme Restaurant," and Soundtrack: Cowboy Star**

This is a steakhouse of the people, even if not exactly at "people's prices." That is, it's remarkably lively and comfortable, with no upscale, uptight suit-vibes. Plus, unlike most, they even give you good veggies with your proteins, so they're not trying to strip your pockets till your last cold dollar is gone. The visual theme is old-time Western movies, and just like John Wayne in *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*, you can get yourself a big, all-natural grass-fed steak, pilgrim — or go for regular Prime and Choice choices (including a few dry-aged cuts), or a whole array of wild game meats, which are leaner, healthier, and full of deep flavor. Chef Victor Jimenez knows how to cook 'em all, and you can also pick up the raw flesh at the attached little retail butcher shop. The place is decorated kitschy with cowboy stuff, and the delicious country-western music track is just what I want to hear in this context: Patsy Kline, Willie Nelson, Johnny Cash, and of course the immortal Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys ("Yee-

haw!") — that's music to my ears!

#### **Best New "View" Restaurant: Red Marlin**

Under chef Danny Bannister, this new restaurant at the Hyatt Mission Bay is the place to take your visiting relatives, or yourself when you need a little luxury "staycation." The waterfront vistas are just splendid, and the food is, if not terribly adventurous (the Hyatt suits at the Chicago HQ censor the menu), remarkably well executed and consistently delicious. Among the highlights: the crabbiest, freshest crab cakes; sexy curried mussels; and perfectly cooked rosy Kurobuta pork. I hope that by now the Hyatt has sprung for a few signs to direct people to the restaurant, which was hard to find at my visit last spring.

#### **Best New Desserts:**

##### **Mille Feuilles**

Finally, a patisserie for the rest of us. Mille Feuilles offers great delights without attitude or airs. It's pretty, clean and bright, like a perfect Parisian cafe for reading *Le Figaro* over your café au lait and croissant, and the servers are friendly and relaxed. Thomas Gérard, the owner and chef, is a *wunderkind* from Lyons who's worked at destination restaurants in New York, San Francisco, and L.A. His pastries are very French, imaginative, delicious, and not exorbitant. (I want one of his

fruit-filled mini-croissants for breakfast every day of my life from now on.) With Mille Feuilles, we finally have a worthy challenger to Karen Krasne. These pastries aren't quite as decadent or exotic as hers, but they're at least equal in quality and verve. **Runners Up:** Eclipse Chocolat, and the "remake" of Heaven Sent, with professional patissier Tina Luu upgrading the goodies.

#### **Best New Chain Restaurant: Nobu**

If we must have chain restaurants, then Nobu sets the bar: exquisite sushi, sashimi, and fusion dishes. If Nobu himself were presiding behind the sushi bar or in the kitchen, it would be a mind-blowing restaurant. Knowing that he's off jet-setting to Ouagadougou or some such place to open a new location dims the starlight, subtly down-classing the brilliant creativity of the chef's original conceptions into recreated formulae. But the food is truly good.

#### **Great Leaps Forward:**

##### **JSix (High End), Chez Loma (Moderate)**

This was the year that Christian Graves at JSix forged ahead, deep into artisanal, from-scratch creative cuisine. Four other chefs told me to check him out — "He's just gotten awesome!" — and it proved true. The man is really cookin'. And, happily, Chez Loma's new owners have res-

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## Calendar RESTAURANTS

cued the cooking at this historic bungalow after years of deep mediocrity, it's now a tasty, pretty little neighborhood French bistro again, with food that's worthy of the charming setting.

### The Year's Best Dishes (not mentioned earlier):

Azuki Sushi's Pon Hama (yellowtail sashimi with yuzu juice and chili powder); Baci's sea urchin dinner; Currant's haunting five-onion soup with short ribs and beef marrow,

and for dessert, pumpkin profiteroles; Crescent Grill's Muscovy duck with parsnip purée, thoroughly crispy striped bass, Kurobuta pork; DeDe's stir-fried pork kidney with vegetables; Nozomi Sushi's monkfish liver pâté (*ankimo*); Olivetto's pear-stuffed ravioli; Sea Rocket's sea-urchin bisque; Tender Greens' chicken soup; Venice's butternut squash ravioli with browned sage butter, duck breast with Gorgonzola, pistachios, and porcini, veal rack with porcini; Whisknadle's roasted bone marrow, chorizo, and date fritters with mor-nay sauce (to die for!), and

"cutting board" salumi assortment.

### Best Buys: 50 Places for Affordable Good Food

When you're running short between money infusions, your best buys are almost always in ethnic restaurants, unless you want to live on burgers, pizzas, and pub grub all your days. With a spirit of adventure, you can eat fabulously for very little money, changing nationalities and flavors as often as you get change for a dollar. Here are some of my favorites for quality well beyond their price points, where you can get two

courses for \$25 or less (food costs only):

Apertivo (Italian tapas), Bandar (Persian), Barnes BBQ, Batter Up (high-quality casual), Berta's (South American), Bird House Grill (Turkish), Blue Water (seafood), Bubbie's (ice cream and pannini), Bud's (N'awlins), Casa Reveles (Michoacán Mexican), Chilango's (Mexico City), China Max (Hong Kong/Cantonese), Chipotle (healthier Mexican fast food), Costa Brava (Spanish/tapas), Crescent City Cafe (American diner classics), DeDe's (Szechuanese; also check out Ba Ren), Dumpling Inn (northern China), D.Z.

Akin's (Jewish deli), El Comal (Mexican regional), El Dorado (Peruvian), Fix Me a Plate (N'awlins), Gen Lai Sen (for the Hakka specialties, not regular menu), Gourmet India, the Guild (eclectic), Hacienda De Vega (Mexico's Central Valley), Islander Grill (Guam), Izakaya Masa (Japanese tapas), Jamroc 101 (Jamaican), Kealani's (Hawaiian), Kous-Kous (Moroccan), La Especial Norte (Mexican soups), Latin Chef (Peruvian), Lotus Thai, Luigi's Pizza (NY), Madras Cafe (Tamil vegetarian), Magnolias (Southern/Louisiana), Pete's Meats (Italian sausages), Phuong Trang (Vietnamese),

Pomegranate (Georgian), Ranchos Cocina (Mexican/health food), Red Sea (Ethiopian), St. Tropez (French cafe-bakery), Sandy Crab (seafood boils), Spicy City (Szechuanese), Super Cocina (multiregional Mexican home-style), Tender Greens (salads, soups, pies), Third Corner (wines with foods to match), Tin Fish (casual seafood), Tioli's Crazy Burger (including German sausages), Turf Club (DIY Choice steak).

May the new year be better than the old one, with good eating for all and the big boo-boo going away soon! ■

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# New Latino Squared

“My ex-husband used to lick his fingers. I lectured him about it. Must be a male thing.”

Should I or shouldn't I? I stand at the base of the steps. Up top, a couple of “log” fires are burning in their *chimeneas*, kivas. Beautiful People sit around them, and at tables, surrounded by stone arches and bougainvillea, laughing, glugging back margaritas from fancy glasses, living the good life. Sigh. Here comes a new year, and here's yours truly, still hesitating at the bottom of steps like these?

On the other hand, what the heck? It's 6:00, a nice Sunday evening. Got a Hamilton and a Lincoln in the pocket. See what we can do with it.

I head up the steps to Zócalo. “Still having happy hour?” I ask the hostess. “Well, yes, till 6:30, but only at the bar. It finished at 5:00 on the terrace.”

Okay. So I make for the bar. It's across this really cool room, with lots of polished wood, stone, exposed wooden rafters, and tile pictures of Latin American scenes laid into the walls. “Zócalo” means “main town square,” in Mexico, at least, so it all fits, this being just up from Old Town's plaza and all. I head for a beautiful marble-and-wood bar in back, hoist myself aboard next to a gent who's finishing off his martini. “One more, Ryan,” he's saying. “That's dirty.”

“Dirty?” I have to ask. “Yes, sir, a dirty martini,” he says. “A little

vermouth, Bombay Sapphire gin, shaken, not stirred. Think James Bond. Straight up, just a little crushed ice and olive juice to cloud it, make it ‘dirty,’ give it flavor.” His name's Chris.

He's an adviser to — wow — the governor of Guam. Here on vacation.

Ryan slides me a little stand-up menu. Great. Happy-hour list. Prices go from \$2.75 to \$15. Zócalo nachos, which I know would fill me, come with

melted Mexican cheeses, black beans, salsa picante, jalapeño cream sauce, and guacamole. “The best you'll have in San Diego,” says Ryan. “He's right,” says Chris.

Daggone it, they're \$7. Which I could do, but then not much else. Steamed mussels and clams with garlic mojo run \$8. But I want to drink something, have a couple of little dishes, and come out feeling full. Too much to ask?

I spot the cheese fish tacos. Interesting, and \$2.75. Not bad, compared with Chris's choice. He's ordered a New Zealand lamb and potato-quiche dish. Tag: \$26.

I check out other impossible dreams: lobster bisque (\$6.50), *queso fundido* (a delicious-looking cheese fondue, with adobe chicken or chorizo — dammit: love chorizo — and served with *tostones*, deep-fried plantain slices, \$9), or even a carnitas sandwich with mango salsa and avocado salad (\$10). Last two are just over the top. Sigh. On the sound system, Bruce Hornsby is singing “...that's just the way it is.”

“Decided?” Ryan asks. I focus on two things I reckon I can afford: the \$2.75 fish taco, and Cuban sweet-potato *fritas* with house *chimichurri*, \$4. Have to ask about that *chimichurri*. Seems they call it the ketchup of Argentina. It's a kind of green dipping relish, with olive oil, vinegar, cilantro, onion, garlic, you name it. Plus, Ryan says I can get a glass of Coors Light for \$3.25 to go with it. Together, it'll come to a neat \$10. Plus tax. Cool. And the part I really dig is how Ryan lays out a three-cornered white linen napkin on the marble counter in front of me and places a rolled napkin on top of that, with heavy silverware inside. Then he brings me this nice tall flute of Coors. It could be champagne, the way it looks.

“This is a *nuevo latino* restaurant,” he says a couple of minutes later. “Fusion food.” He sets down my sweet potato *fritas* and then the fish-taco dish. Oh, man. This taco's not just a taco. Yes, it's a corn tortilla with a chunk of fish — Arctic pollock — but loaded with so much more: black beans, green onions, shredded red cabbage, onions, some sour cream, lemon, garlic white sauce, and lots of golden cheese on top. It's a pileup. So classy.

The sweet-potato fries fill up the corners the taco missed. Love the relish dip. Also splot on some hot sauce that turns out to be the place's own brand. Not bad.



Ryan

So, I'm just licking my fingers from the last bite of this finger-lickin'-good taco when I hear “Aha!” It's this lady who's come up to the bar, sat down on my right, and ordered a \$10 spring roll-looking dish.

“Caught red-fingered!” she says. “My ex-husband used to do that, lick his fingers. I lectured him about it. Must be a male thing. Caveman and all that?”

Her name's Liz. This is her watering hole. We all start talking.

“Here,” says Chris. “Try this.” He cuts off two chops from his rack of lamb and passes them along to us. Delicious, minty. So this is how the Other Half lives.

Half an hour later, I head back down those Steps of Hesitation. 'Cept now, I'm struttin'. Finally! Somewhere to impress Carla, one happy hour at a time. ■

**The Place:** Zócalo Grill, 2444 San Diego Avenue, Old Town, 619-298-9840  
**Type of Food:** Latin fusion  
**Happy Hour Prices:** Zócalo nachos, \$6.50; cheese fish taco, \$2.75; lobster bisque, \$6.50; queso fundido (cheese fondue), with adobe chicken or chorizo, and tostones — deep-fried plantain slices — \$9; carnitas sandwich with mango salsa, avocado salad, \$10; Cuban sweet-potato fritas with house chimichurri, \$4  
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## Calendar RESTAURANTS

### RESTAURANT LISTINGS

*The Reader's Guide to Restaurants are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Barbara David, Ambrose Martin, Shari McCullough, Max Nash, Eleanor Widmer, Naomi Wise). Each issue contains only a fraction of almost 900 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at [SanDiegoReader.com](http://SanDiegoReader.com). Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a midrange entrée. **Inexpensive:** below \$10; **moderate:** \$10 to \$19; **expensive:** \$20 to \$29; **very expensive:** more than \$30. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.*

### BEACHES

**Burger Lounge — La Jolla** 1101 Wall Street, La Jolla, 858-456-0196. One of a raft of newer, so-called "premium" burger places which claim premium ingredients and charge premium rates. But this local chain delivers on the meat. Their Tallgrass beef is juicy, tastes sweeter, and, more importantly, comes only from grass-fed cattle. That is, cows who spend their lives cavorting in fields and eating fresh grass, not trapped in feedlots being fed corn (unnatural food for cattle) and antibiotics and hormones. With a better Omega-6 to Omega-3 balance, this Kansas meat could actually be good for you. Open daily. Inexpensive, if you avoid extras like fries and onion rings. — *E.B.*

**C-Level** 880 Harbor Island Drive, Downtown, 619-298-6802. California-Mediterranean comfort food with a Southern Low Country accent from Chef Deborah Scott; same menu lunch and dinner. Alas, the restaurant's name also gives away its grade — the food's okay but not spectacular, although the gorgeous heated patio at the edge of the bay does plenty to sweeten the pot. Your visiting aunt will swoon over the view and enjoy the food. Vast wine list with plenty by the glass, wide range of prices but some steep markups; good beer list. Full bar with creative cocktails. Ample free parking. No reservations except for large parties. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W.*

**Cheese Shop** 2165 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla, 858-459-3921. Used to be the Cheese Shop had 100 varieties of cheese from all over. No more. "The cheese trade is dead," says owner Phil Schutz. They still have all-cheese sandwiches with mixes of provolone, Monterey Jack, Cheddar, Swiss, Muenster, Danish Havarti, or Norwegian Jarlsberg. But today this small, busy café is more famous for its "overstuffed" meat sandwiches. The leg of lamb, top round beef, and roast pork loin are all spit-roasted right beside you as you walk in, to waken your taste buds. Cheeses like crumbled Greek Mizithra add tang to the taste. If you're into salami and ham, try the foot-long. Other location: 427 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-232-2303, open daily breakfast to late lunch, with delivery to downtown addresses. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Cliff Hanger Café** 2800 Torrey Pines Scenic Drive, La Jolla, 858-452-9858. "You should never leave the ground on an empty stomach," says the sign near the cliff, which is where this café hangs. What is it like to be at the Café at the End of the World? You sit, munch, and watch men becoming birdmen, jumping off the cliff beside you. The view of the Pacific Ocean is spectacular. But, hey, grub's good too. Try the Launch (a breakfast

burrito with scrambled eggs, bacon, cheese, onions, bell peppers, and salsa). Also great and grilled right there: generous half-pound hamburgers. Open daily for breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Daily's Restaurant** 888 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-459-1189. The idea is brilliant: Just serve food that's really, really good for your customers. Low fat, low calorie, low sodium. Brainchild of cardiac surgeon Pat O. Daily. So what's the problem? It's the B-word. Bland. Not that they don't fight heroically to make all the dishes interesting, but lots of items have that lentil-y, bean-y feel. Or naked salad-y. Or steam-up-your-nose veggie. Among the more interesting choices is the Cajun chicken with black beans and brown rice with cayenne-paprika in the spices. The most popular lunch order, the buffalo burger, has a little gamy aftertaste — but that just proves it is the legendarily lean prairie beast. Nice outside seating in Restaurant Row, except you've gotta resist the smells from the more wicked eateries that aren't on the same crusade. Inexpensive. Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. — *E.B.*

**The Fishery** 5040 Cass Street, Pacific Beach, 858-272-9985. Pacific Shellfish Seafood Company founder Judd Brown got his start as a commercial fisherman. He doesn't fish anymore, but he does everything else — supplying product to top-tier restaurants, retailing glistening specimens to hungry shoppers and serving patrons who want to dine in amid the icy-blue walls and gorgeous trophy fish. The Fishery's menu is equally extensive, covering SoCal basics (excellent mahimahi burrito), lunchtime standards (sandwiches, fine malt-dredged fish-and-chips), sushi, and an ambitious lineup of innertime entrées, an obsession with freshness helps compensate, and you get the sense that things are get-

ting better all the time. The wine list is relatively inexpensive and carefully selected. Casual atmosphere. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. — *A.M.*

**Marrakesh** 634 Pearl Street, La Jolla, 858-454-2500. The North African fare of Morocco is like no other in the world — influenced by Arab cuisines, but more intense and sheerly hedonistic. At this Moroccan restaurant, the fare is arranged into a nightly five-course prix-fixe feast, with superb lentil soup (*harira*), a salad plate, *bastilla* (a chicken-filled filo pie), an entrée, and mint tea poured from on high to accompany almond baklava perfumed with orange-flower water. The setting and service are dramatic — tented ceilings, low banquette seating at carved round tables, belly-dancing interludes, servers in fezzes. (You're the Sheik of Araby.) A short list of entrées (a maximum of two choices per table, to be shared) features fine chicken (or lamb) with olives and preserved lemons; moist, fatless duck; lamb with couscous; and rather dry fish. You can request the dreamy lamb with honey, an extravaganza that includes fruits, almonds, sesame, and cinnamon. Lunch and dinner daily; reserve for weekends. Moderate. — *N.W.*

**Roots** 4976 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-9000. This tiny eatery is vegan and organic, with much of its ingredients bought straight from the O.B. farmers' market. Wraps like the Thai Peanut and the Arti (artichoke hearts, feta cheese) are crunchy thrills. Interesting sandwiches include the Portobello mushroom with tomato and provolone on ciabatta or the Avo (avocado, onion, and tomato with "vegannaise"). The veggie burrito (black beans, mock chicken) is filling and doesn't taste too mock-chickeny. Standards like granola bowls with fruit, honey, and yogurt are scrumptious, too. The main thing is the three ladies who run this really seem to try to make this food that's kind to both nature and to our long-suffering guts. Of course,

kids'll love Roots' peanut butter-and-jelly sandwiches. 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sunday 7 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

**Roppongi** 875 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-551-5252. The hard part is deciding whether to sit in the drop-dead gorgeous interior or to people-watch on the large, heated street patio. Then you have to decide what to eat from the long Euro-Asian fusion menu, with its vast choice of tapas and sushi options, as well as entrées. At lunch there are several imaginative sandwiches and appetizers. Reservations highly recommended at dinner. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Some tapas and sushi rolls are inexpensive, but if you enjoy grazing, the bill can mount quickly. Entrées are expensive. — *N.W.*

**Roseville** 1125 Rosecrans Street, Point Loma, 619-450-6800. Point Loma's first first-class restaurant is elegant in a rustic way, like a Big Sur inn. Maitre d'/co-owner with wife Wendy, George Riffle (a charmer from birth) used to run the dining room at Laurel, and he's reassembled an "old Laurel" kitchen crew. Chef Amy DiBiase invokes French classics but with fresh twists and local, seasonal produce, e.g. asparagus subbing for frisée in a brilliant bistro salad with pancetta and egg, and a superb duck confit that's France's answer to Peking duck — crisp skin puffing from the surface of moist meat. Desserts are light and elegant. Wine list ranges from affordable to don't-you-wish. Narrow restaurant entrance is between a large drug store and Village Liquors (look for small dining patio). Parking (and actual front entrance) in back. Atmosphere elegant but comfortable; dressy-casual to slightly dressy. Dinner nightly. Expensive. — *N.W.*

**Sapporo Japanese Restaurant** 5049 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-6686. It's small, but Sapporo has big deals, particularly the lunch specials that usually give you a miso soup, salad, and a combo such as chicken teriyaki and California rolls and white rice — all presented like a piece of performance art. Other specials include *yaki soba* (stir-

fried sautéed chicken, vegetables, and noodles) and *champon* noodle soup (*udon* noodles, scallops, shrimp, vegetables), and the value-packed chicken bowl — a big plate of sliced chicken, broccoli, other vegetables, and a swag of rice. Dinner daily, lunch daily except Monday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**La Taverna** 927 Silverado Street, La Jolla, 858-454-0100. Reservations are a necessity at this tiny trattoria, especially if you'd prefer the relative quiet of the roofed sidewalk patio to the din of the cute but cramped dining room. Look for Italian cooking styles ranging from Tuscan, which showcases pastas with simple fresh sauces, to meatballs and red sauce. Highlights include chef-owner Mary Ann Vitale's house-made Sicilian-style fennel sausage, and if the feather-light potato gnocchi is on special, just say "yes." Save room for a slice of house-made layer cake. Moderate. — *N.W.*

**World Famous** 711 Pacific Beach Drive, Pacific Beach, 858-272-3100. World Famous is as on-the-beach as it gets, right on P.B.'s boardwalk. It has a covered porch, a side-slung patio, and low-slung ceilings, so everything feels intimate. You sit at varnished inlaid wooden tables with lots of diagonal timbering and sexy blue lighting. It's often crowded and noisy. Who's gonna be picky here? You, when you're paying 20-some bucks for a steak. On the other hand, the prime rib, surf-n-turf, and tournedos will fill you fine. If you want to beat the big prices, try the beach burger or a seared ahi Caesar salad. The view is free. Breakfast and lunch inexpensive; dinners moderate to expensive. Open daily. — *E.B.*

**Zanzibar Café — Pacific Beach** 976 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-272-4762. A pricey-looking restaurant with reasonable prices. The decor is new, handsome: shiny parquet floors, lots of solid tables, classy dark wooden chairs, wine bar, and modern art on the walls. Carole Janks is the inspiration. She beat Starbucks to the punch with her first

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Zanzibar in P.B. in 1991. This place is a palace compared to that. The three-egg breakfast scramble with toast, rosemary potatoes, and fresh fruit is great. So are the avocado fontina cheese omelet and eggs Benedict with non-Canadian bacon. Good lunch sandwiches include hot chicken pesto, Zanzibar BLT, and cold southwestern club. There are also salads, pizzas, paninis, and open-faced sandwiches. One great indulgence: the blueberry buttermilk pancakes with lemon-curd butter topped with fresh berries and a side of maple syrup. Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. (till 11 p.m. Saturday and Sunday). Inexpensive. — E.B.

## BAJA

From the United States use the prefix 011-52 when calling Mexico.

**La Casa del Mole — Tijuana** Paseo de los Héroes #10501 (between Lázaro Cárdenas and Misión San Diego), Baja, 664-634-6920. Herminia Amador dreamed of bringing the flavors of her native state of Puebla to Tijuana. That meant one thing: mole poblano, Mexico's major sauce statement. Like its other two locations, this flower-filled restaurant features the complex, sweet, dark sauce combination of maybe 20 different spices, chiles, nuts, and chocolate. Sit down here, and your big question is: What's going under your mole? Thigh or breast of chicken? Pork? Perhaps enchiladas? Your call. Prices are so reasonable you can try several variations. Whichever, when you bite in for the first time, you're dialing direct back to the earliest days of the conquistadors in Aztec, Mexico. Start with mole poblano, learn its wine-like complexities, then move on to other moles, such as ranchero and verde. Open 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**La Costa** Calle Galeana #8131, Baja, 664-685-8494. Even after four decades, fisherman-singer Adrian Pedrin Aramburo's seafood place looks fresh, with its blue-and-white floor tiles, polished brass portholes, and varnish. Some seafood combos can be costly, but most fish and oyster dishes are reasonable. Everybody seems to go for filleted sea bass — the baked Catalina with mushroom-cream sauce or the Olivia, stuffed with octopus and shrimp, are really good. So are Madrazo oysters, with chipotle and bacon. But you can't go wrong with the less-expensive whole fish plates, like the charcoal-broiled Sarandead (just watch out for the bones). Each entrée comes with soup, hors d'oeuvre, salad, rice, and coffee, plus a Kahlua-based drink-dessert. Bonus: the owner's charming menu inserts. Vegetarian upon request. Open daily, late breakfast through dinner. Moderate to expensive. — E.B.

**Manzanilla** Riveroll 122 (off Lopez Mateo), Baja, 646-175-7073. At this art-filled, very "Euro" bistro, a pair of gifted, classically trained chef-owners are pioneering "new Mexican cuisine," creating sophisticated combinations of superb local products and traditional Mexican flavors. Fresh-caught seafood, locally grown vegetables, and mesquite smoke from the wood-burning grill are featured players on the seasonal menus; a spectacular rib-eye steak, tender and intensely beefy, is

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## Calendar RESTAURANTS

also a constant. Little wonder this has become *the* destination restaurant south of Tijuana. Vegetarian upon request. The menu is in Spanish, but owners Benito Molina and Solange Muris Evans speak fluent English, as do some waitstaff. (The only communication problem will be the exotic music blasting from the sound system.) Reserve for weekends, especially during tourist seasons. Full bar featuring tequilas, Baja vintners. Wednesday through Saturday, late lunch through dinner, until midnight. Moderate. — *N.W.*

**Mercado Sobre Ruedas** Colonia Lucio Blanco (from Tijuana, on toll road, take first Rosarito exit; turn left at third), Baja. Don't miss this huge flea market

that materializes every Sunday (from morning until midafternoon) a couple of miles north of the tourist part of town. Its dozens of food booths offer a vast variety of local treats, ranging from barbecued mutton (*borrego*) to savory Jalisco-style goat stew (*birria de chivo*), to all manner of tacos, made-to-order hotcakes with syrup, "Mexican hamburgers," and Sno-Kones (don't worry about the ice; by law, it has to be made with purified water). The food is totally authentic, cooked to Mexican tastes, and it's a carnival for the mouth. Many vendors speak some English. Rock-bottom prices; cash only. — *N.W.*

**El Nido** Boulevard Benito Juárez #67, Baja, 661-612-1430. Head south if you're looking for a great, dry-aged, mesquite-broiled steak at a bargain price — but don't stop there. Try the house specialty, quail with garlic sauce (*codorniz al mojo de ajo*), or venison, especially the savory *machaca de venado* (strips of meat with peppers, onions, and tomatoes). Both are

locally raised on the restaurant's own ranches and may be united in a brilliant breakfast of quail eggs with deer *machaca*. Seafood and surf-and-turf variations are tasty, too. Vegetarian upon request. The restaurant's name means "the nest," and the amusing indoor-outdoor decor is a sort of multiroom aviary with birds singing, chirping, and fluttering all over. Full bar. If sensitive to smoke, don't sit next to the mesquite-burning hearth on the roofed patio. Dressy-casual. Bilingual staff and menu. Open daily, early morning to late evening. Mostly moderate; cash only. — *N.W.*

**Rica Torta** Niños Héroes Avenida #890, Baja, 664-685-8579. This café may have the best *tortas* (call them Mexican-style hamburgers) in Tijuana. Six-inch rashers of marinated carne asada, slices of ham, squares of cheese, chopped salad, tomato slices, fresh-scooped avocado...it's a double-wide, double-high burger. The menu has 16 different kinds of *tortas*, from chorizo with eggs to beefsteak ranchero, all served in huge, three-ribbed, crisp-toasted Mexican bread buns. There's other stuff, but to a burger buff, one of these is quite enough. Vegetarian upon request. Open seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

### CENTRAL

**Café on Park** 3831 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest, 619-293-7275. Okay, it's trendy, from the rusty spoon-and-fork sign at the door to the PC industrial interior (concrete walls, exposed plumbing). But don't expect PC food. The plates are huge and overflowing with fodder. Breakfast scrambles are popular with add-ons such as smoked salmon, artichoke hearts, or Brie. Health nuts choose the Park Porridge stuffed with apples, raisins, and honey. But the prize may be the dish that Placerville, California, miners ordered when they came down from the mountains with pockets full of gold: the Hang-

town Fry — luscious, marinated, sautéed oysters scrambled in eggs. Three meals daily, with break 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (Line at door on Sunday.) — *E.B.*

**Cowboy Star Restaurant and Butcher Shop** 640 Tenth Avenue, Downtown, 619-450-5880. This is the rare theme restaurant where the food is as good as the decor, and the decor is more fun than a rodeo clown. The setting harks back to '50s Westerns (think of *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*, where huge steaks played nearly as strong a role as John Wayne), and the fabulous music loop runs to Patsy Cline, early Johnny Cash, and Bob Wills, the King of Western Swing. The carnivorous "green cuisine" emphasizes top-quality beef (USDA Prime or grass-fed and natural) and wild game including buffalo and boar, wild or free-range fowl, and wild-caught seafood — all treated like A-list cowboy stars by chef-partner Victor Jimenez. An in-house butcher shop sells these hard-to-find meats retail, including venison sausage and free-range chicken. Mainly California wines with a wide range of prices and styles. Full bar. Expensive. — *N.W.*

**Cuicacalli Dining Room** 5150 E. Campus Drive, SDSU, 619-594-2622. The big hall has different kitchens angling out into the common space, some baking bread, others grilling burgers, others doing wok cooking, plus islands of salad, archipelagos of dessert, and a daily special servery. Breakfast includes omelets, pancakes, pastries, fruit, yogurt, daily chef's special; for lunch there's pasta, pizzas, veggie plates, and burgers with fries. Dinner could be Hawaiian, or — this is a Friday favorite — Mongolian. Yes, it's basically cafeteria food, but good enough, and sometimes pretty darned good. Non-students welcome; you pay a couple of bucks more. The name (and it's pronounced "Queekacayi") means "house of song" in Aztec, though most seem to call it "quaker kelly dining room." Breakfast 7 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.; lunch 11 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.; dinner

5 p.m. to 8 p.m., seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**La Fachada** 20 25th Street, Logan Heights, 619-236-8566. The thing about La Fachada is: You can have anything anytime. This restaurant near the trolley's 25th Street stop is Mexican but has Anglo food too — maybe because the cops' Central Division HQ sits across the road. Great not-quite-morning place for breakfast at, say, 3 a.m. They do a pretty good Western omelet breakfast with cheese, bell peppers, onions, and ham, bacon, or sausage. They also have great *Caldo Siete Mares* and *Vuelta a la Vida*, tasty soups laden with seafood. But the best fun is in the evening up to 11 p.m., when an outdoor kitchen operates, mostly serving tacos to eat under a big white garden canopy. Open 7 a.m. to 3 a.m. (Friday and Saturday open 24 hours). Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Hong Kong Restaurant** 3871 Fourth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-9449. Where to get a good Chinese meal after midnight? This restaurant (next to Column One's statues and fountain shop) serves meals till 2:30 a.m. Inside is typical Asian decor, including black-and-white Chinese brush paintings and carved cherrywood chairs. Their huge menu offers traditional Szechwan and Mandarin fare. The fried, pork-filled wontons on raw cabbage are delicious, especially spattered with fiery Chinese mustard. The Singapore-style rice noodles (not often featured in Chinese restaurants) are tangled with curry, and excellent, as is the kung pao chicken. Also look at egg drop soup, pork chow mein, shrimp with lobster sauce, and scallion ginger chicken. Service is super quick. Lunch and dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Huffman's Bar-B-Que** 5039 Imperial Avenue, College Area, 619-264-3115. This café has a huge multigenerational following, some famous — check out their wall photos, in which Jesse Jackson and Muhammad Ali are just two — and some not so famous. The big draw is Huffman's fabulous Southern soul food.

Try their gravy-smothered fried chicken served with collard greens, yellow peppers, red beans, rice, and white mopping-up bread, or their Louisiana Creole gumbo, thick with crab, shrimp, links, ham, and chicken. Other fine eats include the catfish sandwich and half-pound rib tips. Open daily, lunch and dinner, to 11 p.m. weekdays, 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**El Indio Mexican Restaurant** 3695 India Street (at Winder), Mission Hills, 619-299-0333. Eat here and you eat with the ghosts of presidents, politicians, and three generations of San Diegans. Ralph Pesqueira, the guy who started it in 1940 as a simple tortilla factory, invented taquitos ("little tacos") as snacks for his customers. The deep-fried taquitos are still their number-one selling item. But also try Burrito Indio, a wheat tortilla stuffed with marinated zucchini, corn, beans, onions, cheese, and tomato, and the potato burrito, another good vegetarian choice. While you're waiting (and it's usually crowded), grab some of El Indio's huge, scrumptious homemade chips and a pot of their salsa ranchera. Open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Mukashi** 2706 Fifth Avenue, Banker's Hill, 619-298-1329. Eventually, Mukashi promises an attached fish store selling sushi-grade seafood. But that's still a far-away dream. For now, it's a neighborhood sushi bar in a hungry neighborhood. The sushi is neither notably creative nor inspired, but it's fresh and competent — comparable to Sushi Deli but more expensive. The decor is date-night handsome. The menu also includes fusion and Japanese entrées. Friday and Saturday offer more (and fresher) choices, but it's also noisy and crowded. Serious but pricey wine list, plus sakes, Asian beers. Restrooms may be awkward for wheelchairs. Lunch weekdays, dinner Monday through Saturday. Noodles inexpensive; sushi slightly higher than average (deep happy hour discounts on



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selected rolls); entrées moderate to very expensive. — N.W.

**Ocean Room and Lounge** 630 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-501-6550. Sometimes you don't want a temple of haute cuisine, merely an easygoing place for folks to meet—especially if there are oysters involved. Ocean Room fills that bill handily, one of the few Gaslamp joints where you can enjoy a conversation without straining over the noise. The fare is mainly Mediterranean-style seafood, with a few nods at Cajun cuisine. Pleasant dishes include mussels *mariniere*, Cajun seafood pasta (with sub-Cajun spice levels), seafood pan roast, and Fanny Bay oysters on the half-shell. Or try the oyster shooters. Valet parking, bar for single diners, casual feel. Dinner nightly. Expensive (but less than average for the neighborhood). — N.W.

**Organic to Go** 1143 Sixth Avenue, Downtown, 619-236-0086. This is a sleek franchise eatery that seems to be the first to go all organic. Napkins say things like “Be Beautiful Inside.” The place is aiming at the office crowd and has comfy couches and wifi access. Breakfast includes oatmeal and egg-white-and-herb or bacon-and-egg salsa burritos. Lunch for most is a lunge at the way-big salad bar, but they also make a great cheddar albacore tuna melt, a toasted meat loaf sandwich, and a nice vegan Thai-style veggie wrap. Other interesting dishes include mango-chutney-curry chicken salad sandwich, basil chicken chili soup, and Yucatán vegetarian taco salad. 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Osteria Panevino** 722 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-595-7959. At this Tuscan-style Italian restaurant, the appetizers and pastas are as close to heaven as you can get, particularly the spinach ravioli and potato gnocchi, which can come with a four-cheese sauce on request. The stuffed focaccias are simply incredible, and the pizzas are well-nigh perfect. The exposed brick walls enhance the European feeling. Open daily, lunch and dinner to 10:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday to 11 p.m. Moderate to expensive, wines rather high. — N.W.

**Pizzeria Luigi** 1137 25th Street, Golden Hill, 619-233-3309. They claim to make real New York pizza in this tiny storefront, and they're not lying. One of the owners is from New York by way of Italy, and his Big Apple experiences are written all over the pies. The sauce tastes right, and the crusts are thin enough that you can fold a slice into a “V” to eat on the run, New Yorker style. But it's better to take home a whole pie with your choice of toppings (or a stromboli or calzone) and enjoy it at leisure. Inexpensive. — N.W.

**Royal India** 329 Market Street, Downtown, 619-269-9999. This lovely, elegantly appointed dining room (and pleasing patio) features the standard, classic North Indian menu (you could call it North Indian Cuisine 101), executed in clean-tasting, rather mild preparations—gentle in seasoning and in chili power (if you're not from India, you're unlikely to get anything higher than a three, whatever you request). The lunch buffet costs a bit more than rock bottom, but is a decent deal if you care about flavor—none of the dishes have that sludgy sameness that mars many of the cheaper buffets. Vegetarians and vegans will find at least a dozen entrées to choose from. Be careful with the wine, as markups are steep—you're better off with Indian beer or with cocktails from the bar. Lunch buffet (11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.) daily, dinner nightly. Moderate to expensive. — N.W.

**Sluggers by the Ball Park** 1219 Market Street, Downtown, 619-546-5973. Not your typical hot dog stand. Sluggers café is all glass, steel, cinder block, and new. This eatery catches much of the Padres business, selling Viennabrand beef hot dogs and Polish sausages. “Served Chicago-style”—meaning, the dog's topped with tomato wedges, mustard, pickle, relish, onions, and peppers, all, they say, on a steamed poppy-seed bun from Chicago. Other goodies from



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# Calendar RESTAURANTS

the Windy City include the Comiskey Park Pole (a charbroiled Polish sausage dog) and the Italian Stallion (charbroiled Italian sausage in bun). Place is still a little cinder blocky but a good rendezvous for a brewski and a dog after work. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Spice House Café** 9035 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Clairemont, 858-565-1028. When your “head feels like an old potato” and your “tongue like a button hook” (to quote Kipling), Spice House’s answer is its Hangover Omelet. We don’t know if it’s the Ortega chiles or Jack cheese or super tangy tomato sauce, but some guys swear they feel better for eating it. Other excellent choices include Portuguese sausage with three eggs; Italian sausage frittata with ham, tomatoes, mushrooms; and thick French toast topped with strawberries and whipped cream. Emphasis on Greek-American cuisine. Breakfast and lunch, closes at 3 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

## NORTH INLAND

**94th Aero Squadron** 8885 Balboa Avenue, Kearny Mesa, 858-560-6771. One of San Diego’s hidden jewels: there’s classic American fare (stuffed pork tenderloin, farmhouse chicken) in the “Officers’ mess.” Happy hour is weekdays from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Fridays, the outside “Runway” grill features chicken kebabs. The biggest attraction is the place itself. Built to mimic a WWI French farmhouse taken over by a bunch of Yankee flying aces, it has a garden full of antique planes and live ducks — and right outside, the real Montgomery Airfield. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

**Ashoka the Great** 9474 Black Mountain Road, Mira Mesa, 858-695-9749. Seek out this splendid Indian restaurant. The setting is lovely, the service excellent, and the food first-rate. Don’t overlook the tandoori dishes. Numerous se-

lections are available for vegetarians. An all-you-can-eat lunch buffet is served daily. Dinner buffet Monday and Thursday. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.W.*

**The Grill** 10920 Roselle Street, Suite #104, Sorrento Valley, 858-587-7940. Sorrento Valley is where you commute to work, not to live, so forget warm neighborhood eateries. At first glance, the Grill is what you’d expect — standard strip mall, bare-bones furnishings, office-lunch oriented. But the Greek owners give it character with generous but cheap breakfast dishes like the Mediterranean omelet and lunch specials such as the luscious Philly cheese steak. And they’re flexible. Want bacon, sausage, and ham in your breakfast pita? They’ll do all three, same price as with a single meat. Breakfast and lunch weekdays. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Hill Street Coffee House** 524 South Coast Highway 101, Oceanside, 760-966-0985. Organic in Oceanside? Really! Look for the sign: “Organic Restaurant and Espresso Bar” in front of a restored yellow-and-white Victorian house from O’side’s past. Most of their meats, poultry, fish, and veggies are organic, and the menu is full of healthy dishes: tofu/spinach breakfast scramble, frittata *espinaca* (“Greek eggs”), and *pain perdu* (for us peasants that’s French toast) with fresh fruit and syrups. Some vegan items. After 11 a.m., try their Cajun chicken. Open daily, breakfast to dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Oggi’s Pizza & Brewing Co. — Del Mar** 12840 Carmel Country Road, Del Mar, 858-481-7883. Oggi’s has several branches throughout San Diego. Is it the pizzas, or is it the house-made brewskis (six ales, one lager, one stout) that make Oggi’s so popular? Is it the sports-bar ambience (with multiple video screens) or just the ubiquity of branches that has won this chain numerous “best pizza” citations? The pizzas are American-style, with thick, slightly sweet crusts, many with elaborate toppings that sound more adventurous than they taste. (All the cheese alternatives are equally mild.) The menu also offers pub snacks, decent soups and salads, hearty sandwiches, and American-Italian entrées so mall-

adapted that no *mamma mia* in Bensonhurst or North Beach would even recognize them. Full bar, lunch and dinner daily at most branches; free local delivery with minimum order. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

**Pearl Chinese Cuisine** 11666 Avenida Place, Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-3388. At Emerald Restaurant’s younger, prettier suburban sister, you’ll find modern Hong Kong-style Chinese cuisine, including both familiar and exotic dishes. Daytimes are for dim sum (Chinese tapas), served daily until 3 p.m., plus champagne dim sum brunches on weekends. Along with standard items, the choices here leap to the latest Pacific creations, some rarely found this side of the ocean, including irresistible Shanghai soup dumplings. Dinners range from folk food to showy “gold cup” dishes. For a taste treat and visual hoot, try the sea bass with pine nuts, sculpted to resemble a dish sponge. International wine list at modest markups complements the cooking. Full bar. Frying done in corn (not peanut) oil. Reservations advised. Lunch and dinner on weekdays; three meals on weekends. Moderate, with some expensive specialties. — *N.W.*

**Phuong Trang Vietnamese Seafood Restaurant** 4170 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-6750. Tired of putting up with the crowds at the popular Convoy Street restaurant? Go east, where you’ll find the same menu without the hassles. The fare centers on Vietnamese “people’s food” emphasizing numerous genres of noodle soups, but there are a handful of more elegant house specialties — including the extraordinary “Special Sauce” Dungeness crab from the live tank. (The sauce is tangy tamarind.) Call ahead to order steamed or grilled live-tank catfish. Vietnamese beers including 33; just two generic wines. Also bring a pad and write down the numbers of your orders to give the waiter, as staffers speak little English. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate (higher for live-tank seafood). — *N.W.*

**Seoul B.B.Q.** 4344 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-505-8700. This Korean restaurant means sitting before a sizzling cast-iron grill, sipping hot sake, the smell of grilled beef, grilled onions,

and fresh garlic in the air. Try the Korean B.B.Q. marinated short ribs (*tong galbi*) or thick marbled slices of sirloin (beef *gui*). You’ll enjoy all the accompanying dishes that make the meal, like crunchy seaweed salads, radishes in garlicky tomato sauce, slow-cooked potatoes with soy sauce and jalapeño pepper. Feeling adventurous? Go for the goat meat hot pot or Korean steak tartare (*yukhwoe*). This is sensual, elemental, hairy-chested food. Lunch and dinner six days, closed Sunday. — *M.N.*

## NORTH COASTAL

**Azafran** 1001 South Coast Highway 101, Oceanside, 760-435-0005. This place just feels Cuban, with its echoey inside, bongos, washed orange walls, and giant Cuban jazz mural. We’re talking Caribbean-style food, not hot by Mexican standards. Most delicious intro: traditional Cuban pressed sandwiches, hot-pressed to mix the juices of, say, smoked ham, roast pork, cheese, mustard, pickles (Cubano #2), or roast pork (*lechón*) with a *mojo* (garlicky-citrus) sauce that makes it juicy. The bread, baked right here, is news in itself — crunchy and sometimes sweet (ask for *medianoche*). You get a lot, but don’t leave without trying a plantain dish or the cheese flan. Or a cup of Cuban coffee. Lunch and dinner six days, closed Monday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Blanca** 437 South Coast Highway 101, Solana Beach, 858-792-0072. The opening of sleek, sophisticated Blanca marks the arrival of our first 21st-century restaurant, highlighting perfect seasonal ingredients so radiantly and originally prepared that diners must rouse to rapt attention. Chef Wade Hageman, a protégé of renowned SF/Vegas chef Michael Mina, has imported a similarly complex, labor-intensive style of cooking that appeals as much to the mind as to the senses. He’s imported a major Mina stratagem — showcasing an individual ingredient by presenting it in several different incarnations within the same dish, like musical variations on a theme. Blanca’s menu lists each item’s pedigree and primary garnishes, but those details

don’t begin to describe the behind-the-scenes enhancements of marinades, brines, rubs, soaks, and infusions that play subtle roles in the multilayered flavors that come to the table. Appetizers are especially adventurous, the wine list is exceptional (if mainly very pricey), and the restaurant’s decor is as modern and polished as the food. Dinner only. Reservations required. Very expensive. — *N.W.*

**Bubby’s Gelato** 937 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-436-3563. This tiny storefront does only a few things (sandwiches, gelati, and sorbet) but does them exceedingly well. The “gourmet sandwiches” really do live up to their designation, with intriguing Mediterranean combinations (artichoke hearts, black olives, grilled eggplant, Gorgonzola are among the choice of ingredients) on soft, round Italian bread. (Or you can just get a tuna melt if that’s your flavor.) Gelati are about twice as rich as Häagen-Dazs, and feature an ever-changing array of bold flavors, e.g., vanilla rosewater and chocolate cinnamon. Open daily 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., closes later on Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

**La Especial Norte** 604 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia, 760-942-1040. This big, brightly lit roadhouse sports highly whimsical decor (take a look at the blue ceramic “pond” in the dining room, complete with cayman) and boasts a five-page menu, including a page of a dozen regional soups and another full page for seafood. The soups are superb — the authentic Mexico City-style chicken soup is laden with avocados, chicken shreds, cilantro, and rice, and the savory eggplant soup includes airy little “croutons” of puffed *relleno* batter. The fresh, interesting seafood entrées outshine the relatively ordinary renditions of the standard stuffed-tortilla variations. No wheelchair access to restrooms. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

**Il Fornaio — Del Mar** 1555 Camino del Mar, Del Mar, 858-755-8876. Il Fornaio’s defensive architecture walls it off from the Great Unwashed — the tourists wandering around Coronado’s Old Ferry Landing — but it’s worth breaching if only to get your teeth into their to-die-for bread. “*Il fornaio*” means “the baker,” after all. Beyond bread, we’re talking rustic-feeling, herbal, ultra-fresh salads, and everyday Italian dishes ranging from *sfi-latino* con *bistecchina* (thin grilled steak

on a baguette with creamy dijon and salad) to a giant mesquite-grilled 22-ounce *bistecca alla fiorentina*, with lots of vegetarian and pasta dishes in between. A simple penne *alla sorrentina* — pasta tubes with a tomato, mozzarella, and basil sauce — is charming. Pizza *putanesca* is heaven too, if you’re into anchovies. Interesting regional menus from different provinces of Italy pop up during the first two weeks of each month. Most staffers seem mind-blowingly knowledgeable. Moderate. — *E.B.*

**Pamplemousse Grille** 514 Via de la Valle, Solana Beach, 858-792-9090. The locals’ favorite French provincial restaurant offers exquisite, creative cooking. Favorites from an often-changing menu include white fish served any style, mushroom *cappucini* soup, and *tarte Tatin*. Serene atmosphere with excellent service. Dinner reservations urged. Dinner nightly, lunch Friday only. Dinners expensive. — *E.B.*

**Potato Shack Café** 120 West I Street, Encinitas, 760-436-1282. Check out the cute potato-toon mural on the side of the building — a sign for spud-lovers to load up on portions sized for lumberjacks from the Lumberyard across the street. American fries (served “all you can eat”), french fries, potato patties, and baked potatoes with various toppings are the heart of the menu, along with eggs, omelets, biscuits with sausage gravy, and beer-battered onion rings made from sweet reds. If size counts, consider the daunting inch-thick “manhole” pancake that’s bigger than the plate. Lunch runs to deli sandwiches (with potatoes), or a hearty bowl of chili con carne. Arrive early weekends. Open daily, breakfast to late lunch. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

**Roxy Natural Foods Restaurant** 517 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-436-5001. You don’t have to be a Self Realization Fellowship follower to fit in at Encinitas, but it helps. Roxy was made for the veggie crowd who’ve grown up around the famous seaside compound. These days, that includes surfers, vegans, and even visiting Hollywood stars picky about their food. Actually, it is no longer strictly a vegetarian eatery: the owners have added chicken and fish for Encinitas’s “new people” — the carnivores buying up property in the hills. But the vegan-veggie spirit still rules. Most popular item on the menu is owner Shahram Naimi’s own invention: the scrumptious Roxy falafelburger. Its green “meat” is made from garbanzo beans,

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potatoes, onions, cilantro, and herbs, all bedded down with tomatoes, a thick mat of sprouts, and melted cheese, covered by a whole-wheat bun. For chicken lovers, the garlic chicken pizzas sell big-time. Other healthy treats include the three-egg avocado omelet with toast, the artichoke sandwich (with marinated artichoke hearts), and the squash enchilada dinner (steamed banana squash with corn, bell peppers, and low-fat cream cheese in a flour tortilla). Payoff? You come out feeling good and full, not bad and bloated. Open daily, brunch through dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Sammy's Woodfired Pizza — Del Mar** 12925 El Camino Real, Del Mar, 858-259-6600. It's not Italian or New York pizza, it's...San Diego pizza! The crusts are Californian: thick and slightly sweet. The toppings range from ordinary to exotic. The menu includes many salads and a handful of American-Italian entrées. Continuous service, same menu lunch and dinner. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

SOUTH BAY

**Bistro d'Asia** 1301 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-437-6677. The relaxing restaurant attached to the hardy "Lizard Lounge" serves gentled-down dishes from all over East Asia. Among the tastiest are delicate lemon shrimps, vegetarian "monk's curry," and ice creams from Mootown Creamery. Peking Duck is accorded the full service, with a waitress garnishing the table's first round of delicate "flower buns" with crackly duck skin, scallions, and hoisin sauce. Lizard Lounge next door now houses a sushi bar as well as a liquor bar. Reserve for weekend dinners. Street parking. Well-chosen wine list. Lunch and dinner daily. Other branch at 4628 Park Boulevard, University Heights, 619-295-5880. — *N.W.*

**La Costa Azul Mariscos** 1037 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-691-9812. Great family-run hangout for traditional seafood from Sinaloa and Nayarit, Mexico's crackling-hot desert/coastal states. Their ancient Sinaloa dish *aguachile* (shrimp in spicy brine) is simple, mouth-sizzlingly effective, *langostinos* are lush, but maybe most satisfying are whole-fish dishes like *pescado Venacruzano*. Truly traditional offerings come in giant three-legged *molcajetes*. Even their less-tradi-

tional signature dish, *Camarones Costa Azul* (crab and cheese-stuffed, bacon-wrapped shrimp) arrives in a burning hot *molcajete*. Also delicious: the sizzle-plate fajitas *mixtas*, with shrimp, beef, chicken. Many customers come around sunset, just to sit with a cool drink under palm fronds on the patio. Even if you're actually on Chula Vista's Broadway, it feels strangely like Cabo. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *E.B.*

**The Family House of Pancakes** 562 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-425-5133. This is a great place for three things: your family, your kids, and your appetite. The restaurant is famous for its Grandma's buckwheat pancakes, its banana-pecan pancake, and its rolled pancakes, oozing with berries and topped with cream and powdered sugar. Just try and survive their 8-12 egg omelet! Other good bets include a deluxe burger with french fries, tomatoes, and house sauce, and a grilled tuna sandwich with fries. Breakfast/lunch only, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Giant Pizza King** 600 Palm Avenue (at Rainbow), Imperial Beach, 619-423-7601. If pizza size matters to you, try on these nine-inch-wide, foot-long, loaded pizza slices. They can flop, but they can't fail. For alternatives, the fish-and-chips dish is pretty generous, they make a large lasagna with garlic bread and salad, and the half-pound shrimp combo, fries, and salad is good value. You're near enough here to the beach to get supplies for sunset "green flash" parties — this is a full-on Italian take-out eatery with ham or turkey subs, spaghetti with meatballs, half-pound burgers, and more. Open

daily, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Island Wok** 922 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-6835. This tiny indoor-outdoor-takeaway café is a standby with locals, especially the high school crowd. It serves good Vietnamese-Chinese food and plenty of it. The owner, Xuan, makes scrumptious fresh (not fried) Vietnamese spring rolls wrapped in rice paper with shrimp, pork, or chicken and vegetables in the middle. But most customers go for the steamtable combination plates. You always get chow mein, fried or steamed rice, and a fried spring roll to start off, and then you can add entrées like orange chicken, kung pao chicken, or sweet-and-sour pork. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Mexican Village** 126 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-3111. One of the few old restaurants left in Coronado. West-Pac Navy flyers who served in Korea and Vietnam would dream of this while on tour. After almost perishing, the Village is back. Old Coronadans say the new (Mexican) owner's "signature" burritos (fillings, e.g., tripitas [tripe], carnitas con papas [pork with potato], chorizo, and eggs) match even their gilded memories. Try the carnitas with cactus. 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday; till 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

**Village Pizzeria** 1206 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-522-0449. Mootime Creamery owner David Spatafore decided to set up what he's always wanted: a cheap, back-east Italian, red-and-white-tablecloth, dangling-Chianti-bottle eatery where local families and amateur

sports teams can come in and pig out. He wisely didn't destroy what was half of the famous old Mexican Village. Instant atmosphere! Ancient murals of guys with guitars serenading señoritas, arches, illuminated clusters of red grapes. The bad news: you might have to handle pumped-up kids' sports teams cramming the booths around you. The good news: great calzones and pizza by the slice. (Pizza-by-slice portions stop at 6 p.m.) Open lunch through dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

EAST COUNTY

**Ali Baba Restaurant** 421 East Main Street, El Cajon, 619-442-3622. First, the atmosphere: It's a world of wispy drapes, pavilions, and blue velvet hangings. You think, "sheikh's oasis encampment." The lamb shank on bulgur wheat is probably the most popular with local Chaldeans. Lamb, fried fish, and chicken kabobs are staples. But try interesting alternatives like "potato chop," a kind of potato pie, *kobba musilia*, a "crushed wheat pie" stuffed with beef and fried. Remember, everything is filling. Especially with the wonderful bread you get: the size of an elephant's foot, light as a butterfly, baked on the spot. Bring five friends and order the Feast for Three People. It'll be enough. Open 10 a.m. to midnight daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

**Antonio's Hacienda** 700 North Johnson Avenue, El Cajon, 619-442-9827. If the decor hasn't been updated

from its original 1960s-fabulous Old California Spanish, it's because there's been no need. The enormous dark-wood chandeliers, the padded-leather wooden chairs, the chainsaw-weathered wood beams — all top-shelf and aging well. Families abound, reveling in the guitar trio and the exposed kitchen station — such atmosphere! And the flavors are user-friendly, sweetness muting the spice in the salsa and the ranchero sauce. The Camarones Tequila is a little more exciting, the sweetness of its bacon-wrapped shrimp gets a fine counter from the bitter liqueur in the marinade. Excellent Enchiladas Suizas: pale, mush-tender, shredded chicken wrapped in tortillas and doused with good, tangy green sauce. Lunch and dinner daily. Champagne brunch on Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; all-day buffet Sunday. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *A.M.*

**Charley's Famous Hamburgers and Kebobs** 8312 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-460-2690. When you spot an old red-and-white gas station that looks like a café, don't hesitate. That's Charley's. The palm and ficus trees have replaced the gas pumps and a fountain now gurgles where the air hoses used to be. The menu is a long list of hamburgers, as well as hot dogs, sandwiches, and kebobs. Mostly take-out, but you can dine out at their picnic tables under bougainvillea. Open daily, three meals. — *E.B.*

**Fred's Old Fashioned Burgers** 2754 Alpine Boulevard, Alpine, 619-445-1264. Up here, Fred's it and that's that. You really get a bang for your burger buck, from the cheap junior burger to

quarter-pounders and half-pounders to Fred's three-quarter-pound "monster burger." Even the innocent-sounding BLT sandwich comes loaded with six slabs of bacon. Maybe the most delicious burger sandwich is a quarter-pound patty slithered between sautéed onions and oozing with cheese under grilled sourdough. Also good: the grilled chicken sandwich and the patty-melt special with fries and soft drink. Really hungry? Order Fred's Alpine Goliath, a two-pound burger that needs a ten-inch bun to support it. But, as they say, be careful what you wish for. Seven days, 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Jasmine Bistro** 315 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon, 619-588-8228. A gleaming little architectural jewel surrounded by the big white boxes of its mall, Jasmine Bistro is a spin-off of the well-known Jasmine Hong Kong Seafood Restaurant on Convo. By day, the fare centers on fresh, expertly made Chinese dim sum (elaborate finger food) offered both by cart and by menu. At night, with a reservation, a fresh crew of multiethnic chefs steps in to cook up a Pan-Asian panoply, so if you're in the mood for Mandarin and your date wants Thai, no problem. Unfortunately, eaters in this suburban milieu won't stand for too much authenticity, so sophisticated diners may find the fare a little dumbed-down. Mainly California wine list suggests wine pairings for the food; numerous Asian beers, fruity drinks. Reserve for weekend dinners. Daily brunch/lunch through early dinner (until 9 p.m.). Mainly moderate (except for some special entrées). — *N.W.*

User Reviews — RESTAURANTS

Best user comments from Reader website

Pizza Fusion, Hillcrest

We visited Pizza Fusion for happy hour. The bartender/waitress was very nice. My girlfriend ordered a reising wine that was very tasty and I ordered a draft beer in addition to a pizza to go. The bartender was informed that we are just having one drink and asked her to put the pizza in immediately and she said she would. After 20 minutes of enjoying our drinks, we finished them. The bartender/waitress said that the pizza would be ready in minutes. After settling the bill and tip. My girlfriend and I decided to take a stroll around the corner. When we came back to Pizza Fusion 10 minutes later, we were informed that our pizza was just being put in the oven. The waitress offered us a refund, which we accepted and left. We will not be going to Pizza Fusion again. By **abbeyrd** 5:32 p.m., Dec. 24

Ciro's Pizzeria, Downtown

My wife and I have been married and have lived in the San Diego area for over 28 years and we consider our selves officianados of the delicasy of pizza. My wife, who is from Long Island N.Y., told me a while ago that you need to eat N.Y. pizza to know real pizza. A couple of years ago I got the chance. There is only one pizza joint thats really close — it is the crust — and you don't need to go to North County. It's a little hole in the wall about to expand at 5th and Market, S.D. CIROS. I needa nota saya no morea. By **BATSCH** 5:09 p.m., Dec. 26

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to best three user reviews awarded each week. To write a User Review, visit SDReader.com, go to Food & Drink pull-down and click on Search Restaurants. Find the restaurant you want to write about and click Write a Review. Deadline for user reviews is 12 noon Monday.

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# Favorite Few

*The less than best of the Coens remains better than most people's best.*

**S**hort of the outlying fields of basketball playoffs (the Jayhawks, the Celtics) and Presidential campaigns (Obamanos!), strictly confined instead to my assigned field, the year just past felt pretty dismal. On the personal front, Manny Farber, the inspirational albeit inimitable film

**MOVIE  
REVIEW**  
DUNCAN SHEPHERD

critic, and my oldest friend in both senses of the adjective, died in August at the age of ninety-one. Early in the calendar, David Elliott, my counterpart at the daily *Union-Tribune*, got booted out the door after twenty-four years, without so much as the opportunity to bid goodbye in print, so as to make way for wire-service reviews. And late in the calendar, Scott Marks, the erstwhile film curator at the Museum of Photographic Arts and ever after a movie maven of sizable presence in this town, left for the wider pastures of Los Angeles. The city limits appeared somehow to contract.

The bleakness extended generally to the movie screen, where even the best seemed less. And the biggest, *The*

*Dark Knight* with no rival, actively strove for bleakness. (The masses evidently found that mood fittingly overwrought for a Heath Ledger wake, never mind for a comic-book superhero fantasy.) So it is with some slight surprise that I notice my short list of favorite films is uncommonly dominated by comedies. Maybe I needed them more than usual.

*Happy-Go-Lucky*. When I rack my brains in search of a single greatest contribution to cinema history in 2008, I come up with Poppy, the irrepressible, undepressible London schoolteacher of Mike Leigh's lightest comedy. Sally Hawkins's complex portrayal made her into a real person, not a hypothetical, and pushed her exuberance to the brink of craziness or at least brink of crazy-makingness. Leigh never let on what you were supposed to think of her. He left it up to you. I didn't view this as one of his very best films or even very funniest, but it was probably his (and the year's) best-looking, in cinematographer Dick Pope's



*Happy-Go-Lucky*

pop-off-the-screen colors and crystal-clear atmosphere. The competition, to be sure, did not really demand Leigh's best. In my yearbook, Poppy's tops.

*Roman de Gare*. Claude Lelouch's killer-on-the-loose thriller was not precisely a comedy, but it had comedy in it, and it was in any case a light thriller as opposed to the queasy-making thriller that's all the rage nowa-

days. This wasn't one of Lelouch's best films either (whose films tend to vary more widely in quality than Leigh's), but it had his singular deftness of touch, and it had uncharacteristic ingenuity of design. It was not screened in advance for the press — an effect, I had to ask myself, of the thinning ranks of local critics? — so I sat down to write about it in haste on its opening weekend, not

knowing whether it would even be held over for a second week at Landmark's Hillcrest, and submissively tucking it behind my lengthier remarks on *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*, the evanescent Top Story of the moment. It deserved better.

*The Promotion*. I was even later in getting to Steven Conrad's little-promoted workplace comedy, set in a bad-



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part-of-Chicago supermarket, efficiently surveyed from bottom to top. For some reason I missed the press screening, and having no reason whatsoever to expect anything from the tyro director, I wasted my time on opening weekend opting instead to see a documentary on steroid abuse. I got around to it in its second week only because I'm inclined to like John C. Reilly, whom indeed I never liked more. As an unforeseen bonus, I also liked Seann William Scott, whom I never liked before. The year's best laughs with the least strain. So much nicer an arrangement than the fewest-laughs-with-most-strain formula of *Step Brothers* (in spite of John C. Reilly), *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, *You Don't Mess with the Zohan*, *Pineapple Express*, *Zack and Miri Make a Porno*, and their ilk.

*Burn after Reading*. Not (to reprise the theme) one of the Coen brothers' best, but no matter how far I have backed off on the Coens since, say, *The Man Who Wasn't There*, and no matter how many qualifications and quibbles I throw in, I am still accused of being a shill for them. Well, the less than best of the Coens remains better than most people's best, and their comedy of stupidity in the intelligence community was fast, short, and almost relentlessly tickling. Yes, I didn't enjoy seeing the lovesick health-club manager get his head split open like a melon, but at the same time this helped to point up (a) that in his choice of love object, he too was stupid, and (b) that the Coens were serious in their funny business. The ensemble cast was so uniformly good — Clooney, Pitt, McDormand, Malkovich, Swinton, Jenkins, Simmons, Rasche, all the way to the walleyed health-club janitor whose name I don't know — that we can only salute the Coens' total control.

*Ciudad en Celo*. Hernán Gaffet's easygoing, smooth-flowing navigation of a circle of friends around the hub of a Buenos Aires bar, all of them compelled to contemplate mortality when one of their number gets subtracted, was funny to the degree that life is funny — without undue effort to heighten the degree — and it was precious in the way, if not quite to the degree, that life is precious. Since it was shown exclusively at the San Diego Latino Film Festival, I couldn't comment on it until it had departed, a circumstance that in some way underscores the film's (and the festival's) treasurability. Nor, as far as I'm aware, can it be disinterred at will on DVD.

The next step down, to Second Bests, is crowded enough to ward off despair. (For now.) The time-honored genres had adequate representation: Matt Reeves's *Cloverfield* and Chris



The Promotion

Carter's *The X-Files: I Want to Believe* held up, respectively, the bug-eyed-monster and the mad-scientist wings of science fiction; Ed Harris's *Appaloosa* presented a blessedly old-fashioned Western; David Mamet's *Redbelt*, while not alone in updating the fight film to the mixed-martial-arts era, was alone in stylizing it for Mametland; and Giuseppe Tornatore's *The Unknown Woman* served up an Italian erotic thriller that proved to be something more, and other, than it seemed, and in the meantime it did thrill.

On the fringes of the genres: Michael Haneke's subversive home-invasion nightmare, *Funny Games*, truly a shot-for-shot remake of his German-language original (a thank-you to Bill Richardson for supplying me a DVD of it), amounted to a sharply honed instrument of torture. The one benefit of remaking it, besides obtaining a broader audience for it, was that the familiarity of the stars fractionally intensified the subversion. And Claude Chabrol's *A Girl Cut in Two* diagrammed a twisted and twisty if not a thrilling romantic triangle *cum* crime of passion, although when I saw it I didn't remember its fact-based and period-set model, Richard Fleischer's *The Girl*

in the *Red Velvet Swing*, clearly enough to realize how close it was a copy. Praise be to Kensington Video for enabling me to realize.

Silvio Soldini's *Days and Clouds*, Chico Teixeira's *Alice's House*, and Nadine Labaki's *Caramel* dished out flavorful slices of life from Italy, Brazil, and Lebanon, in order. From Romania, Cristian Mungiu's *4 Months, 3 Weeks, and 2 Days* added the pungency of an illegal abortion under the Ceausescu regime. And in the American style, Thomas McCarthy's *The Visitor*, with its generous leading role for a grateful Richard Jenkins, laced its mundanity with a dollop of journalistic topicality.

Marjane Satrapi's (and Vincent Paronnaud's) *Persepolis*, a mostly black-and-white autobiographical coming-of-age story against a backdrop of the Islamic Revolution, was far and away the standout animated feature, stiffness aside. And Doug Sweetland's *Presto*, the five-minute theatrical prefix to the pretentious *WALL-E*, and even now attached to it on the newly issued DVD, recaptured some of the hit-and-run exhilaration of the old-time cartoon short.

Francisco Vargas's *El Violín*, another fruit of the Latino Film Festival, and

later encored in the monthly Cinema en Tu Idioma series, brought evocative black-and-white into a live-action feature. Catherine Breillat's *The Last Mistress*, a wildly, archaically romantic costume drama, afforded a showcase for the talents, if not the tattoos, of Asia Argento. Claude Miller's *A Secret* took a revivingly individualized angle on the French Occupation. And *Flight of the Red Balloon* imported Hou Hsiao-

hsien's peerless eye into modern Paris, though the red balloon was a lead balloon.

For me, the year's biggest letdown (my expectations of George A. Romero's *Diary of the Dead* and Dario Argento's *Mother of Tears* weren't high enough for the letdown to be big, and the letdowns from Wong Kar-wai's *My Blueberry Nights* and Woody Allen's *Vicky Cristina Barcelona* were only little) was Clint Eastwood's limp and overdrawn *Changeling*, too many steps down to merit an honorable mention. His bounce-back *Gran Torino* doesn't come to us out in the hinterlands till January 9, a happy start, anyway, to the new year. ■

## MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews sorted alphabetically, by year of release and by rating, are available online at [SDReader.com](http://SDReader.com).

**Anita O'Day: The Life of a Jazz Singer** — Robbie Cavolina's and Ian McCrudden's documentary portrait of the late big-band vocalist, filmed just prior to her death in 2006. (KEN, 1/2 THROUGH 8)

**Australia** — Nearly three million square miles of tripe. A Ferber-esque epic of a "delicate English rose" who takes over her late husband's cattle ranch in rugged northern



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# Calendar

## MOVIES

Australia on the eve of World War II, a *Cimarron* Down Under, with a sprinkle of Aboriginal magic, and a thick coat of high-gloss lacquer. Baz Luhrmann, never mistaken as a man of taste, starts out treating it almost as a spoof, and ends up, after a series of grandiose climaxes, treating it as a solemnization, selecting Elgar's "Nimrod" variation as accompaniment to the little half-caste narrator's departure on walkabout. This, and much else, might very well wrest a smile from your lips. Or a sneer. With Nicole Kidman, Hugh Jackman, David Wenham, Bryan Brown, Jack Thompson, and Brandon Walters. 2008.

● (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20)

**Bedtime Stories** — Uncle Skeeter's yarn-spinning collaborations with button-

cute niece and nephew — tales of the Dark Ages, the Old West, Ancient Greece, Outer Space — are translated magically into reality the following day. Adam Sandler, rarely funny anyway, shoots for the more attainable goal of schmaltz. With Keri Russell, Russell Brand, Guy Pearce, Richard Griffiths, Teresa Palmer, Lucy Lawless, Courteney Cox, and Rob Schneider; directed by Adam Shankman. 2008.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

**Bolt** — TV series superdog escapes from the backlot under the impression his powers are real. (Shades of *The Truman Show*.) Even the vast possibilities of computer animation can't convince us of this particular possibility. Once the canine hero, about



BRAD PITT    CATE BLANCHETT

*The Curious Case Of*

BENJAMIN BUTTON

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FROM THE SHORT STORY BY F. SCOTT FITZGERALD SCREENPLAY BY ERIC ROTH AND ROBIN SWICORD BASED UPON THE NOVEL BY F. SCOTT FITZGERALD DIRECTED BY DAVID FINCHER  
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## Bedtime Stories

two-thirds of the way through, awakens to his limitations and discovers his inner dogginess, the film warms up. With the voices of John Travolta, Miley Cyrus, Susie Essman, and Mark Walton; directed by Bryan Howard and Chris Williams. 2008.

★ (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; LA COSTA 6; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; SANTEE DRIVE IN)

**The Boy in the Striped Pajamas —** Contrived concentration-camp fable, from the novel by John Boyne, about the budding friendship, through barbed wire, between the eight-year-old Aryan son of the camp commandant (in his innocence, he thinks it's a farm) and a same-aged, shaved-headed Jew. It roughly recalls *Life Is Beautiful* in its mixture, or collision, of sticky sentiment and gorgeous cinematography (Benoit Delhomme, in this case). The resolution, whether because it is signalled too far ahead and dragged out too long or because its tragedy is leavened with undeniable justice, shapes up as profoundly unmoving. With Asa Butterfield, Vera Farmiga, Davis Thewlis, and Zac Mattoon O'Brien; written and directed by Mark Herman. 2008.

★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

**Cadillac Records** — The emergence of rock-and-roll, as seen from the catbird seat of Chess Records in Chicago: Muddy Waters, Little Walter, Howlin' Wolf, Chuck Berry, Etta James, et al. The golden music, the vintage cars, the period hairdos retain their glamour; the backstage clichés are just old. Adrian Brody, as producer Leonard Chess, and Jeffrey Wright as Waters outdo one another in unintelligible murmurs and mutters; Beyoncé Knowles sings up a firestorm as James; and Mos Def is an all-around delight as Berry. With Columbus Short, Gabrielle Union, Eamonn Walker, and Cedric the Entertainer; written and directed by Darnell Martin. 2008.

★ (GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20)

**The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** — The central conceit, and little else, has been retained from an F. Scott Fitzgerald short story of the same name: a protagonist who ages in reverse. (The story of course was written and titled before the

oundalike name of Benjamin Britten came to fame, and as long as they were changing everything else....) With a script by Eric Roth, and with an historical scope and a "special" hero that often recall his script for *Forrest Gump*, the movie is at some pains to shore up the plausibility of the tale — a painful undertaking for sure — and to expunge the humor of it. On screen, nothing is more absurd about it than its length, two and three-quarters hours, plenty long enough to read the Fitzgerald story five or six times over. And its wistful theme of transience frankly gains very little from the reverse-aging phenomenon, nowhere near as much as you'd want to gain from so mindbending a device. The theme, moreover, gains nothing at all from the movie's feeling of interminability. Director David Fincher, determined to show his softer side, softer than *Zodiac* and *Panic Room* and *Fight Club* and so on, manages first and foremost to show his technical side. The movie is replete with proficiencies of production (the periods are lavishly detailed, the brief tugboat battle with an enemy sub in WWII is dazzling, the duplex love nest is a splendid locale, etc.), and it serves as a virtual showcase for the art of makeup and/or art of digital touch-up, digital airbrush, digital prestidigitation, whatever went into the various aging effects on Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett. The seamless surgery by which the leading man's head has been grafted onto bodies of different sizes is used, in this instance, responsibly. But it raises unsettling possibilities for the evolutionary next leap in screen body doubles. What's to prevent another filmmaker from putting Brad Pitt's head, in service of vanity, on Michael Phelps's body? Cate Blanchett's on Giselle Bündchen's? With Taraji P. Henson, Jason Flemyng, Jared Harris, Tilda Swinton, Julia Ormond. 2008.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

**The Day the Earth Stood Still** — The 1951 s-f classic refashioned into a tolerable

time-passer on a fast track to oblivion. The urgent mobilization of an *ad hoc* team of scientists and the descent of a UFO on Central Park get the movie off to a gripping start, once past the prolonged opening credits and 1928 prologue. And the dissipation of the robot GORT (a military acronym for Genetically Organized Robotic Technology) into a deadly locust cloud is quite spectacular. He, or it, still can't hold a candle to his, or its, clunky archetypal namesake in the original. Most of the action, under director Scott Derrickson, is mere going-through-the-motions; and for all the bigger and splashier special effects, and all the dashing around the countryside, the remake somehow feels smaller in scope, narrower in vision. Meddlesome busybody aliens affronted by humans' mistreatment of the planet ("It's not *your* planet") seem a little petty alongside self-defensive aliens worried, post-WWII, about humans spreading their bellicosity throughout the universe. Jennifer Connelly, as a really hot astrobiologist and really warm interracial single stepmom, is convincingly hot and convincingly warm if not convincingly astrobiological. And Keanu Reeves, sad to say, as the expressionless human husk of an emotionless extraterrestrial, has never been better. With Jaden Smith, Kathy Bates, John Cleese. 2008.

★★ (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10)

**Doubt** — From the prize-winning stage play by John Patrick Shanley, an ambiguous drama of possible priestly pedophilia at a Catholic school in the Bronx. The playwright, perhaps best known to moviegoers as the writer of *Moonstruck* and writer-director of *Joe versus the Volcano*, handles the direction of his own work on screen, and the freedoms of the medium enable him to detail operations of the parish to almost anthropological ends: the nuns' rising and dressing in the A.M., the altar boys' preparations for Mass, the crosscutting contrast between the bloody-roast-beef and red-wine dinner table of the jovial priests as against the silent and austere table of the milk-fed nuns, the students' coed dance lesson to "Blame It on the Bossa Nova," and so



on. (The time, as the aforesaid musical selection would suggest, is early Sixties, the time of the playwright's own Catholic boyhood in the Bronx, although the sermon on communal despair after the JFK assassination — one of three pithy sermons in the script — could easily have been recycled post-9/11.) The three principal characters are types: the progressive priest who believes in a "friendlier" church that moves with the times, a friendliness that may or may not have gone too far in embracing the school's first black student, a vulnerable target; the hidebound and humorless old nun ("Penmanship is dying, all across this country") whose hawklike vigilance zeroes in on the priest; and the innocent and idealistic novice, young and pretty, who wants to believe the best of everyone. The clash of personalities, strictly limited by the play's title and tactical guideline, illuminates nothing so much as the players. Meryl Streep, over-acting awesomely, is not only a holy terror as a nun but as a thespian, booby-trapping every scene with unforeseeable little diversions, inventions, stratagems, embellishments. Philip Seymour Hoffman and Amy Adams, no slouches themselves, appear to enjoy their one scene alone together in the courtyard, no one to steal it from them, no one to show them up or slap them down. With Viola Davis and Joseph Foster. 2008. ★★ (ESCONDIDO 16; FLOWER HILL 4; HILL-CREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**Four Christmases** — A blissfully unmarried couple (Reese Witherspoon, Vince Vaughn) make the rounds, one day over the holidays, to the four households of their respective divorced parents. Any truth in the humor is buried in crudeness. The classy supporting cast (Robert Duvall, Sissy Spacek, Mary Steenburgen, Jon Voight) proves to be an optical illusion. Directed by Seth Gordon. 2008. ● (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTEE DRIVE IN)

**Frost/Nixon** — Playwright Peter Morgan restages the 1977 "no holds barred" TV interview of Richard Nixon by British talk-show host David Frost, and the drum-beating buildup to it. A prizefight metaphor runs throughout, permitting director Ron Howard to slip comfortably into the underdog mode of his *Cinderella Man*, with Frost, as it were, failing to lay a glove on Nixon going into the final round, then at last pinning him in a corner and pummeling some semblance of a confession out of him. This spectacle may satisfy the undying urge to spit on the corpse of the 37th President, as well as supply a general-purpose stand-in for the still elusive and impenitent 43rd President. (The undying urge to spit, it must be pointed out, tends to contradict the film's premise that the interview in some way provided "closure.") As a job of stagecraft, however, or screencraft, it's a bit stunted, endlessly and explicitly talking out its points, and employing the unpardonable shortcut of pseudodocumentary interviews of various secondary characters, ostensibly at a later date, to further analyze, comment on, and embroider the points made elsewhere. With Michael Sheen, Frank Langella, Kevin Bacon, Sam Rockwell, Oliver Platt, Matthew Macfadyen, and Rebecca Hall. 2008. ★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20)

**Happy-Go-Lucky** — Character portrait of a singular person, a primary-school teacher called Poppy, almost dementedly upbeat,



Marley and Me

seeing it as her mission in life to spread sunshine and joy wherever she goes. A tipsy giggler, a babbling 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), an avocational clown, a tireless 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 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" — 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 ranting, racist, rigid driving instructor ("It's not easy being you, ay?"), a violent bully at school, and an addled tramp in the street. She's 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. Sally Hawkins, who had worked with writer-director Mike Leigh previously in *Vera Drake* and *All or Nothing*, takes total possession of the role, or vice versa, indelibly visualized in a neo- or retro-Flower Child wardrobe, too youthful by a decade, too loud by a hundred decibels, of clashing colors and multiple layers (a last layer, revealed on the chiropractor's table, of pink bra and orange panties beneath black fishnet hose), and a full range of mirth from lopsided grin, pulling to the right, to open-wide glee. Leigh himself, you might have noticed, especially if you saw either of the samples mentioned above, is not the jolliest sort of fellow, and it would be easy to imagine him making a movie in which the central char-

acter were the volcanic driving instructor — the stalwart Eddie Marsan, who also appeared 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 specimen, 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, circumstances. At all times the movie boasts beautiful bright color, rather as if Leigh's regular cameraman, Dick Pope, had emptied a bottle of Windex on our window on the world. (Ah, we can see!) And please don't propose that this is meant to be expressive of Poppy's *Weltanschauung*. Clear bright colors ought not to be the exclusive privilege of the Pollyanna. 2008. ★★★★★ (LA PALOMA)

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8 CRITICS' CHOICE AWARD  
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San Diego Reader December 31, 2008 99

# MOVIE SHOWTIMES

*Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.*

## CENTRAL

### CLAIREMONT

#### Town Square 14

4665 Clairemont Drive (858-274-1234)  
**Bedtime Stories** (PG); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13); **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (PG-13); **Marley and Me** (PG); **Seven Pounds** (PG-13); **Slumdog Millionaire** (R); **The Spirit** (PG-13); **The Tale of Despereaux** (G); **Valkyrie** (PG-13); **Yes Man** (PG-13)

### DOWNTOWN

#### Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400)  
**Australia** (Not Rated); **Bedtime Stories** (PG); **Cadillac Records** (R); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13); **Four Christmases** (PG-13); **Marley and Me** (PG); **Rachel Getting Married** (R); **Seven Pounds** (PG-13); **Valkyrie** (PG-13); **Vicky Cristina Barcelona** (PG-13)

### LA JOLLA

#### La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262)  
**Bedtime Stories** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:20) 1:55, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45; **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:40, 11:30) 2:35, 3:15, 6:15, 7:00, 9:30, 10:15; **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:15) 2:15, 4:55, 7:40, 10:20 Sun. 2:15, 4:55, 7:40, 10:20; **Doubt** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:25) 1:15, 4:00, 6:40, 10:00 Sun. (10:25) 1:25, 4:00, 6:40, 10:00; **Four Christmases** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:35) 2:05, 4:30, 10:40 Sun. 2:05, 4:30, 10:40; **Frost/Nixon** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:15) 1:25, 4:25, 7:30, 10:30; **Marley and Me** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:00) 1:00, 4:05, 7:05, 10:10; **Seven Pounds** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:10) 1:10, 4:15, 7:25, 10:25; **The Spirit** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:25) 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35; **Valkyrie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:45) 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45; **Yes Man** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00) 1:40, 4:20, 7:15, 10:40 Sun. 1:40, 4:20, 7:15, 10:40

#### La Jolla Village

8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)  
**The Boy in the Striped Pajamas** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 1:50, 4:40; **Milk** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50; **The Reader** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00; **Slumdog Millionaire** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 8:15, 10:05

### MISSION VALLEY

#### Fashion Valley 18

7037 Friars Road (858-558-2262)  
**Australia** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sat. 6:30, 10:20 Sun. 6:00, 9:30; **Bedtime Stories** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 11:00) 12:30, 1:40, 3:15, 4:20, 5:50, 7:05, 8:15, 9:40, 10:50 Sun. (10:00, 11:00) 12:30, 1:40, 3:15, 4:20, 5:50, 6:55, 8:15, 9:45; **Bolt** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:55) 1:25, 3:55 Sun. (10:15) 12:40, 3:10; **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:45) 12:00, 2:30, 3:35, 6:05, 7:10, 9:50, 10:45 Fri.-Sat. 12:00, 3:35, 7:10, 10:45 Sun. (10:45) 12:00, 2:30, 3:35, 6:05, 7:10, 9:40 Sun. 12:00, 3:35, 7:10; **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:05) 12:35, 3:10, 6:00, 8:35, 11:20 Sun. 12:05, 2:35, 5:15, 7:50, 10:20; **Four Christmases** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 12:25, 2:40, 5:10, 7:30, 9:45 Sun. 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50; **Frost/Nixon** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:40) 1:35, 4:25, 7:15, 10:25 Sun. (10:40) 1:35, 4:25, 7:15, 10:05; **Marley and Me** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:20, 11:05) 1:15, 2:05, 4:10, 7:20, 10:15 Sun. (10:20, 11:05) 1:15, 1:55, 4:10, 7:20, 10:15; **Quantum of Solace** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 12:10, 5:15, 10:35 Sun. 2:20, 7:30; **Role Models** (R) Fri.-Sat. 2:45, 7:50 Sun. (11:55) 5:00, 10:10; **Seven Pounds** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:15) 1:10, 2:15, 5:05, 7:00, 8:00, 9:55, 10:55 Sun. (11:15) 1:10, 2:15, 5:05, 7:00, 8:00, 9:55; **The Spirit** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:15) 12:55, 3:30, 6:10, 8:50, 11:25 Sun. (10:55) 1:45, 4:30, 7:05, 10:00; **The Tale of Despereaux** (G) Fri.-Sat. (10:30) 12:50, 3:25, 5:45, 8:10, 10:30 Sun. (10:30) 1:00, 3:25, 5:45, 8:10, 10:30; **Twilight** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 5:00, 7:55, 11:00 Sun. 4:45, 7:40, 10:25; **Valkyrie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:50) 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:40 Sun. (10:05) 1:05, 3:50, 6:50, 9:35; **Yes Man** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:10) 12:45, 1:50, 3:20, 4:35, 5:55, 7:25, 8:30, 10:00, 11:10 Sun. (10:10) 12:45, 1:50, 3:20, 4:35, 5:55, 7:25, 8:30, 10:10

#### Mission Valley 7

7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)



**Bedtime Stories** (PG) (10:00 12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; **Marley and Me** (PG) (10:30 1:30) 4:30 7:15 10:00; Will play at 10 am on Thu. 1/8; **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13) (12:00 3:30) 7:00 10:30; **Valkyrie** (PG-13) (10:45 1:45) 4:45 7:30 10:30; **Yes Man** (PG-13) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **Seven Pounds** (PG-13) (10:15 1:15) 4:15 7:15 10:15; **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (PG-13) (10:00

12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:45;  
Please call theater for holiday hours.

#### Mission Valley 20

1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262)  
**Australia** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. 3:30, 9:35; **Bedtime Stories** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:25) 12:05, 1:55, 2:30, 4:25, 5:00, 6:55, 7:35, 9:20, 10:00, 11:55 Sun. (11:25) 12:05, 1:55, 2:30, 4:25, 5:00, 6:55, 7:35, 9:20, 10:00; **Bolt** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:20) 12:55, 3:25, 5:50, 8:15 Sun. 1:50, 4:20, 7:00; **Cadillac Records** (R) Fri.-Sun. 2:10, 7:20; **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:00) 2:35, 6:10, 9:55 Fri.-Sat. (11:45) 3:20, 7:00, 10:45 Sun. (11:45) 3:20, 7:00, 10:30; **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:20 Sun. 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:20; **Four Christmases** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:50) 2:15, 4:35, 8:00, 10:15, 12:20 Sun. (11:50) 2:15, 4:35, 8:00, 10:15; **Frost/Nixon** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:40) 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:15; **Marley and Me** (PG) Fri. (10:25) 12:35, 1:20, 3:30, 4:15, 6:30, 7:15, 9:30, 10:05; **Nothing Like the Holidays** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 10:35p.m. Sun. 9:25p.m.; **Quantum of Solace** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:30) 4:50, 10:05; **Role Models** (R) Fri.-Sat. 1:00, 7:05 Sun. 1:10, 7:05; **Seven Pounds** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:45, 11:30) 1:40, 2:20, 4:35, 5:10, 7:30, 8:10, 10:25, 11:00 Sun. (10:45, 11:30) 1:40, 2:20, 4:35, 5:10, 7:30, 8:10, 10:25; **The Spirit** (PG-13) Fri. (11:20) 2:10, 4:40, 7:25, 10:10, 12:15 Sun. (11:20) 2:10, 4:40, 7:25, 10:10; **The Tale of Despereaux** (G) Fri.-Sat. (10:30) 12:50, 3:10, 5:30, 8:00, 10:40 Sun. (10:30) 5:30, 7:45, 10:10; **Twilight** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:15) 2:05, 5:05, 8:05, 10:55 Sun. 1:15, 4:05, 7:05, 9:50; **Valkyrie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:50) 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:35 Sun. (10:50) 1:45, 4:45, 7:40, 10:25; **Yes Man** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:35) 12:00, 2:00, 2:30, 4:30, 5:15, 7:10, 7:55, 9:50, 10:30, 12:20 Sun. (11:35) 12:00, 2:00, 2:30, 4:30, 5:15, 7:10, 7:55, 9:50, 10:30

### STATE UNIVERSITY

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**Anita O'Day: The Life of a Jazz Singer**

### UPTOWN

#### Hillcrest Cinemas

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)  
**Doubt** (PG-13) Fri. 1:00, 2:30, 5:00, 6:00, 7:30, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. 12:00, 1:00, 2:30, 5:00, 6:00, 7:30, 9:50; **Milk** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:10, 4:05, 7:00, 9:55; **The Reader** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:20, 4:15, 7:10, 10:00; **Slumdog Millionaire** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:30, 3:25, 4:25, 7:20, 8:45, 10:05

## EAST COUNTY

### LA MESA

#### Grossmont Center 10

5500 Grossmont Center Drive (619-465-7100)  
**Bedtime Stories** (PG); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13); **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (PG-13); **Marley and Me** (PG); **Seven Pounds** (PG-13); **The Spirit** (PG-13); **The Tale of Despereaux** (G); **Valkyrie** (PG-13); **Yes Man** (PG-13)

### SANTEE

#### Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)  
**Bedtime Stories** (PG) Fri.-Sun.; **Bolt** (PG) Fri.-Sun.; **Four Christmases** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.; **Yes Man** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.

## SOUTH BAY

### CHULA VISTA

#### Chula Vista 10

Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)



**Bedtime Stories** (PG) (10:15 12:30 2:45) 5:00 7:30 9:45; **Marley and Me** (PG) (10:30 1:30) 4:15 7:00 10:00; **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13) (12:00 3:30) 7:00 10:30; **Valkyrie** (PG-13) (10:45 1:45) 4:30 7:45 10:45; **The Spirit** (PG-13) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **The Tale of Despereaux** (G) (10:00 12:15 2:30) 4:45 7:15 9:30; **Yes Man** (PG-13) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; **Seven Pounds** (PG-13) (10:15 1:00 4:00) 7:15 10:15; **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (PG-13) (10:00 12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; **Four Christmases** (PG-13) (1:15) 6:15 8:30 10:45; **Bolt 3-D** (PG) (10:30 3:45)  
Please call theater for holiday hours.

#### Otay Ranch 12

Eastlake Parkway at Olympic (858-558-2262)  
**Bedtime Stories** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:10, 11:30) 12:45, 1:55, 3:20, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **Bolt** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:15) 12:40, 3:05, 5:30 Sun. (10:15) 12:40, 3:00, 5:30; **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:50, 11:55) 3:30, 7:10, 10:15 Sun. (10:50) 3:05, 7:00, 10:15; **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (PG-13) Fri.-

Sun. 2:40, 5:20, 8:05, 10:30; **Doubt** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:45) 2:30, 5:15, 7:45, 10:40; **Four Christmases** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 4:40, 7:00; **Marley and Me** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:20) 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 9:15, 10:10 Sun. (11:50) 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 9:15, 10:10; **Seven Pounds** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:05) 12:55, 4:05, 7:15, 10:05; **The Spirit** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:00) 1:35, 4:30, 7:25, 10:00; **The Tale of Despereaux** (G) Fri.-Sat. (10:00) 12:30, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:20 Sun. (10:00) 12:30, 2:55, 5:25, 7:50, 10:20; **Twilight** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 7:55, 10:35; **Valkyrie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:15) 2:15, 5:10, 8:00, 10:45; **Yes Man** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:35) 2:20, 4:55, 7:40, 10:25 Sun. 12:50, 3:25, 5:55, 8:20, 10:45

#### Palm Promenade 24

770 Denmery Road (858-558-2262)  
**Bedtime Stories** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 11:20) 12:30, 2:00, 3:10, 5:00, 6:00, 7:45, 8:45, 10:25, 11:20; **Bolt - 3D** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (9:55) 12:15, 2:55, 5:50, 8:25, 10:40; **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:00) 12:00, 2:45, 3:35, 6:30, 7:15, 10:10, 10:55; **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:05) 12:35, 1:40, 3:05, 5:40, 7:05, 8:20, 10:50; **Doubt** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:30) 1:15, 4:15, 7:00, 9:35; **Four Christmases** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:35) 12:55, 3:45, 6:10, 8:30, 11:00; **Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:30) 1:50, 4:10; **Marley and Me** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:20) 12:50, 1:30, 3:50, 4:30, 6:45, 7:30, 9:40, 10:30; **Quantum of Solace** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 4:05p.m.; **Role Models** (R) Fri.-Sun. 6:40, 9:05, 11:30; **Seven Pounds** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:05) 1:00, 1:55, 4:55, 6:50, 7:55, 10:55; **Slumdog Millionaire** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:25) 1:05, 4:40, 7:25, 10:15; **The Spirit** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 11:40) 2:25, 4:20, 5:30, 8:15, 9:50, 11:05; **The Tale of Despereaux** (G) Fri.-Sun. (10:15, 11:45) 12:40, 2:15, 3:20, 5:10, 6:05, 7:40, 8:40, 10:00, 11:10; **Transporter 3** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 6:25, 8:50, 11:15; **Twilight** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:15) 2:05, 4:50, 7:35, 10:20; **Valkyrie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:10, 10:40) 1:45, 4:00, 4:45, 8:00, 9:55, 10:45; **Yes Man** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:45, 11:55) 12:20, 1:20, 2:35, 3:25, 4:25, 5:20, 6:20, 7:10, 8:05, 8:55, 9:45, 10:35, 11:25 Fri.-Sun. (11:55) 2:35, 5:20, 8:05, 10:35

### NATIONAL CITY

#### Plaza Bonita 14

3030 Plaza Bonita Road (858-558-2262)  
**Bedtime Stories** (PG); **Bolt** (PG); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13); **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (PG-13); **Doubt** (PG-13); **Four Christmases** (PG-13); **Marley and Me** (PG); **Role Models** (R); **Seven Pounds** (PG-13); **The Spirit** (PG-13); **The Tale of Despereaux** (G); **Twilight** (PG-13); **Valkyrie** (PG-13); **Yes Man** (PG-13)

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## Calendar

### MOVIES

**How about You** — Venerables of the British stage and screen — Vanessa Redgrave, Brenda Fricker, Imelda Staunton, Joss Ackland, the late Joan O'Hara — bravely make the best of a bad show as the assorted doddies in a retirement home. Tepid comedy and drama awash in dishwater color. With Hayley Atwell and Orla Brady; directed by Anthony Byrne. 2008.

● (KEN, THROUGH 1/1)

**Let the Right One In** — Bullied blond Swedish schoolboy meets dark and dusky Miss Tween Vampire. Slow, almost ludicrously sensitive, ninety-five-percent realistic and unfantastic. The other five percent houses some mild chills: the girl's monkey-like shimmy up the outside wall of a hospital; the mass cat attack on a new vampire convert; the sweat and tears of blood when the vampire crosses a threshold uninvited. With Kare Hedebrant and Lina Leandersson; directed by Tomas Alfredson. 2008.

★ (KEN, THROUGH 1/1)

**Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** — The light-in-the-loafers cartoon lion, a self-proclaimed “protégé of Fosse and Robbins,” accidentally finds his way, along with the zebra, the hippo, and the giraffe, back to his ancestral home, where he proves to be an embarrassment to his kingly father: “Lions don’t dance.” The not so subtle pleas for diversity (not just the nonviolent lion, but the forbidden love of giraffe for hippo) do not overwhelm the no less subtle jokes. With the voices of Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, David Schwimmer, Jada Pinkett Smith, and Sacha Baron Cohen; co-directed by Eric Darnell and Tom McGrath. 2008.

★ (PALM PROMENADE 24)

## Slumdog Millionaire

**Marley and Me** — Let's not forget Jenny. Marley is the rambunctious Labrador — “the world's worst dog” — meant to tide Jenny over till she and Me (real-life newspaper columnist John Grogan) can make some babies. As it turns out, we follow the dog through the arrival of three children and a move from Florida to Pennsylvania. Most of the journey — despite some tensions of career and marriage — is pretty in-

nocuous until the extended tearjerking as Marley winds down. (Parents, be warned.) Owen Wilson and Jennifer Aniston are the humans, well matched for sultans, though the former fades badly whenever things get serious. With Eric Dane, Alan Arkin, and, in an unflattering cameo as a dog trainer, Kathleen Turner; directed by David Frankel. 2008.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

**Milk** — Gus Van Sant's celebratory biopic on Harvey Milk, the gay-rights activist and San Francisco City Supervisor martyred by assassination in 1978. However useful as pep rally or memorial service, the film comes up short as drama, relying altogether too much on Position Statements, Slogans, Bromides, primarily through the protagonist's stump speeches and a serialized in-the-event-of-my-death tape recording that ties the narrative together. (Screenplay by Dustin Lance Black.) What nonetheless humanizes all this plain talk is the transformational performance of Sean Penn, a totally new and different Sean Penn, almost bird-like in his lightness and tightness, very vulnerable in his worries and very touching in his joys, unshy about the kissy-face with James Franco and Diego Luna, bravely not avoiding homosexual stereotype yet nicely avoiding caricature. It immediately takes its place alongside the performances of *Mystic River*, *Dead Man Walking*, *Casualties of War*, maybe one or two others, in the actor's best of portfolio. With Josh Brolin, Emile Hirsch, Alison Pill, Victor Garber. 2008.

★★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS;  
LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

**Nothing Like the Holidays** — Puerto Rican family gathering in snowy Chicago at Christmastime. Mechanical gear-shifting between comedy and drama, but a congenial environment for the Hispanic cast: Alfred Molina, Elizabeth Peña, John Leguizamo, Vanessa Ferlito, Luis Guzman, Jay Hernandez, Melonie Diaz, and the excruciatingly likable Freddy Rodriguez (plus, as an Anglo in-law, Debra Messing). D-

rected by Alfredo de Villa. 2008.

★ (CHULA VISTA 10; MISSION VALLEY 20)

**Quantum of Solace** — The first true sequel in the twenty-odd entries of the James Bond series, picking up our Blond Bond (Daniel Craig) on the trail of vengeance after the death of his ladylove, Vesper, at the end of *Casino Royale*. (This was a trail closed off to the newly widowed Bond at the end of *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*, when poor George Lazenby, the only one-timer in the series, got booted out the door as if he never should have happened.) The film fails, however, to solidify, much less build upon, the promise of the fresh start in its forerunner. It perhaps meets the fundamental requirements of action and pace, hurtling forward with only the briefest of pauses and coming in at a tidy hour and three-quarters, the shortest Bond film in the entire series. As a likely result of that, it can seldom make time for the preparation that would give the action scenes sense and import. They are little more than turbulence. And the underlying split personality still remains: Why bother to infuse the Bond character with a greater air of reality if he's going to continue to be allowed the acrobatics of a Jackie Chan? Surely our rougher and tougher superspy wouldn't want us snorting in derision, or even chortling in delight, when he's busy exacting payment for the snuffed-out life of his beloved. James Bond appears to be turning little by little into Jason Bourne. It's not a step up. With Mathieu Amalric, Olga Kurylenko, Judi Dench, Jeffrey Wright, and Giancarlo Giannini; directed by Marc Forster. 2008.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; MISSION VALLEY 20;  
PALM PROMENADE 24)

**The Reader** — Stephen Daldry's tight and trim adaptation of the Bernhard Schlink best-seller on German war guilt and the filial estrangement of the postwar generation. It begins in 1995 in the frigid colorless anti-septic Berlin apartment of Ralph Fiennes, lit by way of Vermeer, but soon it retreats to his adolescence in 1958, his incarnation in a very dissimilar young actor named David Kross, his scarlet fever, his torrid summer affair with an older streetcar attendant played by Kate Winslet, and his habit of reading to her in bed and bath: *The Odyssey*, *Huckleberry Finn*, *The Lady with*

the *Little Dog, Lady Chatterley's Lover* ("This is disgusting," huffs the naked lady beside him). In school, his Lit. teacher broaches the universal theme of secrecy — a nudge to us viewers — and it's clear that the boy's secret is his older lover. But what's hers? Again it's clear, from the shaded and shifting emotions of the unfaithfully fascinating Winslet, that there's a lot going on inside which we don't know about. And not because Winslet, as the torrid affair abundantly lays bare, is to any degree inhibited. It would not be giving away too much to reveal that several years later, when our protagonist has enrolled in law school, his advanced seminar attends for educational purposes a war-crimes trial in which his former lover is unmasked as an S.S. officer at Auschwitz. It's still clear even then, from all the shading and shifting, that she harbors secrets. The provocation of the protagonist to divulge his own secret and to interpose himself in the proceedings becomes quite urgent and suspenseful, although in both courtroom and classroom the film has now entered a polemical mode that can only be termed uncinematic. All the same, David Hare, the screenwriter, is a fastidious wordsmith; and even if the film drags on a bit once the time line catches up to Ralph Fiennes, drags on seemingly to justify his place on the payroll, it eventually comes to a satisfying end in a highly charged sit-down between him and Lena Olina, a concentration-camp survivor. The clean clear color and the pinpoint focus (Chris Menges and Roger Deakins, co-credited as cinematographers) belie the moral muddiness. 2008.

★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE;  
PALM PROMENADE 24)

**Role Models** — Court-ordered community service for two full-grown screws. Overplayed by everybody but sourpuss Paul Rudd (who co-wrote), and yet a couple of prime comic targets retain their ripeness: the rehabilitated rah-rah directress of a mentoring charity called Sturdy Wings, and a nerdy role-playing club of would-be dwellers in Middle Earth. With Seann William Scott, Elizabeth Banks, Jane Lynch, Christopher Mintz-Plasse, and Bobb' J. Thompson; directed by David Wain. 2008.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14)

**Seven Pounds** — Will Smith, in his more sensitive, tormented, teary, and Oscar-hungry persona, takes his crinkled brow in tight closeups on a cryptic personal mission ("We have a plan. Do what you promised me"), flashing an IRS identity card to gain access to total strangers so as to judge whether or not they are "good," "worthy," "deserving." (The nursing-home administrator may require a bone-marrow transplant for survival, but in spite of his deep debt to Uncle Sam he has splurged on a Beemer: not good.) The aim and outcome of his mission are, for review purposes, Top Secret, but suffice to say that the film combines the bleeding heart of *The Pursuit of Happiness* — not to mention the director of it, Gabriele Muccino — with the galloping ego of *I Am Legend*. Rosario Dawson, Woody Harrelson, Michael Ealy, Barry Pepper. 2008.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

**Slumdog Millionaire** — Feverish daydream, partly amorous, partly avaricious, around an unschooled Bombay teenager who, hoping to reconnect with his childhood sweetheart, climbs toward the top prize on the Indian *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire*? It breaks down into three time

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zones, shuffled together in a jumble: the game show itself, the torture and third degree of the contestant by police who presume he's cheating, and the flashbacks to the life experiences that explain how he could answer the questions. Much squalor and brutality, but filmed by Danny Boyle with a heedless, almost uncaring, exuberance and exhibitionism. Dev Patel, Freida Pinto, Irfan Khan. 2008.

★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIRA MESA 18; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**The Spirit** — Indestructible masked superhero versus (ho hum) indestructible archvillain, in Central City, U.S.A. Comic-book artist Frank Miller, honorary co-director of the screen treatment of his *Sin City* comic, now flies solo in the treatment of the Will Eisner comic: same drained color, same minor exceptions (reds, yellows, blue eyes), same self-conscious jokiness, same parodistic dialogue (“I’m gonna kill you all kinds of dead”), even less *élan vital*. With Gabriel Macht, Samuel L. Jackson, Eva Mendes, Scarlett Johansson, Sarah Paulson, Dan Lauria, and Paz Vega. 2008.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**The Tale of Despereaux** — Charmingly sincere fairy tale of forgiveness, revolving around a kingdom known for its soup, the dark days that befell it, and its truthful, fearless, chivalrous deliverer, an undersized mouse with oversized ears and ego. A magnificent cast if you could see them, if, that is, they weren’t hidden behind stiff and wooden computer animation: Matthew Broderick, Dustin Hoffman, Sigourney Weaver, Emma Watson, Tracey Ullman, Kevin Kline, Frank Langella, William H. Macy, Stanley Tucci, Ciarán Hinds, Robbie Coltrane, Frances Conroy, Richard Jenkins. Based on a book by Kate DiCamillo; co-directed by Sam Fell and Rob Stevenhagen. 2008.

★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

**Transporter 3** — The glorified delivery man has been coerced into chauffeuring a freckled Ukrainian redhead to Budapest and beyond, strapped with an irremovable bracelet that will explode if he strays seventy-five feet from his Audi. Jason Statham offers himself up as an alternative to the rougher James Bond of Daniel Craig, together with a rougher production and rougher photography in the bargain. All the foolishness; less finesse. With Natalya Rudakova, Robert Knepper, François Berléand, and Jeroen Krabbé; directed by Olivier Megaton. 2008.

● (PALM PROMENADE 24)

**Twilight** — Teen vampire romance from the popular series of girls’ books by Stephenie Meyer, a sort of *Nancy Drew* — *Vampire Lover*. It merits a modicum of credit for attempting to bring some virgin blood to a tired old genre: the nonnuclear vampire family, having settled in the rural Northwest for maximum privacy and cloud cover, strive to fit in and stay straight, fancying themselves “vegetarian” for dining only on animal blood instead of human. Because the narrative point of view is that of an ordinary flesh-and-blood high-school girl, we



Twilight

don’t witness the gory details of their daily diet. (Exsanguination of deer and rabbit, to say nothing of pet dog and cat, could tend to alienate the audience. ) What we mainly witness is the cultivated aura of mystery and danger around the eternal seventeen-year-old adopted son of the family. And the business of being a bloodsucker in the 21st Century takes a distant backseat to the business of campus courtship: the classic pattern of Good Girl meets Bad Boy. He flatteringly lusts after her (“You’re like my own personal brand of heroin”), but even more flatteringly he respects her (“I can’t ever lose control with you”): a parent’s least nightmare, and little wonder that the hearts of schoolgirlish readers, and now moviegoers, might go pitty-pat. Given the general level of innocuousness and salubriousness, we don’t expect the frustrated teen sweethearts now or in future installments to explore the engorgement option in Theodore Sturgeon’s novella *Some of Your Blood*, namely menses. (Eeuuww!) But given the fixation on the girl’s “scent” and given the old-fashioned proscription against Going Too Far or indeed Going All the Way, that option insistently comes to mind. Kristen Stewart, a cashew head on a pipe-cleaner body, to all appearances unsullied by vanity, does very well with things like adolescent insecurity, crippling self-consciousness, unvoiced feelings, and the scariness of sex; and on those counts Catherine Hardwicke is a sympathetic director. She is less sympathetic in shooting everyone in the cast, human and vampire alike, with a deathly bluish pallor. Robert Pattinson as the bloodthirsting heartthrob, meanwhile, achieves little more than Cornball Cool and requires a lot of slow-motion and a lot of hair gel to help him with it. 2008.

★ (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10)

**Valkyrie** — Bryan Singer recounts the last and most nearly successful of the fifteen known plots to assassinate Hitler, not counting the fictitious one in Fritz Lang’s *Man Hunt*, from the Geoffrey Household novel, *Rogue Male*. We know beforehand that the plot must fail, despite having Tom Cruise on board as Col. Claus von Stauffenberg. (Were you hoping he’d be playing Hitler?) What went wrong, when, why, and how, can nonetheless drum up sufficient curiosity and suspense. Rooting interest is

another matter, held in check not simply by hopelessness but by dimming Star Power. Cruise, who no longer can get by on his smile, starts out speaking English-subtitled German in voice-over, just to establish his Teutonic credentials, and then switches for the duration to his normal American-accented English, standing out from the British-accented English of his co-conspirators, Kenneth Branagh, Terence Stamp, Bill

Nighy (wonderfully transformed through slicked-back hair and grandfatherish eyeglasses), Eddie Izzard, and, an unreliable fence-sitter in the conspiracy, Tom Wilkinson, to say nothing of the German-accented English of the really, really bad Nazis, Hitler and Goebbels. But that’s not the only way Cruise seems not to belong. Even with eyepatch and digitalized arm stump, he comes across as something of a lightweight, no

## User Reviews — MOVIES

*Best user comments from Reader website*

### The Pawnbroker 1965

In accepting an honorary Oscar in 2005, the director, Sidney Lumet, admitted he “stole” ideas from other directors. With this anguished character study of a Holocaust survivor, it’s pretty obvious to me he’s appropriated, both stylistically and thematically, much from Alain Resnais — an attempt to shove his way into avant-garde circles. Longtime readers of Mr. Shepherd know Resnais is a favorite director, so it’s no surprise the film did not go over well with him.

By **billjnz** 2:23 p.m., Dec. 26, 2008

### Doubt 2008

I was weirdly surprised after watching this movie. I had gone in with what I felt was THE story line of a priest who abused a child and a nun who tried to get rid of him; however, this was just not the case in the sense that the story line was not so black and white. It is true there is the thought of potential abuse, and it is true there is a nun who thought it; but this Broadway play turned film is named *Doubt* for a reason. And that is where I will leave it. I liked the movie and felt that its powers that be chose not to tackle the issue too deep. I think the whole point was to force the viewer to go back and forth in their own mind regarding the story. I also think it is difficult to give a review or an opinion that won’t come off sounding like an attack on the Catholic Church. I do not feel the movie does this and would recommend that it be seen. It contains performances by three actors (Streep, Adams, and Hoffman) that will not disappoint. In fact I can’t even imagine any other actress in the role played by Meryl Streep. Then again I could be biased because I AM a Streep fan. Either way, there’s just no doubt that undoubtedly, *Doubt* will not leave you with doubt as to whether you saw a good movie.

By **robnyl** 8:05 p.m., Dec. 27, 2008

### Marley and Me 2008

It’s been a long time since a movie made me cry. *Marley* did it for me. What I like most about this movie is it’s realness and simplicity. The story doesn’t seem pumped with a bunch of unnecessary extra scenes, and the scenes that are there are important to the story. The story is simple enough. It features a couple, a cute labrador retriever, some kids, and various jobs at different newspapers. It sucks you in and takes you for a ride. I won’t give away the ending, but if you have read the book then you know what happens. I think anybody who has a heart or has ever had a pet before can relate to this movie.

By **spooks69** 8:44 p.m., Dec. 26, 2008

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matter how hard he glares with his one operative eye: roughly as hard as a puerile comic-book addict who believes he can develop X-ray vision if only he practices. It’s a distraction, as the plan falls apart, to be thinking to ourselves that the bomb ought to have been entrusted to an Englishman. 2008.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

**Yes Man** — Measurement of the loss of elasticity in rubber man Jim Carrey, now showing the effects of age and experience on his creased, rumpled, baggy face. (*The Number 23* can’t be easy to bounce back from. Ever.) He nevertheless strives to recover his antic former self in the role of a gray-souled, nay-saying loan officer who attends a self-empowerment seminar that compels him to answer every question in the affirmative. Hollywood tastemakers take it from there. A business loan for a baker of unrecognizable celebrity-lookalike cakes? Yes! A blow job from the white-haired toothless old lady next door? Yes! For the moviegoer, the response should be obvious. Just say no. With Zoëy Deschanel, Bradley Cooper, John Michael Higgins, and Terence Stamp; directed by Peyton Reed. 2008.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)



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## Calendar THEATER

### THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

#### Boomers

Lamb's Players Theatre reprises one of its most popular shows. In this salute to the Baby Boom generation, when a guy sings a snippet from "Big Girls Don't Cry" a woman counters with "It's My Party and I'll Cry If I Want To," as if Lesley Gore wrote the song in response to the Four Seasons. Now in its fourth — fifth? — version, *Boomers* has grown a great deal since it premiered in 1993. It's added social dimensions (the original was mostly about middle-class whites), more period details, and a much better understanding of



Boomers

one's later years (gained from experience; authors Kerry Meads and Vanda Eggington are now 15

years older). Ostensibly the piece is a lecture about the generation from 1946 to 1964. A deliberately,

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sometimes annoyingly, crotchety Jim Chovik recalls major events and provides statistics, from JFK to Kent State (but leaves out Jackson State!), from hippies to yuppies, marriage to divorce, and beyond. Themes from TV commercials and shows zip past, medleys of parts of songs cluster around a theme (Vietnam, relationships), and the evening unfolds like a game of “name that tune” in fast-forward. Boomers in the audience gulp “oh’s” of recognition when a musical fragment triggers memories. One could wish that, at least once or twice, the company would do a whole song (let Anise Ritchie’s Aretha-strong voice do all of “Respect” or Keith Jefferson all of “I Heard It Through the Grapevine”). One could also wish that the characters

weren’t so one-note (Bill Doyle’s hippie must express the same Owsley-marinated perplexity at least ten times). But the performances overall are quite good, as are Meads’s direction and the four-piece backup band. You won’t learn why the pump don’t work or how good brown sugar can taste, but if you’re of a certain era, *Boomers* will time-machine you back in a lively manner. 619-437-0600.

***Worth a try:***  
HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 4 AND 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 4 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH FEBRUARY 22.

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**National Comedy Theatre**  
Improvisational comedy, making up funny stuff on the spot, is difficult enough. Years ago, however, Keith Johnstone thought it’d be more exciting if done competitively. He got the idea from pro wrestling (“where Terrible Turks mangled defrocked priests while grannies waved their handbags”). National Comedy Theatre, an offshoot of Johnstone’s TheatreSports (artistic director Gary

Kramer says the two compare like “rugby and American football”), resembles an athletic event more than an improv. Teams wear uniforms and compete on ActroTurf. Using suggestions from the audience, they play “Emotional Sympathy,” “Blind Line,” and “Freeze Tag,” with judges awarding points to the best scenes. Klunkers and groaners get booed; quick wit rewarded (one of the most refreshing parts of the contest: people acknowledge failure, abundantly, then forget it). It makes for a lively, often funny evening. And Gary Kramer is one talented comedian.  
***Worth a try.***  
MARQUIS THEATER, 3717 INDIA STREET, MISSION HILLS. 619-295-4999. FRIDAYS, 7:30 AND 9:45 P.M. SATURDAYS, 7:30 AND 9:45 P.M. OPEN-ENDED RUN.

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**The Broadway Theatre**  
340 East Broadway, Vista  
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**California Center For The Arts**  
340 N. Escondido Blvd., Escondido  
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**Carlsbad Village Theatre**  
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**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Mon-

day through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

**GROUP FITNESS INSTRUCTORS:** Corporate and Luxury Residential locations all over San Diego. All classes, all days and times. SPIN. Water and Pilates Instructors encouraged strongly to apply. Certification and experience required. Fax: 858-715-8681. Call 858-715-8611. [www.fitxsandiego.com](http://www.fitxsandiego.com).

HELP WANTED  
HEALTH CARE

**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

**CAREGIVER, LIVE-IN/HOUSEKEEPER.** 6 bed Residential Care Facility Elderly (RCFE). Assist with showers, etc. Room and board plus salary. 619-460-2272.

**CAREGIVERS** needed immediately. 1 year experience. All shifts available. Hourly and live in. Call Assertive Homecare Services, 3774 Grove Street, Suite L-1, Lemon Grove. 619-466-6890.

**CAREGIVERS: LIVE-INS,** 2, 3, 4 or 5 days/week, \$120/day including sleep and meal periods. Weekends and hourly: 4-hour, 8-hour and 12-hour shifts, AM/PM. Top pay, flexible shifts 24/7, 401(k), production bonus, rewards for good work. Requires valid driver's license, vehicle/insurance, registration, one year of paid elder caregiving experience, eligibility to work in the United States. \$150 hiring bonus for employees accepting North County assignments (after 90 days of employment). Comfort Keepers, 2006 Workplace Excellence Medallion Award SDSHRM, San Diego: 619-795-6036. San Marcos: 760-598-3400.

**CAREGIVERS.** Home Instead Senior Care needs cheerful, dependable people to help seniors stay at home with our non-medical home care services. Competitive pay/training. Flexible hours. Great benefits. Central/East Jobline: 619-433-6200. South Bay/Coastal: 858-277-3722.

**CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS.** Home care agency has immediate openings for compassionate and experienced Caregivers in the El Cajon, Lakeside, Granite Hills, Bostonia and Rancho San Diego areas. Must have 1 year experience, valid CA driver's license and reliable transportation. Background check required. Visiting Angels, 619-401-2040.

**CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS.** Minimum 1 year experience non-medical home care for seniors. Valid California Driver's License. Serving Santee/La Mesa/Del Cerro/San Carlos. Maureen, Visiting Angels, 619-749-7525.

**CAREGIVERS/HOMEMAKERS.** HHAs, CNAs, and Personal Assistants. Competitive/weekly pay, flexible hours, training opportunities. Call today! Right at Home, 858-451-5762, 858-277-5900. Apply: [www.rahencinitas.com](http://www.rahencinitas.com), [www.ralajolla.com](http://www.ralajolla.com).

**CAREGIVERS/CNAs/HHAs.** Immediate openings. Hourly, Live-in, Nights. Cheerful Caregivers needed to assist seniors in-home. Minimum 1-year experience. Premium pay/bonuses/benefits. 24-hour office support. Age Advantage, 619-660-8881, 760-720-7272.

**CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS.** Homecare agency is looking for compassionate and experienced Caregivers to start immedi-

## Security Officers

Must be customer service oriented, computer literate and have excellent communication skills. All shifts available.

- ✓ Will assist with Guard Card
- ✓ Med/dental/vision
- ✓ No experience required
- ✓ Free life insurance
- ✓ FREE uniforms
- ✓ Paid vacation
- ✓ 401(k)

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For fastest response, apply online now! [www.securitasjobs.com](http://www.securitasjobs.com)



Or apply 8 am-5 pm Mon.-Fri.  
SAN DIEGO (92120) • 619-641-0049 • 6160 Mission Gorge Rd., Ste. 100  
SAN MARCOS (92078) • 760-591-3733 • 365 S. Rancho Santa Fe Rd., Ste. 202  
TEMECULA (92590) • 951-676-3954 • 28991 Old Town Front St., Ste. 206



## Dialing for Dollars! Phone Personalities

No experience. Will train. Immediate openings. Call today, start tomorrow.

- Great hours: 7 am-2:30 pm Monday-Friday.
- Paid training, 401(k), medical, dental benefits.

**Kearny Mesa: Allen, 858-292-8577**  
**Mira Mesa: Kevin, 800-854-2830**  
**Oceanside: Mike, 619-701-3631**

## San Diego

Mail Sorters  
Sales  
Call Center Reps

CNC Machine Operator  
CNC Programmer  
Shop Supervisor  
Project Engineer



**Optimal Employment Service LLC.**

Optimal Employment Service is accepting résumés for these positions. Please e-mail résumé to: [nancy@optimalemploymentservice.com](mailto:nancy@optimalemploymentservice.com) or fax to: 858-277-5621

## Careers in Probation

### Deputy Probation Officer

#### Minimum Qualifications

- 21 years old • Good physical condition • No illicit drug usage
  - U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen
- No felony convictions • Bachelor's degree with experience

**Salary – New:** \$52,520-\$63,835 annually  
Safety Retirement-Sworn Officers 3% at age 50.  
Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply.

Test date: January 31, 2009

Qualified applicants will be notified by mail of the date, time and location of the test. All applications must be submitted no later than 15 days prior to the exam date. Applications received after the 15th day will be scheduled for the following exam. Applications can be accessed on-line from the Job/Current Recruitments section of the County website at:

<http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov>

Jobline: 858-514-8558

## Fundraising

A national Telemarketing firm with over 20 years in business, specializing in fundraising for the Democratic Party and charities, is currently hiring Telemarketers for its San Diego center.

- \$9/hour
- Paid training
- Performance bonuses
- Medical/dental
- 401(k)
- Full- and part-time
- Convenient location

**GORDON and  
SCHWENKMEYER INC.**  
TELEMARKETING

9620 Chesapeake Drive, Suite 108  
San Diego, CA 92123-1369

**Call for an interview:  
858-496-2100**



ately in the Coronado, Point Loma and Downtown San Diego area. Must have valid CA driver's license and reliable transportation. Background check required. Please call 760-294-8070.

**CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS.** Visiting Angels, America's Choice in Homecare. Now hiring compassionate, caring Caregivers/ Companions. Requires minimum 1 year experience in non-medical home care for seniors and valid CA driver's license. Serving Poway, Rancho Penasquitos, Scripps Ranch and Mira Mesa areas. Call for an immediate interview: 858-775-1176.

**CAREGIVERS/RESIDENTIAL** facilitators. Provide quality care for children with developmental disabilities at our Encinitas home care facility. Minimum 12 months' experience in a similar environment and high school diploma/GED required. Must have valid CA driver's license and clean DMV. Background checked. All shifts available, full time and part time \$13 per hour. Benefits for full time. Interviews held 8:30am-3:30pm at Home of Guiding Hands, 1125 Gillespie Way, Suite 200, El Cajon, CA 92020. Fax resume: 619-938-3056.

**CNA/CHHA.** Beginners, experienced. Family Caregivers, Childcare, Home Care Aides, Drivers. Great pay! New-hire bonus! Nonmedical in-home help for seniors, children, disabled. 12- and 24-hour shifts! Training. Flexible schedules, benefits, retirement, childcare. At Your Home Familycare. E-mail: homecarejobs@atyourhomefamilycare.com. Toll free: 1-877-903-JOBS.

**HEALTHCARE: RNs, LVNs, AIDES.** Join La Jolla Nurses! Looking for Home Health Aides, ongoing assignments. Also per diem work—you pick the days, hours and shifts! Competitive pay rates, excellent work assignments. Employee-owned agency — you receive shares of company stock free! State-licensed home health agency. Medical, dental and vision benefits. 401(k) plan, referral bonus. La Jolla Nurses HomeCare, 858-454-9339.

**HOME CARE AIDES.** Beginners, experienced. CNA/CHHAs, Family Caregivers, Childcare and Drivers. New-hire bonus! Great pay! Nonmedical, in-home help for seniors, children, disabled. 12- and 24-hour shifts! Training. Flexible schedules, benefits, retirement, childcare. At Your Home Familycare. E-mail: homecarejobs@atyourhomefamilycare.com. Toll free: 1-877-903-JOBS

**IN-HOME CARE.** Caregivers and Companions. Minimum 1 year experience non-medical home care for seniors. Valid California Driver's License. Serving Santee/La Mesa/Del Cerro/San Carlos. Maureen, Visiting Angels, 619-749-7525

**JOB COACHES.** Community-oriented Center for Independent Achievement is seeking dependable individuals in East County. 1:4 group ratio maximum. \$8.50-\$9.50/hour. Annual raises. Bonuses for excep-

tional performance. Benefits with full-time. pficareer@yahoo.com. Fax 619-440-6864. 619-440-6802.

**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST** for skilled nursing facility. Sign-on bonus! Benefits. Call for more information. 7760 Parkway Drive, La Mesa. Call 619-469-0124 x12.

**RESPITE CARE** for children and teens with developmental disabilities. Critical need, Countywide! Great pay! New-hire bonus! Nonmedical, in-home help. Caring heart more important than experience. Training. 12- and 24-hour shifts. Flexible schedules, benefits, retirement, childcare. Visit homecarejobs@atyourhomefamilycare.com. At Your Home Familycare. Call toll free: 1-877-903-JOBS.

**SOCIAL SERVICES.** Instructors needed for day training program in Lakeside and Oceanside for adults with developmental disabilities. Excellent benefits, no nights/weekends, start \$10.25-\$10.75/hour. Entry-level also available in Lakeside, \$9.00/hour. Unyeway, Inc.: 619-562-6330.

**SOCIAL SERVICES.** Promising Futures, Inc., is hiring reliable, caring individuals to work with the developmentally disabled in East County and Ramona. Part- and full-time positions. \$8-\$10/hour plus benefits. Overtime opportunities available. pficareer@yahoo.com. Fax resume: 619-440-6864. Call 619-440-6802

## HELP WANTED JOBS WANTED

**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

**JOB WANTED.** Caregiver companion position wanted. I have references/experience. I am kind, caring, hard working, honest, dependable, and reliable. East County, Carol. 619-749-4001.

**UNEMPLOYED HOMELESS VETERANS.** You may be eligible: job search/resume preparation, placement assistance, support services, job-related clothing/tools, housing referrals. VA benefits referrals. Appointment: 619-449-5513.

## HELP WANTED OFFICE / ADMINISTRATIVE

**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

**ADMINISTRATIVE /CLERICAL** Volt Services Group. Temporary, Temporary-to-Direct Hire, Direct Placement. Competitive wages, paid weekly. Paid holidays, vacation. Medical, dental, training, career man-

agement. www.jobs.volt.com. EOE. San Diego: 858-576-3140; e-mail: clairemont@volt.com. Carlsbad: 760-729-8916; email carlsbad@volt.com. El Cajon: 619-401-1524; email elcajon@volt.com. San Marcos: 760-471-0800; email samarcos@volt.com. Scripps Ranch: 858-578-0920; email scrippsran@volt.com

**OFFICE ASSISTANT.** Chiropractic nutrition office. Pacific Beach/Clairemont area. Sharp, self-motivated, detail-oriented, computer-literate individual for part- or full-time front office duties. Experience preferred. Start \$10/hour commensurate with experience plus bonuses, paid holidays. Casual atmosphere. Have fun while working hard! E-mail: service@drlabbe.com 858-483-4770.

**RECEPTION/WORD PROCESSING.** Part time. Flexible hours. \$10/hour. Mission Valley location. 619-298-7220.

**VETERINARY RECEPTIONIST** needed, part time, for an upbeat, friendly Ocean Beach animal hospital. Apply: 4741 Point Loma Avenue, San Diego 92107. 619-224-0773.

## HELP WANTED RESEARCH STUDIES

**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

**MARKET RESEARCH** Telephone Interviewers. No selling. Friendly, outgoing. San Diego's fastest-growing market research company. Bilingual Spanish a plus. Hourly, bonuses, medical. Advancement opportunities. www.luthresearch.com. Apply: Luth Research, 1365 Fourth Avenue, Downtown. Job Hotline: 619-243-8045.

## HELP WANTED RESTAURANT / HOTEL /CLUB

**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

**COUNTER ATTENDANTS.** Supervisors. Subway is now hiring! Full or part time, day and evening shifts. Flexible scheduling. Competitive wages. Free employee meals. Paid vacation. Apply in person. Mira Mesa: 9242 Miramar Road; 858-578-9205. Mission Valley: 2109 Fenton Parkway #1; 619-563-1940. Point Loma: 2907 Shelter Island Drive; 619-223-1900. Management applicants, fax resume to 619-688-9291.

**HOUSEKEEPING/ROOM ATTENDANTS.** Holiday Inn Express and Rodeway Inn & Suites looking for qualified candidates. Apply in person: Holiday Inn Express, 1430 7th, Downtown. 619-819-1407.

**RESTAURANT: SUSHI CHEF.** Experience required. Popular Japanese sushi restaurant in Gaslamp. Apply in person 3pm-5pm, Tuesday-Saturday: Taka Restaurant, 555 5th, 92101. 619-338-0555.

**RESTAURANT.** Subway is now hiring Counter Attendants and Supervisors! Full or part time, day and evening shifts. Flexible scheduling. Competitive wages. Free employee meals. Paid vacation. Apply in person. Mira Mesa: 9242 Miramar Road; 858-578-9205. Mission Valley: 2109 Fenton Parkway #1; 619-563-1940. Point Loma: 2907 Shelter Island Drive; 619-223-1900. Management applicants, fax resume to 619-688-9291.

## HELP WANTED SALES / MARKETING

**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

**AGENTS WANTED!** Real Estate Agents! Now's the time to get your Real Estate License. 2.5 week fast-track program with 1-on-1 coaching/free video cram. \$100K+ potential. Prudential Dunn, Susan: 858-245-7880/800-319-1031.

**APPOINTMENT SCHEDULER.** \$15/hour plus bonus. Appointment Setting business- to-business via phone, no selling. Part time only. Morning hours 7:30-11:30am, Miramar area. Paid training. Can earn up to \$20/hour. E-mail resume to employment@versacall.com or send resume to Scheduler, 7047 Carroll Road, San Diego, CA 92121. 858-677-6766. For inquiries, please call between 2:30pm and 3:30pm.

**CANVASSING!** \$2K-\$4K/month part time. Setting appointments for home makeovers! We train. Base plus commission. Start immediately. Call Jake to schedule interview, 858-278-5605.

**FINANCIAL SERVICES.** Marketing. Rapidly expanding financial services marketing company seeks local sales representatives. Ideal candidate will be motivated, honest, outgoing, entrepreneurial, with 4 years of college or equivalent. Call our office and leave message (or fax) 24 hours: 877-286-5339.

**FUNDRAISING** for national charities and the Democratic Party. Over 20 years in business. \$9/hour. Paid training. Performance bonuses. Medical, dental, 401(k). Full and part time. Convenient location. Apply at Gordon & Schwenkmeyer: 9620 Chesapeake Drive, San Diego 92123-1369. Call for interview. 858-496-2100.

# Call Center Closers Wanted

## Full-time/Part-time Opportunities



**Call: 619-516-7881**

Or apply in person 12-3 pm Monday-Thursday:  
2851 Camino del Rio South, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92108

Business Opportunity

Self-Development Products

## LEARN TO EARN \$250K-\$550K PER YEAR!

**This business IS...**

**LUCRATIVE!** Earn \$1,000 to \$24,000+ per month!

**SUCCESSFUL!** If you give a solid 2-4 hours a day.

**PROVEN!** If you are coachable, you will be successful.

Run this business from anywhere in the world using a phone and a computer.  
This is a recession-proof business model.

*Your future is in your hands.  
Why let this opportunity pass you by?*

Call 24 hours a day:  
**1-800-631-9439**  
www.swanlifestylecoop.com



**This business is NOT...**

**AN MLM!** The money you make is yours.

**FOR THE TIMID.** We need big thinkers!

**WORKING FOR A BOSS.**

## EARN EXTRA MONEY IMMEDIATELY

### Part-Time/Temporary – Set Your Own Hours!

Anyone needing immediate money. Start immediately.

Earn a paycheck by delivering telephone directories in the Northern San Diego area. Must have a car and insurance, be 18 yrs+. Get paid within 48-72 hours of completion of route. Plus a car allowance. Clerical and warehouse positions also available.



**CALL TODAY – START TODAY.**  
**888-314-3424 • www.DeliverPhoneBooks.com**  
Job Ref. #1260

The OHI is a mission of the Free Sacred Trinity Church, a non-denominational church that has been operating spiritual retreats since 1976.



## Housekeepers II

\$10.63-\$12.50/hr. Must have 3 years of hotel experience and speak English. Flexible work schedule including weekends and holidays.

## Food Prep Worker

\$8.84-\$10.40/hr. One year or equivalent raw food prep experience. High school graduate or GED.

**Apply online: www.optimumhealth.org  
or in person: 9665 Granite Ridge Dr., Suite 310  
San Diego, CA 92123 or call: 858-634-5517**

Rewarding, non-smoking, drug-free environment. Benefits.

**NOW  
HIRING!**



## COUNTER ATTENDANTS AND SUPERVISORS

- Full- or Part-Time
- Day & Evening Shifts
- Flexible Scheduling
- Grease-Free Environment
- Competitive Wages
- Free Employee Meals
- Paid Vacations

— Apply in person at: —

**MIRA MESA**  
9242 Miramar Road  
858-578-9205


**MISSION VALLEY**  
2109 Fenton Parkway #1  
619-563-1940

**POINT LOMA**  
2907 Shelter Island Drive  
619-223-1900

Management applicants, fax résumé to: **619-688-9291**

FAMOUS FORMER NEIGHBORS

by Jay Allen Sanford ©2008




**FAMOUS FORMER NEIGHBORS**

**RIHANNA (ROBYN RIHANNA FENTY)** WAS BORN IN BARBADOS. VACATIONING PRODUCER EVAN ROGERS HEARD HER SING & GOT HER SIGNED TO DEF JAM RECORDS.

SHE RELEASED HER 1ST ALBUM IN 2005, AND HAS ALREADY EARNED FIVE #1 HITS AND SOLD ELEVEN MILLION ALBUMS. SHE WON A 2008 GRAMMY AWARD FOR BEST RAP/SUNG COLLABORATION, FOR THE SONG "UMBRELLA." SHE MOVED TO SAN DIEGO IN 2007.

WWW.MYSPACE.COM/JAYALLENSANFORD



MYSPACE.COM/JAYALLAW

**LOAN MODIFICATION, LOSS MITIGATION** and more. Mortgage and Real Estate Professionals: Service your existing client base with fully approved and operational providers. Loan Modifications, Loan Audits, Debt Negotiation, Web-based training. No license required. Leave message 24 hours. You will be contacted. 888-313-7226. E-mail: [apply\\_today@hotmail.com](mailto:apply_today@hotmail.com).

**OUTSIDE SALES.** Primary responsibility is to build an account base with previous and new commercial customers. Must have great customer service skills & a minimum 3 years of Business- to- Business sales experience. Plumbing/Drain Cleaning experience a plus. Company provided vehicle & more. Rescue Rooter, 858-457-6506; e-mail, [lmymking@ars.com](mailto:lmymking@ars.com).

**PHONE SALES** Will train; no experience needed. Phone personalities dialing for dollars! Great hours, 7am-2:30pm, Monday- Friday, 401(k), medical, dental benefits. Experienced Re-loaders welcomed. Highest paid commissions and bonuses in the industry! Kearny Mesa: Allen, 858-

292-8577. Mira Mesa: Kevin, 800-854-2830. Oceanside: Mike, 619-701-3631.

**SALES.** eLiveLife.com Inside/Outside Sales: full/part- time, business- to- business, sell salon and spa certificates. eLiveLife.com Account Executive: new business development. American Satellite DirectTV Phone Center, \$300-\$500/day, 1660 Hotel Circle North Suite 101, Mission Valley, 92108. Call 619-398-5050 or e-mail [resume.to.info@eLiveLife.com](mailto:resume.to.info@eLiveLife.com) or fax to 1-866-655-9004.

**SALES.** Phone personalities dialing for dollars! Highest paid commissions and bonuses in the industry! Will train; no experience. Great hours, 7am-2:30pm, Monday-Friday, 401(k), medical, dental benefits. Experienced Re-loaders welcomed. Kearny Mesa: Allen, 858-292-8577. Mira Mesa: Kevin, 800-854-2830. Oceanside: Mike, 619-701-3631.

**SALES.** Supplement your income! Excellent income potential in today's changing economy! \$10 starts you in a new career. Full- or part-time. Build your business working with top- selling Avon represen-

tatives. Perfect for self- starters. Kathleen: 619-429-1253; 888-429-1253.

**SALES/INSIDE SALES** Representative to offer Internet marketing to real estate professionals. Comprehensive paid training and full benefits after 60 days. Make \$40,000-\$55,000 first year. Top sales consultants average \$60,000-\$80,000/year. 619-717-2941.

**SEEKING SALES PROS** Sales. Earn executive- level income. No travel required. 800-645-1296.

**TELE-FUNDRAISING.** Raising money for local nonprofit organizations for less fortunate children. Monday- Friday, 5pm-9pm and Saturday mornings, 9am-1pm. Hourly plus commission plus bonuses. Call today. Start tonight! Mission Valley. 619-291-2113.

**TELEMARKETING.** Ad specs. Monday-Friday. Get paid while you train to earn

\$500-\$1000/weekly. No experience necessary. Sign-on bonus for experienced Reloaders, 19% commission. 619-220-7025.

**TELEMARKETING.** Full- time, paid training, \$60K plus/year possible. Guaranteed \$8/hour starting. Performance/attendance bonuses, cash contests, paid vacation for full- time. Only call businesses. Basic computer skills required. Ask for Shane at Sports Boosters: 858-244-0190.

**TELEMARKETING.** Fundraising for Democratic Party and national charities. Over 20 years in business. \$9/hour. Paid training. Performance bonuses. Medical, dental, 401(k). Full time or part time. Convenient location. Apply at Gordon & Schwenkmeyer: 9620 Chesapeake Drive, San Diego 92123-1369. For appointment, call 858-496-2100.

**TELEMARKETING.** If you can close on the phone, give us a call! Pacific Graphics Advertising Specialties in La Mesa for 20 years. Hours: Monday-Friday, 8am-2:30pm. Call Joe: 619-461-0365.

HELP WANTED SALONS

**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

**HAIR ASSISTANT/STYLIST** needed full-time in Coronado. Must be licensed Career oriented. Contact Janice at Domani Salon of Beauty and Wellness, 619-813-5337.

**HAIRSTYLIST** needed in Coronado. Full time, commission. Minimum 2 years' experience. Career oriented. Contact Domani Salon of Beauty and Wellness, 619-813-5337.

**HAIRSTYLISTS.** Come make money with us! Busy walk-in salons. Health, dental, vision. Carmel Mountain, 4S Ranch, Poway, Scripps Ranch, Vista. Growth Opportunities. 858-380-5882.

**HAIRSTYLISTS/MANICURIST.** Recession-proof your business. Lower your expenses today with inexpensive booth rental rates. Full or part time. Please call, leave message: 858-382-8795.

**MANICURIST** needed for busy Coronado salon. Minimum 2 years' experience. Full time, commission. Growth potential. Call Domani Salon of Beauty and Wellness, 619-813-5337.

**MANICURIST/HAIRSTYLIST.** Full or part time. Recession-proof your business. Lower your expenses today with inexpensive booth rental rates. Please call, leave message at 858-382-8795.

**RECEPTIONISTS, PART-TIME.** For day spa, Point Loma area. 619-523-0130.

**SALON BOOTH RENTALS.** Looking for busy professionals. \$170/week. 5 locations: Encinitas, Carmel Mountain, Mission Valley, Eastlake. Nail room: Mission Valley. Ultra Hair & Beauty, 760-809-7904.

HELP WANTED SECURITY

**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

**CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY** Probation Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Date: January 10, 2009, 8am. Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego, 92111. Must be at least 21 years old, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or becoming a citizen. Pass criminal/personal background investigation. No felony convictions. High school diploma/GED. \$36,275-\$46,300/year. Note Application Process: Prior to taking the written examination, applicants must complete and submit the online application form and provide correct and complete responses to the Supplemental Questions. Applicants will be invited to the written exam by written notice that will either be sent 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! Jobline: 858-514-8558. [www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation](http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation).

**DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER.** Now hiring! County of San Diego Probation Department. Test Date: January 31, 2009. Qualified applicants will be notified by mail of the time and location of the test. Applications must be submitted no later than 15 days prior to exam date. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree with experience. Must be at least 21 years old, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen. Pass criminal/personal background investigation. No felony convictions. \$52,520-\$63,835/year. Safety Retirement— Sworn Officers 3% at age 50. Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply. Applications can be accessed online from the Job/Current Recruitment section of the County website at: [www.sdcounty.ca.gov](http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov). Jobline: 858-514-8558.

**HARBOR POLICE OFFICER** (Trainee). Recruitment #01/09 for San Diego Unified Port District. Approximate starting salary, \$55,710.72. Minimum requirements: Graduation from U.S. high school or GED certificate that meets scores established by the California POST Commission or a 2-year or 4-year degree from an accredited college or university. Must be at least 20-1/2 years of age on the day of the written examination and 21 years of age at the time of the Police Academy graduation, no maximum age limit. Must be a US Citizen or a permanent resident alien who is eligible for and has applied for citizenship. Applications may be downloaded at: [www.portofsandiego.org](http://www.portofsandiego.org) or picked up at the Port District's Administration Building, 3165 Pacific Highway or the Harbor Police Department, 3380 North Harbor Drive before 1/24/09. Applications will be accepted ONLY at the written test on Saturday, 1/24/09, at 8am, Balboa Park Club, 2125 Park Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92101. EOE. Jobline: 619-686-6599.

**POLICE OFFICERS.** San Diego Police Department is hiring! Are you ready for a career change? See our upcoming test dates on our website. Police Recruit base pay starts at \$52,000 per year. Police Officer II base pay starts at \$83,657 per year. For more information, call 619-531-COPS or visit our website at: [www.joinspdpdnow.com](http://www.joinspdpdnow.com).



**PROBATION CAREERS.** Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Date: January 10, 2009, 8am. Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. Must be at least 21 years old, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or becoming a citizen. Pass criminal/personal background investigation. No felony convictions. High school diploma/GED. \$36,275-\$46,300/year. Note Application Process: Prior to taking the written examination, applicants must complete and submit the online application form and provide correct and complete responses to the Supplemental Questions. Applicants will be invited to the written exam by written notice that will either be sent 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! Jobline: 858-514-8558. [www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation](http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation).

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## Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I

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- U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen
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**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 be invited to the written exam by written notice 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  
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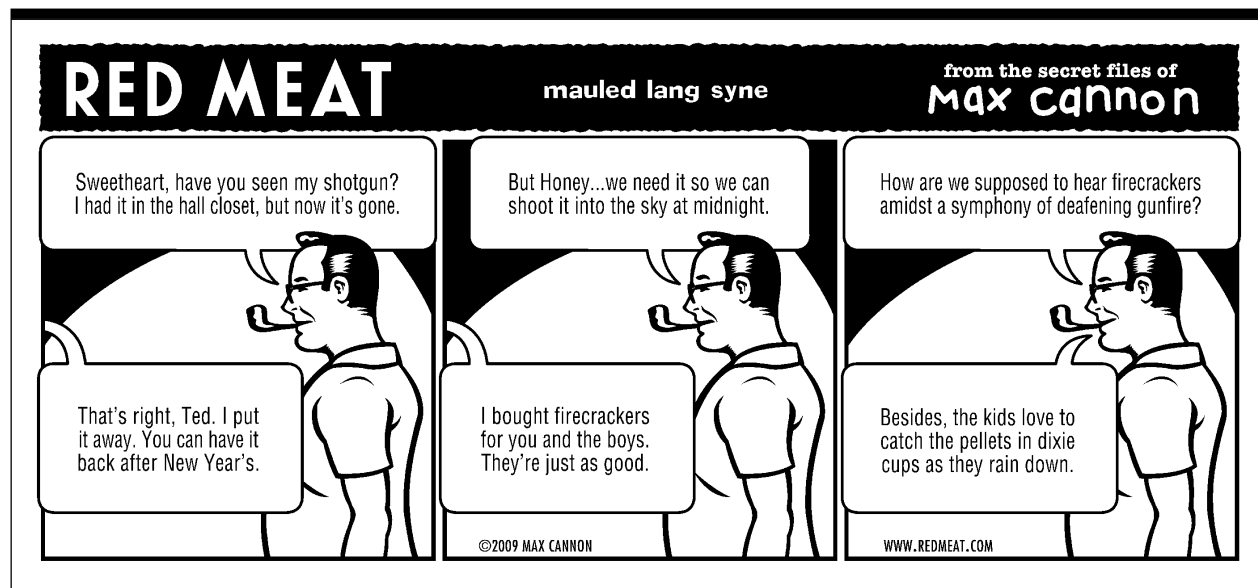


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Dave Lathrap  
Graphic Artist  
Pacific Beach

It was 1996. I got hired by the best company I've ever worked for. We did these children's interactive games. We did games for Batman, Superman... a whole bunch. Also, it was the first time I traveled with a group of people I run with. We went to London and did this amazing run in Cyprus, an island in the east end of Greece.




Phyllis Ann-Marie  
Sales  
Leucadia

My favorite year was 1992. That was the year I got divorced. I met a lot of great friends and fun people that I ended up traveling with. They were like family, and the whole year was filled with such wonderful times.




Liz Clause  
Manager  
Rancho Bernardo

Nineteen eighty-eight. That's the year I graduated from San Diego State University. And I traveled the whole year. I went to Australia, New Zealand, and Southeast Asia. I think traveling after you spend so many years going to school makes the experience that much more enjoyable.




Jeff Finkel  
Sales  
Mira Mesa

It was November of 1987. I was on the cover of *Entrepreneur* magazine with 11 other people. I was listed as one of the most successful entrepreneurs in the country. I came up with something called the Sun-sponge, which was a hat that you could soak in water and cool off your head. Through a licensing loop-hole, I was able to sell them at Padres games. Sometimes people would recognize me in bookstores, and I signed a few autographs.



Valena Coulter  
Health Care  
Serra Mesa

I can think of so many. Maybe I'd pick 1977. That's when I became a mother. I always wanted to be one, for so long. There was a time in third grade when I had a stomachache. The nurse asked what I thought was wrong, and I said I was pregnant. I told her I'd really been trying. That got me a talk with my mom, who explained what actually happens to get pregnant. I finally did become a mom and had three kids. Now I have grandchildren. But 1977 is when I had my first son.



Bernie Worell  
Electrician  
Santee

It was 1967. That was the Summer of Love, when the Beatles released *Sgt. Pepper*, the Doors and Jimi Hendrix released their debut albums. I think there were a few great music festivals like Monterey Pop. Great movies were out, like *The Graduate*. But what really made the year the best for me was that it was when I came into this world.

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**FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH!** \$30 off any 3-Hour signature detox! Natural and effective. Let Detox Spa of La Jolla be your personal fountain of youth! Weight Loss. Cellulite. Colon Hydrotherapy. Liver Detox. Lymphatic Decongestive Therapy. Candida and heavy metals. Cove Wellness, 7946 Ivanhoe Avenue, #202, La Jolla. 858-551-9228. www.detoxspaoflajolla.com.

**FREE HEALTH INFORMATION** session. Everyone invited to Coronary Health Improvement Project: 6:30pm, January 20, 22, 25, 27. Clairemont SDA Church, 4125 Hathaway, 92111. 858-774-1979. www.sdcclairemontadventist.org.

**FREE TAI CHI AND QI GONG CLASSES** January 12 and 13, 2009, at 6pm. Winter Open House at Taoist Sanctuary, 4229 Park Boulevard, San Diego, 92103. 619-692-1155 or www.taoistsanctuary.org.

**HIPPYVILLE.COM - BOHEMIAN** Essentials. Natural incense, imported oils, eco-friendly hemp. Fast service. Inventory updated daily! 800-428-0473.

**HOLIDAY SPECIALS 25% OFF BODY CONTOUR WRAPS** Non-fluid inch loss! For men and women. Tones. Improves skin texture. \$52/one wrap (Reg. \$70). \$130/three wraps (Reg. \$210). First-time clients only. Facials.

Fanie botanical products. No synthetics. No animal fats, waxes, glycolic acids, perfumes. 858-581-3321. Karie Hayden & Associates. KarieHayden.net

**HOLISTIC SKIN CLINIC.** Original non-surgical facelift! Tightens, hydrates, rejuvenates the skin. Micro-dermabrasion with tightening facial masque, regularly \$100, now \$75. First-time clients only: expires 1/30/09. Fanie botanical products. No synthetics, animal fats, waxes, glycolic acids, perfumes. Also facials and Body Contour Wraps non-fluid inch loss for men and women. Karie Hayden & Associates, 858-581-3321. KarieHayden.net.

**MESSAGE SPECIALS.** Introductory one hour, \$55, regularly \$75. 3-hour package, \$199, regularly \$225. 6-hour package, \$400, regularly \$450. New clients only: expires 1/30/09. Some insurance accepted. Gift certificates make a great gift! Professional Massage Therapists on staff to serve you 6 days/week. J. Labbe, D.C., C.C.N. 4747 Morena Boulevard, Suite 3130, San Diego 92117. 858-483-4770. www.labbehealthcenter.com.

**NEW YEARS RESOLUTION,** Personal training. Free 30-minute consultation and free 30-minute workout session. Don't hesitate. Certified Personal trainer Brent Roberts, www.brentrobertsfitness.com, brentroberts227@yahoo.com. 619-884-2448.

**ORGANIC GROCER.** Frazier Farms Natural Grocery, the healthiest values under the sun! Groceries, dairy, produce, meats, fish. Fresh daily salad, soup, sushi, juice and coffee bar. All natural deli and bakery. 200+ bulk bins. Nutritional supplements. Health seminars. Beer and wine. Wine tastings. Open Monday-Friday, 8am-9pm. 225 Vista Village Drive, Vista 92083. www.frazierfarmsmarket.com. 760-758-7175.

**PACIFIC BEACH PERSONAL TRAINING.** www.pacificbeachtrainers.com. New Year's Special! Accepting 4 clients \$35/hour. (50% off). Student Special and Train with Friend Specials! Free consultation! 410-336-6969, dboognatz@hotmail.com.

**PAIN RELIEF BEYOND BELIEF.** Float peacefully in a body of water similar to the Dead Sea. Recommended by doctors, sports trainers and therapists, Mineral Spa Floatation Therapy is gaining popularity as a luxurious escape and powerful tool for strengthening the immune system and improving health. Proven benefits include: stress relief; athletic performance enhancement; relief of chronic pain, gastrointestinal and cardiovascular ailments; reduction or elimination of harmful habits; improved focus and creativity. Call Float Spa San Diego, 858-279-3301. E-mail mark@floatspasandiego.com. www.FLOATSpaSanDiego.com.

**PILATES IN SOUTH PARK,** training "The Method" created by Joseph Pilates. Grand opening! \$25 introductory special: 45-minute private session, consultation and apparatus lesson (first visit only). 619-269-7978.

**PORCELAIN CROWNS,** \$390. Veneers, \$740. Extractions, \$95. Fillings starting at \$75. Joseph Tucker, D.D.S. is now accepting new patients. Emergencies and walk-ins welcome. Discounted menu for cash patients. Now accepting PPO insurance. Open Fridays, 3-6pm, and Saturdays, 8am-2pm. Comprehensive experience in Endodontics, Fixed Prosthodontics, Oral Surgery and Implant Placement. Root canals, extractions including wisdom teeth, removable and fixed prosthodontics. 5210 Balboa Avenue, San Diego 92117 (west of Ride-Aid at Balboa and Genessee). 858-279-3455. www.BalboaDentist.com.

**TRIM DOWN** and still feel great for the holidays! Eat real food and lose weight naturally. No starving the body. No meal replacements or special foods to buy. No drugs or surgery. Ultra Lite, the professional weight loss system, developed by a Naturopath in Australia, is now available in the U.S. Learn how to eat and properly combine foods to keep the body burning fat! 858-279-7600. www.DrAmes.net, click on Ultra Lite.

## PARENT RESOURCES

**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

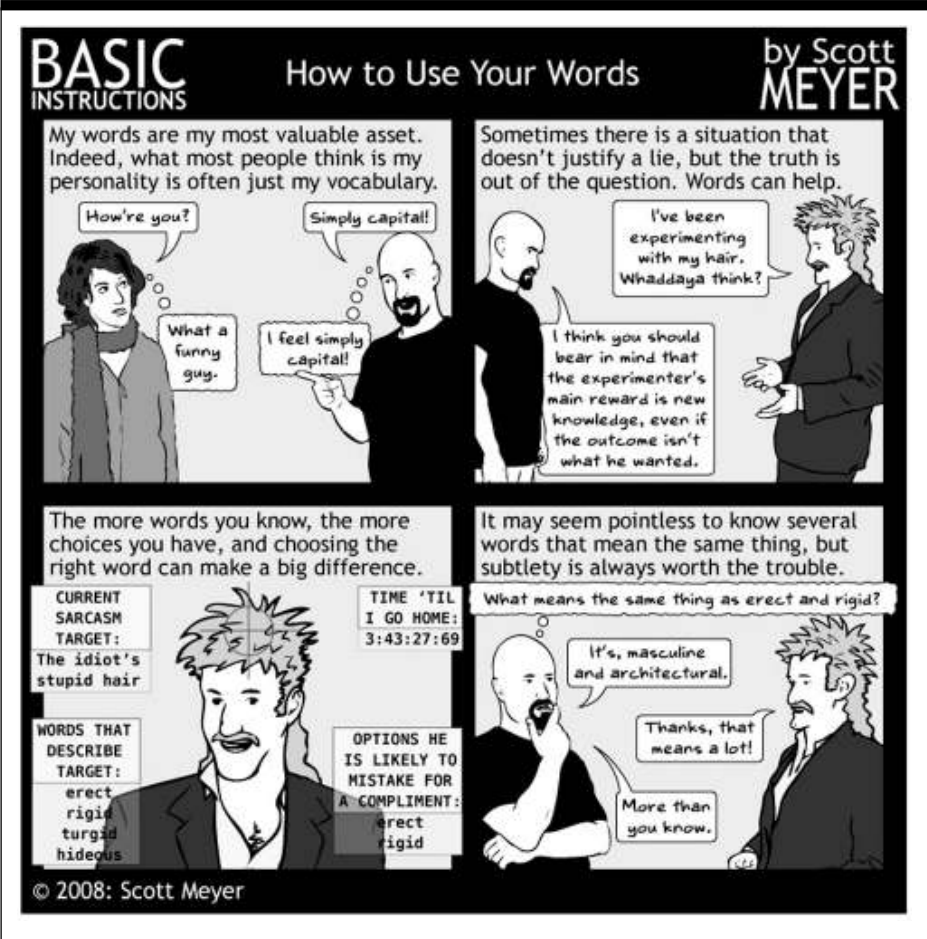
**DEPRESSION OR BABY BLUES** during pregnancy/postpartum? UCSD research study providing sleep and light therapy as possible treatment. To see if you qualify, call 619-543-7393.

**PARENTING CLASSES** 10 weeks Court Approved Parenting Class, Wednesdays from 6-7pm at Alpha Behavioral Health Services. Call 619-285-9999 for more information.

**PREGNANT?** Considering adoption? Talk with caring agency specializing in matching birthmothers with families nationwide. Living expenses paid. Call 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions. 866-413-6293. (AAN CAN)

## WEDDING & PARTY GUIDE

## BASIC INSTRUCTIONS



**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

**ABSOLUTELY GREAT BAND!** Fabulous New Orleans/Mardi Gras party band and more. Beads, party favors much more. Holiday party packages include dance instruction. 619-222-7772. www.theswampcritters.com.

**AFFORDABLE PHOTOGRAPHY** and Ministerial. Married couple with over 30 years experience in wedding business teams up to cover your event. www.brianhowarthphotography.com. Call Brian or Valerie: 619-583-0411.

**AWARD WINNING PHOTOGRAPHER** see your wedding day unfold on DVD. On a budget? Digital photography. Hourly rates, special events. Kidnapper of Images, Beverly, 858-736-4472; 858-274-4472.

**BAND, "HOT PURSUIT."** Weddings, corporate, private parties. High-energy dance band featuring sax player, female vocalist. Swing, jazz, rock, R&B, country dance hits. 760-751-1876.

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**FRENCH GOURMET.** Don't let the "French" in French Gourmet scare you! We offer delicious values! From simple hors d'oeuvres and cakes to elaborate buffets or sit-down receptions, our experienced staff will plan a menu that will please your guests and someone's wallet. Visit Www.the-frenchgourmet.com or consult us at 800-929-1984 x125. Free cake testing. 960 Turquoise, Pacific Beach. Serving San Diego since 1979.

**MICHAEL'S FLOWER GIRL.** Michaels-Flowergirl.com. The look of elegance on a working bride's budget! Flowers,

cakes, DJ, invitations, photography, linens and more! Call for specials! 619-516-5544.

**OVER 200 WEDDING DRESSES!** \$100 off retail prices! Current style, quality consigned gowns. Veils, headpieces, petticoats and more! Garment Gourmet Resale, 760-630-6630, Garmentgourmet.com.

## STAGE NOTES

**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

**ABILITY THROUGH TRAINING.** The Robert Wald Actor's Studio focuses on moment-to-moment reality training. These classes unlock the actor's ability to work spontaneously and with the realism and intensity advocated by the industry's creative legends. Beginners welcome. Thursday evening class available. 6:30pm-10:30pm. Saturday morning. Call for information. 619-542-1216.

**AUDITION OPEN CALL.** SeaWorld Entertainment Opportunities: Saturday, January 17, 2009. If you have talent, SeaWorld has opportunities. Casting SeaWorld Costume Characters, Sesame Street Costume Characters, Show Host, Hosts who sing and play guitar, Electric Guitarists and Comedic Actors. If you have backstage experience, also holding on-site interviews for Lighting, Stage, Video and Audio positions. For times, locations and position requirements visit SeaWorldSanDiegoAuditions.com. SeaWorld San Diego is an Equal Opportunity Employer supporting a drug-free workplace.

## INSTRUCTION

Go on, admit it...you've always had a little Zorro in you!

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# Astound your friends & become famous!

## THE READER PUZZLE:

### RULES OF THE GAME

- 1) Each week we're printing a list 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 (10 words or less) message that you've written. This is optional, but it's a great way to express yourself. You may submit a new message weekly.
- 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 7:00 a.m., Monday.
- 4) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489** or **619-233-7907** or mailed to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803, or delivered through our mail slot at 1703 India Street in Little Italy, or scanned and e-mailed to: [puzzles@sdreader.com](mailto:puzzles@sdreader.com)
- 5) 10 Reader T-shirts are awarded weekly to contenders chosen randomly!
- And now for the really small print:
- 1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
- 2) Late entries will not be considered.
- 3) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
- 4) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.

### Across

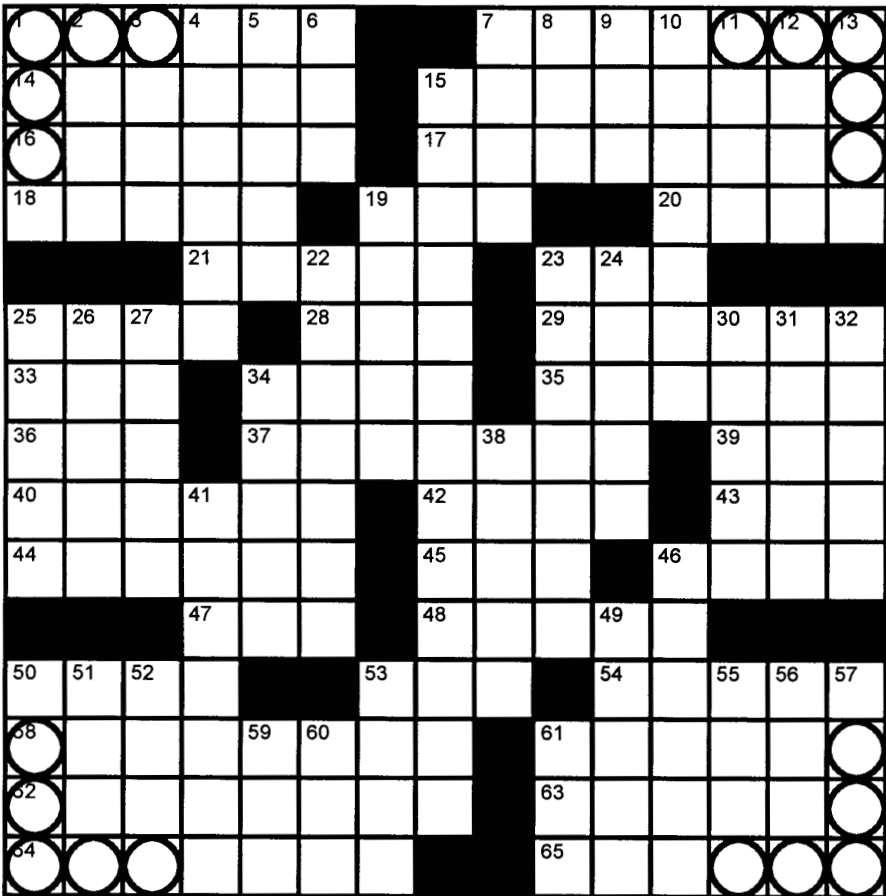
1. Two-time Oscar winner Jackson
7. Ford model since 1964
14. Idea
15. Like some elements
16. Scully and Mulder, for two
17. Act of putting into circulation
18. "We're off \_\_\_\_ the wizard ..."
19. Opposite of SSW
20. Unique
21. Payment to a Madison Avenue firm
23. Biblical verb ending
25. Disinfectant target

28. Have a bite
29. "GoodFellas" actor Ray
33. California's Santa \_\_\_\_ winds
34. In a lazy way
35. Baseball pitch with a high arc and slow speed
36. DI + DI
37. Oats holder
39. British recording co.
40. Grid
42. Dark times, to poets
43. All the rage
44. On the move
45. Fed. overseer
46. Inconsequential
47. "Remembering Mr. Shawn's New Yorker" author Mehta
48. Agrarian
50. Lucy's partner
53. "Quiet on the \_\_\_\_!"
54. Shaggy's pal, to Shaggy
58. It's sticky stuff
61. Painter Monet
62. Therapy session subjects
63. Trustbuster's concern
64. Jackie on TV
65. Leap

### Down

1. Pesky swarmer
2. NBC's peacock, e.g.
3. Summers abroad
4. Punching-in time
5. Lavished affection (on)
6. Reply to a ques.
7. Jazz pianist Allison
8. Wee \_\_\_\_ (tots)
9. Dallas sch.
10. Spot to order a spot
11. \_\_\_\_ extra cost
12. Salt, to a chemist

13. Jubilation
15. Measurement of each corner of this puzzle's grid
19. Author Zora \_\_\_\_ Hurston
22. Sent overnight, perhaps
23. A Roosevelt
24. Supermodel Cheryl
25. Alpha, beta, \_\_\_\_ ...
26. Pioneering 1940s computer
27. "Something to Talk About" singer Bonnie
30. Main idea
31. "It's not a \_\_\_\_!" (Schwarzenegger movie line)
32. Private line
34. San Diego-to-Seattle rte.
38. Humdinger
41. Saint-Tropez locale
46. Celtics coach before Rick Pitino
49. Get \_\_\_\_ on the wrist
50. "Goll-lee!"
51. Pulitzer-winning biographer Leon
52. Elisabeth of "Cocktail"
53. Author Birkerts
55. "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right \_\_\_\_ My Hair"
56. 2007's #1 NBA draft pick Greg
57. Lux. neighbor
59. Cry for help
60. Cousin of equi-
61. Also sends to, as an email



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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:

R	A	I	D			B	L	U	E	S		N	R	A	
E	N	G	R			N	I	E	K	R	O		O	E	D
W	I	N	E	C	O	L	O	R	E	D			C	V	S
E	G	O		A	M	B	I					C	H	E	
T	H	R	O	W	S	O	V	E	R	B	O	A	R	D	
S	T	E	M					F	I	L	M	S	E	T	
				A	S	L		E	G	G	O		E	N	S
	S	P	R	E	A	D	T	H	E	W	O	R	D		
S	O	L		E	L	A	H		L	S	D				
S	T	I	G	M	A	S						O	M	N	I
W	H	O	L	E	W	H	E	A	T	B	R	E	A	D	
	E	C	O					D	C	I	I		T	M	I
A	B	E		S	N	O	W	C	O	V	E	R	E	D	
G	Y	N		N	O	H	I	T	S			T	O	R	I
E	S	E		L	I	O	N	S				A	S	S	T

## THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner. Number indicates successful entries.

**Julie Osburn, North Park, 28.** "Have I astounded my friends and become famous yet?"

**D. Faulkner, University Heights, 27.** "I owe my roommate for this and so much more!"

**Pamela Swain, College Area, 27.** "On to the playoffs."

**Lil Wagner, Clairemont, 27.** "Down to the wire!"

**Ric Witt, Clairemont, 27.** "#\$@%\$! I choked at the tape. Congratulations, Julie!"

☛ **George Jackson, Ocean-side, 26.**

**Anna McCutcheon, Downtown, 26.** "Happy New Year, all! Looking forward to puzzling in 2009!"

**Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 25.** "Hope there's great fun to come in 2009!"

**Vince Cuseo, Vista, 25.** "Go ahead - make my day."

**Susan Morfey, Little Italy, 25.** "Thanks for the puzzle fun this year. Ready for more!"

**Don Reckles, Carmel Valley, 25.** "Wishing all a very fine 2009. All my love to KMR."

**Clinton Smith, La Mesa, 25.** "Daphne and Erik are engaged to be married. Parents thrilled!"

**Paul Stanton, Canyon Hills, 25.** "Adopt a homeless cat or dog today and spay/neuter."

**Carolyn Dalton, Escondido, 24.**

**Dale Duffala, La Jolla, 24.** "Carol - Happy New Year! Fine in '09!"

**Iggie Guerrero, Bay Ho, 24.** "La Reina Pumpkin Face With a Missing Tooth."

**Jim Odell, Vista, 24.** "Fell off, bike anyway."

**Janie Redmond, Cardiff, 24.** "God bless us, everyone."

**Stephen Wilder, Rancho**

**Bernardo, 24.** "Roman numerals D or L. Which is which?"

**Betsy Cory, Chula Vista, 23.** "Robert Burn Supper, Jan. 24, St. Marks, [www.stmarks-cityheights.org](http://www.stmarks-cityheights.org)"

**Frank Kuzniar, Carlsbad, 23.** "Happy New Year everyone!"

**Thomas McVeagh, Lakeside, 23.** "Hi to Chris T. @ KSON."

**Ron Meyer, Santee, 23.** "Happy New Year - go Chargers!"

**Jay Newington, Balboa Park, 23.** "Janis, Love - Christmas with you was my dream come true!"

**Chris Peterkin, Scripps Ranch, 23.**

☛ **Danny Wilson, Mira Mesa, 23.** "Hello From Carmichaels, PA. Congrats, Julie - u got there alone!"

**Norman Kenney, Carlsbad, 22.** "Happy New Year to all! Kiera, Bodo, et al!"

**C. J. Muellner, Spring Valley, 22.** "Hope to welcome New Year wearing a Reader black tee."

☛ **Barry Newman, Escondido, 22.**

**Tom Seaman, Alpine, 22.** "What a good year we had!"

**Mary Arana, Encinitas, 21.** "Happy No Depression New Year!"

**Martha Awdziewicz, Clairemont, 21.**

**Donna Cresta, Chula Vista, 21.** "Ski, I didn't see your name."

**Gerard Dermody, Encinitas, 21.** "The kinky spy was arrested for consorting with an enema."

**Ben Espe, Mission Valley, 21.** "Happy New Year...glad 2008 is over!"

**Richard Hutchings, Santee, 21.**

**Leslie Chase, Campo, 20.** "Happy 2009!"

**Sheilah Doyle, Santee, 20.**

**Barney Firks, Ocean Beach, 20.**

**Ken Hanson, Clairemont, 20.**

**Elaine Marume, Oceanside, 20.**

**Michael McGriffin, Bay Park, 20.** "Happy New Year to you all!"

**Rich Sewell, Ocean Beach, 20.** "Next year can't be worse than this year: 8-8 Demonstrate."

**Steve Wilson, Spring Valley, 20.**

## Your last chance in 2008!

This week's puzzle will be the last one considered for our current tally of puzzle winners. Next week we'll recognize the person(s) with the most correct entries in 2008 and the count will begin again! Sharpen your pencils!



THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS CONTINUED:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner

Sheila Agahan-Price, Ocean-side, 19. "Everyone be safe and Happy New Year!"  
Don Austin, Laguna Beach, 19. "We've moved!"  
Kurt Dornbusch, Mission Val-ley, 19. "All I want for Xmas is another Charger win!"  
Anne Hinton, Point Loma, 19. "Happy New Year everyone!"  
Nathan Petty, Santee, 19.  
Dave Small, San Carlos, 19. "Happy New Year and go Charg-ers, hopefully."  
Eddie Spaghetio, Coronado, 19. "143UNIT15! Got 'nuff body heat 'tween 'dem big toes? CIUM21"  
Marie Turock, North Park, 19.  
Ivan Yanev, Santee, 19.  
Doretha Albee, Santee, 18.  
Bud Anderson, Santee, 18.  
Neal Brown, Santee, 18.  
Margaret Buckner, Santee, 18.  
John Bullock, Santee, 18.  
A. T. Certik, Bonita, 18.  
Maria Coda, Oceanside, 18. "Hi All!"  
Laura Conshafter, Santee, 18.  
William Cushing, Rancho Bernardo, 18. "Greetings to all the staff at Sharp Oncology."  
Mike Downey, Santee, 18.  
John L. Drechner, North Park, 18. "Dracula's nickname is 3 and 2. He's a full count."  
Ed Edwards, Santee, 18.  
Eduardo Emett, Santee, 18.  
Ward Harrington, Santee, 18.  
L.D. Hartpence, Santee, 18.  
Gary Kuske, Santee, 18.  
Rick Marin, Santee, 18.  
Kevin McNearney, Santee, 18.  
Heber Moore, Santee, 18.  
Jim Piburn, Point Loma, 18. "Reset your life."  
Derek Rasmussen, Santee, 18.  
Jean D. Smickle, Santee, 18.  
Bob Vollmar, La Jolla, 18.  
Dave Washington, La Jolla, 18. "Happy New Year!"  
Rick Austin, Santee, 17. "It was a winner - nice t-shirt! Thanks."  
Olga Betteridge, Ocean Beach, 17. "These 377 days have been the happiest of my life."  
Rolan Bloomfield, Santee, 17.

Dave Capehart, Santee, 17.  
Doug Coffin, Santee, 17.  
Mike D'Asaro, Santee, 17.  
Matt Dene, Santee, 17.  
Dave Descoteaux, Santee, 17.  
J. DeWitt, Santee, 17.  
Emma Friemuth, Santee, 17.  
Mike Gross, Santee, 17.  
Hugh Hagues, Santee, 17.  
Sondra Hartpence, Santee, 17.  
Larry Hartpence, Santee, 17.  
LeRoy Hemingway, Santee, 17.  
☛ W. Hodgson, Escondido, 17. "Any ship can be a minesweeper. Once!"  
Eric Jespersion, Santee, 17.  
M. Jordan, Santee, 17.  
Troy Knapp, Santee, 17.  
Bill Love, Santee, 17.  
Eben Maat, Santee, 17.  
Kevin Moreau, Santee, 17.  
Donnie Nelson, Santee, 17.  
Richard Rose, Santee, 17.  
Nathan Squire, Santee, 17.  
Gayle Studer, Mission Valley, 17.  
Matt Taylor, Santee, 17.  
Laurie Teemsma, Santee, 17.  
Stacy Tool, Santee, 17.  
Woody Weaver, Santee, 17.  
Mary Woodbury, Santee, 17.  
Roy Bailey, Santee, 16.  
Bruce Barshop, La Jolla, 16. "Put the mas back in Christmas."  
Dennis Beabout, Temecula, 16. "I wish a blessed 2009 to everyone. Amen."  
Carl Bennett, Escondido, 16.  
Derek Besand, Santee, 16.  
Tim Betteridge, Hillcrest, 16. "I've had the bestest year with my O."  
Wally Chapman, Chula Vista, 16.  
Dan Collins, Santee, 16.  
☛ Jill Dickens, Santee, 16.  
☛ Kathleen Evans, Santee, 16.  
Steve Fagerwold, Santee, 16.  
Marie Grace, College Area, 16. "Happy New Year!"  
Mark Hill, Santee, 16.  
E.M. Hutchings, Santee, 16.  
Steve Jenks, Santee, 16.  
Sara Khwaja, Poway, 16.  
Donald Millsberg, Santee, 16.  
Barbara Neill, Santee, 16.

Bill Pischke, Ramona, 16. "May orange-hued rainbows of refine light our way in 2009."  
Don Prince, Serra Mesa, 16.  
"Money doesn't talk - it swears!"  
J. Schwendinger, Santee, 16.  
Ron Shields, Santee, 16.  
Randy Sjoblom, Santee, 16.  
Sue Worthen, Santee, 16.  
Steven Young, Santee, 16.  
Dan Abernathy, Santee, 15.  
Don Albee, Santee, 15.  
Rick Braithwaite, Santee, 15.  
J. Breckenridge, Santee, 15.  
E. T. Cage, Carmel Mtn., 15. "One mo."  
David Castillo, Bay Park, 15.  
Andre Desilets, Downtown, 15. "Happy and Healthy New Year to all."  
Howard Donnelly, Mission Valley, 15. "Decode: send + more = money."  
Mark Franc, Santee, 15.  
Ricky Hartpence, Santee, 15.  
Jim Hutchings, Santee, 15.  
Linda Millsberg, Santee, 15.  
Charles Overdorf, Santee, 15.  
David Papworth, Santee, 15.  
Jeff Smith, Santee, 15.  
Tom White, University City, 15.  
Mike Adkins, Santee, 14.  
Brian Beach, Santee, 14.  
Shirley E. Bolden, College Area, 14. "This year I became a grandmother, aka JeeJee."  
Bryan Breckenridge, Santee, 14.  
Korey Castillo, Bay Park, 14. "Go Chargers."  
Glen and Tesi Chavira-Cournoyer, Chula Vista, 14. "Goodbye 2008, hello 2009."  
Sue Coffey, Southwest SD, 14. "Happy New Year."  
Andy Harrison, Santee, 14.  
Mary Hutchings, City Heights, 14.  
Dennis Lamboy, Santee, 14.  
Rumir Miravalles, San Diego, 14. "Mahamungauaon nga Bag-ong Tuig sa tanan!"  
Elizabeth Rainbolt, Mission Valley, 14.  
John Stead, Santee, 14.  
Andrea Vollmer, Vista, 14.  
Warren Winters, Santee, 14.  
☛ Ken A., Ocean Beach, 13. "I'm hot blooded, you're as cold as ice."

Evelyn Bowser, Hillcrest, 13. "House is sold now."  
Jan Dawson, North Harbor, 13. "Happy New Year - Handy Jan; jansenterprises@yahoo.com"  
Billy Horton, Santee, 13. "Happy New Year to one and all."  
Diane Hutchings, Santee, 13.  
Angie Longoria, Santee, 13.  
Aaron Lundblade, Santee, 13.  
John Prince, Serra Mesa, 13. "Here comes the sun, by George, sing back the sun."  
Diane Sengir, Downtown, 13. "4 a good paint job: nu-agepaint-ing.com (BBB member)."  
Lee Woodbury, Santee, 13.  
Brian W. Beadle, Clairemont, 12. "We can email scans. Would've added 5 to my score."  
Manny Espino, Santee, 12.  
Monty Landy, Santee, 12.  
Erin Marin, Santee, 12.  
Marge Nelson, El Cajon, 12. "Happy New Year!"  
Randy Schimpf, Santee, 12.  
M. Sherritt, Santee, 12.  
Sam Spaeth, El Cajon, 12.  
Gayle Squire, Santee, 12.  
Gerry Austin, Chula Vista, 11.  
Loren Broadstone, Santee, 11.  
Mike Deliman, Santee, 11. "Santee - word! Don't spread it."  
Tim Dene, Santee, 11.  
Heather Ellsworth, Santee, 11.  
Gina Glover, Santee, 11.  
Bob Harper, Lakeside, 11.  
Susie Lektorich, Coronado, 11. "See you all in the next race. Happy New Year!"  
Mark Wilde, Spring Valley, 11. "Bring it on!"  
Chris Donnelly, Carlsbad, 10.  
G. Doyle, Santee, 10.  
Marilynn Harrington, Santee, 10.  
Tom Stam, Lakeside, 10. "New year - new champion - me."  
Thelma Strickland-Hicks, Del Mar, 10. "Hi Terrie, thanks for your work with Carson kids!"  
Flo Abena, Rancho Penasqui-tos, 9. "Change in 2009."  
Ray Batenich, North Park, 9. "Goodbye all - and 112 Santees. I now play alone!"  
Gunnar Eklof, Oceanside, 9.  
I.C. Garcia, Golden Hill, 9. "Only to the white man is nature a wilderness. LSB"  
Connie Rittichier, Poway, 9.

Ernie Hsu, San Diego, 9. "Hi Athena!"  
G.R. Morse, San Diego, 9. "Mabuhay Lynn!"  
Felina Thom, Lemon Grove, 9.  
R. Blue, San Diego, 8. "Good show."  
Eddie and Andrea Schroder, Carlsbad, 8. "For God so loved the world He gave His Son."  
Estevan Soto, Chula Vista, 8. "Bruce Willis dead - end of Sixth Sense - I jump."  
Carlos Cruz, Mira Mesa, 7. "Do your best. Leave the rest to God."  
Julie Hocking, Normal Heights, 7. "Go crazy!"  
Kyle Matzke, Vista, 7. "Illinois Corruption Hdqtrs has moved. New address: 1600 Pennsylvania Ave."  
Matthew Rosello, San Diego, 7. "4 weeks to go."  
Mike and Karen, Talmadge, 6. "You will believe a cat can fly. acat-namedturtle.com."  
Jackie Austin, Chula Vista, 6.  
Terri Beach, Santee, 6.  
Mike Broadhead, El Cajon, 6.  
Glenda Feilen, El Cajon, 6.  
Mike Hartpence, El Cajon, 6.  
Ron Hootman, Santee, 6. "Hoot 101 - bad memory - keep forgetting Reader!"  
Westie, San Diego, 6.  
Vickie Austin, Santee, 5.  
Jeff Battles, Serra Mesa, 5. "Chargers in the playoffs! Spread the word!"  
Heather Bloomfield, Santee, 5.  
Carrie Collins, Santee, 5.  
Lizzy Henry, Encinitas, 5. "Roses red, violets purple, sugar's sweet, so is maple syruple."  
Russell Hill, Lake Forest, 5.  
Chis Oliveira, Santee, 5.  
Will Rogers, Santee, 5.  
Ted Scafidi, Hillcrest, 5. "Melee Klezmar, y'all!"  
Capn Skarz, Encinitas, 5. "Beetlejuice, Beetlejuice, Beetlejuice! I'll have a Coke."  
Philip Blase, San Diego, 4. "I still am thinking of Tanzania."  
Kevin Schimpf, Santee, 4.  
Walter Desmond Jr., Point Loma, 3. "Diem peridi!"  
Jeff Fotheringham, Santee, 3.  
Greg J. Hurst, Huntington Beach, 3. "Dreams come to fruition. Awake at work just to live."

Billy Josen, Santee, 3.  
Lillie Nelson, Santee, 3.  
John Pertle, Santee, 3. "Unbe-lievers: John 6:47; Believers: First John 5:11-13."  
Candy Sadleir, Santee, 3.  
Sam Spaeth Jr, El Cajon, 3.  
Susan Arnold, Santee, 2.  
Leo Baggerly, Encinitas, 2. "Lead us not into temptation. Just tell us where it..."  
Mike Bullock, Rancho Bernardo, 2. "See Teresa!"  
Tom Haley, East Village, 2. "Riding public transportation is fun and interesting."  
Gerard Hoskins, Bonsall, 2. "Learn how to sell! www.vlque.com"  
Dennis Howry, La Verne, 2.  
Sharon Jones, El Cajon, 2. "Hi Allison! Love Mom."  
Wess A. Aldeman, Oceanside, 1. "To Jackie. Happy New Year, Love Wess."  
M. Anderson, Santee, 1.  
Linda Badii, Rancho Penasqui-tos, 1.  
David Brink, Golden Hill, 1. "Detroit Red Wings rule!"  
☛ Barbara Cohen, La Jolla, 1.  
Manny Faria, Point Loma, 1. "Finally! I love you Paulette!"  
Michael Leslie, Santee, 1.  
Bev Longdon, El Cajon, 1. "Hi Austin Taylor and Lukie."  
David McElhinney, Santee, 1.  
Cerah Nagata, East Village, 1. "See the Derby Dolls at Del Mar Fairgrounds Jan. 10th."  
Ernie New, Kensington, 1. "In pen, people!"  
Monica Palafox, Santee, 1.  
Jake Porath, Pacific Beach, 1. "King of Awesomness."  
Edwin Real, Normal Heights, 1. "Choo choo, look who's two! We love Felix!"  
☛ Jerry Riccio, Rancho Bernardo, 1. "Happy New Year and Happy Birthday Pamela! I love you!"  
James Rinehart, San Diego, 1. "Luv u 2 LKA"  
Wade Timmerman, Ocean Beach, 1. "Laura mi amora."  
☛ Elizabeth Wood, Poway, 1. "Word."

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Say What?



Kid Fresh | Age: 25 | Occupation: Hair Colorist/MC | Lives In: Hillcrest

I say "I'm too junkie for that." It means that you are too cool for something or too hip. It's not a drug reference, though. I think I made it up about two months ago. People have to think about it for

a minute. Like, if someone wanted you to go somewhere and you didn't want to, you could say, "No, I'm too junkie for that." The other phrase I say a lot is "so Kid Fresh." It's a reference to myself

and it means something is cool; it's a big compliment if something is "so Kid Fresh."

For past Say What columns, go to sreader.com.

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PERSONALS

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday. DAVIEBABE in Boston. "Calm", "stable" beat "eggshells." Wish I knew about the eggshells! Never claimed to be "calm"! I am so sorry about the "stable."@: LOST MY JOB, got another. Getting evicted, but ain't a quitter. Happy New Year, to us and strange new economy! Peace and love and budgeting!@:

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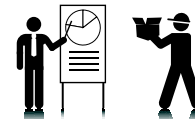
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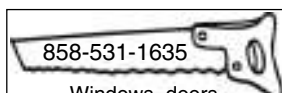


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**CITY HEIGHTS.** \$1098. Super house. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Front yard. No backyard. No garage. On-site laundry. 2 parking. No smoking. No pets. \$900 deposit. 4159-61 42nd Street. 619-251-0030.

**CLAIREMONT.** \$1895. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. Fireplace. All appliances. New carpet. Covered patio. Fruit trees. Brick barbecues. Agent, 619-692-4121.

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# Reader Pop Quiz

### This week's questions

- Local singer-songwriter Michael Tiernan, in a webcast from his home, debuted a song last month by performing it to whom?
- Naomi Wise goes so far as to predict that local restaurant \_\_\_\_ will become one of the country's food meccas.
- At a party of atheists and agnostics, Josh Board chats up a guy who looks like Jesus and wears square glasses and a cowboy hat "with the mud-flap girl on it." What was that guy's name?
- Where had Barbarella lived before that made her think she'd be prepared for a Massachusetts winter?
- John Brizzolara racks his brains for half a day, trying to summon the name of the actor who played the protagonist in *The Time Machine*. He's rescued in an instant by what movie expert/friend?
- Most trampoline injuries occur when what happens, according to Bounce California?
- As teenagers, Rick Froberg of the local Hot Snakes and John Reis of the Night Marchers played in what rock group?
- Barbarella admitted to her husband David that she's never seen an episode of what TV show?
- What local Indian tribe has its burial grounds in El Salto Falls in North County?
- In 1970–'71, local singer-songwriter Jack Tempchin worked at which Mission Beach venue with the soon-to-be-famous Tom Waits?

### Last week's answers

- The Troys; Elektra Records. (p. 78)
- Limpio (Samurai Jim's parrot). (p. 93)
- Maynard James Keenan (of Tool). (p. 95)
- "Grabbing food." (p. 91)
30. (p. 6)
- Alopecia* by Why? (p. 68)
- Ralphs, Hillcrest. (p. 46)
- Glasses. (Smith review) (p. 113)
- Reading her blog. (p. 22)
- December 26 to January 23. (p. 20)

Last week's winners:

Armin Moths, Gordon Kanteena, Karelyn Kimokeo, Maryann Cummings, Mtume Salaam

**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 a.m. after the issue in question. Only one winner per household or email address per month. Multiple entries will be disregarded. Mail answers to: Reader Pop Quiz, SD Reader, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186; or fax to 619-231-0489; or email to [Quiz@sdreader.com](mailto:Quiz@sdreader.com); or deliver to 1703 India Street in Little Italy (we have an after-hours mail slot).

landscaping, gardener included. No pets. Gas stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer/dryer, fireplace. 1300 square feet, 2- car garage. Tile and carpet. \$1995. 10076 Baffin Street. 858-483-5111 x10. [www.melroyproperties.com](http://www.melroyproperties.com).

**MISSION BEACH.** \$2700/month. 2 bedroom plus small den. 2- car garage with remotes. Deck. Small yard. Laundry hookups. Bay and ocean views. steps to Boardwalk and beach. One- year lease and then month/month. Cat OK. 714 Rockaway Court. Agent, 858-866-5636.

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**MINIATURE PINSCHER.** Maybe slight mix, neutered, 14 pounds, 1-1/2 years. One leg amputated, gets along fine: energetic in fact. Full of life, likes people/dogs. \$150. 619-583-5122.

**PEKINGESE.** Spayed, 5 years, 11 pounds, adorable, sweet bundle of fur. No young kids please. Happy, waggy, kisses, lovely. \$100. 619-466-0426.

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**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** 3- bedroom, 1- bath house. Hardwood floors. \$1800/month. Large yard, 1- car garage, nice neighborhood. Available immediately. No pets. Call 619-280-3650.

**NORTH PARK** \$2100. 5 bedroom, 2 bath home on cul-de-sac. View. No pets! Small yard. No garage. 2125 Jacot Lane, near Juniper dip. 619-607-2665, 619-701-1490.

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**NORTH PARK.** 1/2 off first! \$995. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage plus den. Large kitchen, appliances, plenty of storage. Laundry. Parking. 3141 Boundary Street. 619-804-3325.

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**OCEAN BEACH.** 4754 Cape May Avenue. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1800. \$1800 deposit. House, small yard. No pets. Washer/dryer hookups. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH** \$1500. 2 bedroom 1 bath front house. Yard. Pets considered. No parking. Washer/dryer. Available now. 1947 Missouri Street. Agent 858-514-8201.

**PACIFIC BEACH** 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, large fenced yard. Quiet street. Laundry hookups, hardwood floors, garage. \$1950/month. 1351 Missouri. Call 858-273-4812

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1325. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. 1- car garage. Yard. All appliances, includes water. 1453 Thomas Av-

enue. Available January 1. Alta Vista Properties, 858-274-3600. www.altavistamanagement.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1850. 3 bedroom 2 bath house. North Pacific Beach- La Jolla. Patio. Off- street parking. No pets. One-year lease desired. Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$2695. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath plus den in Crown Point. Hardwood floors and carpeting. Private, fenced patio. 2 parking spaces. Laundry. 1828 Oliver. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

**PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT.** 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Upgrades. Oak/tile floors, fireplace, garage. No pets. Available 11/1/09. \$2100. 3434 Yosemite Street. 760-747-2196.

**POINT LOMA.** 3 bedroom, 2 bath house, \$3200. Washer/dryer, 2- car garage, personal spa/Jacuzzi, deck, patio, central air/heat, great views! 3280 Trumbull Street. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400, peoplehelpingothers.com.

**SAN MARCOS.** 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2- car garage, new carpet/paint. All appliances, gardener, central air, fireplace. Fenced yard. Available 2/1. \$1995. Connie, 858-538-1783.

**SANTEE.** \$1900. Beautiful. Remodeled. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2- car garage. Large fenced/gated yard. 1800 square feet. Large family/dining. Must see! 619-203-5247, 619-302-1856.

**SERRA MESA.** 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Appliances, skylights, 2- car garage, laundry hookups, fireplace, canyon lot with panoramic view. Available now. 3301 Dorchester Drive. \$2100. 858-277-3410.

**SOUTH PARK.** \$2695. Craftsman style 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom home with studio, wood floors, fireplace, dining room, washer and dryer. Appliances. Pets negotiable. 3004 Kalmia drive. 619-384-9219.

**SPRING VALLEY.** \$1395. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2.25 bath plus den, all new ceramic floors, carpet and paint, all appliances, air conditioning, yard. 715 Pecos Street. 619-384-9219.

**TALMADGE** \$850/ \$2250, 3 bedroom, 2 bath house, hardwood floors, fireplace, wood deck off master bedroom. Gated fenced yard. Washer/dryer. 4518 Euclid Avenue. \$850. Back studio unit, share laundry, shared yard, pets on approval. Tenant pays 1/3 electricity. Water included. 4518 #A Euclid Avenue. 619-640-7530. www.sdforrent.com.

## RENTALS COMMERCIAL

**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

**GARAGE FOR RENT.** Chula Vista. \$250, double, 400 square feet. For dry storage only. Gated. 24/7 access. 619-425-6511.

**GASLAMP ART SPACE!** \$150/ up. High ceilings, tall windows. Gallery venue for

shows. Uniquely affordable. 100-600 square feet. 402 Market. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x103. www.HughesManagement.net.

**MISSION BAY/OFFICE SUITE.** 413 square feet at \$1.10. Next to I-5. Easy access. free parking. Near shopping center. 2445 Morena Boulevard, #205. Juno, 619-275-3455.

**MISSION HILLS.** Small retail center, 2 spaces. Available now. From \$900/month. See manager in #11 at 930 West Washington Street. www.centrecity.net. Call 619-296-6699.

**MOVE- IN SPECIALS** Offices spaces available. 7364 El Cajon Boulevard, 4535 30th Street, starting at \$1.25/square foot. Multiple square footage. Utilities included. Donna, 619-820-6035.

**NATIONAL CITY RETAIL SPACE.** Near base. 1725 square feet. \$1.25 per square foot. Triple net lease for 1 year. Parking available. 3280 Main Street, Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x103. Hughes-management.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH** \$1.50/square foot gross. Nice professional building. 640-1100 square feet available. Elevator, common restrooms, parking. Utilities included except phone and Internet. 2180 Garnet Avenue. Agent, 619-231-2727 x233

**PACIFIC BEACH RETAIL/OFFICE** space. 750 square feet. \$2000/monthly. Newly remodeled building. 4850 Cass Street. 619-890-9210.

## RENTALS APARTMENTS / CONDOS

**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

**ALLIED GARDENS** \$1138. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. On- site laundry and pool. Move- in special! One month free rent! 4550 Vandever Avenue. Call manager, 619-282-8000.

**ALLIED GARDENS.** 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, \$1295. Air conditioning. Pool. New paint, cabinets. Granite countertops. Near restaurants, trolley, shopping. 5360 Adobe Falls. 619-265-1645.

**ALPINE** \$850. Spacious 2 bedrooms, 1 baths. New carpet, vinyl and appliances. Air conditioning, on- site laundry, pool. Assigned parking. Small pets welcome. Section 8 welcome. OAC! 619-445-0805. www.sdaprbrokers.com.

**ALPINE** 2 bedrooms, \$1205. Newly remodeled. Private garages, fireplaces, vaulted ceilings. Resort- size pool and spa. Alpine Woods. 1829 Arnold Way. 619-445-1341.

**ALPINE** 55 and up. Spacious luxury living. 1 bedrooms, \$795. 2 bedrooms, \$1105. Creekside Meadows, 1750 Arnold Way. Call 619-445-2480.

**BALBOA PARK.** \$1195. Charming 1 bedroom apartment with excellent view of Balboa Park! New flooring throughout! Crown moulding. Gated entry. 2820 6th Avenue #10. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

**BANKER'S HILL** \$750. Studio apartments. \$200 off first month's rent! Nice unit. View. Laundry. Close to all. 2027 Front Street, #1 and #3. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

**BANKER'S HILL** \$875. Studio apartment. \$200 off first month's rent! Completely remodeled and upgraded. Hardwood floors, laundry. View, must see. 2027 Front Street, #12. AMI Property Management 619-697-6314.

**BANKER'S HILL** \$900. Cute 1 bedroom apartment, security, wood floors. laundry. Off-street parking. Indoor cat OK with deposit. Appointment, references. 1822 Third Avenue. 619-992-7791.

**BANKER'S HILL.** \$2100/month. Furnished 2-bedroom, 2- bath condo, 1400 square feet. View of Maple canyon. Quiet area. Pets OK. Ask for Kathy, 619-967-3764.

**BANKER'S HILL.** \$750. Large remodeled 5th-floor studio in quiet well-kept classic building designed by Gill. Some downtown view. Appliances, gas included, laundry facilities. Near bus. No pets. 619-236-0452.

**BANKER'S HILL.** \$895. Cozy studio apartment. Utilities paid. Parking. On- site laundry. 1820 4th Avenue. Call for appointment: 619-300-1365 or 619-588-4106.

**BANKER'S HILL.** \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath Spanish-cottage style, gated, stove, fridge, patio, laundry, near all. Cat OK. 1934 3rd Avenue. 619-300-9487.

**BANKER'S HILL.** 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, \$1600. Central air/heat, balcony, water/sewer/ trash included, underground parking, 1054 square feet. 3266 1st Avenue #39. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400, peoplehelpingothers.com.

**BANKER'S HILL.** Studio Apartment. Gated community, laundry, parking. Also 1- bedroom, 1- bath, \$990. 1818 6th Avenue. Call Mike, 619-640-8834, kandrproperties.com.

**BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN** \$1295. 1 bedroom townhouse. Very private. Spacious. Hardwood floors. Laundry. Patio. Free parking. Pets OK. Available January 1. Call Steve, 619-696-7500.

**BAY PARK.** \$1150 includes utilities. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs apartment. 1 parking. Laundry facilities. Pets under 12 pounds with additional deposit. Near Bay Park Elementary. Westwind Apartments, 619-275-5329.

**BAY PARK.** \$1199 moves you in! 1 bedroom, 1 bath starting at \$975. 2 bedrooms starting at \$1150. Bay Park's best maintained property with beautiful courtyard and sparkling pool. No pets. 2520 Chicago Street. TPPM, 619-405-7200. www.debonairapts.com.

**BAY PARK.** \$1480. Deluxe 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Panoramic sailboat views/your terrace! Dishwasher, Berber. Laundry. Parking. Cat friendly! Beach/freeway. 2805 Morena. 858-459-1544.

**BAY PARK.** \$825. Lovely 1 bedroom apartment. Prime location near Mission Bay. Quiet.

Pool. Laundry. No pets. Lease. Easy freeway access. 2515 Chicago Street. 619-276-1468.

**BAY PARK. Duplex. \$1275. Holiday special- 1/2 month off rent! Fresh 2 bedroom, 1 bath with new carpet. Garage, washer/dryer. Great location, near all. 3158 Clairemont Drive. TPPM, 858-699-3851.**

**BAY PARK/CLAIREMONT SOUTH.** \$1595. Quiet 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath 2- story condo, granite countertops, pool, deck, spectacular canyon view. Carport, washer/dryer. Dog OK. No smoking. 619-405-1823.

**BAY PARK/FASHION VALLEY.** \$1050. Remodeled 2- bedroom, 1- bath apartment. Off-street parking. No pets. Near trolley/ USD. Available immediately. Credit check. 619-325-9108, 619-260-9062.

**CARLSBAD** \$795. Small studio cottage in village. Complete separate kitchen/bath. Approximately 400 square feet. Funky with uneven floors. Parking. No pets. Lease. 760-505-7736.

**CARLSBAD** \$925. 1 bedroom. Small complex with off-street parking. Remodeled. Laundry. Quiet street. No pets. 3366 Roosevelt Street. Agent, 760-434-7721.

**CARLSBAD** Beautiful 1 and 2 bedrooms, some with fantastic views! Pool, community laundry. Gated parking. Barbecue areas. Spacious floorplans. Walk to the beach! No pets. 2303 Ocean Street. Agent 760-434-7721.

**CARLSBAD.** \$1325. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, parking included, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, balcony, fireplace, 850 square feet. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**CARLSBAD.** \$1375. 2 bedroom, 1- 1/2 bath townhouse- style apartment with large patio. 3 blocks to beach. Secluded garden complex. 2 parking spaces. No pets. 360-3 Chinquapin Avenue. TPPM 760-729-8132.

**CARLSBAD.** \$1700. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Fireplace, garage, all appliances, some ocean view. Community pool/spa. 901C Caminito Madrigal. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

**CARLSBAD/LA COSTA.** \$1495. **\$1299 moves you in! Prestigious 2 bedroom, 2 bath with all the amenities in regal development above La Costa Golf Course. Fireplace, washer/dryer, air conditioning, pool/spa/sauna. Alicante Views. Open daily. 2391 Caringa Way, TPPM, 760-431-7575. www.alicantevIEWS.com.**

**CARLSBAD/LA COSTA.** \$1650. **\$1299 moves you in! Prestigious 3 bedroom, 2 bath with all the amenities in regal development above La Costa Golf Course. Fireplace, washer/dryer, air conditioning, pool/spa/sauna. Alicante Views. Open daily. 2391 Caringa Way, TPPM, 760-431-7575. www.alicantevIEWS.com.**

**CHULA VISTA.** Eastshore Terrace. \$1500. Upgraded 2 master bedroom unit. Huge walk-

in closets, air conditioning, washer/dryer. Vaulted ceilings, balcony, community pool/ spa. Lake facilities/clubhouse available. Detached garage. www.utopiamanagement.com, 858-598-1111 x193.

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**CHULA VISTA.** \$1090. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Spacious unit in small complex. Amenities. Walk-in closet. Covered parking. Gated community. Near all. 363 Moss Street. Manager, 619-426-7476.

**CHULA VISTA.** \$775/month. Low \$150 deposit. 1 bedroom, fully furnished. 2 blocks from Chula Vista Center and trolley. Off- street parking. Laundry room. 521 Park Way. Office open daily (near Fifth and G). 619-420-5084.

**CHULA VISTA.** \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. All Utilities Included. Clean. Quiet. Secure. New paint/carpet. A must see! Laundry and pool on site. 540 Flower Street. Best deal in South Bay. If you can find a better deal "rent it!" Call Krista, 619-425-5451 or Rachael, 619-804-1044.

**CHULA VISTA.** 1 bedroom apartments, \$720-\$750. Deposit \$500. All utilities included. Pool, off- street parking. Laundry facilities. Call Park Regency Apartments, 619-422-0792.

**CHULA VISTA.** 1 bedroom, upstairs, \$850. 2 bedroom with move- in special: \$1150. Utilities included. New carpet/ paint/vinyl. 2 bedrooms also available (downstairs/upstairs). Jacuzzi, pool, laundry on site. Lots of storage space. Assigned gated parking. Near all. 212 Palomar. No pets. Call 619-426-1381 or apply at www.melroyproperties.com.

**CHULA VISTA.** Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Gated, central air/heat, dishwasher, patios, laundry, off-street parking. No pets. \$1150. Deposit \$800. 619-425-6511.

**CHULA VISTA/EASTLAKE.** \$1595. Upgraded unit, newer appliances. Air conditioning, fireplace, washer/dryer. Large balcony. Walk-in closet. Community pool/ spa. Walk to lake, parks, restaurants and more. www.utopiamanagement.com, 858-598-1111 x193.

**CITY HEIGHTS** \$550/\$650. Studio and 1 bedroom. Senior complex, 62+, gated complex, laundry on site, wheelchair access, elevator. 4226 41st Street #16. 619-280-3083; 619-640-7530. www.sdforrent.com.

**CITY HEIGHTS** \$795. 1 bedroom. Gated. Laundry. Parking. No pets. Available now. 4153 42nd Street, #7. Agent, 858-514-8201.

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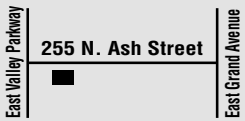
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**CITY HEIGHTS.** \$1095 rent, \$800 deposit. Large 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse style condo. Parking. Laundry. No pets. At 4243 #A or 4245 #B 47th Street. Agent, 619-299-8515.

**CITY HEIGHTS.** \$750. 4265 Chamoune Avenue across KFC. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Carpet, downstairs. Central air conditioning, heating. Laundry room. Plenty of parking not assigned. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

**CLAIREMONT** \$1165 plus deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Fresh paint, new carpet. Gated entry. Indoor kitten OK. Wood burning fireplace, icemaker. Laundry room. Call 858-337-8054 or 858-206-2566.

**CLAIREMONT.** \$1265. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. One-car garage. No pets. 2 parking. Carpet. New paint. Clean. Fenced yard/porch. 4416 Clairemont Drive. Juno, 619-275-3455.

**CLAIREMONT.** \$2250. Large 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome. Located on canyon in the desirable Fox Run Trails. Two car garage. Private patio. Dishwasher, microwave. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

**CLAIREMONT.** \$300 off first month's rent. \$875. 1 bedroom. Pool. Laundry. Off-street parking. 7322 Mesa College Drive. 858-560-6204.

**CLAIREMONT.** 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$995. With parking. Pool on site. Laundry. On very nice, quiet street. 5150 Balboa Arms Drive. Call Tia, 858-571-0104, kandrproperties.com.

**CLAIREMONT.** 1/2 off first month's rent! \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. 1 parking space. Upper unit. Swimming pool. Jacuzzi. Mount Alifan Place. Great setting. Call agent, 619-692-4121.

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**CLAIREMONT.** Move-in special! From \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Large, sunny townhomes. Pool. Parking. No pets. The Gardens, 5544 Balboa Arms Drive. Call 858-278-5862.

**CLAIREMONT/KEARNY MESA.** Wexford Manor. Large 1 and 2 bedrooms in beautiful complex with pool, spa, laundry, air conditioning, dishwasher. Sorry, no pets. \$995-\$1375. Photos at www.wexfordliving.com. 7870 Stalmer Street. 858-277-4843.

**COLLEGE** \$695. Studio, all utilities paid, laundry and parking. 7232 El Cajon Boulevard #4. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

**COLLEGE AREA** \$675. Large 1 bedroom apartment in quiet building. Assigned parking. Beautiful patio. No pets. Good credit required. 4444 49th Street, north of El Cajon Boulevard. 858-278-6135; 619-948-8038.

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**COLLEGE AREA.** \$650 rent, \$700 deposit OAC. 1 bedroom. New carpet. Parking. laundry. No pets, at 6735 El Cajon Boulevard #A-3. 619-299-8515.

**COLLEGE AREA.** \$1250. 2 bedroom. Fireplace. Central heat/air. Microwave, dishwasher. Balcony. Gated. Intercom entry. 4828 Art Street. Agent, 619-298-7724.

**COLLEGE AREA.** \$750. 1 bedroom 1 bath apartment, parking included, on-site laundry, air conditioner, 500sf, paid wa-

ter/trash. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**COLLEGE AREA.** \$1195-\$1395. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condos. Hardwood floor. New carpet/tile. Balcony/patio. Gas stove, microwave. Central air/heat. Dishwasher. Washer/dryer hookups. Gated. 2 miles to SDSU. Near all/golf course. Pets upon approval. 5170 Orange Avenue, 92115. 619-285-3822.

**COLLEGE AREA.** \$775-795. 1 bedrooms. Near shops. Laundry room. No pets. 6769 El Cajon Boulevard. Apartments in rear courtyard. 619-464-0901.

**COLLEGE AREA.** \$850/month includes utilities, cable, Internet. Remodeled studio. Separate cottage behind house. Porch. Laundry. Yard. 350 square feet. Cat OK. 6172 Mary Lane Drive. 619-871-6909.

**COLLEGE AREA.** \$895. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, cat OK, 1-car parking, pool, near transportation/freeways, paid water/trash. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**COLLEGE AREA.** \$950. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Appliances, carpet, blinds, off-street parking, laundry on site. Trash/water included. 4205 49th Street. 619-564-8764.

**COLLEGE AREA.** Upper 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, 5540 Lindo Paseo #11, \$1690 month to month. Marble counters, tandem parking, steps from SDSU. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

**COLLEGE AREA/SAN DIEGO.** \$950 with lease. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Remodeled. Paint, carpet, clean, secure, "Ready now." Laundry on site. See it now, it won't last. If you can find one better, rent it! 7240 El Cajon Boulevard. To view, Rachael, 619-804-1044, 619-713-1044.

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**HILLCREST.** \$300 off first month! \$2295. 2- bedroom, 2- bath new condo! Spectacular city views from your private balcony. Fully equipped stainless steel kitchen. Fitness center. Pool/spa and more! 3687 Fourth Avenue. 619-793-4010. www.rasnyder.com.

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**HILLCREST.** \$850. 3820 Georgia Street between Robinson and University Avenue. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet. New blinds. 4 closets. Large kitchen, pantry. Downstairs, laundry room. One assigned parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

**HILLCREST.** \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Charming cottage. Stove, refrigerator. Coin laundry. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 12/10/08. 3933 Centre Street. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

**HILLCREST.** \$900. Deposit \$900. Spacious 2 bedroom upper. Small cozy complex. Laundry. No pets. Available now. Close to Henry's. 4115-1/2 Park Boulevard. Agent, 619-298-7724.

**HILLCREST.** \$975. Studio, 1 bath apartment, hardwood floors, kitchen featuring stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, new cabinetry. Fee. Free Search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**HILLCREST.** 1/2 off first month! \$795. Spacious studio. Hardwood floors. Full kitchen and bath. Dressing room. Laundry. Cat OK. Near downtown. 2263 4th avenue. Agent, 619-300-9487.

**HILLCREST.** 1/2 off first month. \$875. Large studio, beautiful hardwood floors, new vinyl and paint, full kitchen and bath, laundry. Near downtown. Pet negotiable. 2311 4th Avenue #23. 619-804-2654.

**HILLCREST.** 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhome, \$2450. Half off first month's rent! Garage, 3 levels plus rooftop deck, view, 1103 square feet, marble counters, stainless steel appliances. 4374 Cleveland Avenue. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

**HILLCREST.** Hillcrest Palms. Senior complex, 55+, \$900. 1 bedroom apartments. Gated community. Convenient location. Near hospitals, restaurants, shopping. No pets. 4042 Albatross Street. 619-574-0784.

**HILLCREST.** Move-in special: First month's rent moves you in! Starting at \$1395. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Dual master bedrooms. Great for roommates. Central air conditioning. Balcony. Dishwasher. Upgraded. Clean and bright. Assigned parking. Controlled access. Elevator. Upper floor. Ready for move-in. 4043 First Avenue. Call for an appointment, 858-571-1970. sunriseliving.com.

**HILLCREST.** Spacious 1 and 2 bedrooms! Berber carpet, fireplace, spa, gym, intercom and elevator. Sorry, no pets. Hillcrest Summit, 4134 4th Avenue. See photos at www.wexfordliving.com. 619-299-0047.

**HILLCREST/BANKER'S HILL.** \$1000. 1 bedroom. Large downstairs. Stove, refrigerator. Nice, shared courtyard. Coin laundry. Entry system. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 1/10/09. 3502 First Avenue. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

**HISTORICAL MANOR UNIQUE URBAN MINI LOFTS** Downtown/Gaslamp. Historic Beaumanor, urban mini lofts, \$675-\$875. Several sizes, 12' ceilings, brick, hardwood floors, near Horton Plaza. Hardwood furniture available. Paid cable/electric/water. Most include sleeping decks. Refrigerator/microwave included. High-speed Internet available. On-site laundry, barbecue deck, outdoor kitchen. Impeccable renovation. No pets. 927 6th Avenue. Michael, 619-232-1517. beaumanor927@yahoo.com. http://www.sdreader.com/news/rent1217.

**IMPERIAL BEACH.** Starting at \$785. 1 bedroom in well-maintained garden setting. Pool. Parking. Laundry. No pets. 1445 Grove Avenue. TPPM, 619-575-0778.

**KEARNY MESA.** 1 bedroom plus office, small patio, living/dining room area, newly painted lower condo unit. On-site laundry, clubhouse, pool. \$995/month. Pet OK. 858-549-8994.

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## SLOW WAVE



**KENSINGTON** \$1785. 3 master bedrooms, 3 bath, large townhouse. 2-car garage/2carports. Washer/dryer hookups. Fireplace. No dog. Available mid-January. 4458 Marlborough Avenue, #A. 619-286-3939.

**KENSINGTON** \$895. 1 bedroom, downstairs, remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, coin laundry. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. In the heart of Kensington on a quiet, tree-lined street. Available now. 4182 Madison, 858-270-2071, Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

**LA COSTA/CARLSBAD.** First month free with 12 month lease. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. \$700 deposit. Quiet. Vaulted ceiling. Assigned covered parking. Indoor cat OK. 7552 Gibraltar Street. Hot tub. On-site laundry. Great neighborhood. Off La Costa Avenue, near golf course. 760-940-7590. 760-402-8325.

**LA JOLLA** Move-in specials! Studios starting at \$1109. 1/2 block to beach, surf and sunsets! Laundry, pool, tropical setting and assigned parking available. No pets. 858-536-1900.

**LA JOLLA VILLAGE** \$1050. Charming European-style 1 bedroom. Pool, community laundry, elevator. Walk to The Cove, dining and business district. No pets. 858-459-8254.

**LA JOLLA VILLAGE.** Stunning oceanfront 180-degree views! Best location! \$1850, 1 bedroom apartment. Hardwood floors, multiple decks, sunsets, gardens, barbecues. Furnished/unfurnished. Utilities/cable/Internet optional. Laundry. Terms negotiable. 616 Prospect Street, In Eden. 858-869-5746.

**LA JOLLA-UTC.** \$1200. 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, hardwood/carpet floors, 1-car parking, refrigerator, stove, microwave, paid water. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333..

**LA JOLLA-UTC.** \$1540. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, pet OK with deposit, 2-car parking, pool, balcony, patio, views. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**LA JOLLA.** \$1575. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs. Remodeled. Stove, refrigerator. Dishwasher. Microwave. Coin laundry. Garage. No pets. Available now. 6231 La Jolla Boulevard. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

**LA JOLLA.** \$1750. **Holiday special- 1/2 off first month's rent! Newer, sunny 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Steps to WindanSea. Corner unit in beautiful and peaceful 6-unit complex. No pets. Lease. 330 Rosemont. TPPM, 858-699-3851.**

**LA JOLLA.** \$1795. 2 bedroom, 2 bath in Bird Rock area. One level ground floor. New paint, new carpet. Patio. Pool. Laundry in complex. Parking space. Quiet complex. No pets. Nonsmoking. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

**LA JOLLA.** \$1950/month. Upgraded 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Granite counters. 2 parking spaces. All appliances. Close to UCSD. Fresh paint. Available immediately. Small pets OK. 3137 Via Alicante. Alta Vista Properties, 858-274-3600. www.altavistamanagement.com.

**LA JOLLA.** \$500 off first month's rent! \$1495. 2 bedroom apartment. New carpet. Balcony. Laundry. Walk to UCSD, shops. 8849 Villa La Jolla Drive #11. Agent, 858-457-4509.

**LA JOLLA.** 1 bedroom condo, \$2400. Views to the ocean. Gorgeous building and unit. Highly upgraded. Balcony. Stainless steel appliances. Granite counters. Lovely hardwood floors. No pets. Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

**LA JOLLA/BIRD ROCK,** \$995. 1 bedroom. Small, charming upstairs. Stove, refrigerator. Coin laundry. Nice shared courtyard. Great location. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 1/20/09. 415 Colima. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

**LA JOLLA/UTC** \$1450. Townhouse, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, garage, coin operated laundry, water paid. New decor, stove, dishwasher. Pool. No pets. Nonsmoking. Available now. 760-434-5849.

**LA JOLLA/UTC.** \$1000. Studio. Granite counters, newer appliances, covered parking. Location, location. If you can find one better, rent it! 3136 Alicante #C. Call Rachel to view, 619-804-1044.

**LA JOLLA/WIND'N SEA.** \$1575. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large, remodeled, downstairs. Stove, refrigerator. Dishwasher. Microwave. Private patio. Coin laundry. No pets. Parking. Available 1/20/09. 6229 La Jolla Boulevard. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

**LA MESA** \$1200. Move in now! 2- bedroom, 2- bath, 1100+ square-foot apartment with large kitchen, dining area, pool, laundry and parking. No pets. 8600 Lemon Avenue, #4 and #14. Call Leigh at 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

**LA MESA** \$950. Classic 1950s 1 bedroom apartment. Located in the heart of the village of La Mesa is this charming apartment. Refinished hardwood floors and kitchen cabinets. Current upgrades to the unit include new paint in designer colors, new windows, blinds, all new door hardware and updated light fixtures including ceiling fan in bedroom. Gas range with a new refrigerator. This is a corner unit with lots of light. Property has on-site laundry and is close to many shops and restaurants. Sorry, no pets allowed. Available now. \$500 security deposit. Credit check required. 8447 La Mesa Boulevard at University. Please call between 9am and 5pm. Call Scott at 619-846-6615. scott@hendershawandassociates.com.

**LA MESA** Huge apartment homes in great La Mesa neighborhood. Storage space. Near shopping and public transportation. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$925. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1275-\$1395. 2 bedroom townhouse, \$1295. Community pool, laundry, covered parking. 619-697-3285. For photo, floor plans, map and directions, see website: www.sdreader.com/news/rent1035.

## SERVICES

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**LA MESA/CASA DE ORO.** 1 bedroom, \$945-\$995. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1145-\$1195. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1395-\$1445. Air/heat. Huge patios/balconies. Gated access and parking. Small pets OK. Elegant, sculptured courtyards with flower gardens, fountains, gas lamps, park benches. Charming. New Orleans ambiance. 3903 Conrad Drive. 866-894-6343. www.sdreader.com/news/rent/1017.

**LA MESA/COLLEGE AREA.** \$950 with lease. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Clean, quiet, secure. Laundry on site with new carpet, paint. Completely remodeled! If you can find one better, rent it. 7240 El Cajon Boulevard. Call Rachael 619-804-1044, 619-713-1044.

**LA MESA/FLETCHER PARKWAY. \$1200 moves you in! Super starting at \$945.** Open house Saturday, 8am-5pm. Award winning community for beautiful landscaping. Pool and spa. Great location. No pets. 5500 Morro Way. TPPM, 619-466-8444 or 619-884-7900. www.villageaptslamesa.com.

**LEMON GROVE** Outstanding location near shopping and trolley! 2 bedroom, \$1050/month. 1 bedroom, \$800/month. Good credit required. No pets. No Section 8. Leave message. 619-252-5175.

**LEMON GROVE.** \$1095. 1 bedroom, 1 bath house, fully furnished, laundry, yard, patio. Utilities/cable included. Temporary 6 month rental. Nonsmoking. No pets. Parking. Deposit \$1000. 858-354-5051.

**LEMON GROVE.** \$1245 rent. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 2 parking spaces. Washer/dryer hook-ups. 7165 Central Avenue. Call Myra 619-697-8458.

**LEMON GROVE/NORTH.** \$950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Clean, quiet, secure. On-site laundry and parking. Call Rachael at 619-804-10445 or Jeff at 619-713-1044.

**LEUCADIA.** \$2100. Funky 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. Laundry. Off-street parking. Fireplace. Family room. No pets. 918 Hermes Avenue. Available now. 760-947-7857. 760-822-8045.

**LINDA VISTA** 2 Bedroom, 1 bath apartment, \$895. New paint, laundry and parking.

ing. Move-in special! 6512 Kelly Street, #4. Agent, 619-820-2584.

**LINDA VISTA** 2 bedrooms, 1 bath townhouse, \$1095. Deposit \$900. Assigned parking, hardwood floors. No pets, please. Office at 7025 Eastman Street. Call 619-249-9585.

**LINDA VISTA.** \$695-\$1250. Studios, utilities included. 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms. Laundry, gated parking. \$400-\$800 deposits! No pets. Astro Vista Apartments, 2249 Ulric Street. 858-565-6400.

**LINDA VISTA.** 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo, \$2100. 2 story, near USD, washer/dryer, 1-car garage, 1221 square feet, balcony. 6283 Caminito Luisito. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

**MIRA MESA** \$1600. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo at luxurious Monarch Scripps Ranch. Fireplace, washer/dryer, garage, gated. 10832 Scripps Ranch Boulevard, #303. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

**MIRA MESA** Condo \$1595. Very cute! 2 bedroom, 2 bath plus loft. New paint. Washer/dryer in unit. Pool, Jacuzzi, and clubhouse access. Parking. 11595 Caminito La Bar. Call agent, 619-820-2584.

**MIRA MESA** Condo, \$1450. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, fireplace, washer/dryer, carport, pool. 10828 Aderman Avenue, #135. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

**MIRA MESA.** \$925. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upper, walk-in closet, air conditioning, appliances, laundry, parking. Call OK. 8777 Mira Mesa Blvd #5. 619-804-3325.

**MIRAMAR.** 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo, \$1950. Washer/dryer, 2-car garage, community pool/spa, 1080 square feet, fireplace. 10124 Wateridge Circle #11. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

**MISSION BAY** \$1100. Steps to bay. Renovated 1 bedroom mobile home, California room, deck, 2 sheds. Washer/dryer. Air, pool, Jacuzzi, 2 parking. No pets. 858-581-9151.

**MISSION BAY/BAY PARK.** Studios starting at \$795. **\$995 moves you in! Spacious studio in fantastic location. Bay view. Controlled access. Laundry. 2821 Morena Boulevard. TPPM, 619-275-1352.**

**MISSION BEACH** Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, new carpet, \$1750/month. Steps to ocean! Laundry facilities, parking. Near shopping. Available now till 6/15/09. Water/trash paid. Call 619-234-7572.

**MISSION BEACH, SOUTH.** \$1550. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Stove, refrigerator. New carpet. Close to beach and bay. Cat OK with \$300 deposit. No Parking. Available 1/1/09. 725 Ensenada Court. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com

**MISSION BEACH, SOUTH.** \$995. 1 bedroom. Stove, refrigerator. Close to beach and bay. Cat OK with \$300 deposit. No parking. Available 1/20/09. 731 Ensenada Court. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

**MISSION BEACH.** \$1795. Modern 2-bedroom, 2-bath apartment. Steps to Bay. Garage. Dishwasher, microwave, washer/dryer. 833 Santa Barbara Place. Shore Management, 858-274-3500

**MISSION BEACH.** \$1150. 2 bedroom 1 bath condo with granite counters. Stainless steel appliances, laundry in unit, parking, pool. One-year lease desired. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

**MISSION BEACH.** \$1395. Upstairs 1 bedroom 1 bath. Parking. Steps to beach. No pets. No smoking. 807 Venice Court. Available now. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

**MISSION BEACH.** \$1595. Spacious, large 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom. Block to beach. Parking. Fantastic bargain! Large patio. No pets. Available. 809 Island Court. 858-459-7391.

**MISSION BEACH.** \$1875. Classic 2 bedroom. Ocean view. Steps to beach. Hardwood floors. Parking. All appliances. Laundry facility. 712 Santa Rita Place. Owner, 858-272-9547.

**MISSION BEACH.** Move-in special! On the boardwalk! Newly renovated large 2 bedroom, 2 bath units. Luxury units for rent. Granite, stainless steel appliances. Travertine tile. Everything new! Private balconies, new pool, security building/parking. 3790 Riviera Drive. \$2750. Manager at 619-247-2114.

**MISSION HILLS** \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. \$300 off first month's rent. Patio view, laundry, parking, cat OK. 801 Torrance. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

**MISSION HILLS.** \$1200/up. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Laundry. Parking. Pets OK. La Paloma Apartments. Open daily, 1-5pm. 3911 Dove. 619-297-1134.

**MISSION HILLS.** \$1500. Large 1 bedroom penthouse with views! New carpet. Fireplace. Large patio. Full kitchen, sunken Jacuzzi tub/shower. Located in Spruce Canyon. 6-month lease. Available 1/05/09. 3350 Horton Avenue. Drive by and view by appointment, Agent Paula Keenan, 619-870-8915.

**MISSION VALLEY** \$1375. Spacious, 2-bedroom, 1-bath condo. Newly renovated. Microwave. Air conditioning, ceiling fans, pool, spa, laundry facilities. Security. Parking. Near trolley/SDSU. Nonsmoking. Deposit. Lease. 619-584-1835.

**MISSION VALLEY** \$1450. Condo. Resort living, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 level. Refrigerator, washer/dryer. Community pool/gym/business center. Pet on approval. Agent 858-456-3211.[]

**MISSION VALLEY.** \$1050. Large 1 bedroom condo. Scraped ceilings. New carpet. New paint. 2 parking spots. Pool. Jacuzzi. On-site laundry. Free basic cable. Mission Center Court. Agent, 619-692-4121.

**MISSION VALLEY.** \$1060. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, parking included, fitness center, fireplace. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**MISSION VALLEY.** \$1350. 2 bedroom, 2 baths condo (dual masters), 1-car parking, pool, balcony, central air/heat, small storage. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

**MISSION VALLEY.** \$1595. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condominium. Designer paint colors. Upgraded carpets and tile. Fireplace. Nine foot ceilings, air conditioning. Washer/dryer, gym, spa, pool, view! 2 parking spaces. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

**MISSION VALLEY.** \$780. Large studio, new carpet/appliances, walk-in closet. Gated community, pools, Jacuzzi, laundry. 619-300-7254.

**MISSION VALLEY.** \$850. Large studio. Patio. Pool. On-site laundry. 1 parking space. Free basic cable. No pets. Mission Center Court, Agent, 619-692-4121.

**MISSION VALLEY.** \$895. Furnished large studio condo. No pets. Parking. Nonsmoking. Air conditioning. Carpet. Balcony. Pool/gym. 1605 Hotel Circle South, #B202. Juno. 619-275-3455.

**MISSION VALLEY.** 2 bedroom condo. \$1250. Available January 15. Pool, parking, all amenities. Convenient location. 619-298-7220.

**MISSION VALLEY.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1150/month. Walk to Qualcomm Stadium. Pool, jacuzzi, sauna. Game room. Covered parking. Available. 1st floor with front deck. 858-278-0506.

**MISSION VALLEY.** Escala. View, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome. Like brand new: paint/carpet. Perfect condition. 2-car garage. Patio. Air. Appliances. Washer/dryer. \$2499. 619-261-5906.

**MISSION VALLEY.** Winter Special! From \$350/weekly. Renovated, fully furnished studios/suites! Pool, spa. Full kitchen. On-site laundry. Complimentary continental breakfast. Off-street parking. Free high speed Internet, cable- 80 channels, HBO. Near SDSU, Qualcomm, more! Days Inn & Suites, 5343 Adobe Falls Road. 1-800-492-9471. 619-287-1911. SanDiegoHotelsDaysInn.com. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2139.

**MISSION VALLEY/TALMADGE/KENSINGTON.** \$200 off Look and Lease special! 1 bedrooms from \$1125. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths from \$1420. Gated community! Pool, spa. Free WiFi access. Outdoor billiards, barbecue lounge. Fitness center. Computer lab with printer. Laundry center with flat screen TVs! Parking. Pet friendly! Mission Pacific Apartments, 4454 44th Street. Call today, 1-800-372-9146. missionpacific.pacificliving@crossfiremail.com. www.pacificliving.com. www.sdreader.com/news/rent1010.

**MISSION VALLEY/USD** 2 bedroom. Move-in special! \$1600 (includes water). New appliances. Remodel, washer/dryer, panoramic views, 2-parking, hardwoods, patio/jacuzzi. Pets OK. Available. 858-353-6878.

**MISSION VALLEY/USD** Large 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 2-story townhouse, private patio, new paint. Laundry on site, storage, assigned parking. No pets. \$1325/month with move-in special. Available now. 1280 Goshen Street, #4. 858-483-5111 x10. www.melroyproperties.com.

**MISSION VALLEY/USD.** Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 1200 square feet, washer/dryer, air conditioning, fireplace, 2-car parking, pool, spa, gym. \$1795 plus deposit. Water included. 619-890-1697.

**MOUNT HELIX/CASA DE ORO.** Move-in special! OAC \$1125. 2 bedroom. \$1350. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Spacious. Laundry. Garages. Balconies. Pool. Military accepted. Espanol. 619-857-0365.

**MOUNTAIN VIEW** \$1750. 4 bedroom, 2 bath upstairs apartment. Gated complex. Laundry on site. Off-street parking. No pets. 3712 Hemlock Street #1. 619-640-7530. www.sdforrent.com

**NATIONAL CITY.** Great location! 1 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse. \$905-\$1225. Balcony. Washer/dryer hookups. Views. Parking. Garages. Lease. No pets. 940 Palm Avenue. 619-336-0436.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS** 1 bedroom apartment, \$775. All new carpet, paint, vertical blinds! Don't miss it! No pets. \$456 Boundary Street. Agent, 619-820-2584.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS** 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Hardwood floors. Yard. Cats ok, no dogs. 3343 North Mountain View Drive. \$1390. Open House Sunday, 1/4/09, noon-3pm. 760-815-5978.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS** Senior/disabled building (62+) Quiet, clean. Two 1 bedroom, 1 baths, first floor. Small patio, elevator, laundry room. Street parking. \$765/month. 619-269-3487.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$795 rent. \$800 deposit. OAC. Large upper 1 bedroom. Laundry. Near I-15. No pets. At 4742 Eash Mountain View Drive, #6 (North of Adams). Agent, 619-299-8515.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** 4334 Texas Street #3. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$200 off first month, \$825, \$800 deposit, OAC. Downstairs. Stove, refrigerator. On-site laundry. No pets. Close to all. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$1025. Lovely 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs. Gated. Laundry on site. No pets. Parking. Available now. 4678 Ohio Street. Agent, 619-298-7724.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$720 rent. Studio apartment. Street parking. Nice, quiet neighborhood in Normal Heights. Available January 2009. 3237 Collier Avenue. Call Mike 858-490-1600.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$795, extra large studio, full size kitchen and bath, Murphy bed, built-ins, on-site laundry, near all! 4733 Utah Street #3. 619-804-3325.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$900. 1 bedroom downstairs unit. Laundry. Parking. Available now. No pets. 4429 Idaho Street #2. Agent, 858-514-8201.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$975. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs unit. Gated complex. Laundry. Available now. 4580 39th Street #4584. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** 2 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. 2 parking spaces. Water/trash included. 4664 36th Street, #A. \$1150/month, \$1150/deposit. Small pets considered. 619-723-8479; jen@sgr.com.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** 4655 33rd Street #6 & #8. 2 units available. \$200 off first month, \$800, \$600 deposit. OAC. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Refrigerator, stove. Laundry. Parking. Close to everything. No pets. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** 4669 Iowa Street #8 & #7. 2 units available. \$200 off first month. \$775. \$600 deposit. OAC. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs. Parking. Laundry. Close to everything, great location. No pets. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

**NORTH PARK** \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Senior complex 55+, gated complex, laundry on site, bus stop in front of complex, and all amenities. 3776 Alabama Street #C115. 619-640-7530. www.sdforrent.com.

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**NORTH PARK.** \$1025. Darling 1 bedroom cottage. New appliances, dishwasher. New cabinets. Hardwood floors. Yard and laundry hookups. No pets. Parking. 1902 Howard Avenue. 619-298-7724.

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**NORTH PARK.** \$1695. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Extra storage. Remodeled Ikea kitchen. 3791 Arnold Avenue. Xlarent.com. 619-683-7638.

**NORTH PARK.** \$725 rent, \$700 deposit. OAC. 1 bedroom duplex. Parking. No pets, at 3029 or 3039-1/2 Monroe Avenue. 619-299-8515.

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**NORTH PARK.** \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs apartment with parking and laundry. No pets. 4146 Swift Street #6. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or [www.sunsetpacificrealty.com](http://www.sunsetpacificrealty.com).

**NORTH PARK.** \$775. 4359 Alabama Street between Meade and El Cajon Boulevard. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Carpet. Downstairs. Laundry room. One assigned parking. No pets. Phillips Realty. 619-291-6686.

**NORTH PARK.** \$795. Large 1 bedroom upstairs, new carpet, paint, appliances, blinds, wall-to-wall closet. Gated complex. Parking. Laundry. No pets. 4354 Utah Street. 619-994-1672.

**NORTH PARK.** \$825. 1 bedroom. Spacious 2 bedrooms, \$1050. Quiet complex. Gated. Parking. Laundry. Easy freeway access. 1 year lease. No pets. 4837-43-1/2 Kansas Street. 619-303-4969.

**NORTH PARK.** \$850. 1 bedroom. Very large downstairs. Stove, refrigerator, air conditioned. Coin laundry. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 1/1/09. 4152 Utah. 856-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. [www.delsolpm.com](http://www.delsolpm.com).

**NORTH PARK.** \$875. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, gated, new flooring, stove, fridge, laundry, parking. Small pet negotiable. Near all 4036 Oregon #4. 619-804-3325.

**NORTH PARK.** \$975 rent. \$800 deposit. OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Laundry. Parking space. No pets. At 4222 Alabama Street #18. Agent, 619-299-8515.

**NORTH PARK.** 1 bedroom apartment. \$1125, utilities paid. Bamboo floors, garage, on-site laundry, 6-unit complex. 619-588-4106, 619-300-1365.

**NORTH PARK.** 1 bedroom, 1 bath, downstairs. New paint, good storage, off-street parking. 3662 32nd Street. #2. \$975. 619-683-9274.

**NORTH PARK.** 1/2 off first month! \$1050. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, laundry, parking. Near all. Cat OK. 4185 Texas Street #9. 619-804-3325.

**NORTH PARK.** 1/2 off first month! \$1495. Large upper 2- bedroom, 1- bath duplex. Garage. Appliances including washer and dryer. Deck. Near all. Pet negotiable. 4005 Kansas Street. 619-804-3325.

**NORTH PARK.** 1/2 off first month. \$1650. 2 story. 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom. Parking. Wood floors. Granite. Stainless steel. Appliances. Washer and dryer. Patio. Pets negotiable. 3376 Grim Avenue #4. 619-804-3325.

**NORTH PARK.** 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1175-\$1225. Fireplace, dishwasher, laundry on site, patio balcony, underground gated parking. Lots of storage space. 2 cats OK. 619-241-2596.

**NORTH PARK.** Large 1 bedroom, upstairs. Quiet. Newly remodeled. Gated community. Pool, lots of natural light. No pets. \$895/

month. 3051 Meade Avenue, #17. Call 858-483-5111 x10. [www.melroyproperties.com](http://www.melroyproperties.com).

**NORTH PARK.** Move-in special! 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex, hardwood floors, parking. No pets. No smoking. Available now. 4234 Wilson Avenue, 92104. \$1325. 619-980-6076.

**NORTH PARK/CITY HEIGHTS.** \$845. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs corner apartment. 1 car garage. Pets OK. 3848 36th Street. Xilarent.com. 619-683-7638.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1275. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 1/2 block to beach. Downstairs. On-site laundry. Carpets. No pets. 4850 Orchard Avenue, #4. 619-222-6427.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$950. \$950 deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs. 1 car parking. On-site laundry. Refrigerator. Stove. No pets. 5076 Lotus Street. Available now. 619-226-7368 or [www.bkbinc.com](http://www.bkbinc.com).

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1015. 1 bedroom. Large upstairs end unit. Stove, refrigerator. Coin laundry. Parking. Stairs to ocean. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 1/18/09. 4853 Orchard. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. [www.delsolpm.com](http://www.delsolpm.com).

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1375. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, deck, on park, garage, parking, coin-laundry. No smoking. Pets? 4678 West Point Loma Boulevard. Available 1/5. 619-221-9047.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1375. 2 bedroom, 2 bath upstairs apartment. Blocks to beach. Laundry on site. No pets. 4965 Muir Avenue #4. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or [www.sunsetpacificrealty.com](http://www.sunsetpacificrealty.com).

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$1450/month, \$1000/deposit. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. All amenities. Off-street parking. Laundry facilities. No pets. 4825 Del Mar #18. 619-758-9565.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$745. Studio, mile from beach in quiet tropical setting. New carpet/paint. Laundry. Available immediately. 4166-68 Udall St #6. 619-222-9308.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$795. Block to beach! Clean, bright upper studio. Peek ocean. Full kitchen, bath. Many windows. Skylight, berber. Gas heat. Laundry. Parking. No pets. Non-smoking. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$850. Large upstairs studio 3 blocks to beach in South Ocean Beach. Laundry on site. No pets. 4852 Santa Cruz #10. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or [www.sunsetpacificrealty.com](http://www.sunsetpacificrealty.com).

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs apartment with laundry on site! No pets. 4154 Udall Street #2. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or [www.sunsetpacificrealty.com](http://www.sunsetpacificrealty.com).

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$950. \$950 deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Includes 1 car garage. Refrigerator, stove. No pets. Available now. 5016

Santa Monica Avenue. 619-226-7368 or [www.bkbinc.com](http://www.bkbinc.com).

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$950. \$950 deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Refrigerator. Stove. No pets. Available now. 5104 Muir Avenue. 619-226-7368 or [www.bkbinc.com](http://www.bkbinc.com).

**OCEAN BEACH.** \$960. Blocks to the beach! 1 bedroom. Clean. Parking. Laundry. No pets. Includes water/trash. Seacoast Apartments, 5030 Lotus. Call Doris, 619-204-1651. 619-224-0759.

**OCEAN BEACH.** 2 bedroom from \$1250. Enjoy comfortable year-round living at Ocean Breeze. Spacious apartments now available. This small, friendly complex is an ideal place to call home. Only 2 blocks from the beach. Sorry, no pets! 619-223-8186.

**OCEAN BEACH.** 4712 Point Loma Ave. Upstairs, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1400. \$1400 deposit. Parking, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher. Available 1/5/09. 619-226-7368 or [www.bkbinc.com](http://www.bkbinc.com).

**OCEAN BEACH.** 4851 Brighton Ave. #F comes with garage, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1000. \$500 deposit. Refrigerator, stove. No pets. 619-226-7368 or [www.bkbinc.com](http://www.bkbinc.com).

**OCEAN BEACH.** 4878 Saratoga Ave. #203 & #205. 2 units available. Upstairs. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1000. \$800 deposit OAC. Refrigerator, stove, no pets, parking. 619-226-7368 or [www.bkbinc.com](http://www.bkbinc.com).

**OCEAN BEACH.** 5035 Brighton avenue #6. \$950. Deposit \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath.

Laundry, Parking. No pets. 619-226-7368 or [www.bkbinc.com](http://www.bkbinc.com).

**OCEAN BEACH.** 5057 1/2 & 5059 1/2 Muir Avenue. 2 units available, both are 1 bedroom 1 bath. \$950. \$950 deposit. \$200 off 1st Month. Parking, stove, refrigerator. No pets. 619-226-7368 or [www.bkbinc.com](http://www.bkbinc.com).

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**OCEAN BEACH. Sunset Cliffs-steps away from your new home. 1 bedroom apartments at \$975. \$200 off first month's rent, free application. No application fee! Assigned parking. Cats welcome. Stove. Refrigerator. Laundry facilities. Sundeck with ocean view. 4925 Del mar Avenue. Call for appointment, 619-235-9018. [www.pacificliving.com](http://www.pacificliving.com).**

**OCEAN BEACH/WEST POINT LOMA.** \$1375. 2 bedroom, 2 bath in great building with views. Gated entrance and parking. Convenient location near Robb Field, beach and YMCA. No pets. 4457 Temecula at West Point Loma Boulevard. TPPM, 619-770-1959 or 858-335-6477.

**OCEAN BEACH.** Beautiful beachfront ocean view! Studio, \$995. 1 bedroom, \$1075-\$1200. 2 bedroom, \$1400-\$1600. Serene security garden buildings. Hardwood floors, ceramic tile, laundry. Garages available. Pets considered. For address and availability, call 619-224-1748. For applications, call 619-501-5553.

**OCEAN BEACH.** Large, newer stand-alone 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath apartment over garage, balcony view, dishwasher, laundry hookups. No smoking. Pet? 4688 Newport. \$1850. Available. 619-994-9088.

**OCEANSIDE** Large 1 and 2 bedrooms, \$995-\$1250, west of Interstate 5, just 8 blocks to beach, in vibrant downtown village. Beautiful remodeled units. 508 North Nevada Street. See photos at [www.wexfordliving.com](http://www.wexfordliving.com). 760-433-8810.

**OCEANSIDE.** \$1095. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, cat OK, 900 square feet, paid water/trash. Fee. Free search at [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com). 619-367-3333.

**OCEANSIDE.** \$800. Studio apartment, full bath/shower, on-site laundry, refrigerator, stove, balcony, patio, secured/covered parking, mile to beach. Fee. Free search

at [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com). 619-367-3333.

**OLD TOWN.** \$1200. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Kitchen. Front/back yard. Laundry/gas and electricity/water free. No pets. Nonsmoking. Available 1/09. 858-349-5993.

**OLD TOWN.** \$695-750. Low \$150 deposit. Fully furnished studios- alcoves on excellent hillside location. Free basic cable. 1616 Guy Street. 619-298-6242.

**OTAY MESA** \$1425. Condo, large 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, 2 story, wood floors, fireplace, new appliances, fixtures and tile. washer/dryer hookups, patio and garage. 3153 Caminito Quixote. 619-698-6911. [www.goldenmanagement.com](http://www.goldenmanagement.com).

**OTAY MESA.** \$2295. 1/2 off 1st! Spacious 4 bedroom, 3 bath. Completely renovated. Granite. New appliances. Garage. Washer and dryer hookups. Fenced yard. 3990 Darwin Avenue. 619-804-3325.

**OTAY MESA.** 3 bedroom, 3 bath condo, \$1750. Central air/heat, washer/dryer, fireplace, 2- car garage. 4467 Corona-Borrealis. People Helping Others Property Management. 619-282-5400. [peoplehelpingothers.com](http://peoplehelpingothers.com).

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# Typo Patrol Results

Issue of December 24, 2008

## T.G.I.F.

p.16 Marshal Field's *should be* Marshall Field's

## Restaurant Listings

p.100 Lightrnin' Jacks BBQ *should be* Lightrnin' Jack's BBQ

## Dining Review

p.93 Federico Fedellini *should be* Federico Fellini

**Karen Guarnotta (San Diego) \$30**

## T.G.I.F

p.16 "Throne *should be* Throne

p.16 Alan Drury *should be* Allen Drury

## Dining Review

p.92 ravioli di peri/ravioli de pere *should be* ravioli di pere

p.92 Bell peppers *should be* bell peppers

**Linda Cox \$40**

## My Life Aquatic

p.42 trooper *should be* trouper

## Tinsel on a Palm Tree

p.44 climactically *should be* climatically

p.44 lest...corrects me *should be* lest...correct me

## Puzzle results

p.128 nicknamed *should be* hyphenated at line break

**Armin Moths (San Diego) \$40**

## Tin Fork

p.94 cost \$18.50 *should be* costs \$18.50

p.86 Aunt Kizzy's Boyz *should be* Aunt Kizzy'z Boyz

**Barbara Akers (Escondido) \$20**

You must send in a copy of the printed error — either the actual page or a copy (including page number). Ads, blogs, user reviews, and letters to the editor exempt from consideration. Typo exceptions: errors in direct quotations, slang, colloquialisms, house/writer style idiosyncrasies. Reference sources: *The Chicago Manual of Style* (14th edition), any/all English-language dictionaries. Submissions accepted until Monday at 7 a.m. after the issue in question. Only one award per error — first identification of error wins \$10 or a Reader Typo Patrol T-shirt (indicate preference). Mail to: Typo Patrol, SD Reader, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186; or fax to 619-231-0489; or deliver to 1703 India Street in Little Italy (we have an after-hours mail slot).

**PACIFIC BEACH** \$1075/month. 1 bedroom. Spacious remodeled apartments. 6 months or 1 year lease. Parking. Pools. Laundry facilities. Cat OK. 3883 Jewell Street. Call Manager, 858-272-0068. For photos and floor plans, see [www.apartments.com/tuscanapartments](http://www.apartments.com/tuscanapartments).

**PACIFIC BEACH** \$1100. 1 bedroom, 1 bath unit, 630 square feet, parking, laundry on premises, patio, cable ready, security door. Near Crown Point. 858-270-1605; 619-224-8454.

**PACIFIC BEACH** \$1095. 2 bedroom 1 bath over garage. Stove, refrigerator. New carpet, easy freeway access. Ask about small dog with additional deposit. Available 12/10/08. 4554 Bond. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, [www.delsolpm.com](http://www.delsolpm.com)

**PACIFIC BEACH** \$1195 with move-in special! Large downstairs condo- quality, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Near bay. Newly remodeled unit with granite counters, limestone tub enclosure, built-in microwave, new paint, new carpet, crown molding, mirrored closet doors, lots of cabinet space, on-site laundry room, assigned parking. No pets. Available now. 2138 Thomas#2. Call 858-483-5111 x10. [www.melroyproperties.com](http://www.melroyproperties.com).

**PACIFIC BEACH** \$1600. 2 Bedroom, 2 bath, garage plus off- street parking. Great place! Near all. Refrigerator, dishwasher, range. Lots of storage. No pets. \$1600 deposit. Available now. 619-843-0384.

**PACIFIC BEACH** \$1795. 2 bedroom 1 bath duplex. Steps to surf. Located in small garden complex. No pets. 725 Chalcedony, TPPM. 858-699-3851.

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**PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH.** \$1475. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Large. Stove, refrigerator. Dishwasher. Parking. Available 12/10/08. 981 Loring Street. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. [www.delsolpm.com](http://www.delsolpm.com).

**PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1500-1650. \$1299 moves you in! 2 bedroom, 2 bath in beautiful North Pacific Beach property. Great amenities, parking, no pets. 1530 Chalcedony, TPPM, 858-270-5847.**

**PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH.** \$1595. Duplex. Newer, large upper/lower 2 bedroom. Immaculate, sunny. 1.5 blocks ocean. Dish-

washer, white tile. Patio. Parking. Laundry. Yard. 865-863 Missouri. 619-275-2610.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1200. Deposit \$1200. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 1- car garage. 2 private patios. Fireplace. 6 month lease. Available now. 1228 Grand Avenue #C. Alta Vista Properties, 858-274-3600. [www.altavistamanagement.com](http://www.altavistamanagement.com).

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1250. Upstairs 1-bedroom condo with parking. Super close to bay. Beautiful wood floors, new carpet/paint, laundry on site. Westbourne Realtors, 858-488-4800.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1445. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator. Garage with gas laundry hookups. Backyard. Dog OK with additional deposit upon approval. Available now. 2036 Diamond Street. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. [www.delsolpm.com](http://www.delsolpm.com).

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1445. Upper 2- bedroom apartment, 3 blocks to ocean. Garage, new paint. Excellent condition. Laundry facilities. 1064 Felspar Street. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1050. 1/2 off first month! Great location! Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath, new carpet and paint, gated, appliances, parking, laundry. Cat OK. 4751 Mission Boulevard #8. 619-804-3325.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1050. Great location! Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath, new carpet and paint, gated, appliances, parking, laundry. Cat OK. 4751 Mission Boulevard #8. 619-804-3325.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1095. Ground level, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, dishwasher, private laundry, parking, small storage, fenced yard. Pets negotiable. Easy freeway access. 619-200-5141.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1115. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs. Remodeled. Stove, refrigerator. Dishwasher. Microwave. Pool. Coin laundry. No Pets. Available now. 1433 Oliver Avenue. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. [www.delsolpm.com](http://www.delsolpm.com).

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1200. 1 bedroom, 1 bath luxury condo at The Plaza. Second floor. Carpet/paint. Lushly landscaped. Laundry. Microwave. Dishwasher. Pools. 2 parking. Tennis. Billiards. Health club. Sauna. 24-hour security. Available now. No pets. 1801 Diamond Street. 619-888-6604.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1200. 1 bedroom. Charming front unit in quiet fourplex. Stove, refrigerator. Wood floors. No pets. Available 1/25/09. 1138 Oliver. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. [www.delsolpm.com](http://www.delsolpm.com).

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1200/month, \$1000/deposit, 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage; small, private patio. Parking. Laundry. No pets. 4109-1/2 Ingraham Street. 858-270-4674.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1300-\$1650, 1 and 2 bedroom, 1 bath condos. Washer/dryer, stainless appliances, wood-burning fireplace, granite. Parking. 2123 Garnet Avenue. Call 858-274-1585. E-mail: [tamee@oceanpacificcompanies.com](mailto:tamee@oceanpacificcompanies.com).

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1325. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. Close to transportation and shopping. No pets. Available now. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1395. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, 3 blocks from ocean, small quiet complex, 2-car parking included. Fee. Free search at [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com). 619-367-3333.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1495. Steps to Bay. Upper 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. 2 parking spaces. Laundry facilities. Gas appliances. No pets. 3869 Riviera Drive. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1500. 2 bedroom apartment, close to beach/bay, spacious kitchen, private patio, generous closet space, storage shed. Fee. Free search at [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com). 619-367-3333.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1595. Move in ready! 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse. Garage. Parking. Fireplace. Patio. Laundry hookups. No dogs. 2122 Balboa. Cross street Noyes. 858-576-8292.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, second floor, 1100 square feet. Fireplace, balcony. Walk-in closets. Laundry. 2 parking spaces. No smoking/pets. 858-272-7616.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Large, remodeled. Upstairs. Stove, refrigerator. Dishwasher. Microwave. Coin laundry. Pool. Elevator. No pets. Available 1/25/09. 1433 Oliver. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. [www.delsolpm.com](http://www.delsolpm.com).

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1745. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1100 square feet, balcony, views, intercom entry, dishwasher. Lovely courtyard, heated pool, parking, laundry, close to everything. 858-272-4398.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1750. 2 bedroom, 1.5 townhouse. Close to Bay and ocean. Patio. Parking. Pool. Laundry in complex. No pets. One- year lease desired. Available January 1, 2009. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1750. 3- bedroom, 2-bath. About 1000 square feet. 6- month lease minimum. New windows and paint. Off- street parking. Large rear yard. Pet friendly. 1144 Reed Avenue. Available late November. Call Alta Vista Properties, 858-274-3600. [www.altavistamanagement.com](http://www.altavistamanagement.com).

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1995. 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse. New washer/dryer, dishwasher, 1- car garage plus space, balconies, fireplace. New carpet, new paint. No pets. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1995. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Close to the bay and ocean. Parking. Patio. No pets. One- year lease desired. Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1995. Bay and City view! 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Balcony. Custom paint colors. Tiled kitchen and bath floors. Laundry. Parking. 3991 Crown Point Drive. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$2200 rent. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Washer/dryer. Dishwasher. Parking. 1- year lease. 1749 Reed Avenue. Call 858-490-1600 or [kandroperties.com](http://kandroperties.com).

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$2200. 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, parking included, in-unit washer/dryer, dishwasher. Fee. Free search at [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com). 619-367-3333.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$2495. 3 bedroom, 3 bath condo. All appliances, 2 fireplace, patio. Quiet. Parking. Drive by 1932 Missouri Street #1. Available 1/07/09. Call 760-744-2129.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$2695. New 3 bedroom, 3 bath condominium. Upgraded throughout. Travertine, granite, stainless appliances. Bay view from rooftop deck. Solar. Garage and parking space. 2027 Grant Avenue. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$350 off first month's rent! \$1050. Quiet 1 bedroom apartment. \$1450. 2 bedroom with garage, new carpet. Upstairs. Laundry. Off- street parking. 1920 Felspar. Agent. 858-457-4509.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$825. Studio, 1 bath apartment, steps to beach and bay, 1-year lease. Fee. Free search at [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com). 619-367-3333.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, small storage, parking, fenced yard, pets negotiable, easy freeway access. 619-200-5141.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$895. 1 bedroom. One-car garage, \$50 extra. Excellent central location. 2009 Thomas #2. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$900. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, centrally located. Fee. Free search at [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com). 619-367-3333.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$950. 1 bedroom. 1/2 off first month. Lease. Vaulted ceiling. On-site laundry. \$500 deposit. Sorry, no pets. Available now. 4472-1/2 Bond. 760-402-8325. [www.baywalkapts.com](http://www.baywalkapts.com).

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$995. Extra large studio, gated, all appliances, balcony, spacious closet, pool, gym, spa, tennis court, assigned parking. 1775 Diamond #206. 619-804-3325.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 1 bedroom on beach. 6 months lease. Pets under 30 lbs. OK. Roomies/co- signers ok. Office open 7 days. 4217 Oliver Court. 858-483-7670.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$900, \$900 deposit. Mile to the beach! One parking space. Laundry on site. 6-month lease. No pets. 619-435-3830.

**PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedrooms at \$1250. 2 bedrooms starting \$1595. 1/2 month free, free credit application. Free pool-side Wifi. Sundeck. Cardio fitness center. Equipment and weight room. Across from Mission Bay bike trail. Spectacular views. Super floor plans. Limited availability. Cat friendly. The Pacific at Mission Bay, 2636 Grand Avenue. 1-800-490-6372. [pacificatmissionbay-pacificliving@crossfiremail.com](mailto:pacificatmissionbay-pacificliving@crossfiremail.com). [www.pacificliving.com](http://www.pacificliving.com). [www.sdsreader.com/news/rent1049](http://www.sdsreader.com/news/rent1049).**

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 1/2 first month! \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 2-4 blocks from Mission Bay and the beach. Stove. Refrigerator. On- site laundry. 4406-4416 Dawes Street. 619-804-3324.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 1433 Grand Avenue #1. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$200 off first month. \$1395. Deposit \$1000. OAC. Downstairs. Laundry. Parking. Great Location. No pets. 619-226-7368 or [www.bkbinc.com](http://www.bkbinc.com).

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 1bedroom, 1 bath duplex, newly painted. No pets. 4330 Morrell. \$950 with move-in special! Call 858-483-5111 x10. [www.melroyproperties.com](http://www.melroyproperties.com).

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 2 bedroom condo. New carpet, paint, refrigerator. Walk to beach, 4 blocks to bay, on-site washer/dryer. Hornblend. Short- term lease. \$1490. 858-740-8595.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs. Laundry, parking. Near bay/ocean. Available now. \$1195. 1258 Pacific Beach Drive. No dogs. 858-454-4161.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large den. Garage/parking space. Walk to beach/shops. Very charming and private. 2nd floor. Lease. Available. 832 Felspar Street. 858-538-2677.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse. \$2300. 2 fireplaces, 2 balconies, laundry hookups, and double car garage. Great location. No pets. Agent. 619-296-3189.2

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 4418 Bond St. #1. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$200 OFF 1st month. \$1250. \$800 deposit OAC. Downstairs, fridge, stove, on- site laundry, parking. No pets. Close to everything. 619-226-7368 or [www.bkbinc.com](http://www.bkbinc.com).

**PACIFIC BEACH.** Just steps to beach! \$1250. Upstairs 1 bedroom. Hardwood floors. Appliances. Parking and just a short walk to all the shopping and restaurants on Garnet Avenue and Mission Boulevard. 736 Emerald Street. Owner, 858-272-9547.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** Ocean front. Views, views, views! \$4000. 3 bedroom, 3 bath penthouse in the Seashore Building. Laundry in complex. 2 parking spaces. Balconies. Large unit. No pets. Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

**PACIFIC BEACH. Starting at \$795. \$995 moves you in! Upgraded 1 bedroom in garden setting. Easy access location. Pool, recreation room. Laundry. No pets.** Open Saturday 12-4pm. 2710 Grand Avenue. TPPM, 858-273-8657.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** Studio, \$840. Large, quiet. Utilities included. Sundeck. Easy access to I-5. No pets. 2176 Thomas Avenue. 858-270-0929.

**PACIFIC BEACH. Walk to the beach! 3 bedroom plus den at \$2450. Only 1 block from the beach! Located in the north Pacific Beach neighborhood with beachfront access only minutes away. Short distance to downtown La Jolla shopping and dining. Our quaint apartment homes include on-site laundry facility, extra storage and a quiet location. Cat friendly. Call our rental office today! 858-272-7464. [www.pacificliving.com](http://www.pacificliving.com).**

**PACIFIC BEACH/LA JOLLA.** \$1250. 1 bedroom, spacious garden cottage. 14x20 living room, large garden. Quiet.

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**RANCHO BERNARDO.** \$1560. Large, bright, 2- bedroom upstairs end unit, dual masters, fireplace, 47" home theater, balcony, ample storage, washer/dryer. Racquetball, pool, spa, tennis, sauna, gym. 858-509-0117, 858-361-9117.

**RANCHO BERNARDO.** 1 bedroom, 1 bath in quiet, gated community. Patio. Covered parking. Pools. Tennis courts. Exercise facility. Washer/dryer in unit. \$1295. 858-716-9600

**RANCHO PENASQUITOS.** \$2600. Deposit, 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath house. 2-story. 2- car garage. Pool, spa. Hardwood floors. 3 fireplaces. New appliances. Dishwasher. Washer/dryer. Dog run. Pets considered. Sawtooth Road. 619-871-6909.

**RANCHO PENASQUITOS.** \$50 off per month with 6 month lease! \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1600. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Low \$500-\$700 deposits! Newly remodeled. Air conditioning. Pool, spa. Carport. No pets. Rancho Villas Apartments. ranchovillas@earthlink.net, 858-484-0744.

**RANCHO SAN DIEGO.** Move- in special! 1 bedrooms, brand new resort- style community! \$1100. Granite, tile, washer/dryer in unit, parking, pool, tennis, gym. Pets OK. 619-279-0031.

**RV SITES** Mission Bay. 1 bedroom, 1 bath mobile home for rent, near Mission Bay and Sea World. \$900/month. Available immediately. Pool, clubhouse, friendly park. Morena Mobile Village. 619-276-5699.

**SAN CARLOS** Super special! 2 and 3 bedroom townhouses. \$1395 and up. Stove, dishwasher, garage, large patio, pools, laundry facilities. Lake-wood Villa Townhomes, 8492 San Carlos Drive, San Diego. 619-469-3585; 619-944-0671.

**SANTEE** Arbors Apartments. "\$600 off move- in special!" Spacious 2 and 3 bedrooms available. Full- size washer/ dryer. Fully equipped kitchens. Private patio/balcony. Pool and Jacuzzi. Carports and garages available. Near shops. Wood- burning fireplaces. \*Water/sewer fees may not be included. \*Limited offer, on approved credit, see manager for details! 9700 Magnolia Park Drive, Santee, CA 92071. 619-562-6690. Visit us on our website at [www.sdrenting.com](http://www.sdrenting.com).

**SANTEE.** \$1650. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome, 1/2 off first month's rent. Home has air conditioning, Wood floors. Washer/dryer. Granite counters and pool. [utopianmanagement.com](http://utopianmanagement.com), 858-598-1111 x128.

**SCRIPPS RANCH** \$1600. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo at luxurious Monarch Scripps Ranch. Fireplace, washer/dryer, garage,

gated. 10832 Scripps Ranch Boulevard. [www.centrecity.net](http://www.centrecity.net). 619-296-6699.

**SOUTH PARK** \$1295. Extra large 2 bedroom 2 bath, upper, balcony, all appliances, laundry, parking. Cat OK. Near all. 3001 Juniper #7. 619-804-3325.

**SOUTH PARK.** \$1275. Spanish style; 1 bedroom, 1 bath corner; upgraded fixture, hardwood floors, crown molding, yard, laundry. Near all. 2928 Juniper Street. 619-384-9219.

**SOUTH PARK.** \$700/\$800. 2 studios available. The smaller one is tiled throughout. The larger has wood floors. Both units are generous in size. A must see! Available now! 3007 30th and 3011 30th Street. [www.stevenleeproperties.com](http://www.stevenleeproperties.com). 619-295-1161.

**SOUTH PARK.** \$850. 1- bedroom, 1- bathroom, upper unit, Wood floors. Available now. 3013\_ 1/2 30th Street. [www.stevenleeproperties.com](http://www.stevenleeproperties.com). 619-295-1161.

**SPRING VALLEY** \$1500. Townhome, 2 master bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths. Laundry room appliances, large storage room. Landscaped backyard, fence. Huge community pool/Jacuzzi. Available now. 619-258-0014.

**TALMADGE** \$925. Upstairs unit, 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Pool. All utilities included. Patio. Off street parking. Shared laundry. 4641 55th Street #A. 619-640-7530. [www.sdforrent.com](http://www.sdforrent.com).

**TALMADGE.** \$2500. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. 1- car garage. Beautiful hardwood floors and landscaping. Corner lot. Pets negotiable. Available January 1. 4525 Estrella. Alta Vista Properties, 858-274-3600. [www.altavistamanagement.com](http://www.altavistamanagement.com).

**TALMADGE.** 2 bedroom, \$985, and 1 bedroom, \$865. Spacious, well- kept units. Quiet, nice location. Gated, parking, laundry, air conditioning, barbecue. Cats OK. 4544 Winona Avenue. 619-229-1406.

**TALMADGE.** Extremely large 1 bedroom. Park- like grounds, all amenities, controlled entry, parking, laundry on property. Fine residential area. Near shops. \$850. 619-287-1996 or 619-818-9950.

**TALMADGE/ KENSINGTON. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage style home at \$1090. 1/2 off first month's rent. Free credit application. Adjacent amenities. Outdoor billiard lounge. Pool. Spa. Fitness center. Business center. 4454 54th Street. 619-282-1191.**

**TIERRASANTA** \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upper apartment, newly remodeled, rec room with activities, elevator, on- site laundry. Gated, shopping close. 62+ liv-

ing. 4906 La Cuenta Drive. Linda, 858-278-4910. [www.centrecity.net](http://www.centrecity.net).

**TIERRASANTA.** \$1500. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. New carpet. New paint. Washer/dryer hookups. Extra large kitchen. Large patio. Small yard. 2 parking spots. Pool. Tennis courts. No pets. 11035 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. Agent, 619-692-4121.

**UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS.** \$1025. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Small, cozy complex. Laundry on site. Parking. No pets. 4460 Cleveland Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724.

**UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS.** \$875. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, gated, stove, fridge, beautiful wood built-ins, laundry, parking, near all. 452 Louisiana #4. 619-804-3325.

**UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS.** \$940. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 1 parking. On-site laundry. Near freeways. Lower unit.

**UTC** 55+ Spacious luxury living. Pool, spa, golf course. 1 bedrooms, \$1099. 2 bedrooms, \$1299. Up to \$1200 off. Town Park Villas, 4633 Governor Drive. 858-453-0441.

**VISTA.** Move- in special! 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$895. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, remodeled \$1150. Air conditioning, new carpet/ new paint, large patio, storage. Gated hillside community. 760-672-6405. [www.melroyproperties.com](http://www.melroyproperties.com).

## REAL ESTATE HOUSES

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**ALLIED GARDENS.** Remodeled 3- bedroom, 3- bath, single- level, view home. Minutes from trolley and SDSU. Owner/ agent. Trade? \$499,000. (No agents). \$499,000. 619-275-1874.

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**BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO.** La Mission. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, beautiful ocean view, 24-hour security guard, gated community. Best beach in Baja. \$250,000 or rent \$1000/month. 760-250-7055

**DEL MAR.** Lovely, sunny 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi.

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**HILLCREST MODEL UNIT.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath condos. Fabulous views! Hardwood floors. Granite counterparts. Washer/dryer. Parking. Pool. Executive suite. Game room. Storage. 3907 Georgia Street, #12. \$339K, reduced! Call agent for details, 619-871-8915.

**LA JOLLA/UTC.** Sunny, lovely 2- bedroom, 2- bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome, 2- car attached garage, granite countertops, stainless appliances, maple floors, new carpet/paint, sunny patio. \$400,000. Agent, 858-232-2008.

## REAL ESTATE MISCELLANEOUS

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**HOTEL OWNER WANTS TO BUY** property anywhere. Small houses, big houses, condos, apartments, commercial, vacant land, and notes. Call 619-204-0610.

**RANCHO BERNARDO** Award winning community. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath corner unit with driveway! Gated community. Call for details. Top Notch Realty, Inc., 858-715-0688.

**SANTEE.** Mobile home. \$39,900. Cozy 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 20'x46', central heat/air. Near shopping. Pool, 2 pets OK, senior park. Space rent \$500. 619-442-4514.

## SPORTS

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**ADULT SOFTBALL 2009,** Spring team registration. Adult teams/players welcome, <http://www.softballsd.com>. Program overview <http://softballsd.com/leagues.html>. Registration forms <http://www.softballsd.com/tmreg.html>. Email [john@softballsd.com](mailto:john@softballsd.com).

**BOAT, REINELL,** 17-1/2' inboard/outboard. Light and dark blue. Outdrive needs new impeller. \$2000. 619-261-5359.

**GYM MIRRORS.** Each: 48"x100" for \$140, 60"x100" for \$175, 72"x100" for \$220. Installation available. Yoga studio, dance, home/business. Free delivery. 619-444-2858. [www.affordablemirrors.com](http://www.affordablemirrors.com).

**KAYAK.** Tandem packages, \$795-\$1095. Closeout prices on used single kayaks, \$250\$695. We are closed on Tuesdays. San Diego Sailing Center, 858-488-0651. Visit our website, [www.kayaksd.com](http://www.kayaksd.com).

**PATIO TABLE,** concrete, seats 6, high grade, your choice of tile installed, all weather, \$300. Credit cards accepted. 760-250-7055.

**SNOWBOARD GEAR WANTED** We pay cash for snowboards, bindings, boots and clothing. We also buy surfboards, wetsuits, baseball gloves, skateboards, golf equipment, lots more. You can trade the gear towards other stuff for even more value. Three convenient locations. Play It Again Sports, 858-490-0222. [www.playitagainsd.com](http://www.playitagainsd.com).

**SURFBORDS** Three used 9 footers. \$200 each, two 8 footers \$175 each, numerous other used boards. Must sell! Call 760-809-8642.

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**COMPUTER CIRCULATION CENTER.** Buy, sell, trade. Laptops, PCs. Repairs, upgrades, virus/spyware removal. 24-48 hour turnaround. 9350 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, San Diego 92123. Call 858-573-0411.

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**INTENSE MOUNTAIN BIKE.** Paid \$4500. XTR components, super high end. Hayes disc brakes. Need cash \$1000. John, 760-685-0901.

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**CARPENTER WANTED** in exchange for furnished room and utility. Please call 619-479-4212.

**CASH FOR JAZZ, SOUL, ROCK,** punk, metal. We buy collections and CDs. Record City, 3757 Sixth Avenue, Hillcrest. Call 619-291-5313.

**FREE BOOKS NEEDED,** text/reading. I'll come to you and pickup any college books you have. All reading books, VHS tapes, CDs, records welcomed, 619-804-7014.

**WANTED LAPTOPS,** Cash for gold broken or not, music gear, ipods, vintage home receivers. 5423 El Cajon Boulevard, 619-582-4068, 690 Carlsbad Village Drive #209, 760-434-9400.

## ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

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**ANSTEAD'S AUCTION.** We buy antiques, collectibles, household furniture, appliances, TVs, home electronics, pianos. Prompt service. Local buyers. Licensed/ bonded. Serving San Diego since 1971. 619-233-3148; 1-888-722-2002.

**COLLECTIBLES.** Record collection, 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, vinyl LPs. Beatles, Stones, Hendrix, Elvis, Floyd, Marley, Motown, soul, blues, jazz. 619-523-1782.

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- Oil change up to 5 qts. 10w/30
- Install new filter • Check & top off transmission fluid • Check & top off differential
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SHEEP AND GOATS
PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: Jewish Reconstructionist Movement
Address: 4858 Ronson Court, Clairemont Mesa, 858-268-3674
Founded locally: 1983
Senior pastor: Rabbi Yaffa-Shira Sultan
Congregation size: 150 families
Staff size: 3
Hebrew school enrollment: 60
Annual budget: n/a
Weekly giving: membership dues
Dress: casual to semiformal
Diversity: Jewish
Sabbath worship: Weekly Erev Shabbat service, 7:30 p.m., except first Friday at 7 p.m.; Family service, third Friday, 6:30 p.m.; see calendar for Saturday services
Length of reviewed service: 2 hours
Website: dorhadash.org

Shabbat was over; the spare, clean-lined synagogue at Dor Hadash was empty. Instead, the community gathered in the adjacent room, decorated for a party. Tinfoil runners gleamed over blue-and-white tablecloths; clusters of silver-and-blue-foil dreidels hung from the ceiling. Coffee percolated next to the sodas; canned fuel warmed the latkes at the end of a long buffet loaded with homemade food: salads (bean, green, potato, egg, etc.), pastas,

vegetable casseroles, quiches, and blintzes. Desserts lined another table. Aunt Tilly the Clown painted menorahs on children's faces.

The feast was traditional. So were many of the songs and the prayers blessing God, remembering His commandments and favors to His people. And when the women leading the Havdalah ceremony that closed Shabbat passed the cup and spices to a little girl, when they held her palm forward toward the candle flame, they were passing on that tradition — even if it was tradition adorned with more modern notions of wholeness and reintegration and the light within ourselves.

At Dor Hadash, said Yaffa-Shira Sultan, tradition was not the final word because new interpretations presented themselves. “We talk about the Torah as a living account of our heritage but not as the word of God. We tend to have a naturalist rather than a super-naturalist concept of God. It doesn't mean that we don't believe in God. We just

have another interpretation of God in the world: the process by which salvation comes into the world is in the actions that bring Godliness. We focus on the predicate more than the pronoun.” And at the lighting of the menorah candles, she added, “when we light the candles, it is as if we are stepping forward and shining light on our own faces, on our own selves. It's with a sense of resilience and pride that we light the Hanukkah candles.”

To explain, she said, “We have to start with the story. The original celebration of Hanukkah was associated with success in war. The Macabees came into Jerusalem and fought the Greeks. They managed to reclaim the temple and rededicate it. It was both a military victory and an expression of the Jews' freedom to practice their religion publicly — because the Greek king was commanding that they had to follow the religion of the Greek kingdom.” She went on to note that the miracle of the oil memorialized by the meno-

rah was not introduced until after the destruction of the second temple in 70 C.E. “The rabbis of the Biblical period said, ‘We have to bring this holiday back because we need what happened with the Macabees to happen again so that we can rebuild the temple in our day and age.’ They put together a story around the Ner Tamid — a light that should burn constantly, symbolizing that God is everywhere, within us for all time, about us, in the face of our loved ones. The miracle was that the oil lasted longer than it was supposed to.... There is another miracle here, the miracle of resilience.”

At the end of her talk, she added, “It's interesting to think about modern-day Israel and the complexities of the celebration of returning to the temple in Hanukkah. What we're doing here today is focusing on dedicating sacredness wherever we are — wherever we're sharing a connection with others.”

As we ate, Sultan spoke to me about the holiday's significance. “I like to think of



Yaffa-Shira Sultan

Congregation Dor Hadash
Clairemont Mesa
★★½
Sermon content ★★½
delivery ★★½
Liturgy ★★
Music congregational ★★
band n/a
Snacks ★★½
Architecture ★★
Friendliness ★★
Poor to satisfactory (none)
Good ★
Very good ★★
Excellent ★★★
Extraordinary ★★★★★

it as a celebration of our people and our perseverance. But when you look at it from a larger historical context — the Hasmoneans” — who retook the temple from the Greeks — “ruled after that point, and they weren't so great at ruling, either. There are parts of the story that

have real, contemporary meaning for us — that are inspiring. We are bringing light into dark places.... But there's also...” She paused. “There's the tendency to fight for freedom, but then...we have to be careful to make sure that we don't unconsciously create other tyrannies. Freedom is the first step. Then we have to act Godly.”

After dinner, there was more singing: “This little light of mine/ I'm gonna let it shine...”

What happens when we die?

“I think a lot of Jews today are uncomfortable with the idea of something so final [as death].... I might simply give you a blanket statement: ‘We live on in the memories of our loved ones. Where I was once a dream of my parents before I was born, they become a dream to me when they die.’”

— Matthew Lickona

Videos of this church and others featured in this column are available at sandiegoreader.com.

VARIOUS ITEMS. Antique sewing machine, "Willcox & Gibbs," automatic. 70 years old, original book/sales contract. Stored. \$65. Garden maiden statue with grapes, \$45. 760-753-6996.
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SEWING MACHINES, 2. Industrial, with tables. One is a US blind stitch, model

5184. The other is a Singer serger model 842U. \$250/each/best. 619-471-4422.
TV, 52-INCH SUPER WIDE, Flat screen Magnavox. Paid \$2800, 4 years ago. In fantastic condition, must sell, \$400/best, 760-809-8642.
VARIOUS ITEMS. Kenmore refrigerator. Silver plated fondue maker. 619-944-9927.

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**HALLEY'S COMET APPEARED WHEN I WAS NINE.** It came late at night. I was watching TV on the couch, dozing. There was a big fuss about it; every commercial break, a news anchor would tell us how long we had until it arrived. He also informed us what to look for — a bright ball of light with a long tail.

In what now occurs to me as a careless omission, my parents, who both need glasses to see, never had my eyes checked until I was about 13. On that first visit, the optometrist remarked that he couldn't believe I'd managed so well with so little vision. Turns out I couldn't see detail on any object farther away from me than arm's length.

At nine years old, my world was a fuzzy, blocky blur. The television was a bright light with little squiggles and amorphous shapes on its screen that I followed along with my hearing. I knew what cartoon characters, newscasters, and popular actors looked like because on occasion I'd get right up close to the screen and memorize their faces. Then, when watching TV from a normal distance, I'd replay in my head what each person, cat, mouse, coyote, rabbit, or duck looked like and match it to what they were saying at the time. I thought that was how everyone watched TV.

The night Halley's Comet arrived, I listened to the newscaster and imagined his face reading the reports. My eyelids grew heavier, so to ensure that I saw the event, I set an alarm on my Batman watch and then curled myself under a blanket. My focus and mind slipped into a dream like a dry dandelion on a breeze.

Batman beeped and the newscaster told me it was time to go outside and survey the sky. I uncovered and stood, rubbed my face, and blinked for a moment. I found the door and the front step and lawn. Cool April air stood still and crickets silenced their symphony for Halley and me.

Beyond an oak tree hovered the moon, and in a churchyard across the street, yellow sodium lights shone. That's what I saw, just the moon and the lights. Neighbors came to their front lawns and I heard them murmuring. Behind me, in the house, the newscaster said that the comet was overhead and I imagined what he looked like when he said it and I imagined what the comet looked like and I decided it was beautiful.

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of her ears and then I want to sell Alaska. Canada, make us an offer.

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

### RAH! PAULA ABDUL CHEERLEADING CHALLENGE

MTV 9:30 A.M.

It's not so much the dancing with a cartoon cat — I don't give a damn about that. Everybody makes a mistake once in a while. You want to know what it is? It's the shoulder-padded tragedy of 1985. She owes us an apology.

## MONDAY, JANUARY 5

### ROCK OF LOVE BUS

VH1 7:30 P.M.

The better show is *Flashing Joggers*

in the Park on My Go-Kart, starring me, a trench coat, a bottle of bourbon, and my poor impulse control.

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

### HOMELAND SECURITY USA

ABC 8:00 P.M.

Great. In case there weren't already enough people looking at my socks with the holes in them and watching me waddle around with my jeans falling down while I juggle my change and keys and belt and shoes, now there'll be cameras. Super. Let's complete this gauntlet of embarrassment by posting a measurement of how wide my ass is on the White House website.

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

### TIME WARP

DISCOVERY 8:00 P.M.

I'm not really looking forward to the first time-travel experience. (Great, we all get to tug Abe Lincoln's beard and make a wish, yippee.) I'm looking forward to when time machines are as common as cars and I can prevent myself from locking my keys in the laundry room or I can stop myself from watching *The Love Guru*.

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

### BEST DAMN YO-YO CHAMPIONSHIP

FOX SPORTS 11:00 P.M.

Every few years I think buying a yo-yo is a great idea and I'm going to learn all those tricks and do that



Rock of Love Bus

“cat's cradle” thing and all that. Fifteen minutes later my TV screen is busted, I've got a bloody nose, and I've knocked a neighborhood cat

unconscious. Stupid yo-yos.

For more stories by this author, go to [sdreader.com](http://sdreader.com).

**WEDDING DRESS.** Hat, shoes, size 8, \$50/all. 858-277-7197.

**WORMS.** Redworms, nature's fertilizer, 1 bucket, \$40. Guaranteed 1000+ worms. Lisa, 619-449-7875.

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**BMW 323i.** 1999 convertible. White with black top. Leather interior. 147,000 miles. Great car, moving and must sell. \$6000. 858-380-9922.

**CADILLAC EL DORADO.** 1969. Classic. 97,000 original miles. Engine rebuilt less than 1,000 miles ago. New tires, brakes, radiator, battery. Retail \$17,400. asking \$15,000. 619-282-6115

**CHEVY CAMARO.** "sports coupe," dream car 1994, interior/exterior restored to Original Classic. Upgraded engine, 4.5 of 5 stars. Kelley Blue Book preowned rating, mileage 177,000 (Average 12,000 per year). Green, automatic, bushing kit, new Yokohama tires. 760-439-9393.

**HONDAS FROM \$500.** Police impounds and tax repos. Cars, trucks, SUVs. Many makes and models! For listings, 800-495-0660, x2180.

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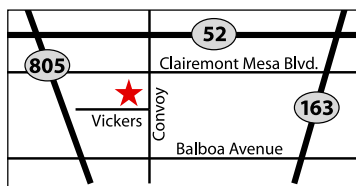
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