

SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

VOLUME 38 / NUMBER 5
FEBRUARY 5, 2009

Reader



They've taken the dive out of dive bars

Story begins on page 22

Very healthy, nice, juicy worms – See Best Buys



She rips — See page 139

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The Wiki Reader

***"A wiki is a page or collection of Web pages designed to enable anyone who accesses it to contribute or modify content."* – Wikipedia**

In the past 12 months the *Reader* has added features to encourage its readers to contribute or modify content:

Typo Patrol – Sharp readers catch the *Reader* staff's typographical errors and make \$10 per error identified. We publish the results weekly. Over \$6000 was paid out to Typo Patrol sharpies in 2008. See this week's results, page 135.

My Neighborhood – Started out as an occasional contest, it is now a monthly competition to foster heartfelt writing about where we live. First place earns \$500, second \$250, third \$100. Essays end up on website neighborhood pages and the winners are published in the paper *Reader*. Over \$7000 was paid in 2008. Submit your story at SDReader.com.

Movie User Reviews – The *Reader*'s movie reviewer, Duncan Shepherd, has been the most reviled man in San Diego. Now the public joins him every week on the website – commenting on current reviews and the 7000 movie capsule reviews. The best three are awarded prizes and printed in the *Reader* every week. Submit your comments at SDReader.com.

Restaurant User Reviews – The *Reader*'s reviewers Naomi Wise and Ed Bedford are joined by the public complaining and praising. The best three are awarded prizes and printed in the *Reader*. Submit your comments at SDReader.com.

High School Football and Basketball Blogs – Anthony Gentile, the author of "Red Zone" (high school football) and "Fast Break" (basketball), has attracted fervent co-bloggers, including a food-fight between Cathedral Catholic and Oceanside High fans. Submit your comments at SDReader.com.

Pop Quiz – Readers of the *Reader* are tested on each week's stories. First five correct entrants get \$25 or a *Reader* T-shirt. See this week's questions and results, page 133.

Reader Puzzle – Hundreds of puzzle solvers send in their results with personal messages. Ten of the solvers earn *Reader* T-shirts each week. The puzzle is a particular hit in Santee. See this week's puzzle and results, page 130.

Neighborhood News Stringers – Since the end of December, 2008, the *Reader* has offered to pay stringers for 100- to 250-word news stories – \$50 for stories, \$10 for photos, \$15 for videos. Submit your story at SDReader.com.

Story Comments – A regular feature of the *Reader* website, some threads reach 100+ comments. Deletions are made only for gross obscenity and libel. Submit your comments at SDReader.com.

Blog Comments – The *Reader* staffers put up blogs on our website (not usually seen in the paper) and produce another whole set of comments from website users. Submit your comments at SDReader.com.

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UNDER THE RADAR

Price of admission Is **Jerry Sanders** in thrall to his biggest political contributors? Some have thought so, especially as Sanders is said to harbor thoughts of running for statewide office in the not-so-distant future. Now there is evidence that the San Diego mayor's actions are influenced by contributions to his campaign kitty. Two



Jerry Sanders

weeks ago, Sanders announced the members of his new 17-member Citizens' Task Force on the San Diego Convention Center Project. According to a press release, the members "represent diverse interests — San Diego taxpayers, the Convention Center's fellow port tenants, the hospitality industry, organized labor and the business and economic development communities."

Well, yes and no. Big labor, not always friendly to Sanders, is represented by AFL-CIO chief **Lorena Gonzalez**, but labor has always backed the City's big pork barrel projects. Then there is **Lani Lutar**, who runs the San Diego County Taxpayers Association, a downtown business lobby that has never seen a convention center or new stadium project it didn't like. And there is **Pete Garcia**, chairman of the San Diego Regional Economic Development Foundation, another pro-development cheerleader. Task force cochairman (and port commission chairman) **Steve Cushman** makes no secret of his desire for the expansion. **Diane Takvorian**, head of the nonprofit Environmental Health Coalition, is the outlier of the group, having no obvious vested interest in the expansion issue. None of the 5 has given money to the Sanders campaign, according to a search of city records.



Lorena Gonzalez

But that leaves the other 12 members who have, either individually or via company ties. **Bill Evans**, whose family owns hotels on City-leased land, has given \$1810 since 2006. Employees of Black Mountain Ranch, LLC, where **Fred Maas** is president, kicked in \$1470. Architect **Mark Steele's** M.W. Steele Group gave \$1500 to San Diegans for City Hall Reform, a Sanders-controlled political fund, and \$320 directly to the mayor's campaign. **Richard Bartell** of Bartell Hotels and family gave \$3180. **Susie Baumann** and husband **Larry** of the Bali Hai Restaurant contributed \$620. Executives of the Irvine Company, where **Charles Black** used to work, gave \$620. The San Diego

National Bank's **Gordon Boerner** gave \$640, as did **Vince Mudd** of San Diego Office Interiors, and employees of Atlas Hotels, where **Mike McDowell** works, gave \$1380. Cox Communications honcho **Bill Geppert**, his wife, and fellow employees gave a total of \$2860. PR man **Bob Nelson** of Bob Nelson Associates and his workers came up with \$659. And task force cochairwoman **Cheryl Kendrick** gave \$320.



Bill Geppert

Charity hole The San Diego Foundation, an aggregator of charitable donations that have sometimes gone to questionable causes, such as a fund for school superintendent **Alan Bersin** that was used in part to buy fine wines for a reception at his Point Loma residence, is trying to calm well-heeled donors about the effects of a recent Wall Street scandal. "The San Diego Foundation wants to assure all of our donors that we have no affiliation with **Bernard Madoff**, and that none of our investments and assets are impacted by this situation," says a statement on the foundation's website.

But the organization has not gone unscathed during the financial meltdown. Its financial statement for the period ending June 30 of last year, posted on its website two weeks ago after a reporter's inquiries, revealed that the foundation has dabbled in speculative instruments, including the collateralized debt obligations that are front and center in Wall Street's maelstrom. According to the document, the so-called CDOs are "supported by pools of residential and commercial mortgages," along with pools of other assets producing income, such as credit cards. But when markets froze, the foundation couldn't get its money out. According to the report, the foundation recorded an "unrealized loss" on these auction rate securities of \$6.2 million last year and still held \$13.4 million of them that were "illiquid." Notes the report, "The estimated fair value of these securities no longer approximates par value." In addition, the report said an interest rate swap agreement the foundation entered into had a negative value of \$501,000 and is reported as a liability.



Alan Bersin

— Matt Potter

The Reader offers \$25 for news tips published in this column. Call our voice mail at 619-235-3000, ext. 440, or fax your tip to 619-231-0489.

Battle on the Beach

By Don Bauder

There is a doozy of a donnybrook over usage of the southwest corner of Fiesta Island. It's a real *bitch*. Or a real *beach*. Well, actually, those two words cap-

sulize the battle: dog owners who want to exercise their pets leash-free are in a rasslin' a contentious consensus to ban people with pooches from beaches. There was a compromise: the canines and their

Now, they are happy with 165 unfenced leash-free acres and roughly 95 fenced acres. But the City wants to take about 10 percent of the fenced area for a public beach, launch ramp, parking lot, and road to accommodate San Diego users of nonmotorized boats such as outriggers, Chinese dragon boats, canoes, and kayaks.

In 2002, when SeaWorld got permission to expand into



Scenes from Fiesta Island

match with paddlers who want to launch their boats from a small portion of the beach.

In 1972, the City reached

owners could use Dog Beach in Ocean Beach and Fiesta Island. Later, the dog owners lost a chunk of their leash-free land on Fiesta Island.

public parkland, the California Coastal Commission said that the Mission Bay Park Master Plan should mandate park improvement at Fiesta Island and South Shores, just across the bay. The paddlers had been trying to get a launch

continued on page 8

Don Bauder blogs daily at SDReader.com

Contact Bauder at 619-546-8529 or don.bauder@mac.com

Neal Obermeyer



Mira Mesa Meets Caltrans

By Joe Deegan

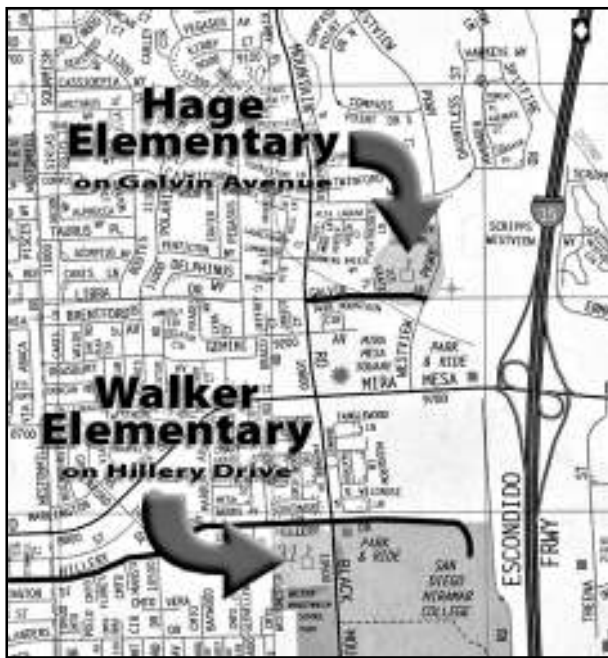
Granted, Mira Mesa needs traffic relief, especially for entering and exiting the I-15. But how does Caltrans justify a project

that is likely to increase already dangerous traffic next to a local elementary school? The answer might be to enlist some in the community to do the heavy lifting.

James Sullivan is not exactly a Mira Mesa community member. But he lives immediately on the other side of I-15 in Scripps Ranch. Over the summer, Sullivan succeeded in persuading Caltrans to put up a noise-abatement wall on the east side of the freeway. The wall will reduce noise levels at the 160-unit Scripps Townhomes where Sullivan lives. He is also the

beyond haranguing agency officials and to research how its decisions are made. He didn't just ask why a wall couldn't be put up, he tells me, "I learned the process they used. If they said the decibel levels didn't justify a wall, I asked to see the numbers and where they put the sensors." In some cases, Sullivan found, the sensors weren't even in the right places.

In going to group meetings, Sullivan occasionally witnessed community members berate Caltrans officials, such as Gustavo Dallarda, the agency's corridor director for the I-15 expansion project.



complex's homeowner's association president.

As a result of Sullivan's success with Caltrans, several planning groups invited him to attend their meetings and explain how they could get a noise wall too. He told them the key was to move

Sullivan commends Dallarda for always attending the meetings and doing his best to address local citizen complaints. Most of the time, Sullivan tells me, Caltrans's hands were tied by federal noise-abatement standards.

On October 25, when con-



James Sullivan

struction of the noise wall was already under way, Sullivan and a colleague at Scripps Townhomes received an email from Dallarda regarding a bigger project. The draft environmental impact report for a long-planned direct-access ramp in Mira Mesa would be made public in November. The ramp is intended to take traffic from the west side of I-15, over the southbound lanes, and spew it into four new high occupancy vehicle lanes in the center of the freeway. Concrete barriers are to be moved according to time of day so that three of the center lanes are always available to the heaviest traffic.

"I thought I would give you a heads-up about [the project]," read Dallarda's email, which ended, "You may want to take a look and participate in the public comment process due to the proximity of your community." Three days later, Dallarda sent Sullivan another email, saying that the draft environmental document was then available to be read online or at the Caltrans office in Old Town, the Scripps Miramar Ranch Branch Library, and the Mira Mesa Branch Library. Sullivan, who previ-

ously knew nothing about a planned ramp, tells me he immediately dove into the report and learned all he could about the project. One thing he discovered was that, of two sites being considered for the ramp, the northern alternative would cause partial destruction of the noise wall he had labored so hard to obtain. (Environmental impact reports are required to analyze alternatives to the proposed project, plus a no-build alternative.)

On November 6, Caltrans published in the *San Diego Union-Tribune* a Notice of Availability for the project's environmental document. The same locations for reading it were given, plus the website dot.ca.gov/dist11. The document is 379 pages in length. The newspaper notice also stated that a public hearing would be held in Mira Mesa six days later, on November 12.

By phone, I ask Dallarda

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

STRINGERS

Vandalized bathrooms to re-open

By Mark Melhado, 1/26/09

La Jolla — About five months ago, Torrey Pines State Park rangers found that six of the park's primary restroom toilets had been destroyed by vandals. The reason the repairs are still in progress,



Torrey Pines State Park bathrooms

explained Andy Bayshore, the park's maintenance manager, is that the replacement toilets had to be special ordered. Bayshore noted that vandalism is endemic to Southern California parks, and that 30–40 toilets have been destroyed by cherry bombs over the past year. But the new toilets have arrived and will be in place as early as next week.

Head-on collision

By Carolyn Grace Matteo, 1/30/09

Chula Vista — Early Friday morning a head-on collision on Medical Center Drive sent an off-duty nurse to the hospital. She was trapped inside her car and had to be extricated by firefighters after her vehicle was struck by an intoxicated driver who fled from the scene. Police searched the area and with the help of witnesses soon arrested a 21-year-old local man at his home.

Smugglers at Torrey Pines

By Carolyn Grace Matteo, 1/28/09

La Jolla — At approximately 7 a.m. on Wednesday, a lifeguard discovered a 28-foot vessel abandoned at the edge of the surf in the Torrey Pines area close to Tower 7. Local

agents followed tracks in the sand that led from the boat to North Torrey Pines Road but were unable to find any suspects. It is believed that the boat had been left by smugglers who had brought undocumented immigrants.

Carpenters Union protests Pacific Honda

By Carlos Gonzalez, 1/27/90

Clairemont — Members of the Carpenters Local 1506 union are demonstrating in front of Pacific Honda in Clairemont in protest of Pacific Honda's use of a contractor with whom they have a labor dispute — R.L. Mays, a local business offering general commercial and residential construction services. The flyer being handed out by union reads in part, "SHAME ON PACIFIC HONDA for Desecration of the American Way of Life."

San Marcos soap opera

By Dorian Hargrove, 1/30/09

San Marcos — In 2007, when newly elected Mayor Jim Desmond appointed Rebecca Jones to fill the seat he vacated on the council. Councilmember Mike Preston didn't approve of the nomination.

In November 2008, when Jones was running her campaign to get reelected, Preston and his wife Luanne Holsizer (president of the Poway Chamber of Commerce), started a "No on Jones" campaign. Preston's wife sent anti-Jones campaign emails from her chamber email address to politi-

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Jim Desmond and Mike Preston

Beach battle

continued from page 6

location for 30 years. The City asked them if they could find one on Fiesta Island. They suggested that small stretch of the dog-running area.

The commission says improvements should be for aquatic purposes. The dog lovers say that some of their pets are water dogs who swim in the bay. And the dog lovers have an organization, Fiesta Island Dog Owners (FIDO), and a website. "We have 3,500 members and over 6,000 signed letters to the mayor,"

says Dr. Jean Spengel, a veterinarian who founded FIDO. The group claims the paddlers are the obstinate ones: "If this continues, we will go to the city council. There will be 500 dog owners yelling and screaming," she warns.

But Les Hopper, spokesman for several boat clubs, says there are probably more than a thousand people who use Mission Bay for a variety of paddling activities. Sneeringly, he says that "At peak usage, there are only about a hundred dogs at the Fiesta Island site — an acre per dog." And "the majority [of owners] do not clean up

their dog poop."

But Spengel rejoins that if every recreational area were judged on dogs or people per acre, how could one justify a golf course? Moreover, the dog-exercising area "is used 365 days a year, from 5:00 a.m. to dark." She admits that 10 percent of dog walkers may not clean up poop, "but FIDO is now doing regular cleanups once a quarter. We had 130 people out there one day."

"We are good citizens," says Hopper. Each year, the paddling clubs sponsor programs for people in wheelchairs and with spina bifida

and other disabilities, says Judith Moore. The paddlers plan to launch their own group, Fiesta Island for All, and set up a website, says Debbie Miller, who, like Moore, is active on behalf of the paddlers.

A year and a half ago, the plan for paddler accommodations got approval from the Mission Bay Park Committee. "The vote was 8-5 — hardly a ringing endorsement," snorts Carolyn Chase, environmental activist who has taken up the cudgels for the dog lovers. "More than 300 people attended with metaphorical pitchforks."

"It got very unruly," agrees Mike Singleton, principal at KTU+A planning and landscape architecture firm, which is honchoing the project. Several months later, the plan

got approval from the Design Review Committee of the City Park and Recreation Department board.

The dog lovers say the paddlers belong across the bay at South Shores. But there are environmental problems there, says Singleton. "You can't do any grading" because of toxicity of the landfill, he says.

Steve Levon is a former boardmember of the Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club, which for two decades has claimed a spot at South Shores on the master plan. "During World War II, the Navy was burying barrels of paint in the general area," he says. If the toxicity problem were overcome, the boat and ski club would have first crack at South Shores, well ahead of the paddlers. The boat and

ski club has "a lot of members, and the club would be a revenue producer with a bar and restaurant." The paddlers would have no such advantages. Levon says there is a small area at South Shores that might accommodate the paddlers, but there would be no security for the boats, which are expensive.

"There are miles of underutilized beaches where the paddlers could use their boats," says Chase. FIDO has scouted several Mission Bay areas that supposedly have what the paddlers need. In addition to South Shores, they are Mariner's Basin and the north and south coves of Vacation Isle.

But Hopper says that they don't fit his groups' needs. "The canoes and dragon boats need calm, flat water. The outriggers are looking to get out into the ocean," he says. The southwest corner of Fiesta Island is ideal for those specifications. Also, the paddlers need safety. They want room to store the boats, which cost \$5,000 to \$12,000. And they don't want to be too far from the water, because the boats weigh up to 1200 pounds.

"We haven't specifically evaluated all those other sites," says Paul Jacob, associate civil engineer in the City Park and Recreation Department, who is the project manager for the

continued on page 10

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Beach battle

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southwest Fiesta Island plan that has degenerated into a scrum. The paddlers' usage of other sites would be incompatible with the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, the conditions of the SeaWorld permit, and the coastal act, says Singleton.

There is a huge question: money. The battleground project in the southwest corner of the island will cost \$20 million to \$30 million, says Sin-

gleton. "This is what we have been saying," says Spengel. "Why should a city that is broke put in roads and parking lots that will be accessed by a couple of hundred people? Why not save the \$20 million? If I were in a neighborhood in which they were closing rec centers, I would get mad to learn that the City is spending the money on Fiesta Island."

Singleton and Jacob are both aware of money constraints. "Times are tough now," says Singleton, but there might be sludge mitigation

funds, Mission Bay lease revenue, and various state tourism-oriented grants available someday. In any case, the earliest this project could get under way would be four years, Singleton and Jacob agree.

Meanwhile, one monetary woe has beset Singleton's firm. There have been so many plan changes that his firm is \$150,000 in the hole on the project. Recently, the canine lovers convinced city council to see if the proposed road could be rerouted so that it doesn't cut so much into the dog-walking area. "They [dog lovers] have held up the project for years; there have been 13 alternatives, and now there will be 14," groans Singleton. "I am distressed at how much power dog owners have."

The dog owners have bite. They claim that Jacob has a conflict of interest: he is a paddler. Says Jacob, "I had used Mission Bay for years even before I was a paddler."

When he took on the job as project manager, "I knew I would be vulnerable to criticism, so I have had my consultant Mike Singleton conduct all of the contacts. I have had no direct contact with the parties, to remain impartial."

Of course, having direct contact with these combatants would be like getting in the ring between the bloodthirsty matador and the truculent bull. Better to let the consultant be in the middle. ■

Mira Mesa Caltrans

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if six days is enough time to allow the public to digest a complicated 379-page planning document. "It's a typical period of announcement that we use," he says. "If you make it longer, people forget about the meeting. Besides, a meeting of that sort is only one component of a longer

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Stringers

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cians, including U.S. congressmen Brain Bilbray and Darrell Issa.

Mayor Desmond called Poway's mayor, the San Marcos Chamber of Commerce, and the Boys and Girls Club (where Holsizer serves as a boardmember) to complain about the emails. Councilmember Preston, meanwhile, thought Desmond's calls to his wife's employer were unethical and inappropriate.

In a January 27 *North County Times* editorial column, Councilmember Preston fired back. He wrote an op-ed piece stating that the city needed a code of ethics for all councilmembers — particularly Mayor Desmond — to abide by.

Preston's ethics code was the first item on San Marcos's January 27 city council agenda.

Instead of support for the ethics measure, four out of the seven public speakers railed against

Preston's proposed ethical code. The concerned citizens said Preston is the one lacking ethics. They pointed to a future veterans' memorial sponsored by the city as an example. They said (and Councilmember Preston later confirmed) that Preston's personal website was the only way to obtain information and find out ways to donate for the memorial.

Upon hearing this, Mayor Desmond thought the setup was unethical and inappropriate.

"Let's clarify," Preston responded. "You're trying to go somewhere. The city asked me if they could put a flyer up on my website.... Maybe that's why we need a code of ethics of kind of clarify what's ethical in the council's mind."

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Mira Mesa Caltrans

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period of notification and discussion. The public had much more opportunity [until December 8] to voice their views on the project before a final environmental impact report is published. And a direct-access ramp in Mira Mesa has long been known to be part of developing the I-15 corridor."

Until recently, however, the ramp has not been on many people's radar. Why, I ask, did you single out Sullivan for notice of the meeting almost two weeks prior to the public announcement? "He was hardly the only one," says Dallarda. "I informed a number of people I knew whose interests would be affected by the project."

But, apparently, Dallarda did not give advance notice to two elementary school principals, each of whose campuses is near one of the alter-

native sites for the new ramp. They didn't see it in the newspaper either. Community members gave them their heads-up.

The first is Hage Elementary School on Galvin Avenue. The northern-alternative ramp, which would require some destruction of the noise wall, would be built two blocks north of Mira Mesa Boulevard, leading traffic west past the school. The on-ramp would run 83 feet from the school's property. Everyone seems to agree that traffic problems near the school are

already severe. Ethel Daniels, Hage's principal, tells me that two students have been injured in traffic mishaps at the school. Not only would the northern alternative involve some destruction of the noise wall, the existing on- and off-ramps for I-15 at Mira Mesa Boulevard would have to be reconfigured.

The second school is Walker Elementary on Hillery Drive, a quarter mile south of Mira Mesa Boulevard. The school is less than a block west of where Hillery intersects Black Mountain Road. The south-

ern alternative ramp would be built by extending west-bound Hillery past Black Mountain Road east to I-15. The ramp at this site would cost less than half the northern alternative. According to the environmental impact report, the southern alternative was discussed on July 19, 2007, during a "public scoping" meeting at Walker Elementary.

Since the public notice, the danger of the northern on-ramp to children at Hage Elementary seems to have

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Mira Mesa Caltrans

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elicited the most outrage in Mira Mesa. That doesn't make people feel good about how the southern alternative is likely to affect children at Walker Elementary. Nevertheless, the current traffic in Mira Mesa isn't convincing anyone that a "no-build" alternative is acceptable. Mira Mesans want to be able to enter and leave their community in a reasonable traffic flow.

Rochelle Dawes has been the principal at Walker Elementary for a year. She tells me by phone that she polled her teachers about the meeting that the environmental document claims took place at Walker six months before she arrived. None of the teachers

remembered the meeting.

Excessive foot traffic near and through her school, says Dawes, is what makes an on-ramp nearby so dangerous. Students from Wangenheim Middle School, Mira Mesa High School, and Miramar College also walk along Hillery and cut through the Walker campus. "Plus," says Dawes, "most of my students arrive on foot. Of those who are dropped off by car, their parents are always driving in the exit and out the entrance. The traffic problems are already a nightmare." Dawes tells me that she stands out front of Walker in the mornings to direct traffic safely.

The environmental document admits that Hillery's traffic problems are already severe but says they can be mitigated by various traffic-

calming measures. Dawes isn't impressed by such statements. She'd like more specific solutions. Gustavo Dallarda, when he and I spoke, cited speed bumps along the portion of Hillery Drive west of Black Mountain Road as an effective way to discourage drivers from using that section of the street. He envisages the vast majority of cars approaching the Hillery on-ramp from both directions on Black Mountain and turning onto it east toward the freeway and away from Walker Elementary.

Ted Brengel, who is the president of the Mira Mesa Community Planning Group, tells me that he favors the southern alternative. The on-ramp, though an extension of Hillery, would be over a quarter mile away from the school, on the other side of Black

Mountain Road. But he bristled at a suggestion that his planning group take sides at its November 17 meeting, five days after the public hearing. The suggestion had come to him by email even before the hearing — from Jim Sullivan.

Sullivan opened the email by mentioning "some of the steps I've been involved with [regarding] my opposition to a northern direct-access ramp at Galvin Avenue." He then urged Brengel to place an "action item" on the planning group's agenda in favor of the southern alternative because otherwise "we will miss the December 8 deadline for public comment."

"I feel your pain," Brengel responded, "but I would like to ask you to change your approach." He criticized Sullivan for only helping alert

the Hage Elementary principal and parents to the danger of a ramp close to their school. "Perhaps you could do the same for Walker Elementary School and Wangenheim Middle School."

Sullivan feels the criticism was unwarranted. Walker Elementary people should have known what they faced after the meeting at their school a year and a half earlier.

"Two representatives from Walker Elementary came to the public notification meeting, the principal and another lady. The second lady came up to me afterward and said, 'Our kids are in danger too.' She was pretty aggressive. So I pointed out to her the chance her school has to get traffic mitigation. That can't happen at Hage on Galvin Avenue. 'So if I were you,' I said, 'I'd get

in there and lobby Caltrans very hard for good traffic mitigation and make them pay for it. If the on-ramp goes in down by your school, you could end up having better traffic control than you even have now.' By the time we finished talking, the lady seemed fired up," Sullivan tells me.

Why did Caltrans put the Galvin Avenue alternative in the draft environmental document? "Their officials will tell you they have to provide some alternative for the public to consider," says Sullivan, "but I think it was a red herring. Gustavo Dallarda alerted me early because he knew I'd jump in there and mobilize people to come out to the public meeting. And it was very well attended. The Hillery Drive alternative was his choice all along." ■

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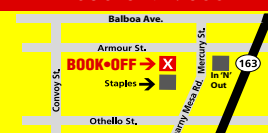


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Long-Distance Lance

I am not an oaf, as Mayor Sanders famously said, therefore I don't love professional sports. But on the eve of my favorite shopping day of the year — Super Bowl Sunday — I have to say how much I enjoy Patrick Daugherty's always smooth, surprising, amusing, interesting "Sporting Box." Cool case in point: this week (January 29) we learn, among other factoids, that Tour de France cyclist Lance Armstrong is being sponsored by a bunch of heavy-duty business enterprises from the central Asian Republic of Kazakhstan.

Honest Amateur
via email

Lincoln Loophole

Thanks to Matt Potter for listing the last-minute cor-

porate contributions to the San Diego Lincoln Club, an outfit that actually is a legal loophole money-laundry for the Southern California Republican Party ("Under the Radar," January 29). Lincoln Club bucks could kill off only one threatening bird at a time here — crusading former City Attorney Mike Aguirre — and thus left the city council door open to electing Democrats Sherri Lightner and Marti Emerald. Potter failed to consider, however, that GOP council candidates Thalheimer and Boling also may have lost because their first names don't end in the letter *i*.

Monaghan
via email

The Select Catholics

Jeff Smith's review of *Doubt* (Theater Review, January 29) seems to take cardboard stereotypes of Roman Catholic religious seriously, the so-called authoritarian Sister Aloysius is opposed by an authoritarian man-dominated hierarchy and clergy. This, of course, is all nonsense derived from Theodor Adorno and people like that. Is the priest guilty? In the present secularist and Masonic-dominated culture, every priest is guilty, just for being a celibate, just as every nun is guilty for being chaste. Catholicism, as Benedict has rightly seen,

is not for billions of people, but for a much smaller number. To be Roman Catholic is to arouse doubt as well as hatred in a world that hates chastity, hates Christ, and most certainly hates Rome. What was Mr. Shanley's purpose? Unfortunately the reviewer failed miserably to see that the playwright set up these straw figures merely to capitalize on hatred. Doubtlessly, he succeeded.

Name Withheld
via voicemail

Be Mindful Of Where You Are

In response to "Just So Racist," the letter on January 29 from the young lady from La Mesa who thought that one person's answer to the question "What's the best and worst thing about where you live?" ("Off the Cuff," January 22) was a racist comment.

Well, I'm black, I live in San Diego, and the reality is

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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP BY MATTHEW ALICE

Heymatt:

The other day I tried pulling out my thumbnail. I just yanked on it for a while but nothing happened. Nails don't look like the stuff around them. Are they just stuck into our fingers? What makes them impossible to pull out? This is really starting to bother me

and I need to know.

Thank you.

— Anonymous, San Diego

I won't ask what you were planning to do after you'd pulled out your thumbnail. I suspect you didn't think ahead that far, but you might just keep that in mind the next time you consider trying. Nails might not look like the stuff around them, but they really are a version of skin. And a version of hair. In fact, your thumbnail is made of the same protein your hair is — keratin filaments. The first reason your thumb wanted to hang on to its nail is because the keratin filaments are growing out of deep skin cells. As they grow they become very dense and tangled and appear above skin level as dead, dried nail plate. So now we have your thumbnail connected to root cells behind the white "moon" at the base of the nail plate.

Maybe because they knew one day somebody like you would come along and try to pull them out, your nails are further attached to your nail bed (below the nail plate) and your nail fold, the skin around the sides and base of your nails. The fibers that connect your nails to the nail beds and folds are more flexible but just as tough as your nails.

But wait, there's more. Not knowing how easily you'd give up on trying to pull your thumbnail out, your nails added one more layer of protection, just in case. Seems that your nail beds and roots grow right out of a whole layer of fibrous tissue surrounding the ends of your finger bones. So, in the end, when you yank on your thumbnail you're actually yanking on your thumb bone. Just try and pull that out, Anonymous.

Hey, Matthew:

How long do cactuses live? They always look like

they've been there forever.

— Wayne, San Diego

Yep. They just sorta sit there, it seems. Most only grow a few inches a year. But since they don't have growth rings like trees, and nobody's

hung around

one cactus year

after year to see how

it goes, most esti-

mates are educated

guesses, pretty much.

Short life span is maybe

25 years. But consider the

saguaro. That's the typical

cartoon cactus with the robot

arms and sometimes a Mexican

peasant leaning against it. Those

puppies apparently have con-

vinced botanists they can live

from 150 to 300 years. Maybe

somebody found Cortez's initials

carved in one. Montezuma. Some-

body like that. Anyway, all bets are off

if the cactus is in a plastic pot on your

desk. That probably has a life expectancy

of six months, tops. Not because it

dies, but because you get sick of it and

throw it out.

Matthew:

Not that I'm planning to go into business for myself, but I was curious whether you could make heroin from the poppies that people grow in their gardens around here. As I understand it, heroin starts out as poppies.

And if poppies are poppies, why couldn't

people go out in their gar-

dens to get their fix? Why

do they have to crawl

around bad neighbor-

hoods looking for a connection? Not that I'm

planning on going into business for myself....

— Anonymous, somewhere out there

Well, keep it in mind, the way the economy's going. Though you'll have to move someplace else to set up your corporation, since the poppies we grow here are California poppies (*Eschscholzia californica*) and the dazed-and-confused kind are opium poppies (*Papaver somniferum*). Heroin is extracted from the white sap of the big immature seed pod of the opium poppy, in case you need a recipe.

Matthew Alice:

Have you ever answered a question with only one word?

— John B, San Diego

What! Who? Me? Hah! Never.

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

Got a question you need answered? Send an email to hey matt@cts.com or fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Matthew Alice, c/o the Reader, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186.

SportingBox

BY PATRICK DAUGHERTY

Autoette in the News



1949 Autoette

Okay, football is over. Now what? Well, pilgrim, can't you hear the slap of leather and pop of a beer can? Hell, yeah — Padres pitchers and catchers report for spring training next week!

Peoria, Arizona. It's another way of saying, "Phoenix." Think L.A. without freeways. Think hundreds of square miles populated by mini-malls and one-story cement-block houses. On its northern rim lies the Peoria Sports Complex, springtime home of the Pads.

February is high season in Glob City, and the last time I was there, Glob City was full. At least the first nine motels I tried were full. Finally, way down the road, I found a Motel 6 that had one room left to let.

It wasn't until morning that I discovered I was in Sun City. According to the census bureau, 80 percent of Sun City's 38,000 residents are over 65. On the other hand, 0.4 percent are under the age of 18. But, what sticks to my mind are the golf carts. They are everywhere. Ancient men and women whip around town to doctor to hospital to cocktail lounge to Laundromat to supermarket to doctor in golf carts. A rolling golf-cart gang outfitted in Bermuda shorts and T-shirts.

This morning, while snooping the Internet for Padres spring-training news, I came across a notice that said the first Antique and Custom Golf Car Show would be held Saturday morning, February 7. The Sun Cities Area Historical Society will host. Call Ed Allen for info.

* * *

"How many golf carts in the show?"

Ed Allen says, "We have 20: 9 antique carts going back to the early '70s and 11 custom carts. The most unusual cart is an Autoette. Have you ever heard of an Autoette?"

"No."

Allen laughs, "I never had either. A gentleman called, said, 'I've got a 1960 Autoette.' It

was a little two-seater, electric people-mover designed to go to the grocery store, go to church — but not for golf — it didn't carry golf bags in the back like a traditional golf-club cart does. He's going to bring it in."

"What other kinds of golf carts do you have?"

"Let me bring that up." I hear computer keyboard clicks. "The Autoette is the oldest, then the next one would be a '72 Westinghouse. We have a Western, a '75 Harley..."

"Harley-Davidson?"

"Yeah, they were one of the early ones," Allen says. "We've got a Cushman, a Yamaha, a Taylor-Dunn... Taylor-Dunn was one of the early ones. This one is a 1980. I was hoping we'd get a three-wheeler, but the only three-wheeler we're going to have is that Autoette. As far as custom carts, we've got a 1929 Model A Ford, a 1932 Ford Hot Rod..."

"They would be fabricated to look like..."

"Yes, it probably has a plastic, fiberglass body on an E-Z-GO or golf cart," Allen says. "We've got a Cadillac, a Lincoln Continental, we've got something called Big Foot, which is where they raise the whole chassis 18 inches, like an off-road vehicle. Then we have a Jeep and a Hummer. This Hummer is a \$20,000 golf cart. It's a replica of a Hummer H3. I suppose it's bigger than the average golf cart, but it is a golf cart; he can run it on golf courses."

I want one. "How long have you lived in Sun City?"

"I'm in Sun City West. We're twin cities, three miles apart. When the developer, Del Webb, built out Sun City in '77, he opened Sun City West in '78, and then went across the street and built Sun City Grand. Opened that in '97.

"How many Sun Cities golf carts are there?"

"Well, 25 percent of the community golfs. There are 17,000 households in Sun City West, so if 25 percent of those households golf, that brings you up a number of 4000-plus. Most of those would have a golf cart. [As far as Sun City], you can almost double that number..."

Soft, my heart. "Golf-cart utopia. Do you have golf-cart races? You must."

"Sure."

"What's the top speed?"

"I would say 35 miles per hour for a gas; 25, perhaps, for an electric."

"How about DUIs? There's got to be DUIs."

Allen laughs hard. "I don't know. It's mainly for daytime use. You don't see a lot of them out at night, so the DUI factor would be low, if any."

"There's got to be two-golf-cart families, new and used golf-cart dealers, golf-cart repair, after-market golf-cart parts, golf-cart body shops, golf-cart theft. The whole smear."

"There are."

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MY NEIGHBORHOOD A monthly writing contest



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Occupation: Retired



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Author: Steve Kerrins
Neighborhood: Mission Valley
Age: 23
Occupation: Law student



3rd place
Author: David Alton Dodd
Neighborhood: Tijuana
Age: 47
Occupation: Engineer

Winners from December 2008

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

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

Go to SDReader.com/neighborhoods, find your neighborhood or campus, and follow the instructions to create a blog.

Deadline for this month is midnight, February 28.

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Hi, I used to live here. Can I come in?

by John Brizzolara

Sometimes a cigar is just a cigar, Freud pointed out. He would never have said the same thing about a house. Certainly Carl Jung would not. In my case, as I approach my former address at the edge of Mission Hills, right where that neighborhood turns into Hillcrest, I am approaching a time machine as surely as if I were walking toward and lifting my hand to knock at the address...[MORE](#)



Goldsmith's Guillotine

by Don Bauder and Matt Potter

On February 25 of last year, professional skydiver Alan (Buzz) Fink and his wife Kristina, who are not residents of San Diego, gave a total of...[MORE](#)



Clouds on SDG&E's Sunny Plans

by Craig D. Rose

When it comes to fighting global warming, San Diego Gas & Electric and its parent company, Sempra Energy, are accomplishing the...[MORE](#)

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fast break

By Anthony Gentile



San Diego center Jeremy Tyler gets double teamed by Hoover's Idris ibn Idris and Reggie Lawson



Hoover guard Eric Wells tries to get the inbounds pass in with San Diego guard Martin Thomas Jr. in his face

Number 1 El Camino pressure too much for Rancho Bernardo

Posted January 28, 2009, 11:35 p.m.

After allowing 34 first-half points to Rancho Bernardo on Wednesday night, top-ranked El Camino ratcheted up their defensive intensity in the second half. The Wildcats turned a potential tough one into a 63-45 home win over the Broncos.

"At halftime we challenged them a little bit and told them we're a little better than what we showed in the second quarter, that we need to go out and play hard, and they responded," said El Camino head coach Ray Johnson.

El Camino controlled play at the start of the game and led by six at the end of the first quarter. The Wildcats had a 10-point lead midway through the second quarter when Rancho Bernardo went on a 10-2 run to narrow the gap. Broncos center Tanner Clayton hit a three on the last possession of the first half to make it a one-point game at the break.

After halftime, El Camino simply stifled Rancho Bernardo. The Wildcats relentless full court pressure held the Broncos to only 11 points in the final 16 minutes.

Currently ranked first in the section, El Camino is one of three teams in the discussion for the top spot. Hoover and San Diego also make strong cases for No. 1.

"I think we're in the top three," Johnson said. "We have a way to go before we get to No. 1. I'm good with where we're at right now. We just have to get better."

Bishop's cruises to win over Army-Navy

Posted January 30, 2009, 12:21 p.m.

Upcoming opponents of ninth-ranked Bishop's will probably be glad to see the month of January come to a close. The Knights capped the month on Thursday with a convincing 77-38 win over Army-Navy to finish it 8-1.

Bishop's used a strong first quarter to dis-

mantle Army-Navy. Ahead 7-6 midway through the first, Bishop's Malik Love and Trevor Sinclair hit threes on consecutive possessions that sparked a 15-0 run to end the quarter.

The Knights extended their lead in the second quarter with half court trapping on the defensive end and ball movement on the offensive side, leading to a 43-19 advantage at the half.

The second half was more of the same as Bishop's cruised to a 39-point win. The Knights only losses in the section have come to top-10 teams — Torrey Pines, Foothills Christian, and San Diego — and they have the best record in Division IV.

Number 3 San Diego beats number 2 Hoover

Posted January 31, 2009, 12:07 a.m.

Third-ranked San Diego answered any question as to whether they are one of the best teams in the section against Hoover on Friday night. Their answer was an emphatic "yes" — a 76-66 home win over the second-ranked Cardinals.

"No one had faith in us when we didn't have our three (transfers). Some of our team in the beginning didn't have faith in themselves," said San Diego center Jeremy Tyler.

Tyler finished with a game-high 37 points, including a number of ferocious dunks. San Diego's star also got help from his teammates — Xavier Roy scored 13 points and Dalawn Moss had 11.

The game got off to a frenetic start and neither team was able to get an advantage in the first quarter. The Cavers took control with an 8-0 run to start the second quarter and led 41-35 at the break.

After halftime, San Diego took control of the game. The Cavers had a 17-point lead in the quarter and led by 15 headed into the fourth.

With the win, the Cavers (10-6, 4-0) now sit alone atop the Eastern League and remains unbeaten in the section. Hoover (18-5, 3-1) dropped to second with their first league loss.

Fast Break can be found at SDReader.com. Under "Stories" in menu bar, click on "Sports" then "High School Basketball."

BestBuys

—EVE KELLY

Hubby Patrick is revving up for a banner garden year. His cover crop is in, and now he's got a hankering for worms. "They say they're good for composting," he informed me. I hit the phones for info.

"Two pounds of red worms will eat one pound of garbage every 24 hours, assuming it is the right garbage that you are feeding them," said Daniel Rojas, owner of Red Worm Fertilizing Products in Escondido (619-339-1963). "A family of four will produce anywhere from five to ten pounds of kitchen waste a day that can be composted. You can compost not just kitchen waste but also shredded paper, cardboard — just about anything except metal, glass, or plastic. There's a great book by Mary Appelhof called *Worms Eat My Garbage*, which is a standard in the industry for people wanting to do this at home."

Rojas says you can purchase a worm bin or you can make your own from a rectangular plastic bin (rectangular for more surface area) with holes on the bottom for drainage. "You cover the bin with wet paper or a wet towel. Worms stay where it is moist and where there is organic matter for them to eat. Put the food in there and cover it with the worm bedding, which is what you have to keep moist." To check the moisture level, "grab the bedding with your hand and squeeze it a little bit. If one or two drops of water come out, that is perfect. If it is too wet, just leave the bin open and it will dry out. The worms stay on the surface. They don't like to dig down. These worms are upper feeders."

What about Patrick's compost pile?

"Be careful with the mulch," warned Rojas. "Any pile of organic matter tends to heat up. That is part of the cooking process of decomposition. Worms don't like the high temperatures. If you put them in a mulch pile and it's hot in there, they will just take off, so make sure it is not hot."

Rojas sells his worms for \$15 a pound. "There are approximately 500 to 800 worms in a pound. You get adults, immature worms, eggs, all together."

"Worms go through the compost and make it real fine and fill it full of worm castings, which is worm manure," offered Sharon

"Two pounds of red worms will eat one pound of garbage every 24 hours."

of Sharon's Worm World, based in Ramona (760-419-6524). "You can use all kinds of worms, but red worms do the best. They make the compost go quicker. It might take eight months to get a compost pile ready to put in your garden. If you add worms to it, it can be ready in 45 to 60 days. Worms will eat any dying organic matter.

Stay away from too much citrus — it makes your worm bin too acidic. And you don't want to add any meat, dairy, or oil, which clogs up their systems. Also stay away from toxic plants like oleander, and oily plants like pine or eucalyptus....

"Worm castings are very good for eliminating whitefly," continued Sharon. "Something in the worm casting itself changes the flavor of the plant, and some pests don't care for that flavor. It helps eliminate aphids, too...."

"The worms should double in population every 60 to 90 days," added Sharon. "We sell the worms, the bedding — which is composted horse manure — and the worm castings altogether as one product for a dollar a pound. We guarantee that there are 20 worms per pound, all ages, all sizes, including worm capsules, which are little worm eggs inside of which are four to ten baby worms."

"I have had my worm bin continuously for almost 19 years now," explained Maria Hartwell, who lives in Clairemont (858-279-7072). "My worms are very healthy, nice, juicy worms. I sell them in a three-gallon bucket, in the medium in which they have been living and growing, and it works out to be about \$14 a pound."

"In the almost 19 years that I have been doing it, I have seen an increase in the interest level. I think vermiculture is the way of the future. My husband and I barely have a small bag of garbage every week. Everything goes either to the worms, into the recycling bin, or we give it away. We generate almost no garbage at all."

Another worm-buying option: The Worms' Way (760-789-5441), located in Ramona, sells worms for \$20 a pound.

For more stories by this author, go to sdreader.com.

T.G.I.F.

BY JOHN BRIZZOLARA

Two strong drinks and two beers will induce a memory lapse after decades of imbibing.

On a recent Friday night I was staying at the downtown YMCA. Don't ask. The irony in its being referred to as the "Y" for "Young" was not lost on me. I wondered if the other old guys there were aware of it. I think of such things: Does that guy have a sense of irony?

It was once said in front of 20 or 30 people by Dave "the Waterman" Ross that "John B. will not drop a dime on you, but he'll drop a dime on himself." That is what I am about to do here. That Friday night at the Y, I took it into my head to go to that mock English pub, the Elephant and Castle in the Holiday Inn on Harbor Drive. Just, you know, to see how much it might resemble a real British public house. I spent more than a little time in those back in the Bronze Age. It is said "in the rooms" that "If you hang around a barber shop, sooner or later you'll get a haircut." You may know I should not go there. I had four drinks with no desire for any more. That can happen, it just can't be guaranteed.

Feeling touristy, I took one of those pedicabs for six bucks. A kid, probably named Jason, pumped the wheels. He told me to call him when I wanted to head back, but by that time I thought I'd better walk off the two Stolis and two Sam Adams beers. This was after meeting three nice people at the pub.

One man, a good 20 years younger than me whose name I do not (and I'm not sure why this is) have permission to use, makes compact resuscitation kits for a living. He invented these particular types and is president of his own company. I offered to call him Q, as in a James Bond novel (nothing like his real initial), but he wouldn't go for it. This nameless fellow, who saves lives for a living, was one of the most genuinely humble men I have met in recent years. He did not get drunk. No one did.

The E&C does look passably like an English pub — no suits of armor, but they might have a dart board, I didn't notice. Sorry. I was talking to the nameless entrepreneur. I seated myself between him and a pleasant-looking couple. Not too close...a few stools from anyone. The couple was from Minnesota. I made some crack about *Fargo*, and the gentleman, maybe 60 (the woman appearing much younger, maybe 40s), said in a deadpan tone, "That's in North Dakota." Well, I knew that, but the couple did have the accent.

The man and woman introduced themselves, but two strong drinks and two beers will induce a memory lapse after decades of imbibing. Their names have fled. I didn't know I was working until it was too late. I said something lame about sensible Midwesterners, quickly adding that I was from Illinois.

"Uh-huh," I think they both said this together, like well-rehearsed twins, neither of them even nodding their heads. The woman had raven-coal hair that was not dyed. Not a gray strand in sight. I want to use the word handsome, but I do not mean to suggest she was in any way masculine. I'm trying to remember the bartender, or barman as they're called in Jolly Old. He was young, in his 20s, maybe early 30s but I can't describe him. I'm shot out.



My overwhelming recollection of that winter late-night Friday was that the place was warm and it was a chilly night. Warm has become a priority. In that sense I guess it had that cozy British quality. That's probably an illusion. We have warm barrooms in the U.S., even in, say, *Fargo* — or Buffalo. The Princess of Wales on India Street may be more authentic, or Shakespeare's farther north on that same street, but the Elephant and Cas-

tle on Harbor Drive has a hotel-y charm, if an artificial Englishness to it that becomes more convincing with drink.

Hardly a raucous Friday night, not even crowded (fine with me); very civilized, in fact — another plus for its Englishness (such as it is) right there.

I believe I said more than once to the res-kit innovator/businessman that his was important work, certainly more so than mine. He would only shake his head, smile, and say, "No, no. Not really." I could not help wondering what it might be that he would consider important work. I did not ask, nor did I bring up Mother Teresa. As I may have indicated, I was not whacked, just buzzed with some faulty-memory-inducing brain damage involved.

Something in the nature of even faux British pubs makes me want to speak with an accent and say, "Royt!" and "Cheerio." I hope you are affected in no such pretentious manner. I am actually part English, on my mother's side, the Calverts and the Arburns. The Calverts of Baltimore and, yes, the whiskey people too. My friend Mark calls alcoholism "Satan's scribbling on your genes." He's a biologist.

For more stories by this author, go to sdreader.com.



by Barbarella

*I dug right down to the bottom of my soul... And cried.
'Cause I felt...nothing.*

— A Chorus Line

Your phone is ringing,” David said. “It’s your mom. Here.” Disoriented, I took hold of the small glowing slab and mumbled, “I didn’t hear anything.” My iPhone buzzed in my hand. *Right*, I remembered, I’d silenced it last night before setting it on the nightstand beside David’s pillow. The buzzing stopped. I inched closer to the clock near my head and tried to focus on the blurry green numbers: 6:13. It was Friday morning, an hour before my mother usually bored-dialed me from her car on her way to work. As far as I was concerned it was still night — we’d gotten in late, and David had drawn the shades of our hotel room so we could sleep in. My phone buzzed, blinding me as the word “Mom” again appeared on the screen.

“Mom?” I croaked.

**They pulled the
plug on Friday,
exactly one week
after my early-
morning phone
call from Mom.**

“Barb?” She sounded frantic, but I wasn’t alarmed — I’d heard that tone in her voice plenty of times. I asked her what was wrong. “It’s Pop Pop,” Mom said, her voice breaking. Words cascaded from her mouth, something about her father having died, that there was supposed to be a “do not resuscitate” (as decided by Mom and her

sisters a few years ago, the last time Pop Pop was at death’s door) but that, when the hospital called Mom’s sister for a decision, she was distraught and overwhelmed and gave them the go-ahead to revive him, which they did, prior to placing him on a ventilator, which was the only thing keeping him alive now. “And I don’t know what to do,” she finished.

I let out my breath, long and slow. “If I was down there, I’d come over and give you a hug.”

“Where are you?”

“I’m in L.A.,” I said.

“The cooking class I signed us up for? Remember I told you for David’s birthday I was going to try to show an interest in his favorite hobby?” I sighed once more and sat up. “Look, it doesn’t matter. What do you mean, you don’t know what to do?”

Mom couldn’t decide when to go back to New Jersey, or if she even wanted to. She vacillated between emotions — anger for the resuscitation, fear of judgment if she chose not to go, lament for any pain her

father might be in, and grief over his impending loss. As I listened, I felt sympathy for Mom, for her grief and the agony of her decisions. When my mother reached a stopping point, I offered her one of the truths I hold close to my heart: “There is no ‘right thing to do.’ There’s only what’s right for you. What do you want to do?”

After hours of telephonic conferences with her sisters and daughters, Mom decided she would go — but not until Tuesday. That way, she wouldn’t miss her grandson’s seventh birthday party on Saturday, and she’d have a few days to prepare herself.

I hardly knew my grandfather. It was only two years ago that I wrote about having forgotten he was still alive. The rest of the extended family on my mother’s side — save for my Aunt Jane, who continued to reach out to me over the years — are names and faces, many of which I would have difficulty matching up. Relationships simply do not exist. This is not good or bad so much as just the way things are. How could I mourn the loss of something I didn’t have? I felt for my mother. But that’s where my feelings ended.

On Facebook, I noted how curious I found the concept of scheduling someone’s death — the polar opposite of the Caesarean section, to appoint an hour at which life support will be withdrawn. Friends posted comments, offering their condolences. I found this interesting, considering I hadn’t indicated

how I felt about it. All I’d said was that he was scheduled to die and that the concept of scheduling a life-ending appointment was strange. People assumed I was upset.

There’s a protocol to life and death. When babies are born, you’re supposed to congratulate the parents. You rush to the hospital to tell them their offspring is gorgeous, and if you’re related or a close friend, you come bearing gifts. When someone dies, you’re supposed to express sympathy to the survivors. If you can, you attend the funeral. If not, you send flowers or food along with a note that informs the grieving how sorry you are for their loss. And if you were related to the deceased, you’re supposed to be among the grieving. I’ve never been one to abide by convention for convention’s sake. I either feel it or I don’t. I either want to or I won’t. In this regard, I am sure I have repeatedly disappointed my family.

They pulled the plug on Friday, exactly one week after my early-morning phone call from Mom. It took half an hour for Pop Pop’s heart to stop. At the wake in New Jersey, my mother was surrounded by her sisters, in-laws, cousins, nieces, and nephews. Her four daughters remained in San Diego.

The day after Pop Pop died, my sister Jane said she was thinking of sending a fruit bouquet. She asked if I was interested in doing the same. I thought about it for a moment. “I think it’s a nice gesture,” I said. “It’s thoughtful of you to make it. But it doesn’t feel right for me, so, no, I’m

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not interested."

As the eldest, Jane had a stronger connection to both our grandfather and the griever. For me, reaching out now felt disingenuous. I really tried to feel something, some buried tenderness from fond memories; but no matter how deeply I searched my soul, I couldn't bring myself to care. I did not want to be involved.

Jane called me the following day to say that Jenny, our youngest sister, went ahead and ordered the fruit. "She signed your name to the card," Jane said.

"Why?"
"I told her you weren't interested in participating, but she said something about it being

the right thing to do."

"I'm sure she meant well," I said. "And it may be right for the rest of you. But I'm bothered. Regardless of one's intentions, I find it inappropriate for someone to presume they know the right thing for *me* to do and then, even when it's made clear I am choosing not to do that thing, to go ahead and make it appear as if I did." I then repeated the words I had offered my mother when she'd fretted over others' expectations. "There is no 'right thing to do,' Jane. People may not like my choices, but that doesn't make my choices wrong." ■

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“No matter what happens,” Chris Heaney declares with a grin,

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He stands behind the bar at Club Kadan, the Adams

Avenue bar he owns, serving a round of beers to a handful of

afternoon customers. Even in this particularly rough

economic patch, Heaney is right on the money, so to speak.

While the country struggles, one business venture continues

to boom, at least here in San Diego: bars.

During the past year, several of San Diego’s better-known

establishments changed hands, most recently Shooterz

“Scolari’s had the feel of a grungy basement. I loved to drink there.”

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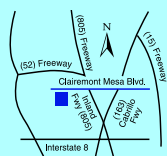
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and Scolari's Office in North Park and the Zombie Lounge (which Heaney has purchased) and Chaser's in City Heights. Each is being remodeled: Shooterz, at the time of this writing, is in the process of being gutted, behind a protective layer of plywood; Scolari's Office has been completely reinvented as "the Office"; the Zombie Lounge has been rechristened "the Radio Room"; and Chaser's is closed indefinitely.

The opinions on the current remodels — and remodels-in-progress — have been mixed. Sebastian Ulloa, drummer for the local band Batwings, misses his old haunt, Scolari's. The night the new Office opened, he got a peek at the digs after meeting a few pals at the Pink Elephant. He wasn't thrilled.

"There were several of us, several friends I've made just from going out to the bars, and we had all discussed taking a trip over there to see what it was like," he recalls. "It was a group

of maybe ten of us that walked into the bar, looked around — nobody ordered a drink — and we left immediately."

Ulloa, who used to book bands for Scolari's, says a lot of people don't want to like the new bar.

"There's an attitude that they're not going to like it before they walk in," he says. We're sitting

Lincoln. "Scolari's Office was this run-down little shack that's been there forever," she says, "really hole-in-the-wall, and it was nice. I loved going there because it had the feel of a grungy basement where you used to drink when you were in high school, compared to an upscale bar now in the middle of a street that's not really up to

"Scolari's smelled weird, it had character, there was always something going on."

at a table at Lestat's Coffee House in Normal Heights. "They don't want to support the people that took away what we liked before. There really was a sense of community with the people that frequented Scolari's."

Lety Gonzalez, a longtime patron of Scolari's and diehard dive-bar fan, was a member of that community.

We meet outside the Filter Cafe on 30th and

par completely. North Park is coming up, but it's not quite there."

Daye Salani, who wrote an unfavorable review of the original Scolari's on Yelp.com, a site that allows the public to rate and discuss local businesses of all stripes, disagrees and is heavily in favor of the reinvention of the old place.

"I wasn't a fan at all of Scolari's," he says, over a coffee at Gelato Vero on India Street.

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"I've been a dozen times, and every time there was some sort of drama, either a fight breaking out on the sidewalk or a crappy sound system or just drunk jerks. So when I heard that the Bar Dynamite owners were taking over the Office, I thought it was a good thing. For the most part, the one time I've been there, I enjoyed it. It was very clean; the clientele was very fun."

Other people on Yelp feel the same way,

some urging bar-goers to lighten up about the change, others echoing Salani's distaste for the atmosphere at Scolari's.

"Variety is the spice of life, and if people can't deal with it, I say just stick to what you like," says Patricia V. in her review. "Just because a place cleans up and has a bouncer doesn't mean you're suddenly in [Pacific Beach] or [downtown]. I love me [sic] dive bars and all, but it's nice to have a selection of

places to visit in one neighborhood."

"They seem to keep it classy but don't make it douchy [sic]," says Lance R. "North Park is a nicer place now, so I think it deserves a classy place like this instead of a filthy scum hole that smells like puke and butt, where homeless people/gutter punks hang out."

While the "riff-raff," as Salani describes some of the former Scolari's fans, are gone, he does recognize that the old

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Scolari's was a popular destination.

"Most of the people in this town, most of my friends, they loved Scolari's," he says. "They thought it was such a fun, classic dive bar, in the sense of what a dive bar is. You know, it smelled weird, it had character, there was always something going on."

Salani thinks that perhaps his Yelp review of Scolari's was a bit too strong, yet it was, ultimately, his opinion.

"I think it was harsh what I said," he explains. "You know, 'shit bar' or 'shit hole for shit people' — because there are people [for whom] that place was very near and dear. I wasn't one of them. You have all day to convince me [otherwise], and if the pros

outweigh cons, I am willing to delete my story on Yelp. But until then, I'm keeping it up."

Richard "T-Bone" Larson, a former bartender at Scolari's, remembers seeing the review.

"He's talking about me," he says of Salani's

Yelp, a user named Tere-sita C. provides a favorable opinion of the new Radio Room.

"So the tetanus factor and grime might be gone from the place, but the former Zombie Lounge is now a much better place to see music," she writes in her

"The former Zombie Lounge is now a much better place to see music."

"shit bar for shit people" comment. "It's just kind of like all that we worked for there is for nothing because people just want a nice, glitzy bar, you know?"

And some do, preferring the revamps of other old favorites. On

review. "Given more than just a corner/afterthought to play their tunes, bands can rock out on a bigger stage, and there is a nice little patch of floor if you think you can dance. Don't let the '80s pleather/chrome vibe

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scare you off, this is a fresh new update on an old fave.”

Ulloa is also looking forward to what will be going on at the Radio Room, music-wise.

“They have a brand-new, nice sound system,” he says. “It seems like it’s going to be a little bit more suited for live music. It looks nice. It’s exciting, actually.”

In addition to those staunchly pro- or anti-renovation, there are some who, while sad to see their old favorites go, are optimistic about what will arrive in their place.

Edgar Nuñez, who was a regular at the Zombie Lounge, says he will not have a problem visiting the new Radio Room.

“I [didn’t] have any qualms about it becoming the Radio Room or changing owners or anything like that,” he says, from his high stool at South Park’s Whistle Stop bar. “My general perspective on bars is they change ownership, it happens, business is business. I suppose I do feel a twinge of sadness that one of the places where I met so many of my close friends is gone, but who’s to say that you can’t have a good time at the Radio Room?”

Nuñez, who works as a Web developer by day and a deejay by night, has spun at many of the closed bars as DJ Edgartronic.

“One of my first deejay gigs was at Scolaris,” he says. “It had its good times and its bad. I guess it just wasn’t my scene. I understand why people are sad to see it go. I mean, super-cheap alcohol, who can say no to that? But, like I said

before, I’m a believer in letting things happen and giving the new place a shot and seeing if you like it.”

The changes are happening, like it or not.

“Here’s my theory,” says Heaney, giving Club Kadan’s bar-top a quick rubdown with a rag. “When the economy is good, people are buying big clubs and making big bucks. But

the economy fluctuates, and since I’m here for the long term, I like small bars with low overhead, and I think everybody else is thinking the same way, getting small bars so that

they can last through tough times.”

Heaney bought the Zombie Lounge from previous owner Joe Hicks in June, doing a light, 19-day renovation before reopening it as

the Radio Room. His motivation to buy, he says, had a lot to do with the volume of bands that wished to play at Kadan.

“I had these punk-rock bands and these

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metal bands and these jazz bands playing," he says, "and I was thinking, 'I don't have a stage, I don't have an adequate sound system.' So that's why I started looking out for a live venue."

The Radio Room fit his needs. Already an existing rock club, it had a core customer base and staff. Heaney,

who has a background as a sound engineer, outfitted the bar with a new sound system in anticipation of a full musical roster. Two friends of his, Pete and Dan Smith, a pair of contractor brothers Heaney plays ice hockey with, made a few structural changes, renovating the ladies' room and

painting "everything that wasn't moving" a fresh coat of black. With the new name and paint job comes a new set of drinks, including a Tanqueray pom blush (Tanqueray Rangpur lime gin with a splash of pomegranate juice and tonic water) for \$4, and vanilla Absolut with Coke or Diet Coke for \$3. Well drinks are \$3.50.

In addition to Heaney, there are four other owners of the

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Radio Room, all his bartenders from Kadan. Before buying the club, Heaney set up a venture-capital account to which his employees contributed. Three years later, as the account reached \$40,000, Heaney began looking for a spot to purchase. He bought the bar for \$125,000.

"I decided to keep the staff," says Heaney. "And [Hicks] told me of the nervousness of the staff, so I went down there and spoke to

[them] and kept them all because, one, they have a good reputation, and two, because [Hicks] told me they were good people."

But not all the purchased bars have stayed the same — or even similar.

The transformation of Scolari's Office into the fully renovated "Office" is perhaps the most remarkable of the recent remodels. The site underwent a total overhaul, and it no longer the dive it

once was.

"Evolution" is the word on owner Ted Lithopoulos's lips when talking about the facelift the bar has received.

"You start with something, and you end up with something else," Lithopoulos says. We're sitting at a table at Bar Dynamite, which he also owns, while he goes over some paperwork. "That's how I expected it to go."

Lithopoulos, who, though he has been a San Diegan since his

RESEARCH STUDIES

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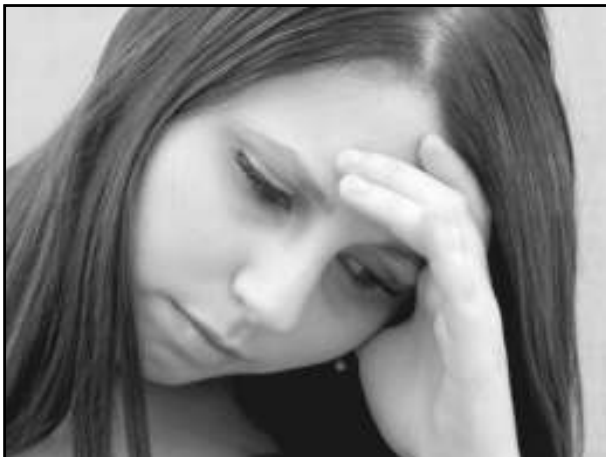
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teen years, is from Greece, bought the bar from George Scolari. Scolari owned it from the mid-'80s until 2008 and was in his 80s when he sold it in February.

Just before escrow closed in March, renovations began, which entailed a total gutting of the original interior, a tear-down of the exterior, and a full rebuilding of both.

"It needed it. Really [badly]," says Lithopoulos. "I don't like to go to a new place and not put my own signature on it. To me it's a waste of time. There was nothing there to keep, really; there was nothing. A lot of people went through there; it was a popular place. It [had] a lot of wear and tear. It was time. It was overdue, actually."

The plans for the remodel were first developed by Bells & Whistles, a University Heights design company. Then Lithopoulos's business partner and manager, Joe Balestrieri, took the reins and finished it off, their combined efforts producing the Office's current feel.

"Definitely, we wanted a city kind of look to it," says Lithopoulos. "Just basically a sexy, comfortable place."

The purchase price and the remodel, Lithopoulos says, cost him just over a million dollars.

Any trace, save for the truncated name, of the old Scolari's Office is gone. The new Office is sleek and black, everything brand new. The tiniest scent of fresh paint floats on the cool air, mixing with the scent of patrons' perfume. Black leather

booths sit tucked against the left wall, each with its own candle-topped round table. A latticed divider separates the booths from the bar for about 15 feet. Beyond that is the dance floor, complete with disco ball and a new deejay area, which glows with blue LEDs. The threadbare carpet,

black-padded bar top, and low ceilings are things of the past.

There are new drinks, including a menu of "signature cocktails." The cheapest of these is a "No. 4" (Hoegaarden, Monin Lemon, 7UP, and a lemon squeeze) at \$4, and their most expensive, a "No. 7" (Grey

Goose La Poire, St. Germain, Kenwood Yulupa sparkling wine), is \$8. Beer is \$4 a pop for draft Stella Artois, Hoegaarden, Sapporo, New-castle, and Boddingtons, while bottled beers are \$3-\$4.

The remodel — and entire purchasing process — took under three months, a time

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frame that according to former bartender Richard "T-Bone" Larson put employees of the old Scolari's in an unpleasant limbo.

"We heard different things," he says. "Like, oh, he's going to fire everybody; oh, he's going to keep everything the same; oh, he's going to change it into a reggae club. As it got closer to [when] the sale was going to be final, they canceled all the shows kind of abruptly, and I still had about two months' worth of shows and touring bands from all over the world scheduled to play at Scolari's. We had to find a home for them."

After that, Larson quit, but many others stayed until a few months later, when they were let go.

"It was kind of ugly for a long time," Larson says. "They gave us all these lame reasons why they couldn't have shows anymore. 'We're being investigated by the cops, we're getting noise complaints.' All those things turned out to be false, according to what I've heard."

And they are false, says Lithopoulos. The reason for the cancellation of the bands, he claims, was simple: George Scolari didn't see the point in renewing his cabaret license — the permit that allows an establishment to have deejays and put on live shows — for the short time it would take for the sale to go through.

"The legality and reality is that it's just as simple as that," Lithopolous says. "[Scolari] just simply chose not to renew for a short length of time. Nothing more. The sale was

going through within 20 days anyway, so once it went through, we renovated, [and] I got the license."

The closing of Scolari's, Larson says, put a lot of people out

of work, himself included. After tending bar at Scolari's for eight years, he thought he had found a new home at Chaser's in City Heights until that, too, closed in late August, after being

purchased by the owners of the Bluefoot Bar in North Park.

"The only indication we had is that for about a week [the previous owner] didn't stock some of the call liquor,

so we're thinking, 'Wow, this is kind of weird,' " Larson reports. "We were out of pretty much every kind of vodka."

Eventually, the alcohol came in, but the suspicion was already

there. Not long after, the bar shut down. Once again, Larson had to scramble to find venues for the bands lined up to play at Chaser's, just as he'd had to do at Scolari's.

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The fate of Chaser's, Larson says, has been somewhat decided. He reports that the new owners plan to keep it a rock club and will reopen after a six-month remodel.

He will not, he says, reapply to work there; the experience has left a bad taste in his mouth. "I talked to them,"

he says, speaking of the new owners. "[One] gave me his card, and he was, like, 'I know this is really hard for you guys. I know it's hard on the bands, but it's a decision we had to make.' Real businessman-speak. You know how people talk in the business world. I felt it was like a corporate takeover kind of thing.

[They were] being [really] placating, but all in all, it's about business for them."

Though he thinks the new owners will stick to their word and keep it a rock club, Larson doesn't think they're "getting off on a very good foot."

He elaborates. "Canceling all these

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shows with no notice is no way to start a venue. I mean, they could have let us finish the shows there or something. They could have done a

construction. The front wall and interior have been completely demolished.

This is the work of Eric Lingenfelder and

"Every dive bar that had live music has completely tried to change their image."

lot of things [to make] an easier transition."

The owners of Bluefoot, Adam Cook and Cuong Nguyen, did not return calls for comment.

Back over in North Park, another bar aside from the Office is getting a complete makeover. The pool hall-cum-nightclub known as Shooterz is currently undergoing

his team, the Verant Group, who own the Tavern in Pacific Beach and Sandbar in Mission Beach, as well as several other locations in Arizona and Georgia. Lingenfelder purchased Shooterz in January and has just begun breaking ground on the construction of his new venture, which will be called True North.

"I started attending

the Main Street district meetings," Lingenfelder says, "[and] the design committee meetings, trying to get a feel for what the community, one, was looking for, and two, what the environment was." We're sitting at a conference table in his office on Morena Place. "Were they pro-business, do they want more bars and restaurants? What are they trying to do with North Park? I could see it from my side, but it was a matter of trying to see what the business district [wanted]."

The biggest piece of advice Lingenfelder took from the meetings with Main Street was that North Park needed more open-air dining-and-drinking spaces. With this in mind, he

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incorporated a street-side patio into his blueprints, which he displays on his laptop.

The plan for True North, construction-wise, is to take out the wall that used to divide Shooterz down the middle and create one big space with a horseshoe-shaped bar in the center, something Lingenfelder says creates "good energy." The blueprint shows banks of tables and booths on either side of the bar, a small dance floor/deejay booth in the back, and a second outdoor patio to the left of the bar's entrance.

With all of the recent turnover, one has to wonder why the rush for change. Lety Gonzalez cites gentrification as — at least in part — the catalyst for the

recent alterations, quipping, "If you don't want prostitutes hanging out on your street, close the brothel."

"The neighborhoods, when they change, they automati-

drink. The way I see it is, if they have no beef, and they've got no problem with the neighborhood, why close [the bar]?"

She cautions that, with all the bar closures

"All we did was clean up. Our prices are staying the same."

cally want to get rid of your homeless, your drug addicts, your prostitution, and all of the above," Gonzalez says. "About eight months ago was when I noticed Scolari's was getting so much crap for being open all the time and having the regulars coming in at noon, which is either a bunch of homeless people or old vets that want to

and remodels, many patrons have lost their refuges and will have to seek less than desirable alternatives to their old favorites.

"The kids that used to hang out at these clubs, even though we were drunk and rowdy, we're now hanging out in the streets again," she says. "So you're closing down clubs and these places where we could

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feel at home and stay. Now we're all hanging out in the street. So it's kind of unsafe for us."

Ulloa remarks that many other bars have changed hands over the past two years.

"Dino's used to be kind of a hip-hop bar," he says. "That's where the Pink Elephant is. Buster Daily's is now U-31. Bluefoot used to be a gay bar, a bear bar, actually. The Zombie Lounge is the Radio Room, and now with Chaser's, every dive bar that had live music has completely tried to change their image."

Daye Salani, on the other hand, embraces what's been going on in North Park, which, he says, used to be a rough area.

"There was this running joke back in the day," he says, "in the '80s, that, if there was a crime committed in North Park, the perpetrators would run back to their homes in South Park, because South Park used to be very 'hood-y' as well. You look at it now, the corner of University and 30th, it's a hotspot. You just have all these great new restaurants and bars opening up, which is good for that neighborhood. If you're a homeowner in that neighborhood, you love it because it's bringing up your property value, which is a good thing."

Nuñez says he wishes people would keep an "open mind" about the changes in the neighborhood.

"With all these new bars popping up, again, there's something for everyone," he says. "I've heard people constantly ragging on these bar owners because they're buying out their old

favorite bars, and they're kind of doing so without giving these people a chance. At the very least, they should go into the bar and check it out before they make

a decision."

Lithopoulos, too, wishes that the former patrons of Scolari's, those who have not given the new Office a fair shake, would come in and see for them-

selves what he has done with the place.

"I would like them to embrace it," he says. "All we did was clean up. Our prices are staying the same. We did not look the other way;

we did not abandon them. We want to embrace them. They just need to open up their hearts and minds and come in and check it out. I understand they lost their Cheers.

[The Office] is the upgraded Cheers, that's all. Let it go!"

He pauses, putting his hands on the table. "But it's up to them." ■

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Merry Christmas, Ted

Christmas Eve was easy. Rocio's parents opted for an early meal, breaking with their traditional midnight dinner, and they ate tostadas up the hill while I cooked up two large pots of clam chowder down here. The rain, which had threatened to be steady and strong, instead gifted Baja with a quick and relatively harmless series of sprinkles that fell quietly



Desert road in Baja



Author: David Alton Dodd
Neighborhood: Baja
Age: 47
Occupation: Engineer

Editor's note: This is the winner of December's \$100 third-place prize for our monthly neighborhood-essay contest.

Deadline for the next contest is February 28, midnight.

To post your entry, go to SDReader.com/neighborhoods, find your neighborhood or campus, and follow the instructions to create a blog.

with lazy disinterest in seriously wetting anything at all. They were home early and were even hungry when they arrived, so we enjoyed sandwiches and cheeses and chowder, and I was in bed by ten o'clock, serenaded by fireworks outside that became more sparse and distant as I slept.

I am not, by nature, prone to violent thought or violent behavior unless my primordial subconscious is somehow tickled or teased in such a way where, as with anyone, some sort of instinctual reflexive response throws a switch, and I find myself wishing to beat the snot out of someone. I have a neighbor who, at irregular intervals, is one of the few humans on this planet with this gift. And it isn't just me — he seems to provoke everyone

into realizing that we are, after all, only animals sometimes with habits of instinct that are only realized in extraordinary circumstances. I don't know his name, so I call him Ted.

Ted enjoys metalworking. Ted's favorite time to fire up his grinder is after midnight. Ted's grinder is loud, and so is Ted. He enjoys yelling at his family, in English — especially three or four hours before dawn. There is a story about me chasing Ted off my front porch one afternoon with a knife that I was using to cut up some pork because I wouldn't give Ted money to fix something, which prompted Ted to

use English while insulting my mother. Ted stays away from my front door now.

At two o'clock Christmas morning, Ted decided to light off his arsenal of explosive devices. Between explosions, many of which dwarfed dynamite by comparison, Ted cursed his lovely family in both English and Spanish. Ted sounded drunk. Rocio, Anna, and Sharon slept right through everything, and if it was any other neighbor, I might have also just slept for a few more hours, but Ted made sure that I was not only enraged but totally wide awake. The fact that it was 38 degrees

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outside probably saved Ted from an impromptu visit to the Red Cross, as I decided to come downstairs and make coffee rather than to go over to his house and beat the hell out of him.

My Christmas morning is a simple matter of logistics and timing. The stuffing has to be cooked before anything else, so at three o'clock in the morning I was making stuffing, and an hour later it was cooling. Ted was asleep by then. I rinsed the turkey from the brining and started in on the bacon and breakfast. Before seven o'clock, I had biscuits ready for the pre-heated oven, and I was creaming my second skillet of gravy. Rocio came downstairs first, followed by Anna. It wasn't but a couple of years ago that we couldn't keep Anna from immediately ripping

open the presents. Now she's patient; she would rather have breakfast first.

People like to show up for breakfast here. For whatever reason, biscuits and gravy — a food so foreign here that it defies explanation — is probably just as much of

turkey went into the oven at 8:30. Ted, almost assuredly, was still sleeping.

After they ate, presents were opened. Anna got her digital camera, Rocio got a nice coat and some kitchenware (that I will delight in using), and I got another jacket.

I almost hoped that Ted would find more explosives, but the early-morning activities probably wore him right out.

a draw as is the turkey dinner. Rocio's parents came down the hill along with Rocio's sister, Elizabeth, and then Bibiana, Juan's occasional girlfriend, showed up. While everyone was consuming breakfast, I was busy stuffing the turkey and oiling it up, then covering it all with foil. The

I have more jackets now than anyone on this planet that does not own a clothing store. I also got a ratchet-and-socket set from Juan, whom we spoke with over the Internet from where he is deployed in Iraq. Then everyone decided to go shopping on Christmas Day while I called my

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own parents to wish them a happy Christmas, and Rocio napped.

Ted, obviously, was also napping.

My rice is not so simple as boiling it in water — I steam it first and then cool it, so I got on it right away. I cooked while Rocio napped and everyone else went shopping. I almost hoped that Ted would find more explosives to detonate, but the early-morning activities probably wore poor Ted right out. By the time that Rocio awoke from her nap, I was already heating up the clam chowder from last night and prepping potatoes and sucking the juices from the turkey pan in order to make gravy. Anna came back with pictures.

Everyone snacked while we waited for the turkey to cook. Once the rice cooled, I scrambled a few eggs and cut up some cooked, leftover chicken from a couple of nights ago, fired up the wok, and fried everything into a soy-infused, yummy mixture that went into a casserole dish and into the oven. Anna mashed potatoes and I made gravy, cooked some corn, and got the rolls ready as the turkey came out to rest before the unveiling.

I was in bed by five in the afternoon, and I slept a full 12 hours. It was a lovely Baja Christmas. The food was outstanding, the company was wonderful, and next year I am brining the turkey again — it was magnificent. Early next week I plan on taking a bowl of clam chowder over to Scott. Hopefully his cold has subsided enough to enjoy it. And maybe next year he can come over, and maybe Daniel will stop in as well. I'll be fully recovered by then.

Oh, and Merry Christmas, Ted.
Jerk. ■

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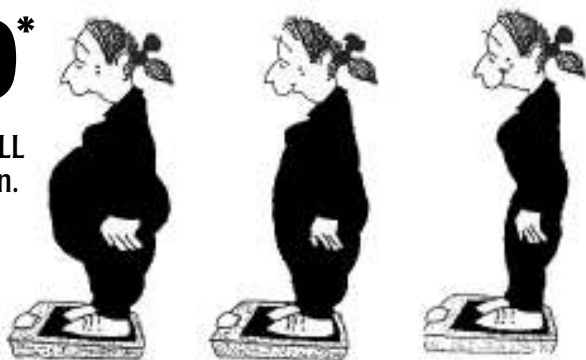


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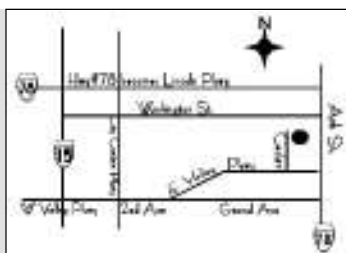
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I HAVE BEEN going to open houses for some time now. I do not go looking for a place to move; I rarely visit places I could ever hope to afford. I do not go for decorating ideas; I will not be replacing my mishmash of slowly acquired piecemeal furniture anytime soon, and I do not have the time or the inclination to "update a room's look" for fun. I go because I like to look. There is undoubtedly a measure of how-the-other-half-lives curiosity about it, and there is plenty of nostalgia involved as well. People say they miss the seasons back East; I miss the blocks of modestly priced two-story houses full of wood floors and double-hung windows and high ceilings and gorgeous woodwork. All these things meant "house" to me, and I like to walk about in such places, see echoes of my old home in "old" California Craftsmans and Spanish-style manses.

I also visit open houses out of amazement and delight that it can be done — I can walk through another person's home. Though the houses are usually cleaned to better than "company's coming" perfection — not a stray toy in sight, not a crumb on the counter — I get to see, in some small way, how someone lives: the art on the walls, the books on the shelves, the videos beside the television, the stuff in the pantry, even the clothes in the closets.

It doesn't matter that I don't actually know whose material life I'm taking in — in fact, it's better that way — all that matters is that it is someone's.

Once, however, I was looking for a place to live. I bought my first house off an open house — walked in, walked through, and said, "This is it." Though I had an agent, Betsy Bowers of Prudential Real Estate, I was still driven to find a place myself, and I did. In doing so, I was the exception. "One of the things about holding open

a really nice house is it inspires people to move," says Bowers. "But really good, bona fide business off an open house? I'd say you would maybe have 300 or 400 people come through the house before you would get one who was going to work with you. Statistically, [the number of houses sold off open houses] is very, very low."

So why hold it open? Why make your home a tourist destination if it probably won't lead to a sale? "There are two reasons to hold it open. One is to expose it to potential buyers who

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may be out driving around and whose agent didn't show them the house for some reason." Bowers happens to be acting as the agent for the people selling her childhood home on Titus Street in Mission Hills, and she notes, "I've had two people get interested in that house whose agents didn't show it to them. They told their agents they didn't want freeway noise" — the 5 sighs in the background; such is the price of the downtown/harbor view — "but then they loved this house so much, they started thinking they could live with the freeway."

"There used to be this hideous saying in real estate: 'Buyers are liars.' It's an awful thing to say because they're not. They just don't really know what they want or what they're willing to do to compromise. They've told you one thing, and then they buy another. It's a process; they discover that they'll give up this because they want that. A good friend of mine had to have a pool, and he had to have four bedrooms and a big yard, and he would look anywhere from Point Loma/Ocean Beach to San Carlos. I kept finding things that fit the criteria, and nothing was working out. Finally, one day, his wife ended up calling me, and they bought this itty-bitty two-bedroom house in O.B. with no pool. The whole thing for her was she wanted to be near her parents, who lived in the neighborhood. She was letting him lead the way, but when it came down to it, she was the one calling the shots." So, you hold your house open in the hopes of opening a buyer's eyes to what they really, really want.

The other reason has little to do with the property in question. "Partly, realtors hold open houses not to sell the house, but to pick up new clients — other listings, buyers" for other properties. This is the reason for the ominous sign-in sheet that agents often shepherd you toward upon

your entrance into an open house. "The seller has requested that you sign in," says the agent, so you feel obliged — this is their home, after all. The least you can do is let them know who traipsed through. But

even if the seller requests it, it's the agent who wants it. Bowers doesn't bother with the sign-in. "I don't see the point. People can put whatever they want down there. Unless you're going to check ID, they can


say, 'I'm John Smith and I live on A Avenue.' I have found those lists to be a waste of time in terms of follow-up — if you don't connect with people at the time, get an appointment with them while they're at your

open house, you're never going to see or hear from them again."

In her early days as an agent, "They would try to train us to get names and numbers and go back to the office and immediately

call them all. We'd call them all, and nobody would be home and nobody would call us back. I have not, in 18 years, found a list of names and numbers to be of any benefit to me at all. You'll find that the people

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that have been doing this the longest are the least likely to be making people sign in. It's the newbies — they're doing what they've been told to do."

But while she doesn't believe in signing in, Bowers does believe in holding open houses, in part because of one big fat stars-aligning-in-the-heavens experience years ago: "I'd had this big, expensive house [A] listed for a long time. I was holding open another house listed by my office [B], because if these people could get their house sold, they were going to buy my listing. In walks this person that has to have the house I'm holding open. I list their house [C], sell this house [B], and those people buy my house [A]. The prices were like \$385, \$485, and \$725. And then I sold another house off a contact made at that open house for a half-million dollars."

And while it may take

300 or 400 people through the door to get a solid contact, those numbers don't seem so daunting when you consider that "as many times as I hold open that

Sale sign.

Bowers was also my agent when I sold my first house, and I remember the frantic weekend of preparation before the agents'

Oh, that porte cochere, those fir floors showing their ancient nailheads, those French doors between living and dining rooms!

Titus Street house, I'm going to have 100, 150, 200 prospects through the door." And she ventures to say, "Whoever buys the Titus Street house is going to be someone who saw it on an open house. There are two people right now who have their houses for sale and who discovered the Titus house on open house." One person's house was already on the market, the other saw Titus and went home to hang up the For

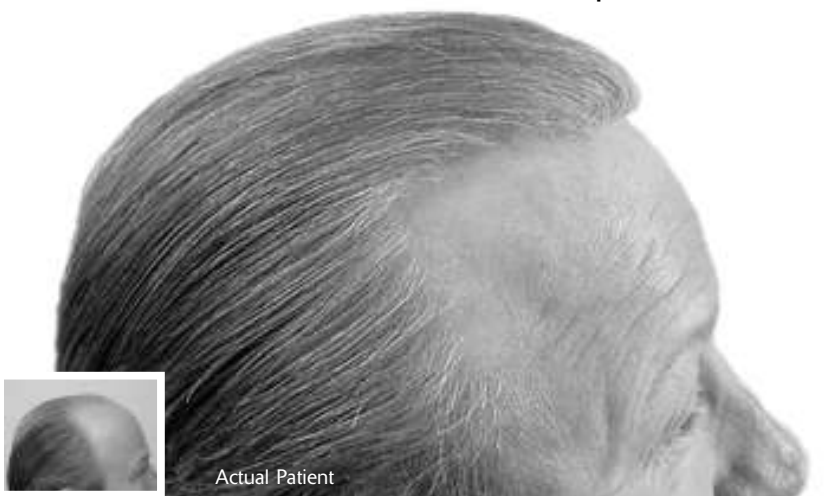
caravan on Tuesday. "Plant flowers," she said, and my wife installed rows of this and that wherever possible. "Get rid of your pictures; the more empty flat spaces and the fewer signs of your family, the easier it will be for someone else to imagine living there." So we wiped our house clean of ourselves, until it had less individual character than a page from the Pottery Barn catalog.

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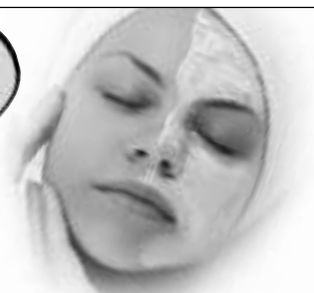
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have softened — she'll allow family pictures, but she still suggests clearing the fridge of magnets and children's masterpieces. And she will still comment if a house's decor shows a little too much...personality. "There are houses where we go into the house, and there is too much nudity — on the walls, figures, that kind of thing." Would you ever say anything? "To my clients, I would."

I sympathize. Even on my exploratory tours, I like to look at signs of life, not full-blown proclamations. I think of a judge's home office in Del Cerro, whose computer was on but asleep, his screen saver flashing one bikini babe after another. I think of a master bedroom in deepest Kensington, one of those homes right on the ridge above Mission Valley. On the wall, in enormous, gilt-framed glory, a Varga pinup girl lying on her back and clad in the sheerest black lace, her head thrown back in ecstasy, her impossible figure jutting out in several directions. So hard not to wonder about the point of such a display — something for the trophy wife to check herself against? "How am I holding up?" For the bored husband to glance at in an attempt to get his engine running? A demarcation of the bed-

room as erotic space? "Here be sex" instead of the ancient maps' "Here be dragons."

But better (worse) still than the Varga girl was the upstairs master bedroom in Rolando where my wife and I (and many others) discovered a series of professional portraits of the lady of the house when she was a blushing bride. Except she wasn't blushing — we would have been able to tell if she was. The portraits captured only her, except for her billowy veil. None of the portraits was explicit, but they were certainly suggestive — the bride, seated on the floor, looking back over her veiled shoulder with a smile. The effect was not the anonymous, mysterious (who are these people?) sexuality denoted by the Varga; this was My Personalized Sexy Space. Hard to imagine taking up one's own love life in such a room.

After I bought my second house, I stopped going to open houses for a long while. There was no point, I told myself, and my Sunday afternoons were better spent elsewhere. But after a year or two, I started stopping here and there — one at a time, just for fun, mind you — especially in Mission Hills, long my favorite neighborhood and also the site of Mission Hills Nursery, where my wife likes to shop. Gradually, I got the bug again, and now, here I am, a full "Sunday, 1-4 p.m." in front of me, heading down Washington to see what there is to see.

First stop, a 5/5 (bedrooms/bathrooms) on Goldfinch, just a half block north of the first house I ever hoped to buy, the brick one on the corner of Goldfinch and Bush. (Back then, the agent was very

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gentle in letting me know that it was well out of my price range; he mainly stressed the importance of getting prequalified with a lender so as to “get an idea of what I could afford.”) Bowers said that anything under 900K tended to fly off the page in Mission Hills, but this is Mission Hills below Washington, so perhaps things aren’t moving quite as fast here. After three months or so on the market, the house is down almost 50 grand from its original list price — \$849,500 instead of \$899,000. At 2959 square feet (out of a 4539-square-foot lot) the flyer boasts that the house costs a mere “\$287 per square foot!”

The two-story 1913 Craftsman leads with charm, charm, charm — white picket fence, blooming front yard, brick driveway, those lovely old Mission-style window frames. Inside is more charm — oh, that porte cochere, those

fir floors showing their ancient nailheads, those French doors between living and dining rooms! Those alcoves off the front bedrooms, lit by sunlight pouring through fascinating trapezoidal windows! Those period Arts-and-Crafts light fixtures! The old pleasure in fine old houses warms anew.

But the period chandelier in the dining room hints at what the kitchen confirms: this is not simply an older house, not even an “updated” older house. This is a total remodel, the kind that is bought to be fixed up and sold. There is a uniformity to the color and decor that says that great swaths of work were done at the same time — no piecemeal upgrades here.

Naturally, amendments have been made for the modern taste. The kitchen has been allowed to maintain its antiquated tininess (10’ x 11’) but has been stuffed with a checklist of

amenities: granite counters, maple cabinets, stainless-steel appliances, and Travertine floors. The house was originally a 4/4 with what counted as a spacious back yard by city-home standards. But there was no family room for children, toys, and media/entertainment centers; and no gigantic (14’x 20’ as opposed to 14’x 13’) master bedroom with accompanying bath and walk-in closet. Two of the upstairs bedrooms had their own baths, but neither was large enough for the near-mandatory “oversize Jacuzzi tub and oversize shower,” outfitted with not-so-mandatory “double waterfall showerheads.” So the owner built back into the yard, creating two tasteful, fairly well integrated (wood floors, stone — Travertine! — fireplaces, more period light fixtures) rooms and leaving a cozy-shady square of back yard around an enormous alder. Next to the

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back yard, a "refinished" garage: drywalled, painted, brick-floored, with yet another period light hanging down from the rafters.

It is pleasant enough to imagine living here. But after a while, the unlivable quality of the house begins to sink in. A bed is covered in financial paperwork — surely no one will sleep here tonight? One becomes conscious of just how white all the walls are, how blank the canvas has been made for the prospective buyer. (The master bath, a study in taupes, is anonymous in an off-white sort of way.) One notices the similarity of materials in three of the original (restored) bathrooms and the failure of the period light fixtures to quite mimic their wrought-iron forbears. Though black and dully metallic and properly shaped, they hint at something insubstantial, something lightweight. They are reproductions,

not replacements.

"You know they're serious when they bring Mom back," says the realtor to the owner, who is present. "Mom, you'll be down here [in the downstairs bed/bath room]..." The owner talks to a couple about the house next door, as the three of them peer out of the French

more personal.

North of Washington now, along one of Mission Hills' main drags: Fort Stockton. Another Craftsman, built in 1915. Single-story this time and on a larger lot — 6800 square feet. The price is only \$879K, despite the location, and it's not hard to see why.

**Up front is the showplace,
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windows in the kitchen. From what he says, I guess that they're asking if it is about to undergo a similar remodel/resell. "Actually, she's owned that house for about 35 years. Now she's having it painted. They took all of that rock — like Palm Springs — out of the front yard. She's redoing the house. She has all these children in their 30s, and they're redoing the house for her..." I'm curious to see what becomes of it; it sounds so much

Besides the fact that it's smaller (2117 square feet), it's something of a camel — the addition that takes this from a 2/2 to a 3/3.5 is bumped up to the back of the house in a two-story hump. Still, for all its exterior oddity, this one feels even more Craftsman once you step inside. There is almost more wood than white on the walls. Delicious curves of oak coving between wall and ceiling, still-intact double-hung windows covered by nar-

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row-slat shutters made from the same wood as the window frames. Built-in glass-fronted bookcases. Built-in hutch in the dining room, wainscoting up to my neck, a built-in settee under the window.

The kitchen has been remodeled, but it was a while ago; the roosters-and-pears country French wallpaper makes me think of the '80s somehow. A wood-topped island has a functional but not commercial air — no stainless steel in sight. I like the pull-out cutting boards very much — they're the real deal, nice and thick and heavy and solid, the sort on which you could actually chop a chicken.

Back beyond the original house, back into the newish "hump," the color scheme shifts from woods and yellows to white walls, ice-blue trim and sky-blue carpeting. Up front is the showplace, back here is where people live. There are pictures of children, and pictures by children, lace curtains instead of shutters, the home office, the family room with the big-screen TV. Though more solid than many newer homes, the addition feels a touch worn. One bathroom dates from just before the ascendance of wall-to-wall earth tones: pink and beige, a herald of things to come.

Up the stairs is a master suite with a similar just-yesterday feel: huge enough bedroom, but a bathroom in which everything is rectangles and squares — none of the diagonals so common today. The toilet has its own little room, and the Jacuzzi tub is appropriately gargantuan, but the pale blue grout between the white tiles pulls the space back in time. A TV, VCR, and boom box sit on a desk facing the bed — no media center here. The most interesting thing is the poster hanging in the stairway: Bosch's *Garden of Earthly Delights*, surely the most eclectic display of nudity one could use to decorate a bedroom. That great fes-

tival of revealed flesh, flanked by the sparse bliss of heaven and the torturous horrors of hell...

Because of the larger lot, there is more yard left here than on Goldfinch, despite the larger addition; the grass is satisfactorily

lush and gorgeous for Mission Hills. The garage is still just a garage — a place for tools and storage, not a home office or game room.

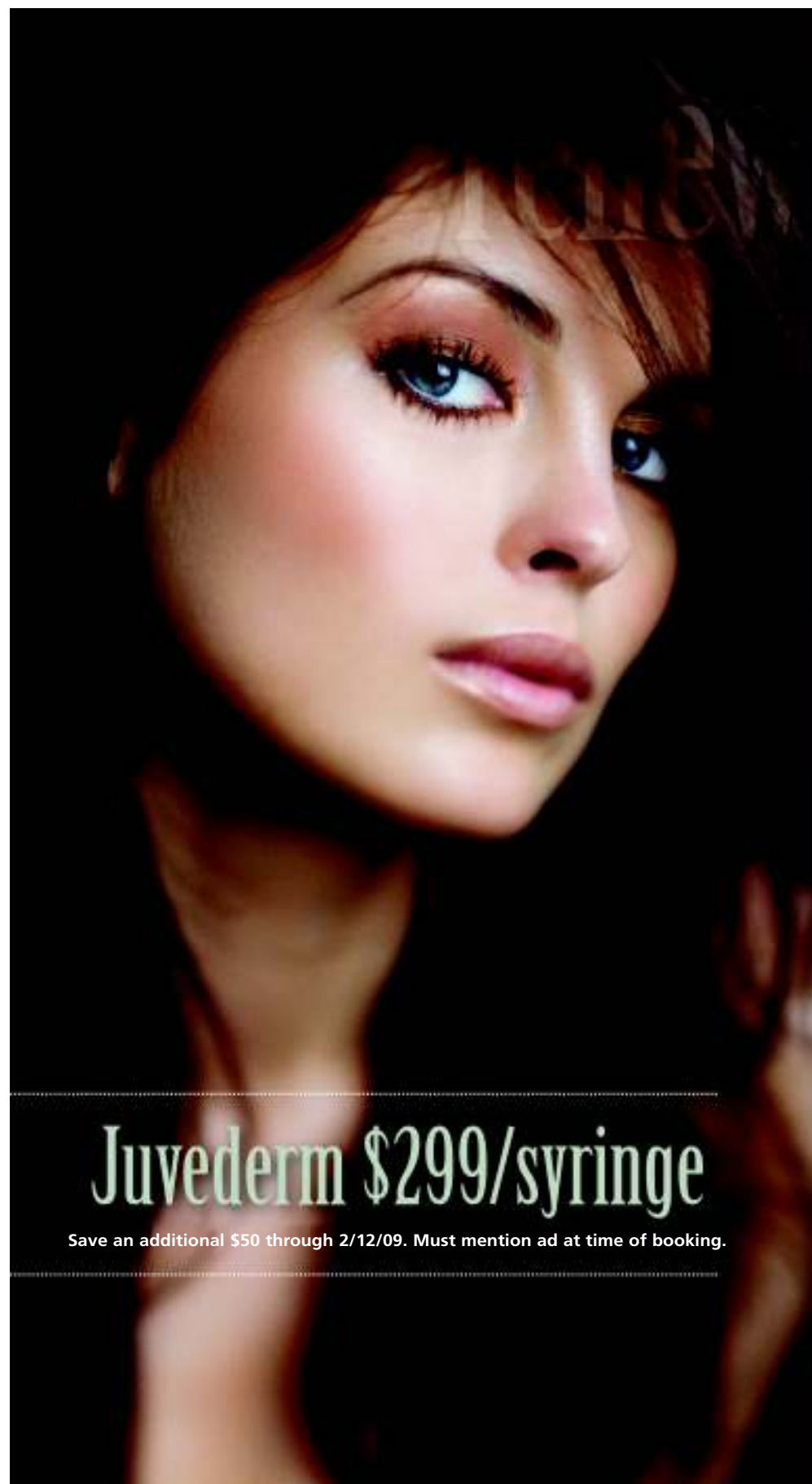
From there it was down into the interior canyons, down "most picturesque

street in Mission Hills," Randolph Terrace. Here, the ratio of bedrooms to bathrooms tipped luxuriously in favor of baths: 5/5.5, 3411 square feet of 1930 two-story Spanish on 11,430 square feet of lot. The price came in at a

whopping \$1.975 million; this was not a remodel, this was a gut-and-start-over. "Everything in the house is new," proclaimed the agent, wonderfully polite despite my approach by beat-up car. "New floors, new windows, new electri-

cal, new plumbing." The owner, an architect who bought the place in '98, "kept the footprint but changed the entire interior. The people who lived here before raised eight kids here — thrashed it. The windows and the doors are

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truly awesome in terms of high-quality — the man spent a lot of money. The floor is stained oak; the doors are Douglas fir. This is probably a \$130,000 to \$150,000 kitchen.”

The kitchen is magazine-ad worthy — Gaggenau stovetop, stainless steel counters above broad, steel-fronted German drawers that roll out with a whisper. The fridge is covered by a laminate that matches the deep red-brown of the cabinets (and the doors throughout the house). “It really looks like another cabinet; it freaks people out.” Though there is uniformity here, the place is not so anonymous as Goldfinch; it bears a designer’s stamp. All casings are a pewter-gray/black, contrasting sharply with both the stark white of the walls and the warm brown of the doors. The kitchen is only the most obvious expression of the house’s hard-edged leanness, a qual-

ity that contrasts with the rambling “Oh, another room over here” layout.

The stamp is there in the all-important master bath as well — gray stone for the entrance to the cavernous shower, a Jacuzzi ringed by a hundred tiny jets instead of eight big ones — but the agent tells me the master suite has been some-

The garage (which contains a Ferrari) and the house combine to form a courtyard, which leads to an L-shaped pool and deck, which leads to another patio, which leads to a patch of grass, all wrapping around the outside of the house. From the yard, I can see my next house: 3/3.5, but two stories and a mam-

There is a leather-clad repository for glasses, wallet, watch, etc., but next to it, a La Victoria salsa jar for spare change.

thing of a sticking point. “With younger couples in this price range, this is the room that turns them off. It’s not big enough [17’x 12’], because they bring their kids into the master bedroom, toddlers and such.” The walk-in closet boasts a wide array of gray T-shirts on hangers — the architect is methodical.

moth 4077 square feet. Built in 1955, yours for only \$1.825 million. By now, I’m feeling a little full of houses...details and amenities wash over me, and it becomes harder and harder to cram them into my eyes and brain. The house wraps in a C-shape around a pool deck, accessible from just about anywhere via a

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long row of French doors. "There's 80 of these doors and windows," says the agent. "They're all from Canada. They're a Douglas-fir frame and then coated with some kind of rubberized film on the outside. They're all double-pane."

Besides the doors, what you notice is the airiness of the 31' x 23' living room, which segues invisibly into the 16' x 12' dining room — the ceiling is vaulted and was built with steel so that no cross beams were necessary. The lower third of the C is formed by a kitchen/family room that has been built out over what used to be a garage-top deck. Here, the decor is slightly more expected than the Spanish house — lots of pale stone, marble countertops, etc. Expensive, but not unique.

The bedrooms curl around the top of the C; the master suite is reached via a curving staircase. "There used to be a deck up there. The house was built for an older lady — she used the downstairs master bedroom. There was just a little bedroom and bath up there for her kids when they visited." A Rancho Santa Fe team — two brothers, one an architect, one a contractor — was brought in to improve the property. Now, all that remains of the homely old upstairs is the banged-up hollow-laminate bedroom door with its forlorn handle. The bathroom was expanded, the deck became the master bedroom, and the bedroom became the walk-in closet.

There's a selling point: a closet the size of some people's bedrooms. Because there is so much spotless luxury about, the eye is drawn to things that are not neatly stacked, not carefully arranged, not comfortably appointed. There is a leather-clad repository for glasses, wallet, watch, etc., but next to it, a La Victoria salsa jar for spare change. There are Nordstrom shoe trees in all the shoes on the shelves, but

the sneakers are piled on the floor. There are plastic bags full of stuff. Bras are piled on a shelf, handbags on the shelf above. The women's shoes are stored in their original, faded boxes — Salvatore Ferragamo, Peter Kaiser, Bruno

Magli, Cole Haan, Nine West, Nichols. The boxes are carefully labeled with marker: black patent flats, rubber sole black pump, green suede flats, green flat sandals, taupe sandals.

I am stuffed, heavy with real estate. I need

something light, refreshing, a sorbet after the beef course. A two-bedroom bungalow near a park, down to \$599,000 from \$629,000. Compact living spaces, lots of old windows looking out on a canyon, the comfort of lively jazz —

music to sell houses by. Still Mission Hills, but Mission Hills with the old Dish-master faucet jutting from the wall in the kitchen. There is a deck with a spa overlooking the canyon and a tire-swing hanging from a tree at the base of

the property. A little girl walks up the hill with her mother, who tells her, "No, honey, there's no room to put in a pool." ■

— Matthew Lickona

Originally published in the Reader on March 20, 2003

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LETTERS

continued from page 15

that things are just the way that they are. And we need to know what to get angry about. It's unfortunate, but the majority of crime is black-on-black crime. So we have our black brothers and sisters who don't care about anybody, not even themselves, killing each other.

I don't go into the depths of El Cajon at a particular time and by myself because there are some Caucasians who don't like black people who live up in the hills of El Cajon. That's reality. The Hispanics, you know, sometimes you don't go down into the barrio at a particular time, if you're not Spanish. You just don't do that.

Sometimes we just have to be mindful of where we should be and where we shouldn't be.

But it's unfortunate that the majority of the crime, when it's black-on-black crime, is done by my black brothers and sisters. And I think it's sad, and that's what I'm mad about. And I'm so mad about that that I find it to be racist. They need to stop letting a white-man mentality guide them. They need to get into the library and need to be getting their education instead of hanging out on the street corners with another stupid adult that gives them guns.

So, just in response to Kenya De La Roche from La Mesa, it is something to be mad about, but let's get mad about the right things to be mad about, and not

necessarily what someone feels, because I'll tell you that sometimes going onto 12th and Imperial late at night — my black brothers and sisters are hanging out, being drunk, and don't care about nobody, including themselves — I'm scared.

Once again, I'm black. And *Reader*, I just want to thank you for keeping the opinions real. Sometimes I don't like what you put down, but I'm going to call you on it. God bless.

Merry
via voice mail

Wall Street Nazis

I am writing in response to your slanderous article in the "Blurt" on page 72 about the Oxblood show at O'Connell's ("Oi-o-Oi," January 22). You seem like a very diverse publication, yet

for some reason you couldn't find someone who was actually educated about the skinhead and street punk subcultures to write an article about a band that attracts a large skinhead following.

Using the quote that the bar was filled with "Nazi skinheads" was completely unnecessary. Yes, there were several skinheads at the show, but there were about as many nazis as you would find at any place at anytime. There are nazis in frat houses, on Wall Street, there's probably even a few in-the-closet ones working for your fine publication.

Since most members of Oxblood are Hispanic (and a previous vocalist for the band was black), they are the farthest thing from a nazi band. The band members and most of their followers call themselves sharps — skinheads against racial prejudice.

I understand that you were reporting on the tragic shooting that occurred outside of the club, but dragging the band and an entire

subculture's name through the mud while doing so is completely unnecessary. Saying that this show was filled with hatemongers and painting this picture that anyone with cropped hair is a nazi is completely inappropriate and actually creates more prejudice. Many groups sing about how tough life is on the streets of New York, but because this is a street rock band instead of a hip-hop band, they are considered nazi hooligans. So who's being racist now?

Heather Hardcore
via email

Didn't See That Track?

This letter is in response to Dr. Mitchell Holland's letter titled "Train Pain" (January 22), where he complains about freight trains downtown at 3:00 a.m. running past their chic building with the deaf conductor at the helm of the train. He wonders if anyone else notices — or he thanks you for noticing ("Where Can I Get Some Peace and Quiet?" Cover Story, January 15).

I've got a better question. When he went down there and looked at this wonderful, nice, big, huge pricey million-dollar building, did he fail to look at the neighborhood, the grounds? It's pretty hard to miss a train track running a few feet from your building.

I get so tired of people who move into places where buildings are built, whether it be next to a hog farm, a Marine air base, a regular airport, a train track, what have you, and they suddenly complain about the noise, like this item suddenly sprung up overnight by some construction elves. I grew up in the country next to trains. They're pretty noisy. I'm sure that during his lifetime, he's run across train intersections and had to stop and wait for trains. I'm sure he was well aware of the noise when he was at the intersection.

Somewhere you'd think that life would prevail on these people and they'd say, Hmm, maybe living next to a train track — just a few feet — might not be good at 3:00 a.m. Hmm, maybe living next to a hog farm you might have insects or smells. Hmm, maybe living next to an airport or a military base might have some noise repercussions.

Stop blaming the people who were already there. You knew it was there when you bought the property. Stop complaining about it. Stop crying, get over it, buy some earplugs, deal with it.

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Comments from Reader Website

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Cover Story Published January 28

Posted by EricBlair on February 1, 5:31 p.m.

Dear John:

I so much enjoyed this essay. I have never, ever felt a connection to a place where I have lived. I used to think it was a California thing, since I was born and raised in that state. Folks from other places with a longer history might feel differently about the sense of "self" that a place can give.

The truth is you were building memories just as you added and tinkered and improved the house. You built it, and it built you, in a manner of speaking.

Faulkner's quote comes to mind: "The past's not dead. It's not even past."

Thinking of you, my friend, and extending best wishes.

Cover Story Published January 21

Posted by storepulls on January 27, 4:47 p.m.

It is pretty interesting that this mosquito problem has come to San Diego and Southern California.

There is something that can help however.

There is a non-toxic easy to use solution to help protect yourself from disease carrying mosquitoes, and other bugs. It is a simple good smelling small badge that you wear to protect against mosquito bites and other insects.

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Whenever we go camping or travel, we always bring a box of these with us, and share them with many people. Now, we may need to keep them handy for use in Southern Cal. It is not just for bites, it is a real health concern, and a real problem. here is a link to

the largest distributor of these important Mosquito fighting bug buttons. http://www.storepulls.com/products/bug_button-264915-0.html

They are coming out with a whole new line of these in February 2009. They will have wrist bands, badges, in different shapes and sizes to accommodate almost anyone's needs.

Churches who travel to Africa, anyone going hiking, fishing, camping, should stock up on these.

The company has been sending these to the troops in Iraq for the past year, and plans to send many more.

hope this helps, John Lerner

Crasher Published January 28

Posted by pete78 on January 29, 6:02 p.m.

It just wouldn't be a crasher column without talking to black guys, playing basketball, and eating cake.

Posted by joshb on January 30, 12:48 a.m.

Well pete...stay tuned for next week. I talk to a black woman. She played high school basketball, but I left that out of the column!

City Lights, by Craig D. Rose Published January 28

Posted by a2zresource on January 28, 12:31 p.m.

A number of firms are developing thin-film solar energy technologies, and there may be some products for home installation by 2010 or so. A number of these firms were recently in San Diego for an alternative energy conference hosted at the Convention Center.

It may be to our universal advantage to limit our exposure to SDG&E's portion of the power grid by making an investment in home electricity production from solar energy. I can't think of any other reasonable way for us as consumers to mitigate the potential high cost of the direction Sempra's investors and board seem to be tak-

ing it and SDG&E in "proposing the most expensive solar technology for its customers", as cutting ourselves off of the grid by complete energy independence from SDG&E may violate the spirit if not intent of the SDG&E-San Diego franchise agreement.

Getting rid of all of our electrical appliances should be considered extremely unreasonable. After all, we'd starve without refrigeration.

City Lights, by Don Bauder Published January 28

Posted by sdbeach on January 28, 1:27 p.m.

Fascinating carousel of attorneys. John Serrano gone will be good for the aviation community, where we ran into many variations of creative ways to delay, obfuscate, and confuse. Yet, bringing back Debra Bevier returns an attorney associated with the disgraced former Airports Director Tracy Means. And adding David Miller will be an odd choice given his role in the Sunroad debacle, or perhaps his lack of role given that Sunroad proceeded when he failed to act. Fortunately, a few of the attorneys who stayed the course with issues affecting the airports are still on the job. Let's hope that they can keep things moving forward appropriately.

Posted by dbauder on January 28, 2:29 p.m.

Yes, Aguirre believed that Bevier gave legal assistance to Means, who got into trouble for her extracurricular business activities. Aguirre believes that Miller, when working in the city attorney's office, would have let the Sunroad deal go through and was cozy with the developers and the mayor's office. Aguirre smelled it out as a scam and Miller was gone. But now he is back, along with Bevier. Best, Don Bauder



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Your Week

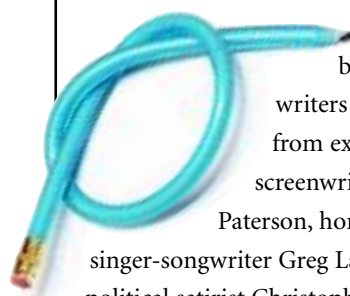
AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 5

FALLEN FRUIT

Nocturnal public fruit forages and communal jam-making are among the fruit-as-art projects produced by this Los Angeles-based activist art project. Founding members will speak about their work at the Museum of Contemporary Art's Thursday Night Thing. See **SPECIAL**, page 64.

WRITING BEYOND BOUNDARIES



Get past the block! Aspiring writers can get tips from experts such as screenwriter David Paterson, homegrown singer-songwriter Greg Laswell, and political satirist Christopher Buckley at this two-day Writer's Symposium by the Sea. See **LECTURES**, page 60.

Friday | 6

THE COMEDY OF ERRORS

The Coronado School of the Arts presents Shakespeare's slapstick piece (one of his first and shortest) about mistaken identities. This version, directed by Kris McClung, is set in San Diego on Halloween. See **IN PERSON**, page 60.

CIRCUS VARGAS 2009

Hobo hijinks, Vladimir's vaudevillian cat-and-dog review, flying-trapeze artists, magic acts, motorcycles, and the Sphere of Fear are only some of the acts in Vargas's 40th anniversary tour. See **SPECIAL**, page 64.

Saturday | 7

ON THE EDGE

Skating, like dancing, is as much an art as it is a sport. Olympic and national ice-skating champions flaunt their toe picks and dazzling costumes. Watch as they cut up the ice in choreographed numbers set to music at the San Diego Sports Arena. See **SPORTS**, page 66.

HOMICIDAL!

The book *Cross-Country Evil* covers 18 years, the span of one local murder investigation. What began for Catholic priest-turned-Chula Vista-cop-and-author Tom Basinski as "just another murder" turned out to be anything but. Basinski appears at D.G.

Wills to discuss. See **IN PERSON**, page 60.



Sunday | 8

MY MANY COLORED DAYS

It's been said that "Music is what feelings sound like." Conductor Philip Mann and narrator Ron Jessee audibly illustrate various emotions of a child and pet dog as they grow up together. See **FOR KIDS**, page 60.



FALLEN FRUIT

BEER AND CHOCOLATE PAIRING

First it was coffee, then it was wine — now it's beer that is being paired with cocoa. Stone Beer and Chuao Chocolatier join forces to create magic for your palate. See **SPECIAL**, page 64.



Monday | 9

TIDEPooling FOR TOTS

Introduce your little ones to sea anemones, hermit crabs, and sea slugs, as Scripps naturalists discuss each tidepool creature and how it fits into the bigger picture of the ocean. See **FOR KIDS**, page 60.



Tuesday | 10

FORMS IN METAL

Hyde Art Gallery at Grossmont College celebrates one year of its new sculpture facility with this exhibition featuring the results of 17 artists' explorations into the manipulation of metal. See **GALLERIES**, page 69.



THE LITTLE TRAITOR

Set in 1947 Palestine, this film based on Amos Oz's novel *Panther in the Basement* is about a friendship between a Jewish boy and a British officer in the months before Israel is declared a state. See **FILM**, page 59.

Wednesday | 11

RED-LIGHT WINTER

A triangle of unrequited love develops when two friends encounter a French prostitute in Amsterdam's red-light district. Presented at the Tenth Avenue Theater. See **THEATER**, page 115.

Local Events page 58 | **Classical Music** page 69 | **Art Museums & Galleries** page 69
Pop Music page 70 | **Restaurants** page 95 | **Movies** page 107 | **Theater** page 114

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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 by clicking on the events section.

DANCE

"Collage 2009" San Diego Civic Dance Company presents 26th annual recitals with dancing in variety of styles through February 15. Guest choreographers include Doug Elkins, Michael Mizerany of Malashock Dance, Mike Wittmers from *Tap Dogs* and *A Chorus Line*. 619-702-3408. Saturday, February 7, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Sunday, February 8, 2 p.m.; \$12. Casa del Prado Theater, 1650 El Prado, Suite 208. (BALBOA PARK)

(Rare) Random Dance Master Class Join members of United Kingdom-based Wayne McGregor/Random Dance Company for master class exploring movement vocabulary of McGregor, the current choreographer-in-residence at Royal Ballet in London (the first contemporary choreographer to

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OUT & ABOUT

ART OF BELLY DANCE REVEALED!

Bellydance Superstars, Sunday February 8, Balboa Theatre.

(SEE DANCE)



PHOTOGRAPH BY STEPHEN DARASSE

hold that post). 619-225-1803. Saturday, February 7, 10 a.m.; \$20. Dance Place San Diego in NTC Promenade, 2650 Truxtun Road, Suite 108. (POINT LOMA)

Coyolxauhqui ReMembers

Latina Dance Project performs this contemporary dance-theater work based on an Aztec myth. 760-795-6815. Friday, February 6, 8 p.m.; \$12. MiraCosta College Theatre, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Swan Lake Russian National Ballet Theatre tells story of Odette, a princess turned into a swan by an evil sorcerer's curse, through dancing by more than 50 dancers and score by Tchaikovsky. 619-570-1100. Tuesday, February 10, 7:30 p.m.; \$35-\$65. Ages 5 and up. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Afro-Cuban Dance Workshop Omo Ache presents workshop taught by master artists Freila

Merencio and Juan Carlos Blanco, former dance partners and lead soloists with Raices Profundas folkloric company from Havana. Mixed-level class focuses on African cultural traditions preserved in Cuba, with live percussion. 858-551-1069. Friday, February 6, 7:30 p.m.; \$15. Stage 7 School of Dance, 3980 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

Art of Belly Dance Revealed!

"Bellydance Superstars: The Art of Bellydance" take stage. Ensemble believes "belly dance need not be restricted to only Middle Eastern influences," including dances from other cultures. 619-570-1100. Sunday, February 8, 3 p.m.; \$30-\$55. Ages 5 and up. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Cajun Dance Kevin Naquin and the Ossun Playboys take stage for dance hosted by Bon Temps Social Club and Gator by the Bay Festival.

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Dance instruction at 6:20 p.m., live music from 7-10:30 p.m. 858-496-6655. Saturday, February 7, 6:20 p.m.; \$14. War Memorial Building, 3325 Zoo Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

David Patrone \$10,000 Swing Dance Extravaganza David Patrone Productions, 2toGroove, Viejas Casino host "biggest single 'top cash prize' swing dance competition in the world." Registered couples may compete in any number of nine weekly qualifying rounds in order to advance to semifinal round on March 22. Top two couples from each of nine qualifying rounds move on to semifinals; of 20 couples in semifinal round, ten couples move to final round on March 29.

Enjoy music by the Hollywood Combo on February 8; weekly dance contests take place during band breaks. Registration: 4-4:45 p.m., swing dance lessons with Jim and Margie at 5 p.m., live music swing dance: 6-9 p.m. 619-517-2719. Sunday, February 8, 4 p.m.; free. Ages 21 and up. Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room, 5000 Willows Road. (ALPINE)

English Country Dancing Chris Page calls for English country dancing. 858-676-9731. Sunday, February 8, 6 p.m.; \$6. Jean Hart Academy of Dance, 12227 Poway Road. (POWAY)

Nobody's Business Band makes music, Chris Page calls for contradance hosted by San Diego Folk Heritage. Beginners' dance workshop: 7:30 p.m. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. Friday, February 6, 7:30 p.m.; \$7. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Social Dancing Five-week course for beginners focuses on swing, salsa. Couples, singles welcome. Preregister at dancewithliza.com to save \$5. 619-861-6260. Thursdays, 7 p.m.; through Thursday, February 5, \$65. Ages 16 and up. Attire by Lea Dance Studio, 7202 El Cajon Boulevard Suite A. (LA MESA)

Swing Dance Now! Dance Lindy, East Coast, jitterbug, and swing during "Jam" community swing dance. Beginner lesson at 8 p.m. Fee: Cost: \$6 for lesson, \$8 for dance only; dance is free if you take beginner class. 619-291-3775. Friday, February 6, 8 p.m.; \$8. Ages 8 and up. Dance for 2, 7528 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (CLAIREMONT)

The Ancient Art of Belly Dance Leilainia offers mixed-level class on Thursdays "focusing on balancing and invigorating through dance." Stretch, tone, strengthen your body. Drop-in fee: \$15; \$60 for six weeks. 619-884-7707. Thursdays, 6 p.m.; through Thursday, February 26, \$15. Rock Paper Scissors, 4967 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

FILM

"Les Lutins du Court Métrage" Film festival boasting "the best brief French flicks of the year," hosted by Alliance Française de San Diego. Films are in French with English subtitles, intended for adult audience. "French Short

Movies Festival 2008" screenings begin at 5 and 8 p.m. in Salomon Lecture Hall of Maher Hall. 858-254-2253. Saturday, February 7, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.; \$10-\$12. University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

"Tribute to Paul Newman" Enjoy Elizabeth Taylor and Newman in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* during ongoing Carlsbad Library film series. Pre- and postfilm discussions. 760-602-2026. Wednesday, Febru-

ary 11, 6 p.m.; free. Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

Crash Oscar-winning flick set in post 9/11 Los Angeles stars Don Cheadle, Sandra Bullock, Matt Dillon, Ludacris, many others. 619-299-9360. Sunday, February 8, 6:30 p.m.; free. Café Libertalia, 3834 Fifth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Kilowatt Ours Jeff Barrie's documentary promoting energy conservation, efficiency, and renewable

energy is featured for Sierra Club Movie Night. Film follows "finger-food potluck." 858-569-6005. Friday, February 6, 6 p.m.; free. Sierra Club, 8304 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard #101. (KEARNY MESA)

The Little Traitor San Diego Jewish Film Festival gets underway with film starring Alfred Molina based on Amos Oz's novel *Panther in the Basement*. All ages. 858-362-1348. Tuesday, February 10, 6:45

p.m.; \$11-\$15. La Jolla 12, 8657 Villa La Jolla Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Waiting to Inhale: Marijuana, Medicine, and the Law Documentary exploring movement to make marijuana available for medical purposes screens for Sunday Matinee series. Director Jed Riffe will be on hand for discussion following screening. 619-236-5800. Sunday, February 8, 2 p.m.; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Up for a "Balmy Romantic Reverie"? Woody Allen's *Vicky Cristina Barcelona* — starring Javier Bardem, Scarlett Johansson, and Penelope Cruz — screens for Film Forum. 619-236-5800. Monday, February 9, 6:30 p.m.; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Who Are Cecilia and Arn? They're two characters in *Arn — The Knight Templar*, a film combining fiction with historical facts, with

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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

references to 12th Century events and people in Sweden and Middle East. *Arn* is showcased during Swedish Film Festival, on offer in Ulla "Lotta" Wiik Auditorium of Arts and Letters Building (use parking structure 4). In Swedish with English subtitles. 858-271-1573. Sunday, February 8, 3 p.m.; free. San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

FOR KIDS

"Tots and Tales" Interactive story time for preschoolers with crafts and animals. Reservations: 619-243-3432. Tuesday, February 10, 10:30 a.m.; \$3. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

Chu Chu the Dragon Millie Patterson's Weaver's Tales present story with a villainous red dragon in this story inspired by two Asian folk tales. 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. Thursday, February 5; Friday, February 6, 10 a.m.; Saturday, February 7; Sunday, February 8; Wednesday, February 11; \$3-\$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

My Many Colored Days Family festival concert by San Diego Symphony, with conductor Philip Mann and narrator Ron Jessee. Enjoy adventures of a child and pet dog as they share "everyday emotions that go along with growing up." Reservations: 619-235-0804. Sunday, February 8, 2 p.m.; \$10-

\$25. Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Seussical Jr. Over 70 elementary school cast and crew members take part in musical. 619-264-0125. Thursday, February 5, 7 p.m.; Friday, February 6, 7 p.m.; Saturday, February 7, 7 p.m.; \$1-\$3. Valencia Park Center, 5800 Skyline Drive. (SOUTHEAST SAN DIEGO)

Family Open Studios Art-making workshop in conjunction with current "Juried Biennial Art Exhibition." Participants create works of art to take home. All materials provided. 760-602-2021. Saturday, February 7, 11 a.m.; free. William D. Cannon Art Gallery at Carlsbad Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

Josiah the Storyteller Celebrate Black History Month when Josiah tells story of George Washington Carver through music, song, storytelling. 858-573-5007. Thursday, February 5, 10:30 a.m.; free. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Pet Pals Kids Club Kids 6-13 have "fun with other animal-loving kids." Required reservations: 619-243-3432. Saturday, February 7, 10 a.m.; \$15-\$75. Ages 6 and up. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

Tidepooling for Tots at Hospital Point Learn about ocean critters when Birch Aquarium at Scripps hosts tidepooling led by aquarium naturalist. Required reservations: 858-534-7336. Monday, February 9, 2 p.m.; \$12. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Valentine Sweet Treats Make chocolate soufflé, truffles, raspberry cream cookie cups during cooking workshop. 760-431-2278. Tuesday, February 10, 3:30 p.m.; \$40. Ages 6 and up. Captain Cook's Culinary Academy, 6986 El Camino Real. (CARLSBAD)

Winter Family Fun Enjoy a day of nautical family fun including creation of origami whales, fish, birds, and boats (11 a.m.-3 p.m.), as well as a short cruises on San Diego Bay aboard historic *Pilot* (\$3). Adults pay regular admission; children (under 13) must be accompanied by adult to enter free. 619-234-9153. Sunday, February 8, 9 a.m.; free. San Diego Maritime Museum, 1306 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

OUT & ABOUT

SWAN LAKE

Russian National Ballet Theatre, Tuesday, February 10, Balboa Theatre.

(SEE DANCE)



Young Naturalists Hike Outing led by naturalist D.J. Summers promises easy hike along a nature trail, followed by craft at picnic area. Reservations: 760-839-4680. Sunday, February 8, 1 p.m.; free. Daley Ranch, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

IN PERSON

"Bitchy Bingo" "What do you get when you take a traditional game of chance and add fabulous drag queens with a fierce attitude?" Find out. 858-534-TIXS. Monday, February 9, 8 p.m.; free. The Loft, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

"DimeStories Live" Expect "compelling three-minute stories told by great writers." This event is in collaboration with new NPR radio show (debuting in fall). 858-534-TIXS. Tuesday, February 10, 7 p.m.; \$5. The Loft, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

"Find a Valentine" Comedy Show Enjoy comedy with members of Comedy Under Construction, said to "work with total disregard to any rules or political correctness." 858-550-8088. Saturday, February 7, 8 p.m.; \$5-\$10. Ages 16 and up. Swedenborg Hall, 1531 Tyler Avenue. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

"Impossible Visions" Magic show with comedy, illusions, and audience participation by Sebastian, with guest performer Shoot Ogawa. 760-720-2460. Saturday, February 7, 8 p.m.; \$16-\$20. Carlsbad Village Theatre, 2808 State Street. (CARLSBAD)

"Spoken Migrations" This segment of "Deportation Nation: History Repeats" promises poetry and spoken word related to experiences of deportation and migration. Featured artists include Francisco J. Bustos, Olga Garcia Echeverria, Ken10, Viet Mai, and Amalia Ortiz, emcee Cal A. Vera. 619-236-5821. Friday, February 6, 7 p.m.; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Bone Crossed Urban fantasy author Patricia Briggs signs her newest. 858-268-4747. Saturday, February 7, 7 p.m.; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 302. (KEARNY MESA)

Guys and Dolls Poway High School presents fully staged rendition of this classic musical with score by Frank Loesser including "Luck Be a Lady" and other songs. 858-748-0245. Friday, February 6, 7 p.m.; Saturday, February 7, 7 p.m.; \$8-\$10. Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road. (POWAY)

Liquid Jade Meet author Beatrice Hohenegger, whose book is "written in a beautifully fluid style," documenting social, cultural, political impact of tea through ages. 619-450-4224. Sunday, February 8, 11 a.m.; free. Halcyon Tea, 3009 Beech Street. (SOUTH PARK)

The Comedy of Errors Students at Coronado School of the Arts present this Shakespearean romp of mistaken identities set in San Diego on Halloween. 619-522-4050. Friday, February 6, 7 p.m.; Saturday, February 7, 7 p.m.; Sunday, Febru-

ary 8, 2 p.m.; \$7-\$12. Ages 10 and up. Coronado School of the Arts, 650 D Avenue. (CORONADO)

The Shape of Mercy Novelist, newspaper columnist Susan Meissner discusses, signs her latest book. 858-454-0347. Thursday, February 5, 7:30 p.m.; free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Celebrate Black History Month Anne E. Schraff — author of over 200 juvenile books — discusses Harriet Tubman and some other famous African Americans. 619-463-3006. Thursday, February 5, 4 p.m.; free. Spring Valley Library, 836 Kempton Street. (SPRING VALLEY)

Comedy All Stars Comedians Shang, Scrunch, Tiffany Haddish, Jay Phillips perform. 619-708-7975. Friday, February 6, 8 p.m.; \$25. Ages 21 and up. Doubletree Club Hotel San Diego, 1515 Hotel Circle South. (MISSION VALLEY)

Comics That Kill Stand-up comedy by Bob Hansen, Cate Gary, Matt Zint, and others, hosted by Jason Bang. 619-296-0616. Mondays, 9 p.m.; Wednesday, February 11, 8 p.m.; \$5. Ages 14 and up. Twigg's Bakery Coffeehouse, 4590 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Debut Novelist Nancy Spiller discusses, signs her new novel, *Entertaining Disasters: A Novel (with Recipes)*. 858-454-0347. Wednesday, February 11, 7:30 p.m.; free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Homicidal! Homicide detective Tom Basinski discusses his new book, *Cross-Country Evil*. Chroni-

tion of the murder of Janet Moore, book features interviews with cops, prosecutor, defense attorney, family of killer, "and even a disturbing interview with the killer himself inside prison walls." 858-456-1800. Saturday, February 7, 7 p.m.; free. D.G. Wills Books, 7461 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

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)

Stand-Up Comedy Comics That Kill present Andrew Spano, Danielle Stewart, Jonny Loquasto, and Erik Knowles. Hosted by Jason Bang. 619-294-4848. Saturday, February 7, 8 p.m.; free. Ages 21 and up. The Wit's End, 420 Robinson Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Suspenseful! Southern California suspense author Robert Ellis (*The Lost Witness*) and San Diego romantic suspense writer Jill Sorenson (*Crash Into Me*) visit Galaxy to sign books. 858-268-4747. Wednesday, February 11, 7 p.m.; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 302. (KEARNY MESA)

Two Debut Thriller Authors! Josh Bazell (*Beat the Reaper*) and Jeffrey Siger (*Murder in Mykonos*) sign, discuss their books. 619-268-4747. Friday, February 6, 7 p.m.; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 302. (KEARNY MESA)

LECTURES

"Humanitarian' Warfare Disorder" Journalist, war correspondent, photographer Keith Harmon Snow offers multimedia look at "Deceptions of the New World Order." Snow presents photographs, discusses conflicts in contemporary Africa based on his recent work in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, and Ethiopia. Donation. 858-459-4650. Friday, February 6, 7:30 p.m.; First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, 4190 Front Street. (HILLCREST)

"An Evening All About Art Quilts" Quilt Visions president Charlotte Bird and past president Patti Sevier discuss the 41 art quilts included in "Quilt Visions 2008: Contemporary Expressions" exhibition. Learn about selection process, styles, techniques, background of artists. 760-435-3720. Thursday, February 5, 7 p.m.; free. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

"Ancestry: Personal Subscription vs. Library Edition" "Is it worth the expense to be able to use the home edition of this popular Internet site?" Find out when genealogy librarian Mary Von Orsdol addresses Computer-Oriented Genealogy Group of North San Diego County Genealogical Society. Visitors welcome. 760-967-8635. Tuesday, February 10, 10 a.m.; free. Carlsbad City Council Chambers, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive. (CARLSBAD)

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"Beautiful Landscape on a Low-Water Budget" Seven principles of xeriscape, plant selection, planting techniques presented by landscape designer Jan Tubiolo. Reservations: 619-660-0614 x10. Sunday, February 8, 1 p.m.; \$20-\$30. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

"Big Ideas for Water-Thrifty, Fire-Safe Landscapes: The California Casual Garden" Dave Egbert, host of national TV series *The Coastal Gardener*, speaks for San Diego Horticultural Society. Learn to create flower-filled gardens to protect yourself, your home, and firefighters. Using perennials, roses, outdoor living spaces, and edible landscaping, create "a lean, clean, and green zone of defensible space around your home." Plant forum follows. 760-295-7089. Monday, February 9, 6 p.m.; free. Surfside Race Place at Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

"Budgets, Budgets, and More Budgets" Learn difference between organizational, program, project, and equipment budgets and methods for formatting them into "one-page wonders" during this grant-writing workshop. 619-460-2738. Friday, February 6, 10 a.m.; free. San Diego County Health and Human Services, 690 Oxford Street. (CHULA VISTA)

"Fortunes in the Dust" Book collector/attorney Paul Kennerson plans presentation on "fine art of book collecting." Kennerson has been collecting books for about 15 years, with an emphasis on "anything Lincoln." Warwick's is cleaning out its library and will offer collectible books during silent auction. 858-454-0347. Tuesday, February 10, 7:30 p.m.;

free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

"Future Stewards of Our Planet" Learn about climate science, coastal oceanography, earth science when fellowship students at Scripps offer brief presentations on their research discoveries for Perspectives on Ocean Science Lecture Series. 858-534-3474. Monday, February 9, 6:30 p.m.; \$8. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

"Getting Closer to What Really Happened at the World Trade Center" San Diegans for 9/11 Truth gather for presentation by Dwain Deets. Talk is preceded by abridged screening of 2006 film *Improbable Collapse*. Discussion follows. Donations accepted. 619-222-2120. Sunday, February 8, 6:30 p.m.; free. Joyce Beers Community Center, 4065 Vermont Street. (HILLCREST)

"In Celebration of Louis Kahn and the Salk Institute" Renowned architect Frank Gehry discusses his work and how it has been influenced by Kahn's legacy. Institute was completed in 1965, employing a minimalist approach to design two, mirror-image structures overlooking Pacific Ocean. Reservations: 858-453-4100 x1882 or 858-454-3541 x121. Sunday, February 8, 4 p.m.; \$25-\$30. Salk Institute, 10010 North Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

"Music of the Movies" The birth of the movie industry in America was one of the great cultural events of the 20th Century.

Bruno Leone plans music lecture series; this performance traces beginnings of cinema in Hollywood to introduction of music on silver screen, as well as musical overview of composers, lyricists, performers responsible for creating the music. Series fee: \$30 members, \$45 non-members. 858-454-5872. Tuesday, February 10, 7:30 p.m.; \$12-\$17. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

"My Soul Looks Back: A Celebration of Culture, History, Humanity, and Change" Black History Month commemoration includes lecture/discussion on "Culture." Series continues February 18 and 25. Goal is "to stimulate dialogue with the community about things they can take back to create change." 619-582-4002. Wednesday, February 11, 6 p.m.; free. Springfield College School of Human Services, 5348 University Avenue Suite, 110. (CITY HEIGHTS)

"Proper Pruning Practices" Learn "need to know basics" for pruning both trees and shrubs, use the garden as a lab to analyze living samples. Certified arborist Leah Rottke leads class. Registration: 619-660-0614. Saturday, February 7, 10 a.m.; \$15-\$25. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

"Really Reliable Recall" Frustrated when Spot won't "come when called"? Remedy problem during workshop. Registration: 619-299-7012 x2704. Saturday, February 7, 9 a.m.; \$35. San Diego

Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

"The Courage of the Congolese People" Journalist, war correspondent, photographer Keith Harmon Snow offers multimedia look at "White-owner Plantation Slavery in the Congo." Snow presents photographs, discusses conflicts in contemporary Africa based on his recent work in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, and Ethiopia. Donation. 858-459-4650. Thursday, February 5, 7 p.m.; WorldBeat Cultural Center, 2100 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

"U.S. and Mexico: Challenges for the Obama Administration" Ambassador Jeffrey Davidow speaks for Hansen/Hostler Distin-


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

Yesteryear, Old Camp was a popular rendezvous point for hunting parties using the historic Joplin Trail between the flatlands of Orange County's Trabuco Canyon and Old Saddleback (the crest of the Santa Ana Mountains). Today, Old Camp retains its charm as a remote hideaway, filled with massive live oaks, bay laurels, and bigleaf maples, serenaded by bubbling water flowing in the bottom of Santiago Canyon.



Inside Santiago Canyon

Today, Old Camp is reached by way of the Santiago Trail, a fire road closed to motor vehicles. Sticking close to the original Joplin route over part of its length, it runs for about seven miles along the sunny ridgeline just south of Santiago Canyon, finally dropping abruptly into the canyon. For more than a year after Orange County's October 2007 Santiago wildfire, Santiago Trail was closed to all use, but it has recently reopened for hikers and mountain bikers. Users are advised to stick to the trail itself; off-trail

travel is not allowed until November 2009 at the earliest, in order to allow the natural landscape to recover from the effects of the fire.

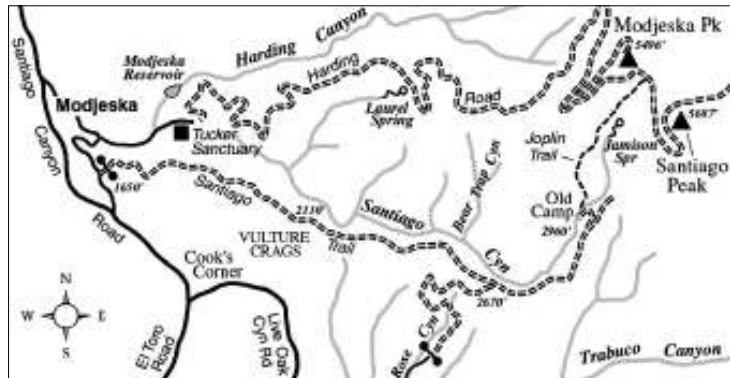
The trailhead is along Modjeska Grade Road at a point 0.5 mile north of Santiago Canyon Road in southeastern Orange County. Modjeska Grade Road tops a saddle, and the Santiago Trail, starting at a sturdy steel, vehicle-blocking gate, strikes off to the east. There's no parking right near the gate, but you can find a few eligible areas, delineated between signed "no parking" zones, on the soft shoulder of Modjeska Grade Road.

On foot or by bike, head east on the Santiago Trail, and in a mile enter Cleveland National Forest. At 2.8 miles, you begin skirting the back side of the Vul-

ture Crag. These broken outcrops of conglomerate rock served as a nesting site for California condors over a hundred years ago. On a little farther, you can look back and note, below the crags, layer upon layer of beige to brick-red marine sediments, all spectacularly tilted as a result of faulting associated with the formation of the Santa Ana Mountains.

After a long and somewhat tedious 7.2 miles on the Santiago Trail, the trail forks. A short spur continues upward to follow a small powerline, while the Santiago Trail bears left and descends to Old Camp (7.5 miles). A narrow, rugged remnant of the Joplin Trail continues uphill from there and all the way to the saddle between the two peaks of "Old Saddleback" — San-

tiago and Modjeska peaks, which together form the crown of the Santa Ana Mountains. Old Camp, however, is probably as far as you'll want to travel in a single day, so head back the way you came.



This article contains information about a publicly owned recreation or wilderness area. Trails and pathways

are not necessarily marked. Conditions can change rapidly. Hikers should be properly equipped and have safety

and navigational skills. The Reader and Jerry Schad assume no responsibility for any adverse experience.

SANTIAGO TRAIL

A long hike or bike ride up the west slope of the Santa Ana Mountains leads to the shady retreat of Old Camp.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 87 miles
Hiking/biking length: 15 miles
Difficulty: Strenuous

guished Lecture Series. Talks examining key international issues facing President Obama take place in Hardy Tower room 140. 619-594-6244. Thursday, February 5, 7 p.m.; free. San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

"Water for Energy — Energy for Water" Greenovation Forum examining complex water issues both locally and globally, with contributions from experts in academia, industry, government, and the

nonprofit community. Forum explores relationship between energy and water in California, role of energy in moving and treating water, role of water in bioenergy. RSVP: 858-534-8372. Wednesday, February 11, 4 p.m.; free. UCSD Faculty Club, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

"Who Was Nate Harrison?" Find out how archaeology can uncover many facets of a legendary pioneer and former slave. Seth Mallios from SDSU's anthropology department discusses Palomar

Mountain's famous African-American homesteader. Artifacts, slides from Nate Harrison archaeological dig shown. 619-463-3236. Thursday, February 5, 6:30 p.m.; free. Ages 10 and up. Casa de Oro Library, 9805 Campo Road #145. (SPRING VALLEY)

"Wild, Wonderful World of the Internet" Instructor Martin Berman divulges "how to explore newsgroups, buy the best products, find the most overlooked vacation spots, find gourmet recipes, determine what your neighbors got for selling their house," more. Registration: 858-538-8159. Wednesday, February 11, 1 p.m.; free. Ages 18 and up. Rancho Peñasquitos Li-

brary, 13350 Salmon River Road. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

"Writing Beyond Boundaries" Consider what lies beyond the borders surrounding each of us during 14th annual Writer's Symposium by the Sea. David Paterson presents workshop on "Writing Screenplays," February 5, 1 p.m. (\$10). PLNU alum, singer-songwriter Greg Laswell returns for lyric-writing workshop, February 5, 3 p.m. (\$10). Enjoy "a conversation with David Paterson," February 5, 7:30 p.m. (\$10).

Take in "A Conversation with Brian McLaren" on February 6, 2 p.m. (\$10). Events conclude on February 6 with a conversation

with political satirist Christopher Buckley (*Thank You for Smoking*) conducted by journalism professor Dean Nelson, 7:30 p.m. (\$15). Buckley recently resigned from his column in *the National Review* after endorsing of Barack Obama.

Events take place in Crill Performance Hall in Cooper Music Center. 619-849-2297. Thursday, February 5, 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Friday, February 6, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; \$10-\$15. Point Loma Nazarene University, 3900 Lomaland Drive. (POINT LOMA)

"Zines! (Re)Make History" Workshop in conjunction with exhibit curated by Grrrl Zines A-Go-Go. "Zines are the print media of

an 'alternative' culture that turns out not to be so alternative after all." 760-795-6657. Wednesday, February 11, 6 p.m.; free. Kruglak Gallery at MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

My Big Fat Greek Diet Dr. Nick Yphandites discusses "his health and life changing journey," having lost 270 pounds. Lecture offered in Commons Building room 206. 760-750-4366. Tuesday, February 10, 10:30 a.m.; free. CSU San Marcos, 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road. (SAN MARCOS)

Arranging for a Wedding? Get the skinny on corsages and boutonnieres when San Diego Floral

Feb. 11: Japanese One-Bowl Meal
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Feb. 12: Diabetic-Friendly Dishes
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Feb. 18: Hawaiian Island-Style Beef
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Association hosts "Wedding Flower Arranging" demonstration and workshop in room 104 of Casa Del Prado. Bring lunch and floral clippers or cutters; floral materials provided. Registration: 619-232-5762. Thursday, February 5, 9:30 a.m.; \$32-\$42. Casa del Prado, El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Celebrating Charles Darwin J. David Archibald of SDSU's biology department presents "The Tree of Life: Perceptions of the History of Life Before and After Darwin" for Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Seminar Series in Gold Auditorium of BioScience Center. Lecture preceded by reception (3:30 p.m.). 619-594-1105. Monday, February 9, 4 p.m.; free. San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

Center for Christian Spirituality Lecture "The Devout Life in Modern Dress: Lay Spirituality in a Contemporary World" presented by Wendy M. Wright, theology professor and John C. Kenefick Faculty Chair in the Humanities at Creighton University. 619-260-4784. Monday, February 9, 7:30 p.m.; free. Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

Children's Writers' Conference Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators hosts conference with editors and agents. Keynote speaker Bruce Coville (*My Teacher Is an Alien* and *Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher*) chronicles "The Hard Work of Child's Play." Faculty includes literary agent Paula Allen, book designer Joy Chu, author/illustrator Marla Frazee (*A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever*, *Roller Coaster*), others. Event takes place

OUT & ABOUT

CIRCUS VARGAS 2009
Balboa Park,
Thursday–Monday,
February 5–9.

(SEE SPECIAL)



in USD's Hahn University Center. 619-713-5462. Saturday, February 7, 7:30 a.m.; \$125. University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

Consider Lincoln's Legacy USD history professor and Abraham Lincoln scholar David Miller focuses on the "Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial" for Lemon Grove Historical Society's "History Alive" series. Learn of enduring significance of Lincoln's administration, legacy of 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments to U.S. Constitution. 619-460-4353. Thursday, February 5, 7 p.m.; free. Ages 12 and up. H. Lee House Cultural Center, 3205 Olive. (LEMON GROVE)

Creative Writing Class Author Lisa Shapiro helps writers improve creative writing, including fiction, family history, personal memoirs, and creative nonfiction. 619-588-3718. Monday, February 9, 2 p.m.;

free. El Cajon Library, 201 East Douglas Avenue. (EL CAJON)

Get Fiddlin' Richard Greene leads fiddle workshop. 619-280-9035. Monday, February 9, 2:30 p.m.; \$75. Old Time Music, 2852 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Lobbies and Looming Crises Robert Kaiser, *Washington Post* associate editor and senior correspondent, provides "examination of how lobbyists and politicians have created a mutually beneficial, mutually reinforcing relationship that has led our political system to ignore major problems such as health care, global warming, and the looming crises for Medicare and Social Security." Registration for this Revelle Forum event: 858-882-8000. Monday, February 9, 7 p.m.; \$25. Neurosciences Institute, 10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Opera Insights on Offer Historical and cultural background, music analysis, plot synopsis, musical selections from Massenet's *Don Quixote* presented by Ron Shaheen to highlight upcoming San Diego Opera production. 619-236-5800. Wednesday, February 11, 5:30 p.m.; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Peace in Turbulent Times Explore what it means to be at peace, along with various techniques and methods for "dealing with the challenging times we live in" during four-week class utilizing works by Ernest Holmes and Ralph Waldo Emerson. Led by Donna Osborne. Offering. 619-303-6609. Monday, February 9, 7 p.m.; ages 18 and up. Vision Center for Spiritual Living, 11260 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (TIERRASANTA)

Ponder Plumeria Southern California Plumeria Society gathers for talks entitled "Rain and Cold — Spring Frost" by Pat Fisher, "Watering and Feeding" by Mike Pfeiffer, and "Re-potting and Pruning" by Ron Killian. 619-461-5942. Sunday, February 8, 1 p.m.; free. War Memorial Building, 3325 Zoo Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

Regional Public Meeting California State Auditor's Office hosts regional public meeting "to obtain input on regulations needed to implement the Voters First Act (Proposition 11)," including regulations relating to state auditor's

application, selection process for Citizens Redistricting Commission. 916-445-0255. Monday, February 9, 10 a.m.; free. Caltrans, 4050 Taylor Street. (BAY PARK)

Start Your Garden! When the Point Loma Garden Club meets, master gardener Jodie Bruhn offers tips on the preparation, starting, and harvesting of your own vegetables and herbs. 619-564-7036. Wednesday, February 11, 10 a.m.; free. Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal. (POINT LOMA)

Water-Wise Veggies? "Create a Vegetable Garden with an 'Eye' on the Water Meter" after master gardener and master composter Diane Hollister leads class. Learn basics of starting an organic vegetable garden, soil preparation for moisture retention, irrigation for efficient watering, mulching to prevent water loss. Preregistration required: 760-436-3036 x206. Friday, February 6, 10 a.m.; \$25-\$30. Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Watercolor Workshop Helen Shafer Garcia presents "contemporary approach to watercolor focusing on garden botanical elements." Class spends portion of time painting in gardens. Materials list supplied upon registration. Required registration: 760-436-3036 x206. Sunday, February 8, 9:30 a.m.; \$65-\$75. Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

OUTDOORS

The Frost-Nipped Legacies of the holiday season's cold spells should not be hard to spot, especially in the inland areas where overnight lows dipped to below freezing. Look for brown lawns, half-dead-looking avocado trees, and wilted ornamental plants like poinsettias. One common frost-sensitive native plant, the laurel sumac, is responsive to the reach of cold air. Laurel sumac is often the largest and most conspicuous plant growing within the coastal sage-scrub type of vegetation native to San Diego's undisturbed canyon hillsides. Wherever freezing-cold air has sunk into low lying canyons and basins, laurel sumac bushes tell the story by appearing brown and withered a few weeks later.

Ornamental Pear Trees are bursting into bloom all over town. The thousands of white blossoms appear in sheets and clusters, rather like snow when viewed from a distance. Nice specimens can be seen along Lake Murray Boulevard, along Clairemont Mesa Boulevard between Highway 163 and Interstate 15, and in parts of downtown San Diego.

Very Low Tides this weekend and early next week coincide with optimum times of day for discov-



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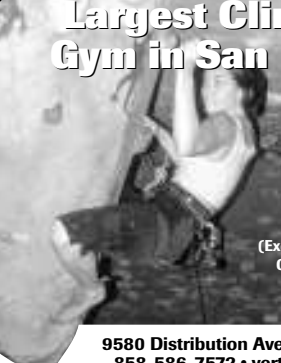
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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

ering marine life in the lowest intertidal zones: Friday, February 6 at 1:21 p.m. (-1.4 feet); Saturday at 2:01 p.m. (-1.7 feet); Sunday at 2:38 p.m. (-1.8 feet); Monday at 3:14 p.m. (-1.6 feet); and Tuesday at 3:48 p.m. (-1.3 feet). Very high tides will also occur within that string of days, most notably on Sunday, February 8 at 7:45 a.m., when the tide reaches a maximum height of 6.6 feet. Tide levels are quoted in reference to a technical specification called “mean lower low water,” which is related to the average of the lowest daily tides.

February’s Full Moon, on Monday the 9th, rises impressively from the deeply darkened east horizon at around 6:00 p.m., about 40 minutes after the time of sunset. Watch as its bubble-like, golden-hued disk launches itself over San Diego’s mountainous eastern skyline. The following morning, you can watch the moon fade in dawn’s glare while sinking into the Pacific. When seen near the horizon, the moon often seems to be larger than life. The effect, called the “moon illusion,” is purely psychological.

A Bloomin’ Walk in the Park! Explore local flora, fauna, ecology, history, and culture during trail guide-led walks. 619-668-3281. Saturday, February 7, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, February 8, 9:30 a.m.; Wednesday, February 11, 9:30 a.m.; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Balboa Park Architectural Tours San Diego Architectural Foundation hosts tours highlighting Spanish Colonial Revival buildings constructed for 1915 and 1935 International Expositions in Balboa Park. Tours start in front of Museum of Man. 619-232-1385. Saturday, February 7, 9:50 a.m.; \$8-\$15. Ages 10 and up. San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Explore a Lake Marshland Canyoneers head out for easy walk along perimeter of the rush-edged channels of the marsh. 619-255-0203. Saturday, February 7, 10

a.m.; free. Guajome Lakes Regional Park, 3000 Guajome Lake Road. (OCEANSIDE)

Geology Walk Through Time Geologist Don Albright leads hike “through hundreds of millions of years of geology.” Visit waterfall, see a rare fossil. Wear good footwear for steep trail. 858-484-3219. Saturday, February 7, 9 a.m.; free. Lopez Ridge Park, 7245 Calle Cristobal. (MIRA MESA)

Guided Nature Walk Take in a different view of the park during outing starting in parking lot at 5700 Genesee Avenue. Bring binoculars, drinking water. 858-581-9944. Saturday, February 7, 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, February 7, 10 a.m.; free. Balboa Park Visitors’ Center, 1549 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Loop Hike! Naturalist Linda King leads four-mile, moderately paced loop hike from Carson’s Crossing to Sycamore Crossing in Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve. Bring sun protection, water, good footwear. Meet at utility gate at west end of Park Village Road. Directions: 858-484-3219. Sunday, February 8, 3 p.m.; free. Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, 12020 Black Mountain Road. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

Love Your Local Beach Take part in fourth annual Singles’ Mingle beach cleanup at Mariner’s Point in Mission Bay (off Bonita Cove) hosted by Envirockers and FM 94.9. Prizes awarded for “most unusual item found on the beach.”

OUT & ABOUT

FALLEN FRUIT

Thursday Night Thing at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Thursday, February 5.

(SEE SPECIAL)



COURTESY OF FALLEN FRUIT

Wear close-toed shoes. 619-987-8858. Sunday, February 8, 10 a.m.; free. Bonita Cove, 1100 West Mission Bay Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

More Walk, Less Talk Naturalists Simone Green leads fast-paced 4.5-mile hike on variety of trails. 760-839-4680. Saturday, February 7, 8:30 a.m.; free. Daley Ranch, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

Mystery Walk Naturalist Kathleen Flanagan leads fast-paced, strenuous walk of about seven miles based on makeup of the group. Expect “a lot of map reading.” Bring a minimum of two liters of water, layer your clothing. 760-839-4680. Friday, February 6, 7 a.m.; free. Daley Ranch, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

Save an Ecological Gem Volunteers needed for habitat restoration, native plant care at Ruffin Canyon. No experience necessary. Tools, supplies provided. Meet group across from 9274 Shawn Avenue. RSVP: 619-297-7380. Saturday, February 7, 9 a.m.; free. Ruffin Canyon, 9274 Shawn Avenue. (MISSION VALLEY)

Tidepooling for All at Dike’s Rock Learn about ocean critters when Birch Aquarium at Scripps hosts tidepooling led by aquarium naturalist. Outing takes place at a rocky area just north of Scripps Pier on UCSD property, part of La Jolla Underwater Park marine reserve. Required reservations: 858-534-7336. Sunday, February 8, 1 p.m.; \$12. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Top of the Morning Take a brisk morning hike with naturalist Liz Goetz. Fast-paced exercise hike covers Boulder Loop Trail. 760-839-4680. Sunday, February 8, 8:30

a.m.; free. Daley Ranch, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

Vernal Pools and Wildflowers! Diana Gordon leads walk to see vernal pools, one of our rarest habitats. See wildflowers. Moderate hill to climb. Wear hiking boots, bring water. 858-484-3219. Saturday, February 7, 9 a.m.; free. Carmel Mountain Trailhead, Fairport Way and Shorepointe Way. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

Whaddaya Know about Lindo Lake? Join Palomar Audubon Society birders for field trip led by Jeff Ebright. 858-484-3932. Saturday, February 7, 8:30 a.m.; free. Lindo Lake Park, 9841 Vine Street. (LAKESIDE)

SOUTH OF THE BORDER

Original Banda Limon Concert promising Mexican music. 011-52-664-685-9594. Friday, February 6, 9 p.m.; \$13. Las Pulgas Club, on Avenida Revolución. (BAJA)

SPECIAL

“A Heart-Healthy, Heart-Happy Valentine” Chef Bernard Guillas is joined by interior designer Olga Tuchscher Krasnoff (author of *Dining by Design*) to demonstrate cooking, eating in heart-healthy fashion “without sacrificing anything.” Proceeds benefit Go Red for Women. Reservations: 888-424-3663. Saturday, February 7, noon; \$15. Macy’s Mission Valley Home Store, 1555 Camino de la Reina. (MISSION VALLEY)



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cherry chutney, and fettuccini Alfredo with mushrooms and fresh herbs with opera singing chef Elizabeth Podsiadlo. 760-436-3036 x206. Saturday, February 7, 1:30 a.m.; Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

“Exist ’09 Art Show” Artists Steve Cachero, Kelli Murray, Brooke Olivares, Sarah Shreves, others will display their art, from photography to stencil work. Event includes live music by DJ Iceberg and DJ CB.NITE. Donation (\$5) benefits Young Life. 619-889-9885. Friday, February 6, 8 p.m.; \$5. Existence Church, 7686 Miramar Road. (MIRA MESA)

“Fallen Fruit” This Los Angeles-based activist art project visits Thursday Night Thing. “Using fruit as their lens, the collective investigates urban space, ideas of neighborhood, and new forms of located citizenship and community.” Founding members David Burns, Matias Viegner, Austin Young speak about their work, lead “variety of interactive fruit-centric activities that examine the idea of ‘public fruit’” (fruit planted on border of private and public property). Enjoy video screenings, communal jam-making (using locally found public fruit), tasting of “Neighborhood Infusions,” sharing of “personal fruit stories.” Music by the Heathers, Golden Red, and Team Abraham. 858-454-3541. Thursday, February 5, 7 p.m.; free. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN)

“Hidden Faces of La Jolla: Portraits of Black San Diegans” Photographic exhibit celebrating Black History Month. Between 1920-1945, black community in La Jolla grew to almost 500 residents. Photographer Molly Low documented what remained of black and Latino community of La Jolla in photographs taken between 1988-1990. Portraits include the subject’s own writing below the portrait, adding a textual layer to visual images, documenting the subject’s experiences living in La Jolla. Exhibit continues through February on lower level, west wing of Geisel Library. 858-822-5758. 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 Saturday, February 28, free. UCSD Arts Library, Geisel Library, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

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"Let's Talk About It: Love and Forgiveness" Five-part reading and discussion series explores themes of love and forgiveness through classic and contemporary literature. "Love and Forgiveness in the Light of Death" is theme for first meeting, focusing on *Paula* by Isabel Allende. USD professor Leonora Simonovis leads discussion. Next up: J.M. Coetzee's *Disgrace*, March 9. 619-236-5816. Monday, February 9, 6:30 p.m.; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

"Reclaim, Rework, Recreate: The Gotthelf Goes Green" Exhibit utilizing "only recycled and repurposed materials" continues through Wednesday, February 25. "Show explores the whimsy and creativity of Tony Berlant, Liz Mamorsky, Marilyn Mitchell, and Jody Silver." 858-457-3030. Thursdays, 10 a.m.; Fridays, 10 a.m.; Sundays, noon; Mondays, 10 a.m.; Tuesdays, 10 a.m.; Wednesdays, 10 a.m.; through Wednesday, February 25, free. Gotthelf Art Gallery at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

The Fall of the House of Usher Discuss Edgar Allan Poe's 1839 short story with San Diego Great Books group. Newcomers welcome. 619-440-5625. Saturday, February 7, 2 p.m.; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

A Chocolate Valentine Learn to make dark chocolate dipped strawberries, champagne truffles hand-rolled in cocoa powder,

Chambord tiles, and vanilla bean white chocolate medallions with dried cranberries during class taught by Amanda Ehrlich of Sinful Creations. Participants take home samples. Required advance registration: 760-436-3036 x206. Tuesday, February 10, 7 p.m.; \$45-\$50. Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Beer and Chocolate Pairing Pairing of handcrafted Stone Beer with handcrafted Chuao chocolate, guiding attendees through flavor combinations available in world of "great chocolate and great beer." Format: relaxed and conversational, with Ken Wright introducing each course, sharing insights. Reservations: 760-471-4999. Sunday, February 8, 2:30 p.m.; \$30. Ages 21 and up. Stone Brewing World Bistro and Gardens, 1999 Citracado Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

Celebrate Year of the Ox Welcome year 4707 during Chinese New Year Food and Cultural Fair hosted by San Diego Chinese Center. See traditional lion and dragon dancing, Chinese acrobats, storytelling, children's activities, martial arts performances, parade of lanterns, calligraphy, cultural exhibits. Food and wares for sale. 619-338-9888. Saturday, February 7, 10 a.m.; Sunday, February 8, 10 a.m.; free. Chinese Historical Society and Museum, 404 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Circus Vargas 2009 Circus Vargas raises its big top for performances around the county. Latest edition of circus "bridges the gap

between old tradition and modern innovation." Prior to each show, audience is invited into center ring for "crash course in circus skills such as juggling, feather balancing, and hula-hooping." Tickets: 877-468-3861. Thursday, February 5, 7:30 p.m.; Friday, February 6, 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, February 7, 1:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, February 8, 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Monday, February 9, 7 p.m.; \$15-\$50. Balboa Park, Park Boulevard at Presidents Way. (BALBOA PARK)

Crafty! United Nations Association-San Diego and UNICEF Committee host "Micro-credit Craft Market" on lawn near U.N. building (opposite International Cottages). Micro-credit is described as "a 'bottom-up' approach to economic development in which those living in poverty can receive small loans" to start businesses, generate income. Also on offer: kid's workshop on turning everyday items into toys; photography exhibition. Bring toiletries, baby products to donate to Instituto Madre Assunta in Tijuana. 619-233-3970. Sunday, February 8, 10 a.m.; free. House of Pacific Relations, 2125 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Crossroads of the West Gun Show Exhibits designed to appeal to hunters, gun collectors. 801-544-9125. Saturday, February 7, 9 a.m.; Sunday, February 8, 9 a.m.; free. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

dition, focuses on "Rainwater Collection for the Homeowner." Save what little rain we receive for landscape irrigation. Learn of current and future water scarcity issues on local, national, and global levels. Registration: 619-660-0614 x10. Saturday, February 7, 1 p.m.; \$15-\$25. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

Flatpicker Extraordinaire Steve Kaufman — a three-time winner of national flatpick competition — plans workshop and concert. Workshop offered 7-9 p.m. on February 6 and 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on February 7; concert at 8 p.m. on February 7. Fees: \$90 for workshop, \$15 for concert. 619-280-9035. Friday, February 6, 7 p.m.; Saturday, February 7, 9:30 a.m. and 8 p.m.; \$15-\$90. Old Time Music, 2852 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Hey, It's PB Graffiti Day! Volunteers will be organized into teams, equipped, and led by captains throughout Pacific Beach to clean and paint out graffiti. Newcomers: arrive at 8:30 a.m. for brief course in graffiti removal. 858-483-6666. Saturday, February 7, 9 a.m.; free. Pacific Beach Presbyterian Church, 1675 Garnet Avenue. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Knitting Made Easy Do you knit? Join "a very relaxed group of people" meeting every Saturday to knit and chat. 858-573-1396. Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.; free. Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library, 9005 Aero Drive. (KEARNY MESA)

Psychic Fair and Metaphysical Conference Lectures, tarot, palmistry, numerology, other psychic arts featured. Admission is free; \$20 per reading. 619-298-3422. Saturday, February 7, noon; Sunday, February 8, noon; free. Alexandra's Bookstore, 3545 Midway Drive, Suite G. (POINT LOMA)

Pup and Circumstance Canine Companions for Independence hosts graduation ceremony — when humans graduate with their new, highly skilled assistance dogs. 760-901-4300. Saturday, February 7, noon; free. Mission San Luis Rey, 4070 Mission Avenue. (OCEANSIDE)

R-Rated Trivia Trivial fun returns with "comedy, mini-games, category rounds," and trivia "that will make your head explode (metaphorically)." Winning team takes all. 619-294-4848. Sunday, February 8, 8 p.m.; \$3. Ages 21 and up. The Wit's End, 420 Robinson Avenue. (HILLCREST)

R-Rated Trivia in the North Enjoy a "new brand of trivia for the not-so-enlightened masses." Expect comedy, mini-games, trivia. Winning team takes all; "play for free if you're cheap, broke, or drunk." 760-944-0233. Monday, February 9, 7:30 p.m.; \$3. Ages 21 and up. First Street Bar and Grill, 656 Coast Highway. (ENCINITAS)

See Art Happen Mixed-media sculptor and painter Jolynn Krystosek is first resident artist of 2009, having created a large-scale, 8' x 10' paper collage in studio during January. View the completed work through Wednesday, March 18. 760-436-6611. Thursdays, 1 p.m.; Fridays, 1 p.m.; Saturdays, 11 a.m.; through Wednesday, March 18, \$10. Lux Art Institute, 1550 South El Camino Real. (ENCINITAS)

Tall Ship Time The *Lynx* privateer sails into Oceanside Harbor from Los Angeles Harbor. Free dockside tours, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; adventure sails, 2-5 p.m. (fee). 866-446-5969. Saturday, February 7, 10 a.m.; Sunday, February 8, 10 a.m.; free. Oceanside Harbor, 1540 Harbor Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Travel Sketchbooks Athenaeum art students display their sketchbooks inspired by instructor Irina Gronborg, opening with a reception for the artists. Show continues through February. 858-481-9105. Friday, February 6, 4:30 p.m.; free. La Vida del Mar, 850 Del Mar Downs Road. (DEL MAR)

Yes We Can? P&R Discussion Group gathers to focus on why the Democrats won the recent presidential election. 619-370-1027. Thursday, February 5, 7 p.m.; free. Filter, 4096 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

SPORTS

"On the Edge" Smucker's Stars on Ice returns, including Olympic silver medalist Sasha Cohen, 2008 World Champion and Olympic Bronze Medalist Jeffrey Buttle, and

OUT & ABOUT

"ON THE EDGE"

Smuckers Stars on Ice, San Diego Sports Arena, Saturday, February 7.

(SEE SPORTS)



cast of Olympic, world, and national ice-skating champions. Ticketmaster, 619-220-TIXS. Saturday, February 7, 3 p.m.; \$25-\$120. San Diego Sports Arena, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (POINT LOMA)

Park Your Car and Ride! Knickerbikers plan 29-mile bicycle ride east along Highway 56 bike path then out on some hilly roads. Bring money for lunch before return to starting point. 858-243-4662. Saturday, February 7, 9:30 a.m.; free. Carmel Valley park and ride, 12791 Sorrento Valley Road. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Ride the Fallbrook Hills Join up with San Diego Bicycle Society riders for 75-miler starting in upper parking lot at Third and C. Bring money for deli lunch. 619-561-3846. Sunday, February 8, 8:45 a.m.; free. Moonlight Beach, 200 B Street. (ENCINITAS)

San Dieguito Half Marathon The 41st annual event includes 5k run/walk, with scenic course through Rancho Santa Fe. Registration at 6:30 a.m.; run starts at 8 a.m. 619-298-7400. Sunday, February 8, 8 a.m.; \$35-\$50. San Dieguito County Park, 1628 Lomas Santa Fe Drive. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

Year-Round Waterskiing Convair Waterski Club provides ski boats for waterskiing. Group meets at south end of Crown Point Beach. 858-863-4755. Sundays, 8 a.m.; \$8-\$15. Mission Bay. (MISSION BEACH)

MUSEUMS

Black Historical Society Museum of San Diego African American History 740 Market Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Bonita Museum and Cultural Center The museum highlights the history of the Sweetwater Valley from the mid-1800s, with historical photographs; artifacts, tools, and farming implements; the district's 1953 fire engine; and bound copies back to the 1930s of the *Chula Vista Star News*. 4355 Bonita Road, 619-267-5141. (BONITA)

Campo Railroad Museum Campo Railroad Museum, showcasing more than 130 years of American railroad history and technology through static and operating exhibits, the museum includes cabooses, steam and diesel locomotives, track motorcars, 1880s "Jim Crow" segregated passenger cars. Interpretive 1.5-hour train rides offered each weekend (11 a.m., 2:30 p.m.) over portion of the San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway. 31123-1/2 Highway 94, 619-465-7776. (INLAND BORDER TOWNS)

Centro Cultural Tijuana Center includes Museo de las Californias, cultural and artistic exhibits. "Buda Guanyin: Treasures of Compassion" continues through December. Currently screening in the CE-CUT Omnimax: *Vamos a la Luna* and *India, El Reino del Tigre*. 011-52-664-687-9650. Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJA)

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

fall. 404 Third Avenue, 619-338-9888. (DOWNTOWN)

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

Craftsmanship Museum The Joe Martin Foundation hosts this museum and machine shop with displays of projects in metal and wood at the small end of the size-scale, including working miniature gas and steam engines, aircraft models, cars, trains, clocks, miniature tools and guns. Machinist mans the shop (Tuesday-Friday) for machining demonstrations. Museum is also open on first Saturday each month (10 a.m.-3 p.m.). 3235 Executive Ridge, 760-727-9492. (VISTA)

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

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

Heritage Walk Museum The museum includes the restored Victorian house, the city's original Santa Fe Train Depot, a railroad car with model train, working blacksmith shop, and a barn. Find Heritage Walk in Grape Day Park.

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

House of Pacific Relations International Cottages are open every Sunday, noon-4 p.m., presenting history and traditions of 30 ethnic groups. On fourth Tuesday of each month, *Children around the World* videos screened in Hall of Nations, select cottages open. 2125 Park Boulevard, 619-234-0739. (BALBOA PARK)

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

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

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

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

Museum of San Diego History "100 Years of Art," continuing through March, showcases a century of artwork by San Diego

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

New Americans Museum in NTC Promenade "From Haven to Home: 350 Years of Jewish Life in America" — continuing through February — is an exhibit created by the American Jewish Historical Society, chronicling "the American Jewish experience in this country." Trace the American Jewish journey "from persecution to participation," from the original 23 refugees who landed in 1654 to today's diverse Jewish community.

Chicago photographer Gina Grillo captures family experiences as immigrants arrive in Chicago and chronicles their integration into urban life in "Between Cultures: Children of Immigrants in America." Grillo began by shooting photographs outside lines of the Immigration and Naturaliza-

tion Service (INS), and later, citizenship swearing-in ceremonies, immigrant neighborhoods, immigrant families arriving at O'Hare Airport. Closes Sunday, February 15. 2825 Dewey Road Suite 102, 619-255-8908. (POINT LOMA)

New Children's Museum The title of the "Childsplay" exhibit is reference to art of Allan Kaprow, "one of the most important artists to have made work for the museum in the past." Local artist Brian Dick reinterprets two installations Kaprow created with his sons — *Yard* (1961) and *No Rules, Except* (2000) — merging them into a new project celebrating spirit of Kaprow's interactions. Exhibition boasts work by 19 artists, 6 of whom are from Mexico. 200 West Island Avenue, 619-233-8792. (DOWNTOWN)

Parsonage Museum of Lemon Grove "Messages from the World: The Story of the Lemon Grove Post Office" follows evolution of local post office from horse and buggy days through modern times. Also on view: "The Children's Room," "The Parents' Room," "The Sewing Room," offering installations evoking life in the parsonage from 1900-1940. 3185 Olive Street, 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

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

Decades of NASA research and color photography from robotic spacecraft illuminate "Giant Worlds: A Voyage to the Outer Solar System," a three-dimensional, interactive exhibition through Sunday, May 3. Exhibition consists of 20 individual exhibits filled with interactive experiences, models, and murals revealing "the grandeur of these amazing planets."

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

San Diego Air and Space Museum "The Da Vinci Experience" reveals how Leonardo Da Vinci's conceptual designs for many technological wonders were centuries ahead of their time.

"For the past 50 years a group of Florentine artisans have poured over Da Vinci's notes and drawings in an attempt to faithfully create replicas of his many inventions, relying solely on materials that were available in 15th-Century Italy. The result is over two dozen fully functional models, 11 of which are full-sized." The interactive models are displayed with a facsimile of relevant Da Vinci drawing. Closes Sunday, January 3, 2010.

Concurrently, see "The History of Commercial Aviation in America." A section of exhibit celebrates 40-year history of PSA, with original graphics, a re-creation of the airline's first ticket booth at Lindbergh Field, uniforms and memorabilia donated by former employees. Ongoing.

The museum offers exhibits of over 65 aircraft, including an RQ-1K Predator UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) on indefinite loan from the National Museum of the United States Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, which "saw action over the Balkans in the late 1990s"; a replica of *Spirit of St. Louis*, a Fokker Scourge (or Fokker Eindecker E-III), a World War I Spad VII, flight deck of the USS *Yorktown*, and a Lockheed Blackbird spy plane; 1400 scale models, 10,000 aviation-related items, and memorabilia from Montgolfier hot-air-balloon era to Space Age, along with an International Aerospace Hall of

Fame. 2001 Pan American Plaza, 619-234-8291. (BALBOA PARK)

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

Center hosts monthly archaeological-themed lectures, workshops, and family events on second Saturday of each month. Museum is dedicated to curating and sharing archaeological collections with public for educational,

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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

scientific, cultural use. 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road, 760-291-0370. (ESCONDIDO)

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

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

San Diego Maritime Museum
"The Art of the Boat — Photos from the Rosenfeld Collection," continuing through July, is collection of over 40 black-and-white photographs celebrating marriage of great yachts and sea through lenses of father-and-son team Morris and Stanley Rosenfeld. Duo is renowned for photographs of yachts, tall ships, and speedboats and photography of every America's Cup race from 1885-1992.

The photography exhibition "Portrait of Tall Ships" features more than 30 photographs by Thad Koza and Michael Berman. Exhibit includes chronicles of sailing adventures of the museum's ships. Through February.

Lucky 7 Match

SPEED DATING

Wednesday, Feb. 11

Ages 25-37, 38-48 & 48-62
at **Keating Hotel,
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Thursday, Feb. 26

Ages 24-34, 33-45 & 45-58
at **Bitter End, Downtown**

Check-in 7 pm, event 7:30 pm
Advance registration required.

See website for details.

www.lucky7match.com
(619) 890-7117

"San Diego's Navy," based upon book by same name written by Bruce Linder, is said to be "the only comprehensive exhibit depicting the extraordinary contribution the Navy has made to the history of the San Diego region."

The museum features permanent exhibits documenting the history of San Diego's waterfront and the building of the West Coast by sea, the old San Diego-Coronado ferryboats, the tuna-fishing industry, and the military. The museum fleet consists of the 1863 bark *Star of India*, the 1898 San Francisco ferryboat *Berkeley*, and the 1904 Scottish steam yacht *Medea*. The HMS *Surprise*, used in film *Master and Commander*, is permanently on exhibit; see artifacts, costumes, props used in making of the flick.

Also open for touring: a B-39 Soviet attack submarine, among the largest conventionally powered submarines ever built. This Project 641/Foxtrot class diesel-electric submarine was designed to track U.S. and NATO warships throughout the earth's oceans. There are also nautical exhibits, ship carpenters, model building, ships in bottles, woodcarvers, complete research library. 1306 North Harbor Drive, 619-234-9153. (DOWNTOWN)

San Diego Museum of Man
"Skull Stories: The Art of Ancient Surgery" marks "the first time the museum will use an entire collection of its own artifacts for an exhibit display." Trephining, or removing a piece of bone from the skull, is oldest surgical procedure known from antiquity; skulls ex-

hibiting different degrees of healing after trephination will be displayed, as well as skulls that have been trephined using different techniques. Trephination tools, instruments such as obsidian blades, tumis, chisels also displayed.

"Gods and Gold: Ancient Treasures from Mexico to Peru" showcases museum's collections of Mexican, Central American, and South American archaeological objects. Rare gold and jewelry, exotic figurines, intricate stonework, and pottery from the ancient world are on display, as well as a crystal skull, on loan from a private collector. Through Sunday, September 13.

"Art and Expression: The Legacy of Our Collections" highlights 17 key collections, relates stories of the collectors, how collections came to museum, their significance in preserving history of past generations. Objects include pottery, baskets, beadwork, jewelry, woodcarving, folk art, katsinas, bone and ivory implements, shields, textiles.

In "Artists Speak: Contemporary Art from Ghana and Zimbabwe," museum has partnered with artists from Ghana and Zimbabwe to showcase paintings and sculpture by accomplished African artists.

Permanent anthropology exhibit "Footsteps Through Time: Four Million Years of Human Evolution" features "more than a hundred touchable replicas of early humans, primates, and futuristic cyborgs (part human, part ma-

OUT & ABOUT

OPERA SENSATION!

Baritone Rod Gilfry,
Saint James by-the-Sea, Sunday,
February 8.

(SEE CLASSICAL
MUSIC)



chine)." 1350 El Prado, 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Tugboat Museum

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

San Dieguito Heritage Museum

The museum offers informative displays on the North County coastal history including Native Americans, early homesteaders, and recent times, as well as photographic collections and archives. 450 Quail Gardens Drive, 760-632-9711. (ENCINITAS)

San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve Nature center's building is a "green" facility made from re-

cycled materials, using solar panels, irrigated roof plants, recycled water. Facility features an array of interactive exhibits exploring the natural and cultural history of the San Elijo Lagoon, one of the few remaining coastal wetlands in our area. Guided nature walks offered second Saturday each month (9-11 a.m.), starting at Rios Avenue trailhead. 2710 Manchester Avenue, 760-436-3944. (CARDIFF)

San Marcos Historical Society Museum 270 West San Marcos Boulevard, 760-744-9025. (SAN MARCOS)

San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park Commemorates

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

Valley Center History Museum

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

William Heath Davis House Museum

Museum is said to be the oldest surviving structure in the new town area of downtown San Diego. The house is a well-preserved example of a pre-framed lumber "salt box" family home, shipped from the East Coast to California by boat around Cape Horn in 1850. 410 Island Avenue, 619-233-4692. (DOWNTOWN)

Women's History Museum

2323 Broadway, Suite 107, 619-233-7963. (GOLDEN HILL)

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Calendar

CLASSICAL MUSIC

CLASSICAL LISTINGS

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CLASSICAL

Prima Trio Barbara and William Karatz Chamber Concert Series continues with concert by ensemble whose members hail from Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, and Russia. 858-454-5872. \$30-\$35. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street), 7:30 p.m., Friday, February 6. (LA JOLLA)

Sweet Musings Hutchins Consort plans “A Valentine’s Preview” including Vivaldi’s “Winter,” “Waltz from Serenade for Strings” by Tchaikovsky, Mozart’s “Allegro Maestoso,” and John Dowland’s “Suite for Strings,” as well as Stravinsky’s “Ragtime.” Ensemble performs on an octet of harmonically matched and scaled string instruments designed and crafted by American luthier, acoustician Carleen Hutchins. 760-632-0554. \$15-\$25. Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive), 7:30 p.m., Friday, February 6. (LA JOLLA)

All Vivaldi! Arion, directed by cellist Jaap ter Linden and joined by countertenor Matthew White, plans concert for San Diego Early Music Society. Baroque orchestra performs the “Stabat Mater” and the cantata “Cessate Omai Cessate,” as well as “a bouquet of concerti for bassoon, flute, and cello” including “Alla Rustica” and “Il Gardellino.” 619-291-8246. \$10-\$35. Saint James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church (743 Prospect Street), 8 p.m., Friday, February 6. (LA JOLLA)

Phantom of the Opera “Silent Film Nights” return for winter pops concerts hosted by San Diego Symphony, with conductor Gillian Anderson. Music performed on “recently revived Symphony Hall pipe organ,” with live orchestral accompaniment for the 1925 horror masterpiece starring Lon Chaney. This print of the film will be shown on carbon-arc projectors, typical equipment during silent film era. 619-235-0804. Friday, February 6, 8 p.m.; Saturday, February 7, 8 p.m.; \$20-\$30. Copley

Symphony Hall, 750 B Street. (DOWNTOWN)

“Tango Argentino” Camarada offers “A Celebration of Astor Piazzolla,” the master of the tango. Performers include Beth Ross-Buckley (flute), Fred Benedetti (guitar), Lou Fanucchi (bandoneon), dancers Marizabel Arango and Todd Martin. Evening begins with wine and cheese reception. 619-231-3702. \$40-\$50. Perry L. Meyer Fine Art Gallery (2400 Kettner Boulevard, Suite 104), 6:30 p.m., Saturday, February 7. (LITTLE ITALY)

“The DNA of Music: Home” La Jolla Symphony and Chorus plan concerts celebrating 200th birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Charles Darwin. Listen for Aaron Copland’s “Lincoln Portrait,” narrated by Cecil Lytle; and “Darwin Portrait,” a new work commissioned from composer Rick Snow. Also promised: world premiere of “Amistad Symphony” by Anthony Davis, featuring soprano Renee Calvo; and Respighi’s “The Pines of Rome.” 858-534-4637. \$15-\$26. Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD (9500 Gilman Drive), 8 p.m., Saturday, February 7; 3 p.m., Sunday, February 8. (LA JOLLA)

Cecilia String Quartet Canadian ensemble in concert hosted by La Jolla Music Society. Program includes Wolf’s “Italian Serenade,” the “String Quartet No. 2 (The Canadian)” by Liam James Wade, and Schumann’s “String Quartet in A Major No. 3.” 858-459-3728. \$5-\$30. Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane), 8 p.m., Saturday, February 7. (CARLSBAD)

Organ Recital Guest organist Wayne Seppala mans the organ. 619-702-8138. Free. Spreckels Organ Pavilion (2211 Pan American Road), 2 p.m., Sunday, February 8. (BALBOA PARK)

Fallbrook Music Society Strikes Again! Redlands Symphony Orchestra is joined by guest pianist Stephen Prutsman to perform Rachmaninoff’s “Piano Concerto No. 3.” Also on program: Verdi’s “Overture to *La forza del destino*,” “Symphony No. 5 (Adagietto)” by Mahler, and Rimsky-Korsakov’s “Capriccio Espagnol.” 760-451-8644. \$10-\$38. Bob Burton Center for the Performing Arts (2400 South Stagecoach Drive), 3 p.m., Sunday, February 8. (FALLBROOK)

An Opera Sensation! Baritone Rod Gilfry performs for St. James music series. Reservations: 858-459-3421 x109. \$25. Saint James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church (743 Prospect Street), 4 p.m., Sunday, February 8. (LA JOLLA)

Classical Piano Promised Kasey Kay presents mini-concert. 858-454-5872. Free. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street), noon, Monday, February 9. (LA JOLLA)

“Love Songs for Voice and Guitar” Soprano Elisabeth Marti and guitarist Eric Foster perform works of Mauro Giuliani, Roberto Gerhard, Benjamin Britten, Heitor Villa-Lobos, and others for family

music series. 858-522-1668. Free. Carmel Valley Library (3919 Townsgate Drive), 7 p.m., Wednesday, February 11. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Send CHS Chamber Orchestra to Carnegie Hall! Carlsbad High School’s Chamber Orchestra has been chosen to perform at Carnegie Hall in April. Enjoy benefit concert showcasing “full array of musical styles from modern Villa-Lobos, jazz, pop, and the classics.” Program includes performances by Blue Rose Duo, Gunnar Biggs (string bass), Bob Boss (guitar), the Lancer Dancers and Ex-caliber teams dancing to “Viva La Vida.” 760-331-6104. \$15. Carlsbad Community Cultural Arts Center (3557 Monroe Street), 7 p.m., Wednesday, February 11. (CARLSBAD)

ART LISTINGS

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

GALLERIES

“Forms in Metal” Reception for group exhibition of contemporary metalwork by 17 artists. Exhibit — showcasing variety of techniques from fabrication and casting to fusing, forging, and enameling — continues through Thursday, February 26. 619-644-7299. Free. Hyde Art Gallery at Grossmont College (8800 Grossmont College Drive), 7 p.m., Tuesday, February 10. (GROSSMONT COLLEGE)

“Garage Sale” Reception for exhibition questioning “the difference between everyday objects and art objects, colloquial aesthetics and installation art” by David White, Joy Boe, Judith Pedroza, Josh Bellfy, Joe Yorty, and Eddie Miramontes. Work on view “is the remains of an actual garage sale held at the gallery on the mornings of January 31 and February 1.” 619-384-7989. Agitprop Gallery (2837 University Avenue), 6 p.m., Saturday, February 7. (NORTH PARK)

“Go Figure” Reception for featured artist Dan Adams, as well as “Outstanding Visual Artists” of region selected by Lynn Sushlotz. Closes Sunday, March 15. 619-236-0011. Free. San Diego Art Institute: Museum of the Living Artist (1439 El Prado), 6 p.m., Friday, February 6. (BALBOA PARK)

“Gotta Have Heart” Opening reception for tenth anniversary of

Sophie’s Gallery. Tenth anniversaries are traditionally celebrated with tin, so artists have created art using this metal, including a collection of airbrushed lunch boxes. Also on display: “one-of-a-kind mosaic ‘inner image’ masks.” Requested donation for reception: \$20. Closes Friday, March 6. 619-593-2205. Free. Sophie’s Gallery (109 Rea Avenue), 5:30 p.m., Friday, February 6. (EL CAJON)

“Images of the Figure” Opening reception for West Coast Drawing’s sixth annual exhibition. See work by 17 member artists through Saturday, April 4. 760-744-1150 x2304. Free. Boehm Gallery at Palomar College (1140 West Mission Road), 4 p.m., Saturday, February 7. (SAN MARCOS)

“My Soul Looks Back: A Celebration of Culture, History, Humanity, and Change” Art exhibit in celebration of Black History Month begins with reception in school’s Community Art Gallery. Exhibition highlights African American artists and memorabilia from collections of Chuck Ambers, Willie Morrow (of Omnilogue Enterprises), staff, students. View collection through April. 619-582-4002. Free. Springfield College School of Human Services (5348 University Avenue Suite 110), 6 p.m., Saturday, February 7. (CITY HEIGHTS)

“Profoundly Different and Successful” Reception for Discovery Room artists Tomi Hayes and Ana Guerra. Hayes is showing watercolors, while Guerra exhibits sculptures. 760-789-3682. Free. Olde Ramona Hotel Gallery (845 Main Street), 3 p.m., Saturday, February 7. (RAMONA)

“The Fine Art of Robert Lovell” Opening reception for exhibition of mixed media work by artist and musician Robert Lovell. Through April. 619-283-4834. Free. Gallery 3737 (3737 Adams Avenue), 6 p.m., Saturday, February 7. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

“Valentine Visions” Reception for artists whose 100 original watercolor paintings are on exhibit through Friday, February 27. 619-876-4550. Free. San Diego Watercolor Society at NTC Promenade (2825 Dewey Road #105), 5 p.m., Friday, February 6. (POINT LOMA)

Retrospective Exhibit Oil painter Jori Owens honored with

Ray at Night reception. Work by resident artist Marjorie Taylor is on view as well. 619-298-0063. Free. Taylor Studio (3825 Ray Street), 6 p.m., Monday, February 9. (NORTH PARK)

ART MUSEUMS

California Center for the Arts, Escondido Museum Four new exhibitions open on Saturday, February 7: “20th Century Photography: Selections from the Wachovia Securities Art Collection,” “Divi/nation: Work by Debby & Larry Kline,” “Between: Work by Nina Waisman,” and “Reel Mothers: Film Video Art and the Maternal.” Exhibits address current social issues and reflect on how historical moments have impacted life in America and world. Through Sunday, June 21. 340 North Escondido Boulevard, 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

Institute of Perception 1 Railroad Street. (INLAND BORDER TOWNS)

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, September 6.

“Shibui — The Subtle Beauty of Japanese Craft” features metal, textiles, wood, and ceramics from museum’s collection of Japanese folk art, craft, design. Highlights include kimono and textiles by Keisuke Serizawa, more. Continues through Sunday, June 28.

“Forms in Wood and Fiber,” continuing through February, features work of six distinguished San Diego wood artists and California Fibers, a group of artist craftsmen from Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego counties. Exhibition is conceived as “lively conversation among peers and between two artistic media.” 1439 El Prado, 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

Museum of Photographic Arts “Lou Stoumen: The Naked Truth” is solo exhibition of photographs by the artist describing “the era in which he lived” and his trav-

els around the U.S., India, Puerto Rico, China, Japan, and beyond. Closes Sunday, May 17.

Also on exhibit through May 17: “Lou Stoumen Award Winners: The Legacy.” Exhibition begins with photographs by 2009 Stoumen Prize Winner, Mikhael Subotsky, as well as previous Stoumen winners Debbie Fleming Caffery (1996), Kenro Izu (1999), James Nachtwey (2002), Gary Schneider (2006), featuring the photographs that won them the award alongside new work created after receiving it.

Edward Steichen (1879-1973) was one of the most influential figures in history of photography. “Edward Steichen: The Early Years” consists of Steichen’s “signature soft-focus, moody studies of light, landscape, and form.” Closes Sunday, May 17.

“Considering Edward Curtis,” opening Saturday, February 7 and closing on Sunday, May 10, examines over 35 photogravures from 1907 to 1930 made by Edward Curtis (1868-1952) for his monumental 20-volume opus on Native American tribes. 1649 El Prado, 619-238-7559. (BALBOA PARK)

Oceanside Museum of Art Referencing multiple dimensions of pop culture, “Lowbrow Art: Nine San Diego Pop Surrealists” is said to highlight “alternative styles of expression that comment on the subculture of San Diego.” See work by Mary Fleener, Scott Saw, Tim McCormick, Scrojo (Craig Haskett), Jason Sherry, Charles Glaubitz, Ron Wharton, Pamela Jaeger, and Jen Trute through Sunday, May 24. “Each artist extols their narrative world of fantasy through a personal approach reflecting the regional underground culture.”

“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. 704 Pier View Way, 760-435-3720. (OCEANSIDE)

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

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Stencil on Sundance On January 14, San Diego's own celebrity correspondent and red-carpet rude boy, Bob Stencil, took his signature mustache, aviator sunglasses, and unorthodox interviewing style to the Sundance Film Festival for ten days of

ing touches on Bob Stencil, fashioning him as an overindulgent, womanizing ex-pilot. Ray and Baker went to their local Kinko's, made phony press cards, and took them to Comic-Con. Stencil's crass coverage of Comic-Con, including inter-

says Ray from a rented condo in Park City, Utah. "I'm getting a little worried because I'm a little more self-conscious. I think it's just because somebody's putting money into it, not just us. I guess I'm just afraid of screwing it up." His newfound self-consciousness didn't show when he met up with actor Paul Giamatti before a showing of the actor's new movie at Sundance.

"What do you do when you get anxious for a role, Paul?" asked Stencil. "I drink heavily," replied Giamatti.

Stencil pulled a bottle of Miller High Life from his coat pocket.

"Well, how you doing now?" Check out Stencil's coverage of Sundance at firstshowing.net/bobstencil. — Dorian Hargrove

More Radio Ga-Ga After four years as KGB's afternoon deejay, Ditch was fired on January 20.

"The entire building was on lockdown that day. You couldn't even walk into the lobby. You had to get buzzed in. What is the purpose of that? Do they think someone who was fired is going to walk back in with a gun?"

Ditch says he and everyone else who worked at Clear Channel's seven-station San

Diego group knew that January 20 was going to be "bloodbath day." Clear Channel fired 1850 employees nationwide and a report-



INTO RADIO'S BIG DITCH

ed 57 in San Diego stations.

"I got a call that morning at 10:30. They said, 'It's layoff day. I'm sorry, you're on the list. Be here at 12:30.' I was escorted into the studio to get my headphones. Then I was escorted out.... For a week before it happened, Bobbie Hill [another KGB DJ who lost his job] said the atmosphere there was like going to a wake but without a dead body and without the booze."

But radio, Ditch says, is a "gypsy business," often requiring relocation. "When you have kids, packing up and moving is not an appealing option. I have a two-year-old and a seven-year-old in second grade. I don't know what I'm going to do. I have done the concert-promotion thing. I might want to get into some things on the side."

Ditch doesn't think radio

is dead. "But the ones left standing will be those who program and promote locally. Listeners are not stupid. They know which stations are live and engage them with local topics. Those are the stations that gradually rise to the top. I was massively into putting callers on the air." Ditch says he fears that corporate radio chains will continue to use nonlocal, syndicated shows as Clear Channel does with Ryan Seacrest on Star 94.1. "When you try and program a show from Los Angeles or Phoenix, you are losing a guy in San Diego who is talking to San Diego about what San Diego is doing."

— Ken Leighton

Makes Cents After publicly feuding with their former lead singer, the Taz Taylor Band has replaced vocalist Graham Bonnet (Rainbow, Michael Schenker Group) with another MSG vet, Keith Slack.

U.K. guitarist Neil Taz Taylor moved to San Diego in 1997 and teamed up with Graham Bonnet when he found the fellow Brit rocker living nearby. After working together on the Taz Taylor Band's 2008 album *Welcome to America*, a Russian tour was booked, but the singer quit before departure.

"The reason for the cancellation," according to

Bonnet on his website, was "we'd recently performed in Europe and the fees I'd negotiated and expected were not honored. I lost money on the tour, as my modest outgoings were far greater than my final paycheck.... I don't know of anyone who would work for free or, even more bizarrely, pay to work."

Taylor responded that "There were no fees ever negotiated by Graham for the recent European tour that he refers to. Graham knew and agreed to participate in the tour for whatever the revenues were, based on ticket sales.... At the end of the tour, Graham and a hired keyboardist received every cent of the revenue, including



NO PAY-TO-PLAY FOR TAZ AND GRAHAM

all the money from our own merchandise sales."

"Only hours after flights were paid, Graham changed his mind about performing the [Russian] shows, stating

(Continued on page 72)

the inside track blurt

celebrity interviews for movie website firstshowing.net.

Half Hunter S. Thompson, half Tony Clifton (Andy Kaufman's onstage alter ego), Bob Stencil is the creation of 24-year-old Kyle Ray. Over the past three years, Stencil has appeared at Comic-Con, interviewing celebrities and comic-book junkies, with a cigarette or beer in one hand and a microphone in the other.

According to Ray, he came up with the idea for Bob Stencil while playing a show with his band, Monsters From Mars, where, between songs, he spouted one-liners — "Dig those awesome beats, now get on the dance floor and move those feet."

Ray says the crowd ate it up.

Soon after, Ray and friend Tristan Baker put the finish-

views with Samuel L. Jackson and Jennifer Love Hewitt, has resulted in growing popularity on YouTube, culminating



BOB IS MY CO-PILOT

with firstshowing.net signing Stencil on as a celebrity correspondent.

But with the added exposure comes added pressure,

PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS WOO

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his intention to begin work on other projects.” Besides MSG and Rainbow, Graham Bonnet’s other collaborators included Yngwie Malmsteen, Bob Kulick, Steve Vai, Chris Impellitteri, and Danny Johnson.

The Taz Taylor Band DVD *Live in Prague — Ultimate Bootleg* features Bonnet in a “complete unedited performance,” including songs from Bonnet’s tenure with Rainbow and MSG and instrumentals from Taylor’s solo CD *Caffeine Racer*.
— Jay Allen Sanford

From Russia with Love Sorrow Underfoot, a Christian band featuring Fallbrook sisters Brittany and Shannon Taylor and their brother Justin on drums, has made several tours of Russia as part of the Calvary Chapel Church’s Planting Missions program. “I promise we are not emo,” says the band on its website, which includes Russian tour diaries from the bandmembers.

Snegiri: “It was a bit of an ordeal getting here, with a

six-hour delay in LAX due to the snowfall in Moscow,” writes 22-year-old Shannon Taylor. “We traveled up to Tver in our van. Russian drivers are known to be crazy. At one point on our way up our van got side-swiped by another [vehicle] when both were trying to pass head-on! If we had been any closer, it could have been fatal. All the damage included was the side mirror being ripped off and scratches



PHOTOGRAPH FROM SORROWUNDERFOOT.COM

WE ARE NOT EMO...PROMISE

along the side and windows.”

Kaluga: “It was probably the smallest turnout we have had...because of the location of concert hall, time of year, and the weather. At first I was discouraged by this. At the starting time of the last concert night, there was no one there except one old man.”

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The gig eventually picked up, and “as we boarded the train, the youth of Kaluga stood out in the negative-five [degree] weather to see us off. One little girl was shivering as she waited to see us off, standing at our train window with her friends, smiling and blowing us kisses. As our train pulled out of the station, two Russian boys ran along side of the train until the end of the platform.”

You can read more from the tour and sample Sorrow Underfoot’s debut, *Epicentric*, at sorrowunderfoot.com.
— Jay Allen Sanford

For the Team “After the Chargers started to win some football games,” says Patrick Bernard of SD reggae act

High Tide, “it was time to bring out our playoff song, ‘Chargers on a Roll.’” On January 3, band members Chris Murray and Forest were cruising the parking lot at Qualcomm Stadium passing out free CDs with the song.

Sample lyric: “We got Chris Chambers on the left/ Vincent Jackson on the right/ Let the Rivers flow or just hit Gatesy all night.”

Around that time, local rapper Young Mass posted his own Charger-fan football song “Never a Touchdown” on MySpace:

“Say bitch!/ you might get a field goal out of this/ but never a touchdown/ never a touchdown.”

“We sent the single to Chargers defensive co-captains Shawne Merriman and Jamal Williams,” says Mass collaborator 40ozChris. “We



PHOTOGRAPH FROM YOUNGMASS.COM

TEAM PLAYA YOUNG MASS

thought it would be a great song to pump up the defense before games or at halftime, but we never heard back. We also sent it to local sports-talk radio station 1090, to the

morning-show team of Scott Kaplan and Billy Ray Smith, thinking they could use the track when they interviewed Charger players. No response there either.

“We tried cutting a radio-edit version,” says 40ozChris, “with some creative effects inserted in place of the explicit content — more interesting than bleeping-out or silencing. But, I guess with lines about girls putting their ‘backfield in motion,’ I’m thinking even the radio-edit was too sexed-up for the Chargers or the radio station. But we had to put it out there. For the team!”

— Jay Allen Sanford

CONTRIBUTORS

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

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This Week In Music

Thursday 5

"Shake it like you just don't care...and show some brain" when Angelino dance duo **The Bird and the Bee** buzz into Casbah tonight. They're not IDM, but they'll do ya some intelligent dance music — of the '60s jazz-pop variety. Think tropicalia; think Gainsbourg. Inara George (the bird) and Greg Kurstin (the bee, and producer of Beck, Flaming Lips, etcet. etcet.) have been on a sturdy incline since their '06 inception, and this week Blue Note(!) released the disc that should break them, *Ray Guns Are Not Just the Future*. Check out the Space takes, and while you're there, listen to "Fucking Boyfriend," the blast from their past that got 'em noticed in the first place. L.A.'s likeminded Social Science showtunes crew **Obi Best** opens.... Bar Pink bills something similar in name and game



EAGLE AND TALON AT BAR PINK

when **Eagle & Talon** join SanFran psych-folk band **Dame Satan** at the North Park hotspot. E&T is a pair of L.A. ladies who infuse punk-pop with Casio plink to tickle you. Dame Satan's...glacially inclined.... Udderwise: Brooklyn drummer boys **So Percussion** are so playing the Loft at UCSD. The quartet will beat anything. Any thing.... Acousticats **Todd Snyder** and **Keith Sykes** strum-n-hum for Belly Up. Snyder's topical sing-song is full of funny business, so listen close.... Downtown, girl-kisser **Katy Perry** and the **Daylights** shine on House of Blues...while uptown, **Hotel St. George** checks into Radio Room with **Silverleaf** and the **Traditionist**...and the **Crocodiles** crawl into Soda Bar with Jersey boy and Italians Do It Better mainman **Mike Simonetti**.

Friday 6

Hometown hit and critical dahleng **Greg Laswell** is taking Vanguard disc *Three Flights from Alto Nido* on a Left Coast swing. The local artist's been playing and producing for hot-shit starlets such as Anya Marina, Ingrid Michaelson, and Minnie Driver and with *Alto Nido* makes a case for household-name status hisown-damnself. It's darn melodic folk-pop fare, so give a listen. He'll play Casbah Friday night, where SoCal minstrelite **Jesca Hoop**, ah, rounds out the bill.... Boogaloo band **Greyboy Allstars** jazz up Belly Up Friday night. Personnel reads like a who's who of the '90s acid-jazz movement, including genre luminaries DJ Greyboy, Karl Denson, Robert Walter, and Elgin Park. The group goes more to a '60s soul-jazz vibe these days. Check out last year's *What Happened to Television?* for an update. Long Beach roots-rockers **Delta Nove** in support.... Else: **Fiction Family** makes it up at Anthology...**El Ten Eleven** lands at Bar Pink with **Tartufi**...and the **Syndicate**, **Qu'est-ce Que C'est**, and the **Fascination** fill a bill at Soda Bar.

Saturday 7

Cute and cuddly Brooklynites **Matt & Kim** bring the plink to the Loft. The dance-y duo jumped from the independent iheartcomix label to PolyGram imprint Fader for new one *Grand*, a critical hit that smacks of Spoon's piano bounce (Matt) and ratatat drums (Kim), sans the blue-eyed soul. They got a little more punk in their pop. Check out lead single "Daylight" and watch the vid — fun couple.... Garage-rock mopes the Muslims have unceremoniously changed their name to the **Soft Pack**, and during this year's CMJ in NYC, the *New York Times* took notice: "Really, how far could a group calling itself the Muslims get in this day and age?" Guitarist Matty McLoughlin told the daily, "We were sick of the jihad comments. It became a total nuisance." The band was courted by labels at the East Coast showcase and ended up signing with the Kemado group. Their debut is expected later this year. The once-local quartet is now based in L.A. Their spring tour brings them through town, where they'll join **Christmas Island** and **Cement Fix** at Casbah.... New rootsicana crew **Rio Peligroso** bring the danger to Rebecca's

Coffee Shop in South Park. (Oh, shut up, Whistle Stop's right across the street.) Decent pedigree here, with ex-Roxy Monoxide slinger-singer and Kite Flying's rhythm section. The **Bible Bros.** open the



MATT AND KIM AT THE LOFT

sets....
Aaaand, **Agua Dulce** drops its Latin dance jams at Beauty Bar...Radio Room turns it way up with **Archons**, **Hostile Comb-Over**, **Bumbklaat**, and **Ride the Sun**...while **Lady Vain** does a CD-release thang at Soda Bar with **Sunday Times** and **Los Sweepers**.

Sunday 8

We're walkin'...and rockin'...together...forever. Sleeper sets of the week find folk-punk perennials **Kevin Seconds** (7 Seconds) and **Jesse Michaels** (Operation Ivy) dialed in at Radio Room. With **Andrew Jackson Jihad** (Phoenix) and **Ready the Jet** (L.A.) this is one hella Sunday-nighter for the newish North Park nightspot.... Skinny DeVille and Fish Scales bring their Southern rap riot **Nappy Roots** to the Loft. The quintet's gone platinum and gold and garnered Grammy nods in its ten-year career. Atlantic debut *Watermelon, Chicken & Gritz* remains the Kentucky krew's high-water mark — you remember chart-topper "Po' Folks."... Break out the skinny ties and skintight suits, skankers, cuz Sunday

House of Blues is hosting Ska Is Dead IV, featuring the **Voodoo Glow Skulls**, the **Toasters**, **Buck-O-Nine**, **Deal's Gone Bad**, **Skank Agents**, and **Grim Luck**.... Uptown, the **Tighten Ups** get nice and tight at Bar Pink...and Beauty Bar books country-n-blues dudes **Vast Atlantic**, **John Meeks**, and **Silverleaf**.

Monday 9

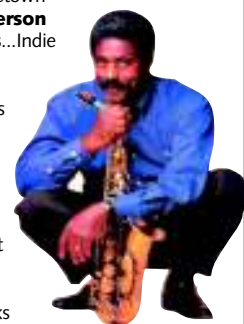
Casbah's Anti-Monday team tags local supergroup **Freaks**, which features players from Earthless, Lady Dottie, Zen Guerrilla, Wellwater Conspiracy, and Nebula. "It's, like, '70s psych-pop meets German krautrock." Mmm-hmm. **Pant Hoots** and **Sassy** set the Middletown stage.... German guitar guy and current Dave Matthews associate **Tim Reynolds** (aka TR) is frequently found beside rock hits such as Matthews, Carlos Santana, Bob Weir, Warren Haynes, T-Bone Burnett, Béla Fleck, 'mong others. He'll bring his own band, the TR3, to Belly Up Monday night.

Tuesday 10

Reggae vocal trio the **Mighty Diamonds** appear at Belly Up. Anyone?... **Free Moral Agents**, **Ray Barbee**, **Matts on Two**, and the **Illuminatus** at Beauty Bar?

Wednesday 11

Gotta watch the word-count, so, real quick, Anthology's Artist in Residence series presents the *blam bleet n bop* of hometown horn hits **Charles McPherson** and **Gilbert Castellanos**...Indie troubadour **Donavon Frankenreiter** plays the Loft...House of Blues hosts Latin hat trick **Elefante**, **Kanari**, and **Cantua**...**Appleseed Cast**, **Japanese Sunday**, and **Say Vinyl** say it at Casbah...Midwest punk-n-roll trio **Funk G** (Des Moines?!!) hit Radio Room...and Belly Up books local pair **Drowning Men** and **Arm the Angels** with Courtney Love's old Hole crew, now **Surrender**. Okay, I give.



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SAT. MAR 7
ABIGAIL WILLIAMS
BURNING THE MASSES
NORTHWALL
SECONDS FROM DISASTER
REMAINS FORGOTTEN
THE MANTLE

THURS. MAR 12
LOWER DEFINITION
I AM GHOST

FRI. MAR 13
THE NUMBER TWELVE
LOOKS LIKE YOU

SAT. MAR 21
Full Blown Circus
SEE YOU NEXT TUESDAY

FRI. MAR 27
afesaya
DEEP DEAD GORGEOUS
FEAR BEFORE
GET MY FRIENDS ON FIRE

THURS. FEB 19
5:30 - 7PM - LUNATIKS.COM
SOMA BOX OFFICE
myspace.com/millencolin

SAT. MAR 14
MILLENCOLIN
THE BRIGGS • AUTHORITY ZERO
A PULS SCIENCE
5:30 - 7PM - LUNATIKS.COM
SOMA BOX OFFICE

PARKWAY DRIVE
STUCK
WALKING DEAD

FRI. APR 3
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All Mashed In

“Frank’s presence has been exerting itself in my life a lot lately.”

Mike Keneally was fronting local band Drop Control when the invitation came in 1987 to join Frank Zappa’s touring band as a “stunt guitarist,” replacing Steve Vai.

“The multivolume work I’m doing now, Scambot, shows a lot of Frank’s influence,” says Keneally. “Frank’s presence has been exerting itself in my life a lot lately...I’ve been listening to his music in the car for several months.”

Keneally has released nine albums of original music since 1992 and has shared the stage with Screamin’ Jay Hawkins, Robert Fripp, Negativland, Wayne Kramer, Solomon Burke, Sting, the Persuasions, and the Loud Family.

“I play so much, I’m always finding stuff I forgot at *RadioKeneally.com*,” he admits. “Like unreleased songs from my live shows which I’ve only heard once and then forgotten about. Any one of our shows is distinct from any other, so listening reminds me of onstage happenings which otherwise would have slipped my mind, like spontaneous Monkees covers or microtonal broken-string guitar solos and improvisations.”

Keneally’s new rarities album *Wine and Pickles* is a collection of obscure studio tracks from 1998 to 2006. His newly formed trio Keneally Minnemann Beller is fresh off a January 16 performance at the NAMM show (National Association of Music Merchants), and a song-writing collaboration is in the works with XTC’s Andy Partridge.

“I seem to be getting more fired up and productive as time goes on.”

IS IT DIFFICULT TO DESCRIBE YOUR MUSIC?

“It’s essentially rock, with equal emphasis on improvisation and strictly composed things. There’s

a lot of guitar in it. I’m mainly known as a guitarist, although keyboard was my first instrument, and I play a lot of different instruments on my recordings. Dynamically, melodically, rhythmically, and lyrically, it’s real diverse and eclectic. I love a lot of different musical styles, and it all gets mashed in.”

LISTS

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

WHAT’S IN YOUR CD PLAYER?

1. Frank Zappa, *You Can’t Do That on Stage Anymore, Volume One*. “There’s a 20-minute live version of ‘Don’t Eat the Yellow Snow’ on there that is so good, it makes my eyes leak. It’s joyous and stunning.”
2. Wendy Carlos, *Switched-On Box Set*. “Four discs of Carlos’s Moog synthesizer orchestrations of Bach music. *Switched-On Bach* had a huge impact on me when I was eight years old. I had never before heard anything that sounded so colorful.”
3. Pavement, *Brighten the Corners*. “The new two-disc deluxe editions of Pavement’s catalogue are all wicked cool.”
4. Rufus Wainwright, *Want One*. “It’s his best bunch of songs. I’m glad there are still artists who care about really writing songs and know how to do it.”
5. The Flying Lutenbachers, *Systems Emerge from Complete Disorder*. “Complex postapocalyptic craziness by a multi-instrumentalist named Weasel Walter. I worked with him and Henry Kaiser on an Albert Ayler tribute album a couple of years ago, and it was exhilarating playing with Weasel on the drums. He’s a total genius-freak.”

MUST-HAVE DVDs?

1. *Mr. Show, The Complete Series*. “Mid-’90s HBO sketch-comedy series with a lot of collective comic brilliance captured at just the right time. Entertaining commentary tracks, too.”

2. *The Mighty Boosh*. “Andy Partridge from XTC just introduced me to this peculiar and entertaining British comedy series. Since being poisoned by Monty Python and Firesign Theatre as a teenager, I’ve had a strong love for quality absurdist humor.”

3. *A Hard Day’s Night*. “I remember reading a Mike Myers interview where he talks about seeing this movie as a kid and crying at the end when the Beatles fly away in the helicopter. I understood perfectly. I’m still in love with the idea of the Beatles as it was presented in this movie and with the fantasy of life-in-a-band that it painted. It’s nostalgia, but at the same time beautiful filmmaking, which is just enchanting to me.”

4. *2001: A Space Odyssey*. “It hypnotized me in the movie theater when I was seven years old, and I’m still under the trance.”

5. “The fifth DVD would probably be something from Miles Davis, Bob Dylan, or John Coltrane. I can’t choose between them. But maybe it’s a late-’60s German TV musical called *Help, Help, the Globolinks!* For real. Look it up.”

YOUR TWO WORST JOBS?

1. “Selling synthesizers at a place on Morena Boulevard called Music Mart in the mid-’80s. I’m just not built for retail.”
2. “Telemarketing, trying to sell Travelodge hotel rooms to businesses over the phone. In any number of ways, it was a heartbreaking portrait of pointlessness.”

TOP FIVE GUILTY PLEASURES?

1. “Listening to my own music online.”
2. “Stupidly addictive computer game called Snap.”



Mike Keneally

3. “The Game Show Network.”
4. “*American Idol*, I’m afraid.”
5. “Apple Jacks cereal.”

MOST-VISITED WEBSITES?

1. *Radiohead.com* “My girlfriend and I are Radiohead freaks, and this is where they post their blog entries.”
2. *ProgressiveEars.com* “Shamefully enjoyable progressive-rock message board. I was a teenage prog-geek, for sure. Probably still am.”
3. *YouTube.com* “Too much fun.”

BEST ADVICE YOU’VE EVER RECEIVED?

“I was struggling with a crazy-hard guitar part at a Frank Zappa rehearsal — really bugging out over it — and Chad Wackerman, the drummer, walked about 200 yards across the rehearsal studio to stand directly in front of me, put his face about three inches from mine, and loudly said, ‘Relax!’ Great advice anytime.”

SOMETHING ABOUT YOU FEW WOULD KNOW OR GUESS?

“I can’t play chess for shit.” ■

THURSDAY • FEBRUARY 5 9PM
Deliverance Machine • The Flowerthief
Shaun T. Morgan

WEDNESDAY • FEBRUARY 11 9PM
Anna Troy / Maddox Revolution

WEDNESDAY • FEBRUARY 18 9PM
Maddox Revolution / Anna Troy

THURSDAY • FEBRUARY 19 8PM
Mike V / The Cathryn Beeks Ordeal /
Citizen Band / Blue Sky

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THURSDAY • FEBRUARY 26 5PM
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WEDNESDAY • MARCH 4 9PM
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SAN DIEGO WEEKLY Reader in the scene

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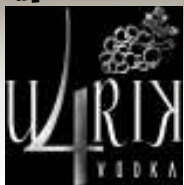
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Upcoming Events

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715 4th Ave., San Diego
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Register for VIP treatment on
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Hosted by U4RIK Vodka.



Sneak
Joint

3844 Mission Blvd., San Diego
Come and hide out this Sunday
afternoon, February 8
U4RIK drink specials 12-2 pm.

For more information on upcoming events visit sdreader.com

Club Salsa

Thursdays Classic Salsa

Featuring San Diego's best Salsa orchestras.
Salsa dance class by Valerie at 8:30 pm.
DJ New Yo Rican & band start at 10 pm.

February 5:
Bomba Chante

Early Sundays Big Band Salsa

Salsa or Cha-Cha dance class starts at
6:45 pm with Valerie.
Band starts at 8 pm.
Complimentary light Caribbean buffet
until 7:30 pm (included with cover).
Mojitos & Cubra Libra specials. Plus 2 DJs.

February 8:
Orq. Salsa Caliente

New Tuesdays Tropical Tuesdays

A night dedicated to Merengue & Bachata.
Bachata & Merengue dance lessons
by Valerie at 8:30 pm.
Dominican DJ Israel & live bands at 10 pm.
\$4 Mojitos & Cubra Libras all night!

February 10:
Primo

Wednesdays Singles Salsa

Meet up with San Diego's
Salsa community at our Singles Salsa Dance
Class featuring SoCal's best Salsa orchestras.
Singles Salsa dance class
by Valerie at 8:30 pm.

February 11:
**Charlie Chavez
y su Afro Truko**

Upcoming: 2/12 Primo, 2/15 Angel Lebron, 2/17 Primo, 2/18 Son Y Clave

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Classical listings can be found in the *Classical Music Guide*. Music videos, driving directions, maps, event alerts, coupons, and more available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

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

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

AcousticMusicSanDiego: 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights, 619-303-8176. *Friday*, 7:30 p.m. — Loudon Wainwright III. Singer-songwriter. \$25-\$50. *Saturday*, 7:30 p.m. — Hot Club of Cowtown. Western swing.

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

Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300. *Thursday*, 7:30 p.m. — Jay Nash. Alternative/folk rock. \$15. *Friday*, 7:30 p.m. — Fiction Family. With Jon Foreman (Switchfoot) and Sean Watkins (Nickel Creek). Acoustic/rock. \$20. *Friday*, 10 p.m. — Rod Piazza & the Mighty Flyers. Swing/blues. \$18. *Tuesday*, 7 p.m. — The Anthology House Band. Jazz/R&B/soul. \$5. *Wednesday*, 7:30 p.m. — Charles McPherson. With Gilbert Castellanos. Traditional jazz. \$18.

Azuki Sushi Lounge: 2321 5th Avenue, Banker's Hill, 619-238-4760. *Monday*, 5 p.m. — Elliot Lawrence. Jazz.

Barona Valley Ranch Resort & Casino: 1932 Wildcat Canyon Road, Lakeside, 619-443-2300. *Sunday*, 6 p.m. — The Arrowhead Band. Covers/standards/rock.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140. *Thursday*, 8 p.m. — Todd Snider. Solo acoustic performance with Keith Sykes. \$20-\$22.

Friday, 9 p.m. — The Greyboy Allstars. Funk/jazz/soul. \$25-\$27. *Saturday*, 8 p.m. — '80s Fever. With Hyper Crush. Hip-hop/electro. \$12. *Monday*, 8 p.m. — Tim Reynolds & TR3. With Marcus Eaton. Rock/funk/acoustic. \$12-\$14.

Boar Cross'n: 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-729-2989. *Thursday*, 9 p.m. — The Bomb Pops. With G.F.I. and Hillstreet Stranglers. Punk. \$5.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Avenue, Linda Vista, 619-275-5483. *Friday*, 8:30 p.m. — Watch Me Burn and Caskets on Parade. With Fetus Eaters and Titan Arum. Metal/hardcore. \$5. *Saturday*, 8:30 p.m. — Unset and Authentic Sellout. Punk/rock. \$10. *Saturday*, 8 p.m. — The Caburlesque Kittens. With Unset, Authentic Sellout, and Zosia. Alternative. *Wednesday*, 8 p.m. — The Zac Brown Band. With Josh Damigo and Good Man Down. Country/folk/rock. \$12-\$15.

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. *Saturday*, 8 p.m. — Fuzz-Huzzi. With Corey Wilkins, Psydecar, and the Cured. Alternative/pop/punk. Ages 21 and up.

Carvers: 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-566-2400. *Friday and Saturday*, 8 p.m. — The Gold Dust Band. Covers country and classic rock. Free.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-4355. *Thursday*, 8:30 p.m. — The Bird & the Bee and Obi Best. Indie/pop. \$10. *Friday*, 8:30 p.m. — Greg Laswell and Jessica Hoop. With guests. Acoustic/alternative/soul. \$14. *Monday*, 8:30 p.m. — Freeks, Sassy, Pant Hoots. Psychedelic/rock. \$8. *Wednesday*, 8:30 p.m. — The Appleseed Cast. Indie/rock. \$10-\$12.

Dream Street Live: 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-8131. *Saturday*, 10 p.m. — Scott Wilson and the Complications. Alternative. \$8.

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

Hennessey's Tavern - Gaslamp: 708 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-9994. *Friday*, 10 p.m. — The Buzzbombs. Rockabilly/punk/surf. *Saturday*, 9 p.m. — Rockslyde. Classic rock/rock.

Hennessey's Tavern - PB: 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-483-8847. *Wednesday*, 9:30 p.m. — The Blokes. Irish rock.

Hensley's Flying Elephant Pub and Grill: 850 Tamarack Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-434-2660. *Saturday*, 7:30 p.m., *Monday*, 8 p.m. — The Blokes. Irish rock.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2583. *Thursday*, 6:30 p.m. — Katy Perry. With the Daylights. Pop/rock/electro. \$15. *Saturday*, 7 p.m. — Badfish. A tribute to Sublime. \$20. *Sunday*, 6 p.m. — Ska is Dead IV. With Voodoo Glow Skulls, The Toasters, Deal's Gone Bad, The Skank Agents, and Grim Luck. Ska/punk. \$16-\$19. *Wednesday*, 7 p.m. — Elefante. Rock en Español. \$32. *Wednesday*, 7 p.m. — The Airborne

Toxic Event. Indie/rock. \$12. *Wednesday*, 8 p.m. — Lisa Hannigan. With Gavin Glass. Indie. \$12-\$15.

Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577. *Friday*, 9:30 p.m. — Electric Soul. R&B/jazz.

JT's Clubhouse Pub & Grill: 5821 Mission Gorge Road, Grantville, 619-280-4698. *Friday*, 10 p.m. — The Player's Touch. Hip-hop/soul.

Jack and Giulio's Italian Restaurant: 2391 San Diego Avenue, Old Town, 619-294-2074. *Thursday and Monday*, 7:30 p.m. — Karin Carson. With the Jim Guerin Trio. Jazz. Free.

Jimmy Love's: 672 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-595-0123. *Wednesdays*, 6:30 p.m. — The Soul Revue. Jazz, dance, and top 40.

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. *Thursday* — Frankie Dee & the Funk Natra Band. Blues/standards/funk.



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Hip Hop/Funk
Happy Hour (mid. to close)

Friday, February 6 **Grand Canyon Sundown**

Saturday, February 7 **Touch of Grey**



Saturday, February 7
Frank & Sulo's Annual Birthday Bash

UNSET
CABURLESQUE KITTENS
AUTHENTIC SELLOUT
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Thursday, February 19

"TEAM NOISE"
KEVIN BLADES (Lit)
KERI KELLI (Alice Cooper, Skid Row)
JIMMY D'ANDA (Bullet Boys)
ANDREW FREEMAN (Offspring, Lynch Mob)
SLEDD • UNCLE JUNKIE



Thursday, February 5
DAY OF ANOMIE
HERETIC • TUNA BOOT

Friday, February 6
Russ's Going Away Party
CASKETS ON PARADE
FETUS EATERS
TITAN ARUM
DJ BLACKIE

Sunday, February 8 **NSD**
FLOW FAMILY
CORONA BOY HUSTLAZ
KENNY VIC • FAMILY TREE
YOUNG CO & D-MAC

Wednesday, February 11 **etix**
ZAC BROWN BAND
GOOD MAN DOWN
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Thursday, February 12
FEET FEET FEET PARACHUTE
WE SHOT THE MOON
JOHNNY WHITESIDE
BIG SURRENDER

Friday, February 13
Sanna's Birthday Bash
LISA D'AMATO
(from America's Next Top Model)
DJ BOOGIE BLIND
(of the X-ecutioners/Pharoahe Monch)
KEEPERS OF THE LIGHT
OUT OF ORDER
(ft. members of Thought Experiment)

Saturday, February 14
Burlesque Revue
HELL ON HEELS presents
"SHAKE YER SUGAR"

Saturday, February 21
In memory of Lorna "Doone" Hamilton

MOJO NIXON
w/MITCHEL CORNISH

JOEY HARRIS & THE MENTALS

CANDYE KANE

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Friday — King Fish Turner Band.
Saturday — Ghost Riders.
Covers/pop/rock.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — The Farmers.
Roots rock/Americana.
Sundays, 4 p.m. — The Blues
Brokers. Blues/soul/rock.
Mondays, Tuesdays — Doug Allen.
Front man of the Mar Dels.
Wednesday — Jeff Moore & the
Witchdoctors. Down-home
Americana blues rock.

**The Living Room
Coffeehouse - Point Loma:**
1018 Rosecrans Street, Point Loma,
858-222-6852.
Saturdays, 8 p.m. — Jay Dancing
Bear. Acoustic.

The Loft: 9500 Gilman Drive,
UCSD.
Thursday, 8 p.m. — So Percussion.
Experimental/indie. \$15.
Saturday, 8 p.m. — Matt & Kim.
Electro/pop/rock. \$10.
Wednesday, 8 p.m. — Donavon
Frankenreiter. With Gary Jules.
Acoustic/surf/rock. \$18.

**Main Stage Bar at Valley
View Casino:** 16300 Nyemii Pass
Road, Valley Center, 866-843-9946.
Thursday, 7 p.m. — Firefly.
Contemporary rock. Free.
Friday, 4 p.m. — The Heroes.
Covers/standards/dance. Free.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Innovation.
Covers/standards. Free.
Saturday, 4 p.m. — Lady Dottie &
the Diamonds. Blues/soul/rock.
Free.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — The Jones
Revival. Classic rock. Free.

McDini's: 105 East 8th Street,
National City, 619-474-6772.
Thursday, 8:30 p.m. — Paradise
Santana. Latin rock tribute.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill:
1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado,
619-435-5280.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Bordertown
Blues. Blues.

Molly Malone's: 1270 Main
Street, Ramona, 760-789-9050.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Radiostar. '80s
new wave/rock.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — Outta Line.
Rock.

**O'Connells Pub and
Nightclub:** 1130 Morena
Boulevard, Linda Vista, 619-276-
5637.
Friday, 7 p.m. — Fat Man's Misery.
Garage/blues.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Say When. With
Alien Monster, Off Track, Bertud,
and War Like Party.
Indie/emo/punk.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — The Hillbilly
Hellcats. With the Strikers and
Hard Fall Hearts. Rockabilly/punk.
Wednesday, 9 p.m. — Jimmy Dean
and Friends.
Rockabilly/country/swing.

O'Connor's Pub: 8758 La Mesa
Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-463-7675.
Friday, 8:30 p.m. — Off Track.
Rock. \$7.

**Old Town Temecula
Community Theater:** 42051
Main Street, Temecula, 866-653-
8696.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Battle of the
Bands. Featuring the Shake Ups,
the 100\$, Last American Buffalo,
and the Pilar Saints.
Alternative/pop/rock. Ages 21 and
up.

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, 9 p.m., *Friday*, 5:30 p.m.
— Missy Andersen.
Blues/soul/funk.
Friday, 9 p.m. — The Fremonts.

Blues.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — Shari Puerto
and the Rhythm Addicts.
Blues/rock.
Sunday, 8 p.m. — Willovealot.
Smooth jazz.
Monday, 8 p.m. — Delta Heat.
Blues/swing/R&B.
Tuesday, 9 p.m. — 145th Street
Deluxe Blues Band. Blues/funk.
Wednesday, 9 p.m. — The Bayou
Brothers. Zydeco/blues/R&B.

Peter D's: 5149 Clairemont Mesa
Boulevard, Clairemont, 858-277-
3217.
Wednesdays, 8 p.m. — Mystery
Train. Performs and hosts an open
blues jam.

Portugalia: 4839 Newport
Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-
7678.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Danyavaad & the
Shimmy Sisters. Middle Eastern
lounge and Indian fusion. \$10.

Saturday, 9 p.m. — Tidepool. With
Kastle Creeps, Destructo Bunny,
Styles Free, EllayDee, and DDove.
Hip hop/punk/soul. \$5.

Pounders: 125 West Grand
Avenue, Escondido, 760-739-1288.
Thursday, 9 p.m. — Evanso. Classic
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Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. —
West of 5. Covers/classic rock/rock.
Free.

Poway Library: 13137 Poway
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Wednesday, 7 p.m. — Leonard
Patton Trio. Jazz/blues/soul. Free.
RT's Longboard Grill: 1466
Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-
270-4030.
Thursdays — Stepping Feet. A Dave
Matthews Band tribute.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Aaron Blythe &
the Men of Leisure. Acoustic/folk
rock.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — The
Alternatives.

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Sundays — The Devastators. Roots/reggae/dub.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub: 626 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-7008.

Friday, 8 p.m. — The Stiletto's. Bluegrass/jazz/rockabilly.

Saturday, 8 p.m. — HeadRUSH. A tribute to Rush. \$10.

Rancho Bernardo Inn: 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-675-8500.

Fridays, 5:30 p.m., *Saturdays*, 6 p.m. — Jerry Melnick & Tom Bishop. El Bizcocho Restaurant. Jazz/variety.

Riley's: 2901 Nimitz Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-255-8635.

Saturday, 8 p.m. — Copywrite. With Murdoc, Randam Luck, Clay Pigeons, and the Wordsmiths. Hip-hop/rap. Ages 18 and up.

Tuesdays — Live R&B and Jazz.

Rosie O'Grady's: 3402 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-284-7666.

Tuesdays, 9:30 p.m. — Bclub's Jazz Jam Session. Modern jazz classics and standards with Bryan Whelan, Doug Walker, Laurel Grinnell, and friends.

The Round Table Cocktail Lounge: 1723 Euclid Avenue, City Heights, 619-264-6000.

Tuesdays, 6 p.m. — Charlie Blue. Blues.

Ruby Room: 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-299-7372.

Saturday, 9 p.m. — OAKS. With Fever Sleeves, Raise the Guns. Rock/metal/grime.

Saville Theatre at San Diego City College: 14th and C Street, Downtown, 619-388-3676.

Tuesday, 8 p.m. — The Peter Sprague String Consort. Jazz. \$10.

Seaport Village: 849 West Harbor Drive, Downtown.

Sunday, 1 p.m. — Blue Rockit. Blues/rock. Free.

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

Mondays, 9 p.m. — Rock en Español.

Shooters Bar and Grill: 3299 Holiday Court, La Jolla.

Tuesdays, 7 p.m. — John Cain. Country/jazz/Tejano/lounge/pop. Free.

The Sky Box Sports Grill: 4805 Clairemont Drive, Clairemont, 858-274-7269.

Saturday, 8:30 p.m. — iLouder. Covers/standards/rock. \$5.

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-226-7662.

Friday, 6:30 p.m. — Blessed by a Broken Heart. With LoveHateHero, Karate High School, Kiro's, and Eyes of an Era. Metal/pop/rock.

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.

Stage Saloon: 762 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-992-7862.

Fridays — Trainwreck.

NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

As a pop culture observer, I hate to hang a performer's career image on a single recording about roadkill and for the sheer gusto with which he sang it, but so be it. In 1974, when **Loudon Wainwright III** put out "Dead Skunk," a lot of people thought it was about then-president Richard M. Nixon. It wasn't. Wainwright said the song was about roadkill and that it came to him in less than 15 minutes. "Dead Skunk" placed him in the mix as a wry and satirical reporter of life.

When Wainwright emerged with acoustic guitar on the folk stages of the 1960s, the rock press called him the next Dylan. "They were lookin' for you, signin' up others," he sang in protest in his "Talking New Bob Dylan." "We

were new Bob Dylans/ Your dumb-ass kid brothers." In the song, one gains a sense of Wainwright's deeper inner-Dylan frustration: "Well, we still get together every week at Bruce's [Springsteen's] house/ Why, he's got quite a spread, I tell ya — it's a 12-step program."

Wainwright was married to folk artist Kate McGarrigle for a time, and together they produced a small and popular singer-songwriter dynasty in their offspring Rufus and Martha Wainwright. Predictably, a more private side of Wainwright senior emerged from the lyrics of his children's songs. "I'm gonna break you down," sang the enigmatic Rufus, "And see what you're really worth to me." But Martha went for the grand slam when she wrote "Bloody Mother F***ing A**hole," a song she publicly admitted was Loudon-inspired.

Wainwright's reply? Sober diplomacy: "Pain is a good subject matter," he told a re-



LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III

porter. "There's pain and conflict in family life, and that's what drama is. You can be John Denver and talk about how beautiful the mountains are, and that works if you're John Denver."

LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III, Acoustic-MusicSanDiego, Friday, February 6, 7:30 p.m. 619-303-8176. \$25.

Sushi Performance & Visual Art: 390 11th Avenue, Downtown, 619-235-8466.

Tuesday, 8 p.m. — Blevin Blectum. With Ryan Junell. Electronica.

U-31: 3112 University Avenue, North Park, 619-584-4188.

Saturday, 9 p.m. — Deep Rooted. Hip-hop/roots/club. \$10. Ages 21 and up.

University of California San Diego: 9500 Gilman Drive, UCSD, 858-534-2230.

Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — Dr. Baird & the Galapagos Mountain Boys. Scientific gospel. Performance will be held in the Leibow Auditorium. \$10-\$15.

The Upstart Crow Bookshop and Coffee House: 835 West Harbor Drive, Downtown, 619-232-4855.

Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — Nadja Nara. Folk/rock.

Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room: 5000 Willows

Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.

Friday, 8 p.m. — Scott Weiland. Rock. \$30-\$32. Ages 21 and up.

Sunday, 5 p.m. — David Patrone. With Mark Tortorici. Swing.

Winstons: 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822.

Thursday, 9 p.m. — Diego's Umbrella. Tejano/reggae/surf. \$10.

Mondays, 9 p.m. — The Electric Waste Band. Grateful Dead tribute. \$7.

UPCOMING SHOWS

4th&B: 345 B Street, Downtown, 619-231-4343.

February 14 — Warren Hill.

February 21 — Dandara.

February 24 — Hank Williams III.

March 26 — Cold War Kids.

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

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The Heroin • Motus Deverb • It Is What It Is

SAT. FEB. 7 LIVE MUSIC • ALT ROCK FEATURING

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APRIL 8

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APRIL 19

EEK-A-MOUSE
APRIL 30

BADFISH
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Western U.S. Tour 2009
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WOODOO SLOW SKULLS
Wanda & Mimi
Ska Is Dead
Shank Agents & Grit Luck
ALL AGES
FEB 8

elephant
KANARI
CANTUA
ALL AGES
FEB 11

Lisa Hannigan
Gavin Glass
VOODOO STAGE
ALL AGES
FEB 11

IRATION
ALL AGES
FEB 12

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ALL AGES
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FEB 20

REVEREND HORTON HEAT
MANGI HISPANIC
FEB 21

DANZIG
REVOLUTION KUTHER
Last House on Left
ALL AGES
FEB 23

IN THE PRESENT
TOUR
STEVE HONE
CHRIS SQUIRE
ALAN WHITE
FEB 24

THE GENERATION
Paul Gilbert
George Lynch
Richie Kotzen
FEB 25

Virky
FEB 26

BIG HEAD TODD & THE MONSTERS
Joan Jones from Sun 60
FEB 27

2/13 SD ROCKS!
2/15 CLUB MASSIVE
2/17 ADELITA'S WAY
2/22 VOODOO STAGE-FREE SHOW
2/28 RICK ORTIZ PRESENTS
3/1 BEST OF TRIBUTES
3/2 THE BURN INSTITUTE PRESENTS
3/4 RAPHAEL SAADIO
3/5 ZAPPA PLAYS ZAPPA
3/6 BUSTA RHYMES
3/7 LES CLAYPOOL
3/8 THE PRETENDERS
3/9 JIMMY EAT WORLD-SOLD OUT!
3/10 MAGO DE OZ
G LOVE & SPECIAL SAUCE
ADELE
JESSE MCCARTNEY

3/11 WHOS BAD- THE ULTIMATE
3/12 MICHAEL JACKSON TRIBUTE
3/14 LADY GAGA-SOLD OUT
THE SUB CITY TAKE ACTION
TOUR FEAT: CUTE IS WHAT
WE AIM FOR
SKID ROW
3/16 NOT YOUR PRESENTS
3/17 ESCAPE THE FATE
BLUE OCTOBER
OK GO
3/18 PITBULL
3/20 ADIKTS/THE DICKIES
3/21 NEW FOUND GLORY
3/22 BRETT DENNEH
3/23 WHICH ONE'S PINK
3/24 PINK FLOYD TRIBUTE
3/25 THE AP TOUR FEAT:
3/26 30HITS, FAMILY 5 & THE MAINE

4/4 JOE ROGAN
4/5 THE OS SHERTS AND SHIRTS TOUR FEAT
HOLLYWOOD UNDEAD AND
SENSES FAIL
4/9 THE DISCO BISCUITS
4/10 DON FELDER- AN EVENING AT HOTEL CALIFORNIA
4/11 LED ZEPAGAIN
4/12 COLD
4/14 ATERCIOPELADOS
4/17 THE DEREK TRUCKS BAND
4/23 QUEENSRÛCHE
4/25 PANTHEON ROCOCO
4/26 XIMENA SARIMANA
5/1 KREATON
5/15 RAMON AYALA
6/12 BILLY RAY CYRUS

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7844.
March 25 — Wookie Garcia.

AcousticMusicSanDiego:
4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights, 619-303-8176.
February 20 — Eliyahu & The Qadim Ensemble.
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.
February 12 — Kenny Neal.
February 13 — Back to the Garden.
February 14, February 17 — The Anthology House Band.
February 18 — Duncan Sheik.
February 20 — Judy Collins.
February 21 — Pete Escovedo.
February 22 — Bill Caballero.
February 24 — Matt Wertz.
February 25 — The Anthology House Band.
February 26, February 27 — Bobby Hutcherson.

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library: 1008 Wall Street, La Jolla, 858-454-5872.
February 23 — Jaeryoung Lee.

Azuki Sushi Lounge: 2321 5th Avenue, Banker's Hill, 619-238-4760.
February 16 — Evolved.
February 23 — Travis W. Daudert.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.
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.
February 28 — The Lalo Schiffrin Trio.

Bistro 221: 221 East Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-737-7398.
February 14 — Donnie Finnell.

The Bitter End: 770 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-9300.
February 19 — Mike V.
March 5 — Colin Clyne.

Boar Cross'n: 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-729-2989.
February 19 — Reason.

Bondi Bar and Kitchen: 333 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-342-0212.
March 15 — Jordan Reimer.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Avenue, Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.
February 19 — Team Noise.
February 21 — Mojo Nixon.
February 27 — Bionic Jive.
March 6 — G Tom Mac.
March 7 — Chanauk.
March 8 — Acoustic Alliance.
March 12 — theSTART.
March 19 — Yesterday & Today.

Calvary Chapel - Oceanside:
3715 Oceanic Way, Oceanside, 760-754-1234.
February 13 — The Katinas.

Calvin's Sports Bar and Restaurant: 28841 Old Highway 80, Alpine, 619-473-1266.
February 14 — The Highway 80 Band.

Canes: 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780.
February 13 — Atomic Punks.
February 18 — Hershel Abram.
February 20 — One Drop.
February 21 — Souls of Mischief.
April 29 — Diplo.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-4355.
February 12 — Don Caballero.
February 13 — The Dogs.
February 15 — Yo! Majesty, Drag the River.
February 17 — Gil Mantera's Party Dream.
February 18 — The Annuals and Jessica Lea Mayfield.

NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

Son, it's time we had a talk about **The Bird and the Bee**. You see, sometimes a man meets a woman, and together they form a musical duo. Let's say this man is **Greg Kurstin**, a talented producer-arranger who has recently written songs with Lily Allen and has worked in rock, jazz, and pop and with artists as diverse as Gwen Stefani, Jason Mraz, Donna Summer, and the Flaming Lips. He was cofounder of moderately successful '90s alt-rockers Geggy Tah. And let's say this woman is **Inara George**, a solo-artist singer with a tal-

ent for sounding strong, bold, and intimate at the same time. She also led a couple of '90s alt-rock also-rans. What's more, she happens to be the daughter of Little Feat's Lowell George.

Anyway, this man and this woman meet somewhere in Los Angeles and sparks fly. They start experimenting with a laid-back electronic sound that's influenced by Brazilian psychedelia and British indie pop. It's the kind of music that sounds great playing over the PA at a trendy furniture store, even if the Bird and the Bee's first single had a title you couldn't say over the radio ("Fucking Boyfriend").

You don't understand what I mean yet, son? Let me put it this way: The Bird and the Bee recorded a faithful version of the Bee Gees' syrupy "How Deep Is Your Love?" and



THE BIRD AND THE BEE

got it on the soundtrack to the *Sex and the City* movie. That's right, it's chick music.

THE BIRD AND THE BEE, The Casbah, Thursday, February 5, 8:30 p.m. 619-232-4355. \$10.

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.

Comstock Bar and Grill: 316 West Mission Avenue, Suite #115, Escondido, 760-746-6188.
February 14 — MoonDance.

Cox Arena: 5500 Canyon Crest Drive, SDSU, 619-594-6947.
March 8 — Slipknot.
March 15 — Los Temerarios.

Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre: 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-671-3600.
March 22 — MX Live Fest.

Dirk's Niteclub: 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-469-6344.
February 13, February 14 — FX5.
February 20, February 21 — TNT.
February 27 — Leo Rising.
February 28 — West of 5.

Dizzy's: 200 Harbor Drive, Downtown, 858-270-7467.

February 14 — The Gilbert Castellanos Quartet.
February 15 — Gary Lefebvre.
February 21 — Leonard Patton & Rebecca Jade.

Dos Picos County Park:
17953 Dos Picos Park Road, Ramona.
March 28 — Sara Petite.

Dream Street Live: 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-8131.
March 27 — Dead as Dillinger.

Fannie's Nightclub: 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley, 619-698-2204.
February 13 — Severed Roots.

First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego: 4190 Front Street, Hillcrest, 619-298-9978.
February 13 — "Love, Tea, and Chocolate."

Gallagher's Pub & Grill: 5046 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-5300.
February 21 — Dazed and Confused.
February 28 — Fiffin Market.

The Harp: 4935 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-0168.
February 27 — The Buzzbombs.

Hennessey's Tavern - Carlsbad: 2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad, 760-729-6951.
February 17 — The Blokes.

Hennessey's Tavern - Gaslamp: 708 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-9994.
February 20 — The Buzzbombs.
February 27 — The Blokes.
February 28 — Rockslyde.

Hennessey's Tavern - PB:
4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-483-8847.
February 18 — The Blokes.
February 21 — Soul Plow.

Hennessey's Tavern - Vista:
224 Main Street, Vista, 760-643-1619.
February 14 — Vic Waters.
February 22 — Murky Waters Blues Band.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church: 2083 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, Ocean Beach, 619-222-0365.
March 6 — Gráda.

Horizon Christian Fellowship - North County: 6365 El Apajo Road, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-756-5599.
February 14 — The Katinas.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2583.
February 12 — Iration.
February 13 — So Long Davey and Valencia.
February 14 — Styx.
February 18 — Taste of Chaos.
February 19 — The Game.
February 20 — The Gin Blossoms and Tonic.
February 21 — Reverend Horton Heat and Manic Hispanic.
February 22 — Best of Tributes.
February 23 — Danzig.
February 24 — Yes.
February 27 — Big Head Todd & the Monsters.
February 28 — Raphael Saadiq.
March 1 — Zappa Plays Zappa.
March 2 — Busta Rhymes.
March 4 — The Oddity Faire: A Mutated Mini Fest.
March 5 — The Pretenders.
March 6 — Jimmy Eat World.
March 7 — Mago de Oz.
March 8 — G. Love & Special Sauce.
March 9 — Adele.



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Friday, 6th: Gregory Michaels
Saturday, 7th: The Blokes
Sunday, 8th: Old Timey Session
Monday, 9th: The Blokes
Tuesday, 10th: Nate & Olivia
Wednesday, 11th: Joe Wood
Thursday, 12th: Irish Night w/Skelpin
Friday, 13th: The Mighty Regis
Saturday, 14th: Special Guest
Sunday, 15th: Reckless! A Night of Ska, Rocksteady & Reggae
Monday, 16th: The Blokes
Tuesday, 17th: Rich the Stitch
Wednesday, 18th: Joe Wood

Thursday, 19th: Irish Night w/Skelpin
Friday, 20th: Special Guest
Saturday, 21st: Special Guest
Sunday, 22nd: Old Timey Session
Monday, 23rd: The Blokes
Tuesday, 24th: Special Guest
Wednesday, 25th: Joe Wood
Thursday, 26th: Irish Night w/Skelpin
Friday, 27th: Art Show
Saturday, 28th: Special Guest

* Dates are subject to change
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THE MIGHTY DIAMONDS

YELLOW DUB SQUAD
DJ CARLOS CULTURE
TUESDAY 2/10 • 9 PM

THE DROWNING MEN

ARM THE ANGELS
THE SURRENDER
WEDNESDAY 2/11 • 8 PM

ALO

BIG LIGHT
THURSDAY 2/12 • 9 PM

COMMON SENSE

DYNAMITE WALLS
FRIDAY 2/13 • 9 PM

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SUSAN TEDESCHI

JAMES HUNTER
SUNDAY 2/15 • 8 PM

DONAVON FRANKENREITER

GARY JULES
JASSO & GARCIA
MONDAY 2/16 • 9 PM

TAMARAMA
FEAT. JAY LYON OF MTV'S THE CITY

STRIPES AND LINES
TUESDAY 2/17 • 8 PM

JOSHUA RADIN

MEIKO • JESSE HARRIS
WEDNESDAY 2/18 • 8 PM

SUPER DIAMOND

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FRIDAY 2/20 • 9 PM

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CLAY COLTON BAND
KURT HUNTER
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3/11 Rubber Sub w/Geezer & Damn the Torpedoes – Tribute Showcase
3/25 Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks
4/10 40 Oz. to Freedom • 4/20 Lykke Li – On sale Friday!
4/21 UB40 • 4/24 Lez Zeppelin • 5/28 M83

- UPCOMING SHOWS:**
- 2/26 Crash Encore – 91X Loudspeaker
 - 2/27 & 2/28 English Beat
 - 3/1 Gator By the Bay pres. The Bayou Brothers Zydeco Matinee – 4 pm
 - 3/1 Salsa Sunday – Evening
 - 3/3 San Diego Songwriters Guild Contest
 - 3/4 Rhythm & The Method
 - 3/5 Taylor Hicks
 - 3/6 Delta Spirit
 - 3/7 Cross Canadian Ragweed

- 3/12 Solana Beach Baseball Bash feat. Atomic Groove
- 3/13 The Mother Hips
- 3/14 Boogie Nights pres. Shark Attack & Buddy Akai
- 3/15 The Von Bondies
- 3/16 Raul Malo and Shelby Lynne
- 3/20 Pine Mountain Logs
- 3/21 Stepping Feet: The Dave Matthews Band Experience
- 3/23 Tricky
- 3/24 Rhett Miller, Solo Acoustic

- 3/26 Justin Nozuka
- 3/27 Elijah Emanuel and the Revelations
- 3/28 Atomic Punks
- 4/4 John Brown's Body
- 4/6 Beausoleil avec Michael Doucet
- 4/9 Dark Star Orchestra
- 4/17 Calexico
- 4/23 Hot Tuna – electric
- 4/27 Railroad Earth

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March 11 — Who's Bad?
March 14 — Cute Is What We Aim For.
March 16 — Skid Row.
March 17 — Escape the Fate.
March 18 — Blue October.
March 20 — OK Go.
March 21 — Pitbull.
March 22 — The Adicts and the Dickies.
March 27 — Brett Dennen.
March 28 — Which One's Pink?
March 29 — 30H!3.
April 5 — Senses Fail.
April 9 — The Disco Biscuits.
April 10 — Don Felder.
April 11 — Led Zepagain.
April 12 — Cold.
April 14 — Aterciopelados.
April 23 — Queensrÿche.
April 25 — Panteón Rococó.
April 26 — Ximena Sarinana.
May 1 — Kreator.
May 15 — Ramón Ayala.
June 12 — Billy Ray Cyrus.

Howard Brubeck Theatre at Palomar College: 1140 West Mission Road, San Marcos, 760-744-1150.
May 18 — Palomar Jazz Vocal Ensemble.
May 21 — Palomar Concert Band and Palomar Brass Ensemble.

Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577.
February 23 — The Robin Henkel Band.

Island Sports and Spirits: 104 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-3456.
April 17 — TrunkMonkey.

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

741-7778.
February 17 — Powerman 5000.
March 27 — Forbidden.
The Kraken: 2531 South Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-436-6483.
February 12 — 3 EZ Pieces.
February 13 — Plato Soul.
February 14 — Blue Heat.
The Loft: 9500 Gilman Drive, UCSD.
February 22 — Charles McPherson.
February 25 — Pop Levi.
March 1 — Ra Ra Riot.

Main Stage Bar at Valley View Casino: 16300 Nyemii Pass Road, Valley Center, 866-843-9946.
February 12 — The Fabulous Pelicans.
February 13 — The Heroes, Firefly.
February 14 — Hot Rod Lincoln, Aunt Kizzy'z Boyz.
February 15 — Detroit Underground.
February 19 — Firefly.
February 21 — Hot Rod Lincoln, Old School.
February 24 — Aunt Kizzy'z Boyz.
February 26 — The Heroes.
February 27 — The Fabulous Pelicans, Innovation.

The Marquee: 835 25th Street, Golden Hill.
February 27 — Inigo Figuracion.
April 4 — Jordan Reimer.

Milano Coffee Company: 8685 Rio San Diego Drive, Mission Valley, 619-688-1882.
February 28 — Brooke Brown Saracino and Mya Elaine.

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla: 700 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-3541.

as i hear it

BY BRIAN CARVER

Artist: **The Shake-Ups**
Song: **"Sex Exchange Operation"** (from the CD *Breathing the Flood*)
Heard By: **Adam Goodson**, La Mesa



Adam

I didn't like the xylophone thing, but I think it was all right. I could kind of hear a lot of elements they used from other genres. In the guy's vocals — and he doesn't really over-dramatize it — but there was a little Joey Ramone in there. I was kind of digging it, but it didn't have the energy that I like to hear. Throwing in the xylophone kind of brought the energy down. I think the lyrics were about how there's certain things in life you can't change once you grow up. I kind of lost the meaning of the song because I was paying more attention to the xylophone. It left me with a bunch of question marks.

Artist: **Sara Petite**
Song: **"Lead the Parade"** (from the CD *Lead the Parade*)
Heard By: **Kevin Hill**, Mission Hills



Kevin

It was pretty neat. Before I found out she was local, I thought it was Emmylou Harris or June Carter Cash. It sounded like country-western. I heard guitar, drums — maybe some tambourine or something like that. She was singing about how she was going to be "leading the parade" one day. I understood that very well. I believe she could be successful with her music. It's good music for everything, like in a work environment or for traveling. It's good music to sit back and relax a little bit. Ten being the best, I would give her a nine out of ten.

Artist: **Canobliss**
Song: **"Convicted Again"** (from the CD *Psychothermia*)
Heard By: **Ed MacKeil**, La Jolla



Ed

Right off the bat, the music and the rhythm reminded me of some old Corrosion of Conformity. Once the lyrics started, I kind of got the feeling that it was complain-y, typical "victim" music that's so common today. Overall, it didn't really have an original feel. The quality was good — technically, it was mixed very well. The sound was good. I think it would be the perfect thing to listen to if you're on your way out to East County to Gordon's Well to do some dirt-bike riding or four-wheeling. I don't know, man, metal's not what it used to be.

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February 19 — Carolina Chocolate Drops.

O'Connells Pub and Nightclub: 1130 Morena Boulevard, Linda Vista, 619-276-5637.
February 13 — Inhale.
February 14 — Ded Pigeons.

Old Time Music: 2852 University Avenue, North Park, 619-280-9035.
February 28 — Richard Greene.
March 7 — Wayne Riker.

Open Air Theatre: 5500 Campanile Drive, SDSU, 619-594-6947.
April 29 — Celtic Woman: Isle of Hope.

Pala Casino: 35008 Pala Temecula Road, Pala, 877-946-7252.
March 6 — The Pretenders.

Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10): 1140 West Mission Road, San Marcos.
February 12 — Elena Yarritu.
March 12 — The Spectrum Trio.

April 23 — Janet Hammer and Nathan Fry.
May 7 — The Spectrum Jazz Singers, Palomar Women's Chorus.

Patrick's II: 428 F Street, Downtown, 619-233-3077.
February 12 — The Buick Wilson Band.
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Bar Pink: *Mondays*, 9:30 p.m.: Grown Folk Music. Features the Husky Boy All Stars DJ Buddha and Duse. Hip-hop/soul. Free. 3829 30th Street, North Park. 619-564-7194.

Beauty Bar: *Tuesdays*, 9 p.m.: Trans Am Tuesdays. New wave '80s dance party with DJ Heather Hardcore. Free. 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, Kensington-Talmadge. 619-516-4746.

Camel's Breath Inn: *Fridays and Saturdays*: Live DJ. Ages 21 and up. 1033 Friars Road, Mission Valley. 619-281-1722.

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The Coyote Bar & Grill: *Thursdays*, 10:30 p.m.: DJ Earl Henry. *Fridays and Saturdays*, 10:30 p.m.: DJ Steve Hasty. 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695.



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Deco's Restaurant & Nightclub: *Thursdays*: Krush. Hosted by Chase Costello, Steve Kamp, Jack Kennedy, and more. Hip-hop/mashups/party rock. Ages 18 and up. 731 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-696-3326.

The Filling Station: *Fridays and Saturdays*, 9 p.m.: DJ Dance Party. 9522 Miramar Road, Mira Mesa. 858-578-0757.

Inferno Young Adult Nightclub: *Fridays and Saturdays*, 9 p.m.: DJ Kool T. Spins Top 40, techno, and '80s. \$10. Ages 16 and up. *Friday*, 9 p.m.: DJs Kool T and Dizzy D. Techno/hip-hop/pop. Ages 15 and up. 775 Metcalf Street, Escondido. 760-741-1271.

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Kadan: *Saturday*, 9 p.m.: Tom Burbank. With DJ Pnutz, the Messenger, and Hvc3. Free. 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

McDini's: *Fridays*, 7 p.m.: Classic Soul & R&B Review. Top 40, hip-hop, dance, and more with DJ Dizzy D. *Saturdays*, 8 p.m.: DJ Damon. Spins rock and R&B. 105 East 8th Street, National City. 619-474-6772.

Miami Grille: *Fridays*, 8 p.m.: DJ Da Wizard. With DJ Misterioso. Mixes salsa, merengue, cumbias, and more. Free. 4545 La Jolla Village Drive, La Jolla. 858-552-0668.

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Crasher

CELEBRATION OF THE LIZARD

by Josh Board

Last December 8 would've been Jim Morrison's 60th birthday. Two of the surviving Doors threw a party in Hollywood at Barney's Beanery, famous in the '60s for the stars who hung out there.

I wasn't invited to the Morrison birthday bash, but I decided to drive up and crash it. On my way, I was talking to a friend on the phone. I pulled over on the 805 as cops and fire engines zoomed by with lights on and sirens blaring. My friend said, "Are you getting a ticket for talking while you drive?"

A minute later I drove by smoke and fire to my left. My friend said, "That's probably where that jet just crashed into a house. I just heard that on the news."

I got to Barney's a few hours early. I knew that L.A. radio station KLOS was letting in only a handful of listeners, so I was happy I talked to the right people and was told they'd let me in. Then I walked down the street to grab a bite.

I sat down in a Greek restaurant and began reading the *L.A. Times*. A guy on his way out the door said, "I like your shirt!" It was an L.A. Woman tee. I didn't look up from the paper but said, "Thanks." The guy then put his



Left: The author and Ray Manzarek (right); Right: Robby Krieger (right) and fan

finger on my chest and said, "I especially like that guy there." I looked down and saw he was pointing at Ray Manzarek, the Doors' keyboard player. When I looked up, I saw it was Manzarek himself. I laughed, and we talked for a few minutes.

When he left, a big group at

"It's probably the size of Jim's coffin."

another table said, "Is that guy famous?" I explained who he was, and a woman with a French accent said, "I love the Doors!" She sprinted out and talked to him on the street corner for five minutes. When she returned, she texted everyone on her phone and asked

me six times how to spell his last name.

Back at Barney's, there was a crowd of autograph seekers. I saw Henry Diltz, who took the Doors' photo for their *Morrison Hotel* album and has a gallery in La Jolla by the same name. We chatted for a few minutes.

I went inside and started talking with a woman named Melissa who works for Rhino Records. I talked about compilation CDs they've released that I like. For a woman in her mid-20s, she knew a lot about the history of rock.

We watched some people bring in a huge cake with psychedelic-colored frosting. I said, "It should've been shaped like a microphone or a record album. That thing is just some huge square thing. Although...it's probably the size of Jim's coffin."

Someone heard this and said, "That's messed up, man."

After Melissa started telling me a story, a guy came over and said, "Come on, let's go."

She paused, looked at me, and apologized. She explained, "I'm just starved, and we supposedly get free food, but I have to go with my group now." I said, "Hey...for free food, I'd stop talking to me, too."

While I talked briefly with the owner of Barney's, I heard a crowd of 100 screaming fans outside. I looked out the window and saw Doors guitarist Robby Krieger walking up with Manzarek. Manzarek saw me and said, "Hey, it's you again! How was your dinner?"

Krieger did an interview with a TV station, and then I spoke with him. I asked about some rare Doors songs, including "Spanish Caravan," which had a flamenco-guitar intro. He said, "Yeah, that intro never got saved. But I'm reworking that for a new CD."

After we were done talking, I heard Krieger tell deejay Jim Ladd a story about being in Barney's when Morrison threw a pool ball at him. It missed and shattered a mirror.

KLOS started to broadcast live, and I sat down at the only table left. I felt guilty about all the fans standing outside in the cold.

A bouncer told me about someone being stabbed a few

weeks earlier. He said they only have trouble with drunk bikers once in a while.

He informed me the food and booze were free, and I replied, "Yeah, I'd get a few drinks, but I'm not hungry. I just don't have any money to tip the waitress." He said, "They get paid extra working this. They aren't expecting tips."

I ordered a chocolate shake and, later, shots of whiskey.

Two gorgeous women asked if they could join me at my table. One was about 6'1", and when we started talking about kids, she told me, "I think if I ever have a daughter, she'll look like Natalie Portman." I glanced at her friend and said, "Does she know she's black?" They laughed. The woman replied, "I don't mean skin color, but my facial structure, my cheekbones."

Her friend looked like Scarlett Johansson. She asked me if I wanted kids and I said, "With you?"

We saw actor Corey Feldman walk in. He stood near our table and, instead of asking about *Lost Boys* or *Stand by Me*, I said, "My friend loves your show *The Two Coreys*. If I call her right now, could you give her crap? Tell her she should get a life and stop sitting around watching what you do in your life." He smiled and said,

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Friday, February 6 • No Cover

KINGFISH TURNER BAND

Saturday, February 7 • No Cover

GHOST RIDERS (Day)

THE FARMERS (Night)

Sunday, February 8 • No Cover

BLUES JAM anchored by the **BLUES BROKERS**

Mondays and Tuesdays

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7th - DJ A-Rod spinning Electro & Top 40
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21st - DJ Joamama spinning Hip Hop
28th - Ladies Night with DJ Dirty Kurty

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Featuring independent films. Check online for movie schedule. \$3 House wine, & 1/2 off specialty salads.

2009
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"I would, man. But I have a sore throat. I shouldn't be talking much." A guy next to him offered, "If you need his wacky assistant to do anything, I'll be happy to."

During a commercial in the broadcast, Krieger walked to the cake and a few people asked to take a photo. I said, "I bet you hate those cell-phone cameras. Everyone now has to get a picture, and they can never work them." He replied, "Oh God, I know. You would be amazed at the amount of time I've wasted just standing there, waiting for people to figure out their cameras."

After an hour of the broadcast, I figured I'd head back to San Diego. I told the women what the bouncer told me about not needing to tip the waitress.

I told them I wanted to leave a tip but was completely broke. I asked, "Can you cover it?" They pulled out a 20-dollar bill and said we were good.

A guy next to me said as I was walking out, "You sit with the two hottest chicks here and you make them leave the tip. You got balls."

As I walked to my car, I heard a group talking about driving from Phoenix to be there and hoping to meet one of the Doors. I handed them my VIP pass and said, "Go meet them now." ■

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.

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Thursday • **Karaoke** 9 pm-1 am
Host Jesse Petersen

Friday & Saturday • 9 pm-1 am

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Saturday 2/7
Out-of-Sink

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Friday, February 6
Jeff Moore

Saturday, February 7
Fuerte

Sunday, February 8
Middle Earth

Monday, February 9
Cactus Twang

Tuesday, February 10
Jack Tempchin

Wednesday, February 11
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Some Enchanted Evening

Valentine's Day is the year's biggest night for restaurants. Who doesn't love love? For some it's proposal night; for others, a renewal of vows. Or snuggle-up time. Or hoping-to-get-lucky night. The chefs await you with the most sensual menus of the year. Here's a selection of romantic restaurants at a wide price range to make your evening enchanted.

Of course, you don't necessarily have to go out. A personal favorite private celebration: two dozen chilled, super-fresh raw oysters from Blue Waters on India Street, to be eaten on the half-shell with a little Nawlins-style oyster sauce (bottled chili sauce, horseradish, lemon juice, Tabasco, a touch of Worcestershire if desired, carefully blended to taste). I don't know whether oysters are really aphrodisiacs, but if you love 'em, well, yeah, they work. (Note: Amateur shuckers should wear a heavy glove or mitt on the oyster-holding hand, because if the oyster knife slips, there will be blood — yours.) Another wildly erotic oyster dish is available at the better sushi bars: "Honeymoon Oysters" (raw oyster, quail egg, tobiko, etc.). Whoa! I've tasted outstanding versions at the sushi bar at the Fish Market (of all places!), Tomiko's in Encinitas, and Nobu in Solana Beach. Add a couple of *uni nigiri* and you're on your way — to a sexy dinner.

You may have noticed the paper is a little smaller these days (hence, fewer words), so the listings below include only the neighborhoods and telephone numbers. Call and reserve as soon as possible if you hope to get in at your first, second, or third choice. Note: Prix-fixe prices don't include tip, tax, or beverages except as noted.

Special Menus at Romantic Restaurants

1500 Ocean, Hotel Del, Coronado, 619-522-8490. A beautiful room overlooking a sea-view



Marine Room

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

patio, with four courses (plus *amuse*) of chef Brian Sinnott's delicious cooking for \$100 per person, \$40 additional for paired wines. Numerous choices for each course, including Kobe beef carpaccio or Anshellfish bisque to start, duck two ways, and vegetarian handmade truffled pappardelle with pea leaves for a main, and then outrageous desserts.

333 Pacific, Oceanside, 760-433-3333. Ocean-siders finally have a romantic restaurant of their own, right under the pier. This new Cohn Restaurant Group venue will be offering a three-course surf-and-turf Valentine's menu for \$50.

Anthology, Little Italy, 619-595-0300. The city's premier date spot for adults offers a four-course

dinner with seatings at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. for \$90, including a foie gras starter and entrée choices of surf-and-turf, roasted lamb loin, or monkfish (plus vegetarian option), all set to the music of the Anthology House Band Motown Review.

A.R. Valentien, Torrey Pines, 858-453-4420. Enjoy intimate small dining rooms filled with an-

tiques and a special menu of Jeff Jackson's superb farm-fresh cooking, with four courses for \$75, \$125 with matched wines. Highlights include Provençale-style *huachinango* (red snapper) or butter-poached lobster, followed by Sonoma duck or mushroom-crusted filet mignon with Bordelaise sauce. First and last courses are equally extravagant.

Bertrand at Mr. A's, Banker's Hill, 619-239-1377. The best cityscape view in town, and a three-course California-French menu at \$85 per person, with numerous luxurious choices, including a vegetarian entrée and even a truffled "mac and cheese."

Better Half, Hillcrest, 619-543-9340. This eclectic bistro offers a special menu on Friday the 13th, as well as the 14th, with a leisurely four courses plus *amuse* for \$55 (wine pairings additional). Seatings at 6:00 and 8:30. Among the choices: wild-mushroom bisque served over a wild-mushroom terrine that melts into the soup; butternut squash ravioli with browned-butter Pernod and bittersweet chocolate sauce; half a Maine lobster in a soufflé, with roasted asparagus and lemon-tarragon butter — a recipe chef John Robert Kennedy learned from his friend Julia Child — followed by adventurous desserts. Vegetarian dinner available with 72 hours' notice.

Blue Point Coastal Cuisine, Gaslamp Quarter, 619-233-6623. "Gimme some seafood, mama," Fats Waller sang. This busy downtown's ambiance is more chic than intimate, but the menu is decidedly sexy: for \$69 you get three courses, with numerous choices for each, including oysters on the half shell, crab cakes, or lobster bisque among the starters. Day-boat scallops with ravioli, grilled Prime aged rib-eye, and miso-tangerine-marinated salmon are among the entrée choices.

Candelas on the Bay, Ferry Landing, Coronado, 619-435-4900. (also in the Gaslamp Quarter, 619-702-4455). This new "view" location of the Gaslamp's gourmet Mexico City-style restaurant, overlooking the bay, offers four courses for \$75 (kids half-price), plus 17 percent tip. In-

V-DAY DINING NAOMI WISE



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Choose any two: 8oz. Certified Angus Choice New York Steak, Jumbo Shrimp Scampi, Wild Salmon Steak, or Chicken Broccoli Alfredo. Served with a bottle of house wine, soup or salad, choice of potato and your choice of any of our heavenly desserts to share.

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828 Sixth Avenue, between E & F Streets • Gaslamp • 619-702-8410

Calendar RESTAURANTS

cludes one glass of house wine or beer. The exquisite menu includes lobster-stuffed smoked salmon rolls, foie gras and duck terrine salad, or a crab-cream soup, and a choice of fish or beef filet and dessert.

Crescent Heights, downtown, 619-450-6450. For \$55 (with automatic 19 percent tip), plus \$22 for paired wines, there are as many as five choices for each of three courses, plus additional dishes for supplemental fees. Among the highlights are chef David McIntyre's haunting celery-root soup with black trumpet mushrooms or his noumenal Chino beet and burrata salad, and, among the desserts, the airy, ravishing lemon-ricotta tart.

Currant, downtown, 619-702-6309. Offers a \$65 four-course menu (not final at this writing). The bar will feature special cocktails and a sparkling rosé called "Naughty Bubbles" for \$14 glass or \$50 bottle.

Eclipse Chocolat, University Heights, 619-578-2984. \$65 per couple on Friday the 13th and Saturday the 14th for four chocolate-touched courses: cocoa-buckwheat crêpe with wild mushroom ragout, French

onion soup with white chocolate olive-oil crostini, pink peppercorn-crusted pork tenderloin with cocoa, cherry, and shallot jus or baked fromager d'affinois with cocoa, cherry, and shallot jus, rose petal crème brûlée. Rush to reserve — several seatings on both nights are already sold out.

El Bizcocho, Rancho Bernardo, 858-675-8550. This exquisite hotel dining room, helmed by newly appointed avant-garde chef de cuisine Steven Rojas, will be serving a romantic ten-course tasting feast, each course presented on one plate for couples to share, \$110 per person, \$150 with matched wine pairings. Expect the unexpected.

Farm House Cafe, University Heights, 619-269-9662. Prix-fixe four-course (plus *amuse*) modern French dinners on Friday the 13th as well as Saturday for \$45 per person, add wine pairings for \$25 and an additional course of foie gras or oysters for a bit extra from there. Truffled-mushroom soup with duck confit or house-cured Alaskan salmon are the starters; surf-and-turf entrées match pork belly with scallops, or short ribs with shrimp, followed by ethereal desserts, including Meyer lemon panna cotta.

Firenze Trattoria, Encinitas, 760-944-9000. At this beautiful, semirural restaurant, where town turns into country, \$60 per

person buys diners a multiple-choice three-course Italian menu with something for every taste, including a lacto-vegetarian eggplant parmigiana.

George's at the Cove, La Jolla, 858-454-4244. You don't have to crowd in on Saturday — the special menu runs from Friday through Sunday. Three courses for \$55 includes one appetizer (hot or cold), entrée, and dessert. Four courses for \$65 covers one cold starter, one hot starter, entrée, and dessert. The automatic gratuity is 20 percent. The choices are too many to enumerate — pretty much a whole menu's worth. And you get a great Cove view, especially if you luck out with a window table. A special three-course dinner menu will also be available on February 14 at the Ocean Terrace & Bar and George's Bar for \$45.

Grand Del Mar, Carmel Heights, 888-314-2030. Numerous Valentine's Day packages available, including Addison's exquisite six-course menu, \$125 per person, or \$200 per person with superb wine pairings, and Amaya's four-course array for \$110 per person, or \$155 per person with paired wines.

Grant Grill, downtown, 619-744-2077. Two decadent choices for your evening here. The five-course (plus *amuse*) dinner menu for \$85 starts with aphrodisiacs — either a

fricassee of oysters, sea urchins, and supporting maritime characters, or a smoked-duck consommé with ricotta gnocchi. Second course has sea scallops with caviar cream (among other garnishes) or ahi with foie gras. Entrées include a pork extravaganza, a Niman Ranch steak, or a lamb loin with lamb sausage, followed by a cheese course and a choice of stunning desserts. The alternative spread, at \$189 *per couple*, offers a miniature of the same choices in three courses, along with a glass of wine, followed by ballet tickets for an 8:00 p.m. performance of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Lyceum.

Island Prime, Harbor Island, 619-298-6802. For \$65, along with an eye-popping bay view, you get three courses from local favorite Deborah Scott. Choices include ahi stack or fennel-crusted diver scallops to start, then filet mignon, Colorado lamb rack, cedar-plank salmon, or roast Jidori chicken, ending with a decadent dessert to share.

JRDN, Pacific Beach, 858-270-5736. This chic singles' spot with its feet right in the sand offers five courses for \$70, or \$95 with wine pairings — starting with an oyster shooter, then salad, a mid-course of black bass with fig or butternut squash agnolotti with Maine lobster and vanilla, climaxing with a choice of venison or natural Meyer beef filet, and

concluding with warm chocolate-chili cake.

Marine Room, La Jolla, 858-459-7222. The room with the best close-up sea-view of all, and a kitchen with Bernard Guillas, one of the best chefs in the region, offers an extraordinary prix-fixe menu on both Friday the 13th and Saturday for \$125. Four courses with a huge range of choices, followed by a multi-part dessert extravaganza, and a finale of *mignardise* (sweets). If the sensual, adventurous cooking and that amazing view don't make you love each other even more, well — try couples' therapy.

Mistral, Coronado Silver Strand, 619-424-4000 X 6300. Mistral's lyrical Mediterranean menu highlights organic fruits and vegetables from nearby farming communities, locally caught seafood from Baja, and herbs from the resort's own organic garden. The special four-course V-Day menu for \$75 per person includes several choices for each course, including diver scallops or truffled wild-mushroom ravioli, followed by Brandt beef tenderloin, Arctic char, or vegetarian risotto, concluding with four ravishing dessert possibilities.

Nine-Ten Restaurant, La Jolla, 858-964-5400. Chef Jason Knibb offers four courses for \$80 per person (\$99 with wine pairings). After the *amuse*, you

choose between wild mushroom soup or a bistro salad of asparagus, frisée, and organic egg; followed by a prawn salad or an artichoke-Meyer lemon risotto. Entrées include gorgeously garnished Maine lobster tail or roasted petite filet, ending with a choice between two outrageous desserts.

The Pearl, Point Loma, 619-235-5616 x250 or 226-6100. This fun date venue features a Valentine's Day for Lovers and Singles, with three courses for \$50 per person, or \$99 for two, seating times at 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. (Want to stay on overnight? They have a deluxe "Jewel" guest-room package, including dinner for two at \$249. And if they're not full, you might be able to score a room at midnight for \$79.) Pray for no rain: the heated tables by the swimming pool are where it's at, compared to the cramped "meet market" bar interior. Dinner includes Jidori chicken ravioli *en brood* or arugula, hazelnut, and goat cheese salad; followed, by sea bass *en papillote* or roast venison saddle or a vegetarian main dish of vegetables and polenta; and a choice of rich chocolate or fruit desserts.

Prado, Balboa Park, 619-557-9441. Think of Fred and Cyd dancing in Central Park. Here, it's dinner in Balboa Park (and nobody's stopping you from dancing up and down the path-



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at the Boathouse Restaurant

Serving Valentine's Day Dinner 4:00pm-10:00pm

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ways). Three courses for \$70, or \$90 with matched wines, include an *amuse* with a glass of wine, followed by four delicious-sounding choices for each course, concluding with a trio of desserts to share.

Quarter Kitchen, Gaslamp Quarter, 619-814-2000. “His and hers” six-course menus for \$80 per person from new top toque, local favorite Nathan Coulon (a nominee for a James Beard Award as “rising chef”). If you love each other, you’ll share. “Hers” includes local lobster bisque, salad, crab cake, sorbet, potato-crust yellowtail with champagne beurre blanc and caviar, and apple financier spiced three ways, while “his” offers cream of mushroom soup with truffle oil, salad, roasted squab with foie gras, sorbet, grilled Prime New York steak, sauce béarnaise and Bordelaise, and liquid chocolate cake.

Red Marlin, Mission Bay, 619-221-4868. In a handsome dining room with a harbor view, lovers receive four courses for \$55 per person, both Friday the 13th and Saturday the 14th: mushroom-barley soup; prosciutto with Parmesan, pears, pine nuts, and truffle oil; petite filet with lobster, savory bread pudding; and concluding with a chocolate tasting.

Roseville, Point Loma, 619-450-6800. This rosy, airy, ultra-romantic setting offers Amy DiBiase’s leisurely five-course menu for \$75, with \$35 for matched wines and multiple choices for three of the courses. Highlights include ri-

cotta gnudi dumplings with shaved truffles, half-shell oysters with Osetra caviar, crispy veal sweetbreads, foie gras torchon, diver scallops with salsify confit, and lamb rib-eye with truffle gratin. Best choice for a discreet tryst, if you don’t live in Point Loma.

Tapenade, La Jolla, 858-551-7500. Celebrity chef Jean-Michel Diot offers a “Madame et Monsieur” three-course (plus *amuse* and *mignardise*) French menu for \$75 per person. Madame starts with a Maine lobster and mango salad, Monsieur with ahi tartare dressed with Sevruga caviar. Main dish choices include wild striped bass (the bisexual entrée), her veal tenderloin, or his short ribs with black truffle sauce Perigourdine. (Jean-Michel won’t be shocked if you taste each others’ plates—he’s a sophisticated Frenchman, *non?*) The sexes finally come together over a shared dessert.

Terra, Hillcrest, 619-293-7088. \$59 for four courses in this warm, comfortable setting. Start out sharing a Gruyère fondue, followed by lobster bisque or baby spinach salad with goat cheese. Entrée choices include filet mignon and gulf shrimp with roasted shallot lobster sauce, or roast quail, or a duo of salmon and barramundi, each with clever accompaniments, plus a dessert sampler to share. Vegetarian and gluten-free options available.

Thee Bungalow, Ocean Beach, 619-224-2884. Three courses for \$46 per person in this charming, intimate venue. The choices for each course are

many and sublimely attractive (shall it be oysters or lobster bisque to start?). The conclusion is a Champagne toast with a shared trio of desserts. Vegetarian options are available on request.

Other Romantic Evenings, Regular Menus

Clay’s La Jolla, 858-551-3620. In a lovely room with a view and fine food, the à la carte menu will include a few romantic specials. Full vegetarian menu available.

Costa Brava, Pacific Beach, 858-273-1218. Delicious small tapas plates to share in a warm-blooded Spanish atmosphere.

Kous-Kous, Hillcrest, 619-295-5560. The Arabian Nights, in a room decorated with beautiful Moroccan crafts, with delicious food seasoned with the aromatic spices of North Africa. The honey lamb tagine is beyond wicked.

Marrakesh, La Jolla, 858-454-2500. The full-out Moroccan

experience, including sitting at low tables on thick pillows and eating wonderful, exotic foods with your fingers. Feed each other tidbits, hand to mouth. Mmm.

Peohe’s, Coronado Ferry Landing, 619-437-4474. Gloriously silly, over-the-top tropical decor and stunning views of the bay make this a favorite spot for proposals and weddings. The à la carte menu emphasizes Hawaiian-style seafood and steaks and extravagantly indulgent desserts.

Rama, Gaslamp Quarter, 619-501-8424. A gorgeous, sexy setting for the sensual pleasures of Thai “royal cuisine.”

Vincent’s, Escondido, 760-745-3835. Perhaps the most romantic restaurant in Escondido offers a menu of classic French food made from local-grown ingredients that changes weekly. There may well be something special for V-Day (specifics weren’t ready by press time). ■

JEDN RESTAURANT: 4551 OCEAN BLVD: 858.270.5738

VALENTINE'S DAY III

5 BULTRY COURSES: \$70, WINE PAIRED: \$105

25% off

Lunch or Dinner

Buy one entrée and two beverages, get a second entrée of equal or lesser value at 25% off. Not valid with any other offers. Expires 2/26/09.

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Very Thai

“I don’t know how, but it works. I think the water optics confuse them.”

I’m confused. Here I am, top of India Street, breezy Friday, trying to decide between Mexican and Thai. El Indio and Saffron. Each one’s a sort of record-holder. El Indio’s one of the oldest taco places in town — they actually invented the taquito — and Saffron was the first Thai place in town.

Seems like an eon since I tried either. Thing I remember is, they’re both generous, El Indio and Saffron. But what sways me is, well, Isan. Aah, yes. The smell of Saffron’s Isan-style grilled chicken floods out. ’Course that only happens in their original shop, a little ol’ green-red-brown place at 3731 India. The newer addition next door, at 3737, is all about noodles and saté.

But you can’t beat the taste of chicken as the spice-loving Isan people cook it up in Thailand’s northeast. It’s enough to get any gastro-freak’s juices flowing.

The thing about old Saffron’s storefront is it looks kinda distinguished. It sits right next to stone steps that climb up a set of terraces lined with cream-colored concrete balustrades, tables, and one metal umbrella. Shakespeare’s Pub sits at the top. Yes, I do think about going along to the more sophisticated Saffron shop for maybe a curry or a fat-noodle *sen-yai*. The menu’s completely different there, and the decor is modern. But what the heck, I whip in to this cozier little chicken counter instead. Take-out only. It’s bulging with customers. A dozen rotisserie chickens grill golden on a five-

rack vertical rolling spit. Hmm...I see the door menu lists a bunch of chicken combinations, “served with jasmine rice, Cambodian salad, and a choice of sauce.”



It ranges from two legs and one sauce (\$4.87) to a whole chicken and five sauces, for around \$15. Three guys, all in red T-shirts, slave away around the chickens, mounting new birds for broiling, chopping up the cooked ones. They tell me the Issan fla-

vor comes from marinating the chicken overnight in garlic, ginger, chiles, and white pepper. I go for the two legs and one sauce, and while they’re cookin’, I make a dash up to the corner for a coffee from Gelato Vero Caffè (\$1.40). I come back right on time, haul my little polystyrene box up the Shakespeare stairway next door, and sit down at a table under the lone umbrella. I open up, and maybe it’s that garlic-ginger combo they marinate the bird in, because this chick is hot and luscious. But gently luscious. No violent chile burns here. I do taste the ginger coming through, but not in a mean way. What’s more, I chose the peanut sauce (I could have had Sriracha, sweet pepper, salsa, chutney, or egg-roll sauce), and dipping the legs in that is great. Plus, hey! They threw in a wing, too, on top of the jasmine rice and Cambodian salad.

’Course, I’m wondering what’s so Cambodian about the Cambodian salad. It’s, what? Shredded lettuce, carrots, with peanut crumbs on top? Then I taste, and I know it’s

genuine...fish sauce. *Nam pla*. Fish sauce in the salad! Turns out they put garlic, chiles, lime juice, and cilantro in as well. So that’s a little plastic bowl of pleasure, and all in all, what with munching through two legs and a big fat wing, as well as the rice, it’s a lot of food, and tasty all the way. And a pleasure to chow into up here on the terrace, looking out toward the coast (though all you see is the I-5 freeway) and all for a total of five greenbacks.

I finish up and then decide to get something for Carla, but from the noodle side of the restaurant. Huh. On the way into the cool, art-strewn main eatery, I pass a bunch of photos showing the owner, Su Mei Yu, with Julia Child, Jimmy Carter, Charlie Gibson, Diane Keaton...Wow. This lady is popular.

And I’m impressed with the fact that she’s selling reusable plastic containers for takeouts (“Keep them in your car!”) and even offering 10 percent off if you bring your own cutlery and plates and bowls.

Gal named Willi is eating a green curry (\$7.60). Ooh. Carla might like that. I ask her about it. “I’ve just spent two years in southern Thailand,” she says, “and this is the real thing.”

The other “real” thing is the water-filled plastic bags dangling from the ceiling. “To keep flies out,” says Willi. “I don’t know how, but it works. I think the water optics confuse them. That’s very Thai, too.”

Oh, man. Ain’t that the truth. Actually, it



Saffron

really does feel like a little slice of Thailand in here. Nothing fancy. Not the usual Buddha and elephants on the walls. Just something about the smells and the overall atmosphere. I steal a taste of Carla’s curry before they box it up. It’s all in there. The basil, the lemongrass, that *galangal*, Thai ginger, and the coconut milk. Maybe I should take one of the water-filled bags, to dangle, just to bring the atmosphere home. ■

The Place: Saffron Thai Grilled Chicken, 3731 and 3737 India Street, 619-574-0177, 574-7737
Type of Food: Thai
Prices: Chicken Combination (with jasmine rice, Cambodian salad, sauce), e.g. two legs, \$4.87; breast and leg, \$5.50; whole chicken and five sauces, \$14.88; salad roll (rice paper with lettuce, tofu, glass noodles, ginger), \$1.51; egg roll, \$2.19; fish curry (red curry with swordfish, rice, cucumber salad, chutney sauce), \$7.50; chicken saté, \$5.85 (one skewer)
Hours: 10:30 a.m.–9:00 p.m., Monday–Thursday; 10:30 a.m.–10:00 p.m., Friday; 10:30 a.m.–9:00 p.m., Saturday; 11:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m., Sunday
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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. 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

Azul La Jolla 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-9616. The flagship of the local Brigantine chain serves ambitious, Japanese-influenced, California-global fusion cuisine on a daily changing menu in a room with a panoramic ocean view. But you need not stuff your shirt to dine here — garb runs to resort-casual and the atmosphere is family friendly. There's even a low-priced kiddie menu. The wine list is friendly, too, with merciful markups and plenty by the glass and half-bottle. Full bar. Short staircase down to restaurant; elevator to the right of entry (ask for directions for wheelchair access when calling to reserve). Valet parking. Very noisy. One vegetarian entrée,

but all food restrictions accommodated to order. Lunch Tuesday through Saturday, dinner nightly, Sunday brunch. Very expensive. — *N.W.*

Bully's La Jolla 5755 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla, 858-459-2768. Despite the plasma TV sports screen, this place is very '60s. For example, dark, woody, plush red booths. And always crowded. Word is, they serve more prime rib with au jus and horseradish than any eatery in San Diego. The Petite Cut 8 ounce, their smallest, fills you plenty, with its baked potato and salad. But just once, come here with your main squeeze and order up the "full cut for two." It does a hang-ten over the edges. Or go bonkers and order the 32-ounce cut (available in Mission Valley) — just to watch your neighbors' eyes bug out. Not flush? Try the Bully Burger, French Dip sandwich, or calamari sandwich. Lonely? Go to the horseshoe-shaped Low Bar. Lunch and dinner daily. — *E.B.*

Kabuki Sushi Restaurant 4475 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-270-1986. This place has a unique system of delivering tempting dishes to you via boats floating along a mini-canal that surrounds the sushi bar. You take food off and pay according to the plate size. The sushi chefs — they can be a show in themselves — have the usual panoply of sushi, sashimi, nigiri. The dragon rolls (crab, shrimp tempura, eel, avocado) and spider roll (soft-shelled crab) are tasty too. It's unique and crowded here — is that because you don't have to sweat the menu, just grab what you like off the boat and chew? Open for lunch and dinner Tuesday to Saturday; dinner only Sunday; closed Monday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

Karinya Thai 4475 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-270-5050. Think of the movie *The Beach*, with a bunch of Leo DiCaprio look-alikes getting off on the coconut curries like *gang ped*, *panang*, and *kang kari*. Or noodle dishes like the famous *pad thai*. But they're in the right place: Karinya remains true to its Thai

origins. The *tom yum kung* (hot and sour shrimp soup) is a meal in itself. Steaming away with its fierce little charcoal fire at your table, the hot pot holds plenty of shrimp, and you can taste the essential mushrooms, lemon grass, ginger, lime juice, cilantro, and of course *nam pla*, Thai fish sauce. A nice counterpart to the hots of the soup are the Fresh Spring Rolls, filled with tofu and vegetables and mint. Another sizzler: *pad talay*; a sauté pan full of mussels, shrimp, squid, and other seafood in a great spicy sauce. The recipe's from Koh Samed, an island like the one featured in *The Beach*. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

La Jolla Brew House 7536 Fay Avenue, La Jolla, 858-456-6279. Don't expect to see the beach. Do expect to taste some good beers made right here and good solid food, such as the prime rib sandwich (which goes great with their Russian Stout) or the roasted potato. Or maybe best of all, the buffalo burger — big, hefty, and low on cholesterol. You'd call this a family, multigenerational sports bar eatery. Nice mix. It's La Jolla, so it's not dirt cheap, but the guys here seem really interested in making interesting brews and good food to accompany them. Open for dinner seven days; lunch Tuesday through Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

Mardi Gras Café 3185 Midway Drive, Point Loma, 619-223-5501. The Creole cooking at this café/grocery, to eat in, take out, or have catered for your next party, is sound and tasty, if deliberately underseasoned (just add salt and hot sauce to taste). You can also buy the real and rare ingredients from the freezer, deli case, and grocery shelves, including Cajun *tasso* (spiced ham), *boudin blanc* (rice sausage), and crawfish sausage when it's in season. Daily brunch through early dinner. No alcohol, everything available for takeout. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

Michele Coulon Pastries 7556-D Fay Avenue, La Jolla, 858-456-5098. The daughter of Don Coulon (retired chef-owner of the Belgian Lion restaurant)

presides at this delightful little café/bakery. (Look for it behind the octagonal sandwich shop that fronts its mini-mall.) Every ingredient is fresh and of top quality. Cakes are light, moist, rich, and available as wholes, slices, and even "miniatures," plus you can choose tarts, chocolates, ice creams, and breakfast pastries. Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Moderate. — *N.W.*

The Pannikin La Jolla 7467 Girard Avenue, La Jolla, 858-454-5453. Also in Del Mar and in Encinitas. Oh, sure, the inside of this converted bungalow is cool, with its woody-green tables of different heights and cool damsels with animal temp-tattoos on their arms serving you. But here at Pannikin's La Jolla outpost, the outside's the "in" spot, with its brick and earth tones and weathered timber and sixties rainbow tables. But you have to make it through the laptop-clacking, cell phone-blabbing crowd who use this as their garden office and Very Important Meeting spot. Musicians, grad students, and school kids also show up to munch twigs and nuts and think serious thoughts. Breakfasts are mostly steamed-egg variations, including the popular Greek eggs and a filling breakfast burrito. For lunch, a mild chicken curry is a nutty treat, and "pannwiches" such as ham or tuna are fresh, generous, and worthy, though the retros among us will be looking for a salt lick all the way home. La Jolla and Del Mar three meals daily, Encinitas breakfast and lunch only. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Saska's & Saska's Sushi 3768 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach, 858-488-7311. Venerable, local steak-and-seafood joint that tries harder, from the broth-thin homemade teriyaki sauce (sweet up front, fading to bitter ginger) for the well-cooked (if mild-flavored) fish to the cut-on-the-premises aged beef. The interior's low wood-slat ceilings, driftwood beams, dim light, and red leather booths combine with the stay-up-late kitchen to make the space feel like a cozy haven, a respite from the brighter buzz of Mis-

sion Beach. The wine list runs the gamut from Cook's sparkling wine to Cristal champagne, stopping along the way at an interesting (if expensive) collection of reserves. Next door is the restaurant's serviceable sushi bar (858-488-7255) and two-story patio dining. Lunch weekdays, brunch and lunch weekends; dinner seven days. Sushi bar open nightly, 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Moderate. — *A.M.*

Sportsmen's Seafoods 1617 Quivira Road, Mission Beach, 619-224-3551. Fifty years ago this restaurant-fish market was a tuna cannery, part of San Diego's late-lamented fishing industry. The same Sicilian family still owns it, and still knows everything about fish and how to cook it. The menu is devoted to the "fruits of the sea" and includes a wonderful seafood platter (shrimp, squid, clams, fish, fries, and salad). And, of course, a crispy-crunchy fish-and-chips platter. Eat outside on deck, contemplating the small ships on the bay. They buy seasonal catch from local fishboats and also sell it at their attached retail market. They're famous for smoking fish for the fishermen. Open daily, lunch/early dinner. Retail market closed Monday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

BAJA

From the United States use the prefix 011-52 when calling Mexico.

Big Boy Restaurant 9892 Agua Caliente Boulevard, Baja, 664-686-3788. Besides having excellent Mexican-American food, this Big Boy knock-off draws some of the most interesting people in Tijuana — journalists, lawyers, cattle ranchers, politicians, Baja's heavy hitters. Day or night, Big Boy is always busy. Gringo food's no problem. Breakfast includes eggs, bacon, sausage, chorizo or ham, plus hash browns or frijoles, toast, juice, and endless coffee. Nobody will object if you sit sipping the free refills till the moon comes up. But you won't —

you'll crack and order more when you smell the popular, macho "royal" hamburger, with two beef patties, smoked ham, onions, lettuce, tomatoes, fries, and salad. Or the chicken breast marinated in tequila with cilantro, guacamole, and beans. Vegetarian upon request. Open 24/7. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Café la Especial Avenida Revolución #718 (down the market steps), Baja, 664-685-6654. Café la Especial was once a great favorite of American aficionados of Tijuana's bullfights at the old downtown Plaza de Toros. Summer Sundays, fans would crowd into the café to chow down before the fights or rush back afterwards for a few drinks and a hearty meal. Inside, little has changed, not even the 50-50 locals-to-gringos ratio. Food is standard Mexican/American border fare, from tacos and tamales to *carne asada* and *bistek ranchero*, from cactus and eggs to steak and eggs. Vegetarian upon request. But the atmosphere is the real draw: the low ceiling, varnished wood, black furniture with flowers painted up and down the legs and portraits on the backs, and lots of murals of Mexico on the walls. Owner Humberto Brambila's aunt Justina started it all, he says, in 1948, with the steamed taco stand upstairs. That's still going too. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

CENTRAL

Apertivo 3926 30th Street, North Park, 619-297-7799. This wine bar-bistro offers *tapasi* of simple Italian classics lightened up and scaled down to medium-size portions — about the size you probably eat at home. All the condiments are on the table, so you can season or cheese your food to taste as you go instead of having a waiter wait them before you've lifted a fork. Good dishes include prosciutto-wrapped shrimp, eggplant rollatini, and for dessert, an airy lemon cheesecake mousse. Parking via alley

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Shack

half-block west. No reservations, but for weeknight large groups, call ahead. Weekends, arrive very early or late or expect a wait. Call-in/take-out food orders okay. Check chalkboard on sidewalk for specials. Plenty for vegetarians and vegans. Sound level: roaring. Dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Inexpensive. — N.W.

Arrivederci 3845 Fourth Street, Hillcrest, 619-299-6282. However you picture an idealized Italian restaurant — sprawling café; on the strada or little cozy corner as in *Moonstruck* — somehow Arrivederci is it. The straight-from-Rome look of the crowded sidewalk deck and yellow-and-white awning helps. The menu is a big yet familiar regional potpourri. Reliable standards include *vitello bel monte* (veal in a brandy cream sauce with tomatoes), “straw and hay” (*paglio e fieno al pesto*), pale yellow-and-green pasta with string beans and pine nuts in a delicious pesto sauce, or shellfish pasta dishes like linguine *mediterraneo*, with clams, mussels, and big garlicky shrimp. Part of the fun is bumping chairs. Think dining car on a narrow-gauge railroad — you’re that close to the next table. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — E.B.

Basic Urban Kitchen and Bar 410 Tenth Avenue, Downtown, 619-531-8869. The whole brick, postindustrial thing that rules the Gaslamp really works here. This ex-horse carriage repair shop is one cool hangout, left as is except for a “relaxing room” that divides the two eating/drinking areas by a metal coil curtain and “rugs” made of old inner tube strips. But what really defines Basic is Connecticut, the state that — who knew? — gave us the pizza. Direct from New Haven comes the “thinnest pizza in the country,” according to the owners. Try the mashed potato pizza with cheese melted on top, bacon, and red peppers, or the Little Neck clams. Open 11:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Batter Up! 342 Euclid Avenue, Southeast San Diego, 619-262-3333. Chef-

owner Mel Johnson was one of the founders of the Gaslamp’s late, great Juke Joint Café. The food he serves at Batter Up! is less ambitious (so far) — but talent will tell. The food at this friendly, casual sports bar (about ten minutes from Petco via the 94) may be pub grub, but the cooking is serious. Fried fish, fried shrimp, thick sandwiches, and juicy Certified Angus burgers with creative dressings are well above the norm. Free parking in large lot patrolled by security guards. First-timers should request sauces (especially the house hot sauce) on the side until you know whether you like them. Fairly noisy inside (depending on what’s on TV); quiet patio outside. Open daily, lunch and dinner, with early closing Sundays. Inexpensive. — N.W.

Bay Café 1050 North Harbor Drive, Downtown, 619-595-1083. If you’re hungry at the city ferry landing, you can eat in the bare-bones interior or take your tray upstairs to a handsome bayview terrace (with no wheelchair access). After a chilly crossing, try the enjoyable New England-style clam chowder, which is milky, clean, and not over-thickened, with tender clams and tiny diced potatoes. The menu features

breakfast dishes, burgers, sandwiches (all served with generic fries), variations on fish-and-chips including prawns, plus some entrée salads. The burgers are genuinely “have it your way” — for a few extra cents each, the kitchen will add extra ingredients (Jack or Cheddar, mushrooms, grilled onions, bacon, jalapeño). Open daily, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Inexpensive. — N.W.

Bertrand at Mister A’s 2550 Fifth Avenue, 12th floor, Banker’s Hill, 619-239-1377. Bertrand Hug’s airy, open renovation of this formerly “ancient regime” eatery offers a fabled panoramic city view with a casual-chic, highly romantic ambience. Chef Stéphane Voitzwinkler’s modern French cuisine is a fine fit for the setting, including bistro classics and fresh inventions, emphasizing top-grade seasonal ingredients. A huge, intelligent wine list covers a full range of prices, ages, and origins, including “ripe” first-growth Bordeaux. Smoking and fair-weather dining on wraparound terrace/observation deck. Note: parking entrance on Fourth Avenue; wheelchair access via ramp to left of reception desk. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Expensive. — N.W.

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Calendar RESTAURANTS

Blue Point 565 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-6623. In a handsome, plushy dining room, pristine seafood and Prime-grade steaks and chops are featured in well-focused preparations highlighting Pacific Rim and Mediterranean flavors. A fine lobster bisque includes plenty of lobster, and crab-stuffed trout and dayboat scallops are among the highlights of the menu. But at this conventioners' favorite, be sure to specify the doneness you prefer, especially for fish, which defaults to well-done. Valet parking onsite, or inexpensive self-parking one block east at Park It On Market. Large sidewalk dining patio. Business-casual dress looks best here. Reservations urged. Dinner nightly. — *N.W.*

Café Noir 447 Ninth Avenue, Downtown, 619-235-0075. It's a miracle this little old house is here at all. On every side, condo towers rise up. But the two-story 1886 Hiatt House is protected by the Mother of East Village, Gloria Poore. She bought it, preserved it, painted it black, put an umbrella deck on it, and has expanded it from a straight coffee place to include a light eatery. Highlights include interesting *soup du jour* and a panini with grilled chicken, artichoke, cranberries, and parmesan and cream cheese all stuffed inside. Open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Café Zia 6686 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area, 619-337-3937. South Asia meets Mexico! Khaled Zia had the brilliant idea of combining wraps with chicken and South Asia's great gift to the world: chutney — mango, papaya, peach, apple, even a serrano chili pepper chutney. The combo works with them all. As soon as you smell the chicken strips hissing away on the grills, you're hooked. Then when they come smothered in peach or mango chutney, or cool-

ing yogurt, along with sweet-sauced potatoes, what can you do? Do as half of San Diego State does: just say yes. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Ciro's Pizzeria — Hillcrest 1202 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-296-2476. This small pizza parlor with the oh-so cool logo has that "back east" feel about it. Lots of old-time photos inside of baseball fields, New York City, and a huge 9/11 mural. The guys at Ciro's ("and it's pronounced 'Chiros,'" say the recipe for their dough ("flour, sugar, salt, yeast, water") is the simplest, the most traditional. Best combo: chicken bacon pesto. Open daily till late. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Dakota Grill and Spirits 901 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-234-5554. The name may hint at cowboy cooking, but look for simple mid-American comfort food at one of the many local eateries under the Cohn Restaurant Group aegis. A typical entrée includes a hunk of red (or "the other white") meat cooked on a wood-fired grill, smeared with a pre-cooked sauce that, for better or worse, first meets its mate on the plate. Meat-avoiders will find fish and poultry dishes, too. Tasty taters but dull veggies come with most entrées. Desserts run to fruity favorites like cobblers, crisps, and upside-down cake. Treats from the wide-ranging beverage list include three-glass wine flights in four styles of wine, and a pleasant house brew, Dakota Pale Ale, that suits the food. The two-floor restaurant offers big plush booths, tall windowed walls, and a piano player gliding from rinky-dink 1950s pop to Fats Waller stylings and Ellingtonian riffs. Valet parking. Full bar. Lunch weekdays; dinner nightly. High moderate to expensive. — *N.W.*

Dublin Square 554 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-5818. The entire pub was handcrafted in Waterford, shipped over, and installed (by Irish craftsmen) in the Gaslamp. The exterior indeed resembles a real (but very new) Dublin pub; the interior has authentically dim lighting and spirited Irish mu-

sic, including live bands (acoustic but loud) during happy hours and some evenings. If you're looking for food, too, there's a fine corned beef and cabbage, resembling the corned beef of Katz's Deli on the Lower East Side — it's that wee touch o' the garlic that does the trick. Other choices include Guinness beef stew, shepherd's pie (made with ground beef), steaks, lamb medallion, fish-and-chips, and grilled fish, plus standard pub grub. Lunch and dinner (including Irish breakfast anytime) daily. Moderate. — *N.W.*

Emerald Chinese Seafood Restaurant 3709 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-6888. Arguably the best Chinese restaurant in the county, here's where local Asians (of all nations) go for both casual family dinners and special feasts of Hong Kong specialties. When you dig in, you'll know why. Menu (trilingual in Chinese, Vietnamese, and English) emphasizes seafood and gourmet delicacies of the South China coast, plus lunchtime dim sum carts daily. The staff is bilingual and crisply helpful, and the specialties are well worth exploring. Reservations accepted for all meals, including weekend dim sum brunches. Few dishes include MSG; diners can request none in made-to-order dishes. Live fish tanks, full bar, serviceable wine list. Mainly moderate, with moderate splurges like live fish and Peking duck easily balanced by inexpensive down-home dishes (unless you insist on shark fin or bird's nest). Open daily from lunch until midnight or later. — *N.W.*

The Fish Market 750 North Harbor Drive, Downtown, 619-232-3474. There's something fishy about these crowded, noisy, ever-multiplying restaurants — namely, mesquite-grilled, skewered, steamed, or panko-fried seafood, plus piscine chowders, pastas, and salads. Preparations are generally simple and consistent among locations. All the raw seafood is processed at the chain's Northern California facilities, so when the menu refers to a "local" species it

merely means it's from somewhere in the Pacific. Small retail fish market in the downtown branch offers slightly fresher products than at most supermarkets. Identical products and dishes are served in the dining room, the oyster bar, and at Top of the Market. But the sushi bar is emphatically the top Fish Market venue, with just-right rice, pristine seafood, and expert preparation. The Ichiban Hamachi (also available in the dining rooms) is outstanding. No reservations, but the space is vast so waits are brief. Restaurant open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. Also in Del Mar at 640 Via de la Valle, 858-755-2277; mini-branch near Fashion Valley, 2401 Fenton Parkway, 619-280-2277. — *N.W.*

Heaven Sent Desserts 3001 University Avenue, North Park, 619-793-4758. The developing district around the North Park Theatre desperately needed a bakery, and Heaven Sent arrived — and then happily upgraded to a more professional operation in 2008. Under pastry chef Tina Luu (a local who's worked at some of San Francisco's top eateries), Heaven Sent produces a full range of desserts including cookies, tarts, pies, custards, puddings, and intricate cakes and ice cream fantasias. The style is rich and often fancy with choices ranging from hearty American favorites to ethereal (but not low-cal or low-carb) Euro-style elaborations on the theme of sweet. To drink: coffee, excellent espresso, teas, hot chocolate, Italian sodas, and fruit juice. Open daily breakfast until after dinner, past 11 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. — *N.W.*

Indigo Grill 1536 India Street, Little Italy, 619-234-6802. This second — and much grander — incarnation of chef Deborah Scott's Indigo Grill expands her original Native-American motif, with its focus on root vegetables, game, and roasted spices. Now, the Pacific Coastal cuisine takes in more coast than most, drawing upon ingredients and techniques from Alaska to Oaxaca. (The

decor, dark and urban-primitive, follows the theme.) Unexpected combinations are a mainstay; a single dish, such as the seafood *mixto*, may span the entire distance, bringing together a multitude of flavors that work together to create a wondrous whole. Fine breads are made in-house, as are desserts (try the decadent, crispy-creamy plantain cheesecake flautas). The wine list includes interesting varietals. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly; closes early Sundays, but open until 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Lunch: inexpensive to moderate; dinner: moderate to expensive. — *A.M.*

Inn at the Park 3615 Fifth Avenue, Banker's Hill, 619-291-0999. Gay and straight mingle nightly at the piano bar of this charming spot (although Fridays are *très gai*), brought together by lively performances of Broadway show tunes. Across the aisle is the dining room, where the fare could be described as Log Cabin Republican cuisine — despite a touch of mango here, chipotle there, it's mainly the nice, conservative, meat-and-potatoes comfort food that the regulars here prefer. Wilder hits include calamari fritto misto, duck breast, and coconut-lime crème brûlée. But mainly, this is one of the world's sweetest scenes, always fun for a drink and a bite. Lunchtime weekdays, the scene shifts to the rooftop Top of the Park, for scenery with the sandwiches. Reservations advised, as hotel guests have dibs on tables. — *N.W.*

Jsix 616 J Street, Downtown, 619-531-8744. Chef Christian Graves is proud to be a card-carrying Slow Foodie, a movement dedicated to preserving traditional ways of farming, cooking, and caring for our food and planet. At Jsix, the kitchen bakes the breads and chef Graves cures charcuterie and makes sausages. The menu offers gently reared free-range meats and local produce. The chef's assortment of charcuterie — sausage, cured beef, and smoked ham — is impossible to pass up. "Small plates" are not so small and will have you wiping the platters with the fresh bread, especially

the devastating white-corn ravioli in season. Waitstaff talks up the seafood, but the beef dishes are even better — rib eye and Angus short ribs, especially. Wine list is wide and creative. The rooftop J6Bar Lounge is crowded but fun for cocktails, sandwiches, and snacks. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily, plus weekend brunch. Dinner reservations advised, especially on weekends. Grazing meals moderate to expensive, full diners very expensive. — *N.W.*

Kansas City Barbecue 610 West Market Street, Downtown, 619-231-9680. Scrumptious smells waft across the tracks at the Seaport Village trolley stop — barbecued pork and beef. And yeah, this is the joint where Tom Cruise and Kelly McGillis did their sleazy bar scene in *Top Gun*. And it is kinda sleazy, especially in the shadowy horseshoe bar, with memorabilia like hanging bras, Czech license plates, and stickers ("Grow Your Own Dope: Plant A Man"). The beef and pork ribs (or rib tips or chicken breast) are worth it. They're cooked over an oak-fueled fire. Nice long happy hour (3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at bar only) has great food/grub deals. Open daily, lunch until late, serving until 2 a.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

Kemo Sabe 3958 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-220-6802. Audacity is Chef Deborah Scott's culinary signature. In her cooking, Southeast Asia meets the Southwest, with Japanese touches and towering heaps of garnishes. All the edible froufrou decorating the appetizers can wear you out, but most entrées are more focused and friendly. Good choices include a starter of mussels in a seductive chipotle cream sauce, and entrées of spicy, sweet-sour layered "jerk" chicken or the signature "Skirts On Fire," a miraculously tender grilled skirt steak imbued with a *picante* marinade. Desserts by Sharon Bristol follow the house style — sky-high, ornate, complex. Casual atmosphere, very noisy. Heated patio. Dinner served daily. Reservations strongly advised. Moderate. — *N.W.*

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Kensington Grill 4055 Adams Avenue, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-281-1014. This long-standing, comfortable-but-sophisticated neighborhood restaurant has found a fine formula for flavorful, seasonal California cuisine with adventurous touches of Asia and Mexico. It's way beyond what most neighborhoods would expect. Well-known local chef Hanis Cavin (a big, low-key guy) proves an alpha griller, ensuring that every bite is cooked precisely until it's done, not a second longer. Almost everything is more than tasty. Most desserts come from upscale sister-restaurant Laurel, although the house-made choices are fine, too — no baby-food sweets here. Wine list is adventurous with lots of affordable choices; full bar. Small parking lot attached. Always a few dishes for vegetarians and a vegan entrée. Reservations recommended. Dinner nightly. "Early-bird" three-course dinner moderate; regular menu moderate to expensive. — N.W.

King's Fish House 825 Camino de la Reina, Mission Valley, 619-574-1230. To find King's in the mega-mall, go slightly west of Fudruckers and follow the line of cars to the free valet parking. It's a chain, but it's a classy chain, offering fish and seafoods of a quality that's well above average, including crustaceans from a live tank and a half-dozen varieties of pristine oysters. Generously-sized entrées come with soup or salad (including a Caesar that's above suspicion) and two hefty side dishes. The vast menu of American-style preparations changes daily to reflect the fresh catch, and includes some rotating regional specialties (e.g., New Orleans, Hawaii, New England). Don't miss the prawn pot-sticker appetizer, if available, and for dessert, the miraculously light bread pudding. The atmosphere is good-time (with two patios and a barroom as well as a dining room), the service is enthusiastic, and the management will accommodate special requests if you call ahead. Kiddie menu available. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W.

Lydia's Café and Nightclub 1628 Palm Avenue, Imperial Beach, 619-429-3603. This easygoing dancing/eatery has a faithful following that goes back to 1957. But before you dance, eat! Check out the *birria en su jugo* (goat in its juices) with beans, rice, and tortillas, or enjoy filling snacks like taquitos, *cucuracha* (a corn tortilla stuffed with ham, cheese, and sour cream), or the snack Lydia says

she invented: *botanas* (beans, pork, and melted cheese over corn chips). Open daily, three meals. (Call ahead for availability of the *birria*.) Inexpensive. — E.B.

Napa Valley Grille 502 Horton Plaza, Downtown, 619-238-5440. This restaurant at the top of Horton Plaza is staffed by professionals and the food is very good, including the excellent grilled calamari. There is an elegant hominess to Napa Valley Grille, a comforting, satisfying dining experience. Moderate to expensive. — *M.N.*

Pomegranate Russian-Georgian Restaurant 2302 El Cajon Boulevard, University Heights, 619-297-4007. Pomegranate's address is serendipitous, since the food of Deep-South Georgia is the Louisiana cuisine of the Slavic world — alive with fresh herbs, garlic, touches of hot pepper. This rustic-looking restaurant is animated with antic humor (check the multilingual graffiti on the walls) and offers unique, flavor-bomb dishes. Don't miss the world-beating beefy, herb-jungle borscht (beet soup, but it's way more than that), the Lobio bean dip, and Olivier salad. The chef slow-smokes his moist barbecued beef and pork and cold-smokes whole trout, a treat as a group appetizer or summer entrée. On weekends, there's sublimely smoky *shashlik* (shish kebab). The printed menu is only a hint as to what's really cooking, and regular patrons get the best off-menu choices. So become a regular. Street parking is dire. Reservations advised for weekend dinners. Dinner nightly (service until 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday). Moderate. — N.W.

La Posta de Acapulco 3980 Third Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-295-8982. (Also in Lakeside and Spring Valley.) People have been coming to this orange-and-white drive-through-without-cars for 20 years. One of the main reasons is the *carne asada* burritos. Rich-tasting, fresh, generous. Folks sit around the outside benches right next to Washington Street, oblivious to the traffic. Also much loved here are the *chile verde* and the quesadilla with *carne asada*. For breakfast, think chorizo burrito. And for value, just to fill you up, you can't beat the bean tostada. You can drink *horchata*, a rice drink, or *jamaica*, made from hibiscus flower, to complete the picture. Open 24 hours in Hillcrest. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Rainwater's on Kettner 1202 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-233-5757. Enjoy culinary time travel with this

vintage restaurant's classic chophouse fare — wet-aged USDA Prime beefsteaks and roasts with luxurious "Continental" sauces, plus some seafood, poultry, and other odd meats (including milk-fed calf's liver), served in what looks like a cozy English gentlemen's club writ large. If you've ever wanted to try Beef Wellington, the chef here is one of the few who can pull it off correctly. At weekday lunches, the place buzzes with downtown movers and shakers, but dinner hours are usually serene and gracious (reserve anyway). An awesome international wine list, strong on great French bottles (and scant on affordable ones); no corkage Friday & Sunday. Full bar. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Very expensive, but offers three-course prix fixe menu for \$40/person. — N.W.

Sally's Seafood on the Water One Market Place at Manchester Grand Hyatt, Downtown, 619-358-6740. One of the city's favorite romantic restaurants. Sally's is an outbuilding behind the Grand Hyatt at the edge of Seaport Village and boasts lovely scenery, with cityscapes or bay views seen through picture windows or enjoyed from the outdoor patio in fair weather. The fare is Asian-fusion, emphasizing seafood and also offering sushi and sashimi. An appetizer sampler for two makes delicious shared grazing, as does a raw tuna and salmon Napoleon layered on fried wonton strip, while black cod with miso-orange broth is a sensuous entree. Another option is reserving the "chef's table" in the kitchen for a custom-made meal. The mostly Californian wine list is rather steep, with plenty by the glass (at high markups), plus a serious sake list on the sushi menu. Full bar. Long walk from the hotel garage (with validated self-parking) but no barriers to mobility devices; dining room noisy at times. Lunch and dinner daily. Expensive. —N.W.

El Sol Mexican Restaurant 2037 University Avenue, North Park, 619-298-0874. Miguel “Nacho” Madera cooked at Danny’s Palm Bar in Coronado for 18

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years. In 1994, President Clinton came to town and the Secret Service came to Danny's with a big order for burgers. Instant fame! Now Nacho has his own place and serves the same burgers with the spice recipe even the Secret Service couldn't get out of him. He also does breakfasts and the whole range of Mexican food, including seafood (*tostada de ceviche* is great). But if you want the burger, ask for his Clintonburgers with cheese, bacon, and french fries. Open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Soleil @k 660 K Street, Downtown, 619-446-6088. The fare here is simple California cuisine that won't scare the conventioners, but the outdoor dining patio is a nice spot for a light meal. The spiffy, chrome-detailed interior, with an open kitchen, offers the option of eating with strangers at long tables or booking a large party of your own — but be prepared for noise (even when the room's empty, the music is pumped up party-loud). Starters may include a seasonally available fried-calamari salad and crabby crab sticks. Desserts are witty as well as tasty; entrées are unmemorable. Long international wine list with some "finds"; full bar. Service is variable. Validated valet parking. Open daily, three meals. Moderate to expensive. — N.W.

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Cake with Sweet Chile Remoulade,
Vietnamese Spring Roll

Entrée:
Served with choice of lobster
bisque or salad. Fettuccine with
Lobster, Stuffed Atlantic Salmon,
Breast of Chicken Au Champagne,
Prime Rib Au Jus & Sour Cream
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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

Soltan Banoo Persian Eatery & Tearoom 4645 Park Boulevard, University Heights, 619-298-2801. It's colorful, small, and intimate. This two-room café pulsates with multicolored cloths, midnight blue cushions, Aladdin-shaped pitchers, and samovars. What you're eating is basically Persian health food — most Persian fare is healthy food anyway. Try the pomegranate soup, made of spinach with lentils, beans, wheat, and pomegranate juice, or the strawberry tabbouleh salad. Lamb is often a part of dishes. *Ghournneh sabzi* is a lamb stew. *Koufkeh-Berenji* is a ball of basmati rice with lamb, eggs, onions, and plums. The selection of teas includes Caspian, decaffeinated peach, and a few others. Lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Stingaree 454 Sixth Avenue, Downtown, 619-544-0867. This huge restaurant has a nightclub on the mezzanine and an outdoor lounge on the roof. The Mediterranean food by chef Antonio Friscia comes in three plate sizes — little, medium, and large. It's a built-in invitation to graze and share if you want to keep it light before you go dancing. The fare features premium, naturally raised meats, wild fish, and local organic vegetables. The rich international wine list is steep, but there's plenty by the glass; full bar. Friday and Saturday nights, dinner is a three- or four-course prix fixe only (your choices from the à la carte menu), but that gets you free entry into the club. Reservations advisable, urged for weekends. Dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Very expensive, but special three-course menu is just \$40. — *N.W.*

Taste of Africa Cuisine 5241 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-583-5788. This is one of the main gathering places for Somalis in San Diego, but they welcome others to sample their food, which is a combination of African, Italian, Arab, and Indian influences. Fish plays a big role in the diet of a country

that boasts the longest coastline in Africa, but so does lamb and goat meat. Start with a *fadareshin*, a mixed plate of roasted goat meat, fried fish, basmati rice (the Indian influence), and a pile of spaghetti — common since the Italians came to colonize. No meal is complete without bananas, which are mixed in with pretty much everything, especially soups. Open three meals daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Taste of Szechuan 670 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-1668. Friendly staff serves up standard Szechuan Mandarin fare at this archetypal Chinese restaurant. Szechuan Garlic Shrimp is number one on the list of twelve House Specialties for good reason. This tangy dish of crispy, deep-fried shrimp is one of their best. Not often seen on the menus of strip-mall Chinese restaurants, the Szechuan Orange Fish is also recommended, but don't be misled by the "hot and spicy" star next to this item. As with any of their "spicy" offerings, the heat in this dish barely registers. Spice lovers should ask for an extra kick. The Toffee Banana and Toffee Apple desserts may tempt you, but unless you have a dentist on-call, it's best to pass on these super-sticky sweets. Inexpensive lunch specials. Open till midnight Monday through Thursday, 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday, Sunday until 10 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — *B.D.*

Tofu House 4646 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-576-6433. This stylish little eatery is proof positive that our city has matured for its specialty ethnic foods. Tofu House is a Korean restaurant serving up specialty tofu dishes. Flavorful, healthy foods. I highly recommend the *soontofu* soups (beef, pork, seafood, or mushroom) with raw egg drop you drop yourself and a side of tasty fresh kimchi. Deliver yourself from sorrowfully generic foreign food — Tofu House serves vivid ethnic food. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *M.N.*

Top of the Market 750 North Harbor Drive, Downtown, 619-234-4867. The upper-crust upper floor of the downtown Fish Market (see Multiple Locations listing) has largely the same food as the downstairs, plus a few luxury items (e.g., abalone) and occasionally some

What the Chef Eats

BASIC RISOTTO

BY JEFF ROSSMAN

Executive Chef, Terra

I learned to cook on the job. My dad opened up Pam Pam Café and Grill in Hotel Circle, and I man-aged the floor at night. During the day, I used to mess around with a friend of mine and create new recipes. It was actually really successful. I would create recipes during the day and the chefs would make them that night. I had to read a lot — this was before the Food Network — and I did some research on the Internet. One recipe I came up with was Pam Pam Rollups. We did a bunch of different things in tortillas and fancy

salsas and people loved them. This was in 1996 and way before wraps hit San Diego. We were ahead of our time with the things we were making.

I do cook some at home, but I try not to do too, too much. I've tried to grow things at home and start a garden, but with two restaurants and two catering companies, it's difficult to find the time. It goes without saying that if you own your own business you put more into it.

I do love to grill, though. I love the barbecue. Just two days ago I took home some top sir-

loins, loaded them up with blackening spice, fired it up on the grill, and piled it up on lettuce for a big salad. I do salmon on the grill, too. And I love vegetables. Like, garlic broccoli with tilapia. I'll eat anything on the grill: grilled onions, grilled potatoes with salt. I also love comfort food, like risotto. You can't go wrong with that. And it's great in cold weather.

INGREDIENTS

4–5 cups chicken stock or broth

1/4 cup olive oil

2 cups Arborio rice

2 T garlic, chopped

2 T shallots, chopped



1/2 cup white wine

salt & pepper to taste

1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese

2 T fresh parsley

HOW TO DO IT

In a medium saucepot on high heat, heat stock to boiling. Turn down the heat and keep warm. In a separate saucepot, heat oil on medium heat and sauté the rice for about 3 minutes until it is well-

creative appetizer specials. Prices are about 25% higher for identical items, in exchange for a slightly elevated view and a dressier, white-tablecloth setting that's almost formal by San Diego standards — flip-flops and tank tops aren't allowed on men, and collared shirts (e.g., polos) are suggested at dinner. That doesn't mean that the atmosphere is quietly gracious — the room's just as huge, packed, and raucous as the lower realms, even on the terrace. Reserve, and expect a short wait anyway. Elevator provides wheelchair access. Open daily. Expensive. — *N.W.*

Zensei Sushi 3396 30th Street, North Park, 619-546-6171. This much-welcomed neighborhood restaurant in a restaurant-starved neighborhood offers a changing menu of sushi, fusion appetizers, and Japanese entrées emphasizing noodle dishes. The sushi is the main draw. It's well made and based on seafood from the same fishmonger used by Ota and Nobu. The "party rolls" (such as "stuffed tomato" and "honeymooners") may not be original, but they're delicious fun. Free parking behind restaurant (enter by alley on Upas east of Jack

in the Box lot). Reservations advised for Friday/Saturday evenings, accepted for two or more at sushi bar, four or more at tables. Japanese and American beers, sakes, and wines. Lunch and dinner daily. — *N.W.*

NORTH INLAND

Bolsa Vietnamese Restaurant 9225 Mira Mesa Boulevard #118, Mira Mesa, 858-693-3663. "The name 'Bolsa' isn't Vietnamese," says Kim Trang. "It's Spanish for 'bag.'" She's playing on words here: Trang once owned Pho Bolsa on University Avenue, and every Vietnamese knows *pho bo* is Vietnam's most popular quick meal, a beef rice noodle soup. At this location, Trang still makes excellent *pho bo*, but she has 122 other items as well, including fried catfish with ginger fish sauce, healthy (nonfried) Vietnamese spring rolls, or egg rolls with lettuce and mint in which to wrap them (sprinkled with *nuoc mam*, Vietnamese fish sauce). We're talking family-style cooking. Come once and Trang will re-

member you and everything you ate — even if it was just *pho bo*. Inexpensive. —*E.B.*

Cabana Cove 777 Harrah's Way, Valley Center, 877-777-2457. This fun eatery brings Pacific Beach to Valley Center with its cheerful (make that gorgeous) surfer decor and a menu of classy surfer grub. With glass walls looking out on the mountains and on two curvy swimming pools, this is the only restaurant in the casino to offer views of the outer world. The eclectic menu, from surfing spots around the world, includes wonderful, smoky pork as both a taco and an entrée, plus pristine seafood choices. Full bar, creative cocktails. Breakfast Monday through Friday; lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — *N.W.*

Golden Egg Omelet House 316 West Mission Avenue, Escondido, 760-489-6420. This breakfast-lunch treasure-house is vast but cute, its brick walls and open beams festooned with knickknacks (all for sale). This is *the* place on Sunday mornings, when three generations bond over great, generous breakfasts. Omelets are perfect — light, thin crêpe-like eggs

wrapped around tall mounds of elaborate fillings. Thick waffles can be topped with fresh seasonal fruit. And then there are eggs, hash, crêpes, humongous burgers, and sandwiches. The potato casseroles, with a choice of a dozen fillings, are as huge in flavor as they are in size. Whatever you choose will carry you through until dinner. Reservations on weekends. In back of a mall. Easiest entry from Mission is at SDG&E driveway; do not pass McDonald's. Good handicapped access; sturdy high chairs; low-salt cooking. Open daily, breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

Madras Café 9484 Black Mountain Road, Mira Mesa, 858-695-6229. In the same strip mall as Ashoka the Great, this family-friendly café features the savory vegetarian cuisine of South India. It's distinctly different from the standard North Indian menus, centering on numerous varieties of stuffed pancakes — from thin, crisp (and irresistible) crêpe-like *dosais* stuffed with vegetable curry to lacy rice-flour *aapams* drenched in coconut milk to hefty, frittata-like *uttapams*. (Try the last with the delicious, not-too-spicy chili-onion stuffing.) Puffy *poori* bread

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What the Chef Eats

coated and opaque. This step cooks the starchy coating and prevents the grains from sticking. Add garlic and shallots and continue for another 3 minutes until the shallots are translucent. Stir constantly so nothing burns. Add wine to the rice and burn off

the alcohol by letting it cook for about 2 minutes. Turn the heat to medium low and then add 1 cup of the heated stock and cook, stirring until the rice has absorbed the liquid. Add the remaining broth, 1 cup at a time. Continue to cook and stir,

allowing the rice to absorb each addition of broth before adding more. The risotto should be slightly firm and creamy, not mushy. Season with salt and pepper and add the Parmesan. Cook briefly until melted. Add the parsley and serve. Note: You can add

ingredients to this basic recipe, such as mushrooms, peas, shrimp, or other vegetables. Add before the Parmesan cheese.

To get other recipes from local chefs, go to sdreader.com.

and tamarind rice are spectacular. Order your dishes in the sequence you hope to eat them — that's usually how they come out of the kitchen. And don't expect hovering "Raj"-style service — it's just not the Tamil way. Seasoning is generally mild to accommodate kiddies; spicy sauces are on the table. No alcohol. Open Tuesday through Sunday with buffet lunches and à la carte dinners. Inexpensive. — N.W.

Mille Fleurs 6009 Paseo Delicias, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-756-3085. One of the area's top destination restaurants, Bertrand Hug's beautiful room with beautiful food draws "the beautiful people" — Hollywood honchos, high-end high school graduation parties, and a steady influx of rarefied Rancho Santa Fe residents flaunting huge twinkling rocks. The daily-changing menu sports first-rate modern French cuisine (with a few German touches) by long-time chef Martin Woesle. Order at will — everything's flawless. The menu's most exciting on weeknights, when crowds are sparser and the kitchen has time to stretch. The wine list is fabulous but exorbitant even at the bottom. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Reservations recommended. Very, very expensive, but less costly and less formal on "Bistro Wednesdays" when simpler food is served. — N.W.

Onami Japanese Restaurant 240 East Via Rancho Parkway, Escondido, 760-738-7522. This Japanese buffet offers everything from miso soup and sukiyaki to a host of salads, including several variations of *sunomono* (cucumber salad). Then there are teriyakis, sashimis, and a plethora of sushi rolls. Among the winners are the California roll with *masago*, tempura shrimp roll, guacamole roll, and Philadelphia roll. Skip the dry egg rolls and head for the corn crab cakes, teriyaki chicken, tempura shrimp, and veggies. Desserts offer fresh fruits, bite-size cake options, and go-back-for-seconds green tea ice cream. The food is fresh, the presentation artful, and the staff friendly and efficient. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Expensive. — S.M.

The Original Pancake House 3906 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-1740. Starve yourself for eight hours, then come in here and order up an Apple Pancake — a foot-wide, batter-filled, five-egg paradise pelted with slices from

two Granny Smith apples and baked till it puffs up like a golden mini-superdome. Cinnamon cinches it. The German Pancake, or its kid brother, the Dutch Baby, are good oven-baked alternatives, as is the really, really filling mushroom omelet, which comes with three pancakes. Oh, and the Eggs Michael: sausage patties and poached eggs lost somewhere under a mushroom-sherry sauce. The whole atmosphere — striped gold-and-cream wallpaper, dainty cups, shelves of ceramic dogs — feels like it's the fifties and your granny took you here when you were five. Okay, it's a nationwide franchise, but it's a comfy franchise, from Oregon. All-day breakfast only, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. Other locations at 14905 Pomerado Road, Poway, 858-679-0186; 160 South Rancho Santa Fe Road, Encinitas, 760-943-1939; 435 South Melrose Drive, Vista, 760-758-3441. — E.B.

Super Buffet 8998 Miramar Road, Mira Mesa, 858-566-1888. Curly-haired

stone lions greet you outside one of the grander dining halls in the county. "The biggest buffet of San Diego" claims the menu, "with over 200 items daily." Start at the Mongolian grill. Pick your raw prawns, chicken, pork, beef, *satays*, and hand the plate-load to the Iron Chef. He'll stir-cook them on the hotplate for you. You'll need hiking boots to cover the endless rows of steaming chafing dishes. Must-eat: the fresh sashimi, like salmon and tuna — mouth-wateringly scrumptious. And try the chicken feet (they taste a bit like cow tongue, or brains). Open daily, brunch through dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Venice Ristorante Italiano 4365 Executive Drive, University City, 858-597-1188. The neighborhood is cold and sterile, but the restaurant brings the warmth and gusto of refined Northern Italian cuisine. Delicious dishes include a wonderful antipasto assortment, lush and tender pastas and airy *gnocchi*, and enjoyable, non-clichéd

entrées including duck breast with pistachios and veal rack with porcini mushrooms. The vast wine list is mostly Italian, red, and expensive. Validated parking, heated outdoor patio available. Long happy hour in bar (2 p.m. until closing weeknights, all evening Saturdays) offering bargain-price tapas and discounted wines. Plenty in the pasta realm for lacto-vegetarians. Regular meals upper moderate to expensive. Lunch and dinner weekdays, dinner only on Saturdays. — N.W.

NORTH COASTAL

Le Bambou 2634 Del Mar Heights Road, Del Mar, 858-259-8138. No mere "pho joint," this lovely restaurant serves the sophisticated Vietnamese cuisine of prewar Saigon — and the owners' daughters serve it in the flower-bedecked dining room with grace, intelligence, and evident pleasure in teaching Westerners about the cuisine. Appetizers (most of them designed for rolling with fresh herbs in lettuce leaves and eating with your hands) are varied and of superb quality. Few restaurants here do the royal delicacy of ground shrimp on sugar cane so well. Most of the house specialty entrées are equally accomplished. Lacqué duck, sautéed shrimps or scallops in tamarind sauce, and Star of the Sea curry are outstanding. The gently priced wine list abounds in the fruity whites that go so well with this cuisine, while beer-quaffers can enjoy Vietnam's own "33" brand. Lunch Tuesday through Friday, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Low moderate. — N.W.

El Callejon Restaurant 345 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-634-2793. This is a Mexican restaurant with a difference: Instead of the standard boring border foods and combo plates, it offers a long menu of genuine, zesty mainland dishes, some with original

spins on traditional themes. Shrimp *zarandeados* with a rich sauce of chiles and beef in cilantro sauce are some of the delights. There's even a *parrillada* (mixed grill) to serve two. The atmosphere offers more pleasures. At lunchtime, the dining room seems like a serene hacienda. Evenings the restaurant may turn into a rollicking community center, where multi-generational families and groups of friends fill the dining rooms and spill onto the sizable patio hidden in back. Mariachi band on Fridays and Saturdays. — N.W.

The Calypso Café 576 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-632-8252. This "Calypso" has nothing to do with Caribbean music (or food), despite its tropical tiki-hut decor. The cuisine is French, ranging from old warhorses like onion soup and coq au vin to newfangled Gallo-Cal-Italian-Pacific Rim hyphenates. The traditional dishes are generally the most successful. Mussels are the house specialty, and their rapid turnover here ensures freshness. Although there's nothing revolutionary coming from this kitchen, the cooking is generally agreeable. Dinner nightly, reservations advised. Upper moderate. — N.W.

Firenze 162 South Rancho Santa Fe Road, Encinitas, 760-944-9000. This big, beautiful, gracious restaurant (located in the same mall as Harvest Ranch Market, just north of Rancho Santa Fe) offers both a handsome interior and a romantic fire-lit patio. The well-spaced tables are laden with huge portions of accomplished, multiregional Italian cuisine and reasonably priced Italian and California wines (with half-price wines Monday nights). Vegetarians will rejoice in the two dozen meatless selections. Lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday, dinner only on Sunday. High moderate. — N.W.

Jake's Del Mar Waterfront Grill 1660 Coast Boulevard, Del Mar, 858-755-2002. Offering surf and turf by the sea, Jake's not only hugs the oceanfront,

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- Cut Rolls:** California, Caterpillar, Cucumber, Philly, Rainbow, Crab, Soft Shell Crab, Spicy Tuna, Tempura Shrimp, Vegetable, Yummy, Firecracker, Seafood Dynamite, Shrimp
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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

with a patio overlooking the waves, but has a smaller patio next to Powerhouse Park, with its fragrant mimosa plants, where you can walk off the calories. A branch of the well-known Hawaiian chain, Duke's, Jake's's fare is competently cooked, if not inspired. The seafood may flaunt fusion-y, sugary touches, while steaks are Prime or high-grade Choice. Portions are huge — the tasty Dungeness crab cake appetizer is sizeable enough for a substantial lunch, offering loads of crab and little filler. Location is very popular with locals and tourists both, so reservations urged for any meal, essential for the à la carte Sunday brunch. Lunch Tuesday through Saturday, dinner nightly, brunch Sunday. Lunch and brunch moderate, dinner expensive. — *N.W.*

Paul's Place 3671 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, 760-721-0124. This restaurant looks like a McDonald's or Wendy's (the building used to be a franchise) and the food comes fast, but it's no chain. The menu strikes a balance between American and Greek fare. The baked Greek half-chicken, the spiced grilled chicken sliced up on a salad with pita bread, and the gyros (all at earthy prices) mix with all-American three-egg breakfast specials with home fries. Lunch offers include meaty hamburgers, gyros with fries, or a surprisingly tasty turkey burger. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Ruth's Chris Steak House — Carmel Valley 11582 El Camino Real, Carmel Valley, 858-755-1454. Flash-cooked steaks from fine (albeit wet-aged) USDA Prime, topped with butter and parsley, are the hallmark of this 95-location chain. All side dishes are à la carte, sized for two or more. The broiled tomatoes — caramelized with a touch of sugar — are a delight, and potatoes are offered in eight guises. Starters include gooey stuffed mushrooms and an outstanding take on America's now-ubiquitous seared ahi. But there's another side to this restaurant. True to its New Orleans origins, it offers a number of Louisiana dishes cooked in the rich, delicate, non-spicy manner of a French plantation (or old NOLA stalwart Antoine's) including shrimp remoulade; a thin tomatoey gumbo; an atypically

creamy BBQ shrimp and a terrific, authentic bread pudding drenched in whisky sauce. Non-beef-eaters can also choose from luxurious seafood dishes, a cheese-stuffed chicken breast, grilled portobellos, and more. Award-winning wine list is steep but serious. The downtown location harbors a stunning seaside view. Dinner nightly; lunch Friday only. Very expensive. — *N.W.*

Vigilucci's — Encinitas 505 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-942-7332. In the Land of 10,000 Trattorias, this is one of the most popular — and for good reason. The restaurant's motto, "a little piece of Italy," is actually accurate. Freshness, simplicity, and savvy seasoning — that's Italian. The pastas are luscious (try the comforting cannelloni with an unusual stewed meat stuffing) and the flavorful entrées come with honest fresh vegetables. The staff is bouncy and jokey, the wines are mainly affordable, and spirits run high. Of course it's crowded, so reserve to avoid a long, hungry wait. Other locations include Vigilucci Cucina in Carlsbad, Vigilucci's Pizzeria in Leucadia, and Vigilucci's Seafood and Steakhouse in Carlsbad. — *N.W.*

Vivace 7100 Four Seasons Point, Carlsbad, 760-603-3773. If you ever wished to eat like the Medicis did, here's the place for it. This lovely hotel-restaurant at a gorgeous resort showcases Italian haute cuisine which is simpler and more natural than the French equivalent. You'll find inventive combinations of first-class ingredients, skillfully executed and beautifully presented with none of the culinary clichés of the *mamma mia* joints. Reservations urged. Valet parking free for diners. Resort-casual — no hats, shorts or jeans, or sandals — but room may be painfully noisy if patrons get too festive. Dinner seven nights. Four-course tasting dinner a relative bargain, but wine list may blow the budget. Moderate (pastas and risottos) to very expensive. — *N.W.*

SOUTH BAY

Galley at the Marina 550 Marina Parkway, Chula Vista, 619-422-5714. This is a great place to relax, take in the view, and decide which yacht you're gonna buy when you win the lotto. It's run by Fran Muncey, widow of Bill Muncey, San Diego's greatest speed-

boat-racing champion. The tasty, bargain-priced happy hour specials (3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday) make a visit worth the trip west of I-5: have a 1/2-pound hamburger with french fries, chicken Caesar salad with sourdough toast, or a filet mignon steak plate with steak fries. Next morning, catch the breakfast favorite: biscuits and sausage gravy with eggs. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Lai Thai Restaurant 1430 East Plaza Boulevard #E10, National City, 619-474-5546. Lai Thai started up as the lone Thai in a sea of Filipino restaurants in South Bay, but has gained a respected place under glamorous Summawadee Bubpha. Prices are so reasonable, you feel the food shouldn't come on such beautiful platters. The soups, *tom kah* (spicy coconut), and *tom yum* (hot and sour), are especially good, as is the house Lai Thai Fish (usually tilapia) in delicious *panang* coconut-curry sauce. But you've got to push for spiciness if you want it. Lunch deals are really cheap. Also check out the Thai art on the walls, some for sale. Open lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

Swaddee Thai 1001 C Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-8110. Tourists never stray to Swaddee's quiet residential location a block from the bright lights of Orange Avenue. Their loss is the locals' gain. The dining room is a quiet, lovely haven from the hustle; the service is caring and gracious. Even if the long list of Siamese specialties is merely standard, the kitchen, too, is devoted to the art of gently giving pleasure. The peanut sauce accompanying the *sate*, for instance, is classically balanced; the complex but soothing coconut-chicken soup can wash away all cares; and the calamari in the many seafood arrays is cleverly knife-scored to achieve sheer tenderness along with good looks. Even the jasmine rice is an exceptionally fragrant brand. Unless you specify otherwise, spicy dishes have a nice nip tuned to brave-but-tender *farang* tastebuds. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.*

Thai Café — Coronado 1201 First Street, Coronado, 619-522-0217. Tourists may not take this little open-sided kiosk restaurant at Coronado's Ferry Landing seriously, but this has to be some of the best-prepared Thai food in the county. It's all laid out buffet style in chafing dishes. You can sample before you commit. They're all good. None of

the watered-down versions of, say, green curry, you sometimes get elsewhere. Grilled satay is excellent, as are spicy basil chicken, *panang* curry, Thai pork salad, and tilapia topped with sweet veggies and Thai chili sauce. Pick two (the best deal), find a table under the shade of a fig tree, go "Ommm." You're approaching nirvana. Daily, 11 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Village Club Card Room 429 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-425-3333. Yes, it's mostly poker players, but anybody can come in and order a meal. And here's the thing: first-time players get their meal free. Of course, the idea is to keep players' bellies full so they can return to the game, so even second-timers get a deal with down-home comfort-dishes like grilled chicken breast sandwich, spaghetti with meatballs and garlic bread, or garlic shrimp with fried rice and egg, plus Chinese dishes including Kung Pao beef or chicken, Mongolian beef, and a good wonton soup with noodles. Cardroom open and non-Chinese food menu available 24 hours; Chinese menu noon to 4 a.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

EAST COUNTY

Fix Me a Plate Café 9168 Fletcher Parkway, La Mesa, 619-466-6084. Chef-owner Jimmy Pomier was executive chef at the great Juke Joint Café, and now he's got his own place to serve up whopping portions of authentic Cajun and Louisiana-style soul food. His oyster po' boy is (as France's Michelin Guide might say) "worth a detour," as good as it gets this far away. His gumbo is eccentric; his deep-fried chicken gizzards with

aoli are fun. His delicious étouffées are among the highlights of the long menu (on which not all dishes are available all the time). Skimpy wine and beer selection, and BYOB is strictly forbidden, but the lemonade is okay. Lunch and dinner Tuesday through Sunday (with break in between). Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.*

Johnny B's 4728 Fourth Street, La Mesa, 619-464-2465. This "Burgers and Brew" bar is a real 1950s place with burgers to die for and good bar snacks, including a zesty jalapeño dip. Play pool, watch TV, hide from your ex on the smoker's patio out back. On Sundays (1 p.m. to 7 p.m. only), their ten-ounce New York steak, fries, beans, and salad is a must-eat at a rock-bottom price. Open daily, lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday, three meals Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Ranas.Com 9683 Campo Road, Suite A, Spring Valley, 619-589-1792. With 33 Mexican restaurants in the area, this Mexico City eatery has got to be good. It's a cheery place with lime green walls and orange accents. Cooking from the capital tends to be less biting hot than some northern food, with unexpected taste combos, like *pollo en salsa de cacahuete* (an almost Thai-tasting chicken in peanut sauce which comes with rice, beans, and tortilla). Aztec *huarache* (cactus with potato, cheese, lettuce, sour cream, and salsa) is also easy to love. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Tyler's Taste of Texas 576 North Second Street, El Cajon, 619-444-9295. Unfussy home cooking. Some dishes outshine others. The slab of smoky ham steak that comes with the first-rate breakfast is in itself enough to rouse the sleepiest appetite. Expertly sautéed

onions and mushrooms lend flavor to fried potatoes and omelets, respectively, while pebbly-smooth hash and gingery sweet potato pancakes give the lineup character. For lunch and dinner, the Texas menu features Texas-style barbecue (chicken, beef, pork, and sausage) that's sufficiently smoky, but a little uneven in texture. The barbecue beef is reliable and the sweetish sauce shows well on the chicken. Pleasant surprises: a substantial, peppery cornmeal crust on the tender catfish and the fried green tomatoes, and the rich stock in the vegetable soup. All-you-can-eat catfish Wednesdays and Fridays. Open 24 hours. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *A.M.*

West Coast Barbecue 606 Lake Murray Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-462-3663. This relocated revival of the popular former Bekker's BBQ serves pit-smoked Texas-style "cue" that seems more like the Bushes of Crawford, Texas than the soulful south: Meats are leaner and less smoky. Best bets are the full-flavored ribs (beef, baby back, spare) and chicken wings. Other cuts (brisket, pulled pork, chicken) run a little dry. The red soppin' sauce is thin, very sweet, with some tang but no heat. Most sides are rather bland, regionless picnic fare except for the good pinto beans and the outstanding, authentic Texas bean-free chili, well seasoned and classically garnished with chopped white onion and melted yellow cheese. It deserves promotion to an entrée. Dessert is a choice of canned-fruit cobblers topped with shortening pie crust. Beer and house wine; small outdoor patio. Low-moderate, inexpensive for shared takeout. Full catering services available; not confined to BBQ. — *N.W.*

User Reviews — RESTAURANTS

Best user comments from Reader website

Swami's Café, Encinitas

Swami's Café is certainly an interesting place to get breakfast. To me walking up to order in the tiny little building feels like I'm somehow part of an older vibe that has been slowly waning in the North County area. The simplest way I could try and describe it with a single word would be "character." The place, to me, reeks of character. Not only that, but they have a really fun menu. My favorite is their acai bowl, featuring acai from the great Sambazon company — granola, berries, banana, coconut, and the unexpected but always entertaining to show people, bee pollen. That's right, bee pollen, and it's delicious. I've also had a number of other things on the menu, the black bean and avocado burrito is insanely simple, yet it still tastes great. My only issue with the place has been if you order food as a group, things come out of the kitchen when they're done. They don't bring out a big tray of food for everyone, and it threw some friends and I off the first time we went. I see people complaining, but the staff is friendly, and if you ask about your order in a nice manner, you'll get a nice response. Common sense, but from what I've seen there and at other restaurants, not very common. Regardless, it's my favorite breakfast place in Encinitas. Highly recommended! By **mcritchlow** 2:19 p.m., Jan. 26

Bully's East, Mission Valley

Once a year or so we go to Bully's to satisfy our beef craving. One thing that has always been the case (since the '70s) is that if the meat is over- or under-done, the waitstaff will bring you another portion to suit your liking. Further, if you want more "stuff" for a baked potato, you can get it. This is an "ask and ye shall receive" type of joint. By the way, some people swear by the Bully Burger, saying it's the best in town. By **millerowski** 1:06 p.m., Jan. 29

Bertrand at Mister A's, Hillcrest

Thank God there are wonderful sanctuaries such as Bertrand at Mister A's. BRAVO! Thank you Bertrand for providing such high-quality delicacies such as foie gras! The cuisine is DIVINE! How dare you Animal Protection/Rescue League! Outrage! Who are you to sneer at centuries of tradition. Why must we, true lovers of Gods creations, be subjected to a group who bemoan our rights and privileges as humans to enjoy our Earth's bounties. Why must these egomaniacs assume they are more intelligent than the rest of us by telling *us* what is right and wrong. What kind of a world would it be without such wondrous delights as Bertrand at Mister A's provides. I don't swim in your toilet, so don't pee in my pool — so to speak. By **udaj** 8:06 p.m., Jan. 29

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Light Load

It's a higher priority to be dark and edgy and Tim Burton-y than to be kid-friendly.

Although movies had been set in Minnesota before *Fargo* (notwithstanding its misleading North Dakota title), movies as disparate as *The Farmer's Daughter*, *The Heartbreak Kid*, *Purple Rain*, *Grumpy Old Men*, it was the Coen brothers who converted that territory into grist for the mill. On the laugh meter, Wisconsin and Iowa don't even register. *New in Town*, set specifically in the small town of New Ulm, and directed by the Danish-born Jonas Elmer in his Hollywood debut, is nothing if not laboriously ground out, a campaign of cynical populism that simultaneously satirizes and sentimentalizes the natives, in a milky image that might or might not be meant to suggest the lens-fogging frost of a Northern Star winter, snowed under by the standard quota of pop songs decreed for romantic comedies. Renée Zellweger, as the fish-out-of-water hatchet woman dispatched from Miami headquarters to downsize the

local food plant but (in due time) digging in to fight for its survival, gauges her charm at about half wattage, which proves to be about twice as charming as full wattage. (Cf. *Leatherheads*, another pinch of Minnesota grist for the mill.) Her reactions to snow, ice, and subzero wind are nicely mimed, and the scene of her untamably erect nipples at her welcoming dinner party is one for the books. Harry Connick, Jr., the uninteresting love interest, has been written as a Carolina transplant to protect him from ridicule and preserve him for romance. Meantime, Siobhan Fallon Hogan, as a friend of Jesus with a secret tapioca recipe, does the heavy lifting on the Scandihoovian accent; and the character's surname of Gunderson, shared with the heroine of *Fargo*, seems an open tribute to the Coens. The casting of J.K. Simmons in a supporting part might be another. *Coraline* is a piece of 3-D stop-motion animation about a little girl with blue

MOVIE REVIEW

DUNCAN SHEPHERD

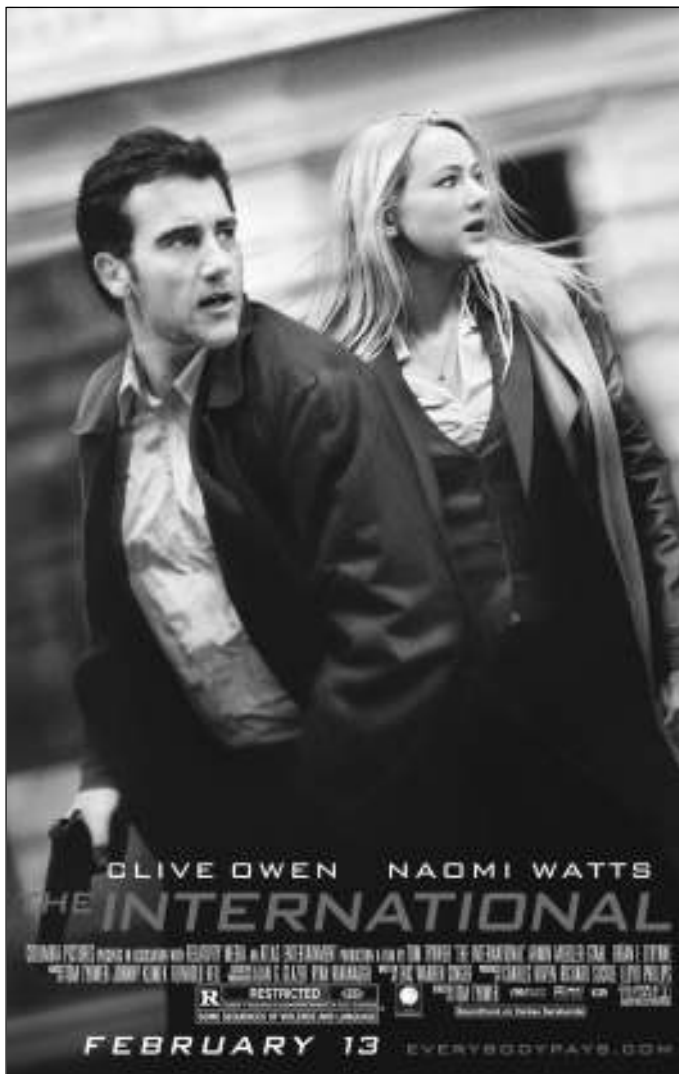


Coraline

hair and ski-jump nose (everyone hears her name as Caroline, and her last name of Jones will only encourage confusion in anyone who remembers the Morticia of TV's *Addams Family*, Carolyn Jones), who, unhappy with her preoccupied parents, is lured into a parallel universe of idealized replicas — a sort of Stepford Mom and Stepford Dad — but for their button eyes. Her

price to pay for permanent residence in this universe is to trade her own eyes for buttons: "Soon you'll see things our way." (Distant echoes of *Invaders from Mars* and *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*: the lobotomy bugaboo.) Director Henry Selick, heretofore of *The Nightmare before Christmas* and *James and the Giant Peach*, pays a lot of attention to landscape and surface,

such that the film cultivates an aggressive tactility. But the dream world opens the door also to a self-indulgent succession of oddities and bizarreries — here a mouse circus, there an audience of Scotties — without much narrative drive. And it's plainly a higher priority to be dark and edgy and Tim Burton-y than to be kid-friendly. The catered-to adult is still apt to feel



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Calendar MOVIES

something extra was needed, and the distracting 3-D neither provided it nor disguised it.

In *Taken*, a ring of Albanian white slavers (Middle Eastern buyers) has the bad fortune to shanghai the virgin daughter of a retired American super-spy — “I was a preventer,” he understates — on her first morning of vacation in Paris. There is no satisfaction in the quick-as-a-blink detective work that leads him to them, only satisfaction, for those who can take it, in watching him mow them down, a Weedwacker in a field of dandelions. (Too late to “prevent” the kidnapping, but not too late for the defiling.) Nor is there satisfaction in watching an eye-lifty Liam Neeson playing Steven Seagal. Nor in watching the native director, Pierre Morel, sell out his country on top of himself. Catharsis, you learn anew, can’t come out of crud. A hot shower afterwards would be your closest approximation.

The Pink Panther 2 commissions Steve Martin to carry the Inspector Clouseau torch into a sequel, thoroughly doused though the flame may be. (Kevin Kline got out while the getting was good, leaving the role of Clouseau’s superior to John Cleese,

with unaltered British accent. And previous director Shawn Levy handed the bag to Harald Zwart.) The juggling of bottles from a teetering wine rack is the only flicker.

The Uninvited, an unwelcome remake of a Korean shocker, dispenses wicked-stepmother mechanics tricked up with pseudo-supernatural “visions” and a hopefully mind-blowing ending. Fuse-blowing, more likely. Elizabeth Banks, in case you’re counting, shows up in her fourth film in as many months. Direction is credited to “The Guard Brothers” (Charles and Thomas), stoutly defended against Coen-brother brilliance. With some people, two heads are no better than half a brain.

Funny what turns up at the art theater these days. On its merits, Olly Blackburn’s *Donkey Punch*, following François Truffaut’s elegant *Wild Child* at the Ken, amounts to hardly more than grindhouse fodder, cheaply and shoddily made, to do with three girls from Leeds on holiday in Mallorca, who hook up with four guys from home for a seafaring night of illicit drugs, rough sex, and accidental homicide that spirals into thinly motivated intentional homicide. One of the girls and one of the guys mark themselves as sentimental favorites by showing some misgivings from the get-go. Everyone else is treated as if they were asking for what they get. You have the

feeling when watching it that it’s not so much meant to be a movie unto itself as an application for a bigger budget next time. ■

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 SanDiegoReader.com.

Bride Wars — Through a booking mix-up, two “inseparable” girlfriends are locked into simultaneous June weddings at the Plaza Hotel, whereupon they take leave of their senses in their efforts to sabotage one another. A deviously insulting chick flick. Anne Hathaway, although she looks like she’s in training for a concentration-camp film, doesn’t just outdance Kate Hudson at the bachelorette party, she outranges her throughout. It’s a standoff, however, in the eyeliner wars. With Candice Bergen, Kristen Johnston, Bryan Greenberg, Chris Pratt, and Steve Howey; directed by Gary Winick. 2009.

● (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Coraline — Reviewed this issue. With the voices of Dakota Fanning, Teri Hatcher, John Hodgman, Ian McShane, and Keith David; directed by Henry Selick.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18;

PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 2/6)

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 soundalike 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.

★ (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Defiance — Workmanlike account of the untold (or anyhow unfilmed) true story of a 20th-century Moses and his two brothers, who sheltered hundreds of Jews from the Nazis in the forests of Belorussia, such dark days that color itself evidently went into hiding, leaving behind only a greeny or occasionally orangey residue. Daniel Craig, a blond blue-eyed Jew like Paul Newman in *Exodus* (“He is a Jew?” wonders aloud a plain-spoken child), delivers heroic declarations on the order of “Our revenge is to live” and “We may be hunted like animals, but we will not become animals.” Natural lovelies emerge undimmed from the rustic privations to pair up with the heroes. A schoolteacher and an intellectual carry on a running sideshow of comical bickering. And Liev Schreiber, the hottest-headed of the three brothers, not content just to dodge the Nazis but itching to engage them, defects to the Red Army. The big hooray moment when he returns to the fold in the nick of time can be seen coming from so far off that we’re surprised only that it didn’t arrive sooner. Somehow, even with violin solos by Joshua Bell to put you in mind of *Schindler’s List*, the saga doesn’t quite sweep you up and away. But it at least stirs interest in the real story. With Jamie Bell, Allan Cor-duner, Alexa Davalos, and Jodhi May; di-

rected by Edward Zwick. 2008.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Donkey Punch — Reviewed this issue. With Nichola Burley, Sian Breckin, Jaime Winstone, Robert Boulter, and Julian Morris; directed by Olly Blackburn.

● (KEN, 2/6 THROUGH 12)

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.

★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA PALOMA)

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,

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Matthew Macfadyen, and Rebecca Hall. 2008.
★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 7)

Frozen River — Stoical prole sob story has some fresh ground to go over — the smuggling of illegal aliens through the slushy snow of the Mohawk Indian reservation on the Canadian border — and some stark scenery to go with it. Writer and director Courtney Hunt, whose plotting and pacing are sloggingly pedestrian, expends a lot of energy explaining how a law-abiding white woman could get caught up in that sideline: a gambling-addicted husband who skips out on Christmas week, a fifteen-year-old son eager to drop out of school and go to work, nothing to put under the tree for the five-year-old, a dead-end job at Yankee Dollar, bills due. Melissa Leo, aging in a characterful way, able to assume the lead role without a Charlize Theron reverse makeover, does a solid professional job, so much so as to highlight the amateurism around her. Misty Upham, Charlie McDermott, Michael O'Keefe. 2008.
★ (GASLAMP 15)

Gran Torino — Clint Eastwood, director, serves Clint Eastwood, actor, a nice fat one, a softball lobbed right down the middle of the plate and effortlessly belted over the fence: a sort of Grumpy Old Man version of Dirty Harry, a scowler and a growler (looking and sounding uncannily like a dog in defense of a T-bone), a new widower who has seen his Detroit neighborhood taken over by Hmong immigrants ("HUM-mong," in his two-syllable pronunciation), a hard-ass retiree defined by a pair of prized possessions, the M-1 rifle that commemorates his service in the Korean War and the '72 Gran Torino that commemorates his life's work on the Ford assembly line. The character's blatant bigotry toward his Asian neighbors, whereby he runs through every applicable epithet in a thesaurus of slang (past "fishhead" and "gook" all the way to "zipperhead") is somewhat problematic. Eastwood's endearing presence in the role automatically takes the edge off the racism in a way that just wouldn't happen if the role were occupied by, say, Gene Hackman, Rip Torn. And taking the edge off the racism is not altogether a good idea, regardless how many laughs you get out of it. What ultimately redeems him and his film is not the conventional, formulaic, soft-hearted and simple-minded warming of relations with the two weakly acted Hmong teenagers next door, and not the tighter focus of wrath on the Asian street gang that's terrorizing the neighborhood, and not even the expediently plotted climactic act of karmic restitution (which in honesty had slim chance to work out as planned). No, none of that. What redeems him and his film, lending it, for all its entertainment value, a sense of gravity and personal conviction, is simply its place in line in his ongoing penance for the offhand violence, the incalculable casualties, of his earlier career: its place behind *Unforgiven*, *A Perfect World*, *Mystic River*, etc. Once was not enough. It was not just lip service, like an obligatory number of Hail Mary's after a long-postponed trip to confession. It was, so it would appear, a genuine conversion, a revelation. This stands as the further proof of it, and further refinement of it. With Bee Vang, Ahney Her, Christopher Carley. 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; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

He's Just Not That into You — Relationship comedy with Jennifer Aniston, Drew Barrymore, Ginnifer Goodwin, Scar-

lett Johansson, Bradley Cooper, Justin Long, Ben Affleck, and Jennifer Connelly, directed by Ken Kwapis.
(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; 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; FROM 2/6)

Hotel for Dogs — Fanciful, tasteful children's film, from the Lois Duncan book, about two foster kids who secretly transform a derelict hotel into a shelter for stray dogs (the homeless housing the homeless), and more than a shelter, a veritable amusement park. Nicely individualized dogs; tolerable kids; touches of real imagination in script and direction (Thor Freudentahl in his feature debut); general geniality. With Emma Roberts, Jake T. Austin, Don Cheadle, Lisa Kudrow, Kevin Dillon. 2009.
★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Inkheart — Discombobulating experience

in the vein of *The Neverending Story* and *The Princess Bride*, a defense of books framed in the form of an ugly movie. Is the ugliness deliberate? Designed to send a repulsed viewer to the placid regularity of the printed page? The postulate here has to do with a rare breed of Silver Tongues, people who, by reading aloud, bring books to life: special emphasis, therefore, on the extent to which authors control, or lose control of, their characters. The fictitious miscreants who've been let loose in the real world keep threatening to kill, but it's never established (this being strictly a children's movie) that they have that capacity. The climactic materialization of a smoke monster called The Shadow is most welcome. And Jennifer Connelly, merely glimpsed a couple of times as a character still trapped in the book, would have been welcome, too, but she doesn't even come up to the standards of a cameo. Maybe on the editing-room floor. Brendan Fraser, Eliza Bennett, Paul Bettany, Helen Mirren, Jim Broadbent, Sienna Guillory, Andy Serkis; directed by Iain Softley. 2009.
★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PLAZA BONITA 14; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Last Chance Harvey — The septuagenarian Dustin Hoffman secures a role he

can really sink his teeth into, or sharpen them on: a jazz pianist *manqué* who makes do composing musical scores for TV commercials. (Funny-sad sight of him staring intently at the little screen to appraise his latest opus for OxiClean.) With his job on the line, he flies off to London for the week-end wedding of his only daughter, has his rightful role in the ceremony usurped by the bride's debonair stepfather, misses his return flight home, gets fired long-distance, and stays on to unload his troubles at some length to a customer-relations employee at Heathrow: Emma Thompson, towering over the leading man by four inches, and showering him with her special brand of lifelike artificiality. The social mortifications of the early stages are amusingly observed (the solitary white jacket in a crowd of black, an unremovable security device still affixed to the cuff, etc.), but the extended dialogue — a *Before Sunrise*, if you like, for the sunset years — that deepens overnight into a Serious Relationship sounds distinctly unorganic, forced forward solely by

the determination of British writer-director Joel Hopkins to engineer a never-too-late romance for a couple of underemployed old pros. It's all quite sweet, a little too-too. Eileen Atkins, Kathy Baker, Liane Balaban, James Brolin. 2008.
★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15)

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 vul-

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nerable 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. ★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; LA PALOMA, FROM 2/6; PALM PROMENADE 24)

New in Town — Reviewed this issue. With Renée Zellweger, Harry Connick, Jr., Siobhan Fallon Hogan, Frances Conroy, and J.K. Simmons; directed by Jonas Elmer. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; 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)

Notorious — Not the Hitchcock classic nor a remake. Far, far from it. Rather, an exploitive session of gangsta-gazing, namely at rap artist Notorious B.I.G., alias Biggie Smalls, né Christopher Wallace, and at the lethal rivalry between the East Coast camp and the West Coast. (Laughable shot of Biggie on the couch in front of the TV, the only man in the universe surprised at the murder of his bitter enemy, Tupac Shakur.) Lurid, sordid, visually vogueish, and very often unintelligible. Subtitles might have helped. Slightly. With newcomer Jamal Woolard in the lead role, Derek Luke as Puffy Combs, Naturi Naughton as Lil Kim,

Antonique Smith as Faith Evans, Anthony Mackie as Tupac, and Angela Bassett as Moms; directed by George Tillman, Jr. 2009. ● (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14)

Paul Blart: Mall Cop — A hypoglycemic overweight eight-time reject from the Jersey State Troopers, trying to make the most of a job as security guard, can't handle a speeding old duffer in a wheelchair or a bellicose fat lady at Victoria's Secret, yet he rises to the challenge of a highly trained team of professional armed robbers. *Die Hard* for the common schlub (Kevin James, highly trained in his own way), with a hot chick as a bonus. Better call it *Dream Hard*. With Jayma Mays, Keir O'Donnell, Raini Rodriguez, Shirley Knight, and Bobby Cannavale; directed by Steve Carr. 2009. ● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Pink Panther 2 — Reviewed this issue. With Steve Martin, Jean Reno, Emily Mortimer, Andy Garcia, and John Cleese; directed by Harald Zwart. ● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 2/6)

Push — Science-fiction thriller with Dakota Fanning, Chris Evans, Camilla Belle, and Djimon Hounsou; directed by Paul McGuigan. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18;

GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; 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; FROM 2/6)

Rachel Getting Married — A sort of Rainbow Coalition wedding weekend: the father of the Jewish bride had remarried a black, the bride too is marrying a black (it might be noted that Sidney Lumet, the father of first-time scriptwriter Jenny Lumet, had remarried a black himself), and the theme of the wedding is inexplicably Indian. Director Jonathan Demme, striving for an improvisational feel, stages the goings-on with an almost Danish dishevelment: a hand-held camera in the grasp of an arm-weary cameraman. Anne Hathaway, as the bride's just-out-of-rehab sister, a constant and tiresome threat of disruption ("She needs a lot of acknowledgment"), proves to be too actressy for the style; but Rosemarie DeWitt makes a fine impression as her well-behaved sister, and the conviviality of the gathering, with heavy representation from the cool cats of the music industry, is by and large believable and admirable. With Mather Zickel, Bill Irwin, Anna Deavere Smith, Tunde Adebimpe, and Debra Winger. 2008. ★ (GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

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 unfailingly 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 Olin, 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. ★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FLOWER HILL 4, FROM 2/6; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Revolutionary Road — Director Sam Mendes returns to the suburban stamping ground of his filmmaking debut, *American Beauty*, but at the very opening of that territory in the 1950s, at the inception, that is to say, of all the clichés of cookie-cutter conformity, Little Boxes, the Lonely Crowd, lives of quiet desperation, and so forth. As the central couple — the Wheelers, residing with strident irony at the titular address in Connecticut, the dead end of the American Dream — it must have seemed a bright idea to reunite the lovebirds of *Titanic*, as if to hint at the illusion-shattering grimness of the married life ahead of them had the iceberg not got in the way. But the birds have matured at different rates in the intervening eleven years. Whether in rage or frustration, cajolement or surrender, Kate Winslet (Mrs. Mendes off screen) appears much too strong for Leonardo DiCaprio, whose perennial boyishness clings to him, dogs him, drags him down, even in, or perhaps especially in, his face-caving moments of total emotional nakedness: "You're not worth the powder it would take to blow you up!" (Now, now, sonny.) You could wonder, to divide the faultfinding fairly, whether she's not too strong for her own role. The movie, taking its lead from the Richard Yates novel and then going beyond the novel in search of a present-day perspective, is trying to do something a bit different, and a bit difficult, in suggesting that the would-be free Wheelers are not as superior to, or separate from, their neighbors and surroundings as they would like to imagine, and in nudging the spectators, at the same time, to recognize that they themselves are not as superior as they might suppose to the central couple, the Fifties, their neighbors today. The codified view of postwar suburbia has over the years undergone too much expansion and elaboration for the movie to escape a sense of cliché and sense of hyperbole. But the cliché and hyperbole are done to a turn. And the period and its archaisms ("I must scoot. Toodle-oo"), its formalities and manners (no one but a certified mad-

man, an institutionalized mathematician on a day pass, dares speak the truth in mixed company), combine to produce a stylization that brings out the satire in the piece. *Revolutionary Road* beats *American Beauty*, not terribly hard to do, for both seriousness and funniness. Kathy Bates, Michael Shannon, David Harbour. 2008. ★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; PALM PROMENADE 24)

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 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. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Taken — Reviewed this issue. With Liam Neeson, Maggie Grace, Katie Cassidy, Famke Janssen, and Olivier Rabourdin; directed by Pierre Morel. ● (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)

The Unborn — Cheap thrills of the seeing-things variety: hallucinations, dreams, nothing with staying power. The initial edge thus turns dull in a hurry. But the upside-down heads — of dog and man — are creepy effects, and the climactic exorcism of a dybbuk (respectful observance of tradition), from the wispy body of Odette Yustman, resharpens the edge. With Gary Oldman, Meagan Good, Cam Gigandet, Jane Alexander, and Idris Elba; written and directed by David S. Goyer. 2009. ★ (MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14)

Underworld: Rise of the Lycans — After two installments, Kate Beckinsale and her director husband, Len Wiseman, have dropped out for the backstory, but the murkiness and the monotone continue unabated, and Rhona Mitra fully matches the tire pressure in Beckinsale's lips. The plentiful action is cut to tatters. With Michael Sheen, Bill Nighy, and Steven Mackintosh; directed by Patrick Tatopoulos. 2009. ● (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14)

The Uninvited — Reviewed this issue. With Emily Browning, Arielle Kebbel, Elizabeth Banks, and David Strathairn; directed by Charles and Thomas Guard. ● (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Waltz with Bashir — Anomalous animated film, autobiographical in nature. The premise has Israeli documentarist Ari Fol-

User Reviews — MOVIES

Best user comments from Reader website

Vicky Cristina Barcelona 2008

I was surprised at how WRITTEN this movie was and how few surprises were in it, though the scenes with Cruz and Bardem were, surprisingly, the most natural. Other than that we have Woody's nebbish character showing up along the way. First it's in Christina, worrying about Vicky going off with Bardem. Then it's Vicky being overly apologetic in the plane on the way back. Then it's Christina's husband, obsessing over the fall of civilization when he hears of Vicky's ménage à trois. Woodyspeak has a distinctive pattern and meter, and I wish he could have left it home and let the characters have their own lives. As it is, you get Woody's perspective and agenda (free sex without guilt good /traditional view of marriage unenlightened) and the preaching runs thin. And in the end you're left with the fact that nothing really happened. And who really cares about these people, anyway? Self-obsessed and worried about problems that don't exist. Have to agree that the voice-over was a bit annoying and made the whole movie sound like it came from an unfinished short story. I wouldn't be surprised if such was the case. By **julianjenius** 2:05 p.m., Feb. 1, 2009

Taken 2009

Pure escapism entertainment exclusively for action movie fans. Watch this movie if you want to tune out life for an hour and a half. Liam Neeson does Jason Bourne at 50 and actually does it pretty good. Once you get through the first 20 minutes of setup, the action is nonstop till the end. Bad guys die violently and stay dead; I lost count after ten. Don't look for anything deep; that's not what this movie is about. Just hang on for the ride. By **pilote** 5:39 p.m., Feb. 1, 2009

Valkyrie 2008

Valkyrie does not work in the sense that there is no imagination. The plot is already decided based on history that Adolf Hitler commits suicide. Tom Cruise does make it a bit interesting in setting up the "grand plot" to assassinate Hitler. But in the end, we know that there were over 13 unsuccessful attempts on Hitler's life. This movie is somewhat interesting, but a very slow beginning and confliction with factual history makes this movie a rental at best. By **fridge2172** 9:16 p.m., Feb. 1, 2009

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man delving into his repressed memories of the Lebanon War twenty years earlier, in particular his role as a foot soldier in a massacre at a Palestinian refugee camp. Drawn in a “realistic” comic-strip style, Judge Parker as opposed to Dick Tracy, and set in motion in what we could call a viscid as opposed to a fluid style, the animation makes a useful investigative tool for a probe of memory, dream, imagination, well suited to conveying a sense of unreality, a sense of remoteness, well suited, in other words, to fictionalizing the facts, cerebrally processing the data. It also helps smooth over the familiar talking-heads pitfall, generating illustration where none exists. And it offers an easy solution to depicting the twenty-year age differences between past and present. The last-minute switch to live-action archive footage is hair-raising. 2008. ★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Wendy and Lucy — Quiet, stagnant, morose road movie, really a pit-stop movie, in which a waifish wayfarer from Indiana — a total blank of a character — gets stranded in Oregon en route to Alaska when her car breaks down and her dog goes missing. A few graceful tracking shots amid the tacky townscape. Michelle Williams, Walter Dalton, Will Patton; directed by Kelly Reichardt. 2008. ★ (GASLAMP 15, FROM 2/6; KEN, THROUGH 2/5)

Wild Child — François Truffaut’s factual, unembellished re-enactment of the events set down in a French doctor’s journal, having to do with the capture and gradual domestication of an adolescent found roaming the forests as a beast. The plain, semi-documentary style sits a bit strangely amid the quaint 18th-century trappings (ruffled shirts, horse-drawn carriages, etc.) and the silent-movie affectations (iris shots, stagy camera). The movie is adamant about denying its actual date, which is rather a surprise from a fashion-plate like Truffaut, and it pursues a scrupulous exactness about the physical properties of the bygone period: the starched clothes, the antique house-

hold objects, and the commonplace sounds heard around these cramped old houses — the footfalls, the opening and closing of a door, the scritch-scratch of a quill pen. Truffaut’s tendency toward reckless sentimentality is held in harness here, thanks partly to Nestor Almendros’s calm gray images, partly to Truffaut’s stiff, toneless acting as the doctor, and partly to the unflinching sense of rhythm. 1970. ★★★★★ (KEN, THROUGH 2/5)

The Wrestler — It was a stroke of fortune if not of genius for filmmaker Darren Aronofsky to cast Mickey Rourke in the title role of Randy “The Ram” Robinson (né Robin Ramzinski), a Dodge Ram-driving, self-described “old broken-down piece of meat,” two decades past his prime, yet persisting in plying his trade at sparsely populated venues outside the glare of TV lights, dreaming of one last big payday at a twentieth-anniversary rematch with a Southern California car salesman formerly known as The Ayatollah. Rourke, monstrously bulked up since his stint of moonlighting as a professional prizefighter, has one of the most ravaged faces in the entire gallery of once beautiful leading men, somewhere between Jan-Michael Vincent and Francisco Rabal, and his noisy, labored breathing is excruciating. There is, however, an inherent sentimentality in the basic situation, and it’s not at all toughened through the by-the-numbers plotting around an attempted détente with his neglected lesbian daughter (Evan Rachel Wood), a clumsy courtship with an over-the-hill stripper (Marisa Tomei, carrying on in the before-it’s-too-late exhibitionistic mode of *Before the Devil Knows You’re Dead*, plus nipple rings and tattoos), a post-match heart attack, a bypass operation, an obvious and inevitable self-martyrdom. Aronofsky’s handheld camera follows Rourke around — often literally behind his back and over his shoulder, as in a Darrenne brothers art film — in ghoulish anticipation of a train wreck; follows him into the locker room to map out the matches with his fellow combatants (an amusing glimpse behind the scenes); follows him to

the hair salon (for upkeep of his Eighties heavy-metal mop), to the tanning salon, to his drug dealer, to his degrading day job in the stock room of a grocery store. Best scene: reluctantly working behind the deli

counter in direct contact with the customers, but really warming up to it. (Bad scene: flipping out behind the deli counter, specifically at the meat slicer.) The wrestling matches, natural dramatic climaxes, are

crucibles for the actor and the character alike. Not to forget the spectator. 2008. ★★ (FLOWER HILL 4, FROM 2/6; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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San Diego Reader February 5, 2009 111

MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL

CLAIREMONT

Town Square 14

4665 Clairemont Drive (858-274-1234)

Coraline (PG); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13); **Defiance** (R); **Gran Torino** (R); **He's Just Not That Into You** (PG-13); **Hotel for Dogs** (PG); **Inkheart** (PG); **New in Town** (PG-13); **Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG); **Push** (PG-13); **Slumdog Millionaire** (R); **Taken** (PG-13); **The Pink Panther 2** (PG); **The Uninvited** (PG-13); **The Wrestler** (R)

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400)

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG-13); **Gran Torino** (R); **Hotel for Dogs** (PG); **Last Chance Harvey** (PG-13); **New in Town** (PG-13); **Notorious** (R); **Push** (PG-13); **Rachel Getting Married** (R); **Taken** (PG-13); **Underworld: Rise of the Lycans** (R); **Wendy and Lucy** (R)

Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)

Bride Wars (PG) Fri. (1:25, 4:25) 7:15, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (1:25) 4:25, 7:15, 9:30; **Coraline** (PG) Fri. (12:30, 2:50, 5:10) 7:35, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. (12:30, 2:50) 5:10, 7:35, 10:00; **Defiance** (R) Fri. (1:20, 4:20) 7:20, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (1:20) 4:20, 7:20, 10:15; **Frost/Nixon** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:50, 3:35) 6:50, 9:35; **He's Just Not That Into You** (PG-13) Fri. (12:45, 1:15, 4:05, 4:35) 7:00, 7:30, 9:50, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (12:45, 1:15) 4:05, 4:35, 7:00, 7:30, 9:50, 10:20; **Inkheart** (PG) Fri. (12:55, 3:20, 5:45) Sat.-Sun. (12:55, 3:20) 5:45; **Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG) Fri. (1:30, 4:30) 7:25, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (1:30) 4:30, 7:25, 9:40; **Quantum of Solace** (PG-13) Fri. (12:25, 2:55, 5:25) 7:50, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (12:25, 2:55) 5:25, 7:50, 10:15; **The Pink Panther 2** (PG) Fri. (1:00, 1:30, 3:10, 3:40, 5:20, 5:50) 7:40, 8:10, 9:55, 10:25 Sat. (1:00, 3:15, 3:40) 5:30, 5:50, 7:45, 8:10, 10:10, 10:25 Sun. (1:00, 1:30, 3:15, 3:40) 5:30, 5:50, 7:45, 8:10, 10:10, 10:25; **Twilight** (PG-13) Fri. (12:35, 4:15) 7:10, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. (12:35) 4:15, 7:10, 10:05; **The Uninvited** (PG-13) Fri. (1:20, 3:30, 5:40) 7:50, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (1:20, 3:30) 5:40, 7:50, 10:10; **The Wrestler** (R) Fri. (1:05, 4:10) 7:05, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (1:05) 4:10, 7:05, 9:45; **Yes Man** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 8:10, 10:35

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262)

Coraline (PG); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13) Sat. (10:45) 2:30, 6:15, 9:30; **Gran Torino** (R) Sat. (11:00) 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20; **He's Just Not That Into You** (PG-13); **New in Town** (PG-13) Sat. (11:45) 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45; **Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG) Sat. (11:30) 1:55, 4:20, 6:50, 10:05; **Push** (PG-13); **Revolutionary Road** (R) Sat. (10:30) 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 10:00; **Taken** (PG-13) Sat. (10:35) 12:50, 3:25, 5:50, 8:15, 10:45; **The Pink Panther 2** (PG); **The Uninvited** (PG-13) Sat. (10:30) 12:55, 3:20, 5:45, 8:10, 10:35; **The Wrestler** (R) Sat. (11:25) 2:10, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30

La Jolla Village

8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)

Milk (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50; **Rachel Getting Married** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:50, 7:30; **The Reader** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00; **Slumdog Millionaire** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:05; **Waltz with Bashir** (R) Fri.-Sun. 4:40, 9:55

MIRA MESA

Mira Mesa 18

10733 Westview Parkway (800-326-3264)

Call theater for program information.

MISSION VALLEY

Fashion Valley 18

7037 Friars Road (858-558-2262)

Bride Wars (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:10) 12:40, 3:05, 5:25, 7:50, 10:20 Sun. (10:10) 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55; **Coraline** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:30) 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40; **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:55) 2:40, 6:10, 9:45 Sun. (10:55) 2:30, 6:10, 9:45; **Defiance** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:05) 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:10; **Gran Torino** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:50) 1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:50; **He's Just Not That Into You** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:25) 1:30, 4:35, 7:45, 10:45 Sun. (10:25) 1:20, 4:15, 7:20, 10:15; **Hotel for Dogs** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:45) 1:20, 3:50, 6:30, 9:00 Sun. (10:45) 1:10, 3:50, 6:30, 9:00; **Last Chance Harvey** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:40) 2:05, 4:30, 7:00, 9:35; **Marley and Me** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:20) 1:00, 3:40; **New in Town** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:00) 12:20, 2:45, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05; **Notorious** (R) Fri.-Sun. 6:20, 9:15; **Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:15) 12:30, 2:50, 5:15, 7:30, 9:55; **Push** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:55, 10:35 Sun. 12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:55, 10:30; **Taken** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:30) 12:45, 3:10, 5:40, 8:05, 10:30 Sun. (10:30) 12:45, 3:10, 5:40, 8:05, 10:20; **The Pink Panther 2** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:35) 12:55, 3:15, 5:35, 8:00, 10:15 Sun. (10:35) 12:55, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00; **Twilight** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 12:50, 3:55, 6:45, 9:30; **Underworld: Rise of the Lycans** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:00) 1:25, 3:45, 6:05, 8:20, 10:40 Sun. (11:25) 1:55, 4:20, 6:55, 9:25; **The Uninvited** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:40) 1:15, 3:35, 5:55, 8:10, 10:25

Mission Valley 7

7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)



Coraline 3D (PG) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; **He's Just Not That Into You** (PG-13) (10:00 1:00 4:00) 7:00 10:00; **Push** (PG-13) (11:30 2:15) 5:00 7:30 10:15; No 5:00 & 7:30 Tues. 2/10; **Taken** (PG-13) (10:30 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:30; **New in Town** (PG-13) (11:00 1:15 3:30) 6:00 8:30 10:45; No 6:00 & 8:30 Thu. 2/12; **Frost/Nixon** (R) (10:15) 4:30; No 10:15 Sat. & Sun.; **Gran Torino** (R) (10:45 1:45) 4:45 7:45 10:45; **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13) (1:00) 7:15 10:45; **Bob the Builder: Skyscrapers** (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

Mission Valley 20

1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262)

Bedtime Stories (PG); **Bride Wars** (PG); **Coraline** (PG); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13); **Defiance** (R); **Gran Torino** (R); **He's Just Not That Into You** (PG-13); **Hotel for Dogs** (PG); **Inkheart** (PG); **My Bloody Valentine** (R); **New in Town** (PG-13); **Notorious** (R); **Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG); **Push** (PG-13); **Taken** (PG-13); **The Pink Panther 2** (PG); **The Unborn** (PG-13); **Underworld: Rise of the Lycans** (R); **The Uninvited** (PG-13); **Valkyrie** (PG-13); **The Wrestler** (R)

STATE UNIVERSITY

Ken

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)

Donkey Punch (R) Fri. 4:55, 7:15, 9:35 Sat.-Sun. 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:35; **Enter the Dragon** (R) Sat. 11:55p.m.

UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)

Doubt (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 1:45, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00; **Milk** (R) Fri.-Sun. 12:45, 3:40, 6:35, 9:30; **The Reader** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:00, 3:55, 6:50, 9:40; **Revolutionary Road** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:30, 4:25, 7:35, 10:10; **Slumdog Millionaire** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:15, 4:05, 7:05, 9:50

Museum of Photographic Arts

1649 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-7559)

Call theater for program information.

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center

1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)

Animalopolis (Not Rated) Fri. 1:00, 3:00 Sat.-

Sun. 10:00, 1:00, 3:00; **Everest** (Not Rated) Fri. 7:00p.m.; **Van Gogh: Brush with Genius** (NR) Fri. 4:00, 6:00 Sat.-Sun. 11:00, 4:00, 6:00; **Wild Ocean** (NR) Fri. 12:00, 2:00, 5:00, 9:00 Sat. 12:00, 2:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00 Sun. 12:00, 2:00, 5:00, 7:00; **Yellowstone** (Not Rated) Fri. 6:00p.m.

San Diego Natural History Museum

1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821)

Human Body (NR) Fri.-Sun. 2:00p.m.; **Ocean Oasis** (NR) Fri.-Sun. 12:00, 4:00; **Planet Earth: Pole to Pole** () Fri.-Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18

405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)

Call theater for program information.

LA MESA

Grossmont Center 10

5500 Grossmont Center Drive (619-465-7100)

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG-13); **Gran Torino** (R); **He's Just Not That Into You** (PG-13); **Hotel for Dogs** (PG); **New in Town** (PG-13); **Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG); **Push** (PG-13); **Slumdog Millionaire** (R); **Taken** (PG-13); **The Pink Panther 2** (PG); **Underworld: Rise of the Lycans** (R)

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15

2951 Jamacha Road (800-326-3264)

Call theater for program information.

SANTEE

Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)

Gran Torino (R) Fri.-Sun.; **He's Just Not That Into You** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.; **Marley and Me** (PG) Fri.-Sun.; **Taken** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10

Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)



Coraline 3D (PG) (11:30 2:00) 4:30 7:00 9:30; **Pink Panther 2** (PG) (11:00 1:30 3:45) 6:00 8:15 10:30; **Push** (PG-13) (12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **He's Just Not That Into You** (PG-13) (11:30 2:15) 5:00 7:45 10:30; **Taken** (PG-13) (12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:30 9:45; **The Uninvited** (PG-13) (11:15 1:30 4:00) 6:15 8:30 10:45; **Underworld: Rise of the Lycans** (R) (12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:15; **Slumdog Millionaire** (R) (11:45 2:30) 5:15 8:00 10:45; **Notorious** (R) 4:15 10:00; **Hotel for Dogs** (PG) (11:15 1:45) 7:15; **Gran Torino** (R) (11:00 1:45) 4:45 7:45 10:30; **Bob the Builder: Skyscrapers** (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

Otay Ranch 12

Eastlake Parkway at Olympic (858-558-2262)

Bride Wars (PG); **Coraline** (PG); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13); **Gran Torino** (R); **He's Just Not That Into You** (PG-13); **Hotel for Dogs** (PG); **New in Town** (PG-13); **Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG); **Push** (PG-13); **Slumdog Millionaire** (R); **Taken** (PG-13); **The Pink Panther 2** (PG); **Underworld: Rise of the Lycans** (R); **The Uninvited** (PG-13)

Palm Promenade 24

770 Denmery Road (858-558-2262)

Bride Wars (PG); **Coraline** (PG); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13); **Defiance** (R); **Gran Torino** (R); **He's Just Not That Into You** (PG-13); **Hotel for Dogs** (PG); **Marley and Me** (PG); **Milk** (R); **My Bloody Valentine** (R); **New in Town** (PG-13); **Notorious** (R); **Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG); **Push** (PG-13); **The Reader** (R); **Revolutionary Road** (R); **Slumdog Millionaire** (R); **Taken** (PG-13); **The Pink Panther 2** (PG); **Twilight** (PG-13); **The Unborn** (PG-13); **Underworld: Rise of the Lycans** (R); **The Uninvited** (PG-13); **The Wrestler** (R)

Rancho Del Rey 16

East H Street (619-216-4707)

Call theater for program information.

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive In

2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727)

Call theater for program information.

NATIONAL CITY

Plaza Bonita 14

3030 Plaza Bonita Road (858-558-2262)

Coraline (PG); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG-13); **Gran Torino** (R); **He's Just Not That Into You** (PG-13); **Hotel for Dogs** (PG); **Inkheart** (PG); **New in Town** (PG-13); **Notorious** (R); **Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG); **Push** (PG-13); **Slumdog Millionaire** (R); **Taken** (PG-13); **The Pink Panther 2** (PG); **The Unborn** (PG-13); **Underworld: Rise of the Lycans** (R); **The Uninvited** (PG-13)



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Help Too Much

*“The past is never dead;
it isn’t even past.”*

Diane lost her husband, a “brilliant” CEO, in Africa. Now the socialite wants to sell the house, land a job (her first), and sever all connections with her past. Diane’s in such deep denial, her daughter says, she can’t decide where to put her husband’s ashes.

Ater Dahl’s also in denial. But his is a protective shield. Without it, a therapist says, he’s so traumatized he might cease to function. Ater is one of the Lost Boys of Sudan. Beginning in 1983, the Sudan People’s Liberation Army began a war with the Sudanese government. An estimated two million people have lost their lives, and five million have been displaced.

Barking dogs awoke Ater one morning. His village was under attack. He heard screams, then watched members of his family murdered. Like an estimated 4000 boys from 3 to 17, he fled, becoming one of the “lost boys” who ran hundreds of miles, barefoot, across the Sudan, many of them back and forth twice (there are no “lost” women or girls; they were made slaves). Ater saw more havoc by the time he was eight years old than most soldiers see in multiple tours of duty.

In Mia McCullough’s *Since Africa*, currently at the Old Globe’s second stage, Diane and Deacon Reggie Hudson attempt to “resettle” Ater in Chicago. Both mean well, but their motives become suspect. She supplies financial, the Deacon spiritual, perks. They attempt to Americanize Ater and help him forget his horrors. But neither sees him. Instead each is a Pygmalion; they see who they want him to become. Are they aiding or trying to colonize, Ater?

Since Africa plays like an extended commen-

tary on John Guare’s *Six Degrees of Separation*, also at the Old Globe. Amid small-world nearness stand walls of separation, both personal and cultural. Breakthroughs are possible, though attempts to change a person often result in confirming differences — and awakened self-awareness. Diane and the Deacon learn they must let go, decontrol, as do Paul and Ouisa,

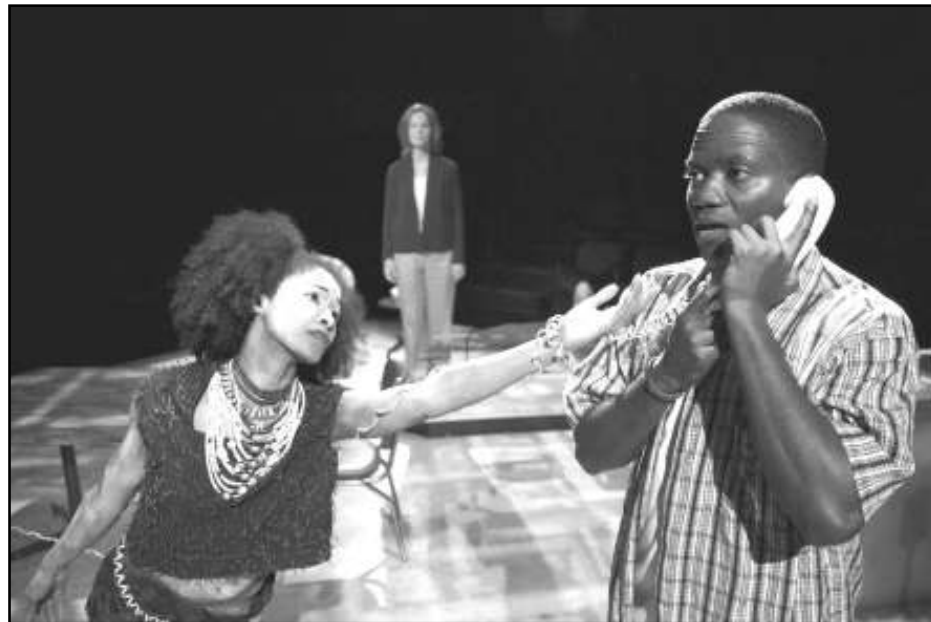
sadly, in *Six Degrees*.

The play’s also a commentary on William Faulkner’s famous line, “The past is never dead; it isn’t even past.” Attempts to lop off one’s backstory reforge the connection.

Until mid-act 2, *Since Africa* is low on drama. The playwright tends to wade into a scene, for ten or so lines, then paddles hard. The best scenes, like young Eve’s monologue about how she got her scar, would be much stronger if McCullough tightened the first third.

The Old Globe made a smart choice in having Seema Sueko direct *Since Africa*. She’s staged the play before, for her Mo’olelo company, and knows its quirks. Aided by Jason Bieber, whose lighting shifts from hot blue and orange Sudanese patterns to cold Chicago interiors in a flash, and Paul Peterson’s excellent sounds (Dinka chants, drumbeats that interview people), Sueko weaves an arresting mysticism throughout.

Linda Gehringer’s unafraid to push Diane a few clicks past likability (she *really* wants to help Ater), which gives her performance, and Diane’s metamorphosis, an authentic ring. Willie C. Carpenter (so memorable in the Globe’s *Two Trains Running* as the homeless man who wanted his “ham”) does a subtle turn. His Deacon gains unexpected wisdom as he



Kristin D. Carpenter, Linda Gehringer, Warner Miller in *Since Africa*

Since Africa, by Mia McCullough

Old Globe Theatre, Simon Edison Centre for the Performing Arts, Balboa Park

Directed by Seema Sueko; cast, Kristin D. Carpenter, Linda Gehringer, Ashley Clements, Warner Miller, Willie C. Carpenter; scenic design, Nick Fouch; costumes, Charlotte Devaux; lighting, Jason Bieber; sound, Paul Peterson

Playing through March 8; Sunday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Matinee Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. 619-234-5623.

speculates about his roots. Warner Miller’s Ater and Ashley Clements’s young Eve add dimension to slender roles and become perplexed by what others take for granted.

Since Africa plods, at times, but also offers payoffs, especially in its critique of intentions. Kristin D. Carpenter constitutes an ongoing payoff. She plays the Nameless One, a statue come to life, who dances with vigor and joy. She could be Ater’s anima (the Jungian “shadow self”) or a sprightly protector watching over the Lost Boys. She helps Ater sustain a link between his past and present and, in the end, helps the others to build that bridge as well.

* * *

Field Notes

1. Two excellent books on the Lost Boys:

Benson Deng, *et al.*, *They Poured Fire on Us From the Sky* (Public Affairs); Mark Bixler, *The Lost Boys of the Sudan* (University of Georgia Press).

2. The San Diego Theater Critics Circle recently gave actor Jonathan McMurtry a Lifetime Achievement Award. McMurtry, who has performed for 48 years at the Old Globe, is doing some of his finest work — ever — in *The Dresser* at the North Coast Rep. Teaming with the excellent Sean Sullivan in the title role, McMurtry plays “Sir,” an old trouper readying himself for his 227th performance as King Lear during the London Blitz. Much as they’d like to, the North Coast Rep can’t extend this terrific production, which must close Sunday. ■

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-San Diego Reader

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THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

American Buffalo

David Mamet's terse, mean street drama has been praised for its realism. His dialogue cuts to the marrow. His three characters don't speak their minds so much as externalize their nerves. The play's realistic, but only on the surface. *Buffalo* grows progressively surreal. As Don, Teach, and young Bob plan to steal a coin collection, the play transforms into an inertia-dream where everyone's knee-deep in murk and one step forward yanks them two back. Donny and Teach speak a fragmented language that's also mud-stuck (their goal is "the thing"), and in act 2, if they weren't planning theft and possibly murder, you'd swear they were Abbott and Costello asking "Who's on first?" *Buffalo's* been staged across the spectrum, from low comedy to junk-shop *noir*. For Compass Theatre, director Ruff Yeager wisely sticks to the present moment and lets the humor fall where it may. I caught a preview and, even with some rough spots, it had a stark, improvisational feel: Donny, Teach, and Bob plot, and compose Mamet's play, inch by inch as they go along.

Chad Jaeger packs his set, Don's basement-level junk shop, with rows of secondhand items. The set's realistic in great detail but looks too orderly for such a chaotic scene. Matt Scott had Teach's paranoia down, and his need for human contact, but went over the top vocally for his outbursts. As Bob, Don's gopher/pro-tégé (and the only one who makes any money in the play), Nathan Dean Snyder's eyes, like a young dog's, searched for security in others'. Walter Murray's father Don provided a veneer of stability, though underneath he's trapped in a vertiginous world where business is war by other means and value has become destabilized.

Worth a try:

COMPASS THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST. 619-688-9210. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 4 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH FEBRUARY 11.

Bulrushier

New Village Arts presents Eisa Davis's poetic drama (a finalist for the 2007 Pulitzer Prize) set in an isolated town in the Redwoods, at the dawn of the Civil Rights Movement. Kristianne Kurner directed. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE STREET, CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. SATURDAYS, 3 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 1.

Doubt

John Patrick Shanley says ours is a "courtroom culture," where everything gets debated, bluster trumps reason, and "communication has become a contest of wills." Instead of offering that culture's certainty, Shanley shaped a play for its opposite. Doubt, which he says can be a

"passionate exercise," is its title and its outcome. It's 1964, roughly a year after JFK. Father Brendan Flynn subscribes to Vatican II. He's taken the school's first black student, Donald Muller, under his wing. Sister Aloysius Beauvier, the principal, is spare-not-the-rod old school. She's convinced Flynn performed a sexual "infringement" with Mueller. Her evidence: hearsay and stereotypes. For the San Diego Rep, Douglas Roberts walks kindly Father Flynn on a tightrope: Does he become paranoid because he's been caught or because a falsehood could cost him his beloved calling? Innocent Sister James wants life to remain simple; Amanda Sittton traces Sister's almost speechless disillusionment with eloquence. In a brief, explosive cameo, Monique Gaffney plays Donald Muller's mother, who's fighting a battle that comfy goods and evils can't encompass. Rosina Reynolds makes Sister Aloysius unyielding but shows she's trapped in a larger, even more authoritarian system. Sister seems monstrous, true, but she must be since she's also the underdog.

Worth a try:

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN. 619-544-1000. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. THROUGH FEBRUARY 8.

The Dresser

In his youth, playwright Ronald Harwood served as dresser for Sir Donald Wolfitt, a British actor who performed mostly in the provinces ("Olivier was a tour de force," went a joke, "Wolfitt was forced to tour"). Harwood's experiences shape one of

the theater's most moving celebrations of the craft. Sir, a Wolfitt-like actor, is old, frayed, and has one of the most demanding jobs in the world (he played Othello last night; tonight, his 227th King Lear; tomorrow, Richard III). When the play begins, in England during the 1942 Blitz, sirens blare, and Sir can't remember where he's been, let alone his lines. As bombs fall, his dresser of 16 years, Norman, practices *his* craft with pep talks, cajoling, whatever it takes. Norman's at once a doctor, nurse, psychiatrist, docent, and slave. Even so, it's doubtful he can revive such a "spent force." Somehow Sir dons the King's ancient makeup and great red robe — a process fascinating to watch — and revives. Throughout, *The Dresser* resembles reading James Boswell on Dr. Johnson. You watch two artists at work, two halves of a much larger artistic whole. This sense also applies to the performances of Jonathan McMurtry, as Sir, and Sean Sullivan, as Norman, in the North Coast Rep's terrific production. Individually, each is excellent — McMurtry's Sir broken down for having to carry

"the whole bloody universe" as Lear; Sullivan, never better, as the selfless servant, astonishingly devoted, brutally underappreciated. Combined, their interplay is a wonder. The David Ellenstein-directed cast has no weak links. And Marty Burnett's brick-walled, earth-tone set moves from the green room to backstage, it seems, in the blink of an eye.

Critic's pick:

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. THROUGH FEBRUARY 8.

Love Song

John Kolvenbach's becoming a player's playwright. He crafts scenes that often resemble a three-ring circus. In his *Love Song*, for example, he juggles actors with rapid-fire dialogue and makes things balloon: a simple multiple-choice personality test, for example, when taken at face value expands into life-and-death issues. Harry, wife Joan, and her withdrawn brother Beane live literal lives. Everything is

what it is (and, to bullish Joan's way of thinking, barely that). But when Molly, an unexpected intruder, attempts to rob Beane's apartment (which is as empty as his heart), light bulbs click above the trio's heads: romance blooms and re-blooms, a melon inspires, and the world becomes chocked with poetry, for a while. If you don't count its critique of lives so vapid they can only thrive on fantasy — Harry and Joan don't even know how to play hookey, for criminey's sake! — the play's a fragile whimsy. The Cygnet Theatre production, directed by Sean Murray, however, is a hoot. A quartet of actors tear into their roles, relishing Kovenbach's zany lines and daffy business (and performing with stopwatch precision at that). Francis Gercke makes Beane an Ugly Duckling: after having been mute for years, he suddenly swans and can't stop talking or appreciating (or evoking laughter). Daren Scott, as Harry, and Jessa Watson, as Joan, showcase their comic gifts as a couple so repressed that, when they open up, find themselves in undis-



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THEATER

covered territory. Jessica John, who also designed the apt costumes, makes Molly a nifty hybrid: an impish recidivist.

Worth a try:

CYGNET THEATRE — ROLANDO, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, SUITE N, COLLEGE AREA. 619-337-1525. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. THROUGH FEBRUARY 22.

The Misanthrope

“Wouldn’t the social fabric come undone if we were wholly frank with everyone?” In Molière’s masterful comedy, Alceste hates flattery and

flatterers, which means, in his era, most everyone. He wants to change the world from fawning hypocrisy to “sincerity in excess.” This most rational of males, however, is smack dab in love with Celimene, who banquets on compliments from an armada of admirers. She’s the opposite of Alceste — or is she? When push slams into shove, Celimene unleashes a Tourette’s syndrome-screed that indicts everyone. In UCSD Theatre’s curriculum, *The Misanthrope* fulfills the requirement of actors doing a verse play. But with James Winker’s excellent direction, except for the occasional obvious couplet, you’d never know it. Winker’s well-spoken cast fills the poetic translation (Richard Wilbur’s?) with passion and wit. Third-year MFA Joel Gelman’s a marvel as Alceste; he’s stark, raving sane. Talented Cate

Campbell, first-year MFA, gives Celimene coy, controlling behavior, until she flips her switch and goes lights out. The supporting cast — especially Josh Wade’s Philinte and Patrick Riley’s decadent Acaste — has no weak links. Nor does the design work (especially Christine Crook’s period-eclectic costumes, including a sporty pink waist bow for Celimene). Thomas George’s gold-streaked set cuts out about a third of the Mandell Weiss Forum’s seats, which makes for intimacy with Molière’s passel of ardent hypocrites. **Worth a try:** UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO, 9500 GILMAN DRIVE, UCSD. 858-534-2230. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 AND 8 P.M. THROUGH FEBRUARY 7.

Since Africa

The Old Globe Theatre presents Mia McCullough’s drama about Ater, a “Lost Boy of Sudan,” and the volun-

teers who help acclimate him to life in America. Seema Sueko directed. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. SUNDAYS, 7 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 8.

Six Degrees of Separation

John Guare based his play with the famous title on an actual event. A young black man pretending to be Sidney Poitier’s son (Poitier had none) entered homes he couldn’t have otherwise and robbed them. In the play, Paul may not be who he says, but he’s a good enough actor to convince upscale New Yorkers Flan and Ouisa Kittredge to allow him into their art-rich Upper East Side apartment. A bonding spiritual breakthrough with Ouisa and Paul’s naked male lover scurrying about make for connections and separa-

tions. At the Old Globe, even when you know Paul’s a fraud, Samuel Stricken makes you wonder if Poitier had an *illegitimate* son. Stricken handles Guare’s lectures (about the imagination, drama’s emotionally “paralyzed” characters, etc.) without becoming too preachy — no mean feat — and his best work comes when the real Paul peeks through the mask and realizes he can only gain acceptance as someone else. Guare said *Six Degrees* should move like the wind. Though his early scenes threaten to crack the sound barrier, director Trip Cullman shows a good sense of the play’s collage-like form and how to bring the script’s 17 characters (most of them cameos and some of contemporary theater’s more alienated beings) to life. Thomas Jay Ryan gives Flan the reality-avoidance instincts of an ostrich, to comic effect. Wearing Emily Rebholz’s color-burst costumes, Karen Ziemba’s terrific as Ouisa. As her un-

derstanding grows, Ziemba traces a touching arc from wide-eyed daffy to near-tragic awareness.

Worth a try:

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The Star-Spangled Girl

The Real Theater, a new company, stages Neil Simon’s comedy about two San Francisco males who fall for the same woman in the mid-1960s. Bob Korbett directed. REAL THEATER, 116 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, HILLCREST. 619-297-7309. FRIDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SATURDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH FEBRUARY 14.

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- ✓ Paid vacation ✓ 401(k)

EEO/M/F/D/V • Drug-Free • PPO #14827

For fastest response, apply online now! 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 x101
Mira Mesa: Kevin, 800-854-2830
Oceanside: Mike, 619-701-3631

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: February 21, 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**



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: AccentCare, a national home health leader, has immediate openings in Fallbrook, CA, for one-on-one private-duty assignments. High-tech ventilator experience preferred. Exceptional pay! AccentCare offers a flexible work schedule, great benefits and a supportive work environment. Submit resumes to homehealthcareers@accentcare.com or fax 800-607-3307. For

more information, please call 800-590-0030. www.accentcare.com. EOE.

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. State-licensed home health agency. Medical, dental and vision benefits; referral bonus. La Jolla Nurses HomeCare. 858-454-9339. www.lajollanurseshomecare.com.

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 San-

tee/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 exceptional performance. Benefits with full-time. pficareer@yahoo.com. Fax 619-440-6864. 619-440-6802.

RESPIRE 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.

ROOMMATE NEEDED. For disabled elderly woman. Free room/utilities in Allied Gardens house, in exchange for weekend caregiving. Requires care Friday evening through Monday morning. Have dogs. No drinking/smoking. Female only. 619-252-9016.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Instructors needed for day training program in Chula Vista and Oceanside for adults with developmental disabilities. Excellent benefits, no

school diploma or GED and work experience? Turning the Hearts Center, 619-6330, Oceanside, 760-643-9394.

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.

CAREGIVER/HOUSEKEEPER. Responsible, loving, caring. Seeking position in San Diego/Point Loma area. Part or full time. Excellent references and driving record. Call Berta, 619-942-6864.

HOUSEKEEPING. Move outs, once a month, weekly. I need a job now! Please call Mary L., 858-490-0588.

JOBS WANTED. I (John) am seeking position as a caregiver/companion. Many years experience, I have very good work ethics/driving record. Full/part-time. References upon request. Leave message, 619-339-7707, JBaker858@sbcglobal.net.

JOBS WANTED. I am the one looking for work. Semi-retired, good physical health, excellent work ethics, clean driving record. Lots of experience in various fields. john_smith0415@yahoo.com, 619-428-8852.

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 MISCELLANEOUS

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

ANIMAL CARETAKER. Part-time Pet Sitter. Permanent. 7 days plus holidays. Split shift. Infrequent traveler, bonded, positive minded, ethical, prompt. Reliable car. 619-685-7979.

GENERAL. Gain skills to succeed. Are you 14 to 21, low income, need high

school diploma or GED and work experience? Turning the Hearts Center, 619-691-9643.

GET PAID TO SHOP! Mystery Shoppers. Earn up to \$200/day. Experience not required. Call now: 800-486-7204.

MACINTOSH PRODUCTION ARTIST. Freelance position. We are seeking someone experienced with Macintosh applications, including QuarkXpress, Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. A background in producing display ads is necessary. Experience with color is a plus. Speed and accuracy are musts. This will be an as-needed freelance position to assist us when someone is on vacation or ill. Must be available evenings. Please e-mail resume to hrdept@sdriver.com.

RECRUITERS. Hospitality Job Fair and Career Expo at the "Just in Time" Career Fair 2009. Now featuring Hospitality Lane at SDSU Centennial Walkway, Thursday, April 30, 10am-2:30pm. Recruiters: register online: www.jobfairsandiego.com.

SWIMMING INSTRUCTORS needed for San Diego and North County. \$11-\$19/hour, North County: 760-744-7946 or San Diego: 858-273-7946.

TRAVEL USA Sales. Publication sales company hiring 18 sharp, enthusiastic individuals to travel the U.S. Travel, training, lodging, and transportation provided. Visit: www.isimags.com. 1-800-781-1344.

VALET, GRAVEYARD, for Downtown hotel. 10pm-6am Sunday/Monday. \$9/hour plus tips. Must have valet experience and a clean driving record. Apply online at www.sunsetparking.com.

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 ASSISTANT needed immediately. Must be goal oriented, focused, efficient, proactive, very knowledgeable with Quickbooks Pro/MS Office programs. Call Justin, 619-322-2764, or Tommy, 858-583-3508.

ADMINISTRATIVE. General skills including sales for fast-paced, informal office. Outgoing self-starter. \$11-\$15/hour plus commission DOE. In person Monday-Friday, 4-8pm: 3333 Midway Drive #206, San Diego, 92110.

FRONT DESK FINANCIAL MANAGER. Established dental practice, Bay Park. Full-time. Requires 3-5 years dental field, strong computer, insurance billing,

HIPPA, etc. Resume: wolffdentist@sbcglobal.net.

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.

PREGNANT? AVAILABLE to take part in a paid clinical study? PrecisionMed is seeking healthy volunteers, between the ages of 20 and 45, who are at least 7 weeks pregnant and not more than 16 weeks, and who would like to participate in a research study. Participation in this genetic study involves no medication or treatment and requires 1 or 2 short visits to our offices. As compensation for participating, volunteers will receive \$100 for each office visit and an additional \$100 for information on your baby once he/she is born. For further information and to check if you qualify, please call 1-800-519-8810, or you can email carolemarks@precisionmed.com.

RESEARCH STUDY VOLUNTEERS. Weight Loss Research Study for Type 2 Diabetics. Dr. Sunder Mudaliar and his associates at UCSD are looking for overweight/obese men and women with Type 2 Diabetes as Volunteers to take part in a research study to assess the safety and efficacy of Lorcaserin Hydrochloride. 62 weeks total: 6 weeks for screening followed by 52 weeks on study medication plus a 30-day post-study telephone contact and periodic follow-up visits. Criteria to be eligible to participate: males or females aged 18 to 65 years. Must agree not to participate in a conception process (i.e., active attempt to become pregnant or to impregnate, sperm donation, in vitro fertilization). Body Mass Index (BMI) is 27.0 to 45.0 kg/m². Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus. Taking oral medication for at least 3 months. No using insulin for at least 3 months. Home glucose self-monitoring for at least 3 out of 12 months. Qualified participants will be compensated for participation up to \$900. To see if you qualify or to learn more, please contact Erick Castro, 858-552-8585, extension 6449 or Catherine DeLue at extension 6740.

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.

CASHIER/DELI WORKER. Experienced. At least 30 hours/week, friendly cafe environment. \$8.50/hour plus tips. East County. Call 619-448-9400 between 1pm-3pm Monday- Friday.

VALET, RESTAURANT. San Diego. 10:45am-4pm, Monday- Friday. \$8/hour plus tips. Must have excellent customer service skills and clean driving record. Apply online at www.sunsetparking.com.

HELP WANTED RETAIL

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

FOOD. Busy shop, highly-visible staff, always ready; people skills, team player, must take direction well! La Jolla Shores. \$10/hour. Phil/Julia before 11am: 858-459-3921.

OPERATIONS MANAGER. (IKEA, San Diego, CA) - Manage staff and activities of Operations Department including recruitment, coaching, mentoring, training, scheduling and performance management; create and submit forecast according to business cycle. Requires Bachelor's in Business Administration or closely related field and 2 years' experience in multi-unit retail financial operation or operations management experience; experience must include competence and successor development including leadership performance; experience in working with external service providers, networking and negotiation skills; experience in detecting efficiency opportunities and applying solutions to decrease costs; 40 hours/week; salary commensurate with experience. Resumes to sheryl.lynnigordon@memo.ikea.com.

HELP WANTED



IMMEDIATE ASSIGNMENTS FOR:

LIVE-IN CAREGIVERS

Drivers with insurance and non-drivers.

EXPERIENCE and CA ID or DL, SS required. Fingerprint and TB test a plus. Competitive pay. Overtime for holidays. Employer-matched 401(k). Health and dental insurance available.

**Call for an interview in North County or San Diego :
760-434-4393 or 619-231-0151**

**Or apply in person 10 am-3 pm Tuesday-Thursday:
2333 1st Ave., Ste. 205, San Diego, CA 92101**

OHI is a mission of the Free Sacred Trinity Church, a non-denominational church that has been operating spiritual retreats since 1976.



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.

\$2000-\$2500/week

Join one of the fastest-growing, well-established Southern California companies. We are looking for a few individuals who bring activity to the highest levels, who can communicate fast, have strong personalities and can stay focused no matter what!

Friendly Atmosphere • Very Active Environment • No Boring Work • GREAT INCOME

You must demonstrate great interpersonal skills, leadership experience, strong work ethic and ability to multitask. Desire to work in a high-energy environment a must.

- **Training is provided**
- **Full-time/Part-time available**
- **All tools to guarantee success supplied**
- **Base + Commission + Bonuses**

If you are looking for a 9-to-5 desk job, this is not for you!

If you are looking for a dynamic, people-oriented atmosphere that actually enables you to break away from the fluorescent light from time to time, we could be a match.

Please call to schedule an interview:

(858) 866-0183

6875 Nancy Ridge Drive, Suite B, San Diego, CA 92121
www.pacifichomere remodeling.com



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- Experience a plus • Hourly + bonuses! • Top agents earn \$1000+ weekly
- Fun atmosphere! • Next to Grantville trolley station



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rcorrea@pmonarch.com
www.monarchjobs.com

Cash Fast!

\$100K in 100 Days

**No selling. No explaining.
No convincing...**

"I couldn't believe that I generated \$22,000
in 1 day in this program."

– Bob, Retired, IA

Private gifting, allowed by IRS tax codes.

888-248-0873

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.

AD SPECIALTY SALES. If you're a Top Closer and you don't work for us, you are cheating yourself. We pay the most. For interview, 619-402-3198.

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.

CANVASSERS needed for established home improvement company. Experience and reliable transportation necessary. You'll make more money than you're making now! Contact Jason, 619-583-7171.

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.

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.

MARKETING REP/. Community Liaison, full time. CNA preferred but not necessary, will train. Motivated self-starter. Call 760-730-3955 or fax resume: 760-730-3977.

MARKETING REPS. Pet products. High residual commissions. Network marketing. No inventory, just profit. Call for details, 800-479-7550.

PHONE SALES. Will train; no experience needed. Phone personalities dialing for dollars! Great hours, 7am-2:30pm, Monday-Friday. 401(k), medical, dental ben-

efits. Experienced Re-loaders welcomed. Highest paid commissions and bonuses in the industry! Kearny Mesa: Allen, 858-292-8577, x101. Mira Mesa: Kevin, 800-854-2830. Oceanside: Mike, 619-701-3631.

RESERVATION AGENTS. No sales! Experience a plus. Hourly plus bonuses! Top Agents earn \$1000+/weekly. Fun atmosphere. Near Grantville Trolley Station. Call today for more information: 619-516-4276. rcorrea@pmonarch.com. www.monarchjobs.com.

Sales Associate and Sales Manager-Now!

Sales/Hotel: Del Mar Inn. Great money to start! Full/part time. Front Desk, Guest Services Relations, Sales Associate, Sales Manager, Maintenance, Housekeeping/Laundry. No calls. Apply in person: 720 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar.

SALES: \$2000-\$2500/WEEK. Join one of the fastest growing, well established Southern California companies. Seeking high-energy individuals with great interpersonal skills, leadership experience, strong work ethic and ability to multi-task to promote our energy-efficient products. Training plus all the tools you need to succeed provided. Full and part time available. Base plus commission plus bonuses. Call to schedule an interview: Pacific Home Remodeling, 858-866-0183, www.pacifichomeremodeling.com.

SALES: A SALES CAREER at Welk Resort San Diego. 23 Sales Agents made between \$100,000 and \$200,000 in 2008! Several others who were not with us the entire year were on pace to join that club. You provide the energy, enthusiasm, a great smile and a great attitude. Welk Resorts will supply everything else you need to be successful, including paid training. Tom Trobaugh: 760-749-5083. Fax: 760-749-5084. www.welkresorts.jobs. EOE.

SALES. "Road Rules" atmosphere, extensive group travel, cash every day and a place to stay. 800-231-8183.

SALES. Fundraising school athletics. Fun, relaxed environment, easy job, great pay. 8:30am-4:30pm, Monday-Friday. From \$8-\$26 hourly with bonuses, commissions. Contact Justin, 619-322-2764.

SALES. Self-motivated, independent, money-hungry Team Players for new location, La Mesa. Full-time, commission-only, 1-year sales experience, Internet knowledge. Justine, 619-240-8625.

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 representatives. 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 to \$55,000 first year. Top sales consultants average \$60,000 to \$80,000/year. Phone sales professionals wanted. 619-717-2941.

SALES/INSIDE. Make \$100k+/year. 401K. Medical and Dental. Paid vacations and holidays. Paid training. Great work environment. Convenient location. If you are disciplined, coachable and looking to join a great team with an easy-to-sell product and high integrity, call today! Media All-Stars, 8525 Gibbs Drive #206, 92123. Ask for Leah, 619-225-0249. www.MediaAllStars.com.

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. Any good Salespeople out there? Pacific Graphics Advertising Specialties in La Mesa for 20 years. Hours: Monday-Friday, 8am-2:30pm. Call Joe: 619-461-0365.

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 are serious about making money, I am serious about hiring you. I need self-motivated people, not job hunters. If you have the desire to be more than average, call now. Mission Valley. Full/part time. Hourly/commission/bonus. 619-296-1047.

HELP WANTED
SALONS

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

HAIRSTYLIST. High-end hair salon in Mission Hills interviewing for booth positions. Continuing education. Must have talent, desire and experience. Doug, 619-295-1525 or 619-806-1525.

HAIRSTYLISTS AND MANICURISTS. Lowest price booth rental in UTC/La Jolla. Excellent opportunity to save money! \$175/week Hairstylist; \$100/week Manicurist. Please call, leave message at 858-382-8795.

HAIRSTYLISTS, MANICURISTS: Up your income! New year, great new booth rental incentives. Affordable rent, lots of storage, free advertising. Clairemont. Must have own clientele. 858-278-1128.

HAIRSTYLISTS, MANICURISTS. Booths for rent at beautiful Italian spa in El Cajon (Blossom Valley). Seeking Hairstylists and Manicurists with clientele to join our professional team. Move-in special: 1 month free! 619-993-0867.

HAIRSTYLISTS: Tired of high rent? Start the new year with a lower rent at a new location. 2 booths available. Welcoming, energetic atmosphere with laundered towels, beverages for clients, plenty of parking. Great location in Mission Valley. Move-in incentives. 619-889-6755.

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.


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.

MANICURISTS AND HAIRSTYLISTS. Excellent opportunity to save money! Lowest price booth rental in UTC/La Jolla. \$100/week Manicurist; \$175/week Hairstylist. Please call, leave message at 858-382-8795.

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.

SALON/HAIRSTYLISTS. Large booths. \$1000 move-in allowance. Requires your own clientele. Free reception/phone/towels. 100% retail is yours. Golden Touch, near Fashion Valley. 619-972-7744.

Business Opportunity



Entrepreneurs/ Big Thinkers Wanted

(Real bailout program)

- \$100K in 100 days, simply returning phone calls.
- No selling. No explaining. No convincing...
- Private gifting, allowed by IRS tax codes.

"I received \$34,000 cash to my front door in my first 3 weeks!"
– Joe, Banker, CA

"My first 72 hours brought me \$11,000, and I just started!"
– LeAnn, Housewife, CA

1-888-593-8287

MYSTERY SHOPPERS

Get paid to shop!

Earn up to \$200 per day.

Experience NOT required.

Call NOW:
(800) 775-9924



Want to say "Goodbye" to the 9-to-5 World?

We did. And within 90 days we tripled our monthly income and fired our bosses. You can, too! Call to learn how: **800-631-9439** or visit: www.swanlifestylecoop.com

Direct Sales

Careers in Probation

Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I

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 • High school diploma or GED

Salary:

New: \$36,275-\$46,300 annually

Safety Retirement-Sworn Officers 3% at age 50.

Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply.

Test dates:
February 7, 2009 • 8 am
or March 7, 2009 • 8 am

Montgomery Middle School
2470 Ulric Street • San Diego, CA 92111

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
Jobline: 858-514-8558
www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation

A Sales Career at Welk Resorts San Diego



Now Premier Villas being built in Escondido, Branson and Cabo

Welk Resorts San Diego is a 640 acre paradise featuring:

- Brand new state-of-the-art Preview Center • Five Recreation Centers
- Water slides • Water features • Waterfalls • Two golf courses
- Tennis Courts • Fishing pond • Too many pools to count • Fitness center
- Fitness trails • Basketball • Volleyball • Horseshoes • Bicycle rentals
- Special kids clubs and kids activities • Restaurants • Shopping
- Live theater • Barbecue and picnic areas

23 Sales Agents made between \$100,000 and \$200,000 in 2008!

Several others who were not with us the entire year were on pace to join that club.

You supply the ENERGY, ENTHUSIASM, A GREAT SMILE AND A GREAT ATTITUDE

Welk Resorts will supply everything else you need to be successful, including PAID TRAINING

Tom Trobaugh: 760-749-5083
Fax: 760-749-5084
www.welkresorts.jobs
EOE

RED MEAT

by Max Cannon ©2009

RED MEAT

assert it--don't squirt it

from the secret files of
Max Cannon

Have a seat, Milkman Dan. We're going to go over each and every "incident" in detail, so it's going to take awhile.

Okay. But I'd prefer to remain standing, Sir... if you wouldn't mind.

I do. It makes me nervous, so please sit.

Honestly...I really can't.

Of course not. That's because you have a fresh tattoo of our Dairy's logo across your buttocks that you showed to every household on your route this morning.

True enough. However, in my defense, I have the number for customer service clearly visible below my right dimple.

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: March 7, 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.

DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER. Now hiring! County of San Diego Probation Department. Test Date: February 21, 2009. Qualified applicants will be notified by mail of the time and location of the test.

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PROBATION CAREERS. Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Dates: February 7, 2009, 8am or March 7, 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.

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Lucia Alba
Financial Manager
Hillcrest

I'm not sure. Could I write a note or a poem instead? If I had to draw, I would draw that woman's butt over there. It's shaped very well. Maybe that's why artists always paint female nudes, because of the form. I think more artists do female drawings than males.



Rene Segura
Photographer
Del Mar

Maybe I'd do a silhouette of a woman. I'd really have to think about it. It would depend on the medium, but for pencil and paper, I'd try the silhouette. It's not necessarily a detailed image; it's devoid of little nuances that some drawings would require. It would be a Michelangelo type of thing.



Franziska Hake
Student
Germany

I would draw a flower. Whenever I write a letter, I always draw a flower at the end of it. So, that's probably what I'd draw right now. I don't know why I do that in letters. I've painted flowers, although I don't do that often. I just think it's a pretty way to end a correspondence or letter.



Kevin Chen
Web Developer
Clairemont

I don't know. I really don't have a lot of artistic ability. If that doesn't play into the picture, and I wasn't being judged or anything...I'd try to draw something nice and peaceful. Something scenic and mellow, like a meadow or a field with lots of trees, something along those lines.



Rachel Geerlings
Product Manager
San Diego

I would draw a Christmas tree. Not just because we just finished with Christmas and they're on my mind. I'm a terrible doodler, but I draw a perfect Christmas tree. Well, more like I've perfected the pine tree. So often when I'm bored with paper in front of me, I end up just drawing them.



Amir Gorbani
Computers
Los Angeles

It would be that character they used to have in the *TV Guide* advertisement. Remember those? It was a contest and showed a cartoon character they wanted to see how well you drew. I'm guessing *TV Guide* doesn't even do that anymore. In fact, *TV Guide* might not even be around anymore. So, I guess I'd draw the Van Halen logo. I used to always draw it on my folders and book covers in high school.

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The TV station was buzzing that morning with rumors that four people had been let go. By 11:20 a.m., I thought I was safe. I was wrong. My heart dropped as the VP appeared and said we were going to see HR. She

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When I got into the office, the HR director didn't even say it. She just proceeded to go over endless benefit and severance pay information as the VP watched. I asked how long I had to pack up my stuff. There was silence. I got the hint. I told them I just needed to get

I asked how long I had to pack up my stuff. There was silence.

my purse and cell phone. They protested and told me someone else could get them. I firmly argued that wasn't going to happen. I didn't want anyone handling my most personal belongings.

They relented and by 11:40 a.m. I was out the door, purse in hand. Upstairs, my desk was untouched. I left my email open, a Starbucks coffee still hot, and a daily to-do list half done sitting next to the keyboard.

Tara Jelnicki,
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STAGE NOTES

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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
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

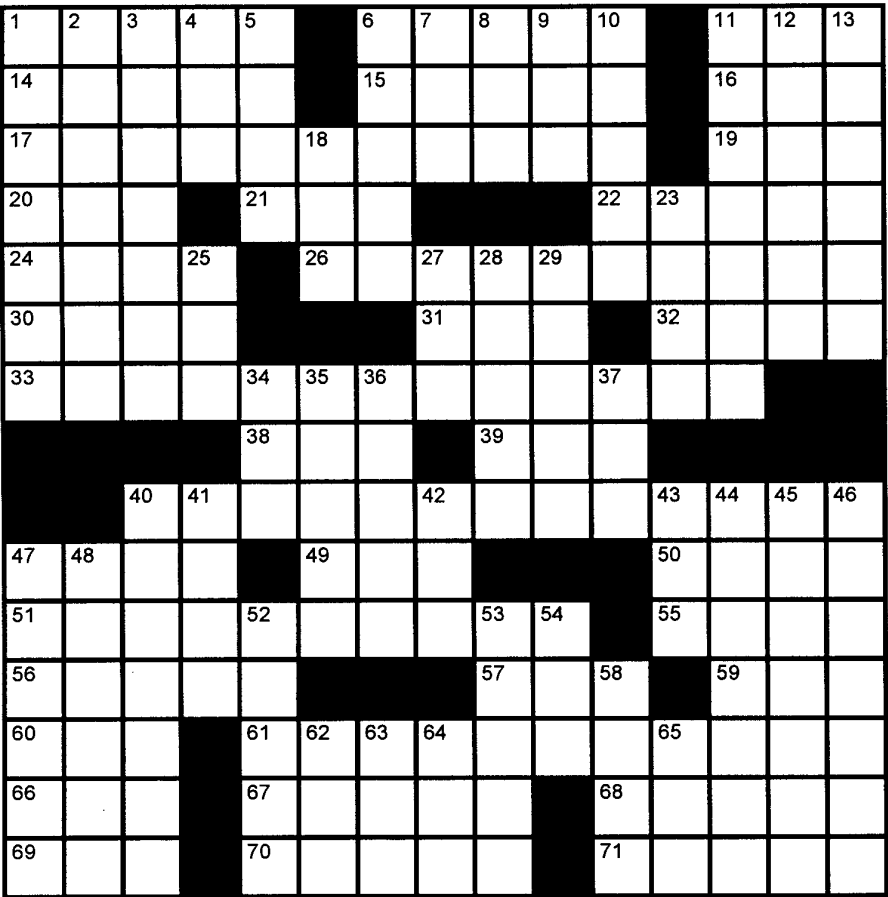
- Surprised gift recipient's question
- "Let's Make ____"
- Pa. neighbor
- Regions
- Cell phone company based in Finland
- Sue Grafton's "____ for Alibi"
- Simulcast airing, perhaps
- B&O and Reading: Abbr.
- Mature
- ____ Lanka
- Layered dessert
- One to grow on
- Hannibal Lecter, e.g.

- Release
- Tijuana tanner
- Homer Simpson's hangout
- Actor in "Scream," "Scream 2" and "Scream 3"
- Crucial
- Reagan's "Star Wars" prog.
- Hush-hush treatment
- One who may be caught off base?
- Ad ____
- Car shaft
- 1930 Evelyn Waugh novel
- RN workplaces
- Prefix with sclerosis
- Have a bawl
- Tiki bar offering
- 2008 Lil Wayne bestselling album "____ Carter III"
- Jeans pioneer
- Gasoline choice: Abbr.
- Outline
- Bill's costar in "Groundhog Day"
- Lingo: Suffix
- Tender spots
- It might be stolen in a play

Down

- Pita filling
- Paper work?
- Daydream
- ____ Jemison, first black woman in space
- Panic buttons on PCs
- It may be golden: Abbr.
- Bespectacled dwarf

- ____ out a living
- Word with France or Jordan
- Coffeehouse order
- Soldier
- Goodness
- Size up
- Ida. neighbor
- "Drinks are ____!"
- "Road Rules" network
- Land on the Med.
- Windblown soil
- Move on ice
- Move on snow
- String quartet instrument
- Bone at the base of the tongue
- Big name in pens
- Electrical measure
- Gen. Robt. ____
- J. Edgar Hoover's org.
- Italy's equivalent to the BBC
- Omit
- Makes aware
- "Got it!"
- "____ sante!"
- Genie's offerings
- Hardware purchase
- A lot of assassins?
- Rummy
- They're uplifting
- Suffix with ranch
- Alt. spelling
- "Rocks"
- Mandela's org.



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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:

P	L	O	D	S		O	M	A	R	S		S	T	S
L	O	R	R	E		W	A	S	T	E		U	R	L
E	P	C	O	T		C	E	N	T	E	R		S	A
B	E	A	V		A	T	O					V	C	H
					E	N	D	O	F	T	H	E	L	I
I	F	I	M	A					H	A	R	E		
N	O	D	A	T		T	O	O	L			J	O	G
M	I	D	D	L	E	O	F	N	O	W	H	E	R	E
E	L	O				C	R	A	G		Y	E	S	N
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P	U	N	K			E	D	U		I	M	A	N	
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S	S	A			R	A	I	S	E		U	S	E	R

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner. Number indicates successful entries.

Ken A., Ocean Beach, 4. "Do't flick cig butts, pick up that dog poo."
Flo Abena, Rancho Penasquitos, 4. "Thanks Broncos."
Sheila Agahan-Price, Ocean-side, 4. "Thanks Denise Le Strange!"
Cecile Alcaraz, Chula Vista, 4. "Puzzle Maniacs unite!"
Mary Arana, Encinitas, 4. "Happy Birthday Valena."
Stuart Auger, Chula Vista, 4. "Left lane is for passing, not for plodding."
Leo Baggerly, Encinitas, 4. "Look up, look up!"
Jen Barnes, University Heights, 4. "Word."
Shannon Barry, Pine Valley, 4. "V is for very vain."
Jeff Battles, Serra Mesa, 4. "Had a great time on the trip baby!"

Bruce Bell, South Park, 4. "NASCO loves you."
Olga Betteridge, Ocean Beach, 4. "We love, we swim, we run, we love."
Tim Betteridge, Hillcrest, 4. "Spencer is El Barfo! Carpets beware! Love you, my O."
Philip Blase, San Diego, 4. "Fourth stop Victoria Falls."
Charlotte Brown, Clairemont, 4.
Marvin A. Brown, Clairemont, 4.
Glory Cadenhead, Clairemont, 4. "Hey everyone, it's me! I'm famous!"
E.T. Cage, Carmel Mtn., 4. "Good game."
Phillip Castle, Carlsbad, 4. "Drink Im Bro - the other national drink."

A.T. Certik, Bonita, 4.
☛ **Leslie Chase, Campo, 4.** "Love you til E = the end of time."
Betsy Cory, Chula Vista, 4. "St. Marks rocks! www.stmarks-city-heights.org/"
Craig Curtis, Escondido, 4. "Arizona wins! Arizona Cardinals rock the Super Bowl!"
Vince Cuseo, Vista, 4. "Forget it, Jake - it's Chinatown."
Carolyn Dalton, Escondido, 4.

William Cushing, Rancho Bernardo, 4. "O'Reilly requires permission to call on McKenna."
Gerard Dermody, Encinitas, 4. "Eve and Hannah know that palindromes are superfluous."
Thomas Diehl, Escondido, 4. "Who said: Fooled and beguiled by him thou, I by thee?"
Gary Dismukes, Scripps Ranch, 4. "Cryptic messages have short definitions?"

Pat DePew, San Diego, 4. "San Diego is the greatest!"
Jeff Doerner, Clairemont, 4. "Taxaide at Elderhelp."
Kurt Dornbusch, Mission Valley, 4. "Remember, golf is just a game."
Dale Duffala, La Jolla, 4. "Hi Natalie, hi Angel. Stillers forever."
Bette Eberhardt, Pine Valley, 4. "Four on the floor."
Alfred Egaran, San Diego, 4. "Happy Birthday Princess Elena Love!"
Harry Engel, La Jolla, 4. "Love you, Liza B."
Ben Espe, Mission Valley, 4. "AJ and LT should just shut up!"
Manny Faria, Point Loma, 4. "Thanks for the new bowling ball Pooh!"
D. Faulkner, University Heights, 4. "Riding your bike makes you healthier."
Rand Feura, Santee, 4.

Justin Finke, Sorrento Valley, 4.
Barney Firks, Ocean Beach, 4.
Marie Grace, College Area, 4.
Iggie Guerrero, Bay Ho, 4. "Hasta la vista Chargers. Karla Karla Karla."
Ralph Hayward, El Cajon, 4. "Zed's dead, baby. Zed's dead."
Paula Henderson, La Jolla, 4.
Lizzy Henry, Encinitas, 4. "Too easy!"
Julie Hocking, Normal Heights, 4. "Go crazy!"
Ernie Hsu, San Diego, 4. "Go Marta! Woot!"
Mary Hutchings, City Heights, 4.
☛ **Benvicky Javier, San Diego, 4.** "Welcome back Senior Chief Javier! We missed you!"
Norman Kenney, Carlsbad, 4. "Read book I. (Kiera! Bodo!)"
Jim Koziol, UTC, 4. "Let's find the minikits!"

See Your Ranking Online!

Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit: www.SDReader.com/puzzle. The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the "comments" feature, you must be a registered site member.

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS CONTINUED:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner

Peter Kronfeld, Normal Heights, 4.
Michael Lodahl, Mission Valley, 4. "T: Tail end of my next T-shirt."
Joe Maginn, Mission Beach, 4. "Huh? CEHSO? Center, end, middle, opener, finale."
Craig Martin, Serra Mesa, 4.
Elaine Marume, Oceanside, 4.
Wayne Mathieu, Clairemont, 4.
Kyle Matzke, Vista, 4. "So stunned I won a T-shirt, left me speechless."
Bob Maxwell, Coronado, 4. "So far so good."
Anna McCutcheon, Downton, 4. "Paint your home or office like new! paintwithdan.com"
Michael McGriffin, Bay Park, 4. "Goodbye Murry. You will be missed old man."
Pam Mecklenborg, Pacific Beach, 4. "Thanks A and G."
Chuck Merritt, Spring Valley, 4.
Irving Metzger, San Diego, 4. "Marcia's Number One."
Ron Meyer, Santee, 4. "Montana, here we come."
Jenny Miner, North Park, 4. "Thanks GCN!"
Gary Mocko, Ocean Beach, 4. "Get sidetracked! sdmm.org"
G.R. Morse, San Diego, 4. "Happy Birthday Mike."
C.J. Muellner, Spring Valley, 4.
Ed Murphy, Ocean Beach, 4.
Marge Nelson, El Cajon, 4. "Heartland Lions We Serve."
Elizabeth Noll, Alpine, 4. "Donate to friendsofcats.org"
Jim Odell, Vista, 4.
Julie Osburn, North Park, 4. "On my way to the annual Cane-fest. Thanks Reed, Andi."
Robert Ott, Mira Mesa, 4. "Four man rush."
Jim Piburn, Point Loma, 4.

Gil Patricio, San Diego, 4. "Hello Peanut, Daisy, and Lilly."
John Pertle, Santee, 4. "John 14:6, John 6:47, John 20:31, Ephesians 2:8-9."
Robert Phillips, Downtown, 4. "Why do fat and slim chance mean the same thing?"
Bill Pischke, Ramona, 4. "Orange poems are gathered in tomes of redish yellow leather."
Don Prince, Serra Mesa, 4. "I wonder how our world has come so far astray?"
John Prince, Serra Mesa, 4. "Spring comes early to this forgotten cornerstone of America."
Elizabeth Rainbolt, Mission Valley, 4.
Matt Read, La Mesa, 4. "Late starter; disputed finish; in the middle of dissent."
Don Reckles, Carmel Valley, 4. "Don't take life too seriously. Nobody gets out alive anyway!"
Janie Redmond, Cardiff, 4. "Heat, you're neat 8-0!"
Doug Rodgers, Rancho Penasquitos, 4.
Marc Rutter, University Heights, 4. "The Ox is still waxing, so let's get cracking, Jackie!"
Eric Sandquist, Allied Gardens, 4. "Support Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation."
Ted Scafidi, Hillcrest, 4. "Knit them bones, CO!"
Tom Seaman, Alpine, 4.
Rich Sewell, Ocean Beach, 4. "Was Kurt Warner on an episode of Punk'd?"
Dave Small, San Carlos, 4. "A T-shirt would thrill me from beginning to end."
Clinton Smith, La Mesa, 4. "Hey, kids! What time is it? Girl Scout cookie time!"
Eddie Spaghetio, Coronado, 4. "143U15!
(Shh...quiet...listen)(Still...you turn me on) CIUM21"

Capn Skarz, Encinitas, 4. "Oh my god! A talking muffin!"
Tom Somich, Clairemont, 4.
Kay Stefferud, Carlsbad, 4. "A camping we will go."
Marjorie Stewart, Point Loma, 4. "Will Shortz is my hero!"
Thelma Strickland-Hicks, Del Mar, 4. "Try the Encinitas Cafe - Hwy 101. You'll love it!"
Gayle Studer, Mission Valley, 4. "Thank you Andre."
Pamela Swain, College Area, 4. "Another great puzzle!"
Lisa Torrescano, Spring Valley, 4. "Meg, pffft!"
Linda Tripp, Rancho Bernardo, 4.
☛ **Sal Vitale, Pacific Beach, 4.** "Steelers."
Glenn Walker, Pacific Beach, 4. "Ten steps forward, nine steps back. It's still progress."
Bob Werner, Bay Park, 4.
Adele West, Rancho Bernardo, 4.
Mark Wilde, Spring Valley, 4. "Keep the Soledad cross - get a life!"
Ann Winder, Hillcrest, 4. "Another puzzle bites the dust."
Ric Witt, Clairemont, 4. "Think we can really borrow and spend out of debt?"
Dan Abernathy, Santee, 3.
Linda Adsit, San Diego, 3.
Don Albee, Santee, 3.
Doretha Albee, Santee, 3.
Lucy Alderson, Chula Vista, 3. "www.yogacenterchulavista.com"
Steve and Dawn, North Park, 3.
M. Anderson, Santee, 3.
Susan Arnold, Santee, 3.
Don Austin, Laguna Beach, 3.
Rick Austin, Santee, 3.
Jackie Austin, Chula Vista, 3.
Gerry Austin, Chula Vista, 3.
Vickie Austin, Santee, 3.
Martha Awdziejewicz, Clairemont, 3.
Thomas Baggot, Carlsbad, 3.
Roy Bailey, Santee, 3.
G. Barker, Santee, 3.
Brian Beach, Santee, 3.
Terri Beach, Santee, 3.

Carl Bennett, Escondido, 3.
Rolan Bloomfield, Santee, 3.
Heather Bloomfield, Santee, 3.
R. Blue, San Diego, 3.
Evelyn Bowser, Hillcrest, 3. "House is sold."
Rick Braithwaite, Santee, 3.
Mike Broadhead, El Cajon, 3.
Loren Broadstone, Santee, 3.
Neal Brown, Santee, 3.
Margaret Buckner, Santee, 3.
Sue Coffey, Southwest SD, 3. "Good luck Tom - find something soon."
Dan Collins, Santee, 3.
Carrie Collins, Santee, 3.
Jon Connor, Oceanside, 3. "Arrogance will be your downfall. Prov. 29:24"
Laura Conshafter, Santee, 3.
Marilyn Cooper, Chula Vista, 3. "Chula Vista - the Rodney Dangerfield of the west coast."
Ben Cooper, Gaslamp, 3. "The correct spelling is prisms not prizms in 37 down."
Victor Correa, San Ysidro, 3. "There's a mouse in the house."
Donna Cresta, Chula Vista, 3. "Hey Ski, use the envelope."
Mike D'Asaro, Santee, 3.
Matt Dene, Santee, 3.
Tim Dene, Santee, 3.
Dave Descoteaux, Santee, 3.
Andre Desilets, Downtown, 3.
J. DeWitt, Santee, 3.
Jill Dickens, Santee, 3.
Makalani Dingane, Lemon Grove, 3. "Chargers fans, wait til next-next-next year!"
Ben Doverdahl, San Diego, 3. "I'll drive."
Sheilah Doyle, Santee, 3.
G. Doyle, Santee, 3.
Robin Drubin, Vista, 3.
Ed Edwards, Santee, 3.
Gunnar Eklof, Oceanside, 3.
George Elam, Vista, 3. "Grandpa and Great-Grandpa on 1/29/09. Both healthy."
Heather Ellsworth, Santee, 3.
Byron Ellsworth, Santee, 3.
Eduardo Emett, Santee, 3.
Don Erickson, Carlsbad, 3.
Manny Espino, Santee, 3.

Steve Fagerwold, Santee, 3.
Glenda Feilen, El Cajon, 3.
Bud Fisher, Mira Mesa, 3. "That's not my dog."
Jon Ford, Santee, 3. "Told ya we'd meet him. Did that really happen? Cheese!"
Mark Franc, Santee, 3.
Emma Friemuth, Santee, 3.
☛ **I.C. Garcia, Golden Hill, 3.** "Prosecute all war criminals - start with Bush II's admin."
Gina Glover, Santee, 3.
Joe Griffin, Crest, 3. "D'oh! Missed one last week."
Bill Griffin, Crest, 3. "Quote? I don't need no freakin' quote."
Erin Grimmer, Solana Beach, 3. "Ever find my missing fax from 2 weeks ago?"
Mike Gross, Santee, 3.
Hugh Hagues, Santee, 3.
Ward Harrington, Santee, 3.
Bryan Hartman, Golden Hill, 3. "Thanks KGB and TO. 3,000 years of beautiful tradition."
Ricky Hartpence, Santee, 3.
L.D. Hartpence, Santee, 3.
Mike Hartpence, El Cajon, 3.
Letty Hernandez, Chula Vista, 3.
Mark Hill, Santee, 3.
Anne Hinton, Point Loma, 3.
W Hodgson, Escondido, 3. "If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?"
Ron Hootman, Santee, 3. "Hoot 101: Aiming high for L1 (crossword speak)."
Edward C Horbett, Jr., Crown Point, 3. "Billy rocks Hiromi."
Billy Horton, Santee, 3.
Gerard Hoskins, Bonsall, 3. "Everyone has an expiration date...stay fresh!"
Richard Hutchings, Santee, 3.
George Jackson, Oceanside, 3.
Steve Jenks, Santee, 3.
Eric Jespersion, Santee, 3.
Billy Josen, Santee, 3.
Nicolette Jurevics-Richards, La Jolla, 3. "I'm glad I'm not alone in this crossword addiction."
Sara Khwaja, Poway, 3. "Can we trade AJ?"

Martha Klages, Encanto, 3.
Thisby Krakatoa, San Diego, 3. "Hi Honey! Hi Rick! Hi Stevel!"
David Kuntze, El Cajon, 3. "Are we all getting along yet?"
Gary Kuske, Santee, 3.
Carol Kuske, Santee, 3.
☛ **Frank Kuzniar, Carlsbad, 3.** "It's easy to grin when your ship comes in."
Nathan Ladd, Mission Hills, 3. "You can't bomb the world into peace."
Dennis Lamboy, Santee, 3.
Monty Landy, Santee, 3.
Ryan Leighty, Scripps Ranch, 3. "Pork chops and applesauce."
Susie Lektorich, Coronado, 3. "Have you walked your dog today?"
Michael Leslie, Santee, 3.
Cornelia Lewis, Alpine, 3. "Camp Balanza!"
Lane Litke, Chula Vista, 3.
Bev Longdon, El Cajon, 3. "Still waiting for my T-shirt!"
Angie Longoria, Santee, 3.
Bill Love, Santee, 3.
Aaron Lundblade, Santee, 3.
Steve Lundquist, San Diego, 3.
B.J. Lundquist, San Diego, 3.
Eben Maat, Santee, 3.
David McElhinney, Santee, 3.
Willie McGee, San Diego, 3. "Yes we can."
Kevin McNearney, Santee, 3.
Thomas McVeagh, Lakeside, 3. "To Tommy and Jake - I'm so proud of you!"
Aleksa Mendive, Normal Heights, 3.
Linda Millsberg, Santee, 3.
Ken Milne, Santee, 3.
Rumir Miravalles, San Diego, 3.
Heber Moore, Santee, 3.
Kevin Moreau, Santee, 3.
Sarah Murphy, Ocean Beach, 3.
Barbara Neill, Santee, 3.
James C. Nelson, El Cajon, 3.
Lillie Nelson, Santee, 3.
Charles Overdorf, Santee, 3.
Eugene Padua, Santee, 3.
Monica Palafox, Santee, 3.
David Papworth, Santee, 3.

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ARE DRUGS MAKING your life miserable? Do you want something better? So do we,

let's work together. Narcotics Anonymous, 619-584-1007. Espanol, 619-491-1984. North County, 866-331-1958.

BREAST CANCER 3-DAY WALK. The walk is November 20-22. I am Sunshine, 75 years young, doing 6th Breast Cancer walk to find a cure for Breast Cancer. I would appreciate your sponsorship if possible. 760-757-2191.

BUDDHIST MONK THUBTEN P.T. is in the hospital. Please contact him at thubtenpematenzin@yahoo.co.in. http://in.geocities.com/thubtenpematenzin/photopagetan2.html.

CAN PRAYER HEAL? Discover freedom and wellness. Find out how prayer works for you to eliminate chronic disease, pain, fear, anxiety, depression. Call 858-272-3246.

CANNABIS PATIENTS ACT (Association Cannabis Therapeutics). Nonprofit. Seeks caregiver/patient interns with questions about cooperatives, clones, medicine, growing guidelines. Proposition 215 guidelines. Meth kills. 619-528-0907.

DIVORCARE. Every Sunday, 9am. 10791 Tierrasanta Boulevard, East Wing, CVCF Campus. Free, new support group for those heartbroken by divorce, separation. DVD seminar, refreshments, conversation. bruce@sdfunding.com; 619-461-4480.

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FREE COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS! "How to Start a Business" (for people with disabilities). Wednesday March 4, 1pm-4pm, at State Department of Rehabilitation, 7575 Metropolitan Drive, 92108. Off-street parking available. Bus #928 from Fashion Valley Mall. Sponsored by Able-Disabled Advocacy. To reserve your spot, call Cindy Lennon, 619-231-5990 x315.

FREE PSYCHIC HEALING/LECTURE Clinic. Free reading for new visitors. Mondays, 7:30pm, 3/2, 4/6. Vessa's Clairvoy-

ant Program students. 4455 Morena Boulevard, Suite 108. 858-509-7582.

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FENCING

THIS WEEK’S CONTENDERS CONTINUED:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner

Laura Patterson, Azalea Park, 3. *“Thank you Carina Antonio of the Coshaw Group.”*
Chris Peterkin, Scripps Ranch, 3.
Nathan Petty, Santee, 3.
Michael Picardel, San Diego, 3. *“The Biter loves her CAO cap!”*
Derek Rasmussen, Santee, 3.
Jerry Riccio, Rancho Bernardo, 3. *“Great Super Bowl! Greater odds Chargers being there next year!”*
Connie Rittichier, Poway, 3.
Jack Rohrer, Clairemont, 3. *“Only one person in two billion will live to 116.”*
Richard Rose, Santee, 3.
Matthew Rosello, San Diego, 3. *“It is gone.”*
John Rosenbach, Escondido, 3.
Candy Sadleir, Santee, 3.
Randy Schimpf, Santee, 3.
Kevin Schimpf, Santee, 3.
J. Schwendinger, Santee, 3.
Pablo Shaw, San Diego, 3. *“Proud member of the Red Sox Nation.”*
Ron Shields, Santee, 3.
Chief Shiflett, San Diego, 3. *“Is there a didn’t win a Reader T-shirt T-shirt?”*
N’Namdi Sikumbuzo, Serra Mesa, 3.
Randy Sjoblom, Santee, 3.
Jeff Smith, University City, 3. *“Already missed one - hardly feel like keeping up.”*
Martin Soblick, Del Mar, 3.
Sam Spaeth, El Cajon, 3.
Sam Spaeth Jr, El Cajon, 3.
Gayle Squire, Santee, 3.
John Stead, Santee, 3.
Karen Steepy, Bonita, 3.
Elenore Stephens, Potrero, 3. *“P-town 4 life.”*
☛ **Robin Suter, La Mesa, 3.** *“It was twisted but I liked it.”*
Matt Taylor, Santee, 3.
Laurie Teemsma, Santee, 3.

Stacy Tool, Santee, 3.
Dena Torres, San Marcos, 3. *“Fat is unsat.”*
Barbara Varga, San Diego, 3. *“I love Freddie!”*
Jim Vaughan, Carlsbad, 3. *“Yank or tiger?”*
Nedda Viscovich, Cardiff, 3.
Bob Vollmar, La Jolla, 3.
Andrea Vollmer, Vista, 3.
Woody Weaver, Santee, 3.
Steve Wilson, Spring Valley, 3.
Lee Woodbury, Santee, 3.
Sue Worthen, Santee, 3.
Ivan Yanev, Santee, 3.
M. Zimmermann, Vista, 3. *“www.gopnot4me.blogspot.com”*
Mike Adkins, Santee, 2.
Patzy and Leah, El Cajon, 2. *“We need more Thursdays!”*
Bud Anderson, Santee, 2.
Jean Marie Barnes, Grantville, 2. *“It’s all you Jayne!”*
Karen Bartlett, Nestor, 2. *“Thanks again to partner Mike.”*
Dennis Beabout, Temecula, 2. *“Save money, save gas, get some sleep, join a vanpool!”*
Derek Besand, Santee, 2.
Wendy Besand, Santee, 2.
Bryan Breckenridge, Santee, 2.
John Bullock, Santee, 2.
Mike Bullock, Rancho Bernardo, 2. *“Congrats Mary.”*
Dave Capehart, Santee, 2.
Rick Chambless, San Diego, 2.
Wally Chapman, Chula Vista, 2.
Glen and Tesi Chavira-Cournoyer, Chula Vista, 2. *“Happy 33rd birthday Kevin.”*
Gena Clark, Mission Hills, 2. *“Jillian says hi, Dad.”*
Tim Clayton, Los Penasquitos, 2. *“Punkd my SSA.”*
Karia Coda, Oceanside, 2. *“Hi All!”*
Doug Coffin, Santee, 2.
Susan De Masi, Fallbrook, 2.
Mike Deliman, Santee, 2. *“Happy Birthday Karen Marie Otter!”*

John P Domingo, Chula Vista, 2. *“Hope you feel better, Mom. Lots o’ love.”*
Mike Downey, Santee, 2.
John L Drehner, North Park, 2. *“Frankly, I do give a damn!”*
Joseph Dzajic, Clairemont, 2.
Kathleene Evans, Santee, 2.
John Fabry, San Diego, 2. *“Happy to be here.”*
Jeff Fotheringham, Santee, 2.
Joseph Gold, San Diego, 2.
Susan Greene, Santee, 2.
Greg Harkless, San Diego, 2. *“You can’t fight in here. This is the war room!”*
Bob Harper, Lakeside, 2.
Marilynn Harrington, Santee, 2.
Andy Harrison, Santee, 2.
Sondra Hartpence, Santee, 2.
Larry Hartpence, Santee, 2.
Scott Heimer, Mission Valley, 2.
Neva Hemingway, Santee, 2.
LeRoy Hemingway, Santee, 2.
Russell Hill, Lake Forest, 2.
Ellie Hoey, Spring Valley, 2. *“I love New York.”*
Jon Hutchens, Encinitas, 2.
Jim Hutchings, Santee, 2.
EM Hutchings, Santee, 2.
Diane Hutchings, Santee, 2.
M. Jordan, Santee, 2.
Lynette Kiplinger, El Cajon, 2.
Troy Knapp, Santee, 2.
Tom Laurin, Chula Vista, 2. *“Behind every corrupt governor is a foul-mouthed bar hag!”*
Rick Marin, Santee, 2.
Erin Marin, Santee, 2.
James Mayfield, Bay Park, 2. *“Steelers, first to 6 Super Bowls. Go Niners in ‘07.”*
Archie McAllister, Chula Vista, 2. *“Tartan Day April 6.”*
Douglas Meyers, La Mesa, 2. *“Great puzzle DLW!”*
Donald Millsberg, Santee, 2.
Donnie Nelson, Santee, 2.
Chis Oliveira, Santee, 2.
Eric Ople, La Jolla, 2. *“Be chone to one another.”*
Lynda Ortiz, Santee, 2.
Michael Rewa, Allied Gardens, 2.

Adam Roberts, San Diego, 2. *“How would you describe this evening? Well, Ru-eeend of course!”*
Will Rogers, Santee, 2.
D. Schick, Oceanside, 2. *“Why me? Why not me?”*
Greg Schimdt, Santee, 2.
Chris Schmidli, San Diego, 2. *“Love my sweetie.”*
M. Sherritt, Santee, 2.
Jean D. Smickle, Santee, 2.
Craig Smith, Clairemont, 2. *“Shameless plug for Burning Sensations Salsa and Viva Pops. bgdfoods.com”*
Jeff Smith, Santee, 2.
Estevan Soto, Chula Vista, 2. *“Suck it Spring Valley! Go Lemon Grove! E pluribus unum.”*
Nathan Squire, Santee, 2.
Larry Summers, Santee, 2. *“How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.”*
Donna Swing, La Mesa, 2.
Rich Tschiegg, Scripps Ranch, 2. *“Rock till you drop, roll till you’re old. - Foghat”*
Marie Turock, North Park, 2.
Jennifer Underwood, University Heights, 2. *“Drink good beer in the new year!”*
Kierkegaard Victoria, San Diego, 2. *“Three checks to our eagle-eyed puzzle helpers.”*
Dave Washington, La Jolla, 2. *“Hooray Steelers!”*
Westie, San Diego, 2. *“Thin Mints, yum!”*
John Willis, National City, 2. *“Soy el jefe, no lo olivides!”*
Warren Winters, Santee, 2.
Elizabeth Wood, Poway, 2. *“PQ! www.nygiantpizza.com”*
Mary Woodbury, Santee, 2.
Michael Wright, Downtown, 2.
Steven Young, Santee, 2.
Aurora Alvarado, Carmel Valley, 1. *“You’re the one for me, Fatty.”*
Tom and Jenn, Mira Mesa, 1. *“I knead your butt!”*
H.J. Broadhurst, Hillcrest, 1. *“Check, scan, send, duh!”*
Charlie Brown, San Diego, 1. *“Nothing personal.”*

Jim Cacolice, 1.
Max Calhoun, Vista, 1. *“The cool girls fell in love, got knocked up, and suffered.”*
Mark Chapman, San Diego, 1. *“I love Bellisima!”*
Kevin Church, Mission Hills, 1. *“First time submitter.”*
Chris Donnelly, Carlsbad, 1. *“Love you !!”*
Rosalie Dow, San Diego, 1. *“I finally got it in on time!”*
Allen L. Edwards, Coronado, 1.
John Egan, Coronado, 1. *“Walking bear magic.”*
Silke Evans, Mission Valley, 1. *“Shout out to Nathan in Mass.”*
Marty Ferullo, Pacific Beach, 1. *“2 months to Red Sox Nation.”*
Greg Fink, Chula Vista, 1. *“Happy Birthday to me!”*
Becky Funk, Santee, 1.
☛ **Sandy Groves, Bonita, 1.**
Pete Grubb, El Cajon, 1. *“Grace and Pete.”*
T.K. Halverstone, Mission Valley, 1.
Jim Hitchcock, 1. *“Happy Birthday to me!”*
E. Holmes, San Diego, 1. *“Spring has sprung.”*
Vance Howard, Little Italy, 1.
Dennis Howey, La Verne, 1.
Katie B Jargmillo, San Marcos, 1. *“The Reader puzzle rock our brains! Huge thx from FNL.”*
Pat Jones, Allied Gardens, 1. *“Woo hoo.”*
Naomi Kashiwabara, Clairemont, 1. *“Time consuming but fun.”*
Kathy Law, La Mesa, 1. *“Love to Bill. Hi to Al, Marylou, and Rocio.”*
Jose A. Maniquis, Mira Mesa, 1. *“Have a great tirp Andy, Melissa, Myla, and Emily!”*
Shelly McElhinney, Santee, 1.
Joseph McGuire, Downtown, 1. *“Happy Birthday Mark. Many many more.”*
Caroline McKinley, Oceanside, 1. *“Happy Birthday Andrew Had-dock.”*
Pat McMann, Solana Beach, 1. *“Nitim ur in vetitum, right Poo Poo Head?”*

Fred Morghen, El Cajon, 1. *“Thanks for your great puzzles.”*
☛ **Michael Panther, Point Loma, 1.** *“Happy Birthday, Pete! Flip tiny!”*
John C Pipes, Lemon Grove, 1. *“Obama is still an empty suit.”*
Carol Rabner, Escondido, 1.
Chris Senungetuk, San Diego, 1. *“Hafa Adai!”*
Les Sherman, Pacific Beach, 1. *“Who cares what the Republicans think? They lost!”*
Ken Sirios, El Cajon, 1.
Grayson Sorensen, Spring Valley, 1. *“Go Enforcers!”*
Tom Stam, Lakeside, 1.
Oscar Subido, Oceanside, 1. *“To do is to be, to be is to do.”*
Linda Summers, Mission Valley, 1.
Jerry Sykes, North Park, 1. *“Time flies like an arrow, fruit flies like a banana.”*
James Thomas, Downtown, 1. *“Cardinals 27, Steelers 14.”*
☛ **Jack Tripp, San Diego, 1.** *“Go Chargers - and don’t come back!”*
Rob Warren, Sabre Springs, 1. *“Darth Vader drives a black Jetta. Love ya.”*
Ed Wasil, Clairemont, 1. *“Today this puzzle, tomorrow the world!”*
Michael Williams, Downtown, 1. *“Tony Madrid is back. Vacation was fantastic.”*
Shane Wood, Lemon Grove, 1. *“Chagara Chagara!”*
☛ **Jared Wurtz, San Diego, 1.**
David Ybariza, Chula Vista, 1. *“Wild Wooly’s - the place to be in CV”*
Pat Zenz, University Heights, 1. *“Hooray. Happy Valentine’s Day to all.”*

TRAVEL & GETAWAYS

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

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LEGENDARY MEXICO GETAWAY only \$29*. The Rosarito Beach Hotel is offering a \$29+ tax for a standard room. *Per person, based on a 2-person standard room. Valid Sunday- Thursday until 2/19/09, except U.S. holidays, subject to and limited availability. Reservations required. 1-866-Rosarito. www.rosaritobeachhotel.com.

LITTLE ITALY. \$8,000. Point- based time-share. 6,000 annual points, 7,200 already banked, 6,000 available to borrow. \$111 quarterly dues. Original books/paperwork available. 619-607-1788.

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

PERSONALS

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JUPITER TO GODDESS GLORIA. Got your letters- don’t you think it’s time to meet? You know where I live. Back door is unlocked, come on in.

LONGING FOR HONEYBEES Missing your poet? She can be found- www.blurb.com— click poetry, look for vibrant hibiscus on cover, her latest work, “Longing for Honeybees.”

SPECIAL THANKS to 2 women who helped me when I tripped in parking lot of Tree 99 Cents Tuesday evening. Your assistance truly helped relieve the trauma/ knee injury. Angels bless you.

THANK YOU Holy spirit for prayers answered. 3P.

WANTED: SENIOR LADY by senior gentleman to travel by car. March or April. Write box holder PO BOX 731 El Cajon, CA 92022.

MUSIC EQUIPMENT / INSTRUMENTS

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ACOUSTIC GUITARS, 2. Takamine. 1975 “Martin Lawsuit” dreadnaught solid top, both with hard case. Rosewood and mahogany. Good condition. \$600 each. 619-851-0382.

AMPS AND GUITARS: 1967 Fender Deluxe Reverb \$1499, Musicman RD 1x10 \$499, Gibson Mesa Boogie Solo head \$899, GK Backline 600 \$225, GK GLX 4x10 Bass Cab \$225, Marshall AVT 150H with Marshall cab \$599, Crate VTX 65 \$275, Peavey Bandit 112 \$219, Fender Ultimate Chorus \$250, SG Faded \$549, Fender Standard Strat \$299, Epiphone BB King Lucille with Burst Buckers. \$699, Epiphone Howard Roberts \$625, Jackson PS-3 \$349, Framus upright Viol Bass \$725. At Moze Guitars, 619-698-1185.

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GIBSON GUITAR SOURCE. Over 300 Gibson guitars in stock. We guarantee best prices on all Gibsons and Marshall amps. Centre City Music, 1033 Sixth Avenue. Call 619-338-9033. www.ccitymusic.com.

GUITAR SET-UP. Received a new guitar for Christmas? For \$25, I will 1)change strings on your electric or acoustic; 2)adjust action (string height) so guitar is easy to play; 3)set intonation with strobe tuner, 4)adjust truss rod if necessary. Tom: 619-857-5463.

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PIANO, Kawai Upright Digital CA5, bought new in 2006, USB/Midi ready, excellent condition, rarely played! Paid \$3200, asking \$1699. Pick up only. Jim, 619-306-4780.

PIANOS WANTED! All pianos! Cash paid. Also, quality furniture and antiques. 1 piece or houseful. Bonded. Licensed. Since 1965.

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TRADE LES PAUL custom Epiphone guitar. For a 24- 8 Mackie console. 619-690-0872

USED GEAR CLEARANCE February 6-8. Guitar and bass cabinets from \$99! Plus guitars, effects, amps and more. Quantities limited. Guitar Trader of San Diego, 7120 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. 858-565-8814.

MUSIC MUSICIANS AVAILABLE / WANTED

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BASS PLAYER WANTED. Classic to modern rock band. Rehearsal studio in El Cajon. Play in local bars. Good gear, vocals a plus. www.myspace.com/redlightbehavior1. Scott, 619-400-7587.

BASS PLAYER/DRUMMER looking for rock n roll band. We’re 48 years of age. Byron, 619-479-4129.

GREAT VOICES NEEDED. Need tenors/ bass/alto/soprano. Male/female for 6 person acaPELLa group. 50s- current. Gospel/ improv. For fun/possible money. Rebel, 619-246-2950.

KEYBOARD/BASS GUITAR. Band seeking experienced bass guitar and keyboard players. Country, blues, honky tonk. If interested, please call Bob at 858-753-1775.

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VOCALIST NEEDED. Established cover band, "Mad for Mary." We play about 3 weekends/month. We book a year in advance. Busy schedule! www.madformary.com. www.myspace.com/madformary. 619-795-5964.

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AUDIO RECORDING STUDIO. Spacious, commercial location. 24-48 tracks. ProTools HD, ADAT, analog tape. 60 channel console. Steinway piano. Vintage microphones/preamps/signal processors. www.hitsinglerecording.com. 619-258-1080.

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RECORD/MASTER AT POWERHOUSE. ProTools HD3, experienced staff, Yamaha Grand, mic selection and more. \$25/hour rate includes engineer. www.powerhouserecording.com. Credit cards accepted. 858-277-0514; 760-789-7420.

REHEARSAL IN OCEAN BEACH at Spotless. 1922 Bacon Street across from Winston's. 3 air conditioned rooms with PA, available for hourly rentals. Parking, loading. 619-523-3073.

REHEARSAL STUDIOS! Current special: \$100 off first month's rent with ad! Two locations — Sports Arena & Miramar. Monthly and hourly available. Universal Sound, 619-306-2222.

REHEARSAL STUDIOS. \$15/hour with PA. Monthly \$350-\$475. 1/2 off first month's rent! Ventilated. Wi-Fi connection. Affordable recordings, screen printing, DVD, CD duplication, web design services. Dead Records, 760-967-1420 cell, 760-707-8606.

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REHEARSE AT HINDSIGHT Miramar. Hourly rooms, fully equipped (drum kit, two half stacks, bass rig, PA), starting \$18/hour. PA only \$16/hour. 858-635-9611, www.hindsightrehearsal.com.

ROOMMATES

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

CARDIFF. \$475. Room in 4- bedroom house. Washer/dryer. Fireplace, near beach. First and deposit, utilities included. Mellow dog OK. Call after 5pm, 760-436-6500.

CARMEL VALLEY. \$675. Master bedroom, includes private bath. Private entrance. Utilities. Near Del Mar Beach. Female only. No smoking/pets. 858-794-0636.

CARMEL VALLEY/DEL MAR. Bedroom with private bath, cable. Pool, spa, tennis. Best location. No smoking/drugs/pets. \$695/month. 858-792-5380.

CHULA VISTA. 2 furnished rooms/view, \$555/\$575, includes utilities. Cable/inter-

net access. Nice, quiet neighborhood. No drugs, smoking, alcohol, pets. East of I-805 freeway. Available 3/1/09. 619-482-9478, 619-840-7299.

CHULA VISTA. Nice room in big remodeled house. Share bath, kitchen, living room. Parking, cable, washer/dryer. Jacuzzi. Includes all utilities. Female preferred. \$500. 619-227-8512.

CITY HEIGHTS. Large room. Hardwood floors, large closet. 2 bedroom quiet house. Laundry. Cable/internet. Male preferred. No drugs/smoking/pets. \$450, 1/2 utilities. 619-261-8897.

CLAIREMONT. \$452.50 plus shared utilities. Room in 4 bedroom house, share with 3 males. Great location near beach, shopping, freeways. No pets. \$250/deposit. 619-871-1384.

CLAIREMONT. \$500. Clairemont home. Near bay, stores, bus. UCSD, USD, Mesa. Furnished. Net, cable, big garden. \$100 utilities. \$100 deposit. No lease. Available now. 619-276-1966.

CLAIREMONT. \$500. Near Mesa College and bus stop. No pets/smoking. Male only. Cable TV and utilities included. Call after 5pm, 858-571-0383, 858-337-2770, 858-353-4449.

CLAIREMONT. \$525, 1/4 utilities. Room with view. Male preferred. Share kitchen, bathroom, yard, washer/dryer, Tivo/DSL. First, last, \$250 deposit. No pets. 858-277-9075.

CLAIREMONT. \$550. Share 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Large kitchen. Garage, storage, washer/dryer. Covered patio, barbecue. Hi-speed Internet available. Near all. 858-598-5990.

CLAIREMONT. 1 furnished bedroom. Balboa/Genesee area. Quiet residential area. Cable TV, refrigerator, microwave, and shower. \$600, includes utilities. Call 858-531-2947.

CLAIREMONT. Nice room in private house. Share bath. Kitchen/laundry privileges. No smoking/drugs/pets/parties. Female preferred. \$600/month plus \$250 deposit. 858-560-6185.

CLAIREMONT. Room with private entrance, own bath, cable, laundry. Clean/quiet home. Parking. 1 mile west of Mesa College. Sorry no pets. Female preferred. 858-569-0105.

COLLEGE AREA. \$475. Own room in 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Beautiful mountain views, hardwood, fireplace, cable Internet. Split utilities. taylor@yahoo.com. Call after 4:30pm, 619-520-9108.

COLLEGE AREA. \$580. 1/4 utilities, \$200 deposit. Female only. Furnished room-clean, quiet home. No drugs. Housekeeper twice/month. Consider dog. Available 3/1. 619-302-3530.

CORONADO/DOWNTOWN. Roommate wanted to share 3 bedroom furnished house, near Ferry Landing. With washer/dryer, internet, own phone. Available February 23. \$613/month. 619-435-5868.

CROWN POINT. Private home, half block bus, bay, shopping. \$550/month, \$200 deposit. Single occupancy. No pets. Male preferred. Utilities included. 858-270-5348.

DEL CERRO. \$600. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Quiet. No smoking/Loud partying. Nice location. Low utilities. Upstairs unit. Must see. Available now. Details. Marilyn 714-366-8564

DEL MAR/EAST. \$500- \$700. Long/short term. Rooms in beautiful, quiet house. Males preferred. Furnished, Internet, cable. Share utilities. Near UCSD, beaches. Available. 858-245-7188.

DOWNTOWN. Victorian mansion, completely refurbished. Quiet tranquil garden setting. Utilities, high speed internet/cable TV included. Close to freeways/trolleys/restaurants. Rooms start at \$375, \$475. \$600 for master. Call Lee, 619-237-7840.

EL CAJON. \$650 plus deposit/1/2 utilities. Walk-in closet, private bathroom. Dish-washer, washer/dryer. Private community. Pool, Jacuzzi, gym. No smoking. Available now. 619-980-1973.

EL CAJON. Roommate to share 2 bedroom, 2 bath home in upscale park with pool, Jacuzzi, basketball. New carpet,

Reader Pop Quiz

This week's questions

1. What two rock legends did Josh Board recently hobnob with at Barney's Beanery?
2. Identify San Diego's original Thai restaurant.
3. At Red Worm Fertilizing Products in Escondido, a pound of worms buy roughly how many worms?
4. What does the acronym FIDO, the dog owners' rights group, stand for?
5. Roughly how many 3- to 17-year-old "lost boys" ran for their lives starting in 1983, fleeing the fighting in the Sudanese civil war?
6. Local rockers the Soft Pack (playing in town this Saturday) recently changed their name from what?
7. The Bird and the Bee landed a remake of what Bee Gees song in the soundtrack of what movie?
8. Bertrand at Mr. A's, by Naomi Wise's reckoning, has the best what in town?
9. In 1987, Frank Zappa invited local guitarist Mike Keneally to replace Steve Vai as his " ____."
10. The saguaro cactus can live approximately how many years?

Last week's answers

1. Ninja Love. (p. 72)
2. The JFK assassination. (p. 106)
3. Cheap Trick, *Heaven Tonight*. (p. 80)
4. An 8" x 10" photo. (p. 93)
5. Brian Wilson. (p. 74)
6. El Dorado Energy Solar. (p. 7)
7. Jason Mraz. (p. 72)
8. Chopsticks. (p. 97)
9. Laurel Canyon in Los Angeles. (p. 86)
10. Bully's. (p.96)

Last Week's Winners:

Armin Moths, Gordon Kanteena, Eric Ople, Mtume Salaam, and Brian Reese

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@sreader.com; or deliver to 1703 India Street in Little Italy (we have an after-hours mail slot).

\$675/month includes utilities. Walter, 619-787-6846.

ENCINITAS. \$575, includes utilities. Room for female. Family home. Quiet retreat. Large closet. 90% private bath. Kitchen/laundry privileges. No drugs, smoking, pets. 760-943-8136.

ENCINITAS. \$600 includes utilities. Spacious room. Large, quiet house. Near all amenities/MiraCosta College. 2 miles to Moonlight beach. Single occupancy. No pets/smoking/drugs. 619-318-1742.

ESCONDIDO, SOUTHWEST. Large master bedroom. Private bath. Large private yard, quiet, clean. Pool, hot tub. \$525, 1/3 SDG&E. Female only. 760-445-7155.

ESCONDIDO. Share apartment. 1 bathroom. Balcony. Air conditioning, heating. Gated community. Pool, Jacuzzi. Female only. \$500/month, including utilities, zero deposit! Near shopping. 858-776-6648.

GOLDEN HILL. \$460/\$475. Utilities included. Large, quiet. Centrally located. 3 private bedroom apartment. Share bath and kitchen. Deposit. 2220 E Street. Appointment necessary. 619-584-5900.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$750. "Come home to a home." Bedroom in large 2- story Craftsman. Cable and all utilities included. Washer/dryer. Rain forest garden. Dogs welcome! 619-232-3937.

LA COSTA. Master bedroom, 14'x16', with private bath and deck. Male preferred. No smoking or drugs. \$700, plus utilities. 760-431-8635.

LA JOLLA SHORES. Share 2 bedroom, 2 private bath furnished condo, except bedroom. Washer/dryer in unit. Pool, Jacuzzi. Gated parking. \$800/month. 858-642-6733.

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$650. Furnished, cable, internet, laundry, share bath. Utilities, kitchen privileges. Safe parking. Near UCSD. No smoking/pets. Near I-5, 805, 52. 619-602-5052.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA. \$725-\$900. Lovely completely furnished room also master bedroom. Private entrance. Utilities/wireless Internet included. Cleaning service. Nonsmoker. No drugs/pets. References. 858-459-3089.

LA MESA/SAN CARLOS. Furnished \$495/month, included utilities, \$300 deposit. Laundry. Walk to mountain/lake. References. Private refrigerator, microwave. Nonsmoker. Mellow household. 619-469-3468, 619-750-6432.

LAKE SIDE. Room and bath for rent. No smoking. 2 minutes from I-8. \$535/month, utilities included. 619-938-0256.

LINDA VISTA. \$480. 3 bedroom home. Ocean view, central, tropic yard. Quiet. New carpet/marble. Laundry. \$300 deposit. No smoking/pets. Male preferred. Bill, 858-518-1517.

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MIRA MESA Miramar College. \$565, including utilities. Large room in quiet clean home, granite kitchen, pool. Male, non-smoker, nondrinker. No drugs/pets. Near bus. Available 2/15/09. 858-695-9992

MIRA MESA. Furnished room available. Clean, private, quiet. \$520/month, utilities included. Deposit. Kitchen/laundry privileges. No pets/smoking/children. References needed. Male preferred. 858-693-3866.

MIRA MESA. Room for rent with own bath. Nice neighborhood. Female only. No illegal drugs or smoking. \$650, includes utilities. Available now. 858-382-1663.

MIRA MESA/NORTH. Sorrento Valley area. Luxury house. Canyon view. \$700. Furnished bedroom. Use of kitchen and all facilities. Cable, Internet. No pets. 619-955-9979

NATIONAL CITY/PARADISE HILLS. \$475 plus \$100 deposit, utilities included. Furnished/cable TV, Internet. Laundry. Shared bathroom/kitchen. Male only, non-smoker. No drugs/pets. 619-602-1824.

NORTH CLAIREMONT. \$530 plus shared utilities. Available now. Bright, sunny room. Large house, yard. Shops/restaurants/freeway close. Kitchen/laundry. No pets/drugs. J.R., 858-337-1349.

NORTH PARK. Female to share 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Off-street parking, garage/storage. Large bedroom, quiet street, good light, spacious apartment. \$487.50. 619-299-0557.

OCEAN BEACH. Room in beautiful 3 bedroom condo, ocean view, 3 blocks beach. Washer/dryer. No smoking/pets/drugs. Male preferred. \$725. 619-246-8560.

OCEANSIDE. Large room available in house with large yards, washer/dryer, cable, fireplace. Just east of I-5, near park, public pool. \$600/month. Message, 760-721-7978.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$700. Large bedroom/bath. Sunny, spacious house. Great location. Safe. Large kitchen, dishwasher, washer/dryer. Fireplace. Large yard. No smoking. Female only. 858-483-3326.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$875 rent; \$775 deposit. 4-level condo. Own bed/bath. Laundry, 2 balconies, ocean view, storage. Internet, DVR. Beach/restaurants walking distance. jlhdesigns@gmail.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. Room available in brand new 4 bedroom 4 bath, 3 story house. One block to bay. Hardwood floors, stainless steel appliances, dishwasher, travertine, washer/dryer. Plasma/sound surround, pool table. No pets. A must see! \$875- \$925, plus deposit and utilities. Available now. 858-531-7133.

PARADISE HILLS/BONITA. \$725. Whole upstairs- bedroom, walk in closet, sitting room, full bath. Furnished, private. Microwave, miniature fridge. Laundry/ kitchen privileges. Female only. 619-267-4311.

POINT LOMA. \$850, 1/3 utilities. Large private bedroom/bath in gorgeous new 3 bedroom, 3- 1/2 bath house 1 mile from beach! Great location. 619-756-7910.

POINT LOMA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. \$650 own room. Available now. Male or female. 619-886-0681.

POWAY. \$500, 1 room, share bath with one another. Close to I-15, shopping and bus line. No pets, drugs, drinking. Call 858-679-9459.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO/SPRING VALLEY. \$400. Spacious room in 3 bedroom 2 bath house. Near Cucyama College/I-94. Community pools, parks, tennis. Female only. 619-785-7395.

SABRE SPRINGS. Townhouse. \$625. Own bathroom. \$200 deposit. No dogs/cats. No smoking/drugs. Nice neighborhood. Community jacuzzi/swimming pool. Female only. 858-232-1185

SDSU. \$715. 1 room available now in 5 bedroom. Awesome location. House has internet, cable, washer/dryer, air conditioning, kitchen, backyard. Email khieber@gmail.com. 619-248-7770

SERRA MESA. \$490. Room with private bath. Pool, backyard, laundry. Internet/cable included. Nice, safe, quiet area. Close to all. Street parking. No pets. 619-889-0281.

SERRA MESA. Room in home. Close to major freeway, Mission/Fashion Valley. \$650/month, includes utilities, cable, etc. \$400 deposit. No drugs, smoking, pets. 858-277-7003; 858-449-6449.

SOUTH BAY MARINA. Sleeping berth aboard a 47' sailing schooner, beautiful, peaceful, quiet environment. \$495. Part time \$375. 619-585-0534.

SPRING VALLEY/LA MESA. \$80-\$100/week. No deposit. Utilities, furnishings, amenities included (Cable, Internet, free long distance, gym equipment). At 94/125 freeways, Thomas, The Treehouse Sober Living. 714-787-8744.

TIERRASANTA. \$595 plus utilities plus \$350 deposit. Washer/dryer. Furnished/unfurnished. Near all. No smoking/drugs/pets. Male preferred. 858-292-0145.

TIERRASANTA. \$700, includes all utilities, cable. Furnished bedroom, costs extra for bedroom for storage, office or Pool, spa, private bath. Deposit. Female preferred. 858-518-1863.

VISTA. \$850 includes utilities. Sunny, furnished queen bedroom/private bath. Share kitchen, living rooms, washer/dryer, patio, yard, garage. Central location. No pets/smoking. 760-727-6018.

ROOMMATE SERVICES

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

ALL AREAS-ROOMMATES.COM. Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: www.Roommates.com. (AAN CAN)

RENTALS COMMERCIAL

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

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.

LA JOLLA COMMERCIAL SPACE. Beautiful Wellness Spa, 17 years in La Jolla, has room for rent. Reception area. Restroom. Ideal for health practitioner. www.detoxspaoflajolla.com. 858-551-9228.

NORTH PARK. \$1795 plus triple net. Ideally located. Close to all freeways. Property has great potential. City has started a major rejuvenation plan. 2312 El Cajon Boulevard. Call agent, 619-692-4121.

OCEAN BEACH. 4653 Lotus Street. Garage. Dry storage only. \$175. \$175 deposit. Require 3 months in advance. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

OFFICE SUITES (3) FOR LEASE. Fully remodeled! Navajo Park Professional Building, 7290 Navajo Road. Suites are 672, 720, and 1020 square feet. \$1150- \$1735/ month plus maintenance charges. Building includes new HVAC, newly paved parking lot, landscaping. Elevator, plenty of parking, coffee cart. Located at corner of Navajo and Golfcrest. Near Cowles Mountain, Mission Trails, Lake Murray, Grossmont Center, SDSU, etc. For additional information or for tour, contact Yamel at 619-723-3734.

OLD TOWN RETAIL/OFFICE Space. 500 square feet, ground floor newer building. Preferred location. Hardwood flooring, bathroom, painted, security, parking. Call 619-692-1465.

PACIFIC BEACH RETAIL/OFFICE space. 750 square feet. \$1500/monthly. Newly remodeled building. 4850 Cass Street. 619-890-9210.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1.50/square foot gross. Nice professional building. 640-

1100 square feet available. Utilities included. 2180 Garnet Avenue. Agent, 619-231-2727, x233.

PACIFIC BEACH. Office space. \$19500. 1400 square foot ground floor office, ample parking. easy access. 4455 Lamont Street, Suite #3. 858-270-4492 x203.

POINT LOMA/MIDWAY. \$1.10/square foot gross. Great street frontage at this high-traffic location. Lock in your low rate now! 3333 Midway Drive. Agent, 619-231-2727.

SOLANA BEACH commercial/office space. \$1679. 650 square feet. Three rooms plus full bath and storage. 118B S. Acacia. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Office space in Park Boulevard Artworks Building: \$400-\$475, open loft style. Month free special! 4421 Park Boulevard. Available now. Agent, 619-260-8121.

RENTALS HOUSES

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

ALTA VISTA/ENCANTO. \$1,995. Newer 3 bedroom, 2 bath manufactured home. Gated with coded entry system. Cat or small dog okay. 5640 Alta Vista Avenue, 619-793-4010.

BANKER'S HILL. 2 bedroom with office room, hardwood floors, totally renovated with washer/dryer. Must see to appreciate! \$1795 with \$1795 deposit. OAC. 2120 Second Avenue. 619-549-9726.

BAY PARK. \$2100/month. Large custom-built 3 bedroom, 2 bath, entertainers delight, exotic landscaping. Views of Presidio and Point Loma. Available immediately. 1800 square feet. Pets ok. 5766 Riley Street. 619-276-2513.

BAY PARK. \$2650. Awesome bay views form this private 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. 2- car garage, carport, laundry hookups. 1893 square feet. Ready 2/10! 3252 Donely Street. Leigh, 858-483-3534 x12. www.Cal-Prop.com.

CHULA VISTA. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, excellent home. Centrally located. Nonsmoking. Small pet OK. 561 Roosevelt Street. Appointment necessary. 619-584-5900.

CHULA VISTA. \$2150. This 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom home contains 1710 square feet. It has a fireplace, stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer and dishwasher. It also has a pool. Sorry no pets! Please contact Rob Inglat at 619-435-7780 or visit our website at www.mckeecompany.com for more information.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1050 rent. \$800 deposit. OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Driveway parking. Garage available. \$50. No pets. At 4333 41st Street. Agent, 619-299-8515.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1080. Cool house. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 2 parking. Huge patio. Onsite laundry. No backyard/garage/smoking/pets. \$900 deposit. 4159 42nd. 619-251-0030.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 1 bath plus family room, upgraded house with yard. 5450 University Avenue #F. Agent, 858-560-1178.

CLAIREMONT MESA. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house. Rent \$1750. Deposit \$1750. 1 garage. Upgraded! No pets/Section 8. Available to move in now. 1551 square feet. 4552 Sauk Avenue. 619-245-4220 or v@sdcpm.net.

CLAIREMONT, NORTH. \$2,200. 3 bedroom, new 1-1/2 bath. Open floor plan. Covered patio, fenced. 2- car garage. Saturday- Sunday 10am-2pm. Mowing provided. 5341 Cole Street. 858-273-7241.

CLAIREMONT. Available 2/12. 3248 Petunia Court. \$2195. 4- bedroom, 2-bath nice home in Bay Ho area. 1470 square feet. 2- car garage, dead- end street, fruit trees, laundry hookups. No pets. Call Leigh, 858-483-3534. www.Cal-Prop.com.

CLAIREMONT. \$1250. 2- bedroom, 1-bath duplex. One- car garage. No pets. 2 parking. New carpet/paint. Clean. Fenced

yard/porch. 4414 Clairemont Drive. Juno. 619-275-3455.

CLAIREMONT. Beautiful, quiet 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath canyon home. Mountain views. 2- car garage. Washer/dryer. Fenced yard. Close to UCSD. \$2000. Agent: Michael, 619-886-9655.

CLAIREMONT/BAY PARK. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, den, big storage area, garage, fenced yard, dishwasher, washer/dryer. Quiet private area. 1 pet OK. 858-677-9932.

COLLEGE AREA. Lovely, quiet 3 bedroom, 2 bath plus den, fireplace, double garage. Garden with fruit trees. Fully equipped. Near shops. \$1800. 619-287-3644.

COLLEGE AREA/LA MESA. \$1695. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Newer 2 story home. 2- car garage. All appliances. Washer/dryer. Fenced yard. Pets OK. Available 2/1. 4767 Jessie Avenue. 619-871-6909.

COLLEGE AREA/ROLANDO. \$1250. 2-bedroom, 1- bath house. 2- car garage. Large yard. Laundry hookups. No dogs/cats. 4558 Rolando Boulevard. Available now. 858-292-6046.

COLLEGE. \$2000. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. New carpet/paint, granite, fireplace, fans, all appliances, eat- in kitchen, enclosed patio, fenced yard, (2) garage, ample parking. Must see. 4519 58th Street (92115) 619-517-6111.

COLLEGE. \$2400. 4 bedroom, 2 bath canyon house. Sharp, granite kitchen/baths, new paint, skylights, fans, all appliances, covered patio, view deck, fenced, floored attic, very clean, must see: 5242 Tipton (92115). 619-517-6111.

CROWN POINT. \$3000. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath private home on corner lot, fireplace, 2- car garage, large master, laundry hookups. Pets OK with deposit. 1968 square feet. Move in 3/07. 3701 Yosemite Street. Leigh, 858-483-3534 x12. www.Cal-Prop.com.

DEL CERRO. \$2300. Large, lovely 4 bedroom, 2 bath, double garage, fenced yard, close to all. 6- month lease. Available now. 6219 Chrismark Avenue. 619-465-6588.

EAST VILLAGE. Victorian flat. Living room and dining room. Wide plank flooring. Totally renovated. New kitchen. Private yard. High ceilings. Full bath. Very unique! 1752 National Avenue. \$999. 858-568-5081.

ENCANTO. \$1825. 3 bedroom, 2 bath private home, large yard, newer carpet. 2- car garage, laundry hookups. 1500 square feet. Move in 2/26! No pets. 7646 Viewcrest Drive. Leigh, 858-483-3534 x12. www.Cal-Prop.com.

ENCINITAS. \$2500. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. On cul-de-sac. Fireplace, Jacuzzi, 2- car garage. Near elementary school, shopping, freeway access. Community pool/park/tennis court. 1632 Hilltop Lane. 858-231-0014.

FLETCHER HILLS/EL CAJON. \$1950. 486 Hawthorne Avenue. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Foyer, dining room, living room, swimming pool, garage, huge yard. Dog OK. Available beginning of February. Phillips Realty 619-291-6686.

HILLCREST. \$1100. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage situated in nice courtyard setting with lush landscaping, hardwood floors, walking distance to Balboa Park and San Diego Zoo. Available 2/18. 3718 Park Boulevard #3728-1/2. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

HILLCREST. \$2500. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Available 2/15. High, fenced yard; gated into valley end of street for large, quiet dogs. http://members.cox.net/hillcrest_valley_house for pictures. 619-296-5816.

LA JOLLA. Available 2/25/09. 7770 Rose-land Place. \$4000. 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 1500 square foot home, dual master suites, garage, yard, fireplace, family room, laundry hookups, Jacuzzi, hot tub, huge walk-in closet with built-in dressers and cabinets. No pets. Call Leigh 858-483-3534, www.Cal-Prop.com.

LA JOLLA. Beautifully upgraded ocean-view home. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Stainless appliances. 2500 square feet. Granite countertops. Large patio with fire pit. Fireplace. Flat screen. 2- car garage. Pool. Gardener/pool maintenance included. \$5950. 1681 Paseo Bonita. Available immediately. Alta Vista Properties, 858-692-5140. altavistamanagement.com.

LA JOLLA. House, 3 bedroom, 2 bath on the lane. Fireplace, laundry, tile floors. Patio/yard/barbecue. 1- car garage. Appoint-

ment only. No smoke/pets. \$2775. 858-454-3140.

LA JOLLA/MOUNT SOLEDAD. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2- car garage, fireplace, air conditioning, kitchen with granite countertops. Jacuzzi, patios. One story. Pets OK. \$2700. 619-440-6331.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath house, 2- story. Cul-de-sac. Ocean view, decks. Walk to beach! All appliances. Two fireplaces, garage. Gardener. \$3750. 858-613-9484.

LA MESA. \$1750. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. 1100 square feet. Appliances, large backyard. Laundry, dryer only. Storage shed. Pet okay. 2 parking spaces. Ann, 619-921-4645.

LA MESA. Upgraded 3 bedroom, 1 bath home available now. Fireplace, yard, air, washer/dryer. 4577 71st Street. \$1,900. Poseidon Property Group, 619-334-6781. www.poseidonproperty.com.

LEMON GROVE. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath house. Laundry, yard, patio. Utilities/cable included. Parking. May be furnished. Nonsmoking. No pets. Deposit \$950. 858-354-5051.

LEMON GROVE. Spacious 3 bedrooms, 2 baths 3000+ square-foot house, laundry, central air, appliances, hardwood, 2 fireplaces, 2 family rooms, double carport, large patio/yard. \$1995/month includes gardener. 8233 Panchoy. Agent, 858-752-9466.

LINDA VISTA/MESA COLLEGE. \$1100. Cozy 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Hardwood floors, street parking. Available late February. 7473 Hyatt. 858-571-0243.

MIRA MESA. Custom remodel, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2050 square feet. New kitchen/master, walk-in closet, wood/tile floors, more. Appliances, gardener included. \$2400. 858-689-8799.

MISSION BEACH. \$1275. Small 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Beach side. No pets. No parking. Nonsmoking. Carpet/paint. Appliances. Clean. 731 San Jose Place. Juno. 619-275-3455.

MISSION BEACH. \$2150. Move in now! 2 bedroom, 1 bath beach house with front patio. Shared garage, storage, beach shower, no pets. 735 Jamaica Court. Call Leigh at 858-483-3534 x12. www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION HILLS, NORTH. \$1050. Deposit \$1050. 1 bedroom cottage. Behind large house. Completely remodeled. Street parking. On-site laundry. Granite countertops. Wood floors. No pets. Agent, 619-871-8915.

MOUNT HELIX. \$3050 per month. Beautiful executive home on Mount Helix. 4 bedroom, 3 bath. 2- car garage, Ocean view! 2700 square feet. Pool. 3 fireplaces. Master retreat. Beautiful location. Call 619-254-5378 or 619-757-3040.

NATIONAL CITY. \$1650. 3- bedroom, 2- bath house. Large yard, covered patio, laundry room, family room, bonus room. 2407 East 19th Street. Call Agent, 619-692-4121.

NATIONAL CITY. 3- bedroom, 2- bath, Spanish- style house. Hardwood floors, fireplace, gourmet kitchen. Fenced yard, washer/dryer included, double garage. Pets OK. 619-220-4814.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1235. Newer 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Carpet, stove, refrigerator, carport, yard. Small pets. One month deposit. OAC. 4879 35th Street. 619-847-3653.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 2 bath house. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, air conditioning. Laundry hookups. 2- car garage. No pets; nonsmoking. Mr. A's Property Management, 619-697-1888.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$700 rent. \$700 deposit. OAC. Studio. Stand- alone cottage. No pets. At 4849 Mansfield Street. (North of Adams). Agent, 619-299-8515.

NORTH PARK. Beautiful vintage house. 2 bedroom, 1 large bath, huge living room and kitchen, formal dining and breakfast nook. Beautiful wood floors. Mahogany doors and base trim. Garage with auto opener. Washer/dryer. \$1750/month. 1-year lease. No pets. 3738 Villa Terrace. 619-818-8414.

NORTH PARK. \$1400. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. With covered sunporch at entry.

Refrigerator and stove included. Laundry hookups. Available now. 3861 Swift Avenue. www.stevenleepropterties.com. 619-295-1161.

NORTH PARK. \$775. plus deposit. Small 1 bedroom house, wood floors, no pets. nonsmoking. Available garage. 4120 Iowa. Ready 2/15/09. 619-669-9953.

NORTH PARK. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath house. New carpet with yard. Gated parking, cat only. Available now. 3124 University Avenue. www.amgsd.com. 619-295-1165.

NORTH PARK. \$950. Cottage. Wood floors. Built-in china cabinet. Gated complex. Laundry on site. Available now. 4058 & 4060 Hamilton Street. www.stevenleepropterties.com. 619-295-1161.

OCEANSIDE. \$1600. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Appliances furnished. Good location near beach. 229 South Clementine. 760-214-1430 or 760-434-2799.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2150. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house plus den and garage. Front and backyard. Hardwood floors. Pet on approval. 1875 Reed Avenue. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1600. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, 1- car carport parking, private patio, close to bay. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2595. 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. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, 2-1/2 blocks to beach. Fenced yard, laundry hookups, parking, storage. \$1800. Available now. 954 Thomas Avenue. Call 858-273-4812.

PACIFIC BEACH. Large 3- bedroom, 2-bath house with garage. Private backyard. Newly remodeled, beautiful tile in kitchen and bathroom. Hardwood floors throughout the house. No pets. Water and trash are included in the rent. Laundry on site. 1805 Reed Avenue. Available March 1. \$2600. 858-483-5111 ext. 10.

PACIFIC BEACH. Large newer 3 bedroom, 4 bath, 4 blocks beach, ocean view, roof deck, appliances, washer/dryer, parking, yard, 2 fireplaces, Jacuzzi tub in master suite. Gardener. 1130 Diamond. Available 3/1. \$3200. 858-273-4812.

POINT LOMA. \$1695. Half off first. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Lower. Garage. All appliances. Washer and dryer hookups. Fenced yard. Pet negotiable. 3782 Tennyson #2. 619-804-3325.

POINT LOMA. 3789 La Cresta Drive. \$2450. \$2000 deposit OAC. House. Washer/dryer hookups, hardwood floors, refrigerator, stove. No pets. Great location. 619-228-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. 3 bedroom 2.5 bath. 1800 square feet. 2 car attached garage. Total remodel. New appliances. Swimming pool. Quiet. Entertainer's delight. \$2050. Rachel. 760-585-1732.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. Available now. 14470 Callejon Musica. \$3000. 5 bedroom, 3 bath, private home features new kitchen with granite and stainless, wine cooler, 3- car garage, washer/dryer, mountain views, balcony. No pets. 2548 square feet. Call Leigh 858-483-3534, www.Cal-Prop.com for more info.

ROLANDO/COLLEGE AREA. 4 bedroom house, \$2195. Split- level home with 2 private entries, yard, garage. Near shops and SDSU. Small pet OK. Agent, 619-296-3189.

SAN CARLOS. \$1850. Move in March 1. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with 2- car garage, air conditioning, family room, laundry hookups in quiet area. 1675 square feet. Small pet with deposit. 6282 Decanture Street. Leigh, 858-483-3534 x12. www.Cal-Prop.com.

SAN DIEGO. \$1395/monthly. 2- bedroom, 1- bath house, newly remodeled, no garage. 619-247-7327.

SAN DIEGO. Cozy 1 bedroom guest-house. Private yard, garage, stove, kitchen, air conditioning, washer/dryer access, new carpets. Small pets OK. 619-220-4814

SANTEE. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on cul-de-sac. \$1850. 2- car garage, laundry hookups, carpet, patio. Pets OK. 9620 Ryder Court, 92071. Agent, 619-540-6526.

SANTEE. Completely remodeled. 1750 square feet, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, pool, spa,

2- car garage, fenced yard. Refrigerator, washer/dryer included. \$2150/month. 619-985-3321.

SORRENTO VALLEY. \$2600. 4 bedroom, 3 bath house. Beautifully maintained. Fenced yard, fireplace, pool access, washer/dryer. Gardener. 2 car garage. No pets/smokers. 858-229-6060.

SOUTH SAN DIEGO. 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 walk-in closets, fireplace, custom paint/upgrades, tile floors, large yard, 2- car garage. Available 2/1. \$2575. 619-787-9560.

TALMADGE. \$1995. \$500 off first! Spacious 3 bedroom, 1 bath home. Near SDSU, wood floors. Garage. Yard. Covered patio. Pet negotiable. 4737 50th Street. 619-384-9219.

VISTA. \$765. Small 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Garage, large yard, small yard, stove, country atmosphere. Cable. 760-724-4235.

RENTALS APARTMENTS / CONDOS

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

ALPINE. \$775. 1 bedrooms, 1 baths. New carpet/vinyl. Air conditioning, dishwasher, carport parking. On- site laundry, pool. Small pets welcome. 619-445-0805. www.sdaprbrokers.com.

ALPINE. 2 bedrooms, \$1055 \$99 deposit OAC. 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, \$745. 2 bedrooms, \$975. \$99 deposit OAC. Creekside Meadows, 1750 Arnold Way. Call 619-445-2480.

ALPINE. Alpine Creek Apartments. Huge 1 bedroom apartment, \$875, and 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome, \$1195. 800-1200 square feet, stone flooring in entry and kitchen, spacious living room and dining room, new washer/dryer in unit. No pets. 1950 Arnold Way. Move- in bonus! Call 619-445-8392.

BALBOA PARK, EAST. \$1400. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Forest-like setting. Big balcony. Vaulted ceiling. Remodeled kitchen. Storage. Carport. Secured building. Very quiet. Laundry. Gated community. No pets. 619-299-1530.

BALBOA PARK. \$1095. Charming 1 bedroom with excellent view of Balboa Park! Crown Molding! Gated entry! 2820 6th Avenue #8. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

BANKER'S HILL. \$695-\$1075. Studio and 1 bedroom apartments. Laundry. \$200 and \$300 off first month's rent! 2011 and 2027 Front Street. AMI Property Management 619-697-6314.

BANKER'S HILL. \$875. Charming, quiet, clean, bright studios across from Balboa Park. Security gated. Utilities paid by owner. Laundry. Quiet. 3105 Fifth Avenue. 619-347-0003.

BANKER'S HILL. \$995. 1- bedroom, 1-bath apartment. Classic 1920s! 2230 Albatross Street #10. Call 858-583-0182. www.Cal-Prop.com.

BANKER'S HILL. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartments. 700- 800 square feet. Air conditioning, secured parking included. On-site laundry. \$1075- \$1100. Pets OK. Greg 619-239-7313

BANKER'S HILL 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 690 square feet. Comes with one parking space. On-site laundry. Gated. Close to all. \$1000. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1024 square feet, \$1330. 1922 2nd Avenue. Call Nicki, 619-964-3901.

BANKER'S HILL. Available now! 2330 Albatross Street #3. \$795. Classic studio, 1 bath, hardwood floors, on-site laundry. 475 square feet. Call Leigh, 858-483-3534. www.Cal-Prop.com.

BANKER'S HILL. Furnished studios, \$725/up. Furnished 1 bedrooms, \$850/up. Close to park, Downtown. Some utilities paid. Laundry facility. No pets. 619-234-7572.

BANKER'S HILL. Large studio, \$795. Victorian building. Completely renovated. Laminated hardwood floors. \$500 deposit. OAC. Private Entrance. Small pet OK. 2132 Albatross. 619-549-9726.

BANKER'S HILL. Studios, \$775-\$800. Classic Spanish building, laundry. 2003 Second Avenue. Available now. Agent, 619-236-7941. View at http://www.sevillengmt.com.

BANKER'S HILL. Studios, \$835. Water/ downtown views. Utilities paid. Beautifully landscaped, laundry. 2142 Fifth Avenue. Available now. Agent. Call 619-238-0747. www.sevillengmt.com.

BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN \$1295. 1 bedroom townhouse. Very private. Spacious. Hardwood floors. Laundry. Patio. Free parking. Pets OK. Available now. Call Steve, 619-696-7500.

BANKER'S HILL. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in older style European building. Gated entry. Laundry. Parking. \$990 rent. 1818 6th Avenue. Call Mike 619-490-1600, 619-640-8834.

BAY PARK. \$1150 includes utilities. 2-bedroom, 1- bath upstairs/downstairs apartments. 1 parking. Laundry facilities. Pets under 12 pounds with additional deposit. Near Bay Park Elementary. Westwind Apartments. 619-942-6857.

BAY PARK. \$1600. Walk to Mission Bay! 2 bedroom, 2 bath, new carpet/paint. Large washer/dryer. Cat OK. 2 parking. Available 2/16. Before 7pm. 619-291-3537.

BAY PARK. \$795-\$850. Move-in special, \$200 off first months rent! 1 bedroom apartments. Prime location near Mission Bay. Quiet. Pool. No pets. Lease. 2515 Chicago Street. 619-276-1468.

BAY PARK. 1 bedroom, \$1175; 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1450. Or best offers! Breathtaking views at beach/freeway. Dishwasher. Berber. Gated. Laundry. Parking. Cats! 2805 Morena. 858-459-1544.

BAY PARK. 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. **\$1195 moves you in!** 2520 Chicago Street. TTPM, 619-405-7200. www.debonairapts.com.

BAY PARK/MISSION BAY. \$835. Large studio apartment. Parking. Paid utilities. No pets. Appliances. New carpet/painted. Laundry. 3431 Del Ray Street. Juno, 619-275-3455.

CARLSBAD. \$1325. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse- style apartment with front and back patios. Secluded location 3 blocks to beach. 2 parking spaces. No pets. 360 Chinquapin Avenue. TTPM 760-729-8132.

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. \$2500. 3 bedroom suite, 3 bath, 2- story, 2500' La Costa duplex with ocean views. 3- car garage, air conditioning, washer/dryer. 760-942-3389 or 760-936-7339.

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! One month free with 1- year lease or 1/2 off with 6 month! Pool, community laundry. Gated parking. Barbecue areas. Spacious floor plans. Walk to the beach! No pets. 2303 Ocean Street. Agent 760-434-7721.

CARLSBAD. Studio, \$1000 with \$600 deposit. Yard with canyon view. Centrally located. Small kitchenette, full closet.

On-site laundry. Available 3/1. No pets. References required. 760-434-6794.

CARLSBAD/LA COSTA. \$1600. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Corner unit. Single level. 1400 square feet. Side yard. Patio. Water, trash, pool maintenance included. 760-431-8999.

CARLSBAD/LA COSTA. 2 bedroom and 3 bedrooms starting at \$1425, regal development above La Costa Golf Course. Fireplace, washer/dryer, air conditioning, pool/spa/sauna. Alicante Views. **Move in special!** 2391 Caringa Way. TTPM, 760-431-7575. www.alicantevIEWS.com.

CARMEL VALLEY. \$2600. Former model 3- bedroom, 2-1/2- bath townhome. High ceilings, designer carpet, travertine, stainless, granite, more. Complex features pool, Jacuzzi, fitness, tennis, more. Pets OK. Alta Vista Properties, 858-274-3600. www.altavistamanagement.com.

CARMEL VALLEY. \$400 off first month! 2 bedrooms. 6 month lease by 12/20/08. Near beaches, shopping, freeway access, quiet neighborhood. Free tennis, swimming lessons! Washer/dryer. Parking. Fitness center. Pool. No pes. The Club Torrey Pines, 12646 Torrey Bluff Drive. 1-866-354-2096.

CHULA VISTA from \$850. 1 bedrooms in well- maintained gated community. Air conditioning, community laundry, gated off- street parking. No pets. Near shopping, freeway and trolley. 2887 Main Street. Agent, 619-691-9377.

CHULA VISTA. \$100 off first month's rent! 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1150 with \$900 deposit. Pool, laundry room. Close to mall/freeway. No pets. Available now. 433 D Street. Call 619-651-8600.

CHULA VISTA. \$1525. Move in now! 2021 Barbados Cove #1. 2- bedroom, 1- bath condo. 1139 square feet, 1 car garage, washer/dryer, fireplace, balcony, pool. No pets. Call Leigh, 858-483-3534. www.Cal-Prop.com.

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. \$930. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex upper unit. 900 square feet. Deck. Refrigerator, gas heating and cooking. No dogs. 85-B Monte Vista. 858-457-0397.

CHULA VISTA. 1 bedroom apartments, \$720. Deposit \$500. All utilities included. Pool, off- street parking. Laundry facilities. Call Park Regency Apartments, 619-422-0792.

CHULA VISTA/EASTLAKE. \$1495. Remodeled upper unit, vaulted ceilings, walk-in closets, new appliances, washer/dryer, fireplace, air conditioning. Community pool/spa. Walk to lake, parks, 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, \$775. 1 bedroom. Gated. Laundry. Parking. No pets. Available now. 4153 42nd Street, #7. Agent, 858-514-8201.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1050. 1 bedroom loft with new appliances, granite countertops, fireplace, washer/dryer, walk- in closet and balcony. In gated building with covered parking. 619-977-1930.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$775. Quiet 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Recently refurbished. Off-street parking space, stove, refrigerator. \$500 deposit. No smoking/pets. Available now. 619-823-0442.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$800 Small 1 bedroom duplex 4035 Menlo. **\$950** Cute 2 bedroom house 3834 47th. Very clean, yard,

Typo Patrol Results

Issue of January 29, 2009

Typo Patrol Results

p.136 Mtuume *should be* Mtume

Best Buys

p.19 Dry Pro *should be* DryPro

Local Events

p.64 was recently resigned *should be* recently resigned

p.60 Casa del Prado Theater *should be* Casa del Prado

Theatre

Mtume Salaam (San Diego) \$40

City Lights

p.12 egawatts *should be* megawatts

Club Crawler

p.78 a.m. vibe *should be* A. M. Vibe

Music Listings

p.82 Brick by Brick: 2 *listings @ 7:30 on Friday*

Gian Ghio (Chula Vista) \$30

Diary of a Diva

p.22 San Diego Civic Theater *should be* San Diego Civic Theatre

Hi. I Used to Live Here

p.30 more finally corrected *should be* more finely corrected

Crush

p.98 Alexander *should be* Alexandre

Karen Guarnotta (San Diego) \$30

Reader Puzzle

p.130 prizms *should be* prisms

Ben Cooper (San Diego) \$10

Event Listings

p.67 Qu'est Que C'est *should be* Qu'est-ce Que C'est

John Mann (San Diego) \$10

Diary of a Diva

p.23 waiver *should be* waver

Hi. I Used to Live Here

p.26 145 years ago *should be* 125

p.28 imaginations *should be* imagination

p.39 115 years *should be* 125 years

Linda Cox (San Diego) \$40

Event Listings

p.61 meringue *should be* merengue,

Of Note

p.84 Eagles of Death *should be* Eagles of Death Metal
Sheep and Goats

p.149 Our father *should be* Our Father

Armin Moths (San Diego) \$30

Event Listings

p.62 tales when stage. Curtain *should be* tale. Curtain

Club Crawler

p.78 Anasaziz *should be* Anasazis

Music Listings

p.82 Al DiMeola *should be* Al Di Meola

p.72 Moontucky Risen *should be* Moontucky Risin

p.84 Soundscape *should be* Soundescape

Karelyn Kimokeo (El Cajon) \$50

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parking. No smoking. No pets. Section 8 OK. 619-275-2648.

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CLAIREMONT. \$1200+. 2 bedroom apartments available February/March. 1 or 2 bathroom option. Parking/storage included. Pool/laundry. Pets welcome. 3010 Cowley Way, 92117. 619-276-3222.

CLAIREMONT. \$1250. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, 1- car garage. No pets. Non-smoking. Appliances. Clean. 3230 Jemez Drive. Juno, 619-275-3455.

CLAIREMONT. \$1250. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Remodeled! Small yard, garage. Walk to park and shopping. Cat OK. 4429 Manitou Way. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

CLAIREMONT. \$1275. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, gated community, parking, laundry hookups. 1500 square feet. No pets. 2522 Clairemont Drive, #303. Leigh, 858-483-3534 x12. www.Cal-Prop.com.

CLAIREMONT. \$1295/\$1495. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. 44716/4718 Claremont Drive. Super clean! large front/back yard fenced. One with laundry. Sorry, no pets. 619-249-7117.

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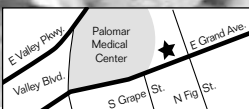
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CLAIREMONT. \$1325. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex with yard, new carpet and paint. Small pet OK. 3365 Idlewild Way. Agent, 858-560-1178.

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. kandproperties.com.

CLAIREMONT. Available 2/15. 4104 Mt Alifan Place #A. \$1265. 2 bedroom, 1 bath large, ground-floor condo. 909 square feet. On-site laundry, parking, pool/spa. No pets. Call Leigh, 858-483-3534. www.Cal-Prop.com.

CLAIREMONT. Free daily continental breakfast, HBO, concierge service, maid/linen service! \$895, 6-month lease. Furnished studios from \$300 plus tax/week; \$1195/month! Corporate housing available. Utilities included. Microwave. Mini-refrigerator. Laundry. Pool, spa. Central location. Garden surroundings. Parking. No pets. California Suites Hotel. 5415 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. 888-475-7147. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2035.

CLAIREMONT. Large upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath \$925, all new kitchen and bath, new dual pane windows. Quiet complex, laundry, parking. 5310 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. Available now. Agent, 619-260-1368. View at www.sevilemgt.com.

CLAIREMONT. Morena/Rose Canyon. Huge, tri-level 2-bedroom, 2-1/2-bath condo. \$1850. Ready now. All amenities. Clean, new carpet, paint. Double garage with auto opener. Secure. **If you can find one better, rent it!** 2754 Ariane #117. Call Rachael, 619-804-1044 or Jeff, 619-713-1044.

CLAIREMONT. Move-in special! From \$1240. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Large, sunny townhomes. Pool. Parking. No pets. The Gardens. 5544 Balboa Arms Drive. Call 858-278-5862.

CLAIREMONT/BAY PARK. Move-in special! \$1050. Upgraded 2 bedroom, 1 bath. On-site laundry, parking, downstairs unit. 2537 Chicago Street #2. Agent, 858-560-1178.

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 AREA. From \$795. 1 bedroom in nice community. Pool, laundry, barbecue. Close to SDSU, dining and stores. No pets. 4333 College Avenue. 619-287-8380.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath condo. carpet/tile floors, patio, pool, spa, clubroom, all appliances. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1195-\$1295. 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. \$1250, 3-bedroom, 2-bath condo. 1200 square feet. Off-street parking. New paint/carpet. Pool/spa. No pets. 5493 Adobe Falls, #12. Call 619-222-0620.

COLLEGE AREA. \$200 off first month! 1 bedroom, 1 bath plus den, \$1285. \$200 look and lease special plus free credit application. \$100 military discount. Internet access. Gourmet kitchen. Microwave. Gas range. Air conditioning/heating. Walk-in closet. Controlled access. Free poolside Wi-Fi. Barbecue/picnic areas. Cat friendly. Parking. Walking distance to campus. Near bus, trolley. Aztec Pacific Apartments, 6663 Montezuma Road. 1-800-433-6120. www.pacificliving.com. www.sdreader.com/news/rent1042.

COLLEGE AREA. \$750. Spacious 1 bedroom, upper. Near bus line and College Grove Shopping Center. On-site laundry.

No pets. 3553 College Avenue #8. Agent, 619-298-7724.

COLLEGE AREA. \$775-795. 1 bedroom. Near shops. Laundry room. No pets. 6769 El Cajon Boulevard. Apartments in rear courtyard. 619-464-0901.

COLLEGE AREA. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, month-to-month lease, great location near SDSU. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

COLLEGE AREA. \$850. Large 1 bedroom condo. Remodeled. Internet/cable TV included. Gated assigned parking, pool, storage, dishwasher, air, laundry. tagv@yahoo.com or after 4:30, 619-520-9108.

COLLEGE AREA. \$900. 1 bedroom. Fireplace. Central heat/air. Microwave, dishwasher. Balcony. Gated. Intercom entry. 4828 Art Street. Agent, 619-298-7724.

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. 62+. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Balcony. Near stores. Community room, off-street parking. No smoking/pets. \$650/month. 6650 Amherst. 619-232-8284; 619-232-7207.

COLLEGE AREA. Corinthian Apartments. 1-bedroom apartment for rent in College Area with a special of \$300 off first month's rent with good credit and lease of 6 months or more. We are a gated garden community; provide assigned parking. On-site laundry rooms, over-range microwave and pet friendly with additional deposit. Please call 619-286-0441 or stop by between 9am and 5pm seven days a week. 3-, 6-, 9-, or 12-month lease. Military and international students welcome. 4981 Catocin Dr. Visit our website at: progressmanagement.net.

COLLEGE AREA. Senior/disabled building. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Dishwasher. Air conditioning. Courtyard. Tile kitchen/bath. \$750 rent, \$400 deposit. Bus nearby. Gated building. Water, garbage included. Section 8 OK. 619-368-9410.

COLLEGE AREA/TALMADGE. \$800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, balcony, off-street parking, on-site laundry. 619-287-2282. www.sdapbrokers.com.

COLLEGE/TALMADGE. \$775. 1 bedroom downstairs unit. Refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, on-site laundry, storage closet. No pets. Optional parking. Available now. 4492 Estrella. 858-538-5013.

COLLEGE/TALMADGE. \$800. \$500 security. 1 bedroom cottage-style apartment, hardwood, new tile/appliances, on-site

laundry. No pets/smoking/Section 8. 4522 52nd. 858-538-5013.

CROWN POINT. Huge 2 bedroom, 1 bath \$1495. Month free special! Laundry, private patio. 3913 Lamont. Available now. Agent, 619-260-1368. View at www.sevilemgt.com.

DEL CERRO. 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhome. Pets OK. Refrigerator, stove, 1087 estimated square feet. Community pool, Jacuzzi, tennis courts. \$1600/month. 7760 Margerum #126. Agent, 619-471-2201.

DEL CERRO/ALLIED GARDENS. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. \$1500. Laminated wood floors, fireplace, balcony, laundry hookups, underground parking, pool, and gym. Agent, 619-296-3189.

DEL MAR. \$1950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath on water, with view. Hardwood floors, balcony, laundry on site, garage parking. Pets OK. 510 Stratford Court. 760-720-1400.

DEL MAR. Block to ocean! 3 bedroom, \$2195, Ocean view, 3 bedroom, \$2575. 1 and 2 bedrooms, \$1495-\$1695. Gated, nonsmoking community. No dogs. 201 Fourth Street. 858-481-9585; mikeatla@aol.com.

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DEL MAR. Ocean-view 3-bedroom, 2-1/2-bath split-level home. \$4750. 3000 square feet. Gated. Tennis. Pool. Hardwood floors. Formal dining. 13222 Caminito Pointe Del Mar. Alta Vista Properties. 858-274-3600. www.altavistamanagement.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$1460. Loft, 1 bath apartment, pet OK, in-unit washer/dryer, balcony, patio, central air, parking available. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$1710. 2-bedroom, 2-bath apartment, pet OK, 1-car parking, balcony, views, large closets, pool, fitness, barbecue. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$1790. Luxury 1 bedroom condo with all amenities and contemporary design. Great 12th floor views. Approximately 800'. Parking. Gym. Laundry. Pets OK. www.coastwayrealty.com. 858-442-8195.

DOWNTOWN. \$1995. Top floor, 2-story townhome. Upgraded kitchen and baths, unique floor plan, air conditioning, balcony, washer/dryer, walk to Petco Park. Must see! www.utiopiamanagement.com. 858-598-1111 x193.

DOWNTOWN. \$2238. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, dog OK, hardwood floors, 2-car parking, pool, fitness, bay/city views. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$625. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, hotel, walking distance to Petco Park and Horton Plaza, utilities and cable included. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$695 and up. Cozy studio. All utilities included. Laundry. Street parking. No pets. Close to Balboa Park. 1758 6th Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724.

DOWNTOWN. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, cat OK with deposit, hardwood floors, paid water/trash/gas. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. Attractive rooms. Shared rooms. Shared baths. Utilities included. Near City College. \$450-\$595/month. Weekly rates from \$125. 719 14th Street. Villa Victoria. Hughes Management. 619-231-2385. www.HughesManagement.net.

DOWNTOWN. Beautiful building, new furnished rooms. Refrigerator, microwave, TV, cable. Starting at \$175 weekly. 920 Beech Street. Call 619-234-1952.

DOWNTOWN. Brand new rooms near City College. Single rooms with kitchenettes from \$140/week, deposit (long-term). Includes utilities/cable. Quiet, secure. Shared bath/laundry. Hotel Mediterranean. 619-231-8656. www.hotelmed-sd.com.

DOWNTOWN. Comfortable rooms, \$450/up. Studios, \$650/up. Near Gaslamp District. Very quiet and clean. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, community kitchen, shared bathrooms. Near shopping, restaurants, movie theatres and Horton Plaza. No pets. Arlington Apartments, 701 7th Avenue. Hughes Management, 619-231-2385. www.HughesManagement.net. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2097.

DOWNTOWN. Cozy rooms, \$486-\$625. Very comfortable, convenient location. Historic building near C Street trolley. Choice of shared or private bathrooms. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator, no pets. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B. Hughes Management, 619-239-3808. www.HughesManagement.net. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2099.

DOWNTOWN. Economical furnished rooms, \$450-\$550, best price, save money. Conveniently located on C Street trolley line, near restaurants, free cable TV, shared bathrooms, on-site laundry facilities, vending machines, elevator service, no pets, 636 C Street (between 6th and 7th). C Street Inn, Hughes Management, 619-234-4165. www.HughesManagement.net. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2098.

DOWNTOWN. Fully furnished studios with utilities included. Rates start at \$160/week. Free wireless Internet. Baltic Inn: 521 6th Avenue. 619-237-0687. www.affordablehousingsd.com.

DOWNTOWN. Gaslamp area. \$425-\$550. Community kitchen, shared bath, on-site laundry, vending machines, no pets. Star Hotel, 522 7th Avenue. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management. HughesManagement.net.

DOWNTOWN. Half off first month's rent! 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, \$1750. Pool, spa, washer/dryer, parking, 1080 square feet, all appliances. 1333 8th Avenue #805. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

DOWNTOWN. Outstanding furnished rooms, \$450-\$500. Heart of Gaslamp. Shared bathrooms. Community kitchen. Free cable. No pets. Windsor Hotel, 843 4th Avenue. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management. www.HughesMangement.net.

DOWNTOWN. Premier location. Furnished studios with full baths, from \$199/weekly. Two award-winning buildings to choose from with 24-hour staff, gyms, laundry rooms, sun decks. Free wireless Internet. Island Inn: 202 Island Avenue (Second and Island), 619-232-4138, J Street Inn: 222 J Street, 619-696-6922. www.affordablehousingsd.com.

DOWNTOWN. San Diego's first hip hostel hotel. From \$49/night. Weekly rates from \$37.14 per night. Free wireless Internet. Near bus/trolley. Flat screen TVs. European-style detached bathrooms. Shared eat-in kitchen. Restaurant serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. 500 West Hotel, 500 West Broadway. Toll free: 1-888-895-0875. www.500WestHotel.com. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2114.

DOWNTOWN. Studios with kitchen and bath, \$625-\$700. Single room with private bathroom, \$550-\$595. Nonsmoking. No pets. 10th and E Street. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x103. www.HughesManagement.net.

DOWNTOWN/ LITTLE ITALY. Columbia Lofts. Large 1 bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths, roof decks, track lighting. City and harbor views. Washer/dryers. \$1800. www.sdurbanliving.com, 619-255-0526.

DOWNTOWN/CORTEZ HILL. \$895. 1 bedroom. Limited access building. Charming, quiet, residential neighborhood. Utilities paid, on-site laundry, no pets. EOH. 619-299-8746.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Las Flores Hotel. Small, quiet, \$125/week and up. Four-week minimum. Color TV with basic cable. Refrigerator in most rooms. Secure. 619-235-6820.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Move-in Specials. Live/Work Lofts in the heart of The Gaslamp! Roof decks with barbecue. Laundry on every floor. Parking available. Seven locations Downtown. Select pets OK. Visit loft leasing office: 315 Fourth Avenue. 619-231-1505 x12. www.trilogymanagement.com. Also visit www.sdreader.com/news/rent2064.

DOWNTOWN/GOLDEN HILL. \$695-\$795. Studio and 1 bedroom with new bath. Hardwood floors, new paint, laundry on site. Pets considered with deposit. On bus line. 619-231-8723.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY Corner studio, \$895. Hardwood floors, 9' ceilings. Two large closets. . Secure, quiet building with laundry. 1544 Front, near Beech Street. 619-234-7428.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY, \$1450. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Washer/dryer in unit. One parking spot included with rent. Great location! 425 W. Beech. Clean, quiet, secure. If you find one better, rent it! Call Rachael, 619-804-1044.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. From \$800/month. Private bath, cable TV, microwave, refrigerator. Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Efficiency apartments with laundry. Near trolley/bus lines, blocks from harbor. On-site manager. Villa Caterina, 1654 Columbia Street. 619-232-3400.

DOWNTOWN/SHERMAN HEIGHTS. \$775. Small 1-bedroom, 1-bath apartment, storage area, gated. View of ball park. New paint/carpet. Small dog OK. Walking distance to Downtown. On-site laundry. 207 19th Street. 619-994-0449; 619-636-6534.

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EL CAJON \$675. Spacious studio, full-size appliances. Air conditioning, walk-in closet. Pool, Jacuzzi. Gated community. Utilities included. Call 619-444-5799. www.sdapbrokers.com.

EL CAJON MOBILE HOME. 55+. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, cozy, refurbished, 3-car carport, large patio. Activities, amenities. \$800/month; deposit \$800. Pets OK. 619-286-5966.

EL CAJON. \$1095. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo, 1-car garage. upstairs corner unit. New carpet, washer/dryer, air, walk-in closet. 188 South Pierce. 619-295-4983.

EL CAJON. \$200 off first month! \$1100, 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome. \$400 deposit. Freshly painted. New appliances, carpet. Patio. Small gated community. Laundry facilities. Pool. No pets. Available now. 1397 East Washington. 619-593-6600. www.strafordarmsapats.com.

EL CAJON. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 600 square feet. No pets. 1551 Melvin Lane #1. Call 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

EL CAJON. \$750. Half off 1st month. Charming upper 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Air conditioning, appliances, pool, barbecue areas, laundry, parking. Cat OK. 798 McClure #12. 619-384-9219.

EL CAJON. \$795. 1 bedroom apartment. Upstairs. New carpet, paint. Assigned parking. Laundry. No pets. Available now. 452 Emerald Avenue #11. Agent, 858-514-8201.

EL CAJON. \$850. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath, walk-in closet. Dishwasher, air conditioning, 2 patios. Barbecue area, pool. Cat welcome. Call 619-447-1880. www.sdapbrokers.com.

EL CAJON. \$900/up. 2 bedrooms, 1 and 2 stories. Amenities. Pool, park-like grounds, laundry on site, parking. Near town, shops, bus. 743 South Magnolia Avenue. 619-579-0174 or 619-464-1818.

EL CAJON. \$950. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Very clean! New paint. Washer/dryer hookups. Fenced yard. Pets OK. Single story! 1100 North Molis Avenue. Manager, 619-590-0811.

EL CAJON. \$950. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, new carpet/vinyl, air conditioning, dishwasher, off-street parking, on-site laundry. 619-401-8067. www.sdapbrokers.com.

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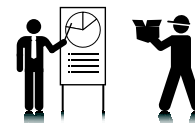
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HILLCREST. Rent \$950. Parking. Laundry. Storage. No pets. 4226 Cleveland Avenue. Available mid- February. Call Kenny 619-255-4944 or 619-987-7950 or 858-490-1600.

HILLCREST. Rent \$980. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated. Parking. Laundry on site. Air conditioning. Cat OK. Good area. Close to shops, freeways, Public transit. 1033 Robinson Street. Call Rachel, 858-490-1600 or 619-295-1210. kandrproperties.com.

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HILLCREST. \$895. 1 bedroom. Small Spanish- style duplex. Stove, refrigerator, cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Great location. Available 3/10/09. 3749 Fourth. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

HILLCREST. \$895. Cute 1 bedroom cottage. New carpet and vinyl, stove, refrigerator. Off-street parking. No pets. 318 West University Avenue, Agent 619-469-7790, www.westmanproperties.com.

HILLCREST. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Next to Whole Foods. Parking, laundry, upstairs unit. Sorry, no pets. Available 2/15. 3820 8th Avenue #6. www.amgsd.com or 619-295-1165.

HILLCREST. \$965. 1 bedroom. Immaculate, bright upstairs apartment. Centrally located. New carpet and vinyl. Assigned parking, coin laundry. No pets. 316 Pennsylvania. TPPM 619-296-8802.

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.

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LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. First month free with 12 month lease. \$1350. 3 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. 760-943-7590. 760-402-8325.

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Name: Paris

Age: 9

Lives In: Santee

Post-Surf Food: Quesadillas

Surf Idol: Anne Bayly

"I know that surfing is the best thing for me to be doing," says Paris. "I hope that other kids — especially girls like me — can get inspired. I hope that people see it's not hard and that they should treat us kids like real competitors."

Paris has been surfing since she was six years old. She has already carried off 11 titles in junior surf competitions from here to Newport Beach and is currently sponsored by a major surf-product company. She got started when she saw a longboarder.

"I begged my mom for surf lessons for about a month before she let me start. I learned really quick and just paid attention. My coach and older surfers taught me what to do. That is really important...if you're little and learning to surf, you have to listen to people that are older. You don't want to get hurt."

While on a surf vacation to Hawaii last June,



Paris received her only serious injury so far. "I didn't know that my bootie ripped, and I stepped right on some coral. It hurt so much! I had to limp back, and I just saw this big cut. I think I got about 20 stitches."

Even with the cut to her foot, Hawaii remains her favorite "...because the water

is warm and tons of kids surf. It can be hard, but in a good way. I surfed for three hours in Oahu with two other older kids that showed me how to pop up even faster. The waves did get a little too big for me, but I am so excited to go back."

Paris competes only during the summer and keeps

in shape with regular swimming lessons. She hopes to be a full-time professional surfer by the time she is in high school and would love to coach when she gets old, when she's "...like, 20."

For past Surf Diego columns, go to sdreader.com.

tioning, laundry. Parking, near all, cat OK. 7334 La Mesita Place #2. 619-466-6450.

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credit check. 5435 Morengo Avenue. 619-698-7926.

LA MESA. \$875 rent: 1 bedroom. Parking. Pool. 5436 Vincetta Court. Call 619-417-4964, kandrproperties.com.

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LA MESA. Great location. Walk to trolley, stores, Village. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath town-house, washer/dryer, 1- car garage, pool. \$1295. Pet on approval. 619-997-5277.

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LA MESA. \$895. Located in the heart of the Village of La Mesa is this charming, classic 1950s 1- bedroom apartment. Tiled entry, new carpet and baseboards. Current upgrades to the unit include new paint in designer colors, new bathroom vanity, new tub and shower surround all new door hardware and updated light fixtures including ceiling fan in living room and bedroom. Gas range with refrigerator. Property has on-site laundry and is close to many shops and restaurants. Will consider small dogs under 15 pounds. Available by February 15, 2009. \$400 security deposit. Credit check required. Move-in special \$400 off first month rent with a year's lease. 8437 La Mesa Boulevard. Please call between 9am-7pm. **Contact Scott, 619-846-6615, scott@hendershawandassociates.com.**

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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. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse \$1575. Just remodeled— all new from windows to appliances. Washer/ dryer hookups, dishwasher, tankless water heater, fully carpeted, private backyard, 2 parking spaces, in the heart of San Diego, close to Fashion Valley and USD. No pets, please. Come and check us out! Office at 7025 Eastman Street. 858-249-9585.

LITTLE ITALY. Gorgeous 1 bedroom, 1 bath tri-level unit with view, washer/dryer, 740 square feet, covered carport. \$1650/month. 1 cat OK. 858-864-8801.

LITTLE ITALY. Sunny 2 bedroom, 2 bath penthouse, vaulted ceilings, fireplace, balcony, patio. Pool, fitness, more. No pets. Available 3/1. \$1950, parking additional. 619-269-0505, 619-254-1575.

MIRA MESA Condo, \$1450. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, fireplace, washer/dryer, carport, pool. 10828 Aderman Avenue, #135. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

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PET CENTRAL

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200. 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

AQUARIUM SALE at Octopus's Garden. 20H aquarium \$20; 29 for \$29; 40R \$40. Even a 60E is just \$60. Other tank specials also. Lots of healthy saltwater fish and beautiful corals. Protein skimmers. Lighting systems, pumps, decorations and supplies at low prices at Octopus's Garden. Noon-9pm, 7 days. Call 858-576-7449.

AQUARIUMS AND PONDS! Freshwater/saltwater fish. Extensive reef animals. 9000 square feet. Low warehouse prices! Expertise not found in Southern California cookie-cutter stores! Aquatic Warehouse. 5466 Complex Street #204, San Diego. Behind Superior Courthouse, off Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. www.aquaticwarehouse.com. Daily, 10am-7pm. Saturday, 10am-6pm. Sunday, 11am-6pm. 858-467-9297.

BOXER PUPPIES. 8 weeks, distemper/parvo shots completed 2/09. Weaned, dew claws/tails docked. Both parents on site. Ready for loving, new home. \$450. 619-417-4348.

BUNNY DWARF rabbits, 8 weeks old. \$39.99 each. Hand-raised, do not bite. Free 2 bags of food. Cages, \$20 each. 858-336-5547.

BUY/SELL/TRADE reptiles, amphibians, turtles, tortoises, snakes, lizards. Largest reptile selection in Southern California. Voted #1 in San Diego. Pet Kingdom, 619-224-2841.



DIVINEPETCARE.COM. 50% off. Professional pet sitting, dog walking. Pet taxi, basic grooming, medical pet care and more! Licensed/insured. Visits as low as \$12! 858-397-8338.

DOG BED. 36" x 42". New, green with brown design on top. Solid brown on bottom. Costco label, won in raffle. \$12. 619-284-0839.

GUINEA PIGS. Gorgeous long hair calicos and other multi-colors. Friendly, healthy and adorable. \$10-\$25/each. 619-208-1043.

KITTENS/CATS. 10 weeks +. Cute, friendly, virus tested, neutered, vaccinated, dewormed, defleaed. Tuesday/Thursday/Friday, 6pm-8pm, Saturday/Sunday, noon-4pm. PetSmart La Jolla. 8657 Villa La Jolla Drive. www.sdscats.org.

LABRADOR PUPPIES. AKC yellow. "English Field Labs." 9-10 weeks old. Home raised, no kennels. Males/females. Light colored, yellow and honey. \$600/each. 858-270-9993.

LARGE RABBIT CAGE. New. Decorative, includes foam steps. \$75. Call Cynthia, home: 760-741-2543, cell: 760-855-4599.

MINIATURE PINSCHER. Slight mix. 14 pounds, 1-1/2 years. Energetic, likes people and dogs. One leg amputated, gets along fine. \$150. 619-583-5122.

POODLE PUPPY. 8 weeks old. White. Lovely, sweet. Male. \$275/best. 619-865-4935.

PURE ENGLISH BULLDOG PUPPIES. Excellent health and personalities. AKC registered parents. \$1350 each. Call Jay, 505-220-3173, or Ken, romero@alltel.blackberry.com. Can be delivered.

YORKIE POO MIX. Adorable puppy for sale. 4 months. 5 pounds. A must see! Asking \$700 firm. Purchased 12/08. Please call 858-201-8193 or 619-456-3554.

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OCEAN BEACH. \$1015. 1 bedroom. Large upstairs end unit. Stove, refrigerator. New carpet. Coin laundry. Parking. Stairs to ocean. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available now. 4853 Orchard. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1075. Spacious and clean 1- bedroom apartment with vaulted ceilings. Large kitchen area includes refrigerator, gas cook-top and wall oven. Large living area, large bedroom closets with mirrored doors. Built-in dresser/linen cabinet. New bathroom vanity. All new vinyl in kitchen and bath. Freshly painted in designer colors. New light fixtures and ceiling fan. All new baseboards. Centrally located in the heart of Ocean Beach. Walk to shops and restaurants. Small complex with on-site laundry. Low deposit of \$500. Available by February 15, 2009. 4835 Saratoga Avenue. Will consider small dogs under 15lbs. **Contact Scott, 619-846-6615, scott@hendershawandassociates.com.**

OCEAN BEACH. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath attached cottage in South Ocean Beach. Laundry on site. No pets. 4843 Coronado Avenue. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath with hardwood floors! Blocks to beach! No pets! 4903 West Pt. Loma Blvd. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.



OCEAN BEACH. \$1300. Apartment, 2 bedroom, 2 bath upper unit with laundry and off- street parking. Walk to beach. 4865 Saratoga Avenue #204. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs units available. Blocks to beach with hardwood floors. No pets. 2190, 2196 Abbott Street. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1525. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs unit, private patio, close to beach. Month- to- month lease. Trident Pacific, www.homes4rent.com, 619-435-9442.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1650. 2 bedroom house- like apartment, gas fireplace, on park, patio/yard, garage, parking, coin-laundry. No smoking. Pets? 4680 West Point Loma Boulevard. 619-221-9047.

OCEAN BEACH. \$745. Studio, mile from beach in quiet tropical setting. New carpet/paint. Laundry. Available immediately. 4166-68 Udall Street, #7. 619-222-9308.

OCEAN BEACH. \$850. Cute, remodeled studio for rent. Close to the beach and entertainment of Ocean Beach. Close to dining. No pets. Agent, 619-231-2727 x233.

OCEAN BEACH. \$925. Large 1 bedroom apartment, near beach, patio, laundry. No dogs/cats. \$750 deposit. 5047 Lotus Street. 858-292-6046.

OCEAN BEACH. \$950. 1 bedroom 1 bath with parking and laundry! 1st block on beach! No pets! 2243 Abbott Street #B. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$950/bargain! Large, quiet 1 bedroom near beach, bus, pier and shopping. One off- street parking space, laundry. No pets. Available now. 619-269-7624.

OCEAN BEACH. \$960. Blocks to the beach! 1 bedroom. Clean. Parking. Laundry. No pets. Includes water/trash. Sea-coast Apartments, 5030 Lotus. Call Doris, 619-204-1651. 619-224-0759.

OCEAN BEACH. 1 bedroom, \$1195. Ocean front! Ocean breezes. Quiet, clean. Laundry. Close to the beach and entertaining. 5074-84 Del Monte. Please call Juana, 619-231-2727 x233.

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. 2 bedroom, \$1350. Come visit our apartment homes. Laundry. Close to beach. View to park, Sea-World and ocean. 4712 West Point Loma Boulevard. Agent, 619-224-0759.

OCEAN BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1525/month. Off- street parking. Available now. 5029 West Point Loma Boulevard. Call 858-729-8671 or e-mail: tom@gallery-properties.com.

OCEAN BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, front duplex, one parking space, on- site laundry. Small pet negotiable. \$1195 includes water. 4346 Temecula Street. Agent, 619-463-2971.

OCEAN BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 4867 Del Mar Avenue, \$1295/\$1000 deposit O.A.C. On-site laundry, refrigerator, stove. Close to all. No pets. Great location. 619-226-7368, or www.bkbinc.com.

OCEAN BEACH. 4712 Point Loma Ave. Upstairs, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1500. \$1000 deposit. Parking, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher. 619-226-7368 or 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.

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. Studio units from \$900. 1 bedroom units from \$995. Utilities included. Now available at the Silver Spray Apartments. Walking distance to the beach and Ocean Beach pier. Minimum 6 months lease. Sorry, no pets! 619-223-8186.

OCEAN BEACH/NIMITZ POINTE. Move-in Specials! Large 1 bedrooms and 2 bedroom 2 bath. Near beach, pet friendly. 2401 Seaside Street. 619-233-0254.

OCEAN BEACH/WEST POINT LOMA. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 2 bath in great building with views. Gated entrance and parking. Convenient location near Robb Field, beach and YMCA. No pets. **\$1299 moves you in!** 4457 Temecula at West Point Loma Boulevard. TPPM, 619-770-1959 or 858-335-6477.

OCEANSIDE. \$1095. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, cat OK, 900 square feet, paid water/trash. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

OCEANSIDE. \$1225. Extra large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Balcony, on-site laundry, parking. Water/trash paid. Cul-de-sac, shopping nearby. Near Highway 76. No pets. 760-754-4902.

OCEANSIDE. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, golf course/ocean views. Great move-in special. Granite countertops, wood floors. Pool, spa, laundry, gated parking. Cat OK. For pictures: www.casavistaapartments.com. 760-439-5728.

OCEANSIDE. \$800. Studio, full bath/shower, on-site laundry, refrigerator, stove, balcony, patio, secured/covered parking, mile to beach. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

OCEANSIDE. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Great move- in special. Granite countertops, wood floors. Pool, spa, laundry, gated parking. Cat OK. For pictures: www.casavistaapartments.com. 760-439-5728.

OCEANSIDE. Large 1 and 2 bedrooms, \$995-\$1195, 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. 760-433-8810.

OCEANSIDE. Westwood Village quiet spacious apartments. Select units upgraded. 1 Bedrooms \$920-\$950. Pool, laundry, gated. Indoor cat OK. Includes utilities except electric. 760-722-6421.

OLD TOWN. \$695-750. Low \$150 deposit. Fully furnished studios, alcoves, in 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.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1150. Great 1 bedroom in immaculate property in the heart of Pacific Beach. Laundry, parking, no pets. 1656 Reed Avenue. TPPM 858-581-6415.

PACIFIC BEACH \$1095 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.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1050. 1 bedroom. Large upstairs end unit. Stove, refrigerator, garage space. Coin laundry, no pets, 3 blocks to ocean. Available 2/20/09. 1051 Diamond. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1050. 1 bedroom. Large upstairs end unit. Stove, refrigerator, garage space. Coin laundry, no pets, 3 blocks to ocean. Available 2/20/09. 1051 Diamond. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

ment, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1050. 1 bedroom. Large, upstairs, stove, refrigerator, private balcony, coin laundry, parking. 2-1/2 blocks to ocean. Available 2/10/09. 945 Chalcedony. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Downstairs in quiet triplex behind 1859. Parking, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, fireplace. No pets. Available 2/10/09. 1861 Chalcedony. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1425. 2 bedroom, 1 bath with garage. Upstairs in quiet triplex behind 1852. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, fireplace. No pets. Available 2/10/09. 1854 Chalcedony. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1475. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large, upstairs, stove, refrigerator, coin laundry, 2-1/2 blocks to ocean. Available 2/18/09. 959 Chalcedony. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1475. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large, upstairs, stove, refrigerator, coin laundry, 2-1/2 blocks to ocean. Available 2/18/09. 959 Chalcedony. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1545. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, large, downstairs. Stove, refrigerator, garage space, coin laundry. 1 block to ocean. No pets. Available now. 830 Sapphire. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1545. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large. Upstairs. Front unit. Stove. Refrigerator. Garage space. Private balcony. Coin laundry, 2 blocks to ocean. Available now. 830 Sapphire Street. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1545. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large. Upstairs. Front unit. Stove. Refrigerator. Garage space. Private balcony. Coin laundry, 2 blocks to ocean. Available now. 830 Sapphire Street. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. North. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo, views. 2- car garage, newly renovated kitchen. Central heat, washer/dryer, fireplace, modern appliances. \$2650. Lease. 619-977-5162.

PACIFIC BEACH. "Crown Point," \$1350/month. 2 bedroom upper unit (month-to-month rental). Near bay, 4021 Lamont Street. Remodeled kitchen with granite counters, newer carpet, laundry facility, off- street parking. No pets. Available 1/16. (858)274-1446, email: bjornandersen@gmail.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Upgraded apartment, 3 blocks to the

beach. No pets. Street parking. Laundry on site. 825 square feet. Move in now. 1073 Missouri Street. Call Leigh, 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2300. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse. Fireplace, washer/dryer, private patio and balcony. One off- street parking space. Walking distance to Garnet. 1738 Hornblend Street, #2. TPPM 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1450-\$1500. Large 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse apartments in fourplexes, dishwashers, fireplace or laundry. 1-2 parking. No pets. Available 3/1. 1805 #A; 1847 Chalcedony. 858-459-1928.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath in beautiful North Pacific Beach property. Great amenities, view over Pacific Beach, parking. No pets. **\$1299 moves you in!** 1530 Chalcedony. TPPM, 858-270-5847.

bath apartment. Second level. Off street parking. Laundry on site. No pets. 4451 Haines Street. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1175. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upper duplex. Beautiful hardwood floors. Excellent freeway access. 2 miles to the beach. No pets/smoking. Laundry. 2732 Hornblend Street. Available 2/22. 619-997-9383.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. Close to transportation and shopping. No pets. Utilities included. Available now. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1200 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upper level. 3 blocks to beach. Assigned off street parking. Laundry on site, no pets. 1050 Hornblend. Available March. Call 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1895/month. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome. Walk-in closet in master bedroom. 2- car garage with remote. Laundry room. Cat OK. 4312 Jewell Street. Agent, 858-866-5636.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath plus den at \$1795. \$300 deposit plus 1/2 off first month's rent! Free application fee. Free poolside Wi-Fi. 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. www.pacificliving.com. www.sdrreader.com/news/rent1049.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1050. 1 bedroom cottage near transportation and shopping. Parking. No pets. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1075-\$1125/month: 1 bedrooms. 6- month or 1-year lease. Parking. Pools. Laundry facilities. Cat OK. 2 blocks from Mission Bay. 3883 Jewell Street. Call Manager, 858-272-0068. For photos, floor plans, virtual tours, see www.apartments.com/tuscanapartments.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1095. 1 bedroom. Large, upstairs, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, coin laundry. Gated entry, parking. Available 2/20/09. 1448 Thomas Avenue. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1100. 2- bedroom cottage- style apartment, 1- car parking, shared yard, walking distance to bay, beach, shops. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1150. 1 bedroom, 1 **PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1200. 1 bedroom, 1 bath luxury condo at The Plaza. Second floor. Carpet/paint. Lushly landscaped. Laundry. Microwave. Dishwasher. Pools. 1 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 now. 1138 Oliver. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1200. 1 bedroom. Charming front unit in quiet fourplex. Stove, refrigerator. Wood floors. No pets. Available now. 1138 Oliver. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage; small, private patio. Parking. Laundry. No pets. 4119 Ingraham Street. 858-270-4674.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 1/2 off first month. Lease. New carpet. On-site laundry. \$500 deposit. Sorry, no pets. Available now. 4478 Bond. 760-402-8325. www.baywalkapts.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. Remodeled 1 bedroom, 1 baths. New carpet, new paint. Assigned parking. No pets. Available now. Open house Sunday, 10am-3pm. 1156 Hornblend. 619-818-1541. www.melroyproperties.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1345. Upper 2- bedroom apartment. 3 blocks to ocean. New paint, carpet, vinyl windows. Laundry facilities. No pets. 1062 Felspar Street. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Upper unit. No pets. 1 parking. Newer carpet. Nice! 2112 Balboa Street #10. Call 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1350. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking. No pets. Near shopping, restaurants. 4313 Kendall Street. Agent, 858-272-4770.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Large, upstairs. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, gated entry. Coin laundry, parking, available 3/10/09. 1448 Thomas. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1495. Clean 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Garage. 4 blocks to ocean. Gas appliances. Large closets. Laundry facilities. No pets. 1124 Felspar Street. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1495. Steps to Bay. 2-bedroom, 2- bath apartment. 2 parking spaces. Laundry facilities. Gas appliances. No pets. 3869 Riviera Drive. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1550. 2 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs apartment. Parking space included. 3 blocks to beach. 1 parking space. No pets. **Open Saturday 1-2:pm.** 909 Chalcedony Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1595. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Move in now. 2 blocks to bay. Upstairs unit, bonus room for office/den. Garage, laundry, dishwasher. No pets. 4013 Honeycutt Street. Call Leigh, 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1595. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath in garden setting. Easy access location. Laundry, parking. No pets. 2155 Felspar Street. TPPM, 858-274-9250.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1595. Newly remodeled unit close to all. Private controlled access. Large bedrooms with skylights. Secure parking, coin laundry. Walk to beach, restaurants and shops. **Open Saturday 2:30-3:30pm.** 1322 Garnet Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1600. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Move in now. Duplex in Crown Point. Private patio, carport. 850 square feet. Laundry. Hookups. No pets. 2042 Oliver Street. Call Leigh, 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Off- street parking. Laundry on site. No pets. 4451 Haines. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Large, remodeled. Upstairs. Stove, refrigerator. Dishwasher. Microwave. Coin laundry. Pool. Elevator. No pets. Available now. 1433 Oliver. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Large, remodeled. Upstairs. Stove, refrigerator. Dishwasher. Microwave. Coin laundry. Pool. Elevator. No pets. Available now. 1433 Oliver. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1695. 1/2 off first month's when you move in by 2/15! 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhome, contemporary design, air conditioning, granite and stainless kitchen, stained concrete flooring. No pets. 3509 Del Rey Street, #212. Call Leigh at 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1725. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Steps to surf. Located in small garden complex. No pets. **Open Saturday 1-2:00pm.** 725 Chalcedony. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1725. 2 bedroom. Garage. Appliances. Steps to beach, restaurants and shopping. 734 Emerald. Owner, 858-272-9547.

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. \$1775. Available now. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upstairs unit. Parking, laundry, upgraded interior. Bike to beach and bay! 1524 Thomas #3. 858-483-3534 x12. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1795. Move in now! 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhome close to the beach. Private patio, fireplace, parking and on-site laundry. No pets. 915 Diamond Street #E. Call Leigh at 858-483-3534 x12, www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1900. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Upstairs of a duplex. Laundry. Parking. Fireplace. Balcony. Open floor plan. No pets. Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1995 rent. \$998 deposit. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Washer/dryer. Dishwasher. Parking. 1- year lease. 1749 Reed Avenue. Call 858-490-1600 or kandrproperties.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$200 off first month! \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. 1100 square feet. Fireplace, balcony. Walk-in closets. Laundry. 2 parking spaces. No smoking/pets. 858-272-7616.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$200 off first month. \$1395/month, \$1000 deposit (OAC). 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs, laundry, parking, great location. No pets. 1433 Grand Avenue #1. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2100. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Move in now. Block to beach. 2 parking spaces. Laundry in unit. Extra storage, dishwasher. 1100 square feet. No pets. 842 Agate Street #1. Call Leigh, 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2175. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Hardwood floors, washer/dryer, on-site parking. Close to all. 1016 Hornblend Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2200. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo, upper unit, dark wood floors, upgraded carpet and tile, remodeled baths and kitchen, fireplace, balcony, garage, washer/dryer. Pet OK with deposit. Ready now! 1471 Chalcedony Street. Leigh, 858-483-3534 x12. www.Cal-Prop.com.

SERVICES

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Relax/Renew
Restore/Energize

**\$10 Off 30 Min.
\$20 Off 1 Hour**

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7 days 9 am-9 pm

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\$10 off
Bring ad.

**Hot Baths/Body Scrubs
All Types of Massage**

Oriental #1 Spa

**3134 El Cajon Boulevard
619-563-7949**

(1 block west of 805)

Free parking in back

Open 7 days 10 am-11 pm

License #16467

PACIFIC BEACH. Walk to the beach! 3 bedroom plus den, 2 bathrooms at \$2375. 1/2 month free with a 12 month lease! Free Application. Short lease available! 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.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1195. Junior 1 bedroom. Middle unit in 3 unit property. Stove, refrigerator, garage. All utilities paid, shared lawn, dog OK with additional deposit. Available 3/10/09. 1936 Reed. 858-270-2074. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1345. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large, upstairs. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. No pets. Nice, shared courtyard. Coin laundry, garage space. Available 2/13/09. 3711 Ingraham. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Large upstairs end unit. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, balcony, fireplace. Coin laundry, garage, no pets. 1-year lease required. Available 3/1/09. 4122 Jewell. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Large upstairs end unit. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, balcony, fireplace. Coin laundry, garage, no pets. 1-year lease required. Available 3/1/09. 4122 Jewell. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Nice and quiet property, two blocks to bay. On-site laundry, 2 parking spaces. 3803 Jewell Street. TPPM 619-933-7400. www.villalaplaza.com

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$995. Studio. Downstairs in quiet duplex behind 3970. All utilities paid. Free laundry. Carport parking. Available 2/15/09. 3974 Honeycutt. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$995. Studio. Downstairs in quiet duplex behind 3970. All utilities paid. Free laundry. Carport parking. Available 2/15/09. 3974 Honeycutt. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

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POINT LOMA. \$1175. Large 2 bedroom 1 bath upstairs apartment with new carpet! On-site laundry! No pets! 3612 Kemper Court #11. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

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POINT LOMA. \$1350 rent. \$800 deposit. OAC. Huge 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 2-car garage. Large balcony. Community pool and spa. Laundry. No pets. At 3215 Midway Drive #702. Agent, 619-299-8515.

POINT LOMA. \$1400. 2- bedroom townhouse with huge patio area. Complex has pool and tennis. Cat OK. Westbourne Realtors. 858-488-4800.

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POINT LOMA. Spacious 2 bedroom condo, large patio, mile to beach, easy access freeways. Gated, pool, Jacuzzi, gym, sauna, tennis, barbecue. \$1600. Pets OK. 619-252-9515.

POINT LOMA/LOMA PORTAL. Condo, \$1450. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, dual master suites, secured building and parking. On-site laundry. 3140 Midway Drive, #A-308. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

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POWAY. \$400 off first month! \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Located in the heart of beautiful Poway. Just 4 miles east of the I-15 in a gated community. 858-578-0114. www.sunriseliving.com.

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TALMADGE. \$925. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Quiet building. Upstairs. Large rooms. Coin laundry. Cat OK. 4438 Menlo Avenue. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

TALMADGE/ KENSINGTON. \$300 moves you in! Call for details. Duplex. 1 bedroom at \$995. Up to one month free! Free credit application. Adjacent amenities in cardio and weight facilities, computer lab, outdoor barbecue billiards area, pool and spa. Fitness center. Business center. 4454 44th Street. 619-282-1191.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 parking spot, on-site laundry. No pets. Nonsmoking. 4464 Louisiana Street. Call agent, 619-692-4121.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$850. 1 bedrooms. Immaculate apartments in newly renovated building. Large bedroom, excellent location. Beautiful courtyard. No

pets. Walk to trendy Park Boulevard. 4621 North Avenue. TPPM, 619-296-8802.

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UTC. 55+ spacious luxury living. Pool, spa, golf course. 1 bedrooms, \$795. 2 bedrooms, \$995. \$99 deposit OAC. Town Park Villas, 4633 Governor Drive. 858-453-0441.

UTC. Sunny 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo. 3952 Camino Calma. Covered parking, washer, dryer, refrigerator, fireplace, ceiling fans, pools. Near shops, parks and trails, \$2200. Rob 858-525-5876.

VISTA. Special: 1/2 off first month's rent! 2 bedroom, 2 bath, remodeled, \$1095. Air conditioning, new carpet/ new paint, large patio, storage. Gated hillside community. 760-672-6405. www.melroyproperties.com.

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RANCHO SANTA FE, Edgewater: Open House 10am-5pm, February 6-8. Edgewater Homesite 17. Exclusive gated community, single- story home. Approximately 3,840 square feet. 3 bedroom, 4-1/2 bath, den, separate casita with bath, great room, gourmet kitchen, stainless steel appliances, prep kitchen, wood flooring, lake and vista view. \$1,475,000. Walk to Crosby Golf Course, close to downtown Rancho Santa Fe. 8107 City Lights Way, San Diego. 888-203-7174.

RANCHO SANTA FE, Espada: Open House 10am-5pm, February 6-8. Homesite 124. Exclusive gated community, new Espada home, approximately 3,838 square feet. 4 bedroom, 4-1/2 bath, master suite down, bonus room, breakfast nook, great room with fireplace, Monogram kitchen appliances. Walk to Crosby Golf Course, close to downtown Rancho

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SANTEE, Crestview: Open House 10am-5pm, February 6-8. Homesite 64. Beautiful Crestview 2- story home, approximately 2884 square feet. \$581,000. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, den. Loft, family room with fireplace, island kitchen with nook. Spacious laundry with sink, 3- bay garage, stainless steel kitchen appliances, cook- top, maple kitchen cabinetry with cognac finish. 3037 Calico Street, Santee. 877-206-7167.

SANTEE, Eaglepointe: Open House 10am-5pm, February 6-8. Homesite 64. Beautiful Eaglepointe home, \$790,000. Homesite 200. Approximately 3,568 square feet. 4 bedroom, 3-1/2 bath, den, family room with fireplace, island kitchen with nook, Monogram stainless steel kitchen appliances, interior courtyard, large lot. Upgraded wood flooring. 6119 Castilla Street, Santee. 888-203-2712.

SANTEE, Northstar: Open House 10am-5pm, February 6-8. Homesite 127. Sky Ranch townhome, approximately 1741 square feet, \$349,000. 3 bedroom, 3-1/2 bath, deck, granite kitchen countertops, black GE appliances, European maple cabinetry. Private community pool/spa and recreation center. 1103 Calabria Street, Santee. 877-206-6460.

SANTEE, Stoneridge: Open House 10am-5pm, February 6-8. Stoneridge home, homesite 165. Approximately 3,352 square feet. 4 bedroom, 3-1/2 bath, den, nook, loft, downstairs bedroom with full bath, stainless steel kitchen appliances, refrigerator, double oven, cook- top, kitchen island, built- in desk at kitchen. Cul-da-sac location. \$665,000. 7036 Mariposa, Santee. 877-206-7166.

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LA JOLLA/UTC. Sunny, lovely 2- bedroom, 2- bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.

SANTEE. Mobile home. Cozy 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 20'x46'. Central heat/air. Pool. 2 pets OK. Senior park. Space rent \$500. \$39,900, reasonable offer. 619-442-4514.

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BACK WHEN *in the Reader*

Thirty Years Ago

City traffic engineer Joe Casteneda says stretches of road which racked up the highest bicycle-accident rates (in the five-year period from 1969 to 1974) include Clairemont Mesa Boulevard from Highway 805 east to 163, Mt. Abernathy Avenue (in Clairemont from Mt. Alifan to Redbrook Road), Cable Street (in Ocean Beach) between Orchard and West Point Loma Boulevard, and 40th Street from Wabash Boulevard to Monroe Avenue.

— CITY LIGHTS: "PEDAL IT SOMEWHERE ELSE,"
Jeannette De Wyze and Neal Matthews,
February 8, 1979

Twenty-Five Years Ago

If Mayor Roger Hegedcock suspected that \$95 million wasn't enough to build the planned Navy Field convention center, why wasn't he prepared to deliver a convincing response to a consultant's report that predicted cost overruns? And if Hedgecock was convinced that \$95 million was sufficient

to build a 250,000-square-foot center, why didn't he find out until the last moment about the damning consultant's report?

— THE INSIDE STORY, *Paul Krueger,*
February 9, 1984

Twenty Years Ago

Describing Robert Cray ("Reader's Guide to the Music Scene," January 26) as "somewhat talented" is like saying B.B. King knows a few guitar licks. And suggesting that the young guitarist should be relegated to 12-bar blues (and not rhythm and blues) is just too simple. Buddy Seigal: take it from the Fabulous Thunderbirds' Jimmie Vaughan, straight out of *Guitar Player* magazine, "If you like the blues and you don't like Robert Cray, then something's wrong with you."

— LETTERS: "A FEW LICKS," *Jason Dempsey,*
Del Mar, February 9, 1989

Fifteen Years Ago

I have no complaints about Duncan

Shepherd's analyses. He's right to be tightfisted with the stars with a dead movie like *Schindler's List*. The crybaby letter writers should have their karmas leveled or their asses kicked hard. Nah, my beef is with his dissing of actresses who are plainly terrific. It was bad enough when he called Michelle Pfeiffer anorexic, but his comment penalizing Madeleine Stowe ("It's only Madeleine") in the review of *Blink* ("New Year," January 27) chilled me to the bone.

— LETTERS: "IS SHEPPY LAME, MYOPIC, OR DANCING THE HORIZONTAL BOOM BOOM PRONE AND SOLO TO THE MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS IN JOY LUCK CLUB?" *Ernest Louis Ricardo "Bimba" Echaves, San Diego, February 3, 1994*

Ten Years Ago

Unlike someone who reviews music, books, or movies, the food critic takes his subject inside his body and lives with it. There's no turning it off, setting it aside, or

walking away from it. This cohabitation can be benign, pleasant, or, in the worst cases, violent and brief. Eating food prepared by someone else is an intimate act, and like all intimate acts, it's risky. While I get paid to take these risks, the people who eat with me do not. Over the past few months, two friends who ate with me got sick; two others ate insulting meals that left them dyspeptic and angry. Word got around that dining out with me wasn't always fun.

— RESTAURANT REVIEW: "SAD HISTORY, WONDERFUL FOOD," *Max Nash,*
February 4, 1999

Five Years Ago

Well, what does San Diego think? "Disgusting," says Bill Lister, 63, owner of a San Diego landscape maintenance business. "I thought the whole thing was disgusting. I didn't like the music, I didn't like where she exposed herself, and it was done on purpose. Absolutely, it had to be a



San Diego Reader, February 4, 1999

Velcro thing, and he just pulled it off. It was disgusting. I had a discussion with my son about that."

"What did he say?"

"He said, 'Dad, if you weren't raised the way you were, you'd think it was funny.' I had a discussion with my mom later on; she's a great sports fan in Arizona. She said, 'I tell you, son, I take offense at that.'"

— SPORTING BOX: "FEMALE BREAST 42, NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS 0,"
Patrick Daugherty, February 5, 2004

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SKATE RAMP. With skateline. 16' x 4', professional, Jim Bell. Custom, built last

year. Has roll in on one side. \$2000. 760-685-0901 to view.

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SHEEP AND GOATS
PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: Evangelical Covenant
Address: Otay Ranch High School Auditorium, 1250 Olympic Parkway, Chula Vista, 619-540-1221
Founded locally: 2002
Senior pastor: John Rose
Congregation size: about 250
Staff size: 3
Sunday school enrollment: about 60
Annual budget: growing
Weekly giving: growing
Singles program: no
Dress: mostly casual, but some semiformal
Diversity: diverse
Sunday worship: 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m.
Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 15 minutes
Website: ranchovistachurch.com

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord," read Dwain Bostic at the outset. "Plans to prosper you and not harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future."
Hearing that, I might have readied myself for some Prosperity Gospel. But Bostic wasn't finished. "We can have boundless hope," he offered. "This doesn't mean we will be spared pain, suffering, or hardship, but that God will see us through to a glorious conclusion."
The theme for Sunday's service (as it had been for the previous three weeks) was the

charmingly bleak "You Don't Have What It Takes." Specifically, you can't please everybody, you can't handle everything, you can't be good enough, and you can't control the future.
That was the content; the theme for the form might have been, "Oh, this old thing?" Again and again, I was struck by the sense of elements lovingly labored over, then presented so casually as to almost escape notice. The tight guitar-and-drum work from the band, its setup plunked down at the foot of the stage. The goofy appeal of the video before the sermon (unlike the fortune teller at the carnival, you don't know what the future holds). "All You Need Is Love" running under Paul's famous meditation from Corinthians — "Love is patient, love is kind..." — as a lead-in to Lent, er, the church's 40 Days of Love, beginning February 22. (Why do I mention Lent? It's not just the timing. A couple of other old-time-y liturgical elements popped up, including a group recitation of the Our Father before communion.)
All participants in the 40 Days were challenged to attend worship for six weeks straight, attend a home Life Group for six weeks, read a devotional daily, and, according to Annette Link, "have action. When we learn about God's love, then it helps us to love those around us, which is the commandment." She asked for truck owners to volunteer on Saturday to bring food down to Mexico. "You know — know God, serve God."
The band had been hinting at the hard-times-a-comin' theme — "Rich or poor/ God I want You more" — and they cemented it by adding a chorus to Ecclesiastes's reminders of a time to mourn, weep, die, etc. "For everything, there is a reason/ For everything, there is a rhyme/ For everything there is a season/ For everything, there is a time." Just now, said Pastor John Rose, it was a time to have faith in the face of the economic tidal wave.
Rose took the story of Abram's calling as a model

John Rose
Rancho Vista Church Chula Vista
Sermon content delivery Liturgy Music congregational band Snacks Architecture Friendliness
Poor to satisfactory Good Very good Excellent Extraordinary

ise and dream of prosperity today? Things we...held as absolute truths are crumbling all around us. God and God alone is true through all these failures."
The Big Point: We can't control our lives. "Even tomorrow is not promised to you!" marveled Rose. "What's funny is that we get really focused on plans we have no control over, and the one thing we have control over — whether or not we spend eternity in God's presence — that's the one choice we ignore."
What happens when we die?
"God finalizes the choices we made in life," said Rose, referencing C.S. Lewis. "If we choose to accept the work of Jesus on the cross, we are entered into heaven, as Scripture promises. If we choose to reject that, we have chosen to be away from God's presence, and that is called hell."
Matthew Lickona

Videos of this church and others featured in this column are available at sandiegoreader.com.

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DRYER. Montgomery Wards. Electric, white, heavy duty. Excellent working condition. \$40. 619-226-2325.

QUALITY USED APPLIANCES and furniture. www.megalandd.com. 2256 Main Street, Suite 7, Chula Vista, 91911, 619-575-4227.

REFRIGERATOR, stove, dishwasher, energy saver, can separate. All for \$300/ best/trade. 619-990-5487.

REFRIGERATOR. Kenmore. 619-944-9927.

STOVE/OVEN. Free. Whirlpool. Electric. Works perfectly. Call Mike, 760-434-1255 or 760-518-3858.

ELECTRONICS

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

ALL IN ONE PRINTER. HP Officejet 6310. \$60. Focus black and white security monitor, \$45. 619-549-4690.

DIGITAL CONVERTER. For a TV. RCA. New in box. \$35. 619-462-8131.

MOTHERBOARD. PT800CE-A. By Elite group. Supports Intel Pentium processor. New in box with receipt. Was \$64, asking \$40. 619-449-1104.

SONY TV. Very nice picture. Must see. Asking \$995. Also an Apple computer for \$2400. Both in very good condition. 619-829-3704.

TV, 27" COLOR, with remote, like new, excellent picture, \$99. 619-461-4805.

XBOX. Barely used. Comes with DVD package, games, 3 wired controllers, and 1 wireless controller. \$175. 619-466-8663.

FURNITURE

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

BED \$100, ABSOLUTE BARGAIN! The Furniture Warehouse is now open to the public. We sell warehouse direct. Come see our large showroom. We have over 70 sets in stock from \$89! 995 Bay Boulevard, Chula Vista, 91911. Open 11am-7pm daily. Closed Monday. Credit cards accepted. Legitimate warranties in writing! Fast delivery. Call 619-426-2727. www.twarehouse.com.

BED \$139, AN ABSOLUTE BARGAIN! Mattress Orthopedic Deluxe. New in plastic with warranty. Queen \$139. All other sizes available. Credit cards accepted. Free delivery. Call 800-464-6420 or 800-464-6490.

BED FRAME. Metal. Fits different size beds. Can be easily taken apart to be transported in a car. \$20. 858-277-3065.

BED: DISCOUNT FURNITURE and Mattress. Bed sets, dinettes, sofas, sectionals, mattresses and more! 30%-70% below retail every day! Free layaway, free financing, 12 months no interest/no payments. Fast delivery. Open Monday- Friday, 10am-7pm, Saturday/Sunday, 11am-5pm. Factory warranties included. 858-495-3325. Address: 4810 Mercury Street, San Diego, 92111. www.realdealfurniture.com.

BOOKCASES. Oak, walnut, mahogany, cherry, or teak. Choice of 2x2, 2x6, 3x3, 3x4, 3x6, 4x6, 4x7. Remodeling office, \$25-\$150. 619-670-8356.

BUFFET HUTCH, cherry walnut, 63" width, 85" height, 18" diameter, felt covered drawers, 2 lights, mirrored back, doorstops. \$450. 619-425-5913.

COFFEE TABLE. Mahogany, oval, Queen Ann legs. 46"l x 27" w x 15" h. \$75. Mirror, 36" x 24", 4" silver/brass/red inset trim. \$75. 619-299-7348.

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER. Matching dining room table/chairs, coffee table, and end table, \$750. Bedroom tall chairs, 2 night stands, \$450. Black leather chair and ottoman, \$350. Electric facial chair stroke bed, \$250. Built-in microwave with trim- kit, \$150. Built-in double oven \$100. Cherry sleigh bed frame \$100. 619-322-0150.

FURNITURE. Bedroom set/orthopedic mattress, large sofa bed, hardwood coffee table, armchair, hardwood dining room table/6 chairs, wood buffet, leather highchair, TV, more! Negotiable. 858-349-8158.

FURNITURE. Save 40% or more! Order from manufacturers' catalogs and save. Factory direct store. Solid cherry, maple, oak or pine, American made Vermont craftsmanship or imported. San Diego's best home furnishings source since 1960. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Al Davis Furniture, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. www.davisworld.com or email to: info@davisworld.com. Call: 619-296-1221.

GRANITE COFFEE TABLE. Brown. 3 1/2 x 5'. \$250. 858-490-0588.

HIGH GALANT TABLE. IKEA. Light oak, silver metal legs. \$50. 858-490-0588.

KIDS' FURNITURE. Wood bed, drawer beneath, \$275. Flowery lamp, \$20. Hello Kitty TV, \$55. Hello Kitty DVD/VHS player, \$40. Mickey Mouse TV, \$55. 619-829-3704.

MATTRESS \$139! AN ORTHOPEDIC. New in plastic with warranty. Queen \$139. Twin, Full and King also available. Free delivery. Call 800-464-6420 or 800-464-6490.

MATTRESS \$150. Orthopedic mattress, plush, queen, new with warranty. Must sell. Can deliver. Twin, full and king also available. Must sell! 619-929-5244.

MATTRESS. Queen, high quality. Orthopedic collection, comfort pedic. Luxurious comfort in fine bedding. \$175. 619-466-8663.

MATTRESSES. Save 40% or more! Mattress World in Hillcrest sells new beds at warehouse pricing lower than regular stores. Student specials. Legitimate warranties. Fast delivery or pickup. Name brands. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Authorized Sealy, Simmons, Spring Air, Aireloom dealer. Also Latex, chemical-free and Swedish style Visco-Memory! Mattress World, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard, Hillcrest. www.sandiegobeds.com or email to: info@davisworld.com. Call: 619-260-8000.

QUALITY PRE-OWNED FURNITURE and Appliances. www.megalandd.com. Cheap delivery (gas money only). 2256 Main Street, Suite 7, Chula Vista 91911. 619-575-4227.

RECLINER, \$30. Folding mattress, interior folding doors. Office chair, \$5. 858-270-0565.

RECLINER. New, clean, beautiful tan microfiber. Emerson Home Edition. Must see to appreciate. Sacrifice at \$200, paid \$380. Clairemont area. June, 858-569-5272.

SOFA BED. Metal firm, \$100. Full size wood bed, included 2 futon mattresses, \$100. 2 small file cabinets, \$20 each. 619-549-4690.

TABLE. Glass top table, 36" x 50". \$25. Desk with wheels, \$20. 858-277-7197.

VARIOUS ITEMS. 2 bar stools, single bed, 2 metal filing cabinets. Dinner plates (display scenes), color, silver plated fondue maker, various other plated items. 619-944-9927.

GARAGE SALES

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

CLAIREMONT. Moving sale. Saturday, 2/7, 8am- noon. Stuff and more stuff. Large desk, antique organ, plus more. 4727 Mt. Ashmun Drive.

LA MESA. Estate sale. Everything must go! 5800 Lake Murray Boulevard #53. TVs, couches, chairs, desks, beds, kitchen items, lamps, plants, paintings, books, etc. 619-463-0201.

SOLANA BEACH. Estate sale. Saturday, 2/7, 9am- 3pm. 930 Via Mil Cumbres #37. Furniture, dishes, books. Saarian chairs. Please park on street outside The Villas.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Moving sale. 8am-12pm, Saturday, 2/7. Tons of stuff of which 95% is good, 5% crap. Everything must go! Cheap. 4474 Arch Street.

MISCELLANEOUS

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

5 CEMETERY LOTS. Glen Abbey Memorial Park. \$3500 each in block 41, section 1A near chapel. Call 619-203-9465 or 619-583-5189.

AQUARIUM. 4'x11"x14". 858-270-0565.

ASSORTED TREES. 10 Acacia, Poplar, Eucalyptus, Pepper, Orchid. Plus: Macadamia, Plum, Palm, Pomegranate, and Guava. \$3- \$10 each. 619-442-5401, leave message.

BED, A PLUSH PILLOWTOP. Mattress Orthopedic. New in plastic with warranty. Queen \$299. King \$399. Free delivery. Credit cards accepted. Call 800-464-6420 or 800-464-6490.

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ALL FINANCIAL MARKETS ARE PONZI SCHEMES SET UP TO TAKE MONEY FROM THE UNWITTING and give it to insiders. All numbers concerning stocks are manipulated to give rich people more money; they're lies. So, you've heard "Invest in the stock market! Retire in style while you're still young!" your whole life and you look up those numbers, not knowing they're lies, and you send in your paycheck to the rich people. What you don't know is that the whole thing is a three-card Monte game. Except by accident, you'll never get that money back. They need you to lose money so they can have more.

It's rigged. It's bull. Authorities open the doors for work-boot people to send money to millionaires. In exchange, the millionaires set up funds to get the authorities elected. And round and round. It's a little leapfrog circle in the park, and your only acceptable contribution is to bring them lemonade and slink quietly back. If the millionaires ever lose money, the authorities just print more and give it to them. You don't get any of that, though.

If one day while you're walking along in the crowds of other people walking to work, and you stop and turn your head to look into the bank, past the mirrored glass, past the fiberboard desks of middle managers, past the locked doors, you'd see the dishonesty, you'd see the clockwork mechanics devised to take your money, and you'd say, "Hey! That's a load! I don't want to do it anymore!" Before you can alert anyone else with your recent enlightenment, the bastards with the money hand you a loaf of bread and tickets to the circus.

Right now there are no fewer than five headlines on the front page of the *Times* dealing with the stimulus bill, unemployment, states' economic futures, factory closures, and so on. CEOs of worthless companies paid themselves billions in bonuses. On the TV, though, Pittsburgh just narrowly beat out the Cardinals to win the 43rd Super Bowl. My neighbors are celebrating on our street, having a beer and reliving the final touchdown with exaggerated gestures and shouts. And they're happy. They don't have any money. They don't have great prospects of making any. But right now they're happy.

I hope tomorrow, while they're walking to work, one of them stops and looks into the big shiny windows of the bank.

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

MONTEL WILLIAMS

KUSI 2:00 P.M.

The stench of desperation coming off Montel Williams is as strong as a bowl of gasoline on hot pavement. He stops just shy of donning a poodle costume and leaping through rings of fire to get people's attention. I'm sure everyone involved with the show sobs and chugs airplane bottles of vodka in the shower just to scrub away the pain. (So, it's kind of like the eighth grade. What? Nobody else did that?)

BURN NOTICE

USA 10:00 P.M.

USA needs to hang up its spurs. Sure, 20 years ago it was a mediocre gun-

slinger, rolling drunks like QVC and the Weather Channel in the muddy streets of a border town called So-So Vanilla Junction. But now it shares a teepee with a chicken and a taxi-dermied fox. One of which is its wife. Opium makes you do funny things.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

PATTE AWARDS

CASD4 8:00 P.M.

Local airtime must go pretty cheap. If I can buy an hour for whatever's in my pocket — say, a beer-can pop top and a depression hotline number scribbled on a nudie-book-store receipt — then we're in business, folks. I'm going to have my own show. Get comfortable with shoulder hair peeking out from bra straps, my friends. Oh, get comfortable with it.

CHILD'S CAR RESTRAINT SEAT. \$20. 858-277-7197.

CRYPT, SINGLE COFFIN. Greenwood mausoleum. For more information, call 858-292-9405.

CUCKOO CLOCKS. Five old ones. All need work or parts. \$50/all. 619-282-9581.

DOUBLE BURIAL PLOTS. 4. Greenwood cemetery. Nice location. Moving, must sell. Good price, payment plan possible. Let's talk. Don, mornings/weekends, 619-794-7536.

ELGIN POCKET WATCH. Stunning! Needs crystal face and one hand. \$800. 619-449-1104.

ENCYCLOPEDIA. Free! 858-581-1869.

EXERCISE BIKE. Aerobic rider. Works legs, waist, arms, and upper body. Low impact. Like new. Get in bathing suit shape! \$100. 619-466-8663.

HORSE PICTURE FRAME. Glass. Large, black and gray, made of solid wood. Very beautiful and stunning. Valued at \$500, asking \$300, may lower price. 619-602-9441.

JACKET. Women's all down jacket, with removable fur trimmed hood, never worn. \$35. 619-282-9581.

KNIFE COLLECTION. Old Kershaws and Schrade IXL's. 619-260-8482.

LARGE PAINTING of John Wayne. Framed, signed by Peter Shinn. \$200. 619-449-1104.

LAWN MOWER. Rear bag, gas engine, \$20. 858-277-7197.

LAWNMOWERS. Reel type, no longer need: Tru-Cut front throw, the best! \$230. Cooper Klipper rear throw, older, high quality, \$130. Both in top condition. 760-732-1315.

MAGAZINES. Heavy metal. Original, from the 70s and 80s. \$200. 619-420-9167.

MINERAL COLLECTION. Cabs, slabs, cutting rough, varieties of quartz including Herkimer diamonds, unusual tumbled, jewelry points, much more. 619-260-8482.

MONET PAINTING. Large. Signed/dated 1908. Framed. \$1000. 619-449-1104.

MOVING SALE. Aquarium/stand, refrigerator, washer/dryer, freezer, dishwasher, microwave, TVs/stands, stereo, beds, daybed, dressers, recliner, coffee/end/dining table, chairs, vacuum, bikes. 619-760-7821.

MOVING. Everything cheap. Bristol dining set, 15 wall pictures, sofa bed, love seat, entertainment center for 25" TV, bedroom furniture, 25" color TV. 619-243-9886; 619-280-8418.

OIL PAINTING. 3 1/2 x 4'. \$125. Venice canal man on gondola. 858-490-0588.

PATIO TABLE, concrete, seats 6, high grade, your choice of tile installed, all weather, \$300. Credit cards accepted. 760-250-7055.

PROPANE HEATER. Heavy duty for outdoor use. Use for construction, patio, etc. High heat capacity, 73,000 BTU maximum. Great shape. \$95. 858-178-1048.

SCONCE. Oil gauge, wall light, brass and wood, \$40/best. 619-296-7185.

SEWING MACHINE. Singer Deluxe, unused. Has all types of stitches, automatic threader. Booklet. Regular price, \$400, asking \$250. 619-445-5898.

SPA/HOT TUB DELUXE. 2009 model. Neck jets, therapy seat. Never used! Warranty. Can deliver. Worth \$5950. Sell \$1950. 858-530-0980.

STANDING CHANDELIER. Brass. Floor lamp for living room or bedroom. Very beautiful. Asking \$90. Very good condition, will lower price. 619-602-9441.

STORAGE SHED. 6' deep, 8' long, 7' high. Durable resin, complete with floor, double doors, 336 cubic feet. Cost \$592, selling for \$450/best/trade, 619-990-5487.

SUITCASE. Samsonite. 858-270-0565.

"TOTAL GYM." As seen on TV. Folds up quick and easy for storage. \$90. 619-339-7318.

TRACTOR. 2002 John Deere 6420 mechanical front wheel drive (MFWD). \$5700. Fast sale, 640 loader, for pictures and questions, contact rob42a@gmail.com.

TWIN MAGNETIC MATTRESS. Top of the line. Never used. Best offer by deadline Tuesday, February 10, 5pm. 619-225-1623.

VARIOUS ITEMS. Gucci marble watch on cord, \$45. White. Goose down robe, full length, \$45. Pink suede boots, 7 1/2, fur lined, \$25. Perfect. 760-753-6996.

VARIOUS ITEMS. Jacuzzi, copy machine, electric wheelchair, copper. Assortment of tools such as a jack hammer and an electric saw and other hardware items. 619-295-2877.

WEDDING DRESS. Hat, shoes, size 8, \$50/all. 858-277-7197.

HARLEY DAVIDSON. 2002. FLSTF Fat-boy. 12,872 miles. Black. \$5700. For questions and pictures, carl8p@gmail.com.

HONDA CB-750. 1980, one cylinder damaged, willing to part out or sell for \$435. Salvage title, ask for Douglas, 619-232-2020.

INDIAN CHIEF. 1999. Own a rare beauty! Runs great. Only 5400 miles. Canary yellow/cream. Sits low. Black solo seat. Indian saddle bags. \$15,995. 760-881-8842.

MOTORCYCLE REPAIRS! Mobile service. Bike been sitting? Won't start? Call us. Honda, Kawasaki, Suzuki, Yamaha. Credit cards accepted. House Calls Motorcycle Repair, 800-481-6531. We'll come to you!

AUTOMOTIVE CARS

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

\$500! POLICE IMPOUNDS. Cars, trucks, SUVs from \$500! Hondas, Chevys, Jeeps, Toyotas, Nissans and more! For listings and information, call 800-495-0660, xC664.

AUTO PAWN LOANS. Secured by vehicle and title. Autos, trucks, cycles, and ATVs welcome. Fast/friendly service. Deerhorn Motors, 619-464-2131. www.autopawnsandiego.com.

CADILLAC COUPE DEVILLE. 1992. 4.9 liter PFI. 76,000 miles. Book value, \$2700/best. 619-295-5292.

CHEVY EL CAMINO 1984. V-8, new interior, paint, tires. Reduced now \$4000. Hurry, need the money. 858-272-1376.

EL CAMINO. \$6800. 1967 t-bird. Suicide doors. Overhauled 428 engine. Air. Only 2000 made. Runs great. Well maintained.

Red, white top. 760-212-4338. Offers welcome.

FIREBIRD 1996. V6 automatic. Red. Looks good and runs well. Tag good through 12/09. \$1700 or best offer. 619-460-0466.

FORD ASPIRE. \$1200. 1994. Clean, comfy, reliable, affordable transportation. Enjoyable to drive. Over 30 mpg, 4 door. Can bring it to you. Call Tom, 858-571-1484.

HONDA ACCORD. 2005 EX. Great condition! 87,000 highway miles. 21 mpg city/30 mpg highway. Tinted windows, new tires, sunroof, 6 disc CD. \$14,700. 619-961-8460.

HONDAS FROM \$500. Police impounds and tax repos. Cars, trucks, SUVs. Many makes and models! For listings, 800-495-0660, x2180.

INFINITI G35. \$20,500. 2007 automatic sedan. Excellent condition! Looks and runs great. Power everything, intelligent key with push ignition. Regularly detailed, all scheduled maintenance. 619-540-4096.

JAGUAR, S-TYPE. 2001. 4.0 new brakes, tires. Eggshell interior, seafrost exterior. Looks beautiful. 65,000 miles. Owner no longer driving. \$9900. 858-459-1962.

LEXUS GS300. \$10,995. 2002. Gold. Italian Lexani rims, creme leather interior, sun roof, heated seats, 6- changer CD sound system. Immaculately maintained. Runs perfectly. 858-335-6001.

MAZDA 626 EX. 1993 sedan. 120,000 miles, V6 automatic. Leather, sunroof. Brand new transmission/power steering pump. Clean inside/out. \$1500/best. Must see. 619-990-5815.

NISSAN MAXIMA. 1987. 4 door, automatic, sunroof. Daily Driver. \$700. 619-804-3874.

VOLKSWAGEN JETTA. 1998 Wolfsburg edition. 123,500 miles. Runs great! Reliable car. Super clean. New tires, power sunroof/windows/locks. Keyless entry. \$3200/best. 619-818-2285.

VOLKSWAGEN WAGON. 1978. 4 cylinder, 2.1 4- speed transmission, \$900/best. 619-366-0922.

AUTOMOTIVE TRUCKS /VANS / SUVS

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

DODGE GRAND CARAVAN, 1989, V6, 3.0, 138K, newly rebuilt engine/transmission, good running condition, all records kept, \$800/best offer. Call after 10am, 858-344-2316; 858-560-4924.

JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE. 1995 Orvis edition. 4x4. Runs well! V8, 5.2 liter, automatic 4 wheel drive. 150,000 miles, no issues, green, leather interior. \$2500. 619-990-5815.

NISSAN. 1995 single cab. 4 cylinder, 5 speed, air. 150,000 freeway miles. Very clean. Reliable. Fancy model, bed liner, excellent. 28 mpg. Asking \$2450. 858-581-6223.

VAN, 1995 Plymouth. 1994 Window mini van. 6 cylinder. Blue book condition. \$1850. 619-696-5313.

AUTOMOTIVE CLASSIC / CUSTOM CARS

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

CORVETTE. \$22,500. 1975. Red/black interior. Very nice car. Air conditioner needs repair. Automatic. 951-929-6034.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

FLASHPOINT

CBS 9:00 P.M.

An elite team of cops diffuses a tense situation involving a bomb, hostages, blah blah blah. The better show features an elite team of animal trainers called in to diffuse a monkey-crap fight at the zoo. "GARCIA'S BEEN HIT! I REPEAT, GARCIA'S BEEN HIT! Ew. It's in her ear and nose. HA HA! Oh, that's awful."

GIFTED HANDS: THE BEN CARSON STORY
TNT 10:00 P.M.

Nobody else thinks this sounds creepy? I'm the only one? Fine. I'm the only one who thinks "gifted hands" sounds like the story of Tonya Harding's sneaky older cousin. Actually, I'd watch that. But by the end there'd be a wad of nicotine patches and a pyramid of empty Zimas on my cinder-block coffee table. It is Saturday night, after all. I'm lonely.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

XII

NBC 9:00 P.M.

An amnesiac assassinates the first female president then can't remember the event and has to put together his defense. If you like the sound of that you may also want to check out: every crime story ever told ever about amnesia, including the Bourne series, *Doctor Who*, *Lost*, *24*, *Firefly*, and *My Own Worst Enemy*. Also, children write better show premises in crayon on the paper place-mats of finer eating establishments such as Arby's and King Tut's Chicken Liquidators. Morons.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

WORST WEEK

CBS 9:30 P.M.

Ego prompts me to tell you that nobody's week is worse than mine, but my g-string tailor would hold a

different opinion.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

BE MY VALENTINE, CHARLIE BROWN

ABC 8:00 P.M.

Everybody realizes that Charlie Brown is 80-something years old, but we never see how he turned out as an adult. Well, Charlie became a gynecologist and Lucy was his biggest client. You don't want to see your childhood companions operate cartoon syringes filled with penicillin, my friends. (Yeah, I just made a Charlie Brown VD joke. I'm not proud of it either.)

WEDNESDAY,

FEBRUARY 11

LOOKING FOR LINCOLN

PBS 11:00 P.M.

Abraham Lincoln is alive. His name is Truman McIfreedtheslaves, and he lives in Waukegan, Illinois. He



Burn Notice

enjoys walking his three dachshunds, drinking lattes, and listening to Norwegian heavy-metal music. He's America's first cyborg Secret Service agent. (Bang-o! I just wrote the best show ever. Bang-o!)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

THE 40TH NAACP IMAGE AWARDS

FOX 8:00 P.M.

If Al Gore comes out and punches Tyler Perry in the throat, he'll cinch up my vote as long as we both shall live. Come on, Al! You are our only hope to stop this menace! Al Gore 2012! I'll even buy an electric car!

For more stories by this author, go to sreader.com.

CUTLASS. \$3500. 1984 low rider with hydraulics. Steel reinforced frame, 2 pumps 12 batteries, front, back right rear dump, left rear dump. Runs well. 619-980-9643.

DESOTO. \$5800. 1950s. Partially restored to original. Original stock shape. Chrome teeth, visor, novelty blinds in back window. Completely rebuilt engine. Runs/drives excellently. 619-347-8232.

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