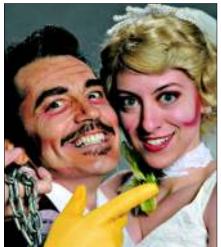
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Wickedness is always precise — see page 103

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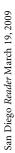
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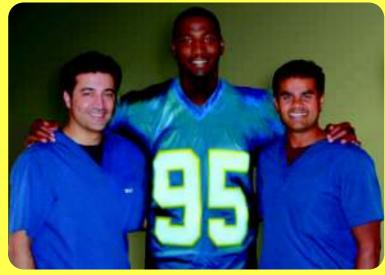




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UNDER THE RADAR

Trademark dispute A local member of the feared Mongols Motorcycle Club, a Latino gang with upwards of 600 members in seven states and four countries, wants his colors back.

Last October, following an 86-count indictment of 79 Mongols on a host of charges including murder, arms trafficking, drug dealing, hate crimes, and money

laundering, a federal judge barred members of the gang from wearing or distributing its infamous logo — featuring a ponytailed biker astride a chopper. Using the order, cops have begun confiscating clothes and motorcycles with the image, and the government is seeking permanent forfeiture of the logo's trademark, owned by the club.

But San Diego County resident Ramon Rivera, a Mongol who was not charged in the indictment, argues his First and Fifth Amendment rights are being violated by the ban. "As a Club member, Rivera participates in social and charitable events organized by the Club and its chapters in the San Diego area," says his complaint, filed by a lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union in federal court here last week. "The social events include barbecues, outings, and funerals. The charitable events include collecting toys for disadvantaged children and delivering dog food to a local humane society." Rivera argues that wearing the logo "symbolizes unity and brotherhood with his friends and fellow Club members, most of whom are low-income and Latino, and represents their struggle for recognition and equality."

Defendants include **Ronnie Carter**, acting director of the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and Attorney General **Eric Holder**. According to the suit, "A National City police officer informed Rivera that ATF agents had told the officer that if the agents saw anyone wearing items displaying the Image while attending a funeral in National City, the agents would ask National City Police Department officers to confiscate those items."

Travels with Lori Assemblywoman **Lori Saldaña**, who has filed campaign financial forms

indicating she intends to run for either the State Board of Equalization or the 39th state senate seat now held by fellow Democrat **Christine Kehoe**, accepted some pretty big gifts last year, according to her recently filed statement of personal economic interests. Donors have included some



Lori Saldaña

of America's biggest companies, as well as political committees, a nonprofit organization closely

tied to lobbyists, and the University of California.

On June 14, UCSD gave her a one-day package to the U.S. Open at Torrey Pines worth \$400. The same day, Gen-Probe Inc., a big biotech outfit, gave her tickets to the golf event worth \$362.

In November, the Pacific Policy Research Foundation picked up the tab for what Saldaña listed as four days of "golf" and "meals" worth \$883. Each year, the small nonprofit organization stages a November gathering for legislators, lobbyists, and family members at Fairmont Kea Lani, a luxury resort on Maui. In 2007, the Los Angeles Times reported that the annual outings are funded with money from the likes of Pacific Gas & Electric, Eli Lilly and Company, Amgen, and liquor giant Diageo. "This foundation provides a forum and addresses issues that PG&E is interested in," spokeswoman Darlene Chiu told the paper. Another opinion was expressed by Lenny Goldberg, president of Californians for Tax Reform: "This seems like a way for large corporations to launder contributions.... It is improper and it should be illegal."

Another nonprofit, Altarum Institute of Washington, D.C., paid \$1004 for "round trip airfare" for a Saldaña trip from November 20 through 24. According to its website, the organization "integrates objective research and client-centered consulting skills to deliver comprehensive, systems-based solutions that improve health and health care." Many of its clients are government agencies.

The D.C.-based nonprofit Women in Government, which also receives major corporate money, paid \$906 for a two-day September trip to the nation's capital.

Porking out The Wounded Marine Careers Foundation, currently being sued by ex-Marines,

some of whom allege they ended up paying \$88,000 worth of their veteran's benefits for ten weeks of film school, is the beneficiary of a \$285,000 earmark in the budget bill signed last week by President **Barack Obama**. According to records prepared by Taxpayers for Common Sense, GOP



Kevin Lombar

congressman **Duncan Hunter** and Democrat **Bob Filner** jointly requested the funds. Disclosure documents show that the foundation hired the Washington office of San Diego's Carpi Clay & Smith last May to lobby for "funding for vocational rehabilitation and education programs for wounded veterans." **Kevin Lombard** and **Judith Paixao**, founders of the group, contend that the veterans knew about the costs of the program when they signed up.

— 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.

Pie in the Sky

By Don Bauder

an Diego County citizens disgusted with massive potholes, deficient sewer and water systems, library closings, ad nauseam

should scoff at politicians' promises that things will get better. They won't. Alreadyruinous pension payments will eat up much more of future budgets - and actually, if the books were honest, those annual pension contributions would be larger still. That's because both the County (San Diego County **Employees Retirement Asso**ciation) and the City (San Diego City Employees' Retirement System) grossly overestimate their expected annual pension portfolio returns, thereby lowering governments' annual contributions and passing the bill to future generations.

Since June 30, the County's pension fund portfolio has plunged from \$8.4 billion to

below \$6 billion. On February 11, San Diego County Board of Supervisors chairwoman Dianne Jacob declared



Brian White

in a speech that "even if the [stock] market bounces back, the required contribution by the County is expected to

Newspapers Should Go Totally Online: *Business Week* writer says to stop red ink, get rid of ink altogether...

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triple over the next five years." And if the market *doesn't* bounce back? She didn't go into that.

During the last week of February, the city council was meeting on the topic of pension-payment obligations. Councilmember Carl DeMaio asked the City's actuary how many bucks the City would be plunking in the pot "if the market does not suddenly recover." Answer: the City



William Sheffler

would set its future annual payment at \$100 million more than it is currently plunking in. What does \$100 million mean? It's equivalent to "shutting down every library in the city and closing 37 percent of the park and recreation programs," says DeMaio.

The County estimates that continued on page 8

Neal Obermeyer



"Hallelujah!" "Hey, keep it down!"

By Joe Deegan

any are the tales locals can be and-deny tactics the City of San Diego any are the tales locals tell of dodgeuses to avoid enforcing its own laws. The

most common excuses, especially in this time of budgetary woes, are that it costs too much. But listen to Robert Vacchi, today's deputy director of the City's Neighbor-



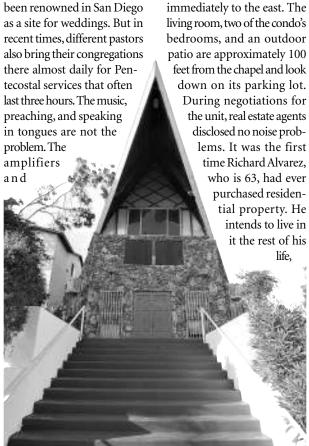
Richard Alvarez with boxes of tapes

hood Code Compliance Department. In 1997, when Vacchi was an associate planner for the department, he copyrighted a document entitled "New Options for Code Enforcement: San Diego's Use of Administrative Remedies."

Recently, two of the options Vacchi discussed, civil penalties and administrative citations, caught my attention. Both involve fines, civil penalties being the more expensive. They often start at \$2500. For less serious matters, administrative citations start at \$100, followed by \$250 and \$500 fines for noncompliance. "The advantages of administrative citations are...[that] most people comply after receiving the first citation," wrote Vacchi. "In addition, citations bring in revenue."

That was 12 years ago. On January 22, 2009, Vacchi wrote to the office of Mayor Sanders, explaining why Neighborhood Code Compliance had refused to act on certain noise complaints in Golden Hill. Vacchi explained that his department "could no longer expend resources in continuing an investigation of noise level limits." Considering what happened, however, one has to wonder whether city government spent more on evasion tactics than it saved by refusing to act. "Complaining about

church services didn't seem right," says Golden Hill's Ruchell Alvarez. "So I waited quite a while from the time I moved in next door." The church is Chapel of Happiness on Broadway, a half block east of 30th Street. It has long



Chapel of Happiness



to allow his daughter to live speakers that broadcast them all over the neighborhood are there as well, and to bequeath what drive local residents to it to her after his death.

Late in 2006, Alvarez's father

Richard bought a unit in the

La Collinda Condominiums

Ruchell Alvarez moved into the condo first, early in 2007, while her father remained in his apartment until August. "I started telling him about how loud it was next door and how disturbing the sounds were," she says, "but he thought I was exaggerating. He told me, 'I'll take care of it when I get there." But she could not wait. By July, Ruchell Alvarez was calling the chapel's leaders and asking them to turn down the noise and close their windows and doors during services. "Sometimes they turned it down," she tells me, "but only for a short time. Eventually, they ignored me and a few times even hung up on me."

Within a month of his arrival, Richard Alvarez was calling the church too. But to no avail. In February 2008, the Alvarezes reached Mary Burriel, whose husband, Reverend Jesse Burriel, now deceased, founded the Chapel of Happiness in 1964. (At least one letter from the 1960s has surfaced, already complaining to the City of San Diego about noise and building code violations at the church.)

> Mary Burriel still lives in continued on page 11

STRINGERS

Endless Bummer

By Dorian Hargrove, 3/12/09 *Imperial Beach* — The surf breaks from Imperial Beach Pier down to the Tijuana Slough are some of Southern



California's best.

In summer months, however, according to a report released by the nonprofit environmental group Wildcoast, surfers and frequent ocean users have reported smelling a "sweet, chemical" odor near the shore.

Each year, contamination found off Imperial Beach results in approximately 200 beach closures, which, according to the Department of Environmental Health, make up 80 to 95 percent of San Diego County's total beach closures every year.

After a substantial rain in 2007, researchers from San Diego State University found hepatitis A in 80 percent of the samples they collected near the Imperial Beach Pier.

On Saturday, March 14, at the end of Imperial Beach's Seacoast Drive, Wildcoast (in conjunction with Imperial Beach Health Center and San Diego State University) will pass out information packets and offer 1200 free hepatitis A vaccinations to surfers and any other frequent ocean-

Blessing for Bikers

By Matt Lewis, 3/15/09 Vista/San Marcos — The twolane stretch of Buena Creek Road, which connects Santa Fe Avenue and Twin Oaks Valley Road, will be undergoing extensive construction for the next two weeks. Con-

struction crews have and will be widening nonexistent bike lanes along the narrow and windy passage that connect Vista and San Marcos. So far, the times of work for the crews have been on weekdays from noon until around 4:30 pm, when the major rush-hour traffic for the area begins.

"I bike to work at least three times a week along this road," said Reid Harrell, a resident on the Vista side of the street. "Oftentimes I have to wait for cars to pass just to ride past certain parts of the road."

The construction is mainly taking place on the left side of the road when going northbound toward San Marcos. The dirt embankments that mark residents' property from the road is being carved in about a foot, to allow bikes and pedestrians an easier passage. The construction is expected to continue until about Tuesday, March 24.

Nest in Peace

By Steve Terry, 3/11/09 Rancho San Diego - Workers have been busy cutting down trees and clearing brush



between the Sweetwater River and Jamacha Road in Rancho San Diego. They began near the intersection of Jamacha and Cuyamaca College Drive East a couple of weeks ago. By Friday, March 6, they had reached the corner of Jamacha Road and Willow Glen Drive, behind North Island Credit Union and the new Savannah Grill restaurant.

According to a worker on the scene who declined to be continued on page 8

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Pie in the sky

continued from page 6

it will make 8.25 percent per year on its pension portfolio. The City looks for 7.75 percent. Domestic and foreign stocks have been roughly cut in half since peaking in 2007. Common stocks (domestic and foreign) make up more than half of the portfolios of both the County and City. Stocks would have to go up about 20 percent a year for five years just to get back to normal rates of return, says Joe Esuchanko, consulting actuary for the City.

The County, in particular, has been gambling with employees' retirements. Oftenvolatile commodities make up 4 percent of its target asset allocation. Alternative equity investments - which could include speculative things like venture capital, buyout funds, and green investments — make up 5 percent. There is actually a slightly higher weighting of international stocks (24 percent) than domestic stocks (23 percent). For a long time, the County had 20 percent of its portfolio in hedge funds but got slaughtered in two of them, and that weighting is now down to 14 percent. Early this month, the County's chief investment officer, who had championed aggressive investments, abruptly resigned, "but I don't think the board is looking for radical changes to the portfolio," says chief executive Brian White. The

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CITY LIGHTS

the **Stringers**

identified, only nonnative trees (giant reed, tamarisk, and palm) are being removed. The vegetation removal is part of a project by the National Wildlife Refuge to improve and expand habitat for the least Bell's vireo, a bird listed as endangered by both the state and federal government since the 1980s.

The birds won't arrive until the nesting season, which officially starts March 15.

Kensington's Broken Heart

By Dorian Hargrove, 3/12/09 Kensington — During the past two years, several issues have divided the community, some say resulting in the weakening of the Heart of Kensington community group, which endorsed 8 of the 11 candidates for the 8 seats on the Kensington/Talmadge Planning Committee.

The restoration of the Kensington sign, the fight with developers and community members over the Kensington Terrace project, and the recent historical designation of two 100-year-old trees at the Kensington/Normal Heights Library have involved Heart of Kensington members. Many residents say the expansion of the library was thwarted by a Heart of Kensington member who, as an individual, decided to nominate the trees as historic.

That issue appeared to be

on everyone's mind during the planning committee meeting Wednesday, March 11.

CITY LIGHTS

Before the election's results were announced, candidate Celia Conover, wearing a Heart of Kensington sticker, addressed the audience. "This was not done as a specific stop point for the library expansion. We all treasure our trees, our library, and our park."

Out of the eight candidates endorsed by Heart of Kensington, five were elected. Two of those nominees — chair Tom Hebrank and vicechair David Moty — are considered independent of the community group.

Eyes on the Freeway

By Ken Harrison, 3/13/09 Encinitas — About two months ago, Caltrans began erecting 20-foot-tall aluminum poles on the 5 freeway from Carmel Valley and Oceanside. In the past few weeks, each pole (located at most on- and off-ramps) began to be outfitted with vehicle-detection devices. The poles are being equipped with solar-power panels, wireless component boxes, and radar plates, which will transmit instant information to Caltrans.

Caltrans' San Diego district spokesperson Edward Cartagena says that the two-million-dollar system only counts vehicles, distinguishes between cars and big trucks,

continued on page 10



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Pie in the sky

continued from page 8

hedge funds may stay.

The City claims it doesn't have hedge funds in its portfolio, but it has so-called market-neutral money managers that bet that some stocks will go up and some go down, similar to the hedge-fund strategy. The market-neutral portfolios did poorly in the most recent quarter.

As of September 30, the County's one-year record was a negative 13.8 percent. For the past three years, it has been up only 4 percent a year — a long way from the 8.25 percent bogey. The City's pension fund has nothing to brag about: as of September 30, it was down 15.62 percent over the past year and up only 2.47 percent annually over the past three years, both a long way from the 7.75 percent annual target. Those County and City numbers would be down considerably

In November, actuarial consultant Esuchanko told the council that as of October 31, the City's unfunded liability had grown to \$2.8 billion and that the pension fund was only 58 percent funded. The council, with the exception of Donna Frye, paid no attention. But early this year, Mayor Jerry Sanders's bean counters announced that the unfunded liability was \$2 billion and the funded ratio 66.3 percent. The difference between 58 percent and 66.3 percent is explained by the "smoothing" process; the City evens out results by factoring in several years of market gains and losses. Today's funded ratio might well be below Esuchanko's 58 percent without the smoothing techniques, which, incidentally, are another manipulation by which pension funds paper over big losses. The County uses smoothing too.

William Sheffler, a boardmember of the City fund, thinks the 7.75 percent target is acceptable because about half of it represents inflation-

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Stringers

continued from page 8

and calculates average speeds. It will help Caltrans better manage traffic flows, regulate on-ramp meters, and plan for future highway improvements.

"We do not have the technology to report to the Highway Patrol if we detect someone doing 90 miles per hour," says Cartagena.

Busted Red Runner

By Ben Cooper, 3/13/09 Downtown San Diego — A little after 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 12, a late-model, black VW Jetta traveling northbound on Seventh Avenue collided with one of MTS's red-and-white articulated buses that was eastbound on Broadway.

Although both vehicles had been moving at less than 25 miles per hour, damage was done to the right front quarter-panel of the bus and the left front quarter-panel of the Jetta, which had been traveling in the leftmost lane.

The Jetta was pushed across two traffic lanes and came to rest facing the southeast corner of the intersection. On its front bike rack, the bus had been carrying two bicycles. They absorbed some of the force of the impact. Following the accident, both lay twisted and tangled together on the sidewalk where they had been placed.

One eyewitness, a pedestrian, stated, "I was walking eastbound on Broadway and was about to cross Seventh Avenue on a pedestrian walk signal when — wham! — the bus and car crashed together right in front of me! I was lucky I hadn't arrived just a couple seconds earlier."

Bat News

By Cindy Winslow, 3/12/09 Santee — On March 3, the phrase "look what the cat dragged in" took on a new meaning for one Santee resident, whose pet cat brought home a dead bat. The cat's owner contacted the County to have the bat tested for rabies, and it did test positive.

The Santee bat is the second rabid bat found so far this year in San Diego County. The first was discovered in Clairemont on February 20; it was found ill outside of a private residence.

"Often, bats appear dead, and then when there is an attempt to pick up the bat, the bat will move and can possibly bite the person or fly away," said Dr. Gundula Dunne for the County of San Diego.

"If it is necessary to have the bat tested, a person can use a hard container like a coffee can or hard plastic container to put over the bat until local animal control can be contacted to pick up the bat."

For the Children

By Peter C. Salisbury, 3/12/09 Chula Vista — On March 5, the South Bay Union School District voted to eliminate 80 teaching positions, but it was not the slam-dunk many expected.

The reduction of the 12 librarians' hours (from eight a day to five) sparked heated discussion. One speaker told the school trustees, "It is the librarian that has one-on-one contact with each student. They know each child's name — first and last name."

The resolution was subsequently passed with trustees Elvia Aguilar, Aletha Jones, and Nick Inzunza voting approval and Chris Brown and David Lopez dissenting.

Reading specialists' positions at all 12 SBUSD schools were also eliminated.

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Hey, keep it down!

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apartments attached to the back of the chapel. According to the Alvarezes, Burriel conveys by phone an immense weariness over the noise issue. "She told us to either move out of our condo or call the police," says Ruchell Alvarez.

Within several days, the Alvarezes began a long and insistent history of calling the police. It took the police only a few visits, however, for them to announce that they would do nothing. The Alvarez family, they said, should take its complaints instead to the San Diego Neighborhood Code Compliance Department. On its website, the department states the following: "Because excessive noise can be harmful to the health and welfare of citizens, the City of San Diego prohibits excessive and annoying noise within City limits."

The first question Richard Alvarez had for Mike Wisnieski of Neighborhood Code Compliance was, "How many complaints about the Chapel of Happiness have there been already?" None, he said Wisnieski told him. However, Alvarez soon discovered that a neighbor in his building had complained as early as 1996. After he called the complaint to Wisnieski's attention, the official sent him two other complaints. Not satisfied, Alvarez filed a public records request asking for complaint letters. Six more were provided. "I'm sure there are more," Alvarez tells me.

The complaint letters cite amplified drum playing, singing, wailing, children screaming, car alarms going off in the parking lot, and stones being thrown at the complainers' condos, among other things. One writer says that, at her church, she is taught to "love thy neighbor." "But that's a two-way street," she writes. Another complainer submitted a calendar showing that the days that were loud approached five per week over long periods of time.

Nevertheless, Code Com-

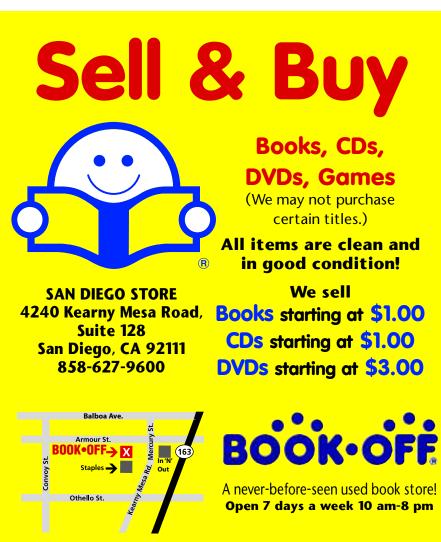
CITY LIGHTS

pliance told Alvarez that his complaint would need the support of other complainers. So in April, he and his daughter obtained 17 contemporary supporting letters from his building. Meanwhile, Code Compliance's Oscar Prado went to a Sunday-morning worship service at the Chapel of Happiness and announced that he saw no problem. It would be one of four visits made by Code Compliance officials. A salient characteristic of the visits, however, was they went into the church or onto its property during services, tipping off the alleged offenders.

Several weeks later, Prado visited the La Collinda Condominiums to get firsthand accounts from the residents who sent in complaints. He left "door hangers" at the residences, saying later that he found nobody home. Although the door hangers had on them Prado's name, office, and a phone number, they did not

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an Diego *Reader* March 19, 200

Pie in the sky

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ary expectations. The County's White says the board talked about the 8.25 percent expectation in January and will revisit the topic in June.

Market pros overwhelmingly think both the City and County are overestimating future returns. "It's painfully obvious that public and private pensions are not going to make their long-term goals," says E. James Welsh of Carlsbad's Welsh Money Management. "I would say 5 to 6 percent is more realistic," but political pressure pushes the bogey higher.

Over hundreds of years, stocks have gone up around 9 to 10 percent yearly and bonds around 4 percent. Right now, stocks are in a horrendous bear market and Treasury bonds are returning less than they have for decades. "I would say it should be 7 percent," says Mike Stolper

of Stolper & Company. "Every time the market gets ugly, it becomes politicized and the policy is assaulted, and every time it does well, these morons increase benefits. The problem is corrupt politicians and reactionary responses to stressed markets."

CITY LIGHTS

"I would not go any higher than 5 or 6 percent," says Neil Hokanson of Solana Beach's Hokanson Associates. He adds an interesting point: "Studies show that retirees can count on withdrawing 4.2 percent [of their nest eggs] a year and not have to tap their capital, not allowing for fraud or incredibly bad investment outcomes. This is the kind of number investors should be focusing on. With Treasury bond rates so low, how can a pension manager forecast a rate of return much higher than that of corporate bonds?" (Quality corporate bonds of 9 to 14 years' maturity yield 5 to

Councilmember Donna

Frye has a very practical reason why she believes target rates should be reduced: "If they had more reasonable expectations for returns, they would want to invest in something more stable and consistent," she says of City fund managers.

Jim Gleason, who was on the City pension board for a dozen years until 1972 and was the major plaintiff in a successful suit against the retirement board, says, "They are still overly optimistic. They should scale back from 7.75 percent," although he doesn't recommend a specific figure. Reason: "It's a different world we are playing in."

Amen to that. Stocks have rallied recently, but few think another bull market is at hand. There is a 20 percent chance of depression and continued deflation and a strong possibility that it will be many years before stocks get back to their 2007 levels. It's no time to roll the dice. ■

CA Prop 215

Hey, keep it down!

continued from page 11

indicate why he had come. A woman later told Ruchell Alvarez that she called the number and couldn't get through. "No wonder," says Alvarez, who instructs me to dial the number on my cell phone to listen. "It's a fax number. Then Prado proudly told us later that our complaint had no supporters in the building."

I located one of the people (he wishes to remain anonymous) who complained to Code Compliance in 2004. He told me he lived for six "miserable years" on the other side of Broadway from the Chapel of Happiness. He complained numerous times and, on one occasion, went onto the chapel's parking lot. There, he says, a group of church members surrounded him, demanding he give them a satisfactory reason for his presence before letting him go. People in the neighborhood were always calling the police and Code Compliance, he told me, but the chapel had a system of sentries who stood out on Broadway looking for trouble. If City officials came into the neighborhood, the noise turned low.

By now, the Alvarezes were soliciting the help of Ben Hueso, their District Eight city councilman and council president. Hueso expressed his sympathy, saying that he had endured a loud Pentecostal church in his neighborhood and that its noise was awful. He said he knew the leaders at the Chapel of Happiness and would ask them to reduce the noise. Whatever he told them, say the Alvarezes, noise levels remained the same.

Eventually, the issue ended up in arbitration. Mike Littlefield, a dispute resolution officer in the city attorney's office, held three meetings between the parties. The Alvarezes and another resident of their building met with three Spanishspeaking pastors and Abram Rodriguez, who lives on the Chapel of Happiness property.

During one meeting held in the chapel, according to Ruchell Alvarez, Rodriguez "jumped up at the sound of a jetliner passing over nearby

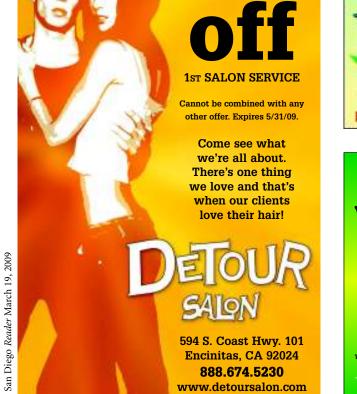
and asked, 'Do you call the police on that?" (Rodriguez has not returned my calls seeking his version of events.) In the end, the meetings proved useless, as the City's Mike Littlefield did not even recommend a solution.

On September 10, Robert Vacchi of Code Compliance wrote to Richard and Ruchell Alvarez that "we will no longer investigate noise issues for [the Chapel of Happiness] site." "The decision has a ring of finality about it," says Ruchell Alvarez, who wonders whether the City is intimidated by potential freedom of religious expression lawsuits. "What about the rights of local residents?" she asks.

The nuisance at the Chapel of Happiness does seem to violate standards of all nine criteria for deciding noise regulation issues. These include duration of the noise, proximity of the noise to sleeping facilities, whether the nature of the noise is usual or unusual, and the level of the noise. Regarding the last criterion, Alvarez is especially frustrated. She says Neighborhood Code Compliance has refused to bring a decibel meter into her building to measure noise levels during the Chapel of Hap-



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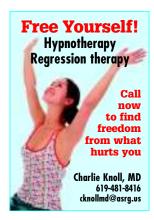


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piness services. "We have given a standing invitation to any City employees to come to our home and listen for themselves," she says.

Richard Alvarez offered to purchase his own decibel meter and show its readings to the appropriate officials. But Neighborhood Code Compliance savs only its official decibel meter can be used. Yet the office will not use it in the La Collinda Condominiums.

Six weeks ago, I walked the alley behind the Chapel of Happiness during one of its evening services. I had no decibel reader but became convinced immediately that the noise I heard coming from the chapel would violate laws anywhere. Later, Richard Alvarez played for me a number of tape recordings he had taken of other such services throughout his residence at the La Collinda Condominiums. The recordings sounded much like what I had heard in the alley.

"In the arbitration hearing," Alvarez tells me, "Abram Rodriguez refused to listen to tapes of the noise his organization is responsible for. He argued that I have doctored the tapes to make them louder, that I turned up the volume while taping. Well, tape recorders do not record louder or softer. You can turn the volume up, yes, but only during the playback. And you can see here," he says, holding the

CITY LIGHTS

recorder close to me as he raises and lowers the volume, "that I'm playing this at a normal level."

To further his case, Alvarez fast-forwards the tape to several intervals in which he is heard making remarks about a Padres game and speaking to his daughter. His voice is not loud. But as soon as the church music on the tape starts, we can barely hear each other talk.

Last spring and throughout the summer, the Alvarezes did not realize - nor did any City official inform them that they may have had another recourse to getting City help. The city attorney's office offers both a Code Enforcement Unit and a Neighborhood Prosecution Unit (there is a prosecutor who works with the police department in each of the four major divisions of the city: northern, western, central, and mid-city).

On January 27, in connection with an old Linda Vista loading site filled with festering water, newly elected City Attorney Jan Goldsmith had this to say: "We've raised code enforcement to a top priority.... We have a problem with Code Compliance generally. We need more officers and more training for them.... We will make sure we have prosecutors who know what they're doing and they're adequately funded."

Goldsmith's statement may

CITY LIGHTS

have something to do with the phone call a police officer made to Richard Alvarez three weeks ago. The officer wanted Alvarez to know that he had just issued a noise citation to the leader of a choir and band practicing at the Chapel of Happiness. Alvarez had not even called the police.

The citation, which Alvarez learned carried the threat of a fine up to \$500 for repeat violations, gave him hope. His optimism was shattered last week, however, when graffiti turned up in his condo complex. It started in the stairwell on the third floor, led along an inside wall, and finished ten feet from his door. The message inside the stairwell? "Help me please. I don't want to die in here."

Nevertheless, reports Alvarez, noise at the Chapel of Happiness has decreased markedly in the past two weeks. "It's been quiet as a mouse," he says. ■







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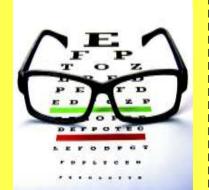
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LETTERS

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El Cajon Smack Talk

I grew up here in El Cajon my whole life, and upon reading the March 12 edition of your paper, "El Cajon: We're No More Redneck than Chula Vista, Oceanside, or Escondido" (Cover Story), number one, El Cajon is proud of the fact — proud of the fact of our heritage and that we are rednecks. Number two, you can go to any city in San Diego County and talk crap about them, okay. You can find faults and flaws in every single city in San Diego, and for Manson to come out to El Cajon to write an article about our city — our city where we live, eat, breathe, love, and everything else, it was an insult, a complete insult to the people of El Cajon, to the city of El Cajon.

Near the end of the article, I understand, you're

going through and you put in a bunch of stuff about, you know, the heritage and everything else and blah, blah, blah, but you know what, the bottom line is, half the people — half the people — that I've talked to this morning, which is over 30 people who I've talked to, who've called and let me know about this article, you know, I read this article, and I'm telling you, it was hard to get past the first half of it. All the smack talk and everything else, you know, it's bull, it's bull. And I truly believe that Manson owes the city of El Cajon an apology.

My mother worked for the CDC here in El Cajon for a few years. She worked alongside police officers, alongside storeowners in downtown El Cajon, dealt with the homeless, graffiti, gangs, everything else. We love this city. We love this city. And damn you for coming here, writing this article, when you really don't have a f***ing clue what our town is about. You think you do. But you can only do so much research. You don't live here, Mr. Manson.

I would like an apology, and so would the people of El Cajon. Other than that, I love the *Reader*. I read it religiously. What can I say — this was wrong.

James McBroom El Cajon

Warm Fuzzies

Just finished reading "El Cajon" (Cover Story, March 12). The author caught the flavor of the city I have always had warm, fuzzy feelings about; I've lived there twice in my life.

As I remember it when I first moved into the area in 1956, El Cajon had a population of 5000, and 1000 of those souls lived in a trailer (not a mobile home) park. The biggest retail business in town was W.D. Hall's hardware and lumber; in front of the store was a covered wooden sidewalk, and the customers were real cowboys. No homes were airconditioned in those days.

Today, El Cajon is an enigma; it is a cosmopolitan city of cowboys, rednecks, Hispanics, Africans, Arabs, and duke's-mixture Americans, a most delightful atmosphere to dwell in. A person can find excellent diverse ethnic cuisine and culture downtown on Main Street in such places as Ali Baba's and Victoria's, along with good beer, company, and conversation at the Grand Bar (the old colorful location, now defunct) with authentic good ol' rednecks and cowboys.

The Parkway Plaza shopping center, an alternative El Cajon, offers convenient airconditioned shopping in contrast to the character and culture of Main Street.

El Cajon is a beautiful,

hot (temperature) city.

Dick Blankenburg

La Mesa

Downtown Is Not Enough

I read Mr. Manson's article on El Cajon recently, with fascination ("El Cajon: We're No More Redneck Than Chula Vista, Oceanside, or Escondido," Cover Story, March 12). I have lived in East County (El Cajon, Santee, and Lakeside) for most of my life and did not know some of the interesting things that he brought up, such as the history of the art in the town and the waste-management deal. I was very impressed that he made his point, for the most part, that the title of the article claimed.

However, I was disappointed to see that each time he talked with a smallbusiness owner, they mentioned how badly they thought of the mayor, and yet Mr. Manson did not inquire as to why those proprietors felt that way when he interviewed Mr. Lewis in his office. There seems to be quite a duality in the article when Mr. Lewis says he welcomes families, especially foreign ones, but does not seem to be supportive of the family-owned businesses that are already there.

I've driven through El Cajon proper many, many times in the recent months and have seen the big changes they have made to downtown — but at what cost to the other parts of El Cajon? Besides the redneck stigma, what about the crime-ridden areas? I know the corrupt El Cajon Police Department can hardly handle the town's wasted areas, unlike the mayor who says there is a "zero waste" policy in effect, so why doesn't the mayor help to change that? Making two or three blocks of the center of the city look pretty does not a rebuilt community make. Mrs. D.

El Cajon, unincorporated

Help Our Bridges, Not Buses

Re "Waste time. Save money. Ride the bus!" Cover Story, March 5.

Good article.

Ollie and all San Diego bus riders should be aware that it costs in excess of \$4.50 on the average to provide each passenger's ride. That is a far cry from the \$2.25 fare paid into the fare box. The remainder is taken, without consent of most of us, out of the pockets of those workers who do not have the time to waste waiting for a form of transportation that doesn't go where we need or want to go, when we need or want

A good portion of the gasoline taxes paid to support and maintain our highway system have been diverted to "transportation," i.e., bus and rail operations far from their original intent, which while Ollie and the like save money, our roadways and bridges deteriorate.

Baron Von Preuss Paradise Hills

DUI Problem Solved

I loved your article by Ollie in your March 5 publication ("Waste time. Save money. Ride the bus!" Cover Story). I, like Ollie, am interested in changing San Diego's public transit. Months ago I wrote letters to the members of the city council on the subject, and the only person to reply was Donna Frye. I agree with Ollie; in light of today's economy and the gloomy future for gas prices, why isn't our City doing anything to make more public transportation? Public transportation is beneficial to the environment and creates jobs, something that could deter the climbing unemployment figures.

Public transportation could be a solution to many of our problems (economy, environment), but a third which I didn't see Ollie cover in his story really grabs my attention. We all know the recent rampage that law enforcement officers and educators alike go on to prevent DUIs (they stop short of public stonings). While the

continued on page 53





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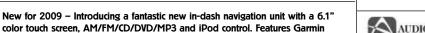
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March 19, 2009

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by Barbarella

I only went out for a walk and finally concluded to stay out till sundown, for going out, I found, was really going in.

— John Muir

n the Kerala state of southwest India blooms a plant called *neelakurinji* (meaning "blue mountains"); for three months, the hillsides are carpeted with the purplish-blue blossoms. As the last petal wilts in winter's cold face, parents explain to their children that they shall not set eyes on such a lavish display until they reach adulthood — a dozen years will go by before the flowers bloom again.

From the moon in the sky to termites in the ground, everything has a cycle. Like most creatures, we humans progress through more rotations than we are consciously aware. I have one infrequent phase that I recognize upon its arrival but could never predict, as its

orbit is uncharted. Infrequent, but not so rare when compared with the 12

years that span the gap between the periwinkle neelakurinji blooms. I call it my "pensive phase."

According to reliable sources, not even sleep can keep me from yammering. In my waking hours, even when alone, I am unceasing in my chatter. I might ask rhetorical questions of inanimate objects, say hello

Pensive Phase

to my shoes, or chastise a door for getting in my way. I find comfort in communication, as if by speaking I am connecting with the world around me. My default personality is "gregarious." I thrive on human interaction, be it a short and friendly encounter at the supermarket or a three-hour phone conversation with an old friend.

But every so often, the little Barbarella I imagine lives in my head — the microscopic me at my mental control panel — flips a switch...and I stop talking.

This time, it happened on a Saturday. Like a vacuum that continues to whir for a moment after it's been shut off, I proceeded with my plans, unaware that my plug had been pulled. I stopped by Bread & Cie to grab a sandwich for myself and a cheese plate for my sister and brought the goods to Balboa Park, where Jane was hanging out while Bella was at Junior Theatre. After circling for 20 minutes, I parked on the street adjacent to the zoo

lot, a half a mile away. I thought it was the incredible crowd that clouded my mood, despite it being a sunny, flower-filled spring day. I thought my irritation was sparked by the rabble of kids climbing all over the sculptures in the garden; their parents, who disregarded the many signs demanding the artwork not be touched, fanned the embers until I was consumed by a conflagration of misanthropy. It was when I snapped at Jane that I understood the problem lay not with the common herd, but with me.

I absently bid my sister and niece goodbye and walked back to my car as if in a trance. I wasn't sure where I was going, but I knew it wasn't home. On the few occasions when I'd found myself in a pensive phase while living in Chula Vista, I would retreat to Otay Lake, a small, isolated body of water surrounded by giant shrubbery-encrusted hills. I thought of Otay as I opened the sunroof and windows of my car — something outside the realm of my usual operating procedure, as the wind rushing by makes it impossible to hear the radio or Bluetooth speaker or myself as I talk back to both. With a picture-postcard image of the rural vista in my mind's eye, I turned onto the ramp for 5 south. Otay Lake would have been 15 miles away, but I only made it to the next exit, onto the bridge that leads to

On some kind of reptilian emotional automatic pilot, I took the first right off

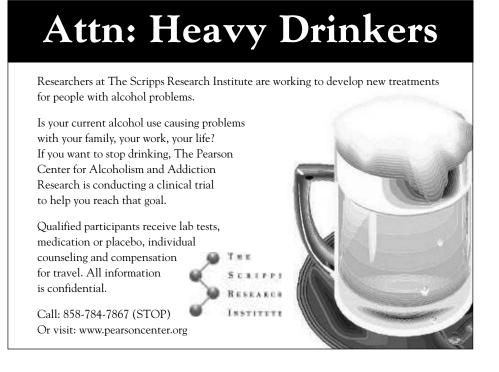
the bridge, toward Centennial Park and San Diego Bay. Back in the days when arguing with my mother in the evening was as habitual as shaving my legs, I would escape many miles and a bridge away to this very point, where I would lick my wounds and watch the lights of downtown reflect in the black water. Bathed now in the midafternoon sun with only two puffy white clouds in the clear blue sky, the area seemed foreign to me. Regardless, I parked my car on First Avenue and walked toward the water.

During these pensive phases, I crave contact with nature. Conscious of whether or not they're doing it, the people in my life place demands on my time and attention. For a socialite, this is usually not an issue — the more interaction, the better fed is the beast. But as I strolled along the walkway — past a patch of brilliant yellow flowers and sandpipers whose long beaks were seeking sustenance in the saturated shore — I couldn't help but wonder if the constant interaction on which I thrive might also be the force that causes mission control to flip the switch. As if when my battery starts to glow red, I am programmed to seek an outlet for recharging. I was out of words. And words are something that nature does not require.

The thing that always struck me about the mammoth mounds at Otay Lake was how insignificant I was at their feet. Any problem I thought I had evapo-

I would escape
many miles and a
bridge away to
this very point,
where I would lick
my wounds and
watch the lights.





rated the moment I set eyes upon that great hill. I had the same sensation while I stared at the ripples in the water as they grew or shrank, depending on the size of the sailboats gliding by. Interaction takes effort.

No matter how well you know someone, you are not telepathic. To phrase an idea, to decipher another's — communication takes work. With other people, I am forever expending, forever operating within the narrow

margins language allows.

A cluster of small black birds bobbed in the water. I could feel the sun's warmth on my back, the cool breeze from the bay on my cheeks. I inhaled deeply, breathing in the salt of the ocean,

the sweet perfume of the flowers. People passed by, but I paid them no mind. The ocean, the birds, the flowers, they asked nothing of me and didn't care what I might say. As I sat and watched and breathed and smelled, I was free.

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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP BY MATTHEW ALICE

Is it true that there used to be half pennies? If so, who was the president on that coin?

— Jay, via email

Yeah, I guess a half penny seems sorta useless in a time when nobody will even bother to bend over to pick up a liberated penny from the sidewalk. If you sawed that coin in half, how useful would it be at Starbucks? We have to hop into the Matthew Alice Combination Blender and Way-Back Machine (patent pending) and spin into history, about 200 years ago, to find Americans who happily loaded their pockets with the quarter-sized, pure copper half pennies.

Don't forget that the British had had a long dalliance with the half penny by the time the English came to America. Perhaps in

a flood of nostalgia, in 1773 the Virginia colony ordered some half pennies to add to their currency. (Virginia was loaded with British sympathizers.) Of course, before the Revolution, the coins had to come from England, from the mint in London. The head on the coin was the very dippity-doo King George III. Soon Virginia officials were knee deep in 670,000 British-made half pennies.

Once the dust had cleared from the Revolutionary War and the colonies were all stitched up into a more perfect union, the Philadelphia mint began striking half pennies in 1793. Apparently they became more annoying than useful by 1857, when the mint stopped making them. No presidents on any of them. In all 64 years that the coin was made, the face of the coin showed a classical profile of a woman's head long pointy nose, pointy chin, lots of messy, wavy hair pulled back with a ribbon. The only changes made to the lady over the years was to what she wore in her hair. Most often it was some variation of a wide ribbon or crown with the word "Liberty" on it. And if you put the half penny through those "what's it worth now" calculators, the purchasing power of a half penny today is about a dime.

Dear Matthew:

Why is it that when I bend my little finger, the finger next to it moves too? When I bend my middle finger, the same thing happens. But when I bend my index finger, nothing else moves. Same with my thumb. I can't think of any reason why fingers should work this way. Is it just me, or does

everybody's fingers work this way? — Unsigned, via email

I gave the research elves the rest of the day off and called them in to handle this one. They'd

been out in the backyard, tromping around trying to figure out the size of their carbon footprint when I decided to put them to better use. About halfway through this one, they were all perspiring heavily and drinking from the dog's water dish; but I gave them a little pep talk and they cranked through the answer. I'll give you a shorthand version, since I wouldn't want you to break out into a rash too.

> Under each of our fingers is a set of flexor muscles. We use these to make a fist. On top we have extensor muscles. We use these if we want to dope-slap somebody. In all fingers except our middle and ring

fingers, these muscles move independently. Because your ring finger doesn't have its own extensor muscle to keep it straight, it bends slightly when the pinkie bends. Ever notice when you flip somebody the bird, the only way you can keep your middle finger extended against the flex of the others is to hold the others down with your thumb? And how about the Hawaiian greeting or the "rock and roll!" hand signs. No accident that they involve the thumb, index finger, pinkie — the three fingers that can extend independently and easily while the others are flexed because of their musculature. The elves are pretty bummed that this explanation is the best I could do after all their thrashing through hand anatomy and physiology. I hope they'll be cheered up by the fact that their carbon footprint is only a size four narrow.

I was complaining the other day about how I'm going to have to foot the bill for repairs to the house. So instead of getting bummed by the cost of the repairs, I decided to think about something else. So I decided to wonder why we say "foot the bill." It makes no sense at all. But then neither does the repair bill.

— Bill (not really), San Diego

Long ago, "foot" meant to add up a column of figures. So footing the bill meant adding up the full damages. I guess the guy who footed the bill also paid it because eventually, by the early 19th Century, the meaning changed to the one we know now. No one's quite sure how that happened.

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

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



fast break

By Anthony Gentile



Foothills Christian guard Kalob Hatcher shoots a runner

San Diego-Foothills Christian game canceled; Cavers forced to forfeit two games

Posted February 14, 2009

Second-ranked San Diego's road loss at Mira Mesa on Friday night was their second loss of the day. Earlier Friday, the Cavers were forced to forfeit their final two games of the regular season because ineligible players participated in a pair of November preseason games.

San Diego's non-league home game against No. 9 Foothills Christian scheduled for tonight has also been canceled. The matchup would have pitted two of the best players in the section, Cavers center Jeremy Tyler and Knights guard Troy Leaf.

The two ineligible players in question were transfers Terrence Boyd and LaBradford Franklin. Boyd, Franklin, and Zecheriah Smith were denied eligibility by the San Diego Section before the season started and all three have appealed the decisions — Smith and Franklin have already been turned down and Boyd's appeal is pending. Questions surrounding the possible recruitment of these players resulted in the firing of head coach Kenny Roy and two assistants last month.

The games forfeited were Eastern League contests Tuesday, February 17, at Morse (12-14, 1-7), and Friday, February 21, at No. 4 Hoover (21-7, 6-2). The forfeit losses will give San Diego a 14-9 overall record (7-3 in league) and most likely will cost the Cavers a league championship.

Comment:

Posted by Joaquin_de_la_Mesa, February 15, 2009
I remember when coaches were thrilled to
have one sure-fire Division I college recruit.
Why did Roy have to go after three more? I
love sports, but I hate win-at-all-costs sports
culture.

No. 1 El Camino overcomes slow start to beat No. 8 Vista

Posted February 12, 2009

When No. 1 El Camino took on No. 8 Vista on Wednesday night, the Panthers were clearly the better team in the first quarter. Vista hit all their shots and ran the section's top team out of their gym.

Then the first quarter ended, and the Wildcats took complete control of the game en route to a 78-64 win. It was their third win over the Panthers this season.

The Wildcats (23-3, 7-0 Palomar) opened the second quarter with a 12-0 run, holding Vista scoreless for the first four minutes. The Wildcats eventually grabbed their first lead of the game when center Luke Evans made a layup with 58 seconds left in the half. The halftime buzzer could not sound soon enough for Vista, who was outscored 21-3 in the second.

"Once we started hitting those buckets that we've been hitting in the last few games," El Camino guard Steven Aldridge said, "we knew from there that we had them."

St. Augustine shuts down No. 5 University City

Posted February 11, 2009

St. Augustine (18-5, 7-2 Western) can lay claim to something that not many teams in the section can — they know how to beat University City (18-5, 6-3 Western). With their 68-61 win at home on Tuesday, February 10, St. Augustine won their second straight against the fifthranked Centurions.

"It's pretty much the same," said St. Augustine point guard Stephon Lamar. "We came out with the same game plan and we executed the game plan. It's as simple as that."

The Saints game plan is simple — stop guard Mark Hills and center David Washington, University City's leading scorers.

"Making their other three players beat us instead of those two," Lamar said. "And it always works"

The game was very even through the first three quarters, with neither team leading by more than six. But St. Augustine's defense stepped up in the final quarter. After Hills hit from downtown early in the fourth to give University City a two-point lead, the Saints went on a 12-0 run, holding the Centurions without a basket for nearly five minutes. University City made three treys in 32 seconds to make it a five-point game, but they would not get any closer than that as St. Augustine hung on for the win.

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Crossfire (tribute to Stevie Ray Vaughan)

continued from front page

"There's no solo after the break," shouts the alleged singer. "That's not how the song goes!" POW, right in the kisser.

His policeman brother ridicules his sibling's career as a clone. "You know the sickest thing about you, little man? You don't have any fantasies of your own. You fantasize about being somebody else."

Some musicians see tribute groups as a way to get a foot in the door of the music industry. Others have been on the other side of that door, only to find more closed doors. Copping someone else's successful act may seem the only chance at earning a bit of applause, adulation, and ultimately affirmation, however secondhand. In rock Star, Wahlberg gets fired from the tribute aroup.

Stepping Feet

tribute to the Dave Matthe

Bob Tedde from Steely Damned (tribute to Steely Dan) Borrowed



One phone call later, he replaces the singer he idolizes in Steel Dragon and, within a few dozen movie minutes, he's leading that band to greater heights of fame than ever before, transforming overnight from wannabe to bona fide.

To paraphrase another unreal character, Rocket J. Squirrel: "That trick never works."

Though few have gone directly from paying tribute to playing stadiums, this hasn't stopped the number of soundalikes from growing exponentially over the past few years.

We contacted as many

local tribute acts as we could find, barring the endless array of Elvises (Elvi?), since they frankly get too much media attention already and this only causes them to breed all the more, like porky pop-culture kudzu.

> We'll start with the most unlikely of the lot, an allmale tribute to the Bangles who dress in drag and call themselves the Dangles.

> "We acknowledge how ridiculous it is to dress up and pretend to be something you're not, just to get a tiny taste of someone else's fame," says lead Dangle Tarzana Hoffs (real name Percy Murray). "We're like the supermarket generic brand trying to Hoover a few bucks from the pocket of some chump who refuses to pay full price for his Cheerios. Or, more accurately, the TV versions of Private Benjamin or Ferris Bueller's Day Off...cash in on whatever's hot and maybe, just maybe, lightning will strike again the

same way."

"We're not delusional," says Murray. "We know we'll never have a hit record, so we just play it for fun, and the audience, when they get it, they have fun too. That's as long as the crotch of my pantyhose doesn't rip. I may look better in a miniskirt than Susanna Hoffs, but if Mister Happy accidentally pops out, then nobody's smiling anymore." Indeed.

40 Ounces to Freedom is all about Sublime. "A lot of people think I sound very similar to [Sublime singer] Bradley Nowell," says 27-year-old front man Dane Scott. "Some people even say I bear a striking resemblance to him."

According to Scott, "We do Sublime with a twist. We play a lot of the specific guitar solos and bass lines the same, but we also like to improvise on top and add our own arrangements of some songs.... We don't try to look like Sublime, although the drummer and I have both

been tattooed by one of Bradley's longtime buddies."

The 40 Ouncers have a richer musical pedigree than one might expect from copycat rockers, perhaps explaining their hectic gig schedule.

Scott spent six years

actually played gigs with Sublime back in the day," says Scott, "so he knows them all. I met Bradlev's widow when I worked for a store I think she owned in O.B., called On the Contrary. I was her shoe guy."

Scott says those days of

Dust N' Bones is an homage to Guns N' Roses. "We try to sound as much like the albums as possible," says singer Richard Gwaltney, who founded the band in 2005. "But at the same time, we let our personalities come through.

"The guys in Maiden invited us backstage to meet them."

with Tubby and is currently working on a project with former Social Distortion player John Maurer. Bassist Sol Turpin (36) also fronts Safety Orange, while Jeremy Miller (31) plays in Stepping Feet, a Dave Matthews tribute. Adam Bausch (33) was the original drummer for Slightly Stoopid. "Adam reliably gainful employment are long gone. "Now, we all support ourselves with music. Nobody has a 'real' job. And Sol is the only one of us who's married, for around two years now. It's hard to be married and make a living as a musician at the same time."

Anyone who thinks they can just go out there and be an actor will fail immediately. You have to be real, be yourself, and do what you want to do, regardless of the fact that you're the 'fake' version."

Regarding visuals, he says, "All of us go as far as we can to emulate the look







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Toll-free: 1-800-492-9471 or 619-287-1911 www.DaysInn.com of the original Guns N' Roses members. We go for sort of an action-figure version of what everyone recognizes."

Gwaltney — who strongly resembles his dimpled doppelganger — says gig offers increased when GN'R's long-awaited Chinese Democracy album became a reality. "This works in our favor," he says, "but we're not trying to be them or anything. We just respect their artistic genius."

The players all have day jobs and are spread around the county; they meet once a week in O.B. to practice. At 26, Gwaltney is the youngest member. "The other guys are all mid- to late 30s," he says, "and the only married one is Tommy, our lead guitarist. He's got a kid who's way too young to understand the awesome magnitude of his father being in a GN'R tribute."

"In my opinion," says Gwaltney, "being married almost defeats the whole purpose of being in a Guns N' Roses tribute. You should be able to rock out with your cock out."

Led Zeppelin tribute Dazed and Confused has also benefited from the renewed activities of forebearers, in their case the November 2007 one-shot Zep reunion at England's 02 Arena. "In the months surrounding the concert," says vocalist Jason Ott, "we played more and better gigs than usual. That's when we first began booking at A-list places like the Belly Up Tavern and Canes."

Formed in 2006, the band doesn't attempt to look like the mighty Zep. "We decided early on to let the music speak for

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itself," explains Ott, whose day job is doing graphic design and cartography. "There are plenty of bands who dress like whoever they're paying tribute to, but most of our fans are glad we don't. Zeppelin's music takes you on a trip all by itself, and you don't need dragon suits or bell-bottomed jeans to ride."

That said, Dazed and Confused is particular about replicating Zeppelin's sound as authentically as possible. "Our drummer has a John Bonham replica kit, complete with a huge gong. Our guitarist uses a violin bow and Jimmy Page's signature guitars, including a double-neck model."

As for faithfulness to the original recordings, Ott says, "There's some improv, but almost everything we play is something that Zeppelin did in the studio or in concert. Our drummer, Jeff Smith, is quite the Zep history buff, and he often presents us with alternate recordings of tunes, some of which are only heard on rare bootlegs."

The five band members range in age from 36–42; three are married, two with children. "[Keyboardist] Mike Davenport brought his kids to our last show," says the unmarried Ott. "They had a blast. It was one of our best gigs! We normally play 21-andup shows, so it's not usually a family affair."

Asked about the band's worst gig, Ott recalls a set at Canes. "I was jumping on the stage and slipped, gouging my leg open. Blood was spurting out, and it wouldn't stop. The show must go on, so we used a guitar rag and duct tape and made a makeshift tourniquet, and I played the show without another hitch. I later found out that keeping a tourniquet on an injury like that for an extended period was not a

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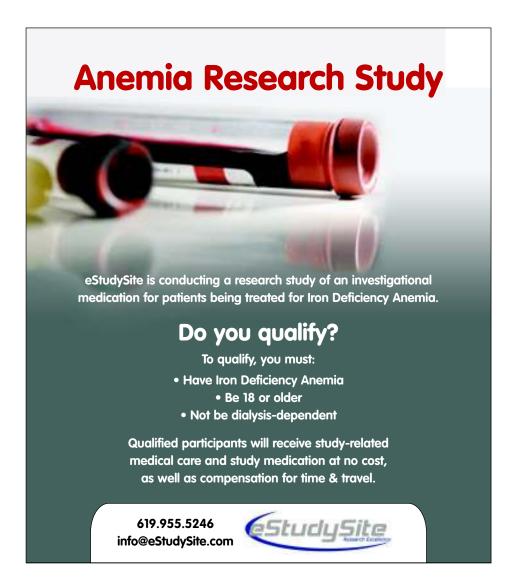
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good idea. It was horrific, it bled throughout the night, and I ended up in the ER the next day. Rock and roll!"

The Iron Maidens — an all-female Iron Maiden tribute — experienced their own horror show a while back, according to drummer Linda McDonald. "The owner of the Rainbow Bar in Juárez, Mexico, locked us, the promoter, and the sound crew in the building," she says. "We were doing a swing through Texas and did the Juárez show the night before our

El Paso gig. The show went great, the fans came out in droves, and everything was fine. Until at about 2:00 outside as fast as you can.' We did so, and on about our third trip out, with about four more trips' worth of

OU812 dresses and coifs like Van Halen.

a.m., when we heard a lot of yelling in Spanish.

"The promoter came up to us and said, 'Get all your stuff and move it all stuff to go, the doubledoors slammed shut on us. We tried to open them and found they were chained and padlocked

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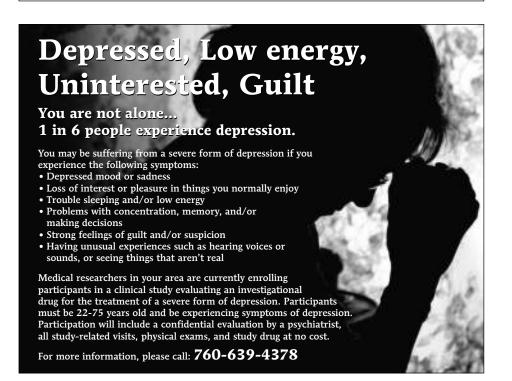
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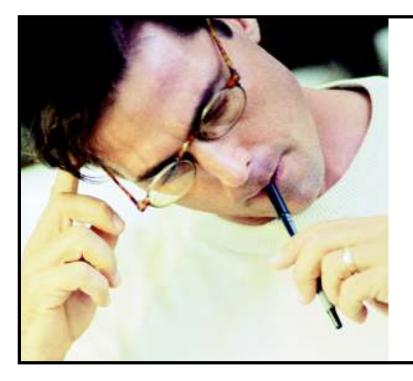
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from the outside. All the sound guys, the band, and the crew were locked inside. The promoter had to scramble to find \$1500 [U.S.] on a Sunday morning at 2:30 a.m., or the building owner would not let anyone out. We were all in there for about 45 minutes, until the promoter came up with the extra money, and we all beat a hasty retreat."

On a more positive note, McDonald says, "The guys in Maiden have heard of us and invited us backstage at a show to meet them. We played a couple shows with Michael Kenney, bass tech for Maiden keyboardist Steve Harris, and [drummer] Nico

McBrain once got up on stage and played three songs with us. Steve Harris and [singer] Bruce Dickinson came to see us at the Hard Rock Live show in Mex-

The Maidens are all in their 30s, unmarried, with no children, and all play music full-time. "We do about 200 shows a year," says McDonald. "We're

The Bastard Sons of **Johnny Cash were** endorsed by the Man in Black himself.

ico City and stayed for the whole show. Steve came backstage afterward and said that they enjoyed our show a lot."

lucky to have played all over the U.S. and Canada, Greece, Korea, Japan, Iraq, Kuwait, Bahrain, Puerto Rico, Spain, and Turkey. Oh, and Mexico, which totally rocked. Other than Juárez."

McDonald and fellow Maiden Sara Marsh also



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play in an all-female Ozzy tribute, the Little Dolls, while bassist Steph Harris — aka Wanda — performs with several classical ensembles.

Piece of Mind pays tribute to Maiden as well, but only the versions fronted by Bruce Dickinson. After their August 1999 debut, they became regulars at clubs like Canes in Pacific Beach, where lead guitarist Anthony Ciullo played his first-ever gig with the group.

"I was 17 years old and

popped a string on the first song. I didn't have an extra guitar and ended up missing three songs...the manager of Canes lectured me after the show. I was so disappointed and embarrassed, but I have never gone to a show without backup guitars since."

Ciullo reports that band members — most of them single — see their fair share of groupies. "One time," he says, "a female fan grabbed [lead singer] Ron's dick while we were playing. He quickly

removed her hand from his crotch, and she instantly grabbed me. She pulled me down and licked my face and almost yanked me clear off stage.

"L.A. is a better venue for hooking up after a show. Everyone at our shows in San Diego always seems to have a husband or boyfriend."

Van Halen tribute OU812 eschews the David Lee Roth years. "We do Sammy Hagar-era stuff because we really love what he brought to that band,"

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says bassist John Osmon.

The group dresses and coifs like their counterparts, as well as using corresponding instruments, like a Michael Anthony custom flame bass ("exactly like he used on the last Van Halen tour"), Hagar's signature Cabo Wabo Yamaha ("We have his Les Pauls for Montrose songs"), and a \$2600 replica of Eddie Van Halen's striped "Frankenstein" model ("identical to Eddie's, minus the puke stains").

"We played down in Cabo Wabo during Sammy Hagar's birthday week in October [2007] and have met the whole [Van Halen] band at various times, so they know what we're doing and dig it," says Osmon.

OU812 guitarist Angel Llanos attended a party thrown at Eddie Van Halen's house for the X-rated film *The Sacred Sin* (which includes two Van Halen songs).

"There were adult-film industry folks all over the place and strippers and a bevy of naked women," according to Osmon. "Eddie was the host, playing with a band he had hired and walking around pouring wine and giving tours and bragging about his son. Meanwhile, naked women are hanging from acrobat things from the ceiling and in the pool.... His house was really nice but had the appearance of having been gutted by the divorce and never really put back together, sort of beat up, as if a drunk hermit was living there by himself."

The Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash are a country-rock band that plays Cash music, as well as releasing several CDs of original songs. The band first earned notice when they opened for Merle Haggard at the Coach House in San Juan Capistrano, after which they recorded their own six-song EP.

In 1998, the Bastards received an invitation to perform for over 20,000 attendees at Willie Nelson's annual Fourth of July Picnic in Luckenbach, Texas, the first San Diego band

ever invited to the threedecade-old institution showcasing cutting-edge artists in country music.

"We aren't really a tribute band," says front man Marc Stuart. "We're more an 'inspired-by' band." The group was officially endorsed several years ago by the Man in Black himself, Mr. Middle Finger, the late Johnny Cash.

"We were playing a

club called the Exit-Inn in Nashville," explains Stuart. "The people at the bar came up to me, all serious, and said, 'Johnny Cash's son, John Carter Cash, he's here and he's waiting to talk to you backstage.' I'm sure some people thought he was there to try and intimidate me or something because he's Johnny's real son and here we are, the Bastard Sons. I didn't

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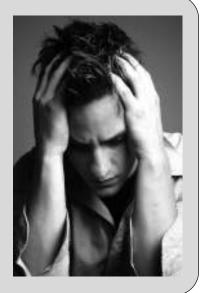
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Pacific Sleep Medicine 877-927-5337 think he was there to beat me up or anything. At least I hoped not!

"So I went out back, and he couldn't have been nicer. He told me how he and his dad had defended our band against a lot of people who had negative things to say about the name, and he said, 'I really love the group. I'd love to

record you guys the next time you're in the area.'

"Well, a couple of months later...we were out on tour in Memphis, Tennessee, and we had a few days off. I called him up and said, 'We're in Memphis, we're within trucking distance, so how're you looking at the studio?' He said, 'Great, my dad's working in there in the morning, so you guys can come in about noon and have the studio for the rest of the day."

At a recording studio on the Cash property called the Cash Cabin, Stuart says, "We spent three days recording 'Spanish Eyes' and 'Nowhere Town.' Being right there in Johnny's back yard was amazing. It's about 20 miles outside of Nashville, in the middle of the woods. The studio is a little wood cabin on 50 acres. There's wild animals all over, deer and goats and pigs and peacocks just wandering around. They've even got their own fully stocked bass lake within walking distance, so John Carter and I would go out with fishing rods and catch a few big-mouth bass between takes.

"The studio itself is like a history museum, full of Cash and Carter memorabilia, but it's also fully modern and functional for recording. I was singing into the same microphone Johnny Cash was using just a half hour before! The lyric sheets for his new songs were spread around the studio, and I got to look at those. We even got to hear some of his new tracks.

"He [Johnny Cash] called the studio from the house, but he wasn't feeling well enough to come out, so we didn't get the chance to meet him there. But he said the same thing as his son, that he likes our music and doesn't mind that we're called the Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash. 'Cause he made fun of that kind of thing way back when...he's the guy who sang about 'A Boy Named Sue, after all."

The Band in Black is a more traditional Cash tribute, formed in 2003 and fronted by "Cowboy

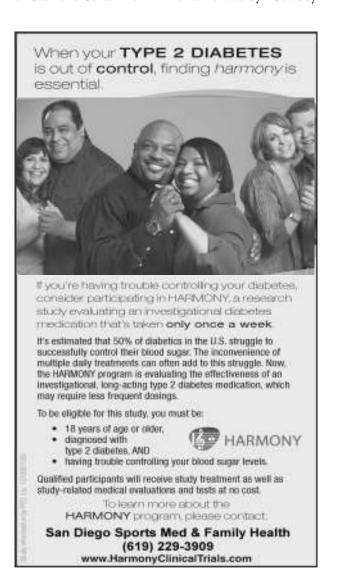






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Jack" Johnson. "We dress in black and play vintage gear," says Johnson, "like an upright bass. The lead guitarist uses a Telecaster, and I have my Martin guitar [Cash owned several Martins]. We cover the late '50s through early '60s, all presented based on research and authentic down to the last detail."

The longtime San Diegan (since 1968) is also the originator and lead performer of the Hank Show, which he founded in 1999. "It's a re-creation, not a tribute, of the music of Hank Williams Sr. We've been doing hits from the breadth of his career. He recorded from '47 to '53, and we play the songs in chronological order. The band wears vintage smilepocket Western shirts with hats and ties, and we all play instruments accurate

to that era."

Johnson's guitars are identical to those favored by Williams, while his bandmates use the same style hollow-body electric guitar, steel guitar, fiddle, and upright bass used by their Sr. inspirations. "My Hank suit was made for me by one of the same guys who tailored Hank's clothes," Johnson says. "He was one of the guys at Nudies Rodeo Tailors [who dressed ZZ Top, among others], and he made me a replica of Hank's suit...the white suit with black musical notes."

Fleetwood Max was formed in 2006 by Todd Hidden (as Lindsay Buckingham) and Annie Heller (ersatz Christine McVie). "Everyone seems to love Fleetwood Mac," says Heller. "Visually, we try to emulate the look of The Dance years, which is mostly black

and white. Our Stevie, Kim Enering, buys special clothing custom-made to look like Stevie Nicks's bestknown outfits, and she does a great job with the Stevie-isms."

As for musicality, "We try to get close to note-fornote re-creations of the studio or the live versions of the songs. We only have five members playing four instruments, however, and we don't use any sequencers or karaoke tracks." Who knew tribute bands were using karaoke tracks?

Heller isn't married, but the 50-year-old gradeschool teacher is dating the band's other McVie impersonator (John McVie), bassist Doug Walker (47), a remodeling contractor by day. "My two daughters think it's cool that their mom is in a band," says Heller. "When my youngest

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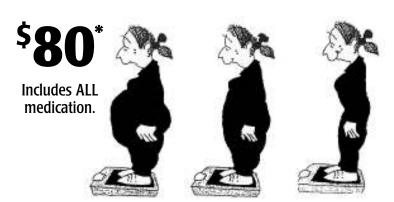
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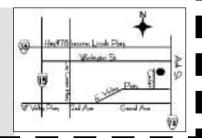


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came to see us at the San Diego Fair this year, she was very impressed...she wondered how I was able to get up in front of people and sing and play without being nervous."

Drummer Hector Toro (50) works as an appraiser in coastal North County and is married with two children. "My kids have grown up with me in

bands," he says. "They like our shows when they end up on YouTube. What they can see on the computer, that's what impresses them."

Guitarist Todd Hidden (54) is a full-time musician who also plays with Dave Humphries, Street-Heart, and the Cool Rays. The group's youngest member, singer and shawl-bearer Kim Enering (mid-'30s), is

unmarried, with two young children; by day, she works as an inland North County real-estate agent.

Nobody in Max has met their Mac, though Heller says, "We hear they show up once in a while to catch a tribute band. If I ever met Christie McVie, I would tell her how much I admire her songwriting and what a beautiful voice

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she has."

Says Todd Hidden, "I'd ask Lindsey Buckingham if he needs a guitar tech. And could I take a few lessons?"

The Cured impersonates — who else? — the Cure. One of the city's busiest tribute acts, they can be found playing wherever men wear makeup, women wear corsets over their clothes, and flat-heeled shoes are little more than urban legend.

Formed in 2004, singer Zippy Twombly says, "I decided on starting a tribute band after seeing the popularity of Dead Man's Party, an Oingo Boingo tribute. I knew I wanted to do an '80s new wave sort of thing, and the band we covered would need enough recognizable songs to entertain an audience for two hours. I also wanted to do a band that had some definite 'characters' in it, so I narrowed it down to INXS. Duran Duran, and the

"INXS did that awful TV show and came off dorky, so they were eliminated. We realized that we probably aren't good-looking enough to pull off Duran Duran so, by process of elimination, we settled on the Cure." An internet business consultant and web designer by day, Twombly prides himself on looking like his Cure counterpart. "I spend a lot of time tracking down items from the '80s that are similar to the look Robert Smith is known for."

Others in the band may or may not follow his visual lead, depending on who's in the group at any given time. "Just like the Cure," says Twombly, "we've had more than a few keyboard players, and three more drummers than Spinal Tap."

Current drummer Greg Karlo works by day as a drum-line instructor

at Grossmont High School. "That's pretty lucky," says Twombly, "because we get to set up in the marching band's area and practice there. It's great, because rental studios are expensive and crowded."

What's the hardest song on the band's set list? "For me," says Twombly, "it's 'Why Can't I Be You,' because of the extremely high vocals. The rest of the

band are all pretty good musicians, so I can't say they have any difficulty issues."

In June 2008, Cure founding member Lol Tolhurst sat in with the Cured during their set at L.A.'s Gibson Amphitheatre. "It was a really great experience," says Twombly. "He couldn't have been nicer, and he was very generous with the stories from the old

days. I got to ask him about the inspirations and meaning of some of the big Cure hits."

The Cured have spun off a second tribute, Still Ill, performing the music of

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Farzad Yaghouti, MD Medical Director

San Diego Reader March 19, 2009

35



Morrissey and the Smiths. Singer Virgil Simpelo (aka Voz) is a Morrissey lookalike who also works as a martial arts instructor and wrestling referee. "I think I have somewhat the same skull structure as Moz," says Voz, "and the same eyebrows that help me produce a similar sound...yes, eyebrows play a key role."

Tony Montegu, bassist for both the Cured and Still Ill, says, "I knew the Cure and the Smiths would be a great match for gigs. Most venues are willing to book both groups on a single bill." Each band averages \$1000 per show.

Though only recently formed, Still Ill — whose members are in their early 30s — has already seen lineup changes. "The lead guitarist was too young and inexperienced," says Montegu, "so he moved

behind the drums. But then he had too much conflict with Voz and was let go...I asked another friend to play drums, and here we are."

Still Ill can frequently be seen raising eyebrows (and Moz-like unibrows and omnibrows) at the downtown House of Blues, which has been hosting tribute-themed events on a regular basis since opening in 2005.

The Dave Matthews tribute Stepping Feet is fronted by singer-guitarist Mike Myrdal. Ranging in age from their mid-20s to early 30s, none of the members are married, none have children, and none have nine-to-five jobs.

"I worked in sales at the Active Network for close to five years," says Myrdal, "but in June 2007, I opted to attempt music as a full-time career. All of us support ourselves through music, whether it's with Stepping Feet or as a hired gun for different bands. Some of us also teach lessons, or provide sound and recording services for other musicians."

Half of the band recently got a big surprise, when the group played a private San Francisco party at the Lodge in the Presidio. "One of the party organizers had a connection with John Popper, the harmonica player from Blues Traveler, and arranged for him to be the surprise guest," says Myrdal. "For half the band, we kept it a surprise, so we could see the excitement in their eves when John came out."

According to Myrdal, "John played guitar and sang a few songs by himself at first, but he didn't

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appear all that comfortable playing guitar. We weren't sure how many songs he wanted to sit in with us for, so we figured we'd perform 'What Would You Say' by Dave Matthews, since John played a nice solo on the song for DMB's first album. He ripped it up, and it was hard to keep from smiling as he played his solo note-for-note, just like the album version."

Myrdal says the highlight of the evening was performing the Blues Traveler hit "Runaround," to an increasingly enthusiastic crowd. "To our surprise, John was excited to jam with us...he said, 'You've got me all night.' After the show, he was very humble, and he even passed out a number of harmonicas to some of the children that were there."

A video of the Pop-

per jam is posted at myspace.com/tributeto-davematthews.

The Steely Damned are, as you'd expect, a Steely Dan tribute. Founded in 1993 by Bob Tedde of Rockola, *Rolling Stone* magazine once anointed them "San Diego's Best Cover Band" (September 1994).

"When I made the decision to actually start rounding up musicians," says Tedde, "the real Steely Dan hadn't been playing live since 1974. I saw an opportunity for us to hold a semi-unique status, since Dan fans were pretty much convinced the real Steely were never going to tour again. The day we booked our first show, Donald Fagen and Walter Becker announced Steely Dan's first tour in almost 20 years. I figured that meant TSD would get a year or two

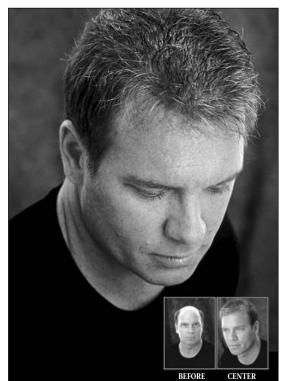
run." That was 15 years ago.

Fagen and Becker are definitely aware of those Damned San Diegans. "They were interviewed locally by Madison on KPRI," says Tedde, "and we came up in conversation. To which they replied they liked the concept of maybe having us go out on tour [standing in] for them, or the idea of a Steely Dan Mania franchise...both Becker and Fagen also mention us during an interview with Pete Fogel, in their live DVD for the Two Against Nature tour."

Like the Cured and Stepping Feet, the Steely Damned have been fortunate enough to perform with actual players from Steely Dan recordings. "We played at Le Bar Bat, a Manhattan club that has since disappeared," says Bob



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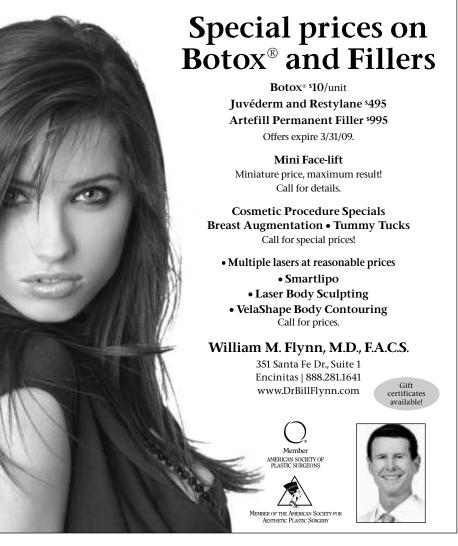
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Gaucho album," says Bob

Tedde. "Almost completed,

the multitrack tape was

compromised when an

assistant engineer acciden-

tally wiped a large section

of the rhythm section out

of the song's middle. Don-

ald Fagen thought it was a

magical recording and

refused to attempt a rere-

cording." Using a bootleg

of the precorrupted track,

and some undisclosed

"inside information," the

Damned even worked up

a horn arrangement for

the tune, provided by local

Zappa alum Mike Keneally.

track, "Mobile Home," was

Steely Dan's set-closer for

many 1974 concerts. "The

Steely Damned's version

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mathematically precise

recording unit, Easton con-

cedes that there's little room

for improvisation. "I play

most of the solos note-for-

note like the originals, as

I consider them the points

of highest intensity in the

songs. In some cases, I feel

the solos are even more

important than the melody.

That being said, when I get

a chance to enhance the

song with little riffs or per-

sonal nuances, I'll often

take that opportunity,

always being mindful not

to overdo it or clutter up

also performs unreleased

material. " 'The Second

Arrangement' was to be

the title track of Steely Dan's

The Steely Damned

the sound."

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Tedde. "Bernard Purdie

came in and played drums

on three or four of the

songs he originally 'pur-

died up,' stuff from The

Royal Scam, Aja, and

Gaucho. It was beyond

tarist Hank Easton says,

"I've been enamored with

their music since I first

heard them at age 13. Espe-

cially the guitar parts, and

specifically the guitar solos.

They really opened my eyes

up to the possibilities of

electric guitar, mixing the

intensity of rock with the

melodicism of jazz. Of

course, the songs them-

selves are works of art as

Steely Dan being a

well."

Steely Damned gui-

awesome!"

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is an amalgam of three different live renditions," says Tedde, "including the *Live* at the Record Plant version. We also added horns. Gently."

Not so gentle is Brother Love, which takes its name from the 1968 Neil Diamond hit "Brother Love's Traveling Salvation Show." Refusing to settle for the aging singer's aging fan demographic, songs are powered up with heavy metal arrangements, creating music that tends to be more dimebag than Diamond.

This isn't as unlikely as it sounds, if one considers contemporary hit remakes of classic Diamond cuts like "Girl, You'll

Be a Woman Soon" by Urge Overkill. "One of the toughest things I've ever done was to convince hard-rock musicians to do Neil Diamond music," says Brother Love singer Gary Day. "It's a continuous sales effort to actually keep them in the band."

Prior to May 2000, Day had never been in a trib-

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ute band. "Brother Love's first performance was aired on national television and in 13 other countries," says Day, who sang "Sweet Caroline" disguised as Neil Diamond on Dick Clark's short-lived ABC show *Your Big Break*, circa December 2000. Day was chosen from among 4000 hopeful entrants to sing for the live audience of around 300.

"I've always admired Neil's writing," says Day, "and I like the energy of driving rock and roll. I swear, when I was a teenager, I used to have daydreams imagining Neil Diamond doing an album with Van Halen."

Unlike most tribute acts, Brother Love doesn't strive to reproduce Diamond's studio or live concert recordings. "Everything we do is improvised," says Day. "The material had to be completely rearranged, going from a 20-piece band plus orchestra to a three-plus-one [group]."

Day says he's still surprised at how obsessively devotional Diamond fans can be. "Some audience members can scare the hell out of you. It's like they fool themselves into thinking they can somehow channel through to the real Neil, through me." Not all show attendees react so worshipfully. "Our older audience has occasionally mentioned that the hardrock music is too loud for the vocals."

As for the band's most disappointing gig, Day says, "We were booked at a new Indian casino about a hundred miles away. They made us play at background level for four sets. It drove us crazy because there were about ten people in the whole place. We should have just cranked up anyway because the next day our agent told us we weren't getting invited back."

If Day ever found him-

self face to face with Real Neil, what would he want to say? "I'd probably forget how to talk and then be consumed with guilt."

Another local Diamond tribute, Diamond Is Forever, was founded by David J. Sherry in 2005. Sherry works on the side as a video editor, while backup singer Ce Ce Taylor is a retired California attorney who also serves as the band's manager. Band members live all over the county, including Carlsbad, Chula Vista, Encinitas, El Cajon, Escondido, and La Jolla.

Asked what distinguishes his neo-Neil from others doing Diamond, Sherry says, "First and foremost, it's our passion for getting the music and performance right, unlike other tributes like Super Diamond, who do more of a Diamond-meets-Bon Jovi metal sound."

"We re-create the popular late-'70s and early-'80s Jazz Singer Diamond," says Sherry, who was 13 when he purchased his very first album in 1969, Diamond's Live at the Troubadour. "[We use] costumes, smoke and mirrors, and a huge American flag that unfurls during 'America,' à la Diamond's own concerts. We work hard to capture the feel and the excitement of Neil's Hot August Night and Love at the Greek concerts, using dialogue taken directly from these concerts, as well as [telling] stories behind the songs."

According to Sherry, "We sometimes mix the best studio versions of his songs along with the best live concert tempos. For example, we perform 'Shilo' very much like the live concert version from *Hot August Night*, along with a mandolin part not present on the original Uni Records single and also layering in Diamond's orig-

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inal signature horn lines taken from his Bang Records single."

All this Diamond detailing is, quite frankly, (Love at the) Greek to me, but Sherry seems authoritative about such minutiae.

Sometimes, Sherry says, his Diamond finds itself in the rough, as in February '08 when they played an aging theater in Encinitas. "The moment

we took the stage, things started going wrong. During the first song, someone flipped a switch in the projection room to rewind a movie reel and blew out the fuses, not once but three times, knocking out all the sound."

In addition, "San Diego was experiencing one of its coldest spells in history, and the theater, being 80 years old, had no heat. Play-

ers were blowing on their fingers to keep them from going numb. Not only did the fog machine compete with the frozen breath of the band members and audience, but the big American flag refused to unfurl."

During the performance, "A dog ran up and down the aisles and rows of seats, startling people and scavenging all the edibles...We found out later the dog was a local celebrity, having made an unexpected appearance onstage the prior weekend with Leon Russell"

Roundabout, a tribute to Yes, often shares the bill with bands such as Pink Froyd and Led Zepagain. Founding bassist Kevin Dennis launched Roundabout after seeing his friend Kevin Krohn earn wall-to-wall gigs with his own tribute band, Pink Froyd.

Though Yes has recorded hundreds of songs, Dennis says Roundabout mainly sticks to recognizable radio hits rather than obscure cuts from albums such as *Relayer* or *Tales from Topographic Oceans*. "We actually learned some other songs that we like but are not as well known, and some of them went over like a lead balloon, so we kind of dropped them."

Asked the most common complaint from Yes fans, he says, "Probably that our guitarist played too much like Trevor Rabin trying to imitate Steve Howe. But most people think we were doing a really good job. We didn't really try for the look, except that our lead singer looked a bit like Ion Anderson and usually wore white like Jon does. And on bass, I tried to dance around and smile a lot, like Chris Squire did and does."

Onetime Roundabout drummer Tom Schlesinger notes, "There were over two dozen Yes members.... It's difficult enough finding musicians who can play the material, much less who look like their respective band members."

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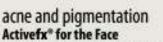
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almost as many lineup changes as their contentious counterparts. Founder Kevin Dennis was replaced on bass by Bryan Patterson. Keyboardist John Cox was replaced by Dave Smart, who later gave up the position now held by Tim Quon. Guitarist Steve Coon was supplanted by Johnny Bruhns, who also plays with the aforementioned Diamond Is Forever. The drummer's seat once occupied by Tom Schlesinger is currently warmed by Dave Rivanis.

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Former guitarist Coon says, "I was probably the least Yes-like player in the band, so I often took liberties with the parts a bit to fit them to my style. The main critique I personally heard is that I am not [Steve] Howe-like enough, but what can I say? I am what I am. He wasn't an influence on my playing. Trevor [Rabin, who replaced Howe and wrote the hit "Owner of a Lonely Heart"] was, however...that was more my era."

In 2006, Roundabout opened for Chris Squire and Alan White from Yes, at Acoustic Music San Diego in Normal Heights. The Yes-member side project actually borrowed one of Roundabout's guitars for the occasion. In fall 2007, Roundabout was joined onstage at the House of Blues San Diego by founder and former bassist Kevin Dennis and the band's original lead vocalist, Dave Horn, for a reunion set.

In summer 2008, Roundabout essentially merged with another tribute, Yes Story. According to current bandleader Johnny Bruhns, "Roundabout is now the longestrunning Yes tribute band in America."

Pink Froyd and the Pink Floyd Experience are both fronted by 53-year-old guitarist Tom Quinn, with each band usually featuring the same local players. "Almost all the members are full-time musicians," says Quinn. "The Pink Floyd Experience does three to five tours per year, for up to seven weeks at a time, all over North America and Canada, while Pink Froyd mainly plays locally, including our annual performance

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Before

of the entire *Wall* album." Members John Staten and Jesse Molloy also play in the band On the One.

"Our first gig was in 1995," says Quinn, who was inspired to form the groups after seeing the real Pink Floyd at Jack Murphy Stadium in April '94. "If I wasn't playing Pink Floyd covers, I can't imagine me doing any other tribute."

Musically, Quinn says, "We start with re-creation and always play the 'signature' licks. Fans, musicians, and even nonmusicians know these songs inside and out. If we take a diversion, it's based on something that Floyd themselves played during their 40-year concert career."

Now among SoCal's busiest tribute acts, Quinn says the band didn't always "shine on." "In the early days of Pink Froyd, we played one night at a sleazy joint in L.A. called FM Station Live, with four other bands. We made \$44 for the entire band, played a 22-minute set, and the curtain came down right in the middle of my solo in 'Pigs.' Gig over, NEXT!"

Asked whether he's ever met his Floydian twin, the surrogate bandleader says, "Not exactly, but back in April 2006, I got eight feet away from David Gilmour at the Jay Leno show in Burbank."

Alan Iglesias began playing guitar professionally in 1970, performing at VFW dances while still in high school. After graduation, he toured New England for 15 years with bluesrock groups like Touch and Relayer, before moving to Escondido and forming Crossfire. Says Iglesias, "We're a tribute band that strives to capture the essence of a Stevie Ray Vaughan and Double Trouble concert with authenticity, respect, and yes, love."

Iglesias first heard

Vaughan in 1983, on David Bowie's Let's Dance LP, and then the guitarist's first album, *Texas Flood*, with Double Trouble. "The initial effect didn't completely blow me away at first," he

admits. "I remember saying to myself that, yeah, they call this guy a blues player, but listen to all the Hendrix influence and the way he turns it up!"

A dedicated blues

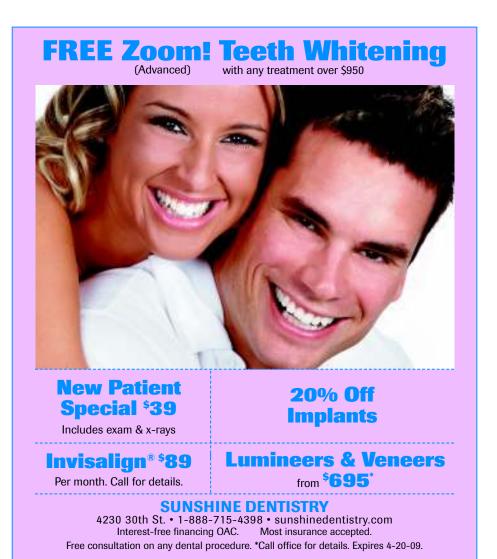
enthusiast, Iglesias considered Vaughan just another rocker, until hearing recordings like *Live Alive*, a concert album given to him by his brother. "Before long, I considered

[Vaughan] a contemporary who, although [he] went down a slightly different road, was still speaking the same language I was."

After relocating to the

left coast, Iglesias says, "I desperately needed to play great music, with great players, for folks who wanted to hear that music. I figured it would take me four to six years to build up





the reputation needed to do what I wanted to do here in San Diego. At 46, I just didn't feel I had that sort of time, so I started looking at alternatives that I would never have considered before.

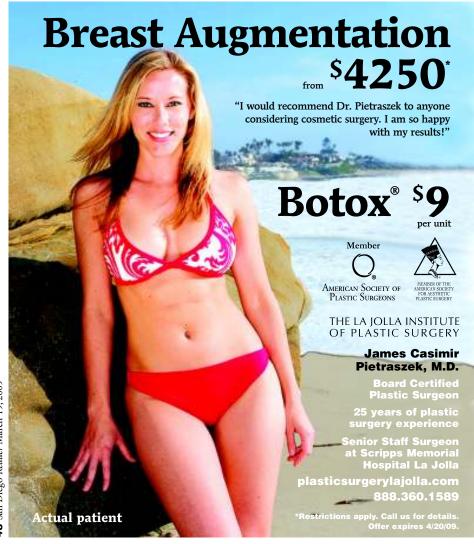
"The tribute idea just came to me around 2000, as I was learning some Stevie songs as part of my Stratocaster set," says Iglesias." 'Sheesh,' I whispered to myself, 'I don't look unlike the guy. I can sing pretty much like him. I can, if I work on it real hard, play pretty much like him. Would I actually dare to put that hat on and go out there in front of people?"

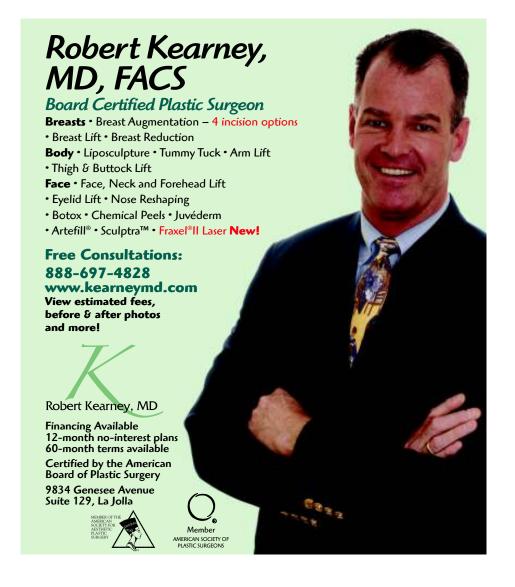
"A few years ago, I saw Ralph Saenz with the Atomic Punks, a Van Halen tribute from L.A. Certainly the fact that Ralph did Dave [Lee Roth] better than Dave helped, but it also struck me that if Van Halen is all but completely gone, why would it be such a bad thing to recreate the wonderful energy that they brought to the world of arena rock? Especially when there are plenty of people out there who still want to hear it. Stevie has been gone for a long time now, and there are still so many that loved what he did."

At 53, Iglesias says most of his backup players are at least ten years younger. "Some members have been married with kids," he says, "and there's nothing cooler than to see a young person watching his dad playing onstage, for an appreciative crowd. I don't think it matters to the kids whether the group is a tribute...it's just cool to see their dad in a rock band. I've had the pleasure of playing with my granddaughter in the audience, and it was an incredible experience! I would never have considered that a possibility back in the '70s."

Cover Me Badd is known for their comically accurate tribute performances. "Our mission is to make fun of tribute bands," says bandleader Adam Gimbel, best known as the front man for Rookie Card. CMB's many incarnations have included the Fookin' Wankers (spoofing Oasis), Wookie Card (Star Wars characters), Rabbi Gimbel's Jews Explosion (Hebrew rock history), Rookie Ricardo (El Vez's onetime onesong wedding band), and Geezer (old men wheezing Weezer songs).

Geezer recently enjoyed every tribute group's dreamcome-true. "We actually got to play onstage with





the band whose songs we steal," says Gimbel. The octogenarian incarnation of Cover Me Badd performed with Weezer at Cox Arena on October 17, as part of the headliners' Hootenanny contest, bringing local musicians onstage at each tour stop. Other locals in the Weezer jam included Kelsea Little and Joseph Lorge (the Wrong Trousers), Sean O'Donnell (Fevercrotch), and Matt Gorney (Bad Credit).

"On we pranced, as the crowd roared for us," says Gimbel, who — in his old-man gear — passed out cookies while Weezer and the others set up for the jam. Weezer's singer-guitarist Brian Bell took a cookie, as Gimbel patted his cheek and announced, "Such a nice boy!"

After a bite, Bell declared, "Delicious. Cookie's gonna inspire me on this next track, I can feel it."

The jam encompassed two songs. "Us Hootenanners sounded great on 'Island in the Sun,' " says Gimbel, "especially the flute solo, [which] made their biggest hit sound better than it ever has." The other song was "Beverly Hills.""The crowd gave us a huge sendoff, and the band loved us so much that they decided to come back and do an encore in our honor. As we hobbled outside to play for the exiting masses, the band crooned, 'Grandma, take me home, just for us."

Also on the bill were Angels and Airwaves, whom the 37-year-old Gimbel refers to as "that Blink 182 lad that sounds like he's got something stuck in his nose."

And then there's Dan Lederman, aka ShatMan, the One-Man Bill Shatner Tribute Band. ShatMan got his start at karaoke shows, performing to discs of music that Shatner has covered ("Lucy in the Sky...," "Rocket Man," etc.). Says ShatMan, "I look a little like John Belushi doing Shatner."

ShatMan still cruises local karaoke nights. "When I announce that I'll be doing

my song 'in the style of the great William Shatner,' a lot of people in the audience groan or even start booing.... But I have a theory that almost every person in the world can find

something to love about [Shatner's] way of reciting songs, whether as beat poetry, as a sci-fi or Star Trek fan, for its rhythmic cadence, or simply because it's so kitschy and campy."

Lederman says he looked into talent agencies specializing in celebrity impersonators, but "most of them aren't looking for strictly musical acts.... I got asked if I do Denny

Crane [Shatner's former Boston Legal role], but I need my CDs. There has to be music behind me. I can only impersonate him when I'm singing." ■

— Jay Allen Sanford



Claiming **City Heights**

I was training for a marathon when I found out I was pregnant. Back then, even my short runs were long

Author: Elizabeth Salaam Neighborhood: City Heights Occupation: Writer/program coordinator

Editor's note: This is the winner of February's \$250 second-place prize for our monthly neighborhood-

Deadline for the next contest is March 31, midnight.

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

enough to take me out of

City Heights and into other

neighborhoods where houses are prettier and where services are a bit more desirable (decent coffee, a nice restaurant or two, maybe even a bar I wouldn't have to cross the street to avoid). I felt stuck here, in this neighborhood, where the sidewalks are clogged with slow-moving families with too many children, where every other house has a dusty yard with a mean dog tied to a rickety tree. I felt...I don't know...demeaned. Me, in my fancy running clothes, looking all fit and trim as I elbowed my way through throngs of frumpy women in housecoats. Four times



a week I'd head out for a run, my fantasy brain working overtime to imagine myself living a better life somewhere else. As I ran I daydreamed about coming home to the serene quiet of Kensington, the earthy hipness of Hillcrest, or even (on my long weekend runs) the luxury of downtown harbor views.

And then suddenly the only running I was doing was from the couch to the toilet bowl. It took two months for the morning (or in my case, all-day) sickness to subside, two months before I felt well

enough to run. By then my 18- and 20mile training runs were a thing of the past, and my energy level allowed only for short, slow walks around City Heights.

I was on one of those walks when a neighbor I'd never seen before called to me from across the street.

"Guess you're taking a break from running for a while."

We spoke briefly, both staying on our own side of the street. Until then, the only neighbors I'd chatted with were the ones my husband had introduced me to, and

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even then we only spoke when he insisted we stop to chat. Every other time I just waved on my way through the neighborhood, heading for someplace else.

The bigger I got, the more I slowed down, and eventually I came to notice and appreciate how interesting it is here.
Besides the international collection of storefronts

(within just a few blocks on University there is an Albertsons, a Murphy's Supermercado, a Minh Huong market, and a halal meat-and-produce store) and some unique decor (one house has at least 16 wind chimes hanging over the front porch, and another has a 12-foot statue of Buddha out front), it's the people who make this neighborhood

fascinating.

I'm intrigued by the groups of African men who gather for long hours of chit-chat outside the local Starbucks. What do they talk about, and why do most of them dress in jeans and button-up shirts when their wives and daughters (who are always waiting to cross the street just outside the building that advertises free English











classes) dress from head to toe in layers of brilliantly colored cottons?

Then there are the Mexican soccer players (ranging in age from 2 to 72) in their shorts and shin-guards who fill the

open field near the library during weekends and evenings in all seasons. Their wives and mothers and too-young-for-soccer siblings stand around on the other side of the fence eating orange curly things

out of plastic bags and whatever else is available for purchase from the wheely-cart vendors.

On alternate days during the fall, the Mexicans on and around the field are replaced with black folks, and football is traded for soccer. Here and there, monks in orange robes glide up the sidewalk to who-knowswhere. At various times of day, small groups of old Vietnamese men and women walk around and around the outside of the field, and in the last month of my pregnancy they zoomed past me.

I also became friendly with several of my neighbors. My

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favorites were the superextra-friendly art-history professor with the standoffish wife; the babyfaced dude who's been building an addition onto his house by hand for the past two years but can more often be found drinking beer and talking shop than holding a hammer; and the 76-year-old unmarried woman who claims to be in no rush to find a husband because as long as she's a good girl, she'll be resurrected as many times as she needs for a thousand years. (Um...okay.) Granted, it was always someone else who initiated the conversation — everyone curious about when the baby was due — but I enjoyed the attention and felt connected in a way I didn't know mattered to

And so, as I lumbered through the neighborhood (now in my own version of frumpy voluminous clothing), City Heights ceased to be just an annoying stretch of loud yard-barbecues and too many strollers on the sidewalk, and I began to fall a little bit in love. I also wondered if the other nearby neighborhoods might feel a little too sterile, a little too hip.

This week my baby is eight weeks old. I take her out for walks in a baby carrier, and I think she likes it here. She has already met several of our neighbors. They love her. Everybody loves babies. Some days I leave her at home with her dad while I head out for a short twoor three-mile run around City Heights. I'm not strong enough to go much farther

The other day, in the final stretch of my block, I attempted a brief sprint.

"She's back in her running shoes!" I heard someone shout. "Way to go!"

I turned to see two of my neighbors standing on the sidewalk, clapping as I passed by. I smiled and waved. ■

LETTERS

continued from page 14

City must enjoy the revenue it gets from the steep fines that come with DUIs, a 24-hour public transit system could benefit the city by actually preventing drinkers from driving with a reliable alternative: public transportation. When considering how much the City (and State) spends on drinking-and-driving education, billboards, and cheesy commercials, you might be safe to say that the City is wasting its money when a great alternative is waiting to be harvested. I almost want to see if they have an "anti-refer-

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ral card" for those who obtained DUIs, with questions like "Which programs failed to educate you on the dangers of drinking and driving?"

I hope that this article helped San Diegans see that we need more public transit. If anyone would like to start a group for public transportation advocacy, please email me at ajfarwell@ aol.com.

> Andrew Farwell via email

The Weasel Did It

Regarding the murder of Dr. Phillip Rand's wife, Tamara Rand, a correction is in order (Letters, March 5).

In both the book and

movie Casino, the murder of Tamara Rand was carried out by Tony "the Ant" Spilotro (played by Joe Pesci) in her Mission Hills home. She had apparently made the mistake of threatening Allen Glick (played by Kevin Pollak) that she would disclose to the authorities that he (Glick) was just a front man for the mob in Las Vegas — there-

If you read Jimmy "the Weasel" Fratianno's biography you will hear that he (Jimmy "the Weasel") actually performed the hit on a warm, sunny weekday at her and Dr. Rand's Mission Hills home

fore her elimination.

The truth? Who knows?

But in any case, Frank "the Bomp" was rubbed out in an alley in Pacific Beach.

> Greg Gardner via email

Cover Story Red Herring

Thom Hogan from the Col-

lege Area was right (Letters, March 12). I thought the cover story ("Waste time. Save money. Ride the bus!" March 5) meant that Ollie was back. I am also disappointed that the Reader editor, or whoever is in charge of human resources, hasn't

responded to those of us who want to see his column return and for him to be rehired. Get rid of know-it all Duncan Shepherd to make room for our Beloved Ollie! Michelle Hauptsbrau via email

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Your Welcome to IT

Thursday | 19

THE HOBBIT

Never laugh at live dragons, always wish your friends

more hair on their feet, and don't forget to value food and song above gold for, as the hobbits say, only then would it be a merrier world. See the tale of Bilbo Baggins as portrayed by students of Theatre School at North Coast Repertory Theatre.

See **FOR KIDS**, page 58.

Friday | 20

ZEN OF SCHMOOZING

If motorcycle maintenance and golfing can be imbued with Buddhist intent, so can kissing a little butt.

At this workshop you'll learn how there's more to getting money for

your pet project than a well-written grant. See **LECTURES**, page 60.

BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL 2009

Canada's Banff Centre seeks to "promote understanding and appreciation of the world's mountain places" with its Mountain Culture program. The films to be screened at the San Diego Natural History Museum will give you the insight needed to get in touch with your inner mountain man.

See **FILM**, page 56.

Saturday | 21

THE PLATT BROTHERS

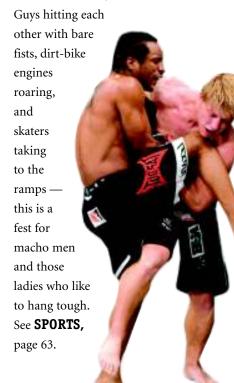
These three real-life brothers were probably a nightmare for teachers as they flipped and danced on the playground, but on the stage they delight and amuse with their acrobatic, comedic performance.

See **THEATER**, page 104.

CIRCLE OF ART

As if the springtime desert bloom was not enough to lure you to Borrego Springs, now there's even more to see as 70 artists exhibit their work in a variety of media, including oil and watercolors, photography, sculpture, ceramics, pottery, weaving, and jewelry. See **SPECIAL**, page 62.

FIGHT EXPO! GRAPPLERS QUEST!





Sunday | 22

MIND YOUR MANNERS

If your 5- to 11-year-old Bellas and Bobbys are versed in the ways of polite society, perhaps you won't be asked to leave them at home with a sitter. This class will teach your kid the ins and outs of etiquette. See **FOR KIDS**, page 58.

FACING EAST

Is a couple's religion worth more than their son's life? In Carol Lynn Pearson's parable, a "Mormon couple confronts the limits of their spiritual teaching upon the suicide of their gay son." Starring Dana Hooley, John Polak, and Scott Striegel. See **THEATER**, page 104.

Monday | 23

R-RATED TRIVIA IN THE NORTH

Because nothing goes better with beer than a bit of naughtiness... At First Street Bar and Grill in Encinitas, you can pay \$3 to compete in trivia and mini-games, one of which is titled "Will It Float?" See **SPECIAL**, page 62.

2 | Tuesday | 24

WONG FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST

In this "swear-to-God-not-autobiographical, seriocomic portrayal of the high incidence of

wy l

mental illness
among
AsianAmerican
women,"
writer and
performance artist
Kristina
Wong
mixes

humor and psychology to tell the story. After the show, Wong will speak about the piece. See **IN PERSON**, page 59.

Wednesday | 25

THE PHYSICS OF BRASS MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Physics professor Brian Holmes will discuss the role of four brass-instrument elements (mouthpiece, conical lead pipe, cylindrical section, and flared bell) and explain how sound reverberates in, around, and off the different parts. See **SPECIAL**, page 62.

Local Events page 56 | Classical Music page 65 | Art Museums & Galleries page 65 | Pop Music page 66 | Restaurants page 92 | Theater page 103 | Movies page 106

Great Escapes

619-235-8200 TO PLACE AN AD

Anza Borrego Desert Tour

Sky sculptures & flowers. Day trip 9am-6pm. \$60 (includes bus, lunch & guide). For information, call 619-954-4536.



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Easter Vacation At The Rosarito Beach Hotel \$199/2-Night Package*

Oceanfront room. Fri.: Tango night in Salon Quijote. Dinner from Special Getaways menu. Sat.: Mexican family fiesta buffet/show- 2 adults. Children's activities. 2 children 12 & under stay free in parents' room. Historic Hotel Tour. 10% discount in Casa Playa Spa. 4pm checkout. *Rates + tax. Based on double occupancy. Limited availability. Restrictions apply. Valid thru 4/10/09. Reservation required. 1-866-Rosarito. www.rosaritobeachhotel.com.

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Romantic Getaway Dancing And Music Saturday Night

Weekdays, \$89. Includes breakfast. Fine dining & cocktails. Lodge. Internet. Near Golden Acorn Casino! 2-story A-frame cabins, fireplaces, HBO, refrigerator. Live Oak Springs Resort: 37820 Old Highway 80 (60 minutes east of downtown San Diego, 2 miles south I-8). Massage package available. Certain restrictions apply. www.LiveOakSprings.com. 619-766-4288.

Calendar

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

Argentinean Tango Class Introductory Argentine tango classes, ongoing. No partner required. 619-393-1974. Fridays, 9 p.m.; free. Pattie Wells' Dancetime Center, 1255 West Morena Boulevard. (BAY PARK)

Belly-Dance Showcase Adelaide, Desiree Zaid, Kirsten, Nadirah perform to live music by John Bilezikjian, with Dave Dhillon and Frank Lazzaro (percussion). Donation: \$5. 619-688-9845. Thursday, March 19, 8 p.m.; Claire de Lune, 2906 University Avenue.

Cajun and Zydeco Dancing Zydeco lesson and dance. Beginners' dance lessons at 7 p.m.; open dancing to recorded tunes 8 p.m. 619-857-8409. Tuesdays, 7 p.m.; \$5. Tio Leo's — Linda Vista, 5302 Napa Street. (LINDA VISTA)

Dance Like the Stars! Eightweek beginning ballroom session includes basics of fox-trot, waltz, tango, cha-cha, and swing. No partner or experience required. Fee: \$120 for entire session. Registration: 619-299-6387. Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.; through Tuesday, April 14, \$120. Metro Dance, 5304 Metro Street, Suite B. (LINDA VISTA)

Dance Time Salsa lessons and dancing every Friday night, with salsa dance lessons for all levels. On March 20 opening night, Dancing After School hosts opening of event with tango lessons at 6 p.m., salsa lessons for beginners (7 p.m.), salsa lessons for intermediate and advanced dancers (7:45 p.m.). Deejays provide music for open dancing (8:30 p.m.). Salsa teams take the stage at 10 p.m.; party continues until midnight. 858-581-1114. Fridays, 6 p.m.; \$10. Ages 18 and up. Schroeder's at Tango Del Rey, 3567 Del Rey Street. (CLAIREMONT)

Dance for "Forward-Looking Audiences" La Jolla Music Society continues dance series with performance by Shen Wei Dance Arts. Program includes *The Rite of Spring*, set to Stravinsky's powerful score, and *Re (Part One)*. 858-459-3728. Saturday, March 21, 8 p.m.; \$25-\$65. Birch North Park Theatre, 2891 University Avenue. (NORTH 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 fi-

Enjoy music by Billy Watson and his International Silver String Submarine Band on March 22; 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, March 22, 4 p.m.; free. Ages 21 and up. Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room, 5000 Willows Road. (ALPINE)

nal round on March 29.

Eveoke Outreach Day Hip-hop workshops for all ages and levels, followed by performances featuring Eveoke Dance Theatre's outreach education students from all over San Diego. Workshops: 2-3:30 p.m., performances: 4-5:30 p.m. Donation: \$5. 619-238-1153. Saturday, March 21, 2:30 p.m.; Hoover High School, 4474 El Cajon Boulevard. (COLLEGE AREA)

Guest Caller Bob Isaacs from the Northeast calls to tunes by Gray Beard for contra dance hosted by San Diego Folk Heritage. Beginners' dance workshop 7:30 p.m.; dances taught and called to live music 8-11 p.m. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. Friday, March 20, 7:30 p.m.; \$8. Trinity

United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Java Jive Swing dancing in Claire de Lune's Sunset Ballroom. Beginner lesson 9-9:30 p.m., followed by dancing (9:30-midnight). All ages. 619-255-1319. Thursdays, 9 p.m.; \$5-\$8. Claire de Lune, 2906 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Mojalet Dance Collective Choreographers Faith Jensen-Ismay and Erica Buechner present evenings of new, revised work, "full of athletic and engaging movement" in Studio Theater (ENS-200). 619-594-1017. Friday, March 20, 8 p.m.; Saturday, March 21, 8 p.m.; Sunday, March 22, 6 p.m.; \$10-\$15. Ages 6 and up. San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

Off the Cuff Live music by this band, calling by guest Sharon Green for weekly English country dancing. 858-676-9731. Sunday, March 22, 6 p.m.; \$8. Jean Hart Academy of Dance, 12227 Poway Road. (POWAY)

Tribal Fusion Belly-Dance Show Sabrina Fox and Genevieve perform tribal fusion belly dance to mid-East fusion music by Middle-Earth Ensemble. Open dancing. 858-488-4200. Sunday, March 22, 8 p.m.; \$10. Ages 21 and up. The Turquoise, Café-Bar Europa, 873 Turquoise Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

FILM

"Banff Mountain Film Festival 2009" North This year's tour includes The Red Helmet, Shikashika, Journey to the Center, The Unbearable Lightness of Skiing, Pa-

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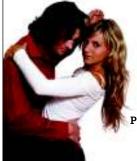
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piroflexia, The Last Frontier, The Sharp End: Eastern Europe, Crux. 760-436-7469. Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m.; \$12-\$15. La Paloma, 471 South Coast Highway 101. (ENCINITAS)

"Banff Mountain Film Festival 2009" South This year's titles include Crux, If You're Not Falling, The Cable Car, Silent Snow, Under the Influence, Committed 2: Grit Kids, Papiroflexia, many, many others. 619-255-0203. Friday, March 20, 7 p.m.; Saturday, March 21, 7 p.m.; Sunday, March 22, 7 p.m.; Monday, March 23, 7 p.m.; \$12-\$15. San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

"Evenings on Earth" Film series showcases *Affluenza* and *Fridays at the Farm* at 6:30 p.m. Call to reserve spot at optional dinner (5:30 p.m.). 760-757-3659. Tuesday, March 24, 5:30 p.m.; free. Mission San Luis Rey Retreat Center, 4050 Mission Avenue. (OCEANSIDE)

A Sense of Wonder Documentary on life of Rachel Carlson, pioneer of the modern environmental movement. Carson's book Silent Spring led to the banning of DDT, creation of Clean Water Act and Environmental Protection Agency, and birth of organic food movement. 619-692-5785. Saturday, March 21, 2 p.m.; free. San Diego County Health Building, 3851 Rosecrans Street. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

Between the Folds Documentary follows ten artists and scientists who practice art of origami. At both Cinema Society of San Diego screenings, director Vanessa Gould answers audience questions; renowned physicist and origami

artist Robert Lang will lead audience in making a simple origami piece. Recommended reservations: 619-239-0003 x405. Tuesday, March 24, 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; \$15-\$25. La Jolla 12, 8657 Villa La Jolla Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Coming to Light: Edward S. Curtis and the North American Indians As complement to "Considering Edward Curtis" exhibition, see film continuing discussion of how Native American identity is perceived and displayed through Curtis's images. Film tells story of Curtis's life, creation of his monumental work, his changing views of people he documented, and gives American Indian people a voice in discussion of Curtis's images. Included in museum admission. 619-238-7559. Saturday, March 21, 1 p.m.; free, Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado.

Incantessimo Napoletano Written and directed by Paolo Genovese, this "fanciful tale of the horror felt by a fifth-generation Neopolitan couple whose first daughter's first words are in Milanese" screens for San Diego Italian Film Festival. Suggested donation: \$5. In Italian with English subtitles. 619-238-7559. Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m.; Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Sleepy Time Gal Chris Munch presents his 2008 drama about a woman facing death in her 50s; it is "not a conventional narrative, but neither is it inaccessible." Stars include Jacqueline Bisset, Seymour Cassel, and Martha Plimpton. Screening in Arts Building room 240. 760-750-8085. Tuesday, March 24, 6 p.m.; free. CSU San

Marcos, 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road. (SAN MARCOS)

Culinary Cinema Series Enjoy Like Water for Chocolate and food created by chef Juan Manuel Padilla of Frida's Restaurant in Chula Vista, who will prepare his chilies en nogada. Cinema Society of San Diego president Andrew Friedenberg introduces film, with background on actors, director. Required reservations: 760-435-3720. Saturday, March 21, 6 p.m.; \$60-\$75. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way.

Latino Film Festival Media Arts Center's 16th annual Latino Film Festival with over 100 films from all over the globe runs through March 22, promising shorts, feature films, documentaries. Titles include *Euforia, O Pai O, Rudo y Cursi, Perro Come Perro, Xani Xepica, Children of the Amazon, The Missing Lynx: Paws on the Run, many, many others.* Festival includes celebrity appearances, music, parties, art, workshops. Details: 619-230-1938.



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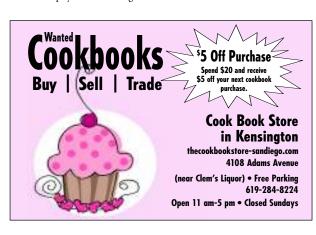
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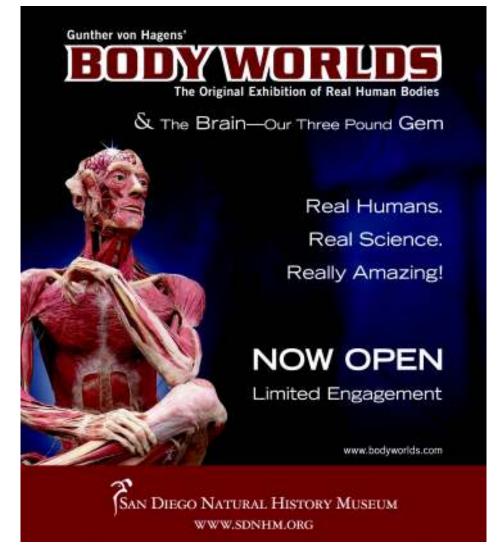
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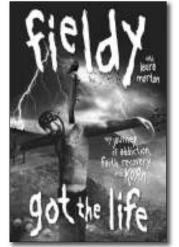
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MEET FIELDY



BOOK SIGNING

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Fieldy will sign Got the Life only. No Korn CDs, DVDs, or memorabilia, please.

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here, includes an out-

and-back side trip into

Stevenson Canvon that

would seem to be

superfluous, but should

not be missed. Late

March through April is best for wildflowers at

the nearly 2000-foot

elevation of Sylvan

Meadows, so don't for-

get to bring a camera.

trailhead from San

Diego is fast and direct

using Interstate 15.

Exit Interstate 15 at

Clinton Keith Road in

Murrieta, just north of

Temecula. Proceed

south on Clinton Keith

Road five miles to the

Santa Rosa Plateau

Ecological Reserve vis-

Getting to the

he Santa Rosa Plateau's Sylvan Meadows Multi-Use Area is open to all nonmotorized means of travel — hiking, jogging, biking, and horseback riding — with the stipulation that all users stay on the designated roads and trails. (Dogs, however, are not allowed at all.) The comprehensive tour of the whole Sylvan Meadows area, described



On the Stevenson Canyon Trail

itor center, on the left, where you'll find plenty of space for parking.

From the visitor center parking lot, cross to the west side of Clinton Keith Road and descend 0.1 mile to a trail junction in a shady ravine. Turn right on the Tovashal Trail (Torino Trail ahead is your return route). After proceeding 0.8 mile up through and eventually out of the shallow ravine, you come to the next junction, Sylvan Meadows Road, on the north edge of an expansive, oak-dotted meadow. This is a part of the roughly 3000 acres of "bunchgrass prairie" in the reserve that is regarded as the finest example of native grassland habitat in California. Ongoing prescribed fires and selective removal of nonnative grasses in meadows such as this one are encouraging the growth of natives such as purple needlegrass, malpais blue grass, and deergrass.

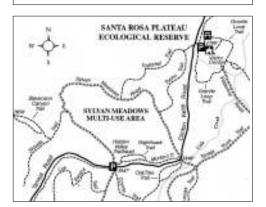
Make a right on Sylvan Meadows Road, continue 0.5 mile along the rim of the meadow, and then begin the highly recommended side trip: Turn right on the Shivela Trail, continue 0.4 mile, then go right again on the Stevenson Canyon Trail. The trail loops, so you can go up along the brushy slope east of the canyon and back down on a singletrack pathway down through the canvon bottom itself. This latter trail segment is arguably the most enchanting passage in the entire reserve, with inky shadows, a gallery of twisted oak limbs, a trickling stream (in season, at least), and luminescent greenery everywhere. Mountain bikers may breeze through here without warning, so those on foot should be alert.

Retrace your steps on Shivela Trail, and then use Sylvan Meadows Road to reach Hidden Valley Trailhead (restrooms are here but no water is available). Now, head east, more or less along the north-side fenceline of Tenaja Road, first on Nighthawk Trail and then on Mortero Trail, to the right-angle bend where paved Clinton Keith and Tenaja Roads join. That's where the east leg of Sylvan Meadows Road intersects. It will take you 0.5 mile north to Torino Trail. and Torino Trail will lead you 0.7 mile to the junction you passed at the beginning, just shy of the visitor center.

This article contains information about a publicly owned recreation or wilderness area. Trails and pathways are not neces**SYLVAN MEADOWS**

Check out the multi-use trails of Sylvan Meadows, a part of the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve near

Distance from downtown San Diego: 73 miles Hiking/biking length: 5.7 miles **Difficulty:** Moderate



sarily 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.

Thursday, 4 p.m.; Friday, 4 p.m.; Saturday, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 4 p.m.; through Sunday, March 22, \$7-\$9. Mission Valley 7, 7510 Hazard Center Drive. (MISSION VALLEY)

FOOD & DRINK

Starring French-Mediterranean Cuisine Chef Amy Di-Biase of new Point Loma restaurant Roseville joins chef Bernard Guillas to demonstrate buffalo ricotta gnudi with a truffled English

pea ragout. Reservations: 888-424-3663. Saturday, March 21, noon; \$15. Macy's Mission Valley Home Store, 1555 Camino de la Reina. (MISSION VALLEY)

FOR KIDS

"Light" Time for family science day with hands-on activities. Included in regular admission. 619-238-1233. Saturday, March 21, noon; \$6-\$8. Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. "Pollution and Solutions: A Changing Climate" Will our beaches and estuaries be underwater in 40 years? How will this affect you and wildlife? Find out what you can do to help reverse trend during this program for kids (7-12). 619-575-3613. Thursday, March 19, 3:30 p.m.; free. Ages 7 and up. Tijuana Estuary Visitor Center, 301 Caspian Way. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

"Science of the Sea" Meet Scripps Oceanography graduate students, get glimpse of what it's like to study at this worldrenowned research institution during San Diego Science Festival. Enjoy hands-on ocean science experiments, family crafts. Included in regular admission. 858-534-7336. Saturday, March 21, 11 a.m.; free. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way.

1001 Grains of Sand This "young person's adventure round the Earth through action, song, and dance" was "devised" by Margaret Larlham. "A thousand grains of sand, from around the earth finely ground residue of ash, fossil, bone, rock, seas, and deserts pour through an hourglass conjuring the story of a journey through memory, imagination, and action," 619-594-6884. Thursday, March 19, 8 p.m.; Friday, March 20, 10 a.m.; Saturday, March 21, 4 p.m.; \$8-\$18. Don Powell Theatre at SDSU, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

Animals, Animals, Animals Big Joe Productions tells tales with shadow puppets, string, and hand puppets. Curtain rises at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday-Friday; and 11 a.m., 1, and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 619-544-9203. Wednesday, March 25; \$3-\$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK

Dear Edwina Follow adventures of Edwina Spoonapple, advicegiver extraordinaire, as she directs neighborhood kids in "production number after hilarious production number in her 'Advice-a-Palooza' extravaganza" in performances by La Jolla San Diego Junior Theatre. For all ages. 619-239-8355. Sundays, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.; through Sunday, April 5, \$10-\$15, Firehouse YMCA Community Center, 7877 Herschel Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Disney High School Musical 2 School's out and summer is here! Enjoy "sweet new songs and mad, awesome dancing" when J*Company presents further tales of the East High Wildcats. 858-362-1348. Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m.; Saturday, March 21, 8 p.m.; Sunday, March 22, 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.; \$13-\$17. David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre, 4126 Executive

The Hobbit Students of Theatre School at North Coast Repertory Theatre present this tale of reluctant hero Bilbo Baggins, his quest to slay a dragon and save his world, based on J.R.R. Tolkien's book. 858-481-1055. Thursday, March 19, 5 p.m.; Saturday, March 21, 11

a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Sunday, March 22, noon; \$9-\$12. North Coast Repertory Theatre, 987-D Lomas Santa Fe Drive. (SOLANA BEACH)

The Princess and the Pea Missoula Children's Theater cast local children in this magical musical. 858-748-0505, Saturday, March 21, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.; \$5-\$17. Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road. (POWAY)

Ant-Sized Adventures Learn about "amazing woodrat and his house of sticks" during parent and preschooler program. Expect to hear facts about "this thrifty and busy mammal, with songs, short hike, and take-home craft." Reservations required: 619-582-6261. Thursday, March 19, 10 a.m.; Friday, March 20, 10 a.m.; \$2. Ages 2 and up. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Family Day Afternoon of crafts and activities focused on international border between United States and Mexico. Included in regular museum admission, 619-232-6203. Saturday, March 21, 1 p.m.; free. Museum of San Diego History, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Mind Your Manners! "Mannerly Kids I" etiquette class for children 5 to 11 years old focusing on social, business, dining skills. Fee includes four-course formal dinner workbook, award of completion, 951-415-8300, Sunday, March 22, 2 p.m.; \$95. Ages 5 and up. Morgan Run Resort and Club, 5690 Cancha de Golf. (RANCHO SANTA FF)

Watch Out for Mr. McGregor! Puppet Express takes stage to pres-

ent Peter Rabbit. Curtain rises at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday-Friday; 11 a.m., 1, and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 619-544-9203. Thursday, March 19; Friday, March 20; Saturday, March 21; Sunday,

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Wedding Guide

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San Diego Reader March 19, 2009

March 22; \$3-\$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

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, March 22, 1 p.m.; free. Daley Ranch, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

IN PERSON

"Circophilia" Zirk Ubu, S.D.'s "newest and most absurd circus," offers night of circus acts, deejays, dancing, "absurd visionary theater," stillting, sword swallowing, more. Doors open at 9:30 p.m. Absurdist attire encouraged. 619-708-6029. Saturday, March 21, 9:30 p.m.; \$15. Ages 21 and up. Spin Nightclub, 2028 Hancock Street.

"Hypno Live!" "Individuals who volunteer for hypnosis are the ones who will have the most fun," according to hypnotist Michael Swenson, who plans comedy hypnosis show to entertain audience members and participants alike. 858-344-9252. Wednesday, March 25, 8 p.m.; \$15-\$29. The Comedy Palace, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

"Intimate Miracles" Sebastian presents "close-up" magic shows. Tickets include drinks provided by "syndicated wine columnist" and WineReviewOnline.com publisher

Robert Whitley. RSVP: 619-865-2973. Saturday, March 21, 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.; \$20. Ages 21 and up. Planet Rooth Gallery, 3811 Ray Street. (NORTH PARK)

"Olio the Show" Live jazz and dance supper club revue, following "evolution of jazz music and its dance forms starting with traditional West African dance and drums all the way to hip-hop and everything else in between." Reservations: 619-869-1663 or 619-337-0238. Saturday, March 21, 8 p.m.; \$15-\$25. Ciao Bella Caffe Bar e Ristorante, 5263 Baltimore Drive.

"Wong Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" Writer Kristina Wong performs partial version of her solo performance piece, said to mix humor and psychology, in Arts Building room 111. She'll lecture on the piece as well. 760-750-4366. Tuesday, March 24, 7 p.m.; free. CSU San Marcos, 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road. (SAN MARCOS)

San Diego's Best Freebies & Bargains Author Sally Gary reveals "deals and steals" during her talk. 619-463-8277. Friday, March 20, 10:30 a.m.; free. Casa de Oro Library, 9805 Campo Road #145. (SPRING VALLEY)

Ain't Misbehavin' The Fats Waller comedic musical revue is next production by the students. Though originally written for cast of five, this production boasts 20 performers. 619-475-8556. Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m.; Friday,

March 20, 7 p.m.; Saturday, March 21, 2 p.m.; \$6-\$7. School of Creative and Performing Arts, 2425 Dusk Drive. (PARADISE HILLS)

Native Americans of San Diego County Local author Donna Bradley discusses, signs her book. 858-270-8642. Sunday, March 22, 1 p.m.; free. Open Door Books, 4761 Cass Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Author Visit Erica Miner writes books for adults and teens. She will discuss her latest book, answer questions, sign books (available for purchase during event). Among her books: *Travels with My Lovers* and *FourEver Friends*. 619-463-3006. Thursday, March 19, 4 p.m.; free. Spring Valley Library, 836 Kempton Street. (SPRING VALLEY)

Common Chords III. The Next Generation San Diego Jewish Music Festival continues with this "celebration of Jewish and Muslim music." Performers Salman Ahmad ("Muslim rock star and peace ambassador"), Indian tabla player Samir Chatteriee, klezmer maven Yale Strom and his band Hot P'stromi play original works exploring tolerance, diversity, ties that bind. 858-362-1348. Wednesday, March 25, 7:30 p.m.; \$19-\$24. Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Full Show for the Five Senses Fuente Eterno Decom party with deejay, live music, hoopers, dancers, stilt walkers, more, hosted by Danyavaad, the Shimmy Sisters, friends. 619-884-7707. Sunday, March 22, 6 p.m.; \$12. Stage Saloon, 762 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Global Icon? Travel writer, essayist, novelist Pico Iyer visits shop to discuss, sign *The Open Road: The Global Journey of the 14th Dalai Lama*, his fascinating look at life of the current Dalai Lama. 858-454-0347. Sunday, March 22, 7:30 p.m.; free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Literary Reading Poets Kathleen Rooney and Elisa Gabbert, co-authors of *That Tiny Insane Voluptuousness*, read from their work in Grand Salon room 113 of M. Gordon Clarke Field House. 760-750-8077. Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m.; free. CSU San Marcos, 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road. (SAN MARCOS)

Sacred Chant Concert Enjoy "uplifting beats and peaceful melodies" when musicians Snatam Kaur, GuruGanesha Singh, Manish Vyas, and Tanmayo weave traditional Indian instruments and ecstatic chants into "blend of serene musical tapestries." Bhava Ram performs "trademark inspirational music layered heavily with themes of peace and love" on guitar. 760-753-2345. Sunday, March 22, 7:30 p.m.; \$30-\$35. Seaside Center for Spiritual Living, 1613 Lake Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Spring Renewal Poetry Party and Reading Solana Beach Art Association presents poetry jam focusing on "hope and joy that spring brings to us each year." Professional poet Diane Gage reads her poetry,



RECESSION-BUSTER RATES

LIMOS

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Mon.–Thurs. \$120/hour, Fri. & Sat. \$140/hour. 30-passenger limo bus:

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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

talks about craft of writing poems. Open mike for sharing of spring-time-themed original poetry (30 reading spaces available). 858-755-3735. Sunday, March 22, 4 p.m.; free. The Book Works, 2670 Via de la Valle. (DEL MAR)

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)

Stupid People Tricks? Tell a tale of fools and foolishness during open story swap. Bring short (five-minute) true story, tall tale, or folk-tale to tell — not read — or just listen. Material must be suitable for general audiences. 858-484-1325. Wednesday, March 25, 7 p.m.; free. Barnes and Noble Bookstore Mira Mesa, 10775 Westview Parkway. (MIRA MESA)

Twiggs Poetry Group Jim Eret reads from his work. 619-296-0616. Monday, March 23, 8 p.m.; free. Twiggs Bakery Coffeehouse,

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4590 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

U.S. Military Academy Glee Club Cadet Glee Club is 65-voice
mixed chorus whose members
serve as musical ambassadors for
West Point. Group performs for
La Jolla Presbyterian Church Concert Series. Requested donation:
\$10. 858-454-0713. Saturday,
March 21, 7 p.m.; free. La Jolla
Presbyterian Church, 7715 Draper
Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

West Coast Funnies Comedy variety show with Kurt Swann combines sketch comedy with stand-up comedy presented in talk-show format. Featured performer is *Tonight Show* veteran Nick Thune. 760-720-2460. Saturday, March 21, 8 p.m.; \$15-\$20. Carlsbad Village Theatre, 2808 State Street. (CARLSBAD)

LECTURES

"Animalkind" Artist Sue Coe presents illustrated lecture in room 100 of SDSU's Nasatir Hall (5 p.m.) in conjunction with "Animalkind" exhibit. Talk followed by artists' reception for exhibit exploring "variety of relationships between nonhuman and human animals through a selection of works by artists from the United States and Finland" in University Art Gallery. 619-594-5171. Saturday, March 21, 5 p.m.; free. San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

"Beautiful Landscape on a Low-Water Budget" Seven principles of xeriscape, plant selection, planting techniques presented by landscape designer Connie Beck. Reservations: 619-660-4350. Tuesday, March 24, 6:30 p.m.; \$20-\$30. Water Conservation Garden,



12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

"Craft in America" Local artists share their work during video, lecture, discussion event hosted by Poway Arts and Crafts Guild. 858-513-2900. Saturday, March 21, noon; free. Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road. (POWAY)

"Exploring Antarctica" Stories, photographs from "journey of a lifetime to the end of the Earth...from Tierra del Fuego to Cape Horn and the Antarctic Peninsula." RSVP: 619-338-9981 x14. Wednesday, March 25, 7 p.m.; free. Le Travel Store, 745 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

"Nesting Results of the California Least Tern and Western Snowy Plover" Did you know your beach activities can affect survival of nesting tern and plover chicks? Tern and plover expert Robert Patton shares nesting results from last year, concerns for this season, and on-the-job stories about their nesting behavior and natural history for Tijuana Estuary Speaker Series. 619-575-3613. Saturday, March 21, 11 a.m.; free. Tijuana Estuary Visitor Center, 301 Caspian Way. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Options for Economic Stimulus UCSD professor of economics James Hamilton examines "alternatives for an economic stimulus plan" when San Diego Association for Rational Inquiry gathers. 619-421-5844. Sunday, March 22, 7 p.m.; free. Joyce Beers Community Center, 4065 Vermont Street.

"Photographing Your Pets"
Learn tips about taking pictures of your pet from professional photographer Jen Petit. Topics range from technical, including camera choices and lighting strategies, to artistic methods. Bring your camera and questions, but no pets. Fee includes materials, light snacks. Registration: 619-243-3424. Thursday, March 19, 6:30 p.m.; \$12. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street.

"Publishing for Success" Antoinette Kurtz leads interactive workshop for San Diego Writers/Editors Guild. Kurtz is founder of La Jolla Writers Conference, host of Writers Round Table radio show. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., program at 7 p.m. 760-471-5323. Monday, March 23, 6:30 p.m.; free. Joyce Beers Community Center, 4065 Vermont Street. (HILLCREST)

"Really Reliable Recall" Frustrated when Spot won't "come when called"? Remedy problem during workshop. Registration: 619-299-7012 x2704. Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.; \$35. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

"Russia" Andranik Migranian from Institute for Democracy and Cooperation, New York, speaks for Hansen/Hostler Distinguished Lecture Series. Talks examining key international issues facing President Obama take place in Hardy Tower room 140. 619-594-6244. Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m.; free. San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

"Small Steps, Big Changes" What can women do to make a difference in our communities? Find out during International Outreach Team's Cultural Learning Workshop. Open to all. 619-527-6161. Wednesday, March 25, 6 p.m.; free. Joe and Vi Jacobs Center, 404 Euclid Avenue. (SOUTHEAST SAN DIEGO)

"Tea 101" Introductory talk covers basic tea classifications, important factors of history, origin, processing methods. Expect overview of tea preparation guidelines, basic teaware knowledge. Tea tasting swill help illustrate curriculum. Reservations: 619-450-4224. Saturday, March 21, 6 p.m.; \$10. Halcyon Tea, 3009 Beech Street. (SOUTH PARK)

"The His and Hers of Prosocial Behavior" Alice Eagly returns as speaker for 2009 Michael Haney Distinguished Lecture in Psychology. When and why are men or women are more likely to help others? She will highlight contextual variation of sex differences in helping behavior. Eagly is Northwestern University professor of psychology. 619-260-4003. Tuesday, March 24, 12:30 p.m.; free. Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

"The Landscape: California Women in Public Office" An "all-star panel of California female public officials" addresses history, the "real dirt," practicalities, and successes during this Run Women Run event. Panelists: Dede Alpert, Midge Constanza, Crystal Crawford, Mary Salas, Lynn Schenk. Talk offered in Hojel Auditorium. 858-248-9465. Sunday, March 22, 1:30 p.m.; \$25-\$35. Institute of the Americas, UCSD, 10111 North Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

"The Nuts and Bolts of It All"

Myra Herrmann, senior planner with City of San Diego, divulges "How the City of San Diego Evaluates Potential Impacts to Historical Resources" for San Diego County Archaeological Society. What has archaeological monitoring discovered? 858-538-0935. Tuesday, March 24, 7:30 p.m.; free. Los Peñasquitos Ranch Adobe, 12122 Canyonside Park Drive. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

"The Religion Virus" Local author Craig A. James explains "religion's grip on humanity, from an evolutionary perspective," for Atheist Coalition of San Diego. 619-342-7388. Tuesday, March 24, 6:30 p.m.; free. North Park Recreation Center, 4044 Idaho Street. (NORTH PARK)

"The Upside of Down: How to Keep Our Cities Great" Chicago Mayor Richard Daley and former Bogotá mayor Enrique Peñalosa lead discussion in Forum Auditorium for Helen Edison Lecture Series. Moderated discussion will cover "views of two mayors who have catapulted their cities to international acclaim." Also in attendance: UCSD Chancellor Marye Anne Fox, San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders. Reservations: 858-822-0510. Friday, March 20, 7:30 a.m.; free. Scripps Institution of Oceanography, 8602 La Jolla Shores Drive. (LA JOLLA)

"Water, Water...Anywhere?" Phil Pride plans slide-illustrated lecture on future of region's water supply. Learn of "complex past history, present realities, and future challenges of our domestic and agricultural water supplies" when San Diego Audubon Society gathers. 619-682-7200. Friday, March 20, 7 p.m.; free. Tecolote Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road. (CLAIREMONT)

"Wise Choices for a Water-Wise Garden" Gardening maven Judy Wigand focuses on environmentally friendly gardens boasting year-round bloom and interest when MiraCosta Horticulture Club gathers at Alta Vista Gardens in Brengle Terrace Park. 760-729-8172. Saturday, March 21, 12:45 p.m.; free. Brengle Terrace Park, 1200 Vale Terrace Drive. (VISTA)

"Women as Leaders: Negotiating the Labyrinth" Alice Eagly, Northwestern University professor of psychology, is featured speaker for 2009 Michael Haney Distinguished Lecture in Psychology. Talk will focus on psychology

of prejudice toward female leaders, other reasons women may face challenges navigating path toward leadership. 619-260-4003. Monday, March 23, 7 p.m.; free. Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

"Zen of Schmoozing" Increase your chances of being funded by returning civility to the asking game during this grant-writing workshop. 619-460-2738. Friday, March 20, 10 a.m.; free. San Diego County Health and Human Services, 690 Oxford Street. (CHULA VISTA)

Kyoto Laureate Symposium Anthony James Pawson, winner of Kyoto Prize in Basic Sciences, will discuss how our cellular dialogue works, what goes wrong with the communication process in diseases such as cancer, possibilities for new therapies opened by this understanding. How is information conveyed within the cell? Registration: 858-467-1727. Thursday, March 19, 3:30 p.m.; free. Price Center at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

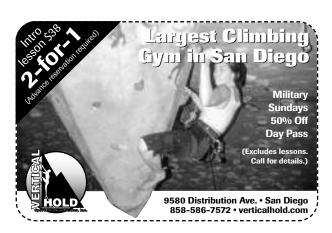
San Diego's North Island: 1911-1941 Co-authors Katrina Pescador and Mark Aldrich share their passion for aviation history with their presentation on San Diego's North Island for "Third Thursday Author Series." North Island is described as "one of the most significant venues of aviation in the world." Fee: \$35 at door includes lecture, book; pay \$15 for lecture only. Tickets: 619-297-9327. Thursday, March 19, 6 p.m.; \$15-\$35. Adobe Chapel, 3963 Conde Street. (OLD TOWN)

A New California Garden Landscape designer Linda Whitney shares process for creating her own award-winning, water-smart landscape from ground up. Learn steps from design, irrigation, plant selection to maintenance principles. Registration: 619-660-0614 x10. Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.; \$20-\$30. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

Adoption Records Genealogy librarian, researcher Stephanie Weiner speaks for North San Diego County Genealogical Society. "As an adoptee, Weiner has an abiding interest in access to vital records. She has worked with grassroots adoption organizations and has lectured on the topic of adoption, orphans, and nontraditional families." Nonmembers wel-







come. 858-592-6049. Tuesday, March 24, 10 a.m.; free. Carlsbad City Council Chambers, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Alaskan Nature Photography Presentation of photographs by Alaskan bush pilot Mark Stadsklev. Question and answer follows. Talk is in conjunction with exhibit of Stadsklev's photographs on display at library through Monday, March 30. 619-588-3718. Sunday, March 22, 2 p.m.; free. El Cajon Library, 201 East Douglas Avenue. (EL CAJON)

American New Queer Cinema Pioneer Speaks! Chris Munch (who has made four feature narrative films as writer, director, and editor) plans distribution talk and workshop in University Hall room 439. 760-750-8085. Tuesday, March 24, 2 p.m.; free, CSU San Marcos, 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road. (SAN MARCOS)

Architectural Turning Bill Cox addresses North County Woodworking Club. 760-489-7187. Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m.; free. Ages 12 and up. Joslyn Senior Center-Escondido, 210 Park Avenue.

Bacon's Breakthroughs "An Independent Scholar's Perspective on Sir Francis Bacon's Advancement of Learning" is promised when Catherine Blecki, professor emeritus from San Jose State University, speaks for San Diego Independent Scholars meet in room 111A of UCSD Chancellor's Complex. 760-751-3094 or 619-296-4055. Saturday, March 21, 1:20 p.m.; free. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Behind the Scenes! Artists from Rigoletto participate in Artists' Round Table — offering look at music, characters, behind-thescenes work - hosted by San Diego Opera in Beverly Sills Salon of Civic Theatre, 619-232-7636. Thursday, March 19, 5:30 p.m.; free. San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Brown Bag Lunch Talk Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve staff illuminate history of reserve. Learn significance of this international wetland preserve to maintaining a healthy coastal environment in the region. Included in museum admission. 619-232-6203. Thursday, March 19, noon; free. Museum of San Diego History, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Computer Genealogy Your Thing? User groups meet at 9 a.m. for Family Tree Maker, Macintosh, and user group on new genealogy websites during Computer Genealogy Society of San Diego meeting. Live web-cast on digital imaging and editing with Photoshop elements by "Digital Photo Guv" Lee Otsubo (10:15 a.m.). Attendees will be able ask questions, 619-426-8295, Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.; free. Robinson Auditorium complex at UCSD, off Pangea Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Culinarily Challenged? Learn to prepare simple recipes, where to buy the best ingredients, what equipment you will need during these classes, March 19; pizzas galore, 760-431 2278. Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m.; \$45. Ages 21 and up. Captain Cook's Culinary Academy, 6986 El Camino Real. (CARLSBAD)

Do Dreams Inspire Art? Patricia Ariadne presents "Women Dreaming-into-Art: Seven Artists Who Create from Dreams" for Friends of Jung. Ariadne is licensed psychotherapist utilizing dreams, related topics with her patients. 858-832-8003. Friday, March 20, 7:30 p.m.; \$15-\$20. Mueller College, 6160 Mission Gorge Road, 3rd floor. (GRANTVILLE)

Do Rules Still Matter? Must writers and editors throw out everything they know, learn whole new set of skills? Find out when Tina Rounsavell focuses on "Writing and Editing for the Web" for San Diego Professional Editors Network (SD/PEN). 619-281-6951. Thursday, March 19, 6:30 p.m.; free. Joyce Beers Community Center, 4065 Vermont Street. (HILLCREST)

Fold Some Bugs! "Oh Boy Origami" class led by Lisa Koide Halverson with hopping, flying, and crawling "bugs" to be created. Reservations: 619-232-2721. Sunday, March 22, 10 a.m.; \$8. Ages 8 and up. Japanese Friendship Garden, Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

Free Money for College? Ron Caruthers of KCEO divulges "hidden ways to get thousands of dollars of free money for college, even in today's rocky economy, no matter how much money you make or how good a student you have." Do tell. 760-438-9095. Tuesday, March 24, 7:15 p.m.; free, Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

Frontiers in Science "Personalized Medicine in the Era of Genomics — Changing the Future" is subject for Dr. Nicholas Schork, professor in Molecular and Experimental Medicine Department at Scripps Research Institute. Schork will illustrate how genetics, genomics are leading way to personalized medicine. Reception follows. RSVP: 858-784-2915. Wednesday, March 25, 6 p.m.; free. Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa, 9700 North Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

Homegrown Community gardening series with master gardeners Diane Hollister and Pete Ash hosted by Agri Service, Inc. Learn to garden, grow food in your own backyard or community. This month: "Building a Garden Bed — Size, Location, and Soil Building." Reservations: 800-262-4167 x4. Saturday, March 21, 1:30 p.m.; free. El Corazon compost facility, 3210 Oceanside Boulevard. (OCEANSIDE)

Opera Insights Historical and cultural background, music analysis, plot synopsis, musical selections from Verdi's Rigoletto presented by Ron Shaheen to highlight upcoming San Diego Opera production. 619-236-5800. Wednesday, March 25, 5:30 p.m.; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street, (DOWNTOWN)

Recorder Workshop San Diego County Recorder Society conducts annual workshop, with instruction by Inga Funck. Fee includes lunch. Registration: 619-334-1993. Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.; \$40-\$50. Clairemont Lutheran Church, 4271 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (CLAIREMONT)

Stay Green Friends of San Diego Architecture host Kathy Garcia, who will present "Greening the Green: Open Spaces Contributing to Our Sustainable Actions." Garcia is director of local (and national) landscape architecture and urban design firm. Talk followed by question/answer session. Donation. 619-224-8584. Saturday, March 21, 9:30 a.m.; free. NewSchool of Architecture and Design, 1249 F Street. (DOWNTOWN

Why Do Bordeaux Wines Shine? Judge for yourself when Barbara Baxter's art of wine tasting/lecture series continues with "Connoisseurship: The Art of Bordeaux Wine." Savor five representative Bordeaux chateaux wines for color, acid, tannin, fruit, richness, consistency. "Perfect growing season of 2005 resulted in a most glamorous vintage." Required reser-

vations: 858-454-5872. Wednesday, March 25, 7:30 p.m.; \$25-\$30. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

OUTDOORS

Vernal Equinox on Friday, March 20, at 4:44 a.m. Pacific standard time heralds the beginning of the spring season for Earth's northern hemisphere. At the instant of vernal equinox, the sun lies in the plane of Earth's equator. As a consequence, days and nights are of equal length (12 hours each) everywhere on our planet. Another consequence is that the sun rises due east along the horizon and sets due west. During the next three months, as the sun shines more and more directly on our hemisphere, daylight hours will lengthen and the rise and set positions of the sun will gradually shift toward the northeast and northwest, respectively.

The Pleasantly Pungent Odor of sage is filling the air wherever native vegetation grows on the county's coastal and lowerfoothill slopes. Most common are the black sage, with tight clusters of small, white flowers; the grayish-leaved white sage; purpleblossomed, sweet-smelling Cleveland sage; and California sagebrush, characterized by soft, needle-like leaves.

Yuccas of two varieties are in bloom in San Diego County from

now through May. Year after year, the Mojave yucca (Yucca schidigera) sends up a blunt flower stalk of white, waxy blossoms from the same base — a rosette of daggerlike leaves. The shimmering white exclamation point that unfolds above "Our Lord's Candle" (Yucca whipplei), on the other hand, is a prelude to the plant's imminent death. Mojave vucca is widely distributed along San Diego County's coastal strip and throughout the higher elevations of the Anza-Borrego Desert. Our Lord's Candle prefers the scrubby coastal foothills and the drier slopes of the Palomar, Cuyamaca, and Laguna mountains. The two vuccas coexist with each other in a few areas like Torrey Pines State Reserve and Anza-Borrego's Culp Valley area.

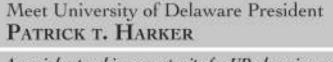
India Hawthorn, one of the most common flowering shrubs used in landscaping as hedges and dividers in San Diego, is blooming best right about now. The plant, which has several varieties, covers itself with blossoms ranging in hue from pinkish white to vivid pink.

The Big Dipper, an abbreviated version of the larger constellation known as Ursa Major (the Great Bear), hovers nearly straight overhead during evening hours from March through June. The seven stars of the dipper — all but one classified as "second magnitude" in brightness — can be distinctly seen on clear evenings, even from light-polluted city locations. The two stars at the end of the bowl of the Big Dipper point downward









A special networking opportunity for UD alumni, parents and friends

Wednesday, March 18, 6-8 p.m. Verandah Room, La Valencia Hotel 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla, CA

Cost is \$25 per person, which includes cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

Sponsored by the University of Delaware and the San Diego Alumni Club

Questions? Email AlumNet@udeLedu or call (302) 831-2341.

R.S.V.P. by Thursday, March 12, at www.UDconnection.com/SanDiego



Calendar

toward a lone, second-magnitude star: Polaris, the North Star, which perpetually marks the direction of true north.

Hellhole Adventure! Canyoneers lead "moderate to strenuous" 2.5-mile hike traveling through chaparral and along Hell Creek. Community features mixed chaparral, wildflowers, wild lilac, redberry, scrub oak, and mission manzanita. 619-255-0203. Sunday, March 22, 10 a.m.; free. Hellhole Canyon Open Space Preserve, 19324 Santee Lane. (VALLEY CENTER)

Bird Watching Easy walk with variety of birds and views of salt marsh habitat hosted by Friends of Famosa Slough starts at first bench on Famosa Boulevard. Bring binoculars if you have them. 619-224-4591. Saturday, March 21, 1 p.m.; free. Famosa Slough, West Point Loma Boulevard and Famosa Boulevard. (OCEAN BEACH)

Discover Downtown Escondido Walking tour led by Escondido History Center guide, starting at southeast corner of Grand and Broadway. 760-743-8207. Saturday, March 21, 11 a.m.; free. Draper's and Damon's, 101 East Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

Eco-Reserve Volunteer Work Party Join volunteers to clean up, take part in trail maintenance and habitat restoration. Wear sturdy shoes, long pants. Reservations: 760-436-3944. Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.: free, San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve, 2710 Manchester Avenue. (CARDIFF)

Explore Florida Canyon California Native Plant Society members Betsy Cory and Paul Hormick lead hike starting at end of parking lot on west side of tennis courts, by water fountain. 619 656-8669. Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.; free. Ages 7 and up. Morley Field sports complex, 2221 Morley Field Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

Get Out and Bird! Join Audubon Society bird watchers in El Arroyo picnic area. Beginners welcome. 858-755-7133. Wednesday, March 25, 8 a.m.; free. Kit Carson Park, 3333 Bear Valley Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

Miner's Loop Trail Walk Join naturalist Mike Kelly for hike on north face of Black Mountain Park. There should be a good wildflower show this year. Wear hiking boots, bring water. 858-342-8856. Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.; free, Carmel Valley staging area, 14850 Carmel Valley Road, (CARMEL VALLEY)

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, March 20, 7 a.m.; free. Daley Ranch, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

Spring Equinox in Mission Trails Learn about "magical changes a vernal season brings" during interpretive nature walks. 619-668-3281. Saturday, March 21, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, March 22, 9:30 a.m.; Wednesday, March 25, 9:30 a.m.; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Tour the Salt Works See birds, learn about ecology of South San Diego Bay Salt Works during guided tour. Required reservations: 619-682-7200. Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.; free. Salt Works Trailhead, 1470 Bay Boulevard. (CHULA VISTA)

Tree Time Offshoot Tours offers hour-long guided tour highlighting various Balboa Park trees. 619-235-1122. Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.; free. Balboa Park Visitors' Center, 1549 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Where Was Wyatt Earp's Favorite Oyster Bar? Find out when San Diego Architectural Foundation hosts tours of historic Gaslamp Quarter. Learn about

OUT & ABOUT

BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL 2009

La Paloma Theatre and San Diego Natural History Museum, Thursday-Monday, March 19-23.

(SEE FILM)



area's architectural evolution from 1880s dirt streets and saloons to current restorations and adaptive reuse projects. Tours begin at Arts Tix kiosk, 619-232-1385, Saturday, March 21, 9:50 a.m.; \$8-\$15. Ages 10 and up. Horton Square, 225 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN)

Work Party in Silverwood Sanctuary Help remove invasive, nonnative plants during work event. 619-443-2998. Saturday, March 21, 8:30 a.m.; free, Silverwood Sanctuary, 13003 Wildcat Canyon Road. (LAKESIDE)

SPECIAL

"Celebration of Women: Getting Back to Living Again!" Celebration for International Women's Month includes panel discussion, entertainment, food, "lots of socializing." Donations accepted. RSVP: 619-819-7838. Saturday, March 21, 2 p.m.; free. Malcolm X Library, 5148 Market Street, (VALENCIA PARK)

"It's Complicated" Group showing promising "controversial themed artwork and events" promised for North Park Nights, with more than 35 venues promoting arts and culture in heart of

North Park (University Avenue to 28th Street), 619-294-2501, Saturday, March 21, 6 p.m.; free, Art Produce Gallery, 3139 University Avenue, (NORTH PARK)

"Pathways to Tomorrow" Grossmont College Science Festival promises hands-on scientific demonstrations, exhibits celebrating science in everyday life. Activities on Friday include telescope stargazing at campus main quad and clips from sci-fi movies. On Saturday, take in hands-on exhibits, demonstrations, tours of high-tech buildings on campus, guest speakers. 619-644-7141. Friday, March 20, 7 p.m.; Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.; free. Grossmont College, 8800 Grossmont College Drive. (EL CAJON)

"Prison Nation: Posters on the Prison Industrial Complex" Exhibition addressing many issues such as prison-industrial complex, death penalty, "three strikes" laws, re-entry into community continues through April. Exhibition was produced by Center for the Study of Political Graphics in Los Angeles. 760-750-4378. Thursdays, 7 a.m.; Fridays, 8 a.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.; Sundays, 10 a.m.; Mondays, 7 a.m.; Tuesdays, 7 a.m.; Wednesdays, 7 a.m.; through Thursday, April 30, free. Kellogg Library at CSU San Marcos, 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road. (SAN MARCOS)

"Symbols of God's Love" St. Mark's annual religious art festival exhibition continues on Saturdays through April 11. Art juror was Hiroshi Miyazaki, poetry juror was Brandon Cesmat. 858 273-1480. Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.; free. Saint Mark's United Methodist Church, 3502 Clairemont Drive. (CLAIREMONT)

"The Physics of Brass Musical Instruments" What's connection between physics and music? San Jose State University physics professor Brian Holmes demonstrates the connection when he "builds a trumpet, plays on a garden hose, tootles an antique keyed bugle, and performs on the valveless predecessor of the modern French horn." Arts Building room 111. 760-750-4366. Wednesday, March 25, 7 p.m.; free. CSU San Marcos, 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road.

Bookish Delights Tour Frances Hamilton White Art Reference Library, browse sale tables "filled with hundreds of books on a myriad of subjects" during library open house. 619-239-0003 x132. Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.; free. Mingei International Museum, 1439 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Celebrate Nowruz Iranian New Year celebrations promised during lawn program. Professional dancers from Los Angeles and dancers from local Persian Dance Academy will perform traditional ethnic and folk dances in authentic costumes. There will also be reading of poems, singing, playing of instruments. Food for sale. 619-234-0739. Sunday, March 22, 2 p.m.; free. House of Pacific Relations, 2125 Park Boulevard (BALBOA PARK)

Circle of Art Fine arts show with 70 artists exhibiting their work in a variety of media including oil and watercolors, photography, sculpture, ceramics, pottery, weaving, iewelry, 760-767-0042, Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.; Sunday, March 22, 9 a.m.; free, Christmas Circle, Palm Canvon Drive at Borrego Springs Road. (BORREGO SPRINGS)

Crossroads of the West Gun **Show** Exhibits designed to appeal to hunters, gun collectors. 801-544-9125. Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.: Sunday, March 22, 9 a.m.; free, Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Farm-to-Table Learn about San Diego Feeding America during event with music, vendors, charity education. Five percent of profits benefit San Diego Feeding America. 619-284-6358. Sunday, March 22, 1:30 p.m.; free. City Farmers Nursery, 4832 Home Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

Enjoy a local meal when various local farms and gardeners provide food for New Roots Farm fundraiser. Group seeks to make it easier to start new community gar-

Food and Funds for Gardens

dens. The \$15 donations benefit New Roots Farm. 619-255-7049. Thursday, March 19, 6 p.m.; Sea Rocket Bistro, 3382 30th Street.

Fred Hall's Fishing Tackle and **Boat Show** Show promises boats, all manner of fishing gear, vendors' booths, and seminars. Free for those under 15. 805-389-3339. Wednesday, March 25, 1 p.m.; free. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, (DEL MAR)

Gems, Fossils, Minerals! Vista Gem and Mineral Society hosts annual silent auction with gems, fossils, minerals, jewelry, equipment, books, more. 760-724-0395. Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m.; free. McClellan Senior Center at Brengle Terrace Park, 1400 Vale Terrace.

Get Planting! Tomatomania, herb festival, spring plant sale return with heirloom tomato seedlings, lectures, demonstrations, herb walks, herbal products for sale. Also planned: Herb Festival Marketplace, "A-Z of herbs information booth," music, food. EcoDesign Fair features local designers offering eco-friendly prod-



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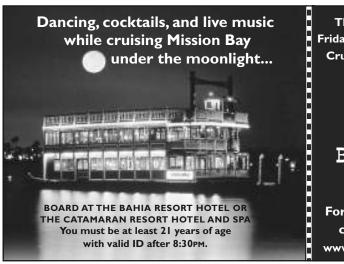
Saturday, April 18, 2009 - 10:00 am

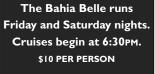


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ucts. Jane Taylor, founding curator of Michigan 4-H Children's Garden, presents "Creating Magical Spaces" and "Fun Oohh-Aahh Plants." Storytelling, "wizardly happenings" for kids (March 21, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.). 760-436-3036. Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.; Sunday, March 22, 9 a.m.; free. Ouail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Go (Visit) Organic! Enjoy private tour of La Milpa Organica Farm led by owner, farmer Barry Logan. An array of organic vegetables, greens, and herbs are grown at farm. Stay after tour for open house, including potluck dinner (bring dish to share, money for pizzas cooked in wood-fired oven). At dusk, gather under oak trees for film screening in outdoor theater. 619-255-0203. Saturday, March 21, 2 p.m.; \$20-\$25. La Milpa Organica Farm, 9928 Protea Gardens Road. (ESCONDIDO)

Green Tour and Spring Planting Celebrate beginning of spring by planting flowers, shrubs, or trees and learning other "Earthfriendly green tips." Materials, plants provided. Green tours on Saturday at 9 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1 p.m. Planting starts at 10 a.m. on Saturday, continues throughout day. Day visitors welcome. Community campfire and hot dog roast on Saturday night. Tent and RV campers pay site fees. Required reservations: 619-766-4480. Friday, March 20, 9 a.m.; Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.; Sunday, March 22, 9 a.m.; free, Sacred Rocks Reserve and RV Park, 1331 Shasta Way. (INLAND BORDER TOWNS)

High Tea for Pups Canines and their humans invited to "whimsical tea party" promising selection of treats designed for furry friends by the Honest Kitchen and from "Pet Lovers Bone Appétit" at Café Merlot. Requested donation: \$5 for each cup of Lithe herbal tea, benefiting San Diego Humane Society. RSVP: 619-985-9519. Tuesday, March 24, 2:30 p.m.; Café Merlot, 13330 Paseo Del Verano Norte. (RANCHO BERNARDO

Painted Voices Project Exhibition of art and poetry by young people (25 and under) from Southeast San Diego. Meet artists during auction of their work. Fee: free for exhibit, \$25 for artist "meet and greet," auction. 760-643-9448. Sunday, March 22, 1 p.m.; free. Joe and Vi Jacobs Center, 404 Euclid Avenue. (SOUTHEAST SAN DIEGO)

Psychic Fair and Metaphysical Conference Lectures, tarot, palmistry, numerology, other psychic arts featured. Admission is free; \$20 per reading. 619-298-3422. Saturday, March 21, noon; Sunday, March 22, noon; free. Alexandra's Bookstore, 3545 Midway Drive, Suite G. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

R-Rated Trivia in the North Enjoy trivia, comedy, mini-games, and "Will It Float?" Fee: \$3 per person. Winning team take all, or play for free to compete for bar prizes! 760-944-0233. Monday, March 23. 7:30 p.m.; \$3. Ages 21 and up. First

OUT & ABOUT

SACRED CHANT CONCERT, SEASIDE **CENTER FOR** SPIRITUAL LIVING,

Sunday, March 22.

(SEE IN PERSON)



Street Bar and Grill, 656 South Coast Highway. (ENCINITAS)

Ranked? Unranked? You are invited to play chess. Organizers say, "Kibitz at your own risk." 858-568-1641. Saturdays, 1 p.m.; free. La Jolla Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Recession Survival Expo Restore the small-business heart of the American economy! Organizers promise workshops, speakers, panel discussions, food drive, "frugal ideas and cheap fun," meditation, exhibits, RSVP: 760-815-4527. Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.: free. Hilton Del Mar, 15575 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, (DEL MAR)

Rough Rock and Finished Stones Palomar Gem and Mineral Club hosts annual show, with dealers selling rough rock, finished stones, jewelry, tools, other rockrelated products. Gem identification available. Displays of group's activities. 760-743-0809. Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.; free. Army National Guard Armory, 304 East Park Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

Safety in Your Home Is your neighborhood as safe as you would like? Are you worried about crime? Learn to feel safer in your home during community meeting. 619-425-5771. Monday, March 23, 6:45 p.m.; free. MAAC Charter School, 1385 Third Avenue. (CHULA VISTA)

Sheep to Shawl San Diego Creative Weaver's Guild members and Grossmont Adult Ed students demonstrate spinning and weaving equipment to give an overview of process of turning wool into fabric during eighth annual event. 619-267-5141. Friday, March 20, 10 a.m.; Saturday, March 21, 1

p.m.; free. Bonita Museum and Cultural Center, 4355 Bonita Road.

Spring Harvest Festival Handmade art and crafts, demonstrators, kids' zone, gourmet food items, and more on offer, along with live music, strolling entertainers. One ticket is good for entire weekend. 415-447-3205. Friday, March 20, 10 a.m.: Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.; Sunday, March 22, 10 a.m.; free. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Thar She Blows! H&M Landing offers daily three-hour excursions to view the annual migration of California grav whales, with "interpretive narration by trained and knowledgeable staff." Also available: five-hour cruises depart daily at 10 a.m., voyage to Coronado Islands. Reservations: 619-222-1144. Thursdays, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Fridays, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; through Friday, March 20, \$17-\$25. H&M Landing, 2803 Emerson Street. (POINT LOMA)

Time to Buy? Seminars planned, credit counselors, lenders on hand to educate consumers on right way to buy a home in market of low interest rates, reduced home prices, and large inventory during Home Buyers Fair hosted by Housing Opportunity Committee for the East San Diego County Association of Realtors, 619-579-0333 x102. Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.; free. Ronald Reagan Community Center, 195 East Douglas. (EL CAJON)

Tribute to Indian Divinity Dr. Sketchy's Anti-Art School convenes with belly dancer Sabrina, "burlesque darling" Mynx D'Meanor, with an appearance by

the elephant-headed god Ganesh. Bring your art supplies. 619-299-7372. Saturday, March 21, 3 p.m.; \$10. Ages 21 and up. Ruby Room, 1271 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

What Is It Good For? Why has the U.S. fought so many wars? Ponder ideas with P&R Discussion Group. 619-370-1027. Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m.; free. Filter, 4096 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

World Water Day Festival Agua Hedionda Lagoon Foundation's festival includes interactive exhibits from Sea Life Aquarium, Birch Aquarium, San Diego Zoo; kids' craft booths; wildlife encounter opportunities. Booths, activity stations focus on clean water. global warming issues, native plants, animals, Hubbs-Sea World fish hatchery, seawater desalination, more. 760-804-1969. Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.; free. Agua Hedionda Lagoon Discovery Center, 1580 Cannon Road. (CARLSBAD)

SPORTS

Big Lagoon Ride Join San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders for 50-mile fun ride. 619-647-3212. Saturday, March 21, 8:45 a.m.; free. Doyle Park, 8175 Regents Road. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Fight Expo! Grapplers Quest! Mixed martial arts and extreme sports expo promises mixed martial arts, grappling, pankration, motocross, skate, Harley pulls (arm wrestling), more. 877-703-3397. Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.: Sunday, March 22, 10 a.m.: \$20. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, (DEL MAR)

Kayak El Capitan Reservoir Reservoir is nesting site for spotted sandpipers, willow flycatchers, great egrets; excursion sponsored by San Diego Natural History Museum. Fees include equipment, paddling instruction. Reservations, directions: 619-255-0203. Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.; \$20-\$65. Ages 6 and up. San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Run Club Locate new routes in the city, "test-drive" latest Nike footwear, run with motivated people. Runners, walkers of all levels meet to run their choice of three-, five-, and seven-mile routes, starting from Nike Fashion Valley, 619-294-9385. Wednesdays, 6 p.m.; free. Fashion Valley Mall, 7007 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

Signature 1 County Horse **Show** 858-481-9085. Saturday, March 21, 8 a.m.; Sunday, March 22, 8 a.m.; free. Del Mar Horse-park, 14550 El Camino Real. (DEL MAR)

Surf's Up? ISF High School State Championship surfing competition at south harbor jetty. Free for spectators. 760-476-1694. Saturday, March 21, 7 a.m.; Sunday, March 22, 7 a.m.; Monday, March 23, 7 a.m.; free, Oceanside Harbor, 1540 Harbor Drive, (OCEANSIDE)

Swim 4 Life West Coast '09 Fundraiser supporting SurfAid International, in which participants and teams obtain donations for "a good swim during Swim 4Life." 760-931-1199. Saturday. March 21, 11 a.m.; Coggan Family Aquatic Complex, 800 Nautilus Street, (LA JOLLA)

Take Me Out to a World Baseball Game! Round-two games of the '09 World Baseball Classic take place at Petco Park (following round-one competitions in Japan,

Mexico, Canada, and Puerto Rico). Thursday, March 19, 6 p.m.; \$15-\$325, Petco Park, 100 Park Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN)

Up and Down Take a warm-up lap around Fiesta Island, make a "shallow climb" up to Espresso Mio in Mission Hills, ride by zoo and House of Poland in Balboa Park, and then drop downtown with Knickerbiker bicyclists. The 28-miler passes the spot where a "One Book — One San Diego" book talk takes place later in day. 858-272-4710. Sunday, March 22, 9 a.m.; free. Mission Bay Visitors' Center, 2688 East Mission Bay Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Visit Oceanside, Bonsall, and **Escondido** Bicycle Touring Society riders head out on fast, 84-mile bicycle ride. 619-473-8513. Sunday, March 22, 8:45 a.m.; free. Doyle Park, 8175 Regents Road. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Walk for Water Project Concern International leads first 5k San Diego Walk for Water in commemoration of World Water Day. Walkers may carry buckets of water to simulate the journey women and children make every day in countries around world to obtain water. Donations help build system of wells in Nicaragua. 858-279-9690 x327. Sunday, March 22, 10 a.m.; free. De Anza Cove, 3000 East Mission Bay Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)



March 27: Vegetarian Indian Meals

Classes

This band on class will teach you how to This hands-on class will teach you how to make an Indian vegetarian meal start to finish. Chef Manjula.

April 1: Convection Cooking ill using the "Bake" button? Chef Julie Simpson will teach you the time and energy

benefits of simple cooking. April 3: Sushi Bar Favorites Sushi For Dummies, Miniko Moreno.

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San Diego Reader March 2009

Calendar OCAL EVENTS

MUSEUMS

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

Bonita Museum and Cultural Center Museum features exhibits of local history and fine arts, striving "to preserve and celebrate the spirit of Bonita in its two spacious galleries." Stories of Bonita's 100year history are told with artifacts, photographs. Displays include Native American culture, lemon orchard period, events of the flood of 1916, and transformation of family life by technology. 4355 Bonita Road, 619-267-5141. (BONITA)

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 waterfall. 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 Otav 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 sizescale, 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.

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)

SINGLES

ternational 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)

House of Pacific Relations In-

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)

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)

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.

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: a recreation of the Sonka Brother's General Store, "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,

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 continuing 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's conceptual designs for many technological wonders were centuries ahead of their time. "For the past 50 years a group of Florentine artisans have pored 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 Leonardo 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.

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

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







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CLASSICAL 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 CLASSICAL MUSIC, 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.

CLASSICAL

Schumann's "Carnaval" Pianist Solon Pierce performs the piece, along with music by Gershwin, for Concert Hour Series. 760-744-1150 x2316. Free. Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10) (1140 West Mission Road), 12:30 p.m., Thursday, March 19. (SAN MARCOS)

They're Social Instruments! San Diego County Recorder Society meets to play ensemble music from medieval to 20th Century with professional conductors. Recorder players of all skill levels invited. Warm-up session (1-1:50 p.m.), followed by instruction by guest conductor Sandra Stram (2-4 p.m.). Free to attend; membership encouraged (\$35 per year). 619-297-2095. Free. Clairemont Community Room (4731 Clairemont Drive), 1 p.m., Saturday, March 21. (CLAIREMONT)

"Orchestral Journey Back in Time" MiraCosta College's North Coast Symphony Orchestra highlights one masterpiece from each of four main musical periods: baroque, classical, romantic, 20th Century. Concerts open with "Water Music Suite" by Handel and conclude with "Berceuse and Finale" from Firebird Suite by Stravinsky, with pieces by Haydn and Elgar along way. 760-795-6815. \$8-\$10. MiraCosta College Theatre (One Barnard Drive), 7:30 p.m., Saturday, March 21, and 2 p.m., Sunday, March 22.

"Spotlight Series" North Jennifer Frautschi (violin), Ronald Thomas (cello), and Pedja Muzijevic (piano) perform Mozart's "Sonata for Violin and Piano in G," the "Sonata for Cello and Piano in A" by Beethoven, and Mendelssohn's "Piano Trio No. 2 in C Minor" for Mainly Mozart Spotlight Series. 619-239-0100 x2. \$35. Saint Elizabeth Seton Church (6628 Santa Isabel Street), 2 p.m., Sunday, March 22. (CARLSBAD)

"Culture Crossroads" Classical music often blends with music of other cultures. During Classics for Kids musical exploration, Classics Philharmonic travels to Persia and Middle East for Norouz, a celebration of first day of spring. Concert promises folk musicians and dancers, colorful costumes, traditional instruments. 619-570-1100. \$11-\$20. Balboa Theatre (868 Fourth Avenue), 2 p.m., Sunday, March 22. (DOWNTOWN)

Organ Concert Civic organist Carol Williams performs. 619-702-8138. Free. Spreckels Organ Pavilion (2211 Pan American Road), 2 p.m., Sunday, March 22. (BALBOA PARK)

Salzburg Chamber Soloists Group "assembled from some of the finest musicians around the world" performs under baton of violinist Lavard Skou-Larsen, with renowned pianist Andreas Klein for Fallbrook Music Society. Listen for works by Villa-Lobos, Beethoven, Haydn, and Mozart. 760-451-8644. \$10-\$38. Bob Burton Center for the Performing Arts (2400 South Stagecoach Drive), 3 p.m., Sunday, March 22. (FALLBROOK)

Spotlight Series Continues Jennifer Frautschi (violin), Ronald Thomas (cello), and Pedja Muzijevic (piano) perform Mozart's "Sonata for Violin and Piano in G," the "Sonata for Cello and Piano in A" by Beethoven, and Mendelssohn's "Piano Trio No. 2 in C Minor" for Mainly Mozart Spotlight Series. 619-239-0100 x2. \$60. The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe (5951 Linea del Cielo), 5:30 p.m., Sunday. March 22. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

"An Italian Concert" Poway Community Symphony Orchestra performs works by Rossini, Respighi, Mendelssohn, and several opera arias sung by soprano Delynn Ketcherside. 858-673-9702. Free. Poway Center for the Performing Arts (15498 Espola Road), 7:30 p.m., Sunday, March 22. (POWAY)

"Luscious High Voltage"! Tenth annual San Diego Jewish Music Festival opens with acclaimed violinist Zina Schiff presenting "The Jewish Folk Music Society of Russia: A Centennial Celebration." Schiff went through manuscripts, examined catalogs, contacted publishers, unearthed a cache of Jewish musical treasures for concert with selections by composers including Yoel Engel, Lazar Saminsky, Joseph Achron, and Arkady Kougell. 858-362-1348. \$24-\$30. Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive), 7:30 p.m., Monday, March 23. (LA JOLLA)

Classical Guitar Grammy nominee Paul Galbraith performs four works of his own arrangement: Haydn's "Sonata for Keyboard in B-Flat," Petr Eben's "Tabulatura Nova — Rhapsodic Variations on an Old Bohemian Love Song," "Cello Suite No. 1 in G" by J.S. Bach, Manuel Ponce's Variations and Fugue on "La Folia." 858-454-5872. \$30-\$35. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall

Street), 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 24. (LA JOLLA)

Piano Concert Enjoy works by Bach, Chopin, and some original orchestral music piano arrangements when ASCAP Music Award finalist composer, pianist, actor, singer C. Kenneth Lee performs for family music program. Lee, now in his early 20s, started playing piano at four years old in Hong Kong. 858-522-1668. Free. Carmel Valley Library (3919 Townsgate Drive), 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 25. (CARMEL VALLEY)

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 92186-5803. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SDReader.com by clicking on the events section.

GALLERIES

"50th International Juried Awards Exhibition" Gala opening reception for exhibit, with pieces selected by juror Julia Marciari-Alexander. Closes Sunday, May 10. Reservations: 619-236-0011. \$25-\$40. San Diego Art Institute: Museum of the Living Artist (1439 El Prado), 6 p.m., Friday, March 20. (BALBOA PARK)

"Animalkind" Opening reception for exhibition exploring "variety of relationships between nonhuman and human animals through a selection of works by artists from the United States and Finland." Reception follows lecture by participating artist Sue Coe in room 100 of SDSU's Nasatir Hall (5 p.m.). Exhibition continues through Wednesday, May 6. 619-594-5171. Free. University Art Gallery at SDSU (5500 Campanile Drive), 6:30 p.m., Saturday, March 21. (COLLEGE AREA)

"Artworks" Opening for "multimedia show of works on paper" by pastel artist Sally Phillips. 858-729-8808. Losina Art Center (3350 Sports Arena Boulevard Suite A), 6 p.m., Saturday, March 21. (MID-WAY DISTRICT)

"Beige Sentiments" Artist's reception for Kelly Schnorr, whose exhibition of ceramics and mixed-media sculpture continues through Thursday, March 26. These "works combine and layer my memories of growing up in suburban San Diego with my current concerns with the wasteful consumerism I see there today." 619-594-6511. Free. Everett Gee Jackson Gallery at San Diego State

University (5500 Campanile Drive), 6 p.m., Saturday, March 21. (COLLEGE AREA)

"The View from the Day Before" Opening reception for exhibition by Sheldon Greenberg as well as "Reflected" by Stephanie Weber. Reception for artists displaying these "dynamic new paintings" is in conjunction with Cedros Gallery Night and Cedros Blooms Festival. Closes Sunday, May 17. 858-793-4442. Free. Susan Street Fine Art Gallery (415 South Cedros Avenue #160), 6 p.m., Thursday, March 19. (SOLANA BEACH)

"nineRooms, LIVEArtINSTAL-**LATIONS"** One-night exhibit features nine artists and their processes. Exhibition of installation and performance pieces by Yoshimi Havashi and Anna O'-Cain, artists Chris Warr, Hollis Swan, Benjamin Eldworlds, Jessica Gannon, Joshua Bellfy, Justin Morrison, and David White reveals "extraordinary underlying talents of live artists in San Diego." Donations accepted. 760-815-7588. Free. 444 Building (444 South Cedros Avenue), 5 p.m., Thursday, March 19. (SOLANA BEACH)

Artisan Work Open house in artisan gallery with Anna O'Leary, exhibiting clay pieces by Mexican artisans created for nonprofit organization Barro Sin Plomo. O'Leary is vice president of organization; she has worked in Mexico for over two years on design and implementation of group's projects. 760-436-0285. Free. Aesthetyx (466 North Coast Highway 101, Suite 5), noon, Thursday, March 19; noon, Friday, March 20; noon, Saturday, March 21. (ENCINITAS)

ART MUSEUMS

California Center for the Arts, Escondido Museum Four new exhibitions on view: "20th Century Photography: Selections from the Wachovia Securities Art Collection," "Divi/nation: Work by Debby and 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)

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. 1439 El Prado, 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown "Rising Tide: Film and Video Works from the MCA Collection, Sydney," is drawn from collection of Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, and features film and video installations by 13 contemporary Australian video artists and collectives. Exhibit encompasses wide range of themes, modes of presentation. Pieces range from single-channel video to multi-projection installations to architectural interventions. On view through Sunday, June 21.

"Modern Masters" highlights works by major modern artists such as Willem de Kooning, Morris Louis, Joan Mitchell, and Mark Rothko, "Featured paintings represent the pinnacle of midcentury art practice, including abstract expressionism and color-field painting," with pieces including Morris Louis's painting Beth Beth, Adolph Gottlieb's calligraphic Red + Red, Robert Motherwell's Open #117. Exhibit includes an abstract composition by German painter Gerhard Richter. Closes Sunday, April 19. 1001 Kettner Boulevard, 858-454-3541. (DOWNTOWN)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla "Cerca Series: Javier Ramírez Limón" features photographic works by the Tijuana-based artist. Exhibition includes the two documentary photography series "Mexican Quinceañera" (2006–2008) and "De Altar al Sásabe" (2007).

Through Sunday, May 10. 700 Prospect Street, 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

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 travels 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

"Considering Edward Curtis," 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)

after receiving it.

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."

"Commesso Made in America: Gemstone Fine Art" is exhibition of American-made fine art of creating commesso di pietre dure e tenere (stone mosaic pictures). Artwork is created from precise placement of hand-cut rocks and gemstones, with an occasional shell or other hard material. Each stone is hand-cut and placed into mosaic painting without grout. See work by William Grundke, Conrad Grundke, Charlotte Burk, Anne Timmins, Amy Spencer, Dennis Paul Batt, Jonny Johnson. On view through Friday, May 1. 704 Pier View Way, 760-435-3720. (OCEANSIDE)



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You Can't Rave All Day

It's tough for all media outlets that have to sell ads to exist, but it's even worse for XETV/Channel 6 since the local station lost its Fox affiliation last summer. Channel 6 manager Richard Doutre Jones says the loss of Fox triggered a

be used for a dance-music station. He explains that the Mexican version of the FCC would have to sign off on the conversion of 87.7 from a TV-audio channel to an FM music station because XETV is based in Tijuana. But if it does, he says he would pursue the launch of

the inside track

"significant" loss of income but says he is looking forward to when all TV stations switch to digital this year, because of all the local TV channels, only Channel 6 appears on the FM dial at 87.7.

One year ago, a New York TV station used its analog 87.7 signal to launch an electronic music station, "Pulse 87." Last week it was

announced that two TV stations in L.A. and Chicago will also start to carry their own Pulse 87 FM elec-

tronic-music station.

Jones admits he "just started looking into" the possibility that his 87.7 signal could



BISHOP LIKES LEFT END OF THE FM BAND

a new FM music station for San Diego.

"If you're going to survive in this business, you have to change," says Jones.

Joel Salkowitz, who runs Pulse 87 in New York, admits the 87.7 position at the bottom of the dial doesn't help. "87.7 is not a place you stumble on unless your car battery goes dead and your dial defaults to 87.7. But that's why it's good to have a distinct and different format there that is unique that people will seek out."

Salkowitz says Pulse 87 has survived because it doesn't play only trance and house tracks. "You can't sound like a rave all day long and have it be a success. This is not weird music. You don't have to be on drugs to listen to and enjoy Pulse 87."

Veteran DJ Jon Bishop says Pulse 87 would make it in San Diego in spite of the fact that the electronic club scene here is "horrible... There is no 18and-up scene here as far as electronica goes. It has all dried up unless you go to Tijuana, but that is a war zone down there." Bishop says he has to travel to L.A., Seattle, and Portland for his gigs. "I just played to 7000 in Denver. The rave scene is coming back. But there are no promoters here bringing it to the kids. I think if this station were around, there would be plenty of new people exposed to it who simply aren't getting that option now. Clubs and promoters here just aren't taking chances. The majority of local club nights here is Top 40, mainstream stuff."

XETV aired the locally produced Fox Rox, which showcased local music. Station manager Jones says his station is bullish on music, having just

launched a new, locally produced, music-oriented show March 7. "It's called Karaoke for Cash," says Jones. "It airs every Saturday at 11 p.m. People can use their phone to call in and sing along."

Regarding the rumored resurrection of Fox Rox, Iones says, "We are working on something right now that I don't want to give away." He declined to divulge the name, concept, or launch date. "Let's just say it's a lifestyle show."

- Ken Leighton

Crocodile Rock While

dance-punk duo Crocodiles were planning a cross-country tour to promote their upcoming debut full-length Summer of Hate, which is set to be released April 28 on Fat Possum Records, they received an unexpected offer from their label: ditch playing at dive bars and house parties midway through the tour and jump onboard as opening act for Omaha new-wave group the Faint and English electronica act Ladytron.

"We had already been booking a U.S. tour that would have kept us out till the end of April," says Crocodiles singer Brandon Welchez in an email. "They [the Faint] contacted someone at our label or something. We were happy when we found out because it meant that we would be playing to more than 20 people a night."

"We're playing all sorts of shows for the first half — basements, back yards, bars, basketball courts, bazaars, bowling alleys, beaches, burping contests, et cetera," writes singer Welchez.

But when the band meets up for their first gig on the Faint/Ladytron tour in Baltimore, a month after kicking off their own tour at South By

unorthodox places. So, it'll be fun to play some of these theaters and things, but I can't really say what I prefer until after it's all done."

Catch up with the Crocodiles at their homecoming gig at the Casbah on May 11 with the Spectrum.

– Dorian Hargrove



CROCS TAKE A BITE AT BIG TIME

Southwest in Austin, the sizes of the venues and crowds will grow exponentially.

For Welchez and Rowland, the change in venues shouldn't matter too much, they've played in front of large crowds in their previous bands, the Prayers and the Plot to Blow Up the Eiffel Tower, and their lively onstage antics shouldn't be affected either.

As to which type of show they would rather play, the Crocodiles will wait until it's over until they say for sure. "We're still a pretty new band and we've done plenty of touring, but it's all been house shows, dive bars, and more

Persian Influence "We left the country in 1979, when I was four years old," says Iranian-born violinist Bahman Sarram. "My family became exiles overnight, due to the political and social climate at the time, as revolutionaries enslaved a once-free country." Shortly after arriving in the U.S., Sarram began taking violin lessons at a private conservatory and played with various

"I moved to San Diego in the summer of 2000 after living in Philadelphia most of my life," says Sarram, who records and performs under the name

school orchestras.

(continued on page 68)





San Diego Reader March 19, 2009

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Byiolin, "I was a full-time computer consultant and programmer, and the job market was good, so I decided to move to someplace completely different [from Philadelphia] in my eyes. I knew of San Diego because we'd come for family vacations to visit my cousins and uncle when I was little.... I loved this place as a kid."

BVIOLIN'S GOT A MIDDLE EAST MUSE

Sarram fronts Bviolin and the January Avalanche Project, though his next album (set for May release) will be a solo Bviolin project. "It's mainly an instrumental journey of compositions I've written, rather than singer-songwriter-type

songs."

'The Persian violin influence...or, rather, a Middle Eastern violin influence, is always there in my music, especially in my originals, which I describe as Persian jazz fusion and folk. Whenever there are any Iranians in the crowd, they seem attracted right away to my style of violin.... I get a lot of compliments about how great it is to hear the Persian influence in a broad range of styles of my music."

Are gigs ever affected by

U.S. tension over Middle East relations? "Over the long haul of my career, I'm sure I have had some negative run-ins," says Sarram, "but those things tend not to bother me."

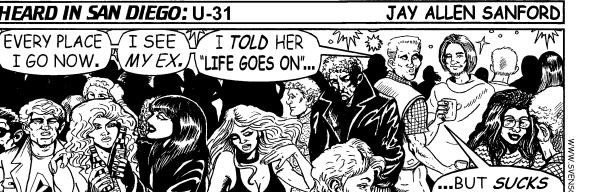
– Jay Allen Sanford

Record Release Roundup

Folding Mr. Lincoln's release party for their debut album Within My Reach happens March 21 at Rebecca's coffee-

house in South Park, and the band will play two shows at next month's Adams Avenue folk and roots fest. "Nancy [Mestyanek, vocals/percussion] and I have expanded the band to a five-piece," says bandleader Harry Mestyanek. "We'll play

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the album live, with guest singers Cathryn Beeks, Randi Driscoll, and guest guitarist Jon Lawton." The band's singing fiddler Alicia Previn is the daughter of noted symphony conductor Andre Previn.

Produced, recorded, and mixed by Jeff Berkley (of Berklev Hart) at Berklev Sound, Within My Reach will be available at iTunes, CD Baby, Amazon, Rhapsody, Napster, through Verizon, and at foldingmisterlincoln.com.

The new CD from fusion jazz guitarist Patrick Yandall, A New Day, debuts March 29, with a release party at Humphrey's. Yandall informs, "I'll have a guest keyboardist, Kevin Flournoy, an amazing player and producer who tours the world with the Pointer Sisters and Harvey Mason." The Samoan-born, Michigan-bred Yandall appears regularly at local casinos, a sometimes thankless gig. "A manager at

one place — who's not there anymore — told me to tell the band to turn down, since the people were there for the food and not to listen to us. Makes you feel really special." A New Day will be available

at Amazon, CD Baby, and at patrickyandall.com.

The Focus Group's release party for their self-titled debut CD is tonight, March 19, at the Belly Up.

CircaNow, who are recording an album with Rolling Stones producer Alan Sanderson,

appear tonight at House of Blues.

The Long and Short of It will have a release party at the Casbah tonight for their new CD and LP CAW! An Unkindness of Ravens.

The Drabs are nearly done

with a new album containing ten songs, some of which can be heard when they play March 21 at the Beauty Bar.

Bobby Fantasy's new album (recorded at Jason Hee's stu-

self-titled debut, produced by Led Zeppelin bassist John Paul Jones, on April 7.

TO WATCH IT

HAPPEN.

As I Lay Dying release a three-DVD set, This Is Who We Are, on April 14, which includes



FOLDING MR. LINCOLN'S WITHIN MY REACH

dio) is being prepared for release; he appears March 29 at O'Connells.

A.J. Croce releases Cage of Muses March 31.

Nickel Creek fiddler-gonesolo Sara Watkins releases her performances taped at the Jumping Turtle in San Marcos. – Jay Allen Sanford

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



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Thursday

SanFran's trad-jazz piano man George Duke appears at Anthology tonight. Duke may have strayed from the hard-bop path when he pioneered synth sounds for nu-jazz goof Jean-Luc Ponty in the '60s, but he touched the outer limits he joined Zappa's Mothers of Invention. After 40 years and 30 albums, his latest being last



THE FOCUS GROUP AT BELLY UP

year's well-received, funk-infused trib to Sly Stone, Dukey Treats, the man is enjoying a renaissance of sorts, in that every hit pop-hop cat you can name is sampling Mr. Duke — from Kanye to Common and Daft Punk to MF Doom. You got three shows over two nights at the Little Italy supper club to get with it, so get with it.... Belly Up books a CDrelease thing for the shoegaze-y **Focus Group**. The local quartet enlisted the help of indie vets Pall Jenkins and Rick Froberg for what samples as stumbling lo-fi pop. To their cred, the lilting lyrics and casual hooks charm. Check the Space takes at myspace.com/thefocusgroupsspace. Karate-rock duo Ninja Love and ramshackle '70s throwbacks Black Hondo set the Solana Beach stage for this locals-only load.... 'Round town: the Anna Trov Band and Saucy Monky swing into Bar Pink...Tiltwheel and Sunnyside shine on Beauty Bar...and Thin Man. Old In Out. and Death Eaters swoop down on Hogwarts, er, Casbah.

Friday

L.A.-based Grammy winners OK Go will deliver a heaping helping of geek rock - including outerwear — to House of Blues Friday night. Their third full-length is in the can and due to drop (ew) in June. The Dave Fridmann-produced collection is said to "deconstruct the quartet's Weezer-plays-Pixies sound." 'Kay. But do check their take on "Gigantic" from last year's Pixies trib Digging for

Fire. Math nerds IO Echo and Jaguar Love up first. Jag Love is ex-Blood Brothers and worth, y'know, getting to the club on time.. Eighties apers the **Cured** and **Still III** resurrect your favorite Cure and Smiths stuff at Casbah...Pine Mountain Logs burn a cache of countrified pop-rock covers at Belly Up...while **Bartender's Bible** plays the real skrunk at Bar Pink...Humanimals Grand Ole Party join sherockers Dirty Legs at the Soda Bar...hard-rocking Archons, Oaks, and Ride the Sun pound it out at Ruby Room...and our lady of trip-hop **MC Flow** hooks with **Mr. Tube** at the Whistle Stop for a night of indie-lite dub zounds.

Saturday

Local quartet Long and Short of It celebrate their release of new core-metal collection CAW! An Unkindness of Ravens at Casbah Saturday night. Press pack from Black Rabbit Rebellion records says of CAW!: "Soaring, shrieking vocals give way to thunderous bass licks and punishing guitar blasts, all held firmly together by the 'sledgehammer of South Park'" — that'd be drummer Tim Johnson, aka Big



Baby. Kill Me Tomorrow and Fing open.... British rock guitarist Dave Mason visits Anthology. After finding fame with prog-pop band Traffic, Mason went on to lay tracks for everyone from Hendrix to Michael Jackson. He's out to tout his latest, 26 Letters, 12 Notes.... Lo-fi grime guys Charles Muskett share their Hot Dreams after River City flows folk through the Ken Club.... Beauty Bar fills an eclectic bill with **Drowning Men**, the **Drabs**, Black Patterns, XIV, Stereotech, and Eclipse 79.... Napoleon Complex, the Modlins, Hot Toddies, and Beautiful View dial in some odd pop at Radio Room.



OK GO AT HOUSE OF BLUES

Sunday

Bar bill of the week has B.C. psych-rock throwbacks Black Mountain paired with Toronto's psych-folkies the **Sadies** at Casbah. Black Mountain's In the Future was one of last year's lauded discs for its acid-rock guitar gusto and hooky heaviosity. And though the Sadies stand on their own eight legs just fine, they're prolly better known for backing indie chanteuse Neko Case. Not a bad backing-band view, eh?.... Else: hard-core holdovers the **Adicts**, the **Dickies**, **Billy** Bones, and Henchman play House of Blues...while Midnight Radio, a tribute to Hedwig and the Angry Inch, joins the Attack! at Ruby Room.

Monday

Adrian Thaws, aka Tricky, is a London-based electronicat of the trip-hop persuasion. His scat-rap and rock makes Trick "a critical crossover act, bridging white and black England." For more on him, check last year's autobiographical collection Knowle West Boy. He'll trick out Belly Up Monday night.... Flying V pilot Michael Schenker delivers **MSG** to House of Blues. Last year's *In the* Midst of Beauty marked the return of original MSG vocalist Gary Barden, who after all these years shares the marguee with the former Scorpion.... And SD's little folk-rock flowers Joanie Mendenhall and Nowhere Men prettify Casbah's Anti-Monday meet-up.

Tuesday

Suicide Squeeze Seattleites These Arms Are Snakes will stop at Casbah on their way home from SXSW. The Snakes have enjoyed a year of critical love over their third, Tail Swallower and Dove, a collection of heady art-punk jams. With math-y and manic Cali kids Tera Melos, U.K. spaz-rockers **PRE**, and like-minded Los Angelinos Mae Shi (which, oh by the way, just played 16! shows over four days at SXSW, which I think bests the Black Lips' run, si?), this one's near impossible t'resist.... Resistors, ya got alt-country poster boy Rhett Miller gracing Belly Up's stage...and No Kids hooking up with the Parenthetical Girls (see Will Crain's Of Note this week for more on them) at Bar Pink.

<u>Wednesday</u>

Hump night 'round town offers 31 flavors of alt pop-n-rock to choose from, with the Bronx (ex-Dragons guit guy Kenny Horne) and Sac-town thrashers Trash Talk at Casbah...Hillstomp, McDougall, and the Show Is the Rainbow over Bar Pink...Blank Dogs, Eat Skull, Naked on Vague, Christmas Island, and Blessure Grave filling a big bill at Soda Bar....up-and-comers the Shys, Takeover UK, and Gliss at Beauty Bar...and the Fascination. Vinvl Film. and Desert Diamonds dressing up Ruby Room.

— Barnaby Monk

Thursday, March 19

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Friday, April 3 <u> Etix</u>

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Thursday, March 19

Fat Man's Misery • Hocus Cirkus (from Sweden)

Friday & Saturday, March 20 & 21 • 9 pm



Classic Rock FX5

Sunday, March 22

KMMNWLTH

Monday, March 23

Karaoke

Tuesday, March 24

KMMNWLTH

Wednesday, March 25

Reverend Stickman **Bedpost Buzzards • Fuzz Huzzi**

<u>Santee</u>

8528 Magnolia Avenue • 619-596-8350

(Corner of Prospect & Magnolia)

Thursday, March 19

Mud Wolf

Friday & Saturday, March 20 & 21 • 9 pm



Classic Rock 5 Miles High

Sunday, March 22

Reverend Stickman • VacScene • Fuzz Huzzi

Tuesday, March 24

Without Logic

Wednesday, March 25

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With Special Guests **RAIZ MUZIK** Anniversary of

3/21 the Division Bell album



Sun. 3/22

5-8 PM: Blues WEST OF MEMPHIS

Karaoke OB Style

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\$2 drinks 9 pm to clos

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Think 'N' Drink Trivia International Ladies of Ska

THE PEPPER POTS **SOCIAL GREEN** THE AMALGAMATED D1 CUE

Wed. 3/25

Rock Showcase

THE JOURNEYMEN THE AKADEMIX **SAMADHI TRIO**

UPCOMING:

3/26: DIEGO'S UMBRELLA MOONALICE

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3/28: PARTICLE with AL HOWARD

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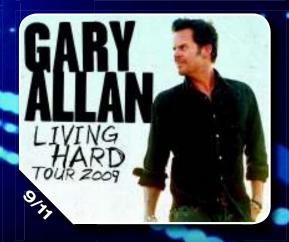
Tickets on sale March 21





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Still Floating

Guilty pleasure? "Creating little creature characters out of food."

inger-songwriter Marie Haddad was five when she started playing piano, but she drifted into other endeavors a few years later. At one point she had to sell

her piano in order to stay in college.

"I discovered a grand piano in one of the local hotels that was unattended most of the time in the

evening," she says. "So I started sneaking in to practice on it."

After playing with various local cover bands, Haddad joined the San Diego Beat Organization, which was nominated as Best New Artist at the 2002 San Diego Music Awards. When that group split, she began performing and recording solo.

"I play piano and sing sort of à la Kate Bush, one of my favorite musicians," says Haddad. "Her innovative songwriting and production ideas paired with that unmistakable voice captivated me early on."

She cites Leonard Cohen as the biggest influence on her lyrics. "My copy of Stranger Music his book of poems, writings, and lyrics — has so many pages bunny-eared and phrases underlined that it's like a lovingly worshipped textbook."

Marie Haddad appears March 28 at "IndieFest V" in North Park.

WHAT'S IN YOUR MUSIC PLAYER?

"There are some pretty swirly CDs in my player at the moment, like P.J. Harvey's White Chalk, Man-

> uok's No End to Limitations, and Blonde Redhead's 23. There's also Laurie Anderson's Strange Angels — I'm still floating after her amazing show and lecture at UCSD recently.

I've also been playing Vive La Fête's Jour de Chance, which is a lot of fun."

MUST-HAVE DVDs?

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

"My first three choices are Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind, Amélie, and David Lynch's The Straight Story. Each shows a unique and honest look at relationships, and all three very much spoke to my heart.

"Also speaking to my heart, but for completely different reasons, is The King of Kong: A Fistful of Quarters, a documentary about the super-nerdy and super-wonderful Donkey Kong championships.

'The last one would be 1980's classic Xanadu, with Olivia Newton-John — in leg warmers, playing the daughter of Zeus — who inspires an unknown painter and Gene Kelly to open a rollerskating rink together. Wow!"

www.harneysushi.com

WHAT MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION DO YOU ALWAYS RENEW?

"Mary Engelbreit's Home Companion. I'm into making arts and crafts and things and stuff."

MOST VISITED WEBSITES?

- 1. The Minisode Network. "I'm especially fond of the Fantasy Island ones."
- 2. YouTube.com "How many versions of 'Do They Know It's Christmas?' do you think are on there?" 3. Etsey.com "They have
- arts and crafty things."
- 4. Oinkernet.com "It's a live guinea pig cam!"
- 5. livefromdarylshouse.com "For Daryl Hall's internet webcast, he performs

with musical guests like Nick Lowe, Chromeo, and K.T. Tunstall — and even John Oates every once in a while."

TOP FIVE GUILTY PLEASURES?

- 1. "Staying in my PJs all day."
- 2. "Taking way too many photos."
- 3. "Creating little creature characters out of food."
- 4. "HGTV marathons."
- 5. "Onion rings."



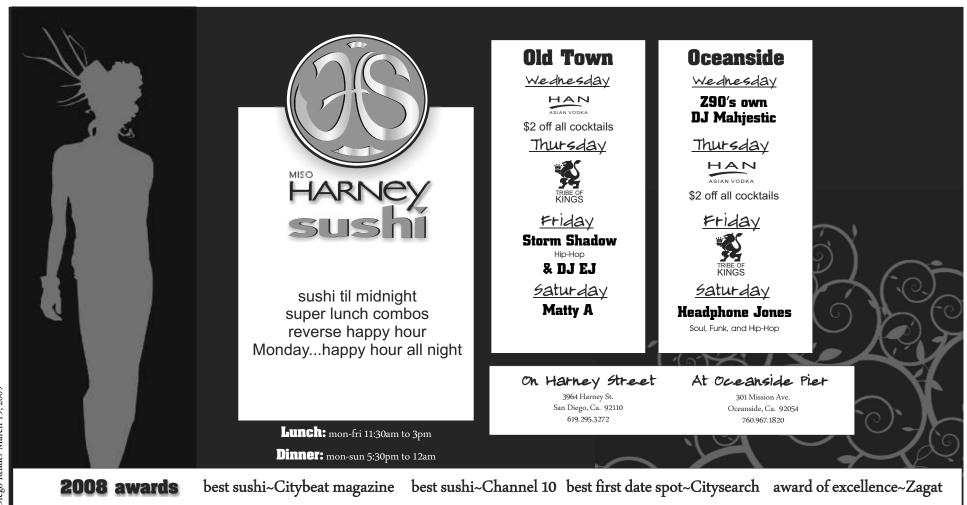
Marie Haddad

SOMETHING IMPOSSIBLE TO DO WITHOUT?

"I always need to have a piano keyboard. I went a bit crazy when I tried to live without one."

SOMETHING ABOUT YOU FEW WOULD KNOW OR GUESS?

"I have a certificate of completion from a Radio Shack TRS-80 course." ■







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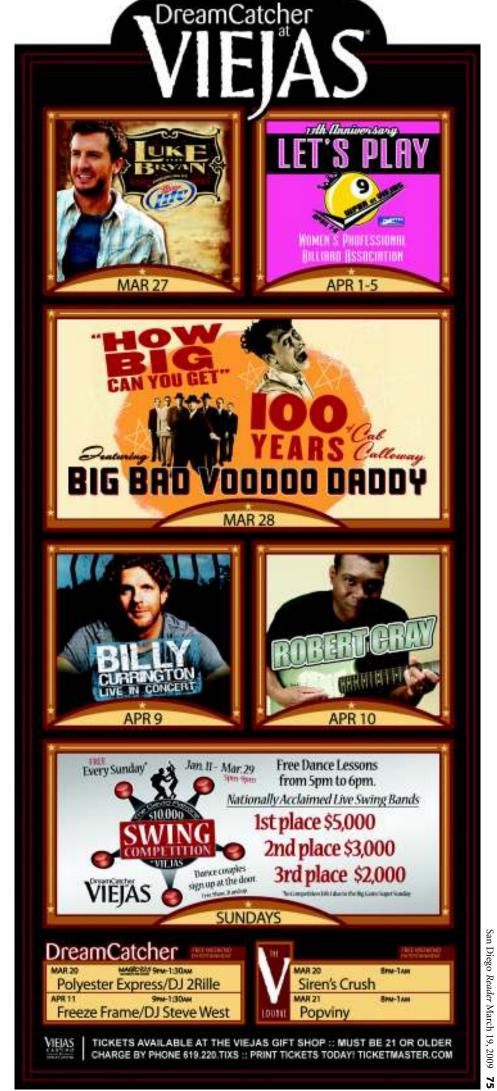
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Calendar MUSIC SCENE

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

1st Street Bar: 656 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-944-

Saturday, 9 p.m. — TrunkMonkey. Covers/pop/modern rock.

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

Friday - Defamation League. Rap.

Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300. *Thursday*, 7:30 p.m., *Friday*, 7:30 p.m. — Jane Monheit. Traditional jazz. \$20-\$38.

Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — Martinis & Sinatra. Big band/jazz standards. \$18. Saturday, 9:30 p.m. — Haute Chile. Covers/standards. \$16. Tuesday, 7 p.m. — The Anthology House Band. Jazz/R&B/soul. \$5. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. — The Rebecca Jade Quartet. Jazz/R&B.

Balboa Theatre: 868 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-570-1100.

\$2 drafts & wells, 1/2 price drinks,

50¢ Appetizer menu... with

1/2 price regular Appetizers Live music from 6pm -10pm!

beverage purchase.

Sunday, 3 p.m. — The Irish Rovers. Irish folk group. \$20-\$47.

Beauty Bar: 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-516-4746.

Monday, 8 p.m. — LDR and the Kates. With Excuses for Skipping. Rock.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.

Thursday, 7:05 a.m. — Solana Beach Baseball Bash. "Celebrate more than fifty years of Little League baseball in Solana Beach and the beginning of the 2009 Little League season." Event includes music by Atomic Groove, a silent auction, VIP recognition celebration, food, and a cash bar. \$75

Sunday, 8 p.m. — The Von Bondies. Alternative/punk/indie. Wednesday, 8 p.m. — Ashley Matte. With Beth Preston and Veronica May. Pop/rock/soul. \$8.

Birch North Park Theatre: 2891 University Avenue, North Park, 619-239-8836. *Friday*, 7:30 p.m. — Spanish Harlem Orchestra.Mariachi/

Latin/Tejano. \$40-\$45.

The Bitter End: 770 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-9300. *Thursday*, 9 p.m. — Jacqueline Grace. Pop/Latin. *Wednesday*, 9 p.m. — Donovan Nugent. With Maddox Revolution. Pop/rock/acoustic.

Boar Cross'n: 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-729-2989. *Thursday* — The Minor Keys. With Bang Bang and the Blast and Sweet Ever After. Indie.

Happy Hour 4pm-8pm

\$2-3-4 Drinks 8pm-close

Live Reggae 6pm-9pm!

Bondi Bar and Kitchen: 333 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-342-0212.

Sunday, 3:30 p.m. — Jordan Reimer. Acoustic/folk/pop.

The Brew House at Eastlake:

871 Showroom Place, Suite 102, Chula Vista, 619-656-2739. Thursdays, 8 p.m. — Paradigm. With guests. Jazz/pop/blues. Free. Ages 18 and up.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Avenue, Linda Vista, 619-275-5483. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. — the START. With the Action Design, Roxy Epoxy & the Rebound, and guests. Indie/electro/power pop. \$10. Saturday, 8 p.m. — Kyle Van Band. Acoustic/bluegrass.rockabilly. \$5.

Café La Maze: 1441 Highland Avenue, National City, 619-474-3222.

Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. — Sandy Chappel and Burnett Anderson. With various pianists. Fridays, 6:30 p.m. — The Sandy Chappel Quintet. With Sandy Chappel, Burnett Anderson, Robert Sebastian, Marley Waak, and bass player du jour. Standards/jazz/ blues.

Saturdays, 7 p.m. — Live Music. Various rotating musical groups. Standards/jazz.

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

Café Sevilla: 555 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-5979. Sunday, 8 p.m. — Orquesta Guayo. Colombian. Mondays, 9 p.m. — Rock en Español. Tuesday — Orquesta Primo. Latin/mariachi/Tejano.

Canes: 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780. Friday, 9 p.m. — De La Soul. Hiphop. \$25. Ages 21 and up. Saturday, 9 p.m. — Tainted Love. '80s tribute band. \$15.

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

Saturday, 8 p.m. — The Baytown Band. Funk/pop/rock. Free.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-

Thursday, 9:30 p.m. — Minmae. With Dreaming of Tanks and Roxy Jones. Indie/pop. \$6.

Jones. Indie/pop. 36.

Friday, 7 p.m. — Tim Barry. Plays an early show with Austin Lucas and Josh Small. Folk/rock/punk.

Saturday, 8:30 p.m. — Cursive.

With Ladyfinger and Little Brazil.

Indie. \$15. Ages 21 and up.

Sunday, 8:30 p.m. — Asobi Seksu.

Indie/electro/pop. \$10.

The Center for Amusing

Arts: 2438 Commercial Street, Logan Heights, 619-231-1950. Saturday, 8 p.m. — Sean Conway's Bassoon Balloon Band. With the Human Jukebox, the Weldermen, Dr. Techno, DJ Darth Vadar, and more guests to be announced. Alternative. \$10.

Christ United Presbyterian Church: 3025 Fir Street, South

Park.

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Sunday, 4 p.m. — "Songs of Spring." Featuring local youth talent. Gospel/jazz. Free.

Claire de Lune: 2906 University Avenue, North Park, 619-688-9845.



Saturday, 8 p.m. — The Uptown Rhythm Makers. Dixieland jazz.

Cox Arena: 5500 Canyon Crest Drive, SDSU, 619-594-6947. *Sunday*, 8 p.m. — Los Temerarios. Latin/pop. \$49-\$129.

Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre: 2050

Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-671-3600.

Friday, 8 p.m. — Rascal Flatts.

Friday, 8 p.m. — Rascal Flatts Country. \$34-\$74.

Dizzy's: 200 Harbor Drive,
Downtown, 858-270-7467.
Saturday, 8 p.m. — Jazz Piano
Legends Tribute. Tribute to Herbie
Hancock, Duke Ellington, Oscar
Peterson, Horace Silver, and McCoy
Tyner featuring performances by
Gilbert Castellanos and Mikan
Zlatkovich. Jazz. \$12-\$15.
Sunday, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. —
Dublin Down. Presents "A Trip
Around Ireland in Song." Folk. \$15-\$25.

Downtown Café: 182 East Main Street, El Cajon, 619-440-

Saturday, 7 p.m. — The Burnsville Band. With guests. Blues/rock.

Dream Street Live: 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-8131. Wednesday, 7 p.m. — La Creaky Cahts. Rock.

Epazote: 1555 Camino del Mar, Del Mar, 858-259-9966. *Thursday*, 7 p.m. — Freefall. Jazz. Free.

The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant: 544 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-232-9840

Thursdays, 8 p.m. — Eamon Carroll. Traditional Irish music. Tuesday, 4 p.m. — 13th Annual shamROCK. Featuring dancing, live music, and DJs with performances by Raggle Taggle and the Field Irish Dancers, the Fooks, the Down's Family, Sonic Impulse, the Young Dubliners, DJ Mac, DJ Marc Thrasher, DJ Este, DJ Who, and DJ Brent Bartel. Irish/Celtic/



West Coast Hall of Fame

3/21 Craig Bass & Boston Rob (Comedy)

4/3 Stephen Pearcy (Ratt)

4/4 Suga Free

4/17 Too Short

4/18 Bullet Boys, Enuff Znuff

4/24 Electric Blackout

4/25 DJ Sharam & Tommy Lee

5/1 LBC Sublime (tribute band)

5/2 Ice-T

345 B Street 619-231-4343 www.4thandbevents.com punk/rock/electronic. \$20-\$25. *Tuesdays and Wednesdays*, 8 p.m. — Eamon Carroll. Traditional Irish

Gallagher's Pub & Grill: 5046 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-5300.

Monday, 8 p.m. — Adrienne Nims and Raggle-Taggle. Jazz/Celtic.

The Handlery Hotel and Resort: 950 Hotel Circle North, Mission Valley, 619-298-0511. Wednesday, 5 p.m. — The Bigfellas. Featuring Charlie Recksieck and Christopher Dale. Rock/pop. Free.

Harrah's Rincón: 777 Harrah's Rincón Way, Valley Center, 760-751-3100.

Saturday, 8 p.m. — The Baytown Band. Funk/pop/rock. Free.

Hensley's Flying Elephant Pub and Grill: 850 Tamarack Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-434-2660. Friday — Wild Weekend. Garage/pop/punk.

Saturday, 8 p.m. — Night Doctors. Reggae.

Sunday — Fiffin Market. Irish rock. Tuesday, 8 p.m. — The Mighty Regis. Celtic/punk. Wednesday, 7 p.m. — Joe Wood & the Lonely Ones. Roadhouse blues.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2583. Thursday, 8 p.m. — Lady GaGa.

With Chester French and White Tie Affair. Pop. Friday, 8 p.m. — The Academy Is.... Plays an acoustic set on the

Voodoo Stage. Fridays, 9 p.m. — West of Memphis. On the Voodoo Stage. Blues/country/rock. Free. Friday, 8 p.m. — Rocco DeLuca and the Burden. Indie. \$12. Saturday, 6 p.m. — Cute Is What We Aim For. With guests. Pop/punk. \$16. Sunday, 8 p.m. — Shwayze. With LMFAO and Knux. Hip-hop. Monday, 7 p.m. — Skid Row. Rock. \$17-\$32. Ages 21 and up. Tuesday, 8:30 p.m. — Black Tide. With Escape the Fate. Metal. Wednesday, 8 p.m. — Blue October.

Rock. \$27-\$29.

Humphrey's Backstage

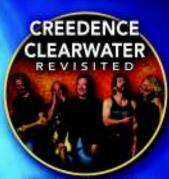
Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577. Thursday, 8 p.m. — V Child. Rock. Saturday, 9:30 p.m. — Roy Rogers. Blues

J.J. Lander's Irish Pub: 125 South Main Street, Fallbrook, 760-

Tuesday, 9 p.m. — The Clay Colton
Band Acoustic/standards/rock

Jimmy Love's: 672 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-595-0123.

The Summer's Hottest Concert Tickets are On Sale Now!



Friday, April 24th



Sunday, May 3rd



Sunday, June 7th



Saturday, June 20th



Thursday, July 9th



Saturday, Sept. 12th



Saturday, Sept. 26th



Saturday, October 3rd

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

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

Saturday, 8 p.m. — Paging Beto. With Three Bad Jacks. Rockabilly. \$12-\$20.

Mondays - Reggae Infusion Irie Time. Various reggae bands perform.

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

Saturdays, 2 p.m. — The Ghostriders, Country, Sundays, 4 p.m. — The Blues Brokers. Blues/soul/rock. Mondays, Tuesdays - Doug Allen. Front man of the Mar Dels.

Lestat's Coffee House: 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-282-0437.

Sunday, 8 p.m. — The Robin Henkel Band. Blues/funk/jazz. \$10.

The Living Room Coffeehouse - Point Loma: 1018 Rosecrans Street, Point Loma,

858-222-6852. Saturdays, 8 p.m. — Jay Dancing

Bear. Acoustic.

Manhattan Cocktail Lounge: 400 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-

422-6641. Friday, 8 p.m. - Richie and the

Empty Chest. Jazz. The Marquee: 835 25th Street, Golden Hill.

Saturday, 8 p.m. — Wendy Bailey. With Brandon Rice, Danny Walker, and more. Rock/pop.

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

28

Fridays, 4:30 p.m. — The California Rangers. Country. Free. *Saturday*, 5 p.m. — Live Wire. Covers/classic rock/dance. Free.

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

Saturday, 8 p.m. — The Lost Angel Crew. With Identical Opposites, Reaper Fam, and 33rd Infantry. Hip-hop. \$7.

Milano Coffee Company:

8685 Rio San Diego Drive, Mission Valley, 619-688-1882. Saturday, 7 p.m. — The Strange Woods. World. \$8.

Molly Malone's: 1270 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-9050. Friday, 9 p.m. — Lefthand Thread. Rock.

NTC Promenade: 2640 Historic Decatur Road, Point Loma. Thursday, 6:30 p.m. — Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind. Contemporary jazz/global music.

Nancy's Pub: 4246 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-280-5834.

Sundays, 5:30 p.m. — The Steemin Heep Blues Band. A blend of traditional blues, swing, and rock. Free. Ages 21 and up.

Nature's Express: 2949 Fifth Avenue, Banker's Hill, 619-550-

Saturday, 6 p.m. — Bruce Betz. Acoustic/alternative/country.

North Coast United Methodist Church: 1501 Kelly Street, Oceanside.

Sunday, 4 p.m. — Eddie and the Vibra Tones.



BY WILLIAM CRAIN

Zac Pennington, leader of Parenthetical Girls, is as skinny, pouty-lipped, and androgynous as a young Mick Jagger. His stage moves are so fev and effeminate that, in comparison, Morrissey looks like Johnny Cash. And his vocal mannerisms are so over the top that he makes Colin Meloy of the Decemberists sound like Lou Reed, Pennington is the kind of front man that you either love or hate but cannot ignore. That's the idea.

Parenthetical Girls were originally called Swastika Girls, so you know that Pennington likes to provoke. You also know he's familiar with the conceptual-artist approach to music typified by Brian Eno, who once released a

song called "Swastika Girls." What's more remarkable is that Pennington knows how to write beautifully baroque chamber pop music steeped in indie rock, the experimental underground, and AM radio cheese. His lyrics are spiked with allusions to Morrissev and Burt Bacharach. You simply need to hear the Parenthetical Girls' weird but essentially faithful cover of "Windmills of Your Mind." (Pennington also, apparently, has a thing for Christmas music — he's released almost as many Christmas EPs as Sufian Stevens.)

There are about 15 semiregular members of the Parenthetical Girls, including such notables as Jamie Stewart of Xiu Xiu and Owen Ashworth of Casiotone for the Painfully Alone. Onstage, Pennington is ioined only by multi-instrumentalists Matthew

Carlson, Eddy Crichton, and Rachael Jensen. But the attention is always squarely on Pen-



nington — he makes sure of that. He's a bit much, to be honest, but there's something brave about a guy who goes onstage to act in all the ways that would get him beat up in school.

PARENTHETICAL GIRLS: Bar Pink, Tuesday, March 24, 10 p.m. 619-564-7194.

O'Connells Pub and

Nightclub: 1130 Morena Boulevard, Linda Vista, 619-276-

Friday, 7 p.m. — Fat Man's Misery. Plays an early show. Garage/blues. Friday, 9 p.m. — A Scribe Amidst the Lions. With Save Amos, Drownswerve, and Synesthetic. Alternative/experimental/rock. Saturday, 9 p.m. — Behind the Wagon. With Andy Clockwise, Ragsy, and d*fRost. Country/rock/

Sunday, 8 p.m. — Bone Shakers.

With Myras Hands, Day of Anomie and the Sawyer Family. Rock/indie/

Monday, 8 p.m. — Mystery Train. Pro-invitational blues jam. Tuesday — Brain Buckit. With Dead as Dillinger. Rock/funk. Wednesday, 9 p.m. — Nerve Meter. With Parents. Indie/alternative.

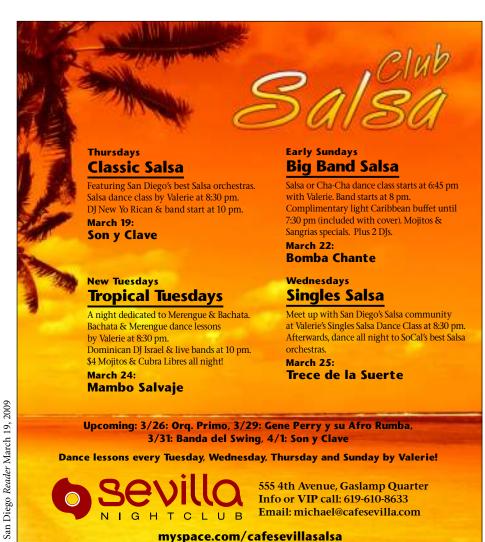
O'Sullivan's Irish Pub of Carlsbad: 640 Grand Avenue, Suite A, Carlsbad, 760-729-4072. Saturday, 8:30 p.m. — The Clay Colton Band. Acoustic/standards/ Onyx/Thin: 852 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-235-ONYX. Tuesday - Jazz Jam Session. With Gilbert Castellanos and DJ Sachamo, Free.

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

Palomar College Performance Lab (room **D-10):** 1140 West Mission Road, San Marcos.

Thursday, 12:30 p.m. — The Spectrum Trio. Jazz.

Patrick's II: 428 F Street, Downtown, 619-233-3077. Thursday, 9 p.m. - Michele Lundeen & Blues Streak. Blues/funk/rock. Friday, 9 p.m., Saturday, 2 p.m. — Missy Andersen. Blues/soul/funk. Saturday, 9 p.m. — Aunt Kizzy'z Boyz. Blues/rock/soul. Sunday, 9 p.m. — Delta Heat. Blues/swing/R&B.



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Located in Northern San Diego County From San Diego & Riverside: Take I-15 to Hwy. 76, go east 5 miles From Orange & Los Angeles: Take I-5 South to Hwy. 76, go east 23 miles Monday — The Bayou Brothers. Zvdeco/blues/R&B. Tuesday, 9 p.m. — Len Rainey. Blues/jazz/soul.

Tuesday, 4 p.m. — The Bayou Brothers. Zydeco/blues/R&B. Wednesday, 9 p.m. — Shelle Blue. Rhythm and blues.

Patrick's Irish Pub: 13314 Poway Road, Poway, 858-486-0764. Saturday, 9 p.m. - Myron and the Kyniptionz. Blues/soul/rock.

Pierview Pub/Bub's Whiskey Dive Bar: 301 Pier View Way, Oceanside, 760-757-2827. Friday, 9 p.m. — The Last Americans. Country. Free. Ages 21

Portugalia: 4839 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-7678

Thursday, 6:30 p.m. - Vanja James. With Jefferson Jay & the Soul Men, Justin Mills, Richard Romero, Patricia Mueller, Toni Pope, and Charlotte & Barbara. Acoustic/soul/pop.

Poway Library: 13137 Poway Road, Poway, 858-513-2900. Sunday, 2 p.m. — Adrienne Nims and Raggle-Taggle. With Irish dancers. Jazz/Celtic.

RT's Longboard Grill: 1466 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-270-4030.

Thursdays — Stepping Feet, A Dave Matthews Band tribute. Friday — Flock of '80s. Covers '80s hits.

Saturday, 8 p.m. — Wonka Bar. Rock.

Sundays — The Devastators. Roots/reggae/dub.

Radio Room: 3519 El Caion Boulevard, North Park, 619-284-

Monday, 9 p.m. — Fighting Chance, With Elements of Earth and DJ Sickness. Reggae/ska. \$5.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub: 626 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-7008. Saturday, 8 p.m. — Help! Beatles tribute band.

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.

Rancho Santa Fe Library: 17040 Avenida de Acacias, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-756-2512. Thursday, 3:30 p.m. — Adrienne Nims and Raggle-Taggle. Jazz/Celtic. Free.

Riley's: 2901 Nimitz Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-255-8635. Saturdays — Live Rock. Tuesdays — Live R&B and Jazz.

Rock Bottom Brewery. Downtown: 401 G Street, Downtown, 619-231-7000. Friday, 8 p.m. — Island Irie. With DJ Clobber. Reggae/soul/roots. Saturday — Common Ground With Club Crush.

The Round Table Cocktail Lounge: 1723 Euclid Avenue, City Heights, 619-264-6000. Tuesdays, 6 p.m. — Charlie Blue.

San Diego Sports Arena: 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-224-4171. Tuesday, 7 p.m. — T.I. Hip-hop.

Schroeder's at Tango Del Rey: 3567 Del Rey Street, Clairemont, 858-794-9044.

Friday — Vassya Valentino. Pop/jazz/folk.

Seaport Village: 849 West Harbor Drive, Downtown. Sunday, 1 p.m. — The Bayou Brothers. Zydeco/blues/R&B. Free.

Second Wind (Navajo): 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos, 619-465-1730. Thursday, 9 p.m. — Spotlight

Junkies. Alternative/pop/rock. \$5. Shooters Bar and Grill: 3299 Holiday Court, La Jolla.

Tuesdays, 7 p.m. — John Cain. Country/jazz/Tejano/lounge/pop.

Sixty-Seven Bar and Grill: 10109 Maine Avenue, Lakeside, 619-561-6767.

Saturday, 9 p.m. — Collage

Menage. With DJ Girth. Rock. Free.

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-226-

Thursday, 7 p.m. — Lower Definition. With I Am Ghost. Rock. Friday, 7 p.m. — The Number 12 Looks Like You, Mathcore, \$12. Saturday, 7 p.m. — Millencolin. With the Briggs, Authority Zero, and a Dull Science. Punk. \$15.

South Park Bar & Grill: 1946 Fern Street, South Park, 619-696-0096.

Thursdays, 9:30 p.m. — Open jazz Fridays, 7 p.m. — The John Kopecky Trio. Jazz.

Friday, 10 p.m. - Nick Z and

Friends. 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. Thursday, 10 p.m. — Dazed and Confused. A tribute to Led Zeppelin, Free. Fridays — Trainwreck

Swedenborg Hall: 1531 Tyler Avenue, University Heights.

Sunday, 7:30 p.m. — Acoustic Night. Featuring Chelsea Flor, Bill Hartwell, Karen Real, Larry Robinson, Gayle Skidmore, and Michael Tiernan. \$5.

Tango Restaurant & Lounge:

417 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-747-5000. Thursday, 6 p.m. — Notas Antiguas. Featuring Warren LaPlante and Ruben De Anda. Acoustic. Free.

Thornton's Irish Pub and Grill: 1221 Broadway, El Cajon,

79



619-447-5665.

Friday, 8 p.m. — The Pine Creek Posse Band. Blues/country/rock.

Tuesday — Hugh Gaskins & the G String Daddies. Blues/soul/

Tio Leo's Lounge: 5302 Napa Street, Linda Vista, 619-542-1462. Friday, 8 p.m. — Veronica May. With Get Rockin' and Scott Wilson and the Complications. Acoustic/folk/pop. Ages 21 and up.

The Turquoise, Café-Bar Europa: 873 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach, 858-488-4200. Mondays, 7 p.m. — Zapf Dingbats. Blues/soul/jazz.

Tuesdays, 7 p.m. — La Reyes. Flamenco. Free.

University Community Library: 4155 Governor Drive,

University City, 858-552-1655. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. — Celia Lawley. Join "the Fiddlegirl" for an evening of Irish music. Free.

The Upstart Crow Bookshop and Coffee House: 835 West Harbor Drive, Downtown, 619-232-4855

Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — Greg Campbell. Acoustic.

VFW Hall: 136 Chambers Road,

Saturday, 6 p.m. — PaddyBash 2009. St. Patrick's Day celebration featuring Dannicus Live, the Dateless Losers, Hugh Gaskins and the G String Daddies, and Jason and the Punknecks. Rock.

Viejas Casino DreamCatcher

Show Room: 5000 Willow Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400. Sunday, 5 p.m. — Hot Rod Lincoln. Performs at the David Patrone Swing Competition. Acoustic/roots/rockabilly.

Vinz Wine Bar & Tasting Room: 201 East Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-743-8466. Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m. — Notas Antiguas. Featuring Warren LaPlante and Ruben De Anda. Acoustic. Free.

Winstons: 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822. Thursday — Sammy Dread Roots Covenant. Roots. Saturday, 4 p.m. — The Bigfellas. Rock/pop. \$5. Mondays, 9 p.m. — The Electric Waste Band. Grateful Dead tribute.

WorldBeat Cultural Center: 2100 Park Boulevard, Balboa Park, 619-263-7911.

Saturday, 8 p.m. Revolution. Featuring Cipe's & the People and Luminaries. World. \$12.

UPCOMING SHOWS

4th&B: 345 B Street, Downtown, 619-231-4343. March 26 — Cold War Kids: CAN-CELED.

March 26 — Crystal Antlers. April 25 — The Bulletboys.

Heights, 619-303-8176. March 21 — Michelle Shocked.

710 Beach Club: 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-March 25 - Wookie Garcia. March 26 — The Downstroke. April 4 — The Pheromones AcousticMusicSanDiego: 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal

5N■TE

The Kinks did it once, that I know of - played

the first few minutes of their show in pitch

dark. This served to ramp the house up into

a loud frenzy. By the time the stage lights

clicked on it was mayhem in the auditorium,

the fabled kind you hear about but almost

never witness, where women are unsnapping

bras and throwing their undergarments at the

band. Incendiary! I assumed this was what

Tricky, the British trip-hopster, was all about

when he was performing entire shows in near

total shadow. It turns out I was wrong. When

I tell him that I thought his instincts were feral

BY DAVE GOOD

March 26 - Chad & Jeremy Saturday arch 28th



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April 3 — Hawaiian Slack-Key Masters.

April 4 — Muriel Anderson.

April 11 — Rory Block. April 16 — Ramblin' Jack Elliott.

April 24 — David Wilcox.

May 2 — Trippin' the Sixties. May 10 — Byron Berline &

Bluegrass Etc. May 16 — The Grascals.

Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300. *March 19, March 20* — George

March 21 — Dave Mason.

March 22 — Charlie Chavez v Su Afro Truko. March 24 — The Anthology House

Band March 25 — Charles McPherson.

March 26 — Trevor Davis. March 27 — The Steely Damned.

March 28 — The Anthology House Band.

March 28 — Wild Child. March 29 — Pasquale Esposito. March 31, April 1 — Branford Marsalis.

April 2 — Ryan Shaw. April 3, April 4 — Steve Tyrell.

the new Tricky stage is a brighter place. "Not pop-star shiny," he says on the phone from Florida, "but not as dark as before. My performance has changed quite a bit. I'm less shy now.'

Tricky's early work in Massive Attack still stands as my favorite eon from his discography, but it was his debut solo Maxinquaye that made him famous. There have been seven more CDs since, each of a flavor that tends to make some listeners uncomfortable along the lines of, say, Tom Waits's Bone Machine. Tricky, like Waits, has a voice that sounds as if he has smoked his esophagus.

The current tour? "It's got quite a lot of energy. A bit punky. Not like punk rock, but punky. Like, attitude," He keeps the set list in his head.

TRICKY

formance, he says, is "harder on the body, but easier on the spirit." It's a new Tricky: "I'm actually hanging out, meeting people after gigs.

TRICKY: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, March 23, 9 p.m. 619-299-2583. \$23; \$25 day of

April 28 — Mariza

Park, 619-564-7194.

March 25 — Hillstomp

de Nati Cano.

481-8140.

Balboa Theatre: 868 Fourth

Avenue, Downtown, 619-570-1100.

May 31 — Mariachi los Camperos

Bar Pink: 3829 30th Street, North

March 28 — The Western States

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South

March 22 — Thirsty for Change

March 21 — Stepping Feet.

Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-

and brilliant - with all the crouching and hid-"I call the songs out. I read the audience during in the dark during concerts — he says ing a show. I conduct, so the songs aren't that it was from stage fright. He then adds that like they are on the record." The current pershow. 858-481-8140.

> April 7 — The Anthology House Band. April 8 - Kristin Korb.

April 10, April 11 — Leon Redbone. April 14 — The Anthology House Band

April 15 - NovaMenco.

April 16 — Brian Auger.

April 18 — Steve Poltz.

April 22 — Charles McPherson. April 23 — Earl Thomas & the

Blues Ambassadors.

April 24, April 25 — Michael

Franks. April 28 — Tierney Sutton.

April 29 — Ian McLagan.

May 1 — Vienna Teng.

May 5, May 6 — Arturo Sandoval.

May 9 — Carrie Rodriguez.

May 15 — Diane Schuur.

May 20 — Charles McPherson. May 28 — Graham Parker.

June 20 - Hiromi

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library: 1008 Wall Street, La Jolla, 858-454-5872

March 23 — Virtual Strangers May 4 — The Bishop's School Jazz Ensemble.

Benefit Jam. April 2 — Red Handed. April 4 — John Brown's Body. April 9 — The Dark Star Orchestra. May 15 — Mogwai.

The Bitter End: 770 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-9300. March 19 - The Riders. April 23 — Lessons from Zeke.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Avenue, Linda Vista, 619-275-5483. March 19 - Yesterday & Today.

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Music & Event Calendar of March



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Thursday, 19th: Irish Night w/Skelpin

Friday, 20th: Cowboy Jack

Saturday, 21st: Reggae w/MG3

Sunday, 22nd: Old Timey Session

Monday, 23rd: The Tail Draggers

Tuesday, 24th: Nathan James

Wednesday, 25th: Frank Turner &

Steve Soto, Look Mexico

Thursday, 26th: Irish Night w/Skelpin

Friday, 27th: Benefit

Saturday, 28th: Joe Wood

Sunday, 29th: Old Timey Session

Monday, 30th: The Tail Draggers

Tuesday, 31st: Deblois



"North County's True Music House

THIS WEEK

THURSDAY 3•19

THE CHANGING (Featuring Kalen of Korn)

GRAVEYARD BBQ (As featured on Guitar Hero II)

DIVEBOMBER • FROM SWORD TO SUNRISE A SUDDEN END

SATURDAY 3•21

DEATHRIDERS (Featuring Neil Turbin, formerly of Anthrax)

NIHILIST • RATTLEHEAD LIVID VIRUS

SUNDAY 3.22

Supajen Productions Presents A NIGHT OF

ELECTRONICA!!

FRIDAY 3•20

Long Live Logos CD release party **LONG LIVE LOGOS**

and special guests

WEDNESDAY 3•25

DESTRUCTION • KRISIUN MANTIC RITUAL ASSAULT ARMY OF DARKNESS

FRIDAY 3•27 FORBIDDEN · CAGE

BOMB AND SCARY

UPCOMING SHOWS (See our website for more info):

THURSDAY 3•26

DEVERB • 23 RAINY DAYS INSPIRED FLIGHT MR. MUSTARD

BATTLEFRONT • CASKETS ON PARADE

SATURDAY 3•28 (SUNDAY 3•29) **ETCHED IN RED ONE HOT MINUTE CITIZEN RISING LONG LIVE LOGOS THIEVES & LIARS THE HOWLS** A SHATTERED HOPE SEVERED ROOTS **THE COLOR OF GLASS ALMOST IS NOTHING**

WEDNESDAY 4•1

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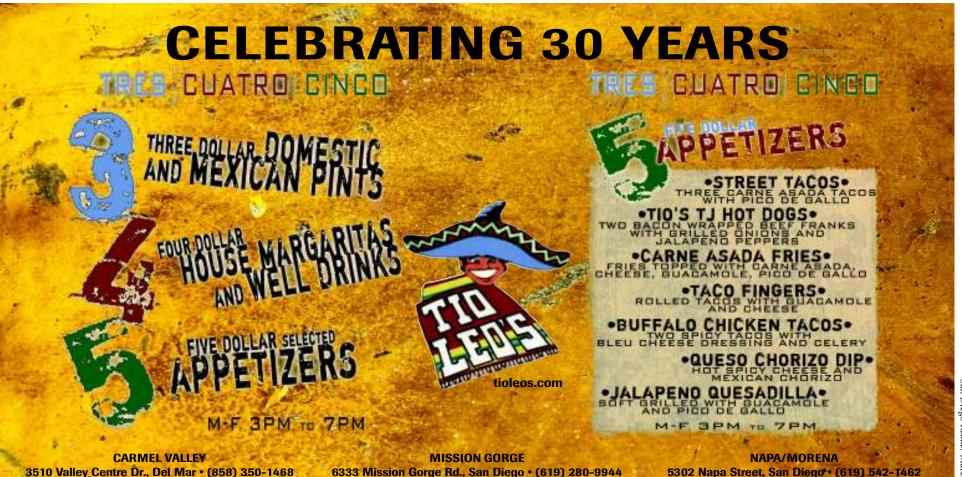
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WHO LOVES YOU SAN DIEGO

San Diego Reader March 19, 2009

82

Café Sevilla: 555 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-5979. March 22 — BombaChante.

March 22 - Son y Clave. March 24 - Mambo Salvaje and

Trece de la Suerte. March 26 — Orquesta Primo.

March 29 — Gene Perry y Afro Rumba

March 31 — Banda del Swing.

Café on the Park at Courtyard Marriott: 11611 Bernardo Plaza Court, Rancho Bernardo, 858-613-2000. March 20 — Friday Night Jazz.

The Calypso Café: 576 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-

March 25 — The Will Faeber Trio.

Candelas on the Bay: 1201 First Street, Suite 115, Coronado, 619-435-4900. March 19 — Tokeli.

Canes: 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780. March 26 - A Scribe Amidst the Lions.

March 27 – Stranger.

March 28 — Candlebox.

March 29 - Biohazard March 30 — Less Than Jake.

April 2 — The Dirty Heads.

April 11 — Dead Man's Party. April 24 — Diplo.

April 25 — Cash'd Out.

Carlsbad City Library: 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad

April 19 - Kendra Shank.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-4355.

March 25 — The Bronx. April 3 — Anya Marina.

April 10 - Blind Pilot. April 16 — The Black Lips

Copley Symphony Hall: 750 B Street, Downtown, 619-235-0804. March 20, March 21 - Nikki

Yanofsky.

April 7 — Leonard Cohen.

Cosmos Coffee Café: 8278 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa. April 4 — Cowboy Jack.

The Coyote Bar & Grill: 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, 760-729-4695 March 29 — The Chris Klich Jazz Ouintet.

Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre: 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista,

619-671-3600. March 22 — MX Live Fest.

May 16 — Nine Inch Nails. May 22 — No Doubt.

June 20 — Vicente Fernandez.

July 10 — Rise Against.

July 28 — The Fray.

August 14 — Depeche Mode. September 5 — Nickelback.

Dizzy's: 200 Harbor Drive, Downtown, 858-270-7467. March 20 — The Howell/Tordella Project.

March 25 — The Latin Connection Jazz Quintet.

March 26 — Dan Reagan. April 2 — The Jazz Ensemble.

April 11 — The Gilbert Castellanos

New Latin Jazz Quartet. April 18 — Kendra Shank.

April 24 — Paul Seaforth. May 31 — Joni Mitchell Tribute.

Dos Picos County Park:

17953 Dos Picos Park Road, Ramona March 28 — Sara Petite.

Dream Street Live: 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-

March 27 — Dead as Dillinger.

Dublin Square: 554 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-5818. March 20 — TrunkMonkey. March 25 — The Clay Colton

as i hear it

Artist: Endoxi

Song: "I'm Bipolar" (from the CD New Blood, Old Soul)

Heard By: Taylor Nelson, Chula Vista



Basically, the high point to me was the fact that they used real instruments — real drums, real bass real horns — I liked that part of it. It's nice to hear because so often now music is

recorded with synthesized horns or a drum machine. I thought the composition was pretty good. The vocals and lyrics were okay. He kind of dragged out the emotional part of it too much for me. I heard a little bit of Bradley Nowell [of Sublime] in the vocals. That song wasn't really reggae, but it kind of had that poppy, college-party sound. I could see white, college-aged males being into it — frat guys. I picture them drinking beer to that song.

SAN DIEGO SONGS TAKE THE STREET TEST

Artist: Somato Sensory

Song: "Gardens of Guilt" (from the CD Life on Autopilot)

Heard By: Hannah Perlmutter, Point Loma

It was okay. It reminded

Disco or...punk. It was

really my kind of music.

I listen to a lot of every-

thing — jazz, under-

ground rap — but not

"emo-ish." It wasn't

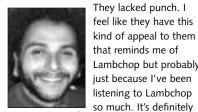
me of Panic at the



stuff like that. I caught something about "heaven" in the lyrics. There was nothing that I was surprised to hear in the song nothing unique, really. I wouldn't call it catchy, but I could see it being played on the radio. The overall mood of the song was kind of dark. I picture a lame college party when I hear that song — people smashing beers. I would give that song a four out of ten.

Artist: Bombay Status

Song: "Clutter" (from the CD Color Gun) Heard By: Jake Anzarouth, Golden Hill



that reminds me of Lambchop but probably just because I've been listening to Lambchop

so much. It's definitely not the kind of "nou-

feel like they have this

veau-country" that Lambchop is bringing to the table. It's kind of just predominant piano and the guy's voice. It kind of sounds like the Strokes but unplugged and not on a lot of coke. It's really happy and feel-good — you get that vibe that they're really "clean." It's a song about burgeoning love...and she's probably hesitant because he's a little desperate and plays the piano. That's just creepy.

TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD HEARD, PLEASE MAIL IT TO:

Music Editor, As I Hear It, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803

Encinitas Library: 540 Cornish Drive, Encinitas

April 5 - UCSD Music Live.

Epicentre: 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-271-

March 30 - Sing It Loud.

First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego: 4190 Front Street, Hillcrest, 619-298March 19 - Holly Near.

Harrah's Rincón: 777 Harrah's Rincón Way, Valley Center, 760-751-3100. April 18 - Federal Funk

Hensley's Flying Elephant

Pub and Grill: 850 Tamarack Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-434-2660. March 19 - Skelpin.

March 20 — Cowboy Jack. March 21 — Reggae with MG3. March 22 — Old Timev Session.

March 23 — The Blokes. March 24 — Nathan James

March 25 - Frank Turner & Steve Soto.

March 25 — Joe Wood & the

Lonely Ones.

March 26 — Skelpin.

March 28 — The Blokes.

March 29 — Old Timey Session. March 30 — The Blokes.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2583. March 19 — San Diego Rocks!

March 20 — OK Go.

March 21 — KSM.

March 21 — Pitbull.

March 22 — The Adicts and the

Jim Morrison An amazing re-creation of a live Doors concert Saturday, March 28, 8 pm early show, no opening acts anthology 1337 India St. • Downtown SD 619-595-0300 website - shows, tickets & more www.wildchild.mu









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- 4/3 :: PLAIN WHITE T'S
- 4/4 :: IOE ROGAN 4/5 :: THE 2009 SAINTS & SINNERS TOUR FEAT. HOLLYWOOD UNDEAD SENSES FAIL
- 4/6 :: RACHAEL YAMAGATA 4/8 :: YONDER MOUNTAIN STRING BAND
- 4/9 :: THE DISCO BISCUITS 4/10 :: DON FELDER AN EVENING AT HOTEL CALIFORNIA
- 4/11 :: LED ZEPNGAIN
- 4/12 :: COLD
- 4/14 :: ATERCIOPELADOS
- 4/17 :: THE DEREK TRUCKS BAND III
- 4/18 :: INDIA ARIE 4/19 :: KOTTONMOUTH

4/23 :: QUEENSRYOIE

5/14 = DOVES 5/15 = RAMON AYALA 5/16 :: KEVIN DEVINE

5/1 :: KREATOR

5/9 :: IRATION

VOODOO STAGE 5/17 = THE UP HERE TOUR: SOULIVE FEAT. THE SHADY HORNS W/ NIGEL HALL

4/25 = PANTEON ROCOCO

4/26 = XIMENA SARINANA

5/5 = SAMMY HAGAR

5/10 :: DREDG W/ TORCHE

4/30 :: EEK-A-MOUSE

- 5/18 :: TECH NONE
- 5/20 :: FISCHERSPOONER
- 5/22 :: COWBOY MOUTH
- 5/22 :: MANCHESTER ORCH. ON VOODOO STAGE
- 5/28 :: LADY SOVEREIGN
- 5/31 :: BLACKEMED FEST. FEAT. MAYHEM W/ MARDUK 6/12 :: BILLY RAY CYRUS

7/22 :: RICHARD CHEESE THE MACHINE

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July 10 :: Rise Against with Rancid / On the Festival Grounds of Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre

cricket

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March 23 — The Michael Schenker Group. *March 27* — Brett Dennen. March 28 — Which One's Pink? March 29 - 30H!3. April 1 — Lily Allen. April 3 — Plain White T's. April 5 — Senses Fail. April 6 — Rachael Yamagata. April 8 — The Yonder Mountain String Band. April 9 — The Disco Biscuits April 10 — Don Felder. April 11 — Led Zepagain. April 12 — Cold. April 14 — Aterciopelados. April 17 — The Derek Trucks April 18 — India.Arie. April 19 — The Kottonmouth Kings. April 23 — Queensrÿche. April 25 — Panteón Rococó. April 26 — Ximena Sarinana. April 30 — Eek-A-Mouse. May 1 — Kreator. May 5 — Sammy Hagar. May 9 — Iration. May 15 — Ramón Ayala. May 17 — Soulive. May 18 — Tech N9ne. May 20 — Fischerspooner. May 22 — The Manchester Orchestra. May 22 — Cowboy Mouth. May 28 — Lady Sovereign. May 31 — Mayhem. June 12 — Billy Ray Cyrus. July 22 — Richard Cheese & Lounge Against the Machine. **Howard Brubeck Theatre at**

May 21 — Palomar Concert Band and Palomar Brass Ensemble.

Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577. March 28 — Chris Duarte April 6 - Spring Harmonica Festival.

Humphrey's by the Bay: 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577. August 13 — Jackson Browne.

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

March 27 — Forbidden.

The Kava Lounge: 2812 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-543-0933. March 22 — Drive By Jones.

The Kensington Club: 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-284-2848. March 19 — Heavy Glow.

La Jolla Library: 7555 Draper Avenue, La Jolla, 858-552-1657. March 25 — Masayo and Robert.

Last Call: 4977 El Caion Boulevard, City Heights, 619-287-April 3 — The Bigfellas.

Lestat's Coffee House: 3343

Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-282-0437. March 25 — The Buddy Wuddy

Blues Show. March 29 — William

Fitzsimmons April 16 — The Applebrown Jazz

Ensemble.

April 22 — Chris Robley & the Fear of Heights.

Lyceum Theatre: 79 Horton Plaza, Downtown, 619-858-0322. *March 30* — Virtual Strangers. May 11 — Ian Tordella.

The Marquee: 835 25th Street, Golden Hill. March 21 — Nathan Welden. March 27 — Kenny Eng.

Mission Bay Park: Vacation Isle, off Ingraham Street, Pacific Beach, 858-581-7602. May 2 — Matisyahu.

April 4 — Jordan Reimer.

Molly Malone's: 1270 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-9050. March 20 — Johnny Favorite. March 27 — Flashback. March 28 - Metal Brigade.

Neurosciences Institute:

10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive, La Iolla.

April 18 — Fly.

May 13 — Jane Bunnett and Spirits of Havana. May 27 — Karrin Allyson.

North Park: University Avenue (between 30th and 32nd Streets), North Park.

March 28 — San Diego IndieFest. O'Connells Pub and

Nightclub: 1130 Morena Boulevard, Linda Vista, 619-276-5637 March 20 — Emergenza Music

Festival.

March 21 — Arroyo.

March 22 — The Unruly Bangs. March 23 — Mystery Train.

March 25 — Nex 2 Nothin.

March 27, March 28 — Emergenza Music Festival.

March 29 — Bobby Fantasy.

Oceanside Library: 330 North Coast Highway, Oceanside.



Thursday, March 19 • 8 pm • Indie/R&B

Scott Carter & New Breed

Friday, March 20 • 9 pm • Motown & Dance

Detroit Underground



Saturday, March 21 • 9 pm • Latin Rock

Viva Santana



Will Donato



Monday, March 23 • 7 pm

A 5th of Blues

Tuesday, March 24 • 7 pm

Bayou Brothers

Wednesday, March 25 • 8 pm

Road Dogs

Upcoming Shows

Saturday, March 28

Chris Duarte Wednesday, April 1

John Nemeth CD Release

Wednesday, April 15

Curtis Salgado

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THURS. MAR. 19

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May 18 — Palomar Jazz Vocal

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Happy Hour w/Alan \$5 Dom. Pitchers 4-9 pm

SAT. MAR. 21

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October Burning One In The Chamber Kompany Of Kings

Happy Hour w/Chandra \$4 Long Islands 4-9 pm

TUE. MAR. 24

Happy Hour with Big Daddy

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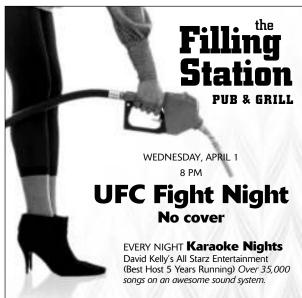
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Open Air Theatre: 5500 Campanile Drive, SDSU, 619-594-

April 29 - Celtic Woman: Isle of Hope.

Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-**10):** 1140 West Mission Road,

San Marcos. April 23 - Janet Hammer and

Nathan Fry. May 7 — The Spectrum Jazz

Singers. May 7 — Palomar Women's Chorus.

Palomar Starlight Theatre: 11154 Highway 76, Fallbrook,

877-946-7252. September 13 — The Gypsy Kings.

The Pannikin - Del Mar: 2670 Via de la Valle, Del Mar, 858-481-8007.

March 20 — The Latin Connection Jazz Quintet.

Patrick's II: 428 F Street. Downtown, 619-233-3077. March 19 — Bill Magee Blues

March 20 — The Buick Wilson Band.

March 21 — Dennis Jones.

March 22 — Delta Heat. March 23 — The Burnsville Band.

March 24, March 25 — Ronnie Lane & the Twisters.

March 26 — Blue Four. March 27 — 145th Street Deluxe

Blues Band.

March 28 - Shari Puorto and the Rhythm Addicts.

March 29 — The Burnsville Band.

March 30 — Shelle Blue.

Pierview Pub/Bub's Whiskey Dive Bar: 301 Pier

View Way, Oceanside, 760-757-

March 21 — The Drop.

Poway Center for the Performing Arts: 15498

Espola Road, Poway, 858-748-

April 11 - Vybration.

Price Center at UCSD: 9500 Gilman Drive, UCSD, 858-534-6467.

April 15 — Seun Kuti and Egypt

Qualcomm Hall: 5775 Morehouse Drive, Mira Mesa, 858-259-5508.

May 2 — The Fab Four.

RT's Longboard Grill: 1466 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-270-4030.

March 20 — The Pheromones March 20 — Freeze Frame.

Radio Room: 3519 El Caion Boulevard, North Park, 619-284-

April 5 — The Slow Poisoner. April 6 — Jerkagram.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub: 626 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-7008.

March 27 - Danielle Tucker and the City Limits Band. March 28 — David Maldonado.

Rimac Arena: 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla. April 29 — Death Cab for Cutie. May 20 — Flight of the Conchords.

Rock Bottom Brewery, Downtown: 401 G Street, Downtown, 619-231-7000.

March 20 - 80z All Stars. March 21 — Superfly.

March 27 — Island Irie. March 28 — Split Finger.

The Royal Dive: 2949 San Luis Rey Road, Oceanside, 760-722-1911.

March 21 — Pushin Rope.

Ruth French Chapman Performing Arts Center at Eastlake High School: 1120 Eastlake Parkway, Chula Vista, 619-397-3800.

San Diego Sports Arena:

April 4 — Vybration.

3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-224-4171. April 17 — Avenged Sevenfold. May 24 — Taylor Swift. May 31 — Fleetwood Mac. August 29 — Ricardo Arjona.

Schroeder's at Tango Del

Rev: 3567 Del Rev Street. Clairemont, 858-794-9044. March 21 — The Needemann Brothers.

Seaport Village: 849 West Harbor Drive, Downtown. March 22 — Midnight Heat.

March 29 — The Cat-illacs.

Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library: 9005 Aero Drive, Kearny Mesa, 858-573-1396.

March 22 — Tony Lasley.

Sherwood Auditorium at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego: 700 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-3541. March 28 — Hapa.

Sixty-Seven Bar and Grill: 10109 Maine Avenue, Lakeside, 619-561-6767.







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THURSDAY, MARCH 26

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SUNDAY, MARCH 29



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DEAD MAN'S PARTY (Oingo Boingo Tribute)

COVER ME BADD'S BLASPHEMOUS GUITARS

SATURDAY, APRIL 18



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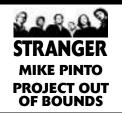


MONDAY, MARCH 23



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FRIDAY, MARCH 27



MONDAY, MARCH 30



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March 21 — Modern Day Moonshine.

Soda Bar: 3615 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights, 619-255-7224

March 20 — The Dirty Legs.

March 24 — The Ascetic Junkies.

March 26 — Shake and Pop Night.

April 24 — Mutantspaceboy.

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-226-

Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-226-7662.

March 20 — Knights of the Abyss.

March 20 — Knights of the Abys. March 21 — Full Blown Chaos and See You Next Tuesday.

March 27 — Alesana.

March 28 — Sonny.

April 2 — Gavin DeGraw. April 3 — Parkway Drive.

April 4 — Emmure and Winds of Plague.

April 6 — A Skylit Drive. April 24 — The Devil Wears Prada.

April 25 — Protest the Hero. May 22 — Jack's Mannequin. Spreckels Theatre: 121 Broadway, Downtown, 619-235-9500.

March 20 — Joe Bonamassa. April 18 — John Prine.

Sushi Performance & Visual

Art: 390 11th Avenue, Downtown, 619-235-8466. April 14 — Lisle Ellis and Pamela 7.

May 12 — Barnyard Drama.

Tiki House: 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-9734.

March 21 — The Nards.

Tio Leo's Lounge: 5302 Napa Street, Linda Vista, 619-542-1462. March 20 — The Rhythm Jacks. March 27 — The Road Dogs.

U-31: 3112 University Avenue, North Park, 619-584-4188. *March 20* — The Library.

The Upstart Crow Bookshop and Coffee House: 835 West Harbor Drive, Downtown, 619-232-4855. March 21 — Off Campus. March 28 — Nadja Nara.

Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park: 5005 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400. April 19 — Foreigner. May 2 — The Lowrider Band.

May 14 — Gretchen Wilson.

Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room:5000 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-

445-5400.

March 22 — Billy Watson and the International Silver String

Submarine Band.

March 27 — Luke Bryan.

March 28 — Big Bad Voodoo

Daddy.

April 9 — Billy Currington. April 10 — Robert Cray. April 17 — Siren's Crush.

Winstons: 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822. *May 24* — The Bigfellas.

Y1 Studios: 1150 7th Avenue, Downtown. *April 10* — Ari Hest.

DJ

HOW TO SUBMIT A DJ LISTING: Call 619-235-3000 x405, night or day by 5 pm Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA, 92186. You may also submit information online, get directions, maps, event alerts, RSS feeds, club coupons, and more at SanDiegoReader.com. **Air Conditioned Lounge:** *Fridays*: DJ Junior. Disco, funk, and '80s music. *Saturdays*: Juicy.

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

Bacchus House: *Saturday*, 9 p.m.: Club '80s. With DJs Bryan Pollard, Sickboy, Stem, and more. \$3-\$5. 3054 University Avenue, North Park. 619-299-2032.

Bar Dynamite: *Thursdays*, 9 p.m.: DJs SG, Dubz, Teknikscian. Hip-hop, old skool, and mashups. \$5. *Wednesdays*, 9 p.m.: Deep House Nite. DJs Duane, Lil Ryan, and Johnny D spin house music. 1808 West Washington Street, Mission Hills. 619-295-8743.

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.

The Brew House at Eastlake: *Saturdays*: Brew 30 DJ. Dance. 871 Showroom Place, Suite 102, Chula Vista. 619-656-2739.

Café Sevilla: *Thursdays*, 10 p.m.: DJ New Yo Rican. Salsa.

Fridays, 9:30 p.m.: Blazin' Fridays. Hip-hop and reggaeton with Blazin' 98.9. *Tuesdays*, 10 p.m.: DJ Israel. Bachata. 555 Fourth Avenue, Downtown. 619-233-5979

Camel's Breath Inn: Fridays and Saturdays: Live DJ. Ages 21 and up. 1033 Friars Road, Mission Valley. 619-281-1722.

Candelas: *Thursdays*: DJ ALA. Deep soulful house music. 416 Third Avenue, Downtown. 619-702-4455.

The Casbah: *Tuesday*, 8:30 p.m.: Simian Mobile Disco. With guests. Electro. \$20. 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy. 619-232-4355

College Rocks Bar & Grill:

Thursdays, 9 p.m.: Sexy Sleepwear Party. With DJ Kool T. Ages 18 and up. Fridays, 9 p.m.: Funky Fresh Fridays. Featuring guest DJs. Hip-hop/mash-ups. Ages 18 and up. Saturdays, 9 p.m.: Club Hollywood Ray. Featuring guest DJs. Ages 18 and up. 6195 University Avenue, Suite A, College Area. 619-544-0807.

Confidential: Fridays, 10 p.m.: DJ Henry Diaz. With Tone Capone and Omar. Electronic/lounge. 901 Fourth Avenue, Downtown. 619-696-8888.

The Coyote Bar & Grill:

Thursdays, 10:30 p.m.: DJ Earl Henry. Fridays, 10:30 p.m., Saturdays, 10:30 p.m.: DJ Steve Hasty. 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695.

Deco's Restaurant & Nightclub: Thursdays: Krush.
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Kamp, Jack Kennedy, and more.
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Ages 18 and up. 731 Fifth Avenue,
Downtown. 619-696-3326.

El Cajon Grand: *Fridays*, 8:30 p.m.: DJ Neko. Spins classic rock and other hits. *Saturdays*, 8:30 p.m.: DJ Chuck. Spins classic rock and other hits. 351 West Main Street, El Cajon. 619-444-0949.

The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant: Tuesday, 4 p.m.: 13th Annual shamROCK. Featuring dancing, live music, and DJs with performances by Raggle Taggle and the Field Irish Dancers, the Fooks, the Down's Family, Sonic Impulse, the Young Dubliners, DJ Mac, DJ Marc Thrasher, DJ Este, DJ Who, and DJ Brent Bartel. Irish/Celtic/punk/rock/electronic. \$20-\$25.

544 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-232-9840.

The Filling Station: Fridays and Saturdays, 9 p.m.: DJ Dance Party. 9522 Miramar Road, Mira Mesa. 858-578-0757.

The Flame: Saturday: Club Sabbat. Gothic and industrial every second and fifth Saturday of the month. Resident DJs Robin Roth, Atom, and Diskdroid spin along with special guests. 3780 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest. 619-295-4163.

Jack's La Jolla - Ocean

Room: *Thursdays and Saturdays*, 10 p.m.: Wall Street Bar. DJs and dancing. 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-456-8111.

Live Wire: Saturday, 9 p.m.: SD Zoo. Hip-hop and dance with DJs Gabe, Hippoh, and guests. Second Saturday of the month. 2103 El Cajon Boulevard, Normal Heights.

On Broadway: Saturday, 11:45 p.m.: Steve Aoki. Spins electro, indie, and pop. 615 Broadway Avenue, Downtown. 619-231-0011.





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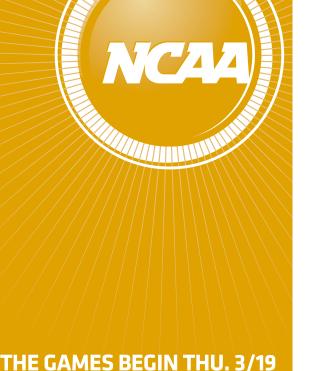
Thursday, March 19 **DJ - Hip-Hop/Funk**Happy Hour (mid. to close)

Friday, March 20 **Project Out of Bounds**

Saturation March 04

Saturday, March 21

Shrewd Lucy







Onyx/Thin: Saturday: Colette and DI Heather, 852 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-235-ONYX.

Pierview Pub/Bub's Whiskey Dive Bar: Mondays, 6:30 p.m.: Metal Mondays. Metal all night long. Tuesday, 11 a.m.: Green Beer, Green Clothes, Green Fun! 301 Pier View Way, Oceanside. 760-757-2827.

RT's Longboard Grill:

Wednesdays: DJ Famous Dave. Mixes music videos. 1466 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-270-

Riley's: Thursdays: '80s Night. Fridays: Hip-Hop Night. Mondays: College Night. With guest deejay. 2901 Nimitz Boulevard, Point Loma. 619-255-8635.

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p.m.: DJ K.A.'. Spins hip-hop and reggaeton, \$5, 4076 Bonita Road, Bonita. 619-470-8000.

Sixty-Seven Bar and Grill:

Thursdays: Tattoo Thursdays. With DJ Viktor and DJ KB. Fridays: DJ Tony Sleeze. Spins Top 40 and hip-hop hits. Saturdays: DJ Girth. Spins hip-hop and rock hits. Sundays: Soul Glo Sundays With DI Girth and friends. Wednesdays: Beer Pong. With deejays. 10109 Maine Avenue, Lakeside. 619-561-6767.

Spin Nightclub: Friday: Sander Kleinberg. 2028 Hancock Street, Mission Hills. 619-294-9590.

Static Lounge: *Friday*, 9 p.m.: Garden of Eve Party. Featuring gogo dancers. Hip-hop/pop. \$15-\$20. Ages 18 and up. 634 Broadway, Downtown. 619-544-

U-31: Thursdays: Mark Marcelo and Big Willie Styles. With Richy the Kid. '80s/'90s/hip-hop/booty bass. 3112 University Avenue, North Park. 619-584-4188.









.IWRESTLEDABEARONCE

Crasher

NEITHER HAD A MONKEY

by Josh Board

n a Saturday night a few weeks ago, I went to a Saturday Night Live theme party at the Tivoli Bar in the East Village. I went as one of the gold-chain-and-polyester-wearing Czech brothers played by Steve Martin and Dan Aykroyd.

My girlfriend decided to go the easy route, and we picked up a Chicago Bears T-shirt, Cubs hat, big sunglasses, and a fake mustache. She was a character from the "da Bears" skits. She borrowed a Chicago-themed beer stein from my stepdad, which completed the outfit.

We grabbed a few cigars in the Gaslamp and headed to the

Fred Saxon, the former KUSI anchor, was interviewing people on a red carpet as they walked in. My girlfriend whispered, "I don't have the accent down, and all I know that they said was 'da Bears!" I laughed and said, "Just keep repeating that. Keep the cigar in your mouth to help with the accent."

Saxon was interviewing a woman dressed as some unrecognizable character. She was being a bit risqué, and when she stretched out and kicked at the air, I came up behind her and said





Left: Laura (middle); Right: Goat Boy in the arms of Will Ferrell cheerleader character

in my best Czech accent, "Are you one of those American foxes that I can take home and have wild sex with?"

She immediately started gyrating against my leg as Saxon tried asking us questions. At one point I heard a cameraman say something to my girlfriend, who held up her stein and said, "Da Bears!"

"Keep the cigar in your mouth to help with the accent."

When we walked in, I was immediately impressed and disappointed at the same moment: impressed that 100 percent of the

attendees were in costume but disappointed I lost a bet. My girlfriend said someone would be dressed as Dieter, the German TV host. I said nobody would be, but there were two guys with the round glasses and tight black leotards. Neither had a monkey, though.

She was gloating about being right, and I pointed out that nobody else came as a Bears fan; she was worried others would because it's an easy outfit to put together.

I saw a black guy in a suit and couldn't figure out what character he was playing. He told us he was Arsenio Hall. As we talked, I kept looking at his hands to see if he had long fingers.

Laura, who put this party on, was Ed Grimley, with the spiked-up hair. She did a great job of making the face with the squinty eyes, and she carried around a framed photo of Pat Sajak. Because she had

rented out the bar and paid for all the food, I asked how much it cost her. She didn't want to get into that, but I'm guessing she dropped a few grand.

There were about five items you could order off the menu. I ordered street tacos, and the guy at the register yelled it back to the cook. He turned around and said, "Cheeseburger?" I laughed and said, "That's awesome!" My girlfriend was confused, and I said, "That cook is doing the Belushi bit where no matter what you order, he's going to say, 'Cheeseburger, cheeseburger!" She said, "Uh, I think you misinterpreted that. I don't think he understood you."

We got a few drinks, and the debate continued. I went and asked the cashier. He said, "Oh, no. We got confused about what you said. He thought you ordered a cheeseburger." When I explained what I thought had happened, they were even more confused.

There were a number of heavy white guys in suits and wearing fake glasses. I assumed they were all the same Chris Farley character. One rattled off the line about living in a van down by the river, but others seemed to be playing different characters that I wasn't familiar with.

The music got louder when

the cowbell guy occasionally played along. None of the various Wayne and Garth characters pulled out their drumsticks, though.

A few women got mad if you didn't know their costumes. The few cheerleaders were easy to figure out, but I got into a weird "who's on first?" conversation with a woman who had a huge behind. I asked about her character, and she said it was a woman who had a pregnant butt. When she started to enter the bathroom, I said, "Is that going to be possible with that outfit?" She said, "Oh, it's going to be hard. There's going to be cotton everywhere."

As I headed into the bathroom, I saw the woman I met on the red carpet. She was in character, joking around again. She explained, "It's Sally O'Malley. She's always stretching and kicking and always had a camel toe."

When I got to the urinals, I noticed the other Czech brother next to me. He started talking in character about how many foxy women he'd met. His outfit blew mine away...although I wasn't checking it out as we stood next to each other.

The walls were decorated with photos of *SNL* cast members and various "Deep Thoughts" quotes by Jack Handey. There





were also books and DVDs that would be given out later in a costume contest.

A number of characters were half naked, one of them being Goat Boy, who would occasionally jump into Unfrozen Caveman's arms.

I saw Hans and Franz on the patio, smoking. Theirs was probably the only costume easier to make than my girlfriend's — gray sweatsuits stuffed with fake muscles.

As I smoked a cigar and talked to them, I saw a guy with a beard approach. He said something to my girlfriend, and she responded with "Da Bears." He said, in a slightly Scottish accent, "No, that's the

incorrect answer. It's 'moo'...the sound your mother made last night." It was Sean Connery from the *Jeopardy!* sketch.

Someone dressed up as Pat. I didn't get a close enough look to see if it was a male or female.

As Laura walked by, I told her it was such a great idea for a party. She said, "I had this planned a year and a half ago, but one friend couldn't make it, and I kept pushing it back. We finally set a date and didn't worry about who could make it."

As we were leaving, I said, "That might've been the best party I've been to in a long time. People were mingling, using their catch-

phrases. Some people put so much time into their costumes."

Someone was walking in with a box. I asked what was in it. He opened it to show me a rubber penis. I was confused until the bouncer told me Justin Timberlake did a skit with one.

A woman waiting to cross the street said, "Doesn't security have a rule about bringing weapons into a bar?" ■

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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The Ambassador of Abyssinia

Take my word, the cuisine of the Horn of Africa is fabulous — but to know that, you have to taste it; and in San Diego, relatively few people have enjoyed the pleasure. With Muzita, we may have a breakthrough restaurant that introduces this food to all who don't know yet what they're missing.

When I moved here from the Bay Area, the state of local North African restaurants came as a shock. They were a couple of low-price "dives" in City Heights, "starving student" eateries. Back home, the much larger Ethiopian community in Oakland made Ethiopian food a delicious multiple-choice quiz, with numerous restaurants to choose from, all at prices from low to...well, medium.

At the best of the lot, the aptly named Sheba, the stunning owner, Netsanet (a dead ringer for the model Iman, or perhaps King Solomon's "black and beautiful" Queen of Sheba) served as ambassador for the food and culture — feeding, educating, and delighting all who ventured into her beautifully decorated dining room or her cooking classes. After closing Sheba to move (briefly) back home to Ethiopia, Netsanet's magic remained — she'd popularized the cuisine and set a standard to strive for. Soon, good Ethiopian and Eritrean restaurants crossed the Bay and popped up all over San Francisco, so that "going out for Ethiopian" became as easy a choice as going out for Thai or Szechwan or Vietnamese. Needless to say, I'd love to see that happen here.

With Muzita, we finally have a charming, friendly bistro in a middle-class, attractive neighborhood, University Heights, to gently introduce San Diegans to the joys of this cuisine. It occupies a handsome Craftsman bungalow with a cheerful patio strung with twinkly lights (complete with coffee urn, welcoming those who must wait for a table — gourmet coffee is Ethiopia's top export). The interior walls are decorated with East African art, and haunting African music plays over the sound system.



Dreadlocked co-owner Abel Woldemichael and his enthusiastic American staff welcome you warmly and are happy to explain anything you need to know. The menu provides plenty of help

as well, with descriptions of the major spice blends and ingredients. Abel's wife and mother are in charge of the kitchen. (They buy spices from tiny Axum Market in City Heights, supplemented by

care packages from homeland relatives.) The owners quaintly and inclusively call their cuisine "Abyssinian," the name of the one-time regional empire; the family is from Eritrea, but the terminology signals that the food will embrace Ethiopian flavors, too. (Truth to tell, I could never distinguish much culinary difference between these oft-warring next-door neighbors.)

The Lynnester, Scottish Sue, and Saint Steve, all total Africa virgins, joined me. And before my

usual carping and quibbling begins, note that my friends were thrilled with the meal. If I was less impressed, it's because I'm stuck with a pre-existing and exalted standard from Netsanet (which

is why I mentioned her). The very strategy that makes Muzita such an attractive introductory course in this cuisine — adapting the food to the San Diego palate — left me occasionally disappointed, and

sometimes even crestfallen. But as Rummy nearly said, you eat at the restaurants you've got, not at the restaurants you want.

A careful look at the menu reveals a "green," slow-food ethos, with earth-friendly ingredients such as local-grown produce, free-range eggs, and Brandt's semi-grass-fed, humanely raised beef. If the prices are higher than at the restaurant's City Heights cousins, they're justified not only by higher rent and spiffier decor but by costlier in-

Muzita Bistro

4651 Park Boulevard (south of Adams Avenue), University Heights, 619-546-7900

HOURS: Tuesday—Thursday 5:00–10:00 p.m., Friday—Saturday until 11:00 p.m.; Sunday until 9:00 p.m.

PRICES: Starters, \$8–\$12; entrées, \$9–\$21 (most

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: Ethiopian/Eritrean dishes adapted to American tastes, plus some Afro-Cal fusion inventions. Apt, affordable international wine list, including crisp-sweet Ethiopian honey-wine, plus three Abyssinian, Tasmanian, and Tahitian beers, Shoju cocktails. Corkage \$10. **PICK HITS:** Teff-crusted *bamya* (fried okra fin-

PICK HITS: Teff-crusted *bamya* (fried okra fingers); *sambusas*, *shiro* (ground chick peas); *tsebhi doro* (chicken stewed in spice-paste); *beggie kilwa* (stir-fried lamb leg and vegetables); *mess* (honey wine).

NEED TO KNOW: Several stairs up to dining room. Meals served family style, eaten with fingers, using pancakes instead of utensils. Pancake-bread made from a high-protein, lowgluten, low-glycemic whole grain, fine for low-carb and diabetic diets. Plenty for vegetarians and vegans. Romantic for daters. Small space, reserve for weekends and prime time and for large groups. Easy street parking.

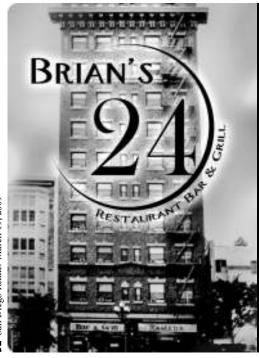
Ratings reflect the reviewer's reaction to food, ambience, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

Go to *SanDiegoReader.com* to find hundreds of past reviews.

gredients — and also by a larger staff both in the dining room and the kitchen. This is not a barebones mom 'n' pop, but mom 'n' pop gone thoroughly pro.

One of the line-cooks is reportedly from the American South, and we began with a dish that fused Southern and African cooking (not a stretch):





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San Diego Reader March 19, 2009

Teff-encrusted bamya — deepfried okra coated in Ethiopian whole-grain flour. Teff is a high-protein, low-glycemic, low-gluten grain native to the Horn of Africa, the most nutritionally vital foodstuff in the region, and one of the healthiest grains on the planet. As finer-ground flour it goes into injera pancakes, the staple starch. Whole (or perhaps coarse-ground), with the color of mahogany and the texture of cornmeal, teff makes a terrific coating for fried foods, like these perfect firm-tender, slime-free okra fingers, gorgeously garnished with spiced roasted tomatoes and caramelized cippolini onions with a golden-pepper emulsion. As Lynne said: "Oh, yum!" (Teff also coats a fried calamari appetizer that I mean to try next

With no fork, how do you cope with the enticing garnishes? Here's where *injera* steps in — the Horn of Africa's famous "edible washcloth" (as food scholar Charles Perry calls it). *Injera* is a flat, porous pancake made of fermented teff, tasting wheaty with a pleasant

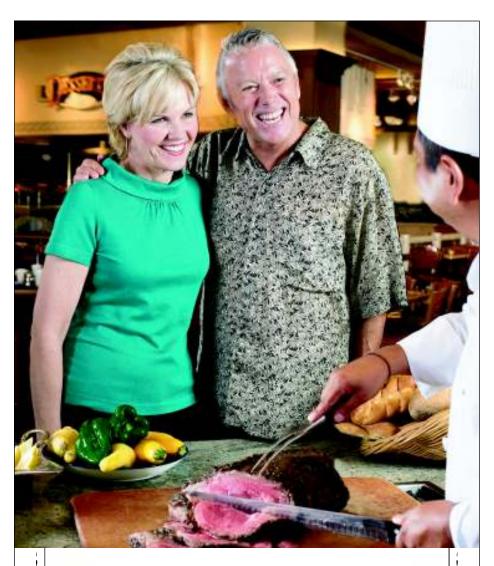
sour undertone from the fermentation that makes for a bubbly dough. It's both your utensil and your plate-lining (a large round served under the entrées, soaking up their juices — and to gobble up when you're finished. It's delicious, try to save room). At Muzita, rectangular lengths of the pancake are rolled up like linen table napkins and served alongside the dishes. Unroll, tear off sections, and use to pick up other morsels. In this part of Africa, it's all finger-food, and a heck of a lot more sensual than biting down on metal. Netsanet told us that in Ethiopia, lovers enjoy handfeeding each other bites of injera-wrapped goodies. Keep that in mind: Muzita would be a great date destination, whether the goal is romance, sensuality, or both.

Sambusas are North Africa's adaptation of Indian samosas — crisp little stuffed pastries. (Indian merchants, trading all over the world, leave a trail of samosas like Hansel and Gretel's bread crumbs.) The fillings can be anything at all, savory or sweet. Here, the three

choices are drawn from other regular menu items: alitcha (mixed vegetables), hamli (collards and spinach, a more typical filling), and dorho tsebhi (braised chicken). They are all very good. A small plate of awaze (hot spice-paste) dipping sauce accompanied the pastries. "I'm not into really hot," said Lynne, "but I wouldn't count this as hot at all." The rest of us agreed. You may want to ask for an extra dish of awaze (pronounced "ah-WAH-zeh") to see you through the meal, since absolutely nothing, as cooked here, is fully up to the typical spice level of this

The kitfo, especially, broke my heart, with its extreme caution on all fronts. The kitfo I ate all over the Bay Area (and here in City Heights) was an incendiary version of beef tartare — raw, tender, hand-chopped beef mixed with a fiery mitmita spice blend and served at room temperature, coated with warmed, spiced clarified butter (nit'r kibbe in Netsanet's Amharic, or tesma in the dialect of Muzita's owners) and scattered with homemade cottage cheese





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Calendar

(ajibo). It's a sublime dish for heat-lovers and meat-lovers. In America, diners are typically given a choice between raw and cooked. Here, although I specifically requested that our kitfo be served raw, it arrived fully cooked, the butter sizzling and the mitmita and cheese on the side — and the mitmita itself proved a mighty mild version. I'd suggest to the owners that they make this baby-food version for novices but serve the uncooked, fiery authentic mixture with the spices already mixed in to anybody who comfortably orders, "Raw, please just warm the tesma a little."

Abyssinians rank with East Indians among the great vegetarian cooks of the world. Ethiopia was the second nation (after Armenia) to adopt Christianity, and Orthodox (Coptic)

Christians, about half the population of both Ethiopia and Eritrea, observe some 200 meatless fast days a year. Entrées at Muzita, whether meat or veg, come with a salad and a choice of three veggie sides — but my favorite veggie wasn't a side possibility, only an entrée. I made a deal to get a half portion of shiro, puréed chickpeas, for half price. It arrived as a separate course, worth the effort and the money: rich, dark, complex, a bit sour, so satisfying it might justify sacrificing a meat entrée.

The best-known Abyssinian dish is *doro wat* (in this dialect, *tsebi dorho*) — chicken slowly stewed in dark red berberé spice paste. Muzita's version is unconventional, lacking the thick mahogany sauce that normally robes the chicken — but the poultry, slow-cooked to absorb the spices, is tender and imbued with flavor. (Could they have used a slow-cooker? Must try that at home!) I may actually

prefer this version to the classic, which is so technically challenging that, if the cook is even slightly distracted, it can emerge with dried-out chicken and/or burned, sludgy sauce. The tradition is to serve the chicken with a hard-cooked egg (the menu inaccurately promises soft-boiled), to show hospitality to guests, and the Woldemichael family is nothing if not hospitable. I just wish the egg hadn't been ice-cold. Normally, it gets reheated in the traditional sauce, but here, as noted, there was no sauce at all. (Another suggestion: raw eggs don't spoil in the nest while waiting to hatch, and unpeeled hard-cooked eggs can be kept at room temperature for quite a while — hours, days, maybe longer... Every bar in redneck country and every Chinese deli offering "100-year-old eggs"

Beggie kilwa (ye-beg t'ibs in Amharic) offers sautéed New

Zealand leg of lamb, not rare (as stated on the menu) but not overcooked either, in a tasty stirfry of spices, *tesmi*, garlic, and serrano chilies. It's a hit. If you prefer beef, you'll find the same mixture made with Brandt beef as *siga kilwa*.

as siga kilwa.

Zigini beggie has the lamb leg slices braised in berberé spices with stewed tomato and onion — it resembles classic doro wat served with the sauce. It's virtually the same dish as the tsebhi doro, with meat instead of chicken, plus the missing sauce. Only problem: the meat is overcooked.

You don't see a lot of

seafood on Abyssinian menus, despite the proximity of the Red Sea (to Eritrea) and the Blue Nile trickling down from Egypt. For one thing, shellfish are forbidden to both Coptic Christians and Islamics (roughly the other half the population). Nonetheless, Muzita offers a couple of seafood entrées, including a shellfish. We passed on the tesmi-seared ono with spaghetti squash and spicy tomato sauce, however tasty it sounded, because this delicate Hawaiian fish seems to lose a lot in transit from the islands, no matter who cooks it. Instead, we went for prawn kilwa, marinated in honeywine and tossed with herbs and white wine awaze (pepperpaste) sauce. Some prawns proved perfect. Some were overcooked. The sauce was bright and tart, if (again) not very spicy.

Each entrée comes with a fresh green salad and your choice of a veggie from a limited list. The salad is awesome — yes, awesome. OMG, where are they getting sweet, ripe tomatoes in February? The vinaigrette is

aces, too. A salad like this in midwinter set the women at our table to sighing, "Take me, I'm yours!"

Hamli (greens) is a happy marriage of collards and spinach. "I love the way that the almost-harsh texture and strong flavor of the collards is balanced by the softness and near-sweetness of the spinach," said Scottish Sue. Alitcha atakiti is a slickety stir-fried mixture based on soft cabbage, potatoes, and red and orange veggies - peppers, squash tomatoes. Timtimo is a rather austere purée of red Egyptian lentils that looks like sweet squash (raising false hopes) but tastes like dried legumes. It reminded me of Nepali dal bhat, the inescapable plain rice 'n' lentil mixture of the Himalayas. Good nourishment for vegans, but I wish the more compelling shiro (chick peas) were an option.

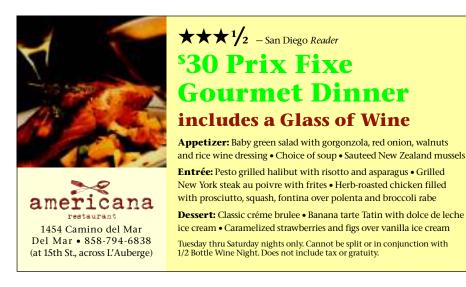
For our first round of drinks, the most interesting was Steve's Harar stout, dark-colored and mellow, with a faint, sweet hint of honey. I'm not a beer lover, but I'd happily drink this through the meal if I couldn't have wine. The citrusy, refreshing dryness of a Kim Crawford New Zealand sauvignon blanc went surprisingly well with the starters — perfect in the peculiar way that an icy Raj-era British gin and tonic can complement spicy East Indian appetizers.

Although the wine list includes a reisling and a gewürtztraminer (the fallbacks for spicy foods), for the entrées I gravitated to a bottle of *mess* (or *t'ej*, for all you Amharic speakers out there), a wonderful honey wine, this one bottled in Orange County for

Ethiopian restaurants. Unlike many of its ilk, it was not too heavy or sweet, but crisp and delicious, a perfect bright white for spicy food. Many diners try it only as a dessert wine, but it does well all through the meal. Speaking of desserts — the restaurant usually offers several, including crème brûlée, tiramisu, and some chocolate thing. But we just couldn't handle any more food.

Bottom line: If Ethiopian/ Eritrean food is new to you, Muzita will be the perfect introduction to awaken your palate to the brilliant cuisine of this ancient civilization. Once you're hooked — and you will be, unless you just can't stand eating with your hands (you poor wuss, don't even try to date me) — then if you want to explore further, you might consider heading out to the "dives" of City Heights and trying the food at Asmara or Red Sea, where if you ask for "hot," you will be authentically scorched. Or not. Muzita is milder but delightful on its

Bargain bites: Costa Brava on Garnet Avenue in Pacific Beach, undoubtedly the best Spanish restaurant in the county (with the handsomest, most hospitable owner, ponytailed Javier), offers happy hour tapas (858-273-1218, call for hours) for \$5 and under — a remarkable buy, considering the quality. And for raw ovster lovers, the Fishery on Cass Street, a few blocks west, is offering shucked-to-order ultra-fresh raw oysters at \$1.25 each, every Tuesday until the end of March, 4:00-10:00 p.m. — with wine specials, too. Gimme a coupla dozen and a Kim Crawford sauvignon! ■







Meat Treat

"Three years ago, I was just surviving in Kenya. It was full of bandits over there."

ED BEDFORD

amel meat," sighs Mukhtar. "That's what I miss most. It's the meat treat in Somalia. Here, I think it's not even legal."

He grabs a piece of banana. Of course, if there's one thing apart from camel meat that says "Somalia," it's banana. It goes with everything. "That's because we have a sweet tooth," Mukhtar says

Down the hall, the faithful are gathering for one of the day's five prayers. I feel a little guilty. Here I am at their restaurant, feeding my face.

This is at the Safari Market, maybe 35 stalls, little shops in an ex-supermarket. It's an East African bazaar loaded with Somali and other African clothing stores, barber and beauty shops, music stores pumping with African music, stores that sell perfumed oils and, hey, best of all, food.

I'd spotted the Safari Market on my way to the County Health and Human Services offices, almost next door. Had a cuppa Somali tea there once. Hmm...time for a Somali snack? Bet they have goat. I head in, surrounded by Somalis heading to the mosque end of the place.

"Any goat left today?" I ask the cheery guy behind the counter, Ahmed. You get lunch for \$7, which covers everything. Rice, spaghetti, goat meat, beef, fried chicken, roast chicken, salad — as much as they can fit into your polystyrene box.

"Just enough goat left," says Ahmed. He

starts shoveling out the last remaining ribs and bits of leg bone, with dark roasted meat on them, from a chafing dish. He adds a big deepfried chicken drumstick. Then slabs of roasted

> chicken. Then — heavens beef, rice, spaghetti, salad, a quartered lime, and some green hot sauce, and on top of everything, a banana. That's the Somali way.

"Something to drink?" he asks.

"Is that included?"

"Of course. Everything is included in the toddoba dollars."

That's "seven" in Somali.

I almost ask for the tea I had last time. It was delicious, creamy and sweet, with cardamom, ginger, and cinnamon. Cost \$1. But today I go for a large cup of mango juice and head off toward the television at the end of African Spice's row of Formica-topped tables. It's showing news — Al Jazeera — right now. Some kids follow me. Ismail, who's nine, tries to teach me how to say "tea" — ami shah and "What is your name?" Mugya al? I think

That's when Mukhtar turns up and plunks his box of lunch on the table. He looks about 25. We both start in. Me, to the goat. First taste makes me think of venison crossed with lamb. I mix it up a bit with the beef and the chicken. Then I twist some of the fine spaghetti onto my fork. Ahmed's red-speckled green hot sauce perks up the baasto, as Somalis call spaghetti.

"That's an urban thing, in Somalia, hot sauce," Mukhtar says. "Country people have never known it."

Mukhtar, turns out, is a rising star in the community, a student at SDSU. "I've never had a chance like this before," he says. "Three years ago, I was just surviving in Kenya. It was full of bandits over there. The police were corrupt. They targeted Somalis. It was the worst place I've ever been. Now, here I am. You don't know how good it feels."

We're sitting at the first table in African Spice's row. One or two elderly men in robes sit in the green-and-maroon couches, watching, sipping chai.

I ask Mukhtar what he misses about home.

"First, my wife and two kids. They are in Somalia, waiting for me to succeed."

The second thing is camel meat. The attraction is as much about texture as flavor. "Good camel meat is so tender," Mukhtar says dreamily. They say it tastes like lamb, only stronger. Or even horse meat. And meat from the hump of a young camel is the bomb.

"Somali food is all about meat," Mukhtar says. "We often have liver for breakfast, meat for lunch, though maybe only beans in the evening."

Meanwhile, my goat is just fine. They say it's all in the aging. But I don't taste any gaminess. It's like...buffalo? Sounds crazy, but it tastes nuttier than, say, beef. Whatever, I can't



Abdifatah, making sambusas

eat any more. With the rice, spaghetti, the other meats, and the salad, I'm beat before I get halfway. This baby is two meals.

I close the box and head back out to mainstream America, though not before buying a few of the triangular chicken-stuffed sambusas (75 cents each) for Carla and a square of xalwo, the delicious red, cinnamonish Somali jelly dessert (\$1).

Note to self: Call USDA. Tell them to legalize camel. ■

The Place: African Spice restaurant, in the Safari Market, 4348 54th Street (at El Cajon Boulevard), 619-342-5945

Prices: Breakfast anjera (spongy fermented Somali bread), \$1; lunch/dinner plates, all \$7, includes choice of (or combo of) roasted goat, deep-fried chicken, roasted chicken, beef, rice, spaghetti, salad, bananas, and drink; also available (depending on supply), lamb, tilapia (\$7); sambusa (deep-fried spring-roll-type triangular pastry pockets with spices, vegetables, beef, or chicken), 75 cents each; Somali cardamom and cinnamon-flavored ginger tea, \$1

Hours: 8:00 a.m.-8:30 p.m., seven days Buses: 1, 1A, 15, 955

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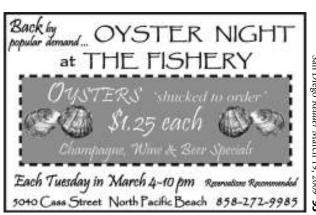












RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The Reader's Guide to Restaurants are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Barbara David, Ambrose Martin, Shari McCullough, Max Nash, Eleanor Widmer, Naomi Wise). Each issue contains only a fraction of almost 900 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at

tist 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: more than \$30. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.

BEACHES

Barbarella 2171 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla, 858-454-7373. This popular restaurant sits nestled in an English garden just blocks from the beach. You can dine amidst the flora at street-side tables, in the enclosed patio, or in the small dining room. Once you're seated, the friendly staff provides fresh-out-ofthe-oven sourdough wheat bread to nibble on. The menu changes daily, offering fresh fish, steak, chicken, pastas soups, and pizzas, all cooked with a twist of imagination that delivers on the flavor. For instance: pizza topped with smoked salmon, crème fraîche chives, and fried capers. Or delicate Alaskan halibut served over creamed spring onions with a watercress salad. If a fresh-fruit crêpe happens to be on the dessert menu, leap on it! Open for lunch and dinner daily. — S.M.

Café Athena 1846 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-274-1140. With a more upscale, eye-catching decor and a longer and more serious menu than most Greek cafes, this is a popular destination, so be sure to reserve for dinner or you'll risk a long wait. The choices include good soups and appetizers (except for a sub-par taramasalata), outstanding moussaka, above-average gyros, and interesting, unusual desserts. There's plenty for vegetarians. Rather noisy when crowded. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. Sister location in UTC.— N.W.

Costa Brava 1653 Garnet Avenue Pacific Beach, 858-273-1218. Cordial owner-host Javier Gonzalez opened this charming restaurant so that local Spaniards would have a place to gather with an authentic atmosphere of home and indeed, the "Euro" atmosphere and late hours give a truly Iberian feel. The lively garlic-rich dishes here include a wide array of tasty tapas and, among the entrées, a paella that's made to or der (sized to serve two or four; call ahead for larger groups). Patio seating in good weather. Parking lot and wheelchair access via the alley behind the restaurant. Open daily 11 a.m. to midnight, with bargain prices at Sunday brunch. Reservations advised for week end evenings. Moderate. — N.W.

The Fishery 5040 Cass Street, Pacific Beach, 858-272-9985, Pacific Shellfish Seafood Company founder Judd Brown got his start as a commercial fisherman. He doesn't fish anymore, but he does everything else — supplying product to top-tier restaurants, retailing glistening specimens to hungry shoppers and serving patrons who want to dine in amid the icy-blue walls and gorgeous trophy fish. The Fishery's menu is equally extensive, covering So-Cal basics (excellent mahimahi burrito), lunchtime standards (sandwiches, fine malt-dredged fish-and-chips), sushi, and an ambitious lineup of dinnertime entrées, some of them whimsically creative (tortilla-encrusted Mexblack bass). If ambition occasionally outstrips execution, an obsession with freshness helps compensate, and you get the sense that things are getting better all the time. The wine list is relatively inexpensive and carefully selected. Casual atmosphere. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. — *A.M.*

Humphrey's by the Bay 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577. Most diners at this resort/concert venue/restaurant eat at the prix-fixe preshow dinners because they guarantee good seats for the concerts at the next-door amphitheater. But better food emerges once the music-mavens leave the premises. The kitchen features fine seafood, juicy meats, and Prime steaks with seasonal veggie garnishes. Preparations are asing but in no way startling — it's a hotel restaurant, after all. Reserve for show nights or to snare a window table with a gorgeous marina view. Free parking when there's no concert, valet parking when there is. Dining room pleasantly quiet. Open daily breakfast through dinner; brunch buffet Sunday. Preshow prix fixe upper moderate, à la carte expensive/very expensive. — N.W.

Kaiserhof 2253 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, Ocean Beach, 619-224-0606. Even on weeknights, crowds fill this restaurant and biergarten, chowing down on hefty, hearty German cooking in a festive atmosphere. Flavors are authentic, but can be monotonous due to the kitchen's reliance on commercial products (especially a heavy-flavored beef base that makes all the sauces taste alike). Good schnitzels, potato pancakes. The excellent apple strudel is the only dessert made in-house. Reservations advised, especially for patio seating. Full bar. Lunch Friday through Sunday, dinner Tuesday through Sundav. Moderate. - N. W.

La Jolla Brew House 7536 Fay Avenue, La Jolla, 858-456-6279. Don't expect to see the beach. Do expect to tase 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. — FR

The Marine Room 2000 Spindrift Drive, La Jolla, 858-459-7222. High cuisine, high adventure, high seas only moderately high prices. With chef Bernard Guillas as top toque, the Marine Room has become the quintessential great San Diego restaurant. The exhilarating coastal view meets Cal-French-Pacific Rim cuisine that's as exuberantly out-front as the waves whacking the windows. Guillas's oceanic culinary inventiveness with ultra-fresh, exotic ingredients makes every visit a voyage of discovery, and preparations are so elaborate that each listing on his precise menu reads like a whole tasting dinner. Midweek specials, \$40. No corkage fee any night. Wheelchair ramp to the left of front door. Reservations requested; slightly dressy but not stuffy. Noisy when crowded. Easiest route: Make a right from westbound Torrey Pines onto Roseland or Viking and go left on St. Louis, which runs into Spindrift. Dinner Sunday through Thursday 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. — *N.W.*

Nine-Ten 910 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-964-5400. Chef Jason Knibb's level of craftsmanship shows a culinary sophistication that would be at home in San Francisco or New York. You'll find adventurous, seasonal cuisine emphasizing fresh local produce (much of it organic or sustainably raised), naturally raised meats, and wild seafood. It's not just the food that's fresh — the ideas

are, too, and the flavor matches are flawless. The wine list is superb, and new personnel in the front of the house have brought up the standard of service. Validated valet parking, full bar. Reservations urged. Open daily, three meals. Expensive. — *N.W.*

Sante Ristorante 7811 Herschel Avenue, La Jolla, 858-454-1315. The name is Italian for "saint," and the Northern Italian/regional cooking shines here, especially the fish and seafood dishes. Fresh seafood specials are available every night, in addition to those on the menu. Excellent pasta with mushrooms, ravioli with quail, and lamb chops. Separate room for bar; separate private dining room. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner nightly. Enclosed patio for lunch. Not to be missed. Moderate (pastas) to expensive. — E.W.

BAJA

From the United States use the prefix 011-52 when calling Mexico.

Chiki Jai Avenida Revolución #1388, Tijuana, 664-685-4955. Eat here and you're surrounded by ghosts: Errol Flynn, John Huston, Rita Hayworth, Anthony Quinn, Ava Gardner, and, they say, Ernest Hemingway, who all ate
— and drank *vino tinto* — here. Plus the great stars of boxing and bullfighting. But mainly it was a haven for Spanish iai alai players desperate for Old Country food. This is one of Tijuana's great historic eateries, its tale written on the walls. Old border photos, Don Quixote art, fighting bull ranchos' brands, and a matador's framed green cape with his blood still on it. The food's all Spanish, so paella is big (with soup, salad, French bread, and bleu cheese), but also try the baby eel appe tizers, chorizo (pork sausages), bacalao (cod fish) à la Vizcaina, trout with olive oil and garlic, and Gallican octopus. Vegetarian upon request. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate.— *E.B.*

La Escondida Santa Monica #1, Tijuana, 664-681-4458. This hidden (escondida) mansion has been a restaurant for three decades. The terrazzo and garden overlooking the Tijuana River Valley make breakfast and dinners a treat. House specialties are more interesting than the regular fare. Try the seafood casserole (cacerola de mariscos); the tambor (a dish of layered beef, cheese, and pork); or the roasted baby Monterrey goat (cabrito tatemado). Desserts include the house especial, mango and ice cream with rompope (Mexican eggnog), and crepas de cajeta con nieve, crêpes with walnuts, green pistachio ice cream, and "burnt milk' caramel sauce — the nearest thing to liquid fudge this side of paradise. Vegetarian on request. On weekends the place rocks with parties and live music. The big downside: It's hard to find. Take Agua Caliente Boulevard one half mile past the racetrack, turn right at Las Pal-mas, then left at the Rey del Pollo sign. The La Escondida entrance sign is in red neon at the road's end. Open daily for breakfast, lunch, dinner. Moderate — E.B.

Los Pelicanos Calle del Cedro 115 #45, Rosarito, 661-612-0445. This hotel dining room is El Nido's little (and less-gifted) sister, with a shorter menu and perhaps less-careful cooking. It serves good steaks and surf-and-turf in a handsome room and, at lunch, on a pretty ocean-view terrace. To find it, look for large sign on west side of Juarez, north of the tourist hub, directing you to the site. One winding flight up to the restaurant, no elevator. Bilingual staff and menu. Vegetarian upon request. Full bar. Open daily, three meals. Moderate; cash only. — N. W.

Tacos Varios y Aguas Frescas Corner of Constitución and Third, Tijuana. This is "just" a cart, but don't let that stop your making the effort. Students, local businesspeople, and work-







.

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ers agree: this is the real thing. It's always causing a people-bulge on the sidewalk. However, the cart is only here from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., so you have to time it right. But from tongue to chicken mole, to milanesa, steak ranchero, carne asada, chile relleno, and pescado (fish), they create really big taco meals right there. Bonus: standing around chomping in the street is a great way to meet people and practice your Spanish. Nighttime only. Inexpensive.

CENTRAL

Alex's Brown Bag 2550 Fifth Avenue, Suite 171, Banker's Hill, 619-231-2912. The reborn Alex's (now in the Mr. A's building) is rightly famous for its Original Philadelphia cheese steak sandwich (with fried bell peppers, onions, mushrooms, and mozzarella). The owners say what makes their sandwiches so special is that they have the meat trucked in from cheese steak central, South Philly itself. Other Italian-American goodies include the Italian Stallion (Genoa salami, capocolla prosciutto, and mortadella sausage meat), eggplant parmigiana with hot garlic bread, grilled pastrami, and cheese on rye. Open for breakfast, lunch, and just-after-work dinner weekdays. — *E.B.*

Bali Thai Café 407 Camino del Rio South, Mission Valley, 619-297-0800. Expect the unexpected! This tiny, unique restaurant splits its menu between three nations with chefs from Insia and Thailand and a chef-owner





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<u>GIN</u>ZA

SUSHI



Calendar

from Suriname, a former Dutch colony (like Indonesia) in South America, The Thai menu is standard, although the tom kha koong (shrimp in coconut milk soup) is outstandingly authentic (don't eat the stuff at the bottom of the bowl!). while the richly tropical Indonesian dishes are so rare locally that culinary adventurers will want to explore such delights as "seafood delight roll," corn fritters, the soothing soto ayam (the Indonesian version of chicken-noodle comfort soup), Balinese fish filet, and the spicy sambal goring (shrimp in chili sauce), among others. Short but smart wine list, beer, sake, Easy evening parking. Heated, roofed patio. Large portions. Reserve for weeknights, no reservations accepted for weekends. Tuesday through Sunday, lunch and dinner. Low moderate. — N.W.

Bandar Fine Persian Cuisine 825 and 837 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-238-0101. In a comfortable setting, the Persian menu offers just a "pick hits list" of popular dishes culled from this fabled cuisine, but the cooking is first rate, featuring fine ingredients prepared with care, skill, and healthfulness. The Bandar Special entrée combo lets you choose any two kebabs (chicken, game hen, or beef), beautifully marinated and cooked to your order. Entrées featuring rice with poultry are elaborate and refined, spiked with tangy barberries, sour cherries, or lentils and dates. The list of Persian desserts now includes Persian ice cream, a rose-scented exotic treat. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W.

Beach City Market 3 Horton Plaza, Downtown, 619-232-2491. Is this the nearest thing to an actual café downtown? Where you can sit outside and slurp coffee or have a full meal and watch the world pass by? It tries hard to be, even though it's fast deli food. Your sandwich comes in butcher paper. Sour pots are cardboard. You can buy wine, but you can't drink it here. Why? Other Horton Plaza tenants won't allow it. Still, soup-and-sandwich deals give good, generous portions, like minestrone and the Londonport roast beef sandwich flavored with port, white herbs, and spices; or the Deluxe, roast beef with horseradish. Open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Boomerangs Gourmet Burger Joint 4577 Clairemont Drive, Claire mont, 858-483-9500. Aussie food? Nope. The Boomerang idea is that 'you'll always come back for more." Although maybe they are thinking Aussie with their extensive create-your-own-burger options, which include fixings like horseradish, artichoke hearts, car rots, cranberries, cheeses, and mushrooms. Their bright idea: chop and tuck these items into your raw burger meat, like a joey into mama roo's pocket. Add imaginative sauces (Thai peanut, chipotle pepper, citrus, others). Result: great-tasting burgers. They're a bit pricey, maybe because they use only "100-percent Angus hormone-free beef." But that means they can safely cook your burger rare. Rare! That's enough to boomerang anyone back. Open daily 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Broadway Pizza 1008 Broadway, Downtown, 619-232-6264. This restaurant, near the downtown senior center and City College, offers no-nonsense Italian-American food. And they're not skimpy: from a pizza slice to barbecue beef sandwiches to a Louisiana-style sausage-link sub, portions are generous. If you want a hearty dinner, try the whole slab of beef ribs, with veggies, garlic bread, and salad. Unfortunately, the quality has dropped; the formerly fine pizza, for instance, is now marred by oily, low-grade mozzarella and not-so-great optional deli-meat toppings.

But the main thing is, while the rest of downtown snores, they're still open, from 10 a.m. to 3 a.m., seven days. And they'll even deliver to nearby neighborhoods. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

Café de L'Opera 1354 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-234-0425, Catherine de' Medici brought her macaroon recipe to Paris in 1533. Thierry Cahez brought the same recipe to downtown San Diego in 2007. Customers have been swooning ever since. Well, this customer anyway. Cahez, a wellknown pastry chef, has made a specialty of the delicate, golf-ball-sized, almond-based cookies. But the pâtisserie he opened also features breakfast pastries like chocolate-filled croissants and lunch items like little square French pizzas, croque monsieurs (toasted cheese sandwiches with ham), croque madames (croque monsieur plus an egg), and sandwiches. His pastries are exquisite, and the place has a genuine French feel to it. Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday); closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Le Cake Château 1152 Seventh Avenue, Downtown, 619-325-0977. This feels like a real French pâtisserie. For starters, the display cabinet has beautiful golden flaky croissants, plus pastries too arty to eat. They do breakfast, but at lunchtime the place is abuzz. You gotta try their version of the croque monsieur (grilled ham-and-cheese sandwich covered with a Mornay sauce), or crèpes with, say, blueberries and sweet cream cheese. The grilled chicken Caesar wrap is good, but it's their originality with simple items that'll turn you on. Like the onion roll loaded with marinated mushrooms, roasted peppers, caramelized onions, goat cheese, and caper mayonnaise. Or a dessert carrot cake with "pineapple raisins." Don't ask. You have to try it. Open daily except Sunday for breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Commonwealth Café 3408 30th Street, North Park, 619-295-2233. We're

talking retro here, newly built but old looking. And it works. You and the Fonz could sit together comfortably and groove to the same music and pretty much the same food. Burgers are traditional here (double, western, double western, chili size) and their fries, like the old days, are handcut and come separately, curly or straight. The Blue Potato (baked potatoes with bleu cheese) or chili-cheese potatoes are almost a meal in themselves. They also have hot dogs with all the fixings and corn on the cob. The Virginian ("Commonwealth") owner's idea: to become the neighborhood hangout. Seems to be working. If you like sweets, try the homemade pie or fudge brownies. Noon to midnight, seven days; opens 8 a.m. weekends. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant 544 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-232-9840. This spirited, colorful saloon, physically transported whole-hog from the Ould Sod, offers delicious Irish music live most nights, and also attempts serious Irish cooking — with some successes. Try the lovely herb-rich Irish stew, or the boxty, potato crêpes rolled around your choice from a variety of fillings (salmon, beef, etc.). Or start the day here with a huge, carnivorous Irish breakfast. Open daily. Low moderate. — N.W.

Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar — La Jolla 8970 University Center Lane, University City, 858-535-0078. A steakhouse for ladies who power lunch, an "old girls" club, or just a happy place where the term "a nice piece of meat" isn't a bad thing? The mahogany of the "old boys" steakhouse genre gives way here to cheery cherry wood. When you get the fried cheese, it's Brie, rolled in panko bread crumbs and slivered almonds. And the wine list boasts far more than just burly Cabernets and Bordeaux — over 100 of the far-flung offerings are available by the glass, and you can assemble your own three-glass tasting flights. Prime steaks

are the main event, perfectly cooked and well-seasoned. Try the key lime pie for dessert — custardy and full of limey bite. Valet parking. Dinner nightly. Very expensive. — A.M.

Greystone 658 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-232-0225. The Italian steakhouse fare here centers on dry-aged Prime beef, game meats (including exceptionally tender bison), lobster, and pastas as the main draws, with indifferent starters and desserts. An impressive wine list offers rewarding California and Italian bottlings at \$35 to \$50 but roars up to the stratosphere of first-growth Bordeaux, super Tuscans, and scandalously overpriced Napa reds. Bossy, sometimes-abrasive waiters push higher-priced choices. Patrons are mainly "suits" with deep expense-ac-count pockets, loudly talking business or enjoying raucous office parties in a testosterone-high atmosphere. Wheelchair access to the street patio and bar area only (dining rooms are up- or downstairs). Reservations urged but may not be honored promptly. Dinner nightly. Extremely expensive. — N.W.

Gulf Coast Grill 4130 Park Boulevard, University Heights, 619-295-2244. The Gulf's faux-rustic, woodsy dining rooms and patio are great hang-outs if you like a restaurant with a noisy party atmosphere. The menu focuses on the cuisine of the South and Southwest, with an emphasis on Louisiana and a heavy hand on the salt shaker. The kitchen does best with the straight Southern dishes, turning out divine fried soft-shelled crabs, airy hush puppies, and delicious little corn muffins. If you're deeply familiar with Cajun-Creole flavors, though, don't look for pure authenticity — you'll do better with jambalaya, étouffée, or the lunchtime ovster po' boy than with the soulless gumbo or the misconceived red beans and rice. Heated, smoker-friendly front patio. Wheelchair elevator to rest rooms next to stairs. Free parking lot left of the door. Full bar. Lunch Monday through Saturday, brunch Sunday, dinner nightly (early closing Sunday). Moderate to slightly expensive. — *N.W.*

Harney Sushi — Old Town 3964 Harney Street, Old Town, 619-295-3272. This friendly little spot on a side street serves as a secret haven of prettygood sushi just a few steps from Old Town's nonstop tacos and margaritas. You can also get sashimi, Japanese appetizers, and a few mixed-ethnicity entrées (noodles, pasta, teriyaki, tempura) made with seafood or chicken breast. Beef is served, but numerous dishes are vegetarian. Good sake list. Sound system runs loud inside; patio dining available in warm weather. Reservations for sushi bar accepted but not necessarily honored. Open weekdays for lunch, dinner nightly until midnight, with a DJ Tuesday through Saturday. Sushi prices lower than most, entrées inexpensive to moderate. — N.W.

Jack's Barbecue 1290 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-574-1644. They say this place is lifted straight out of Kansas City. It's sort of unexpected up here in spiffy Uptown Hillcrest. But even though these guys don't have the traditional split-drum smoker out front, they do produce the real stuff. Jack's Sampler (four-bone baby-back ribs, one half chicken, one portion of BBQ beef, fries, and slaw) is a good intro. Or pork-rib tips or just a Cajun sausage sandwich (with french fries or sweet-potato fries or onion rings) or one of Jack's chili cheeseburgers with bacon. They also serve Boca veggie burgers. Lots of families on the weekends. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Japanese Tea Pavilion 2215 Pan American Way, Balboa Park, 619-231-0048. One way or another they have been serving Japanese food here since 1915. Yes, it's usually crowded, and most go for the clichéd item, teriyaki rice bowl with beef skewers. But the teriyaki bowl with salmon, the sweetish udon soba noodle soup with tofu kitsune, and even the California sandwich









piled high with "krab" meat are good and feel Japanese, especially out on the restaurant deck over a canyon. With Japanese flute music playing, the trees, and the noodles, you really feel in a Japanese space. Try kona-cha green tea for the nearest taste to tea ceremony tea. Open 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Joe's New York-Style Deli 3401 First Avenue, Banker's Hill, 619-295-7666. You enter a time machine: a cavernous concrete-floored deli that dates back to 1902, with a high ceiling, acorn shaped hanging lights, and a big old fashioned cooler-counter packed with cheeses, hams, and sausage meat. Old display cases carry olives, pâté, Ryvitas. A sawed-off wooden barrel bulges with Hungarian wines. Go for wraps, jumbo hot dogs with sauerkraut, or East Coast-generous sandwiches like corned beef, dry Genoa salami, cotto salami, bologna, or liverwurst. That Boar's Head liverwurst is da bomb. Caesar salad with chicken or a cup of tortellini soup are good light alternatives. Open breakfast through early dinner daily.

Lefty's Chicago Pizzeria 3448 30th Street, North Park, 619-295-1720. An eight-pound pizza? That's what Lefty claims his "king of all pizzas" weighs at his often-crowded little corner pizze ria. Truth is, you can't help but be drawn, especially at night, to the little ribbon of lights framing the sidewalk canopy with its tables and benches Lefty is determined to bring "the real Chicago" to San Diego. So of course we're talking deep-dish pizzas, as well as some thin and crispy. But the ulti-mate is his "stuffed" pizza, a 14-inch, eight-pound monster that needs one hour's "make and bake" time. They also do Chicago hot dogs, char burgers, beautiful spicy fries, juicy Italian beef au ius sandwiches, and a decent Leftv's Carbonara (spaghetti, eggs, bacon Parmesan, and cream). Open lunch and dinner six days, closed Mondays. -

Mister Tiki Mai Tai Lounge 801 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-1183. If you loved Trader Vic's (or can remember it, anyway), you may be amused at the revival of the genre here Check out the "grass skirt" decor with huge tiki gods and the vaguely "islander" cuisine featuring, in addition Asian fusion items, elementary sushi and the occasional sprint into fusioncuisine seafood. But, as you might guess, the greatest creativity in the house goes into the silly umbrella cocktails, and those are mainly delish. Age 21 and over after 9 p.m. (even with parents). Dinner nightly. Cocktails until

11 p.m., weekends until 1 a.m. Moderate. — N.W.

Old World Deli & Café 3930 30th Street, North Park, 619-238-0568. This is a delight for anyone who loves northern European food. Their Great Grilled Grueben - homemade corned beef on rye with Swiss cheese, sauerkraut, Thousand Island dressing, and mustard is, as they say, *gemütlich*. Also, try the sausage platter: grilled bratwurst, kielbasa, sauerkraut, potato salad, spicy mustard, and rye bread. Open for breakfast and lunch six days, closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Osetra Watergrill 904 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-1800, Osetra Fishhouse first opened as the showiest, glitziest, and probably most expensive restaurant in San Diego, with Las Vegas looks and a chef from there as well Now it's renovated and sobered up with quieter decor, slightly lower high prices, and a slight name change to tell the world that it also cooks meat. The original frenzies-of-fusion chef has been replaced by a Sicilian chef from the same owners' Panevino a few blocks to the south. Appetizers still lean toward Asian, but most entrées now are more-or-less Italian. There's a new tapas lounge on the first floor — where it's possible to graze without risking bankruptcy — and a grand selection of wines available not only by the glass but by the 375 ml. carafe. The restaurant no longer serves the precious, endangered Caspian caviar it's named for, having switched to an equivalent Cali fornia-farmed sturgeon product (at the same steep tab). Still, the appeal remains primarily to expense-account patrons who enjoy throwing money around in an atmosphere offering two floors of loud ambient music and a "wine angel" in black tights hoisting herself around a gleaming glass tower to fetch down precious bottles. Celebrities and big spenders get attentive service; others take their chances and may meet a chill. Disabled access to first floor only. Full bar. Dinner nightly to at least 10 p.m. Business-casual dress. Very expensive. — N.W.

The Palm 615 J Street, Downtown 619-702-6500. This upmarket chain steakhouse, open since 1926, claims to be the oldest family-operated whitetablecloth restaurant in the country, and it's spread all over the country as well. The Gaslamp branch, its 30th, is just like all the other branches, even down to decor details, which is the whole point — business travelers with contacts to impress can rely on it wherever they go. The fare features tender, monster-sized Nova Scotia lobsters. Other good dishes are shrimp Bruno (with a Dijon sauce), baked crab cakes with no filler, and the Slater Special, which combines the last two in an appetizer. Don't eat meat, but do eat garlic? Try clams and shrimp *posillippo* and scare off the vampires. All dishes à la carte. Portions are generally gigantic on up. Key lime pie (a normal-sized wedge) makes a good, tart dessert, and clean *macchinettas* make outstanding espresso. Excellent wine list, plenty by the glass; full bar. Valet parking. Dinner nightly. Very expensive. - N.W.

Panda Inn 506 Horton Plaza, Down town, 619-233-7800. Behind all the Panda Express fast-food stops is the smaller, more serious Panda Inn chain which originated many of the now-familiar dishes of semi-Americanized Mandarin cuisine (they claim to have invented orange chicken, and their version is vastly better than those at the 99-cent joints). Tofu with eggplant and Mongolian Hotpot, a meatball casserole with Chinese cabbage, are among the more authentic choices. Prepara tions here are generally clean and greaseless with well-balanced flavors; spicy dishes are moderately hot unless you request otherwise. It's not the spot for high adventure, but it does offer dishes for all tastes. Moderate-priced banquet menus make this a good choice for family gatherings. Full bar. Validated parking in Horton Plaza garage; heated patio seating in dry weather. Lunch and dinner daily. Lunches inexpensive, dinner moderate.

The Philadelphia Sandwich Company 3904 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-571-0888. This classic luncheonette is a monument to Philly culture, including sports pennants, historic photos, and colorful mummers' costumes. The menu is equally devoted to the city's cuisine, especially its two great cult sandwiches: the hoagie and the cheese steak. The mixed-meat hoagie is way more than a hero — its flavor array is similar to (and just as intense as) a New Orleans muffulletta. As for the cheese steak, it starts with steak strips, onions, and your choice of cheese, and expands from there. Philly natives may like the simple version with Cheez Whiz, but the luscious "Everything" with provolone is more likely to seduce the innocent. "Philly fries" (with garlic) are the right go-with. The menu also offers Penn-sylvania-packaged foods ("Philadelphia Scrapple" to go, Tastykakes, Wise poto early dinner nightly. Inexpensive. -

The Prado 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, 619-557-9441. In a magical space at the heart of Balboa Park, Prado features cute neo-Nouveau decor and a something-for-everyone menu of American-Mexican-Italian-with-Asian-touches cuisine. The food brings few surprises, but is flavorful and served in huge portions. Top choices include meaty crab cakes and an astonishingly tender, slow-roasted pork loin. A meringue-based banana *tres leches* cake is everyone's favorite dessert. The bar makes a nice stop during a museum crawl and offers ethereal fried ovsters and a range of gussied-up margaritas. Keep an eye out for special prix-fixe dinners that include tickets to museum exhibitions. Dinner reservations vital Vast interior can be noisy, but heated, umbrella-topped terrace tables are quiet and scenic. Moderate to a little expensive, with reasonable wine list. — *N.W.*

Red Sea Restaurant 4717 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-285-The meat combination platter here isare fine, too; the yellow split peas, especially, sing with flavor. Restrooms not evenings. Open daily. Very inexpensive.

— N.W.

9722. You'll find richly seasoned (and potentially very spicy) Ethiopian cuisine, served communally on a tray lined with a porous pancake, injera, which looks like an edible dish towel and serves as both an edible spoon and an edible tablecloth. (Use pieces of it to scoop up morsels in your right hand.) n't nearly as exciting as several of the specialties. The kitfo (spicy beef tartare) is very good, the gored-gored (meat cubes in spicy butter) is excellent; both are cooked (or not cooked) to your order and seasoned to your specifications (if you say "hot," expect fire). Vegetables wheelchair accessible. Vegetarian friendly. Can be noisy on weekend

Saffron Noodles and Saté 3737 India Street, Mission Hills, 619-574-7737. It's the smell of the spicy chicken grilling that will get you every time. Whatever the recipe is — and Su-Mei Yu, the owner and celebrated cookbook author, says it's from the Isaan, Thailand's ethnic Lao Northeast — it catches your nose. We're talking "box-

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ing-arena grilled chicken," after the place where she smelled its spicy cooking aromas while growing up in Bangkok. You have a choice of five sauces to go with the chicken, from peanut to sweet pepper. Also try the noodle soups, like Tom Yam with shrimp: sinus-clearing, delicious, and surprisingly filling. The food here is real, fresh, genuine Thai cuisine with Chinese echoes — like Su-Mei Yu herself. Middle-class San Diego seems to have adopted her eatery, despite the fact you're in a pretty stark gray-and-white room with views of I-5. Open for lunch and dinner daily, Inexpensive. — E.B.

Seau's 1640 Camino del Rio North, Mission Valley, 619-291-7328. Footballer Junior Seau's extravagant multivenue sports pub is major-league fun — a real-life reincarnation of some 1960s' McLuhanite media art show, with 70 video screens (ranging from large-normal to giant HDTV) running sportscasts and a professional DJ on high, periodically spinning cool sounds over muted talking heads. The menu offers mainstream, something-foreveryone choices including pizza, hefty but so-so burgers, some elementary sushi, all-American entrées, and Seau's family recipe of Samoan teriyaki "plate lunch." Above all, there's pub grub. The chicken wings are pretty good, and you can get all three sauces (Buffalo, BBQ, and Asian) on one order. Perfect hangout for mismatched couples with one sports fan and one fashionista (the latter can head for Nordstrom and Saks discount outlets nearby). On game days, patrons are allowed just one game in the dining room (\$15 minimum), but you can linger from wake-up to closing on the patio or in the bar. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. - N.W.

Taka 555 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-0555. The seafood at this always-packed sushi bar and Japanese appetizer restaurant is top quality. *Amaebi* (sweet shrimp) from the live tank go

down soft and silky smooth, unlike their frozen brethren. And the chefs are highly skilled: the well-seasoned rice is freshly made all evening, and for once the spicy scallop hand roll has scallops mayo, cuke, and hot pepper running all the way through, not just plopped on top. Savory appetizers supplement the sushi, including miso-baked black cod and mushroom-topped agedashi (lightly fried) tofu. The one problem: the later you arrive, the louder it gets. Make reservations, and if you value your ears, go at an early hour. Dinner nightly. Most dishes inexpensive, but many little bites can eat a hole in your wallet. - N.W.

Tamale Cart 1852 National Avenue, Logan Heights, 619-338-9140. If you've r wondered what it would be like to eat as the Aztecs ate, come here and try some of the tamales — classic Azteo food - in all their flavors. Tamales are sort of steamed cornmeal dumplings wrapped in corn husks, served with sauce. The choice of goodies stuffed in the middle can include strips of pork, beef, chicken, or cheese, as well as pineapple, strawberries, or coconut. While you're at it, try the traditional accompaniment, the *champurrado* drink: milk mixed with masa — ground corn meal — chocolate, and cinnamon. In this mainly Spanishspeaking market you can sit, watch, and pick up a few bargains too. Tamales make a great breakfast. Three should do you. These are made by the Restaurant Chiapaneco up at 25th and Market. Open breakfast through late lunch, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Tom's Chinese BBQ 4414 University Avenue, Suite A, City Heights, 619-563-8225. You want Chinese? Real Chinese? This is the spot, if you can handle it. The roast ribs, roast pork, and BBQ spare ribs are excellent. So is pork fried rice and the dim sum. But you should also try pig's rectum and the duck's feet, stomach lining, ears, and wiggly small intestines. A family from Hong Kong and Canton runs it. And yes, you can eat there, if you can fit at the one small table by the counter. Open daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

What the Chef Eats

TABOULEH

SAHAR NASHASHIBI

Chef, Fairouz

(Told by daughter Haya) My mom has always had a feel for cooking, even when she was young. Her mom - my grandmother — was a great cook too, and my mom used to watch her. Growing up in Jerusalem, my mother's family had gatherings and feasts every Friday at her father's house. Imagine, Thanksgiving. And that was every single Friday. They cooked everything from appetizers to desserts. Back home, appetizers — like hummus and tabouleh — are big things. By the time the main

course comes, you're stuffed.

When my mother married my father, she was only 18 and she had to cook. She's been cooking ever since, for family dinners and religious celebrations. My parents are Muslim and they celebrate Eid, which is the celebration after Ramadan. Ramadan is where Muslims fast for a month. The main point is to show us how it feels when people don't have food...so we don't eat from sunrise to sunset. You can't eat or drink anything. You can't even brush your

teeth. Homeless people and poor people can't get food many days, so Ramadan teaches us compassion and patience and love for other people. Eid is a three-day celebration after Ramadan, and it's a huge feast. We get a lamb and stuff it with rice and meat. The lamb is also given to those less fortunate.

When we're at home, my mom cooks much like she does at the restaurant. But at home she uses more lamb and meat. For example, when she makes okra, she puts beef in it. She



doesn't do that at the restaurant because we have so many vegetarian customers. My favorite dish of my mother's is a yogurt dish with rice and cauliflower, and it's served hot. And her grape leaves are amazing. They are really small and have lamb and rice inside. On top of the rice, she puts tomatoes and potatoes so the leaves don't burn.

Woodstock's Pizza 6145 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area, 619-265-0999. It's a college pizza joint, but the fare rates well above standard beer ballast. For that matter, the beers — Karl Strauss and Wyder's Ciders (along with the usual Coors Light and Bud) —

aren't exactly chug-suds. Crusts — white or sweetly robust whole wheat — are pressed, tossed, and then folded over at the edge, producing a spongy, crunch-crusted rim. The mozzarella is rich, gooey whole-milk; the marinara sauce is dark and spicy; and the top-

pings are fresh, hearty standouts. Watching your weight? Two low-fat combos (half the cheese) are available. Inexpensive. — *A.M.*

Zócalo Grill 2444 San Diego Avenue Old Town, 619-298-9840. This casual, festive spin-off of the Brigantine chain features Pacific coastal cuisine, an eclectic international hodgepodge with a faint Mexican accent and "something for everyone." And some of those some things are delicious — a stacked salad of shrimp and avocados, or coconutshrimp kebabs emerging from a pineapple, or a huge, beautifully grilled lobster with avocado salsa. Appetizers are discounted at happy hour, and you can make a whole dinner out of sub-stantial tapas sized for sharing. The heated, semi-roofed outdoor terrace encourages alfresco dining year round. Full bar with creative margaritas, eight draft beers, and California wines, including Brigantine's own custom blends at good prices. Wheelchair lift in back, ramp at south side of terrace. Reservations strongly advised for weekends. Open daily, lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner daily. Moder-— N.W.

NORTH INLAND

Athens Market Café 11640 Carmel lev, 858-675-2225. At this offshoot of Mary Pappas's downtown Athens Market, sister Vickie's food is just as good. If you want a big start, order the saganaki, a cheese appetizer that comes flaming to your table. And you can't lose with mezedakia, a big oval sampler of dolmades (stuffed grape leaves), lokaniko (a delicious Greek sausage), spanakopita (spinach in filo pastry), tomatoes, cucumbers, tzatziki dip, hummus, feta cheese, and olives. But come for the lamb. It's wonderfully flavorful, skewered in the souvlaki entrée (which comes with beans and rice) or as lamb chops. Moussaka (baked eggplant, zucchini, and ground beef) goes down well too. Or what's wrong with a simple plate of feta cheese, kalamata olives, and a glass of Greek red? Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

Bamboo Hut 9172 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-348-0414. You'll find a taste of Hawaii in a strip mall in a neighborhood that's all mall. The bright little "hut" has bamboo chairs, a bamboo ceiling, bare floors, and unclothed tables, with a sushi





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What the Chef Eats

One of my mom's favorite dishes is tabouleh because it reminds her of back home. She loves simple food that is close to the garden. She says it's healthy and super fresh. They used to cook it all the time back in Jerusalem the olive oil is so good there. Tabouleh reminds her of her mother too because my grandmother made it all the time. My

mom says she could have eaten it all day long. I wish I knew how to cook. I just come to the restaurant and

INGREDIENTS

(Serves four as a side dish) 1/4 cup bulgur wheat 3 large bunches of parsley, finely chopped 4 spring onions, finely chopped 4 plum tomatoes, finely

chopped 1 teaspoon salt or more, to taste.

1 lemon, juiced 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil

HOW TO DO IT

Add a cup of water to a small pot and bring to a boil. Remove from heat and add the bulgur wheat. Let sit for 30 minutes. Chop the parsley, onions, and tomatoes and salt the

tomatoes. Combine the chopped vegetables together in a medium bowl.

Drain the bulgur and add to the tomatoes, onions, and parsley. Add the lemon juice and olive oil and mix well. Add more lemon juice and salt if needed.

To get other recipes from local chefs, go to sdreader.com.

counter next to a tiny kitchen with a roaring gas grill. A large lattice awning offers outdoor seating a few steps from the door. The quality of the food is all over the map, though - this is not the place to try your first Spam sushi. The seafood sushi is good, though, including a fine Rainbow Roll with really sweet crab; the more creative rolls run to cream cheese and hot sauce. "Local food" choices include a tasty ahi poké and excellent chicken katsu; the kalbi short ribs are tough, though. Plate lunches include one to three entrées (priced accordingly) with steamed or mildly garlic-flavored rice, macaroni salad, and green salad with bright or-

ange dressing à la Kraft French. Be sure they deliver what you ordered; there may be slipups. Open seven days, lunch and dinner. Very inexpensive. - N.W.

El Parque 2659 Reche Road, Fallbrook, 760-731-2775. Just think Little Red Riding Hood — this is Grandma's place. Okay, it's not a little old, thatched cottage — it's a cream-painted metal shed with a gazebo in front. But it is in the Live Oak woods, and you can sink your teeth into some pretty fair Mexican food here, sitting alongside an interesting bunch of agricultural workers and maybe some ruby miners. Good combination plates include the tostada

and beef taco, and burrito and enchilada. The time to be here is Sunday morning, when those aggies pour in here for the menudo, cooked in a three-foot-high pot. Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. -

Joey's Smokin' B-B-Q - Carlsbad 6955 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, 760-929-1396. Joey Maggiore doesn't produce Southern "Q" so much as So-Cal "Q" — more an homage to Mem-phis than anything you'd find in Mem-phis itself — but the tables include paper towel dispensers instead of napkins, a clear signal to go ahead and get

messy. All the meats are smoked, not grilled, in true "Q" fashion. Pulled pork offers reasonably credible Memphisstyle flavor and tender-chewy texture. Baby back ribs come in three versions: sweet ribs glazed with the "suh-weet" sauce, wet ribs glazed with the mildspicy sauce, and dry-rubbed ribs sprin-kled with spice rub. Sweet or wet are the best. Chicken plates come in a variety of sizes and parts. House-made hot links are well seasoned in the Louisiana manner but extremely salty. The list of sides is long and varied. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. - N.W.

FULL BAR

HAPPY HOUR

Wayside Café 507 South Main Avenue, Suite E, Fallbrook, 760-723-9633. Locals love meeting and eating in this long low-porched building — partly because it all just feels small-town America. The place used to be Mahrs Service Station. You can even sit in the old lube bay to eat. Count on generous servings, especially the mountain piles of red-skinned homefries as a side at breakfast. Open for breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

NORTH COASTAL

Joe's Crab Shack — Oceanside 314 Harbor Drive, Oceanside, 760-722-1345. Joe's is silly with crab-shack ambience (campy nautical paraphernalia on down to souvenir gimme caps), but the food's not bad. You can choose buckets of steamed, barbecued, or garlic crab (of various subspecies), or go for fried or grilled seafood or steaks, or salads. Grown-ups may prefer the pa-tio to the rockin', raucous interior. Full bar, not much wine. Inexpensive to low moderate. Also in Pacific Beach, Mis-

sion Valley, and downtown. - N.W.

Johnny Mañanas 308 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, 760-721-9999, Local teachers hang out at this green-whitered-tiled place because it's such good value. Most dishes are Mexican. There's a Caribbean chocolatey, black bean, paprika, curry-in-the-rice thing going on. Pescado Veracruz (fish marinated in lime juice and garlic with rice, beans, and green salad) is good. The roasted chicken is delicious. The Big Breakfast Burrito Special (eggs, onions, beans, cheese, and rice, wrapped in a large flour tortilla) is muy popular, but then so is J.M.'s Great All-American Cheese burger. Open daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Osteria del Pescatore 1201 Camino del Mar, Del Mar, 858-509-9293. The restaurant's name means "Fisherman's Hostelry," and you'll find

expert, courteous service and wellcrafted seasonal Italian fare here with a strong emphasis on zesty fresh seafood. Go straight to the single-spaced pagelong list of daily specials for the most exciting dishes, including spaghetti a cartoccio (baked in parchment) and lobster risotto. But save room for dessert, especially if the day's offerings include *torta alla nanna*, a rose-scented nut confection. Parking behind restaurant (turn east on 12th Street); heated dining patio available. Interesting international wine list. Reservations advised, Lunch Tuesday through Saturday; dinner nightly. High moderate to expensive. — N. W.

Pacific Coast Grill 437 South Coast Highway 101, Solana Beach, 858-794-4632. The grill features a free-form menu of Pacific Rim cuisine featuring fine ingredients and integrating Mexican, Hawaiian, and Asian flavors into So-Cal comfort cooking. Try the green salad with vibrant cranberry vinaigrette, the Bag of Bones (house-smoked pork ribs), and whatever fruit creation is on the dessert menu. Busy and noisy; reservations urged for weekend dinners and all summer. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Full bar. Moderate to expensive. — N.W.

Tomiko 87 Encinitas Boulevard, Encinitas, 760-633-3587. In a lovely setting overlooking Moonlight Bay you



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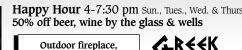
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Calendar

can enjoy Japanese and Pacific Rim fusion cooking and sushi in a serene but lively dining room. When the sushi bar is free from the weekend rush, the quality can be amazing: stunningly fresh uni, world-beating silky toro. The sushimaster also keeps an eye on the restaurant's seafood purchases, so they meet exacting standards. Appetizers such as "salmon tower tartare" and "drunken black cod" are rewarding, as are the simple, excellent fusion-tinged seafood entrées. Reserve for weekends, especially for sushi bar. Dinner nightly. Moderate. — N.W.

I Trulli Trattoria 830 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-943-6800. An enduring hit in Encinitas (where there's no shortage of Italian restaurants), I Trulli serves modern Italian food with fashionable new ingredients. The menu, subtitled "Nouvelle Italian Cuisine," resembles the somewhat ambitious, generically "northern Italian" bills of fare that you encounter all over Hillcrest and the Gaslamp. (It is, in fact, a partner restaurant to Hillcrest's Arrivederci.) The signifiers of seriousness are the pink peppercorns, goat cheese, sun-dried tomatoes, and light cream sauces that coexist with the more traditional mozzarella-tomato sauce arrays. Best bets are the daily specials, which offer the greatest chance for fresh ingredients and creativity. Busy, cramped, painfully loud inside. Street patio next to highway is also noisy. Reserve for dinner on weekends or expect an hour's wait. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W.

Tuscan Sun Italian Deli 1070 North El Camino Real, Encinitas, 760-633-4546. A town abounding in Italian restaurants ought to have a great Italian deli, and it does. You'll find domestic and imported deli meats and cheeses, fresh-baked breads and focaccia, marinated veggies, and a wealth of gourmet products from Italy. The specialty is the Caprese sandwich on focaccia bread with a variety of fillings, best served grilled and dressed with pesto. The eat-in/take-out menu includes pizza, pasta, salads, and a host of sandwiches. Open daily. — *N.W.*

SOUTH BAY

La Bella Pizza Garden 373 Third Avenue, Chula Vista, 619-426-8820. From the outside, La Bella looks like an Italian farmhouse, with geraniums, bright green shutters, and maroon canopies. A real extended family runs this business. Their secrets are: long hours (from breakfast until after midnight daily), big meals, and small prices. The menu includes standards like spaghetti with meatballs or lasagna, including sides of garlic bread, soup, or salad. The hit with kids is "Papa's Favorite," an 8-inch pizza with mushrooms, pepperoni, and sausage. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive. — E.B.

El Dorado Seafood & Grill 311 Palomar Street, Chula Vista, 619-426-4545. The food of Peru is arguably the zestiest in South America, and Chula Vista's growing Peruvian community expects authenticity. El Dorado is there for them. The papa relleno is pure bliss—a little football of creamy mashed potatoes, lightly fried around a filling of ground beef, olives, and raisins. Seco de cabrito features young goat in a complex, herbed stew exploding with

cilantro. Peruvian ceviche is lively and garnished with *cancha*, smoked hominy-corn kernels. Alas, here in the far north, the cuisine's fire is tuned way down for the kiddies — but there's always hot sauce. Reflecting the local population, half the menu here is Mexican — not tacos but more serious dinner dishes, especially seafood, carried out with above-average flair. Breakfast and dinner daily, lunch weekdays. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.*

Island Pasta 1202 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-4545. This unassuming, spill-out-on-the-street restaurant somehow got it right. Simple tables on the sidewalk, daily made-on-thepremises semolina pasta, most dishes costing in the single digits. A simple fettuccine Alfredo is a pleasure alfresco with a glass of wine (40 wines by the glass available), sparkling against the fresh flowers on the table, watching Coronado's world go by. One good and vegetarian — special to ask for is the verdure pasta, a combo of artichoke hearts, spinach, capers, mushrooms, onions, and olives over spaghettini. Dog-friendly, too! Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Miguel's Cocina — Eastlake 970 Eastlake Parkway, Chula Vista, 619-656-2822. Although the cooking is blandly pleasant (even the guacamole is underseasoned), it's surprisingly painstaking. Soups are built on fine stocks, salads can be vibrant, and seafood is treated so tenderly that the numerous shell-fish-stuffed tortilla concoctions (shrimp enchiladas, lobster burritos) are positively luscious. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — *N.W.*

The Tin Fish 910 Seacoast Drive, Imperial Beach, 619-628-8414. At a table by this fish shack at the far end of the pier, you can watch people and pigeons (and people feeding pigeons) as you dig into huge portions of simple seafood, appetized by the sea air. The bill of fare features fish — fried, grilled, chowdered, or wrapped into burritos, tacos, or sandwiches. The big fried combos are about what you'd expect, but more piquant pleasures come in smaller packages. (Portions are generous, whatever you order.) The spicy fish tacos are really spicy, while the fried onion rings are of surpassing delicacy. Best of all, the crab cakes are huge and seriously crabby, with plenty of meat and very little filler. With a call, they'll give you a lift from the parking lot to their restaurant. A second branch at 170 Sixth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-238-8100, offers patio dining across from the Convention Center, with live music during summer. Both locations open daily for lunch and early dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W.

EAST COUNTY

Greek Town Buffet 345 West Main Street, El Cajon, 619-441-9708. Just another Greek buffet? Well, ves. Your choices are standard: gyros meat, spanakopita, moussaka, *dolmades*. And the decor is the usual blue and white with Greek island posters. But it's the customers who give it an exotic feel, speaking languages from Russian to Greek to Somali. And if you're hungry, this all-you-can-eat deal is great. Have gyros meat, but also try the chicken souvlaki (grilled lemon chicken), or start with the excellent dolmades (grape leaves wrapped around beef and rice). The leaves' tangy taste and the lemony sauce inside get your juices running. Don't forget salad...or the dessert table (how could you leave without baklava?). Open for lunch and dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. - E.B.

Grossmont Student Center Cafeteria 8800 Grossmont College Drive, Grossmont College, 619-644-7000. This is no UCSD, with its dozen food franchises and Persian and Somali food tents on campus. Grossmont's single cafeteria (open to the public) is big, echoey, and sticks to standard-issue food like crumb-coated chicken katsu, cheeseburgers, burritos, and really, really cheap pizzas. Breakfast? How about a sausage-and-tater-tot burrito? Health fans do have a plentiful salad bar. It's quite an experience, sharing lunch with local and foreign students, looking over the rolling hills to El Cajon — like being at an international finishing school in, well, Switzerland. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Mario's de La Mesa 8425 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-461-9390. The man on the burro (seen on the restaurant's sign and menu) holds two flags, those of Mexico and the U.S.A. - very appropriate. Few dishes (except maybe the menudo) will push the paler palate too far in any direction, but gosh-all, everything is so darn tasty. Tamales are a house special: rich, pillowy clouds of cornmeal surrounding richer shredded pork scattered with raisins for a smidgeon of sweetness. Pork also gets loving treatment in the carnitas rojas, big chunks browned to the barest crisp, which falls away to melting tenderness. Great marinade (cumin?) on the carne asada; intense flavor and buttery richness on the "machaca Sonora style" (dry-roasted shredded beef). Beans are so light as to seem whipped; rice is studded with peas and spicy carrots. Service is fast and friendly. Breakfast and lunch Sunday and Monday; three meals Tuesday through Saturday. Inext

The Neighbor's Pub and Grub 12169 Woodside Avenue, Lakeside, 619 561-8890. This tiny place is like one of those small "locals-only" watering holes that you sometimes see on TV sitcoms. The fellowship is real here, with friends showing up about the same time each day and especially on Saturday for karaoke. Half the wall's bricks have been painted with messages, many to GIs overseas. The food is simple, filling, and inexpensive. And if you ask nicely, you may get a way-big portion of the daily specials such as the meat loaf, roast beef, fish-and-chips, or pork tenderloin. Also the standard bar foods like chili, hot wings, corn dogs, jalapeño poppers, fried mushrooms, and moz-zarella sticks. 9 a.m. to 12 midnight daily; till 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Owl Café 674 Main Street, Imperial Valley, 760-336-0298. This classic American café is over 50 years old and still serves good rib-sticking food morning, noon, or night. Try breakfast special #1: pancakes, two eggs, and two bacon strips. For lunch, the French dip sandwich. Full-plate dinners — and they are full — include roast beef and chicken-fried steak. Open Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B.









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User Reviews — RESTAURANTS

Best user comments from Reader website

Alchemy, Golden Hill

I was excited to see a new restaurant open in South Park, in a classy old building near Ginseng Yoga, at 30th & Beech, because most South Park restaurants are further north (South Park Bar & Grill, Big Kitchen, Vagabond, El Camino). A friend and I headed over for dinner within the first few days of the opening. My dinner companion does not like the licorice taste of fennel, & asked that the fish not be served on the bed of fennel. The kitchen police patrol sent back a report that she had better order something different, then, because the fish tasted good with fennel! We decided to split three dishes, to sample: fish tacos (minuscule), a beet salad (too small for \$8), and a burger our server raved about (but could not provide a steak knife to cut--we had to send it back to the kitchen for that). The food was unremarkable. There was no bread (unless paid). Total bill: \$30. What a disappointment! I am hoping the customer service will improve, but won't be heading back for awhile to check on it.

By CanyonLady 2:59 p.m., Mar. 9

Jeong Won Korean BBQ, Kearny Mesa

On our trip to Jeong Won our party of three participated in the all you can eat offer, and all were thoroughly impressed. Our waitress was wonderfully attentive and helped explain the myriad of sides served with our bbq. The sides were all terrific as was every dish on the all you can eat menu. The favorites at our table were the korean pancake, marinated pork, and short ribs. Like true gluttons we participated in the drink special and finished with the complimentary soft serve. Tasty food, a lot of it, and tons of fun.

By leviwalkerrips 5:04 p.m., Mar. 13

Sea Rocket Bistro, North Park

My husband and I recently took advantage of a buy one get one free coupon for a dinner at Sea Rocket Bistro in North Park. When we walked in the door, the ambiance seemed perfect for a Saturday night bite - dimly lit, good energy emitting from the crowd, and a cool little corner bar that looked as if you could order any drink your heart desired. There was a table ready for us when we arrived, which was wonderful considering we had no reservations. A pale straight-faced waiter greeted us with a bottle of water with a sliced cucumber inside - which was delicious. Unfortunately, that's the only thing that was delicious about the bistro - the water. Despite the wonderful ambiance, the food was horrible to say the least. My husband had the scallops, which tasted like they had been frozen and then left in the refrigerator for days on end to thaw, and I had the Beet Tart with Goat Cheese, which had only a few morsels of goat cheese on it and the rest was all beets - hard flavorless beets. It was difficult to get even two bites down! My husband and I enjoy good food and there really isn't anything we don't like to eat. Needless to say, we left the Sea Rocket Bistro green as the dead and with our bellies still empty since we couldn't get our dinners down...yet we were too nauseas to contemplate eating anything else. Boo to the Bistro. Sorry guys, the food was disgusting.

By podunknowhere 9:07 p.m., Mar. 14

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Genocidal Days

He and police chief Tiger Brown murdered "new races" and turned them into "beefsteak tartare."

he Brecht police will probably snipe at the San Diego Rep's Threepenny Opera: how it fails to achieve this or that aspect of his "Epic Theater." And the production is open to potshots. But the Sam Woodhouse-directed show

not only re-creates Brecht's notion of a primitive opera that turns the grandiose into a "dirty joke," it's one of the Rep's finest efforts in quite some time.

"Art isn't nice," said Brecht, who detested the bourgeois theater of sumptuous tricks and builtin codes that allowed audiences to identify safely with the material. Brecht wanted to make this familiar theater feel strange, and the strange become familiar (he called this the "V-effect"). He had the trick-makers — lighting instruments, etc. stand in plain view. Here's how they dupe you, Brecht's plays shout.

Brecht not only wanted to expose illusions, he wanted, most of all, for the "top stratum of the bourgeoisie to laugh at its own absurdity" because, he believed, "to laugh is to criticize." And their laughter would raise the question, "Criminals are bourgeois; are the bourgeois

Brecht died in 1956. By then his innovations had become so familiar he told a director to

stretch things further: have the makeup even more unpleasant, and romanticize the love scenes to the hilt, but perch them on quicksand. The Rep follows these guidelines. No sane clown would dare apply the cast's gray-and-

brown-streaked makeup (from Revlon's "ghoul collection"?), and the romance still has a strangemaking feel, especially when you realize that Mack "the Knife"

Macheath was based, in part, on Jack the Ripper.

Mack prances about amid rumors of him violating child brides, murdering Jenny Towler (among others), causing a fire in Soho that killed seven children, and missing his genocidal days in India, where he and police chief Tiger Brown murdered "new races" and turned them into "beefsteak tatare." Of "The Ballad of Mack the Knife," which sums him up, scholar John Fuegi wrote, "This was the song Berlin sang as it lurched toward the abyss.'

As Mack, slick-haired, mustachio'd Jeffrey Meek wears a red-pinstriped suit and yellow gloves (designer: Jennifer Brawn Giddings) and has the vocal chops-plus. It may speak well of him as a moral being, but on opening night, Meek was often reluctant to dehumanize the role fully. Since the Rep's production has no fourth



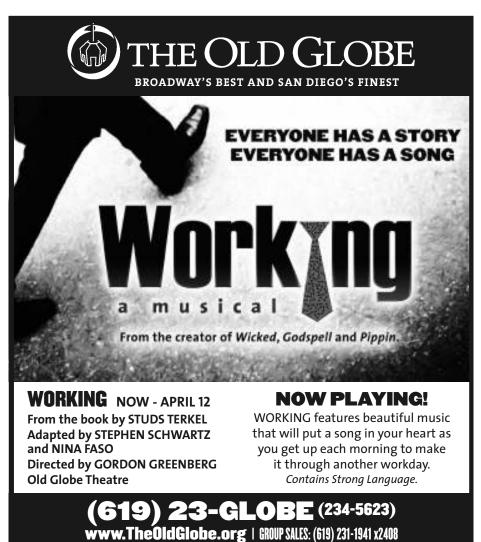
Amy Ashworth Biedel, Jeffrey Meek, and Amanda Kramer in The Threepenny Opera

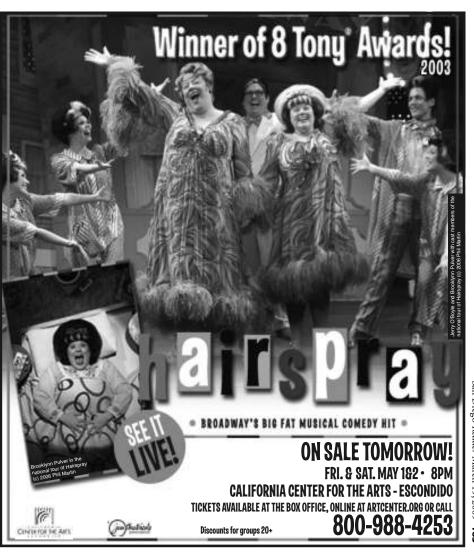
The Threepenny Opera, by Bertolt Brecht San Diego Repertory Theatre, 79 Horton Plaza, downtown **Directed by Sam Woodhouse;** cast: Lyle Kanouse, Leigh Scarritt, Shawn Goodman Jones, Ruff Yeager, Jeffrey Meek, Amanda Kramer, Bryan Barbarin, Karson St. John, Paul James Kruse, Gale McNeeley, Lisa Payton Jartu, Amy Ashworth Biedel; scenic design, Giulio Cesare Perrone; costumes, Jennifer Brawn Giddings; lighting, Tervor Norton; sound, Tom Jones; choreographer, Javier Velasco; musical director, Mark Danisovszky Playing through March 29; Wednesday and Sunday at 7:00 p.m., Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Matinee Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. 619-544-1000.

wall and is staged in the intimate Lyceum Space, Meek should be ever-ready to brandish his cane like a sword, leap into the audience, and run riot.

Roland Barthes said, "Wickedness is always precise." Jonathan and Celia Peacham are certainly wicked, though in imprecise, creepy ways.

A London gang lord, Peacham hires fake beggars to generate capital but finds that compassion's a finite commodity. Since hearts have hardened, Jonathan now needs pros — better still, artists to suffer convincingly and extract the cash from waning altruists. Peacham's bourgeois instincts





alendar

rankle when he hears that daughter Polly has fallen for lowlife Macheath.

A Tony Soprano-sized Lyle Kanouse and Leigh Scarritt play the Peachams. Kanouse booms vocally (and could a bit more with the character). Scarritt's Celia takes stage throughout as if itching for a fight. She makes a bold choice, then another, even more grotesque, and none display the slightest need for approval. In Scarritt's most striking moments, Celia genuinely loathes the audience; she'll exploit us any way she can.

Threepenny's allegedly a beggar's opera. But Kurt Weill's music, his first major score, blurs all distinctions between the basement and the stars. Brecht wanted the music bled of emotion. And the cast tries to distance itself from abundant feeling, but none can hide the once-in-a-lifetime, most likely — thrill of singing such great music. Though this is a Brechtian no-no, the singers belt song after song with an infectious, performative verve.

Music director Mark Danisovszky's seven-piece band and Javier Velasco's inventive choreography de-Broadway the numbers. They critique the strategies and tricks of commercial theater the way Threepenny critiques capitalism's.

It turns out that Elisabeth Hauptmann wrote at least 80 percent of Threepenny (like Shakespeare, Brecht was ever a borrower and a lender). The copyright fiasco's a boon for the script, however, since the women receive equal time on stage (if not in the economic system). As Lucy Brown and Polly Peacham — two of Mack's wives, though he says he prefers Jenny Diver — Amy Ashworth Biedel and Amanda Kramer excel. Their matched soprano voices, especially in the "Jealousy Duet," are a marvel.

Brecht was a borrower: he took his "strange-making" V-effect, for example, from the Russian Victor Shklovsky's concept of "de-familiarization" (oustranenie). But no matter where he found them, every cur-

rent theatrical production will use one, if not more, of Brecht's innovations. At the curtain call, Sam Woodhouse adds an apt V-effect tag, which may be original. His four stagehands, who have labored in plain sight all evening, take a well-deserved

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.

Acts of Faith

Grace Paley said writers have two ears: "that literary ear, and it's a good old ear," and the one that hears the language of home, of your street, and your own people." A master of short fiction, Paley relied on the latter in stories with recurring characters, narrated by a woman named Faith, which explored her roots, immediate surroundings, and persistent questions that intruded like party crashers. Paley never wrote a novel, but the often-fragmented stories come together in "Faith in a Tree": she climbs one for a broader perspective on the "man-wide world." Paley swore she isn't Faith (who is a "composite," though Faith's activism and feminism reflect Paley's). Kathleen B. Jones's play is based on ten of the stories. These move from the late 1960s through the mid-1970s. The scenes mirror Paley's technique. What works wonders on the page, however, becomes mere snippets on the stage. Scenes flash by, as do characters and themes touched on and then dropped. We get a sense of Faith (and how she "composites" stories from the stuff of daily life) but not much of one, because the play's emphasis on form blurs the content. The Laterthanever production tries for ambitious cinematic effects: slides on separate rear screens, tall scrims, rotating platforms (turned by hand, slowly, before your eyes), jump-cut lighting. But the execution of these effects, and the pacing in general, is so time-consuming that they backfire. The large cast speaks mostly on an unassertive vocal level, taking potential drama from a scene. Kathy Diamant does a fine turn as Hegelshtein, an interloper in a wheelchair. And Linda Libby, a recent Craig Noel Award-winner, gives Faith more dimensions than exist in the script.

THROUGH MARCH 29.

Betrayal PowPAC stages Harold Pinter's drama that traces the arc of a relationship in reverse, from breakup to first stirrings. Sherrie Colbourn di-

TENTH AVENUE THEATRE, 930 TENTH

7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS

AVENUE, DOWNTOWN, THURSDAYS.

4 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 7 P.M.

POWPAC, POWAY'S COMMUNITY THEATER, 13250 POWAY ROAD, POWAY, 858-679-8085. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M THROUGH MARCH 29.

The Coffee Shop

Chronos Theatre Group and Talent to aMuse Theatre present a new translation (by Celeste Innocenti) of Carlo Goldoni's comedy, in which "Scandal, Caffe, and Carnevale all come together." 619-615-8928 SWEDENBORG HALL, 1531 TYLER AV

ENUE, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 21.

Continuous City

The La Jolla Playhouse hosts a performance by the Builders Association, a New York-based performance and media company that creates original stories out of "new LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA

VILLAGE DRIVE, UCSD, 858-550-1010. FRIDAY, 8 P.M. SATURDAY, 2 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAY, 2 AND 8 P.M.

Facing East

Diversionary Theatre presents Carol Lynn Pearson's parable, in which "a Mormon couple confronts the limits of their spiritual teachings upon the suicide of their gay son." Marybeth Bielawski-DeLeo

DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, 619-220-0097, SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUN-DAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 5

The History Boys

What's the point of education? To learn basic facts, the W's of journalism? To allow the mind to roam? Or just to pass tests and make school superintendents look good? Alan Bennet's pedagogical tapestry raises these and other questions. It's 1983. The sixth form students at Cutler's School for Boys dream of going to Oxford or Cambridge (aka "Oxbridge"). Acceptance not only means an automatic grant from the state (no longer the case), it also confers instant status on the candidate — and Cutler's ambitious headmaster. At issue: how best to prepare the boys for Oxbridge scholarship exams in history? Though no fixated Mrs. Grundy about them, Mrs. Lintott teaches the facts. Hector, a loose cannon (even sexually, since he gropes his students on his motorcycle), defines himself as the antidote to rote learning. He urges a personal engagement with ideas: don't settle, soar. Enter Irwin, a young teacher hired to counter Hector. Irwin's all about passing the exam, but in a showy way: take the other side of a question; flash with the facts. History Boys may sound dry and theo-

retical, but it, and Cygnet Theatre's staging, is anything but. In humorous and touching ways, Bennett traces the growth of eight boys who, along with defining an approach to exams, are in the process of becoming themselves. Cygnet's opening night had an uneven feel, especially dead spots, upstage right, and slowly evolving scenes (especially when compared to the frantic, and funny, ways director Sean Murray invented for scene changes). But by act 2, the cast settled in and it became clear why History Boys won a Tony Award and other honors. Tom Stephenson's a treat throughout as red-faced, quirky Hector, As Irwin, Brian Mackey's cool, at times smug, deliveries make the young prof appropriately "meretricious." Tom Zohar heads a strong ensemble cast as Posner, who sings, plays piano, opens up his heart, but never quite fits in with his mates. Shirley Pierson's costumes invoke order (dark brown sport coats and slacks) and chaos (shoes and schoolbags range from the elegant to the tawdry). Andrew Hull's minimalist set, expertly lit by Eric Lotze, includes a river of historical graffiti. Worth a try.

CYGNET THEATRE — OLD TOWN, 4040 TWIGGS STREET, OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525 THURSDAYS 8 PM FRIDAYS 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 29.

Killer Joe

In Ansel Smith's moldy trailer on the outskirts of Dallas, there are no secrets, or boundaries. He and wife Sharla work for a living, but just enough to keep the grime-streaked fridge stocked with beer, Son Chris deals cocaine but owes \$6000 to his connection. How to raise the money? Easy: murder his mother for her life insurance. After all, he and his father agree, she's just a "beat-up old nagging ugly alcoholic woman." Ansel has misgivings, though. "You're gonna kill some body?" he asks Chris. "You can't even tell time!" They hire "Killer Joe" Cooper, a detective who moonlights as a hit man. Since the Smiths are broke and Joe wants a retainer. he takes 20-year-old virginal, sleepwalking Dottie Smith in trade. Killer Joe is Tracy Letts's first play





(he wrote the 2008 Pulitzer-winner Autumn: Osage County). Savage, creepy funny, and riveting, Killer unfolds like Tobacco Road and Curse of the Starving Class, with a dash of Greater Tuna (reimagined by Charles Whitman) thrown in Compass Theatre's production, even with some annoying tech problems, captures the play's rabid, rats-in-a-cage essence (also Letts's ironies: Killer may be the only American drama in the last 50 years that lauds the virtues of TV: as long as the tube beams, the Smiths are narcotized by the flickering light). Lisa Berger's direction never flinches at the violence, frontal nudity, or the characters' unmasked atavism. Don Pugh's Joe — slow, precise, fussy neat — is always an inch from exploding, and when he does, Michael McKeon's intricately detailed set gets a monster trashing. Amanda Cooley Davis, her hair like a mop, makes Dottie both an innocent and a ghoul, the one an outcome of the other. Joe Baker, Judy Bauerlein-Mitchell, and Mike Sears also contribute. As does Rob Hurlbut's inventive sound design, not iust the thunder and loud TV and radio, but every time that dog barks next door, trouble brews.

Worth a try.

COMPASS THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AV-ENUE, HILLCREST, 619-688-9210. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 4 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 5.

The Labyrinth of Desire

For one evening only, Ion Theatre and Moxie Theatre present a staged reading of Lope de Vega's "timeless tale of love," translated by Caridad Svich. Esther Emery and Glenn Paris codirected. 858-598-7620. LYCEUM THEATRE 79 HORTON PLAZA DOWNTOWN, MONDAY, 7 P.M.

The Metamorphosis

Grossmont College Theatre Arts Department presents a dramatic adaptation of Ovid's poem about mythical transformations. Beth Duggan directed. GROSSMONT COLLEGE, 8800 GROSS-

MONT COLLEGE DRIVE, EL CAJON. 619-644-7000. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRI-DAYS, 7:30 P.M. SATURDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 21.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

OnStage Playhouse presents Shakespeare's romantic comedy about star-crossed, criss-crossed, and uncrossed" lovers. Daniel Zisko directed

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVENUE, CHULA VISTA. 619-422-7787. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 4

Moon Over Buffalo

Moonlight Stage Productions presents Ken Ludwig's backstage farce about the marriage of two highly competitive actors. They have one last shot at movie fame. Eric Bishop directed.

AVO PLAYHOUSE, 303 MAIN STREET, VISTA. 760-724-2110. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SATUR DAYS, 2 AND 7:30 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 22

National Comedy Theatre

Improvisational comedy, making up funny stuff on the spot, is difficult enough. Years ago, however, Keith Johnstone thought it'd be

more exciting if done competitively. He got the idea from pro wrestling ("where Terrible Turks mangled defrocked priests while grannies waved their handbags"). National Comedy Theatre, an offshoot of Johnstone's TheatreSports (artistic director Gary Kramer says the two compare like "rugby and American football"), resembles an athletic event more than an improv. Teams wear uniforms and compete on ActroTurf. Using suggestions from the audience, they play "Emotional Sympathy," "Blind Line," and "Freeze Tag," with judges awarding points to the best scenes. Klunkers and groaners get booed; quick wit rewarded (one of the most refreshing parts of the contest: people acknowledge failure, abundantly, then forget it). It makes for a lively, often funny evening. And Gary Kramer is one talented comedian.

Worth a try.

MAROUIS THEATER, 3717 INDIA STREET. MISSION HILLS, 619-295-4999, FRI-DAYS, 7:30 AND 9:45 P.M. SATURDAYS 7:30 AND 9:45 P.M. OPEN-ENDED RUN.

1001 Grains of Sand

San Diego State University School of Theatre, Television, and Film presents "a young person's adventure around the earth" on the ancient Silk Road in 1300. DON POWELL STAGE, SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY, 5500 CAMPANILE DRIVE. SDSU. 619-594-5091. THURSDAY, 8 P.M., FRIDAY, 10 A.M., SATURDAY, 4 P.M.

The Platt Brothers

The brothers debut their new show. which combines "family-friendly comedy, high-flying acrobatics, original music," and personal stories, 775-313-0798, www.theplattbrothers.com. SUNSET TEMPLE, 3911 KANSAS

STREET, NORTH PARK. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 25.

Room Service

Who knew? Who knew that a doorslamming farce, first produced in 1937, would resonate with such relevance today? Seven years into the Great Depression, after Sam Harris dropped the project in Philadelphia, George Abbott became producer and director of a fledgling comedy. He turned it into a Broadway hit, then sold it to the Marx Brothers for the highest price ever. The situation's what theaters across the country face today: a producer on a shoestring has a hot script but no money. Backers are backing out, and he owes the White Way Hotel a small fortune for housing his 22person cast. The show must go on - but how? Amid a giant moose head, a big bunch of bananas, a stuffed owl, doctors (both true and quack), harried hotel and doubly harried theater - folk, and maybe the world's most onthe-spot creative producer (a tribute to Abbott, who was just as inventive off-stage as on), the show not only goes on, the villain...well, see for yourself what happens to him. Robert Smyth and his Lamb's Players cast have obvious fun breaking today's rules of acting and going for broad portrayals; the broader the better, in fact. Jon Lorenz's mellifluous-voiced producer flat refuses to accept defeat, as does John Rosen's Gregory Wagner, red-faced hotel honcho; the two are a frenetic pair, around whom the cast runs a two-act steeplechase on Mike Buckley's handsome, hotel suite scenic

design. Special mention: David Cochran Heath keeps walking offstage as one character then, seconds later, comes back as someone else, equally believable, detailed, and funny. Note: Due to popular demand, Lamb's Players has extended the show's run. Worth a try.

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 OR-ANGE AVENUE, CORONADO, 619-437-0600, THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 4 AND 8 P.M. SUN-DAYS, 2 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 29.

Shipwrecked! An Entertainment

Calling himself Louis de Rougement, Henry Louis Grin (1847-1921) swore that he'd been shipwrecked (by a giant octopus) and cast away; he rode giant sea turtles and was worshipped in the Australian outback as a living god for 30 years. Problem was: Grin's descriptions were a mite too vivid. The octopus wasn't your basic, surly 15-footer; it was Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea-sized, and twice as mean. Grin got caught and for the rest of his life was renowned as "the greatest liar on earth." Regarded in hindsight, Donald Margulies's Shipwrecked is wafer thin. It's a compilation of familiar episodes from Jules Verne, Daniel Defoe, and Homer (now we get the whirlpool scene, à la Scylla and Charybdis, now My Man Friday, an aboriginal woman, whom Grin marries). But as the narrative unfolds, it's almost impossible not to suspend disbelief and go along for

the ride. The play, and the North Coast Rep's fine production, put us back in a 19th Century music hall, where Grin narrates his tale from a platform-stage. The three-person cast creates vivid

effects with minimalist means: an asbestos safety-drop becomes a sail in a storm, a baby blue blanket, roiling waves. The production, directed by Matthew Wiener, and the performances are fluid. Yetide Badaki, a newcomer to San Diego, and David McBean, a local favorite, excel. At first Badaki plays Grin's wife and McBean his trusty dog. In the last third of the 90-minute show, they up the ante, then go all in, playing at least ten different characters, each sharply defined and often (as in McBean's portrayal of Oueen Victoria) hilarious, Ron Campbell, another local favorite, creates two characters at once: de Rougement, the elastic, irrepressible raconteur; and Louis Grin, on trial and defending his story, at first, and later the right to narrate tales of wonder. Campbell's gray goatee, high combed-back hair, and wide, mischievous eves make him a dead ringer for Don Quixote, the maddest adventurer of them all. Note: due to popular demand, North Coast has extended the show's run.

Worth a try.
NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 22

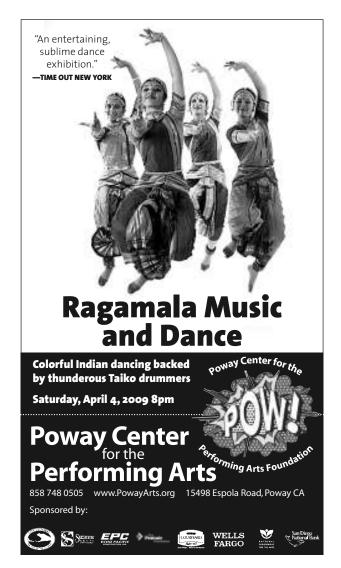
The Threepenny Opera

The San Diego Repertory Theatre stages the Bertolt Brecht/Kurt Weill musical about "love, deception, and greed run wild." Sam Woodhouse directed.

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN. 619-544-1000. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 AND 8 P.M. SUN-DAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH MARCH 29.

WorkingThe Old Globe Theatre presents Stephen Schwartz and Nina Faso's popular musical about the American worker, based on the writings of the late Studs Terkel, Gordon Greenberg directed. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. THURSDAYS 8 PM FRIDAYS 8 PM SATURDAYS, 2 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7 P.M. WEDNES-DAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 26







Calendar

MOVIES

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.

As It Is in Heaven — A world-class Swedish symphony conductor (Michael Nyqvist, a big, strong Richard Burton-y pocked face) moves back to his native village with a bad heart, whips the church choir into competitive shape, upsets the local bluenoses, shelters abused women, wins the heart of the budding Jezebel, draws out the village idiot, leads the group to Austria for a "Let the People Sing" contest. Corny, overly dramatic, histrionic, and probably crowd-pleasing. With Frida Hallgren, Helen Sjöholm, Ingela Olsson, and Lennart Jähkel; directed by Kay Pollak. 2004.

★ (GASLAMP 15, FROM 3/20)

Che: Part One — First half of Steven Soderbergh's four-and-a-half-hour worship service in honor of Che Guevara, conducted in Spanish with English subtitles, really two distinct movies. This first, in wide screen and in roomy frames, operates a time shuttle between vivid color re-enactments of the overthrow of Batista in the late Fifties and grainy black-and-white *faux* news coverage of Guevara's visit to New York in the mid-Sixties for interviews with the press and speeches at the United Nations. Nothing is sustained (the shuttle runs



Everlasting Moments

continuously) until the extended battle in the last reel or so. We instead get scenes, glimpses, moving snapshots of the Lifestyle of the Revolutionary and Famous: walking through the woods, resting up, slapping comrades on the back, exhorting the troops, etc. There are no rises and falls in the narrative contour, just a kind of flatline. Benicio del Toro and Demián Bechir can pass for Guevara and Castro as well as anybody could in the same beards and hats, and with the same pipe and cigar. Catalina Sandino Moreno, Santiago Cabrera, Elvira Minguez, Julia Ormond. 2008.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Che: Part Two — The free-standing second half of Steven Soderbergh's worship service, in narrower screen than the first half, and in less vivid color and no black-and-white, unfolds a contrastingly chronological account of Guevara's final year, 1966-67, his ill-fated attempt to do in Bolivia what he had done in Cuba. As in the first half, there is an extended battle toward the end of it, and prior to that a lot more of authentic-feeling shots (in similarly roomy frames) of the lifestyle of a revolutionary, in addition to a worrisome increase in the hero's asthmatic wheezing. His post-battle execution is as lovingly dragged out as any

screen staging of the Crucifixion. Richard Fleischer's average-sized 1969 film of the same name, minus the *Part One* and *Part Two* but plus an exclamation point, with Omar Sharif and Jack Palance as Guevara and Castro, was doubtless a Hollywood travesty, but that at least made it somewhat fun. (Jack Palance by his lonesome makes anything somewhat fun.) Soderbergh's corrective is no travesty and no fun. Benicio del Toro, Franka Potente, Joaquim de Almeida, Lou Diamond Phillips. 2008.

The Class — Free adaptation of François

Bégaudeau's nonfiction chronicle of a single year of teaching French, or trying to teach it, to a group of restive fourteen- and fifteen-year-olds at a melting-pot public school in a rough district of Paris. Bégaudeau essentially - and needless to say, convincingly — plays himself on screen, under the fictitious monicker of M. Marin, and the students are nonprofessionals chosen with no eye to beauty and glamour, but a sensitive eye to a variety of shapes and shades, Laurent Cantet, best known for Time Out and Heading South, has directed the piece with standardized documentary affectations — an air of improvisation, a raw digital image, a bobbing camera and floating frame, no background music and the teaching sessions are far less compressed than in the typical school film of minute-and-a-half classes and saved-bythe-bell. (Many of the nuances of language and accent are unavoidably lost in the English subtitles.) The circle of action is strictly confined to the school grounds, and any parents who enter into the picture must come to campus to do so. There is no continuous story arc, although the disciplinary proceedings against a chair-rocking troublemaker from Mali become the focus of the final stretch. By then we have gotten to know a few of the students quite well, while others are still getting noticed for the first time. It all feels irrefutably and exasperatingly real; and the teacher, a youthful figure given to Socratic sparring with his charges, wins our admiration for his equanimity under the constant stress. A misunderstood use of the word "skank" (as it is translated) in class discussion can be readily pardoned. For all that, the drawback of the rigorously realistic movie is that it seldom adds up to more than the sum of its parts. This isn't the exception. 2008.

★★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN, FROM 3/20; GASLAMP 15)



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presents



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Deadline to enter is Friday, March 20 at 1:00 pm. Limit one entry per person. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Seating is first-come, first-served and cannot be guaranteed. Theater is overbooked to ensure a full house.

In theaters April 3.

Confessions of a Shopaholic — The addiction nightmare played as comedy, very frothy and formulaic and materialistic comedy: a dozen maxed-out credit cards of an aspiring fashion writer, and rapacious consumer, in Manhattan ("They said I was a valued customer. Now they send me hate mail!"). The effervescent Isla Fisher dives into the role as if it's her one shot at stardom, and she hits a small jackpot out on the dance floor with a Spanish fan in hand. Hugh Dancy, Krysten Ritter, Kristin Scott Thomas, Leslie Bibb, Julie Hagerty, Joan Cusack, John Goodman; directed by P.J. Hogan. 2009.

 \bigstar (CARMEL MOUNTAIN, FROM 3/20; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20)

Coraline — A piece of 3-D stop-motion animation about a little girl with blue 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 eves 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 something extra was needed, and the distracting 3-D neither provided it nor disguised it. With the voices of Dakota Fanning, Teri Hatcher, John Hodgman, Ian McShane, Keith David. 2009. ★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MIS-SION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROME-

Crossing Over — Unctuous liberalism and clumsy manipulation on the broad subject of illegal aliens: Mexican, Australian, Iranian, Korean, Nigerian, the whole rainbow, in multiple plotlines with a *Crash*-like incidence of coincidence. (The physical beauty of the female aliens helps, of course, to fuel liberality.) Embarrassment eclipses enlightenment. Harrison Ford, Cliff Curtis, Ray Liotta, Ashley Judd, Alice Eve, Alice Braga, Summer Bishil; written and directed by Wayne Kramer. 2009.

● (GASLAMP 15; FROM 3/20)

NADE 24)

The Curious Case of Benjamin But-

ton — 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

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-eved Iew 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

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★ (GASLAMP 15)

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 Corduner, Alexa Davalos, and Jodhi May; directed by Edward Zwick. 2008.

★ (HORTON PLAZA 14; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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 writerdirector 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, overacting awesomely, is not only a holy terror as a nun but as a thespian, booby-trapping every scene with unforesceable 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. **\dark (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6)

Duplicity — Caper film with Clive Owen, Julia Roberts, Tom Wilkinson, and Paul Giamatti, written and directed by Tony Gilroy. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18;

SANTEE DRIVE IN; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SOUARE 14: FROM 3/20)

Everlasting Moments — Swedish filmmaker Ian Troell, absent from American screens for a quarter-century, and perhaps best remembered for the early-Seventies diptych of The Emigrants and The New Land, returns with another period piece, the period of pre-WWI, a period that appears to predate color, in an all-brown, almost sepia palette. The faithful Finnish wife of a violent drunken Swedish dockworker is a nice character, and her chaste relationship with a studio photographer who encourages and nurtures her "gift of seeing" is nice too. (Much more could have been done to illustrate the "gift.") Troell's heavy hand isn't altogether crushing. Maria Heiskanen, Mikael Persbrandt, Jesper Christensen. 2008.

★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Gomorrah — Worm's-eye view of the Neopolitan underworld: obscure relation-





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Calendar

ships and operations; occasional slaughter; broad expanses of banality. The unfamiliar actors and the vérité camera create a plausible impression that it's all really happening, whether or not you can make much sense of it. Based on the nonfiction best-seller by Roberto Saviano; directed by Matteo Garrone. 2008

★ (KEN, FROM 3/20)

Good — Adaptation of C.P. Taylor's play about the flowering of Nazism, with Viggo Mortensen and Jason Isaacs, directed by Vicente Amorim. (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 ("HUMmong," 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, softhearted 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. ★★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18: GASLAMP 15: LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20)

The Great Buck Howard — Affectionate and amiable portrait of a fading mentalist (a blissfully hammy John Malkovich) modelled on The Amazing Kreskin, whose fortunes have been on the downslide since Johnny Carson left The Tonight Show. Colin Hanks, as a law-school dropout hired to be the new road manager, is our innocent eyes and ears; and his real-life father, Tom Hanks, deigns to put in a couple of appear-

ances as his reel-life father. The tackiness of the title character and his stage act to some extent infects the entire enterprise. With Emily Blunt, Ricky Jay, Steve Zahn, and Griffin Dunne; written and directed by Sean McGinly, 2009.

★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE FROM 3/20)

He's Just Not That into You — As an explanation of romantic incompatibility, the catchphrase title is stunningly unilluminating, no matter which of its six words is stressed. (On screen, the third one stands out in green from the white of the rest, but that seems an arbitrary reading.) Satisfied with the what and incurious about the why, it tends to slam the door on further discussion. The screen treatment of Greg Behrendt's and Liz Tuccillo's best-selling advice book, illustrated by way of a fictitious mating game for five women and four men, is similarly incurious. It's... just... not... that... into... anybody. Its objects of study remain light on personalities, preferences, professions, particulars of any type. The stubborn superficiality, even so, puts up no impenetrable barrier to enjoyment. The filmmakers grapple with real and eternal and universal issues, in precisely the same sense that their puppets, the characters, grapple with them: the transmission and in terpretation of signs and signals, the exercise of power and will, the preservation of self, the hope of happiness. Ken Kwapis, while not a director of impressive imagination, is an efficient traffic cop, maintaining good spacing and smooth flow; and his ace cinematographer, John Bailey, oils up the action in luscious, flattering, sunsetty pinks and oranges. There are plainly too many characters, too uneven in numbers, for happy endings to be arranged across the board; and such arrangements are tricky enough to be not readily apparent from the

start. As far as they can be made, they fall well short of Jane Austen, but they nevertheless are deftly brought off, and they offer, for the susceptible, a couple of squeal-withdelight climaxes. Jennifer Aniston, Drew Barrymore, Jennifer Connelly, Ginnifer Goodwin, Scarlett Johansson, Ben Affleck, Kevin Connolly, Bradley Cooper, Justin Long. 2009.

★★ (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14: LA JOLLA 12: OTAY RANCH 12: PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; TOWN

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 amuse ment park. Nicely individualized dogs: tolerable kids; touches of real imagination in script and direction (Thor Freudenthahl in his feature debut); general geniality. With Emma Roberts, Jake T. Austin, Don Cheadle, Lisa Kudrow, Kevin Dillon, 2009.

★★ (PALM PROMENADE 24; TOWN SQUARE 14)

I Love You, Man — Buddy comedy with Paul Rudd and Jason Segal, directed by John Hamburg.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6: LA JOLLA 12: MIRA MESA 18: MISSION MARKETPLACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 20: OTAY RANCH 12; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 3/20)

The International — A murky exposé of

big-bank chicanery, not stopping short of paramilitary hit squads, is only a posturing pretext for some pretty slick thriller maneuvers: the foot chase in pursuit of what turns out to be an empty car; the nifty detective work that reveals the presence and identity of a second shooter at a political assassination in Milan; the tailing scene on the streets of New York that leads to a running gun battle at the Guggenheim; the bugged assignation in a Turkish mosque. Tom Tykwer's very precisely balanced - or just as often, precisely unbalanced - compositions proclaim an iron hand. With Clive Owen, Naomi Watts, Armin Mueller-Stahl, Ulrich Thomsen, and Brian F. O'Byrne. 2009.

★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18, GASLAMP 15, LA JOLLA 12)

Knowing — Supernatural thriller starring Nicolas Cage and Rose Byrne, directed by Alex Proyas

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSS-MONT CENTER: HORTON PLAZA 14: LA COSTA 6: LA JOLLA 12: MIRA MESA 18: MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15: RIVER VILLAGE 6: SAN MARCOS 18: SANTEE DRIVE IN; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN

The Last House on the Left — Remake of Wes Craven's 1972 revenge thriller, with Garret Dillahunt, Monica Potter, and Tony Goldwyn, directed by Dennis Iliadis. (CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASH-ION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14: LA JOLLA 12: MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA

MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL

CLAIREMONT

Town Square 14

4665 Clairemont Drive (877-789-6684) Defiance (R); Duplicity (PG-13); He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13); Hotel for Dogs $(PG); \textbf{I Love You, Man}\ (R); \textbf{Knowing}$ (PG-13); The Last House on the Left (R): Miss March (R); Race to Witch Mountain (PG); Slumdog Millionaire (R); Taken (PG-13); Watchmen (R)

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (877-789-6684) As It Is in Heaven (Not Rated); The Class (PG-13); Crossing Over (R); The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG-13); Good (Not Rated); Gran Torino (R); I Love You, Man (R); The International (R); Miss March (R); Push (PG-13); Race to Witch Mountain (PG); Rachel Getting Married (R); The Secrets (R); Taken (PG-13); Vicky Cristina Barcelona (PG-13)

Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM) Coraline (PG) Fri. (12:25, 2:45, 5:05) 7:25, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (12:25, 2:45) 5:05, 7:25, 9: Defiance (R) Fri -Sun 6:55, 10:10: Doubt (PG-13) Fri. (1:30, 4:50) 7:50, 10:25 Sat.-Sun (1:30) 4:50, 7:50, 10:25; Duplicity (PG-13) Fri. (1:00, 1:30, 4:15, 4:45) 7:15, 7:45, 10:00, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (1:00, 1:30) 4:15, 4:45, 7:15, 7:45, စ္က် 10:00, 10:30; He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13) Fri. (12:30, 4:15) 7:05, 9:55 Sat.-Sun (12:30) 4:15, 7:05, 9:55; **Knowing** (PG-13) Fri. g (12:30) 4:15, 7:05, 7:05, NINGWING (2 2 - 7) (12:45, 1:15, 4:05, 4:35) 7:00, 7:30, 9:45, 10:15 Sat. (12:45) 4:05, 7:00, 9:45 Sun. (12:45, 1:15) **Sat.** (12:45) 4:05, 7:00, 7:45 Sun. (12:15, 11) **2** 4:05, 4:35, 7:00, 7:30, 9:45, 10:15; **The Last**

House on the Left (R) Fri. (12:40, 4:10) 7:10, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (12:40) 4:10, 7:10, 9:40; Madea Goes to Jail (PG-13) Fri. (1:15, 4:40) 7:30, 10:10 Sat -Sun (1:15) 4:40, 7:30, 10:10: Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri. (1:25, 4:30) Sat.-Sun. (1:25) 4:30: Revolutionary Road (R) Fri.-Sun. 7:40, 10:20; Street Fighter: The Legend of Chun-Li (PG-13) Fri. (1:20, 4:25) Sat.-Sun. (1:20) 4:25; Watchmen (R) Fri (12:35, 1:10, 4:05, 4:35) 7:25, 8:00 Sat.-Sun. (12:35, 1:10) 4:05, 4:35, 7:25, 8:00; **The** Wrestler (R) Fri. (1:05, 4:20) 7:20, 10:05 Sat. Sun. (1:05) 4:20, 7:20, 10:05

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262) Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:55) 1:25; **Duplicity** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun (10:35) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:20; Gran Torino (R) Fri. (10:45) 1:35, 4:25, 7:20, 10:10 Sat.-Sun 1:35, 4:25, 7:20, 10:10; He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 12:45, 4:00, 7:10, 10:25; I Love You, Man (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:45) 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45; The International (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:40) 1:40, 4:35, 7:35, 10:35 Sun. 1:40, 4:35, 7:35, 10:35; **Knowing** (PG-13) Fri. Sun. (10:30) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30; The Last House on the Left (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:30) 2:15, 5:05, 7:55, 10:35 Sun, 2:15, 5:05, 7:55, 10:35; Race to Witch Mountain (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:50) 1:20, 4:05, 6:45, 9:30; Revolutionary Road (R) Fri.-Sun. 4:10, 7:05, 10:00; Taken (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 1:50, 4:20, 6:55, 9:25; **Watchmen** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:15) 3:05, 7:00, 10:15; **The Wrestler** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:10) 2:00,

La Jolla Village 8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236) Everlasting Moments (Not Rated) Fri. (1:45, 5:00) 8:00 Sat.-Sun. (1:45) 5:00, 8:00; The **Great Buck Howard** (PG) Fri. (2:15, 4:45) 7:15, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (2:15) 4:45, 7:15, 9:45; **Slumdog Millionaire** (R) Fri. (2:30, 5:15) 8:15 Sat.-Sun. (2:30) 5:15, 8:15; **Sunshine Cleaning** (R) Fri. (2:00, 4:30) 7:00, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (2:00) 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

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)

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG); Coraline (PG); Duplicity (PG-13); Fired Up (PG-13); Gran Torino (R); He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13); I Love You, Man (R); The International (R); Knowing (PG-13); The Last House on the Left (R); Madea Goes to Jail (PG-13); Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG); Race to Witch Mountain (PG); Revolutionary Road (R); Taken (PG-13); Watchmen (R)

Mission Valley 7

7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)



Latino Film Festival now playing: www.sdlatinofilm.com for titles and showtimes; **Duplicity** (PG-13) (10:30 1:30) 4:30 7:30 10:15; **Knowing** (PG-13) (11:00 2:00) 5:00 8:00 10:45; Watchmen (R) (12:15 3:45) 7:00 10:30; Barbie Presents Thumbelina (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) Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG); Coraline (PG); Duplicity (PG-13); Friday the 13th (R); Gran Torino (R); I Love You, Man (R);

Knowing (PG-13); The Last House on the Left (R); Madea Goes to Jail (PG-13); Miss March (R); Push (PG-13); Race to Witch Mountain (PG): Street Fighter: The Legend of Chun-Li (PG-13); Taken (PG-13); Watch-

STATE UNIVERSITY

Ken

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236) Gomorrah (Not Rated) Fri. (5:30, 8:30) Sat.-Sun. (2:30, 5:30, 8:30)

UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)
Che (R) Fri.-Sun. 7:30p.m.; The Reader (R) Fri. (2:00, 4:45) Sat.-Sun. (2:00) 4:45; **Slumdog Millionaire** (R) Fri. (1:30, 4:15) 7:00, 9:45, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (1:30) 4:15, 7:00, 9:45, 10:15; **Sunshine Cleaning** (R) Fri. (1:15, 2:15, 4:00, 5:00) 6:45, 7:45, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (1:15) 2:15, 4:00, 5:00, 6:45, 7:45, 9:30; **Two Lovers** (R) Fri. (1:45, 4:30) 7:15, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. (1:45) 4:30, 7:15, 10:00

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 (NR) Fri. 1:00, 3:00 Sat.-Sun. 10:00, 1:00, 3:00; Lewis & Clark & George (NR) Fri. 8:00p.m.; Van Gogh: Brush With **Genius** (NR) Fri. 4:00, 6:00 Sat. 11:00, 4:00, 6:00 Sun. 11:00, 4:00; **Wild California** (NR) Fri. 7:00p.m.; **Wild Ocean 3D** (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, 6:00

San Diego Natural History

Museum 1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821) Human Body (NR) Fri.-Sat. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 6:00, 7:30 Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 5:00

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18

405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456) Coraline (PG) Fri. (12:00, 2:25, 4:50) 7:15, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 2:25) 4:50, 7:15, 9:40; **Duplicity** (PG-13) Fri. (1:10, 1:30, 4:10, 4:30) 7:10, 7:30, 10:10, 10:35 Sat.-Sun. (1:10, 1:30) 4:10, 4:30, 7:10, 7:30, 10:10, 10:35; **Fired Up** (PG-13) Fri. (12:50, 3:20, 5:40) 8:10, 10:45 Sat. Sun. (12:50, 3:20) 5:40, 8:10, 10:45; **Gran Torino** (R) Fri. (12:00, 2:40, 5:20) 8:00, 10:40 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 2:40) 5:20, 8:00, 10:40; **He's** Just Not That Into You (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 3:10) 6:05; I Love You, Man (R) Fri. (12:15, 12:35, 2:45, 3:05, 5:20, 5:40) 7:55, 8:15, 10:30, 10:50 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 12:35, 2:45, 3:05) 5:20, 5:40, 7:55, 8:15, 10:30, 10:50; **Knowing** (PG-13) Fri. (1:00, 1:20, 3:55, 4:15) 6:50, 7:20, 9:45, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (1:00, 1:20, 3:55) 4:15, 6:50, 7:20, 9:45, 10:15; **The Last House on the Left** (R) Fri. (12:15, 2:55, 5:35) 8:15, 10:50 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 2:55) 5:35, 8:15, 10:50; **Madea** Goes to Jail (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:10, 2:35) 9:45; Miss March (R) Fri. (5:05) 7:25 Sat.-Sun. 5:05, 7:25; Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri. (12:25, 2:50, 5:45) 8:05, 10:35 Sat.-S (12:25, 2:50) 5:45, 8:05, 10:35; Race to Witch **Mountain** (PG) Fri. (12:05, 12:25, 2:35, 2:55, 5:05, 5:25) 7:40, 8:00, 10:25, 10:45 Sat.-Sun. (12:05, 12:25, 2:35, 2:55) 5:05, 5:25, 7:40, 8:00, 10:25, 10:45; **Slumdog Millionaire** (R) Fri. (1:10, 4:15) 7:10, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (1:10) 4:15, 7:10, 10:10; Taken (PG-13) Fri. (12:45, 3:05, 5:25) 7:40, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. (12:45, 3:05) 5:25, 7:40, 10:00; **Watchmen** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 3:35) 7:00, 8:55, 10:25

LA MESA

Grossmont Center 10

5500 Grossmont Center Drive (877-789-6684) Duplicity (PG-13); He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13); I Love You, Man (R); Knowing (PG-13); The Last House on the Left (R); Miss March (R): Race to Witch Mountain (PG); Slumdog Millionaire (R); Taken (PG-13); Watchmen (R)

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15

2951 Jamacha Road (800-326-3264) Coraline (PG) Fri. (11:55, 2:35, 5:05) 7:30, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (11:55, 2:35) 5:05, 7:30, 10:10; Duplicity (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 4:30) 7:20, 10:15; **Gran Torino** (R) Fri.-Sun. 7:50, 10:40; I Love You, Man (R) Fri. (11:50, 12:20, 2:30, 3:25, 5:10) 7:15, 8:00, 10:05, 10:35 Sat.-Sun (11:50, 12:20, 2:30, 3:25) 5:10, 7:15, 8:00, 10:05, 10:35; **Knowing** (PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 12:45, 3:00, 4:40) 7:00, 7:40, 9:50, 10:45 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 12:45, 3:00) 4:40, 7:00, 7:40, 9:50, 10:45; The Last House on the Left (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:40, 3:30) 6:40, 9:30; **Madea Goes to Jail** (PG-13) Fri. (12:10, 2:50, 5:25) 7:55, 10:30 Sat. Sun. (12:10, 2:50) 5:25, 7:55, 10:30; Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri. (12:15, 2:45, 5:20) Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 2:45) 5:20; **Race to Witch Mountain** (PG) Fri. (12:05, 12:35, 2:25, 3:15, 5:15) 7:10, 7:45, 9:40, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (12:05, 12:35, 2:25, 3:15) 5:15, 7:10, 7:45, 9:40, 10:20;

Slumdog Millionaire (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:50,

3:35) 6:45, 9:45; Taken (PG-13) Fri. (12:25,

2:40, 5:00) 7:35, 9:55 Sat -Sun (12:25, 2:40)

5:00, 7:35, 9:55; **Watchmen** (R) Fri.-Sun.

(11:50, 1:00, 3:20) 6:30, 6:55, 10:00, 10:25 **SANTEE**

Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447) Bedtime Stories (PG); Knowing (PG-13); Race to Witch Mountain (PG); Watchmen (R)

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10

Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)



I Love You, Man (R) (12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; Duplicity (PG-13) (11:00 1:45) 4:30 7:15 10:15; Knowing (PG-13) (11:00 1:00 2:00 4:00) 4:45 7:00 7:45 10:00 10:45; **Race to Witch Mountain** (PG) (12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; Last House on the Left (R) (12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **Watchmen** (R) (12:00 1:15 3:30) 5:00 7:00 8:30 10:30; Madea Goes to Jail (PG-13) (11:30 2:15) 4:45 7:30 10:00; Taken (PG-13) (11:15 1:30 3:45) 6:00 8:15 10:45; Barbie Presents Thumbelina (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

Otav Ranch 12

Eastlake Parkway at Olympic (858-558-2262)
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG); Coraline (PG); Duplicity (PG-13); He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13); I Love You, Man (R); Knowing (PG-13); The Last House on the Left (R); Madea Goes to Jail (PG-13); Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG); Race to Witch Mountain (PG); Slumdog Millionaire (R); Taken (PG-13); Watchmen (R)

Palm Promenade 24

770 Dennery Road (858-558-2262) Coraline (PG); Duplicity (PG-13); Fired Up (PG-13); He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13); Hotel for Dogs (PG); I Love You, Man (R); Jonas Brothers: The 3-D Concert Experience (G); Knowing (PG-13); The Last House on the Left (R); Madea Goes to Jail (PG-13); Miss March (R); Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG); Race to Witch Mountain (PG); Slumdog Millionaire (R); Street Fighter: The Legend of Chun-Li (PG-13); Taken (PG-13); The Uninvited (PG-13); Watchmen

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) Duplicity (PG-13): He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13); I Love You, Man (R); Knowing (PG-13): The Last House on the Left (R): Madea Goes to Jail (PG-13); Miss March $\begin{tabular}{ll} (R); Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG); Race to Witch Mountain (PG); Slumdog Millionaire (R); Taken $(PG-13)$; Watchmen (R) \\ \end{tabular}$

NORTH INLAND

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Carmel Mountain 14

11620 Carmel Mountain Road (877-789-6684) The Class (PG-13); Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG); Doubt (PG-13); Duplicity (PG-13); Fired Up (PG-13); I Love You, Man (R): Knowing (PG-13): Milk (R): Miss March (R); Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG); Race to Witch Mountain (PG): The Reader (R): Slumdog Millionaire (R); Taken (PG-13); Watchmen (R); The Wrestler (R)

ESCONDIDO

Escondido 16

Chula Vista

555 Broadway #2050 • Chula Vista

Mission Marketplace

431 College Blvd. • Oceanside

350 W. Valley Parkway (760-291-0119) Call theater for program information.

FALLBROOK

River Village 6

5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784)



 $\textbf{Duplicity} \; (PG\text{-}13) \; (11\text{:}00 \; 1\text{:}45) \; 4\text{:}30 \; 7\text{:}15$ 10:00; Knowing (PG-13) (11:30 2:15) 5:00 8:00 10:45; Race to Witch Mountain (PG) (12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; Last House on the Left (R) (12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:15 10:45: Watchmen (R)(12:00 3:30) 7:00 10:30; Slumdog Millionaire (R) (11:15 2:00) 4:45 7:30 10:15; Barbie Presents Thumbelina (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only

No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu. No 11 am-3:45 pm shows Tues.-Thu.

POWAY

Poway 10

13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)



Love You. Man (R) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; **Duplicity** (PG-13) (10:15 1:00 4:00) 7:15 10:15; **Knowing** (PG-13) (11:00 1:45) 4:45 7:30 10:30; Race to Witch Mountain (PG) (10:00 11:30 12:15 2:00 2:45) 4:30 5:15 7:00 7:45 9:30 10:15; Last House on the Left (R) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **Watchmen** (R) (10:00 12:00 1:30 3:30) 5:00 7:00 8:30 10:30; **Taken** (11:15 1:30 3:45) 6:00 8:15 10:00; No 11:15 Sat. & Sun.; No 6:00 & 8:15 Wed.; Slumdog Millionaire (R) (10:30 1:15) 4:15 7:15 10:15; Barbie Presents Thumbelina (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

SAN MARCOS

San Marcos 18

1180 West San Marcos Boulevard at Old California Walk (760-471-3711) Call theater for program information.

VISTA

Vista Village Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive (760-945-7469)

Coraline (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:20, 4:40); Duplicity (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 11:20, 35, 2:05, 4:20, 4:50) 7:05, 7:45, 9:50, 10:30; I Love You, Man (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:45, 12:30, 2:20, 3:00, 4:50, 5:30) 7:30, 8:05, 10:00, 10:30;

La Costa

6941 El Camino Real • Carlsbad

Flower Hill

2630 Via de la Valle • Del Mai

Knowing (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 11:30, 1:35, 2:15, 4:25, 5:00) 7:15, 7:50, 10:00, 10:30; The Last House on the Left (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:40, 12:20, 2:10, 2:50, 4:45, 5:20) 7:20, 8:00, 9:50, 10:30; **Madea Goes to Jail** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 2:35, 5:00) 7:25, 10:05; **Miss March** (R) Fri.-Sun. 7:00, 9:15; **Race to Witch Mountain** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:35, 12:15, 2:10, 2:50, 4:35, 5:15) 7:05, 7:40, 9:35, 10:10; **Slumdog Millionaire** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 2:00, 4:45) 7:30, 10:15; **Taken** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.

(12:10, 2:30, 5:05) 7:35, 10:05; Watchmen (R)

NORTH COASTAL

Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 3:45) 7:10, 10:25

CARLSBAD

Plaza Camino Real

2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469) Call theater for program information.

Del Mar Highlands 8

El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)



I Love You, Man (R) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:15; Knowing (PG-13) (11:00 1:45) 4:30 7:30 10:30: Race to Witch Mountain (PG) (10:00 12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; **Last** House on the Left (R) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; Watchmen (R) (10:00 12:00 1:30 3:30) 5:00 7:00 8:30 10:30; Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) (11:15) 4:45; He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13) (2:00) 7:15 9:45: **Taken** (PG-13) (10:45 1:15 3:45) 6:15 8:30 10:45; No 10:45 am Sat. & Sun.; Barbie Presents Thumbelina (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

Flower Hill 4

2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425)



Duplicity (PG-13) (10:30 1:30) 4:30 7:30 10:30: Two Lovers (PG-13) (10:00 12:30 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **The Reader** (R) (11:15 2:00) 5:00 8:00 10:45; **Slumdog Millionaire** (R) (10:15 1:00 3:45) 7:00 10:00; No 7:00 Wed. No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

ENCINITAS

La Paloma

471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW)

Slumdog Millionaire (R)

LA COSTA

La Costa 6

6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)



I Love You. Man (R) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; **Duplicity** (PG-13) (10:15 1:15) 4:15 7:15 10:00; Knowing (PG-13) (10:45 1:30) 4:30 7:30 10:15; Race to Witch Mountain (PG) (10:00 12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; **Doubt** (R) (10:30 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; No 10:30 Sat. & Sun.; **Watchmen** (R) (12:00 3:30) 7:00 10:30; Barbie Presents Thumbelina (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

OCEANSIDE

Mission Marketplace 13

College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-806-1790)



I Love You, Man (R) (11:15 2:00) 4:45 7:30 10:00; Will play also play at 10:00 am on Wed. only; **Duplicity** (PG-13) (11:00 11:30 1:45 2:15) 4:30 5:00 7:15 7:45 10:00 10:30; **Knowing** (PG-13) (11:00 11:45 1:45 2:30) 4:30 5:15 7:15 8:00 10:00 10:45; Race to Witch Mountain (PG) (11:30 12:15 2:00 2:45) 4:15 5:00 7:00 8:00 9:30 10:15; Last House on the Left (R) (12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **Miss March** (R) 5:30 10:30; **Watchmen** (R) (12:00 3:30) 7:00 10:30; Madea Goes to Jail (PG-13) (12:30 3:00) 8:15; Barbie Presents Thumbelina (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

Oceanside 16

401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733) Call theater for program information.



Del Mar Highlands

12905 El Camino Real • San Diego

13475 Poway Rd. • Poway

ay Creekside Plaza

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San Diego Reader March 19, 2009

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Calendar

BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Milk — Gus Van Sant's celebratory biopic on Harvey Milk, the gay-rights activist and San Francisco City Supervisor martyred by assassination in 1978. However useful as pep rally or memorial service, the film comes up short as drama, relying altogether too much on Position Statements, Slogans, Bromides, primarily through the protagonist's stump speeches and a serialized inthe-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 birdlike in his lightness and tightness, very vulnerable in his worries and very touching in his joys, unshy about the kissy-face with James Franco and Diego Luna, bravely not avoiding homosexual stereotype yet nicely avoiding caricature. It immediately takes its place alongside the performances of Mystic River, Dead Man Walking, Casualties of War, maybe one or two others, in the actor's best-of portfolio. With Josh Brolin, Emile Hirsch, Alison Pill, Victor Garber. 2008. ★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

Miss March — Sex comedy starring, and co-written and co-directed by, Zach Cregger and Trevor Moore.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; TOWN SOUARE 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; HORTON PLAZA 14; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14)

Push — Differently gifted paranormals, on the model of the Fantastic Four and the X-Men, battle over a wonder drug in a secreted syringe in Hong Kong. The possibilities are endless, and so, in consequence, is the tedium. Paul McGuigan's hopped-up direction only increases it. Chris Evans, Dakota Fanning, Camilla Belle, Djimon Hounsou. 2009.

• (GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20)

Race to Witch Mountain — Disney revisits the titular summit, thirty years later, but not to pick up the paranormal adolescents in middle age. (Kim Richards and Ike Eisenmann, the original kids of Escape from... and Return to..., can be spotted in bit parts.) The action is ineptly directed by Andy Fickman, and Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson explores his comic range as a Vegas cabbie, a very short journey. With Anna-Sophia Robb, Alexander Ludwig, Carla Gugino, Ciarán Hinds, Tom Everett Scott. 2009.

● (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 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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)

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 antiseptic 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 sitdown 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; HILL-CREST CINEMAS)

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

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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 madman, 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. ★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12) Roman de Gare — Claude Lelouch, still

Yates novel and then going beyond the

novel in search of a present-day perspective,

very much his own man at age seventy, retains an authentic romanticism and optimism, undimmed by rueful realities. A fully rounded filmmaker, good with actors, locales, color, camera, movement, dialogue the works, he is here shown off at about 300 degrees of his maximum circumference. Fundamentally a thriller, to do with the chance encounter of two strangers at a highway rest stop and the best-selling novel that results from the encounter, the film is more scrupulously plotted than his norm (one of his habitual laxities), negotiating a course of tricky twists and turns without feeling forced or underhanded. Dominique Pinon, generally cast for his dentureless funny looks, is led to new dimensions of humanity as one of the strangers; and as the other, Audrey Dana, a fresh face if not an especially young one, quite an expressive and complicated face, is a bountiful discovery. Fanny Ardant as the best-selling novelist, notwithstanding her assortment of wigs, comes as no surprise. She comes as a sure thing. 2007.

★★★★ (SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY, 3/23, 6:30 P.M.)

The Secrets — The academically advanced daughter of a fundamentalist rabbi, postponing her arranged marriage in order to study the Talmud at a seminary for women in the holy city of Safed, gets thrown together with a cigarette-smoking rebel from France, and the two of them (the ardent Ania Bukstein, the kittenish Michal Shtamler) take upon themselves a customdesigned program of redemption for a dying French expatriate and ex-convict (the regularly magnificent Fanny Ardant, more magnificent than usual). It's a story, twists and turns aplenty, of feminism and sisterhood in an exotic culture with specific obstacles and specific personalities to negotiate them. The logic of it can pass as the logic of destiny, the bringing together of these people in this place for this purpose, to carve out a life path that diverges from the path that had been charted, a twisty, turny one in place of a paved straightaway. To say it a different way, the logic of it can pass as an object lesson in the art of fiction. This is how the trick is supposed to be done, one thing leading inexorably to another with step-by-step credibility, cumulative implication, climactic impact. It fascinates and illuminates. Directed by Avi

★★★★ (GASLAMP 15)

Slumdog Millionaire — Feverish daydream, partly amorous, partly avaricious, around an unschooled Bombay teenager

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Best user comments from Reader website

Watchmen 2009

I still have to see this movie!!! It looks cool.:) By **JulieParrots** 12:30 a.m., Mar 10, 2009

Watchmen 2009

From a Facebook posting by a friend of mine: "Dan Murphy is wishing he had \$10.25 back that he spent on *Watchmen*—what a waste of money." I guess that sums it up.

By **alansegal** 10:11 a.m., Mar. 11, 2009

Coraline 3-D 2009

Uses layering and forced perspective to provide an immersive 3-D experience and draw you into the narrative rather than the "comin' at ya" type that so often uses the technology to point outwards at the audience for novelty effect. This is a remarkable movie and should be seen in a 3-D theatrical setting. Selick (Not Tim Burton, folks — Selick also directed *Nightmare Before Christmas*) shows the influence of having storyboarded Walter Murch's *Return to Oz* by even further enhancing the Grimm elements of Neal Gaiman's story. But rather than moralizing to children for the purposes of inducing a fear-based obedience, this movie thematically attempts to express the importance of questioning the motives of benevolent authority, appreciating the boundaries of friends and family and the rewards of self-confidence.

The voice acting is terrific. Keith David, McShane, French, and Saunders expectedly so, but Fanning, Hatcher, and Hodgman are also refreshingly great and inhabit their characters to such an extent that one is not distracted by their vocal familiarity. Keith David doesn't actually start speaking until about halfway in, but what a role. This differs from the book in many ways, but I read it too long ago to make a detailed comparison. Suffice to say, it is thematically consistent and is unlike so many adaptations, children's films, and 3-D movies in that it does not disappoint or condescend. By **trere8** 7:26 a.m., Mar. 16, 2009

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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; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSS-MONT CENTER; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; LA PALOMA, OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24: PLAZA BONITA 14: POWAY 10: RIVER VILLAGE 6: TOWN SOUARE 14)

Sunshine Cleaning — Thin slice of American nutloaf, the main ingredients of which are two Albuquerque sisters partnered in the business of "Crime Scene Cleanup." (A pre-credits shotgun suicide demonstrates the need.) Amy Adams, a single mom in an adulterous affair with an old boyfriend, is a roller-coaster actress overtly sharing every little rise and fall of feeling, while Emily Blunt, as her irresponsible junior, maintains a shivery tension, not exactly steadier but at any rate not as wide-ranging. And Alan Arkin, as their crackpot entrepreneurial father, is evidently on board for luck: seeing as how he was in the "indie" hit Little Miss Sunshine, maybe there's box-office mojo in the combination of Arkin and Sunshine. Clifton Collins, Jr., is easily the most appealing as the one-armed modelairplane hobbyist behind the counter of the cleaning-supplies store. Jason Spevack, Steve Zahn, Mary Lynn Rajskub, Eric Christian Olsen; directed by Christine Jeffs. 2009. ★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS: LA JOLLA VILLAGE: FROM 3/20)

Taken — A ring of Albanian white slavers (Middle Eastern buyers) has the bad fortune to shanghai the virgin daughter of a retired American superspy — "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. Maggie Grace, Famke Janssen, Olivier Rabour din 2009

• (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8: FASHION VALLEY 18: GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Two Lovers — The movie itself was rather overwhelmed by the advance an-

nouncement that its star, Joaquin Phoenix, was hereupon retiring from acting to pursue a career in hip-hop. It is a movie easily overwhelmed, an intimate little indie directed and co-written by James Gray (The Yards, We Own the Night, both with the selfsame Phoenix), about a suicidal jilted suitor who has moved back home with his parents in Brighton Beach and toils by day in their dry-cleaning store. In aid of his recovery, they try to set him up with a business associate's nice, sweet, kind daughter (the Hilary Swank-y Vinessa Shaw), whose professed favorite movie is The Sound of Music, "That is a good movie," he allows. "Underrated." But he, for his part, only has eyes for Trouble: the "completely fucked-up" drug-abusing girl next door (Gwyneth Paltrow), or more exactly girl upstairs and across the courtvard, who is deep in an affair with a married man. The simple story, a tony takeoff on Dostoevski's often-filmed White Nights, doesn't have far to go and takes a long, slow time to get there. Phoenix's striking discomfort in the leading role - the adolescent awkwardness in his body, the Herculean effort of speaking clearly and audibly - inevitably raises the question of whether his discomfort is the character's or the actor's. Either way, it works in the role, but the question is a distraction. With Isabella Rossellini, Moni Moshonov, Elias Koteas 2009

★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Vicky Cristina Barcelona — You can't claim that Woody Allen's rapid rate of production doesn't show. Even the title of this one sounds more like brainstorming for a title than like a final decision: three names off the chalkboard of keywords. Vicky and Cristina, two separate people, are dissimilar American friends, the first pragmatic and steady, the second capricious and restless, together visiting Barcelona for the summer. (Allen's British sojourn seems to be over, though he's not ready to come home.) The young women are picked up in tandem by a brooding Catalan artist with a legendarily tempestuous love life, flown off to Oviedo, seduced in sequence, separated by choice. Then the artist's ex-wife re-enters the scene after her attempted suicide, setting up a ménage. The film is almost more a sketch than a fully filled-in picture, a skeleton thin on flesh. (If Allen tends to hurry his ideas, it may be because he always has new ones waiting to join the queue. More than he can get to in a lifetime.) The dialogue, much of it in the writer's laziest declarative vein -I'm this, you're that, he or she's the otherhas not been polished anywhere near his brightest sparkle. And the dryasdust omniscient narrator spares him a heap of expository labor: "One evening Mark and Judy took them to the opening of a friend's art gallery." The half-baked aspect has its upside. In consequence of the cut corners and rushed development, a lot happens in only ninety minutes, and Allen can lay out on a broad canvas his vision of human discontentment and self-ignorance. He can lay it out as a pattern, not as an isolated instance. The complicating appearance of Penelope Cruz as the ex-wife, shrewdly put off till just past the halfway point, is a potent pick

me-up in a flagging narrative, a powerfully physical, sensual, passionate presence that deliciously shows up the callow blankness of Scarlett Johansson and Rebecca Hall. With Javier Bardem, Patricia Clarkson, Kevin Dunn, Chris Messina. 2008.

★★ (GASLAMP 15) Watchmen — Continued escalation in the superhero genre, one or two stair-steps above The Dark Knight. Adapted from "the most celebrated graphic novel of all time (the escalation commences, even if the kudo is roughly akin to "the most celebrated reality-TV show" or "most celebrated MMA fighter"), it runs almost two hours and three-quarters, though "runs" really isn't the word. The violence intermittently, but not relentlessly, reaches levels of post-Romero horror-film gore. (Zack Snyder, the director, came to fame with his remake of Romero's Dawn of the Dead.) The population of superheroes, without an exact head count, seems to exceed that of the X-Men. And the fashionable "darkness" of the genre deepens all the way to a purgative holocaust of Biblical dimensions. For literal brinkmanship, the Doomsday Clock that monitors U.S.-Soviet relations (as of 1985 in an alternative universe) starts out at five minutes to midnight. But a profusion of flashbacks — a profusion of biographical backstories — has the effect of dissipating any tension in the countdown to doomsday. A present-tense romance between a couple of second-generation superheroes has a similar effect. And a converging murder investigation fails to assert its relevance in a timely manner. As a piece of storytelling, it's

Goode, Jeffrey Dean Morgan. 2009. ● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSS-MONT CENTER: HORTON PLAZA 14: LA COSTA 6: LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MIS-SION 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)

a complete botch. Back tracks and tangents,

structibles, a cliché no matter how extraor-

dinarily talkative the combatants, adds in-

stant boredom to the brewing boredom.

Malin Akerman, Patrick Wilson, Billy

Crudup, Jackie Farle Haley, Matthew

though they have their uses, don't suit doomsday. And the climactic battle of inde-

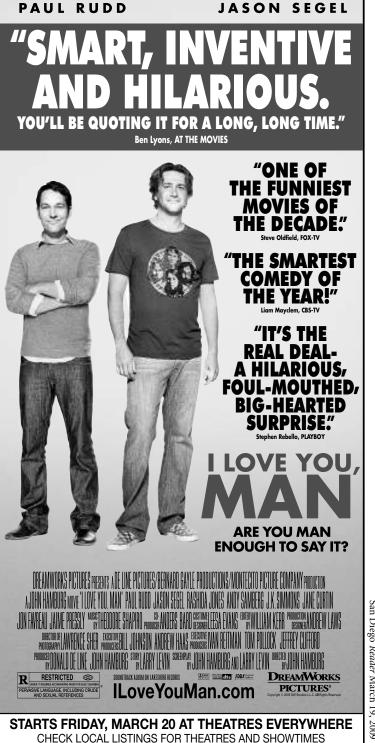
The Wrestler — It was a stroke of fortune



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 Avatollah, 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 exhibition-

istic mode of Before the Devil Knows You're Dead, plus nipple rings and tattoos), a postmatch 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 Dardenne 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. ★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; HORTON PLAZA 14;

LA JOLLA 12)



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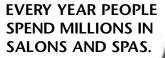
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THE READER PUZZLE:

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 vou've written. This is optional, but it's a great way to express yourself. You may submit a new message weekly. We reserve the right to reject offen-

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. Submissions must be attached to e-mails in JPG format, 800 by 800 pixels, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed.
5) 10 Reader T-shirts are awarded

weekly to contenders chosen randomly! And now for the really small print

1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided. 2) Late entries will not be considered.

3) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
4) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible

Across

- 1. Packed, as freight
- 6 Attention getters
- 11. Responses to tattoo artists
- 14. "Had ____ and couldn't keep her" (nursery rhyme line)
- 15. Mr. T series, with "The"
- 16. Animation frame
- 17. Title character in a 2000 Will Smith movie
- 19. Oaxaca uncle
- 20. Authorizes
- 21. Creator of Easter eggs

- 22. Peruvian beast
- 24. Pull back (in)
- 26. As comic Alan King once noted, he "does nothing, but he does it better than anyone else on television"
- 29 Nine: Prefix
- 31. Love-love, e.g.
- 32. Use a stopwatch again, say
- 34. Your and my
- 35. Quarterback whose mother, Wilma, serves on the board of the Professional Football Players Mothers' Association
- 41. It's never in a neat order
- 42. Like movie theaters
- 44. "The Cup of Tea" painter Mary
- 49 Pet
- 50. Nobelist known for his dogs
- 54. "The bird a nest, the _, man spider friendship": Blake
- 55. Author of "The Very Hungry Caterpillar"
- 56. Busy as
- 58. Oaxaca gold
- 59. Flight board info: Abbr.
- 60. Popular moniker of a moving day helper... or a hint to this puzzle's theme
- 64. "Love Story" composer Francis
- 65. What caring people give
- 66. Feudal lord
- 67. Jr. and sr.
- 68 Babes in the woods
- 69. Miscalculated

1. Worker

- 2. Dreamed no more
- 3. Starts eating
- 4. Alphabet trio
- 5. Monopoly card
- 6. Put asphalt on
- 7. Has the leading role 8. Rep.'s counterpart
- 9. Tic-___-toe
- 10. Gets a whiff of
- 11. Book size
- 12. Central German city
- 13. Ferris Bueller's girlfriend
- 18. Deli slice
- 23. DMV ID
- 25. Ja's opposite
- 27. 34-Down, in Latin
- 28. Spanish poet Federico Garcia
- 30. Ovid's "I love"
- 33. "Don't Cry for Me
- Argentina" musical
- 34. It's next to nothing
- 36. When Hamlet says "Alas, poor Yorick!"
- 37. Little bite
- 38. On the briny
- 39. Subsided
- 40. Libation
- 43. Like fillets 44. Actress Tyson
- 45. Online game character
- 46. Famed Big Apple eatery
- 47. Where to see Tina Fey as Sarah Palin
- 48. Tarzan, e.g.
- 51. Words before averages or gravity
- 52. Passing notes?
- 53. Walter Reed patient
- 57 Tony winner Jennifer
- 61. "Now it's clear!"
- 62. "There's _ _ in 'team'"
- 63. Tire filler

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SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS:

indicates T-shirt winner. Number indicates successful entries.

Flo Abena, Rancho Penasquitos, 10. "The woods! Don't wild, hungry animals live in the woods? Cecile Alcaraz, Chula Vista,

Mary Arana, Encinitas, 10. Stuart Aunger, Chula Vista,

10. "I want my Remote Control King back!" Jen Barnes, University

Heights, 10. Shannon Barry, Pine Valley, 10. "See Fiddler on the Roof in Alpine, 3/19-3/28!"

Jeff Battles, Serra Mesa, 10. You almost aot me this time Olga Betteridge, Ocean Beach, 10. "Our wedding's coming. i adore you, darling.

Tim Betteridge, Hillcrest, 10. "True love comes once in a life. I'm glad I found it."

Charlotte Brown, Clairemont, 10. Marvin A. Brown, Clairemont,

E.T. Cage, Carmel Mtn., 10. "# everyone would be quiet we could move up. Phillip Castle, Carlsbad, 10.

A.T. Certik, Bonita, 10. Betsy Cory, Chula Vista, 10. Gerard Dermody, Encinitas, 10. "Avoid saying this at a funeral: Good

Gary Dismukes, Scripps Ranch. 10. "To ET: iPhone home (or is it

Jeff Doerner, Clairemont, 10.

Bette Eberhardt, Pine Valley, 10. "Constant vigilance. William Edwards, Kensington, 10. Harry Engel, La Jolla, 10. "H.E.

Ben Espe, Mission Valley, 10. "Can SDSU win an NCAA March Madness game once?"

D. Faulkner, University Heights. 10. "Bike Nazi chills! Yachting in Mexico hopefully increases optimism, appreciation.

Rand Feura, Santee, 10. Justin Finke, Sorrento Valley, Barney Firks, Ocean Beach, 10.

Bill Griffin, Crest, 10. "This one was hard (that's what she said)." Ernie Hsu, San Diego, 10. "Go green! Happy St. Patrick's Day! Norman Kenney, Carlsbad, 10. "Happy St. Patrick's Day! Kiera, Bodo, Mom and Dad "

Elaine Marume, Oceanside, 10.

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.

Joe Maginn, Mission Beach, 10. "It's not - it's words that sound dirty like mukluk.

Kyle Matzke, Vista, 10. "Sacramento incompetence deserves recall of Governor and Leaislature. Bob Maxwell, Coronado, 10.

Anna McCutcheon, Down 10. "www.paintwithdan.com 1-story exterior, just \$1900. Ron Meyer, Santee, 10. "Hi from

the Marlboro Ranch. Gary Mocko, Ocean Beach, 10. "Ferroequinologists

welcome...sdmem.com. Elizabeth Noll, Alpine, 10. "These Jim Odell, Vista, 10. "We 3: me

Julie Osburn, North Park, 10. "Thanks so much for the T-shirt last

Robert Ott. Mira Mesa. 10. "10

Gil Patricio, San Diego, 10. "Did you put enough stamps on that?" John Pertle, Santee, 10. "Believers: 1 Corinthians 2:9-3:3; all others: John 3:18; 3:36."

Robert Phillips, Downtown, 10. "Indecision may or may not be my biggest problem.

Matt Read, La Mesa, 10, "Congrats to Eric and Lora, for time and all

Don Reckles, Carmel Valley, 10. "Happy 6th Anniversary to the love of my life."

Jerry Riccio, Rancho Bernardo, 10. Doug Rodgers, Rancho Penasquitos, 10. Eric Sandquist, Allied Gardens, 10. Ted Scafidi, Hillcrest, 10. "Men-

dax, rapax, et occisic capax. Eddie O. Spaghettio, Coronado, 10. "143U15! M.M woulda gotta me HOT, but you gettame HOTTER!

San Diego Reader March 19, 2009 2

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS CONTINUED:

Sue Coffey, Southwest SD, 9.

"Can't you get the Reader out at 5

Jon Connor, Oceanside, 9. "I've heard about the Big Kahuna Burger.

"Readerites, thank you for the T-shirt."

Craig Curtis, Escondido, 9.

your clothes, your boots, and...

I'm not late this week!

we drink here."

Vince Cuseo, Vista, 9. "I need

Carolyn Dalton, Escondido, 9.

Pat DePew, San Diego, 9. "Hope

Thomas Diehl, Escondido, 9. "In

Kurt Dornbusch, Mission Valley,

9. "What's a matta you eh?"

LT...and April is the best."

Alfred Egaran, San Diego, 9.

Manny Faria, Point Loma, 9.

"You are the love of my life, Pooh!"

Marie Grace, College Area, 9.

Joe Griffin, Crest, 9. "Erin Go

champ of Spider Solitaire. Go airl.

"I invented it's not you, it's me!"

Iggie Guerrero, Bay Ho, 9. "Ophe

Bryan Hartman, Golden Hill, 9.

Braugh! Long live the Irish."

"I'm very relieved that we kept

Heaven there's no beer: that's why

am everywhere?

r indicates T-shirt winner

Tom Somich, Clairemont, 10. Thelma Strickland-Hicks, Del Mar, 10, "Have you tried the Encinitas Cafe yet? Ask for Bubbles!" Pamela Swain, College Area, 10. "Hip hip hooray - it's DST!"

Glenn Walker, Pacific Beach, 10. "The harder you work the more luck vou have.

Mark Wilde, Spring Valley, 10. "To my Monte Vista boys, Steele and

Blake, ao Monarchs!" Ann Winder, Hillcrest, 10. "This is number ten.

Ric Witt, Clairemont, 10. "March Madness - it doesn't get any better than this!"

Sheila Agahan-Price, Oceanside, 9. "Completed this on painkillers!

Lucy Alderson, Chula Vista, 9. "When you are still, you are who you are."

Martha Awdziewicz Clairemont, 9. Glory Cadenhead, Clairemont, 9. "Hey Kat. I'm chillin'.

Leslie Chase, Campo, 9. "Mv orange rose in Texas, Bill's her words to write."

Anne Hinton, Point Loma, 9. "Love your bike."

Ron Hootman, Santee, 9.

Ralph Hayward, El Caion, 9. "Hi

"Hoot 101: over 2 years and no tee -I'm patient.

Richard Hutchings, Santee,

George Jackson, Oceanside, 9. Benvicky Javier, San Diego, 9.

"Thanks Barack, now my children will remember me penniless. Jim Koziol, UTC. 9. "Finally!"

Peter Kronfeld, Normal Heights, 9. Frank Kuzniar, Carlsbad, 9. "Initium est dimidium facti.

Lane and Gaby Litke, Chula Vista, 9.

Michael Lodahl, Mission Valley, 9. "ME Lodahl, actually, to stay with the nuzzle theme

Michael McGriffin, Bay Park, 9. "at last, my love has come along. Ftta lames"

Thomas McVeagh, Lakeside, 9. "Serenity - what a concept!" Pam Mecklenborg, Pacific Beach, 9. "Thanks for the T-shirt! I

should be at 10 this week!" Chuck Merritt, Spring Valley, 9. Irving Metzger, San Diego, 9.

Rumir Miravalles, San Diego, 9. "You cannot shake hands with a

clenched fist " C.J. Muellner, Spring Valley, 9. "All about meander T-shirt

Marge Nelson, El Cajon, 9. "Heartland Lions We Serve. Jim Piburn, Point Loma, 9.

Bill Pischke, Ramona, 9, "There's an orange rose in Texas that I'm

Don Prince, Serra Mesa, 9. "Fleetwood Mac's Penguin - the best album ever! I isten to it "

John Prince, Serra Mesa, 9. "Black T-shirt in sun, living lizard life in San Diego."

Elizabeth Rainbolt, Mission Valley, 9. Dave Small, San Carlos, 9. Clinton Smith, La Mesa, 9.

"Don't resist growing old - many are denied the privilege

Elenore Stephens, Potrero, 9. "P-town 4 life. Mariorie Stewart, Point Loma,

9. "Greetings to fellow puzzlers!" Gayle Studer, Mission Valley, 9. "The whole idea is to get a shirt for Andre.

Lisa Torrescano, Spring Valley, 9. "Let's get whiskey bent and hell

Jim Vaughan, Carlsbad, 9.

Nedda Viscovich, Cardiff, 9. Bob Werner, Bay Park, 9. Steve Wilson, Spring Valley, 9. M. Zimmermann, Vista, 9.

www.gopnot4me.blogspot.com Ken A., Ocean Beach, 8. "Hicks and Carlin are gone - banal comics

Thomas Baggot, Carlsbad, 8. "This one was difficult.

Bruce Bell, South Park, 8. Jav Berkowitz, La Jolla, 8. "Wow! Lindsay and Anthony are getting married."

Mike Bullock, Rancho Bernardo, 8. Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 8. "Hey, let's go for drinks real soon,

Maria Coda, Oceanside, 8. "Hi

Ben Cooper, Gaslamp, 8. "It ain't me. babe, no, no,no..

Donna Cresta, Chula Vista, 8. "Ski, I have given up on you." John L Drehner, North Park, 8.

"German son: Look Ma, no Hans!" John Fabry, San Diego, 8. "Life's a beach. Don:t get sand in your eyes. Bud Fisher, Mira Mesa, 8. "No, hut I think we have the same doctor. I.C. Garcia, Golden Hill, 8.

Greg Harkless, San Diego, 8. "Beware the Windmill People!

Julie Hocking, Normal Heights, 8. "Go crazy

Ellie Hoey, Spring Valley, 8. "Hi Hankl

Billy Horton, Santee, 8. Jerry Jones, Oceanside, 8. "Is the eiahth time the charm?

Sara Khwaja, Poway, 8. "Hello Barbara and Brian, Happy sailing! Thisby Krakatoa, San Diego, 8. "Finally! Gee whiz."

Wayne Mathieu, Clairemont, 8. "Happy Birthday Becky."

Willie McGee, San Diego, 8. "No soup for you. No T-shirt either Susan Morfey, Little Italy, 8. "Happy Birthday to our pal Geoff H." James C. Nelson, El Caion, 8.

Janie Redmond, Cardiff, 8. "We remember Don Rubin " Michael Rewa, Allied Gardens,

8. "Nostalgia is not what it used to

Tom Seaman, Alpine, 8. Rich Sewell, Ocean Beach, 8. "Happy St. Patty's Day and b-days to Elaina and me.

Kay Stefferud, Carlsbad, 8. "Happy Birthday Lee. Rich Tschiegg, Scripps Ranch, 8. "I did this puzzle on LSD." Nathaniel Uv. East Village, 8. Kierkegaard Victoria, San Diego, 8.

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indicates T-shirt winner

Bob Vollmar, La Jolla, 8. Westie, San Diego, 8. "Arf." Steve and Dawn, North Park, 7. "Thank you Mike."

Clemencia Angus, Linda Vista, 7. "Happy Birthday Kevin, with love from me and Pepe. Peace."

Marilyn Cooper, Chula Vista, 7. "Help! I'm being held captive in a stimulus package!"

Jim Corbett, San Diego, 7. George Elam, Vista, 7. "How did lawyers make failure a mandatory bonus?"

● Don Erickson, Carlsbad, 7. "Hey Courtney." Gian Ghio, Chula Vista, 7. "How

Gian Ghio, Chula Vista, 7. "How come everyone who mentioned T-shirts won last week?"

Jack Hawkins, Encinitas, 7. "Words without thoughts never to Heaven go."

Tom Laurin, Chula Vista, 7.
"Man, you should give sweatshirts for

puzzles this tough!"

Aleksa Mendive, Normal

Heights, 7.

Douglas Meyers, La Mesa, 7.

"Put out an APB! Santee is missing!"

Michael Panther. Point Loma. 7.

P. Drew Papas, La Jolla, 7. "Nomaam?"

Laura Patterson, Azalea Park, 7.
"Hey Doolittles, you guys are great.
Free petsitting for life!"

Cindy Pellett, University Heights, 7. "51, Stuart, and need all the help I can get!"

Chris Peterkin, Scripps Ranch, 7.
Jay Sato, Carmel Valley, 7.

"Making the funcient forcient friend

"Weire the funniest, fanciest, friendliest, fabulous Fur Family."

Martin Soblick, Del Mar. 7

Robin Suter, La Mesa, 7.

Dave Washington, La Jolla, 7.

"Be anxious for nothing. - Phl 4:6"

Michael Wright. Downtown. 7.

"Jimmy Dean - the sausage or the rebel?"

Mike and Karen, Talmadge, 6.

"C is for loving me when I'm clumsy or crabby."

Dennis Beabout, Temecula, 6.

"Yeah! Hooray! travian.com"

Philip Blase, San Diego, 6. "I
know - I'll go to Lelibella churches."

J.D. Boucharde, North Park, 6.

"Suraya Juliane Skye Boucharde born 3/9/09. Beautiful, beautiful, beautiful." Wally Chapman, Chula Vista, 6. William Cushing, Rancho Bernardo, 6. "Congrats to Amber - you'll be a doozy of a nurse."

Chris Donnelly, Carlsbad, 6.
"Nice puzzle. How about a "r-shirt?"
Marty Ferullo, Pacific Beach,
6. "Pour some sugar on me."
Terry Golden, Clairemont, 6.

Lizzy Henry, Encinitas, 6. "Chris, want cookies this week?"

Martha Klages, Encanto, 6.

Martha Klages, Encanto, 6.

Bev Longdon, El Cajon, 6. "Welcome back from Camp, Austin."

Archie McAllister, Chula Vista,

6. "Tartan Day April 6." **Cindy Quinto, Golden Hill, 6.**"The economy died way before

Obama took office."

Carol Rabner, Escondido, 6.

Connie Rittichier, Poway, 6.

Connie Rittichier, Poway, 6. Jack Rohrer, Clairemont, 6. "How about letting message word length equal your current score?"

Joanne Sanchez, Mira Mesa, 6. "Just call me butter cuz I'm on a

Rob Warren, Sabre Springs, 6. "Is it Friday yet?"
Tom White, University City, 6.

Jerry S. Anders, Scripps Ranch, 5. "What happened to that guy in Santee with all the friends?" Evelyn Bowser, Hillcrest, 5. "House is sold." Glen and Tesi Chavira-Cournoyer, Chula Vista, 5.

"Going to Peoria to see my pads."

Dan Collins, Santee, 5. "If you really want a challenge, try cryptics!"

Susan De Masi, Fallbrook, 5.
"Olie?"

Mike Deliman, Santee, 5. "I miss Jimmie, the Magic Flute, and Witchiepoo!"

S Depka, Vista, 5. "It's all a part of life's rich pageant."

life's rich pageant."

Ben Doverdahl, San Diego, 5.

"Using both handles."

W. Hodgson, Escondido, 5. "I had the right-of-way, he had the truck."

Jon Hutchens, Encinitas, 5. N.C. Lyman, Poway, 5. "Baby-cakes - listen to one heartbeat, then the next 143"

Jenny McReynolds, Linda Vista, 5.

Phil Nichols, Escondido, 5. "Eat at Vinz!"

Denis Rees Alpine 5 "Trights."

Denis Rees, Alpine, 5. "Triglyceride got me!"

Dave Weim, Chula Vista, 5.

Stephen Wilder, Rancho Bernardo, 5. "Smee or snee? Definitely not isoner."

Greg Arimura, San Diego, 4. "I hate haters! I have faith, Mr. Moorad." Isabella Busch-Sorrenson, Ocean Beach, 4. "My Teddy is 100 years old." Joy E. Fernandez, Chula Vista,

4. "That one was hard! Hope I'm right. Shirt!"

Rubber Chicken Research Team, Mission Hills, 4. Don Romero, Ramona, 4. "I have completed 4, not 3 puzzles." D. Schick, Oceanside, 4. "Where's

the sun?"
Pablo Shaw, San Diego, 4. "Did I

get this puzzle?"

Karen Steepy, Bonita, 4.

Jack Tripp, San Diego, 4. "Buffy,

you are missed."

Woody Anderson, Carmel
Valley, 3. "Is anybody buying
Obama's stimulus plan?"

Dustin Beabout, Temecula, 3. "Goldfist! Gua!"

Dara Hetzel, Escondido, 3. "Thanks to Carson and Andrew

Armando Vargas, San Ysidro, 3. "717 and 70009! 10 years in June! I

love you."

Brian and Suzanne, Point Loma

2. "I lost the game!"
Sandra Groves, Bonita, 2.
Steve Gunsolly, Normal Heights,

2. "Is 19 Across grammatical?" Gail Jones, El Cajon, 2.

"Tough puzzle."

Emile Jossi, Ocean Beach, 2. "Fax. Don't trust USPS!"

Steve Kassiotis, San Diego, 2.

"Brand new #2, moving left, ride on."

Kathy Law, La Mesa, 2. "Hi to Al,
Marylou, and Rocio. Love to Bill.
There is "

Danielle Mentzer, North Park, 2. "Humankind. Be both." Jesse Porter, Encinitas, 2. "Happy Birthday Christinal Thanks for getting me hooked on this!"

Stacey Street, North Park, 2.
"Be nice to your barista today!"

Rod Wastier, South Park, 2.

"Support your local music scene."

Kelley Wilson, Santee, 2. "I need a T-shirt!"

Dana Bachman, San Diego, 1. "Third try is a charm, yes?"
Estrelli Bernswenapi, Chula Vista, 1. "Estrelli gets messy!"
Phyllis Grant, San Diego, 1.

"Pretty good for 84!" **Esther Janowsky, Chapel Hill, 1.**"Keep on truckin'."

Rick Walsh, Encinitas, 1. "Visi d'arte Visi d'amore"

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STAGE NOTES

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call -235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Mon-through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tues-

day.

4 SINGERS. Male/female. Auditions every Wednesday night in March/April for parody performance group. Strong posinging/harmony skills needed. E-mail resume/availability. 104371.3522@compulserye.com

ABILITY THROUGH TRAINING. The Robert Wald Actor's Studio focuses on moment- to-moment reality training. These classes unlock the actor's ability to work spontaneously and with the to work spontaneously and with the realism and intensity advocated by the industry's creative legends. Beginners welcome. Thursday evening class available, 6:30pm-10:30pm. Saturday morning. Call for information. 619-542-1216.

ACTORS, PERFORMANCE ARTISTS, anyone interested in learning and doing performance arts. Program night, April 5, 7pm. No fees. For more information, contact John, 619-504-2190.

BEST NEW ACTING WORKSHOP. Monologues, cold readings, audition techniques taught by award-winning director: Patricia Elmore Costa. Cost \$150. Mondays, 4/6/09-5/11/09, 6:30-9pm. Register: pelmore@san.rr.com. Info: www.sdactorstheatre.net.

MODELS. Amateur models needed for photo, video, web work. Ages 18-60. All photo, video, web work. Ages 18-60. All types. No experience necessary. Cash paid. Professional setting. Call Jenn, 619-379-4964.

COUNSELING & SUPPORT GROUPS

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ADDICTIONS/STRESS PROBLEMS: Couples, individual therapy. Depression, anxiety, post traumatic stress disorder, support groups, outpatient detox, interventions. Samuel Newman MFT and Associates. License # MFC25066. Sliding scale. 619-944-1346.

ANGER MANAGEMENT classes. Court listed 5-6 week, 2 hour anger classes. For more listed 5-6 week, 2 hour anger management classes. For more information, call Martha Noderer at 619

ANXIOUS? DEPRESSED? Relationship issues? Parenting/family issues? Insurance and sliding scale accepted. Individuals, couples, children, adolescents/families. Private Mission Valley location. Phaedra Scoortis, MA MFT, MFC-43174. 619-972-0209.

ARE YOU MAD? Learn how to manage your anger constructively. Gain power, control, reduce conflict and improve your relationships. Classes begin soon. Mission Valley. Jay Schneider. LCSW. Lic-9573. www.manageangerdaily.com. 858-538-5587.

CLINICAL HYPNOTHERAPY. "What the mind can conceive, the body can achieve." All issues addressed. Free consultation. Patricia R. Parlin, Ed.D. CHT403-250. Call 619-442-3661 or 619-

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hartsuyker.html. 619-269-8939.

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Heal Inner Child wounds from
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Goodlove, LCSW-1450. Goodlove
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Experiencing crisis? Relationship issues?

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consultation: 619-723-9244.

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Blue Guitar welcomes McPherson Guitars

- Spanish Concert Classicals and Flamenco
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NOTICES

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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL works for human rights. Meetings: 7pm, 2nd and 4th Thursdays. First Unitarian Church. 4190 Front (opposite UCSD Medical Center). Information: 619-283-1637.

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 posssible. 760-757-2191.

possable. 709-701-2191.

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.

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.

CHILD CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDY. Volunteers needed, 8-18 in age. Find your child's IQ! Center for Autism research and evaluation, Scripps Ranch. 858-729-4442, jreynolds@alliant.edu.

DEBTOR'S ANONYMOUS. 619-525-3065.

DIVORECARE. Sundays, 9am. 10791
Tierrasanta Boulevard, East Wing, CVCF
Campus. Free support group for those
heartbroken by divorce, separation. DVD
seminar, refreshments, conversation.

DO YOU SUFFER FROM MIGRAINES?
We are seeking volunteers who are interested in taking part in an 8-week free yoga and exercise study. Please call Kellie 619-840-4291, kdellicolli@alliant.

FILM FESTIVAL: Patagonia's Wild and Scenic Environmental Film Festival at San Diego's Gaslamp 15 Theater. 3/26/09, 6-10pm. Tickets \$20; VIP \$35. Visit www.propeninsula.org/wildscenic or call 619-

5/4-0643.

FREE CUSTOMIZED EMPLOYMENT Program for Veterans with a Service Connected Disability or those Honorably Discharged within the last 48 months. Space is limited. Call 619-424-6860.

FREE PSYCHIC HEALING/LECTURE Clinic. New visitors- free reading. Mondays, 7:30pm, 4/6, 5/4, 6/1, 7/6. By Vessa's Clairvoyant Program students. 4455 Morena Boulevard, Suite 108. 858-500 7599

GAIN SKILLS TO SUCCED. Are you 14 to 21, low income, need high school diploma or GED and work experience? Turning the Hearts Center, 619-691-9643.

LA JOLLA STORE CLOSING. Claim your consigned goods! AD and Sons, 788 Girard, La Jolla, 92037, is going out of business and closing within 30 days. Asking consigners: Eser Erdi, Inline Mirrors, Rex Internationals to pick up merchandise from store within 30 days. Proper ID required. Call 858-456-7180.

WENOPAUSE STUDY. UCSD light study. Women ages 40-75, not cycling, using prescription medication or smoking. Treatment for depression. 5 months, 6 overnight hospital stays. 619-543-5575.

MOVIE BUFFS: interested in watching movies, and then discussing them afterwards (like book clubs)? Ages 25 to mature welcome. Please call 619-850-6075 or 858-231-0647.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC LIEN SALE 9:00am, April 2, 2009, or thereafter. Business and Professional Code Section 21700-21707. Notice is hereby given by undersigned that a Public Lien Sale of following described personal property conducted at 5871 Copley Drive, San Diego CA 92111, County of San Diego, State of California. Property stored by Great American Storage Solutions at 5871 Copley Drive, San Diego CA 92111. Wisscellaneous goods. Rosanna Ramos

A2226. Mark Lilly A2021. Maureen Merson/Andrew Merson A2062. Steven Guilln/Lisa Guilln RV14. Head Covers Unlimited, Inc., James Criswell B1009. Tracy Stamp/Michelle Degler B1025. Dated March 17, 2009, signed Great American Storage Solutions. Sales subject to prior cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and oblinated nativ

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE anonymous. 12 step meeting for people with OCD. Free. Mondays, 6-7pm. Department of Health Services Complex, 3851 Rosecrans Street, Mission Room. OCAhelp@rox net

OPEN MIC FOR THE MIND OF AMERICA.
Come show your stories, poetry, music
and magic for the fundraiser for the
National Alliance on Mental Illness. Small
donation requested. Event at Rubio's on
Midway, March 29, 2-8pm. RSVP to talent
at 619-683-3938.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Meetings daily. No dues or fees. 619-521-2538.

www.oasandiego.org.
PHANTOM PAIN. See Natural Remedy
Bible by John Lust, Naturopathic.
Remedies gradually ease/eliminate these

PMS SLEEP/LIGHT STUDY. PMS sufferers: Women 20-45 not on medication/birth control with regular menstrual cycles. UCSD 5- month study. 8 hospital stays. 619-543-7393.

POETRY READING. Poet Joseph Voth will read from his work, 4/14, 7pm. Mira Costa College, room 3601. One Barnard Drive, Oceanside. This event is free!

PRAYER BASED SOLUTIONS for problems. Achieve inner peace and balance. Eliminate chronic disease, pain, lose crippling fear, addiction. Call 858-273 2346.

PREGNANT? AVAILABLE to take part in a paid clinical study? You need to be 20-45 years, at least 7 weeks pregnant, but not more than 16 weeks. Study involves no medication/treatment and requires 1 or 2 short visits to our offices. Compensation is \$100 per visit, plus \$100 for information on your new baby post birth. For further information and to check if you qualify, call: 1-800-519-8810; e-mail: carolemarks@precisionmed.com.

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RAPTORS' NATIONALLY ACCLAIMED Speaker. All ages. Organizations. Clubs. Schools. 40 years' experience, references. Air Superiority. 760-445-2023.

RETIRED TEACHER would like tutoring in Mandarin Chinese. 619-260-0606.

SEX/RELATIONSHIP PROBLEMS? Out of control? You're not alone. Call Sex and

of control? You're not alone. Call Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous. 12 step fellowship. PO BOX 3791, San Diego, 92163. 619-685-7211. www.slaa-san-diego.org.

SUPPORT GROUPS. 6 groups monthly SOSL (survivors of suicide loss). Call 619-482-0297. E- mail: soslsd@yahoo.com.www.soslsd.org.

THE SAN DIEGO GAME DEVELOPMENT Meetup Group (and all IT pros) meet with local professional/aspiring San Diego video game developers. Next meeting 3/ 28/09. http://www.meetup.com/The-San-Diego-Game-Development-Meetup-Group

THEY ARE WRONG about us. Addicts can and do recover. Come check us out. 619-584-1077. In Espanol, 619-491-1984. In North County, 866-331-1958.

TWELVE STEPS not working for you? Try self-empowering, skill-building approach with S.M.A.R.T. Recovery-free support groups. 858-546-1100.

TWO WRITERS looking for "Chicken Soup" type pet stories for new book & toon series. With photos if possible, please. 858-693-3939 or claudia@

Wilestest.com.

Yolunteers needed for Mission Federal ArtWalk 2009, San Diego's largest outdoor art festival, celebrating 25th anniversary. Little Italy, Saturday, April 25; Sunday, April 26, 12pm-6pm. Minimum 18 years, for event set-up-break-down, staffing information, delivery assistance, traffic control, KidsWalk. Prizes, raffle, ArtWalk 2009 T-shirts, more! Please contact Carmen DeBello at

cdebello@missionfederalartwalk.org. 619-615-1090, www.artwalkinfo.com.

TRAVEL & GETAWAYS

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tues-

ANZA BORREGO DESERT TOUR. Sky Sculptures & Flowers, day trip 9am-6pm. \$60 (includes bus, lunch & guide). For information, call 619-954-4536.

BAJA ROMANCE. Two night stay. Welcome fruit basket. Welcome bottle of wine. 1 dozen roses. Two spa treatments. Nightly dinner from our Getaways menu. "Rates + tax. Based on double occupancy. Limited availability. Restrictions apply. Valid until June 11, 2009. Reservations required. 1-866-posarito, www.rosaritobachbotel.com

BIG BEAR COOL CABINS. Cabin or luxury home on or near the lake. Fireplace, BBQ, DVD, 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.

CERTIFICATE for 2 nights, 3 days accommodations in select cities. \$50.619-283-8417.

CUPID'S CASTLE B&B. Winter special \$25 off with ad. Fairytale castle near Harrah's Casino. Jacuzzis, balconies, TVs, bathrobes, breakfast, snacks. Voted most romantic getaway. Near wineries. Wedding facility. Cupid's Castle B&B. www.adreamcastle.com. 760-742-3306.

www.adreamcastle.com. 760-742-3306. **REDUCE YOUR STRESSI** For a relaxing getaway, we have cabins from \$74 plus tax! Southern California's 2nd best kept secret, 6200' in the skyl 11 individual log cabins, fireplaces, kitchens. Reservations: Edelweiss Lodge, 951-659-2787, www.1cabin4u.com.

659-2787, www.1cabin4u.com.

ROMANTIC GETWAY Dancing, music, Circus Junkies Band. Romantic Jacuzzis. Includes breakfast. Fine dining & cocktails. Lodge. Hookah bar, billiards, Internet. Near Golden Acom Casinol 2-story A-frame cabins, fireplaces, air, HBO, microwave, refrigerator. Live Oak Springs Resort: 37820 Old Highway 80 (60 minutes east of downtown San Diego, 2 miles south I-8). Massage package available. Certain restrictions apply. www.LiveOakSprings.com. 619-766-4288.

SAN DIEGO TO LAX. Shared Ride Shuttle: \$60 one way; \$110 round trip. Reservations recommended. Cash walk- ups OK on spaceavailable basis. Information: 619-471-5210.

PERSONALS

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

Wanted: Senior Lady by senior gentleman to travel by car March or April. Write box holder P.O. BOX 731, El Cajon, CA 92022.

LAURA C, SILVER CORVETTE. We dated in the mid- late 1980s. Had the time of my life. Mailbu, Sunset Strip, back and forth from San Diego to L.A. I loved it. Do you remember me? Jim D. If so, meet me at the Star of India, Saturday, 3/21, 1pm. I've missed and thought about you a lot all these years. I'll be at the Star of India, Saturday at 1pm.

Saturday at tym.

PRAYER. to the Blessed Virgin O, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of heaven, blessed mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O, star of the sea, help me and show me here you are my mother. O, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity, (make request) There are none that can withstand your power. O, Mary, conceived without sin pray for us who have recourse to thee (say 3 times). Holy Mother, I place this prayer in your hands (say 3 times). Say this prayer for 3

consecutive days. You must publish it and it will be granted to you. Grateful thanks. Praise to you. G.B.

MUSIC EQUIPMENT / INSTRUMENTS

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

45 RPM RECORDS. 23. From the early 1950s. All for \$50. Spring Valley area. 619-470-1940.

AMP AND STAND. Alesis Wildfire 60-1x12", 60W, 80 factory computer presets. Includes CF-1 expression pedal and Owiklok amp/guitar stand. \$250/all. Rick 858-530-1422.

AMPS AND GUITARS. Peavey Wolfgang EVH \$725, 1992 Fender J-Bass with Lace Sensors \$875, Line 6 Variax \$625, Vintage Silvertone Electric amp in case \$549, 50's Epiphone Zephyr Lap Stee \$575, B-52 A7212 \$399, Crate BV300HV tube \$775, Fender Cyber Twin \$550, Polytone Mini Brute \$249, Fender Champ 25 \$269, Marshall VS-65R \$225, SWR 4004 Workingman's head \$299, Ampeg 410HLF \$499, Hartke 4x10XL cabinet \$350, Peavey 2x10 cabinet \$189, Martin Hawaiian X \$499. At Moze Guitars, 619-698-1185.

DRUMS. Roland HD1 electronic set. Never opened, still in box. \$600. Tim, 619-414-4473

EFFECTS PEDALS— 100s of different kinds in stock! Fulltone, Menatone, Tex, Maxon, Visual Sound, Barber, Xotic, Durham. Choose from many brands. www. SuperSoundMusic.com or call 760-739-9099.

FENDER GUITAR. Resonator acoustic. Mint condition. A steal at \$450. 760-815-

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.cctlymusic.com

GREEN TAG SALE! Save 50% or more on items throughout the store. Guitar Trader of San Diego, 7120 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. 858-565-8814.

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.

GUITARS. Taylor 314ce, \$1000. Ibanez hollow body, \$300. Ovation, American made, acoustic and electric, Balladeers, and Elite. 12 string Breedlove, with case, \$600. More. 760-390-1185.

HAVE FUN FOR THIS WINTER! Singing, piano, guitar, all instruments. Lessons at home or our studios! Spectacular, motivating, skilled teachers. www.CaliforniaMusicStudios. com or call Dawn, 800-227-6222.

LPS. Classic rock, punk, jazz classical, country also, some older 78's. 619-237-

MUSIC RACK. For piano or organ. Holds four sheets. Acrylic. Only \$15. 760-598-6906. rfort27@hotmail.com.

PIANO, Kawai Upright Digital CA5, bought new in 2006, USB/midi ready, excellent condition, rarely played! Paid \$3300, yours for \$1650. Pickup only. Jim, 619-306-4780.

PIANO, SPINET. With storage bench. Walnut, excellent condition. Brand: Winter. Spring Valley area. \$550. 619-470-1940.

470-1940. WANTED! All pianos! Cash paid. Also, quality furniture and antiques. 1 piece or houseful. Bonded. Licensed. Since 1965. Same- day pickup. 1-800-840-4447. www.southcoastauction.net.

RACKMOUNT SYNTHESIZER. Yamaha TG77. \$375. Samson PL1602 rackmount stereo keyboard mixer, \$100. Edirol SD- 20 table- top synthesizer module, \$175. Concertina, \$75. 619-397-3463.

TRADE Fender Stratocaster guitar and amp for paint job on my house in Rancho Bernardo. Serious professional only. To discuss details, call me at 858-487-3398.

MUSICIANS AVAILABLE / WANTED

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BAND SEEKING experienced bass guitar and keyboard players. Country, blues, honky tonk. If interested, please call Bob, 858-753-1775. BASSIST NEEDED. for established metal

band Medius. Must have ambition, good attitude, skills. Influences; White Zombie, Pantera, Slipknot, Sepultura. Studio in San Marcos. www.myspace.com/medius. DRUMMER SEEKS BAND. Rock and rob band/projects with rehearsal space.

band/projects with rehearsal space. Have tour/recording experience. Influences: Nirvana, Foo Fighters, New York Dolls, Deadboys. Jess, 619-587-2069. FEMALE VIOLINIST WANTED. By wedding ruitarist for the Professional.

wedding guitarist for duo. Professional classical. Must sight read very well. Leave message with direct phone number. No voice mails. 858-616-6363.

GUITAR PLAYER seeking to join blues band only. Lead, vocals, top gear, PA if needed. A lot of original songs. Michael, 619-813-7305.

GUITARIST AVAILABLE. Reggae, hip isara/rook lead- rhythm. CD/tour

hop, jazz/rock, lead- rhythm. CD/tour credits: Pato Banton, Fully Fullwood Majek Fashek, Myka Nyne, Scientist, Tippa Irie. Dale, 858-401-2973. www. myspace.com/dalehauskins.

GUITARIST WANTED. Talented, dedication, gear, rent money, ability to play melody and heavy rips. Song writing a must. Influences: Tool, Illnino, Mudvayne, Slipknot. Bobby, 619-944-0962.

MALE VOCALIST WANTED. Jukebox high-energy professional working cover band, wide range of music. Rhythm guitar/keyboards plus. www.jukeboxsd. com. John@pisanosales.com with bio, photo/mp3 sample.

PRODUCER seeks prolific, talented composers, performers, any age, with original material. Needs interns, copyists, songwriters. We have professional tools. 619-528-0907; www.myspace.com/sherilopez; www.myspace.com/sherilopez; www.myspace.com/phyllispryor; www.myspace.com/mindcontrolemonkeys; www.myspace.com/concretesummersday.

WORKING BAND WANTED. Experienced male vocalist with 25- plus years, looking for working Top- 40 classic rock band. San Diego area. E-mail gtexasnative@aol.com.

MUSIC SERVICES

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

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.

BLITZRECORDING.COM. Tracking, mixing and mastering professionals. Transfer/restore analog or ADAT tapes to ProTools HD for vocal tuning, drum replacement and remixing as low as \$35/hour. 619-260-0837.

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KING MUSIC LESSONSI Piano, guitar, bass, wind/strig instruments. \$80/month for 8 lessons: 4 private 1/2 hour, 4 1-hour group lessons! Open until: 8pm suekdays, 6pm Saturdays, 5pm Sundays. 3592 Main Street. www. kingmusicoflemongrove.com. 619-465-9022.

MURDER THE FUTURE seeks booking agent for West Coast punk rock gigs. Www.myspace.com/murderthefuture. Please send e- mail.

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Efficient, experienced
engineer. Pro Tools, Mackie,
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RECORD AND MASTER AT EXUM. Studio! Comfortable, relaxed atmospherre. Protools HD3. Great drum sounds! Baldwin Grand Piano! Fast. Efficient. 20 years' experience. 2" analog. www.exumrecording.com, 760-739-970.

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RECORD AT EARTHLING Studios. Analog and digital multitrack recording and mastering services. Call Mike for rates at 619-441-8341.

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SERVICES









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pets. 858-560-6185.

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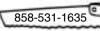
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SAN DIEGO. 2 bedroom house, completely remodeled. New kitchen/bath/tile/flooring. Completely painted. No garage. Pets OK. \$1175. 616 Chester Street. Available now. 619-300-0656.

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ALPINE. 2 bedrooms, \$945. \$99 deposit OAC. Newly remodeled. Private garages, fireplaces, vaulted ceilings. Resort- size pool and spa. Alpine Woods, 1829 Arnold Way. 619-445-1341.

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BANKER'S HILL. \$650. Lovely remodeled studio in classic building designed by Gill Appliances, gas included, laundry facilities

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0874.

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BANKER'S HILL. Studio, \$750 First floor.
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585-1495.

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1- car garage, spacious rooms, fireplace facing Rohr Park in Bonita. Available now.
4628 Villas Drive. www.cethron.com. 619295-1100.

BONITA/SOUTH BAY. \$1000. 2 bedroom, 1-1/4 bath. Nice North Bonita area. Ceramic tile and carpet floors. Air conditioning, ceiling fans. 6982 Parkside (I-54 to Woodman, left on Alta View). Days, 858-866-5636.

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. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1600. Ocean view! Balcony, storage. 2- car garage. Garden tub. Walk- in closet. Washer, dyor. Available 4/1. 612-743-9671. mercantile@q.com.

CARLSBAD. Near The Village. \$1035. Spacious 2 bedroom apartment, kitchenette, large garden patio, storage. Cable/Internet, \$45. On-site laundry, pool, spa, tennis. Cat OK. 619-302-9919.

OK. 619-302-9919.

CARLSBAD. Beautiful 1 and 2 bedrooms. From \$1350 some with fantastic views! 1 month free with 1- year lease; or 1/2 off with 6- months. Pool, community laundry, gated parking, barbecue areas, spacious floor plans. Walk to the beach! No pets. 2303 Ocean Street. 760-434-7721.

Ocean Street. 7601-434-7721.

CARLSBAD. \$925. 1 bedroom. Small complex with off-street parking. Remodeled. Laundry. Quiet street. No pets. 3366 Roosevelt Street. Agent, 760-434-7721.

CARLSBAD/Sabrina Greens. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, downstairs. Fenced patio, freshly painted, 2 parking spaces, community pool and spa. 2625 Pireneos 4100 Legistal University International Conference of the Conference of the

#120. Leasing Unlimited, 76U-435-7273.

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Amanda Salas Veterinarian El Cajon

always misspell "deciduous." I I always misspell deciduous. I use that word when I'm talking about teeth extractions. I usually spell it "-ious" instead of "-uous." When I was a kid, I used to always misspell "Tennessee" on spelling things. Now I sometimes deal with a dog that has that name. I'm always looking up how to spell them both.



Ray DeCandia Business Owner La Mesa

My misspelled word would be "definitely." It's strange because I like the word "define," and I use it a lot. So I think "definitely" should be like an extension of that, but I always seem to mess it up. Oh, the word "proportionate." I hate that one, too. I feel weird if I misspell words, even in a casual email. My friends give me a hard time about that. I hate when people use all caps. That drives me nuts. But I hate misspelling those two words because I'm a good



Ashley Thrash Student Mission Valley

misspell the word "definitely" I misspell the word definitely often. I'm sure other people do, too. That's probably a common one. I can't think of many other words I misspell on a regular basis. Oh, "surprise." That gets me sometimes. Those words that have the extra r in there. I'll forget exactly how they're



Virginia Kirkpatrick Aerospace Company Whittier

Iget "receive" wrong. It's that whole "i before e" thing. I don't always misspell that, though. But I notice when I'm texting on my phone, it's always correcting me on that one. Now that I think about it...there aren't many other words that I misspell that often. Or maybe I just don't realize I'm spelling them wrong.



Scott Cummings Real Estate

La Mesa

I sometimes misspell "appraisal." And I work in real estate, so that's probably a weird one for me to get wrong. Of course, the word always comes up. I don't think I misspell that many words anymore. As a kid, I don't remember the words that I



Butch Rosser

Deejay

Chula Vista

T'm probably the worst person you can ask that question. When it comes to spelling, I'm really anal. It can be a casual email or when I'm texting someone. I had a friend say they always know when the text is from me because it has actual words and not just abbreviations. I'm always trying to be grammatically correct. I guess I don't want my English acher rolling over. Last night I was drinking, and it took me five minutes longer to send out a text because I wanted everything spelled properly.

CARMEL VALLEY. 1 and 2 bedroom remodeled apartments, new appliances. Full- size washer / dryer. State- of- the- art fitness center, complimentary personal trainer. Heated competition lap pool. Lighted tennis courts. Free tennis/swimming lessons. Pro tennis instructor. Sorry, no pets. The Club Torrey Pines, 12646 Torrey Bluff Drive. 1-866-354-2096. www.torrey.cc.

CASA DE ORO/RANCHO SAN DIEGO. studio. Quiet, private. Off- street parking Near shopping/freeway. No smoke/drugs/ pets. 619-465-0482.

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. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1150 with \$700 deposit. Pool, parking, laundry. Small pet OK. Close to all. Call Rick, 619-250-6975.

speller, damn it!

CHULA VISTA. 1 bedroom apartments, \$695. Deposit \$500. All utilities included. Pool, off- street parking. Laundry facilities. Call Park Regency Apartments, 610.422-0702

619-422-0792.

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.

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CHULA VISTA. \$825. 1 bedroom. Beautiful garden courtyard. Controlled access. Very clean. Air conditioning. No pets. 540 Naples Street. TPPM 619-422-5709.

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Garrett Avenue. TPPM, 619-585-1959.

CHULA VISTA. \$1075, \$300 off first month's rent. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhouse. Clean and quiet building, small patio, gated, parking, laundry, pool. No pets. Available now. 1420 2nd Avenue. Open daily gam-6pm. Se habla Espanol. Call 858-483-5111 x30, 619-422-5062. Visit our website, www.melroyproperties.com.

CHULA VISTA. \$990. \$300 off first month's rent. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated month's rent. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated complex, laundry, parking, pool, clean and quiet building, close to all. No pets. Available 4/1. 210 Quintard Street. 858-83-5111. x30; 619-422-5062. Se habla Espanol. Visit our website, www.

metroyproperties.com.

CHULA VISTA. \$830. 1 bedroom, 1 bath.
All utilities included. On-site parking and
pool. Clean, quiet, secure. 540 Flower
Street, #7. Call Krista: 619-425-5451; or
Rachael: 619-804-1044.

CHULA VISTA/EASTLAKE. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. 1- car garage, upper unit, washer/dryer in unit, community pool. 723 Eastshore Terrace #60. Agent, 858-560-1178.

CITY HEIGHTS Azalea Gardens. \$675. Studio with laundry on site, off- street parking. Section 8 OK. 2501 Tuberose Street #B. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-

CITY HEIGHTS Azalea Gardens. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. laundryfacilities, off-street parking. Section 8 OK. 2501 Tuberose Street #D. www.sdforrent.com. Tuberose Stree 619-640-7530.

CITY HEIGHTS, Move- in special. \$775. 1 bedroom. Gated. Laundry. Parking. No pets. Available now. 4153 42nd Street, #2. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

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washer/dryer. Quiet. Near park. Section 8 OK. 619-778-3482.

8 OK. 619-//8-3482.
CITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs apartment, \$850. Laundry room, water/sewer/trash included, till floors, 750 square feet. 4361-1/2 49th Street. People Helping Others

Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

peoplehelpingothers.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$725. Quiet 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Recently refurbished. Off-street parking, stove, refrigerator. \$725 deposit in payments. No smoking/pets. Available. 619-823-0442.

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Reader Pop Quiz

This week's questions

- 1. The way Don Bauder sees it, there is a "__ percent chance of depression and continued deflation."
- 2. When violinist Bahman Sarram was four years old, his family fled what country to come here?
- 3. What real-life figure partly inspired the character Mack the Knife in *The Threepenny Opera?*
- 4. What does singer-songwriter Marie Haddad do with food that she'd probably rather not admit?
- 5. Name the high-protein grain native to the Horn of Africa that pops up here in Ethiopian restaurants.
- 6. Jazz keyboardist George Duke, on Barnaby Monk's calendar for the 19th, released the album Dukey Treats last year. It's a tribute to what soul-rock pioneer?
- 7. What venue on Broadway in Golden Hill has been the host of rotating church congregations and the subject of noise complaints to the City of San Diego?
- 8. The rock group Parenthetical Girls were originally known as ____ Girls.
- 9. What was the last year that half pennies were minted in the USA?
- 10. There is the possibility that __ FM (number, please) could soon be used for a dance-music station in

Last week's answers

- 1. His Fender Telecaster and Gibson J-50 guitars. (p. 76)
- 2. The San Diego Black Film Festival. (p. 90)
- 3. The Embarcadero. (p. 70)
- 4. The Linkery. (p. 94)
- 5. Their 20th. (p. 74)
- 6. "Halprin." (p. 8)
- 7. A pasta maker. (p. 22)
- 8. The Coyote Problem, "Long Way Home." (p. 84)
- 9. Bacon. (p. 94)
- 10. Fish or carp. (p. 18)

Last Week's Winners:

Armin Moths, Patricia Hippenstiel, Mtume Salaam, David Baxter, and Casandra Carter

Rules Pop Quiz answers must include page numbers from the *Reader* print edition on which the answers are found. First five entrants to deliver correct sets of answers win Reader T-shirts or \$25 (indicate preference). Answers must be submitted by Monday at 7 a.m. after the issue in question. Only one winner per household or email address per month. Multiple entries will be disregarded. Mail answers to: Reader Pop Quiz, SD Reader, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186; or fax to 619-231-0489; or email to Quiz@sdreader.com; or deliver to 1703 India Street in Little Italy (we have an after-hours mail slot).

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CITY HEIGHTS. \$800. Small, quiet 1-bedroom duplex, 4035 Menlo. Very clean, yard, parking. Shopping/buses close. No smoking. No pets. Section 8 OK. 619-275-2648.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$750. 4275 Chamoune Avenue across KFC, almost corner with El Cajon Boulevard. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Central air conditioning/heating. Carpet. Laundry room. Plenty of parking not assigned. No pets. Section 8 OK. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

Healty, 619-291-6686.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1050. 2- bedroom, 1-bath apartment with 2- car garage. Upper unit. New carpet and paint. On-site coin-operated laundry. 5332 Wightman #D. www.stevenleeproperties.com, 619-295-1161.

CITY HEIGHTS/NORTH PARK. Move- in special! 1 bedroom, \$795. Newly remodeled. Ceiling fan, reserved parking,

tile, gated, laundry. No pets. 619-279-

0031.

CLAIREMONT. \$2050. Unfurnished 4 bedroom, 2 bath condo at Pacific Bluffs. All appliances including washer/dryer. Great complex, recreation, pool area. Pool. Agent, 858-456-3211.

Pool. Agent, 858-456-3211.

CLAIREMONT. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo, \$1650. Washer/dryer, 2- car garage, patio, microwave, refrigerator, electric oven/stove. Community pool. Water/sewer/trash included, 1072 square feet. Quiet area. 6929 Park Mesa Way #123. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. www. peoplehelpingothers.com.

CLAIREMONT. \$300 off first month's rent \$875. 1 bedroom. Pool. Laundry. Off-street parking. 7322 Mesa College Drive.

CLAIREMONT. \$1375. 4942 Jumano Avenue. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Private, fenced yard, 1- car garage,

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laundry hookups. No pets. 850 square feet. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

CLAIREMONT. \$1495. 6666 Beadnell Way #13. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Hardwood floors, upgraded carpet and tile flooring, stainless appliance, granite tile flooring, stainless appliance, granite counters, patio, pool. No pets. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

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CLAIREMONT. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$995. With parking, pool. Laundry on site. Very nice, quiet street. Gated complex. 5150 Balboa Arms Drive. Call Thea, 858-571-0104. kandrproperties.com.

CLAIREMONT. \$1200. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 CLAIREMONT. \$1200. 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. \$1995. New 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 1325 square foot duplex, garage, hardwood floors, no pets, at 4441 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard #B2. Agent, 619-299-4034.

619-299-4034.

CLAIREMONT. \$1625. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Parking. Furnished. Utilities paid. Includes cable, Internet. Yard. Laundry. Small pet OK. Available 4/1. 3331 Jemez. 619-435-0387.

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. \$1250 plus. Large 2 street parking, on-site laundry. Water/ trash paid. Section 8 OK. Pet on approval. 858-455-5956.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1195-\$1295. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condos. Hardwood floor. New carpet! tile. Balcony/ patio. Gas stove, microwave. Central air/heat. microwave. Gentral air/neat Dishwasher. Washer/dryel hookups. Gated. 2 miles to SDSU. Near all/golf course Pets upon approval. 5170 Orange Avenue, 92115. 619 285-3829

COLLEGE AREA. Corinthian Apartments. COLLEGE AREA. Corinthian Apartments. Imonth free rent with 1 - year lease, on approved credit. 1/2 off first month's rent with 6- month lease, on approved credit. 1 bedrooms starting at \$895/month. Beautiful landscape, punctual maintenance, impressive community. Offer ends April 1, 2009. Open 7 days a week 9am-5pm. 4981 Catoctin Drive. 619-286-0441.

COLLEGE AREA. \$900. 1 bedroom. Fireplace. Central heat/air. Microwave, dishwasher. Balcony. Gated. Intercomentry. 4828 Art Street. Agent, 619-298-724

COLLEGE AREA. \$795. 1- bedroom, 1bath apartment, month- to- month lease, great location near SDSU. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-

COLLEGE AREA. \$1040. 2- bedroom. 2bath apartment, on-site laundry, parking included, controlled access building. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1125 rent, \$800 deposit OAC. 3 bedroom, 1 bath apartment located above small shopping center. No pets at 6198 University Avenue. Agent, 619-299-8515.

COLLEGE AREA. Spacious studios, 1 and 2 bedrooms from \$850. Deposit \$99. Near SDSU, steps to trolley with all amenities. \$500 off first month! 5474 Reservoir Drive. TPPM 619-582-5195.

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COLLEGE AREA. \$750. Seniors 62+. 1 bedroom condo, 3rd floor/elevator. Carpeted, fresh paint, new refrigerator. Coin-op laundry. Small pets on approval. A&P Realty, 619-425-4555.

COLLEGE AREA. Open house:
Accepting applications for fall,
3am-6pm, Saturday, 3/21. 1
bedroom, 1 bath, \$925. \$100
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access. Gourmet kitchen.
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picnic areas. Cat friendly.
Parking. Walking distance to
campus. Near bus, trolley.
Attec Pacific Apartments,
6663 Montezuma Road. 1-800433-6120. www.pacificliving.
com. www.sdreader.com/
news/rent1042.

COLLEGE AREA. From \$850. 1 bedroom in nice community. Pool, laundry, barbecue. Close to SDSU, and all conveniences. No pets. 4333 College Avenue. 619-287-8380.

COLLEGE AREA/TALMADGE, \$900. Nice COLLEGE AREA/TALMADGE. \$900. 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.

COLLEGE. \$1225. Renovated 2 bedroom cottage, hardwood floors, new paint/ windows. On-site laundry, off- street reserved parking. \$1150 deposit. No pets/Section 8. 619-565-7300.

pets/section 8: 619-565-7300.

COLLEGE/TALIMAGE. \$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-COLLEGE/TALMADGE, \$1095. Discount

2 bath. Quiet, secure. All remodeled. Splendid kitchen. New carpet. 4435 48th Street. 619-203-9784. COLLEGE/TALMADGE, \$900, 2 bedroom

Large upper unit, dining area. Brick barbecue grill and coin laundry on site. Near SDSU. Agent, 619-296-3189.

Rear SISC. Agent, 619-296-3189.

CROWN POINT. \$1385. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large apartment has extra room for den. 2 large bedrooms, large living area, on-site laundry. Close to the bay. No pets. 4017 Honeycutt Street. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com. CROWN POINT. Huge 2 bedroom, 1 bath \$1250. Month free special! Laundry,

private patio. 3913 Lamont. Available now. Agent, 619-260-1368. View at www. DEL CERRO. Condo. \$1200. 2 bedroom.

1-1/2 bath, lower unit, small patio, parking. 5483 Adobe Falls Road, #8. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699. DEL MAR. \$1800-\$1900. 2 bedroom, 1 bath on water, with view. Granite.

hardwood floors, balcony, on-site laundry, garage parking. Pets OK. 510 Stratford Court. 760-720-1400. **DEL MAR.** Gorgeous 1 and 2 bedrooms from \$1625 in beautiful complex with heated pool, spa, fitness center, outdoor

cook center, dishwasher, microwave, garage. 1 month free with 1- year lease! Call for specials. 526 Camino Del Mar. 858-755-4721. DEL MAR. Ocean views! 1 bedroom with

den, \$1695; 3 bedroom, \$2395. Non-view 2 and 3 bedrooms, \$1595-\$2195. Gated, nonsmoking community. 201 Fourth Street. 858-481-9585; mikeatla@aol.com.

DOWNTOWN NORTH. \$775. Studio with full kitchen. Upstairs. All utilities paid. Stove, refrigerator, coin laundry. Convenient location. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 4/20/09. 111 West Fir. 88s-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www. delsolmm.com

DOWNTOWN, EAST VILLAGE. Low \$400-\$700 deposits! Studios, 1 bedrooms, 2 bedrooms and 3 bedrooms from \$1060. Near Petco Park. Rooftop Terrace, Business Center, Courtyard Feature,

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DOWNTOWN. Fully furnished studios with utilities included. Rates start at \$160/ week. Free wireless Internet. Baltic Inn: 521 6th Avenue. 619-237-0687. www.

521 6th Avenue. 619-237-0687. www. affordablehousingsd.com.

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, sundecks. 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

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 Shared bath/laundry. Hote Mediterranean. 619-231-8656. www. hotelmed-sd.com

hotelmed-sd.com.

DOWNTOWN. Stay the week, stay the month! Monthly rates from \$21.03/night. Wireless Internet in all rooms. 1-2 blocks to bus, train. Flat-screen TVs. Weekly rates from \$37.14/night: Community kitchen and dining area. European-style detached bathrooms. Monthly rentals must qualify under the SD Housing Commission's low-income program. Subject to availability. Taxes not included. 500 West Hotel, 500 West Broadway. 500WestHotel.com. Toll free: 888-895-0875 or 619-234-5252. 888-895-0875 or 619-234-5252

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. Comfortable rooms \$450/up. Studios, \$650/up. Neal Gaslamp District. Very quiet and clean. Free cable TV, on-site laundry vending machines, community kitchen, shared bathrooms. Neal shopping, restaurants, movie theatres and Horton Plaza. No pets. Arlingtor 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, onsite laundry, vending machines, modern elevator, no pets. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B. Hughes Management, 619-239-3808. www. Hughes Management.net. sdreader.com/news/rent2099.

DOWNTOWN. Economical furnished rooms, \$450-\$550, best price, save rooms, \$450-\$550, best price, save money. Conveniently located on C Street trolley line, near restaurants, free cable TV, shared bathrooms, onsite 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. Gaslamp area. \$425-\$550. Community kitchen, shared bath, on-site laundry, vending machines, no pets. Star Hotel, 522 7th Avenue. Hughes Management, 619-235-6068. HughesManagement.net.

DOWNTOWN. Outstanding furnished rooms, \$450-\$500. Heart of Gaslamp. rooms, \$450-\$500. Heart of Gastamp. Shared bathrooms. Community kitchen. Free cable. No pets. Windsor Hotel, 843 4th Avenue. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

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231-2385. www.HughesManagement.net.

DOWNTOWN. \$775 and up. Cozy studio. All utilities included. Laundry. Street parking. No pets. Close to Balboa Park. 1758 6th Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724.

DOWNTOWN. \$1425. Newer 1 bedroom condo, Union Square. Granite/file, washer/dryer. Balcony/courtyard view. Secured building/parking. Spa/gym. Storage. Near Petco/Gaslamp. Lease. 619-669-1470.

DOWNTOWN. \$625. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, hotel, walking distance to Petco Park and Horton Plaza, utilities and cable included. Free search at www.derentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$1025. 1- bedroom, 1- bath apartment, dog OK with deposit, 682 square feet. Ask about lease terms. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$1950. 2- bedroom, 2- bath condo, 2- car parking, central air, washer/ dryer, rooftop pool/Jacuzzi, fitness, sauna. Fee. Free search at www. westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

apartment, pet OK, 1- car parking, balcony, views, large closets, pool, fitness, barbecue. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-

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. \$1800. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in Aqua Vista high rise. All amenities and valet parking. No pets. 425 West Beech Street #606. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

DOWNTOWN. 777 Lofts. 1- and 5 bedroom condomining lofts.

bedroom condominium lofts. Gaslamp's hottest boutique property located in the heart of Downtown across from The lyand 1 block to 5th Avenue's Restaurant Row. \$1550-\$1995. \$1000 off 1st month! Small pet considered. TPpM 619-544-0017 or stop by 777 6th Avenue at F Street.

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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. \$1050 Large 1 bedroom, 700 square feet, 3 closets, on-site laundry, secluded. Close to Gaslamp, Petco. 8- unit colonial brick. No pets. Deposit \$900. 947 Date Street. 619-670-7484, 619-917-3121.

DOWNTOWN/CORTEZ HILL. Studio \$850, utilities included. Large, 600 square feet. Complete kitchen/bath. Fireplace, walk- through closet. Close to Gaslamp, Balboa Park, secluded. No pets. \$800 deposit. 935 Date Street. 619-670-7484, 619-917-3121.

DOWNTOWN/CORTEZ HILL. 1 bedroom. \$915. Studio, \$785. Limited access building. Charming, quiet, residential neighborhood. Utilities paid, on-site laundry, no pets. EOH, 619-299-8746.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE, Move n special only \$736 including Itilities with 12- month lease utilities with 12- month lease, single occupancy (income qualify— ask for details). Furnished. Air conditioning. Full bath. Kitchenette. Internet. Balcony with bay/ballpark views. Clubhouse. Business center. Gated community. Near bus/trolley. Island Village. 1245 Market Street. For details, 1-800-351-0613. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2070.

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Downtown/Gaslamp, Historic Beaumanor, unique urban mini lofts, \$675-\$875. Several sizes, 12' ceilings. \$675-\$875. Several sizes, 12' ceilings, brick, hardwood floors, near Horton Plaza. Hardwood furniture available. Paid cable/electric/water. Most include sleeping decks. Refrigerator/microwave included. High-speed Internet available. On-site laundry, barbecue deck, outdoor

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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

Secure. 619-235-6820.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Move-in
Specials. Live/Work Lofts in the heart of
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Laundry on every floor. Parking available.
Seven locations Downtown. Select pets
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Avenue. 619-231-1505 x12. www. trilogymanagement.com. Also visit www.

sdreader.com/news/rent2064.

DOWNTOWN/GOLDEN HILL. Studios and 1 bedrooms, \$795-\$875, utilities included. Hardwood floors, decorator colors, laundry on site. Cat considered with deposit. On bus line. 619-231-8723.

DOWNTOWN/GOLDEN HILL. Large studio, wood floors, French doors, large closet, new kitchen. Very nice! Gated, good neighborhood. Close to Downtown and bus. \$795. 942 23rd Street. 619-994-

0449.

**DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. 1 bedroom, \$1995. 750 square feet. Two large closets. 9' ceilings. Secure, quiet building with laundry. Convenient location. Available May 1. 619-233-7428.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. From \$800/ 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 61, 223 2400.

EAST SAN DIEGO. \$695. Furnished studio alcove apartment. Complete living apartment. Complete living room, bedroom and kitchen furniture. No SDG&E deposit or hookup fee required. Near 52nd and University. 5101 Towle Court. Close to SDSU. Laundry room. Off- street parking. Low \$300 deposit. 619-281-9451.

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dryer. Available now. 760-807-8971. **EAST VILLAGE.** City View Apartments. Fabulous downtown location just blocks from Gaslamp District. 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. great amenities! \$1100-\$1500. Pets OK. 619-234-0134.

\$1500. Pets OK. 619-234-0134.

EL CAJON \$1450. Condo- style living. Spacious 3- bedroom, 2.5- bath townhome. Laundry hookups, central heat/air, quiet, gated, private patio. Lush garden, 8 unit complex away from busy streets. No pets. 858-353-6112.

EL CAJON. 1/2 off 2nd month OAC! 1 bedroom, \$700. Appliances, on-site laundry, air, pool, off-street parking. Lushly Landscaged. No. pets. 294

Lushly landscaped. No pets. 29 Valentine. 619-334-7934, 619-994-7392.

EL CAJON. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, \$1150. Wall air conditioning/heat, microwave, dishwasher, breakfast bar,

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EL CAJON. Cajon Villa. \$785. Deposit \$500. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Pool. Parking. Air conditioning. Laundry room. No pets. Available now. 933 Peach Avenue. 619-447-9193.

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EL CAJON. \$785-\$825. 1 bedroom apartments. New carpet, paint. Assigned parking. Laundry. No pets. Available now. 452 Emerald Avenue. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

EL CAJON. \$725. 1 bedroom. Beautiful landscape with gated entry. No pets. 1018 E. Lexington Avenue. TPPM, 619-838-8088. www.eastwindsapts.com.

EL CAJON. 1 bedrooms starting at \$725 and 2 bedrooms, 2 baths starting at \$845. El Cajon's best maintained property with beautiful courtyard and sparkling pool. No pets. 1 month free rent. \$995 moves you in! 1072 East Madison Avenue. TPPM, 619-444-1614. www.

fourwindsapts.info.

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.strafordarmsapts.com.

EL CAJON. \$1150. Extra large 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome. Gated, wood and marble floors, all appliances, air conditioning, fenced patio, washer/dryer hookups. 789 N. Mollison #6. 619-384-9219.

384-9219.

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OK. 1028 Leslie Road. 619-384-92.19.

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Way. IPPM, 619-405-4500. **EL CAJON.** \$875. 1423 Peach Avenue between Grape and Second Street. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, carpet, upstairs, gas stove, dishwasher, laundry room, one assigned parking. No pets. Section 8 OK. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

ENCINITAS. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath and 2 bedroom, 2 bath plus den from ENCINTAS. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath plus den from \$1425. Condo quality. 2 pools, 2 spas. Laundry rooms. Washer/dryer hookups. Patios, balconies. Covered parking. Large closets, extra storage areas. Dishwasher. Cable TV- ready. Vaulted ceilings in select units. Cat OK; call for

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ENCINITAS. \$850 and up. Sick of roommates? Cozy beach trailers in quiet park. Near beach, Coaster, restaurants, shops. 152 North Coast Highway 101. 760-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. \$1175, 1 bedroom. \$1350, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Small complex. Patios. Assigned parking, laundry. New paint. Bright, airy. Garden setting. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. Close to shopping, freeway, Coaster. No pets/smoking. 760-929-

ENCINITAS. \$1800. Large 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Entry courtyard, small backyard/patio, 1- car garage, laundry. Pets OK at additional rent. Available April. Mark, 760-445-1457.

445-145/.

ESCONDIDO, NORTH. \$1450. 2
bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse, 1- car
garage, private patio, washer/dryer in
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pets. 760-802-3115.

pets. 760-802-3115.

ESCONDIDO. \$950-\$1550. Tired of apartment living? 1, 2 and 3 bedroom manufactured homes offer spectacular hilltop views. Full- sized washer/dryer, nilitop views. Full- sized wasner/dryer, some small yards. Peaceful community. Sorry, no pets. 1924 Sheridan Avenue. 760-745-1677.

ESCONDIDO. \$750/month. Beautiful private cottage, studio with kitchen and private cottage, studio with kitchen and bath, includes utilities, laundry and cable. Hardwood floors. Garden home. South East Escondido. 760-739-1200.

East ESCONDIGO. /69-/39-1200.

ESCONDIDO. \$825. Huge 1 bedroom with balcony/patio and quiet, open space between units. Gated entrance, air conditioning, fireplace. Pool, spa. Small pet OK. Se habla Espanol. \$500 off 1st month! 720 East Mission.

TPPM, 760-815-6210.



FASHION HILLS. \$1850. Condo. Large 3-bedroom, 2- bath, 2- story condo featuring loft, fireplace, private spa. Includes all appliances, washer/dryer, air conditioner, 2- car garage. Pool/tennis courts, 6926 Camino Revueltos. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1675. 2 bedroom, 2 bath plus loft townhome. 2- car garage.

Wood floors, designer paint colors. Community pool/spa. Available. 7263 Camino De Grazia. Alta Vista Properties, 858-274-3600. www.altavistaproperties.

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FASHION VALLEY. \$1400. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Central air, free cable, laundry, balcony overlooking golf course, pool, spa, gym, tennis. Near USD. 619-421-3618.

USD. 619-421-3618.

FASHION VALLEY. The Courtyards. \$1295. 850 square feet, 1 bedroom, underground parking, resort-like: pool/spa/sauna/tennis. Lease. No pets/smoking. ETS Realty, rosie2801@aol. com 885-560-5564.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath apartment with views to Mission Bay and Missiion Valley, lower unit, next to USD. Cat OK. 5946 Lauretta Street #1. w.centrecity.net, 619-296-6699.

www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1150 rent, \$800 deposit OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Parking, laundry, elevator. Near USD. No pets, at 1330 Eureka Street #1 or #7. Agent, 619-298-5820.

Agent, 619-296-2020.

FASHION VALLEY/ WEST. \$1500. 3bedroom, 2- bath upstairs unit with balconyl New carpet! Washer/dryer hookups! Across from USD. 5845 Lauretta Street #3. 619-222-4836 x14 or

www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$1575. 3-bedroom, 2-bath condo; upstairs.
Large, panoramic view from balcony. Fireplace, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Coin laundry. Available 3/25/09. 5720
Lauretta. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

GASLAMP/DOWNTOWN. 1 bedroom Carpet, tilé, appliances, washer/dryer, cable- ready. Amenities, garage. Near all. Month- to- month. \$1200/month. \$800/ deposit. Available 4/1. 619-250-5813.

Bolton HILL. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$775. Hardwood floors. Great neighborhood, on-site laundry. No pets. Available now! 2427 E Street. 619-857-

GOLDEN HILL. Beautiful upper- level duplex, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1- car garage. \$1750. Move- in special. Cat OK. 2550 A Street. 619-980-6076.

GOLDEN HILL. \$850: 1- bedroom, 1- bath apartment. New ceramic tile, paint, carpet, elevator, parking. 1010 33rd Street.760-724-0558.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1695. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Highly upgraded! Washer/dryer in

unit! Cat OK! 1233 22nd Street #17. Call 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com. GOLDEN HILL. \$895. Studio. Historic building, laundry. Parking. Available now. 2470 B Street #E. www.amgsd.com. 619-90s.1168.

GOLDEN HILL/BALBOA PARK. One month free with 12-month lease Gorgeous 1 bedroom condo facing Balboa Park Golf Course, \$1195 Balcony, cathedral ceilings, fireplace, washer/dryer in unit, secure parking. Must see! Harvey, 619-233-1301.

GOLDEN HILL/DOWNTOWN. \$1035. 1
bedroom, 1 bath in charming Golden Hill
Victorian. Hardwood floors, shared yard,
on-site laundry. One parking space.
Utilities included. Deposit \$900. Call
Loren at 619-699-9379.

GOLDEN HILL \$1000. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, Victorian home. Hardwood floors, very charming. Close to downtown, conveniently located. 1117 30th Street. Call 619-460-2997.

HILLCREST. Spacious 1 and 2 bedrooms! Berber carpet, fireplace, spa, gym, intercom and elevator. Sorry, no pets. Hillcrest Summit, 4134 4th Avenue. See photos at www wexfordliving.com. 619-299-0047.

HILLCREST. \$200/week and up. Refrigerators, cable TV and HBO. Embassy Hotel, 3645 Park Boulevard, San Diego 92103. 619-296-3141.

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from Balboa Park. Great area. Pets OK.
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HILLCREST. \$1200. Extremely large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Dishwasher, self-Laundry. Near all. 1037 Essex Street. No pets. 619-692-0364, 619-461-9415.

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Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

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laundry, near all. Cat OK. 3827 Herbern Street. Available now. 619-997-4554. HILLCREST. \$895 rent, \$800 deposit OAC. Large 1 bedroom. Balcony. Parking space with remote access. Hardwood floors. No pets. At 1930 Georgia Court #1. Agent, 619-501-5542.

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9487.

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ratiomar Avenue. I PPM 858-699-3851.

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LA MESA. Studio. Laundry on site. Parking. Easy freeway access. Rent: \$795. 5027 Guava. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

LA MESA, \$950, 1-bedroom classic 1950s apartment. Located in the heart of the Village of La Mesa is this charming apartment. Refinished original hardwood apartment. Heinisned original nardwood floors. Current upgrades to the uni include new paint in designer colors, new windows, blinds, all new door hardware and updated light fixtures includin ceiling fan in bedroom. Gas range with refrigerator. Property has on-site laundn reingerator. Property has on-site laundry and is close to many shops and restaurants. Indoor cat is OK. Will consider small dogs under 15 pounds. Available now! \$400 security deposit. Credit check required. Move- in special \$400 off 1st month rent with a year lease. 8447 La Mesa Boulevard. Contact 8447 La Mesa Boulevard. **Contac**t **Scott, 619-846-6615; scott** hendershawandassociates.com.

LA MESA. \$950. Charming, classic 1 bedroom 1940s cottage- style apartment. Located in the Village of La Mesa. Hardwood floors, new baseboards, new paint in designer colors, all new door hardware and updated light fixtures including ceiling fan in bedroom. Gas range with refrigerator. Property has on-situations and is clease to many son-situations. range with refrigerator. Property has on-site laundry and is close to many shops and restaurants. Will consider small dogs under 15 pounds. Available April 1, 2009. \$400 security deposit. Credit check required. Move- in special \$400 off first month's rent with a year lease. 8441 La Mesa Boulevard. Please call between 9am and 7pm Contact Scott at 9am and 7pm. Contact Scott at 619-846-6615, e-mail scott@ hendershawandassociates.com.

LA MESA. 1 bedroom, \$755. Well-maintained property with meandering courtyard. Quiet and private. 4444 Parks Avenue. TPPM, 619-463-3882. www.

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20H aquarium \$20; 29 for \$29; 40R \$40.
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LAKESIDE. \$950. Refurbished 1
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LINDA VISTA 2 bedrooms, 1 bath townhouse, \$1075 and \$1175. Deposit \$900. Assigned parking, hardwood floors. No pets, please. Office at 7025 Eastman Street. Call 619-249-9585.

Street. Call 619-249-9585.

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LINDA VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$945. 2- story apartment. Parking and laundry. Move- in special! 6512 Kelly Street. Call Agent, 619-820-2584.

LITTLE ITALY. \$1050. 1- bedroom, 1-bath small house with laundry on site. Small pet on approval. 2849 India Street. 619-640-7530. www.sdforrent.com.

MIRA MESA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upstairs unit, great park view, on-site laundry, washer/dryer hookups, walk to shopping, pool, library, school. \$1450. 858-485-1522; 858-531-5334.

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#17. Call 858-483-5111 x10. www. melroyproperties.com. NORTH PARK. \$775. 4359 Alabama Street between Meade and El Cajon Boulevard. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Carpet, downstairs, laundry room. One assigned parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.



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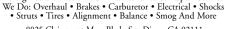
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COM.

OCEAN BEACH. 1 bedroom cottages for \$1180. Ocean front! Ocean breezes, quiet, clean, laundry. Close to the beach. "Have the Ocean as your neighbor." 5074-84 Del Monte. Please call, 619-<u>231-2727 x233.</u>

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OCEAN BEACH. \$895. 1 bedroom apartment. 2 blocks to ocean. Small yard and patio. Laundry facilities. No pets. 4873 Niagara Avenue. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

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Typo Patrol Results

Issue of March 12, 2009

Stringers

p.10 arrived, should be arrived.

Theater Review

p.101 Henry Louis Grin should be Henri Louis Grin

Karen Guarnotta (San Diego) \$20

Events Listings

p.60 Productions present should be Productions

p.94 doggie bag should be doggie-bag

Restaurant Listings

p.98 Sai Gon should be Saigon

Theater Listings

p.103 Welk Resorts should be Welk Resort

Armin Moths (San Diego) \$40

T.G.I.F.

p.21 Mary Higgins should be Mary Higgins Clark

Theater Review

p.101 Babaki should be Badaki

Linda Cox (San Diego) \$20

Events Listings

p.64 National National Daffodil should be National Daffodil

Club Crawler

p.74 Anasaziz should be Anasazis

Music Listings

p.82 Aunt Kizzvz should be Aunt Kizzv'z p.82 2228 El Cajon should be 2223 El Cajon p.84 De Anda Acoustic should be De Anda, acoustic

Karelyn Kimokeo (El Cajon) \$50

City Lights

p.12 from page 10 should be from page 8

Mtume Salaam (San Diego) \$10

Events Listings

p.58 Band take stage should be Band takes stage

Clyde Christie (Coronado) \$10

You must send in a copy of the printed error — either the actual page or a copy (including page number). Ads, blogs, user reviews, movie showtimes, and letters to the editor exempt from consideration. Typo exceptions: errors in direct quotations, slang, colloquialisms, house/writer style idiosyncrasies. Submissions accepted until Monday at 7 a.m. after the issue in question. Only one award per error — first identification of error wins \$10 or a Reader Typo Patrol T-shirt (indicate preference). Mail to: Typo Patrol, SD Reader, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186; or fax to 619-231-0489; or deliver to 1703 India Street in Little Italy (we have an after-hours mail slot).

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1445. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large, stove, refrigerator, coin laundry, 2-1/2 blocks to ocean. Available now. 959 Chalcedony. 858-270-2071. Del Sol D 2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www delsolpm.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH NORTH, \$1195. 1 refrigerator. Large, private fenced pation Garage. Coin laundry. Nice shared from

lawn with white picket fence. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 3/20/09. 1015 Opal. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www. delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1845. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, laundry hookups, garage plus parking space, fenced private patio, fireplace. No pets. Available 4/10/09. 819 Chalcedony. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH, \$1875. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, upstairs, remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Coin laundry, parking. No pets. Available 4/15/09. 1554-1/2 Diamond. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.

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PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1195, 1 bedroom, large, upstairs, 951-B Missouri. Studio, \$995, redwood deck, 869 Missouri. Both: laundry, yard, gardener. No pets. Ocean 1-1/2 blocks. 619-275-2610.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. Extra- large quiet, upstairs 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Laundry, parking. Bright and sunny. No pets. 2228 Felspar. 858-270-0929.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2300. 3- bedroom, 2-bath upper level apartment. Off- street parking. Laundry on site. No pets. 4451 Haines. Available. 858-270-4492 x203.

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A36-7997.

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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. 3 bedroom, 3 bath townhome. 3- car garage. Fireplace, washer/dryer, patio and deck. Fresh paint, new carpet. No pets. 1853 Grand Avenue. \$2500. 858-270-4492 x203.

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Peacher, 760-310-3919; jpeacher@

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800 square feet. Dishwasher, large
closets. Balcony, gated entrance, onsite laundry, heated pool, underground
parking, storage. \$1225. Alex, 619-9543554, abz715@yahoo.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1600. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Top floor. New carpet. Light, bright, spacious! Off-street parking. Pets OK. Available late March. 765 Agate Street. Call Alta Vista Properties. 858-274-3600. www.altavistaproperties.

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3221.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1495. Twin master suites, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Large, upstairs. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, gated entry. Coin laundry, parking. Available now. 1448 Thomas. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

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bedroom, garage, new carpet. Laundry room. Close to shopping, no pets. \$1395. 1920 Felspar. 858-459-1102.

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Remodeled. Stove bedroom. Remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Coin laundry. Elevator. Pool. Parking. View. No pets. Available 3/25/09. 1433 Oliver. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1095. 1 bedroom: duplex. Stove, refrigerator, wood floors. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. 4 blocks to ocean. Available now. 4417 Dawes. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1095. 1 bedroom: PACIFIC BEACH. \$1095. 1 Decroom; upstairs. Bright and sunny! Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, hardwood floors. 4 blocks to ocean. Detached unit. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 4/10/09. 4413 Dawes. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1535. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 2 blocks to bay. Upstairs unit, bonus room for office/den. Garage, laundry, dishwasher. No pets. 4013 Honeycutt Street. 858-483-3534. www.

cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1525. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Upgraded apartment, 3 blocks to the beach. No pets. Street parking. Laundry. 825 square feet. 1073 Missouri Street. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

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LEAD STORIES

- Drug officials in California's Mendocino, Humboldt, and Trinity counties (north of San Francisco) estimated in January that two-thirds of the area's economy is probably based on illegal marijuana farming (illegal under federal law but permitted for medical use by the state). One federal agent told MSNBC, "Nobody produces any better marijuana than [they] do right here.' .. In January, the director of the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime acknowledged that during the bleak banking days of September and October 2008, with panic in the economy over the shortage of cash, often the main source available to some banks was drug dealers' steady deposits of money to be laundered.

Bright Ideas

 London's Gymbox in Bank athletic club, recognizing that lifting weights can be a boring way to exercise, recently introduced "human barbells," hiring five men of various sizes (including two dwarfs) that customers could use for weights instead of the iron. One advantage of the humans is that, on request, they shout encour-

agement to the customer with each lift. The largest of the five is a 37-year-old, 340-pound man.

- Walter Tessier of Amsterdam, N.Y., was charged with larceny in January for trying to defraud a Price Chopper store. Tessier had purchased a \$10.99 lobster but returned it, claiming that it had turned "bad," and the store allowed him some crabmeat in exchange, but employees discovered that the "lobster" was only its empty, carefully reconstructed shell that made it appear whole. Tessier then ran from the store but was arrested later at his home, where he had just finished the crabmeat.

Family Values

- The sheriff in El Dorado, Kan., asked in January for help from the public in locating a missing boy named Adam. According to the sheriff, Adam's parents, Doug and Valerie Herrman, recently reported him missing even though they had not seen him since he ran away in 1999, when he was 11. The Herrmans' attorney said that his clients were "very worried about him."

Late last year, Jack Burt, 5, of a rural area near Darwin, Australia, admitted to his dad that he had been kicked off the school bus for bad behavior (including hitting the driver in the head with an apple), provoking the father to use the episode as a teaching opportunity, according to the Northern Territory News. For the five-day suspension, Dad would not reward Jack by driving him but would make Jack walk the two-and-a-half-hour, seven-mile distance to school and back each day.

The Continuing Crisis

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with a granite vanity top. Clear glass shower enclosure and beautiful tile floor. The rest of the unit has refinished original hardwood floors that are like new. Crown moldings were added, as well as new baseboards. All new hardware, light fixtures and ceiling fans. We also installed new vinyl windows. In fact the entire property is being remodeled. Close to shops and fine dining. Walk to Shelter Island. Gated with intercom. Unit comes with one off- street parking space. \$750 security deposit and a 1-year lease is required. Application fee is \$30 per applicant. Excellent credit and references are a must. 2817-2831 Carleton Street. E-mail your inquiries

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- As part of a contentious New York divorce, surgeon Richard Batista, who in good times had donated a kidney to his wife, demanded in January that she either give it back or compensate him with \$1.5 million in consideration of the rarity of his kidney match.

- In January, Thomas Rowley, 28, went on trial in Victorville, Calif., for allegedly trying to carve the breast implants out of his ex-girlfriend. According to prosecutors, Rowley said that since he had paid for the implants, he felt entitled to recover them. He was charged with attempted murder.

· Episcopal priest Gregory Malia, 43, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., buys top-dollar champagne at New York City nightclubs, even leaving five-figure tips and treating his favorite waitresses to shopping sprees, according to a December New York Daily News report. Said Malia (who is a hemophiliac and owns a pharmacy devoted to blood-disorder medicine), "I work hard. I make good money. How I spend it, that is my business." Waitresses interviewed by the Daily News said "Father Greg" is a sweetheart and never does anything inappropriate.

- Forbes magazine reported in December that state authorities were investigating Beverly Hills, Calif., plastic surgeon Alan Bittner over his claim that he had created diesel fuel for his and his girlfriend's SUVs out of liposuctioned fat from his patients. California law is said to prohibit using medical waste for such a purpose, but Bittner's claims came to light in patients' lawsuits over liposuction treatments, quoting Bittner as bragging about the biodiesel. Bittner wrote on one Web page (no longer online), "The vast majority of my patients request that I use their fat for fuel, and I have more fat than I can use.'

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

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SECOND BASEMAN needed. Softball team also needs a center fielder. Call Jon, 619-952-4767. SHORTSTOP and fast outfielder needed to complete our team. Jeff, 610,822.2057

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PHOTOGRAPHER WANTED. A professional photographer to record on a VHS camera a botanical garden in San Diego. 760-723-7373, 818-535-

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ADAM PRODY ADAM BRODY 4 WAS BORN IN CARLSBAD (12/15/79), THE ACTOR CO-CREATED THE ATTENDING WANGENHEIM MIDDLE SCHOOL & SCRIPPS RANCH HIGH. AFTER A YEAR AT CITY COLLEGE, HE MOVED TO L.A. IN 1999, TO BECOME AN ACTOR. IN 2003, HE WAS CAST AS COMIC NERD SETH COHEN ON FOX'S THE O.C.

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Danny, at 656-729-4125.

TALMADEL. \$865. Spacious 1
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with trees and barbecue, gated, parking,
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and spa. Fitness center.
Business center. 4454 44th
Street. 619-282-1191.

TALMADGE/ KENSINGTON. 1/2 off first month's rent! \$99 deposit! Call for details. 2 bedroom at \$1125. Upgraded kitchen. 31125. Upgraded Kitchen. Adjacent amenities include cardio and weight facilities, computer lab, outdoor barbecue, billiards area, pool and spa. Fitness center. Business center. 4454 44th Street. 619-282-1191.

TALMADGE/CITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom. 1 bath, \$850. 2 bedroom, 1 bath \$1025. New floors, balcony, pool, barbecue. Pets negotiable. Section 8 OK. 619-284TIERRASANTA. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. New carpet. New paint. Washer/dryer hookups. Extra large kitchen. Large patio. Small yard. 2 parking spots. Pool. Tennis courts. No pets. 11035 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. Agent, 619-692-4121.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1175. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, air, gas fireplace, carpet/ linoleum. Off- street parking. 8- unit complex. 4026 Alabama Street. 619-296-9557, 619-286-4320.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1000. 4615 University Heights. \$1000. 4615 Hamilton #1. 2 bedroom, 1 bath Great location near Park Boulevard, upgraded exterior, new windows, on-site laundry. 825 square feet, parking. No pets. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

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outr. 619-507-2613.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1250. Extra large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated, stove, refrigerator, crown molding, spacious kitchen with lots of cabinets, private patio. Pet negotiable. 4664 Hamilton. 619-384-9219.

619-384-9219.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1025. On wooded canyon hillside, laundry on site. 3956 Florida Street. Month free special! Agent, 619-260-1368. View at www.sevillemgmt.

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DEPECHE MODE. Cricket Wireless Amphitheater. Friday, August 14. \$300/3 tickets. Section 304. 619-213-

DISNEYLAND. 2 adult park hopper passes. Must do both parks on same day. Value- \$192, asking \$175 firm. Cash sale. 619-955-7018.

PADRES 2 great seats above visitors' dugout on aisle, field box 108, row 14, seats 1 and 2. Great price. More information, 858-292-9292, jbalogh@

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Thirty Years Ago

SOLITARY WOMAN: I hear you. Please come see me, high noon, the Saturday following this edition, foot of SIO pier. La Jolla. Red Ker Chief. ROCKY HORROR!! I've discovered it and I love it, love it!! Lips forever! Frankie, I love you! Gee

- CLASSIFIEDS, March 22, 1979

Twenty-Five Years Ago

Jonathan Saville must be joking! The Fox Theatre is "splendid for dance"? ("Quarter Notes," March 8). It certainly wasn't from my topprice seat (tenth row of the orchestra, right-side section, on the inner aisle) for the recent San Francisco Ballet performance. The heads of the people in front of me blocked my view of everything below the dancers' shoulders on fully half the

- LETTERS: "THE CRITIC AND THE FOX,"

Amy L. Morris, March 22, 1984

Twenty Years Ago

Dear Matthew Alice: On the television show Mr. Ed, how did they make Mr. Ed move his mouth as if he were speaking?

Just before show time, Ed's handlers would thread the clear plastic line through his halter, under his upper lip, and out through the other side of his halter. Two off-camera assistants would tug on the line, and Ed would wiggle his lips, trying to get rid of the irritant in his mouth. Pull on the line, he "talks"; stop pulling, he stops "talking."

— STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP, Matthew Alice, March 23, 1989

Fifteen Years Ago

The car ride home was via the typical route, straight up Fifth Avenue toward Mission Hills. Mick drove slowly, stopping at red lights always out of sync with each other. Our ordinary journey turned into an

abrupt and extraordinary one.

A loud thump hit the driver's door, and as I turned to look, I was startled. Hanging with one arm in the door was a black man, his large build not as apparent as his urgency.

"Gimme your car, man," he said.

The man looked like a typical homeless person, with a rather bizarre request. I became slightly amused. Mick will handle this, I thought to myself.

"No, get off my car," he replied. There, I thought, that will take care of

"Gimme your fucking car, man," he insisted. Pretty persistent homeless guy, I thought to myself.

— CITY LIGHTS: "CARJACKED ON A DOWN-TOWN DEATH TRIP," Mark Dodd, March 17, 1994

Ten Years Ago

By Friday I'd washed every sheet and towel in the house twice. I'd washed all of Johnny's clothes and most of Lucy's

two or three times. Saturday no one threw up. Sunday both Johnny and Lucy seemed almost back to normal.

UP," Anne Albright, March 18, 1999

Five Years Ago

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

This morning there was a mortar attack on Baghdad International Airport (BIAP) and maybe one on the presidential palace. The palace isn't too far from BIAP, so we're not sure if it was a miss aiming for us or a miss aiming for the airport. But the highlight of my day was going to Camp Victory to attend a meeting in the Water Palace. It's smaller than the Presidential Palace that I work in, but the interior is much more ornate than ours — as hard as that is to believe. It's amazing what you can do with a couple billion dollars of other people's money.

Apparently, most of these palaces (I think the number is 77) were built Serving Life

San Diego Reader, March 18, 2004

with "Oil for Food" money that Saddam was allowed to collect after the first war. The interiors rival the Czarist palaces in Russia — a dozen huge chandeliers and intricately carved and colored plaster on all the ceilings. The floors are multicolored marble and beautiful marble columns line the entryways.

- CITY LIGHTS: "NOTHING LIKE THE MOVIES," Chris Schnaubelt, March 18, 2004

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various iTems. Computer tower, non-working, only for parts, \$10. Fax, scanner, copier, \$15. Keyboards, \$7 each. Mouse, \$5. Small computer chair, \$5. Escondido, 760-685-8291.

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BEACH CRUISER. Schwinn. Has gears and a basket. Morgan, 925-640-7521. TWO 18 SPEED female bikes. Hardly

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SEEKING FISHING TACKLE. Collector wants for personal collection: wooden lures reels, miscellaneous by Heddon, Pflueger Creek Chub, South Bend, Shakespeare, to name a few. 619-972-3488.

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model DBXR463EG. Never been used. Still in box, perfect condition. \$290. Dan or Peggy, 619-276-9343.

or Peggy, 619-276-9343. **REFRIGERATOR GE.** Nice, cherry wood outside panels, side by side. Water/fice dispenser on door. \$695. Oven range microwave, white, \$250. Must see. 619-829-3704.

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BEDS. Adjustable Craftmatic-like remote control, 2 twins and 1 full size. \$100, \$200, \$300. Best offer or trade. 619-670-8356.

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GARAGE SALES

CHULA VISTA. Estate sale. Saturday, March 21, starting 6am. Furniture and miscellaneous items. 93 Millan Court, Chula Vista, 91910.

CHAIREMONT. Huge multifamily yard sale. 10am-4pm, Saturday, 3/21. 10am-1pm, Sunday, 3/22. Women's clothing, refrigerator, stove, LPs, antiques, furniture. 3132 Via Arcilla.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Community center rummage sale. TV, stereo, furniture, books, appliances, dishes, etc. Come by any day of the week, 9am-6pm. 540 Third Avenue. 619-261-7851.

EL CAJON. Saturday, March 21. 8am-12pm. Yard Sale. Antiques, collectibles, household items, etc. 1763 North First Street.

IMPERIAL BEACH. Garage/remodel sale. Doors, window, outdoor lighting, bathroom vanity lights, entertainment center, TV, household items, clothing. 10am-2pm Sunday, 3/22: 538 Citrus Avenue. 91932

Avenue, 91932.

MIRA MESA. Multi-family rummage sale. Clothes, toys, books, furniture, more. Mira Mesa Presbyterian Church. Benefit Boy Scouts Troop 1212. 3/21/09, 7am-11am. 8081 Mira Mesa

UNIVERSITY CITY. Moving sale! Saturday March 21, 8am-1pm.

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VISTA. Furniture— dining table, entertainment center, coffee table, mattress. Electronics— printer/scanner, TV, blender, toaster oven. Much more. 1079 Shadowridge Drive. Sunday, March 29, 7am-1pm.

MISCELLANEOUS

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SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: Assemblies of God **Address:** 766 28th Street, Grant Hill,

619-232-0006

Founded locally: 1993

Senior pastor: Vicente Montano **Congregation size**: about 200

Staff size: 2

Sunday school enrollment: about 20

Annual budget: about \$100,000 **Weekly giving**: varies

Singles program: not yet **Dress**: casual to formal

Diversity: mostly Hispanic, some Caucasian **Sunday worship**: 10:45 a.m. (bilingual

English/Spanish)

Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 30 minutes **Website**: *newlifeassemblysd.org*

There are times when the music at the opening of a service feels a little like a warm-up — something to get the blood flowing, or something to clear the cobwebs on a Sunday morning after Saturday night, or something to engage the heart so that the mind will be more open to the message that follows — music disposing the matter, the Praise Team getting folks in the mood for worship.

I say this without for a moment questioning the sincerity or goodwill of anyone involved

or even the practical wisdom of using music this way. But about 45 minutes into the music at New Life's Sunday service, I got the feeling that, in some distinctive way, the music was the worship. "The Bible says that God inhabits the praise of His people," said pastor Vicente Montano at the outset. "Praise Him and He will inhabit the midst of our praises.... Now is the time to

worship."

It wasn't just the duration, impressive as it was. It wasn't just the ebb and flow of musical styles that gave the service shape: cheerfully girding the collection, swelling under the souls dropping to their knees at the foot of the altar, swaying the congregation through their prolonged alleluias. And it wasn't just the tambourines scattered throughout the aisles, chattering away in hands both expert and not. It was also the way Montano made minihomilies out of certain lyrics, even in the midst of a song preaching without pausing in his work at the keyboard. "Lord, please light the fire/ That once burned bright and clear/ Replace the lamp of my first love/ That burned with holy fear..."

"He wants us to get back to that first love, where we just longed to be in His presence. I was reading in Job where Elihu says about God, 'My heart pounds and leaps from its place.' Our worship is like that — it pounds, it *pounds*. We can't wait to be before the Lord, to worship Him, because it pounds, it beats, it *burns* deep inside."

Song after song, some even taking time to proclaim their worshipful desire: "These words are/ From my heart/ These words are/ Not made up..."

Eventually, the music did give way to speech, and when it did, Montano's wife Teresa announced, "Pastor will not be speaking today. As most of you know, he's celebrating his birthday.... His church family wanted to honor him.... I know he's uncomfortable when we come up here and talk about him, but Jesus is the One at work in him, so ultimately, we are glorifying Christ." She called upon three

"community kids" — kids who had grown up in the church — to come forward and speak about Montano's effect in their lives.

The first young man read from John's Gospel, where Jesus asks Peter, "Do you love Me?" and then commands, "Feed My lambs."

"One of the things I like about Pastor is he doesn't just know my face — he knows me by name. He makes me feel very important. He's constantly asking, 'How are you? How are things going?' And he made sure that when we went astray, we came back. To me, he shows the perfect example of being a father. He gives a part of his own family time for us. He even sometimes takes us out to eat."

"These are kids that come from what we would say are 'at-risk' homes," explained Teresa. "Most of them, their parents didn't come to church. They walked to church by themselves. They came by themselves, sometimes misbehaving, but the Lord worked in them."

A young woman took



Vicente Montano

New Life Assembly Grant Hill

Sermon content delivery ** Liturgy ** Music congregational ★★★ band $\bigstar \bigstar^1/2$ **Snacks** *** Architecture Friendliness *** Poor to satisfactory (none) Good Very good

Excellent

Extraordinary

the microphone and read from Matthew 20: "The Son of man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

"Pastor showed me how to serve others," she said.

The third "community kid," another young man, quoted Psalm 37: "Trust in

the Lord and do good."

"Trusting in God was really hard for me, since I can't see Him, I can't hang out with Him. But after my mom left, we had no home, no money, and no job, and I was responsible for my two younger siblings. Anytime I would talk to Pastor, he would say, 'Trust the Lord.' And I learned to trust the Lord, and He has done great things for me."

At the end of the service, a second collection was taken — this one for Montano. Before heading next door for a birthday feast, congregants filed forward and placed their donations in a red velveteen chest outfitted with a golden tassle, then joined in singing "Happy Birthday."

What happens when we

"If we've accepted Christ, we go to heaven," said Montano. "Without Christ, we go to hell. That's what Scripture tells us, and that's what we believe."

- Matthew Lickona

Videos of this church and others featured in this column are available at sandiegoreader.com.

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